



PAW PRINTS

Finney County Humane Society

P.O. Box 2031 • Garden City, KS 67846 • 620-272-5651

Winter 2007



RESCUE ON CHRISTMAS

'Twas the night before Xmas when all thru the house,
Not a creature was stirring not even a mouse.

The stockings were hung by the chimney with care,
In hopes that St. Nickolaus soon would be there.

The children all nestled all snug in their beds,
With No thought of the dog filling their heads.

And mamma in her kerchief and I in my cap,
Knew the dog was cold, but didn't care about that.

When out on the lawn there arose such a clatter,
I sprang from the bed to see what was the matter!

Away to the window I flew like a flash,
Figuring the dog broke his chain and got into the trash.

The moon on the breast of the new fallen snow
Gave the luster of mid-day to objects below.

When what to my wondering eyes should appear-
But Santa Clause with eyes full of tears

He unchained the dog once so lively and quick,
Last years Xmas present now painfully sick

More rapid than eagles he called the dog's name
And the dog ran right to him despite, all his pain.

Now Dasher, now Dancer, now Prancer and Vixen.
On Comet on Cupid on Donner and Blitzen!

To the top of the porch to the top of the wall-
Let's find him a home where he'll be loved by all.

I knew in an instant there'd be no gifts this year,
For Santa had made one thing very clear

The gift of a dog is not just for the season-
We had gotten the dog for all the wrong reasons

In our haste to think of the kids-what a gift!
There was one important thing that we missed.

A dog should be family, and cared for the same
You don't give a Gift, then put it on a chain

And I heard him explain as he rode out of site
YOU WEREN'T GIVEN A GIFT,
YOU WERE GIVEN A LIFE!

She was so tiny and cold....the owners had walked into the shelter at 5 minutes to 5 and thrust her into my hand - here, she is sick...put her down. No ACO's were on duty that day as it was New Year's Eve and I was keeping the shelter open just hoping for a few adoptions before the long holiday weekend.

I took one look at her and knew she wasn't sick - just very cold and nearly starved to death. I called Dr. Sells who agreed to see her right away. I got some milk replacer from him and took her home where I fed her with a bottle and wrapped her in warm blankets in an upstairs bathroom where she would be nice and warm.

She weighed only a pound and a half and was white with black "bull's eyes" around her eyes. She had a round nose and a long tail. She was the cutest little button of a puppy I had ever seen. She thrived on the milk replacer, graduated to puppy chow and on to canned dog food. Soon she had the run of the house with the other dogs. We named her "Jolie", which is French for "pretty".

As February approached I knew I would have to find a rescue to take her as she was still not putting on weight like she should be, and had a bad case of giarrdia. We were leaving on an extended vacation soon, so I made arrangements to send her to a Boston Terrier rescuer in Omaha. Jolie obviously was not a Boston Terrier, but we didn't know what she was except adorable. My friend, Jennifer agreed to take her and find her a wonderful home. Once there, she finally got rid of the parasites, and started growing. Jennifer found her a great home in Colorado where she is happily playing with her family, swimming in ponds and streams in the summer and frolicking in the snow in winter.



