

Paw Prints

Vol. XXVIII, Issue 3

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

Fall 2014

Why You Should Open Your Heart to a Senior Pet



11 year old sisters, Pepper and Sierra couldn't move into the new apartment with their owner.



10 year old Baby Boo's mom died.

You can custom order your senior pet. Short, long, curly fur? Big or little? Gets along with other dogs/cats/both? You'll have a much better chance of finding a pet who is a perfect companion for your family.

What you see is what you get. A senior pet holds no surprises as to how big he might get, what color his adult coat will be, or whether his hips will be healthy. A senior pet comes to you with his own history, which makes his future much more predictable than that of a puppy or kitten.

You can teach an old dog new tricks. If your adopted pet needs to learn a few things in her new life with you, not to worry. Enroll her in an obedience class, contact a trainer, or go the do-it-yourself route. Older dogs are more attentive than puppies, and more eager to please their humans.

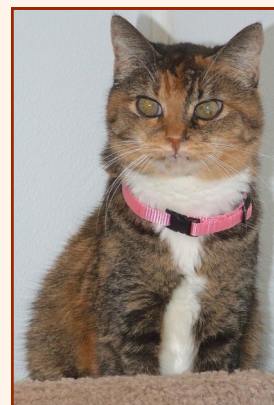
Senior pets are less destructive. Most older adoptive pets are well past the search-and-destroy phase. They just like to have a home, not redecorate.

Senior pets are great company for senior citizens. They appreciate having a companion who has also been there, done that...but who doesn't mind hearing the same stories again and again. An older pet is content to move through life at a slower pace.

Older pets are perfect to hang out with. Senior dogs and cats have all the basics down and aren't full of wild energy to burn. Because you're not constantly chasing after your pet, you have a lot more time to spend finding fun things to do or just cuddling together.

Adopted senior pets are grateful for your kindness. Somehow, older pets seem to know you gave them a home. Owners form a close bond very quickly with their senior dog or cat, because the pet shows them a level of attention and devotion that is unique to older adopted animals.

You can be a hero to a deserving dog or cat. Almost without exception, people who adopt older animals feel a special sense of pride and purpose in opening their heart to a hard-to-place pet...and you should. Doing a good thing really does make you feel good!



15 year old Callie's mom moved to assisted living.

Adopt any pet, 10 years old or older and receive free vet care for life for your senior pet.

The Canine Good Citizen



Gregg Grummer & Frankie

The American Kennel Club (AKC) offers an award for any dog that can pass their Canine Good Citizen (CGC) test. The test consists of 10 items, such as coming when called and walking through a crowd. It's an all or nothing test, meaning all 10 items must be passed in order to receive their AKC CGC certificate.

The goal of the CGC is to assure your dog is a good community member with good public manners. Many therapy dog organizations use this test as a basis for their own therapy dog testing. Passing this test IS a big deal, especially for a shelter dog! Can you imagine adopting a dog that you can walk around the Green Valley Farmer's Market each Wednesday? Or walk calmly around Sahuarita Lake?

Recently, three TALGV dogs have achieved their CGC award: Butchie, Frankie and Año, who was recently adopted! TALGV volunteer extraordinaire, Gregg Grummer, has faithfully taken each of them through a 6 week CGC preparatory class and all have passed with flying colors. All dogs were drilled with the ten item test each week. Gregg then took them to public places such as the Farmer's Market as "homework."

Both locations of Central Pet offer this prep class. Currently, Central Pet is sponsoring and TALGV is hosting, an onsite prep class in the multi-purpose room, thanks to a great suggestion by volunteer Pam Roederer.

Together, with a handful of volunteers, we will get awards on the League dogs and increase their chances of adoption. A nice plus is that the dogs participating get a little extra hands-on time and enrichment in their shelter lives and the handlers are becoming better trainers each week. This is something I believe in and it is a win-win for all of us!

