

2024

Annual Report



PO Box 105932, Jefferson City, MO 65110

www.FriendsofJCAS.org

Mission Statement

Our mission is to rescue, nurture, and adopt as many dogs and cats as possible into loving forever homes. We strive to promote the health and well-being of companion animals; to educate pet owners on the importance of spaying, neutering, and regular veterinary care; to encourage pet ownership as a lifetime commitment; and to share the joy that our pets offer.

Friends of the Jefferson City Animal Shelter, Inc.
FEIN 20-8387310

Established in 2007

Board of Directors

Jackie Fischer – President
Jennifer Tergin – Vice President
Amber Kruetz – Secretary
Roberta Broeker – Treasurer

Stuart Dunkel
Steve Hope
Debbie Mehmert
Martha Westhoff

Monthly Meetings

Our meetings are on the third Tuesday of the month at 6:00 p.m. in the conference room of the Jefferson City Animal Shelter (JCAS), 2308 Hyde Park Road. Everyone is welcome and encouraged to attend. We use the time to talk about shelter happenings, discuss potential fundraisers, and organize volunteers for upcoming events.

Fundraisers

We benefit enormously from individual and corporate donations, bequests, and the Missouri State Employees Charitable Campaign, but we know we also need to help ourselves. We held two fundraisers this year to further our mission.



In November, we collaborated with Longfellow's Garden Center on a Christmas plant sale. We offered four beautiful plant options. Profits totaled \$109.

On September 14, we held our family friendly Poker Strut. Similar to a poker run, participants stopped at 5 stations along the Jefferson City greenway, selecting a card (and receiving a treat!) at each stop. At the end of the Strut, the best and worst poker hands received prizes. We are particularly grateful to our fabulous sponsors, who were recognized with signage and their logo on our Tuff Mutts T-shirts. Thanks to those sponsors and our participants, we raised \$2,703.



The poster is framed in red with rounded corners. At the top, it says "Friends of the Jefferson City Animal Shelter" in a cursive font. Below that, "TUFF MUTTS" is written in large, bold, red letters with a black outline. In the center, there is an illustration of a bulldog and a cat sitting on a large playing card, with other cards (10, J, Q, K, A) visible behind them. The year "2024" is written below the illustration. Below the illustration, "Poker Strut" is written in a large, red, cursive font. The event details are listed below: "Saturday, September 14, 2024 - 4:00 pm" and "Jefferson City Animal Shelter - 2308 Hyde Park Rd." followed by "\$30.00 entry fee includes a t-shirt". A list of bullet points provides more information: "Our family friendly Poker Strut will begin on the greenway at the JCAS and end at Last Flight Brewing Company (An approx. 3 mile loop)", "Run, Walk, Bike, it's up to you!", "Draw a card and get a treat at each of the 5 stations", "Prizes for best hand & worst hand given at 6:00", "Additional hands are only \$10.00, a great option for the kids!", and "Dogs must be kept on a leash at all times". At the bottom, it says "Register by Sept 1st on our website to guarantee a t-shirt" and provides the website "www.friendsofjcas.org". The poster is decorated with various playing card symbols: a red diamond in the top left, a black spade in the top right, a black club in the bottom left, and a red heart in the bottom right. There are also black paw prints on either side of the central illustration.

Finally, we continue to raise funds with our donation canisters located at businesses throughout Jefferson City. Through the generosity of this community, we collected \$1,940.

Income

Friends of the Jefferson City Animal Shelter income totaled \$79,655 in 2024.

Donations:

Missouri State Employees Charitable Campaign - \$22,547

Individual Donations - \$23,745

Corporate Donations - \$8,757

Memorials and Bequests - \$10,101

Fundraisers:

Christmas Plant Sale - \$109

Tuff Mutts Poker Strut - \$2,703

Donation Canisters - \$1,940

Program Income - Puppy Training Classes - \$170

Merchandise Sales - \$717 (T-Shirts, ID Tags)

Interest Income - \$8,866

Of our total income, \$29,951 was donated specifically for the trap, neuter, return activities of the Wild Thing – Feral Feline Fix program. This included two very generous gifts; \$10,000 from Nancy Rau and \$5,000 from Jennifer Riley, in memory of her son, Sammy Clemmons. We designated an additional \$8,000 of Friends of the JCAS receipts for Wild Thing activities.

Programs Funded

Spay and Neuter Program - \$50,736

We believe spay/neuter is our most critical and effective program. Assisting with the expense of spay and neuter surgeries successfully reduces the number of unwanted pets entering animal shelters. In 2024, we increased the number of spay/neuter coupons we issue each month from 40 to 45. These become available on our website at 12:01 a.m. on the first of each month. They are typically all claimed by midmorning that day. People can also fill out a paper coupon application at the Jefferson City Animal Shelter during business hours; noon to 5:30, Monday through Friday.

