

Dear Humane Society Member:

At the March Quarterly Meeting, the membership requested that the Board of Directors of the Champaign County Humane Society review the organizational structure of the Society. An impartial committee consisting of non-Board members volunteered to conduct this review. Their findings, reported at the June Board and Quarterly meetings, recommended that we retain the position of Executive Director in the organizational structure of the Society.

Before making a final decision, the Board would like input from the Membership as to whether we should retain the position. If either of the first two alternatives are chosen, there is the possibility that all or part of the incurred costs would have to be deducted from the trust fund. This could eventually deplete our holdings. The alternatives are to combine the Director of Shelter Operations and the Executive Director into one position, or to maintain the status quo by not hiring an Executive Director. At this time, we would like to point out that each alternative has advantages and disadvantages.

The advantages to hiring an Executive Director are that (1) there would be one person coordinating public relations, fund raising, and activities for the entire Society, (2) the Society would have a main agent for municipal contract negotiations, and (3) there would be a person in charge of overseeing the shelter, the staff, etc. The major disadvantages as we see them are the necessary costs incurred in hiring a person to meet the qualifications of Executive Director (\$15-18,000), and the maintenance of extra office space.

The advantages to hiring a dual purpose person would be a savings in salary, and that this person would have more direct contact with shelter activities. Cost could also be a disadvantage in this case. Salary for a combined position could be the combined rates of the Executive Director and the Director of Shelter Operations (\$24-33,000). Finding a person who could competently cover all the functions of the combined position might also be a problem.

If the decision were made not to hire an Executive Director, there would be a great monetary savings, but most of the areas mentioned above would be left uncovered.

As we highly value your opinions, please contact any Board member or write to the Champaign County Humane Society, P.O. Box 45, Champaign, Illinois 61820 before September 1, 1979.

The Board of Directors

A DAY IN THE PARK

On Sunday, July 1, your Champaign County Humane Society sponsored a totally new and different type of event - "A Day in the Park" at Hessel Park in Champaign. The weather was perfect, the size of the crowd exceeded our most optimistic expectations, and the day in general proved to be so successful that there is strong sentiment for making this an annual event.

Highlighted by a rousing performance by the Dixieland group, Medicare 7, 8 or 9, the day also featured a puppet show for the children, grooming and obedience training demonstrations, and a highly popular display of two kittens, two puppies, and one adult dog from the shelter. Winners of the Cat Contest were presented and awarded prizes, and a parade of dogs adopted from the shelter seemed to be a great crowd-pleaser. The day ended with the drawings for the winners of the prizes for which we had sold chances: a hot air balloon ride donated by Garcia's, disco dance lessons donated by Lampert Dance Studio, a nylon windbreaker donated by Johnston's Sport Shop, many pet items purchased with a donation from Four Seasons Department Store in Tuscola, and two movie passes from Mann Country Fair Theatres.

Without Dan Perrino and Medicare 7, 8 or 9 the day would not have been nearly as successful and there is just no way we can adequately express our gratitude to them, just as we cannot say enough kind words to THE NEWS-GAZETTE for the advertising which was so graciously donated to us. Special appreciation also goes to Linda Mowrer from PUTTING ON THE DOG, Marty Harris from THE LITTLE RED DOG HOUSE, and Pat Scott of Philo for presenting the grooming exhibition; to Doris Froman, Jim Kuehl, and other members of the C-U Dog Training Club for their interesting



and informative obedience work; to Mary Sue Krueger who was the delightful mistress of ceremonies for the day; and to Jack Moore who painted the beautiful Champaign County Humane Society banner which hung over the entrance to the pavillion, and which can be used for many, many CCHS events in the future.

Many people are responsible for any successful project, but I particularly want to thank all the committee chairpeople and volunteers who did all they were asked to do, and more. Thanks also to Boy Scout Troop 127 from Champaign who blew up 1200 balloons and manned the pooper-scoopers throughout the day.

I would also like to give very special thanks to my husband, Bud Merryman, who played the clown (in full regalia) all day and distributed 1200 balloons to wide-eyed and appreciative children.

