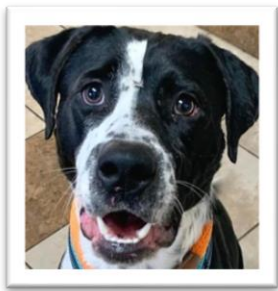




QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER – APRIL 2022 EDITION

Shelter Spotlight: Mason

In mid-January we took in a stray dog. He came to us a little beat up, with cuts and scrapes on his face. No owner came forward to claim the dog. We named him Mason. While in our



care, shelter manager Elaine noted Mason's extreme love for toys. No toy in the building was safe! He would go to great lengths to grab or steal any toy he spotted. Mason had energy, a lot of energy! This prompted Elaine to give a call to Tim and Kellee Matthews who are the owners and dog trainers at the South Dakota Canine Center in Sturgis, SD. On February 9th, Tim and Kellee met Mason and agreed that he may just have what it takes to be a search and rescue dog!

Mason returned to Sturgis where Tim and Kellee took him through many different types of evaluations. He did a

drive evaluation, which was a test that involved a delayed release and a blind landing of a toy which Mason would later sniff out. He was taken to a public retail store to test his drive in novel and high distraction environments. And he was evaluated along a rocky incline to test his ability and desire to traverse unstable and challenging footing.

On February 24, Mason got his official invitation to the Search Dog Foundation Training Center in Santa Paula, CA. This is a very hard to earn opportunity. On March 15, Mason got a private jet ride to sunny California! Mason went from an unwanted shelter dog in Aberdeen, SD to a search and rescue dog in-training in just a few weeks!

All of us here at the Aberdeen Area Humane Society are rooting for Mason! If you are interested in following along on Mason's journey, we recommend you head over to the South Dakota Canine Center Facebook page: www.facebook.com/SouthDakotaCanineCenter

Did you know that Mason isn't the first dog we have recommended for a working position? We've had a couple of others and you can read about them in our "Rescued to Rescuer" article on page three.

2022 MEMBERSHIP RATES

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

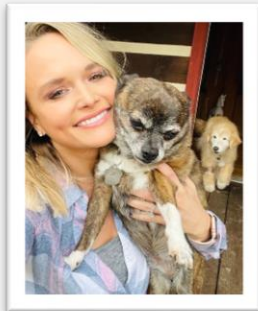
\$1000

Charter: Cover 1 emergency surgery

\$1500

Grand Poopaw: Cover 1 month's vet care

MuttNation Foundation



In March we opened our mail and found a surprise \$5000 check from country music star Miranda Lambert's MuttNation Foundation and Tractor Supply Company! We didn't apply for this grant, instead they researched us and recognized that we are an outstanding animal non-profit in South Dakota! They looked at categories such as adoption rates, volunteerism, fiscal responsibility, fundraising, etc. We work hard to carry out our mission and are honored to be recognized! Read all about it here: muttnation.com/foundation/mutts-across-america/

YEAR-TO-DATE SHELTER REPORT

JAN 1ST – MAR 31ST, 2022

Dogs In: 65
 Cats In: 88
 Other Critters In: 9
 Dogs Out: 62
 Cats Out: 101
 Other Critters Out: 9

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!

Recent

Bow Wow Boogie

We were excited to be back with the Bow Wow Boogie in March! This dinner and auction event was once again a success because of all our supporters who came out to partake in the fun and



raise money for a good cause! A big thanks to Jason Schaanaman for emceeding our event and keeping everyone entertained and informed!

Our night was packed with fun and games and opportunities to win! We featured several "chance" games including the annual pick-a-prize, split-pot and the "Grill and Chill" Raffle, where a quarter of beef was won by a lucky player. Thanks to Jorgenson Meat Store and Steven Lust Automotive. The wine pull, also a different type of "chance" raffle, was a huge success and sold out early!

Supporters only knew that they would go home with a bottle of wine, but they don't know what kind or



what brand! A huge shout out to Fit and Fire Studio's Yoga teachers for donating the wine! After dinner we laughed and we cried during the heartwarming slideshow of successful pet adoptions. We also heard a very touching speech by our shelter manager Elaine as well as

some updates from board member Missy Hill. The silent auction filled a quarter of the room and 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. The silent auction by far brings in the most money of the evening! We ended the night with a creative twist on BINGO! The BINGO cards were filled with "hashtags" from TikTok videos and they were marked off the BINGO cards after funny pet TikTok videos were played. We had some good laughs at the videos. 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 2023 Bow Wow Boogie!

