



West Suburban Humane Society

2013: VOL. 3



Don't Miss the
Event of the Year!
See Insert
for Details.

STRAY THOUGHTS

Help Us Raise Funds For Our Biggest Event Of The Year!

In this edition of Stray Thoughts:

- **Get your Barkapalooza Brochure and start collecting pledges!**
- **Ready for a Home – Check out our adoptable animals on page 3.**
- **50/50 Split the Pot Raffle Tickets on page 5.**

West Suburban Humane Society has now made it easier than ever to collect donations for our biggest fundraiser of the year, Barkapalooza Dog Walk and Pet Expo. If you are planning on participating in this year's event, logon to our web site at www.firstgiving.com/wshs.



From that site, you can register for Barkapalooza and create your own fundraising web page.

Getting started is easy

- It only takes a few minutes to create your online fundraising page.
- Click the Get Started Button.
- Personalize the text and the photo of your online fundraising page to express your passions and your purpose.
- Send the link out to your friends, family, colleagues – anyone you think will help you reach your goal. Ask them to forward it on to their contacts as well!
- When you set up your web page through Firstgiving, you will be entered into our Split the Pet Raffle drawing.
- For every \$100 of donations received, another entry for you will be placed in the drawing.



- The winner will receive a \$1,000 prize! The winning ticket will be drawn on Sunday, September 29th at the 2 pm end of our event.

Last year, we raised \$35,000 online. Our goal this year is to raise \$35,000 again, all to benefit the homeless animals in our care.

Don't delay, set up your fundraising web page today!



Our Shelter Hours Are:

Weekdays:
11 a.m. to 2 p.m.
7 p.m. to 9 p.m.

Weekends:
11 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Closed Wednesdays



Upcoming Events

630-960-9600, ext. 25

SEPTEMBER

- 2nd, Monday - Labor Day – WSHS will be closed.
- 29th, Sunday 20th Annual Barkapalooza Dog Walk and Pet Expo – Look for your brochure in this edition of Stray Thoughts!

OCTOBER – ADOPT A SHELTER DOG MONTH

WSHS Wish List

- Paper Towels
- Laundry Detergent
- Bleach
- Anti-bacterial Hand Soap
- Dish Washing Liquid
- Food (our animals are on a specific diet: so that we don't upset their digestive system, we must be specific) Purina or IAMS (Dry) cat and dog, kitten and puppy formulas. Any canned cat, dog, kitten and puppy food is fine.
- KMR (kitten milk replacement), small baby bottles and nipples
- Dog and cat toys (washable and indestructible!)
- Cat litter
- Stamps (to be used for postage)
- Garbage bags (13 & 30 gallon sizes)
- Batteries – AA, 9 Volt and C
- 6" paper plates
- Lint Traps
- Volunteers!
- **Monetary donations are always appreciated!**

West Suburban Humane Society

shelter services include:

- Pet Adoptions
- Free Pet I.D. Tags
- Community Education
- Humane Investigations
- Pet Behavior Counseling
- Spay/Neuter Referrals
- Lost & Found Hotline

BFC donated services to the production of "Stray Thoughts."

The design and printing of the newsletter were provided below cost.



INTEGRATEDPRINTMANAGEMENT

1051 N Kirk Rd
Batavia, IL 60510
630.879.9240
800.774.6840
Fax 879.9260
www.bfcprint.com

WEST SUBURBAN HUMANE SOCIETY

STRAY THOUGHTS is an official publication of the West Suburban Humane Society, a not-for-profit, volunteer-based animal shelter. No city, state, or federal funds support WSHS. Donations are tax-deductible as allowed by law. Please call 630-960-9600, ext. 25 to submit articles or receive donation information.

