



Aberdeen Area Humane Society

NEWS BITES

QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER – APRIL 2025 EDITION

Shelter Spotlight: Pet Adoption

Adopting a pet from the Aberdeen Area Humane Society offers a wonderful opportunity to give a deserving animal a loving home and save a life, while also gaining a loyal companion.

Once you find the perfect pet, it's time to go home.

With a newly adopted dog we recommend the 3-3-3 Rule which is a set of guidelines for the first three days, three weeks and three months after adopting a new dog. The goal is to help your new dog adjust to the new home and family.

The First 3 Days: During the first three days, it's important to give them plenty of space and time to acclimate to the new environment. Limit exposure to other pets, family members, and visitors so they don't get overwhelmed. This time is called decompression. During this time use a leash to go for potty breaks, but don't overwhelm them with long walks, now is the time for them to explore and get comfortable in their new surroundings at home.

The First 3 Weeks: After the first three days gradually introduce your dog to other family members and pets. Keep routines consistent and give plenty of positive reinforcement for good behavior with treats, praise & toys. Start introducing them to new environments by going on walks or trips to the park. As they become more comfortable with their environment they will exhibit more playful and curious behaviors.

The First 3 Months: Your dog will now be more comfortable with their new home and family. Continue to reinforce positive behavior and gradually increase their exposure to new experiences. This is a

good time to establish a routine for exercise, playtime and training and maybe consider enrolling them in an obedience or training class.

Be patient with your new dog and remember every dog is unique and some may take longer to adjust to their new family but continue to provide plenty of love and positive reinforcement.

Cats, like dogs, need time to adjust and acclimate to their new home and family. It is recommended you set up a small space as the cat's space and allow them to widen their territory slowly over the coming days or weeks after adoption. In addition to the standard cat supplies you should also provide them with a variety of enriching cat toys and cat scratchers. Spend time encouraging play to help bond with your kitty. Cats also like routine so it's good to set times for feeding, grooming and play. If you have other cats you should keep them separate from each other until your new kitty has settled in and is acclimated to their new home. Once your new cat is settled in you can start introductions by exchanging toys and bedding with each other so they can get used to the other's scent. Once the cats are comfortable with each other's scent allow them to see each other through a door or gate and sniff from a safe distance. Start introductions with brief supervised interactions in a small space such as a bathroom or hallway. Reward both cats with treats, praise or playtime to create positive reinforcement. Gradually increase the duration and frequency of the interactions. Be aware of any signs of stress or aggression and separate the cats if necessary. Be patient as this may take time but in the end will be rewarding.

2025 MEMBERSHIP RATES

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

\$50

Mini Oodle: Feed 1 dog & cat for 1 month

\$75

Cuddly Kitty: Vaccinate 1 pet

\$100

Howling Hound: Cover 2 weeks garbage bill

\$250

Fat Cat: Cover 1 spay or neuter

\$500

Top Dog: Cover 1 month water or gas bill

\$700

Fancy Feline: Cover 1 month accounting

\$1000

Posh Pooch: Cover 1 emergency surgery

\$1500

Grand Poopaw: Cover 1 month pet meds

YEAR-TO-DATE SHELTER REPORT

JAN 1 – MAR 31, 2025

Adoptable Dogs (on Mar. 31): **27**

Adoptable Cats (on Mar. 31): **55**

YTD Dogs In: 66

YTD Cats In: 89

YTD Other Critters In: 3

YTD Dogs Out: 64

YTD Cats Out: 105

YTD Other Critters Out: 0

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 & Dueling Pianos

Our Bow Wow Boogie dinner and auction held at the Ramkota Convention Center was once again a great success, with a huge thanks to everyone who attended and participated. Every year we seem to get a little more organized but there is still much work involved and definitely room for improvement. All the hours donated by our wonderful volunteers, bakers and board members make this event one of our largest fundraisers, and this in turn helps out the shelter pets.

Our special guest, shelter dog Teagan, made her appearance and made a lot of people friends. To all who showed her love, thank you. She has been adopted and is now in her Furever home, Yay!!

This year our theme was the Great Catsby and our table decorations were done by Missy Hill and Amy Fink. They do such a great job every year, so thank you Missy & Amy.

Just like last year we had plenty of games to play and chance drawings including the annual split pot, 5x your money, wine pull, pull tabs and the popular Grill & Chill raffle where the winner was sent home with a quarter of beef courtesy of **Ken's Superfair Foods**, a grill and cooler donated by a friend of AAHS.

Thank you to **Pauer Sound** for the great screens and audio again this year. We got to try something new where anyone attending could add photos of their pets to our big screen display through the QR Code located on the table tents. It was fun to see all of your amazing pets as well as all of the shelter animals available for adoption.

After a great dinner we got to hear two touching speeches from our President, Annie and our Shelter Manager, Elaine.

