

Humane Society ciety OF THE OHIO VALLEY

July News 2010

CONTACT INFORMATION

Phone: (740) 373-5959
Website: www.hsov.org
Email: manager@hsov.org

Shelter Location:

90 Mt. Tom Rd
Marietta OH 45750

Mailing Address:

P. O. Box 5
Marietta OH 45750

Hours of Operation:

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

SHELTER STATISTICS

January - June 2010

Incoming Dogs/Puppies:

Owner Surrender	341
Stray Surrender	166
County Dog Warden	146
Humane Officer	73

Outgoing Dogs/Puppies:

Adopted	242
Owner Reclaimed	104
Rescue Transfers	321
Euthanized.....	16
DOA/Died in Shelter	7

Incoming Cats/Kittens:

Owner Surrender	382
Stray Surrender	276
Humane Officer	73

Outgoing Cats/Kittens:

Adopted	149
Owner Reclaimed	14
Rescue Transfers	85
Euthanized.....	336
DOA/Died in Shelter	11

BUDDY'S INCREDIBLE HOMECOMING STORY

(KITTY MISSING FOR 1 YEAR, 4 MONTHS, 5 DAYS IS REUNITED WITH HIS OWNER)

On April 15th, 2010 a handsome brown tabby cat was brought to the HSOV by a Good Samaritan who found him in Reno, Ohio. Like many of the animals at the shelter, it was obvious that this kitty had once belonged to someone who loved him and surely missed him. We took photos of that gorgeous boy snuggled up on a red blanket and posted him on our website on April 17th and gave him the name "Reno" hoping that someone would recognize him. The shelter staff and volunteers took good care of "Reno" and especially noted his playful nipping behavior whenever they spent time with him. He was a big friendly guy who seemed to be waiting patiently for his owner to come for him.



In late May 2010, several cats were placed on an "urgent" status because there were so many new cats/kittens being brought to the shelter that we were running out of space. A heartbreaking decision was made to place "Reno" on that list since he had been here for over 6 weeks and had not been reclaimed or adopted.

Through an incredible twist of fate, "Reno" was reunited with his owner, Gary Wright, on June 14th, 2010. The Marietta Times had included a photo and description of "Reno" in a listing of shelter dogs and cats a few days earlier, and Gary's mother happened to see a picture that looked much like Gary's cat "Buddy" who was missing. She called him that week-end saying she didn't want to get his hopes up, but maybe he should go to the shelter to see if this was indeed his missing cat. Gary's wife, Frances, stopped at the HSOV the following day, picked up "Reno", and took him home. We would love to have been there to witness their emotional reunion. Frances started blowing the car horn as she drove in the driveway to announce the homecoming. Gary said he knew immediately that this was "Buddy" as he started the same playful nipping behavior which he had always enjoyed.

This reunion story gets even more incredible when we had the pleasure of talking with Gary Wright a few days after "Buddy" went home. Gary told us that "Buddy" came up missing on February 8th, 2009, and that he had been searching for him ever since that day and never gave up hope that he might be found. Gary's mother had even been searching for him in the Williamstown area since they thought there was a possibility he could have gotten under the hood of her car that day.

"Buddy" has quickly established himself as the owner of the house and follows Gary everywhere he goes, almost as if he has never been gone. We were surprised to learn that Buddy was actually 11 years old since we thought he was a much younger guy. Gary explained that "Buddy" had been to the vet just prior to his disappearance for vaccinations and a dental cleaning, so those pearly whites were obviously misleading. "Buddy" is scheduled for another checkup and will be neutered and micro-chipped by the time you read his amazing story.

We could hear the happiness in Gary's voice as he talked about his "best buddy", and even he admitted he was a little surprised that they were actually reunited since "Buddy" was missing for such a long time (1 year, 4 months, 5 days).

Another ironic twist in this story is that when Gary and Frances purchased a new box of kitty litter for "Buddy", there was an offer for cat id tags on the box and a statement which read "less than 5 percent of lost cats ever find their way home again". So "Buddy" is indeed a very fortunate kitty to have found his home and best friend after nearly 1-1/2 years. How we wish that "Buddy" could tell his own version of this incredible journey back home.

A MESSAGE FROM...

Executive Director/Manager – Steve Herron

Well folks, it's summertime and boy it is DOGgone hot. I am pleased to say that the dogs and cats here are staying cool thanks to donated air conditioners and fans from our giving volunteers. For all you pet lovers, please remember to give plenty of water and shade to those guys and gals when outside. Do not take them with you if you are planning on leaving them in the car. It like leaving them in an oven, and we would not ever do that to them.

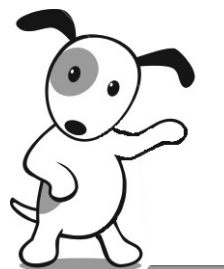
It has been trying times for us that work here. The amount of animals coming in just does not seem to ever stop. Yet through it all, we are finding homes for all the dogs that come in. Unfortunately the same cannot be said for the cats. The numbers of cats coming in daily are staggering, and we just can't find that many homes for them. If you have any family members, friends or co-workers that do not have their little loved ones spayed or neutered, please encourage them to do so. Let's all work on getting these numbers down.

