

Northwoods Humane Society – Deanna Persson, President

Volunteers! They make things happen! This week, April 16 – April 22nd is National Volunteer Appreciation Week.

National Volunteer Appreciation Week is an annual celebration observed in the United States, Canada, the UK, New Zealand and Australia. It began in Canada in 1943 to show appreciation for contributions made by women on the home front to the war effort. In 1974, National Volunteer Appreciation Week was established in the United States via Presidential Proclamation by Richard Nixon.

The Northwoods Humane Society is dependent on our volunteers to help us accomplish our mission: To provide a sheltered environment for unwanted animals. The NHS will work to find appropriate homes for animals, provide medical care as needed and work to socialize and train to increase their success in a home situation.

The Northwoods Humane Society will actively work to promote responsible pet ownership with an emphasis on the need for spay and neutering of pets. The NHS will work with all factions of the community to address the needs of animals in the community.

The Northwoods Humane Society currently has over a hundred active volunteers. Some volunteer several times a week, once a week, sporadically depending on need, during the summer, during the winter; all year long.....when there is a need our volunteers are there for us.

Our Thrift Shop is an all-volunteer team of individuals who work hard and often. Our shelter volunteers handle the desk and phones, clean cat and dog kennels, walk dogs, socialize animals, foster those with special needs, help with the facility needs and at times transport.

You will see people sorting aluminum cans (the worst job of all of them), collecting donations from our coin houses and doing repairs, working fundraisers, handling our website, serving as historian, handling administrative responsibilities, acting in advisory positions, overseeing committees, and serving on our Board of Directors and as officers.

Our Board of Directors is a combination of a variety of talents and experiences who care about the well-being of the Northwoods Humane Society and its ability to care for animals in need and about the well-being of our staff. So, to Board members Gil Zych, Lori Butala, Barbara Hoeft, Linda Graham, Kim Kral, Chuck Newton, Michelle Forrester, Shirley Armstrong, Cherie Arzola, Susan Sams, Steve Menke, our treasurer Marcia McIntosh, recording secretary Barbara Sealey and corresponding secretary Charmaine Metzinger – thank you for your consistent caring, professionalism and friendship.

With the work comes the gift of making friends, making a difference for the animals, and improving the quality of our own lives.

Much has been written about the value of volunteering not just to society, but that individuals who volunteer enjoy psychological and physical benefits, including increased satisfaction, improved sense of belonging, lower blood pressure and improve mental alertness.

Our message to our wonderful volunteers is a heartfelt 'Thank You'. "Alone we can do come things...Together we can accomplish many things!" Please know that you are needed and appreciated.

Dates to Save:

- April 22 – Spay-ghetti and No Balls – 5 – 8 p.m. – Hayward Vet Center
- April 26 & May 10– Bingo at Powell's on Round Lake – 5:30 pm.
- May 26 – Dining for Cats and Dogs – 10:30 a.m. – 2 p.m. – Lynn's Custom Meats and Catering
- June 15 – Art For Animals – 6:30 – 9 a.m. – Flat Creek Inn