



Charley's Strays, Inc.

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Dear Friends,

Summer has arrived in Maine, along with black flies, mosquitoes, and everything else, which makes life - interesting? No complaints from me, it will be a thing of the past much too soon!

It was a sad month at the Shelter: Our old blind Rottweiler "Boomer" had to be put to sleep because of liver cancer. Boomer had come to us many years ago as a totally blind dog, but even with this handicap; he was a very happy guy. He knew his way around, as long as we did not move any obstacles into his way. He would know exactly where to walk, how to find his own little room, and he enjoyed strolling around at the premises. Ted usually took him for walk on the leash every Saturday down the road, and Boomer was content and happy. Of course Ted had to be the one who took him to the vet on a Saturday, after Boomer had not eaten the rice and hamburger Reb had cooked for him for a couple of days. First thought was that it was just too hot for him to eat, but x-rays proved us wrong. Boomer had someone with him in his last minutes of life, someone he loved. Many animals, and humans, are not so lucky.

Here are a couple of photos of our Boomer and Rebecca.



We are still waiting on the two "Parvo-dogs" from the other closed Clinton Shelter, and may take in a couple of old dogs from a gentleman who lost his house and has to move into an apartment. That's a sad story also; more about that when/if we take them. Space is awfully tight right now (as always).

Other than that, everything is running "normal" at Charley's Strays. ☺

I am including three tickets with this letter, as I will with the following three newsletters, for our yearly fundraiser. As always there will be a \$300 first prize, and many other prizes. The drawing will be held in October, just not at the fundraiser in Boston, since we decided it was not worth the trouble and money to go there anymore. If you can sell some of the tickets to friends or relatives, that would be great, because we need to get enough money together again to buy the fuel for next winter.

Great news is that our supporter John Wells is doing all kinds of "small" fundraisers for us. He told me that he had several weekends planned for having a table in front of stores like Marden's and Shaw's. I try to keep him supplied with toys and dog cookies, which he uses to collect donations for us. He "lures" people to his table with his faithful companion who is always by his side, Jake the black Lab. When I thanked John last time he sent us a check with his "earnings" for the Shelter, he replied:

"I'm glad I can help, but I have to say, it's Jake they all stop at the table for, and he hams it right up for them. I can't believe that he was, at a couple of points, due to be euthanized (not by us of course, but the other shelters he was in) and that so many dogs just like him don't escape that end . . ."

A very sad, but a true statement from John.

Great news also that the following supporters have not forgotten Charley's Strays, and helped us again this months with care-packages, donations, stamps, a book on how to train dogs, coupons and nice words which are very much appreciated, too:

Al Smith, Belmont
Anne Tappan, Cambridge
Bonnie Buckmore, Waterville
Carole Parker, Winchendon
Cindy Houston, Woburn
Cristine Cardello, Melrose
Dale Critchley, S. Weymouth
Donna Bering, Wakefield
Dorothy Eckstein, Medford

Irma Simon, China
Iris Martinello, Tewksbury
Jean & Ralph Catignani
Joe D'Alessandro, Tuftonboro
John Wells, Oakland
Joseph Blake, New Bedford
Judy Rohweder
Linda Merriam, Dresden
Marian Delarue, Woburn

Maureen Dowd, Sargentville
Nancy Brown, Olympia
Nancy Capone, Wakefield
Pat Thain, Dracut
Philip Mann, Rowland Heights
R.D. Bournival, Nashua
Sandra Nicholson, Beverly
Susan Borsic, Woburn

We received a check from Todd and Bonnie Buckmore, telling us that workers in the Advancement office at Thomas College in Waterville had collected money for us.

Larry and Arlene Hayes sent us a donation in memory of their little Pug named Molly Brown, who recently passed and is missed terribly. We are so sorry, Larry and Arlene, been there, know exactly how you feel.

To all of you, **A HUGE THANK YOU!**

Cindy Houston has her yard sale for us coming up in September. She still needs STUFF – sellable items, preferably small because she has limited space and things which can be sold for at least one dollar or more. Clothes and shoes don't sell at all, jewelry is a runner of course, and so are knick-knacks. Please mail them to Cindy Houston, 143 Winn Street, Woburn, MA 01801. Or if you would like to phone her for a pick-up/delivery, please call me for her number. I hate to put a private telephone number from our supporters in this newsletter, since our newsletter is also posted on the Internet.

Our supporter, Maureen Dowd, mailed me an interesting article about on-line Pet medication purchase.

There is a company named Rescue RX, who is a family affair, trying to help shelters. Several months ago, Glenn Buckley, DVM, owner of two emergency-care veterinary hospitals in Ft. Lauderdale, Florida, launched "Pet Rescue RX", an online veterinary pharmacy. All the net profits will go into funding rescue efforts, Buckley says.

"My brother and I take no compensation, no salaries from this", Buckley adds. "We are doing this because we are animal lovers and we feel this is the right thing to do". The idea for a philanthropic business grew out of Buckley's frustration as a rescue volunteer in not having a larger impact.

"As a vet, just going into the shelters, most could not afford to have a vet on staff and they rely on vets in the area to help if an animal comes in sick or injured. One problem shelters are getting into; they are accumulating substantial debt to the vets in the area who support them. Often vets donate their services, but many times they do charge for services".

Anyway, if you do buy medications online, give them a try: Their website is PetRescueRX.com

Thanks!

Best wishes to everybody, and thanks again for your help.

*Gabriele,
Mary, Ted and Jim*

. . . and new volunteers which have been coming out to the Shelter. I don't want to name them yet, because every time I do, they go away and never to come back. ☹

And now to Mary's Cat Report, which is a short one this month:



CAT REPORT – JUNE 2014

Our cats have had another quiet month, with lots more bird- and bug-watching to keep them amused. The ones that go on the porch, including Ashley, Grover & Ryan, get the best views; they watch not only bugs batting the windows and birds hopping around in the trees, but birds bathing in the puddles in the driveway and woodchucks roaming the back lawn.

The porch is about 15 feet wide, open on the south and east. In the morning there's a sunny patch up to 12 feet deep on the east end. I open the door from the house onto the porch and within minutes have as many as a dozen cats basking in that sunny rectangle while they wait for me to fix breakfast. That's on the mornings after 50-degree nights when the door's been closed; now that the overnight temperature's apt to be in the 60s, I often hook the door open and the cats come and go all night. Then the morning sun is less exciting.

As usual, the cat's friends remembered them this month. They got canned food from Pepper Charles and coupons from Suzanne Belisle, Roberta Chaves, P. A. Lenk, Iris Martinello, and Al Smith. Many thanks to all of you for your ongoing support.