



Phone 740.373.5959  
Fax 740.373.9060  
Website [www.hsov.net](http://www.hsov.net)  
Email [manager@hsov.org](mailto:manager@hsov.org)

### Shelter Location/Mailing Address

90 Mt. Tom Road  
Marietta, OH 45750

### Hours of Operation:

Monday-Friday..... 12:00-5:00pm  
Saturday ..... 10:00-4:00pm  
Sunday ..... Closed  
(By Appointment Only on Sunday)

### SHELTER STATISTICS

January-December 2013

#### Dogs/Puppies:

Intakes .....1343  
Adopted/Reclaimed .....630  
Rescue Transfers .....457  
Died In Shelter .....2  
Euthanized.....6

#### Cats/Kittens:

Intakes .....1463  
Adopted/Reclaimed .....657  
Rescue Transfers .....260  
Died In Shelter .....27  
Escaped .....6  
Euthanized.....223

**NOTE:** We are unable to provide detailed statistics with regard to the source of Incoming dogs and cats (owner/stray surrender or dog warden/humane officer pickups) for the 2013 calendar year due to a computer problem in our shelter last summer.

**PLEASE VACCINATE,  
SPAY, AND NEUTER  
YOUR PETS!..**

## *The Good, the Bad, and the Ugly*

This is a very hard and very easy column to write. Hard because there are sometimes really sad truths about working with an animal shelter. Easy because HSOV is one of the best examples of a Humane Society Shelter that has made unbelievable strides in the last few years. Let me first make some clarification of the different types of shelters that exist across the country.

There are county dog pounds: we are NOT a county run dog pound. Those pounds are merely holding facilities for stray dogs. Stray or abused dogs are taken there by an officer and if not reclaimed in 3-5 days, they are put down. No questions asked, no reprieves. Those types of facilities take in hundreds or thousands of dogs and the vast majority meet humane or in some cases inhumane deaths. We do not have a county dog pound. We at HSOV work with our county Dog Warden as a holding place for those animals and at the end of 3 days, we take ownership and work to adopt them into good homes.

Next come the much lauded "NO KILL" shelters. The face value reviews are quite positive. The truth is they selectively take in animals. They refuse the non-adoptable or questionable animals and only accept those that fit their criteria. Though they boast of "NO KILL" that does not help the sick or injured or the scared aggressive, or in many cases certain breeds. Those they send off to dog pounds or questionable facilities where it is not good outcome, but don't show on their "NO KILL" books and statistics. While there are some very good facilities of this type, their missions do not align with that of a true Humane Society.

Lastly, you have operations like the Humane Society of the Ohio Valley. Even in that realm, there are places that range from very poorly run and poorly supported to top notch operations with more financial support that you can imagine. HSOV is lucky to receive fantastic community support because people of our county are proud of the work we do on a minimal budget.

A lot of the Bad and the Ugly are found at the first two types of facilities I mentioned. The Good is in what we have accomplished at HSOV. Yes, we too, have to euthanize animals, but mostly for dire sickness and sadly once and great while, for space. However, more Good is in our progress over the last 5-6 years. It pains me to even write about the numbers from 2007-2008. In 2007, we had to put down 310 dogs and 1088 cats. In 2008, we lost 451 dogs and 961 cats. Sadly only about 1/2 of the animals we took in back then, found new homes. That wasn't good enough and we worked harder and improved each year. The final numbers for 2013 are the "Good", the Really Good, that brings happy tears to your eyes. In 2013, as I have mentioned before, close to 99% of our dogs found new homes. The actual number that we lost to euthanasia was 6, that's right only 6 dogs had to be put down. On the feline side, while the number is larger at 223. It is the successful re-homing rate that brings the happy tears. There we went from 77% just 5 years ago, meeting sad endings to only 16%. That means

84% of our huge cat intake found new homes and our goal is to improve even more in 2014. Our success has come from hard work with rescue groups, from hard work to rehabilitate and adopt our animals and our hard work to improve their health and our facility. Lastly, our hard work to promote spay and neutering of all pets.

Thank you for allowing me to share with you. There are sad realities to operating and working with the animal shelter. Luckily, with hard work, you get to share success also. Thank you Washington County for helping us improve and for making the lives better for more animals than ever before.

Becky Johnston  
Humane Society of the Ohio Valley President 2014  
(Reprinted from January 15, 2014 edition of The Anchor)



## FRIENDS OF FELINE FUND

Thank you to the *Friends of Feline Fund* for their financial assistance and cooperation with the HSOV as part of an on-going joint program for spaying/neutering shelter cats.

