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www.friendsofstokesshelter.com



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ISSUE #34



WELCOME BACK



Welcome to the month where we celebrate the "love in the air". While we anticipate the wonderful day of Valentine's, we can also reflect on what has happened since our last newsletter.

FOSS has had a lot of things happening since the last time we updated you. Some were welcomed, and some were unexpected. Let's start with the welcoming changes. We have welcomed four new board members. They are great additions to the board and are sure to help move FOSS in a positive direction, helping us grow and expand our reach in the community. Please be sure to read about them on pages 4 and 5. The glass wall will begin the installation process, hopefully, by the first of March. The contract is signed, and Pella has begun the ordering process! The two back side play yards have been given the go-ahead to begin the updated repairs needed so they can be opened back up to the pups. One yard will be strictly for dogs who are in isolation for their 7-day waiting period before they move into the dog well room area, and the other will be seeded with new grass so that the pups can enjoy some grass while out in the sunshine. We have already booked the golf course for our golf tournament and the venue for our annual gala. We are throwing a twist into our fundraisers and will be having a "Paint & Sip" event at StoCo in King on March 7th. We will be accepting 24 people for this event, and it is sure to be a fun one! More events to be announced.

Now for the unexpected things. First, our Animal Manager, Emily Burgess, has chosen to leave FOSS. We thank her for ALL that she did to help get FOSS started, and we wish her the best for the next season of her life. The staff and volunteers have stepped up and have filled in all the gaps, and are working hard to work as a team and keep saving as many animals in Stokes County as we can. We had the unexpected learning curve thrown at us with a puppy having parvo. Unfortunately, we did lose the litter of puppies, but we did catch it from the very first sign of sickness, and our vet of record was brought in, and we did not lose any other animals. We are thankful for the fast response from the staff, volunteers, and our vet. We learned a lot and fine-tuned our contagious disease policy. We also had a kitten who almost didn't make it through her spaying, but the fast response from the vet who spayed her saved her life. Unfortunately, she has lost some of her sight due to the complication. She is a strong-spirited little girl, and she will make someone a really great companion. SHEW, January was a whirlwind, and we ended it with a terrible ice/snow storm. Once again, the supporters came through and provided for the anticipation of any power loss. We are now ready for more learning curves and are ready to make FOSS STRONGER through any of the curves!! We thank you for your continued support, and we hope that you enjoy this newsletter.

Newsletter Highlights

Bonnie AKA Godiva



Brady



Bandit AKA Rys



Renn



JellyBean



Mac AKA Hunny



Meet Your Board & GM



Shadow AKA Little Bit



Rusty



chewy.com

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

Look Who Got Adopted in January

Bo	Maple	Jim
Peanut	Creacher	Doc
Max	Peppermint	Teak
Pan	Arline	Rocket
	Frost	

Haddie AKA Caddy

By: Lindsey Tote



She has adjusted wonderfully and we love her dearly ❤️



Brady

He is the best boy ever, and we love him to pieces! He continues to thrive. We will always be grateful to you for connecting us. Our best to you and your wonderful volunteers at FOSS! ❤️ Pam



Bonnie AKA Godiva

By: Sandra Belmont



Bonnie (formerly Godiva) is adjusting well to her new home. She loves to take long walks and play in the backyard -she is a super fast runner! She is playful and loving though still skittish around new people. She loves every dog she meets. We are so thankful that you rescued her and that we found her ❤️

Bandit AKA Rhys

By: Sheila Inman

Bandit formerly Rhys... I submitted him for a cat Calendar and he is Mr. Oct



By: Chris Lawing

Our sweet baby Renn has a new love.... she will watch dog tv for hours lol





JellyBean

By: Cathy Gerrety



Hi

Mom said to send you these pictures of me. Mom had to install windows in our screen porch because, apparently, I am a screen climber and she was worried I would tear the screens and escape. LOL So dad built this perch where my brother Finn loves to lie in the sun. I love to bug him when he is relaxing. Also my training with "waiting at the door" is coming along. The picture of me meowing is really a funny picture, not a scary picture. I was saying love you mom I am laying on the table like she wants me to when she came home. She said I was such a good girl (which I already knew). Finn has a whatever face, but I love to show off!!! I just love playing chase with him, showing off my running skills. The other picture is Finn squeezing between mom's windows, watching the squirrels I however, am skinny Minney so I can just squeeze in between. Mom ordered a lure course for cats and she will send you videos when we get it and set it up. I know I will wear my little self out playing with it. Hope you have a Merry Christmas!
Love Me