Upcoming

2nd Paw Sale

We will be heading back to the Expo Building at the Brown County Fair Grounds on April 30, 2022 for our 2nd Paw Sale! Our much-loved rummage sale, and Aberdeen's largest one day second-hand sale, will run from 9am-3pm. Want to avoid the crowds? With a \$20 donation at the door, you can '1st pick' shop from 6pm-7pm Friday, April 29.

We want your donations! Donations may be dropped off at the Expo Building April 17 from 1pm-4pm, April 18-22 from 3pm-7pm & April 23-24, 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.

Golf Tournament

Mark your calendars for our Puttin' for Paws charity golf event July 16 at 10 AM at Rolling Hills Golf Club. This is always a fun way to get out with your friends, enjoy a friendly golf competition, and

raise money for a good cause! Number of teams are limited. Check our website and the June newsletter for more details.

End of Summer Splash

Our June newsletter always cuts it close to summer end events. While we don't have dates set for everything yet, keep your eyes and ears open for the following events. We'll be making an appearance at the Brown County Fair. Hopefully we'll have great weather for the dog pool day at the city pool. If conditions and dates work out, we'll be planning another Soggy Doggy Dock Diving event. The best places to watch for event updates are our Facebook page and website. We typically advertising on local radio stations as well!

Ongoing

New Building Campaign

We have started the process of moving over to our new building. We are working on getting the "non-essentials" in place first. After that we will coordinate a day when all the animals can be moved over. There are still a few details that we'll be working on, including some paint touchup and the signage and plaques for those who donated toward naming rights. We will validate wording with everyone. We have not started this process yet, but keep an eye on your email or phone messages as we will be contacting individuals. It is still not too late to show your support by purchasing naming rights and donating to this project! Visit anewleashonlife.net/building or email aahsboard1200@gmail.com for more information. Additionally, there are a few things that were not included in our building project costs. Those include the driveway gravel and landscaping. If you are interested in donating toward some of the "extras" please reach out to any board member. We are so excited to start this new chapter in our non-profit story! Our mission to shelter homeless animals, place animals into good homes and to rescue animals from abusive situations would not be possible without the generous support of our donors!

HONORARIUMS (JAN-MAR)

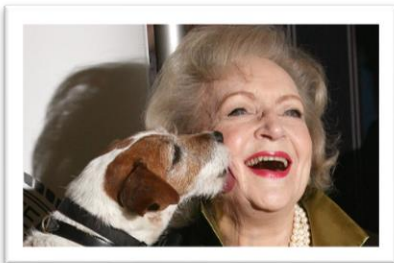
Curt & Lynn Brewer In Honor of Kelly, Rudy, Izzy, Little Guy, Sadie, Elsie, & Mick
Mary Gillette In Honor of Jif & Jax
Steven Larson In Honor of Garth
Brianna Christiansen In Honor of Nicole Wanttie
Kay Friebe In Honor of Cindy Underberg

MEMORIALS (JAN-MAR)

Chris Yost In Memory of Meeps
Fred & Janel Ludwig In Memory of Shelley Teal
In Memory of Linda Hagler Liston
Nick & Christy Guthmiller In Memory of Richard Spencer
Shannon Wegleitner In Memory of Baxter
Nancy Kee In Memory of Mary Ann Rithmiller
Sherry Markve In Memory of Patty Block
Pen Pearson In Memory of Snarf, Jack & Sam
Clara Nolz In Memory of Julia Feist
Sharron Brady In Memory of Peachy
Lola Gelling In Memory of Cathy Gelling
Dennis & Rae Nelson In Memory of Liam Cook
Steven Olson In Memory of Sawyer
Kathy Winson In Memory of Jane Winson
Mikki Permann In Memory of Griffey
Shannon Willard In Memory of Martina
Chelsea Lund In Memory of Frankie, Michele's Beloved Kitty
JoLynn Crowe In Memory of Loretta Bopp
JJ Properties In Memory of Marlin Johnson
Bruce Jones In Memory of Clifton Robert Jones
Troy Sorbo In Memory of Clifton Robert Jones
Bonnie or Jeff Fisher In Memory of Mike Snover
In Memory of Clarence "Skip" Larson - Bob Seaton, Jerald and Marlene Loeb, Donna Vietor, Carol McCurdy, Terry & June Larson, Sylvia Husen, Wayne & Toni Larson, Vicki & Harry Breidenbach, Judy & Dean Wesimantel, Gas n' Goodies Crew, Don Peckham, Marcia Gohn, Marty & Lisa Link - Robert, Colleen & Chris Larson
In Memory of Rick Olson - Arlyn Johnson, Shelley Smith, Phyllis Brundell
In Memory of Robin (Wanner) Schaunamann - Michael & Shirley Schliessmann, Comfort Hauck, Eileen Hofstadt

Betty White

On January 17th, what would have been Betty White's 100th Birthday, people donated to local animal shelters, a cause White cared deeply for. The Aberdeen Area Humane Society received many of these donations, too many to list out in this newsletter. The donations totaled over \$7000! Thank you to everyone who donated in Betty's memory!



