



Friends of Colleton County Animal Shelter (FoCCAS)

Website www.foccas-sc.org, Email foccas.sc@gmail.com

Spring 2017

Dear Friends,
Spring has sprung! I hope you are enjoying this beautiful weather with your four-legged friends.

As always, FoCCAS has been very busy. In the first three months of 2017, we sent 175 animals off to rescue across the eastern United States. 42 animals were adopted from the shelter and 47 lost pets were returned through the shelter. These numbers help to keep animals from dying in the shelter. The results are immediate and make us happy.

Our work, however, is not only the immediate life of the animals in the shelter. We strive to make Colleton County a more pet friendly place. Our community spay/neuter transport to SNAC has altered 251 pets in these 3 months and will prevent 1000s of unplanned and unwanted litters of puppies and kittens. Our Colleton Animal Commitment Education program has reached ten 4th grade classrooms so far this year (approximately 300 students). The program is scheduled in 3 more schools before the end of May.

I am so very proud of the work we have accomplished in Colleton County. We could not do it without great volunteers and supporters like you.

Thank you!
For the animals,
Sarah
VP of Public Relations

Mark Your Calendars

FoCCAS Rice Festival Dog Show

Saturday, April 29

2:00 pm

Colleton Farmers Market

Open to the public

Volunteer Appreciation Dinner

Wednesday, June 28

6:00 pm

Colleton Farmers Market

RSVP foccas.sc@gmail.com

Love Your Mutt Online Challenge

July 24 – July 31

Online

FoCCAS/CCAS Alumni Calendar

Deadline for submissions

August 1, 2017

foccascalendar@gmail.com

FoCCAS Walk & Wag

Saturday, September 23 (tentative)

11:00 am – 1:00 pm

County Parking Lot

Walterboro Wildlife Sanctuary

Feature Foster Story: Heaven



Heaven came to the shelter with her mother and sister last winter during one of the chilly snaps. The shelter was full and they were placed in an outdoor pen. The staff noticed immediately that both puppies seemed to be blind and suspected both were deaf. The shelter made room for the little family inside and FoCCAS volunteers hoped a rescue group would step up. Audra Hudson willingly fostered the little family, but tragedy struck. First Heaven's sister, Angel, passed away and shortly after that, her mother passed also. Audra and her husband nursed the tiny blind and deaf Heaven until she could be transported to her rescue in New Jersey.

Today Heaven is still looking for a forever family, but is enjoying life in her foster home. Her handicap is barely noticeable. She runs and plays with her foster siblings. She's a happy dog!

Transport and Rescue

FoCCAS is very lucky to have a great rescue team. Headed by Shelley Thomas with help from Laura Clark, Janell Gregory, Audra Hudson, and Jeanette Neal, this group facilitates contact with groups across the eastern United States to help find homes for our Colleton County animals. This multitask process involves taking photographs of all the animal, networking with rescues, organizing rescue requests, finding foster homes, and coordinating transport. Through their work and with the help of countless volunteers, 175 animals left Colleton County on their way to better lives in the first 3 months of 2017.

On average, it costs about \$100 to send a healthy dog or cat to rescue. This may include shots, spay/neuter, wormer, other meds, food, and a health certificate.



Special thanks to our foster families who care for these wonderful animals before they leave on their big adventure. Most foster assignments are 2-3 weeks. If you are interested in helping FoCCAS save these animals by fostering or volunteering, email us at foccas.sc@gmail.com or message us on Facebook.





Congratulations to Our CACE Speuter Essay Winners!

The Colleton Animal Commitment Education program has completed its 6-week program at 3 schools already this year. Students learn about the safety with strange animals, about being a responsible pet owner, about the dangers of heartworms to dogs, and about the importance of spaying and neutering. Each student can enter a Speuter essay contest explaining the importance of spaying and neutering. Congratulations to Blake Spears at Colleton Preparatory Academy, Avery Jaril at Cottageville Elementary School and Emma Drew at Forest Hills Elementary School. Each student won a free spay or neuter for a pet of their choice.

Special thanks to our CACE teaching team: Carol Armentrout, Dr. Rebecca Hughes, and Janice Young for their dedication to reaching the students of Colleton County

Avery Jaril of Cottageville won her school's essay contest. Since Avery's dog is already fixed, she donated her spay/neuter to a shelter animal. A 4-month old puppy named Shirley received her donation. Shirley came to the shelter as a scared puppy with her sister Laverne but is now off to live a wonderful life in New York City.

