



ICARE

News!

Inyo County Animal Resources & Education

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

Stitch Fund Brings Hope to Special Needs Shelter Animals

The ICARE Stitch Fund was established to provide veterinary care for ill or injured Inyo County Shelter animals. Because Inyo County's budget does not provide for "special needs" animals, they were often humanely euthanized. Five years ago ICARE called on our supporters to change all that by donating to the Stitch Fund. Since then, many Shelter animals have received lifesaving veterinary care and found happy endings with their adoptive families. Following are just a few stories from this past year.

Earl is a handsome Catahoula Leopard Dog who was found lying under a tree in a remote area in Big Pine. He was very weak and couldn't move because of a severely injured left back leg. Inyo County Animal Services took him to the Bishop Vet Hospital where his leg had to be amputated



The Johnsons with Babe (Daisy)



Trina and the grateful Earl

(\$1,250). He was adopted by Trina Jennison of Crowley Lake. Earl goes to the office every day with Trina's husband, Greg, at Neubauer-Jennison in Mammoth Lakes. He loves hanging out with the other "office dogs." Trina remembers the day Earl discovered he could run with three legs—he ran and ran and didn't ever want to stop. And she adds, "let me tell you, he's fast!"

Babe is a super sweet Lab mix who was dumped at the Shelter in March, along with her puppies. Her left front leg had been broken in two places sometime during her pregnancy and was left untreated and healed incorrectly. This poor dog had to nurse a litter of puppies with a badly broken leg. ICARE knew we had to give her a fighting chance to live a normal life where she could run and play

again. She was sent to the Veterinary Specialists in Reno where Dr. Pelsue rebuilt her leg for a reduced fee of \$1,637. Once she recovered, Babe was adopted by Scott and Margo Johnson of Bishop and renamed "Daisy." The entire family (including daughter Megan and son Sam) are

thoroughly enjoying their first family dog and tell us she is simply the best!

Duchess is a Lab mix who had a hard life before ending up at the Animal Shelter at the age of nine. She had been in and out of the Shelter as a stray from the time she was a youngster. She had a chronic ear infection and neighbors tried to help the owner, a single mom, by taking Duchess to the vet. Duchess ended up at the Shelter again this year when the owner gave her up. We were saddened to see that her medical needs had continued to be untreated. Her ears were still infected and she had a swollen mammary gland. The Stitch Fund paid for Duchess to have necessary bloodwork, biopsy her mammary gland (benign), and have her ears cleaned and treated

(\$413). She was adopted by twin sisters, Jeanette and Joanne Schneider, after they met her at an adoption event and fell for her sweet disposition and hard luck story. The Schneider sisters have three other dogs, Bodie, Luke and Kodiak, all Labrador Retrievers, and thought Duchess would be a good fit with the pack. They



Joanne and Jeanette love Duchess

were right! Duchess (who was renamed "Nubbin" because of her docked tail) hit the hiking trail with Jeanette, Joanne and the other dogs from day one. It was as if she were getting to be a real dog for the first time in her life. She is the picture of health and happiness these days and is much-loved and spoiled, just like the rest of the Schneiders' dogs!

Tiny Tim is a handsome jet black cat who was minding his own business when someone maliciously shot him in his right back leg shattering his thigh bone. A kindhearted person found the injured cat and turned him over to Inyo County Animal Services. When his owner



couldn't be located, ICARE offered to pay for Tiny Tim's vet care through our Stitch Fund (\$657). Tiny Tim had to wear a cast while his thigh bone healed. He finally decided he wasn't wearing that cast another minute and

wiggled right out of it! After several weeks of cage rest, he was adopted by Donny and Hayley Carter of Independence. He joined their other cat, Bubbles, and 2-½ year old son, Julian. They call him "Timmay" after the character in the South Park cartoon and say he is doing great, jumping up on furniture and letting Bubbles know there's a new top cat in the house!



Shayna is a docile 1-year old Siberian Husky who was hit by a car in October of 2006 and injured her right front leg, but, sadly, her owner never took her to the vet! (see *Stitch Fund*, Page 3) hobbling around with her bad leg. She was finally turned over to Inyo County and the ICARE Stitch Fund immediately paid for her vet care, which included the amputation of the now useless leg.

