



Concerned People for Animals, Inc.

An all- volunteer, non- profit organization

www.concernedpeopleforanimals.org/idaho

208-687-5054

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Spring 2007

A Message From Our Idaho Director, Ami Jo Gibson

Something's in the air, I can feel it coming. The weather's a bit weird, but no, that's not it. I am getting many, many, many more calls regarding cats, and maybe that's part of it. I do believe that trouble is a comin' and it's a comin' our way. **Coeur d'Alene no longer has an animal shelter.**

What does that mean to us, you ask? That means T-R-O-U-B-L-E. Not exactly what I mean. The shelter DID need to close. Had you ever been there or seen those poor animals? Enough said.

Our City put an emergency plan in action for dogs only, no cats. Yes, you read correctly. No cats. "WHY?" I ask. Cats now no longer have a place to go. And what does that really mean? BIG BIG BIG trouble for our city since... ONE CAT AND HER OFFSPRING CAN PRODUCE 420,000 CATS IN 7 YEARS. We will be known at the beautiful city by the lake, "Cat d'Alene."

Maybe I just missed THE PLAN. If anyone has heard of THE PLAN, please do call me-687-5054. Really. I'd like to hear about it and share with others who haven't yet heard, THE PLAN.

And, trouble is already starting. A guy called me the other day. He and his wife found a declawed cat at the Silver Lake Mall parking lot looking around frantically. He opened his door and the cat FLEW into his truck, onto his wife's lap. Wouldn't budge. (Smart cat!) They had no choice and, as animal loving people, they took her home. And, as responsible people, they started calling around town, asking what to do, where to go, who to talk to. NADA. Nothing. No info. In fact, a person in position told them "Go back where you found the cat and dump it." (I SWEAR!!!!) HELLO???? Are you serious?

So, it's starting and going to get worse. Six cats in my family are enough for my husband (seriously, I don't get why but it's not worth divorce.) Where do cats go? AHHHHHHHHHHH I have a BRILLIANT idea! Why don't we just get together and collect tax-deductible donations, use licensed Veterinarians, write grants, hold fundraisers

and **SPAY & NEUTER!** Oh....we are doing that! ☺

Concerned People for Animals has been doing this now in Idaho for YEARS. We have helped people in Montana, Washington, and even Israel! And I continue to write these newsletters and ask for donations and write grants and hold fundraisers and look for volunteers and return phone calls and obtain cat and dog food from some very nice, wonderful businesses in our area so CPA can help people on low or fixed income or just really having a bad month. I like to see animals fed. I don't mind the extra work. BUT...I will mind come late Spring/Early Summer the tons of calls I'll be receiving about pregnant cats or "oops, I didn't know my cat was pregnant" or "oops,



In 2006, we helped

Spay/Neuter

*****2312*****

cats/dogs!



ALL BECAUSE OF YOU!

AMAZINGLY AMAZING!!!

!WOWOWOWOWOWOW!

WE HAVE NEVER ALTERED SO MANY CATS & DOGS IN ONE YEAR!!!

LET'S DO IT AGAIN!!!!

OBVIOUSLY... YOUR DONATION

REALLY DID MAKE A DIFFERENCE IN THE LIVES OF ANIMALS! YIPPEE!!!!!!! ☺

Please help cats & dogs AGAIN!

Please send your tax-deductible donation to:

CPA

even

PO BOX 359

WE CAN ↑DO MORE!

Rathdrum, ID 83858

LET'S END THE UNWANTED ANIMAL OVER-POPULATION!

THANK YOU! THANK YOU! THANK YOU! THANK YOU!

☺ Thank you! Thank you! Thank you! ☺

YOU ARE HUGEY APPRECIATED!



she just delivered babies and I can't keep them" calls.

What am I to do? Where do I send them? I know they need to be fixed and as long as kind people continue to donate, we can help with spaying and neutering BUT...it's after-the-fact... damage done. ☹

Can Coeur d'Alene and outlying areas such as Rathdrum, Athol, Spirit Lake, Hayden, Post Falls, etc. handle this issue? And, if so, how? Euthanize them all? Turn their backs on the animals and allow them to starve or suffer? Man (and woman) pains me. Why can't we just get a handle on this before it becomes an out-of-control problem that requires as drastic a measure? As Phil Morgan, Director of KHS said, "At the end of the summer it's going to be the Hurricane Katrina with cats in North Idaho." UGH.

The writing is on the wall. I've always said that spaying and neutering solves the problem and I'll scream from the rooftops (yes, I know, a little dramatic but...) HOW DO WE GET

Spring 2007

PEOPLE TO FIX THEIR PETS NOW?

Ami Jo



Please call me 687-5054 with any ideas you have.

I'd genuinely love to hear from you! Many thanks!



