



Gallup-McKinley County Humane Society Newsletter



315 B Hamilton Road off Hwy 491 - P O Box 550
Gallup, New Mexico 87305-0550 Ph. 505-863-2616

Winter 2009

2010 BOW-MEOW & SPRING FLING EVENTS & RAFFLE

The **2010 Bow-Meow Valentines' Dinner/Dance** is scheduled for **February 13, 2010**. This gala event will be held at the Elk's Club with a social hour starting at 6:00pm, dinner at 7:00pm and dancing from 9:00pm until midnight. Tickets will be \$25 per person.

We will have a "Treasure Chest" raffle at the Valentines' event. You will be able to purchase "keys" to the chest, which will be filled with many goodies.

We will also be selling tickets at this dinner for



our **BIG \$10,000 Raffle** which is tentatively set for **April 17, 2010** as a separate "Spring Fling" event. Raffle tickets will be \$50 per ticket. Need not be present to win.

Raffle tickets may also be purchased by mail. Please send your check payable to the Humane Society to Sandra McKinney at 112 Sunset Dr, Gallup, NM 87301, and your ticket will be mailed to you.

Wouldn't it be grand to win \$10,000 PLUS help out the abandoned and abused animals of our community? Pay-outs will be as follows:

- 1st Place—\$10,000
- 2nd Place—\$500
- 3rd Place—\$250
- Most Tickets sold—\$500
- Winning ticket seller—\$250

So mark your calendars now for both dates in 2010! We will provide more information at a later date about the Spring Fling Raffle Drawing Event.

The Gallup McKinley County Humane Society normally does one large fundraiser per year, and we took a break in 2009, so it is pressing that we raise additional funding for the animals with these two events.

Already, generous donors are offering auction and raffle items; Castle Furniture is donating a Vera Wang mattress set and R&M Furniture has committed to donate a Lane Cedar Chest. We are looking for additional items from our community that can be added to our auction and raffles. If you are interested in donating



a raffle or auction item, please contact Cosy Balok @ 505-870-0325, or Misty Tolson @505-879-2804.

There is also a need for ticket sellers for both events. Please contact Sandra McKinney @ 505-722-0514 if you would like to offer your assistance to sell tickets for either or both events.

~~WINTERIZE YOUR PETS!!!~~

Winter and cold temperatures are upon us and your pet must have shelter. It is the LAW!! And it is also your duty as a pet owner. If your dog stays outside, you must provide your dog with a comfortable place to escape the elements. A dog house should be large enough for the dog to fit snugly inside so that the house will help the dog maintain its body heat. If you have a very large house for a small dog, the cold air will still penetrate the house and your dog will remain cold. Straw bedding works great in dog houses and sheds to help keep pets warmer.



You also need to keep the drinking water from freezing; for dogs, cats and horses. Do not use metal containers for holding water, as an animal's tongue can freeze to the metal. You can purchase special water heaters to keep the water from freezing in the container or bucket. These heaters can be found at your local feed stores or 'Google' them on the internet: Heated Water Containers.

~~BE KIND to ANIMALS WEEK~~

Really, it should be EVERY DAY, but May 1-7, 2010 has been deemed "Be Kind to Animals Week". During this week, the Gallup McKinley County Humane Society staff would like to hold a Spring Doggie Dawdle/Dash. We are looking for an individual or group who would like to organize this event. We need someone who is familiar with running such an event. If you are interested in spear-heading this fund-raiser for the Humane Society, please contact Cosy Balok at 505-870-0325. Also, contact Cosy at the above number if you would be interested in working this event with the chosen chairperson.

NEW PARVOVIRUS STRAIN HITS MCKINLEY COUNTY

McKinley County has one of the highest rates of Parvovirus in dogs in the United States. That is a terrible statistic to lay claim to. Parvovirus is a viral disease and it affects puppies one year and under. The virus attacks the lining of the small intestine and kills cells and creates a sloughing of those cells, causing bloody diarrhea. You might also notice lethargy, vomiting, weakness and a loss in appetite. In very young puppies it can also infect the heart muscle and lead to "sudden" death.

