

July/August 2006

THE PAW

Volume 4

Newsletter for the Pierre-Ft. Pierre Area Humane Society

~Family volunteering~

David Ames grew up learning to respect and love animals just like I did. This is no doubt because we came from the same household, and I am proud to say that David is my brother.

David is not only my brother but also one of our many valued active Humane Society members in the community. He and his family play various roles in the Humane Society.

David and Carol have a full household. You might say they have about a pair of everything. They have 2 kids – Carolyn, 10 and Taylor, 12. They also have 2 dogs – Sammie and Sally and 2 cats – Charlie Brown and Lynus.

Each of their animals could tell a story all of their own. Sally was a puppy needing a home and Carol fell in love with her. Sammie was a puppy, runt of the litter, they adopted from the Humane Society. Charlie Brown was a kitten that was trying to stay warm under the hood of a work vehicle one winter and won their hearts. While Linus was a barn kitten of my mom's that needed a home.

Not only have they taken in animals needing homes they decided to become a foster home for Humane Society dogs in January of 2005. David looked into fostering by getting in touch with other members of the HS for information. He signed up for a HS family membership and they were ready and excited to become a foster home.

As of now the family has fostered around 12 dogs/puppies. This means that 12 animals were able to find a new home because they had a place to stay until they were adopted!!

The family does admit that fostering dogs is a lot of work. David says that some of the dogs come from bad situations and they need to learn how to trust people again. The shortest time period they have had a dog in their care was 3 days and the longest was 3 ½ months. But no matter the length of the stay, the foster dogs end up being part of the family during that time.

When a dog is adopted from their home the dog has been acclimated to just about every situation. They are used to kids, adults, and other animals. Puppies are on the road to being potty trained and the shy dogs are starting to come out of their shells.

Fostering dogs over the last year and a half has been a family experience. The kids help with daily chores and they have fun playing with the dogs as well. Helping with the dogs also teaches the kids responsibility and priorities. The house dogs even keep their guests entertained during their stay by sharing an occasional toy with them.

All the family pictured but the cats!



David, Carol, Carolyn, Taylor, Dogs-Sallie & Sammie.

While I was at their house Taylor showed me her scrapbook. She is excited to start putting together of all the dogs they have fostered. She has been keeping a list of all the dog's names and will have a picture of each. Carlyne told me that each of the foster dogs has been her favorite and she wouldn't be able to decide on just one dog. Carlyne said that once in awhile the dogs try to join her for the night in her bed.

As a family they are active in the HS other ways as well. David attends the monthly meetings when he can. They donate cat litter when we are in need of it, which tends to be quite often. The kids have walked foster dogs in a couple of parades the HS has been in.

There are different ways you and your family can get involved in the Humane Society as well. Not only are there dogs that need foster homes, there is also the need for occasional cat foster homes. Our facility on Main Street is where we keep all our cats and kittens for adoption. Since the HS is ran on a volunteer basis, the cats rely on us to take care of their daily needs and to be socialized. There is an approx. 2 hr shift in the morning and evening 7 days a week. Volunteers sign up for the shifts that they are able to work.

If your kids are into crafts they might enjoy making cat and dog toys. The cats always need some soft 'perch covers' for when they are in their crates at night. There are always parades that we are looking for volunteers to walk a foster dog in and goodies to be made for bake sales. If you would like more information about ways you and your family can volunteer for the HS contact us at 223-cats and someone will get in contact with you as soon as possible. Or email us at pets4adoption@yahoo.com.

Thank you David and Carol for all you and your family have done to help the many homeless animals in need. And thank you for teaching your kids about respecting and loving animals like we were taught when we were growing up!

Name the Kittens Contest Winners!

Thanks again to all of you that entered the Humane Society's 'Kitten Naming Contest'. We had a great turnout of suggestions and we really enjoyed choosing the winning names!

Our 1st place winner came from **Larry Nix** all the way from Houston, Tx. with the theme 'things in South Dakota'. Our 2nd place winner came from Julie Gross of Pierre with the theme, 'Fire'. The 3rd place winner came from Ashley Nix of Houston, Tx. with the theme, 'Hurricanes'.

This is one of the first pictures of proud momma cat Ellie and her babies!



The babies with their new winning names: Harley (Sturgis...female), Wally (Wall Drug), Pierre (capital) and Blacky (Black Hills). Currently Pierre and Blacky have been adopted! Don't forget, Ellie would like a home too!

