HOUSTON HUMANE

SOCIETY

2009 ANNUAL REPORT

Paws for Change

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### A letter from the Executive Director, Sherry Ferguson



CHANGE. It's a central theme for America these days. At the Houston Humane Society we, too, are making changes. Some big and some small. But, changes we hope you'll take to heart right alongside us. We're adopting the theme "Paws for Change" as our mantra for the year. So, be on the lookout for this theme as we urge Houstonians to make a few important changes, because each of these five paws (ideas) can have a big effect on the continued success of our organization and provide a brighter future for our animal companions.

As our most ardent supporters, we know that you already do a lot of the things we'll talk about in this Annual Report, but, we encourage you to help us educate and energize others in the following areas:

# ADOPT. DONATE. GET INVOLVED. SPAY/NEUTER. EXERCISE WITH YOUR PET.

#### ADOPT

Every year HHS helps care for more than 45,000 animals. This year we need your help to find even more loving homes. Our goal is to increase our adoptions by 25%.

#### DONATE

Ike was relentless. While we managed to operate in the dark, literally, saving hundreds of orphaned dogs and cats without power in our clinic or shelter, Ike left our coffers depleted. HHS receives no federal or local funding and depends on the generosity of Houstonians. We hope that you will continue to give generously this year and help restore funds depleted during the storm.

#### GET INVOLVED

This is a legislative year and there are five key pieces of important legislation headed to Austin. S. B. No. 634—tethering rules and regulations relating to the unlawful restraint of dogs; H.B. No. 853—animals included in protective orders and three bills not yet filed one which urges licensing and regulation of commercial dog and cat breeders; the second that makes it an offense to support cockfighting and the third which requires spaying and neutering of pet animals. Read more about these important issues on p. 2-3.

#### SPAY/NEUTER

With the Houston Humane Society's low cost wellness clinic there is simply no reason not to put a dent in the overpopulation of animals in Houston. We will continue to promote this program, offering events like our annual Fix Felix for Free so that pet owners can act responsibly.

#### EXERCISE WITH YOUR PET

Who doesn't need to exercise? It's not only good for the mind and body but it's a great way to bond with your animal companion. Make a resolution to strut your stuff with Fido more often. We'll encourage this healthy behavior throughout the year starting with events like our beloved K-9 Fun Run.

The one thing we won't change is to continue to be good stewards with your generous donations. Once again, we've been awarded Charity Navigator's 4-Star rating for the fifth consecutive year, showing for our ability to efficiently manage and grow our finances. With a brand new home, HHS stands ready to make an even greater impact in the coming year.

Help us change the world for our animal companions!

### A step in the right direction. Get involved.

At the Houston Humane Society we have always supported efforts to help those without a voice. In this legislative year, there are five key pieces of important legislation headed to Austin which need your support. Two of these are pending bills. The other three have not yet been filed. Read more below.

### Pending in Austin

A law which will protect pets in cases of domestic abuse was filed in Austin early this month by the Texas Federation of Animal Care Societies (TFACS). H.B. No. 853 makes it a penalty to remove a pet, animal companion, or assistance animal from a person protected in a court order. The law would also protect the animal in question from being harmed or threatened and prohibit interfering with the care, custody and control of that animal. S.B. No. 634 would make it unlawful to restrain a dog outside unless the dog is in a pen or under certain other limited circumstances. This bill amends a section of the Texas Health and Safety Code, which limited the hours a dog could be restrained outside. Tethering or chaining a dog would not be allowed except in limited training or agricultural circumstances. We'll certainly make updates on these bills as they become available so check our website.

### Fur flies over puppy mills

The vast majority of retail pet stores and internet pet sellers acquire their animals from commercial breeding facilities known as puppy mills. Little or no regulation is in place to require even the most minimal of care for these operations, which places both the mother and the babies at huge risk for a variety of problems like malnourishment, stress related diseases, substandard housing and veterinary care, just to mention a few. Life for a dog in even the "best" puppy mill is one that no animal should have to endure, especially companion animals. Puppies bred in a puppy mill are raised and kept in cages away from human contact without proper socialization, which affects their behavior for the rest of their lives. Females are bred every time they come into heat, living in a cage with no human contact or love, constantly producing puppies for profit.



These puppies were rescued by HHS and placed in loving homes.

Unfortunately, puppy mills are legal and there are no laws against breeding and selling. This bill would provide for licensing and minimal regulation. If passed, all retail sales of dogs and cats would require the seller to furnish the buyer with information about the breed including the age and health of the animal along with a statement of consumer rights subject to consumer protection.



### Crying fowl!

Another area of animal cruelty which needs your support pertains to cockfighting. Cockfighting is an offense under Texas law, but it is difficult to enforce because those who engage in this sport must be caught in the act. This bill would make it a punishable offense to support cockfighting and give law enforcement the tools to investigate, and punish those involved.

This centuries old blood sport involves two or more specially bred birds forcing the birds to fight for the purpose of gambling and entertainment. Unfortunately, this "sport" results in the death of one or both of the birds in a very cruel and painful manner.

