



# Kindred Spirits

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

December 2010

## YEAR END LETTER FROM THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

## BENEFIT FOR THE BEST OF THE BEST

### 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

Bill Enlund, Chair  
John Wakelin, Vice Chair  
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Steven Semmens  
Shelter Administration  
928 474-5590 Ext. 100

The holiday season is upon us and as we reflect on 2010 we feel deep gratitude for your support. We know how economically difficult this past year has been for all too many because it has been difficult for the Humane Society of Central Arizona as well. And yet, even in these difficult times we have been able to provide compassionate care and shelter for the growing numbers of animals who come our way because of your generous gifts of time and resources.

Many positive changes have taken place within the organization including hiring an Executive Director to manage shelter operations. The volunteer board of directors has been expanded to include eight members. And through the efforts of an ad hoc committee a reconfigured shelter was designed which will be built this spring with the cash available in the building fund. We are anticipating the moment when we can begin serving more animals and offering expanded services to those we serve.

Although we enjoyed many successes in 2010 we are faced with many challenges ahead. There are so many homeless, abandoned or lost animals who are relying on all of us during the holiday season and beyond. They are voiceless and so we ask on behalf of them that you consider a special year-end holiday gift to help us help them. All that is asked is that you consider a gift that is within your means. Through your compassionate kindness and generous hearts we will be able to better serve the animals who come our way.

On behalf of the board of directors, please accept our gratitude and best wishes for a peaceful and happy holiday season.

Bill Enlund, Chairman  
Board of Directors

Put Saturday February 5th at 3pm on your calendar! That is the date when the Sweet Adelines International Chorus Champions will perform in Payson at the High School auditorium in a show to benefit the animals of the Humane Society of Central Arizona. The familiar melodies blended in four-part, barber-shop style close harmony, innovative choreography and glittering costumes make for a toe-tapping dazzling show by the incomparable Scottsdale Chorus!

The chorus composed of 100 singers ages 15 to 80 won their fourth international competition in October, competing against 32 regions from around the globe. They had competed against 500 other choruses before getting to the finals.

The concert will be a prelude to Valentines Day and the chorus plans to include many favorite love songs in the program. Additionally, each attendee will receive a special Valentine gift. This is an opportunity to enjoy a fabulous show while making a difference for the animals who share our journey. The funds raised will be used to carry out our mission to rescue, shelter and seek loving homes for the lost, abandoned and homeless animals we serve.

We hope to have a sold out crowd of animal lovers, and lovers in general! With the holidays upon us, tickets to the show will make wonderful gifts or stocking stuffers. Prices are \$20 for adults and \$15 for seniors and children 12 and under. The tickets will be pre-sold through ticket captains, local businesses and organizations. To get information about purchasing tickets call the shelter at 928 474-5590 ext 100 or 102.

## WHAT'S NEW, PUSSYCAT?



In October I began my journey with HSCAZ as Executive Director and this is my first opportunity to communicate through Kindred Spirits News to our friends, donors, adopters and others who care and support the animals served by HSCAZ. I am so excited to be a part of the HSCAZ team and am looking forward to helping make a difference and the beginning of a new chapter for our organization. We are growing and changing and I hope each and everyone of you will join us on the adventure. Many new things are happening at the shelter!

- With the hard work of staff, volunteers, and our community we set a record high for adoptions during the month of October!
- We have added staff to assist with routine medical issues that the animals face, as well as those matters that require immediate attention prior to veterinary care. The result will be reduction in costs for routine veterinary services and also allows us to put animals up for adoption faster keeping their stay here at our shelter to a minimum.
- “We are adding many new volunteers and have new handbooks for dog handlers and cat caretakers. We will soon have

logoed t-shirts for our shelter volunteers, thanks to the generosity of our donors!”

- HSCAZ is running a “Home for the Holidays” special on all dogs and cats at our shelter until the end of the year. Please come meet our amazing animals and take your new friend home, not just for the holidays, but forever.

2011 will be a great year for the organization with major milestones being met in the construction of our new facilities. Thank you for your support in making good things happen for the animals we serve.

Happy Holidays!

Sarah Hock, Executive Director

## HELPING HANDS & HEALING HEARTS

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#### Honor and Appreciation Luncheon

The incredible corps of HSCAZ volunteers were recognized for their donation of time and talent at the Honor and Appreciation Luncheon held in October. The 2010 Special Honoree was Barbara Brenke, past president of the board of directors. She was recognized for her many acts of kindness to animals, years of dedicated service and generosity.

Volunteers are the cornerstone of our efforts to make a difference for the animals we serve and the event was a tribute to each of them including those who help at the thrift store, event helpers, those who work hands on at the shelter and everyone in between. The passion and commitment of our volunteers shines throughout the community.

