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SOS Animal Rescue Newsletter • Volume 16, Issue 4 • November 15, 2016

Elections

Elections for vice president, treasurer, and one director will be held at the January meeting at 6:00 p.m. in a Grace A. Dow Library conference room. Dues must be paid in order to be a member in good standing and eligible to vote. All members shall be entitled to cast one vote if they have been a member of the organization for three months.



Annual Portrait Fund-Raiser

Save the date for the Morley Portraiture SOS Animal Rescue sixth annual fund-raiser on Sunday, January 15 from 12:00 noon to 6:00 p.m. and Monday, January 16 from 1:00 to 7:00 p.m. For details, visit www.morleyportrait.com, www.sosanimalrescue.org, or the SOS Facebook page.

SOS EVENTS

Adopt-athon

PetSmart Saginaw

Saturdays • 12:00 – 4:00 p.m.

Sundays • 12:00 – 3:00 p.m.
through Christmas

Soldan's Giving Tree

November 23 – December 23

Neuter Palooza

November 17

Board Meeting & Elections

Grace A. Dow Library
Thursday, January 19
6:00 p.m.

Morley Portraiture Event

Sunday, January 15
12:00 noon – 6:00 p.m.
Monday, January 16
1:00 – 7:00 p.m.

Rummage Sale

Early May

*Check the website for other
updates to the schedule.*



***The Pooches at the Pool
dog swim was fun for all!***



Featured Breed: Bombay

SIZE: Medium,

Males weighing 8 to 11 pounds,
females weighing 6 to 9 pounds

COAT: Short

SHEDS: Yes

COLOR: Black

VOCALIZATION: Talkative

TEMPERAMENT: Affectionate,
friendly

A people-oriented breed, the Bombay enthusiastically greets visitors. This easygoing feline is sweet, affectionate and curious. The Bombay enjoys playing fetch, going for leash walks and inventing entertainment. This breed is known for its beautiful gold to copper eyes and short, flat, gleaming coat that accentuates a solid, muscular body. A devoted companion, the Bombay gets along well with children and other pets.

Did you know? The Bombay was developed by breeder Nikki Horner of Louisville, Kentucky. Through a long process of careful selection, she consistently produced a hybrid black cat that combines the easygoing temperament of the American Shorthair and the social, inquisitive, lap-loving character of the Burmese.

Reprinted from www.purina.com.



Acts of Kindness for Pet Lovers & Animal Enthusiasts

- This one is simple and pretty much any member of the family can get involved. If you have an elderly or sick neighbor, why not offer to walk their dog?
- Animal shelters are always in need of supplies, so consider taking pet food or supplies over to the nearest animal shelter.
- Keep up to date on current bills in either the House or Senate having to do with animal rights and animal welfare. For information, go to www.paws.org/take-action.
- Walk or run a 5K that benefits a pet or wildlife charitable organization. Go to www.active.com to look for an event in your area.
- Text "BIGCATS" to 50555 to give \$10 in support of animal protection through National Geographic's Big Cats Initiative.
- Foster a pet that is up for adoption. For more information, go to www.sosanimalrescue.org.
- You can also foster a military pet for a service man or woman while they are serving overseas. For more information, go to www.americanhumane.org.
- Learn how to report animal cruelty. In some states, the police department investigates animal cruelty while in others it is run by a local animal control or municipal agency. If you aren't sure where to report such incidents, you can read about reporting animal cruelty [here](#).



Reprinted from www.eatsleepbe.com.



Thank you to everyone who donated shoes to our fund-raising shoe drive. We collected 2,350 pairs of shoes.

Special thanks go to truck driver Rafael (pictured) and the volunteers who collected, hauled, wrapped, and bagged the shoes.



YOUR DONATIONS HELP THESE ANIMALS RECEIVE MEDICAL CARE

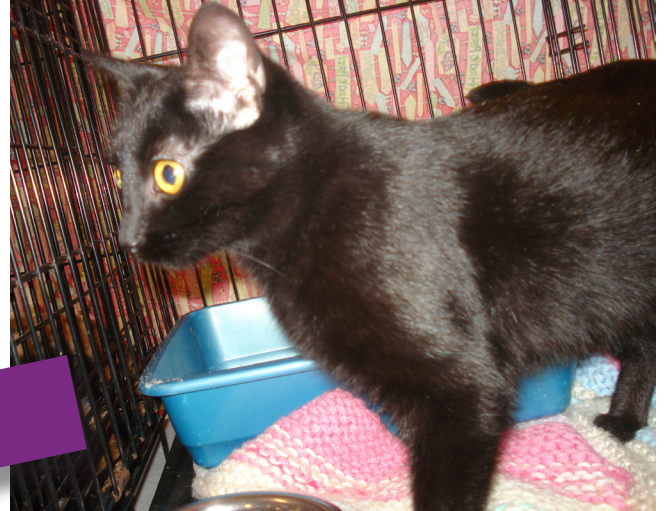
Bottle Babies – Lost mom and needed feedings every two hours from foster mom.

