

# Paw Prints

## Inside this issue:

Fundraising	2
Volunteer Spotlight	3
Happy Ending	4
Katie's Korner	4
Phat Girl's Column	5
Animal Spotlight	5
Committee Spotlight	6
Volunteer Event	7
Events Calendar	8



Hoppy – Page 5



Basha – Page 5

SCFA meetings are held the first Tuesday of each quarter: January, April, July and October at the Senior Citizen Community Center.

**The next meeting will be held 7 p.m. Wed., October 1.**

**"Dogs have owners. Cats have staff."**  
~ Anonymous

## New SCFA President Elected

*Nora Breen was elected as SCFA President for the 2003-2005 term at the SCFA Board of Directors August meeting. Nora succeeds former President and founder Lynn Lawson, who remains an active board member. For more information on the board elections, go to Page 6. See below for Nora's first column as SCFA President:*

I want to thank the board of directors for their confidence in my ability to take on the role of President of SCFA. Lynn Lawson has done an outstanding job of leading the group through the past 5



years and I hope to continue to lead with the same passion, enthusiasm, and foresight as Lynn.

Please join me in welcoming four new interim board members: Joyce Cotay, Alicia DeSordi, Eileen Ferreri and Liz Krauthammer. They have shown tremendous commitment to SCFA and FTAS and I am positive they will help us move into the future.

I want to thank all the volun-

teers who attended the Township Council meetings to show their support for the shelter expansion. Carol Prevoznak represented SCFA with a comprehensive, enthusiastic, and well-received presentation on September 9th.

The council and residents must see us band together and demonstrate that SCFA is a strong presence within the community. This means more meetings for us to attend. If you can, come on out and  
*Continued on Page 8.*

## Annual Membership Dues

*Editor's Note: Phat Girl's Column has been relocated to page 5 for this issue.*

Second Chance For Animals (SCFA) membership dues will increase to \$10, effective January 2004. These dues help SCFA defray the cost of insurance coverage. Therefore, to remain an active SCFA member and volunteer with Franklin Township Animal Shelter, we must receive your annual dues by January



31, 2004.

As a volunteer, you should be aware of your potential risk of exposure to injury (yours) and legal claims for injury (sustained by others) against you. Animals (and the public) can be unpredictable and persons coming into contact with animals sometimes take improper risks. For these reasons,

SCFA takes its responsibility to thoroughly train new volunteers very seriously, and expects all volunteers to follow SCFA and Franklin Township policies and procedures. Volunteers are advised of changes in policies and procedures through the SCFA website, the quarterly newsletter and emails, and should review these communications frequently.

*Continued on Page 6*

## Jewelry Fundraiser

There will be a Lady Remington Jewelry Party fundraiser for SCFA on Thurs., Oct 9 from 7 to 9 p.m. at the Senior/Community Center.

Encourage everyone to bring their friends and let them know that this is a great time to get holiday gifts.

Guests buying 3 items will receive their third (and most expensive) item at 50% off.

SCFA will receive 20% of the total sales to help the shelter animals. RSVP to Lynn Lawson (732) 271-1291.

## Patriots Fundraiser

Ticket sales for the Somerset Patriots Game in September helped raise \$200 for SCFA and the animals. Thank you to all of the following volunteers: Alicia Bottari, Frank Breen, Joyce Cotay, Alicia DeSordi, Sandy Koehler Lee, Lynn Lawson, Jessica Marusiak, Marianne Mason, Jennifer Peppe, Carol Prevoznak, Donna Urban, and Alane Vogel.

## Collection Cans

Just a reminder to Collection Canister volunteers to please check and change your cans every 2 weeks during the holidays and at least once a month after the holidays. We need to make sure they leave the store in the company of an SCFA volunteer.

We can always use help getting canisters to new locations. If you have a place you stop at while running errands and want to help us raise money, please contact Alicia Bottari at (732) 846-0311.

## Super Pet Expo in October.

We still need volunteers for the Super Pet Expo at the Garden State Exhibit Center on October 10, 11 and 12.

This is an event that attracts thousands of pet owners and is a great opportunity for us to spread the word about SCFA and the shelter animals.



