

www.spokanecounty.org/animal

Please visit us on the web at:

Sundays: Closed

W, Sat: 12 - 4:30

M, T, Th, F: 10 - 5:30

HOURS:

FAX: (509) 477-4745

PHONE: (509) 477-2532

SCRAPS

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PROTECTION SERVICE
SPOKANE COUNTY REGIONAL ANIMAL

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SCRAPS MISSION:

Protect public safety and ensure animal welfare through compassionate, responsive, professional enforcement of laws and public policy.



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animal

SPOKANE COUNTY REGIONAL ANIMAL PROTECTION SERVICE

DATES TO REMEMBER

- Friends of the Dog Park meeting April 24, 6 pm
- Volunteer Orientation May 10, 10 am
- Volunteer Orientation June 14, 10 am

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SCRAPS TAIL WAGGIN' TIMES

VOLUME 1, ISSUE 2

SPRING 2008

Update on Dogfighting Case

We hope you all saw that the two defendants in the dog fighting case were found guilty of the charge of illegal dog fighting. They were both sentenced to 8 months of time. That is one month for every dog they were using in their dog fighting operation.

This is a huge step forward for animals in our community and in our state. It is the first conviction of its kind and sends a strong message that we will not tolerate this type of animal cruelty.

SCRAPS is still holding the 8 dogs that were removed from

their homes. We are waiting for a pending court order to determine the fates of these dogs which we have held over one full year.



We are working with national animal rescue and rehabilitation organizations to find a way to help save these dogs.

We believe that many of

them will be able to be rehabilitated and placed into a new home, or able to live out the rest of their lives in an animal rescue or sanctuary.

Callie, one of eight dogs rescued All eight of these dogs: Callie, Chewy, Fatty, Rita, Zeta, Gorda and two puppies named by SCRAPS employees,

Justice and Hope, will soon get a chance at the life they deserve.

Thank you to everyone who supported us in making the community aware of this and other animal cruelty.

Chocolate Festival — A Success!

The third annual Reigning Cats and Dogs Chocolate Festival and Auction was a great success thanks to you!

Not even a winter snowstorm kept volunteers and attendees from showing up at the event. There were fantastic chocolate tastings from vegan chocolate, to beautiful artistic chocolates, to cupcakes, cakes, pies and more!

Then there were the auction items. There were over 120

silent auction items and baskets. Values of the silent items were up to \$1000 and gave everyone a wide variety to choose from.

Thanks to our sponsors ALSC Architects and Toyota the costs for this event were almost completely covered and everything else was profit for the care of the animals.

The Fund a Need pledges (where attendees pledged different amounts for our Ani-

mal Medical Fund) brought in over \$3,615 for our medical care fund.

After expenses, this event raised over \$16,000 which is an increase of over \$6,000 from last year. You are really growing this event into something amazing.

Thanks to everyone who attended, volunteered, donated items, brought chocolates and all in all had a great time! See you next year!



Nancy Hill
SCRAPS
Director since
1995

Dear Friends,

Spring is in the air and after a long winter it is wonderful to feel the heat of the sun once again. This is a great time of year to adopt a pet. The days are longer and somehow we seem to have a bit more time on our hands - time to find your next best friend at SCRAPS. We have many wonderful dogs and cats for adoption. Our adoption package includes the sterilization, first vaccinations, microchip, license and a complimentary veterinary exam. SCRAPS also offers free dog training classes and advice when needed from an applied animal behaviorist. So, search your hearts and see if there is room for one more in your household. Be sure and refer your friends and neighbors to SCRAPS as well. Our goal is to place every homeless pet with a caring new family and we need your help.

Spring is also a great time to volunteer at SCRAPS. The weather is good and the dogs love getting outdoors for a little exercise. The cats also enjoy the extra sunshine and appreciate spending time with a volunteer. An extra cuddle goes a long way to making their day. Additionally, we have a number of special events scheduled for this summer and we will need volunteers to help us.

Finally, the dog park is a popular spring destination. Donations help keep the park maintained and also will help fund other dog parks in the future.

