



PAWPRINTS

The Newsletter of the Hill Country SPCA



Fredericksburg, Texas



Late Summer 2007

VOLUME 8 ISSUE 3

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Don't Miss It!

Hill Country SPCA
10th Anniversary
"Animal House"
Extravaganza

October 20, 2007
St Joseph's Halle
6 PM

Celebrating 10 years
of helping animals in
the Texas Hill Country

Calendar

- | | |
|--------------|------------------|
| Oct 20 | 10th Anniversary |
| Oct 20 - | Endowment Fund |
| Dec 31 | Pledge Drive |
| Nov 24 | Santa Paws |
| Dec 1, 8, 15 | |

Celebrating 10 Years of Helping Animals

This year, 2007, the Hill Country SPCA celebrates 10 years of helping companion animals in the Texas Hill Country. From our beginnings in 1997, when we housed adoptive animals in "foster homes" and ran an adoption center in the old Wal-Mart parking lot, to our spectacular new home in the Trudy Brune Hill Country SPCA, we have come a long way.

Over these 10 years, we have found loving new homes for more than 2200 dogs and cats and have provided no-cost spay/neuter vouchers for more than 2500 additional animals



Please join us in celebrating these very successful years at our *Animal House Extravaganza*, to be held Saturday, October 20, at St Joseph's Halle, starting at 6 PM.

We will serve hors d'oeuvres, desserts, wine, beer, soft drinks, coffee, and reminisce on the trials, tribulations, and triumphs that we have experienced so far. We will laugh - and maybe cry - as we enjoy a Togs and Tails Fashion Show. There will be a huge raffle and the first *Hill Country SPCA Friend of the Animals* will be recognized.

This is a family friendly event, and we issue a special invitation to current and past volunteers, current and past adopters, and current and past supporters to join us as we look back - and look forward to the next ten years.

Y'All Come!

All proceeds from this event will go to the Hill Country SPCA Endowment Fund. If you can not attend, consider making a 10th Anniversary Donation to the Endowment Fund—our financial Rock of Gibraltar.

Remember - It is, and always has been, all about the animals.

Hill Country SPCA Mission Statement

Because every single animal has value, the Hill Country SPCA is dedicated to:

- Preventing cruelty and neglect of domesticated animals in the Texas Hill Country
- Reducing the number of homeless and unwanted companion animals
- Eliminating euthanasia of unwanted animals
- Fostering responsible pet ownership
- Providing shelter and placement services for homeless and unwanted animals

Hill Country SPCA Board of Directors

President	Chris Ward
Vice President	Kellie Allen
Secretary	John Klein
Treasurer	Judy Unger
Directors:	Trudy Brune
	Mary Carleton
	Dudley Keifer
	David Plavidal
	Karen Weinheimer

Hours of Operation

Mon.-Fri. 10AM—6PM

Sat. 10AM—4PM

Sun. Closed

We are located at:

2981 South Highway 16

P.O. Box 1462

Fredericksburg, TX 78624

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Judy Unger
Kristie Jacoby
Editors and Publishers
www.hillcountryspca.com

Rescued!

On June 1, 2007, volunteers from the Hill Country SPCA rescued twenty-three dogs and two tiny newborn Scotty puppies from a puppy mill, where the adult dogs' only purpose in life was to produce as many puppies as fast as possible.

These dogs were in dire condition, both physically and emotionally. They had spent their lives living in small, filthy rabbit hutches, or dirt floor cages barely having room to move around. They were teeming with fleas and internal parasites, had not been fed adequately, had received virtually no medical care, and had experienced only minimal human contact.

Sadly, one of the Scotty puppies died the day after coming to the shelter. The other animals, however, after more than two months "in the arms of the good guys," are enjoying better health, and their social skills are improving every single day. Eighteen of these rescued dogs have already been adopted and are enjoying their new 'fur-ever' homes.

Sincere thanks go to the staff and volunteers who spent countless hours helping these animals adjust to their new

lives. It took hours and hours of ... poop-scooping, hosing and bleaching runs, ...sitting in runs trying to convince the dogs that people can be kind and good, ...bringing chicken broth to entice tentative appetites, ...giving extra baths ... and teaching basic manners. The rewards - the first tentative tail-wag or gentle lick on a hand, followed up by the dogs' gradual building of trust and return to good health - made all the effort worthwhile.

Shortly after the rescue, Lovie, a Schnauzer, gave birth to a litter of seven, and Mindy, a Beagle mama, had a litter of six. And, now, the sounds of playful puppy barks and happy volunteers fill the Trudy Brune Hill Country SPCA

Truly, this rescue is the finest thing that the Hill Country SPCA has ever done. (See Page 4 for pictures.)

