



# Friends of Colleton County Animal Shelter

Fall 2014

Dear Friends,

I was having a hard time deciding what I wanted to share with you this time. FoCCAS is doing so many wonderful things, it's hard to choose just one. So, I am going to touch on three topics very briefly.

The issue of lost and found animals is one on which we are really having an impact in our county. The highest category of intakes at the shelter is strays. Where do they all come from? Some are picked up by animal control officers, others are brought in by the public and some are even dropped off at the gate in a box. Trying to reunite some of these animals with their owners seems like it would be easy enough but often that doesn't happen. I feel this is mostly due to lack of awareness on the public's part. So, FoCCAS has taken the lead on helping to educate our citizens about how to make sure your pet returns to you, should they ever be separated. Of course, having a microchip in your pet is the most sure fire way to make this happen. Our local vets can perform this service for you. It is painless for your pet and will cost less than \$50. Also, make sure you have a few recent photos of your pet. If your pet gets lost, post flyers in your area, notify the local vets, and most importantly, notify the animal shelter. A quick email to [ccaec@colletoncounty.org](mailto:ccaec@colletoncounty.org) with a photo, description, location and date last seen and contact information is all it takes. If you find an animal, do the same. Notify animal control, local vets and take it to one of these places to be scanned for a microchip. Don't assume that the animal is unwanted or uncared for, even if it is in bad shape. We have had several cases of dogs being on their own for several months before being reunited with a loving owner. If you know someone who needs to re-home their pets, encourage them to use social media, such as Facebook, to look for a new home and use the shelter as a last resort. If they bring them to the shelter, providing vet records and other information can make a difference in the outcome for their pet.

The second thing I would like to touch on is our Board of Directors. This group of people meet monthly to discuss all of the things we are doing, plan for upcoming events and programs, and make financial decisions. In January, we will be looking for new directors and we will be voting on the positions of Secretary and President. You don't have to be a super hero to serve on our board. You simply must commit to serving for two years, attending meetings and working in some capacity at various events and on programs of your choice. We invite interested parties to attend a few meetings before throwing their name in the race. Contact us at [foccas.sc@gmail.com](mailto:foccas.sc@gmail.com) if you would like to know more.

The third thing is our upcoming Walk and Wag event. While FoCCAS will raise some money by holding this event, the real purpose of the event is to bring fellow animal lovers from our county together! Please come and walk your dog, enjoy the company of other dog lovers, and enjoy a beautiful natural resource in our community.

No matter what you are doing to help animals in our county, please know it is making a difference and I thank you from the bottom of my heart!

For the animals,

*Laura Clark*

Lost or Found Pets: Have a Waggin' Good Ending  
Contributed by Donna French

We all know that animal shelters are inundated with stray dogs and cats. They arrive daily; scared, confused and really they just want to go home to you, their beloved owner. Losing a pet can be heartbreaking and getting the word out as quick as possible is paramount in recovering your pet. Contact friends, neighbors and all local veterinarians and put up old fashioned flyers.

There are several steps you can take to ensure the recovery of your pet. **First, be sure that your pet is wearing a collar with both a rabies tag and an Identification tag** that lists the owners home and cell phone numbers and address. Make it a priority to keep the information on that tag up to date when it gets worn off or if you move or change phone information. The rabies tag can be traced back to you should the ID tag fall off the collar.

**Second, consider having your pet microchipped.** This will help the shelter or veterinarians office reunite you with your pet and, again, prioritize keeping that information current. Pets that are brought into the shelter are scanned for a possible microchip and they will contact you if one is found. We cannot stress the importance of keeping contact information current. People have been reunited with microchipped pets months, even years later.

**Third, keep up to date photos of your pet.** If you do find yourself separated from your pet you will be able to utilize the photos to prove ownership. Posting the photos on social media, such as Facebook, has proved highly successful in getting Fido back home. Contact all local shelters within a sixty mile radius, file a missing animal report, and bring photos with you. Most shelters are overcrowded, overwhelmed and understaffed. They do not know your pet - but you do! It will be a lot easier for you to recognize your baby than it would for a shelter worker who sees hundreds of dogs and cats each week. Be sure to visit the shelter at least two or three times a week to look for your pet. Animals are held for five days and then they become property of the shelter and can be adopted out if adoptable.

**If you find a pet,** the best thing to do is take the pet to the shelter (or a vet's office) and have them scanned for a microchip. File a found pet report with the shelter to let the owner know where the pet is you don't take him to the shelter. Take pictures of the dog or cat, if possible and post them on social media sites.

