

# Kindred Spirits Newsletter

SEPTEMBER 2016

## 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.



RESPECT, GRACE, COMPASSION AND LOVE FOR THE ANIMALS WHO SHARE OUR JOURNEY

Upcoming Events

October 14— 6th Annual Pins For Paws, a bowling fundraiser for the shelter at Beeline Bowl at 3:30 PM. Followed by catered dinner by Gerardo's Firewood Café.

November 4— In the Dog House, a new fundraiser that generates much-needed funds by "impounding" prestigious members of the community

## Celebrating Success



*High-energy Spur mellows out in his kennel*

### "Reading to Rover" Helps Shelter Dogs and Local Kids

Regardless of how an animal comes to us, spending time in a shelter for whatever length of time is often a traumatic experience. As part of our focus on animal behavior to help make animals more adoptable and to make their stay with us as calming and as comfortable as possible, HSCAZ is thrilled to have started "Reading to Rover", a new program that pairs local students from Rim Country Middle School with shelter dogs looking for companionship.

Thursday mornings have become quiet time for staff and dogs alike. The usual barking has ceased and the only sounds you can hear are the quiet voices of the children reading to their chosen dog. Dogs that can sometimes be protective of their kennels are found laying on their bed, contently listening to a story chosen for them, some even doze off for a nap. Other dogs are so interested they sit at the opening of their kennel and want to look at the pictures and follow along with the story.



*Sweet Pea loves story time*



*Sundance enjoys a break from the medical staff*

This program is benefiting everyone involved. Students are working on their public speaking and reading while the dogs are learning to trust and simply enjoying the extra attention. HSCAZ strives to go beyond the basics and think of the bigger picture by preparing these pets for their forever home. Part of our Behavior Program involves making sure we're finding the right home for each and every animal. "Reading to Rover" helps us see how an animal interacts with a child in advance of a family inquiring about their behavior.

All of us at HSCAZ would like to thank the students that have become a pivotal part of the dog's daily lives and the role they are playing in our essential Behavior Program.

For photos of current adoptable pets check out our website: [www.humanesocietycentralaz.org](http://www.humanesocietycentralaz.org)

### BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Ginger Ingram  
Cathy Buckisch  
Joy Bates  
Wendy Larchick  
Bobbi Drolet  
Barb Holtzen  
Jan Parsons

### EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Chandra Cushman

### SHELTER ADMINISTRATION

928-474-5590  
605 W. Wilson Court  
Payson, AZ 85541

### SHELTER HOURS

Monday through Saturday  
10:00 AM to 3:00 PM  
Closed Sunday

## VOLUNTEER PROFILE: Resale Store All Stars



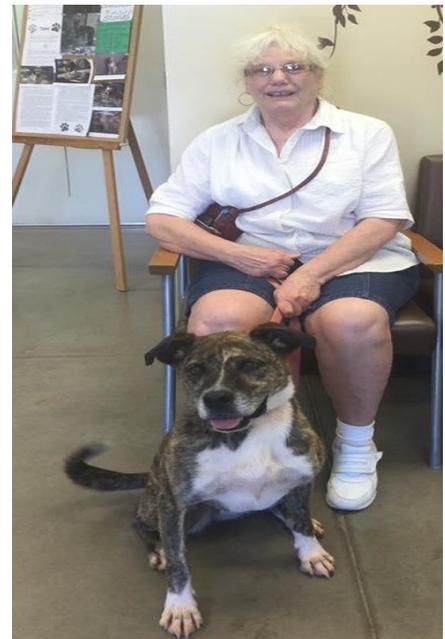
Kathy, Tom, Veronica, Lynn and Judy have been volunteering at the Humane Society of Central Arizona Resale Store for over five years. Our Resale Store is our biggest fundraising program. The volunteers who help keep it running day in and day out are a major part of creating the financial means necessary to operate the shelter. Their time is extremely valuable to us, and we simply couldn't do it without them.

Thank you Kathy, Tom, Veronica, Lynn and Judy for your 5 plus years of dedication to the Humane Society of Central Arizona!

Visit our Resale Store at 510 W. Main Street in Payson. We are open Monday through Saturday. If you are interested in joining our amazing team of volunteers please contact Annie at 928-474-5590 or email [annie@humanesocietycentralaz.org](mailto:annie@humanesocietycentralaz.org)

## Congratulations Jojo!

After almost 2 full years at HSCAZ, Jojo finally found her forever home! Staff and volunteers put in countless hours to get her to where she is today and it's paying off. We are happy to report that Jojo is flourishing in her first-ever real home. She follows her new owner everywhere and has become a constant, welcomed "shadow" to the family. Jojo now has a bed that is all hers and a giant backyard in which to play countless hours of fetch. We are so thankful for the support of the community that allows the shelter to care for animals for as long as it takes to get them into their forever homes.



## STAFF PROFILE: Dan Mossbarger



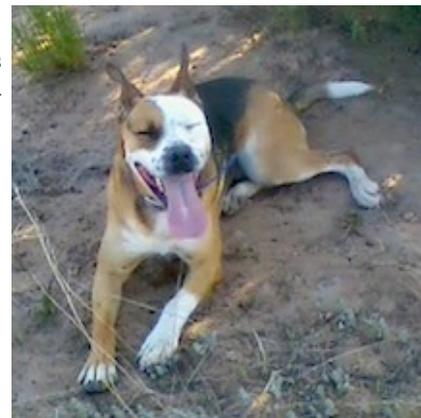
Dan Mossbarger's love of animals led him to the shelter over five years ago as a volunteer, and after a few months his dedication was recognized with a job offer. More than four and a half years later, Dan's still with us, and the size of his family has grown

as a result - he now has three dogs (one adopted from the shelter) and seven cats (two adopted)! What keeps him loving the work he does? That enduring love of the animals, and the reward of seeing people take them home.

In his spare time, Dan loves to fish for fun, is always working on a home project, and takes care of his lovely bride of thirty-nine years. We at the Humane Society are truly grateful for the long standing commitment of employees like Dan. Thanks Dan!

## Success Story- Mabel

Mabel (now known as Lucy) spent 404 days at HSCAZ before finding her forever home. She was found as a stray and was brought to the shelter shy, scared and uncertain of her future. Our dedicated staff and volunteers spent over a year working with Mabel to get her ready for her new life. From her new owners: "We are so very happy Mabel, renamed Lucy, is a part of our lives. She is loving, intelligent, playful and obedient - and really, really cute! She surprised us with her penchant for stealing food off of kitchen counters in our absence, and expressing a strong preference for couches over the floor rug as the best place to lay down. She will allow a few pets on her head but she still limits these encounters to very brief periods...She ADORES belly rubs. Lucy is an excellent playmate with one of our other dogs, especially; a female mutt about Lucy's size that was found so emaciated on an Indian reservation that the dog was unable to stand and walk. Though we have owned that dog for nearly 1.5 yrs., she really came out of her shell with Lucy's help. For the first time ever, Molly actually initiates play, but only with Lucy.



Though Lucy could easily jump our fence...she has done that only once: I was late for our early morning walk in the forest and I found her sitting just outside the gate of our field, waiting. So apparently punctuality is important to her!"

Happy endings like this make our tails wag!

## The Lives You Save



Thanks to you, The Humane Society of Central Arizona has sheltered over 10,000 cats and dogs since 2008. Your support is what helps HSCAZ care for the lost, abandoned and homeless animals of the 900 square miles we serve. Please consider helping us continue to care for even more dogs and cats by making a donation to The Humane Society of Central Arizona. We deeply appreciate all that the support of this community has helped us to do over the years and hope to continue to serve you well.