This year we exceeded the number of silent auction donations. A huge, huge thank you to all who took the time to buy, make, and create baskets and items for all to bid on. Thank you's have been sent out but we want to also thank all of you who donated items anonymously. The silent auction by far brings in the most money of the evening.

Our night ended with the Dueling Pianos. What a great show they put on, it's so entertaining and interactive with the audience submitting song requests and Andy & Ryno the professional singers and piano players performing while Dan accompanied them with other instruments including the fiddle.

Thank you to all the businesses who sponsored tables and to **Pauer Sound**, **Ken's Superfair Foods**, **Steven Lust Automotive**, **Moccasin Creek Casino** and **Langs Audio, TV & Appliance** who sponsored the event with monetary donations.

We couldn't do this event without each and everyone of 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 "furever" homes. See you in 2026.

Ongoing & Upcoming

Spring 2nd Paw Sale

We will be heading back to the Expo Building at the Brown County Fairgrounds on Saturday May 3, 2025 for our 2nd Paw Sale. Our much-loved rummage sale and Aberdeen's largest one day second-hand sale. This will run from 9:00 am to 3:00 pm BUT for a \$20 donation, if you want to avoid the crowds we have a "1st pick" shopping day which is held on Friday May 2, 2025 from 6:00 pm - 7:00 pm. We want your

donations!! Donations can be dropped off at the Expo Building starting April 21-25 from 3pm-7pm and April 26-27 from 1pm-4pm. No clothing, large appliances, magazines, encyclopedias, metal desks, exercise equipment or old TV's accepted. If you have questions, contact Jan at 701-471-9616.

If you would like to volunteer time to set up at the Expo and/or take down we can always use a few extra hands and pickup trucks. Our load in & set up date is Saturday, April 19th and our take down date is May 3rd immediately following the Paw Sale. Both load in and take down time takes approximately 3 hours. Call Jan at 701-471-9616 for specific details and meeting time.

Puttin' for Paws Golf Tournament

Get your clubs polished up and your teams ready for an 18 hole 4 person scramble at the Rolling Hills Golf Club on July 19 starting at 10:00 AM. Registration will be placed on our website soon. We always fill up so be sure to sign your team up early.

Gone To The Dogs Pool Day

The dog days of summer are going to end with a splash! The Aberdeen Aquatic Center closes to people on August 17th, but before they close they let the dogs show off their best doggie paddles, long jumps in the deep pool and flea style swims. Adult supervision is required for all pets so join us on August 17th from 5:30 - 7:00 pm. Entrance fee is a free will donation or a pet food/item/toy donation for the shelter.

Building Happenings

We continue to enhance our outdoor space. We will be working on some outdoor cleanup projects where the old part of the shelter was torn down. This has opened up the space for the agility park area. Our long term vision is to have a nice outdoor area. If you would like to help with this project or any others, let us know. Please reach out to any board member to designate money for building/grounds projects.

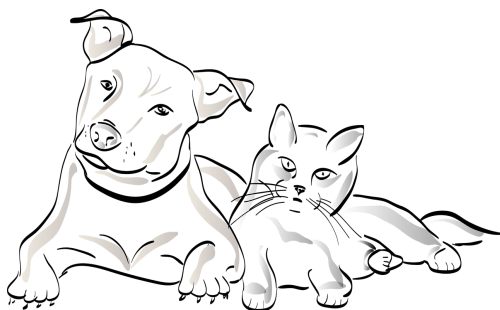
HONORARIUMS (JAN-MAR)

Phillip Oswald in Honor of Sandy and John Kranzler
 John & Janene Papedick in Honor of Cynthia Haglund
 Marte Hepburn in Honor of Tara Arntsen
 Deb Maddock in Honor of Sasha's 9th Birthday
 Rex & Norma Johnson in Honor of Gemma
 Lola V & Cheryl Gelling in Honor of Great Great Grandson Leon born December 3, 2024.
 Joan Terry in Honor of Gene Hackmans Dog

MEMORIALS (JAN-MAR)

Sharron Brady in Memory of Gypsy
 Nancy Kee in Memory of Dan Brandenburger
 Gina Bosco-Cavan in Memory of Jessica Warns-Carrick - a former resident of Aberdeen and Animal Lover.
 Charles & Karen Moe in Memory of Cynthia E. Haglund
 Chad & Mechelle Lang i memory of Dan Lingor
 Jessica Haas in Memory of Debra Haas, our Mom who loved animals and taught her family to do the same.
 Teresa Garrity in Memory of Sherrel LaPointe
 Shirley Ochsner in Memory of Daphne Jo Borchardt
 Angela Anderson in Memory of Tom Van Scoy
 Barb Tarbox in Memory of Allen Tarbox
 Christine Larson in Memory of Jerome Rosonkee
 Pen Pearson in Memory of Ruth Mueller
 Carol Eisenbeisz in Memory of Cindy Haglund
 Arnie & Mona Isaak in Memory of Tom Van Scoy
 Brian Beilke in Memory of Donna Fry
 Sherri Herrick in Memory of Donna Fry
 Jennifer Lapolla in Memory of Carol Upton
 Kim & Yolonda Jahraus in Memory of Tinker the Cat
 Jerry & Susan Brick in Memory of our beloved dogs, Toby, Peanut, Max and Teddy
 Jan Gilchrist in Memory of Randy Wilke
 Breanne Hiiivala in Memory of Donna Fry
 Jennifer Gast in Memory of named loved one Daisy Burt
 Mark & Diane Boekelheide in Memory of Papa Joe Elspenger
 Pam Oelkers in Memory of Holly, my 11 year old beloved companion

