PRESIDENT’S LETTER

Dear Friends of AHS,

As the fall season approaches, I’m wondering where the days have gone since I became your President in February? It has been a very fast seven months of meeting new people, charting new courses, and learning more about the wonderful community of animal lovers in Atlanta!

We have been extremely busy on many fronts this year on behalf of our companion animal friends and I’m excited to share a few things with you. We have continued to focus on improving and growing the many key programs at AHS such as adoptions, spay/neuters, and outreach. We have had more animals adopted into loving homes this year so far than in any recent years. This is a result of bringing more focus and energy to finding homes and making good matches. We have adopted just short of 5,000 animals in our first seven months of the year and we have had a good summer! Our staff and volunteers are doing amazing work in this area!

We have also done almost 7,000 surgeries to sterilize animals in Atlanta and in some of the surrounding communities through our Surgical Utility Vehicle (SUV) program. If you know of friends and neighbors who need their animals sterilized, please call or email us and we will make it happen! As we all know, the overpopulation problem can only be slowed when we spay and neuter our pets.

We have also worked together with groups in our community this summer to try and educate children through our summer project with the Alpharetta Police Athletic League. We were able to bring underprivileged kids to our new Alpharetta Campus and give them a chance to learn more about humane values and interact with our shelter animals. It was an exciting time to have all of these children on our campus!

We also had two wonderful days at Turner Field this summer as part of the Braves “Bark in the Park” events. Due to the generosity of the Atlanta Beverage Company, over $10,000 was raised to support your Atlanta Humane Society from those events at the ball park! Make plans now to be a part of that next season!

Looking ahead, we are so excited to see the growth of our young professionals group “1873” (named for the year AHS was founded). Under the new leadership of co-chairs Sarah Chambers and Elizabeth Rickenbaker, the group has expanded and is doing more than ever! Their big annual event, “The Humane EVENT” was held on Friday, September 12 from 7 to 10pm at the Westside Cultural Center.

One of the other exciting activities we have undertaken is to update and renew a strategic plan for the organization that will chart our direction for the next few years. Our Board of Directors and staff have been collaboratively working together to talk about the future of the Atlanta Humane Society and the ways by which we can benefit more animals in the years to come. We hope to announce some of these priorities early next year.

Finally, I want you to know that the work we are doing for animals is ONLY POSSIBLE by your continued support and generosity. We receive no government funding and rely solely on the gifts of people like you in our community. We are grateful for your support and want you to know we continue to need your gifts as we enter this final quarter of the calendar year. Please consider now how you might be able to make a gift at the end of the year. Many people consider joining the Caregivers Club where you can arrange a donation to be taken from your account each month. Others choose to make a gift of appreciated stock at year-end. Others simply write a check when we send you something in the mail. However you choose to make a gift, we want you to know that YOUR GIFT MAKES A DIFFERENCE to every animal we serve.

With grateful thanks,

Cal Morgan
President and CEO

P.S. Please visit us at www.atlantahumane.org to get details on any of the programs I have talked about today or call us at 404-875-5331.
THE MAGIC OF ADOPTION

Remember when you were a kid and you watched a magician do a trick? You’d “ooh” and “aah” and wonder just how they pulled it off. Even when you learned that it wasn’t real magic, there was always a part of the trick that you just couldn’t believe was possible. The part that wasn’t formulaic, but instinctive. The part where the magician just seemed to know what to do.

But like any good magician knows, there are tricks to make it easier. Sometimes the potential adopters come in knowing exactly what they want, like a lap cat or a dog to run with them. Or they’ve seen an animal on the website and want to see the pet in person. This is when it feels easy, because the volunteers spend so much time with the animals that they know who is a cuddler and who loves to run. However, not everyone knows exactly what kind of companion they’re looking for when they walk through the shelter’s doors. Sometimes they have just lost a pet, and are looking for a way to fill that space. Sometimes they’re a first-time pet owner and not sure of the kind of animal that would complete their family. That’s when it gets tougher, because the spectrum is much wider. Suddenly, a volunteer doesn’t just pick from the energetic cats or the especially loving dogs. Any pet is possible. So how do the AHS volunteers do it?

