

Meet your FOHO WV Board Members.

Board of Directors

Theresa Bruner (Randolph County) President
Frankie Michelle Dennison (Harrison County) Secretary
Mary Ann McDonald (Monongalia County)
Lisa Mitchell (Kanawha County)
Amy Moloney (Monroe County)
Steve Tennant (Brooke County)
Terri Tichenor (Marion County)
Nancy Young (Monongalia County)

Board of Directors and Officers

Theresa 'Sis' Bruner is the current President of FOHO WV. She maintains the www.fohowv.org website. She is a founding board member of the Taylor County Humane Society. She is a former teacher in the Taylor County School System and worked for fourteen years in the Educational Technology Field traveling throughout the United States. Theresa initiated the first state FOHO WV Animal Conference in 1997 with attendees networking with other animal advocates around the state. Theresa believes that animal advocates must reach out to law enforcement, animal control and others who impact animal welfare in WV to promote coalitions that support their effort. Theresa better known as 'Sis' now lives in Elkins, West Virginia with her husband, Dave and 2 rescue shepherds.

Theresa edits the WV Animal Law Book which is in its 2020 edition and has worked with Sylvia Shafer on legislative issues for the past few years. When asked about her greatest achievement, she immediately states it is her effort along with FOHO WV in the passage of the WV Spay Neuter Assistance Funding bill in 2017. Theresa sits on the WVDA Animal Advisory Committee with oversight for the grant funding which altered over 70,000 WV dogs and cats. She believes that we can make a difference for animal welfare in West Virginia by being informed and proactive, locally and at the state level. There are a lot of animal people around the state. They need to get more involved to recognize how powerful their united effort can be, speaking for those who have no voice.

Frankie Michelle Dennison Frankie considers herself a born and raised WV Girl from Clarksburg, WV. She states, "I am proud to be from this state, and hope to make it a better place to the best of my ability." Her family adopted from the local Humane Society since she was a child. They were always animal lovers. She did her undergraduate work at WVU with a major in English, and remained in Morgantown after she graduated. During that time, she adopted her first dog as an adult from Mon County Canine Adoption Center. Oreo was the light of her life, and helped her to get into rescuing. She would sometimes go to the MCAC and walk dogs when possible. She would often find pets left by students and make sure they got vaccinated and altered and then find them homes. Eventually, she found the group Pet Helpers

and started volunteering with them for events, etc. She made other contacts in rescue and started doing transports from shelters to rescues, especially up in the Northeast.

While working at Mylan, she decided to get her Master's in Communications from WVU. She moved back to Clarksburg in 2012 to help care for her grandmother, who had dementia. During this time, she started looking for a job in Clarksburg as the commute was frustrating and exhausting. Finally, a job was posted to become Director of the Humane Society of Harrison Co. Her education, volunteer rescue experience and strong advocacy won out and she landed the job. It was a dream come true where she can combine her educational skills, and her love and knowledge of animals. Frankie is the current Director of the Humane Society of Harrison County and has been for the past eight years.

Quoting Frankie. "My number one belief is that Spay & Neuter is the only way to get us out of this over pet population crisis." Frankie was key to our FOHO commercials to promote the WVSNP legislative program. She was very happy to help to gain support and educate the public on the benefits of this program. Another goal at her shelter is to get a Spay/Neuter Clinic running within the next five years. She also knows the value of spreading knowledge about laws to our law enforcement & local courts. She feels strongly this will help her advocate for animals and be their spokesperson. Quoting Frankie, "I look forward to being on the board of FOHO to make an even bigger difference for the animals in WV."

Mary Ann McDonald is a retired teacher who lived in Elkins and has moved to Morgantown with her husband, Brian and their new rescue dog, Sparky. She has served as president and a board member of the Randolph County Humane Society. Her husband, Brian, designed and built their new animal shelter's dog building.

She has worked with Theresa Bruner and the Elkins City Council to help pass a dog ordinance which helps to establish standards of care for dogs that are within the Elkins city limits. She has lobbied her legislators to help improve animal welfare in this state and has helped her local shelter receive funds from the state. She is also interested in the enforcement of existing animal laws and has attended a trial regarding an animal abuse case in magistrate court which resulted in a conviction. She and Theresa Bruner helped to distribute WV Animal Welfare Law books to local law enforcement officers in Randolph County and have worked with the prosecuting attorney's office to ensure that animal abuse cases are prosecuted. She believes strongly that fostering partnerships and communication between elected officials, law enforcement officers and citizens is the key to proper enforcement of animal welfare laws. She worked diligently with Sylvia Shafer and Theresa Bruner in getting the WV Spay Neuter Program funded through the WV State Legislature in 2017. She and Brian live with Sparky, their adorable boy adopted from the Harrison Humane Society.

Lisa Mitchell has volunteered in animal rescue for over 25 years in various capacities. She has been active with several groups in Kanawha and Putnam Counties over the years including Little Victories, Putnam County Animal Shelter, New Hope Animal Rescue and Lost Angels. In each rescue she was an active participant fostering over 100 dogs, puppies, cats and kittens over the years and took dozens to PetSmart for adoption events.

Lisa obtained two of the group's acceptance into PetSmart Charities Rescue Waggin' program and ran the local program for two and half years. The program provided transportation and vetting expenses for 20-25 dogs and puppies each month for each group to go to pre-approved rescues and no-kill shelters in the North that have a shortage of dogs. She received her certification and behavior tested all dogs prior to transport.

