

# Capital Pet

newsletter of the Mohawk & Hudson River HUMANE SOCIETY



Winter 2009

3 Oakland Avenue Menands, NY 12204 www.mohawkhumane.org (518) 434-8128

## 5TH ANNUAL ART SAVES ANIMALS ANOTHER RECORD-BREAKER!

The fifth annual Art Saves Animals art auction to benefit the Mohawk & Hudson River Humane Society was a grand success. Animal and art lovers from around the region gathered at the Albany Institute of History & Art in Albany on October 8th to raise funds for the Society. Thanks to the support of Honorary Chairs Guha Bala and Karthik Bala (founders of Vicarious Visions), our Honorary Committee members, our sponsors, contributing artists and attendees, this year's event broke our record for attendance and money raised. Over 200 people attended the event, with over \$32,000 raised for the animals.

Our heartfelt thanks to artists Ken Bailey, Marc Tetro, Brian Fox, Linda Hiatt Waldschmidt and the Asian Elephant Art & Conservation Project for their support of our live art auction. And, a special thank you to our dedicated event planning committee, volunteers and staff for their help in making the evening so memorable for all.



### Thank You to our Sponsors!



DaVinci



Picasso



Monet

The Bonadio Group  
Kelleher & Associates  
Martin, Harding & Mazzotti, LLP  
TD Bank

Matisse

Morgan Stanley Smith Barney - Niles & Carl Group  
Morgan Stanley Smith Barney - Michael D. Treffeletti  
Seagroatt Riccardi  
Svengali Studios Spa Virgo



## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Barbara Harms, President

Eveline Ward-Sells, Vice President

Lisa Witkowski, Secretary

Libby Post, Treasurer

Denise Ringer, Director at Large

Timothy Hart

John Kenney

Joyce Weiler

## HONORARY BOARD MEMBER

Jeffrey Bulger

## MANAGEMENT

Brad Shear, Executive Director

Tina S. Murray, Director of Operations

Dr. Michael Nastro, Medical Director

Nancy Larabee, Director of Marketing  
and Development

Jeff Connor, Business Manager

Nancy Haynes, Animal Welfare Manager

James Bedford, Shelter Manager

Jennifer Haraburda, Volunteer Manager

## LOCATION

3 Oakland Avenue  
Menands, NY 12204

## HOURS

Monday-Friday 10am-6pm

Saturday 10am-5pm

Sunday 1-4pm

## WEB SITE

[www.mohawkhumane.org](http://www.mohawkhumane.org)

## TELEPHONE NUMBERS

518.434.8128

518.434.0217 (fax)

# FROM THE DIRECTOR



**Executive Director  
Brad Shear and  
Bastian, his cat**

I hear one of the best things that you can do to protect the environment is to make good personal choices like changing from an incandescent light bulb to a compact fluorescent. Maybe buying a more efficient car is better; that's not really my area of expertise. What I can tell you is that your choice of where you acquire your next pet can make a difference in the fight to shut down puppy mills.

Puppy mills have been getting a lot of press lately, but you may not have gotten a complete picture of what happens there. These are really factories set up for producing puppies. There are no quality control systems and minimal standards for animal care – and enforcement of those standards is lax, at best.

So, what happens in puppy mills? Dogs live in cages 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. The cages are small and often do not allow dogs to exercise. It would be like leaving your dog in an airline crate all the time. The cages often have wire bottoms so that the people running the facilities have an easier time cleaning. Any female in heat will be bred to any male of the same breed (at least usually the same breed). The puppies are born in those same cages and will usually have little or no human contact until they are old enough to be taken away from mom and sent to a pet store. The adult females will continue living in those kennels year after year until their useful breeding life comes to an end.

How do they get to the pet store? Last summer a truck driver was arrested in Massachusetts for transporting five-week-old puppies from Missouri under inhumane conditions. The man worked for a company that specializes in transporting puppies from puppy mills to pet stores. The puppies were in the back of a box truck for four days without air conditioning. According to officials, many of the puppies were sick, and in need of urgent care. There was no food or water available to them. What makes this story even worse? According to the company's owner, the USDA, the agency that regulates the transport of animals, had recently approved the truck for transport.

Then there's the puppy mill in Texas that was found to have 500 puppies and dogs in unsanitary conditions just weeks after the state failed to pass a bill that would have regulated puppy mills. I've seen the dogs that come from places like this. They often just continue to spin in a circle because that's all they've been able to do throughout their lives due to their confinement. They have serious and long untreated health issues, have been bred repeatedly, and often have had little or no human contact.

In New York, the state does not regulate wholesale breeders. The State depends on the USDA to regulate these operations, but as we know, the USDA will allow puppies to be driven across the country in a sealed box truck with no ventilation. We are currently working to improve New York's laws regarding large scale breeders, but it is doubtful that these operations will be eliminated as long as there is a demand for their 'product'.

What are we to do?

Recently one man had a truly original idea. He discovered that Horizon Dairy was getting milk from a farm that was also operating a puppy mill. He contacted Whole Foods, one of Horizon's biggest customers, and told them they were supporting the inhumane treatment of dogs and puppies. Whole Foods is now informing all their suppliers they will not purchase food from any farm that is also a USDA registered dog breeder. They will have to make a choice: grow food or puppies. I, for one, hope they choose food. What about your grocery store? Do they buy produce from farms that also breed puppies? Maybe it's time we ask.

