



Solutions

Helping Animals and the People Who Love Them

Issue 14

December, 2005

SNAP's mission is to eliminate the need for euthanasia in our community's shelters, to reduce the number of homeless animals, and to educate the public about the importance of spay/neuter.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS:

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SNAP is a Missouri 501(c)(3) nonprofit corporation.

What's inside

- Complete coverage of the Wine Tasting fundraiser
- Membership one-year anniversary
- Cats & schizophrenia



SNAP nabs another grant

SNAP was recently awarded a \$9,900 outreach grant from PetSmart Charities to fund *Second Chances*, a simple concept that has the potential to make a big impact.

Our "pending" file contains literally hundreds of pet owners who called the SNAP line, qualified for our services, but never sent in the co-payments required to receive their spay/neuter certificates.

Second Chances will enable us to give these pet owners some extra financial assistance which we hope will serve as an added incentive.

"SNAP's spay/neuter program is a great example of taking the initiative to improve the local community," said Patty Finch, Director of Charitable Giving for PetSmart Charities. "Targeted programs like these are the key to successful, low-cost spay/neuter in local communities. Cumulatively, they are making a huge impact on pet overpopulation nationwide."

This is the second grant that SNAP has received from PetSmart Charities. We are very grateful for their support.

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- Patty Finch
Director of Charitable Giving for
PetSmart Charities



It's always fair weather when good friends get together!

Second Annual Wine Tasting Fundraiser

The day dawned damp and dreary, but a bright and cheerful room greeted guests at SNAP's Second Annual Wine Tasting held November 20th at the Vandivort Ballroom. The room had been magically changed into a holiday wonderland (through the work of those now-famous SNAP elves and fairies). The spinning mirrored ball cast its spell on the lovely Christmas tree adorned with Victorian baubles, plus the hand-crafted individual spay/neuter ornaments for SNAP's 'pets-most-in-need-of-a-fix' list.

Guests were invited to choose a specific pet that touched their heart and insert their donation in the envelope provided. We're happy to report that 22 special pets will find a certificate for a visit to one of our dedicated veterinarians in their Christmas stocking! They will not only have a healthier life but will help achieve SNAP's goal of a day when there are no more unwanted pets.

While The Moonlighters serenaded us with smooth ballads and danceable swing tunes, the



The fabulous Moonlighters!

crowd of SNAP supporters eagerly scanned the Silent Auction tables filled with unique, beautiful, practical and just-for-fun items donated by SNAP supporters. One of many highlights was a gorgeous stained-glass window which we under-

stand may be displayed in a local business. A beautiful Christmas tree, donated and decorated by All About Dogs & Cats, was admired by all and went home with the highest bidder!

There were also lots of gift certificates to choose from, including those donated by Bijan's, Touch and Flame.

Whispering Oaks Vineyard and Winery and Wine Styles Wine and Gifts provided a wide selection for our purchase and tasting pleasure.

Our restaurateur friends—including Café Roswitha, Abbey Road Foods, Tropical Breezes, Nearly Famous Deli, Mille's Cafe and Riad Greek Cuisine—supplied an array of gourmet cheeses, appetizers and desserts, all beautifully displayed. They were admired and enjoyed by our guests while they chatted with old friends and new acquaintances.

The Wine Tasting raised \$4,000 in much-needed funds. Our thanks go out to all our business friends who so willingly donated to this event. Many thanks as well for the countless hours donated by our dedicated volunteers.

Special thanks to our Head Elves Laurel Bryant, Susan Tolliver and Susan Smith for orchestrating this event!! And most of all, please know how much you, our loyal supporters and friends, are appreciated for your contributions. Without you, SNAP could not continue our important work.

HAPPY HOLIDAYS TO YOU AND YOURS...
and be sure to watch for an invitation to next year's Third Annual Wine Tasting!!



*Steve & Donna Koehler
enjoying the festivities*

Turn trash into cash

You remember the saying "One man's trash is another man's treasure?" It's true! SNAP can raise funds from your trash to help us subsidize spay/neuter surgeries for low-income pet owners in the Ozarks.



We earn money for:

- *Used printer cartridges*
- *Summer Fresh grocery receipts*
- *Best Choice UPC labels*

Don't throw them in the trash—give them to us and help our furry friends!

