



Our wonderful volunteers and animals:

Top: Dale Russell with Jamie, Bette Maddon with Big Al, WEX worker Austin Kinney with Fred

Bottom: Kat Simas with Missy, Kris Groh with Alley Cat and Carolyn Vickers

Missing volunteers: Vince Shelby, Oceana Williams, Kathy Perkins, Miko Fogarty, Hillary Russell, and Rose Buzzetta

Sponsor Spotlight

Friends of Plumas County Animals

Submitted by Rose Buzzetta

Friends of Plumas County Animals

a non profit 501(c)3 corporation—EIN #30-0652941

Since our Incorporation in 2010 Friends has been instrumental in helping the animals of Plumas County.

The first few years Friends volunteers worked at the local county animal shelter. We helped care for the animals and worked with county administration to develop the huge outdoor dog yards and three outdoor kennels that are now part of the permanent facility. We are proud and happy to know, because of our dedication, those animals have access to fresh air and exercise daily. We also developed an outdoor cat play yard so the impounded felines could get some fresh air and playtime too.

In 2012 our volunteers took on the daunting task of relocating to an older building in E. Quincy to make a “home of our own”. With much sweat and hard work, our dedicated non-paid staff painted, cleaned, and built a warm, cozy place for our animal guests to live while they awaited their permanent homes. The facility has expanded to include two new heating units, a fully-equipped kitchen and bathroom, and three playrooms for the cats/kittens. We also have two indoor dog kennels which open to their own fenced yards.

In the four years at our new site Friend's volunteers have cared for and re-homed 241 cats or kittens and 30 dogs. Not bad for a small rescue! Thanks to our Adopt-a-Pet and Facebook pages, we have adopters who come from San Francisco, Seattle, Reno, Washoe, and Lake Tahoe, as well as lots of local adoptions.

Our volunteers are all hard-working, caring and dedicated to the animals. Besides the usual amount of work to feed and clean the enclosures, I am proud to say that our volunteers give our animals love and affection at each shift. Shy cats get a quiet lap to snuggle into, playful kittens get toys and lots of stimulation for their mental and physical well being, sick animals get loving kindness with their medications, and all the animals who come through our site are healthier and happier because of their stay at Friends—whether their visit is one day or one year.

Friends also has run a Crisis Food Program since we were at the shelter. Through this program Friends is willing to give people help feeding their pet twice in a year. The reason you might need food doesn't matter to us, but being sure that your dog or cat is fed sure does! We do not want pets to be abandoned or given to a shelter because the owner cannot afford food. If we have food, we are most willing to share! Almost all of our “crisis food” comes from donations we pick up in Reno (yea for ¾ ton trucks!) in cooperation with other non-profits.

Friends believes in the power and strength of local community. Together there is nothing we can't accomplish—our rescue is alive and flourishing due to the dedication and generosity of our community. Our board decided to join Community Connections because they embody all we believe in—volunteer work, no exchange of money for goods, involvement of individuals in their community, and with each other—bartering at it's best!

We have benefited many times over from our Sponsorship including having our weeds “eaten”, our yards cleaned, countless cupcakes and desserts baked for our fundraisers, our front windows decorated and painted for the change in seasons, and have had numerous Members volunteer at our site with the animals. We even had a Member sew us cat hammocks so our animals can lounge in comfort. WE LOVE COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS!

Our current roster of volunteers is made up of dedicated people, but we are always looking for more help. We care for the animals every day and night and are open to the public Tuesday through Sunday 11-3pm. If anyone would like to join our team and help our animals please feel free to call me or leave a message at the site. 530-927-8057 site or 530-927-9485. Most shifts are 2 hours (11-1 and 1-3pm) and volunteers work with the animals and assist potential adopters with applications. Some volunteers work 2 hours a week, others 4. Most of the “old timers” are in the site much more than that! We also need a new board member and ideally would like someone to help us look for grants for our spay/neuter programs.

Friends rescue is a sanctuary for the animals who come through, but it is also home to the volunteers and that home is filled with honor, respect, and true affection for all the hard working, non-paid, selfless people who care for the animals. Come and visit. Volunteer. Take home a new furry friend--they are waiting.