You can find out where those businesses are on the USDA website: [http://www.aphis.usda.gov/animal\\_welfare/efoia/index.shtml](http://www.aphis.usda.gov/animal_welfare/efoia/index.shtml). When you look at the list, remember that every business on it is selling animals "wholesale" to pet stores, dealers or

**(continued on next page)**

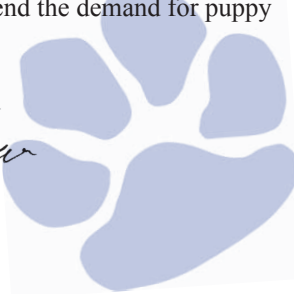
## FROM THE DIRECTOR

(continued from previous page)

brokers across the country. If they sell directly to the public, which has become easier with the Internet, they may not be regulated at all.

More importantly, it's time to change the kind of light bulb we are using. If you're looking for a new pet, look first at shelters and breed rescues; they have many of the pets you are probably looking for. Don't continue to support an industry that treats animals the same way they would treat an ear of corn. Refuse to get a puppy from a pet store. By the estimate of one national humane group, at least 90% of pets in pet stores come from puppy mills. It is up to all of us to make this change and end the demand for puppy mill dogs.

*Brad Spear*



## PET CONNECTION HAS RETURNED

After a long absence, Pet Connection has returned to WTEN news. Steve Caporizzo will be introducing the Capital Region to new adoptable pets every Monday and Thursday. The Mohawk and Hudson River Humane Society's adoptable pets are on the fourth Thursday of every month.

In addition, Steve is holding adoption events around the region and was at the Humane Society on September 17th, for our special cat adoption day. Pet Connection paid for all 40 cats that were adopted that day. We look forward to many more successful adoptions because of Steve and the Pet Connection.



## SHE'S A WONDER



Our shelter takes in dogs and cats that have been abandoned all the time. When this cat came in everyone was worried because of the severe infection affecting her eyes. She was clearly blind, but even as a longer-haired cat, she was well groomed. Incredibly, even without her sight she was incredibly outgoing. Every time someone entered the room, she was up at the front of her kennel purring and rubbing to show how pretty she is. The staff looked at her, saw the condition of her eyes and was concerned that it would be especially difficult to find this loving cat a home simply because of her appearance.

Our Medical Director examined her and determined the condition was due to severely underdeveloped eyes from birth, but she continued to produce tears causing constant moisture and subsequent infection. Given this cat already was able to do well for her whole 18 months of life, removing the source of infection would make her comfortable and a very happy pet for a nice quiet home.

Our veterinary team performed surgery to resolve her issue and was very pleased with the results. This cat would need some special attention for the next few weeks and veterinary assistant Terry Perrier took the cat home to recover. Terry had fostered many animals in the past with a variety of conditions, but was a little apprehensive about treating a blind cat in a delicate position with her eyelids sewn shut and wearing a lampshade collar. But Terry jumped right in and named the cat 'Wonder'.

Terry made sure everything would be kept in the same place so as not to confuse Wonder. When Wonder came down with a bad cold and wouldn't eat, Terry administered fluids and additional medications at home and hand-fed her warmed baby food. It wasn't long before Terry got her on the right track. Wonder was soon healthy, fully recovered and ready to find a permanent home.

Lack of vision hasn't held Wonder back. She has an uncanny ability to catch toys and find her way around the house. She chirps back when you talk to her, and when she is groomed, she will sit there without any eyes, gazing up and gently touch you on the cheek with her paw.

Wonder quickly found a new home where she can live, love and play – even though she can't see.

## UNUSUAL VISITORS

The Humane Society is primarily called upon to care for cats, dogs, and frequently rabbits. It is not so common that we get a call for two stray pigs. When neighbors in Rensselaer saw two pot bellied pigs wandering the streets of their city, they called town officials, but no one came to help the two lost animals. One neighbor who had started feeding the pair called the Humane Society for help. By that time, the pigs had been roaming for at least 3 weeks. Pot bellied pigs aren't easy to catch, but not surprisingly they can be lured with food.

With patience and persistence, the Society's Humane Officers lured the pigs into humane traps and brought them to the safety of the Society's animal shelter. The pair, named Otis and Milo, were sent to a rescue in Rensselaer County where they soon found new, forever homes.



# MOHAWK & HUDSON RIVER HUMANE SOCIETY TRIBUTES

Tributes listed here were received 7/16/09 - 11/2/09. More recent tributes will appear in future editions.

