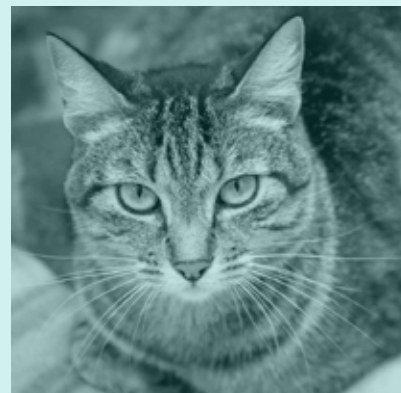
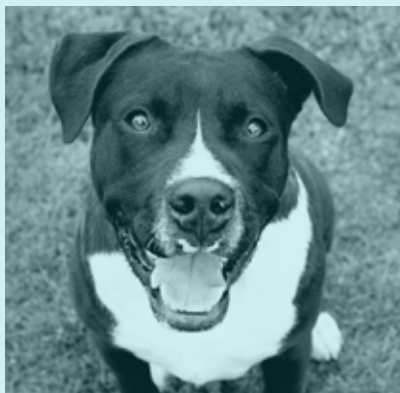
The logo for Homer Animal Friends, featuring three white icons on a teal background: a cat silhouette, a paw print, and another cat silhouette. Below the icons, the text "homer animal friends" is written in a white, lowercase, sans-serif font.

homer animal friends



FALL 2015 NEWSLETTER





## HAF Board of Directors

President: Pat Boone  
Vice President: Robyn Smith  
Secretary: Pat Moss  
Secretary: Christi Griffard  
Treasurer: Janet Higley  
Sherry Bess  
Kevyn Jalone  
Denison Kitchel  
Sue Landreth  
Amy Ware



# Message from the President

What a summer! Homer Dog Trainers has been able to practice agility outside at Woodside Park and the Nose Work classes have practiced at various outside venues including the spit. The shelter dogs have made good use of the outside yard next to the shelter. I hope everyone has had the opportunity to get out and enjoy the weather....did you take a walk with your dog or sit on the deck with your cat?

Fall starts a busy season for Homer Animal Friends. September 13th is National Pet Memorial Day. If you have lost a pet or know of someone that has, you can place a rock with your pets name in the Barney Ryan/Joel Moss Memorial Garden located at the Homer Animal Shelter. In October HAF supports and promotes Adopt a Shelter Dog Month. November will find HAF at the Rotary Health Fair promoting the benefit of pets on human health. Homer Dog Trainers will start new classes that help develop the bond between dogs and owners. The animal shelter is always looking for volunteers to walk a dog, brush a cat or work with the Buster Program.

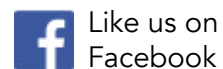
*What is your passion?* Dogs! Cats! HAF is always looking for volunteers to help at events, work at the animal shelter, join a HAF committee, attend a meeting (2nd Tuesday of every month), help out at the HAF store....we would love to have you join Homer Animal Friends and support our mission.....

*'We promote animal welfare through spay/neuter programs, community education and animal shelter support.'*

*Pat Boone*

President  
Homer Animal Friends

Visit us online... [www.homeranimals.com](http://www.homeranimals.com)



# Membership

Homer Animal Friends appreciates the generous donations and membership support we receive from the community. Thank you for helping us help animals!



## New Members

Pete Fineo  
Cathy Harder  
Jean Hatfield  
Kate Howell  
Dr. Nancy Livingston  
Amy Rattenbury  
Robin Daugherty  
A & M Rothenberger  
Karen Christopher  
Lori Schultz  
William & Marianne Schlegelmilch  
Thomas Eckenrod  
Sharleen "Charlie" VonNormaan



## Three Paws Members

Russ and Linda Grainger

## Four Paws Business Members

Elizabeth Watney, LCSW

## Tributes to Special Loved Ones

Henry King Middleton Jr.  
Willian Corey Mays  
Daisy E.  
Allie  
Nuisance  
Ysar  
Bebe  
Taiya



### Monthly Meetings

We hold board/membership meetings the second Tuesday of the month at 5:30 pm. They are open to the public. Locations vary and will be announced on our website and Facebook page.



