



P A W P R I N T S

THE SHAMROCK FOUNDATION, INC.
Quarterly Newsletter Fall 2004

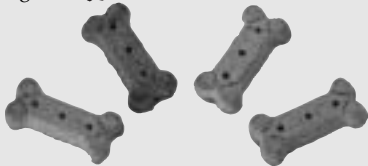
BEGINNINGS *and* ENDINGS

MISSION STATEMENT



The Shamrock Foundation

is a non-profit organization whose mission is to end pet overpopulation, reduce the number of companion animals destroyed in local shelters and save or enhance the lives of animals in need in our community. This is accomplished through spay/neuter, education, emergency medical assistance, rescue, foster care and the adoption of pets into lifetime homes. We are a group of highly committed, unpaid volunteers who have a passion for our mission and its goals. 🐾



Allie, adopted Summer 2004.



Over the past few years, I have lost several loved ones to death. These have included close friends, beloved family members and special pets. Many emotions are involved and with pets, often times, decisions have to be made to end their sufferings. These decisions never come easily even when we know, deep in our heart, it's the right thing to do.

After the loss of a loved one, each person's grieving process may vary and yet we may share similar emotional tides. Whether we have multiple pets or one, they become an important part of our families. Each of us develop daily routines such as feeding times, walking our pets, lap sitting during a favorite TV program or special playtimes. When pets become ill or elderly, new responsibilities develop in their care. They may need daily medications, a special diet, help getting in and out of the house, doing stairs or just getting up in your lap or into bed.



When their time comes and they pass from this world, we find ourselves reaching for their dish at feeding times or their leash or thinking we need to get home to give them their medicine. Their absence leaves emptiness, a silence and sadness that, at times, can be overwhelming. This is part of the grieving process and is normal for those of us who love our pets. They were part of our families and not just a dog, or cat, or horse or turtle and we miss them. It's okay to cry, to talk about them and to be sad.

My little elderly dog, Granny, is eighteen years old and becoming feeble. I rescued her when she was twelve years of age after she was thrown from a car. Needless to say, she was quite a mess. Even at the age of twelve, she was full of energy and very spry with a wonderful personality. She became my little princess, my dear little companion and the love of my life. She had me totally trained within a short period of time. Now, she is hard of hearing, almost blind, a finicky eater and having difficulty navigating the stairs and she needs assistance into her chair. I know that her time to leave me is approaching and I can't bear it. But, as great as the pain will be when she passes on, the joy of having her has been tenfold. That joy leaves you with an abundance of precious memories and the feeling of being blessed to have had that dear creature as part of your life. As with my previous pets that have passed, their memories are with me and give me comfort.



In the future, a new pet will most likely come into my life. I love to foster the old dogs that have been forgotten. My path will cross with an elderly dog that has been misplaced and will need a good home to live out the rest of its life. He or she will be older but for the both of us, it will be a new beginning of a loving relationship and a time to develop lasting memories to the end. I do this because the joy of having them in my life outweighs the pain of losing them. I wouldn't miss it for the world. 🐾

~Sharon Mayes
President, SHAMROCK FOUNDATION, INC.

THE SHAMROCK FOUNDATION

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PAW PRINTS NEWSLETTER

The quarterly publication of The Shamrock Foundation.

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Very VALUED VOLUNTEER

Veronica Lotze is the very core of what a Shamrock Volunteer is all about. She came to The Shamrock Foundation 7 years ago as a volunteer of the Art for the Animals Committee. Since then, she has worked on the event every year and is one of the reasons for the event's success. She also volunteers each year for the Holiday Shoppe making the event one that raises valuable dollars for the mission of our foundation. Veronica lives what she speaks, she has 5 cats in her home; all spayed and neutered. She answers the call of people in our community when they ask for her assistance. As a teacher she has sacrificed her summers to make AFTA a successful event. We value Veronica and all volunteers of the Shamrock Foundation. 🐾



Veronica Lotze

~Mary Casey

Vice President of Shamrock Foundation, Inc



Very VALUED DONOR And SPONSOR

In 1987 Feeders Supply, one of the Louisville pet communities most appreciated businesses opened it's doors to pet lovers across the metro area. It began as a shared vision between Roy Gibson and his daughters to create a place where pet lovers could come and obtain all of the essential products to ensure a quality life for their companions. Feeders soon became Louisville's choice pet care provider, offering owners the highest quality products to ensure healthy, long lives for their animals.

