

PICTURING PETS

Dedicated Photography Volunteers Help Adoptable Animals Put Their Best Paw Forward



Nancy's intake photo.

When the sheriff's deputy walked Nancy through the door at Animal Allies, she was visibly nervous. The black Lab mix had been found stray, and now a brief ride in the squad car had brought her to a strange new place. After checking her for a microchip and completing intake, staff got Nancy cozy in her new kennel. Finally, they took a quick photo to post online: her face squinting up from inside the kennel with

a slightly disoriented expression. The photo was good enough for its purpose: if Nancy's owner was looking for her, they would recognize her right away. But after a week, no one had come to reclaim Nancy. It was time to find her a new home. And that quick snapshot of a generic black dog looking confused wasn't going to help her get adopted.

According to a 2017 study, 65% of adopters looked at online photos of dogs before adopting. In a 2015 study focusing on black Lab-mixes, dogs with excellent photos were adopted within 14 days on average, compared to 43 days for a those with poor-quality photos. In making a first impression, a photo can be enough to capture an adopter's heart. It's simple: good photos get pets adopted.

Fortunately, here at Animal Allies we are lucky to have an amazing duo producing professional-quality portraits of dogs in our care, showcasing their personalities and appealing to potential adopters. Photographer Lisa Johnson and Dog Buddy Annette Petersmeyer have been working together on shelter dog photoshoots for more than two years. Annette says, "I think between the two of us, we are really



Photographer Lisa Johnson

able to capture some great qualities of the dogs, which hopefully encourages people to come in and see them, making them more adoptable."



Some dogs come to the shelter so terrified that they aren't ready to have their portrait taken. "Every line of their body is screaming 'I'm miserable,'" says Lisa. Learning to trust a few select people is one of their first steps towards realizing that the world isn't such a scary place. "Sometimes, Annette and I just wait a week to take the photo and just sit with the dog and love them up. Almost always, by the time we come back a week later, their entire outlook has changed."

In over nine years volunteering at Animal Allies, Annette has helped countless fearful dogs come out of their shell. This trust earned over time sets the right atmosphere for relaxed, happy dog portraits. Sometimes, as with recent shelter residents Thunder and Jameson, the photos show dogs going from scared to trusting within a single shoot. "They imprinted on my heart," says Annette.

While Annette's presence puts the dogs at their ease, Lisa's years of experience in the challenging field of pet portraiture (including almost ten years as a volunteer photographer at Animal Allies) have prepared her to take advantage of every second to get the right shot. As Annette runs around, throws toys, plays tug-of-war, and draws out the subject dog's happy side, Lisa doesn't miss an instant of the action. "She is very good at what she does," says Annette. "She is able to capture photos of dogs doing fun and crazy things that I didn't see while playing with them." (Outtakes from Annette and Lisa's photoshoots are often hilarious.) Annette's skill in reading dogs comes in handy, too. "She knows just when to set a boundary and when to be encouraging," says Lisa.



Dog Buddy Annette Petersmeyer



GREETINGS!



hopelessness, darkness, noise and chaos. By using the words “adoption center,” we reflect hope, brightness, play yards, cat community rooms, adoption, compassion and education.

As we approach the end of our fiscal year, we need your help more than ever to reach a balanced budget for 2019. The continued generosity of our volunteers, members and donors is critical to fulfill our goals this year. On behalf of all the cats, dogs, puppies and kittens at and from Animal Allies, season's greetings to you and your family and our very best wishes for you in the new year ahead. Thank you for all that you do for Animal Allies. Because of you, we are able to carry out our mission to ensure a loving home for every pet.

Sincerely,

Julie Waltenberg ,
Executive Director
T: 218-722-5341, Ext. 215
E: juliewaltenb@animalallies.net



As we prepare to start a new year, we at Animal Allies are embracing a change and we are asking for you to join us in striking the word “shelter” from our vocabulary and substitute that with “adoption center”. Why change? Often when people think of an animal shelter, they think of a place of despair,

MANY WAYS TO GIVE TO THE ANIMALS

Did you know that 70% of Animal Allies' funding comes from donations? Without the direct financial support of caring people in our community, Animal Allies wouldn't exist. The animals depend on donations from individuals, families, and businesses to ensure they have a place to go when they're most in need. Fortunately, there are ways to give to suit every animal-lover.

Direct donation – a donation in any amount benefits the dogs and cats in our care. (Some of our most cherished supporters are those who give \$5 whenever their finances allow.) In addition to supporting the animals, donations are a great way to celebrate milestones and honor loved ones.

In-kind donations – for those who prefer a practical gift, our online wishlist details the items most needed at the shelter.

Annual membership – a great gift for family or friends, and the easiest way to become a part of Animal Allies, annual memberships start at the \$30 level (\$25 for students and seniors.) With benefits including adoption and retail discounts, membership makes you a part of our community.

