



A Suffering Veteran Seeks a Special Companion

You Help Us Save More than Animals

Men and women who have chosen to serve our country sometimes find themselves dealing with health concerns and other traumatic struggles. At AWA, we often see similar challenges in the animals we work to save, heal and re-home. Being able to witness how an animal saves a human is truly special and reminds us of why our work is so important.

Mischief was a lucky dog the day he saved Bob. You see, Bob is a veteran and served twenty years in the military. We learned of his story when he came to the shelter looking for a therapy dog to help him with his posttraumatic stress disorder (PTSD). Bob also suffered from seizures and was battling cancer.

Bob needed a friend and partner to help him face each day. In hopes of finding a dog that could be trained by the *Veterans Association* as a therapy dog, Bob spotted Mischief. They spent some time together at their initial meeting - both proud and reserved but clearly smitten with each other.

Because Mischief had some basic

training from shelter staff, he was already responsive to simple commands. Bob was overjoyed that Mischief was clearly eager to please. It was apparent that the two connected and bonded.

As Bob started the adoption process, he was touched to learn that he qualified for the *Pets for Vets* program which allows a veteran to adopt free of charge. Bob became visibly overwhelmed with

the volunteer for all her help.

emotion and thanked

With your continued support, saving the lives of animals extends far beyond the impact on the life of the animal. It touches each of us in a very magical and special kind of way that is an unmatched form of true love. Saving animals, or rather, animals saving humans is one of life's special joys.

Thank You

For seven decades, AWA has been the leader in helping pets and people in our community by making a difference. All of our life-saving programs have been made possible by the generous support of our donors & volunteers.



The only way to pair a dog to a hero like Bob, is to find an equally heroic dog! Mischief was the perfect dog for the job!

Dear Friends,

As 2018 nears to a close, I am very thankful to everyone who attended a Tails & Tours or engaged in one of our 70th Anniversary specials, helping us celebrate this remarkable milestone. There are so many

accomplishments and stories to share of over 50,000 pets adopted, 30,000 spays and neuters, and 30,000 pets aided through AWA programs. Yet, our greatest accomplishments still lie ahead of us. AWA is growing, evolving and working to implement new innovative programs designed to benefit animals in need. Over the decades, AWA has promoted responsible pet adoption and more pets are being adopted across the region than ever before; The Pet Birth Control Clinic (now the Pet Clinic) has had a huge impact in lowering pet over population and abandonment; the veterinary outreach programs serving the City



of Camden have kept thousands of pets safe. And we love helping humans too. Over 40 years ago, AWA launched the first state-wide humane education and pet therapy programs, and today hundreds of area youth participate in one of AWA's humane education activities. Yet, there is still more to do!

That's why I am excited to announce that a newly-formed Capital Campaign Committee has quietly initiated the leadership gifts phase of Building a Place Where Happiness Begins, an 18 month \$2,500,000 capital campaign. Funds raised from the campaign will underwrite the construction of a new 15,000 square foot shelter on the current Centennial Boulevard site. The Building a Place campaign represents AWA's most challenging fund raising effort in its 70 year history. By 2020, AWA will be able to offer the community an adoption center that will meet the needs of the organization for decades to come. Today, AWA is one of the most active shelters in southern New Jersey, yet one of the smallest in size. Within a building of only 5,000 square feet, there is simply not enough space for all the animals that could be accepted. The construction of an adoption center three times larger than the current facility will cost nearly \$5,000,000 to construct. Upon opening, the new center will alleviate the current day-to-day frustrations of trying to provide quality shelter and modern programs for thousands of dogs and cats every year while allowing us to better serve more animals as well as our adopters.

After almost two years of planning, the Board and I are very excited about the potential that a new home for AWA represents for our volunteers, staff, adopters, and the South Jersey community. Our enthusiastic Campaign Committee - under the leadership of Board Members Holger Bauerle and Lynn Fryckberg – is off to a strong start, and I thank the Committee for their dedication. Beginning with Lynn and Holger's column in this newsletter, we look forward to keeping you apprised of the campaign's progress. In coming months, as campaign efforts expand, we will be inviting the generous participation of all of our many friends and supporters in this 70th Anniversary initiative.

With Gratitude



OUR MISSION

AWA is dedicated to eliminating animal suffering, promoting the importance of the human-animal bond and improving the role of animals in the well being of people.

