



THE MEW BARKER

Newsletter of the Chenango SPCA

Spring 2010

Visit the SPCA today

A friend is waiting for you! 🐾

6160 County Road 32
Norwich, NY 13815

Contact us at:

www.chenangospca.org
Tel: 607.334.9724
Fax: 607.336.9724

Open Hours

Tuesday – Friday: 12 - 4:30 pm
Saturday: 11 am - 3 pm
Sunday: Closed
Monday: By Appointment

Who We Are

Founded in 1907, the Chenango SPCA is a nationally recognized, open-admission animal shelter that provides care for abused and homeless pets, adoption, and education about the needs of companion animals. CSPCA and its Mary Elizabeth Macksey Humane Education Center offer a destination place for animal lovers everywhere.

Federal Tax ID Number: 16-1071918

Who's Who

Executive Director
Carol J. Hedlund...Ext 8

Director of Operations
Lisa Teller...Ext 5

Director of Development
Sue Reymers...Ext 6

Finance Manager
Sarah Ryan...Ext 7

Board Members

Stacy Smith, **President**
Courtney Sullivan, **Vice President**
Peggy Finnegan, **Secretary**
Jackie Bruntschmid, **Treasurer**
Kim Begeal
Leslie Bernardi
Ann Coe
Mary Anne Dean
Heather Ferrarese
Lauren Howell
Al Kochersperger
Kim McCarthy

Our Mission Statement:

The mission of the Chenango SPCA is to provide and promote care, compassion and respect for our animals and our community.

A Message from the Board President

I would like to take this opportunity as Board President to thank all of our supporters for the donations large and small that help us stay afloat. The donations I am speaking of are not just those in monetary form, the response to our plea for paper towels, hand sanitizer and bleach help keep our staff and our animals healthy. Your change in our coin boxes at the local store, your cans and bottles in our can shack and your donations of kitty litter help to supplement our shoestring budget. Every donation is put to good use at our shelter.



STACY

If you stop by for a visit, anyone of our hardworking staff would be happy to show you around so you can see your donations at work. While you are there take a look at the faces in the kennels and in our kitty condos and see if one of them could be your next faithful, loyal companion. These faces are the reason that our staff come to work each day, why our volunteers commit their time and why I joined the Board, to do what we can to help make a difference for these animals and to be a part of finding them a new forever home.

Again, thank you to all for your support, past, present and future for helping to make a difference.

Stacy Smith, Board President

Who is your FURever Friend? Photo Contest



Watch for our on-line 'FURever Friend' pet photo contest starting on June 1st! This will be your opportunity to show off your furry companion to loved ones everywhere - all while helping homeless animals in Chenango County.

All you have to do is upload a photo and some fun facts about your furry friend, then ask family, friends and co-workers to vote for your pet. Each vote is \$1, with a minimum purchase of 5 votes. (You will also have the opportunity to submit a donation when you upload your pet's picture, which also counts towards your pet's total votes).

The pet photo that receives the most votes will be our Grand Prize Winner (prize to be announced). Your pet's photo will also automatically be entered in our "Best in Show" category, where staff and volunteers will pick their favorite entry.

All proceeds from the contest will help the Chenango SPCA provide care, compassion and respect for the more than 1,600 animals we rescue and shelter each year. Watch our website for details at www.chenangospca.org. Contest starts June 1st.

6th Annual Valentine Fur Ball was a Great Success!

Thank you, we could not have done it without you! Over 320 guests joined us this year for a magical evening on Saturday, February 13th. The Canasawacta Country Club did it again with absolutely delicious and delightful appetizers and desserts. SPLASH had everyone dancing and tapping their feet while Valentine Imaging 'snapped away' getting groups and couples to commemorate the evening.



STAFF AND BOARD MEMBERS

A Silent Auction was held for the first time raising \$2,500 towards the net total of over \$12,500! A special thank you goes out to our many sponsors and silent auction donors. We encourage you to reward these philanthropic businesses with your patronage.

Save the date for the 7th Annual Valentine Fur Ball on Saturday, February 12, 2011! We will be offering a silent auction again next year and if you are interested in donating an item or gift certificate, please contact Sue Reymers at (607) 334-9724 ext. 6. Thank you!