Volunteers are needed for the following duties:

Fri., Oct 10 – Set-Up from 9 a.m.

to noon; Manning the Booth from 4 p.m. to 9 p.m.

Sat., Oct. 11 - Booth, 1st Shift - 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.; Booth, 2nd shift - 2 p.m. to 6 p.m.

Sun., Oct. 12 – Booth, 1st Shift - 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.; Booth, 2nd shift - 2 p.m. to 5 p.m.

Clean-Up - 5 p.m. to 8 p.m.

To sign up, contact Alicia Bottari at (732) 846-0311.

## Santa Paws

Got a flair for photography? Have a yearning to wear red? Then sign up to help us take pet pictures with Santa. This is an annual fundraiser where patrons bring



all kinds of pets to get their photos taken with Santa. This event, at the Bridgewater PetsMart, is a great chance to bring exposure to the shelter and raise money for the animals.

Shifts are 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. and 2 p.m. to 5 p.m.

We need help on the following dates in November: 11/28, 11/29 and 11/30

In December: 12/6, 12/7, 12/13, 12/14, 12/20 and 12/21

Please contact Alicia Bottari at (732) 846-0311.

## Cat Show in July a Big Success

We had 3 adult cats adopted - Gorby, Isobel and Gus – and sold \$188 in items. We also received \$269.50 in donations and our group was chosen by Friskies to be the sole recipient of their food donation this year.

Thank you to the following people: Chuck Augello, Mindy Bhe, Loretta Borowsky, Frank Breen, Florence Ca-

faro, Pete Call, Janice Carroll, Anielle Doherty, Marilyn Dunn, Shafik El-Sahragty, Gerry Harris, Diane Hoffer, Josephine Incardona, Erik Hoffer, Shannon Hunt, Jessica Kanzis, Lynn Lawson, Jes Marusiak, Marianne Mason, Jennifer Merz, Stacy Merz, Pat Ritz, Marjorie Romasz, Marianne Squire-Maszer, Robyn Troisi and Judy Wilk.

## Volunteer Spotlight - Amy Anderson

While a Saturday at PetsMart might seem long and tiring for some volunteers, for Amy Anderson it's nothing compared to how she used to spend



“The Marine Corps gave a good description of what the experience would be like.”

her weekends: serving with her unit in the Marine Corps Reserves.

For six years, Amy spent one weekend a month training with the Reserves, a commitment that included a six-month tour of duty in Saudi Arabia during the first Gulf War. Although Amy worked as a cook for her unit, that didn't keep her out of harm's way. During one memorable night a SCUD missile missed her unit by only one mile, a distance that might seem big, but when it comes to SCUD missiles, it's still too close for comfort. The missile just missed a port containing large stores of ammunition. Had it hit, it would have cleared a radius of five miles.

Despite the hardship and danger, Amy considers joining the Marines to be one of the best decisions she's ever made. She left for boot camp the day after her 18th birthday and never looked back. “I knew what I was getting into,” Amy said.

Among the benefits of serving in the Reserves were an increased sense of discipline, better decision-making and getting into the best physical condition of her life. “They really whip you into shape,” Amy said.

Her tour of duty completed, Amy now spends her free time singing with the Raritan Valley Chorale Society. She joined three years ago because she enjoys singing and missed being able to perform. While the group mostly performs at local churches, this past June Amy took the stage for a performance at New York's Carnegie Hall. The Chorale Society joined the ensemble Windsong Chorale from Pomona, California for the first East Coast performance of a piece in Latin by the noted composer, Morten Lauridsen.

Amy currently works as an administrative “Amy-of-all-trades” for a company owned by fellow SCFA members Erik  
*Continued on Page 7*

## SCFA Welcomes New Volunteers

We are pleased to welcome the following new volunteers who attended the July, August and September training seminars:

### July

Linda Bertoli  
Louis Bertoli  
Mandy Flynn  
Pam Glantz  
Crystal Hapangama  
Michelle Murray

### August

Lindsay Bowser  
Dale Caswell  
Sharon Dembinski  
Paula Hammons  
Lauren Levy

### September

Shari Micklovic  
Stephanie Preziouse  
Marge Schmidt  
Deborah Strauss  
Charlotte Tindal

The next general volunteer training session will be at the library on a date to be announced.