After years of volunteering in rescue and seeing the never-ending stream of cats and dogs in need she decided to focus her efforts on opening a low cost spay/neuter clinic in Charleston. Lisa served as President of the Board of Directors for five years as dedicated volunteers led a grass-roots effort to raise monies, obtain grants and locate an adequate facility. The non-profit Fix'Em Clinic opened in February 2018 as the areas only ASPCA approved low cost spay/neuter clinic. As of May 2019, the Fix'Em Clinic has spayed or neutered close to 5,000 cats and dogs from 15 counties, and over 3,500 have visited for wellness services like vaccinations.

Enjoying new adventures Lisa now spends her volunteer time TNR community cats and fostering and transporting wildlife for Point of View Farm, a wildlife rehabilitation center. Fosters to date include squirrels, baby fox, bunny rabbits, raccoons, a vulture, downy woodpecker, and opossums.

Lisa lives in Cross Lanes with her husband Mitch, their boxer Zeke, and two cats, Scrappy and Fancy Pants. All are rescued and spoiled.

Amy Moloney attended school in Camp Hill, PA. Upon graduation, she established a professional life in Philadelphia. Having lived and worked in Philadelphia, South Jersey, and New York for 17 years, she and her husband moved to Monroe County, West Virginia in 1999.

Currently, Amy is the Executive Director for Greenbrier, Monroe, and Pocahontas County Farmland Protection Boards. In this capacity Amy orchestrates conservation easements between landowners and funding partners (Federal, State, and County). Amy currently manages approximately 10,000 protected acres across the three counties, with active applications for conservation easements totaling thousands of acres.

When not working, Amy enjoys spending time at home with her husband, horses, dogs, and cats. Amy is an active volunteer with an animal rescue group in her home county. Monroe County Animal League is an all-volunteer, 501(c)3 group, whose mission is to reduce the unwanted pet population in Monroe County, WV. Amy is an active foster home for the group, which means she's a master pooper scooper, occasional triage nurse, giver of tummy rubs, and everything in between!

Amy has been a West Virginia Spay/Neuter committee member since its inception.

Steve Tennant is a lifelong resident of Brooke County, born on the Market Street Bridge, between Oh and WV, in the backseat of the Wellsburg Police car. As Steve says "Although born in WV my birth certificate says Steubenville OH, thus giving Dean Martin the opportunity to say he was born in same town as Steve Tennant!"

Steve is a retired account exec in the outdoor advertising business having worked for several large national companies.

For the past 25 years Steve and his wife have been involved locally in animal welfare issues. Some of his involvement is as follows:

- Previously served on FOHO Board of Directors.
- Spent the summer of 2007 driving weekly to the Preston County Animal Shelter to "pull" dogs that were scheduled to be jammed into the gas chamber there. Also had a cat rescue from Pa accompany him. They saved over 400 animals.
- Had the WV State Police investigate the conditions at the Brooke Co Animal Shelter. Animal cruelty charges were filed against the Brooke Co Commission. While they joked about it, a Special Prosecutor was assigned and this quickly led to changes and a levy put to the people to build a new shelter.
- Formed the Animal Advocates of Brooke County, a group of animal people that worked to spearhead passage of levy and offer input on what a new shelter should be like. Levy passed by 70%.
- Over the years have partnered with PetSmart in adopting out well over 1500 dogs. Their efforts made them the #1 adoption partner in the Pittsburgh area.
- Presented the HSUS puppy mill legislation to Brooke and Ohio Co Commissions, with both signing on.

In Steve's final own words, "I have always been a strong believer in giving back to the community as evidenced by my participation in numerous civic and local governmental boards as well as presently being the longest serving member of the Wellsburg Volunteer Fire Dept"

Terri Tichenor has been a resident of Marion County, West Virginia for almost 23 years, along with her husband Eric and their dogs. She is an attorney with over 25 years of practice, the last decade exclusively with child abuse and neglect matters. Her office has been located in Marion County, but she has practiced routinely in Marion, Harrison, Monongalia, Preston, Pleasants, Ritchie, Doddridge, Taylor and Barbour Counties, and argued several times before the West Virginia Supreme Court of Appeals.

She has been active in rescue with multiple local and out-of-state rescues organizations for almost 14 years, including fostering, transporting and fundraising efforts, and actively networking dogs from West Virginia shelters to rescues and/or adopters. She has attended multiple national conferences related to animal welfare, in an effort to further educate herself to help others in these efforts. Her passion to help the animals in West Virginia is a driving force in her rescue and other related activities.

Nancy Young grew up in Nitro, WV, but has lived in Morgantown since 1967. She shares her love of animals with her daughter, an international trade lawyer and son-in-law, an environmental engineer, residing in Silver Spring, Maryland, a son and daughter-in-law, owners of Greenway Horticultural Group, a Morgantown landscaping business, and two grown grandchildren. As of this writing, she has one rescued dog and 4 rescued cats at home (don't report me, she says), 6 grand-cats and 5 grand-dogs.

Nancy has been an animal lover and rescuer her entire life but did not begin volunteer work until 2006. In 2008, she co-founded Mountaineer Spay Neuter Assistance Program (M-SNAP) to address pet overpopulation with an aggressive spay/neuter program. She served as M-SNAP's first president when policies and procedures were formulated and created and continues to manage their webpage. She is the current chair of the Community Outreach Committee, serves as a back-up "caller" for the Voucher Program, and helps prepare grants. She served as inventory manager for Re-Tails, the upscale thrift store and major fund raiser for M-SNAP, and is currently serving as Treasurer for the organization.

Nancy retired from West Virginia University in 2015 after 35 years of service. First, she wrote procedures for Human Resources, then reconciled monthly expenditures for the Controller. But she spent most of her career as budget officer in the University Library System, ending at the College of Law Library where she was exposed to "the law".

While Nancy believes that spay/neuter is the only viable solution to pet overpopulation, she also believes the essential strategy for securing total animal protection is through public education and legislation – state, county and city.