

ST. CROIX

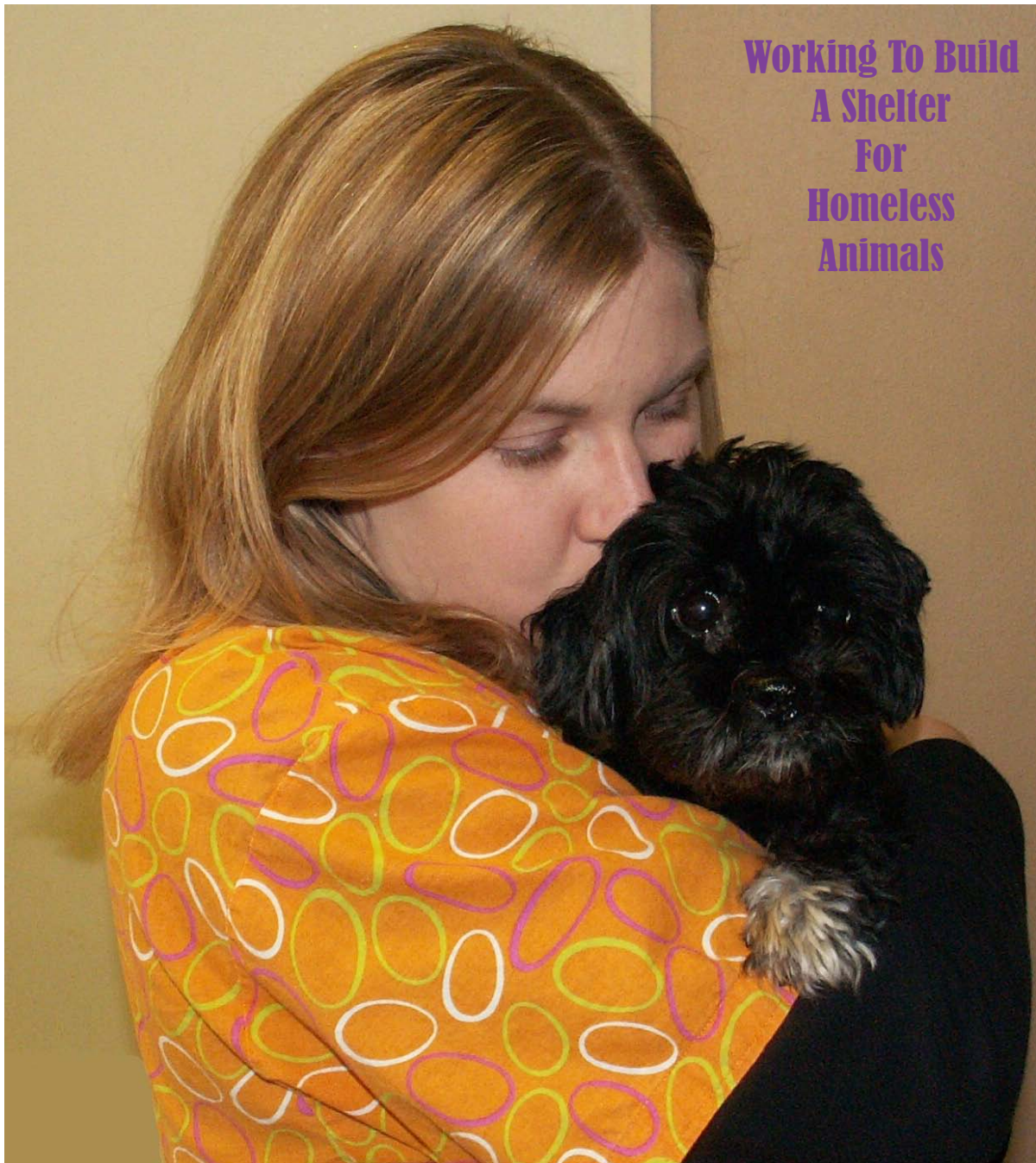


ANIMAL
FRIENDS

Fall 2011

Paws for Thought

St. Croix Animal Friends is a non-profit 501(c)(3) organization working to build an animal adoption & education center in St. Croix County and is not affiliated with any other organization.



