



# HOPEFUL TIMES

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THE QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER OF EYES OF HOPE SHELTER FALL/SUMMER 2012

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## THE DOG DAYS OF SUMMER/FUN IN THE FALL

Wow! Record heat this summer. Some days it was too hot for the dogs to be out more than a few minutes at a time! They enjoyed their pools and baths to help keep them cool and invigorated. Now that fall is here, the puppies are getting out more and have more energy, sometimes too much! No matter what the weather they love visitors and making new friends. So, stop over and see us. We will give you a tour of our facility and introduce you to our dogs. Maybe you'll find one you can't resist! Here is a little story.....

### I RESCUED A HUMAN TODAY

by Janine Allen

I rescued a human today. Her eyes met mine as she walked down the corridor peering apprehensively into the kennels. I felt her need instantly and knew I had to help her. I wagged my tail, not too exuberantly, so she shouldn't be afraid. As she stopped at my kennel I blocked her view from a little accident I had in the back of my cage. As she read my kennel card I hoped that she wouldn't feel sad about my past. I only have the future to look forward to and want to make a difference in someone's life. She got down on her knees and made little kissy sounds at me. I shoved my shoulder and side of my head up against the bars to comfort her. Gentle fingertips caressed my neck; she was desperate for companionship. A tear fell down her cheek and I raised by paw to assure her that all would be well. Soon my kennel door opened and her smile was so bright that I instantly jumped into her arms. I would promise to keep her safe. I would promise to always be by her side. I would promise to do everything I could to see that radiant smile and sparkle in her eyes. I was so fortunate that she came down my corridor. So many more are out there who haven't walked the corridors. So many more to be saved. At least I could save one. I rescued a human today.

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For the spring and fall quarters from April 1st thru September 30th there were 51 adoptions....441 from inception thru September 30. Isn't that great!

## CAN'T ADOPT? BE A SPONSOR

For \$25 you can sponsor a dog for its entire stay. This means you will be registered as the sponsor on the web site, on Petfinder and on its kennel door. The fee will help provide for care and medical needs.

## SUCCESS STORY



### Timmy with his pal George

Thank you so much for the photo you sent me of Timmy when he was a rough and tough street dog. Thought you would like to see his most recent photo, taken today, with his best friend George. Blessings to you, Kris. I wish I could adopt every dog you have there, because I think dogs are one of God's greatest gifts to us. I appreciate so dearly your facilitating our acquisition of sweet little Timmy. Thanks. :)

Tanya

Note: Timmy is the little white Bichon who Kris had named "Matt" due to the condition he was in when he arrived at the shelter. Look at him now!

## INSPIRATION

by Kris Steffens, President

It was a beautiful morning. There was a hawk calling in the sky, a coyote walking up the edge of the field, occasionally pouncing in the long grass, and there were deer at the top of the field enjoying a quiet breakfast. The first thought that occurred to me was that with a start to the day like this, it had to be a sign of a perfect day ahead for Eyes of Hope. It turned out to be the best part of the day and Sylvester's last.

People often ask me why I do what I do. What is my inspiration? It must be so fulfilling to see happy puppies going home with their new loving families, or dogs getting a second chance at love. They are right - those are the happy days, but they are the easy days.

While the easy, happy days are wonderful, they are not what inspires me. My inspiration is the needful dogs. Sylvester's Story is inspiration.

Sylvester was a little white and gray husky mix, about 9 years old. He came to us ill and starving. While Sylvester's owner had a small well-taken-care-of house dog, Sylvester's life was spent in an outside kennel with little to no food, unclean water and no vet care for his auto-immune disease and cancerous tumor. Sylvester was the forgotten one.

When Sylvester came to Eyes of Hope, I spoke to him while my tears fell, and I told him that he came to us to learn that he was someone and he was loved. When Sylvester got here I thought that he was deaf and blind. He stood motionless in his cage facing the wall. For the next two weeks, after we got him much-needed vet care, he ate meals that gradually got bigger as we accustomed his thin body to regular healthy meals. He got brushed and talked to by our volunteers. He started to go on short walks, and every night before I left I would sit in his kennel with him, petting him, talking to him, and telling him he was important and I loved him. An amazing transformation occurred, and Sylvester, the cute little dog who was not deaf and blind but had given up, would come to the cage door every morning, and he would look at us and wag his tail. He even started to give small kisses. Sylvester knew he was loved.

