



# ARFhouse Happenings

A non-profit, tax-exempt organization

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## NO WHEELCHAIR NEEDED!

“Buddy” was surrendered to a shelter when his person could no longer keep him. We’re hearing this many times a day in our fractured economic environment. After a few



weeks at the shelter he was unable to walk. Their veterinarian advised that “Buddy” was in pain and would probably have to be euthanized. The shelter director asked me if we



might have Dr. Brakebill examine “Buddy”, knowing his vast experience with his dog “Henry” and how he HEALED him. The x-rays Dr. Brakebill took showed that “Buddy” had 3 calcified discs.

“Buddy” loves to run, so when we’d take him out of his cage, we’d wrap his legs and off he’d go, dragging his back legs behind him. Dr. Schwind provided a nifty little wheel chair, but because “Buddy” was always on the hunt for mice, he’d get excited and turn the wheel chair over. Then he’d wriggle out and be dragging around again. But after a few weeks of this, a MIRACLE. One day he started using his back legs. Dr. Brakebill told us that sometimes these dogs

will just get better on their own. I’m still convinced, as I chase “Buddy” all over the property when it’s his nap time, that Dr. Brakebill laid his hands on him, and healed him. He has a way with the dachshunds! Thank you, Dr. B!!!

### Abandoned, Wounded, Rescued!

“Greta Garbo” and “Heady Lamarr” were abandoned less than 1/2 mile away from ARFhouse. “Heady” had a gash on the top of her head. “Greta” had a hole in her shoulder where she had been shot. “Heady’s” head wound was promptly shaved and cleaned and she was good to go.

Viewing the x-rays of “Greta” Dr. Morris saw the shrapnel had traveled next to her trachea. A dime sized piece of bone was loose in the opening and Dr. Morris cleaned the wound and extracted the bone particle. “Heady” is recovering nicely.

“Greta” is walking on 3 legs and we hope she’ll eventually be able to use the wounded leg. The severe swelling is gone and these two dogs love one another.

The medical care for “Greta” is going to be extensive.

Good friend to ARFhouse, CARL DIEHL, provided the generous funds to make these girls right again. We’re very grateful for his undying support over the years and willingness to help a pair of waifs like “Greta Garbo” and “Heady Lamarr”. (As you can see, they needed pretty names.)



### Chicago Bound!

Our Chicago friends made the long trip to Texas in October to take back 24 of our dogs for their adoption events. A number of our “newcomers” from the fall newsletter were included; “Ida”, “Boots”, “Jordy”, “Benny”, “CC”, and “Chrissy”. Several of them have already found their forever homes. As you can guess, the trip and the subsequent boarding and medical care for the dogs is expensive. Always the angel to the animals, JOYCE DENNEHY made a gift of \$6500 to ARFhouse Chicago to cover those expenses, and then some!

# 🐾 🐾 NEWCOMERS 🐾 🐾



I'm "Stella". I came to ARFhouse after being abandoned in a nearby town. I had been eating out of a dumpster for several days when some nice people saw me and picked me up in their van. But they couldn't keep me since they had no fence. The ladies at ARFhouse thought I was so beautiful, I would be a good addition to the pack. I have 2 buddies....."Atticus" and "Drake". They're rowdy, but fun too.



We thought our "Newcomers" page was done. But on Sunday, 11/21, one of our staff, Mary Lindamood, found this precious tiny boy who had been discarded in a wooded area nearby. We had to include "Harper" in this issue.



"Chance" is getting a second chance. His guardian, Rick, is very ill and can no longer care for him. Rick's sister called from Minnesota and asked if there were any way we could take "Chance." We said "yes," and we're having some calls about him already. He'll find a home soon.



I'm "Atticus". I was another homeless puppy. Yeah, I know I'm big for a puppy, but I guess my mom and pop were big too. I like it here, but I'd like to have my own family too.



