

# Happy Tails Newsletter

The Animal Shelter of the Wood River Valley promotes companion animal welfare by providing temporary shelter for homeless pets, adopting them to qualified homes, and reducing animal abuse, neglect and overpopulation through community education and spay/neuter services.



## Life is full of surprises.

We all think we know what we want, but how often do we think about what we actually need? Many people come to the shelter sure of what they want to adopt-- big or small, young or old, black or white, this breed or that.



When Roberta Bloom came to the Shelter recently, I am sure she never thought she wanted a large, older, mixed breed dog who looks like he is always having a bad hair day. But, as it turns out, that was exactly what she needed. Just as importantly, it turns out Roberta was just what Grant needed too, a forever home.

The Shelter magic happens when our incredible adoptions counselors are able to bring together a pair like Roberta and Grant. It starts with our staff taking the

time to get to know each of our shelter residents for the special individuals they are, each with their own story and needs. While some animals come to us with "no assembly required," ready to move into their new home, others may need some "refurbishing", in the form of medical care or training plans to help them reach their potential. Like Grant, they are all originals.

Next, our counselors work closely with adopters to assess their needs, lifestyle, activity level, and time available to help best match them with one of our residents. Adopters are often surprised when what they thought they were looking for doesn't at all fit what they actually need. With a little luck, a great match leads to an adoption that lasts a lifetime, and that is our hope for Roberta and Grant.

Forever homes are not by chance; they take hours of work by a dedicated staff, a team of volunteers, and the support and commitment of an amazing community. Thank you again for all the magic you have helped us create this year in the lives of our Shelter residents and their new families.

*Jo-Anne Dixon*

Jo-Anne Dixon DVM  
Executive Director/Medical Director



*Roberta and Grant (now Vincent Gogh van Gogh) getting ready for their first hike together out Greenhorn Gulch*

### Serving the Community



The Animal Shelter of the Wood River Valley is a private, independent, non-profit animal welfare organization that has been serving the community since 1982.

We are governed by a volunteer Board of Directors, employ 14 staff members and are helped by our 181 volunteers to care for the over 1,500 animals we serve every year. Our organization is the first no-kill animal shelter in the state of Idaho and one of the only shelters in the United States to offer a community no-cost spay/neuter program. We receive no government funding, relying solely on donations and service fees to operate. We are proud to be a leader in sheltering practices by providing model programs and services for the community and the homeless animals we care for.

## DIRECTORY

**ANIMAL SHELTER OF THE  
WOOD RIVER VALLEY  
A NON-PROFIT CORPORATION  
ID #82-0351171**

100 Croy Creek Road  
P.O. Box 1496 - Hailey ID 83333  
Telephone: (208) 788-4351  
Fax: (208) 788-3601

**Website:**

www.animalshelterwrv.org  
info@animalshelterwrv.org

**Hours of Operation:**

Tue - Fri: 10 am - 6 pm  
Sat: 10 am - 4 pm  
Sun: Noon - 4 pm

*Mondays we are closed to the public  
unless you are claiming a lost pet.*

**BARKIN' BASEMENT  
THRIFT STORE**

111 S. Main Street  
P.O. Box 1496 - Hailey ID 83333  
Telephone: (208) 788-3854  
Fax: (208) 788-2275

**Hours of Operation:**

Mon - Sat: 10 am - 6 pm  
Closed Sundays

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS:**

Cynthia Olney Knight , *President*  
Rosemary Aquilante, *Vice President*  
Erin Smith, *Secretary*  
Davis Hein, *Treasurer*  
Sam Cochran  
Christine Ferguson  
Bryan Furlong  
Don Larson  
Priscilla Pittiglio

**SHELTER MANAGEMENT:**

Brooke Bonner  
*Director of Development & Communications*  
Jo-Anne Dixon DVM  
*Executive Director/ Medical Director*  
Nadia Novik CVT  
*Operations Manager*  
Robin Potts  
*Shelter Manager*

**THRIFT STORE MANAGEMENT:**

Andrea Parker, Manager

*Newsletter Layout & Design Services  
donated by Christine Ferguson*

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

### **Barkin' Basement Third Annual Green Holiday**

**November 18 - 19th, 2011  
10 am - 6 pm**

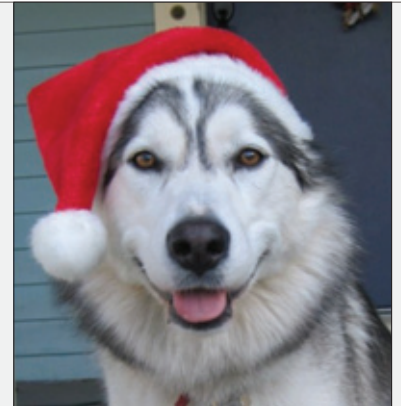
The Barkin' Basement Thrift Store will be selling earth-friendly Christmas trees and wreaths from our large inventory of holiday merchandise. The store will also have a large selection of holiday gift cards for sale during the Green Holiday event.



