

Humane Society



November News 2009

OF THE OHIO VALLEY

CONTACT INFORMATION

Phone: (740) 373-5959
 Fax: (740) 373-9060
 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

July-October 2009

Incoming Dogs/Puppies:

Owner Surrender230
 Stray Surrender101
 County Dog Warden147
 Humane Officer91

Outgoing Dogs/Puppies:

Adopted154
 Owner Reclaimed82
 Rescue Transfers254
 Euthanized36

Incoming Cats/Kittens:

Owner Surrender397
 Stray Surrender494
 Humane Officer92

Outgoing Cats/Kittens:

Adopted86
 Owner Reclaimed11
 Rescue Transfers3
 Euthanized872

Introducing Jessica Ward

We'd like to introduce one of our youngest volunteers who truly made a difference in the lives of many shelter animals this past summer. Jessica Ward is an extraordinary young lady who quickly became an inspiration for both the shelter staff and older volunteers. Jessica is a fine example of the old saying "when life hands you lemons, make lemonade". When the school term ended last Spring, she was unable to find a summer job and decided to volunteer her time and talents at the HSOV. She faithfully came to "work" each morning and stayed until the shelter closed. Jessica was always willing to do whatever was needed to help the most and happily cleaned kennels and cages, washed dishes, and (best of all) walked dogs and played with the kitties. Toward the end of the summer, she began to hold dogs for their website photos and quickly became a great handler. All dogs, big and small, seemed to respond to her commands.

Jessica returned to Frontier High School in August and is in her Junior year. But she still manages to volunteer on weekends when there are HSOV events that she can attend. Most recently she volunteered at the Paws Walk and the Washington County Fair Parade. We love the pictures of Jessica prior to the Fair parade since they seem to capture her "I'm willing to do anything to help" spirit. Notice that she is wearing a shirt with the message "spay/neuter/rescue/love", carrying a donation bucket, and walking a large dog for the duration of the parade. Talk about multi-tasking!

Please welcome Jessica when you see her at the next HSOV event (probably our Open House on December 12th). We sure hope that she will decide to spend next summer at the shelter.



(Submitted by Sharon Paul)

A LETTER FROM STEVE HERRON, HSOV EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR/MANAGER

Where do I begin? The job that I do is sometimes more than I bargained for. There are times when donations are down and soliciting businesses doesn't work. There are times when I think we'd all like to throw in the towel.



YEA! Sheila found a home!

Then we get a dog like Grammy. She was so emaciated when our Humane Officer brought her in that we thought she was a Great Dane due to her skeletal structure. Come to find out from her veterinarian visit, Grammy was in fact a Mastiff. She weighed less than HALF of what she should have. It was a wonderful day when her new family drove all the way down from upstate New York to pick her up. They found her on our website and fell in love. They even had plans to stop on their way home and buy her a cot of her very own so she would have a large enough bed to sleep in upon their arrival back home. Stories such as these are what keep us going.

Even I ended up with a new family member. Oscar is a two-year old Dachshund that my wife and I took down to the Marietta Brewery for a fundraiser. We both fell in love with that little guy, and now he sleeps in our bed at night.

As a non-profit organization, sometimes things get rough. Funding and donations are often touch-and-go. But alas, that comes with the territory.

I would just like to take this opportunity to again thank all of our volunteers for all that you do. Although I would love to be able to thank each of you individually, unfortunately there is not enough space in this newsletter to allow it. Without my dedicated staff and our generous volunteers, the rough road we walk would be much more difficult.



*Thank you for all that you do.
Steve Herron*



CALLING ALL CAT LOVERS

We are always saddened to publish the shelter statistics for cats and kittens. Those numbers reveal the grim reality that many of these beautiful animals enter our front door but very few of them are adopted or reclaimed. The euthanization numbers are heartbreaking to read, and it's even more difficult to visualize these wonderful cats and kittens who would have made perfect pets, just given a second chance.

In a perfect world, cats would be spayed or neutered in order to prevent unwanted litters of kittens. Until that happens, we are appealing to anyone who loves cats and might be willing to offer help or suggestions for ways to get more of them leaving our shelter as beloved pets.