Help prevent homeless pets....spay or neuter



## Spay & Neuter Report

So far for 2015, Homer Animal Friends has sponsored 193 spay/neuters at a total cost of \$23,165.36, this includes three cat clinics. Thank you very much to the Homer Veterinary Clinic.

This prevented approximately 1,365 pets being born as well as the heartache of trying to find loving homes for them all!

Keep an eye on our Face Book page and website for upcoming S/N clinics!

Thanks again to all our members and all that donate; we could not do this without you!

Don't forget to stop by the new HAF Store for all your pet needs!

*Robyn Smith*

Spay/Neuter Board Chair  
Homer Animal Friends



homer animal friends



Spay/Neuter Coupons  
are now available at the  
Homer Animal Friends Store!

A big thank you to  
Barb's Video for providing  
this service for years!

# HAF Events



Guests two- and four-legged alike enjoyed HAF Store's Open House in June.

## Past Events

HAF held two special events to celebrate the opening of our new pet supply store on Main Street. In late May, we hosted a membership appreciation day with games, prizes and food. In June we had an Open House for all members of the public to see the new store. If you came to either of those events, we thank you! We also encourage you to come back into the store soon and see the changes we've made since as well as our new merchandise.

In July, we hosted an informational session on pet food and nutrition at our store with a representative from Blue Buffalo.

Watch for future educational/informational events at our store.

## Upcoming Events

We invite you to join Homer Animal Friends at the following events:

**Rotary Health Fair**—Nov. 7, 2015  
Homer High School

**Nutcracker Faire**— Dec 5 and Dec 6, 2015  
Homer High School

Also, watch our website and Facebook page for details about future events in conjunction with SVT's Thriving Thursdays series! We'll also highlight the following:

September: **Responsible Dog Owners Month**

October: **Adopt a Shelter Dog Month**

November: **Adopt a Senior Pet Month**

If you have an idea for an event, or would like to volunteer, please don't hesitate to contact us!



# Animal Shelter Report



It's been another crazy summer here at the Homer Animal Shelter. Dogs, cats... guinea pigs, roosters and turtles... Seems like we've had a bit of everything here this summer. Of course, hands down, it's been "Cats, cats, cats"... And you may get tired of hearing it, but, "SPAY & NEUTER!", as always is our mantra. Hopefully it's yours too.

The shelter has also seen a disturbing rise in the numbers of dogs allowed to run free in our town. This translates to more "lost dogs," more traffic-related injuries, aggressive dog incidents, and, of course, more transient mutts here at the shelter, waiting to be bailed out by their owners. Responsible pet ownership means KNOWING WHERE YOUR ANIMAL IS! This of course applies to cats as well as dogs. Your pet shouldn't be wreaking havoc with your neighbor's petunias. Or stuck in a sewer pipe somewhere, hungry and alone.

Now don't get us wrong, there is also GOOD NEWS here at the shelter: Animals reunited with their owners, wonderful adoptions, magic moments

for children and adults alike who come to visit. But the greater part of what we do here is "crisis management": Trying to provide quality of life, medical attention if needed - three squares, a cot and "Hope" - to the myriad cats and dogs that come in through those doors.

If you are reading this, you are already doing one thing very much right: You are a member of Homer Animal Friends! Good on ya! We would encourage you to double down and take a close look at your own pets. Do you know where your best friend is right now? What's your plan if ( \_\_\_\_\_ fill-in-the-blank) does go missing? (Is your little feline friend vaccinated and current? We have a fairly high rate of feline leukemia in this area.)

Be a responsible pet owner. Pretend that little person who counts on you for everything - that "two year old who will always be two years old" - isn't now, and never will be, able to make an informed decision about what is in his or her best interest. Yes, it's an awesome responsibility. We think it's worth it.

*Homer Animal Shelter*



Some of the lovely animals adopted from the Homer Animal Shelter this summer.

# Adoptable Animals

Visit the Homer Animal Shelter Tuesdays - Saturdays, 12-5pm to meet these and other wonderful pets looking for forever homes.