### **Barkin' Basement Fourth Annual Bow Wow Holiday Bazaar**

**November 25 - 26, 2011  
10 am - 6 pm**

All of our holiday merchandise will be on sale November 25th and 26th. Find great hostess gifts, holiday tableware, tree trimmings, and seasonal decor. Whether you are in need of holiday gift wrap or some new lights for your tree, the Bow Wow Bazaar is the place to be!



### **Animal Shelter of the Wood River Valley's Annual Santa Paws Event**

**December 2nd - 3rd, 2011  
The Dirty Beagle Dog Wash  
11 am - 2 pm**

Bring your family, yourself and your favorite pets for a picture with Santa. Find the perfect picture for your 2011 holiday card or family photo.

No appointment necessary.



## FOSTER FAVORITES

Some Shelter residents need a little extra care before transitioning into a permanent home. Whether they need additional training, some more TLC, or just a place where they aren't surrounded by other animals, foster homes provide an alternative spot for animals to shine and get one step closer to a forever home. Below are stories about three exceptional animals we currently have in foster homes.



**Mo**  
Male Pit Bull mix  
Estimated date-of-birth: April '09

Mo has been a Shelter dog for quite some time, and he has proven that he is ready to find his forever home! Mo is a great dog. He loves other dogs and would benefit from a home where he would have a well mannered and playful canine companion to spend time with. Mo is shy in new situations. He doesn't like noisy crowds and he does best when he can bond with one person and receive guidance from them in new situations. He would make a great dog for someone who wants to continue his socialization as well as his training. He is smart, athletic, and incredibly eager to please. He has proven to be a fantastic hiking buddy and is perfect when left home alone. Mo is a wonderful dog and we are hopeful someone will take him and continue to learn how much he has to offer.



**Reba**  
Female Lab/ Irish Setter mix  
Estimated date-of-birth: July '07

Reba came to us from an overcrowded shelter where she had been overlooked by potential adopters. This pretty girl reportedly spent much of her life there, going from a backyard to a garage, but she deserves. Understandably, Reba is somewhat socialized and can be very shy in new situations. However, she is not a mean bone in her body. Reba is looking for a patient and loving leader who will take her slowly and allow her to discover that life is fun and not so scary. Reba loves other dogs and we feel that a home with other friendly and confident canine could help her come out of her shell. Due to her timid nature, we are recommending a quieter environment and a home without children. Reba is so sweet and loving -- she is ready to find her own special family who will love her forever.



**Penny**  
Female Domestic Long Hair  
Estimated date-of-birth: August '03

Penny was surrendered to the shelter because her owners felt she didn't get along with their newly acquired dog. Penny is a very sweet cat that had done well with her consistent routine for the past six years. Here at the shelter Penny seemed very overwhelmed and stressed. Penny is now in a foster home in the hopes that she'll become comfortable and be adopted straight to a home without having to come back to the shelter. Penny is a bit on the plump side, so a home that is dedicated to helping her lose weight would be best for her health. We already know what a sweet, affectionate and loving cat Penny is... now we're hoping she'll find a home soon and show her new adopters how great she is too. For more information on Penny and the benefits of foster care, go to <http://animalshelterwrv.blogspot.com>.

## ASWRV Wish List



The Shelter participates in a shelter feeding program with Hill's Science Diet so for that reason we do not ask for dog or cat food donations. We purchase wood pellets in bulk for cat litter so we do not ask for kitty litter donations.

We appreciate all donations. Here are the items we use and need most:

- Dog Biscuits  
All brands, all sizes.
- Inexpensive nylon collars  
New and used, to be used when dogs are adopted so they can go home wearing identification.
- Catnip
- Cat toys
- Cardboard cat scratchers
- Cat scratching posts
- New and gently used dog and cat beds
- Creamy peanut butter  
To be used in enrichment toys.
- 5 lb. bricks of Kirkland Mild Cheddar Cheese  
To be diced up and used for training snacks.
- 4 - 5 lbs. logs of Natural Balance brand dog food  
To be diced up and used for training snacks.
- Dog toys  
Stuffedies, pig ears, rawhides, yummy edible snacks. Shelter dogs deserve lots of snacks but please no real meat bones that could crack their pearly whites.

Copy paper for the office

### Winter time donations:

- Toe and hand warmers for the kennel staff that spend many hours outdoors caring for the dogs
- Lighter weight snow shovels
- Sturdy ice chippers

# Community Impact: *Fun Fall Events*

The Shelter does so much more than just care for homeless animals.

