

ALPINE HUMANE SOCIETY

Celebrating a Year of Saving Lives...

One Animal at a Time



2015 ANNUAL REPORT

ALPINE HUMANE SOCIETY



Our Mission:

The Alpine Humane Society and Animal Services are dedicated to improving the lives of animals in Brewster County through humane care, adoption and reducing pet overpopulation by promoting our spay/neuter program and by public education about pet ownership.

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You become responsible, forever, for what you have tamed.

Antoine de Saint-Exupéry
"The Little Prince"



MESSAGE FROM OUR PRESIDENT

To our supporters:

Welcome to the Alpine Humane Society's first online annual report. We launched our new website in February and it's the perfect forum for providing our members and supporters with information about AHS's 2015 activities and 2016 plans, all geared toward our mission of improving the lives of animals in Brewster County. First, we applied for and received two major grants from foundations, allowing us to increase play space for dogs at the shelter and to add to our spay-and-neuter funding for cats. A new member and volunteer who is a grant writer is both dedicated and skilled, and we are beginning to implement these projects in 2016.

Also in 2015, our thrift store boomed as both a source of income for the Humane Society and as a second space in which to house adoptable cats. Early in 2015 we formalized a Thrift Store Director position, and Ann Moore has done amazing and tiresome work spearheading this worthy project that supports AHS. (Thrift store volunteers are welcome, by the way!)

Through our cooperation with the City of Alpine Animal Services, we can also cite 2015 as the first full year that the Alpine Animal Shelter was able to avoid euthanizing an animal because of space limitations. AHS operates on a core belief that euthanizing a healthy, adoptable animal is unacceptable, and we think our community feels the same. So we are grateful to our supporters and community members who continue to spread the message that these temporarily sheltered and down-on-their-luck pets are very worthy of living terrific lives in good homes, and making their shelter stays as short as possible.

Many of these same people are part of the increasing volunteer base that grew in 2015. These people are passionate about keeping the sheltered animals socialized, exercised, and publicized — Hopefully, you'll have seen the sweet, professional photos of Alpine-shelter animals on Facebook, PetFinder, our website, and on bulletin boards around Alpine and Terlingua, and you might know one of the regular dog walkers.

Part of our 2015 development has been the recognition of the great need to have an AHS employee at the shelter who focuses on dog and cat enrichment, in addition to coordinating volunteers toward keeping them coming back. For 2016 we are searching for external funding for such a position's salary; that's not typical for many grant-awarding foundations so we welcome leads (and contributions!)

I AM GRATEFUL to everyone in this community for their contributions to AHS, and thus to the welfare of the animals of Brewster County, in 2015. Onward to an even more successful 2016.

Jesse Kelsch, President, Alpine Humane Society

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ADOPTIONS & TRANSFERS

All adoptions are handled by Alpine Animal Services which is part of the city government of Alpine. That said, AHS plays an integral role in caring for shelter animals and helping facilitate adoptions. AHS assists Alpine Animal Services with their adoptions by providing professional photos of each shelter animal, promotional efforts (fliers, Facebook page, newspaper and radio ads, website), assisting with adoption events, and more.

193 Adoptions

41 Transfers to other rescues

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\$59,000

**SPAY/NEUTER SURGERIES
& OTHER VET EXPENSES**

AHS helped pay for more than \$59,000 in shelter and community veterinary medical expenses in 2015.

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13,000+
HOURS VOLUNTEERED

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**EUTHANASIAS
FOR SPACE!**

Best of all, through the efforts of all AHS volunteers, supporters, and partners, NO DOGS OR CATS WERE EUTHANIZED FOR SPACE IN 2015!

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Accomplishments

Social Media:

- Facebook 1259 likes for "Friends of the Alpine Humane Society" (up 22% from 2014)
- New social media accounts created this year, including Pinterest, Twitter & Instagram

Other new publicity:

- Fliers of adoptable dogs & cats around Alpine and Terlingua
- Weekly adoptable dog highlighted in the Terlingua Moon
- Bulletin Board dedicated to AHS/AAS adoptable animals at Porter's on 5th

Swag bag for adopters, courtesy of AHS:

- \$5 gift certificate (AHS approved giving out \$5 with each adoption)
- "Love Has No Age Limit" booklet for each dog adopter (AHS approved & bought the books)
- Tip sheet for dog adopters

More shelter dogs got out and about around Alpine to help boost adoptions and to increase awareness of AHS and shelter pets including:

- Murphy Street Farmers Market
- Earth Day
- Twin Peaks Liquor Store
- Plaine Coffee Shop
- SRSU exam-week de-stress events
- Brown Dog Nursery

Alpine Avalanche generously donates space for our Pet of the Week and other notices which would easliy amount to well over \$10,000.

