

Pet Talk

SPRING 2018

LincolnAnimalAmbassadors.org / 402.817.1168

Our mission

Lincoln Animal Ambassadors is addressing the root causes of Animal Homelessness in Lincoln and the surrounding communities.

Donate

Low-Cost Spay/Neuter Program
Pet Food Bank
General Funds

Mail to: PO Box 67072,
Lincoln, NE 68506

Or donate through our website
LincolnAnimalAmbassadors.org

Pet Food Bank drop off locations:

Petco 56th & Hwy 2 *(bin in front entry)*

Petco 48th & O Street *(bin in front entry)*

Super Saver 56th & Hwy 2
(barrel at exit door)

Super Saver 27th & Cornhusker Hwy
(barrel at Customer Service)

St. Matthews Episcopal Church,
2325 S. 24th Street *(leave near office)*

Lincoln Animal Ambassadors is an all-volunteer 501(c)(3) organization. All donations are tax-deductible.

Give to Lincoln Day

Lincoln Animal Ambassadors is once again hoping that all of our wonderful supporters remember us at the annual city-wide event; Give to Lincoln Day. This fundraiser is a super quick and easy way to make a difference in the local community by support grassroots organizations like LAA. Your donation makes the pet food bank and low-cost spay/neuter program possible and has an immediate and direct impact on the number of homeless animals in our area and beyond!

Don't fear missing the event! This year, you can make your tax deductible donation online at givetolincoln.com from 12 a.m. to 11:59 p.m. on May 1st through Thursday, May 31st!. All donations during this time will count towards the matching fund! You can also make a donation in-person during regular business hours at the Lincoln Community Foundation, 215 Centennial Mall South on May 31st! All funds raised for LAA on Give to Lincoln Day are eligible for a proportional share of a \$400,000 match pool from the Lincoln Community Foundation.

With all the press around Give to Lincoln day, we know that it will be hard to miss the event; but if you are worried - just follow LAA on Facebook! We'll keep you in the know on Give to Lincoln Day and all our upcoming fundraisers.

This May, we hope you will join us in addressing the root causes of animal homelessness in our area. Whether it's to provide food and supplies for companion animals in need, or to combat overpopulation through spaying and neutering, even the smallest donation makes an enormous difference in the life of animal.

Help us celebrate the 10th Annual Wine and Howl on June 2

Lincoln Animal Ambassadors is gearing up for Wine & Howl; which will once again happen at Deer Springs Winery. This will be an extra special event as it will be the 10th year that Wine & Howl brings together all the best parts of summer for wonderful afternoon! Bring your dog, a blanket or lawn chair and join us on June 2nd for an afternoon of food, wine and music. If you are looking for a new companion, many of the area's rescue organizations will be bringing pets looking for their forever homes.

You won't want to miss the raffle prizes, featuring pet, wine, and decor gift baskets from all around the area. With just a suggested donation of \$8 to attend; there are just too many reasons you have got to be there! The wine will start pouring at 11 a.m. and the bands will play until 5 p.m.

Check us out on Facebook to learn more about the event and let everyone know you will be there!

We'd like to extend thanks to Eagle Group for donating the printing of our Wine & Howl promotional posters and flyers.

LAA is facing a critical shortage of canned food for both dogs and cats!



Cause for Paws  **Boutique for Cheap**

2445 S. 48th Street

This "boutique for cheap" turns your donations and purchases into cash for animal charities, including LAA's low-cost spay/neuter program.

CauseForPawsLincoln.org

by the numbers

Low Cost Spay/Neuter Program

2,781 total spay/neuters

2018 Food Bank Numbers

Dry food

7,344 lbs., approximately 2,448 lbs. per month

Since inception: 394,719 lbs.

Canned food

1,243 cans, approximately 414 cans per month

Since inception: 104,715 cans

Litter

1,536 lbs., approximately 512 lbs. per month

Since inception: 62,321 lbs.

Number of families helped in 2018 (some numerous times): 128

Don't just take your dog for a walk...take your walk for a dog!

You walk your dog anyway, now you can support Lincoln Animal Ambassadors every time you walk your dog! Go to WoofTrax.com, download the app on your phone, and get walking! This is a completely FREE way to make a donation, just by doing something you already do.