A total of 171 HSOV cats were spayed/neutered during the 2013 calendar year and surely helped to control over-population and to increase the adoptions of HSOV kitties.

Thank you also to the volunteers (Sandra Brightwell, Ron & Debbie Friend, and Kathy Mallett) who transported most of those cats for their procedures and to the HSOV shelter staff (Devon Blair, Mary Buck, Misty Carpenter, and Brittany Daugherty) for their invaluable help with so many of the details involved in the success of this program!

If you would like to make a tax-deductible contribution to help with the spay/neuter of cats, you may send a donation to:

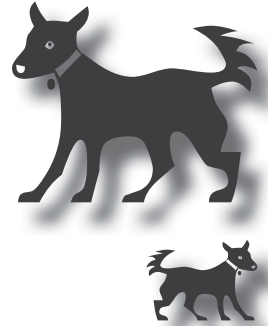
**Marietta Community Foundation**  
**[Friends of Feline Fund]**  
**PO Box 77**  
**Marietta, OH 45750**

### SHELTER STAFF

Executive Director/Manager – Steve Herron  
Adoptions Clerk – Sharon Morris  
Humane Officers – Dennis (Butch) Morris,  
Misty Carpenter & Steve Herron

### Kennel Technicians:

Tony Armor  
Devon Blair  
Mary Buck – Kennel Tech Supervisor  
Tiffany Buck  
Misty Carpenter  
Sandra Cooke  
Brittany Daugherty  
Tyler Gill  
Bill Hagy  
Ted Laskowski  
Shawn Lochary  
Samantha Love  
Jennifer Mossor



### HSOV BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President – Becky Johnston  
Vice President – Kelly Schubert-McGilton  
Secretary – Teresa Cunningham  
Treasurer – Becky Johnston

Sandra Brightwell  
Ron Friend  
Adam Johnson  
Jared McGilton  
Celeste Ridgway  
Jane Snell

### HSOV COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS

Canine Rescue – Celeste Ridgway  
Feline Rescue – Sharon Paul  
Finance – Becky Johnston, Steve Herron  
Foster Program – Teresa Cunningham,  
Jo Ellen Gray, Kellie Lewis, & Celeste Ridgway  
Fundraising – Truda Mendenhall  
Membership – Teresa Cunningham  
Newsletter Editor – Sharon Paul  
Nominations – Jim Baldinger & Jared McGilton  
Operations/Building & Grounds – Steve Herron,  
Becky Johnston, Kelly McGilton,  
Celeste Ridgway, Jane Snell  
Petfinder/Facebook Photographer – Sharon Paul  
Rescue Transport – JoEllen Gray, Marilyn House  
Spay/Neuter Follow-Up – Becky Johnston  
Volunteer Coordinator – Sandra Brightwell  
Website – Adam Johnson

## HSOV EVENTS AND FUNDRAISERS

Saturday February 22, 2014	11 <sup>th</sup> Annual Fur Ball Dance/Auction, 7pm-midnight Shrine Club, Marietta, OH
Tuesday March 4, 2014	HSOV Board Meeting, 7pm Washington County Commissioners Office 223 Putnam Street, Marietta, Ohio
Tuesday April 1, 2014	HSOV Board Meeting, 7pm Washington County Commissioners Office
Saturday April 26, 2014	Throw Down For The Pound 9: Full Dog House Marietta Middle School Auditorium, Marietta, Ohio
Tuesday May 6, 2014	HSOV Board Meeting, 7pm Washington County Commissioners Office
Tuesday June 3, 2014	HSOV Board Meeting, 7pm Washington County Commissioners Office
Tuesday July 1, 2014	HSOV Board Meeting, 7pm Washington County Commissioners Office
Saturday September 13, 2014	HSOV Paws Walk Muskingum Park, Front Street, Marietta, Ohio



**THE COOK'S SHOP** (located at 180 Front Street in beautiful downtown Marietta, Ohio) is hosting a unique fundraiser in support of the HSOV throughout the entire year of 2014. They have over 30 different designs of dog and cat cookie cutters (and dog bone designs) for purchase in their store, and they will donate \$1.00 to the HSOV for each one that is purchased. And you'll receive a free dog biscuit recipe for each dog bone cutter. Their goal is to raise \$500 for the benefit of our shelter, but they would love to make that figure much higher.



The Cook's Shop is open for business Tuesday thru Saturday from 10:00-5:30 and Sunday 1:00-5:00pm.

You might want to check out their website ([www.thecooksshop.com](http://www.thecooksshop.com)) .. and we hope that you will stop by their shop and thank them for supporting the HSOV (and pick up a few cookie cutters too).

