

WINTER 2023

HSMCIL
P.O. Box 7
Macomb, IL 61455

HSMCIL.ORG

facebook.com/hsmcil

Instagram:
hsmc_mcdonough

PayPal:
hsmcil@hotmail.com

Venmo:
@HumaneSocietyofMcD
onoughCounty

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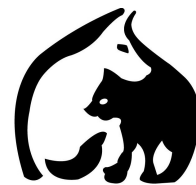
Meetings

When: First Monday of each
Month
Time: 5:30 pm
Location: American Legion,
Macomb



Humane Society of McDonough County

Waggin' Tales



Happy Holidays,

We're off to a busy and joyous holiday season -- lots of activities and examples of community support to share. However, I keep coming back to the story of "no room at the inn" -- this time in the context of needy dogs and cats in our county, and unfortunately across our nation. Our shelter, like others, is full to capacity and more. While our cat population at the shelter is always high, there are more dogs than ever. As two or three get adopted, three to four come in. And the sad thing is -- many of these are young dogs that people give up on too soon. They don't give them the patience and time to adjust to their new homes and families. Recognition of the difference between pups and mature dogs in their need for training and patience is very important when thinking about adopting. All dogs, and cats as well, need time to adjust and to believe they truly belong. There are wonderful animals at the shelter ready to find their forever homes -- of varying sizes, ages, color, and breeds from which to choose. We want adopters and these pets to find the right match and a happy life together.

The shelter staff had to post a need for food and cat litter because of the large number of animals. And, the community responded. Well over 100 bags of dog and cat food have been delivered, along with cat litter. We are so grateful for the support demonstrated.

We are hopeful that our dream of a new animal shelter building is closer to reality. Currently we are exploring the potential of renovating an existing structure which we believe offers exciting possibilities, both in location and size. If all the pieces fall into place and the "price is right", we will have more to announce at the March 2nd Casino Night fundraiser for the new animal shelter. So, cross your fingers, mark your calendars, and send positive energy and support our way.

You will find the slate of 2024 HSMC board member and officer candidates in this newsletter. We are planning for our annual meeting -- at which we hold the election -- to also be a celebration of and thank you for your membership. The meeting will be at the American Legion on Tuesday, **January 23 at 5:30 p.m.** Board members will host with a potluck supper. You do not need to bring anything -- just come, interact with us, and bring questions and suggestions for 2024.

We wish you a happy and healthy holiday season!

Bonnie Smith-Skripps, President



The Brix Challenge 10 Year Anniversary; Great results for the Humane Society of McDonough County



For ten years Chris Brix has challenged others to join him in raising funds for the annual operational costs of the HSMC during the month of October. Each challenge has been met with enormous support and this year's *Brix Challenge* was another huge success. This year the *Challenge* raised \$21,500; this amount contributes significantly to the coverage of operating costs for the upcoming year.

The generosity of Chris Brix and those who participated in this year's *Brix Challenge* makes the world a better place for many animals in McDonough County. The HSMC's assistance to animals at the McDonough County Animal Shelter includes promoting adoptions, providing sponsorships, maintaining a rescue/foster/adoption program, providing specialized medical assistance (e.g., heart worm and parvo treatments), and assisting with care and socialization of animals while they are at the shelter. Other ongoing HSMC initiatives include helping struggling pet owners via the low cost spay/neuter transports; Angel Funds provided to county veterinarian clinics for discretionary use for emergency medical situations; and the pet food pantry.

We sincerely thank everyone who supported *The Brix Challenge* this year and for the confidence shown for the work of the HSMC. Its success reminds us, once again, that one person's great idea, shared with others, can create a positive difference. We also appreciate Chris' ongoing challenge each year and Patti Nemec's coordination of the Brix Challenge for HSMC.



'PAW' LIDAYS PHOTO BOOTH

We had so much fun at the HSMC photo shoot during Dickens on the Square! Thank you, Krista Skien Photography, for donating your time in taking photos for us. This year it was held inside the Clock Tower Bank, where it was nice and warm. Thank you to Clock Tower Bank for hosting and for shelter staff



CAT TAILS

at Yappy Hour

Nearly 100 people attended CatTails at Yappy Hour for a social including music by Mike Murphy, food by Sodexo, a silent auction, a basket raffle, and wine pull. Everyone enjoyed the evening at the American Legion. We are happy to report that we raised over \$8,000 to support our programs, including low cost spay/neuter, medical assistance for shelter pets, shelter cat vaccines, shelter adoption support, and Angel Fund.



CAT TAILS

at Yappy Hour



THANK YOU TO THE SPONSORS AND
DONORS FOR MAKING THE 2023

CAT TAILS AT YAPPY HOUR SUCH A *DOG-GONE SUCCESS!*

SPONSORS

Bushnell Veterinary Service
Clock Tower Community Bank
Clugston-Tibbitts Funeral Homes
Dawg Haus
DePoy Auto Services
Discount Furniture
Farmers & Merchants State Bank
Bushnell
First Bankers Trust
Matt Glaser/American Family
Laverdiere Construction
Roger Kelso
Max and Shelley Kreps
Sharon Lindahl
Jamie McClure, DVM
MidAmerica National Bank
No Place Like Home
Paws-n-Claws
Pumo Insurance Agency
RWE Renewables Americas
Sodexo Catering
Sue's Ride Share

DONORS

abcdecluttering
American Legion
Arnold Brothers
Billy's Furniture
Linda Lee Blaine
Candy Lane Floral
Chicago Bears
Chicago Cubs
Chicks on the Square
CMK Jewelers

