



Humane Society
Of Wilkes

PawPrints

2011 Newsletter – October/November/December (4th Quarter)

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From the President:

Fundraising for Dog Park Building

Awesome! Exciting! Heartbreaking! Frustrated! Hopeful! Thankful! These are just a few words to describe our activities for the past year and our wishes for the New Year.

We are excited to report that our building is close to being a reality. The concrete pad has been poured, and once it has cured, the building will be set in place! At that time, it will still be unfinished on the inside, but we hope to have enough donations to finish it during the winter! To save the costs of a separate mailing, we have included the "Pledge Form" as a request for contributions towards our Building/Landscaping project (\$40,000).

We have been awed by the response and positive feedback to our Spay/Neuter Assistance Program (SNAP), and give much thanks and credit to our local vets for participating and making it possible for the surgeries to be done locally. This WILL make a difference!

We are sad to report that distemper has returned to the area. Seen rarely, for many years, it is now back... Of course, as the Shelter is only a mirror for what exists in the County, the risk of distemper in the shelter, at any time, is inevitable. Sadly, this has affected the ability of Rescues from other towns and states, to just "pull" groups of our dogs and place in foster care or on transports. This has not stopped adoptions though, and we are keeping new foster dogs in "quarantine" for two weeks. Please, if your pet is not up to date on shots, don't wait! Distemper hits dogs of all ages!!

As always, we thank you for all your support! We hope to continue our existing programs for the next year and plan to work hard at letting the public know the dangers of distemper. Please do not hesitate to let us know your thoughts and concerns!
~ Joanna Cates (Jo)



***In Memory of Teddy:** Teddy, a beautiful collie mix, developed distemper soon after being pulled from the shelter and put into HSOV foster care. Regrettably, Teddy was one of the precious lives lost to this potentially deadly virus. This heartbreak is easily prevented through vaccination. Please call your vet today!*

Distemper in Wilkes County

While this isn't a very cheerful story to report on page one, awareness of this issue is critical. Unfortunately, we are now experiencing many cases of distemper in the county, and since it is here, it has also made it to the shelter, making it even more difficult to keep healthy dogs available for adoption. In an effort to minimize our (HSOV) vet costs, and broken hearts (of our foster parents and adopters), we are keeping dogs we pull into foster care in "quarantine" for 2 weeks to ensure that they do not have distemper before continuing routine vet work and placing in their new homes or sending on to other rescues.

About distemper

The distemper virus is very contagious. It is passed from dog to dog through close contact from secretions such as urine, feces, saliva, respiratory and ocular discharge. For example, the infected dog sneezes, spreading the virus to other dogs. The virus establishes itself in the nasal passages of the new dog. It then multiplies and spreads throughout the body, damaging cells from the eyes, lungs, and intestinal tract. It also damages the dog's immune system and can spread to the nervous system causing further damage. ***Distemper cannot be cured, but can be prevented with a simple vaccination.***

Symptoms of distemper virus include anorexia, fever, discharge from the nose and eyes, pneumonia, vomiting and diarrhea. It can also infect the paw pads, causing a hard scaly thickening. Damage to the brain and spinal cord causes neurologic signs. This happens in approximately 50% of infected dogs 2-3 weeks after infection. Often, these dogs are responding well to treatment when the symptoms develop. This causes seizures, both epileptic and isolated to the head. It also causes weakness, paralysis, loss of coordination, and involuntary twitching of the legs. Most dogs developing neurologic symptoms are either euthanized or die from the virus.

9th Annual “Bark in the Park”

Originally scheduled for October 29th, the festivities were postponed until Saturday, November 5th due to inclement weather. Sponsored by the Humane Society of Wilkes, the event celebrated its ninth year by awarding “Best in Show” to “Hunnie,” a 3-year-old long-haired dachshund shown by Starr Johnson of North Wilkesboro.

Winners from 15 different classes were considered for the top prize, and Hunnie had already taken top honors in the Best Costume class, dressed as – what else? – a wiener dog (including the buns!). Hunnie will be featured in the 2013 HSOW “Best Friends” calendar as her reward.

A large crowd gathered to watch the 51 different entries compete, with a record number of owners entering their dogs in two or more classes. The event’s judges were Dolly Keller and Anthony Younce from Wilkes Veterinary Hospital, and Jessica Minton from Animal Hospital of Wilkes. Ed Racey served as announcer for the day’s events. Proceeds from the 9th Annual Bark in the Park are used for HSOW’s Adoption and Foster Program, as well as the successful Spay/Neuter Assistance Program (SNAP).