Feeders Supply gives back to the community by generously supporting many of the non profit animal groups, including The Shamrock Foundation.

We lost Roy this year, yet his legacy looms large, not only in the number of stores across the area, but also in the many wonderful ways in which he has touched the people, the pets, and the many organizations he worked with.



Roy Gibson, Feeders Supply

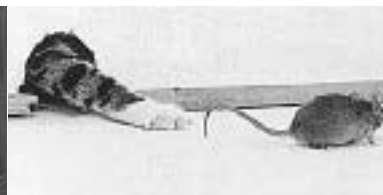
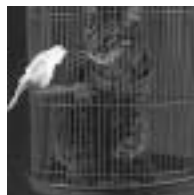
Please help us show our appreciation to Roy and his family by stopping by one of the many area stores. Remember when you stop by to say thank you for supporting The Shamrock Foundation. With out the support of the many local business owners and employees we would be at a serious loss. It is our time to say Thank You.

P. S. Also remember to check out our cats at the Baxter avenue store.

They give us space to have adoption days every Saturday. 🐾

~Mary Casey

Vice President of Shamrock Foundation, Inc



SHAMROCK ROCKS!



You can help Shamrock Rock in the following ways:

- 🐾 Visit Little Bit of Bybee Pottery, 11617 Main Street in the heart of Middletown, KY (502 245-0557). Please mention the Shamrock Foundation and 20% of the total sum of your purchases will be placed in a special account. When Shamrock needs a donation for a fund-raiser, the sum total of all purchases in the name of our organization will then be put toward any item or items of our choice in the store.
- 🐾 Buy a car from any *Sam Swope* dealership and Patti Swope will personally write a \$75 check to the Shamrock Foundation! (*Be sure to call Patti prior to the purchase of the car and let her know you are buying a car.*) Offer extended to the end of 2004!
- 🐾 Volunteer to help put on next years *2005 Art for the Animals* event. Call 473-7287.
- 🐾 Donate a piece of art to *2005 Art for the Animals* which you have created or one you own.
- 🐾 Does your company supply *matching funds*? If so, call 585-3220 and leave a message as to whom we should contact.
- 🐾 Visit Raven's Nest Collectibles Mall, 4034 Preston Highway, (502) 368-0606. The total sale of any item you purchase at the Raven's Nest that is marked with "B22 & SF" will go to the Shamrock Foundation.



HABITAT FOR HOUNDS

In our communities there are many dogs sitting outside in the cold weather without shelter. Unfortunately, there are still many dogs who sit outside all the time, often chained, with a tree as their only shelter. Habitat for Hounds has been formed with the primary goal of distributing doghouses to animals in needy situations. We invite you to make a tax-deductible donation or donate a doghouse in good condition to Habitat for Hounds, in affiliation with Shamrock Foundation.

Since it began in the spring of 2003, Habitat for Hounds has collected 85 doghouses and delivered 60 of them to needy animals. When our volunteers deliver these outside homes, this is often a perfect time to talk with pet owners about the importance of pet care, spaying or neutering their animals, and encouraging them to bring their pets inside to be a healthy and active part of the family.

Habitat for Hounds, along with Shamrock Foundation encourages pet owners to keep pets inside and realizes that living in a doghouse twenty-four hours a day, seven days a week is not the best situation for a dog. Dogs are pack animals and form strong attachments to people, relying on us for food, water, shelter and affection. We also remind pet owners that dogs kept apart from their family members are more likely to become unhappy, anxious and aggressive. Lastly, a chained unaltered dog is most likely to bite, as its frustration of being trapped in a lonely environment continues to grow.

If you know of a dog who desperately needs a doghouse, if you would like to donate a doghouse or if you would like to make a contribution to help a dog who lives without shelter, please call us as 585-3220 and leave your message for the Habitat for Hounds program. Make your check to Habitat for Hounds, P.O. BOX 20086, LOUISVILLE, KY 40250-0086. Please, don't leave us out in the cold. 🐾

SHOCKING SHELTER STATISTICS

It is often hard to comprehend the extent of **PET OVERPOPULATION** until you understand the huge numbers of animals put to death each year in Jefferson County alone! Before you allow your pet to have a litter, consider the heartbreaking statistic below.