Shirley Merryman, Fund Raising Chairman

ANIMAL EXPERIMENTATION IN THE CLASSROOM

House Bill 1362 will allow live animal experimentation in public classrooms. This bill has passed the elementary and secondary education committee and is soon to be voted upon in the full House.

At present, the law (Chapter 122, Section 27-14) in Illinois reads that "no experiment upon any living animal for the purpose of demonstration in any study shall be made in any public school." H.B. 1362 would amend the present law to read: "No cruel experiment upon any living animal ..." The bill is ambiguous and could give sanction to any number of experiments, limited only by the teacher's imagination.

Please write Representatives Johnson, Satterthwaite, and Wikoff at the State Capitol, Springfield, IL. 62706. Ask them to vote NO on H.B. 1362.

PETS ALLOWED?

A list of local landlords that allow pets in rental housing is being compiled by Bill Bennett. If you know of any, please call him at work at 356-8333.

The annual pet bazaar will be held in November and while this may seem to be a very distant date, we mention it now so that those of you who like to do craft projects might include one or two items for the bazaar in your plans. Handmade items always sell very well and the more we have to sell the more money we can make.

Other fund raising events being considered are "Wag Day" during Pet Responsibility Week in September. We will seek volunteers to solicit donations for this event. For October, we have tentatively scheduled a Walkathon. Watch for details later.



STATE DECLARES WAR ON COYOTES - AT TAXPAYER'S EXPENSE

Pressured by the Pork Producer's Association and other rural interests, the Illinois legislature is considering 3 bills that would seriously endanger the state's coyote population. S.B. 329 would set up a state-wide bounty (passed Senate, now in House); S.B. 257 would set a yearround, no-limit hunting and trapping season (passed Senate, now in House); and H.B. 909 which would open a year round, no-limit hunting season on the coyote (passed House, now in Senate).

It is of greatest importance that we write immediately. Wire or write Senator Weaver, urging defeat of H.B. 909 and also Representatives Johnson, Satterthwaite, and Wikoff, asking for defeat of S.B. 323 and 257. In addition, wire or write Governor Thompson asking for his veto on any that may pass.

It should be pointed out that packs of feral dogs and coy-dog hybrids, which can weigh up to 85 lbs., are the real menace. Coyotes, which weigh around 25 lbs., tend to hunt singly and avoid man. Furthermore, livestock and property owners can easily get permission from the Department of Conservation to deal with specific animals that are endangering their property.

As for the Bounty system, it has been shown to be ineffective, expensive, and unnecessary and has been rejected in most states, including Texas and, most recently, Michigan. Wildlife biologists feel that it is incompatible with sound resource management, in that predators are a valuable part of living wildlife ecosystems.

LEGISLATION & INFORMATION

NEW ADOPTION PROCEDURES

Do you own your home or rent? Do you plan to keep a pet inside or outside? Where will he or she sleep? What will happen if you move into an apartment that doesn't allow pets?

These are just a few of the questions now asked of prospective adoptors who are interested in a pet from the CCHS. Screening procedures include a people-pet interaction. A pre-adoption questionnaire is completed by applicants to obtain information on their current status of pets; what pets they've owned in the past, and what they plan to do with their future pet. Verbal permission is required on all rental property, and all household members are asked to take part in the selection process.

After the application has been completed and approved, the pet can be picked up the next day. This 24-hour waiting period gives people time to assess the responsibility of owning a pet.

We have an obligation to the dogs and cats at our shelter to make sure that they are placed in loving, permanent homes. Our careful screening of prospective adoptors is a way in which we can assure this will be so.

SHELTER VISITOR

"Butch," a young male opossum came to the Shelter after a concerned citizen alerted a CCHS staff member on emergency call. He was found wandering along heavily traveled streets, very hungry, thin, and weak.

After a few days of taste-testing, our finicky guest decided that a diet of canned dog food and baby food matched his gourmet tastes. After a slow period of recuperation he regained his strength.

Recently a cantankerous, but healthy, Butch was released back to the wild to continue his job as an opossum. Our best wishes go to him for many safe and healthy years ahead.

TAG 'EM!

We receive hundreds of calls per month concerning family pets who have become lost or have strayed. The majority of these animals were not wearing any type of collars or identifying tags. Only a few of the hundreds of stray dogs and cats brought into the CCHS monthly, have tags on. This is the only guaranteed way of identifying a lost pet.

