



*Until Every Pet Has A Home*

## PAW NOTES

An e-NEWSLETTER

Issue 9

SEPTEMBER 2011

A.D.O.P.T. Pet Shelter  
420 Industrial Drive  
Naperville, IL 60563  
630-355-2299

[www.adoptpetshelter.org](http://www.adoptpetshelter.org)



*Camp Paws & Claws* summer kids camp was a huge success as we welcomed 28 children ages 6 to 13 to participate in a fun and enriching environment where they learned about A.D.O.P.T. and explored the world of animal rescue. The goal of this humane education program was to teach kids about how to be humane, what is a pet shelter, pet overpopulation and the importance of lending a hand and giving back to your community. Our two weeks of camps raised \$4,200 of revenue for the shelter.

### Pedaling for Paws...



On Labor day, A.D.O.P.T. volunteers pedaled their bike in Naperville's Last Fling parade to promote awareness of the shelter and our programs.





## SAVE A DATE

- **Farmer's Market Bake Sale:** Saturdays, now through October 29th. [Read more.](#)
- **World's Best Cat Litter Contest:** Now through Friday, September 16th. Vote daily! [Read more.](#)
- **Board of Director's Monthly Meeting:** Thursday, September 8th, 7p.m. at the shelter.
- **PetSmart Adoption Event:** Friday, September 9th, through Sunday, September 11th, noon-3p.m. at PetSmart on Rt. 59 in Aurora. [Read more.](#)
- **Membership Meeting:** Thursday, September 15th, 7:30p.m. at Country Inns and Suites, Naperville.
- **New Volunteer Orientation:** Wednesday, September 21st, 7p.m. at the shelter. [Read more.](#)
- **Adopt-A-Less-Adoptable Pet Week:** Saturday, September 17th, though Sunday September 25th. Sponsored by [PetFinder.](#)
- **Bob's Salt and Feed Customer Appreciation Day:** Saturday, September 17th, 10 a.m.-3 p.m. Located in West Chicago
- **DCACC Fall Festival and Open House:** Saturday, September 17th, 11 a.m.-3 p.m. at DuPage County Animal Control and Care Facility in Wheaton.
- **Volunteer Appreciation Picnic:** Sunday, September 18th, noon-3 p.m. at the shelter. Hosted by the

See more picture of the A.D.O.P.T. "Bike" and parade, just [click here!](#)

## Helping A.D.O.P.T. in a Concrete Way

By Bill Froese

When we opened our shelter in 2003, there were multiple fenced play yards with fresh gravel and lots of hope that our facility would provide a safe, secure, temporary home for our canines. However, over the past few years, we have seen our play yards become increasingly hazardous to some of our more adventurous residents.



Improper fence installation has caused the posts to heave, leaving enticing avenues for a potential escape.

Settling and erosion beneath the fence has created potential escape routes, encouraging some of our "diggers" to tunnel their way to perceived freedom. Despite quick-fixes using cinder blocks and attaching crate sections to block holes in the fence, problems still remain...

Board of Directors.

- **Paws in the Park:** Sunday, October 2nd at Lincoln Dog Park in Aurora. Hosted by Fox Valley Animal Welfare League.
- **Pick a Date:** Come 'paw-ty' with the animals. Host your Birthday celebration at A.D.O.P.T. [Read more.](#)
- For details of all events check the [Events Web Page](#)



Supply of the Month



You've been doing great! Keep clicking for the kitties. Vote for A.D.O.P.T. by clicking on the GiveLitter icon, on Facebook or at [www.givelitter.com](http://www.givelitter.com)



...and the gravel is difficult to sanitize and needs constant raking to properly re-distribute it throughout the run.