Take your walk for a dog™
WoofTrax.com

Featured Rescue: Beatrice Humane Society

Beatrice Humane Society, Inc. is a NO-kill shelter serving Beatrice, Dewitt and Gage County.

The shelter's mission is: "To shelter, protect and place lost and homeless companion animals in Gage County and to be an educational resource to the community."

The shelter's vision is: "We envision a community that embraces companion animals with compassion. This includes protecting animals, promoting responsible pet ownership and educating the public."

Beatrice Humane Society opened in 1999, and after dealing with many inadequacies of an old building, the shelter moved into a new building in May 2017. One feature of the new building are the isolation rooms in the event of sick animals, along with a negative air flow system aimed at keeping illness from spreading among cats in the shelter. It involves a system of kennels, slats and pipes where air is pulled by a fan through the individual holding pens and then out of the building. The new building also provides a conference room where educational opportunities are provided for the community. The Beatrice Humane Society handles 800-900 animals per year.

The shelter provides a Foster Care Program through which families provide temporary homes for animals that are not yet ready for adoption. Through this program, several animals are able to have a second chance to find their forever homes.

This past fall, Beatrice Humane Society was able to rescue pets from the Hurricane Harvey-battered Texas Gulf. Beatrice Humane Society shelter manager Bryce Caulk said 12 dogs and a ferret were brought up from the north Houston and Corpus Christi areas after the shelter reached out and offered to help.

ADOPTION FEES

Kittens 6 mo. and under	\$65-80
Cats 6 yrs and older	\$40
Large/medium breed dogs over 1 yr ...	\$150
Large/medium breed puppies under 1 yr	\$200
Small breed dogs over 1 yr	\$200
Small breed puppies under 1 yr	\$250
Working Cats (feral)	No fee, free will donations

The adoption fee includes the following:

- grooming and nail trims prior to going up for adoption
- tests for heart worms (as well as given monthly doses of heartworm prevention)
- cats are tested for FIV/Feline Leukemia
- deworming and treatment for any parasites the animals may have upon arrival, including monthly flea/tick prevention
- age appropriate vaccines
- microchip and registration
- option to confirm 30 days of FREE pet insurance
- spay or neuter prior to leaving the facility

Visit Beatrice Humane Society today!

534 South Reed Street, Beatrice, NE
(402) 228-9100

Monday-Friday from 12:00 pm to 6:00 pm
Saturday from 12:00pm to 3:00 pm
Closed Sunday

View adoptable pets online at beatricehumanesociety.org



Volunteer Spotlight: Allison Hunter-Frederick

Where did you first learn about Lincoln Animal Ambassadors?

I met Mary Douglas when we were both doing volunteer work at Hearts United for Animals. She'd been asking me for a long time to write for Lincoln Animal Ambassadors. When I married and moved to Lincoln in 2008, I started looking for animal welfare groups to volunteer with. I wanted to find an organization that could use my writing skills, and LAA was it.

Tell us a little bit about yourself.

I'm an administrative assistant and a writer. My husband works as a website and database developer at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln. He supports my volunteer activities as my editor and sometimes photographer. We have a dog and three cats. Our dog recently retired from agility competitions after earning his championship titles in both TDAA and AKC. Our youngest cat is a therapy cat. When I'm not working or volunteering, I spend time with family and friends, train my pets, attend church, network with other cat lovers, and read.

What areas do you primarily volunteer for us at this time?

I serve as the Media Chair for Lincoln Animal Ambassadors. In this role, I'm responsible for submitting events to calendars, scheduling promotional media spots, and writing monthly news releases. My largest duty is coordinating our blog, which consists of writing articles, answering comments, and lining up guest bloggers. This past year, I also began posting cat advice columns and cat training videos.

What do you find rewarding in your volunteer activities?

I started out with Lincoln Animal Ambassadors simply wanting to use my creative skills to help animals. As I became more comfortable in my role as a blogger, I've enjoyed getting to know others who have a passion for animals. They've increased my awareness of all the many needs of animals but also of all the many available resources. I'm proud of LAA's goal to stop animal homelessness before it starts.

Do you do other volunteer work in Lincoln?