Dogs over 4 months of age are required to be vaccinated against rabies and then registered with the local County Animal Control Agency, yearly. Dogs are required to wear their rabies tags at all times.

Even with these tags on, if your animal becomes lost or injured during the evening hours or on weekends when county agencies are closed, immediate identification of the owner is needed. An ID tag with your name and current address will greatly insure your pet being returned to you.

An identification tag can be obtained from many local hardware stores and mail order catalogues. This small amount of prevention can greatly insure your pet a safe trip back home.



FROM THE SHELTER

*Oh, the saddest of sights in a world of sin
Is a little lost pup with his tail tucked in!*

Arthur Guiterman

CAT CONTEST

The winners of the 1st Annual CCHS Cat Contest were announced at the Day in the Park on Sunday July 1. Joey, entered by Kathryn Lipovac of Rantoul was chosen to be the Best Cat in Champaign County. Joey, a 5 year old black longhair, took home his 1st place trophy and a covered litter box. The Lipovacs will also receive a professional photograph of Joey. Second place went to 8 year old Samantha, entered by Clint & Kelly Kalk of Sadorus. Samantha, a seal point Siamese, won the 2nd place trophy as well as a wicker cat bed. Misty captured the 3rd place trophy and a scratching post. Misty, a 7 month old longhair, was entered by Adam & Paul Schmitt of Urbana.

The litter box, cat bed and scratching post were donated by Sailfin Pet Shop in Champaign. The judging was done by Mr. Roberts of WCIA, Susan Boller of WICD, Jenny Orme, Director of Shelter Operations, and Mrs. Vera Fulton of Champaign.

Congratulations to all the winners.



Joey collecting his prizes



PUT UP YOUR MUTTS

Once again, during Be Kind to Animals week in May, the residents of Champaign-Urbana and surrounding communities were invited to "put up their Mutts." Culminating in the selection of the Grand Champion Mutt of Champaign County, the Annual All American Mutt Show is one of the most enjoyable events we sponsor. While some may see it as a spoof on a "real" dog show, we see it as more of a celebration of the importance of pets in our lives. One day a year, the child's pet, the companion of the elderly, the family mutt, all get bathed and groomed and sometimes beribboned, to appear at the Stock Pavillon to compete for a ribbon and a chew-bone prize.

The dog with the fastest wagging tail, the loudest bark, the prettiest, or the smartest may not be considered worthy of an award by the AKC, but we think so -- and so do the families that love them.

This year we had the added pleasure of seeing several alumni of the shelter entered. In fact, "Winter Sabotage," one of our former wards of truly mystifying ancestry, was selected Grand Champion Mutt.

So much of humane work involves dealing with animals that are unwanted, abused, or lonely. So, to those of us who work the Mutt Show, the greatest joy comes in knowing that for these at least, there is enough room, and enough love, and a home.

Our heartfelt thanks goes to Joy Thompson and Donna Cathey for their herculean efforts in organizing the Third Annual All American Mutt Show.

YOU CAN HELP THE ANIMALS AT THE CHAMPAIGN COUNTY HUMANE SOCIETY BY:

- donating old towels for bathing dogs and puppies
- providing rubber play toys for puppies and kittens
- if you know something about plumbing, you could help us enormously with some "handiwork" in our stray ward
- helping us find a donated or cheap floor safe for shelter supplies.

Most of all you can make a donation of your time. Why not become an adult or junior volunteer at the shelter? Is fund raising or education more your thing? Call the shelter at 1-863-2230, or the appropriate committee head listed elsewhere in this PAWPRINTS.



IGA has been approached for funding the Champaign County Pet Animal Council cablevision program. IGA is impressed and enthusiastic with the proposal and is strongly considering major funding. However, IGA requires some commercial consideration, which amounts to providing membership lists of contributing organizations. The assumption is that such lists are to be used for circularizing the members with promotional material as a part of IGA promotions and advertising.

The CCHS, a constituent member of the Champaign County Pet Animal Council, would like to submit its membership list. If you do not wish to have your name submitted, please notify the Membership Chairman, Barb Meyer.

Non-Profit Organization

U.S. POSTAGE

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