# The Humane Society of the Ohio Valley

## 11th Annual "Fur Ball" Dance/Auction

Date:

February 22, 2014

Time:

7:00 pm to midnight

Where:

Shrine Club,  
Marietta, OH



~Music by Hit Parade~

Live Auction ~ Silent Auction ~ Raffles

Tickets \$20 or Reserved tables \$185 (8 tickets)

Doors open at 7:00 p.m. for silent auction

For ticket information or reservations contact (740) 374-2325 or (740) 373-9503

## SHADOW'S LONG JOURNEY HOME .....



On September 14, 2013, Anna Mullins posted a notice on the HSOV Facebook Page that her Blue Heeler/Border Collie mix named "Shadow" was missing and asked for help in locating him and bringing him home safely. Several people responded that he had been seen in the vicinity of Porterfield Baptist Church, but by the time the Mullins family traveled from their home to search for him, "Shadow" was nowhere to be seen ☹️

Anna had adopted "Shadow" when he was a small puppy, and they were inseparable. "Shadow" was indeed Anna's shadow and was aptly named. When the Mullins family moved to an urban setting about 2 hours away, it was decided that "Shadow" would temporarily stay with another family member. But "Shadow" must have other ideas, and we believe he went in search of Anna .. ultimately losing his way and becoming lost ☹️



Fast forward to the afternoon of January 9, 2014 .... It seems that several kindly neighbors in the Little Hocking, Ohio area reported to the HSOV and the Washington County Dog Warden that there had been a dog in their neighborhood for several months that they had been feeding, but they couldn't catch him. A large trap was set, and the adventurous dog walked inside. Kelly Schubert-McGilton, Washington County Dog Warden, gained his trust, and he was soon riding in the front seat of her truck snuggled up next to her as she gave him a ride to the shelter.



Mary Buck & Shadow

The new arrival was given a nice big bed with soft comfy quilts and then introduced to several staff members including Mary Buck (Kennel Tech Supervisor) and Misty Carpenter (HSOV Humane Officer). Our photographer, Sharon Paul, was called upon to take pictures so that he could be posted asap on our petfinder/facebook pages in hopes of finding his owner. The moment Sharon saw the handsome black/silver dog, she said she was almost certain that this was "Shadow" .. who had been missing since last September. Sharon and Anna had exchanged messages when Anna made the journey to look for "Shadow" when he was seen in Porterfield.



Sharon sent Anna a facebook message and hoped/prayed she was still on facebook ... Anna replied in an instant and could hardly believe what she was reading. Photos were sent and sure enough .. "Shadow" had been found ☺️ There was a flurry of text messaging between Sharon Paul, Kelly Schubert-McGilton, and Anna Mullins ..

"Shadow" was reunited with his family at 8:30pm that evening when Washington County Dog Warden, Kelly Schubert-McGilton, met them at the shelter. Kelly & her husband, Jared, took several pictures of the happy reunion. They also took a short video which we posted on the HSOV Facebook page, and it brought tears to our eyes to hear Shadow's happy barks when he saw Anna Mullins! He had never made a sound until that moment, and it seemed as though "Shadow" was telling Anna about everything that had happened to him since they had last seen each other so many months ago ☺️ If you'd like to view all of Shadow's photos (and hear the happy reunion barks), they are posted on the HSOV Facebook page.



Anna & Shadow Reunited

# “JUNIPER”

“JUNIPER” was a beautiful 7-month old female brown tabby who was surrendered by her owner on November 12, 2013. She had a lovely personality and was such a delightful kitty to be with. This little sweetheart did the kneading thing with her cute little paws and was one of the most affectionate, lovable kittens that you could ever hope to meet.

**“Juniper” would definitely be the kitty who would be voted most likely to steal your heart 😊**

This adorable girl had the prettiest, most expressive eyes, and it broke our hearts when “Juniper” developed an eye infection about a month after she’d been in the shelter. The veterinarian who examined her recommended that her left eye be removed 😞

She underwent surgery on December 30, 2013 for the removal of her left eye, and she was also spayed on the same day. “Juniper” made a remarkable recovery. Though she was sporting a large ‘cone’ around her neck, she was already playing with her toys and pushing her paws through the bars of her cage for attention the following day. And, if anything, Juniper was even sweeter than ever before!

