



I.C.H.S. Newsletter – PawsPrint

July 2013

A Letter From The Editor...

And just where has the summer gone! It certainly is a different version of recent summers! I was convinced when writing the May Newsletter that we were in for more of the same as last summer - drought - so I am pleased that we have had abundant rainfall (at times, too abundant). I believe we are 15 inches or so ahead of normal precipitation - the drought in SW Wisconsin must be over! It is too bad that we can't just have "normal" weather rather than "extreme" weather. My flower gardens look so good (except for the weeds) and it is such a relief not to have to water on a daily basis. I'll take this opportunity to express my gratitude to all who attended the ICHS plant sale this past spring, and I hope your plants are doing as well as mine. We had a great sale! Bonnie used this year's proceeds to purchase deworming meds and flea/tick preventive products. A **BIG** thanks to all who shopped for plants as well as those of you who helped at the sale! Farmers' fields and pastures look so good! If you have driven past the shelter lately, have you noticed Dave's newly planted grass? With the timely rains, the grass is growing nicely and will soon be an area where the dogs can be walked. **And as you read this letter, it is important to remember that I am a volunteer and these are MY thoughts.**

Having been an ICHS volunteer for a number of years, I have recently taken on some of the duties of the volunteer coordinator. It has been a privilege to meet the many people (of all ages) who come to the shelter to volunteer. At the monthly Volunteer Orientation Sessions, I point out the statement in the manual which states "...we cannot do it without you (and we can't) and your contribution is truly priceless (and it is)!" It is amazing to think of what hundreds of volunteers have accomplished for the animals of Iowa County over the past 15 years!

Most volunteers want to spend their volunteer hours with the animals - totally understandable! However there are other ways in which volunteers can help - perhaps not as enjoyable as socializing with the animals - but nevertheless, help is needed in a variety of ways. Fundraising is probably at the top of ICHS's needs' list. Fundraising needs include volunteers' creative ideas, help in planning the events, promoting the events and working at the events. Successful fundraising events are crucial to keeping ICHS's doors open, but help - YOUR help - is needed! We have a group of very dedicated people who help, help, help with fundraising, but it would be wonderful to have more help. Other volunteer opportunities include being an ICHS ambassador in your city/village/municipality, helping out with building/grounds projects, attending outreach events, taking pics of animals, helping with the newsletter and fostering animals.

For those of you who want to make a difference in a dog's life, there is also the opportunity to be a part of the Mod Squad program. The Mod Squad is a small group of dedicated people - mostly volunteers - who will be trained in behavior modification and enrichment techniques that works with "special needs" dogs within the shelter environment. The goal is to work with dogs that need help to become adoptable because of behavior problems that they may have. Besides working with the dogs at the shelter, other needs include recordkeeping, assisting with training for other volunteers (working with the dogs) and fostering dogs with special needs. If you have an interest in the Mod Squad program, please contact Cheri Phillmore who is the Mod Squad program manager.

If you have any suggestions or ideas about the content of ICHS PawPrints, please contact me, Terri Davis, at roadhogbiker@gmail.com

Upcoming Fundraising Events

Food Booth (Lands'End Warehouse Sale)

On **Wednesday, July 31st**, ICHS volunteers will be responsible for the food booth at the Annual Lands' End Sale Event which is held at Harris Park in Dodgeville. ICHS volunteers will be at the booth from 6 a.m. until 7 p.m. providing shoppers an opportunity to have breakfast, lunch or a snack. ICHS's participation at this event is a financially significant event for the shelter. The menu features pulled pork sandwiches, turkey dressing sandwiches, hot dogs and pizza along with baked goods, pies (enjoy a slice or purchase an entire pie for the family), granola/yogurt parfaits, fruit, soda and water. A few volunteers are still needed to work shifts throughout the day, but donations of baked goods, pies and fruit are especially needed. Anyone who is interested in helping with the food booth can contact Cheri at ICHS. For those of you who enjoy "eating out" (whether you are shopping or not) please stop by our booth and have a bite to eat while helping the ICHS animals.

