



# PASS IT ALONG!

Parsippany Animal Supporters Society

## 6TH ANNUAL TRICKY TRAY

Be sure to call for tickets to our sixth annual Tricky Tray fundraiser. Last year's was a big success and everyone had a great time!

This fantastic event takes place on Friday, October 17, 2008 at the Boonton Elks Club located on 125 Cornelia Street in Boonton. Doors open at 6:00 pm with the number calling beginning at 8:00 pm.

For those of you not familiar with what takes place at a Tricky Tray, here's a brief explanation. A selection of great prizes is placed

around a room with small cups in front of each item. If you like something, you would place one of the chances you are given into the cup. If your number is selected, **YOU ARE THE LUCKY WINNER!!** Some of you may know this type of event by one of its other names like a Chinese Auction or a Penny Auction.

We have some great prizes for our event including exciting overnight getaways and many lovely themed gift baskets and certificates from area shops and restaurants.

In addition, there will be gourmet coffee and desserts for your enjoyment while you peruse the gift selection.

Tickets have been selling quickly so please **CALL NOW** to reserve your seat. The cost is \$20 per person and includes 25 chances plus our gourmet coffee bar. Tables of 10 or more can be reserved in advance.

For tickets or more information, please contact Suzanne at 973-402-PETS(7387). Leave a message in box 4 or email [Blvdtravel@aol.com](mailto:Blvdtravel@aol.com).

### Want to Help Make this Event a Success?

Here's what you can do:

1. Offer to bake or donate refreshments/beverages for the event—contact the Refreshment team of Camille Frumolt and Betty Bellomo at [camillefrumolt@yahoo.com](mailto:camillefrumolt@yahoo.com)
2. Offer to donate a gift certificate/card or items for us to include in our gift baskets. It takes *A LOT* of work to gather enough items to run a Tricky Tray. If all members could contribute an item or perhaps a gift card for your favorite store, it would really help those members out who are working on the gift team. If you can help, email Marcy at [marcy2@optonline.net](mailto:marcy2@optonline.net)
3. Ask if your workplace would be willing to sponsor an ad in our program. Ads start as low as \$25.00. For more information, contact Marcy at [marcy2@optonline.net](mailto:marcy2@optonline.net)

Event limited to those 18 and older.

### OUR GOALS AT PASS ARE ...

- Dedication to the improvement of animal welfare by providing education on animal issues for the general public
- Supporting the shelters and rescue groups in their efforts to place unwanted animals in caring homes
- Fundraising to support these goals and other animal welfare initiatives



## THE ANNUAL CAT EXPLOSION

Hope may spring eternally, but it's kittens that spring eternally in the spring. The shelters are overloaded with kittens. Occasionally, the mothers are there, too. This happens every spring.

Why? In a nutshell, because unspayed female cats and unneutered male cats are allowed to roam. Some are feral (wild) cats, but some are pets who have been allowed to roam "because it's good for our cats to be out and around." That's simply not true and it's not safe for the adults nor for kittens born under a shed or in a pile of scrap.

How can this situation be improved? From experience with dogs we've learned to license our dogs and not let them run loose. Now we need to do the same for our pet cats. We've also learned that early neutering/spaying (of our pet dogs and cats) prevents unwanted litters, unwanted visitors to our homes, aggressive behavior, and a whole range of medical problems later in their lives.

Many towns now have a two-tiered licensing, with unneutered/unspayed dogs costing a few dollars more. Not nearly enough "more" in my opinion, but it is a start. All towns should consider a two-tiered licensing requirement for cats, as well. Wearing a collar and UP-TO-DATE tag also helps a lost cat (or dog) get back to the caretaker.

Surprisingly, many shelters do not take advantage of the "a cat in hand is worth two... three... or five in the bush" by requiring neutering/spaying at the earliest possible age. All adult cats and dogs should be

neutered/spayed before adoption to new owners. Merely suggesting it to the new owners of kittens is just not enough; a much more extensive educational program should be provided when an animal is turned over to an adopter. Charging a significant refundable deposit until proof of neutering is provided would go a long way to increasing neutering, particularly for kittens, as would follow-up reminder phone calls by shelter staff or volunteers.

The State of New Jersey does offer a reduced cost program to encourage neutering, but it is often out of funds before the year's crop of kittens reaches neutering age or participating veterinarians are fully booked. New owners often are unaware of alternative, low cost spay/neuter programs offered by animal groups such as the Parsippany Animal Supporters Society (PASS) and the Mt. Pleasant Animal Shelter. Local municipal shelters could provide adopters with a list of such alternatives, including dates, group, location, and costs.

