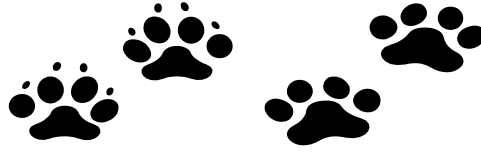




PAWS FOR A WHILE...



Fall 2010

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Charity #
86869-9679-rr0001

NASAP Silent Auction – Yet another success!

A successful fund raising event testifies the magnitude of the community's generosity towards the cause. We are proud to announce the NASAP silent auction 2010 was a big success, thanks to all our generous supporters who donated, volunteered and made the event a triumph.

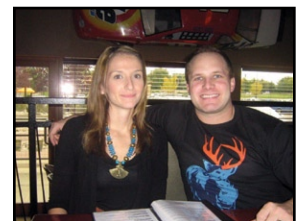
The auction was held at Average Joe's in Sherwood Park. This year, like always, we had a wide range of items donated. There were various animal items including a huge scratching post. Other items ranged from spa and salon coupons, restaurant gift certificates to a signed Oiler's Jersey and Eskimos tickets!

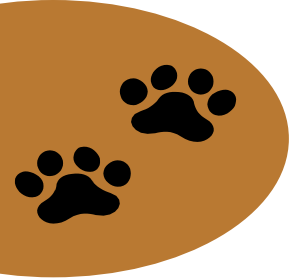
We also had a balloon prizes event, which has always been quite an interesting and fun filled activity for the attendees. They were able to buy the helium-filled balloons, and inside each balloon was a chit corresponding to a prize. Everyone who participated was a winner, with the evening continuing in good spirit with people eating, bidding and enjoying themselves.

We were able to raise over \$6700 for our animals, and want to extend a huge thank you once again to all who donated. This event couldn't have happened without your donations. A special thanks to our silent auction volunteers who spent many hours getting the items and setting up for this event. Average Joe's was a great host and we were very excited to use their newly renovated space.

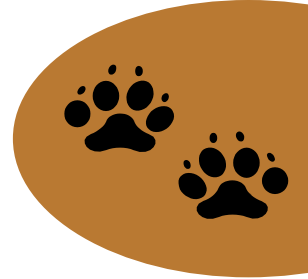
NASAP is a non-profit organization and continues to work to alleviate the unfortunate conditions of the homeless animals. We are always in need of your valuable contributions, in the form of money, supplies, volunteering and fostering. So please don't wait until the next auction and help us help those animals who don't deserve to be put down just because they are homeless.

If however you wish to make any donations for the next silent auction, please do so by contacting our office at donations@nasap.ca or call (780) 922-0250.





NORTHERN ALBERTA SOCIETY
for **ANIMAL PROTECTION**



Foster Home Profile

How long have you been fostering and volunteering for NASAP?

I've been fostering cats for NASAP for about two and half years now.

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

A friend of mine told me about NASAP a few years ago, as she often checked the website pondering the idea of getting another dog. I already had a dog and two cats and felt that I was about at my quota for what I could handle in terms of balancing work and having the time to give the care and attention I believe pets deserve. I checked out the NASAP website and saw that they needed foster homes and thought to myself, this would be a great way to give back to my community and animals are something I am very passionate about. So, after some careful contemplation as to whether my cat and dog allergies could handle having any more fur balls in the house I decided to fill out the foster home application and send it in. I was thrilled to hear back so quickly and be accepted as a foster home. I still remember meeting Jenny for the first time and her asking me which cat I would like to foster, to which I replied "I don't care, they all need homes!"

What is your favourite part of fostering?

My favourite part of fostering is being able to help cats that come into care that are terrified of people and indoor environments, and being able to watch them, sometimes slowly, sometimes amazingly quickly, come around and become happy, well balanced companion cats. I also love that bringing in new cats to my home helps keep my resident cats and dog well balanced and respectful of new cats, and helps the foster cats be exposed to my cat friendly Rottweiler and my cat friendly resident cats which makes them more adaptable to a wider variety of forever homes.

What is your most memorable fostering experience?

This has got to be a tie between two of my former foster cats, Lovey and Howard. Lovey is a beautiful male tabby who came into care as a stray and was terrified of people. For the first few weeks he would hide, and if he did come out, he would creep around on his belly trying to make himself as invisible as possible. Lovey was a gentle soul though and even though he would look absolutely horrified every time I approached he did not run away from me, maybe he was frozen with fear? As soon as I would sit down beside him and start petting him he would instantly turn into the most affectionate, loving cat you could ever meet (with the exception of Howard!). Lovey seemed to gain comfort and confidence from being close to other living creatures and I soon discovered that he would snuggle up to anything with a heartbeat, whether it is human, a strange new cat, or my Rottweiler.

