



## Happy Tails

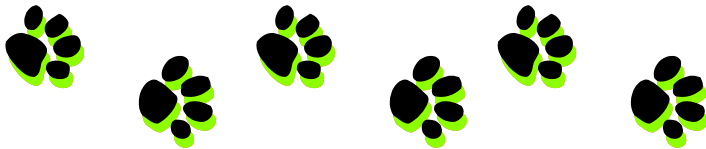
By Mary Hallenbeck

We have had a great number of adoptions in the last few months. Each new family is carefully interviewed, new people and fur families introduced, and then joyful tears as we say goodbye. Here are some we said goodbye to:

April: Josh, Elizabeth, Eli, and Oliver

May: Winnie, Jake, Shannon, Benji, Blondie, and Emma

June: Chloe, Lily, Scout, Dixie, Smokey, Bella, Jethro, Faye, Teddy, Amy, Nadia, Tonka, Pumpkin, Cody, Bear, and Nala



## Message From the President

By Reagan Stanley

First, I want to thank all the Volunteers who give so selflessly of their time and energy for the benefit of the wonderful cats and dogs of the South Lake Animal League. As we grow, we must remember how it all started many years ago with multiple foster homes spread throughout South Lake County.

Today I would like to recognize one of those special homes. The couple I am referring to are now packing their camper and heading West for the next great adventure of their life. Over the years they have fostered and eventually found permanent homes for hundreds of cats and dogs. One can only imagine the love and sacrifice needed to manage such a formidable pack. If we could speak for the cats and dogs that once lived at your home we would say we love you Cheryl and Jimmy Layle. Woof-woof!

*"Dogs are not our whole life, but they make our lives whole."*

*~Roger Caras*

## Kittens with Mittens

By Laura Moose

Recently something strange has happened to some of the kittens at Petco, their front paws have grown to look like mittens! Currently there is no explanation for this occurrence, but we think the extra love and care could be the reason behind it. Some of the kittens are Hemingway cats, which have an extra toe on the front paws. These cats are called Polydactyl cats and often found only on the East coast and mostly popular at the Ernest Hemingway house in Key West.

All of the 6 kittens have found their furever homes but their mom, Angel, is patiently waiting for her opportunity. She is very sweet and loving. Come visit her and all the felines at PETCO. They would make any home a little warmer with their tender personalities!



## Kitty Corner

By Bonny Bowyer

CAT FACT: Approximately 80% of orange tabbies are males. Let me introduce you to one of the exceptions - Polly. Polly is approximately 3 ½ years old. She came to us in October 2010 after her former owners fell on hard times. They had lost their home and could no longer care for their 3 cats. She was very distrustful at first but has since become very comfortable living at my office. Too comfortable! Polly is very smart and talkative. She knows right where her treats are hidden. Every time I get close to that cabinet she is there at my feet, rubbing against me, asking for some treats. Although she does not like to be picked up, she loves to cuddle up close to you.



## Community Events

By Doreen Barker

Have you been seeing smiling friendly people in green shirts covered with pet hair all around town?

If so, you must have been at one of the South Lake Animal Leagues community events.

We have been quite busy!

From Yappy Hours, Fairs, Festivals and Dog Bath Days to Carnivals, Adoption Days and Luncheons the Events team has been spreading love and awareness for homeless pets all across Central Florida.

We have a great time and meet lots of wonderful folks. We would LOVE to have you join us! Please visit our website, fill out the volunteer application and indicate that you are interested in EVENTS.

No time to volunteer? That's ok - come show your support by dropping by.

Coming up are the following 2011 Events. Details can be found on the Events page of our website, slal.org, and look for our events on Facebook.