# ADOPTIONS



*Linda writes the following:*

Traveling to Texas a couple times a year to transport dogs to ARFhouse in Chicago has allowed me the opportunity to adopt several of my own from those who come back, but there always seemed to be a couple more who I was never able to add to my animal family.



*Linda Cairo, "Rexy", "Wren" & "Budgie"*

Rexy is one of those dogs. She has lived at ARFhouse in Texas for nearly 9 years and had become a favorite, running up to anybody who called her name, often with

a toy in her mouth. I wanted to adopt her but had 9 other dogs and lived in the City of Chicago in a condo.

In August of this year, my husband and I moved to a home in Wisconsin and I knew right away I wanted to adopt Rexy - finally! Rexy is a very special girl, and I feel very lucky to have her as part of our family. I am so glad I was able to adopt her. She immediately made herself at home by choosing the largest dog bed available. She has perfect house manners and gets along well with everybody. We adore her.

In addition to Rexy, we adopted Wren and Budgie, two Shih Tzus. Wren is about 10 years old and Budgie is about 2 years old. Originally I felt a little guilty about adopting Budgie, knowing ARFhouse in Chicago could easily find a home for him since he was so young, but he and Wren are so attached to each other that there is no way I could have separated them. They are both so affectionate and incredibly sweet and in my mix of now 13 dogs, they are always right next to each other. My mother is especially fond of Budgie.

I also adopted a 9 year old pit bull mix named Madonna, who had also been a long time resident of ARFhouse. While we certainly have a packed house, we wouldn't have it any other way. Rexy, Wren and Madonna are all seniors who typically get passed over by potential adopters. All 3 dogs are wonderful companions for each other and us.

I cannot say enough good things about the decision to adopt senior animals. Every day I can tell how grateful these dogs are and I'm more than grateful to Martha for allowing them all to be a part of our family.



## APPEAL FROM MARTHA HOVERS & ARFHOUSE CANINE RESIDENTS

Many of you have shared with the animals throughout the year, giving them their chance at life here at ARFhouse or with a family, if adopted. We are deeply grateful to you, our friends, for the sacrifices you make to ensure the dogs will have a future.

Those of you who have visited have seen how the dogs live here at the dog farm. Many of you comment that you were hesitant to come because you were afraid it would make you sad, but that seeing our facility and the condition and behavior of our dogs; i.e., playing with their friends in big spaces and plenty of shelter and clean living conditions, made you recognize that our dogs are happy, even if they stay here for life.

Only through your giving can we continue to rescue them from the streets and pay for their medical needs prior to adoption. Please remember that you have made all of the stories on these pages possible.



"Penny Lane" was our "Jordy" and traveled to Chicago in October. Rocky adopted her and reports that she and his "Stella Blue" are good friends and love to play together.



*"Stella Blue" (L), Rocky, and "Penny Lane" (R)*





# ADOPTIONS



"Honeydew" and her puppy, "Phoenix", were scrounging for food at the Denison homeless shelter. (Appropriate place?) One of the ladies there called us and asked if we'd help these two. "Honeydew" had a broken hip, but was able to hobble around. She and "Phoenix" made the trip to Chicago, and here they are in fine form with their new daddy, Matt. He owns a restaurant and the two huskies get to go to work with him when they want to.

Nan adopted a dog from ARFhouse many years ago. That dog has since passed away and Nan wanted to give a home to another one of our dogs. "Hilda"



had been abandoned near our facility several months ago. She and her sister were shy, but willing to be touched and loved. "Hilda" bonded with Nan almost immediately and I thought it was love at first sight. Nan tells me that "Hilda" is working on manners and wants to please her. She also is trying to play with "Hank", the mature corgi who's the KING at Nan's house. At least "Hilda" knows her place.



