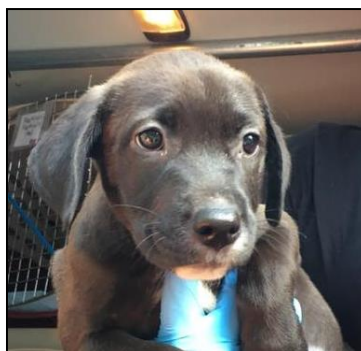


Friends of Colleton County Animal Shelter (FoCCAS)

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

Fall 2017

Just some of the faces who want to say thank you!



Have you seen our "FoCCAS Rescue 2017" Video on youtube? <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KydJzm-yvdQ>

**FoCCAS is extremely proud of the work we have done in the first 9 months of 2017!
And we could not have done it without YOU!**

If you are reading this newsletter, you care about the animals of Colleton County. Every little thing that you do is an important step in saving the lives of these wonderful animals. Thank you to all our volunteers, fosters, transporters, pet socializers, donors (both monetary and supplies), Facebook friends that share lost/found pets, and those that remind the community of the importance of spaying and neutering.

Shelter statistics for Jan 1 – Sept 30, 2017

Adoptions	120	
Reclaimed	177	Live release rate 62%
Rescue	714	

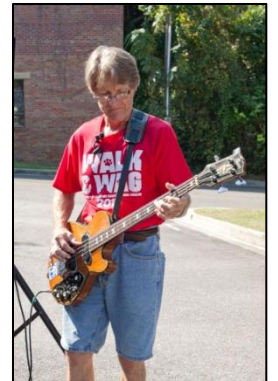
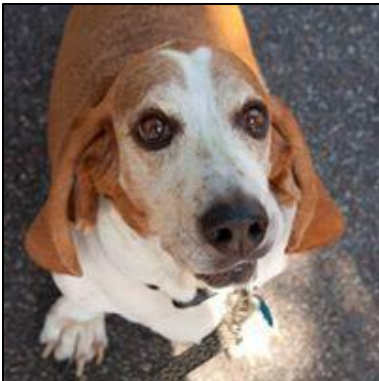
FoCCAS financial contributions, Jan 1 – Sept 30, 2017

Spay Neuter initiatives	\$21,844
Shelter support	\$18,823
Foster expenses	\$12,365
	\$53,032

FoCCAS is a 5013c organization

Please considering giving an end-of-the-year tax donation to help the animals of Colleton County. Our three objectives are: community spay/neuter programs, education, and rescue/adoption.

Donations can be made through our website at www.foccas-sc.org or mailed to FoCCAS, 33 Poor Farm Rd., Walterboro, SC 29488

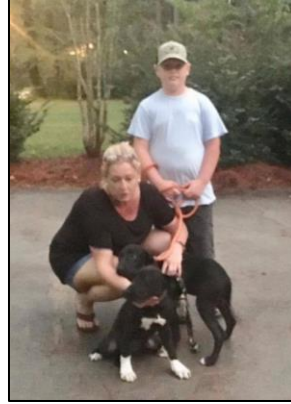


4th Annual Walk & Wag

On Saturday, September 23, about 130 people and their four-legged friends came out for a great day of music, food, friends, and a walk through the Walterboro Wildlife Sanctuary. This event raised about \$5,000 for the animals of Colleton County. Sixty-three corporate and individual sponsors, over 20 volunteers, and a great group of animal-loving people made this year a wonderful success. Going to the Dogs Band entertained the crowd and Coleman Hudson was the master hotdog chef. Homemade desserts were served. The USC Salkehatchie Basketball team contributed manpower, the Colleton County Historical and Preservation Society loaned tables, and the Colleton Museum let us borrow tents.

Walk & Wag was conceived as a community event to celebrate Walterboro, Colleton County, and people who love their pets. We saw many of our regulars and a lot of new faces. It is great to see people enjoying time with their pets!





Hurricane Irma = Animals Moving Out!

As the weather reports showed Hurricane Irma was scheduled to hit the lowcountry of South Carolina, our rescue partners stepped up to help save our shelter pets. On September 15 & 16, four transport vans carried animals to safety and forever homes in the north. PetTails from New Hampshire, It's A Ruff Life Rescue from New Jersey, Happy Hounds Homeward Bound from Maryland, and the SPCA of Westchester County (NY) helped to rescue 73 animals from the Colleton County Animal Shelter. Our volunteers and fosters jumped on the chance to save so many lives. As the phrase says "it takes a village" and we are happy our village is so wonderful!