On Friday, May 4th & Saturday, May 5th



We will be holding our annual
Fundraiser-- **A HUGE YARD SALE & BAKE SALE**

Along with a wonderful...

MICROCHIPPING EVENT

where you can chip your cat or dog for the
UNBELIVABLE cost of \$10

(w/NO annual fee! And the chips can be read by ALL readers!)

5470 Anne Street in Coeur d'Alene

(Hwy 95 to Dalton Ave. Go EAST to Anne St. and follow Signs!)

PLEASE LOOK FOR OUR AD IN THE
NICKEL'S WORTH IN THE PET SECTION!



PLEASE call **Renee** for more info... AND...

if you have items to donate!

(We can pick them up & you'll even get a
tax receipt for your wonderful items!)

Thank you very, very much!

208-660-5619



**Wonder why cats and dogs
eat POOP?**

Not a fun subject but I think most of us have seen it and **GAGGED!**
There are several reasons why animals do this, termed **coprophagia**. The
thought use to be that the animal had a vitamin deficiency but not so.
However, once your pet starts ingesting feces, there can be health risks
such as parasites, giardia, roundworms, whipworms, etc.. (I suggest taking
your pet to the Veterinarian if you see this behavior for parasite testing.)

In adult animals, it could be from boredom, a bad habit that hasn't
been corrected, or anxiety. It's not known for sure. But there are
suggestions to make this habit go away. Clean up poop on the ground. Make
sure your dog has enough pet food. Give your pet lots of room to run and
play. Train her/him NOT to eat the poop. And, if worse comes to worse
feed your dog garlic or pumpkin. It's supposed to give feces a bad taste.

AND YET, it is important for pet owners to know that this behavior
IS NORMAL for a mother with babies. Newborns must learn to urinate
and defecate. Mom teachers her babies by licking and stimulating their
bottoms. But she also does this to protect her little ones so predators
can't smell them and know where to find them!

PLEASE REMEMBER...Punishment AFTER the fact is NEVER helpful.
Animals don't understand they are being punished for something they did
hours or minutes before.

BEST SOLUTION... supervise your pet and not let the habit develop!

♥ **THANK YOU** ♥

😊 **Candice & Cliff Fry** 😊

for all your nonstop on-going help! You are AMAZING!!!!

If you know someone who needs our assistance with spaying/neutering their pet(s), please call
Ami @ 687-5054. Let's decrease our unwanted animal population! It's soooooooooooooo EASY to do!



ANIMAL Food Bank in Rathdrum!

If you need food, or know anyone who needs
cat or dog food, please come by:

the Rathdrum Thrift Store

on Main Street

on Tues. Wed. Thurs.

10:00am - 4:00pm



OR...if you would like to **donate much needed
cat or dog food for hungry animals**, you can
drop off the food at the above address & time
(or call me @ 687-5054 to make arrangements)
AND...we'll send you a "gift-in-kind" tax-receipt

for your 2007 taxes, A BIG HUG

AND...

A HUGE "THANK YOU!" 😊

*** NOTE***

As delicious and delectable as chocolate is to us,
it's **DEADLY** to cats and dogs.

Even as a "little treat!" Your pet will start vomiting, have
diarrhea, increased urination and heart rate along with
muscle tremors. It takes approximately 2-24 hours for
symptoms to appear. If you think your pet has ingested
chocolate, please don't wait.

This is considered an EMERGENCY and treat it as such!
Go directly to your Veterinarian!



Do you still have your old cell phones?

We have an on-going fundraiser and we can get \$\$
for them! You keep the "chip" that stores
your personal information & please give us
the phone and battery!

**This will really help us, AND, the
environment (recycling and all...)**

Please call Ami @ 687-5054 for more info on
where you can drop the phone(s) off OR,
where we can pick them up!! Thank You!
Thank you soooooooooooooo very much!



Concerned People for Animals, Inc. is a
non-profit organization with an ongoing
Spay/Neuter Program to assist those
who cannot afford to have their
pets sterilized.

*Our goal is to never turn away
any person who has
requested our assistance!*





Some dog trainers will tell you that they have always had an innate ability to communicate with animals. They grew up "knowing" what they felt and thought. Maybe they talked to birds, raccoons and frogs. It was in their blood and they always knew it was their destiny to train. Well guess what? I wasn't one of them. I had absolutely no idea what my dog was thinking. I was profoundly clueless. In fact, growing up, every dog I ever owned NEVER listened to me. What I did know, however, was that other peoples dogs listened to them. I knew I was doing something wrong and that I wasn't "getting it". I tried everything I could think of but nothing worked. None of them were housebroken, all were destructive and Sparky incessantly humped my leg. My dogs always ran away. The word "come" seemed to mean catch me if you can, chase me, beg me, bribe me, yell at me, stomp your feet, scream, and then turn your back to leave and pretend you don't care anymore. My last resort was to leave pieces of bologna leading up our front steps hoping for "Minkey" to return. I cried a lot and felt really lost. This dog communication thing just wasn't working. But I never stopped trying. When you don't give up, life has a funny way of giving you what you want.

