

PawPrints Newsletter

Winter 2023-2024



www.humanesocietyofwilkes.org



Thank you to our
25-year members
on Page 2

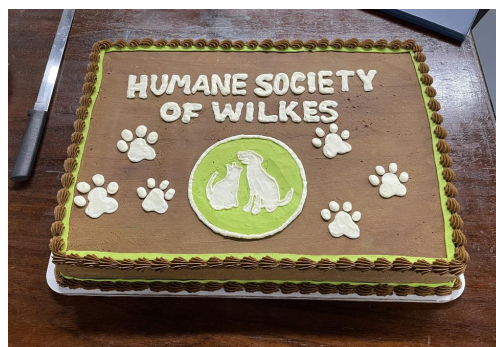


Scenes from the Annual Membership Meeting



Jan. 9, 2024

We had 27 members at our annual membership meeting in January despite terrible weather! Thank you to all who braved the cold wind and rain to meet at Dom's Pizzeria and Bakery in North Wilkesboro. Led by President Ed Parsons, we voted for board members, shared year-end reports from our committees, paid tribute to those who have been members for 25-plus years, and enjoyed prizes and great food!



Tribute to 25-Year Members

Ed Parsons paid tribute to those who have been members of the Humane Society of Wilkes for 25 years or more. (The HSOW was founded in 1996.) He presented Mitzi and Darrel Combs with a special plaque, made by Creative Lazer Designs, in honor of their long-time membership and service. Due to the inclement weather, the other 25-year members were unable to attend. The board will arrange to get their plaques and our thanks to them.



Betsy Brey
Becky Burgess
Darrel & Mitzi Combs
Margie Edgerton
Denver & Brenda Haynes
Arnold & Becky Lakey
Donna Peterson
Janet Telander



Congratulations to the HSOW Foster-Adoption Team!



The Humane Society of Wilkes has achieved Bronze Medal Status with PetSmart Charities for having completed over 500 adoptions at PetSmart in 2023. Adoptions that occur at PetSmart, which include adoptions during our monthly pet adoption fairs, adoptions of our foster cats in the PetSmart Adoption Center at any time, and other HSOW adoptions occurring and processed at PetSmart.

Liz Gamboa, PetSmart Charities Adoption Grants Manager for our region, wrote, "We know this year has been challenging for many reasons, so we wanted to take a moment to thank you and your team for all the hard work you've done to drive pet adoptions over the last year. We're thrilled to share that because you've completed more than 500 adoptions in PetSmart stores, you have achieved the Bronze Medal status for the Adoption Partner program. . . .

On behalf of everyone at PetSmart Charities, we extend our deepest gratitude for all the time and effort your teams poured into reaching these milestones. We see you; we recognize you, and we celebrate your win! THANK YOU and congratulations!" To help the HSOW celebrate this achievement, PetSmart Charities sent us digital badges that we can use on our website, in social media, email campaigns, press releases, etc. Ms. Gamboa added, "We hope you will take this opportunity to celebrate your success in our common mission of saving lives through connecting pets with people who love them."



HSOW Is a PetSmart Charities Adoption Partner!

Did you know that the Humane Society of Wilkes is a PetSmart Charities "Adoption Partner"? In addition to being able to hold our adoption fairs at the Wilkesboro PetSmart and place our foster cats in their Adoption Center, our adopters get a free bag of food and a booklet of valuable PetSmart coupons when they adopt a pet from us at PetSmart.

PetSmart associates also help people adopt our cats from the Adoption Center during their business hours, without a HSOW foster person having to be present. Julian Shumate, board member and co-chair of the HSOW Foster-Adoption committee says, "The PetSmart Adoption Center is now known as a popular place to meet and adopt our foster kitties who are ready for their forever homes." Being an Adoption Partner also makes the HSOW eligible for grant support and rewards from PetSmart Charities.

Another advantage of partnering with PetSmart Charities is a new tool called Adoptions Made Easy (AME). AME is a streamlined digital adoption program that allows us to use our own devices to process adoptions in the store and is an easy-to-understand system for both the adopter and the HSOW volunteer. AME enables us to process adoption fees and donations quickly and easily right from the store. It allows adopters to use their credit/debit cards if they prefer, and it collects our adoption data. Julian notes that "AME has been a wonderful tool to depend on to keep our adoption process simple and easy for everyone."



