

# HPPL NEWS



Volume XLIV — 2005

## Katrina's Other Victims

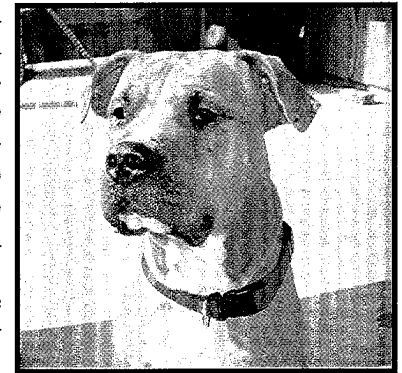
As the storm outside the Humane Society of Southern Mississippi's shelter sounded like the world was coming to an end, the already frightened German Shepherd became even more terrified. Every time he thought nothing could be any worse, the wind and rain would increase. Then the water started to come in...

Meanwhile, elsewhere in Gulfport, the gray and white stray cat desperately searched for some place she could stay protected from the raging weather. Increasingly, it became more difficult to find a spot to hide from the blowing wind, rain and debris. Still she struggled to survive. It wasn't just her life that depended on her success... she was due to deliver her babies any day.



Jack

of the destruction, the Board of Directors of HPPL considered what the organization might be able to do. Without a shelter, our taking in large numbers of animals would not be possible. Still, everyone agreed that we could make a difference for at least a few animals left homeless by the storm. Therefore, HPPL's Board made the decision to take in two dogs and two cats, even though it would mean paying fees to board them. Then, to help others left behind, HPPL also donated \$1,000 to the animal disaster rescue group Noah's Wish and \$1,000 to the Louisiana SPCA which is located in New Orleans.



Atticus

At the time of the storm, Jack, had already been up for adoption, so he was immediately available for release to HPPL's program. Lillith and her kittens were also able to come to us since she had been found as a stray, and no one had claimed her. Today, the kitties are all thriving, and Jack, about seven years old, with a few health issues (typical of many of HPPL's dogs since we help those animals with the greatest need) like weak hips and a mild thyroid condition, is enjoying his new life. In spite of his minor medical problems, Jack certainly has a lot of love to give, and all of these animals will make wonderful companions for some lucky adopters.

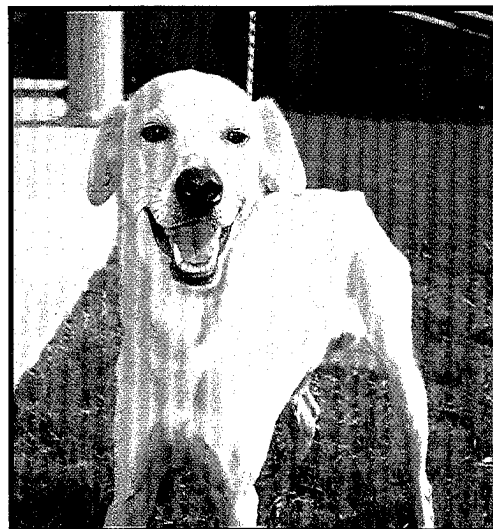


Lillith and kitten

Hurricane Katrina took hundreds of human lives and left incredible damage in her wake, but thousands of animals fell victim also; some dead; some stranded; some

abandoned. In the first few days following the storm's landfall, animal welfare associations hurried to relieve this suffering. The Humane Society of the United States established an emergency animal shelter in Jackson, Mississippi (managed by Emergency Animal Rescue...EARS' volunteers), and it was there that the German Shepherd and the stray cat came in contact with an HPPL volunteer. The dog, Jack, had been brought to the shelter with his fellow survivors from the Gulfport facility, and an individual who found the little cat wandering through debris brought her in as an abandoned stray. Within hours of entering the shelter, the little cat, now called Lillith, delivered four tiny kittens.

As we all watched with horror and viewed the extent



Jonathan

Even now, several months later, rescue efforts continue in and around the New Orleans area. Despite the work of many animal welfare groups, there is still a dire need. So, as time has passed, more animals have become available for adoption, and HPPL has made accommodations to help two more dogs and three cats. Our

...cont'd page 2

## The Tribute Fund

The Tribute Fund of HPPL can be used to honor living persons and pets or to memorialize those who have passed on, while donating to help animals in distress. After receiving your tribute donation, an appropriate card of acknowledgment will be sent to the person you indicate.

*Thank You  
for helping  
homeless  
cats and dogs*

## HPPL Information

### The HPPL Mission

The HPPL mission includes:

- (1) the rehabilitation and foster care of stray and abandoned dogs and cats with placement into qualified permanent homes;
- (2) the spay/neuter of pets belonging to owners unable to assume the cost of surgery;
- (3) humane education to increase the public's compassion for animals in order to prevent future animal suffering and neglect; and
- (4) support to other animal welfare organizations.

