

## Yappy Hour Fundraiser Success

June 13, 2018

The inaugural "Yappy Hour" fundraiser, held by Haywood Spay/Neuter (HSN) last Friday, had a sold-out crowd of over 160 people.

The event, which had over 31 individual and business sponsors (including the host venue Maggie Valley Club and Resort), was not only successful, but served to spread the word about the important services that HSN provides.

The keynote speaker for Yappy Hour was Roxy, the PTSD service dog and former spay client of HSN's Operation Pit.

She was accompanied by her handler, Justin Tucker. Roxy recently became the mascot of HSN and has inspired the organization to establish Roxy's Fund, which in turn was launched at Yappy Hour.

Roxy's Fund will enable any veteran who qualifies to receive free spay/neuter and related services through HSN.

Yappy Hour guests became the first of the fund's donors — raising their hands to commit \$100 each.

Throughout the two-hour event, dog/cat trivia contests were held while guests had hors d'oeuvres and libations that even included dog/cat themed drinks.

All 75 bottles of wine in the Wine Pull were taken in support of HSN and also to garner one of the bottles of wine that had been donated.

Board President Nancye Buelow said, "This was the first event of this kind for us and we set some challenging targets – or so we thought. It's overwhelming - it is clear we have far exceeded our goals for both turnout and dollars raised. I find it so humbling and gratifying to see how our community goes all out to support of our animals, making sure all puppies and kittens born are wanted and receive needed care."





A date for next year has already been set for June 7, 2019, at the Maggie Valley Club and Resort.

Haywood Spay/Neuter is the oldest animal welfare organization in Haywood County (incorporated as Haywood Animal Welfare Association) and has been working for over 60 years to improve the lives, and spay and neuter, of pets of families that cannot otherwise afford such services.

“What we want to do is spread the word about all that is available and being accomplished by HSN,” Buelow said. “Since 1955, HSN has assured that over 21,000 dogs and cats have been spayed/neutered, resulting in Haywood being considered a 'no kill' county, due to its very low euthanasia rate.”

For more information on Haywood Spay/Neuters programs, visit [www.haywoodspayneuter.org](http://www.haywoodspayneuter.org) or call 828-452-1329.

Phyllis Wool led a hiking trip which was one of the “experiences” auctioned off at Yappy Hour.



