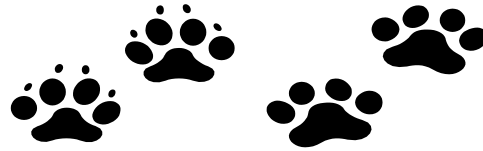




# PAWS FOR A WHILE...



November 2011

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## Silent Auction

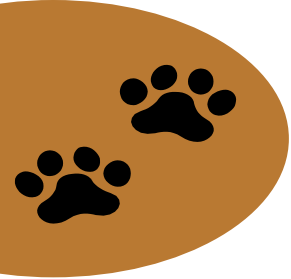
This year's silent auction fundraiser held at Average Joe's in Sherwood Park on October 29<sup>th</sup> was another resounding success! There was a buzz of activity throughout the evening with bidders following their coveted items vying to outbid others for the many items up for grabs. We had lots of door prizes as well. People were crossing their fingers hoping that they would be a lucky winner and there were several! The liquor basket tickets sold well and the crowd, some with fabulous costumes, was steady throughout the evening. We raised over \$6,000.00 for our organization and are grateful to everyone who came out to help support us.

Nasap would like to thank all of those who kindly donated items for our silent auction. We are so pleased to have such wonderful and generous supporters.

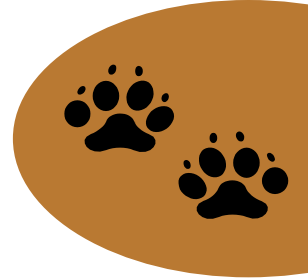
We would especially like to thank our very dedicated and marvelous volunteers. Without them we could not have pulled off this wonderful event. Thanks to everyone who attended and helped make the evening such a special one.



continued on Page 2...



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# Update on NASAP's Pound Cat Spay/Neuter Program

by Jenny Graydon

In April 2010, NASAP funded a pilot program to fund spay/neuter surgeries for adoptable cats at Black Gold Pound that NASAP was unable to take into care due to being at full capacity. Since the start of this program, 58 cats from the Leduc and Beaumont area have been spayed or neutered with 36 of these being adopted out directly from the pound to forever homes in the local community (Figures 1 and 2).

20 cats came into NASAP's care for rehoming and none currently remain at the pound. Even one lucky dog was neutered under this program! He was subsequently taken into care by another rescue group that had room for him.

This program has been supported by two wonderful Edmonton area veterinary clinics, Calgary Trail Pet Hospital and Town Center Veterinary Hospital. They have graciously provided their expertise to the program and help ensure its success. NASAP thanks everyone who has contributed toward our pound cat spay/neuter program. Your generous donations have helped NASAP give many homeless cats in our community a better chance at a safe and loving forever home!

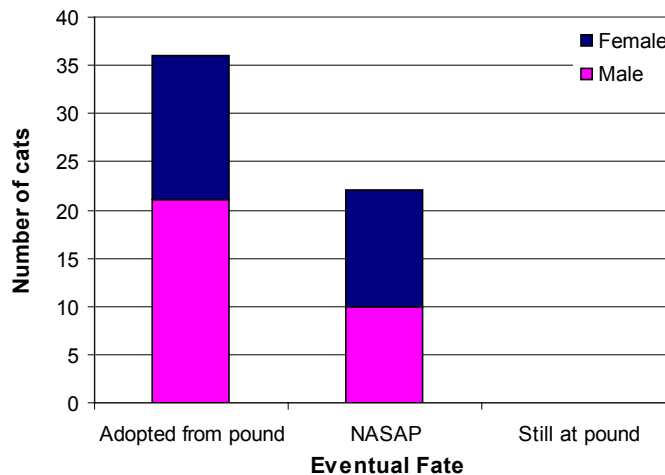


Figure 1: Fate of cats that participated in NASAP's pound cat spay neuter program between April 1, 2010 and September 30, 2011.

