



# PAWS FOR A WHILE...



Spring 2010

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Charity #  
 86869-9679-rr0001

**NORTHERN ALBERTA SOCIETY**  
for ANIMAL PROTECTION

**PRESENTS**

2nd Annual

# Adoption Discovery Day

Saturday April 24th, 2010 12-4pm

**Come out and discover the rewards of volunteering with NASAP  
and/or providing a foster home to a pet in need!**

**Also Join Us For...**

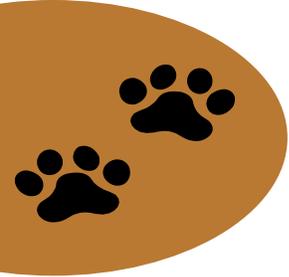
- NASAP animals onsite to meet and greet
- Hot Dogs and Pop, With Proceeds To NASAP
- Product Demonstrations
- Pet Service Exhibits
- Ask The Trainer
- K9 Agility Demonstrations

**On Location @**

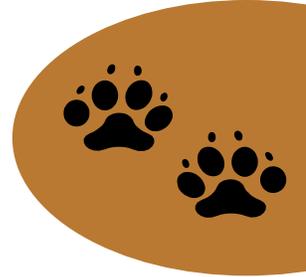
**Saddle's K9 Stay & Play**

8521 Argyll Rd.  
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## *NASAP Volunteers*

### *NASAP Welcomes a New Volunteer Coordinator!*

NASAP is thrilled to welcome Angela Hunter to the position of Volunteer Coordinator. Angela is an active NASAP volunteer herself, fostering dogs (she is pictured here with her current foster dog, Cruz) and serving on NASAP's Board of Directors.



Volunteers are key components that help fill many needs within NASAP. We are thrilled that Angela will be providing orientation and direction to new NASAP volunteers this year. Thank you Angela!

If you would like more information about the different volunteering opportunities that NASAP provides, please contact Angela at [volunteers@nasap.ca](mailto:volunteers@nasap.ca).

### *NASAP Congratulates Alanna*

#### *MacLeod on Her Volunteering Award!*

NASAP dog foster parent Alanna MacLeod is the latest recipient of the ATB Financial Community Stars award! This prestigious award is bestowed upon ATB Financial employees that are involved as volunteers in their communities. Alanna was honoured at a luncheon at the Dow Centennial Center in Fort Saskatchewan on February 26, 2010.

NASAP President, Genevieve Horvath, also attended the event. She and Alanna were presented with a \$1000 donation cheque for NASAP by ATB Financial District Sales Manager Chet Williams. NASAP sincerely thanks ATB Financial for recognizing the dedicated volunteer work of their employees in the community. NASAP especially thanks Alanna for the countless hours she puts in as a foster parent to homeless dogs. Here we profile Alanna and her experiences as a NASAP foster parent.



#### *How long have you been fostering dogs with NASAP and how did you hear about NASAP?*

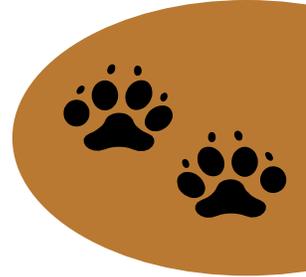
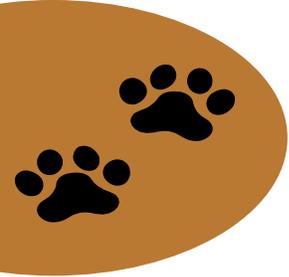
On October 18, 2003 my husband and I went to PetSmart to buy cat and dog food/treats. I went to find all the cat needs while he went to get the dog food. At the time we had a German Shepherd cross and one cat. I found my husband several minutes later with a yellow lab. I asked him what he was doing with this dog. He told me he was looking after her while her owner shopped. I then pointed out to him the handkerchief around her neck that read "I need a home". By this time he had knelt down beside her and looked up at me and said, "Can we keep her?"

We had talked about getting another dog, but it had not been our plan that day. As it turned out the dog's name was Belle and she was in care with NASAP. And yes, we did adopt her! She was a very scared and insecure dog at the time. It took us 2 hours for Belle to gain the confidence to walk to the car with us. We always remembered NASAP for bringing this wonderful dog into our life. Belle is now almost 8 years old.

It was two years ago that we sadly said good bye to our Shepherd. A few months later we knew we were not ready to open our hearts to another dog. We knew it would likely be some time before that could happen. I had been looking at the NASAP website and kept coming back to the plea on the home page "foster homes needed". After staring at the page for a week, I knew this was a perfect fit. I could still have other dogs around, and be helping them find new homes.

