



Humane Society of Morgan County, WVa

# The Animals' Voice

SECOND QUARTER ISSUE

EARLY SUMMER 2010

## HSMC Holds First Raffle With Great Prizes

Below is information on HSMC's first raffle to support the Humane Society of Morgan County. Please tell your out-of-state friends or purchase tickets for yourself. We have some great prizes. Thanks to Beth Reedy and Kathi Draper for coordinating the raffle and to all the businesses and individuals who donated the prizes.

### First Annual - WEEKEND IN BERKELEY SPRINGS RAFFLE

**1<sup>st</sup> Prize** – Luxury Weekend Getaway in Berkeley Springs, WV  
Valued at \$900.00; 2 Nights in a Luxury Cabin, Retriever's Retreat;  
Dinner for two at Tari's Premier Café; Lunch for two at Earth Dog Café  
Dinner for two at Temptations Café; Spa Package for two at The Bath House  
Sunday Brunch for two at Highlawn Inn; and \$200.00 cash for Shopping at the quaint shops Berkeley Springs has to offer.

**2<sup>nd</sup> Prize** – Relaxing Sunday Getaway in Berkeley Springs, WV  
Valued at \$375.00; Sunday Brunch for two at Highlawn Inn; Spa Package for two at The Bath House  
Dinner for two at Temptations Café; \$100.00 cash for Shopping at the quaint shops Berkeley Springs has to offer.

**3<sup>rd</sup> Prize** – A Beautiful Child's Oak Windsor Rocker, Retail Value \$282.00. ▶▶ *Continued on page 4*

*Raffle*

Inside this issue:	
Local Youth	2
Fundraising	2-3
General News	2-4
Dog Yard Update	3

## One Way To A Successful Love Match

### Advocating Foster to Adoption

by Susan Kemenyas, HSMC Volunteer Community Liaison

Larry Ziegler became interested in Chuck when he first started walking dogs at the HSMC Adoption Center last summer. When he and wife Sandy (former HSMC Director/Board Secretary) realized that Chuck had been at the shelter more than a year, they decided that Chuck needed a home. They fostered him for about a week and knew that they couldn't ever give him up - he won their hearts and they his. Chuck also loves his beds - right from the start he realized that those belonged to him.

Larry walked Chuck several times a day during the winter because the snow had been too deep to just let him into the back yard. For the first couple of days they had him (before all

the inclement winter weather) Chuck had gotten to run in the yard so Sandy knows he will really enjoy the yard and probably spend a lot of time in it in good weather. She says that Chuck can run like the wind and that he also likes to ride in the car. Chuck seems so small to the Zieglers because he only weighs about 40 pounds versus their previous dogs that had weighed about 125 pounds. They really missed having a dog in the house after Snowman their dog of many years recently died. They were without a dog for about six months and enjoyed their freedom. However, they knew Chuck really needed a home. He proved to be wonderful in their house and made big



Chuck

points for his friendliness with daughter Denise and granddaughter Delaney the first time he met them. To help this good dog be the very best dog he can be, the Zieglers are taking Chuck to PetsMart for dog obedience school. Noting that Chuck was nervous and unable to focus around other dogs in a regular obedience class, the Zieglers wisely enrolled Chuck in a private class. That's some really good dog parenting and a

▶▶ *Chuck*  
*Continued on page 3*

## Rabies Clinic

On May 1, 2010, HSMC held its first of the year rabies and microchipping clinic at the shelter. Dr. Robin Townsend, of All Creatures Veterinary in Hedgesville, WV administered the rabies vaccinations. He volunteered his services and HSMC is greatly appreciative of the fantastic job he did. A total of 125 dogs and cats received their vaccinations at a cost of \$10 each.

Barbie Ginck, Assistant Shelter Manager for HSMC performed the microchipping. A total of 75 animals were microchipped at a cost of \$10 each. Both rabies and microchipping were all time highs for HSMC. Pam Farnham coordinated the event. Thanks to all the volunteers that day that made this event such a success. The cost of these procedures is well below what one could expect to pay at a veterinary office and HSMC sponsors these events as a community service. Another clinic will be held in the fall.

## Bucket Drive Nets Over \$4,200

HSMC did its first ever bucket drive in downtown Berkeley Springs over Memorial Day weekend. Over \$4,200 was raised from passing motorists on Friday and Monday afternoons, making it one of the most successful fundraisers ever conducted by HSMC. More bucket drives are scheduled for July 4th and Labor Day weekends. Board member Gary Brock came up with the idea and the effort was also spearheaded by Kelvin and Mary Langley. Mary worked both days including Memorial Day, her birthday. Brenda Hutchinson, President of the Morgan County Commissioners (pictured here) also worked on her birthday to help out. People loved the concept of using litter buckets to collect the money.



## HSMC Receives Grants

HSMC has received two \$2,000 grants from the Ruth Hornbrook Memorial Fund of the Parkersburg Area Community Foundation in Parkersburg, West Virginia. The first grant is to help with the improvements to the cattery building. The second grant is for the spay and neuter program. HSMC would like to thank them for their continued support of our shelter.

