



ICARE News!

Inyo County Animal Resources & Education

Dedicated to the welfare of the Eastern Sierra's companion animals

Meet Our Animal Control Officers

Homeless animals. Most people don't give them much thought, but our three Inyo County Animal Control Officers are responsible for the health and welfare of all the county's homeless pets. After six years of close cooperation with Animal Control, we felt it was time to let our supporters know a little bit more about our Animal Control Officers.

B.J. HAYNER — B.J. lives in Lone Pine with her husband, Bob, daughter Heidi and three adopted/rescued cats. She has been in Animal Control for 23 years and is responsible for animals in south county from Independence to Tecopa/Shoshone. The job requires her to drive great distances in all kinds of weather. She very likely has one of the largest territories of any Animal Control Officer in the state. She says she couldn't do it if she didn't care about animals.

B.J. wishes she could banish the myth that pets should have "just one litter."



B.J. Hayner

She says, "There is never a good reason to add to the pet overpopulation problem." In fact, in order to help put an end to our problem of too many pets without homes, the Shelter now requires that all animals be spayed or neutered



Timothy Proffitt

before adoption.

B.J.'s most unusual Animal Control story involves a group of tourists who had a vehicular accident and had to be taken to the hospital. B.J. was called to pick up their pet monkey. The monkey was returned to its family the next day, but, in the meantime, the folks in B.J.'s neighborhood were very entertained.

TIMOTHY PROFFITT — Tim and wife Kay live in Bishop. They have a son Adam and daughter Anne. They have two cats and one dog, all adopted. Tim has been in Animal Control for 18 years. He says that "compassion and dedication are the keys to being a good animal control officer. How else could you leave the comforts of home at 4 a.m., in a snowstorm, to rescue an injured animal?"

Tim notes the biggest change he's seen has been the transformation of the Animal Shelter from an old milk barn into a practical and usable facility. ICARE came along six years ago and made many improvements, adding new cat and dog kennels. This made the shelter a more comfortable place for the animals and a nicer place for people as well. Tim is pleased with the partnership between Animal Control and ICARE that is changing things for the better for the

Eastern Sierra's companion animals. Of the relationship between ICARE and Inyo County, Tim says, "We have formed an alliance to be proud of and envied by other agencies and organizations."

While this line of work can be very sad, Tim says, "there are joys, too, like the look on an owner's face when reunited with their lost pet or finding the perfect match for a homeless animal." Tim's most humorous memory is the time he and Officer Nancy Smith had to load a reluctant 200-pound live pig onto the animal control truck.

NANCY SMITH — Nancy lives in Big Pine with husband George and her daughter Nicole, four adopted dogs and two adopted cats. She has been with Animal Control almost 12 years. She says the public mistakenly believes the pet overpopulation crisis can be solved by Animal Control alone. "There will never be enough adoptive homes for all



Nancy L. Smith

the animals that owners are surrendering to shelters across the country. The only way we are going to solve this problem is by acting in concert with local support groups such as ICARE." Nancy believes

(Continued on page 3)

ABOUT ICARE

ICARE is a local nonprofit organization that:

- Is dedicated to the welfare of the Eastern Sierra's companion animals;
- Raises public awareness of the pet overpopulation crisis and other animal welfare issues through our newsletter, newspaper articles and classroom presentations;
- Provides low cost spaying/neutering for dogs and cats in need;
- Encourages adoptions from our local Animal Shelter; and
- Improves living conditions for the cats and dogs at the Inyo County Animal Shelter.

DIRECTORS

PRESIDENT

Ted Schade

VICE PRESIDENT

Mike Slates

SECRETARY/TREASURER

Lisa Schade

BOARD MEMBERS:

Anne Almeida
Lynne Almeida
Dan Dinsmoor
Linda Gillespie
Jim Taplin
Theona Wasson

CONTACT ICARE

Mail: P.O. Box 76
Bishop, CA 93515

Phone: 760-872-3802

E-mail:

ICARE@iname.com

Web: www.icare.cjb.net

MEMBERSHIP

Only \$15 per year

NEWSLETTER

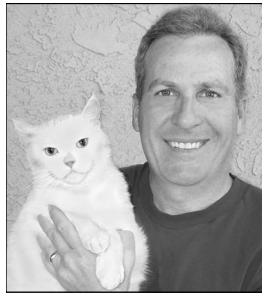
Delivered by V:

7



Message from the President, Ted Schade:

Brighter Future for All Homeless Animals



The Reno Hilton was the site of this year's Conference on Homeless Animal Management and Policy (CHAMP) from August 22-25. Nancy Smith of Inyo County Animal Control and I attended, along with more than 540 other attendees, some from as far away as India and Japan. 52 workshops and seminars were taught by some of the best and brightest individuals in animal welfare and leaders in specialty fields. A wide range of topics was offered, including management, operations, clinical, behavioral, rescuing and spaying/neutering—all to promote the ethic of saving animals' lives. We learned so much.

