

# Friends of Colleton County Animal Shelter (FoCCAS)

— Web: [www.foccas-sc.org](http://www.foccas-sc.org) email: [foccas.sc@gmail.com](mailto:foccas.sc@gmail.com)

— Fall 2015

Dear Friends,

In the last few weeks, I have been able to closely observe the workings of FoCCAS and everything this organization does for the animals of Colleton County.

As a board member, Vice President, public relations chair, and fundraising chair, I knew a lot. I wrote a lot. But every day I gain more respect for our volunteers and the work they do.

This summer I had the opportunity to see our rescue coordinators in action. This is a flurry of activity to save dogs, cats, puppies and kittens from euthanasia at the shelter. Our rescue coordinators and their small group of volunteers take photos of animals then make contact with rescue organizations. Animals need to be tested for heartworms, to be given shots, and oftentimes to be bathed or brushed. Kennels need to be cleaned, a task that volunteers take on to help prevent diseases. With luck, an organization will step up and commit to one or more animals. Sometimes the rescue will pick up their new charge from the shelter, other times a transport driver must be found, or a foster family secured.

Foster families are another vital part of saving dogs and cats. Opening their doors and their hearts, many families take on sick shelter animals needing special attention they would not get in the shelter. I recently held and tried to comfort a very sick foster puppy, Annie, who didn't make it; but the seven other foster puppies have settled in, are getting better, and are happily on their way to forever homes.

I know not everyone can go to the shelter or foster an animal, but if you can, please contact us!

The rest of us can be here for support. Volunteering in any manner or donating to FoCCAS helps to keep our organization moving forward and saves the lives of animals in Colleton County.

For the Animals,  
Sarah Miller  
President

**2015 Walk & Wag**  
**Saturday, September 19**  
**11:00 am – 1:00 pm**

County Parking Lot at the corner of  
Jefferies & Washington Sts.  
Walks to the Walterboro Wildlife Sanctuary  
Free lunch for everyone wearing the  
2015 Walk & Wag T-shirt

**Come out to see old friends  
and meet new ones!**

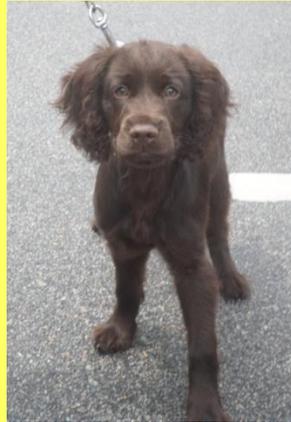
We will be selling raffle tickets for a dog house and for a dog quilt. Vendors will be selling dog toys and homemade dog treats (with a portion of the proceeds going to FoCCAS).

T-shirts can be purchased for \$15 at  
[www.foccas-sc.org](http://www.foccas-sc.org) or at any FoCCAS  
event including Walk & Wag.



## 2015 FoCCAS/Rice Festival Dog Show April 25, 2015

Despite the rainy day, over 100 people attended and participated in our biggest dog show ever. Thanks to everyone who entered and congratulations to the winners. Here are just a few of our great participants. See you next year!



## Upcoming Events

### Adopt-A-Thon

Saturday, August 22  
Petco in Walterboro  
12:00 pm – 4:00 pm

### Zaxby's FoCCAS Night

Tuesday, August 25  
5:00 – 8:00

A portion of all proceeds will be  
donated to FoCCAS

### Walk & Wag

Saturday, September 19  
County Parking Lot  
Jefferies and Washington Sts.  
Walterboro Wildlife Sanctuary  
11:00 am – 1:00 pm

## On Sale Now!

## 2016 FoCCAS Colleton County Animal Shelter Alumni Calendars

Over 40 Colleton County Animal Shelter alumni are pictured in this great calendar. Proceeds from the sale will help the animals of Colleton County.

To purchase calendars,  
go to [www.foccas-sc.org](http://www.foccas-sc.org)  
or email [foccas.sc@gmail.com](mailto:foccas.sc@gmail.com)

\$12 for pickup (in Walterboro area)  
\$15 for delivery or to be mailed

## Volunteers Needed:

Adopt-A-Thon coordinator, volunteers  
Foster homes  
Public relations, newsletter contributors  
Event planning

Informational table volunteers  
Transport drivers (locally and longer distances)  
Proofreaders  
Board members

If you are interested, please contact Sarah at 843-635-5206 or email [foccas.sc@gmail.com](mailto:foccas.sc@gmail.com)

Shelter Statistics  
First 6 months of 2015

**Intake:**

Owner Surrender: 94  
Adoption Return: 1  
Strays: 1114

**Outtake:**

Adoptions: 99  
Return to Owner 127  
Transfer to Rescue 228

Euthanasia: 718 (62%)

FoCCAS strives to increase the number of animals adopted, returned to owners, and transferred to rescue organizations.

## Puppy Kisses!

From Rocky, Callie, and Sam

Thank you to everyone who donated to their medical expenses in the last few months. We have three special dogs who are in loving foster homes because of caring people like you.