Avery's essay:

I think it is important to spay or neuter your pets. If you do not spay or neuter your pets, they will have or cause puppies. Then some puppies might run away and then be found and taken to the animal shelter. After they pick up the dogs, there might not be enough room. If that happens the workers have to put down the animals. The animals did not even do anything. Same thing with cats, they could have or cause kittens and maybe soon they will be put down. If you have not spayed or neutered your dog or cat, you should or all of the things above may happen. Please spay or neuter your pet or pets if you haven't already. Those were some reasons why I think it is important for you to spay or neuter your pets.



Left: Animal Control Director Reggie McNeil answers questions at Cottageville Elementary School.
Center and Right: Two of the six classes to complete the CACE program this year.

Spay Daze

The Spay/Neuter transport to SNAC in Ridgeland delivered 204 animals for surgery in the last 3 months. Colleton County residents pay only a small co-pay to have their pet or a community cat fixed. FoCCAS, along with our partners: SNAC, the Petco Foundation, and Coastal Pain Care, contribute to offset the cost of spaying or neutering. This year, FoCCAS has contributed \$7,653 towards preventing pet overpopulation.

Community cats are accepted and receive a feral cat examination and ear tip with surgery for a co-pay of only \$10. These cats are then returned to their homes and will not produce unwanted litters of kittens. For more information about community cats, see article on page 8 or email us at foccas.sc@gmail.com

Special thanks to our dedicated spay/neuter chairperson, Barbara Smiley and to Betsy Ingersol for their many early morning trips to Petco to help the SNAC transport driver with paperwork and to organize animals.



Spaying and neutering helps to prevent unwanted litters of puppies and kittens. It also keeps your animals from getting certain cancers and curbs a male dog's desire to roam.

Spay/Neuter Vouchers:

46 animals fixed
\$1150 FoCCAS contribution

Spay/Neuter Transport:

205 animals fixed
\$6503 FoCCAS contribution
contributions also from the Petco Foundation,
SNAC, and Coastal Pain Care

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You shop. Amazon gives.

Attention all online shoppers!

If you shop with Amazon, please go to SmileAmazon.com and sign up under Friends of Colleton County Animal Shelter. A portion of your purchases will go to FoCCAS and all you have to do is shop, shop, shop!

Paws at the Plantation 2017

March 4th was a beautiful night for a party and an even better night for the animals of Colleton County. Thank you to everyone who donated, sponsored, volunteered, or attended this wonderful event hosted by Linda and Bill Demmer at White House Plantation. We raised over \$10,000 for the animals!

Going to the Dogs Band and Shane Clark provided great music and even enticed some dancing. Dinner was BBQ and grilled chicken catered by Jimmy Fitts. The silent auction ended in some fierce building for a few coveted items.

Thank you to:

Charlie and Carol Armentrout	Linda Lamb
Bank of Walterboro	LeCreuset
Donna Beach	Legend Oaks Golf Club
Bill's Liquor Store	Louie's Liquor and Fine Wine
Bi-Lo	Mac's Farm Supply
Tom Bragg	McCrary's Restaurant
Scott and Margo Brennen	Bryant McKee
Jim Brown	Jacque Miller
Bill's Liquor Store	Ruth Miller
The Colletonian	Sarah Miller
Lori Campbell	Minero Restaurant
Sandy Carroll	Becky Morehead
Deni Caulder	Deana Nash
Charleston Battery Soccer	Jeannette Neal
Charleston Stingrays Hockey	Ryan Neal
Billie Clark	PRTC
Laura Clark	John and Gale Peek
Colleton County Animal Shelter	Marilyn Peters
Consignment Envy	The Press & Standard
Ashleigh Cook	Dr. Rocks
Cindy Crosby	Gregory Rosso
Katie Cutie	SCE&G
Linda and Bill Demmer	Walton Salley
Dogwood Hills Golf Club	Summerville Country Club
Farm Little Food Services	Dawson Sweat
Paula Flowers, Fletchers Finds	Skip and Selina Taft
Janet Gainer	Southwind Services LLC
Gladys Murray Flowers	Johnny Thomas
Going to the Dogs Band	Shelley Thomas
Anthony Herndon	USC Salkehatchie
Brice W. Herndon and Sons	Criss Soard
Funeral Home	Barbara Smiley
Homeplace Game Preserve	Sheila Smoak
Audra Hudson	Selina and Skip Taft
Coleman Hudson	Kaye Thomas-Gatch
Husk Restaurant	Treasure Chest Gold
I-93.7	Colleen Walker
Jaxco	Walmart
Martha Johnson	Brantley Wiggins
Joye Law Firm	Janice and Bill Young
	Anita and Billy Youmans



A little help from our friends

FoCCAS loves our friends and all they do to help the animals of Colleton County. Thank you to Barry Crosby and Walterboro Cruisers, Pat Catterton, and Scott Brennen and Going to the Dogs Band for hosting these upcoming events for the benefit of the animals of Colleton County.



