

The Pet Dispatch



The Official Newsletter of Bond County Humane Society
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 Shelter hours, 1-5pm Mon thru Fri

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Happy Tails

Stories of recent happy adopted endings.

B.J. was one of a litter of 13 puppies. The mother of the litter was a registered golden retriever and the father was a black lab and shepherd mix. Six of the litter were surrendered by the owner to Bond County Humane Society. BCHS received an electronic letter from Jamie in October 2009: "My family adopted B.J. in the summer of 2006 when she was about three months old. Our past dog had passed away a few months previous and we hadn't necessarily planned on adopting another dog so soon. But, when we saw Scooter and the way she looked at us with



her big brown eyes, we knew she belonged in our family. We changed her name to Scooter because B.J. didn't seem to fit her very well and she has the biggest personality in our family. Scooter loves playing with her many, many toys and has a favorite stuffed duck. When anyone isn't happy or feeling well, she will bring her duck to that person and she will drop it on their lap. She loves snuggling but is also constantly active. She loves going for walks and is so well behaved that we can take her to the park without a leash and she won't stray more than five feet away (unless we throw her toy and she'll run after it and bring it right back). She always seems to be smiling, which makes the rest of us smile. She loves going camping and riding in cars and does so whenever possible. She greets everybody in the family every time they come home as though they had been gone for months. Her tail wags like crazy and she'll sit there letting you scratch her for hours."



Lazarus is a grey and black striped tabby cat. Lazarus was brought to BCHS by a woman who found him under her deck. She heard his cries over the sound of their lawnmower. Lazarus seemed lifeless when she brought him in. He was severely dehydrated and it was unsure whether he would survive. With the help of a lot of warmth and fluids, within an hour after he arrived he was showing some signs of life. Lazarus today is a healthy playful kitten who loves to play with dogs. His favorite playmates while fostered with BCHS were an 85 pound Alaskan Malamute and an 8 month old Lab mix puppy. Within a week or so of our putting his adoption profile online, the 15 week old Lazarus quickly found his new forever home.

2009 ADOPTIONS

50 kittens/cats
 56 puppies/dogs

Announcements and News

Lemonade Generosity

Two Greenville sisters and their friends sold cool cups of lemonade to refresh customers near their home in the summer heat of August 2009. The girls donated their entire lemonade stand proceeds to Bond County Humane Society. We are so thrilled to thank the enterprising and bighearted Hope and Heidi Summers and their friends Andrea and Emma for thinking of BCHS and the cats and dogs in our care.

Red-Tailed Hawk Rescue



On October 15, a pickup truck driver hit an animal while driving on I-70. The driver immediately pulled to the side of the road to discover an immature red-tailed hawk attached to his vehicle's grill! He pulled it out and brought the hawk to Bond County Humane Society. A BCHS volunteer contacted TreeHouse Wildlife Center in Brighton, Illinois and Dennis Hundsdorfer transported the injured hawk to their facility for care. Clinicians there initially determined the hawk suffered only from a dislocated wing joint and the stress of the ordeal. BCHS followed up a week later and learned that after more tests, the hawk was found to have a fractured shoulder socket but it should certainly fly again someday. The hawk will be monitored closely

while it heals and then released back into its natural habitat. We received another update with a photo from TreeHouse Wildlife Center on December 9. They report: "It's hard to get him to stand still for long. Prognosis right now looks good. He will be going into a larger flight cage soon."

Decrease In Adult Cat Adoption Fees

In an effort to increase adoptions in these hard economic times for both the shelter and the community, Bond County Humane Society has implemented a new adoption strategy for adult cats. The adoption fee for cats one year old or more that have been in the shelter for at least 30 days has been reduced from \$90 to \$50. The adoption fee for younger cats and kittens remains \$90.

Pound For Pound

Buchheit in Greenville held a month long "Pound for Pound" drive in August for Bond County Humane Society. During the drive the store sold \$1 and \$5 paper paws. Buchheit matched the customer donations and supplied BCHS with over \$500 in Pro Plan Puppy food. Matt Seabaugh, Buchheit store manager, delivered the food and two BCHS officers, Rachel Hundsdorfer and Nancy Machmer, were present to accept the delivery and thank Buchheit for their generous support.



