



TAILS FROM WAGS & WHISKERS

SUMMER 2019



HOUND
AROUND
TOWN

PAGE 4



PET ALLIANCE
of Greater Orlando



ONE AGENCY THREE LOCATIONS

ORLANDO LOCATION:

2727 Conroy Road
Orlando, FL 32839
(407) 351-7722

SANFORD LOCATION:

2800 County Home Road
Sanford, FL 32773
(407) 351-7722

ALAFAYA CLINIC:

2050 E. Colonial Drive
Orlando, FL 32826

PetAllianceOrlando.org

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Director of Development

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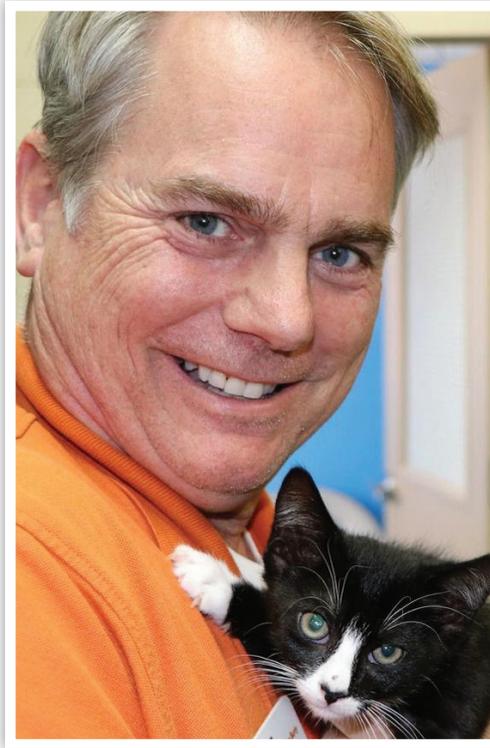
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Julie Sutphin

PAGO

Stop, Collaborate, and Listen PAGO is Back with a New Intervention ...



For those of you 90's youth, you recognize this catchy song is the perfect way to introduce the Community Cat Initiative.

Every community has its share of outdoor communities of feral cats. In fact, with estimates of 70,000 homeless cats in and around Orange County, we likely have more than our share. With Central Florida's mild seasonal changes, our outdoor cats are more likely to reproduce more often which leads to an extended "kitten season." While the name sounds cute, it is anything but fun for shelters across the country to receive hundreds to thousands of kittens between April and August. Most shelters are ill-equipped with space or resources to handle such an influx.

In June 2018, PAGO invited cat rescue groups and shelters to discuss Orlando's large feral cat population and create a solution. Within several planning meetings, we were able to create an action plan, prioritize areas and make more efficient use of available resources and establish a long term focus to fix this problem.

Collaborating with agencies such as Orange County Animal Services, CARE TNR and Best Friends, PAGO opened an affordable spay/neuter clinic near UCF. Through our financial partners including Petco Foundation, PetSmart Charities, Franklin's Friends and the City of Orlando, we are able to dedicate each Friday to providing up to 40 spay/neuter surgeries for homeless cats so that they do not continue to create more unwanted kittens. With a couple of test runs in October, this focused TNR program hit the ground running in November, and we have provided 578 surgeries and educated more than 2,000 residents and cat colony managers.

Throughout this edition, you will read about many of our cat and kitten initiatives along with exciting events, activities and opportunities to engage with our dogs and cats. Thank you for your continued support!

Executive Director



Remembering Sherry Chappell Cooper

Sherry Chappell Cooper is remembered for many things, and not least among those is compassion and adoration for animals. Whether it was dogs and cats in need of new homes, elephants in need of sanctuaries or big cats that need habitat protection — **she wanted to help.**

Sherry was born and raised in Orlando and an active member of the community. As a member of many local groups including the Junior League, the Rosalind Club and the Council of 101 at the Orlando Museum of Art — **it was her love of animals that drove her legacy.** She spent time in Africa on safaris to experience the exhilarating and humbling feeling of being around the beautiful wild animals. She had a special fondness for zebras, elephants and most of all cheetahs. For a period, Sherry also got actively involved in supporting elephant sanctuaries in the United States that provide a comfortable safe haven for these magnificent animals. Closer to home, Sherry was an ardent supporter of dogs and cats in need.

In addition to her compassion and caring, Sherry also had a sharp wit. Throughout her life she owned many King Charles Spaniels, which are known for their friendly and affectionate manner. One of her Spaniels she decided to name Oliver, a nod to Oliver Cromwell who played a leading role in bringing King Charles I of England to trial and helping to transform England into a republican commonwealth. This story often brings a chuckle to those who hear it.