Chubby's
Community News Market
Patti Douglas
Gelsosomos
Gossel's Dog House
Terri Hare
Head to Tail Grooming
Hy-Vee Liquor & Spirits
Beth Jameson
Larry A's
Bill Maakestad
Maurices
McDonalds
The Methodist Church
Jeff and Dana Moon
Nostalgia Decor and Gifts
Margaret Ovitt
MHS Athletics
Packing House
Par-A-Dice Casino
Peoria Chiefs
Peoria Park District
Peoria Riverfront Museum
Pet Supplies Plus
Krista Skien Photography
Skip and Bonnie Skripps
The Small Towner
Kim Sedgwick
Springdale Farmhouse
St. Louis Cardinals
Steve and Jen Tibbitts
Vathy Veroni and Kathy Orban
The Woods Apiary
Your CBD Store



Humane Society of McDonough County

Activities

The HSMC participated in the following community activities:

- Moon Over Macomb
- Pet Supplies Plus Thanksgiving Saturday
- Festival of Trees



We have thoroughly enjoy supporting our community as much as you support us! Thank you to all who have attended an activity.



Thank You

Thank you to **Dana Moon, Ann Stites, and Kaitlyn Moon** for decorating the HSMC tree at the Festival of Trees. It was a beautiful tree! Pictured are board members Bonnie and Terri.

Thank you!

Thank you to the Macomb Elks Lodge #1009 for donating \$500 to the Brix Challenge!



Business Members

ABCDecluttering/Elisa Rasmussen
All Pets Veterinary Clinic
American Legion Post 6
Arnold Brothers
Bushnell Veterinary Services, PC
Clugston Tibbitts Funeral Home
Gossel's Dog House
Green Shingle Graphics
Haymakers
Hickory Kennels
Krista Skien Photography
Matthew S McClure, DMD
No Place Like Home
Owl Storage
Pet Supplies Plus
Purdum Gray Ingledue Beck, Inc
Royal Printing
RWE Renewables Americas LLC
Sweet Briar Corner Market
The Community News Brief

Your HSMC Board

Bonnie Smith-Skripps - President
Bill Johnson – Vice President
Amy Betz – Recording Secretary
Terri Hare – Treasurer
Candice Biswell – Membership Chair
JB Biernbaum – Director
Felix Chu – Director
Patti Douglas – Director
Sharon Lindahl – Director
Dave Monninger – Director
Ann Stites – Director
Jennifer Tibbitts – Director
Dana Moon – Director
Brian Waller – Director
Brandi Baker – Director

2024 HSMC Sponsored Transports

to

Quincy Humane Society Low Cost Spay/Neuter Clinic

Register now for spay/neuter of stray and feral cats at no charge to you,
and companion cats for \$25.
Distemper and rabies vaccines are included

March 12 Full
April 16 Full
May 14 Full
June 11 Full
July 16
August 13
September 17
October 15
November 12

You must pre-register.

Send your name, address, phone number and email,
with your cat(s) name, gender, coloring, and age to
humanesociety.mcil@gmail.com
Indicate which date you prefer.

You will bring your cat to Patton Park in Macomb at 6:30 am in a hard-sided cat carrier. You will then pick it up the next morning at 8:00 am.

McDonough County Animal Shelter



It takes a village to care for the needy animals.
The Shelter was down to one bag of food and
they put out a call for help. Our wonderful
community responded.

HSMC Annual Board Election

American Legion Macomb
Date: Monday, January 2, 2023
Time: 6 pm

Per **Article IV, Section 7**, this is notification of the slate of positions along with current nominees. Nominees will be voted on at the Annual Board Election pursuant to **Article V, Section 3**. Pursuant to **Article V, Section 4**: The Members of the Board of Directors can consist of up to 15 members. *HSMC members are encouraged to participate in the operation of this organization. Please consider attending board meetings and donating your time and talents to the running of this organization.*

Director: Open to HSMC members interested in helping the animals of McDonough County by donating their time and talents to shaping the future of this organization. The purpose of this Society is the prevention of cruelty to animals, the relief of suffering among animals, and the extension of humane education.

Slate of Nominees for 2024

Article V, Section 2: Only HSMC Members are eligible for election as Directors. No individual shall derive monetary benefit of any kind from being a director. Currently there are 15 nominees.

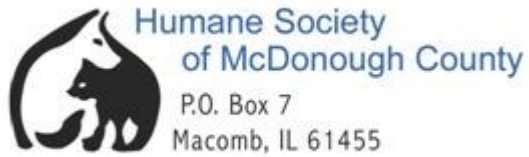
Board Positions

Officer/President
Officer/Vice President
Officer/Treasurer
Officer/Secretary
Director
Director
Director
Director
Director
Director
Director
Director
Director
Director
Director

Nominees to Date

Bonnie Smith-Skripps
Dana Moon
Terri Hare
Amy Betz
JB Biernbaum
Dave Monninger
Felix Chu
Patti Douglas
Ann Stites
Candice Biswell
Jennifer Tibbitts
Sharon Lindahl
Brandi Baker
Brian Waller
Savannah Ballard

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



Appreciation

Join us!

We welcome you to attend our Membership Appreciation potluck supper!

Tuesday, January 23, 2024

5:30 p.m.

American Legion Post #6 in Macomb

HSMC Board members will host a potluck supper. No need to bring anything – just come interact! We appreciate your voice and input, plus we will vote on the slate of 2024 HSMC Board candidates. We hope to see you there! Please email us at humanesociety.mcil@gmail.com or let a board member know if you can attend.

SAVE THE DATE!
2nd Annual
Casino Night
March 2, 2024!

