



ICARE

News!

Inyo County Animal Resources & Education

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

Foster Mom Helps Homeless Animals



Marie Morris and daughter, Elizabeth, with their "DWP kitties"

When the Inyo County Animal Shelter recently formalized a Foster Care Program, Marie Morris of Wilkerson became one of the first volunteers. Marie's husband, John, a Supervisor at the Los Angeles Department of Water and Power (DWP), told Marie about a ten-day old litter of kittens that had been found meowing in the back of a DWP equipment truck. The mama cat was nowhere to be found, so the four kittens were turned over to Inyo County Animal Control. Marie immediately contacted the Animal Shelter and offered to provide foster care for the orphaned kittens.

Marie, with help from her daughter, Elizabeth, bottle fed the kittens for the next four weeks. By the time the kittens were weaned and scheduled to be returned to the Animal Shelter for adoption, the Morris family had fallen in love with the little darlings and couldn't bear to part with a single one, so they adopted the entire litter.

Marie is currently fostering another litter of five orphaned kittens from Lone Pine who were rescued at the age of two

weeks after their mama disappeared. They have no plans to adopt this litter and are enjoying getting them strong and healthy so they can all find adoptive homes.

In addition to fostering homeless kittens, Marie has been rescuing unwanted rabbits for almost two years and has started her own rabbit rescue/sanctuary called the Bunny Castle. There are currently about a dozen rabbits in her rescue program, all with their own sad stories of why they were no longer wanted. Many of the rabbits are available for adoption, but there are a few that will spend the remainder of their

lives at the Bunny Castle because they are unadoptable for health or behavior reasons. John's participation in the rabbit rescue involves the design and construction of big, roomy, custom rabbit hutches. Marie has rescued and re-homed several abandoned rabbits for the Inyo County Animal Shelter

Marie's other hobby, besides tending to the family's herd of goats, flock of chickens, one tortoise, assorted fish and two adult cats, is creating handpainted "McGill Creations" shirts (in memory of her cat, McGill). The beautiful, one-of-a-kind shirts can be purchased at Bee Gee Beauty Supply in Bishop, owned by Marie's mom, Becky Parham.

Marie says, "I've always loved animals and I'm happy to be able to help them any way I can." She considers herself lucky to be able to pursue her dream of helping homeless animals. While the rewards may be intangible, there is no feeling in the world like saving the life of an innocent creature and giving it a second chance. 🐾



Feeding time for an orphan

After School Pet Safety Class



Theona Wasson teaches pet safety

For eight weeks in April and May, ICARE was invited to participate in Bishop's After School Program, which provided cultural, recreational and academic opportunities for children in the Bishop Unified Elementary School District. ICARE board member, Theona Wasson, taught the American Red Cross class on personal safety around pets (e.g., what do you do when a strange dog approaches you?) and administering first aid to pets in case of an emergency (e.g., how do you identify hypothermia and heat exhaustion?). The kids also learned the importance of spaying/neutering their cats and dogs to help end the pet overpopulation problem.

Several guest speakers made appearances at the pet safety class, including Dr. Kristen Mason of the Bishop Veterinary Hospital who talked about the importance of having your pets vaccinated. Cindy Kamler of Eastern Sierra Wildlife Care visited one day to talk about bird rescue and rehabilitation. Another guest speaker was Tim Proffitt of Inyo County Animal Control who discussed how and why he rescues stray animals. ICARE board members, Anne and Lynne Almeida also attended to teach responsible pet ownership.

ICARE is honored to teach children how to help and respect animals. 🐾

ABOUT ICARE

ICARE 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.

DIRECTORS

PRESIDENT
Ted Schade

VICE PRESIDENT
Mike Slates

CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER
Lisa Schade

BOARD MEMBERS:
Anne Almeida
Lynne Almeida
Dan Dinsmoor
Linda Gillespie
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

Design & photos by:
Lisa & Ted Schade



© ICARE 2003

Message from the President, Ted Schade:

People Helping Pets—We Love Volunteers!



