



ARFhouse Happenings

A non-profit, 501(c)3 charitable organization

WINTER 2015
VOLUME 18, ISSUE 4



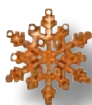
The Liz O'Brien Adoption Center Open House



If you came to this event on October 3rd, you know it was a huge success, with more than 100 friends attending. There were many star studded guests such as Mike & Sharon O'Brien, Lynn & Kathy Surls, Kim McNeal & Ralf Poineal, Tom & Ruth Wanasek, Donnette Diehl, Dan Witt, Deb Blakeney, John O'Rourke, Wayne & Maxine Delaney, Jennifer Schwind, Allen Cloutier, Linda Beheler, Reynolds Mansson, Ronny Blount, Limey, and many more, too numerous to mention. I wished that we had put out a red carpet for all of you! I

want to thank everyone who came and showed their support. I was humbled by the encouragement we received from you. This fine facility should serve ARFhouse many years into the future, and help more animals find loving homes.

The Center has already made placement of puppies and dogs so much simpler. Adopters are able to bring their children and/or their pets to meet prospects. When the east side fence is completed, we'll have places for pets to interact with our dogs; aiding adopters in the decision making process.



St. Mary's Catholic School Visit



Mrs. Galvan and Mrs. Tauer's kindergarten classes hosted our LeAnn Parker and "Chaos" for a meet and greet. "Chaos" was a big hit.

Each class at St. Mary's for the first time this year chose a saint as a "patron" saint of the classroom. The kindergarten classes (there are 2 with a total of 26 kids) chose St. Francis of Assisi, the patron saint of animals, whose feast day is October 4th. The teachers (Mrs. Annie Galvan and Mrs. Ashley Tauer) decided to ask for donations to help animals in shelters, such as blankets, towels, treats, toys and leashes. "We started to research places that would be in need. As it happens, we lost a pet suddenly (and I have a kindergartener) and our veterinarian (Dr. McConkey) made a donation in her honor to your organization. Once we researched and realized you were a no kill shelter and had a great need, we knew you were the place for us. After meeting LeAnn and Chaos (October 30th) when they came to the school to teach the children about The ARF House, the teachers felt this could turn into an ongoing project. The children couldn't have been more thrilled to see a dog in the school library (it was raining that day), and just love on him. They were full



of questions and enthusiasm. Both teachers hope to make this a school wide project next year and continue to work with contributing to your organization. We had a wonderful experience thus far and look forward to working with you in the future. Thank you for sharing Chaos with the children of St. Mary's."



NEWCOMERS



This tiny thing is “Mathilda” (a.k.a. “Tilly”). LeAnn Parker found her in a rural area of Pottsville. Tilly is in our senior building. She’s deaf, and her eyesight isn’t great. She is quite the curmudgeon, and makes everyone laugh when she plays with a toy. She has the strangest little voice, and behaves like she thinks she’s vicious and scaring us.



“Pitch” was found in a ditch in rural Oklahoma. He’s smaller than he looks in this picture. He is such a sweet natured boy, and the prettiest pit bull we’ve ever had at ARF.



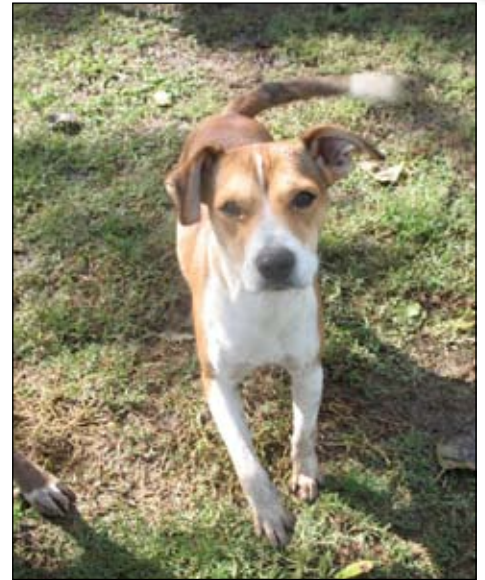
“Turner” arrived with “Carmen”.



“Jeanette” was found on a construction site, scrounging for food. An employee brought her to us.



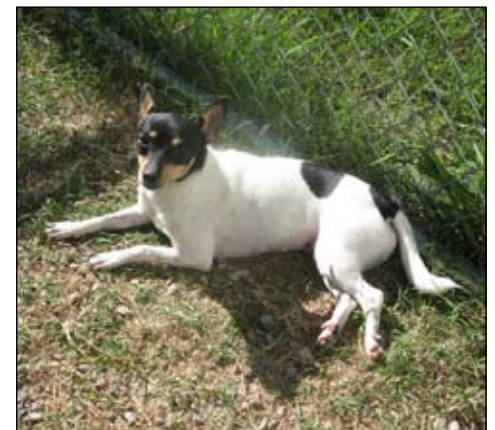
“Cora” was left on Spalding Road, near ARFhouse. She’s in a large area, with 4 other friends. She’s a friendly and active girl.



