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**The Humane Society of McDonough County is a 501(c)3 Organization, Illinois Not-for-Profit, and a proud member of the Macomb Area Chamber of Commerce.**



## LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

You will note as you read through this newsletter a concentration on fostering and adopting older and/or limited capabilities pets. We include these stories and notes to recognize the individuals who look past the physical limitations or the not-so-pretty appearance or personality to see what beauty lies within the animal. These are people that are willing to give a cat or dog a second chance or a great “final chapter” – a loving and comfortable environment in which to live. Cats and dogs are often not at their best when confined in shelter cages, especially those that may be missing their home of many years or that may be in discomfort. When taken into a home setting, the true personality of the animal is free to emerge, and they can become healthier and be wonderful companions for several years. Or they may be with us just a few days or months, but so appreciate the loving care and a sense of security and calm in which they are allowed to live.

Having a pet has many benefits for people of all ages -- another living being for a child to care for and talk to; a companion for someone living alone; a reason to get out for a walk and socialize; a provider of emotional support -- the list goes on and on. As we get older, we tend to worry about taking on a new pet, not wanting to reach a point in our lives when we can no longer care for the cat or dog. This shouldn't mean that you deprive yourself of a pet companion, but rather is when considering a senior pet may a good option. These more mature cats and dogs are beyond their chewing, exploring, and youthful rowdiness, and are content to settle in to their new life with great appreciation, and have much love to give in return.

You'll also find summaries of the fund-raising events that have occurred over the summer. We so appreciate all those individuals and groups that have contributed their time, expertise, and dollars to these efforts. Our programs, including spay/neuter opportunity, pet food pantry, rescue/foster/adoption, Angel Fund, and animal medical assistance, require an ongoing source of funding. It's these events, along with the memorials, membership fees and contributions that allow us to accomplish what we do. Thank you.

We have a fantastic HSMC Board of Directors, each with their own passion and expertise to offer to the leadership of the Humane Society. Our members as well bring much to the table. We urge you to spread the word, invite others to join us and to let us know your thoughts and ideas for what we can do to better serve the needy animals of McDonough County.

Bonnie Skripps

### Wine Whiskers and Whimsy 2016!

This year's *Wine, Whiskers and Whimsy* event was another great success for the Humane Society of McDonough County (HSMC). The community, once again, rallied around us and made this important Humane Society fundraiser an evening of fun for those who attended and prosperity for the animals whose lives will benefit from its support. It's always heartwarming to see what our amazing community members will do to help. The generous donations of area businesses and individuals who supported this event resulted in almost \$5,000.00 being raised for the Pet Food Pantry, Rescue & Foster Program, Spay/Neuter Fund, Cat Vaccine Program as well as other interventions to assist area animals in need. To everyone who purchased tickets, donated or bid on auction items, made monetary or other donations and contributed in other ways, our most sincere thanks. You can be sure that your generosity and support will directly benefit animals in need in McDonough County. A special "Thank You", to the Jim Betts Trio, who provided us with wonderful entertainment; WIU Housing and Dining Services & Sodexo for the delicious appetizers; No Place Like Home for underwriting the food cost; and Dave and Staci Dorsett at the Wine Sellers for providing the perfect ambiance for this event. Sincere thanks to The McDonough County Voice/Choice publications, Prestige Communications, the Macomb Chamber of Commerce and the many business owners who displayed our event flier for their wonderful help publicizing this year's event and for their enthusiastic participation in WWW '16. The support of the business owners and community members who made this year's *Wine, Whiskers and Whimsy* so successful was enormous. On behalf of the animals whose lives will be touched by your thoughtfulness we thank you again and look forward to seeing you at future Humane Society of McDonough County events.



Pictured: Hors d'oeuvres from Sodexo, No Place Like Home donation, and the Jim Betts Trio!

### Bill & Lynn Jacobs Party!

This year Bill and Lynn Jacobs hosted the annual get-together of their college friends at their home in the country. They recruited local musicians and old friends who make music to play at the event and to donate their time in lieu of contributions to HSMC. Pictures of available shelter and foster cats and dogs decorated the tables and donation cans. \$430 was raised for the HSMC! THANK YOU!



Pictured: Bill Jacobs, local musicians, and Pablo who was adopted from the McDonough County Shelter!

### McDonough County Animal Shelter Agility Pen – Open to the Public

The MCAS Agility Pen is now open to the public during business hours and when an animal control officer is present! Please sign In/Out, dogs should be up-to-date on shots and registered, and clean up after your dog!

