



THE HAVEN NEWSLETTER

(251) 929-3980/Fax: 929-0358
559 S. Section St., Fairhope, AL 36532
thehaven4animals@yahoo.com

"Our volunteers are angels!"

Michael Graham, Executive Director
Jan-March 2007

Hours: 10-noon, 1-4pm M, T, Th, F
9-1PM Sat. (Closed to public
on Wed./also closed Fridays
before adoption events.)

Mission Statement

The Haven provides shelter for abused, homeless and neglected animals, treating them with love, respect and medical care. Through education and volunteer programs, we promote community awareness of pet overpopulation and responsibility. The Haven is a non-profit sanctuary for animals that will be cared for regardless of how long it takes to find them loving homes.



Masked human escort & pet 2006 parade.

MYSTIC MUTTS OF REVELRY PARADE (MMOR): Sat., Feb. 10th at 3:30PM in downtown Fairhope. Honor of queen and king being bestowed on pets with largest donations. (Please obtain a MMOR flyer for rules and regulations.)

THANK YOU RECEPTION FOR VOLUNTEERS & DONORS & PET PHOTO CONTEST AWARDS:
Thursday, Feb. 1st, 6-8pm at Eastern Shore Art Center. Awards at 7PM.

JOIN THE HAVEN'S DOG WALKING CLUB!

The Haven would like to encourage volunteers to put a little more fun in their exercise program by joining The Haven's Dog Walking Club. Volunteers from The Haven, a no-kill animal shelter in Fairhope, meet on a routine basis to help exercise the shelter dogs. Michael Graham, Executive Director, believes that "Socialization of shelter dogs really helps them to have a happier relationship with others. The dogs love the special attention and exercise." All of the walkers emphasize that knowing that they are giving a little of the great outdoors to these dogs is worth every step. Besides benefiting the animals, dog walker Aimee' Egbert acknowledges that "I've met lots of friends in the dog walking group – the four legged and two legged kind." Volunteers like Egbert, Jill Skinner and Eva Klemann also agree another great reason to share exercise with a shelter dog is getting or staying in shape because, "If you're walking dogs for two hours, then you're not home eating!" Skinner, Chairperson of the Dog Walking Club, says that "The exercise is great, but the happiness you see in the dogs' eyes when they get to walk is the most gratifying."



“WORLD’S CUTEST DOG”

Driving from Grundy Center, Iowa, population 2,500, to Fairhope, Alabama was no easy feat, but Pamela Parker was on a mission. She put her business on hold for three days and drove 1,000 miles to pick up a rescued pet from Hurricane Katrina. Parker had two previous canine companions, both rescues, so adopting from a shelter seemed the right choice. But in her small town, they had only large breed dogs and she was determined to find a smaller breed, perhaps a Tibetan terrier. The Haven, a no-kill animal shelter, in Fairhope, Alabama, had put “Me-Me’s” photo on Petfinders.com, to help locate her family. After she saw the photo of the 25 lb. gray, black and white Tibetan and Lhasa Apso mix on Petfinders.com, she called The Haven. She was referred to Becky Brasington at Downtown Animal Clinic (DAC), who was fostering Me-Me for The Haven. Parker quickly sent in a history about her previous dogs to The Haven and was approved for adoption. When Parker arrived in Fairhope, she finally got to meet Me-Me. “I’ve always had a way with dogs, but I was touched when the little fuzzy dog came in and put her head on my leg.” Me-Me only had one eye (the other eyelid was stitched shut), but it didn’t make any difference to Parker who renamed her “Marlee.” When Parker put Marlee in her car, Marlee checked the car out, claimed a comfortable spot and never looked back.

Parker’s experience with adopting from The Haven has been “an excellent experience with Becky Brasington and The Haven representative who contacted me after the adoption” for a follow-up report. Though Marlee has suffered from separation anxiety, it has gotten a lot better even though Parker admits, “I take her everywhere,” often with her long locks held back by barrettes. Marlee is a one trick dog though. She sits up when she wants to go out, wants dinner, wants a treat, etc., and still refuses to shake hands. But that’s okay with Parker who proudly claims Marlee to be “The World’s Cutest Dog.” Michael Graham, Executive Director of The Haven, recognizes that driving to Fairhope from Iowa is quite a journey, but that “I am always touched by the lengths that some people will go to in order to save a needy animal. Our community is very grateful that Ms. Parker chose one of our rescues.” When questioned about what Marlee has taught her about love, Parker responds quickly, “She is love. She is unconditional love in a fur coat.” Parker’s advice to prospective pet owners is to check with their local shelters first. If they can’t find what they want, she suggests “Why don’t we call The Haven and see what they have. We will make a three day trip!”