Adopt Me



Rocky

I am a 3-year-old male who is neutered and up to date on all vaccines. I have the sweetest eyes and the best temperament. I love to play, and I am just as happy with getting some loving rubs and relaxing. I will make a wonderful companion, and I am just waiting for you to come adopt me.



Mac AKA Hunny

By: Rachel Berger



Formerly known as "Hunny", Mac was adopted by his loving parents Rachel and Cameron on September 6. His older brother Mugsy was initially a bit confused as to whether this new feline friend was just a visitor or a part of the family, but Mac quickly explained he was here to stay. Since then, the brothers have spent approximately 99% of their time chasing each other around the house, play-fighting, sunbathing, and cuddling. They can't even imagine life without each other anymore. Mac has taken a role of the investigator when it comes to strange sounds, new smells, or the possibility of food/treats being given. He has even made his brother more courageous! All that to say, Rachel, Cameron, and Mugsy are so grateful to the Friends of the Stokes Shelter for bringing Mac into their lives!



MEET THE FOSS BOARD



Cindy Holby Chair

Cindy Holby is an international best-selling author of twenty-five published novels. She is also an animal lover. Most of her stories feature a cat, a dog, a horse and sometimes a goat, because what is life without our beloved pets. Cindy became a member of the FOSS animal adoption center board in 2023 after fostering many a litter of kittens and their mothers. She now serves as board chair. She lives in King with her husband, Rob, two rescue dogs, Riley and Finn and three cats, Gracie, Ash, and Remy, better known as the foster fails. Her goal for the current board is to make FOSS Animal Adoption Center a beacon for all the homeless animals of Stokes County, and have it be an example of what a group of like-minded people can accomplish with a lot of hard work and a great love of animals.



Lee Winfrey Vice Chair

My wife, Katie, introduced me to FOSS a few years ago and got me to start volunteering. I mainly helped with walking dogs and volunteering at different events. I became a board member in April last year to become more involved with FOSS. I love the animals, volunteers, and staff. I live in Walkertown with Katie and our two dogs, Chevy and Lucy. I am employed as a probation officer in Winston-Salem. In my free time, I enjoy traveling, running, and attending sporting events (Go Panthers!).



Mariah Fiumara Secretary

Hello! My name is Mariah Fiumara, and I currently serve as Secretary and Co-Fundraising Chair on the FOSS board, as well as an active volunteer. I live in King with my husband, Sam, and our two dogs, Clover and Ollie (previously known at FOSS as Slim Jim). I have a long history and love of animal husbandry, having grown up working in my mom's dog grooming business before starting my own in Ohio, and showing and training dogs. I was also previously a 4-H advisor and leader of the Hocking County 4-H dog program. After leaving the animal husbandry field, I received a Bachelor's in Business Administration, specifically Marketing and Organizational Behavior, from Ohio University, and my Master's in Higher Education and Student Affairs from Eastern Michigan University. I've spent the last 9 years working to build a new student learning program at the University of Michigan, including securing donors, working with alumni, and teaching leadership development to college students. Upon moving to King, I was captivated by the amazing work being done at FOSS. The great culture, love, commitment, and impact of this place, and especially the people here, are incredible. FOSS not only makes a difference in the lives of the animals we save, but also in the community. I've been inspired by the love and support pouring from community members, the innovative programs various volunteers have started, and the continued resilience. I joined the board with the goal of being able to use my experience and passion for animals and youth to support raising funds, improving transparency and access to information, assisting with outreach programs, and helping to continue to grow FOSS. I'm honored to have an opportunity to serve our animals, staff, and volunteers through this role. I can't wait to get to know you all more! Please feel free to reach out, and I look forward to seeing you at FOSS!