Our website lists photos and descriptions of several cats/kittens but there are many more who need their pictures taken and posted so that potential adopters know they are at the shelter. If you would be interested in volunteering to help with this project, please contact the shelter (740) 373-5959 (manager@hsov.org) or Sharon Paul (sharonpaul2@suddenlink.net)

Would You Be Interested In Becoming A “Fairy Dogmother”?

We've all heard of a Fairy Godmother, right? But how about a “Fairy Dogmother”? This is an idea which was suggested by one of our volunteers as a way to socialize shelter animals after she watched an episode on DogTown and learned about their behavioral trainer who was working with shy dogs. He was merely sitting quietly near these dogs and reading to them until they decided it was safe to approach him for attention. This technique is also quite helpful for calming dogs who have just a little too much energy. At least two of our HSOV kennel techs are already using this technique with great results, so we wonder if there aren't some other caring individuals who might be interested in becoming what this volunteer has dubbed the “Fairy Dogmother” program. If you would like to help a shelter dog by spending a little quiet one-on-one time with him/her, we'd love to have volunteers experiment with this idea. The dogs won't mind if you simply want to talk with them, read your favorite book aloud, or tell them your problems. They are great listeners and non-judgmental! There are currently four shelter dogs who would greatly benefit from this type of program: Peggy, Freddy, Baker, and Duffy. These special dogs are pictured and described on our website (as well as many other wonderful dogs) if anyone would like to become their “Fairy Dogmother”. And there are surely some guys who would like to become a “Fairy Dogfather”.



Miss Kitty



Casper

WHAT? WHERE? WHEN?

Annual Meeting (December 1, 2009)

The Annual Meeting of the Humane Society of the Ohio Valley will be held at the Plumbers & Pipefitters Hall, 201 Front Street, Marietta on Tuesday, December 1st at 6:00pm. There will be a short business meeting followed by nominations and election of board members. Everyone is invited to attend, but remember that you must be a paid member in order to vote in the election. Appetizers, soft drinks, and coffee will be provided. Please plan to attend and enjoy the camaraderie of fellow supporters of the HSOV.

HSOV Open House (December 12, 2009)

Our Holiday Open House will be held at the HSOV Shelter located at 90 Mt. Tom Road, Marietta on Saturday, December 12th from 12:00 noon-4:00pm. We hope that each and every supporter of the Humane Society of the Ohio Valley will be able to join us during that time so that we may personally thank you for all that you have done for the animals at the shelter during the past year. Please plan to tour the shelter and meet our adoptable pets. During last year's Open House, they were each wearing Christmas bandanas and had their stockings hung on their cages with a wish for a loving home in time for Christmas. Be prepared to be pleasantly surprised again! This is a wonderful event where you will have an opportunity to meet and greet the shelter staff, board members, and volunteers. We will have our Christmas tree decorated in the lobby should anyone wish to leave some gifts under the tree to benefit the animals. Our wish list is printed in this newsletter (hint, hint!) Refreshments will be served.

Fur Ball (February 27, 2010)

Be sure to mark a huge pawprint for Saturday, February 27th on your calendars since that is the date for the biggest social event in the Mid-Ohio Valley and which happens to be the 7th Annual HSOV FUR BALL. This year's Fur Ball will be held at the American Legion in Williamstown, WV from 8pm-midnight. There will be a live band, silent auction, raffles, door prizes, food, and fun! The Fur Ball is our largest fundraiser, and we really count on a big turnout in order to help the shelter. For additional information, please contact Lisa Merrow by cell phone (740-516-3503) or by email (lisamerrow@msn.com).



WISH LIST

- Tax-deductible cash donations
- Sam's Club & Walmart gift cards
- Dog/cat food (canned & dry)
- Puppy/kitten food (canned & dry)
- Kitty litter & pans
- Dog leashes
- Dog collars (all sizes)
- Dog/cat treats
- Dog/cat toys
- Small pet beds
- Small & medium pet carriers
- Large & X-large pet carriers
- Blankets & towels
- Bleach
- Laundry detergent
- Dawn dishwashing liquid
- Latex gloves
- Inkjet and copier paper
- Office supplies
- Gasoline debit cards

The HSOV gladly accepts donations of aluminum cans and old cell phones 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.

GIVE THE GIFT THAT KEEPS ON GIVING

With the holiday season coming up, many of us are pondering the question "what gift can I buy for the person on my shopping list who has everything?" How about a gift that keeps giving throughout the year? A gift to the HSOV is a wonderful way to honor, celebrate, or memorialize the special people, pets, and events in your life – and also helps many shelter animals. A gift donation form is included in this newsletter at the bottom of the 2010 membership form. Gift memberships are also available.