A huge THANK YOU to Dan Curtis who built the dog agility equipment. The HSMC also thanks the donors, volunteers, City of Macomb, and the McDonough County Board and the shelter staff for joining forces to make this happen.



Duke, a handsome American Pitbull available for adoption at the MCAS, is quite adept at using the agility equipment!



The McDonough County Animal Shelter's completed agility course!

### LOW-COST SPAY/NEUTER TRANSPORT SCHEDULE

(Space is limited and filling up quickly)

September 29: Open

Future dates will be posted on the HSMC Facebook page



Inky and Tux in the arms of Shayna Kessler!

### Inky and Tux (aka Indigo and Midnight)!

Indigo and Midnight are siblings, born in April 2015. They did not get adopted from the shelter and therefore came into the HSMC Foster program. Special thanks to Shayna Kessler for taking wonderful care of them for 8 months before they were adopted! Here's what Indigo and Midnight have to say about their new home: "Hi, we're Inky and Tux (AKA Indigo and Midnight). We have settled in to our new home and are quite content. Thank you to the McDonough Humane Society for allowing us to be adopted FURREVER. Our human, Susanne Campbell, has put her Southern Hospitality in full gear for us. Toys and snacks and food and water and catnip galore. But, it's the cuddles and tummy rubs we like the most. We are so happy to be in our FURREVER home."

## Two Dames and a Tale of New Beginnings



**Peggy Ma and Whoopie**

Peggy went to the shelter at the end of May this year with the intent of finding a small, older dog to adopt. She had lost her husband, Te Ma, about a year and a half ago and said that while she wasn't really lonely, "those Sunday afternoons when Te used to lie on the couch snoring were pretty long sometimes after he was gone." While never having had a dog before she thought a dog might be good company. Peggy had been looking online at the small dogs at the shelter, but the timing was never right or they were gone before she had a chance to see them. That fateful afternoon in May, she decided to go out to the shelter to see the available dogs.

Peggy told the shelter staff the type of dog she was looking for, and Whoopie was brought out with a cone around her neck and with her eye all stitched up. They said she was 11 years old ("about my age in people years"), and her microchip had her name as Whoopie. The registered owner had been contacted, but did not want to reclaim her. Her coat was cut very short because she had come into the shelter with lots of tangles and matted fur. "She sat on my lap, didn't bite me, nor did she bark, so it looked like we would get along."

The HSMC had covered the expense of having Whoopie's bulging left eye removed for comfort/health reasons and she has cataracts in her right eye so her vision is pretty limited. Peggy says from Day 1 she seemed content and fairly confident in her ability to get around. "She bumps into things, especially kitchen counter stools that get moved around, but it doesn't seem to faze her. She learned her way around the house fairly quickly and only fell off the front porch step once."

Peggy laughs when she recalls that they say you should introduce your new dog to your friends and family gradually. The first night Whoopie was in her new home, Peggy's son and his family showed up from Chicago, and then the next morning her daughter and her family and small dog arrived. "It wasn't until my daughter and her kids and dog came to the house that I heard Whoopie bark. Then the excitement got her going, but all was fine."

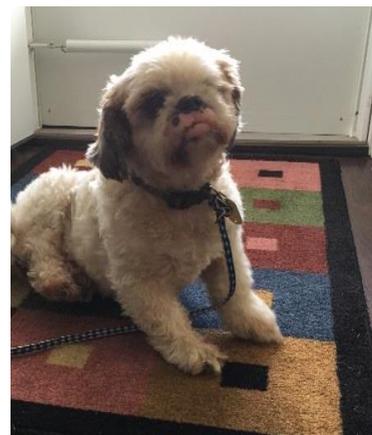


**Whoopie when she first arrived at the McDonough County Shelter**

When asked about the adjustments she has had to make Peggy responds, "I can't just take off and leave the house. Short errands are easy, but I have to think about Whoopie and her timing as well. For some people having a cat may be easier."

Peggy says the benefits of having Whoopie in her life are many. "She nags me when it's time to go to bed and sleeps under the bed, snoring lightly. She also lets me know when it's time to eat and her food bowl is empty." Most of all, "It's so nice to come home and have another being waiting for me. When I come in from the garage, I always say, 'Where's my doggy?'"

Peggy's advice to other seniors who may be thinking of getting a pet: "Think about the health benefits, my blood pressure is down." She also advises adopting an older dog or cat. "Whoopie doesn't chew, doesn't jump up and is pretty calm. She is also appreciative of her second chance, I think." And, from her experience with Whoopie's limited vision, she agrees that it's amazing how "special needs" cats or dogs don't really let their limitations stand in the way.



