



## WINTER 2013 ISSUE

The Humane Association of CNY  
4915½ W. Taft Road, Liverpool, NY 13088  
315-457-8762

OPEN: 6 days/week - Tues-Sun - Noon-5pm  
[humanecny.org](http://humanecny.org)

Note: The HumaneCNY no longer has a P.O.Box



## From the Director's Desk

In April, I joined the Humane Association of CNY (the "Humane CNY") thinking that my days would be filled with puppies and kittens and sad story after sad story. Now that I've settled in, I'm learning there's another side to animal rescue, an element sometimes forgotten as we get wrapped up saving all the lives we

can (even though our efforts are never enough). I'm finding such joy in the human side of all that goes on here at the HumaneCNY.

The turning point for me came a few weeks back. For some time, I'd encouraged one of our amazing volunteers to pick out a kitten, but her family was never quite ready. One afternoon her father came in, his eyes filled with hurt and sadness. While the rest of his family was out of town, their cat had unexpectedly passed away. He was devastated about the loss and distraught over having to tell his family. Though he seemed uncertain, we sent him home with a kitten that day. The staff fell silent as he left, everyone concerned as to whether we had done the right thing.

A few days later, we learned that while shaken over the loss of their beloved cat, the family had immediately bonded with their new kitten. The healing process in place, they returned to the shelter to pick out a second kitten! I was so touched to have witnessed not only the joy these kittens brought to this family, but the pure love that one man can have for his family.

There have been many other opportunities at the HumaneCNY to help people within our community. I recently rejoiced with an owner reunited with the Chihuahua he'd surrendered to us during a lengthy hospital stay. I was also privileged to answer a call from a local nursing facility, asking the HumaneCNY to help fulfill a dying woman's final wish. As she opened her eyes briefly to get a good look at the purring cat on her chest, we were all deeply moved, knowing that a good deed had been done that day.

I'm privileged to direct an organization that, in addition to providing much-needed shelter, food, and medical attention to homeless cats and dogs, acts as a community resource. I love coming to work every day, seeing the pleasure of the families whose lives we touch and the immense joy they experience when they've found their "fur-ever" friend. This is a personal fulfillment that I never expected to find in my day-to-day duties. I extend many thanks to our donors, who make these little miracles possible with their financial and volunteer support.

*Christine McNeely*



Like us on Facebook

for up-to-the minute information about our pets for adoption and our fundraising events.



## It Takes a Village!

by Bethann Kistner

Thank you to **Chris Polimino, owner of Atlas Fence**, for donating a much-needed fence and installing the gate. Thanks also to Jeff Witkowski and Shawn O'Donnell for installing the posts. Finally, thank you to **Marsh USA, Inc.** employees Hanna Cafarelli, Frank DeAngles, David Guillaume, Dan Mahle, Dave Parrott, Joe Piontkowski, and Matt Reed. Our good friends at Marsh donated their time for a second consecutive year - last year, repairing a fence and this year, installing a new fence. That's teamwork at its best, and we are grateful to you all! Our pups are thrilled, too!



## Wish List

- \* Large Trash Bags
- \* Dish Soap
- \* Bleach
- \* Canned Cat & Dog Food



[www.goodsearch.com](http://www.goodsearch.com)

Remember to always use GoodSearch and GoodShop to benefit the Shelter!

## ADOPTION CORNER



### MEET COCO AND OCTAVIA

FeLV (feline leukemia) is a disease that only affects cats – it can't be transmitted to people, dogs, or other animals. The FeLV virus doesn't live long outside the cat, and may be transmitted through saliva, blood, and urine. Therefore, FeLV cats are not to be near non-infected cats, but they can live quite well with dogs and other animals.

Since we cannot devote a room to just two cats, Coco and Octavia must live in a cage. It breaks our hearts, because they play and run around like the others, and quite honestly, they may even love a bit stronger because they know their lives may be a bit shorter. FeLV-positive kitties make wonderful pets that just need to be kept indoors and receive regular vet checkups to monitor their immune systems.