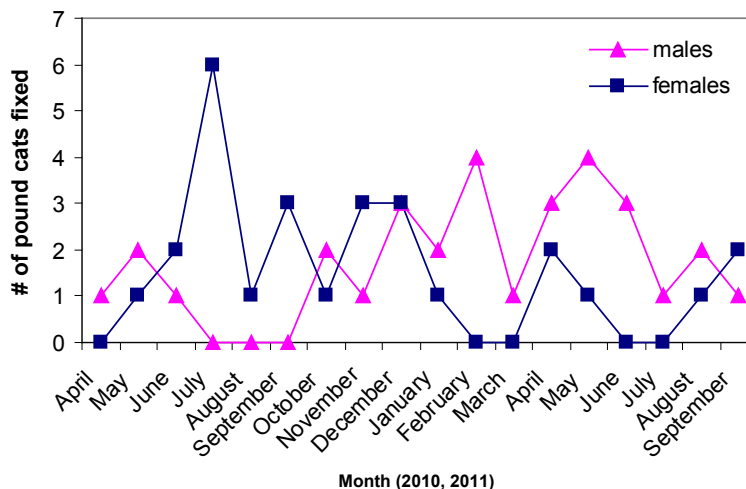
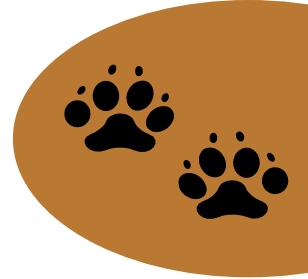
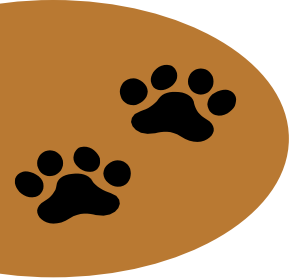


Figure 2: Number of male and female cats fixed each month since inception of the pound cat spay neuter program.



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## *In Loving Memory*

### *Pearl*

Pearl was a beautiful and stunning female white cat. She and Wilbur were buddies. They had one thing in common; they both had feline leukemia. Wilbur passed away over a year ago and Pearl was lonely, but she got more affectionate with me. She started to sleep with me and trust me more.

I'm sad to say that on October 19<sup>th</sup>, 2011 Pearl passed away due to her feline leukemia. She was fostered by myself and Les. I loved Pearl very much, and both Les and I will miss her. Thank you.

*Chris Leclair*

NASAP sincerely thanks Chris Leclair and Les Hicks for all the loving care they gave Pearl while she was in permanent care. Their ongoing generosity and hard work with some of our most challenging and heartbreaking cases is very much appreciated.



### *Lizzie*

We at NASAP, were incredibly saddened recently at the untimely death during routine surgery, of our dear Permanent Care Dog Lizzie. Here is the story of Lizzie's life. We, once again, send our heartfelt condolences to Colleen, Lizzie's devoted foster Mom.

#### *Lizzie's Story*

One day back in 2001, a plea went out to Rescue Groups in Alberta to help with a sad situation of dog abandonment in Whitecourt. Lena, the then President, and Keith, a volunteer, drove to the property where many purebred Labrador Retrievers had been left to fend for themselves. It was a scene of despair and carnage and, in amongst this devastation, was a young black lab called Lizzie who was chained to her kennel surrounded by a wall of dog excrement. Keith released Lizzie and carried her out of the compound. When he put her down she took off and ran

### *Lizzie (con't)*

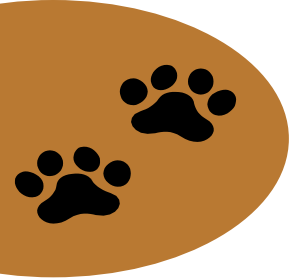
directly back into her kennel, the only safe place she had ever known. Keith had to trudge back and carry her out once again. There was no way he was going to leave her there. Lizzie was then about a year old and was one of five Labrador Retrievers rescued by NASAP that day.