Rescued to Rescuer

As you read in our front-page article, Mason is working hard to learn to be a search and rescue dog. However, Mason isn't the first AAHS alumni to do so! Taylor, originally "Sandy,"



came to the AAHS at 2 years old because her family could no longer care for her. She was recruited by the South Dakota Canine Center as was later flown to the Search Dog Foundation (SDF) training center in CA in November of 2012. She blew away the trainers with her relentless desire to work and play. At the time, lead trainer Sonja Heritage reported that "Taylor is a rock star! She learns quickly, bursts with energy and you can truly see her love for the search game when you watch her on the rubble." Taylor was given her new name by Mike Diani of Diani Building Corp., the General Contractor for SDF's National Training Center. Taylor Steele was the name of Mike's 17-year-old niece, who lost her life in August of 2011 after a five-year battle with ovarian cancer. She was the youngest girl to

have ever contracted the disease. Mike said "she was always full of vigor and energy, and the epitome of strength and grace while fighting for her life." There is no better way to honor the memory of such an exceptional young woman than to bestow her name on a canine hero that saves lives. Taylor was partnered with Paramedic/Logistics Specialist Trevor Lawrence of Utah Task Force 1 on December 11, 2013. During Trevor's two-week Handlers Course, they formed a connection. As they practiced heeling, Taylor would literally prance alongside Trevor, trotting with glee and awaiting his next command. The new team began to train daily in preparation for their FEMA Certification Evaluation, which would allow them to deploy to disaster areas across the nation. Then, on May 17, 2014, only five months after being paired, Trevor and Taylor, achieved FEMA Certification. Most teams aim to earn Certification within one year! On November 21, 2014, Trevor and Taylor were able to put their skills to work for the first time when a Salt Lake City elderly woman was reported missing and they took up the call. Their successful careers have continued from there!

Before Taylor and Mason, we had one other AAHS alumni, Remington, who went on to become a narcotic detection canine. We also know of countless others who have gone on to be formally trained as therapy and service dogs!

A Special Thanks...

- NVC
- Venders Venue
- Dempsey's
- Wings & Rings
- Emma Carlsgaard's Lemonade Stand
- Dacotah Bank's Give Where We Live Initiative: Cindy Perman, Emily Hall, Kelli Van Steenwyk
- Every Single Building Donor, We Couldn't Make the Building a Reality Without You!

Kennel Sponsors

The "Sponsor a Kennel Program" is a recurring 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
- Webster's Paws Walk
- Gemma Jean Johnson
- Keith & Kathy Sprinkel
- Joe & Peg Coutermarsh
- Robin Johnson
- Peggy Mann
- Nick & Lauren Rhodes
- Danette Marohl
- Misty Bruemmer
- Monica Jo Ptacek
- Marsha Wienk
- Deb Gardner
- Deb & Fritz Maddock
- Ashleigh Barkans
- Frank & Jan Hill
- Kim Hall
- Scott Mehlhaff
- Brian Bengs
- Jackie Kahre
- Michael Opp
- Roger Hoffman
- Robin Johnson

Aberdeen Area Humane Society

2511 385th Ave.

Aberdeen, SD 57402-1013

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- Missy Hill—President
- Kelly Serr—Vice President
- Jan Hill-Steiner —Treasurer
- Allison Kiner—Secretary
- Annie Stenvig
- Christa Swingler
- Nancy Upton
- Candace Hart Briscoe
- David Skinner

AAHS has three board member seats available as of March 31, 2022. If you are interested in joining our Board of Directors, please contact any board member or email aahsboard1200@gmail.com.

AAHS STAFF

- Elaine Schaible
- Amelia Thorpe
- Stephanie Glover
- Megan Stanton
- Diane Schaeffer



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 or visit the AAHS.

Aberdeen Area Humane Society—Membership

PO Box 1013
Aberdeen, SD 57402

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):