

# LEAGUE LINES

WINTER 2019

**LEAGUE FOR  
ANIMAL WELFARE**



*Choose No-Kill. Choose the League.*

## **A HAPPY ENDING: MAI TAI'S STORY**

It's never too late to find home sweet home

**L**ike many before her, Mai Tai's path to the League is a mystery. Records show only that the pretty, fine-boned tabby arrived in September of 2015, a little the worse for wear. At that time, after a vet examination, the League placed her age at 10-years-plus, which was one strike against her likelihood for adoption. The second strike was hyperthyroidism, and multiple dental issues, which eventually left her with no teeth.

In spite of her untold backstory, Mai Tai has moved on to her next chapter, in a loving home, with soft beds to sleep on, chipmunks to chase, and an Instagram account ([maitaimcgraw](#)) chronicling her new adventures as an internet celebrity.

### **The toothless wonder**

"We called her the 'toothless wonder'," says League Animal Care Manager Sue Schellhous. Mai Tai had come to the League with a mass on her tongue, gingivitis, and an inability to keep on weight. After a time, her teeth were entirely removed. The feeding tube intended to get desperately-needed nutrition into Mai Tai's system wasn't working out. It was transdermal medication, gently wiped behind her ears, that gave her the relief she needed. "After that, she started eating, and putting on a little weight," Sue says.

# UPCOMING EVENTS: DECEMBER 2018 - FEBRUARY 2019

**SUNDAY**  
DECEMBER 01  
JANUARY 05  
FEBRUARY 02

**WHEN**

12:00 p.m.–3:00 p.m.

**Adoption Event**

**WHERE**

Bentley's Pet Stuff  
4530 Eastgate Blvd.  
Cincinnati, OH

**SATURDAY**  
DECEMBER 02  
JANUARY 06  
FEBRUARY 03

**WHEN**

12:00 p.m.–3:00 p.m.

**Adoption Event**

**WHERE**

Bentley's Pet Stuff  
7474 Beechmont Ave.  
Cincinnati, OH

**SUNDAY**  
DECEMBER 09  
JANUARY 13

**WHEN**

12:00 p.m.–3:00 p.m.

**Adoption Event**

**WHERE**

Petco Amelia  
260 W. Main St.  
Amelia, OH

**SATURDAY**  
DECEMBER 22  
JANUARY 26  
FEBRUARY 23

**WHEN**

12:00 p.m.–3:00 p.m.

**Adoption Event**

**WHERE**

Pet Supplies Plus  
11345 Montgomery Rd.  
Cincinnati, OH



MY FURRY  
valentine™

**SATURDAY & SUNDAY**  
FEBRUARY 09 & 10

**WHEN**

10:00 a.m.–5:00 p.m.

**My Furry Valentine**

**WHERE**

Sharonville Convention Center  
11355 Chester Rd.  
Cincinnati, OH

## About Us

The League for Animal Welfare is a 501(c)(3) organization. Our mission is to reduce the number of homeless cats and dogs in Greater Cincinnati by providing a compassionate no-kill animal shelter and programs that promote responsible pet care. For your privacy, the League does not sell, rent, lend or exchange its mailing lists. Please notify us if you do not wish to receive future mailings and/or fundraising communications designed to support the League for Animal Welfare by calling 513-735-2299 or emailing autumn@LFAW.org.

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Sunday 12:00 p.m.–5:00 p.m.

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ADOPT ME



**Marmar**  
EBOD 5/13/15

Marmar is a hound dog, through and through, and she loves people (both adults and kids). This sweet girl is on the hunt for her forever home!



**Jarobi**  
EDOB 8/24/11

Jarobi is a sweet boy and would do best in a one-cat home. Because of his allergies, our None Left Behind program covers his food (ordered through us).

View all the cats and dogs available for adoption at [LFAW.org/adopt](http://LFAW.org/adopt)

NEWS

## And the award goes to...

The League for Animal Welfare was recently named one of the nation's Ten Best Animal Charities by Top Dog Tips, a leading online source for in-depth information on all things dog related. This award was based on criteria including the League's services, its ethical standards and how efficiently it utilizes contributions. Also cited was the League's four-star rating (the highest awarded) by Charity Navigator, an agency that rates charities worldwide. The League just received its SIXTH consecutive four-star rating! Learn more at [CharityNavigator.org](http://CharityNavigator.org).



# How Pets Bond with Humans

**D**ogs and cats are very different in the ways they show love and how they bond with their favorite humans. Anyone owned by a dog or in service to a cat knows that to be true.



