

PAW PRINTS

NEWSLETTER OF THE VERNON & DISTRICT ANIMAL CARE SOCIETY

Box 1564, Vernon, BC. V1T 8C2

February 2006



Diana, Duane and the Gang in Lumby Who Did So Much for Us

Last year member Diana Warnock in Lumby organized a fundraiser at the Lumby Legion. We were all glad when it produced 300 hundred dollars. Diana repeated it this year on an even bigger scale. 40 items were donated for the silent auction, several loads of gravel and a beautiful wooden eagle were auctioned live as was one of the door prizes that was donated back. 50/50 tickets and a guess- the- jelly beans contest rounded out the evening. Finally there were several donations. Local groups entertained us with country music. The grand total was an astounding \$2195! Sincere thanks to the generous people of Lumby for spending so much, to all the donors and musicians, Arthur for preparing another wonderful poster and above all to Diana for her magnificent work in organizing the evening.

Spay Days 2006 Surpasses Goal of 100 Cat Spays & Neuters

Thanks to the generous compassion of our members and supporters, we're proud to report that, as of February 28, VDACS has issued 103 certificates for feline spays and neuters, plus an additional 5 certificates for canine spays. Statistics show that, over a seven year period, one female cat and her unaltered offspring can produce 420,000 cats. All of us, therefore, should congratulate ourselves on having prevented the births of many, many thousands of unwanted cats – cats likely destined to lead short lives, tormented by pain,

hunger and fear. As well, by helping to control the cat population, we have improved shelter cats' chances of finding families to love them.

The families and individuals who have applied to us for spay/neuter assistance also love their animals and want to be responsible pet owners. They simply do not have enough money to alter their animals.

Let me pull an application at random from our file. This applicant lives in a suite with one dependent, his 14 year old son. He has attached a copy of a Canada Customs and Revenue Agency form showing his total 2004 income as \$9,847. He has also included a copy of his January 9, 2006 hydro bill for \$216.99. To come up with \$25 to get his cat neutered must have been very difficult. The fact that he did manage to find that money shows how much he values his pet. Sadly, this family is far from the poorest of our applicants.

Right now, we are waiting for contributions from 15 approved applicants before we issue their certificates, and we have a further 12 applications awaiting approval. It would be wonderful if we could help all these animals but we have exhausted the \$8,000 donated to Spay Days. We have applied to both the City of Vernon and the Regional District for grants of \$4,000. In the meantime, if any of you are able to help out, please mail your donation to Spay Days 2006, Vernon & District Animal Care Society, Box 1564, Vernon, BC. V1T 8C2.

CatSnip

We were very pleased to receive \$1 000 + a newspaper ad from Animal Advocates Society in Vancouver. The money was to be used for cat altering at no cost to the owner. The result was overwhelming. For three straight days the phone rang non stop, about 50 calls a day. Needless to say we used up the \$ 1000 very quickly, and have referred people to our assistance programme. The 2 programmes together will have altered over 125 animals, mostly cats, by the time the dust has settled. Using the rule of thumb of 1 cat and its offspring producing 420 000 kittens in seven years we shall have prevented over 52 000 000 unwanted kittens arriving in the next few years!

Shelter News

Hazel continues to operate our shelter. At present there are about 75 cats waiting for loving homes. If you feel the need of another cat or know someone who wants a loving companion call Hazel at 542-1607 and arrange to see all the felines. You won't regret it!

Fundraising

2005 was an unending round of fundraising activities. We held 2 garage sales followed by clearance sales, book sale (and clearance sale), 2 bake sales, collectables sale, Christmas on a Budget Sale, our annual raffle. Hunter's Store again organized our annual Hot Dog Sale and Pet Photo Contest. The second Canine Capers was a huge success, earning many compliments and \$1 000. Through the hard work of our volunteers these activities brought in a total of over \$10 000. On the other side of the ledger our costs are high. Here are some examples: box of clumping litter \$7.97. The shelter needs about 20

of these a month; cat food – varies with the brand but good quality is about \$3 a kilo. The guys consume 150 kilos a month. Cat spay: \$122; cat neuter: \$80. Dr Kristina Ringness has made a big difference to the cost of spaying/neutering, vaccinating and tattooing our shelter cats.

Annual General Meeting

Our Annual General Meeting will be held at **7:00 p.m. on Sunday, March 12 at the People Place, 3402 27th Avenue.** We will be presenting our 2005 Annual Report and electing our 2006-7 Board of Directors. The business meeting usually takes less than an hour and will be followed by coffee and homemade goodies. Please join us. If you **are** interested in letting your name stand for election to the Board, please attend the meeting or phone Heather @ 542-7203. Last year's members have all announced their willingness to continue on the Board but we welcome new faces, new ideas and new energy.

2005-2006 VDACS Board of Directors

Heather Pettit [President]; Hazel Turchinetz [Vice President]; Jean Boysen [Treasurer]; Laurie Johnson [Director]; Pat Kirschner [Director]; Ginny Makarewich [Director]; Joan Salt [Director]; Sandi Slizak [Director]; Carole Wheeler [Director].

Why not join us?

In Memoriam Donations

The Vernon & District Animal Care Society has gratefully received generous donations in memory of the following people and animals:

Susie Dodd	remembered by Brian & Carol Cunnif
Davey	remembered by Enide Rourke, Robert & Heather Pettit and Hazel Turchinetz
Dexter	remembered by Pat Kirschner
Madeleine	remembered by Robert & Heather Pettit
Nipper	remembered by Hazel & Mike Turchinetz
Nitro	remembered by Enide Rourke
.	
Panya	remembered by Elizabeth Hough
Saije	remembered by Enide Rourke

Upcoming Events

Saturday April 8 Easter Bake & Craft Sale Polson Place Mall

Friday/Saturday May 12/13 Garage & Garden Sale 3205-22St.

Saturday June 17 Hunter's Store Hot Dogs, Hamburgers, Ice Cream Sale and Pet Photo Contest

Watch for Details in the Media

Queen of Spayeds Raffle Coming Soon!

VERNON AND DISTRICT ANIMAL CARE SOCIETY

I would like to renew my membership @ \$25 _____

I would like to make a tax deductible donation of _____

Total _____

Name _____

Address _____

Phone# _____ email _____

Please make cheques payable to Vernon and District Animal Care Society and mail to:

VDACS
PO Box 1564
Vernon BC V1T 8C2