



Solution

Helping Animals and the People Who Love Them

Issue 4

June, 2003

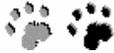
BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Jackie Glass, President
Cindy Bird, Vice-President
Connie Chitwood, Secretary
Anne Heim, Treasurer
William Hutcherson
Betsy Miller
Rhonda Nelson
Susan Tolliver

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Kathi McDermott

SNAP is a Missouri 501c3 not-for-profit corporation.



SNAP's web site has finally been launched! Be sure to visit www.snap123.org to learn more about our low-cost spay/neuter program, monitor our progress, and find out about volunteer opportunities. We have also provided links to some of the very best sites for pet care.

Happy surfing!



\$500 Cash Prize!

See p. 7 for details

SNAP Grows by Leaps and Bounds

SNAP has been very busy this year! Even though our program is promoted almost exclusively through word of mouth, our spay neuter certificate sales have increased a whopping 65% over this time last year.

For the past nine months, SNAP has surveyed pet owners who purchase certificates. The results confirm that we are reaching the people who need us the most. Approximately 70% of the pet owners have an annual income under \$20,000. Last month, out of 42 survey respondents, *there were more than 33 previous litters among their pets*, and 74% said they could not have fixed their pets without SNAP! This would have resulted countless litters of unwanted dogs and cats.

We know that *many* low-income pet owners want to alter their pets and will do so if the price

is within their reach. In order to help, we have strengthened our volunteer recruiting and fundraising strategies.

SNAP appointed a Volunteer Coordinator and established a goal to expand our volunteer base to 50 people by the end of 2003.

We are developing a fundraising strategy which includes corporate sponsorships, large and small fundraising events, planned gifts and bequests, online donations, and our annual fund drive.

We have two innovative and exciting community projects under development that will increase awareness of SNAP's program *and* significantly reduce the number of shelter intakes.

(Continued on page 5)

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

Two Local Women Sponsor Spays to Stop Littering

Our community is lucky to have two special women who “sponsor” spays whenever they run across someone who desperately wants to fix a pet but can’t afford it. Helga and Gwen often do this by finding other animal lovers willing to help financially. Then they coordinate with SNAP, the vet, and the pet’s owner to make sure the pet is fixed.

Many of the pet owners are disabled, elderly, or otherwise housebound and cannot transport their pets to the vet for surgery. That doesn’t

deter Helga and Gwen. They just transport the pets themselves!

Sponsoring a spay is a SNAP! If you know a pet owner who would qualify for our low-cost spay/neuter program, and you would like to help, why not sponsor the surgery yourself? A \$15 donation will spay or neuter a cat; \$25-40 will fix a dog. Just give us a call at 823-SNAP. And thanks for your help!!

SNAP Eases Worries for Hospice Patients

Dear SNAP,

Working with Hospice patients and loved ones, I occasionally have cases where pets are involved. Sometimes with the death of an owner, the pet will need a new home. I have had cases where the dying person’s main concern was what would become of their beloved pet. I’ve been fortunate to find good homes, but it is quite difficult.

Sometimes, the pet will need to be spayed or neutered, but the patient’s finances are low or drained. In the last few months, I have called SNAP for low-cost certificates, which makes it possible for most. For others, there is a need for the entire cost to be donated. In those cases, I try to get a sponsor to pay for the certificate.

Keep in mind that death is not prejudiced. Death strikes the rich and poor alike, and there are people who can afford to feed their pet but have no funds available for vet care. The last thing these people need is a litter of puppies or kittens. SNAP has been a great blessing.

I urge you to support this worthy organization. I also ask you to consider sponsoring someone who needs total help and for being open to taking in a pet whose owner has died. Make no mistake about it, a dog or cat will grieve for its owner. In some cases, euthanasia is the only answer, but in others, the pet can find a new friend to love and protect it. Maybe you!

Thank you, SNAP, for providing this very necessary service.

Gwen Louise Bates, Bereavement Counselor

He is your friend, your partner, your defender, your dog. You are his life, his love, his leader. He will be yours, faithful and true, to the last beat of his heart. You owe it to him to be worthy of such devotion. - Author Unknown



Would you like to volunteer for SNAP?

Do you have suggestions for future newsletter articles?

