

# Paw Prints

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SCFA meetings are held 7 p.m. the first Tuesday of each quarter: January, April, July and October at the Senior Citizen Community Center.

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## President's Message

**Editor's note: The president's message is being pre-empted by a very special anniversary story written by Katie Nordhaus. I hope you enjoy.**

The Franklin Township Animal Shelter celebrated a very special anniversary in February. The party was for "Stinky," the cat who survived a horrible attack by people. In case you haven't heard about Stinky, let me tell you his story.

On February 4, 2004, Stinky was caught in a hav-a-hart trap behind an apartment complex in Franklin Township. Instead of calling the shelter to come pick him up, the workers decided to leave him in the trap and pour kerosene on him and then bury him in the snow. Luckily, there was someone looking out for Stinky that day who called the Animal Shelter. While one shelter employee was on the phone with the Good Samaritan, another employee called the police – knowing a patrol car would be nearby to try and stop them from killing Stinky.

When we (animal control) arrived on the scene, the police got the workers to tell us where Stinky was. We quickly began to dig him out from under the snow. Stinky was still breathing. We ran him to the van, wrapped



him in a towel, and turned the heat up. The police tried to find out what they had poured on the cat. While we rushed Stinky to the hospital, I was on the phone to the state SPCA reporting the incident. Stinky's body temperature was only 93; he was on his way out. Once we left him at the hospital we all started praying for him. After a few days in the hospital Stinky - proving to be the toughest cat I know - survived.

As time went by and we waited for his day in court, I grew fonder of Stinky and his resilience every day.

The two people who did this to Stinky received 14 days in jail, 30 days community service, \$500 fines, and they have to pay Stinky's medical and state SPCA bills.

It would take several months before Stinky began to trust some of the staff members. Stinky now lives at the shelter since he still only allows a couple of people to handle him. He has complete run of the shelter when we are closed and has become good friends with Maggie the Akita.

Stinky is now 17 pounds and has trained us very well to give him whatever he wants. Every day when I come into work, I realize how lucky I am to have him in my life!

## See Your Ad in the Newsletter

The newsletter runs quarterly and we will be offering a public edition twice a year.

To submit an ad, contact the Newsletter Editor, Sandy Lee at (732) 667-8080 or at [outreach@secondchanceforanimals.org](mailto:outreach@secondchanceforanimals.org)

Prices for advertising in the newsletter:

- \$15 - large business card size
- \$45 - 1/2 page
- \$75 - full page

## Help Wanted

### Board Secretary Needed

SCFA needs a secretary for the Board of Directors.

The main requirements include attendance at the board of director meetings, which take place monthly, and taking and distributing minutes and agendas.

For more information, please contact Nora at [gingygrl@aol.com](mailto:gingygrl@aol.com).

### Outreach Committee Needs a Chair

The Outreach Committee is looking for a chair to lead the committee to promote SCFA and the shelter animals.

This committee is involved with coordinating publicity for SCFA and events.

To volunteer as chair or for more information, contact Nora at [gingygrl@aol.com](mailto:gingygrl@aol.com).

### Are You Outgoing?

If you like meeting new people and helping raise money for the shelter animals, then you need to check out the Fundraising Committee.



If you're the creative type, your ideas could become future fundraisers or your input could improve a current event. If you just like meeting new people, you could sign up for a Shake-A-Can event.

There are so many ways you can help this committee. For more information, contact Joyce Cotay at [jcotay@telcordia.com](mailto:jcotay@telcordia.com).

### Foster Homes Needed!

Don't let the recent snowfall fool you. Spring is here and that means kittens will be coming and they'll need foster homes.

Volunteers willing to devote the time and energy to foster cats and kittens (and occasionally a dog) must meet two requirements:

1. six months as an active volunteer
2. attendance at a Foster Review Session during which you will spend about an hour covering fundamentals of fostering, with time for questions and answers.

Please contact Frank Breen at 732-873-2552 or [fbreen1919@aol.com](mailto:fbreen1919@aol.com) for more information.

