



I CARE

News!

INYO COUNTY ANIMAL RESOURCES & EDUCATION

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

YOU ARE INVITED TO



Please join us for our fourth annual Fundraising Dinner in the Charles Brown Auditorium on **Saturday, April 15 at 6 pm**.

The menu includes grilled top sirloin steak or a vegetarian entrée, potato salad, tossed green salad, garlic bread and our famous home-made desserts.

Dinner tickets are \$10 for adults and \$5 for children under twelve.

You are also invited to purchase raffle tickets for a **trip for two** to your choice of: 6 days in Cancun/Cozumel, a 7-day Mexican Riviera Cruise or a 6-day Baja, California fishing trip. Raffle tickets are \$10 each or 3 for \$25.

We are pleased to have **John Dailey** as our M.C. again this year. He will be conducting the auction of many valuable items, including a **La-Z-Boy** donated by **Fendon's Furniture** and a **weekend trip** package to Sedona, Ensenada or Las Vegas donated by **Agrarian Research**. Terrific **door prizes** will also be given away all evening.

Proceeds fund our low cost Spay/Neuter Program, Companion Animal Education Program and improved living conditions for the cats and dogs at our Animal Shelter.

I CARE Renovates Big Pine Animal Shelter

Things are looking up for the dogs and puppies awaiting adoption at the Animal Shelter in Big Pine. I CARE members recently volunteered many hours on much needed renovations in the east wing of the Animal Shelter.

As you can see from the "before" photo above, the kennels and flooring were in



"Before" - Old rusty kennels in east wing

pretty sad shape. Inyo County Animal Control personnel removed the old kennels and steam cleaned the room from top to bottom. Then I CARE volunteers painted interior walls and applied a rubber-like epoxy coating to the concrete floor, which makes cleaning easier and does not harbor harmful disease.

Once the epoxy cured, our volunteers got the shiny new kennels in place. The kennels have stainless steel panels about four feet high that prevent contact between neighboring dogs. This reduces tension by preventing fighting. The "after" photo on the right shows the dramatic difference the new kennels and interior improvements have made.

These renovations are part of I CARE's ongoing effort to improve living conditions for our shelter animals. After the success of our first fundraising dinner three years ago, we made substantial renovations to the south wing of the Animal Shelter, including new kennels, epoxy coating concrete floors and the purchase of extra large stainless steel cat

cages for mama cats and their kittens. I CARE has spent over \$20,000 on materials for the shelter improvements.

Thanks to the generosity of our members and donors, our homeless companion animals are being sheltered in a cleaner, more comfortable environment



Safe and comfortable while she waits

while they wait for their new homes. If you haven't visited our renovated Animal Shelter, we encourage you to visit soon. It's on County Road in Big Pine and is open Wednesday through Sunday. Of course, we'd love for you to take home a



"After" - New kennels and epoxy flooring

new pet, too!

~ Lisa Schade

ABOUT I CARE

I CARE is 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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Mike Slates

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Lisa Schade

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Anne Almeida
Lynne Almeida
Linda Arnold
Linda Gillespie
Jim Taplin
Karen Tibbett
Theona Wasson

CONTACT I CARE

Mail: P.O. Box 76
Bishop, CA 93515
Tel: 760-872-3802
E-mail:
ICARE@iname.com
Internet:
www.icare.cjb.net

NEWSLETTER

Design and photos by:
Tee



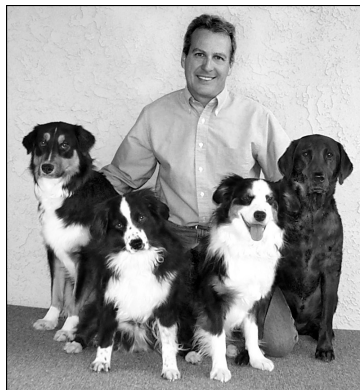
Message from the President, Ted Schade:

Please Help Us Continue the Good Work

I CARE is entering its fourth year of helping Inyo County's pets. Since the April fundraising dinner is our milestone event each year, this is a good time to review our accomplishments and see how far we have come.