Shayna was adopted by Alison and Mike Daniel of Bakersfield when they were vacationing in Mammoth Lakes and read

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CONTACT ICARE

Phone: 760-872-3802

e-mail:

Lisa@ICAREforPets.com

NEWSLETTER

Design & photos by:

Lisa & Ted Schade

WEB SITE

www.ICAREforPets.org

Design by: Lisa Schade

Message from the President, Ted Schade:

Working Together for the Eastern Sierra's Cats and Dogs

One easy way to measure ICARE's success is by looking at the year-end Animal Shelter statistics provided by Inyo County Animal Services. These stats show whether we are succeeding in our goal of lowering pet over-population through our Low-Cost Spay/Neuter Program. A good indicator is the number of cats and dogs impounded at the Shelter. This past year that number was at an **all time low of just 579 cats and dogs impounded** (compared to 1,164 in 1995 or a **50% decrease**). Fewer animals born mean fewer unwanted animals. Since 1998, ICARE has provided low-cost spay/neuter surgeries for almost 6,000 cats and dogs in need. That's a lot of litters that weren't born because of this valuable program.



As the primary promoter of Shelter animals (through our web site, radio and newspaper ads), another marker of our success is the number of animals adopted from the Inyo County Shelter. **Adoptions have risen a dramatic 280%** over the past decade with a mere 82 animals adopted in 1996 compared to a whopping 311 animals adopted in 2007. Check out ICARE's new web

site (designed and maintained by my wife, Lisa) for up-to-date photos of dogs and cats available for adoption at the Animal Shelter at **www.ICAREforPets.org**.

But, most importantly, the main goal of all of our animal welfare programs is to lower the number of cats and dogs euthanized at the Inyo County Animal Shelter. I'm happy to

report that this past year ended in a **record-breaking low for euthanasias at the Inyo County Animal Shelter**, with only 82 cats and dogs put to sleep in 2007 versus 970 in 1996. That's an incredible **92% reduction**! Of course, we believe that one is too many and will continue to work until that number is zero.

You, our donors and partners, are responsible for these successes because our programs are funded through your generosity and belief in us. We appreciate you and are proud of how far we've come by working together to improve life for companion animals of the Eastern Sierra! 🐾

Thank you for your Donations:

[\$25 or more listed]

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Some Things are Just Meant to Be by Lisa Schade

In August 2004, a trembling Pointer mix, called Little Sis, was brought to the vet's office with a gunshot wound to her shoulder. The owner gave her up and the ICARE Stitch Fund paid for the surgery. Ted and Lisa Schade fostered Little Sis until an adopter was found in the Bay Area. It just so happened that Pam Pasotti of Bishop was headed there in September and offered to transport Little Sis to her new home. The adoptive family renamed her Misty and sent the Schades e-mail updates. The happy updates and photos were shared with Pam, who had grown fond of her traveling buddy and often thought of her.

Five months later, Misty's family called to say they could no longer keep her and returned her to the Schades. Lisa thought of Pam and wondered if she would like to make Misty a member of her family. Pam was intrigued by the proposal, but initially reluctant because of the two elderly cats living with her and Tom. How would



Misty with Pam Pasotti and Tom Mallonee

Misty and the cats get along? Besides, it had been nearly 20 years since they had shared their home with a dog. Their concerns turned out to be unfounded and, in no time at all, Misty had been accepted by the cats.

Pam and Tom can't imagine their lives

without the irrepressible Misty. She is a source of constant joy as she races like the wind around their back yard pond or along a mountain trail. She's smart, too! Pam taught her all the basics, plus lots of cool tricks, like get the mail, take a nap, etc. There's no denying Misty is where she belongs with two caring people who adore her. Tom says, "A friend nicknamed her 'Happiness' and that says it all."

