



# PAWPOURRI

The newsletter of the Animal Welfare League of Arlington

Fall 2013  
Volume 69 Number 2



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# 2013 Annual Report

By Neil Trent, President/CEO



## *Shelter graduate Kuma makes a new friend.*

We, at the Animal Welfare League of Arlington (AWLA), are proud of our accomplishments over the past fiscal year. More than 3,000 companion animals and 9,000 residents in Arlington County and around the D.C. metro area benefitted from AWLA programs, services, and events throughout the fiscal year. We increased our adoptions, decreased euthanasia, and maintained an overall positive outcome rate for all companion animals above 92 percent, which significantly surpasses the national standard.

Pat Ragan, chair of the AWLA board of directors, said,

*The Animal Welfare League of Arlington received three significant awards in the past year : the Abbie Award as Arlington's best non-profit; the Compassion Award by the Virginia Federation of Humane Societies; and a resolution by the Virginia General Assembly for "improving the quality of life of animals in Arlington County and the commonwealth." We look forward to 2014 as a milestone year for AWLA*

*– it is our 70th anniversary and we are planning a number of exciting events to celebrate our wonderful legacy and to lay the groundwork for even more success in improving the outlook for our animals.*

Our trap-neuter-return program prevented a potential population increase of 12,000 feral cats over the next seven years, and we were able to socialize and adopt 80 kittens from feral mother cats. The League provided 280 shelter animals with medical testing and treatment that would have been beyond the means of most animal shelters. We helped low-income residents spay or neuter 131 pets and get emergency medical treatment for 24 pets. Many of these community pets may have been surrendered to shelters if this help had not been available. Our enhanced communications efforts have increased exposure for our shelter animals and for animal issues in our community.

These successes would not have happened, however, without the help and dedication of 650 volunteers,

# 2013 Annual Report *Continued*

3,438 donors, 924 adopters, 57 foster families, and 59 rescue partner organizations. We look forward to even more success in improving the lives of animals in fiscal 2014. Please join us in making Arlington a great place for ani-

mals. Visit our shelter, adopt a pet, attend our events, sign-up for our enewsletter, download Arlington Pets (a free app), and follow us on Facebook, Twitter, and YouTube.

## *Fostering*

Over the past year we have greatly expanded our foster program including dedicating a full-time staff position to fostering. In 2011 we had seven active foster homes; we currently have 57 available homes. For FY13 we sent 271 animals into foster care, which is 52 more than FY12. The biggest areas of growth were adult dogs, puppies and adult cats.

We are extremely grateful to the dedicated people who provide foster care in their homes for our most vulnerable animals. Without their generous gifts of time and attention, these 271 animals might not have received the chance that they deserved.



## *Humane Education, Community Services and Volunteers*

AWLA staff made 14 visits to schools and community centers, hosted three birthday parties, made 83 presentations, and gave 42 tours of the shelter—reaching 1,081 children and 242 adults.

Our community service programs helped two residents with temporary safekeeping of their animals during times of crisis; assisted 24 residents with emergency veterinary expenses; and provided 131 animals with reduced cost or free spay/neuter surgery.

We welcomed 191 new volunteers this year for a total of 650 volunteers, who gave approximately 35,000 hours of their time in service to the League.

## *Paws Applause*

We thank visiting veterinarians who donate their time to examine shelter animals and veterinarians who have helped the League by performing surgeries in our surgical suite.

- Dr. Natasha Ungerer and Dr. Kayleen Gloor of Fairfax Animal Hospital
- Dr. Adrienne Hergen of Del Ray Animal Hospital
- Dr. Jeff Newman, Dr. Katie Dennehy, Dr. Jessica Garcia, Dr. Jamie Todd, Dr. Jaci Sites, Dr. Ann Planeta, and Dr. Neil Coleman of Caring Hands Animal Hospital
- Dr. Andrew Nguyen of Columbia Pike Animal Hospital
- Dr. Kristen Hitt
- Dr. Fred Jones of Arlington Arlington Animal Hospital, who donates his time to our low-cost rabies clinics

# Foster-to-Adopt Helps Make the Right Match



*Sam (formerly Callaway) enjoys life with his new family.*

We are always looking for new ways to get animals adopted. This year we have offered a few potential adopters the option to foster the pet they are interested in before making the final decision to adopt. Callaway is a perfect example of how this option was a win-win situation for everyone. Callaway is a large hound mix who we transferred from Potomac Highlands Animal Rescue (PHAR), a partner rescue in West Virginia. He was with that organization for many months with no adoption interest. We transferred Callaway in to give him a better chance for adoption, but he was here for about three months without much adoption interest. Then one day a man who had lost his own dog a few months before wanted to meet him. He was really smitten with Callaway, but his wife was out of town for a week. Part of the adoption process requires all household members to meet and agree on the chosen pet. This meant that Callaway, already becoming depressed in the kennel, would have to wait for another

week in the shelter.

