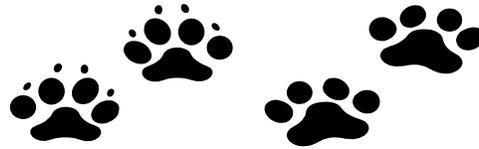




PAWS FOR A WHILE...



Spring 2009

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

Adoption Discovery Day
Upcoming Events
In Loving Memory
Happy Tails - Frank
Foster Tails
NASAP Foster Home Profile
Feline Leukemia Virus Article
Thank You's

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Charity #
86869-9679-rr0001

NASAP's 1st Annual Adoption Discovery Day at Sadie's K9 Stay & Play

Sadie's K9 Stay & Play (www.sadiesk9stayandplay.com) played host to the first annual NASAP Adoption Discovery Day in support of the Northern Alberta Society for Animal Protection (NASAP) on Saturday, April 4, 2009. This event, promoted by 630 CHED, was held to bring awareness to the ongoing need for NASAP's small animal, cat and dog foster homes, and for new and active NASAP volunteers. All NASAP animals are housed and cared for in volunteer foster homes at no charge to the foster parents. The fostering experience is a rewarding one as it allows people to be directly involved with rescuing a homeless companion animal and getting it started on the road to a better life!

Sadie's provided an excellent venue for our dogs to mingle and play, and for our cats to gain exposure beyond their pictures and bios on NASAP's website (www.nasap.ca). Turnout for the event was excellent! Several former NASAP adopters and their pets dropped by to enjoy the fun and festivities. Many new potential adopters also stopped by, anxious to meet new forever family members. New volunteers and foster homes filled out application forms, eager to become part of team NASAP.

The event was a resounding success and a couple of our cats were adopted out to great new forever homes! NASAP also raised funds through sale of hotdogs, drinks and NASAP merchandise and clothing. The silent auction included many great gifts donated by our partners and supporters (including Sadie's) and was instrumental toward raising funds for veterinary care, supplies and food.

NASAP would like to whole-heartedly thank Sadie's for hosting this event and playing an important role in its planning and success. We look forward to future events at Sadie's where we hope to continue to support the causes of animal rescue and responsible pet ownership. The first annual adoption discovery day was a great success, however the need for active foster homes, volunteers and donations towards care of NASAP animals is ongoing. If you are interested in further information about fostering or volunteering, or if you are interested in adopting a NASAP animal, please visit our website at www.nasap.ca.





NORTHERN ALBERTA SOCIETY
for **ANIMAL PROTECTION**

PRESENTS

Dog Wash Day

Saturday June 20th 11am-3pm

It's time to come out and polish that pooch!
We supply the water you supply the fun....& the dog.

\$10.00 per dog (basic wash)

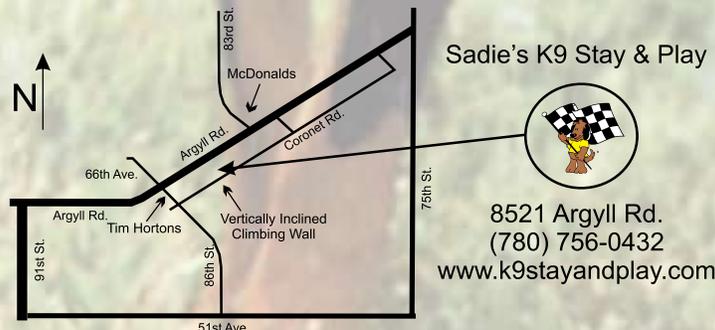
**All donations go toward the support of
NASAP and their programs.**

Also Join Us For...

- NASAP Animals On-site to Meet & Greet
- Hot Dog & Pop, \$2.00ea With Proceeds To NASAP



On Location @



Sadie's K9 Stay & Play
8521 Argyll Rd.
(780) 756-0432
www.k9stayandplay.com

Easy Access From Both Argyll & Coronet Roads

2009 SILENT AUCTION FUNDRAISER

Dear NASAP Supporter,

Last year's silent auction fundraiser was a tremendous success with over \$6000 raised to help homeless animals in Northern Alberta. NASAP is pleased to announce that we are planning a silent auction event again this year! The auction will take place on Saturday, September 19, 2009 (at a location yet to be determined). We are very excited about this opportunity and hope you can help us make it another success!