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## In Memory of Pets

SAM	Tessa Lesley and Carl Stutts
PITA	Tessa Lesley and Carl Stutts
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FOODRICK	John and Suzette Deckert
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MUFFIN, RACoon, SNOWGIRL, CALI	Anne Pfanz
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GINYE	Melinda Wineinger
GINYE	Nancy Davidson
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SABLE	Susan Taylor
ANNA	Kathye Elledge
COCO	Pet Tenders
TIGER LILLY BOLIA	Stacy and Dan Bolia
TIGER LILLY BOLIA	Karen Boneske
TIGER LILLY BOLIA	Margaret Gibbons
TIGER LILLY BOLIA	Laura Farrall

## In Memory of People

GENEVA HALLONQUIST	Norma Richardson
JOHN "BUDDY" SMITH	Loretta and Jim Myers
BUD WILEY	Norma Richardson

## In Honor of Pets

BARKLEY	Robert and Mary Jo McFadden
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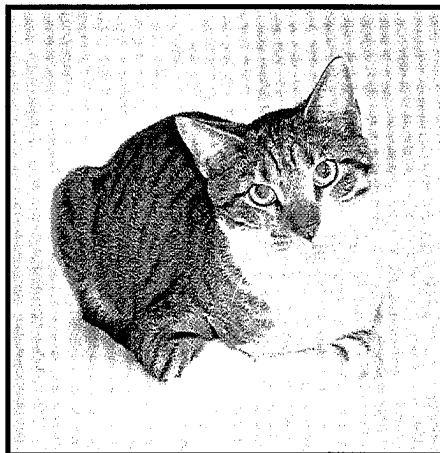
## In Honor of People

DR. LINDA ALLRED	Cathy Blum Rusciano
MARRIAGE OF JOHN McNAMARA and PATRICIA KEALY	Jim and Peg Daly

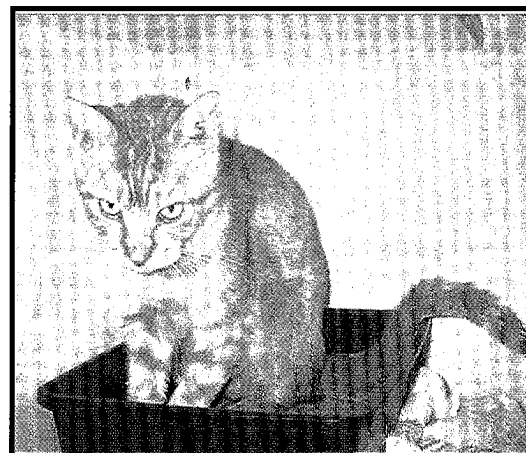
### Victims ...cont'd from page 1

new group of survivors include: Atticus, a large boxer/mastiff mix; Jonathan, a whippet mix; Julian, a thin yet friendly orange cat; and Mr. Biggles and Lotus Blossom, six-month old kittenmates who are inseparable. All of these precious pets are traumatized, confused, and insecure in a world that, for them, has turned upside down.

Won't you join our efforts to help these new Houstonians? Would you please consider underwriting a portion of the kennel fees for one of the Katrina animals? Or better yet, if you have space in your home, please think about taking in a dog or cat to foster. Life in a foster home would help them begin to recover even more quickly. Clearly, nobody can do this alone, but each and every gesture from each and everyone of us helps a devastated life to recover as HPPL provides a lost animal a chance for a new start in life.



Mr. Biggles



Julian

# HPPL Membership



## Yes, I want to help.

- I want to become a member of HPPL and have checked my membership gift below.
- \$1000 Sponsor     \$100 Associate     \$25 Basic Membership
- \$500 Patron     \$50 Affiliate     Other \$ \_\_\_\_\_
- I am already a member and I would like to make an additional donation of \$ \_\_\_\_\_
- I want to mail in monthly gifts. Send me designated envelopes.
- I want to make automatic monthly gifts with my credit card (MC or Visa).
- Check     MasterCard     Visa    Account # \_\_\_\_\_    Expires \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_ Apartment \_\_\_\_\_  
City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

HPPL is a non-profit, charitable organization. Donations are tax-deductible.