We dearly loved this adorable girl and were so afraid that nobody would want her because she was “less than perfect” 😞 “Juniper” had touched so many of us who loved her, and we wanted her to find a home just as special as she truly was. We shared several touching photos of “Juniper” wearing her ‘cone’ in a slideshow presentation on our facebook page in early January 2014, and soon there were several potential adopters vying for her attention 😊 It seemed as though there were indeed kind-hearted, compassionate people who wanted to adopt a “less than perfect” kitty 😊 😊

“Juniper” was adopted shortly thereafter by a wonderful family in Pittsburgh, and she made the journey to her new home on January 18, 2014. She is sharing her home with an elderly Persian cat and three large dogs (two of whom were also adopted from the HSOV!). And “Juniper” settled into her new home as if she’d always been there 😊

Her new mother recently sent us an update which read ...

*“Juniper is doing great. She sure loves to talk and loves a lot of attention. She is always where we are. She loves to sleep in bed with us. She’s adorable, and we love her so much! Thank you for her. Our Persian Kitty is close to the end of his life, and Juniper helps to ease the pain.”*



# ONCE UPON A TIME, THERE WAS A BEAUTIFUL DOG CALLED “CRYSTAL”



**T**his title may seem a little unusual for an HSOV Newsletter article, but the story about this beautiful dog could well have been written as a fairytale .. so please bear with us ☺

Our Humane Officers and the Washington County Dog Warden were told of a mysterious white dog in the Cutler, Ohio area and that several kind-hearted folks had been trying to gain her trust by offering food, but she was wary of strangers. They discovered that she was actually living in a “den” of leaves and other forest materials and had fashioned a comfortable nest for herself ... and her puppies (sigh). This lovely young mother had given birth in that wooded area to at least two puppies, and her babies were just a few days old when the little family was brought to the safety of our shelter on October 8, 2013. We made a comfortable bed for momma and babies in our shelter manager’s office but, sadly, neither of her puppies survived. We took preliminary photos of the little family the day they arrived, but truthfully we felt that the mother dog would need some extra TLC and socialization before she could find a home so those pictures were not published.



We always give each of our shelter animals a name of their own, and our HSOV Adoptions Clerk, Sharon Morris, suggested the name “Crystal” ... which we agreed suited her!

“Crystal” was a young adult Samoyed/Husky mix with a white medium smooth coat and a long fluffy tail. She had a gorgeous face with captivating pale blue eyes ☺ “Crystal” was a very frightened young lady for the first several weeks in the shelter, so she remained in Steve Herron’s office where she enjoyed warm fluffy beds, good food, and extra TLC. It took her quite awhile to begin to trust strangers and to warm up to people, but gradually she learned to enjoy attention from shelter employees and volunteers .. but usually liked to stay behind the baby gate in Steve’s office where she felt safe.

It was amazing to see the transformation from that frightened little dog who trusted nobody on October 8th and to see her fun-loving personality begin to emerge. By mid-December, “Crystal” was playing with toys and enjoying the companionship of other shelter dogs when she met them in our lobby. She LOVED to visit with the cats in the Jungle Room .. and she was learning to accept the kindness of strangers ☺

Although she was certainly enjoying a good life as a shelter mascot dog, we knew that a permanent home with a family of her own would be a better long-term future for her well-being and happiness. So on January 7, 2014, we made the decision to post her

## WHO LIVED IN THE FOREST ....

pictures and story on petfinder and facebook so that potential adopters would know she was in our shelter and needed a loving home. We made the comment on her description that "Crystal" would begin interviewing candidates and let her choose whom she wanted to spend the rest of her life with ☺

One of those "candidates" was Katelyn Marlow White. She and her husband came to visit with "Crystal" several times, and she decided that they were the family she wanted to spend the rest of her life with ☺ They had another dog, "Fenix", (who actually resembled Crystal in looks except that he had a reddish-brown coat), and their meet-and-greet went well too!

When this beautiful young lady came to the HSOV on October 8, 2013, we could only dream of the day that she might find the perfect home ☺ That dream became a reality on February 1, 2014 when her new family came to take her home. There wasn't a dry eye in the shelter as we each shed some happy tears, said our good-byes to "Crystal", and wished her well in her forever homes with her new family. Our shelter manager, Steve Herron, was obviously very emotional as they spent the last day together in "their" office.

"Crystal" seemed to sense that this was a different day and watched carefully as her favorite toys and big plush animals were placed in her tote bag.

Her new family has already posted pictures of "Crystal" in her new home (and with her new brother "Fenix"), and it does our heart good to see her looking so happy and content. And she has promised to come back to see her shelter family who loved her for four months while she waited for the perfect new family ☺

Katelyn Marlow White wrote recently that "Crystal is the sweetest, most loving, and affectionate girl. I absolutely adore her" ☺

So this fairytale story just has to end with the sentence ..... "And Crystal, the beautiful dog who once made her home in the forest, lived happily ever after with her new family and big brother in their beautiful home" .