BOARD MEMBERS:

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THE WSHS STAFF:

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Animal Care Manager: Sarah Stromberg (Ext. 23)
Night and Weekend Managers:
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Animal Care Assistants: Brigitte Black and Scott Dlhly
Adoption Desk Manager: Mary Edwards (Ext. 10)
Volunteer Coordinator: Patti Miller (Ext. 45)

ADOPTION CENTER:

1901 W. Ogden Avenue, Downers Grove, IL 60515
E-mail Address: Director@WSHS-DG.org
Phone: 630-960-9600 Fax: 630-960-9604

Ready For a Home

Ace

2 year old, Male, Black and White DLH

Hi, my name is Ace and I could really use a winning hand. My story is long, and has been pretty sad so far. Ready? Well, I came to this shelter originally in a Chiquita banana box, left on a table in front of the shelter with a note. That was really scary and confusing for me. I got adopted pretty quickly, but after just a week in my new home, I escaped and was lost for three months. Eventually, I was found by a stranger and taken to the county animal control. I was near death after suffering frostbite and starvation. Thanks to my microchip, my owner and the shelter were contacted. My owner was overwhelmed with my medical needs and opted to have me euthanized. That is when the shelter stepped in. I lost both of my ears and part of my tail to the frigid winter, but the shelter staff did a good job fattening me back up and helping me to heal. I did have to have surgery on my tail, but I am back to my old self now, with a few scars. I want a happy ending so bad, it would make all of my past worthwhile. What's my perfect home environment? I need a home that is dedicated to keeping me inside, and this may take some training aids. The shelter can make some recommendations. I prefer to be the only pet (fish are okay, though, they entertain me) and live with adults. Teenagers would be fine by me, but little kids might leave a door open and I don't want to be tempted to explore again. So what do you say, can you look past my disfigurements and see the funny, bold, handsome cat inside?



Magic

9 years old, Male, Grey and White DSH

My name is Magic and I cast a spell on everyone I meet. I have these folks here completely spellbound because I am such a sweet, loving cat. You can pick me up and carry me around. I never complain. I can hold up my end of a conversation, too! My ideal home is one where the kids are older and there's no drama. I bond really quickly, so come see me if you are in it for the long haul...I'll be waiting!

Bullet

4 years old, Male, English Bulldog/Basset Hound Mix

Hi, I'm Bullet. My brother Diezel and I were turned into the shelter because our owner could no longer afford to take care of us. Diezel has been adopted but I am still waiting to find my forever home. I'm a great dog! I am happy-go-lucky, fun and always up for a good time! I love people, dogs and walks in the neighborhood. I am not a big fan of cats, however. If you are interested in adopting me, you should have knowledge of my breed. Also, I cannot live in an apartment or condo. I will make a great dog for some lucky family. Could that family be yours?



Moses

10 months old, Male, Lab/Hound Mix

Hi, I'm Moses. I'm a sweet guy that is looking for his forever home. I am good with people of all ages, but due to my puppy exuberance, I need to live with adults only. I do fine with cats and I really love other dogs, so much that I must be adopted into a family with another playful dog. As a growing boy, I do tend to chew, so we will need lots of chew toys in my new home. I need lots and lots of exercise, because everyone tells me a tired dog is a good dog! I really need a pack leader, so if you fit the bill, come meet me today!



From Wags To Riches Raffle



West Suburban Humane Society is sponsoring a Raffle. The winner of the raffle will receive \$1,000.

The winning ticket will be drawn on Sunday, September 29th at the 2:00pm end of our 20th Annual Barkapalooza Dog Walk and Pet Expo. The winner will be notified by phone no later than Sunday, September 29th at 5:00 pm.

Suggested donation for each ticket is \$5.00

Or 6 tickets for \$25.00, giving you 1 free ticket!

Or 15 tickets for \$50.00, giving you 6 free tickets!



Need more tickets? Stop by our adoption center at 1901 W. Ogden Avenue in Downers Grove or call 630-960-9600, ext. 25. Remember to include your name and mailing address when you call and tickets will be mailed immediately. Tickets will also be sold throughout the day at Barkapalooza.

E-Mails and Letters From Adopters



*Odysseus and Penelope
(Odie and Penny)*

Hi,

Just checking in. We adopted **Sunkist and Hilda** in the beginning of January. Brought them home on January 10th. Hilda's stitches healed up nicely. They are both doing great! They do everything together, if they are separated they will meow for each other, they snuggle, sleep and play together. I am so glad we adopted them both. They are so sweet, they love for us to pet them. We re-named them **Odysseus and Penelope (Odie and Penny)** because they love each other so much!




Thank you for our two cute, cuddly new family members!

Kimberly L. Kraft

~ Apology ~

In our Annual Report published in May of this year, we apologize for inadvertently not listing **Steve Tyriver** as a donor. In 2012, Steve made donations in the amount of \$4,350 to the shelter. We thank Steve for his very generous contributions and his continued support of the shelter.