We are an integral part of the community, providing fun events, volunteer opportunities, and a nurturing connection between humans and animals. There's more than one way to be involved and support the Shelter.

Here are some of the exciting events that happened in the community this season, bringing joy to both the animals we're serving and the people who participate.



*Wonderful volunteers and Shelter residents at the 2011 Blessing of the Animals*



*Enthusiastic shoppers at the 2011 Howl-o-Rama*



*Cruella DeVille at the Second Annual Fur Ball*



*Ron Browne, Shelter alumnus KD and Bernard at the 2011 Furry 6K Trail Run/ Walk*

### **Barkin' Basement Howl-o-Rama**

On Wednesday, September 28th, the Barkin' Basement Thrift Store kicked off the 2011 Halloween season with our annual Howl-o-Rama event.

One storefront window was transformed into a graveyard with ghosts and tombstones while the other window had a pirate theme. The sales floor was filled with racks and racks of costumes and accessories for all age groups -- AND THE FAMILY PET! A large number of local patrons came to shop and take advantage of the great seasonal sale. Store Manager Andrea Parker reported that this year's Howl-o-Rama was bigger than ever and a great success.

### **The Fur Ball**

Enthusiastic revelers donned their faux fur, ears, and whiskers to raise funds and awareness Friday, September 28th for the Animal Shelter of the Wood River Valley. While not everyone dressed like their dog or cat, the over 200 guests at the Second Annual Fur Ball all had a great time dancing to DJ McClain, The Heaters, and Up a Creek.

We're so grateful to Whiskey Jacques for providing such a great venue and to all the entertainers for their time and talent. Emcees Grady Burnett and Bellevue Mayor Chris Koch educated and entertained the crowd between sets.

Several costumed party animals were awarded with prizes for their awesome outfits. Best dog costume went to Jeff London, bassist for Up a Creek. Best cat was a tie between Jinny Weatherly and shelter volunteer Juliette Gutierrez. And a spontaneous "Best in Show" prize was awarded to Whitney Werth for her ironic and hilarious Cruella DeVille (Whitney swears Cruella completed rehab and only wears faux Dalmatian these days)!

### **Blessing of the Animals**

Father Ken Brannon and Minister John Moreland bestowed a special blessing to the many family pets that attended this year's Blessing of the Animals at St. Thomas Episcopal Church in Sun Valley. Sunday, October 3rd was a picture-perfect early fall day and brought out many members of the community for the annual event.

Nine Animal Shelter dogs and four kittens attended the Blessing with the help of the same number of dedicated volunteers and Shelter Manager Robin Potts.

The Shelter dogs behaved like little angels during the festivities. After being spotted at the Blessing, two of our kittens were adopted later that day at the Shelter.

### **The Furry 6K Trail Run/ Walk**

This year's Furry 6K event could have been mistaken for a *Best In Show Dog Parade* with the great variety of dogs that came out to participate in the race. Nine Shelter dogs walked the race with nearly 100 other attendees, many of which were Shelter alumni and rescued dogs. Everyone was on their best behavior, including Shelter Mascot Bernard, who helped get all of the racers to the starting line on Saturday morning, October 15th.

Participants followed the 3.75 mile trail through Quigley Canyon before looping back to the start/ finish line at Wood River High School. Many families participated in the race as a team, side-by-side with couples, individuals and a large delegation of the Shelter management staff and board members.

The fastest runners and walkers received prizes as well as the best-behaved race day dog which, of course, was a Shelter alumnus.

## Holiday Gift Ideas

*The Animal Shelter benefits from the sale of these books.*



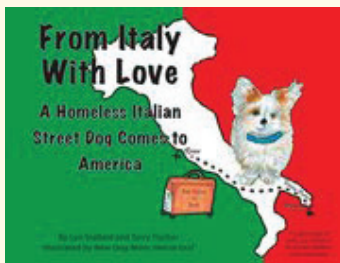
### **“A Little Dog’s Christmas Tale”** By Diane Myerson Illustrated by Kim Howard

To purchase copies of this book and the three other books in this series, go to [www.dianemyerson.com](http://www.dianemyerson.com)



### **“Dot’s Story”** By Lee and Dennis Higman

Copies of this book are available for purchase at the Animal Shelter.



### **“From Italy with Love: A Homeless Italian Street Dog Comes to America”** By Lyn Stallard and Terry Tischer Illustrated by Helcia Graf

To purchase copies, go to [www.fortunatedogcookies.com](http://www.fortunatedogcookies.com) or contact [terrytischer@gmail.com](mailto:terrytischer@gmail.com)



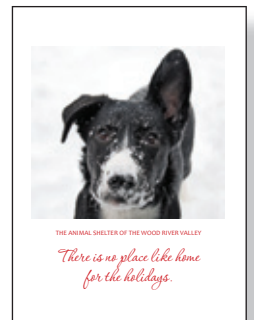
## Share the Joy of Giving

Looking for a way to have your holiday giving reflect your values and share something more meaningful than the usual trinkets?