Then there are the feral or wild cats. These are cats that have lived on their own so long that they usually do not make good pets; many were born in the wild and have never known human contact. The females have free access to male cats and, based on the kitten population at the shelters, take full advantage of it!

There are citizens and animal welfare groups who devote time and effort to capturing feral cats, neutering or spaying them, providing necessary vaccinations, and returning them to their "home" environment to live their lives

*without further reproduction.* This is the heart of the Trap, Neuter, and Release (TNR) program. When TNR is endorsed by a community and supported by animal control professionals, feral cat populations are reduced, animal control costs decreased, public health risks and complaints from residents, diminished. TNR programs are currently showing success in communities such as Boonton, Atlantic City, Kinnelon and New York City. While TNR doesn't work in all situations, in a properly evaluated area, there is simply no excuse any longer for municipalities to practice trap and kill which has failed as a long term solution.

In summary then:

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### Board of Directors

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## CRITTER GET SPRAYED BY A SKUNK?

COMPLIMENTS OF  
STEVEN HODES, DVM  
HODES VETERINARY GROUP

- 1 quart Hydrogen Peroxide
- 1/4 cup Baking Soda
- 1 teaspoon Liquid Dish Detergent

- Mix ingredients well
- Pour on Stinky Critter
- Rub into fur



**Note: Pour on YOUR stinky critter, not the skunk**



### MEETING SCHEDULE

Our meetings are fun and informative and will give you all the latest PASS news. So come join us and bring a friend!

- ✓ Tuesday, September 9
- ✓ Tuesday, October 14
- ✓ Tuesday, November 11

These meetings will be held at the Parsippany Library located at 449 Halsey Road at 7:00 pm.

## THE ANNUAL CAT EXPLOSION

*(continued from page 2)*

1. Two-tiered licensing for pet dogs *and cats*.
2. Be a responsible pet owner—don't allow your pets to free roam and encourage your neighbors to be responsible as well
3. Early neutering or spaying for purchased and adopted pets
4. Encourage and support TNR programs in your community by speaking up to your shelter staff and municipal government and requesting your community join other nearby towns that offer a TNR option to their residents.
5. Request town officials require all animals that are old/healthy enough be spayed/neutered **PRIOR** to adoption from your municipal facility.

*Authors:* Suzanne Griffin is the President of the Parsippany Animal Supporters Society (PASS) and an advocate for Trap, Neuter, and Release programs for feral cats.

Herb Skovronek is a retired scientist who devotes time to socializing shelter dogs and cats so that they are adoptable. He is the Dog Chairman for PASS.

This article expresses the opinions of the authors and does not necessarily present the views of the Parsippany Animal Supporters Society. PASS can be reached at POBox 5077, Parsippany and at [www.Pass4Pets.org](http://www.Pass4Pets.org).

90% of all PASS communications are done via email. Please be sure to provide us with a current email address. If you do not currently receive PASS emails, please contact [Blvdtravel@aol.com](mailto:Blvdtravel@aol.com).

## HAPPY TAILS

If you adopted from the Parsippany Animal Shelter and would like to share a picture of your new pet and comments, you can send us an email at [info@pass4pets.org](mailto:info@pass4pets.org) or mail them to PASS, P.O. Box 5077, Parsippany, NJ 07054.



We would love to hear from you!



## SAYING GOODBYE

For regular readers of the PASS newsletter, you may have read my article about my foster cat Charlie Brown (aka Brazen) a beautiful boy with ice-blue eyes whom we adopted after it was clear he couldn't be fully socialized with humans. He absolutely adored our other 3 cats, especially Twinkie. He never scratched or bit, he was just afraid of people, so we made the decision to have him join our family, even though he would not allow us to pick him up or hold him.

During Charlie's first year with us, many foster kittens from a variety of places came and went. Although they were caged, I did take them out to play in the large bathroom upstairs. Charlie had been living with us for 14 months when we discovered that one of these fluffy fur balls left behind an infestation of ringworm. Although I now know exactly what it looks like, initially I didn't realize those little scabs around the ears on my cats were tell-tale signs of a bigger problem, so I didn't treat it right away. Normally, ringworm treatment involves isolation, some medicine and a