The couple wanted to find out if Callaway would be a good Arlington dog considering he had come from a very rural area. How would he react when they left him at home to go to work? We decided to have the man take Callaway home to foster while his wife was out of town. After about three weeks of fostering the couple knew Callaway (renamed Sam) was the dog for them. They completed the adoption and all are living happily together. The option to foster gave the adopters the time to figure out how Sam would do with them, and it benefitted Sam to be in a home environment.

A foster-to-adopt helped us to place a pet who was not getting any interest on the adoption floor. Even when a foster-to-adopt turns out not to be the right fit,

we still gain insight about how the pet adjusts to a home environment. That pet also can take a break from the stress of shelter life and enjoy the comforts of home, even if for a short time. Each shelter animal presents unique challenges; we will continue to seek creative solutions to finding permanent, loving homes for all our animals.

## Animals Fostered

	FY12:	FY13:
Kittens:	181	190
Adult cats:	14	24
Puppies:	7	26
Adult dogs:	14	26
Rabbits:	3	3
Hamsters:	0	1
Mice:	0	1
Total	219	271

# Volunteer of the Year Beth Burrous



*Neil Trent presents Beth with the Volunteer of the Year plaque.*

Each year the AWLA board of directors honors a volunteer who has made an outstanding contribution to our mission to improve the lives of animals. There are always a number of deserving candidates. This year's honoree is Beth Burrous. She started in 2007 as

a dog kennel assistant, showing the League's adoptable dogs to the public, and from there she has blossomed into one of the League's greatest assets. Beth genuinely cares for all of the dogs she encounters. She is very generous with her time, coming into the shelter to give

special attention to the dogs that need it. This includes extra long walks, extra playtime, and obedience training. She is very proactive in their care and works with the adoptions staff to suggest ideas to improve the experience of our shelter animals. She helps with special events and uses her talents to train new volunteers.

Beth has made donations to help animals in our care: she made it possible for us to buy a custom-made cart for a dog named Molly who was missing a front leg. She also worked patiently with Molly to help her get accustomed to the cart. Beth is a true team player; she even brings in home-baked goodies to share. Beth gives generously of herself and her time, and we hope she will continue to be a part of the AWLA team for many years.

## Adoptions



*Left: This family fell in love with Rudy.*

*Right: Oliver goes home with his new friends.*



# Animals Sheltered in Fiscal 2013

(JULY 2012 - JUNE 2013)\*

INTAKE	DOGS	CATS	SMALL COMPANION ANIMALS	Total
Beginning Shelter Count -July 1, 2012	28	126	29	183
From the Public: Owner Surrenders and Strays	412	706	200	1318
Incoming transfers from organizations within Virginia	26	35	9	70
Incoming transfers from organizations outside Virginia	121	107	2	230
From owners requesting euthanasia	109	111	12	232
Total Intake	668	959	223	1850
Owner requested euthanasia (unhealthy/untreatable only)	110	111	11	232
ADJUSTED TOTAL INTAKE (minus owner requests)	558	848	212	1618
ADOPTIONS	283	699	154	1136
OUTGOING TRANSFERS				
to shelters and rescue groups within Virginia	33	9	13	55
to shelters and rescue groups outside Virginia	17	5	11	33
RETURN TO OWNER/GUARDIAN	187	72	9	268
ANIMALS EUTHANIZED				
Healthy (includes owner requested euthanasia) Treatable-rehabilitatable (includes owner requested euthanasia)	0	0	0	0
Treatable-manageable (includes owner requested euthanasia)	0	0	0	0
Unhealthy & untreatable (includes owner requested euthanasia)	154	180	20	354
TOTAL EUTHANASIA	154	180	20	354
Owner requested euthanasia (unhealthy/untreatable only)	109	111	12	232
ADJUSTED TOTAL EUTHANASIA	45	69	8	122
SUBTOTAL OUTCOMES (Excludes owner requested euthanasia (unhealthy/untreatable only))	565	854	195	1614
DIED OR LOST IN SHELTER CARE	0	12	1	13
TOTAL OUTCOMES (Excludes owner requested euthanasia (unhealthy/untreatable only))	565	866	196	1627
ENDING SHELTER COUNT-June 30, 2013	22	103	47	172
Annual Live Release Rate= (Adoptions + Returns to Owner + Transfers)/ (Total Outcomes)x100=____%	92%	92%	96%	92.44%

\* Based on the Asilomar Accords (<http://www.asilomaraccords.org/>)

# Fundraising Highlights

By Lisa Kirschner, Director of Development

The staff and animals at the Animal Welfare League of Arlington are enormously thankful to all of our donors and supporters whose help enables us to perform services for the homeless animals in our community. During the Fiscal Year 2013 over 3,438 donors gave \$385,778 to the League in response to our appeals, the donation envelopes from *Pawpourri*, and unsolicited donations. Your support is essential to all of our endeavors.