Primrose – She and her sister were dropped off in an open box in the rain on my sister-in-law's work doorstep a couple of weeks ago. They were super skinny and cold and had fleas.

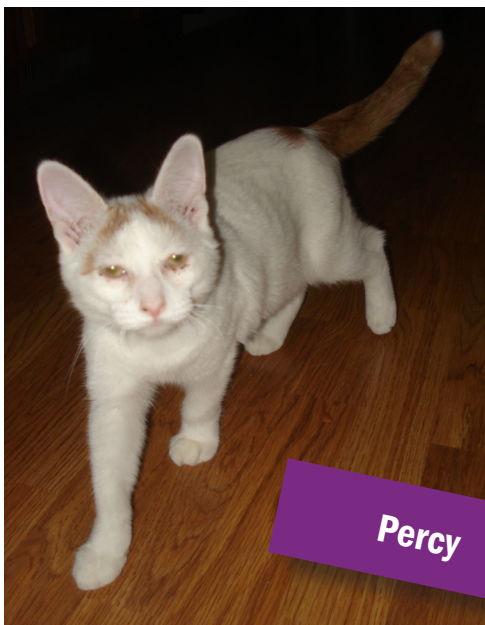
Percy – Fleas and upper respiratory illness.

Pax – Coccidia.

Mischa – Upper respiratory and quite feral needing lots of socializing.



Mischa



Percy



Bottle Babies



Pax - Adopted!



Primrose - Adopted!

THANK YOU!

Remembering Liz Shook

It is with great sadness that we mourn the loss of one of our wonderful, loyal, and faithful volunteers, Elizabeth “Liz” Shook. Liz was an advocate for all the animals, helping to deliver pet food to families in need, helping with adoptions, handling our phones, and helping to return lost pets to their homes. She will forever be in our heart and our thoughts as a true friend to all. A fitting tribute to her is written in “The Rescuers Final Reward” by Benny Archuleta. Liz, may you take many animals across the bridge with you.

“The Rescuers Final Reward” by Benny Archuleta

Unlike most days at the Rainbow Bridge, this day dawned cold and gray. All the recent arrivals at the Bridge did not know what to think, as they had never seen such a day. But the animals who had been waiting longer for their beloved people to accompany them across the Bridge knew what was happening, and they began to gather at the pathway leading to the Bridge.

Soon an elderly dog came into view, head hung low and tail dragging. He approached slowly, and though he showed no sign of injury or illness, he was in great emotional pain. Unlike the animals gathered along the pathway, he had not been restored to youth and vigor upon arriving at the Bridge. He felt out of place, and wanted only to cross over and find happiness.

But as he approached the Bridge, his way was barred by an angel, who apologized and explained that the tired and broken-spirited old dog could not cross over. Only those animals accompanied by their people were allowed to cross the Bridge. Having nobody, and with nowhere else to turn, the dog trudged into the field in front of the Bridge. There he found others like himself, elderly or infirm, sad and discouraged. Unlike the other animals waiting to cross the Bridge, these animals were not running or playing. They simply were lying in the grass, staring forlornly at the pathway across the Rainbow Bridge. The old dog took his place among them, watching the pathway and waiting, yet not knowing for what he was waiting.

One of the newer dogs at the Bridge asked a cat who had been there longer to explain what was happening. The cat replied, “Those poor animals were abandoned, turned away, or left at rescue places, but never found a home on earth. They all passed on with only the love of a rescuer to comfort them. Because they had no people to love them, they have nobody to escort them across the Rainbow Bridge.”

The dog asked the cat, “So what will happen to those animals?” Before the cat could answer, the clouds began to part and the cold turned to bright sunshine. The cat replied, “Watch, and you will see.”