And now there seems to be a tougher strain of Parvovirus that is hitting our area. This more aggressive presentation of Parvovirus is noted by severe blood loss, and the puppy seems to become sick much quicker. In the previous form of Parvovirus, veterinarians could see a 90% success rate after aggressive treatment. However, with this new, more aggressive strain of the virus, the mortality rate has been noted as higher.

Generally, it takes 5-7 days from the time of exposure for dogs and puppies to start showing symptoms and to test positive for Parvo. This disease is highly contagious to unprotected dogs, and the virus can remain infectious in ground contaminated with fecal material for five months or more, if conditions are favorable. Extremely hardy, most disinfectants cannot kill the virus, however chlorine bleach seems to be the most effective and inexpensive agent that works, and is commonly used by veterinarians.

Dogs and puppies can contract Parvo even if they never leave their yards. Parvo virus is NOT an airborne virus. It is excreted in the feces of infected dogs, and if someone -- human, dog, bird, etc. -- steps in (or otherwise comes in contact with) the excrement, the possibility for contamination is great.

Without intense treatment, the victims of Parvo die of dehydration. *There is no cure.* Veterinarians can only treat the symptoms, and try to keep the dog alive by preventing dehydration and loss of proteins.

The ease with which infection of Parvo can occur in any unvaccinated dog must be stressed. To avoid this terrible virus, **veterinarians stress the importance of vaccinations** for puppies starting between the age of 6-8 weeks. As soon as the puppy is weaned, schedule the first vaccination, followed every two weeks until the puppy completes a series of four shots. This protection should be continuous for your dog with the annual booster vaccine of **DHPP**: Distemper, Hepatitis, Parvo, and Para Influenza vaccine. Pets need their required booster shots the same as children.

Taking care of a dog is a commitment for the life of that animal. Get your new puppy properly vaccinated. Then the best thing to do is have your dog spayed or neutered. But if you end up with a litter of puppies, get those puppies vaccinated as directed. Also, clean your yard daily of animal excrement, keep your dog's feeding dishes clean, and give your dog fresh, clean water each day. Along with those duties, remember your dog gives you unconditional love; love your dog back by treating it as part of your family.

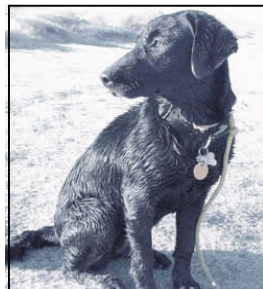
***Special thanks to Dr. Jessica Balok from Cedar Animal Hospital for her input on this topic.*

~~AUTUMN EVERY DAY by Cyle Balok~~

I go about my day
and pretend that nothing's changed.
I try to do the old routine
but nothing seems the same.
You've been gone for several weeks
but still I cling to hope;
Hope that it was a bad dream
or a sick and twisted joke.
Life feels so much tougher now,
happiness seems hard to find.
My life could be a total wreck,
you'd never seem to mind.
Every day you'd wait for me
behind your wooden gate.
You didn't care what I was wearing
or if I showed up late.
You'd jump into my arms each day
as if I'd been gone for years.
I was gone for twenty minutes,
just went to grab some beers.
You greeted me with an 'Autumn hug'
every single day.

But now you're gone and nothing's right,
we can't go out and play.
I miss the way you'd wake me up
when I tried sleeping in.
You knew life's too short to sleep all
day,
if I only heard you then.
You were a great dog and my best
friend.
But now you've gone away
Appreciate every moment,
of **every single day.**

*In loving
memory of
Autumn*



~A TASTE OF GALLUP

Sales for our Humane Society Cookbook "**A Taste of Gallup**" have been extremely successful. We do still have some of the books left and would love for you to have one for yourself or as a special gift at a cost of \$25.00 each (plus \$5.00 shipping if you are out of town). Please contact Sandra McKinney @ 505-722-0514 to purchase a cookbook. You can also get one at the Humane Society office, at Mystique Salon or from DeeAnn Leyba at Gallup Lumber. The cookbook is full of local recipes from local cooks that are tried and true and delicious!