After a few weeks in foster care in my home, it was like a switch in him went off and he finally relaxed and realized that nothing bad was going to happen to him and overnight he became the most friendly and cuddly cat ever. He befriended my resident cats, other foster cats, and my dog effortlessly as he seemed to be looking for a friend in just about anyone. Lovey was hard to let go of, but he found a great home with a loving couple and although I was sad to see him go I knew he would have a great new life.

Howard has a similar story to Lovey. He was a sturdy (what I would call a bulldog version of a cat) guy who wandered onto another foster home's acreage and was then brought to me to foster. Howard was a handsome orange and white tabby who appeared to have lived his life so far as an outdoor cat, and took a long time adjusting to being an indoor cat. For the first 3 weeks he was in care he would hide inside the ceiling in the basement. Every day I would crawl on top of my washing machine and dig him out of the ceiling and snuggle him, trying to convince him it was okay to come out and make himself at home.

Soon enough, just like Lovey, something seemed to click for Howie and he appeared upstairs one day while I was making supper. He was totally at ease and not at all bothered by the resident cats and dog. Howie turned out to be quite the character and the epitome of a lap cat. He would stretch out on his back, legs sprawled and mouth hanging open, and nap and snuggle as much as possible.





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Foster Home Profile (cont)

Howie was also hard to let go of but saying goodbye to him was made much easier, because he too found the perfect home, with a gentleman with a big heart who spent almost all of his time at home and was looking for an affectionate lap cat.

And I suppose it wouldn't fair not to mention Jasper (formerly Alero), who was also in foster care at my house and whom I adopted. Jasper instantly made herself at home and behaved as if she had lived at my house for years, even though she was just a young kitten. She has turned out to be a great addition to my family and is a great foster sister to the cats I have in care.

What has been the most challenging part of fostering?

The hardest part of fostering for me is twofold. It's sometimes heartbreaking to see and hear about the trials and tribulations the cats have been through before coming into care. This is easy to get over though knowing that as soon as they are brought into NASAP's care they are well on their way to living the rest of their lives in loving homes. The other challenging aspect is having to say goodbye to some really great cats. This too is easy to overcome though because I know that they all find great permanent homes... and I know I can't keep them all or I'll be the "crazy cat lady"!

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

I have helped out with Adoption Days, fund raising and for the past two years have emceed the annual silent auction fund raiser event at Average Joe's. I've also done the odd foster home check.

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

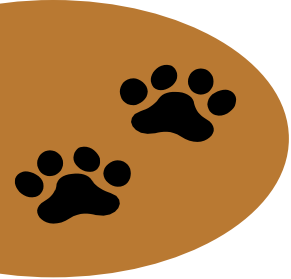
I would absolutely encourage other people to foster. If you are not certain whether you're ready to have your own pet, it's a great introduction to what owning a pet entails. And if you already have pets in your house, fostering helps your own animals be balanced and accepting in just about any circumstance. It's a great feeling to know that you have made a difference in an animal's life, especially since there seems to be a never-ending population of homeless animals in need of care. If you decide to foster what you can expect is to fall in love over and over again, to smile and laugh endlessly as you get to know your new foster cat and to know that you have made a difference to these previously unwanted animals.

You can also expect to take your foster cats to some vet appointments as necessary, and to adoption days where people can easily meet them. You can expect to meet a lot of people with big hearts, as well as the odd person who doesn't fully understand what adopting a pet from a not-for-profit rescue group is like, but these folks are few and far between and in the end it's up to you, the foster parent, to determine who is the best match for your foster cat.

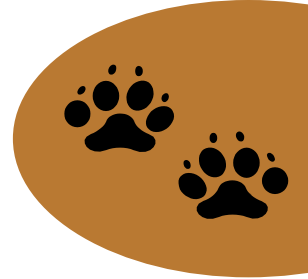
Foster Homes Required

Have you ever thought about becoming a foster parent to a homeless animal in need?

NASAP is wholly and solely run by our devoted volunteers but we are always in need for more people like you who we can depend on to get our mission achieved. All the animals in care of NASAP stay with their foster parents until they get adopted into a loving home. Here's calling all those animal lovers who can provide shelter to the homeless cats and/or dogs until we find a suitable forever home for them, please contact us by email at fosterhomes@nasap.ca or by calling us at (780) 922-0250. You can also go through our foster home guidelines on our website <http://nasap.ca/dynamic/page/fosterhome>.



NORTHERN ALBERTA SOCIETY
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Foster Tails

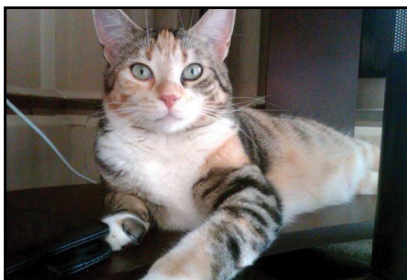
Pansy

Pansy is like many NASAP cats. She comes with a background that is scarce on details, but shadowed with some degree of hardship and trauma. We know little of her past, only that she was found as a young mother fending for herself and her babes despite being scarcely old enough to have born them. And that she is mysteriously missing a good 2/3rds of her tail.