In Memoriam

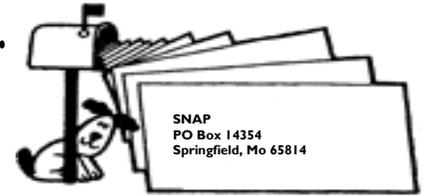
Topper Murney

Kayla Oncken

*Roz Buckner's beloved
dog Molly*



To Contact Us...



Spay Neuter Assistance Program, Inc.
P. O. Box 14354
Springfield, MO 65814
Phone: (417) 823-SNAP (7627)
E-mail: info@snap123.org
Web address: www.snap123.org

By the numbers...

- **\$6,000**—the amount SNAP will make by the end of the year from selling merchandise at tabling events
- **1,900**—the number of spay/neuter certificates issued by SNAP this year
- **\$3,607**—the average amount that SNAP pays each month in vet bills (excludes owner co-payments)

Go ahead, make their day—sponsor a spay

There are plenty of pets on our Sponsor-a-Spay waiting list. During this holiday season, won't you please sponsor one of these pets, or visit our web site for a complete listing of more than 50 pets currently awaiting sponsors? Your generous sponsorship has already helped nearly 140 pets in 2005!

Your \$25 donation will sponsor a cat, while \$40 will sponsor a dog. Simply fill out the form on the last page of this newsletter, and rest assured that your generosity will truly help *save lives!*



Kittens and cats awaiting sponsors:

- ♠ Hope, 7 mo Female, Short-haired Gray
- ♠ Rain, 1 yr Female, Short-haired B&W
- ♠ Wickles, 1 yr Female, Gray and White
- ♠ TV, 4 mo Male, Short-haired Orange
- ♠ Wasena, 1 yr Female, Short-haired Gray
- ♠ Fireball, 1 yr Female, Short-haired Tuxedo
- ♠ Tigger Woods, 2 1/2 mo Male, Gray Tabby

Dogs awaiting sponsors:

- ♠ August, 1 yr Female, White mixed breed
- ♠ Fritz, Male, Fox Terrier mix
- ♠ Daisy, 2 yr Female, Pug
- ♠ KC, 7 yr Female, Black & White Cocker
- ♠ Blade, 4 yr Male, Doberman
- ♠ Dory, 4 yr Female, Pug
- ♠ Riese, 1 yr Female, Pit Bull Mix

SNAP memberships going strong



One year ago SNAP began offering memberships. Our goal was to build a strong, organized base of supporters for spay/neuter programs, the linchpin of pet overpopulation prevention.

Your response has been extremely heartwarming! If you're already a member, thanks for all you do to support our efforts.

If not, join us in "fighting the good fight" against pet overpopulation. A membership form is located on the last page of this newsletter.

Here is a list of current members whose contributions are making a difference in the lives of Southwest Missouri pets and their owners:



Student/Senior Memberships

Larry & Stephanie Crownover
Linda Davis
Jeanetta Forquer
Carla Galloway
Mary Harrison
Holly Hurshman
Helen Johnston
Peggy Lejeune
Kathleen O'Connell
Paula Roach

Individual Memberships

Sherle Arneson
Melina Auston
Viviana Batista
Cindy Bird
Laurel Bryant
Mike Carlie
Connie Chitwood
Sally Clark
Susan Colburn
Lynn Dalton
Steve Deulen
Mike Divine
Barbie Ernst
Karenanne Fitzsimmons
Paula Frazier
Gene & Kay Gemmill
Jackie Glass
Kathy Haddock

Janet Halbrook
Anne Heim
Janet Holiman
Sandy Jensen
Bonnie Klockenbrink
Barbara Lucks
Janet Martin
J. Elizabeth McCain
Marcy McReynolds
Roberta Morton
Helga Nicholas
Carmen Pyles
Skip & Julie Reynolds
Susan Robords
Bette Schutt
Susan Smith
Orchid Soller
Susan Tolliver
Judy Versaw
Jeanne Walker

