



A St*itch* n Time

**SPAY
NEUTER
SERVICES
OF
INDIANA**

Volume 26 No. 2

Spring 2003

February Campaign Milestones

🐾 During the month of February, SNSI hit some milestones. First we “stitched” up the 30,000th surgery under SNSI programs. The surgery occurred during the February campaign which saw a 29% increase over last year.

By the time all numbers were reported (there were a few late surgeries thanks to dedicated vets), there were 1,705 February Surgeries.

Volunteer **Joey Daye** handled a handful of press releases on SNSI’s behalf. They were so professional looking that many papers picked up the free press releases, giving SNSI all-important exposure.

We want to also thank the **IndyPets Alive Volunteers** who initially called veterinarians encouraging them to participate and they also helped distribute February Certificates to public places and workplaces near them.

SNSI was also invited by Animal Care & Control to a Press Conference held on National Spay Day – February 25th. **Kathy Able** attended the Press Conference which was held at the Humane Society.

Kathy was able to put in a few good words about not only the February program but also the other programs held by SNSI year round.

What teamwork!

Annual Dinner 2003

🐾 On May 15, SNSI held its annual dinner at the Riviera Club with 80 people attending. Everyone enjoyed the buffet, and they listened to a description and summary of SNSI programs. Then an election of officers for 2003-2004 was held with the new board members being: **Kathy Able, Verna Boggs, Dotty Carpenter, Jean Ditzenberger, Xandra Hamilton, Judy Harvey, Robin Maine, and Jane Yakey**. The nominees were unanimously approved.

A silent auction was held with bids for two trees from the Yakey Tree Farm. The Board thanks **Jane** and her husband for these donations.

Our speaker for the evening was **Lisa Tudor** of IndyFeral Inc., a new group that spays or neuters feral cats. The group’s mission is to trap-neuter-return cats, which have caregivers that will provide

shelter and food.

Following her talk, several people asked **Lisa** questions about this new group in Indianapolis. Since the majority of people attending the dinner were from animal-related organizations, there was much interest and discussion about how IndyFeral could complement the services of the other groups.

The following numbers of surgeries done by IndyFeral show how vital their work is in our area: January-86; February-93; March-129, and April-51. SNSI supports IndyFeral with 15 surgeries monthly. In addition, SNSI sponsored a Spay Day in which 58 surgeries were done on May 18.

The Board thanks **Lisa Tudor** for bringing information about this much-needed program designed to curb the overpopulation of feral cats in our area.



IndyFeral Inc.
P.O. Box 30054
Indianapolis, IN
46230-0054
www.indyferal.org
317-596-2300



Spay-Neuter Services of Indiana, Inc. is a nonprofit, all-volunteer organization supported by people who care. It was formed in 1977 to provide a solution to the pet overpopulation problem.

**Spay-Neuter Services
of Indiana, Inc.**
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Spay-Neuter Services of Indiana, Inc.

Board of Directors

Kathy Able
Verna Boggs
Dotty Carpenter
Jean Ditzenberger
Xandra Hamilton
Judy Harvey
Robin Maine
Jane Yakey

**Be Sure Your Kindness
Lives Forever**

A helping hand can be extended beyond your lifetime. Endowments and bequests enable SNSI to add services to our program of assisting limited-income families with the spaying-neutering of pets and to educate pet owners on the need to spay-neuter their pets.

If you wish to remember us in your will or life insurance policy, be sure to use our corporate name, Spay-Neuter Services of Indiana, Inc. This way you can be certain that the kindness of your lifetime will be perpetuated.

