



I CARE News!

INYO COUNTY ANIMAL RESOURCES & EDUCATION

"Dedicated to the welfare of Inyo County's companion animals."

Third Annual Dinner Brings Out Best in Community

I CARE's Third Annual Fundraising Dinner on April 17th was very successful, netting nearly \$13,000! This will go a long way toward continuing our Spay/Neuter Program, improvements to the Animal Shelter and our Education Programs in the coming year.

Special thanks go to **Norm and Mel Matoza**, whose tireless efforts resulted in a mouth-watering grilled sirloin steak



collected over \$2,000 from those in attendance. I CARE split the pot with **John Holbrook**.

Nancy Smith of Big Pine won the evening's Grand Prize Vacation. She has her choice of a trip to Hawaii, Baja or a Mexican Riviera cruise.

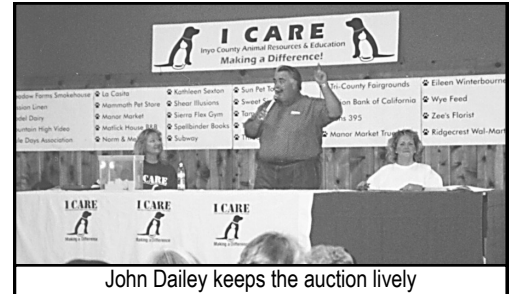
Of course, the real winners are the companion animals who now face a brighter future thanks to the many dedicated supporters who came out for

door prizes were given away throughout the evening. We were thrilled to have everyone's favorite emcee, **John Dailey**,

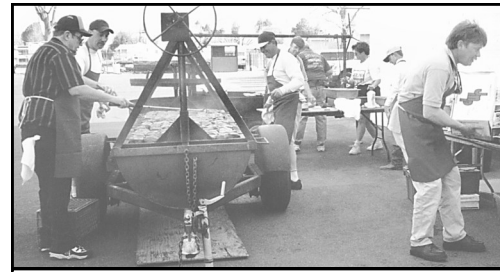
who was also our talented auctioneer. The auction began with several Beanie Babies, which were donated by **Dwayne's Pharmacy and Marion Boring**. The Millennium Bear went home with **Danny Brooks** for his winning bid of \$180. The high point of the auction occurred when **Bob Hurd's** (Nature

at Hand) handcrafted oak blanket chest went up for auction. The bidding was fast and furious ending with **Mary Mae Kilpatrick's** generous bid of \$480.

We'd like to thank the 50/50 crew – **Stan Smith, Chuck Kilpatrick, Tony and Lisa Ghigo** and **Noe Gadea** who



John Dailey keeps the auction lively



Norm & Mel Matoza head up the BBQ crew

feast complete with potato salad, ranch beans and garlic bread. **Denise Cook** of Lone Pine provided the tossed salad. This delicious meal was served to 600 diners by the very capable **4-H volunteers** who were terrific. As if the meal weren't enough, valuable

this very worthwhile cause. Together we are making a difference!

Sixth Graders Learn Responsible Pet Care

I CARE recently visited Kate Kennedy's sixth grade classroom at Home Street School in Bishop. The class was shown a video on proper pet care, including the importance of spaying and neutering your pet.

Our Education Team, Lynne and Anne Almeida, were on hand to share the message that there are too many pets born and not enough homes for them all, which results in the unnecessary deaths of hundreds of cats and dogs every year. The responsibilities of owning a pet (feeding, exercise and veterinary exams) were also discussed. Anne's Golden Retriever, Kaeleigh, helped with the presentation and all the children enjoyed meeting I CARE's little ambassador.

Of course, the benefit of children learning about pets goes well beyond the



Kaeleigh loves to visit the classrooms

care and training that go into pet ownership. Lessons on respect, responsibility, love and compassion

toward animals naturally overflow into all areas of a child's life.

In other words, children who learn and practice being kind, gentle and generous with pets will extend those qualities to people as well. By teaching our youth the values of responsible pet ownership, it is our prayer that one day they will live in a world where euthanasia of companion animals is no longer a necessity.

We would like to make it possible for everyone to hear this important message. Please call I CARE's Education Team at 872-3802 to schedule a presentation.

ABOUT I CARE

In November 1996 a group of very concerned citizens formed a nonprofit organization that is:

- Dedicated to the welfare of companion animals;
- Increasing public awareness of the pet overpopulation crisis and other animal welfare issues through newspaper articles and classroom presentations;
- Encouraging pet adoptions at our local animal shelter;
- Committed to raising funds to improve living conditions for the cats and dogs at the Inyo County Animal Shelter; and
- Providing financial assistance for companion animal spay/neuter surgeries for those in need.

