

# PawPrints Newsletter



**November  
2023**

[www.humanesocietyofwilkes.org](http://www.humanesocietyofwilkes.org)

## **HSOW ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING**

**TUESDAY, JANUARY 9, 2024, 5:30 – 7:30 PM**

**DOM'S BAKERY & PIZZERIA (UPSTAIRS)**

The Humane Society of Wilkes holds an annual membership meeting so that all our members can provide input, get information, vote on board membership and by-law changes, and generally share in fellowship with other members. This year's meeting will be held at Dom's Bakery & Pizzeria in North Wilkesboro at 5:30 PM on Jan. 9.

In addition to the required elements of the meeting, the evening's activities will include special recognition of long-time members, door prizes, and special membership discounts on some of our merchandise. We'll share an update on our progress on opening a shelter and answer any questions you may have. And, of course, there will be food! We'll provide some pizza and desserts, and you can purchase the beverages of your choice from Dom's.

Yes, we are having the 2023 Annual Meeting in 2024! We're

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**BOARD ELECTION  
INFORMATION ON  
PAGE 2!**



sorry for the delay, but we had hoped that we could hold the meeting in our new shelter building if we succeeded in getting the zoning variances we needed. As you probably know, we did not get those variances, but by the time that was settled, we were unable to schedule the meeting sooner. (We know that December is generally too busy a time for folks to fit in another event.)

Please join us at the meeting on January 9 so the board can show their appreciation for your support! Dom's Bakery & Pizzeria (upstairs), 908 D St, North Wilkesboro, NC 28659

## HSOW Board of Director Elections



We regretfully accepted the resignations of several board members this year. On behalf of all HSOW members, we thank the following former board members for their commitment and service to the board and the organization: Jeff Hill, Donna Huffman, Jennifer Mathies, Melissa Nunn, Katie Parsons, and Ashlyn Reece. They remain HSOW members and supporters, and Katie and Donna are continuing as leaders on our Foster-Adoption Committee and as foster homes.

For 2024, we have three board members whose three-year terms are up, but all three have volunteered to return to the board if reelected! This will provide much-needed continuity in the coming year. To fill the seats of those who have resigned, we have four new candidates, each bringing their special skills to the HSOW. This is the HSOW Nominating Committee's slate of candidates for the 2024 Humane Society of Wilkes Board of Directors that will be presented for approval by the membership at the annual meeting:



**Susan Allen** is our current secretary and a co-chair of the Fundraising Committee. She has been central to our efforts to open a shelter. Susan has extensive non-profit experience working as the coordinator of Special Olympics Wilkes County and as an advocate for children in the Guardian ad Litem program.



**Matt Black** is the president of Charles Grey, Inc., a building materials distribution company. He brings building, managerial, and finance expertise that will be valuable to the HSOW as we move toward opening a shelter. Matt has had animals his entire life and wants to contribute to the well being of all animals that come to and through the HSOW.

- Susan Allen
- Matt Black
- Sabrina Caudill
- Alison Collins (formerly McCormick)
- Mitzi Combs
- Ed Parsons
- Julian Shumate



**Sabrina Caudill**, CPA, CFE, owns her own accounting services company, specializing in small businesses, including fraud prevention and detection. Her skills will be very helpful to the HSOW as we expand our online activities and work toward a new shelter. Sabrina has five "furbabies" (three rescues and two special needs) and valuable experience as a volunteer with the Humane Society of Charlotte.



**Alison Collins** is a current board member, who has extensive business experience, including being the owner of Peek-a-Boo's Pet Sitting. She is the co-chair of the Fundraising Committee and has been a leading force in our pursuit of a new shelter.



**Mitzi Combs** has been a member of the HSOW since 1996 and a board member for many of those years. She is currently the board's membership chair and coordinates many of our rescue partnerships and online fundraisers.



**Ed Parsons** is currently the acting president and vice president of the HSOW. He is a long-time HSOW member, board member, foster home, and active volunteer in foster-adoption. He also brings business and industry experience to the board.



