



Kindred Spirits

*respect, grace, compassion and love for
the animals who share our journey*

April 2011

OUR MISSION

To provide shelter and compassionate care for animals who are lost, abandoned or homeless; to ensure that animals who come into our care are nurtured in a loving space while healing from fear, physical or emotional trauma, mistreatment or loss of a caregiver; to place animals into appropriate and loving homes through adoptions; to improve the lives of animals through education and example; to promote spay and neuter of companion animals.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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Shelter Administration
928 474-5590 Ext. 100

SHELTER FROM THE STORMS

Shortly after HSCAZ employee Michele, learned about our Humanitarian Hold program a call came to the shelter requesting a Humanitarian Hold for a



m u c h - l o v e d
Brittney Spaniel mix named Ginger. Ginger's "Mom" Heidi, a Payson resident had been ill, gone in to the hospital for tests

and learned that she required emergency surgery. When she first went to the hospital she expected to only be there for the day and she had put Ginger at a boarding kennel. Instead of a day, Heidi would need to be in the hospital for two months. The costs for kenneling Ginger were beyond her means as she was on a fixed income and her worries about the well-being of Ginger in a long-term kennel environment were creating tremendous stress for her.

HSCAZ was over capacity and the staff was searching for a place for Ginger to be cared for while Heidi healed but there was no apparent answer. Without much thought, Michele piped up, "My family will take her."

Michele had always wanted a dog but felt inadequate to care for one, even though she was raising two daughters on her own. Michele says, "When I met Ginger at the kennel I immediately noticed her beauty but she looked very frightened and confused. She clearly missed her "mom" and must have wondered what had happened to her. I was certain that she needed to be removed from the kennel and when I took her to my car she hopped right into the back and we were on our way."

As the weeks passed Michele and her daughters began to fall in love with

Ginger. "She was such a delight...funny, loving, and a wonderful addition to our household," says Michele. "She didn't bark, just made a quiet growl that ended up in a soft "Woof." She loved going on the trails behind our house. She loved baths. She didn't beg at the table. At all times she was a perfect lady!"

Michele's family began to sadly think of the day when Ginger would leave them, knowing that although it would be a very sad time for them, it would be a wonderful moment for Heidi and Ginger. Then, on a cold snowy day they received a phone call from a friend of Heidi. Heidi had died and her surviving family members could not take Ginger. Her friend asked Michele if she would like to adopt Ginger. "Although we were very sad to hear the news of Heidi passing we quickly said yes to adopting Ginger," said Michele. "Our house is now a home with Ginger in it. I am grateful to have Ginger in my life and I believe that Heidi would be at peace knowing that she is in a home where she is cared for and adored."

BENEFIT FOR THE BEST OF THE BEST

"REDS, WHITES, BRONZES & BLUEGRASS"

Make a difference for the animals served by the Humane Society of Central Arizona by attending an afternoon filled with music, merriment, food, and wine on the picturesque grounds at Randall Ranch in Rye from 11am to 3 pm on June 4, 2011. Enjoy a gourmet picnic lunch, delectable desserts, bluegrass and blues, as well as a bronze art display. Red and white wines will be presented by winemaker Mark Lyon of Sebastiani Vineyards, Sonoma, California and

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WHAT'S NEW, PUSSYCAT?



Thanks to all of our friends, donors, and adopters who care and support the animals we serve 2011 has brought many new and wonderful happenings to HSCAZ!

- More than 100 animals have been adopted out to loving homes since the beginning of the year.
- HSCAZ has collaborated with nine different shelters and rescue organizations throughout the state to place homeless animals and

save more lives.

- We have partnered with the PETCO in Fountain Hills to participate in their "Think Adoption First" program.
- We held our first "Animal Behavior and Body Language" seminar, training staff and volunteers how to better understand what the animals in our care are telling us and how to respond appropriately to the message they are giving us.
- The Sweet Adelines performed in concert to raise money for the animals we serve and the event was

a success thanks to all of the wonderful support from the community.

On the downside, as a result of the economic conditions, the number of animals in need of our services continues to rise while cash donations for operations decline. HSCAZ staff, volunteers, good Samaritans, adopters and donors are unequalled in their willingness to step up and make a profound effort to help orphaned, scared, hungry and hurt animals who pass through our doors. Donations to provide for their care and well-being are deeply honored and appreciated.

Sarah Hook, Executive Director

HELPING HANDS & HEALING HEARTS

ALL STAR VOLUNTEER TED LUCAS

It was an honor to celebrate volunteer Ted Lucas and his 5 years of committed service to HSCAZ.



During his tenure Ted has dedicated himself as our Aluminum Can Processor! Many caring people throughout Rim Country collect and donate aluminum cans to HSCAZ as a way for us to earn money to benefit the animals we serve. Once the cans are received several super volunteers remove the cans from our bins, sort the cans and prepare them for crushing. Ted took on the task of crushing the cans with the help of one other incredible volunteer. He also manages delivery of the crushed cans to the recycling company. The Aluminum Can Program brings in an estimated \$15,000.00 each year! The program is organized 100% by volunteers. Ted will be retiring from the

Aluminum Can Processor task this Spring. As appreciation an original trophy was crafted out of aluminum cans and presented to Ted from staff and other volunteers. We thank you Ted for your years of volunteer service to help the animals who share our journey.

