

ICARE News!

Inyo County Animal Resources & Education

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

Bishop Woman Runs for the Animals



Kari wearing her hard-earned Badwater medal

This July, Bishop's Kari Marchant ran 135 miles to help companion animals of the Eastern Sierra. She endured blistering temperatures of up to 126° for a total of 53 hours, 27 minutes and 14 seconds, to complete her first Badwater Ultramarathon. Being a die-hard animal lover, Kari decided she would collect pledges to be donated to I CARE, which would, in turn, be used to provide assistance to dogs and cats in need. Over \$1,000 was donated as a result of her run.

Seventy-nine runners from eight countries ran non-stop from Death Valley to Mt. Whitney on July 23-25, 2002, in the 25th anniversary Badwater Ultramarathon. The international field of athletes, ages 31 to 68 (16 women and 63 men), ran the Badwater race. Pam Reed, 41, of Tucson, Arizona beat all her female and male competitors, winning the race with a time of 27:56:47.

The course covers three mountain ranges for a total of 13,000 feet of vertical ascent and 4,700 feet of descent. It is the most demanding, extreme and prestigious ultramarathon in the world. Badwater, Death Valley marks the lowest elevation in the Western Hemisphere at 282 feet below sea level. The race finishes at the

Mt. Whitney Portal at nearly 8,300 feet. Just three days later Kari ran from the base of Mt. Whitney to its peak at 14,496 feet—the highest point in the contiguous United States.

Kari began running competitively three years ago, but this was her first ultramarathon. She says she could never have faced the challenge of training for and completing this race without the incredible support of her family: husband, Phil, daughter, Ashley, and son, Richard. They have inspired her to follow her dreams and she believes it has strengthened their family bonds. Kari also credits her coach, Lisa Smith-Batchen, and her race crew (Howie Stern, Rosie Roccoforte, Fred Shufflebarger and George Velasco) with her success.

Kari doesn't run all the time. Most days she can be found styling hair at Blondie's in Bishop. Her life also includes a 12-year old Yellow Labrador, Copper, and two Chihuahuas, Lucy and Winnie. Kari says her pets give her much joy and are her best friends. She was happy that the race



Kari crosses the finish line after 53 hours

allowed her to combine her love of running with her love for animals. 🐾

Choo Choo Helps Kobé Find a Home



Brent Taylor with new pal, Kobé

Adoptable animals from the Inyo County Animal Shelter in Big Pine made a special appearance at the Choo Choo Swap Meet in May. Animal Control staff brought a variety of Shelter dogs and cats while I CARE volunteers greeted the public. Swap meet attendees interested in adopting one of the pets were asked to complete an adoption application.

The sweetheart of the day was a handsome Border Collie named Kobé. Seven applications were submitted for him. Brent and Missy Taylor of Bishop were the lucky adopters. Kobé is their first dog and they adore him.

Brent works at home, so Kobé is his constant companion—the two have become inseparable. Missy says Kobé is a sweet, high energy dog. He had some behavior issues, but one session with a dog trainer was all it took to show this intelligent lad right from wrong. Missy and Brent agree that this Shelter animal has enriched their lives

ABOUT I CARE

I CARE is a nonprofit organization that:

- Is dedicated to the welfare of companion animals;
- Raises public awareness of the pet overpopulation crisis and other animal welfare issues through our newsletter, newspaper articles and classroom presentations;
- Provides financial aid to those in need for companion animal spay/neuter surgeries;
- Encourages adoptions from our local Animal Shelter; and
- Improves living conditions for the cats and dogs at the Inyo County Animal Shelter.

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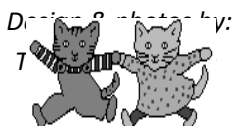
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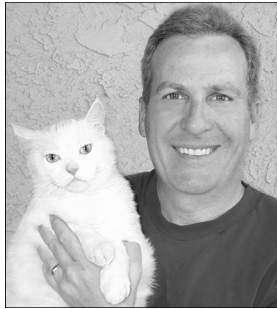
Only \$15 per year

NEWSLETTER



Message from the President, Ted Schade:

Looking for a Few Good Volunteers



This fall I CARE will celebrate its 6th anniversary. We've come a long way since a handful of people that care about animals sat down at a restaurant in Big Pine to brainstorm about how we could help pets in the Eastern Sierra. Over the past six years we have helped make the Inyo County Animal Shelter a more pet and people friendly facility, we have subsidized the cost of over 1,800 cat and dog spay/neuter surgeries and our shelter adoption efforts have helped find homes for a record number of homeless pets.

None of this is possible without your incredible financial support. From the 600 people that attend our annual fundraising dinner, to the many others who send in their memberships and donations, it all helps fund our important I CARE programs.