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MAILING ADDRESS

Animal Welfare Association 509 Centennial Blvd. Voorhees, NJ 08043 Telephone: 856-424-2288 Website: www.awanj.org E-mail: info@awanj.org

ABOUT AWA

Founded in 1948, AWA was one of the first organizations to serve Camden County and all the surrounding areas. AWA is pleased to provide the following programs and services to our community:

- Adoptions
- Public Spay/Neuter, & Pet Wellness Services
- Pet Retention & Rehoming Support
- Humane Education
- Pet Therapy

AWA is a private charity and receives no local, state, or federal support. No animal is euthanized due to space, length of stay or for treatable medical or behavioral issues.

You Help US Save Animals Beyond Our Walls in Times of Crisis

Rescuing animals during times of crisis comes with its own unique set of challenges; yet because of you, we are able to help them.

2017 proved to be our nation's worst hurricane season. We were so touched when so many of you in our community reached out to us because you wanted to help. Thanks to you, we were able to take in homeless dogs and cats from Houston, Florida, and Puerto Rico to make room for displaced pets in those areas. Those pets you helped us rescue are now safe and sound in loving homes. And when Hurricane Florence pummeled parts of the east coast this September, we were able to transport in dogs from the affected areas. While their needs varied, many of the dogs required special medical care and behavior training.

AWA Helps a Local Shelter Flooded With Cats

Water wasn't the only type of flooding that caused shelters to be alarmed - AWA recently received an urgent plea from a local animal shelter that was flooded with cats and kittens and desperately needed help. AWA jumped into action!

Upon arrival, it was clear that the shelter's staff was doing an amazing job caring for the overwhelming number of cats, but there was no space and the cats were at risk of being put down. Thanks to you, AWA was able to take in 51 cats and kittens and provide them with medical care and second chances!





Toby was shaking when he arrived at AWA on a transport with nine other dogs. We can only imagine how scared he was feeling after the affects of Hurricane Florence. Because of people like you, it didn't take long before Toby was placed in a loving home.



The aftermath of Hurricane Maria included an explosion in the number of stray dogs in Puerto Rico. This past August, we took in 17 of them. Many of the dogs had tick fever and needed to be under close watch which included a strict regime of medication. The dogs, including Onyx pictured above, also needed behavior management to help overcome shyness and fearfulness. Because of you, they now know what it means to be safe and loved, and to be part of a family.

So far this year, AWA has saved 1,757 animals. With your help, hundreds more will be rescued and placed in loving homes.







Your Updates Inspire Us To Keep On Saving Lives!

We **LOVE** Updates!









"One year ago today, I walked into the AWA unsure if I was ready for another dog, but then I saw Stella. I am so grateful that I picked her and she picked me. She is a loving, energetic dog who brings joy wherever she goes! Thank you for providing me the opportunity to bring home Stella, now Penelope Penguin Fire Doggy (aka Penny)!" -Shelly



"Word on the street has it that Amigo thinks his mom is going WAY overboard on the Halloween costumes! But she also likes to cuddle with him and gives him excellent care!"

Friends and growing!



"Rocky is doing great. He loves his new family and home. He has adjusted well and he is a really sweet dog and is loved very much here. Thank you again for all your help and guidance. "



Share your stories with us on Facebook, we'd love to hear from you!



"Ougie & Hitch are already comfortable in their room! I can't wait until we're able to introduce them to their new big home, they're going to be very happy here. Thank you for letting us adopt both to keep these two brothers together." -Karina



"It's been almost 3 months in my new home. I've had so much love and fun adventures, but I think this picture sums it up: comfortable in my warm cozy bed between my mom dad and my furry siblings, snoring and smiling in my sleep. This is the life. Thanks for all that you did to make this possible."



"Dr. Voodoo enjoying some lettuce! You would never guess he's 10 years old the way he runs around the house. He's a great addition to our family." -Robin

Our Volunteers Make Second Chances Happen

Curious Pup Learns a Sticky Life Lesson

Your donations also allowed us to provide emergency care to a pup named **Spencer**.

Spencer's puppy-curiosity led to a life-threatening situation after he nabbed Gorilla Glue off a coffee table at a house and



"ate it." Gorilla Glue clumps in the stomach and is known to cause blockages in dogs. Fortunately for Spencer, he only had to be admitted into the hospital for two days, receive several X-rays to monitor where the glue ball was headed, before he eventually passed it without further incident. We are grateful to our fosters for caring for Spencer until he was medically cleared for a forever home!

