



**Saving One Life at a Time**

# **Acadiana Humane Mewsletter**

**Volume 6**



### Fundraising Chairman’s Message

Thank you not only for reading but for your interest in our rescue and efforts. We are always doing our best to help the animals in our care. Limitations in space and funds are the cause of our capacity issues and are our most critical needs, alongside food and medical care.

We are a non-profit organization dependent on donors and volunteers to help us thrive and continue. A big thank you goes out to our two Platinum Sponsors, Raising Cane's and Lafayette Veterinary Care Center. Their donations and partnerships have immensely helped. However, our work is never done and even such help from Mewsletter sponsors and our partners only goes so far. Please consider donating when you have extra money, or becoming a Mewsletter sponsor to get your name (or a loved one in your stead) on the back cover. It really does help to save lives, especially as we continue to return to normal and eventually show you our adoptables.

We'll see you at Boulevard Nutrition on March 25th where you can get a Rescucino for your pup, a drink for you, and a wonderful chat with fellow animal lovers.

### Critter of the Quarter



Phantom is a handsome black German Shepherd mix, estimated to be a little under a year old. He was picked up as a stray by one of our volunteers, and he immediately proved himself to be very friendly and affectionate. He seems to be fine with other dogs and cats and is very energetic and playful. Phantom prefers to be near his humans as much as possible and loves to be the center of attention. We're looking for someone to foster or adopt this sweet boy. Do you have a place in your heart and home for him?

**If you would like to adopt Phantom within the next quarter, Phantom’s adoption fee will be 25% off!**



Happy Tail



Article by: Quinn Champagne

I got Bran in my last semester of undergrad at UL. I was extremely lonely and depressed. I didn't know what my next step in life was going to be, as I really didn't have a vision for myself beyond graduation. I decided to adopt a dog because I knew that things were about to change for me, and I needed something stable. I had looked at Bran on Petfinder in late September, but when his price was reduced on October 1st (National Black Dog Day), it felt like a sign that he was the one. I'd never had my own dog before, and he was my first pet as an adult. I read that he'd been in and out of foster homes for five years, and my heart shattered—I soon came to find out that this was not a reflection on him as a dog, as he was always full of love. Whenever I'd have panic attacks, he'd put his arms around me and force me to lie down. He really gave me the strength I needed to continue living, and he helped nudge me into the direction of thriving. Even though I don't have panic attacks anymore, he's still by my side for every milestone. He was with me throughout graduate school. We moved to Baton Rouge, and then across the south to Nashville, TN. Now, he's with me again through my second graduate degree. Even though he

wasn't a puppy when I got him, I've seen him learn and grow so much with me; he used to be extremely dog reactive, and he sometimes still is, but we've learned together how to have successful introductions, and he's very playful when he sees his dog friends. He's also able to focus on me during walks, even when there are other dogs around; it's almost like he knows that as long as I'm there, he will be all right, which is very fitting because it's how I feel about him. I could not have asked for a better companion and travel buddy, and I'm so thankful for the opportunity to care for, love, and grow alongside him.



"Until they all have a home"



## How Can you Adopt?

Adopt, don't shop.

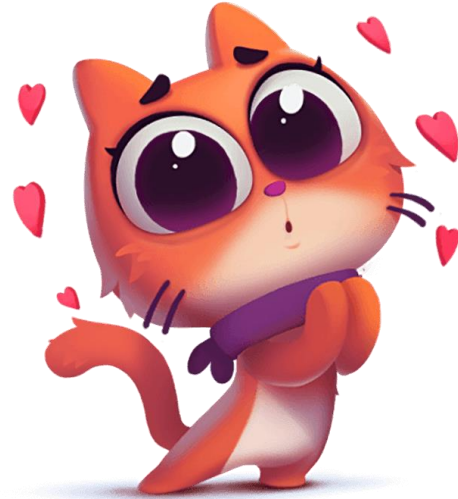
Adoption saves lives and results in the happiest pets on the planet. They know what you've saved them from.

Our 501(c)(3) non-profit rescue organization is the perfect place to adopt from. Simply go to our website at:

[acadianahumane.org/catblogger/](http://acadianahumane.org/catblogger/)

Download the pre-screening application, fill it out, and wait for us to process the application. Once your application is approved we move to a formal policy-review process and you eventually meet the newest member of your family.

Every adoption literally saves a life (maybe more) and we'd be happy to help you take that journey.





## The Catbox

It's too hot. It's too cold. It's raining. It's snowing. You don't want to go out in that, preferring to stay in your temperature-controlled, comfortable home.

