



## Our Mission

*The Shamrock Foundation is a non-profit organization whose mission is to end pet overpopulation, reduce the number of companion animals destroyed in local shelters, and save or enhance the lives of animals in need in our community. This is accomplished through spay/neuter, education, emergency medical assistance, rescue, foster care and the adoption of pets into lifetime homes. We are a group of highly committed, unpaid volunteers who have a passion for our mission and its goals."*

## What can happen to Pets Offered "FREE TO A GOOD HOME"

There are many unscrupulous individuals who prowl the want ads and places like Craig's List looking for free pets. Unfortunately there are many terrible things that can happen to these "free pets".

A few owners of large snakes use free puppies and kittens as a free food source. Some, like in the case of the man recently caught torturing cats, prowl these lists claiming to provide a good home for the animals they will torture. Uncertified suppliers to research facilities often obtain their animals from these lists as well.

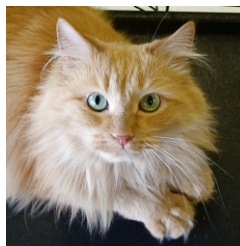
Individuals who fight dogs obtain dogs to be used as "bait dogs". Bait dogs are used to train their dogs to viciously attack another dog with the intention to maim or kill. This must be trained because most dogs do not have the instinct to fight until death. Those bait dogs who survive "training" are used again and again until they are rescued or die.

## How can you make sure the pet you need to find a home for goes to a REAL good home?

- It is not a good idea to post pets in need of a home on Craig's List. A better place is <http://www.petfinder.com/classifieds/classifieds.html>
- Never include, "free to a good home" in your ad. If someone is really interested in getting a pet, they will contact you if they are interested. The only word, bad homes are looking for is, FREE.
- Charge a fee. Unless you're placing your dog with a friend or relative, charge an adoption fee. Doing so is likely to discourage anyone with malicious intentions. If an individual wants to adopt your dog for the right reasons, a nominal fee should not deter him or her. If you like, you can ask the person to make out the check to a local animal shelter. In addition to assuring yourself that you've chosen a good adoptive home for your dog, you'll help other animals who need new homes
- Contact local rescue groups for resources and assistance. Many times, if you are willing to keep the pets in your home until they are adopted, rescues can help you in finding your pet a good home.
- A very good way to find a good home is networking. Send an e-mail to friends and family and ask them to spread the word. This often insures the pet will find a home with someone you already know.

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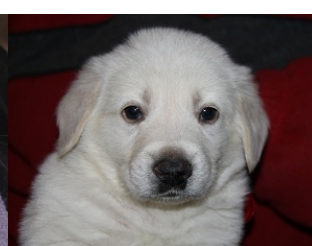
## Visit Us on Shamrockpets.org! We are looking for a home.



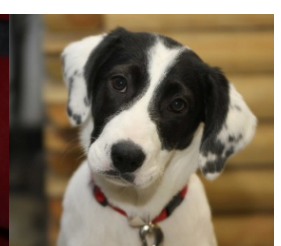
Butter



Rebel



Dandy



Eph

Article cont. from page 1

### **When someone responds to your ad/e-mail:**

#### **Step 1 Conduct a thorough telephone interview**

*Why are you interested in my pet?*

*What specifically attracts you to him/her?*

*Where will the pet live during the day?*

*Where will he/she sleep at night?*

*What kind of activities do you want to do with this animal?*

*Do you plan on training him/her? If so, how?*

*Where will you take the pet for veterinary care?*

*Do you have other pets?*

*Do you have a family or roommates living with you? Are they ok with this adoption?*

*Have you ever had a pet before? If so, what happened to him or her?*

You can also ask to see veterinary records for previous pets to verify that they received proper care.

*What would you do if you had to give up this pet for some reason in the future?* Let the prospective adopter know if you're willing to take the pet back in the event that things don't work out.

**[Questions provided by the American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals]**

If you're satisfied with the prospective adopter's answers to your questions, you can move on to the next steps:

- Ask for references. Rescue groups always do. It is a good idea to ask for at least 3 references, one of which must be a veterinarian. Do these individuals readily claim that the person will be a responsible and loving pet parent? This way, you can find out the owner's history, how well they took care of other pets etc. If this will be their first pet, they should still provide you with the name of the veterinarian they will use. Make sure they have already contacted the vet themselves and informed them that they will become a client. These are steps a responsible pet owner will take when getting a pet.
- Arrange a meeting. The person should visit you and your dog at your home, meet you somewhere in public, or invite you to visit his or her home. It's important to see how the person interacts with your pet—and how your pet reacts to him or her. Does your pet seem to like the person? If a family is interested in adopting, does the animal seem to like everyone in the family, including young children?
- Ask for the landlord's contact information. If the prospective adopter rents a house or apartment, it's a good idea to verify that he or she has permission to keep a pet.

**Be sure to carefully evaluate all potential new homes. If you feel uncertain about someone who's interested in adopting your pet, trust your gut. Wait for the right person to come along.**



### **ARROW Rescue Needs Home**



Meet "Moose". He is a 7lb. underweight black and white Rat Terrier. He suffered blunt force trauma to the face, he was most likely kicked. We got word late one night from Metro that he was brought in bleeding from the eye and was in shock. We had him transported to LVSES and the doctors determined that the eye was destroyed- completely blind. He was then transferred to All Pets Veterinary Services- Dr. Missy Jewell. His eye will be removed later this week as long as the swelling goes down. "Moose" just wants to be held and feel safe- so we are in search of his forever home. Please spread the word about "Moose" and the work that Shamrock Arrow Fund does to help these abused and neglected animals. When we get them, there is no warning and they are in critical condition. These cases are costly and we ask when possible to make a donation to the Shamrock Arrow Fund. (donations must state Arrow Fund) [www.shamrockpets.com](http://www.shamrockpets.com). If you are interested in fostering or giving Moose a forever home, please contact us through [admin@shamrockpets.com](mailto:admin@shamrockpets.com)

## SHAMROCK NEEDS YOU!

### Positions currently open:

**Olde Tyme Holiday Shoppe Chairperson:** Coordinates this holiday event, books event location, works with Volunteer Coordinator to recruit volunteers, coordinates donation requests of local businesses of gifts and items, schedules work days to put together baskets and gift items. And coordinates set up before, and clean up after the event. If interested, please contact us through [admin@shamrockpets.com](mailto:admin@shamrockpets.com) . Include Holiday Shoppe chairperson in the subject line.

