

PAW TALES



Volume 5, Issue 1 | Summer 2015

Top Ten Things You Can Do To Benefit HPAN

David Letterman was famous for his "Top Ten Lists." He may be retired but his concept of Top Ten Lists lives on. Here are the Top Ten things you can do to benefit HPAN:



10. Like us on Facebook:
facebook.com/HelpingPawsAnimalNetwork
9. Check out our blog: <http://HelpingPaws37830.wordpress.com>
and tell others about it.
8. Make a donation in memory of or in honor of.
7. Sign up for payroll deduction (contact Amy Starkey).
6. Donate and/or buy an item for sale.
5. Purchase an HPAN T-shirt for each member of your family
(contact Janet Kile or Amy Starkey).
4. Shop Amazon Smile (see below).
3. Shop iGive (see below).
2. Register your Kroger Plus card (see below).
1. Volunteer to help with an HPAN event.

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**Helping Hungry, Hurting
and Homeless Animals**



And as always, consider adopting your next family member from your local shelter or from a local verified rescue.

Register your **Kroger Card** at www.kroger.com/communityrewards and pick Helping Paws Animal Network, Harriman, TN as your charity of choice. Then, each time you shop at Kroger and swipe your card, Kroger donates a percentage of your qualifying purchase to HPAN. All you have to do is shop! It costs you nothing. (This must be done every August!)

Sign up with **iGive** at www.igive.com and pick Helping Paws Animal Network as your charity of choice. Then, each time you shop one of the 400+ stores in the iGive list, HPAN receives a percentage of the total. Plus, if you shop Amazon through iGive, and you signed up for Amazon Smile, Amazon will double their contribution. (We do not recommend downloading the iGive button, and it is not necessary for HPAN to benefit if you shop through iGive.) All you have to do is shop! It costs you nothing.

Sign up with **Amazon Smile** at www.smile.amazon.com and pick Helping Paws Animal Network as your charity of choice. Then, each time you shop Amazon through Amazon Smile, Amazon donates a percentage of your qualifying total to HPAN.

www.facebook.com/HelpingPawsAnimalNetwork

HPAN Sponsored Rescue Feature:

East TN Pit Bull Rescue (ETPBR)

Submitted By Wendy Jackson, ETPBR Founder

In November of 2007, 21 yr old Jennifer Lowe was killed by her roommate's two pit bulls. She had only been in the home for 2 weeks and was there alone. No one knows what led to the attack. Her family and friends wanted answers. They wanted accountability. They wanted their loved one returned to them. Unfortunately, they were denied all of those things! The communities around Knoxville were all looking at this terrible incident and trying to come up with ways to make sure it did not happen in their community. Many were considering the banning of Pit Bull breeds, and/or restrictions on their owners.

During this time, a group of people came together hoping to bring rational solutions and ordinances that helped communities protect their citizens from irresponsible or negligent owners. Several of us from this group were being contacted about Pit Bulls in need. We were owners and breed lovers. We had no intention of forming a rescue. As a matter of fact – we began by fostering those dogs for other rescue groups. The all-breed groups were not really comfortable with taking in the bully breeds and the Pit Bull groups were too far away. We were being flooded with dogs that needed help HERE in East TN but we had no idea what to do for them... and then we took the call about Floyd. The caller said that she was coming home from work one night and it was storming. She glanced out the win-



Floyd Now!

dow and saw a dog laying on the side of the road. She thought he was dead until he raised his head. She had the driver stop! What she found when she got to him was a dog that was extremely emaciated to the point that she could not even identify his breed. She took him home that night and over the next few days she fed him small amounts of soft



Floyd Then

foods and he gained some weight but she knew she could not take care of him. She was given a phone number of people that were fighting against the Pit Bull Bans. When she called, we thought we would go look at the dog and take a few pictures – maybe offer some dog food...I don't know what our plan really was. What we found when we got there will forever be etched into my brain. I had never seen a living dog in the shape that this boy was in. Apparently neither had the folks with me. East TN Pit Bull Rescue was born standing in that living room while each of us felt our hearts breaking that any animal could have been allowed to deteriorate into this condition. Michele said that if we could get him in the car and help her get him to her house, she would get him to the vet and foster him. God love her partner Kim! She did not run all of us off when we showed up with that skeletal dog. The next day we learned that Floyd was about 40 pounds under weight AND heartworm positive! Less than a week later, we were called about a puppy that was left behind at the Wal-Mart and 4 week old Marley joined the crew. Marley later became the first dog to be adopted from East TN Pit Bull Rescue.

