

Tell your cat and dog-loving friends about Maine's  
**Tax Check Off!**



Because there aren't enough homes for all of them...

Maine's state tax form (Schedule CP) now has a

**Companion Animal Sterilization Fund**

\$5  \$10  \$25  Other \$ \_\_\_\_\_

the Companion Animal Sterilization Fund will be used to save lives by:

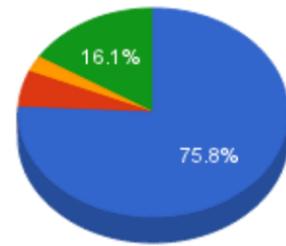


- Spaying/Neutering Cats and Dogs
- Preventing Unwanted Litters
- Lowering Shelter Intakes
- Lowering Shelter Euthanasias
- Reducing the Number of Feral cats
- Reducing Dog Bites

For more information Call **HELP FIX ME!** now at: **1.800.367.1317**

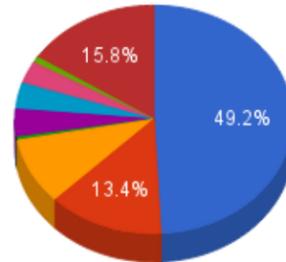
Maine Department of Agriculture, Food and Rural Resources  
Animal Welfare Program  
LOW-INCOME SPAY/NEUTER PROGRAM

**PAWS Total Revenue for 2012 ~ \$19,981**



- Donations
- Adoptions
- Grants
- Fundraisers

**PAWS Total Expenses for 2012 ~ \$15,719**



- Vet Costs - PAWS cats
- Vet Costs - Owned pets
- Shelter Supplies
- Office Supplies
- Media
- Fees
- Insurance
- Shelter Upgrade
- Fundraisers

ISSUE

02

JAN ~ FEB 2013



Animal Welfare Society, Inc.



**With your help, in the last year, PAWS has helped:**

**SHELTER CATS:**

- # taken into shelter - 62
- # spayed/neutered/vaccinated - 50
- # given add'l medical care - 20
- # adopted - 38 ~ # released - 2
- # who died - 4 ~ # fostered - 9
- # returned to owner - 2
- # adopted via other shelters - 14

**COMMUNITY SUPPORT ~ OWNED PETS:**

- Provided medical aid - 15
- Provided s/n aid - 13
- Provided adoption aid - -1
- Provided aid with HFM Vouchers- 18
- Other aid - 4

**TOTAL CATS HELPED - 102**

Half ~ 51 came from Fort Kent

Other 51 came from:

- Cross Lake - 1
- Eagle Lake - 5
- Frenchville - -4
- Grand Isle - 3
- Madawaska - 8
- St. Agatha - 6
- St. David - 2
- St. Francis - 10
- St. John - 5
- Sinclair - 1
- Van Buren - 3
- Wallagrass - 2
- Winterville - 1



Fiona



Little Morris



Lenny

Have a Purr-fect Day!

**Message from the President...**



Connie Michaud

It's hard to believe a year has already gone by for our PAWS Animal Welfare Society Team of volunteers. Again, this year was a gratifying one for our St. John Valley feline companions in many ways. The PAWS Board members and other volunteers are very dedicated and have been critical to our success in rescuing cats, arranging for spaying and neutering, administering vaccinations, providing other medical treatment as needed, fostering and finding permanent homes. We are very appreciative of the Valley's generosity in many facets from newspaper ads, steadfast monetary donations and donated shelter supplies. Please consider volunteering in some capacity to help our cats in need.

**Why Wouldn't You?**

As a pet owner for many years, I've always known that pets can bring many health benefits to a home. My family has owned cats, dogs, and horses. We also have enjoyed fish and love to feed the birds. I checked out Web MD (5 Ways Pets Can Improve Your Health) and found that research shows owning a pet can lower blood pressure, boost immunity related to allergies, lessen anxiety and provide exercise and companionship which is a boon to everybody especially the elderly. Studies indicate that "heart attack patients who have pets survive longer than those who don't." Cats and dogs will also function as a first line of defense in times of danger. A quick true story happened when I was a young teacher in Kittery, Maine. One night my door blew open during a Nor'easter, The cold wind compromised my thermostat and the furnace could not keep up with the extreme cold. The basement boiler was shaking with effort to boost the temperature. My cat, a black and orange female called Schitzo, jumped on my chest and kneaded vigorously until I woke up. She then streaked out doors into the teeth of the storm and I pushed the door closed. Schitzo returned the morning of the next day and I felt she had saved my life from a sure explosion. Do you have a pet story you could share with PAWS Animal Welfare Society, Inc.? Write a letter to P.O. Box 94, Fort Kent Mills, ME 04744.

Article by Pris Daigle

[www.ourvalleypaws.org](http://www.ourvalleypaws.org)



Pris Daigle, V.P.

Tim Sample



On Cats

PAWS ~ Issue 02 Jan ~ Feb 2013



PO Box 94  
Fort Kent Mills, ME 04744

We want to recognize and thank all the valuable volunteers at the PAWS Temporary Holding Facility!

Debbie McClain: Facility Manager

Mariella Squire, Secretary

Roy Hafford Jr.

