

Inyo County Animal Resources & Education

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

Community Welcomes Two New Veterinarians

This past year the Bishop Veterinary Hospital added two new veterinarians to their very busy practice. Dr. Kristen Mason specializes in large animals, particularly horses, and Dr. Diana Stanton specializes in small animals, including pet birds and "pocket pets."

DR. KRISTEN MASON

Kristen was born and raised in Ridgecrest. Her family has a cabin on Hilton Creek and she has been coming to the Bishop area for many years. She never dreamed she would end up working here. She always wanted to be a veterinarian, but was never encouraged to pursue her dream until she worked at a Girl Scout Camp where she met a veterinarian who



Left to right, Dr. Kristen Mason and Dr. Diana Stanton

Bishop Veterinary Hospital and was hired in December 2000. Kristen enjoys the lifestyle here and recently bought her first home. She has two dogs that were both rescued—one is a 4-year old Labrador Retriever named Tavy and the other is a 7-year old Labrador Retriever mix named Honey. Kristen also rescued Maggie, a cat who was brought into the Lake Isabella practice with a broken back. She rehabilitated Maggie and has had her for three years now. She also has two horses that live in Ridgecrest with her parents.

DR. DIANA STANTON

Diana is from Nashville, Tennessee. She did her undergraduate work in molecular biology at the University of Montana, Missoula. She attended vet school at the University of Tennessee, graduating in 1999. Her emphasis was in research, not private practice. After doing her residency for two years at Scripps La Jolla, she worked at a vet hospital in San Diego for one year. It was a very large practice with little patient follow-up or client interaction.

Diana began working at the Bishop Veterinary Hospital in June 2001. She enjoys practicing in a small town because she gets to see her clients outside of work and hear how their animals are doing. Diana says, "It's much more personal." She added, "Drs. Lind and Talbot are

very committed to our (Drs. Mason and Stanton's) professional development."

Diana has a cat named Zap and a Golden Retriever named Scarlet. She acquired Scarlet ten years ago at a Grateful Dead concert in Ohio when Scarlet was "just a little puff ball." In her free time, Diana enjoys skiing, rock climbing and playing "ultimate Frisbee." This past Christmas she became engaged to John Drumm.

Dr. Carl Lind and Dr. Tom Talbot, owners of the Bishop Veterinary Hospital, are very pleased with the latest additions to the staff. Dr. Lind stated,

"They are doing a super job and they are both extremely competent." Dr. Talbot



Kristen with Dr. Carl Lind's mule, Sarah

inspired her to go for it. She got her degree in biochemistry at Cal Poly San Luis Obispo and then attended vet school at U.C. Davis where she graduated in 1999. She worked in private practice in Lake Isabella for two years and was the on-call vet for large animal emergencies.

Kristen was contacted by a recruiter about the veterinarian position at the



Diana with her buddy, Scarlet

added, "They are a wonderful addition to our practice." 🐾 ~Lisa Schade

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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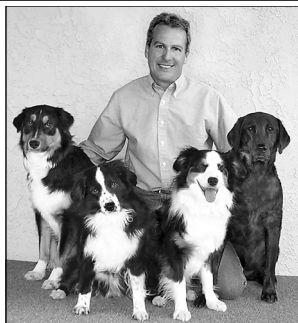
NEWSLETTER

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Message from the President, Ted Schade:

Your Support Is Helping Many Animals



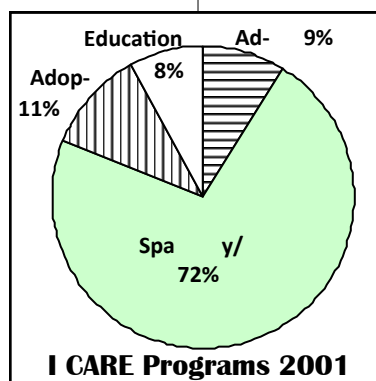
What is in the best interest of the animals? That's the question the I CARE Board asks itself before making expenditure decisions.

I CARE receives no government funding or grant monies and is completely supported

by your donations. Your continued faith in our mission allows us to operate a highly successful Low Cost Spay/Neuter Program, a popular off-site Shelter Animal Adoption Program and an effective companion animal welfare education campaign.

The chart shows how your donations were spent in 2001. As you can see, 72% of our program budget went toward our main goal of spaying and neutering 412 cats and dogs at a cost of \$19,686. Since beginning this program five years ago, over 1,500 cats and dogs have been spayed and neutered, which has prevented the birth of thousands of unwanted puppies and kittens.