Diamond Collar Sponsor:  **Staffworks**
The PerfectFit

Gold Collar Sponsor:  **GrandView Optical**  **CHENANGO EYE ASSOCIATES**

Silver Collar Sponsor

Canasawacta Country Club
Chenango Union Printing
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Sidney Federal Credit Union
Visions Federal Credit Union

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Doggie Dude Ranch
Frontier
Hayes Office Products

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Chenango Speech and Hearing
Enlightened Dentistry
Golden Artist Colors

Media Sponsor

Norwich and Sidney Pennysaver

Silent Auction Donors

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Day Spa
Black Bear Winery
Broad Street Chiropractic
Café Connection
Canor Country Furniture
Chenango Massage Therapy
Cole Muffler & Brake
Colonia Theatre
Cut Above
Cynthia Benjamin-Moon Gate Studios
Denny's Wines and Liquors
Doggie Dude Ranch
Ede Walker, Potter
Evergreen Gallery
First Edition Book Store
Fish Bowl
Garfs Deli
Gerry Raymonda Photography
Gypsy Renaissance

Ideal Sweets
Joy In A Basket
Late Show With David Letterman
Lynne "Otter" Berry, Potter
Marsha Cornelius of Morrisville State College
McNeil Jewelers
Nina's Pizzeria & Restaurant
Penny Snell
Poolville Country Store
Seasons Gift Shop
Shade Tree Charters
Skillin's Jewelers
Solstice Whole Foods
Teasers Hair and Nail Studios
Tillie's Tuggies
Todd Cramer of the ASPCA
Two Sister's Café
Unique Boutique
Video King and Baha Tanning

Save the Dates

Saturday, June 19, 2010
CSPCA will be at Curtis Lumber's Pet-A-Palooza for PET ADOPTION DAY. Find us at the Sherburne and Norwich locations.

Saturday, October 2, 2010
CSPCA Dog Walk

Sunday, November 21, 2010
Woofstock III

December 2010
Stuffed Animal Adoptathon

Saturday, February 12, 2011
7th Annual Valentine Fur Ball

We'll also be at Tractor Supply Company in Norwich once a month.

For our full list of events and outreach, go to www.chenangospca.org and click on Our Events.



It starts with Numbers and ends with Stories!



Patient Paddles

Some just need time to find that special home. For Paddles, a unique cat, it took about 6 months to find his. On a hot summer day in August 2009 Paddles arrived at the shelter with extra toes and leg deformities. This physical challenge didn't seem to matter to him though as he walked around like any other cat with the exception of a slight limp and a crouch like walk. Paddles lounge in the Cat Sculpture Room waiting... patiently.



The Potter family, who believe that the CSPCA is the best place to adopt and have done so before, visit the shelter quite often and became smitten with Paddles. They saw the SPCA staff's attachment and love for him. It touched their hearts so they made the decision to give him a new forever home. These days, Paddles can be found getting much loved belly rubs and plenty of play time in his new permanent dwelling.

From Tiny to Casey



Tiny was brought to the shelter on a cold winter day by an owner who no longer could afford to care for her. This person did the right thing as Tiny was extremely thin and needed extra TLC. After a couple of weeks of care, compassion and respect, our staff brought Tiny to a healthy weight and in good shape to be ready for our adoption program. She found a home within hours of becoming available on the last day of 2009.

It worked out that the Snell Family came to the CSPCA as they had decided that their CSPCA alumni dog Bailey needed a sister. Tiny and Bailey played well during their 'get acquainted' at the shelter. It's a must for dog adoptions that any dogs at home come in and 'meet' their prospective sibling. Our goal is to make sure that everyone is going to get along. No problem with these dogs. Now known as Casey, Tiny is actively playing with Bailey and making her youthful again. She is also

going to dog obedience classes with her mom so they can learn together. According to her family, she is doing very well, is smart and a real joy.