Danna Jones
Garden City, KS

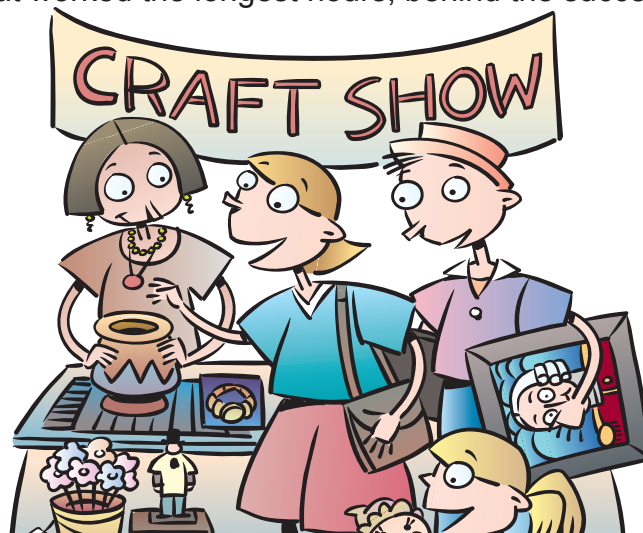


OCTOBER CRAFT SHOW FUNDRAISER

At the craft show in October the FCHS had what we felt was one of the prettiest booths in the show. Months of hard work by volunteers and lots of generous donations added up to over 60 theme baskets for sale. There were some baskets left and those we took to the Methodist Church sale on December 1, 2007 to try our luck again. The following is a list of people that contributed time or gave donations. If we miss someone then we apologize. Also, a huge "Job Well Done" to Nancy Garhart. She was the mastermind and coordinator, not to mention the one that worked the longest hours, behind the success.

Thank you to the following:

Floating Cloud Salon	Legends Salon
Critter Land	Regan Jewelers
Golden Corral	Target
Designing Pages	Natures Way
Bob Hubers Produce	Bob & Lucy Cooley
Dillons	Gail DeSpain
Movie Gallery	Pat Briggs
Porters	Skip Mancini
Signature the Salon	Nancy Bieker
Baskins & Robbins	Marge Williams
EWE Specialties	Mary Davis
McDonalds	



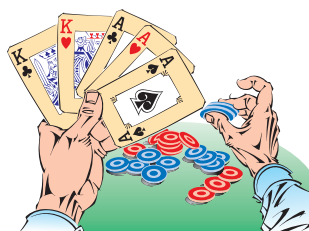
Tonight about 4:30 my doorbell rang. It was the farm family who adopted one of my foster pups about a month ago. They were eager to show me how happy he was and how thrilled they were with him. They were on their way to the veterinarian's office to leave him so he could be neutered in the morning (we collected a neuter deposit at adoption). They said he loves the family and the farm, spending his days riding the tractor, the combine, the truck, anywhere his "boy" is, he is. They let him in the house morning and evening to spend time with the family, but he sleeps outside with the other dog. They were full of anecdotes about how he loves to chew up kleenexes, play ball, chase and be chased. I could tell that he was a very happy pup and has a family who loves him very much. I was also pleased that he remembered me and gave me kisses.



I was a little concerned when they adopted him because I know some farm families just expect a dog to be a watchdog and don't really interact with them. Not the case with this family.

I love a happy ending....
Danna Jones, Garden City, KS

CARD PLAYERS HAD A GREAT TIME



The FCHS Texas Hold'Em Tournament on September 30, 2007 was a success and most, if not all, players went home with a prize.

Arlie DeFreeze was the motivating force behind this fundraiser. Arlie put in long hours working to get donations of money and items for prizes. Thank you, Arlie for your dedication and hard work for the animals.

We would also like to thank the businesses and individuals that donated towards the tournament. The tournament would not have been possible without the generous donations from the following:

Budget Way-Western Motors	The Garden City Family YMCA
Terry and Cheryl Kells	The Bike Rack
Garnand Funeral Home	All Pro Auto Repair
Garden City Tire	Sign Source
Wal-Mart	Westlake Ace Hardware
Garden True Value	
U.A.P. - Pueblo Chemical	



The Very Best Pet Network (VBPN) is a group consisting of Purina, Wal-Mart, and the American Humane Association. These companies have gotten together to help shelters across the United States promote animal adoption. Each time this message appears in our newsletter or at one of our events, the animal shelter gets points from VBPN toward an end of the year prize.



LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT - 2007 OVERVIEW

What a great and busy year this has been.

FCCHS was able to take hundreds of dogs to Denver and to rescues so that they could find forever homes. Thank you to all that were a part of those rescues.

We had three much needed free Parvo clinics this year provided by a grant from Western Community Foundation. We hope to have more next year.

