



Humane Society  
Of Wilkes

# PawPrints

2012 Newsletter – April / May / June (2nd Quarter)

## ***In this issue:***

*Annual Meeting / Board Nominees  
Spay/Neuter Assistance Program Update  
Adoption/Foster Committee Report  
“Kind News” Sponsorship Opportunities  
Report from the Mantra Bash in Ferguson*

## ***From the President: Progress on All Fronts***

Adoptions have been amazing this year! With the addition of the program at PetSmart and the cat condo at Wilkes Veterinary Hospital, we have finally been able to help as many cats as dogs! We have already adopted out more cats this year than in the last three years combined!

Our Spay/Neuter Assistance Program (SNAP) is going strong, and the Board is considering either running other "specials," or reducing the cost further for incomes under \$35,000.

We are also pursuing a Feral Cat Program, separate from the SNAP Program, and not dependent on income. This program would ultimately reduce the number of stray and/or sick cats, and reduce the number of feral cats that go to the shelter, allowing more room for the healthy adoptable cats.

We are also looking at a program to place animals with elderly or disabled people. The idea is to enhance the lives of the person and the animal, without the worry of what would happen when the pet could no longer be kept. Pets can help people live longer and happier lives... we welcome your suggestions for a name for this program.

Our building's interior is being finished (much thanks to Jack Johnson for being our GM), and should be finished by August 11th. We need very little in the way of furnishings, but will post a Wish List on the website soon.

We will soon have options to donate on our website through PayPal and Amazon, and are upgrading other areas of our site as well. Again, suggestions are always welcome.

As always, we would not exist without our volunteers, so a big thanks to all!

Our Annual Meeting and Election and the Grand Opening of our building will be on August 11th! Hope to see you there!

Joanna Cates (Jo)



*Our setup at the Mantra Bash last month - it was a beautiful weekend for an outdoor festival, and our volunteers and foster pets enjoyed mingling with festival goers.*

## **Fundraising at the Mantra Bash**

In June, the Humane Society of Wilkes participated in the Mantra Bash Music & Arts festival in Ferguson, by manning a booth promoting education and selling goodies for fundraising. A good time was had by most everyone (with the notable exception of “Monty,” the foster dog who ended up taking a dip in the creek!).

The HSOW was represented by volunteers Birgit Clager, Melinda Crawford, Dan Hudson, Judith and Henry Orszula, Blair Hancock, Gordon Gray, Hughes and Gretchen Vandervort, Drew and Holly Willardson, and Colby Cates. Thank you so much to this great group for your participation.

We raised nearly \$300 from sales and donations, with most of the money raised from a guitar raffle.

## SNAP PROGRAM NEWS

Our Spay/Neuter Assistance Program (SNAP) is really making a difference in 2012. We have registered 446 pets just since January! We are also very pleased that another veterinarian has joined our program - Animal Ark in Elkin. While we haven't achieved the goal of eliminating pet overpopulation in our county, these statistics and participation clearly indicate that we are on the right path.

**379 vouchers issued for incomes less than \$15,000**

**52 vouchers issued for incomes between \$15,000-\$35,000**

**15 vouchers issued for incomes over \$35,000**

We offered a SNAP special for cats in March, and 124 cats were spayed or neutered in just one month. The reduced fee was covered with funds from our Buffy Fund, and we encourage our members to designate donations to keep that balance going.

We continue to sign up registrants every Tuesday night from 6pm to 7pm at the Wilkes County Public Library, and also every first and third Wednesday at the Ronda Town Hall during the same hours.