Our deepest appreciation to you for considering a donation toward our upcoming silent auction! If you would like to help NASAP with the work we do, please complete the attached donation form and return it to NASAP (via email or regular mail) in order to contribute to this special event. We will gladly accept new items, donations of services, gift packages, gift certificates or monetary contributions. Please include a small package of business cards/pamphlets for display beside your donation during the course of the silent auction.

If you are interested, we will provide you with a poster about NASAP and the work that we do. If you feel it is appropriate, please hang this poster in your employee areas, or even on the front door for all to see! We are always very grateful for any assistance in getting our word out to the world.

We appreciate your time and attention to these matters. If you have any questions, please contact NASAP directly at admin@nasap.ca or (780) 922-0250. We look forward to hearing from you, and thank you once again!

NASAP is an animal rescue organization dedicated to rescuing and rehoming abandoned and abused animals in Edmonton and its surrounding areas. Since its inception in 1997, NASAP has successfully found new homes for **over 4900 pets. We actively practice and promote spay and neuter of adoptable animals, and we are dedicated to reducing the use of euthanasia as a means to control pet overpopulation.*

Warmest regards,

Geneieve Horvath-Strikwerda

President

Jennifer Graydon

Secretary

On behalf of the NASAP Board of Directors and the NASAP Fundraising Committee

PO Box 79016, 1020 Sherwood Drive

Sherwood Park, AB T8A 2G4

Phone: 780.922.0250

Fax: 780.490.7261

Charity# 86869-9679-RR0001

www.nasap.ca

SILENT AUCTION ITEM DONATION FORM

Your name:

The name of the donor (i.e. company name, or if different from the above):

Mailing address (for tax receipts, etc.):

Telephone number (include area code):

Fax number (include area code):

Email address:

Website address (if applicable):

I/We would like to donate (if you are donating an item or service, please include the monetary value of the item you wish to donate):

**NASAP volunteers may contact you to discuss your donation further, make pick-up or delivery arrangements, etc.*

**We will gladly accept electronic return of this donation form; please just include all of the above information and submit the email to admin@nasap.ca. If you are returning the form through regular mail or via fax, please use the information below.*

P.O. Box 79016, 1020 Sherwood Drive

Sherwood Park, AB T8A 2G4

Phone: (780) 922-0250

Fax: (780) 490-7261

Charity# 86869-9679-RR0001

Thank you very much for your consideration and support. It means the world to the homeless animals that NASAP is able to rescue. The members, volunteers, and directors that make up this organization deeply appreciate your generosity.



NORTHERN ALBERTA SOCIETY
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In Loving Memory: Autumn

One fall day in 2008, two of NASAP's volunteers decided to go and check out the new Beaumont pound. They had heard that there was a kitty there in very rough shape. When they arrived they met Autumn, a kitty that had been trapped near Beaumont approximately two weeks earlier. She was quite a sight indeed! Her long black fur had been so matted that it had to be shaved from her back. She also had an old wound on her side that was healing. Her ears were misshapen and hard from chronic infections. Plus her ears were full of mites which made her terribly itchy and uncomfortable. Worst of all, Autumn was horribly emaciated. It was unbelievable to the volunteers that she was still alive at only 2.3 kg. Upon getting approval to bring her into care, Autumn was moved to foster care.

She completed her first vet visit and it was determined that Autumn was a very elderly cat. She received revolution to treat her ear mites and blood was taken to figure out whether her terrible state was due to starvation or an underlying medical condition related to her age. Results of the blood tests showed that she was suffering from kidney disease, hyperthyroidism and anemia. She received medication and underwent further testing to help stabilize her condition.

