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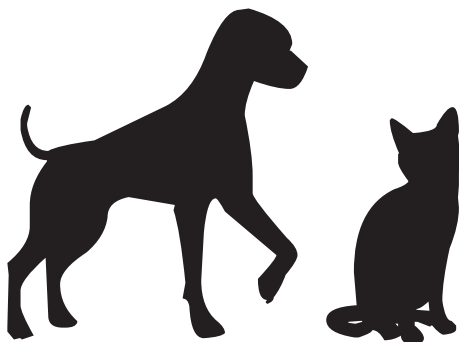


PET TALK

VOLUME 3 / ISSUE 2 / SUMMER 2010

our mission

Lincoln Animal Ambassadors promotes enriching our community through progressive thinking, education, awareness and public support. We are committed to improving the lives of animals and alleviating cruelty in Lincoln and the surrounding area.



donate!

**General Funds, Pet Food Bank,
Low Cost Spay/Neuter Program**
PO Box 67072
Lincoln, Nebraska 68506

ideas?

We'd love to hear from you!
Questions, comments, information about getting involved.
info@lincolnanimalambassadors.org

Second annual event was a howling good time

Lincoln Animal Ambassadors (LAA) hosted its second annual Wine & Howl fundraising event May 22nd.

Prime Country Winery, located near Denton, Neb. was once again the gracious host for this event and provided the perfect backdrop with its beautiful country setting for a fun-filled day of fundraising.

The event included wine tasting, food, live music by local artist Skylark, The CoolPappas and Once a Pawn, a silent auction and raffle, and a variety of profit and non-profit vendors.

Rescue groups present ranged from dog and cat groups to reptile, bird and even wildlife groups. The variety of groups that participated in this year's event demonstrates the vast range of animals in need. Several of the groups brought animals available for adoption and/or needing foster homes.

Through generous donations from attendees and local businesses like Cause for Paws, HyVee, Tico's and BK Pet Necessities, LAA raised much-needed money to help fund its low-cost spay/neuter program. The generous spirit among animal lovers is immense. The success of this event will help many families and animals in the community.

What sets this group apart from other animal welfare groups is its community outreach programs – namely a Pet Food Bank and the low-cost spay/neuter program, LAA established these programs to provide temporary assistance to people for their pets and to prevent the ever-growing pet overpopulation problem that contributes to the millions of cats and dogs being killed each year in shelters.

You can find more information on LAA and volunteer opportunities at www.lincolnanimalambassadors.org.

Photos inside!

Proactive / Involved / Progressive / Compassionate

victory in Delaware for companion animals

Delaware Passes Landmark Legislation

July 23, 2010

Dear Friends,

The Governor of Delaware just signed the most sweeping, progressive companion animal protection legislation in the United States. The law was modeled on the No Kill Advocacy Center's Companion Animal Protection Act and spearheaded by the non-profit No Kill shelter Faithful Friends, in Wilmington, Delaware, and involved groups like Stray Haven Animal Sanctuary. Like Oreo's Law sought to do, the Delaware Companion Animal Protection Act mandates collaboration between shelters and rescue groups. A shelter cannot kill an animal if a rescue group is willing to save that animal's life. But that is just the beginning. It also makes convenience killing illegal—shelters can no longer kill an animal when there are available cages or the animals can share a cage or kennel with another one.

Specifically, the Delaware CAPA states:

Animal shelters shall ensure that the following conditions are met before an animal is euthanized:

- :: The holding period for the animal required by this chapter is expired;
- :: There are no empty cages, kennels, or other living environments in the shelter that are suitable for the animal;
- :: The animal cannot share a cage or kennel with appropriately sized primary living space with another animal;

:: A foster home is not available;

:: Organizations on the registry developed pursuant to §8003(d) are not willing to accept the animal; and

:: The animal care/control manager certifies that the above conditions are met and that he/she has no other reasonable alternative.

The law also requires posting "all stray animals on the Internet with sufficient detail to allow them to be recognized and claimed by their owners," requires shelters to maintain registries of rescue groups willing to save lives, and requires shelters to post statistics (intake, adoption, reclaim, transfer and killing rate).

While the law is now the most progressive companion animal protection legislation on record in this country, and can only be considered an unqualified victory for the No Kill movement, some of the No Kill Advocacy Center's recommendations were not accepted. Nonetheless, Delaware, the first state to ratify our nation's constitution, continues to lead the way in embracing the legislative framework necessary to ensure justice. And we will build upon this framework in the coming years to strengthen protections for animals even more.

Kudos to you, Faithful Friends, for being true to your name, and our deepest gratitude to the animal loving citizens and legislators of the great state of Delaware.

