



Published by The Mesabi Humane Society

Talking Paws Newsletter

Volume 1
Summer
2018



Good Friends

**Mesabi
Humane
Society** 

The Shelter Corner -

Update: Our most recent hoarding house.

Our recovery began on January 7th and we finally wrapped things up in June. Cats and kittens totaled 120! We never know in advance the severity of the situation or how many animals are actually in need of rescue, and this was obviously a lengthy process because of the number of cats at the house. As expected, many animals were in need of urgent medical care. Most of the cats did survive and have found loving, forever homes. I am thankful that our team at MHS IS VERY DEDICATED TO ALL OF THE ANIMALS THAT COME THROUGH OUR FRONT DOOR. At times, it an overwhelming task, both physically and emotionally, but we are reminded that what we do does make a difference in the furry lives that we save! Please continue to support The Mesabi Humane Society with a monetary donation or the gift of your time in volunteering so we can continue our mission of helping the animals in need in the 6860 square miles that we cover in Northeastern St Louis County.

Mary Stocco
Shelter Director

*Dogs and Cats ...
everyone's responsibility*

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PHOTO CONTEST

**Calling all animal
photographers!**

Want to see your favorite cat or dog in our 2019 calendar?

Stay tuned on our Facebook page and website for the launch of our Photo Contest Fundraiser. We will choose the top 13 photos for the calendar and the top 52 photos for our new deck of cards. Of course there will be prizes for all winners!



Our Story: The Beginning of The Mesabi Humane Society

Excerpts from the original article by Barb Ofstad
Published in HometownFocus.us April 6, 2018

AUTUMN OF 1977 Frustration was the reason for a neighborhood meeting. In a rural community in St. Louis County a large thin, ill-looking stray wandered into a yard full of children. This poor dog was cared for by two ladies for three weeks. The dog's family lived just two miles away but had been spending their time 24/7 in a local hospital with a very sick child, so they did not hear the radio or see the "Found Dog" posters in the area.

FRUSTRATION: Many phone calls were made to local law enforcement agencies and Iron Range town officials while trying to find where this animal could be housed until the owners were located. The St. Louis County commissioner said "there is no help for this problem because it took place in an unorganized township." There were few, if any towns on the Iron Range with programs/services/sheltering for free-roaming, lost, abandoned or unwanted animals.

Hundreds of letters and phone calls led to a meeting with the Minnesota Humane Society's director, Ruth DuShane in St. Paul. She suggested ways to create a humane society, but our biggest problem was a lack of a centralized facility to shelter and care for the animals in our area.

The Citizens for a Range Animal Shelter became a non-profit organization. Hundreds of volunteers had bake sales, bingo parties, raffles and membership drives to raise money to build an animal shelter. All expenses for these affairs were donated by the dedicated people involved. Legal services were donated by the Trenti Law firm of Virginia. Media announcements or promotions were donated by Mesabi Daily News. Many local veterinarians helped advise us. Land was acquired from a mining company.

Prior to the building we had no place to house the animals and volunteers opened their homes to the animals that were in need of rescue, shelter, medical care and more. Calls for help came from Ely, Nashwauk, Cotton, Ray, International Falls and Hibbing. Law enforcement proved to be helpful.

After \$30,000 was raised, a contract was made with Morton Buildings for the construction of the first animal shelter on the Iron Range. It was located on Southern Drive in Virginia (and still is). The Citizens for a Range Animal Shelter became an official humane society in the early 1980s. On a rainy day in October 1980 a transport truck from Morton Buildings arrived at the site and volunteers and two very husky VHS football team players unloaded the truck! Local cement companies, wiring companies, fencing companies, carpenters,

painters, and plumbers finished the building for the lowest costs they could.

The facility was open for business. It was managed and staffed by all volunteers for many years. Volunteers cleaned kennels and cat cages, walked dogs, groomed cats and answered calls from distressed pet owners who lost their pets. Pets not claimed were placed in reference-checked and inspected forever homes. A program was initiated to encourage alterations of adopted animals with the offer of a small rebate. Membership dues, donations and a few yearly fundraisers were the only sources of income.

Local grocery stores and pet food businesses supplied our food needs, saving hundreds of dollars per month.

The small group of concerned and dedicated people met monthly and formed a board directors. Committees handled every area of concern. As awareness of the facility and the great things being done grew, more funding was needed. Contracts with the surrounding communities, grants, and money from estates and memorials provided money to hire a manager/director and some regular staff. Additions have been made to the shelter building in recent years.

Since 1977 many people have been involved. To those who were part of this history...

THANK YOU.

PET'S CORNER - MHS pets and their furever homes...

Mesabi
Humane Society



OUR MISSION

To promote the humane treatment of animals through sheltering, spaying and neutering, adoption & community education

VISITING VET

Adapted from MyDogIsCool.com

IS IT TOO HOT TO TAKE MY DOG ALONG? We need to ask ourselves this every time we take our dog for a ride in the car.

