



April 2008

THE PAW

Spring Edition

Newsletter for the Pierre-Ft. Pierre Area Humane Society

FOSTER HOMES NEEDED!!!

*The manner of the giving shows the character of the giver, more than the gift itself.
-John Casper Lavater*

Have you ever thought about being a foster parent/home? The reward of looking into the big eyes of your newly-fostered cat or dog and seeing the thanks for giving them a home (even if only temporarily) is priceless. Unfortunately, we have a number of abused, neglected, and abandoned animals who don't understand what has happened to the life they once knew. Some animals come to us scared and skinny. You can see the distrust in their body language. You can almost read their minds. "Where am I?" "Who is this stranger?" We see animals in the pound because their family moved, developed allergies, or sadly may have grown tired of the responsibility of a four-legged family member. These circumstances are not the animals fault and that is why we work so hard to find these loving animals a new home.

That is where a foster parent/home comes into play. From the time these animals enter our doors until they are adopted can be hours, days, and sometimes months. In the meantime, we need to find foster care for these sweet, furry friends! When the time comes and they are adopted, having been in a foster (therefore, loving) environment should make for a smoother transition into their new family.

We recently had an adoption of one of our cats, Luke, by the Mefferd family. He was a long-timer, meaning he had been with us for over a year. His newly adoptive mom, Jessica says, "...WE LOVE LUKE (whom has been renamed Oscar!) and I would say that he really loves us! He sleeps at the foot of our bed every night! He is so sweet and greets us at the door when we get home. We adopted a kitten prior to Oscar from the HS, her name is Stella (used to be Sushi) and they get along great." She also said, "Our experience with HS has been great. We spent a couple hours there when we got Stella, so we were able to get to know the cats really well, and the helpers knew a lot about the animals, so it was easy to choose which one we wanted. We did choose Stella the first time around, but she quickly became my son (Lincoln), and only my son's cat. Originally my husband (Andrew) had wanted to get Oscar (Luke) so I went back and got him as a surprise, and he is everything we dreamed he would be!" The ending to this story is he has a home!! A loving, caring family that he can spend the rest of his furry life with. That is a *happy* ending!

We also had a more recent acquisition to the Humane Society. Dori, a female, Beagle/Basset mix came to us after spending 5 days at the pound and not being claimed by her owner. Cutest little girl you have ever seen! When she came to us, we were able to find

her a foster home pretty quickly. Within a short period of time, we were contacted by the Even family who were interested in adopting her. Hurray! We phoned Jodi Owen, her foster mom, and told her about the interested family. Because Jodi was traveling and Dori was with her, the adoption was put off for a couple of days. That goes to show how much a foster parent can make an animal feel like one of the family, even if it was only for a short while. I spoke with Arlene, Dori's new mommy and asked her how she was doing. Arlene said that Dori was doing great! She is already a big part of the family and has grown very fond of her new dad, Dan!!

I asked Jodi how she felt about being a foster parent and she said, "Foster care is extremely rewarding. The animal and the foster parent form a strong bond, which helps the dog learn how to behave in a way that will get them adopted. Then, when they're ready, they go. It's the happiest and saddest both at once. It's rewarding to see them go, but also joyous, because that is what the goal was: a forever home for the animal." While taking the below pictures, Jodi told us that Dori was the 8th dog she has fostered. Thank you, Jodi, for all you do!

Our need for foster homes for dogs is greater because we don't have a facility for them. Consider opening your heart and home. Give one of these little guys or girls a great start to a new beginning! Please contact 223-CATS if you are interested in becoming a foster parent/home. Thank You!!!



Jodi Owen, Dan & Arlene Even and Dori



Dori is one happy little girl!!!