I returned home from the conference with a renewed resolve and enthusiasm for the work we are doing to improve the lives of companion animals here in our community. There are hundreds of towns and cities across the United States and around the world facing the same challenges we are. It was inspiring to meet all the people who are each doing their part to make a difference for animals in their own corners of the world. It made me realize that, if everyone does

what they can where they are, one day there will be a home for all adoptable pets.

I also realize how fortunate ICARE is to have forged such a strong working relationship with Inyo County Animal Control. Over the past six years, the relationship has resulted in many beneficial changes for our shelter animals and all companion animals in our community. We are very pleased that the County has been requiring Shelter animals to be spayed/neutered before adoption. This is a huge step in the right direction.

Another relationship that has had a positive impact on achieving our goals is the one we have with the Bishop Veterinary Hospital and the Sierra Veterinary Clinic. Both facilities discount the cost of spay/neuter surgeries for ICARE's Low Cost Spay/Neuter Program, which makes our donor dollars go further. The vets make every effort to get Shelter animals spayed/neutered right away, so adopter and pet can be together.

The conference gave me an increased awareness of how blessed I am to live in an area with so many enlightened people who truly care about animals. ICARE's animal assistance programs would be nonexistent if it weren't for the financial support of our thoughtful donors. Let's keep working together for the animals! 🐾

Looking for the perfect gift for the animal lover who has everything? How about a donation to ICARE in their name? They will be honored and you will be helping the animals! ☺

Thank you for your thoughtful donations:

Stacie Badgett, Wendy Bailey, Ed & Myrle Baker, Toni Bayer, Bee Gee Beauty Supply, Gayle Rosander, William Bjorklund, Lesley Booker, Kathy Copeland, Aurora Eden, Darcy Frampton-Bauer, Cathy George, Roy & Jane Gillam, Jim & Pat Gooch, Carroll & Vern Hambleton, High Sierra Awards, Karen & Steve Ingram, Jean Jarvis, Janelle Kent, Chuck & Mary Mae Kilpatrick, Erika Kroenlein, Paul & Barbara Laughon, Nita Lindsey, John & Donna Mackay, Sally Manning, Sandy Mayo, Alice Nicoll, Gary & Kim Nyberg, Niley & Emily Paul, James & Betty Penland, Cheryl Perez, Radio Shack, Shane Ray, Toni Richards, Paula Sam, Robert Schaubmayer, Tim & Helen Shultz, Peggy Steffen, Fred & Fay Thompson, Bob & Leilani Thornburg, Van Tassell & Paegel, Ann & Dennis Wagoner, Ann Wong, Harry & Patti Zappe, Carol Zielinski

Memorial Donations:

♥ Christine Abbott for Dixie and my dog Butch—"I miss him dearly." ♥ Lee Adams for Batman, "world's greatest cat" ♥ Jeff & Chris Anderson for Vernetta Gribben ♥ Ed & Myrle Baker for Myrt Harwood ♥ Renata Berger for our cat, General—"He brought us so much joy." ♥ Bishop Union Elementary for Tom Reid ♥ Kim Lehigh for Lanny's cat, Maude—"She thought she was a dog!" ♥ Stella Fleming for Pearce's dog, Levi ♥ Keri French for Boomer ♥ Dan & Kathy Gerard, Jack & Barbara Gerard for Carol Ludwig-McAfee ♥ Jaque Hickman for Pat Farlander ♥ Lois Lannan for Mike Lannan & C.E. McCorkle ♥ Tricia Lew for Cass McGill's dog, Sophie ♥ Kristine MacDonald for our beloved cat, Kato ♥ Patricia & Ed Nahin for our wonderful dog, Joe & little dog, Buddy ♥ Dee Newman for my beloved Tuffy ♥ Marion & Jan Peca for Dutch Sowa ♥ Jeannie Rurup for my beloved Poodle, Lisa Marie ♥ Walt & Cassie Schober for our Sophie ♥ Mary Scronce for four departed friends ♥ Jim & Andrea Shallcross for Alfie & Rocky ♥ Mary Lou Sipherd for my grand-dog, Shannon—"We miss her." ♥ Leslie & Dan Whitmore for Nancy Whitmore ♥ Alice Wolfson for Phyllis Mottola's cat, Blanco ♥ Susan Ziegler for our dear Gizmo ♥

Honorarium donations:

♥ Jackie Elphic for Mr. B, my St. Bernard ♥ Cat & Mike House for Beaudry & Cerro, our ICARE pets ♥ David & Julie Roberts for Mr. Higgins ♥ Laura & Chuck Wineholt for little Roxy's adoption ♥



Roxy

Astronomers Bring Home Two Bright Little Stars

Ron and Barbara Oriti moved to Bishop because they love to hike and fish and were attracted to the unrestricted access to public lands that the area provided. Before moving to Bishop, they had been living in Sebastopol where Ron operated the planetarium. Prior to that, Ron had worked at the Griffith Observatory in Los Angeles for 23 years. Later he taught astronomy and was director of the observatory at Santa Rosa Junior College.

