



Charley's Strays, Inc.

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Physical location: Clinton, Maine

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Dear Friends,

I walked my dog this morning, and I felt just like this little monkey – cold ears, cold hands, and cold feet and wondering how much longer I can walk without having icicles hanging down my nose ☺. Massachusetts is supposed to be in the 90s again in the next few days. Up here in Limestone winter is definitely showing its frosty face. This week we are supposed to have highs of 50, and lows in the low 30s, with possible snow on Friday! What a crazy summer we had this year. I just hope the Farmers' Almanac is wrong, it shows a very nasty and long winter ahead.

The news at the Shelter which made us very happy is, our Carolina dog, King, has found his forever home with the Buckmores. As I wrote in last month's letter Bonnie lost her little Bridget. I know King will never replace her, but I am sure he will help them not to feel totally lost and alone.

With all the flooding and nasty weather going on across the States I wonder how many pets have lost their homes, sitting scared to death in shelters if they were lucky enough to be picked out of the water. I am in touch every so often with a shelter in South Carolina. The stories I hear from there are just terrible.

Jim spent some time at the Shelter again. Our storage-tent, one of those metal-framed garage-type things, had to be re-covered twice already, and after last winter the vinyl cover was totally shredded again and needed to be replaced. The blue tarp Reb put over it worked for awhile, but looks very nasty now, too. Instead of spending money for another new cover, which we know only lasts a few years, Jim started building a "real" storage building out of wood and metal, which will most likely outlast all of us. He figured since he is getting on in years, it's probably his last chance to build before he gets to old to do so. Anyway, the building is almost done. Reb is happy that she has a place to store all the machinery and everything else, Lowe's and Home Depot are happy to have sold all kinds of building material,

the bank is happy that we used the credit card, the only one not so happy is me because I have to figure out how to make the payments on the credit card. But it had to be done, so once again: please send a couple of extra bucks if you can. Thank you!

For our readers who get this newsletter in the mail, this is the last batch of fundraiser tickets you will receive. We will have the drawing of the prizes towards the end of this month. Thank you to each and every one who helped us collecting some much needed heating-fuel money.

The people-news: A HUGE Thank you once again to all of our supporters who helped our animals with money, stamps, care packages and food:

Al Smith, Belmont
Charlotte Paul, Chelmsford
Cristine Cardello, Melrose
Dale Critchley, S. Weymouth
Grace Kiley, N. Andover
Harry Clark, Beverly
Iris Martinello, Tewksbury
Jackie Lowney, New Bedford
Joe D'Alessandro, Tuftonboro

Joseph Blake, New Bedford
Judy Rohweder, Northport
Laura Migliore, Swampscott
Linda Merriam, Dresden
Lisa Lanchance-Bolduc
Lynn Frischmann, Los Gatos
Marcia Smith, Bangor
Michael Kane, Greenwood
Nancy Capone, Wakefield

Norma Dyer, S.
Dartmouth
Pat Thain, Dracut
Ralph & Jean Catignani
Rust Pappathanasi, Swampscott
Sally Sawyer, Albany Twp.
Steve Martin, Augusta

We received a donation in memory of Michael Kane's very beloved cat. "Toughie" was Michael's best buddy and was dearly loved.

James Bean also sent a check in memory of Bridget, Bonnie and Todd Buckmore's much missed dog.

Bonnie Buckmore emptied donation cans again and mailed us the money, and John Wells also had his little fundraiser table set up in front of Shaw's, one again, to help us pay for the various needs of our critters.

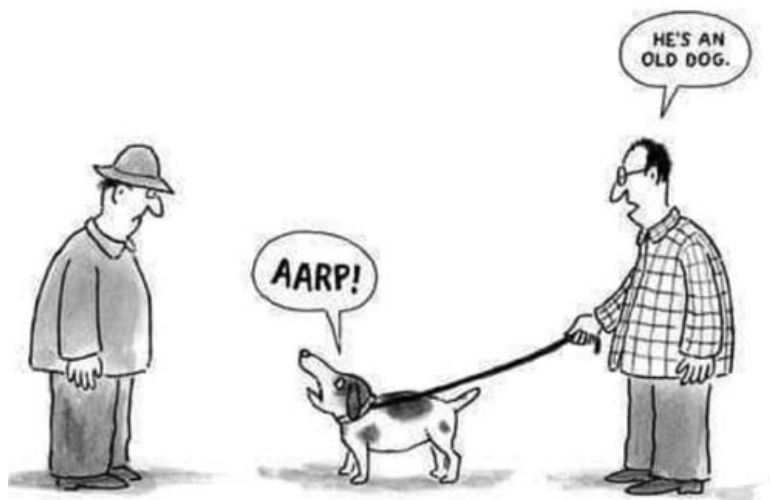
Bonnie also brought another bunch of food, donated by Loyal Biscuit, to the Shelter.

Thank you very much to all of the above. Without your help there would be no Charley's Strays.

And this brings me to the end of this month's news at the Shelter.

Wishing you a perfect month of October, stay happy and healthy,

Gabriele, Mary, Ted, Eric and Jim



CAT REPORT SEPTEMBER 2019

With this mild fall, our cats continue to enjoy sunny days and occasional mild overnights on the porch. Among the things they watch are the woolly bear caterpillars; all five I've seen so far have wide bands, which my favorite interpreter says forecasts a mild winter (whatever the various almanacs' experts think).

No bad news so far this month (there are still four days to go as I write). Tang is showing his age, sleeping a lot and acting slow and stiff when he first wakes up (just like me), but he's eating well and seems content. Big black Alafer, aka Twinearound, stayed on the porch while I served breakfast yesterday, and since he's usually super-twiney when I'm trying to distribute food I was worried. Last night and this morning he was back to normal, getting fallen over with every step I took and sticking his nose into each dish before I had time to fill it.

Bonnie Buckmore brought cat food to the kennel and Reb delivered it to my house, and Shirley Jordan and Pepper Charles both added to the cats' meals. I'm always pleased to have coupons from the person who puts no return address on the envelope, Suzanne Belisle, Teresa Parent, Al Smith and other friends. I hope lots of you bought drawing tickets from Gabriele and won prizes with them. Goodness knows there are enough worthwhile organizations asking for money; many thanks to those of you who choose to help us take care of our dogs and cats.

I learned this week of another cat rescue in southwestern Maine I'd not heard of until they sent people all the way to this area to help with a feral colony. The local groups are overwhelmed – more than 200 cats and kittens in each of two nearby shelters, for instance.