

Spring Newsletter 2006 - Benld Adopt a Pet

Spring means Easter. Easter means Adopt-A-Pet's Annual Easter Saturday Bake Sale!!! Saturday, April 15, 2006, from 9 a.m. to ?

SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT: The Adopt-A-Pet Easter Saturday Bake Sale will be held in two places this year, the regular location Walmart in Carlinville and an additional location, the Walmart in Glen Carbon on Highway 159.

We have an increasing number of supporters in our "mobile adoption" communities and so we have expanded the Bake Sale to give them an opportunity to support this fund raising effort. We hope you will encourage all your friends and family to come out and buy the many special treats we will have.

By far our tastiest fundraiser of the year, just about every imaginable bakery goods will be there, baked especially for Adopt-A-Pet by our volunteer gourmet bakers. Wonderful tea breads, Easter decorated sugar cookies, as well as other cookie varieties, cupcakes, cakes, brownies, rice krispy treats, pies, candy — something for everyone.

So many baked goods, so little time. The baked delights will go quickly so be sure to clear your schedule for an early excursion to the Carlinville or Glen Carbon WalMart.

ATTENTION ALL BAKERS !!!!

Adopt-A-Pet, once again, needs your help. Baking-talented volunteers are needed to bake those marvelous, divinely scrumptious, delicious Easter treats. Cakes, cookies, candies — whatever your specialities— especially those with Easter themes will be displayed at our Easter Saturday Bake Sale.

Please bring your baked goods to Adopt-A-Pet on Friday or either the Carlinville or Glen Carbon WalMart by 9 a.m. Saturday.

And for those of you whose schedule doesn't permit your attending the Easter Saturday Bake Sale, but would still like to contribute, we have — Adopt-A-Pet's Bakeless Bake Sale !!! Send your donation to: Adopt-A-Pet, Bakeless Bake Sale, P. O. Box 53, Benld IL 62009.

GOLF TOURNAMENT

Adopt-A-Pet's annual Golf Tournament will, as usual, be on Saturday of the Memorial Day weekend, May 27. Going to press, details of the golf tournament have yet to be worked out so watch your local papers for exact time and place or for more information call Dan Michki at 618-637-2133.

PROCEEDS TO ADOPT-A-PET

At the Capital Canine Training Club's Annual Holiday Party, members held a silent auction with all proceeds of the auction donated to Adopt-A-Pet. In their words, "We so admire the important work you do and we hope this donation will allow you to put a little extra rawhide/catnip in your charges Christmas stockings."

Thank you, Betsy Salus, Auction Coordinator, and the Capital Canine Training Club. Our dogs and cats are smiling now!

THANK YOU TO —

- Kelsey Card had a birthday party and in lieu of gifts she asked everybody to make a donation to Adopt-A-Pet. Kelsey presented us with a \$120 donation.
- Michelle Bowen, who participated in the Miss Illinois Teen USA pageant as Miss Staunton, took time out of her busy schedule to help us with our roadblock to raise money for the Shelter.
- In lieu of receiving wedding mementoes, Amy & Alfred Ostermeier made a donation to Adopt-A-Pet in the name of the Hyde/Ostermeier wedding.

WE'RE ALWAYS FULL !!!

We are the first to admit we wish we could take every dog, puppy, cat and kitten when people call in. As we go to press the Shelter is caring for 160 dogs/puppies and 80 cats/kittens and we are bursting at the seams!

When people call us wanting to relinquish their family pet (allergies, moving, medical condition, etc) we have to turn them away. Their pets DO have a home and their owners have the responsibility to care for them properly. We try to work

with these people, asking if they can continue to keep the pet while we check our records to see if anyone has inquired to adopt the type of pet they want to relinquish. Or we talk to the person on the phone, trying to give them various options.

We, as an animal shelter, are here to primarily help the abandoned and abused—pets that have no one to protect and care for them. These are the pets that will not survive without our aid.

During the month of February we had a special cat adoption fee of only \$25 which helped many of our cats find new, loving homes, but with vaccinations and health check guaranties put the shelter's treasury short of cash. Any special donations are always welcomed.