But, in order to continue to make progress toward our goal of not having to euthanize any adoptable animals, we need more than your incredible financial help—we need you! The true life-blood of any service organization is its volunteers. What I CARE needs now to continue our successes is additional volunteers. There is so much work to do and only a very few of us doing

it. Some of the areas where we need help include:

Annual April fundraising dinner:

- Pre-dinner ticket sales (dinner & raffle tickets)
- Dinner set-up, staffing and clean-up

At the Animal Shelter:

- Dog walkers and pet bathers
- Foster care homes to temporarily care for special needs pets (usually very young pets)
- Pet "movers" to transport pets to homes or rescue organizations out of the area

Education programs:

- Classroom programs teaching responsible pet care in our schools (this is an especially pressing need and would be ideal for those with teaching experience)
- I CARE "ambassadors" in southern Inyo County to post flyers, distribute information and answer questions

Special events:

- Choo-choo swap meet twice a year
- Pet show at Tri-County Fair

If you would like to donate some of your time to help us help pets, please call, e-mail or write us. We really would appreciate the help. Thank you all so much. We can't do it without you! 🐾

Thank you for your thoughtful donations:

Shirley & Bob Bement, Courtney Brown, Ursula Carron-Bates, Art Clayton, Dick & Sue Conn, Mary Daniel-Grah, Cathy George, Scott Hanye, Nadine Harry, Marilyn Hayden, Jim Henry, Marty Leithold, Mike & Clare McCurry, Sally Millner, Joann Murdy, Valerie Naso, Mike & Liz O'Sullivan, Cheryl Perez, Bob & Marcella Siefken, Pam St. Jean, Anne & Bill Stanley, Fred & Fay Thompson, Andrea Zack, Susan Ziegler

Badwater Ultramarathon donations:

Michelle Allen, Debbie Beach, Lori Beck, Donnie Bird, Bill Bramlette, Sandi Bright, Kim Chapman, George Dekens, Debbie Eilts, Dr. Daniel Eventov, Shirley Fendon, Stella Fleming, Eddie Ford, Sharon Frug, Dorothy Fryar, Giggie Springs, Tammy Holt, Gloria Howell, Jennifer & Vance Johnston, Denise & Ben Jones, Keith & Donna Leavitt, Joan & Lorraine Marchant, Suzi Martin, Debbie Masters, Irene McLean, Joy Myers, Patricia & Edward Nahin, Mary Newton, Elizabeth Onstenk, Ken Partridge, Harry Petersen, Ted & Lisa Schade, Andy Selters, Bill & Anne Stanley, Judy Underwood, Leona VanWinkle, Dick & Karen Warren, Scott Weaver, Penny Webb, Western Nevada Supply, James Wilson, Ralph Worthing, Susan Ziegler

Memorial Donations:

♥ Jeff & Chris Anderson for Dorothy Simpson's dog, Misty ♥ Renata Berger for John M. ♥ Dolores Cundiff for Dorothy Martinez, Pat Turner's dog, Shamrock & Bruce Dishion's dog, Gizmo ♥ Allison David for Elmer Bente ♥ Claus & Connie Engelhardt for Bismarck ♥ Erin & Allen Godfrey for Shannon, our constant companion ♥ Jesse & Valerie Gorham for Gage, our beloved Aussie ♥ Wyman, Cindy & Patrick Hawkins for P.J. our Lab and for Dorothy Martinez ♥ Dorothy Jones for Fernande Bunker ♥ Brian & Lynn Lamb for Dorothy Martinez ♥ Dusty Majors for little Scooter ♥ Lana & Ken Moore for our Jake ♥ Libby Onstenk for Phred & Barney ♥ Arlene & Carl Pearce for Levi, "the world's greatest little mutt" ♥ Ken & Janet Reeling for our Pug, Ching ♥ Bill & Jean Rich for our dear old cat, Skooby ♥ Ralph & Dorothy Rickords for Reelings' Pug, Ching ♥ Pat Turner for my dog, Shamrock ♥ Jeanne Walter for "Big Bill" St. Jean and his devoted cat, Abby ♥



Honorarium donations:

♥ Virginia Koegel for Lois Lannan's 70th birthday ♥ Laurel Rogers for Charlotte Rodrigues, the Animal Shelter's volunteer dog walker ♥ Darryl & Sonia Truelsen for Connor's one-year adoption anniversary—"He is a beautiful boy!" ♥ Kathy Zack-Stickells for our I CARE puppy, Smokey Bear ♥

Shelter Dogs Bring Happiness and Laughter to Family



Susan, Fred and Travis Matsumoto with Tango and Cash

mailed the puppy's picture to Susan. They then learned that the puppy had an equally adorable brother. A trip to the Shelter resulted in Susan adopting, not one, but two dogs, that day. She felt an immediate connection with both pups and didn't have the heart to leave one behind.

Back at home, Fred thought Susan was bringing home "a puppy" and was more than a little surprised to see these two little faces show up at the house. While initially taken aback, he had to

admit they were very sweet pups and quickly understood his wife's dilemma.

