

## Shelter Spotlight: Shelter Chain



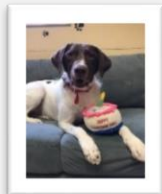
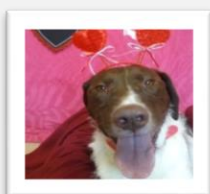
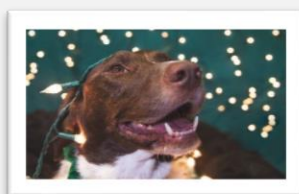
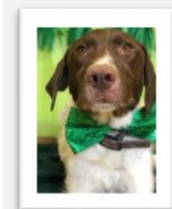
Maybe you visited the shelter in 2019 and noticed the ever growing and colorful construction paper chain strung along the walls. Or maybe you

attended the Bow Wow Boogie in March and gasped in awe when our shelter manager, Elaine, had staff and board members stretch out the chain from almost one side of the Ramkota Convention Center to the other. The

reason for awe and surprise is that the chain represents all the animals we helped in 2019. Each link in the chain represents an animal and each color represents the month in which those animals were adopted out. Over the course of a year we helped over 400 animals who would have otherwise been homeless. This includes dogs, cats, hamsters, guinea pigs, rats, ferrets, rabbits, birds, chickens (yep, we said chickens), snakes, turtles, and fish that were all adopted out into loving homes in 2019! It's a reminder that our service is not a want but a NEED for Aberdeen and the many surrounding communities. People rely on us to help these animals when no one else can. But we aren't just helping animals. We touch over 400 people's lives by helping them find their best friend and the love and devotion only a shelter pet can provide.

## Long Term Resident Goes Home

By no fault of his own, Cooper found himself being a long-term resident at the Aberdeen Area Humane Society. We did our best to show him and his good looks off to everyone we knew. We made him the subject of several photo shoots. He wore a St. Patrick's Day tie, posed in front of a beautiful Christmas scene, he even got dressed up in Valentine's day garb! When that wasn't doing the trick, we asked our friends and supporters to help us cover the cost of a DNA test. He had some unique traits and we knew his owner-to-be would love to know what made Cooper, Cooper. The DNA results came back as 50% Labrador Retriever, 25% German Shorthaired Pointer, 12.5% Border Collie and 12.5% sporting/herding/terroir groups. While Cooper was still waiting for his 'forever' home our friends over at NVC wanted to help and sponsored his adoption costs so when the right person finally came along, he would go home healthy, happy and free! After 435 days, a wonderful human named Jarrod came along and it was the perfect fit!! Jarrod reports that they are doing great, that Cooper is a bit of a couch potato, loves his duck toy and is attached at the hip to his new owner. Thank you to everyone who helped share Cooper's story and followed and cheered along on during his journey from shelter to loving home!



Become a member or renew today! Here are examples of how far your dollars can go to help animals in need:

**\$30**

**Single:** Feed a dog and cat for one month

**\$40**

**Family:** Vaccinate one pet

**\$100**

**Business/Organization:** Spay/neuter one pet

**\$200**

**Fat Cat:** Cover 1 month's water/garbage bill

**\$350**

**Top Dog:** Cover 1 month's electric/gas bill

**\$700**

**Patron:** Begin rehabilitation after abuse

**\$1000**

**Charter:** Cover 1 emergency surgery

**\$1500**

**Grand Poopaw:** Cover 1 month's routine vet

### YEAR-TO-DATE SHELTER REPORT

JAN 1<sup>ST</sup> – MAR 31<sup>ST</sup>, 2020

Dogs In: 58  
 Cats In: 41  
 Rabbits In: 1  
 Dogs Adopted: 65  
 Cats Adopted: 37  
 Rabbits Adopted: 1

# Recent & Upcoming Events!

Here is a look at our recent and upcoming events. If you would like to volunteer to help with any activities please contact a board member directly or email [aahsboard1200@gmail.com](mailto:aahsboard1200@gmail.com)!

