



HPPL Newsletter

P.O. Box 273027 • Houston, TX 77277 • 713.862.PETS • www.hppl.org

Homeless Pet Placement League Spring/Summer 2012 Newsletter

People Make the Difference



Mom Cats Needed

Usually it happens in the dark...either late at night or early in the morning. The box is placed somewhere that people will find it as the light of day appears. Inside may be two or more tiny lives unable to survive on their own. Sometimes, they are only days old; sometimes, weeks old, but without immediate help from a human, they will not live. In the last several months, HPPL has been inundated with "bottle babies." Jordan and Joy were found at a Krogers in a recycle bin. They still had their umbilical cords, so at most they were three days old. No one knows how they got there or why someone felt leaving them was ok, but immediate action had to occur in such a circumstance. The job calls for giving up a continuous night's sleep for weeks and finding time throughout the day to feed and care for the tiny ones. Literally, the foster parent must become the "mom cat" doing all that is needed for survival. Often compromised through dehydration, hunger, flea infestation, or worse, it is not uncommon for the foundlings to succumb even with the finest of care. But the reward arrives as the kittens thrive and learn to eat and play and become hale and hearty. HPPL is always looking for special people to take on a challenge and raising an orphan kitten (or several) certainly qualifies.

A Close Call

No one thinks when they pull into a drive through at a fast food restaurant that they will end up planning a rescue. But that is just what happened as a woman, on her way home from work, spied a thin and lethargic dog lying nearby. The dog was just waiting. The woman, a cat foster parent, knew food would be good, but rescue would be better. The next day, the woman returned with the food and continued to make this stop daily. However, her worries were two fold. The dog obviously needed help as it was not going to survive on some kibble once a day and the restaurant manager had decided to call animal control, a deadly ending for the starving pit bull mix. Working frantically, the determined woman networked to see if anyone could help. By starting a "chip in" fund, she felt that the dog could easily be treated medically if a foster parent could be found prior to the animal control seizure. Many people sympathized and donated, but no one offered to help the dog. Miraculously on the fifth day, a HPPL foster stepped up but could not take the dog immediately. Now the rush began to move this dog somewhere safe. However, just as help arrived so did animal control and the dog was gone. Once again, a network of animal lovers saved this thin, heartworm positive, unaltered dog from a sad fate by arriving at animal control with the good news that foster placement was available. Quickly, Mirabella was able to transition at a vet clinic and then she found her way to her foster home, to heartworm treatment (which she sailed through) and a new beginning. Many people pulled together to offer this sweet dog a chance, but it was a close call. Now, Mirabella, using that same patience she started with, is seeking a forever home. To some, her story isn't particularly remarkable or noteworthy, but it does show the power of people working together to save a life...and to Mirabella, that was quite important.



TRIBUTES



In Memory of Pets:

Suzy, Boomer, Mittens & Tejas • Lea & Gary Pilcher
Ricky • from Janet & Jeff Pozmantier
Santa Fe & Foodrick • Sharon, John & Suzette Deckert
Colbye • from Chris Mayor & Melinda Wineinger
Foxy • from Barbara Harberg
Little Baby Girl • from Mike & Cindy Newlin
Gus • from Ann Carroll
Motorman & Hope • from Michelle Bingle-Coffman
Elvis • from Kathy Girndt
Hanna • from Laura Nagle
Whispers • from Stephenie Weissinger
Raggedy • from Norma Richardson
Gabby • from Mark & Lou Ann Gore

In Memory of People:

Robert H. Dale, Jr. • from Emily Cheesman
Betty Gates • from Jennie Salazar
Robbie Earhart • from Norma Richardson
Kathie Salvie • from Norma Richardson
Pauline Ryan • from Norma Richardson

In Honor of Pets:

Tejana • from Lea & Gary Pilcher
The Deckert Cats • from Gloria & John M. Farroba



