

## 2019 Annual Newsletter



### Dear Friends and Supporters,

As 2019 comes to a close, we want to sincerely thank you for your support. 2019 is a special year for us as it marks our 50th anniversary. For 50 years, you have helped us to find homes for hundreds of homeless and unwanted animals in our area, secure critical and sometimes life-saving medical care for them, and provide pet food to pet families in our community that are struggling financially.

The foundation of our beloved organization is our network of amazing volunteers. From fostering cats and dogs to processing adoptions, filing paperwork to running fundraisers, bringing animals to veterinary appointments to distributing food at our pet food pantry, our volunteers are the very soul of CLAWS. Since we are run entirely by unpaid volunteers, every dollar you give goes directly toward helping our animals.

If you are looking for a meaningful way to help, we are always in need of additional volunteers, whether you have an afternoon to give, a skill to offer, or are able to offer more long-term, consistent help. We are always in need of foster homes - an amazing way to make a tremendous impact in an animal's life short term. And, of course, we are always grateful for any monetary donations we can use to cover our animals' medical care; vital spay/neuter costs; food, medicine and supplies; and so much more. However you are able to help, we graciously thank you.

We warmly wish you and your loved ones a healthy and happy holiday season, and we hope to see you in the new year!

*-Your friends at the Closter Animal Welfare Society*

## 2019 Happy Tails



**Pops** came to us missing his right front leg, and we thought a prosthetic leg would make life a little easier for him. We reached out to several places, all of which were very expensive, so we reached out via social media for help with homemade options. Lucky for us, Peter Buffington of **Achilles Prosthetics & Orthotics** in Ramsey saw our plea and offered to help. After a few visits, Peter worked his magic, and now Peter's ingenuity and love for dogs have Pops standing on four legs! We are so deeply grateful to Peter and his staff for opening their door to us and taking the time to make a big change in a little dog's life. And Pops's story didn't end there. Heylin and George met Pops and knew he was the perfect addition to their family!

When **Sissy** came to us, it was instantly apparent she needed our help. A previous injury had left her with a cauliflower ear, and a mutation of her eyelid left it unable to open. We immediately got her to the vet for the care she needed and one of our volunteers nursed her during her recovery. Her daughter fell in love with Sissy and took her in, renaming her Valkyrie, warrior princess. We're so happy our warrior has won this fight!



**Poncho** was surrendered to us in July. A senior chihuahua (14 to be exact!), Poncho's kidney levels were high, he had some pretty rotten teeth, and he was diagnosed with a heart murmur and eye ulcer. Thanks to a partnership with **Susie's Senior Dogs**, a fellow 501(c)(3) based in NYC, we were able to raise all funds for Poncho's care, as well as get the exposure he needed to find his forever family! All the way from Harrisburg, PA, they understood the importance of adopting a senior dog, and Poncho is already having a fabulous life with them!



**Kiss** and I were brought together by sheer fate. As someone who was exclusively a dog person (for lack of experience with cats), I walked into a CLAWS adoption event asking to foster a dog and somehow walked out with this little one. Thinking it would only be a foster situation for a couple of weeks, I quickly fell in love with this special needs asthmatic 10-month-old. After seeing a few specialists, Kiss is on a personalized treatment plan that has her vibrant, healthy and living her best pampered life! -*Supna*



**Shania** came to CLAWS 3 years ago, after being found as a stray. Like many cats, Shania is cautious and hesitant at first, and potential adopters constantly passed her by. Of course, she's a total love bug once she gets to know you, as Virginia, one of our volunteers, soon discovered. She offered to foster Shania and soon fell in love with her. After a long road, Shania found her forever home!



## Senior Lovin'

Our fur may be gray but our hearts are pure gold!



Most people looking to adopt a new pet typically look for a puppy or a kitten. Although we are thankful for ANYONE looking to adopt a rescue animal, we want to remind everyone about the older ones. We sometimes hear these animals are "unadoptable," but we here at CLAWS think there is a home for every animal, no matter their age or health! To turn away a sick or elderly animal is just not in our plan! Our hearts go out to those pets who have lived somewhere all of their lives and then, in the last years of their lives, are surrendered to a rescue group. We feel it is our obligation to get these animals the love and care they need and deserve for the remainder of their lives, no matter how long it may be. We have taken in so many senior animals and can say from experience that they are amazing! They give just as much love as any other animal, but also seem so thankful to have been given another chance to find a home full of love. We have never seen a family of an adopted senior regret it. There is something so truly special about adopting a senior pet but you won't be able to experience it unless you try it! Check out some of our senior dogs and adult cats above!



## Check out these adoptable cuties!

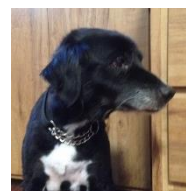
**Bailey** is about 8 years old and is just a great dog all around! She, sadly, came to us when her owner passed away. She has a great disposition and is good with people and other dogs, too!



