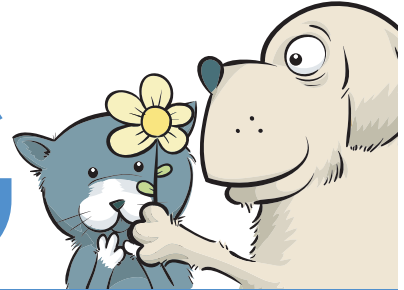


CARING



HELPING HOMELESS & UNWANTED ANIMALS THROUGH RESCUE, ADOPTION AND SPAY/NEUTER EDUCATION SINCE 1997

The Quarterly Newsletter of Animal Compassion Network | FALL 2006 | Volume 3 | Issue 3



In This Issue

Taste of Compassion Quickly Approaches ...	1
PETsMART Charities Complete	1
Trash for Critters	2
ACN's Top 5 Holiday Gift Ideas	2
Earl M. Wilson and Helen Kimberly Jones Trusts	2
Bed & Breakfast Tour	3
From the Director's Desk	4
All Grown Up: The Joys of Mature Pets	5
Our Happy Tails... ..	6
... And Hopeful Placements!	7
Subaru Adoption Event	7

Upcoming Events

3rd Annual Taste of Compassion Wine Tasting & Silent Auction. Thursday, November 2, from 5:30 to 7:30pm.

Animal Adoptions

Adoption Events are held the first and third Saturday (11-3) of every month at PETsMART. Cat adoptions also are every Wed. (6-8) and Sat. (1-3), with cats in the store's adoption area daily.

Current Calendar Info

For the most up-to-date calendar information available, please go to www.animalcompassionnetwork.org, or call (828) 258-4820 and select the events line (#1).

Third Annual Taste of Compassion Benefit Wine-Tasting and Silent Auction Quickly Approaches

The 3rd Annual **Taste of Compassion** is quickly drawing near and promises to be our best yet! Prepare to be treated to a wide selection of fine wines provided by Mutual Distributing, gourmet vegetarian hors d'oeuvres by excellent area restaurants, and the jazz stylings of *one leg UP*. Playing "a mixture of gypsy jazz, Latin, swing, modern jazz, and original compositions," *one leg UP* has gained an enthusiastic local fan base of music lovers, dancers and fellow musicians as the much-loved house band at Cafe Soliel, while their two albums have gained praise and popularity far beyond. Treasures abound in the Silent Auction, and wine sampled will be available for purchase - excellent quality, low prices, perfect to serve at holiday parties or give as gifts - with 100% of proceeds benefitting ACN. Tickets are available at animalcompassionnetwork.org (MC/Visa accepted) or by calling 828-687-8195. \$20 ticket donation prior to event, \$25 at the door. Remember the date! Thursday, Nov. 2nd from 5:30 to 7:30, at the Asheville Chamber of Commerce Visitor's Center.

PETsMART Charities \$10,000 Grant Complete Hundreds of Animals in Outlying Counties Benefit

In 2005, PETsMART Charities donated \$10,000 to ACN to expand our Betty Fund low-cost spay/neuter assistance to include animals in Haywood, Henderson, Madison, McDowell, and Rutherford Counties - areas where very little spay/neuter funding is available.

We've just completed this very successful program, altering 281 cats and dogs who most-assuredly would not have been without this financial assistance. Much of the credit goes to ACN's PETsMART Charities Program Coordinator Maggie Howard and Spay/Neuter Coordinator Terri Baird. This dynamic duo took to the streets in these counties, literally, discussing the importance of spaying and neutering and offering the PETsMART Charities grant assistance to pet guardians at festivals, job fairs and outside PETsMART and Wal-Mart stores. All told, we altered 68 female dogs, 40 male dogs, 117 female cats and 56 male cats!

In a move that will affect thousands of homeless animals in the future, Howard also

used this program to initiate a new spay/neuter program in Rutherford County through the Rutherford County Animal Protection Alliance (RCAPA). When Howard heard there was no transport service to the Humane Alliance Low-Cost Spay/Neuter Clinic in Asheville for Rutherford county, she immediately seized the opportunity of this grant funding to help them orchestrate one.

Jo Ann Close of RCAPA gushed about the results. "Everyone who worked with me on this project and particularly the volunteers who helped with the loading think this is the best thing they have ever done. I am so pleased about this because I have been preaching for a long time to get this far and if you guys hadn't come up with the grant funds to get us started I would probably still be preaching." Thank you to Maggie Howard, Terri Baird and PETsMART Charities for an effective, compassionate program that will continue to save lives for years to come.