I have been pretty busy working on and helping fundraising this year. We were able to obtain this year's Broughton's Ice Cream Social. We are hoping for a giant turnout. We are also working on the 2nd installment of the Throw Down For The Pound wrestling event, our yearly golf scramble, the Poker Run and The Brewery Music Festival. We have done very well in fundraising this year and are hoping for a strong finish. Please come out and support us whenever you can.

I have also been doing transport for adoptions. We have had quite a few out-of-town adopters who otherwise could not make it here, so I went to them. I have gone to the Football Hall of Fame, Jacobs Field, Heinz Stadium, Dayton and other places to make sure our furry friends find those forever homes. We do whatever is necessary to get these animals where they need to go.

Last, but not least, my thanks. I would like to give thanks to all who do so many different things for us here. To those who walk and bath the dogs. To those who help with the cleaning and up-keep. To those who donate their time and resources. I would like to give special thanks to Sharon Paul who takes the photographs of our wonderful animals and posts them on our website so quickly. I would like to thank Louise Holmes and her Ice Cream Social Crew for tackling this project head on. I would not have been able to handle that on top of everything else I do. And also to our donors. Without your support it's hard to keep these doors open. Not that I want to beg, but please keep giving to this cause that we all believe so much in. If I missed any thanks, it's not because I do not appreciate it, so thank you.

*Bless you all. Keep us in your prayers.
Steve and the furry friends of the shelter*



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
- 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 Copy Paper

The HSOV gladly accepts donations of aluminum cans which we recycle for cash.

We are always in need of newspapers (without inserts) for use in our small animal cages. If you could pre-fold these length-wise in stacks of an inch thick or so, this saves our staff and volunteers countless hours and is yet another donation which we appreciate.

SHELTER STAFF

Executive Director/Manager – Steve Herron
AsstMgr/Adoption Clerk – Sharon Morris
Humane Officer – Dennis (Butch) Morris
Humane Officer – Levi Seevers

Kennel Technicians

Barry Boice
Kory Gilbert
Bill Hagy
Rachel Leopold, Supervisor
Jacob Ridgway

HSOV BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Jane Snell – President
Carol McKittrick – Vice President
Elisha Constable - Secretary
Michelle Gaughan – Treasurer

Cheryl Hall
Tiffany Insley
Celeste Ridgway
Brenda Smith
Kelly Travaglio

HSOV COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS

Building & Grounds – Ron & Juanita Becker
Canine Rescue – Celeste Ridgway
Feline Rescue – Jo Ellen Gray
Finance – Michelle Gaughan, Steve Herron
Fundraising – Tiffany Insley, Jennifer Deem
Membership – Marlene Delaney
Newsletter – Sharon Paul
Nominations – Jim Baldinger
Operations – Carol McKittrick, Chairman
Operations – Jennifer Deem, Jane Snell,
Celeste Ridgway
Volunteer Coordinator – Debbie Lawson
Website Photographer – Sharon Paul



Humane Society of the Ohio Valley
10th Annual



Saturday, July 31st, 2010



Start - VFW Post 5108 (Pike St. Marietta, OH)

End - The Beachcomber (Williamstown, WV)

First Bike Out - 11:00 am

Last Bike Out - 1:00 pm

Last Bike In - 5:00 pm

\$10 per person (Includes Hog Roast)

Hog Roast at last stop (The Beachcomber)

\$10 for Non-participants of the Poker Run

Music - Door Prizes - 50/50

In case of rain, Hog Roast will still be held at 5:00 pm

If you can't make the run come to the hog roast

All vehicles welcome



Raffle Prizes Include

Hand Crafted Liquor Wagon

includes 20 bottles of liquor and 4 cases of beer

Ladies Gold Watch

T/C 50 Caliber Muzzleloader/Inline

\$100 Gas Card

For Info Call:
Rhonda - 740-373-7610
Juanita - 740-373-9503

All Proceeds Benefit the Humane Society of the Ohio Valley Medical & Building Fund

What? Where? When?

Sunday, July 18th (2:00-6:00pm)

Broughton's 100th Anniversary Ice Cream Social
Washington County Fairgrounds
Proceeds Benefit the HSOV
(Details Included in this Newsletter)

Saturday, July 31st (11:00am)

10th Annual Poker Run & Hog Roast
Proceeds Benefit the HSOV
(Details Included in this Newsletter)

Tuesday, August 3rd (7:00pm)

HSOV Board Meeting
Commissioners Office, 223 Putnam St, Marietta

Tuesday, September 3rd (7:00pm)

HSOV Board Meeting
Commissioners Office, 223 Putnam St, Marietta

Saturday, September 18th (9:00am)

1st Annual Ashlee Scott Memorial Paws Walk
Muskingum Park, Front Street, Marietta
Proceeds Benefit the HSOV

