

Humane Society of Elmore County News – 4 Nov '13

Rea Cord

Director

Bark in the Dark this past Saturday was fun and we appreciate those who came out to join in and give a loving pet a new home - check out our Facebook page to see the pics of the Costume Contest winner and more. Stay tuned for more fun 'after hours' events like this after the first of the year!

We are still selling tickets for your chance to win a week's lodging at a five-bedroom, ocean-front house in NagsHead, N.C. from 25 May – 1 Jun '14. This wonderful opportunity is in loving memory of COL (USAF Ret) Gerald Mittelman and we are honored that his family is helping us like this in their father's memory. For only \$5 ticket, or five tickets for \$20, you could take all of your friends or family for a fun week getaway on the beach! For all the details just go to this link at www.elmorehumane.org/fundraiserevent.htm . Tickets are on sale at the shelter at 255 Central Plank Road, Wetumpka, AL 36092 and can be paid for over the phone (334-567-3377) using Credit Card but cannot be mailed per U.S. Postal Service rules. The winning ticket will be drawn on Sat, 14 Dec, 1 pm at the shelter and the winner just has to answer one easy trivia question. This awesome prize is good for lodging only and does not cover travel, food or any other expenses.

We were in error last week as we are NOT eligible to win again in the current round of The Animal Rescue Site Shelter Challenge. So, we are asking our supporters to keep voting (www.shelterchallenge.com), but to support a fellow local shelter, Prattville-Autauga Humane Society in Prattville, AL. Many of their supporters helped us hang on to our lead in the last challenge, so now it is our turn to help them win \$1000 for their animals. They are currently in second place so can use a boost to get them to #1 and keep them there!

When it comes to feral (wild) kitty cats there is a sad reality that we are NOT able to find homes for them when they are brought to our shelter. So far this year we have taken in over 1700 cats, have found homes for a little over 400 and have about 150 in the shelter and foster homes. With so many cats to pick from, a cat that is not socialized to humans and safe to handle simply has no chance at adoption. Face it, no one comes to a shelter to adopt a wild kitty that will bite and scratch at the first opportunity because it is has never been socialized. The primary solution to euthanasia of feral and friendly cats is getting them spayed or neutered so they don't continue to reproduce. If you don't mind that feral cat hanging out on your property, then you can trap it and take it to your veterinarian or the spay-neuter clinic in Montgomery to be 'fixed,' bring it home and let it live there as one cat - not one, then six, then 15, then 25 – you get the picture. If the cat is already there and attuned to living off the land per se, then this is about the most humane solution there is where feral cats are concerned. What is most needed is to stop the continuous reproduction of cats for which there are no homes. If you are dealing with a large number of feral cats and need advice on how to work a trap-neuter-return (TNR) program we are happy to give you advice and pointers on how best to enact a successful TNR program and the issues you also have to consider. Spaying and neutering not only saves lives now but far into the future so please help reduce shelter cat intake and euthanasia by being reducing the number of unwanted cats in the first place.

For shelter information go to www.elmorehumane.org, call 334-567-3377 or email hselco@bellsouth.net .