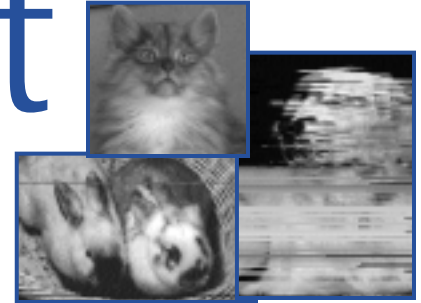




Our Best Friends

The Ottawa Humane Society Newsletter



A LITTLE HOPE WENT A LONG WAY

Recently, a Good Samaritan brought a calico kitten to the Ottawa Humane Society which had been found injured on the side of a road. One of the young cat's hind legs had sustained a crushing blow. Her injury resulted in fractures to all four of her toes and had degloved the paw. Infection had set in and her paw was so swollen, a vet told us that the injury could result in amputation of the foot.

The little calico quickly earned the affection of OHS staff: she insisted on snuggling with everyone who would open her kennel - and boy could she purr! She was named Hope by one of the staff. Our hearts sank when we realized our Staff Animal Vet Emergency (SAVE) Fund was down to pennies. With care costs that could reach \$2,000, and a severely depleted SAVE fund, Hope is what our staff and that little calico needed.

Our wish was to make a public appeal to help this one little cat in crisis. When we told The Ottawa Citizen about Hope, their response to her plight was immediate, as was the reaction from the community. The funds needed to help Hope and

(continued page 4)



Hope shows off her injury hoping for more attention!

Annual General Meeting Discussed

The Society's Annual General Meeting was held Tuesday February 26th in the council chambers at the former Nepean City Hall.

Among those elected who are returning to the board were Robin Jackson, Pamela Thompson, Ellen Henderson, Janice Schick and Dr. Geoffrey Cochrane.

Returning board members welcomed: Carole Barette, who is a Contract Writer, Training Specialist and Human Resources Consultant; Gerry Capello, former Deputy Minister of Labour; Liz Fauteaux, who is the General Manager of the Gloucester Chamber of Commerce; Bill Garay, a lawyer and principal of Garay and Associates; Dr. Ora Kendall, an epidemiologist with Health Canada; Robert Osterhout; a Certified Management Account and Senior Project Officer with

Continued page 3)

Membership Fee Changes

Due to increased costs, a vote was passed at the Annual General Meeting to increase the membership fees as follows:

An Individual membership is now \$25 and a Family membership is now \$40.

The cost of Junior Memberships has remained at \$15 and Pet memberships are still available for \$10.

If you have any questions, would like to renew your membership, or become a new member, please contact Tania Beriau at taniab@ottawahumane.ca or at 725-3166 ext. 252.

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Departmental Extensions:

Adoptions236
Lost & Found223
Investigations224
Administrative Assistant233
Manager of Finance & Admin.234
Executive Director232
Emergency Animal Protection
Services Manager.222
Events Hotline333
Tax Receipts & Donations252
Special Events248
Finance Assistant230
Manager of Development237
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Manager of Operations226
Manager of Volunteers231

Ottawa Humane Society
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OHS NEWSLETTER

Editors: Tania Beriau & Candice Nelson
Contributors: OHS staff, volunteers
& supporters

If you have a story idea or comment, please contact the editor by phone or via email to communications@ottawahumane.ca.
Stories, poems, letters and other submissions may also be sent by mail to OHS NEWSLETTER Editor.
Publication # 40013433

Did you know?

Many employers will match your charitable gift or support your volunteerism through special employee programs.

Charitable # 12 326 4715 RR0001

Our new website address is
www.ottawahumane.ca

FUSS OVER HOPE

The strong reactions we get in the press about donations to the Society are a constant source of amazement to me. When some people hear that other people have opened their hearts to an animal in need, the inevitable result is righteous indignation. "Not until every child in the world has a full stomach.", they write. "What about people who need liver transplants?" they cry.

Beyond my immediate reaction of wondering why people feel it is okay to tell other people what to do with their money, I wonder why these people think that those who donate to an animal charity will not support other causes. I support both the Society and human charities and I would never suggest that anyone should not. I believe that charity can do as much for the giver as for the recipient.

Last year was a tough one for fundraising at the Society. Mail and telephone donations were down. We think it had a lot to do with September 11th and the outpouring of support for the victims. Do I think that our community should not have opened their hearts to those people? Of course not. All we have hoped is that we recognize the value of all life and that the animals in our care not also become victims of terror.

I will continue to answer common questions that represent concerns frequently brought to my attention...

Q. I've been reading a lot about pounds surrendering animals for research. Does the OHS do this!?!?

A. No! Absolutely not! The Ottawa Humane Society does not provide animals for research under ANY circumstances. The Society has been very concerned with very misleading articles appearing in the press. The author of one, "Victims by the Pound" is closely associated with a group called Animal Alliance. Animal Alliance conducts national fundraising campaigns on this issue and operates a small program -- solely in Toronto -- to address it. We have expressed our concerns about the campaign in that it confuses the public about pounds versus humane societies and makes allegations that they are unable to support. Animal Alliance have stated to us that they are aware that no humane society in Canada participates in such a practice and were unable to identify any specific pound that provides laboratory animals. When confronted with the fact that they were implying that the practice occurs in Ottawa, they were able to only say that one Eastern Ontario shelter engaged in the practice 10 years ago!

by Bruce Roney, Executive Director, OHS

Our Best Friends welcomes your question to the Question & Answer section. We'll do our best to include it in upcoming newsletters.