## IN MEMORY OF...

- Angel Anne**  
Florence Abrams
- Aoshi**  
Vilija Markunas
- Arthur**  
Kathleen DiFabio
- Babe**  
Marie Corrin
- Debbie Bailey**  
Anonymous
- Florence "Becky" Baird**  
Donald & Shirley Beckett  
Jocelyn Keene  
Cynthia Kirby
- Kya Nicole Barkowski**  
Anonymous  
Susan Barkowski-Clark  
Karen Brink-Noonan  
Laci Chiboucas  
John DelGrosso  
Donna Lee Heald  
Amy Knapik  
Martin & Laura Livingston  
Dorothy Richmire  
Janet Skinkle  
Jo Ann Stefanik
- Beau**  
Robert & Jerilynn Teliska
- Robert Beckham**  
Joy Centofanti
- Willis Bedell, Jr.**  
Reed & Elizabeth Parvis
- Leona Bentley**  
Dawn Bentley-Wilson
- Joseph Biittig**  
Betty Jean Schnurr
- Nancy Bogin**  
Charlotte Braverman  
Martha Campbell  
Dianne Fiacco  
Mark & Frances Goldberg  
Dianna Goodwin & Michael  
Cohen  
Sally & Don Green  
Leslie Kane  
Norma & Murray Kane  
Legal Aid Society of  
Northeastern New York  
Bob & Colleen Lewis  
Jennifer & Dan Lewis-Horlitz  
Howard & Henrietta Lubow  
Prisoners' Legal Services of  
NY - Ithaca & Buffalo  
Offices  
Cathy Schaeztle  
Janice Turso  
Hannah & Herbert Winer  
Mary Withington
- Myron Boice**  
Nancy & Bill Becker  
Patricia Colitsas
- Boomen & Ashley**  
Patricia McSparron
- Brody**  
Margaret & Richard Law
- Marilyn Buckley**  
Albany County Division for  
Children with Special Needs  
Brunswick Harley-Davidson  
Tracey Buyce  
Mary Emerson  
FMS PE Staff  
Allison & Matt Kirchner  
Rod Michael
- Marilyn Buckley (continued)**  
Ruth Munro  
Jean Quattrocchi  
Alan & Joan Rasmussen
- Bunky**  
Deb Willson
- Buster, Brandy & Cleo**  
Harriette Bandremer
- Joseph Callander, Sr**  
Lisa & Scott Brennan  
Mary Dufresne & Family  
Edward Hopeck  
Mr. & Mrs. R. Kettering  
Kathleen Ostapeck
- Frances Cameron**  
Ann Marie Riley
- Barbara Campbell**  
Marilyn & Ronald Denison  
Robert Matthews  
Cynthia & Thomas  
McLaughlin  
Florine Rogers
- Capone**  
Lisa Gruber
- Jean Carvill**  
Gertrude Adair
- Hope Catricala**  
Ellen Sage
- Cheyenne**  
Fred Palma
- Tristan Coblisch**  
Meryl Norek
- Coffee**  
Dianne Ammerman
- Dorothy Ann Corman**  
Susanne Duffey  
Polly Minehan
- Arthur Crucetti**  
Jessica DiFabio
- Sue Curtis**  
Barbara McNamee
- Amy Damiano-Ray**  
Mary Walczyk
- Pixie Danker**  
Barbara Hollis  
Susanne Sample-Brown
- Wallace Dashiell**  
Cynthia Dashiell
- Evelyn DeGroot**  
Mary Barber  
John & Rachel Hackert  
NYS Dept. of Taxation &  
Finance - Friends of Amber  
Alexander  
Senior Services of Albany/  
Meals on Wheels  
Jayne Weber
- Dorothy DiLeva**  
Judith DiLeva
- Michael Todd Dittrich**  
Naomi Burgess  
John Connor  
Debbie Dittrich  
Mary Hoffman  
Rosemary Marsolais  
Carl Peggs  
Ben & Judy Sheerer
- Dixy Cup & Montana**  
Sydney Bond
- Frances Dowling**  
Lynn McGuire
- Marilyn "Mickie" Dufresne**  
Sara & Ken Beckley  
Barbara & Michael  
Colavecchio  
Co-workers of Barbara Casey
- Marilyn "Mickie" Dufresne (continued)**  
Frear Park Golf Course Staff  
Dale & Renee French  
Friends at OSC  
Christine Jansing  
Judith Madison  
Pleasantdale Rod & Gun Club  
Mary Ridzi  
Jennifer Rollins  
St. Peter's Hospital - Dept. of  
Medical Imaging  
St. Peter's Hospital  
Radiologists  
Time Warner Cable Friends  
Jennifer & Matthew Tripp
- Frieda Dworkin**  
Carol DeCandia
- Peter Farrell**  
R. Frederick Chase  
Christine Weber
- Victor Foegtli**  
Patricia Schlegel  
Ferdinand Vybiral
- Alice Fontaine**  
Mary Savage
- Jim Fortune**  
Anonymous
- Harold Foster**  
Betty Blanchet  
Helen & Craig Bryce  
Don & Beverly Cullett  
Robert Eckert  
William Edmiston  