Family Memberships

Karl & Patricia Anderson
John & Barbara Brockschmidt
Ben & Anna Bruening
Sandra Burks
Brent & Brenda Green
Billy E. & Carolin J. Hixon
Ron & Jessica Hudson
Steve & Susan Krebs
Kathi McDermott

The Meglan Family
Bill & Charlene Mitchell
Deb Scott
Chet & Mary Singer
James & Mrs Nancy Terry
Debby Williams

Business Memberships

All About Dogs & Cats, LLC
Clinical Consultants International
Eden Bed & Breakfast
Hunter Chase & Associates
Mathews & Associates
Springfield Stamp & Engraving
Stephen P. Seigel, Attorney at Law
Thomas Green, DC

Lifetime Memberships

Jesse Barnes Fine Arts
Wes Buffington
Susan Carnahan
Gloria Galanes
John Heitz
Chuck & Jennifer Laue
David & Jeanne McCready
Kay Powell
Candy Trogolo
Debbie Williams

Cats cause schizophrenia? Not so fast...

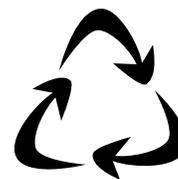


You may have seen the recent article in the newspaper about a link between cat feces and schizophrenia. We at SNAP saw it, too, and thought some clarification was in order. *Toxoplasma gondii* is a common parasite which is present throughout the world and can affect most mammals, including cats and humans. Some recent studies have found that people with schizophrenia had been exposed to higher *T gondii* levels than a control group not suffering from schizophrenia.

What this article and some others did not say was that the most common method of transmission is contact with undercooked meat, not cat feces. In fact, research has shown that even veterinarians who regularly work with cats are no more likely to be infected with *T gondii* than the general population, including people not in contact with cats. What was also not said was that the disease is easily prevented through good hygiene. Instead, cats were blamed as the culprit. Two leading researchers in the field even went so far as to recommend that parents should not get pet cats for young children and that stray cats should not be fed. This is nonsense. We hope that cats will not be abandoned or taken to animal shelters because of this baseless fear.

Recycling is good for people AND pets

We'd like to remind all of our SNAP supporters to recycle. Not only is it good for the environment, it can also be good for pets. Did you know that Nestle Purina makes pet litter products (Yesterday's News & secondnature brands) from paper products collected throughout the Ozarks? Recycle bins can be found at numerous locations in Greene County, including the City of Springfield recycling centers at 731 N. Franklin and 3020 S. Lone Pine. A complete list of locations (including drop-off sites in 13 other counties), as well as a list of accepted materials, can be found at www.biggreenbin.com.



Spotlight on ... SNAP pets

This is **SCOOTER**. He is six months old and lives in Ozark with his owner and five housemates, including Smoky Jo and Matilda (all of whom have been helped by SNAP). Scooter thinks fighting with other males is overrated and is glad he won't be engaging in that particular



This is **BRUTUS**, one of the pets helped through our *Operation TLC* grant. Brutus is a male Lab mix. He lives in Springfield with his family and is an "only pet." At four years old, Brutus was beginning to wonder if he was ever going to get fixed. Better late than never, big guy!

YES!

I would like to become a member of SNAP to help reduce the number of unwanted animals born in Southwest Missouri. I understand that by becoming a member, I will receive a quarterly newsletter and an invitation to SNAP's annual meeting. (Membership is renewable annually and is tax deductible. Payment may be made by check or money order.)

Name _____ Phone _____
Address _____
City _____ State _____ Zip _____
Email _____

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$15 Student/Senior (60 & over) | <input type="checkbox"/> \$125 Business |
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$25 Individual | <input type="checkbox"/> \$500 Lifetime |
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$40 Family | |

OR...

- _____ I want to help! Please send information about becoming a SNAP volunteer.
_____ I want to support SNAP's work with the enclosed tax-deductible donation.
_____ Please make a donation in memory of _____
_____ Please send me information on estate planning .
_____ I would like to "Sponsor-a-Spay." I am enclosing \$ _____ to sponsor:
_____ A specific pet (indicate pet's name) _____
_____ The pet at the top of SNAP's waiting list

MAIL TO: SNAP • P.O. Box 14354 • Springfield, MO 65814 • (417)823-7627

Solutions!
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