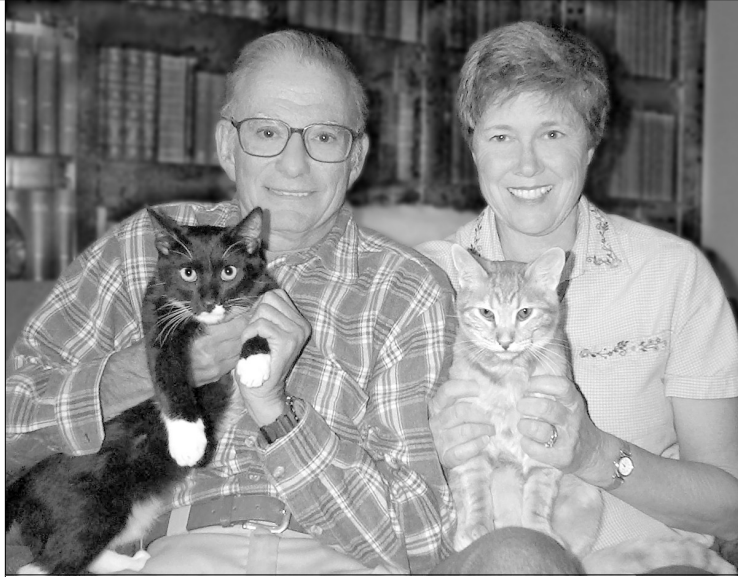
Ron and Barbara had two sister cats, Clara and Polly, who lived long, happy lives for over 18 and 19 years. Once both girls were gone, their house seemed terribly empty. They knew they wanted to adopt two more cats, so



Tiger is very outgoing

they visited the Inyo County Animal Shelter in Big Pine. There they met a handsome tuxedo cat and really fell for him. However, since there was no suitable second cat to adopt, they left empty-handed.

A few days later, Barbara stopped into Pet Friendly (the Bishop pet supply store that does *not* sell cats and dogs, but



Ron with Jesper and Barbara with Tiger

offers Shelter animals for adoption). Imagine her surprise to see the little tuxedo cat she had met at the Animal Shelter. He was in the cat room with another young cat, a friendly orange tabby. There was no question that both cats would be coming home with her.

Ron is a golf enthusiast so, after some discussion, the cats were named after Swedish golfer Jesper Parnevik and Tiger Woods. These cats may have had a rough start in life, but since coming to live with the Oritis, they are living a pampered existence as indoor-only cats. As you walk through their home, there are cat trees and perches at every window that allow the cats to watch the birds at the feeders outside. There are also a multitude of cat

toys that are rotated regularly to prevent boredom. Barbara and Ron do not believe in declawing and have provided scratching posts in nearly every room. Neither cat has ever shown an interest in scratching the furniture.

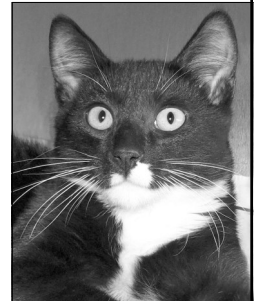
The cats have very different personalities. Tiger is outgoing, gregarious and loves everyone. He is also an amazing athlete jumping onto bookcases over seven feet high. He wakes Ron and Barbara every morning by snuggling in between them.

Jesper was originally trapped and brought to the Shelter where the staff presumed he was feral. He was probably just frightened by his ordeal. After a week or so, he began coming

out of his shell and actively sought attention from visitors. He is still fairly quiet and reserved, but thoroughly enjoys his toys and loves his life with Tiger, Barbara and Ron.

As astronomers, Ron and Barbara look to the heavens for their favorite

past time. But, their cats found their own piece of heaven on earth the day they were adopted by the Oritis. ~ Lisa Schade 🐾



Jesper is the thinker

Animal Control Officers (continued)

(Continued from front page)

the most important step we can take is to spay and neuter our pets. She credits ICARE's Low Cost Spay/Neuter Program with reducing the number of animals impounded in Inyo County from 1,800 in 1997 to about 700 in 2001. According to Nancy, "both nationally and locally, animal control agencies have undergone an unprecedented increase in awareness of the fact that we must lead the way in promoting spay and neuter programs, if the numbers of impounded animals are going to continue their downward trend."