August -Tractor Supply Pet Appreciation Day, Art Around Town, PETCO Adoption Days, People Cuts for Pups

September - Yappy Hour, PETCO Adoption Days, Rescues and Runways

October - PETCO Adoption Days, Lighthouse Luncheon, Clermont Howl-O-Ween Parade

November - Tower 10 Miler and 5k, PETCO Adoption Days

December - Light up Clermont Christmas Parade, PETCO Santa Visits



## Volunteer Spotlight

By Miranda Lanoue

Thomas Battisto has been a long time supporter of South Lake Animal League. He adopted his first dog from South Lake Animal League in 1999.

Including the dogs that he and his family have adopted over the past 12 years, he has also made yearly donations to show his support.

Thomas began volunteering with South Lake Animal League in January 2011. He started by volunteering as a dog handler at A Haven Before A Home Adoption Center. Here he was able to see the wonderful dogs and cats that were available for adoption. Along with volunteering as a dog handler, Thomas also began taking pictures of the adoptables. Those photos were used on a variety of marketing items.

In March 2011 he began volunteering at the special events as a photographer. Along with his work as a special events photographer, he also assisted in manning the booths and preparing and selling raffle items. Thomas took his volunteering one step further when he joined the Event Planning

Committee. Through one of his personal fundraisers he was able to raise over \$500.00 on behalf of South Lake Animal League.

One of the dogs that Thomas adopted from South Lake Animal League last year, Sydney, is now a registered therapy dog. He is looking forward to expanding his volunteering into the humane education side.

Thom said, "We have rescued 4 dogs from South Lake Animal League. We loved working with them so much that I wanted to do more with them. I am now a volunteer at the shelter and special events. We are true believers that shelter dogs make the best dogs."



## Senior Pet Program

By Dottie Hoag-White



The Senior Pet program currently allows you to adopt a senior dog for \$100 or a senior cat for \$50.

In the Senior to Senior program (both you and the pet are seniors) the rate is \$50 for a senior dog and \$25 for a senior cat. In this program, the League will have available to you a specific amount of dry pet food for the remainder of your new pet's life. Please speak with the shelter manager for restrictions and rules.

## Thrift Store

By Ronda Cline

WOW! Summer is definitely here. We always say good-bye to so many of our volunteers every year when they head to cooler climates for 6 months and this year was no exception. Off to cooler temperatures are: Lila, Molly, Bonnie, and Virginia (affectionately known as the Minnehaha Girls). Sue, Jackie, and soon to depart Rainy and Dottie Hoag-White will take off and join the ranks of the retired too. We miss them all and anxiously await their return in the fall.

Welcome back to Nancy Wheeler from a 2 week vacation to Texas and we hope that Darcy enjoys her 2 week vacation to Yellowstone National Park. Jean Porter has been visiting her son in North Carolina for ever it seems but a little bird told me that she would be back soon. Barb has company for 2 weeks so we will see her after they go home.

It's good to have Julie back to work now that her son has mostly recuperated from his accident

Hi, I'm Bella. I don't have much hair and I have an overbite!

I want to introduce you to South Lake Animal League's Senior Program. This is how I looked when I was rescued from Animal Control by the League. My skin was on fire because of all the fleas and their bites. I had an infection in my ears, a fungal infection, and a skin infection. I walk with a limp and have a rib that was broken. The nice ladies gave me a bath and medicine to kill the fleas. The vet took care of my medical need but he called me "baboon butt". I have scar tissue that will never be white again. I still have an allergy to fleas. My bigger than life personality makes up for my deficiencies. My forever home is great! I get frequent (ugh) baths that help control my skin problems. I get lots of love and I have a friend to play with me.

Consider giving a fine old pet a second chance at life.

### Seniors

Love to sleep and snuggle. They enjoy daily exercise, but the best part of the day is the nap.

Take their time- teaching us to stop and smell the roses.

Have an enormous amount of love to give. When you rescue a senior, you have a best friend for life.

Reward your care with an unconditional love and devotion.

Have learned many of life's lessons- They usually already know where the bathroom is and what **not** to chew!

When unwanted, seniors sadly live their life out in a kennel. Adopting a senior dog or cat brings joy to a life.  
What a gift this is!

and Callie and her grandmother, Sue, have been back too, and report that Callie's brother Jacob is doing better since his accident.