Do you have friends who would like to support SNAP by volunteering or making donations?

Give us a call...we'd love to hear from you!



Kids' Corner

Dog Riddles from Kids Around the World (answers below)

1. Why does a dog scratch himself? Vidushi, age 12, New Delhi, India
2. What do you call a great dog detective? Jemma, age 10, Johannesburg, Gauteng, South Africa
3. What do you say to your friend when they go away? Katie, age 7, West Sussex, England
4. What type of art does a dog like to practice on glass? Pavithra, Age 12, India

If you would like to see more riddles, or if you have a riddle you'd like to share, go to www.loveyourdog.com. You'll find lots of other fun dog stuff, too!

ANSWERS: 1. Because no one else knows where it itches. 2. Sherlock Bones 3. Poodle-oo-hiiiiii 4. Nose printing

Where the money goes...

<i>Surgeries</i>	<i>2000</i>	<i>2001</i>	<i>2002</i>	<i>2003</i>	<i>Total</i>
Dog Neuters	45	110	114	48	317
Dog Spays	64	177	216	96	553
Cat Neuters	43	174	219	115	551
Cat Spays	87	295	483	243	1108
Total	239	756	1032	502	2529

SNAP's Wish List

-  Cash - your cash donations save lives (and they're tax-deductible)
-  Volunteers
-  Booth sponsors for the July 19 Chill-Out
-  Envelopes (business-sized) & postage stamps
-  Printer cartridges for Lexmark Z52 or Epson Photo 825
-  Brochure paper 32# or heavier
-  Tax preparation and accounting services
-  Auction or raffle items

Make Fundraising Fun!

SNAP and area pets have benefited from the initiative and generosity of some special individuals and clubs in our community. These animal lovers are having fun while helping stop pet overpopulation.

For the past two years, Susan has organized a tennis benefit and donated the proceeds to SNAP. Her \$800 contribution means 31 dogs cannot produce litters.

The Ozark Mountain Parrot Heads recently held their annual benefit barbecue and donated \$510 to SNAP. Now there are 36 cats who cannot add to our overcrowded animal shelters. Ron Holden, the group's president, says their club strives to "leave the world a better place and have a great time doing it." They appear to be achieving these goals!

Some supporters have garage sales and donate their proceeds to SNAP. While they make space in their homes, they are making more space in area shelters through their cash donations.

Maybe you, your employer, your school, or your family would like to help needy families fix their pets by organizing a fundraiser. We have more than 250 great ideas to fit any skill level, time limitation, or age group. We'll

help you find one that works for you. Just fill out the response form on page 7 and send it in. A volunteer will get you started right away!

Here are just a couple of ideas to jump start your imagination...



Hold a "Trike-a-thon". In addition to raising funds for spay/neuter, kids can get some exercise and have fun. The idea is for young children to get donations per lap ridden on their tricycles on a given day. You can paint a special tricycle path in a parking lot and hold the ride on a Saturday morning, inviting parents and donors to attend to cheer on their child.

Variation: Make it a hilarious contest for adults. Or conclude your kiddie trike-a-thon with a race between parents using their kids' tricycles!

Board Games Evening: Invite friends over to play Scrabble, Monopoly, Clue, Twister, and more. Charge an entrance or game fee.

Annual Spring Fling is the Cat's Meow!

SNAP volunteers thoroughly enjoyed participating in the Lakes Country Cat Fanciers Cat Show again this year. The Oasis Hotel and Convention Center was the perfect venue for a fun, well-run show. The cats were treated like pampered royalty. Everywhere you looked, cats were being groomed, fed special treats, playing with favorite toys or taking naps in snug little beds! Vendors aplenty were selling anything cat related. And of

course, there was always a crowd around the judging tables.

SNAP would like to say a special thanks to all the volunteers who worked as judging ring stewards and to the Cat Fanciers for their generous donation to support our spay/neuter efforts.

Don't miss out next year! Plan now to attend "Spring Fling 2004" April 10-11.

Chill-Out with SNAP on Saturday, July 19!

Blistering hot summer days are here, and what better way to cool off than with lots of delicious ice cream? Add live music, carnival-type games, an auction, a huge yard sale, and the result is some great family fun!

