



PAWPRINTS



This issue of the PawPrints will be somewhat different than what you usually see. The AGM is coming up very soon and so are the plans to move the “people” part into the new building. So we thought it would be a good idea to supply everyone with information on PAWS and the shelter.

If you have any suggestions or questions you are welcome to bring them up at the AGM on March 19th.

*Men have forgotten this truth – But you must not forget it.
You remain responsible forever for what you have tamed.
- Antoine de Saint-Exupery, the Little Prince*

CONTACT INFORMATION

Full Name: Creston Pet Adoption and Welfare Society
Mailing address: PO Box 253 Creston BC VOB 1G0
Telephone: 250-428-7297 (250-428-PAWS)
Email address: paws@kootenay.com
Website: www.paws-crestonbc.org

PAWS

PAWS was founded by a handful of caring people in 1996. It was a particular dream of one of them, Claudia Grimstead, to see a shelter where homeless, abandoned and abused animals could find refuge and be given the chance of a new life. With the tragic loss of Claudia and her dog, Lily, on December 9th, 2001, we were determined to carry on her work. With the shelter nearing completion we are proud to have it bear the name *Claudia's Place* in her honor.

PAWS is a registered charity. We are able to issue Tax Receipts for monetary donations or donations in kind for large items or supplies.

PAWS is governed by a Board of Directors. They in turn take the wishes of the members and act upon them as appropriate.

DONATIONS

Any type of donation is very much appreciated. Without public support we could not continue to help the animals and provide many community services.

CASH – any amount is welcome. This can be made at the office or at any PAWS operated event.

CHEQUES – these can be sent by mail, given to office staff or to PAWS members at any event.

Post dated cheques are also acceptable if you would like to donate in that manner.

DEPOSITS – deposits may be made to the PAWS account at the Creston and District Credit Union.

IN MEMORY – donations in lieu of flowers may be made in memory of a deceased person. A thank you card will be sent to the surviving family as well as a tax receipt to the donor.

ESTATE LEGACY – a legacy may be made to PAWS in your will for a set amount or for a percentage of the estate. Tax Receipts can be issued for this donation.

IN KIND – items of a larger nature, supplies, equipment, etc. are also welcome and will have a tax receipt issued for the value of the donation.

WISH LIST for CLAUDIA'S PLACE

Backhoe service	Litter pans
Bite Gloves	Live Animal traps
Bookkeeper	Lumber
Brooms	Metal portable corrals
Catch Poles	Metal stock gate
Cat litter	Money
Cat Scratch posts	Mops
Chain Link fencing	Nutro cat and dog food
Clippers	Small fans
Concrete	Office supplies
Digital Camera	Outdoor benches
DVD player	Paper towels
Fence posts	Pet hair dryer
Filing cabinets	Pet scale
Garbage bags	Pet stretchers
Garbage cans – plastic	Pooper scoopers
Gift Certificates: Home Hardware, Morris's	Storage shed
Golf cart	Tarps
Gravel	Treasurer
Grooming table	Trees
Heat lamps	Volunteers
Labor	Wading pools
Landscaping	Water line pipes
Lawn chairs	Wet/Dry shop vacuum

Hand tools – hammers, saws, pliers, etc.

Lawn/Garden tractor – snow blower – grass mower – cart

Van – for rescue and transport of injured or adopted pets and pick-up of shelter supplies

Yard tools – shovels – rakes – pruners – hoes, etc.

Yard equipment – hoses – sprinklers – gas powered hand mower – gas powered weed eater

Wheelbarrow/cart and/or wagon

Sponsors for: Monthly phone bills, power bills, water bills, internet service, garbage pick up, etc.

Vet bills, spay/neuter program, working expenses, Lost & Found ads in newspaper, etc.

ID TAGS

Permanent identification tags may be obtained from the PAWS office. These are listed in our ID Tag database. In the event your pet becomes lost and is found by a stranger, they can call the PAWS office number on the tag and give us the ID number. We can then locate the owner immediately with the information of the location of their lost pet. These tags do not require renewing every year and the only “upkeep” for the pet owner is to make certain their information is up-to-date so we can inform them if a

lost pet is located. There is no set fee for these tags but a donation would be welcome to help defer the costs so we can continue to offer this service.