Texas Humane Legislation Network (THLN) will be filing the above two bills.

How you can help? Call or write your congressman. Let them know you support legislation which protects our animals and urge them to get these laws passed. To read more on these and other animal related bills visit www.houstonhumane.org/legislation.

### **Applauding Crime Stoppers**



Katherine Cabaniss with Crime Stoppers, guest and Harris County District Attorney, Pat Lykos. Crime Stoppers is famous for its tip line, which helps put criminals behind bars. Now, they are working just as hard to put a stop to animal cruelty with a new public service campaign intended to alert the public that it is a crime not to report animal abuse. We applaud and support the work that they are doing and encourage you to spread the word.

If you see or know of anyone taking part in dog fighting please help stop this abuse. You can call the Crime Stoppers tip line at 713-222-TIPS.

### Way to go Harris County!

We have been aware of the amazing job ADA Belinda Smith has been doing prosecuting animal abusers. Over the past several years she has gone to court numerous times and helped HHS with many cases. We were a bit apprehensive when a new District Attorney was to be elected who could put animal cruelty on the back burner. Not only has newly elected District Attorney Pat Lykos kept Belinda in the crime fighting position, she understands the suffering of animals and created a specific Animal Cruelty Division in the DA's office! If you have time to drop her a note or an occasion to meet Pat Lykos, please tell her Thank You for being sensitive to the suffering of those that cannot speak for themselves.

### HHS Makes History While Fighting Cruelty

To Report Cruelty: Call 713-433-6421 extension 396

File a report online at www. houstonhumane.org

For stray animals call your local Animal Control:

Harris County 281-999-3191

BARC (City of Houston)

713-229-7300

Fort Bend County Montgomery County 281-342-1512 936-442-7738

Brazoria County

979-849-2441

In November 2008, the Houston Humane Society took an active part in shutting down one of the largest dog-fighting rings in the nation. Members of the HHS R.A.I.D.E.R. team, **Dr. Timothy Harkness**, chief veterinarian, and HHS staff joined a team of federal, state, and local officials to seize more than 120 animals and arrest 55 suspects. After the raid, **Harris County Assistant District Attorney Kenneth Magidson** detailed more than 40 felony dog-fighting charges against the 55 defendants and several other misdemeanor charges for being a spectator at a dogfight. A felony conviction can result in up to a two-year sentence in a state prison and a misdemeanor conviction can result in a \$4,000 fine and up to one year county jail time.

The joint law enforcement action was launched because of an informant's tip about a major dog-fighting ring based in Harris County. The November arrests and animal confiscations resulted from a year-long undercover investigation and were coordinated

by Harris County assistant district attorneys Belinda Smith and Stephen St. Martin. Partnering agencies included our own R.A.I.D.E.R. team; Texas Department of Public Safety; Harris County Public Health and Environmental Services; Harris County Precincts 1, 5, and 6 Constable Offices; County Commissioner Steve Radack's Office, and the Harris County Attorney's Office.

While defendants awaited civil hearings, confiscated animals were held at undisclosed locations and evaluated by Dr. Harkness and the HHS veterinary team. Dr. Harkness will serve as the sole expert forensic veterinarian when the criminal cases go to trial. "These dogs were kept in more-than-cruel conditions, subjected to torturous conditions," said Dr. Timothy Harkness.

### We need your help

The Houston Humane Society is committed to protecting animals against cruelty and applauds all of the organizations which were involved in shutting down this ring. Through our R.A.I.D.E.R. program we

continue to fight animal abuse daily and appreciate your support with these efforts. This worthwhile program is expensive. If you would like to help fight animal cruelty, just note R.A.I.D.ER. on your gift. Any amount is helpful.



### HHS says goodbye to two fine-feathered friends



### Izzy

Our sparsely feathered friend passed away in December. Having no idea how old she was when she came to HHS, Izzy shared our lives for the past 10 years. Her curiosity, chatter and amazing personality will be missed by everyone that met her. No more will we feel her nibbles and hear "I love you". We'll miss her walking into the offices saying "Whatcha doin'?" In spite of her fame being a cover girl on Pet Talk Magazine, she would "Gimme a kiss" to everyone she saw. There will never be another Cockatoo like Izzy and she will not be forgotten.

### Gabby

Our second heartbreak came just months after Izzy's passing. After 15 years of investigative reporting, Gabby's gossiping has been silenced. She was a beautiful 13 year old Senegal parrot when she came to HHS, immediately setting to work winning the hearts of the staff and visitors. She passed away peacefully in the early morning hours before the shelter opened. We will miss this gregarious green girl very much.



### Hurricane long gone, but aftermath still felt

Forecasts had called for heavy winds and rain, so in the week preceding Hurricane Ike, staff and volunteers at HHS prepared early. Realizing that the storm would be destructive we hoped that with sufficient preparation and determination we would come through in good shape.

Before Ike hit, Edward Perez, Shelter Director, Sherry Ferguson, Executive Director, HHS staff members and volunteers including, Durk Chernosky brought in food, extra clothes and personal care items in anticipation of a three to four-night sleepover. Little did they know that Ike would have them camped out at the facility for more than 7 days.