The Top 3 in each of the 16 categories are listed below:

Best Costume: 1-Starr Johnson with “Hunnie”; 2-Beth McGuire with “Shalaylee Full O’Shenanigans”; 3-Rebecca Roope with “Lucy”

Most Vocal: 1-Tami Osborne with “Max”; 2-Matt Faw with “Jovi”; 3-Beth McGuire with “Shalaylee Full O’Shenanigans”

Longest Dog (up to 20 pounds): 1-Benjamin Pluche with “Theo” (no other entries)

Longest Dog (21 pounds and over): 1-Paul West with “Onyx,” 37½ inches; 2(tie)-Bo Thomas with “Lexie,” 34 inches, and Angel Casstevens with “Powder,” 34 inches; 3-Neil Casstevens with “Sampson,” 32 inches

Best Tail-wagger: 1-Debby Mastin with “Tyke”; 2-Dayton Blankenship with “Scamp”; 3-Lisa Wilcox with “Maddy”

Best Coat: 1-Erin McGrane with “Blue”; 2-Amanda and Brad Wilcox with “Muffin”; 3-Jasmine with “Cricket”

Best Trick: 1-Geralyn Kelly with “Foster”; 2-Hannah Trefz with “Shep”; 3-Codi Lane Johnson with “Ginger”

Super Senior: 1-Payton Blankenship with “Scamp”; 2-Kevin Faw with “Sampson”; 3-Dee Sullivan with “Quincy”

Best Kisser: 1-Kendall Blankenship with “Lexi”; 2-Angie Stamper with “Kasey”; 3-Lisa Pardue with “Harley”

Tallest Dog (21 pounds and up): 1-Paul West with “Onyx”; 2-Neil Casstevens with “Sampson”; 3-Bo Thomas with “Lexi”

Highest Jumper: 1-Benjamin Pluche with “Theo”; 2-Kendall Blankenship with “Lexi” (no other entries)

Most Mixed Mutt: 1-Catie Phillips with “Willow”; 2-Bonnie Luttenbacher with “Max”; 3-Codi Johnson with “Daisy”

Friendliest Dog: 1-Hannah Trefz with “Shep”; 2-Jasmine with “Cricket”; 3-Angel Casstevens with “Powder”

Most Unique Ears: 1-Payton Blankenship with “Scamp”; 2-Sara Pluche with “Jacob”; 3-Rodney Bell with “Tater”

Best Matching Costumes: 1-Hannah Trefz with “Shep,” Catie Phillips with “Willow,” and Erin McGrane with “Blue” (a wolf pack); 2-Starr Johnson with “Hunnie”; 3-Sara and Benjamin Pluche with “Theo” and “Jacob”

Best in Show: Starr Johnson with “Hunnie”

New & Renewing Members (September 2011 to December 2011)

Earl & Frances Brewer	Kelly Church
Glenda Goodman	Ed Parsons Family
Dick Prater	Sylvia Hansmann
Judith Orszula	Hughes & Gretchen Vandervort
Barbara Ringlein	Pat & Lin Brooks
Kristen Pardue	Cheryl Buitrago
Joanna & Colby Cates	Carol Childers
Melinda Crawford	Sharon Mitchell
Clara Madison Spears	Helen Kellam Hoag
Lakyn Hutchison	Marsha & Jame Pipes Family
Ginger Coats	Clate Duncan
Denver & Brenda Haynes	Sherry Eller
Linda Lastinger	Linda Beck
Paul & Cindy Breden	Sandra Yentzer
Kendall Minton	Bill & Zohara Boyd
Pat Welborn	Tim & Rita Kinney
Tom & Kay Lanning	William & Karen Watts
Kristian Thomas	Krista Wells
Vickie McInnis	Donna McDowell
Jennifer L. Coats	

A NOTE REGARDING MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS

Your mailing label shows the date that your membership expires.

Please check it against your records; we try to keep accurate records, but mistakes do occur. If your date is incorrect, please contact Mitzi Combs at bluebirdmc@gmail.com. (Note that you receive a copy of PawPrints as an “honorary member” if you have made a donation within the last year.)

If you are not a member and would like to join, we would welcome your membership! Dues are \$15 per year for adults, \$10 per year for students, or \$30 for a family (for unlimited number of family members *living in the same household*).

Membership forms are available on our website, at the Wilkes County Public Library, and in the pet section at Wal-Mart. You can also contact Mitzi Combs at the email above, and she will get a form to you.

