

May we, God helping us, be part of the answer, not part of the problem. –Peter Marshall



Haven Happenings

Dr. Brenda & Joe Wilbanks, Founders

The Haven Animal Care Shelter

What is The Haven?

We are a private foundation formed by Dr. Brenda Wilbanks and her husband, Joe Wilbanks, resting on seven acres just east of Lubbock, TX. In addition to many special needs dogs and cats, the Haven also shelters a wide variety of adoptable pets who are in need of loving homes. Our goals include:

*Saving the lives of helpless animals... one life at a time.

*Educating people to be responsible pet owners... one person at a time.

*Improving the lives of children through our pet therapy program... one child at a time.

*Changing the world to a kinder and more peaceful place... one day at a time.

A big thanks to the groups who have come out recently to help us:

Employees of Target came out recently and spent time with all our dogs and cats.

We have had many individual volunteers come out recently to work with our dogs and cats—you have been a huge help!

THANK YOU!!

Summer 2009

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It's Time to Strut for the Mutts!

It's that time of year...time to strut your stuff for the Mutts of the Haven! Big or small, every dog is invited to strut!

September 26, 2009 is the big day at Higginbotham Park. Join us for a 1.5 mile walk around the park to raise money for the dogs at the Haven. All money raised directly benefits the dogs at the Haven, helping to pay for spay and neuters, vaccinations, deworming, and flea and tick prevention.

Last year, we had over 150 participants and raised over \$2000 once expenses were paid. This year we would love to double that number!

Pre-registration is open until September 6. Cost to walk if you pre-register is \$20 per adult and \$10 per child. As always, children under 2 years of age strut for free! After September 6, we ask that you simply register the day of the walk. Cost to register on the day of the walk is \$25 per adult or \$10 per child.

You can access the registration form by visiting our website at www.havenacs.org. Each registered walker receives a free t-shirt and each ca-

nine participant receives a free bandana!

If you have a dog that you adopted from the Haven, we would love to see you and your dog at the Strut! You will have a special bandana that will designate your dog as a "Haven Graduate"!

We will be bringing around 25 adoptable Haven dogs to the Strut for people to walk. As you will see on the registration form, you have the option to walk a Haven dog if you do not wish to walk your own or if you do not own a dog. This year we have made it a requirement that if you wish to walk a Haven dog, you **MUST** pre-register. This enables us to be sure we have the right number of dogs compared to the number of people wanting to walk one of our adoptable dogs. We encourage you to register a.s.a.p. if you want to walk an adoptable dog...we typically have many people who want to walk our dogs!

We look forward to seeing you at the Strut for the Mutts. We hope to have several dog-related businesses at the event with booths, and we will have a raffle to give away some great prizes such as groom-

ing gift certificates, "doggie baskets", and many more items!

For more information about the 2009 Strut for the Mutts, visit our website at www.havenacs.org or call 763-0092.



LAF Grant Received

Pet Therapy at The Haven

One goal of the Haven is to promote the bond between humans and animals and to teach the concept of empathy. There are several opportunities to participate in pet therapy activities at the Haven. Our Pets as Pals program is facilitated by Dr. Brenda Wilbanks and by Haven volunteers and is free of charge. The purpose of Pets as Pals is to provide a therapeutic activity for children with special needs, or who have suffered losses in their lives. It also aids in teaching nurturing skills, responsibility, and empathy. Research shows that one determinant of later violent or criminal activity is the degree of empathy that children and young adults feel towards others. By teaching these lessons, the Haven strives to provide a valuable and unique social and community service. There are also opportunities to work with the elderly in a variety of settings. If you would like to participate in pet therapy as a volunteer, or if you have children to refer, please call 806-763-0092 and leave a message for Dr. Wilbanks, or email us at havenacs@gmail.com

The Haven recently was the recipient of an \$8,000 grant from the Lubbock Area Foundation!

The grant will be used to pay for several programs at the Haven, including our spay and neuter program for adoptable dogs and cats, our flea and tick prevention program, and to do blood work on older dogs and cats to ensure they are healthy as they can possibly be!

Happy Tails

Check out some of these recent adoptions that really made us smile.

Shiner

Shiner was a German Shorthaired Pointer that was brought to the Haven. He was extremely scared and shy. About 2 hours after he was put into his new pen he jumped out and due to his nature was unable to be caught for about 2 months! We eventually got him into another pen and began working with him daily. He made huge strides very quickly, including learning to walk on a leash. At first he would shake uncontrollably when you would go in his pen, simply out of fear. He was never aggressive, just scared out of his mind. After a couple more months of consistent work, he decided people weren't so bad and developed a great bond with one volunteer in particular. Shiner was adopted by that volun-

teer in June and we hear that he is doing wonderfully!

Charlie

Charlie was an older terrier mix that had been at the Haven for about 4 years. He would have his good days and his bad. It wasn't unusual for him to snarl or even try to snap at you. We had just about decided that Charlie would be with us for the rest of his life. However, one afternoon, a young TTU medical student came out looking for a dog. She immediately fell in love with Charlie, and he apparently did the same with her. We fully explained that he was a bit of a split personality dog, but she was determined that he was the dog for her. It's been 2 months now, and Charlie has been a regular visitor to the Haven with his new owner. He even got a haircut! He is so happy you would never believe it's the same Charlie. He's proof that there truly is someone for every dog

here at the Haven!