ICARE's main goal is easy to state: we want to reduce, and someday eliminate, the tragic euthanasia of companion animals in Inyo County by reducing the number of pets born, increasing the number of pets adopted from the Animal Shelter and keeping pets happily in their homes. While easy to state, our goal is much more difficult to accomplish.

We are reducing the number of pets born through the ICARE Low Cost Spay/Neuter Program. Since 1997, ICARE has helped over 2,500 pets get fixed! Spaying and neutering all pets is the first and most important step toward our goal. But, there will always be animals that are turned over to the Shelter. So we also need to urge everyone to adopt their pets from the Animal Shelter. And, once a pet has a good home, we need to educate owners to keep people and their pets living happily together.

Although none of our successes would be possible without the financial support of ICARE members and donors, it also takes people volunteering to help. This issue of the newsletter is dedicated to some of those volunteers.

Marie Morris helps pets by providing a foster

home to a few of the many litters of kittens that come into the Shelter. These orphaned kittens are too young to be adopted and it is difficult to care for them at the Shelter. So, Marie has opened her home and is giving them a good start in life. In addition, the space she provides for the kittens frees up some of the very limited space for other homeless cats at the Shelter.

ICARE board member, Theona Wasson, teaches an American Red Cross Pet First Aid class for adults. She recently taught an after school class to children on safety around pets.

Sabrina Nioche transports some of our Shelter animals to Marin and Sonoma Counties, where there is a shortage of adoptable cats and dogs. They have done such an effective job of reducing pet overpopulation, they set up a Pet Partnership Program to accept animals from Shelters like ours that haven't yet reached their goal.

These are just three of the people that are doing their part for local animals. In addition to Marie, Theona and Sabrina, there are a number of other volunteers that are helping our homeless pets. Charlotte Rodrigues is our most faithful Shelter dogwalker. Gayle Kraus helps walk and bathe dogs. Other Bay Area transporters include Andy Zack and Jeanette Pontacq.

If you want to help Shelter animals, we'd sure love to hear from you! 🐾

Thank you for your donations:

Donations of \$25 or more listed

Agrarian Research, Ed & Myrle Baker, Jackie Jo Beck, Shirley & Bob Bement, Bishop Vet Hospital, Bob & Jo Ann Brackett, Peggie Chew, Lupe Conner, Kim Corbin-Lehigh, Diana Cunningham, Tom & Betty Dews, Darcy Bauer, Cathy George, Gary Gillespie, Helen Hansen & Armin Kaufstein, Betty Heimforth, Christopher Henke, Jim Henry, Bobbie & Chuck Hoeberg, George & Diane Hoffman, Patty Holton, Jean Jarvis, Erika Kroenlein, June Lang, Terry Lee, Ken & Alice Lloyd, Herb & Aleta London, Dory & Mark Magit, Christine McCarty, Stephanie Miller, Ray & Donna Milovich, Vince & Shirley Montefusco, Walt & Ellie Pachucki, Niley & Emily Paul, Vic & Jane Paul, Pegasus Gallery, Cheryl Perez, Richard & Lisa Reel, Gloria Roberts, Terry Russi, Paula Sam, Bob & Yvonne Schade, Anthony Schapera, Lizanne Wheeler, Paul & Gloria Stewart, Dean & Vicka Stout, Fred & Fay Thompson, Dar & Toni Tockey, Rex & Mary Uline, Union Bank, Gary & Betty Williamson, Wayne & Millie Winch, Ann Wong, Andy Zdon

Memorial donations:

♥ Lois Alexander for Silky and Lois Alexander's friends for Lucy ♥ Kathy & Jeff Cleland for Bosley ♥ John & Tina Cocherell for JJ, a wonderful dog ♥ Keri French for Debbie Shafer's dog, Driveshaft ♥ Scott & Misty Hanye for our dogs, Peaches, Quincy & Buck ♥ Sandy & Gale Holbrook for Larry Cummings ♥ Karen Howell for CoCo ♥ Mundo & Louise Huarte for our rooster, Barney ♥ June Lang for Jacob & Yule, 13 years of devotion ♥ Nita & Sonny Lindsey for Stitch ♥ Lana & Ken Moore for our special friend & pet, Mollie ♥ Patricia & Edward Nahin for Wellen's dog Piggy and Wilson's cat, Calle ♥ Arlene & Carl Pearce for our dog, Levi ♥ Cheryl Perez for my cat, Waldo ♥ Russ Adams for Baby Cat, my furry-faced friend ♥ Robert Schaubmayer for my wife, Petra ♥ Jean & George Shirk for all the unwanted Shelter animals who deserved love and life ♥ Susan & Bob Ziegler for our best bud of a dog, Sammy ♥

Donations in honor:

♥ Bobby & Nancy Bay for Happy & Trixie ♥ Lesley Booker for my best friend, Kim Lehigh ♥ Ken & Leslie Cleland for ICARE ♥ Robin & Craig Johnson for Ted & Lisa Schade for reuniting us with our 15-yr old lost dog, Pepper ♥ Virginia Koegel for Lois Lannan's birthday ♥ Cathy McCay-Powell for Ted & Lisa Schade ~"They truly make a difference!" ♥ Terri Parks for all ICARE donors and volunteers ♥ Charlotte Rodrigues for Lucy ♥ Angela & Paul Stratton for Lisa & Ted Schade's hard work and dedication to animals ♥ Gary & Betty Williamson for our dog Pepper's birthday ♥

PepperJohnson



Injured Dog Seeks Refuge and Finds a Home



Don Rake with Rosie on Adoption Day

Don Rake, a former Mono County Supervisor, and his wife, Pam, were visiting the Burnstroms and Don became very involved in the rescue of the wounded pup. Don says, "There was no way that dog was coming out from under that truck, so I slowly moved the truck and she stayed put. Then I eased her onto a blanket and pulled her over next to the house." Don continues, "She remained calm in spite of her injuries and never became aggressive. I could tell right away she was a real nice little dog."



Rosie, the coyote look-alike

true test would be if he and Pam's 8-year old Black Lab, Brewster, would accept a new sister. Don says "Brew did get his nose out of joint for awhile, but now he and Rosie are great pals, even though Rosie likes to steal Brewster's rope toys!" Don adds, "Brewster has been patient teaching Rosie the whole household routine," noting that Rosie caught on very quickly.

Rosie and Brewster go everywhere with Don and Pam, including flying on the Rakes' Bonanza Beechcraft airplane. Rosie has even flown to Mexico where she became a real beach doggie, chasing frisbees in the ocean and having a grand time.

Although they will probably never know how Rosie got shot that day or why, Don and Pam believe she was destined to become a part of their family. They're both crazy about their sweet little coyote look-alike. 🐾 ~ Lisa Schade



Rosie on the beach

Looking like a coyote sure can get a little dog in a world of trouble. Just ask Rosie! Last December this nameless pooch was minding her own business when she got plugged full of buckshot in her right back hip and left front shoulder. That means someone shot her coming and going! She ended up in John and Dorothy Burnstrom's driveway on Shepard Lane in Bishop where she hid under a truck, bleeding and trembling.

Animal Control was called out that Sunday and Officer Nancy Smith picked up the dog for transport to the Inyo County Animal Shelter. Don asked to be notified if no one claimed the dog. As luck would have it, Don's phone rang five days later with the good news that he could adopt the dog he would come to call Rosie, a.k.a. Rosa May.

He didn't have to think twice before traveling to the Animal Shelter in Big Pine and officially making her his dog. But, the

Bay Area Transporter and Animal Shelter Dogwalker

Mammoth resident and part owner of the Movement in Mind Pilates Studio, Sabrina Nioche, is a pretty busy gal, but when she heard that ICARE was looking for volunteers to transport Shelter animals to the Bay Area, she knew she had to sign up. Sabrina used to live in Sebastopol and returns fairly often, so it was a golden opportunity to help animals while visiting old friends.