From Wags To Riches Raffle

<p>Name _____</p> <p>Address _____</p> <p>Phone _____</p> <p> West Suburban Humane Society 1901 W. Ogden Avenue, Downers Grove, IL 60515 630-960-9600</p>	<p>Name _____</p> <p>Address _____</p> <p>Phone _____</p> <p> West Suburban Humane Society 1901 W. Ogden Avenue, Downers Grove, IL 60515 630-960-9600</p>	<p>Name _____</p> <p>Address _____</p> <p>Phone _____</p> <p> West Suburban Humane Society 1901 W. Ogden Avenue, Downers Grove, IL 60515 630-960-9600</p>
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Or 15 tickets for \$50.00, giving you 5 tickets free!

www.WSHS-DG.org

Ask The Trainer

Does your dog have the disgusting habit of eating either their own or another dogs feces? This issue is surprisingly common in dogs and can be very tough to overcome. Many people will give you well intentioned advice that is VERY unlikely to show any results. The first thing that I ask a client who is encountering this issue is what do they feed the dog. If the diet isn't balanced or is of extremely low quality there is a chance that the dog is gorging on feces in order to get minerals or nutrients that he needs. In my experience this is rarely the cause but should at least be examined as a possibility. When poor diet has been ruled out, many people will suggest adding things to either the food or poop in order to discourage the habit. These "fixes" can range from putting pumpkin and meat tenderizer in their food to pouring hot sauce on the poop in the yard. I have



seen some situations where these additives have worked, but it is very rare. Most dogs that eat poop do it because they like it. If you have examined your dogs diet and tried the various additives to stop the habit and haven't seen results it is time to face the truth. 99% of household dogs with this issue do it out of boredom or simple enjoyment and need to be taught that you won't allow the habit. Fixing this issue takes a lot of work and isn't very fun but will make all those licks that your dog gives you much more pleasant.

1. Give your dog more exercise or stimulation to see if boredom might be the cause (fairly rare)
2. Pick up the yard frequently
3. Leave the dog on either a leash or long rope in the yard at all times



4. Know where the poop is in the yard so that when the dog tries to eat it you can quickly correct with the leash as you tell him "NO"
5. Remember step 3! If the leash is not on, the dog will eat more poop and further the habit. I believe in never giving people false hope that something will be easy when that isn't the case. This issue has no quick fix but can be eliminated with consistency and patience on your part.

Please address questions and suggestions for future Ask the Trainer articles to:

Matt Covey
West Suburban
Humane Society
1901 Ogden Avenue
Downers Grove, IL 60515
director@wshs-dg.org



Pet Health Watch by Dr. Main, DVM

Dear Dr. Main:

My dog has developed a reddened eye, what should I do?

The acute-meaning sudden onset, red eye is a commonly encountered problem for veterinarians. Redness is the hallmark sign of inflammation, but is not specific for one particular eye disease. Rather, several different eye problems could present as a red eye; and the degree of redness is not necessarily equivalent to the severity of the disease.

In general when a dog has a red eye and especially if there is squinting of the eye, an appointment should be scheduled to have the patient checked. Some examples of conditions that can cause a red eye would include the following. Conjunctivitis, surface hemorrhage, injection of scleral vessels, corneal disease especially ulcers, and bleeding inside the eye could all cause redness.

Alarming, many of these conditions can represent disease with the risk for loss of vision, hence the need for a veterinary evaluation. Specifically veterinarians will check patients that have red eyes for corneal ulceration, glaucoma, and uveitis (inflammation inside the eye). It is primarily these three eye problems that might lead to blindness.

As it turns out it is not difficult to test for corneal ulceration, glaucoma, or uveitis. Typically three simple tests are performed including 1.) a tear test, 2.) a fluorescein stain

of the cornea, and 3.) tonometry, which measures the pressure inside the eye. With the help of these tests the diagnosis can be narrowed down.

In the case of corneal ulcers there are several types, some more serious than others. When the corneal surface gets injured the eye responds by forming blood vessels that come onto the corneal surface. This usually takes 2-3 days and leads to the eye looking red. Often the patient will be squinting as the ulcer tends to be painful. The depth of the ulcer and whether the ulcer is infected, among other things, will determine the seriousness of the problem. Most simple, superficial ulcers heal readily within 5 days and are treated with antibiotic eye drops and pain medication. Other deeper or infected ulcers may require surgery with an eye specialist.

