

Paw Prints

Vol. XXVII, Issue 3

A Newsletter for the Friends and Supporters of The Animal League of Green Valley

Fall 2013



Sahuarita Mayor, Duane Blumberg, addresses the assembled guests.

TIME TO CELEBRATE!

Over 100 people attended the Grand Opening Celebration and Ribbon Cutting Ceremony for our new building on October 7, 2013.

Guests enjoyed tours, refreshments and meeting the animals and our many volunteers.



TALGV President, Jean Davis, and Mayor Blumberg at the ribbon cutting.



Refreshments were served in our new multipurpose room.



Willy and the other dogs want everyone to know how happy they are with their newly refurbished kennels and the new outdoor play area.



The Cats and Their Caregivers Love Their New Space



Tad Bird and his late wife, Carolyn, were the longtime administrators of the Red Acre Foundation, which has donated nearly a quarter of a million dollars to The Animal League of Green Valley over the last 16 years. When Tad attended our Grand Opening Celebration on October 7, he had no idea that the building was dedicated to him and Carolyn.

The Executive Director of the Red Acre Foundation had told us that it was the wish of the Foundation that any recognition be in the names of Tad and Carolyn. We were very happy to comply and thrilled to see the complete surprise and joy that it brought to Tad when he saw the beautiful tile mural by artist Leslea Johnson. Tad Bird currently resides at the La Posada campus in Green Valley.

What 'Moving Day' Means

by an Anonymous Cat at TALGV



I have been here at TALGV my entire life, ever since Momma and all of us kittens were brought to TALGV. It is a very nice place to live.

We have our own human staff who keep everything clean, and make sure we have good food and fresh water. We also receive very good healthcare which the humans say is very important.

This summer we all learned what 'Moving Day' means. On this

particular day, there was way too much activity and noise in the building, and all of us were upset over losing catnap time. The next thing we knew, they took our cat trees out of our rooms and replaced them with cardboard boxes. Some of the cats thought this was great fun, but I missed MY cat tree with the high perch! I crawled into a box marked "USE NO HOOKS" (let's hope not!) and tried to sleep.

My dreams of high places were interrupted by a large number of humans, all with red wagons filled with OUR STUFF, filing out the door like a long freight train. Some cats watched with interest, while some were scared and hid. I just wished they would keep the noise level down and let me sleep.

Now a new type of train was coming back into the building, a train of cat carriers. Uh oh, what is this? Most of us came to TALGV in a carrier. Are we being taken back to where we came from? Some cats get hopeful - maybe they can go back to their old life with the humans they loved. Most of us, myself included, do not want to go back to the desert or the streets. We like it here! Maybe we're all being adopted. Cats who know what "adopted" means seem happy. The humans tell us, "It's Moving Day!"

The cat carrier train now moves back out of the building, a cat in each one. I don't want to nap now; this is a good show. There goes that tabby that I never liked; she looks like a deer in headlights. There goes that goofy spotted cat; he looks excited, with that dumb look that dogs get when they go out for a walk. How embarrassing!

Several kittens go by, stuck to the wire door like spiders on a web. A few cats are yowling, and I give them a look that says "Get a grip, man! Dignity! Cattitude!" Now the big boys are going by. All of them are sitting in the carriers, staring straight ahead, showing no fear, just scowling and showing indignation over this whole show.

It's my turn now. Into a carrier I go. I hope that I am not in here very long. I am not as svelte as I used to be (note to self - cut back on the snacks) and it is a tight fit. I hide my head and don't look. Soon I'm in a cool room where nothing looks or smells the same. Some cats bolt out of their carriers like their tails are on fire. Some are happy to walk out and see where they are. Others are too frightened to move. I take the cautious approach and sneak out, head and shoulders down. Then I chicken out and run, right out the cat flap door. It's a new outside patio, and look...my favorite cat tree is here! Oh joy! I leap onto it and crouch down. After a while I relax and look around. There is food and water so I eat and drink, then go back to my favorite spot. There is a lovely breeze up here on kitty cat hill, and a beautiful Arizona sunset to end this very long day. As I drift off to sleep, I am very happy to have been "moved". I will dream about another move, a move which all of us dream of, a move to a forever home.