Dairyland Dare

Saturday, August 10th, is the annual Dairyland Dare bike event. ICHS earns money when our volunteers help provide support for riders participating in this ride. The more hours we volunteer, the more \$\$ we earn for the animals who depend on ICHS until they find their forever home. Anyone who is interested in volunteering at the Dare should contact Cheri at ICHS.

Wright Stuff Century Ride

Sunday, September 1st, is the Wright Century Bike event. Similar to the Dairyland Dare, ICHS volunteers help earn money for ICHS. Shifts are available at Unity Chapel outside of Spring Green and in Barneveld. If you have the time on this busy Labor Day weekend, this is another great way to help ICHS.

Feast for the Beasts

Sunday, September 8th, is the date for our 2nd annual Feast for the Beasts event. This event is in the planning stages, but it will be similar to last year's event. Last year we had vendors set up for a flea market on the front lawn, a live auction with a variety of items to be auctioned off and a food booth. Some other activities being organized will be music, a petting zoo and a cake walk. Volunteers will also be needed to make this event a successful endeavor. For more information, check the website as the date draws near or contact Cheri at ICHS.

May & June Adoptions

May Cats	May Dogs	June Cats	June Dogs
Moo-moo	Leo	Patrick	Frodo
Bessie 😊	Kiwi	Ruta	Cricket
Bug 😊	Ford	Blake	Filippe
Sylvia 😊	Sarah	Malorie	Piper
Jared	Portia	Raven	Tiffany
Edan	Prince	Micah	Monty
Samuel	Nina	Sulu	Maddie
Smudge 😊	Jake	Olivi	Jingles 😊
Kyle	Lilly	Martina	Matilda
Pebbles	Oreo	Tori	
		Ernie	
		Kayla	
		Lacey	

Special Pets

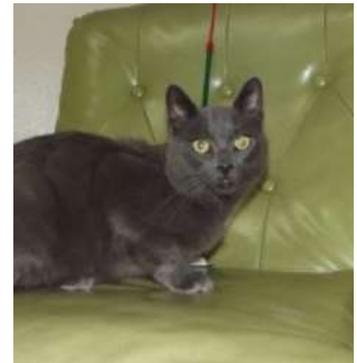
We all know that all animals are 'special' but the animals featured in this section are indeed special. These are 'special needs' animals. The special person/family who adopts one of these animals knows that this may/may not be the long-term relationship which we hope for when we open our hearts and homes to a new family member. These animals 'forever homes' with us may be just for a short time before they move on...But, nevertheless, these animals need a home and a loving family just as we all do. Are you possibly the family that could provide a home for one of these animals? If not, do you know of a family who could provide a loving home for these animals? If so, please come out to ICHS and find out more about these animals from the ICHS staff.

Cameron & Limbo



In the last Newsletter, it was announced that Cameron was our only FIV+ (Feline Immune-deficiency Virus) kitty - well, our FIV+ population has doubled - Limbo is also FIV+, but that's OK! FIV cats are "normal" cats- it's just that these two guys have a virus (FIV) which affects the immune system - but slowly - over a period of years! So these kitties should live long and normal lives! **Cameron** is a handsome, active, playful guy who loves attention. He has been at ICHS for well over a year. **Limbo** is a good-looking gray guy who also loves attention; he has only been at ICHS for a few weeks. If it wasn't for the

FIV+ sign on their cages, you wouldn't have a clue that they have the FIV virus! Although we call these guys "special", there really are no special considerations when adopting them. They must be kept indoors. They may live with other cats since FIV is not easily passed between cats (it would be best if your other cat(s) are good-natured and amicable to a new pal). FIV is primarily spread by serious bite wounds so if you have other cats, it is important to properly introduce either Cameron or Limbo to the others (but you would do that with any cat that you bring home). It is also important to keep them free from stress so a quiet home would be best. Cameron is about two years old and so he should be a part of your family for many years to come. Limbo, likewise, is a young cat. Is it possible that YOU just might be the special family that these guys are looking for? 😊 So...Cameron and Limbo need homes!