**Julian Shumate** is one of the co-chairs of the Foster Adoption Committee. She is one of the most experienced and active foster homes we have and has a thorough understanding of animal rescue in Wilkes County. She will represent the activities and needs of the Foster Adoption Committee and foster homes to the board.



# Donations!

## July-October 2023

- Shiloh Barkley in honor of Leo and Oliver McCooles
- Kenneth & Penny Barlow in memory of Elmira Frazier
- Jeffery Bauguss
- Hubert & Irene Blevins in memory of "Molly," who lived almost 20 years. Seniors are precious!
- Leslie Boyd-Long
- Lynn & Pat Brooks
- Rebecca G. Browne
- Celia & J. P. Canter in memory of Linda Key
- Marvin & Fran Cantrell
- Debra Carr
- Julia Caveness in memory of Sandi Faw
- Birgit Clager
- Helen Clark in honor of Marge Maycock on her birthday
- Nancy Coffey
- Randy & Teresa Colbert in memory of Elmira Frazier
- Melanie Cole, Ashlee, Latasha, & Z in honor of Gloria Lytton, our fearless leader
- Richard & Theresa Cook
- Richard Cook
- R. Martin Corts
- Alice Crowder in memory of Sandra Faw
- Cutting Systems, Inc. in memory of Elmira Frazier
- Margie Edgerton in memory of beloved dog "Sarge" and gift membership/donation
- Paula Eller in memory of Linda Absher Key
- Sean & Paula Finneron in memory of Wayne Dyer, a friend and neighbor
- Ned Gershenson
- Michael & Shannon Goodman in memory of Sandi Faw
- Donna Goins
- Cathy Grissom, in memory of Diana Bauguess
- Ronnie & Jo Ann Gryder in memory of Donna Bumgarner
- Kay Hamby in memory of Elmira Frazier
- Lou Harris
- Shorty & Lou Ann Harris in memory of Diana Bauguess
- Kasey Harrold
- Randall K. Hayes in memory of Linda Key
- Mary Herrick in memory of Diana Bauguess, kindhearted lady to people and animals.
- Kimberly Holloway
- Donna Hyatt in memory of Diana Bauguess
- Patricia Johnson for Merlin's Match
- Jacqueline Kocar
- Allan Krider
- Penny Krider in memory of Linda Key. She loved and was very kind to all animals.
- Erica Lelle
- Lewis Fork Baptist Church "Sisters in Christ Sunday School Class" in memory of Betty Ormond
- Chasity Lovette
- Susan Lytton in honor of Gloria Lytton, who loved her pets who brought her great joy
- Tracy Marshburn
- John McCann in memory of Diana Colvard Bauguess
- William & Karen McElwee
- William McElwee
- Anthony McManus
- Harold McManus in honor of my mom Frances McManus
- Mid-Atlantic Surveying & Engineering, PLLC in memory of Gloria Wooten Lytton
- Mid Atlantic Infrastructure Systems, Inc. in memory of Gloria Wooten Lytton.
- Lester Moats
- Martha Morphus
- Barbara Ann Parsons Trust
- Bonnie Pascale
- Peggy Pennington
- Anne Peterson
- Krystal Pillock
- Bailey Pridgen
- Mary Rachui in memory of Karl Hunsberger
- Sandy & Ray Randleman in memory of Diana Bauguess
- Megan Rose in memory of "Lexi," the beloved friend of Robin and best office dog a staff could hope for
- Sandra Scott in memory of Elmira Frazier

- Brad & Melanie Shinaman in memory of Karl Hunsberger, Teresa Dancy, and Michael W. Tribble
- Rose Shulman
- Dila Sidden
- Neil Sidden In Memory of "Della," Catie Burke's beloved pony
- Tom Silvey
- Lanny & Laura South in memory of Elmira Frazier
- Denise Sturdivant
- John & Rosie Summers in memory of beloved "Alley Cat"
- Reggie & Diane Teague
- Ashley Thornton
- David Timmons in memory of Linda Key
- Harry Vandervort
- Patricia Vick
- Krystal Vickers
- Kasey Viers in memory of Elmira Hawkins Frazier, a woman with a heart of gold and a love for animals Wilkes County Cooperative Extension in memory of Donna Johnson Bumgarner
- Maxine Woods
- Mark & Melody Worsham
- Ashley Yow
- Steven Yow



