



*Until Every Pet Has A Home*

## PAW NOTES

An e-NEWSLETTER

Issue 4

APRIL 2011

A.D.O.P.T. Pet Shelter  
420 Industrial Drive  
Naperville, IL 60563  
630-355-2299  
[www.adoptpetshelter.org](http://www.adoptpetshelter.org)



### SAVE A DATE

- April 9, 2011 Chicago Slaughter Indoor Football Friday, April 9th, April 29th, May 14th, and June 4th at the Sears Center Hoffman Estate. A.D.O.P.T. will have a booth featuring our dogs. \_
- April 16th, 2011 Breakfast with the Easter Bunny and his Furry Friends, Saturday April 16th, Country Inn and Suites, Naperville [Click to Read More](#)
- May 1, 2011 Walk-a-Thon 2011 "Makin' Strides For Strays" a 5K walk to benefit area homeless animals. [Click to Read More](#)
- For details of all events check the [Events Web Page](#)

A gift of time . . . 5,715 volunteer hours during the first quarter of 2011.

As large as this number is, it does not include the 24 hour foster care for our animals, the time spent at off-site activities or the many hours spent by volunteers organizing and preparing for events.

You give your most precious gift, **your time**, which can never be replaced.

Your volunteer hours demonstrate the value we place on our animals. As we celebrate Volunteer Appreciation Week, April 10th through the 16th, smile and thank your fellow volunteers for their *gift of time* to A.D.O.P.T.



*Your Time makes a world of Difference*

## Be a Part of Something BIG

*By Candace Adkins*

Fetch your sneakers and grab your furry friends. Get up, get out and get walking...It's Walkathon time!



## Supply of the Month

Kitchen garbage bags

### FUN FACT

Did you know there are 28 waste baskets throughout the shelter?

Now that's a lot of trash!



## BY THE NUMBERS

March Adoptions		
	Cats	Dogs
Received	38	34
Adopted	23	31

March Spay/Neuter Surgeries		
	Cats	Dogs
Shelter Animals	4	23
Rescue Clinic	58	29
Low Income Clinic	10	4



## Wags Or Whiskers Award

The March nominees were: Janet

Mark your calendars; May 1<sup>st</sup> is just around the corner. Our Seventeenth Annual "Makin' Stride For Strays" Walkathon is a great opportunity to strut your stuff and show your support for the animals of A.D.O.P.T. If you've never been to one, make this year the first of many. Picture this, 400 canine friends with 800 human companions tagging along. It makes for an entertaining morning full of FUN.

Don't feel like getting up early to walk? Is your pooch out of shape (or maybe you are)? Can't make the date? No problem, you can raise funds while cat napping on your couch. Participate by using our *FIRST GIVING* on-line fundraising page [First Giving](#) *FIRST GIVING* is an easy way to support A.D.O.P.T.'s largest fundraiser. You can make a donation yourself or set up a page and collect from families, friends and colleagues. It's so easy to support the shelter and help our cats and dogs.

And don't forget Easter is a time that families gather and it's a great occasion to fill those pledge sheets or put together your walkathon team with family and friends.

So come out and join us for a tail-waggin good time for the whole family!



MAKIN' STRIDES FOR STRAYS

Walkathon Sponsors include:

Pet Supplies Plus  
Active Life Institute  
Gerald Subaru-Kia of Naperville  
Invisible Fence

In addition plenty of vendors, offering animal-related services and products, will be joining us.



Our Generous Sponsors

# Breakfast with the Easter Bunny

## & His Furry Friends

Saturday April 16th 2011

at 9:00 am-11:00 am

Country Inns & Suites 1837

Centre Point Cr. Naperville IL 60563



Potts and the E-News Team, Donna Picard, Candace Adkins, Mary Weiler and Betty Weiler

The Drawing winner was:

**Janet Potts.**

"A big W.O.W. to Janet Potts for the many ways she volunteers her time at A.D.O.P.T.

Her weekly commitment to getting that purr-fect picture of every cat and kitten makes our animals sand out on the web.

Janet is also a dedicated and compassionate foster mom of many moms with kittens each year. And with all that on her plate, she still finds spare time to donate her technology skills to help us maintain the many facets of our website."

Thank you.

