

Winter 2023

From the President: In our continuing effort to help control the pet population, 1,198 cats and dogs have been spayed or neutered (S/N) through our low cost programs so far this year and 10,271 outside cats have been S/N through the cat clinics since starting them in 2006. Our pet food pantry continues to be a necessity for low income residents who rely on a supplemental bag or two of food each month to help them keep their pets fed and at home rather than having to give them up to the shelter. We are always in need of supplies for our pantry but we also may need donated hay this winter. A vital source of nutrition for horses during cold weather, a few horse owners usually come to us each winter looking for a little extra hay. If you have some to spare, please call us. Even if we don't need it right now, it would be wonderful to have a resource to call in emergencies. We are a small non-profit and receive no funding from the county or any of the national animal organizations you see on TV so every donation, whether it's money, pet food, litter or hay, is truly appreciated. And you can be sure that whatever you donate stays here in Greene County and used to help improve the quality of life for our animals. Thank you for your support and best wishes for a safe and happy holiday season. ...*Cindie McCulloch*

The Anatolian Shepherd dog is a rugged, imposing flock guardian of ancient lineage. Protective and territorial, they are also intelligent, patient, and profoundly loyal. Full blooded ones can weigh up to 150lbs but when this one was found in Yellow Springs earlier this year, he was pretty much skin and bones, suffering from a yeast infection all over his body, and had nails so long they were curled. Taken in by the Animal Shelter, he was soon adopted by one of our volunteers and after a lot of good food and veterinary care, Andy now weighs in at 105 lbs and is an ideal companion. Estimated to be 6-9 years old, there are many advantages to adopting an older dog. They are usually trained, often S/N, less likely to chew on things and much calmer than a puppy. Adopting a pet from the shelter is a wonderful thing but don't overlook the older ones. They may be exactly what you need....they certainly need you!



Andy, The Gentle Giant

Winter weather can be hard on outdoor animals so remember these tips to help protect your pet:

- If it's too cold for you to be outside, it's probably too cold for your pet. If you're out walking with your dog and notice she keeps her lifting her paw off the snow or ice, it's time to go inside. Wipe the paws off when you do to remove any ice melt or salt picked up during the walk.
- Always keep your dog on a leash. Every year we hear about a dog that ran to a frozen pond and fell through the ice and the end result is usually deadly for the dog, and often for the owner who attempted to rescue it.
- Ohio law requires all pets and livestock have food, water and shelter. Even if there is snow on the ground, fresh water is needed. You can find heated water bowls at any of the farm-related stores to help when the weather is below freezing. For larger animals, try putting a water bucket inside a larger bucket and fill the space between with straw as an insulator. Plastic buckets are better than metal and grouping them together may help as well. Go to: horseandhound.co.uk/features/how-to-stop-water-buckets-freezing for additional tips.
- The Ohio Revised Code Chapter 959 contains the minimal requirements for animal care in our state and you can find details by doing a search on-line. If you suspect livestock neglect, call our humane agent on duty at 937-917-4374. If you see a neglected dog or cat, check with Animal Control for guidance at 937-562-7400.
- While a cat's fur will grow thicker in cold weather, that's not enough to keep it warm. Cats should not be left outside once the temperature drops below freezing and they can only survive three or four days in temperatures around or below 20°. If you're caring for outside cats, check out our website under the heading **Important Information and Resources** (midway down on the front page) and download the PDF titled **Neighborhood Cats** on how to build a simple shelter to protect them.



Special Thanks to the Shawnee Elementary students who raised \$200 from their “Pennies for Paws” campaign and donated that money to the humane society. We are honored they chose our organization to receive this money, which will help to fill our pet food pantry.

An easy way to help: Whether it’s a school classroom, business or a social organization, if you’re looking for an easy way to help a non profit, please consider a pet food drive. Just by putting out a barrel or large box and collecting cat or dog food will help us out immensely. You can drop the items off at our office in Xenia on any Saturday from 10 am to 2 pm and, if you can’t make it to our office during that time, call and leave a message at 937-376-3001 or email: inquiries1HSGC@gmail.com and we can arrange a time to meet you there.

Our monthly S/N clinics for outside cats have been on hold for a few months due to the illness of one of our veterinarians who has been a mainstay at the clinics for many years. We are hoping to start them up again in January so please check our web site for the latest news on when the next one will be held.

If you’re looking for a best friend, check out the cats and dogs available at the Greene County animal shelter. There are many good animals at the shelter who are there through no fault of their own and the shelter staff can advise you on how best to get your new pet acclimated to your home. *Please be patient.* These guys have been under extreme stress for who knows how long and it may take a little time for them to adjust to their new surroundings. Once they do though, you’ll be surprised at the love and joy they bring to your life.



All they want for Christmas is a good home!

Top row from left: Kevin, Furlock Holmes, Barley, Rhett, Ripley & Kiwi. Bottom row from left: Catalina, Ichabod, Pawla and Teddy. The Greene County Animal Shelter is at 641 Dayton Xenia Road in Xenia. View animals available for adoption on their web site: greencountyohio.gov/113/Adoptions or call them at 937-562-7400.

We are honored to have been chosen to receive donations in memory of:

- Susan Honeyman from Theresa Check
- Charlotte Diane Price from Brittani Farley
- Colleen Burns from Nicole Hudson
- W. A. Shahan from Jim Shahan
- Ellen Pasquinelli from Lisa Pesta
- Ann Wanamaker from Richard & Cathi Tschirhart

You can also donate securely on our web site: humanesocietygreenecounty.com

Name: _____ Street Address: _____

City, State, ZIP: _____

Annual Membership Payment: \$25 Annual Patron: \$100 Donation: _____

Make checks payable to: Humane Society of Greene County or HSGC P.O. Box 51 Xenia, OH 45385

HSGC is a 501(c)3 non profit. All donations tax deductible. We do not share your contact information.