

Animal Tails

ANIMAL WELFARE ASSOCIATION • 75th ANNIVERSARY EDITION - FALL 2023



MISSION STATEMENT

To eliminate animal suffering, promote the importance of the human-animal bond and improve the role of animals in the well-being of people.

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A NOTE FROM LAURA



In 1948 a group of 4 women channeled their passion for helping animals into the creation of the Animal Welfare Association. I often wonder what Josephine Adams, Katharine Miller, Madeleine Thompson and Lillian Ragan would think if they saw AWA today. If they saw the incredible impact their compassion has made over the past 75 years. How their vision of helping animals has grown to help animals both locally and nationally as well as helping their surrounding communities with services such as affordable vet care and even pet loss support. How their vision has expanded to include education programs that teach empathy to help prevent future animal homelessness and behavior/training programs that ensure the mental and physical well-being of shelter pets as well as owners and their pets. I hope they would be proud of the thousands of homeless animals that have found furever homes and the thousands more that have received services to help make their lives better. If I could, I would tell them about Teddy, the dog who saved his adopted Mommy's life by getting her to safety when she fainted in the shower or Sophie

who has done hundreds of hours as a therapy dog or Buddy the cat that provided his adopted mom with years of love and companionship. I would tell them how excited I am for AWA's next 75 years. How we have a chance to build on our amazing foundation and make an even greater impact for homeless pets. How we are working to expand our reach through partnerships both local and national. How we are using tools such as online databases to help guide where we can help the most and how we are sharing our knowledge, programs, and mentorship with other shelters across the country to help increase their impact. Most of all I would share with them how proud I am to be a part of the organization their dreams created. I only hope that when the Director 75 years from now looks back at the work that we will do, that they are just as proud.

Handwritten signature of Laura Houston.

Laura Houston
Executive Director

WHAT'S NEW OR IN THE FUTURE AT THE SHELTER:

- Mentoring local shelters through the Shelter Leadership program
- Additional dog play yards

AT THE PET CLINIC:

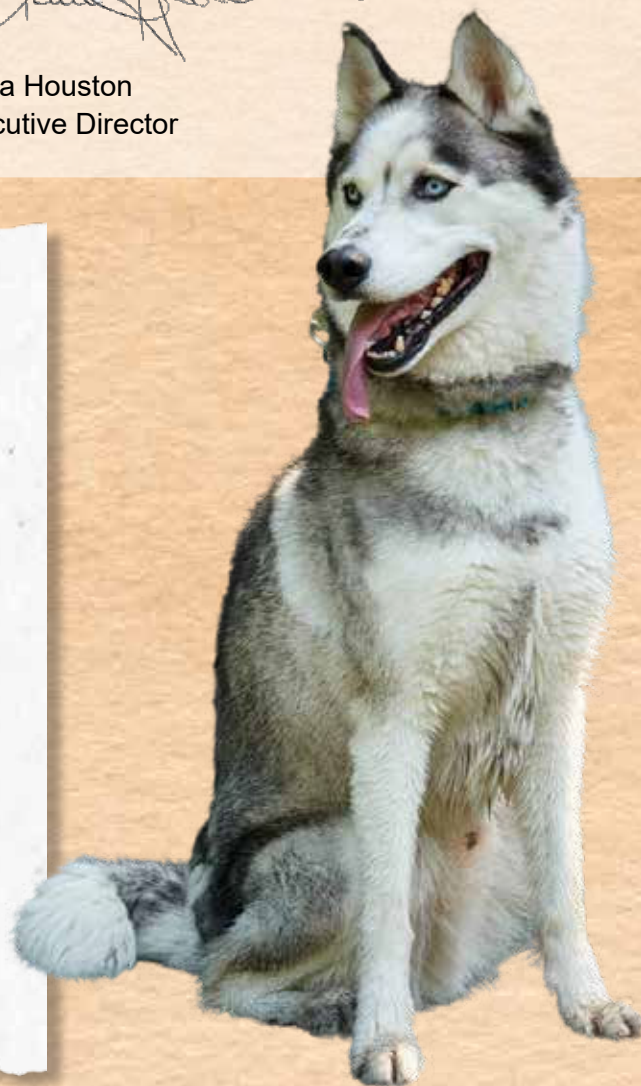
- Dental and radiology services
- Partnership with Rowan University Shreiber School of Veterinary Medicine

EDUCATION:

- Home School Workshops
- AWA Overnight
- Wags & Wiggles - Guardian and Me Workshop

COMMUNITY OUTREACH:

- School & Classroom Outreach Program



BUILDING ON A STRONG FOUNDATION

For 75 years AWA and the animals in our care have benefited from the generosity and dedication of donors, volunteers, and sponsors. As we celebrate **75 years of saving lives** we want to recognize the founders who worked tirelessly to build a strong foundation that allowed AWA to grow and innovate over the decades. AWA has been at the forefront of the animal welfare field, enhancing the care provided to animals at our shelter and pet clinic. Anticipating the needs and interest of the pet-loving community guides the creation of programs and services we offer at AWA. **Let's celebrate the 75th anniversary as we look ahead to a bright future for animals and the people who love them.**