We would like to thank everyone who donated to the League during our last fiscal year.

## **Humanitarians: \$20,000+**

Best in Shelter

Mr. and Mrs. Merton Dick Van Orden

## **Heroes: \$10,000 - \$19,999**

Anonymous

Julie Gould and Percy Ivy

## **Champions: \$5,000 - \$9,999**

Anonymous

Ms. Jeanne M. Broyhill and

Mr. Joe Ventrone

Foundation Source  
Segue Technologies

## **Guardians: \$2,500 - \$4,999**

Ms. Karen Albert and

Mr. Shawn Kelley

Ms. Betty J. Aldrich

Anonymous

Ms. Beth Burrous and Mr. Kevin Baer

Ballston Animal Hospital

Ms. Julie Beckham

Mr. Mike Blank

Peter and Shirley Bookman

Caring Hands Animal Hospital

Mrs. Frances DiBari

Ms. Barbara A. Duckworth

Mr. Martin Lee

Mr. Steven Loving

Ms. Gillian McPhee and

Mr. Storm DiCostanzo

Ms. Kristine Munn

CarolAnne Nargi

NOVA Cat Clinic

Pro Feed Pet Nutrition Centers

Debra and David Rose

Time for a Walk

Mr. Robert S. Waters

Ms. Jacolyn Wetmore

Dr. Jerry Winberry

Woofs! Dog Training Center

## **Kindred Spirits: \$1,000 - \$2,499**

Act for Alexandria

Randi Aldrich and Jason Rosenberg

Anonymous

Jenni Barnes

Stephen Barto

Patricia Joy and Martin Baumann

Jerry and Ann Belyea

Mr. and Mrs. Frank Berry

Marguerite Bird

Ms. Jackie J. Borgel

The Bragan-Kellogg Family Fund

Ms. Lisa Branco and Mr. Jonathan Dox

Mr. and Mrs. David Brown

Mr. Stephen R. Bruce

Buck and Associates, INC.

Mrs. Kirsten Chaconas

Amitava Chatterjee

Judith and John Chesley

Ms. Patricia A. Clarke

The Community Foundation for

Northern Virginia

Custom Ink

Ms. Elizabeth Cyr

Mr. Daniel D. Davis

K. A. Dey

E\*Trade

Ms. Dana Edwards

Ms. Nina Fite

Mr. Richard B. Fitzgerald

Barbara and John Fox

Fur-Get Me Not Pet Care

Capt. and Mrs. Jerry Giovaniello

Gordon and Betty Moore Foundation

Mr. and Mrs. Fred Hannett

Helping Hands Affordable

Veterinary Surgery and Dental Care

Jack and Donna Hobbs

The Hope Center for

Advanced Veterinary Medicine

Ms. Juliet Hranicky

Mr. Bruce Hunter

Mr. Paul Iarrobino

Jane, Todd and Madison Ihrig

Ms. Linda A. Jasper

Mr. Claude R. Jobber

Mr. Philip M. John

Ms. Patricia A. Jordan

Jennifer and Cornelius Kaestner

Mr. and Mrs. Thomas G. Kamasky

Ms. Marie Karl

Mark Treadaway and Bob Kenney

Lisa Kirschner

KissAble Canine

Ray and Dana Koch

Edward and Erika Kussy

Susan Lee

Ms. Marianne LePelley

Loyalty Pet Care

Mr. and Mrs. John Malcolm

Ms. Patricia A. Massie

Mr. Allen K. Mears

Col. Rhoda M. Messer, Ret.

Ms. Melissa Mitchell

Ms. Susan Morrill

Patti and Tom Mugavero

Ms. Rita Naimoli

Dr. and Mrs. Jeffrey Newman

Mr. and Mrs. Ron Novak

The Paul Klingenstein

Family Foundation

Janet and Todd Peckarsky

Mr. Eric S. Petersen

Ms. Jill Ptacek

Patricia and Bob Ragan

Mrs. Ellen H. Rainey and

Mr. Terry Rainey

Regional Veterinary Referral Center

Mr. and Mrs. Ribbentrop

The Robert Wood Johnson Foundation

Patricia and Vince Romano

Ms. Carol J. Rosa

David and Debra Rose

Ms. Michelle Schohn and

Ms. Mary Glantz

Susan and David Sherman

Ms. Christine Sklepovich

Mrs. Michele Spence

The Stebbins Fund

Ms. Anne Steenhoek

Ms. Elizabeth Storley

The Surtman Foundation

Ms. Marcia E. Thompson and

Col. William Smith, Jr.