Finally, if you've noticed that our available foster pets' descriptions have been a little more colorful and poetic lately, that's due to another tool made available to us as a PetSmart Charities Adoption Partner — Rescue Writer. According to PetSmart, Rescue Writer is "the world's first AI author that can instantly write a shelter pet's profile for you. Simply input their name, type of pet, and choose from a list of traits. Rescue Writer™ will do the rest." Visit the foster dogs and foster cats pages of our website for enjoyable reading!

<https://www.humanesocietyofwilkes.org/adopt/foster-dogs>



Valentine Bingo - February 16, 2024

We have had a number of bingo fundraisers, but the one on Friday, February 16, was our biggest and most successful ever! Well over 100 people squeezed into the Wilkesboro Civic Center—we even had folks sitting on the floor. (We appreciate the patience of those who had to wait while we ran to get more tables and chairs.) Many players purchased several cards, and we sold lots of pizza, popcorn, and drinks. Special thanks go to Terry Rodriguez for being our master of ceremonies and caller extraordinaire.



Thanks also to all those who volunteered and to the wonderful local businesses and individuals who donated the great prizes. A great time was had by all!

Thank You to Our Bingo Prize Donors



6th & Main Restaurant
 Susan Allen
 Bettye Alvis
 Matt Black
 Chile Verde Restaurant
 Dodge City Steakhouse
 Dom Bakeries in N. Carolina
 Margie Edgerton
 Food Lion
 Donna Ham



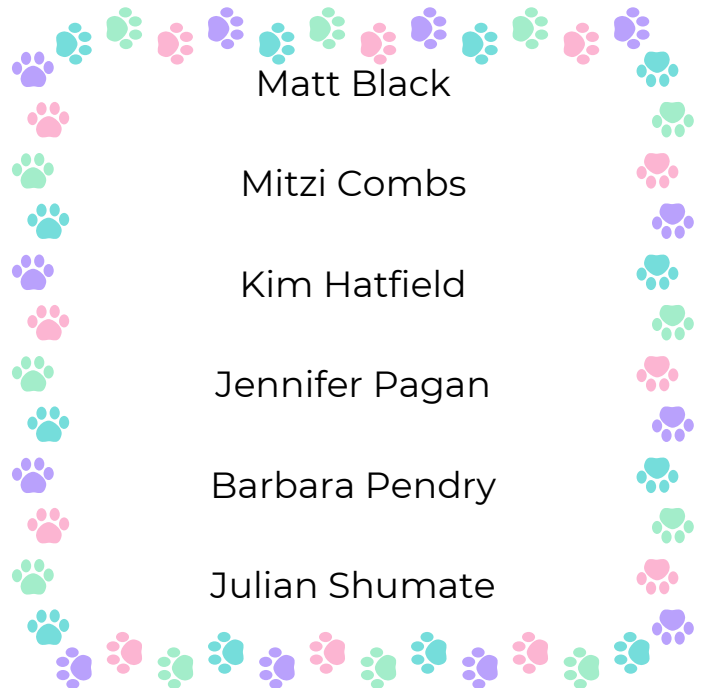
Midtown Garden Market
 McNeill Nissan of Wilkesboro
 Oodles of Doodles
 Tami Osborne
 Peek-a-Boo's Pet Sitting
 Stardust Cellars
 Waggles Pet Supply & Dog Wash
 Wags and Wiggles
 Wilkes County Hardware
 Wilkes Heritage Museum



2024 HSOB Board of Directors



Ed Parsons, President
 Alison Collins, Vice-President
 Susan Allen, Secretary
 Mary Elmore, Treasurer
 Blair Hancock, PR Director



Matt Black
 Mitzi Combs
 Kim Hatfield
 Jennifer Pagan
 Barbara Pendry
 Julian Shumate





The Wilkes Community College Rotaract and Students Overcoming Boundaries in Education (SOBiE) clubs held a collection drive in December 2023 and donated the cart full of pet supplies they collected to the HSOW! Thank you!

United Teens in Action (UTA) is a Wilkes County Schools youth leadership program made up of 18 juniors from all five Wilkes County High Schools. For their community service project, they collected donations for the Humane Society of Wilkes. Not only did they collect a carload of supplies and deliver them to us on Feb. 28, but they also gave us 36 amazing and unique handmade thank-you cards for us to give to our adopters!