Send to: Homeless Pet Placement League ♦ P.O. Box 273027 ♦ Houston, TX 77277

## Mascot Message

One of my favorite things about being the mascot is I get to share some neat stuff with you. Recently, Bandy's mom wrote this real nice letter about her boy. Bandy was one of those dogs who went to his new home with "issues" yet his family found ways to deal with



Colbye

them. I know all our hearts feel so good when we hear about adopters who "go the distance" for their new best friend. So listen to this:

"It was a Saturday morning at PETSMART when we saw Bandit, a medium size dog cowering in the back of his cage. As a volunteer came to take him for a walk, we noticed that he was limping. Our hearts went out to him. Here was a dog most people wouldn't be likely to adopt because, with his head drooping and his tail tucked between his legs, he was anything but the happy pet most families want. So Bandit came to live with us.

The first six weeks were difficult because severe anxiety due to previous mistreatment caused Bandy to tear things up whenever we had to leave him alone. We never yelled at him because it would accomplish nothing. Instead, we ignored him and cleaned up the mess. Gradually, the destruction diminished, and

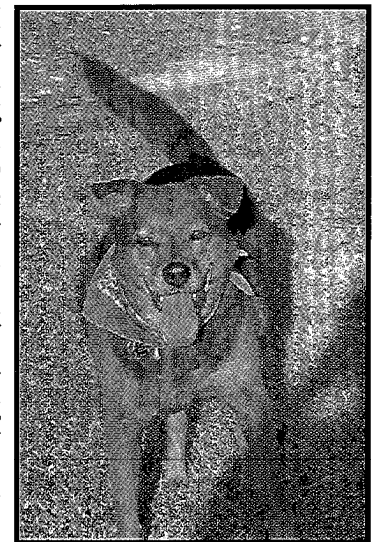
we began praising him for being a "good boy." When he decided that we weren't going to abandon him, the change was dramatic. On his walks, there was a noticeable prance in his step and a wag in his tail. With regular exercise, the limp disappeared. Soon, neighbors began to comment on what a pretty, happy dog he is.

Once Bandy had learned to trust us, we began training him to sit and stay in place until we called him. The only reward needed for such good behavior was to be told that he was a "good boy." Obviously, pleasing his people was a huge turn on for him! We tried taking him to our local bagel eatery where there is outdoor seating. To our delight that turned out to be a big hit. We were amazed when he began to raise a paw and ask (politely) for some bagel and cream cheese! We often hear comments from neighboring tables about how amazing our dog is.

Now Bandy goes everywhere with us. He has traveled to the Grand Canyon in Arizona, Arkansas, Tennessee, Michigan, and, of course, all over Texas. He is an excellent traveler. As long as his bed and bowls are loaded in our minivan, he's ready to go.

Every day we realize what a wonderful companion Bandy is. Needless to say, we are very proud of that former terrified stray mutt we brought home eight years ago. He has enriched our lives beyond imagining."

Well, are you just smiling now? Remember, HPPL works and finds homes for all sorts of animals, not just the pretty, perfect ones. And if they all have homes like this, we can say, "Job well done!" 🐾



Bandy

Homeless Pet Placement League, Inc.  
P.O. Box 273027  
Houston, TX 77277  
www.hppl.org

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### Ways to Make a Difference

The New Year can bring both you and the animals benefits. Most people think about making resolutions, but then overlook the advantages of following through on these wonderful intentions. So here are some easy ones to implement.

For the animals in your life, resolve to do the following:

1. Be sure all dogs and cats are spayed/neutered. There are health benefits, but, more importantly, these pets won't contribute to the crisis of animal overpopulation.
2. Take the four footed friends in to see the vet yearly. This will help with a good physical, catching any problems early, and then they can receive their vaccinations at the same time.
3. Control those nasty parasites by using a veterinary approved product. Whether you need to eliminate fleas or give the mandatory heartworm preventative, be sure you purchase it from a medical authority.
4. Exercise and eat right. OK, this sounds like it is for the person too, but dogs and cats need their diets controlled just like we do, and to avoid putting on those extra pounds, they need to "work out" as well.

And for you, think about these suggestions:

1. Pledge to support animals by giving time. HPPL always has plenty of fun activities that you can participate in like working at the adoption sites, labeling mailouts, manning booths, etc. Just go on the website and find a list.
2. Pledge to support animals financially. You can sponsor medical work for a rescued animal, underwrite a spay/neuter surgery, or help out with the costs of any animal that is in the kennel. Just designate your contribution accordingly.
3. Pledge to educate everyone you know about animal care. Most people are happy to receive information about how to best tend to their pets.
4. Think about fostering an animal. It really isn't that hard to open up your heart and home to one that just needs a place to stay on its way to the forever, loving home. You can call our office for a list of pets that would love to be yours...for a while. 🐾