Companion Animal Response Education Team

In March 2009, BCHS was invited to join forces with several other no-kill Metro-East shelters to form an organization focused on educating children about the needs of companion animals and proper care. The group calls itself Companion Animal Response Education Team (or CARE). The members come from various backgrounds and locations including Glen Carbon, Collinsville, Alton, Edwardsville, Granite City, Troy, Alhambra and of course Greenville. The group is organized into multiple teams. Member teams have developed appropriate presentation material and hand-outs for different age groups: Kindergarten through Grade 2, Grades 3 through 5, Grades 6 through 8, and High School. BCHS is part of the Grades 6-8 group team but will be called upon to also give presentations at the two other levels within Bond County and possibly other districts. CARE is currently working with school districts to obtain necessary approvals and will then begin setting up schedules. Actual presentations will start after the Holidays, during the Pennies For Puppies drive in March 2010. Anyone experienced in education and interested in helping with the presentations should contact the BCHS office for details.



Paws For Thought - A letter from the editor

I live in a typical Greenville neighborhood, in a single family home near district schools and churches. Each day, a disheveled orange and white tomcat traverses his territory which includes my block. He pauses to dig into my garden for a litter box before marking my neighbor's ornamental bush. Later that day I know I can find him dozing in the sunny yard of a house on the street behind mine. A few houses down, a tortoiseshell cat with white feet and face spends a good part of her day patiently waiting on the porch where her people set out stainless steel bowls of food and water for her. A short walk away, I can depend on passing a pure white cat either loafing on its small porch or stalking me across its small yard full of shrubbery near a city sidewalk and a well travelled avenue. These animals are just a few of the many seemingly content, outdoor roaming kitties. But often they are fearful, dirty, wet and vulnerable to traffic, dogs and wild beasts (raccoons, skunks, foxes, groundhogs, snakes, and birds), even pet-nappers! My heart goes out to these animals and I struggle with my conflicting desires to educate their owners and to mind my own business.

Cats Alive!

Reasons to keep your cat inside:

*Indoor cats LIVE LONGER. The average lifespan for indoor cats is 12-15 years. Cats permitted to go outside have an average lifespan of 2-3 years.

*Outdoor cats face DANGERS. These include injury, disease, poison, torture, fights and disappearance.

*Need tips on keeping cats indoors?

Download information directly from the Humane Society of the United States website. www.safecats.org

BCHS Low Cost Spay/Neuter Programs

Spay or neuter your pet for as little as \$10!! Year-to-date, 376 cats and dogs have been spayed or neutered through all of the various low-cost programs offered by BCHS during 2009. Please call our office at (618) 664-4068 for more information about financial assistance to have your companion animals spayed or neutered. BCHS also offers programs to help with the spay/neuter of feral or free roaming cats.

Fundraising Events

6th Annual Paws In The Park



The 6th Annual Paws In The Park was held on September 12 at Patriot's Park in Greenville. The weather was perfect for humans and their canine friends to spend the day outside. Dissimilar to a simple dinner or dance or sale, Paws In The Park is specifically geared to include the animals we love!

Dona Mathews raised the most pledges for the early morning Wag-N-Walk and ardently donated back the portable DVD player prize to be a silent auction item that brought in an additional donation of \$100. Pups of all sizes and strategies navigated the public Agility Course with the help of owners and Bond County Humane Society volunteers.

There were ten pet contests. Dogs and their human companions treated spectators to Fetches, Tricks, Howls and Kisses. In a brand new category, the contestants who entered the Human/Canine Companion Look Alike contest tangled their tails when devising their approaches. Some chose costumes (bumblebee stripes and wings), others wore matching outfits (denim and jewels), and several naturally resembled each other without enhancements. The traditional interpretation of "look alike" prevailed and the judges awarded first prize to a confidently composed and naturally adorned, silver-haired woman and her silver Shih Tzu. The judging of the events, especially Prettiest Mix Breed, proved to be quite a challenge for the judges with so many excellent entries to choose from. Following is a rundown of the events and first place winners by category:

Best Kisser
Karma, shown by Robert Cruthis

Prettiest Small Pure Breed
Jake, shown by Brenda Hess

Best Newspaper Fetch
Tarah, shown by Deloy Cole

Prettiest Large Pure Breed
Shelby Sue, shown by Lindsey McGovern

Best Trick
Hershey Kisses, shown by Janice Perkins

Prettiest Mix Breed
Cotton, shown by Kayla Green

Best Series of Tricks
Lucy, shown by Maranda Schaefer

Best Dressed
Rabbit, shown by Beverly Nelson

Best Barker/Howler
Cocoa, shown by Robert Maupin

Best Human/Canine Companion Look Alike
Rosemary Allen and Roxy

The busy crew from *Hot Diggety Dog Concessions* served sandwiches, chips, desserts and beverages out of their air-conditioned red trailer with all proceeds donated to BCHS. Petco was unable to attend but a representative from the Madison County area SNIP Alliance was at hand with spay/neuter literature and "Pets Inside Alert" home emergency window decals. Dogs and K-9 officers from the St. Louis Metropolitan Police K-9 Unit demonstrated their skills in explosives sniffing, search and rescue, and obedience. Many pet owners took advantage of the \$15 microchipping clinic available on-site with a veterinarian provided courtesy of Countryside Pet Clinic.

Portrait sales were busy and candid photos taken throughout the day's event were made available (and are still available!) for purchase on CD. Raffle drawing prizes included luxurious dog beds, a western bench, a large assortment of themed gift baskets and 50/50 drawings.

Bond County Humane Society has a long list of people to thank that help Paws In The Park be a successful event. Thanks to all the local businesses that sponsor trophies and T-shirts. Thanks to all the volunteers, judges, and organizers. Of course we would be remiss if we did not thank all of our human and canine participants. Without their participation and support Paws In The Park would not continue and be the success it is year after year. Thank you for sharing another beautiful sunny Saturday with us, laughing and running and barking in the park. Hope to see you next year. Mark your calendar for the second Saturday in September, September 11, 2010.

Bond County Fair

From July 29 to August 4, 2009, Bond County Humane Society volunteers manned the hectic and demanding carnival ticket booth. The BCHS van took its first promotional ride through the parade on Tuesday evening. Ben, the Alaskan Malamute mix dog, rode shotgun beside driver Dennis Hundsdorfer and proved a tremendously anticipated hit, further heightening Ben's star status. Thank you, Dennis, for your tricky task of scheduling the ticket booth workers again this year.

August Bake Sale

A Bake Sale was held on August 8 at the Greenville Buchheit Store. BHCS drew a lot of attention from Buchheit customers with some cats on display available for adoption, a bounty of cakes and cookies and balloons to mark the event. Thanks to the efforts of Nancy Machmer, event coordinator, the Bake Sale was a big success according to the sweet-toothed customers that purchased some of the goodies. BCHS wants to thank all the people who donated cakes, cookies and other goodies.

The success of the August Bake Sale prompted Nancy to plan a Christmas Cookie Walk and Bake Sale for December 12, to be held again at the Greenville Buchheit store. There will an added attraction: Santa Claus will be available for photo opportunities with your feline, canine or human family member(s) or friend(s).

Upcoming Events

Jan 2010 - Date for Tony La Russa's Stars To The Rescue is still to be announced
March 21, 2010 - 3rd Annual Danny Brassel Memorial Benefit Show and Dinner
April 2010 - 6th Annual Rummage Sale



Make a donation, memorialize a relative, friend or animal companion with a plaque on Bond County Humane Society's Memory Wall. The name will be inscribed on a brass plate mounted on the wall in our office. Your donation will create a lasting tribute to your loved one and help the animals in care of BCHS. There are three donation categories of plaques:
 Animal Friends (\$25 - \$100) Animal Lovers (\$101 - \$500) Animal Sponsors (\$501 and up).

In Loving Memory

Honor a departed loved one, animal or human, with a donation that will help the animals at BCHS. Recent donations have been received in memory of...

Doris Koonce by family and friends.
 Precious, beloved cat, by KayAnna Warthen
 Paul Salsedo by Bill Schneck.
 Kristin Unterbrink by Edna McGuire.
 Sebastian, beloved cat, by Lonnie & Karen Kessinger.
 Bob Beckett by Gloria Beckett.
 Bella, beloved dog, by Dave and Beth Martin.
 Roy, beloved dog, by Randall Neumann.
 Honey Pie, beloved dog, by Randy and Sara Hubbard.

Prancer, beloved dog, by Dennis and Rachel Hundsdorfer.
 Mary Jane, beloved dog, by Dave and Beth Martin.
 Dakota, beloved parrot, by Hugh and Margaret Westbrooks.
 Lynette Huffman by R.A. Bingham or C.L. Bingham.
 William Dudash, memorials
 Mia, beloved cat, by Dan and Joanne Johnson.
 Raymond Patton by family and friends.
 Leo Ahler by family and friends.

In Celebration

Celebrate a special event by making a donation to BCHS. Recent donations have been received in celebration of...