~~MEMORIALS~~

Our condolences and blessings to those who have lost a loved one, or a precious pet. We thank you for remembering the Humane Society at such a time of sorrow.

IN MEMORY OF ANN MARIE WHITEMAN:

Mr and Mrs Sherwood Stauder and Family
 Mr and Mrs David (Jack) Tarro
 Christine Kravetz
 Sherry Fuhs
 Mr and Mrs Joe Bolf
 Mrs Rosemary Plese and Family
 Mary Mihelcic
 Thomas C Kirby
 Warren Wright

IN MEMORY OF MARY OLDHAM:

Louis Bortot and Valerie Chavez
 Sherry Fuhs
 Carol Marcelli and Lisa Marquez
 Mr and Mrs Dick White and Family
 Mr and Mrs Bill Rucker
 Misty Fairchild-Tolson
 Mr and Mrs Bill Armstrong
 Marietta Pomeroy

IN MEMORY OF LEE CARVER:

Mr and Mrs Dick White

IN MEMORY OF JULIA FERRERO:

Mr and Mrs Dick White and Family

IN MEMORY OF DON WALKER:

Mr and Mrs Sherwood Stauder and Family

IN MEMORY OF GENE LEWIS:

Mr and Mrs Dick White
 Livon Bagh
 Mr and Mrs Chuck McKinney
 Harry, Alma and Brent Douth
 Col. W.L. Burns (ret) and Col. P.A. Burns (ret)
 Sherry Fuhs
 T. Brent and MaryLou Dietzman
 Mr and Mrs Dennis Satermo
 Mr and Mrs George L Landry
 Roberta Chandler
 Mr and Mrs Sherwood Stauder and Family

IN MEMORY OF JAMES BOYD:

Sherry Fuhs

IN MEMORY OF RICK JACOBY:

LeeAnn Jacoby
 T. Brent and MaryLou Dietzman

IN MEMORY OF CAROLYN MENAPACE

Joann and Amos Schmaltz
 Sandra and Jackie McKinney
 Mr and Mrs Bill Rucker
 Sarah Menapace-Walker



IN MEMORY OF GRIZZLY—Marilyn Johnson
 IN MEMORY OF GIDGET—Christina Luna
 IN MEMORY OF AURA—George and Johanna Malti
 IN MEMORY OF MAGAN & TASHA—Jocelyne Klases
 IN MEMORY OF ENOS—Betty Chapman
 IN MEMORY OF NATE—Donna Murphy

APPRECIATIONS

We thank ALL our friends for their donations throughout the year!

Benefactors—\$1000 or more

Sandra Garcia
 (Coral's Memorial Dinner)
 Advocate Law Center
 George and Johanna Malti

Patrons—\$500 or more

Sherwood Stauder and Family
 Dick & Virginia White & Family
 Zuni Mountain Lodge and Tours
 Russell Griswold
 Dr. Catherine Radovich

Sustaining—\$100 or more

Trish McCoy & Marlene Cox
 Michael Daley
 Grey Dog Trading
 Susan Morris
 Carl Granfors
 Charla Weeks
 Maxine Breino
 Valerie Baretinich
 Marietta Pomeroy
 Girl Scouts of New Mexico
 Anthony & Elizabeth Burrola
 Gayle Wilkenson
 Dr. Marty Field
 Sherry Fuhs

~TOY MAKERS NEEDED~

We need people to make toys for our animals!

If you can sew, we can provide the material to make simple puppy toys made out of sheets, pillow cases and batting material. We also have denim fabric, and old blanket material that can be used as fillers.