In 2009, East TN Pit Bull Rescue became a TN incorporated non-profit organization with 501(c)3 status. It is the mission of East TN Pit Bull Rescue to educate on the true nature of the Pit Bull dog in an effort to restore the breed's reputation - as we offer sanctuary to homeless and abandoned Pit Bulls while a loving and responsible home is found. There have been just over 600 dogs to come through our doors in the last 7 years. We have tried to limit those dogs to Tennessee

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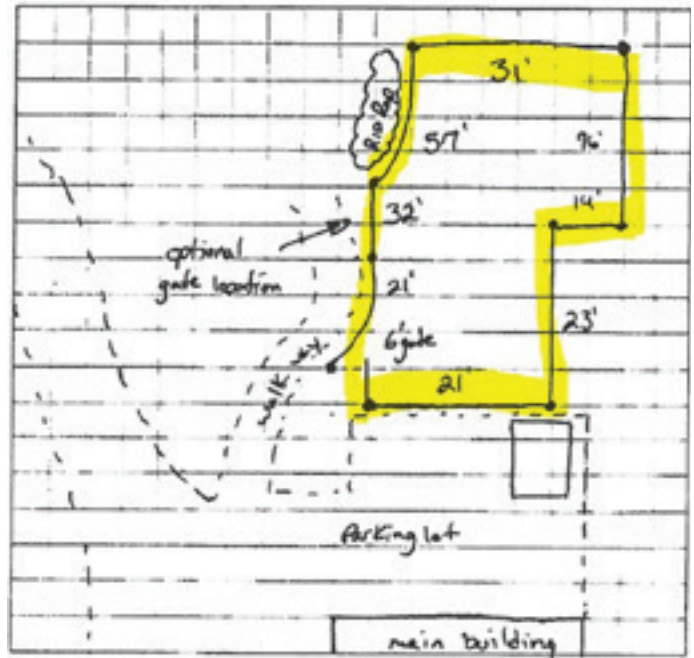
HPAN Sponsors Capital Improvement Project at the Oak Ridge Animal Shelter

Submitted By Amy Starkey

Blessed with a surplus of funds at the beginning of the year due to some sizeable year-end tax-deductible donations, the goal of sponsoring a capital improvement project at our community animal shelter became a probability for the Helping Paws Animal Network. After much research and approvals granted by the City of Oak Ridge, we were cleared to begin the planning phase of an off-leash area on the grounds of the Oak Ridge Animal Shelter. We felt that this type of improvement would aid in the adoption process and potentially increase the number of adoptions.

As it currently stands, any large dog that is being considered must be tethered to a slip leash and walked with a tight grip around the grounds. There are several problems with this scenario. First, dogs that are not well-trained on a leash can easily come out of the slip loop and pose a flight risk. I've seen it happen. Secondly, when a person or family is considering a dog, but they're concerned how the dog will get along with their resident dog, there is no place to observe behavior or play untethered. Any trainer will tell you that the worst thing you can do when letting two dogs meet is keep a tight leash. Lastly, shelter dogs stay in concrete cells 95% of their time there, so a nice off-leash area to give them a break from the indoor environment keeps them healthy and happy.

One local rescue, Shelter Animals Rescue Group (SARG), got wind of our plans, and they offered to help, which worked out great because the estimate was a bit more than our budget allowed. Then, a local Girl Scout troop called me asking if the shelter needed anything specifically. They had raised a considerable amount of money during a recent fundraiser, and they, too, expressed interest in sponsoring the off-leash area. The more, the merrier! The more help we have, the more funds we have to assist with other rescue needs.



Plans are underway, and the project is slated to be completed this summer! Above is a diagram of the off-leash area, which will include two gates. We are excited about this project, and we are happy to give back to our community. Only through donations (monetary and items for fundraisers) is this made possible, and we are so very grateful for this opportunity.

HPAN Member Profile: Amparo Atencio

What started as a general interest in animal welfare and a sense of volunteerism through dog walking at the local animal shelter quickly became curiosity about the grassroots efforts to end animal suffering by fellow co-workers at ORAU. Becoming an HPAN supporter was a foregone conclusion, and when the opportunity came to fill a leadership role on the Board, Amparo Atencio quickly accepted the position of Secretary in September 2014. In that capacity, she keeps HPAN supporters abreast of HPAN success stories, expenditures, and volunteer and networking opportunities through minutes of monthly Board meetings. Amparo also leads HPAN's strategic planning effort to develop creative ways for supporters to be involved.

