



Charley's Strays, Inc.
Mailing address: P.O. Box 64, Limestone, ME 04750
Tel. Shelter 207-426-9482 or Jim at 207-325-8894
www.charleysstrays.us

Limestone, June, 2012

Dear Friends,

I hope all of you had a perfect beginning of the summer! So far ours up here in the northern part of Maine has been quite beautiful – we have had a couple of days close to the 90s, and also had plenty of rain to make everything grow nicely, including, or especially, the weeds.

Rebecca went on vacation for a week, so Jim and I took over the Shelter chores. I left after several days to go back home to tend to my garden. Young vegetables in all varieties and my own seeded flowers could not survive a week of hot weather without being watered. We do hire a young man to keep an eye on our home whenever we have to leave for more than a night, because local thieves in the neighborhood are just waiting for a chance to do their dirty work. But I need to water the plants, feed the birds, and put food out every evening for Teddy. It may or may not get done the way I like it, so I needed to get back home. Jim stayed the rest of the week to clean, feed and play with the dogs.

While we were at the Shelter I met some of the newer dogs, all are great and very friendly. And I finally made friends with one who had previously always acted like he really, really hated me, "Jinx". We are not exactly best friends yet, but at least he does not show his teeth anymore when I fed him or clean his run. Even Ellie, the yellow lab, has calmed way down and hardly barks anymore and seems to have mellowed out really well. So now there could be a chance of her being adopted. I was sad to see our oldest resident, Davy, really showing his age, but was also surprised how well this 16 year old dog still gets around. Davy was always one of my favorites, and if he had not attacked my dog Hexel many years ago, chances would have been good for him to go home with me to Limestone. I do not want to take a chance of a nasty dogfight – I have seen my share of them.

We also met John Wells, a gentleman who had adopted one of our black labs a year ago, and who had been in touch with me via email about helping to raise money for us. John came to pick up a couple of boxes filled with catnip, books, and odds and ends to sell. He had talked to several managers of different stores about setting up a weekend table and advertise for Charley's Strays. It came as a big surprise when I received a check after his first

weekend in front of "Shaws", for \$283! A week later he set up a table in Winslow in front of another store, and presented us again with a check for \$109! This of course is a great help towards our bills, especially as we just lost another one of our supporters. A huge **THANK YOU** to John Wells from all of us at Charley's Strays!

As mentioned above, one of our long-time supporters, Elizabeth Fay died at the age of 96. I received a card from a friend or relative (not sure of the relationship), letting me know of Liz's death; just in case we were wondering why she stopped her monthly contributions to us. I had met Liz many years ago with her Dachshunds Liebchen and Waldi. Elizabeth was a wonderful lady and great animal person. We will miss her.

My plea for cards was answered: I received many envelopes and boxes filled with a large amount of cards; I should be all set for a couple of years. Thank you much!

Jay Peterson, Partner of "our" Jean Tillson (some of you know her from our fundraiser in Woburn), emptied his piggy bank once again for our Shelter. A big hug to you, Jay!

Mary Klayda, forever supporter of Charley's Strays ☺ celebrated her 90th birthday on June 25. I hope if I get that old I will look as good as Mary. Nobody would guess her for being older than 70. Cindy Herrick mailed us a check in her honor, and we all wish you, Mary, a **HAPPY BIRTHDAY!**

Some sad news: "Ebony", much loved dog of Alice Winston, died. We received a check from Michael Kane in Ebony's memory, and also one from Alice. We are very sorry for your loss, Alice!

Other than the already mentioned cards, our Webmaster Charley Ames and Ruth McKinney brought us two large bags of dog food to take along on our trip to the Shelter. Michael Kane sent me a box full of items for Cindy's yard sale in September, and our Californian supporter Lynn Frischmann also sent us a huge box with lots of beautiful items. So at least we now have a start, but we still could use more for the yard sale. Cindy's phone number: 781-932-3387. Thank you! Also many thanks for the stamps, cards, coupons and donations from all of you:

Al Smith, Belmont
Alice Winston, Swampscott
Arlene Hayes, Reading
Bonnie Buckmore, Waterville
Carole Parker, Winchendon
Cindy Herrick, Newton
Cindy Houston, Woburn
Cristine Cardello, Melrose
Dale Critchley, S. Weymouth
Dorothy Archer, Canton
Dorothy D'Alessandro, Oss.
Dorothy Eckstein, Medford
Glenna Hawthorne, Woburn
Iris Martinello, Tewksbury
Viola McDonald, Woburn

Irma Simon, China
James Paterson, Franklin
Jennie Bering, Lynn
Joe D'Alessandro, Tuftonboro
John Wells, Oakland
Joseph Blake, New Bedford
Joseph Kogut, Upton
Josephine Smith, Woburn
Judy Rohweder, Northport
Linda Merriam, Dresden
Lorena & Harry Clark, Beverly
Marcia Smith, Bucksport
Marian Delarue, Woburn
Mary Klayda, Winchester

Maureen Dowd, Sargentville
Melody Lavers, Pownal
Michael Kane, Greenwood
Mildred Walker, Presque Isle
Nancy Brown, Waltham
Nancy Capone, Wakefield
P.D. Bournival, Nashua
Pat Thain, Dracut
Rancourt Family, Lebanon
Robert Hull, Lawrence
Rust Pappathanasi, Swampscott
Sandra Nicholson, Beverly
Susan Borsic, Woburn



I am enclosing the first set of three tickets for our annual fundraiser. As always, they cost \$5.00 each. If you have no use for them, just toss them in the trash bin, or try to sell them to your friends. ☺ More about the fundraiser in next month's newsletter.

Have a great July!

Gabriele, Mary, Ted and Jim



Cat Report June 2012

Bad news first, as usual: we lost Alison late this month. I'd been expecting it, but she stayed lively and apparently happy up to the last three days. When I took her in with her half-grown kittens (one was placed, one died fairly young, Robin is still with me) in the fall of 1997, the vet estimated she was born in January 1995. Since then I've learned that once a cat is about three years old, without knowing the history it's almost impossible to tell whether he or she is three or eight. So I'm thinking Ali was at least 17 and could have been into her twenties.

I miss her every time I come into the kitchen, but Lisa doesn't – she seems happier by herself, getting undisputed choice of food and beds and all my attention. So far she's been ignoring the bed in the wastebasket that Ali created; maybe I'll get my wastebasket back!

This first really hot spell June 20 through 22 demoralized a lot of the cats (and me). We had a couple days of not eating well or moving much. I thought the cats who chose to stay on the porch were being silly, since it was a few degrees cooler indoors; then I realized at least on the porch the air was moving, so maybe they were the sensible ones. Since the weather moderated things are back to normal, with empty dishes, rattling toys and thumping feet. The window air conditioners are in the two back rooms that get hottest; those cats (Agnes, Emery and Robin upstairs and Mr. Tom and Buddy the Bullet-Cat downstairs) can count on lots of attention and extra-clean boxes for the next couple months. ☺

Many thanks, again, to the cats' friends. P. A. Lenk gave them blankets, Gail Britton-Kojigian and Pepper Charles sent dry and canned food, coupons came from Suzanne Belisle, Roberta Chaves, P. A., Laurie Mountain, Teresa Parent, Irma Simon and Al Smith – I hope I haven't forgotten anyone. These really are nice little cats, and it's not their fault they have to depend on charity. I'm glad you-all appreciate them, and our good dogs.