#### *What is your favorite part of fostering?*

I love being able to experience different breeds and personalities of dogs, but most importantly I love finding



## NASAP Volunteers (cont)

them loving homes. I find it so rewarding to see dogs with issues come into my home and watch them overcome their problems and become different dogs. The part of fostering that touches me the most is getting updates after the dogs have been placed. I find it so rewarding knowing how they have grown, and seeing pictures. I appreciate that little gesture so much.

### *What is your most memorable fostering experience?*

It is difficult to pick out a most memorable fostering experience as each foster stands out in my mind for different reasons.

Our first foster assignment was to foster two 8 week old puppies, Shy and Sassy! It had been a while since we had a puppy so we had forgot some of the things puppies do. Neither one of them slept very well. They were so full of energy. They gave us some laughs but some grey hair too! We left them alone for a short period of time, only to come home to discover they had eaten a hole in our wall! Wow, it made us wonder what had we got ourselves into! I am happy to report that our house has not suffered any damage since!

Tess was a very special girl from the moment she walked into our house. She was so timid and scared to even walk through a doorway. We knew we had to work on her self-confidence and have her experience everything a dog should. We were very lucky that our own dog, Belle, helped a lot with the process. If Belle did something, then Tess would follow. Over approximately one month Tess gained the confidence she needed to walk through any doorway without hesitation!

Glenn was also special. He came into our life shortly after Tess was adopted. He was also scared of many things. He didn't like traveling in a vehicle, walking up stairs, or having his feet touched. He found a lot of comfort in his crate. Again we enrolled the help of Belle. We worked with him every day to give him the confidence to go up and down the stairs, and we got him used to the idea of someone touching his feet. I am happy to report that he now enjoys traveling and has no more fear of the stairs or of his feet being touched. He went to a home that continued to help build his confidence and he is now an agility dog!

I guess the other foster that really sticks out for me would be my dear Charlee. He came back into our lives last Easter when things didn't work out in his first adoptive home. He was a different dog than the first time I had met him. He was very scared of anything and everything. We have seen him make an amazing change but know he is still not the dog for everybody. He has become very special to us.

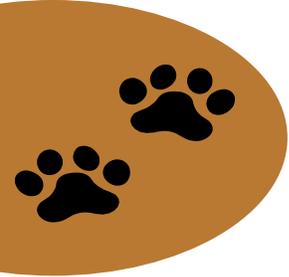


### *Would you encourage other people to foster? If so, what can they expect?*

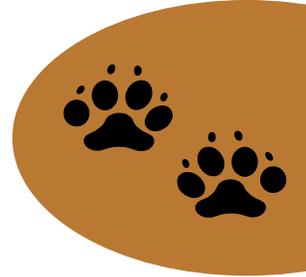
Would I encourage other people to foster? Yes! But it might not be for everyone. It is rewarding seeing them leave your house with their new forever family, but it can also be heart breaking. It could be difficult not to get attached to them, regardless of the amount of time they spend with you. I just love animals and being surrounded by them.

Alanna is pictured with her own two dogs previously adopted from NASAP, Belle and Oscar, and with her current foster dog, Charlee.





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## *Foster Tails*

### *Cocoa*

Cocoa was left in a crate with her two 6 month old kittens (Barclay and Silver) outside the gate of one of our partner pounds in the middle of February 2010. All three cats were unfixed, and nothing at all was known about where they came from or why they had been abandoned. After a couple of days in the pound, NASAP was able to open up a foster home to care for the small family during their mandatory ten day quarantine period. Any cats taken in from the pound must undergo this period in isolation from other cats while their vaccine takes effect, and to monitor them for signs of illness (communicable and otherwise).

Unfortunately, Cocoa became very ill shortly after intake. While it was initially thought that she might have feline distemper, it was difficult to arrive at a definitive diagnosis. The vets now believe that the stress of being abandoned caused an overgrowth of Clostridium bacteria in her gut. Cocoa required 36 hours of emergency supportive care including IV fluids, anti-nausea drugs, antibiotics and pain killers. She was then hospitalized at Calgary Trail Pet Hospital for three days while she slowly regained her strength and appetite.

Cocoa eventually returned to her foster home, but her intense illness caused her to develop skin lesions and she lost all the hair around her neck and on the back of her head. She was prescribed a course of antibiotics to fight her skin infection. The lesions healed and her hair began to grow back. Probiotic supplements helped to rebalance her gut flora. Her diarrhea is completely resolved and has not returned.

Cocoa has now been spayed and she is back to her old happy self. She is playful and full of life. Her two kittens were adopted together into a wonderful forever home.