Postscript: All of us cats agree that we like it up here on the hill in our new building! We are much more relaxed and happy and I have given up my old cat tree for spot in one of the new "cubbies" in my room.



Come and See What's New!!!



As part of our expansion and renovation project we've enlarged the shopping area in our Attic Thrift Store and also added three new dressing rooms.

The Attic is open 7 days a week from 10AM - 2PM for shopping and donations.

Volunteers are always needed in The Attic, both in the store and behind the scenes.

We offer FREE pick-up and delivery of larger items.



The Paw Print Path

Remember or honor a loved one, person or pet, with a 12" brick paver in our Paw Print Path. The cost is \$125. Please indicate that your payment is for the Paw Print Path and we will send you the necessary form to submit your wording.





UPCOMING EVENTS



**Green Valley Country Fair and
White Elephant Parade**
Friday and Saturday
October 25 and 26

Pups on Parade
at the Amado Territory Ranch
Thursday, October 31
10 a.m. - 2 p.m.

Sahuarita Pecan Festival
Saturday, November 9
9 a.m. - 5 p.m.

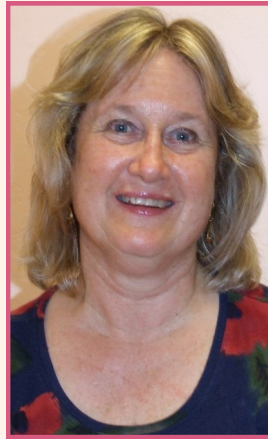


American Cancer Society Bark for Life
Saturday November 9
8 a.m. - 1 p.m.

Adopt a Friend Day at Beall's Outlet
Saturday, November 16
1 - 3 p.m.

PetSmart Santa Photo Event
Saturday, December 14
11 a.m. - 4 p.m.
TALGV will receive \$5 for
each photo taken.

Annual TALGV meeting
Thursday, December 5
in our new multipurpose room
(time to be announced)

"Give Your Heart to the Animals "
Dinner Dance
Desert Diamond Casino
Sunday, February 18, 2014



TALGV Board of Directors Welcomes Ann Wyland

Ann was born in Amarillo, Texas, but being an "Air Force brat", she moved every 2 years of her life until her family retired here in Tucson in 1970 where she finished high school in 1972.


After high school Ann got a job at Tucson Electric Power Company (TEP) and worked there for the next 23 years while also attending classes at the U of A and Pima College. During her 23 year career at TEP, she worked in a variety of

jobs dealing with the construction and installation of new utility services and overhead to underground electrical conversions. She also assisted in the training of subordinates for this position.

In 1996 Ann took early retirement from TEP and a year later opened her own home business as an Independent Contractor. Working with architect's plans, she was responsible for sizing heating and cooling equipment for new residential customers for TEP's Guarantee Program. She had this business for 10 years.

Ann has been around animals all her life. She became involved with TALGV in May of 2010 as a Pet Pal Volunteer and became a Cat Care Coordinator in November of that same year and the Cat Care "Point" Person in January of 2013. In addition to volunteering several times a week at TALGV, she has also been working for several years with Southern Arizona Golden Retriever Rescue (SAGR) and does home visits for them before they will adopt a dog out to a prospective owner.

Ann lives in Sahuarita with Mark, her husband of 25 years, and their 3 dogs – Kayla, Libby, and Señor (who was adopted from TALGV), numerous koi, an aquarium of fish, and 4 desert tortoises. Part of their backyard is registered as a Certified Natural Habitat for Desert Tortoises.



Angels don't always have wings,
Sometimes they have fur and paws.

Angels don't always wear halos,
Sometimes they wear collars.

