



MCFA Newsletter

Third Quarter, 2014



Friends and Volunteers of MCFA, on behalf of the Board of Directors, welcome to the third edition of our quarterly report to you as to the activities and results of our Work during this quarter.

*Ed Roeber,
President*

Shelter Results for the first nine months of 2014:

*For the first nine months of 2014, the shelter took in 2,635 animals compared to 3,383 last year; a 22% drop. Overall, we rescued 1,570 animals in 2014 compared to 1,412 in 2013. This resulted in a 60% saved rate this year compared to 42%, in 2013. Our animals euthanized **dropped 49%** from last year due to a decreased in intakes and increased number of rescue animals. Great efforts and work from all the shelter staff and volunteers who participate in the shelter and rescue operations as well as fosters who open up their homes to care for dogs and cats on a 24/7 basis sometimes for weeks at a time contributed to this success.*

Income up and expenses in line with budget

*Our donations and thrift store income resulted in being over budget and ahead of last year due to an additional month opening in 2014 for the Thrift Store and better than expected results from our Gala in May. Meanwhile our expenses are staying in line with the budget but **up 14%** from last year for this nine month period. This is primarily due to increased costs for medical care utilization and food. The overall results are that we are slightly ahead of planned net income in 2014 coming from the Gala and Thrift store excluding the restricted donations for the purchase of the van.*



Shelter Management change

Mayor Yates has appointed Liz Sneed as the Shelter Manager effective October 1st replacing Tom McCosh who is being reassigned to another position within the County. Most of you know Liz if you have been around the Shelter on occasion. She has been associated with the County in a part time position as Office and Shelter Assistant since



April, 2013. However she has been a MCFA volunteer for a number of years focusing on rescue coordination as well as fostering animals herself. I have known Liz for the past two years and know that she is dedicated to shelter and rescue operations along with the ability to work with our MCFA volunteers in a partnership. Also we want to thank Tom McCosh for stepping in last year on a moment's notice to assume the interim Shelter Manager's role and eventually be appointed to the position.

Acquirement of a van



In September, we received a donation from several Friends to purchase a van to help us in our daily operations. We were able to acquire a 2014 used van with low mileage and in very good condition. This van will be used for our Rolling Rescue runs as well as transferring animals to other transports and rescue shelters for future adoptions. We believed that this van was necessary to help us in this aspect of our mission as our short run deliveries to other transports and rescue shelters have become more frequent. We express our thanks to these donors for recognizing this specific need as well to all of our other donors who give generously to our programs.

PetSmart Rescue Waggin Program



The Monroe County Animal Shelter (MCAS), supported by MCFA, is one of the newest animal shelters to participate in PetSmart Charities® Rescue Waggin'® program. The Rescue Waggin'® program is a national program that transports adoptable dogs and puppies from shelters in communities with significant pet populations to animal shelters where there is more adoption space and more opportunities for new homes. More than 70 animal shelters participate in the Rescue Waggin'® program nationwide. MCAS began preparing for acceptance into the Rescue Waggin'® program several months ago as all animal shelters in the Rescue Waggin'® program must go through a vigorous screening and training process before being accepted into the program. Our first run was in September where we transferred 16 dogs to the program. Over the course of the next year we anticipate going from one run a month to a weekly schedule. As a participant in the program, MCAS also will be eligible for grants, free training programs, and mentoring to improve shelter facilities and operations. Many thanks to Liz Sneed and Cathy Barrett and their team who developed and coordinated this effort to join the program.

Thrift Store

It is our regret that Cindy Klann has decided to retire from leading the Thrift Store effort for the past three Years. Cindy and Diane Brown were the volunteers who initiated the idea of operating the store to help raise funds for our mission including the development of a new shelter. The store has become critical as an income generating program to allow us to be successful in our animal rescue mission. Cindy should also be recognized for her efforts to help start MCFA ten years ago as well as her work at the shelter and other fund raising efforts that she led or contributed to in the early years of MCFA prior to the Thrift Store.

Her most recent recommendation was to acquire additional space in the same building as the store is located for inventory preparation and storage. We are pleased to report that the Board has approved the additional space and is expected to obtain that space on November 1st.

Recruiting Volunteers



On September 24th, Sue Woodrup and Noreene Koan organized a booth to recruit volunteers at the Tellico Village Volunteer night (picture above). Over the years we have seen our active volunteers drop off which also is occurring nationwide. At the September Board meeting, Carol Gramarossa reported on an assessment developed by Deb Moore discussing volunteer's opportunities, recruitment, retention and other topics that affect our ability to recruit and retain volunteers satisfied with their role in the organization. Below is her list of various opportunities within MCFA that she identified. Many of which do not require hands on involvement with direct care with animals; but play a supportive role in contributing to the organization's efforts to save animals.

Shelter support:

- Shelter Greeter
- Shelter Cleaning
- Grounds Maintenance
- Shelter clerical
- Socialize dogs/cats
- Rub a cat belly
- Grooming
- Reunite animals with owners
- Kennel maintenance
- Laundry

Animal Care:

- Dog walking
- Cat room
- Animal Transportation
- Dog bathing
- Food Preparation
- Foster animals
- Dog Training (experienced)

MCFA Operations & rescue

- Bookkeeping
- MCFA administrative support
- Dog safer testing and video
- Rescue shelter search
- Fund Raising
- Thrift Store support
- Publication Design
- Website Development
- Digital photography
- Adoptathon support

External MCFA needs:

- Public speaking on behalf of shelter/rescue
- Jr. MCFA program in public schools
- Maintain donation jars/brochures in community
- Write news articles/PR coordination

Other opportunities:

- Identify items that a business can donate, seek their support
- Adoption counseling
- Help connect potential adopters to our adoptable animals
- Match potential adopter's requests with animals entering shelter
- Girl/Boy Scout? Collect needed items for the shelter.
- volunteer your group for a shelter project.

Possibly some of you might be interested in volunteering in some of these areas that you haven't considered before. If so, contact the shelter, Deb Moore or myself at eroeber@charter.net.



Our thanks to Deb for this good work on developing opportunities for recruitment and retention for Volunteers. While we may have thought about some of these suggestions at one time or another, this is the first time to my knowledge that we have developed an internal assessment on the subject specifically for MCFA. She had to put a lot of time and thought into this.

Road Block Fundraising

Each year Tina and Paul Werner lead a team of volunteers to raise money for MCFA through roadblocks on a Saturday. They are done four times a year in Tellico Plains, Vonore, Sweetwater and Madisonville. Their effort to coordinate this event helps immensely in raising nearly \$5,000 each year to support our mission to save animals. The last one this year is scheduled for November 8th. Your help is needed either as a volunteer at the roadblock or just passing through by giving a donation towards the program and saying thank you for their efforts.

Future Events in fourth Quarter, 2014

- *Madisonville Roadblock, November 8th*
- *Petsmart National Adoptathon, November 14th to 16th*
- *Board of Director's meeting, November 19th*
- *Volunteer Christmas Party, December 4th*



Monroe County Friends of Animals
Dedicated to finding loving homes for our dogs and cats
MCFA
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