

# Paw Prints

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

Vol. XXXVII Issue 1 Spring 2023

Those dogs are  
making such a  
ruckus!



## Get Along Little Doggies

Animal shelters across the country are using dog playgroups to provide stress relief, enrichment, and a deeper understanding of each dog's behavior, all directed toward making shelter dogs more adoptable. Thanks to Judy Cochran's gift of the Cochran Dog Play Yard, TALGV is able to participate in this national trend.

You may have noticed that the activity in the Cochran Dog Play Yard (CDPY) has taken on a western flavor, as "Marshal"



Kay Morgan and "Deputy" David Messick supervise the "Wranglers," "Yard Hands," and "Doggies" (dog playgroups) in the yard. Volunteers Kay and David select the playgroups, train Yard Hands and Wranglers, and are responsible for the safety and comfort of dogs and handlers in the CDPY.

### Why is play important?

Dogs, like humans, need interaction with their own species. Think back to the 2020 COVID lock-down. Remaining in our homes was

isolating and stressful, although we had cell phones, computers, TVs, books, games and other diversions. Shelter dogs spend weeks, months, or sometimes years in a kennel. Even with daily walks, human visitors, and some chew toys, it is still a lonely existence. It's no wonder the dogs exhibit a wide variety of strange behaviors—fearful, aggressive, despondent, even manic. Didn't we act the same way?

A dog's behavior in a kennel is not necessarily an accurate guide to his behavior in a home environment. Well-managed playgroups, however, show a different side of a dog and can provide clues to a dog's



potential. According to Aimee Sandler, founder and CEO of *Dogs Playing for Life*, "For shelters, allowing dogs to be dogs in playgroups can reveal their behavioral tendencies better than their reactions during the intake process, while kenneled, or during a formal behavior evaluation."

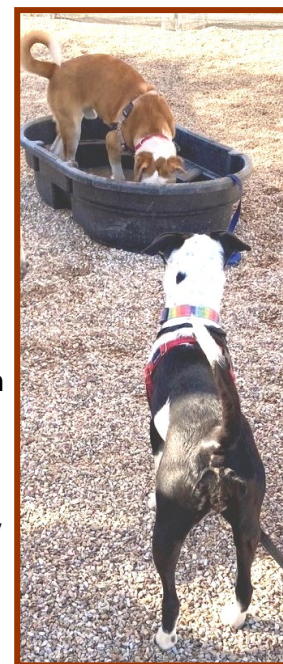
### Who gets play dates?

All TALGV's dogs who are at least six months old, immunized, and finished with their intake procedure get an opportunity to romp and play freely in the CDPY. Dogs new to the play yard are first brought in by a Yard Hand (handler) and can explore the enclosure without being distracted by other dogs. A new dog finds Chat Rooms in every corner and an abundance of P-Mail to read and send.

Once comfortable, the new dog is introduced to a canine playmate chosen from our stable of well-behaved helper dogs who can be trusted to play nicely with the new guy. Kay and David observe the interaction and keep track of

who gets along and who doesn't. Their records of successful play matches and recommendations from the Dog Care Coordinators (DCCs) provide the framework for future playgroups.

(Continued on page 2)





(Continued from page 1)

## Get Along Little Doggies

### What happens in a playgroup?

For organizing playgroups, Kay and David rely on guidelines from *Dogs Playing for Life*. Playgroups consist of



two to five dogs who have similar personalities and play styles, ranging from Delicate & Dainty (similar to the British “Royal Wave” type of interaction) to Search & Destroy (WOW—these guys really know how to mix it up!). Each dog has his

own Yard Hand whose role is to pay close attention to the dog’s interactions. In addition, at least one extra volunteer—Marshal Kay, Deputy David, or a Wrangler—is always there in a leadership role to monitor the overall activity.

Leashes stay on while the dogs introduce themselves, via both the Front Door *and* the Back Door—it’s a doggy thing and part of canine protocol. When introductions are over, the leashes are dropped—or with established playgroups, removed. Under supervision, the dogs are then free to play as they choose.

### Good Play vs. Bad Play

The play yard personnel all have excellent skills in reading canine body language and anticipating behavior.



Their goal is good play among the dogs. Loose bouncy bodies, play bowing, and relaxed mouths and tails are all indicators of good play. Wrestling, neck chewing, vocalization, chasing and mounting (no, it’s not sexual, just part of the fun) can also be elements of the play routine. Frequently, the dogs disengage for a quick rest

break and then resume their play.

Bad play, on the other hand—exhibited by tense body and tail postures, hard stares, grabbing, pulling, or ignoring other dogs’ signals—is cause for immediate intervention.

Yard Hands keep a close watch on the inter-canine body language and interrupt unacceptable play behavior with a well-aimed squirt from their .45 caliber water bottles, worn low at the hip. If necessary, play stops until the offending dog is removed from the play yard for the day.

Some dogs don’t want to play, and they have signals to indicate their desire to be left alone. A stiff body posture, hiding in a corner, tail tucked under, or head turning away from a play invitation are all clear signs that the dog is not in the mood for interaction. At TALGV, each dog has a choice and can opt out. Yard Hands and Wranglers NEVER force a dog to play or to remain in the yard against his will.