Donna Bill has had to leave her cashier position due to health concerns but we will continue to find ways to get her in to see us.....like the jewelry sales perhaps! A big THANK YOU to all the other cashiers that are taking turns covering her shift until another cashier can be found.

And speaking of jewelry.....the jewelry sales have been a great money maker just like our eBay sales. Thanks to all that participate in those two events.

Our sales in summer tend to decline a little but the \$400 kayak just sold and our \$50 stuffed Mickey Mouse went during Wine Walk 2. That will certainly look good on the books! All in all, May has been a pretty good month.....and we're one month closer to cooler temperatures too! Yippee!!

## Humane Education

By Sally Guggino

### COURAGEOUS CANINES

We all know that dogs have proven themselves time and time again in being helpful companions to their handicapped owners and as search, rescue, and sniff dogs in local, state federal, and international law enforcement. Family dogs have also shown courage and fortitude and loyal devotion for their owners. Here are some of their stories:

Todd, a water-loving black Labrador retriever lives with his owner, Peter Loizou; Peter loves to sail and took Todd on a sailing trip. Their destination was about 12 miles away; a small island that they had sailed to before. Todd fell off the boat and was lost at sea. He was not wearing his life jacket that day. Heartbroken, Peter radioed for help and had a helicopter rescue team search for over 5 hours. It was determined that when Todd fell off the boat, he must have injured himself and died. But everyone under-estimated Todd; Todd was alive and could have swam ½ mile to shore; but Todd was determined to swim all the way home; he spotted the “big red ferry” and knew that the “big red ferry” went past his home. He followed the boat and crawled to shore about 3 miles from home. He had swum 8 miles and 6 hours. A boy found Todd and reported him to the local police. The police scanned Todd’s microchip and called Peter to tell him that they had his dog; Peter was overjoyed to be reunited with his beloved Todd. He believed him to be dead. What a reunion that must have been!

In 2001, a Jack Russell terrier named Heidi scrambled down a 500-foot drop to get to her owner, Graham Snell. Snell had fallen off the cliff while hiking and died instantly. Heidi stayed by her master’s side for two days until rescue teams finally found them.



*I think dogs are the most amazing creatures; they give unconditional love. For me they are the role model for being alive.  
~Gilda Radner”*

A 2-year-old little boy, wearing only diapers and a t-shirt, wandered out of his family home after dark as his family watched a movie on tv. His mother notified the local police who searched the dense woodland area with a helicopter and sniffer dogs. As overnight temperatures dropped to 38 degrees, the boy was found the next morning almost a ¼ mile from his home. He had only minor scrapes; the family dog, which was found with him, is believed to have kept him warm and safe throughout the cold, windy night. It seems this happy ending is all due to the devotion, care and protection of a very special dog that has been credited with saving the little boy’s life.

John Gray died February 8, 1959 in Edinburgh, Scotland, leaving very little behind except for a little Skye terrier, Bobby. The day after the burial, the curator noticed Bobby lying on the fresh mound of dirt. He chased the little dog away, but little Bobby was undaunted and kept coming back to the burial mound again and again. On the third day, Bobby showed up despite the cold and the rain. Finally, the curator took pity on the poor dog and allowed him to stay. And stay he did; for the next fourteen years Bobby kept constant watch over his owner’s grave, rarely leaving except to take his noontime meal at exactly 1:00 p.m. He came to be known as Greyfriars Bobby, after the cemetery in which his master was buried. Bobby outlasted his master by fourteen years and when he died he was buried just inside the gate at Greyfriars Kirkyard. He could not be buried with his master because it was consecrated ground. His headstone reads, “Greyfriars Bobby – died 14<sup>th</sup> January 1872 – aged 16 years – Let his loyalty and devotion be a lesson to us all”.