Bill & Charlotte Foster  
Hudson Valley Community  
College  
HVCC Faculty Student  
Association  
Marie Toohey
- Pagliacci Friedman**  
Constance Buch
- Regis Gagnon**  
Joan & Dale Beach  
Sharon DiVietro  
Marlene Hoffman  
Leon Kaiser  
Mary Libby  
Carole Mushaw  
James O'Donnell  
John & Donna Olsen  
Rose-Anne Pinette  
Cathy Place  
Sandra Rhoades  
Frances Sample
- Katie Gauger**  
Audrey Yingling
- Douglas Getz**  
Randall & Debra Craft
- Elodie Mailloux Gokey**  
Mrs. Richard Obuchowski &  
Family
- Chris Gordon**  
Katharine Gordon
- Grace**  
Jennifer Peltier
- Gracie**  
Kathleen Betjemann & Laura  
Leschik
- Jeanette Green**  
Joan Adams
- Carolyn Grimm**  
Bonded Concrete Inc.  
Robert & Diane Freer  
Mr. & Mrs. Rom Romano
- Guinness**  
Bernadette Pedlow
- Priscilla Gullo**  
JoAnn Gullo
- Harriette Hamilton**  
Shirley Beach
- Harry Hansen, Sr**  
Analog Devices  
Herbert & Frances Bonin  
Jacquelyn Carney  
Laura Neary  
Frances Tombino
- Evelyn Hart**  
Anna Mae Behuniak  
Danish Sisterhood Haabets  
Fremtid Lodge 78  
Janice Erdman & George  
Paskin  
Anna Leung  
Charlotte Potenski
- Charles Herman**  
Beverly Herman
- Heroes of 9/11 - Human and**
- Furry Friends**  
Elizabeth Smith
- Alfonzo Hicks**  
Robert Ehlinger
- Sparky Hoffman**  
Gretchen LaFleur
- Jackson**  
Al & Ellen Sagendorph
- Jacob**  
Katrina Wiggans
- Joan James**  
Samaritan Hospital 6th Floor
- Kenneth Jarrett, Jr.**  
Gabrielle & Bill (Jiggs)  
Englander  
Sue & Harold Van Buren
- Theresa Jewett**  
Maureen DelSignore
- Alberta Johnson**  
Robert Daubney
- Kara**  
Robert & Diane Freer
- Alexander Kasparian**  
Karin Kasparian
- James Kavanagh & Max**  
Donna Kavanagh
- Georgia Kelley**  
Howard & Patricia Bach  
Balzer Hodge Tuck  
Architecture PLLC  
Mary Bissett  
Daniel & Linda Bushey  
Paul Caruso  
Darling Family  
Phyllis H. Morgan  
Helen Noonan  
Joseph Peck  
Dorothy Phelps  
Plattsburgh High School  
Faculty & Staff
- Elizabeth Kellogg**  
Roy & Leslie Anderson  
Estudio LLC
- Rose Koreman**  
Friends of Brenda Eipp -  
Higher Education
- Eugene Kosarovich**  
Helen Niemietz  
Denise Zieske
- Jocelyn Kost**  
Peggy & Rick Sherwin
- Tai-Boy Krokenberger**  
Jean Krokenberger
- Kurt, Baron, Muggs, Shimmy, Sherri, Suzy, Duke, Duchess & Ricky**  
Karen Donlon
- Jeanne Lawrence**  
Karen Caola
- Leah**  
Robert & Diane Freer
- Joan Lechlitter-Diveris**  
Jennifer Capandonis  
Susan Chew  
Community Services  
Co-workers  
Irene Diveris  
Deborah Grasso  
Mike Herrick & Family  
Jane Kietzman  
Beverly Mackey  
Tyler & Phyllis Shafer  
Bruce & JoAnn Welch  
Dina & David Yates
- Penelope Loizides**  
Maria Loizides
- Louise**  
Matthew & Patricia Caruso
- Margaret Magilton**  
Suzanne Putnam
- Sophie Makovich**  
Michael & Phyllis Ricci
- Marley**  
Bob & Debbie Galvagni
- Martha Sue**  
Bert & Pat Smith
- Edward Mash**  
Sara Korzen
- Terry Ann Mason**  
Robin Barbour  
Damn Good Foods, Inc.  
Raymond & Kathleen Kotary  
Sandra Loya  
Mary Smothers  
Carol & Salvador Vecchione
- Murphy McCarthy**  
Anne Betters
- McDuff**  
Gail Taddeo
- Ricky McGorman**  
Colleen Gorman & Sharron  
McOmber
- Wesley McManus, Jr.**  
Express Scripts
- Gertrude Merrill**  
Andrea Merrill
- Nancy Miorin**  
Andy, Tracee & Braden  
Ceresia  
George & Penny Ceresia
- Missy**  
Mabel Monagle
- Missy**  
Christie Bober
- Mocha & Rocky**  
Jennifer Ford  
Jean Quattrocchi
- Molson**  
Gloria Romano & David  
Marshall
- Nellie Moon**  
Becky Steiner
- Philip Morgan**  
Phyllis H. Morgan
- Nicky**  
Judy Scanlon
- Nipper**  
Patricia Wilson