The day of the idyllic country morning with only the sound of the hawk, when Sylvester's cancer got the best of him, I went to the vet with him, and as he crossed the Rainbow Bridge the last words Sylvester heard were, "I love you". So it is not the puppies and happy-go-lucky labs that inspire me. They make me happy, they make me laugh, they make me smile. The dogs that inspire me are dogs like Sylvester, like India, like Blondie.....dogs that we can give the gift of love before they move on. Dogs that forgive and love in spite of their pasts, and what more inspiration is there.

## FEATURED PET

### Yagert



Yagert is a large, senior Labrador Retriever. He has been neutered and is up to date with his routine shots. Yagert and Rocky find themselves suddenly homeless due to divorce. Yagert is Rocky's dad and they have been together all of Rocky's life. Both boys are active, friendly guys, they love people, and they're great with other dogs. Rocky loves toys and always has one in his mouth. They are the happiest boys!

Note: Rocky has since been adopted, but Yagert still is waiting for his forever home.

## SUMMER/FALL QUARTERS VOLUNTEER - DR STEVEN HINES

### Kris Says:

If it weren't for Dr. Steve we would never have been able to adopt out 442 dogs since 2008. He gives us affordable rates on medical care, including spay/neuter; heartworm testing and treatment; rabies vaccinations; preventatives; medicine; and emergency care, and we are able to keep our adoption rates reasonable and place more dogs. Dr. Steve, Dr. Emily and all of the staff are wonderful to work with - they are so friendly and caring, and accommodate all of my requests that they possibly can and always work with me and my tight schedule, even during the crazy moments. It is very difficult to put into words what everyone at Adams Marquette Veterinary Services means to me on both a business and a personal level. (They also take good care of me too :))



### Dr. Steve Says:

"I have been delighted to serve the Eyes of Hope shelter throughout the last several years. Many of dogs I have seen would have been destined for euthanasia had Kris not rescued them and loved them back to life. Kris always places her dogs into homes that give them the best quality of life and these dogs make fantastic family pets. Each week we spay and neuter dogs to prevent more unwanted puppies in our community, enabling dogs that are already without homes a chance at a family. It is also my privilege to serve the oxford community as a business owner and veterinarian."

## MOUNDS DOGFEST 2012 - Angell Park in Sun Prairie on June 10

The Mounds Dogfest is true pet venue with many rescue groups, pet-friendly and pet food vendors as well as contests, demonstrations and paws on activities. Of course, Eyes of Hope was there with Kris, Tabettha and Barb and Howard Bloyer. Their canine companions included Mickey and Presley. No adoptions as a direct result, but lots of exposure for the shelter and lots of fun for all.

## PET APPRECIATION WEEK - Tractor Supply in Portage on August 18



Eyes of Hope volunteers Donna, Pam, Kassie, Ed and Jan were with Dan Steffens at Tractor Supply in Portage on August 18 with Jabba and Rambo.

It was a beautiful day and the dogs enjoyed being outside and getting lots of attention. Tractor Supply had give-aways for us and pet food vendors provided free samples. The canine officer was there with his trusty sidekick and quite popular, too. Someone even brought their pot-bellied pig who looked and sounded a lot like Jabba! We passed out information on the shelter and Hands for Hope and answered lots of questions. All in all it was a good day for man and man's best friend.

## EYES OF HOPE VOLUNTEER PARTY - Ed & Jan's on August 26

Kris and Dan and Ed and Jan hosted a thank-you party for the special and giving EOH volunteers on Sunday, August 26. The shelter could not be what it is without each and every one of them. Luckily, the rain stopped and we were able to enjoy the day outside. We had lots of good food and stimulating conversation (of course, much of it involved dogs!). Michelle and the teens went on a boat ride around the lake with Captain Ed. It was an enjoyable time for all. For those of you who couldn't make it.....maybe next year!

## HANDS FOR HOPE

The purpose of Hands for Hope is to help support, promote and raise funds for our dogs and the shelter, provide education regarding them and current accepted care practices, as well as to have a positive impact on and relationship with our community. This group is for those who cannot volunteer on a weekly or permanent basis, but can help by providing their expertise or assistance occasionally or by helping with financial support. For example, we always need help with events and fundraisers. There are adult and junior divisions. Think of all those hidden talents you have and how they could help the animals. Membership is \$10 per year for an individual or \$20 a year for a family with a Hands for Hope window cling as a thank-you gift. Please consider joining and lending us a helping hand in some capacity. The application is on the Eyes of Hope website under Events if you would like to join or need to renew your membership. October is the renewal time for all present members, as it took so long for us to get started.

