

Friends Of Strays

No-Kill Animal Shelter



March/April 2009

Friends Of Strays

PO Box 315
2845 North Main Street
Princeton, Illinois 61356
(815) 872-PETS (7387)

Upcoming Events

4/18 - Spring Drawdown
4/24 & 4/25 - Garage Sale
7/10 - Bake Sale
8/21 - Lunch in the Park

Open Hours

Tuesday & Wednesday:
1:00 p. - 4:00 p.
Thursday: 1:00 p. - 4:00 p.
Friday: 1:00 p. - 3:00 p.
Saturday: 9:00 a. - 1:00 p.
Sunday & Monday: Closed
Or call 815-872-7387
for an appointment!

PetSmart Dates

Davenport
4/4 through 4/19
In Store 5/2 & 5/3
East Peoria
4/13 through 4/19
In Store 4/18 & 4/19
Peoria
4/27 through 5/3
In Store 5/2 & 5/3

Visit Our Website:

[www.geocities.com/
friendsofstraysshelter](http://www.geocities.com/friendsofstraysshelter)

To receive your newsletter via
email please tell us at:
herecrookshanks@gmail.com

\$1,200. Cash - Get Your Drawdown Tickets Now!

If you haven't yet reserved your April Drawdown tickets, please call the Shelter at 815-872-7387. The drawdown, set for Saturday, April 18th, will be at 7:30 p.m. at the LaMoille Lions Club. Dinner, at 5:30 p.m. will include chicken, Italian beef, pasta, fries, salad, dessert, and free beer and soda. Drawdown first prize is \$1,200. in cash. Nine cash prizes totaling \$2300. will be given away, plus door prizes and a fabulous Silent Auction. Don't miss this fun evening. Only

200 total tickets will be sold. Tickets are only \$40. per couple. You'll have lots of chances to win. All proceeds benefit the humane work of the Shelter. Get some friends together and make it a night!

Just a reminder...

that the Friends of Strays Casino Bingo Nights are every Friday at Casino Bingo, on Plank Road in Peru. Join in the excitement in this "close to home" evening out!

Spring Raffle

Enclosed with this newsletter are Raffle tickets for the Friends of Strays Spring Raffle, to be drawn on July 30, 2009. All proceeds benefit the animals. If you'd like more tickets, please call the Shelter at 815-872-7387.

1st prize Fashionable
Leather and
Fabric Coach
Purse



2nd prize
Beautiful



Ladies Wittnauer
Swiss Watch with
diamond setting
on the face

3rd prize Charming
"Cat Nap" Wall

Hanging created for FOS by
M.L. Lowder of Walnut, IL

4th prize Comfortable
FOS sweatshirt

5th prize FOS T-Shirt
and cap

6th prize \$10 FOS
gift certificate

Celebrating 15 Years!

How We First Met



My dog, Sara, is a Border Collie-Australian Shepherd mix. In 2004, my Mom and Dad decided we could get a dog. We went to Friends of Strays to choose our new friend and family member. Sara was a runt in the only litter of puppies there. I was looking at and petting all of the puppies, then little Sara jumped on my shoe and lied down. I bent down to pick her up and she immediately fell asleep in my

arms. My sister, Addie wanted to adopt the Mama, Stormy, but she is so glad that Sara chose us! Sara is so wonderful and loving to us all, and she is also a certified therapy dog that makes many people smile. She is four years old and very beautiful. I still remember the day we went to pick her up. It was the best day ever!

Jessie Lister
Age 9
East Peoria, Il



FOS Canine Graduates Soon to be on Video



As we reported in prior issues, Pam Booras, of Unleashed Potential in Ottawa, Il., a certified dog trainer, has been donating her time to

work with FOS volunteers and FOS dogs. Several of our dogs, who graduated with a Basic Obedience certificate, have already been adopted. Soon, the Shelter will be filming the dogs as they demonstrate what they have learned in training. The video will be made into a DVD and will be available for viewing whenever FOS has an Adoption Day at PetSmart. Eventually, the videos will also be available online.

Annual Garage Sale

On Friday, April 24th, and Saturday, April 25th, 2009, Friends of Strays will participate in the "all town" garage sale in Hennepin, IL. Once again, Bev and Larry Eden have graciously offered their garage. Sale starts at 8 a.m. both days.

If you'd like to donate items, please deliver them to the shelter by April 22nd, or to Bev's home in Hennepin on April 23rd.