# WRITING OUR THANK-YOU NOTES



The ***Everyone Wants To Be Home For The Holidays*** event was held at Interim Healthcare in Marietta, Ohio on Friday, November 29, 2013. Christmas toys were collected for children as well as donations for the HSOV, and the event showcased several adoptable dogs and cats from our shelter. Santa Claus (who

reminded us so much of ***Duane Painter***) made a special guest appearance, and we're sure that each of the dogs and cats told him the only gift they wanted for Christmas was a home of their



own ☺ They sure did love being pampered and spoiled throughout the afternoon! One kitty (Don Juan) found a home and at least one dog (Maggie) was adopted as a result of this event ☺ Thanks to ***Nicole Clatterbuck*** for organizing and promoting this event.

Thank you to the students at ***Marietta Boot Camp***, 1100 Pike Street, Marietta, Ohio (and owner ***Jennifer Deem***) for the donations you brought to place under the Christmas tree at MBC for the animals at the HSOV. Jennifer delivered many wonderful gifts thanks to each of you ☺

The ***Washington County Public Library*** in Marietta, Ohio collected donations for the HSOV throughout the month of December. Thanks to generous library patrons, the shelter dogs and cats received food, treats, new collars/leashes, and kitty litter. Cleaning supplies and money contributions were also donated. Thank you Washington County Public Library for organizing this holiday collection event ☺

Thank you to ***Marietta Health & Wellness Center*** (formerly Dexter Chiropractic), 325 Fourth Street, Marietta, Ohio for collecting donations as well as monetary contributions for the benefit of the HSOV during December 2013.

The 5th Annual ***They Light Up Our Lives*** fundraiser for the HSOV was once again a success. Over 60 contributors donated \$2,770 and remembered over 290 pets. In celebration of the fundraiser's fifth year, an anonymous donor matched the donations, and the Humane Society received a total of \$5,540. Thank you to ***Nancy Mendicino*** and her committee members, and also to American Flags and Poles for displaying the Christmas tree with the white lights (in remembrance of pets who have passed away) and the colored lights (in honor of

living pets) as well as ***The Marietta Times, ARC Resins, and Marietta Office Supply***. And especially to each one of you who contributed a donation to honor and remember your pets.

Thank you ***Truda Mendenhall*** for the Christmas Ornament Fundraiser which was organized for the benefit of the HSOV. Truda (who is a Fenton artist) designed and created 500 custom dog/cat ornaments which were sold throughout the holiday season at a cost of \$10 and proceeds were donated to the shelter. Thank you also to the area businesses who sold the ornaments in their shops – ***American Flags & Poles, Buttermore's Jewelers, Twisted Sisters Boutique, and WeLovPets***.

Thank you to ***Mr. and Mrs. Dan Avodent, Rodney Herron, Rech Angus Farms (Mike Rech), and Steven's Oil and Gas (Bill, Jared, and Tyler)*** who donated the necessary supplies to help with the installation of a new generator for the HSOV. These folks provided the materials free-of-charge to the shelter to show their support and appreciation for what we do. This generator means that animals will never have to be without proper heat or air-conditioning and that the shelter can continue to provide the best care for the animals in the event of a power outage.

A big THANK YOU to ***IBEW Local 972*** (Marietta, Ohio) and three of their members who volunteered their time, talents, and Saturday 'free time' on February 1, 2014 to do the electrical work needed to complete installation of the generator for the Humane Society of the Ohio Valley. Thank you ***Ryan Dyar, Josh Giffin, and Travis Taylor*** for being so generous and for donating this special 'gift' of yourselves to help the animals at the shelter in the event of a power outage. The HSOV staff, volunteers, and the Marietta community are so proud of our local IBEW union members ☺

Through the generosity of ***Doug and Karen Thompson***, owners of ***Best One Computers*** in Marietta, Ohio, the Foster Fur Persons will now have more high-tech exposure for potential forever, loving homes. Doug and Karen attended our last HSOV Board Meeting and announced that they are donating the computer equipment necessary, as well as installing it, at the HSOV for the use of putting more current bios and pictures of fostered animals up for public viewing on a larger screen saver type monitor which will constantly run. This will make it easier to the public to see (and read) more about the wonderful animals that are being fostered by so many wonderful people in the community. For this generous gift, a sign is being made for a kennel run in honor of Doug and Karen Thompson and Best One Computers ☺ (And thank you to ***Ron Friend***, our most recent HSOV Board Member for submitting this information!)