Jill Cruz
Trainer
Central Pet Amado
AKC CGC tester
#37085

For more information
about the Canine Good
Citizen, see
www.akc.org and
search CGC.



Pam Roederer & Sashi



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.



DINAH'S STORY



Dinah is a beautiful 13 year old calico cat that was brought into TALGV in deplorable condition. She was extremely obese, weighing almost 20 pounds, and could barely walk without having to sit down and rest after 3 steps. Her hair was so matted and clumped to her skin that it was like cement. We couldn't

get a brush or comb through it and on top of that she had several recent large nicks and cuts where someone had apparently tried to shave the mats off but hadn't bothered to clean the wounds. Despite all this, she was (and remains) the sweetest of cats. She thrives on human attention and quickly became a volunteer favorite.

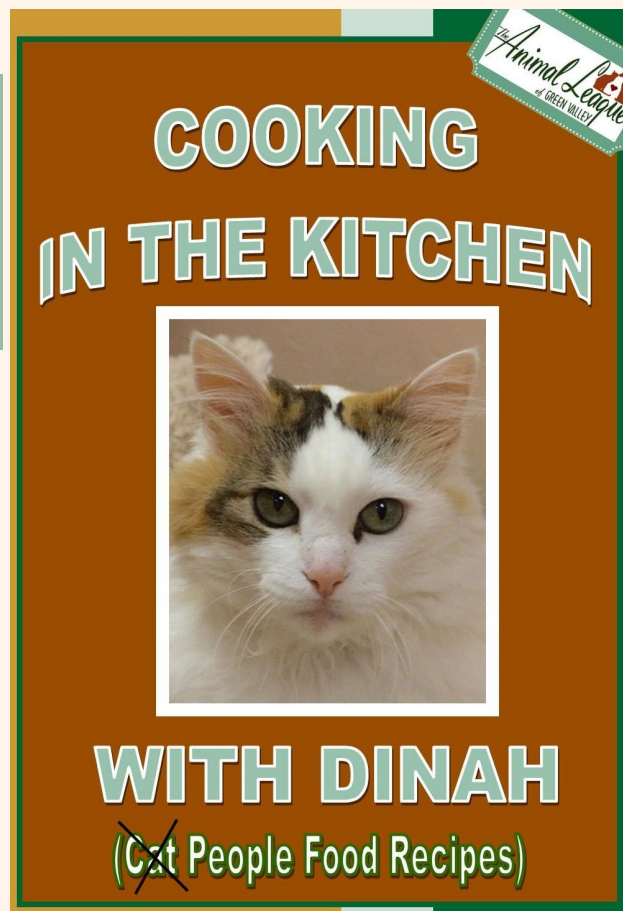
The volunteers at TALGV took Dinah under their wing and with a consistent diet and exercise program, she has managed to lose over 4 pounds (which is quite a bit for a cat). She can actually walk or run the halls now without having to sit and rest, and with a good grooming from a professional groomer, her beautiful coat is growing in nicely. She looks and acts like a totally different cat.

Some of the volunteers decided to adopt Dinah themselves and she is now the "official greeter" in the cat wing. She takes her job very seriously, waiting patiently in her bed as people come down the hallway where you first walk in each day. She is highly insulted if you don't stop and pet her. She also keeps abreast of things going on at TALGV as she frequently attends our morning meetings and you can see her strutting down the hall from time to time during the day checking things out.

SOMEONE'S IN THE KITCHEN WITH DINAH

Dinah would like to do something for all the other cats (and dogs) at TALGV. She hopes that sales of her cookbook will help raise money for their care. This is also Dinah's way of saying thank you to all the wonderful people who volunteer at TALGV. All the recipes are from TALGV volunteers. She hopes you like them.

Stop by TALGV any day between 10AM and 2PM to meet Dinah and purchase her cookbook. The cost is \$10 and all proceeds will be used for the benefit of the animals.