If you will be donating anything electrical...VCR's, coffee pots, crock pots, can openers and the like... please verify that the item is in good working order and that all the parts are included, before

making your donation. Household items -- baskets, linens, tableware, wall decorations, tools, baby items, best-selling books, lamps, electronics, toys, collectibles, CD's, movies, lawn chairs, garden accessories and kitchen ware all make great donations. We cannot accept clothing.



Mark your calendar! Your garage sale donations and your purchase of other donated items will directly support the animals at FOS.

Quick Pick Books

Playtime for Your Dog: Keep Him Busy Throughout the Day, by Christina Sondermann. Learn to develop simple games to improve your dog's physical, mental and emotional well-being.

For the Love of a Dog: Understanding Emotion in You and Your Best Friend, by Patricia McConnell. Scientific evidence supports the idea that what we share with our dogs is greater than how we are different. Animal Behaviorist, Patricia McConnell, looks at both human and canine emotion as a way of understanding and enriching our relationship with our dogs.

Willie's Story: You Wrote the Happy Ending



Willie, today, purring and happy.

In our last newsletter, we told you about Willie, a tabby and white kitty, who had, through abuse and neglect, suffered severe cuts, burns and exposure in frigid temperatures. Willie had been restrained with a heavy, steel chain wrapped around his neck, and left outdoors in subzero wind-chills. Trying to warm himself, Willie sliced and burned his body on a heating vent beneath a mobile home. In addition to large open wounds and burns, Willie was emaciated and dehydrated and near death when he was brought to the Shelter.

Willie needed intensive veterinary care. Dr. Ann Adams, DVM, at Bureau Valley Veterinary Service, in Princeton, IL developed a

treatment plan. United Animal Nations provided a portion of the funds necessary for Willie's care. Many of you made donations earmarked especially for Willie. Everything came together to give Willie a future...and Willie gave the rest -- the will to live and to beat the odds!

Willie is now at Friends of Strays. The wounds, which you can see in this graphic photo, are all healed, and his beautiful coat is beginning to come back in the scarred areas. He is pain-free and will make a complete recovery. Willie is a delightful boy and will soon be ready for an adoptive home filled with love and care.



Willie, three months ago.

Protect Your Pet's Health

Thawing temperatures mean fleas, ticks and mosquitoes. These pests are more than annoying - they can cause many other health problems for your pet - from tapeworm to open wounds, allergies to heartworm.

Start by getting a supply of veterinary approved flea and tick control product. Buy products conveniently at your vet or shop online.

Mosquitoes are the vector for heartworm infection. Dogs must be tested every year before

heartworm prevention therapy is started. Undetected and untreated, Heartworm can kill your dog; even if detected early, it can be debilitating to your pet, and treatment can be costly. Be sure to have your dog tested this Spring. Before you purchase a heartworm preventative, check with your vet; some breeds, like Collies, may have be sensitive to these products.

Talk to your vet about a Spring health check for your dog.

Dog Helpers Needed for Friday Evenings

Please call the Shelter if you can help. Volunteer will be responsible for walking crated dogs, tidying crates when necessary (If puppies, it is necessary!) and checking water. Plan on 1 to 2 hours depending on the doggie population. If you love wagging tails and sloppy dog kisses, call us now.

Friends of Strays History Project Advances to State

FOS volunteer, Alicia Detmers, you might recall, chose FOS as the topic for her history fair project. Alicia did so well at the local level,



that she advanced to the Regional competition in DeKalb...and she scored big! Alicia and her project are going all the way to the State competition. Hurray, Alicia!

Volunteers Needed for Events

If you would be able to volunteer for any of the events mentioned in this newsletter, please call the Shelter at 815-872-7387. We can maximize our profits at Casino Bingo when we have more volunteers to handle the business, and, we always need help with set up and clean-up at the Garage Sale and the Drawdown. The more successful our events, the better we can serve the animals in need.

Adoptions!

In February, 21 cats and 9 dogs were adopted.

In March, 19 cats and 17 dogs were adopted.

Thank you for giving them loving homes.



Chewie

Every Click Feeds Animals in Need

The Animal Rescue Site focuses the power of the Internet on a specific need – providing food for some of the 27 million unwanted animals given to shelters in the U.S. every year.

Each click on the purple "Click Here to Give - it's FREE" button at The Animal Rescue Site, provides food and care for a rescued animal living in a shelter or sanctuary. Funding for food and care is paid by site sponsors and distributed to animals in need and 100% of the advertising revenues are donated to charity.

Make a difference -- for FREE by going to:

www.theanimalrescuesite.com

Thanks to everyone who donated the fleece dog beds! Some were cut in half and made into two cozy and much-needed cat beds, and others were kept for the dogs. Thank you, so much, for the great response.