By telling you about Coco and Octavia, we hope to find them a permanent or foster home – one that enables them to enjoy their lives on the laps and in the hearts of someone willing to give them that chance. Please stop by to visit them soon and talk to our director if you have an interest in adopting or even fostering these two beauties!

## Naughty Kitty or Sick Kitty?

by Marti Heald

Cat owners, imagine this: You walk into a room and smell something *bad*. You look around and there it is: a damp area resulting from a cat that's urinated outside of its box. But you had the cat neutered, so how could that be?

It happened to me a few months ago. I noticed a faint smell and traced it to a chair which, fortunately, had a cover over it. I had multiple suspects, and I was baffled; I thought that if cats were neutered or spayed, they wouldn't spray, so who did it and why?

The problem was sporadic, so I assumed it was behavioral. I tried the pheromone plug-ins, but the spraying still occasionally happened. At last, I noticed that Teddy was not interested in food or water. The vet diagnosed a urinary tract infection (UTI), and she gave him an antibiotic shot. A couple of days later I took him back to the doctor for an ultrasound to rule out a possible blockage. It showed scar tissue in one kidney, evidence of past infections unknown to me, but no blockages. Once the antibiotics kicked in, no more accidents. What I thought was a *naughty* kitty was, in fact, a *sick* one.

I found out that UTIs are common in cats, and the vet can perform a simple test to see if an infection is present. Another possible cause of spraying is Feline Lower Urinary Tract Disease (FLUTD). Sometimes stress, multiple housemates, or a strictly dry food diet can make this condition more likely to develop. FLUTD is more common in males, who can develop a blockage of the urinary tract, a serious condition that requires immediate medical attention. Other diseases can cause accidents, including kidney failure, kidney infection, liver disease and increased thyroid hormone levels. If your cat drinks more water than usual or has a poor coat or appetite, take him or her to the vet and find out the cause.

In my case, Teddy got his own room and daily canned food with a little water added to keep his kidneys flushed out. No more spraying! A little more work, but well worth it. He's healthy and that's what matters.



## Black Velvet Homes for the Holidays

Everyone needs a little black velvet... CAT, that is! Our sweet, velvety black cats need forever homes – and when better than now?

**All our black cats are adoptable for \$50 throughout the holiday season. If you're a black cat lover, now's the time to come see us!**



**Looking to finish your holiday shopping while benefitting a great cause? Look no further!**

- 1) Visit [www.firstideascorp.com](http://www.firstideascorp.com).
- 2) Fill your cart with fun and educational gifts, such as *Ripley to the Rescue!* (a happy-ending book about the joys of adopting a rescue dog).
- 3) Enter code **HACNY** at checkout.

~ A portion of all proceeds will benefit The Humane Association of CNY ~

# 2013 YEAR-END DONATION FORM

Please help our shelter animals this holiday season!



First and Last Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City/Town \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zipcode \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ e-Mail \_\_\_\_\_



**HOLIDAY APPEAL:** We recently rescued 2 kittens, 16 Chihuahua puppies, and 3 adult dogs! All need to be spayed/neutered and vaccinated, and we'll need \$3,200 in donations to cover this medical care. Costly yes, but knowing we did the right thing is priceless. All will be available for adoption soon. **PLEASE HELP!**

**TOTAL GIFT AMOUNT**  \$25  \$50  \$75  \$100  OTHER

I would like to make monthly credit card installments of \$\_\_\_\_\_ (to be charged on the 1st of each month) through\_\_\_\_\_ (date)

Discover  MC  Visa Card # \_\_\_\_\_ Exp. Date \_\_\_\_\_ Security Code \_\_\_\_\_

Please do not send me acknowledgement of this donation.

Please contact me because I'm interested in learning more about Doggie Day Care at The Humane Association of CNY.

Please contact me so that I may establish a lasting legacy to The Humane Association of CNY within my estate plan.