First Spay/Neuter Clinic

Tuesday, March 18, 2008, was a very exciting day for the Pierre/Ft. Pierre Area Humane Society. We were holding our first low-cost spay/neuter clinic and hoped it to be a huge success! We had no idea what kind of an effect it would have, but we were pleasantly surprised! The clinic was scheduled to start at 6 p.m. and at 5 p.m., there was already a crowd of people waiting to purchase their low-cost spay/neuter certificate. Each residence of Pierre/Ft. Pierre was allowed one certificate. We had \$681 in the fund and the certificates were sold on a first-come, first-serve basis. In addition to the \$500 we had received from Thrivent Lutheran, Terry and Tracy Laqua donated \$100, Amanda Robey donated \$60, and Joan Likness donated \$21. Thank you all for your contributions! Without these funds, we would not have been able to distribute 21 certificates (8 dog spay, 8 dog neuter, 4 cat spay, and 1 cat neuter).

To give you an example of what an impact to the pet population this is, read the following statistic. One unspayed female cat and her mate, and all their offspring, producing 2

litters per year, with only 2.8 surviving kittens per litter can total:

***1 year = 12; 2 years = 67; 3 years = 367; 4 years = 2,107; 5 years = 11,801; 6 years = 66,088;
7 years = 370,092; 8 years = 2,072,514; and 9 years = 11,606,077 !!***

Yes, spay/neuter night was a huge success!



Families get their certificates fill



Lindy Bouchie goes over guidelines



Kathy Hammond, Genny McMath out the certificates as Bonnie Stroh keeps track of the numbers



Lisa Sayler, Kim Kusser & Genny McMath



Kathy Hammond & Genny McMath

Not pictured are Chris Cressy and Jody Rausch, whom were a huge help in this great opportunity!



The Farm & Home Show

The annual Farm & Home Show was held Saturday, February 23rd and Sunday, February 24th, 2008, at the Ramkota River Centre in Pierre, SD. Both days had fabulous weather, and lots of people were out and about! On Saturday morning, Kim Kusser and Lisa Sayler had a four-legged companion help them “man” the humane society table. This was

Jasmine, a German Shepherd mix puppy of 10 months. She had lots of love given to her by man, woman, and child, alike! I am happy to report that Jasmine found her new family at this very show. They sat on the floor with her for quite some time and soon realized that Jasmine belonged in their family.

That afternoon, Kim brought Tory, a Husky/Heeler mix. He is 2 ½ years old and has the bluest eyes you have ever seen. I mean SKY-BLUE! They are mesmerizing!! He got his share of attention, as well. He was laid back and enjoyed all of the petting and loving he received.

Sunday, George, a German Shepherd mix puppy of 4 months old joined Genny McMath and Dave Voeltz. I stopped by the booth and George was greeting everyone that was within his reach. His face appeared to have a permanent smile. He was very playful, as a pup should be! Are you wondering if George found a new home, as well? YES HE DID!! His new owner has no other pets, so he'll be getting lots and lots of attention!

I want to thank David Braun for donating the 2 German Shepherd collectors plates in memory of his beloved shepherd, Scotty. The winner of the plates was our very own, Kim Kusser. Beings Kim has a shepherd of her own, I know they will find a valuable place on a table or shelf in her house!

The lucky winner of the cat bed and goodies (donated by Kelley Electronics and Debby's Gallery) was Nancy Ames from Miller. According to her daughter, Amanda, Nancy and her gang of 4 cats loved it!! Congrats to the both of you! I want to give a special *thank you* to all of the volunteers who manned the booths and baked the dog biscuits!! Without you, our success at these shows would not be possible!



Jasmine



Tory



George



Upcoming Events and Meetings:

Dakotamart Snack Shack - Come visit us on:

May 2-3, June 6-7, July 11-12, and Aug 1-2

All are on Friday night (starting at 4:30 p.m.) and Saturday day (starting at noon)

Zonta Fair - Ramkota - April 19th and 20th, 2008

Monthly meeting - Monday, May 5th, 7 p.m. (Former Miller Studio building)

Pizza Ranch Fundraiser - Monday, May 12th, 2008

Scooter Raffle Drawing - Sunday, May 25th, 2008 (See details below)



"Pet Portrait Winners"

In November of 2007, a raffle was held for 2 custom pet portrait paintings. This raffle brought an amazing \$578.00!!! Thank you to all who purchased raffle tickets!