Ruby

Ruby!

Ruby was rescued from a basement window-well, where she had either fallen or sought shelter from the cold. In her weakened state, she could not free herself. It was apparent by her emaciated, but fairly clean condition that someone had intentionally tried to starve her to death; she hadn't been out running for very long. Ruby was so weak, she would not have lasted another cold night outdoors. Ruby is under a year old, still a bouncy puppy and very willing to please.

She is on a special feeding schedule - several tiny, nutritious meals every day; she isn't able to eat a normal feeding yet because of the starvation she endured. The good news is that Ruby is gaining weight. She is getting lots of love. It won't be long before she'll be ready for a new family.

Stray Thoughts

It's a great feeling to open the mail and find kids' handwritten letters expressing the joy of the human/animal bond. Recently, an area Scout troop visited the Shelter, met the cats and dogs, and learned a bit about what Friends of Strays does to help animals in need. Kids

"get it;" they understand the importance of feeling safe and loved, and translate that to an

understanding of the important humane work we do at the Shelter every day. Demonstrating kindness, patience and

responsibility, Shelter workers provide role models for future generations, and the hope for a more humane world. If you are a youth leader and would like to

schedule a visit, or, if you would like to serve as a Shelter advocate in the community, please call 815-872-7387. Bonnie



Faces of Friends Of Strays



Email Subscribers

If you'd like to receive your newsletter via email -- you'll get it quicker and in color -- and save the cost of postage for the Shelter; just send your email information to us at herecrookshanks@gmail.com. We'll still keep you on the list for mailing that include other items like the raffle tickets, so sometimes you'll receive a hard copy as well as an email version.

Note to former email subscribers:

1.) If you have asked that your newsletter be sent via email and you have not received an issue, please check your "junk" folder. If the FOS newsletter is in that file, please mark it as acceptable

email, so that you will be able to receive it.

2.) We also had a few subscribers tell us that they could not open the last newsletter -- we aren't sure why...we've begun preparing the newsletter using the most advanced Word program available and perhaps there is an interface problem. If you received the newsletter for January/February 2009, but could not read it, please email us at herecrookshanks@gmail.com.

3.) If you have recently changed your email address, please forward that information to us, again at herecrookshanks@gmail.com

Treasury Report

Beginning Balance as of February 1 st :	16,439.29
Money In	
Fundraising (Pictures w/Santa)	520.00
Donations	6,503.59
Adoptions	4,690.00
Pledges	255.00
Gift Shop	204.35
Memorials/In Honor of	355.00
Matching Funds Prog.	1,000.00
Petsmart Adop. Prog.	1,066.26
Money Out	
Vet	4,368.83
Vaccine	143.92
Food	4,264.25
Supplies	692.12
Litter	559.52
Van Ins./Exp.	151.03
Utilities	350.99
Disposal	145.15
Fundraising (Koeze Payment)	8,345.87
Postage	118.56
Copier Rental	168.37
Clerical Supplies	95.86
Payroll Taxes/Ins.	932.90
Shipping	14.03
Returned Checks & Fees	218.50
Payroll	3,170.02
M&I Monthly Charge	16.90
Gift Shop Inventory	63.89
Maintenance	234.50
Advertising	100.00
Annual Renewals	210.00
Ending Balance as of February 28 th	\$6,668.28

Recycling Benefits FOS

Just a reminder to drop off used printer cartridges, aluminum cans and discarded cell phones at FOS. It is a great way to protect the environment and support pet rescue and rehabilitation. The Shelter receives cash for all of these recyclables. Celebrate Earth Day with a donation of recyclables to Friends of Strays.

Dogs Ready for Great New Homes Like Yours!

All of our dogs are spayed or neutered, vaccinated, and are kept on heartworm preventative.

Brussels - This sweet Cocker Spaniel came to us horribly neglected, starved and very ill. He has made a remarkable recovery and is now ready for adoption. He will always be a special needs dog, but for a special person Brussels will be ideal.

Buster - This little boy is a medium-sized, very short-haired Coon Hound mix puppy, about 2 years-old. His brindle coat is as warm as his brown eyes. Very much a people dog. Buster is in training now.

Chewie - This boy is less than a year old, medium-sized and adorable. His chocolate and white coat is wavy, but short with a whiskery face that always grins. Chewie's picture is on page 4.

Cristo - Love white Shepherds? This handsome boy is 3 years-old, friendly and fun. Cristo loves to participate in just about any activity that involves people.

Dodger - This little guy is a year-old English Setter mix. He is very calm and quiet, and beautiful. He is currently in dog training - join him!