And So Much More....

- AHS Thrift Store obtained a director, Ann Moore (Jan 2015)
- Thrift Store improvements (including upgrades to heating/cooling) (Feb 2015)
- Increased amount paid toward cat s/n from \$40 to \$60 (Feb 2015)
- Two \$1000 Match Challenges were met (Feb & July 2015)
- Purchase of 24 Kuranda dog beds-- every kenneled dog now has a hammock-style bed to sleep on at night (Feb 2015; the first match challenge money was used for this)
- Remains processor purchased for the crematorium
- "Pay It Forward" approved & implemented (April 2015). Currently 11 animals have partial or full sponsorship of their adoption fee
- AHS dog-walking volunteer, Pat McCall, was the winner of the Pilot Club Volunteer of the Year Award. She donated \$125 of her winnings to AHS (May 2015)
- New development efforts including writing grant proposals: A new member is a professional grant writer and has written two grants for cat s/n funds (August 2015) and dog play yards at the shelter (December 2015)
- Successful community-pet microchipping event held in conjunction with Adoption Day at the shelter-- 20 chips (Aug 2015)
- Strategic Planning approved by the board (Aug 2015)
- New highway sign pointing to shelter (Nov 2015)
- Formation of Governance Committee (Nov 2015)
- Repair of back play yard: McCoys donated concrete & forming materials, AHS volunteers installed footings under gates to prevent dogs digging out
- Drainage grates in dog kennels repaired by AHS volunteer, allowing dogs to have toys in their kennels
- Raffles: Quilt, Cedar Chest, and crocheted afghan
- DNA tests for long-stay dogs helped get 3 of the 4 tested dogs adopted
- Ongoing upkeep & improvements to the dog park
- TV, DVD player & DVDs donated to the cattery to reduce boredom
- Portable catio for isolation cats installed
- New afternoon dog-walking program implemented, with up to 10 volunteers participating in any given week
- Amazon Wish List up and running with donations coming in

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Financials

Alpine Humane Society 2015 Financial Summary			
<u>Dr. Helen Cole Memorial Fund</u>			
Beginning Balance			\$48,550.62
Deposits from Edward Jones	\$39,751.64		\$88,302.26
Interest earned	\$30.45		\$88,332.71
Transfers to Checking		\$48,894.55	\$39,438.16
<u>Savings Account</u>			
Beginning Balance			\$24,033.81
Deposit Donations	\$3,429.09		\$27,462.90
Deposit Interest earned	\$19.00		\$27,481.90
Transfers and withdrawals		\$5,715.07	\$21,766.83
<u>Checking Account</u>			
Beginning Balance			\$2,643.01
Deposits from Helen Cole	\$48,894.55		\$51,537.56
Deposits from Thrift Store	\$9,000.00		\$60,537.56
Deposits from Savings	\$2,416.52		\$62,954.08
Deposits from Donations	\$26,255.78		\$89,209.86
Deposits from Fundraising	\$756.00		\$89,965.86
Deposits from Membership Dues	\$415.00		\$90,380.86
Total Expenses		\$85,150.38	\$5,230.48

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2015 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Jesse Kelsch, President

Jodye Stone, Vice President

Jean Lofer, Treasurer

George Bradley, Secretary

Ann Moore, Thrift Store Director

Regina Bartlein

Diane Baylor

Nancy Beckwith

Kay Wilde

Physical Address

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Photography

Caneel Cardwell, CTC Photography

Vicki Gibson, V Gibson Photo

AHS Thrift Store

706 N 5th Street
Alpine, TX 79830
(432) 837-3400



<https://www.facebook.com/Friends-of-the-Alpine-Humane-Society-294314360133>



<https://www.pinterest.com/alpinehumane/>



<https://www.instagram.com/alpinehumanesociety/>



https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCTwncqRHHvMZ3slugj_nE0w



<https://twitter.com/AlpineHumane>

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