#### LOHSPETS.ORG



#### AUGUST, 2024



Welcome to the August edition of the LOHS Paw Print! This month's issue is brimming with exciting updates and opportunities. We're thrilled to share details about our upcoming Wine, Wags, and Whiskers event on 8/9 - don't forget to secure your tickets! We also have a heartwarming rescue story from our cat program that you won't want to miss. We continue to be deeply grateful for your unwavering support and readership. We warmly invite you to visit our center and experience firsthand the incredible world of animal welfare. Who knows, your new best friend might be eagerly waiting for you!

Thank you for being a vital part of our mission to positively impact the lives of animals. Let's keep creating more happy tails and purrs together!

-Your LOHS Team

### **DIRECTORS CUT** By Diane Robinson

I read a post on social media the other day from a rescue explaining the current state of animal welfare across the country with higher numbers of surrenders, animals staying longer with the shelters and rescues, fewer transports, and fewer adoptions. The plea was to spay and neuter your pets, stop breeding, particularly of animals we see too many of already such as Pitbull type dogs, and provide training for pets already in your home. There is no single path to reducing pet overpopulation, nor is there a single reason for the problem or a single group or approach to tackling the problem. Animal welfare agencies have not always worked well together. Defining shelters/rescues as "kill" or "no kill" has created a divisiveness not only with each other but for the public who may not understand what those terms truly mean. Just like the problem, singularity will not solve the problem. At a time when there is so much division in society, animal welfare agencies are coming together to address the problem, supporting and encouraging each other. **Together we can get through this. Together we can make a difference.** 

In our community, the city, county, shelters, and rescues have started a coalition to sit down and discuss the challenges, gain perspective for what others are going through, and looking at ways we, as a united group, can have a more positive impact on people and animals, and reduce the number of animals being euthanized. For everyone who has gotten up early to feed and clean, driven animals to spay/neuter, came in at night no matter the weather, a weekend or holiday, or fulfilled a last-minute plea for help with a vacant shift, you are part of the solution. Without our volunteers, fosters, and donors no amount of effort from members within the coalition would be enough. It is hard, dirty, tiring work. It is also one of the most rewarding and fulfilling experiences. Together we can continue to have a positive impact on the animals in our community, as well as the people who love them.







### **FUREVER HOMES FOUND**

#### LOHS HAS 45 CAT ADOPTIONS AND 84 DOG ADOPTIONS YEAR TO DATE SO FAR!!

The month of July was a heartwarming period for the Lake Oconee Humane Society (LOHS), with 4 cat adoptions and 9 dog adoptions. Each adoption is a unique tale of love and empathy, with every animal, each possessing their own unique traits, finding a new place to call home. These adoptions are not just about providing shelter to animals, but also about enriching the lives of the adopters with unwavering love and companionship. Every adoption signifies a life saved, a triumph of compassion over indifference. It creates a ripple effect - each adoption makes room for another animal to be rescued, cared for, and ultimately find their own loving home. Without the generosity and commitment of our incredible adopters, our life-saving mission would not be possible. Each adopter plays a role in our mission, and for that, we are eternally grateful. Their actions truly embody the belief that every life is valuable.

This brings us to a total of 45 cat adoptions and 84 dog adoptions year to date, emphasizing the impact and importance of our work. The joy and fulfillment these adoptions bring to the animals, their adopters, and everyone involved in making a difference in that animal's life are immeasurable. It's a testament to the power of love, compassion, and second chances. Congratulations, all on every adoption and happy tail!!



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## DON'T MISS YOUR CHANCE TO JOIN THE FUN!



Celebrate Lake Oconee Humane Society's 25th Anniversary Aug 9th 6:00 PM - Oconee Brewing Company 202 N. West Street, Greensboro, GA 30642

Hosted by Tyler Franks: Enjoy Live Music by Eric Dodd & Matt VanZant, Complimentary Wine by Rescue Dog Winery, Special Edition LOHS Beer Available for Purchase by Oconee Brewing, Delicious Cuisine from The Burch , and a Silent and Live Auction.







...THE RETURN OF OUR MUCH-LOVED WINE, WAGS & WHISKERS WINE-TASTING EVENT AND ANNUAL FUNDRAISER, WHICH PROMISES TO BE GRANDER THAN EVER.