### Great Job with Great Pay

Got your attention, didn't we? Well, it's a volunteer job so we can't pay you with money but your payment will be the satisfaction of helping inform your fellow volunteers by helping the newsletter committee.

Volunteers are needed to collect facts and information to be written into stories, writers to create stories from collected facts or from interviews and photographers to capture SCFA events.

Contact Sandy Lee at [outreach@secondchanceforanimals.org](mailto:outreach@secondchanceforanimals.org).

### Got Detergent?

Doing shelter laundry is a great way to help the shelter staff and animals. It's one day a week (or every other week) - and you don't have to iron!

If you are available, please talk to Lynn Lawson at [llawson2711@yahoo.com](mailto:llawson2711@yahoo.com) about what days your help is needed.

## Personals

### I Don't Want Just A Spring Fling

**Betty** – I'm a patch tabby female who isn't afraid to tell you what I want. And what I want is a home where I will be your only love. And it'd be nice if you had cable TV because I like watching Animal Planet.



### Simon says, "Adopt Me!"

**Simon** – Simon Says is one of my favorites, but I enjoy playing other games. As a 5-year-old Beagle, I'd like a family who would enjoy my playful nature and one that would also enjoy nice walks in the neighborhood.



**ADOPTED!!**



### Single in the Shelter

**Drew** – I am an adult orange and white domestic shorthair. If there was one thing I could change about myself, I'd like to be a little more outgoing. But I think with the right home, I would be as gregarious as Garfield (without the attitude). I would prefer an adult home and would be open to sharing my space with other pets.



### I have a tough name but a soft heart

**Butch** – My take on kids – Would like a family with older kids My opinion of other pets – I like my canine cohorts My ideal evening – sitting on the couch watching TV. I am a 10-year-old shepherd/retriever mix who would prefer a quiet, adult home where someone is home most of the time.



## May Walk-A-Thon

SCFA will hold its Second Annual Walk-A-Thon – 3 Miles for 4 Paws - on Sunday May 1, 2005. The walk will kick off at 1:00 p.m. at the Franklin Township Animal Shelter. In case of rain, the walk will be rescheduled for Sunday, May 15<sup>th</sup>.

Last year's walk earned over \$400 for SCFA. So, get your walking shoes ready so we can beat last year's numbers!

There is a \$10 *suggested* contribution from adults and \$5 for participants under 15 – two-legged participants only.



There is no pre-registration necessary, however, this year, walkers can pick up a pledge sheet at the shelter and start getting sponsors for their walk! They can bring the pledge sheet (with all collected money) to the Walk-a-Thon. Walkers under 18 should also be aware that they will need a parent signature. Walkers will get a free "I walked 3 Miles for 4 Paws" T-shirt.

We will need various volunteers for the day of the Walk-a-Thon. We need people for everything from placing signs along the route before the walk, decorate with some balloons, sign walkers in, collect waivers and money, fill in the certificates of appreciation, and, of course, aiding walkers (refreshments, questions, etc.)

There isn't an exact number on how many volunteers we need just yet, but Alicia will have more information.

Anyone interested in helping out can contact Alicia Bottari [gooddogfred@aol.com](mailto:gooddogfred@aol.com) or (732) 846-0311.

"Cats are smarter than dogs. You can't get eight cats to pull a sled through snow." *Jeff Valdez*



"My husband said it was him or the cat. I miss him sometimes." *Unknown*

## Gertrude Hawk Fundraiser

We had a wonderful spring fundraiser! Our total sales were \$4,482, which means we raised about \$1,650 for SCFA and the animals.

We would like to thank Mary Romash, who year after year, goes above and beyond in selling Gertrude Hawk to benefit the shelter animals. Once again, Mary was our top seller – bringing in \$1,304.

Our other top sellers were Joyce Cotay



(\$927), Jes Marusiak (\$776.50) and Katie Nordhaus (\$548.50).

Thank you to all our other sellers who helped make this event a success:

Donna Aumack, Julie Barlasov, Alicia Bottari, Nora Breen, Eileen Ferreri, Lois Kroshefsky, Pat McBride and Marianne Mason.