Interested in joining the Transport Crew?

We'd be happy to include you in our requests for transport. There is no obligation, but if you can help out, you can help to save a life, or two (or several) Email us at foccas.sc@gmail.com

Shout out to the volunteer transport crew!

In the last few months, FoCCAS and the shelter have needed more transporters than ever before. Generally, we ask that a few people bring animals to meet transport vans or to tote a dog to Savannah or Orangeburg to rendezvous with a rescue. With an increase in the number of animals to be spayed/neutered (so they can go to rescue/adoption) and an increase in the number of animals saved by our rescue partners, our volunteers have been on the road a lot.

While it's impossible to mention all the volunteers, we must give a shout out to Skip and Selina Taft, Kaye Thomas-Gatch, Ellen Ross, Shelley Thomas, and Donna Lamb who have made at least one (but usually more) pre-dawn runs to get these animals where they need to go. Shelter manager Laura Clark is always at the shelter bright and early to load up the animals. If we had a "cup of coffee" award, it would go to these early morning transporters. Thanks to everyone who helps facilitate moving animals to rescue or even just to the vet.

A Message from Colleton Animal Commitment Education (CACE) Program Teacher Helpers Wanted

In our upcoming fourth year, the CACE program will be sharing Pet Responsibility with 4th graders in all Colleton County public schools and Colleton Preparatory Academy. A short pet safety program is also presented to many 5K, 4K, and preschool students around the county.

Our three teachers, Carol Armentrout, Dr. Rebecca Hughes, and Janice Young are in need of a few program helpers. This involves helping with demonstrations and passing out papers. Involvement with CACE could even be a precursor to teaching the program (but is not a necessary progression!)

Anyone interested in helping with the program can contact Janice Young at 843-908-2259 or email her at jmorrisyoung@comcast.net.



Thank you Tractor Supply Company!

Recently FoCCAS volunteers, Barbara Smiley and Tamara Lake, along with shelter staff Laura Clark and Reggie McNeil received a \$1000 gift certificate from Tractor Supply Company. This donation will help provide shelter animals and fosters with puppy food, kitten food, and cat litter.

Mark Your Calendars

FoCCAS/CCAS Alumni Calendar On Sale Now

Visit www.foccas-sc.org to reserve your calendar
Calendars will be available locally in December

FoCCAS Annual Meeting Late January

Date, time, and location TBD
We will announce on FB and through email.

Paws at the Plantation Saturday, March 3, 2018

5:00 pm – 9:00 pm
Pineland Plantation
Catered by Jimmy Fitts
Entertainment by Going to the Dogs Band

FoCCAS/Rice Festival Dog Show Saturday, April 27

Colleton Farmers Market
2:00



Thank You Salkehatchie Basketball!

USC Salkehatchie's Men's basketball team did some heavy lifting at the shelter. Coaches Jake Williams and Glen Mayo and the sophomore basketball players helped to dismantle a shed full of cages and move them to the cat isolation building. This move helped create 14 more available kennels for cats at the shelter. Several players also moved a freezer from one building to another opening up another area to house puppies and kittens. Creating more kennel space at the shelter allows the shelter staff to provide for the animals in their care.

Spay Daze

Spaying and neutering your pets not only prevents unwanted litters of puppies and kittens, but also keeps the animals healthier. Neutering also prevents males from roaming and possibly getting lost or hit by a car.

FoCCAS strives to provide low cost community spay/neuter services to pet owners in Colleton County. We offer vouchers for \$25 off surgeries at local vets. In the last 9 months, the families of 122 animals took advantage of this program and FoCCAS provided \$3050 towards these surgeries. The cost of the SNAC transport to Ridgeland has been supplemented by SNAC, The Petco Foundation, Walmart, and Coastal Pain Care and owners pay only a small co-pay. FoCCAS's portion of 408 spay/neuter surgeries since January was \$11,993. Our community cat program has fixed 167 cats at a cost of \$6,801.



Spay Daze – Help Wanted

Our Spay Daze team is looking for a few new regular and committed members.

Volunteers help with paperwork and talking with residents when they drop off and pick up their pets from our Spay Daze program.

Currently volunteers are needed on Tuesdays at 7:30 am and Wednesdays at 11:30 am. These days may change. If you are interested in helping us out please contact us at foccas.sc@gmail.com

Community Cats

FoCCAS is committed to helping the community cats of Colleton County. Formerly called feral cats, these colonies are generally healthy and actually keep new cats from entering their “homes.” The Community Cat program allows these cats to be trapped, fixed, and returned home. This keeps the colony in place but the population will not grow.