VOLUNTEER ORIENTATION

Volunteer Training and Orientation sessions are held monthly in order to allow those with interest in volunteering a means of learning more about HSCAZ, the animals we serve, areas of need and what it means to be an HSCAZ volunteer. We are grateful that interest in helping animals is high and we typically average twenty new people who attend each orientation. The monthly orientations run approximately 90 minutes to ensure ample time for presentations, facility tour and question/answer sessions with new volunteers. Volunteers are a very important core component of the organization and if you would like to attend our next orientation please contact the shelter for dates and times.

JON AND HIS BEST FRIENDS



Jon is a young man who has lived in Payson all of his life but life to him is different than for most of us. Jon has two forms of muscular dystrophy,

is blind, has had countless surgeries in his short life and is unable to walk unaided.

His indomitable spirit is nurtured and he feels tremendous joy when he holds a kitten or gets hugs from his dog. Jon says he "communicates" with animals.

"They do not pay any attention to the fact that I am blind or that I can not walk. They always love me unconditionally and never judge me like some humans do. I especially have a connection to animals with special needs because we really understand each other.

Animals are so loving and so smart. I have been in the hospital many, many times and I always think about all the animals I love and how much I want to be okay so I can be with them again. They make we want to live longer and be strong!"

DOGGIE DIGS AND KITTY KONDOS

FACILITIES UPDATE

We are excited to announce that after several false starts plans for a new shelter are complete and the process of selecting a general contractor is underway. The construction contract for the new facilities will be awarded later this month with construction anticipated to begin in mid to late May as we continue to make progress in our efforts towards a new animal shelter!

Plans call for approximately 7000 square feet of enclosed space

including administrative offices, food preparation and laundry facilities as well as animal intake, isolation and treatment rooms. The new design though significantly smaller than the original, will nonetheless be fully functional and affordable. The facility is designed with future expansion in mind as the community needs grow and funding becomes available.

The new shelter will be built adjacent to the current facility at 812 S. McLane with funds in hand to meet construction costs without need of financing. When construction is complete, the existing facility will be demolished to make way for a permanent access

road.

We continue to receive tremendous support from donors throughout the community, the region and the state who understand the overwhelming need for a facility in central Arizona which will be animal-friendly and will provide an appropriate environment which embodies all the elements necessary to safely and compassionately shelter and care for the animals who come our way. We are deeply grateful for all of the kindness, generosity, patience and perseverance of the community at large on this long, winding and ultimately successful journey!

RESCUED ANIMALS and THEIR PEOPLE

"BUZZ" aka "GRANITE"



One afternoon a Good Samaritan brought a scared and emaciated red heeler to the shelter. We learned that his name was

Granite and that his owner had abandoned him. Over the next week Granite slowly began to trust us, thanks to the loving care of HSCAZ staff and volunteers. He began to put on weight and his personality bloomed for all to see. A few weeks after arriving at HSCAZ, Granite caught the eye of a gentleman from California who was in Payson for business. He informed shelter staff that a friend was looking for the perfect dog, so since he was in the area he decided to drop by and see what kind of adorable adoptees we had.

Keeping in mind his friend's requirements for the perfect companion, he spent an hour looking at dogs, asking questions and

even took pictures to send back home. But then he saw Granite and was instantly connected to him. The nice gentleman said he'd be back after lunch and we all crossed our paws' hoping he would return. An hour later he was at the shelter wanting to know more about Granite. He spoke on the phone with his friend and things really started looking good for our handsome red heeler. The decision was made and the adoption was completed. The next morning Granite would be on his way to California, and the start of a new life.

Granite's "angel" arrived next morning equipped with a plush, comfy dog bed and a seatbelt harness for the 7 hour car ride. With tears of joy in our eyes we kissed him goodbye, confident that he would never feel hurt, scared or alone again. Along with a new wonderful life, Granite has a new wonderful name, Buzz. He is loved very much and his adopter is so pleased with him, he assured us he'd be back again for another companion. This story is one of the many that reminds us why we do what we do for the animals who share our journey..."Because They Matter."

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Southern Arizona's Coronado Vineyards owner Jacque Cook. Mark and the Lyon family hosted last year's highly successful "Country Wine, Jazz, Cheese and Chocolate Festival" at La Cienega Ranch at which more than \$100k was raised. Coronado Vineyards, a family business owned and managed by Jacque Cook and her husband Mark, produces some of Arizona's finest wines. The vineyards are nestled against the Dos Cabezas mountains an hour's drive from Tucson.

In addition to the gastronomic delights, wine, bluegrass and blues there will also be lip print readings, canine "loose leash and free style" demonstrations, chair massage and a raffle to win a trip to wine country for a stay at one of California's top 3 hotels.

Tickets for "Reds, Whites, Bronzes and Bluegrass" are available through individual ticket captains, or board members or can be purchased online at www.humanesocietycentralaz.org. For more information call the shelter at 928 474-5590.