"Rosie" came to ARFhouse when her guardian had to enter a nursing facility. She loves her new guardians: Lee (L) and Stephen (R). Stephen writes that he tried to brush her hair on her ears before the picture was taken, but she would have none of it. It looks as though she's trying to clean Stephen's ear in this picture. Stephen and Lee have had poodles in the past, so they knew what to expect from "Rosie". They say she's the perfect little dog for them.



*Ruth and Tom Wanasek with Logan (L) and Murphy (R).*

Tom writes the following: ARFhouse is a special sanctuary where Martha Hovers and her staff diligently care for the "refugees" who have been neglected or discarded. After the untimely loss of our pointer to auto-immune disease, we decided it

was time to adopt a companion for our 14 year old dog, Murphy. Martha introduced us to Logan, an inquisitive and carefree ARFhouse resident, whom we adopted last Spring. Logan has fit in and adapted to the pampered lifestyle afforded him here. Ruth took him to obedience classes, where he excelled. With the cooler weather, he loves the evening walks, and enjoys naps in front of the warm fireplace fire. We've always owned shelter dogs, and those looking for a pet should consider a shelter dog....especially a special shelter like ARFhouse.

## Brakebill Veterinary Hospital Made The Following "In Memory" Donations

"Jaguar"  
Tammy Jo Sutherland

"Dutchess"  
Cheryl & Barry Bates

"Josie"  
Mr. & Mrs. Alan White & Family

"Spice"  
David & Terry Tulipane

"Trudy"  
Mr. & Mrs. Danny Hutchins

"Sophia"  
Kristi Beeler

"Peanut"  
Mr. & Mrs. Mitchell Martin

"Toni"  
The Grant's

"Buddy"  
Mr. & Mrs. James Holmes

"Cherokee"  
John & Teresa Polonchak

"Blackie"  
Ricky & Cathy Holt

"Ling"  
David McBurnett

"Butch"  
Mary Murphy

"Lucy"  
Mr. & Mrs. Greg Butler & family

"Buster"  
Sonya Revels

"Marvin"  
Bob & Joyce Lawson

"Max"  
Craig LeBlanc

"Tooter"  
Barbara Bishop

"Spice"  
Dorothy Brown

"Stalker"  
Mr. & Mrs. Kelly Brewer

"Dante"  
Bobbie Johnson

"BoBo"  
Mr. & Mrs. Charles Whaley

"Toby"  
The Shepherd Family

"Cookie"  
Mr. & Mrs. Terry Hocker

"Momma"  
Yvonne Wood

"Wonder"  
Paul & Donna Graham

"Snow White"  
Mr. & Mrs. Jimmy Green

"Dog"  
Jill Parker

"Marble"  
Mr. & Mrs. Walne Melching

"YoYo"  
Josh Martin

"Rhudy"  
Mr. & Mrs. Carl Diehl

"Stormy"  
Mr. & Mrs. Phillip Fennie

"Big-Un"  
Joy Owens

"Rosie"  
Kammie McCoy

"Nicole"  
Mr. & Mrs. David Shafer

"Callie"  
Gary & Teresa Young

"R.T."  
Mr. & Mrs. Bob Robertson



### *Another Wish For Christmas*

I've said this in the past, and regrettably must say it again: We need premium dry dog food. We receive product from several sources, but it's seldom enough to feed everyone year round. We do share some food with folks who have fallen on hard times and rely on us to help with their animals. But the lion's share goes into the mouths of the dogs of ARFhouse. They prefer Purina Dog Chow, Purina ONE, Kibbles & Bits, and Beneful.

If you're local and you'd like to donate a bag of dog food, you may e-mail me at [martha@arfhouse.org](mailto:martha@arfhouse.org) and we'll pick it up.