Our first priority, when we started I CARE in November 1996, was to improve the living conditions for animals at the Inyo County Shelter. The Shelter is a 65-year old converted dairy-barn and will never be completely adequate, but we knew that, with some improvements, we could make it more animal-friendly and people-friendly. We have spent over \$20,000 on materials and invested hundreds of hours of volunteer labor. We are proud of the improvements we have made. All the old, inadequate dog kennels have been replaced with state-of-the-art kennels. We added a covered outdoor area and provided shade covers for all outdoor kennels to keep the dogs cool. We also purchased four new extra large stainless steel cat cages increasing the cattery to twelve cages. The shelter is in much better shape than it was before I CARE pitched in to help.

Our spay/neuter assistance program has also been very successful. So far, we have helped spay or neuter 700 cats and dogs. This represents thousands of kittens and puppies that will not be



born and ultimately end up at the Shelter to face an uncertain future. I believe this is our most important effort, because the only way to reduce the number of animals that must be killed is to reduce the number of animals born. Our low-cost Spay/Neuter Program is helping people who could not have otherwise afforded the cost of these crucial surgeries.

Finally, our education programs are raising awareness of the importance of spaying and neutering, the value of proper pet care and behavior training and the need to adopt all our pets from the animal shelter. Education efforts like this newsletter, our classroom programs, "Pet Corner" articles and "Pet of the Week" photos in the *Inyo Register* have helped reduce the number of animals killed at the animal shelter from 1,800 in 1996 to 590 in 1999. That is a 67 percent decrease in three years!

So, please join us in celebrating these successes at our dinner on April 15. After all, none of this would have been possible without you, our faithful supporters.

Thank you for your thoughtful donations!

Pat Bramhall, Paul Broward, Nancy Cloud, Mary Louise Donegan, Aurora Eden, John & Trudy Frederickson, Irvin & Maisie Hall, Diane & George Hoffman, Joanne Hutchinson, Susan & Woody Jackson, Erika Kroenlein, Thelma McCorkle, June McCracken, Sally Millner, Jim & Vickie Orr, Vic & Jane Paul, Betty Penland, Dan Schade of Reliable Sheet Metal, Ted & Lisa Schade, June & Bernie Shaw, Lenore Thompson, Mrs. Tobey's class at Pine Street

A Special Donation has been made by:

♥ Ed & Myrle Baker in memory of Speedy Wofford ♥ Jackey Harris in honor of our first Grand Champion cat, Kurisumasu Ujigami "Spike" ♥ Stephanie & Michael Sheltz in honor of Julie Zela ♥ Bob Gribben in memory of Elsa, faithful friend of 14 years ♥ Gail Fetherston-Gribben in memory of Jim & Ester, a wonderful team of Percheron draft horses ♥ Nita Lindsey in memory of Miranda, my special friend ♥ Terri Parks in memory of Sukie ♥ Wyman & Cindy Hawkins in memory of Pepper, Nugget, Shocka & Tule, all great dogs ♥ Clifford Bartz, Art & Lois Clayton, Marvalyn Kothman and Dorothy MacArthur in memory of Hedy Scharfenort who loved animals ♥ Marilyn Hayden in memory of Lenny Hayden ♥ Kim Corbin-Lehigh in memory of Megan, my Persian—she soothed my soul ♥ Dolores Cundiff in memory of Theo McLain and Merrill & Linda Sipherd ♥ Wendy Howbert in memory of my beautiful red Chow, Star ♥ Cindy Gall in memory of Bear Dog ♥ Ray & Donna Milovich in memory of January, our Brittany ♥ Janie Reeves, in memory of our Queensland Heeler, Spot ♥ Vera Ferrante in memory of Bob Ferrante ♥ Gayle Krause in memory of Colt, my faithful companion ♥ Helen Krunglevich in memory of Helen Sharp ♥ Ken & Lana Moore in memory of Jake, our best friend and bird dog ♥ Debbe Eilts in memory of my dad's cat, Lucy ♥ Jim & Rita Greenleaf in memory of our two beloved cats, SoSo and Baby Cat ♥



"Spike"

Sierra Delivers Puppies then Finds a Family of Her Own



Sierra gave birth to eight puppies at the Shelter

Poor little Sierra. Her former owners turned her over to the Big Pine Animal Shelter the day before Thanksgiving. Her only crime—getting pregnant. One week later, all alone at night, she delivered eight chubby little puppies. She was a wonderful mother, too, nursing those puppies right up until they were adopted.

