

Northwoods Humane Society – Susan Sams, Shelter Volunteer Coordinator

Volunteer Funnies in honor of National Volunteer Week April 21-27, 2024

This article should give you a smile and maybe even make you chuckle out loud. It's not all work and smooth goings at the Northwoods Humane Society Shelter where the volunteers are involved. Please continue reading for some of the more endearing and humorous experiences we have.

You won't see many of us wearing baggy pants around here, on a few occasions our playful pups caught a staff member's waistband just right and brought their pants down. Our volunteers took note.

You would be amazed how quickly our rescues come to recognize the great folks here by sight. One of our canine team staff was walking a particularly large boy when the dog-o noticed a way off was his favorite volunteer, the big goofy boy nearly burst with the wiggles all the way down the driveway to greet his 2-legged buddy.

The animals also learn the volunteers by voice, even before their "person" is in view if the pup hears the person speak the happy dance starts.

Upon entering the cat or kitten room volunteers are often treated as royalty as the meowing begins and felines come out to greet you from every direction. Sometimes you can barely wade through the circling cuties.

Cleaning the cat kennels is a good way to make feline friends. Curiosity is a common trait and some cat-os are more than happy to "help". And isn't the broom supposed to be a toy to attack as the humans sweep?

Caution, if you wear your hair in a ponytail or clip, be aware the cat in the upper condo may reach out to adjust your style.

On beautiful days we all enjoy being out on the catios, just hanging out in the cool shade with a couple of kitties lazily playing with the toys. And all that purring, so peaceful.

As capable as we are sometimes our rescues are craftier. On rare occasions there are "breakouts" which make for great entertainment; a kitchen raid, visit to our manager's, Alecia, office, and on a rare occasion, an overnight dog party.

Occasionally parents and their kiddos volunteer to do the important job of socializing our rescues, on one special occasion we were enlisted to help surprise one kiddo when her parents arranged to adopt the kitty she'd come to be loved by.

On hot days, playing in the hose with the dogs is a hilarious way to cool off. Then sitting drying off in the sun for a few minutes before a small treat and a nap.

We will have more to share with you next week in our article.

Thank you Volunteers

Dates to Save: Dates to Save:

*April 25 and May 9– Bingo at Powell's on Round Lake – games start at 6 p.m. but come early.*

*April 27 – Spay-Ghetti and No Balls – 5 – 7:30 p.m. – Hayward Vet Center*

*May 27 – Dining For Cats and Dogs – Lynne's Custom Meats and Catering – 10:30 to 2 p.m.*