SPAY/NEUTER PROGRAM

PAWS will assist pet owners in spaying or neutering their pets. We will pay a portion of the cost of the operation directly to the vet being used if we approve your request prior to the operation. While we cannot pay the complete bill we hope this will help to ease the strain on the pet owner's finances. This service is available in cooperation with Creston Veterinary Hospital and Kootenay Animal Clinic.

All we require is a short letter containing the necessary information (pet, vet, appointment date, etc.) and a request for the assistance.

MICROCHIP PROGRAM

Your pet can be microchipped through PAWS. This is a permanent identification which is more reliable than collar identification. The fee for this service is \$25.00 per pet. Dogs and cats can be chipped. Call the office for an appointment.

EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS

Several PAWS members and their "special" dogs visit school classrooms around the valley. These have included Pre-school, kindergarten, elementary, special-ed and high school classes. It is hoped by showing the young people in the valley that animals do, indeed, have feelings, needs and intelligence, that those same young people will grow up to be animal friendly adults.

THERAPY DOGS

Creston has its very own *Therapy Dogs* who make visits to the seniors at Swan Valley Lodge and Crestview Village. Many older people have come from homes where there was always a resident dog or cat and now miss them very much. Our little group of Eight dogs and One cat try to fill this lack of companionship for them.

If you would like to join this group please contact PAWS and we will let you know the procedure. These animals are trained and tested for Canine Good Citizenships right here in Creston.

PUBLICATIONS

Weekly Wag and Meow Mart is published each week where we list animals up for adoption and pets lost or found in our area. The "Wag" can also be viewed on our website.

PawPrints is published once a month and distributed by email. It contains information on what is happening with PAWS at the time as well as tips on pet health, diet, humour, etc.

VOLUNTEERS

We always need volunteers and foster homes. Once we are into the "people portion" of the shelter we will be able to use more steady volunteers for office work. Once the "animal portion" of the shelter is operational we will need volunteers to help with the animals.

Foster homes will continue to be needed for those animals who require special socializing in a home environment.

Foster care givers and office workers must also be PAWS members. Casual volunteers do not need to be members and will be trained for the position they will fill at the shelter.

Membership with PAWS requires an application to be completed – available at the office. Annual membership dues are \$15 per family.

PAWS needs someone as our bookkeeper on a regular basis. Training for our requirements is available to the right person.

FUNDRAISING

This is a year-round endeavour to help raise funds for the shelter building, vet bills and everyday costs of managing PAWS itself.

NONE of our volunteers receive any wages for their work, time, energy and caring.

Since we do not receive government funds we continue our work with the help of grants and members fund raising. We hold our Dinner Dance and Silent Auction, Pet Pictures with Santa, Walk-a-Thon, Bake Sales, Concert Concessions, Raffles and booths at major events to raise our funding.

MISCELLANEOUS AIDES

PAWS also offers advice on: minor medical conditions (not instead of a vet visit); training both in obedience and behaviour; adopting the right breed for your situation; and even a lending library containing videos, books and magazines.

PAWS also follows up on abuse and neglect reports. As we do not have the authority to take action in these cases we can only offer advice to the owner in question. If the situation warrants further action we will notify the Cruelty Investigators.

TAIL END

Important Links:

Cranbrook SPCA – 250-426-6751

Trail SPCA – 250-368-5910

Nelson 2nd Chance – 250-352-2228

Creston Vet Hospital – 428-9494

Kootenay Vet Clinic – 428 2822

Animal Control (Town of Creston only) – 428-2214

If you are interested in adopting a new companion, need to re-home one or have found a pet or lost one – please check out our ***Weekly Wag and Meow Mart*** which is posted at both Vet Clinics, Iron Kettle Restaurant or Lil' Mutt Grooming. Or check with the PAWS office - 1420 Northwest Boulevard - or on our website.

Everyone is invited to participate in PAWS events, projects, meetings and fund raisers.

If you are interested in volunteering, fostering or becoming a member please contact us.

Want to receive your own PawPrints by email? Just contact Lee at leekitto@wynndel.ca

CRESTON PET ADOPTION & WELFARE SOCIETY

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