Based on a building expansion completed earlier in 2008, it was expected that we would maintain operations and be able to assist other facilities for at least two weeks. So, in advance of Ike, our facility took in more than 200 animals from Pasadena, Galena Park, Missouri City, and Pearland. This allowed those locations to close down and devote their personnel to other emergency operations.

Unfortunately, Mother Nature had other things planned. New building or not. Like so much of Houston we lost all power. And, the three small generators which had been secured to run a refrigerator to store vaccines, as well as to help keep animals comfortable was no match for the 2-week outage. At that point HHS was forced to purchase a commercial size generator to the tune of \$20,000.



Heavy rain and wind damaged roofs on two shelter buildings and rising water flooded the Shelter where many animals had been relocated. Several kennels and the stray holding structure were also damaged. When employees were able to inspect the buildings, they found that the storm had destroyed a horse trailer, uprooted several trees and damaged or destroyed several hundred feet of fencing.

Although the Wellness center was serving an expanded geographical area, Reliant Energy did not put us on their emergency list, nor respond

Vet tech Jason Klovenski and HHS Vet Dr. LA King render aid to Ike victim.

to our daily telephone pleas for assistance. Days turned to weeks and clinic operations were forced to shut down for three weeks except for emergencies. The clinic had to close another week for deep cleaning and disinfecting.

Despite the problems, HHS is grateful for the far-reaching support received from staff members, volunteers, area businesses and the general community which made the Houston Humane Society a priority, even in the wake of their own personal devastation and loss.

In spite of the damage and destruction,
Hurricane Ike was a learning experience for the Humane Society.

Volunteers showed up each day to help clean up and care for animals, take in donated supplies, and unload food donations. HEB and Purina each sent a trailer full of food for the animals. Webster, Bayer, Novartis, Schering-Plough, and Chase paid for lunches for staff and volunteers. Alklean's Pete Bullmore donated high heat machines for cleaning our buildings. Imperial Linen Service laundered the massive numbers of towels and bedding for no fee. Members of the public stopped in daily to donate food, water, towels, and general encouragement. Volunteer services and generous in-kind donations enabled HHS to provide high levels of service and care for a greater than usual number of animals.

In spite of the damage and destruction, Hurricane Ike was a learning experience for the Humane Society. Changes have been made to how lost-and-found reports are taken and, as a result, HHS was able to reunite several families with their lost pets. "Above all, we learned that our community appreciates the Houston Humane Society's services" said Sherry Ferguson, executive director of the HHS.

Unfortunately, the overall cost of these services was also higher than usual. By having the clinic closed for 21 days, operating income was lost. On top of spending more than \$20,000 for emergency generators, we were hit by the additional high cost of fuel to run them. We will also have to meet a \$15,000 insurance deductible to pay for replacements and repairs to our buildings and grounds. In 2009, fund-raising will be more important than ever because Ike continues to wreck havoc.

"We would like to thank the people and businesses who supported us as we worked tirelessly on behalf of all the animals" said Sherry Ferguson, executive director of the HHS. And, we all pray for a hurricane-free summer.



HHS Volunteers lend a hand during Ike.



### HHS welcomes new R.A.I.D.E.R officers

### Sergeant Joe Guerra

Since childhood, Sergeant Joe Guerra aspired to a career in law enforcement, realizing his dream in 1997 when he became a deputy, working as a bicycle patrol officer in the East End neighborhoods of the Precinct 6 Constable's office. He then became a community liaison officer in the Gang Resistance Education and Training unit. In 1999, Guerra moved to the Sex Offender Compliance team, where he was instrumental in writing a grant proposal that addressed registration compliance. The highly-successful program created a one million dollar grant which has since been adopted by all other precincts in Harris County.

Guerra has been recognized by the City of Houston for his civic achievements. In 2000, he was honored by the Houston Fire Department for quick thinking and bravery that helped save a historic public building and several surrounding buildings from a massive fire.

Early in 2009, Guerra joined the Houston Humane Society / Precinct 6 RAIDER program as a Sergeant. With a strong combination of law enforcement experience coupled with a desire to rescue animals from dangerous situations, and his interest in public education, Joe Guerra is a welcome addition to the staff.

### Corporal Juan Mireles

Corporal Juan Mireles began his law enforcement career in 1998, when he joined the Precinct 6 Constable's office as a deputy in the warrant department. Soon, he moved to bike patrol where he was able to spend time getting to know the community. Mireles later moved to the Sex Offenders unit, monitoring activities of high-profile offenders, to ensure their compliance with the law. After a 2 year stint, Mireles worked with the city housing authority, dealing with gangs and narcotics. Responding to a obvious need in the community, Mireles began coaching youth basketball for 6- and 9-year old children in the inner city youth league, Hoops for Hope.

The Houston Humane Society/Precinct 6 RAIDER program now proudly welcomes Juan Mireles to the staff. His strong community relations skills, experience in law enforcement, and strong desire to educate



the public about the proper treatment of animals will make him a valuable addition to our team.