## First Raffle in July

SCFA will hold its first raffle on July 9, 2005. The prizes will be merchandise certificates to any store of the winner's choice, in the following amounts:

- 1st: \$200
- 2nd: \$100
- 3rd: \$50
- 4th: \$25



Tickets are \$1 each and will be AVAILABLE NOW.

We need to sell about \$600 worth of

tickets just to break even, so we're counting on everyone's help! To ensure that our first raffle is a huge success, we are asking ALL VOLUNTEERS to commit to selling at least 20 tickets.

To make it easier, we'll be mailing the tickets to you, with instructions regarding the date by which they must be returned.

If you'd like to sell more than 20 tickets, please let Alicia know asap (732-846-0311 or [gooddogfred@aol.com](mailto:gooddogfred@aol.com)).

## Upcoming Fall Events

### FALL FUNDRAISER

Lynn Lawson is spearheading this year's Fall Fundraiser. The event is shaping up to be a fun filled time for the entire family, especially for the four legged members. Some *possible* activities include:

- Pumpkin Painting
- Cookie Decorating
- Extreme Makeovers for Pets
- Pet / Person Look Alike Contest
- Family Pictures with Pets
- Silly Pet Tricks
- Kids Games (Ring Toss and Basketball Toss)

### 3<sup>RD</sup> ANNUAL SOMERSET PATRIOTS GAME

Joyce Cotay is once again organizing this Fun & Fundraising Event for all you Baseball Fans & Pet Lovers. What better way to enjoy America's favorite past time and raise awareness about the Franklin Township Animal Shelter. This year's Somerset Patriots game is scheduled for Saturday, September 10, 2005 at the Commerce Bank Ballpark.



## Our First Tricky Tray!

Now that we have obtained a gaming license, we will be able to branch out to other areas of fundraising. In late October/early November, we expect to hold our first ever Tricky Tray (a/k/a Chinese Auction) at the Senior/Community Center in the Municipal Complex.



The premise of this game is simple. New gift items are placed in rows on tables,

with a bucket in front of each item. Players purchase numbered tickets, and then place tickets into the bucket corresponding to items they hope to win. At a certain time, the players return to their seats, and the fun begins! "Runners" bring each item and bucket to the "caller", who then reaches into the bucket to select the winning ticket. The ticket number is announced, the lucky player yells that they've got the ticket. The runner then delivers the item to the winner, first verifying that the number on the player's main ticket matches the number pulled by the caller. Sounds easy, doesn't it?

Lots and lots of planning goes into the 6 hours of fun and merriment described above, and it normally takes almost a full year to prepare - so we need to get busy NOW.

We need EVERY member to participate in some way - even if it's just to donate gifts or come to play on the night of the game.

Here's what we need:

### Tricky Tray Committee

We'll be meeting about once a month from now until the game to plan and prepare.

### Gift Solicitation

All gifts need to be NEW. Check your closets for that birthday gift you can't stand and don't know what to do with.

We'll also need you to visit as many merchants as possible (with a letter of introduction describing the Tricky Tray) to obtain merchandise donations AND gift certificates. Feel free to purchase items to donate, too! We'll be making up baskets of related items, so, for example, you might want to pick a theme (like a Chinese dinner), and each time you go food shopping, pick up an item from, for example, the Chinese food section, and put it all in a wok! Or a cat food/toy basket combined in a cat bed. We'll need at least 5 major gifts, such as a 27" TV, DVD player, digital camera... Players love baskets and gift certificates, but we need at least 200 items worth a minimum of \$15 each, too. Finally, we'll need small "giveaway" type items to put together and give to the players when they arrive. For example, those free greeting cards different charities send out unsolicited, key chains, freebie cosmetics from hotel stays -- you get the idea!



If you work for a cosmetic company, they'll often donate tons of goods (J&J, for example, always donates tons of dental products, or Avenue moisturizers, etc.).

### Advertising

We'll need media exposure. In addition, we'll need people to get the word out, including visiting other Tricky Trays in the months before ours and handing out flyers to the players.