In the distance was a single person, and as he approached the Bridge the old, infirm and sad animals in the field were bathed in a golden light. They were at once made young and healthy, and stood to see what their fate would be. The animals who had previously gathered at the pathway bowed their heads as the person approached. At each bowed head, the person offered a scratch or hug. One by one, the now youthful and healthy animals from the field fell into line behind the person. Together, they walked across the Rainbow Bridge to a future of happiness and unquestioned love.

The dog asked the cat, “What just happened?”

The cat responded, “That was a rescuer. The animals gathered along the pathway bowing in respect were those who had found their forever homes because of rescuers. They will cross over when their people arrive at the Bridge. The arrival here of a rescuer is a great and solemn event, and as a tribute they are permitted to perform one final act of rescue. They are allowed to escort all those poor animals they couldn’t place on earth across the Rainbow Bridge.”

The dog thought for a moment, then said, “I like rescuers.” The cat smiled and replied, “So does heaven, my friend. So does heaven

The author grants permission for re-publication without restriction; Benny Archuleta.



THANK YOU!

Barbara Anderson in Memory
of Bentlee Brady, beloved cat of

Sharon Brady

Gayle Blues

Lily Cheng

Keith and Chris Erskine

Monica Essenmacher

Janice Hawrelak

Toni Haynes

Richard Heiny

Tiffany Higgins

Sherry Hodges

Barb Hurley

Elizabeth Marshall in memory of G.

Ann Smith's husband

Madelaine Sasse

Judith Scheuffele

Sally Young in memory of Moosie,

Beloved dog of Mr. and Mrs. Mark

Dean

Sharon Brady in memory of Bentlee

Michael and Joy Marchione

Marlene Juhasz

Memorials by Rena Marx:

John and Katherine Aylsworth's
mother

Agnes Beaufore's Husband

Duane and Kim Dietrich's daughter

Benjamin and Ashley Harber's dad

George and Patricia Klemkowski's

Libby

The Jankoviak Family's father

Susanne Amaral's aunt

Memorials for Liz Shook

Arthur & Mary Jackowski

Robert Katt

Heather Kettelhohn

Mike & Sharon Mikols

Kay McEntee

Peggy Westphal

Mark Siebert

Bernard Shook Family

Rhonda Chritz,

Mary Jacobs

Christina Erskine

Joann Taylor

Isabella Jansen

Tracy Cellini

***We would like to thank and acknowledge
these fine businesses for their support in saving animals.***

Platinum Sponsors

Larkin Food Center

M-20 Animal Hospital

Morley Portraiture

Northern Animal Clinic

Park Place Homes

PetSmart

Precious Cat

River Rock Animal Hospital

Surrey Vet Clinic

VetMed of Midland

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Jack's Fruit Market

Jet's Pizza

Midland Animal Clinic

Midland Soccer Club

Nature's Gift Organic Market

Poochie's Pit Stop

Quilts for Cages

Ross Medical Education Center

Runners

Sanford Food Center

Shay Water

Shelley's Bed and Biscuit

Shirlene's Cuisine

Thai Basel Bistro

Tyler Snyder - Ayre Rhinehart

WalMart

Wall and Webb

Wysong

Zach's Dog Groomery

Thank You for Displaying SOS Donation Canisters!

Amazing Deli • Auto Technicians • B-Xtreme Cycle & Sport

Countryside Vet Clinic • Eastman Animal Clinic

Elvira's • The Gourmet Cupcake Shoppe • HQ Bicycle

Larkin Food Store • M-20 Animal Hospital

Northern Animal Clinic • Poseyville Party Store • Soldan's

Surrey Vet Clinic • Wall & Webb • Westtown Grocery

Membership Renewal Cards

Membership renewals cards should have arrived in your mailbox. Your membership helps save animals by providing food and vet care to animals in need.



Soldan's Giving Tree

In November 23 through and December 23, Soldan's lets SOS Animal Rescue set up a Giving Tree in their store. The Giving Tree is similar to Midland's Sharing Tree; however, the focus is on dogs and cats in need. Please choose a card from the tree and help an animal in need.

Spay/Neuter Statistics

If each spay/neuter surgery prevents two litters of unwanted puppies or kittens from being born the program has saved over 23,000 from a life of hunger, cruelty and disease. Thank you for making a difference in the lives of so many.