Donation Wish List:

The Humane Society could always use donations of the following:

- Kitten Iams
- Cat Litter
- Purina Dog Chow
- Bleach
- Paper Towels

Summer Care Tips:

This has been a **very hot summer** so far and it is not over yet. We all have to keep in mind if it is too hot for us it is also too hot for our pets. Here are some helpful hints for you to keep your pets safe this summer:

- **Leave your animals at home.** Even during warm weather your car can reach 160 degrees in a matter of minutes, even in the shade. Dogs and cats can't perspire like humans and can only dispel heat by panting and through the pads of their feet. Pets that are left in hot cars for even brief periods of time can suffer from heat exhaustion, heat stroke, brain damage, and can die. So, **PLEASE** leave your animals home during the hot summer months even if you think you'll be gone "just a minute" somewhere. Also, if you see a pet in a parked car don't be afraid to call your local animal control. You may just save its life!

- **Avoid driving with your pet in the back of your truck.** This is a dangerous practice anyway due to flying debris or your pet falling out of the truck. But, it is especially dangerous in the extreme heat. Not only can your pet overheat they can burn the pads of their feet as well.

- Plenty of **WATER** to prevent dehydration is a must at all times.

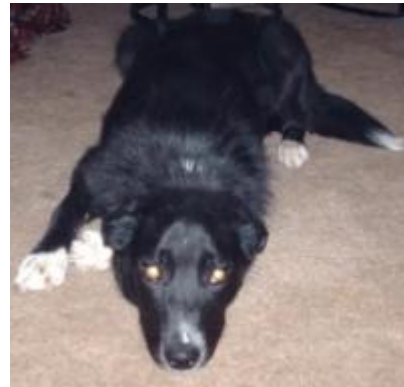
- **Keep your pets groomed,** clip long or matted coats short to help your pet stay cool, but remember that pets can get sunburned too so avoid getting them too short.

- **Exercise your pet in the morning or evening hours** when it's cooler outdoors. This will prevent any overheating.

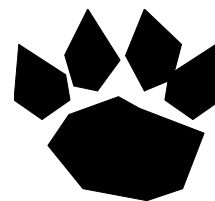
- **Protect your pets from the sun.** Your pet is always safer indoors. If your pet must stay in the yard be sure they have adequate shade and ventilation and of course **WATER** to keep hydrated.

DOGS!

We have some great dogs in foster care right now. If you are interested in adopting any dogs you can see their picture on our website at www.pets4adoption.org or call us at 223-CATS if you are interested in meeting one.



This is **Diaz**, he is a neutered male Border Collie mix, approximately 1 1-2 yrs old. He is mild mannered and eager to please. He seems to be extremely intelligent and has easily learned all that we have taught him. He enjoys a run in the country and quiet evenings at home. Like all dogs, he enjoys treats for his good behavior, a belly rub and a chew bone to occupy his mouth. Diaz is a dog lovers dream come true! He is house trained, knows sit, down, stay, come and as always "NO". Diaz is Spanish for James. *~by Diaz's foster mom~*



If you pick up a starving dog and make him prosperous, he will not bite you; that's the principal difference between a dog and a man. ~Mark Twain

Check out our web address - Or Call (605) 223- CATS!

www.pets4adoption.org



Upcoming Events and Meetings:

- **Monday, August 7th** - We are having the monthly general membership meeting at 7 pm located at our facility on Main St. in Pierre.
- **Monday, Sept. 11th** - Pizza Ranch fundraiser from 5-8pm- volunteers needed! 20% of proceeds from that night will go to the Humane Society.

~COMING SOON IN TIME FOR CHRISTMAS - HUMANE SOCIETY CALENDARS FOR SALE~

I hope you enjoyed your issue of 'THE PAW'. Thank you to David & Carol and family for taking the time for an interview and for all they do. Thank you again to Caren Assman for donating copies of the last PAW issue. This was very much appreciated and helpful! Please contact 223-2287 if you are interested in Diaz or any other of our animals or if you are interested in volunteering. If anyone would like to become a member of the Humane Society please fill out the attached form and send it back to us at the address given. Look forward to Volume 5 in late September ~ *Amanda Ames, Secretary of the Humane Society*~

PIERRE-FORT PIERRE AREA HUMANE SOCIETY

P.O. Box 954, Pierre, SD 57501-0954

Yearly Membership Categories:

Student \$5 (under 18) Senior \$5 Individual \$10 (1, over 18) Family \$20 (2+) Business \$50

I cannot become a member at this time; however, I am enclosing a donation of \$_____ to further assist the Pierre-Fort Pierre Area Humane Society.

Name _____ Mailing Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____ Home Phone _____ Work Phone _____

Date _____ New Renewal Email _____

Please indicate whether you would be willing to be an active member:

Yes, Call me when needed.

No, I'd rather not be actively involved