

SCOTT COUNTY SCOOP

Newsletter of Humane Society of Scott County, IN
812-752-7500



Post Office Box 711, Scottsburg, Indiana 47170

MARCH, 2009
VOLUME 2, ISSUE 1

“Bringing you up to date”

One of the greatest success stories to date with the Humane Society of Scott County, IN has been the success of our affiliation with the SNIP Clinic Program. We have been involved in this Kentucky Humane Society Spay/Neuter outreach program for close to a year now transporting adopted animals, animals from the shelter and animals from the community to the SNIP clinic unaltered and return the next day ready to start a new life! Approximately 25-30 dogs and cats per month meet at our SNIP Clinic location early in the morning to meet the big truck that takes these animals to the Louisville location where vets are on standby with specifically one purpose in mind - to help cut down on the pet overpopulation in our communities. These vets carefully check over each animal to be sure they are healthy and able to undergo surgery and then they proceed. The animals are monitored throughout the night and are returned to Scottsburg the next morning. If there are other issues that they noticed (such as ear mites or skin issues), they will make note and suggest further medical treatment with the pet's own veterinarian. If the pet has not ever been to a vet, then our local SNIP clinic coordinator provides business cards for each of the local vets and encourage establishing a local relationship.

The monthly project is a time consuming one that involves many of our members. Our local SNIP coordinator, Teresa Click, begins making phone calls a week before the scheduled SNIP clinic, scheduling dogs and cats and explaining the entire process. She again calls each pet owner the night before the clinic reminding them about the procedures. Other volunteers prepare the crates by lining them with newspaper and labeling them with the pet & pet owners names. Volunteers gather at 6:15 on the appointed date and begin accepting animals. Each animal is signed in and a paper collar is put around the pet's neck that matches the wording on the crate. (try putting a collar on some of these feisty kittens!) They are then loaded into the crates and wait patiently for the Kentucky SNIP truck to arrive at 7:30. Once they are loaded, the volunteers head home until the next morning when once again, they return to meet the truck, help with unloading and get the pets and paperwork to the anxiously awaiting owners or foster parents. At that time, all the crates are thoroughly disinfected and

This extremely important humane society project follows along with our mission commitment to educate the public on the importance of reducing the terrible pet overpopulation problem. People can walk through the animal shelter at any given time and see unwanted puppies and kittens who may or may not end up finding homes. Pregnant dogs and cats are not an uncommon sight at the shelter. With this program in place, we may begin to see a change in our community in the next several years. The Humane Society and the concerned public must be diligent in informing and pursuing an extremely proactive spay/neuter program. With the help of the SNIP Clinic and the encouragement of our local veterinarians, this may be accomplished. Every pet owner should look around to their neighbors and discuss this pet problem. Encourage them to contact the local veterinarians, St. Clair Veterinary clinic or Southern Indiana Equine Clinic or contact the Humane Society at 752-7500 to discuss spay/neuter needs.



A SPECIAL THANK YOU TO THE OWNERS OF TOTAL CONCEPTS OF DESIGN, INC. WHO HAVE GRACIOUSLY ALLOWED US TO USE THEIR FACILITY ONCE A MONTH FOR OUR SNIP

JUST A BIT OF NEWS: IN 2008, THE HUMANE SOCIETY ADOPTED OUT 364 DOGS AND CATS INTO “FOREVER” HOMES AND 284 ANIMALS WERE SENT TO RESCUE GROUPS..



VOLUNTEERS - YOUNGSTERS AND OLDSTERS ARE INVITED TO BE A PART OF THE HUMANE SOCIETY OF SCOTT COUNTY, IN.

Sixteen year old, Keri Ragusa, is one of our youngest and most energetic volunteers. She comes with her mother to all adoption fairs where she walks dogs and talks to prospective adopters about their foster dogs. When needed, she helps clean the shelter with her mother and faithfully comes to all Humane Society meetings. Whenever there is artwork to be done, Keri is there helping create it. She has put together a "foster" scrapbook that she brings to all special functions so people can see biographies of each foster dog. That way all foster dogs can be represented even if they are not there in person. Keri is a real go-getter!

On the other end of the spectrum is Virginia Banbury who represents the Senior Citizens of our group! Virginia is a young 91 years old and is always willing to help with whatever she can do. She attends special adoption fairs with her daughter, Melanie Foster, and spent hours at the garage sale trying to tidy up piles upon piles of clothes! You can also count on Virginia to help cut and sew the bandanas that the Humane Society uses for fundraisers. This lady is another go-getter! We would love to have many more volunteers so join us by calling 812-752-7500!

*Volunteers under 18 must be accompanied by parents when

'CHRISTMAS FOR THE CRITTERS 2008'

Last year's Christmas for the Critters was a big success. During the month of December, over \$1500 was raised by the "Lit Christmas Tree" located at Town & Country Feed Store. This was a bit less than last year but was anticipated due to the struggling economy and we were more than delighted with this figure that was earmarked to help with spay/neuter and medical assistance for shelter animals. There was also a great outpouring of items needed by the shelter including bleach, paper towels, kitten and puppy food and the always desperately needed, cat litter.