Thursday, September 23rd – Sunday, September 26th

5th Annual Marietta Brewing Company Music Festival
167 Front St, Marietta
Music (live bands), great food & drinks
Donations/Publicity Will Benefit the HSOV

Saturday, October 2nd (7:00pm)

Throw Down for the Pound (Round 2)
Marietta Middle School
Proceeds Benefit the HSOV

ICE CREAM FOR AMERICA FUND-RAISER

SUNDAY, JULY 18, 2010

2 P.M. TO 6 P.M.

Washington County Fairgrounds
Marietta, Ohio



Sponsored By:

Broughton Foods Company, LLC
For the Benefit of the:

**Humane Society
OF THE OHIO VALLEY**

ALL THE ICE CREAM YOU CAN EAT!
LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

SPECIAL 100TH ANNIVERSARY ACTIVITIES

Including: Cupcake Contest, Magician, Inflatable
Obstacle Course, Dog Show & MORE!

For More Information: www.BroughtonFoods.com

\$3.50 in Advance - \$4.00 at the Door

Tickets can be Purchased at the Following Locations:

Broughton Foods Company, Humane Society of the Ohio Valley, Peoples News,
Apex-True Value, We Luv Pets, River City Pet Hospital, Colegate Woods Vet
Hospital, Ohio Valley Vet Hospital, Warrens IGA, Williamstown Auction Center,
Hasty Shopper, White Oak Pharmacy, Hickory Grove Country Market,
Belpre Kroger, Belpre Animal Clinic, Belpre Savings Bank, Newport IGA,
Waterford Commercial Bank, Beverly Citizens Bank, B&W Pharmacy

"THANK YOU, THANK YOU VERY MUCH"

We appreciate each and every one of our supporters and patrons and would like to recognize several individuals and businesses that have recently helped our shelter.

Thanks to Lisa Merrow, her committee members, and everyone who helped make the **7th Annual Fur Ball & Silent Auction** so successful. This event was held on February 27th and is always one of our most popular fundraisers. This year's event raised \$10,500 for the operation of the shelter, the medical fund for shelter animals, and the new building fund. The Marietta Times published a letter-to-the editor which was written by **Lisa Merrow** in which she thanked the volunteers who made this event possible. That letter may be viewed on the www.mariettatimes.com website.

Thanks to everyone who helped with the fantastic fundraiser, **Throw Down For the Pound**, which was held April 24, 2010 at the Marietta Middle School and raised over \$5300 for the HSOV. This event was suggested by **Adam Johnson** of We Luv Pets and was so successful that we are already planning "Round Two" for October 2nd, 2010. The Marietta Times published a letter-to-the-editor which was written by our Executive Director, Steve Herron, in which he thanked each individual and business who helped with this event. That letter may be viewed on the www.mariettatimes.com website in its entirety.

Marietta Boot Camp (Jennifer Deem & Tiffany Insley) for sponsoring their "Fit For a Cause" Fundraiser which was held June 19, 2010. This was a fun-filled morning complete with a dog wash, bake sale, and fitness classes to benefit the HSOV. The event raised \$400 for the shelter.

Broughton Foods Company for selecting the HSOV as the beneficiary of its 100th Anniversary Ice Cream Social which will be held on July 18th, 2010

Louise Holmes & Carol McKittrick (HSOV Co-Chairpersons for the Broughton's Ice Cream Social) for their leadership, wisdom, and organizational skills which were essential for coordinating this major event. Their committee has met every Tuesday evening for the past two months and includes: Jim Baldinger, Juanita Becker, Beth Clark, Elisha Constable, Rhonda Deem, Marlene Delaney, Michelle Gaughan, Debbie Lawson, Erin O'Connell, Sharon Paul, Jessica Poling, and Jane Snell.

Kelly's Shedding Shack for the generous donation of grooming clippers which have already been put to good use giving some of our long-haired dogs their summer haircuts.

Cheryl Hall (and her young volunteers) for the new murals and updated look in our shelter lobby and also the new landscaping in front of the building. A special thanks to Kala Hall and Sarah Harmon (Marietta College/Alpha Xi Delta sorority) who did the mural work and also helped with landscaping. And to Justin Hall, Kiel Dalrymple, and Steven Palmer who did the priming/white paint backgrounds for the murals and helped with the black trim on lobby doors. Cheryl is on our Board of Directors. We've included several photos of the new murals, landscaping and these volunteers in our 'pictorial tour' of the shelter in this newsletter.

Jane Snell and Kelly Travaglio (both on our Board of Directors) and **Washington County Sheriff Deputy Sgt. Jason Norman** who painted the Executive Director/Shelter Manager's office while "Cheryl & Company" were working in the lobby.

We Luv Pets - For providing temporary foster homes in their store for many of our shelter animals and helping them find permanent homes. And also for their support with all of our fundraisers and shelter activities.

And last, but certainly not least, the wonderful volunteers and supporters who donate goods, services, and cash contributions on an ongoing basis. We couldn't manage without you!