## WRITING OUR THANK-YOU NOTES

Thank you in advance to **The Cook's Shop**, 180 Front Street, Marietta, Ohio for hosting a 'cookie cutter' fundraiser for the HSOV during the 2014 calendar year (details on page three of this newsletter). Our shelter will receive \$1.00 for each cookie cutter purchased. Incidentally, the shop owners' dogs, Raisin and Louie, suggested this fundraiser to support their favorite cause ☺

We are fortunate to have so many local supporters in the broadcasting/publishing fields who provide coverage and publicity for the HSOV as well as our wonderful pets. Thank you to **The Marietta Times** ([www.mariettatimes.com](http://www.mariettatimes.com)) and **The Anchor** ([www.theanchornews.net](http://www.theanchornews.net)) for publishing articles about our shelter! And to **WTAP-TV** ([www.wtap.com](http://www.wtap.com)), **WMOA Radio Station** ([www.wmoa1490.com](http://www.wmoa1490.com)), and **103.1 "The Bear" Radio Station** ([www.1031thebear.net](http://www.1031thebear.net)) for your live broadcasts and interviews. And we couldn't mention **WTAP-TV** without thanking them for welcoming HSOV Dogs for their television debuts as "Pet-Of-The-Week" every other Friday at noon! Thanks to **Bonnie Fennell** for providing private limousine service for each of those dogs and being their best cheerleader during their interviews ☺ (And the dogs wish to thank Bonnie for their "good girl/good boy" cheeseburger treats afterwards).

**We are especially thankful for our wonderful HSOV Staff** who take such loving care of the dogs and cats in our shelter on a daily basis. When you walk through our shelter and see the interaction of our kennel techs and the animals who have been entrusted to their care, it is obvious that they are treated with so much love and respect. Each animal is known by his/her name and when they are adopted/rescued, there are many emotional good-byes and wishes for success in their new homes. Our shelter is blessed to have caring kennel techs, and their individual names are listed on page two of this newsletter. We hope that you will personally thank them when you are in our shelter ☺

And last, but certainly not least, the HSOV wishes to thank all of our **wonderful volunteers, foster families, and supporters/donors** who give so much to help the shelter dogs and cats in so many different ways. Please know how much we appreciate each of you and that you have made a difference .. whether by making a monetary donation, bringing supplies/food/kitty litter to the shelter, attending a fundraiser, walking a dog, spending time with a cat, bathing/grooming shelter animals, transporting dogs/cats to rescue, or sharing photos on facebook. We are so thankful for our community support (both local and long-distance) .. We couldn't do what we do without YOU!

## "BLOSSOM" ...

**A unique kitty with 'horizontal' ears ☺**

When we first met this beautiful kitty, the first thing we noticed about her was that she had her ears flattened out in a horizontal position, and that is normally not a friendly sign if you are accustomed to reading cat body language ☺ However, we quickly learned that this girl was actually very sweet, and this was her natural look ☺



This unique kitty was surrendered by her owner on July 24, 2013, and it was obvious that she was 'in family way'. She was given the name "Blossom" since she would soon be blossoming into motherhood. "Blossom" was a beautiful cat with a shiny black coat with gorgeous mahogany undertones. Fortunately for her, a guardian angel in the form of a foster mother (Jessica Carver) gave her a temporary home on August 2, 2013 .. just in the nick of time. "Blossom" gave birth to seven beautiful kittens later that evening. Sadly, three of the babies did not survive, but "Blossom" raised the remaining four to be healthy, happy youngsters. One-by-one the kittens found homes and all were adopted by October 27th.

But being the good little mother that she was, "Blossom" soon accepted five orphaned kittens and began to raise a second family ☺ Those little ragamuffins wouldn't have had a chance at life had it not been for "Blossom" and Jessica, but within weeks they were thriving, healthy, socialized youngsters. And all five of the orphans found homes by mid-November, and "Blossom" was once again an 'empty-nester'.

"Blossom" was spayed on November 20th, and she continued to enjoy her foster home (and her foster family loved her too!) "Blossom" helped run their household and kept the other foster kitties "in line" and assisted in developing their social skills. She was the perfect kitty. Her foster mother made a difficult decision to give "Blossom" a chance at a permanent home by placing her at the WeLovPets Store (the saying 'loving someone enough to let them go' comes to mind..)

