



1111 Dodgetown Rd.  
Walnut Cove, NC 27052

[www.friendsofstokesshelter.com](http://www.friendsofstokesshelter.com)



JANUARY 2024

ISSUE #9



# Welcome Back!!



The pups and kitties are finally recovering from Thanksgiving and Christmas. Boy did they ever get the royal treatment. Special food, treats, toys and outings to see Santa, parades and eat yummy pup cups. ALL of this would not have been possible without all of your generous donations and our AMAZING volunteers. This is the month when we make New Year's resolutions and fine tune our lives. If you have added "giving back" to your list, we would love for you to come volunteer, make a recurring monthly donation or shop our Amazon or Chewy wish list. Next month will be our 4 year Anniversary so stay tuned for fun ways that we plan to celebrate. We hope that you enjoy the first newsletter of 2024. It is packed FULL of news, updates and how much we are thankful for YOU!!



## School Teaching Kindness



On December 20th Walnut Cove Elementary School visited the adoption center. They didn't only bring holiday cheer, they came bearing gifts! These 4th and 5th graders toted in bags and bags of dog and cat food, treats, toys and homemade blankets. Dr. Thrower and Rebecca Williams, as well as the rest of the staff, are truly making a difference in the students hearts. They are teaching that giving feels so much better than receiving. These kids were so well behaved and asked some wonderful questions during the tour. There is no doubt that we were in the presence of future adults who are going to make a difference in this world! Great job Walnut Cove Elementary School!!! Keep up the GREAT work!!

## Newsletter Highlights

School Teaching Kindness

A Boy and His Pup

White Rust Photography

Big Mac's Christmas Fun

Welcome

Christmas Spirit

AMAZING Volunteers

Lilo/Renn

Mindy/Josie



DON'T FORGET THAT YOU CAN ORDER FROM OUR CHEWY WISHLIST

[https://www.chewy.com/g/friends-of-stokes-shelter\\_b114903946](https://www.chewy.com/g/friends-of-stokes-shelter_b114903946)



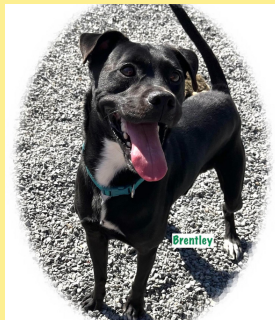
### SIRIUS BLACK

SIRIUS IS A MALE BOMBAY CAT WHO IS AROUND 11 MONTHS OLD. HE LOVES TO PLAY HIDE AND SEEK. HE WOULD LOVE TO HAVE A HOME OF HIS VERY OWN TO LOUNGE AROUND IN AND LEARN TO BE A LAP CAT. SIRIUS IS A VERY SWEET BOY AND WOULD BE AN AMAZING FAMILY PET.

# ADOPT A PET

### BRENTLEY

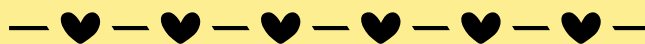
BRENTLEY IS A 3 YEAR OLD MALE BOXER MIX. HE HAS THE CUTEST UNDERBITE THAT YOU HAVE EVER SEEN. HE IS FULL OF PERSONALITY AND JUST WANTS TO BE LOVED ON. HE WILL MAKE ANY HOME A WONDERFUL ADDITION TO THE FAMILY.



## Look who got adopted in December



- |           |             |        |         |
|-----------|-------------|--------|---------|
| Lilo      | Scout       | Vega   | Boots   |
| Sasha     | Gingerbread | Itzy   | Tabitha |
| Nani      | Ash         | Nebula | Ember   |
| Sofie     | Kingii      | Clovis | Stitch  |
| Beacon    | BellaRose   | Baylee | Snipes  |
| Milky Way | Ranger      | Tarzan |         |



## FOSS Team

### Board Members

- Diane Coffill - Chair
- Open- Vice Chair
- Caleb Swaim- Treasurer
- Open - Secretary
- Fran Hollis - Facilities Chair
- Kate Waterman - Fundraising Chair
- Mike Barsness
- Aaron Sisco
- Tanya Gardner
- Cindy Holby

### Part-Time Employees

- Emily Burgess - Animal Operations Manager
- Renea Brown - FOSS Services Manager
- Tonya Palmer - Kennel Assistant
- Crystal Finney - Kennel Assistant
- Bethany Woods - Kennel Assistant

### Volunteer Coordinator's

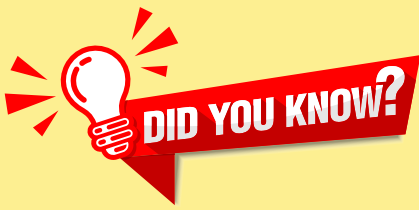
- Lorrie Bennett - Volunteer Coordinator
- Katie Winfrey - Volunteer Coordinator
- Cindy Taylor - Human-Animal Relations Coordinator

