



NOT TO THE VET!

Charley's Strays, Inc.

Mailing address: P.O. Box 64, Limestone, ME 04750

Tel. Jim at: 207-325-8894 Shelter at: 207-426-9482

Email: Jbrewer7@maine.rr.com

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Dear Friends,

The first month of the New Year is gone, already, and up here in the northern part of Maine people greet each other with: one day closer to spring.

Since Jim and I did not go anywhere south this winter, I am going a bit nuts. All the snow up here and the terrible cold we had is getting to me. Fortunately, the days are getting longer; it does not look like midnight at 4 pm any more, so, I guess I will make it without climbing the walls.

We had some great news at the Shelter: Karen Rapallo, long-time supporter of Charley's, who lives in Massachusetts, comes up here every once in-a-while with a carload full of blankets, treats, and toys. She came again for a visit this month, and also brought a friend along, who fell in love with one of dogs. Angus was not a very social dog, so finding a home for him was not an easy task. Anyway, the two went for walk, played with each other, and Karen's friend decided to give him a chance of home-life. From what I have heard, he is a total sweetheart with her and her other dog, they play, cuddle, and everything else. No sign of aggression in him anymore. He is up there in age, so we are even happier that this old gent found his forever-home!

Contrary to the mountains of snow we got up here, the weather was decent at the Shelter in Clinton. They received only a few inches of snow there, just enough that the dogs could enjoy rolling around in it. I hope it stays that way for the rest of this winter.

That brings me to the people-news: A HUGE THANK YOU to our following supporters, who again sent us stamps, care-packages for our animals, and donations to keep Charley's Strays afloat:

Albert Smith, Belmont
Alice Winston, Swampscott
Amy Nordberg, Boxborough
Anne Tappan, Cambridge
Cristine Cardello, Melrose
Dale Critchley, S. Weymouth
David Hingston, Chelmsford
Donna Wade, Unity
Emilia Jorgensen, E. Boston
Iris Martinello, Tewksbury
Jackie & Kellee Lowney

Jean & Ralph Catignani
Joe D'Allesandro, Tuftonboro
Joseph Kogut Upton
Marlene Kaplan, Melrose
Nancy Capone, Wakefield
Pat Thain, Dracut
Patricia Harrison, Litchfield
Roby Bhattacharyya
Sondra Cavanaro
Walter Moore, Bangor

Michael Kane mailed us a donation in memory of Gabby, beloved cat of Mike and Diane Rizzo.

Judith Olivier and Bonnie Buckmore again emptied donation boxes at different stores, and mailed us these donations.

We also received the fourth quarter nail-clipping proceeds from "Primp my Paws", Melissa, who is doing the nail trimming clinics to benefit shelters. Many thanks to her and to Loyal Biscuit, who provides their Waterville store to do the nail trimming.

The Cat Report follows on the next page.

Gabriele, Mary, Ted. Eric and Jim



The Cat Report

The big – that is, expensive – news is that Tang had his dental four days ago. He has three teeth left, Dr. Macmillan said. The night he came home he spent in a big dog crate, and he slept soundly most of the next day. But he ate that day – I added warm water to his canned food – and since then he's been eating well and taking his post-surgery antibiotic in his food.

Lucien turned out to be quite sick in December and saw the doctor, who did the usual tests – expensive again – without finding anything significantly off-kilter. Luce recovered on his own in a few days. He still looks thin, but he's acting fine – first one onto the porch almost every morning when I open the door – and when I weighed him yesterday he was just the same as two weeks ago.

As usual, the cats' friends have been generous, and as usual my record-keeping has been sloppy. So many thanks to Pepper Charles, Shirley Jordan and Laurie and Dave Mountain for cat food, Teresa Parent and Al Smith for coupons, and anyone else I might have forgotten.