**Rocky**, a Lab/Shepherd mix had an old gunshot injury that rendered one of his front legs unusable. This big, black, crippled dog had little chance of survival and adoption from the shelter. He has since had his leg amputated and doing well in foster care.



**Callie**, a four month old, 40 pound Mastiff mix, came into the shelter with no hair. Some antibiotics, some lotion, and some love from her foster family has Callie well on her way to becoming the beautiful dog she deserves to be.

**Sam** came to the shelter as skin and bones. A healthy Lab puppy would have weighed 40 pounds and Sam weighed only 14. A blood transfusion and love from volunteers gave this fun loving guy a chance. He's now in foster care and getting stronger every day.

## Volunteer Appreciation Dinner

As we all know, Friends of Colleton County Animal Shelter is an organization run completely by volunteers. On Tuesday, June 23, FoCCAS showed its gratitude for their many supporters. A Volunteer Appreciation Dinner was held at the Colleton Farmers Market and was sponsored and catered by Zaxby's.

Five awards were given to special volunteers. Choosing the award winners was a difficult task, as so many people give their time and donations, but five volunteers were recognized for their outstanding contributions to the welfare of animals.

The **"Volunteers without Borders"** award was presented to Janell Gregory because she currently lives in Columbia but is committed to serving our Colleton animals in many ways, especially coordinating rescue efforts.

Ellen Ross, a relative newcomer to Walterboro and a longtime advocate of animal welfare, deserved the **"On the Road Again"** award for the many miles and hours she has logged for transporting animals.

The **"Mi Casa Es Su Casa"** award went to Bright Ariail for the many animals that she has shared her home with during the foster process, often including multiple puppies at a time.

Anne Mathis Thomas had the spotlight on for her as a young volunteer. She dressed as a dog for the Christmas float and as a cat for CACE assembly. She's volunteered at events and at the shelter. She is also a "foster sister." Young people need the support of family, so she and her mother, Shelley Thomas, received the **"It's a Family Affair"** award for their roles in bettering the lives of our furry friends.

The **"Post It, Share It. Tag It, Like It"** award went to Zafera Timmons. In addition to being the FoCCAS foster coordinator, Zafera earned this award for keeping the community aware of what was happening in the "animal world" on Facebook and other media.

FoCCAS would like to thank all of our volunteers, sponsors and supporters for working towards making Colleton County a more pet friendly community and we invite you to lend a helping hand.



## Heat and Horses

Contributed by Sarah Colgan

Many people love to take advantage of the beautiful weather and go trail riding this time of year, but it is important to keep both yourself and your horse safe in the hot weather. Even in temperate weather, a normal sized 1000 pound horse drinks between 5 and 10 gallons of water a day, and horses are essentially cold weather animals.

- Making sure that your horse has clean, cool (NOT COLD) water is essential.
- Proper shelter, and a correctly maintained coat and blanketing (if necessary) are also key for keeping horses cool.
- If you must work your horse, do so in the cooler part of the day.
- Stable your horse during the day and turn out at night if possible.
- Be sure to loosen the girth and cool down your horse by walking him slowly after a ride and use a sweat scraper when needed so that the sweat does not create a barrier on the horse's skin and cause him to overheat.
- Keep informed of your horses' normal vital signs and check for signs of dehydration. 104F is overheated. 106F is dangerously overheated.
- If you pinch the skin and it does not snap back or return to place immediately, your horse is dehydrated. If you press on the gums, and the pink color does not return in two seconds, your horse is dehydrated.
- Look for lethargy, dark urine, stumbling, distressed breathing or rapid heart rate, profuse sweating (or lack thereof) as other signs.
- Sponge the legs, belly and neck of your horse.
- Different breeds of horses, or horses on special diets may have different needs during hot weather, be sure to check with your veterinarian if you have any concerns.
- Make sure you are supplementing as necessary the electrolytes and other minerals, etc. that the horse will sweat out.

If you use these general guidelines, you and your horses should have a healthy, happy summer.

## Happy Tails

Contributed by Lynn Cresse

This is my newest member of my household. Meet Rolly, aka Rolex. He's a very good boy and is about 4 years old now. He has given his best behavior in his short life, but sometimes things have a way of hitting below the belt even for a very sweet, happy, and handsome dog. He was found as a stray when he was under a year old. He was adopted about 3 months later from the Colleton County Animal Shelter in June of 2012 and found what was hopefully to be his forever home. Life has its way of always changing, and his adoptive family recently found themselves unable to care for him. I heard about the situation and became his latest rescue home. He still thinks he's a puppy and loves to play with toys, especially his purple, rubber piggy. He has learned to walk very quietly on his leash, to sit when he's asked, to wait for a signal to come into the house or to walk up steps when he's on a leash, and loves to give you his paw. I have two small and aging Chihuahua mix girls that he's very gentle with. He's had a positive and surprising effect on them both. They no longer show symptoms of separation anxiety since he's come to live with us. He came to me house trained and never chews anything up. And when it's time for bed, the little dogs sleep on top of the bed with me, and Rolly goes and crawls under it. He's a real gem and the best big boy ever.