Corporal Mireles and Sergeant Guerra with HHS mascots Flash and Burnie and Lil Bit.

### Spay and neuter provides health benefits



A hotly contested debate may become a moot point if legislation is passed requiring pets to be spayed and neutered. But, in the interim we'd like to present some advantages of spaying and neutering in addition to the obvious one of reducing overpopulation. The truth is that spaying or neutering your pet can promote a longer and healthier life for your trusted companion.

Neutering male dogs eliminates the possibility of testicular tumors later in life, which are commonly seen in older unaltered males. Neutered males have less desire to roam, which may help curb a desire to fight, and protect your pet from being hit by a car or getting lost. Neutering your male pet can also result in a calmer and cleaner home as he longer feels the need to "mark" his territory throughout the house and yard. A neutered male is much more even-tempered.

In the case of females, it is unfortunate that one out of four female dogs over 4 years of age is at risk of developing one or more breast tumors. Spaying prior to 6 months of age is preventative, while spaying prior to 2 years of age has a sparing effect. It is often thought that the female needs to go through her first heat or to have at least one liter to make her a better pet, but this is simply not true. Spaying your female pet eliminates the heat cycle or estrus. Dogs can cycle twice a year and go into heat for approximately 21 days. Cats can cycle as many as 3 or more times per year and be in heat for 3-15 days. That is the equivalent of 2 months of the year where your dog is uncomfortable and your household routine upset, both of which are completely avoidable.

Spaying and neutering can promote a better quality and longer life for your pet, as well as controlling unwanted liters that potentially end up homeless. Approximately 17 million dogs and cats wound up at animal shelters

last year for care. It is estimated that only one out of every 10 find a home, leaving over 13.5 million animals to be destroyed. A sad and avoidable statistic.

Make one of your "Paws for Change" this year to spay or neuter your animal, or sponsor a surgery for a friend at the HHS Animal Wellness Clinic. Not only is it the responsible thing to do, but you'll protect your pet and others in the long-run.

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Featured above, HHS Chief Veterinarian, Dr. Harkness, with Lil' Bit.

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In Memory of: Donation From: Bunny Buns June, Ed, Chris, & E.W. Timothy Burch Madeline and Kenny Mitcham Lloyd Butaud Inwood Forest Citizens on Patrol Cajun S. Muzslay Dumas Cali Mary Forgotson Candy Thomas Cordell Manuel Cantu Alma Cantu Carolina The Lesters C.J. Carroll Cathy Blum Cassity & Sabre Jim & Pat Watson Dorothy Catterton Ann Weisgarber Ceddie Marilyn Kev Charles, Boots, Oreo & Tiger John Field Chevy The Nathanson's Chiffon, Tina, & Folly Doris Allen Chili Craig Robertson Christine Karen Smith Karen Korczynski Blakely Smith Cobi Bette Butter Brinson Coconut & Misty Suzv & Jim Sievert Dr. Florence Monroe Mr. & Mrs. Harry Buescher Bill Coffey Jane & Jack Kepner June Coleman Marcella Coleman Cricket Naomi Schwartz Van Cross Marjorie & Jim Chambers Dan Janet Boyle Gail & Alan Levine Darling Daisy Wallis Davis Kitty Borah George Dawson Sr. Nancy Kuhn Abel De Souza Donna Uliva Kirk Johnson Jan Jesperson Clara Dillon Smaragdo Kokkinis Greg Dodson Faye Jones Joseph Gregory Dodson Marilyn Jones Dale Largent family Gary Gehbauer Kelly Walters JW Daubert Alexander Jeffrey Down Ardeth Brodie Leo Michael Doyle Dan Kendall Donald Blair David & Mary Schleif Ann Eutsler, Bernie, Mike, Jeff, Ken & Jospeh Borski Wanda Brock Carolyn Allgood Dora Schleif Dudette Bunny Halvorson Duke Jeannine Smith Mother & Brother of Carolyn Ebanks Mr. & Mrs. John Champion Joanna Henry Lou Parris Lou Falcone Dandra Barber Ben Falk Steve & Barbara Meltzer Judy Flesch Janet Henderson Fluffus Clive Bradford Joyce Foard Katherine Ostrowski Abby Frank Deedie Rutler Georg Fuller Staff of Garmisch Elem/Middle James Furlan School Elisa Furlan FuzzvHeidi Lou Garcia Valerie Ray Georgette Jean Brooks Susan Schroeder Mick German