What is a Puppy Mill?

According to the Humane Society of the United States (hsus.org), a puppy mill is a breeding facility that produces purebred puppies in large numbers. The puppies may be sold directly to the public via the Internet or newspaper ads, at the mill itself, or they are sold to brokers and pet shops across the country.

The documented problems of puppy mills include over breeding, inbreeding, minimal veterinary care, poor quality of food and shelter, lack of socialization with humans, overcrowded cages, and the killing of unwanted animals.

To the unwitting consumer, this situation frequently means buying a puppy facing an array of immediate veterinary problems or harboring genetically borne diseases that do not appear until years later.

Sadly, some dogs are forced to live in puppy mills for their entire lives. They

are kept there for one reason only: to produce more puppies. Repeatedly bred, many of "brood bitches" are killed when they can no longer produce puppies.

From wikipedia.com: A breeder who produces puppies with no breeding program, little attention to puppy placement, and poor health and socialization practices. Conditions in puppy mills are generally substandard and may be deplorable, and puppies and adult dogs may be malnourished, sickly, and of poor temperament.

Be wary of the source of a puppy



Getting to Know Adam Haun

Adam Haun has been working at the Hill Country SPCA for four years. He was born and raised in Fredericksburg and had worked part time for Laird Lawrence at Hill Country Veterinary Clinic for six years before coming the HC SPCA in the summer of 2003. In February of this year, Adam and his long time sweetheart, Isabella were married.



Adam has always liked animals, and his family had cats, so working with animals was a natural for him.

Adam works the early shift at the shelter, usually starting around 5 AM. His first job each morning is to feed the dogs. Afterwards, he puts the "quiet" dogs, those who won't bark and wake the neighbors, in the outside runs. He then does the first of the day's several cleanings of the dog runs and cleans the dog area hallways so that everything is

ship shape and shiny clean when the Trudy Brune Hill Country SPCA opens at 10 AM.

Adam finds it fun to come to work each day because he enjoys the dogs so much. He likes watching them react to people and says they are always glad to see him when he arrives. Adam's least favorite chore is washing windows and doors. It seems that somebody invariably puts fingerprints on them as soon as they're clean!!

Getting to Know Gail and Pat Gribbon



Pat and Gail, with Alice

Gail and Pat Gribbon have been volunteering at the Hill Country SPCA since almost as long as it has been in existence - 1998 - and over the years have done just about everything.

In the early days, they were active participants in garage sales and held several at their home, once raising more than \$3000 for the animals. Pat keeps the grass around the shelter mowed, and both enjoyed the July "weed pullin party."

Currently, Gail and Pat head up the Canister Committee. Along with seven fellow committee members, they collect money from donation canisters located at 64 area businesses. Though it's usually nickels and dimes and one dollar bills, the canister money amounted to more than \$4500 in the first six months of this year!

But their signature event is Paddy's

Party. (Pat is from Ireland and Gail is also of Irish heritage.) Pat is the Paddy's Party doorman, welcoming arrivals with his Irish lilt, and Gail (with the help of others) bakes loaves and loaves of Irish soda bread. This year, it was their Irish flag a-flyin' out front, and they arranged for the wonderful Irish dancers. Paddy's Party wouldn't be Paddy's Party without them.

Hill Country SPCA Adoption Statistics January - August 2007

Total: 150

Dogs: 96

Cats: 54

Hill Country SPCA Expenses, January - July 2007

Advertising/PR Exp	\$3295
Animal Related Exp	\$4593
Bank/Credit Card Charges	\$819
Computer Exp	\$466
Dues and Subscriptions	\$100
Insurance	\$3167
Janitorial/Cleaning Sup.	\$429
Office Supplies	\$843
Payroll Expenses	\$53,214
Payroll Taxes	\$4135
Professional Fees	\$2430
Repairs and Maint.	\$509
Telephone Exp	\$1433
Utilities	\$5494
Veterinary	\$3251
Non-Cash Good & Services(Value based)	\$4401
Total YTD Expenses	\$89,658
Spay/Neuter	\$7358

Wish List

- Bleach
- Kitty Litter
- Collars and Leashes
- Paper Towels
- Towels
- Postage Stamps
- Printer Paper
- Laundry Detergent
- Volunteers!!!