Barry Crosby, the Walterboro Cruisers, and Duke's Barbecue will be holding a car show in the parking lot the 3rd Wednesday of each month. For a \$5 fee (donated to FoCCAS), participants also get a free dinner at Dukes. Terry O'Quinn matches the contributions for each show.

Duke's BBQ is also the sponsor of the 2018 FoCCAS/CCAS Alumni calendar



Going to the
Dogs Band



~October 28, 2017~

**3rd Annual
Going to the Dogs Band
Chili Cook-off &
Halloween Extravaganza
to Benefit FoCCAS
A Fun-filled Family &
Dog Friendly Event
Located in Cottageville**

Poker Run:
Ride for the Cause of
Our Friends with the Paws
Saturday, June 10, 2017

Forest Circle Middle School (Walterboro)

500 Forest Circle Rd, Walterboro, SC 29488

Registration 10:00 am

Kickstands up 11:30 am

\$20/single rider, \$25/double riders

Lunch Provided

Door prizes and 50/50 Raffle



For more information or sponsorships call Pat at 843 908-1197
All proceeds benefit Friends of Colleton County Animal Shelter

2017 FoCCAS/ Rice Festival Dog Show

Where: The Colleton Museum and Farmers Market Pavilion



**Saturday, April 29
at 2:00 pm**

Registration begins at 1:30 pm.
Dogs may register for more than one class.

Classes for all dogs

Ribbons awarded for each class

- **Puppies (less than 1 year)**
- **Seniors Dogs (over 7 years)**
- **Children's Handler Class**
- **Purebred Class**
- **Mixed Breed Class**
- **Costume Class**
- **Best Trick Class**

Entry Fee per class:

- \$5.00 or
- a large package of paper towels or
- 3 gallons of Clorox bleach or
- large bottle of Dawn dishwashing liquid



Proceeds benefit the

Friends of Colleton County Animal Shelter.

FoCCAS is a 501c3 organization.

For more information email foccas.sc@gmail.com or call Sarah at 843 635-5206

Volunteers Needed

FoCCAS has been invited to set up an informational table the Colleton Farmers Market. We need you! If you are interested in helping out, supporting FoCCAS, and visiting with friends at the Farmers Market, email us!

FoCCAS is always in need of responsible foster families, transporters, help with administering Heartworm medicine, people to socialize animals, and more.

Contact us at foccas.sc@gmail.com for more information.

XBOX 360 Raffle

Tickets are on sale now.

\$3 each ticket or

\$5 for 2 tickets

Drawing on September 23 at Walk & Wag.
Tickets will be available at the Rice Festival Dog Show, Volunteer Dinner, Adopt-A-Thons, and FoCCAS table at the Farmers Market.



Happy Tails

Contributed by Lynn Cresse

Our FoCCAS adopters for this Happy Tail(s) are the Cutie family and they have two new family members that have joined them in the past 1 1/2 years. They already had three dogs who were their four-legged children. One day, Katie (mom) heard of a very special dog at the animal shelter who needed some special help. His name was Joey and he was a Shih Tzu. He had been brought in as a stray and had severe skin problems. She and her husband decided to foster him and treat his medical problems. His soulful little face and sweet temperament caused them to fall head over heels in love with him. The rest is history. He was the number four family dog member.

This past December, their 7 year old daughter began asking for a puppy for Christmas and it wasn't just a whim. She really wanted a puppy of her own. Soon after, an Adopt-A-Thon was held by FoCCAS and, lo and behold! There was an early surprise from Santa there. He was a beautiful 6 months old black lab puppy whom they named Shadow. He was the perfect fit for the whole family. He turned out to be a mellow fellow who gets along great with the other dogs and in general loves everyone. And this ends of two very loving and happy tail(s).

In Case You Missed It . . .