## **Thanks** *To the people who help our dogs*

Louis & Fay Elrod  
Tom Thumb Stores  
IESI  
Sherman WalMart  
Danny & Dr. John Brakebill  
Stacey & Dr. Clay Morris  
Brakebill Veterinary Clinic Staff  
Dr. Erin Shults  
Canyon Creek Pet Hospital  
Niemann Publications  
Linda Cairo  
INMAR  
Brookshire Foods  
Albertson's  
IAM's

### **\*\*WISH LIST\*\***

**Igloo Doghouses**

**Trash bags**

**Scissors**

**Premium dry dog food**

## Canyon Creek Pet Hospital Made The Following "In Memory" Donations

"Molly"  
Tom & Linda Scott

"Sister #2"  
Vi McWater

"Razi"  
Joe & Sue Mattern

"Unit"  
Daniel Beadle

"Mitzi"  
Chester & Kathy Bodge

"Sarah"  
Curtis & Aleta Opperman

"Asher"  
Gary & Karen White

"Lacie"  
David & Donna Bedgood

"Tiger"  
Harry & Pearl Bilger

"Rue"  
Jamie West

"Peanut"  
Larry & Robin Phillips

"Beanie"  
Brian & Marcy Ross

"Rocky"  
Steve Southerland

"Chloe"  
Bill & Wanda Hayes

"Bubbles"  
Sharon Barker

"Precious"  
William & Delisa Helvie

"Carly"  
Ann Sullivan

"Jingles"  
Mark & Melissa Reily

"Jazzie"  
Andra Troncalli

"Lil Girl"  
Jerry Dollison

"Nikita"  
Joe & Pat Brookman

Thank You Bo!



Bo Kershaw lives on site with his wife, Sammie, who is our Operations Manager. We wish to recognize and extend our thanks to him for his willingness to fill in any time we're shorthanded. He drives to different locations to pick up donated product, cleans kennels, maintains our cemetery, and performs any miscellaneous tasks for the dogs with a glad heart.

ARFhouse's newsletter is published by the Animal Refuge Foundation, 3377 Spalding Rd., Sherman, TX 75092. Phone (903) 564-7056. Martha Hovers, Editor.

#### ARFhouse Officers & Directors

LuRuth Taylor  
*President, Director*

Danny Brakebill  
*Vice President, Director*

Martha Hovers  
*Treasurer, Executive Director*

Sally O'Brien  
*Director*

Roxanne South  
*Secretary*



### Special Thanks

THANK YOU, Green Market in Sherman, Texas for donating multiple bags of organic dog food. (BTW, Green Market makes the best sandwiches in north Texas!)



SPECIAL THANK YOU to the Virginia & Robert Hobbs Charitable Trust. We asked the trust for \$3500 to erect a shade canopy over the new kennels Lynn & Kathy Surls built for us. The trust increased that grant to \$5000 and all the dogs in that area got new dog houses, as well as shade.

### *To Honor Pets and People Who Love Them*

"Sadie"  
"my border-lab mix"  
by: Pamela Huffman

"Little Dog"  
by: Sheryl & David Mills

"Achilles"  
by: Nancy Dibrell

"Boggie" & "Tommie"  
by: James & Suzanne Aston

Jean Eber made a donation "to honor my wonderful sister NAN DEERING".

Roger Platizky made a donation to honor Martha Chisum on her December birthday.

## *Donations In Memory of Beloved Pets*

Thank you to those of you who thought of ARFhouse and our animals in your time of sorrow.

“Toni”

“In loving memory of our labrador retriever”

by: Ron & Terry Cullen

“Irish”

beloved boxer of the Ehasz family Sharon writes: “We had to put her to sleep on 5 Sept. She was 9-1/2 yrs old and had lymphoma. She was AMAZING and we miss her so very much.”

“Booger”

Mr. & Mrs. B.J. Gibbs

“Cassie”

beloved dog of Dianne Hale  
by: Debbie & Gary Cosper

“Bennie”

beloved English Springer Spaniel of  
Kathy & Dale Keeton  
Kathy writes: We lovingly brought him to live as part of our family from the Midland SPCA. Bennie passed of bladder cancer at age 13.