### Storage/Transport

All these gifts will need to be stored until the night of the game, and then volunteers with vans or SUV's will need to help pick up the gifts and get them to the Senior Center. The storage should be in Somerset. A few generous volunteers have already volunteered their spare rooms, but the gifts take up a lot of space!

### Game Workers

We'll need help to set up all the gifts, starting at about 3 p.m. and then to work the game from about 6 p.m. to 10:00 p.m., and then to clean up. We'll need lots of runners -- this is where the under-18 set can help out, including scout troops.

### Food Committee

All you bakers can help! This committee will make sure we have a constant supply of beverages and snacks for the players.



Please call Alicia at (732)846-0311 to discuss the many ways you can participate.

## SCFA WEBSITE

Our website at [www.secondchanceforanimals.org](http://www.secondchanceforanimals.org) has lots of useful information. Go to the How You Can Help link for frequently asked questions to print or give to a friend. Go to our Shopping link to shop *and* help the shelter at the same time. Check out the Calendar to be kept up-to-date on upcoming events. And of course, the Newsletter link has downloads for the newsletter issues and other promotional materials.

## Old Newspapers Can Help the Shelter

Anyone who has ever cleaned cages at the shelter knows how much old newspaper is used to line cages and carriers. Newspaper is unfolded and placed in the cages in a specific way so later when the cage is cleaned, the paper can be folded around loose litter and waste without it spilling in the cage and on the floor.

Those same people also know how much time is spent unfolding newspaper.

It may not sound like that would take much time but when there isn't a pile of unfolded newspaper, it takes much longer to get the cleaning done.

So here's a way that you can help from home when you decide to donate your old newspapers:

- separate any glossy inserts, magazines, sales flyers, etc. and recycle them normally.
- unfold the newspaper as if you were reading it.
- place double-wide sheets in one pile and single sheets in another.
- when the pile looks like it's getting too thick, fold the pile like you would if it were a regular newspaper so it will be easy to transport.
- If you have more paper, start another pile.

It's that simple and you can do it while you watch your favorite TV show! Your thoughtfulness will be appreciated! (Even if you don't get a chance to prepare the paper ahead of time, please continue to donate your old newspapers.)

## SCFA Welcomes New Volunteers

Please welcome our newest volunteers who attended orientations:

### January

Mark Fortin  
Rick Hagedorn  
Matthew Held  
Maria Huffine  
Kathleen Lauder  
Kinjal Majmudar  
Joan Miller  
Mrunal Vyas  
Rajul Vyas

### February

Julie Barlasov  
Joseph Besca  
Christine Byrd  
Liz Cross  
Susan Fenmore  
Tina McDougal  
Lori Sherman  
Michelle Smith  
Stayce Terjek

### March

Susan Ford  
Laura Gallagan  
Rosemary Golden  
Karen Powell

Call Alicia Bottari (732) 846-0311 if you would like to attend the next volunteer training or dog training sessions.

We are always looking for new volunteers. If you would like more information about volunteering, please call (732) 846-0311. You can also check out our group and upcoming events at our website at [www.secondchanceforanimals.org](http://www.secondchanceforanimals.org)

## Shake-A-Can Events

Help needed at the following locations:

Franklin Park --

8/27 (10 - 12:30)

11/12 (10 - 12:30 and 12:30 -3)

Easton Ave -

6/11 (12:30 - 3)

9/10 (10- 12:30 and 12:30 -3)

11/19 (12:30 - 3)

Contact Alicia Bottari at [gooddogfred@aol.com](mailto:gooddogfred@aol.com) or (732) 846-0311 to volunteer.



**Lynn Lawson**  
REALTOR-ASSOCIATE

### ERA Van Syckel, Weaver & Lyte

1701 Route 22 West, PO Box 8127  
Bridgewater, NJ 08807

Office: (732) 560-0200  
Fax: (732) 805-0821  
Cellular: (732) 715-2085  
E-Mail: [lynn.lawson@ERA.com](mailto:lynn.lawson@ERA.com)  
[www.ERA.com](http://www.ERA.com)



Each ERA office is independently owned and operated

### FRANKLIN TOWNSHIP ANIMAL SHELTER

475 DeMott Lane, Somerset, NJ 08873  
Phone: (732) 873-2500 ext. 255  
Email: [franklinShelter.475@juno.com](mailto:franklinShelter.475@juno.com)  
Hours: M-F 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.;  
Sat. noon to 3 p.m.

