



Charley's Strays, Inc.

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Limestone, November 30, 2018

Dear Friends,

Several weeks ago we had three visitors in our back yard, a mother deer and her two young ones, munching on our apples. In all the years we have been living in Limestone, we have had all kinds of animals in our yard: black bears, moose, skunks, coyotes, and foxes, but never deer. We also have seen a family of otters in our pond, but they did not stay, and a beaver who cut a couple of trees down and then left. So, seeing deer for the first time behind our home, made us all warm and fuzzy-feeling. ☺ A few days later deer hunting season started, hopefully they survived it. I have not seen them back for the rest of the apples. I know the photo is not very good, but it was taken just before dark.

The riddle of the check from Network for Good has been solved. After reading the newsletter, a German friend of mine, sent me an email, explaining that she had started a fundraiser via Facebook for Charley's Strays, in memory of her deceased daughter's Marie Kristine's birthday. So the money came through her initiative. It's a shame that Network for Good did not include a letter or form to tell us who had donated the money. A big Thank you to Christel Friedow!

And also thank you for the several emails I received from our readers, letting me know that Network for Good is indeed a good charity, charging only a few pennies on a hundred dollar- not like some fundraising charities who will pocket half or even more of the money they raise.

More good news: Our little girl Daisy was adopted this month. So now we just have two more North Carolina dogs looking for a home; Sadie and King the cat chaser and of course many Maine dogs. We are very hopeful.

Lynn Frischmann who lives in California and has been supporting our cause for many years, has returned her 1st prize raffle ticket winnings of \$250 to Charley's Strays. Thank you very much, Lynn. Lynn is also very active in animal rescue. She has saved many lives by pulling animals out of dumpsters and other horrible situations. Thank God for people like her!

I know I have written about my EPI dog Bianca before. EPI stands for a sickness which is becoming more common among animals and humans alike. The pancreas does not work at all or just poorly, and does not create the bile necessary to break down food, meaning the animals actually starve to death. I just wanted to mention it again, because it may help saving a live or two. Bianca was diagnosed in spring with Stage III moderate kidney failure, which normally leads to severe and than, well, you know. I read up on that and found that there is rarely if ever a reverse of kidney failure.

I did not want to put our dog on KD as suggested by the vet, since she is a very poor eater, due to the nasty smelling/tasting enzymes which cover the food in order for it to be digested. So, I started giving her 2 Burdockroot pills a day, plus 1/3 of a can of asparagus, both which I had read a lot about for being great to clean the blood and kidneys. She had a blood/urine check months ago, and another one a couple of weeks ago, both times she had GREAT blood results, and no more kidney disease!

If I had not been at two different vets who most likely use two different labs for the tests, I would have said it was all an error to begin with. But two vets, I don't think they make the same mistake with the same results. So if your cat or dog has been or will be diagnosed with kidney problems, try it, who knows, you have nothing to loose.

In Honor of Veterans Day



To help the 22 a day that we lose to suicide, mens' and womens' prison inmates train Service Dogs for our veterans suffering from PTSD.

Our last four dogs came from a SC Shelter. I was very impressed by the Shelter's efforts to help dogs and veterans by using prison inmates to train the dogs. Steve, the guy I talked to, told me that they have a local program with a prison in the area. It is great for the dogs, which have been saved mostly from other high-kill Shelters. These dogs get all the attention they most likely never experienced in their life, and inmates are thankful to be able to give back by training Service Dogs for Vets with PTSD and other needy people. Steve told me that "some of our dogs graduate and are ready to be adopted, while others don't do so well and have to stay in the Shelter for awhile longer."

We received the following donations from our supporters, to make sure all of our furry friends are being fed, vetted and clothed ☺, and of course have a warm soft bed in a heated building to dream of a family of their own:

Al Smith, Belmont
Alice Winston, Swampscott
Bonnie Buckmore, Waterville
Dale Critchley, S. Weymouth
Donna Bering
Iris Martinello, Tewksbury
Irma Simon, S. China
Jackie Lowney, New Bedford
Jean & Ralph Catignani

Jeannine Lord, Oakland
Joe D'Alessandro, Tuftonboro
Judith Oliver, Belgrade
Judy Rohweder, Northport
Kate Ahrens, Granby
Katie Clegg, Sanford
Kellee Lowney, New Bedford
Linda Merriam, Dresden
Marlene Kaplan, Melrose

Melody Lavers, Wales
Michael Kane, Greenwood
Pat Ingersoll
Pat Thain, Dracut
Sally Sawyer, Albany Twp.
Susan Borsic, Woburn
The Sommer Family Foundation

Thank you very much!

We received some terrible news; I still can't wrap my head around it: Steve DiCiaccio, husband of our long-time supporter and friend, Cindy Houston, passed away. Steve was a big lover of animals, helped rescue many unwanted ones and gave them a loving home. He was also a dear friend of mine. We are so very, very sorry for your loss, Cindy and Jessie. In his memory we received donations from James DiCiaccio, Susan Borsic, Donna Cantillo, Cheryl Hutt, Teresa Gendron, and Marion Procopio.

A big Thank You goes to Bonnie Buckmore who collected much-needed money from the boxes in various stores and to John Wells who had his own little fundraiser again in a local store. I am not only enjoying the check he sends from his "outing", but also the note which comes with it; for instance this month about the family who brought their dog to see him, and the dog was clearly the nicest member of the family. As always, I get a big chuckle out of John's letters.

CAT REPORT – NOVEMBER 2018

Except for Ashley, everyone seems to be well here, and Ashley is tranquil enough – she spends her days in bed, purrs when I come to feed her, while I feed her and as I leave, and then presumably goes back to sleep. Some hectic days I envy her! She's been back to the vet repeatedly for feeding tube adjustments, as she shakes her head and wiggles and rubs her neck against the edge of the bed until sometimes the tube works loose. Since I can't comfortably sit on the floor with her, at first I scooped her out of the bed; she apparently either got dizzier or thought I'd drop her, because she flailed around until I settled her on my lap. Now I've started picking her up bed and all – no problem, she keeps right on purring!

This week we had a snowy day, this time enough to whiten the ground, so most of the cats were content to nap. As usual, a few, including always-bold Lucien and Feather, went out on the porch before breakfast; they hit a time when the snow was dry, fine and blowing around, and came in lightly frosted. Didn't impair their appetites, but they didn't ask to go out again.

Many thanks to the cats' friends who gave them food (Pepper Charles, their new friend Cindy) and coupons (Irma Simon, Iris Martinello, Al Smith) that I've been using to buy them more food. And happy holidays to all of you and your four-footed companions.

Best wishes for a happy and peaceful Holiday season to you and your loved ones!

Mary, Gabriele, Ted, Eric and Jim