




A Stitch in Time



Volume 26 No. 1


Winter 2003

February Program Gets Technology Boost

 The SNSI Board and Volunteers are gearing up for another successful February Pet Overpopulation Campaign.


There are 34 vets participating this year thanks in part to volunteers from Indy Pets Alive. We were nearing the deadline to sign up for the February Program with a small

Instant Spay-Neuter Applications

 We were surprised, really. It's not that expensive to have a website.

Of course it helps when you get a talented *volunteer* well versed in web design. We found that person in **Joey Daye**. What a great gal and so helpful! We gave her the context of what we wanted on our site and she

Another Successful Fundraiser

 SNSI Member **Carol Kramer** is consistently a top seller in the annual nut sale. This year she might have topped herself, but let's hope not!

Carol is an employee of St. Vincent's Hospital and last year transferred from the West 86th Street location to the Carmel location. It seems her former coworkers at West 86th Street didn't want her to forget them come nut sale time. So on **Carol's** off-days she would make the trip back to West 86th Street to take orders and then also go back again to deliver orders. This is all in addition to her new sales in Carmel.

Our thanks go to all the SNSI nut sellers; the profit from the 2002 Nut Sale will be just under \$11,000! What an incredible fundraiser. The SNSI Board will continue promoting spay/neuter programs throughout 2003 thanks to all this very hard work.

www.spayneuterservices.org

number of vets committed. To our rescue came Indy Pets Alive who offered to call the vets who had not signed up yet and encourage them to do so. This is no small task!

Pet owners are ready. Calls to the voice mail have been coming in since the end of December.

As usual you will find Hot Pink February Certificates at Marion County Library Branches and by calling our voice mail (317-788-6330).

New this year will be the ability to download a certificate from the SNSI website. Folks who take advantage of this will have their certificate *instantly* and can call the vet of their choice *the same day!*

developed an easy to read and easy to use website for SNSI.

We wanted visitors to the site to learn about SNSI, but most importantly we wanted pet owners to be able to download applications *immediately*.

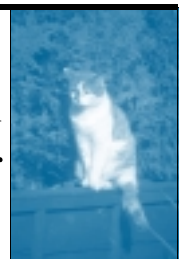
Other features of the website include: list of benefits of spay/neuter, list of frequently asked questions, and recent editions of *A Stitch in Time*.

To get the maximum value of the monthly website fee, we need lots of folks to visit the



website. It is important that all SNSI Members spread the word that the site is available (address shown above).

2003
Annual
Dinner
May 15





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.
Post Office Box 55917
Indianapolis, IN 46205-0917**



**www.spayneuterservices.org
info@spayneuterservices.org**

317/788-6330

*A Stitch in Time is published by
Spay-Neuter Services of Indiana, Inc.*

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**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 **WILFRED K. WALTHER**, who passed away
September 2, 2002
Ann Spalding

In memory of **LEROY WARRINER**,
who passed away January 2, 2003
Ann Spalding

In memory of **BETTY WILLIAMS**,
sister of June Fero
Xandra Hamilton

In memory of **DR. & MRS. JAMES
HUCKLEBERRY, DR. ELIZABETH
GRAVES, MARY HAMMOND, &
ROBERTA HALL**
Dr. Don Nesler
Russell Lind

PET MEMORIALS

In memory of **HEIDI**, beloved dog of
Phyllis, Mike, Jessica & Shea Strauss
Judie Boulware
Linda Warren

In memory of **MAGGIE**, a great lab and
wonderful companion of Marilyn Goff
Marilyn Goff
Carole Gates
Jo Schaub

In memory of "**G.B.**" (**Good Buddy**),
beloved little beagle belonging to
Linda Thornton & Irene Stevens
Xandra Hamilton
Susan Burton
Carole Harris
Betty Layton
Mindy Burcham
Dudley Finot Kingsbury

In memory of **PEEWEE "THE KING"
BOWLBY**, feline companion of Paul
Bowlby and Diane Suker. One of the
truly great cats of all time who was
immediately loved by everyone who ever
met him.
Paula Jones

In memory of **HEIDI**, a very sweet
schnauzer belonging to
Marilyn Greenlee and Carol Kubli
Susan Burton
Carole Harris
Walter & Suzy
Gail Jean & Buffi
Margot Finot
Ginny Kingsbury
Dudley
Xandra Hamilton
Jean Ditzenberger

In memory of **SASHA**, poodle of Barb
Resler and Linda Shinn
Betty Layton
Mindy Burcham
Dudley Finot Kingsbury

In memory of **BO**, big lovable
dog of Anne & Jeff McCabe
Xandra Hamilton

In memory of **PUFF**, the cat who let
Irene Stevens and Linda Thornton live
with him
Xandra Hamilton

Helping Dogs, Helping Cats

"Dogs are dogs"

Many of us have multiple pets in our homes, sharing our couch, sharing our lives. We work on improving the lives of dogs and cats in Indy, never intending to have so many of our own!

I was recently looking for help with the dogs in my home so I called upon **Warren Patitz**, local dog trainer. After a couple home visits with **Warren** and some lengthy emails, what a difference we see in our house! I remind myself daily that "dogs are dogs" as **Warren** says and work with that motto instead of against it.

What impressed me most about **Warren**, besides his very calm demeanor, is how he showed me that I didn't need to schedule specific training time for the dogs. He showed us how to tweak what we were already doing (feed the dogs, let them in, let them out, etc.) to bring around improvements.