With glaucoma, the patient is usually painful, the cornea may look cloudy, and vision may be reduced. The eye looks red do to enlargement of vessels that are deeper in the sclera and these vessels are prominent 360 degrees around the eye. The diagnosis of glaucoma can only be determined by taking a measurement of pressure inside the eye. An instrument called a tonopen is used to get this measurement. This test is simple and quick. Once it is determined glaucoma is present treatment is started immediately. The increase in pressure in the eye can lead to blindness. There are several eye drops and oral medications that can be used alone or in

combination to manage glaucoma.

In the case of uveitis the scleral vessels will be prominent 360 degrees around the cornea, there may be blood inside the eye and the eye may appear cloudy. This disease involves inflammation inside the eye and can be caused by systemic problems. Often the pupil is small and the pressure inside the eye is lower than normal. In patients with signs of uveitis, systemic problems should be suspected and further tests performed. These tests would include a general blood evaluation, including tests for tick born diseases, as well as chest radiographs, abdominal ultrasound, and a urinalysis. Finding the underlying cause helps to guide appropriate treatment.

There are other causes of red eye but these three conditions corneal ulcer, glaucoma, and uveitis could potentially lead to vision loss. If your dog is experiencing a red eye, it is best to have it checked right away. Simple tests can be performed leading to appropriate treatment and usually easy resolution of the problem. However if there is a more serious problem behind the red eye, early intervention is critical to the outcome of the problem.

Please address questions and suggestions for future animal health articles to:

Dr. Main
West Suburban Humane Society
1901 W. Ogden Avenue
Downers Grove, IL 60515
director@wshs-dg.org



Volunteer Spotlight – Sandi Krzeminski

Anyone who has visited one of **Sandi Krzeminski's** shifts can see her dedication to WSHS, the animals, the volunteers, and the adopters. Sandi came to WSHS already a seasoned shelter volunteer, having previously volunteered at Assisi Animal Foundation and Anderson Animal Shelter. She seems to have found her home with WSHS and has been volunteering for over 9 years. Though Sandi started as a kennel volunteer, she has expanded her involvement and is now the shift coordinator for two shifts, is part of the kennel training team, helps with special events, provides foster care for dogs, and is a member of the fundraising committee. Being involved in each area fulfills her desire to "help the animals in any way [she] can".



As part of the kennel training team and as a shift coordinator, Sandi loves meeting new volunteers, "they bring so much energy and excitement with them, that it can't help but be contagious". She loves "working with Kurt Mohr in helping new volunteers to get the most out of their desire to work with our animals". Sandi feels "Every volunteer is important and they are what helps make the shelter run smoothly. No matter how small they think their contribution is, they are IMPORTANT".

Of course, Sandi loves the animals, spending time with them, giving them time out, learning their personalities, and helping them to become more adoptable. She enjoys taking animals to events because "people are so receptive and happy to meet these pets". Even if someone is not looking to adopt at this time, they often tell someone they know about us. To Sandi, "one of the best parts

is always seeing our animals find a home". "It's also great when an adopter comes back and says 'I adopted my pet from you and now I'm back to find another one'".

Over the years, Sandi has seen and heard many stories, though a couple of them stand out for her, one dating back to Hurricane Katrina, when she first started volunteering. One Katrina dog, Harold, "was so frightened of everything that to be in the shelter was a nightmare for him". The family who took him in "accepted him into their home and cared for him" until his passing. Another dog is Jemma, who was terrified of thunderstorms. The family that fostered her arranged for someone to be home with her at any time there was a possibility of a storm. They did this for years until Jemma passed away. Sandi feels "these are the real life stars...these are the angels that are out there doing things for the animals they love".

At home, Sandi currently has two dogs, Sake, a "foster failure" who is a Fox hound mix, and Princess Sasha (aka Astrid), who is a foster (and Sandi says "has a soon to be released book coming out 'Living with Sasha and Lovin' it'"). For Sandi, her grandchildren are "number one". She loves "doing things with them and taking them places. We go to the theatre, children's museums, zoos, and Monkey Joe's". Her two older granddaughters have volunteered at the shelter and helped at events, and "the younger three have been to the shelter and were featured in a video about Radar".



