



# INTERESTANCE OF THE PROPERTY O

Your financial support, especially since March, has been appreciated more than words can say. With our Attic Thrift Store not open every day, and knowing we were losing approximately \$1,500 every day it was closed, I would wake up in the wee hours of the morning worrying about our financial stability. Thankfully we had generous friends like all of you who were willing to step up and donate for the continuing care of our canine and feline residents.

So I thought you might like to know where your donation dollars go to help the animals here at the shelter. The following information refers to costs strictly related to running the shelter, and do not include our special programs, such as Outreach, Vet Care Support for Life, or running our Attic Thrift Store.

Donations are used to procure a vast array of items and



services. For animal shelters, the first thought is that money goes towards food and medication. In 2019, we spent over \$36,000 on animal food including dry food, canned food, and prescription food for dogs and cats with allergies, intestinal problems, and kidney issues. Some dogs are picky eaters, so we buy roasted

chickens and cheese to mix in with their regular food. Did I mention yummy cat & dog treats? There are no spoiled animals at TALGV. . . .

An average of almost \$7,000 a month is spent on prescription medication. We have several dogs with Valley Fever who must take Fluconazole, usually for life. Others dogs with severe allergies are on Apoquel, another expensive drug. The most common cat drug is Azodyl, for kidney failure, which all of you cat lovers know occurs in most senior cats. One small bottle is over \$50. Animals also take prescription medications for arthritis pain, thyroid problems, infections and much more.

Vaccinations for dogs and cats are very costly. Every animal that comes to TALGV is vaccinated against Rabies.

Dogs are also inoculated against DACPP and Bordatella,

while cats receive a FVRCP vaccine. Several booster shots are medically required for all kittens and puppies. Cha ching!

And then there are surgical costs. We spay or neuter every single dog and cat in residence. We take spaying and neutering very seriously at TALGV, and we hope all of you do too. Other typical surgical procedures are lump removals, entropion surgery, and broken leg repairs. We also perform dentals on many of our cats and dogs, as bad teeth can lead to lifethreatening infections.



A pretty penny is spent on diagnostics, analyzing blood and urine so that we can best care for the cats and dogs here onsite. Before any type of procedure that requires anesthesia, blood is drawn and analyzed. Additionally, all senior animals over 10 years of age have blood work done so we know whether they have any underlying medical conditions.

Paying for food and medical care for our animals is only a portion of what your support does. Frequently I hear visitors to TALGV comment on how clean our shelter is. Every day, our volunteers thoroughly clean every cat and dog kennel, in addition to frequent touch-ups during the day. Rarely will you see a pile of poop sitting on a kennel floor or in a litter box. *Rescue* is our disinfectant of choice; and along with paper towels, mops and buckets, we spend

hundreds of dollars a month to keep the kennels clean.

Cats, of course, require litter. On average, we have 45 litter boxes in use at all times in the cat rooms. In 2019 we bought 772 cartons of kitty litter, which equates to 15,467 pounds. At approximately \$15/box, that is \$11,580 spent just on litter!



(Continued on page 6)

## \_Update: Shaggy & Scooby\_

After Grace & Nancy went back home last May, Shaggy & Scooby were accepted in a new foster home where they continue to **s-l-o-w-l-y** make progress.

They're obedient, behave very well in the house, and respond to "Come," "Stay" and "Wait." During the summer, they started to sit on the couch next to their foster parents, but any attempt to pet them resulted in a quick departure.



Two weeks ago, Shaggy jumped up on the couch next to his foster mom. Without thinking, she put her arms around him and held on. Even when Shaggy peed on her, she continued to hold and pet him until he finally relaxed. As you can see, he was happy to stay on her lap and receive attention and affection.

It was a break-through, but not a permanent change. Now, Shaggy is willing to be scratched under the chin, which is progress, if only in baby steps. Scooby isn't having any part of it, at least not yet. The duo still remain "under construction." We won't give up on them!















### **Welcome New TALGV Board Members**

#### Sharon Keel

My love of animals started while growing up on a small farm in Southern Oregon. We had beef cattle, a horse and burro, dogs, a cat and chickens. I can easily say it's been my privilege to be "owned" by dogs throughout most of my adult life. My husband and I currently share our home with Bella and Brody, our two Miniature Schnauzers.

My retirement after 34 years in the banking industry has allowed me free time to put our travel trailer to good use and visit our three wonderful children and nine awesome grandchildren in Texas, Oklahoma and Colorado. We also welcome the opportunity to journey back to the beautiful Oregon coast and go to places we've never visited before.



Additionally, now I have a chance to pursue my love of reading and explore more forms of "arts and crafts." Along with sewing, knitting and crocheting, I've recently expanded my hobbies to include making jewelry for my granddaughters, glass etching and wood burning. My husband and I enjoy combining our talents on woodworking projects.