This past summer, Pam received one of ICARE's weekly e-mails promoting Shelter pets for adoption when she found herself looking into the round, green eyes of Jillian, a big orange tabby cat. The cat had been trapped and turned into the Shelter as feral. But Shelter staff quickly realized that beneath the matted fur was a

sweet adoptable cat. There was just one catch—Jillian was competing with a cat room full of cute little fluffball kitties and she may as well have been invisible! Pam believed she deserved a chance, so she and Tom brought Jillian home and gave her a new name, Emma. Introductions to the other pets began by placing Emma in a travel carrier and allowing Misty and their cat, Tyler, to meet the newcomer without any fireworks. In just a few days, the travel carrier door was opened and Emma got to meet Misty and Tyler face-to-face. Tyler hissed a few times, but Misty readily accepted her and they've all become friends. Emma even shares her mouse squeaker-toys with Misty! Emma is Pam's shadow, never far from her sight, lounging in a cozy bed on Pam's home office desk.

It's clear that Misty and Emma have

brought Tom and Pam much joy. Pam says, "You just open your heart, and all kinds of good things start happening." 🐾



T. Mallonee

Stitch Fund (continued from Page 1)

To add insult to injury, they bred her and she had puppies in April 2007, all the while hobbling around on her bad leg. She was finally turned over to Inyo County and the ICARE Stitch Fund paid for her leg amputation (\$910).



Shayna "before" and "after".... much happier!

Shayna (new name Sierra) was adopted by Alison and Mike Daniel of Bakersfield. They were in Mammoth Lakes when they read her heartbreaking story in the *Mammoth Times* newspaper. Alison reports that Sierra has the best temperament of any dog they've owned; she loves to ride in the car and is a great traveler. Alison adds, "We are very thankful to ICARE for giving special needs animals a second chance." 🐾

Who is that cute puppy shown on your posters and advertisements? That's a question we hear a lot and we thought it was time to play "catch up with that pup!" He was turned over to the Inyo County Animal Shelter in June of 2000, along with his mom and littermates. He was the last puppy from the litter when Dr. Eric Richman saw that now famous face in an adoption promotion e-mail from ICARE. Eric's son, Owen, had a bright idea to send that e-mail to his grandpa and grandma, Paul and Carol Richman.

They were living in San Diego and had lost their German Shepherd mix to old age and the house was very empty without him. They were captivated by the



puppy in the photo and knew it was time to bring him home! They instantly fell in love with the little butterball and named him "Luke." Paul and Carol

moved to Bishop four years ago and they enjoy taking Luke for his daily neighborhood walks, but Luke's favorite outings include hikes in the

mountains and romps alongside the canals. He is very well behaved, although somewhat exuberant when greeting guests. The Richmans get a kick out of seeing Luke's puppy picture on donation cans and posters around town and believe he's fulfilled his puppy promise as ICARE's mascot. 🐾



ICARE Mascot Pup all Grown Up!

ICARE T-Shirts!



Shirt front



**Inyo County Animal
Resources & Education**
www.InyoPets.org

Shirt back

Colors: PINK in sizes: S, M, L
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Your Donations Help Animals!



Here's a look at how your donations to ICARE helped pets in need in 2007. We're proud to say that our programs are supported by you, our members and donors. We receive no government funding. We're also proud of the fact that **ICARE has no paid employees** and no office rental fees (ICARE's office space is donated). Total program expenditures for 2007 were \$44,057.

🐾 The **Spay/Neuter Program** is our main focus accounting for 69% or \$30,471 spent last year on sterilizing 815 cats and dogs. Since 1998, the Spay/Neuter Program has helped sterilize 6,000 cats and dogs!

🐾 **Adoption promotion of Shelter animals** accounted for 5% (\$2,181) of our program expenditures in 2007. Thanks to the *Inyo Register*, *Mammoth Times*, KSRW Radio, TV Channel 33 for featuring "Shelter Pets of the Week" at no charge! KIBS ads are co-sponsored by Taco Bell and ICARE.

🐾 The **Stitch Fund** paid for veterinary care for eleven

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Misty says, "The folks at ICARE are helping lots of cats & dogs. Look inside this terrific issue!"



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