### The Solution

To ensure the continued safety and security of our animals, A.D.O.P.T. is undertaking a massive month-long program to rehabilitate our play areas. This involves:

- Demolition of the existing fence
- Excavation and removal of gravel
- Backfill and terracing of the yards in preparation for a concrete pad
- Pouring over 5700 sq. ft. of concrete
- Installation of more than 450 running feet of durable-grade fencing with reinforcement along the bottom of each panel

The total project cost: \$58,000

### The End Result:



## BY THE NUMBERS

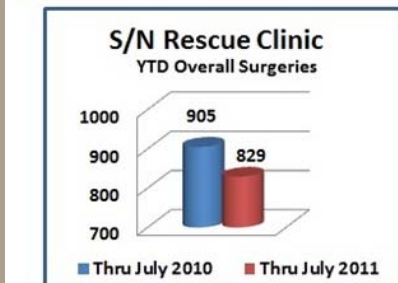
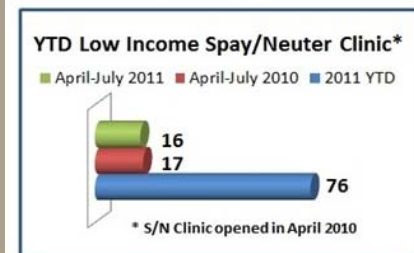
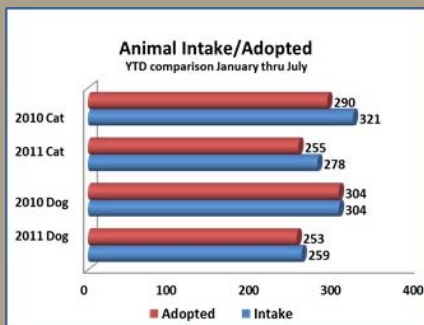
### August Adoptions

	Cats	Dogs
Received	42	49
Adopted	39	46

### August Spay/Neuter Surgeries

	Cats	Dogs
Shelter Animals	37	24
Rescue Clinic	96	58
Low Income Clinic	1	2

This month we also have some comparison YTD numbers from 2010 vs. 2011. We continue to do an outstanding job!



A fun, safe, healthy play yard for our dogs...and a happier, more adoptable pet. But...We Need Your Help...We can't do this alone. The shelter has sufficient funds to initiate the project but will be relying on bequests, loans or deferred payments to complete the project. We need you to make a concrete decision to help secure the safety and security of our animals well into the future.

1.) Foster one of our dogs over the two to three-week construction period.

2.) Plan a field trip for a day or afternoon with a dog to the park or maybe the Riverwalk, or some other fun place in town.

Contact [Karen](#) to schedule the above activities.

3.) Help cover the cost of construction. Your donation, whatever the amount will be appreciated. [Click here](#) to read more about how to support A.D.O.P.T.!

## Pet Health and Wellness



### Does your cat need exercise?

By: Betty Weiler

It's time for your cat's annual wellness check. Once your cat is in the carrier, you notice that "Kitty" seems to take up more room than last year. Has your cat gained weight?

According to the Association for Pet Obesity Prevention, 57% of cats in the United States are overweight or obese. That is 51 million fat cats!

Many cats are overweight because they are not moving enough. Cats need to be provided with an environment that encourages them to move. They need windows to look out of, things to climb on and toys that encourage them to hunt and search.



## Wags Or Whiskers Award

August nominees are:

Jennifer Sheriff, Wendy Weis, Mary Weiler, Karen Pentimone, Deb Sabol, Janet Garcia, and Gene Koeppel.

The drawing winner is:

Deb Sabol

For donating her time and efforts in working both full weeks of camp, as well as taking on a role in the planning and prepping. Without Deb's support for both back-to-back weeks of camp we would not have been able to pull off such a well organized presentation. I'd also like to take the opportunity to thank Deb for her continued efforts in organizing and hosting the many birthday parties we get requests for.

Thank you Deb.

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.

## Low Income Spay/Neuter Days

SEPTEMBER 2011						
SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT
				1	2	3
4	HAPPY LABOR DAY	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	

## Wet Noses and Warm Hearts

Set aside time each day to play with your cat. Toys that make noise entice cats to play, a ball with a bell inside or crinkling paper. Wands with feathers that move slowly in a wavy fashion will make you cat want to stalk the toy before pouncing. Ping Pong balls are small and light-weight toys your cat can bat around easily and chase. Cat nip can also be used with a favorite toy.

Scratching posts and cat trees encourage your pet to stretch, move and maintain a healthy claw length. Cats enjoy jumping and moving between different heights and locations. A cat tree allows your cat a place where jumping and clawing is acceptable and can be encouraged.

A healthy cat is one that is able to maintain a healthy weight because it has an opportunity to interact with its owner while participating in exercise.