# MOHAWK & HUDSON RIVER HUMANE SOCIETY TRIBUTES

Tributes listed here were received 7/16/09 – 11/2/09. More recent tributes will appear in future editions.

**Frank O'Brien**  
 Claire Arakaki  
 CNY Management Corp.  
 Gallovic, Granito & Co.  
 Rosanne Gonyeau  
 Glenn & Inge Luchen  
 Eleanor Mayo

**Eileen Palmer**  
 Kathleen Plog

**Louis Parisi**  
 Norbert Stegemann

**William Parker, Sr**  
 Ruthie & Jim Berkery  
 Enid & Charles Geyer  
 James & Kathleen Helferich  
 Mary & Dick Messina  
 Northland Newfoundland Club  
 Kathleen Stellato

**Frank Pascalides**  
 Patricia Cummings

**Penelope**  
 Jill Rifkin

**Michael Perkinson**  
 Rita Bedell  
 Christie Bober  
 Mary Boshea  
 Bernice Clayton  
 Thomas & Jeanne Cotrofeld  
 Alice Hackett  
 Jim & Sandy Hayes  
 I.A.M. 447/United Parcel  
 Service/Albany Automotive  
 Mary Kalica & Marilyn Davis  
 Teresa Kelley  
 Ruth Pelton  
 State of New York Division  
 of Criminal Justice Services  
 Employees  
 Mary Ardis Young

**Dustin Place**  
 Henry Bailey  
 Sally Bailey  
 Lynn Borges  
 William Claydon  
 Susan Connolly  
 Frank, Cathy & James  
 Graziano  
 Peter & Elaine Grimm  
 Theresa Johns  
 Lori Kelton  
 David, Diane, Nicole, Kayla  
 & Samantha Mackey  
 Sheila & Joe Mihalik  
 Dan Murphy  
 Cheri Newton  
 Ernest & Pamela Place  
 Nancy Place  
 Mr. & Mrs. Rom Romano  
 Mariann & Dean Wagoner  
 Gloria & Dennis Walker  
 Beverly Warner  
 Mark & Catherine  
 Wyszomirski

**Miles Pociulik**  
 Robert & Pamela Pociulik

**Pogo**  
 Paul Yolles

**Harry Pratt**  
 George & Edwina Malinoski

**Raymond Quinn**  
 HVCC Physical Plant

**Raja**  
 Ann Brewster

**Ratso Katso**  
 Marie Stasiak

**Mary Jayne Richardson**  
 Lynda Beazley  
 Mr. & Mrs. Bob Bolduc  
 Mary Burdick  
 James & Chantal Carpenter  
 Mr. & Mrs. John Carpenter  
 Louise Eddy  
 Marguerite & William Eddy  
 Stella Muzicka  
 Mr. & Mrs. Rom Romano  
 John Weaver

**Rosaline Richman**  
 Ann DeSantis  
 Marvin & Kathleen Gertzberg

**Rozlyn Richman**  
 Amy & Russ D'Amico  
 Jill & Mark Ridler

**John (Jack) Riley**  
 Kim & Jim Chaldekas  
 John & Barbara Lather

**Connie Rizzo**  
 D. Marlowe-Koshgarian

**Rob Roy**  
 Aurelia Hope

**Ann Mary Roberts**  
 Andrew Freihofer  
 Guilderland Animal Hospital  
 Doctors and Staff  
 Marcello Tile Co.  
 Donald & Joan Moore  
 Bud & Audrey Oren  
 Marilyn & Sam Ostroff  
 Linda Roth  
 W. Otis & Margaret Signer  
 Elaine & Walter Spoor  
 Andrea Spungen

**Rocky**  
 Prakruti Patel

**Bonnie Romano**  
 Mike & Beth Sontz

**Romano/Marshall Pets**  
 Karen Wajda

**Catherine Romanski**  
 James Romanski

**Linda Ross**  
 Anne Church  
 Thomas Meyer & Maura  
 McPeak  
 Paul Niedbalec  
 Donald & Regina Parker  
 Donna Parker  
 Eleanor Ryan  
 Sharon Tomeo

**Mark Rothenberg**  
 Taube Rothenberg

**Molly Russell**  
 Patricia Kundel

**Joseph Ryan**  
 Michelle Bridge

**Beth Ryerson**  
 Frances Schmitt

**Bella Salinetti**  
 Elizabeth Conway

**Robert Sauer**  
 May & Frank Allard  
 Barbara Farrell  
 Susan Farrell-Melick  
 Jeffrey Matthews  
 Jean O'Donnell  
 Judy & Lou Polsinello

**Sawyer**  
 Laura Sommers

**Michael Scanlon**  
 Gytelle Bloom & Arthur Gold  
 Nancy Calhoun  
 Nancy Henderson  
 Taube Rothenberg

**Marianna Schaefer**  
 NYS Attorney General's  
 Office Co-workers

**Sharon Schaeffer & Caroline Grimm**  
 Lynne Kaiser

**Arthur Scully**  
 Virginia Barber  
 NYS Dept. of Health AIDS  
 Institute

**Lucinda Shepard**  
 Bill & Sue Wytrwal

**Zeke Sheppard**  
 Mary Anderson

**Sitka & Klondike**  
 Anonymous

**James Smith (Colantonio)**  
 Professional Staff Association  
 of New York State United  
 Teachers

**Florence Spath**  
 Denise Connelly  
 William & Elizabeth Nathan

**Sue & Tony**  
 Anonymous

**Charles Talbot**  
 Bob & Judy Arsenaull  
 Dorothy Kennedy  
 David Putnam & Edward  
 Malachowski  
 Josephine Sifo  
 Nicholas & Dorothy  
 Sorrentino

