

1111 Dodgetown Rd.
Walnut Cove, NC 27052
www.friendsofstokesshelter.com



NOVEMBER 2023 ISSUE #7





## Welcome Back!!

Well, this month we will be honoring our Veterans and eating some turkey! Don't forget to take the time to thank a Veteran. Enjoy that time with your family and your four legged family. In October we were so blessed to be the recipient of the Pet Sitters International charity fundraiser. What an amazing group of people! We had Girl Scout troops visit and gave out over 2300 treat bags of candy to trick or treaters (between Walnut Cove and King events)! That will keep the dentist busy for another year! We loved every minute of it, from the hot day handing candy out to the day we had to wear hats and gloves (crazy that it was only 2 days between this change). We saw a bunch of furry friends at the Fur Fun Day and StoCo. The BEST part is that we were able to place 26 pets into loving homes!! That is what we love the MOST! Thank ALL of you for sharing their pictures and passing on the word about them. Please share with your friends that we have launched our paver project. We would like to give a BIG shout out to Land Dog Mulching for donating some playyard gravel and B & B Stump grinding for spreading it! We have the MOST amazing supporters!







We are so excited about this paver project!!
When the campaign has ended, the pavers will be used for a project in the pups play yard. We are brainstorming a couple of ideas so stay tuned and get your order in! The more pavers that are sold during this 6 month campaign, the BIGGER the project can be.

## Newsletter Highlights

**Launch of Paver Project** 

Pet Sitters Internationals donation

Did You Know

NLOL Welcomes 3 of Our Own

Zeb and Kelly

**Guide to Nurturing Senior Pets** 





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

https://www.chewy.com/g/friends-ofstokes-shelter\_b114903946



Go to our website <u>www.friendsofstokesshelter.com</u>

Click the DONATE tab>Click setup recurring donation here button





## Pet Sitters International donates \$5,000 to The Friends of the Stokes Shelter

Pet Sitters International selected FOSS as the beneficiary of its charity bingo event at the annual Pet Sitter World Educational Conference.



KING, N.C. (October 16, 2023)—Members of Pet Sitters International (PSI), the world's leading educational association for professional pet-sitting and dog-walking business owners, came together this October to raise \$5,000 for The Friends of the Stokes Shelter Animal Ádoption Center.

PSI, which was founded in King, N.C., by Patti J. Moran, hosts its annual Pet Sitter World Educational Conference for association members each year in different parts of the country. This year's event was hosted in Winston-Salem and included professional petcare business owners from 28 U.S. states, Canada, and the Netherlands.

PSI's members were able to donate to FOSS through an online fundraising page and a charity bingo event during the conference. "It is so important to PSI that each of our annual conferences has a charitable component—and we love that our attendees commit to helping the pet community in the host city each year," explained PSI President Beth Stultz-Hairston. "Hosting our conference in our home state and being able to benefit a local organization like FOSS made this year even more special."

"The PSI team has seen firsthand the important role this organization plays in our community, so we know that FOSS will make good use of this donation to help local pets in need," Stultz-Hairston added.

PSI presented the check to FOSS representatives during the charity bingo on Oct. 6. Conference speakers and sponsors, as well as Pet

Sitters International, donated prizes for the event.

"The FOSS organization is so very thankful for the kindness and generosity that PSI has always given to us," said Renea Brown, FOSS services manager. "PSI has always sponsored events and has been a constant in our organization. The ENTIRE group that we met at the world conference was beyond nice and we so very much enjoyed the event.'

Since opening in 2020, FÓSS Animal Adoption Center has already saved more than 1,179 animals in Stokes County and relies 100% on private donations to operate.

Article contributed by Meghann Evans-Pet Sitters International





#### DID YOU KNOW?

- After a chase, a cheetah has to wait about 30 minutes to catch its breath before it
- There are more pet dogs in Brazil than there are people in Canada.
- A honey badger's skin is so thick that the animal is unharmed by bee stings and porcupine quills.
- A great white shark's liver makes up a quarter of its bodyweight.
- Elephants will roll in the dust or mud to protect themselves from sunburn.
- The egg yolks of Flamingos are blood red.
- Snails can regrow their eyes.
- Some people become allergic to red meat after being bitten by a lone star tick.