*Meet our newest HSoW foster, whom the staff has dubbed "Phoebe." She was born with a deformity of her legs, and Wilkes Veterinary Hospital used a splint to help straighten them. She has been able to stand a bit on her own, with regular splint replacement. She will need a very special home that can assist with her disability. She is absolutely adorable.*

## New & Renewing Members (March 2012 through July 2012)

Belva Billings	Kathy Sebastian
Jackie Kocar	Franz Yale
Dorthy Beamon	James Ruszczyc
Thomas & Virginia Foxx	Shannon Crabb
Sharon Deem	Elizabeth Forester
Mr. & Mrs. Julius Hubbard	Kayren Hall
Guy, Arlene & Erin McGrane	Louise Pennell
Barbara Wooten	Jack Johnson
Michael, Tonya & Alex Larison	Louise Mathis
Lillian Royal	Jane C. Rogers
Lynn Durchman	Melissa & Paul Anderson
Elizabeth Brey	Tommy Gregory
Kim Spencer	Carole S. Vestal
Angela Nardini	Johnny Barnette
Rebecca Hubbard	Birgit Clager
Randy Mays	Lara Hulcher
Jordyn Halvorsen	Hope Halvorsen
Betty Hollar	
Phyllis, Steve, Sam & Aaron Smith	
Ann, V.O., Forrest, Lilly, & Mimi Roberson	

### 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 WalMart. 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 St. Edmunds at bonovoxie@mac.com to be added to the email list for newsletters only.

## 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 may 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 March 22, 2012 through July 6, 2012. Thanks again to each of you:

### GENERAL CONTRIBUTIONS

Valley View Consignments	Barbara Wooten
Franz Yale	Kathy Sebastian
Jackie Kocar	Carla Alexander
Amber Gambill	Earl & Frances Brewer
Boomer-Ferguson P.T.O.	James Ruszczuk
Sharon Scott	Lillian Royal
Janet Rhudy	William & Zohara Boyd
Sharon Deem	Julius C. Hubbard, Jr.
Elizabeth Forester	Glenda Goodman
Barbara Wooten	Nancy Coffey
Lynn Durchman	Dot & Richard Marlow
V.O. Roberson	Rebecca Hubbard

### IN MEMORY OF PEOPLE

<u>In Memory Of:</u>	<u>Donors</u>
<i>Curtis Bobby Owens, Sr.</i>	USDA/FSIS Inspectors
	Schneider Mills, Inc.
	Mazie Johnson
<i>Betty Baker</i>	Jane Rogers
<i>Norma Logsdon</i>	McElwee Firm PLLC
<i>Mike Wiles</i>	Chesterfield Insurance Agency, Inc.
	Norma Wright
	Mr. & Mrs. Ronald Wright
	Mr. & Mrs. Glen Ray Wright
	Richard & Brenda Smith
	Annie & Gary Brown

### IN HONOR OF PETS

<u>In Honor Of:</u>	<u>Donors</u>
<i>"Baby"</i>	Dee Anna Holbrook

### IN MEMORY OF PETS

<u>In Memory Of:</u>	<u>Donors</u>
<i>"Ellie"</i>	John & Ann Willardson
<i>"Molly"</i>	Margery Edgerton
<i>"Taz"</i>	Stacey St. Edmunds
<i>"Short"</i>	Phyllis Smith
<i>"Precious Lady Pat"</i>	Dorothy Beamon
<i>"Ninja"</i>	Mitzi & Darrel Combs
<i>"Dusty"</i>	Mitzi & Darrel Combs
<i>"Keesha"</i>	Mitzi & Darrel Combs
<i>"Morris"</i>	Mitzi & Darrel Combs
<i>"Pumpkin"</i>	Mitzi & Darrel Combs
<i>"Tiny"</i>	Mitzi & Darrel Combs
<i>"Hugo" Finley</i>	Gordon & Paula Miller

### BUILDING FUND

Stacy Vick	Alison Huskey
Barbara Ann Parsons	Tonya Larison
Mitzi & Darrel Combs	

### ADOPTION/FOSTER PROGRAM

Mr. Faw	Cathy Wiles
---------	-------------

### BUFFY FUND

Bruce Clark



Honoring "National Adopt-A-Cat Month" in June, the HSOV installed this Kitty Condo at Wilkes Veterinary Hospital to showcase foster cats and kittens who are available for adoption.



## ANNUAL MEETING AND ELECTIONS GRAND OPENING AND OPEN HOUSE

The Annual Meeting/Election and the Grand Opening/Open House of the Hidden Oaks Dog Park Building will be held on Saturday, August 11<sup>th</sup>, from 4:00-7:00 pm. This will be a time for fun and for business, and we are also inviting all those who helped to make our new building a reality, as our way of saying, "Thank you!" Please bring a favorite side dish and/or a dessert, as chicken and hot dogs will be provided. The meeting will officially begin after the food and fellowship. See you then!