The coupons cover \$100 of the cost of spay or neuter surgery at participating local veterinary clinics. Participating veterinarians are listed on our website. Applicants redeemed 510 coupons in 2024, compared to 284 in 2023.

Trap Neuter Return – Wild Thing Feral Feline Fix - \$32,837

Wild Thing became an official program of the Friends of the Jefferson City Animal Shelter in 2022. Trap Neuter Return (TNR) is the only humane solution to control

feral and community cat populations. This program was established in 2010 to reduce the number of feral cats that were being euthanized at the JCAS. The program has been highly successful, substantially reducing the euthanasia rate. Volunteers work with cat caretakers to trap the cats and transport them for spay/neuter surgeries and rabies vaccinations, then return them to the location where they were trapped. This also reduces the number of stray kittens entering the animal shelter.

When trapping feral cats, friendly cats or kittens are sometimes captured. Wild Thing asks volunteers to foster these friendlies so they can be adopted directly into loving homes or through the Jefferson City Animal Shelter. Wild Thing also supports the caretakers of community cat colonies by providing cat food assistance (over 4,000 pounds of food in 2024) to the caretakers. In 2024, 407 cats were altered, compared to 450 cats in 2023.

Expenses related to this program include:

Spay and Neuter Surgeries \$17,559
Rabies Vaccinations \$1,546
Other Medical Expenses \$5,788
Cat Food Assistance \$4,353
Foster Supplies \$706
Cat Shelter Supplies \$2,493
Trapping Equipment and Supplies \$392



Puppy Training Classes - \$5,400

We renewed our contract with All Paws Behavioral & Veterinary Clinic. Dr. Mar Doering is an expert dog behaviorist. We retained her services to host puppy training classes at her clinic in Holts Summit. Classes were offered twice a month. The pet owner and their puppy receive approximately 3 hours of professional training for a donation of \$10. Pet parents are less likely to surrender or rehome a well-trained puppy.

Salvation Army Pet Food Pantry - \$2,222

In partnership with the Heart of Missouri Humane Society, we purchase dog and cat food as needed for the Salvation Army Food Pantry. The food is distributed to people who need help feeding their pets. Helping people who are short of funds

with pet food keeps loved pets in homes. This year, Friends of the JCAS purchased 3,500 pounds of pet food.

Jefferson City Animal Shelter Assistance/Assistance to Rescues - \$3,650

We purchase cardboard cat carriers for cats adopted from the JCAS. These carriers are provided to adopters, ensuring cats are transported safely to their new homes. \$1,292

We established a beautiful flower island at the corner of the animal shelter property and placed large flowerpots near the entrances. Materials and maintenance were provided for these enhancements to the property. \$328

We purchase an annual subscription to Kind News magazine, which is available in the JCAS lobby for children to take home. \$30

We provided \$2,000 to People Helping Paws – Cat Rescue. The assistance was designated for spay/neuter surgeries for cats and kittens in the care of PHP-CR. In addition to rescuing many cats and kittens in this area, they have assisted us by accepting kittens needing fostering when our trapping efforts have yielded more kittens than we were able to foster with our volunteers.

Additional Expenses

Advertising and Promotional Materials - \$534

PO Box Rent - \$199

Office Equipment and Supplies – \$578

Printing and Copying - \$114

Secretary of State Registration Fee - \$21

Web Site and Software Costs - \$791

PayPal Fees - \$147

Postage - \$604

Courtyard Memorial Bricks - \$80

Meeting Refreshments - \$54

Assets

We ended the year with \$36,684 in our checking accounts and \$179,074 in a certificate of deposit.

Memorials

During 2024, several families chose to honor a loved one they lost by suggesting or making memorials to our organization. Generally, we do not know the circumstances of the passing, nor the connection to pets. We think it is safe to say, however, that animals held a special place in the hearts of these people. We are grateful for the generosity of the families in their time of loss. Donations were made in memory of the following:



**Agnes Brondel
Ross Clark
Elsie Lucille Cox
Judy Engelbrecht
John Graham
William Holt
Cindy James
Laverne Maynard
Joseph Oidtman
Jo Gayle Roedel
Scott Vaughn
Arthur Wood**

**Carolyn Buehler
Sammy Clemmons
Jennifer Durham
Kathy Roedel Farmer
Nancy Jo Heidbreder
Thalia Irvin
Lucille Kampeter
Lily Morris
Corky Rackers
Karl Roedel
Bryan Weirich
Josh Woods**

Closing Comments

We are grateful for another successful year helping animals in our community. They are precious gifts that add enormously to the joy of life. The support we receive in our efforts makes our work possible. You have our sincere thanks.

Friends of the Jefferson City Animal Shelter