



**ADDISON COUNTY
HUMANE SOCIETY**

236 Boardman Street
Middlebury, VT 05753

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Addison County Humane Society
236 Boardman Street
Middlebury, VT 05753
shelter@addisonhumane.org
www.addisonhumane.org

Serving the People of Addison County by
Fostering the Humane Treatment of
Animals Since 1975

Shelter Hours:
Tuesday & Friday, Noon to 4PM
Wednesday & Thursday, Noon to 7PM
Saturday, 11AM to 4PM
Closed Sunday & Monday



Addison County
Humane Society

Woofstock Fall 2004

See inside for details!



Annual Meeting

The Addison County Humane Society will be holding its annual meeting at 6:30 pm on October 12th in the basement meeting room of the Isley Library. Topics will include recent accomplishments and current initiatives. All members of ACHS are welcome, come and meet the Board of Directors and key Staff.



Tails from the Shelter

September
2004

Addison County Humane Society

Woofstock Fall 2004



Grab your pooch and pound the pavement to raise funds for the Addison County Humane Society! On Saturday, October 2nd at 11:00 am on the Green in Middlebury, loads of dogs and people alike will gather for a howling good time. The festival hosts an agility course and a number of fun pet contests including a Rally-O where a handler and dog briskly follow a

path of numbered signs indicating various obedience exercises.

Also present will be the traditional "Dig-Like-A-Dog" for prizes event, face painting and a number of animal care and welfare information tables.

Kicking up some great live music will be Cooper & Lavoie playing everything from singer-songwriter hits to popular and obscure blues and R&B tunes.

Generous prizes will be awarded for top fundraisers, adults and kids categories. Everyone who raises at least \$50 will receive a free ACHS tee-shirt. The walk is a comfortable mile or so, and you do not have to have a dog to participate – in fact, you can volunteer to walk one of our shelter residents. Please download a pledge form from our website at www.addisonhumane.org or call the Shelter at 388-1100. Join us and make a difference for the animals in Addison County.

Support Our Sponsors!

A very special thanks to our Woofstock Sponsors without whom this event would not be possible. Please join us in appreciation by supporting them at every opportunity.

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Dear Zoë

Dear Zoë,

I am interested in adopting a dog from the local humane society. The dog I would like is a mutt that needs a fence because he likes to roam. I do not want to put up a large fence and want to know if you have any suggestions.

Molly



Dear Molly,

My first suggestion is to not get a dog, adopt a cat instead, but that is my feline side coming out. If you must get this dog, there are several options for you. Invisible fences are a great alternative because they are relatively easy to install and work very well. There is the standard underground wire with a receiver collar that gives off a sound warning then a correction. Dogs learn very quickly their boundaries. They also now have an above ground fence that works in the same way, except there are no wires and it is easy to move. Both types work well; it will depend upon how much you want to spend.

Love & Tuna, Zoë

Adoption Story

Oskar

Oskar was a stray tomcat that was brought in to the shelter from Addison. He was a big (12 lbs) brown and white tiger with a bobtail. He was pretty beat up, with cuts all over his face, ears, and legs. It looks like Oskar was a lover and not a great fighter. I stopped by the shelter one day to drop off some change I had collected from the donation cans we have around the county. Sara had told me about Oskar and I couldn't resist, I had to go see him. As beat-up as he was, he was still very affectionate and just loved people. So I proceeded to quickly fall in love with Oskar, despite all his cuts. I now had to persuade my husband to let me bring another pet into the household. I had Sara take a picture of him. She was careful not to get too many of his cuts. Well, to make a long story short, my husband finally agreed to let me bring Oskar home (he is used to my weekly request to let me bring another animal home). When we brought him home, there was some getting used to for my two beagles (Mabel & Lu-Lu). There were a few little spats, but they all worked it out. My 14 year old cat (Zelda), who is half his size, still bosses him around, but for the most part they coexist. Oskar really thinks he is a dog and will go for walks with us usually every morning. At the end of Oskar's long day, it's not unusual to see him curled up on the couch sleeping with his beagle buddies, Mabel and Lu-Lu. So the moral of this adoption success story is to stop by the shelter...you never know what furry creature you will fall in love with. *Jeanne*

Have Any Special Skills? Business Experience? ACHS Needs Your Help!

****Special Volunteers Needed****

Office Help

- Commit to a weekly time slot to assist the Executive Director with mailings, correspondence, and data entry.

Event Planners

- Take a leadership role on a specific special event, developing a task list and timeline
- Assign responsibilities to Event Supporters
- Supervise Event Supporters to ensure project remains on target
- Coordinate and manage the event
- Work with the Executive Director to develop publicity and materials for the project

Event Supporters

- (Events may range in size and complexity from something as simple as a sidewalk bake sale, to a band/nightclub fundraiser, to a cocktail party with live entertainment, or possibly even an auction.)
- Take responsibility for a specific event task (e.g., food and beverages, music, materials, advertising, transportation, setup, cleanup, etc.)

Program Managers

- Take a leadership role on a specific program, developing a task list and timeline
- Coordinate meetings and solicit community involvement
- Identify resources available in the community to support the program
- Work with Executive Director on public awareness/promotion

Please contact Jill Tucker, our Executive Director, if you are interested in becoming a special volunteer.
jill@addisonhumane.org or 388-1443

Feral Cats in Addison County?

Yes! As many of you know, there are lots of feral cats in our county. Many of them live on local farms in barns, and others live in residential communities. While in some circumstances, individuals may welcome the presence of a few strays on their property, feral cats are perceived by many to be a nuisance. Feral and stray cats live difficult lives as they are susceptible to disease, starvation and other hazards of living outdoors. Left on their own, they breed future generations of feral cats who face the same fate.

The Addison County Humane Society is in the initial stages of starting a program to effectively address this issue. Through our research, we have determined that the most effective and humane way to care for the feral population, prevent the spread of disease, and curb or eliminate the growth of the population, is the implementation of a "TTVNR" program. TTVNR stands for "Trap, Test, Vaccinate, Neuter, and Release." Upon release the cats are to live in areas where volunteers continue to feed them and look out for their well-being in designated areas called "colonies."

While ACHS does not have the resources to trap and treat (spay, neuter, test, vaccinate) every stray and feral cat within our county, we wish to, at this stage, assemble all of the information, procedures, and available community resources to assist those currently caring for these animals. We are seeking the help of members of our community that are presently managing a colony or caring for strays, to provide input and volunteer some time for the implementation of this program.

ACHS is seeking a special volunteer to organize an initial brainstorming/planning meeting to assess needs and determine next steps. The target timeframe for this meeting is late October. If you can help or would like more information, please contact Jill Tucker, ACHS Executive Director at 388-1443. If you are not currently caring for cats, but have interest in this issue and time available to help coordinate efforts, your assistance would be greatly appreciated.

The issue of feral and stray cats is complicated and widespread. There are an estimated 60 million homeless cats in the US. A number of communities have had great success with TTVNR programs and it is our belief, that Addison County has great potential in playing a leadership role for addressing this problem in Vermont.