CAN WARM WEATHER KILL A DOG LEFT IN A CAR? Yes. On warm days, cars heat up very quickly. When it is 85 degrees outside, the temperature inside a car, even with the windows cracked, can soar to 102 degrees in 10 minutes and 120 degrees in just 30 minutes. Even outside temperatures in the 70s can be dangerous to dogs.

CAN LEAVING A DOG, FOR EVEN A MINUTE, BE TOO LONG? Yes. Dogs rely on panting and are not able to sweat; dogs cannot cool themselves like people and their body temperature can quickly rise. Dogs left in the heat can suffer severe illness, organ damage or even death.

SEE A DOG IN A HOT CAR?

- Try to locate the dog's family
- Call animal control, the police, or 911 if the dog is in distress.
- If a dog is overcome by heat, wet its feet & coat with water, and seek veterinary care immediately.

Help keep dogs cool!
Visit MyDogIsCool.com

The Mesabi Humane Society Animal
Control number is 218-410-3899



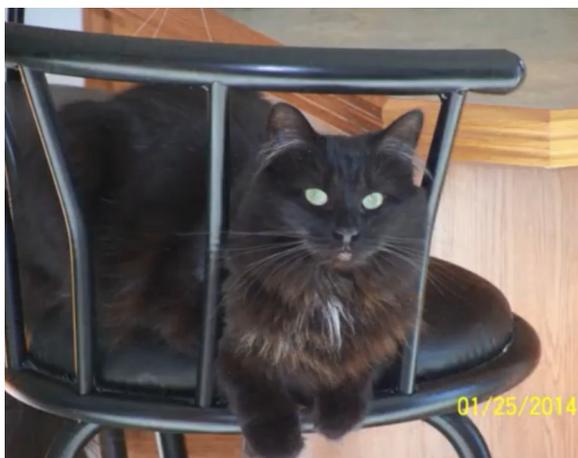
Jim Duffy
&
Bobby V



James Peter (Jim) Duffy of Mountain Iron, MN was a long-time supporter of The Mesabi Humane Society, both through regular donations of money and his adoption of several cats. Unfortunately, Jim died in January this year, however, his support for the shelter has continued through memorial donations.

Jim always loved nature and cared for wildlife and birds on his property, however - he wasn't born a cat lover. Only after his sister rescued a cat from euthanasia at a vet in Duluth, and she and her sons dropped the cat at Jim's place, did he become a cat fanatic - later adopting Sheila and then Cocopuff from our shelter. Beautiful Bobby V was his cat at the time of his death.

Bobby V still misses Jim and now lives with Jim's sister, Kathy Sahlberg, and her other pets in Duluth.



Please visit our website and like us on Facebook:

<https://www.mesabihumanesociety.org/>
<https://www.facebook.com/themesabihumanesociety/>

COMMUNITY CORNER

SAVE THE DATES!

National Night Out

Alcott Park 4-7 PM
August 7

Northern State Bank Customer Appreciation

August 17, 3-5 PM

Mobile Adoptions - Find your purrfect companion

Tractor Supply, Virginia, MN

August 25, 12-4

PetSmart, Duluth, MN

September 14-16

November 9-11

Brat Barn

Thursday-Saturday August 30, 31, Sept. 1
10-6 PM Super One South, Virginia MN

MN Spay/Neuter

September 20 at MHS

Register online with MN SNAP

Shred-It-Truck, back by popular demand

Saturday September 22

Tractor Supply Lot, Virginia 12 - 2 PM

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

Bingo

Saturday November 3

Elks Lodge, Virginia MN 7 PM

**Tractor Supply is having a donation drive for MHS
the entire month of August.**

Volunteers Needed!

If you feel that you can donate an hour or two once a week to the Mesabi Humane Society as a volunteer, please go online or come to the shelter and fill out an application.

Currently, we need dog walkers, cat snugglers, and morning cleaners. We also have some events coming up where volunteers will be essential. Visit us at the shelter or call: 218-741-7425. Thank you!

FYI

Subscribe

Know someone who would like our newsletter? Have them send their email address to Liz at entreher@gmail.com or provide it at the shelter.

Join Us

in our mission helping animals in need
AND BECOME A MEMBER.

Pet Pals: \$20 Student (17 and under) and Senior (65+)

Feed 7 dogs a week

Furry Friend: \$30 Individual

Feed 12 cats for a week

Tail Waggers: \$50 Family

Feed 19 dogs & cats for a week

Best Friend: \$100

Vaccinate 10 dogs against rabies

True Companion: \$250

Spay and vaccinate two cats

Leader Of The Pack: \$500

Give 3 vaccinations + heart worm



MHS CONTACTS

Shelter Director

Mary Stocco 218-741-7425

mary.stocco@mesabihumanesociety.org

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ACO Officer

Liz Ward 218-410-3899

MHS Board Chair

Linda Scott 218-780-3821