## Happy Endings By Rich Glessner



We have a win-win situation when corporations give their employees time off their regularly scheduled day to go out into the community to give back. It's a rewarding experience for employees and a direct impact on A.D.O.P.T.

We recently had twelve employees of Best Buy spend four hour volunteering as part of a corporate volunteer program on August 9th.



This month we want to acknowledge Walgreens for their \$5,000. donation to the Wilbur Fund. Walgreens became aware of A.D.O.P.T. through Ms. Jane Mendoza who has adopted special needs animals from A.D.O.P.T. Thank you Walgreens, the donation will be put to good use to help our animals with special needs.



[TIX4CAUSE](http://TIX4CAUSE.com)

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 2012 Entertainment Books are now available at the shelter, please contact Sandy at [sandy@adoptpetshelter.org](mailto:sandy@adoptpetshelter.org) to purchase one. Proceeds from the sale of these coupon books support A.D.O.P.T.'s mission.

These volunteers represented employees from Best Buy Stores throughout the western suburbs and they spent the morning helping with many needed projects on our "to do" list throughout the shelter. "There were many projects that we simply did not have time for" said Rich Glessner, Director of Operations. The projects they were able to accomplish included cleaning out a storage shed, re-stripping the dog kennel walkways, relocating and assembling outside dog kennels, clearing hallways, heavy duty cleaning, assisting with the monthly administration of heartworm preventatives to the shelter's dogs and of course some one on one time taking dogs for walks! Rich added, "their help was tremendous and it was amazing what we were able to accomplish in just 4 hours."

The happy ending to this story is that Best Buy Corporate will match their volunteer service by contributing to our shelter. A very special thanks to Best Buy Corporate and their dedicated employees who took time out of their schedule to become volunteers in support of our shelter!

## Within Our Four Walls



### What Are Volunteers Thinking?

By: Bill Froese

A.D.O.P.T., in conjunction with the University of North Carolina-Charlotte will be participating in a volunteer survey in the month of September. A.D.O.P.T. volunteers will be notified via an email from the [volunteers@adoptpetshelter.org](mailto:volunteers@adoptpetshelter.org) e-blast with how to participate in this easy on line survey. The current



Please join PetFinder and A.D.O.P.T. in this important week long program "Adopt-A-Less Adoptable-Pet Week"  
Click the above picture for more information.



**Dog walkers and dog fosters needed:**  
Additional dog walkers and fosters are needed during construction to allow the dogs to be away from the work area. Click here to get additional information or to contact Karen Pentimone via email [here](#)

- Website Maintenance
- Offsite Event Participants
- Foster Homes
- Birthday Party Hosts

timeline for this survey is scheduled for the second to third week of September. The intent of the survey is to gather feedback from volunteers so that we can improve communication, recognition and retention within our volunteer program.



Animal organizations across the country have successfully participated in this program. The survey results are gathered, analyzed, and organized into a report that will be presented to Bill Froese, (project lead) showing individual and organizational results, and comparisons to norms from other organizations. The next step will be to present the information to the volunteers. It is important to know that the online survey volunteers complete do not individually come back to the A.D.O.P.T. email. The link you are given goes directly to UNCC where they compile the data anonymously and overall results are reported back to Bill about a week to 10 days later.

This is a great opportunity for volunteers to provide their honest feedback that will directly help us to evaluate our volunteer program and make changes to keep it moving forward. Please take the time to participate in the online survey. We appreciate your time and support!

## CafePress

### The A.D.O.P.T. online store

By: Janet Potts

Looking for T-shirts or other products sporting a cool A.D.O.P.T. logo? Then you're in luck. A.D.O.P.T. Pet Shelter has opened a shop on CafePress. You can purchase a wide variety of apparel items including shirts, pajamas, hats and outerwear. We also have bags, bottles, calendars and cups, just to name a few. All proceeds go toward supporting our work caring for homeless animals and promoting humane education. Just go to





**2197**  
Total Volunteer Hours  
**268**  
Medical hours  
for August 2011!



[CafePress.com/adoptpetshelter](http://CafePress.com/adoptpetshelter) and Shop  
A.D.O.P.T.!

Keep checking back for more items to be added or  
follow us on Facebook and Twitter for  
announcements of new product availability.



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)  
Your Newsletter Team:  
Mary Weiler, Candace Adkins, Donna Picard, Bill Froese and Betty Weiler (Editor)



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