A grant from the Petco Foundations allows FoCCAS to offer spaying/neutering of these community cats for just \$10. This fee includes testing for FIV, rabies shot, and an ear tipping to identify the cat as a member of the colony. Traps are available to be borrowed by Colleton County residents at the animal shelter.

For more information about the Community Cat program, email us at foccas.sc@gmail.com.

A little help from our friends

FoCCAS loves our friends and all they do to help the animals of Colleton County.



Monthly car shows supported FoCCAS

Barry Crosby, the Walterboro Cruisers, and Duke's Barbecue held monthly car shows in Duke's 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. Thank you!



Bones are back!
And here to stay!

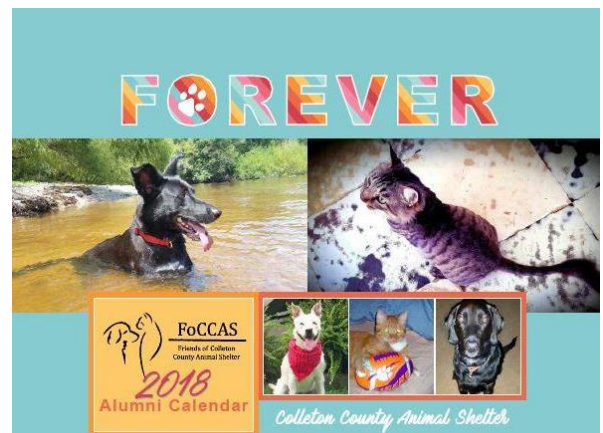
Do you need a Christmas present, adoption gift, or memorial for a dog lover? Gold dipped Milkbones are back at Treasure Chest Gold Co. in Walterboro.

All sales from the bones go to FoCCAS and the animals of Colleton County. Bones are \$20 and can also be personalized for just \$5

FoCCAS has an Amazon Wish List!
It's a great way to donate.

<https://www.amazon.com/gp/registry/wishlist/?ie=UTF8&cid=A29F24PPS9TNH1>

Use Amazon Smiles for ALL your purchases this season and FoCCAS receives a portion of your purchase.



2018 FoCCAS/CCAS Alumni
Calendars on sale now!

Our 2018 calendar celebrates Colleton County Animal Shelter alumni adopted directly from our shelter or one of our rescue partners.

Preorder your calendar at www.foccas-sc.org now through December 1.

Calendars will be mailed or available for pick up the first week of December. Additional calendars will be for sale at Treasure Chest Gold in Walterboro and other select locations.



FRIENDS OF COLLETON COUNTY ANIMAL SHELTER RECEIVES \$10,000 GRANT FROM PETSMART CHARITIES® TO SUPPORT DAILY SHELTER OPERATIONS TO HELP LOCAL COLLETON COUNTY PETS IN NEED THRIVE

Friends of Colleton County Animal Shelter (FoCCAS) announced its receipt of a new \$10,000 grant from PetSmart Charities, the leading funder of animal welfare in North America. The new grant will support the daily operations of the Colleton County Shelter so they can continue their efforts to help local shelter pets thrive as they continue their journey to finding forever homes and families.

FoCCAS' shelter operations grant is designed to prevent diseases in the Colleton County Shelter by vaccinating all animals on intake through mid-2018. Currently, animals are not vaccinated until after the 5 day stray-hold is up and no owner has come to claim the animal.

"This newly-funded vaccinate on intake initiative has the potential to save lives and keep our shelter free from certain diseases," said Laura Clark, Colleton County Shelter Manager. "By vaccinating when the animals come into the shelter, we are also moving the animals one step closer to their forever home. Pets that are adopted or are going to rescue need to be up to date on all shots. With this PetSmart Charities funded program, there is one less step between the shelter and a forever home for these animals." One of FoCCAS' goals is to make sure that adoptable dogs and cats (and horses or other animals) in the shelter are adopted or go to rescue. This vaccinate on intake grant will decrease the amount of time an animal is in the shelter and allowing for more kennel space to be available for incoming animals.

In animal welfare, funding for general shelter operations can be scarce. That's why PetSmart Charities identified this as an area of great need to its adoption partners and grantees and developed this new grant category.

Shelter Operations is just one of PetSmart Charities' ten grant categories designed to support animal welfare organizations and nonprofits as part of their newly expanded mission to find lifelong loving homes for all pets by supporting programs that bring people and pets together. Funding from PetSmart Charities supports best practices that help pets thrive in a shelter environment until they find their forever family and offers funding for shelter-based programs that improve adoptions, reduce pets' length of stay and strengthen shelter infrastructure.