Understanding our four-legged family members has become a specialized science in recent years, with experts emerging to share their research, insight and opinions on both canine and feline behavior with curious and sometimes puzzled pet parents. Here is some of what they have found, starting with dogs:

- With dogs, familiarity is key. According to *Reader's Digest*, the socialization of puppies in the first few months of their lives is the prime time for forging strong associations, and the types of people dogs are around when they're young may leave them with biased preferences for, say, women over men or adults over children.
- When dogs pick their favorite person, it's more often because of the amount of "quality time" that person spends with them. According to Rover.com, which bills itself as "the world's largest network of 5-star pet sitters and dog walkers," the key to bonding with your dog lies in sharing "joyful experiences."
- Dogs who are petted, groomed, massaged and just generally adored by someone will likely bond more closely with that person just because being with them makes the dog feel good, according to Krissy Howard, writing for pet blog, cuteness.com.
- Since dogs, like people, have different personalities, one may enjoy taking long walks while another may crave a massage or belly rub. "Try to have fun and explore different options with your dog to see what elicits the best response, because dogs will let you know what they like," Rover.com advises.
- For a rescue dog exhibiting shyness or fearful behavior, it's best not to force interaction. Allow him or her to be the one to initiate contact and slowly learn that you can



be trusted. If the dog will allow it, author Jean Marie Bauhaus suggests hand-feeding as a way to build trust and foster attachment.

Cats, by far the more mysterious and inscrutable in their behavior, may be the most misunderstood and under-appreciated pets on the planet. Research on the relationship between cats and humans has received less attention over the years, but recently that gap has begun to be filled.

How do you know your cat loves you? According to Phil Mutz, a writer at LittleThings.com, cats communicate love in a code of their own, but there are 10 key give-aways:

- When your cat is curled up and kneading your lap while you're petting her, she's returning the affection and saying she loves you right back. Note: You can appreciate this more if there's a thick blanket between you and her claws.
- Cats love by gifting the objects of their affection with presents -- toys or small dead animals among them. Certified animal behaviorist Amy Shojai says, "They wouldn't bring these special gifts if they didn't love you." Note: Uh, don't forget to say thank you!
- Head-butting is another demonstration of affection. In doing so, your cat is marking you with scent glands in her head and cheeks and claiming you as part of her family.
- Staring at you and slowly blinking -- once, twice -- communicates both love and trust. This may be the display of cat love that is easiest to understand. "It's the equivalent of being kissed," according to Dr. Karen Becker, DVM.
- Showing you their belly means feline love. Your cat is saying he trusts you and feels protected by you, according to IHeartCats.com.
- Perhaps the best barometer of how your cat feels about you is the tail. Cats express happiness and warm feelings by fluffing out the base of their

Continues on page 4

## HOW PETS BOND WITH HUMANS: continued from page 3

tails while holding their tails upright with a slight curve at the top.

- It may be a bit painful, but when your cat nips you he is showing affection. Cats don't get that you might not appreciate the gesture quite as much. Or understand why a bandage is necessary.
- Rubbing against your legs is another sign of deep affection and another way a cat uses her scent glands to claim you as her own. "It's important to your relationship and bonding that you allow your cat to rub

against you," advises Dr. Becker.

- Purring is the number one way cats have of communicating, but a purr can mean a variety of things, from delight to expressions of concern. If your cat is purring in your presence, however, you can rest assured it's an expression of love.
- Last but not least, if your cat follows you around it's a pretty goosing of one of two things: he loves you and wants to be near you, OR it's time for dinner. As for that, you can choose to believe whichever you want! 🐾

## MAI TAI'S STORY: continued from page 1

### "I made the mistake of Googling adoptable cats"

Danette McGraw really wasn't in the market for a new feline family member. Her family was in the middle of a large home renovation. Having lost two of their beloved cats not more than two years' prior, the timing just didn't seem right, and they wanted to wait until their lives were more settled. Then, online, she saw Mai Tai. "I made the mistake of Googling adoptable cats," says Danette, "and our resolve to wait went out the window."

The next Saturday, the McGraws headed out to the League to meet Mai Tai in person. "The fact that Mai Tai was at the League for three years tugged at our hearts," she says. "I didn't want to make her wait any longer." It was a match made in improbable heaven. Danette's beloved cat Bonnie had had missing teeth, and "I used to love getting pictures of her with her little pink tongue hanging out," Danette says. "So when we saw Mai Tai, we were both charmed. The fact that she came right over and sat half on my lap and half on my husband's cinched it. We decided to adopt her that day."



### Settling into the comforts of home

Since her introduction as the newest member of the McGraw's Sycamore Township home, Mai Tai has wasted no time settling in. She prefers lap time, cuddles and petting, and her own brand of adventure. "Even without teeth, she has managed to slobber all over and bring us four chipmunks that managed to get in our crawl space, so we could release them back outside," Danette says. "Now that the live rodents are eradicated, she has to focus on her stuffed mice and crinkle toys."



