



Houston Beagle Rescue 2024 Fourth Quarter Newsletter

HBHR Adoption Update

We had 33 Beagle adoptions in 4Q2024 for a total of 115 Beagles finding their forever homes this year. It was a slower year for adoptions compared to the last several years post-pandemic when we were averaging about 150 adoptions a year. This is for several reasons. One is the lack of qualified applicants. We will need to do more outreach to potential adopters in 2025. Also, we had a lot more of the long-hauler foster beagles that required a lot of medical and behavioral interventions before they could be posted for adoption. We will never turn a beagle away just because we know it's going to take longer to get them ready. This is where we need your help in supporting us with financial donations and, more importantly, volunteering to become a foster parent.

If you are just starting to get this newsletter, it means you recently adopted a beagle, so congratulations! We hope you enjoy our newsletter, and if you have any comments or questions, we would love to hear from you at info@houstonbeaglerescue.org.

Spotlight on Our Volunteers!

If there is a Beagle Pied Piper, it has to be our Greg Steinbach. Greg is one of our most tenured volunteers, starting his work with HBHR in 2004. Greg is our go-to person to work with some of our more behaviorally challenged beagles. He is a talented trainer and beagle-whisperer who has been able to rehabilitate a beagle that was almost not adoptable due to fearful/aggressive behaviors into a happy, well-adjusted beagle that has gone on to a forever home. He has the patience and tenacity to work with these problem dogs, sometimes over many, many months. During his summer vacation from teaching, Greg went to the Beagle Bungalow every week to work with some of our more difficult cases. Jordy, who wouldn't let humans even get close to her a year ago, is now in a foster home and hopefully will be ready for adoption soon. He has worked with the more timid dogs at the Bungalow and behavior improvements can be seen in Dinah, Eve, Cyrus and even Frankie. It will take a lot of time to get these sweet beagles ready to trust humans. We are so grateful that Greg is willing to work with these difficult cases so they get a chance at a loving forever homes. Thank you for all you do for the beagles, Greg!



Greg with his own herd of dogs.



Greg at this year's Holiday Party at the Beagle Bungalow.

Spotlight on the Beagles

While anyone doing animal rescue work can tell you how emotionally and financially draining it can be to deal with the tough cases, the people who do street rescue work see the very worst every single day. Holly and Ivy were found in a known dog dumping area in Cleveland, Liberty County, TX in November by Zully Vasquez Ventura. She is a volunteer who goes to the area almost every day to feed the hungry abandoned dogs. She also tries to get them placed with other rescue organizations. Zully contacted HBHR to see if we could take Holly and Ivy into our foster program. They are both doing well now after getting some much-needed vet care. Holly is heartworm positive, so she will need additional treatment. Both are about 3 years old and happy, loving girls who will be ready for adoption soon. Please consider giving these sweet girls a forever home or a short-term foster home until they are ready for adoption.



Holly



Ivy

We celebrate the efforts of dedicated volunteers like Zully who are willing to face the heart-wrenching and never-ending work of caring for these sad, desperate creatures who have been abandoned on the side of the road. If you would like to learn more about Zully's rescue work, please go to her Facebook page.

<https://www.facebook.com/100002969026217/videos/451674714629146/>

Beagle 101: Some Fun Facts

- **Beagles Were Bred For Hunting**

Beagles are excellent dogs for hunting rabbits. They have a phenomenal sense of smell and seemingly endless stamina. When fox hunting became popular, breeders created the Foxhound by crossing a Beagle with a Buckhound.

- **Their Ears Help Their Noses**

Beagles' ears, when drawn out, reach the end of their nose. Those long ears actually catch scent particles and keep them close to the dog's nose, so they can take in as much information as possible.

- **They Come in 2 Different Sizes**

Beagles are classified in one of two ways in terms of size. There are Beagles at or under 13 inches and those at 15 inches.

- **Beagles Can Vocalize 3 Ways**

The name "Beagle" is thought to come from the French word "begueule," meaning "gaped throat," and Beagles can definitely live up to that namesake. The beagle is one of the most vocal dog breeds. They can make three different sounds: a standard bark, a yodel-like sound called a bay (which they use when hunting), and a howl.

- **Beagles' Tails Are Like White Flags**

Many Beagles have white-tipped tails. This white tip was bred into Beagles so that they would be visible when they had their noses to the ground during a hunt.

Upcoming Events

HBHR Meet & Greet - Please note the 2025 date change to Saturdays. Meet & Greet events are on the second Saturday of each month from noon to 3 pm. Please check the HBHR website for location details. Stop by to say hello if you are in the area. We always love catching up with the Beagles!

HBHR Memorial Bricks - You can acknowledge your Beagle with a Memorial Brick that will be placed in the Memorial Beagle Walkway at The Beagle Bungalow - Dedicated to Charlie Roberts and All First Beagles! Your donation of \$100 will purchase a brick with an inscription of your choice and will help future HBHR beagles find their forever homes. If you are interested, request an order form here: info@houstonbeaglerescue.org



A Remembrance for Our HBHR Co-Founder

**Frank Kos
1944 - 2024**

Frank Kos, co-founder of Houston Beagle and Hound Rescue, passed away on December 11, 2024. Frank, along with his wife, Sandra Kos, founded HBHR in 1999 after they rescued two beagles that another all-breed rescue group was unable to take into their foster program. Frank was instrumental in setting up the business side of the organization. With his professional experience as a CPA, he researched the legal requirements for setting up a nonprofit. He developed the original Access database to keep track of all the beagles and their adoptions when Access was just a brand-new concept. HBHR still uses a database built on Frank's original design with now over 3500 individual beagle entries. Frank was also the "money man" in the early years. Before the fundraising efforts brought in enough funds to cover all the veterinary fees, Frank was always willing to put up his personal credit card to cover the costs of caring for a beagle. He worked with the first Treasurer to set up a budget process. He was always willing to do whatever was necessary to help keep HBHR going.

Frank was born in Iowa in 1944. He went to the University of Iowa where he received

an Accounting degree. He passed his CPA exam and then went to work for several large accounting firms over the years. After moving to Texas, he bought a small private accounting firm which he managed until his retirement. He and Sandra moved to The Woodlands after retirement. Frank loved fostering beagles and was always willing to transport beagles in need from all around the area. Even in his last few months, he was still helping beagles. Their foster beagle, Lacey, had some severe anxiety issues when she first came to their home. She and Frank became best buddies, and she sat or lay beside him for hours, enjoying his attention and becoming a much calmer beagle. It helped so much with her behavior issues that she has just been adopted by a family.

Frank is survived by his loving wife, Sandra, their two children, numerous grandchildren, and by the many, many beagles that HBHR has rescued. Because of the commitment Frank and Sandra made in 1999 to set up Houston Beagle and Hound Rescue, Inc., they have given many beagles the second chance at a good life in loving forever homes.

Our thoughts are with the Kos Family at this difficult time. Frank will be missed!



Frank with first beagle, Buffy



Frank transporting beagles from Louisiana.



Frank with Junebug



Many beagles over the years.



Frank with Lacey

Before we go, a Beagle Smile....



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