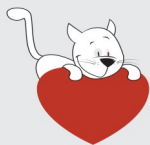
Summer Fun



TALGV's Special Events Committee decided it was time for some summer fun for our hardworking year-round volunteers. A BBQ was held next door at American Legion Post 66.

It was an evening of socializing and fun for all, including a raffle with lots of prizes to be won.

The best part of the evening was when we arrived to find a table overflowing with food, toys and pet supplies for our animals. We were overwhelmed and want to thank Jerry & Charlie Sheldahl for their efforts in making this wonderful donation possible.



SAVE THE DATE!
Sunday, February 15, 2015

Desert Diamond Grand Ballroom

"Give Your Heart to the Animals"

Annual Dinner, Dance and Silent Auction

Enjoy a Delicious Dinner

Dance to the Music of the Sixties Garage Band

Bid for Fabulous Prizes at the Silent Auction

**Watch for information on
ticket sales coming soon!**





News from



Fall is here and winter residents are returning. Many of us are cleaning closets and having yard sales to get ready for the holiday season.

At **TALGV's Attic Thrift Store** your gently used housewares, clothing, furniture, collectibles, jewelry and books are literally turned into housing, food and veterinary care for thousands of furry friends in our community. It is most helpful if donated items are clean and in good working order.

Thank You!

ESTATE SALES

Expertly Conducted 4 U

by

Attic Thrift Store Specialists

We know how to do this!

Our aim is to make your sale as worry free and successful as possible.

If you have any questions or would like to schedule a sale please call

Becky Federico at 520-909-5781

**75% of the profits go to YOU
25% go to our animals**

TALGV Pets Go Online @ FACEBOOK/talgv

by Ashley Weymouth



My husband and I moved to Tucson from Portland, Maine, in August 2012 with our two dogs and two cats. Since 2007, I've moonlighted as a fiber artist, doing needle-felted pet portraits in alpaca, sheep and goat fiber. I was a dog caregiver my first year at TALGV and was completely blown away by the cleanliness of the shelter and the devotedness of the all-volunteer staff. Then, sort of serendipitously, I became the Facebook Page Coordinator.

I saw a need for TALGV's Facebook page to become more active as a means to help TALGV's animals find their forever families. So, I started to post what I call *E-flyers* (*an online poster of sorts*) of dogs and cats that are available for adoption at TALGV in order to broaden the audience of potential adopters. I also began to create these *E-flyers* for dogs and cats that have been adopted in an effort to celebrate that event for both the pet and the adopter. I feel it is especially important to acknowledge the people who are choosing to adopt a pet and to celebrate their acts of kindness and compassion. TALGV photographer, Georgia Puttock, sends me all the pictures and details when pets come to TALGV or get adopted. I just assemble an E-flyer and post.

So, why am I getting this opportunity to blab about myself and what I do? Because I'm reeeeeaaaaalllly hoping someone out there will join up with me in this endeavor. I recently took a job at the U of A and I don't have as much time to post on Facebook anymore. Is there anyone out there who has a love of animals, a sense of humor, a creative edge and the time to help? Remember, it can all be done from the comfort of your own home!

If this looks like it's right up your alley, please don't hesitate to contact me.

anweymouth@gmail.com.





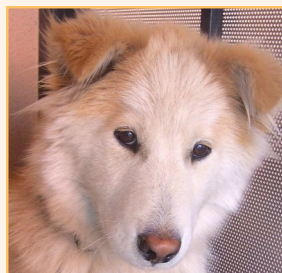
Mail from our friends...