**Art for the Animal Committee Members:** Love Art and Animals? Then we have the perfect way for you to be involved in an Artsy event and help animals. Art for the Animals is one of Shamrock's biggest fundraisers. Many local and regional artists donate their work to help the animals. We need people to donate their time. We meet the first Tuesday of each month from 7 PM to 8:30 PM. If interested, please contact us through [admin@shamrockpets.com](mailto:admin@shamrockpets.com). Include Art for the Animals Committee in the subject line.

### **Dog and Cat Foster families desperately needed.**

If you are able to open your home to a dog, cat, puppy or kitten, temporarily until they find their forever home, please volunteer now. We are heading into puppy and kitten season, and our current foster families are already stretched over their limits. You may be surprised to learn that Shamrock does what it does with only a small handful of these incredible volunteers. We support our volunteers by paying for all medical expenses for the animals they foster, we can provide food for the animal if needed, and we provide ongoing support to you and your family as you open your heart and home to provide these animals with a safe environment while they wait for their forever home. Please note that your foster pet could be with you over an extended period of time, and as a foster parent you will be required to bring your foster out to adoption events so that their chance of being seen and adopted are increased.

## Upcoming Shamrock Events

FurBall Saturday, February 19

### **Other Pet Rescue Resources**

No Kill Louisville Food Bank provides food for those unable to afford food for their pets. Food Bank hours are Saturday 12 PM to 3 PM at 1031 South 6<sup>th</sup> Street

### **Humane Legislation Day – Wednesday, February 15**

Show your support for better animal welfare legislation. Join us in the Capital Rotunda in Frankfort. Workshops begin at 10 AM, Rally begins at 11:00 AM

### **National Spay Day – February 22**

Like Jewelry? Join us for an Open House and Jewelry sale to raise money for Shamrock's spay/neuter program. RSVP at [admin@shamrockpets.com](mailto:admin@shamrockpets.com) . We will provide you with directions and details.

The 17<sup>th</sup> annual Spay Day takes place on Tuesday, February 22, 2011, with events in honor of Spay Day taking place throughout the month of February. SPAY/USA is a national spay/neuter referral network that may be able to direct you to subsidized spay/neuter clinics in your area. SPAY/USA can be reached at 1-800-248-SPAY (7729) or you can visit them online at [www.spayusa.org](http://www.spayusa.org).



### **Ongoing events**

#### **First Friday Trolley Hop – Shamrock Cats at Red Tree 6 PM to 9 PM**

Be sure to check out our groovy felines that need a forever home in the Red Tree store at E. Market

#### **Dog Adoptions**

Each Friday in the Middletown Feeders Supply from 7 PM to 8:30 PM

#### **Cat Adoptions**

Each Saturday, in the Baxter Ave. Feeders Supply 1 PM to 3 PM

## Arrow Fund Success Story



During the hottest part of the summer, four tiny puppies were found stuffed into a dog food bag. Suffering from starvation, dehydration, heat and mange, weighing only 2 pounds, these small ones fought for their lives. Unfortunately, the two male puppies did not make it, but the girls did. They became Honey and Hannah. Rebecca Eaves, founder of the Arrow Fund, with the help of Dr. Goranflo, nursed them back to health. But their road to survival did not stop there.

After meeting these two babies at a Pet Blessing, Jim and Becky Collings felt they were being guided to adopting them by their own Buddy. Jim and Becky had just lost Buddy, to liver failure. They had only gone to the Blessing in remembrance of Buddy. Becky said, "As soon as Jim and I looked into those sweet faces,

we just knew that Buddy had guided us there to help them.

Now with the names Honey Bea and Hannah Mae, these two small ones rule the house, as you can see by this picture. Both now weigh over 6 pounds and spend their days getting into mischief, sleeping under the covers of Jim and Becky's bed, and cuddling with their new mom and dad.

### **Parker Says Shamrock needs:**

Office Space – a great tax write-off and a great way to fill an empty space you may own.

Dog Food

Cat Food

Cat litter

Cat box deodorizer

Scoopers

Foster homes



## Request for a Home



I've used up so many lives just to get here... the latest one shivering on a car engine...it was just so cold, the snow so deep, I was so hungry, scared, lonely, and desperate in pain from an ear infection. I sure would like to go home now. I'm very affectionate and love more than anything to curl up in someone's lap and purr. I'm a tuxedo cat with white socks on each paw. I was extremely skinny but am putting on weight. I get along just fine with dogs, but I'm not yet confident with other cats. Many of my teeth have been knocked out, but I eat and give kisses just fine. I promise to do my best to show my appreciation of you giving me just one more chance. I have been spayed and have all of my shots now. My ear

infections have been treated and I am on my way to being a happy, healthy cat. Now if I can just find a forever home, I'll be all set. If you are interested in adopting little Eva, e-mail Tonya Swan at [admin@shamrockpets.com](mailto:admin@shamrockpets.com)