### *Building work continues at Hidden Oaks Dog Park...*



## SAGEBRUSH SUCCESSES

We've now entered our fourth year of monthly fundraisers at Sagebrush restaurant in Wilkesboro. This effort added nearly \$2,000 to our coffers last year, and this year we've already raised over \$600 thus far.

The fourth Thursday of every month, HSOW volunteers provide vouchers to restaurant patrons, and Sagebrush donates 10% of the bill when accompanied by a voucher. At our volunteer table, we also offer sale items and display photos of pets available for adoption.

This is a fun way to donate your time to the Society, especially if you have a "table buddy." If you'd like to help out, email Joanna Cates at [coandjo@earthlink.net](mailto:coandjo@earthlink.net), and she'll add you to the list of potential volunteers.

So far this year, we would like to extend our thanks to the following members who have manned the table at Sagebrush: Daniel Hudson, Birgit Clager, Ann Willardson, Claudia Eller, Donna Peterson, Melinda Crawford, Mary Parsons, Bill and Zohara Boyd, Blair Hancock, and Patricia Johnson.

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS NOMINEES

As specified in the By Laws of the Humane Society of Wilkes (HSOW), a nominating committee of three members has offered a slate of three candidates for a three-year term on the HSOW Board of Directors (BOD), to be formally elected at the Annual Meeting, which will be held on **Aug. 11, 2012**.

HSOW 2012 Nominating Committee:

Blair Hancock  
Donna Peterson  
Melinda Crawford

On June 7, 2012, Donna Peterson made the motion, seconded by Melinda Crawford, that the following candidates for election/re-election to the HSOW Board of Directors be presented to the membership for approval:

**Kim Hatfield (second term)**  
**Bill Boyd (first term)**  
**Jack Johnson (first term)**

All three candidates are active members, as required in the By Laws, and all have indicated their willingness to serve a three-year term. These candidates for membership to the 2012-2014 Board of Directors were presented to the current board on Monday, June 11. Current Board members Kayren Hall and Heather Forester will not be returning. We are grateful for the service they have provided to the HSOW and the Board.

### CURRENT OFFICERS AND BOARD MEMBERS

**President** – Joanna Cates

**Vice-President** – Blair Hancock

**Secretary** – Heather Forester/Kayren Hall

**Treasurer** – Arlene McGrane

**Board Members** – Steve Jackson, Carol Childers, Kim Hatfield, Heather Forester, Ed Parsons, Mary Parsons, Mary Elmore

#### 1-YEAR TERMS ENDING JUNE 2012

Kayren Hall                      Kim Hatfield                      Heather Forester

#### 2-YEAR TERMS ENDING JUNE 2013

Blair Hancock                      Mary Elmore                      Carol Childers  
Joanna Cates

#### 3-YEAR TERMS ENDING JUNE 2014

Arlene McGrane                      Mary Parsons                      Ed Parsons  
Steve Jackson

#### COMMITTEE CHAIRS

**Membership** – Mitzi Combs

**Calendar** – Carol Childers

**Website** – Blair Hancock

**Shelter** – Donna Peterson

**SNAP** – Joanna Cates

**Adoption/Foster** – Mary Parsons

**Newsletter** – Stacey St. Edmunds

**Nominating** – Blair Hancock

**Collection Jars** – Kim Hatfield



On Saturday, May 26<sup>th</sup>, there were three adoptions at PetSmart, including "Dooley" (Plott Hound), "Sabrina" (cat), and "Leeza," the Aussie pup pictured above.

## Adoption/Foster Report

2012 has become a banner year for adoptions in Wilkes County. Just through the first six months, 118 dogs have been adopted, and 106 cats (compare that to only 35 cats adopted during the entire year of 2011!). While 24 pets have gone to rescue organizations so far this year, we currently have 48 cats and 39 dogs who are in foster care.