2003

	Into Shelter	Redeemed	Adopted	Euthanized
Kentucky Humane Society*				
Cats/Kittens	WNA	WNA	WNA	WNA
Dogs/Puppies	WNA	WNA	WNA	WNA
Metro Animal Services				
Cats/Kittens	4827	90	238	2602
Dogs/Puppies	6426	1099	408	4383
Total 2003	11253	1189	646	6985

* Many of the strays taken to the Kentucky Humane Society are then transported to Metro Animal Services later that same day. WNA Would not make available

YOU can prevent these deaths!

SPAY AND NEUTER YOUR PET



ADOPTION DAYS

FOR THE MONTH OF JANUARY-MARCH

Dogs & Puppies

FRIDAYS 7PM-8:30PM

Superpetz, Taylorsville Rd. at Hikes Point.

SATURDAYS 11AM-2PM

Petsmart, Hurstbourne Parkway

Cats & Kittens

Saturdays 10AM-1PM

Superpetz, Taylorsville Rd. at Hikes Point.

Saturdays 1PM-4PM

Feeder's Supply, 315 Baxter Avenue

Call for More Information

585-3220

Greyhound Adoption

Call for Adoption Days Times & Location

Jennifer Watkins 241-3140



INFORMATION

A kennel should be at least two times the length of the dog you are building it for. Measure your dog from the tip of his nose to the stretched out end of his tail! 🐾

As of February 1st, our prices were increased to \$95 instead of \$85. This affects both dogs AND cats, even if it still may say 85 under the "adoption fee/cost" slot on their bios. We are doing this because as we get more involved, we have found the need to pay some people to help us. Currently we have hired a newsletter person for our new newsletter, which should be out shortly if it is not already. We tried managing with only non-paid volunteers, but we weren't doing so well. This change is to HELP MORE CATS FIND HOMES AND TO BE ADOPTED. We are very sorry for having to do this to you, but we hope we will still have your support. Thank you! 🐾

BEGGIN' RIGHTS

**\$ Money \$
OF COURSE!**

All donations are tax deductible!

FOSTER PARENTS

Shamrock will supply Foster Parents with food, litter & medical care so your only investment is a little time & lots of love. . .

PET STUFF

- Blankets
- Collars & Leashes
- Crates & Carriers
- Doggie Beds
- Kitty Beds
- Nail Clippers
- New Cat & Dog Toys
- Paper Towels
- Pet Food
- Dog Houses

PEOPLE STUFF

- Fax Machine & Copy Machine
- Filing Cabinets
- Office Supplies & Stamps
- Phone System
- Refrigerator



ADOPTABLE CATS

All of our cats and kittens have been tested for feline leukemia and the adults have also been tested for FIV. All our cats and kittens have their required vaccinations and have been wormed and spayed or neutered. Our list of available pets changes every week, so please visit **Cat Adoption Days** or our website www.shamrockpets.com to see the many wonderful felines that are looking for homes. And please consider adopting an older cat who is often overlooked because kittens are so cute & playful!



Enya, (said EEN-yuh) is an adorably sweet little compact kitty of about 2-3 years. She's very friendly with everyone, human or animal, and loves attention. Enya is content and very happy to be held, cuddled, petted, or just to sit on your lap. She is affectionately called "Stubble" for her tiny stub of a tail or "Football" for her small compact football shape. Enya is a lover that deserves a loving home. Contact Karen Harris through Shamrock for more information.



Missy Leo is a 5 year old long hair tabby cat who is very sweet and loves to be petted and held. Her old owner, an elderly lady, became unable to care for Missy Leo anymore and her children were just going to put him to sleep. Luckily, our foster's husband was at the vets office at the time and offered to find her a new home! Make this sweetie yours! Contact Barbara Berry through Shamrock for more information.



Sherman is the most adorable 6 month old kitten you could ever have the pleasure of meeting! He is outgoing, loving, friendly, playful, peaceful, and well-behaved. Though he and his beloved sister, Shannon, are all that is left of a litter of 6 after Upper Respiratory virus swept through, and although both sustained permanent eye damage (not blinding, however), their personalities haven't been compromised in the slightest. Sherman most enjoys playing and snuggling with his sister and best friends, brothers Britt and Breck as well as being held and petted. We would love to see this loving brother and sister adopted together! Contact Karen Harris through Shamrock for more information.



Twitch, brother of Turk and Tweed, is a spunky, spontaneous, fun little buddy. He loves to romp and play with a human or feline pal and is about 3 months old. Contact Karen Harris through Shamrock for more information.

ADOPTION THROUGH SHAMROCK

We receive many inquiries about how someone goes about adopting a pet through the Shamrock Foundation. Here are a few simple pointers that should help answer some of your questions.