If you have submitted an Honorarium or Memorial during the last quarter and do not see it listed above, please email the Board so we can include it in our next Newsletter.



Kitten Season

Did you know Spring kicks off a phenomenon known as Kitten Season? Yep, it's a real thing. The shelter is already full of furry feline friends, and Kitten Season is always a challenge for our shelter.

Here are some Cat Facts: Generally cats don't go into heat during the cold weather but once it warms up unaltered female felines will go into heat and you can bet 60 days later kittens will be born. On average a cat will have 4-8 kittens and can get pregnant more than once a year. Female Kittens can get pregnant as early as 4 months of age.

Kitten Season has created an overpopulation of cats not just locally but it's a national problem creating over populations in shelters. So what can you do to help? First of all if you are a cat owner please get your cat spayed or neutered. If your female kitten goes into heat before you have her spayed, keep her indoors. Generally kittens can get spayed at 8 weeks of age. If you are looking for a new kitten to join your family, it's nicer to adopt. You have so

many to choose from. During kitten season we can always use donations of litter, kitten food and foster homes.

Fostering kittens can be a heartwarming experience. The ultimate goal of fostering kittens is to prepare them for their forever homes.

If you are interested in learning more about fostering you can visit with our shelter staff and they will answer all your questions and concerns.



Mama Walker and her kittens Westlyn, Waverly, and Wylder!

A Special Thanks

- John Koerner Estate
- Columbia Congregational Church
- Couteau View Hunts
- Thrivent Inc.
- B&B Contracting
- Individual Donors: Jonathan & Holly Reich, Chad Evans, Clair & Joyce Krause, Levi & Dawn Wipf, Nancy Upton, David Haglund
- NVC, faithful monthly adoption sponsor!
- Horton Holding Inc
- Rural Philanthropy Institute
- RDO Equipment
- J Ellwein Farms Partnership
- Joe & Peggy Coutermarsh - Pet Testament for Whiskers

Kennel Sponsors

The "Sponsor a Kennel Program" is a recurring sponsorship with a minimum commitment of \$20 a month. We will display your business or family name in our building. Please reference Kennel Sponsorship with donation.

Mark Mehlhoff Insurance	Todd & Peggy Mann	Kris Flihs	Deb Gardner
Webster's Paws Walk	Deb & Fritz Maddock	Gemma Jean Johnson	Kim Hall
Danette Marohl	Jewell Steiner	Keith & Kathy Sprinkler	Frank & Jan Hill
Joe & Peg Coutermarsh	Darren & Monica Ptacek	Richard & Jackie Kahre	Larry Coulter
Marsha Wienk	Jody Stanton	Bobbi Wiek	Stephanie Mastel
Ronnie & Mary Kost	Bonnie Wacholz	Craig & Laura Millett	Hluchy Family
Cindy Herr	Anita Brewer	Jerry & Susan Brick	Elizabeth Sanderson
Mona Smith	Morgan Hluchy	Kristina McDonald	
Patricia Tollefson	Michele Hudson	B&R Truck Repair	
		<small>(Devin, Rhonda & Brandi Beitelspacher)</small>	

Aberdeen Area Humane Society

2511 385th Ave.

Aberdeen, SD 57402-1013

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BOARD OF DIRECTORS

- Mona Smith—President
- Annie Stenvig—Vice President
- Jan Hill-Steiner —Treasurer
- Kelly Serr—Secretary
- Nancy Upton
- Anita Brewer
- Pam Monaghan-Geernaert
- Todd Jordre
- Jody Stanton

AAHS has two board member seat available as of March 31, 2025. If you are interested in joining our Board of Directors, please contact any board member or email aahsboard1200@gmail.com.

AAHS STAFF

- Elaine Schaible
- Stephanie Glover
- Diane Schaeffer
- Carissa Aman
- Summer Smith
- Elizabeth Wolfgang
- Kathryn Wanous
- Rebekah Navarro

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 _____

_____ Mini Oodle: \$50.00 _____ Fat Cat: \$250.00 _____ Posh Pooch: \$1,000.00
 _____ Cuddly Kitty: \$75.00 _____ Top Dog: \$500.00 _____ Grand Poopaw: \$1,500.00
 _____ Howling Hound: \$100.00 _____ Fancy Feline: \$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):
