



Paw Prints

Newsletter of the Brown County Humane Society

Summer, 2006

Society News

Masses of Cats!

We sailed through the first part of 2006 pretty handily. Then kitten season hit us and suddenly we were swamped, awash in homeless kitties.

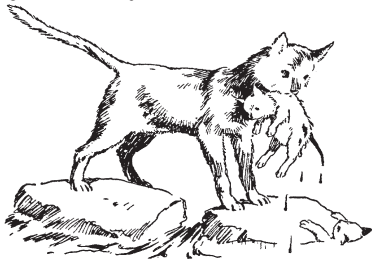
By the second weekend in June we were housing 60 kittens under 3 months old in our shelter and our staff and volunteers were making a mad dash to get the youngest of them into foster care and to find homes for the older ones.

Even now, in late-July, cats and kittens are still pouring in at an average of *four per day* far more than we can hope to find homes for.

In fact, cat overpopulation in our county has reached egregious proportions this year. For instance, one family called and said their barn cat situation had gotten out of hand and asked if we could help with 200 of their cats! It's all a huge burden on the shelter, a tragedy for all those kittens who will never find a home, and a nuisance and potential danger to everyone.

And it's all so needless; if more people had only spayed and neutered their cats we wouldn't be in this predicament now.

Our goal is to keep our shelter's pet-placement rate above 75%, but that will be almost impossible with so many cats breeding uncontrolled. Left unchecked, cats can reproduce at an astounding rate. One female cat and her offspring can produce 420,000 cats in just seven years.

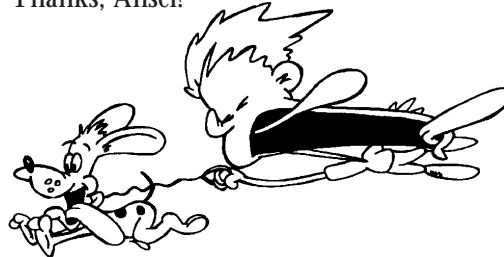


Our County is being flooded with cats and your help is needed to stem the tide. Please spay and neuter all your cats, and encourage your friends and neighbors to do the same. If you or someone you know needs financial help to spay and neuter their cats, contact us at 988-7362 for assistance.

And Speaking of Cats...

For the first time ever a cat was a sponsor of our annual Dawg Gone Dog Walk this year.

Dave & Daren Redman's cat, Ansel Adams, who, sadly, passed away just a few months before the Dog Walk, was fondly remembered through a generous donation in his honour. His name was emblazoned on banners and posters at the event and on our web site, too. Ansel was one unique kitty all right how many kitties do you know bold enough to sponsor a *dog* event? Thanks, Ansel!



And Speaking of the Dog Walk...

it was a howling success!

Finally, we had a gorgeous, sunny day and everyone enjoyed their afternoon in the park, canine and human alike.

The dogs competed intensely to be the fastest in the Doggie Dash, the quickest in the Hot Dog Bob, and the best be-decked in the Costume Contest. The competition was fierce, the camaraderie was high, and everyone went home happily exhausted and making plans for next year's event.



And Speaking of Exhausted...

Cathi Eagan continues to coordinate volunteers to help her drive dogs from our shelter to the New England area once a month. Now that takes a bit of travelin'!

In 2005 she and her band of volunteers drove a total of 129 Brown County dogs to New England shelters where they were adopted into wonderful homes. So far this year Cathi and her caravan have moved 106 dogs to these northeastern and the year is only half over!



Duke Energy employees Chris Arbuckle and Gary Helton helped paint the Humane Society's barn.

Another group of generous folks who exhausted themselves for a BCHS cause, is from Duke Energy.

Thirteen Duke employees worked with humane society staffer Gene Ellis on a hot, muggy June day to paint our barn. It took three coats of paint to do the job, but by the end of the day it was done and the old barn never looked so good! Many thanks to Duke Energy and their fantastic team of volunteer painters.



And Speaking of Fantastic Teams...