## Recent

### Bow Wow Boogie

One of our most successful Bow Wow Boogie's ever was held on March 7th! AAHS supporters from near and far came out to show their support! Attendees were welcomed by piano music from the talented Carlyle Richards and were entertained by the one and only MC Dan Richardt. We laughed and we cried during the heartwarming slideshow of successful pet adoptions and a very touching speech by our shelter manager Elaine. David Beckler

led the live auction with items including artwork by



Nick Fischer and 13 year old Bria Neff of **Pigtails**

**Artwork**, a homemade quilt, a very large cat tree and delicious pies from **Marlin's**. We cannot forget about the LIVE painting by **Skinny Idiot Studios**. Right before our eyes Andy Grode created an amazing piece of art and we live auctioned the piece. We also raffled off a quarter of beef thanks to **Jorgenson Meat Store** and **Great Western Bank**.



We held two other furniture raffles for a hall tree and fireplace courtesy of a friend of the AAHS and **Budget Furniture!**



The silent auction featured tons of AMAZING items, too many to list off here, but we sincerely

thank every business and person who

was able to donate to the silent auction. All of this going on at the same time as our wine pull, bake sale, apparel sale, and kids pick-a-prize! Even one of our shelter dogs got in on the fun! Blue enjoyed all the attention she got



at the selfie station! We ended the night with karaoke fun by Mark Remily. We cannot thank our volunteers, businesses and organizations enough for donating time, money and auction items. We couldn't do it without you! Funds raised at the Bow Wow Boogie allow us to keep the shelter doors open, lights on, heat running, and animals safe, fed and healthy until we can find their "forever" homes! We look forward to the 2021 Bow Wow Boogie!

## Upcoming

### Spring 2nd Paw Sale

Aberdeen's largest second-hand sale returns to the Brown County Fair Grounds Clubhouse on June 20th, 2020 9am-3pm. Donations may be dropped off at the Clubhouse June 7, from 1pm-4pm, June 8-12 from 3pm-7pm & June 13-14, from 1pm-4pm. No clothing, large appliances, magazines, encyclopedias, metal desks, exercise equipment or old TVs accepted. If you have questions, contact: Christa 605-228-4749.

### Puttin' For Paws

Mark your calendars for our charity golf event July 18th, 10 AM at Rolling Hills Golf Club. Check back for more details!

## Ongoing

### Virtual Baby Shower

Mama cats are expecting multiples and Cedar, Winnie and Emma need some supplies! We are hosting a virtual shower for the littles that are in our care and those we expect to take in. Kitten milk replacer, wet kitten



food, dry kitten food, cat toys, disposable cat scratch pads, and monetary donations are on the baby shower registry! Due to COVID-19 now we appreciate if you can purchase online and ship directly to the shelter. Also, consider fostering kittens and pregnant mamas. These vulnerable felines don't do well in shelters and would much rather be in homes with humans to get started in life. Contact the shelter and let's start saving some more kitties! Last, but certainly not least, please spay and neuter your pets!!

### New Building Campaign

We are well into our capital fund campaign for the new building and we are proud to announce we have raised right around \$400,000! Please consider donating to our building fund project to help us meet our summer of 2020 ground breaking goal! Any donation, large or small, helps! For those who are interested in naming opportunities, the proposed layout and naming options can be found on our website:

[www.anewleashonlife.net/building](http://www.anewleashonlife.net/building). If you would like to discuss any aspect of our new building, please contact the Board of Directors at

[aahsboard1200@gmail.com](mailto:aahsboard1200@gmail.com). The total project cost for a new 7,400 square foot building is \$1,000,000. The proposed layout will be optimized for traffic flow and operational efficiency. The dog area will feature kennels with indoor and outdoor access to provide more exercise space, fresh air and a less stressful environment. The cat area will be expanded and an open cat sanctuary will allow cats more area to play, roam, and interact with adopters. Medical isolation will be added to help to prevent the spread of illness. Finally, the new layout will have more rooms designated for adopters to have time with animals, volunteer training, board meetings, public education programs and more!

We are looking for volunteers willing to help with our building fund capital campaign. We also have three board member positions open. If you are interested in getting more involved in either of these ways please contact the board of directors at:

[aahsboard1200@gmail.com](mailto:aahsboard1200@gmail.com).