Nathan J. Winograd

Director, No Kill Advocacy Center

Courtesy of <http://www.nokilladvocacycenter.org/>

Airline's puppy deaths spark debate about commercial breeders

As animal lovers become more aware that purchasing a dog from a pet store supports the inhumane practices of puppy mills, commercial breeders are using online sources to get their dogs directly into homes across the country.

On August 3, seven puppies died of suspected heat-related complications in the cargo hold of a plane en route from Tulsa, OK, to Chicago, IL. The victims were seven of 14 pups transported by the airline, and reportedly came from a commercial breeder in Oklahoma—many of the puppies were booked on connecting flights, making it likely that they were purchased online by buyers in different cities.

"Puppy mill operators are creating professional looking websites that convincingly dupe consumers into thinking they are reputable breeders," says Cori Menkin, ASPCA Senior Director of Legislative Initiatives. "A sure way to spot a scam is that they often offer to ship the dogs to the buyer without ever meeting in person. No reputable breeder would ever ship a puppy to a buyer sight unseen."

Buying a puppy over the Internet is just as risky as buying from a pet store—you can't see the puppy's breeding premises or meet his parents. Furthermore, those who sell animals online are not held to regulations established by the Animal Welfare Act.

"The Animal Welfare Act requires breeders to be licensed and meet specific minimum standards of care for animals bred for resale, but a loophole allows puppy breeders who sell directly to the public—which includes over the Internet—to go unregulated," says Menkin. "They are able to keep inspectors away and operate without being accountable to anyone."

"The bottom line is the only way to be sure your new puppy isn't a product of cruel and inhumane conditions is to see for yourself where he lives—visit the breeder's facilities and meet the puppy's parents," Menkin states. "Or better yet, adopt from your local shelter."

Courtesy of <http://www.aspc.org>

volunteer

We're looking for some dedicated people!

- To help continue to make the LAA Pet Food Bank successful, we are in need of volunteers to help man the pick up locations for those needing food.
- Volunteers are needed for our upcoming Meow & Chow fundraiser event with The Cat House.

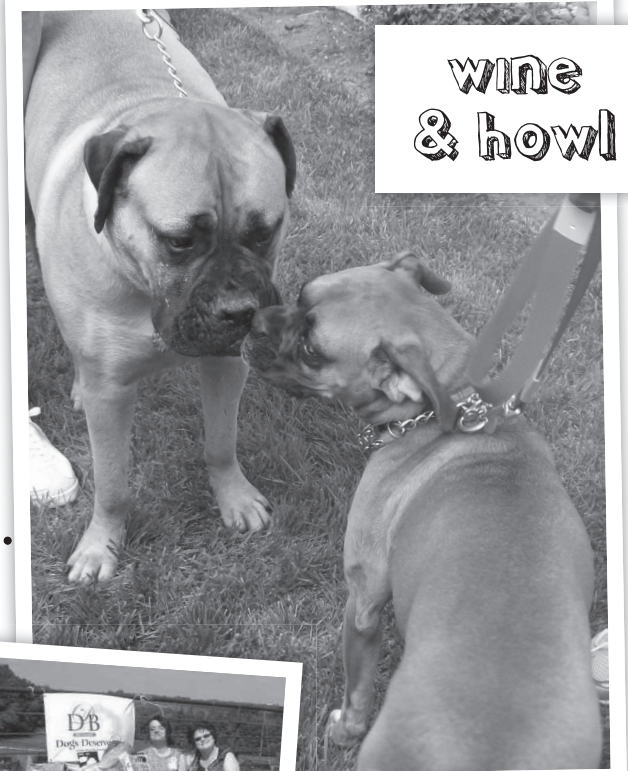
If you can help with any of these things, please contact Missy Murkins at mmurkinslmt@hotmail.com. We appreciate your support!

how YOU can help

- Please spay and neuter your pets.
- Please donate to LAA or to your favorite animal rescue. No donation is too small. Every little bit helps the animals tremendously.
- Consider volunteering with LAA and/or at your favorite animal rescue.
- Consider being a foster home. You will need to contact your favorite animal rescue to determine if they need foster volunteers and to ensure you meet their criteria.
- Donate various items to your favorite animal rescue's wish list.
- Please help your neighbors. Do you have an elderly neighbor who has trouble walking? Volunteer to walk their dog. Did your neighbors move? Be nosy and make sure they didn't inadvertently leave pets behind.
- Do you have gently used items you wish to donate? Please consider donating to Cause for Paws. All proceeds go to leading Nebraska animal charities. Please refer to their website for hours and other information. www.causeforpawslincoln.com

thank you

BK Pet Necessities, Cause for Paws, St. Matthews Episcopal Church, Infinity Storage, Stephens and Smith Construction, Sue Sturgis, Jennifer Lorenz, Larry Pankoke, Joyce Wheeler, Renee Runge, Dave Scoby, Donita Consbruck, Randy Douglas, Bruce Hoffman, Jane Cech, Regina Shields, Craig Gavin, Walt and Shirley Naslik, Heather Beed, Doris Schack, Jeanie Imler, Jane Cech, Rick & Jackie Clanton, Maddie McAllister, Rick's Reptiles, and Jo Darrington.