Sustaining membership – monthly giving spreads your gift over time, offering ongoing support that Animal Allies can depend on. Sustaining memberships are easy to set up online.

Continued on Page 4



Mission Statement

Animal Allies Humane Society strives to ensure a loving home for every pet.

Vision Statement

Animal Allies Humane Society recognizes the importance of pets in people's lives and is guided by a humane ethic to serve the community through:

- Educating the public about humane treatment and responsible guardianship of companion animals.
- Reducing overpopulation by altering all animals who are in our care.
- Intervening to help animals overcome medical and behavioral issues.
- Providing safe, temporary care for animals while they are readied for adoption.
- Providing people the opportunity to invite pets into their lives.
- Saving lives by transporting animals from shelters that are overcrowded.
- Contributing to our community by engaging with students at all levels, the elderly and others to share the importance of the relationship of animals to society.

4006 Airport Rd, Duluth, MN 55811 • (218) 722-5341 • animalallies.net

Open Tuesday through Saturday, Noon to 6pm and Sunday, Noon to 4:00 p.m.

HEALING HEARTS AND PAWS: **ANIMAL TRANSFORMATIONS**

The Healing Hearts and Paws Fund is dedicated to those animals who come to the shelter with medical issues calling for greater than usual care. Thanks to this designated fund, Animal Allies is able to give second chances to pets that wouldn't have one otherwise. With the help of the fund to offset costs, staff is able to focus on what's best for each animal when deciding how to proceed with care. We can send pets in need of specialty surgery to the right clinics, carry out general surgeries in-house, and dedicate months to monitoring and testing pets to make sure that they have been correctly diagnosed. These are a few of the cats and dogs helped by the Healing Hearts and Paws Fund this year.

ATOMIC TOASTER

Atomic Toaster was your typical stray tomcat: a thick neck, scarred face, and generally tough demeanor belying a truly loving disposition. This beautiful black cat was ready for adoption in July, but while he waited for a new home routine blood tests revealed irregularities in his glucose levels. Upon further investigation, medical staff diagnosed Atomic Toaster with diabetes, and we decided to keep him in the shelter for treatment and monitoring. After several months of watching his glucose levels, Atomic Toaster's diabetic symptoms seemed reduced, if not entirely in remission. He will definitely need follow-up vet visits and may have to return to regular insulin treatments in the future. But whether his diabetes recurs or not, Atomic Toaster is set to live a full, normal life. As this newsletter goes to print, Atomic Toaster is still looking for a new home.



Once he was feeling better, Bjorn's true personality came out: playful, rambunctious, and needing some serious etiquette lessons to redirect all his newfound energy! Just like Ruben, we sent Bjorn to work on obedience through the inmate training program at the Moose Lake prison. After several months of socialization and training with the inmates, Bjorn was ready for a new home. In September, this happy boy brought his newly learned good manners and loving disposition to his new home. From wounded and stray to comfortable and loved, Bjorn's journey had a happy ending.



RUBEN

Ruben came to us as a stray and was an instant staff favorite. He loved greeting everybody, playing with other dogs and hanging out with kids at Animal Allies summer camp. Then, during a routine exam, we discovered that Ruben was heartworm positive. Heartworm takes a long time to treat. During treatment, dogs need to keep their heart rate down—a tough task for playful

pups like Ruben. In order to keep him from going stir-crazy without the physical exercise he craves, we knew we needed to keep Ruben's brain busy. That's why we sent him to the inmate training program at Moose Lake prison.

While at Moose Lake, Ruben got continuous daily socialization. He worked on basic obedience, completing three months of RR Dog Training's nine-month program. This constant mental exercise helped Ruben forget that he wasn't allowed to get his heart rate up. We are overjoyed to report that Ruben was adopted by a wonderful family and together they have completed the remaining six months of his training program. Heartworm-free Ruben enjoys playing with other dogs and just "being a dog."

BJORN

Bjorn was one of those rescues that it's difficult to forget. This Black Lab mix came to us as a stray with a thick metal chain embedded in his neck. You might think a dog who had been hurt like that would be angry or scared of people. But Bjorn instantly loved everyone he met at the shelter. It was almost like he knew he was going to be helped.



The metal chain was removed and Bjorn had extensive reconstructive surgery to cover his neck wounds and repair his skin.

JINX



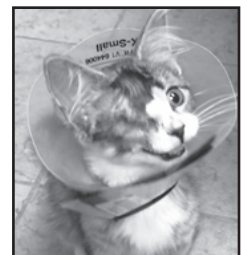
Looking at Jinx after his lion cut, you might think it was a bad hair day. In fact, it was the best haircut of his life. Himalayans are famed for their thick, luxurious manes. For Binx, though, this characteristic lovely long fur had become a handicap. Binx was found as a stray with thick mats throughout his coat. When hair gets as matted as Jinx's was, it becomes very painful-itching and

pulling on the skin. Fortunately, medical staff at Animal Allies know their way around an electric shaver, and soon after his arrival they applied it to Jinx.