Ms. Beth Unklesbay

Mr. Gene Venzke

Mr. Larry D. Waldron

Walter and Karla

Goldschmidt Foundation

Linda Weissgold and Paul Tobin

Mr. Jim Whittaker

Wiley Rein LLP

Ms. Nancy E. Williams  
Mr. Peter L. Witham  
Ms. Jo Zack-Straub and  
Mr. Thomas Straub  
Brenda and Felipe Zurita

For a complete list of donors please visit our Web site at [www.awla.org/donate](http://www.awla.org/donate).

### ***CFC and United Way Donors***

The League raised \$94,600 from the Combined Federal Campaign (CFC), United Way, and other workplace giving programs. If you work for a participating organization, please consider designating the Animal Welfare League of Arlington for your 2013 contribution. Our CFC number is 90065, and our United Way number is 8804. Many thanks to our CFC donors for the 2012 campaign year! For a complete list of donors please visit our Web site at [www.awla.org/donate](http://www.awla.org/donate).

### ***Bequests***

Remembering the League in your will can turn your compassion for animals into your legacy for the future. This fiscal year the League received bequests from four generous individuals whose love and compassion for animals still lives on with their bequests totaling \$307,467.41:

Estate of Rosemary Davis  
Estate of Virginia Hale  
Estate of Lucy Oliver  
The Pietro and Thelma Raffaelli  
Family Foundation

If you are interested in adding the League to your will (or have already done so), please contact Lisa Kirschner at [lkirschner@awla.org](mailto:lkirschner@awla.org) or at 703-931-9241 ext. 220.

### ***Events***

Each year the League hosts two major fundraisers that benefit the homeless animals in our community. The Walk for the Animals had a record breaking year raising \$106,000 and registering 861 individuals. Catsino Night and Silent Auction raised \$75,300 with 260 people enjoying an evening of music, silent and live auctions, and casino style gaming.

On June 6th the League participated in Do More 24, a 24-hour day of giving hosted by the United Way of the Nation-



***People and dogs enjoyed our 2013 Walk for the Animals.***

al Capital Area. With your support we raised \$10,404 from 193 people.

Additionally, each year the League is involved with many small events throughout the community. These community supported events raise \$16,237 to help homeless animals.

These fundraising milestones are achieved with the great support of our community: from our supporters who attend each event, the donors who support them, and our very generous sponsors. Every year, the League asks local businesses to sponsor our two major fundraisers either with cash sponsorships to help defray our costs or with items that can be used as prizes or auctioned off in our silent auction. If you are interested in sponsoring one of

our events or donating an item, please contact Sally Harte at [sharte@awla.org](mailto:sharte@awla.org).

### ***Pet Pals Monthly Giving Program***

Throughout the year the following people make automatic monthly donations to support the League. Thank you for your generous donations. With your support you raised over \$19,800 to help the animals:

Zahra Alwazir  
P. E. Anderson  
Anonymous  
Aurora R. Bafnec  
Jennifer Baskin  
Diane Boudalis  
George Bowles and Elizabeth Cheyney  
Lisa Branco and Jonathan Dox

# Fundraising Highlights Continued



## *The Healthy Pet Fund provided surgery for Phoebe.*

make our shelter animals more adoptable. The staff and animals at the Animal Welfare League of Arlington are extremely grateful to all the donors that have helped us raise \$40,497. This fund helps animals such as Phoebe, who was brought to the League because her owners did not have the time to care for her. A physical examination at the League showed that she had a mass in her lower abdomen. Our veterinary team performed surgery on Phoebe and discovered that she actually had a hole in her abdomen. They were able to remove a portion of muscle from her inner thigh and use this muscle to patch up the hole. We are happy to report that Phoebe recovered from surgery and has been adopted into her new home! Last fiscal year the Healthy Pet Fund provided 280 shelter animals with essential medical care.

## *Ross-Roberts Emergency Veterinary Assistance Fund*

Everyone at the Animal Welfare League of Arlington would like to thank the donors that helped us raise over \$33,818 to offer no-interest loans to members of the public who needed emergency veterinary care for their animals.

## *Low Cost Spay/Neuter Fund*

Generous donors gave \$8,132 to help spay or neuter pets of low-income owners. This fiscal year 131 animals in our community benefitted from low-cost or free spay/neuter surgery.

## *The Bob Ragan Humane Education Fund*

Recognizing the critical need that education plays in understanding and respecting animals, Bob and Pat Ragan began this fund to underwrite a variety of animal welfare activities that will stimulate children and adults to recognize and promote the important role animals play in all of our lives. In its first year this fund has raised \$6,505 towards humane education initiatives.

