



Charley's Strays, Inc.

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Limestone, ME, October 2020

Dear Friends,

I found above photo and thought I share it with you. The second part of it is on page 2. I could not fit the Australian version on this page. I am just not good enough with the computer. I am sure some of you would have known how to do it ☹.

And since we are at all this internet and computer stuff, this will be the last newsletter **ONLINE** for awhile. I am a bit tired of receiving emails from non-donors and non-supporters who seem to have nothing better to do then complain about one thing or another. Of course I will still be mailing a hard copy to our supporters! If you have been reading it online, please let me know by email or by letter, and I will put you on our mailing list. Thank you for understanding.

I have to retract something I wrote last month, about thinking that one of our dogs died most likely from a toad-ingestion. Well, I checked on the Internet (it does come in handy at times) and found out that the only poisonous toads are living in the Midwest and deep South. They are called Colorado toads and actually can stop a dog's heart. I honestly don't think one of those Colorado toads hopped all the way up to Maine. So no toad was the cause of death of our dog; most likely old age or a stroke. From what I read all toads are a bit nasty to eat. I wonder who tasted one, to know that. But the local ones, or the New England toads, only cause a very bad taste in a dogs' mouth and may make him vomit, but that's the extend of it.

All is well at the Shelter. Jim spent some time there re-doing a couple of floors, a very nasty job since he has to tear out the wood beneath the linoleum, and of course the 4x8 sheets which were already on the floor, some only come out in pieces. But he did have much appreciated help from Reb, who said she'd rather help him, rather than him bringing a person along who may, or may not, have the corona virus. And since Reb is the only full-time person on the premises, she is very, very careful not to get infected. So, some very sore knees and arms from the work, after they both recover Jim will drive down again to re-do some more runs.

After a very hot and dry summer, with being at extreme drought level, we finally had the much needed rain. I am sure our dogs were not so happy about it. Who knows, maybe they do like to play and run in the rain, but we really were in bad shape, especially in the northern part of Maine. In all the years of living up here I have never seen the creeks and rivers so low, almost completely dried out. But, all seems well again now.



Once again our animals were very lucky to have your support! We thank each and every one of you for helping us get through another month. Thank you very much for the care packages, the stamps, Starbucks' gift cards which are much appreciated even though our dogs and cats did not seem to excited about them ☺ And of course the monetary donations which keep the vet happy, the electric company, the pet food store and . . .

Albert Smith, Belmont
Anne Haynes
Arlene Hayes, Reading
Bonnie Buckmore, Waterville
Charlotte Paul, Chelmsford
Cindy Houston, Woburn
Cristine Cardello, Melrose
Dale Critchley, S. Weymouth

Donna Bering, Wakefield
Harry Clark, Beverly
Iris Martinello, Tewksbury
Jackie and Keelee Lowney
Joe D'Alessandro, Tuftonboro
John Wells, Oakland
Linda Merriam, Dresden
Marlene Kaplan, Melrose

Michael Kane, Greenwood
Midcoast Development Fairfield
Pat Thain, Dracut
Philipp Mann, Rowland H.
Sally Sawyer, Albany Twp.
Steve Martin, Augusta
Zee Zee's Dreams

Karen Rapallo dropped of bunches of goodies, blankets, collars and other needed supplies. Bonnie Buckmore emptied the donation cans and mailed us a check. She also dropped off more food and treats from Loyal Biscuit.

Thank you so very much to all of you!

That's all for this month, please read on, Mary's Cat Report follows.

Have a great month of November. Happy Thanksgiving, stay safe!

Gabriele, Mary, Eric, Ted and Jim

CAT REPORT – OCTOBER 2020

To get the sad news over first, Tang is gone. Neither the vet nor I know for sure what happened. He had one set of symptoms that sent us rushing to Animal Hospital of Waterville and that Heather thought could indicate a stroke or high blood pressure or heart issues. Two days later he was acting like a cat I lost to a brain tumor years ago. Anyway, we agreed something was seriously wrong and unlikely to get better, so he was euthanized, quickly and peacefully.

The rest of our guys and gals seem to be fine. They're being very good about having less porch time now that the weather is getting colder. Feather and Lucien are likely to go out anyway. Willow doesn't always join them, but when he does he's apt to curl up in the rocking chair and stay for hours, apparently keeping warm with his long thick fur. Ryan and Alafer occasionally stick their noses out, but seldom stay; they have favorite sleeping places indoors.

Heather made a house call early in the month. Several of our cats (and a bunch of mine) got physicals and those who were due for rabies shots are now updated for three years. Nothing obviously wrong with anybody – always a relief.

Thanks again to the coupon-clippers, Kimberly Doherty (who assures me anonymous is alive and well) and Al Smith, and to all the rest of you who help take care of our dogs and cats. Please be careful this holiday season! Maine's Covid numbers are skyrocketing as I write, and from what I hear on the news we're not as badly off as many other states.