## HONORARIUMS

Ron Dell In Honor of Kelly Buising's Birthday  
 Don & Carolyn Lang In Honor of Kay Ulmer  
 Connie & Dale Groop In Honor of Jean Dosch  
 Sharron Brady In Honor of Twinky  
 Amy Pierson In Honor of Warren & Judy Pierson  
 Hayley Hilton In Honor of Fran & Cindy Herman

## MEMORIALS

In Memory of Marcella Gerber – LeAnne & Warren Redmond, Leonard & Cindy Suel, Jeff & Kathryn Eisenbeisz, Roy & Bernie Burt, Kerry & Dawn Baird, Ronald & Bliss Rovang, Scott Clugston, Nancy Powers, Donald Jones, Carlyle Richards

In Memory of Angela Zimney – Floyd & Diane Beaman, June Schliebe, Peggy Serfoss, Joycel Goodrich, Harriet Heupel, Stacia & Carlton Willems, Mavis Kirschenman, Melissa Thiery, Arliss Alberts, Bill & Pat Dennert, Arnold Krueger, Jean Kramer, Helen Munger, Ken & Bev Jones, Georgia Ramos, Virginia & Kay Dixon, Shirley Oschner, Cash Memorials

In Memory of Darlene Arthurs – Clemens Family: Curt Clemens, Christy Clemens Cardella Family, Bob Clemens & Family, Chad Clemens, Kary Clemens Fellbaum & Family

Robert Seaton, Scott Hicks In Memory of Bonnie Ellis  
 Cindy Holler In Memory of Dee Hall

Fred & Janel Ludwig In Memory of Lydia Enget  
 Sherry Markve In Memory of Joyce Ewalt, Leo Klein, Harlan Lardy

Don & Carolyn Lang In Memory of Darwin Ulmer  
 John & Gail Zeck In Memory of Bob Hildebrandt,  
 Harry Pharris, Dick Voss, Jack Mahan, Leonard Broman, Mary Beth Krieger

Richard Engel In Memory of Florence Engel

Terry Brown In Memory of Oreo

Clayton & Dawn Geist In Memory of our Cat, Skunk & Grand Dog, Duke

Pen Pearson In Memory of Jack

In Memory of Richard Hulshof – LeAnne & Warren Redmond, Chuck & Monica Pelton, Alicia Hardwick  
 Roger & Dolly Schmidt, Brad & Julie Ann Scott In Memory of Allen Monson

LeAnne & Warren Redmond In Memory of Bill DesCamps

Linda Minash In Memory of LaVonne Scepaniak

Pearl Holt In Memory of Cindy Koerner

## A Special Thanks...

- **Dacotah Bank's** "Give Where We Live" Initiative
- **Nite Owl Camping Group**
- **City of Redfield**
- **Oil Room**
- **CC Lee Elementary Gum Fundraiser**
- **Clyde** for snow removal!
- **Lager's** 'Claws for a Cause'
- **NorthWestern Energy**
- **Simmons Middle School** Blanket Project



## COVID-19

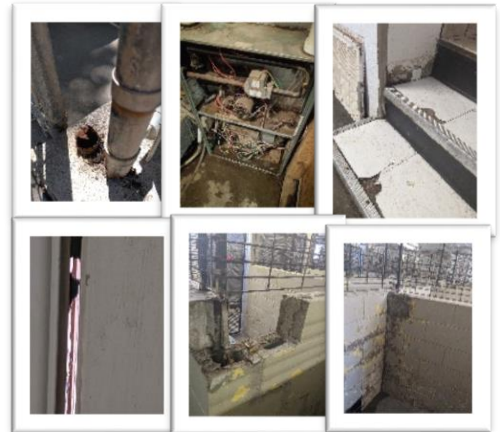
Unfortunately, the COVID-19 pandemic has affected all of us in one way or another. At the AAHS, we only have four full time staff members, so it is imperative that we keep our humans healthy so they can keep the animals safe. We also care about the health and safety of our adopters and volunteers! Therefore, on March 15<sup>th</sup> we went to an appointment only visitor model. We are still adopting out pets and taking in surrenders and strays. However, the appointment only system allows our staff to limit the number of people in our small facility at any one time and allows them to wipe down surfaces in-between visits. This will continue until further notice. With the ever-changing situation we encourage people to check back frequently. We also encourage people to check the Center for Disease Control website on human and animal safety during COVID-19 and other illnesses.