With such a scant history suggestive of hardship, I expected that she might be like some of my other fosters... in a word, scared! When I first arrived home with her and released her from her carrier it was instantly obvious that this was an absolutely false assumption. Pansy charged out of her carrier, mewed and quickly started an excited exploration of her new digs. Jumping onto beds, window sills, evaluating the comfort of couches, chairs and pillows, investigating the whereabouts of food, water and litter sources, she immediately made herself at home. All the while, she purred contentedly.

Since her initial introduction Pansy has continued to be an energetic and positive presence in my home. She is a most resilient and energetic young cat. Any new person is welcomed with a purring serenade. And she frequently expends her energy by an ever evolving set of games. Her current mission is to resolve the great intrusion of shadows in the home, and has taken it upon herself to hunt them diligently at every opportunity.

As I have fostered several NASAP cats, I continue to be amazed at Pansy's personality. Despite her presumably harsh first year in the world, she is a most loving gregarious character. She thrives off attention from people... be it pets, head scratches, toy-tossing or merely listening to voices. While the mystery of her tail has never been answered, this little kitty is missing nothing in terms of personality. While she is not compatible with other cats, her social and playful nature would make her a great fit for a family. Please consider welcoming into your home!



By Jenn Horton

Happy Tails

Ginger

It has been 6 months now since Ginger has come to her forever home. She has come a long way since I first met her at her foster home. The first time I went to see her she ran into the closet and tried to get as far away from me as possible. With a couple more visits I noticed she started to be a little more relaxed; it was then I knew she was going to be okay and she was the cat I wanted.

As soon as she got home she hid under the bed, but it didn't take long before she came out to be petted. I have come to realize that she has a strong need to be petted even when she is scared. I found this out by going away on the weekend and having a friend come over to feed her and spend time with her. Normally she is scared when strangers come over and hides, but when I am away she will go straight to whoever is there to get petted!

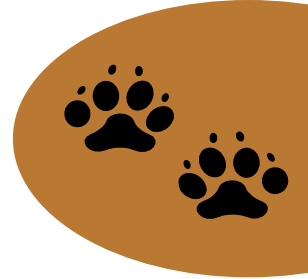
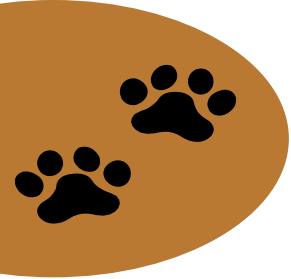
She has definitely become more relaxed and her true self is slowly coming out. She has her normal routine of sprinting up and down the hallway and out onto the balcony to people watch every morning. Not that long ago she sprinted around the corner so fast in the kitchen that she knocked over her water!

She has gradually worked her way up from sleeping at the end of the bed to now sleeping on the pillow right by my head. She is also very talkative, with her most demanding meow being when she wants to be petted.

Still a little fearful of strangers she is also relaxing with that too as she will let herself be petted before hiding under the bed. Ginger is truly a great companion that I am enjoying more than I thought I would. A big thank you to NASAP for rescuing her and taking care of her!

By Lyne Bourassa





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Happy Tails (cont)

(Miss) Molly

My kids and I started fostering (Miss) Molly in January 2010, who is a 6 year old Yorkie. She has a medical condition called liver shunts in which the liver is not able to properly rid itself of all the toxins. Since Molly was getting older and it was difficult for her to survive without undergoing a very expensive surgery, NASAP decided to keep her in permanent care, taking responsibility for all her medical expenses.

She is a wonderful little dog who we fell in love with right away. My niece who is involved with NASAP, had fostered her for 4 years and introduced her to us. We first brought Molly home to meet our 2 year old male Min Pin called Ozzy. We did not know how they would react to each other and fortunately they bonded immediately. It was like they knew each other since forever; I have never seen Ozzy do this with any other dog. And now they do not like to be separated.



Molly is a very funny, smart and lovable dog. She has also taught Ozzy a few things. We have only had Molly since January but my kids and I could not see ourselves without her. We are so thankful we have her here, she really is a joy.

By Patricia, kids and Ozzy

Phoenix

We adopted Phoenix from NASAP last August because we had to put our previous cat down in November of 2008. At that point we had decided not to have any more pets, because it is very painful to lose them. But, when we saw Phoenix's photo in the local paper, looking at her eyes, we fell in love with her and wanted to adopt her right away. We decided on NASAP because we had heard good things about this agency and with one quick phone call were able to visit the foster family and meet Phoenix for the very first time.