Prestige
Your All-Wheel Drive Headquarters

828-298-9600
585 Tunnel Rd,
Asheville



Four Paw Business Sponsor

"Cash for Critters" now "Trash for Critters" RECYCLE Your Used Ink Cartridges and Cell Phones (For a Good Cause!)

With our Trash for Critters program, you can turn in your used ink cartridges to benefit animals in need in Western North Carolina. Depending on the type, Animal Compassion Network receives as much as \$12 per cartridge! The program now accepts cell phones (without accessories) too. If you would like to collect cartridges and cell phones at your business (we will arrange for pick up) please contact Ron Dvoretz at 828-683-0323 or e-mail Ron at coondogs48@bellsouth.net or Rob Levy at wolffegang@aol.com.

You may also drop them off at these locations:

- Asheville Pet Supply (North Merrimon Avenue)
- Black Dome Outfitters (Tunnel Road)
- Greenlife Grocery (Merrimon Avenue)
- Dripolator Coffee (Broadway – just north of Charlotte St. & McCormack Field)

If you have contacts with a large institution that uses a lot of cartridges (i.e., newspapers, a hospital), we'll provide a large box to leave in a central location where employees can deposit their cartridges. Thanks for recycling for the animals!

Calling all wood-working enthusiasts!

Are you in the market for a ShopSmith MarkV? This high-quality, all-in-one, 10" table saw, complete with horizontal boring machine, 12" disc sander, 16-1/2" vertical drill press and 34" lathe is valued at \$3,500. It is brand new, never used or even taken out of its box and could be yours for a reasonable donation. Please contact Karen Smith of at 828-687-8195 for more information. All proceeds go to help local animals in need.



ShopSmith MARK V as a Table Saw



ACN's Top 5 Holiday Gift Ideas



#5. Just about anything! Shopping online through one of the many links found on the ACN website's Support/Shopping page (www.animalcompassionnetwork.org/fundraising) like Benevolink.com or iGive.com will raise funds for needy animals and won't cost you a thing! In fact, you'll likely find some great deals and exclusive bargains while you're there!

#4. A gorgeous original piece of artwork by local favorite Elizabeth McAfee. Created for ACN, 'Going Home,' is "dedicated to all the kitties who have gone on to another Home and to all those angels on earth who have opened their hearts and homes to living kitties who can so richly repay their love." To view this piece or place an order, visit the ACN website's Support/Shopping page for information or call (828) 258-4820. Matted prints are \$25, framed prints \$55, shipping charges extra.

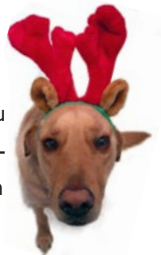


#3. Support ACN in style! With the addition of several new and beautiful designs, there's no better time to help the animals while looking good! Short-sleeved shirts (\$25), hats (\$20), and snuggly sweatshirts (\$38) available. Email sarabethblack@netscape.net for details. Volunteers are eligible for a discount!



#2. Sponsor an ACN cat or dog in honor of someone special. Your tax-deductible sponsorship donation of \$85 will go to pay medical and foster care expenses for one special cat or dog until their 'forever home' is found. Your or your chosen recipient will receive a Sponsor-A-Pet certificate with your animal's picture, name and story for you to proudly display. Check the website for more information or use the simple form on the back of this newsletter.

#1. A new best friend! There is no greater gift than to promise a lifetime of love and commitment to a new pet. But please don't adopt impulsively! Keep in mind the chaos and activity of the holidays, travel plans and the needs of every person in the home. If you wish to make a gift of a pet to a child, for example, a "gift certificate" or even a stuffed animal representing their new pet might be in order. Once the holiday stresses pass, visit an ACN adoption event and spend time finding the perfect pet for your family and home!



Earl M. Wilson & Helen Kimberly Jones Trusts

In spay/neuter news, Animal Compassion Network was just awarded \$13,000 in spay/neuter assistance for Buncombe County residents from the Earl M. Wilson and Helen Kimberly Jones Trusts. These grants will allow us to continue our local Betty Fund assistance for low-income residents and Subsidized Voucher Program for all pet guardians. ACN's spay/neuter assistance is available at our adoption events, first and third Saturday of the month from 11 am to 3 pm at PETsMART near the Super Wal-Mart.