Our adoption fairs have been wildly successful, and we again wish to thank all the local businesses who have offered their venues. The adoption fairs at PetSmart have been particularly wonderful – 74 cats and 53 dogs have found their forever homes through the efforts of our volunteers for the PetSmart events.

Our volunteers also go every week to Wilkes County Animal Control to take pictures of the new dogs and cats. We're trying to save as many as we can, but we need more of your help. Opportunities to assist include adoption fairs, SNAP sign ups, the Sagebrush fundraising, and the kitties at PetSmart. If you can help, stop by any adoption fair and speak with the volunteers there. All adoption events are posted on our website at [www.humansocietyofwilkes.org](http://www.humansocietyofwilkes.org). We also post fliers at Walmart, the Wilkes County Public Library, and at PetSmart if you are out and about and away from a computer.

### Statistics for January-June 2012:

**Adoptions:** 106 cats (74 through PetSmart)  
118 dogs (53 through PetSmart)  
**Fosters:** 48 cats currently in foster homes  
39 dogs currently in foster homes  
**Rescues:** 24 dogs and cats relocated to rescue organizations

Volunteers are always needed for setting up and breaking down, walking and brushing the dogs, and talking with the public. If you are interested, please contact Mary Parsons, head of the Foster-Adoption Committee ([soonerr1@charter.net](mailto:soonerr1@charter.net)). The Committee regularly holds open meetings on the 3rd Monday of each month, usually at Wilkes Christian Church (across from Wendy's on the Second Street Hill). All those interested in participating in the foster program or adoption events are welcome to attend. Just contact Blair Hancock ([blairhancock@aol.com](mailto:blairhancock@aol.com)) or Mary Parsons for meeting information.

### HSOW BALANCE SHEET a/o 06/28/12

Cash, Money Market & CDs	\$249,312.40
Buffy Fund	\$10,400.00
Lowe's Stock	\$120,802.50
Building	\$26,477.24
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<b>\$406,992.14</b>

### PROFIT & LOSS STATEMENT a/o 06/28/12

<b>Income:</b>	
Adoption Program	\$21,660.60
Donations	\$264,809.46
SNAP Program	\$9,675.00
Fundraising	\$1,481.15
Membership	\$1,345.00
Dividends & Interest	\$1,355.93
Buffy Fund	\$400.00
Building Fund	\$1,385.00
Dog Park Fund	\$100.00
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>\$302,212.14</b>

<b>Expenses:</b>	
Adoption Program	\$26,963.27
SNAP/Vouchers	\$17,505.74
Administrative/Misc.	\$1,699.86
Building Expense	\$14,027.24
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>\$60,196.11</b>

**OVERALL TOTAL** **\$242,016.03**



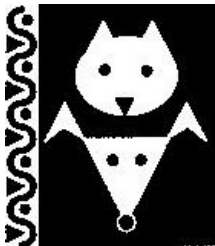
Check out adorable little "Tanner," who was adopted last month, and is a recent graduate of the PetSmart Puppy Class! Congratulations to Tanner and his proud new parents!

## Get Involved – Sponsor A Classroom

Every school year, our organization provides subscriptions to “Kind News” to every kindergarten, first grade, and second grade classroom in Wilkes County. “Kind News” is a publication of the Humane Society of the United States (HSUS) that teaches kindness and respect for all animals and habitats. The 8-page magazine features stories about rescued animals, species in trouble, pet care tips, and fun facts about backyard wildlife.

Teachers and their students write to us every year, raving about how much they enjoy reading it and look forward to each issue. One of the main purposes of our organization is to promote humane care and treatment of all animals, and “Kind News” brings this message to our young readers.

The Humane Society of Wilkes will be renewing the subscription for the 2012-2013 school year, which will cost us about \$2,400.00. [To help us pay for the cost, please consider sponsoring a classroom for just \\$22 for the school year.](#) Sponsorships may be sent to Humane Society of Wilkes at POB 306 in North Wilkesboro (28659). Thank you for helping to shape our young people into caring, compassionate adults. *(For information on the publication, check out their website at [humanesociety.org/KNallanimals](http://humanesociety.org/KNallanimals) or [humanesociety.org/kindnews](http://humanesociety.org/kindnews).)*



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

[Address Label Here]