**Whoopie now!**

**“I take care of my flowers and my cats. And enjoy food. And that’s living.”**

**~Ursula Andress**



**Lily (Black & White) sits behind her Siamese friend in the greenhouse.**

Go visit Lily and let her show you the mums and pumpkins available at Sweet Briar for Fall decorating.

**The Life of Lily**

Lily (aka GrouchElla) was left in the outside kennels at the shelter in early April without a note or explanation. A young black and white girl, she was rather grouchy to shelter staff and volunteers, and not too interested in human interaction. After her two- month stay at the shelter, the HSMC rescued her with the intent of placing her as a barn cat in an environment where we knew she would have food, water and shelter.

Eva Galbraith, owner of Sweet Briar Corner Market, which is located just off 67N on Raritan Road, agreed to give her a home. She would share a barn with horses, and a couple of other cats, and have pretty chickens and Sweet Briar customers to keep her occupied. The elder Sweet Briar Siamese cat-in-residence agreed to allow her to assist with the business in the greenhouses.

Eva soon discovered that the newly named Lily had very little hearing capacity. “Lily has settled in quite nicely, she hangs in greenhouses all day if she is not out in the woods walking around. She does respond to certain sounds, loud banging or a high pitched call and she comes running. . . . She gets along with Johnny and tolerates Ziggy. I will be open soon for the fall mum season, , , , , she seems to adore total strangers as well.”

**HSMC BOARD MEETING SCHEDULE**

(2<sup>nd</sup> Monday of each month unless otherwise noted:

- September 12
- October 10
- November 14
- December 12

5:30 pm  
Wesley Village Dining Room

**Bonnie**



**Bonnie looking for an available lap.**

**In Loving Memory: Bonnie**

Bonnie arrived at the McDonough County Animal Shelter in November of 2015, where she remained until the HSMC pulled her into a foster home in February of 2016. Bonnie had a sensitive stomach requiring some special attention, but she repaid that attention with non-stop purring. She was a sweet, beautiful, blue-eyed senior feline.

On August 13, Bonnie crossed the Rainbow Bridge. But she did so knowing she was loved and cared for. Thank you Amy and Ken Betz

**In Loving Memory: Dottie**

Dottie came to the MCAS in July of 2014 as a 15 year old Coonhound mix. In August of that year the HSMC moved her into a foster home with Gillian, who later adopted this sweet, senior, girl. ‘The time has come to say goodbye to this beautiful, gentle girl. When I got her at the shelter, the vet didn't expect her to live more than one month. We've had her nearly 3 years and she has brought so much happiness and love to everyone she touched. Today (August 7<sup>th</sup>), was our last full day with her and I am thankful that the weather is nice and she can spend some time outside in the shade under the tree and let us spoil her one last day. We love you Dottie.’ ~ Gillian Stupples

**Dottie**



**Dottie curled up with one of her cats.**



Chris Brix and Pee Wee

### BRIX CHALLENGE 2016

For the third year in a row our good friend and supporter Chris Brix will be challenging the community in another fundraising event for the Humane Society of McDonough County. He has generously promised to, once again, match \$1,000.00 in donations during the upcoming "Brix Challenge 2016". Be watching for details and plan to be a part of this fantastic community effort during the month of October.



### 8<sup>th</sup> Annual Kris Moore Memorial Gimme Shelter Golf Tournament

The HSMC thanks Lee Trotter and his band of merry pranksters who pulled off another successful Kris Moore Memorial Golf Outing!

The tournament at Gold Hills had 62 golfers and raised \$1,865 for the HSMC plus 339 lbs of cat litter, 184 lbs of cat food, 22 lbs of cat treats, 91 lbs of dog food, 2 lbs of dog treats, and 1 lb of dog biscuits.

Kris Moore was a long-time HSMC member and volunteer who passed away unexpectedly in 2008. This golf tournament is such a wonderful way in which to remember Kris.

### New! Foster Spotlight: Sebastian



**Sebastian** is a gorgeous, black male, approximately 2-3 years old. He loves to be held and is a real purr baby.

### PET FOOD PANTRY!

Donations of Pet Food and Kitty Litter are accepted at the Macomb City Hall (East Entrance collection box), with any HSMC Board Member, or if you prefer to make a monetary donation, please send your check, marked Pet Food Pantry, to the HSMC, PO Box 7, Macomb IL 61455. We also accept PayPal!