It was a beautiful day for our Open House held the first part of December and we recognized many of the dogs that came to get their Goody Bag from Santa and a nice Christmas bandana as well. All the dogs that attended were happy, well socialized and obviously well loved in their new homes. Each of these guests also got a picture taken with Santa. Town & Country Feed Store had supplied huge goody bags to be given out that were stocked full of dog treats, brushes, frizbees and different samples of dog food. There were also nice bags for any cats that made an appearance. One such cat was Squeak-Squeak, a cat fostered by Melanie & Erle Foster, shown below with Santa Claus. Squeak-Squeak became a permanent member of the Foster family that day when the adoption paperwork was filled out. Two lucky shelter dogs found Christmas homes that day as well - what a delightful christmas present. All the other shelter residents were dressed in their bandanas and enjoyed the attention that was heaped on them that special day!



MISSION STATEMENT OF THE HUMANE SOCIETY: THE HUMANE SOCIETY OF SCOTT COUNTY, INDIANA IS A NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION, DESIGNED TO AID THE SCOTT COUNTY ANIMAL SHELTER, TO HAVE AN AGGRESSIVE ADOPTION PROGRAM IN ORDER TO DECREASE THE NUMBER OF ANIMALS BEING EUTHANIZED, TO RELEASE ANIMALS INTO THE CARE OF REPUTABLE RESCUE ORGANIZATIONS, AND TO EDUCATE THE COMMUNITY ON THE IMPORTANCE OF SPAY/NEUTER AND PET OWNERSHIP

+++++ **MONTHLY ADOPTION FAIRS!** +++++

Each month we have monthly adoption fairs at the following locations. This is a perfect time for potential adopters to see the fabulous animals from the shelter that need homes!

TOWN & COUNTRY FEED STORE on the 2nd Sat. of each month from 1-3 pm

PETSMART, Clarksville on the 3rd Saturday of each month from 12-4 pm

PETCO, Columbus on the 4th Saturday of each month from 1-4 pm

TOWN & COUNTRY FEED STORE - Humane Society cats available at the store at all times.

DOGS AND CATS ARE ALWAYS AVAILABLE FOR ADOPTION DURING OPEN SHELTER HOURS.



Pictured above is Jim Schiffer and his new friend, Diego. Diego is a 7 year old chihuahua mix that showed up at the shelter scared and shy. Once in foster, Deigo perked up a bit but still seemed a bit “under the weather”. During his physical exam, it was found that Diego was heartworm positive. Ken didn’t care. He fell in love with Diego and promised to take care of him after his treatment and give him all the care he would need. for the rest of his life. So, little Diego went home to Michigan with Jim the middle of March.



Erle Foster, Treasurer of the Humane Society, receives grant from Community Foundation representatives, L.L. Lowry, Paula Murray and Jaime Toppe

WE GOT A GRANT!

We have just received a \$4,000 grant from the Dr. William and Diann Scott Memorial Fund that will be used to help build or purchase a cat building at the shelter. These monies had been designated for that purpose even before we heard about the closing of Town & Country Feed Store. It is now even more imperative that this project be completed right away. Cat adoptions at the shelter have always been low and rescue opportunities for cats are extremely hard to find so we must have something to attract adopters to the shelter to see the nice cats that are available. A lot of cats who come in to the shelter have been trapped and many of those are nice family pets who unwittingly wandered into a live trap and ended up at the shelter. (this is a real example of being in the wrong place at the wrong time!) Very few owners ever think to come to the shelter to find a missing cat so many good cats might begin losing their lives unless we are able to do something like this to highlight the cats! If anyone can offer suggestions for portable buildings, construction trailers, or other ideas, please contact 752-7500.

SAD NEWS.....

TOWN & COUNTRY FEED STORE has been the primary outlet for cat adoptions for the Humane Society for several years and Ron and Ginger Hecker, owners of Town & Country, have been very diligent in helping get homes for the many nice cats that come into the shelter. Unfortunately, the store will be closing their doors within a month. The bad economy has once again taken its toll in Scottsburg. Our hearts are saddened for our good humane society friends who helped us in so many ways. Every time we needed something, they were there to help us - from adoption fairs to special goody bags. There were always I right there to call whenever a cat got adopted so we could bring another over to the store to take its place. Many cats lives were saved as a result of Town & Country’s desire to help promote the Humane Society of Scott County, In and its mission. RON AND GINGER, THANK YOU AND WE WILL MISS YOU!

HUMANE SOCIETY OF SCOTT COUNTY, IN

POST OFFICE BOX 711
SCOTTSBURG, IN 47170



FEATURED PETS
DEE DEE & DEXTER

Dee Dee and Dexter are brother and sister. Both are sweet, they like to be talked to and petted. Dexter walks well on a leash. He is very timid and he shows signs of having been abused. Dee Dee is the more outgoing of the two when it comes to meeting new people but can be food aggressive with dogs (except for brother Dexter). We tried separating them but Dexter was not able to be separated from Dee Dee so they need to be adopted together with lots of room to run and play. They love to put their noses to the ground and go where the smell leads them! Dee Dee and Dexter came to us as puppies over a year ago. Call 502-552-5724 to meet these two special needs dogs that desperately need a home of their

VISIT THE WEBSITE:

www.sisaveapet.com

VISIT THE SHELTER:

3rd & Montgomery, Scottsburg

Mon/Tues/Thurs/Fri - 12:00 to 6:00 pm

Wed/Sat - 8:00 am - 12:00 noon

Closed Sunday

812-752-4380

HUMANE SOCIETY OF SCOTT COUNTY, IN.
812-752-7500

Teresa Kratzman, President
Melanie Foster, Vice President/Outreach
Kim Ragusa, Secretary
Erle Foster, Treasurer

INTERESTED IN BEING A MEMBER? GIVE
US A CALL!