NEW ADOPTION & EDUCATION CENTER OPENED IN 2022



BUILT IN 1966 - THE FIRST AWA SHELTER

IMPORTANT AWA MILESTONES

- 1948** AWA founded
- 1960** Third organization accepted by the Humane Society of the United States (H.S.U.S.)
- 1966** First shelter built
- 1971** Humane Education wing added
- 1974** Region's first low-cost spay/neuter clinic opens
- 1983** Pet Therapy program launched
- 2006** Foster Care program established
- 2008** AWA becomes a no-kill shelter
- 2009** Transport program created
- 2010** Trap Neuter Return (TNR) program started
- 2012** Outreach to pet owners in the City of Camden begins
- 2013** Pet Clinic opens
- 2022** Adoption & Education Center opens and renovated Pet Clinic reopens

NEW IN 2023

Expanded Education Programs including a Home School program

Malibu & Gus Family Foundation program added

Vets on Wheels (VOW) increased visits to the City of Camden

Coming soon:

Dental and Radiology Services



SKILLED VETERINARY CARE CONTINUES

ALWAYS MOVING FORWARD

"I DEDICATE THIS HEADQUARTERS TO THE PROPOSITION THAT MAN AND ANIMAL ALIKE CAN SHARE THIS PLANET WITH MUTUAL RESPECT AND COOPERATION!"

Those words were spoken by AWA's former President Charles Clausing at the dedication of the first AWA shelter in 1966 and still hold true in 2023. AWA is proud to be able to continue the vision of our founders.

The opening of the new Adoption & Education Center along with the reopening of the renovated Pet Clinic began a new and thrilling chapter in AWA's 75-year story.

The new facility was conceived to be a place where not only animals' lives are saved but also a place where people of all abilities and ages can gather to learn, connect, and have some fun in support of animals.

AWA is grateful we are able to provide these new or expanded programs and services to the community:

The **Pet Sponsorship** program was created to help pets that may have a longer stay at AWA due to age or health conditions. Donors enjoy having a more personal connection by sponsoring one of these special pets.

Through the support of the **Malibu and Gus Foundation**, financially challenged pet owners can have a cat spayed or neutered for a discounted price of \$40. The discount package also includes: rabies vaccine, FVRCP (Distemper) micro-chipping, nail trim, and an e-collar.

An expanded **Vets on Wheels (VOW)** with two monthly visits (May-October) to the City of Camden allows AWA to assist a greater number of pets, providing vaccines, micro-chipping, preventative veterinary care, and pet food.

This beneficial partnership with **Rowan University Shreiber School of Veterinary Medicine** will help train/teach veterinary students.

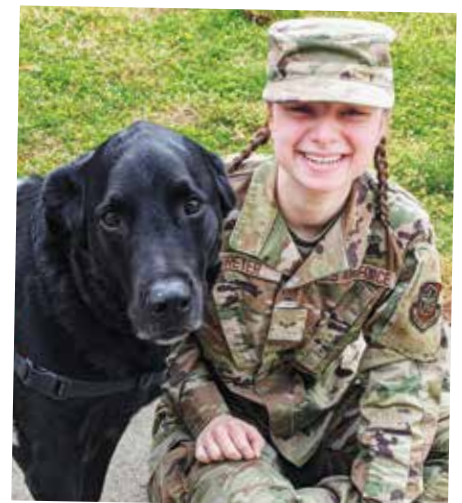
Through a grant from **Best Friends**, AWA will increase the number of cats and kittens taken in from two local shelters, which will help with over-crowding and raise the save rate at these shelters.



HELPING MORE PETS IN CAMDEN



CORPORATE CUDDLES - A NEW OUTREACH PROGRAM



PET THERAPY - OFFERING COMFORT SINCE 1983

CONNECTING ANIMALS, PEOPLE & COMMUNITY

AWA is working with national organizations as a mentor shelter to help, guide, support, and teach best animal welfare practice.

Hundreds of children in Camden have benefited from the **Compassionate Kids Reading** program through our partnerships with: Boys and Girls Club of Camden County, Salvation Army Kroc Center, and LUCY Outreach.

Our **Pet Bereavement Groups** provide a safe, welcoming and compassionate space for people to share their emotions and grieve.

Our **Healing Heroes Fund** allows AWA to provide medical care for animals with extraordinary medical needs.



SHELTER MEDICAL - CARING FOR SICK AND INJURED ANIMALS



LOWER-COST VETERINARY CARE FOR COMMUNITY PETS



88%
More Cats Saved
From 2 Local
Shelters

SAVING MORE FELINE LIVES WITH A GRANT FROM BEST FRIENDS



KITTEN YOGA - A POPULAR EVENT



3,363
Lives Saved
Since 2021!

TRANSPORT PROGRAM

EXPANDING ON OUR EDUCATIONAL PAST

In 1971 AWA added an education wing to the shelter recognizing that instilling compassion, empathy, and respect for animals in children would carry over into their adulthood to improve the lives of all living creatures.