DIRECTORS

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Ted Schade

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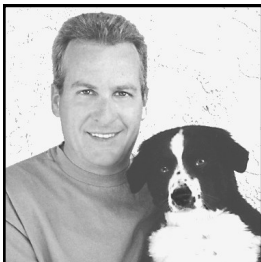
Internet:
www.icare.cjb.net

NEWSLETTER

Design by:
Ted Schade

Message from the President, Ted Schade:

The "E" in I CARE Stands for Education



If knowledge is power, then I CARE is surely empowering children and adults alike through our education programs. Our main objective is to reduce the number of adoptable pets that are put to sleep each week

at the Inyo County Animal Shelter because there are not enough homes for all the pets born in our county. Unfortunately, 75% of the cats and dogs that end up at the Shelter are ultimately euthanized.

There are two main reasons unwanted dogs and cats are turned into the shelter – they are either newborn animals from unplanned litters that can't find homes or they are juvenile or adult animals that are perceived by their owners to have unacceptable behavior problems. Both of these situations are correctable! Unplanned litters can be prevented through spaying and neutering and behavior problems can be corrected through basic training techniques. I CARE can help with both of these situations.

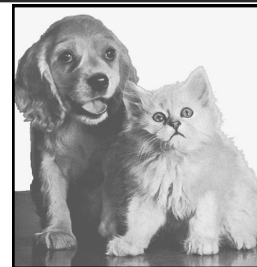
We have a Spay/Neuter Program that provides financial assistance for those who need help getting their cats and dogs spayed or neutered. Now there is no excuse for unwanted litters.

We also have a variety of programs to educate the public regarding the need for spaying and neutering, the importance of proper pet care and behavior training. I CARE's educational tools include this newsletter, our Education Team going into school classrooms, "Pet Corner" articles and "Pet-of-the-Week" photos in the *Inyo Register*, as well as many brochures (see below), videos and training books we have donated to the

Inyo County libraries. We believe the availability of these resources will greatly reduce the number of pets abandoned and euthanized each year.

I CARE is grateful for our faithful supporters who make these education programs possible. Everyone can help to educate by simply telling others what can and must be done to save the lives of our precious pets.

Following is a list of educational materials available through I CARE. Please call us at 872-3802 for your free copies.



"Stop Pet Overpopulation," "Bringing Home Your New Doggie," "Housetraining the Quick & Humane Way," "Do the Right Thing—Stop Animal Abuse!," "Top Ten Feline Fables," "Are You an Ethical Breeder?," "What's in Your Pet's Food?," "Coping with the Death of Your Pet," "Tips to Find



Thank you for your generous donations!

American Association of Retired Persons, Kevin Allred, Jane Burbank, Campy & Ski Camphausen, Joe & Wendy Duncan, Leigh Gaasch, Patty Greenland, Bob & Gail Gribben, William & Dora Hayes, Sandy & Gale Holbrook, Bette Howell, Jane Kenyon, Erika Kroenlein, Mike & Lois Lannan, Mildred Martin, Mike & Clare McCurry, Bob & Glenda Newcomer, Andrew Opfell, M.D., Arlene & Carl Pearce, Cheryl Perez, Betty Plume, Bill & Jean Rich, Douglas Schalow, Kathy Schell, Dr. Jeanette Schneider, Bob & Marcella Siefken, Derek Stephan, Phyllis Walker, Chris Walsh, Ann Wong, Rick & Sharon Wuester, Marie & Fariborz Youssefirad, Harry & Patti Zappe

A Special Donation has been made by:

- 🐾 K.J. Allen in memory of Cali, my dear cat.
- 🐾 Dottie Bentley in memory of Jesse, my forever friend.
- 🐾 Randy & Chris Van Tassell, in memory of our beloved dog, Trixie.
- 🐾 Jim & Sherry Dodson, in memory of Ione Dodson, a woman who loved dogs.

Sasha, the "Too Good to be True" Puppy

Wow! Talk about Beginner's Luck. Terry and Jody Whitman had never owned a dog, but had recently moved into a new home and thought a pet would round out their family quite nicely. Since this isn't a decision to be entered into lightly, they started researching various breeds of dogs, as well as what they



Terry, Sasha and Jody Whitman

could expect as new pet owners.