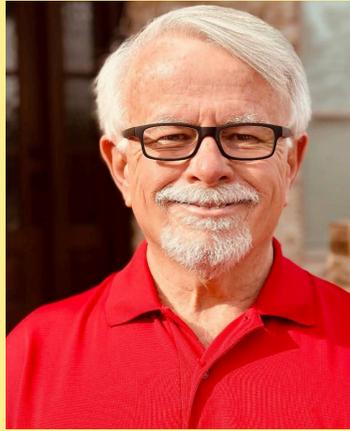
MEET THE FOSS BOARD & GM



April Perez

Fundraising/Marketing

Hey everyone! Excited to be serving our community with FOSS. I believe we are called to be stewards of animals. Proverbs 12:10 says the righteous man cares for his animals. I own a small dog grooming business and have been in the industry almost 20years. It goes without saying I love animals I think they bring such joy to our lives. I have 2 golden retrievers, a cat, a bunny, a tortoise, a pet pig and chickens. I try to encourage my children in servitude not for personal recognition but to spread Christ love. I love to travel with my family and just try to live life to the fullest.



David Hudson
Treasurer

I grew up in this area and attended Forsyth County Schools. Following graduation from Wingate University I returned home and shortly thereafter met my wife and best friend, Laura, who lived in King. We have moved numerous times with my jobs and returned to King in 2021. I have since retired and when we are not enjoying one of our shared passions--travel, I like spending time in my workshop, riding motorcycles and playing golf. Throughout the years, we have had 2 dogs and as many as 7 cats. Our current fur babies total 4 cats - one Burmese and three rescues. I know FOSS has helped many cats and dogs find their forever homes and look forward to contributing my time to help this wonderful organization.



Duane Elliott
Facilities

US Air Force veteran Duane Elliott recently retired after 30 years in the electrical field. He is a licensed electrical contractor and spent the past 24 years running his own contracting business, holding an unlimited electrical license in the state of North Carolina. Alongside his electrical work, Duane also operates several real estate businesses, purchasing and managing both single-family and multi-family residential properties. Retirement has opened the door for him to travel more, take on new adventures, and devote additional time to serving his community.

Duane owns multiple rental properties in the area and enjoys the hands-on work and flexibility that come with managing them. He has been married for 30 years to his high school sweetheart, Wendy, and they have an adult daughter who lives just across the South Carolina line in Indian Land with her golden retriever, Huxley. At home, Duane and Wendy share their lives with two house cats, Grace and Penny, who bring them plenty of joy.

An outdoor enthusiast, Duane loves hiking, biking, and taking long solo trips where he can explore, reflect, and recharge. He has hiked the entire length of the Appalachian Trail (roughly 2,200 miles) and the Colorado Trail (around 500 miles). He is currently planning to bicycle across the United States for the second time beginning in late May 2026. Duane also enjoys helping others in practical ways and frequently mentors people of all ages on finances, saving, and investing.



FOSS Donation Wall

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

AND FOR ALL OF THE AMAZON WISH

LIST PURCHASES

IN MEMORY OF PERSON

Hunter
Lisa Boles
Bill Taylor
Shannon Hoffman
Mike Mabe
Raymond Brown & Sherry Whitt
Danbury VFD Ladies Auxiliary

IN HONOR OF PERSON

Susan Hathcock Collins
Alice Gardiner

IN MEMORY OF PET

Pi
Faith Heitzer
Riley Worley
Anna Worley

DONATIONS

Donald Frey
Deborah Fox
Larry Greenwood
Ginger East
Beth Annas
Helen Altman
Wendy Martin
Julie Landon
Elizabeth & Scott Eaton
Amy Starnes
Barry & Carolyn Wood
Sandy Bohland
Tammy Ashburn
Christina Southern
Nancy Warner
Tracy Brown
Elizabeth & Charles Trumpie
Wesley & Linda Wilkes
Wendy Harper
Keegan Johnson
Joey Lynch
Chad & Jennifer Roberts
Lisa Weaver