SELECTING A PET 🐾 We recommend that you first notify us via phone, email (adoptions@shamrockpets.com) or both, that you are interested in seeing a particular pet. We will arrange to make the dog available for a visit. Please understand that we do not have our own building or offices. We always recommend that you come to our Adoption Days to see the pet and to speak with our volunteers. We will ask that you fill out an adoption application so that we may begin checking your references (it can take anywhere from a few hours to a week for us to process an application). If you'd like to fill out an application ahead of time they are available by contacting us at adoptions@shamrockpets.com.

ADOPTABLE DOGS

All of our dogs and puppies have been tested for heartworm, have their required vaccinations and have been wormed and spayed or neutered. Our list of adoptable dogs changes on a weekly basis so please visit **Dog Adoption Days** or our website www.shamrockpets.com to see the many wonderful dogs and puppies that need homes. Please consider adopting an older dog or open your heart and home to a Special Needs dog.

Buddy *5 years old; German Shepherd mix.*

He weights 65 pounds and has been neutered. Buddy does well with other dogs and is being kenneled by one of our volunteers because we do not have a foster home for him. He would be great for a single person looking for a companion dog. If you are interested in fostering Buddy please call 585-3320 or email us at adoptions@shamrockpets.com.

Lady *2.5 years old; American Eskimo.*

She is fine with larger dogs but would do better in a home as an only dog. She is good with cats and does fine with older children. She is cautious of strangers and is intelligent, alert and conservative, which are all characteristics typical of this breed. She weights 28 pounds.

Jewell *>1 year old; Dachsbund/Lab mix.*

She is 35 pounds. She came to us from rural Georgia as part of a litter rescue. She does well with other dogs and children. She is almost a year old, has been spayed and is current on all of her shots. Please contact us if you are interested in seeing her.

Jake *30 lbs.; Cocker Spaniel.*

He is a chocolate colored Cocker Spaniel. His family can no longer keep him because he does not do well with their children. However, he does well with adults and other dogs. He is house-trained and crate-trained. He weights 30 pounds and is neutered. He is a beautiful dog that needs to find the right home.

We often feature a cat and dog available from **Metro Animal Services**. Please consider them when you want to adopt a pet. *You'll be saving a life.*



TRIAL VISIT 🐾 Once you've found a pet that you are interested in and your application is approved we will allow you to take the pet home on a trial basis. We recommend that you start the trial visit on a weekend so that you can maximize the amount of time you are home. If, after a period of time, everything works out we usually proceed with the contract. The adoption fee is \$95.00 and that covers the spay/neuter, worming and shots. 95% of the adoption fee goes towards the dog. Unlike other rescue groups, we have very little operating costs since we are made up of volunteers.

If, for some reason, the adoption doesn't work out we ask that you return the dog or cat to us. 🐾



WHAT'S BARKIN'

DATES TO REMEMBER

October

Adopt-a-Shelter Dog Month

November

Adopt-a-Senior Dog Month

November 6 & 7 (Saturday and Sunday)

Puss & Boots Holiday Shoppe

November 7-13

National Shelter Recognition Week (HSUS)

February 25, 2005

The Furball



MEDIA SCHEDULE

MONDAY

WHAS-TV 6:30 -7:00AM Featured Pets-of-the-Week

99.7 WDJX with Peter B. & Kelly K. 7:00-7:15AM

102.3 The MAX Lambert & Lindsey Show 7:15-7:30AM

WEDNESDAY

Insight Channel 2 - Animal Answers LIVE! at 7:00PM

The show airs several times during the week at various times

FRIDAY

84 WHAS Radio with *Terry Meiners* adoptable animals are

featured between 5:30 & 6:00pm

SATURDAY

WLKY-32 Pet-of-the-Week between 7:30 & 8:00 am

WLKY-32 Pet-of-the-Week between 8:30 & 9:00 am

SUNDAY

WLKY-32 Pet-of-the-week between 8:30 & 9:00 am

SNITCH

Pet Peeve, features the week's worst Metro Animal Services

injustice in the ZIP CODE CRIME WATCH SECTION.