"She totally has become part of the family, and although we know we won't have her as long as we would like, we are grateful for every day we have," Danette says. "We feel sorry for those that didn't consider her because of her age, because she makes us laugh every day, and brings so much joy. We adore her." 🐾

### Make a difference!

As a part of the League's None Left Behind program, veterinary bills for Mai Tai's age-related health issues are fully covered. Learn more at [bit.ly/LFAWNoneLeftBehind](https://bit.ly/LFAWNoneLeftBehind) 🐾

# Gifts Made in Support

**The League for Animal Welfare gratefully acknowledges the following donors who made gifts between August 1, 2018 and October 31, 2018.**

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*Although great care is taken in gathering of this information, we know that errors or omissions inadvertently occur. For this, we apologize. We ask that you inform the League of needed corrections to our data by calling 513-735-2299.*

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### **Kallagh Lyvers**

Park Plaza Animal Hospital

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Park Plaza Animal Hospital

### **Otis O'Connell**

Park Plaza Animal Hospital

### **Palmer**

Anne Elmore

### **Patty Callicoat**

Park Plaza Animal Hospital

### **Ranger Knepfle**

Park Plaza Animal Hospital

### **Red**

Denise Wynett

### **Reggie**

Karen Hensley

### **Riley Blough**

Park Plaza Animal Hospital

### **Riley**

Linda Kline

### **Roman**

Dan Geisler

### **Rusty Sagel**

Camargo Animal Hospital

### **Sadie Zeiser**

Park Plaza Animal Hospital

### **Shorty Harley**

Park Plaza Animal Hospital

### **Skinny**

Park Plaza Animal Hospital

### **Smokey Jordan**

Park Plaza Animal Hospital

### **Smokey Yunger**

Park Plaza Animal Hospital

### **Socks Newkirk**

Park Plaza Animal Hospital

### **Spudley**

Rolf Obrecht & Shannon King

### **Stinker Hamer**

Park Plaza Animal Hospital

### **Sugar Pence**

Park Plaza Animal Hospital

### **Suzie**

Becky Curee

### **Tazzy Carter**

Camargo Animal Hospital

### **Tipper Covert**

Park Plaza Animal Hospital

### **Toby Dotson**

Park Plaza Animal Hospital

### **Toby Mills**

Camargo Animal Hospital

### **Ty Carlson**

Camargo Animal Hospital

### **Vyk Ganim**

Park Plaza Animal Hospital

### **Wendell Dean**

Park Plaza Animal Hospital

### **Willy**

Aaron & Danielle Goodman

### **Wolfie Campbell**

Dennis & Margaret Null

### **Zarah**

Leslie Willoweit



# Board Elections

## 2019 BOARD OF DIRECTORS ELECTION BALLOT

According to the League's Code of Regulations, only Regular Members for two (2) consecutive months are entitled to vote. A Regular Member can cast only one (1) ballot (to be voted on by members at the Annual Meeting on January 17, 2019).

- Since all nominations had to be made prior to October 31, write-in votes cannot be accepted.
- Ballots must be signed if they are mailed in.

Please mark your selections with an "X" in the appropriate boxes. There are three (3) positions to be filled. You are voting for three (3) persons. Except as otherwise noted, each Board member will serve a term of three (3) years.

- Barb Casciani
- Bruce Gack
- Carol Sanger

You may mail your ballot or drop it off at our shelter no later than January 14, 2019. Votes sent via email will not be accepted. Ballots will also be available at the Annual Meeting.

### Mail/drop off your ballot:

League for Animal Welfare  
LFAW Ballot  
4193 Taylor Road  
Batavia, OH 45103

In order to keep track of those who vote by mail, and those who cast their votes in person, **it is necessary for mail-in/drop-off ballots to be signed.** Votes will be kept confidential.

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_ Printed Name: \_\_\_\_\_

**Barb Casciani** is a 1984 graduate of Carnegie Mellon University with a Bachelor of Science in Chemical Engineering. She has been employed by P&G for 31 years in a variety of technical roles. She coordinates and performs animal rescue transports from rural shelters. Barb currently serves as Board President.

**Bruce Gack** retired in 2014 from The Kroger Co. where he headed up the litigation, general practice and real estate groups in Kroger's Law Department. He has been involved with the League since 1990, conducting volunteer orientation, serving on committees as well as being Past President of the Board.

**Carol Sanger** is retired from Macy's, Inc./Federated Department Stores where she was a corporate vice president, responsible for media and government relations and corporate philanthropy. She has a long history of involvement in animal causes and received the P.B. Johnston Humane Care Award from the SPCA in 2016.



