

Humane Society of Elmore County News - 2 Jan '17

Rea Cord

Executive Director

Did you make a New Year's Resolution to get out and help others? How about becoming a volunteer for our shelter where you can help animals and people! To learn all about volunteering with us just go to [http://www.elmorehumane.org/volunteeropp .htm](http://www.elmorehumane.org/volunteeropp.htm). Volunteers help us out in so many ways – in the shelter exercising and bathing dogs, brushing and loving our kitties, in our Thrift Store, at off-site adoption events, supply drives, fundraising events, and so much more.

One hugely important Volunteer need we have is in our Tails End Thrift Store located adjacent to our shelter at 255 Central Plank Road, Wetumpka as it is a critical source of revenue for our shelter. We have clothing, linens, books, appliances, home decorations, furniture, toys and so much more! Every dollar earned in the Thrift Store comes into our shelter so that we can keep helping animals in need. The store is open for shopping Thu, Fri & Sat from 9-3 and is 100% Volunteer run. With our awesome new store opening THIS Thursday, we can always use more volunteers to help us sort, price and sell everything as we expect greatly increased traffic. If you would like to become one of our wonderful Thrift Store Volunteers, please stop by the store and find out how you can help. And with spring cleaning around the corner, please remember that all donations to our Thrift Store are tax deductible and your donations translate to sales and more funds for our pets.

Our in-shelter volunteers help our staff exercise and socialize our dogs and cats since the staff is often tied up with hands-on care, intake and adoptions. Regular exercise keeps our dogs happy and cats always benefit from those who love to brush them and give them attention. Now not all dogs have great leash manners and getting dirty is to be expected, but if you love animals then spending a couple of hours interacting with our pets can be very rewarding.

One rather specialized volunteer need is as one of our photographers taking photos of our pets for posting on the on-line adoption websites and Facebook. Doing pet photography for us entails owning your own digital camera (ability to take higher speed photos helps immensely since dogs can be moving photo targets), being able to spend a few hours perhaps once/twice per month at our shelter taking pictures, taking three-four good pictures of each pet, and being able to edit and then email pictures and info to us for posting in a timely manner.

Fostering is a different area of Volunteering that can be most rewarding. Fostering orphan puppies or kittens is hard work indeed, but helps us save lives when more are coming in than our staff can manage. There is a separate application for fostering so please contact us at the shelter (hselco@bellsouth.net or 334-567-3377) for more information.

We truly love our volunteers as every volunteer helps make our shelter a better place for people and pets alike. Volunteering can certainly be hard work, but we think you will find many rewards - at a minimum you are guaranteed a lot of tail wags and purrs in return!

And tickets are at the shelter for your chance to win \$10,000 at our 6th Annual "Getting Down with the Dawgs" Draw Down on Saturday, 18 February 2016, at the Wind Creek Wetumpka Entertainment Center! With the purchase of a \$100 ticket you will have a 1 in 300 opportunity to win \$10,000! There will also be door prizes and other special evening fun! Besides a chance to win big, each ticket holder and guest will also get a delicious buffet dinner and beverages. Don't delay – get your ticket(s) now or buy one as a gift!