



Charley's Strays, Inc.

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Limestone, April 30, 2019

Dear Friends,

I hope this letter finds you in good health and in a great mood! Spring is here, the last patches of snow on our lawn are gone. Only the woods behind the house has to deal with some snow. Everything here in Limestone and at the Shelter is flooded; but hopefully the sun and wind will dry it up soon, too. The dogs don't seem to mind, they wade through the wet mess, and Rebecca has a nice pair of boots. So far the water has not reached her knees. ☺

I will jump right into the Shelter news: The above photo shows Melissa, owner of "Primp my Paws" who is donating her time trimming dog nails to raise funds for charitable organizations. Charley's Strays was the lucky recipient for the first quarter of the year's moneys. The photo also shows Adam, store manager of Loyal Biscuit, who loaded yet another trunk full of supplies, donated from Loyal Biscuit, for Charley's animals. And in the above photograph, the little round brown critter is a former Charley's Strays dog, Bridget, who found a great home many years ago with Bonnie Buckmore.

A HUGE THANK YOU goes to Loyal Biscuit for facilitating Melissa's nail-trimming and for helping us so very much by donating supplies to our animals.

And another HUGE THANK YOU goes to Melissa, who actually worked for Charley's Strays by clipping many nails, and by mailing us the proceeds (not the trimmed nail clippings, but money). Without Bonnie Buckmore, none of this would have happened. She was the one who initiated everything. Thank you Bonnie!

As I wrote in the March newsletter, Jim and I escaped the snow and cold of Limestone and headed to Arizona. It was a trip I had wanted to do ever since I came to the US, and it finally came through. It was an amazing visit, I could not believe my eyes; the colors of the mountains, the Painted Desert, the 280 million year old petrified trees. My brain had a hard time grasping it all. But all good things come to an end, and we are back here. Thank God the snow came to an end while we were gone, even though a couple of nights ago it snowed again, and when I got up in the morning all was white.

Because of being gone for awhile, some of the names of the people who helped our animals were not in last month newsletter, but here they are along with the names of the donors who helped us out again in April:

Al Smith, Belmont
Alice Winston, Swampscott
Benedikt Brecht, Michigan
Cristine Cardello, Melrose
Dale Critchley, Weymouth
Donna Bering, Wakefield
Iris Martinello, Tewksbury

Joe D'Alessandro, Tuftonboro
Julia Li,
Leanna Dwyer
Linda Merriam, Dresden
Marlene Kaplan, Melrose
Michael Kane, Greenwood
Nancy Capone, Wakefield

Patricia Caler, Bangor
Patricia Thain, Dracut
Responsible Petcare
Rust Pappathanasi, Swamps.
Ruth Giusti, Titusville
The Lowneys, New Bedford

Thank you very much!

As you can see, we are getting less and less donations- I am not sure if that has to do with the great economy may not being so great, or?! So I am especially grateful to our supporters which go the extra mile:

Judith Olivier mailed us a check with money she collected out of a donation box she set up.

Bonnie Buckmore also mailed us checks from her various donation cans.

A donation was mailed to us by Antonio Migliore, in memory of the Rizzo cat and in memory of Robert Rizzo, who passed away in 2008.

John Wells sat at his table once again to help our animals by education people about animals. He had another hilarious story for me:

"I've complained before about people who give a dollar and expect \$20 in free toys. This weekend a lady told me she didn't have any money but took a toy anyway, saying she'd get me next time. (The good news is that the toy she selected- a big rubber donut looking thing- was the kind of thing that appeals to humans, but no self-respecting dog would be likely to give a second look at)."

John also notified me that he got another box of great toys from Lynn Frischmann, all the way from California.

And then there is my German friend Christel Fridow who lives in Michigan. Christel loves to bake, and she also loves animals, especially the ones who have no family of their own. Christel baked some great stuff, and mailed us the money she made from her efforts.



Looks yummy, and probably tastes heavenly.

Christel also mailed us a donation in memory of her daughter Marie-Kristin, who passed away 9 years ago as a young girl.

To all the above people, many, many Thanks.

This brings me to the end of the newsletter. Please read on, there is Mary's Cat Report on the next page.

Gabriele

Mary, Ted, Eric and Jim

CAT REPORT – APRIL 2019

A no news is good news month for our cat family. Tang had his dental without complications and is off medication except for his daily thyroid pill, which he takes in canned food without fuss. The rest have been well, so far (the month isn't quite over). With Lucien it's a wonder, considering the weird things he thinks are edible. Yesterday I had to move a bag of Tidy Cats litter out of the room before he chewed all the paper tape off the bottom.

Thanks, as always, to the cats' friends. Pepper and Shirley continue to provide food, canned and dry; Reb delivered another carload of things left at the kennel (some collected by Bonnie Buckmore, some anonymous gifts, Reb said); and I've been using coupons donated by Suzanne Belisle, Teresa Parent and Al Smith.

Happy spring to all of you, if it ever decides to come & stay. Some of the early flowers are in bloom in this part of Maine, but the north has had recent snow and is due for more.