Volunteer Dog Training will be noon on Nov. 1 at the shelter. If you would like to attend, please call Alicia Bottari at (732) 846-0311.

## THANK YOU

SCFA would like to thank the following individuals for their generous donations (monetary and non monetary) to the organization:

Jack Dolan Plumbing & Heating (Buck-a-week club)

Animal Rescue Force – allowed us to participate in the Colts Neck Fair

Lisa Revel and her sister, Jeanne

David & Marilou Benenati



# Katie's Korner

Just a couple of gentle reminders:

1. Please be sure to poop scoop if you're walking a dog who happens to leave a "gift" on the property. If you happen to notice feces on the property, even if you haven't walked a dog, please help everyone out by cleaning it up. A township employee recently stepped in a pile and needless to say, it wasn't a pleasant experience. Thank you for pitching in.
2. Please remember to wash your hands between animals. This helps reduce the possibility of transferring illness between animals. Please use bacterial soap at the shelter and hand sanitizer at PetsMart.

I know spring seems a long way



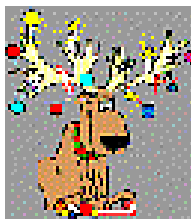
away but it comes all too quickly when the shelter gets inundated with kittens. If you are interested in foster care now, or will qualify to foster by next spring, please contact Katie at (973) 873-2500 ext. 255.

Kittens need foster care because they are too sick or young to be immediately adopted. Depending upon the age and needs of the kittens, foster care typically ranges from two weeks to a couple of months.

Kittens need to be isolated from household pets. To become a foster parent you must be an SCFA volunteer for at least six months and you need to complete a foster care agreement before taking home your first litter.

## Franklin Joins Home 4 the Holidays Program

Franklin is once again joining the Home 4 the Holidays program that promotes pet adoption during the holidays. The thinking behind this is two-fold. First, it's human nature that children want a pet from Santa and their parents agree that the family is ready for a pet. To them, it's a great gift to give for the holidays. But it's not just for the child – it's for the whole family. So if you're lucky enough to have a family come to the shelter, and you tell them, "No,



we're not going to let you adopt during this time of the year," then all you've done is send them to a puppy mill! This is not an impulse adoption. If they want a family pet and can't get one from you, they will go to a pet store or puppy mill.

Second, if your adopter screening process is good, then you are no more likely to have additional returns after the holidays than at any other time of the year. Remember, our success saves lives.

## Adoption Statistics

Below are the adoption statistics from January through June 2003:

	<u>PetsMart</u>	<u>Shelter</u>
January:	9	22
February:	9	18
March:	8	20
April:	9	9
May:	10	24
June:	5	17
July:	20	26
August:	<u>17</u>	<u>36</u>
<b>Total:</b>	<b>87</b>	<b>172</b>

## Happy Ending



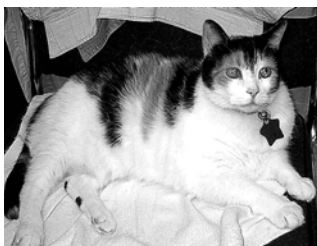
He was called Bob when he came to the shelter. Now his name is Couragio, after the dog in the Steven Seagal movie *Out for Justice*.

Frank and Kathy Mele are so happy they adopted Couragio and their grandson, Vincent, absolutely loves him. And Couragio loves him and loves people and other dogs in his new hometown. "He's the hit of the neighborhood," says Frank. "Everybody loves him."

Couragio is a good student in the basic class and his parents bought him a Giggly Wiggly ball while at PetsMart.

## Pets Can Make Perfect Gifts if Chosen Wisely

*If you would like to suggest topics or ask Phat Girl a question, please email her at [PhatGirl@secondchanceforanimals.org](mailto:PhatGirl@secondchanceforanimals.org)*



things have settled down). Many shelters offer such certificates or you can create your own.