Johnny

Johnny the cat had lived at the Haven his entire life, which encompassed 10 years. He was certainly content with his other housemates, but his fate would change soon! Just a few days ago a family came out in search of a cat. As we like to say, Johnny adopted them! He immediately fell in love with that family and the feeling was mutual! Enjoy your new home, Johnny!

Ernie

Ernie, a yellow kitten, was found in the ditch one morning at the Haven. After his visit to the vet to check his health, he only spent another couple days with us and was on his way to his new home!

We've Come into the Age of Technology!

We've finally stepped into the 20th Century! Starting with this newsletter, we will be transitioning to a web-based newsletter. You can now access our newsletter via a link on our website. Further, we would love to email you a copy of the newsletter. To assist us in doing this, please send us your email address, either by calling 763-0092 or by sending us an email at havenacs@gmail.com. By going digital, we will be able to cut down on mailing costs and put more of that money toward helping the animals!

An Extra Spotlight...

Two cases have recently grabbed our attention; perhaps you can provide a loving home to an animal in need!

Faith

Faith was found at a Lubbock city park and was extremely emaciated when she was found. To add to her condition, she was completely tick-infested. So, we named her Faith, knowing she would need some faith to get her through! She pulled through wonderfully and is now ready for a new home.

She has even been fostered and is crate-trained. She is a wonderful young dog that is full of love to give to her new family! She is great on a leash and loves people of all ages!

Bob

Bob the kitten was found by a volunteer. He had suffered an injury of unknown cause that had affected his motor skills. He came to us with neurological problems that affected his walking ability. He has since progressed nicely, and while he may never be "perfect" (who really is perfect, anyway?!), he

is doing great and is ready for a new home. Come out and meet Bob and see if this cute kitten has a place in your home!

OUR WISHLIST:

Clay cat litter

Litterboxes

Purina Cat Chow

Purina Kitten Chow

Friskies canned cat food

Puppy food (dry)

Canned dog food (Pedigree

or Alpo is fine)

Dog & Cat food bowls

Rawhides or dog treats

Cat toys

Dog leashes (for average

sized dog)

Dog collars (for average

sized dog)

Cat and dog beds

Collapsible crates

Igloo houses

Financial contributions or

gift cards

You Can Help!

Your donations are ALWAYS appreciated, by the Haven staff and ESPECIALLY our furry friends.

___ I would like to make a tax-deductible donation to the Haven to help you continue saving the lives of animals.

Certificates can be sent for donations of \$20 or more for memorials, holidays, birthdays, etc.

— I would like to send a certificate for :

(please specify occasion and breed of animal of applicable):

Name and Address of Recipient::

Your name and phone number:

Please make checks payable to: The Haven Animal Care Shelter

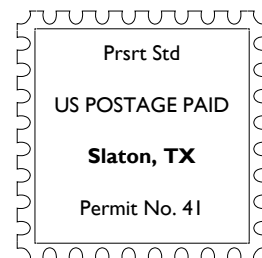
Please mail donations to: The Haven, 4501 N. C.R. 1729, Lubbock, TX 79403

THANK YOU!

The Haven Animal Care
Shelter
4501 N. C.R. 1729
Lubbock, TX 79403



Phone: 806-763-0092
Email: HavenACS@gmail.com
www.havenacs.org



Haven Happenings...We've Been Busy!



Dewey was one of our less-social dogs that volunteers have spent time with. Now, you would never know she was the same dog! She delights in going for walks, coming in the visitor's center to visit, and has made the trip to Petsmart a couple times! See what a little volunteering can do???

We've had a busy year so far at the Haven! Here are some of the things that have gone on in the last few months:

Jenny, Johnnie, and other resident older and handicapped dogs are now moved into their brand new house! You should really come check it out—Jenny even has a deck to spend her afternoons on!

We met with the manager of Slide Petsmart, Terry, and decided that we will start going to Petsmart twice a month starting in September. So, look for us and the Haven dogs the second AND fourth Saturday of each month! Thanks to Petsmart for continuing to

support the Haven and our goals!

We have started a dog walking program to assist us in keeping all our dogs exercised and happy. Several volunteers come out throughout the week to walk a dog or two that they have picked out. This has worked wonderfully in helping us be sure each dog has a chance to go for a walk several times a week.

We have also had great success recently in working with some of our less social dogs. Volunteers have picked individual dogs to work with, whether it be on basic socialization, walking on a leash, or any other

“issues” some dogs may have. This has paid off hugely—we have had some very good adoptions of dogs that not even a year ago were considered “unadoptable” due to their shyness, etc.

As you can tell, we've had a lot of volunteer activity the last few months and we greatly appreciate each and every person that comes out to help!

We look forward to a great fall season and again invite you to join us at the Strut for the Mutts on September 26!

To volunteer with us, email us at havenacs@gmail.com or call us at 763-0092.