Michelle Buehl  
Shirley Camper  
Meredith Capps  
Michiko A. Chand and Amit Patnaik  
Stacy Cheetham  
Toni Coleman  
Lee Cooper  
Matthew Cornelius  
Catherine M. Cortes  
Jenny Dean  
Pamela Dillard  
Tavia Dopita  
Kent and Jamie Duffy  
Carla Dye and Luvenia Foster  
Erika D. Elvander and Michael Bobrik  
Michelle and Sean Flanagan  
Jeanette and Benjamin Ford  
Jill Garzone  
Ashley V. Glacel  
John Guzman  
Marcia L. Hagin-Schork and Joseph F. Schork  
James W. Hartley  
Melinda Hatton  
Doris Hausser  
Jenifer L. Hicks  
Paul Iarrobino  
Alison Kerester  
Ray and Dana Koch  
Amy and Josh Kramer  
Sara Kryder  
Suzanne M. Langsdorf  
Jennifer Lewis  
Hua Li

Paresh Makwana  
Marc Martinez  
Emily McGee  
Samantha Medlock  
Cheryl L. Mendonsa  
Jeff and Michelle Miller  
Nathan Pollard  
Alicia and Jacob Rau  
Laura Ricard  
Melanie Roller  
Kara Rourke  
Anne Schiller  
Karen P. Shaw  
Sylvia Simons Trembelas  
Mary Sommerville  
Marie and Samuel Spaulding  
Hajira Stoman  
Kathleen I. Taimi  
Cyndi Thomas  
Mary E. Turnbull  
Elizabeth and Jerry Vick  
Christopher Voorhees  
Lizette G. Welch  
Sally Wernitz  
Susan Whitt  
JoAnn Williams  
Brenda and Felipe Zurita  
Patricia Zweibel

## *Woody and Mickey Healthy Pet Fund*

The Woody and Mickey Healthy Pet Fund gives the League extra resources to provide medical treatment that will



# League Services

## Emergencies in Arlington

We respond to animal emergencies 24 hours a day.

## Adoptions

We always have animals who need good homes. If you live in Virginia, DC, or Maryland call us about adopting a companion.

## Animal Control & Cruelty Investigation

Animal control officers pick up stray dogs and respond to citizen complaints about animals in Arlington.

## Community Services

The League sponsors community services that help people and animals. Visit our Web site at [www.awla.org](http://www.awla.org) or call (703) 931-9241 x 200 for information.

## Lost & Found

Call (703) 931-9241 x 200 or visit our Web site at [www.awla.org](http://www.awla.org) to report all lost and found animals. We can help find animals' owners and return lost pets home again.

## Wildlife Rescue & Problems

We'll help get injured or abandoned wildlife to a licensed rehabilitator whenever possible. We'll also help you discourage wildlife from moving into your home.

## Rabies Control

See the calendar on the back cover for clinic dates and times.

## Speakers & Humane Education

If your neighborhood is having animal problems or problems with irresponsible animal owners, you might want a League representative to address your civic association. We also present educational programs on many topics to schools and clubs. Visit our website at [www.awla.org](http://www.awla.org) or call (703) 931-9241 x 213 for information.

*Pawpourri*, the newsletter of the Animal Welfare League of Arlington, 2650 S. Arlington Mill Dr., Arlington, VA 22206, <http://www.awla.org>, is mailed to League supporters. If you receive multiple copies, please notify us and pass them along to friends.

A COPY OF THE LATEST FINANCIAL REPORT AND REGISTRATION FILED BY THE ANIMAL WELFARE LEAGUE OF ARLINGTON MAY BE OBTAINED BY CONTACTING the State Division of Consumer Affairs, Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, P.O. Box 1163, Richmond, VA 23209. REGISTRATION DOES NOT IMPLY ENDORSEMENT, APPROVAL, OR RECOMMENDATION BY THE STATE.

## FY 2013 Financial Report

The audited financial report will be available from the League in November 2013.

## Revenue and Support FY 2013

Arlington County Contract for sheltering/animal control*	\$1,360,908.00
Programs Revenue	\$248,898.44
Interest & Dividends	\$83,019.25
Unrealized & Realized Gains (Losses) on Investments	\$217,609.24
Fundraising	
Events: (Catsino Night/Fall Event, Walk, Misc. Events)	\$240,727.34
CFC/United Way	\$94,600.70
Contributions (bequests, general donations, major gifts)	\$797,472.47
<b>TOTAL:</b>	<b>\$3,043,235.44</b>

## Expenses FY 2013

Animal Control*	(\$374,601.98)
Shelter Operations*	(\$1,244,775.08)
Community Outreach/Programs Management/General	(\$448,949.75)
Fundraising	(\$30,069.00)
TOTAL:	(\$2,450,325.36)
<b>TOTAL GAIN/(LOSS)</b>	<b>\$592,910.08</b>