Lance, Wilbur & Frieda



Lance, Wilbur and Frieda are FeLV (Feline Leukemia Virus) kitties. Lance has been at ICHS for awhile (on the Top Ten list). He is a handsome, playful orange tabby with a wonderful personality. Although he can be a "lap-cat extraordinaire" there are times when he prefers his solitude. Wilbur is a handsome beige kind of guy. He has been with us less than a year and needs more practice being with people (he is a bit "rough around the edges") - but Lance has been a wonderful mentor for him. Lance and Wilbur live in one of the community cat rooms and are engaged in a "bromance". They truly are "best buds" and it is

hoped that they can be adopted together!!! Frieda, a beautiful gray lady, has only been at ICHS a few months. She is so affectionate and only wants "lap time" when she is taken out of her cage. Frieda was in the community cat room with the guys, but she decided that she wanted no part of them - so she



is back in a cage. FeLV cats are harder to place in homes than FIV cats. If you only want one cat, any of these would be perfect - but it would be absolutely WONDERFUL if Wilbur and Lance could go to the same home to continue their "bromance"! FeLV cats must be only cats (they can live with other FeLV cats) and they must be kept indoors. FeLV cats may be asymptomatic (free from symptoms) for years and will hopefully live relatively long lives. So...if you are looking for a kitty companion, these kitties are looking for YOU!



Gregory

Gregory is so special that he gets his own category! He tested positive for both FeLV and FIV. Now don't let that deter you from making Gregory a part of your family! As mentioned earlier, as long as Gregory is kept indoors, is an only cat and lives in a stress-free environment (as much as possible), he should be with your family for many years to come. Gregory has only been at ICHS for a short time. Although he is very friendly and affectionate, he hasn't had a lot of opportunities to interact with people (he was a barn cat), so he needs YOU to show him what a

loving relationship is all about. So...Gregory needs a home.

Vegas

Vegas is considered a special kitty because of her 'catitude'. She is one of those cats who is difficult to place. Anyone who knows cats is aware that most Tortois and Calicoes are known for their "temperaments". It is believed



that she will do fine once adopted, but that's the problem - how do you get someone to adopt her because she can be a bit "scary" if she doesn't know you! Vegas is approximately 5-6 years old. She had been abandoned by her previous owner and has been at ICHS for three years. She was very scared and confused when she came to the shelter. She lives in the quiet *Catnip Lounge* where she is somewhat isolated from noise and people. However living in this quiet room also means that she doesn't have a lot of contact with people and so people who are

looking for their 'forever' cat never meet Vegas. But...there is a sign on her cage which says "Staff Only" which would deter most people from adopting her anyway. Now, it's not that Vegas isn't friendly - she's just "choosy". She even prefers some staff to others. The main problem occurs when it's time for her to return to her cage. She is declawed in the front so scratching is not an issue and I don't believe she has ever bitten anyone. She just hisses and vocalizes a bit. She apparently does well with other cats. Vegas is like other 'hard to place' cats which we have had at the shelter (most of them being Torties and Calicoes) in that once they go to a home, they do very well. An experienced 'cat-family' living in a quiet household is exactly what Vegas needs. So...Vegas needs a home.

Packman

Packman is a very special guy, but he's only special because he's special (as all cats are). Packman is a young, handsome, long-haired black cat. He lost one of his ears due to frostbite, but that just adds to his charm. Packman has the distinction of being the first stray cat to be brought to our new shelter because he was the last cat brought in at the old shelter on Bennett Road. Actually he had been there for awhile. He had been living in the storage shed to the west of the main building. We were cleaning the shed out when Packman was discovered hiding in a box. Upon being discovered, he raced to the open door. The door was slammed shut just in the nick of time and then it was just a matter of patience and perseverance before Bonnie was able to catch him. Packman settled into the shelter routine quickly, however after two years, he is still a bit timid/shy when he first meets



someone. Packman was temporarily fostered for a few months two winters ago and he did well. He does get along with most cats. He does need a special diet as he was diagnosed with urinary issues last spring. Upon diagnosis of the problem, Packman was put on a special diet and he is doing fine. Packman would do best in a quieter household as loud noises tend to frighten him. So...Packman needs a home.