**Working To Build
A Shelter
For
Homeless
Animals**

SCAF: Encouraging Animal Awareness Through Education



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Our Mission:

- To offer abused and injured animals a safe refuge, nourishment, care and an opportunity for a better life.
- To promote responsible pet ownership through humane education and a spay/neuter program.
- To work to unite lost animals with owners and place unwanted animals in caring homes.
- To build communication and community support so people will value animals and treat them with respect and kindness.
- To provide care and respect through the life and death of the animal using qualified veterinary professionals.

Board of Directors:

Diana Neubarth, President
 Tim Kern, Vice President
 Vicki Donatell, Secretary
 Denise Carter, Treasurer
 Judy Webster, Board Member
 Carah Koch, Board Member
 Jane Kelley, Board Member
 David Hillert, ESQ, Honorary

Newsletter:

Judy Webster, Editor
 Tim Kern, Photography/Graphics
 Barb Mix Kern, Artistic Design

Cover: Vet tech Rhonda Armbruster
 & Mitsy © 2011

Dear Supporters,

We have been very busy over the last several months in our effort to move forward! Our Animal Walk at Lakefront Park in Hudson last June was a huge success and we are grateful to the City of Hudson for allowing us to have our signature event at such a beautiful park! We want to take this opportunity to thank all of you who attended the event and worked so hard to get pledges. One of the very best ways to help our organization is by attending our annual Animal Walk. Your presence, with your animal, is a great testimonial to your dedication and support of our work to build a shelter. It's also the one time of year when we can all get together with our animals and have some fun for this common goal. We hope to see all of you again next year and would like to encourage those of you who have not yet attended to consider doing so. We also greatly appreciate everyone who made this event possible by their generous sponsorship.

Last Spring, when the weather turned warmer, we began the process of working to remove some of the very old buildings that are on the land site we purchased. Some of the buildings will be kept for a time, but many will be removed to make room for the shelter.

Our biggest project coming up on the horizon, however, is that of planning and preparing for a Capital Campaign to raise the needed funds to build a new animal shelter. This will be an enormous undertaking and will require significant planning and many, many hours of hard work. Volunteer opportunities are many and we welcome help from those who may have the skills and time to assist with this endeavor.

We continue to get numerous requests from the public related to animals that need help in many different ways. As we do not have a shelter, our ability to help these animals is limited. We truly look forward to the day when St Croix County will have a shelter and animals in desperate need will have a safe place to go until they can be placed in a loving home. We continue to ask for your help and support toward making this goal a reality. Donations to our **Building Fund** are always appreciated.

Many of the older buildings on the site will be taken down. This structure will remain on the property to be used as a temporary SCAF office until funds can be raised to build a new animal shelter.



Notice of By-Laws Changes

The Board has recommended the following amendments to the organization by-laws. They are as follows:

Article 5 Section 6. A quorum of the majority of total Board members must be present in order to conduct business at a meeting.

Article 6 Section 1. The Board of Directors will consist of not less than 5 or more than 21 voting members.

Article 6 Section 8. Only one family member can serve on the Board of Directors at any time.

There will be a vote to approve these changes at a special meeting on Thursday, October 13th, 2011 at St. Paul's Episcopal Church at 6:30pm.



Area Businesses Support SCAF

Integrity Family Chiropractic

It was a pleasure to meet Dr. Laura Vassar Verga and staff at Integrity Family Chiropractic Center in Hudson. Dr. Laura's Chiropractic Center recently hosted a Patient Appreciation Day and donated all charges from new patient referrals on that day to St. Croix Animal Friends! Dr. Laura also displays our brochures, newsletters and donation canister in her office to help spread the word about our work to build a shelter.

Dr. Laura said she became inspired to help us in our work to build an animal shelter when she wanted to find a companion for her cat "Martin" and discovered there was no animal shelter in the area. We really appreciate Dr. Laura's support and want to let you know that Dr. Laura informed us "Martin" receives chiropractic "adjustments" on a regular basis too!



Pictured: L-R Assistant Kris Harker, Dr. Laura Vassar and Tim Kern, SCAF Vice-President

Holiday Inn Express

On 4-22-2011, Dennis Lovold (owner) and Rita Schalla (manager) of the Holiday Inn Express in Hudson, opened the doors of their beautiful hotel to meet with SCAF Board members. Dennis and Rita have been avid supporters of our work to build an animal shelter in St. Croix County from the very beginning and they wanted to become more involved in issues relating to building the facility. Our meeting with them provided us with many valuable insights, suggestions and advice on how to proceed with the building process and we feel fortunate to have been provided with their valuable expertise. Thanks Dennis and Rita for your many contributions toward our work to build a shelter.