Grant Writing increases for both FoCCAS and the shelter

Thanks to Laura Clark for submitting the PetSmart Grant while still Vice President of FoCCAS. She can now oversee its implementation as shelter manager. Both FoCCAS and the shelter will continue to submit grant requests from various sources including PetSmart Charities, the PetCo Foundation, Maddie's Fund, Walmart and more.

Howl-o-ween

The Going to the Dogs Band Chili and Dessert Cook-off held on Saturday, October 14 was spooktacular! Scott Brennan organized the activities and Stegall Auction LLC hosted the event. In addition to the chili cook-off and dessert cook-off, there were costume contests and a car show. Of course, the band provided the entertainment. The afternoon ended with a live auction. The Howl-o-ween Extravaganza raised \$3,000 for the animals of Colleton County. Thank you!

Chili Cook-Off Winner

1. Andrea Stegall
2. Teresa Eitel
3. April Powell
4. Colleen Walker
5. Gabe Nelson

Dessert Cook-Off Winners

1. Delana Israel
2. April Powell
3. Pat Morris
4. Tamara Israel
5. Rebecca Bridge

Car Show Winners

1. Fred Crosby - Chevelle
2. Scott Brennan - DeSota
3. English Lane - Mud Wheeler
4. Fred Crosby - '56 T-Bird
5. Fred Crosby - '57 Chevelle

Pumpkin Carving Winner

Delana Israel



FoCCAS would also like to recognize the Going to the Dogs Band for donating the money earned from ALL their gigs, as well as their tips, to the animals of Colleton County.

To book the band, call Scott Brennan at 843-300-0347 or email pigasusfarm@gmail.com

What it means to be “No Kill”

Laura Clark, Shelter Manager

Greetings to all for the first time since my transition to Shelter Manager. The support you all have offered has been heartwarming, I am convinced we can not only continue the good work we have been doing for the animals of Colleton County but now we can do even more, even better!

One of the most common questions I have gotten is that of becoming a “No Kill” shelter. Although it’s not an easy question to answer, I have welcomed the opportunity to educate people about the concept of No Kill, where we currently stand and where I hope we will stand in the future.

I think it’s important to point out that shelters are not No Kill, communities are. A shelter can’t accomplish the mission of being No Kill without the support of the local community. It requires human and financial resources and moral participation to make a shelter one which euthanizes only animals who require resources that the shelter and community are unable to provide. A true No Kill Community recognizes its abilities and limitations and puts their resources into the animals who will benefit and move on to happy outcomes. Measured against this definition, I feel Colleton County Animal Shelter is extremely close to No Kill with regards to canines and has a heightened awareness about where we are lacking with regards to felines. Essentially though, this isn’t about what I think. It’s about what you think. Our community must rally on behalf of animals in order to make No Kill a possibility. So what will that take is usually the next question!

In order for Colleton County to become No Kill, we need more people involved in the process of caring for the animals. With an annual intake exceeding 2,000 cats and dogs and a staff of 1 person dedicated to their care and 7 others who help with daily cleaning and feeding, providing the level of care we want for our animals is difficult. Dogs need to be walked, played with and promoted and cats need our attention too. There are dishes and laundry, restocking of items, sorting donations, record keeping and so much more that the average person can help with.

We also need financial support. In a small rural county, there is always more need than there is funding and sadly our shelter often takes a back seat when budget time rolls around. FoCCAS has been our main source of support and your support is truly the only reason we are able to even consider the question of No Kill. It costs about \$150 to get a dog ready to be adopted or rescued. Since many of our dogs are Heartworm Positive, have skin issues and other medical concerns, that figure is often higher. Cats cost about \$100 but have fewer options for rescue and a lower adoption fee. So the shelter is definitely losing money in order to save animals.

Most importantly, we need moral participation. We all have to buy into the idea that No Kill is our goal. This includes having a spay/neuter mentality, educating others about the importance of spay/neuter, vaccinating and providing preventatives to our pets against life threatening illness, reporting cruelty and holding our neighbors accountable. We need to define what No Kill means to Colleton County and then it becomes much easier to identify how we will go about realizing this goal. This will not be an overnight success story but for every animal it enables to go from homeless to home, our efforts will have long-lasting impact.

So, what’s it going to be Colleton County? Are we a No Kill Community?

Your comments, questions and participation are welcome! Contact me at lclark@colletoncounty.org.