Mazel Glickman Larry & Helen Rose Susan, Syd, & Rachel Waldman Simba Gonzalez Stacie Overheu Governor Bonnie McMurtry Erica Bess Duncan Bright Graff Kimberly Gregg Elizabeth Sikes Susan Sikes Wills Donald Gretzer Mary & Norman Wilson Grisha Brinton Smith Michael Guttman Janis & Bob Frank Wuss "The Puss" Hafer Nanette Griffin Linda Hunter Cecilia Stein Hans Нарру Mary Comparetto Foxy Harberg Barbara Harberg Harley Barbara Schwartz Freda Bowen John Harris David La Porte Louis Haves Louise Hayes-Odom Lyn Hendrickson Charlie & Phyllis Crook William E. Henry Jack & Judy Davis Susan, Daryl & Morgan Hiers Bobby & Martha Jo Davis & family Bill & Janelle Sitton Kerry & Lynn Sitton & family Carole & Tommy Lattus The Constantine Family Hershey Andrea Buege Fritzy Higbie Kathleen Crow Higginbothams Ron Procell George Hilmond Jr. Ondree Kuhn Mort & Betty Mortensen Sam Hine Ron & Lesa Brownstein Hootch, Hilde, Roc, Bandi & Rocky II Gwen Burrows Donna Olson Rob House Sue Hubbard Jennifer Funderburk Keith Huge Eva Huge Iris & Lilith Lynell Zelenka Susan Prospere Izzy J. Roger Wich Jay & Mary Hugh Weidler Constance Gooden Jack Jake Diane & Michael Kern Grandma & Papa Lesa McDonald Jasmine Shelagh Campbell L.B. Jedlicka Jaxon Jehovah Donna Glover Elizabeth Reynolds Jenny Robert "Bob" Jensen Barbara Ann Lyons Richard & Ginny Rahr Pat & Shirley McGraw Bruce Niebuhr Ann Cochran Sherry Ferguson Aunt Jetta & Aunt Doris William & Jaclyn Low Judy Wolf Ronald & Anita Kantowski Donna Amerson Jobe, Miko, OJ, Misha & Kodi Joan Brady Anna R. & Richard Jones Ray Laurentz Debra Sue Jones Miriam Slemmons Willie Lee Jones Russell Adams Katie Douglas Dopjera Katy Katrina Cassidy Amy Kayes Ken & Sydney Stilling Anne Keepers Valerie Butz Reg Keinath Judy & Ron Panozzo Joseph Kelleher PF Camp

Jane Thomas

Jane Wirth

Gunner Henry Gillespie

Robert Paul Kelley

James Kellogg

IBEW Local Union No.66 Criscenda Kirksey Steve & Sue Hugueley Bernard Hennessy Arnold Price

Jack, Marie, Buddy Beil, Reesa &

Randy Whitman

CB Richard Ellis Office Team

Bou Kendall Robert Warren Kendrick Bindi Toggenstein Khosla

Beverly Icenhower Kingery Randy & Susan Shepler D. Renfrow Kobe & Miko Joan Brady Koko & Sasha

Arline Kollmorgen Wendy Kowasic

Kristi Lady Apricot Lass Betty Leavell

Annie Lee LiamLi'iLily

Dr. Tom Lind Logan

Lucille Lucky

Lucy

Luke

Michael Lynch Maddie Maggie

Maggie Stanton Magnum Mama Tika

Eleanor Mansfield Hester Matzas

Max Maxie McKenzie

Mrs. Ora Lee McMillian Mercedes Mickey & Beau Midnite Mieko Mingo Missy

Missy & Ellie Nela Montgomery Cody Monroe Norma Moore

Margaret Morand Page Morris Ralph Mortensen Earl Moscarelli

Mouse, Andrea, Misty, Mickey,

Red & Bud Mr. Ed Carolyn Muncy Doris Allen John Kendall Russ Pitman Carol Roggenstein

Shelagh Campbell Tanya Nair

Martha Ann Kollmorgen

Sheryl Downey Theresa Smith April Andres Lea Nelson Emily McKay The guys at work Marilyn & John Holstead

Deborah Ryan G. Campbell Leah Fontana

Marcia & Kirk Blackard

Victoria Kohl

Mr. & Mrs. Charles Wiggins

Mary Forgotson Patricia Teed Jennifer Russell Mr. & Mrs. Kurt Andres

Billie Lynch

Allison, Larry & Jonathan Handren

Caran Galloway Darlene Adbouch

Sherry, Mytcee, Taylor & Guillermo

Mary Hinds Judith Cull Leslie Calvert Elizabeth Bradlev Susan Mangola The Pozmantier Family John & Marilyn Evans Evelyn Blasingame Joan Morgenstern Pat Rogers Maureen Fleming Gary Penzell

Shari Leonard Cathy Blum Penny Pfeffer Brenda Williams Betty Bacha Linda Kane Suzan Ham Mary Brunson Betty Bacha Marilyn & John Holstead

Anita Wilkerson

Jana Keul Yvonne Jensen

Vernon Williams The Weil family Lonez Fox Kelly Dilodovico Ed & Rose Myatt Rhoda Myers

Mother of Sunanda Nath Winston Neidell

Tucker Nelson Noel

Oakley & Penney Betsy Oberhoff Patrick O'Conner Larry Odell

Okra & Skunk Ollie Oreo Tilly Osborne

Paschal

Patrick, a true animal lover

Paula Pongo Peak Merle Pellusch Janice Penney Penny Pepper & Sniff Carl Peters Margaret Peters

Phillip, beloved pet & friend

of Chihiro & Deric Phoebe Picaho Lisa Jan Pitcock

Pitufa

Katie Plotkin Poochie Porky Lynn Powell

Norma Jean Price Priscilla Pumpkin

Jeanette Haag Pursch Allen Rhodes Elizabeth Robinson

Rocket

Hamilton Paul Rogers Jr.