PAWS FOR THOUGHT

SHAMROCK FOUNDATION PROUDLY ANNOUNCES THE JOYCE VINCENT SPAY/NEUTER FUND

Shamrock is very happy to announce the formation of the Joyce Vincent Spay/Neuter Fund to aid the many animals in our community who need to be altered. Joyce has been a monumental force helping animals in need and an inspiration to all of us who know her. She has dedicated much of her life to educating people about proper pet care and the importance of spay/neuter to eliminate pet over population and maintain a healthier animal. She has provided transportation to and from the veterinarian's office for pets whose owners had no means of transportation. She has been involved in spay/neuter/release to aid in eliminating the ongoing reproduction of feral cats. She has volunteered her time and energy in so many areas of the Foundation from fundraising, to adoption days, to counseling people on keeping their pet in the home to screening potential adopters and finding loving lifetime homes for her rescues and the many homeless cats that come into the Shamrock system.

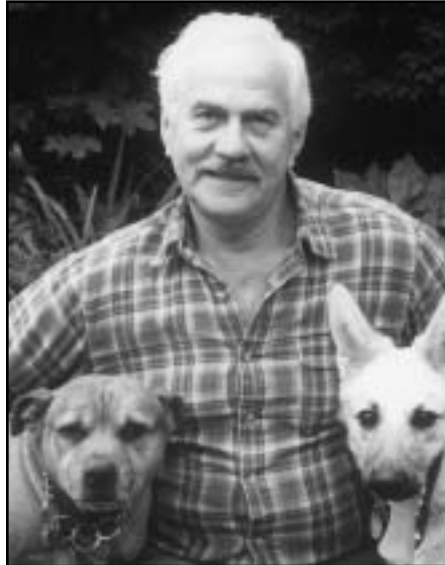
Joyce has been with Shamrock since the beginning in 1992 and has been a driving force in making a difference for the animals in our community. We thank her and the animals thank her. So it is with great pleasure that we have developed this fund in her honor. Shamrock has already received \$1,585.00 donated towards this effort and a very gracious Dr. Michael Grimes has donated 30 spays or neuters in her honor. If you would like to donate to this very special fund, please make a notation on your check to ensure that it is earmarked for spay and neuter.

Remember, adoption saves one life but spay/neuter saves thousands! Shamrock Foundation would like to "THANK" Joycie for all her unselfish, hard work. We are proud to have her as a volunteer and member of our organization. We love her and the animals love her! 🐾

~Sharon Mayes
President, SHAMROCK FOUNDATION, INC.

PETS GRIEVE FOR THEIR HUMANS TOO.

After my dad passed away his two dogs, Sheila and Paux, were confused. Even though I made sure that they saw his body leave the house, they still didn't understand that he wasn't coming back. Their daily routine was upset for several days and their leader and best friend was gone. Needless to say, they went through their own grieving process.



Hans Gulbe with Shiela and Murphy

I could tell that they were constantly waiting for him to come home. They would race to the door every time I came home or we had a visitor. You could always see that they were disappointed when it wasn't my dad. Sheila was either on the lookout, wandering through the house like she was lost or sleeping on his bed or in her chair with one of his shirts. Paux did much of the same. For the first few days I had to hand feed them wet dog food so that they would eat. It was a sad time for them.

It was hard on me too, because there was no real way to communicate to them what had happened. I could see in their eyes and their actions their sadness. But, we all stayed busy. We did a lot together. We took walks in the park, fed the birds and raccoons, did laundry, cleaned, worked in the yard, attended Shamrock meetings, had friends over and slept together.

A dog that is truly your companion grieves just like a human friend. They have memories of the day-to-day schedule of activities and displays of affection. It's important that people realize that and allow them time to grieve and help them through it.

Be sure if you have a pet that loses their human companion that you keep an eye on their eating habits. Give them something special to encourage them to eat. Spend extra time with them and allow them to be near you throughout the day and night. Break up the routine for a while so that they have some unexpected distractions and fun. Daily exercise is extremely important. Exercise can improve their mood (and yours too). Dogs that have separation anxiety issues will probably grieve deeper. In some cases seeking medical attention for severe depression may be necessary. That is something that should be discussed with a veterinarian.

It's not any easy process because we can't talk about our grief, but we are there for each other, probably more than most. I don't know what I would have done without them and I feel sure that they feel the same way. That means a lot. 🐾

~ Jacki Gulbe
*Assistant Director for Community Relations, Metro Animal Services
Shamrock Foundation Board*

Host of Animal Answers Live



Happy TAILS



LOVER BOY

Lover Boy was adopted by a kind lady in Southern Indiana who also had two other cats. Unfortunately, when Lover Boy was three years of age, his person died. This special cat was her favorite because of his loving and outstanding personality. He was very attached to her and greatly mourned her passing.