◆ You can purchase some of the items your friend or relative will need to care for their new pet – a pet care book, a cat carrier or a special toy.

I'd like to consider myself a gift to the staff at the Franklin shelter, but giving an animal as a gift is something that should be carefully considered. Let's face it, did you like that red sweater with glitter Christmas trees that your Aunt Bertha gave you for the holidays last year? I didn't think so. So why would you want her to pick a dog or cat that will live in your home for many years?

I'm not saying that people shouldn't necessarily give a pet as a gift. I'm just saying that they should be involved in that process because choosing a pet is a very personal decision and everyone in the family should have input.

There are many ways to give the gift of animal love – without risking a bad match or unpleasant surprise.

- ◆ Give a gift certificate for an animal to be selected at a later date (perhaps after the holidays when

- ◆ If a child is the intended recipient, you can give them a stuffed cat or dog until there is time to select their present.

When selecting a pet, make sure that the whole family is able to participate and keep your current pets in mind. Be sure to research the needs and personality traits (good and bad) of prospective breeds and be honest about what your family wants from a pet. For example, an 8-week-old pup may not be the best match for two working parents with 2 small children.

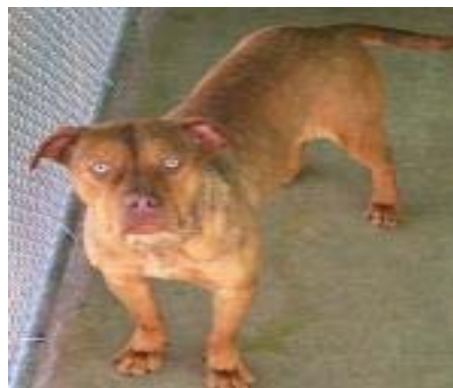
So, make sure the gift of a pet is a welcome one so the animal and family can enjoy their new life together.

## Animal Spotlight



My name is Hoppy and I came to the shelter as a stray. I am about 8 years old. I like other cats and didn't even mind meeting a dog while in foster care.

I am a quiet girl but with a little coaxing, I really begin to enjoy being petted. I would be happiest in an adult home.



I am a 1-year-old spayed female Pit Bull mix. I love people and I'm a very active girl who adores belly rubs

I need to be your only pet in an adult home.

Some days you're the dog, and some days you're the hydrant.  
--Unknown

### FRANKLIN TOWNSHIP ANIMAL SHELTER

475 DeMott Lane, Somerset, NJ 08873  
Phone: (732) 873-2500 ext. 255  
Email: [franklinShelter.475@juno.com](mailto:franklinShelter.475@juno.com)  
Hours: M-F 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.;  
Sat. noon to 3 p.m.

### SECOND CHANCE FOR ANIMALS

P.O. Box 5172, Somerset, NJ 08873

Phone: 732-748-SCFA (7232)  
Email: [scfa1998@aol.com](mailto:scfa1998@aol.com)  
Website: [www.secondchanceforanimals.org](http://www.secondchanceforanimals.org)

## Membership Dues (Cont. from Page 1)

If you are injured while volunteering and require medical care, your first source to pay bills would be your own medical coverage. However, SCFA does maintain limited insurance coverage for volunteers in the event you do not have your own medical insurance.

In addition, if you are personally sued by a member of the public who claims your negligence caused him/her to be injured, SCFA carries general liability insurance coverage. This policy would provide you with legal representation and pay a settlement or judgment against you, within set limits and subject to certain restrictions. It will not cover any claims

against you for intentional acts by you (such as punching someone), or claims for punitive damages. Furthermore, your own homeowners, tenant, or auto policy may be considered primary, co-primary, or excess to the SCFA policy.

Your annual dues help to cover these insurance policies and are subject to increase if the policy rates increase. You are welcome to review these policies at any time.

Remember - the best insurance comes from you! Act reasonably, be careful and realize that following SCFA and FTAS policies are the best way to prevent injury.

## SCFA Board Elections

The SCFA Board elected a new President in August and also expanded the size of the board. No nominations were accepted for secretary, so Catherine Miller will continue in that capacity until someone expresses interest in that position.