- Cellulose & Fiberglass
- Hearth & Fireplace Collection
- Accessories



195 Cane Creek Rd. Fletcher
828-651-9696
www.mwbrpro.com

Four Paw Business Sponsor

Integrating Traditional and
Alternative Medicine for Your Pet
Jonathan Stone, DVM

Heartsong Animal Hospital



932 Hendersonville Rd
Suite 106, Asheville
277-6635 • 277-6637

Four Paw Business Sponsor

Mark Your Calendar! Bed & Breakfast Tour

by Wendolyn Forbes

What do roses, a lion, chestnuts, ivy, gates and crests have in common? You might be thinking of C.S. Lewis's *The Lion, the Witch & The Wardrobe* and if so you're partially right! Expect to be swept off your feet and into the folds of opulent and historical architectural style in the heart of Western North Carolina. Taking place within three hours (6-9PM) on the evenings of December 5, 6 and 7, 2006, is a tour of 16 of Asheville's finest Bed & Breakfast establishments. Ticket are \$20

for one evening, \$30 for two evenings and \$40 for all three evenings, with all proceeds going towards the animals. The tours will feature four inns in the South Asheville area on Tuesday, Dec. 5; six inns in the greater Asheville area on Wednesday, Dec. 6; and six inns located within the north Asheville area, including Weaverville on Thursday, Dec. 7.

Experience the winding drive up the hillside to the Cedar Crest Inn and float into the foyer where you will experience the scent and sight of richly oiled oak. Revel in the rich colors and whispering waters of the 1889 WhiteGate Inn & Cottage landscape; inside you'll hear the tinkling of keys from a grand piano or a tune from the jukebox. Located a few moments away is the Chestnut Street Inn with its blend of historical architecture and eclectic designs of local artists. Visit the 1900 Inn on Montford and imagine indulging your childhood fantasy of climbing the largest Norway Maple in North Carolina or sinking your bare toes into the thickly piled Persian rugs as you gaze on mid-1700 to early 1900 English and American antiques. The Wright Inn and Carriage House, a brilliant gem of a home, is also located in the historic Montford district of Asheville. Just down the street you'll find *The Lion & The Rose* lovingly gazing at you through stained glass windows. When you step inside you'll hear the wood crackling in the fireplace and smell freshly baked cookies.

Waiting for you is *A Bed of Roses* where you will remark on the thickly piled beds, admiring the woodwork of the staircase and the sheer design of the Turret Suite. Travel back to Scarlet O'Hara's antebellum South at the Albemarle Inn, located in the Grove Park area, where your hand will eagerly anticipate the glassy cool of a mint julep, your eyes will travel up the winding staircase (where you may notice a wardrobe beneath the

sweeping arch of the top stair). The Blake House, in the Royal Pines area of South Asheville, is a delight to behold from the outside, with its ornate Italianate architecture, and inside, with its original red heart pine floors. Take your time as you stroll across the grounds of the Abington Green Bed & Breakfast Inn, staring in awe and admiration at the loving attention to detail. At Biltmore Village Inn every room has a view so check out each and every one! The North Lodge on Oakland, located near the historical Smith-McDowell House, has a unique place in Asheville's history that you simply must hear all about!

The Hawk & Ivy will restore your inner sanctum as you inhale the mist rolling off of the Ivy River and walk into the country home atmosphere. The Inn on Main Street, a quiet Victorian house where the innkeepers Nancy and Dan Ward have carved a piece of heaven is located in the heart of downtown Weaverville and is a charming respite from the hustle and bustle of the day to day. Nearby is the Dry Ridge Inn with its white picket fence, rose bushes and inviting interior complimented by well-stacked bookcases.

As you know, words can only do so much! Please take the time to visit these fine establishments during the Bed & Breakfast Tour and support a great cause. Proceeds are directed toward the ACN medical fund for the Adoption/Foster Program.

Business Sponsorships:

Do you have a small business you're trying to grow or perhaps you have a very successful business and you are looking to support a cause close to your heart? Either way, becoming a business sponsor of Animal Compassion Network makes sense. With business sponsorships starting at only \$100, it's a very affordable way to attract new customers. When ACN promotes your company to our thousands of supporters, you immediately gain recognition as being a friend to the animals. And if there's one thing that can be said about animal lovers, we are fiercely loyal and will go out of our way to support those who make it their business to be compassionate. When you support ACN, you are making a sound investment in the future of animal welfare in western North Carolina. Please call 828-687-8195 if you'd like more information about becoming a business sponsor.