Volunteer Frauncee Ladd stresses the importance of asking questions and listening to the answers carefully. From asking the staff about an animal to asking the visitor about their lifestyle, every answer determines which cat or dog is a good fit for its potential home. “Listening to the answers is key to helping make a long-term connection...” Bringing an animal into the house is a big responsibility and volunteers don’t take it lightly; they pay close attention to a potential adopter’s wishes and thoughts and they encourage ample time to be spent with the animal before any decision is reached. They cheer when an animal charms their way into someone’s heart. “There’s a warm glow when an adopter comes back to AHS for a visit or to adopt again and says, ‘you helped me adopt my cat/dog and it was wonderful and I couldn’t be happier,’” Frauncee says. “Matchmaking is the most rewarding part of volunteering to me.”

There is someone out there for every animal, and the volunteers at AHS do their very best to ensure that the perfect match is made. All it takes is paying ample attention and being proactive in answering and listening to visitors’ questions. And while there are some days when it just doesn’t seem to work out, on the days when animals are running out of the door to go home, it can only be called magic.

5TH ANNUAL “HUMANE EVENT” FUNDRAISER

Guests enjoyed signature cocktails, delicious food from local Atlanta restaurants, live music, dancing, and a fabulous silent auction featuring jewelry, pet items, trips, restaurant experiences, and high-end retail items.

ABOUT US: In October 2009, the Atlanta Humane Society Board of Directors created a junior board, the 1873 Society Club, comprised of young professionals and philanthropists devoted to raising awareness and funds to support the mission of the Atlanta Humane Society. The name of the junior board was designated as 1873, the year the Atlanta Humane Society was founded. All money raised by 1873 Society Club directly supports AHS in its rescue missions, the low-cost spay and neuter program, the on-site hospital and clinic, and the management and daily care of the thousands of animals that are adopted out each year.

CONTACTS: Sarah Chambers, Chair (770.337.9087) | Elizabeth Rickenbaker, Vice Chair (404.402.5522)
WE NEED YOU!

With over nine hundred volunteers and 50,000 hours in 2013, AHS has a close bond with those who give their time to help out. It's simple: as long as you’re sixteen years old and give at least six hours a month, you’re good. But there are some volunteers who go far above the hours asked for.

Volunteers are estimated to be worth $22 per hour, based on an estimate provided by the independent sector, for the work they do. And with numbers like these, it's easy to see not only how helpful volunteers are to the Atlanta Humane Society, but how valuable the time spent at the shelter really is, not only in what they give, but in what they take away.

VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHTS

LYNETTE FLATT

Lynette Flatt started volunteering in December of 2012 and already has 315 hours logged. She says that she “truly feels at AHS, we are making our community happy! The statement ‘who saved who’ in rescue holds a lot of truth…I believe the real magic happens when we match up a human with one of our dogs or cats. You see a positive change in the human right away.” Lynette does everything from dog walking to pet description writing to mentoring new volunteers to being an active part of the assisted living Visiting Pet Program, which she says is “…really a special time. Many of the residents have problems with memory recall, but holding the puppy or simply petting it brings back pleasant memories of childhood or family pets.” Because of her time spent at AHS, Lynette wants to work in some kind of animal rescue.

JOYCE SMITH

Joyce Smith has also been volunteering since 2012, coming in two to three times a week to walk dogs, and help out in admissions and at the front desk. She calls volunteering “one of the most exciting and rewarding blessings of my life. I love what I do and look forward every week to going to the shelter.” An animal lover from a young age and a foster home for dogs from facilities even before she began volunteering at AHS, she says “it’s not how old you are, but how much you love animals.”

JANE FLOY

Jane Floy has volunteered at the Mansell Campus since it opened, and has been with the Atlanta Humane Society since 2007, starting out volunteering just one day a week. Now she volunteers three days a week, walking dogs for around three to four hours, and has an amazing 2,000 volunteer hours logged. Jane praised the Mansell facility for how clean it’s kept and for how its design provides the animals the best living conditions possible. “You leave with the feeling of ‘I’m going to come back.’ You feel like you get the reward as well. The animals get the reward of attention, but you get the reward of helping out defenseless creatures and maybe treating them better than they were treated before.”

TO FIND OUT MORE ABOUT VOLUNTEERING GO TO: ATLANTAHUMANE.ORG/VOLUNTEER
PEOPLE MEMORIALS

Dean Abernethy by Helen Shean
Joan Allan by Rosemary Kistler
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Donations were taken from March 26, 2014 to August 21, 2014

A Special Way to Remember

If you would like to make a donation in honor or in memory of a person or pet we offer several simple options:

Go online to www.AtlantaHumane.org/donate/ways-to-give and click the Memorial or Honored Gift option to make a gift and we’ll send a printed card or ecard to the recipient.