Join us at SNAP's 1st Annual Ice Cream Chill-Out on Saturday, July 19, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Rogersville City Park. Numerous area animal lovers will sponsor booths, hand out ice-cream samples, and compete to see which team can raise the most funds for SNAP. Our goal is to raise \$10,000, which could fix 650 pets!

Teams will also be competing for two awards: *People's Choice* and *Best Booth*. The People's Choice is the team raising the most money for SNAP's spay/neuter program. The Best Booth title will be awarded for the booth judged to have the

best theme, décor, costumes, and showmanship. So fire up your imagination, gather your team, and start raising those funds! This is also an excellent opportunity to promote your own business!

We need volunteers to sell advance tickets, Black Angus Bingo chances, and to help out at the event. If you can help in any way, please call us at 823-SNAP.

Directions from Springfield: Take Hwy 60 east toward Cabool. Turn left on Business 60. Turn right on County Line Rd. You can't miss it!

When: July 19, 2003

10 a.m. 'til 2 p.m.

Where: Rogersville City Park

Cost: \$2 in advance; \$3 at the gate
Free parking

SNAP Grows by Leaps and Bounds

(Continued from page 1)

First, SNAP will partner with Housing Authority of Springfield to help tenants fix their pets. We estimate that 270 dogs and cats will be sterilized during the first six months of this program. Our grant proposal is in its final stages, and we expect Project Spay & Stay to be in place by the end of this year.

Pet owners in the 65802 zip code account for a disproportionate share of shelter intakes, so SNAP will seek a grant to focus on this geographical area, providing low-cost certificates for pet owners who need them. SNAP's objective will be to achieve

70% spay/neuter of all pets and feral cats in the 65802 zip code. National studies show that when 70% is attained in a small area, the pet population is stabilized. We are currently developing a business plan for this project.

SNAP works hard to provide our service to everyone who needs it. With continued community support and the efforts of a dedicated volunteer force, we will achieve this goal.

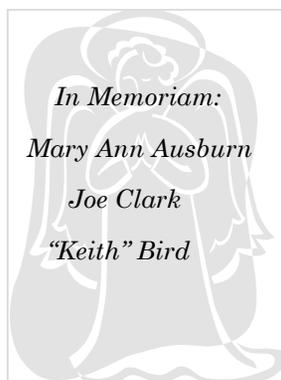
SNAP believes it is time for our community to embrace the methods that are working so well for other regions. Are you ready to jump on board? It will be an exciting ride!

Thank You, Merci, Gracias, Woof, and Meow

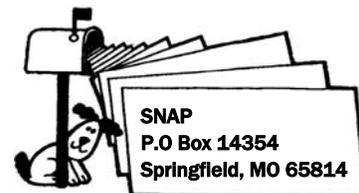
There are always so many people to thank for supporting SNAP's spay/neuter efforts.
We appreciate everyone's help!

Southwest Missouri Humane Society
 Andy Williams Moon River Theatre
 All Creatures Animal Clinic, LTD - Bolivar
 Angel Animal Hospital
 Animal Care Clinic - Bolivar
 Animal Clinic of the Ozarks
 Animal House - Republic
 Animal Medical Center
 Bradford Park Veterinary Hospital
 Buffalo Veterinary Clinic
 Country Club Veterinary Hospital
 Diggins Veterinary Clinic
 Fair Grove Veterinary Services
 Gentle Care Animal Hospital
 Grant Avenue Pet Hospital
 Gregg & Nancy Bender
 Ben Bruening
 Wes Buffington
 Sandra Cordes
 Stephen Deulen
 Mary Gilbert
 Girl Scouts Troop #791

Musgrave Foundation
 Lakes Country Cat Fanciers Association
 Heartland Animal Clinic
 Kirbyville Veterinary Clinic
 Marshfield Veterinary Clinic
 Mt. Vernon Animal Hospital
 Ozark Veterinary Clinic
 Rogersville Animal Hospital
 Strafford Veterinary Clinic
 Sunshine Animal Hospital
 Taneyville Veterinary Clinic
 Town & Country Small Animal Hospital
 Trokey Animal Hospital
 Willard Veterinary Hospital
 Randy Hall
 Vera Haynes
 Marilyn Johnson
 Janet Martin
 Marcy McReynolds
 Dorothy Michael
 Ozark Mountain Parrot Heads
 Jim Preston
 Candy Trogolo



To Contact Us...