You can reduce the impact on both our postage/printing costs and our environment by choosing to **receive your HSOW PawPrints newsletters by email instead of US Mail**. If you would like to receive an electronic version (PDF) of PawPrints, simply send an email to Stacey Ruszczuk at bonovoxie@mac.com to be added to the email list for newsletters only.

ADOPTION/FOSTER UPDATE

As of December 6th, 165 dogs had been adopted in 2011, along with 30 cats. There are currently 35 dogs and 19 cats in foster care, while 68 pets were sent to rescue organizations. Just from August to December of 2011, 79 pets were either adopted or sent to rescue! We had planned to list them here, but space restrictions prevented us from providing the complete list.

We are so thankful for our adoption volunteers and foster families. In these challenging times, it’s especially appreciated when people open their hearts and their homes to help save lives and ensure the animals’ well-being.

Your Contributions to the Humane Society of Wilkes

Private contributions enable the Humane Society to carry out our mission. Contributions may be made in honor or in memory of a person or a pet, and can be designated for a specific fund or project.

Please send all contributions to:
Humane Society of Wilkes
P.O. Box 306
North Wilkesboro, NC 28659

The following contributions were received from August 26, 2011 through November 30, 2011. Thanks again to each of you:

GENERAL CONTRIBUTIONS

Glenda Goodman	Darren Betbeder
James & Stacy Vick	Kelly Church
Earl & Frances Brewer	Bess P. Lovec
Pat & Lin Brooks	Barbara Wooten
Sharon Mitchell	Kendall Minton
Sandra Yentzer	William & Barbara Morris
Kisa Parker Posey	Richard & Nancy Benton
William & Karen Watts	William & Zohara Boyd
Helen Hoag	Denver & Brenda Haynes
Jennifer L. Coats	Sharon Scott
Wilkes County Assoc. of REALTORS®	
Kim Spencer/Waggles Pet Supply & Dog Wash Raffle	
Lauren Johnson & Savanna Holloway (c/o New Light Church)	

IN MEMORY OF PEOPLE

<u>In Memory Of:</u>	<u>Donors</u>
<i>Bob Lehman</i>	Mitzi Combs
	Rita & Tim Kinney
	Margery Edgerton
<i>John Clayton Englebert</i>	Corporate Image Associates, Inc.
<i>Matthew Duncan</i>	James C. Duncan, Jr.
<i>Leslie</i>	Dorothy Ruth Beamon
<i>Raye Church</i>	Lillian Colvard
<i>Amy Vandervort Walters</i>	Timothy & Deana Honeycutt
	Town of North Wilkesboro
<i>Gena Shumaker Moore</i>	Grace Sebastian
	J. Gail Bean
	Paul Snider
	Paula Snider Roebke
	Wannie Crysel
	Gary & Sharon Wyatt
	Colin & Charlotte Shoemaker
	Dewey & Adeline Turner
	Adult Women's Class of United Methodist Church

IN HONOR OF PEOPLE

<u>In Honor Of:</u>	<u>Donors</u>
<i>Phyllis Smith</i>	Brushy Mountain Baptist Association
<i>Janet Derick and "Feather"</i>	Tracey Sheets
<i>Kristy</i>	Harry & Anne Peterson

ADOPTION/FOSTER PROGRAM

Cathy Wiles	Sharon Mitchell
Joyce Brown	

DOG PARK

William & Sue Laverack

IN MEMORY OF PETS

<u>In Memory Of:</u>	<u>Donors</u>
<i>"Bob"</i>	Norm & Debbie Lubbs
<i>"Shakespeare"</i>	Margery & Wendell Edgerton
	Arlene McGrane
<i>"Zoey"</i>	William C. Gray, Jr.
<i>"Luke"</i>	Robin & Mike Walker
<i>"Bella"</i>	Dot & Richard Marlow
<i>"Maggie"</i>	Harry & Anne Peterson

IN HONOR OF PETS

<u>In Honor Of:</u>	<u>Donors</u>
<i>"Rusty"</i>	Glenda Goodman
<i>"Narley"</i>	Glenda Goodman
<i>"Jessie"</i>	Glenda Goodman
<i>"Fuzzie"</i>	Glenda Goodman