## FUNDRAISER

We are doing the fall Community Days fundraiser in conjunction with Bon-Ton Stores we did in the spring as it was very successful and raised a significant amount for money for Eyes of Hope Dog Park. Hopefully, it will be an even bigger success! This fundraiser is a win-win situation for everyone, so please participate by purchasing booklets or by helping to sell them. Community Days will be on November 9 and November 10, 2012; I have booklets now for \$5 each and you immediately have a coupon for \$10 plus a lot more including internet only bargains. The entire booklet is worth up to \$400. Call or e-mail Jan Goralski @ 608-586-4442, [ejg@maqs.net](mailto:ejg@maqs.net), let me know how many you would like, and I will see that you receive them. Remember, it is for the dogs!

## IN HONOR OF OR IN MEMORY OF A LOVED ONE

Would you like to honor a loved one with one of our trees or pick out your own for planting? We have 5 silver maples available at \$14.40 each and 2 autumn blaze maples at \$36.90. This was our cost. The sugar maples are spoken for. You may bring your own special marker or we will provide a simple one. Two ideas we had was to paint the desired words on a rock, seal it and place it at the base of the tree or hang a personalized wind chime in it. Here are two websites that provide markers: [Exterior-Accents.com](http://Exterior-Accents.com) & [afamilytree.com](http://afamilytree.com).

## THE FUTURE DOG PARK - PLEASE HELP!

We need lots of help with fund-raising, planning, implementation, procurement of materials and construction for the dog park. Can you assist us in any way or do you know of someone who can? Our current and future needs include: posts for the present fencing we have, more fencing, materials for a shade shelter, a structure for the posting of information and more! Let me know if you can help..... [ejg@maqs.net](mailto:ejg@maqs.net).

## HANDS FOR HOPE JUNIOR GROUP SECTION

### Dog Wash



The teens held their 2nd Annual Dog Wash at the shelter on July 28, 2012. I don't know who had more fun, the dogs or the kids! They managed to make a nice contribution to the shelter with their efforts. You guys rock!



### Helping at the Shelter

The teens walk and feed the dogs every Thursday and also do special projects like this one. They are setting up the shade canopy. It wasn't easy, either! Their accomplishments and help mean so much to us and the dogs.

## FUR YOUR INFORMATION



Let us start out with the announcement that we have a new veterinarian at the Adams Marquette Veterinary Clinic. Dr. Emily was born and raised in Baraboo WI and attended UW Madison for vet school. Her hobbies besides caring for animals include rock climbing, kayaking, rowing and all other outdoor activities. She is eager to meet all of you so please welcome her to our clinic.

Now that we have reached fall and it is cooled down outside again it is a great time to be outside and enjoying the outdoors with our pets. Just like us pets need a way to work/burn off energy so that they can ,1, get exercise and ,2, wear themselves out. There are more reasons for exercising your pet so they don't gain or can lose weight. Giving your pet exercise time works their body and their minds. Most pets are kept in a kennel/crate or in the house while you are at work. So when you come home most likely the pet was sleeping or laying down most of the day and needs a way to burn off energy from not doing much all day. Ways to do this is playing fetch, going for a walk/jog, swimming or dog parks. Sometimes just letting a pet outside and allowing them to run/walk around on their own is not enough. Some pet's needs to be interacted with to get them motivated and really work their minds. Some pets (mostly seen in dogs) that get bored become destructive. Puppies will also do this and it is a sign that they have energy that needs to be burned off. Puppies are always learning whether you are trying to teach them or not. It is easy for them to pick up habits very quickly without you knowing it. Destructive habits are usually the first habit they

pick up, usually because they are bored and have too much energy and want attention. Also if you have a puppy or young dog it is a good time to get them active and trained to fetch or leash walk so you can take them out walking/jogging or to a dog park to play with other dogs.