The Medicine Shoppe
PHARMACY
Caring beyond prescriptions.
640 Merrimon Avenue
828-255-8757

🐾🐾🐾

Three Paw Business Sponsor

ALPHA
REAL ESTATE
CONSTRUCTION

**Pet-Friendly
Property
Rentals**

www.alpha-real-estate.com
828-251-9966 • 65 Charlotte St.

🐾🐾🐾

Three Paw Business Sponsor

WHITE INSURANCE GROUP

**PO Box 1310
17 Sunset Dr,
Black Mountain**

**(828) 669-7912
FAX (828) 669-2315
whiteinsurance.com**

KEYSTONE INSURERS GROUP

Trusted Choice

🐾🐾🐾

Three Paw Business Sponsor

**Colleen R. Snyder
Broker/REALTOR®
Coldwell Banker**

KASEY & ASSOCIATES

**Office: 828-684-4339
Cell: 828-606-0287
Email: crsnyder@coldwellbanker.com
Toll-Free: 800-627-1939**



🐾🐾🐾

Three Paw Business Sponsor

From The Director's Desk by Eileen Bouressa

Those of you who regularly read my ACN emails and newsletter articles already know a great deal about me and my beliefs. First, you know that I am very optimistic about the future of animal welfare. Second, you know that when an animal crosses my personal path, I believe it is because I am the one who is supposed to save him or her, regardless of how many lanes of traffic I have to cross to do so. But sometimes something happens that rocks you to the core and makes you question everything you once accepted on faith. My spiritual earthquake happened last week when my husband Brian and I took our first vacation together in six years.

When we honeymooned in Costa Rica several years ago, Brian learned the hard way that a vacation from work for me is not the same thing as a vacation from my calling. He spent a week watching me protest the treatment of the horses at the riding stables and getting snorts from the other diners as I shoveled scrambled eggs from the buffet into my purse to feed the stray cats who lived around the resort. (In the interest of full disclosure, I will admit that two of the said stray cats were also given residence in our hotel room for the week and would have soon found themselves US citizens had I been able to locate them on the morning of our departure.)

So Brian carefully planned our trip to Cancun with assurances from friends that they had never encountered a stray cat or dog while there on

vacation. I was skeptical, but as we drove the tree-lined streets from the airport to the hotel section, the only dogs I saw were two Chihuahuas being walked along the manicured jogging path that connected the hotels. After three days had passed with no stray sightings, I felt myself relax and started to think of Cancun as a role model for other Mexican cities.

On the fourth day, we took a tour to the Mayan ruins of *Chichen Itza*. Normally the tour bus would have followed the route

along the manicured streets that led straight out to the four-lane highway, but there was a complication that forced the bus instead to thread its way out the hotel zone and into the residential part of Cancun, so carefully hidden from tourists. And there he was. The most beautiful dog I have ever seen, just sitting on a sidewalk. His back was to us, but he looked over his shoulder as the tour bus passed, fixing me with the most startling blue eyes. Reading my mind, Brian was quick to assure me that he obviously belonged to someone and was just waiting for them to come out of one of the nearby stores. The only way I could refrain from yelling to the tour guide to pull over was by telling myself that I would go back to check up on him after the tour. After all, he had crossed my path.

Moments later, I saw a little white and a little black puppy frolicking in an empty lot. I mentally added them to my follow-up list and tried to enjoy the impromptu peek into everyday Mexican life. But less than a minute passed before I saw five, six, seven dogs wandering the streets, looking

sick and skinny. The more distance between the hotel zone and these streets, the number of obviously stray dogs rose exponentially until I lost count. Eventually we reached a horrifying section where numerous dogs sprawled dead across the sidewalks. People stepped over them without so much as a glance down.

And then I shut down – physically and emotionally. I was unable to look away from the scene but I also couldn't talk or react.

I simply stared. I saw two to three hundred starving, sickly, homeless dogs in an area no larger than downtown Hendersonville. Surprisingly, I saw no stray cats, but I knew they must be there too.

As the city morphed into a shanty town of windowless shacks constructed out of corrugated metal and wooden crates, I ironically found myself relieved every time I saw one of these dogs chained up; at least they were receiving some modicum of care. Even at the Mayan ruins, a dog approached looking for a handout. She had obviously just given birth and was infested with worms. I tried to coax her over to me, but she wouldn't let anyone within a few feet of her. On the return trip, we passed through the Mayan villages where I continued to be assaulted by these images, including a dog with a broken leg struggling across the road in front of the bus. I wanted to close my eyes but couldn't.