We would like to remind our supporters that the HSOV is a 501c nonprofit organization and all contributions are tax-deductible. Donations must be postmarked by December 31st in order to be itemized on your 2009 Tax Return.



PILOTS N PAWS ORGANIZATION FLY THREE HSOV DOGS TO NEW HOMES

Thanks to a nonprofit organization, Pilots N Paws, three very fortunate dogs from the Humane Society of the Ohio Valley were recently rescued and flown via



private aircraft to their new homes. These dedicated private pilots donate their time and airplanes in order to coordinate the transport of animals from shelters to their new families. Our canine rescue and transportation coordinator, Celeste Ridgway, is both thankful and thrilled that this organization has agreed to work with our shelter on air transportation. We look forward to a long and lasting relationship with Pilots N Paws. If you would like to learn more about this organization, check out their website www.pilotsnpaws.org and also view happy-ending photo albums. We'd like to share our own "happy ending" stories of Bear, Roscoe, and Dillon

BEAR AND ROSCOE

Bear and Roscoe, 12-year old Chow Chows, were surrendered to the HSOV on August 29, 2009. These two boys had spent their entire lives together and depended upon each other for security and companionship. We were worried about them being separated and that not many people would want to take the responsibility of adopting two older dogs. A rescue group in Kansas contacted Celeste when they had a person looking for a senior Chow. We were

overjoyed when the potential adopter decided she would take both of them. Celeste was then faced with the problem of how to get Bear and Roscoe from Marietta OH to Fort Scott, Kansas where their new owner, Sherrie Patton, lives.



Thanks to Pilots N Paws, these two Chows departed Wood County Airport on the morning of September 19, 2009 and (three flights later) arrived in Fort Scott KS in the afternoon. These pilots (and Sherrie Patton) all deserve angel wings. We loved the photo of Bear and Roscoe relaxing by the fireplace in their beautiful new home!

DILLON "Rags to Riches"



DILLON

Dillon, a 7-month old Beagle/Blue Heeler, came to the HSOV on August 3, 2009 after he was picked up as a stray. This little guy was so cute and lovable but nobody came to adopt him. Then a special lady in Atlanta GA saw his pictures on our website and fell in love with him. The only obstacle between Dillon and his new home was the fact his new "mother" lived nearly 1,000 miles away. Celeste & Rick Ridgway drove Dillon to Cincinnati on October 24, 2009 where he met Dr. John Lee with the Pilots N Paws group. Dr. Lee treated Dillon to his very first airplane ride for the journey to his new home.

Dillon is truly a "rags to riches" story. Dillon's new mother has promised he will have the best life ever. She has already hired a personal trainer for him and is including Dillon in all of her vacation plans. And she has taken Dillon shopping for toys since, as she said, "a boy has to have his toys". Dr. Lee (pilot) and Dillon's new mother (Wenche) have surely earned their angel wings too!

GRAMMY: A SAD STORY WITH A STORYBOOK ENDING



As I sat down to write about a shelter dog named Grammy, I felt as though the article should begin "Once Upon A Time". As I recall the events surrounding her short stay at our shelter, Grammy's story seems like a classic fairytale with a sad beginning and a happy ending.

Grammy was a young adult female Mastiff who was picked up by our Humane Officers on October 19, 2009 and brought to our shelter for her own protection and safety. As her pictures clearly show, this sweet girl was in desperate need of urgent care. She was extremely emaciated and so thin that her ribs and hip bones were protruding. Grammy literally had not one ounce of fat on her large frame. Yet she still wagged her tail and begged for kindness from everyone who was trying to help her. We were heartbroken that anyone could have neglected this special girl, for she was such a sweetheart who deserved to be loved and properly cared for.

It was obvious that Grammy needed immediate medical attention in order to save her life. Fortunately, a local veterinary clinic arranged their schedule in order to see her on October 21, 2009. We made an appeal for donations to help with Grammy's vet bills, and were thankful that so many wonderful individuals opened up their hearts and checkbooks to help save her life.

Grammy's story on our website was followed by several hundred people who viewed her pictures and updates on her description. One of those individuals who saw Grammy's photos was actually viewing them from her home in upstate New York, and it was love at first sight. She had recently lost her beloved Mastiff and quickly

called our shelter manager to make an adoption application.