## Along with 30+ active volunteers!!

## A Boy and His Pup



When Karen called in a donation and told us the story behind the amount and who to honor, we knew we needed to share the story! Three years ago, Karen and her family adopted one of our pups named "Clara." She has grown up with her new name "Chispa." Each Hanukkah, Karen and her husband Jason have the tradition of giving their children money so that each child can make a donation to a cause that is important to them. Eight-year-old Jesse asked his parents if he could make a donation in honor of Chispa to the place where they had adopted her. What an amazing thing to do!! This young man reminded us that when we adopt one of our sweeties, they impact the entire family and will bring so much love to the family. You can never be too young or too old to fall in love with a pet and keep paying it forward so that someone else can experience that feeling. Let this young man's act of kindness be the beginning of a trend of paying it forward. If someone or someplace has impacted your life, reach out and let them know.



# White Rust Photography and Santa

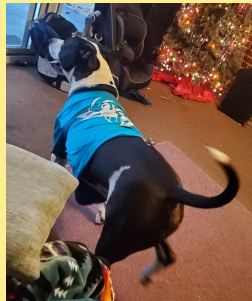
On Saturday December 20th, the owner of White Rust Photography, Cindy McFarland held an amazing fundraiser for FOSS. She lined up pet portraits to be taken at the adoption center and we just so happened to have an inside connection to get Santa there at the same time. We set up a cookie decorating station and the kids had a great time decorating cookies. We saw, what felt like, every Bassett Hound in Stokes County 🐾. It was wonderful to see so many pet parents bring out their fur baby so they get a picture and let Santa know how good they were in 2023. It was a BIG hit, so go ahead and plan on bringing your pup out in December 2024!

- Polar bears have black skin.
- A dragonfly's eyes take up most of its head.
- Birds known as brown thrashers can sing more than 1,000 songs.
- Young lobsters sometimes hitch a ride on jellyfish to save energy - eating the jellyfish as they go!
- The chocolate chip sea starfish got its name from the dark brown horns that cover its body for protection.
- When food is running low, marine iguanas can shrink, then grow back to their full length when food is abundant.
- A group of ducks live on the roof of the Peabody Hotel in Memphis, Tennessee.
- The first Siamese cat to come to the United States was given as a gift to President Rutherford B. Hayes.



## Big Mac's Christmas Fun

We LOVE hearing back from our adopters!! Big Mac's family is always so kind and sends us recent pictures. He had a BIG Christmas Day with his human siblings. He loved his stocking and playing with the kids gifts, even the empty boxes. He played so much that he wore himself out and needed a nap. It looks like he didn't like the cold weather so he requested to be covered up. 😊



# FOSS Donation Wall

We sincerely apologize for any errors or omissions. Please contact (336) 914-9270 or [fosservicesmanager@gmail.com](mailto:fosservicesmanager@gmail.com) with any corrections or questions.

## In Honor of People

Susan DuRant  
Wendy Owens  
Dr. Debra Cowan DVM and Staff of  
Animal Hospital of Walnut Cove  
Sandy Morris  
Judy Sipes  
Karen Asbury  
Shannon & Kevin Hoffman  
Lynne Pasquale  
Bill Neese  
The Coates Family  
Evette Neese  
Darryl Dott  
Bill Taylor

Jessica Rockwell  
Schwab Charitable  
Lisa Weaver  
Reynolds American Inc.Charity

Lorrie Bennett  
Janet Dalton  
Bill Taylor  
Lynne Pasquale  
Leslie and Skip Staples  
Jim and Laura Green  
Cindy Taylor  
Margie McCeny  
Tammy Hill

## In Memory of People

Mark Bowman  
Thad & Kimberly Hicks  
Carol Moss  
Quaker Qap Baptist Church  
Patricia Ann Martin Lawrence  
Jaime Foyle  
Austin Snow  
Morgan Snow  
Tex Mabe  
Shelia Hall Mabe  
Victoria Summey  
Mitzi Summey  
Sherry Bullins  
Debbie Cowan

## Donations

Sarah Stephens  
Charities Aid Foundation  
Fran Hollis  
Sharon & Gary Williams  
Marlene Vaughan  
Chad Tucker  
Sandra Crawford  
Susie Boysen  
Mark Smith  
Barbara Self  
Wesley & Delana Carter

Tom & Jan Shelmerdine  
Shelia Mabe  
Larry Greenwood  
Mark Gibson  
Susan Smith  
Danielle Germini  
ClarkPowell Associates  
Cynthia Wheeler  
Michael Maddox  
Taphouse 1889  
Debbie Dodson & Kernersville  
CT Staff