After the painful mats were cut and shaved off, Jinx was left looking naked but feeling free. For the first time in a long while he was able to stretch, roll around, rub his body on the wall, and generally be comfortable in his skin. Now, Jinx's silky mane is growing back in his new home.

WINKY

When tiny tabby Winky came to Animal Allies, she was just a little kitten. She had been found stray on main street in a small rural town. We don't know how she got there, where her mother was, or what had happened in the first two months of her life, but she was clearly injured. During Winky's initial exam, medical staff discovered that her right eye was not only wounded: it was damaged beyond repair. Medical staff wasted no time. Fortunately, our in-house surgical suite allows us to perform many basic operations right in the shelter. Shelter veterinarian Dr. Laura Kiehnbaum was able to remove Winky's damaged right eye and complete her spay surgery at the same time.



For Winky, the surgery was the easy part—she didn't even know it happened! The hard part was being stuck in a cone during her recovery. At two months old, Winky just wanted to run and play, and the cone made her lose toys and bump into doors. Several weeks after the operation, Winky's surgery site was finally healed. Without a painful eye and free from her cone at last, this little girl could dash, tumble, and play to her heart's content. Winky is now living a happy, one-eyed kitten life with her new family.

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"We've been working together long enough now that she knows what I need before I remember I need it."

Of course, dogs can be uncooperative. They aren't always ready to pose. Sometimes their sense of decorum is lacking. For Lisa and Annette, doggie tongue kisses are one of the hazards of the job. Annette recalls Mickey, a Lab mix who stayed in the shelter for several months undergoing heartworm

treatment. "We bonded, which made it super fun to go see him. He would go crazy in the kennel as soon as he saw me." As part of preparing dogs for adoption, Annette likes to teach them to cuddle. "Mickey and I would sit on the picnic table and snuggle," she remembers. "I had to be careful while talking to him because he would randomly turn his head to kiss me, oftentimes getting his tongue in my mouth." Lisa, likewise, recalls getting knocked down and vigorously licked by an overenthusiastic pair of bulldogs.

A great portrait isn't just about getting the right exposure or shutter speed. In the case of adoptable dogs, it's not even about balance or composition. A portrait needs to speak to the viewer and



convey what makes a dog special. "The eyes are key," says Lisa. "Everything they are shows on their faces and in their eyes." Lisa has an analogy to explain the role these pet portraits play. "Adoption photos are like the best dating profiles. They should show the dog as they are: funny, shy, goofy, uncertain, gorgeous, not-so-gorgeous...when you show the dog as he or she is (but in a flattering light, of course), something in the dog can connect with something in the person looking at the photo and the person falls in love a little."

When it was Nancy's turn to get her official adoption pictures taken, the former stray seemed nothing like the confused and nervous newcomer squinting out of her first online snapshot.



Nancy's portrait by Lisa

In one of her new pictures, Nancy lies blissfully on her back, enjoying pets. Another photo shows her sitting up straight with her head turned towards us. Red highlights shine in her smooth black fur and the wind catches her ears. She looks directly into the camera with eyes that can only be described as "soulful." It's the kind of picture you could fall in love with.

Many dogs end up at the shelter. We often see them at one of the most difficult times of their lives, when they're feeling confused and scared. It's easy to lump dogs together, or define them by one characteristic: little dogs, black dogs, pit bull-type dogs, husky-type dogs. But to generalize is to do them a disservice.

We are privileged to work with volunteers who take the time to get to know each dog in our care. Understanding their unique qualities allows us to represent dogs more fully to potential adopters. And, because a picture is worth a thousand words, photos may be the most effective medium for communicating those qualities.



In Lisa Johnson's words, "Every dog deserves a nice portrait. Every dog should be shown as the individual they are."



CAPTURING CATS



If you think it's easy to take good pictures of cats in a shelter, you haven't tried. Felines are not known for being cooperative at the best of times, let alone when placed in a strange new environment. Nor do the cat condos at Animal Allies make an

ideal photography studio. Though filled with natural light, these rooms offer many distractions and hiding places for your feline subject. You'll find that you're lucky if you can get a clear photo of her at all.



Photographer Wendy Johnson

pet cats, Wendy approaches her shelter subjects with courtesy and respect. "The time I spend with a cat is 95% bonding and 5% photography," she says. "I always make sure I allow enough time with each cat to overcome its fears, win its confidence and help it feel comfortable when the shutter goes off."

Her portraits highlight cats' distinct coat, coloring, and eyes; but also their personality. Some cats look regal, some curious, some contented. By making them feel safe, Wendy is able to capture a truer, more confident version of the cats she photographs. That, in turn, makes them more adoptable.



"Photos of shelter cats are often the entry point to a potential adoption," Wendy observes. Almost all the portraits of Animal Allies cats and kittens online are hers. "Making a cat look good in its photo could mean the difference between clicking past it and creating enough interest to inspire a potential owner to stop by the shelter to meet it."