Jaime Robbins continues to lead the terrific staff of Amber Welch, Gene Ellis, Nikia Lawles and Amy Sizemore at the animal shelter. Each of these dedicated folks works very hard to keep the animals clean, healthy, and happy; and to keep the customers satisfied too! Stop by and say Hi to them and play with some lovable, and very appreciative, dogs and cats.

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A Forever Promise

Your Humane Society has improved in leaps and bounds in its thirty-year existence. We have been especially successful in achieving higher and higher levels of service since building our new shelter facility nearly a decade ago. The new shelter was a real shot in the arm for us causing a cascade of improvements to begin: more space and a higher profile which in turn enabled us to keep more animals longer which let us find homes for a greater number of pets, which meant fewer pets had to be destroyed.

And success breeds success. Once we no longer felt like we were fighting a losing battle and began to make real headway, more good people got involved, got organized, and got our pet-placement numbers up to an all-time high.

And we're still improving.

The only thing that we haven't managed to significantly improve upon is our donations rate.

It's not for lack of trying. Our fundraising committee has outdone themselves each year, but with a bigger, better, more effective shelter comes bigger bills to pay. Just keeping the new building ticking along means more money going out for utilities, building upkeep, etc.

And that's just the building itself, there's also all those mouths to feed now that we have more kennels and cat crates, and more pets coming through on their way to good homes more often, the cost of their care is also swelling.

In short, it's all about the future. Bake sales and silent auctions, while important fundraising events, just can't net the kind of funds that will guarantee money for the shelter's basic operating expenses will be there, year in and year out, for decades to come. And it's nearly impossible to run an operation such as the shelter, with so many depending on it, on a month-to-month basis.

So, with hopes of being able to one day guarantee the future of the Brown County Humane Society and a continuance of all the good it does, we are launching a new fundraising drive, seeking sizable contributions to a special endowment fund called, appropriately enough, Funds for Our Future (FOF).

We're currently at work composing a detailed information packet to show just how well the BCHS is doing its job, and how the fund will work, but we wanted to announce it here with just the basics:

Your charitable contributions will go into an account where the *principle* will be protected and the *interest* used to pay the general operating expenses of the shelter, thus providing a stable source of income to keep our most important assets, and biggest expense, operating for years to come.

So here's a way to leave a legacy to your Brown County home. Something that will do good for generations to come: the guarantee that there will always be a place where our community's homeless pets will find shelter, love, and good people willing to work hard to find them a forever home.

And an organization working to help people and their pets.

Of course, funding an endowment is an important decision; but it's also a promise that, once made, will be kept forever.

So if you believe...

Providing shelter and care for neglected and abandoned companion animals is the right thing to do

There should always be local service for reuniting lost pets with their families

Responsible pet ownership should be promoted and supported

Pets are family too and to neglect them diminishes us all

...then please contact Jane Weatherford, president of the Brown County Humane Society, at 988-0629 for more information and to discuss how you can fund your very own promise to the future.



Memberships & Donations

Yes! I want to be a member!

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Please help the animals!

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Volunteers Needed! Please check each activity you are interested in:

Education:

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Fundraising:

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In Memory of A

TOM BARNHART
Sisters of PEO, CU chapter

SHEBA
Rosemary Sandy

"WOLFIE"
Ozma Bond

CHARLEY ALBER
Timothy & Christina Weaver

"BESS," BEST EVER
Connie & Al Pockevich

AMBER FARABAUGH
James & Judith Huber

"ANSEL REDMON," BELOVED CAT OF DAREN & DAVE
David & Kathy Cuppy

"AUGIE" JONES
Barbara Henry

"BAILEY" ANDERSON
Kathleen Allspaw

"BENTLEY"
Bill & Norma Jean Boren

"CINNAMON," A GREAT DOG
Kerry Graham

"HARRY-DOG"
John & Pamillia Cavosie

"HONEY & DINKER"
Pat & Kendra Loyal

"JACKSON"
Alexandra Fettig

"KITTY SOPHIA"
Denise Harter

"MAC," GREAT DOG OF KATHLEEN STEPHENS
Mary Perez

"MORGAN"
Annella Hamilton

"NIKKI," OUR BELOVED DOG
Cora & Herbert Miller

REX & PO, OUR GENTLE GIANTS
Larry Yaeger & Levi omas

"SARAH," A GREAT CAT
Janet & Michael Rash

"SCOTTIE" GARSHWEILER
Jan-Ranney

ALL THE CATS WE HAVE HAD & LOVED
Charles & Nancy Hudson

"AMBUSH"
Red Hobaugh

"ANSEL ADAMS," ONE GREAT CAT
Red Hobaugh



BRIAN WINES
Glenn & Marilyn McAtee

CHARLEY ALBER
Haggard's Jewelry, Deanna Senter, Betsy Boss Lease, Connie & Al Pockevich, Michael & Sharon Canavan, Agnes Unger, Tom & Gloria Carollo, Ken & Denise Waddell, Nadine Winegardner

"COCOA," FRIEND OF JUNE & JOHN DEVER
Michael Gunn & J. Bentley

DANNY SMITLEY
Paul & Carole Page

DELLA M. WOLF
Rose Marie Dugdale

EMERSON WHEELER
Fran Fears

FRANCES CARLSON
Stephanie & Stephen Gore

GINNY BRIGHT
Juanita Moberly

GLADYS McLARY
Jack & Tracy Todd

HUGH JONES, JIM GREGORY, & PEACHES
Boots Gregory

JANET ENOCHS
Fred & Sereta Andrews

JOHN LANE
Jayne Langan

JOHN WALTERS
John & Cheryl Eyed

JUANITA LAURIE
Nancy Tekulve

MELINDA TODD
Patty (Zach) Allman, Scott Blythe, Kurt & Diana Meshberger, Willy Zech, Mel & Carol Warford, Kyle & Sally Crabtree, Steve & Cathy Parris, Pritchard-Jastremski Dental Assoc., Stephanie & Stephen Gore

UNCLE BURNELL HEDRICK
Keith & Jill Foster

OWEN "MICKY" BARGER
Joe & Ruth Ann Acker, Roger & Judy McGinnis, Kevin Ackeret

PAT LAURIE
Beverly Ridgway, Chas. & Barbara Cutrell

SANDRA SAGE
Stephen Haworth, Barbara Zieg

TOM BARNHART
Michael Gunn & J. Bentley, Marilyn & Ray Schaefer, Evelyn Groves, Daryl & Carol Tressler, John & Virginia Fleck, Steven & Mary Stradley, Pam & Jerry Simo, Harvey & Anita Inman, John & Marjorie McKune, Marijane Litz, Joe & Pat Knarzer, Terry & Jill Angstadt, Eugene & Elizabeth Dolgner, Ruth Ann Bailey

"COCOA", BELOVED FRIEND
John & June Dever



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"PAL," ADOPTED IN 2002
Robert Hitzke

"LILY"
Steve Moore

HAPPY BIRTHDAY PAT LOYAL
David & Kathy Cuppy

MARCIA MOORE, IN APPRECIATION FOR ALL HER HELP
Linda Moeller

PAT & KENDRA LOYAL
Joe & Sandra Ridenour

DAVE & MARY JO ROBBINS
Nancy Nussmeier

FRANK & BRENDA ZODY
Sally Hilt

GEORGE & BARBARA BLAIR, MOLLY, EMMA
Michael Gunn & J. Bentley

NEL HAMILTON
Pam & Jerry Simo, Ruth Ann Bailey

OUR FRIEND, "BLUE BOY"
Robert & Shirley Malina

PAT & KENDRA LOYAL
Richard & Carol Bowden, David & Kathy Cuppy

PHIL WAGNER
Renee Tatman

JENNY JOHNSON
Isabel & Rachel Fox

ON BEHALF OF DAVE & MARY JO ROBBINS
Steve & Julie urman

"INDY," THE WAGNERS GREAT BEAGLE
Barbara & Carl Lunde

FOR "MISS LILY"
Lillie Case

To make a memorial donation, please send a check for any amount along with your name, the name of the person or pet, and a brief message, if desired, to:

Brown County Humane Society
c/o Agnes Unger
18 Redbud Lane
Nashville, IN 47448

☺ ☺ To everyone who has donated to help the animals so far this year—

Thank You!