## Grants & monthly donor

Karen Fulscher  
Vicki Lathery

## Recurring Donors

Elizabeth Trumpie  
Lisa Tutterow  
Karen Coleman  
Robin Amos  
Sandra Kollar  
Robert Barnett

## Special Thanks to you

Alex Yontz  
Kaulig Companies Giving Fund  
White Rust Photography  
Walnut Cove Elementary

If you would like to send a donation in honor or in memory of a loved one, please send it to:

Friends of Stokes Shelter  
1111 Dodgetown Rd.  
Walnut Cove, NC 27052

# WELCOME

We are sad to see our vet of record Dr. Debbie Cowan, owner of The Animal Hospital of Walnut Cove, retire. She has been an inspiration for FOSS all the way back to 2013. She was one of the forces that helped open the doors and remained a constant supporter while we have grown. She was not only our vet of record but a friend as well and we wish her days of relaxing sunsets as she enters retirement. We would like to welcome Walkertown Veterinary Hospital to our team. Dr. Joel Fox will become the vet of record for FOSS beginning January 1, 2024. We feel sure that he and his colleagues are sure to become friends as well as awesome caregivers for all of our residents. If you haven't checked out their new building, you should! They moved to 4405 Poindexter St., Walkertown, NC 27051. We are excited to have them on board. Please help us WELCOME them.

 WALKERTOWN  
Veterinary Hospital

## Christmas Spirit

The Friends of Stokes Shelter is beyond speechless and VERY thankful for the amazing support that we received this holiday season. The volunteers, donated food, generous donations and the list goes on and on! During the year, time after time, we reach out and ask for help and YOU always come through but the extra love that our pups and kitties felt is beyond generous. The staff, Emily, Renea, Tonya, Crystal and Bethany, would like to say THANK YOU from the bottom of our hearts for being you and having such a beautiful heart!



# Our Volunteers Are AMAZING

## December Volunteer Hours

555.25

## 2023 Volunteer hours

5760.5

### Top 5

Sydney Zuchick - 530

Lorrie Bennett - 447

Cindy Taylor - 419.5

Nonie Sands - 408.25

Mary Anne Barsness - 313

## Volunteer of the Month

Sarah Stephen. Sarah is always willing to step up to the plate and take on more responsibilities. She is an instrumental part of the FOSS team! Congratulations Sarah! Well deserved!

## January Birthdays

2nd - Wendy Elliott

6th - Brianna Swallie

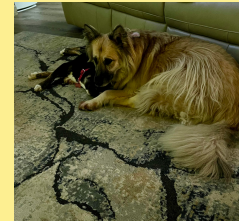
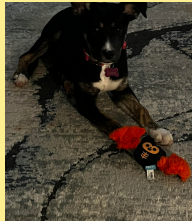
14th - Laura Melvin

25th - Kerrigan Barnes



## Renn and Raven

On 12/1/23, Chris and Kim Lawing came in with their sweet Raven. We brought in Lilo and she immediately fell in love with Raven! Raven had lost her sister and was so very sad. The Lawings weren't sure they were ready for a new fur-baby but they knew Raven was ready. We have gotten the sweetest updates from them:



### Quick update!

LILO ( Renn ) is already coming out of her shell and showing her spunky little personality! She loves Raven so much unless Raven is trying to take her toy lol. Her new favorite spot is sitting or lying on Ravens tail as you can see from the attached picture. She started throwing up a lot this weekend so I went and got her some new puppy food and that seemed to help her. Could've been nerves too? She is also learning to potty outside very quickly which is a huge plus!! I know in most cases dogs bond with one person in the home but in this case she has made Raven her person lol. She is doing very good except she likes to chew everything especially shiny ornaments off our tree. It's so much fun watching her continue to come out of her shell and get more comfortable in her new home. Chris sent an update before I put the finishing touches on the newsletter so it was able to be included! "his little girl is finally coming out of her shell! She is a ball of fire lol. She has already had many firsts ... 1st car ride, trip to the vet, trip to PetSmart. She has her first nickname too.. "Raptor" cause she loves to attack lol. We are so thankful we found her! "" WE LOVE IT!!



## Josie

We got this SWEET message from Amber Keel on 11/18/22. She adopted our Mindy, now HER Josie. "Hi!!! We are home and getting settled in with Josie(Mindy). She is doing great and is so playful and fun! She has brought so much happiness back into our house since we had to put our baby down from cancer. I can't thank you enough for giving us the opportunity to be her family." Since that time she has kept us updated (WHICH WE LOVE) on how Josie is doing. She sent us these adorable pictures of Josie and we wanted to share them with you! She is beautiful! Thank you Amber for loving her the way she deserves to be loved.