The Board also expanded its membership from 8 to 12 members. The following members were appointed to interim terms: Joyce Cotay, Alicia DeSordi, Eileen Ferreri and Liz Krauthammer. Other current Board members are: Alicia Bottari, Nora Breen (President and Treasurer), Frank Breen, Lynn Lawson, Marianne Mason, Catherine Miller (Acting Secretary), Katie Nordhaus and Carol Prevoznak (Vice-President).

Members of the Board of Directors are nominated and elected by the general membership for two-year terms. Officers of SCFA (president, vice-president, secretary, treasurer) are nominated and elected by the Board of Directors for two-year terms.

## Committee Spotlight - Technology

The Technology Committee's mission is to assist Second Chance For Animals by providing support in areas including the website, mailing list and other computer-related or multi-media fields. Much of the time, the Technology Committee works in the background, providing support for activities of the other committees.

The committee wants to hear from you if you're interested in participating in



This committee does restrict access to SCFA's secure areas to long-standing, active members. (Six months of active membership is the minimum.)

Necessary skills include website design, authoring, administration, PHP

the Committee, either as a member or on an as-needed basis.

and PERL programming skills. We also are looking for people with experience in graphic design, especially with computers or common software applications and a background in multi-media presentations or video production

If you can lend your time and expertise, please contact Technology Committee Chair, Marianne Mason, [webadmin@secondchanceforanimals.org](mailto:webadmin@secondchanceforanimals.org).

"Until one has loved an animal, a part of one's soul remains unawakened." ~ Anatole France

# July Volunteer Appreciation

Second Chance For Animals celebrated its 5th Birthday in July and many members came out to commemorate this important milestone and to thank the people who helped us get there.

Katie Nordhaus, the Franklin Township Shelter Manager, received a special award for all her efforts to partner with SCFA volunteers and to protect the animals. Frank Breen, an SCFA board member, also received a special award for his tremendous commitment to foster care. Anne Macaulay, a dog trainer and SCFA volunteer who helps evaluate the shelter dogs and spearheads the volunteer dog training orientations, received a "Heel, Sit, Stay" award.

And Lynn Lawson, whose vision and love for animals created SCFA, received an award and standing ovation.

It was a great opportunity for SCFA volunteers to chat with each other, pat themselves on the back and look to the future.



(left) Katie Nordhaus accepts special award.

(Below) Volunteers, including President Nora Breen (left foreground) line up for food.



## Volunteer Spotlight (Continued from page 3)

and Diane Hoffer. It was the Hoffers who recruited Amy to join SCFA in September of 2001. Because she's always been enamored with every animal she's come across, it didn't take much convincing. Readers may remember Amy's emotional story of the "Little Grey Kitten" in the April 2003 newsletter. Amy's love for animals is one reason that she also works part-time as a pet sitter.

Amy grew up in Bridgewater and now lives in Hillsborough with her cats, Muffin and Priscilla, and her newest roommates, two kittens named Sausage and Peppers. While volunteering at PetsMart a few weeks

ago, Amy fell in love with the pair and brought them home with her at the end of the day. As expected, the results was chaos, but Amy said that the kittens are beginning to settle into their new home.

From Saudi Arabia to Carnegie Hall to the Franklin Township Animal Shelter, Amy goes where she is needed. As busy as she is, Amy still finds time to help the animals at the shelter, and Second Chance is lucky to have her as one of its volunteers.

*Fans of vocal music can see Amy and the Chorale Society perform on November 2<sup>nd</sup> at Christ Church in New Brunswick and on December 5<sup>th</sup> at St. Joseph's Church in East Millstone*

## New Animal Enrichment Chair

With Nora Breen's new duties as SCFA President, she has resigned as Chair of the Animal Enrichment Committee and Anne Macaulay has agreed to take her place.

The committee's mission is to improve the quality of life of the animals in the shelter and to improve their chances of finding permanent homes. As part of that mission, Animal Enrichment has several new projects including developing a program on cat handling skills, training for new foster parents, pre-adoption behavioral training for shelter dogs, on-site dog training for adopters and Training Wheels, a program to help low-income families spay/neuter and keep their pets (see [www.suesternberg.com](http://www.suesternberg.com)). The next meeting is 7:30 p.m. Fri., Nov. 14 in Franklin.

