

Humane Society of Elmore County News – 22 Jan '18  
Rea Cord  
Executive Director

While we are a non-profit, running a modern animal shelter means incurring all the expenses of any private business. We have to pay for our staff (running a shelter is a 365/24/7 undertaking); utilities (electricity, water, gas, phone, garbage); insurances (vehicle, property, workman's comp, liability, etc); animal vaccines, spay/neuter and other Veterinary costs; microchips and medications; repairs/improvements; vehicle operation and upkeep; cleaning & general supplies, and so much more. The difference in us and a for-profit business is that adoption fees of the animals we are working to find homes for (our product per se), do not even come close to covering the cost of running a shelter. So, as a non-profit, we are able to take tax-deductible donations from the public to help us in our mission to save as many lives as possible. But we don't just sit back and hope that our donors will cover all of our needs as our board, volunteers & supporters also work numerous fund-raising activities and events. Our Tail's End Thrift Store, upcoming \$10,000 Drawdown, Cruisin 'fer Critters, Silent Auction & Bark in the Park are activities we work extremely hard at to raise money for our shelter operations. There are also other fund-raising activities held by groups on our behalf throughout the year for which we are incredibly grateful. We want our supporters and donors to know that we are working hard ourselves to not only ensure we can cover our present needs but also our financial stability for a long-term future.

While we generally have anywhere from 250-300 animals in our daily care, you might be surprised at how many injured animals come to us that we take to area Veterinarians for surgeries and extended care. In any given week we very likely have one or two pets at a Vet for care from being found on a roadway badly injured and 95% of the time, no owner has ever come forward. We also generally have a constant group of dogs undergoing heartworm treatment which is an expensive undertaking both in terms of money and time. So we just tell you this so you will know that your donations of money, supplies, food, time and moral support ARE helping us save lives – some of which we couldn't save if we didn't have a solid base of financial support from our donors and supporters.

To that end, don't forget to come by the shelter soon to purchase your, hopefully, winning ticket to our 'Getting Down with the Dawgs' DRAWDOWN and your chance to win \$10,000! A \$100 ticket gives you a 1 in 312 opportunity to win \$10,000 (do NOT have to be present to win the grand prize)! Each ticket holder and guest will also get a delicious buffet dinner, chance for door prizes, cash bar and much more. Our 2018 Drawdown will be at the Entertainment Center, Wind Creek Wetumpka, 100 River Oaks Dr, Wetumpka, AL, Saturday, 17 February 2018! Doors will open at 5:00 pm, cash bar opens around 5:30 pm, dinner catered by Wind Creek begins at 6 pm and the Drawdown starts at 7 pm. Tickets are on sale at the shelter at 255 Central Plank Road, Wetumpka, AL 36092 – get your ticket(s) now, buy one as a gift, or purchase one in the name of a special organization you support! We have sold out BEFORE the event the past three years, so don't delay purchasing your tickets. For any questions contact us at 334-567-3377 or email [hselco@bellsouth.net](mailto:hselco@bellsouth.net).