## Temporarily Restricted Funds FY 2013

	Revenue	Expense	Total
Woody and Mickey			
Healthy Pet Fund	\$52,468.25	(\$29,377.41)	\$23,090.84
Low Cost			
Spay/Neuter Fund	\$8,132.56	(\$3,084.43)	\$5,048.13
Ross/Roberts Vet			
Assistance Fund	\$36,582.14	(\$3,148.46)	\$33,433.68
Bob Ragan Humane			
Education Fund	\$6,505.00	(\$0)	\$6,505.00
PetSmart TNR Grant	\$0.00	(\$974.38)	(\$974.38)
AWLA TNR Program	\$3,932.00	(\$3,420.00)	\$512.00
Peterson Grant	\$0.00	(\$3,558.50)	(\$3,558.50)
Temporarily Restricted			
Grants	\$2,000.00	\$0.00	\$2,000.00

\*Under terms of a contract with Arlington County, the Animal Welfare League of Arlington provides the County's animal shelter and animal control services.

# Inaugural Golden Paw Gala

PUParazzi get ready! The Animal Welfare League of Arlington will roll out the red carpet to honor superstar shelter animals during its inaugural Golden Paw Gala and A-Cat-Emmy Awards on Saturday, November 2, 2013, at the Westin Arlington Gateway. Proceeds will directly benefit shelter and homeless animals, community programs and services supported by The Animal Welfare League of Arlington—the County’s only humane society. Meet and mingle with some VIPs (Very Important Pooches) aka, shelter dogs, that will walk the red carpet to represent the hundreds of animals that will benefit from the evening’s proceeds.

Dr. Katy Nelson of *The Pet Show* with *Dr. Katy* on News Channel 8 and Scott Thuman, WJLA anchor of Good

Morning Washington, will serve as co-hosts. Joel Silverman, professional Hollywood animal trainer, current host of the nationally syndicated TV series, former host of *Good Dog U* on Animal Planet, and author of *What Color is Your Dog?*, will give a demonstration with “Foster,” a rescue shelter pup trained for movies and commercials. Special guest Wayne Pacelle, President and CEO of the Humane Society of the United States, will deliver keynote remarks. Three honorees will be recognized with an A-Cat-Emmy award for their exemplary

contributions to the health and welfare of Arlington’s shelter animals.

This glitzy benefit event will include a cocktail reception, silent and live auctions, dinner and program. Join us for an evening of fun, fur and philanthropy while helping to make second chances PAWsible. For more information and to purchase tickets visit [www.awla.org](http://www.awla.org).



## Doesn't your loyal pet deserve the same Love and Compassion they give you?

You know that only the very best medical care will do for your family. At Veterinary Surgical Centers, we understand your pets are family too.

VSC is a specialized small animal surgical practice, dedicated to providing world-class surgery and exceptional care. We do this by providing the same level of treatment options that you have come to expect for yourself. Our experienced staff is made up of board certified surgeons, neurologists, and certified canine rehabilitation practitioners with expertise in:

- Orthopedic Surgery
- Soft Tissue Procedures
- Minimally Invasive Surgery
- Neurology/Neurosurgery
- Physical Rehabilitation
- Plastic & Reconstructive Surgery

We know the time right after a pet is injured or sick is stressful. That's why we encourage you to remember that, when in your time of need, you can always call us directly or tell your family veterinarian you want to be referred for the best care possible at Veterinary Surgical Centers.

To learn more about our practice, please visit us at [www.VeterinarySurgicalCenters.com](http://www.VeterinarySurgicalCenters.com)



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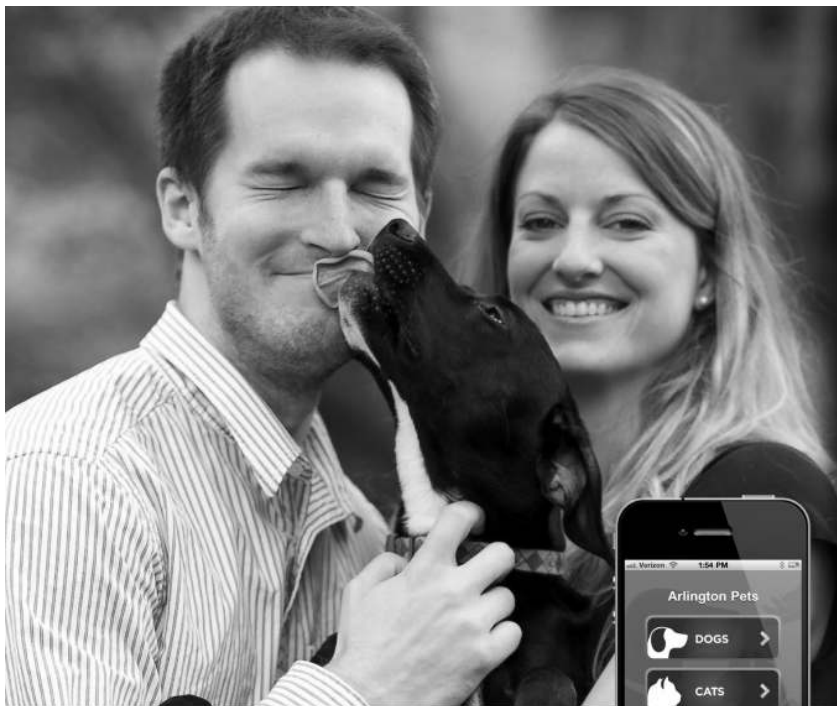
# Inaugural Golden Paw Gala Sponsors

