

Paw Prints



from **T**he **A**nimal **L**eague of **G**reen **V**alley

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THE MAGIC OF FOSTERING

By Sharon Knight



Have you thought about adopting a pet from TALGV but haven't done so because: a) you travel a lot, b) you already have a dog or a cat (or both), or c) you are not sure how a pet would fit in with your lifestyle? If so, fostering could be right for you. It's a chance to help a special cat or dog that may otherwise be unadoptable find that forever home. Many of the animals at TALGV need to spend time in a home where that extra bit of attention can help them overcome trauma or illness. Others need to learn what it means to be part of a family and

some simply need to live out their days in a loving and secure home.

Fostering can be a challenge, but like all of life's challenges, it brings some of life's greatest rewards. Nisha was found and brought to TALGV a few months ago. She was in bad shape with fur missing from her tail and legs. The vet who examined her confirmed our suspicions that she was blind and said she will never see again; the result of tick fever. One of our Pet Pals, Peggy, decided to foster Nisha. That was three months ago. Today Nisha is a happy, loving girl with a beautiful spirit and a coat to match. Her foster mom says that most of the time if you didn't know she was blind you would never guess it by watching her romp and play and simply enjoy life. Because of this fostering experience, Nisha now has a chance to be adopted and find her forever home.

If you can offer one of our animals a place in your home and your heart, even for a short period of time, please contact Joyce McGhie, Foster Care Coordinator, at 393-1919 or joycemcghie@yahoo.com



Visitor and Volunteer Patio

**Our TALGV Maintenance Crew
At Work for People and Pets**



New Parking Lot Sign



Dog Ramada

HAPPY TAILS

By Artie Collins
and Terry Nelson



LUNA AND COTTON, mother and son kitties, came to TALGV in October, when their mother had to relocate to California.

Their parting was very sad and Ana was in hopes of reclaiming her loving friends, if they had not been adopted yet, as soon as her situation permitted. Luna and Cotton were inseparable, but Luna didn't do well in general population. She stopped eating and became very reclusive. She tested positive for a serious disease called FIP, but the vet said she was probably just stressed out from losing her home with Ana. When she began losing weight, she was moved to isolation so she could be watched. Alone and continuing to lose weight, Cotton was moved in with her and she began to show signs of improvement. Miraculously, at just this time, a wonderful couple offered to foster both cats until they left for the season. In the comfort of her new surroundings and the company of Cotton, Luna did an about face that amazed everyone - including her veterinarian.

Ana stayed in touch with TALGV and worked hard to be able to reclaim her friends. Finally, she found herself in a position to do just that. Luna and Cotton were transported to California. When they safely arrived, they immediately hid under the bed together for the first few hours. But gradually they realized that they were reunited with Ana and it was like they had never been separated. Luna and Cotton reemerged as the same loving, lap-sitting, cuddly kitties that Ana remembered and adored.

Daisy, an 11-month-old American pit bull mix, came to TALGV from a family in Amado that was bursting at the seams with six other dogs, three children, a cat and a mouse. Sadly, with that many mouths to feed, they couldn't keep Daisy too. Her arrival at TALGV coincided with grave concern about a litter of extremely shy, unsocialized puppies. No one could have imagined the magic that was about to unfold. Almost in desperation, Daisy, not much more than a pup herself, was placed in the puppies' enclosure one day and somehow knew that there was important work to be done. She immediately went about bringing the pups out of their shells and socializing them. She was never rough, but she would not take no for an answer. Day after day, she would nudge and tug on any reticent puppy until it came out of its bed and then she would play with it until it responded. Daisy astounded everyone at TALGV with her persistent, nurturing ways with the puppies.



Enter Kayla and John, who came to TALGV looking for the perfect match to complete their household and found it in Daisy. She loves to chase balls, enjoys the dog park, begs to play tag in the house with their daughter, nuzzles their little baby and sleeps at the foot of the waterbed. Daisy was magic for the TALGV puppies and now she's magic for the family of Kayla and John.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR from Previous TALGV Residents - The views expressed are the writer's own and do not reflect those of the organization.