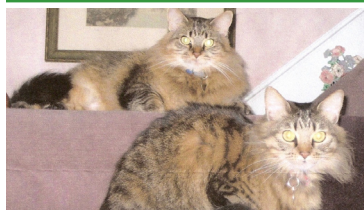
Another Way HPPL Helps

After all these years, HPPL is well known for the rescue, rehabilitation and placement of some of Houston's most hard luck cases, but it's not often that HPPL publicizes how we address the second part of our mission. Throughout HPPL's twenty-three years, we have quietly offered spay/neuter services to individuals unable to assume the cost of their pet's altering. But in 2010, HPPL ramped up this commitment through setting up a surgery program at the Spay/Houston clinic for free roaming cats. Initial funding came through a grant from Houston PET SET followed by grants from the Cameron Foundation, the PETCO Foundation and generous individual donations. Throughout 2011- 2012, on a routine basis, HPPL now partners with Spay/Houston to offer a totally free surgery day called Fix a Feline for Free. Once every six weeks, caretakers who are on public assistance can bring cats in for a "package" including surgery, rabies vaccination, flea prevention, and a pain relief injection. The surgery is available

to owned, stray and feral cats. Currently, HPPL's proactive spay/neuter assistance has helped 750 cats reducing not only the tragedy of overpopulation but minimizing intake numbers at shelters and for rescue groups. You can support this effort by designating your donation for this purpose.

HPPL Happy Endings

Welcome Home Amy and Zoe!



Dear HPPL, Thought you would like to see two former adoptees: Amy and Zoe who joined us 10 years ago at the age of 8 months. As you can see, these littermates have grown a bit over the years!

When our 10-year-old Boston

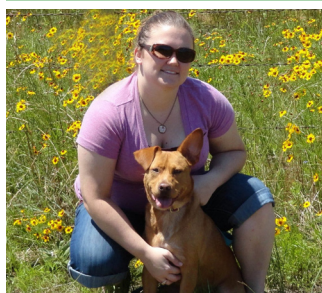
terrier joined us about 4 years ago, the girls wasted no time letting him know who was in charge. Needless to say, we never have a dull moment and enjoy every bit of it. Thank you for all the good work you've done over the years and still continue to do. Regards, Claudette

Welcome Home Dakota!

Hi HPPL, We adopted Dakota in August. She is a great dog, and we are so blessed she chose US as her forever home. Her favorite activities include going to the dog park to run and swim, playing with her "sister" Abby, as well as chasing the critters we often see on our property. We are planning to take Dakota on her first road trip for summer vacation. We are so thankful we found her. She has enriched our lives in so many ways; it's difficult to imagine life without her. Kudos to Dakota's foster parent and HPPL. Keep up the great work! Thank you, Gordon & Kathy

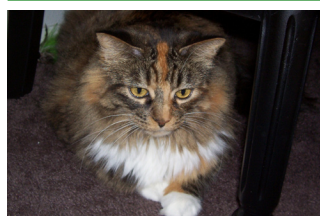


Welcome Home Nila!



Hello HPPL, It's been just a year since Nila came into my life. We celebrated tonight like it was her birthday, so she got several new bones and toys. She also got a new shirt that says, 'Meant to be together' and I know that is true; she is the best dog ever! Her foster family saved her life...just for me! Thank you, Cherie

Welcome Home Jojo!



Dear HPPL, I thought it was past time I sent an update and picture of Jojo. We got her in January 09 after losing a beloved cat months before. She has been a perfect friend and companion. She was the typical kitten and just loved her new big sister. She's not so fond of her 2 brothers since they love to

chase her. She's a bit timid and has a couple of quirky traits but that's what I love about her. She isn't a lap cat but will sleep beside me at night after I turn out the lights. I can't thank HPPL enough for bringing us together. Sincerely, Stephenie

HPPL's Been Busy

January 1 – June 10, 2012

Intake: 91 • Adoptions: 99

Free Cat Altering: 132 • Major Medical Procedures: 11

HPPL MEMBERSHIP

Each summer, HPPL asks supporters to become official members. Your membership allows us to continue saving animals throughout the summer months when the need is ever increasing. Please fill out the form or visit <http://www.hppl.org/renew.aspx> to help HPPL move into another year of providing stray animals a second chance. The membership drive ends **August 15, 2012**. Help us answer the calls that keep coming.

☐ \$25 Basic Membership ☐ \$50 ☐ \$75 ☐ \$100
☐ \$250 ☐ \$500 ☐ Other \$_____

☐ I am a current member making an additional donation of \$_____.

☐ I want to mail monthly gifts. Please send designated envelopes.

☐ I want to make automatic monthly gifts with my credit card:

☐ MC ☐ VISA Account # _____

CVV# _____ EXP _____

Name _____ Phone# _____

Address _____ Apt/Suite# _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

E-Mail _____

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