Jeanne Nadeau

Matt Stubbs

Alexandria Drummond

Laura Nickerson

Graham Williams

Braeden Williams

Madeline Williams

Kelsey Dubois

Katie Pinette

Jessica Potilo

Chelsea Sadler

Bree Noyes

Carissa Dumont

Pam Ashby

Kennedy Ashby

Lisa Pinette

Paula Ouellette

Emily Ouellette

Pat Theriault

Evan Bosse

Paulie Jackson

Best Wishes to All and a Purr-fect New Year for 2013

This newsletter is dedicated to the memory of Jerry.



RIP Jerry Jan 19, 2013

### Networking With Other Shelters...

PAWS has been fortunate to find good homes here in the St. John Valley for 38 cats this past year. However, our holding facility is for temporary stays while a cat is recovering and it is small so we can only accommodate 5-6 cats at any given time. As a result, we cannot take surrenders and we must "think outside the box" in addressing the fact that there are more cats needing homes than there are homes readily available.

Fortunately, we have had good success in networking with other larger shelters. As our statistics reveal, we were able to place 14 cats in 2012 in this manner. In order to do this we must select cats that would be readily adoptable, test them for feline AIDS and leukemia, spay or neuter any adult cats and ensure that they are up-to-date on their vaccinations. Once this has been done, we have to arrange to transport the cat(s) for long distances which often requires some creative thinking and willing partners. Here are examples of a few of the cats that have benefited from this arrangement:

1. A black tortoiseshell female was found in Madawaska. She was transported to the Animal Welfare Society in Kennebunk, ME on Oct. 25 and was adopted within a week.
2. A black male that had been a stray on Rt. 1 in Frenchville for 3-4 years. He was in rough shape from his ordeal and required extra medical care. He would not have lived much longer had he not been captured. We transferred him to Halfway Home Pet Rescue in Caribou on Nov. 5. He was adopted by the end of the month.
3. An orange tiger female was found in St. Agatha and trapped after being homeless for 3-4 months. She was transported to the Animal Welfare Society on Nov. 29 and was adopted within a week.
4. Four black and white kittens that were born to a stray in Eagle Lake were taken to Ridgefield Operation Animal Rescue (ROAR) in Ridgefield, CT on Nov. 12. All the kittens had been adopted by Dec. 7.

Whether we find a home here or through our networking, our expenses are always greater than the adoption fee. Our adoption fee is \$30 for an adult cat that have been examined by a veterinarian, spayed or neutered, vaccinated for distemper and rabies and treated for any other needs which may require dental work, blood work, x-rays, and medications. We receive **no** monetary payment for cats sent to other shelters, just the satisfaction of knowing that the cats are now in a home which is where they belong and deserve to be.

Article by Jean Cobb



Jean Cobb Treasurer

### Let's Talk Volunteering...

For the past 5 years, I have been working with volunteers and I have seen their efforts and successes. It has been truly amazing. Not only do the volunteers comfort and care for the animals, but the volunteers receive appreciation and comfort in return. Volunteers are not paid. That is why they are called volunteers. But the work they do is priceless. They are given back a satisfaction that cannot be translated into dollars and cents. PAWS Animal Welfare has been counting on the local communities and volunteers to keep the cat population healthy through spaying, neutering, vet checks and educating the general public. These beautiful animals deserve a permanent home filled with love and respect. When the volunteer sees an animal adopted into a good home that is reward enough. You should try volunteering. Donations of time and money make it possible to rescue more animals, help more people and build a future shelter that better serves our area. We speak for the animals as they don't have a voice of their own. Years down the road, you will remember your help gave better quality life to pets and people. Be brave! Ask about, learn about, and call us. What are you waiting for?



Debbie McClain Facility Manager

## Many Thanks to our Donors

We are extremely grateful for all the donations we have received from people in the Valley and beyond. In addition to donations received from individuals via the mail and at our fundraisers we are provided with a continuous source of revenue due to the generosity of people filling our canisters at Irving, Gas & Go, China Garden, John's Thriftway and the Sugar Shack. Additional thanks go to the following organizations and individuals: The Town of Fort Kent, Fort Kent Police Dept., Shop n' Save in Fort Kent and Madawaska, Fiddlehead Focus, Key Bank and the employees of Wells Fargo.

### DONATIONS WELCOMED!!!

Each year PAWS spends approximately \$15,000 to maintain its current service. Through fundraising and donations, we are able to continue helping cats, dogs and pet owners. Please help us out by using the following coupon or donating through PayPal on our website: <http://www.ourvalleypaws.org>. Your donation is tax deductible. Make check out to PAWS Animal Welfare Society Inc. and mail to PAWS Animal Welfare Society Inc., PO Box 94, Fort Kent Mills, ME 04744

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_  
 ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 EMAIL: \_\_\_\_\_  
 DONATION AMOUNT: \_\_\_\_\_  
**THANK YOU VERY MUCH!**

### Building Fund

Although PAWS has done very well without a regular building for a shelter our goal is to buy or lease property that will give us more space and enable us to help more cats. Therefore we have been putting aside as much money as possible into a building fund. Any support we receive either in the form of donations to this fund or assistance in finding suitable land and/or a building would be greatly appreciated.