Autumn was comfortable and happy in her permanent care foster home for five more months before she succumbed to her disease and had to be humanely euthanized on December 29, 2008. We are grateful to have been able to make this elderly cat's last few months full of love and kindness. Her veterinary care would not have been possible without generous donations from our supporters. Thank you very much for helping NASAP care for senior cats like Autumn.



Happy Tails

Frank

As I type this my new best friend Frank is sitting in my lap and alternating between licking and nipping me to entice me to play with him. Frank joined our family on January 10th 2009. He was our first foster kitty from NASAP.

We want to eventually adopt a dog but didn't think that would be a good idea until we moved into a house. So when a work colleague told us NASAP was in desperate need for foster homes for cats we thought this was a great opportunity to allow animals back into our lives.

We were warned that it can be emotionally difficult to be a foster family and it's hardest to give the first one up. As soon as Jenny dropped him off we knew we were in trouble. A cute and inquisitive kitten started to roam around and check out his surroundings eagerly. Why couldn't they have dropped off a fully grown tom cat with a torn ear, scruffy coat and mangled tail?

He proved himself to be a clever little guy right away. Within 5 minutes he had claimed the litter box as his own and had figured out where his food was kept. He took to us right away, sleeping in bed with us the first night. His favourite spot was to sleep around your neck or on top of your head.

For all his adorable 5 month old qualities poor little Frank hadn't led a charmed life. He was suffering terribly from an upper respiratory infection. That first few weeks no one got any sleep. Frank was prone to violent sneezing fits that would shake his entire body and spray bloody mucus for miles. He was quite ill for a couple of months, but with some TLC from us and fantastic care by the staff at Calgary Trail Pet Hospital he pulled through and seems to be symptom free. He may always have some damage to his nasal passage, which causes him to snore when he sleeps, but it certainly hasn't slowed him down.

It's hard to believe a mere four months ago he was a very quiet and timid little guy that barely played and would pant if he tried to run. He is a healthy, active and mischievous 9 month old – perfectly normal – and driving us crazy! He is a very affectionate little guy. He loves his "peeps". He welcomes us home with our



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for **ANIMAL PROTECTION**



Frank (con't)

own unique greeting call, happily follows us around the house "helping" with chores all day long, gives kisses and head butts when he is happy and loves to nap on you in the afternoons. He is living an enviable cat life – as he deserves.

We believe that we didn't choose Frank, he chose us. We like to joke that just like Sinatra ... he did it his way ... and we are all very content with the results.

Written by Jayne Custance, Frank's new adoptive parent.



Foster Tails

Diesel

We first met Diesel (originally Bert) at about 7 weeks of age. He came in with his brother, and we named them Ernie and Bert. The two were strays that had been found wandering on their own. Both pups were adopted to great homes. Two years went by before Diesel's family found themselves in a position where they just could no longer keep him. After passing our evaluation and with good vet records we happily took Diesel back into foster care and placed him with Hela.

Not long after having Diesel Hela began to notice signs of pain in his back end. She noticed he had a hard time on the stairs and would become a bit snappy with her other dogs if he was bothered too much by them wanting to play. She felt that Diesel was an awfully calm dog for one still so young.

After a few discussions Nasap decided to have Diesel checked for hip dysplasia. The results were not good. X-

Diesel (con't)

rays showed that poor Diesel had severe dysplasia in both hips and a bad knee on top of it. The vet felt strongly that Diesel was not adoptable. His pain would increase over time and they felt that within 6 months to 2 years he would be in such severe pain that he would likely have to be euthanized. The best that NASAP can do for Diesel is to keep him in a loving foster home where he is kept calm and happy, and is given regular medications to control his pain.



Diesel is a sweet natured dog who will live a loved and happy life in foster care until such time as veterinarians feel he is no longer living comfortably. This is a sad story for us but we are happy to provide the level of care and comfort that this dog deserves until that time.

NASAP Foster Home Profile: Ashley Lee

How long have you been volunteering and fostering for NASAP?

I have been fostering and volunteering for a little over a year and a half and I absolutely love it.