Send your gift to A.H.S. 1565 Mansell Road, Alpharetta, GA 30009.
A notation of “MEMORIAL” or “HONORED GIFT” on the outside of the envelope will speed the acknowledgement of your gift.

Enclose a note with your gift including the name of honored or memorial—person or pet, name and address of the family to be notified of your gift, and your name, address, and phone number.

The family will receive a card of acknowledgement, recognizing your gift in honor or in memoriam of the person or pet (the amount of your gift remains confidential). You will also receive a note of thanks for your gift.

Phone inquiries should be directed to 404.974.2876.
Thank you for remembering your friends, family, and pets in such a wonderful, helpful way!
WHO WE ARE AND WHAT WE OFFER THE COMMUNITY.

The Wellness Clinic is a small staff dedicated to serving loving pet owners. We desire to make a difference in the Atlanta community by making veterinary health care and service a viable option for those people, families and organizations that most need our support and heart-filled care.

We offer basic wellness checkups, ongoing health maintenance, laboratory testing, traditional spay and neuter, orthopedic evaluations, radio graphs, micro chipping, dental work, and basic surgeries.

Vice President of Medical Services Dr. Dorsey and the Hospital Business Manager Chris Yanes are in the process of restructuring hospital operations relative to frequency of surgery and examination room veterinarians in order to increase the momentum of the practice. Please check our section of the AHS website: www.atlantahumane.org under the tab marked “CLINIC.” There among other interesting facts and information you will find our current list of prices and fees. Should you have questions about our services or wish to contact us for an appointment, please send us an email to: animalwellness@atlantahumane.org

In addition to modern age medicines and vaccines, we have added a state-of-the-art glaucoma screening device. The TONO-Pen AVIA has been 20 years in the development and design process to perform quick painless screenings without anesthesia. It is used on over 40 breeds of dogs and cats who may be predisposed to glaucoma. We have added it to our options in Wellness Preventative Medicine — ask our Veterinarian when you come in for your next appointment.

AHS now offers Care Credit as a financial option to “Make care possible today.” Applications are fast and easy, so go online to www.carecredit.com or call 1.800.677.0718 to see if you qualify. This offer only applies to our Wellness Clinic located at the Howell Mill campus and not available for use in any other AHS department.

EMPLOYEE SPOTLIGHT

KEIKO SAKAMOTO, LEAD TECHNICIAN

- Originally from Japan and came to the U.S. in 1993.
- Graduated from Oglethorpe University, studied Psychology & Business
- Been employed at AHS for 5 1/2 years.
- Has been a volunteer for 4 1/2 years walking dogs and helping to teach some obedience and tricks on weekends.
- Has been deployed to several animal rescues missions through the Humane Society of the United States National Disaster Animal Response Team. (Hurricane Katrina, Gustav, Ike, puppy mill rescues, dog fighting rescues).
- Has fostered our shelter critical care animals, mostly kittens/cats. The last one was #66.
- She has one 12 year old Labrador, Max. She also has two cats, Mr. Adam & Milo.
- On her off days, she serves at “7 Bridges To Recovery,” the ministry to rescue our brothers and sisters off the streets and help them break the bonds of homelessness.
- The past three years she has had opportunities to serve people in Haiti for medical mission trips.
- Her theme song is... “I’ll be a light for the eyes that cannot see, I’ll be a voice for the lips that cannot speak, To the broken I will carry your love, I will be part of the solution.” – by Eddie Kirkland
2014 EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OFFICERS

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KEY CONTACTS

Operations
Deanie Haynes
404.974.2838

Low-Cost Spay/Neuter
Tracy McGuire
404.974.2889

Behavior & Training
Mailey E. McLaughlin, M.Ed
404.974.2899

Volunteerism
Jason Taylor – Howell Mill Campus
404.974.2822
Kate Pika – Mansell Campus
404.974.2842

Donor Relations
Shemitria Smith, M.Ed
404.974.2876

Human Resources
Ashley Cassidy, PHR
404.974.2814

WEB

E-mail
contact@atlantahumane.org

Website
www.AtlantaHumane.org

Follow Us
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LOCATIONS & HOURS

Howell Mill Campus
981 Howell Mill Road NW
Atlanta, GA 30318

Administration
Weekdays 9 am -5 pm
Adoptions
Weekdays 12 pm -7 pm
Weekends 11 am -6 pm
Animal Admission
Everyday 9 am -7 pm
Veterinary Clinic
Weekdays 8 am -5 pm
Behind Shelter on Howell Mill Rd.