Amparo has been a pet owner for many years and mostly considered herself a "dog person" until her beloved Adrock, a male tuxedo cat, entered her life. At nine years old, Adrock found himself in a bustling home environment of a growing family that had added children, more cats, several dogs, and even more children to their household over the years. While Adrock craved a quiet atmosphere and one-on-one attention, his cat siblings ensured it would not be so. Due to his small stature, he was consistently chased off laps and scratched across the nose



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Dangers of Fleas and Ticks

Submitted By Kerry Cox

It's very important to treat your dogs for fleas and ticks during the summer. These parasites can be very pesky, sometimes serious to your dog.

You will probably first notice the effects of fleas when your dog repeatedly scratches and chews. On occasion you may actually see tiny brown fleas moving quickly through your dog's hair/coat. Your dog's constant scratching may lead to visible patches of hair loss and reddened, irritated skin. Fleas may also cause skin allergies and can transmit other parasites, such as tapeworms, to your dog. Some dogs actually can have flea bite allergies.

Ticks attach to your dog by inserting their mouths into your dog's skin. Many ticks also produce a sticky, glue-like substance that helps them to remain attached. After attaching to your dog, ticks begin feeding on your dog's blood. The places where ticks attach can become red and irritated. Tick bites can also become mildly infected, and will need a veterinarian to treat.

Although rare, ticks can consume enough of your dog's blood to cause a deficiency called anemia. Certain female ticks can also cause a rare paralysis in dogs as a result of the toxin they produce while feeding. More important, ticks are capable of carrying and causing many bacterial diseases in your pet's saliva. The disease with which most people are familiar is called Lyme disease. Another is Rocky Mountain Spotted Fever. A rare disease less known is Ehrlichia. Lyme disease can cause arthritis and swelling of your dog's joints, resulting in painful lameness. Rocky Mountain spotted fever can cause fever, lameness, and other signs. There are also other diseases that ticks can transmit to your dog. Your veterinarian can answer questions about the diseases that are important where you live.

Ticks can also attach and feed on humans. Ticks can transfer many of the same diseases to people. Lyme disease and Rocky Mountain Spotted Fever, which have already been described in dogs, can also be very serious to humans.

There are so many different ways of prevention for these parasites, many very cheap, easy to purchase and even offer a heartworm preventative in them. Regular grooming and tick removal can help you find ticks early and remove them from your pet. Tick must be attached and feeding for a minimum of 24 hours before these diseases are transmitted to your pet. There is no reason why your dog should be miserable. Flea and tick prevention should be administered year round.

DID YOU KNOW?

- While ticks themselves cause only mild irritation, they can carry diseases that pose a serious threat to animals and humans.
- Ticks can be prevented by regular use of tick control products.
- Just pulling off a tick can leave body parts attached to your dog. Ask your veterinarian about proper tick removal and tick control.
- Illnesses transmitted by ticks can cause fever, anemia, paralysis, lameness, and other symptoms.
- People can not catch Lyme disease or Rocky Mountain spotted fever from infected dogs, but the same ticks that bite dogs can cause these illnesses and others if they bite humans.
- Adult ticks can live up to 3 years without blood meal.
- Ticks live on three different animals during their life.
- Most ticks spend most of their life OFF the host (animal) in the environment.
- Ticks can't jump and don't "fall from trees" as most people think, but transfer onto hosts when animals or humans walk through long grass, bushes and brush.

Financial Metrics

Submitted By Amy Starkey, HPAN Treasurer

It is HPAN's vision to "end animal suffering-one rescue at a time," and every bit of our income contributes to our vision in one way or another. We thought our supporters might be interested in seeing some financial metrics. So far in 2015 (Jan. - May), we have sponsored 36 cases, totaling \$12,572.17 on behalf of 15 different rescue organizations for many dogs, cats, and even exotic zoo animals! We have taken in just over \$9500 so far this year. Thanks to some generous end-of-year donations in 2014, we had a carry-over balance enabling us to exceed our usual sponsorship at this point in the year.