365 Days caring for animals per year
103 Years CSPCA has been in operation.
100-300+ Animals housed on a given day
14 Staff 50+ Volunteers
1,600+ Animals cared for annually
20-80 Phone calls received each day
1, 2, 3... 150... 457... 1,892
and counting Success Stories



Adopting from the Chenango SPCA

Adopting from Us Just Got Better

Our adopters know the great value when adopting from the Chenango SPCA and now it's even better. Starting this year, 100% of our adoptable pets will be spayed/neutered before going home thanks to volunteer veterinarians. This is in addition to the many benefits already being offered. Due to these changes, our prices have gone up a little but the savings and benefits are greater.

New Adoption Prices

- Dogs and Puppies: \$100 (plus \$2.50 dog license)
- Cats and Kittens: \$80
- Exotics: \$50 (chinchillas, ferrets, etc.)
- Small Animals: \$30 (rabbits, guinea pigs, etc.)
- Pocket Pets: \$15 (hamsters, gerbils, mice, etc.)
- Purebred Canines: \$200 (plus \$2.50 dog license)
- Purebred Felines: \$130

Your CSPCA Adoption includes:

- An already spayed/neutered pet (except for some smaller pets)
 - Vaccinations and De-worming (age appropriate)
 - Feline Leukemia Test (for cats)
 - Flea preventative Treatments (seasonal for dogs and cats only)
 - A FREE 4.5 lb bag of Hills Science Diet Food (dogs/cats only)
 - 30 Days FREE Pet Health Insurance (with email address/\$1 otherwise)
 - A FREE Pet Health Exam with participating veterinarians
- AND unconditional love from your new pet for his/her life...
A truly PRICELESS item)

All of the above is a value of up to \$255!

Check out our website at www.chenangospca.org for our available pets. While you're online, check out the new Petango Store at www.thepetangostore.com for great bargains on pet supplies. Each time you make a purchase, they'll donate a portion of the proceeds back to the CSPCA.



Round of Appaws to Volunteer Connie

Our many thanks to administrative volunteer Connie Coleman. Starting in January, Connie began helping the admin team by filing, processing mail, organizing and even revamping a few filing cabinets. She even sews for the CSPCA! After retiring in 2008 from NBT Bank, Connie was looking to 'get out and do something.' Additionally she is active with her church and the Chenango Health Center. Connie also adopted a 1 year old daschund named Lily from our shelter!

She encourages anybody who has the time to volunteer. "It's rewarding and when you get home you feel like you accomplished something," stated Connie. *Thank you Connie.*

Round of Appaws to Lisa

Congratulations to our very own Director of Operations, Lisa Teller. Lisa was the recipient of February's Commerce Chenango Employee of the Month. Lisa was surprised with this honor by Maureen Carpenter of Commerce Chenango and Debbie Leinbach of Mang Insurance Agency. Thanks to Mang Insurance Agency, Mirabito Energy Group and Nina's Pizzeria she received gift certificates and a cash gift for doing an exceptional job at the Chenango SPCA!



Special Thanks

A special thank you to Gerry Raymonda, photographer extraordinaire, for his time and talent in taking wonderful photos of our shelter animals and facility. Gerry has an amazing ability to capture his subject's emotions and great moments. Check out his work at www.gerryraymonda.com. Thank you Gerry!

Want to help homeless animals but not sure how?

We have many ways that you can volunteer and get involved that fit your lifestyle. Call (607) 334-9724 ext. 2.

Help Animals All Year Round

Join Loyal Friends, Our Monthly Giving Program

The Loyal Friends group is made up of devoted supporters who make regular monthly contributions to help Chenango SPCA save lives throughout the year. As a Loyal Friend, your gift provides steady funding that provides care, compassion and respect for each and every animal that arrives at the shelter.

Think of it as a virtual adoption. By joining this group of dedicated animal lovers, you can help provide hundreds of animals with a second chance for a new loving home.

Joining is easy through our website: you choose the amount to give, determine the frequency (monthly, quarterly, or weekly), decide whether to have the amount put on a credit card or from your checking account and the money is automatically withdrawn. There are no transaction fees. You can cancel at any time by contacting us. You save on stamps, envelopes and time!

You can always use your online banking service or use the traditional method of writing a check.

Members of the Monthly Giving Program will have their name listed in the shelter. Go to our website www.chenangospca.org and click on the Donate Now button. Thank you!