*James DeMauro from Trooper Husky Rescue with Melissa Trux and Christine McNeely*

## Pay it Forward!

*By Melissa Trux*

We never know where life will take us, yet we try our best to enjoy the ride because life can knock us down when we least expect it. That's what happened to my family on June 28, 2013, the day when the Madison/Oneida County floods claimed our home. No matter what I do to forget the events of that day, its details are etched in my mind permanently.

If it wasn't for the HumaneCNY, my cats would have been lost to us forever. With a heavy heart, I allowed the HumaneCNY to find wonderful homes for two of my cats and shelter three others. With all that my family has dealt

with, one thing has remained certain – my cats are safe, and I have peace of mind. I can never thank them enough for what they've done; there aren't enough words to describe my gratitude.

I was excited recently when Director Christine McNeely invited me to join her and veterinarian Dr. William Stack to assist with a rabies/vaccination clinic at the Trooper Husky Rescue in Oneida. We helped eight huskies there as well as five being housed at the HumaneCNY. These dogs and animal lovers are a great bunch, and I was honored to have met them.

I bonded with a very special retired sled dog named Nova (interestingly enough, my closest friends call me Nova) and I share a birthday with another of the dogs! My hope is that these dogs find their forever homes soon as I know how it feels to be homeless, and believe me – it's rough! I was so touched by the opportunity to assist that I covered the cost for the vaccinations we administered that day. It was my pleasure to be able to "pay it forward" so that the HumaneCNY could help this group of dogs in need.

**Editor's Note:** We are pleased to report that Melissa has found a new home and has been reunited with her three cats!

## THE HUMANE ASSOCIATION OF CNY WISHES TO THANK...

...the following businesses and organizations for supporting our shelter with donations such as grants, goods and services, and sponsorships. We couldn't survive without the generosity of our community. We are truly grateful.

- Beak & Skiff Apple Orchard
- CNY Chrysler Owners Group
- Dave Scharoun
- Hafner's Restaurant & Tavern
- Horwood C. and Alene S. Jones Charitable Foundation
- Liverpool Village Animal Hospital
- Maple Road Boyz
- National Tractor Trailer School
- Nice N Easy
- Pope's Grove Golf Course
- St. Augustine's Church
- St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Church
- Syracuse Shelby Mustang Club



by Bethann Kistner

The Drop-A-Thon was a great success, regardless of some rainy weather. Nearly 300 donated items were sold at the silent auction, and our “Buy Now” feature was once again a hit! Hundreds attended, many student volunteers joined in, and several animals were adopted – so it truly was a fantastic day. Thanks to our loyal supporters for donating, purchasing, and adopting!

From the HumaneCNY staff — **THANK YOU** to the many wonderful volunteers who've transported our cats to and from their spay and neuter procedures. In just the past few months, these volunteers have helped nearly 100 cats! We just want everyone to know how very much your efforts are appreciated!

We would also like to thank Liverpool Village Animal Hospital, Lyncourt Animal Hospital, Upstate Veterinary Clinic, Auburn Perfect Place, Weedsport Animal Hospital, and the Dewitt Veterinary Medical Center for their wonderful support and care in helping us with these spays and neuters.

**Leave a Legacy of Love in Your Will or Living Trust...**

by making a planned gift to *The Humane Association of CNY.*



**Looking for Doggie Day Care right in Liverpool?**

Have a small dog 40lbs and under?

The HumaneCNY may be perfect for you and your dog(s)

Our goal is to open a day care facility in 2014

To discuss and get on the list, call Christine 457-8762



**HumaneCNY 2014 Rescue Calendar**



Enjoy every month of 2014 with photos of wonderful pets rescued by friends of HumaneCNY.

Available for \$10 at the shelter or \$12.50 mailed to your home. To receive a calendar by mail, please call 457-8762.

**2014 HumaneCNY Events Calendar**

**Biggest Bake Sale Ever**

April 12, Fayetteville Towne Centre

**Drop-A-Thon, Silent Auction, and Open House**

September 20, Shelter House