Join us for an unforgettable evening as we celebrate the 25th anniversary of the Lake Oconee Humane Society. Hosted by Tyler Franks, the evening will feature live music by Eric Dodd and Matt VanZant. Enjoy complimentary wine provided by Rescue Dog Winery and a special edition of LOHS beer, which will be available for purchase from Oconee Brewing Company. Savor delicious cuisine while participating in our silent and live auctions. Don't miss this special night of celebration, community, and support for the Lake Oconee Humane Society.

## **BOARD MEMBER HIGHLIGHT**

#### JEANNE LEHMANN 💥 🛛 Volunteer gregs:

I am the treasurer on the board. I also volunteer for puppy duty, am an early riser, am often at adoption events, and tag in wherever else I can help.

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#### How long have you been a part of LOHS?

5 years

#### How did you become involved with LOHS?

My love of animals brought me here after we moved to the area.

#### Tell us about your family.

My husband, Pete, and I have two grown boys and a new grandbaby on the way. The whole family loves animals.

#### How long have you been in the lake country?

We have lived here for six years.

#### Do you have any pets?

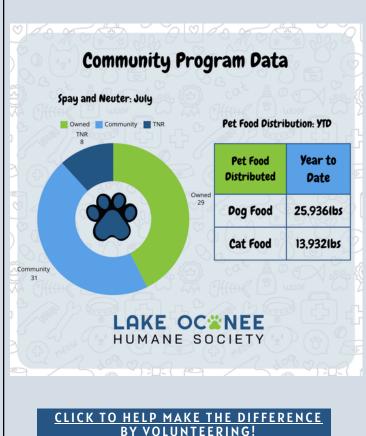
I currently have two dogs, both LOHS alumni. Max and Gertie are both coonhounds and we love them so much.

#### Anything else we should know?

We have been living in the south since 2012 and lived in Lake Country the past six years. We LOVE IT here.







#### COMMUNITY PROGRAMS NUMBERS & CALENDAR AT LOHS, WE ARE COMMITTED TO MAKING A DIFFERENCE IN THE LIVES OF PETS AND THE PEOPLE WHO LOVE THEM.

Our Community Pet Programs - Food Distribution, Spay and Neuter, TNR (Trap, Neuter, Return), and our Emergency Medical Care Program - are designed to support families and their furry friends in need and keep those animals in their loving homes. As we strive to expand these programs, our ability to reach more families and animals grows. But with growth comes the need for more helping hands. Volunteers are the backbone of our organization, and as we continue to grow, we need them now more than ever! Whether you're interested in helping distribute food, assisting with our spay and neuter program, or participating in TNR, there's a place for you at LOHS. Your time and talents can make a real difference in the lives of animals in our community. For more information about our community programs, or to join our team of dedicated volunteers, please visit our website at lohspets.org. Together, we can continue to grow and help more families and their beloved pets. Thank you for your continued support!

- August 8th: 9am-11am, Lake Oconee Lutheran Church 1089 Greensboro Road, Eatonton
- August 13th: 11am-1pm, Freedom Church, 500 Underwood Millegeville. GA 31061
- August 17th: 8am-9pm, Second Harvest, First United Methodist Church, 202 W. Broad St. Greensboro
- August 22nd: 9am-11am, Lake Oconee Lutheran Church 1089 Greensboro Road, Eatonton
- August 24th: 9am-11am, LifeSource. Putnam County Elem. 314 S. Washington Ave. Eatonton
- August 27th: 11am-1pm, Freedom Church, 500 Underwood Millegeville. GA 31061

### LAKE OCONEE HUMANE SOCIETY: WHERE EVERY WHISKER COUNTS

By Catherine Moore



In the last week of July, a remarkable event unfolded at the Lake Oconee Humane Society. Our dedicated Cat Manager, Dreama, in collaboration with our partners, orchestrated a rescue operation that saved the lives of 23 cats in just one week.

Of these 23 felines, a staggering 17 were rescued from a single partner, an open admission municipal shelter. The cats and kittens we welcomed ranged in age from as young as 3 weeks to as mature as 5 years old. Our new arrivals included mother cats with their kittens, orphaned babies, abandoned adults, and strays alike. Each one of them, regardless of their past, is highly adoptable and well worth the effort it took to accommodate them.