Another grant received from the Finnup Foundation allowed us to double our spay/neuter program for the year. This is a very special program, not only does it help your pet to live a longer, healthier life, it eliminates unwanted animals.

Each one of our three main fund raisers was successful. The Flea Market, the Texas Hold-em tournament, and the craft show, provided us with funds to continue our rescue trips to Denver.

The highlight of 2007 was helping to create plans for a new animal shelter. Many meetings, phone calls, and exceptional news coverage brought the City and the County commissioners together to approve a new shelter in a new location. We commend Bob Halloran and Mayor Mesa for keeping the project alive. Thanks to Steve Cottrell and his team for working with the many ideas given to him for plans of the shelter.

We are so grateful to all that helped in any way this year to help the animals.

Remember, you saved a life this year 2007.

Nancy Garhart



Finney County Humane Society 2008 Membership Form



Membership dues provide a large part of our operating and projects revenue. Not only does it help pay for fuel and maintenance for the Hound Hauler and medicine for sick animals, it also pays for printing and mailing of you *Paw Prints* newsletter.

PLEASE clip this form and start or renew your membership NOW!

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Address: _____ Email: _____

Individual \$15 Family \$25 Business/Corporation \$100

FINNEY COUNTY HUMANE SOCIETY • PO BOX 2031 • GARDEN CITY, KS 67846

Thank You! If applicable, please let us know who referred you: _____

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Don't forget to save
your used inkjet and
laser cartridges!
**To Donate Call
620-260-7658**

The Animal Shelter and several FCHS foster homes have a large variety of cats that the FCHS has had spayed or neutered. Their adoption cost is only \$28. \$16.50 is prepaying for a rabies shot, \$10 is the shelter adoption fee, and \$2 is for a tag. For information call the shelter at 620-276-1152 or Carol at 620-275-8943.



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OUR MISSION STATEMENT:

To prevent cruelty to
animals, to relieve suf-
fering among animals,
and to promote the
extension of
humane education

The "Lovey" M & M's



Midnight and Murphy are my Lovey M&M's. I am sharing a little note to let you all know that I adopted an awesome white cat from Carol Hauschild's foster home here in Garden City, KS. Carol is a licensed foster home for the shelter and she takes cats into her home that otherwise would be euthanized at the Garden City/Finney County Animal Shelter.

My main love is Midnight, my black cat of 3 years. I thought it was about time to get him a friend. I stumbled upon Murphy, a green-eyed white cat that had been fostered at Carol's for about a year. He seemed very friendly and Carol had mentioned he was somewhat of a lover and flirt. He loves attention and likes to give it as well. I brought him home and for two days Midnight growled and hissed, but Murphy did not seem to care. He just kept exploring the house and checking out Midnight.

The next day after getting home from work, I could not find Murphy. Worried, because Midnight always hears me come home and is waiting at the door, Murphy was nowhere to be found. I called him and called him and he did not appear (like any other cat would come anyway). After a little exploring, I found him under the bed asleep. Later, I realized that he was deaf as he did not mind the vacuum cleaner or the hair dryer!

Dr. Christensen, a veterinarian here in Garden City, thought it was most likely congenital deafness; nonetheless, under anesthesia, Murphy had two decayed teeth removed and his teeth and ears cleaned, shots updated and laboratory tests for Feline Immune Deficiency and Feline Leukemia. The blood tests were negative, thankfully.



So what about white cats and deafness? I had to learn more. Sarah Hatwell wrote on the internet that 95% of the general cat population is non-white cats and congenital deafness is extremely rare in non-white cats. 5% of the general cat population is white cats and 15-40% of these pure white cats have one or more blue eyes. Of those white cats with one or more blue eyes, 60-80% are deaf; 20-40% have normal hearing; 30-40% had one blue eye and were deaf, while 60-70% had one blue eye and normal hearing. Furthermore, of the 5% of white cats in the overall population, 60-80% had eyes of other colors (green, orange). Of these,

10-20% were deaf and 80-90% had normal hearing. Is that confusing enough? Long story short, blue eyed white cats have a higher incidence of deafness, but not all blue eyed white cats are deaf.

