

**Rescue the Animals, SPCA**  
 4620 N. First St., Abilene, Texas 79603  
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[www.RescueTheAnimals.org](http://www.RescueTheAnimals.org)

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 Abilene, TX

**Double Heartworms!  
 6 hours to live...Saved!**



**Every Donation Doubled until May 31**  
 20th Anniversary Matching Grant Challenge!

**Hoarding, Cruelty & Neglect  
 Cases, Breeder Rejects All  
 Keeping Us Busy!**

**Oodles of 22 Snoodles...** Happy, racing about with their matted hair covered in poop and mud, the 22 Schnauzer/Poodles looked irresistible (to us)! Right! Although healthy, these were some of the worst looking dogs we have seen! Their owner was experiencing dementia and could no longer care for them. Lots, and lots of grooming and medical care put them on the way to new homes.



**California Dreaming for 22 dogs...**

We were so full in Abilene that one of our very brave volunteers took 22 dogs from the El Paso pound to her house in the country for nearly two weeks till their ride arrived. With all 22 scheduled to die almost immediately, we found a rescue in California to take them. They were full, and we had to wait two long weeks. How many poops is that times 22, times two weeks?



**Clovis to Abilene to Florida...** When a pet owner in Clovis, New Mexico, became ill and could not care for his animals, one of our Pets On the GO coordinators called to see if we could help. We took all 11 dogs and quickly sent them on to new homes in Florida.



SPRING 2018

**Rescue the Animals, SPCA**



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20TH ANNIVERSARY  
**\$20,000 CHALLENGE**

Anonymous Donor Pledges \$20,000 IF we can match it by May 31.

Every dollar you give will be doubled! Give \$50, we get \$100! Give \$200, we get \$400!

In 2017, our overall surgeries doubled. Our heartworm cases doubled. Our total volume of rescued animals also doubled because of Hurricane Harvey. Unfortunately, our funding did not. We desperately need your help now to keep rushing animals like Adam to our Transportation, Rehab, and Adoption Center for care. We are taking the medical cases no one else will treat!

Our 2018 Challenge Grant will pay Rescue the Animals, SPCA \$20,000 if we can match that amount by May 31. Plus, your donation does not go to pay large salaries and big overhead as it does at national humane groups. Without meeting this challenge grant, we will have to turn sick, injured, and abused animals away!

**20 Years of Tremendous Progress!**

When Rescue the Animals, SPCA was founded twenty years ago, the City of Abilene's "pound" held dogs and cats for just 3 days! The euthanasia number was nearly three times higher than it is today, and adoptions were just one third what they are today.

We worked for many years to improve conditions at the pound, and finally in 2009 improvements began. Since then adoptions have tripled. Euthanasias are down by two thirds, and the facility is one of the best in the nation holding many animals up to a full month.

Improvements did not come easily. When we finally convinced the City to partner with us in running special sales several times a year with heavily discounted prices, things began to change. In addition to spending up to \$80,000 every year on advertising and rebates for the City Animal Shelter, we also contributed \$33,000 for the new adoption wing that opened a few years ago and led to year after year of adoption records.

Now, Rescue the Animals, SPCA not only supports the City of Abilene Animal Shelter, we also run the largest physical facility in the nation for transportation and rehab of rescued animals. Our Pets On the GO national network has partners in over 35 states, allowing us to send animals thousands of miles to new homes they can't find in Abilene.

**Just Approved by the Abilene City Council...Low Cost Spay/Neuter Voucher Program!**

We are pledging \$20,000 this year and the City is matching it. Details soon...

Time is short. Every donation is critical. If you can donate only once in 2018, this is the time to give!

**Every dollar you give will be doubled!**



Broken Leg

**Rescue the Animals, SPCA** Mail to: 4620 North First, Abilene, TX 79603

Newsletter design: Debbie Heep Printing: Cloud Printing

**Rock N' Roll Stones** In a double whammy, a returning cancer forced a woman to seek our help when she could not care for her little dog. She also could not afford major surgery for the dog when bladder stones were found. We just thought the Rolling Stones were big! This tiny little dog had 18 bladder stones, several as large as marbles. Dr. Bolt's surgery saved the dog, and we are praying for its owner.



**110 Pound Valentine?** Sweetheart Desi the Rotty was our biggest Valentine surprise this year. She was snatched out of the Conroe shelter just in time. Her large hernia that needed surgery had kept her from finding a home and was almost a death sentence. One more surgery!



**Hurricane Harvey Lives!**

We are still cleaning up after Harvey. Vala, Nikki, Maura, and C.J. were homeless after their owner near Houston was evicted. Three of them had heartworms, and no one else would take them. They finally left in February for new homes. Another "leftover," MacDonald, has only recently left us after being treated for demodectic mange and illness he suffered during the Hurricane.



**Poly's Snowshoes** When our friends in Ballinger called about a snowshoe cat, we thought white paws. Nope. Artemis, the polydactyl has double toes that make great snowshoes which she needed for our big ice storm. A litter of beautiful Siamese kittens came along with her. We often provide food and vaccines for smaller shelters as well as taking their animals.



**Fly-in Medical Center?** Just before Valentine's Day, little Teddy was flown into Abilene by Pilots and Paws for heartworm treatment. Teddy was being rescued in Tyler, but he had heartworms. The new owners paid the medical bill (vastly cheaper than in Tyler), and Teddy came to Abilene for treatment before returning to Tyler.