### Does the play yard replace daily walks?

Definitely not! Both are important for the dog’s well-being and for increasing their adoptability. Walks help a dog create a bond with humans, teach him how to behave in public, are vital for house training, and provide a welcomed change of environment. The play yard is additional enrichment—like recess during the school day. Doing what comes naturally, the dogs make their own play choices, freely interact with other dogs, and get energetic physical action for stress reduction.

### Allowing dogs be dogs

Marshal Kay, Deputy David, the DCCs, Yard Hands and Wranglers put an immense amount of energy into planning the Cochran Dog Play Yard groups each week. It takes a lot of time, but they do it with boundless enthusiasm. For these volunteers, it’s worth the effort—they know that they are helping the dogs become better candidates for adoption.

Playgroups have an added benefit; they are *FUN*—it’s fun to participate and also fun to watch! There are always people observing from outside the yard with big smiles on their faces as they enjoy the TALGV doggies at play.

Want to brighten your day? Just stop by and take a look.



# It's All Happening At TALGV

## WIN A NEW 2023 FORD BRONCO RAPTOR

**2023** WIN ONE OF **THREE** GREAT PRIZES!

**2ND PRIZE**  
TWO ROUND-TRIP,  
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TICKETS TO ANYWHERE IN  
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**3RD PRIZE**  
\$5,000 CASH!

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\*Image for illustration purposes only

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**All proceeds  
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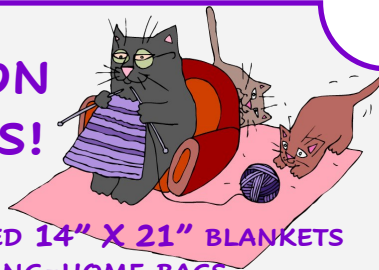
OR Two round-trip first-class  
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**2023 Car Raffle Tickets:**  
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Purchase tickets at TALGV's office  
OR  
Mail a check payable to TALGV.  
Include your address labels,  
email & phone number—  
We'll mail back your ticket stubs.



## ATTENTION CRAFTERS!



TALGV CATS NEED 14" X 21" BLANKETS  
FOR GOING-HOME BAGS  
KNITTED, CROCHETED, QUILTED OR STITCHED  
ALL ARE APPRECIATED

## Doin' It Fore The Animals Golf Tournament

**POSTPONED**

Back  
next year

We're sorry—  
We had scheduling problems

## Lost Pet Awareness Project

**MISSING!**

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Breed:** YORKIEPOO  
**Notes/Location:**  
LOST Feb. 25  
6 pounds, 1 year old  
Last seen in Casa Paloma

**IF SIGHTED OR FOUND CALL:** \_\_\_\_\_

\*Please remember to always use a collar and tags with your phone number on all your pets - just in case your pet ever gets lost.  
Poster provided by The Animal League of Green Valley in an effort to keep pets with their owners.

Lost your pet? TALGV can help.

Volunteers Peggy Rushford and Trudy Shannon will create a flyer you can make copies of and distribute in your neighborhood. They will also post the information at TALGV, in The Attic Thrift Shop, on our Facebook page, and on Nextdoor's app for the Green Valley and Sahuarita area.

Call TALGV 520-625-3170  
to get started.

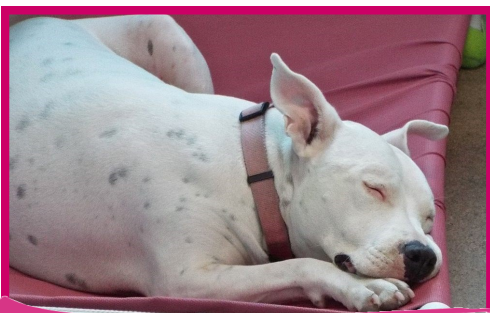
Save more dogs & cats



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(Continued on page 6)

on-line donations, bequests, memorials, grants, and in-kind contributions.





# MacIntosh & MacNab

By: Lisa Rosenburg

Who does not like seeing two kittens snuggling and playing with each other? MacIntosh and MacNab are a bonded pair who must be adopted together—a two-for-one bundle of purr. These two beautiful souls are fun-loving kittens as well as great cuddlers and have years of affection to share with a family.

These wonderful kittens are looking for a very special family to be part of, as they will require medical care, possibly for life. Both MacIntosh and MacNab have an upper respiratory condition which at times requires daily medication. However, they are easy to medicate and take their pills and potions like little pros.

“The Macs” love lounging in cat trees, and we usually find them sleeping together in one of them. Like most little kids, playing is what takes up a good portion of their days. Despite their condition, nothing stops them from sharing their love of life with our volunteers. We adore them, but it’s our earnest hope for them to be adopted by their forever family very soon. Could that be your family?

Don't miss out on these extraordinary felines. MacIntosh and MacNab are waiting for you.

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An additional 748 donors,  
and we appreciate  
the support from  
**every one of you!**

TALGV does not sell,  
lease, or share your  
donor information  
with any other  
organization.