At the time of printing, all the dogs at the shelter had been adopted! :)



**Bella**



**Bob**



**Hazel**



**Leroy**



**Gizmo**



**Jill**



**Scout**

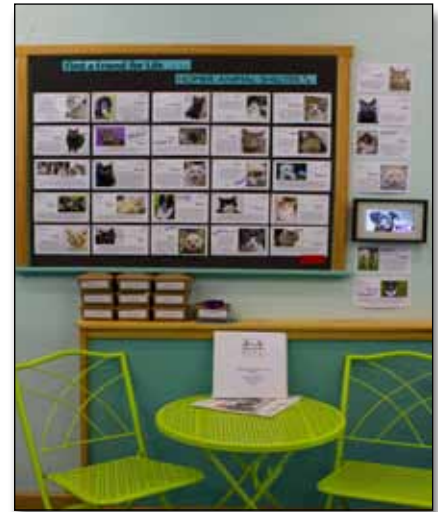


**Ivan**



**Val**

# HAF Store Report



*Clockwise from top left: A view of the newly painted store; photos of adoptable animals at the Homer Animal Shelter; pet memorial prayer flags ; condolence cards and rocks for the memorial garden*



Come visit the  
Homer Animal Friends Store!

3581 Main Street  
Tues-Fri 11am - 6pm  
Sat 11am - 4 pm

235-SPAY (7729)

**W**e are very pleased with the wonderful response the new Homer Animal Friends Store has received from the community since its opening. We have been adding to our inventory of quality pet foods, treats, leashes, collars, toys and invite you to come in and check it out. The do-it-yourself dog wash was very popular this summer with visitors and locals alike. And we're very happy to announce that we are carrying locally handmade dog cookies.

All members of Homer Animal Friends receive a 10% discount at the HAF Store (excluding food) as well as 10% off two Homer Dog Trainers classes. We'd love to see you at the store. We welcome your dogs as well, but please make sure they are on a leash. Thanks!



a quick word on....

## Feeding Your Pet



“the cost to increase the quality of your pet’s food may not be as much as you might think”

There are so many options when it comes to feeding your pet(s)... Where to start? Ideally, you could give your furry friends fresh, whole, nutritionally complete meals prepared at each mealtime. Some folks are quite successful with such an endeavor, but most find that option a bit costly and time-consuming to fit into daily routines.

Fortunately, there is a booming pet food industry that strives to bring your pet a convenient alternative in commercially-prepared diets. Unfortunately, not all pet foods are created equally, and wading through the wealth of information available is a daunting task at best. Knowing your pet’s requirements and reading the labels on their current and proposed diets is really the only solution.

Pet foods that are available from grocery stores are almost always more processed, preserved, and far-from-fresh/natural than the premium foods available at specialty pet stores. Some pets do well on such diets, but if you believe that your dog or cat could have a shinier coat, more energy, smaller stools, and better intestinal and overall health, then switching to a premium pet food should be considered.

Premium pet foods utilize high quality protein sources and blends of natural ingredients with known levels of probiotics and antioxidants to help maintain your animal’s health. These fresher, less-processed alternatives appear to come at a much higher price than the grocery store alternatives, but, while they certainly aren’t cheaper, the cost to increase the quality of your pet’s food may not be as much as you might think. Most premium diets are much more nutrient-dense than the less expensive diets. In other words, the calorie count is much greater per kibble or can, so you will be feeding your pet less... significantly less. Here are couple sites to help figure the actual cost of switching to a premium dog food:

- <http://bluebuffalo.com/true-blue-test/compare-dog-food/>
- <http://www.canidae.com/why-feed-canidae/cost-to-feed-canidae>

The obvious advantage and goal of feeding a premium pet food is the increased health, welfare, and happiness of your pet. And better health should result in minimizing veterinary visits and medications for your furry friend (leading to potentially huge cost savings as well).

Your pet has no choice in which foods appear in its dish at mealtimes.... shouldn’t you do the best to offer the healthiest option you can?

*Becky Lyon*  
Homer Dog Trainers



# Business Members

Our programs and projects continue to expand because of our generous members like these businesses below. Business memberships are available for a donation of \$150 and are recognized with their name/logo in our newsletter and on our website. For more information, email [homeranimals@gmail.com](mailto:homeranimals@gmail.com).



## Coastal Animal Care



**Elizabeth Scollan Watney**

L.C.S.W., B.C.D.  
counseling and consultation

## Salty Girls Gifts & Bookings