Mansell Campus
1565 Mansell Road
Alpharetta, GA 30009

Administration
Weekdays 9 am -5 pm
Adoptions
Weekdays 12 pm -7 pm
Weekends 11 am -6 pm
Animal Admission
Everyday 9 am -4 pm
Shelters closed on major holidays.

TELEPHONE NUMBERS

Adoptions
Both Locations
404.875.5331

Animal Admission
Howell Mill Campus
404.974.2800
Mansell Campus
404.974.2847

Veterinary Clinic
Howell Mill Campus
404.875.6420

Receptionist
Howell Mill & Mansell Locations
404.875.5331
GETTING STARTED WITH CRATE TRAINING

I would never try to raise a dog, especially a young puppy, without using a crate. It is the most humane and effective way to housetrain dogs, but it also comes in handy for preventing destruction, for teaching the dog to like “a place of his own,” and more. In general, dogs that are properly crate trained end up being much better behaved in a variety of ways. Although it works best when started on puppies, adult (and adolescent) dogs can be successfully trained with a crate.

Successful housetraining and puppy management depends upon confinement. Whenever you are not actively watching the dog, he must be confined for his own safety and so that he does not have access to areas where he should not be. Dogs only know what we teach them, and we must restrict their activities until they learn. To train them, we use their instincts to shape behaviors we desire.

Dogs instinctively* refrain from soiling their sleeping and eating quarters, which is why crate training works so well. Using a system of regular reinforcement, we can teach the dog that elimination takes place outside the house in a spot that we designate. If the pup has accidents, we only have ourselves to blame—dogs do not know that “using it” on the living room carpet is wrong, but they can be taught that “using it” outside is very, very right.

It is best to have the crate set up and ready in the home the day that the pup arrives. If you have fully researched your pup’s breed or breed mix, you will have a decent idea of how big a crate you will need for the dog’s life (herein lies another great reason to adopt a grown dog). A crate that is too big will confound your attempts to housetrain; a crate that is too small will be outgrown, and good crates are expensive. Larger crates can be partitioned for housetraining purposes. If you are adopting a dog of unknown origin (good for you!), shelter employees or breed books may be good resources to check out adult sizes. Introduce the pup to the crate gradually and happily. It probably won’t take long; a young pup is less likely to have had a bad experience with a crate than a rescued adult dog.

Once the crate is selected, choose the appropriate spot. Place the crate in the home according to traffic volume, noise, and accessibility. You want a place that is out of the direct path of traffic, is relatively quiet, and is easy for the dog to get in and out of. Make sure there are no drapes or destroys goods near enough to the crate to be pulled in, and make sure that the area is one that will be comfortable to the dog (not too cold or too hot). If you are using a wire crate, you may want to place it on an easily cleanable surface until the pup catches on. If a wire crate is to be used on a non-carpeted surface, place an old towel between the metal pan and the bottom of the crate to minimize noisy rattling.

Consider keeping the crate in the bedroom, or having two crates. A bedroom crate will keep the dog close to you during the night, so that you will be awakened in time to get him outside before an accident occurs. It will also relax him to be near you and hear your breathing. However, his crying may keep you awake, so try it both ways until you find what works best. You must be able to ignore all crying in the crate—giving in only makes it worse.

Plan to acquire crate (and pup!) at the start of a long weekend so that you and he will have plenty of time to get schedules in order and properly introduce the crate.

NOTE: Young puppies are physically unable to control their bladders and bowels until they are 16 weeks (four months) old. The common rule of thumb is this: do not leave the pup in the crate longer than one hour for every month of age, plus one.

The basic rule is that you want the puppy or dog to consider the crate as a safe, fun place to be. Short introductory sessions are helpful; make sure you make a big deal out of the dog going in and being in the crate, and let him out with little or no fanfare. Use yummy treats to make going in fun and rewarding.

*Occasionally, poor breeding practices (or poor training in a prior home) will produce dogs that do not have this instinct. These dogs may be housetrainable, but you will need lots of patience and a good schedule. To minimize your chances of getting a “dirty dog,” do not buy your pup from a pet store or a questionable breeder. For more information, please contact the trainer at training@atlantahumane.org.
PET PARADE
2014 Atlanta
Saving animals one step at a time

Saturday - November 1, 2014
Registration opens 9am
Walk starts at 11am

Garrard Landing
8000 Holcombe Bridge Rd
Roswell, GA 30076

Find Love at
atlanta humane society
www.atlantapetparade.org

VCA Animal Hospitals