For more info, contact Anne Macaulay 732 951-8281 home, 732 940-0208 bus. or [anne@ongoodbehavior.com](mailto:anne@ongoodbehavior.com).

## President's Message (Continued)

wear your SCFA t-shirt with pride!  
The shelter expansion is critical to the future of the animals of Franklin Township.

The future of the animals also depends on you, the volunteers of Second Chance. Each of you represents an invaluable asset to the organization and we rely on your help. As an organization, our mission is to facilitate the adoption of healthy, well-adjusted, spayed or neutered animals into permanent, loving homes. How can we accomplish that goal?

One effective way is through committees, which are critical to fulfilling SCFA's mission. Committees are fundraising, technology, animal enrichment, outreach, and volunteer coordination. Unfortunately, an issue all of the committees face is how to achieve so many valuable goals with so few volunteers. There are many great goals and projects that each of these committees want to accomplish, but with only 3 people on a committee and several projects to complete, you can see how things just cannot get done. We know that there is a wealth of talent available among our volunteers and we encourage you to offer these talents to one or more of these committees.

Think of how you can assist in these efforts. How many fundraising possibilities exist (fundraising committee), how many people we can reach through newspapers, radio, TV, and

Internet (outreach and technology committees), how many animals we can help adopt and owners we can educate (animal enrichment committee), how many new or improved programs we can institute for volunteers (volunteer coordination). With your help these and other projects can be accomplished.

Perhaps you don't think you can join a committee because you don't have extra time. With so many projects, there is bound to be one that you can lend your talent to! Contributing to just one project on one committee can help. This limited experience may convince you to help out on other projects.

I challenge all volunteers to lend us your expertise and help a committee reach a goal. Contact a committee chairperson or me to find out more about how you can help.

Fundraising Committee –  
Joyce Cotay (732) 873-0853  
Animal Enrichment –  
Anne Macaulay (732) 951-8281  
Outreach –  
Sandy Koehler Lee (732) 356-0722  
Technology –  
Marianne Mason (732) 249-2559  
Volunteer –  
Alicia Bottari; (732) 846-0311

Or you can reach any committee by email by typing the committee name and @secondchanceforanimals.org. For example, contact the Fundraising Committee at fundraising@secondchanceforanimals.org

## Events Calendar

### October

- Oct. 1 - SCFA General Meeting; 7 p.m., senior center
- Oct. 7 - Council Meeting; 8 p.m.; Municipal Building
- Oct. 9 - Lady Remington Jewelry Fundraiser; 7-9 p.m., senior center
- Oct. 10 - Animal Enrichment meeting; 7:30 p.m.
- Oct. 10-12 - Super Pet Expo
- Oct. 14 - Council Meeting; 8 p.m.
- Oct. 16 - Outreach meeting; 7 p.m.
- Oct. 18 - Op-Cop Day (rain date Oct. 25); Municipal Complex
- Oct. 21 - Fundraising Meeting; 7 p.m., library
- Oct. 28 - Council Meeting; 7 p.m.

### November

- Nov. 1 - Shelter Dog Training; noon, Franklin shelter
- Nov. 14 - Animal Enrichment meeting, 7:30 p.m.
- November 18 - Fundraising meeting; 7 p.m., library
- Nov. 20 - Outreach Meeting; 7 p.m.
- Nov. 28-30 - Santa Paws; 11-2 and 2-5 p.m., Bridgewater PetsMart

### December

- Dec. 6-7 - Santa Paws; 11-2 and 2-5 p.m., Bridgewater PetsMart
- Dec. 11 - Outreach Meeting; 7 p.m.
- Dec. 12 - Animal Enrichment meeting; 7:30 p.m.
- Dec. 12-13 - Santa Paws; 11-2 and 2-5 p.m., Bridgewater PetsMart
- Dec. 16 - Fundraising meeting; 7 p.m., library
- Dec. 19-20 - Santa Paws; 11-2 and 2-5 p.m., Bridgewater PetsMart