### SECOND CHANCE FOR ANIMALS

P.O. Box 5172, Somerset, NJ 08875  
Phone: 732-748-SCFA (7232)  
Email: [scfa1998@aol.com](mailto:scfa1998@aol.com)  
Website:  
[www.secondchanceforanimals.org](http://www.secondchanceforanimals.org)

## Volunteer Spotlight - Jes and Ann Marusiak

Just as with our Frank Breen/Nora Breen combination, it was Jes Marusiak who also convinced her parent, Ann Marusiak, to join SCFA. The saying "The apple doesn't fall far from the tree" couldn't be more true for the dynamic Marusiak duo, either!

23 year old Jes is a born volunteer who has spent most of her life helping others – both 4 and 2 legged. Before graduating from high school, she had been active in a 4-H club, groomed horses weekly for Somerset Hills Handicapped Riding Center, helped as a Candy Striper at Somerset Medical Center, and worked with elementary school children in a drug and alcohol prevention program called "PUSH". Searching the web for an animal group in late 2002, she came across SCFA. We were the only group to answer her inquiry – those other groups will never know what a gem they passed up! - and by January, 2003, Jes was an official volunteer.

That's just the volunteer side of Jes' busy life. While finishing high school and obtaining a degree in English from Farleigh Dickenson (Class of 2004), Jes also worked part time at the Patriots Ball Park, a library, the NY Aquarium, and the Philadelphia Zoo. In September, she'll begin to work on her Masters in Library Science through Texas Women's University. She now works full time as a Librarian in the Children's Room at Sadie Pope Dowdell Library in South Amboy.

In addition to all she does with SCFA, Jes also participated in the People for Animals Walk-A-Thon in 2004, and volunteers with NJ Save-A-Pet. She is



most proud, however, of starting the NJ Chapter of Becca's Closet after hearing Becca's story. Becca was a 16



year old who decided that low income teenaged girls should have pretty gowns to wear to their proms, too, and began collecting and distributing the dresses. Becca was killed in a car accident, but "Becca's Closet" became a national organization. Thus far, Jes has collected over 500 prom gowns, and she encourages everyone to visit [www.becascloset.org/bridgewater.html](http://www.becascloset.org/bridgewater.html) and become involved with this worthy organization.

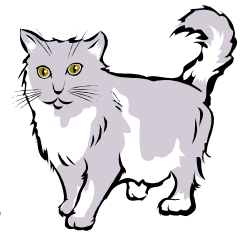
In her "spare" time, Jes devours mystery and romance novels, loves being scared by horror movies, and enjoys scrapbooking, dancing, sky diving, and rollercoasters. More importantly, she uses every opportunity to encourage others to volunteer. She lives by her philosophy that the world is much too big for each of us not to do SOMETHING to make it a better place.

And that encouragement found its mark with her mother, Ann Marusiak. Jes would share her experiences walking the dogs at Thursday Night Socialization, and Ann became caught up with all the kittens Jes fostered for the FTAS. When their black lab Hammer died in January, 2004, a huge hole was left in Ann's life. Ann had loved animals all her life, bringing home injured sparrows she found on the streets of Newark as a child and caring for a family of frogs! Jes worked her magic, and by March, 2004, Ann was an official SCFA volunteer. While volun-

teering at Socialization her first month, Ann noticed a black lab who was identical to her beloved Hammer. By the weekend, "Emma" was in her forever home with the Marusiaks. Ann has been part of all aspects of SCFA, helping at the Shelter, PETSMART, Op Cop, the cat show, and Santa Paws, and is presently very active, along with Jes, on the Fund Raising Committee.