## Clear the Shelters Donors August 2023

- Joyce Anderson
- Adrianna Barlow
- Marianne Bereza
- James Brown
- Kathryn Charles
- Lynn Clark, in memory of Carol Childers
- Darrel & Mitzi Combs
- Paula Curry
- Margery Edgerton in honor of the Board Members of the Humane Society of Wilkes
- Mary Elmore



- Cynthia Greene, in honor of Denise Greene
- Blair Hancock
- Sheila D. Johnston
- Joan Laws
- Dot Marlow
- Brenda Osborne
- Anne Peterson
- Marsha Pipes with thanks to the Humane Society of Wilkes
- Elke Royal
- Roger Rhudy in honor of George Scott Edmiston
- Rose Shulman
- Rosie Summers
- Anne Totillo
- Joan Wagoner
- Robin Walker
- Christina Walsh
- Debbie Walsh

Special Thanks to **Patricia Johnson** for her continuing support of the **Merlin's Match** program, helping Wilkes County residents with emergency veterinary expenses.

*thank you*

# Welcome New Members!

## July-October 2023




Hank Becker  
Isabelle Byers  
Corts Family  
Martin, Melanie, Katherine, Hailie, Tyler  
Dean Family  
Sharon, Stan, Ian, Genna and Olivia  
Lucy Edgemeyer  
Alicia Gaddy  
Skylar Huie  
Jennifer Pagan  
Dawn Parsons  
Maia Schweikert  
Ashley Spicer

*welcome*

## Foster Adoption Report



January - October 2023 Adoptions

-  345 Cats
-  270 Dogs
-  2 Rabbits

Year-to-Date Total - 617







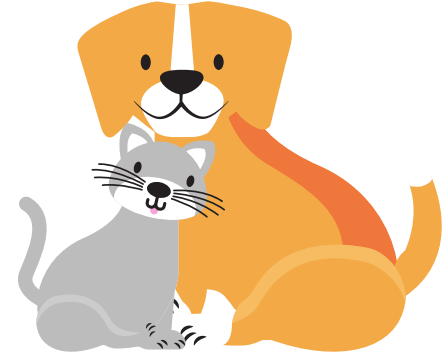
# SNAP: Spay-Neuter Assistance Program Report

## January-October 2023: SNAP Vouchers



 149 Vouchers for Dogs  
 187 Vouchers for Cats

Year-to-Date Total - 336



## Scenes from the Festivals



The HSOW Fundraising Committee really outdid themselves for this season's festivals! We sold special Adoption Is Peachy shirts at the Brushy Mountain Peach and Heritage Festival and Adopt! Don't Be a Bad Apple shirts at the Brushy Mountain Apple Festival, along with all our classic "merch." We also set up at Stardust Cellars for Pridefest and Crafts at the Creek at West Wilkes High School. Big thanks to all our volunteers, including our official intern from Wilkes Early College High School, McKinley Severt!



humanesocietyofwilkes.org

This holiday season,  
help homeless pets  
with a year-end  
donation to the  
Humane Society  
of Wilkes!

Please donate:

Appreciated Stock\*

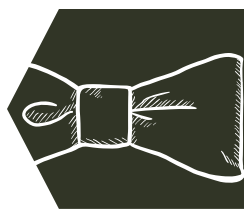
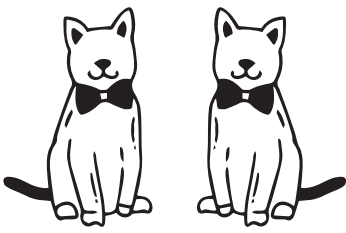
Cash Donation

[humanesocietyofwilkes.org/  
support/donations](https://humanesocietyofwilkes.org/support/donations)

Pet Food & Supplies



\*Contact Wells Fargo Advisors, Blake Bumgarner  
or Linda Gregory at 336-667-1291.