CAT FOOD FUND

William & Zohara Boyd

BUILDING FUND

Cathy Wiles

BARK IN THE PARK EVENT

Carol Childers

HSOW BALANCE SHEET a/o 12/15/11

Cash & CDs	\$45,266.49
Buffie Fund	\$10,400.00
Lowe's Stock	\$97,680.00
Building	\$12,450.00
Total Assets	\$165,796.49
Total Liabilities (Building)	\$24,985.00
Net Worth	\$140,811.49

PROFIT & LOSS STATEMENT a/o 12/15/11

Income:	
Adoption Program	\$24,333.21
Donations	\$9,680.67
SNAP Program	\$21,424.00
Fundraising	\$9,144.08
Membership	\$2,550.00
Dividends & Interest	\$2,603.04
Kind News Sponsorship	\$1,410.00
Dog Park Fund	\$220.00
Total Income	\$71,365.00
Expenses:	
Adoption Program	\$39,370.08
Spay/Neuter Vouchers	\$1,005.00
SNAP	\$28,636.00
Fundraising	\$5,038.88
Kind News	\$2,090.00
Administrative	\$3,690.00
Dog Park Expense	\$473.80
Total Expenses	\$80,303.76
Overall Total 2011	(-\$8,938.76)

YEAR-END "SNAP" REPORT



The 2011 Downtown Christmas Parade float for the Humane Society of Wilkes! Thank you so very much to all our volunteers, including those who bought and tagged all the dog biscuits that were distributed to the crowd! It was a gorgeous day for a parade, and great fun was had by all!

As this report was prepared with two weeks left in the year, we are very pleased to announce that 776 dogs and cats were registered in our Spay/Neuter Assistance Program in 2011! Thank you so much to our local veterinarians at the Animal Hospital of Wilkes, Riverview, Wilkes Veterinary Hospital, and Elkin for their willingness to provide this service through our program! Our November cat special ("Fix It for Five") was also a success, resulting in 206 cats being spayed or neutered in just one month! Vouchers are funded from our General Fund, but the November special was budgeted from the Buffie Fund.

SNAP registration continues Tuesdays (6-7 pm) at the Wilkes County Public Library and 1st & 3rd Wednesdays (6-7 pm) at Ronda Town Hall. Thank you so much to our volunteers Daniel Hudson, Mary Elmore, and Mary Parsons! Special thanks also go out to the staff at the public library for hosting us every week - there have been nights when people registering were lined up out the door!

As you can see in the following statistics, we are reaching the people most in need and making a real difference!

Income over \$35,000: 29 pets (HSOW Vouchers: \$775)

Income \$15,000-\$35,000: 130 pets

Buffie Fund: \$185 (9 cats, November special)

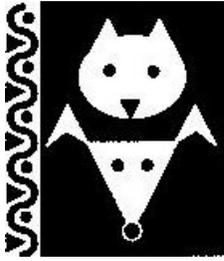
Income under \$15,000: 618 pets (HSOW Vouchers: \$15,402) and

Buffie Fund: \$3,935 (197 cats, November special)



Humane Society of Wilkes
P.O. Box 306
North Wilkesboro, NC 28659
(336) 838.9588

[Address Label Here]



**Humane Society of Wilkes
Building & Landscaping Fund
Donor Pledge Form**



The Humane Society of Wilkes needs your help to raise \$40,000 for a multi-purpose building and landscaping at the Hidden Oaks Dog Park.

*The building would be used for HSOW adoption fairs, meetings, storage, and special events and provide badly needed public restrooms for visitors to the dog park.**

Can you help? No donation is too small or too large!

Yes! I want to give my support to the Humane Society of Wilkes Building & Landscaping Fund with my TAX-DEDUCTIBLE gift or pledge in the amount of

\$50 \$100 \$250 \$500
 \$1000 \$2500 \$5000 Other amount

Please select one:

_____ Enclosed is my check for \$_____ payable to the HUMANE SOCIETY OF WILKES.
(Mail your check to Humane Society of Wilkes, P.O. Box 306, N. Wilkesboro, NC 28659.)

_____ Please bill me for the amount of \$_____
 Once Monthly Quarterly
 for a total donation of \$_____.

Name _____
 Address _____
 City _____ State ___ Zip _____
 Email _____
 Home phone _____ Work phone _____

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!

For more information, please email fundraising@humanesocietyofwilkes.org or call 336-838-9588.

*The HSOW multi-purpose building will not be an animal shelter.



Detach and keep for your records:

I made a contribution to the HSOW Building Fund in the amount of \$ _____

on _____ (date).

Humane Society of Wilkes
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 (336)838-9588
www.humanesocietyofwilkes.org