

POTSDAM HUMANE SOCIETY

About Our Organization

Overview

- PHS marks its 52nd year of service in 2009.
- PHS operates the Potsdam Animal Shelter, located at 17 Madrid Avenue (Rt. 345), in the Village of Potsdam. Animals housed at the facility receive food, shelter, medical attention, and compassionate, loving care.
- PHS is incorporated as a not-for-profit organization under NYS law, with 501(c)3 charitable status under the IRS. Donations to PHS are tax-deductible to the fullest extent allowed by law.
- PHS is led by an all-volunteer Board representing a cross-section of the community. As a "working board," members handle administrative duties such as finances, contracts, public relations and fundraising.
- The Shelter is staffed by a full-time director/animal behavior expert, two licensed veterinarian technicians, an experienced office manager, and a team of cleaners who take great pride in maintaining a well-kept facility.
- Each year, over 200 volunteers support PHS, providing both direct care to animals at the Shelter as well as much behind-the-scenes support. Volunteers include high school and college students, retirees, and animal lovers of all kinds.
- PHS is funded by contracts for animal services from nine townships, by fees for adoption services, and by donations of cash and in-kind support from individuals, businesses and organizations.
- PHS has been called "the best animal Shelter north of Syracuse" and has been commended for its leadership of "Mission Orange," a project to increase collaboration among regional animal shelters.
- PHS has a strong relationship with schools and institutions in

our region: we provide a variety of off-site learning experiences for the SUNY Canton Veterinary Science program, offer public service programs to area schools, and make our animals available for pet-therapy programs at Canton-Potsdam Hospital and other health care facilities.

Numbers of animals cared for

- The current mix of animals served averages 60% feline, 39% canine, and 1% other.
- The number of animals cared for by PHS increased by 17% between 2002 and 2005, and by 20% from 2005-2006; today, the Shelter continues to serve an average of 1,200 animals annually.
- In the last five years, PHS has found loving homes for beautiful animals in 34 communities in New York, Massachusetts, Vermont, Virginia and Canada. Those from outside of our immediate service area tell us it is worth the trip to Potsdam to adopt healthy, well-loved animals at an affordable price.

Communities served

- Currently, nine townships contract with PHS for animal services: Colton, Clifton, Hopkinton, Lawrence, Lisbon, Norfolk, Parishville, Pierrepont and Potsdam. Each year, PHS is also asked to serve a large number of animals from townships that do not have contracts with our program.
- PHS supports the work of other shelters throughout the state; in St. Lawrence County, we work cooperatively with our neighboring Shelters to house animals when a Shelter is full. Other Shelters also utilize our facilities and veterinarian services to spay and neuter the animals brought to their facilities; in this way, PHS helps to keep the population of cats and dogs in check throughout the region.

POTSDAM HUMANE SOCIETY

Board and Staff

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Officers

President

Bonnie Boyd, Potsdam
Retired NYS Teacher

Vice President

Ruth Huckle, Hannawa Falls
Retired Executive Assistant, Clarkson University

Secretary

Carrie Tuttle, Russell
Engineer, Development Authority of the North Country

Receiving Treasurer

Helen Hollinger, Potsdam
Loan Officer, Community Bank

Dispersing Treasurer

Irene Hargrave, Norwood
Retired Bookkeeper

Management and Staff

Anne E. Smith, Interim Director/Animal Behavior Specialist
Kathy Brainard, Office Manager
Justine Smith, Licensed Vet Tech/Animal Care Manager
Alysia Wells, Licensed Vet Tech

Members

Jane Amelotte, South Colton
Entrepreneur, Gerontology/Real Estate

Tony Beane, Canton
DVM, Professor of Veterinary Technology, SUNY Canton

Linda Caamano, Potsdam
Dog Trainer
Small Business Owner, Take the Lead Obedience and Behavior

Cynthia Dusharm, Colton
Retired NYS Teacher/High School Guidance Counselor

Rob Jewett, Potsdam
Retired Director of Computing, SUNY Potsdam

John Lancaster, Potsdam
Retired Attorney, Non-Profit Executive

Amber Lindsey, Potsdam
Waitress

Jacqueline Pinover, South Colton
Retired High School Guidance Counselor

Lucille Waterson, Madrid
English Education Teacher, SUNY Potsdam