

ANIMAL ADOPTIONS OF FLAMBOROUGH

'PAWSITIVE REFLECTIONS' 2009

President's Message:

2009 proved to be another successful year for Animal Adoptions of Flamborough. We managed to find new forever homes for many cats, kittens, dogs and puppies.

As always a big 'thanks' to all our volunteers and to those on the Board of Directors who take time out of their busy schedules to attend monthly meetings and make important decisions regarding this charity.

To our *Foster Families* who make room in their homes and hearts, providing much needed TLC to those four-legged friends in need.

To our *local veterinarians* who without prior notice find space for a pet in need of immediate care.

To our *Global Pet Food Store* for all their efforts throughout the years.

To *Betty*, always on call to answer the phones when the shelter is closed. A very stressful job.

Thanks to Donna who makes the rounds collecting monies from the donation containers.

We have *volunteers* that come in every Sunday morning to clean cages and look after feeding all the cats and kittens.

Not to be forgotten are those who supply *transportation*. There are always those who need to be picked up at the vets or are to visit the vets.

All volunteers play a vital role within this charity. Each deserves a BIG THANKS.

We are indebted to those who make donations, be they of the monetary kind or donations to garage sales.

It takes an enormous number of dedicated volunteers to keep this charity running smoothly.

As of this writing, adoptions are down as well as donations in 2010, yet the unwanted pets keep coming in to the facility. Is it because of the economy or does it stem from all the problems that have surfaced within the SPCA's? Perhaps the general public has lost faith in rescue groups in general.

Animal Adoptions has been operating in the Flamborough area for many, many years. We as a Registered Charity receive no government funding, relying solely on private donations and fund-raising.

On a personal note, I have served on the Board of Directors for the past sixteen years as president. In this time I have been asked numerous times if I get paid for doing this job? The answer is a flat NO. In fact it costs me money as we receive no compensation for fuel used in distance traveled. This dedication comes from the heart; no one has enough money to pay me to do this job. It is not enough to care about the furry friends; one must have an inner passion. It is not just an hour or two here and there, it consumes your life. One must think with their head and not their heart at times. Some decisions are easy to make while others are very difficult. Everyone likes happy endings but not all endings are happy. Tough decisions go with the territory.

2009 Fund Raising Report:

After a break in January and February our fund-raising starts off in high gear with our **Annual Spring Garage sale at Sealey Park**. Our 2009 sale netted AAF \$900.00

Hill's February Heart Event: Through Global Pet Foods, Waterdown and Dundas, \$2500 was raised. A special thanks to both locations for their continued support.

Our Spring **Fling Dance**, held in March of 2009 raised \$5000. Walking through the door, one would think they had stepped back into the fifties. Poodle skirts and hoola-hoops were popular. Great fun was had dancing the night away to the music of the 50's and 60's.

The Terry's held a **yard sale** at their residence in May and raised \$370.00. Many thanks to them for their continued support.

Artist's in the Country held the first weekend in June is hosted by Don and Mona Corby of Corby's Custom Framing in Carlisle. Many local artists display their crafts and each donate a work of art to be raffled at the end of the show on Sunday. All proceeds from this raffle go to benefit the pets in the care of Animal Adoptions.. We raised \$500.00

Waterdown Rotary Club: Always a supporter of Animal Adoptions, a cheque was received in the amount of \$500.00 in June of 2009.

Flamborough Pet Parade: In spite of the dreary wet weather, we had a fun day and raised \$1600.00. Free drinks and hot-dogs were available to all who handed in pledge forms. The residents of Alexander Place act as judges for this event and in return receive much attention from all the pets.

Graham Family Golf Tournament : A cheque was received for \$2986.80. Many thanks to the Graham Family for thinking of the pets in our care.

Thanks to Donna Terry for her efforts on **Tag Day**. Held in September, this fund-raiser netted us \$1511.02. We are always in need of volunteers for this event. Please call the shelter at #905-689-7801 if you are interested in helping on this one-day blitz.

An Open-House was held at **Hillfield Academy** in Hamilton. Animal Adoptions was asked to join the event with some of our beloved pets. A great day was had by all and raised \$160.00

Lots of work as always, our **Annual Fall Garage Sale** was held in October and raised \$1520.00. Many new and used items are up for grabs at this sale as well as baked goodies. Left over items were donated to CHOICES. *One charity helping another.*

November is always **Flamborough Santa Claus Parade**. Give consideration to walking your pet with our group. It is a fun evening. The date for the 2010 parade is November 27th.

Never a big money maker but always a lot of fun is our **Picture your pet with Santa**. Held each year at Connon Nurseries on #5 Highway, Waterdown. Thanks to Connon's for the beautiful back-drop and to Garth for processing the pictures. Your efforts are always appreciated. Again, thanks to our Santa Rick who always has a treat for the pets and candy canes for the children.