"Blossom" was adopted on January 9, 2014 ☺ Everyone who met this special kitty with the 'horizontal ears' fell in love with her, and she epitomized the adage about 'not judging a book by its cover'. "Blossom" was truly an unforgettable cat who might well have been nominated for 'Mother of the Year' ☺

## HSOV WEBSITE ([www.hsov.net](http://www.hsov.net)) UPDATE

Thanks to Adam Johnson, HSOV Board Member/Webmaster, the HSOV website was upgraded recently and has a modern new appearance. Sections include: General Information/ Mission Statement, Contact Information, Shelter Staff/Board Members, Committee Chairpersons, and Downloadable Forms [Foster/Adoption, Volunteering, and Membership]. There are links to Petfinder.com (to view our available cats and dogs) and to the HSOV Newsletter archives. The newest link provides access to the HSOV Facebook page.

## HSOV FACEBOOK PAGE

If you haven't already "liked" us on Facebook, we'd like to invite you to join us. You must have an active Facebook account (free and easy sign-up at [www.facebook.com](http://www.facebook.com)) and then just search for us under the name Humane Society of the Ohio Valley and "like" our page. We post photos and descriptions of new dogs/cats who have arrived at the HSOV and let you know when they are either reclaimed or adopted/rescued. And you may ask questions/make comments about the animals and share their pictures on your own facebook timeline as well. We post announcements of HSOV activities/fundraisers and requests for help/donations, and you are also free to post on the page. We love to see updated stories of pets adopted from the HSOV! There are nearly 8,700 fans who like our page and that number is growing each day. We hope that you will join us.



## "HOME IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS" ....

We've been busy this winter with several "home improvement projects" which will make our shelter more comfortable for the dogs and cats entrusted to our care. The first of these projects began in November 2013 and involved the refinishing

of all of the concrete floors in our shelter. Layers of chipped paint were removed in various stages through the shelter and a sealant was applied over the concrete surfaces to provide a much cleaner, healthier environment for the animals. As a result, flooring is much smoother and easier to sanitize. The second and third projects went hand-in-hand and involved replacement of all windows and doors in the shelter building. Most of the old ones were original to the construction of our shelter in the 1980s and were in poor physical condition and not energy efficient. The new ones are first-class and energy efficient. Our fourth project was the installation of a generator (completed in early February 2014). This will ensure that we can continue to provide the best of care to the animals in the event of a power outage (heating, cooling, and hot water for laundry, etc.) We're already planning a few outdoor home improvement projects come Spring.

## EVERY DOG AND CAT HAS HIS/HER STORY ....

It's always a challenge for me when I must decide which dogs and cats to write about in the HSOV newsletter, because each and every one of those beautiful creatures has their own unique story which I would love to tell for them. I'm privileged to know some of their background stories, but others who come in as "strays" (a word which makes me sad) also have their untold story. By taking their pictures, giving them a name, and posting them on our facebook/petfinder pages, we are making sure that they have unique identities and their lives are important to many of us. Would anyone be interested in some of their stories in future newsletters? -- Newsletter Editor

## Our Wish List!



- Tax-deductible cash donations
- Sam's Club & Wal-Mart gift cards
- Gasoline debit cards
- Dog/cat food (canned & dry)
- Puppy/kitten food (canned & dry)
- Stainless steel food/water bowls
- Kitty litter
- Litter pans & scoops (stainless steel only)
- Pooper scoopers
- Dog leashes
- Dog collars (all sizes)
- Dog harnesses
- Dog/cat treats
- Dog/cat toys
- Kong dog toys
- Dog/cat beds
- Small & medium pet carriers
- Large & X-large pet carriers
- Blankets & towels
- Small rugs or carpet squares
- Pet shampoo
- Flea/tick medication
- Laundry detergent
- Bleach
- Dishwashing liquid
- Window cleaner
- Paper towels
- Spray bottles
- Alcohol
- Vaseline
- First-aid supplies
- Latex gloves
- Hand sanitizer
- Plastic watering cans
- Heavy-duty leaf/lawn bags
- Grooming supplies
- Nail clippers
- Office supplies
- Inkjet and copier paper
- HP Ink Cartridges #61 (black & color)
- Aluminum cans (for recycling)

# 2014 Membership Form - Humane Society of the Ohio Valley

Complete this form and mail it with your check made payable to HSOV to:  
HSOV, 90 Mt. Tom Road, Marietta, Oh 45750

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Work Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

**MEMBERSHIP CATEGORIES**     NEW     RENEW

\_\_\_\_\_ \$10.00 Junior Membership (Under 17 yrs. non-voting) (based on calendar year)

\_\_\_\_\_ \$20.00 General Membership (voting) (based on calendar year)

\_\_\_\_\_ \$500.00 Life membership (voting)

All members receive the HSOV newsletter. The newsletter may also be viewed on our website and printed out if desired.