Our Education Program



includes classroom presentations and these quarterly newsletters. This program accounted for 8% (\$2,205) of our expenditures and is intended to enlighten the public about the local pet overpopulation crisis and the need for loving homes for all of our pets.

Our Shelter Animal Rescue and Adoption Program has been in operation for 18 months and has found homes for 85 shelter animals. I CARE adopts these animals from our Animal Shelter and the folks at Pet Friendly care for them while they await adoption. Adoption costs were 11% (\$3,012) of our program budget and includes veterinary checkups.

Administrative costs accounted for a mere 9% (\$2,581) of our program budget. Since I CARE has no paid employees, we are able to direct your donations to the programs that will most benefit the animals—a claim that the national humane charities just can't make!

Thank you for helping make 2001 another great year for companion animals in need. We look forward to your partnership in the coming year. 🐾

Thank you for your donations:

Kelli Beaman, Herb & Peg Brons, Mike & Karen Brorson, Andy & Dick Cheeseman, Nancy Cloud, Karen Cudney, Cathy George, Gary Gillespie, Patty Greenland, Irvin & Maisie Hall, Carroll & Vern Hambleton, Gail Hays, George & Diane Hoffman, Joan Hugelman, Robin & Chris Johnston, Debbie Lake, Brian & Lynn Lamb, Paul & Barbara Laughon, Terry Lee, Bert & Marty Leithold, Darcey Lent, Dusty Majors, T.J. & Connie Marker, Arlene Mayfield, Cathy Powell, Irene McLean, Bonnie McMillan, Sandy Miller, Sally Millner, Al & Ruth Morgan, Vic & Jane Paul, James & Betty Penland, Cheryl Perez, Bill & Jean Rich, Gerald Rupp, Ted & Lisa Schade, Paula Sam, Dan & Kay Sprague, Bill & Diann Stever, Paul & Gloria Stewart, Fred & Fay Thompson, Bob Unkrich, Alice Wolfson, Ann Wong, Cindy Wymore, Susan & Bob Ziegler

Special donations in Memory:

♥ Cliff, Anne & Lynne Almeida & Gail Albutt for Barbara Slates ♥ Larry & Ruth Blakely for our grandcat, Ansel ♥ Jane Burbank for my cat companions, Tom, Sherman & Charles ♥ Don Constans for my cat, Good Guy ♥ Jena Erickson for Shadow—"We remember you." ♥ Dexter Leland for my dog, Chammie ♥ Thomas Mallonee for Radar, a very special horse ♥ Norm & Mel Matoza for Rusty, Sadie & Amos ♥ Bob Montgomery for Claire Montgomery ♥ Patricia & Edward Nahin for our son's dog, Barbo ♥ Ken & Janet Reeling for Betty LaVelle and Rickords' dog, Maggie ♥ Ralph & Dorothy Rickords for our special dog, Maggie ♥ Laurel Rogers for Bones Jones, our first Black Lab—"We sure miss him!" ♥ Steve & Mary Scronce for Norm Bird, Low Galvin, Norma Snyder and Gloria Bame ♥ Dale & Helen Trust for our pets, Lucy & Krystle ♥ Jerry & Becky Vanwey for Gabby, a great cat ♥ Bob Wagoner for Norma Jean Wagoner ♥ Alice Wolfson for Elizabeth—"You are missed" & Tex, a fine fellow ♥ Debbie Becker for Tucker, my baby boy cat ♥

In Honor:

♥ Aurora Eden for Dr. Kathleen Sexton for all she does ♥ Scott Hanye for Jean Guerena ♥ Jackey Harris for the Bishop Veterinary Hospital staff ♥ Lois Lannan for Virginia Koegel's birthday ♥ Dr. Jeanette Schneider for Joanne, Crabby & Luke—"Welcome to the mountains!" ♥ Carol Wells for Gimpy's one year anniversary ♥



The Tale of "Death Valley Buddy"



Bill with Oscar and Peggy with Buddy

Keeshond mix dog. Here he was all alone in the middle of the desert, miles from nowhere, with no food or water when fate intervened.

"Death Valley Buddy," as he was nicknamed, was taken to the Inyo County Animal Shelter in Big Pine where he was just glad to have a roof over his head and a meal in his belly. The only thing he didn't like was anyone putting a leash around his neck and we will probably never know why.

Bill and Peggy Horn read Buddy's amazing tale of survival in the *Inyo Register's* "Pet of the Week" feature. They had recently lost two of their pets within a few months of each other (a 14-year old Collie named Jollie, and their dear cat, Otis). They decided "it was just too quiet around the house" and wanted to adopt a playmate for their remaining dog, Cheyenne, a 4-year old Border Collie.