Ann has been married to cabinet maker Frank, Sr. for 26 years, and in addition to Jes, they are the proud parents of Frank, Jr. (a logistics manager), and David, a high school student in Bridgewater. The Marusiak family also includes Jes' 17 year old cat "Jill", and Fido the Cockatiel (whom Jes taught to whistle the Andy Griffith theme song). Ferrets Freddy and Dylan joined their canine brother Hammer in Heaven earlier this year.

Ann and Frank are avid bowlers, and Ann finished first out of 300 competitors in the April, 2004, National Polish Falcon Bowling Tournament, with a 120 average. She is known for crocheting (her baby afghans are highly coveted), and she relaxes at Tricky Trays and at the casinos in Atlantic City. She has worked for the Raritan Boro Police Department for 11 years, presently as an Administrative Assistant. All of us who know Ann can attest that she lives by her favorite motto – "It doesn't cost anything to be nice!".



How fortunate we are that Jes found us on the web 2 ½ years ago, particularly since we ended up with Ann as a volunteer as well. Ann and Jes, you are an inspiration to all of us!

# Katie's Korner

Once again, we are having a problem with upper respiratory in the cats. For the safety, health, and comfort of the animals and the volunteers, the following policies must be adhered to when socializing with the cats:



- A total of 7 people are allowed to work with the cats. This is broken down as follows:
  - 2 people in the cattery ("adoptable room")
  - 3 people in the middle cat room
  - 2 people in the quarantine room (one of whom MUST be a volunteer experienced with feral cats)
  - IF there are cats in the front office, there can be an additional person up front.
- In order to prevent the spread of disease, please wash your hands after touching each cat. Another step in preventing the spread of disease is to socialize room by room in the following order:

Office → Cattery → Middle cat room → Quarantine room  
 For example, if you start socializing in the front office, you may then move to the cattery or middle room or quarantine room. If you start socializing in the middle room you CANNOT move into the cattery or the front office to socialize.

- Only socialize with the cats/kittens that have been at the shelter 8+ days. They may have a card, but if they haven't been at the shelter for more than 8 days volunteers are NOT to touch them. If there is no cage card volunteers are NOT to touch them either.

Your cooperation, which will help keep the shelter cats healthier, is greatly appreciated.

# Adoption Statistics

Below are the adoption statistics from January through February 2005:

	<u>PetsMart</u>	<u>Shelter</u>
January:	5	33
February:	<u>11</u>	<u>19</u>
<b>Total:</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>52</b>

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

### **MAY**

- Sun., May 1 – 2nd Annual Walk-A-Thon, 1 p.m. kickoff at the shelter.
- Sun., May 15 – Walk-A-Thon rain date

### **JUNE**

- Sat., June 11 – Shake-A-Can, Easton Ave

### **JULY**

- Tues., July 5 – SCFA meeting, 7 p.m. Senior/Community Center
- Sat., July 9 – Raffle drawing

### **AUGUST**

- Sat., Aug. 27 – Shake-A-Can, Franklin Park

### **SEPTEMBER**

- Sat., Sept 10 – Somerset Patriots Game
- Sat., Sept 10 – Shake-A-Can, Easton Ave.

Second Chance For Animals gratefully acknowledges these gifts made in memory or in honor of a much-loved person or pet. We are honored to carry out our important mission in their names.

### IN MEMORY OF – (DONATED BY)

Timpy, Scruffy, Snoopy, & Marve – (Mary Jane Steimer)

Sammie

### IN HONOR OF – (DONATED BY)

Ms. Deborah Beards & Boomer – (Rabbi David Glicksman)

### ON BEHALF OF – (DONATED BY)

Micah, aka Sparky at FTAS – (Romil Limson & Valissa Willwerth)

Wenny & Jammy Carlucci, Maggie & Dallas Schleif – (Dorothea McGandy)

### **THANK YOU**

SCFA would like to thank the following individuals and corporations for their generous donations (monetary and non monetary) to the organization:

- Computer Associates
- Crystal Clement
- Jack Dolan Plumbing & Heating
- Marianne Mason
- Mary Louise Stanton
- Verizon Foundation