We know what remains to be done in our own country. We're still fighting to control our own pet overpopulation crisis. We find it unacceptable that healthy, adoptable animals are euthanized in



Courtesy NACER.org

Cooncats Pottery
by Denise
Leicester, NC
828-683-0323
cooncats@bellsouth.net

🐾🐾🐾
Three Paw Business Sponsor

Attention Holiday Shoppers. Cooncats Pottery is offering a 15% discount to all ACN members on all pottery at the December 9th Show at the Leicester Community Center. For more information contact Denise at cooncats@bellsouth.net.

REACH
REGIONAL EMERGENCY ANIMAL CARE HOSPITAL
HOSPITAL

677 Brevard Road, Asheville
828-665-4399
www.reach.vetsuite.com

🐾🐾🐾
Three Paw Business Sponsor

Sensibilities
natural body care & day spa

Downtown 828.253.3222
South 828.687.8760
sensibilities-spa.com

🐾🐾🐾
Three Paw Business Sponsor

our shelters every minute of every day. But we do not know animal suffering like this. We don't step over dead dogs on the sidewalk where we shop.

When I returned home, I called ACN President, Sue Barnett, and was finally able to talk about it. Quite frankly, I was expecting her to advise me not to worry about something I couldn't change. Instead, she replied, "Well, sounds like we have our work cut out for us in Cancun." She said this with absolute sincerity and finality, as if she were announcing she was out of bread and had to go to the store. Funny thing is, that is exactly how ACN got started in 1997. Sue was one of seven people, unhappy with the state of animal welfare in western North Carolina, who sat in a living room and came up with a plan. Today, the result is Animal Compassion Network, the largest, no-kill, non-profit animal welfare organization in western North Carolina and the recipient of national attention for its work.

I've only just begun digging around to see what ACN can do to help those animals. I've been trying to contact the small, solitary animal rescue group in the Cancun area. I need them to guide us in the best way to help them. Perhaps we can arrange to adopt them as a sister organization, much like cities and churches do, or even help them to replicate our business sponsorship program with their local hotels and tour operators. As we go to press, I still haven't heard back. I'm sure there's not much time for communication when there are animals in need at every turn and only a handful of individuals doing the work. I've also been researching international animal aid organizations who periodically visit the area to do spay/neuter and euthanasia clinics. (The concept of a "euthanasia clinic" is so chilling to me, and yet I know it is preferable to the suffering I witnessed.) We won't give up until we reach them.

So, am I still hopeful about the state of animal welfare? Cautiously yes, although it has taken a couple of weeks for my optimism to rebound. It has helped to be developing a plan. And to have people like Sue and all of you, ready to take action. Do I still believe that I am destined to help every animal who comes across my personal path?

Let's put it this way – my beliefs are evolving. Yes, I will continue to risk life and limb chasing a stray animal who comes across my path here at home, but I have realized my limits abroad. But it turns out someone knew what they were doing when that tour bus went off course. Because now instead of just helping the few I could have flown home with me, we will figure out how to make a difference for so many more.

I saw the way you responded to help the animal victims from the Hendersonville flood in 1994 and the animal refugees coming out of the New Orleans devastation last year. I believe in this organization and I believe in you. I know you will continue supporting us so we can fulfill all of our ambitions. Suffering doesn't recognize geographic boundaries and neither does ACN.

In the meantime, I'm left trying to shake the image of those shockingly blue eyes watching the bus pass. We may not speak the same language, but the message in his eyes was unmistakable - "Please hurry."

All Grown Up: The Joys of Mature Pets

by Rebecca Simmons, The HSUS

ACN and Petfinder.com are celebrating November as Adopt-a-Senior-Pet Month!

Sure, puppies and kittens are adorable. But these babies require an extensive commitment of time and energy from their guardians. For many Americans, busy schedules and work commitments prevent them from being able to provide the kind of round-the-clock care that younger animals require. For Kathy McDonnell, behavior manager at a Humane Society and proud pet parent of a recently adopted 10-year-old Dalmatian, mature animals fit her lifestyle. "For me, an older dog is a much better option as I work long hours and [older dogs] just don't need as much exercise and stimulation as the younger guys do. Typically, the older dogs are already housebroken and have passed the destructive chewing phase."

