

Rescuers Take Action for Steve the Pelican

There are so few services for injured and orphaned wildlife in our state. That's why we started our **Wildlife Rescue 911** program; HSLA workers and volunteers frequently step up to help injured wild creatures, transporting them to local vets and licensed wildlife rehabilitators. We're now hoping that one special bird will overcome his injuries, so that he can live out a happy life. Over the last few months, people in Grand Isle befriended a pelican with an injured wing; he had been frequenting a local pier. Unable to fly, the poor bird walked around, seeking handouts from local fisherman, tourists and residents. People became so friendly with the pelican that they named him Steve. Just recently, a caring woman named Alison - after visiting the area - felt that she must take some kind of action to help. She called the *Louisiana Department of Wildlife And Fisheries*. As usual, they offered no assistance for the injured state bird, suggesting that nature simply be allowed to take its course. Undeterred, Allison called HSLA, and we explained to her that a rescue would involve catching Steve with a fish net and transporting him to the LSU Vet School. She and her husband agreed to make the 5-hour round trip trek back to Grand Isle and then on to Baton Rouge with the injured bird. The couple was able to successfully get the wounded bird into a dog carrier and safely to LSU.



ABOVE: Steve is delivered safely to workers at the LSU Vet School. **UPDATE:** Steve is doing well, recovering nicely after having had surgery to remove a fish hook from his stomach. We are seeking a permanent sanctuary home for him, where he will be able to live, after surgery is done to remove his damaged wing.

12 Strays of Christmas Adoption Promotion



Louisiana shelters are struggling with a serious problem - far too many wonderful animals and too few homes. *Shelter Animals Count*, the national database of animals in shelters, estimates that 245,000 more lonely cats and dogs are waiting for homes in shelters this holiday season. The SAC report indicates that **shelters are in crisis, in their third straight year of having too many animals and not enough adoptions - especially for dogs**. To address this problem, we created a program to highlight some of the wonderful animals in our care. **We're offering a special \$35 adoption fee for our '12 Strays of Christmas' animals**, representing our 35 years in operation this year. Of course, potential adopters will still need to complete the same application and approval process. It's just our way of offering a little encouragement to caring folks, who may be on the fence about adopting, when funds are tight. Many of these deserving pups have been with us the longest and urgently need homes. **The promotion runs through January 8th. Visit our web site at HumaneLA.org to meet all of the featured pups.**