After my retirement, my love for animals led me to first volunteer for a small, non-profit, all-volunteer animal rescue where I worked to create complete records in a newly acquired database and served on the Board of Directors my final year with the organization. With our move to Green Valley, I volunteered to work in the IT department at TALGV and continue working there today. My position entails keeping accurate records of the intake and disposition of the animals in our care and their medical records, tracking the funds we receive from the wonderful people who help support TALGV, and provide informational support for our great crew of volunteers who keep our organization running on a daily basis.

#### Pam White

I was born in Staunton, VA, and moved often due to my stepfather's job transfers. I lived in several states including Virginia, Maryland, North Carolina and Florida. Jobwise, I've done everything--from providing routing information to people who called in at a bus company, to checking customer credit and order approval at the Hoover Company, clerical work at a law office, selling furniture & decorating homes, managing and doing lab work in medical offices, and owning two medical equipment companies. Before moving to Green Valley, I lived in Naples, Florida, where I worked as a Realtor.

Both of my parents are deceased. My mother is the one who taught me to love animals. I have a sister in Florida and a half-brother & sister in Ohio. My little sister has a horse stable in Ohio and does a lot of training, showing and judging. I have had too many cats in my life to count and also a few dogs. My adult cat, Cooper, very recently crossed the Rainbow Bridge, so I decided to adopt Freckles, the kitten I was fostering. Freckles is like a little "Minnie Cooper"—I do believe Cooper taught Freckles everything to do once he was gone.

I've been a TALGV volunteer for 10 years, and currently am the cat point person as well as a cat coordinator on Mondays and Fridays. I help set up and work estate sales and also volunteer in the Attic on Thursdays. In addition to volunteering, I'm an active Realtor and part owner of HomeSmart Pros Real Estate. My hobbies include sewing and crafting.

As a TALGV Board member, my goal is to never turn away any animal, especially baby kittens—I am passionate about saving kittens. I would love to see a designated "kitten room" where we can provide medical attention to sick kittens that so desperately need us before they are ready for adoption. Also, I would like to see a vet on-site multiple days a week for needed surgeries such as dental and spay/neuter.



## DOUBLE YOUR PLEASURE...DOUBLE YOUR FUN

They're ALL adorable, and maybe you're intending to adopt just one, but consider bringing home two! Here are 10 reasons why two kittens are better than one.

#### 1. Provide a Built-in Playmate

Unlike puppies, adopting two kittens together can actually mean *less* work for you! When you adopt two kittens, they'll have a built-in playmate. Both kittens can burn off extra energy by chasing, pouncing, and play-hunting each other throughout the house. Giving them an outlet for their kitten crazies means they'll have less energy to engage in destructive behaviors like scratching the couch!

#### 2. Have Fewer Behavioral Issues

Raising two kittens means they'll pick up on feline behavior cues. Both kittens will learn how to behave socially and will be more well adjusted. Cats learn how to "speak" cat by interacting with other cats, so raising your kittens together ensures they will learn how hard to play, how to share territory, how to communicate their needs and many other crucial social skills.

#### 3. Keep Each Other Company

If you work, a single kitten can become lonely being the only one in the house. Kittens are very social creatures and crave the attention and fun of a playmate. Having two cats at home means you don't have to feel guilty leaving for work or vacation since you know they'll keep each other company.

#### 4. Increase Their Ease of Learning

Kittens learn by copying the behaviors of others, so having two kittens means less time training them. Kittens learn the basics of how to gauge distance, walk along narrow objects, balance, climb, tumble, and stalk during the first year of their life. Having another kitten to copy and learn from can help your cat understand his limits. In addition, if one of your kittens has a bigger personality while the other is quiet and nervous, the more adventurous kitten may help teach your shy cat to be more confident and playful.

#### 5. Promote Better Grooming Habits

Kittens normally begin to groom themselves between four and five weeks old. Often kittens will groom each other as a sign of protection and affection. It's difficult for cats to reach their own faces and ears, so they may rely on the other cats in their home to keep these areas tidy.

#### 6. Encourage Healthier Cats

Having two cats reduces the chance that your cats will be overweight. Even as they get older, cats will often initiate games with each other resulting in zooming around the house, pouncing from underneath furniture or jumping up on cat trees. Living an active lifestyle as they age and not

If ever there were a cure for the "Covid Blues," Oscar & Benny are it! When you're tired of watching TV, streaming movies and reading, try watching two youngsters romp and explore.

I never thought I'd have kittens again; and at my age, I probably wouldn't,



OSCAR



but I know there's someone to care for them if anything happens to me.

I am, as they say, "over the moon" with these two guys. They bring endless amusement and joy.
I couldn't have made a better choice!

~Linda M.