REMEMBERING SPECIAL FRIENDS, FAMILY, AND PETS



FRIENDS AND FAMILY MEMORIALS

In memory of **ZELDA STEVENS**,
Irene Stevens' mother
Susan Burton
Carole Harris

In memory of **JOANN EARLEY**
Sam Earley

In memory of **MARGE
McMAHON-DETLOFF**, wife of
Bob Detloff
Gail Jean

In loving memory of our wonderful
parents **DELOIS & LOWELL
DITZENBERGER**
Jody Lamprey
Joyce Broglin
Jean Ditzenberger

PET MEMORIALS

In memory of **PERI**, loving cat and
devoted friend of Jo Schaub &
Carole Gates

Jane Mills
Pat Wright
Joyce Crowell
Winifred Flowers
Marian Osborn & Mai Tai
Linda Thornton
Irene Stevens
Betty Layton
Mindy Burcham
Ann Spalding
Dr. Don Nesler
Russell Lind
Margot Finot
Ginny Kingsbury
Xandra Hamilton
Gail Jean
Jean Ditzenberger

In memory of **JAKE**, dog of Nancy
Shoop & Carol Kramer. They didn't
have him long but they made his
final months happy ones.
Xandra Hamilton
Jean Ditzenberger

In memory of **BRITTANY**, dog
owned by Jane Mills & Pat Wright
Margot Finot
Ginny Kingsbury

In memory of **SASHA**, dog of Barb
Ressler & Linda Shinn
Xandra Hamilton

In memory of **MAGGIE**, loving dog
of Marilyn Goff
Dudley Finot-Kingsbury

In memory of **SMOKEY**, longtime
friend of Brenda & Phil McNulty
Dudley Finot-Kingsbury

In memory of **CODY**, beloved dog
of Sue Strahl
Xandra Hamilton

Stamping Out Pet Overpopulation

🐾 It took years of asking to get the U.S. Postal Service (USPS) to issue a postage stamp that promoted spaying and neutering.

Now that we have the "Neuter or Spay" stamp available, the USPS doesn't want the interest for the stamp to taper off. The stamps will be discontinued September 2003 (one year after issue).

Advocates for the spay/neuter stamp promised a complete sell-out of the stamps. However, the USPS says every group has made the same promise about their respective stamps, and that it's never been done.

The initial print of Neuter or Spay Stamps was 250 million, far more than the normal run for commemorative stamps (usually around 80 million). It is hoped that the stamps will sell out and do it quickly enough that the USPS will consider reprinting them.

Let's see if we can be the first group to sell-out its advocate stamp!

Join SNSI in using and promoting the "Neuter or Spay" stamps. We have been given a real opportunity as animal lovers— **and we must take advantage of it.** If your local post office is sold out, you can order them online at www.usps.gov.

Educational Program

🐾 One important educational program of SNSI is KIND NEWS. Sets of 32 newspapers are sent to classrooms of kindergarten through second grade, third or fourth grades, or fifth and sixth grades. KIND stands for Kindness to Animals, each other, and the environment with emphasis upon pet responsibility.

Sample comments from these young students are following: *"Cool fun news about animals," "news for children," "thank you for caring for cats and dogs so they won't have babies," "we need to know how animals live," and "I like tips on animal care, word searches, and Dr. Kind."*

This year SNSI sponsored 124 monthly subscriptions. Indianapolis Animal Care and Control will use two subscriptions for next year in their new partnership with IPS students.

If any of you know a teacher who might be interested in receiving these newspapers, have her/him call **Judy Harvey** at 317-861-4007. The deadline is June 20.

Have Your Pet Chipped-Cheap!

🐾 During Animal Care & Control shelter hours you can have your dog or cat microchipped for the very reasonable fee of \$10.

The \$10 covers your pet should they get lost in Marion County. ACC will make sure Rover is returned to you. As additional insurance, for another \$6.25 you can register your pet with the national chip company. Should your dog or cat wander outside of Marion County, the company will have the important information to notify you.

That is still half the price of most places around town!

It is not difficult to get to ACC, especially if you can swing around the west side of I-465 (less construction!). Once you turn north on Harding, ACC is only two miles from I-465. The address is 2600 S. Harding Street, phone 317-327-1397.

Animal Care & Control hours are 10-6 PM Monday-Friday with extended hours until 7 PM on Wednesday.

Also open Saturday 10-4 PM.

Mobile Spay-Neuter Clinic

🐾 The I-CAN Mobile Spay/Neuter Clinic hopes to conduct its first surgery on July 8th! They have developed a packaged service and pricing structure.