How did you get involved in the first place? How did you hear about NASAP?

My sister who was fostering dogs for NASAP referred me to them when I wanted a cat. I decided that instead of getting my very own cat that I should try fostering, and help provide homeless and unwanted animals with a temporary home until they find their forever family. I decided that it was better to help all the unwanted animals out there. The more foster homes there are the more animals we can help.

What is your favorite part of fostering?

My favorite part of fostering is the adoptions. When the families come over to meet the foster animal and fall in



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for **ANIMAL PROTECTION**

Foster Home Profile (con't)

love instantly you know that you have done something special for that family, as well as their new family member. I also enjoy receiving updates from many of the adopters with pictures and stories that get posted on the Happy Tails section of our website.

What is your most memorable fostering experience?

Every fostering experience is memorable, but the one that I will never forget is when three kittens came into NASAP that were diagnosed with a frequently fatal disease known as Distemper. Unfortunately Marvin passed only a few days later, Petey was quarantined in the vet clinic and Jasmine was in the Emergency for what seemed like forever. Jasmine was finally released to my care requiring bottle feeding and many medications. After many trips to the vet (with NASAP members by her side) Jasmine fully recovered. A few days later Petey was allowed to join his sister; however, Petey was afflicted with Ataxia, which is the neurological effects of Distemper. She lost some use of her hind legs but doesn't suffer any pain. I adopted Petey and Jasmine out together to a wonderful family that love them, and make sure that Petey gets around the house just like a normal cat. That was one of my favorite and most memorable adoptions.

What has been the most challenging aspect of fostering?

Sometimes some of the animals face difficulties integrating themselves into your household. Due to the varied and sometimes tragic situations these animals have endured before coming into care every animal requires a different approach to being looked after. You are rarely going to get perfect animals but with a little patience, effort and love you can give these animals an opportunity at the life they deserve.

In addition to fostering, what other NASAP volunteering activities are you involved with?

I take part in adoption days, which are when some of our animals and volunteers get together and participate in adoptions and fundraising. I assist in setting up for events like The Cat Fancier Show. I also do donation pick-ups, animal transfers and my favorite activity besides fostering is the animal photography. The pictures are then posted on our website and published in the newspapers and the Pet Rescue magazine. It's great

that I can combine two passions together that I love. There are so many different activities you can volunteer for with NASAP. I try to do as much as I can for NASAP because they do so much for the animals.

Would you encourage other people to foster? If so, what can they expect?

I would definitely encourage people to foster, it is an amazing experience. You get to foster so many different animals and each one has their own personality so it is never the same experience. You should only expect what you are willing to handle. NASAP is very accommodating to your needs and always tries to place the right animals with the right foster homes. Just remember to keep an open mind when it comes to fostering, most of our animals are strays. Another thing that you should keep in mind is that you can have an animal anywhere from two days to a year. I had a foster cat for 7 months before she got adopted, it was really hard to let her go after that long of a time but I knew she was going to a really good home and adopting her out opened my home for another unwanted animal. NASAP covers all costs associated with the animals so all you're required to give is your time and affection.

I find fostering very rewarding and if you want any more information on volunteering or fostering please visit us at www.nasap.ca

Ashley is pictured with her horse, Stormy.





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Feline Leukemia Virus & Feline Immunodeficiency Virus

By Angela Hick-Ewing, Animal Health Technologist

What are these two viruses?

Feline leukemia (FeLV) and feline immunodeficiency virus (FIV) are two retroviruses that cats become infected with through contact with other infected cats. A retrovirus means once acquired, the cat is infected for life. These viruses are common in the stray population. It has been reported that as many as 19% of strays can be carriers of one or both of these viruses.

FIV is very much like the AIDS virus in people. It slowly debilitates the cat so that it no longer has a working immune system. Cats with FIV are more susceptible to common problems such as dental disease, tumors, eye disease, disorders of the nervous system, blood disorders, or kidney disease. They also have a much more difficult time recovering from illness.