When asked to relate a memorable experience, Nancy recalls a dog who had been lying in a field for two days who could barely raise his head. She carried



Inyo County's humble little Animal Shelter in Big Pine

him a quarter of a mile to her vehicle and rushed him to the vet where x-rays revealed he had been shot several times with more than one caliber of bullet. He underwent surgery to remove the fragments and was put on IV fluids. Within two weeks Connor, as he came to be known, had made a miraculous

recovery and recently celebrated his one-year adoption anniversary with a wonderful family in Bishop.

The Animal Control officers want to thank the public for their overwhelming response to the need for adoptive homes for our shelter animals, and to remind everyone that we must continue to work together to accomplish our goal: "Until there are none, adopt every one." 🐾

ICARE Shopping Day

Saturday, December 14th

9:00 am to 6:00 pm

Spellbinder Books

Spellbinder Books invites you to the 3rd annual ICARE Benefit Shopping Day. Just purchase a \$5 ICARE donation ticket at the store on December 14th and receive 20% off a wonderful selection of books, calendars, greeting cards and assorted gifts. Your \$5 donation goes directly to ICARE and helps the Eastern Sierra's companion animals in need. Happy Holidays! 🐾

ICARE Helping Feral Cats

Residents of Brookside Mobile Home Park in Bishop recently attended a Feral Cat Trap, Neuter and Return (TNR) presentation by ICARE president, Ted Schade (shown at right). The group expressed an interest in the program because their park has a history of attracting wild (feral) cats. The group viewed a video outlining the benefits of trapping, neutering and returning the cats to the park. Stabilizing and gradually reducing feral cat colonies through sterilization is a humane approach to the problem. Removing and killing feral cats only creates a vacuum that will quickly be colonized by other feral cats.

TNR is also a cost-effective method of managing feral cat populations. It costs Inyo County about \$100 per cat for Animal Control to trap, transport, hold for 72 hours at



the Shelter, and then euthanize. TNR, on the other hand, doesn't cost taxpayers a dime, because ICARE provides the traps, the residents do the trapping and ICARE pays for the sterilization surgeries.

For more information on ICARE's TNR Program, please call 872-3802.



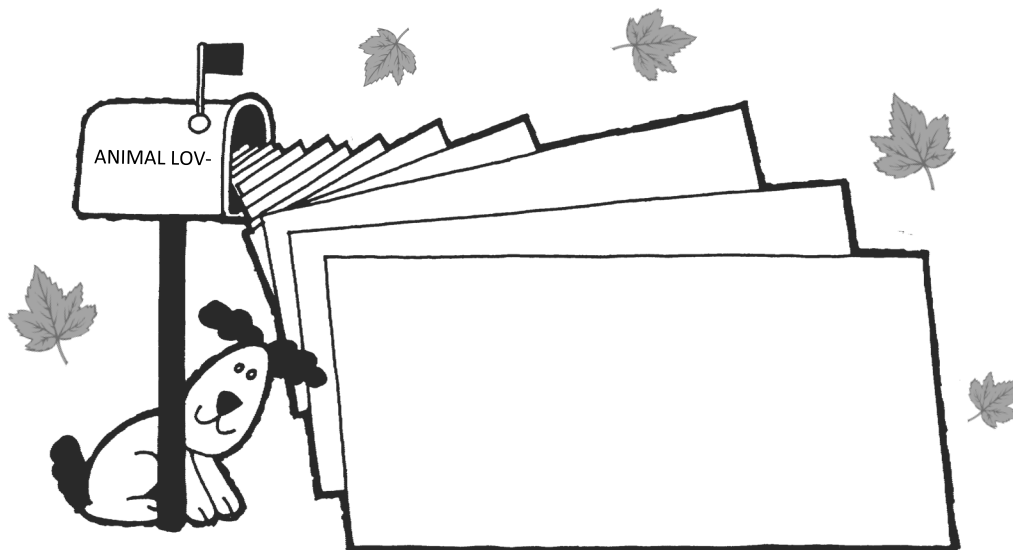
ICARE

POST OFFICE BOX 76
BISHOP, CA 93515-0076

BOARD MEETINGS

ICARE meets the first Wednesday of the month at 7 pm in County Bldg., 207 South Street, Bishop

NONPROFIT
ORGANIZATION
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID



PLEASE RECYCLE & EDUCATE –
SHARE THIS NEWSLETTER WITH A FRIEND