Cocoa is now available for adoption and we are hoping that it will be her turn soon. Cocoa is a beautiful and loving young cat that truly deserves a second chance to have a happy and healthy life with responsible new owners.

Cocoa's emergency vet care was extremely costly and NASAP is asking for targeted donations to help cover the cost of her care. Please, please donate what you can to help Cocoa through a donation to NASAP's emergency medical fund.

## *In Loving Memory*

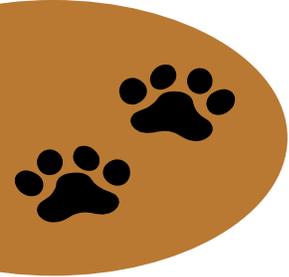
### *Wilbur*

Wilbur was a striking 5 month old brown classic tabby that came to NASAP from Black Gold Pound in early September 2008. Shortly after intake, Wilbur tested positive for the Feline Leukemia Virus (FeLV). NASAP ensures that all pound cats and kittens over the age of 4 months that are considered for intake, undergo blood screening to check for the presence of this serious and contagious feline virus.

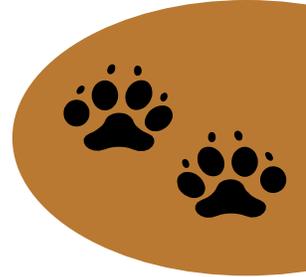
FeLV attacks the body causing multiple diseases. Infected cats can develop different types of cancer, blood diseases, infertility and disorders of the nervous system. They tend to have weak immune systems and much more susceptible to other viruses or bacterial infections. While some cats can shed the virus completely, others can carry it for many years without showing symptoms and yet others become very sick within months or years and eventually succumb to their disease.

Wilbur was made permanent care within NASAP. A few months later, Wilbur underwent another blood test that confirmed the infection had reached his bone marrow and would likely be life-long. Wilbur spent the next year and a half in loving NASAP foster homes, and the past





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## *In Loving Memory (cont)*

several months in a wonderful spot with another FeLV positive permanent care cat named Pearl.

This past winter, Wilbur suddenly stopped eating and became extremely lethargic. Despite the best efforts of his foster parents and the kind staff at Town Centre Veterinary Hospital, Wilbur's condition did not improve and instead continued to deteriorate. Wilbur was humanely euthanized on February 3, 2010 due to complications from Feline Leukemia.

Wilbur was a very affectionate, playful and gentle cat. We are happy that we found Wilbur and were able to give him a loving home, and all necessary vet care for his short life. Thank you very much to his two foster homes/ parents, Les Hicks and Chris LeClair, who took such good care of him and loved him very much.

Wilbur's life was cut short needlessly by a terrible infectious disease that can be prevented with regular, routine vaccinations. His sad case illustrates the importance of fully vaccinating all cats that spend time outdoors and that are exposed to other cats.

## *Happy Tails*

### *Reba*

Reba's tale begins when she was found as a stray and taken to a local pound. When her time was up and no one claimed her, she was assessed and brought into NASAP's care. Once in her foster home it was noticed that she had irregularities in her hip area which gave her an interesting gait and an odd skipping step on her left back leg.

A trip to the vet determined that she had either been completely run over by a car or pinned between something. Reba's pelvis had been previously shattered and had healed improperly. Poor Reba was unable to walk off-leash for more than 30 minutes because of the pain she endured as a result of the injury.



This lovely lady was lucky to

have found her way to NASAP, where she received a spay surgery soon after intake. It was believed that had she become pregnant she may well have died while giving birth due to the way her pelvis was so badly crushed and improperly healed. Reba had to undergo two complicated surgeries to repair as much as possible the damaged areas of her pelvis. She is recovering well and has been adopted by the wonderful Ellis family who fell in love with Reba at first sight. She now faces months of fairly intensive physiotherapy which her new family is happy to help her with.

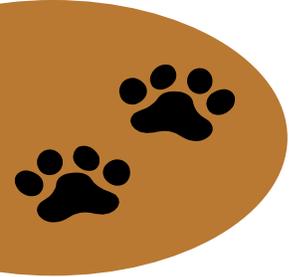


Throughout this ordeal Reba has been a true champion with a kind and gentle nature. She did not complain and dealt with each new situation like a trooper. NASAP is thrilled to be able to help dogs like Reba when necessary and wishes her well on her long road to recovery with her fantastic new family. We are so grateful to them, not only for adopting Reba but for taking on such an extensive commitment. She is well loved and in great hands.