A MEMBERSHIP REMINDER

Membership dues will become due July 15th. A few members wait and send their dues in December. Adopt-A-Pet would really appreciate dues to be sent in on time. Waiting until December makes for the possibility that your name may be removed from the newsletter mailing list, and we certainly don't want that! The membership renewal form will be available in the Summer newsletter issue, and we have a special offer connected with membership renewal this year. Anyone who opens a new membership at the \$50 level or higher has the chance to purchase our new logo t-shirt at ? price, or 2 for 1, as they choose, plus postage please, at the time of joining only. Current members who upgrade their membership to the \$50 level or higher may take advantage of the same offer. Anyone joining at the Lifetime level may have 2 shirts totally free. Please keep this in mind when your membership renewal comes up in July.

Of course, Adopt-A-Pet t-shirts are available right now. The shirts are 50/50 cotton/polyester, and are of a heavy weight, very sturdy quality.

You can go to our website to download an order form. Refer to the order form for pricing, sizes and logo colors available (white shirts only).

EDITOR'S NOTE: Dottie lived at the Shelter for two years. She had been hit by a car and her back

legs were paralyzed. With our therapy, loving and her strong will and determination, she regained the use of her legs. But the one leftover problem from being paralyzed was Dottie's bowels. When she had to go, she had to GO and everyone had to get out of her way as Dottie raced to the outdoors so she wouldn't have an "accident". There weren't any adopters willing to take the added responsibility of Dottie's toilet difficulties. So we put her on the Helpful Hearts list and her picture on our webpage.

Then we received an email from that special person. Candy wanted Dottie. We told her of Dottie's special problem but Candy didn't care. She had a doggy door specially installed so that Dottie could get outside quickly on her own. So Dottie went to her "forever" home.

WHY IS THIS DOG SMILING?

Another Helpful Heart pooch has found his forever home! Tramp has been on the Helpful Hearts list for awhile but no one ever stepped forward to be his Helpful Heart. Tramp's picture was posted on the home page of our website and, you guessed it, we got a call. They wanted to adopt Tramp! They didn't care he was an older dog with health problems. **THEY WANTED TRAMP!!** So Tramp went with his new family from Bunker Hill and from what we hear, he's having the time of his life! A SPECIAL THANK YOU

to Kappert Construction (Tim & Melissa Kappert) for the donation of the two new electronic air filters for our furnaces, as well as the heating and cooling unit for our reception room.

The air cleaners are a great help in keeping the litter dust and pet hair from clogging the furnaces and keep them working efficiently. The new heating unit keeps not only the reception room toasty warm but also provides much needed heat in the cat room.

MANY THANKS to these generous people who have made our animals' (and peoples) lives much more comfortable.

YARD SALE

Our annual yard sale will be June 3rd this year at the Benld City Park, starting at 10 a.m., rain or shine. Refreshments available. Bargains galore: appliances, jewelry, toys, antiques, household items—you name it, we've got it!

And if you have items to donate (no clothing), bring them to the Shelter or give us a call at 217-835-2538.

2006 ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

At the January 18th Annual Membership meeting at the Shelter two new Directors were elected to serve for the 2006 year. Jennifer Walker and Dan Braughton, both of Springfield, are now the newest members of the Board. They have both been excellent volunteers in the past, and we are pleased to publicly welcome them to the Board, where we know they will ADVANCE \x 540 continue to serve in the advancement of the Shelter's animals. Thank You, Jennifer and Dan, for volunteering to expand your services this year.

Officers:

President - Ellyn Hebden
1st Vice President - Lorraine Jackson
Secretary - Pam Liles
Treasurer - Wayne Hebden

Directors:

Lorraine Jackson, Benld
Ellyn Heben, O'Fallon
Pam Liles, Mt. Olive
Wayne Hebden, Fairview Heights
Dan Braughton, Springfield
Chari Hopper, Springfield
Monte Oberman, Staunton
Jennifer Walker, Springfield

PUMPKIN'S SURGERY A SUCCESS

Pumpkin our orange Persian-mix kitten with extra toes (polydactyl) came through surgery with flying colors!

Pumpkin has a condition called Mega-colon. It was enlarged to the point she could not go potty normally. Corrective surgery involved removing a portion of her colon. Pumpkin bounced back from surgery and became the Shelter's front office receptionist, greeting anyone and everyone. Nothing bothered or upset her and she kept all our office workers company, helping with filing and computer work. She became an expert paperweight.

We were thinking that, perhaps Pumpkin would become the Shelter's mascot, her great personality couldn't be denied. But then Deborah called. Pumpkin's article in our Christmas newsletter touched her so, she just had to meet Pumpkin. The meeting was love at first sight. And although Pumpkin would be a great mascot, we couldn't deny her a "forever" home.

Our Pumpkin went HOME. Have a great life, Pumpkin !!!