Mr. & Mrs. Ben L. Wicker, Jr.

Julie Habegger Nancy Law Norman Neidell Irene Kim

James, Susan, Heather & David

Graves Dorothy Spencer Mrs. James Elkins Maryanne Tallichet Carol & Glen Anderson

Ellen Eudy George Hlavenka Janet Boyle Bunny Halvorson Sherry Ferguson Darden Deviney Jerry Osborne Diane & Michael Kern Mark Snider

Carolyn Sturman Susan Peak Marilyn Trail

Braes Republican Womens Club Mr. & Mrs. Richard Russell

Diane Bennett Jane Vallier Jane Vallier

Kimber Barber-Fendley Danny & Sandy Kelso Mr. & Mrs. Charles Elliott James & Eleanor Pitcock

Steven Jarvis Lawrence Olsen Dr. Margaret Waisman Lidia McMahan Louis & Jane Landa

William & Evelyn Griffing Foundation

Ellen Grodjesk Deedie McCue Anna Moorman Katherine Russell Judith Cull Irene Winebrenner Boh Frank

Mr. & Mrs. Kurt Andres Janis & Bob Frank

George Vetter

Mrs. William H. McDugald

Rhetta Davis

Laurence D. Sikes. Jr. Barbara & Charles Hurwitz Dr. & Mrs. William A. Miller Madelyn & George Farris

Edgar Gay Tom Ward Stephen Smith

Mr. & Mrs. David T. Hedges

Dan Settle, Jr. Robert & Sally Bussian Edminster, Hinshaw, Russ & Associates, Inc. Mr. & Mrs. John Cook Carolyn & John Young

Ross Kyger Frances Sampson Trish & Dunbar Chambers

Janet Boyle Mr. & Mrs. I.H. Kempner, III

In Memory Of: Rudy F. Roof Roscoe Rosie Roxy Ruckus Bill Runbeck Adelaide Russell

Rusty Sable Sadie Sylvester Sample

Sandy

Morgan, Ocee & Lady Schmidt

Kuni Schultz

Gerry Schumacher II Boni June Schweizer

Scout Sebastian Shadow

Shane Dog Candy Sharp Sheba Shebly Sheltie Sir Sid

Sissy Skeeter Marie

Skv

Buster Slade

Ron Smith Abbey, Frisky, & Tippy Smushy

Sophie Sophie Tay Soto

Spot & all the others you care for

Jemetta Spray Lucy Spring Mary Ann Stewart Rose Stewart

Franklin Lane Summers Sushi

Sweet Pea Sylvester

Tara, the most fortunate,

most loved ever

Tasso, long lived, well loved

Taz Teaspoon

Judy Teilibein

Tess

Emily Tiedemann

Timothy Tinker

Tippy, Smushy, & Abby

Toby

Sarah Tolsky Topanga & Scooby Donation From:

Ed Bluestein, Jr. Marie Marcelino Mary Hinds Nancy Kuhn

James & Gail Jackson

Edith Smith

Beverly & Bill Brannan Sallie Hlildenbrand Victor Biega Bonnie Mills Helen Toombs

Ellen Grodjesk

RMJ

Mr. & Mrs. Chuck Jones Dr. & Mrs. Kenneth Jensen Clear Brook High School

Jeanette Jones Shelley White Jeannine Russell Gwen Magrisso H.C. Jafari Dorothy Shea Patricia Menville Jenna Rudoff Teresa Kelly

Dane & Michael Kern Naomi Schwartz Thomas Cordell

Mike, Susan, John & Katie Albert

Mother & Marty Joan Robins Barbara Harberg

Tracy, Terri, Gail & Jean Schneider

Steven Slade Neelie Slade Karolyn Smith Tom Stovey Carolina Alaniz Judith Cull Elsa Kapitan-White Ed & Pam Menville Traci Messina

Jim Wiederhold Mr. & Mrs. Robert Frank

Sue Fahev Ted Marek

Alex & Joanne Capo Mr. & Mrs. Bob Frank June, Ed, Chris, & E.W. Heather & Hank Brown