Teddy



San Saba

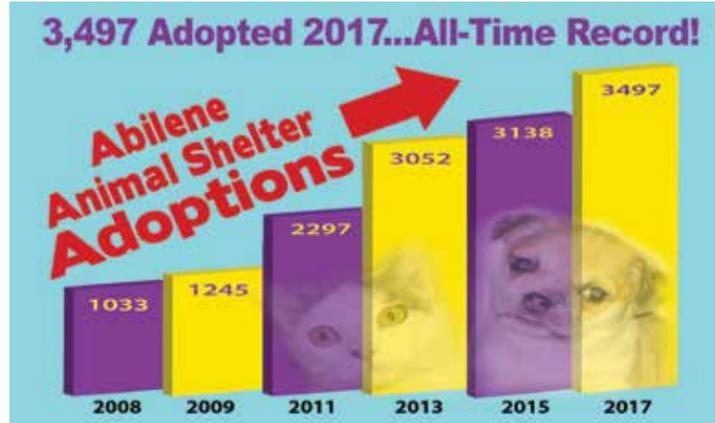
He was followed by two little dogs from San Saba. We agreed to pay for their heartworm treatment to help the local shelter place them in new homes. The folks from San Saba drove them to Abilene for care. Our cooperation with other shelters saves many animals that never enter our kennels.

*"Rescue the Animals, SPCA has been the catalyst for fantastic changes at the Abilene Animal Shelter. Changes that would not have happened otherwise!"*

Mayor Anthony Williams

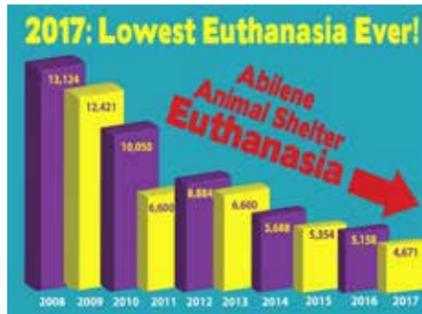


**2017 New All-Time Adoption Record at Abilene City Shelter!**



**Adoptions UP! Deaths DOWN!**

2017 saw new all-time records set for the most adoptions and the lowest Euthanasia ever at the City of Abilene Animal Shelter. Our partnership with The City of Abilene is paying great dividends and saving more lives every year. Cat adoptions are up over 800%!



**Outstanding Shelter Management Award to Miranda Walden**

In less than two years in shelter management, Miranda Walden has increased adoptions, improved shelter holding times, improved shelter cleanliness, and built a friendly and professional staff. She has also been aggressive in fighting animal abuse. Most important, Miranda has created the first ever low cost Spay/neuter program for the City of Abilene. Our national POGO Team nominated her for this award.



See more shelter improvements at [RescueTheAnimals.org](http://RescueTheAnimals.org)

**Hope After being abandoned** Hope (above) was abandoned. City officers found her sunburned, with a skin infection, and 20 pounds under weight! A team effort saved Hope and found her a new home.

**Bruno's Angel** Is there such a thing as a guardian angel for dogs? Well, Bruno the Dachshund started at the Abilene Animal Shelter last summer. We sent him to Lubbock to a new home. His owner died, and our friends in Lubbock found him a new home in Buffalo Gap. Just before Christmas, his new owner died and was not discovered for several days as little Bruno watched over him. We just know that the third time is charm as Bruno is settling in at his latest "new" home.



**Blue Beeline to Illinois** Blue Bee is a fantastic heeler, but nobody in Sealy, Texas needed a heeler. After a short stay with us, she was off to Illinois. Arriving at midnight on Saturday, she was adopted first thing on Sunday morning.



**No Food for You!** Abandoned for 2 weeks in an apartment and drinking toilet water with no food, Truffles seemed very...uh, angry! In a few days (when we could get close enough), we found she had sores all inside her throat and mouth. Dr. Bolt used his laser to clean out the sores, and lots of TLC later Truffles warmed up and is in a new home.



**Hoarder had 200 Dogs in Conroe**

Big hoarding cases seem on the rise everywhere. Working with several other rescue groups, we helped save over 200 dogs in a severe case in Conroe. Since our kennels were full, only 6 Chiweenies came to Abilene. Our luck? Every one was heartworm positive! Oh, one female immediately had a litter on arrival in Abilene.



**600 Dogs, 200 Rats** That was the best possible description of the Las Cruces Animal Shelter when its director applied to the City of Abilene two years ago. It was a terrible no-kill gone bad, commercial hoarding case! At one point the Las Cruces director euthanized a living puppy on live TV to promote spay/neuter! When we had a chance to take two dogs from Las Cruces, we rushed to save them. Little sweetheart Pip had to be treated for heartworms, and Adam still needed help for his broken but healing leg.



Adam



Pip

**Hound of Hades?** In Greek mythology, Cerberus is the three-headed "Hound of Hades" guarding the gates to you know where. Why she was named Cerberus (and her son Shadow) we don't know, but both mom and son turned out to be super friendly and well behaved when they arrived for heartworm treatment from the Ft. Worth Animal Shelter.



**One Beach for Another?** Little heeler Dilan must have been just returning from the Beach in Corpus Christi when he was slammed to the pavement with a broken pelvis, injured jaw, and bloody paws. We arranged for him to be rushed to Abilene before going on to California. Unfortunately, they have beaches too!



**Every Donation Doubled till May 31st! Give \$25 we get \$50. Give \$100 we get \$200. 698-SPCA**