#### All Star Volunteer

Volunteers remain faithful to the task at hand regardless of the

weather, but with no place for a moment of respite from the hot sun in summer or cold snowy days of winter it was a challenging environment. Volunteer Ed Fries, his

daughter Trisha and son-in-law Reese arrived one day with a load of materials and a mission. They built a covered area for volunteers to take a break or sit and interact with dogs near the play yard. Many volunteers have enjoyed this wonderful gift from the Fries family!

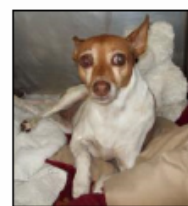


#### Special Needs Animals

Alexi, an adorable 5 year old Rat Terrier mix was brought to HSCAZ by a Good Samaritan who thought she might have been hit by a car. It was clear to staff that she should be seen by a veterinarian to determine what could be done or if humane euthanasia would be necessary.

The exam revealed that Alexi had most likely been hit by a car. She had a dislocated hip but was in excellent health and a good candidate for surgery. The veterinarian offered to do the surgery for less than one third of the normal cost, but even that was not within the HSCAZ budget.

Alexi had stolen everyone's heart with her charming personality and calm demeanor. The thought of



euthanasia for lack of funds for surgery was unthinkable to shelter staff. An anonymous donor

came forward to cover the surgical costs and with the gift of reduced veterinarian fees along with an offer from the assisting Veterinary Technician to foster Alexi during the 2-4 weeks recovery Alexi is now on her way to full recovery and will soon be ready for her new "forever" home. We are all reminded of why we do what we do for the animals who share our journey.....“Because They Matter!”



## DOGGIE DIGS AND KITTY KONDOS

### Estate Gift

A recent major gift from the estate of long time Payson resident Dorothy Clark combined with the generosity of the many others who over the years have supported HSCAZ's efforts to help animals provided the dollars necessary to move forward with construction of Phase II of the new shelter this spring.

The timely gift from the Clark estate almost doubled the cash available allowing for Phase II to include approximately 8000 square feet of finished space of which 6600 square feet will be animal care

and handling areas. The additional space will be dedicated to administrative functions including animal adoptions. The revised plan maintains the integrity of the original footprint and building style. HSCAZ worked with the Town of Payson planning and zoning team to get the approvals necessary to move forward with the reconfigured project which is targeted for completion in the fall.

Dorothy and her husband Jim retired to Payson in the early 80's and focused their efforts on making a difference for animals. They became involved with the Payson Humane Society (now Humane Society of Central Arizona) giving generously of both their time and resources. Jim and Dorothy

planned together to gift their estate to benefit animals. Jim died in 2005 and Dorothy passed on in August 2010 leaving the entire estate to HSCAZ. "There are angels among us and Mrs. Clark is surely one of those special beings." said HSCAZ board of directors chairman, Bill Enlund. Build out of the remaining planned facilities will commence as additional funds become available.

Those who love animals can make a difference for them both now and into the future with planned giving and estate gifts such as the Clark's for which the Humane Society of Central Arizona is deeply grateful.

## RESCUED ANIMALS and THEIR PEOPLE

### PRECIOUS and SHEILA

Abandoned by her human family, Precious was brought to HSCAZ



dirty and matted, toothless, limping and hard of hearing. Even so she was sweet and endearing and loved life. In order for her to recover from the trauma she had experienced she would need just the right companion.

Sheila, a very senior senior, was contacted by HSCAZ about being a "temporary" foster mom for Precious. Sheila has always loved animals and they have been her only family and life companions. She had recently been through a heart wrenching loss when her canine

companion suddenly came very ill and passed on. Sheila felt very alone and depressed.

The idea of accepting Precious into her life, even on a foster basis, was overwhelming. Sheila was concerned about how she could possibly go through the loss of another "best friend" which she was sure Precious would become.

She told HSCAZ that she would be willing to take Precious only overnight while they found another foster home. But Sheila immediately fell in love with the beautiful little dog and her home very quickly became a permanent new home for Precious!

Through tear-filled eyes Sheila said, "Precious is my life! She is my only family and she keeps me going. I know she loves me and she and I know we need each other for comfort, friendship, and a reason to smile and be grateful. Precious and I are life sources for each other."

### ROCKY and THE VELORIA FAMILY

The Veloria children had been clamoring for a dog for almost a year and finally their parents gave in and began looking for a new canine family member.



Mr. Veloria began the search and came across Rocky (aka Proof), a Humane Society of Central Arizona adoptable dog while browsing through Petfinders.

"Rocky is the spitting image of a previous family dog. I knew that once my wife saw his picture there would be no way that she would be able to resist him!" said Mr. Veloria. We went to the HSCAZ shelter to meet him and it was love at first sight. In just a couple of days Rocky became a full-fledged member of our family. Having a housebroken, crate-trained, well-mannered older puppy was icing on the cake! We have been blessed with a loyal, devoted and loving companion. Rocky is a special part of our lives and is our "forever friend."