Puppies love to play tug-of-war with each other and also just need some items to throw around and to chew on.

If we have simple items, when they get too soiled, we can just throw them away.

~~HUMANE SOCIETY WISH LIST~~

We are in great need of puppy toys. Puppies need something to play with and to chew on constantly. Sturdy puppy toys would be great, but even old tube-socks with a knot tied in them would work. And the puppies do not care if your socks have holes in them. Lengths of cotton rope with knots tied in it would also make a great puppy toy. Our kittens need toys to play with, too. Please remember the little critters at the Humane Society when purchasing toys for Christmas!!

Some other items we are in need of, too: a clothes dryer, newspapers, old towels or blankets for bedding, and cat litter. Of course, we are always in need of PEOPLE to walk dogs, bathe and brush animals, offer foster homes, etc. Come by and volunteer to help the animals!

~~A SIMPLE SOLUTION TO UNNECESSARY KILLING~~

As we should all know by now, spaying and neutering our pets is the only solution to solving the pet over-population problem that we have in our community. Unfortunately, the number of animals we have had to euthanize this year has reached nearly **3000 animals**. **This figure is the result of the people who do not spay and neuter their pets!!!**

We have seen people bring in litter upon litter of puppies and kittens that their own animals keep having. Many of these litters are only 4-6 weeks old and are too young to be adopted and must be euthanized. Some of these people are proud to be "providing" us with animals for adoption!!!!

A one-time permanent solution to this horrible useless killing is available to everyone. There are low-income spay and neuter clinics located at almost every humane society office, including ours.

So far in 2009, **540** animals have been spayed or neutered. These animals have been brought in by families who are being responsible pet owners and they are taking advantage of our weekly low-income spay/neuter clinic held at our facility here in Gallup. These people are aware of the need to have their pets sterilized and are helping to stop this useless killing. We would like to commend all of you who spay and neuter your dogs and cats. Thank you for saving lives!!!!!!!

Everyone can help with this terrible problem by informing your friends and neighbors to spay and neuter their pets. Tell them about our low-income spay/neuter clinic held weekly.

Please come in or call us at 505-863-2616 to set up a date to have your animal sterilized. Our spay/neuter clinics are held every Wednesday.

Spay females at 6 months.

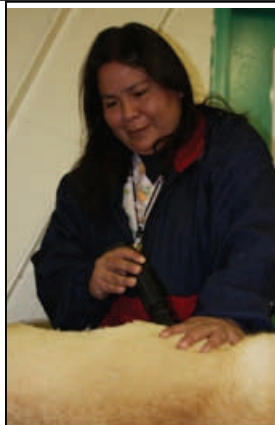
Neuter males at 5 months.

~~DONNA DAMON AND CHERRY MENAPACE AT WORK~~

Rewards and heartbreak on a daily basis; that is what Donna Damon and Cherry Menapace face each time they enter the doors of the Humane Society. These two dedicated ladies are in charge of evaluating each animal that is brought into the Gallup McKinley County Humane Society. They give the proper vaccinations to all the new puppies and kittens, they may need to do testing on sick animals to determine the illness and place these animals in isolation, they see that all the animals are fed on schedule and keep the facility clean. They track and purchase the necessary supplies, answer phone inquiries and have even been known to make "house calls" on occasion. It is very rewarding when they see an animal adopted by a happy new family, but it is also heartbreaking when the decision must be made to euthanize an animal; heartbreaking when they must care for an animal that has been abused and injured; heartbreaking to know that there are so many animals out there not getting proper care.

Every Wednesday when the Low-Income Spay & Neuter Clinic is held, Donna and Cherry have a very busy day prepping the animals for sterilization; giving the anesthesia, assisting the veterinarian when required, and monitoring the animals until they recover from the surgery. They know how very important it is to have your pets spayed or neutered.