Friday the 13th Proves Lucky for this Mama Cat

In the early morning hours of a steamy Friday the 13th, **Trisk** was found outside of AWA with her hours-old kittens. Thankfully, a staff member found the family and brought them inside. **Trisk** and her babies were just a few of the hundreds of cats that were brought to AWA during this year's especially busy "kitten season." With the help of



dedicated fosters. Trisk was able to care for and nurse her kittens in the comfort of a home until they were ready for the adoption floor. We are so thankful that they were given this second chance!



A huge **THANK YOU** to our volunteers, including our fosters. As a small shelter, you give us the extra hands, time, love (and foster homes for pups and kittens) we need to carry out our life-saving programs!





Déjà vu? In 1970, volunteers from a local scout troop planted pine trees on AWA's land. Those trees are now part of the acres of peaceful trails that our homeless dogs walk along with volunteers. This summer, a scout troop, lead by Eagle Scout Joe Acerbo, worked tirelessly to create a vegetable garden next to the shelter to help feed adoptable bunnies.



We are Excited to Announce our Capital Campaign to Build a New Adoption Center!

Dear AWA family and friends, It is both an honor and privilege to serve as Co-chairs of AWA'S *Building a Place Where Happiness Begins* capital campaign.

As part of its long term strategic planning, AWA's Board of Directors actually began planning for a new shelter building not long after the opening of the Pet Clinic in 2013... and it will soon be a reality. Last year, upon the completion of a capital campaign feasibility study, the Board began preparations to ensure AWA was strongly positioned to undertake a special \$2,500,000 fund drive to construct a new \$5,000,000 state-ofthe-art shelter and adoption center. In the past couple years, as the Board identified what we wanted to most accomplish with the capabilities of a much-expanded shelter, we envisioned - and then designed with our architects - a bright, open, and well-lit facility that will welcome neighbors looking for help with their pets, where children will come to learn about animal care and to help animals, and most importantly, a place where hurt and homeless pets can be vetted and rehabilitated so they can have a second chance at life and love, hence

our theme Building a Place Where Happiness Begins.

In the last few months Capital Campaign Committee members have been quietly meeting with a number of AWA's most generous, long-time supporters (including our many foundation partners) and we have been very gratified and encouraged by their support for the project. Along with Board President Jonathan Furlow, we are pleased to announce that at AWA's 70th Anniversary Celebration on November 8th, that the Campaign Committee will officially "kick off" the Building a Place campaign, announcing additional details about the campaign as well as the exciting financial commitments we have received to date. We are also pleased to report that every member of AWA's Board of Directors and Capital Campaign Committee has already made a personal commitment to the success of the organization's fund drive.

In the months after the kick-off, members of the Campaign Committee will continue to meet quietly with many other AWA supporters whose participation will be critical to the success of the drive's major gifts

phase. Then, as Maya noted in her comments, as the campaign efforts broaden in 2019, to achieve our goal of \$2,500,000, we will definitely need and will be asking you for! - a special, perhaps one-time gift to the campaign in addition to your kind annual gift. Throughout both the facilities and campaign planning phases of the project, we have never lost sight of the goal we wanted to accomplish: to build a desperately needed new facility that will demonstrably improve care to South Jersey's most vulnerable and needy animals as well as be a welcoming, professionally-appearing place for our community's pet loving friends. The Building a Place campaign represents a unique opportunity for all of AWA's donors to have a lasting impact in saving the lives of dogs and cats in South Jersey: to be part of an effort that builds for them a home where indeed their happiness Begins!

Warmly, Lynn Fryckberg and Baeuerle, Capital Campaign Committee Co-chairs re Happiness Begins



Lynn Fryckberg Capital Campaign Committee co-chair

Lynn P. Fryckberg is a Senior Vice President at UBS Financial Services. Lynn graduated from Thomas Jefferson University with a Bachelor of Science degree. Lynn is active in the community through her participation on two non-profit boards in South Jersey. She is married to her husband, Harry.





Holger Baeuerle
Capital Campaign Committee co-chair

Holger Baeuerle is a private real estate investor. He holds a bachelor's degree in Economics from the London School of Economics and an MBA from Duke University/The Fuqua School of Business. Holger and his spouse have one child. He is the proud owner of a dog adopted from AWA.



View from dog wing to lobby.

Pet Clinic Works Hard with Your Support

The Pet Clinic and Community Neighbors Work Together to Save Feral Cats

October 16th is National Feral Cat Day. This day brings attention to how best to manage the outdoor cat population using non-lethal means. The practice of "trap, neuter, vaccinate and return" (TNR) is now considered the most effective approach. But, it is a community issue and requires a community of cat—loving advocates to work.