Charlie & Phyllis Crook Phyllis David-Crook Margarett & Ed Thomas

Cathy Blum

Drs. Ellin & Robert Grossman

Patricia Luvender Linda Daniel Joann McLaughlin Dr. Michael King Will Barclay

Charles & Phyllis Crook Thomas Stovey

Carol Dean Chuck, Nancy, Haylie & Ryan Peterson

Brenda Nasser Sonja Brake

Louise Shumacher Treufeldt Koshka & Molly Tucci

Tucker Тисо Leslie Lou Upham

Judy Ann Walker

Mary Louise Walters Brenda Blalock Webre

Ruth Welch

Dick Wetting Wayne White

J Roger Wich

Nancy Finelli Thomas Cordell Shelley White

Sherry & Gerald Merfish Marian Fleming

The House at Pooh Corner

Rebecca & Steve Stuckey

Dale & Teresa Cook

Bunny Halvorson

Stacey Glaesmann

Howard Upham

Frances Bradley

Lucy Dover

Amy Lucus

Sue Riner

Wade Wilson Art B. Proler

Northern Trust, Teri Riha Ben L. Wickers Jr. Ken & Debbie Dewey

Shirley Buckert Marion Forbes Sissy Reynolds Marilyn Cook

Thomas & Dottie Moritz Mary & Norman Wilson Winston Monique Ponder Wolfe MehaffyWeber, PC

The IMC Family Equistar Chem L.P. Lila & Frank Quilici Marica Hopkins Ron Brown Bart Siegel National Grid Dorothy Coble Mary Mitchell

Jenni & Colin Longshore Joe & Nancy Governali Mom & all your sisters

STCL Animal Law Society

Carolyn Anderson

Sharmila Jayakumar

Pamela and Ed Quinn

Erin and Kathryn Ferguson

Deborah Leighton

Worf Maxi Ann Wright Brian Evjen Ziggy Starburst of Texas Jacque Hill-ptak

Tree Of Life:

2007-2008 STCL Animal Law Scty Deaf Smith Elem. Superstars

Hurricane Ike Survivors

Fallbrook, CA In Honor of our Angels Hershey and Hailey In Honor of Judi Holmes In loving memory of a sweet

soul Travis Meisel In Memory of Xan

Spinky 1992 - 2008 Our sweet boy

Road To Recovery:

2007-2008 STCL Animal Law Society STCL Animal Law Society Frank J Loudat friend to all animals In memory of Doris Adams

Robert Jackson Given By:

Given By:

Drew Earle

Westchase Animal Clinic Gary Poon and Family

We are very pleased to include the memorials and honorifics in the newsletter and all of your donations. Due to printing costs and limited space, only donations of \$35 or more will appear in the newsletter. We apologize if your memorial or honorific was not printed in this publication, and do appreciate all donations, regardless of amount. Please print memorials and honorifics clearly and specify if pet or person. HHS will acknowledge all donations so please include name and address where you would like acknowledgement sent.

<sup>\*</sup>Donations were taken from January 1, 2008 to December 31, 2008

## **HHS Wish List**

### Looking for a way to help the animals? View our wish list below:

#### Administrative Needs:

Batteries (all sizes)

Calculators

Colored Paper

Copy Paper (letter)

Digital Cameras (4.0M) for high

resolution

Double-sided Tape

Jump/Flash Drives 128MB +

Laminating Pouches

Markers (dry erase, permanent)

Paper Towels

Pens (black)

Plastic Storage Bins (18 gallon)

Printer Cartridges

(HP 22, 27, 56, 57)

Printing Labels

Printing Services (Kinko's etc.)

Scotch Tape

### Critter Needs:

Bath Mats and small Rugs

Dog & Cat Shampoo

Dog Brushes

Cat Food

Kitten Food

Kitty Litter

Leashes & Collars

Newspaper

Small Animal Feed and Bedding

(Guinea Pigs)

Sturdy, Washable Cat & Dog Toys

Bath Towels

PetCo and PetsMart gift cards

### Clinic Needs:

Sam's Gift Cards

Bleach

Odo Ban (at Sam's Club)

Cotton Swabs

Disposable Latex Gloves

First Aid Kits

Hand Sanitizer

Rubbing Alcohol

Scrubs (Sizes S, M, L & XL)

### Livestock/Rescue Needs:

Binoculars

Dust Pans

Feed (horse, pig, poultry, goat)

Hav

Horse Trailer

Landscaper

Lawn Equipment

### RED ALERT!

Items in Red are desperately needed.

Bath Mats & small washable rugs

Cat Litter

Leashes/Collars

Newspaper

Paper Towels

Bath Towels

Copy Paper (letter)

Pens (black)

Please drop off all wish list items at the Houston Humane Society during normal business hours.



## **Happy Tail**

This is Dolly, a wonderful female that had been with us for quite some time and we wondered if she would ever get a home. She was adopted by Angelynn Johnson in late summer 2008. Finally, she found a wonderful home where she is an important family member. "We like going on long walks or taking going to the park. We drive to the bark park once a week and that's where we get our weekly bath. She brings a smile to everybody who crosses our path on our walks because she's just so cheerful," says her new Mom, Angelynn.

## **Three Cheers for Volunteers!**

Four big awards were given out at this year's volunteer appreciation party: Volunteer of the Year and Teen Volunteer of the Year as well as two new awards: the Hit the Ground Running Award and the True Spirit of HHS Award.

The Hit the Ground Running Award is meant for a newcomer to HHS within the last 3 orientation periods. Someone who has really pitched in and made a huge difference! In fact, our recipient this year hit the ground running so hard that we were afraid she would burn out. Recognizing our huge need for weekday volunteers, this person often pitches in several days a week, and quite frequently you will spot her here on Saturdays and Sundays too! She has such a positive attitude and a huge heart for the animals! Congratulations to Cheryl Gabelmann for our first Hit the Ground Running Award.