Pictured: Rita Schalla & Dennis Lovold

E-mail Updates!

We believe that communication with our supporters is a very important part of working together to get an animal shelter built in St. Croix County.

One of the best ways we can keep you informed about what is going on within the organization is by sending you e-mail updates of upcoming events, current organization needs and various announcements. Therefore, if you have not given us your e-mail address and want to receive these updates, please send your e-mail address to our web-site mail at info@stcroixanimalfriends.org and request to be added to our e-mail contact list.

Congratulations to **Cyndy Began** and **Sarah Johnson** who submitted their e-mail addresses and were the winners of our SCAF "Going Green" contest last April! Both winners received gift cards to Target.

Volunteer Spotlight



Dani Langer

SCAF is grateful to have a dedicated volunteer like Dani who offers her help in so many ways. Dani has been a big supporter of our SCAF events and was very involved in the planning of our 2011 "Blast from the Past" dinner/ dance. She also helped get sponsors for the 2011 Animal Walk. She never hesitates to roll up her sleeves and assist when needed—as seen in this picture when she helped bag groceries at a SCAF fundraiser at Family Fresh Market. Her enthusiasm for our mission to build a facility for homeless animals is contagious and she always has a smile on her face and kind words for everyone around her. Dani exemplifies the kind of volunteer who makes a big difference in promoting the goals of St. Croix Animal Friends.



Help For Mitsy



Dr. Vicki Datt & Mitsy

We would like to introduce you to the dog on the cover of this newsletter. Her name is Mitsy and we were contacted about her because she needed a new home and had medical issues that required prompt attention. Our first goal was to get Mitsy the medical care she so desperately needed. Under the expert treatment provided by Dr.'s Vicki and David Datt, and the staff of Croix Valley Veterinary Hospital, Mitsy was brought back to good health. She was then placed with a SCAF volunteer foster family and a few weeks later was adopted into a permanent, loving home.

It was rewarding to be part of this experience and witness such a happy ending for a very deserving dog. We were able to help Mitsy because of the generosity of those who donated to our SCAF **Emergency Medical Fund**. We are always grateful for donations to this Fund as it allows us to help animals like Mitsy when the need arises.

SCAF Member Authors Book

Were you aware that we have an extraordinary literary talent in our SCAF membership? SCAF member Gary Porter recently had his book **"Duffy : The Tale of a Terrier"** published. The book is written as seen through the eyes of his late shelter dog Duffy and chronicles the various experiences the dog goes through in his life with his "folks". Because I share my life with a dog, I found myself smiling and laughing throughout the entire book as I could relate to the many familiar experiences Duffy talks about. I found the book fun, enjoyed the great illustrations and sure learned a lot from Duffy about the publishing business! Thanks for the enjoyable read Gary!

Judy Webster



Gary Porter

Spay/Neuter: So Important!

There are millions of animals who are not able to find homes. To help curtail this unfortunate situation, it is important that potential pet owners adopt from shelters or rescues and have their pets spayed or neutered. Our **Spay/ Neuter Program** remains very active. We are proud to report that since the program's inception, we have been instrumental in the spaying and neutering of **84** animals!

If you need help with the financing of spaying or neutering a pet, please check our website at www.stcroixanimalfriends.org to see if you qualify for assistance through our Spay/ Neuter Program. We also always welcome donations to our **Spay/Neuter Fund**.

55th Wedding Anniversary

Congratulations to SCAF organization members **Mary Louise and Craig Olson** on the celebration of their 55th wedding anniversary! What an incredible accomplishment! We are honored that they chose to include us in their celebration by making a donation to help us in our work to get an animal shelter built for homeless animals. We wish them many more wonderful years together!



Memorials & Honorariums

In Loving Memory of . . .

Laddie "The Big Guy" Kern the Dog

Gift from Mom & Dad Kern
Gift from Judy Webster
Gift from Sherry Mentel
Gift from Betty & Stu Rolfsen
Gift from Judith Hillert

Bandit the Dog

Gift from Janine Wildes

Vernon Wood

Gift from Kathleen Nelson

Hugo the Dog

Gift from Mary Beth Burkholder

Celebration Donations

Gift from Kjersti Duncan in honor of Mary Louise Olson
Gift from Craig Olson in honor of Mary Louise on Mother's Day 2011!
Gift from Craig Olson in honor of Mary Louise on their 55th wedding anniversary!