Please enjoy the spring and remember to Help Us Help Them!

-Nancy Hill

Happy Tails for You!

We see so many wonderful animals get adopted and leave our facility. We sometimes hear about how wonderful they are or how much they have changed the lives of the families who have adopted them. But we don't hear as often as we would like.

Have you adopted an animal from SCRAPS that has made a difference in your life? Please let us know and send us your happy tail, we would love to have both a story and a picture. These stories really keep inspiring our staff to do the difficult jobs they are faced with doing. Send your story to SCRAPS, Attention: Happy Tails, at 2521 N. Flora Road, Spokane Valley, 99216 or e-mail them to jbelle@spokanecounty.org. Thanks so much!

Marley Gets His Chance



I want to tell you about Marley. Marley is this big beautiful orange cat with bright yellow eyes. He has a mane like a lion and purrs like a Harley-Davidson.

Every morning (at about 5 am, with the birds) Marley jumps on the bed. He races me downstairs to his food dish, always getting there first. After he eats he is right back to bed, pouncing on toes and chasing imaginary things under the sheets.

His day is full of adventure. He runs from window to window, chatters at the birds, and climbs the cat tree to sunbathe. He tortures the dog by grabbing her tail, eats her treats and sleeps in her bed. Yes, the dog knows better then to wake a sleeping cat even if he's in her bed.

Marley was a shelter cat at SCRAPS. He was brought into the shelter as a stray, which nobody claimed. Day after day Marley was overlooked, as nobody wanted an older cat that hid under a towel.

Then the day came. Marley's time was up. For some reason I was attracted to this ball of fur. I took him out of his cage and set him on the floor. Immediately he rolled onto his back for belly rubs, jumped up and pranced around the kennel floor as if he owned it. At that time I knew this boy had more life and love to give. I adopted him and he has given me more than I could ever ask for, a lifetime of love and entertainment! Thanks SCRAPS!

Did you know you can sponsor one of our adoptable pets? Go to, petfinder.com!

Sponsor A Kennel!

This is a new program for SCRAPS which directly benefits the dogs and cats in our care.

For only 52 cents a week (and a latte these days will cost you \$2.50 a day!) you can help ensure our animals get the extra love and attention they deserve and that their kennels stay in the best shape possible.

Our kennel sponsors can either sponsor a single cat cage or dog kennel or you or your business can be a larger sponsor of the entire dog area or cat area (limited each to four sponsors).

If you choose to sponsor a cage or kennel it will be marked by a sign on the kennel for one year. The sign could recognize a pet you loved but lost, a birthday celebration, a loss of a loved one, or in name of a current loved one. That will be your choice, and your choice will help improve our animals stay at SCRAPS.

Individual kennel sponsors are limited to the exact number of cat and dog kennels and are \$100 per year.

Corporate or Top Dog/Top Cat sponsorships are \$1,000 per year

and are recognized by a large sign at the entrance of either the dog kennels or the wonderful cat room.

These sponsorships will go toward improving the lives of the cats and dogs, whether it is purchasing interactive toys, hiring additional kennel staff to provide them with extra time and attention, or improving their existing kennels and cages.



Our cat kennels would love a sponsor to help improve the quality of our cats' stay at SCRAPS

YES! I want to help the animals by sponsoring a dog kennel or cat cage!

- I want to be a dog Pet Pal \$100
- I want to be a cat Pet Pal \$100
- I want to be a Top Dog Sponsor \$1,000
- I want to be a Top Cat Sponsor \$1,000

Please include your message you would like on the kennel. For Pet Pals, limited to 75 characters. For Top Dog/Cat Sponsor please contact SCRAPS directly.

PAYMENT TYPE: Check Enclosed

Credit Card: Visa Mastercard Discover Number: _____ Expiration Date: _____

Signature: _____ **Name:** _____

Phone: _____ **E-mail:** _____

Address: _____ **City:** _____ **State:** _____ **Zip:** _____

I would like information on:

- Volunteering Animal Medical Fund Special Events Sponsorship Kennel Fund
- Memorials/Gift Memberships Payroll Deductions/Employer Matching Gifts

MAIL TO: 2521 N. Flora Road Spokane Valley WA 99216 OR go to www.spokanecounty.org/animal 2QTR08

Our Dogs Are Sleeping Better Thanks to YOU!