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We were invited this past year for **Gift Wrapping at Wal-Mart**. The weekend of gift wrapping raised \$900.00 and this amount was matched by Wal-Mart making our cheque total \$1800.00. Thanks to all those who volunteered their time and efforts for this as it is a very busy time of year.

To try and make the community more aware of the existence of Animal Adoptions of Flamborough, we hold **Christmas with the Cats**. The public is invited to come by and check us out. Items for sale as well as homemade baked goods, and just in time for the holidays. In 2009 we raised \$304.00

Animal Adoptions of Flamborough is closed for adoptions over the holidays in an effort to discourage those who want to adopt our four-legged friends as gifts. The holiday season is a very hectic time of the year. Should you be looking for a new furry friend, wait until the New Year, avoid the pet store impulse purchases and do your homework.

Coming events for 2010: Up-date :

*Sealey Park Garage Sale: This event raised \$1027.52
Global Pet Foods - Waterdown and Dundas raised \$2494.00
Spring Fling 50/60's Dance netted us \$3000.00
Terry's Yard Sale - Increased our coffers by \$370.00
Artist's in the Country - Raised \$501.00
Flamborough Pet Parade - \$925.27*

Events for the remainder of this year: *For information regarding these coming events, please call 905-689-7801*

*Yard Sale - 577 Safari Road
Tag Day - September 18th 2010
Annual Fall Garage Sale - October 16th, 2010
Flamborough Santa Claus Parade - November 27th, 2010
Picture your pet with Santa - December 4th, 2010
Christmas with the Cats - December 18th 2010*

Hamilton Cat Fanciers:

Animal Adoptions of Flamborough was invited to participate at the Hamilton Cat Fanciers Show this spring. We set up a display advertising our charity and entered several of our shelter cats. Guess what, we walked away with lots of ribbons. Who would have thought?

Pet Therapy:

Thanks to all our volunteers who make this program possible. With the unique ability to be non-judgemental, pets are the perfect visitors. For those having a down-day are suddenly all smiles and happiness. Dogs, Cats, kittens or puppies and sometimes a new born lamb can make a world of difference to those shut in.

Our 'Guardian Angel':

Quilts, sweaters, table runners, bags, mitts, hats and many other items are handmade and available at the facility. All made with love by Allyson. She continues to restore our faith in mankind.

Gifts:

Drop by the facility at 16 Mill Street North in Waterdown. As a gift for the person who has everything you can make a donation to Animal Adoptions with one of our specially designed cards and help the four-legged friends at the same time. As an added bonus you will receive a tax receipt for all donations over ten dollars.

Adoptions:

Animal Adoptions Hot-Line # 905-689-4972

Web Address: www.anadoptflam.com

Here you can check out pictures and descriptions of those pets ready for their new forever homes.

While kittens are very cute, Animal Adoptions has many older cats in need of new homes. These furry friends have been displaced through no fault of their own. Do you have room in your heart and your home for a new friend? Please give our adoption line a call at # 905-689-4972

Note : Animal Adoptions does not adopt kittens to those with children under five years of age.

During 2009 we placed 258 cats and kittens and 21 dogs and puppies in new homes.

As of December 31st 2009 we had 79 cats and kittens in our care with five of them being long term fosters.

As of July 2010 we have 102 cats and kittens and 3 dogs in our care.

Once again we stress the importance of having your pet spayed or neutered. Upwards to a quarter million cats and dogs are euthanized each year in city pounds. Once spayed or neutered they become better companions, lead healthier lives and will not contribute to the over-population problem.

Board of Directors for 2010

President - M. Lamb

Treasurer - H. White

Adoptions - B. Griffiths

Director - L. McMaster

Director - A. Saczyk

Director - M. Kingston

Director - K. Patterson

Financial Report:

In 2009 our expenses totalled \$100,289.15. Our veterinary bills alone accounted for \$61,720.42.

Food and boarding along with microchip implants cost the organization another \$4200.00

No organization can operate without insurance which set us back another \$2,843.64. Rental fees for our location came in at \$13,337.55

Then we must add telephone, office expense, etc and you can understand why we are always holding fund-raisers.

Adoptions fees brought in \$34,535.00, add in donations, fund-raisers, donation tins for a total of \$96,839.74

NOTE: As time passes we find it more and more difficult to find funding for this worthwhile organization. Yet, everyone benefits from its existence. First and foremost it's the pets entrusted into our care. Once in new homes, they require food purchased from pet food stores, and yearly require veterinary care. The general public at large benefit as there are less strays wandering around reproducing.

If every home in the Flamborough area would donate just one dollar it would be ideal. But then we do not live in a perfect world. If we did, kittens would not be thrown out of passing cars, dogs would not be dumped on the side roads and we would not have to be concerned about having the funds to keep this shelter operating for another year!

All donations over ten dollars can request a tax receipt.....