FoCCAS Receives Grant to Help Community Cats

Friends of Colleton County Animal Shelter (FoCCAS) recently received a \$7,000 grant from the Petco Foundation to aid the organization in its new endeavor to reduce the number of cats that are being euthanized in the Colleton County Animal Shelter each week. The program, Colleton Cats, was inspired by a conference attended by two FoCCAS volunteers this summer that was sponsored by No Kill South Carolina, also sponsored by the Petco Foundation. Laura Clark, FoCCAS Vice President of Shelter Affairs, and Pam Baer left that conference with a plan to empower and enable Colleton County residents to help control the free-roaming cats in their communities. Clark began looking for funding for the plan and was pleasantly surprised when the grant application was funded.

The application requested funding to purchase additional humane traps for the public to borrow and to assist with the cost of surgically altering the cats as well as vaccinating them against unwanted diseases such as Rabies. Many communities like Jacksonville, FL and Austin, TX have programs like this and have experienced great success with managing the colonies of cats so they reap the benefits of having the cats in the community and avoid some of the problems that result when the population becomes too great to support.

Colleton County Animal Shelter took in 920 cats in 2016, through public drop off and animal control officer trapping. Of those cats, 746 were then euthanized and disposed of in the county landfill. "Even if you don't care about the cats, you have to admit that is not the best use of our taxes; to run vehicles all over the county to trap cats, then kill them and put them in our landfill!" said Clark. She adds, "For those of us who do care about cats but realize how quickly they reproduce, this will hopefully be the means by which we can begin to actually solve the problem in a more civilized manner. We are so grateful for the support of our Walterboro Petco store and the Petco Foundation for their support of our efforts."

The Colleton Cats program will allow Colleton County residents to check out traps in order to catch the cats and then take them to one of two low-cost clinics to have the cats spayed or neutered and vaccinated at a cost of \$10 per cat. According to Clark, this is just the first phase of the group's efforts to improve the situation in Colleton with regards to cats. "We are a volunteer based group. We don't have the resources that many large counties have in terms of funding or paid staff, but that doesn't mean we can't do something to change this sad problem. The resources our county shelter uses to kill perfectly healthy cats, could be used for so many other worthwhile things. When managed properly, these cats can actually benefit the areas they live in. We want to move in the direction that communities such as Charleston, Greenville, Aiken and Anderson have taken."

Fighting Heartworms

Heartworm disease is the term veterinarians' use when a dog or cat has Heartworms present in their body. Heartworm disease is both common and curable. Despite the fact that this disease has been identified and preventable for years, there are still many pet owners who don't understand the seriousness of using Heartworm prevention to protect their pets. The American Heartworm Society provides some excellent, user-friendly resources to inform pet owners on how to keep their pets safe from this very painful and deadly disease. Roughly 75% of the dogs who are tested at the Colleton County Animal Shelter are Heartworm positive. This diagnosis used to be a death sentence for a dog, since the shelter was unable to affordably treat the dogs and many rescues would not take them. For the past 4 years, FoCCAS and the shelter have drastically increased the number of Heartworm positive dogs who are saved by both treating them and working with rescues who will take them and treat them. These efforts along with so many others, have been a factor in increasing the live release rate for animals at our shelter. If you would like to help with these efforts, you can either sponsor treatment for a dog for \$100 or volunteer to foster a dog for a couple of months through his treatment and recovery.

Shelter Statistics Jan 1 – March 31, 2017

Adopted:	42
Returned to owner:	47
Went to rescue groups:	175
Died at shelter:	8
Euthanized at shelter:	159
Live release 2017	61%

Is your pet a Calendar Girl? (or boy?)

FoCCAS is collecting submissions for our 2018 Alumni Calendar. All pets must be from the Colleton County Animal Shelter. Animals adopted directly from the shelter or through one of our rescue partners are eligible.



For consideration as a “month” photo, submissions must be at least 3 MB. Other photographs will be considered as “day” pictures. Only the adopted pet should be in the picture. Photographs with people will not be considered for the calendar.

Submit your photo (no more than 2 photos per pet) to foccascalendar@gmail.com. Include name of pet, your name, phone number, email address, and any additional information you wish to include.



Saturday, May 6
12:00 – 4:00 pm
Walterboro Petco

If you are interested in volunteering and did not get a note from SignUp.com, email us at foccas.sc@gmail.com and we'll get you on the list!



Watch Facebook for our Love Your Mutt Day
Challenge between July 24 – July 31.