“Carmen” was abandoned, along with her sibling, “Turner”, just 100 yds east of ARFhouse. She shares a yard with “Pitch” and is his constant playmate.



“Gilda” was found by an ARFhouse friend. She’s a pit mix, but very friendly and playful with her yard partners. They’re running, playing, and barking all day.



“Dora” was found north of Sadler by an ARFhouse friend. She’s much smaller than she appears to be in this picture. She’s in a kennel at our Adoption Center, waiting for the right person to love.



ADOPTIONS



"Winston", with his new family, the Hoffelt's.



"Warren" pictured with his new family, Robin Riddle & Brandon Barber.



"Wesley", with his new guardian, Kim Norris.



Martha Hovers & John O'Rourke, w/"Ariel" (on left), "Taz" (on right), and "Stitch" on leash. John adopted "Ariel" (our Dee Dee) shortly before the grand opening. This picture was taken at that event. "Ariel" had been one of Martha's house dogs for most of 2015; but several weeks after John lost his beloved "Bugs" to cancer, he made a decision to adopt a small dog from us. "Ariel" had the moxie that made him take notice of her, and decide to adopt her. She was constantly vying for attention from every staff member here at ARFhouse. Now she's receiving the adoration and attention she's always thought she deserved.



"Kappa" adopted



"Atticus" finds the perfect fit!

DOG FOOD CRISIS

Our food donations have not reached critical shortage YET; however, we received some troubling news from CLS (one of our suppliers) this week. They're a company that sorts "spoils" (torn bags/bent cans/resets, etc.) for several grocery stores. We learned that Safeway has not signed off on making their pet products available when they're shipped to CLS. This means a reduction by at least 1/2 of what we currently receive, which is a major blow to us. Canned food will now be secondary on our "Wish List", putting Purina Dog Chow and Purina ONE at the top. We feed Purina ONE in our senior building. We mix everything else that comes in, but the Purina is a good "mixer". Be mindful that if we were forced to purchase our food, the costs would be prohibitive since the dogs consume 350 lbs of kibble per day.



APPEAL

Being a non-profit, ARFhouse is able to rescue and care for our dogs because of the amazing support from our volunteers, donors, and community partners. As harsh winter weather is quickly approaching North Texas, we ask you to please think about the increased needs of our beautiful dogs, especially vital necessities such as blankets, increased food consumption, medicine, as well as increased heating in our senior building.

Our senior and handicapped dogs are some of the sweetest dogs that we care for on the farm, and they're also some of the most susceptible to cold weather that's quickly approaching. As a consequence, ARFhouse has committed itself to building a second, internally-heated shelter for that part of the population. This building, plus the outdoor kennel areas, will cost \$70,000 to construct.

ARFhouse is immensely grateful for all the support you continue to give us, and in addition to personal contributions, if you know of a business owner or community leader who is a rabid dog lover, please spread the news that we're about to initiate a donation jar system to help increase our funding.

Every penny counts, and no donation is too small when wanting to make a difference. If you'd like to make a donation, you can do so in the following ways:

1) Donate through the PayPal link on our website using a

credit or debit card.

- 2) Mail a check directly to ARFhouse in the enclosed envelope.
- 3) Combine your donation with your company matching program (many employers provide this charitable benefit).
- 4) If you happen to see one of our donation jars at a store or community center, please keep us in mind.

Finally, with the completion of both the Liz O'Brien Adoption Center and the hiring of two new staff members, our adoption department is about to get kicked into overdrive. If any of our ARFhouse family knows of someone looking to adopt a dog, please direct them to our Petfinder site. By the end of December our website should have updates on all available pets for adoption too. When it comes to rescuing dogs, ARFhouse is operating at maximum housing capacity, and we have so many beautiful dogs that would brighten the lives of any person or family that welcomed them into their homes.

Once again, thank you for all the support and contributions that you continue to give us, and as weather grows colder, please remember the dogs.



Some of the **"CHALLENGED"** *Dogs of ARFhouse*

As you know, we routinely accept dogs that have suffered because of neglect, or that were born with handicaps. These dogs require special care and/or must be in a yard alone because of an inability to defend themselves; i.e., a blind dog will sometimes bump into his yard mate and that can end badly.