In order to make room for our new feline friends, we had to turn our cat rooms inside out. It was a monumental task, but one that we undertook with pride and honor. We believe that every life is precious, and we are committed to doing everything we can to provide these cats with a second chance at a happy life.

However, we cannot emphasize enough that our work is not possible without support. The importance of fostering and adopting cannot be overstated. At present, we heavily rely on our few but mighty cat fosters, almost on a rotating schedule. These individuals open their hearts and homes to our feline friends, providing them with a safe and nurturing environment until they find their forever homes. We are always looking to expand our foster list. Fostering is an incredibly rewarding experience, and we provide all the supplies you need to care for your foster baby. If you have ever considered fostering, we encourage you to reach out to us today to inquire. By fostering a cat, you are not only saving a life but also making room for us to rescue more felines in need.

Remember, every cat deserves a loving home, and every act of kindness, no matter how small, contributes to our mission. Together, we can make a difference in the lives of these beautiful creatures.







<u>FOSTER</u>

VIEW ADOPTABLE CATS

#### MEMORIALS AND HONORARIUMS 🛛 📽 📽 📽 📽 📽 📽 📽 🦉 🍟

We would like to express our deepest gratitude to Pam Rodenbeck for her generous contribution to LOHS in honor of Gordon's birthday. Your support is greatly appreciated. A special thank you to Penny Davis and Ginny Dorhheggen for their heartfelt donations in memory of Wrigley, the beloved dog of Jackie and Andy Stolars, and Louie, the cherished companion of Jeanne and Pete Lehmann. Your kindness and thoughtfulness are truly touching. We also want to acknowledge Andrea Wuori for her donation in memory of Ivy, the beloved dog of Laura Valdez. Your gesture is a beautiful tribute to Ivy's memory. We extend our thanks to Ginny Dorhheggen for her donation in memory of Lulu, the beloved dog of Beverly and Richard Sparkmon. Your generosity in Lulu's memory is deeply appreciated. We would also like to extend our heartfelt thanks to Gail and Don Schaffer and Kimberly Johnsen for their contributions in memory of Mike Lewis. Your generosity and thoughtfulness are deeply appreciated. Thank you for your support and for honoring Mike's memory in such a meaningful way

Your contributions make a significant difference and we are profoundly grateful for your support. Thank you all for your kindness and generosity.

### LOHS STAFF

Diane Robinson Dreama Thomas Lily Apollony Catherine Moore Tammy Ellis Molly Rowland Cole Rohan Executive Director Cat Manager Dog Manager Community Outreach Mgr. Office Administrator Animal Care Specialist Animal Care Specialist diane@lohspets.org dreama@lohspets.org lily@lohspets.org catherine@lohspets.org tammy@lohspets.org molly@lohspets.org

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### LOHS BOARD

Barbara Gniewek - President Chris Hock - Vice President Jeanne Lehmann - Treasurer Donna McCollum - Secretary Karyn Scott Kristina Johns Bob Hartman Heidi Hausler Kevin Aycock Howard Goldstein John Stenson



#### LAKE OCONEE HUMANE SOCIETY

# FOLLOW US ON SOCIAL MEDIA:

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<u>Lake Oconee</u> <u>Humane Society</u>



<u>@lohspets</u>



<u>@lohs.pets</u>

### **OUR MISSION**

LOHS is dedicated to creating a more humane community by reducing pet homelessness and helping pets and their owners have the best quality of life available through our programs of rescue and adoption, low-cost spay & neuter, Trap, Neuter, Return (TNR), and medical assistance.

### **OUR VISION**

A community where companion animals live in a safe and loving home and the human/animal bond is honored by respect and compassion.

### **OUR VALUES**

COMPASSION, INTEGRITY, FISCAL RESPONSIBILITY, COMPLIANCE TO LAWS, TEAMWORK.

We believe no rehabilitatable cat or dog should be abandoned or unnecessarily euthanized.

- Give a second chance to animals that would otherwise be discarded.
- Set standards for responsible pet ownership through public education.
- Help people and their pets stay together when they have difficulties that are economic, behavioral or medical.