# Handmade Bow Ties for the Fosters

Nine-year-old Emersyn Lovill made some wonderful bow ties to help our foster pets stand out at the adoption fairs! Here are photos of Emersyn and just a few of her creations. Thank you so much, Emersyn!



## Lots and Lots of Pet Food!

Eli Kivett celebrated his birthday in October by requesting pet food for the HSOW. He collected 200 pounds of food for our foster pets. Way to go Eli!

Thank you!



We are so grateful for all the people who donate pet food and pet supplies to us! It is a great help for our foster homes. In case we haven't said it enough, we have Amazon and Chewy wish lists you can use for such gifts. We send out email appeals when we run short of specific items, and you respond so generously. But when you just feel like shopping for the HSOW, we always, always need cat litter!



Thank you!

[https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/lr/2TVDWSTOW8lQA/ref=nav\\_wishlist\\_lists\\_1](https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/lr/2TVDWSTOW8lQA/ref=nav_wishlist_lists_1)



[https://www.chewy.com/g/human-e-society-of-wilkes\\_b76848504](https://www.chewy.com/g/human-e-society-of-wilkes_b76848504)



# HSOW Adoption Fairs

ADOPT  
DON'T  
SHOP

Our heroic Foster-Adoption team has been busy! We hold at least one adoption fair each month, but often add days when we are participating in a special promotion. Since July, we have held adoption fairs for Clear the Shelters (August), Best Friends National Adoption Weekend (September), and PetSmart Charities National Adoption Week (October). Adoption fairs are important because they provide an opportunity for prospective adopters to meet several pets and select the one most suited to their homes and families. Our participation in PetSmart Charities National Adoption Week in October resulted in 14 cats and 13 dogs being adopted, along with a stipend from PetSmart Charities for each adoption to support our program! Congratulations and thank you to all HSOw foster-adoption volunteers and those who adopted pets from us.



<- Nala got two presents from visitors while at the October fair



The Humane Society of Wilkes will have a booth at the BROc/WCAC "Have Yourself A Merry Little Christmas Bazaar" at the Stone Center from 9 AM until 4 PM on Saturday, Dec. 2.

Come see us for your holiday shopping and help the animals of Wilkes County at the same time!

The Stone Family Center for the Performing Arts  
613 Cherry St, North Wilkesboro, NC 28659

## Events



# Shelter Update

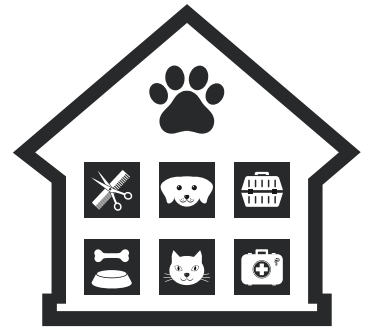


The HSOW board would like to thank all of you who offered support for our effort to purchase the building at 103 Call St. Ext. Thank you to those who came out for the hearing and those who wrote letters to support us. We are disappointed that our request for variances was refused; however, we are continuing our search to find an appropriate facility that will allow us to open a shelter sooner than we would be able to with new construction. The donations we have received for the shelter are in a protected account and will be used for the extensive renovation and equipment that will still be needed if we buy rather than build. Here is the link to the [Journal Patriot](#) article about the hearing.



L to R: Larry Stone, Roger Layman (architect), and board members Susan Allen, Blair Hancock, Mitzi Combs

Photo credit: Jule Hubbard, Wilkes Journal Patriot



## Newsletter Contributors November 2023



- Lauren Johnson
- Katie Parsons
- Blair Hancock
- Susan Allen
- Mary Elmore
- Julian Shumate
- Mitzi Combs
- Donna Huffman

# Thank You