Before she passed away in 2018, **Sherry set up a foundation with the purpose of funding animal welfare programs.** One thing that was very important to her was supporting local organizations in her community. Her widower, Fenimore, wanted to honor that sentiment and made a call to Pet



Alliance. After spending time with staff to determine the best way to support the organization, Fenimore decided the foundation would make a general gift. Understanding that sometimes the hardest thing to raise money for at a nonprofit organization is the day to day operations, Fenimore and his family decided to make a gift of \$200,000 from the foundation to support general operations.

“We are honored to be a part of Sherry’s legacy.”

This remarkable gift helped make this year the most successful fundraising year in Pet Alliance’s history. **Through Sherry’s generosity, the foundation is helping support the more than 7,000 dogs and cats that will enter our shelters this year.** We are honored to be a part of Sherry’s legacy.

If you are interested in learning how you can make Pet Alliance a part of your legacy, please contact Cathy Rodgers, Director of Development at (407) 418-0904.

HOUND AROUND TOWN

Looking for a way to help out a shelter dog, but can't make a long term commitment? Our Hound Around Town program is a unique opportunity that will leave you howling with excitement. Not only is it a good time for you, but you are also enriching the life of a shelter dog, who will be fur-ever grateful. The science behind it doesn't lie. Our shelter dogs are less stressed, happier, and have improved behavior after being out of the shelter.

How Does it Work?

Check-out a shelter pup for 2 hours. Take them for a walk, a hike, to your favorite dog friendly restaurant, or relax in a park. Dogs are available to be checked out 7 days a week 12-3pm, and must be back by 5pm at the latest so they can be tucked in for the night prior to closing. We have a list of approved locations near both the Orlando and Sanford shelter.

To participate you must be at least 18 years old and have a driver's license. You can sign-up and read the full list of requirements online at petallianceorlando.org/community-involvement/hound-around-town/



Thank You Petco Foundation!

Pet Alliance of Greater Orlando was recently awarded a \$95,000 grant from the Petco Foundation to support our lifesaving efforts centered around our Virtual Kitten Nursery and Community Cat Initiative.

The Petco Foundation investment will support Pet Alliance's efforts to decrease the number of homeless kittens and cats in the community. Modeled after successful programs from other parts of the country, Pet Alliance's Community Cat Initiative targets neighborhoods with large populations of unowned cats to perform trap-neuter-release. Petco Foundation's support will help provide the supplies and support the volunteers need for this program. We are deeply grateful for the Petco Foundation's generous gift. Within five years, our community should see a significant reduction of homeless cats and fewer kittens and cats being turned in at animal shelters.

OUR LIFESAVING WORK IS PROUDLY SUPPORTED BY:



What To Do When You Find Kittens

So, you've found a homeless kitten. It's not as uncommon as you may think. On the surface, kitten season sounds like endless fun. However, a mixture of human interference and homeless pet over population makes summertime tough on cats and the shelters who care for them. The scenarios in which you can find a kitten are never one size fits all. We have heard of kittens being found with a whole litter with no mom in sight, or it could be just that you found a single kitten on their own. The rule of thumb is: **Leave them be.** We all want to help protect these babies, but the truth is that kittens stand a better chance at survival when they are with their mom. Here are some questions to ask before interfering:

Is mom around? Chances are mom will move her kittens from den to den if they feel unsafe or uncomfortable. Or mom leaves to grab a quick meal. This is likely the time when a Good Samaritan would have stepped in seeing an "abandoned" kitten.

What you should do:

- Find a spot near by (35 feet at least or mom won't come back) to sit quietly and wait. That way the kitten isn't completely unsupervised, but you aren't interrupting.
- Make sure the kitten is safe from any animals loose in the yard, they aren't near heavy foot traffic, and the weather isn't too cold, or rainy.

How long have the kittens been alone? It can take several hours for mom to return to her kittens, but as long as they're warm and healthy, they shouldn't have a problem waiting for her to come back. So wait as long as you are able.

Is the kitten clean and silent, or dirty and meowing? The longer a kitten is without mom, the more signs there are that you can intervene. Healthy kittens who were taken care of by mom recently will look plump, clean, and will be relatively silent (these are the kittens to leave as long as possible). Kittens who are dirty and meowing have likely been left alone for a longer period of time.

Are they able to eat on their own? Kittens at 8 weeks should be weaned from nursing. Some moms will leave their kittens at this age. You can test to see if a kitten is old enough to eat solid food by getting a pate style wet food and see if the kitten eats. If they don't eat right away but look healthy, please continue to wait for mom. If it's been over an hour, the kittens look dirty, and they're eating the wet food, it might be time to intervene.