Enter Dick Warren. He and his wife,

Karen, adopted their 12-year old Golden Retriever, Rex, from the Big Pine Animal Shelter about ten years ago. Then, not too long ago, a Golden Retriever was featured in the *Inyo Register's* Pet of the Week. This got Dick to thinking that he and Karen could provide a loving home for a second dog.

So, he visited the Animal Shelter in December and met the doting mama dog and her sweet pups. It didn't take him long to decide he wanted to adopt this brave girl. He agreed to wait patiently until she weaned her puppies. After the last puppy was adopted, it was a green light for Sierra's adoption. Finally, on January 21st, Dick made the trip to Big Pine and adopted Sierra.

Back home, Karen and Rex welcomed the new addition with open arms. Rex even let Sierra take over his bed! The two dogs seem like they've been friends for years, wrestling and playing tug-o-war. Sierra has rejuvenated

old Rex and brought out his playful side once again.

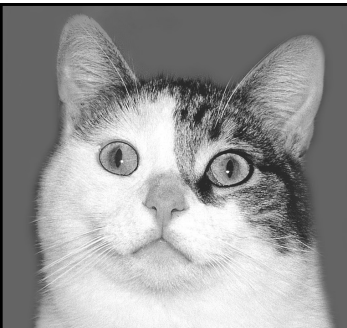
As for Sierra, she finally knows what love is! Thanks to the Warrens, she has



Karen and Dick Warren with Rex and Sierra

discovered the joys of sleeping indoors, being praised and petted, going for runs with Dick, and just being Rex's pal. Of course, she will never have to worry

Gimpy's Corner



Gimpy, the Big Pine Animal Shelter mascot says: "I had another adventure last month! I was catnapped! A prospective adopter arrived at the Shelter to adopt a cat only to find the Shelter closed. Since I was so friendly, he decided to take me home. The folks at the Shelter were worried sick and placed a plea on the radio for my safe return. Fortunately, a week later, my abductor heard it and I was immediately returned and another cat adopted in my place. Whew, I could use a little less excitement in my life!"

Bishop Students donate Pennies for Pets

Let's hear it for the caring students in Mrs. Tobey's fourth grade class at Pine Street School in Bishop! They demonstrated their compassion and concern for Inyo County's pets when they collected and donated 4,300 pennies to I CARE.

The penny drive began after a visit from I CARE's Education Team—Lynne and Anne Almeida (a mother/daughter team) and Anne's Golden Retriever, Kaeleigh.

The students were shown a video about the responsibilities of owning a pet. They learned about proper pet care, including feeding, grooming, exercise and veterinary exams. The presentation also included a discussion about the importance of spaying and neutering our pets because there are too many pets



Mrs. Tobey's class with Kaeleigh, I CARE's canine ambassador

born and not enough homes for them all. I CARE's little ambassador, Kaeleigh, also took part in the lesson greeting each student individually.

The children wanted to donate to I CARE's Spay/Neuter Program so they could help those less fortunate get their pets spayed or neutered. They have shown exceptional maturity in their understanding and responsibility towards companion animals.

I CARE T-Shirts *available in Premium Colors!*

How would you like to help make a difference for companion animals? Proceeds from every T-Shirt you buy help fund our Spay/Neuter Program, improvements to the Big Pine Animal Shelter and our Education Program.



Colors: Navy, Burgundy or Hunter Green

Sizes: Large and Extra Large

T-Shirts are \$16 plus \$3 for shipping,
for a total of just \$19

Thanks for your support!

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Size, color & quantity: _____

Amount enclosed: \$ _____

I CARE ❖ P.O. BOX 76 ❖ BISHOP, CA 93515 ❖ 760-872-3802

BOARD MEETINGS

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

Do You Have E-Mail?



E-mail has become a fast and easy way for people to communicate. If you would like to be notified of upcoming I CARE events and happenings, drop us a line at: icare@iname.com and we'll add you to our electronic mailing list. We respect your privacy and will *not* release your address to anyone else.



I CARE

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