Another thing we get asked often in the clinic is "Am I feeding enough food" or "I have cut the food back but he/she still gaining weight?" The one thing you should always pay attention to is on each bag of food (cat or dog) has its daily requirements for that particular food. Now each food will be different so if you switch be sure to check the bag. Also if you have an overweight dog/cat or you would like them to lose a little weight, you do not want to feed them for what they weigh now but to gradually cut the amount of food back to the weight you want them to be at. Example: if you have a 75# dog and you want it to weigh 45# you cannot start feeding them what a 45# dog would require. You would start at 70# and once they have reached that weight then reduce 5 more pounds until you get them to a desired weight. Just remember one pound on a dog is ten pounds on a human. Also if you are trying to reduce the weight of a pet you have to look at the treats you are feeding. There are treats out on the market that are not healthy for your pet and will not aid you in weight loss in your pet. Example: one milk bone treat you feed is equivalent to you eating one snickers candy bar. A note about rawhides most people feed them so their dog can have something to chew on or to prevent tartar builds up on the teeth. Raw hides are not the first treat I would feed for these reasons. There are better products on the market that can aid in prevention of tartar build up. For example Science diet T/d (tartar diet) or Purina DH (dental health) will help prevent tartar build up, most veterinary clinics provide these products. For an over the counter product an example would be Greenies. Make sure you are checking the labels of treats you are buying for your pet and that they meet the requirements for your pet. Back to rawhides for chew toys, it is a fine thing to give to your dog but make sure you are monitoring them to make sure they are chewing it to small pieces and not trying to swallow whole. There have been many times that owners have come into the clinic and are concerned their dog is choking on a piece of rawhide. We have also seen where the rawhide has been swallowed and caused an obstruction in the intestines which results in emergency surgery to remove the obstruction.

As Bob Barker said "Help control the pet population, have your pets spayed/neutered"

\*Information provided by ADAMS MARQUETTE VETERINARY SERVICE, Oxford, WI 608-586-5768

## THANK YOU TO:

Michelle and our Hands for Hope teens for holding the dog wash and raising money for the shelter and dog park. You guys rock!

Jessica from Adams Marquette Veterinary Service for her latest article.

All the volunteers who helped make Dogtoberfest a success.

## TWO PAWS UP

(Recommended Reading)

**The Story of Rose: A Man and His Dog** by Jon Katz

A poignant memoir that celebrates Jon Katz's beloved border collie, Rose, and their transformative years together on Bedlam Farm.

**Through a Dog's Eyes** by Jennifer Arnold Understanding our dogs by understanding how they see the world. Non-fiction. The author is the founder and executive director of Canine Assistants, a service-dog school. Much research data is included in the book and it is very interesting.

If anyone has a book about dogs they would like to recommend we would be happy to include it this section in the future. Reviews and/or a brief synopsis would be welcome, too!

## VOLUNTEER NEEDS

Shelter maintenance person to help with minor repairs and chores

Dog walkers and runners

Dog bathers and/or groomers

Eyes of Hope Shelter Dog Park helpers.

## WISH LIST

Eyes of Hope accepts all donations and is in particular need of blankets, food (dry and canned), peanut butter, Vitamin C 250 or 500 mg, rugged and durable toys, bleach, laundry detergent, antibacterial dish soap, paper towels, copy paper and 13 gallon garbage bags. All monetary donations are tax deductible.

## THE SHELTER SHOP

ALL profits go directly to the shelter. Please help our deserving animals and get something for yourself or others, too.

Eyes of Hope T-shirts	Sizes: Child S-M-L	Pink or Light Blue
\$15.00		
	Adult S-XXL	Pink or Light Blue
\$15.00		
Eyes of Hope Sweatshirts	Sizes: Child S-M-L	
Pink/ Light Blue		
	Adult S-XXL	
Hands for Hope T-shirts	Sizes: Youth S-M-L	\$15.00
2 Designs/Colors		
	Adult S-XL	\$15.00
3 Designs/Colors		



Look who put herself up for sale....  
clever pup that she is!

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

DOGTOBERFEST 2012	10AM to 3PM	October 20, 2012
At the shelter. Games, prizes, music, food. It was great. Read about it in the next newsletter.		
SILPADA JEWELRY OPEN HOUSE	10AM to 12PM	November 10, 2012
At the shelter. Come see these beautiful designs!		

# KINDNESS AND COMPASSION ONE ANIMAL AT A TIME

Eyes of Hope Shelter N3265 1st Drive Oxford, WI 53952 608-547-5448

License Number: 267310-DS E-mail: [kris@eyesofhopeshelter.com](mailto:kris@eyesofhopeshelter.com)

Hours: Monday, Wednesday, Thursday & Friday 5 to 7 PM

Saturday 10 AM to 4 PM, Closed Sunday and Tuesday

This newsletter is edited by "Hands for Hope"

If you have any questions or do not wish to receive this newsletter in the future, e-mail: [ejg@maqs.net](mailto:ejg@maqs.net)



James, Roving Reporter, heads out on his John Deere to "sniff" out a new story. Oscar, Editor-in-Chief has sternly requested it not involve squirrels.