According to the data above, Murphy had a 10-20% chance of being deaf. Furthermore, white or non-white green-eyed cats can be congenitally deaf (less than 1% chance) or acquired thru illness or injury.

Murphy, my beautiful deaf green-eyed loving cat is a wonderful asset to my family. Midnight now loves him and they wrestle and play all the time. I have developed a cat sign language for Murphy and in time hope to be able to communicate with him better. He has somewhat of a loud meow and is quite expressive, as I assume he cannot hear himself talk. Murphy senses vibration and can feel me walking close to him. If he is sleeping, I will touch him gently as to not excite a frightened cat with claws exposed!!

Lastly, of course, I would never leave him outside due to the obvious danger due to a hearing impairment but may accept the challenge of teaching him to walk on a leash. Due to his loving personality, I have given Murphy a nickname of "Lovey," however, I could call him anything and he would not come anyway, whether deaf or not!

Elizabeth Doyle, MD



Last summer Animal Control received a complaint about 2 dogs barking constantly. The reporting party stated that she had seen no one at the home for nearly 2 weeks and that there were two large dogs in the back yard. Upon arrival the ACO noted that the weeds in the yard were 2 feet tall, food bowls were present, but had been polished clean by anxious probing tongues and a kiddie wading pool which had contained water in the past now contained only a dried green gooey slick. The dogs were two ancient Golden Retrievers who were beside themselves with joy in anticipation of receiving care. They were taken to the animal shelter. The owners of the dogs was

determined and citations issued. The dogs were so happy in the shelter! This is almost never the case unless an animal has been abused in their homes. They ate and drank with gusto, but the shelter is not a comfortable place, especially in the heat of summer. Their coats were ratted, matted, filthy and hung in dreadlocks, full of stickers, weed seeds and dirt. However, they always greeted their caregivers with joy and excitement. They were at the shelter for nearly two months while the legal system ground slowly thru the process of severing the rights of the owner. Finally, at the end of the appeal time, I was allowed to deliver the dogs to a Golden Retriever Rescue in Colorado. From there they were adopted by a family who adopts only senior and abused dogs. This is the story of their new life.

“We absolutely LOVE them. What kind and forgiving souls they are. I have never seen two such happy characters. Chief's long and curly mane resembles a Clown's collar. He absolutely loves spending time in the kitchen watching and waiting for a treat to come his way. At first when I put a water bowl down they would lick it dry and until their tongues were raw. Since they were outside dogs they didn't know where the “potty” was. Flushing toilets were interesting and fun to hear and watch! TV? Heh what's that! Oh and those brown paper bags...wow!! A great toy? Well they found out that there are things called squeaky toys, and stuffed babies, and tennis balls, and tuggies, warm blankets and soft beds, a couch to snuggle and a loving hand to guide.

Molly and Chief have come a long way in the short time they have been with us. First they are INSIDE dogs now and know what outside potty is now. No more sub freezing nights or sweltering day in the sun. They know that their stomach's will be filled and their thirst quenched always. There are daily walks and play time. Molly loves to play ball and she is learning to bring it back. We can't wait to take them swimming at the nearby lake when the weather permits. They always have toys in their mouths and love to parade around with them. We go to the now closed campgrounds near Yellowstone Park and let them run and explore. They even saw a group of big horn sheep! (They winter just south of where we live)

Chief is very protective of Molly. You can see by his face that he has had his share of scraps in his life. For an old boy he won't back down if he or Molly feels threatened. But they are learning they are above all SAFE now. NO one or thing will EVER hurt them again!

These Golden Agers have brought so much life and love back into our lives, they are exceptional loving forgiving creatures...we are very fortunate to have been chosen to complete their journey. Thank you for stepping up to the plate for this innocent duo, and bringing them home to us!

Danna Jones