If you are interested in getting to know **Warren** and his kind, humane behavior modification techniques, he can be reached either by email cabinone@juno.com or by phone 317-381-3595

Another option, **Warren** will be offering group classes at IACC (Indianapolis Animal Care and Control) along with the help of two assistants. Classes are forming now for the February 6th (6 week) evening course. To register, or for additional

information, call 317-327-1396.

Warren has been working with dogs for over 20 years; 11 years were at HSI running a training program. He is also the author of a book, Recreational Agility.

Verna Boggs

In February, watch for Warren on government access Channel 16. Public Service spots will highlight dog behavior and spay-neuter information!

TNR - A Great Idea

IndyFeral, Inc. is an all-volunteer non-profit group whose goal is to control the stray and feral (wild) cat population through the non-lethal method of (TNR) Trap-Neuter-Return. TNR is not only cost-effective and humane, but it is scientifically proven as the most effective means of controlling the homeless cat population. TNR has been successfully implemented in several cities around the country and is endorsed by many well-respected institutions.



In addition to reducing the number of homeless cats, IndyFeral, Inc. also seeks to improve lives and create a better awareness by:

• Training caretakers to

manage stray/feral cat colonies in central Indiana.

- Providing resources to ensure stray/feral cats have a dry, warm shelter, food and water.
- Providing training and support for humane trapping.
- Providing access to spay/neuter services, medical services and financial assistance as needed.
- Educating the public about the role of stray/feral cats in our community.

Since IndyFeral, Inc. was established in July of 2002, they have sterilized 700 cats and prevented the births of thousands of unwanted animals.... but IndyFeral, Inc. can't do it alone.

They need the support of the entire community as the "rescuer" of these homeless cats. Unchecked, the cats will continue to reproduce at an alarming rate and the old motto "they aren't my cats" won't work anymore. This is a community-created situation and IndyFeral offers a community-created solution. The current "solution" of paying to have them killed at shelters and animal control facilities through donations and tax dollars is not working.... we can either pay to have them killed or have them humanely sterilized with TNR. It is our choice!

If you would like to learn more, volunteer or make a donation, call 596-2300 or visit www.indyferal.org.

Animal Control Report by Darcie Kurtz

🐾 I am happy to take over this column for **Lucy Meyer**, former ACC Board Chairperson. Although I was not appointed to the Board to replace **Lucy**, as hoped, I continue to be a regular volunteer at ACC, as well as providing public input into ACC Board meetings. My involvement has put me in frequent contact with ACC staff, Board Members, and other volunteers.

I recently heard someone describe the mission of the Animal Care and Control division very well: "To protect people from dangerous animals and to protect animals from dangerous people." I think that we are finally working toward a better balance between public safety and animal welfare in Indianapolis.

Since **Lucy's** last report, **Jim Garrard** was appointed as the new permanent ACC Administrator. **Dave Wintz** continues to fill the spot as Shelter Manager.

The ACC volunteer pool has begun to grow from days not

too long ago. There are now committed volunteers who work to find homes for animals and also those who show up Sunday mornings, rain or shine, to walk dogs. The need for help is virtually limitless! When I walk a dog or pet a cat, I know that I have improved their lives in a real way. I would encourage SNSI members to volunteer at ACC if you can.

Despite these recent advances, there is still a long, long way to go at ACC. The ACC facility was built with the intent of warehousing and destroying animals, rather than rehabilitating and re-homing.

Structural changes to the cat kennels are underway to minimize disease transmission. Also being considered is an outdoor courtyard-type area adjacent to the dog kennels so dogs can be left outside for exercise during routine cleaning. However, these projects will require generous donations from the public.

We in the animal welfare community need to stay focused on preventing unwanted litters now. Keep fighting the good fight.

More ACC recognition to . . .

- **Rosie Ellis**, SNSI Member, for rescuing ACC animals to her own shelter, SSAS
- SNSI Member, **Fern Roesch**, who helped purchase mats to use as bedding for all the shelter dogs
- Donor, **Mike Shinn**, who helped finance the new outdoor fencing structure

Monetary donations can be made to ACC. Checks are made out to "Indianapolis Animal Care & Control" with notation "Shelter enhancement or improvement." Mail to:
Office of the Controller
City-County Building,
Suite 2222
200 East Washington St.
Indianapolis, IN 46204

I-CAN Mobile Clinic Update

If all city permits come in on time, I-CAN plans to hold an **Open House on February 25th** (National Spay Day). Watch their website www.spayneuter.net for updates as 2/25 nears!



Special message to say Merry Christmas to **Xandra Hamilton** and to thank her for all she does.
 Sue Stahl

What have we been doing?

In 2002 board members and volunteers were busy distributing application forms for SNSI programs at the following places and events:

- February Campaign 2002, 644 URBAN Applications in food baskets through Wishing Well & Holy Cross, Garfield Park & Concord Center Fairs, Adopt-a-thon at Petco, Flyers in Walmart for a month, Best Friends Pet Fair in Castleton, Meijer in Mooresville, Animal Care & Control Party, Gilmore Park Pet Fest, Fountain Square Art Fair, SNAP Applications in libraries in July, Information table at a Petsmart store, Earth Day*

In addition, the board is sponsoring fifteen surgeries for the **IndyFeral** group monthly and five surgeries per month for **Southside Animal Shelter**.

Corporate member

PAUL E. SMITH

CO., INC.