"Some people—especially those with young children—pass over adult dogs or cats in favor of puppies or kittens," says Gail Carissimi, adopter.

"If an adult animal is given a 'second chance' with a loving, adoptive family, it's very likely that she will be a trusting, loyal companion for many years." Adult animals are a more practical pet for families with children. Together, young animals and kids can be problematic, as puppies and kittens exhibit playful nipping and clawing, which can injure or frighten children. And kids can be too rough with young animals. Adopting a mature pet who interacts well can be the best option.

It's something that shelter workers hear over and over again from people who want to adopt a puppy or kitten: "I want a pet who will bond with my family" or "I want a pet who can grow up with my kids." The truth is that forming a strong connection with a pet has little to do with the animal's age at the time of adoption.

"Think of a pet that is already trained and doesn't chew or scratch everything in sight—a pet who will love you unconditionally," said Kim Saunders of Petfinder.com. "That's what you get when you adopt a senior pet." In addition, it's hard to determine what kind of characteristics a puppy or kitten will have until the animal is an adult. It's much easier for potential adopters to get a sense of an mature animal's qualities—including size, temperament, and personality—and to make

(continued page 7)

SWANNANOVA VALLEY
ANIMAL HOSPITAL



**Dr. Otto Sharp,
D.M.V.**

828-299-1433
100 Martin Road, Swannanoa

Three Paw Business Sponsor

COLDSTONE
CREAMERY



Every piece a celebration.



**129 Bleachery Blvd.
Asheville NC
828-296-0004
www.coldstone
creamery.com**

Three Paw Business Sponsor

Our Happy Tails... rescue and adoption success stories!

When we step into the role of adopter we cannot help but recognize that before we come along, a great story has taken place. Many people - vets, fosters, public partners, good Samaritans - unknowingly work together to bring that cat or dog we seek into our loving arms. When people choose to adopt a pet, they make a bold testament to the act of living in the present. We cannot go backwards, only forwards in our relationships with our domestic pets. We cannot ask him questions like: "What happened to you?" or "Where are your parents?" We have to believe, like the Rascal Flatts song suggests, the broken road that led him or her to us was blessed. - Wendy Forbes, Assistant Dog Coordinator

Herman & Pat (aka Lily)

Several months ago, after one of their cats passed away, Rebecca mentioned to her husband that she wanted another small cat. In July, Rebecca's husband, Chris, was shopping at PETSMART when he walked by the cat adoption area and noticed both Herman and Pat, tuxedo cats. Chris knew that Rebecca wanted a male tuxedo cat and rushed home to tell Rebecca about Herman. Rebecca went online that night and found him. They read that Herman had a sister, Pat. The following Wednesday, Rebecca returned to PetSmart with their children to see what they thought about the cats. It didn't take long for the family to decide to adopt the pair. After all, when Rebecca was a child, all of the family pets were in pairs: Laverne & Shirley, Oscar & Felix and Eunice & Vinten. Shortly after adopting the pair, the family renamed Pat to Lily in homage to Herman and Lily of the Munster Family. Rebecca enjoys the spunk that Lily brings into the household, always running about. She also enjoys the laid back, relaxed attitude that Herman brings. For her, they are the perfect yin and yang.

Jinny (aka Lucy) Submitted by Denise Bitz, RN, Volunteer for Dogs Deserve Better

Jinny, formerly Lucy, spent her entire life chained to a tree. That was until representatives from a group who advocate against chaining dogs, Dogs Deserve Better, approached the owner and asked

if they would like to give their dog an indoor, loving home. They said yes, signed the release form, and Jinny jumped into the car like she knew it was a one way ticket to a better life! Yes, she had a dog house but she was lacking other basic needs such as consistent food, water, veterinary care, exercise and human interaction. Jinny would wag her tail to try and get the kids to pay her some attention to no avail; they would look right past her. She became a lawn ornament instead of being a part of the family.

When we got her home she was underweight, infested with fleas and ticks, and had skin patches missing from her backside. Jinny had never been let off the chain for exercise and the two spots on her backside (similar to human bedsores) resembled two spots on the dog house where Jinny sat day in and day out. Luckily for Jinny, being tied to that tree did not break her spirit. Sometimes dogs who are left in these conditions for prolonged periods have serious behavior and emotional problems. Some rescued dogs are chained for so long that they were "too far gone" for rehabilitation. Lucky for Jinny, she was just as sweet as can be. After a lot of veterinary care, a special diet and some TLC, Jinny was signed on as a Public Partner with ACN. She was the first dog adopted at our adoption event that Saturday by a wonderful family who promised to spoil her to death. I have seen Jinny in her new home environment and she is loved like she deserves and has even taken over her own spot on the couch. The family who has adopted her states that "she is the most perfect dog in the world. I don't know how we lived without her." Prancing around in her pink collar, her skin has completely healed, she is healthy and happy and I can only hope that she doesn't have nightmares about what life was like on that chain.