## NEED For a New Shelter

Preventing disease spread is a part of life for us at the AAHS. Just like humans, our pets can contract and spread very contagious viruses between their like-kinds (luckily human and domestic pet viruses rarely transfer from one to the other). This means we are REALLY good at cleaning and we do our best to "social distance" or isolate animals from one another when they are sick. In reality, we should be set up just like a hospital. Special entrances for intakes, especially if we are unsure of vaccination history, and isolation or intensive care units for those who are being treated. All surfaces in the building should be able to be disinfected. Unfortunately, due to how the AAHS building has gradually grown

over the years the current shelter is a patchwork of additions and does not allow us to protect all pets from illness. We have had several instances where we have had to quarantine off entire rooms or wings of the building due to virus and bacteria outbreaks. Most recently we had to close down an entire cat room for TWO MONTHS due to a very contagious kitty virus called feline panleukopenia. We had to pull everything out of the room, throw away what couldn't be disinfected and disinfect EVERYTHING before it was put back in. A big shout out to **Budget Furniture** for providing a new couch for the cat room afterwards! We tell you all this so you can see just how much we NEED a new building. For the safety of our pets, we NEED to make this happen. Additionally, besides the health concerns, the building itself is having major structural issues. Every time we turn around something else is breaking or falling apart. **If you have not donated yet, please consider donating now. If you know of any person or business who would like to help, pass along their contact information to us and we will make a personal phone call. Tell EVERYONE you know how YOU support the AAHS and our building project!** Thank you for your support!

### Photos of Shelter Structural Issues



## Kennel Sponsors

The "Sponsor a Kennel Program" is a reoccurring monthly sponsorship program with a minimum commitment of \$20 a month. We will place your business, organization, group or family name on the kennel you are sponsoring. Current sponsors:

- **Mark Mehlhoff Insurance**
- **Brian Bengs**
- **Culvers of Aberdeen**
- **Gemma Jean Johnson**
- **Tiffany Paul, Farmers Insurance**
- **Peggy Mann**
- **Nick & Lauren Rhodes**
- **Tate Thorpe**
- **Mike & Karen Opp**
- **Deb Gardner**
- **Deb & Fritz Maddock**
- **Monica Jo Ptacek**
- **Danette Marohl**
- **Keith & Kathy Sprinkel**
- **Tiffany Heier**
- **Jackie Kahre**

# Aberdeen Area Humane Society

2511 385th Ave. Aberdeen,  
SD 57402-1013

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PERMIT #76

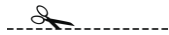
## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

- Annie Stenvig—President
- Kelly Serr—Vice President
- Christa Swingler—Treasurer
- Cate Diede—Secretary
- Megan Daniels
- Nancy Upton
- Missy Hill
- Jan Hill-Steiner
- Candace Hart Briscoe

*AAHS has three board member seats available as of March 31, 2020. If you are interested in joining our Board of Directors please contact any board member or email [aahsboard1200@gmail.com](mailto:aahsboard1200@gmail.com).*

## AAHS STAFF

- Elaine Schaible
- Amelia Thorpe
- Allison Carda
- Stephanie Glover



The **Aberdeen Area Humane Society** is a non-profit organization. We operate solely on donations and fundraisers, and all monies are used locally. No money is sent to state or national organizations. All donations are tax deductible. This newsletter is free to our supporters. To become a member, fill out and mail the form below, sign up online [www.anewleashonlife.net/membership](http://www.anewleashonlife.net/membership) or visit the AAHS.

## Aberdeen Area Humane Society—Membership

PO Box 1013,  
Aberdeen, SD 57402-1013

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_  
 City, State, ZIP \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Single: \$30.00      \_\_\_\_\_ Fat Cat: \$200.00      \_\_\_\_\_ Charter: \$1,000.00  
 \_\_\_\_\_ Family: \$40.00      \_\_\_\_\_ Top Dog: \$350.00      \_\_\_\_\_ Grand Poopaw: \$1,500.00  
 \_\_\_\_\_ Business: \$100.00      \_\_\_\_\_ Patron: \$700.00      \_\_\_\_\_ Other Amount (please specify)

I would like to make a donation of \$ \_\_\_\_\_ in honor of \_\_\_\_\_

I would like to make a donation of \$ \_\_\_\_\_ in memory of \_\_\_\_\_

I would like to make a donation of \$ \_\_\_\_\_ for the building fund

In addition to my membership, I would like to assist with: grounds maintenance (mowing, trimming, snow removal, etc.), fundraising, working with animals, baking for various activities, etc., (please specify below):