As an extension of my educational writing efforts with Lincoln Animal Ambassadors, I

write for Lincoln Kids and Lincoln 55+. I recently resigned as a caretaker and volunteer coordinator with Husker Cats to have more time for other ventures. I host two small groups, Lincoln Children's Writers and Lincoln Cat Friends. The latter meets to socialize and learn about indoor cat enrichment. My husband and I will start fostering through The Cat House this spring. I also visit The Cat House to spend time with its cats. My youngest cat and I are a therapy cat team and visit senior residences. We just completed our ten supervised visits needed to get certified through Love on a Leash. This summer we'll enroll in the R.E.A.D. program so that we can visit students too.

What would you recommend to anyone looking to volunteer for Lincoln Animal Ambassadors?

Lincoln Animal Ambassadors has many volunteer opportunities and the hours are flexible. We can use telephone interviewers, pet food bank and newsletter distributors, information table hosts, and more. Volunteering with LAA is a terrific way to help both people and animals.

If you could add one thing to the Lincoln Animal Ambassadors "wish list," what would it be?

Volunteers are the heartbeat of any organization. My wish for Lincoln Animal Ambassadors is more volunteers, as this would allow us to reach more pet owners with spay/neuter, pet food bank, and education. A few grants wouldn't hurt either as this would also help us expand our offerings.

LAA needs volunteers like you!

LAA needs volunteers like you! If you have ever considered volunteering for a worthy cause, we would love to talk to you. You can help pets and their owners by contacting us at info@lincolnanimalambassadors.org or calling 402.817.1168.



Calendar of events

give

To Lincoln Day
May 31, 2018

Fix Me Meow!

May - until funds run out
Cat spay/neuters for \$25
Call now - limited availability
402.817.1168

Capital Humane Society's Tails 'n Trails Pet Walk & Festival

May 19, 11 am
Fallbrook Town Center
570 Fallbrook Boulevard
Lincoln, Nebraska

Wine & Howl

June 2, 11am - 5pm
Deer Springs Winery

Ivanna Cone Fundraiser

August - all month
Signature LAA ice cream flavor at Ivanna Cone
701 P Street
Lincoln, Nebraska

Annual Dog Bowl

September 2
Pinewood Bowl
Annual fundraiser for Friends of the Dog Park

Meow & Chow

October - TBA
Annual fundraiser with The Cat House

When your dog house soils

by Allison Hunter-Frederick

If your house-trained dog starts having accidents, there are two measures to take. The first is medical and the second is behavioral. Both are covered below.

MEDICAL CAUSES

If your adult potty-trained dog has started to house-soil again, Dr. Madison advised waiting 72 hours before taking her to a vet, unless the pee has a foul odor, looks cloudy, or contains blood. Dr. Walton noted that a change in your dog's stools—such as in texture, color, or consistency—would also be a reason not to delay a visit to the vet. As would a change in bathroom habits combined with weight loss, increased thirst, or other signs of illness such as vomiting, diarrhea, lethargy, or loss of appetite.

When I talked with local vets, Dr. Madison listed urinary infections and diabetes as two common medical reasons for a trained dog to house-soil. Dr. Walton concurred, and expanded the list: Excessive peeing could indicate bladder stones or bladder cancer, Cushing's disease, or cognitive dysfunction; pooping indoors might indicate gastrointestinal tract disease.

Vet Street provides this complete list of reasons for a dog's change in bathroom habits:

- Side effects of medications
- Hormone incontinence
- Age-related diseases
- Other health problems: Infections, tumors, spinal cord injuries, or bladder problems can cause incontinence in dogs of any age

BEHAVIORAL CAUSES

Some behavioral changes that could effect a dog to start pottying inside would be any change to the home or family, sudden fear or anxiety from any number of things, or it may just be acting out due to not getting what it wants. —Dr. Erica Madison, Vintage Heights

Anxiety, lack of consistent schedule, being crated or kept indoors too long (owners have long work hours), and lack of exercise are all behavioral reasons for a dog to potty inside. —Dr. Amy Walton, Pet Care Center of Lincoln

Submissive Urination: Does your dog pee when you come home or when he meets new people? Chances are he suffers from submissive urination and has little control over his bladder. Even if your

dog licks your face and wags his tail, your dog can also urinate because he believes this is a way to show submission. Other signs of submission include avoidance of eye contact, ears back, retraction of lips, and cowering. Submissive urination is most prevalent in puppies and young female dogs. It happens when a person approaches, reaches out, or stands over a dog. To help your dog overcome submissive urination, kneel at your dog's level when you greet him, avoiding eye contact, and never touching him on the head or ears. You might also throw a few treats in front of him when he greets you.