Cassi

I adopted "Zelda" four years ago on my birthday. My birthday present is now called "Cassi", who is 20 pounds heavier (just right!) and my special furkid. At six and a half years old now, she loves her morning walks, afternoon naps, and a place on my bed at night. She also lives with three adult

cats, but often helps with foster kittens from the Humane Society where I volunteer. Her job is to supervise and socialize them until they are old enough to be spayed/neutered and put up for adoption. Thank you so much for taking care of her (I understand she was a stray) until I met her and knew she had to come home with me. Marge Humphreys



Bodhi

Just to let you know that Amigo is adjusting very well. We named him 'Bodhi' and he is responding well to his new name. His training is going well, little by little, and he is loving his walks. His is learning to sit and stay and has been great on a leash for his walks.

He and Lucy play so well together and really love each other. It's exactly what she needed. We're so happy! He is so sweet. Thank you so much...he is such a joy! We just love him!

Sayoko and Martin



BOOZER

Boozer has enriched our lives, and we love him so much. He is a full-fledged member of our family now (even though he thinks he is the head of the household!) and has his lifetime home here with us. We are thankful for him and are probably spoiling him with our affection. But he deserves it. He is such a wonderful cat. We are pleased to be able to help the League and will continue to do so.

With warm regards, Tom and Melody Cooke

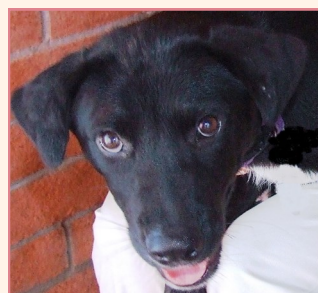


Patches

Dear Friends, It's me, Patches. The Kosnicks adopted me in December, 2013. Well, something has happened and I don't know where I am. Are adopted owners allowed to take their new pets away from Green Valley? Away

from Arizona?? I have not seen a single cactus, javelina or palm tree in six months. Instead, all I see is green - trees, grass, and once, white stuff came down from the sky and the green yard turned white. This house is great; lots of furniture to jump up on and big windows to see this new world outside. I have even been caught up on the kitchen counter, looking for the butter dish. Dick and Linda were amazed I could jump that high. Dick doesn't need an alarm clock anymore since I make sure he is up by 6:30 am. He says he didn't read about this skill in my biography. I am very contented and happy so I suppose it doesn't really matter where I am. But, if you find out, please let me know!

Your friend (and past boarder), Patches



Ozzy-Teddy

I just wanted to give you an update on Teddy and say thank you so much for all you did so that we were able to adopt him! We had the name 'Ozzy' picked out for him but we kept Teddy as his middle name because we felt it was such a good fit too. He is a perfect, amazing puppy and is

fitting into our home just perfectly. He is so well behaved and sweet, we love him so much already. He loves exploring our backyard, playing fetch and just being around us. He is such a perfect dog. We are going to start puppy classes with him soon.

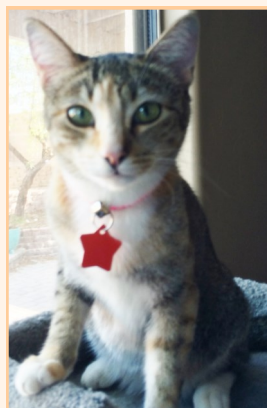
Thank you, thank you, thank you so much for everything!

Laura, Rich, DJ and Ozzy-Teddy

Boogielu

Boogie (now Boogielu) is gradually getting settled into her new home. She has a natural curiosity and is spending more and more time out of her safe room. Our resident cat is accepting of her but when he gets annoyed, she goes back to her room. It was a non event with our dogs. She is so cuddly and sweet that we love her already. We so appreciate TALGV and the assistance that we got in finding the right kitty for our home.