One of our dogs enjoying her new bed

In our last newsletter we made an appeal for new beds for our dogs.... And you responded in force! I loved opening my mail and e-mail for the next five weeks. Beds came rolling in to us. Small beds, big beds, beds of all colors and sizes. Most of the kennels have the new beds and almost all the rest are on order thanks

to our generous donors and supporters. Walking back through the kennel, you see the dogs on the new beds right up front, where they can watch what is happening or stand on them and make themselves really seen and heard. The new beds are much more comfortable (we can tell, they are using them a lot!) and are very easy to

clean and are very durable. We received bed donations from young children, current volunteers and donors, and some from new supporters of SCRAPS. We want to thank each and every one of you and invite you on down to SCRAPS to see for yourself what a difference you have made in the lives of our dogs!

Spokane County's Only Off-Leash Dog Park

Have you been out to Spokane County's first and currently only off-leash dog park? If not, you are missing out! Spring is here, get rid of your winter woes and take your best friend to the off-leash dog park!

Gateway Park at the Idaho-Washington state line has a great fully fenced 3.5 acre area for you and your dogs to enjoy! Take Exit 299 off of I-90 and cross under the freeway toward the old rest stop area.

Dog parks are a great way to socialize and exercise your dog and meet new friends as well! Please make sure to follow the rules and use the suggested pet-i-quette.

This winter has seen many doggie visitors. On a visit there recently we saw Great

Danes mixing with Border Collies and a very rambunctious Pug chasing a German Shepherd around the park! "I couldn't make it through my week if I didn't give MacKinna, my yellow lab, a chance to really wear herself out. She has a doggie smile on her face the whole time we are at the park and then she sleeps all the way home," said Andrea Sawyer, frequent dog park visitor.

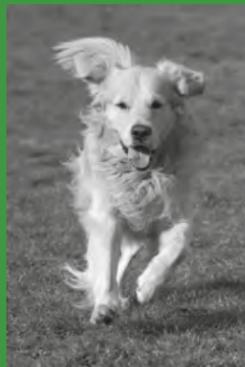
The park is a collaborative effort between SCRAPS and the County's Parks and Recreation Department. The maintenance, upkeep and improvements to the park are paid by your donations. When you are out visiting the park, consider donating to help support and maintain this great

park. There are donation banks at both of the water stations. Every little bit helps! If you are interested in learning more, becoming a volunteer, donating to support the park or helping plan the next dog park attend one of the upcoming SCRAPS Friends of the Dog Park meeting.



The next meeting is on April 24th from 6:00 – 7:30 PM at the La Quinta Inn & Suites Conference Room, 3808 N. Sullivan Road in Spokane Valley.

"Gateway off-leash park is a wonderful opportunity not only to socialize my dogs but for me to socialize with other dog owners."



Let's Rally, says SCRAPS Kennel Manager

Cindy Taskila is SCRAPS Kennel Manager and the author of this article

Our volunteers help walk and socialize our dogs and our cats. When they come in to help in the kennel, that is where I step in. As kennel manager I keep a close eye on the individual animals.

Cats seem to be fairly content on a blanket in a cage in a separate room from the dogs. They listen to quiet music and a video plays showing birds and mice playing. Cats watch hoping that that bird just might fly loose from the TV and land a little too close to its cage. The cats get a chance also for a visitor or volunteer to take them in the "Play room" to play with toys and jump on a stair step exercise shelf.

Dogs seem to want just a little bit more. They have a clean kennel run that goes inside and out. Outside they jump and howl at the other dog several runs away. Their other joy is to watch people inside walk by, point, stare, smile or joke at them. Some bark

wildly for attention, others are a little more scared, and some just smile that secret dog smile. Finally a volunteer comes with a leash and gently puts it over that fortunate dog head.