*Bear with a handmade fleece blanket
from Girl Scouts Troop 822 in Hamletten
Thank you Girls!*

Thank you!

We wish to send out a huge thank you to everyone who has helped the shelter during 2009. Every volunteer hour, paper towel donation, tribute gift, contribution, etc. helps us provide care for the shelter animals. We thank you for all the ways that you helped and showed your care.



Pittsfield Veterinary Clinic

1033 State Highway 80
Edmeston, N.Y. 13335
607-965-8991

Practice Limited to Companion Animals

Lisa W. Johnson, DVM

Office Hours By Appointment



Make Kindness Your Legacy

The greatness of a nation and its moral progress can be judged by the way its animals are treated. -Mahatma Gandhi

Your family members are likely your first beneficiaries, but have you thought about including your local animal shelter as well? Planning to include a charity in your will is not just for the wealthy. Gifts of all sizes can benefit a charities' mission. Including the Chenango SPCA in your plans will help homeless and abused animals in your community for years to come. It's a good idea that all of us, regardless of means, should make out our will and plan our estate.

For Cilla Davis, those plans are made. Carol Hedlund and Sue Reymers sat down with Cilla to hear her story and history with the agency.

Cilla, along with her husband Jim Jared, have had an affinity for animals since they met. Over the years, they have rescued many countless lives. Cilla described that when

Jim would come home with another rescued animal, he would say "Cilla, I did something." And another homeless animal found a home.

In the 1980's, they began to get involved with the Chenango SPCA. It started with a stray cat. Then lots of visits to the shelter. Some volunteer work. An adoption here and there. But then, both became more closely involved through board membership during the late 1990's and into the relocation of the agency in 2001. And now, in an even more lasting way... through their estate plans.

When asked why she decided to include the CSPCA in her estate plans, Cilla responded, "Because we've included them in our giving plans during our lifetimes and it's something that if we cannot be around to continue that, then we

would like to perpetuate it through more of a long-term gift. Something that keeps on giving. But I also appreciate that you need it."

That's in fact very true, a bequest to the CSPCA will be a legacy of kindness that will help us to continue to combat animal cruelty and prevent suffering well into the 21st century. Bequest gifts live on in investments within our trust that help to ensure financial security for our mission. More than ever, planned gifts are important for our future.

Animal sheltering has progressed tremendously over the last couple of decades and our shelter has progressed as well. Today, we are so much more than the 'pound' of yesteryear. Education, behavior specialists, professionals in our field, while our primary focus of adoptions and rescue remain strong. Our mission and vision

go beyond today's rescue but into the future where every animal is wanted and in a loving home. Including us in your will ensures that animals will continue to have a guardian tomorrow.

Cilla shared with us the thought, "If you appreciate the need while you are here, witnessing the benefits, and the successes, and the value of the organization, it only makes sense to recognize that your support can continue and I expect mine to."

Contact the Development Office at (607) 334-9724 ext. 6 for more information on Planned Gifts.



Woofstock II Features Live 'Mewsic'

The CSPCA Board of Directors hosted their 2nd annual Woofstock at the Blarney Stone Pub in November which featured local bands: the Cherry Pickers, Suspicious Hats and the Foreheads. Woofstock raised over \$1,700 for the shelter animals. Special thanks to the Blarney Stone Pub for hosting, Fine Line Graphics, Pennysaver, Todd Cramer of the ASPCA and the board of directors. Save the date for Woofstock III on Sunday, November 21, 2010.

CSPCA Adoptathon Helps Children and Animals

During the holiday season, a Gund Stuffed Bear Adoptathon was held to raise funds for the shelter animals. It started with a generous donation of 100 stuffed animals from Gund that former board member Cilla Davis helped to secure. Each bear was adopted for \$10 and then given to Toys for Tots. The Adoptathon was well received by the community and raised the much needed funds for the shelter animals while making a child's holiday a little brighter. We appreciate Gund for their generosity, to those who adopted a bear, and are very glad to have helped support the Toys for Tots program. Look for our 2nd Annual Stuffed Animal Adoptathon for the 2010 holiday season. If you would like to volunteer to help with this event, contact Sue at (607) 334-9724 ext. 6.