If we have inadvertently missed thanking anyone, please contact the shelter (or sharonpaul2@suddenlink.net) so that we may publish your name in the next newsletter.

A "DAMSEL IN DISTRESS" FINDS HER WAY HOME AGAIN

On May 17th, our Humane Officer, Butch Morris, received a call about a "damsel in distress" who was in need of rescue in downtown Marietta during a heavy thunderstorm. When he arrived on the scene, he discovered a small black-and-white Cocker Spaniel who was soaking wet, cold, and very frightened. Butch quickly noticed that she appeared to be a senior citizen and was probably blind in both eyes. He wrapped her in a warm blanket and transported her back to the shelter. We took photos immediately and posted her pictures on the website under the name "Marietta". Her coat was dripping wet, and she looked very forlorn and lonely (as you can see by her shelter photo).



"Marietta" received very special care from our shelter staff, but she wasn't very happy being in a strange place. We kept our hopes up that someone would come to reclaim her. Some special needs- and senior rescues stepped forward and offered to take her if she remained unclaimed. But we knew in our hearts that this girl really belonged back in her previous home where she was familiar with her own family.



Alicia and Annie

On May 21st, our Adoptions Clerk, Sharon Morris, received the call that she had been hoping for when she picked up the telephone and someone asked "would you happen to have found an old Cocker Spaniel who is blind?" Within minutes, a young lady walked into the shelter and said she was there to pick up "Annie". There were several teary-eyed people who happened to witness the happy reunion when that little dog was placed in the arms of Alicia Fryman and saw how "Annie" literally came to life when she realized who was holding her. "Annie" gave Alicia lots of doggy kisses and her little tail wagged a mile-a-minute.

Perhaps "Annie" is the only one who knows how she happened to wander away from her fenced-in yard and traveled so far from her home. Alicia told us that "Annie" was originally her dog but when she left home after graduation, her grandmother was so attached to "Annie" that she ended up letting her grandmother keep her. But, of course, Alicia has always had visitation rights and saw her frequently.

We love these happy endings ☺

HAVE YOU JOINED THE HSOV FACEBOOK GROUP YET?

Nearly 450 Facebook members are fans of the Humane Society of the Ohio Valley's Facebook group. If you haven't already joined, we encourage you to check out this new resource which complements our website (www.hsov.org).



Our Facebook page is updated on a daily basis and includes announcements of upcoming events, up-to-the-minute communications when we need extra assistance at the shelter, and volunteer opportunities. This is a great place to post photos of your adopted shelter pet and much, much more. We recently added a photo album of current shelter animals on the Facebook page. The more detailed individual Petfinder listings with extra photos and additional information are posted on the www.hsov.org website.

You must first register for an account at www.facebook.com (it's free and easy to do!) After that, just search for "Humane Society of the Ohio Valley", click the "Join" button, and you've just become an official fan of the HSOV group ☺

“VOLUNTEER” IS A PAY CATEGORY WOULD YOU APPLY FOR A JOB CALLED “EMPLOYEE?”

Hi! I'm Debbie Lawson, the new Volunteer Coordinator! I grew up here in Marietta, spent five years in the US Army, worked corporate secretarial in San Francisco & Los Angeles, was the personal assistant to an actress, was a docent at the Campus Martius Museum, and spent several years with Americorps here in our area. I was trained to teach others good volunteer management practices, mentoring, and many other nonprofit and community organizing skills. I attended Marietta College on a theater scholarship, and I love to write. Most recently, I owned and operated Go! Toys & Games at Grand Central Mall, volunteered with the Humane Society of Parkersburg, and sang in a rock band. I have three children (my small dogs Munch, Maddox, & Colby) and a cat, Leo. And a husband.

But enough about me ...

Why Treat Volunteers Like Employees?

Nobody expects to jump into a job fully informed and trained. There is always a set of guidelines and specifics for that job that need to be learned. This can include employee manuals, job descriptions, locating the copy room, knowing who is who, supplies, are there laws we need to follow, etc. Good volunteer management practices ensure volunteers know these things, too.

Many organizations treat their volunteers like employees – recruitment, interviewing, “hiring,” training (with job descriptions!), supervising (with timecards), evaluating, recognizing (with awards), and room for advancement (from dog walker to dog trainer, or from reception to adoption counseling).

One place I volunteered, I never learned the names and positions of staff members, and often didn't know who was someone from the general public, and who was a volunteer. Half the time, I didn't know what authority I had if someone did something that I thought looked “wrong”.

Why Tracking Volunteer Hours Is Important: Volunteers = \$\$\$!

When writing grants, we need to know how many volunteers worked how many hours, how many services were provided for free, materials donated, and the dollar value of it all. This shows community “buy-in” --- how much the locals are supporting the organization through their time and in-kind (non-monetary) donations. Many grants want to see matching funds as well as a certain amount of in-kind donations. This is achieved by effective tracking of volunteer hours, and if those volunteers spent money to do their “jobs”, what is the value of supplies, mileage, etc? For instance, when Sharon Paul takes pictures for the Petfinder page, her services, if we paid for them, would have a certain dollar amount. Her beautifully written descriptions of the animals could have been done by professional marketing personnel. So, we attach a dollar value to her services. When someone does transport, there is gasoline, wear & tear on their vehicle. They probably had to buy a meal on that trip. Again, if we had to pay that service, what would that value or dollar amount be?