A chained dog is a lonely dog. They are also more likely to bite or to be unable to defend themselves if some other animal attacks them. If you see a chained dog in your neighborhood,



go to www.dogsdeservebetter.org and see how you can help. There are MILLIONS of Jinny's out there just waiting for someone to help them.

Malcolm (aka Rocket)

Kyle and Jennifer adopted Malcolm about 4 months ago to join the 2 other cats in their family. They wanted to adopt a kitten because one of the cats was getting up in years and the middle-aged cat needed someone to play with so they chose Malcolm. Malcolm now goes by the name Rocket because he likes to zip around the house very quickly. He is a long, slinky, lean, talkative tabby and the family noticed him in particular because he has more dots than stripes, so he's like a mini leopard. Kyle and Jennifer were at adoption day when they spotted Rocket. Originally from Florida, they did all their research online with regard to which agencies were available in this area. They appreciated the thoroughness of the agency and the care that ACN expressed.



Beatrice

Bonnie and John adopted Beatrice in July. Bonnie was in PetSmart purchasing cat food when she happened to walk by the cat adoption area and spotted Beatrice. A distinctive bud among other remarkable flowers, Beatrice was a silvery white Persian with the sweetest face. From the moment Bonnie laid eyes on her it seemed that she was destined to be a part of the family. The family had Himalayans (part Persian and Siamese) as members of the family for over the course of 15 years. But they decided to try something different. This is their first experience with an older cat (Beatrice is 5 years old) and with a family of three cats (they have usually had only two). Bonnie states that they enjoyed the ACN adoption experience because of the positive energy and care that goes into the process. Bonnie tells us that Beatrice is a very secure cat who fits in so beautifully with the other cats. For her family, Bonnie says that Beatrice is "a very pleasant cat to have."



... and Hopeful Placements! Looking for the perfect home.

Bear

We're not sure how Bear got her name - she's as gentle as a lamb! She's a sweet



little tortie girl of about a year old, good with kids and cats, and has such a nice demeanor. Not the typical spitfire tortoiseshell!

Mardi

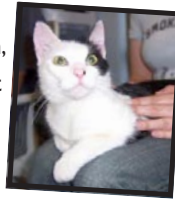
Mardi, a Katrina rescue, is sweet, funny and crazy about humans. So much so, in fact, that she tends to get very protective of them even with the other animals in the home. So Mardi will have to find the right doggie mate or be the only dog. Kids, especially, bring out the absolute joy in this dog! Mardi has been living with a professional dog trainer and now knows all of her commands. She is being heralded as "one of the smartest dogs" the trainer has ever met.



Houdini

Houdini used his magic tricks of persuasion to win a place in his foster home. There's an abandoned house in his neighborhood where several cats live, but some very kind neighbors realized Houdini was very friendly and probably abandoned or lost and took him in. He gained his name the first night in his new home. He was

confined to the bathroom, and during the night proceeded to let himself out of for some exploring. He's very handsome, purrs like crazy the moment you start petting him, and loves to play with shiny things and kiss your ears - especially if you're wearing earrings! He may be a little mischevious, but maybe you're looking for an smart, spunky boy. You won't be bored!



(Mature Pets, continued)

a more informed decision. Helping a homeless animal will always be a natural high for adopters. But those who choose to adopt an adult pet can take extra comfort in knowing that they're giving a home to an animal who may otherwise be overlooked. As they age, dogs and cats tend to have an increasingly hard time finding an adoptive family. For many adopters, giving an older animal a home is an act of compassion.

During Adopt-a-Senior-Pet Month, get acquainted with the older pets ACN has to offer!

Traci and Lulu

Traci and her mother Lulu are two playful Chihuahuas looking for a home together. These two adorable dogs suffered the loss of their owner and were headed to the shelter when a wonderful family took them in. Both have adjusted exceptionally well in their new environment and are very personable and want to please you in any way they can. Both are "lap lovers" but crate trained. They get along well with other small dogs, love to ride in the car and walk very well on leash. They are loving and definitely want to be by your side.