**Let the power of social media work to your advantage.** Facebook and Craigslist are good tools to spread the word on your missing or found pet. Friends of the Colleton County Animal Shelter, Colleton County Pets, Colleton County Swap Meet, and Lost and Found Pets all have Facebook pages and they are all places that where you should post your lost or found pet! Post on your own page and ask your friends to share.

This community is really pulling together to help animals in need. There have been many successful reunion stories and we wish to thank everyone for a job well done.

## Upcoming Events:

### Walterboro Walk & Wag

Saturday, September 20  
10:00 – 12:00

Courthouse Parking Lot and  
Walterboro Wildlife Sanctuary  
T-shirts still available

### Adopt-A-Thon

Saturday, September 27  
12:00 – 4:00

Tractor Supply Company

### Blessing of the Animals

Saturday, October 4  
10:00

Little Library Park (803 Wichman)

### Adopt-A-Thon

Saturday, October 11  
12:00 – 4:00

Walgreens

### Adopt-A-Thon

Saturday, November 15  
12:00 – 4:00

Walmart



## Happy Feet Selfie!

Happy Feet, a heartworm positive black dog, wanted to get a selfie of his freedom ride into foster care. This fun loving, adorable boy needed a forever home, but needed to rest before he could be adopted.

Happy Feet has since been adopted but there are many other wonderful animals at the shelter in need of foster homes – some for a short amount of time before hitching a ride on a transport and some for a longer periods.

**If you are interested in fostering  
email us at**

[foccas.sc@gmail.com](mailto:foccas.sc@gmail.com)

## Even a small person can make a big difference for the animals!

Lexie Spooner, National American Miss Jr. Pre Teen for South Carolina organized a donation drive and bake sale for Friends of Colleton County Animal Shelter. Using Sweet Dreams, Sewn Seams and Jelli Beans as a drop off location, Lexie collected 30 rolls of paper towels, bottles of Dawn detergent, Clorox bleach and much more. On Saturday, July 12, Lexie held a bake sale and raised over \$340 for the animals of Colleton County. Here is Lexie with a few of the supplies donated.

If you'd like to hold a supply drive or fundraiser for FoCCAS, contact Sarah at 843 635-5206 or email us at [foccas.sc@gmail.com](mailto:foccas.sc@gmail.com)



## Flying High

Colleton County Animal Shelter dog Casey flew high to get a new home. In June, Promises Animal Rescue arranged for pilot Steve Busuttill and his wife Carmelina to fly Casey from the Walterboro airport to Virginia to find a forever home. As it turns out, when Casey landed in Virginia, a potential adopter saw him and immediately asked to adopt him.



## Thanks Baskets N Bows!

About 25 people enjoyed one of six sessions of the painting on canvas fundraiser for FoCCAS – a beach scene customized for our pet families, whether we had one cat or eight dogs!



## BUDDY Lives Up To His Name

Contributed by Lynn Cresse

Kenneth Zimmerman lives out in the country. A year or so ago, he decided to make a trip to the Colleton County Animal Shelter to look for a dog - as a friend and guardian. He saw a dog named Buddy.

"He looked like he had some Shepherd in him and I was drawn to him right away. We hit it off from the very first moment," he said with pride. "He goes everywhere with me."

Mr. Zimmerman states Buddy is a very good dog. He loves other animals and is good with people, too. He recalls the time when some loose horses found their way to the front of his house. This calm and gentle dog just went up to them and introduced himself nose to nose before walking back to the house. Buddy and Ken are true friends. Buddy is not tied up or confined. He has plenty of area to roam, but likes to stay around the yard or in the house and to be with Ken. When the truck starts up, he knows he's going to ride shotgun with his master. Buddy is a true buddy who's found his paradise and home with a much loved companion.



# Walterboro Walk & Wag



Saturday, September 20, 2014  
10:00 am – 12:00 pm

Support FoCCAS and the animals of Colleton County  
at our information festival and walk.

Guided strolls of the Walterboro Wildlife Sanctuary will begin at  
10:15 am, 10:45 am and 11:15 am.

Bring your dog(s), friends and family to the Courthouse  
Parking Lot  
(at Jefferies Blvd. and Washington St.)

**Free lunch for everyone wearing  
a Walterboro Walk & Wag T-shirt**

T-shirts STILL available for \$15 at [www.foccas-sc.org](http://www.foccas-sc.org)  
or email [foccas.sc@gmail.com](mailto:foccas.sc@gmail.com)