Shelley Stoltenberg of Spearfish donated the custom dog painting and Jane Henrichs of Blunt donated the custom cat painting. We would like to thank them both for their generosity! It made two people extremely happy!! The custom-framing for each portrait was donated by Debby's Gallery.

Susan LeDuc was the winner of the cat portrait, and chose her cat, Angus, as the lucky model. She had this to say via email: "I cannot begin to tell you what a blessing this portrait turned out to be in my life. First, of course, it is always fun to win something, but beyond that I got to work with two extraordinary women. I truly enjoyed working with Jane in the creation of the portrait and with Debby with the framing. Both women made me feel very special and took plenty of time with me. (Debby, I adore you for your sense of humor, your talent, and your love toward all of your foster cats and could have visited with you forever.) I am thrilled with how it turned out! Thanks!!!!"

CONGRATS



Susan LeDuc and Angus

WINNER!!

Ruth Rehn was the lucky winner of the dog portrait. At the time of publication, Ruth was still deciding on a dog "model" for her portrait. Watch for her story in a future issue of "Paws".

2007 Honda Metropolitan Scooter Raffle

*After reading the above story, are you ready for your chance to win? On Sunday, May 25th, 2008, we will be giving a lucky winner a **New** 2007 Honda Metropolitan Scooter. With the price of gas these days, you will be seeing a lot of scooters on the road. Join the scooter team!!*

*This scooter was generously donated by BankWest and we **thank them** from the bottom of our hearts!*

The tickets can be purchased for \$10.00. Winner must be at least 18 yrs old. Watch our website www.pets4adoption.org for the locations where you can see the scooter up close and personal.

If you are interested in purchasing a ticket or tickets, please feel free to call 223-CATS, email Lisa at sayler@pie.midco.net, or purchase online at www.pets4adoption.org.



Memorials

Starting with this issue, I am adding a new feature to our newsletter. A section dedicated to memorials given in the name of a beloved pet or friend.

January 2008:

In memory of Max, beloved dog of Betty Truax,
from Lindy, Kathy, Teddi, Kim, Marla, Susan Schlichenmayer,
and Tim & Julie Kongslien

In memory of Luella Strudle from Eugene & Josephine Vetter,
James & Jeanne Riis,
David & Susanne Ruhnke, and
E E & Donna Hawk
Cathy Sonnenschein

I hope you enjoyed your issue of 'THE PAW'. If you have a topic that you would like me to find out more information on and feature it in an upcoming Paws newsletter, please feel free to email me at sayler@pie.midco.net. If anyone would like to become a member of the Humane Society please fill out the attached form and send it back to the address provided.

~Lisa Sayler, Secretary of the Humane Society~

Pierre-Ft. Pierre Area Humane Society

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



Yearly Membership Categories

includes: newsletter subscription,
10% off Humane Society merchandise, &
10% off www.debbysgallery.com purchases

- Student \$10** (under 18)
- Senior \$10**
- Individual \$15** (1, over 18)
- Family \$25** (2+)
- Business \$50**
- Lifetime \$300** (free t-shirt)

New Renewal

Make a Donation

- \$ _____ **general fund**
(every day expenses)
- \$ _____ **special needs fund**
(for animals with extra
medical needs)
- \$ _____ **building fund**
- I am interested in automatic
monthly donations to the
Humane Society. Please contact
me with more information.

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

Yes, please contact
me when needed.

No, I'd rather not be
actively involved.

Name _____ Date Completed _____

Address (street, city, state, zip) _____

Home Phone _____ Work Phone _____ Email _____