Heather Witwicke giving "Dixie" a drink of water on their run.

ALWAYS: THINK WATER 💧

Lack of water is the most common form of animal abuse.

Observing the girl in this photo giving her dog a drink of water on their run, inspired us to remind pet owners of how vital water is to the health of their animal. Water is crucial to maintaining the health and well being of a pet. About 70-80% of your pet's body consists of water. Water helps absorb nutrients, digest food, flush out waste and control body temperature. Without adequate water, your pet can become dehydrated (a lack of adequate water in the body), suffer serious health problems -- including kidney and heart damage -- and even die.

Taking the following steps will help ensure that your pet is adequately hydrated:

- 💧 Make sure your pet's water bowl is clean and the water is changed daily to prevent the accumulation of debris and bacteria that can occur in stagnant water. Bacteria in the water can make it taste funny and your pet may not want to drink it. Also, some kinds of bacteria can make your pet sick.
- 💧 Check your pet's water bowl several times throughout the day to make sure it has not been tipped over. If you are gone during the day, it might be a good idea to place a second bowl of water in a different area of the house in case your cat or dog has tipped one bowl over.
- 💧 On a very hot day, water can evaporate, and your pet may drink more. Therefore, you may need to fill the water dish more often.
- 💧 Remember that pets need more water when they are exercising. Don't forget to bring some water along when you take your pet out for a long walk or run.

Being continually mindful of your pet's need for water, in all circumstances, is one of the most important things you can do to ensure the safety, health and well being of your pet. This fact cannot be overstated or stressed enough!

Warning: Smoking can be Hazardous to Your Pet!

Many of you know that secondhand smoke contains many carcinogens (cancer causing agents) that, when breathed in, can be very harmful to your health. What you may not know, however, is that secondhand smoke can be very dangerous to your pet as well.

Dogs that inhale secondhand smoke are three times more likely to develop lung or nasal cancer than dogs living in smoke free homes. Dogs can also experience allergic reactions to secondhand smoke which may cause them to scratch, bite or chew their skin.

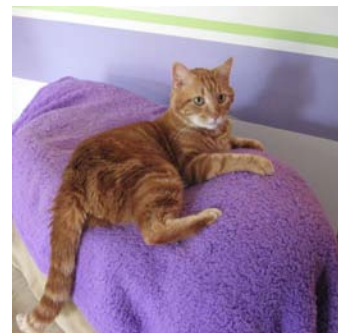
Cats exposed to secondhand smoke have a higher chance of developing feline lymphoma and oral cancer --especially because their fur traps smoke particles which can be ingested when they lick their coats. Cats can also develop respiratory problems, lung inflammation and asthma as a result of second hand smoke.

Pets face an increased risk of cancer from secondhand smoke because they live on carpets, rugs and floors where the deadly chemicals from secondhand smoke can accumulate long after the smoke has faded.

Nicotine, a chemical found in tobacco products, is very toxic. If an animal ingests cigarettes or butts, nicotine poisoning can occur and may be fatal. Two butts, if eaten by a puppy, can cause death in a relatively short period of time. It is very important that all tobacco products, including nicotine patches, gum and other quit smoking aids that contain nicotine, be kept away from pets! If you think your pet has swallowed tobacco or nicotine, your vet should be called right away.

Please keep your pets safe by protecting them from the harmful effects of secondhand smoke and the dangers of nicotine ingestion.

Sources: American Lung Associations of Minnesota and New Hampshire & Oklahoma State University





We Need Your Help!

Like the dog on the cover of this issue, SCAF often receives word of an **emergency** situation where an animal needs help finding a home. Because of this, we are in the process of recruiting volunteers who would be interested in providing foster care to an animal in desperate need. Is this something you might be interested in?

A foster family provides an animal with a temporary home until permanent placement can be found. Fostering is a responsibility that requires providing for an animal's comfort, safety and general well being. This involves feeding, grooming, playing with the animal and taking care of any medical or special needs an animal may have. Many times, a foster home is the first safe and loving home an animal has ever experienced.