In addition, HSMC is awaiting final approval of a \$5,000 grant from the state for additional improvements in the cattery building. Along with the Hornbrook grant and contributions from individuals HSMC plans to significantly improve the cattery building with new windows, siding and insulation. When finished the building should be able to last another 30 years in addition to being much more energy efficient. Morgan County Commission President Brenda Hutchinson has been instrumental in helping HSMC get this grant proposal approved. Construction should be completed this summer.

## Petapalooza 2010 A Success

On March 20, 2010 HSMC held its first annual Petapalooza spring dance at the American Legion in Berkeley Springs. Over 100 people attended and all agreed they had a wonderful time. A silent auction was held and door prizes were given out.

Jonathan McBee of Red Guitar was responsible for organizing the music as well as playing. Acts included The Flashbacks, The Outer Rim and Dan Stiles and Joe Sapp. Laurie Fischer and Pam Farnham coordinated the food and drinks. Thanks to all who worked so hard to make this year's dance a success. Due to popular demand, HSMC will host the second annual Petapalooza 2011 next March.

## Local Youth Make a Difference

Chelsea Pell is 11 years old and a student at Warm Springs Middle School. Chelsea decided to make jewelry and sell it to raise money for the animals at the Humane Society of Morgan County after her Aunt Cathy brought her some beads. When asked why Chelsea decided to bring the money to the shelter, she said "I have always had a special place in my heart for animals." Chelsea shares her home with 2 dogs, 4 cats, a mouse and a bunny. Her dog, Angel and her cat, Moon were adopted from the Humane Society of Morgan County. It should be no surprise that Chelsea's dream is to be a veterinarian one day. Chelsea's proud parents are Van Pell and Tonya Pell and Tom Boyle.

Brooke is 8 years old and a student at Warm Springs Intermediate School. Brooke decided to make a special box and collect money from her family and babysitter to donate to the Humane Society of Morgan County after watching a commercial on TV about homeless animals. Even her twin brother, Matthew donated his own money. Brooke also searched her house for change to put in the collection box. She and Matthew, along with their proud parents, Danny and Tina have a dog named Toby. Brooke also likes to play basketball and loves animals.



*Pictured above, Andrea Anderson, Shelter Manager, Brooke Davison, Matthew and puppy, Karma.*



*Pictured above, Andrea Anderson, Shelter Manager, Chelsea Pell and puppy, Missy.*

# News from the HSMC Dog Yards

by Susan Kemenyas, HSMC Volunteer Community Liaison

In the summer of 2008, very few people were coming out to the Adoption Center to walk the dogs living there. Knowing that dogs that live in a kennel and lack activity and socialization opportunities can suffer from cage rage, HSMC Assistant Manager Barbie Ginck and HSMC Volunteer Community Liaison Susan Kemenyas began a campaign to correct the situation by undertaking the project of constructing activity yards behind the kennels on the plateau at the back of the property. Through the support from many individuals and a few businesses along with lots of hands-on assistance from friends, family and other volunteers, two large fenced dog yards were constructed in less than two months to alleviate this problem. On October 18th, Irv's Yard and Florrie's Yard, named in memory of the dog-loving parents of Laurie Metzner-Fischer, whose designated donation funded the cost of excavation and fencing supplies, were dedicated and opened. Soon after the yards were finished, in response to the related feature story in the Morgan Messenger volunteers began to come out to the Adoption Center to exercise dogs. Meanwhile a plan for organized, regular use of the yards was also underway. In early 2009, Lucile Sasser of Rrruffing it Camp for Dogs and Polite Pets Training, assisted by Susan Kemenyas, began conducting leash manners classes in the dog yards with staff and students from the Aspen Unit of the Timber Ridge School. On Saturday afternoons, as often as weather and schedules permitted, the group met to work with the dogs from the kennel. The first year of the dog yards included many positive

outcomes; most notably

that one of the Aspen unit students who demonstrated a natural affinity while working with the dogs was hired to work at an animal shelter in Virginia after completing his program at Timber Ridge.

The second year of the dog yards began very productively. Barbie Ginck conducted dog walker classes for which she color coded the dogs in the kennel and certified the dog walkers as to which dogs they are qualified to walk. She also set up a system for volunteer dog walkers to sign in and notate what dog(s) they work with and other information or comments related to their time working with the dog that the Adoption Center Staff needs to know in order to care for the dogs. Improvements made to the yards and on the path from the kennels to the yard, funded by E.J. and Laurie Fischer, were constructed by Henry and Sons. At the year's first session of leash manners class conducted by Susan Kemenyas, Donna and Bob Okninski brought their dog Roni to HSMC to find a permanent pal. With this opportunity, the students learned the procedure of letting two dogs that don't know each other become familiar safely. The class focused on letting Roni and Domino take each other's measure outside the yards at shortening distances with ongoing evaluation of their mannerisms to determine if they'd do well being together before bringing them into a yard. As both dogs continued to exhibit friendly behaviors, we brought them into a yard together and went through several more intermediate steps before taking them off-leash to see if their untethered interaction seemed to indicate they're likely to get along together in a home. In addition to all the care taken during leash manners class that day for