Anyone can nominate a volunteer, member or employee to recognize his or her "above and beyond" contribution to our organization. Nominations can be dropped in the boxes located throughout the shelter.

For more information [click here](#) and go the our website!

### President's Perspective

By Sandy Boston

Friends of A.D.O.P.T.,

The first quarter of the year has been busy for the Board of Directors as we work to implement new programs and significantly expand existing ones. Raising the necessary funds to support our efforts is a key function of the Board, and we continue to expand our fundraising efforts and our reach to new sources of funding.

Our 2011 Membership Drive is meeting with much success, thanks to all of you who have renewed your memberships or joined our family for the first time. (It is not too late to do so!) Our Grant Program is off to a good start, we are ramping up our Corporate Sponsorship Program, and we will begin structuring our Endowment/Planned Giving Programs this quarter.

Earlier this month, we brought Bill Froese on board as

## Low Income Spay/Neuter Days

April 2011						
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
	25	26	27	28	29	30

Did you know April is feral cat awareness month?



## Wet Noses and Warm Hearts

This month we highlight Dr. Linda Kopija and her volunteer work with **World Vets**, a non-government organization providing veterinary aid around the globe in collaboration with animal advocacy groups. Dr. Linda just got back from donating one week of her time to working in San Juan del Sur, Nicaragua. The primary goal of this mission was to provide spay/neuter services to underdeveloped areas. This was her first experience with World Vets and one she says she would definitely do again! Linda was able to give her veterinary skills as well as bring with her desperately needed vaccines that had been donated by one of our medical vendors. We are

Director of Strategic Development, to assist in the expansion of our Adoption and our Spay-Neuter Programs, two initiatives that are at the core of our mission. We look forward to many good things from Bill and from our Operations Team. And, you can look forward to many good things from the Board!

Sandy Boston  
President

P.S. Please don't forget to join us for our Annual "Makin' Strides for Strays" walkathon on Sunday May 1<sup>st</sup>. For more details go to our website. [Walkathon](#)

## Are Your Pet Expenses Tax Deductible?

By: Donna Picard



Did you know that there was a proposed [HAPPY Act \(HR 3501\)](#) at the end of the 111th Congress? If enacted, the bill would have given a \$3,500 tax credit to pet owners with qualifying expenses. This is the time of year when many of us are treading in piles of receipts and credit card bills in an attempt to itemize and deduct all that we can.

So, you've heard it before, and you'll ask it again this year and probably again next year, but here is the answer you don't want to hear: Your pets are not deductible. Their healthcare is not deductible. Their food, leash, sweater, exercise equipment, and bones are not deductible.

It may cheer you up to hear that there are some pet deductions that are legitimate. Here are some good ones to discuss with your accountant-not your friend from the dog park, your accountant:

1. Pet moving costs. If associated with moving for a job.
2. Seeing eye/service dog may qualify as medical care.

grateful to Dr. Linda for her compassion here at A.D.O.P.T. and her dedication to helping animals in need everywhere.

Great place to find  
CUBS & SOX  
tickets!!!



TIX4CAUSE

TIX4CAUSE is a ticket exchange website, allowing ticketholders to donate unwanted tickets and A.D.O.P.T. will receive 100% of the proceeds. Please donate your unwanted tickets today! [Click here](#) to go **their website.**



**The Animal Rescue Site  
\$300,000 Shelter Challenge of  
2011!!!**

Now you can help A.D.O.P.T. with a few mouse clicks! **It's easy:**

[The Animal Rescue Site.com](http://TheAnimalRescueSite.com)

\* Type in A.D.O.P.T. , Select State- IL and hit Search. \* Hit the VOTE button next to A.D.O.P.T. Pet Shelter, Naperville and confirm your vote \* You can cast one vote every day for A.D.O.P.T.

\*\*\*\*\*

***A new challenge started April 4th, so remember to keep voting!***

You would have to prove the service animal is being used primarily for an illness.

3. Guard dog. This is primarily for home-based businesses. Caution: as protective as your Maltese can be, the IRS may not be too impressed with him or your very moody cat. A guard dog should be registered, trained, and of a likely breed.

4. Donations to animal shelters. While adoption fees are not deductible, money that you donate to the shelter out of gratitude may be, based on non-profit status.