God, Make Me The Person My Dog Thinks I Am—Anonymous

Rescue Tales: To Keep Ya Waggin'



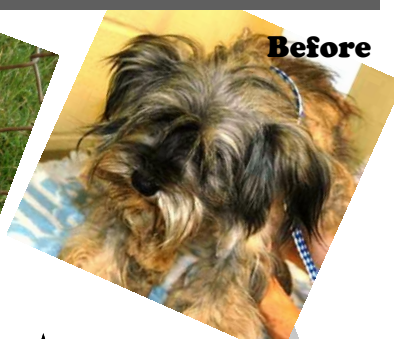
Tatum



Before



After



Before



After



Before



Momma Mindy & Pups



After



The Puppy Mill Dogs' Manifesto

We, the puppy mill dogs, do hereby
declare 6/1/07 Independence Day
The Trudy Brune Hill Country SPCA,
its benefactors, employees, and
volunteers are our heroes.

The future is bright, and, as you can see, our eyes are brighter also. Before our Independence Day, we never allowed ourselves to believe such happiness was possible. Now, we live in anticipation of a family, to love and be loved in return. Please find us the perfect fur-ever home.

While we await our families, we reside in "Brune Town" with Mayor Kristie Jacoby and the crew. Come by soon and let us look you over. We might adopt you.

Thanks to Dana Zachary for the wonderful words above, extracted from the beautiful display she created, below



Stop by the Trudy Brune HCSPCA to see Dana's masterpiece!



After



Before



Reno

After



Momma Lovie & Pups



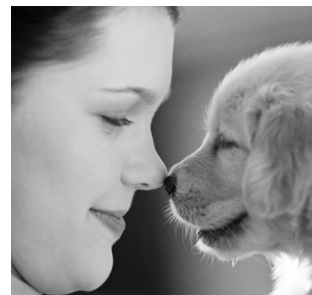
We still have several Puppy Mill dogs who need great homes!!!



The Bulletin Board

*Please send
your suggested toast to the
HCSPCA's next 10 years*

*Contact Carolyn Ward
at
cswwiegehts@aol.com
or 990-0900*



Attention, Youth Volunteers!

All youth volunteers are invited
to celebrate the HCSPCA's 1st
10 years at the
Animal House Extravaganza.

In addition, youth volunteers are
needed to mingle with the guests
there and sell raffle tickets.

Contact Kristie Jacoby if you can help

Wanted

Adult and Youth Volunteers
to "Model" in the
Togs and Tails Style Show



No Experience Needed!

*Only Requirement:
A willingness to have fun.*

Contact: Judy Unger
junger@in-comm.com
or leave message at
830 669 2691

Help Us Remember...

*Please send us your happy pictures and
stories to share at the party.*

Send to
Hill Country SPCA
PO Box 1462
Fredericksburg, TX 78624
or
hcsPCA@kTC.com

Puppy Mill: The Next Steps

On Monday, August 15, Chris Ward, president of the SPCA Board of Directors', addressed the members of the Gillespie County Commissioners' Court. Although most of the attendees at this regular monthly meeting were aware, after the fact, of the horrors found at the puppy mill from which the dogs were rescued in June, Chris reviewed the planning and activities leading up to the rescue and noted that county officials had not been notified ahead of time because of concern for both the animals and the rescuers. He then presented a two step approach to protecting domestic animals in the county and perhaps for preventing future puppy mill operations.

The first step, he said, is to make existing animal protections laws enacted by the State of Texas enforceable at the local level. Currently, enforcement of these laws must be done by a state law enforcement officer, i.e., by Texas Highway Patrol officers or Texas Rangers. If the commissioner's court were to enact ordinances based on these state laws, than local law enforcement officers, as well as state law enforcement officers, could work to protect domestic animals in our county.

As the second step, Chris recommended that funding for a new law enforcement officer be included in the budget and that this new person be responsible for animal welfare matters in the county. Currently, county sheriff's deputies

are called out when , for example, livestock are loose on highways, and time spent protecting the animals is taken away from their primary law enforcement responsibilities. An officer responsible for animal welfare would reduce this burden on the deputy sheriffs and would also be the primary enforcement for the new county animal ordinances.

Just as the city of Fredericksburg has a dedicated animal welfare officer, the Hill Country SPCA Board of Directors believes that the county needs a similar person. Board members plan to continue working with county officials on this and other issues relating to animal welfare in Gillespie County.

Texas Laws Protecting Domestic Animals

This is material extracted verbatim from "Overview of Texas Animal Cruelty Laws," by Ginna M. Ravenscroft

In the eyes of the law, animals are generally regarded as property. Animals are bought and sold, used in various industries, and do not have individual rights. However, owners of animals cannot treat or use their animals in any way they wish. Rather state laws are enacted to protect animals from cruel and inhumane treatment.