They have hired a veterinarian but are still looking for two experienced veterinary technicians.

For questions, call **Julie Smith** at 317-578-1800. For more updates, keep checking their website www.spayneuter.net.

Animal Control Report by Darcie Kurtz

🐾 I am happy to provide an update on developments at Indianapolis Animal Care and Control (ACC). In addition to all the recent changes in ACC management staff, there has also been a change in membership of the ACC Advisory Board.

Martha Boden (Executive Director of the Humane Society of Indianapolis) was sworn in as the HSI representative, **Judy Singleton** was appointed to the board by the City-County Council, and I was appointed by the Mayor's Office. In addition, efforts are underway to establish a new Foundation, with new Board members, to raise and manage funds to improve the ACC facility and the lives of the animals who reside there.

The shelter animals continue to receive proper care. The cages are clean and pets are provided appropriate food, bedding and medical care. Most importantly, animals are not allowed to suffer. Attempts are being made to provide additional sources of shelter enrichment for the animals; including regular exercise, toys, and noise control.

Unfortunately, the influx of animals received at ACC remains staggering, at or near the stated capacity of 490 animals, with the euthanasia rate still hovering around 65%.

The staff and volunteers at ACC are working many avenues, such as: Petfinder.com, local television news, weekends at PetsMart Stores and also local events such as marching in the

St. Patrick's Day Parade and mingling with children at the Columbia Club's Easter Bunny Breakfast. Also, new signs have been put up along Harding Street to help the public find the shelter.

Recently, ACC has been provided with a golden opportunity called the "Puppy Shuttle." Due to aggressive spay/neuter programs in Milwaukee, there is actually a shortage of available dogs and puppies in that region! The Wisconsin Humane Society has agreed to receive dogs from ACC. The two groups will continue to work together to transfer animals from Indy to Milwaukee for adoption. The only limiting factor is Indianapolis volunteers to transport dogs to Milwaukee each Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday. This is an opportunity too great to pass up. If you are interested in driving the Puppy Shuttle, even just once, please call ACC Shelter Manager **Dave Wintz** at 317-327-1430. You will need to make your own arrangements for rental of the transport van. However, if you wish, you may be reimbursed for your expenses. SNSI member, **Rosie Ellis**, has generously offered to be one of the financial sponsors for the project.

With so many efforts to promote spay/neuter and responsible pet guardianship, we can look forward to the day when we welcome the Puppy Shuttle to Indianapolis!

Pet Registration Update

Unfortunately, the pet registration proposal put before the City-County Council last year did not move forward. This was due, at least in part, to opposition from local breeders. However, there may be future efforts to give the registration ordinance another try. We will keep you posted if we need public support to help pass a similar pet registration ordinance.

SNSI Corporate member
PAUL E. SMITH CO., INC.

Recent Events

PAWS of Greenfield held a Mardi Paws event on May 3rd. Pets and humans dined together at Zoobie's Restaurant in Greenfield. PAWS was gracious enough to pass out SNSI applications and brochures.

April 26th was a busy day for SNSI. **Jean Ditzenberger** took spay neuter applications to participants at Earth Day; on the same day in Garfield Park, **Kathy Able** reached out to local pet owners.

ARPO held a vaccination clinic April 6th for the pet owners around Keenan-Stahl Boys and Girls Club. **Kathy**

Able attended with spay neuter certificates and spoke to many pet owners who were, until that day, undecided about whether to spay/neuter.



Please join SNSI

Enclosed is my membership check for:

___	Individual membership	\$20.00
___	Family membership	\$30.00
___	Sustaining	\$50.00
___	Junior	\$5.00
___	Corporate	\$100.00
___	Donation	\$_____

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____

Zip Code _____

Telephone # _____

Make check payable to:
Spay-Neuter Services of Indiana, Inc.
P.O. Box 55917
Indianapolis, IN 46205-0917

**ALL DONATIONS ARE
TAX-DEDUCTIBLE**

www.spayneuterservices.org