Spay/Neuter	thru 2015	2016	Total
female cats	1072	125	1197
male cats	800	144	944
female dogs	486	40	526
male dogs	358	29	387
total	2716	338	3054



Bentlee (2004-2016)

Bentlee was featured in our January 2006 newsletter as a very sick six-month-old kitten weighing 1.6 pounds. In addition she had a bent neck that caused her to walk in circles. It is hard to imagine how she survived in the wild. Dedicated volunteer Mary Watts nursed Bentlee for five months to get her ready for a new home, but who would want her? Bentlee was still a fragile cat with a bent neck.

A previous adopter with a super big heart, Sharon Brady looked past Bentlee's challenges and welcomed her into the family. As Sharon told of us Bentlee's recent passing, she outlined the journey they made together. Bentlee was eventually diagnosed with a ruptured disc in her spine which led to total paralysis twice. Bentlee also experienced other health issues yet was able to enjoy life and provide Sharon with love, affection, as well as antics with yarn balls, chipmunks, and doorbells.



We are forever grateful to Sharon who provided a home for Bentlee and all the other adopters who have taken in sick, injured, and challenged pets.

Rest in peace, Bentlee. You will be missed very much.

How to Keep Kitty out of the Christmas Tree

Christmas is here and your cat's eyes are sure to light up if you bring home a Christmas tree strung with sparkly new toys – oops, sorry Christmas decorations. Kitties cannot always differentiate between dangly things that they are allowed to play with and dangly things that are strictly for decorative purposes. And who can blame them? Felines are notoriously curious animals.

And yet, no-one wants to spend hours arranging the Christmas tree decorations only to have your cat leap onto it and knock everything over. More seriously, tinsel and fake snow can be very harmful to cats if ingested. So what do you do? Here are some handy hints on the topic of how to keep kitty out of the Christmas tree.

Cat-Proof Your Tree with Tinfoil

Not many people know this, but most cats simply hate the feeling of tinfoil on their paws and claws. So one smart thing that you can do to keep kitty out of that tree is to wrap the trunk with tinfoil. If you get some festive silver, green, or red tinfoil you can create an aesthetically pleasing effect whilst simultaneously keeping your tree free of those adventurous cats.

Pay Attention to the Base of Your Tree

A sturdy base which is hard to tip over is a must when you are placing a Christmas tree in a house shared by both humans and felines. If you place your tree in a high, smooth bucket, your cats will probably not consider it worth the effort to attempt to climb up it. Adding a so-called “tree skirt” to tuck all electrical wires out of sight (if you are decorating your tree with colored lights) is also a good idea as electrical wires and prying paws are never a good mix.

Experiment with Cat-Repelling Sprays

Here's the good news: many of the scents which cats can't stand actually smell deliciously festive to humans. Citrus is one example; if you spray your tree (whether real or artificial) with a mist of citrus spray, your cat will not want to get too close to it. You can purchase sprays like this from pet and grocery stores or you can make your own with a little lemon or orange essential oil mixed with water. Another good product to investigate is known as bitter apple. It doesn't really register to the human nose, but cats hate it.

If you don't want to spray products directly onto the tree, another thing you can do is to get some fabric impregnated with citrus or bitter apple odor and use it to wrap the trunk. Like the tinfoil suggested above, this both looks attractive and festive and has a practical cat-proofing purpose.



Place Decorations out of Reach

You can have all the sparkly decorations that you want near the top of the tree. Zillions of little wooden stars hanging just within reach of your cat's paws are simply asking for trouble! As we all know, cats cannot resist the temptation to bat, bite and yank anything that looks fun and is within reach.

Mount It on the Ceiling

Or you could go all out and mount it on the ceiling.

Most importantly, have a safe and Merry Christmas!

By Kristian Taylor. Reprinted from www.sopurrfect.com.

NEEDING HOMES

Meet Sarina, Bigby, and Larry. They are all available with waived adoption fees to the right home.

