



# Animal Protection League of Okaloosa County

A non-profit organization for spaying & neutering founded in 1981

## Newsletter

Volume 36 Issue 1

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### Letter from the President

I've recently reflected on what the APL has accomplished during the 28 years since I was elected President. First and foremost I want to thank all the kind and generous people who have been instrumental to our success. During the time I've kept the records, we spayed or neutered 17,637 animals to the tune of \$1.6 million. Paula thinks it should be more, but I do not have exact stats about the earlier eight years. These numbers would not have been possible without so many caring and giving people, including the members, who helped to accomplish it.

Donations have been steady over the years. Our former member Jan Hager bequeathed almost \$80,000 which Pat Armstrong invested so wisely that it earned another \$15,000 in interest until the money was depleted after 12 years. We have had some very touching experiences with people we helped years ago who remember us at Christmas with generous donations, even some out of town people support us, because they once lived in the area and follow us on Facebook.

One very large part of the equation to our success are the vet clinics who have worked with us to include the Cat Clinic and Bayside Hospital. We are now grateful to Emerald Coast Animal Hospital, Crossroads Animal Clinic and Dogwood Acres. We would not have been able to do half the numbers of sterilizations without their support and discounts. They genuinely care about stopping the production of unwanted kittens and puppies. So a big Thank You goes to them.

Dogs and cats can reproduce at the age of six months up to three times a year. So the answer is spay and neuter before the age of six months. We have sterilized 100+ animals every month for the last 6-7 years. That is about all the APL and our vets can easily handle. If we could get more vets involved, we could up our numbers, but money is a factor too.

Have we made an impact? I tend to think so. It is not the number of spays and neuters alone, it is the huge number of prevented pregnancies of thousands of offspring. People do not realize that one mama cat with 2 and 1/2 surviving kittens can produce 350,000 over seven years!

Last year we spent almost all donations and sterilized 1,222 dogs and cats. I always worry we will have to close shop due to lack of funds, but surprisingly we keep on going. So again many thanks to all, who contributed in so many ways, big or small. You are all very much appreciated.

~ Almut

## Summary of the Treasurer Report

The APL generated \$65,549.61 revenue and expenses totaling \$64,751.18 with \$798.43 in the plus. Our fundraising expenses were quite a bit more than usual. The cost to rent space at the fairgrounds for the "Big Fix" fundraiser was \$500. The APL netted almost \$9,000 from the event so it was a good return on the investment. The Combined Federal Campaign changed policy last year requiring participating charities to pay an upfront \$340 registration fee. The APL application was denied because we had no fundraising expenses for calendar year 2016. All totaled expenses went up from .5% to 2% which is still a very small percentage compared to other nonprofit organizations.



## 2017 APL Spay and Neuter Statistics

Month	Cat Spay	Cat Neuter	Dog Spay	Dog Neuter	Total
January	62	61	4	8	135
February	52	27	7	3	89
March	45	42	17	8	112
April	42	25	11	10	88
May	47	31	10	2	90
June	51	36	15	6	108
July	64	40	7	9	120
August	72	53	11	6	142
September	31	42	6	7	86
October	38	24	8	5	75
November	57	39	11	4	111
December	30	25	8	3	66
<b>Total</b>	<b>591</b>	<b>445</b>	<b>115</b>	<b>71</b>	<b>1222</b>
	<b>Total Cats 1036</b>		<b>Total Dogs 186</b>		

## Our Pet Adoption

The APL mission is spay or neuter but we are fortunate to have a few in-home fosters who care for injured, orphaned or abandoned cats and kittens. According to my statistics, we have adopted over 1000 animals through Petland. Unfortunately a few cats were adopted twice when they were brought back or abandoned at PAWS. Through our microchip system we can always identify them and know their story.



Petland has been extremely helpful by providing a big crate so we can show our cats and kittens. Linda has been a huge help as she takes care of all the adoptions, paperwork, daily care and cleanup. Without her that would not be possible and run as smooth.

Thank you Petland and especially Linda ~ [www.petlandfortwalton.com](http://www.petlandfortwalton.com)

We also adopt cats and kittens directly from our foster homes. By my estimate we have adopted at least 100 cats from our fosters. Rona's APL Kittens Facebook page is a great help. Fosters post photos and videos of cats and kittens available for adoption. Visit <https://www.facebook.com/groups/117826781728407> for more info.