## Precious Puppy

By Doreen Barker

Can you believe this precious little puppy? Her name is Rosabella and she was born the smallest of her littermates, weighing in at only 4 pounds when she was rescued. Her brother was triple her size at 12 pounds! One of the litter was kept, a few found homes but when they were about 7 weeks old and unwanted, little Rosabella along with her brother Sebastian, were left outside to fend for themselves. Luckily a Good Samaritan heard of their plight and brought them to the Animal League. Rosebella is all of 6 pounds now and a little sweetheart. She was born with a cosmetic birth defect- a cleft lip. She still eats and breathes just fine but that may be why she was tossed out as a 4 pound pip-squeak. She is looking for someone who can love her and give her a forever home.



## Our Recent Accomplishments

- 🐾 We are saving more lives! Adoptions of dogs and cats have increased each month.
- 🐾 We're getting more visitors each month to our shelter, A Haven Before a Home Adoption Center.
- 🐾 Volunteers are attending 3 - 4 Community events each month, including adoption days, fundraisers, and friend raisers.
- 🐾 Mary, the new shelter manager, is on site full time.
- 🐾 Phone calls and emails to the adoption center are answered and returned consistently.
- 🐾 More volunteers spending quality time with the shelter dogs and cats (If you've got the time we'll give you a dog or cat to walk, groom, or play with.)
- 🐾 Health testing procedures on new in-takes are now performed by trained personnel at the shelter - saving on vet bills!

## What can you do?

### Volunteer -

- 🐾 Help with the animals at the adoption center
- 🐾 Help at Pet Adoption Days, community events, & with fundraising
- 🐾 Visit PETCO to care for the cats that reside there
- 🐾 Help at our Clermont Thrift Shop

Fill out our online Volunteer Application at [slal.org](http://slal.org) and we'll be in touch soon!

### Donate -

South Lake Animal League receives no federal or state funding, and relies on the generosity of the community to help us care for the abused, abandoned, and neglected animals in our community.

In 2010, we spent **over \$49,500** on animal care. This included vet costs, medications, and food but not the additional items needed for the comfort and wellbeing of the animals in our care such as treats, toys, leashes, collars, bedding, etc.

Online donations can easily be processed through PayPal. If you prefer to make your donation or pledge by mail, please visit [slal.org](http://slal.org) to print a copy of our donation form.

Please visit our website or call for more information. Your generosity is greatly appreciated!

## Our Mission

The mission of the South Lake Animal League is to act for the community as an advocate on behalf of animals; to provide for the well-being of the dogs and cats in Florida who are abandoned, injured, subjected to unfair or cruel treatment, or otherwise in need; to provide shelter for these animals; to maintain a "no kill" policy; to serve the citizens and animals of our community by sponsoring related public programs and upholding the laws enacted for their protection; to educate the public on responsible pet ownership including prevention of over-population by spay and neutering; and to enhance the lives of animals and people in our communities through education, awareness, adoption, and compassion.

Completing the phases of A Haven Before A Home Adoption Center is a critically needed commitment in the future of the abused, abandoned, and neglected dogs and cats in our community. It is a way for all of us to say thank you to the animals for giving us unconditional love and infinite happiness. We hope the individuals and businesses of Florida will be inspired by our commitment to provide a safe haven and will feel compelled to help make their dream - and ours - come true.

## SLAL Thrift Store

Because the organization receives no state or federal funding, the League relies on the continued support of the community. Many fundraising events are held but the League's most important sources of operating income is its Thrift Shop located in downtown Clermont and online at ebay.com, Seller ID: slalpets

**770 W Montrose Street, Clermont, FL 34711**

**(352) 394-1818**

### Thrift Store Hours

Tuesdays thru Saturdays - 9:00 am to 3:00 pm

Sundays - 9:00 am to 2:00 pm

Closed Mondays

Donations are accepted

Tuesday - Saturday, 9:00 am to 2:00 pm.

We gladly accept clean items such as clothes, kitchen and household items, books, collectibles, and small electrical appliances in working order. Collectibles and specialty items are listed on our eBay charity site.