Buddy

Buddy is a 5-6 year-old Lab who LOVES life, LOVES people and LOVES and LIVES to fetch. Buddy has only been at ICHS for a short time. There are two concerns regarding Buddy. He has been diagnosed with Lyme disease and he never knows when to stop playing! He is undergoing treatment for Lyme disease, but what to do about his addiction to play??? Compounding the problem is that he is a big guy - 90 pounds - and probably needs to lose a few pounds. He has had a few episodes where it appeared that he may have been on the verge of heat exhaustion. Warm temps plus an overweight dog plus **play, play, play** just doesn't add up to a good outcome! Buddy was fostered for a short time (shelter life is stressful for this big guy) and he had absolutely no problems while with the foster family; he got along fine with the family's dog. Emily (foster mom) mentioned that he would walk around with several toys in his mouth - dropping them all at her feet and allowing her to select the "toy of choice"! So...Buddy needs a home - a "forever" home is what Buddy ultimately needs but a temporary foster home would certainly be helpful until he recovers from the Lyme disease.



Crossing over that bridge...

It is never easy to say "goodbye" to our friends and family, but please note that your adopted pet has touched many lives. When your pet crosses the Rainbow Bridge, feel free to let us know about your loved one's passing...

Ruby Sue

Ruby Sue had to be euthanized due to an injury which she sustained last month at the shelter. Although a few families had shown an interest in her, she never found her forever family. Ruby Sue had been at the shelter for approximately 1 ½ years. One of the last times that I walked her, a rabbit jumped out of a brush pile right in front of us and headed north. After a moment of hesitation, the chase was on - Ruby Sue was so excited. We followed the rabbit's scent across the yard; it was difficult to stop the "hunt" - not because Ruby Sue wasn't manageable but because I knew that she so wanted to continue after the rabbit! Ruby Sue, you are missed...



Chowder, Rusty & Xander

These three dogs are what I consider "if only" dogs. If only:

- The "breeder" of these dogs would have realized what he/she was doing by selling/giving these dogs to families who perhaps shouldn't have had this type of dog in the first place.



- The families who brought these cute puppies home would have done a better job of socializing them, enrolling them in obedience/training classes and/or seeking professional help when it became apparent that the owner/dog needed help.
- The family would have found a different solution rather than abandoning the dog - thus ending up as a stray at ICHS.
- There would have been the resources available to provide rehabilitation for

these dogs.

- There would have been more interest/help/volunteers to work with these dogs before they ended up deteriorating to the point where their behavior was marginal and concern for staff and volunteer safety had to become the #1 priority.
- There were more people interested in taking on the challenge of "special needs" dogs who would have given these dogs a try.
- There were more options such as suitable sanctuaries with available space and the resources to work with more challenging dogs.



Things could have been different for Chowder, Rusty and Xander. Lots of "if onlys"! Hopefully some good can come from Chowder, Rusty and Xander "crossing the bridge". These dogs were good dogs, but they simply spent too much time in a shelter environment without getting the help which they needed. If only things could have been different...

Success Stories

Macy & Mikey



Many of you are familiar with **Macy** and **Mikey**. Perhaps you saw them on the ICHS website or read about them in the Newsletters and "Pets of the Month". Macy had been with us since November of 2005 and Mikey came shortly thereafter. Both dogs had huge "fan clubs", but because of some issues these two dogs were not the best candidates for families to adopt. Macy adored people but was intolerant of other animals. Mikey had "touch" issues and whenever medical treatment was needed, he put on his "Jekyll & Hyde" show. Both of these dogs now make their home at the *Happily Ever After* Sanctuary located in Marion, WI.

The good news is that these dogs will hopefully be rehabilitated and will actually find their forever home and family! Thank you to Amanda at HEA for giving these dogs a chance at a life away from ICHS. Hopefully a successful update in the months ahead will be forthcoming!