The wedding of Lindsey & Mike Roeder

Donations

Animal Friends:

Alan & Nancy Machmer
 Amy Konieczny
 Barbara Dothage
 Betty Essenpreis
 Catherine Ruocco
 Collier Appraisers
 Doug & Linda Hansen
 Gene Daum
 George & Veronica Schaufelberger
 H. Douglas & Hilda Chaski Adams
 Helen & Richard Holbert
 Jacqueline Noud
 John & Nancy Hubbell
 John & Judy Harrison

Kay Anna Warthen
 Linda Bohle
 Marjorie Cuvar
 Matthew & Ruth Mentel
 Michael & Cindy Lotz
 Pamela Vosholler
 Pat Westergren
 Randy & Jan Perkins
 Rev. Jeffery & Rebecca Nehrt
 Rex & Lois Curtis
 Robert & Ruth Cripe
 Shirley Meyer
 Susan Sternkopf

Animal Lovers:

David & Jennifer Shelly
 Mike & Lindsey Roeder
 Kara Wills
 Donald & Susan DeNike

Animal Sponsors:

Mary Kasmark
 Mary Obermark
 Carlos & Dorothy Hawley
 Joe & Caryl Culumber
 Robert & Vicki Ellsworth

View our complete Wish List online! www.bondcohs.petfinder.com

Volunteers, Foster Homes, Animal Supplies: Stainless steel bowls (all sizes), Dog Collars (new or used), Leashes (6 ft), Purina Pro Plan Kitten and Puppy Food, Litter boxes (covered & uncovered), Cotton Balls, Q-Tips, Pet Carriers (small and medium/new or used), Dog Treats, Cat and Dog toys.

Office Supplies: Manila Tabbed File Folders, Hanging Folders, Postage Stamps, Printer Cartridges (HP56, HP57, HP27, HP28), Copier Paper (8-1/2 x 11).

Cleaning & Miscellaneous Supplies: Paper Towels, Laundry Detergent, Fabric Softener, Hand Soap (liquid), Trash Bags (13 gallon & 33 gallon), Germ-X Hand Sanitizer

Volunteer Corner

We've Got PURR-sonality Spotlight

Meet Volunteer Dusti Plopper

Dusti has lived in Bond County for 5½ years and keeps a Pomeranian dog named Skeeter. She had a Maine Coon Russian Blue mix named Buffy until the cat passed away. "[Fellow volunteer] Janice Perkins referred me to BCHS," Dusti says. "I take care of the kitties. I clean litter boxes, feed and water the cats. I play with them; give them lots of love; help with medications."

What inspires Dusti? "I love animals. I always wanted to work with animals. I want to be a vet assistant."

What touches Dusti the most about volunteering here? "When I first came in to BCHS, I was like Oh, my Gosh! Look at all the pretty kitties! It makes me cry when they get adopted out because you get attached to them."

What is Dusti's message to other BCHS volunteers? "Well, my advice is that we need to work with some of the other cats in our care, [like the ones with more difficult habits and personalities,] so they can get [ready for their new forever] homes. And it just makes me so happy when I come here!"

And Bond County Humane Society would certainly not be the same without her. Thank you, Dusti!

Outside of BCHS, Dusti enjoys working in her flower garden and volunteering for the American Cancer Society.



Volunteers Are Always Needed!

A piece inspired by Nancy Machmer

We work harder when we know we are part of a caring team. The more of us we are, the easier the work becomes and the greater the time to enjoy the reward. These cats and dogs under our care are living creatures and need fed, medicated, and cleaned up after EVERY DAY. And as we work with them and for them, until we've found them new loving homes, each animal shows us their love in return. You, too, should call us, sign up for a shift rotation, and come share in this bounty of unconditional love!

Volunteer Appreciation Party

A Volunteer Appreciation Party is scheduled for January 24, 2010 from 1:00 PM to 5:00 PM at the Bradford Room (across from the Bradford Bank) in Greenville. It is the time dedicated to giving recognition to all the volunteers that donate their precious time to help the animals. Food and drink will be provided. Invitations will be forthcoming.