Wendy has fallen for many cats while volunteering, like senior sweetheart Betty White, energetic siblings Pinot and Cabernet, or stray kitten Bing Catsby (pictured with Wendy.) "All he would do was huddle in the back corner of his kennel," Wendy recalls of Bing. "His pupils were huge, and he hissed at everyone who came near him. I soon discovered that he was all bluster. As soon as I picked him up and held him against my chest, he would begin to purr." Week after week, Wendy gives shelter cats the greatest gift: portraying their best selves to potential adopters.



"When I first started volunteering at the shelter, I was afraid I would have a hard time not bringing home every cat who stole my heart," says Wendy. "But now, I find the greatest pleasure in simply earning their confidence, spending time with them and making them happy - and then finding out on the following visit that they have gone to a new home!"

A NIGHT TO REMEMBER FUR BALL 2019



Saturday, October 19th was a beautiful fall day. Fire-hued leaves rustled in the breeze as golfers flocked to Northland Country Club for a late-season round. Inside, the club hummed with busy volunteers, Animal Allies staff, and Northland staff as everyone prepared for the 19th annual Fur Ball Gala.

This year's Fur Ball sold out early, and the lively atmosphere at

as official animal greeters. Guests were also met at the door by two very special attendees: well-behaved miniature therapy ponies who joined Fur Ball for the first time.

The silent auction featured some truly amazing and unique items, ranging from the useful to the decorative to the alcoholic. Auction donors outdid themselves this year, and guests bid accordingly.

In addition to the traditional Light Up the Night, this year's gala replaced the usual raffle with an exciting new fundraising game: Heads or Tails. At each flip of the coin, every player had to choose - heads or tails? If they guessed right, they would continue to the next round. If they guessed wrong, they would lose a turn or eventually have to sit down. Guests' competitive juices flowed during the fast-paced game, culminating in an intense faceoff between two players in the final rounds. Ultimately, one winner walked away with the grand prize: an African photo safari.

The energy in the room rose even further as auctioneer Dave Thompson introduced a selection of live auction items, culminating in fierce bidding competition over our featured painting, The Dog Walker by Patricia Canelake. Competition was also raged over a set of Apple products donated by Friends of Twin Ports Pet Sitters. Also won by enterprising silent auction bidders: a deluxe racing bicycle, an in-home dinner compliments of the Pick Wick, and an exclusive golf experience at Pinehurst, NC.

the gala didn't disappoint. Guests told us the evening was fun, heartwarming and magical - praising the beautiful décor, the delicious dinner, and great cocktails courtesy of our presenting sponsor, Tito's Vodka.

Dan Hanger dazzled once again as our special guest emcee, leading us through the evening with his customary humor and charm. Many Animal Allies dog and cat alumni worked the crowd



Fun was had by all, delicious fare enjoyed, and many great memories were made once again at the Fur Ball Gala as guests joined together for a shared cause. Portraits of pet sponsors and shelter sponsors adorned the walls, reminding guests of the meaning behind the festivities and why we were all gathered that night: to help the animals.

During Fur Ball, we shared some of the new challenges facing animal welfare today and how our work is evolving to tackle these needs. One of the biggest challenges here at home is the growing number of dogs who come to Animal Allies with behavior issues. This summer we launched a new program to provide enrichment and training: "Dogs Playing for Life." Fenced outdoor play yards provide space for staff to oversee playgroups and training for shelter dogs, offering much-needed exercise and stimulation. Unfortunately, in the hottest days of summer it was dangerous to let the dogs stay too long in the sun, and these vital sessions were cut short. To keep the dogs active on even the warmest days, we aim to install outdoor shading systems in the yards. Once they can stay safe in the shade, shelter dogs won't have to miss a single day of play.

Another growing problem is affecting the animals right here in neighboring counties. As government services are cut and regional shelters struggle or close, healthy homeless pets are being left to

fend for themselves on the streets or are facing possible euthanasia for lack of a place to stay. Further across the country, an alarming number of healthy, adoptable pets are trapped in overcrowded shelters while rescues struggle to find homes for them.

In order to continue our lifesaving work bringing adoptable animals from overcrowded areas, we need a new transport vehicle. Although our current van has done great work over the years, she is ready for a peaceful retirement.

At the Fur Ball we asked guests to contribute funds toward these two goals: installing a shading system in the shelter play yards and replacing our aging transport van. These two simple, concrete changes would make a real difference for pets in need.

Guests rallied to support the animals, raising more than \$55,000 towards these goals. We are excited about how these funds will transform the lives of these homeless pets. Our fundraising will continue until we meet our goal of \$100,000 for life-saving transport and transformation initiatives.

As always, we would like to thank everyone who made this year's Fur Ball Gala a success. Volunteers, staff, sponsors, donors, guests: all of you came together to celebrate saving animals.

MEMBERS

Thank you to all who became a new or renewing annual member in July, August, September and October.

