

www. **Straydog** *.org*

WINTER Part II – SPRING Part I, 2011



Handful of Pups! Juana and Bill Arnold, with 4 adorable black lab pups who were orphaned at two weeks of age, bottle-fed, and are now ready to find their new forever homes! See story on page 20.

Please HELP us again soon!

Thank you for your tax deductible contributions!

Straydog Inc., a No-Kill Dog Shelter and Dog Sanctuary

P.O. Box 1465, Gun Barrel City, TX 75147

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www.Straydog.org



The Arnold Family's Happy Home for Strays, a No-Kill Dog Shelter
A TEXAS NONPROFIT CORPORATION * With 501(c)(3) Tax-Exempt Status from the IRS * DONATIONS ARE TAX DEDUCTIBLE
PO Box 1465, Gun Barrel City, Texas 75147 * (903) 479-3497 * Email: Straydog147@yahoo.com

May 30, 2011

Dear Friends and Contributors,

We will forever be grateful to all of you for your ongoing support of Straydog, The Arnold Family's Happy Home for Strays. At the time of the writing of this letter we are still afloat thanks to you! But things are getting scarier and scarier (financially) as donations are still down from a year ago and prices are a lot higher than a year ago.

Because we follow Pat Arnold's way, reiterated in our last newsletter (*Winter 2011 Straydog Newsletter - Part I*, available on our website www.straydog.org), we don't cut corners when it comes to good nutritious dog food, all veterinary needs, and a big enough crew to always have enough time to give the dogs the individual daily attention they deserve.

These three requisites alone (food, vets and crew) have always been every expensive, and there's no reason to think these requisites will ever become less expensive. So, what can we do?

Pat Arnold's answer to balancing our budget was always to try to raise more funding, and we are now more aggressively attempting to increase and broaden our donor base through the many special events Straydog has been attending over the past several months, such as the Dallas Boat Show, the Dallas RV and Camper Show, the Dallas Golf Show, the International Guitar Show, and many more. We have added a great many names to our mailing list, and many of these interested people have become contributors to and supporters of Straydog.

Our hope is that as Straydog (and other no-kill shelters) become more and more well known, our example will educate and wake people up to absolute necessity to spay and neuter, which is the only humane way to reduce the homeless population, thus reducing the high cost of providing them a decent life in a no-kill shelter. We know there are not enough individual homes to take in all the homeless, and the other alternative is unacceptable: euthanizing homeless companion animals.

I've often said that if I'd known years ago what a horrible overpopulation problem was developing, I'd have become a veterinarian and would have spayed and neutered FOR FREE as many dogs and cats as I possibly could throughout my lifetime. Just the other day I learned about an individual who is doing what I wish I had done, and I recently wrote her the following email:

Subject: I applaud you, Dr. Foster!

Dear Dr. Foster - I just read in an email from Pam Boyd, publisher of *Natural Awakenings Pet Magazine*, saying that you are going to be traveling in a mobile vet clinic with your main focus being to spay and neuter companion animals.

I've been in dog (and cat) rescue (officially) since 1994, when my late wife, Pat Arnold, and I bought a piece of land out in the country and began operating a no-kill dog shelter, which we

later named Straydog after we formed a Texas non-profit corporation and got our 501(c)(3) tax-exempt status from the IRS in 1998. We started with 11 dogs in '94, and now Straydog Inc. has a population of over 120 dogs.

When we began to realize in the early 1990s how horrible and tragic the overpopulation problem was (which it still is), I began wishing I had become a vet (instead of a Spanish teacher) with my main focus being to **spay** and **neuter** for free as many dogs and cats as I could for the rest of my life (or until the overpopulation problem ended).

I am now 71 years old, still working seven days a week, taking good care of the dogs (and a few cats) at our shelter and writing and posting on our website (www.straydog.org) stories with photos about the daily goings-on at Straydog.

Straydog's attempt to ease the overpopulation problem is miniscule when we compare it to the loss of the 15,000 homeless dogs and cats who are euthanized every day in the U.S. alone. Our hope is that through our example, showing how expensive it is to take good care of 120 dogs, we will eventually wake people up to realize that it would be a whole lot less expensive to spay and neuter than to try to provide decent homes for all the homeless. Again I applaud you, Dr. Foster, and wish you tremendous success in your mission. If there's anything Straydog can do to help you, please let us know - *Bill Arnold*

Dr. Foster wrote back: Hi Bill - I really appreciate your message and would love to come and visit sometime. Your website is great, and I enjoyed getting to see some of your kids. **I had private shelter in Collin County for 25 years before I went back to vet school.** So I understand what a huge commitment you've made. Let's keep in touch, and I'm looking forward to meeting you – *Lynn*

All of us who are part of the no-kill shelter (rescue/adoption and sanctuary) movement realize that spay/neuter is our only acceptable option for solving the overpopulation problem, and while we strive to accomplish this truly monumental goal, we've got to take good care of as many of those who were conceived and born as we possibly can, and to do this we need your ongoing moral and financial support. PLEASE HELP US AGAIN SOON!

Sincerely,

Bill Arnold, *co-founder of Straydog, The Arnold Family's Happy Home for Strays*



The late Pat Arnold, with some of her furry rescued friends, May 2002.

Straydog.org

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Pat Arnold Memorial Park

Pat Arnold gave the last ten years of her life in total devotion to saving, protecting, and nurturing stray dogs. On this Memorial Day, marking the 8th anniversary of Pat's death, June 1, 2003, Straydog would like to create a new large dog park in honor of Pat, so our rescues will have more time to enjoy their days while living at Straydog. If you would like to give a special donation to help in the creation of our new park, please let us know. You can also make a special Honorary donation in your loved one's name, for the Pat Arnold Memorial Park. Together, because of our contributors, we have saved so many lives of formerly homeless, ill, unwanted and unloved dogs. Thank you for your support of this wonderful but difficult mission!

Thank you for keeping Pat's dream alive.