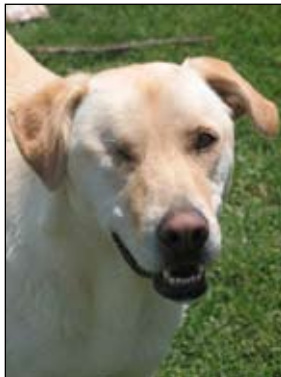
You've seen pictures of most of our blind, deaf, 3-legged dogs; as well as those with severe head trauma or dementia. Many of these dogs were discarded; probably due to their health issues. We choose to provide safe haven for these animals.



"Cassidy", one of our 3-legged dogs who came to us from another rescue.



"Helen" was born with no eyes. She's one of several we've accepted from the Mt. Pleasant Animal Shelter.



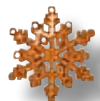
"Wink" is missing an eye, but it doesn't slow her down.

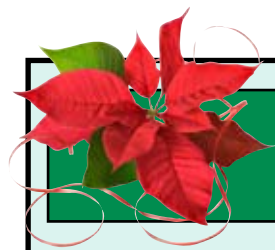


"Bumpers" arrived when his guardian passed away. He was born with no eyes.



"Jessie" is a precious dog with 3 legs, but the remaining back leg has only 1/2 foot; thus, she has to wear a prosthetic device.





Special Thanks!

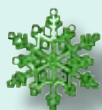


On October 10, two dear friends of ARFhouse, Deb Blakeney and George Hoppe, hosted a fundraiser for ARFhouse at their McKinney home. It was a generous feast from generous friends, and thirty-five of their friends attended. Deb presented our story, in an impassioned appeal for donations to support the work we're doing, rescuing the abandoned dogs in North Texas. Besides all the great food and drink, a log-time friend of ARFhouse, Bill Waggener of Dallas, donated two guaranteed seat airlines passes to be offered at silent auction for ARFhouse. Because Bill had to work and was unable to attend, he asked his friend, Tom Wanasek, to announce the silent auction and speak about ARFhouse. Tom told the gathering about ARFhouse's mission, and the distinct difference between ARFhouse and other charities. He explained how ARFhouse operates with a lean staff.

Hovers and several staff members live on-site in humble homes. No money is wasted at ARFhouse. Donations are wisely spent for the benefit of the "residents".

When all was said and done, the tickets generated a high bid of \$1750 made by other dear benefactors, Kim McNeal and Ralf Poineal. It was a win-win. ARFhouse got additional needed funds, and the winners have two round-trip airline passes to go wherever they want at any time they want.

The total raised from donations and the tickets was \$8,750. The dogs were winners that evening. We want to thank everyone for their generosity; but especially Deb and George for all their efforts to make this a successful evening for the animals. It was!



Thank You!

We're grateful to the Tecumseh Foundation for a \$4000 grant which purchased some of the furniture in the Adoption Center, and also helped to pay for the indoor kennels. With donated pieces from Drs. Poineal and McNeal, and this grant, we didn't have to use any of our operational funds to furnish the Center.

Motorcycle Dealer Event *"Goin' To The Dogs!"* in December!

Due to poor weather conditions, the fundraising event being hosted by BMW Motorcycles of North Texas and European Cycle Sports had to be rescheduled. October 24 was a very rainy day. The new date is December 12th at European Cycle Sports, 900 K Avenue near downtown Plano. This should be a really fun day for all you

animal lovers because Santa will be there at 11:00 am to sit with your pets (or children) for photos. At 3:00 PM a URAL Solo Custom Cafe Racer will be raffled off to help support the dogs of ARFhouse. Throughout the day refreshments will be available and Posh Dog Bakery treats will be on hand with samples of their locally made treats.