The APL is honored and grateful to have received a \$3,750 spay/neuter grant from the Petco Foundation in August 2017. This generous lifesaving funding, in addition to public donations, resulted in 113 Okaloosa County community cats being spayed or neutered, vaccinated and microchipped. The lives of countless kittens were saved along with forever changing the lives of the cats. Thank you so much to the Petco Foundation and our community for helping the APL meet our mission goals.  
<https://www.petcofoundation.org>



The APL is honored to have been awarded an additional \$1,000 lifesaving Spay, Neuter & Vaccination grant from A Guardian Angel Foundation in 2017. The funding is being used to host two special \$65 spay or neuter events at Crossroads Animal Clinic. The cost to owner is \$45 with the grant covering the \$20. Twenty-four local cats participated on Feb 1st. The event on Feb 28th is full. We are grateful to A Guardian Angel Foundation and Crossroads for helping the APL meet our mission goals.  
<http://www.aguardianangelfoundation.org>



The APL is proud to be a part of the BISSELL Partners for Pets Program. We are grateful for the donation of a wonderful vacuum which yielded the APL a \$100 donation! The BISSELL Pet Foundation is a charitable non-profit organization dedicated to the humane care and treatment of animals. Founded in 2011 by Cathy Bissell, the BISSELL Pet Foundation is an extension of her long-standing love for animals and commitment to their welfare. With support from BISSELL Homecare, Inc., the Foundation aims to be a key leader in advocating for lost, abused, neglected and abandoned pets.  
<https://www.bissellpetfoundation.org>



The APL is honored and grateful to have been awarded a lifesaving Spay, Neuter & Vaccination grant from the Second Acts Foundation. The funding was used to assist with spay/neuter, vaccination, chip and tip of several cats at a large colony located in Fort Walton Beach.  
<http://www.secondactsfoundation.org>



## Help Save the Life of an Unwanted Dog or Cat

The APL firmly believes that spay and neuter is the key to reducing the euthanasia of companion animals. Thousands of cats and dogs are put down by our local animal control contractor each year. We work to stop this tragedy with proactive solutions to reduce the number of unwanted cats and dogs. Please consider making a tax-deductible donation to the APL to help meet our mission goals in 2018. Thank you!

### *Donate By Check ~ Please make checks payable to Animal Protection League*

Our mailing address is APL, PO Box 51, Fort Walton Beach FL 32549

### *Memorial Donation*

We greatly appreciate donations given in memory of a beloved person or pet. If you or someone you know would like to give the APL a Memorial Donation, in lieu of flowers, please ensure that our address is listed as APL, PO Box 51, Fort Walton Beach FL 32549.

### *Donate Online ~ Please Consider a Recurring Donation*

- ❖ PayPal Giving Fund  
- <https://www.paypal.com/fundraiser/105865137050618816/charity/193007>
- ❖ Donate While You Shop or Sell on e-Bay  
- <http://charity.ebay.com/charity-auctions/charity/okaloosa-animal-protection-league/193007/>
- ❖ Donate While You Shop on Amazon Smile  
- <https://smile.amazon.com>
- ❖ APL PayPal Address - [Donate@OkaloosaAPL.org](mailto:Donate@OkaloosaAPL.org)

## Receive the APL Newsletter by Email

Please help us save time, paper, printing and stamps by receiving the APL newsletter via e-mail. Send your email address to [buster1998@cox.net](mailto:buster1998@cox.net). Thanks!



## Connect with the APL Online

Web Site: [www.okaloosaapl.org](http://www.okaloosaapl.org)

Facebook: Follow [OkaloosaAPL](#)

Email: [contact@okaloosaapl.org](mailto:contact@okaloosaapl.org)

## APL Membership

~ We are sad to announce we lost three lifelong APL Members this year. Joan McEwen, Shirley Shanahan and Patty Paige will be truly missed.

Membership is open to those who support our mission and goals. Please call 850.862-8030 to join. Dues are: Annual - \$15 Individuals or \$25 Families ... \$150 Individual Life Membership

### Welcome New Members

Life Members: Lois Norton, Nancy Pluznyk, Erin Rockwell

Individual Members: Steffie Schiller

Total Membership: 178 including 147 Life Members



We are grateful to everyone who supports the APL mission. THANKS to all who have donated. Any amount, big or small, is very much appreciated!

### **In Memory Of**

Margie and Jim Kiser  
Patty Paige  
Don Norton  
Georgia Schwingle  
Mary P. Tippenhauer  
Carol Reinarts  
Sydney, the cat

### **In Honor of**

Nellie Tymowczak  
Mary Grace Evors  
Almut Parker  
Clyde and Oscar