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# Inaugural Golden Paw Gala Sponsors



## Arlington

### ANIMAL HOSPITAL

2624 Columbia Pike Arlington, VA 22204  
(703) 920-5300

Making a difference in the lives of our pets.



Five convenient locations  
where your pet is always welcome.

**Pro Feed of Alexandria** 3690G King St  
703-820-3888  
Alexandria@profeedpet.com

**Pro Feed of Rockville** 5542 Randolph Rd  
301-468-7387  
Rockville@profeedpet.com

**Pro Feed of the Palisades** 5104 MacArthur Blvd NW  
202-364-7387  
Macarthur@profeedpet.com

**Pro Feed of Vienna** 234 Maple Ave E  
703-242-7387  
Vienna@profeedpet.com

**Pro Feed of Belle View** 1628A Belle View Blvd  
703-660-8404  
BelleView@profeedpet.com

[www.profeedpet.com](http://www.profeedpet.com)

[ProFeed@profeedpet.com](mailto:ProFeed@profeedpet.com)

## Adoptions



*Left: Pearl (formerly Piano) and Buddy (formerly Placido) in their new home.*

*Right: Pete found a loving family.*



# Animal Control

AWLA's four animal control officers handled approximately 5,000 cases in fiscal 2013 including:

Assisting fire and/or police	64
Bite investigations	292
Park patrols (for dogs off leash)	2,844
Possible neglect investigations	91
Stray animals	624
Wildlife Calls	1,549

Our animal control officers not only protect the public and enforce the laws, but they are the first responders to some of the most vulnerable in our community—animals in need. Timber, a young Akita, was found by an animal control officer abandoned in a crate in an apartment. Timber was brought to AWLA where his life was transformed and he was given a second chance with his new adopter.



*Timber when found by officers and with his new family.*

## *AWLA Veterinary Services* *By Edward Maher,* *Director of Animal Care and* *Veterinary Services*

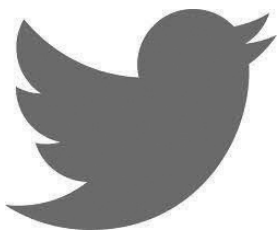
Our veterinary surgical suite and medical facility have continued to grow over the past year. Every dog, cat, and rabbit is sterilized prior to adoption. Post-operative complications are extremely rare. We performed 826 surgeries and 33 dentals on our shelter animals, 68 spay/neuters of feral cats, 41 low-cost spay/neuter surgeries for Spay Day 2013, and 603 surgeries for other animal shelters and rescue organizations. For the year we have totaled 1,571 procedures!

An upgrade to our surgical suite in FY2013 included the addition of an ultrasound machine. Ultrasound, a high-tech tool long used on the human side of medicine, now brings new benefits to an increasing number of animals every year. Veterinarians have begun using ultrasound to diagnose illnesses and chart a course of treatment, often at less risk and suffering to the animals. Ultrasound enables veterinarians to peer inside a pet's body and to view more detailed images of tissues than provided by X-rays. It can also be used without placing an animal under anesthesia. Many thanks to the Paul Klingenstein Family Foundation for providing us a generous grant to cover a portion of the equipment and to Julie Gould and Percy Ivy, founders of the Woody and Mickey Healthy Pet Fund, for donating the balance of the funds to purchase this diagnostic tool. We look forward to continually improving on the medical services we offer.

## *Trap-Neuter-Return*

In fiscal 2013, AWLA neutered 28 feral male cats and spayed 40 feral female cats. Based on assumptions from *The Feral Cat Times*, on average one female cat gives birth to six kittens per year. Kitten gender is 50 percent female, and only 25 percent of kittens survive to reproductive age. If all surviving female kittens become adults and reproduce with the same birth and kitten mortality rates, then one female cat and her offspring could produce up to 400 cats in seven years. Taking a more conservative number of 300 offspring, that means that the AWLA trap-neuter-return program prevented the birth of 12,000 feral cats over the next seven years. There were also 80 feral kittens brought into AWLA that were young enough to be socialized and adopted into loving homes.

