

## Fall 2008

*Helping Animals*

*Helping People*

*Helping the  
Community*

*For over 100 Years  
1907-2008*

### Hours:

Monday-Friday 10am-5pm  
Saturday 10am-4pm

115 Featherbed Lane  
Winchester, VA 22601

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**SPCA - Society for the Prevention  
of Cruelty to Animals**

Serving the City of Winchester,  
Frederick & Clarke Counties

## O.H. S.N.A.P.



The Winchester S.P.C.A. Has kicked off a new program. It is O.H. S.N.A.P. or Others Helping Spay Neuter Action Program. For many years the Winchester SPCA has been dealing with the ongoing challenge of finding homes for unwanted pets. There have been times when some hard and unpleasant decisions have been made. Currently the shelter gives a \$45 coupon towards getting the adopted animal spay/neutered. Unfortunately we do not get 100% compliance with the coupons. This then requires costly

follow up procedures to be used. The plan for the shelter is that by the latter part of 2008 we will spay and neuter all animals before they are adopted. This is where O.H. S.N.A.P. comes in. It is a program where people can donate funds to go towards the spaying or neutering of a dog or cat. \$85 would cover the cost of sterilizing a specific animal. By sponsoring an animal of your choice you become a direct party in helping control the pet population and improving the chances of that animal getting adopted.

We also provide the opportunity for you to make a donation to O.H. S.N.A.P. for any amount. When you make a donation just inform the staff you want it used for O.H. S.N.A.P.

It takes a lot of funds to start this policy of altering all the animals. This is why we have started O.H. S.N.A.P. People can donate to this cause and play a huge role in helping to control the pet population. Tell all your friends and help us help the pet overpopulation problem.

## *We Honor Our Young Animal Lovers*

There were several young animal lovers that we want to recognize who went above and beyond to help the SPCA. Meghan Hammond, Hannah Milhon, Hazel Glenn, Emily Ringe (who ran a lemonade stand), Erin Jackson (who received donation in lieu of birthday gifts), Abigail Glover (who raised money), Kelly

Rittelmeyer, Adrienne Kosenko, Lizzy Beaudoin, Dannah Lohr, Jolie & Joshua Call, Marah Aulabaugh, Grace Baggett, John Sarr, and Ryan Swisher who held a bake sale at the SPCA. What a wonderful example these young people are to the community. The S.P.C.A. will always be grateful for their willingness to help.

# A Message From the Board: SPCA THRIFT SHOP NEWS

by Kate White

When I joined the SPCA Board of Directors in 2006, my goal was to help the SPCA open their own thrift shop. A year and a half later, on December 1, 2007, the SPCA Thrift Shop held its Grand Opening and we've been going strong for 9 months now. Because I'm employed by the SPCA as the store manager, I am an ex officio member of the Board only, but I still attend the monthly meetings with the fantastic group of animal lovers who comprise the Board of Directors.

Having gone to these meetings for over 2 years now, I can tell you that most of the discussions always revolve around raising money. All non-profit organizations have difficulty making ends meet in the most prosperous of times; when economic downturns require that consumers tighten their belts, charitable giving suffers first and most. But the SPCA of Winchester, Frederick, and Clarke Counties - unlike many charitable non-profit organizations - does not make donation appeals through mass-mailing requests or, worse, telemarketing. We make our money the old-fashioned way: we earn it. We receive an annual stipend from the City of Winchester which pays for a small percentage of the cost of the work we do for animal con-

trol. We make some money from adoption fees - but that often doesn't even cover the cost of food for the animals while they have been in our care. We also make money on annual shelter memberships and retail sales of t-shirts, caps, etc. But we depend on our fund-raising activities - which include Diva Night, Paw Fest, Thunder and Lightning (the Harley-Davidson show) and, this year, a night at the Winchester Little Theater's production of "It's a Wonderful Life" - for most of the money that keeps our SPCA operating to shelter, protect, and care for the homeless animals in our community. And now we have a thrift store!

The wonderful thing about organizations such as ours is that you have the ability and opportunity to help us even if you have no money to give. Because you can help us MAKE money. Your time, your energy, your creative talent can all translate into dollars for the care of our animals.