“Sherman”

“our beloved peke of 12 years”  
by: Katherine & Frank Moore

“Cami”

beloved lab dog of  
Ronnie & Sandra Brown

“Aggie”

beloved dalmation of  
George & Janette Coyle  
by: Tim Kincaid & Larry Pettit

A Christmas memory of “Abraham”  
beloved cat of Linda Allen donated by:  
Gwen & Sam Zieske

“My sweet Sadie”

by: Kathy Brockman

Several years ago we saw a big old red dog hanging out in Sadler in front of the old Sadler Baptist Church. Since many people in rural areas allow their dogs to roam, I figured he lived in that area. However, after seeing him in the same spot a couple of days later, I offered him a ride which he gladly accepted, hopping up into the van. When Jennifer Hillary would volunteer on the weekends there were several dogs she was quite partial to, and “Jake” was one of those. We were delighted when she decided to take him home with her because we knew he would live out his last years in “royalty”, and he did. This month Jennifer writes that she had to have “Jake” euthanized when he could no longer get around. Old age took its toll. We figure he was at least 15 yrs old. We’re grateful to Jennifer for giving him a happy retirement home.



“Jake”

by: Jennifer Hillary

## *In Memory of Animal Lovers*

The following people made gifts in memory of MARTHA ANN PARR  
Robert & Polly McDonald  
Melvin & Janiece Bloch  
Kathryn Hoover

The following people made gifts in memory of BOBBY JONES, father of  
Danny Brakebill:  
LuRuth Taylor  
Dana LeGere  
Mr. Arthur Payne & Dr. Martha Payne

Kellie Graves made a donation in memory of her mother,  
LINDA CURRIE.  
Kellie says her mother was “a lifelong animal lover who taught me a lot about animals and business. I miss her greatly”.

Suzanne Buchanan made a donation in memory of her husband,  
SCOTT BUCHANAN.  
Suzanne writes of Scott: “He loved dogs and helping ARFhouse”.

Susan Slagle made a donation in memory of BUDDY DOGGETT.

Sandra Hamner  
by: Ronnie & Sandra Brown



**TO HONOR FRIENDS AND  
FAMILY FOR CHRISTMAS**

The Paul Holt Family  
The McMaster Family  
The Cobb's  
by: Shirley Holt

Roger Platizky’s Birthday  
by: The Chisum Family &  
Katherine Samples

### ~ ~ PET SITTING ~ ~

If you live in or near the Allen, Texas area, consider "Jenny On The Spot" for pet care needs. Jenny Hillary volunteered with ARFhouse for several years. She is reliable, conscientious, and has a great love of all animals. We highly recommend her. Check out her website:

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

Animal Refuge Foundation  
3377 Spalding Rd.  
Sherman, TX 75092

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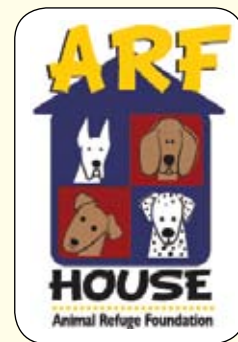
ARFhouse needs and welcomes your donation in any denomination. Every dollar counts and is used for day-to-day operations, care of our animals, and assistance to animals in the community. Your donation is tax deductible. Please send your gift in the enclosed envelope to ARFhouse, 3377 Spalding Rd., Sherman, TX 75092.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Amount: \$ \_\_\_\_\_



## Mission Statement

Animal Refuge Foundation (ARFhouse) is a care-for-life, no-kill sanctuary in a rural setting and is home to 276 dogs. Dedicated to improving the lives of animals through rescue and rehabilitation, spay/neuter and placing animals into homes with loving guardians, ARFhouse also assists animals whose owners are unable to pay for the sterilization of their animals, particularly elderly people who are on fixed incomes. The Foundation will also provide financial assistance for any stray animal found who requires emergency medical attention. The major goal is to relieve suffering and to provide contentment and happiness to any dog who crosses our threshold.

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