Here at AWA we get inspired by stories of people asking for tips on what to do, then going forth to save animals!

That happened recently in a small cul-de-sac a few miles from AWA. "Help! We are seeing cats in our yard. I walked around the neighborhood and found more cats. I've been talking to our neighbors and everyone has cats." It turns out that a wonderful elderly lady had been feeding a few cats for years. Her cats were fixed and did not roam. Yet, last year a few more cats showed up. Then they had babies. Then

more cats showed up and she couldn't get them all fixed. She didn't know what to do and she wasn't sure if her neighbors would be mad at her.

The knock on her door and the words, "I see you have a few cats. Can I help you get them fixed?" nearly knocked her off her feet. Then the cat-project started. While not everyone in the neighborhood really loves cats, they all agreed that killing the cats wasn't right. So, those that love cats decided to help. They created a Facebook fundraiser, went out and trapped cats, brought them to AWA's Pet Clinic to be spayed/neutered, vaccinated and receive medical care. Then they worked to set up outdoor houses. By sharing what was happening with all the neighbors, the community was supportive. Thanks to these catadvocates, over 20 cats are now fixed! Any new cat will be trapped upon arrival and fixed, and vaccinated.

The Pet Clinic Helps a Golden Retriever Spend Her Golden Days in the Sun!

Sandy is a sweet 11 year old Golden Retriever. When she

first came to the Pet Clinic, she was in too much pain to let her personality show.
Sandy had glaucoma, which is a very painful condition of the eye. After Dr. David performed an enucleation—removed her eye - Sandy and her family were so grateful that she was



once again a very happy dog. She spent many summer days resting poolside, soaking up the sun!



"Rizzo says thank you Pet Clinic for taking such good care of me. I have made some beautiful babies but my daddy days are over and I'm feeling much better and I am a happy guy!" Thanks to donors and support from **The Camden County Board of Freeholders**, AWA continues to deliver a variety of pet care

services to targeted city neighborhoods. Through our Vets on Wheels program, pet owners can get exams and vaccinations, as well as access to free or low cost spay/neuter surgeries. AWA staff is out in the neighborhoods talking to residents and giving away pet food. This program helps keep their pets healthy and in their lives. During our Camden Pet Care Day this fall, not only did we help



hungry pets, but thanks to Ravitz Family Markets, we were able to provide hungry children with water and healthy snacks.



Thanks to you, so far this year the **Pet Food Pantry** and **Vets on Wheels** distributed over **3,200 pounds of food** to local pets and families.

You Help Us Celebrate with Fun events and More!



Team *Kibbles & Bits* worked tirelessly to raise money and took home the top fundraising prize. Thank You!



Despite the rain, this years *Paws & Feet* had over 1,000 in attendance and raised over \$103,000.00. Guests from all ages came to walk, run, splash and just have fun with their dogs. *Paws and Feet* is AWA's biggest fundraiser. We strive to raise \$100,000 from this event each year. The money raised covers about 1/3 of AWA's veterinary services and supply expenses. **So mark your calendars and support our event in 2019: May 18th at Cooper River Park.**

"What I saw at the *Paws & Feet* event was amazing—people working for a cause and having fun. You were all beautiful, amazing people. What an organization!" -Corky



AWA's Long History of Teaching Compassion

"Education is key" announced Alice Blackburn, AWA's first Humane Education director. AWA has always believed that caring for animals should be taught at a young age because the results are a more humane tomorrow. AWA's Humane Education program continues to touch the lives of 4,000 youths each year. During our *Summer Camp*, kids had a great time working on enrichment toys for homeless animals, teaching dogs basic commands to make them more adoptable, created adoption posters and even got a visit from a therapy chicken!





Youth learn humane education in AWA's Kindness Club, 1971.



Future veterinarians learn how to suture by using a banana and thread.

We are so proud to see passionate kids in our community working hard to raise money and collect goods for homeless animals!

Upcoming

Mark Your Calendars!

AWA WORKSHOPS

Trap Neuter Return
Feral Cat Workshop
November 15th, 6-7 pm
December 20th, 6-7 pm

Senior Pet Care Workshop (Free)
November 8th, 6-7 pm

EVENTS / FUNDRAISERS

Trunk or Treat (Free)

Kids and (well-mannered) dogs can safely Trunk-or-Treat right in the AWA parking lot!