Donna Damon grew up here in Gallup. She has an Associate's Degree from CIT in Animal Care and is a Veterinary Technician (Vet Tech). Donna is often invited to local schools to educate children about why we need animal control and about proper pet care. She has different training methods that are age appropriate for children from grade school to high school. She strongly points out the



Donna Damon shaves a female dog before the spaying process.

horrors of animal abuse, be it from the unintentional or improper use of choke chains or leash lines, to the terrible things that humans can inflict upon innocent animals. She has a wide variety of visual aides to assist her in the training seminars. If you are interested in having Donna provide training at your school or organization, please call her at the Humane Society office @ 505-863-2616. Donna will also provide tours of the local Humane Society facility.

One of the rewarding events that Donna also organizes is pet therapy visits to the nursing homes. It is very gratifying to see the joy on an elder's face when they have a puppy or kitten in their lap. This is also therapeutic for the animals to receive that human touch.

Cherry Menapace is very familiar with large animals as she was also raised in Gallup and has worked the Rico Ranch since she was a small girl. Cherry has raised cattle, assisted in the birth of calves, arranged insemination procedures, and has shown her cattle at many a fair and competition. Twenty years ago, Cherry took a break from her ranch job and worked at the old and small Humane Society office for a period of time. She just recently returned to work

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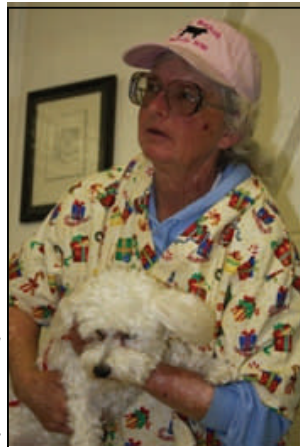
again with the animals at the Humane Society.

Cherry's confidence with large animals like the steers, cows, and horses of the ranch, make it easy for her to handle the dogs and cats.

Donna and Cherry have attended recent classes of the *Humane Balance Training and Wellness Training* programs. House Bill 265 for the New Mexico Euthanization Laws of 2009, requires training for all vet techs and shelters to know the proper procedures for putting down an animal.

It is also very rewarding for these two women when they prepare animals for transport to Adopt-a-thons. The animals that are chosen for the Adopt-a-thons have nearly a 100% chance of adoption. That is a great feeling!

We wish to thank Donna Damon and Cherry Menapace for the dedication and love that they give to the animals at our Humane Society Office. You both do a wonderful job!



Cherry Menapace calms a dog as she readies him to be neutered.

lay on the chair between them in the evening while they watch TV. And at night when it is time to go to bed, I get to choose which ever bed I want.

I've got a new collar and even a tag that has my name on it. My new people give us bones and toys and we can leave them inside or outside if we like. Someday I might even get a part-time job and visit sick people in hospitals.

I want to thank you and the staff at the McKinley County Humane Society for taking me in and fixing me up. I would not have found these great new people without you all.

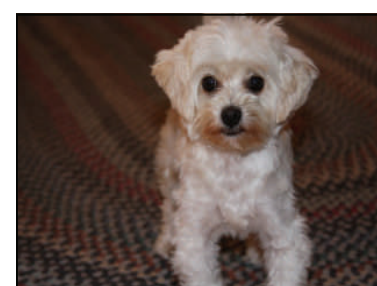
Your friend, Murphy (aka) Fletch the Arrowhead Dog

~~HAPPY TAILS 2~~

I was at the Humane Society office and Cosy showed me this sweet little puff ball. She had long, scraggly hair full of weeds and stickers, and she was extremely shy and timid. But I could see the cute little creature under all that mess. I brought her home and worked on her for about two hours, bathing, cutting her hair and removing stickers, some imbedded under her little arm-pits.

After cleaning her up, she was quite adorable. Although, you could tell that she had suffered some type of abuse as she had severe trust issues with people, especially men.