**Charles & Ann Talbot**  
 Robin & Barbara Carlson

**Rose Thomas**  
 Dona DaCosta Gomez  
 Constance Hester

**Thor**  
 Ginny Ryan

**Dennis Tillman**  
 David & Wanda Finlayson  
 Douglas Franke & Norman  
 Louis  
 Sandra Fratianni  
 Paula & Bill Hemmings  
 Dr. Michael Kane & Staff  
 Margaret Magdon  
 Libby Mahoney  
 Barb & Steve Ohm  
 Elaine Phelan  
 Policy Research Associates  
 Pamela Robbins  
 Sage Colleges Dept. of  
 Mathematics - Deb  
 Lawrence, Tina Mancuso &  
 Tom Sweeney  
 Kathy Sanderson & James  
 Stewart  
 Singer Family  
 Holly Zaglaniczny

**Alfredo Tirado**  
 Lori Hallenbeck

**Tommy**  
 Janice Erdman

**Nela Tubbs**  
 Kay George

**Jeff VanDeCar**  
 Janet Bartlett

**Edward Vohnoutka, Sr.**  
 June Partridge

**Bruce Votra**  
 Laurie Golding

**Gaynor Weekes**  
 Geraldine & Emilios  
 Kyriakides

**Darien Wolfman**  
 Theresa Demers  
 Sarina Nagi  
 Karl & Diane Petersen  
 Starbucks Friends

**Donn Wright**  
 Jeffrey Beale  
 Angela Vangel

**John Thomas Wright**  
 Robert Bodratti & Family  
 Susan Hughes  
 Barbara Rogers  
 Earl & Catherine Tretheway

**Yori**  
 Linda & Carl Gottstein

**Rose Zaccardo**  
 Richard Zaccardo

**William J. Kinner**  
 Margaret Radliff

**Chloe Lamb**  
 Casey Manning  
 Rebecca McDonald

**Lizzie**  
 Deidre Pryor

**Gene & Linda Loparco**  
 Mary Bryan

**Lynne Menendez**  
 Anne Trimble

**Mooshka Dahoyea**  
 Jerry Moseley

**Téa Mottolese**  
 Barbara Boyle  
 Ellen DePan  
 Patricia Secor  
 Susan Weaver

**Robin Nagengast**  
 Andrea Durkin

**Donald Newell**  
 Bob & Carol Harrington  
 Jean Miller

**Beverly Olander**  
 Mary Walczyk

**Jonathan Peace**  
 Ruth Varley

**Dr. Gattu Rao**  
 Beverly Herman

**Nancy Relyea**  
 June Bender

**Samson**  
 Gordon & Beverly Emerick

## IN HONOR OF...

**Annabelle**  
 Richard Miller

**Teddy Archer**  
 Maxine Wight

**Arthur**  
 David Bruce

**Linda Bendzin**  
 Deborah Henderson  
 Robin Hull-Pease  
 Barbara O'Brien  
 Lorayne Traina

**Katie Britton**  
 Kitty Lozoff

**Ralph Caldwell**  
 Scott Schuster

**Hilary Clauss & George Eutzty**  
 Anonymous

**Patricia Cumiskey**  
 Paula Lattanzio

**Richard & Geraldine Dingman**  
 Nancy Machold

**Ruth Drescher**  
 Mary Walczyk

**Bob Englert & Mike Losinger**  
 Linda & Carl Gottstein

**Filisia & Ramdath**  
 Tracy Jibeau

**Dr. Janet Gargiulo**  
 NYOH Nurses

**Joan Giglia**  
 Charles Giglia

**Judy Goetke**  
 Jerry & Pat Bohley

**Heather Grimmett**  
 Anne Trimble

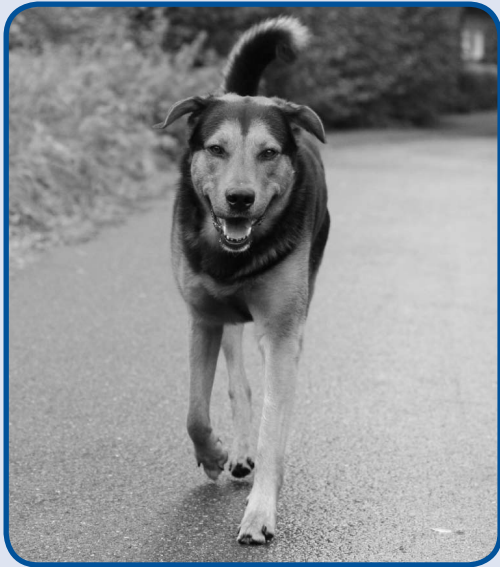
**Abby Hanna**  
 Theresa DeMaria  
 Jason & Brenda Eipp  
 Dr. Tana Fagan  
 Eden Gervasio  
 Dr. Lisa Thorn

**Kiki, Suzi & Stoli**  
 Geroux-Nowak Wedding  
 Guests



# TRAINER'S CORNER

## Does your dog always come when called?



*Chris Danker, CPDT, has over four decades of showing and handling her own dogs as well as dogs for clients. Participating in many venues, Chris has handled dogs to multiple National and Regional Specialty wins, and over 70 titles in obedience, agility and conformation. She is active in pet therapy with her own dogs. Chris is a Canine Good Citizen (CGC) and Therapy Dog International (TDI) evaluator.*

*Chris is now teaching classes and workshops at the Humane Society. Check our website [www.mohawkhumane.org](http://www.mohawkhumane.org) for the latest dates and times.*

### The 2010 Cutest Pets Photo Contest Calendar is here!



Get yours today! Visit  
[www.mohawkhumane.org](http://www.mohawkhumane.org)  
or call (518) 434-8128 ext. 204.