October 27th, 1-3 pm

Giving Tuesday

We are thankful for our supporters and we ask that you remember homeless pets on Giving Tuesday, November 27th - go to awanj.org to donate.

Pet Photos with Santa

Capture holiday memories with your pet & Santa! **December 8th**, 12 –3 pm, Pet Clinic

50/50 Raffle

Don't miss out—the pot gets bigger every year! Last years winner walked away with \$17,000! Tickets go on sale November 9th. Drawing is **December 13th** at the Pet Clinic.

Check out our event page for details and updates!

awanj.org/events



Remember Them This Holiday Season

Hope for the Holidays

Please give to our homeless animals this holiday season. Holiday giving from donors like you makes up 40% of

our Annual Fund and helps us sustain our programs all year long.

awanj.org





- \$25 feeds nursing, orphaned
 kittens
- \$75 can vaccinate whole litters
- ◆ \$100 can repair a dog's injured leg
- \$150 can provide dogs with beds so they don't have to sleep on cold, concrete floors this winter

Did You Know ...

Many employers match your charitable gifts! Visit www.awanj.org/matching-gift to see if your employer participates.







Ghost from Christmas past: AWA's first alumni holiday party held shortly after the shelter opened in 1966. AWA has always been, and will continue to be, A Place Where Happiness Begins.





Shop Our NEW Online Store Giving Back in Always in Style

AWA is excited to present our NEW online store
- just in time for the holidays!

Be sure to grab your AWA gear or buy some
gifts for your family!

All proceeds go towards helping rescue, save, treat and re-home animals! www.support.awanj.org/store

How You Can Help During Times of Change

"Has the new tax reform hurt giving to AWA?" is a question we hear each week. As we reach the "giving season" we are cautiously hopeful it won't hurt donations. AWA is a charity that uses each dollar to its most to fund programs and services.

I am worried about AWA's 2018 and 2019 Annual fund – the money needed to keep the doors open, medicines on the shelf, etc.- as we undertake a multi-year capital project. Why? Some supporters, companies and foundations may switch their annual funding to support the capital project. If this occurs alongside a dip in overall giving due to tax reform, we will feel it. AWA's services like – Vets on Wheels in the City of Camden, below-cost feral cat surgeries to curb the population of outdoor cats, free humane education opportunities to youth, will be at risk. AWA needs and uses each dollar raised PLUS dollars saved from past bequests to cover what it costs to save and aid so many pets and people in our community.

I am always reminded that AWA is a lean regional charity that does so much for the community. As we enter the holiday season – when nearly 40% of our annual donations are given – I remain hopeful that annual donations will remain strong. I believe in our community to support AWA today, tomorrow, and into the next decade. - Maya Richmond

Consider These Increasingly Popular Methods of Giving

Bequest

Leave AWA in your will.



Donor Advised Fund (DAF)

Put money in a fund and when it grows, you can make a charitable gift to AWA tax-free.



Your Gift Investment More gifts for the animals in a Fund

IRA Rollover Gifts

If you are 70.5 years of age or older, you can transfer up to \$100,000 directly from your IRA to a charity each year.



If you are interested in making a gift through any one of these methods, please call Maya Richmond at 856-424-2288, ext. 109, or email Maya at Mayar@awanj.org.

NAME:			\Box I'd like to make a donation	for \$
ADDRESS:	STATE:	ZIP:	□ I want to be a CONSTANT recurring monthly donation	
EMAIL:			Charge my card on the Begin my monthly donation	day of each month
			$\ \square$ I agree to a monthly donation until I cancel.	
PLEASE CHARGE MY CREDIT CARD VISA IN MASTERCARD IN AMEXICATION CREDIT CARD NUMBER:	C DISCOVER		EXP DATE:	CCV:
CREDITHOLDER NAME:				

A PET'S LIFE IS IN YOUR HANDS. PLEASE DONT THROW IT AWAY!

Your contribution to AWA is tax-deductible to the fullest extent of the law. AWA is a registered 501 (c) 3 organization and relies on the generosity of our supporters. Donations may be made online at awanj.org or call 856-424-2288, ext. 107.



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www.awanj.org



Instagram: @AWA_NJ Twitter: @AWANJ



Thanks to grants from the following, we are able to help prevent neglect and help control over-population, keeping more pets out of area shelters:





Bernice Barbour Foundation

Michele and Agnese Cestone Foundation, Inc.

Edith J. Goode Residuary Trust

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Happiness is....













finding a forever home