STUDENT/SENIOR

Martha Aas
Abbigale Arends
Morgan Askelin
Victoria and Leo Beitz
Nancye Belding
Gary Black and Celeste
Curley-Black
Cindy Boben
Emily Borndal
Katherine Camps
Mily Carlson
Miranda Chambers
Renee Crassweller
Mitchell Dennie
Tabetha Durdall
Marcia Erickson
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Chuck and Kathy Fredson
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We sincerely thank our sustaining members who provide a monthly gift for the animals in our care.

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Shirley Viergut Trust
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TRIBUTES

The following tributes were received in July, August, September and October.
If you do not see your listing in this issue, look for it in the next.

If you see an error regarding your donation, please call and let us know: (218) 722-5341, Ext. 214.

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Jamie and Kris Glesner
GINGER
The Nelson Family
GRETA
The Lenard Family
GUNNER
Mike and Susan Wipson
HANNAH
Mary Nuorala
HUNTER
Randy and Pam Bowe
HUNTER
The Lewis Family
INDY
John Pesonen-Johnson and Jessica Martin
IRL
Matthew Andrews
IZABELLE
Jeremy and Jennifer Engel
JACK
The Wilson Family
JACK
John and Nancy Fellbaum
JAKE
Ronald and Cindy Gullicks
JASPER
The Lopez Family
JAZZY
Glenn and Nancy Anderson
JING WEI
Joel and Colleen Folger
KAISER
Keith and Lynne Hamre
KUJO
The Bendas Family
LAAMBEUX
Eva Graves
LADY LOUISE
The Ferton Family
LICORICE
Marcus McConico and Rachel Inselman
LILLI
Karla Ward
LILLY
Claire Hinline
LILY
The Kuronen Family
LIONEL
Ellen Sanford
LIZZY
Carol Grams
LOUIE
Janice Doe
LUCY
The Majchrzak Family

LUNA
Lucas and Shannon Kackman
MADISON
Jay and Elizabeth Austin
Mier
MAKWA
The Brisbois Family
MAX
John and Roseann Hines
MEKA
Claudia Olos
MONTE
Bruce Calbreath
MYA
The Lund Family
MYSTO
Terry and Mary Roses
NANNERS
Yvonne and Jerry Malone
OTIS
Joe Brian and Carisa Zarr
OTIS REDDING
The Dourn Family
PIPER
Connie and Steve Screjoli
PUDDIN
The Watkins/Hernandez Family
REGGIE
Margo Binsfield
ROCKY
The Lane Family
RODNEY
Gina Doller
ROSIE
The Meyer Family
ROSIE
Don and Sandy Erickson
RUBY
The Parr Family
SADIE
Jared Stasberg and Brian Gross
SAMMY
The Welke Family
SAMPSON
Mike and Holly Karstens
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Ray and Lois Erickson
SHELBY
Reric and Christine Richie
SKIPPER
David and Molly Evans
SOCKS
Jennifer Stafford
SULLY
The Evans Family
SUSY
Lennart Johnson
TANGO
Greg and Susie Johnson
TOBY
Joe and Cathy Roby
TOBY
Greg and Kristi Rian
TUFFY
Marc and Rachel Stenkiewicz
VIVI
Martha and Johannes Aas
WALLY
Dennis and Lois Backsheider
WHIPPLE
Dallas and Farah Rustad
WICKET
The Rappana Family
WILLIE
Diane Kolquist and James Seltz
WINNIE
Doreen Lane
ZIN
Danielle Bohlin

IN MEMORY OF PERSON

JESSE ANDERSON
Bonnie and Paul Anderson
MARSHA BERG
Sherry and Steve Johnson
Ann and Doug Melander
Connie Young
John and Cammie Young
Robert Swanfeld
KELLI JEAN BOBBITT
Pat Pirnie

BETTY BRASGALA
Douglas Mitchell
MARY BROWN
Jaquelyn and William Briscode
Amy Hoseth
Michelle Wilde
GINGER BYRD
David and Kathleen Rous
JANET DEGOLIER
Richard DeGolier
WAYNE DUNCAN
Julianne Duncan
RICHARD HABLE
Jeane Binney
PAUL HOWE
Bob Howe
Shelly Russ and Dan Fuchs
BARB JOHNS
Bill and Judy Sazama
LAURA JONES
Larry and Nancy Anderson
Don and Eileen Bergman
Randy and Mary Clasen
Tom and Mary Donahue
Mike and Terri Hemphill
Tom and Gail Meister
Chireen O'Connell
Cher O'Connell
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Rita and Carly Onraet
Betty and Larry Skoglund-Moe
Gloria Tique
MIKE JONES
Anonymous
ANNA LOPEZ KRUEGER
Marilyn Krueger
EDNA LESLIE
Donald Leslie
TOM LING
Robert and Linda Plucinak
Gerald Sabick
JOSEPH MAISUK
Sherri Maisuk
LOIS MAKI
Richard and Tricia Bunten
Rob and Cindy Heid
Sandra Jader
Dennis Maki
Todd and Courtney Maki
Sharon Scott
Carol and Michael Sertich
Todd, Madi, Avery and Jess Solarz
Jim and Yvonne Suomala
Gary and Sandra Winklesky
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George and Mary Belanger
Richard Dolezal
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Mary Fraser
Ann Mahoney
Gail McGivern
Anthony and Linda Wisocki
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Nancy Nelson
SHERRYL PALUSKY
Marsha Berg
Barbara J. Carlson
Donald Harriss
Brian Majeski
Doug and Ann Melander
Patricia Merrier
Bill Palusky
Donald and Donna Palusky