**Thelma** and **Louise** were born indoors. They are sweet, affectionate, and playful. These two outgoing happy girls love people and they are not shy at all!



**Ellie** is a 10-year-old Border Collie. She is very timid of new people but is sweet and loyal once she knows you. She is good with bigger dogs but is afraid of small ones, and would prefer an adult household. Ellie is a special girl who just needs a home where someone can allow her to adjust and get comfortable. Please consider opening your heart and home for this great gal!



**Duke**, a 10-month-old boy, and **Scout**, a 13-month-old girl, are looking for their forever home. Duke is your sweet cuddle buddy once he gets to know you, and even though Scout is deaf from a recovered ear infection, she doesn't let it stop her from being playful and adventurous. Both about 9 pounds, they are neutered/spayed and microchipped, as well as up-to-date with vaccines and checkups. They have been through a lot so they are looking for a quiet home environment with patient and loving pet parent(s).



## Beyond Cats and Dogs

Did you know CLAWS loves to help little critters, too? Check out some of the rabbits and guinea pigs that have come through our doors and found their forever homes!



**Add some four-legged love to your life!**

## **Foster**



Looking for an animal to love but can't commit to adopt? Become a foster parent!

\*CLAWS covers the expenses

\*Your commitment is short-term and flexible

\*You get to show an animal the love they have been missing but deserve

\*You experience the joy of knowing you've helped an animal find their forever home

Become a foster parent today!

## **Adopt**



Find the next addition to your family at one of our adoption days:

PETSMART Secaucus  
400 Mill Creek Dr.  
Weekdays 7–9pm,  
Saturdays 1–5pm

PET VALU Dumont  
40 Washington Ave.  
2 Sundays per month,  
12–3pm

PET VALU Edgewater  
725 River Rd.  
Saturdays & Sundays  
11am–5pm

PETCO Closter  
59 Vervelen St.  
Saturdays 11am–4pm

## Fun for a Cause - 2019 Events



Our board, volunteers, and donors came together for our 50th Anniversary gala

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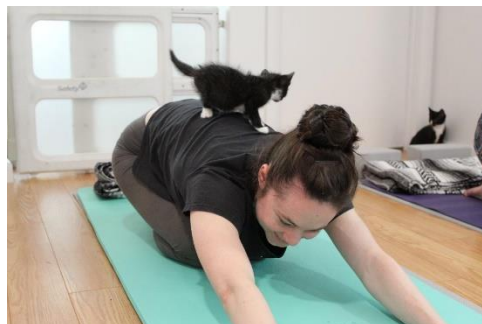
Wine glass painting with Betty Buffin



Check out Maggie - our 1st place winner of this year's photo contest.



Ready to win big at our 8th annual tricky tray



Yoga with kittens at [Moon House Yoga](#)

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## Join the CLAWS team!

Everything we accomplish at CLAWS is because of our network of amazing volunteers. No matter what you can give - big or small, one-time or ongoing - we are always looking for the next member of our team!



## CLAWS Spotlight

CLAWS is proud to have friends like Shanna and Chris, a wonderful and giving couple that has been an asset to us during our adoption events for the past few years. They have donated food, treats, toys and especially affection to all of our animals. The animals love them and Shanna always makes sure that each animal gets a heartfelt hug from her before the day is done. Thank you Shanna and Chris for supporting CLAWS and for being so good to the animals that need it most!



Looking for a last minute gift for that hard-to-shop-for person on your list? Consider a gift in their name to CLAWS! Your loved one will be featured on a special page on our website and sent acknowledgement of your gift, changing an animal's life forever! Your **fully tax-deductible gift** of.....

\$25 will feed a homeless cat or dog for up to two weeks

\$75 will cover vaccinations

\$100 will cover the cost to spay or neuter one of our cats

\$250 will help cover the spay or neuter of one of our dogs

\$1,000 will provide life saving medical care for one of our animals



On behalf of the animals we serve, thank you for your support!

## Don't forget to put your dollars to work!



DOUBLE  
your  
IMPACT

Does your employer match donations? Find out and double your impact!



Use the CLAWS link to order today! [www.chewy.com/rp/3676](http://www.chewy.com/rp/3676)

amazon smile

Go to [smile.amazon.com](https://smile.amazon.com), select Closter Animal Welfare Society and put your dollars to work!



## What Is CLAWS?

The Closter Animal Welfare Society (CLAWS) is a 501(c)(3) organization committed to helping animals, and those who help animals, in our area. We also run a pet food pantry for those in need of assistance feeding their pets and encourage the public to spay and neuter their pets. Founded 50 years ago, CLAWS is run entirely by unpaid volunteers, meaning every dollar we raise goes directly to our efforts. **Thank you for your support!**

**CLAWS**  
Closter Animal Welfare Society

Stay connected with us



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