She came to live on our acreage with us and settled in quickly with the many other dogs. Lizzie never had a problem relating to other dogs and got along with every dog she ever met. It was people who made her nervous and she would withdraw into herself and become almost catatonic when handled or caressed. She had the run of the acreage and would come indoors and hang out with us but always on the sidelines and never really showing any pleasure at our company.

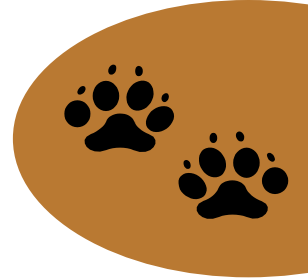
One evening, during a NASAP meeting at our house, Colleen came along and met Lizzie. I can still remember how she got down on her knees and spoke quietly to Lizzie and made eye contact. Colleen was kind enough to agree to foster Lizzie as a Permanent Care dog. We considered her to be too traumatised to be adopted and thought Colleen would be a wonderful carer for Lizzie. Lizzie went to live with Colleen and her other Permanent Care dog, Dober, an elderly Doberman Pinscher. It was not long before Lizzie proved to us – in dramatic fashion – that she had made Colleen's home her own.

Colleen had not had Lizzie very long when, during a walk near her home, she pulled hard on the extended leash, which slipped out of Colleen's grasp. The leash retracted at speed and hit poor Lizzie on the rump, spooking her to the point where she took off running. No amount of calling would bring her back and soon she was out of sight. Colleen and her friend searched and searched. Suddenly Colleen heard Dober barking in the bushes. Crawling into find him, she discovered that he had located Lizzie's collar and leash hooked onto a branch. It was a relief to know that Lizzie was not trapped in the forest somewhere by her collar but they were still no nearer to finding the poor frightened dog. Then, suddenly, they spied her in the distance. She was running across Highway 16! Some people in a vehicle stopped and tried to catch her but she took off again and was soon out of sight.

Exhausted and worried to death, Colleen and her companion made their way home to change clothes and arrange to set out again to search further afield. Eleven hours later, as Colleen was wringing her hands with worry at home, there was a scratch at the door! Intrigued, Colleen opened the door to find an exhausted Lizzie sitting there! Colleen



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### *Lizzie (con't)*

simply could not believe her eyes. Lizzie had not only found her own way home but she had survived another crossing of the Yellowhead Trail in doing so. It was nothing short of a miracle. And from then on we all knew that Lizzie had decided Colleen was for keeps.

Colleen's bond with Lizzie grew stronger and stronger over the years. Her patience and kindness helped Lizzie gain confidence, and she was one of the most content happy dogs you could ever hope to meet.

Colleen adopted Jazz, a Shih Tzu x Bichon, and having Jazz around seemed to bring Lizzie further out of her shell. Lizzie was quite protective of her little sister and of their yard. She learned how to shake a paw and if you offered to be her "friend", she would gently offer you her paw so you could shake hands.

Lizzie made "friends" with many people and everyone who met her loved her. Her gentle aura touched everyone's heart. Over the years, Colleen has been the best foster Mom Lizzie could ever have hoped for. Periodic trips to the vet clinic for food, allergy symptoms and other little medical issues which cropped up now and then, Colleen was always on top of anything which might be amiss. And so Lizzie had the best of everything – nothing was too good for her.

It has been a cruel blow to have had Lizzie taken away so suddenly and unexpectedly. Poor Colleen misses her terribly. She has her little Jazz, and she has her two cats. But Lizzie was her special "angel". I would like Colleen to know that I understand her grief and I am so sorry for it. I hope Colleen understands how much all of us at NASAP appreciate all she did for Lizzie and how truly sorry we are for her loss.