Fast forward to college. I adopted a beautiful soft fluffy golden retriever puppy during my junior year. I was determined to train Lucas the right way. I was studying psychology and I had years of experience of dogs NOT listening to me so this time I was sure to succeed. I had already made every mistake in the book so how bad could it be? I chose a breed that was virtually a cakewalk in terms of training. It would be so easy with my friendly loving family dog.

NO SUCH LUCK. I spent 2 years of my college life chasing Lucas. I was chasing him when he was chasing squirrels. I was chasing him when he was chasing men and trying to bite them in their butts. He was an aggressive dog fighter that hated kids. I almost had a breakdown. How could this happen???? I'm in college studying psychology with a pussy breed, a golden retriever!!!!!! And he was just a puppy! How could I be such a loser AGAIN? Now I became a crazy person in search of training, took classes and went to private trainers.

Nobody knew what he or she was doing. They pretended to but nothing worked. I was a mess and was in a constant state of anxiety. I never doubted that there was a way; I was just having trouble finding it.

After a lot of searching, I found the most amazing mentor/dog trainer. His name was Mr. Lucky and he was the real deal. What he taught me was that there are no rules and that there are many different ways to solve a problem. He told me that if I kept doing something over and over and that it wasn't working that I should switch gears and try something new. I learned that every dog is different and therefore my approach to training each dog should be unique. There isn't one type of collar to use, or one type of exercise to begin with. At first I wanted a lesson plan and a formula. How many times should I repeat an exercise? How long do I train each dog for everyday? How do I know when the dog has had enough?

I was so busy thinking about what to do that I couldn't allow myself to feel my way into the dog's soul. It's all about a bigger picture. It's about trust and love and relaxation. It's about fun and respect. It's a beautiful dance that when done the right way can melt your heart. Training is about communicating with your dog so that he loves it. He loves to learn because you have made learning safe and fun. He's not afraid.

One of the most important things I learned from Mr. Lucky was that there must be a bond between the dog and the trainer. Don't let any stranger walk into your house and put your dog on a leash and start to work with him. There has to be a relationship and it doesn't happen instantly. Sometimes when I get a dog in for training, it might be 3 or 4 days of just hanging out and playing with him before we begin. Your dog must feel loved and safe in order to learn and be happy in training.

Never give up because there's always a way. Keep searching and you'll get what you want. Listen to what experts say and don't believe everything you hear. See what feels right and what makes sense. Decipher. There's not only one-way to do anything. It's fun to explore what works and what doesn't. Believe me, if I can train dogs, anyone can - and that's a promise!

gina g. ♥

♥ PLEASE HELP CATS & DOGS! ♥

Your donation of any amount and your membership to CPA means A LOT to us and the animals!



Our Wish List!

Please help!

- ❖ Live Humane Animal Traps
- ❖ .39 Postage Stamps!!!!!!
- ❖ Colored Copy Paper
- ❖ #10 Envelopes
- ❖ A Volunteer to maintain our website!
- ❖ Monetary Donations to help needy animals!
- ❖ Old Cell Phones
- ❖ Cat & Dog Food to help hungry animals!



Surgery prices have gone UP! Eeek! Average cost for a cat spay is \$60 / a cat neuter is \$40/ a dog spay is \$90/a dog neuter is \$75.

This is the average cost sometimes less, but mostly more. ☹

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

PHONE: _____

E-Mail: _____

I'd like to volunteer! Please call me! _____

I'd like to foster care a dog _____ cat _____

DONATION AMOUNT: \$_____

to be used for a cat _____ dog _____

Anywhere needed _____

_____ Postage has increased! My canceled check will be my receipt. Please don't send me a thank you letter!

Type of membership (Please "x")

Individual: \$20 _____ Family: \$35 _____

Friend: \$50 _____ Supporter: \$100 _____

Lifetime Member: \$250 _____

Other: \$_____



Our address:
Concerned People for Animals, Inc.
P.O. Box 359
Rathdrum, ID 83858

Our phone:
208-687-5054



Thank you again for all you do!

Please visit our website at www.concernedpeopleforanimals.org/idaho

We are an all volunteer, non paid, non-profit organization.

100% of your tax-deductible donation goes directly to helping animals! TRUTH! THANK YOU VERY MUCH!

Concerned People for Animals, Inc.

P.O. Box 359

Rathdrum, ID 83858

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

