



### **Charley's Strays, Inc.**

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Limestone, December, 2015

#### **Dear Friends,**

Above we have another photo of a very lucky dog, Bridget Buckmore. I remember that there was a rather big disagreement between two ladies who both wanted to adopt Bridget. The winner was Bonnie Buckmore. There were actually tears shed if I remember correctly, because somehow Bridget managed to break a heart, or two. That was 7 or 8 years ago, and I am sure the other lady also found her dream girl, or boy.

It would be a perfect dog world if every dog would have several people THEY could choose to live with. But, that's a dream world. I have seen some nasty photos in the past few weeks of dogs being tied up on heavy chains, covered with ice and snow, not even a dog house to at least stay a little dry. I leave those photos for the other Shelters who try to break hearts by posting them, hoping for money. Our dogs are well taken care of, and I just wish that we had more space so we could take in all the unfortunate ones!

Bonnie took some photos from our cats. Here is one of Captain, the Limestone cat, who had been out "in the wild" for almost a year. One day early in fall we had a snow dusting out there, and he had been sitting next to the door. I saw a few specks of blood where he had been sitting so I knew it was high time to try catching him. I managed to trap him and take him to the vet, who diagnosed him with a urinary tract infection and told me he had to be put on a special diet. After that Mary was kind enough to take in yet another cat. Lucky "Captain".



He seems to be very happy with his fellow felines, plays and eats with them, so unless we find the perfect home for him, he will be just fine at Mary's.

Other than Christmas not much happened this month. Here in Limestone I am still feeding "Red", our beautiful coyote, who seems to be growing taller and filling out a bit.

The first time he came around was in spring, and we had a hard time figuring out if he was a large fox, or a small coyote. But now there is no doubt; he is definitely turning into a large coyote, and a very nice one, at that. I know there are many people who hate these beautiful creatures, which the American Indians call "little brothers of the wolves", and the reason is beyond me.

Enough of that, lets move on to our supporters. Once again you have helped us to care for our animals, with your donations, food, lots of treats, blankets, and stamps. And once again the four-legged creatures at Charley's Strays

### **THANK YOU VERY MUCH!**

To our following supporters:

Al Smith, Belmont  
Betsy Anderson, Framingham  
Bonnie Wiegand,  
Charlotte Paul, Chelmsford  
Cindy Houston, Woburn  
Cristine Cardello, Melrose  
Dale Critchley, S. Weymouth  
Deborah Phair  
Donna Bering  
Donna Wade, Unity  
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Linda Merriam, Dresden  
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Phil Mann, Rowland Heights  
Rancourt Family, Lebanon  
Rick Glover, N. Andover  
Rust Pappathanasi, Swampscott  
Sally Sawyer, Albany  
Sandra Nicholson, Beverly  
Wm. Hanrahan, Westwood

We also received a donation from a supporter living in Portland, Maine, on Edward Street, but I forgot to write down the name on the check, and there was no name on the envelope. My apologies and thank you.

Susan Borsic sent us a donation in lieu of Christmas gifts for her mom and sister.

Linda Scotti and Harry Clark also mailed us a check in memory of Lorena and Harry Clark.

The Physical Plant Department of Colby College in Waterville raised money for local organizations, and we were lucky enough to be on of the selected recipients.

Cathy Dumont made a donation in honor of Bonnie Buckmore.

And once again we received a check from the Sommer Family Foundation, Deborah Summer, in memory of Paul Sommer.

Kevin Dowd made a donation in honor of Maureen Dowd.

A donation was sent to us from Thomas, Christel and Michelle Friedow, in memory of their daughter Marie-Kristin. Recently they lost their beloved dog Claire, "who is now on Marie-Kristin's side". We can only hope that this will be so. I know I am looking forward not to die, but to see all of my dogs again, when I do.

Bonnie Buckmore is working on a project to raise money for Charley's Strays. She is distributing 500 postcards with photos of our cats and dogs. Peter Schutte from Color Graphics in Sidney ([www.nobelhouseprints.com](http://www.nobelhouseprints.com)) gave her a 50% discount on the cards and produced the posters on foam core board for free.

**A HUGE thank you to all of the above!**

The day after Thanksgiving I received a very sad call from our friend and supporter, Jon Anderson, telling me that his wife Barb had passed away. Jim and I knew Barb personally, so did Ted. He met the Andersons years ago in a train store. We are very, very sorry for your loss. Barb will be missed by all of us.

That's it for the last newsletter of 2015.

Wishing you a perfect start into the New Year, best of health, and that everything you wish for comes true!

**Gabriele, Mary, Ted, Eric and Jim**

## CAT REPORT DECEMBER 2015

The good news is that Jen has seen Patches, the mother of our three new catlings, and another cat who might be the missing littermate of our three. The bad news is she's not yet been able to trap them. At least this unusually mild fall has kept them from freezing, poor babies.

Feather, Lucien and Alafer are all doing well. Feather & Lucien are good-sized now, with extra long tails. Alafer is on the small side and his tail is normal for his body. He no longer gets really scared when I come into the room, but he's still very shy. I think he's pretty smart, too; he'll let me get within three feet of him, but only when the wire condo in which Feather and Lucien eat their canned food is between us.

The rest of the bunch has had a normally peaceful and fairly healthy month. Lisa is still eating and acting as though she feels fine. Mr. Tom and Agnes each went to the vet and got diagnosed and given treatments and/or medication that worked. I'm lucky to have such good veterinarians.

As always, thanks to the cats' friends for helping care for them. They've received canned food from Pepper Charles and coupons from Suzanne Belisle, Iris Martinello, Irma Simon and Al Smith, and are looking forward to promised catnip from our friend Cathy's husband Jeff.

Happy holidays and happy new year to all of you, and to all the cats and dogs and other animals for whom we humans have assumed responsibility.