That special lady and her husband, Elaine and Barry Kiah, drove 10 hours to pick Grammy up and officially adopt her on October 24, 2009. Grammy will have a long recovery ahead of her, but we truly believe that her spirit and positive attitude make her a real survivor.

The storybook ending for Grammy just continues to get better with each message from the Kiah family. She has been renamed Sugar (alias Sugah) and has settled into her new home very quickly. Sugah sleeps with her new parents, watches television together, enjoys being with them in their large fenced-in yard, and already knows where the treats are kept. Elaine says that Sugah is a real love bug and that she just knows that God had her find that dog for a reason.

We were so happy to meet Grammy's new "parents", and we'd like to share some family photos as they were leaving our shelter for the return trip home. How we wish that we could write a storybook ending like Grammy's for each and every shelter dog!

Grammy leaving!



THEY LIGHT UP OUR LIVES!

During the month of December, the Humane Society of the Ohio Valley would like to remember and honor the pets that have brightened and enriched our lives.

We will be placing a Christmas tree with strands of lights in the window at American Flags and Poles on Front Street. A living pet will be represented by a colored light and a pet that has passed away will be remembered by a white light. The tree will be lit beginning Tuesday, December 1, 2009.

Animal lovers are invited to make a tax-deductible contribution in the amount of \$5.00 per pet in honor of their pets or their friends' and family's pets.

A booklet listing the names of the animals who are being honored as well as the names of those who have sent contributions will be available at the Humane Society of the Ohio Valley and American Flags and Poles beginning Monday, January 11, 2010.

The attached form plus contribution may be mailed or brought to the Humane Society of the Ohio Valley or dropped off at We Love Pets, American Flags and Poles, Kelly's Shedding Shack, and Black Sheep Crafts throughout the month of December.

Please remember your much loved pet during the upcoming season when our thoughts turn to those we love and cherish.

Thank you!
Humane Society of the Ohio Valley



* Name of Living Pet(s) (colored light):

* Name of Deceased Pet(s) (white light):

* Name of Contributor(s):

* Check:___ (made payable to HSOV)

* Cash:___

* Amount of contribution (number of pets x \$5.00):_____

* If you need a receipt, please list your address:

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: _____

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 quarterly 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, P.O. Box 5, Marietta, OH 45750



Humane Society



OF THE OHIO VALLEY

90 Mt. Tom Road
Marietta OH 45750

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

American Electric Power (AEP)	Les & Sharon Paul
American Flags & Poles	Peoples Bank
Barengo Insurance Agency	Pioneer Home Medical
CPC, INK	Preston Beauty Academy
Jo Ellen Gray	Rowland Motors
Green Meadow Veterinary Hospital	J. A. Schwendeman & Sons, Contractors
Holiday Inn	Thomson's Landscaping
Kemron Environmental Services	Tractor Supply Company
Kiwanis Club of Marietta	Wal-Mart
Dr. Ken & Diana Leopold	Wark Accounting
Locker Room Sports Bar	WMOA
Mondo Building & Excavations	Wolf Creek Trucking
Mondo Polymer Technologies	
Murray Glass Company	

2010 WASHINGTON COUNTY DOG LICENSES

Please remember to purchase a 2010 Washington County Dog License for your dog by January 31st, 2010. According to Ohio R.C. Sec. 955.01.05, all dogs over 3 months of age must be licensed by January 31st or 30 days after the dog becomes 3 months of age. Licenses are available at the Washington County Auditor's office, 205 Putnam Street, Marietta OH (Monday-Friday 8:00am-5:00pm) for a cost of \$12.00. Application forms may also be downloaded on their website: www.washingtoncountyauditor/us.

You may also purchase 2010 dog licenses/tags at the Humane Society of the Ohio Valley during our hours of operation for a cost of \$13.00. We offer this service throughout the year for anyone who adopts a dog from the shelter and as a convenience for anyone who wishes to stop by the shelter for their dog tag.

Having a current dog tag on your dog's collar with the license number is very important to help us reunite you and your beloved pet in the event it becomes lost and ends up at the shelter. The license number provides your home information to animal control and the license ensures that the HSOV will hold your lost dog at least 14 days before adopting it or euthanizing it.