Bigby

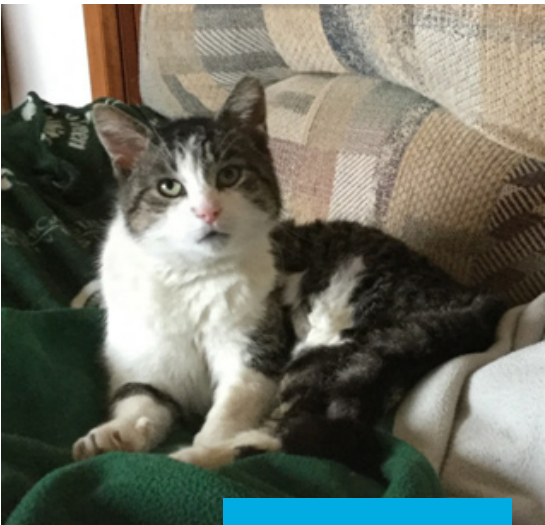
Bigby is a male, gray and white tiger cat. We estimate him to be about five years old. Bigby was living outside and has had a rough life. He is FIV+, which means he needs a home without other cats but is expected to live a long life. He is a lover boy who needed a little fattening up. Because he was outside for so long, he does like his people food. He can hear the refrigerator door opening from the farthest reaches of the house. Bigby loves to purr and snuggle with you. He is fixed, up to date on rabies and distemper vaccines, fecal tested negative, and on Revolution for flea prevention.

Sarina

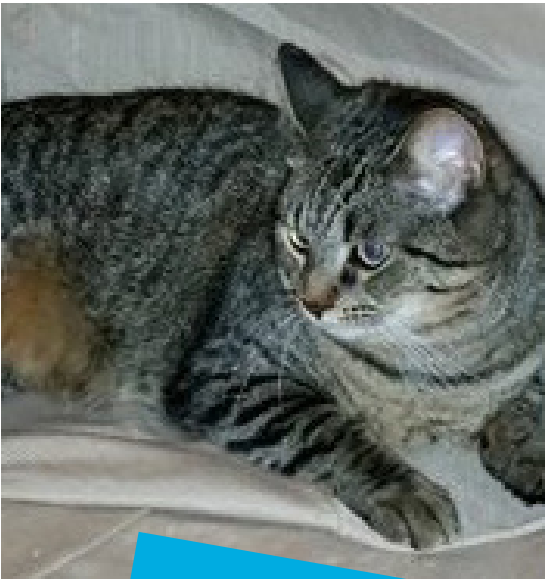
Sarina is a female, gray tabby who needs a quieter home. She is a sweet lady who wants to hang with you on her own terms.

Larry

Larry is a male, gray and white, front paw-declawed cat. He came to us when his owner wanted to euthanize him for not using the litter box. All Larry needed was to have his urinary tract infection treated and be in a kind home. Larry is a shy cat and it will take him a while to adjust to a new home. He would do best in a quieter environment and once he gets comfortable he will do fine. Larry also seems to be a guy cat. He likes his foster dad and will sit with him on the couch. He is fixed, up to date on rabies and distemper vaccines, FIV tested negative, fecal tested negative, and on Revolution for flea prevention.



Bigby



Sarina



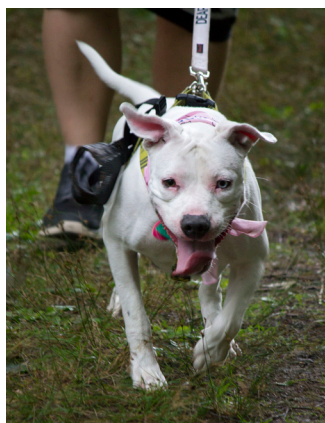
Larry

Pet Food Assistance Program

Families helped
Dogs
Cats
Other animals
Pounds dog food delivered
Pounds cat food delivered
Flea products

2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
50	40	77	138	90	76	87
	56	121	180	104	100	88
	149	159	210	174	159	174
	11	2	6	1	0	0
		2458	6386	3603	3904	1886
		1627	2824	1866	1599	3218
				16	60	0

THANK YOU TO EVERYONE WHO ATTENDED THE DIRTY DOG TRAIL RUN



one happy dog



Ina Lerner

Diane Selby



Sydney made treats to raise money for the animals. Race photos courtesy of Brandee Thomas.



RACE

10K run no dog
10K run no dog
10K run with dog
10K run with dog
5k Run no dog
5k Run no dog
5k Run no dog
5K Run with dog
5K Run with dog
5K Run with dog
5K walk no dog
5k Walk with dog
5k Walk with dog
5k Walk with dog

DIVISION

female
male
female
male
female
male
male 13 & under
female
Female 13 & under
male
female
male
female
Female 13 & under
male

1ST

Jill Gushow
Ryan Sauvage
Lisha Ramsdell
Michael Thomas
Meagan Baranek
Noah Gushow-Reuter
Noah Wittbrodt
Santana Kozuch
Isabella Durham
Kent Wischmeyer
Kerry Pastein
Carson Winter
Renee Goss
Makenzie Nearman
Jeff Steveson