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Jim and Gail Wall
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Bruce and Cynthia Lovold
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Roger and LuAnn Thiry
Bonnie and James Tonkin
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Jeff and Kim Willemarck
GARY REIN
Shelly and Martin Herman
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Cheryl Paskett
MARK and MAY ROSES
Terry and Mary Roses
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Marilyn Melhus
ALBERT HEIRONMYMUS
STEGER
Anonymous
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LUCILLE TRULSON
Ellen Reirson
Harold and Louanne Derksen
Linda Hale
Wyn Protzen
Bonita Louise Schwartz
SALLY VAN REESE
Lynn and Wayne Lepak
SYLVIA WALLACE
Kelly Johnson
JAMES WISOCKI
William and Judith Szazama
BETTE WIESEN
Lynn and Wayne Lepak
KATHERINE WILMA ZIELLS
Earleen and Charles Hanson
Alan and Penny Keay

IN MEMORY OF PET

ALLISON and SPARKY
Rhonda Swansens
ANGUS and MAX
Lynda Barker John
AZZIE and GUNTHER
Susan Skinner
BAXTER and BUDDY
Gary and Eileen Pearson
BELLE
Kathy Holbeck
BIRKY
Gayle and Jim Maruska
BLAZE, SHILOH, and SKEETER
Susan and John Menart
BUDDY
Jerry and Shirley Pommerville
BUSTER
Nancy Kelley
COCO
Kathleen Madrigal
DARBY, RIGBY, and RUBY
Lynn and Wayne Lepak
ELLIE
Marj and Neil Stalker
ELLIE
Denise Perry
FIDO
Pam and Tom Griggs
GEMINI and MICKY
Mary and Richard Lindgren
GRACIE
Michelle and Michael Schultz
ILLYA and ROSEBUD
Robert and Barbara Bennett

JASMINE and MOOSE
Katherine Camps
KENO and YOGI BEAR
Tim and Bonnie Gotelaere
KLAUS
Dennis and Tripper
KODAK
Scott and Marilyn Clark
LACEY
Tod and Cyndi Venberg
LILY
Susan Wiste
LITTLE HONEY
Ben and Yvonne Smith
LULU
Jerome Miner
MAGGIE
Marilyn Krueger
MARIO
Kim Knudtson
MIKE
Larry and Jowain Wallin
NIKKI
Patricia Johnson
OREO
Daniel Edson
OSCAR
Mark Cohen
PEANUT
Nancy Kelley
PEPSI and LACEY
Doug and Jenny Madole
PIPER
Charlene Shimm
RAJA
Carl and Sharon Eklund
REDDI I and REDDI II
Donald Leslie
ROMMEL
Patricia Johnson
ROSCOE
Vern and Armida Thompson
RUSTY SR. and RUSTY JR.
Robert Sisto
SAMMIE
Mary Tessier
SEQUOIA and DASH
Anonymous
SHILOH
Douglas Mitchell
TAFFEE
Connie Olson Stanley
TROUBLE
Sally Smith
TROUBLE
Le Anne Rutherford
UDJAT
Shirley De la Torre
WILLIE
Trish Poylio
WINNIE
Isabel Carlson
Judy O'Day
ZINI
Barrie McBride and Tim Ferch

IN HONOR OF PERSON

THE CHURCHILL FAMILY
Donna Churchill
JANICE
Mr. and Mrs. Jerome Kostroski
DOROTHY KANGAS
Marilyn Mariette
BECKY and NIC
MATHIOWETZ
Judith Wiles
ELIZABETH MATTSO
Susan Knetsch

IN HONOR OF PET

ALL MY PUPPIES
Joseph Murphy
ATTACUS
Marlene and Bryan Pakingham
AVI LUX, BELLATRIX, and CASEY
Andie Kantor