One day this past March, they decided to visit the Inyo County Animal Shelter in Big Pine where they looked at all the abandoned dogs waiting for someone to take them home. The Shelter Manager showed them two younger dogs that would be suitable for the first-time pet owner. They were both sweet, but Sasha, who had been featured as the "Pet of the Week" in the *Inyo Register* newspaper that week, was particularly appealing. She was thought to be a miniature Keeshond mix about

nine months old.

Terry was immediately smitten, but Jody remained cautious reminding Terry that they had just come "to look." Sasha must have known Jody was a hold-out because she really turned on the charm!

Terry and Jody spent a long time walking Sasha around the Shelter

getting to know her before deciding this was definitely the one and they just couldn't leave without her!

The Shelter Manager provided them with I CARE pamphlets as they left.

"Bringing Home Your New Dog" includes hints on dog-proofing

your home and yard, as well as a list of items needed for your new pet. "Crate Training Your Dog", describes the quick, humane and easy way to housetrain your dog – a must for dog owners everywhere.

Jody says, "Sasha was housebroken almost immediately. We can't believe

how sweet and smart this dog is! She is the love of our lives!"

And it shows, too! Terry made Sasha her own special toy, which she absolutely adores. It's a tennis ball with a hole drilled in it, a rope pulled through the ball and knotted on one end to prevent the ball from slipping off the rope. The rope is then attached to an eye screw on the end of a wooden pole about a yard long. The ball can then be slowly swung in a circle



Sasha playing with her favorite toy

for the dog to chase. As soon as Sasha sees her toy, she trembles with excitement. As you can see she really goes for it!

Watching Jody and Terry with Sasha, you wonder what would have happened if they hadn't gone to the

Gimpy's Corner



This past April, a visitor arrived at the Big Pine Animal Shelter with a very lumpy pillow case. Shelter Manager, Julie Sutton, untied the bundle, looked inside and, low and behold, who should be looking up at her with big soulful eyes, but the Animal Shelter's mascot, Gimpy himself! Needless to say, the woman bringing him in was more than a

little puzzled by Julie's obvious joy at seeing the bundle's contents. Of course, there were lots of questions – where had he been, when did he show up?

You see, Gimpy had been missing from his post at the Big Pine Animal Shelter for over two months. Everyone feared the worst for the dear little fellow. After all, the Shelter is surrounded by pasture land and many wild predators! Turns out he had been surviving in the Manor Market area of Bishop and wasn't too popular with the neighborhood cats.

Now, how in the world does a little cat from Big Pine get all the way to Bishop? Gimpy has always had a funny habit of hopping into Shelter visitors' cars and settling down for a nice snooze. More than one visitor has had to return to the Shelter with the stow-away. So, we can only guess (because Gimpy isn't talking!) that he must have taken an unplanned trip to Bishop. Welcome back, Gimpy. We missed you.



Sue Franz receives donation from Ted Schade

Would you believe 85% of adult dogs taken to animal shelters are there for *correctable* behavior problems? This is unacceptable! I CARE recently donated several dog training books and videos to the Inyo County Library system. Now pet owners can check out these free materials and teach their pet to be a well-behaved and valued family member.



I CARE MEMBERSHIP FORM

Is it time to renew your membership? Please check the mailing label for your expiration date. The word “Comp” means we have not heard from you. This organization operates entirely on membership dues and donations to fund our various programs. Questions? Call 760-872-3802. Our address is: P.O. Box 76, Bishop, CA 93515

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Address: _____

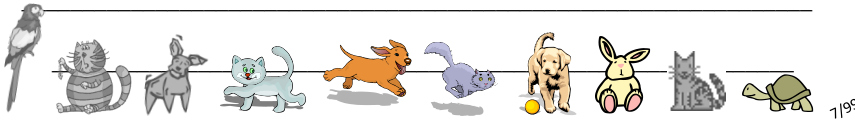
☐ **New Member** - \$15 tax deductible donation for one year I CARE Membership

(includes subscription to quarterly newsletter)

☐ **Renewal** - \$15 tax deductible | CARE Membership Renewal

☐ **Donation** - enclosed is my donation to I CARE for \$_____

Names & Types of Pets: _____



TORTOISES ARE COOL!



Want to know more about the California Desert Tortoise? Then call I CARE's very own tortoise expert, Theona Wasson, at 873-8341 for interesting and fun facts about these amazing creatures.



BOARD MEETINGS

I CARE meets the second Wednesday
of each month at 7 pm in the
Bishop High School Library

I CARE

POST OFFICE BOX 76
BISHOP, CA 93515-0076



**Save a Life! Adopt your next pet from
our Animal Shelter in Big Pine. Call 938-2715.**

**NONPROFIT
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I CARE's Summer Newsletter is

