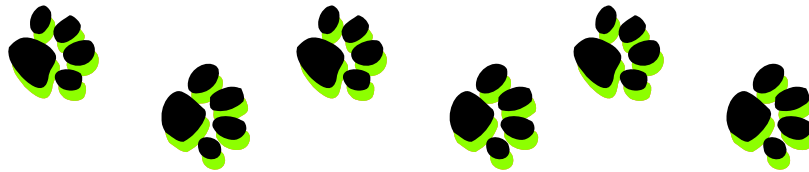


PAW PRINTS



PAHS MISSION STATEMENT

To provide a safe, caring environment for every animal that enters our facility while reuniting lost pets with their caring, rightful owners and finding loving forever homes for as many as possible and to stand up for those who can't speak for themselves to stop neglect, abuse and cruelty and prevent future incidents through education and perseverance.



PAWS APPLAUSE



A big applause goes to Nancy Williams (pictured at left) for her tireless service to help the animals and the shelter. She served for 6 years on our board of directors and as our Treasurer for most of that time. Nancy is retiring and will be missed, but not forgotten. She will have her hands full at home with her many pets, but promises to stay in touch. THANKS NANCY!



We would also like to say a big thanks to Pam Bryant who has served 6 years as a board member and is the President of the Society Board. Pam has put Autauga County's homeless animals first in her life for as long as most of us have known her. She has helped the shelter in so many ways and always with a pleasant and positive attitude. We are very thankful for Pam's support and dedication with so many projects that are crucial to the shelter. Pam has agreed to continue serving as the President of the Prattville Autauga Humane Society. WE APPRECIATE YOU PAM!



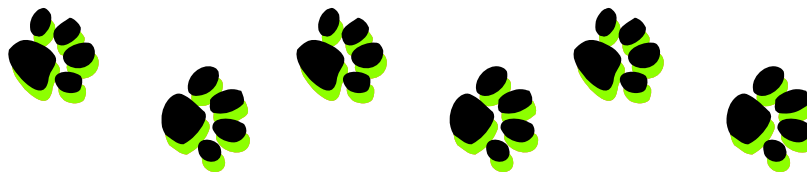
Left to right: Pam Bryant, Alice Floyd (Vice-President), Shirley Moxley (Director)



We are so thankful for all the hard work Julie Cox did to promote the Chick-Fil-A fundraiser and adoption day. It was a terrific day because many of



our pets found forever homes. The shelter also received very generous donations from the community. WAY TO GO JULIE!



Another applause winning effort goes to Roxanne Akers who organized the 4th annual Bark in the Park. Everyone had a great day enjoying the contests, foods, demonstrations, and of course—the dogs! It was hard to tell who enjoyed the day more—the people or their pets! Thanks Roxanne for tirelessly giving your time to make this an enjoyable day for everyone involved.

Finally, as always, none of these events would be successful without the support of all our dedicated volunteers. Thanks to every one of you who helped with these events. We appreciate you taking time from your busy schedules to make a difference in our community and the lives of our precious little furry friends. YOU ARE TOTALLY AWESOME!



PAHS INCREASES ADOPTION FEES

With a record number of animals are being brought to the shelter combined with increase cost of vaccines, de-wormer, medical supplies and utilities the shelter board voted to increase adoption fees. The adoption fees are:

Puppies and Dogs.....	\$100.00
Kittens and Cats.....	\$ 85.00
Purebred Puppies and Dogs start at.....	\$100.00

Happy Tails

Sad Beginnings with Happy Endings

Gabbie, a Black Labrador Retriever, was adopted from our shelter in the fall. As you can see, Gabbie lives a happy and busy life as a PAWS volunteer with her new family. Sometimes Gabbie's days are so busy she has to catch a quick nap during her PAWS duties.



Prevent Heat Stroke In Your Pet

- [Avoid dehydration](#) by always having fresh, clean water available and lots of shady places where pets can cool off. When the weather's extremely hot, keep your pets indoors.
- Give your dog a light summer haircut to help prevent overheating. Shave the hair to a one-inch length, but never down to the skin, as fur offers protection from the sun. Brushing your cat more often than usual can also help prevent problems caused by excessive heat.
- When using sunscreen or insect repellent, be sure the product is labeled specifically for use on animals.
- Never leave an animal alone in a parked vehicle. On a hot day, a parked car can become a furnace in no time—even with the windows open—which could lead to fatal heat stroke

PETS ARE WONDERFUL SUPPORT (PAWS)

Pets Are Wonderful Support (PAWS) has been providing personal pet visits to local nursing homes, schools and the Prattville Library since 2003. Approximately 30 pet owners volunteer to bring their pets to brighten, educate and enhance the well being of our community.