## **FOSS Team**



### **Board Members**

Mike Barsness - Chair Diane Coffill - Vice Chair Wendi Spraker -Secretary/Treasurer Fran Hollis - Facilities Chair Kate Waterman - Marketing Chair **Aaron Sisco** Tanya Gardner Caleb Swaim

## 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!!

FOSS Volunteer November Birthday's

12th - Lisa Schwarz 21st - Kristi Mitchell



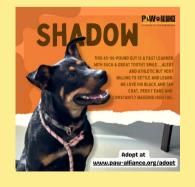


## FOODS THAT WILL HELP OUR WILD FRIENDS DURING **COLD WEATHER** Unconked nats Cereal Cooked rice (ideally brown) Soaked dog kibble Wet dog or cat food Fresh coconut in the shell Baked potatoes Suet blocks / bird cake Raw peanuts / walnuts / others Raw sunflower seeds Wild birdseed Bread is better than nothing at all, but is very low in nutritional value. Thank You for caring!

## NLOL Welcomes 3 of Our Own

When it was time to begin the new class, New Leash on Life came and checked out several FOSS dogs. Squash and Shadow instantly turned on the charm and they fell in love with them! They later came back and checked out Snapple. He soon joined them and they have began their 10 week program. We are super excited to follow their progress and are so proud to be a part of the group that NLOL comes to when starting a new session. Stay tuned to see how far they have come.











## **FOSS Donation Wall**

We sincerely apologize for any errors or omissions. Please contact (336) 914-9270 or fossservicesmanager@gmail.com with any corrections or questions. Gifts are listed from A-Z

### In Memory of People

**Grants & monthly donor Dennis & Beth Slate** Karen Fulscher

**Shirley Bullins** Ricky & Traci Hartle

Vicki Lathery

**Kevin Webster** 

## **Recurring Donors**

Special Thank You **Elizabeth Trumpie Pet Sitters International Lisa Tutterow** 

Girl Scout Troop #13389 Karen Coleman Girl Scout Troop #2817 **Robin Amos** 

**Mike Barsness** Sandra Kollar

**Charities Aid Foundation Robert Barnett** Mark and Heather Johnson

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



## LOOK WHO GOT ADOPTED IN NOVEMBER!

Mr. Wiggles	Marnie	Rose Cotton
Rhododendron	Beetlejuice	Frodo
Vespa	Lydia	Sunny
Storm	Pumpkin	Elanor the Fair
Rain Rain	Netherlee	Pippin
Maurice	Kelly	Snapple
Squash	Samwise	Lipton
LuLuBelle	Sarah	Gatita
Trixy	<b>Estrella</b>	



FOR THE MONTH OFSEPTEMBER WE HAD

580.75, HOURS!! THAT IS AMAZING!

OUR VOLUNTEER OF THE MONTH FOR OCTOBER IS:

NONIE SANDS!! NONIE IS ONE OF SWEETEST LADIES 🙅 THAT YOU WILL EVER MEET. THE LOVE THAT SHE BRINGS INTO THE ROOM WITH HER IS BREATHTAKING. SHE KEEPS ALL OF US SMILING

AND SHE IS SO VERY DEDICATED TO FOSS! CONGRATULATIONS NONIE! WELL DESERVED!!!!!







# and Kelly

Zeb



There are times in your life when you meet someone who is looking for a new sweetie and their eyes just speak to you and you know EXACTLY the baby for them. Well, that was Paula. When she came in looking to adopt, her eyes said ZEB! He was so very shy. She came several times just to spend time with him so he could get to know her. By the time it was time for him to go home, she made sure he felt comfortable leaving with her. It didn't take too long until he had discovered, HE WAS HOME. A few months later, a little shy girl came to us and she just reminded us so much of Zeb. Well, we reached out to Paula. Being the sweet lady that she is, she said she would meet Kelly. By the time she came to meet her, Kelly came out of her shell and Paula said "Where is the shy girl?" LOL. She wanted to make sure that Zeb would like a sister so they visited one time and then the second time, we took Kelly to "his" house. As soon as they saw each other, they just took off playing. Running all over the back yard and just having a ball! Kelly visited for a little over an hour and we loaded up and came back to the adoption center. Before we made it back, Paula called and said that Zeb was missing her so much. She said, I think I will be adopting her. She came and adopted her and they are so bonded that you would think they had been raised together. It is stories like this that make you say, "this is why we do it". We can't thank Paula enough for giving both Zeb and Kelly the BEST home ever!