Bentley Auction, A Sushiful Event!

On Monday, December 14, 2009 Candi and Arthur Ramer, owner of Sushi Blues, hosted the 3rd Annual 'Bentley the Dog' Memorial Dinner and Auction at their restaurant in Hamilton. The auction raised an amazing \$3,500 with over 40 guests who had a great time bidding on items from local shops and artists. We extend our sincerest appreciation to Candi, Arthur, Keith Rifenberg of Marquis Auctions who volunteered his time again and the many businesses and individuals that donated items for the auction. We truly cannot thank you all enough!



Shelter Shoes

Carol J Hedlund, Executive Director Chenango SPCA

There are quite a few misconceptions about what happens in an animal shelter. I held some of those misconceptions myself until I began visiting my local shelter and eventually began working there some years ago. I thought that it was where the sick, injured or aggressive animals ended up. Where those animal control officers brought that “fighting” dog on the end of that pole to do who knows what with. Until you’ve walked a mile or two in “shelter shoes” it’s hard to understand how completely wrong you were. Are there sick, injured and aggressive animals there? Absolutely. Because most times there is no other place for them to go, to be kept safe and cared for. But that is not the majority, that is the minority of the animals we provide care for day in and day out. We are such an integral part of the community because even if you don’t have a pet, we are there for you. Yes, you! If we were not there, where would you bring that adorable stray kitten who wandered into your yard on a cold winter day? We educate your children on how to be kind to animals, we provide your neighbors with insight into behavioral problems they have with their barking-all-day- dog, or investigate the person you witnessed being cruel to an animal.

We are also there for each and every person who is no longer able to care for

their four legged friend. Recent times have caused such financial challenges for people that they can no longer care for their beloved pets. If we can keep that pet in their home we’ll do our best to try to provide food or other assistance. Or if it’s just too hard for them we will find their best friend a new forever home. Imagine the emotion involved in that scenario. It happens every day when you wear those “shelter shoes”.

The mission of the Chenango Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals is to provide and promote care, compassion and respect for our animals and our community. Every single animal we care for is connected to a person, or persons. The animal-human connection, or bond, is amazingly strong. Most feel their pet is a part of their family, our community.

It is estimated that 50% of American households have at least one pet in their family. Many have multiple pets. I cannot imagine if there were no animal shelters to provide assistance for those families when they are in need, or to offer education for those who want to provide their littlest family member with training, or help them get reconnected if they get lost, or bring those who don’t properly care for animals or intentionally cause harm to them to justice. Our “shelter shoes” are pretty worn out some days. But we always manage to get a re-tread and keep on moving.

The most amazing thing about “shelter shoes” is the myriad of connections that happen when you’re wearing them. For example: Connecting the perfect pet with the perfect owner,



connecting a child looking to provide assistance to the animals with a place to have a birthday party so the animals reap the benefit of their gifts; connecting a volunteer with the perfect “job” whether it’s cleaning cat pans, walking dogs or filing paperwork; connecting a satisfied donor with the knowledge that we are so appreciative; connecting the evil animal cruelty villain with the sheriff’s department deputies; connecting a needy animal with the perfect foster home, temporary but perfect; connecting legislators with modern knowledge of humane companion animal care to eventually make that connection into law.

My “shelter shoes” have walked many a mile, and they will continue to run many miles for our animals and for our community. They have taken me to many other areas of our country, allowing me to assist others animals and their people after hurricanes in Louisiana, the closing down of puppy mills in Canada, breaking up of pit bull fighting arenas in New York State. I no longer have any misconceptions about our reality. The reality is that we have been here for our community animals for over 100 years and we plan on being here for you for hundreds more. If you’re up for an adventure in helping out an “old” not for profit, let us know- put on those shelter shoes and come along for the walk of a lifetime!

Gift Certificates Available

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Home Appis. Available



Jim Dennis Jr., LMT
Massage Therapist, Lic.# 016243

Office: 607.336.2888 • Cell: 607.316.1781

30 South Broad Street (In back parking lot)
Norwich, NY 13815

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