# Join the Conversation



This year the Animal Welfare League of Arlington established a strategic communications department. Its purpose is to fulfill the long-term goals of differentiating and generating public awareness for the League and its programs and services as well as influencing potential pet guardians to adopt from AWLA. In order to raise the public profile of the organization and distinguish the League from the numerous other animal rescue groups in the greater-DC area, we created a communications plan with strategies and tactics to be implemented in fiscal 2014. Plan initiatives are designed to elevate awareness among northern Virginia/DC metro residents for AWLA and its programs and services, drive AWLA animal adoptions, and position AWLA as the preeminent animal welfare organization in the region.

In just six months, AWLA strategic communications efforts have established a foundation for a robust communications program and have reached target audiences through a comprehensive traditional and social media campaign.

- Successful Facebook strategies like the “Three, Name Your Fee,” promotion helped achieve 69 cat adoptions in June including 14 cats over three years; a video produced for Animal Control Officer Appreciation week

resulted in 1,153 views on Facebook and 142 views on YouTube; a video, “Best Friend for Frankie,” a long-term resident at AWLA, resulted in his placement in a permanent home.



- Participation in animal welfare industry partner community outreach events, such as the ASPCA’s Paws for Love (Feb. 14) and Paws for Celebration (July 30), brought awareness to AWLA and its adoptable animals on a national platform among elected officials.

- During the third and fourth quarter of fiscal 2013, we averaged two stories per week with a total media placement of 43 stories.

Join the conversation with us: Sign up for our newsletter, like our Facebook page, follow us on Twitter, subscribe to our YouTube channel, and download our Arlington Pets free app.

## Adoptions



*Above: Cottonball Left: Karma*

# AWLA Pit Crew



*Participants enjoy a pack walk.*

The Animal Welfare League of Arlington Pit Crew is a volunteer group founded in February of 2011 to facilitate adoptions of bully breeds, to

educate the community about responsible dog ownership, and to support guardians of bully type dogs with outreach and education. As part of this, the

AWLA Pit Crew has established a pack walking group, which provides guardians of ALL dog breeds an opportunity to exercise in a controlled setting. The goal is to create a supportive, welcoming environment where all dogs and their guardians can exercise, socialize, and continue to work on training in a safe, positive setting. These are structured, on leash walks where dogs are given lots of space to work on arousal, confidence, or polite manners while on leash. If you are interested in taking part in these walks, please email [pitcrewwalks@awla.org](mailto:pitcrewwalks@awla.org) for more information! Again, the group is open to any dog regardless of breed.

## AWLA Receives Awards for Sheltering Practices

Throughout the year the League has received industry, state and local accolades, including a 2012 People's Choice ABBIE Award for "Best Community Nonprofit" sponsored by Arlington Economic Development; the 2013 Compassion Award from the Virginia Federation of Humane Societies for demonstrating strong leadership qualities and for reducing the euthanasia of healthy and treatable dogs and cats in the community; as well as a resolution from the Virginia General Assembly in honor of the League's efforts to reduce the number of animals that need to be euthanized. The Assembly resolution, patroned by state Sen. Barbara Favola (D-31st), commended AWLA for "improving the quality of life of animals in Arlington County and the commonwealth." It passed both houses of the

legislature without opposition. As reflected by these awards, AWLA significantly exceeds national sheltering norms, with 92 percent of the cats, dogs, and small companion animals we take in having positive outcomes. Senator Favola presented the League with the resolution on Tuesday, September 3, 2013.



*Senator Barbara Favola (right) presented the Virginia General Assembly resolution to AWLA Board Chair Pat Ragan and President/CEO Neil Trent on September 3.*



The Animal Welfare League of Arlington  
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Inaugural Golden Paw Gala  
Saturday, November 2, 2013  
[www.awla.org](http://www.awla.org)

## League Hours

Visiting:

Noon – 7:00 p.m. Monday

Closed Tuesday

Noon – 7:00 p.m. Wed. - Fri.

Noon – 4:00 p.m. Sat. - Sun.

Receiving Incoming Animals:

8:00 a.m. – 10:30 p.m. daily

Emergencies: 24 hours a day

## Workplace Giving

The League depends on our many donors who donate each year through their workplace giving programs, the United Way and the Combined Federal Campaign. These donations allow the League to continue its good works. As this year's campaign begins, if you work for a participating organization, please consider designating the Animal Welfare League of Arlington with the appropriate codes.

Combined Federal  
Campaign

(CFC) # 90065

United Way

(UW) # 8804

Commonwealth of  
Virginia Campaign

(CVC) # 8068

## Rabies & Microchip Clinics

Please bring dogs on leashes and cats in carriers.

Rabies Shot: \$10 • Microchip \$30

Oct 4 • Dec 5 (1st Thurs)

6:30 - 8:30 p.m.

Please bring proof of a prior rabies shot (a rabies certificate, not a tag) to get a three-year rabies shot. Without it, your pet will receive a one-year shot.

## Pawpourri

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