## THIS YEAR WHEN MAKING THAT YEAR END DONATION



PLEASE CONSIDER FOSS AS

YOUR CHARITY OF CHOICE





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## **Guide to Nuturing Senior Pets**

As pet owners, we share a unique bond with our furry companions that transcends time. Our pets grow with us, becoming cherished members of the family. As the years go by, our pets age just as we do, and caring for senior pets comes with its own set of joys and responsibilities. In this comprehensive guide, we'll explore the beauty of adopting and caring for senior pets, addressing their needs, health considerations, and the unique rewards that come with offering a loving home to these wise and gentle souls.

#### The Joys of Adopting Senior Pets

The beauty of adopting a senior pet lies in their maturity. Their personalities are fully formed, and their calm and gentle demeanor makes them excellent companions for individuals and families alike. Typically, they may have lower energy than a puppy and are house broken. Seniors, looking to be adopted, need us as much as we need them as they are often overlooked in shelters.

Building a bond with a pet takes time and the bond is the foundation for the relationship. Pets and pet parents with a strong bond have a higher success rate with training and presenting good behavior in public. When adopting an older pet, this bond often forms quickly. Older pets seem to understand the gift of a second chance, and the loyalty and affection they show in return are heartwarming.

#### **Understanding the Needs of Senior Pets**

Senior pets have different nutritional needs compared to their younger counterparts. High-quality senior pet foods cater to their changing dietary requirements, promoting joint health, and maintaining a healthy weight. If medical conditions arise, a senior pet may need specific food that can be prescribed by a veterinarian.

As with all pets, frequent veterinary check-ups are essential to monitor their health. With senior pets, it is even more imperative. Preventive measures and early intervention can address age-related concerns and ensure your pet's well-being.

As pets age their needs change. With these changes they may require adjustments to their living space. Some senior pets may need soft bedding, ramps for easier access, and a warm and cozy environment to maintain a state of comfort.

#### **Health Considerations for Senior Pets**

One of the most important things to keep your pet enriched and satisfied is daily exercise. Although senior pets may experience a decrease in energy levels, regular exercise remains vital. Consider low-impact activities, like gentle walks and interactive play, to help maintain their mobility and prevent obesity.

Dental health starts with teeth, but can impact the entire body. As pets age, keeping on top of their dental health is of utmost importance. Regular dental cleanings and a proper dental care routine help prevent dental disease, which can lead to more significant health issues. Senior pets are more prone to chronic health conditions such as arthritis, kidney disease, and diabetes. Working closely with your veterinarian to manage these conditions through medication, dietary adjustments, and monitoring is essential.

#### The Rewards of Adopting Senior Pets

Senior pets are often overlooked in shelters compared to their younger counterparts. However, they offer companionship that is rooted in experience. Their presence adds a sense of calm and serenity to your home, enriching your life in immeasurable ways.

Unfortunately, our pets have shorter life spans than us, but you can extend the life of a senior by providing a loving home, diligent oversight, and comfort. By adopting a senior pet, you are giving a deserving pet a chance to spend their golden years in comfort and love.

Your kindness and compassion can profoundly impact their quality of life.

Despite their age, senior pets have an incredible capacity for love. They form deep bonds with their caregivers and shower them with loyalty, gratitude, and unwavering affection.

#### Conclusion

Welcoming a senior pet into your home is an act of kindness that's immeasurable. These wise souls have so much to offer, from the wisdom of age to the unwavering love they bring into our lives. By embracing the joys and challenges of caring for senior pets, we honor the beautiful journey we share with them. The rewards are plentiful, and the memories you create together will remain etched in your heart forever.