Kindest regards, Mary Williamson

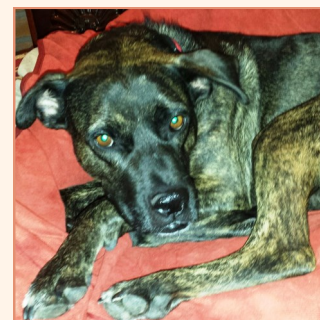


Mugsy

Rafferty is now Mugsy. We had not planned to change his name; we just started calling him 'Mugsy' and he really seemed to like it so it stuck. He has settled in really well. He loves his morning walks with our other two dogs, and especially likes to go to the park and check out all the other dogs. He got off leash once and we had a

hard time getting him back so we are working very hard on the "Come" command. He has learned to sit for his food and then wait politely until we say he can eat. He especially loves Minerva, our ancient Golden Retriever, and he is very respectful of her. He is very interested when we play ping pong but just watches and does not chase the little ball. He does chase the big tennis ball, though, and loves to make it squeak. He has such expressive eyes and they seem to be happy all the time. He's a love and a terrific addition to our family.

Amanda and Dennis Ritchie



Año's Big Day

by Donna Grummer



"As they say 'Every dog has his day', and thanks to your love and care Año got his." This is the opening sentence in a beautiful thank you letter that Año's newly adoptive Mom and Dad wrote to Jill Cruz, the fantastic trainer at Central Pet who TALGV entrusted with Año's training for the last year and a half. But that is the end of the tale - no pun intended. Let's go back to the beginning...

Año, a ruggedly handsome 64 pound, 11 month old, chocolate and white Staffordshire Bull Terrier, was found on the exit ramp of I-19S on December 30th, 2010. He was accompanied by his girlfriend, an adorable Staffordshire Terrier mix. In celebration of the New Year, the volunteers chose the names "Nueva" and "Año" for these two beautiful strays. The nice lady who had turned them in said that Año "loved to hug, kiss and was great on walks." We were all optimistic that the New Year would bring good luck for Año and Nueva.

But the months went on, and on - with no takers. Año and Nueva were inseparable and lived together in a large enclosure at TALGV. Eventually Nueva was adopted by a wonderful family so we all kept our paws crossed for Año. He shared his enclosure with other dogs that each got adopted, one by one. Año began to get impatient and, as big as he is, he became harder for the volunteers to handle on his walks.

Jean Davis, our much loved and fearless leader at TALGV, referred Año to Jill Cruz at Central Pet for an evaluation in February 2013. Jill determined that it was time for Año to get into a different environment, so he packed his dog bowl, toys and blanket and headed out for Central Pet.

Jill and the staff worked with Año on his behavior and TALGV volunteers took him on hikes and local field trips. Everyone loved this friendly, goofy boy! It didn't take long for Año to regain his manners and sense of humor.

So here comes the good part. A wonderful couple had noticed Año when they adopted a Rottie mix from TALGV about a year ago. When they learned that Año, now four and a half years old, had not yet been adopted they made up their minds he was going to be a part of their family. And that's when Año got his day - he was adopted on August 23rd! Since then Año's new mom and dad have sent us photos of Año with his new Rottie brother and Boxer sister playing in the house and swimming in the cattle tank. Año gets a one or two mile hike every day. He has a great fenced yard, an indoor porch and a lovely, comfortable home accessible by doggie door.

Yes Año, "Every Dog DOES Have His Day" and we at TALGV wish you many, many, more "happily ever after" days ahead!!



Año at home with his new siblings

ANNUAL MEETING



The Animal League of Green Valley will hold its 29th annual meeting for members on

Friday - Dec 5, 2014 @ 2PM

**TALGV'S Multipurpose Room
1600 W Duval Mine Road
Green Valley, AZ 85614**

The public is welcome to attend.

AN URGENT REQUEST

Our kennels are overflowing.

We are currently caring for

260 cats and dogs,

the greatest number in TALGV's history.



**It is our
commitment to
never turn a cat or
dog away. Your help
is desperately
needed so that we**



may continue to honor that commitment.

**If you have been thinking about adopting or
fostering a pet please come and visit us any day
between 10AM and 2PM.**

THANK YOU!



1600 W. Duval Mine Rd.
Green Valley, AZ 85614

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**Tipsy says,
"Adopt for love. Adopt for life."**

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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