In 2003, general volunteer time was valued at \$17.19 per hour (for us small town folks, keep in mind an experienced secretary makes \$16.60/hour in a larger city). Just counting the volunteer hours in the shelter logbook for the first 6 months of 2010, we had 256 volunteer hours, which is probably nowhere near complete. Multiplied by \$17/hour, that is \$4,352. We all know there are many more volunteers who just didn't sign in, or they do so much on- and off-site, tracking their hours by the sign-in books becomes burdensome.

Why Volunteer?

Many individuals want something to do with their time, somewhere to go and use their skills, give their love, use their creativity, to feel needed, appreciated, and useful. We can provide that experience with the right volunteer program.

Service-Learning is learning real-world skills and/or applying school curriculum to volunteer activities. Many schools participate in service-learning programs. This would be a great way to get a squad of kids to teach their peers about pet adoption, care, spay/neuter programs, etc. It also turns them into good citizens.

Volunteerism can turn into job skills! I actually taught a seminar at a national conference on Using Community Service to Build a Resume.

Types of Volunteers

Some volunteers just want to stop by whenever they are in the area ("drop in"), some want a steady "job" to do on a regular basis, whether that is daily for a few hours, weekly for a few hours, or monthly, or just for special events. My job is to find the right volunteers for the right jobs.

How about being Receptionist for the shelter? Directing visitors, giving them a brief orientation, ensuring they receive safety instructions, and brochures where warranted. Ensure they are directed to the appropriate staff. This is an example of a "job" that needs someone there on time every day for the hours the shelter is open. So, this job would need to be filled by individuals who would want to make that commitment.

Dog walkers are a good example of "drop in" jobs. Basically, dog walking needs to be done every day throughout the day. The more they are walked and socialized, the more adoptable they are. Dog walkers immediately increase the quality of life for the animals in our care. Of course, we would want to have a few scheduled throughout the day, and then anyone who just "shows up" will be a bonus and increase the time the dogs get outside their kennels.

For those volunteers who prefer cats to dogs, there are many beautiful cats in our shelter who would love to have some special attention, playtime, or to have their coats brushed. So if you would like to volunteer to spend some time with our feline residents, we have a "job" for you!

How about a squad of dog trainers to teach basics to the animals who may be here a few weeks? Or to train adopters to do basic training? A job such as this would require additional time and investment training the volunteer and would require a longer-term commitment from the volunteer. Most shelters require a 50-hour, 6-month agreement.

Why People Do NOT Volunteer

Most people do not volunteer merely because they were never asked. Most volunteers who quit do so because they didn't feel they were making a difference, were not recognized for their work, or felt it was a waste of their time.

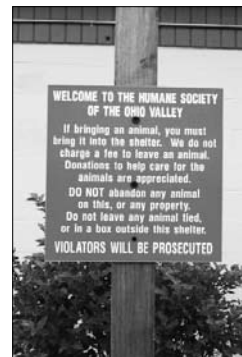
Training volunteers is essential to an effective program. Wouldn't you feel better getting a comprehensive orientation, getting some book/video education on subjects ranging from basic sanitation and dog & cat handling to dog behavior evaluation, then hands on and even shadowing a more experienced volunteer before doing it on your own? Comprehensive training and tracking can actually protect the shelter and the animals by screening potential volunteers.

I am hoping to transform our volunteer program into one that is rewarding for the volunteers, the shelter staff, and of course, the animals in our care. Together, we can make a difference. Who's with me?

Submitted by Debbie Lawson, Volunteer Coordinator
HSOVvolunteers@yahoo.com



If you haven't had a chance to visit the HUMANE SOCIETY OF THE OHIO VALLEY recently, we think you will be pleasantly surprised to see the whimsical murals in our shelter lobby and the new landscaping in front of our shelter itself. We are including several photos on these pages with a reminder that you always have an open invitation to "come see us". There are many wonderful dogs, puppies, cats, and kittens who are anxious to meet you in person.





Cheryl Hall
(Artist, Volunteer, & Board Member)



Justin Hall, Steven Palmer, Kiel Dalrymple



Sarah Harmon



Kala Hall, Cheryl Hall



DOGS & CATS PLACED ON “URGENT” STATUS



You may have noticed some of the dogs and cats on our website in recent months with a large URGENT next to their names. It breaks our hearts to see this designation on animals. This means that they have been placed on a euthanization list. These are healthy, happy, adoptable pets which may be euthanized simply because the shelter is running out of space to house new animals being surrendered. By placing the URGENT status next

to their names, we hope to give potential adopters and rescue groups an opportunity to save these dogs and cats in the event they must give up their kennels/cages and ultimately their lives.