special bath or two. But when it involves multiple adult cats who have lived for a period of time in an infected environment, treatment is more difficult and takes longer, especially in a home. My vet warned me that if I took any shortcuts, I could end up re-infesting the cats once they were released and having to start over from the beginning again. The process would take EIGHT WEEKS, and would involve all 4 of my cats—3 of whom had visible scabs—plus one foster kitten, Angelina, who had one small scab. We managed to examine Charlie while he was sleeping, and couldn't see a single scab, but he had to be treated with the rest. The process began by isolating all 5 cats together in a room—preferably with a tile floor rather than a rug—to begin their treatment. The cats had to take medicine daily, had to be given special baths every other day the first two weeks, and had to have their “isolation room” surfaces wiped down daily with a 10% bleach solution, and all towels or rugs washed with bleach. Each evening I had to put the cats in their cat carriers and move them to the hall

while I cleaned their bathroom. After six weeks, the cats would be skin tested. After a week they would be tested again. Two clean tests a week apart meant they were cured. The tests took up to a week to show a positive result.

The challenge was that we couldn't

pick up Charlie. It took us hours to corner him and get him to go inside the cat carrier to move him to the isolation bathroom to start with. We knew that unlike the other cats who were moved out of the room in the carriers, we would have to move him around the bathroom while I cleaned it. I also couldn't figure out how I would ever get him to eat his medicine—I couldn't even touch him or hold him! But somehow Charlie seemed to sense what needed to be done. We initially tried giving the cats their daily pills crushed in tuna, but after the first few days none of the cats would eat the tuna—except Charlie. Every day, he would gobble up his entire bowl. We had to buy liquid medicine for the other 4 cats, but Charlie ate the crushed pills. We bought two special fluffy rugs for the bathtub, which became Charlie's little spot where he could hide and feel comfortable, even with me so close to him. When I moved all the other cats out of the room for cleaning, Charlie would jump out of the tub and hide in the corner. Once I finished wiping the bathtub and put down his clean rug, Charlie would jump back in the tub while I cleaned the rest of the room. Although I was unable to give Charlie a treatment bath, the vet felt that since he was taking the medicine and had no scabs, he would be OK.

While the cats were in isolation, every surface in the rest of the house had to be completely vacuumed to pick up spores, and wiped down with a bleach solution wherever



Charlie & Twinkie

*(continued on page 6)*



# NOT A MEMBER OF PASS YET? NEW VOLUNTEERS ALWAYS WELCOME

**Parsippany Animal Supporters Society, Inc.**

**Membership Application**

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

CITY, STATE, ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_

HOME PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_ WORK PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_

EMAIL ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

**LET US KNOW WHAT YOU ARE INTERESTED IN:**

- \_\_\_\_\_ Fundraising Committee (helping to sell, bake, set up, work at location sales, cash canisters etc.)
- \_\_\_\_\_ Photography
- \_\_\_\_\_ Crafts (sewing, painting, general crafting, scrap booking, etc.)
- \_\_\_\_\_ Cat Committee (working directly with cats to socialize, clean, groom, etc. MUST BE AGE 16+)
- \_\_\_\_\_ Dog Committee (working directly with dogs to walk, socialize, clean, groom, etc. MUST BE AGE 16+)
- \_\_\_\_\_ Exotics Committee (working directly with rabbits, birds, guinea pigs, etc.)
- \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone communications (follow-ups with adopters, phone chain for information, etc.)
- \_\_\_\_\_ Mailing committee (help with bulk mailings, etc.)
- \_\_\_\_\_ Fostering (please indicate cats, kittens, dogs or exotics)
- \_\_\_\_\_ Newsletter Committee (help write articles, research information, etc. for "PASS It Along!")
- \_\_\_\_\_ Spay/Neuter \_\_\_\_\_ TNR
- \_\_\_\_\_ Other \_\_\_\_\_

*Indicating interest does not mean you are committed to participation. You will be contacted by each appropriate chairperson to help determine where you can help and how you would like to. Participation in one fundraiser per year is strongly recommended. Thanks!*

*I understand that being a member does not automatically qualify me as a volunteer and all volunteers must sign a Volunteer Agreement, be at least 16 years of age to work at the shelter and be approved by the Board of Directors before handling animals at the shelter. I also understand that as a member I am not authorized to represent Parsippany Animal Supporters Society, Inc. (PASS) either verbally or in writing unless I have been approved to do so by the Board at a regular meeting.*

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent or Guardian signature for Junior Memberships: \_\_\_\_\_

Membership dues per year (June 1 through May 31) are:

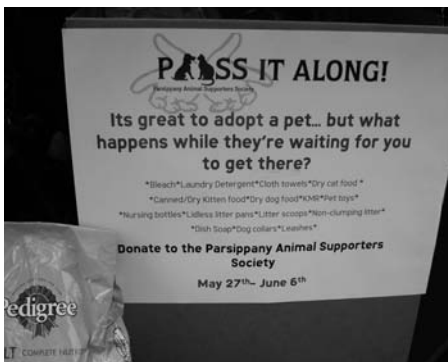
- \_\_\_ \$20 Individual (18+)      \_\_\_ \$10 Seniors (62+) & Students      \_\_\_ \$10 Junior Membership (under 18)
- \_\_\_ \$25 Family Membership      \_\_\_ \$50+ Supporter Membership      \_\_\_ \$100+ Corporate Membership

All Members will receive the official PASS newsletter PASS It Along!  
Makes checks payable to "Parsippany Animal Supporters Society, Inc" or "PASS, Inc." and kindly forward application with payment to:

**Parsippany Animal Supporters Society, Inc.**  
**PO Box 5077**  
**Parsippany, NJ 07054**



These are some pictures of one of the employees, Matt Gurth from M&M Mars who recently did a collection of items for PASS, which we distributed to shelters and rescues in need.



## COMING SOON!

Joe Corbi's Pizza and Cookie  
Dough Fundraiser

Visit our website  
[www.pass4pets.org](http://www.pass4pets.org) and click on  
the activities paw, then  
fundraising for more  
information.

## SAYING GOODBYE

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possible. My house has never been so clean!

As the weeks passed, I spent time everyday talking to Charlie over top the bathtub. Finally, I reached in and slowly, gently, gave him a scratch on the back of the neck. Little by little, week by week, Charlie let me pet him and scratch him. One day I reach down and gently picked him up out of the bathtub and placed him on the floor. Although I couldn't pick him up and hold him, I could at least move him around. We had made such huge progress! I couldn't wait for the day when the cats could be out of the bathroom so we could see if Charlie would still let me touch him.

At one point I had to travel for work for 5 days. Suzanne Griffin came faithfully to the house everyday to continue the treatment and cleaning with my husband's help while I was away. Suzanne was actually able to give Charlie a little scratch before he hid in behind the toilet!

We took all the cats—except Charlie—for their first skin test. The vet told us that everyone had gained at least 2 pounds—and Twinkie gained 3—while in isolation. Guess that's what happens when you lay around on fluffy towels being waited on with unlimited food for weeks! At least there was finally a light at the end of the tunnel....

After getting the good news that the results for skin test number one were all negative, I went into the bathroom that evening for my regular routine. I was surprised to

see Charlie curled up in the middle of the floor. While the other cats rested there, Charlie always slept in the bathtub. Then I realized that Charlie wasn't moving. I reached down to touch him, and saw a little liquid coming from his mouth. It appeared that my sweet boy must have had a seizure and had died. He had been perfectly healthy just that afternoon. I sobbed as I touched his body, which was still warm and silky soft. And then I did what I had never been able to do before—I held him in my arms and cuddled him.

After loosing Charlie, I just couldn't bear to send Angelina, our foster kitten, back to the shelter to sit in a cage waiting to be adopted, especially knowing there would also be so many young kittens available. So after we got the good news that the second test was negative, we let the 4 cats out of the bathroom, and Angelina is now happily adopted into our family.

Small things will remind me of Charlie, and I'll get a lump in my throat and watery eyes. Sometimes it is very unexpected, like when I read my Spring 2008 PASS newsletter which arrived the week after we lost Charlie. The column entitled "If Pets Could Talk..." was a tribute to the PASS volunteers and shelter workers who've adopted animals. The last picture was of Charlie, resting peacefully on top of his sister Twinkie with his "quote" saying: "Although my life on earth was short, it was heaven here with you." Charlie, we sure miss you.

—Janet Saulter-Hemmer  
PASS Volunteer



## FERNIE

Hello, my name is Fernie!

