

Humane Society of Elmore County News - 8 Aug '16  
Rea Cord  
Executive Director

Remember Cruisin' fer Critters held by the Predator's Riding Club back in May to raise money for our shelter? Well, they brought us the big check last Sunday and it was for a whopping \$15,050!!!! This is the largest amount raised from Cruisin' yet and we just cannot thank each and every PMA member and supporter enough! This is one of those events that may be only one day for those attending, but it is a year-round effort by all the Predator's and we are incredibly grateful for their dedication and hard work. As next year is the 15<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Cruisin' fer Critters, look for some BIG news on what Cruisin 2017 is going to look like!

Why do we need fund raisers like Cruisin' or our Wags 'n Whiskers Auction? Because in July we took in 417 pets (198 dogs; 218 cats) and from Jan-Jul we took in a total of 2440 pets! It takes a lot of labor, supplies & space to care for this many animals and on any given day we are caring for 250-300 pet in our shelter and foster homes. It looks like June will have been our peak intake month this year (479) and our numbers should start a gradual decline as we move through summer and into fall & winter. Why this spike in the spring/summer? Short answer – kittens! So far this year (through July) we have taken in a total of 1114 cats – 62% of those cats, however, came in just in May, June & July. AND – of the 694 cats received in those three months, 76% were KITTENS (under six months old)! These percentages are not unique to our shelter and are played out every day in our area shelters. Is there an answer to these staggering numbers? YES – Spaying & Neutering pets BEFORE they have that first 'oops' litter would go a long way to reducing shelter intake and truly IS the answer to the crisis of so many unwanted pets. Please, if you got a kitten or puppy this spring/summer from out in the community – get its spay or neuter appointment made by the time it is six months old so it don't contribute to the problem.

Looking ahead, Sunday, 18 September will be another 'don't miss' day and we hope you are planning to join us at Bark in the Park 2016, Fort Toulouse in Wetumpka. We will have a Microchip Clinic and 'Ask the Vet' at Bark in the Park thanks to Tuskegee University Veterinary School! From 2-3:30 pm, and for a cost of \$25, you can get your pet microchipped and that will also include the registration with 24 PetWatch. Remember though – all dogs coming to Bark in the Park must be good in public, meaning good around children, adults and other dogs in a very busy situation, AND they must have a current rabies tag/proof of rabies vaccination to come to the park.

We do still have Vendor spots available at Bark in the Park for \$35. This is a great way to get the word out about your business/club/group in a relaxed and fun atmosphere while also supporting our shelter. Bring your own table/pop-up and it is a park so there is no electricity. To get a Vendor Application please email [hselco@bellsouth.net](mailto:hselco@bellsouth.net) or give us a call at 334-567-3377.



Cruisin' Fer Critters

Predators Riding Club July 31, 2016  
Humane Society Elmore Co  
Fifteen Thous Fifty dollars \$15050  
Cruisin Fer Critters 2016