So why would you ask your animals to endure it? If you think that, well, wild animals live out in such conditions, yes, they do. WILD animals. Our pets are not their wolf or wild cat ancestors; they have lost much of their wild instincts and endurances. And, most wild animals also seek shelter in adverse conditions. Many, many pets who are left out have none or what they have is inadequate. Dogs are often also chained or otherwise tethered or contained, so they cannot even move to seek other shelter.

Just because our pets have fur does not make them immune to the cold! They can suffer frostbite just as easily, if not moreso, as a human. Cats in particular actually need to maintain a higher body temperature than we do, and therefore get too cold more easily. And, just like in humans, infant, elderly, pregnant, injured, and infirmed animals suffer more from adverse conditions.

Remember, if it's too hot, cold, or uncomfortable for you, it's too hot, cold, or uncomfortable for them. Bring them inside.





### In-fur-mational and Educational

In this quarter, we're going to provide a little information on a couple of lesser-known feline health problems. If you suspect any problems with your animals' health, contact your veterinarian right away!

Articles by Guest Contributor: Lafayette Veterinary Care Clinic

#### Can Cats Have Asthma?

Yes, it is possible for cats to have asthma, referred to as Feline Asthma.

Allergens, which potentially cause your kitty to become asthmatic, include cigarette smoke, dust mites, and other bronchial irritants such as chemical cat litter and cleaning chemicals. There can also be other allergies to the environment.

If your cat has an asthma attack, it can be mild, moderate, or severe to life-threatening.

Signs of asthma include increased respirations at rest, wheezing, coughing or inability to breathe – indicated by open-mouth breathing. At any of these stages, veterinary care is essential to diagnose and manage the disease and alleviate the clinical signs. Depending on how bad the attack is, if lips and tongue are blue, oxygen therapy is necessary at first to stabilize along with other medications. If stable enough, an x-ray of the chest will reveal classic patterns in the lungs indicative of feline asthma. Heartworm disease should always be ruled out as the clinical signs of feline heartworm disease mimic feline asthma. Lung worms should also be ruled out as a cause of feline asthma.

Treatment includes decreasing allergens in the environment, a hypoallergenic diet, HEPA filters

in the home, no smoking inside or near pets, natural litters and cleaning supplies, and steroid treatments in various forms.

#### Cat Thyroid Problems

Feline hyperthyroidism occurs in about 10% of cats over 10 years old. It's caused by an overactive thyroid gland. Pet parents of cats with hyperthyroidism report the following symptoms:

Symptoms included:

- Increased vocalization
- Vomiting or Diarrhea
- Increased water intake
- Increased urination
- Weight loss despite a normal appetite
- Restlessness, increased activity
- Defecation outside the litter box
- Poor grooming

Early diagnosis by blood screening is key. From there, depending on symptoms, treatment is less complicated with early intervention.





### Fluffy Stuff

It's late in the evening, and you have settled onto to the couch to relax. Suddenly, your feline friend jumps up in your lap, climbs up your belly, and starts rubbing your face.

Cute, but why do they do this? Most likely, it has to do with scent.

Cats identify each other much by scent and more dominant cats will rub other cats in their group to claim each other as family. Mama cats will also do this with their kittens. Cats also do this with their humans. Sometimes, they will rub places on their humans' faces that produce a lot of scent to create a new, "family" scent.

A little possessive? Perhaps. But, in cat language, it means "we belong together." It is love.

### Special Events!

#### Rescuecino Fundraiser

Come see us at Boulevard Nutrition on March 25, 2023! From 9 am to 1 pm, we'll be holding our first ever Rescuecino fundraiser. Bring your beloved pooch by for a dog-friendly cappuccino drink! Pricing TBA. Donations always welcome!



#### Cane's Plush Puppy Sale

Raising Cane's has again generously chosen to donate their annual Plush Puppy Sale fundraising check to us!



Photo used with permission of Raising Cane's. Fundraising Chairman posing with Raising Cane's staff with the big check.

A big thank you to our sponsors who donated this quarter. Without your continued support the rescue cannot achieve its goal of saving the lives of pets who deserve good and loving homes.

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**Silver Sponsors:**

[Person(s) or businesses that donated \$20 or more for the quarter]

**Bronze Sponsors:**

[Person(s) or businesses that donated \$10 or more for the quarter]

For more information on how to become a sponsor, email us at [ahspets@gmail.com](mailto:ahspets@gmail.com) or [ahsfundraisers@gmail.com](mailto:ahsfundraisers@gmail.com)