a very positive initial interaction that lead to the successful adoption and integration of Domino into their family, Donna Okninski commented that the dogs at the HSMC kennel are adoptable because of all the things that are done for them, all the care given to them and all the time volunteers put into socializing, exercising and training the dogs. How true it is... essentially the adoption of every animal is the result of the participation of every donor, every volunteer, every Board member and every member of the Adoption Center Staff. So in addition to thanking everyone for the part they each play in keeping the HSMC Adoption Center funded, running, stocked or supplied; there are these specific acknowledgements to be made: Lucile Sasser and Diana Barnett who each provides great foster care to dogs, dog walkers Larry and Sandy Ziegler, Kat Simon, Alex Sedlacek, Liz Irvin and Donna Okninski, and last, but by no means least, the students and staff of the Aspen Unit of the Timber Ridge School (especially Robert Stinnette and Jon Marabella) for all the energy, attention, affection, enthusiasm and encouragement they give the dogs each time they come to the dog yards.

That's the News from the Dog Yards!

# Fundraising

HSMC appreciates all the contributions we have recently received. Our last newsletter and follow up fundraising letter have generated many generous contributions from our members and supporters. Fundraising is a never ending fact of life for all non-profits. There are always bills to be paid and improvements to be made. HSMC is thankful for the dozens of volunteers and contributors in our organization. We believe we have one of the best shelters in the state of West Virginia and we could never do it without the support of all of you. Please continue to support us in our fundraisers or send your contribution to HSMC PO B 705 Berkeley Springs WV 25411. We don't have the space to acknowledge every volunteer and contributor but we are thankful for each and every one of you on a daily basis.

## Chuck

*Continued from page 1*

worthwhile investment in a solid foundation for a life-long relationship. As for the conclusion of this adoption success story that underscores the value of fostering a pet toward considering it for permanent adoption you can't put it any better than Sandy Ziegler's final statement on the whole matter "Bottom line: we love Chuck, he loves us and he is a great fit for us."

# Annual Dinner September 20th

HSMC has scheduled its annual dinner for September 20, 2010 at Cacapon State Park. Over 100 people attended last year's dinner and at least as many as expected this year. A silent auction is planned. In an attempt to shorten the length of the event no live auction will be held this year.

In addition, this year we are pleased to have a special speaker. Summer Wyatt, director of the West Virginia HSUS (Humane Society of the United States). Ms. Wyatt has energized the state program and will update us on what is occurring statewide on issues of importance to us in Morgan County.

Tickets will be \$30 a person or tables of eight for \$200 are available. Further details will be in the next newsletter or check the website for updates.

HUMANE SOCIETY OF  
MORGAN COUNTY, WVA

Visit us at:  
5366 Valley Road  
Berkeley Springs, WV 25411

Phone: 304-258-5592  
Fax: 304-258-2702

Visit us on the Web:  
[www.hsmc-wv.org](http://www.hsmc-wv.org)

Shelter Hours  
Tues. through Sat.  
11am to 4:30pm  
Closed Sun. and Mon.  
E-mail: [hsmc-wv@peoplepc.com](mailto:hsmc-wv@peoplepc.com)

## Poker Run Planned For July 10<sup>th</sup>

The 6<sup>th</sup> Annual Ruff Rider Poker Run will be held on Saturday July 10<sup>th</sup>. The motorcycle event will begin at the Troubadour Lounge and go through the mountains of West Virginia and Pennsylvania. The event will conclude back at the Troubadour. Prizes will be awarded for best poker hands and there will be a raffle drawing. Food will be provided by Jim and Bertha McCoy of the Troubadour.

Pre-registration numbers indicate this will be the largest Poker Run ever. Kelvin and Mary Langley are, as always, coordinating the event. Further info can be obtained at [www.hsmc-wv.org](http://www.hsmc-wv.org) or by calling the shelter at 304-258-5592.



P.O. Box 705  
Berkeley Springs, WV 25411

### HSMC's First Raffle

*Continued from page 1*

For a \$20.00 donation you can purchase tickets from any HSMC Board Member or at the Shelter

For Further information please contact

Beth Reedy (304) 676-8725 or Kathi Draper (301) 988-8707

Drawing to be held - June 24, 2010

HSMC would like to thank these wonderful supporters for graciously donating for our raffle:

Claudio and Lisa Meira (Retriever's Retreat) donated in memory of Bailey, Tari's Premier Café,

Earth Dog Café, Temptations Café, The Bath House, Highlawn Inn and Caperton Furniture.

### HSMC Important People

Board Members:

George Farnham, President

Ed Duncan, Vice-President

Kelvin Langley, Treasurer

Cady Roberts, Secretary

Andrea Anderson, Shelter Mgr

Ed Vogel, Director

Pam Farnham, Director

Gary Brock, Director

Kathi Draper, Director

Beth Reedy, Director

Barbie Ginck, Asst Shelter Mgr

Others:

Ellie Gomez, Website Design

Clare Phillips, Newsletter

Design

In addition, there are too many staff members, volunteers and supporters to list individually but HSMC could not be as successful an organization as we are without their constant support. Thank you everyone.

The Animals' Voice