Proactive Involved Progressive Compassionate

www.lincolnanimalambassadors.org

Volunteer Information

Lincoln Animal Ambassadors promotes enriching our community through progressive thinking, education, awareness and public support. We are committed to improving the lives of animals and alleviating cruelty in Lincoln and the surrounding area.

This form may be completed using Microsoft Word. When completed, save the form and close it. You can then attach it to an email and return to info@lincolnanimalambassadors.com You can also print the form, fill it out and mail to: **Lincoln Animal Ambassadors, P.O. Box 67072, Lincoln, NE 68506**

We may not have a position for you immediately. We will keep your information on file and refer to our file as needed.

Name:		Phone 1:		Phone 2:	
Address:			City:		Zip:
Email address:					
Please check all skills and areas of interest that apply to you:					
<input type="checkbox"/>	Staff event tables	<input type="checkbox"/>	Writing		
<input type="checkbox"/>	Available to media	<input type="checkbox"/>	Computer skills**		
<input type="checkbox"/>	Grant writing	<input type="checkbox"/>	Public Relations		
<input type="checkbox"/>	Low cost spay/neuter program interviewer	<input type="checkbox"/>	Newsletter		
<input type="checkbox"/>	Event coordinator	<input type="checkbox"/>	Fundraising		
<input type="checkbox"/>	Deliver pet food	<input type="checkbox"/>	Listen and respond to voice mails		
<input type="checkbox"/>	Deliver presentations*	<input type="checkbox"/>	Locating new homes for displaced animals		
<input type="checkbox"/>	Website building/updating	<input type="checkbox"/>	Other:		
*Please list areas of expertise regarding animal issues:					
**Please list all software in which you are skilled and your level of skill:					
Business and/or occupation:					
Special skills you can contribute to LAA:					
Other community activities with which you are involved:					
Ideas and suggestions for LAA:					
Are you able to drive?			If so, do you have your own transportation?		
Are you available for one-time projects (e.g., envelope stuffing, brochure folding, etc.):					

in the community

POGO card fund raiser

We are selling POGO cards as a fund raiser. \$10 from every card sold will go to LAA. If you would like to purchase a POGO card, please email Mary Douglas at steppinmary@yahoo.com.

Tails n Trails

Capital Humane Society
Tails n Trails Pet Walk & Festival
Sunday, September 19, 2010
Haymarket Park

Annual North American Search Dog Network Fall Training Seminar

South Bend, NE
Sept. 27-Oct 2, 2010
For more info go to www.nasdn.org or contact John Beck at jb30343@windstream.net.

First Plymouth Animal Blessing

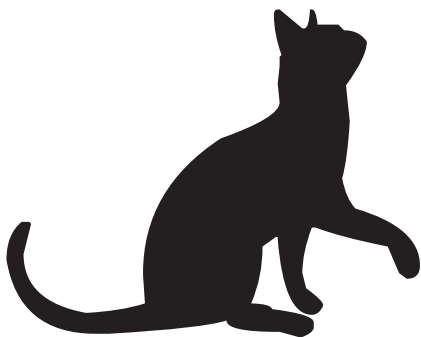
October 2nd in the First Plymouth courtyard. Rescues available at tables starting at 5:30pm, blessing at 6:30pm.

Holiday Pet Photos

November 6th, 10am-1pm
First Plymouth, Mayflower Hall

Meow & Chow Bingo Night

November 6th, 6:00pm
Location TBD
All you can eat soup/bingo games for a \$15 donation at the door. All proceeds go to LAA and The Cat House.



update

low-cost spay/neuter program

A total of 30 animals have been altered (13 dogs and 17 cats) and 75 vouchers have been mailed as of Monday, Aug. 23. Thanks to Cause for Paws and everyone else who has donated to LAA's low-cost spay/neuter program!

Ways YOU can help:

- Spread the word about our program to anyone in need as well as persons who may have contact with those in need. We have a spay/neuter brochure that you can use to help educate your friends and neighbors, but we need everyone's help to boost community awareness of this new program.
- Alert any LAA board member if you have connections we could tap into as we work to generate free or low-cost publicity for our program.
- Make a tax-deductible donation to Lincoln Animal Ambassadors. Checks should be made payable to: "Lincoln Animal Ambassadors" with "spay/neuter" noted in the memo line.

