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Friends For Life Animal Haven started in 1993 as a 501c(3) nonprofit organization run entirely by volunteers, and we are dedicated to no more homeless pets. ALL of our animals are in foster homes and preparing to become a member of your family!

History of Friends For Life Animal Haven

By Mary Lou Kunkler, Founder

It's the 25th anniversary since our humble beginning and it's befitting to tell our story to you! Friends For Life Animal Haven came about because of Joe. Joe was an elderly widower who doted on his feline companion, Lucky. He subscribed to "Cat Fancy" magazine and when he was finished reading each issue, he would pass them along to a family friend, me, Mary Lou.

I had been an animal lover all my life so when I read about a facility in California called Living Free, it was almost as though the proverbial light went on. I thought, "This is what I want for homeless animals." Living Free is a no-cage sanctuary allowing the animals relative freedom as they await their adoptive homes.

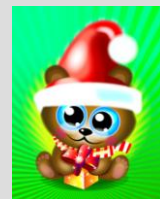
Not having any idea where to begin, I called Living Free and was given much good advice. Then came trips to the library for guidance in obtaining state incorporation status and federal 501(c)3 designation. Part of the procedure required formation of a board of directors and a name for the organization. Rona Shapiro, DVM expressed her support and became a board member. David Meyers, business administrator, psychologist, and author, also joined the effort. Many names were discussed, but nothing seemed to fit the vision. Then one day I picked up a small book distributed by Purina entitled "Friends For Life". The booklet had photos and short stories of people and their companion animals. This publication sat on my desk for several weeks when suddenly there was an "aha" moment. (You might think I was a little slow to pick up on the obvious), but I wrote the Purina Corporation, explained the concept of the new organization, asked permission to use their book title and was graciously granted approval!

At the same time names were being discussed, so, too, was an appropriate logo. I knew what I wanted (a dog and cat looking toward a star), but was no artist. However, a co-worker put her idea to paper. There are three explanations for the logo: 1) The pets are wishing upon a star for a forever, loving home: 2) We humans who work for and with homeless animals must remember that the animals are the stars of the show. Even though we may be lauded for our efforts, it's the animals that are to be honored. 3) Look to heaven for guidance and perseverance for it is from there that all blessings come.

The rest of the story is history. Since receiving 501(c)3 status, FFLAH has been privileged to meet, care for and find homes for thousands of animals. Being a no-kill shelter, there are also occasions of great sadness when the elderly fosters pass on to the Rainbow Bridge.

So – "Joe you started this whole thing. May you abide in the arms of mercy – rest in peace."

Oh, yes, I was a little slow to discover my calling. After all, I was 50 years old when it all began!



Our Christmas Wish List

We are in need of the following items and hope you can help us. We'll be happy to pick up items, just call or email us!

- 🐾 Canned cat food
- 🐾 Dry cat food
- 🐾 Cat treats
- 🐾 Dry kitten food
- 🐾 Kitten canned food
- 🐾 Kitten milk replacement (KMR)
- 🐾 Litter – clay and scoopable
- 🐾 Catnip
- 🐾 Dog toys
- 🐾 Cat and dog brushes
- 🐾 Flea combs
- 🐾 Paper towels
- 🐾 Bleach



Pet Pictures with Santa

12/6 6-9pm 12/7 5-8pm

19 N High St, Canal
 Winchester

\$10.00 donation and get digital
 copies of your pictures!

I want to help the goal of no more homeless pets by:

\$150__ (One animal sponsorship) Which animal? _____

\$ 50__ (One cat spay/neuter) \$25__ (Vaccinations for one animal) Other: \$ _____

Name _____

Street Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip code _____

Email address: _____

From the Editor

With the holidays just around the corner it's a good idea to Pet-Proof your home. The most important is keeping people food out of reach, especially onions and garlic, which are poisonous to pets. High fat foods like gravy and turkey skin can be life-threatening as well. Make trash inaccessible. Bones can perforate a pet's digestive tract. Set up the tree a few days before decorating to allow cats to get used to it so they won't be as curious. Be sure it's anchored well enough to not topple over. Decorations can also be dangerous like tinsel can be choking hazards for not only pets but also small children. Keep breakable ornaments off the tree as well as salt dough ornaments (causes seizures in pets), popcorn or cranberry strings which can cause choking. Get your pet's ID updated in case noise is too much and they escape. Keep them in a quiet, safe spot if you have guests in your home.



It's been a crazy adoption year!



Sailor with founder, Mary Lou Kunkler

Along with cats, kittens, and dogs we had other animals find forever homes with Friends For Life Animal Haven. The year is not over, but so far we have placed seven guinea pigs, six rats, two turtles, two hermit crabs, and one horse (you thought we were going to say "partridge in a pear tree", didn't you?) Sailor the horse retired from Slate Run Metro Farm in April. Sailor found his forever home in July and has already found a pasture buddy, Sundance. His new owner, Susan, was going to give him plenty of time to adjust to his new home, but the horses had a different idea. "After five days either the other horses broke into Sailor's pen or he broke out. But one morning I found them all out together." With a new hierarchy established, "Sailor is number two in the line-up with one of the Belgian draft horses occupying the top spot. Sailor is officially one of the herd which is the most difficult step to adding a horse", she says. Susan thanks FFLAH "for letting us give Sailor a home."

Susan, we thank you too!



Friends For Life Animal Haven has partnered with Kroger to participate in the Kroger Community Rewards® program. Go to the website at www.krogercommunityrewards.com, click "Ohio", then "Enroll" to link your Kroger Plus Card® with Friends For Life Animal Haven. Giving back is that easy! Thank you Kroger! Registration is good forever!

Thank You Donors and:

- 🐾 Diley Hill Animal Emergency Center
- 🐾 PetsMart Charities
- 🐾 All Hydraulics
- 🐾 Sky Dogs
- 🐾 The Reiki Center
- 🐾 City of Canal Winchester
- 🐾 Village of Lithopolis
- 🐾 Three-C Body Shop
- 🐾 Verizon
- 🐾 Winchester Vet Clinic
- 🐾 Pet Cremation Services
- 🐾 Michael P. Vasko, Esq.
- 🐾 Canal Animal Clinic
- 🐾 Care Pet Clinic
- 🐾 Columbus Humane
- 🐾 PetValu
- 🐾 RescueBank
- 🐾 Groveport Town Hall
- 🐾 DSW
- 🐾 FacilitySource

Planned Events for 2019

Watch on Facebook and our website for details on these events!

March 23rd: Spay-ghetti Dinner

July 20th: Festival of Friends

Sept : Canal Winchester Labor Day Festival

Oct 26th: Chili in the Village

Dec 6-7: Pet Pictures with Santa, 19 N High St. Canal Winchester

Each Month: Adoption weekends at Petsmart in Grove City and Reynoldsburg

Did you know?

You can make your donation go much farther by your employer matching your gift! Many employers have matching percentages, and most at 100% match of your gift! Check it out! The animals thank you!

IN MEMORIAM

Friends For Life Animal Haven lost several foster animals this year who never found their fur-ever homes, but lived their lives under the "Friends For Life" umbrella until they went to the Rainbow Bridge from old age or terminal medical conditions:

Liz, cat, 16 years
Autumn, cat, 16 years
Charma, cat, 14 years
DQ, cat, 12 years
Geena, cat, 16 years
Tag, cat, 14 ½ years

Lucy, cat, 14 years
Kyle, cat, 15 years
Violet, cat, 8 years
Bridgestone, cat, 10 years
Phoebe, cat, 13 years

"I (We) believe in animal rights, and high among them is the right to the gentle stroke of a human hand" – Robert Brault