The True Spirit of HHS Award is our second new honor. It was the hardest one to determine, because so many exhibit that volunteer spirit. We considered the different programs and events that HHS offers and one name came up over and over! This person volunteers at the shelter and will show up at only 5 minutes notice! She has even been known to show up for a Comcast TV shoot on her way to work. With the help of her daughter, she has fostered more animals than we can count! Congratulations **Kyoko Flasik** for our first ever True Spirit of HHS Award.

Our Teen Volunteer of the Year Award recipient is a young woman who came out daily throughout the summer to work with the animals. One staff member remarked, "oh my gosh, she came out all the time in the summer and I would see her run and run all day long with the dogs. I don't think she ever ran out of energy!" Every time we see her, she has a huge, infectious smile on her face and is always eager to be here and help out. Congratulations, Lori Ramagli, Teen Volunteer of the Year.



## Volunteer of the Year

This year's Volunteer of the Year is probably no surprise. This woman has been a tremendous driving force in leading our weekday volunteer program. She takes time out each week to email our volunteers, to ensure that the dogs get walked every single day! But she doesn't stop there. She has pitched in getting silent auction items for numerous events, prepared and showcased animals for Comcast, assisted at offsite Houston Young Lawyers Association adoption days, participated in many Yappy Hours, and the list goes on and on. And that's just been in a few short months! She is quick to offer new ideas about how to help the animals and our program. She refuses to say No and is someone who truly gives 110% each and every week to the HHS. This volunteer has made huge impact on our program and we can't imagine HHS without her! Three cheers for this year's Volunteer of the Year—Angela McGhee.

## 2009 Humane Happenings

#### MARCH

22-28th Annual Houston Humane Society K-9 Fun Run and Walk "Paws for Change"

#### APRIL

PREVENTION-OF-ANIMAL-CRUELTY MONTH 15 – Sponsor a Pet Day 19-25 – National Volunteer Week

#### MAY

BE-KIND-TO-ANIMALS
MONTH
Grand Opening of New HHS
Facility—check website for date

1 – Save a Stray Donation Day30 – Hug-Your-Cat Day

#### JUNE

ADOPT-A-SHELTER-CAT MONTH

1-5 - HHS Companion Camp

7-13 – Pet Appreciation Week

### JULY

6-10 - HHS Companion Camp

#### AUGUST

3-7 - HHS Companion Camp

#### SEPTEMBER

WALK YOUR DOG MONTH 20-26 – National Dog Week

#### OCTOBER

ADOPT-A-SHELTER-DOG MONTH 10 – HHS Annual Gala 30 – HHS Par Fore Pets Golf

Tournament

### NOVEMBER

ADOPT-A-SENIOR-PET MONTH 1-7 – National Animal Shelter Appreciation Week

### **OUR THANKS GO OUT TO:**



FOR PARTICIPATING
IN THE
19TH ANNUAL
PAR FORE PETS
GOLF TOURNAMENT.

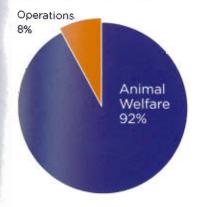


#### THANKS ALSO GO TO:

Lone Star Pet Lodges Webster Vet Supply Benefit Concepts Pet Vet Animal Hospitals A Tail & 4 Legs Alpha Dog Maketing Purina Landtech Spain, Price, Reader & Thompson PC Chemstations Intravet Scherring Plough Replic Waste Griffing & Company Security First Mani, Stuart, Hayle Marie & Mollie Bijou

FOR SWINGING INTO ACTION TO SUPPORT THE ANIMALS.

## **Houston Humane Society Financial Information**



The Houston Humane Society is the recipient of Charity Navigator's fifth consecutive 4-star rating, for our ability to efficiently manage and grow our finances. We have proven that the Houston Humane Society is worthy of the public's trust. With a brand new home, we stand ready to make an even greater impact in the coming year!

This chart indicates expenditures for the organization. As you can see, the majority of funds go directly to animal welfare programs and services.



Make tracks to www.houstonhumane.org to sign up for the K-9 Fun Run, benefitting the Houston Humane Society.

**WHAT:** Calling all four-legged family members and their human companions. Join us for a 1-mile competitive run or a 1-mile non competitive walk or a 1-mile non competitive jog, followed by refreshments, doggy costume contest, and more.

COST: \$20 before 3/13; \$25 after; \$30 race-day; \$5 for all human companions

**WHY:** For more than 50 years, HHS has helped thousands of animals find loving homes. We also provide a low-cost wellness clinic to the public 6 days a week for exams, vaccines and spay and neuter services; a rehab and foster program; animal cruelty investigations, educational outreach and mobile adoptions. We receive no federal or local funding and rely on your generous contributions.

THANKS:



HOUSTON Pet Talk





PRINT &MAIL MORRELL