Does she sometimes act like she never heard you call? Does she move away from you when called? Would she rather play with her toys or sniff the ground? Sometimes the environment is more enticing, more reinforcing than we are. Sometimes our dogs have never really learned what the word "come" means. Remember, dogs do not come to us knowing the English language. Saying "come" a second or third time, or in a louder tone, is just teaching our dogs that they don't have to respond the first time. Here are some dos and don'ts for teaching your dog to come:

**DO** use positive humane ways to train her. No need to use a choker collar and jerk on her lead. This will only teach her to fear you. She may obey you a few times, but if something is more interesting the next time, she will be off and running away from you. Instead, build a solid foundation of teaching her what the word "come" means.

**DO** build a trusting relationship with your dog. You are in possession of all good things that your dog wants; use that to your advantage while training. There is no need to be alpha or dominant, that old fashioned way of training is no longer seen as the best way to communicate with our dogs. In fact, the American Veterinary Society of Animal Behavior has taken a position against the use of dominance in training.

**DON'T** call your dog to you and then reprimand her for something she did while you were away from home, for taking too long to come to you, or for chasing a squirrel. Next time you call, she will take even longer to come back, if she comes back at all. She is not being dominant over you, she is being a dog. Why would she come to you to be yelled at? Running, chasing and rolling are more fun than coming to you. All animals will do what is rewarding to them. They do not understand our cues until we teach them what they mean.

**DO** prevent her from running off by keeping her on lead and allowing her to run in fenced areas only. Beg, borrow, or pay a friend or neighbor to use their fenced yard. Dogs who have a good relationship with their owners and who have the opportunity to run free are less apt to bolt should they inadvertently get out.

By Christine Danker, CPDT  
(518) 439-2992  
Hemlock Hollow LLC  
[www.hemlockhollowdogtraining.com](http://www.hemlockhollowdogtraining.com)

**DO** teach your dog to respond to her name. Teach her the name game. The goal is for your dog to hear her name and look at you for further instructions. You can begin today, the next time you feed your dog. Remember being in possession of all the good things your dog wants? Your dog has to eat, so incorporate training times during meal times.

1) Begin in a quiet, non-distracting environment.

2) Take 10 pieces of her dry food, say her name, and immediately give her a treat. She does not have to be looking at you or be doing anything in particular. You are just associating her name with something she wants: her food. After a few repetitions she will begin to anticipate another piece of food. This is what you want. Not only are you building a trusting relationship with your dog, you have made a nice association with her name. Next, move to a different room in the house and repeat.

3) Think of it as putting deposits in your "come when called" bank account. Every time your dog hears her name and you do something pleasant to her, e.g. she gets a treat, you are putting in a deposit.

Just this beginning foundation skill may save your dog's life should she be heading toward the road while a car is coming and she looks back at you when she hears her name.

The next foundation skill is to add the cue "come" which is covered in the 6 week Reliable Recall class held at the shelter.

**DO** use very special treats when you move to more distracting areas. If you have to compete with the neighbor's birds at the feeder, move a distance away, use higher value treats, and help your dog be successful.

**DO** be consistent and patient with your dog. Consistency and patience are the keys to successful dog training. Above all, remember that dog training should be a fun time with your dog.

**DO** feel free to come and observe this class on teaching owners to teach their dogs to come when called. Either check the Society's website for the next class or call for more information.

# REBA

Dear Friends at the MHRHS:

In 1993, I came to your shelter “just to look” at the dogs you had available for adoption. I was rather young, just 20 years old, and I wasn’t sure I was prepared to own my own dog yet, though I desperately wanted to.

I brought some friends with me who quickly occupied themselves with the puppies. I went to the main dog room to see the adult dogs in their runs. I wasn’t planning on taking anything home that day, but there was this dirty black older pup desperately trying to get my attention while all the other dogs raised a ruckus with their barking. She was maybe six months old and she was just a plain black lab mix with no flashy markings or behaviors. There were probably 3 or 4 just like her in some of the other runs, but something about this one really appealed to me. I spent some time talking to her through the chain link of her kennel and she was focused so intently on me – the other dogs or people walking through didn’t distract her. Though I kept saying I wasn’t going to bring anything home that day, I took that dog out of that kennel to go for a walk. She never went back to that kennel again because I adopted her that day.

I named her Reba. And for the next 15½ years she was my girl. Together we hiked in the Adirondacks, the Green Mountains and the Catskills. We swam in icy cold mountain lakes, camped, took road trips, played in the parks, visited new places we’d never been. When I moved to Baltimore 6½ years ago, she finally got to see the ocean, taste salt water and air, and visit very sandy beaches.

I lost Reba on October 8, 2008. After 16 years of living, her mind was still sound but her body was failing her. She has had elbow dysplasia and arthritis in her back and hips, and one morning she tried to get up but she just couldn’t do it. I took the day off from work, bought her a huge meaty bone to chew, laid her in the sun in the yard to eat it, and made her last appointment with the vet for that evening. Letting that dog go, who was such a huge part of who I am, was the most difficult thing I’ve ever done. I still miss her terribly, as do the other two dogs in my home, whom she schooled in the house rules!