Member Corner

News and Announcements for the Members of BCHS

BCHS Changes In Leadership

Laura Plunkett assumed responsibility as Treasurer and is busily familiarizing herself with the financial software and accounting systems. Kay Anna Warthen has been welcomed into her new role as Vice President - Feline Wellness, where she is responsible for overseeing the care and grooming of our feline friends. Rebecca Clausen accepted the nomination as Vice President - Communications, as she designed and maintains the new BCHS website and also creates and is editor of the semiannual newsletter. We have received the resignation of two Vice President positions. Doris Rench, formerly Vice President - Spay/Neuter Programs, found it necessary to resign her position because of personal commitments, but is still volunteering as time allows. Vickie Cook, formerly Vice President - Grants, resigned because of professional commitments. They both will be sadly missed and we wish them the very best.

We desperately need to fill the vacant Vice President positions. In order for BCHS to fulfill their mission it takes a lot of effort on the part of many people. It is time for members, volunteers or someone considering volunteering to step up and take a more active role. Open positions include: Vice President - Grants, Vice President - Spay/Neuter Programs, Vice President - Fundraising, and Vice President - Volunteers.

Current BCHS Officers

President: Rachel Hundsdorfer
Secretary: Dee Pruitt
Treasurer: Laura Plunkett
Vice President - Public Relations: Dennis Hundsdorfer
Vice President - Membership: Nancy Machmer
Vice President - Feline Wellness: Kay Anna Warthen
Vice President - Communications: Rebecca Clausen



Membership Meetings

Membership meetings are held the 2nd Wednesday of every month at 7:30 PM at the Free Methodist Gateway Conference Center on Chicago St. in Greenville. All members are welcome!

Available, Adorable, Adoptable!

Please help us find homes for these wonderful animals. Adoptions are conducted at the BCHS office at 1403 S. Fourth Street in Greenville, at the Petco store in Fairview Heights on the 1st and 3rd Saturdays and at the PetSmart store in Glen Carbon on the 2nd, 4th and 5th Saturdays of the month. You can visit our website for more information and see more adoptable pets. It is also possible to Sponsor-A-Pet in our shelter/foster system even if you cannot actually adopt one right now. Visit an online pet profile and click on the banner that says: 'Sponsor Me'. www.bondcohs.petfinder.com

Pets For Seniors

BCHS offers special adoption discounts for seniors 60 years or older. Senior adopters receive a \$50 discount off of adoption fees. This discount is made available through the Purina Pets For Seniors Program. Standard adoption fees usually start from \$90 for cats and \$100 for dogs and include veterinary testing and treatment, routine shots, alteration and state-mandated micro-chipping.

Plus!

Cats at least one year old are now offered at the reduced adoption fee of \$50. Our pictured available animals below qualify for this reduced fee!

Precious is a tortoiseshell colored domestic long hair cat approximately 4 ½ years old. She has a notch in her right ear because initially she was a free roaming cat. Normal operating procedure at the time was to notch the right ear to denote the cat has been spayed/neutered. Precious was taken in the house by a homeowner for several years. The owner surrendered her because they had to move and could not take Precious with them. Precious is very timid, mild mannered and loving. She doesn't like loud noises or a lot of activity. The ideal home for Precious would be quiet with adults.



Aurora is a lovely grey tabby domestic short hair cat approximately 1 ½ years old. She was a stray that came to BCHS with her six kittens. When her kittens were weaned she became a surrogate mom for a 1 week old kitten that was brought into BCHS. Aurora is sociable, mild mannered and likes to be held and petted. She gets along well with other cats. Some of her kittens are also available for adoption.

BCHS would like to express our ongoing thanks to the local businesses that pay a monthly advertising fee to have their names and logos appear on our highly visible and mobile cargo van. This advertising covers the insurance and maintenance expenses of the van.

A big thank you is extended to the contributing staff of the Holiday 2009 issue of The Pet Dispatch. Your ideas and full reports, your creative and fact-finding input and your photos are greatly appreciated.

**Bond County Humane Society
1403 S. Fourth Street
Greenville, IL 62246**

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Membership is all about belonging, but it's also about doing!

Please consider becoming a member of Bond County Humane Society. If you know someone who is a pet lover and has not yet joined, ask them to do so. This is also a great time to renew your existing BCHS membership for the financial year of 2010.

Annual Membership Form:

Yes, I would like to become a member of Bond County Humane Society:

- \$1,000.00 Lifetime
- \$100.00 Corporation / Organization
- \$50.00 Family
- \$30.00 Individual
- \$5.00 Senior (60 and older) / High School or College Student
- Other (Donation only, non-member)

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Home Phone: (____) _____ Work Phone (____) _____

Email Address: _____

Please mail check or money order payable to: Bond County Humane Society