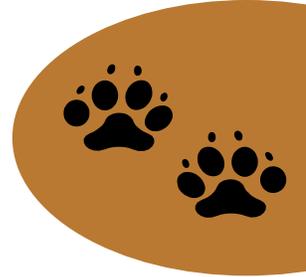
Reba recently sent in an update on her progress:

"It's me, Reba. I went for my rehab consult today. Boy, were they thorough. I saw Sandy who is a veterinary doctor that specializes in rehab for animals, and some very nice technicians called Carrie and Rhonda who are going to work on me. Sandy said that my left leg muscles have already started to atrophy so she has put a plan together to get me back on my four legs again. They are going to focus on pain control first of all so lots of ice after they have worked on me and continue on the Metacam.

I go tomorrow night for my first treatment and then again on Friday evening. If I need pain medication in order to do the treatment then they will contact my own vet and get a prescription. Eventually I will be having some cold laser therapy, electrical stimulation of my muscles and I get to try out the underwater treadmill. The big focus is building up my muscles again and controlling any pain I



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## Happy Tails (cont)

have. Wow! Sounds exciting, doesn't it?

I was on my best behavior at the rehab place today and everyone loved me. I was very cooperative. They said it might take 3 to 4 months of rehab with a lot of that being done at home under the rehab vet's direction. Oh well, I guess I will have to put up with the attention.

My new family loves me. I get taken out for 3 short walks a day, only 5 minutes at a time. The vet today said to continue with that and not increase the time until she tells us.

The food is good - I get breakfast and supper. I have to take some pretty big pills called antibiotics, but they should stop soon. I behave in the house and I own the sitting room. My mum whistles when she comes in the back door and I know she is home. I run to the door and we go out for a quick 5 minute walk. I know her whistle anywhere now.

My dad always gives me a pat when he passes me. I went in to visit him, Denise and Graham at their work today and everyone loved me. They gave me a bowl of water because I was panting. I drank two bowls.

Well I had better go now. I will keep in touch and tell you how the rehab is going. I am doing well in my new home so don't worry about me. I miss you both but life is good just now despite all the ups and downs. I think my mum and dad are going to take out my staples tonight. I am not looking forward to that but I know it has to be done."

You can help dogs like Reba by donating to NASAPs Emergency Medical Fund. Without donations from kind and generous supporters, NASAP would not be able to help animals with severe injuries desperately in need of major veterinary care.

## NASAP 2010 Daytimers

NASAP 2010 Daytimers are still available, and their prices have been reduced to sell! NASAPs daytimers make great gifts. They are now available for \$10 each or 3 for \$25. Please email [admin@nasap.ca](mailto:admin@nasap.ca) to arrange to purchase yours today!



## Lost and Found Pets

By Claire Connerly

Losing a pet can be a very upsetting experience for both pet and owner. There are many measures in place with the City of Edmonton's Animal Control Services to help you reunite with your lost loved one or help a lost pet find their home.

The Animal Services Facility is where Edmonton's stray and lost pets are housed. The facility takes care of animals until their owners can be found or until they are transferred to an adoption agency. Pets housed at the facility are given first aid or veterinary care if they are admitted with an injury, are fed quality food, and staff are trained to look after the health and well-being of all pets in their care.

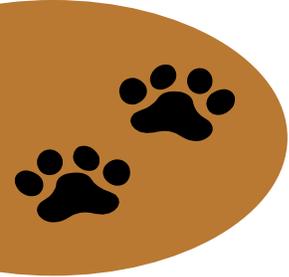
If you have lost a pet, follow these steps:

- Immediately look around your neighbourhood (scared pets that are not used to the outdoors may be hiding, so check under decks and in open garages).
- Log onto [www.petlynx.com](http://www.petlynx.com) and create a lost pet report. This program will match your lost pet with found pets from all over the province. All pets in the Animal Services Facility are entered on petlynx so be sure to check daily for new found pet reports.
- Visit the Animal Services Facility to see if your pet has been turned in:

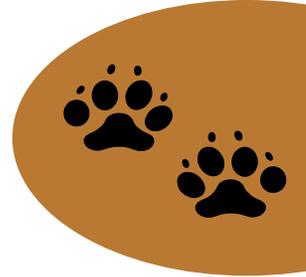
Animal Services Facility  
12515 - 128 Street, Edmonton, AB  
Facility Hours:  
Monday - Friday 9:30 AM to 6:00 PM  
Saturday 9:30 AM to 5:00 PM  
Closed Sundays and Holidays

- After hours you can contact the Edmonton Veterinarians Emergency Clinic at (780) 433-9595 to see if your pet has been turned in.
- Check online to make sure that the contact information associated with your pet's license is correct. If your pet is licensed and wearing tags, Animal Services will contact you if your pet is found. Animal Services Facility holds all pets for a minimum of 3 business days, so be sure to check regularly.