We were delighted to see her at the door waiting to greet us. She was very friendly, even on our first meeting and was even more beautiful than the picture from the newspaper. We had two young grandchildren with us and she was fine with them. We decided right there to adopt her.

We have had her for over a year and she is the most patient and tolerant cat we have ever had. We can say this even though we have had a cat in our house for years.

We had a few phone calls and correspondence from NASAP after the adoption wanting to know how she was adjusting to our household, and we appreciated this very much.



She is excellent with the children and loves to play with them, following them everywhere. She is not shy and is very comfortable with a houseful of guests.

Phoenix has become a very important part of our family and it was a lucky day for our family when we saw her picture in the papers.

By Fatima Dhalla

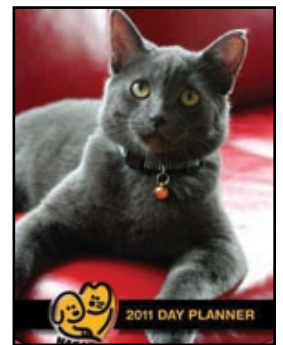
NASAP 2011 Daytimers

Now available!

NASAPs daytimers make great gifts and stocking stuffers.

They are available for \$15.00 each or 3 for \$40.00.

Please email admin@nasap.ca to arrange to purchase yours today!

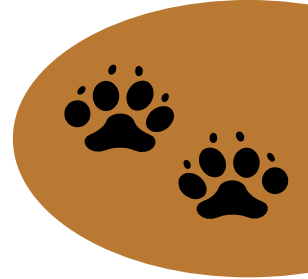
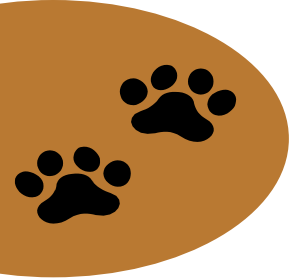


Upcoming NASAP Events

Pet Photos with Santa

NASAPs annual pet photos with Santa will take place at Salisbury Greenhouses, 52337 Range Road 232, Sherwood Park on Saturday November 20th and Sunday November 21st between 1:00 and 3:00 p.m.

**Please call the greenhouse at (780) 467-5743 to book your photo time. The cost of the photos is \$15.00 per booking with proceeds going to NASAP. If you need further information, please call Anna Pandos at ext. 105.



NORTHERN ALBERTA SOCIETY
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Winter Tips for Your Dogs and Cats

With temperatures dipping, your dogs and cats will need a little special attention to stay warm, happy, healthy and safe this winter season. Follow these helpful tips to keep your pets at their best during the cold months ahead:

- If your dog or cat goes outdoors during the colder months, make sure he or she is acclimatized and doesn't stay out too long, especially when the temperature is below freezing.
- Check and clean your dog's paws regularly, especially after an outing when road salt, ice or snow can collect and cause frostbite or irritation.
- Watch for signs of frostbite. It's seen most often on the ears, tail and footpads. Also look for pale, glossy or white skin.
- For shorthaired and small breed dogs, consider a sweater for trips outdoors.
- Consider boots or paw protector for when your dog is outdoors for long periods of time.
- Cats love curling up in a warm place for a nap. Prevent potential burns by protecting open fireplaces, wood stoves and space heaters. Warm engines are also a favorite place for outdoor cats, so honk the horn or bang on the hood of your vehicle before starting it.
- Antifreeze has a sweet taste that both cats and dogs like, but it's toxic enough to cause serious illness and even death. Make sure your car isn't leaking fluids and keep containers safely locked away.
- Shelter for outdoor pets is essential. Provide a housing that is large enough for your pet to stand, lay down and turn around in, but small enough to retain body heat. Make sure it is insulated, watertight and has plenty of dry, clean bedding.
- Please contact a member of your local veterinary health care team if you have any questions regarding your pet's care during the winter season.

References:

Hill's Pet Nutrition, Inc. www.hillspet.com

By Claire Connerly

Thank You's

- 1) All those who donated and volunteered for the Silent Auction 2010.
- 2) Kennedy Hunker for all the hard work at her lemonade stand and the resultant generous donation that she made to help the NASAP animals.
- 3) Chris Love and 102.3 Now Radio for their generous donation
- 4) Zelda Matthee for fostering Charm's kittens. Her dedication was endless and her hard work was critical to the successful rescue of this kitty family.

NASAP is now on Facebook!

If you have a Facebook account, do join the NASAP fan page. It is actually a good idea because it gives the potential adopters and foster homes a chance to interact with those who had previously adopted or fostered.

The page also has a collection of pictures of the animals available for adoption. NASAP is always looking for foster homes for our dogs and cats that are patiently waiting for someone to take them to their forever home. We encourage you to please visit our page and become a fan. The least we can do to help these animals in need is to spread the word.

<http://www.facebook.com/pages/NASAP/11153152222460>

