

Georgetown Animal Outreach

A No-Kill ForEver Commitment



Newsletter – January 2018

Hello, Friends & Animal Lovers!

GAO proudly ushers in a new year of tremendous joy and the hope of saving as many homeless cats and dogs as we possibly can. Our Foster & Adoption program is still amazing, and we continue to provide assistance for spay/neuter and veterinary care for needy individuals in Williamson County.

In 2017, we rescued 131 dogs from Texas shelters, and found homes for 116 dogs and 18 cats! The rest are safe and sound in our foster network. Our awesome TNR (Trap-Neuter-Rescue) cat group trapped and cared for 104 cats in Georgetown! The few who were not adopted were returned to their colonies and will live peacefully as good neighbors in our town.

But GAO can't do it alone, and we need more volunteers & fosters. If you can't adopt, please foster, and if you can't foster, please donate. Or join us as a volunteer and be a voice for the voiceless and those who cannot help themselves!

The 2018 GAO Board

The board officers for this year are:

President: Dr. Laura Hobgood
Vice President: Jeni Williams
Treasurer: Dr. Bruce Turbeville
Secretary: Dr. Brenda Haile

Board members include:

Christina Bennet, Miguel da Cunha, Amy Gelfand, Rebecca LaBeth, Norma Mantz, Dr. Jimmy Smith and Cheryl Schneider.

Monthly Meeting: Come Join Us!

The GAO board meets at 6 PM on the first Tuesday of every month at the Georgetown Public Library.

Puppies, Puppies, Puppies!!

In 2017, we saved even more happy puppy litters from local shelters, and found them and their moms great forever homes. There was a Texas Towns litter, Texas Critters, Zootopia, Guardians, Phoenix, Oscars and Masquerade.



Sofie Galaxy & the Guardians

Little Sofie Galaxy's life wasn't always a bowl of cherries. She was picked up as a stray, pregnant and with a cherry eye, and taken to the Bastrop shelter where they found that she also had heartworms. So GAO brought Sofie straight into a foster home, where she could have her pups in a calm, quiet setting. And then she had nine(!) gorgeous puppies – The Guardians of the Galaxy litter! Sofie was a wonderful mom, and once her pups found their forever homes, Sofie herself found another great foster who would help her finally relax and get well. She went on summer vacation with her fosters to Colorado and New Mexico, spent hours relaxing at Starbucks, Tomlinson's and Tail Waggins Bakery, and even got a few trips to the Bark Park. Sofie was spayed, had her cherry eye repaired and completed heartworm treatment in record time. And then this beautiful, courageous girl found her own forever home just after Thanksgiving. You go, Guardian!

In Memoriam: Sweet Kenni

This year brought so much hope and joy for us, but also its share of sorrow. We lost GAO pups Diesel, Coco and Pebbles, and long-time community cats Sunny, Jasper, Grey-Boy, Diego, Sandy and Charlie. Some we helped for many years; many had not known much kindness or comfort. And sadly, at the end of the year we also lost our sweet angel Kenni to heart failure. Kenni was an amazing bulldog with brilliant blue eyes that would warm anyone's heart. Despite being born completely deaf, Kenni never let her disability interfere with her joy of people and places. She loved meeting folks at adoption events and fundraisers, and always had big sloppy kisses for everyone. Kenni's favorite thing was to walk along the downtown Georgetown Square and wind up lounging on the terrace at 600 Degrees Pizza. And, wow, did she love her pizza! Kenni also loved the great folks at Happy Trails Kennels, who were so good to her during her long stay there. Kenni and the rest have passed over the Rainbow Bridge now, and that has left a huge hole in the hearts of everyone who knew them. Rest in Peace, sweet angels, we miss you.



Hurricane Harvey Relief Effort

Hurricane Harvey was devastating to people and pets in south Texas. GAO was proud to partner with the Williamson and Bastrop shelters to transport much needed supplies to cutoff shelters along the coast, and then transport dogs and cats back to Williamson County. GAO and WCRAS returned with 28 cats and 20 dogs, all who were at risk as local shelters were overwhelmed. And thanks to our wonderful donors, GAO raised over \$4K in aid of badly needed pet rescue and relief. Thank you very much to all of the folks who gave so generously to this major rescue effort!



Hurricane Survivor: Lovely Laila

Who has a snaggletooth smile, loves children, and just makes you want to snuggle with her all day? That would be the lovely Laila! This poor girl had a really rough life before GAO pulled her from the Lake Jackson Shelter as part of our Hurricane Harvey relief efforts. Laila had been in the shelter for almost six months and was at risk there when so many desperate Harvey animals literally poured in. Space became critical all along the Gulf coast, so we relocated Laila, along with many others, to central Texas. This wonderful girl is a gorgeous 6-year old boxer mix who just adores people. Laila has been in foster homes with other dogs and would be an ideal mate for a large confident male dog, with proper introduction and monitoring. And she would make an easy, no-brainer only-dog adoption for sure! Just check out this face and tell us, how can you not fall in love?

The Faces of Georgetown TNR

The faces of GAO TNR are many. And the cats we trapped in 2017 are healthier for it, and will not reproduce. Lina, a skeptical kitten abandoned in a shoebox, found acceptance and a forever home. Mesa, a tiny kitten alone in a woodpile during a storm, cried loudly enough to be found by GAO. Five community cats were re-trapped and given medical care for illness or wounds. Bottle-babies Larry and Mackey were near death after their mother disappeared, but a call to GAO gave them life-saving care and a home. Hurricane Harvey cats from Brazoria County were rescued and fostered until their adoptions. And community cats Charlie and Sister were cared for by GAO volunteers for eleven years(!), when illness prompted their move to foster care. All of them are the beautiful faces of TNR, and all deserve our love!



Princess Moana

Moana was left behind. Yes, in the cold beneath a local parking lot dumpster for shelter. Her tabby mom and two siblings were trapped and cared for, but we didn't know about a third kitten! Almost a month went by before we were alerted to a kitten who was literally surviving on her own. Our urgent mission to save her was finally rewarded on a cold, dark night in the rain. And what we expected was a wild, hissing feral cat; but not so. Instead we found a purring bundle of soft colorful fur topped with huge green eyes that thanked us for a warm cubbie, plentiful food and the safe night's sleep she finally got. Wow, talk about instant foster baby! And a trip to the vet showed her to be a

healthy, playful girl we called Moana. And now Miss Moana lives in her forever home home with her new posse, CiAnn, Puffy & Piffy. This was truly a rescuer's dream!

Kaia's Big Heart

Kaia was not even 8 months old when she was diagnosed with a critical heart murmur due to a hole between two major heart arteries. And without help she would not live to see her second birthday. But thanks to the unbelievable outpouring of support from our fans, and the amazing skills of the doctors and staff of Texas A&M Veterinary Hospital, Kaia was given a second chance. She underwent two critical procedures; one to help reduce the size of the hole, and a second to install a device that effectively sealed it. The procedures were a resounding success, and now the amazing Kaia will see many more birthdays and summers and sunsets! Now she runs and plays ball with her new pack, and hangs out with her best friend Hector. Kaia will soon start her training to become a therapy dog, and will one day bring joy to so many others in need!



Become a Foster, Save a Life!

We need foster families to help save dogs and cats of all ages! All approved medical expenses for foster pets are covered by GAO! If you are interested in becoming a foster family, please contact GAO!

Donations? Mail Your Gift To :
Georgetown Animal Outreach, P.O.
Box 1684, Georgetown, TX 78627
(512) 863-6006

OR contribute on-line at:
www.georgetownanimaloutreach.org