**Barb Casciani**



**Bruce Gack**



**Carol Sanger**

**The 2019 Annual Meeting  
will be held at the League on  
Thursday, January 17, 2019 at 7:00 pm.**

## CAPITAL CAMPAIGN UPDATE

**A**s the new year looms on the horizon, a big celebration and even bigger changes are ahead for the League.

2019 will mark the 70th anniversary of the founding of the League for Animal Welfare -- a record of accomplishment and success few can match. In those years from 1949 to the present, the lives of thousands upon thousands of homeless dogs and cats have been saved from the lives they were dealt and given the chance to live the lives they deserved.

As exciting as this anniversary may be, it occurs as the League stands on the threshold of an even more exciting future.

Thanks to the generosity of League supporters that helped raise more than \$1.2 million in our "More Than a Shelter" capital campaign, construction is slated to get underway in the spring on the Sis & Dick Miller Animal Wellness Center. The center, which will serve League animals along with rescue groups and, in time, the general community, will bear the names of the Cincinnati couple whose passion to help companion animals is making possible the next stage of the League's expanding role in animal welfare in Greater Cincinnati.

A planned groundbreaking in March/April will be



followed by approximately six months of construction on the new center, which will connect to the existing building through the shelter lobby. A separate dedicated entrance will be located off an expanded front patio shared with the shelter.

In the interim, the League will continue selling commemorative brick pavers for the new entrance patio. "At \$125 for a 4x8-inch brick and \$250 for an 8x8-inch brick. This is an enduring way to honor or memorialize pets or people important in our lives," said Marilyn Goodrich, the League's executive director. 🐾

### 🐾 Holiday Gift Idea

Bricks – which make great holiday gifts – may be ordered online at [bit.ly/LFAWpavers](http://bit.ly/LFAWpavers) or download an order form at [bit.ly/LFAWorderform](http://bit.ly/LFAWorderform). 🐾

## HOME FOR THE HOLIDAYS

**W**ith the holidays fast approaching, the League is organizing its third annual Home for the Holidays campaign, a short-term foster program designed to ensure that each and every canine resident of our shelter has the chance to spend Christmas in the embrace of a loving family.

Nothing could be easier or more meaningful for dog lovers who want to make a difference in the life of an animal in need, according to Donna Moore, the League's animal trainer who manages the program.

Rather than spending the holidays alone in their shelter runs, dogs can experience a home environment, and even if it's only temporary, it helps the socialization of that animal and makes it easier for him or her eventually to fit into a forever family of their own.

Dogs are assigned based on individual requirements and home situations. For instance, a shy dog who would do best in a quiet environment is not a good match for a home that plans lots of holiday visitors and activity.

Dogs are picked up at the League on Sunday, December 23 and returned by December 26. Each dog goes home with food, blankets or towels, a crate and even a toy that they can open on Christmas morning. 🐾



*Volunteers preparing goody bags for last year's participants*

### 🐾 Festive Fun!

Watch these dogs enjoy their holiday foster homes on our Facebook page ([www.facebook.com/leagueforanimalwelfare](http://www.facebook.com/leagueforanimalwelfare)). From December 23-29, foster families will be sharing pictures in our "Home for the Holidays 2018" photo album. 🐾

# PET JAM 2018

**M**ore than 500 animal lovers, along with nearly 100 pets, converged on Grailville's idyllic grounds to enjoy live music, food, beer and family fun. The event raised nearly \$12,000 to support the League's mission.

A variety of genres offered great local music options, including cover band White Liger, reggae band Elementree Livity Project, bluegrass band No Sorrow, acoustic performer Nicholas Brehm and Cincinnati's ultimate party band, the Naked Karate Girls.

Food trucks served up delicious bites like fish tacos, barbeque, and Philly cheesesteak as well as sweet treats like snow cones and cheesecake cupcakes. Craft and domestic brews were available in the beer garden.

Shopping in the vendor village offered many pet-related products and services as well as apparel, jewelry, and beauty products. Humans and pets alike enjoyed fun activities in the family zone.

Pet Jam wouldn't have been possible without the support of our fantastic sponsors and a small army of volunteers who helped with everything from ticket and beer sales to parking and trash collection.

## Special thanks to our sponsors:

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Batavia, Ohio 45103

P: 513.735.2299  
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E: info@lfaw.org  
W: LFAW.org

# Hug them today, help them tomorrow



Like Joanie, many compassionate members of our community want to create a better future for companion animals. Including the League for Animal Welfare in your estate plans is the ultimate expression of your long-term commitment to this goal.



Talk with us about joining the 1949 Legacy Society  
Contact Marilyn Goodrich at 513-735-2299 ext. 207