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Tucson Container Corp



# TALGV 2022

## IN REVIEW

### AT THE SHELTER

Loved, fed, housed, and provided medical care to **606 cats** and **400 dogs**, including 73 animals transferred from other rescue organizations.

### ADOPTIONS

Adopted **526 cats** and **338 dogs** into forever homes.

### LOST ANIMALS

Reunited **3 cats** and **57 dogs** with their happy owners.

### LOST PET AWARENESS PROJECT

Found **11 neighborhood pets** that wandered away from their homes.

### AWARDS

Voted as 2022's  
"Best Non-Profit Organization"  
AND  
"Best Thrift Store"  
by readers of the *Green Valley News*  
& *Sahuarita Sun*

### NEW CONSTRUCTION

**Cochran Dog Play Yard** —  
where dogs can be dogs.

### FOSTER FAMILIES

Fostered **101 dogs** in **37** different homes, while **169 kittens** were cared for by **12** dedicated cat-loving families.

### VOLUNTEERS AT WORK

Our all-volunteer staff worked a total of **128,860 hours**, the equivalent of **67 full-time employees**.

### CONTRIBUTORS

**1631 generous and loyal donors** funded TALGV last year.

### COMMUNITY OUTREACH

Spayed/neutered **508** pets.

Assisted **414 families** in our local area with vaccinations and medical assistance for their cats and dogs.

Received approx. 1100 phone calls asking for information or help.

### KITTEN EXPLOSION

This year, **355 kittens** were brought to TALGV, most without a Mama cat and many with ringworm—that's 170 more kittens than TALGV cared for in 2021!

### THE ATTIC THRIFT STORE

Raised **\$228,576.86** for animal care from Attic and Estate sales.

Voted "Best Thrift Store."  
(It's worth mentioning twice!)

## It's all for the animals - Please donate

Nevada & Arizona



Here's looking at you, kid.

Rolls, Maserati, Mazda & Audi



You think you're right side up, but you're really upside down.



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

"Sometimes,  
I just need  
someone  
to talk to."

**ADOPT A  
FRIEND**



**Paw Prints Editor - Mary Ziegelbauer**

## The Animal League of Green Valley

### BOARD OF DIRECTORS

**President** - Kim Eisele  
**Vice President** - Rose Welliver  
**Secretary** - Caroline Hewatt  
**Treasurer** - Ted Schultz  
**Members** - Karen Kell, Michele Miner, Georgia Puttock, Pam White, Mary Ziegelbauer

### COORDINATORS

**Attic Thrift Store** - Nancy Arnold, Janell Duncan, Michele Miner  
**Attic Pick Up & Delivery** - Chuck Zacher  
**Cat Biographies** - Paula Kulina, Linda Winterland  
**Cat Care** - Sally Caroline, Paula Flores, Leslye Hughes, Sue Nicholson, Alice O'Connor, Suzanne Schauer, Pam White  
**Community Outreach** - Caroline Hewatt  
**Database Management** - Sue Gray  
**Dog Biographies** - Deanna Berglund, Karin Butler, Anita Rasnake, Lori Walker  
**Dog Care** - Carol Clifford, Janell Duncan, Patty Fette, Camen Murphy, Bonnie Myers, Denise Schultz, Donna Troutwine, Vicki Turner, Rose Welliver  
**Estate Sales** - Bronda Smith  
**Events** - Jeanne Damitio, Caroline Hewatt

### COORDINATORS (continued)

**Facebook** - Trudy Shannon  
**Finance** - Ted Schultz  
**Foster Care/Cats** - Pam White  
**Foster Care/Dogs** - Sue Bollig  
**Intakes/Onsite Adoptions** - Kim Eisele  
**Maintenance** - Bob Gonzales  
**Office** - Karen Kell  
**Offsite Dogs** - Georgia Puttock  
**Pet Therapy Visits** - Karen Simmons  
**Photography/Web Assistant** - Georgia Puttock  
**Post-Adoption Support/Cats** - Kathi Urban, Bobillot, Linda Winterland  
**Post-Adoption Support/Dogs** - Carol Clifford, Marti Gregor, Denise Schultz  
**Publications** - Kim Eisele  
**Purchasing** - Anita Rasnake  
**Science Diet Liaison** - Kathie Kynion  
**Spay/Neuter In-House** - Karen Kell  
**Technology Infrastructure** - Bob Junke, Tim Shannon, Michael Verselle  
**Vehicles** - Paul Brown  
**Vet Care for Life/Cats** - Jean Davis  
**Vet Care for Life/Dogs** - Rose Welliver  
**Volunteer** - Bonnie Myers  
**Webmaster** - Barry Cogan

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

## THE ATTIC THRIFT STORE

OPEN MON, THURS, SAT & SUN

WINTER HOURS (THRU APRIL 30) ~ 10AM TO 2PM

SUMMER HOURS (MAY-SEPT) ~ 8AM TO NOON

**Merchandise donations accepted ONLY  
on the 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of each month.**

## TALGV KENNELS

OPEN FROM 10AM TO 2PM DAILY

**Appointments for adoptions & intake  
provide more personalized service.**

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