Duncan - A darling boy, only 4 months-old, this kid is a Lab mix. He loves his toys but loves people more. Sweetness.

Fritz - This boy's medium size makes him a perfect companion for kids. He is a Terrier mix, joyful and ready to play.

Jake - Beautiful and friendly, this 5 year old white Samoyed mix is magnificent for an "adults only" household without other pets.

Little Bit - Five years-old, this girl is a miniature Dachshund. Her human went into a nursing home and was unable to find a home for her or Scooter.

Lucy - A black Lab/Boxer mix, Lucy is a delight. She loves people and is always ready for a walk or play. Perfect!

Maggie - This sparkling 3 year-old Jack Russell Terrier loves exercise and to be challenged intellectually. Maggie graduated from the shelter's first dog training class - and she gets "high marks."

Misty - Who would adopt a puppy, only to dump her as an adult? Misty's former owner did just that. Misty is a Coon Hound, and only 4 years-old... and wonderful in every way.

Moose - A 3 year-old, Chesapeake Bay Retriever, Moose is as gentle and loving as he is big. Ready to be cherished by someone special.

Red - Handsome, with a golden red coat and merry eyes, Red is hoping for a home much better than his prior chain and doghouse without care or love. He is a Golden Retriever, about 2 years-old.

Reilly - This boy, a Shepherd/Beagle mix, was adopted as a puppy and then returned. He is a bit shy, but becoming more confident. Under 2 years, Reilly is very sweet, and needs a special home.

Robbie - Robbie is about 2 years old. He is a Shepherd/Border Collie Mix, very tuned-in to very willing to please...for a lifetime. Adopt Robbie and continue his training.

Ruby - Ruby is less than a year, with a beautiful short chocolate coat. Take a look at this sweet, affectionate girl on page 4. Ruby is a Pit Mix.

Savanna - A very quiet and polite 4 year-old Red Heeler mix, Savanna came to the shelter frightened and sick. Now, happy and healthy she's ready for adoption. Savanna's two favorite activities are riding in the car and rolling.

Scooter - This girl is a 5 year-old Chihuahua - long-haired, light grey, and always ready for a walk...home with you! Scooter and Little Bit must be placed together.

Shadow - this Black Lab boy came in abused but has made a great recovery. He loves everyone and is hopeful that someone will love him. Kind eyes and a doggie grin.

Skeeter - Gentle and handsome, Skeeter is a very likable Chocolate Lab mix, about 6 years-old. A charmer. Loves his toys...very quiet, and currently in training.

Trixie - Sister to Buster, she is a little Red Coonhound, very sweet, alert and fun. Adopt both for twice the love. Trixie graduated from Basic Obedience.

Vinnie - The perfect black Lab, happy and fun and only a year old. Still very puppy-like, with toys and playtime at the top of his agenda.

Zappa - This beautiful boy was born at FOS. Adopted as a puppy, he was returned because he chewed, as puppies will do. He is a very active, beautiful red merle Australian Shepherd. He is 2.5 years-old and house trained.

Zoe - A truly beautiful Aussie/Heeler mix, about 3 years-old, very willing to please. Zoe has been easy to train, loves her treats and toys...and people!

Puppies - Four frisky Black Lab pups - 2 boys and 2 girls. All wiggles and wags. Their mom, and 4 littermates have already found homes. Each is special.

Puppies - Three tumble-bumble Terrier/English Bulldog mix puppies. The male is a brindle and white; the two girls are both tan with white. More wiggles and wags. Who can resist?

Trade Wanted



Will trade one catnip mouse, (shown below) and all the dog toys for new faucet in the

Shelter hospital room, and someone to install it.

Serious inquiries only. Please call 815-872-7387 and ask for Bonnie or me, Cupcake.



Shelter Shopping List

It's Kitten and Puppy Time...
KMR -- Kitten Milk Replacer|
Receiving Blankets -- Can be used.
Laundry Detergent
Good Quality Paper Towels
Hefty 39 Gallon Garbage Bags
Whiskas/9 Lives/Friskies
Canned Cat Food
Pedigree Canned Dog Food

Dogs adopted in February:

Magic, Twiggy, Sammy, Ozzie, Kory, Monroe, Lily, Snickers, Robin.

Dogs adopted in March:

Robert, Molly, Dooley, Rosco, Sandy, Spanky, Angel, Ivy, Sunny, Grizzly, Apollo, Steven, Echo, Alexi, Lynne, Trish, Toby.

Congratulations to all of you on the wonderful, new addition to your family!