FOR INSTANCE: Our thrift store will be moving from 501 S. Cameron Street to 2225 Valley Avenue in October. We need help setting up the new shop and moving all of our fabulous merchandise to the new location. The store always need volunteers to help sort, price, and display

merchandise. We have openings in almost all departments: women's clothing, men's clothing, children's clothing, books, linens, furniture, housewares, and others. We could benefit greatly from someone with the expertise and willingness to sell some of our better donations on E-Bay. Sometimes, just trucking trash to the landfill can greatly facilitate the efficiency of our operations. An extra dumpster pick-up costs us \$75! If you are short on time as well as money, there are still so many things you can do. You can donate items to our store for sale. You can spread the word about our store to your friends, family, and co-workers. Best of all, you can shop at our thrift store. Since we have a more diverse selection of good-quality, gently-used merchandise than any store AND lower prices than even the big-box stores you can buy almost everything you need for pennies on the dollar.

Everyone wins, not least of all, the furry-faced animals in our care. Please help us help them. And please consider adopting a homeless animal. It will cost you a little bit of money for the adoption fee, veterinary care, and for food. But who said money can't buy love? If you have love to give in return, you'll never make a better investment.

## H.A.L.L. of Fame Award Giving to Ramsey and Susan Sa'Di

For several years now Ramsey and Susan Sa'Di have been very active in working with Siamese rescue and the SPCA to help find loving homes for Siamese cats. They sacrificed much time and effort to fulfill their goal of finding homes for these cats. Ramsey and Susan also own and operate Winchester Business Services, on Featherbed Lane. On numerous occasions in the past they have made donations to SPCA fund raisers in order to help us raise money. The Winchester SPCA is honored to be able to recognize Ramsey And Susan for all they do with the H.A.L.L. of Fame Award.

## 3rd Annual First Bank Paw Fest Scheduled for September

September 27th will be the date for this year's First Bank Paw Fest. This year should be even better. As always we will have games for the kids, contests for your pets, the rat race (that's right we are asking you to join the rat race), food, music, vendors and other non-profit organizations. As always we will be having the best dressed contest for pets. This is a great event for families and pets. Bring your kids, dogs, cats or whatever you have to be a part of the fun. This year we will have an O.H. S.N.A.P. Junk car to smash. You can take a swing at the car with a sledge hammer for \$1 or 6 swings for \$5. All the money raised will go to O.H. S.N.A.P.

We will also have our ribbon cutting ceremony for the new dog run and storage barn. The shelter has built a 40 X100 fenced in dog run. This run gives the dogs a great chance to get out and exercise. It is also a wonderful place for volunteers and potential adopters to interact with the dogs off leash.

The storage barn is a 12 X 24 two story building. It is a central place to keep our supplies and equipment. Both of these additions have been long in coming to make our shelter better and more efficient.

So come out and be a part of the celebration. It is a day you do not want to miss!!!!

# Welcome New Board Members

At the last annual May meeting three new members were elected to the SPCA board. They are Robin Casey, Dale Nichols and Karen Schmitt.

Karen Schmitt has lived in Winchester since 1993 having moved from her hometown of Columbus, Ohio. She attended Ohio State University and graduated from Columbus Business University. Her husband is a retired plant manager from Federal Mogul. They have three daughters all living west of the Mississippi. They are all professional women; one a lawyer, one a civil engineer and one a Social Worker. While the girls were growing up, Karen was a stay at home mom doing all the usual "mom" things, i.e. room mother, scout leader, choir mother, etc. along with various volunteer activities. After their daughters were raised, She resumed her career as an administrative assistant.

After moving to Winchester, She once again became very involved

in volunteering. Karen presently volunteers at the Free Medical Clinic, the Hurst House at WMC and at Grace Lutheran Church. She is an active member of the church as well as Quota, International. Pets have always been a very important part of her life and can't imagine what it would be like not to have one. Consequently, she has ended up here at the SPCA and we are glad to have her.