The Lover Boy!

The cats were left in the home alone and a relative went daily to feed and water them but never stayed to give them any attention or spend any quality time with them. When Shamrock Foundation received the call about these cats, they were placed into foster care and the two cats were quickly adopted. But Lover Boy, who was sad, lonely and grieving his person, had stopped eating and was very ill. He developed liver disease from not eating. Lover Boy almost died, but even as sick as he was, his personality inspired those around him. He was such a sweet cat that a kind veterinarian (Dr. Gorenflo) donated many hours of service to getting this extraordinary feline well again. It was touch and go at times but Lover Boy made it, thanks to good medical care, devoted foster parents and much tender loving care.

Lover Boy is a true lap cat who loves to be held and petted. He loves to sleep with his person and preferably under the covers! He is front declawed and needs a home where someone is home most of the time, will keep him safe and shower him with lots of love for the rest of his life. If you want a true companion and someone who will love you unconditionally then this remarkable fellow is for you. 🐾

~Sharon Mayes

President, SHAMROCK FOUNDATION, INC.

Tips for Calling The Shamrock Foundation

CALLING 585-3220

Please,

- Listen carefully to the message and follow the instructions.
- Understand that rarely will a person answer the phone, volunteers pick up the messages and return calls.
- When leaving a message, speak clearly and be sure to leave your numbers.
- Be patient, our volunteers try to return calls as quickly as possible and in order of importance.

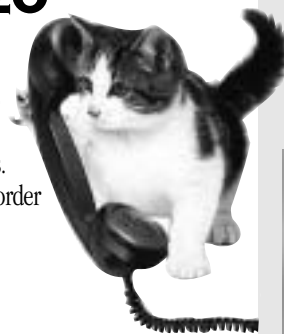
To insure a return phone call be sure to:

- Leave your number or numbers.
- Leave a brief message regarding your situation.

If you haven't received a return call within 48 hours, please call back because a volunteer may have tried to return your call.

- Make sure the numbers you leave are correct.
- Perhaps a family member or someone in the household has taken a message and has not relayed it to you.
- Please know that your caller ID will not show Shamrock Foundation's number; therefore, you may have received a return call and not realized it.
- If you don't have an answering machine or voice mail, it is difficult for a volunteer to leave a message. Volunteers will try to return a particular call up to 3 or 4 times and have to move on to other calls.

We can **always** use volunteers. Please call 585-3220. **Ginny Stottman**
Voice Mail Coordinator & Board Member



A SPECIAL SEASON

This is the season when everything in nature changes. The mornings now have a coolness that refreshes. The hot days of summer are over. Soon the trees will show their colors, after the long green warmth.

Our animal friends will also experience changes. The colder weather will thicken the coats on our dogs. They will be more excited and fresh as we take them out, because of the absence of the heat.

These changes are wonderful and exciting. However, the weather also portends dangers to some animals. While our own dogs and cats are well cared for and happy, some are on the streets, and have been living in the warmth and security the summer provides. This is ending.

This is an especially important time for the work of the groups who work to protect our canine and feline friends from hunger, ill health and exposure to the elements. The numbers of animals these groups save will increase now. Your part will again become even more important.

Please help Shamrock Foundation to save these wonderful animals, these gifts entrusted to us.

If you can help with your hands or your homes, please do. If you cannot do this, please do so with your money. 🐾

~John L. Ackman, Jr.

Attorney at Law

ACKMAN LAW OFFICES

And Shamrock Volunteer

992-1541





Puss & Boots Olde Time Holiday Shopp

Saturday, November 6 10:00 AM till 4:00 PM
Sunday, November 7 11:00 AM till 4:00 PM
Red Brick Church
11700 Old Main Street
*Corner of Madison (Tucker Station)
& Old Main Streets in Middletown*

ARTS, CRAFTS & ITEMS FOR "PETS AND PEOPLE"
Art, eclectic & one-of-a-kind pieces, handcrafted items, jewelry, select gift baskets, uniquely designed animal motif gifts and related items. Homemade breads, pies, cakes & a variety of baked goods.

SILENT AUCTION

Lunch Served Both Days
Homemade soups, chilies, spreads, sandwiches & Gourmet desserts. Gourmet doggie biscuits from Bakery With a Tail

Come One, Come All For A Jolly Good Time!!

Parking available behind the church where entrance is located.



Shamrock Foundation, Inc.
P.O. Box 99811
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