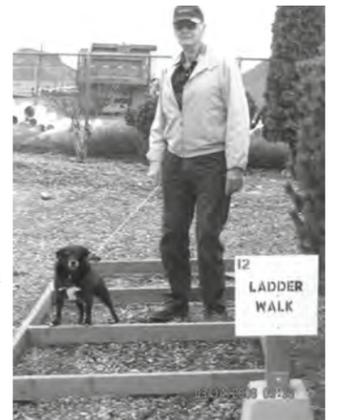
The most sad or surprising sight I witnessed was a volunteer taking out a dog, going outside and just turning around coming right back into the building and putting the dog back in his kennel. It could not have lasted more than 60 seconds. The look in the dog's eyes will actually haunt me the rest of my life. He had a wonderful excitement as he was taken out of the kennel. When brought back directly, the look in his eyes was one of great disbelief and disappointment. This is where the Rally Course idea came in to my mind.

After seeing that expression I focused on offering a route for the volunteers to follow when walking dogs. It would offer stimulation and exercise for both person and dog. It would demand some thought process for the dog that could help him cope with his stay

at the shelter.

With the help of a long time volunteer and dear friend Duane Olm I began. I plotted a small Agility-Rally course; similar to ones I have been taught to teach my own dogs. We discussed inexpensive products to build the course. I concentrated on how someone unfamiliar with the idea could take a dog through the steps and have neither volunteer or dog hurt or frightened. As Duane and Stubby go through the course they follow the progressive instructional signs. Both must keep alert to upcoming directions. Both must learn to be aware of where their feet are going.

This ends finally with a big GOOD DOG pat at the end!



Duane Olm and his dog Stubby, adopted from SCRAPS many great years ago attempt the rally course he helped to build!

Let's Ask Scraps!



Scraps, owned by Patricia Simonet is on vacation

Scraps, is taking some time off from writing his column, however, he wanted you to know how you can get many easy answers to your troublesome animal behavior questions.

At SCRAPS, we have a series of animal behavior training tips. These are one page "how to" sheets filled with great information. If you are having a problem with your pet, this should be your first stop to dealing with the issue. Your pet deserves a chance to learn how to do the right thing!

Our handouts include:

- Stopping chewing
- Stopping digging
- Stopping jumping
- Feline spraying
- Kids and Pets
- Separation anxiety

And many more topics full of information. These great handouts are free of charge and are easy to use. Please stop by today!

Once again, when someone "throws down a gauntlet" at Valley Hospital, our staff proves we are up for the challenge!"



Renee Glamp from John L. Scott and her daughters deliver supplies from the Wag' N Tails Drive



The event was a great success due in large part to our amazing volunteers!

Local Organizations to the Rescue

Valley Hospital and Medical Center (VHMC) sought out a local shelter in need this winter.

John Givens of VHMC, met with SCRAPS Director Nancy Hill who set the challenge for VHMC to raise 1,000 lbs. of food and related supplies for the animals in their shelter. In the spirit of friendly competi-

tion and a two week target, VHMC departments raised 2,948.5 lbs of food and related supplies!

"I had heard that animal shelters and rescue organizations were having a hard time with donations this winter and our staff is known for accepting and obliterating fundraising challenges" said John

Givens, who has been a leader for many fundraising projects at VHMC.

Other groups have done the same! John L. Scott South East office performed their second drive for supplies. Agent Renee Glamp helped them rise to the challenge.

Thanks to everyone who participated and helped us, help the animals!

Our Cats Are Getting a New Look!

Cats at SCRAPS are enjoying their redecorated socialization/play room. Now when volunteers or potential adopters want to spend time with our cats out of their cages, they can!

The old room has been spiffed up by a volunteer with new paint, cat designs

on the wall and cat stair steps around the room.

Also coming very soon for our cats is the ASPCA® Feline-alities assessment which is a part of the Meet Your Match™ program.

Soon, our cats, like our dogs will have color-coded personalities. You will see

cats that are: Private Investigators, Secret Admirers, Love Bugs, Executives, Sidekicks, Party Animals and many more.