**THANK YOU**  
for your **DONATIONS!**

### New! Foster Spotlight: Chewy



**Chewy** is a long-haired Calico beauty! She is front declawed and approximately 3 years old. She enjoys attention but prefers not to be held.

## The Burlington Kennel Club Dog Show at WIU Student Recreation Center



HSMC Volunteers (Pictured left to right): Cecelia Benelli, Karen Proulx, Kate Shattuck, Terri Hare & Bonnie Skripps!

Not pictured: Dave Monninger, Linda Andrews, Max Kreps, Bill Johnson, Pat Stewart, Amy Betz

We sincerely hope you had a chance to enjoy the Burlington Kennel Club's Dog Show and visit the HSMC display table! We had a fantastic time! Thank you to everyone who stopped by to view the dogs and cats available at the Shelter and the HSMC Foster/Adoptables. And thank you to everyone who donated and/or bought a T-Shirt!

## BUSINESS MEMBERS

The HSMC is honored to have the following Business Members:

**All Pets Veterinary Clinic**  
**Animal Medical Center**  
**Black Nugget, LLC**  
**Bushnell Veterinary Service, PC**  
**Captured Moments Photography**  
**Clugston-Tibbitts Funeral Homes**  
**Dad's Place**  
**Diamond Den**  
**Free Range Yoga**  
**Green Shingle Graphics**  
**Hickory Kennels**  
**Matthew S. McClure, DMD-PC**  
**MidAmerica National Bank**  
**No Place Like Home**  
**Purdum Gray Ingledue Beck**  
**Sodexo**

The HSMC offers three business membership levels: \$100 Protector, \$250 Guardian, \$500 Defender Memberships include: a certificate of membership, 2 copies of Waggin' Tales (more upon request), a business card with the HSMC contact information, and the knowledge that your business is a core supporter of the HSMC mission to protect and improve the lives of the animals living in our community.

## Worth the drive...

Small county animal shelters often don't get enough traffic from prospective adopters, and some delightful older dogs can languish in kennels for months. Missy and Red were two such older dogs who found themselves at the MCAS. The Helping Paw Project, a Springfield based rescue organization, was asked to help find them homes... but who was going to drive two hours to adopt older dogs? Quite a few people, matter of fact. A couple interested in Missy left for Macomb almost immediately and adopted Missy, now named Dolce. And Judy from Creve Coeur drove to Macomb to adopt Red, now named Hershey. "Old dogs rock!" says Judy.





Humane Society  
of McDonough County  
P.O. Box 7  
Macomb, IL 61455



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Macomb, IL 61455  
Phone: 309-837-5611

## Humane Society of McDonough County

An Illinois Not-for-Profit and Federal 501(c)3 Organization

Website: [www.hsmcil.org](http://www.hsmcil.org)

Facebook: [www.facebook.com/HSMCIL](http://www.facebook.com/HSMCIL)

Petfinder: [www.petfinder.com/shelters/IL65.html](http://www.petfinder.com/shelters/IL65.html)

Email: [humanesociety.mcil@gmail.com](mailto:humanesociety.mcil@gmail.com)

### HSMC Board of Directors 2016

**Bonnie Skripps, President**  
**Bill Johnson, Vice President**  
**Terri Hare, Treasurer & Correspondence**  
**Cecilia Benelli, Recording Secretary**  
**Amy Betz, Education Chair**  
**Kate Shattuck, Membership Chair**  
**Max Kreps, County Shelter Liaison**  
**Linda Andrews, Board Member**  
**JB Biernbaum, Board Member**  
**Kathy Chambers, Board Member**  
**Dave Monninger, Board Member**

Please consider taking your Humane Society membership one step further by donating your time and talents to running this organization. We do need you! Please, help shape the future of the Humane Society of McDonough County!

### McDonough County Animal Shelter

Animal Control Officers: K Havens & B Billymer

Phone: 309-837-2989

Email: [mcas@macomb.com](mailto:mcas@macomb.com)

Website: [mcdonoughcountyanimalshelter.weebly.com/](http://mcdonoughcountyanimalshelter.weebly.com/)

Facebook: [facebook.com/McDonough-County-Animal-Shelter](http://facebook.com/McDonough-County-Animal-Shelter)

Located: Highway 67 & Tower Road, just north of the Comfort Inn, Macomb IL

Hours: Mon-Fri 11-5 p.m., Sat: 10-noon

The McDonough County Animal Shelter is a county run facility staffed by County employees. The HSMC does not have independent access to the shelter, nor the authority to arrange adoptions. The HSMC works diligently to promote adoption of the animals available at the McDonough County Animal Shelter.

***Please make adoption your first option!***