Our Lifesaving Work is Proudly Supported By:



How to Take Care of a Homeless Kitten

It's only when you have waited several hours and are certain mom isn't coming back that you can remove the kittens. But that's not to be taken lightly. If you aren't prepared to foster the kittens yourself, there are limited options for taking care of the kittens. At Pet Alliance, we provide our foster parents with Kitten Kits to help take care of them until they are eight weeks of age in their homes. When they get to over eight weeks and are two pounds, we will spay/neuter the kittens and put them up for adoption at the shelter. If you have questions about kitten season, or have found a kitten you are willing to foster, please call (407) 352-7722.



2019
FURBALL
 A RESCUE TO REMEMBER

**JOIN US FOR PET ALLIANCE'S
 27TH ANNUAL FURBALL: A RESCUE TO REMEMBER!**

Saturday, November 2, 2019 • Four Seasons Resort Orlando at Walt Disney World Resort

Come celebrate with us at an evening showcasing our stories of pet rescue while enjoying a fabulous auction, delicious food, beautiful surroundings and lots of fun! Sponsorships start at \$2,500 and individual tickets at \$250 - last year sold out so make sure to purchase early! Visit petallianceorlando.org/2019-furball for more information.

Cuddle Lounge

Hang out with adoptable puppies and kittens — and maybe even take one home! Featuring our one of a kind table top kitten playground and fluffy puppies — this is a highlight of the evening!

The Edge Effect

Having shared the stage with such superstars as Prince, Tony Bennett, and Robin Thicke, the members of The Edge Effect are taking a capella to the next level.

Stanley Steemer After Party

Celebrate a great night for a great cause on the dance floor and with a dessert reception on the Four Seasons terrace!



THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS!



Serving Central Florida since 1950



YOUR DOG OR CAT CAN BE A STAR!

The annual My Best Friend Wine Label contest is in full swing! Enter your dog and/or cat to win the coveted prize as the star of Quantum Leap Winery's My Best Friend Rescue Red or Rescue White wines for the year! All you need to do is submit your pet's photo and the story of how you rescued him or her, or how they rescued you! Voting starts in August, and the three contestants with the most votes in each category will be our finalists. The winning pets will be selected based on number votes AND their story. The reveal of the winner will take place at Furball on November 2 - and all the finalists receive complimentary tickets to Furball and their own personal case of wine with their pet's photo on it!

To register your pet visit:

<https://www.gogophotocontest.com/mybestfriend>

Don't forget to stop by Quantum Leap Winery any time throughout the year to purchase the My Best Friend Rescue wines or the Kaley's Rescue Red — a portion of your purchase will be donated to Pet Alliance! We are so grateful for this amazing partnership that has raised \$140,000 since 2015.



Quantum Leap Winery
312 Wilfred Dr, Orlando, FL 32803

Stop in and have a glass at the tasting room and buy a bottle to go!



VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT

Pet Alliance loves its volunteers! Without our Kitty Cuddlers and Bark Buddies helping us out in the shelters every day, we would not be able to care for and adopt out as many dogs and cats as we do. Jacqui is one of our Orlando Kitty Cuddlers. She started volunteering in January 2019, and has already served more than 130 hours! She typically volunteers 6-hours a day one to two days a week. The staff love knowing that they have a kind and helpful volunteer who is eager to help potential adopters find their perfect match.

Pet Alliance is always looking for additional volunteers. Orientations are held monthly, and you can sign up on our website. The sign up typically opens up on the first or second day of the month and fills up quickly, so be sure to check regularly to ensure you get your spot!

Visit petallianceorlando.org and click on the "Volunteer" button to find out more!



SANFORD LOCATION OPENS SHELTER MEDICAL CLINIC

Pet Alliance's Sanford shelter recently opened a dedicated shelter veterinary clinic thanks to the generous legacy of Annie L. Bowman. The gift made from her trust provided the resources needed to purchase equipment and complete renovations to create the shelter medical space. Having a shelter medical clinic and dedicated veterinary team to care for shelter pets allows Pet Alliance to better meet the healthcare needs of the animals and create a more efficient operation. All of the dogs and cats that are surrendered to Pet Alliance receive a thorough medical exam, vaccines, preventive medicine and spay/neuter surgery (if needed). The team at our Sanford shelter is very excited to have this amazing new clinic space!



BECOME A SHELTER STAR

Want to make the ultimate difference? Sign up to be part of an exclusive and special club by becoming a Shelter Star! All you need to do is sign up to make a recurring monthly donation of any amount. Shelter Stars provide steady and reliable support that ensures homeless pets get the loving care they need, all year long. As a Shelter Star, you get some pretty incredible perks.

Benefits of becoming a Shelter Star:

- Exclusive inside updates from our Executive Director, Stephen Bardy.
- Behind the scenes insider tour of our shelter and operations.
- Special stories about our shelter pets.
- One letter per year with total giving for tax purposes.
- VIP Mailings and perks.

Interested in learning more? Visit petallianceorlando.org/shelter-stars/

