



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

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Limestone, August, 2019

Dear Friends,

No dogs at Charley's have to work like this guy - no herding is being done at our Shelter. Our critters are perfectly okay just hanging out, eating, sleeping, and playing and sweating, this summer was really a scorcher for them, too. Imagine having to wear a fur coat in this heat!

Jim left last Sunday to drive to the Shelter in order to put up the new storage shed, and even though he did not wear any furs, he had a hard time dealing with the humidity, too. He came back on Friday, totally exhausted, with very sore legs and feet from standing on the ladder, but the building is done and rat-proofed. Metal all around it, a metal floor and a metal roof- he even filled the small cracks where a mouse or other rodent could get in, with cement. This food-storage building most likely will outlast him. There will be some hungry rodents around sharpening their teeth and getting nowhereⓄ.

Other than that no new news at the Shelter; no adoptions, no drop-offs, only the regular emails from seemingly bored-to-death people asking for adopting a certain animal and after 10 mails never showing up. Nothing unusual there. I guess they have to kill time somehow.

On the financial side: We did better this month, with more donations, and we actually could make ends meet. Of course the euphoria did not last: the Town of Benton had to throw the tax bill at us for \$649, but at least we have a couple of months time to pay that bill.

I am very grateful to the following supporters of our animals:

Al Smith, Belmont  
Alice Winston, Swampscott  
Charlotte Paul, Chelmsford  
Cristine Cardello, Melrose  
Dale Critchley, S. Weymouth  
Donna Bering, Wakefield  
Emilia Jorgensen, Boston  
Grace Kiley, N. Andover  
George Watkins, Amesbury  
Irma Simon, S. China

Iris Martinello, Tewksbury  
Jacki and Kellee Lowney  
Jean & Ralph Catignani  
Jeannine Lord, Oakland  
Joe D'Alessandro, Tuftonboro  
Jon Anderson, Readfield  
Joseph Mooney, Wakefield  
Larry & Arlene Hayes  
Libby Snipe, Alexandria  
Linda Merriam, Dresden

Lynn Frischmann, Los Gatos  
Marlene Kaplan, Melrose  
Marcia Smith, Bangor  
Michael Kane, Greenwood  
Nancy Capone, Wakefield  
Pat Thain, Dracut  
Paula Wisniowski, Tyngsboro  
Steve Martin, Augusta

### ***Thank you very much!***

We received a donation from Judy Rohweder in memory of her young friend, Pete Rose. Judy said: "Pete often told me that the finest people are the ones who have fur. " Pete must have been a wonderful person; it's so sad to see the good ones go ...

Cynthia and Galen Thompson also had to deal with the loss of a loved one: their brother-in-law Andy passed away in April. He helped plan their yearly Fleabag Ball, and particularly enjoyed making the fliers and posters. Andy was part of the Thompson's life for 26 years, and they miss him dearly.

Bonnie Buckmore, our helper who organizes all kinds of "stuff" for our animals and who facefully drives around in different stores collecting money via donation boxes for our Shelter, also had to deal with a very sad event. Dog Bridget, the love of her and her husband Todd's life, passed away. I actually cried myself when I read: "our little sunshine is gone." I remember well many years ago when Bridget came to our Shelter, two ladies, both very determined to give Bridged a home, actually fought over her. Bonnie won the battle, and Bridget had a great life with her and Todd for 11 years.

Bob Moore and friends of Bonnie mailed us a check in memory of Bridget.

To all the above: we at Charley's Strays are very sorry for your loss!

But there was also a bit of funny news: John Wells had his monthly "fundraiser" for us at Shaws once again. He sent us a check along with the little remark about people: ". . . one lady stood by my table and when another lady gave a donation, told her to take a toy. The other lady said she didn't need any, when the first lady said, "well take one anyway. You can give it to me". People are amazing.

Judith Olivier and Bonnie Buckmore also mailed us checks for money they collected from donation boxes. Thank you very much too both ladies and to John!

A huge thank you goes to Melissa Lemik, who owns Primp my Paws, a mobile grooming business ([www.primpmypaws.com](http://www.primpmypaws.com)). She donates her time doing the nail trimming clinics to benefit shelters (this year for Charley's). Loyal Biscuit provides their Waterville store for the clinics.

Since I have no more news, Have a wonderful month of September.

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

## **CAT REPORT      AUGUST 2019**

Not much new about our cats, except for orange Tang, who solved a minor mystery for me, and long-haired black Willow, who got adventurous. Lucien, who starred in last month's cat report, is still breathing noisily, but he's eating well and acting as lively as usual.

The mystery was why grit accumulated so quickly in the bottom of the big water bowl in my bedroom. Some days I'd change it completely twice, while other bowls upstairs remained clean and needed only to be topped up. Tang lives with both the upstairs group, where he often sleeps at the top of my pillow, and the downstairs group, where he eats his medicated canned food. One afternoon he and I were upstairs and I happened to see him getting a drink – with both front paws in the water dish! When he was satisfied, he fastidiously shook the water off one paw at a time and hopped onto my bed for a nap.

Willow, aka Willy, is supposed to live downstairs with his brothers and their friends, but he's decided if Tang can switch, so can he. Often when I open the door separating the groups, Willow is there waiting to go through. I've learned I can't talk him out of it, so we both go into the front of the house, where he either jumps onto a big dog crate to look out at the street or goes upstairs. So far, no big problem; I occasionally hear hissing, but there've been no fights that I know of. After a while I'll find Willy waiting to come back to his own area.

As usual, the cats' friends have been generous – food from Pepper Charles and Shirley Jordan, coupons from Suzanne Belisle, Teresa Parent and Al Smith. Many thanks, to them and to all of you who help keep this shelter running. I hope you're having a good summer; so far we've survived the heat, the humidity and the thunderstorms, and right now it's comfortably cool and dry, the way a Maine summer should be.