If you know of others who may be interested in helping us financially or as a volunteer, please share this newsletter with them. You can also call or email us directly with their contact information and we will ask them to join our cause.

The clock is ticking for thousands of Lincoln's companion animals; cats and dogs all over our city are depending on us and running out of time with each passing day. Please don't delay; **SAVE LIVES TODAY!**

Divine Life of Animals

Wednesdays, September 8-29, 6:30-7:30pm
Led by Pastor Karen Clarke, First Plymouth Animal Ministry Facilitator
Cost: \$15.00 (*materials not included*)

Using ancient insights going back to the first civilizations and blending them with stories about animals today, the Divine Life of Animals considers and discusses the spiritual importance of animals in cultures from ancient times up to today. This class will use the book: *The Divine Life of Animals*, by Ptolemy Tompkins. Please bring the book to the first class. Enrollment limited.

Register online at www.first-plymouth.org or by email to addie@firstplymouth.org

Readings:

- Week 1: Author's Note, Introduction, Chapter 1
- Week 2: Chapter 2
- Week 3: Chapter 3, Chapter 4
- Week 4: Chapter 5



reaching out into the community

Community Outreach Committee Update
By Mary Douglas

New Rules for the Pet Food Bank

As we are coming close to our years anniversary since the Lincoln Animal Ambassadors Pet Food Bank started, in September, 2009, we have had time to work out a few kinks. In June, 2010 the board decided it was time to make a few changes in the rules for the Pet Food Bank. It became clear to us that we needed to stress that the LAA Pet Food Program was a temporary assistance program and that we should encourage recipients to actively work on a plan to be able to support their pets and to be responsible pet owners.

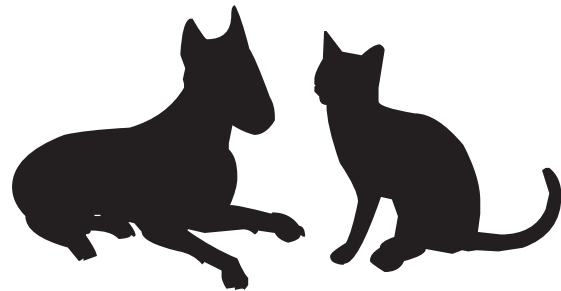
The first rule change was that a recipient could request and receive pet food assistance once a month for three (3) consecutive months. After three (3) months consecutively, they are asked to give back to their community in some form by participating in some type of volunteer activity, whether it be a known charity organization, or folding brochures or stuffing envelopes for their church, or something of that nature. They are required to bring a note from that organization with a contact number to verify the volunteer work done. Four (4) hours of volunteer work per month is all that is required. If this is too much of a hardship on some, they can choose to not receive from the pet food bank for a month. They need to make a plan to feed their pets for that 30 day period on their own. They can then receive again for three (3) consecutive months.

For safety reasons, and for the lack of volunteer manpower, LAA has made the decision to discontinue delivering pet food to recipients homes. LAA provides two pickup sites a week in the evening, and in special situations, can arrange for special pickup sites, but only in dire circumstances. Those pickup sites are Monday evenings between 7 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. at St. Matthews Episcopal Church at 2325 S. 24th Street and Thursday evenings between 6 p.m. and 8 p.m. at Cause for Paws thrift shop at 5700 Old Cheney Road. Recipients MUST call the pet food bank line first and arrange for items to be picked up at those dates and times. The number to call is (402) 817-1168.

LAA's mission is to help pets in need, on a temporary basis and to try to educate the community on being responsible pet owners, which includes being realistic in the numbers of pets you can reasonably afford to feed

and give the medical care required for that pet to live a long and productive life.

Lincoln Animal Ambassadors has given out over 15,000 pounds of pet food, over 1500 cans of pet food and over 600 lbs of cat litter since the pet food bank's inception in September, 2009. In addition, we have donated other pet necessities, such as collars, food bowls, leashes, pet beds, flea collars, litter scoops, pet toys, etc., to pets in need in Lincoln and surrounding communities, including many rescue groups. It is important to LAA to work together with rescue groups to further our mission of improving the lives of animals and alleviating cruelty.



pet food bank wish list

- store front location to store pet food and provide a pickup site all at one location (at least 20'x20')
- dry cat and dog food
- canned cat and dog food
- cat litter (small 10lb bags are best)
- volunteers with trucks/trailers to transport large pet food donations
- flea collars for medium to large dogs
- flea collars for cats
- unopened dog and cat shampoo
- dog and cat brushes
- Frontline for cats and dogs

Donated items can be left at Cause for Paws, 5700 Old Cheney Road, and St Matthews Episcopal Church at 24th & Sewell in Lincoln. Please contact our pet food bank line at 817-1168 for more information.