FeLV is a virus that attacks the body causing multiple diseases. FeLV cats can develop different types of cancer, blood diseases, infertility, and disorders of the nervous system. They tend to have weak immune systems and much more susceptible to other viruses or bacterial infections. A FeLV positive cat also has a much longer recover time from illness.

How does my cat catch one of these viruses?

Both viruses can be spread through saliva and blood, hence, stray cats or cats that roam and fight are at higher risk. FeLV can also be shared through mutual grooming of cats and sharing of dishes. Kittens born to an infected mother (queen) may contract the disease prior to birth. A kitten is more likely to contract FeLV than an adult cat, because kittens have a developing immune system and cannot fight off the infection. FeLV can sometimes be cleared by the cat at the time of initial exposure. What this means is a percentage of cats exposed to FeLV have the ability to wall the virus and then clear the virus from their body. These animals will test positive initially then 1-2 months later test negative. Until testing negative they still need to be isolated from all other cats as they likely are shedding the virus.

What can I do to prevent FeLV and FIV?

Keeping your cat indoors is the best method of prevention. By keeping your cat indoors not only do you avoid the risk of it being hit by a car, animal attacks, poisoning and other such fates, you also avoid these two viruses. For farm cats or cats that routinely go outside a vaccine is available to help prevent contraction of this disease. This vaccine is helpful in prevention and does not cross react with any clinical testing to screen for the virus.

FIV is not so easy to prevent in outdoor cats. The vaccine that is available to prevent FIV is not able to be tested for how efficient it truly is. Another problem is once vaccinated the cat will always test positive and there is no way of differentiating between the vaccinated cats and true FIV infected cats. Should you choose to vaccinate for FIV then your cat should also be micro chipped, and it be imperative that you keep all your information current with the microchip provider. By doing this a FIV vaccinated cat is not handed an automatic death sentence should it ever be impounded and then tested when its hold time at the pound is complete. A microchip marks the animal as owned and means the cat is returned to its owner faster, providing all owner information is current and up to date with the microchip company.



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How can I tell if my cat has FeLV or FIV?

Unless your cat is ill, you cannot tell which cats are infected with FeLV/FIV and which are not. By doing a simple blood test in clinic we can have fast results that will tell us if your cat is positive for one or both of these viruses.

Which cats should be tested?

Any cat that has an unknown vaccine or medical history, any cat that has been a stray or out side at some point in its life, any cat that has been in contact with a known carrier of FeLV or FIV, any cat being treated for bite wound abscess, or any cat that is suffering from illness (whether it has been previously tested before or not) should be tested. Owners who have cats that go outside regularly should discuss with their veterinarian about doing a yearly screening blood test for FeLV or FIV.

What do I do if my cat tests positive for FeLV or FIV?

If your cat tests positive for FeLV do not panic. As stated earlier, a percentage of cats can actually fight off the virus and win. Cats that test positive should be isolated from all other cats and kept indoors and then retested in 8-10 weeks to see if the virus is still producing antibodies in the body.

If a cat is FIV positive it is unfortunately positive for life. It must be kept indoors and away from other cats. It is important with these pets to keep vaccinations up to date as these cats are immunocompromised. Any sign of potential illness should be addressed immediately as these cats can succumb to more diseases than our typical feline companions. Raw diets should be avoided in these cats as they constantly bombard the cat's immune system with e-coli, salmonella, and parasites. Life expectancy on FIV positive cats can be quite long (5 years or more) with regular medical checks and proper care.

Persistently positive FeLV cats need to be treated the same as a FIV positive cat for all the same reasons. FeLV positive cats can also have long lives when proper care and management is practiced.

References:

Dr. Susan Little DVM, DABVP (feline) 2007

American Association of Feline Practitioners 2005 report

Merk Veterinary Manual Eighth Edition 1998, pgs 555, 586

Thank You's

NASAP would like to sincerely thank:

Ken Kendall for his generous donations of cat litter,

Maggie from Capable Canines for her valuable input on canine behavioral problem cases, and

Jill Coursen from Pet Photography for her beautiful pictures including those of Autum and Ashley.