## A Haven Before a Home Adoption Center

Since its inception the League relied on a system of foster homes to handle the care, feeding, and socialization of the animals that have come its way. It has been the League's long-term goal to build a centralized permanent adoption center to meet the challenges of a growing population.

The whole project:

- 🐾 Capacity for 225 dogs & cats
- 🐾 66 air-conditioned kennels
- 🐾 6 air-conditioned puppy kennels
- 🐾 Dedicated areas for nursing animals
- 🐾 15 outdoor play areas
- 🐾 5 catteries with outdoor screened areas
- 🐾 5 Adoption/Get Acquainted Rooms
- 🐾 Conference Room
- 🐾 Laundry & Grooming rooms
- 🐾 2 exam rooms
- 🐾 Separate isolation building for incoming & sick animals
- 🐾 Caretaker's residence
- 🐾 Will be built in 4 phases, 1st phase opened October 9, 2010
- 🐾 Subsequent phases completed as funds become available
- 🐾 18,000 square foot facility situated on 22 acres in Groveland
- 🐾 Total cost - \$1.5 million

Shelter naming opportunities are available for donors as well as personalized brass blocks and bricks pavers. We hope you will join and support us in saying thank you to the animals by having an area of A Haven Before A Home Adoption Center named for yourself or a loved family member.



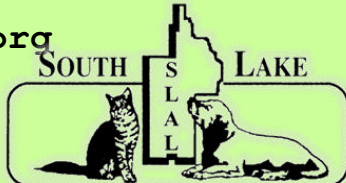
**South Lake Animal  
League, Inc**

**A Haven Before a  
Home Adoption Center**

**4648 Baptist Island Road  
Groveland, FL 34736**

**(352) 429-6334**

**www.slal.org**



**ANIMAL LEAGUE, INC.**



**Princess**

## Our Wish List

### Shelter Wish List:

#### **Cleaning:**

- Paper towels
- Liquid laundry detergent
- Bleach / Pine sol or generic brand
- Clorox wipes / Sponges
- All size trash bags
- Mop heads
- Dish detergent
- Liquid hand soap & sanitizer
- Long handled squeegees & scrub brushes

#### **Pets:**

- Nylabones, Kongs, durable toys
- Harnesses & Leashes
- Large litter boxes
- Scratching Posts, Trees, & Kitty Toys
- Purina Kitten & Puppy Food
- Any Brand Senior Food
- Any Brand Canned Dog Food
- Puppy training pads
- Kennels & Crates, Kuranda beds
- Cypress Mulch & dirt for the play yards
- Gift Certificates for Home Improvement + Pet Stores

#### **Office:**

- Printing paper & HP 920 ink

#### **Shelter donations can be delivered to:**

### **A Haven Before A Home Adoption Center**

4648 Baptist Island Road  
Groveland, FL 34736  
Phone: (352) 429-6334

### One time donation requests:

- Stainless steel table
- Microscope
- Vehicle for pet transport
- Laser color printer
- Misting Fans and industrial hoses
- Folding or stackable chairs
- Storage Sheds
- Mobile building for temporary isolation wing
- Vending machine
- Chain Link Fencing
- Universal chip scanner
- Pop-up tents
- Large wheeled toolbox

*deliver to shelter or  
call (407) 340-8698 for pickup*

### Thrift Store Wish List:

- Clothing / Collectibles / Books
- Kitchen & household items
- Small electrical appliances in working order
- Designer clothes and collectibles

#### **Store donations can be delivered to:**

### **South Lake Animal League Thrift Store**

770 W Montrose Street  
Clermont, FL 34711  
Phone: (352) 394-1818  
Donations are accepted  
Tuesday - Saturday, 9:00 am to 2:00 pm.



Boy and Girl Scout Troop Leaders, Teachers, Parents, Businesses...  
Please consider hosting a fundraiser or donation drive for the South Lake Animal League.  
Items from our wish list make fun group projects and are a good alternative to gag gifts.