After being a very young mother and giving birth to a bunch of all black kittens, I was brought to the Parsippany Animal Shelter. My adorable, friendly kittens were being adopted one after another, but I was so shy I wanted to be left alone in my cage and not bothered by



anyone. But there was something in the sparkle of my eyes that caught the attention of a kind Animal Control Officer there and she called PASS to see if there was a foster family willing to help me learn to love humans. During the first week of my "Be a Better Cat" program I was so afraid that I would give a little hiss when one of those strange humans came near me! But then I began to realize that those big people brought me FOOD and TREATS, and I started to relax. One day, I woke up to find my cage door wide open! It took an entire day, but I decided to venture out and play with the four other cats living in the house. I LOVED it! I played games with my new cat friends. I really liked the soft fuzzy kitty bed and the catnip mice to throw around. Each day I've ventured out a little more in the house. Soon I was brave enough

to go upstairs and discovered the room with the GIANT CAT BED (which we let the humans share at night). My favorite spot is along the pillows. While I love it here, I am looking for my forever family. I am still very shy around loud noises and new people. I have been spayed, have my shots and my adoption fee will be paid by my foster family (my future family will need to fill out a

simple application at the Parsippany Animal Shelter). I am all black with an extra toe on each front foot! I LOVE other kittens and cats, but noisy children still scare me a lot. Just give me a week or two, and I'll snuggle right into your home and your heart.

Will you be my furr-ever family?

Call Janet at 973-615-1583 to arrange for a visit.

Are you adopting a new "best friend?" PASS and Purina will help you get started on the "right paw."

The "Give A Bowl" program will send you a \$4.00 coupon and make a donation to PASS.

Give A Bowl of food to PASS and save on Purina® brand pet food!

Give A Bowl™ invites you to:

- Discover which pet food, for your dog or cat, meets your particular needs.
- Download a great savings coupon (\$4.00) from Purina.
- Feel good about giving back to the community and helping to feed homeless pets!
- Read tips about caring for your pets.
- Share your pet stories with others.

When you redeem your coupon, Purina donates \$1.00 worth of Purina® brand pet food coupons when you select the Parsippany Animal Supporters Society as the participating animal welfare organization of your choice.\*

Give A Bowl™ is just one of the programs from Purina® Pets for People™ that helps support animal welfare organizations, like PASS, throughout the nation. We are devoted to our cause, to the volunteers who work so hard to improve pets' lives, and to the dogs and cats that come through every door to enrich our lives.

There are only "3 Easy Steps" for the Adopting Family to download their \$4.00 Coupon:

1. Go to [www.giveabowl.com](http://www.giveabowl.com)
2. Download your \$4.00 coupon for any Purina brand Pet Food.
3. "Give A Bowl" of food back to PASS by selecting the Parsippany Animal Supporters Society as "Your Animal Welfare Organization" in which PASS will receive \$1.00 worth of pet food when the new adopter redeems their coupon.

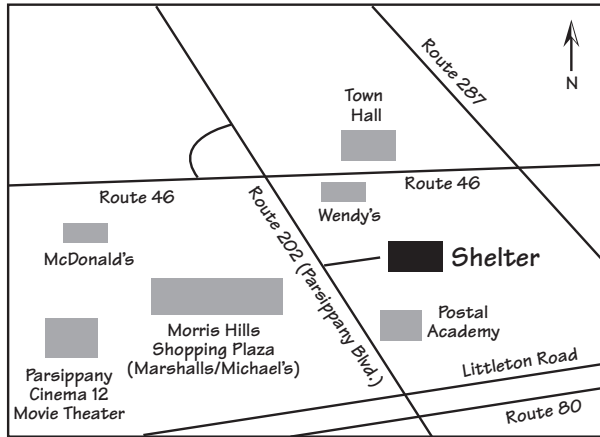
\* Each registered animal welfare organization is able to earn an unlimited amount of donations.





## PET ADOPTIONS

Please stop by the Parsippany Animal Shelter to visit with all the homeless pets up for adoption. The shelter is located at 1069 Parsippany Boulevard in Parsippany, near the Morris Hills Shopping Center. The shelter is open to the public Monday through Friday from 3 pm to 5 pm and Saturday and Sunday from 9 am to 12 pm. You can also make an appointment by calling the shelter at 973-263-7083. You can also “visit” the shelter at [www.petfinder.org](http://www.petfinder.org) then to “shelter & rescue groups.” Search in New Jersey and scroll down to “Parsippany Animal



Control & Animal Shelter.” If you have any additional questions, any of the Animal Control Officers would be happy to help you.

***PASS is not part of the Parsippany Animal Shelter which is controlled and operated by the Township of Parsippany Troy Hills.***



## CONTACT US

We'd love to know what you think! Comments, questions or suggestions regarding our newsletter can be sent to PASS, PO Box 5077, Parsippany, NJ 07054 to the attention of Patty Wallenburg, email [typewriting@earthlink.net](mailto:typewriting@earthlink.net) or leave a message at 973-402-PETS and we'll be sure to contact you. And don't forget to PASS It Along!



P.O. Box 5077  Parsippany, NJ 07054