HEARTY THANKS



Whittier Elementary Kindergartners Daisy Troop #520 collected and donated supplies to the shelter. Thank you to Daisy Scouts Natalie, Charlotte, Eleanor, Mia, Zoey, Jadyn, Sophia L., Sophia H., Sofie, Luci and Troop Leaders Lettie Jank and Carla Giannelli.

Diane Stapleton lost her beloved greyhound Ireland and wanted to do something to honor her memory. She collected and donated \$260 and 2 car loads of food and supplies for the animals at the shelter.

The **Happy Dog Barkery in Downers Grove** had a shower and donated the proceeds of \$100 to the shelter. They also donated numerous food and supplies.

Murphy School Student Council members had a St. Patrick's Day sale and voted to give the profits of \$195.80 to the shelter.

The **Student Union of Glen Crest Middle School** held a drive and collected \$26.90 and supplies from our wish list.

The **students at Manning Elementary School** collected food and supplies and donated them to the shelter.

The **Leo Club of Westview Hills Middle School** sold rubber bracelets and donated the proceeds of \$125 to the shelter.

Honda of Lisle selected the shelter as their April charity of the month and gave us a donation of \$500.

Citadel Information Management in Westmont held a Shred4Rescues shredding event. They charged \$2.00 a bag and split the proceeds between 4 animal welfare organizations. We received a donation of \$604.40.

Sarah Barber of Woodridge collected and donated \$26 to the shelter.

The **students at Our Lady of Peace School** held a walkathon and donated \$2,454.62 of the proceeds to the shelter.

Anastasia Farsalas collected money for Greek Easter and donated \$125 for us to use in the cattery.

Ave Allington of Downers Grove turned 8 and her brother Elijah turned 6 and they asked for donations for the shelter instead of gifts for themselves. The donated numerous food and supply donations.

Mary Schmid turned 8 and asked for donations for the shelter instead of gifts for her. She donated \$165 to the shelter.

The **students at Indian Trail Elementary School in Downers Grove** donated \$50 and numerous food and supply donations.

Middle West Distributors in West Chicago in conjunction with Stella & Chewy's ran a promotion through the Happy Dog Barkery and Wet Nose and they chose us to be the recipient of the proceeds received through the promotion. They donated \$771.90 to the animals at the shelter.

Downers Grove North Honor Society Students collected and donated numerous food and supply donations.

Menards in Glendale Heights donated food and toys to the shelter.

Kat Rutkowski had a birthday and asked for donations for the shelter instead of gifts for her. She donated \$85 and numerous supply donations.

Girl Scout Troop 1146 had a bake sale, egg hunt and pet parade. They donated the proceeds of \$268.34 as well as handmade blankets to the animals at the shelter.

Elmhurst College had a Care Walk for Canines and donated \$75 of the proceeds to the shelter.

Carol Thygesen, a WSHS volunteer had a retirement party and part of her gift was food, supplies and a monetary donation to the shelter.

Lester School Student Council members collected numerous food and supply donations and donated them to the shelter.

Kristina Barsketi of Downers Grove turned 12 and asked for donations to the shelter instead of gifts for her. She donated \$95 to the shelter.

Grant Anderson of Elmhurst turned 7 and asked for donations for the shelter instead of gifts for him. He donated numerous food and supply donations.

Gabriela Cicci of Woodridge turned 5 and asked for donations for the shelter instead of gifts for her. She donated numerous food and supply donations.

Volunteers from UnitedHealth Group, UnitedHealthcare and Optum donated time to help us prepare for our annual plant sale as well as \$800.

The **employees of HSBC in Elmhurst** donated the following items to the shelter: 63 lbs of dry cat food, 145 lbs of dry dog food, 184 cans of cat food, 32 cans of dog food, 6 rolls of paper towels, 4 boxes of Kleenex, 1 bag of paper plates, 4 boxes of trash bags, 1 box of feeding bottles, 3 boxes of dog treats, 2 bottles of dish soap, 2 bottles of laundry detergent and 2 bottles of bleach.

Jaden Lydon had a birthday and asked for donations for the shelter instead of gifts for him. He donated \$164.54 to the animals at the shelter.