Today, AWA's education programs have an even broader reach out into the community, educating, connecting, and building a more humane world together. Our programs help strengthen the human-animal bond, teach basic animal safety, inform pet-lovers of animal related issues, offer children who are unable to have pets a chance to experience unconditional love, and provide fun and effective learning experiences for all ages and abilities.

The spacious new Adoption & Education Center finally made it possible to roll out programs that were just dreams due to lack of space, but we aren't finished yet: more innovative programs are coming in the future.



OUTREACH VISITS

CURRENT EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS

- Summer Camp
- Birthday Parties
- Kids Day Off Camp
- Field Trips
- Scout Badge Opportunities
- Free Education Outreach Visits
- Exclusive Behind-the-Scenes Experiences
- Animal Academy Home School Program
- P.A.W.S. Volunteer Program
- Kids Night Out
- TAILTalks
- Tales with Tails
- Pet Therapy
- Art for Animals Gallery
- Wags & Wiggles



SCOUT BADGE PROGRAM



FIELD TRIP VISITORS



BECOME A VET FOR A DAY

ANIMALS STILL NEED HELP!

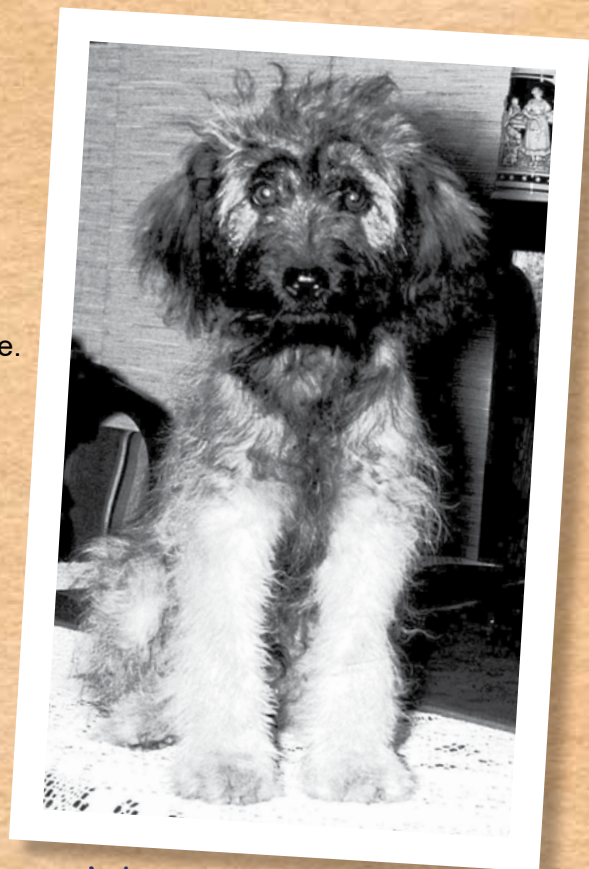
In 1961, the dog picture on the right was saved by the quick action of John Leslie, a Director-Investigator at AWA. He was working on some correspondence in his Camden residence when he heard the heart-wrenching cries of a puppy.

He rushed outside and confronted four boys who were dragging a small, shaggy puppy up an alley, a long clothesline looped tightly around his neck. The more the puppy tried to pull away the tighter the noose became. One of the boys gave him a hard kick on his side because he refused to move. Without Mr. Leslie's intervention this poor pup would have been tortured and killed at the hands of these cruel boys.

Mrs. Ida Mae Roeder wrote about the story in her newspaper column published on the front page of the *Courier-Post*. She thought the dog looked like a rag mop — so that became his name.

AWA received hundreds of calls and letters, some over 300 miles away, offering to adopt or buy him. His rightful owner was found but surrendered him due to the high cost for his medical treatment. Rag Mop had a badly injured kidney, and his throat was severely damaged. The decision was made that Rag Mop would be officially adopted as AWA's mascot, with Mr. Leslie - his rescuer - taking on the role of his caregiver. Rag Mop deserved a safe and comfortable life.

Because of **compassionate and generous friends, like you**, AWA can continue to save and protect animals like Rag Mop.



AWA'S FORMER MASCOT



Since 2013
22,547
Pets Adopted
55,436
Pets Spayed or Neutered

Will you help make a difference in a pet's life by making a lifesaving gift today?

For 75 years AWA has counted on the support of kind and generous supporters, like you, to save the lives of abandoned and homeless animals, provide needed services through our Pet Clinic, and offer fun and engaging programs to the community. **Thank you!**

Please join AWA as we celebrate 75 years of saving lives and look to the future with much optimism.

Name: _____

Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

My gift of: \$ _____ Please charge my credit card: Visa MasterCard Amex Discover

Credit Card Number: _____ Expiration Date: _____

CCV: _____ Credit-holder Name: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Yes, make mine a monthly gift of \$ _____ and charge my credit card starting _____ (Month/Year)



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Scan QR Code
to donate online.





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SCAN FOR ALL
 UPCOMING
 EVENTS AT AWA!