BAILEY
Julie Heilman
BEAR
Vern and Armida Thompson
BLAZE
Andrea Scribner
CEDAR and MURPHY
Lori Williams
COLO
Ann Esala
DAHLIA
Shirley Jezierski
DOLLY
Susan and John Meyer
ESTER
Zabelle and Bob Stodola
FINNEGAN
Cidne Kozlovski
IZZY
Brenda Denton
LOKI
Kathy Holbeck
MOLLY
Susan and John Jentoft
REILLY
Mary Stromdahl
RUTHIE
Wally and Adrienne Larson
SIERRA
Susan and John Menart
TOMMY, MAX, NIMBUS and FREDDY
Catherine Podeszwa
TRAVIS
Diane Klepatz
WHEELIE
Michelle Riley
ZEPPELIN
Kim Franckowiak
ZOEY and PUMPKIN
Jean Esler

IN HONOR OF BIRTHDAY

BRENDA CIARELLI
Jeff and Sue Frey
JUDY NEWMAN
Robert and Barb Bennett
Martin and Melanie Grune
BETTY PELKEY
Mary Ann and Karl Sironen
ANYA VAN STAAGER
Ronald and Marsha Pearson
VICTORIA
Avery Hoole

IN HONOR OF WEDDING

SHAYNA and BRIAN
GILCHREST
Doug and Linda Freeman
Wade and Jen Freeman
NATHAN and AMY DUNN
Jason and Susan Haus
PHIL and CARSON JASMIN
Fay Kaiser

IN HONOR OF BAPTISM

WELLS EASTON
MASTERSON
Mary Ann and Todd Sironen

ADOPTION TEAM LEAD: SARAH BEZENAR



How long have you been with Animal Allies?

I started at AAHS in February 2016. I took about a year off work to study abroad in 2017, but have been here ever since! I've always been on the adoption team, and am now fortunate enough to have transitioned to the adoption team lead!

Where did you grow up?

I grew up in Long Lake, Minnesota about 20 minutes west of the Twin Cities.

Why did you choose Duluth?

I chose to attend UMD for school because it was the perfect distance from home which allowed

me to be independent, but to see my family when I needed it. I was planning on moving back to the Cities after graduation but AAHS (and Nicole Facciotto) are keeping me here for now!

What do you like best about working for AAHS?

There are so many things to love about this organization. I think one of my favorites is my co-workers - everyone here shares the same level of compassion and care for animals so it's very easy to bond with everyone. I have made so many friends here, and feel fortunate to love coming into work, and having fun every day!

What do you like to do for fun?

For fun I love to play bar bingo or trivia with friends! So many places around Duluth offer great trivia or bingo nights. I highly recommend Wednesday music bingo at Burrito Union.

Do you have any animals?

Yes! I have a 9-year-old cat, Boujee, that I adopted 2 years ago from AAHS. She is the absolute love of my life and I couldn't think of a better gal to come home to everyday. I will gladly gush about her to anyone who asks!

What's your favorite animal transformation story?

That would have to be Eleanor the Chocolate Lab mix! She came to us not wanting to be touched, and the adoption team got to know her super well over the time she was here. Seeing her go from not wanting anything to do with anyone, to giving kisses on the face was amazing! Her adopter was amazing, and patient with us (and her.)

What's life like on the adoption team?

Life on adoption keeps you on your toes for sure! We get to experience the lows of the shelter, such as emotional owner surrenders, as well as the highs, like our long-term residents finally going to their forever home. You also never know what kind of day you're going to get - some days the shelter gets so busy that we are going nonstop for hours, and other days we barely see anyone come through the doors. As with any job, there are aspects that are very difficult, and the compassion fatigue has been overwhelming at times. But while it can be pretty hectic, it's amazing to experience the animals from the adoption perspective, and to be responsible for finding the best fit for each animal.

Words of animal wisdom?

I think just that respect and patience can go so far in building a healthy relationship with any animal.

Continued from page 1

DONOR ADVISED FUNDS

The donor-advised fund is becoming a popular giving model. Compared to traditional charitable foundations, donor-advised funds offer an easier, more affordable way to give over time. DAFs are created in cooperation with a non-profit organization, with the non-profit taking administrative responsibility.

Flexible

Once established, you can continue to contribute to the DAF whenever you choose or as your finances allow. In addition, anyone who chooses can contribute to the fund in the future—a possible way to create a legacy of family giving. Your level of involvement in controlling the funds is entirely up to you: you can recommend how

they be invested and allocated or leave such decisions to the non-profit's discretion.

Tax-advantageous

Once established, you can make new contributions to your DAF whenever you want, thereby taking advantage of yearly income tax deductions while reducing future estate taxes. Further, you can use the fair market value of the donation in your income tax deductions for charitable giving.

If you are interested in using a versatile, tax-advantageous tool to support the work you care about, talk to your financial advisor about whether establishing a donor-advised fund might be right for you.

SAVE A LIFE BECOME AN ANIMAL ALLIES MEMBER

Membership levels

Miriam Carlstedt Society
\$5,000 Annually / \$400 Monthly*

This level provides spay/neuter services for all the animals in our shelter for one month.

Additional Donor Benefits: Four (4) complimentary tickets to The Fur Ball Gala (\$400 value), recognition on the Spay/Neuter Donor Wall, kennel sponsorship, membership incentive and 2019 Animal Allies Membership Family t-shirt.