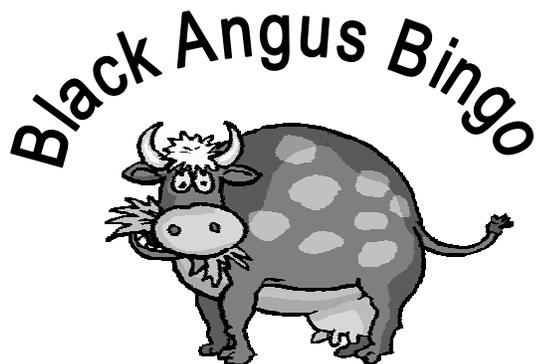


Spay Neuter Assistance Program, Inc.
 P. O. Box 14354
 Springfield, MO 65814
 Phone: (417) 823-SNAP (7627)
 E-mail: snap123@att.net
 Web site: www.snap123.org

Bingo! (as You've Never Seen it Before)

Cow patty, cow pie, meadow muffin, "moo doo"? No matter what you call it, one thing is certain - Black Angus Bingo is a great way to have some good clean(?) fun and raise some much-needed cash to help us solve Southwest Missouri's animal overpopulation problem.

SNAP volunteers are currently selling Black Angus Bingo chances for a \$500 cash prize. For each \$5 donation, participants can "rent"



a 5-foot square plot in a 120' x 240' arena. On July 19, at our Ice Cream Chill-Out, a well-fed cow will be turned loose in the arena at Rogersville City Park. The \$500 winner will be that lucky individual who rented the plot where the cow makes her first "deposit".

Line judges will be on hand to identify the winning plot, take measurements in the event of a close call, and announce the winner. We'll even clean up your cow patty for you!

You may rent more than one plot, but there are a limited amount of plots available, so don't wait! Place your order for Black Angus Bingo chances now by calling 823-SNAP. Then join us at the Chill-Out on July 19 and see where the patty plops!

Note: Winner is not required to be present.

Yes.... I Want to Help!

We are grateful for the generosity of those who have helped us to accomplish so much! Now we ask you to renew your support so we can continue that success. Following are just a few of the ways you can help make the Ozarks a better place for our fur-covered companions. Just check your interests and return this form in the enclosed envelope. Thank you for caring!

- I want to support the work of SNAP with the enclosed tax-deductible contribution.*
- Have your volunteer coordinator call me. I want to help!*
- I would like to help organize a fundraiser to benefit SNAP.*
- I am enclosing a check for _____ Black Angus Bingo chances at \$5 each.*
- Please add me to SNAP's e-mail distribution list.*

Name _____ Phone _____

Address _____

City, State Zip _____

E-mail Address _____

This Just In... Nachos Can Save Lives!

On Thursday, June 26, SNAP will go "south of the border," partnering with Springfield's Rio Bravo Cantina for a fundraiser to benefit SNAP's low-cost spay/neuter program. For that entire day, from 11 a.m. 'til 11 p.m., 20% of the dollars spent at Rio Bravo by our supporters will be donated to SNAP.

In order for your dinner dollars to count toward the fundraiser, you must provide a special flyer to your server. To make it convenient for you, we have included one right here on this page. We encourage you to make *lots* of copies and hand them out to everyone you know. Friends, family, your dentist, your mail carrier, anyone! Make it a party at Rio Bravo to honor the lives of homeless animals and help us end pet overpopulation. We'll see you there!

Please be sure your server staples your flyer to your dinner receipt!!!

Please Join Rio Bravo at our
Fundraising Event for

SNAP
Spay Neuter Assistance Program 

Invite All Of Your Friends And Family To
Dine With Us And
RIO BRAVO WILL DONATE 20%
Of The Proceeds To Our Fundraising Partner!

*It's Just Our Way Of
Giving Back To The Community!*

June 26, 2003
All Day

*In queso anyone asks, please remember: No flyers may
be handed out at the restaurant prior
to or on the night of your event.*

*No coupons or discounts may be used in conjunction
with your fundraiser event.*
Thanks!



SNAP Solutions
PO Box 14354
Springfield, MO 65814