I started asking around to find a forever home for her. She went with one family overnight, but they felt her shyness was a problem. After about a week of fostering her, I found a nice family who were looking for a small dog as they had just lost their previous pet



to old age. They immediately fell in love with her.

Coco is now a very happy little girl and is getting over her shyness with her loving family in her new forever home.

~~HAPPY TAILS 1~~

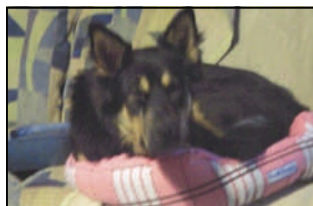
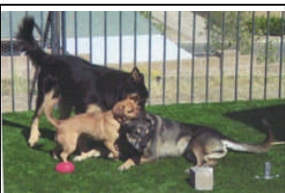
Dear Ms Cosy, I wanted to write to you and let you know how I was doing with my new people and friends. My new people gave me a new name on the way to my new home. They call me Murphy now. I think it's much better than "that arrow head dog"!

I don't know why I was shot with an arrow. I am not a mean or bad dog. As a matter of fact, my new people and friends think I am a lot of fun! I hope they can find the person that did this to me so they cannot do it to any other animal.

When I first got to my new home, I still had a scar on my head from the arrow. But now that has gone away.

My people have two other dogs that have become my best friends. First there is Izzy. She loves to run and I love to chase her. And then there is Ronin. He's got really great ears for chewing on!! We spend most of our days playing on the grass out in the yard. It is great fun.

We have our own private door that we can go from inside to outside without asking first. Our people put bowls of food out for us TWICE a day!!! I don't even have to do anything for it. They even let me



~~ROMIE CALDERON RETIRES~~

Romie Calderon was an Animal Control Officer for almost 11 years. As of December 31, 2009, he is retiring from Animal Control.

Romie was our "photogenic officer", as he seemed to always make the newspaper photo page with many animal related stories: bulls, bears, dogs and even snakes!

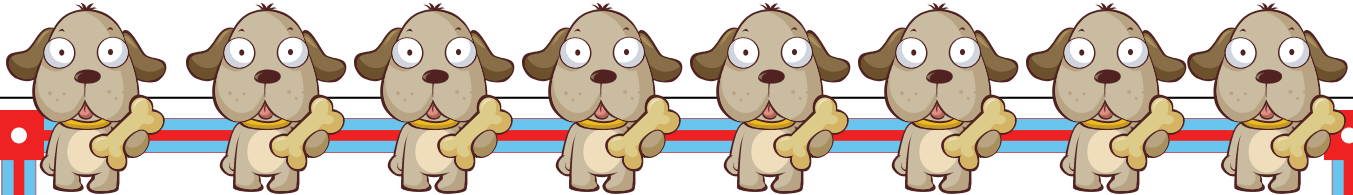
With an upbeat attitude, and a great sense of humor, Romie always kept us laughing. He also had a wonderful touch with the animals and people, alike.

Romie, we appreciate your great dedication and loyalty to Animal Control and the Humane Society. You will be greatly missed!

~~SUCCESSFUL ADOPTION STATISTICS~~

As of December 1, 2009, we have successfully adopted out 1,361 animals to loving forever homes. Several Adopt-a-thons have been organized by Sena Fitzpatrick and Marilyn Scott. These two wonderful ladies volunteer their weekends off to get these animals adopted into permanent homes. Over 200 of our animals were adopted thru these Adopt-a-thons. We have also noticed a rise in adoption numbers during the month of December. It would appear that dogs and cats are making an early appearance as Christmas presents. This is wonderful news and makes us feel like our work at the Humane Society is worth-while.

We greatly appreciate the work of Sena Fitzpatrick and Marilyn Scott in organizing the Adopt-a-thons and for preparing the animals for their adoptions. Thank you so very much!



**Discount Spay-Neuter Clinics
(low-income)**

Wednesdays: 505-863-2616

**Pick up an application at the Humane Society
Shelter on North 491**

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