Happy Tails

Contributed by Lynn Cresse



Little Chance, formerly Chip, was bounced around a lot in 2015. He entered the shelter as an owner surrender, was adopted, but then returned. This is when Kathy and Mark Eckels took him into their home as a foster, and 2015 became Chance's year! This little dog could scale a 6' chain link fence and didn't like young children. However, Chance did know basic obedience commands and wanted to please his new family. Kathy fell in love with him despite the fact she had five other dogs. Chance became a member of the family and now keeps Kathy and Mark laughing with his antics. He likes to catch bugs and carry them to his "play" room. The other dogs are fascinated and wonder what treasure he has brought. Chance still likes to climb the fence, but now only goes to play with a neighborhood buddy, and then he returns home. Chance is a keeper and has found his forever family. He enjoys going to the dog park and taking rides. He even attended the Howl-o-ween Extravaganza Chili Cook-off. Thank you Kathy and Mark for giving Chance his chance!

Save the Date

Paws at the Plantation



Saturday, March 3, 2018
5:00 pm - 9:00 pm
Pineland Plantation
Going to the Dogs Band
Catered by Jimmy Fitts

2018 Rice Festival Dog Show

Where: The Colleton Museum and Farmers Market Pavilion



**Saturday,
April 27 at 2:00**

Classes for all dogs

- 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:
\$5 per class 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.

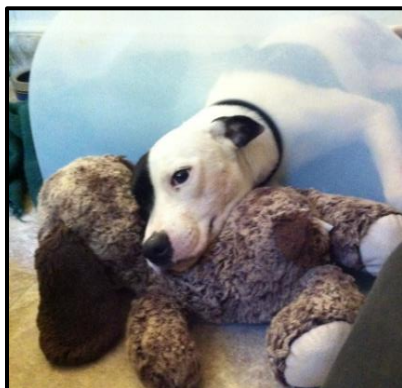


A Little Extra Help: Special Needs Animals at the Shelter

On average, it costs \$150 to prepare a healthy shelter animal for adoption or rescue. Of course, some need a little extra help and some are very special cases. In the last few months, six animals came into the shelter needing extensive veterinary care. These shelter animals had great temperaments and would make great pets except for their physical issues. Both Buckshot and Lucky Star were shot and needed a leg amputated. Phoenix is a puppy that had been burned by some sort of chemical. Stitches had a head gash that had been super-glued together. Popeye was a kitten with an eye infection. Her eye was removed. All of these wonderful pets recovered. FoCCAS' dedication to each of these special animals cost approximately \$1000 in each case. We are proud to be able to help these highly adoptable animals through their rough patch.



Buckshot before surgery



Pearl cuddling after surgery

Consider Donating

If you would like to contribute to Pearl's surgery and recovery (or for any of our animals that need a little extra), you can go to www.foccas-sc.org or mail a check to FoCCAS, 33 Poor Farm Rd., Walterboro, SC 29488.

We are a 501c3.
All donations are tax deductible.

Consider Volunteering

Spay Daze Volunteers:

Volunteers needed to help with paperwork for pets going to SNAC in Ridgeland. Currently Tuesday mornings at 7:30 and Wednesday morning at 11:00, days may change in 2018.

Transporters:

Volunteers needed to drive shelter animals to meet rescue, to the vet, or to SNAC. Days and times vary.

Foster Families:

Volunteers needed to care for shelter animals for usually two to three weeks. All food and supplies provided. Contact us at foccas.sc@gmail.com

Sweet Pearl

On October 18, Colleton County Animal Control caught a sweet dog, she was limping but wagging her tail and eager to be with someone. Pearl surely was in pain because something had destroyed one of her rear paws. She was brought to the shelter and FoCCAS immediately decided to look into surgery to help this sweet girl. The estimated cost was \$900 which included a spay so she would only undergo surgery once.

After surgery, Pearl's incision continued to bleed. Her foster mom took her back to the vet 3 times in one week. On Saturday, October 28, Pearl was rushed to the emergency vet in Mt. Pleasant for a blood transfusion. This sweet girl gave kisses to all the staff and was even wagging her tail as she was wheeled away on a gurney.

At the writing of this newsletter, Pearl's bill is **nearly \$7000** and will increase if she needs additional surgery or aftercare.

Shelter Statistics

Jan 1 – Sept 30, 2017

Adopted:	120
Returned to owner:	177
Went to rescue groups:	714
Died at shelter:	38
Euthanized at shelter:	594

Live release 2017	1011	62%
-------------------	------	-----