And always remember, our pets give us so much more than a tax deduction ever could!

## Touching Tails from Blessed Bonds



Blessed Bonds' vision is to function as an integral part of the animal welfare community by helping pets temporarily in need stay out of the shelter system. That vision was fully realized in 2011 when BB became an

A.D.O.P.T. program. BB believes that programs designed to prevent pets from being unnecessarily relinquished should be a part of every shelter's strategy. The combined strength of the A.D.O.P.T. and BB philosophy was recently displayed. A fire at the Joshua Arms senior living center displaced over 200 residents and their pets. BB received the desperate phone call - who could step in immediately to help 11 cats and a dog in need? A.D.O.P.T. to the rescue! The animals were taken in and housed at the shelter until they were either transferred to foster homes or returned to where their owners were temporarily housed. The combination of our program resources was able to immediately fill an urgent need and help both pets and their people.

If you are interested in becoming a foster home for Blessed Bonds, please e-mail us at [blessedbonds](mailto:blessedbonds) or call Renee at 708-710-2493.

**HAPPY ENDINGS**



- **Offsite Event Participants** *this involves taking our animals to regular showings at Pet Supplies Plus stores and Petsmart to help promote our adoptions as well as the shelter. See our [website](#) for more details. Additional one-time outings are available during the summer months. Join our team!*
- Foster Homes
- Website Maintenance
- Graphic Artists
- Teachers K-6
- Birthday Party Hosts

Thank you for reading!

We appreciate your feedback and if you would like to author an article please contact Betty Weiler at [constantcontact@adoptpetshelter.org](mailto:constantcontact@adoptpetshelter.org)



## MADELYN

By: Karen Pentimone

It was pretty apparent that before Madelyn came to A.D.O.P.T. last June, she had experienced some tough times in her life. She was a shy 10-year-old girl with heart issues.

Just one month later a wonderful woman came in, fell in love with Madelyn and adopted her. Here is an update on Madelyn's happy ending.

"With the help of Valley Animal Clinic and a full evaluation by a board cardiologist we believe she is now in "tip top" shape. She certainly acts as if that's the case, as she always wants to be where we are and when she curls up and lies down she seems to have a contented smile on her face. Now that the winter is about over we'll soon be spending more time at our vacation home on Lake Canandaigua, where she loves to run in the yard and chase after the geese. Her enthusiastic and joyful personality is incredible and she never fails to make us smile - - whether out for a walk or running for a treat, she is the embodiment of happiness."

"We hope that medical issues would not limit a pet's ability to find a forever home. We are grateful that Madelyn's found her forever home with us. She is a joy and will live a full life now that is safe and filled with loving kindness. As the saying goes, "Life is Good." Madelyn agrees!"

## Why We Cry

By Candace Adkins



After being away from my cat care duties for a week the first words out of my mouth were "Who got adopted?" A staff member said, with a great big smile, "Jade did". "Yeah!!!!" I responded. But there

Your Newsletter Team: Mary Weiler,  
Candace Adkins, Donna Picard and  
Betty Weiler, Editor

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was more to this happy ending. First of all Jade was been with us for 11 months. She had been a proud member of S.O.S. Club. She is a good girl, though a bit of a diva a times. But hey aren't we all?

Jane saw her on the web site and decided to stop by and take a closer look. What makes this a special story is that she had always considered herself a "dog person" but due to a recent change in lifestyle she found that a cat better suited her needs. I can relate, two cats later, I experienced the same situation. She came in, spent time looking at the cats, worked with a wonderful cat counselor and decided that Jade was the one. She didn't know quite what to expect once she brought Jade home and it was just the two of them.

The other day she stopped by the shelter and a staff member ran to get me so I could meet the lady who saved our Jade. I thanked her purr-fusely and my eyes teared up. How happy I was that God had a plan for Jade. The long wait paid off and Jade was rewarded with her perfect forever home. Jane teared up too. She said the moment Jade walked into her home, she walked right into her heart. They were made for each other; some might say a match made in heaven! They both were looking for that special someone and they found one another. This is why we cry... tears of joy, because we can make a difference in the lives of people and animals. There is no better happy ending!



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A.D.O.P.T. Pet Shelter | 420 Industrial Dr. | Naperville | IL | 60563