## SUPPORT CATEGORIES

\_\_\_\_\_ Enclosed is my contribution of \$ \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Enclosed is my contribution of \$300.00 to sponsor a CAGE or DOG RUN for one year.

Sponsor's name will be displayed on a plaque at the shelter.

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Only Society can prevent what the animals cannot...please spay/neuter your pets!

Thank You! HSOV respects your privacy and does not sell or share donor information.



*The HSOV always welcomes an "in-memory" donation for the passing of a friend, relative, pet or a special gift for celebrating a birthday, anniversary or other occasion.*

*This gift is given*     *in memory of*     *to celebrate the* \_\_\_\_\_ *of*

*Name:* \_\_\_\_\_

*From:* \_\_\_\_\_

*Address:* \_\_\_\_\_ *City:* \_\_\_\_\_ *State:* \_\_\_\_\_ *Zip:* \_\_\_\_\_

*Date:* \_\_\_\_\_     *Sympathy Card*     *Acknowledgement should be sent to:*

*Address:* \_\_\_\_\_ *City:* \_\_\_\_\_ *State:* \_\_\_\_\_ *Zip:* \_\_\_\_\_

*Please include this form & gift in a stamped envelope and mail to: HSOV, 90 Mt. Tom Road, Marietta, OH 45750*



# Humane Society

OF THE OHIO VALLEY

90 Mt. Tom Road  
Marietta OH 45750

PRSRTSTD  
US Postage  
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Marietta OH  
Permit #200

## IN CELEBRATION OF "ANGEL"

**"Angel"** was a lovely 10-year old kitty who came to the HSOV on January 10, 2014 because she lost her home after her mistress had passed away ☹️ She was a beautiful long-haired orange tabby, and we hoped that she would find another home where she could spend her golden years. Our wish came true on February 1st when a nice couple said they wanted to give an older cat a home, and they chose "Angel".



We celebrate Angel's new home and the 917 HSOV cats/kittens who were adopted/rescued from January-December 2013. And 2014 is off to a good start with 52 cats being adopted/rescued in January ☺️

## THANK YOU TO THESE AREA BUSINESSES & INDIVIDUALS FOR SPONSORING DOG KENNELS AND CAT TOWERS AT THE HSOV ☺️

Dave & Terri Adams  
Al-Cott Marine Services  
American Flags & Poles  
Bartlett Farmers Bank  
Briggs Engineering LLC  
Don & Debbie Brown  
J. D. Byrider/Rowland Motors  
"C & C" (Jim Cobb)  
Cheryl Cook  
Jim & Jo Corbett  
CPC, Ink (Cernus Printing & Promotional Consultants Ink)  
Todd & Teresa Cunningham  
Colegate Woods Veterinary Hospital (Dr. Roberta Haught & Dr. Janelle Nerone)  
Colonial Animal Hospital (Dr. Tammy Smith)  
Liz Dick & Nita Hinton  
Eastern Mountain Fuel Inc  
In Memory of Michael F. Farnsworth  
Fenton  
Grand Temple Pythian Sisters of Ohio #230  
Green Meadow Veterinary Hospital (Dr. David Spindler & Dr. Jessica Smith)  
Gutberlet Automotive  
Jack & Mary Haessly  
Georgaleen Hockenberry & Rhonda Mears  
Ron & Louise Holmes  
Invisible Fence of WV/Grenier Associates  
Steven & Shelly Kidd  
Kiwanis Club of Marietta  
Dr. Ken & Diana Leopold

Locker Room Sports Bar (Isaac Eastwood)  
Marietta Hospice  
Marietta Lodge No. 67 I.O.O.F.  
Marietta Middle School (7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> Grades)  
Marietta Middle School (Builders Club)  
Maxwell, Bucina & Friends  
Kim McMichael & Pets  
Jack & Barb Moberg  
Mondo Building & Excavating  
Mondo Polymer Technologies  
Moose Lodge #1823  
Les & Sharon Paul  
Peoples Bank  
Preston's Beauty Academy  
River City Pet Hospital (Dr. Gwen McHenry)  
John & Betty Rutter  
J. A. Schwendemann & Sons  
Ashlee Scott's Legacy of Love  
Solvay Advanced Polymers  
Lynne Sturtevant (Hidden Marietta)  
Robert & Jean Thomas  
3<sup>rd</sup> Street Poker For Pets  
In Memory of Tikki Grace  
Wal-Mart  
WeLovPets  
In Honor of Bill Wesel's 80<sup>th</sup> Birthday  
Dr. Matthew Yoak