Our 2015 income to date is made up of the following breakdown:

Monthly Contributors (via payroll deduction and regular donations) – 30% (\$3,000)

Fundraisers – 47% (\$4,360)

Memorial Contributions - 5% (\$460)

Payments from Kroger Community Rewards, AmazonSmile, and iGive - 6% (\$529*)

Miscellaneous Income – 12% (\$1150)

The fact remains that we cannot achieve our mission without money, so we continue to work on fundraisers and hope that more people will sign up for automatic payroll deductions. As of now, nearly half of our network supporters contribute via Oracle each pay period for a total of \$283.50. Some give as little as \$3.50 per pay period and others give as much as \$20. An equal number of contributors fall in the \$5 and \$10 amounts. A couple others regularly send monetary support each month. Bottom line is that this fixed income of around \$315 twice a month allows us to keep going. We are so grateful for the generosity shown by all donors.

Should you be interested in signing up for payroll deduction, send Amy Starkey an e-mail for the simple instructions. Additionally, contributions can be mailed to HPAN, 969 Oak Ridge Turnpike, #304, Oak Ridge, TN 37830, or sent via PayPal to helpingpaws37830@gmail.com. We also have a secure credit card donation link on our website, www.helpingpawsanimalnetwork.org. No amount is too small, and every dollar we receive adds up to an amount we can apply to achieving our mission. All donations are tax-deductible.

If contributing money isn't an option for you, please sign up your Kroger Plus Card at www.kroger.com/communityrewards. Upon registering your card in the program, select Helping Paws Animal Network; Harriman, TN. Then all you have to do is shop! It costs you nothing. *Out of the \$529 listed above, most all of it came from Kroger from only 37 registrants.

Thank you for your consideration and support!

Member Profile

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by the other cats over his attempts to cuddle with his humans. With wisdom and love, his owners realized Adrock deserved peace and quiet as a senior cat and sought help to find him a new home through Newsline, a daily ORAU communication source for employee news.



Milo

It was love at first sight when Amparo responded to the ad and went for a home visit and compatibility test. Adrock's human mama and Amparo sat on the living room floor, testing his response. Adrock did not hide when he noticed the stranger and instead approached the two women. He immediately began vocalizing and purring, as he made his way between laps and extended his head for petting from each woman. His human mama's sadness was palpable, but she knew it was a perfect match when she lovingly surrendered Adrock to his new owner.

Today, Adrock lives in a quiet atmosphere and has the attention he always craved, living out his golden years as he deserves. His favorite place to be is wherever Amparo is. As much as Adrock needed a new home, Amparo needed the love and companionship of a pet after suffering the loss of her son in 2011 and then her son's dog, Milo, in 2012. Adrock has provided healing fur therapy to Amparo since 2013.

Thank You Corner

Thank y'all so much! Y'all are truly a blessing!
~Kim with Southern ROOTS Rescue

Thank you SO MUCH!
~Tamara with Homeward Bound Rescue

Thank you soooo much!!
~Carla with Fighting for the Bully's Rescue

We appreciate all that you do each and every day.
~Wendy with East TN Pit Bull Rescue

Thank you again for all the animals that you help.
~Ann with 2nd Chance Canine Rescue

Thank you so much! Thanks to HPAN, Dolly is loving life.
~Allison with Friends of Oak Ridge Animal Shelter

Thank you for your help and for all you guys do!
~Shawn with Warrior Angels for Tennessee Animals

HPAN'S generosity will really help us out and we are so thankful! Thank you from the botton of my heart for all that you do! We appreciate you so much!
~ Vanessa with Smoky Mountain Animal Rescue of TN

Oh, WOW! THANK YOU! You guys are fantastic!
~Cyn with At Risk Intervention

ETPBR

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shelter dogs, but along the way there have been a few owner surrenders, and some dogs from GA, NC, AL, and MS shelters. ALL ETPBR dogs have been spayed/neutered, micro chipped, vaccinated, and treated for any injuries, diseases, or illnesses. Because the groups up north RARELY accept Pit Bull breeds... we do not transport our dogs north.

We are focused on placing the dogs in our care in loving and responsible homes as we continue to work hard and remain steadfast in restoring the reputation of this wonderful breed. We are prepared to battle ignorance and fear through awareness events and educational efforts among the community. THIS is how we feel we will have the most impact in our community for these dogs. We will never be able to RESCUE them out of the mess we have allowed them to get in. It will only be through education and awareness that we change the world around them! We believe that we cannot educate those that we alienate – so we will welcome Pit Bull owners from all walks of life into our circle in an effort to build a Pit Bull community.

More information about East TN Pit Bull Rescue can be found at www.etnpitbullrescue.org.