Thank you so much, UTA!



In December, Wilkes Yoga Sisterhood chose us for their community project, and we are so grateful! Susan Cogdill delivered pet food and cat litter from them. Thank you!



HSOW Wish Lists

We are so grateful for all your generous donations in response to our emailed requests! We'll have more puppies, kittens and their moms coming in over the next few months, so we need pet food, cat litter, and puppy pads all the time! (Thanks to you, we're good on paper towels for a little while!) We have a donation box at the building that we check daily, and we have wish lists at Amazon, Chewy, and Kuranda (great beds and cat towers). Please don't mail items to our building, though; it is not a recognized address for the delivery services. The addresses in the wish lists go to specific members, or you can drop your donations off in the box at the building any time. Thank you so much!

HSOW Wish Lists Links



https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/lis/2TVDWSTOW8IQA/ref=nav_wishlist_lists

https://www.chewy.com/g/humane-society-of-wilkes_b76848504

<https://shelterbeds.org/donate/66232>



PETSMART CHARITIES
NATIONAL ADOPTION WEEK
March 18-24, 2024

PETSMART Charities
CELEBRATING **30** YEARS of good



HSOW adoption fair days and times will be announced soon!
Fairs will be held at Wilkesboro PetSmart.



Humane Society of Wilkes

Fri., April 5, 2 - 6 PM
Sat., April 6, 8 AM - 12 PM

Donation Drop-Off Dates:

Tuesday, March 12: 9 am - 12 pm
Saturday, March 16: 9 am - 12 pm
Monday, March 25: 4 pm - 6 pm
Tuesday, April 2: 4 pm - 6 pm

info@humanesocietyofwilkes.org



1639 Brushy Mountain Rd.,
Wilkesboro, NC

Please no books and only new/nearly new clothes!

All other items in good condition welcome and appreciated!

Thank You to Our Generous Donors!

Below is a list of those who have made financial donations to the Humane Society of Wilkes in November 2023, December 2023, January 2024, and February 2024.

Special thanks also go to all those who donated in these other ways: our Amazon and Chewy wish lists, collection jars and boxes, merchandise purchases and participation at fundraising events, adoptions, online promotions, and providing food and supplies for our foster pets! The donations of our members and supporters are what keep us going.

Thank you so much!

- Kay Abernethy in Memory of Onita Hall
- Debbie J. Absher in memory of Rik - He loved his rescue.
- Denise Amick
- Jeffrey Bauguss
- Linda Beck
- Natalie Benson
- Allison Bishop in honor of Jenny Nelson
- Leslie Boyd-Long
- Mary Bradley in memory of Betty Williams
- Marianne Breza
- Karen Brown in memory of Julie Moretz
- Rebecca G. Browne
- Rebecca Burguss
- Teresa Canter & Parick Zander
- Ronald E. Cate
- Debra Carr
- Rodney & Sabrina Caudill
- Kathryn Charles
- Jenie R. Christopher
- Birgit Clager
- David & Ginger Coats in memory of Beth Edwards
- Jennifer Coats
- Nancy Coffey
- Ida Collins in honor of Alison Collins
- Richard & Theresa Cook
- Richard Cook
- Charity Cranford in honor of Ricky and Tracy Vernon and their love of animals
- Dr. Jeffrey Crittenden
- Paula & Scott Curry in honor of Ina, adopted in 2023
- Edward & Ramona Curtis
- Seamus Donaldson in memory of Beth Edwards
- Susan Dudek in memory of our Sheltie rescue, ShyLo, the most scared dog ever, who turned into the most loving dog in the world
- Wayne & Hope Dula
- Margie Edgerton in memory of my dog Mitzi; Elliot, the cat of Ted Edgerton & Melissa Meyer; Katie, beloved by Mary Spears; Miss Aster III, beloved cat of Mrs. Betty Thompson; and Winston beloved calico of Andrew Wells & Allison Altvater
- Paula Eller
- Claudia Eller-Tobey in memory of Annie, beloved dog of Jim and Nellie Archibald
- Gregory C. Faw in Honor of Louis and Lily
- Revis Felts
- First National Bank (Boone, NC) in memory of Beth Edwards
- Forbush Baptist Church in memory of Margaret Louise Hoots
- Tonya Granger in memory of Audrey Sidden, who appreciated all the help the HSOW provided in helping her capture/spay the feral cats that had taken up residence at her home
- Adena Greene
- Bobby & Karen Hamby in memory of Beth Ann Edwards
- Louise Hanville
- Ragenia Harless