Excitement: Does your dog pee when being greeted, receiving affection, or from otherwise being excited? Just like with submissive urination, he'll have little control over his bladder. In fact, excitement urination most often occurs among young dogs, and usually resolves on its own as a dog matures. To help the process, Dr. Sophia Yin suggests reducing his excitement. When family and friends come to visit, instead of instantly petting and playing with your dog, they should ignore him until he has calmed down. Even then, pet with slow and even strokes and speak softly and soothingly. If at this point your dog still urinates, he should again be ignored until he is once again placid.

Fear: Does the sound of loud noises from traffic, construction, or storms cause your dog to refuse to relieve himself outside? Conditions outside are making your dog anxious and unable to use the bathroom and the unfortunate result could be that he'll later have an accident in the house. If the noise is temporary, VetStreet suggests taking your dog somewhere else such as for a walk or to doggy daycare. If the noise is consistent, use this opportunity to use distractions and rewards to condition him to not react negatively, and in time he should learn to accept noises as a normal part of life. Alternatively, try creating a relaxing environment in the house with the use of music and puzzle feeders.

Changes in Routine: Have there been any recent changes in your family's life? Changes such as a birth or death, a family member moving out or into the home, or divorce can cause distress in a dog. As can the remodeling of your house or a deviation in the family's daily routine. In his anxiety, your dog may become

nervous and have accidents in the house. During the transition period your dog may struggle to cope and so you should allow your dog time to adjust.

Separation Anxiety: Does your dog act distressed and relieve himself when left alone? Your dog may be suffering from separation anxiety. He isn't being bad out of spite or revenge, but because he's missing you. Separation anxiety is a behavior that might require the assistance of a veterinarian or a behavior specialist, and it can take weeks or even months to change.

Marking: Is your dog urinating on vertical surfaces? Chances are he's marking his territory. Marking is a normal territorial behavior, whereby a dog stakes his claim on property. Dogs mark for numerous reasons including male hormonal influences, the introduction of a baby or new dog, renovations to the house or a move into a new house, and general stress. PetMD advises that you spay/neuter your dog as soon as it's old enough.

If a dog potties inside due to anxiety-related reasons, renew training, increase exercise, and consider anxiety medication. Note about medications: they don't fix the problem. They simply bring the dog to a level that they'll be receptive to training and not in a panic. Proper, consistent training is key. —Dr. Amy Walton, Pet Care Center of Lincoln

Regardless of which behavior is causing your dog to house-soil, Dr. Madison says that if all else fails you may have retrain him all over again. "Put the dog on a leash as soon as it comes in and walk through the house and then go right back outside. Usually there are too many distractions outside and they forget why they are outside, so they come in the house, take a deep breath, and pee."

CONCLUSION

Your dog is not having accidents to punish you. First, determine the cause is medical. If it's not, then they may simply lack the proper training, or they're stressed. In either case, they need your help. With time and patience, your home can once again be a clean and cheerful one.

The above article is based on research, personal experience, and consultation with vets. My deepest gratitude goes to Dr. Madison and Dr. Walton for their expert advice.

FIX ME MEOW \$25 PER CAT

Use special code: Fix Me Meow
Call now—Limited availability



Donate while you shop!

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You shop. Amazon gives.

Look us up at our custom URL:
<http://smile.amazon.com/ch/27-3018037>

AmazonSmile is a simple and automatic way for you to support your favorite charitable organization every time you shop, at no cost to you. Amazon will donate a portion of the purchase price to your favorite charitable organization.



Fix Me Meow returns in May!

In 2016, our Fix Me Meow project was enormously successful, spaying or neutering 110 cats in just 2 months! Thanks to a generous grant provided by the Bissell Foundation, we are once again able to offer spay/neuter procedures for owned or community (not feral) cats for just \$25 starting May 1 until we have issued

vouchers for 100 cats. This is the perfect opportunity to reduce the spring influx of homeless kittens!