If you have found a pet, there are several ways for you



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## Lost & Found Pets (cont)

to help him/her be safely returned to their owner:

- If the pet has a City of Edmonton license tag, call 311 to be connected with Animal Services. If the owner has consented, you can get the owner's name and address from them and contact the owner directly.
- You can bring the dog or cat into a veterinary facility to have him/her checked for a tattoo or microchip. The veterinary facility can help trace the tattoo or microchip and get the owner's information for safe return.
- If you have found a dog, an animal control officer can come and pick it up. If the dog seems aggressive, it is best to call 311 and wait for the officer to arrive instead of trying to catch the dog yourself. Cats can be brought to the Animal Services Facility. If after hours, you can take dogs to the Edmonton Veterinarians Emergency Clinic at 11104 102<sup>nd</sup> Avenue.
- You can search [www.petlynx.com](http://www.petlynx.com) for lost pets fitting the pet's description.

If you are interested in adopting a pet that you have found, you can ask Animal Services for "special consideration" when reporting or turning the pet over and you will be considered first for adoption if the pet's owners are not found.

It is recommended that all pets have at least one form of permanent identification, as collars and tags can be easily lost. A tattoo is a combination of numbers and letters put in your dog or cat's ear under a general anesthetic and is accessed through each individual veterinary hospital province-wide. A microchip is accessible in several countries worldwide. If your pet has a tattoo, make sure to update your address and phone number with the veterinary hospital where your pet was tattooed; and if they are microchipped, ensure to update your information with the microchip company to ensure the quick return of your pet.

Please contact your local veterinary hospital if you have any questions about your pet's identification needs.

References:

City of Edmonton: Animal Control Services  
([http://www.edmonton.ca/bylaws\\_licences/bylaw\\_services/animal-control-services.aspx](http://www.edmonton.ca/bylaws_licences/bylaw_services/animal-control-services.aspx))



## Upcoming NASAP Events

### 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual NASAP Adoption Discovery Day

Come out to NASAP's 2<sup>nd</sup> annual Adoption Discovery Day on Saturday, April 24, 2010 between 12:00 and 4:00 pm to discover the rewards of volunteering with NASAP! This event will be hosted by Sadie's K9 Stay and Play at 8521 Argyll Rd.

NASAP is always in need of foster families who would like to give an animal a temporary home and help start them on the road to a better life... it will brighten your own life too! Fostering is a wonderful and rewarding opportunity to give an animal a second chance at a forever home and family. You are provided with all the necessary things to fulfill your job as a foster parent. Current volunteers and foster families will be on site to answer questions and share their stories. Hot dogs and pop will be available for sale with proceeds to NASAP. Please come down and spend the day with us!

### NASAP Dog and Puppy Adoption Days

Please come down to Sadie's K9 Stay and Play, 8521 Argyll Road, the first Saturday of every month between 11:30 am and 2:30 pm to meet wonderful dogs and puppies that are available for adoption through NASAP.

### NASAP Cat and Kitten Adoption Days

Join us at the South side PetSmart location (3289 Calgary Trail) on the second Saturday of every month between 10:00 am and 2:00 pm. Please check the adoptable cats and kitten pages of the NASAP website to see which fabulous felines will be in attendance and come down to meet them!

NASAP clothing items and daytimers are always available for purchase at our adoption days. Please come down



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## *Upcoming Events (cont)*

and join us!

### *Casino Volunteers Needed*

NASAP is pleased to announce our upcoming casino fundraiser, July 13 & 14, 2010 at the Century Casino in Edmonton. We are in desperate need of volunteers to fill both day and evening shifts. This is an incredible opportunity for NASAP and we could not be more excited. It will allow us to continue and expand our much needed work in the community. However, it is crucial that we find enough volunteers for this event. Volunteers must be at least 18 years old and are required to complete a registration form by April 30, 2010. Please email [volunteers@nasap.ca](mailto:volunteers@nasap.ca) if you are able to help.

## *Thank You's*

### **NASAP would like to sincerely thank:**

Anita Schoenknecht for her generous donation, several packages of puppy pads and items for our next silent auction items.

Bylaws officer Jan Brundell and the County of Leduc for their \$1000 donation.

All our veterinary partners for the wonderful care that they give the NASAP animals. This season, we especially thank the staff at Calgary Trail Pet Hospital for providing emergency and follow up care for Cocoa.

Asif Rehmani from Rehms Images for taking pictures of the NASAP cats.

Ashley Lee for taking pictures of the NASAP cats including those of Cocoa and Wilbur in this newsletter.