PAWS pets provide visits to four local nursing homes twice a month; participate in the summer and school year reading programs at the Prattville Public Library, a reading program for the second grade students at Daniel Pratt Elementary School and various educational opportunities regarding the safety and care of animals.

This program cannot operate without volunteers who agree to share their pet with others. One visit to a local nursing home with your dog can bring such joy to a resident of long term care. One boy or girl can gain confidence in their reading skills while sitting next to your pet at Daniel Pratt Elementary or the library. One child may avoid being bitten because of an educational demonstration given by PAWS and PAHS.

There are no membership dues to be involved in the program. The only requirement is that your pet be well socialized, good with people, have a current rabies shot and an owner who is willing to share their pet! Your pet does not need any special training or be a particular breed.

If you think you have a special pet and are willing to share him/her with the community, then we have a place for you in PAWS. Please contact Julie Cox at 730-1907 for more information about joining PAWS.

Make this the Year for Helping Animals!

By Pam Bryant, President

Many of you have visited the PAHS shelter and wondered why there is nowhere for you to sit while doing paperwork; play with an animal; or even have a private conversation with the director. If you are a recent visitor, you may have wondered why the building is so hot. The answer to the last question is that the air conditioning is failing, along with many other support systems, due to constant use and poor design. The other questions are best answered by a short history lesson.

Our shelter was originally designed for the population it was meant to serve, but there was not enough monetary support for a facility that size at the time. The original plans were cut to approximately half the original size. Many things that were cut have been a tremendous battle to work around, such as not having drains in the large dog runs. The layout itself is odd and there is a general lack of adequate space for everything. Since that time, the population in our animal community has grown tremendously, which makes our little shelter seriously inadequate to handle the needs of the huge numbers of dogs and cats coming in.

We are in crisis mode now and we worry how much longer we can stay open. Our hearts break for the animals continually brought in with no other place to go-- abused, neglected, or confused and frightened animals who are being abandoned. The shelter was only designed to house about 85 animals and we are receiving over 200 a month! We search for suitable homes for all those available for adoption, but we are losing the battle. We lack enough room to care for animals who, through no fault of their own, are homeless and without families, animals who want nothing more but to love, be loved and to enjoy their lives. Furthermore, the current shelter design offers no way to separate sick from healthy animals, which creates a medical nightmare and no time for a sick animal to convalesce without risking the lives of all the others. If you could see all the helpless and abandoned animals who cannot speak for themselves, you would feel for them as we do.

We believe that many people in our community ARE actually aware of the emotional and physical suffering of the animals, people in Prattville and Autauga County who care. To these people we say that you have the power to change this situation! Several things will have to fall into place for this shelter to adequately be able to care for all the homeless animals in our community.

1. The shelter needs to be of adequate size and layout to provide for separation of the incoming, possibly sick animals from those healthy and ready for adoption. There will also need to be adequate storage for food and supplies needed to care for them. The Humane Society is currently working on plans for such a facility. Your support and donations will make this a reality! Everyone can help these animals by organizing civic, neighborhood and corporate groups to initiate fund raising efforts to benefit the animals. Not a member of a group? Just make a donation and encourage your family and friends to do the same. According to census estimates for 2008 and the AVMA pet ownership calculator, we could build this new facility if every pet- owning household donated as little as \$25 toward this cause. Please help!
2. According to Alabama law, the responsibility for maintaining a suitable facility for animals running at large falls to the county and any city with a population over 5,000. The Humane Society has been actively trying to help these governing bodies meet this obligation by contracting with local officials to house these unfortunate animals. Over the last year, the Humane Society has provided more than a third of the daily operating costs to run this most inadequate facility. We have received no increase in funding for the last 3 years despite the evidence of our needs. We will need our local county and city governments to step up to the plate and take on much more of the daily operating expenses so the Society can work toward decreasing the number of animals being turned in through spay and neuter educational programs.

Don't wait until it is too late and we simply can't stay open any longer. It is already too late for many of these unfortunate animals. You have the power to make your local Humane Society a place where everyone wants to come and volunteer or adopt their next pet. Please, organize your groups, make your donations, contact your county and city representatives and let them know that you want your shelter FULLY funded.

Come by for a visit and give some love and attention to these homeless animals or just come for a tour of the facility. Help stop the suffering of innocent animals. Let's make this the "Year for helping the animals"!

Pam Bryant

President /PAHS