Dear Animal League Staff,

My name is Harpo - I was with you in May 2007 until I hooked up with my current family. They wanted to send you a donation, so I thought I'd bring you up to speed. I'm a hit! I'm very happy lots of love, toys and food. I only have one complaint. Dad thinks I need a shower every 4 months or so (Mom doesn't). I've been putting up with it, but I'm a cat & find it really annoying. Is there anything you can do about this? Anyway, I hope the donation will help some of my brothers and sisters at TALGV - tell everyone hello for me. PS - Don't waste any of the money on the dogs, please!

Woof Woof and Hello to my favorite rescuer!

Many things have changed in my life since you found me in the Wal-Mart parking lot. I've been in a snowstorm. I saw my first grass which I thought was for rolling and eating - took me two days before I would piddle on it. I've learned new tricks, sit, stay, heel, and I can shake hands - guess what? I'm left handed. Although I know I'm a mountain lion, somebody said I looked like a Jack Russell mixed with a Lab. When I see ducks in the lake I raise my left paw and stick out my tail and point with my nose - nobody had to teach me to do that! With great puppy love, Binka (aka Marla)

SEPARATION ANXIETY

By Roger and Helaine Nelson



Separation Anxiety is a panic response from a dog that is left alone, even for short periods. It can manifest as digging, chewing, crying, howling, urination, defecation and destructive behaviors including the dog injuring itself. Dogs, being social creatures, normally want to be with their pack. If the dog feels deserted, separation anxiety might occur especially for an insecure dog. Mild cases can usually be managed by a few simple methods such as leaving

a Kong toy stuffed with treats to give them something to do or providing an article of old clothing given to the dog carrying the owner's scent for comfort.

Try to keep arrivals and departures very low key. We often create separation anxiety by making a big deal out of leaving and arriving home, usually out of guilt for leaving our dog alone. Try using the 5 minute rule when entering your house. For the first 5 minutes if your dog is jumping, whining and carrying on, ignore your dog until it has calmed down. Once the dog is calm again greet it in a low key manner.

For more severe forms of separation anxiety, serious desensitizing techniques may need to be implemented. Confining a dog to a crate will not be effective in stopping the panic, nor will punishment. Acquiring another dog for company might not be effective either, because anxiety is the result of separation from you, his person, not merely the result of being alone. The desensitizing method for severe separation anxiety can be a long process, but with patience and determination on the owner's part, it is not an impossible task, not all that difficult, and worth the effort. More complete details of the process can be found under "dog behavior tip sheets" on the Humane Society's website, petsforlife.org

5th VOLUNTEER APPRECIATION LUNCHEON By Ann Slagter

This year's theme was **TALGV Volunteers are Love in Motion**. The Special Events Committee and Joan Matti, Volunteer Coordinator, planned the event and chose colorful Mexican decorations to compliment a great Mexican lunch served by Legion volunteers. President Jean Davis set the mood by thanking all volunteers and recognizing them in the increasing number of jobs that they do, commenting that, "We're all working together for the animals."



Highlighting all the activities at TALGV was Georgia & Bob Puttock's nostalgic DVD, **Year in Review**, showing volunteers and all the animals they love and care for. This was accompanied by audience participation with comments, laughs and maybe a few snuffles. Nancy Arnold's fashion show led into this year's gift to volunteers as models showed the four different t-shirts they could choose from after the luncheon. The finale was a raffle drawing for the four prizes.

Each year volunteer attendance has grown at this luncheon. In the last few years, TALGV has more than doubled, not only in building space, but in the number of active volunteers. Over 160 people attended - what a record!

There are Many Ways to Support TALGV

Take a look at our newly
designed & enclosed
envelope to get more
information & contact us



The Animal League of Green Valley

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You will find gently used items at *Bargain Prices*

- Collectibles
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- Jewelry
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- Computers
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Difference for
People and Pets
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for purchase in
TALGV office**

LOCATION & MAILING ADDRESS

1600 W. Duval Mine Road
Green Valley, AZ 85614

TELEPHONE
(520) 625-3170

FAX
(520) 625-4684

KENNELS and ATTIC THRIFT SHOP

**New Hours: Open 7 Days a Week
10:00 am to 2:00 pm**

WEBSITE
www.talgv.org

Paw Prints Editor - Trudy Shannon
Photographer - Georgia Puttock

*TALGV is a 501(c)(3)
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Green Valley, AZ 85614

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Tipsy-ism, from our TALGV Office Cat:

No amount of time can erase the
memory of a good cat and no amount of
masking tape can ever totally remove his
fur from your couch.

OR CURRENT RESIDENT