Angels don't always sleep on clouds,
Sometimes they sleep nestled
close to us.

Angels don't always sing in a
heavenly chorus,
Sometimes they bark or purr.

Do you have an Angel in your life?



Mail from our friends...

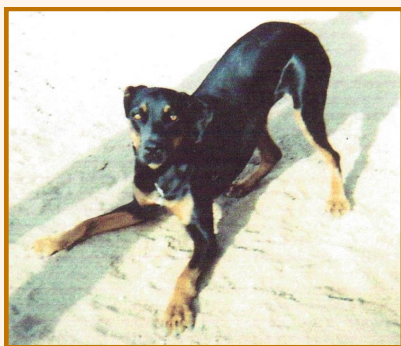


Jetta

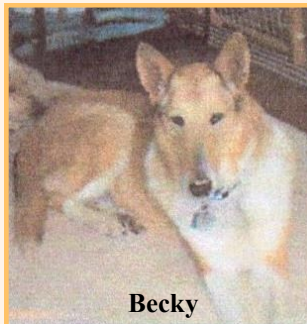
To My Friends at TALGV,

I just wanted to let you know I am doing okay, and to thank you for keeping me until I found a home. My adopted parents think I am a great dog and are impressed with all the things I can do! I like to ride in the car, but when I have to stay home they bought me a Kong toy they fill with treats. I have to try and get the treats out and that keeps me busy until they return. I still chew on my bone you gave me. I also got a rubber bowl to put my toys in. I like to dump all the toys out, then roll it on the floor and bite the edges. I enjoy playing in the yard too and love the chance to run around. My parents are sending a donation to help all the other dogs and cats until they find a home. God bless you all.

Love, Jetta



Becky and Cocoa



Becky



Cocoa

Becky and Cocoa are happy here and have settled in nicely. I have tons of work to do this morning and both Cocoa and Becky are helping me. Becky likes to be very close to me and I'm lucky when only her two white paws are in my eBay pictures. Thank you for these two wonderful girls. Susan Bump

Moxi



This is Moxi. He was five months old when I brought him home and I named him Moxi because he was full of it. Claire, my Chihuahua, and I needed another spirit in our home. I was very excited about it; Claire was not. My peaceful existence had degenerated into permanent frown lines on my forehead and a miniature Cujo for a Chihuahua.

Moxi wanted to eat everything...bugs, flowers, leaves and cedar chips. Inside I had to put tinfoil on every piece of wood and I lost two shoes. I soon knew better than to leave anything lying around as he would figure it was his and chew it up.

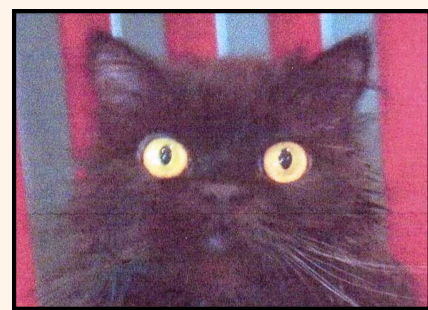
He wriggled his way out of his harness one day and as I was running after him I kept asking myself, "Why exactly, did I do this?" But, the thought of giving him back made my heart hurt, so I kept at it.

Moxi is such a happy dog; he smiles all the time. When he is running he will sometimes just hop in the air for no reason. He is so joyful, he makes me laugh. Life with Moxi has never been and never will be boring. I have to wonder how Claire and I survived all those years without him.

Thank you for letting me adopt him. Patty LaPierre

Kahlua

I am sending a photo of Kahlua, formerly known as 'Fuzzy', taken just after his first bath. It was semi-traumatic for him but he came through with flying colors. He is happy, healthy, and a talker. He follows me around the



house and comments on things. He also has a shoe fetish. He loves to snuggle, play, and bite my shoes (luckily when I'm not wearing them!). We are both very happy. He and my other Persian, Cosette, tolerate each other. My third Persian, Zoey, just growls at him and Kahlua backs down. He's no dummy; Zoey is a tough little Persian.