We adopted Tofu, an 11½-year-old mama cat, with her 10-year-old daughter Chyna Blue, after they spent their entire lives together in another household. There's one big difference between adopting senior cats and adopting kittens. Senior cats, just like senior citizens, are more set in their ways—they're used to their own environment and their own routine. They need time to adjust, and the adopting family has to be flexible, too.

Together, we've created a new family for all of us. Tofu & Chyna Blue bring a lot of joy into our lives!

~Muriel & Marc G.



## ADOPT TWO KITTENS...INSTEAD OF ONE!

By: Linda Moser



becoming overweight will increase their lifespan and keep them healthier overall. This is especially true because cats should *always* be kept indoors and therefore need more exercise!

8. Easier To Integrate into a Household with Other Pets
Littermates already have a relationship with each other.
As a pair, these kittens will adapt quickly to new homes and to other pets. Both dogs and cats usually will get along with new arrivals with minimum adjustment time.

#### 7. Save Your Senior Cat's Sanity

If you have a senior cat in the house and want to "get him moving" by introducing a new kitten, seriously consider a pair of kittens. One kitten's endless drive to play can harass an older cat who wants to spend his days snoozing, but two kittens will entertain each other. Your senior cat can decide when to join the fun and when to find a quiet place for a nap.

#### 9. Cost Relatively The Same

The great thing about two kittens is that two hardly cost more than just one. Kittens can share litter boxes, cat trees, food and water bowls, beds and toys. TALGV often offers discounts on two kittens who are bonded or from the same litter to ensure that they go to the same home. Veterinary costs will be a little more for two kittens, but TALGV provides all kitten shots, worming, and neutering

with the adoption. You can also enroll in pet insurance and choose coverage that will reimburse for the costs of annual wellness care to save you money on veterinary costs.

#### 10. Get Twice the Love and Fun for Less Work

You only have to kitten-proof your house once regardless of how many kitties you're bringing home. Two kittens means two new lives in your house (especially during these stay-at-home times!) that will provide double the entertainment, snuggles and love!

#### But how do you choose the right pair?

Look for kittens from the same litter or a pair that bonded during their time in the shelter. That way you're guaranteed that their personalities will match.

When bringing home kittens who are not already bonded, choose two male cats or a male/female combination—they tend to get along better than two females.

If kittens seem like too much of a handful, consider adopting two adult cats who have already bonded. Or, if you're a dog person, think about bringing home a pair of older dogs.

Whatever duo you adopt, they are all sure to provide hours of double pleasure and double fun!

### **CLOUDY & STORMY**



I came in to look at one kitten and fell in love with two. "No way—it's impossible," I thought, "my wife would kill me!" But, I got on the phone, and she said it was OK to adopt BOTH, just as long as my daughter and I did our share in caring for them.

Cloudy & Stormy were a present for my daughter on her 10th birthday. She always wanted a kitten, and now she has two. She is the lucky recipient of their choice of bedmate, and all three of them love playing together.

We're glad we adopted them! ~Rodrigo L.

#### THE DUKES OF HAZZARD

The Dukes of Hazzard—Luke, Daisy & Bo—have been an absolute blessing and joy! From chasing each other around, to snuggles on the couch, they light up everyone's world. I wouldn't trade them for anything!!!

They bring me more joy and laughs and love than I could have imagined. I only hope I am giving them as much joy, love and laughter as they have brought into my life.

Love all my little monsters! ~Josh C.



**DAISY** (aka Thunder)



BO (aka Rainbow)



There are two different ways to visit from your computer or phone—you can choose depending on your purpose and the way you want to peruse the info that day. If you are looking for a complete source of information about TALGV and a pic of every available animal, then go to our website **www.talgv.org** If you want to see individual collages of our current animals, interact with other viewers, or add comments, you can go to our Facebook page **www.facebook.com/talgv** Actually, what's great is that you can do either, or both, depending on your purpose for that day.

#### WEBSITE WWW.TALGV.ORG



- Hub of info including News, Cats, Dogs, Adopted Animals, About Us, Volunteers, Training and Outreach
- Forms, Videos, Events, & Pictures of previous TALGV activities
- A complete page of all available dog & cat pictures—you can click on any pet to read the full write-up.
- Safe and easy link to TALGV's on-line donation page
- There's even a clickable pawprint button to take you directly to the Facebook page

#### FACEBOOK WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/TALGV



- Several pics of each available pet are posted together in a collage format
- New pets, an alternating selection of current available pets & events are posted daily
- The individual pet info and fun pet cartoons are posted to amuse you you can send & share with friends
- There is a place to ask questions, receive answers & get information online

Find a pet you want to meet? Call 520-625-3170 and make an appointment on any day between 10 am & 2 pm



Dogs require leashes, harnesses, choke chains, collars, tags and items to help

keep them entertained. Kong toys and antlers are very pricey, but the dogs adore them; chewing is a necessary and much-loved pastime for dogs. TALGV purchases a



wide variety of toys, from squeaky toys to chew bones—and cat toys, too.