VPP HEROES

Elizabeth Trumpie	Barbara Self
Deborah Dodson	Emily Ann Williams
Lisa Tutterow	Candi Carter
Karen Coleman	Tammy Meadows
Robin Amos	Jeanette Burleson
Kathryn Ball	Courtney Dwyer
Dana Curtis	Ruth Harden
Larry Greenwood	Deb Fox
Cynthia Wadkinson	Rose Oakes
George Wadkinson	Lauren Osterman
Lisa Robertson	Regina Rollins
Karen Grano	Nancy Wagner
JoAnne Silvia	Sheri Lynn Rokosh
Robert Barnett	Karen Fulscher
Lynne Pasquale	Angela Gamble
Brenna Husel	Samantha Cooley
	Gina McGee

SPECIAL THANKS

Wanda & Marty Dyer

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

Amazon & Other Donors

Amazon has stopped allowing us to send out an electronic "thank you" for your generous donations. We have decided to say our thank you in the newsletter. We are so thankful for you. Some donations do not come in with a receipt so if you do not see your name, WE ARE THANKFUL FOR YOU.

LCallie Eaton
Kimberly Whicker
Amber Clark Williamson
Lauren Osterman



January
Volunteer Hours

Our Volunteers Are AMAZING
Volunteer of the Month

February
Birthdays *Happy Birthday*

860 HOURS

Wendy has been a volunteer for over 5 years. She helps with the office duties, walking dogs, fostering cats, and the list goes on and on. She has always had the most positive attitude and is an inspiration to those who are around her. She works tirelessly on the fundraising team and also helps transport animals. Thank you for all that you do, Wendy. We appreciate you so much!

- 2nd Regecca Steintrager
- 7th Sarah Lambert
- 10th Hanna Hornschuch
- 12th Coco Seamon
- 15th Susan Van Hoy
- 21st Wendy Owens
- 23rd Crystal Finney

Rusty

By:
Karin Giordano

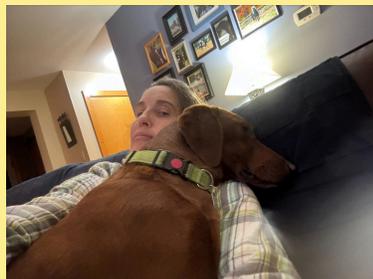


Here is some holiday spam of Rusty and his siblings I thought you might enjoy. We had a bit of an accident on Thanksgiving. Rusty side swiped me while playing with his sister and I fell and broke my ankle. It was just a stupid thing where I wasn't paying as much attention as I should have and totally not his fault. I needed surgery and have 6 weeks of not bearing weight, but I have a scooter that we fixed up with big tires so I can still "walk" the dogs outside. We still adore our little goofball and even if I knew my ankle would break, I would adopt him again a million times over.

Best holiday wishes to you and everyone at FOSS. I so wish I could adopt more shelter animals, but I think with 5 dogs and 4 cats, we are at maximum capacity!

Love, Karin, Ken and Rusty

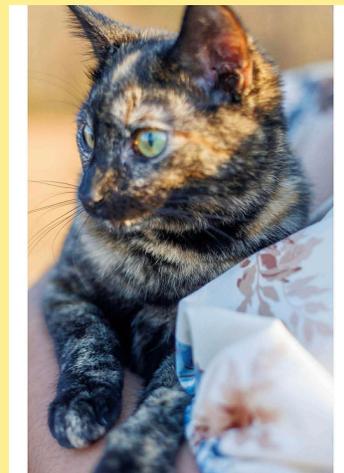
PAINT & SIP
We will be accepting 24 participants, so register EARLY!!



OUR FUREVER HOME SWEET HOME



Send in your adopted pet pictures. Email them to fossservicesmanager@gmail.com





HAPPY ADOPTION DAY!!





FUN SNOW DAY!!