The dogs' personalities are different as night and day. Of the two, Tango is the clown and never fails to make the family laugh at his silly ways. On the other hand, Cash is much more serious and thinks it is his duty to protect the family, including brother Tango. Fred and Travis share a preference for sweet and funny Tango, while Susan is partial to Cash.

In September 2001, shortly after adopting the boy wonders, Susan entered them in **I CARE's Pet Show** at the Tri-County Fair where they won first place for "Most Outstanding Adopted Pets." The

prize was free enrollment in Yvonne Froiland's dog obedience classes beginning the following month. Susan and son, Travis, accompanied Tango and Cash to each of their lessons and both pups completed the course with flying colors. Susan says the dogs are very bright and learned everything quickly. In fact, they were housetrained in record time.

The family agrees that Shelter pets are absolutely the best. And, of course, the



Tango and Cash as puppies at the Shelter

fact that you are saving a life (in this case two lives), is extremely rewarding. Susan says, "These two precious boys have given our family closeness, happiness, laughter and so much more." ~ Lisa Schade 🐾

**You are invited to this year's
I CARE PET SHOW
at the Tri-County Fairgrounds**

Pet Friendly Celebrates Two Years of Adoptions

One hundred eight animals in two years! That's the number of cats and kittens and dogs and puppies that have found homes through **I CARE's Shelter Animal Rescue and Adoption Program**. More than one animal's life saved each week thanks to Jennifer (shown right with Shelter puppy) and Todd Allred, owners of the **Pet Friendly Store** at **137 East Line Street in Bishop**. They graciously provide off-site adoption space for shelter animals to increase their chances of finding homes.

Pet Friendly is a "pet supply store with a conscience." They do not sell cats and dogs because they don't want to contribute to the pet overpopulation crisis. Jennifer and Todd are painfully aware that too many cats and dogs are



born and there simply aren't enough homes for them all. They are also concerned that selling cats and dogs

would entice "backyard breeders" to use their pets to produce litters to sell to their store just for profit.

The rescue/adoption program has been very successful. I CARE adopts one or two cats or dogs from the Animal Shelter and brings them to Pet Friendly to await adoption. Before they leave the Shelter, all animals are vaccinated and cats are tested for feline leukemia. While at Pet Friendly, they receive excellent care and are vet-checked weekly as they wait for their new home. Of course, they are also spayed or neutered before being adopted.

Todd and Jennifer are humble about their role in giving these unwanted animals a second chance stating "We only wish we could do more." I CARE is grateful for every life they have helped save. If you'd like to honor what the Allreds are doing for companion animals,

“Trap, Neuter and Release Program” Helps Feral Cats

Feral cats are the wild offspring of domestic cats and are usually the result of owners abandoning or failing to spay and neuter their pets, allowing them to breed uncontrolled. Feral cats form colonies that can be located almost anywhere. They are elusive and do not trust humans. Feral cats are wild animals and are almost impossible to tame.

Many people assume their cats will survive when they move away and leave them behind. Domestic cats do not automatically regain their “natural” instincts and cannot fend for themselves! Feral cats can suffer a violent end from predators or a slow, painful death from disease or starvation.

There is a solution to the problem. Studies show that “**trap, neuter and release**” programs are the most successful method of stabilizing healthy feral cat colonies with the least possible cost to local government and impact on residents, while providing these cats the best life possible. Small feral cat colonies are non-intrusive (you rarely see them out during the day) and they help to



keep rodent populations in check—something that is very important in our area due to the occurrence of hanta virus.

Trapping, sterilizing and releasing homeless cats back into their original territory: 1) stabilizes populations at manageable levels; 2) eliminates annoying behaviors associated with mating; 3) is humane and fosters compassion in neighborhoods where the cats are present; and 4) is more effective and less costly than repeated attempts at extermination. Repeated trapping and

killing feral cat colonies is costlier than promoting stable, non-breeding colonies. The sad truth is vacated territories are soon filled by other cats who start the breeding process all over again.

If you want to help stabilize feral cat populations in your neighborhood, I CARE will lend you a humane live-trap and guide you in trapping procedures. Once the cats are trapped, they can be taken to the Sierra Veterinary Clinic or Bishop Veterinary Hospital (also in Lone Pine) for their sterilization surgery. A small notch is cut in one ear to identify the cat as having been spayed/neutered.

There is no cost to the trapper, but cats must be returned to their original territory. Call **I CARE** at **872-3802** for more information. With a little effort, feral cat colonies can be humanely stabilized and we can prevent further suffering, unwanted litters and provide a better life for these creatures. 🐾

I CARE

POST OFFICE BOX 76
BISHOP, CA 93515-0076

BOARD MEETINGS

I CARE meets the second Tuesday of the month
at 7 pm in County Bldg., 207 South Street, Bishop

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I CARE's Summer Newsletter is here!



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