Subaru Adoption Event Marks Continued Support

On Saturday, October 21, 2006, Prestige Subaru hosted a dog adoption event for ACN. It was a great opportunity for our dogs to get some extra exposure and for our supporters and adopters to take a peek at the new 2007 models like the Legacy Outback Wagons, including an L.L. Bean edition, or the roomy Tribeca 7-Passenger Limited Edition vehicle. Prestige Subaru donated \$100 to ACN for every car sold during this event. Thank you, Prestige Subaru, for helping us save lives.



**Dutch Girl
Coin Laundry**
1133-C Sweeten
Creek Rd, Asheville
828-274-4617

Two Paw Business Sponsor

**NorthLodge
on Oakland**
*Bed and Breakfast
Your In-Town Retreat*



84 Oakland Rd, Asheville
828-252-6433

Two Paw Business Sponsor

Chitwood & Fairbairn Since 1981
Social Security Disability/SSI
www.wncdisability.com


Attorneys Susan Chitwood Barton & Holly J. Fairbairn

61 N. Market St., Asheville
828-252-0492
Fax: 828-252-9508
Etowah: 890-1909

Two Paw Business Sponsor

- Jay Kerr, P.A., Attorney at Law
- Timothy L. Finger, P.A., Attorney at Law
- Bill Walz Mindfulness Counseling
- Ganly and Ramer
- Roberts and Stevens, Attorneys at Law
- Stone & Christy, Attorneys & Counselors at Law
- Jack W. Stewart, P.A.
- Asheville Reporting Service

One Paw Business Sponsors



Caring is the quarterly newsletter of Animal Compassion Network, the largest no-kill, non-profit animal rescue organization in Western North Carolina. Through the hard work of its volunteers and foster homes, ACN has found loving, permanent homes for more than 4000 cats and dogs since 1999.

Animal Compassion Network
PO Box 1704, Skyland, NC 28776
(828) 258-4820
www.animalcompassionnetwork.org

Executive Director: Eileen Bouressa
President: Sue Barnett
Vice-President: Krista Luck
Recording Secretary/
Treasurer: Kate Rheney
Newsletter Editor/Design: Jackie Teeple

Fall 2006, Volume 3, Issue 3
© 2006 Animal Compassion Network



PO Box 1704
Skyland, NC 28776

PRST STD
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
ASHEVILLE, NC
PERMIT NO. 214

How You Can Help

Become A Member:

Animal Compassion Network is the largest non-profit, no-kill animal rescue organization in Western North Carolina. ACN finds loving, permanent homes for unwanted cats and dogs, helps to reduce unwanted litters through low- and no-cost spay/neuter programs and feeds hungry pets through our Pet Food Assistance Program. When you join ACN, your tax-deductible dues go toward food, shelter, medical attention, and vaccinations for our animals, as well as to fund our life-saving and life-improving programs. As a member, you will receive this quarterly newsletter and a membership package that includes discounts and offers from local businesses.

Already A Member:

Volunteers are needed to provide foster care; to staff adoption fairs and fundraising events; to assist with marketing, public education, and community outreach; and to assist with clerical, office, and phone duties. If you have a special talent or service that you would like to offer, please let us know.

Donations are tax-deductible. Fill out the form below, make your check or money order payable to ACN, and mail to Animal Compassion Network, PO Box 1704, Skyland, NC 28776. Or, go to www.animalcompassionnetwork.org to complete any these forms online.

YES, I would like to **join ACN**. Please circle the type of membership you're interested in:

Basic: \$25 • Friend: \$50 • Contributor: \$100 • Benefactor: \$250 • Patron: \$1,000 • Founder: \$2,500

YES, I would like to **volunteer**. Please circle the areas you're interested in:

Foster Care • Adoption Events • Outreach • Cat Care at PETS MART • Fundraising • Marketing/Advertising
Public Education • Clerical/Office Work • Phone Team • Pickup/Distribution of Pet Food and Equipment

YES, For \$85, I would like to **sponsor a homeless pet**. Please choose: DOG or CAT or EITHER

Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____

Email _____

Membership Dues (See Above): \$ _____ Additional Donation (Optional): \$ _____

Total Enclosed: \$ _____

Please make this: a gift for in memory of _____

____ and send an acknowledgement card to: Name _____

Name _____

Address _____

10/06