Because they actually have a shortage of adoptable pets, the Marin and Sonoma Humane Societies are able to take in animals from other overburdened shelters. ICARE has coordinated the Pet Partnership Program between the Inyo County Animal Shelter and the two humane societies since



Sabrina Nioche with her precious cargo

January. To date, a total of 32 Shelter animals have been transferred from Inyo County to the Bay Area. ICARE obtains pre-approval for intake from either Marin or Sonoma, then arranges transport with one of our volunteers to make the long journey.

Sabrina has made the trip four times in the past four months, transporting a total of eighteen Shelter dogs and puppies.

Each time an animal is transferred to the Bay Area, it frees up a kennel for another incoming Inyo Shelter dog. Space equals life! The reality is, when the Animal Shelter is full and a kennel is needed, there are only two ways to make space

available—either adopt out a current occupant or, unfortunately, put it to sleep. Of course, ICARE advocates and promotes the adoption alternative.

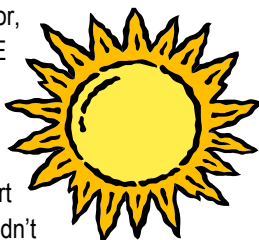
That's why volunteers like Sabrina are such a treasure. Sabrina not only saves the lives of the animals she transports, but she also gives the ones left behind at our Shelter more time to find adoptive homes.

Since becoming active in pet transport to Marin and Sonoma, Sabrina has also added volunteering as a Shelter dogwalker to her already busy schedule. She walks the dogs and also dispenses lots of cuddles and kisses to dogs who have been abandoned through no fault of their own. Sabrina says, "If I can bring some happiness into their lives, if only for a little while, it's the least I can do."

Volunteers are a precious resource to an organization that has no paid employees. If you'd like to help by transporting Shelter animals or by walking Shelter dogs, please call ICARE at 872-3802. 🐾

Vons' "No More Hot Dogs"

Bishop Vons Store Supervisor, **Becky Taylor**, contacted ICARE in May with a lifesaving proposal. She wanted to make airline kennels available in the indoor cart area to provide a "No More Hot Dogs" comfort zone for shoppers' pets, so they wouldn't have to stay behind in the car and overheat. Many people don't realize that temperatures inside a car can soar to 160 degrees even with the windows open. That can be deadly.



ICARE sent out a plea for airline kennel donations and the response was terrific—we were able to provide Vons with several kennels thanks to the generosity of: **Peter DeWitt, Tina Gasperik, Karen Howell, Rene Mead, Nancy Prange, Richard and Lisa Reel, Jennifer Sentovik and Fred Thompson.**

Becky says the program was born of necessity and a love for animals. Over the years she and Store Manager, **Rick Graham**, had seen too many dogs in distress in their parking lot (some even died) and they wanted to end the needless suffering. The good news is shoppers are using the kennels and their pets are able to "chill out" in air-conditioned comfort and even get a bowl of fresh water. We applaud the **Bishop Vons Store** for taking a stand to protect pets. 🐾



ICARE Goes to the Races!

Candi and Bill Ohmer have been drag racing together since 1992. Candi races a 1970 Chevy Nova SS in the street class and Bill races a 1966 Chevy Nova SS in the National Hot Rod Association's Division 7 (California, Arizona and Nevada) and some national events in Super Gas and Super Street classes.

The Ohmers are animal lovers and have three Golden Retrievers, 9-year old Sadie, 8-year old Chevy and 2-year old Axle, who goes to all the drag races with the Ohmers. Bill says, "Axle has quite the fan following of his own!"



Photo submitted

Axle next to race car with the ICARE decal

Candi wanted to show support for ICARE and came up with a "Support ICARE" decal, complete with Axle's

photo, to display on Bill's Chevy Nova.

If you're looking for the decal, you better not blink—this race car can run the

quarter mile in 9.10 seconds at 147 MPH. That's zero to 60 MPH in just 1.68 seconds. You go Bill! 🐾



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
BISHOP, CA
PERMIT NO. 27

The best love stories begin
at our local Animal Shelter.



Adopt a pet & feel the love!

Please recycle and educate –
Share this newsletter with a friend!