In the state of Texas, numerous statutes govern the treatment of animals. First, criminal laws are in place to prohibit cruel or inhumane treatment of domestic animals. Second, animals are protected from mistreatment by civil laws, which differ from criminal laws in their scope, enforcement, and penalties. Lastly, the Texas legislature recently passed in 2001 [sic] a set of laws that governs the keeping of dangerous wild animals. ...

Compared to criminal cruelty statutes of other states, Texas animal cruelty laws are very narrow in their scope... and only apply to any "domesticated living creature or any wild animal previously captured."... Under Texas criminal law, the intentional or knowingly cruel treatment of animals is expressly prohibited. Therefore, accidental or negligent actions cannot be prosecuted under cruelty statutes....

Texas laws define cruelty to include two general types of actions, unintentional actions and failure to act.

Intentional cruel actions include (1) torturing an animal, (2) transporting or confining an animal in a cruel manner, (3) killing, seriously injuring, or poisoning an animal... or (8) seriously overworking an animal. The state of Texas has criminal laws that specifically prohibit dog fighting.

Cruel treatment also includes situations where a person has failed to act or failed to provide care for an animal. Failing to act or failing to provide care rises to the level of cruelty when it involves either: (1) failing to provide necessary food, care or shelter, or (2) unreasonably abandoning an animal.

Report suspected animal cruelty to the Hill Country SPCA



How Many Dogs Does It Take To Change A Light Bulb?

Golden Retriever:

The sun is shining, the day is young, we've got our whole lives ahead of us, and you're inside worrying about a stupid burned out bulb?

Border Collie:

Just one. And then I'll replace any wiring that's not up to code.

Dachshund:

You know I can't reach that stupid lamp!

Rottweiler:

Make me.

Boxer:

Who cares? I can still play with my squeaky toys in the dark.

Lab:

Oh, me, me!!!!!! Pleeeeeeeeeeze let me chang the light bulb! Can I? Can I? Huh? Huh? Huh? Can I? Pleeeeeeeeeeze, please, please, please!

German Shepherd:

I'll change it as soon as I've led these people from the dark, check to make sure I haven't missed any, and make just one more perimeter patrol to see that no one has tried to take advantage of the situation.

Jack Russell Terrier:

I'll just pop it in while I'm bouncing off the walls and furniture.

Old English Sheep Dog:

Light bulb? I'm sorry, but I don't see a light bulb!

Cocker Spaniel:

Why change it? I can still pee on the carpet in the dark.

Chihuahua:

Yo quiero Taco Bulb. Or "We don't need no stinking light bulb."

Greyhound:

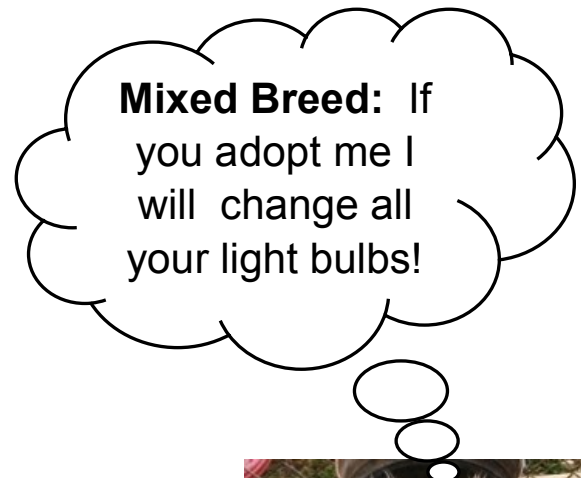
It isn't moving. Who cares?

Australian Shepherd:

First, I'll put all the light bulbs in a little circle.

Poodle:

I'll just blow in the Border Collie's ear and he'll do it. By the time he finishes rewiring the house, my nails will be dry.



Tornado

The Hill Country SPCA is now offering engraved brick pavers to honor and memorialize those special two and four-legged friends who deserve a place in history AND at the same time to support the services so vital to our pet community. The engraved bricks will serve as a permanent tribute and will be placed in our Truchard Memory Garden at our new facility at 2981 South State Highway 16.



Remember your "best" friends

Your inscription must fit into the boxes below, 1 character per box. Each brick can have a maximum of 12 or 18 characters per line depending on size. A character is defined as a letter or number, a space or punctuation mark. Please do not use special characters.