Shea Casey made bracelets with her friends and donated the proceeds of \$51.18 to the shelter.



Thank you to the following businesses and people that made our 40th Anniversary Event a big success:

**WEST SUBURBAN HUMANE SOCIETY'S 40TH ANNIVERSARY FUNDRAISER HOSTED BY:
Doggie Depot**

**OUR 40TH ANNIVERSARY EVENT WAS SPONSORED BY:
Gritis & Associates, Ltd.**

THANK YOU TO ALL OF OUR AUCTION ITEM DONORS:

AAA Jewelry & Diamond Exchange, Inc.	Jessica & Nikki's Canine Corner & Kitty Boutique of Woodridge, IL
Anne Swenson, Women's Board Coordinator, Sharia Battle, Institutional Advancement, & Erin King, Donor Relations Manager of the Field Museum of Chicago, IL	Multi Media Artist Renae Madison
Anonymous	Naper Nuts & Sweets of Naperville, IL
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Build-A-Bear Workshop Headquarters	PD-FD Financial in Lisle/Michael Marrazzo, Agent
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Donna & Roger Kolb of Willowbrook, IL	Spice Merchants in Downers Grove, IL
Dr. Mark Skowron of Skowron Eye Care Center of Elmhurst	The Hilton Chicago/Indian Lakes Resort of Bloomingdale, IL
Dr. Alan Main, owner and veterinarian of West Suburban Veterinary Associates of Westmont, IL	The Morton Arboretum of Lisle, IL
Dr. Ken Eisenberg, WSHS Board Member, owner and veterinarian of All Creatures Great and Small Veterinary Practice of Downers Grove, IL	The Paramount of Aurora, IL
Felicia Banys of Picture Your Pets Pet Photography	WSHS Board Member, Pat Rowland
Felicia Figelwitz of Figgy's Zen Dogs of Downers Grove, IL	WSHS Board Member, Pam Kevil
Fine Artist Natalie Clare Shugailo, Lynn and John Day of Bottle & Bottega of Glen Ellyn, IL	WSHS Executive Director Carolyn Mossberger
Four Winds Casino in Michigan	WSHS Supporter & Volunteer Cathy Mead
Glen Ellyn Cyclery & Fitness in Glen Ellyn owned by the Hostetler Family	WSHS Supporters Dianne and Steve Arp
Happy Dog Barkery of Downers Grove, IL	WSHS Supporter Eva Smith
Harrah's Casino of Joliet, IL	WSHS Supporter Ewa Czerwony
Hollywood Casino of Aurora, IL	WSHS Supporter Janet Karel
Horseshoe Casino of Hammond, IN	WSHS Supporter Jennifer Bahlmann
	WSHS Supporter Tom Hill of LaGrange
	WSHS Supporter, Dan O'Mahony
	WSHS Supporters Max, Quinn & Chace Krzeminski
	WSHS Supporters Regina Dreyer & Ann Malachowski
	WSHS Supporters Samantha & Sydney Sztym
	WSHS Volunteers Dean & Kris Foster

THANK YOU TO ALL OF OUR PAWPRINT BAG DONORS

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Beadnicks and More
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Wild Birds Unlimited in Lisle, IL
Wells Street Popcorn in Downers Grove, IL

ENTERTAINMENT PROVIDED BY:

Project 7X ~ Rock of the 1970s

Email: Contact@Project7x.com Web: www.Project7x.com

and Jen Noel.

For more information on Jen, visit her website at www.JenNoelproductions.com

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Pinecone Cottage Tea House & Catering, Downers Grove
Emmett's Ale House, Downers Grove
Renee Cantalupo, Platinum Partners of Downers Grove, 630-205-1130
Lorie Bonham, WSHS Board of Directors
The WSHS Board of Directors

CHAIRS PROVIDED BY:

Laura Lithio and First Congregational Church of Christ in Downers Grove

A BIG THANK YOU TO OUR FUNDRAISING ADVISORY GROUP:

Gail Monick, Carol Glombicki, Mary Edwards, Cindy Brasic, Jan Montalbano, Kris Mezatis, Sandi Krzeminski, Pam Kevil, Renee Cantalupo, Ruth Cloonan, Debbie Grandt, Eva Smith, WSHS Executive Director Carolyn Mossberger, WSHS Director Lorie Bonham