MESSAGE FROM KATE FISHER, PRESIDENT, BOARD OF DIRECTORS:

“The Haven would like to thank those Board members who will be rotating off in February: Donna Crawley, past president and secretary, Kenny Hanak, treasurer, and Harry Ruffin, financial committee chairman. With them go our thanks and gratitude for their time and their support. Our new Board members are Kathy Barton, William Bradford, David Jamieson, Deidre Lee, Barry Roberts and Leslie Mulcahey, who will begin a three year term beginning February of 2007. All members of the Board are committed to the mission of The Haven. We want you to know we are always available to answer any questions or concerns and are open to suggestions. Since our partnership with public shelters and affiliation with Maddie’s Fund, we felt our mission statement needed to be more inclusive.” (See front page.)



APPLAUSE FOR OUR DIRECTOR, MICHAEL GRAHAM:

Michael Graham was recently invited to join the Board of Directors for the Alabama Humane Federation (AHF). He would like to share the following information about AHF: “The AHF is vital for the animals in our beautiful state of AL. Being a member of AHF for almost three years, I am honored to serve on their board of directors. The AHF collaborates with the AVMA (Alabama Veterinary Medical Association) animal control shelters, traditional shelters, and adoption guarantee groups. One committee I serve on is the legislative committee which works on new laws to help protect animals and people. In 2006, we created a state animal shelter manual to help improve the standards of care for some of the shelters in our state. This has been a huge resource for The Haven just by networking with my colleagues and sharing information.”

CURRENT EVENTS:	VOLUNTEER MEETINGS:
PET ADOPTIONS: 11am-3pm Petsmart, Eastern Shore Centre in Malbis, AL Sat., Jan. 13 th & Sat., Mar. 19 th Sat., Jan. 27 TBA (W/Maddie’s Fund) Sat., Feb. 17 TBA MMOR Parade 02/10/06	5:30PM New volunteer orientation 6-7PM Monthly volunteer meeting Thomas Hospital Wellness Center in Fairhope, AL Wed., Jan. 17 th Tues., Feb. 20 th Tues., Mar. 20 th
Volunteer Reception 02/01/06	
SPECIAL THANKS TO: Jim Mauer, The Haven’s webpage manager!	

SPEAKERS BUREAU UPDATE: Donna Crawley has been speaking to adult and younger groups in and around the Fairhope area, including a Rotary group and a senior group at Fairhope Methodist. Marilyn Moen, along with Queenie, Randy Clemmons and dog, Cheyenne, have been visiting libraries and schools in Baldwin County. If you’d like to have a speaker for your group, please contact The Haven.

GREAT WAYS TO HELP THE SHELTER!



Ron & Sunny David with Deion



There are many creative and innovative ways to raise funds for The Haven. Here are just a few examples: Ron and Sunny David recently surprised their pet, Deion, with a 21st birthday party with donations benefiting The Haven. Happy Birthday, Deion! Brenny's Jewelry in downtown Fairhope gave 10% of their sales of dog charms to The Haven. Goodsearch, a search engine, will donate funds to The Haven if you specify The Haven on-line. These are just a few examples, but we would like to thank everyone who has helped us. Keep those great ideas coming!

HAVEN RESALE SHOP: Make a purchase and help an animal! (251-929-1911) Come shop with a heart.

QUEENIE'S BIRTHDAY PARTY: In early March, Queenie, family, and Haven friends will celebrate her birthday (the anniversary of her Haven adoption) at The Haven Resale Shop. It will be a fund-raiser for "Queenie's Fund" to provide extra money for those older animals, who, like Queenie may have more medical needs and a longer stay at The Haven. Queenie was an abandoned and an abused dog that needed multiple surgeries and was at the Haven for over two years before she found her Furever Home.

HAVEN WISH LIST

*Bleach Clorox Cleanup * Paper Towels * Disposable powder free latex exam gloves * Pet shampoo
Liquid laundry detergent * Dog & cat treats and toys * Blankets (nothing "filled") * Towels
13 gal. trash bags Kitty litter (non-scoopable) * Litter boxes (\$1.50 Wal-Mart) * Pet carriers/crates
Stainless steel pet bowls * Old newspaper * Dog cologne * Foster Parents * Grant writers * Dog walkers*