Bill and Peggy say Buddy has been no problem whatsoever and fit in immediately. He seems to have already had some training. In fact, he was already housetrained. Bill says they were looking



Buddy as Pet of the Week

for a more mature adult dog because they were not interested in training a puppy. The Horns say Buddy is a wonderful companion—he even sleeps at the foot of their bed next to Cheyenne.

Having struck gold with their shelter dog, Bill and Peggy thought they would try their luck with a shelter cat. So, off they went again to the animal shelter in Big Pine where they were immediately smitten by a little orange

tabby kitten named Oscar. They brought him home just two weeks before Christmas. Oscar wreaked a bit of havoc on the Christmas ornaments, but with a face like that, it was difficult not to laugh at his shenanigans.

Even Buddy and Cheyenne fell for this little scamp. The truth is, in many ways, Oscar acts more like a dog than a cat. He actually wrestles with the dogs and has a grand time.



Oscar suns himself

A matter of only a few minutes is all that kept an abandoned dog from becoming a gruesome statistic. Animal Control Officer B.J. Hayner was covering her territory this past October when something made her stop halfway between Death Valley and Shoshone. She was startled when she felt something brush against her leg. She looked down and saw what she thought was a coyote. But instead it was the sweetest little

I CARE's Programs Are Good News for Pets

It looks like life is on the upswing for cats and dogs in our community. The graph at right (based on data provided by Inyo County Animal Control), indicates that, while 950 cats and dogs were put to sleep at the Big Pine Animal Shelter in 1997, in 2001 that number plummeted to just 357. **That's a 62% decrease in the number of animals put to sleep in four years!** Also, the number of animals coming in to the shelter decreased 36% and, more good news—**adoptions increased 42%.**

The main reason for this amazing turnaround is our Low Cost Spay/Neuter Program, which has helped over 1,500



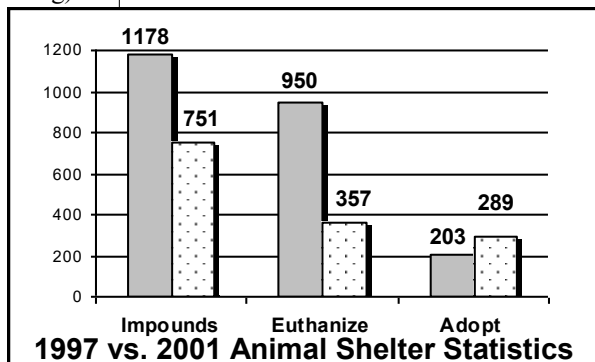
Bette Nash adopts "Fortune"

cats and dogs get spayed or neutered. This prevents hundreds of unwanted litters from being born that could go on to produce litters of their own. I CARE advocates the *preventative approach* to pet population control; (spaying and neutering)—not euthanasia!

Another reason for the brighter outlook is our Animal Shelter Rescue and Adoption Program. Jennifer and Todd Allred of Pet Friendly (137 East Line Street in Bishop) allow us to bring Shelter animals into their store (they *do not* sell cats or dogs). They provide

excellent care for the Shelter animals until loving, adoptive homes can be found. Last year, 55 cats and dogs were adopted. That represents 20% of the total number of animals adopted from the shelter in 2001!

This is what I CARE is all about—saving precious lives. It's working! 🐾



Free Spays for 90 Days!



I CARE, in cooperation with the Bishop and Sierra Vets, is offering **FREE Spays in March, April & May!** To prevent the accidental birth of puppies and kitties this Spring, we are offering to spay your female dogs and cats at no charge. Let us help your pet.

Call I CARE today
Phone: 872-3802

I CARE DINNER 🐾 April 13, 2002
Seeking Volunteers & Auction Items



I CARE is gearing up for our 6th Annual Fundraising Dinner to take place on **Saturday, April 13** in the Charles Brown Auditorium and we need:

- ♦ Donations of auction items, such as original works of art and handcrafted items by local artists;
- ♦ Donations of other valuable items for silent auction;
- ♦ Volunteers to sell dinner and raffle tickets; and
- ♦ Volunteers to help the night of the dinner.

We're fortunate to live in a community with so many animal lovers. We look forward to seeing you all at our fun-filled annual event. If you would like to help or have a special item to donate, please call **872-3802**.

I CARE

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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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Carlo says "Enjoy your news-



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