Shelters testing this program have found a 40 - 45% increase in adoptions and a 45 - 50% decrease in returns and euthanasia.

Inspiring Volunteers

One thing that was very inspiring to all of us here at SCRAPS was the wonderful turn out of volunteers for our recent Chocolate Festival and Auction.

As the auction approached we were nervously monitoring the sign-up sheets worrying that we would not

have enough help.

On the day of the auction we arrived to set up the event and had such a great turn out that we actually had to send some volunteers home! What an amazing problem to have.

Our volunteers helped with everything from preparing

the food, setting out the auction items, assisting the auctioneers and much more.

The event was a great success and we gained some brand new volunteers who had so much fun, they joined our volunteer program full-time. Thanks to everyone who volunteered!

A Day in the Life of an Animal Protection Officer

The first five years of my career here at SCRAPS were spent in the front office as an Animal Protection Assistant. I enjoyed my job very much. When one of the Animal Protection Officers would come into the office with photos or other evidence from a cruelty case they were working on, I was very moved. I, too, wanted to make a direct difference in alleviating the silent suffering of animals in our community.

In the seven years since I have become an APO I have been able to do just that. SCRAPS officers investigate hundreds of reports of animal cruelty every year. Each and every report is taken very seriously and is considered a high priority. Every-

thing from a lack of food, water and proper shelter, pets locked in hot vehicles, embedded collars, abandonment, grooming issues, lack of veterinary care, outright abuse, hoarding and dog fighting is looked into. And just when I think I have seen it all, I am asked to check out something I never could have imagined.

Occasionally I must remove an animal from a dangerous situation to protect it from further harm. But in most instances I am able to educate and assist the animal owners in better caring for their animal.

One way that I have been able to make a difference is with the implementation of SCRAPS'

Dog House Drive. Especially in inclement weather we receive many reports of dogs without shelter. When an APO verifies that there isn't any shelter for the dog, the owner may be referred to SCRAPS where they can pick out a dog house, free of charge. Gently used and even new dog houses have been donated by many in our area. Local Boy Scouts have made our Dog House Drive one of their service projects.

Even though I see many sad things, it is the knowledge that I am providing a voice to those without a voice that has kept me going for the past seven years. In partnership with concerned citizens in this community I can continue to make a difference for years to come!



Wednesday is owned by Emylee Tolliver, a SCRAPS Animal Protection Officer and the author of this article

YUMMY, HOMEMADE TREATS FOR YOUR PETS



TUNA CAT TREATS

- 1/2 c. whole wheat flour
- 1/2 c. nonfat powdered milk
- 1/2 can tuna, in oil
- 1 T. vegetable or cod liver oil
- 1 egg, beaten
- 1/4 c. water

Pre-heat oven to 350 degrees. In large bowl, mash the tuna (or chicken). Add the flour and powdered milk, mixing well. Stir in the water, oil and egg, mixing well. Shape mixture into 1/2-inch sized balls. Place on greased baking sheets. Press balls to flatten. Bake at 350 for

10 minutes. Remove treats from oven; let sit 5 minutes and then turn treats over and bake another 10 minutes or until golden brown. Cool completely on wire rack.

Remember treats are only treats and shouldn't make a meal!



DOGGIE BBQ BISCUITS

- 2 c. whole wheat flour
- 1/2 c. bulgur (cracked wheat)
- 2 T. brewer's yeast
- 2 cloves minced garlic
- 1/4 c. vegetable oil
- 3/4 c. vegetable broth

1 beaten egg
1 T. Worcestershire sauce
1 T. ketchup
Combine in a large bowl the first four ingredients. Add oil and broth & mix well. The dough should be quite stiff. In a small bowl beat together

the egg, Worcestershire sauce, and ketchup. Roll out to 1/4" thickness and cut into biscuit sized for your dog & brush with the egg mixture. Bake on ungreased cookie sheet, 350 degrees for 35 minutes. Let biscuits cool & harden for several hours.