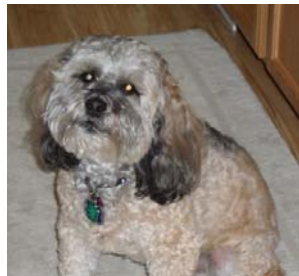
If you are considering fostering, your home environment should be safe, healthy and spacious enough to nurture an animal. All family members need to be in favor of your decision to foster and existing pets in your home must be up to date on their vaccinations and able to live with a newcomer. Also, you should not consider fostering if your current schedule is too busy to take on an additional responsibility.

Providing a "bridge" for an animal in need of a permanent home saves lives and helps set the stage for a successful adoption. A foster family helps with the evaluation of an animal. Observations they make about the animal can provide valuable information that will help ensure that an animal gets placed in a home that is a good fit.

Deciding to be a foster family is a serious undertaking, but a very rewarding experience. You will be part of a process that will make a huge difference in an animal's life. If you are interested in this very important volunteer opportunity, please contact us at info@stcroixanimalfriends.org for more information. Also, the application to become a foster parent is available for downloading on our website at www.stcroixanimalfriends.org



"Sassy Frass"



"Charlie"

New Homes

When these two animals were brought to our attention this last summer, they were in need of permanent homes. It is great to report that through SCAF intervention, both animals found homes and are now happily settled in with their new families. Please make sure to check our Face book page and web-site on a regular basis. You just might find that special furry friend you have been waiting to adopt!

Save the Date!

Our annual Dinner/Dance last March was a great success! After a long, snowy winter, SCAF supporters were more than ready to get out and experience an evening full of great dancing and good food. They also enjoyed bidding on the many fabulous silent auction items donated by area businesses and generous individuals. Raffles were held for a chance to win some terrific items and many door prizes were awarded throughout the evening. All totaled, **\$4,948** was raised from this event!

Saturday, March 31st, 2012 is the date of our next Dinner/Dance. Planning is already underway for this event which will be held at the Valley House in Hudson. Please mark your calendars and plan to join us for an evening full of fun for a great cause! We will keep you posted with more details as time gets closer to this event. If you would like to be a table sponsor or make a donation to our silent auction, please contact us at our e-mail address at: info@stcroixanimalfriends.org



Kim Riggle & Brittany Schoenherr at the 2011 Dance

2011 Animal Walk at Lakefront Park, Hudson

Prize Winners



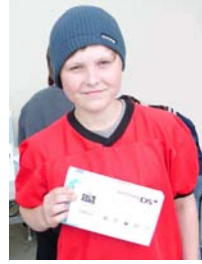
Lanette Barnes won Laptop



Joanna Johnston won e-reader



Mikayla Grund won iPod



Rob Neubarth won Nintendo



Sammy Johnson won Nintendo



ST. CROIX



ANIMAL FRIENDS

stcroixanimalfriends.org

P.O. Box 1169
Hudson, WI 54016

Volunteers Needed

SCAF is seeking volunteers in the following areas:

- Public Relations
- Fundraising
- Staffing Fundraising Events
- Planned Giving



Join Us!

Meetings:

Public Meeting

Time: 7 p.m.

Date: First Thursday of each month

Location: St. Paul's Episcopal Church

502 County Road UU

Hudson, WI 54016

Public Relations Committee

The public relations committee is seeking members at this time. If you are interested in becoming a member of this committee, please contact us at info@stcroixanimalfriends.org

STOP

Unwanted Animals Spay & Neuter Your Pets!



Membership:

Becoming a member of SCAF means you are supporting our effort to build an animal adoption and education center in St. Croix County. An annual membership also allows you to assist in decision making by voting in Board elections and to receive organization newsletters. Complete the form and return to the address below! Your membership is good for one year from the date you join.

9/11

Name: _____

Address: _____ Date: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

E-mail: _____ Phone: _____

Membership Categories

Adult	\$25
Family	\$40
Senior (62 +)	\$10
Junior (16 & under)	Exempt
Patron	\$50
Corporate	\$100

Total Memberships: _____

Other/Donations: _____

Would you like to be a volunteer committee member?

YES NO

If YES, special skills you will lend: _____

Please mail payments to: St. Croix Animal Friends P.O. Box 1169 Hudson, WI 54016

Thank you for supporting SCAF. We are grateful for your memberships and donations.