Some good friends of mine, who knew how much she meant to me, collected some money in Reba’s name so I could donate it to the charity of my choice. It’s taken me a while to find it in myself to write this letter, but I knew pretty much from the get-go that I wanted to send it to the MHRHS - a modest donation for the nearly 16 years I got to spend with the best dog I have ever known.

Please accept this donation in Reba’s name, and also my thanks for the work you do. I know animal sheltering is not easy, but hopefully it gives you some sense of fulfillment to hear about an animal you helped way back when, who lived a long, happy life because you gave her a chance.

I’ve included a photo so you can see what Reba looked like. This photo was taken last year – I guess it was the last time she got to play in the snow.

Sincerely,

Reba’s mom, Erin



## SABIC VOLUNTEERS Assembling new kennels



April 17, 2010

SAVE THE DATE

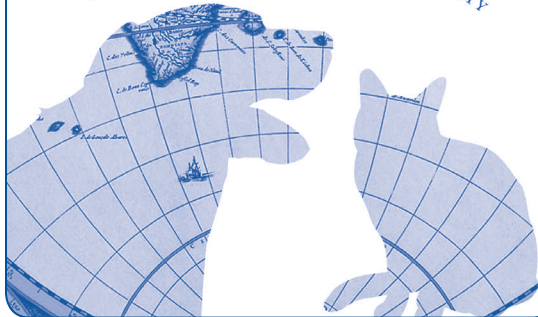
\*

*Around the World for Eighty Strays*

GALA

to benefit the

MOHAWK & HUDSON RIVER HUMANE SOCIETY



## RATS VS. CATS



The Rats take on the Tigers to benefit the dogs and cats at MHRHS. Ticket price includes the game and a pre-game Italian dinner buffet.

*Albany River Rats vs.  
Bridgeport Sound Tigers*  
**Friday, January 22, 2010**  
Dinner 6pm, Game 7pm  
Times Union Center

Tickets \$23.00  
Available at MHRHS or online  
at [www.mohawkhumane.org](http://www.mohawkhumane.org)



Professional In-Home Pet Sitting

Your Pets Stay in the  
comfort & Safety of Home.

**518-783-2273**

Mid-Day Walks Available

# PURRCILLA'S STORY

Hi. I'm Purrcilla. I arrived at the Mohawk and Hudson River Humane Society on October 9th, 2009. I was in pretty poor shape. My left foot was wounded, terribly swollen and infected. The wound was cleaned and I was given antibiotics and slowly, the swelling started going down.

Soon, I was entrusted to one of our volunteer foster homes. My new foster mom noticed that my stomach was upset and I was not eating much. In fact, I was doing nothing but purring. Most two-month old kittens are extremely active, but I wasn't interested in playing at all. My foster mom held me most of that evening while I purred constantly. She made an appointment for me with the medical staff for the following morning. My medications were changed and I returned "home". I continued to feel sick and showed no interest in food or playing. I returned to the medical staff the next morning. Things looked pretty grim and I was placed in intensive care for a couple of days. Medications changed, dietary supplements and fluids were administered, force feeding was attempted, but I was making no progress.

Unfortunately, I had a poor prognosis, but the medical staff wouldn't give up on me and asked my foster mom if she would like to take me home for the weekend and continue with my treatment to see if I would improve in a home environment.

It wasn't an easy road. My immune system was weak and I needed to be treated for a variety of parasites and also came down with a bad cold. I needed antibiotics in addition to my other treatments.

The Animal Welfare Manager trained my foster mom to give me fluids and when my foster parent picked me up, one of the medical staff reached into her pocket and pulled out a can of tuna. She suggested that my foster mom try giving me the tuna.

That tuna smelled pretty good to me and I thought I'd have a little taste. That was the beginning of my big turnaround!

My foster mom created a warm, draft-free, enclosed area for me in the warmest room of her old home. Toys were placed around me to stimulate my



interest and I had a cozy bed warmed by a heating disc. Over the next several hours, I was offered little bites of tuna. I was always provided with the option of kitten kibble too. I began to explore the kibble a little. Before long, I was beginning to use my litter box. And I was looking forward to that tuna! I continued to have fluids at home and began to perk up.

After just a couple of days, I was transferred, during the day time, to the area of the house generally used for foster animals. My foster mom couldn't resist providing me with a cozy kitten cave to keep me warm and with a great variety of toys to stimulate my interest. The play was, initially, co-active. I guess I had to learn to play again. I soon began to play all the time. Oh, and by now the tuna was phased out and poached chicken, with its broth, was presented in its place. Soon the chicken was given only in the mornings and I was eating kitten kibble for the remainder of the day.

Finally, I gained weight! During my illness I lost about a quarter of my body weight. Soon I was a whopping three pounds. You should see me! I love to play with my toys. Of course I still prefer to have someone play with me, but I'm quite capable of playing raucously by myself. And, yes, I still love to be held and acknowledge my pleasure with generous purrs. I'll let you know, though, when cuddle time is over and it's time to get back to those kitty games!!!

If you were to see me today, you would see a perfectly happy, healthy three-month-old kitten. Soon I'll be on the adoption floor anxiously looking forward to meeting the people who will provide me with my forever home.