### *Lizzie (con't)*

Note from Colleen

"Lizzie almost every day warmed my heart as she became ever more brave in certain situations. Especially meeting new people, my heart would feel warm and fuzzy each and everytime she made a small step. I was so proud of her. I can never thank NASAP enough for allowing me to have her and for blessing me with such a gift as my Elizabeth."

## *Foster Tails*

"Jersey is an adorable black and white 2-year old cat. She may be a little on the pudgy side, but she has been dieting and is very active and playful. She loves chasing ribbons, feather toys or even just a crumpled up piece of paper. But she can be very affectionate too. She'll come and greet you when you come home from work. She'll sleep with you, curled up quietly at the foot of your bed. She'll even give you a kiss on the nose. And when she looks at you with her big Puss-in-Boots eyes, we know you'll fall in love with this wonderful girl."

*Daniel Gregorash*

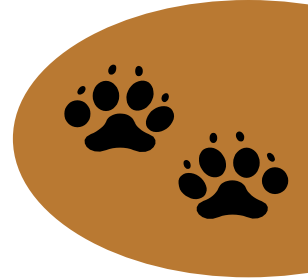
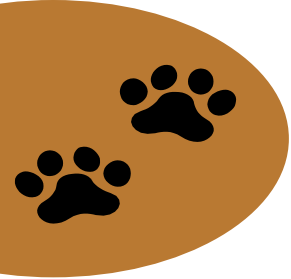


## *Happy Tails*

Minnie was my first foster dog. She was so cute, I knew she would not be with me for long.

When I met Minnie, I could see she had mothered many puppies in her past. She was very sceptical of making friends with people. When she was touched, she just stood as if she were frozen. She did not seem to have been mistreated, just inexperienced in human interaction.

The "happy voice" was my best training tool with Minnie. She seemed to gain confidence as I spoke to her and rather quickly started to come out of her shell. She soon became a happy little girl. She quite loved to meet all of the small dogs at the dog park.



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## *Happy Tails (con't)*

Within a week a nice lady saw Minnie on our NASAP website and promptly came to see her. As she sat in my kitchen, Minnie watched her intently. She seemed to have a “feeling” about this lady, and the feeling was mutual. Minnie had already found her new home.

I kept Minnie for 2 more weeks to complete her medical appointments and spay, and then she was off to a welcome party at her new home. I hope to see Minnie and her new “Mom” at one of our future events. I am sure that with more time and more love Minnie will become a delightful happy member of her new family.

*Susen Douglass*



## *Press Release*

Jenny Graydon did an interview with Global News to talk about the over-abundance of homeless cats and the need for more foster homes. The press release was a big success for NASAP.

## *Alberta Government Community Spirit Grant*

The NASAP board would like to thank the Government of Alberta for their approval of our Community Spirit Grant application. The funds were received in June 2011 and have been utilized where most needed in the ongoing care for cats and dogs and the education of the public.

## *Thank You!!*

NASAP would like to thank Dr. Fredlund, Dr. Chappell and the vet techs at Calgary Trail Pet Hospital for their gentle and compassionate care of Zoe and Pearl.

## *Casino 2010*

NASAP’s application was approved for a casino, which was held in July 2010. The event was very successful. With the funds that were received, more cats and dogs were able to be spayed and neutered, and more animals were placed for adoptions through advertising in local papers.

NASAP was also able to support the Black Gold Pound in a spay and neuter program that allowed more animals to be placed for adoption.

NASAP has been approved for a casino in 2012. There will be further information when the date is selected. The most critical component of the event is the volunteers that agree to help for the two day event. Thirty-five volunteers are needed.

The NASAP board thanks Angela Hunter for once again taking on the task of organizing and managing this critical fundraising event.

## *Environmentally Friendly Reusable Bags*

NASAP now has environmentally friendly reusable grocery bags for sale at \$5 each. They are available at our adoption days or from our office. If you are interested in purchasing one of these handy bags come see us at our adoption day events or call us at (780) 922-0250.

