



## Greetings to Our Paws-itive Friends

As this newsletter is being written, it's cold

and snowy outside, but Paws-itive Partners Humane Society sends warm greetings to our friends. We hope your New Year has started out well. Paws-itive Partners had a very busy 2008 and we look forward to an even busier 2009. When we are busy that means animals are being helped. Paws-itive Partners is 10 years old now. We remain committed to our motto, "Working together to do for animals what they cannot do for themselves."

## 2008 STATISTICS

The past year has been a productive one for Paws-itive Partners as we have been called upon to help North Platte area's animals more than ever before. We have paid to spay/neuter, driven animals to rescue organizations, taken in foster dogs and cats and paid for emergency veterinary care.

In 2008, PPHS helped spay or neuter 173 animals! That's 59 cats and 114 dogs that won't have unwanted litters. Puppies and kittens are adorable but there are too many of them and many never have a home of their own. Besides stopping over-population, spayed and neutered animals are healthier animals and have a longer life span.

Last year, Paws-itive Partners' expenses were greater than our income, but that's not all bad news. On the "pawsitive" side, it means we were able to help a lot of animals in the North Platte area.

## WOOFSTOCK

Paws-itive Partners isn't all about hard work. We have a lot of fun too! The first Saturday of May, PPHS will host our third annual Woofstock. Woofstock is a take-off on the 1960s Woodstock and is a festival of animal-

theme activities. Woofstock is in Memorial Park on May 2<sup>nd</sup> starting at 9:00 a.m. There will be

lots to eat throughout the day including an early Yappy Hour of cinnamon rolls and coffee, then hamburgers and hot dogs at the Bow Wow BBQ and an ice cream and pie social later. We will have dog contests with prizes, kid's games, Woofstock T-shirts for sale, pet photos, baked items for people and pets, a memorial walk, and more.

If you haven't been to Woofstock before, this is the year to come. Pull on your bell-bottoms and come spend a groovy day in Memorial Park. It's guaranteed fun!

## PAWS-ITIVE KIDS

Paws-itive Kids, a young people's group, meets monthly to talk about animal topics and animal activities. Since the last PPHS newsletter was printed, Paws-itive Kids has gone on field trips, had puppies, kittens and a bat visit, baked treats for the North Platte Animal Shelter and welcomed two Kenyan Sand Boas. We made gifts for the shelter employees for Animal Shelter Appreciation Month and had an animal control officer visit with us about proper pet care.

The young people who have joined Paws-itive Kids range from 5 years to 14 years old. We meet at First United Methodist Church at 7:00 p.m. on the third Wednesday of each month. If you want more information about Paws-itive Kids call 532-8814.

## Christmas Donations

During this economically challenging time, PPHS was especially humbled by people's willingness to give last Christmas season. We received donations in honor of others, anonymous gifts and memorials for 2-legged and 4-legged loved ones. Thank you, everyone, for thinking of Paws-itive Partners. We appreciate your gifts and will spend every dollar carefully and thoughtfully.

## FRIENDS

PPHS was fortunate to be awarded its third grant to help low-income pet owners spay and neuter their dogs. In order to reach the pets in need, we went door to door in low income, high pet population neighborhoods asking pet owners to let Paws-itive Partners help spay/neuter. The veterinary clinics in North Platte and clinics in Sutherland and Arnold have worked with us at a reduced rate to help pet owners. Thank you, veterinarians!

## BE INVOLVED

Sometimes one person can make a big difference. If you see an animal being neglected, please report it right away to law enforcement or an animal control officer. If a person doesn't intervene, nothing will change for the animal that needs help. Abuse and neglect come in many forms, from not being fed or watered, to not having proper shelter to physical mistreatment. Get involved in helping to change local laws and you'll improve the life of an animal.

***Encourage people to unchain dogs. Bring them inside with the family.***

## Earl E. Morgan Estate

Last fall, Paws-itive Partners was notified we were heirs of the Earl E. Morgan estate. Since then, the legalities between the parties have been taking place. It is with gratitude and appreciation that Paws-itive Partners will receive an extremely generous donation from Judge Morgan's estate.

PPHS plans to save most of the Morgan gift to build a badly needed animal sanctuary/shelter someday. While we don't have enough money to start planning the sanctuary/shelter yet, we are excited that this could be the beginning of our dream come true. Paws-itive Partners will save most of the estate for the future, but we also plans to use some of the gift to help animals. We will be able to help more cats and dogs than ever; we will continue our spay/neuter program and continue helping low-income people faced with emergency veterinary needs.

**Thank you for supporting Paws-itive Partners!**