BISSELL PET FOUNDATION™
Until every pet has a home.

LAA receives Lincoln Community Foundation Grant

Lincoln Animal Ambassadors wants to send an enormous thank you to the Lincoln Community Foundation. It awarded a \$2,000 Quick Response grant to Lincoln Animal Ambassadors' Pet Food Bank this past winter. The grant is for the purchase of prescription and specialty (age specific, limited ingredient, etc) diets for qualifying pet parents.

Prescription and other medically necessary diets make up a significant

portion of the costs associated with the Pet Food Bank. These types of food are generally more expensive and are rarely donated. This grant will make it significantly easier to provide the specialty foods that some pets need to stay healthy and happy! We want to thank the foundation and its donors for providing these funds and making a huge impact on the community.

Pet Food Bank is running low!

LAA's Pet Food Bank is in need of canned dog and cat food donations. You can drop off donations at the following locations:

- Petco 56th & Hwy 2 (bin in front entry)
- Petco 48th & O Street (bin in front entry)
- Super Saver 56th & Hwy 2 (barrel at exit door)
- Super Saver 27th & Cornhusker Hwy (barrel at Customer Service)
- St. Matthews Episcopal Church, 2325 S. 24th Street (leave near office)

10th Annual wine & howl FUNDRAISING EVENT

WINE TASTING • GIFT RAFFLE • FOOD • LIVE MUSIC • VENDOR EXHIBITS

Saturday
june 2nd
11am-5pm

Deer Springs
Winery
162nd & East Adams Street
deerspringswinery.com

Thank you to our Spay-ghetti donors & sponsors!

Super Saver
 Fazoli's
 Del Gould Meats
 Sorrisos Gourmet Pasta Sauce
 Deer Springs Winery
 James Arthur Vineyard
 Ashley Davis Cupcakes
 Blake Gilmore
 Butterfly Bakery
 Conroy's Family Bakery
 David Clark Framing
 Eileen's Cookies
 Famous Dave's
 Gratitude Cafe & Bakery
 High Society Cheesecakes
 Jared Beckmann, Chef
 Katie Brown
 Kitchen Sink Cookies
 Linda Shrage
 Mary Douglas
 Perkins Restaurant & Bakery
 Rabbit Hole Bakery
 Ramzi Hynek
 Roxanne Stone
 The Coffee House
 The Sweet Spot Bakery
 Venue/Piedmont Bistro
 Belmont Veterinary Center
 Capital Humane Society
 Cotner - Superior Vet Care
 Darryl & Sarah Rivers
 Domesti-Pups
 Eidos Ergonomics
 FlyDogz
 Friends of the Dogs Park
 Hearts United for Animals
 Julie Cole in honor of Sammie
 Nature's Logic
 Nature's Variety
 Paws 4 Fun
 Paws Up Nebraska
 Revolution Rescue
 Sadie Aahlberg in memory of Belle and Queenie
 Second Chance Pups
 South Ridge Animal Clinic
 T Square Movers
 Valhalla Bee Farm
 Wachal Pet Health Center
 Tom Bassett



LAA raises \$6,500 at 5th annual Spay-ghetti and No Balls

Close to 100 people attended Lincoln Animal Ambassador's annual Spay-ghetti and No Balls fundraiser on the evening of Saturday, March 24, at the Unitarian Church. \$6,500 was raised!

For \$25, attendees received a dinner that included salad, spaghetti, and breadsticks. Meatballs were available for an extra cost. Diners were served in a buffet line. The all-volunteer wait staff kept everyone's water and tea glasses filled; wine and beer were available for purchase.

The event's featured organization was Friends of Dog Park representative, Kelly Hansen. Friends of the Dog Parks, Inc. was founded in the mid 1990's by citizens who wished to establish and maintain Lincoln dog parks for all future generations to enjoy. Today, Friends of the Dog Parks works in conjunction with individuals, businesses, and city officials to promote, create, and improve off-leash parks in Lincoln.

Wrapping up the evening was Lincoln

Animal Ambassadors' ever-popular dessert auction, run by auctioneer Tom Bassett. 28 cakes, pies, and cookies were up for auction. We greatly appreciate all of our generous attendees for joyfully bidding as much as \$200 each for the chance to eat one of the many spectacular desserts that were donated.