Ta-Ta For Now, Renee Riksheim

Zelda

Thanks for sheltering Zelda (now Cassi) until I could adopt her three years ago. Here is a photo of her 'guarding' the house. HA!

Marjorie R. Humphreys



A Tale of Two Puppies

by Ann-Marie DeBoer



In the summer of 2010 a litter of Australian Cattle Dog (aka Heeler) puppies was born . We had the pleasure of meeting them at TALGV when they were four weeks old and were fortunate enough to be able to choose our puppy and happily await the day we could bring him home.

Then we learned that the litter had contracted parvovirus

and some puppies did not survive. TALGV did everything they could to save as many puppies as possible. Our kids were so overjoyed when we happily adopted our puppy. It was such a blessing, we not only adopted our chosen puppy, we also adopted a sister of his as well. This brings me to the real reason I am writing this story.

Many people will say their puppies were a handful but unless you have owned one of these dogs a handful does not come close to describing life with them.

Even at such a young age, once we got them home they were barking at the doorbell, running around the house, up the stairs and falling down, jumping on the couch and chasing the cats. We realized that these were not 'normal' dogs and there was MUCH to understand about them. They like to 'do' and 'do' a lot! They fought, they nipped, and I am positive that during the nights they would secretly conspire how to make my life harder.

While they were easy to train, there were so many days when I was in tears, wondering if we did the right thing and if we could keep them.

By the time they were nine months old they were bigger and stronger and just as crazy, if not more. We still kept on, every day, training them, exercising them rigorously - EVERY DAY, the same thing. Even though I was dragged down into a wash on my face and dragged up the street on my side, I was determined to make them my running dogs, all three of us together, harmonious and happy. Truthfully, I thought that day would never come.

Then one day there was a GOOD day! It was nothing extraordinary, just a better day than the one before. Sure, those days weren't every day and it took a lot of hard work, perseverance, and patience.

Now, at three years old, we look and see the dogs we longed to have and thought we never would...well behaved, obedient, over-sized lap dogs, running partners and great family dogs.

There were so many times I wanted to give up. I am so grateful and thankful we held on and kept pushing through.

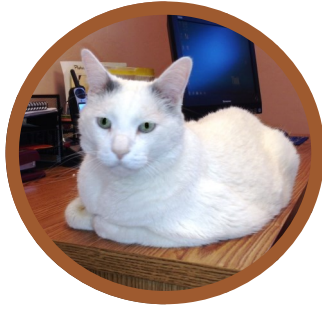
Are they perfect? For us, yes. Am I perfect? No. Are they the best dogs ever? Sure - if you ask me. Am I the best person ever? No. Do they have their share of problems? Well, I do too. How can I expect them to be something I am not when I'm supposed to be the one who is smarter?

There are things to get used to with every type of dog, and much to get used to with Heelers, but it comes with the territory of being a dog owner. I now know we have dogs that will not leave our side, no matter what; dogs that let the kids crawl and climb all over them, dogs that are ours and we are theirs.

You never know what will work out if you give it time. Rome wasn't built in a day and dogs don't become the greatest companions ever in a few short weeks. You have to give them time and if you do, they will give you all the rest of the time in their lives. Even if it seems hopeless or impossible, it will happen.

Thank you, TALGV, for our dogs. Blaze (red) and Storm (blue) are a big part of what makes our family what it is. Thank you for not giving up on them when they were so little, and thank you for believing in us to not give up on them when they were bigger.





Tipsy says, "A person is the best thing to happen to a shelter pet. Be that person. Adopt."

Paw Prints Editor - Sharon Knight

TALGV is a 501(c)(3)
Not for Profit Organization

The Animal League of Green Valley

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<p>TALGV now accepts DEBIT and CREDIT CARDS</p>		

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

LOCATION & MAILING ADDRESS
1600 W. Duval Mine Road
Green Valley, AZ 85614

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