The Shelter’s annual “Stay at Home” non-event holiday mailing is coming out soon! The Stay at Home invites you to cuddle up in the warmth of your own home, perhaps with your favorite furry friend, instead of asking you to come to another holiday party. And while you enjoy the comfort of your home, you can have the peace of mind that your donation is also helping the animals we care for to have a safe, warm, and loving place to stay while waiting for their forever homes.

The Stay at Home is also the perfect way to give a gift to your loved ones that also shares something you care about. When you donate in honor of someone, we will send them a card letting them know of your generous gift and all the good that is being done in their name.

So share the joy of giving this holiday season and know your gifts will be loved by those you honor and appreciated by all the dogs and cats you are helping.



## There’s still time...

...to make an IRA Rollover gift to the Animal Shelter before the end of the year! The IRA Charitable Rollover allows individuals age 70 1/2 and older to make direct transfers totaling up to \$100,000 per year to 501(c) (3) charities, without having to count the transfers as income for federal income tax purposes.

For more information, please call Development Director Brooke Bonner at (208) 788-4351 and talk to your tax & investment professionals.

## EMAIL . . . LETTERS . . . KIBBLES & BITS . . .

From: Tony  
Sent: September 12, 2011  
Subject: photo of Shake and Buster

Hi Nadia.

Thanks for checking in on Shake. He is doing great and a pleasure to have. Here are a few pictures of Shake and his best buddy Buster. They romp and play together tirelessly.

Tony



From: Bruce Kendall  
Date: October 16, 2011  
Subject: jones the cat

We adopted Jones last fall and we are all very happy. Here is a recent photo of Jones.

Thanks for helping us find this great kitty.

Bruce Kendall and Kirstin Kozlowski



From: Robin Potts  
Date: Sun, Aug 7, 2011  
Subject: Lemonade money

Mylo Ryason and Stella Barsotti visited the Shelter today to donate money they made selling lemonade during this year's Rocky Mountain Folk Festival.



From: Robin Potts  
Date: August 4, 2011  
Subject: Little River Pre-School Visit

Twelve children from Little River Pre-School made a field trip visit to our Shelter this summer.

The youngsters were attentive as Shelter Operations Manager Nadia Novik, who was assisted by Bernard, spoke about responsible pet care and how to be safe around animals. Each preschooler participated in a different agility obstacle with star agility participant, Stella. They also made gooey enrichment snacks for the dogs and petted many of our cats.



### **BARKIN' BASEMENT THRIFT STORE**

111 S. Main Street  
in downtown Hailey  
Telephone: (208) 788-3854

Open Monday - Saturday:  
10 am - 6 pm  
Closed Sundays

Call to schedule a pickup of  
furniture donations.

Donations can be dropped  
at the Barkin' Basement  
anytime between 9 am - 5 pm,  
Monday through Saturday.

**THREE WAYS YOU CAN  
SUPPORT THE SHELTER:**

**SHOP  
DONATE  
VOLUNTEER  
AT OUR THRIFT STORE.**

Did you know that the  
Barkin' Basement sells  
hardcover books for  
**just 1 buck?...**

and paperbacks  
for just  
**50 cents each?**

**THANKS TO OUR GENEROUS BUSINESS SPONSORS:**

**ALBERTSON'S MARKET,  
DOLLHOUSE CONSIGNMENT BOUTIQUE,  
MAISON ET CADEAUX, SCOTTEVEST &  
WEBB NURSERY**

all made generous donations of merchandise to  
the Barkin' Basement Thrift Store.

**BALDY BISCUIT COMPANY, LOCAL DOG USA  
& THUNDERPAWS PET SHOPPE**

all donated samples of their products for the  
Second Annual Furry 6K.

**SILVER CAR AUCTIONS SUN VALLEY**

made several generous cash donations to  
the Shelter during this year's auction

**THANKS TO OUR GENEROUS MEDIA SPONSORS:**

**LOCALLY OWNED RADIO/ BOB FM & THE CANYON**

discounted advertising for the Barkin' Basement and  
donated advertising for the Fur Ball.

**NAMES & NUMBERS**

donated our company listings space and display ads for  
the Shelter and Barkin' Basement Thrift Store

**OUR TOP DOG SPONSORS:**



**Sherry Daech**  
[www.sherrydaech.com](http://www.sherrydaech.com)

38 - YEAR VALLEY RESIDENT  
LONGTIME VALLEY REALTOR/  
BUSINESS PRINCIPAL  
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Return Service Requested

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Thrift Store are on Facebook

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