- Kandise Harless
- Carolyn Hawkins
- Brenda Haynes
- Tom & Connie Hybiak in memory of Elizabeth "Beth" Edwards
- Judy Johnson in memory of Beth Edwards
- Rodney Joslin
- Tanya Kim in memory of Ed Stanford from Cathy's Duquesne University Family (Ed, Denny, Ails, Kelly, Sara, Pammie & T)
- Bradley Klatt in honor of Toby and in honor of the Carriere family
- Carolyn Kottak in memory of David Clay
- Erica Lelle
- Gene Lewis
- Tamri Longabaugh
- Cheryl Lovette
- Mangus Family in memory of Julie Tedder Moretz
- Dot Marlow
- Melissa Meyer
- Heather Mills in memory of Edward "Ed" John Stanford, loving father of Jenn Stanford
- Christie McElfresh in memory of Margaret Hoots
- The McNeely Family Endowment
- David & Connie McNeil
- Linda & Danny Milam
- Lester Moats
- Toni Moore in honor of Bonnie & Bandit – Best Friends Forever
- Brad Morris in honor of Ted Edgerton and family; Martha Wells - dog lover extraordinaire; and Margie Edgerton - dog lover extraordinaire
- Sharon Osborne in honor of my dog Precious on her 20th birthday
- Barry Ostrow in honor of Hannah, a very caring person about people and animals!
- Harry & Sue Padgett in honor of Jonathan and Jen Padgett and Logan Bender
- Gail Parsons in honor of Sharon Osborne's dog Precious on her 20th birthday
- Raymond Ned Pierce
- Margaret Ramey on behalf of Romeo and Juliet, my precious dogs, because they told me to!
- Ella Re
- Mary Louise Roberts in memory of Beth Edwards
- Mike Roope in memory of Abbi
- Michael & Sherry Rose in memory of Margaret Louise Hoots
- Gregg Rossier & Yuehong Zhou
- Stephen Russell in honor of Allison Mullins at Christmas 2023
- Rob Sale in honor of Mary and Little Bee
- Edward Scott
- Rose Shulman
- Tom Silvey
- Daniel Sims
- Jamie Solley in honor of Penny Ardoline
- Mary Spears in honor of Dr. Lillian Royal and the staff at Wilkes Veterinary Hospital
- Terry & Teresa Stamper in memory of our dearest friend, Edward "Ed" Stanford, Jr.
- Lori Todd in honor of Sharon Osborne's dog Precious on her 20th birthday
- Anne & Richard Totillo
- Harold & Mary Jane Triplett for all animals, especially cats and our cat "Patches"
- Lee Ann & Russell Triplett in memory of Puss Puss, who crossed the rainbow bridge on 1/15/2023; still missing my sweet baby!
- Glenn & Gillian Tuttle
- Hughes & Gretchen Vandervort
- Mitzi Vernon in memory of Diana Bauguess
- Jimmy Vick
- Michele Walling
- Leslie Walsh
- Karen Watts
- Loretta Whitley in memory of Henry Clay Adams, Jr.
- Christi Wilcox in memory of Ed Stanford Jr.
- Cathy Winstanley in memory of Carol "Cookie" Sorrie
- Pam & Bill Worth in memory of Ed Stanford Jr.

thank  you








Welcome New Members!

Welcome to our new members who joined between November 2023 and February 2024! Also, we are thankful for all of you who have renewed your memberships!

- Matt & Pattie Black
- Richard & Carol Canter
- Brandon & Amy DeSouza
- Hall Family: Michael, Brandi, Emery & Eleanor
- Vickie Hawkins
- Kyle & Alexandria Larson
- Julie & Epiphany Roten
- Sherrie Sentell
- Kimberly White
- Melody Worsham



Newsletter Contributors

-  Lauren Johnson
-  Blair Hancock
-  Julian Shumate
-  Mary Elmore
-  Mitzi Combs
-  Barbara Pendry
-  Katie Parsons

Happy Tails Update

Diamond

She is thriving! Her name is Dandi (Dandelion) now, and she loves her sister and human siblings!