TEMPORARY FOSTER HOMES NEEDED

If you are unable to give one of these URGENT dogs or cats a permanent home, another way to help them is by giving them a temporary home through our FOSTER PROGRAM until they are adopted or sent to a rescue group. Please consider becoming a ‘foster parent’ if you would like to help in this way.

Many times we need a home for just a few days or weeks while a dog or cat awaits transportation to a rescue organization. Sometimes we have a dog or cat which simply needs to be in a home environment rather than sitting alone at the shelter. Occasionally we have animals which need extra TLC or medication. Or perhaps a pregnant- or nursing mother who needs a temporary place to stay.

Fostering is a rewarding experience knowing that you have made a difference in the life of that one dog or cat that you’ve helped. If you would like to become a foster “parent”, we encourage you to complete our FOSTER PROGRAM APPLICATION FORM. This is a great way to help a shelter animal and doesn’t require a long-term commitment on your part. If you would like to talk with some of our foster parents about their experiences, we have several individuals who are enthusiastic about fostering and love to talk about the dogs and cats they have helped.

LOST, STRAYED, OR STOLEN

As I read the Jan-June 2010 shelter statistics for incoming dogs and cats, I couldn’t help but notice that nearly one-half of the animals who enter the HSOV are listed as “strays” and are picked up either by the Washington County Dog Warden or Good Samaritans who find animals running loose and bring them to the shelter. Yet when you spend just a few minutes with these dogs and cats, it becomes apparent that many of these beautiful animals have belonged to someone who loved them.

Please remind your friends, relatives, and neighbors to contact the shelter (telephone, visit the shelter, or view the pets on our website) if they have a missing pet. We have begun taking pictures of dogs and cats as soon as they enter the shelter and posting them on the HSOV website in hopes that their owner might see them and come to reclaim them. Many pet owners contact the shelter if their dog is missing, yet many don’t realize to contact them about their missing cat.

A current ID tag, a dog tag, or a microchip ensures that the shelter will contact you in the event your dog/cat is brought to the shelter. The shelter staff tries their best to reunite pets with their owners, but they need some help from us pet owners to make this happen.



(Submitted by Lucy’s Mom)

*“GUISEPPE” (formerly known as “Clousseau”) IS A KITTY WITH INTERNATIONAL CHARISMA

“Clousseau” was a handsome 2-year old male cat who was brought to the HSOV on April 17, 2010 by a Good Samaritan who found him and hoped that we might be able to locate his owner. He was a large brown tabby boy with a very distinguished face. We happened to have another cat named “The Pink Panther” in the shelter, so it was apparent that we needed an “Inspector Clousseau” on our website.



“Clousseau” sat alone in his small cage and waited for someone to fall in love with him. He yearned to stretch his legs and have the freedom to roam around his very own house with someone special to love him. (Keep in mind that this is his story as told to the reporter who interviewed him ☺)

Six weeks later, “Clousseau” was placed on an URGENT list since no one had come to reclaim him or adopt him. Within a few days, someone special called to say that they had fallen in love with Clousseau’s pictures on our website and would like to rescue him.

On May 29th, “Clousseau” was put on transport to meet his new mistress, Barbara Tilton. By that afternoon, he had been renamed “Guiseppe” and was already settling into his lovely new home. He had quickly chosen his favorite lounging spot on Barbara’s staircase and was photographed enjoying the last rays of sunshine that evening.

Barbara wrote on May 29th that “Guiseppe is such a loving kitty and absolutely nothing phases him! It’s rare to meet a cat that is sooo mellow and not even my persnickety cats phase him in the least. He just gives them a ‘whatever’ look. Guiseppe purrs the

second he sees me then rolls over so I can rub his belly. Such a little love bug!”

“Guiseppe” has since been neutered, completely vetted, and has tested negative for FIV/FelV. Barbara reports that her other cats have accepted “Guiseppe”, though they were a bit leary of the newcomer for the first couple of weeks. The matriarch

of the crew, “Grace” apparently gave the word to everyone else that she accepted him and the others followed suit.

Nowadays “Guiseppe” has discovered many favorite spots, and we are including an updated photo of him relaxing behind the drapes of a sliding glass window. Barbara’s cats love this special place since it is a prime spot for bird watching, and Guiseppe is no exception.

Barbara believes that “everything happens for a reason” and it appears that this furry little guy was meant to be with her.



Thank you, Barbara, for looking at the HSOV website and falling in love with this special kitty. We love this happy ending story of a cat who was French at the shelter and became Italian when he arrived at his new home. “Guiseppe” (formerly “Clousseau”) is truly a ‘man of the world’ with international charisma!



“How Could You?”

Copyright Jim Willis 2001

tiergartenjim@yahoo.com

<http://www.crean.com/jmwillis>

When I was a puppy, I entertained you with my antics and made you laugh. You called me your child and despite a number of chewed shoes and a couple of murdered throw pillows, I became your best friend. Whenever I was “bad”, you’d shake your finger at me and ask *“How could you?”* – but then you’d relent and roll me over for a bellyrub.