Animal Champion
\$3,000 Annually / \$250 Monthly*

This level provides extra care for an animal to treat ailments such as heartworm, specialty surgical procedures, medical conditions or broken bones.

Additional Donor Benefits: Two (2) complimentary tickets to The Fur Ball Gala (\$200 value), personalized paw on the donor wall, kennel sponsorship, choice of membership incentive and 2019 Animal Allies Membership Family t-shirt.

Animal Hero
\$1,000 Annually / \$80 Monthly*

This level provides in-house dental procedures for 4 shelter dogs.

Additional Donor Benefits: Two (2) complimentary tickets to The Fur Ball Gala (\$200 Value), personalized kennel sponsorship, membership incentive and 2019 Animal Allies Membership Family t-shirt.

Animal Angel
\$500 Annually / \$40 Monthly*

This level spays/neuters a mother and her litter of 6 puppies.

Additional Donor Benefits: A personalized kennel sponsorship for one year, membership incentive and 2019 Animal Allies Membership Family t-shirt.

Animal Protector
\$250 Annually / \$20 Monthly*

This level provides food for 4 dogs for one month at the shelter.

Additional donor benefits: Membership tote bag and 2019 Animal Allies Membership Family t-shirt.

Animal Friend
\$100 Annually / \$10 Monthly*

This level vaccinates 10 dogs against disease.

Additional donor benefits: Membership tote bag and 2019 Animal Allies Membership Family t-shirt.

Family/Business - \$50 Annually

This level feeds 15 cats for one week.

Additional donor benefits: Membership tote bag and 2019 Animal Allies Membership Family t-shirt.

Animal Ally - \$30 Annually

This level microchips 3 pets to help them return home should they become lost.

Additional donor benefits: The 2019 Animal Allies Membership Family t-shirt.

Student/Senior - \$25 Annually

This level feeds a mother and her 7 kittens for one week.

Additional donor benefits: The 2019 Animal Allies Membership Family t-shirt.

***Become a Monthly Sustaining Member!**

Same great membership benefits, one monthly payment.
For more information, or to become a Sustaining Member, visit www.animalallies.net/member or call (218)722-5341 Ext.214

All Members Receive:

- 10% off Adoption Fees
- 10% Retail Discount
- 10% off Humane Education Activities
- Continued Subscription to *The Paw Print*
- 2019 Membership T-shirt
- "Third Thursdays" Membership Appreciation Day
Save 20% on adoption fees and retail purchases.

**Additional benefits earned with increased membership levels!*



Name _____

Address _____

City/State/Zip _____

Phone _____

Email _____

Animal Allies Humane Society does not sell or give contact information to any other organization.

Payment Method

\$ _____ Amount Enclosed

- Check or Cash
 Credit card
 VISA MasterCard Discover

ACCT # _____

CVV _____ Exp _____

Signature _____

- I have included Animal Allies in my estate plans.
 I would like more information about including Animal Allies in my estate plans.

Thank you for your donation

Donation Amount _____

In honor of Person, name _____

In memory of Person, name _____

In honor of Pet, name _____

In memory of Pet, name _____

Send acknowledgment to:

Name _____

Address _____



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Duluth, MN 55811

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UPCOMING EVENTS

Be the first to know! Sign up for email notifications on our website or follow us on Facebook to learn about exciting events and adoption promotions!



**Now through
January**

Target Circle Supports Shelter Pets

Shop at Target and use your Target Circle points to help raise funds for Animal Allies. Vote for us now through January 2020.

**The Weekend of
December 7 & 8**

The Duluth Winter Village at Glensheen

Animal Allies Humane Society will have our brand new retail items for sale just in time for the holidays! Come visit our cozy cabin and get your gifts while they last. Give a wonderful gift and support shelter pets with your purchase!

**Saturday, December
14th and 21st
10:00 - 3:00 (Both Days)**

Annual Gift Wrapping Fundraiser

Harley Davidson Sport Center hosts their annual gift wrapping fundraiser for the animals! Bring your gifts to Harley and have them wrapped for the holidays for a donation. All money raised will go directly to support homeless pets.

**December 19,
Thursday**

Membership Appreciation Day

Members save and extra 10% on retail purchases - for a total of 20% off!
Hot coffee and cider will be served at the Adoption Center.

**February 20, 2020
Tuesday**

PerPETual Care Conversations

Planning your legacy of giving starts here. Learn about the mission and vision of Animal Allies Humane Society. Discover how planned philanthropic giving provides care for future shelter pets.



Visit AnimalAllies.net for upcoming Humane Education activities and volunteer trainings.

We would like to extend a heartfelt thank you to Muriel Whiteside and the trustees of the Muriel Whiteside Charitable Trust who provide a generous annual gift to help the homeless cats and dogs we serve. We are humbled by the ongoing support and could not achieve our mission without you. Thank you!