Dale Anderson Nichols was Born and raised in Winchester. She is married to Gary S. Nichols, founder/owner of The Winchester Group and has two sons. The oldest is Jeremy who is a Financial adviser with Smith Barney in Old Town Alexandria and is married to a local girl, Cassey Moulton Nichols. Her youngest son is Clint Nichols, who just left the employment of Senator John Warner and is now working on the John McCain Campaign as an Advance. Previously, Dale lived for 6 years in Virginia Beach where She worked as a Closing Assistant

to attorneys and sold real estate. Since returning to Winchester she founded The Apple Tree Clubhouse Day Care and After School Center at Bethel Lutheran Church 25 years ago, and sold real estate briefly before deciding to stay at home with her sons. She is once again activating her real estate license and will be joining Long & Foster/Webber and Associates this month. She has been involved previously on a volunteer basis with her church, Bethel Lutheran, Apple Blossom Festival, Hospital Follies, Winchester Hospital Auxiliary, Habitat for Humanity, Preservation of Historic Winchester, SPCA, Preserve Frederick, Kids Are Our Concern, and other area charities/non-profits. She and her husband Gary live with their two golden retrievers, Dexter who is 12 and Nicki who is 6 (adopted from a Golden Retriever Rescue) in Middletown. She been a lifelong animal lover and had many dogs, a few cats and her beloved horses when she was younger.

## What Do We Need?

Many times people ask us at the SPCA, "besides money what do you need?" We have printed up a list of items that we need on a daily basis. They include: cat litter, dry or canned cat or kitten food, dry or canned dog or puppy food, Pine Sol, liquid dish detergent, laundry detergent, bleach, any other cleaning supplies, blankets, towels, sheets, cat toys, dog toys, rawhides, and dog treats. If you have the opportunity to pick up some of these items we could always use them. Rather than throw out those old blankets, towels or sheets, bring them to the shelter. They make great beds for the animals.

## Other Upcoming Events We Want You To Know About

On September 7, 2008 the Virginia Federation of Humane Societies and Virginians for Animal Welfare are having a legislative forum. It will be held at Shenandoah University in Halpin-Harrison Hall from 11:00 A.M. until 1:00 P.M. The purpose of the meeting is to review the legislative successes in the last year and what still needs to be addressed this upcoming year in animal welfare. If you would like more information contact Lillian Clancy at 540-253-5309 or [isclancy@crosslink.net](mailto:isclancy@crosslink.net).

To help kick off the First Bank Paw Fest on September 27, 2008 Sour Higher, a Shenandoah University animal welfare club, will host a 5K run/walk. Registration will be at 7:30 A.M. And the run starts at 8:00 A.M. It should be over before the Paw Fest starts. There is a \$10 registration fee which will help the Winchester SPCA. So come out and get in a good run and then come over to the Paw Fest and have an ice cream.

# The Second Annual Grove's Harley-Davidson Thunder Meets Lightning

This year's Grove's Harley-Davidson Thunder Meets Lightning was on July 26th. What a great time it was! There was so much going on. The Shenandoah Corvette Club returned again with several beautiful cars. There was also the Dale Earnhardt Jr. Corvette. Additionally there were barstool races, Incredible Flying Objects jugglers, tropical water slide, patch sewing, hot dog eating contest (won by the SPCA'S own Ken Fisher), raffles and new this year was a hot air balloon ride. The band Animal Planet provided the music. It was another great success and help raise a lot of funds for the shelter. We cannot thank Barbara Grove and the staff at Grove's Winchester Harley-Davidson/Buell enough for their continued support of the SPCA.



## The Current Board of Directors

Robert Bonometti – President  
 Bunny Jackson – Vice President  
 Jennifer Green – Secretary  
 Steve Shoffan – Treasurer  
 Lisa Bridgforth, Robin Casey, Marsha Genthner, Libby Ingham, Lenny Millholland, Dale Nichols, Bill Peterson, Karen Schmitt, Dave Sobczynski, Margie Sobczynski, John Trueblood and Lynn Unger completes the current board.

## The Current SPCA Staff

William Wood – Executive Director  
 Margo Bach – Office Manager  
 Ken Fisher – Kennel Manager  
 Della Shepherd – Office Assistant  
 Karen Carnahan – Kennel Attendant  
 Rebekah Abrell – Kennel Attendant  
 Joe Sturdivant – Kennel Attendant  
 Laura Alger – Kennel Attendant

115 Featherbed Lane  
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**SPCA**



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