My housetraining took a little longer than expected, because you were terribly busy, but we worked on that together. I remember those nights of nuzzling you in bed, listening to your confidences and secret dreams, and I believed that life could not be any more perfect. We went for long walks and runs in the park, car rides, stops for ice cream (I only got the cone because “ice cream is bad for dogs”, you said), and I took long naps in the sun waiting for you to come home at the end of the day.

Gradually, you began spending more time at work and on your career, and more time searching for a human mate. I waited for you patiently, comforted you through heartbreaks and disappointments, never chided you about bad decisions, and romped with glee at your homecomings, and when you fell in love.

She, now your wife, is not a “dog person” – still I welcomed her into our home, tried to show her affection, obeyed her. I was happy because you were happy. Then the human babies came along, and I shared your excitement. I was fascinated by their pinkness, how they smelled, and I wanted to mother them, too. Only she and you worried that I might hurt them, and I spent most of my time banished to another room, or to a dog crate. Oh, how I wanted to love them, but I became a “prisoner of love”.

As they began to grow, I became their friend. They clung to my fur and pulled themselves up on wobbly legs, poked fingers in my eyes, investigated my ears and gave me kisses on my nose. I loved everything about them and their touch – because your touch was now so infrequent – and I would have defended them with my life if need be.

I would sneak into their beds and listen to their worries and secret dreams. Together we waited for the sound of your car in the driveway. There had been a time, when others asked you if you had a dog, that you produced a photo of me from your wallet and told them stories about me. These past few years, you just answered “yes” and changed the subject. I had gone from being “your dog” to “just a dog”, and you resented every expenditure on my behalf.

Now you have a new career opportunity in another city, and you and they will be moving into an apartment that doesn’t allow pets. You’ve made the right decision for your “family”, but there was a time when I was your *only* family.

I was excited about the car ride until we arrived at the animal shelter. It smelled of dogs and cats, of fear, of hopelessness. You filled out the paperwork and said “I know you will find a good home for her.”

They shrugged and gave you a pained look. They understand the realities facing a middle-aged dog or cat, even one with “papers”. You had to pry your son’s fingers loose from my collar as he screamed “No, Daddy! Please don’t let them take my dog!” And I worried for him, and what lessons you had just taught him about friendship and loyalty, about love and responsibility, and about respect for all life. You gave me a goodbye pat on the head, avoided my eyes, and politely refused to take my collar and leash with you. You had a deadline to meet and now I have one, too.

After you left, the two nice ladies said you probably knew about your upcoming move months ago and made no attempt to find me another good home. They shook their heads and asked “*How could you?*”

There are as attentive to us here in the shelter as their busy schedules allow. They feed us, of course, but I lost my appetite days ago. At first, whenever anyone passed my pen, I rushed to the front, hoping it was you – that you had changed your mind – that this was all a bad dream .. or I hoped it would at least be someone who cared, anyone who might save me. When I realized I could not compete with the frolicking for attention of happy puppies, oblivious to their own fate, I retreated to a far corner and waited.

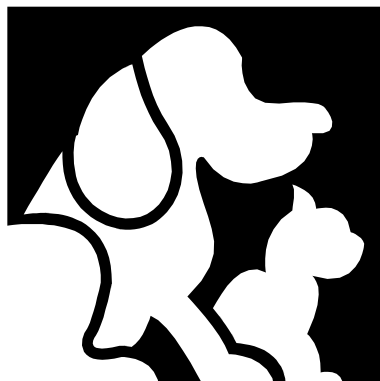
I heard her footsteps as she came for me at the end of the day, and I padded along the aisle after her to a separate room. A blissfully quiet room. She placed me on a table, rubbed my ears, and told me not to worry. My heart pounded in anticipation of what was to come, but there was also a sense of relief. The prisoner of love had run out of days. As is my nature, I was more concerned about her. The burden which she bears heavily on her, and I know that, the same way I knew your every mood.

She gently placed a tourniquet around my foreleg as a tear ran down her cheek. I licked her hand in the same way I used to comfort you so many years ago. She expertly slid the hypodermic needle into my vein. As I felt the sting and the cool liquid coursing through my body, I lay down sleepily, looked into her kind eyes and murmured “*How could you?*”

Perhaps because she understood my dogspeak, she said “I’m so sorry”. She hugged me and hurriedly explained it was her job to make sure I went to a better place, where I wouldn’t be ignored or abused or abandoned, or have to fend for myself – a place of love and light so very different from this earthly place. With my last bit of energy, I tried to convey to her with a thump of my tail that my “*How could you?*” was not meant for her. It was you, My Beloved Master, I was thinking of. I will think of you and wait for you forever.

May everyone in your life continue to show you so much loyalty.