Payment:

4 x 8 = \$ _____
6 x 12 = \$ _____

Please send this completed form along with check or credit card information to:

Hill Country SPCA
P.O. Box 1462
Fredericksburg, TX 78624
830-990-9085

4 x 8 - \$75.00

6 x 12 - \$175.00

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____

State: _____

Zip: _____

Method of Payment:

Check: ☐ (Make check payable to Hill Country SPCA)

Credit Card: ☐ Visa ☐ Master Card
☐ American Express ☐ Discover

Name on Card: _____

Card Number: _____



They are gone from our sight... but never our memory.
Gone from our hearing... but never our hearts.
Gone from our touch... but their presence is felt,
and the love that they gave us never departs.

Donations Made In Loving Memory

In memory of
Shasta Crane
Anne Marie Finn

In memory of
Deziree
Shareece Newman

In memory of
Alexander
Audrey Muller

In memory of
Ben Frantzen
Corrine & Frederick Jung
Julie Kothe

In memory of
David Bowie
Pansy Martyn
St. Barnabas Men's
Breakfast Club

In memory of
Lee Cunningham
Desine & David Plavidal
Lea Weinheimer Stokes

In memory of
Esther Williams
George (Mac) Mc Donald

In memory of
Archie
Robert Gates

In memory of
Elma Heilmann
Shirlee & John
Thompson

Lynne Parker
Molly Martin
Redding & Susan
Thompson
Bill Malec

In memory of
Lucille (Julie Meurer's
Sister
Bill & Cheryl Carter
Rothermel

In memory of
Bentley
Saralyn Stewart

In memory of
Barbara Jo Sonthall
Martha Matteson

In memory of
Duncan
O. Kepler & Barbara
Johnson

Donald Anderson
Randy & Susan
Thompson

In memory of
Jean & Dan Daly's Cat
Randy & Susan
Thompson

In memory of
Frito
Catherine Cummins

In memory of
Beverly Williams
Stan & Carlene Victor

In memory of
Vera Fiedler
Lynn & Fonza Lawther
Imogene Watts & Girls

In memory of
James Hegdal
Lucille Klier
Joyce Wadds
Judy McPeake
Herb Neddemeyer

In memory of
Elgin Becker
Douglas & Carolyn Seelig

In memory of
Gene Ellis
Ros & Deanie Haertlein

In memory of
Chloe
Carol Goad

In memory of
Honey
Leslie Ohr

In memory of
Oprah
Jane Atwell

In memory of
Harley
Letitia Rogers

In memory of
Copper Miller
Rebecca Waldo

In memory of
Norman Williams
Nancy Williams

In memory of
Murphy
Linda K. Sparks

In memory of
Tom Anderson's
"Buddy"
Randy & Susan
Thompson

In memory of
Spotty Welburg
Judy Siracusa

In memory of
Linda Ann Muegge
Bill & Cheryl Carter
Rothermel & Miss Pearl
Lynn & Fonza Lawther
Julie Roseberry

In memory of
Anne Peake
The Jabber Girls
Bill & Cheryl Carter
Rothermel

In memory of
Rudy Kiehne
Karen Kiehne Howden

In memory of
Lily Bea
Janet & Roger Jones

In memory of
Linda Muegge & Widget
JoAnne Betts

In memory of
Lady Bird Johnson
Sharon Hodges

In memory of
Omalee Vollmar
Ros & Deanie Haertlein

In memory of
Carl Crittall
Douglas & Carolyn Seelig

In memory of
Mrs. Laddy Hohenberger
Imogene Watts

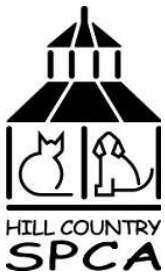
Honorariums

In honor of
To welcome Lucy
Dian Graves Stai

In honor of
Trudy Brune
Gloria Dillon

In honor of
Patchouli
Bruce & Saundra
Wormer

In honor of
Brendan Kelly
William Joseph



The Newsletter of
The Hill Country SPCA
P.O. Box 1462
Fredericksburg, TX 78624
RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Non-Profit Organization
Postage Paid
Permit #334
Fredericksburg, TX 78624



I found a home but my friends still need one!!!



Rusty



Duffus



Mosley



Audrey



Chili

YES! I am happy to help unwanted and homeless animals on their way to a happier life. Please accept my tax deductible donation to the HCSPCA in the amount of \$15 ____ \$20 ____ \$25 ____ \$50 ____ Other \$ ____

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____

State: _____ Zip Code: _____



Thank you!

Please Mail to: HCSPCA P.O. Box 1462 Fredericksburg, TX 78624