An enormous shout out to all who supported Lincoln Animal Ambassadors by coming out to Spay-ghetti and No Balls. Special thanks to the businesses that donated food and drinks (Del Gould Meats, Fazoli's, Super Saver, Valhalla Bee Farm, Deer Springs Winery, James Arthur Winery), local bakers who donated desserts, the 20 table sponsors, and all the volunteers (including students from Irving and Culler Middle School and Northeast and Southwest High schools) who ensured that the event ran smoothly. You help save lives every single day!



Left: Katie Brown has desserts ready to go for the Dessert Auction;
 Right: Volunteers Joni Winter and Blake Gilmore;
 Top of page: Local high school volunteers take a break to eat



Thank you to our recent donors!

Raising Cane's sponsors LAA night

In February, Raising Cane's sponsored an LAA night where a portion of their sales went to our organization. We want to thank Raising Canes for their support to help homeless animals in our community by supporting LAA and many of the other area rescues. Support from local businesses is crucial in improving the lives of people and their pets in our community!

Signature LAA flavor ice cream will raise funds in August

Plan on having LOTS of delicious locally made Ice Cream in August this year! Ivanna Cone has recently offered to make a signature LAA flavor in support of LAA in August. During the month, they will make our special flavor and a portion of this flavor's sales will be donated to LAA. Then, on August 28th, a portion of ALL of their sales will be donated as well! It's the perfect excuse to cool off when it is (maybe?) a whole lot warmer outside!

- | | |
|------------------------------|------------------------|
| Capital Humane Society | Christine Neukirch |
| Lincoln Community Foundation | Connie Beckman |
| Nature's Logic | Diane Huseman |
| Nature's Variety | Gloria Best |
| Nichelson Family Foundation | Kelle Brandt |
| Petco | Kent & Shelley Mattson |
| Petco - South | Lainey Wolff |
| Raising Canes | Mary Douglas |
| Superior Vet Care | Norma Nichelson |
| Target | Patricia Anderson |
| WalMart | Patricia Rice |
| Burke Casari | Paula Einemann |
| Carol Siefkes | Renee Benson |
| Charles & Lela Sayward | Sinda Dux |
| | Trishia Peterson |



Donations in memoriam

In Memory of dog, Jules Groff

Nature's Variety comes through in a pinch

We would like to thank Nature's Variety for donating canned cat food at a time when our pet food bank was completely out. Our pet food bank is stocked completely by donations. Unfortunately, when we are out of canned food, there are some animals who we cannot help. THANK YOU to Nature's Variety for helping us out in a pinch! You help us help pets and their people.



Help wanted!

Pet Food Bank Volunteer

We have openings in our pet food bank on Monday and Thursday nights to assist with pet food distribution. Time frame is from 6:30 - 8:15 p.m. Duties require the ability to lift 50 lbs. and be on your feet for that period of time. Volunteers pull orders from our warehouse and assist clients getting their pet food to their cars (using carts). LAA is looking for volunteers that are dependable who can volunteer on a consistent weekly basis, either Monday and/or Thursday evening from 6:30 p.m. to 8:15 p.m. The perfect person for this position likes to stay active and likes to help and meet new people, while helping animals.



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Lincoln, NE 68506



We need your support!

Did you know that you can name Lincoln Animal Ambassadors on your United Way donation? Your donation helps provide services to pets and their people in and around the Lincoln area. We couldn't do it without the support of people like you!

Donate through our website, LincolnAnimalAmbassadors.org using PayPal or mail this form to LAA. Pet Food Bank donation items can be dropped off at St. Matthew's Episcopal Church, 2325 S. 24th Street; Super Saver, 56th & Hwy 2 and 27th & Cornhusker; or both Petco Lincoln locations.

Name _____

E-mail _____

Address (City, State, Zip) _____

Please select your contribution amount:

\$25 \$50 \$75 \$100 \$250 \$500 Other \$ _____

Low-Cost Spay/Neuter Program

Pet Food Bank

General Funds

Make checks payable to:
Lincoln Animal Ambassadors
Mail to: PO Box 67072
Lincoln, NE 68506



Thank you!