The End



"PEDRO'S STORY" (ABANDONED AND LEFT TO DIE)

Our Humane Officer, Butch Morris, received a late-night call on June 12th about a small dog that was abandoned on a baseball field. When Butch and his wife, Sharon, arrived on the scene, they found a tiny black/tan Chihuahua who appeared to be very old and in bad condition. He was a friendly old

guy and seemed to appreciate their kindness as they wrapped him in a warm blanket and took him back to the shelter. An assessment was made the next morning, and it was fairly obvious that someone had merely abandoned this old dog and left him to die. He seemed to be missing

most of his lower teeth, which made it impossible for him to keep his tongue in his mouth. And he was literally eaten up by fleas. He was given plenty of soft food and several baths to make him more comfortable. This dog was so sweet in spite of all that he had been through. He loved to be held and still had a lot of bounce in his step when we had him outside on a leash.

We took his photos a few days later, named him "Pedro", and posted him on our website. We hoped that a compassionate person or a rescue might offer to take "Pedro" and let him live out his remaining time in a peaceful surrounding. Sure enough, a wonderful rescue organization based in Chicago noticed little "Pedro" and wanted to give him a home. Within two days of his appearance on the HSOV website, "Pedro" arrived in Chicago. We've received some heartwarming updates about this little guy since he became a Chicago boy, and we are including some excerpts of those

updates from the guardian angel who rescued "Pedro":

"PEDRO .. Oh my goodness ..First, he doesn't have one tooth in his mouth but the worst part is that he is also missing his lower jaw and part of the upper left. At some point he had a terrible infection (probably from bad teeth) and this settled in his jaw bone. The good news is that the hair loss and thickened skin are from flea allergies, so I bathed him with a medicated shampoo and gave him oral flea preventative so bye bye fleas! He also ate 2.75 large cans of



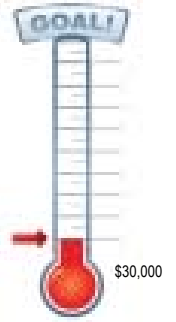
food throughout the day, and he cries when he has to go outside to potty. We are going to run bloodwork and see if we can neuter him at a later time. His new mom is picking him up in the afternoon. I'm really glad he came to me. No pet should ever end his life not knowing what the good life feels like. I really love this little bundle of joy. BTW, he is about 15 years old"



And a few days later.. "Pedro" ate 3 cans of food today, and he has a new pep in his step. He is bathed and feeling good. Fleas are gone and his coat and skin look much better. He is eating good and trotted outside today and was a sassy little boy. I just love this little man! Only good things from now on for him!!"

A big THANK YOU to everyone who made this happy ending possible for "Pedro" (Butch & Sharon Morris, our wonderful shelter technicians, Celeste Ridgway, and Jo Ellen Gray). And especially to this Rescue for giving "Pedro" a second chance at a good life!

HSOV RECEIVES \$30,000 FROM ANONYMOUS DONOR



A generous gift of \$30,000 has been donated to the HSOV through the Marietta Community Foundation and was presented to us during the 7th Annual Fur Ball. The money was given by an anonymous donor with the stipulation that it can be used solely for the construction of a new 'green' energy-efficient building.

This \$30,000 gift will be the basis of a capital fund toward the construction of a new local shelter which meets those specifications.

Donations for this new building fund will be greatly appreciated. Please include the words "Building Fund" on the memorandum portion of your check so that the funds go into the capital fund account. We have already begun to designate a percentage of our fundraisers to be added to this fund in hopes that we may have a state-of-the art shelter in the near future.

Our Board President, Jane Snell, adds a reminder that "People can donate to the fund, but they shouldn't lose sight of the fact that we also need donations to keep the doors of the shelter open. It costs around \$20,000 a month to operate the animal shelter, including feeding and caring for the animals and paying employees salaries".

We wish that we knew the name of this individual to thank for this thoughtful gift, so we hope that he/she is reading this newsletter and knows how thrilled we are to envision a new shelter thanks to their generosity.

2010 Membership Form - Humane Society of the Ohio Valley

Complete this form and mail it with your check made payable to HSOV to:
HSOV, P.O. Box 5, Marietta, Oh 45750

Name: _____

Mailing Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

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Phone: _____ Work Phone: _____

MEMBERSHIP CATEGORIES

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NEW

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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: _____

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Please include this form & gift in a stamped envelope and mail to: HSOV, P.O. Box 5, Marietta, OH 45750



Humane Society

OF THE OHIO VALLEY

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IN MEMORY OF "WHISKERS"
(And the other 335 shelter cats who were
euthanized from Jan-June 2010)



They say that a picture
is worth a thousand
words. Please look at
Whiskers' sweet in-
nocent face, knowing
that he and many other
adorable cats lost their
lives because so many
animals have not been

spayed or neutered and continue to have litter
after litter of unwanted kittens.

"PLEASE SPAY/NEUTER YOUR PETS"

THANK YOU TO THESE AREA BUSINESSES & INDIVIDUALS FOR SPONSORING DOGS KENNELS AT OUR SHELTER

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Holiday Inn
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Kiwanis Club of Marietta
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Marietta Middle School (7th and 8th Grades)
Marietta Middle School (Builders Club)
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Mondo Building & Excavations
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Murray's Glass Company
Les & Sharon Paul
Peoples Bank
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