More mundane expenses, but vital to our operation, include computers, printers, scanners, copiers and accompanying programs. Even with the great deals our



Technology
Infrastructure
Department finds,
computer hardware and software are still
expensive and
have to be
maintained and
upgraded. In addition, we use

reams of paper, ink and toner to keep track of a thousand new animals every year, our many volunteers, hundreds of adopters, and all of our loyal donors.

What there are <u>not</u>, however, are salaries! The Animal League of Green Valley is run and managed solely by volunteers. This is something no other brick and mortar animal shelter can claim.

I could go on much longer with specifics of how your generosity works in keeping our shelter up and running, but I think you get the idea—there are countless costs related to running an animal shelter. Please know that we feel truly blessed by the love and kindness you have shown our cats and dogs with your donations.

Wags and purrs to all of you!

Kim

# Butchie's Story >>

It took eleven long years.

It was March 2009 when Butchie first came to TALGV. He weighed six pounds, was only nine weeks old, and was the typical just-too-cute-for-words puppy, especially with his big ears. He was adopted the very next day and went home to his new family.



Eighteen months later, he was returned because he didn't get along with the other dogs in the home. Sometimes, adoptions don't work. We understand that; our adoption agreement states that TALGV will accept an animal back if for any reason the adopter must give it up. When circumstances change, our adoptees will always have a home at our shelter.

By this time, Butchie weighed 70 pounds and was bouncy, barky, and mouthy—a typical 1½-year-old boisterous untrained adolescent. Obviously, he needed an education!

At the time, our dog kennels were overcrowded, so Butchie went to several foster families for basic obedience and finally to a professional dog facility for

training and boarding. The plan was for him to be in training for several weeks, come back to us to be available for adoption, and then return for more training.

Everyone agreed—Butchie was never aggressive, had a sweet disposition, and was always willing to play. Maybe too willing—he still jumped on people, grabbed their clothing, and barked up a storm. And he was big! When potential adopters visited, Butchie just didn't "show" well. There was never that spark between dog and human that led to an adoption.

Butchie got older and calmer and more obedient—he even earned his Canine Good Citizen (CGC) certificate—but still couldn't make that vital connection. Finally, in July 2018, a visitor recognized Butchie's good qualities and adopted him. After nine years, Butchie had a home again! The volunteers all lined up for another (and we hoped final) goodbye hug and fond farewell.

In February 2020, a volunteer noticed a dog that looked a lot like Butchie on the Pima Animal Care Center (PACC) website. One of our dog coordinators went to PACC and sadly confirmed that it was indeed our Butchie, alone and scared. PACC officers said that they had found him running loose in the streets of Tucson with no collar or dog tag. Even with the information on our adoption agreement, we were unable to contact the adopter. We don't know what happened; sometimes, adoptions just don't work. So Butchie returned to TALGV once again.

And then, in July, a family came in looking for a dog, and they immediately fell in love with Butchie. That magic spark between dog and human finally happened. Since then, he has settled in with the family, and they give him rave reviews—his Dad says, "He's a great dog who would lick you to death!" Of course, he has the run of the house and is "living the life," even going to the pet store to pick out his own toys. At long last, Butchie has found his forever home.

"A Home For Every Pet" is more than just TALGV's motto. Although it may require time and effort, there really *IS* a home out there for them all—it just takes the right people!



## Give From Your Heart





# For The Cats & Dogs







NON-PROFIT ORG **U.S POSTAGE PAID** TUCSON, AZ PERMIT NO. 541

#### A Home For Every Pet

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



Paw Prints Editor - Mary Ziegelbauer

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**Drop-off of merchandise accepted on Sundays only.** Drop-offs limited to 3 bags or 3 boxes per donation. Small furniture items accepted the 1st Sunday of each month.

## THE ATTIC THRIFT STORE

**FALL & WINTER STORE HOURS** 10 am - 2 pm Mon, Thurs, Sat & Sun

Call The Attic for more info: 520-625-2189

### ALGV KENNELS

**TO VISITORS** 

STILL CLOSED Adoptions & intake available BY APPOINTMENT ONLY

For more info, call the Kennels: 520-625-3170

The Attic Thrift Store & TALGV's Kennels 1600 W. Duval Mine Rd. Green Valley, AZ 85614 Attic (520) 625-2189 Kennels (520) 625-3170 Fax (520) 625-4684 Email: info@talgv.org Website: www.talgv.org Facebook: www.facebook.com/TALGV

To donate on-line, go to www.talgv.org