Brakebill Veterinary Hospital Made The Following "In Memory" Donations

"Buddy"
Kevin McKibban

"Daisy"
Fountain Family

"Josey"
Marilla Smith

"Sasha"
Frances & Tony Rallis

"Bailey"
Mr. & Mrs. Jonah Sterling

"Lucky"
Rogers Family

"Sophie"
Kim Ring

"Ellie"
Mr. & Mrs. Charles Schweizer

"Cody"
The Cunningham Family

"Thing 2"
Bill & Carrie Egres

"Maggie"
Ellen Hesse

"Malachi"
Kevin & Jeanna Thornton-Peters

"Pumpkin"
Robert McKinney

"Lupin"
Rachel & Liliana Morgan

"Lady"
Mr. & Mrs. Mike Raleigh

"CJ"
Keisha & Maurice Cook

"Honeybun"
Le Nan Myers

"Bella"
Mr. & Mrs. Mike Martin

"Suzie"
Margaret Ditto

"Gus"
Terri Campbell

"Beau"
Mr. & Mrs. Derek Johnson

"Edgar"
Erica Guest & family

"Bryan"
Andrea Migura & family

"Chama"
Cheryl Bates

"Estes Bark"
Mr. & Mrs. Marvin Odom

"Lexi"
Mr. & Mrs. Thomas Orr

"Dadie"
Mr. & Mrs. Tommy
Reynolds

"Phoebe"
Mr. & Mrs. Powell

"Charlie"
Mr. & Mrs. Monks

"Biscuit"
Keith & Brad Brown

"Greta"
Jim & Gillian Salling

"Charlie"
James & Sue Monk

"Angie"
Mr. & Mrs. Gidney

"Tuffy"
Danny Brakebill

"Heather", "Phoebe" &
"Callie"
Mr. & Mrs. Art Payne

"Daisy Mae"
Sandra Brown

"Bonnie"
Sydonna Dupree

"Crickett"
Angela Cole

"Pancake"
Andy Houser

"Bandit"
Carrie Coffey

"Wonder Boy"
Ernest Willis

"Mister"
Stephanie Sertic

"Meg"
Mary Nix

In Memory of Animal Lovers

Elizabeth Compton Hilliard
"a true animal lover"
by: Beth Bowling

In Honor of Beloved Pets

"Molly"
Beloved dachshund of
Gene & Juanita Brown

To Honor Animal Lovers

Libby Lou Jackson & Sadie Lee
Jackson
by: Nickey and Audreah Jackson

Anita Gandy
"In memory of my best friend, Nita"
by: Chris Adair

Mr. & Mrs. Uphouse
by: Lynda Uphouse

Rachel Hinzmann
by: Tohnie Hynds

Betty (Bassham) Nyquist
by: Russ & Barbara Darling

Jeff Whitley
by: Kathy & Stacy Caudell

Stan Rose
by: Carl & Sarah Frietsch

Roger Platizky
for his Birthday & Christmas gift
by: The Chisum's



"Lily" and "Molly", getting a treat from Daddy (Gene Brown) when "Lily" was still with them.

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

"Isabella"
The Restrepo Family

"Dixie"
The Appolito's

"Tigger"
The Shull Family

"Jr."
The Askins Family

"Sophie"
The Richardson's

"Samson"
The Jackson's

"Mama Kitty"
The Birchall's

"Annabel"
The Alexander's

"Blaze"
The Lemons Family

"Dutchess"
The Farris family

"Tiny"
The McWater's

"Freddy"
family preferred to be
anonymous

"Kitty"
The Parker's

"Killer"
The Miller's

"Puddy"
The Manning's

"Summer"
The Flugstad family

Thanks

To the people who help our dogs

Sherman WalMart
Danny Brakebill
Stacey & Dr. Clay Morris
Dr. Jennifer Schwind
Brakebill Veterinary Clinic Staff
Canyon Creek Pet Hospital
Niemann Publications
Moka's Dog rescue
Walmart
Deb Blakeney
Dr. Allen Cloutier



In Memory of Beloved Pets

"Edie"
Beloved pet of Russ
Bowers family
by: Priscilla Bowers

"Jake", "Sadie", "Buster",
& "Suzy Q"
by: Bart & Linda Mitchell

"Kiwi"
Beloved pet of Cindy &
Naif Risk
by: James & Donna
Pennell

"Snookums"
Pamela Pyle's beloved
Newfoundland
by: Roger Platizky

"Logan"
Wonderful big red dog
adopted from ARFhouse
by: Ruth & Tom Wanasek

"Lili"
by: Gene & Juanita Brown

"Ellie" Schweizer
Beloved cat of Darlene &
Charles Schweizer
by: Linda Tarzis

"Friday"
"Sweetest boy dog
ever..."
by: Sherrie Miga &
Marilyn King

*"All his life he tried to be a good person. Many times, however, he failed.
For after all, he was only human. He wasn't a dog." -- Charles M. Schulz*

WISH LIST



Purina Dog Chow
Purina ONE

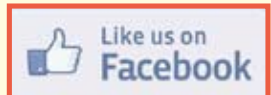
Igloo doghouses
Water hoses

Canned dog food
3 gal buckets

ARFhouse DIRECTORS

Danny Brakebill
Sally O'Brien
Martha Hovers

Secretary
Roxanne South



ARFhouse Non-Profit Organization on Facebook

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

Animal Refuge Foundation
3377 Spalding Rd.
Sherman, TX 75092

NONPROFIT
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
PERMIT #10
SADLER, TX 76264

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

**We appreciate your continued
support of ARFhouse.**

Be an ARFhouse Supporter!

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.

3377 Spalding Rd. ♦ Sherman, TX 75092
Phone (903) 564-7056
Website address: www.arfhouse.org