2ND

Becky Lincoln
Richard Kies
Abby Mott
Devin Millions
Sara Christensen
Eric Kozuch
Seth Kent
Laura Crower
Heidi Nagel
Robert Haller
Audra Johnson
Steve Ahler
Ivon Celeste
Mark Ivon

3RD

Sherry Sasse
Greg Dardas
Erica Hogetvedt
Hans Karsten
Madison Wittbrodt
Dave Sies
Michelle Klassen
David Sharp
Amanda Johnson
John Nosal
Adrienne Mcinally
Nik Skripnik

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Prizes: Amazing Deli, Biggby Coffee, Circle Quality Shoes, Cork 'N' Ale, Edible Arrangements, Family Fare, Garber Chevrolet, Howl A Day, Jack's Fruit Market, Jet's Pizza, Nature's Gift Organic Market, Poochie's Pit Stop, River Rock Animal Hospital, Runners, Shirlene's Cuisine, Soldan's Pet Supplies, Basil Thai Bistro, The Gourmet Cupcake Shoppe, Wysong

Race treats and water: Bob Evans, Meijer, Shay Water, Walmart

Race Communications: Midland Amateur Radio Club

Moving Sign Ads: Garber Chevrolet, Midland Soccer Club, Shirlene's Cuisine

(l-r) Eric Kozuch,
Jeff Rogers,
Santana Kozuch



Many Thanks to Those who Donated Extra for the Animals

Lizabeth Bauer in honor of Midland County Humane Society

Michele Carlson

Laura Crower

Jamie Ewald in honor of Happy Tails Dog Rescue

Kristyn Frost

Mark J Ivon

Amanda Johnson

Santana Kozuch

Rae Ann LaFrance

Katie Laundra in honor of Calamity Jane Laundra

Elizabeth Leiner in honor of Misty Leiner

Jill A Linderman

Stephanie Nearman

John, Julia, and J.R. Nosal

Northern Animal Clinic

Dustin Rozek

Janet Swidorski

Troy Tambling

Cynthia Thomas

Kristen Wischmeyer in honor of Mackenzie Tremper

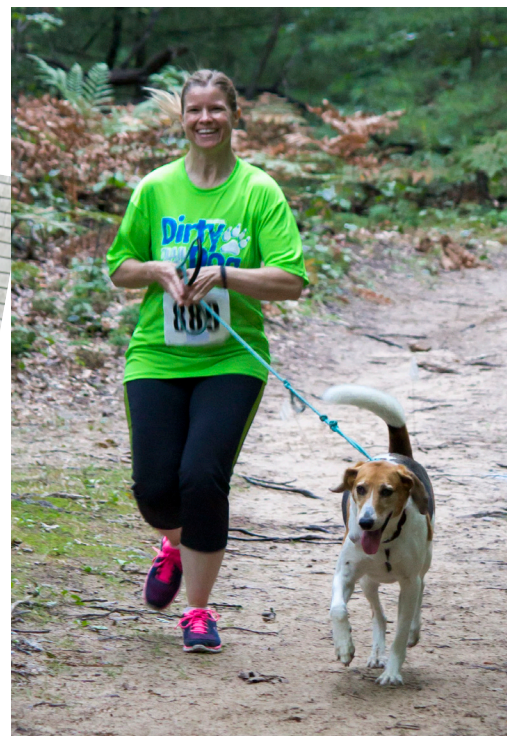
Sarah Yonder

Winner – Robin Greiner
from Shelterhouse and
winner Megan Baranek



Noah Reuter-Gushow

Stacy Klupacs



Thank You to Everyone Who Volunteered to Help at the Dog Run

Special Thanks to

Midland Amateur Radio Club for providing race communications



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www.sosanimalrescue.org

www.facebook.com/sosanimalrescue

Officers

Joann Taylor, President
Shelley Park, Vice President
Darlene Andrews, Secretary
Karla Oldenburg, Treasurer

Mission Statement

SOS Animal Rescue is a non-profit 501(c)3 organization whose mission is to reduce the number of unwanted pets in the Midland area through placement, public education, spay/neuter assistance programs, and support for the efforts of local animal welfare groups.

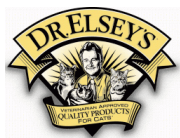
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Casey Wenzel

Newsletter Editor

Sheryl Billmeier Hnizda

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