Chimo's Story

A long time ago [29-11-91], a five year old shepherd-husky was rescued by the Ottawa Humane Society. No one knew his name, but you called him Chimo. At that time, we were volunteer dog-walkers (as we will be again when we can) and were charmed by him. But we were grieving the loss of our old dog and not ready to take another. One evening we put him back in his cage after a walk; he leaned his head against the bars and, while other dogs around him barked their woes, he howled the softest of protests. Somehow he touched our souls at that moment; and as we left we were moved to remark to the person at the desk that if a problem arose with him, here was our telephone number. We thought little more about it, for you were going to photograph him to advertise him for adoption. The following morning I was sitting over tea when the phone rang: the Humane Society called to ask if we would take him, for he had kennel cough. There was no decision to be made. We

adopted him as a special needs adoption; and he found his home, wagging himself almost in half as he entered the porch to greet Elaine. He grew well again, and for many days would sit in a quiet corner watching and wondering about us. He has been the most wonderful dog: at first strong, agile and fast as a bullet, gradually slowing down until of late he has barely been able to walk; but always the softest and gentlest companion imaginable. Our 'wolf' we called him, for his spirit was ever in the Northwoods, and walking in the Green Belt he has often been mistaken for one of his wild forebears. He has survived major problems, including emergency removal of his spleen in 2000 - a 'tough old dog', according to Dr. Cottell and his other friends at Bells Corners Animal Hospital.



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Annual General Meeting Discussed

Correctional Services of Canada as well as a long time member of the OHS Finance Committee; Mark Rysanek, an advisor with Industry Canada; Betty Selzer, a legal assistant and volunteer with the Ottawa Humane Society; Stephanie Smith, who is principal of her own business, specializing in contract executive and consulting services to profit, non-profit and governmental organizations.

Before the official business of the AGM began, the Society honoured a number of individuals who have made outstanding contributions to the Society and animal welfare over the past year. Receiving the Community Spirit Award was former OHS President Pamela Menchions for her tremendous contribution to the Society. The Muriel Davies Kindness Award went to Dr. Hussein Fattah of Glebe Animal Hospital for his support for shelter animals.

The Eleanor Prowse Award went to Mark Kelz, who has contributed countless hours in orienting and training dog-walkers. The media award went to Wendy Daniels and the BEAR for their contribution to Society events and raising awareness of the plight of animals in our care. In a touching presentation of a special recognition award, President Pam Menchions described how Dr. Kurt Streibe of Orleans Veterinary Hospital temporarily shut down his practice to help our emergency staff attend to a dog hit by a car beside the highway. Though in the end the dog had to be euthanized, Pam described Dr. Streib's exceptionally compassionate handling of the dog and family. Dr. Streib would not accept a fee and asked that the family donate to the Humane Society instead.

Returning member Robin Jackson was elected President at a short Board meeting following the AGM.

by Bruce Roney, Executive Director

Our Elvie!

There is nothing our OHS staff loves more than someone who comes through our doors and brings a smile to all of our faces. Elvie Betts does just that. She'll go down in OHS history as one of our most dedicated and loved volunteers.

Born in Britain, her accent is absolutely endearing - and I speak from experience when I say she doesn't mind when we try (in vain) to imitate her Essex dialect.

In addition to her obvious devotion to animal welfare, Elvie will often lend a sympathetic ear to those who need to 'take five', and she'll go and pick up food when things get too hectic for staff to get their lunch break. After 4.5 years of volunteering with our organization, we consider Elvie as part of our team!

During her time with the OHS, she has involved herself in our Companion Animals Program, Foster Care Program, and the collection of coin boxes.

It's truly a 'family affair' when it comes to caring for animals. Her daughter Katie designed our pet rescue website (www.rescue@endlesslove.com)

Elvie keeps the text updated, and her husband Malcolm takes care of all of the other technical matters. What team work! In fact, since they started the rescue website, they've had well over 5,000 hits, and that's only since the beginning of March!

Elvie's fondness of 'special needs' cats is renowned among the animal community, and we consider her a miracle worker at socializing kittens. She has kept a "couple" of her foster 'children'. "Hissy Lil" is 2 years old - she was a cat that could not go up for regular adoption because of her disposition, but Elvie loved her just the same. "Gummy Daisy" is another one of Elvie's furry darlings - she has had all of her teeth out due to poor dental hygiene from her 'past life'.

Thank you Elvie, for literally helping hundreds of animals find loving homes, AND for being such a sensitive, dedicated, and compassionate person. We love ya!

by Candice Nelson

DEAR PUMPKIN...

PRACTICAL ADVICE FOR
COMPANION ANIMAL OWNERS



Dear Pumpkin,

My 9 month old neutered border-collie/shepherd mix has recently discovered the joy of car chasing. What should I do? "Unsure" in Mountain Township, Ont.

Dear Unsure,

The chase response is a very natural instinct, especially for herding breeds. Your dog is young, playful and thinks he is having the time of his life - unfortunately, such behaviour can end in tragedy.

My first suggestion: *An obedience program.* Having a dog who heeds basic commands - in your case, 'down' or 'stay' - is *absolutely essential!* Tara Davis is our Animal Behaviourist at the OHS, and she is

absolutely amazing with such 'doggie issues'. Please don't hesitate to give her a call and find out how to teach your dog to "leave it"; she will be happy to share her knowledge with you!

With such an intelligent and energetic breed mix, your dog may also be bored. He is getting a little too innovative and making his own fun by chasing cars. Physical and mental stimulation may help curb his desire to chase cars - get him out exercising with you, play ball or frisbee with him, etc...

Lastly, have your yard completely fenced in so he can romp about safely.

Good luck to you! Love and Purrs, Pumpkin

Humane Education News

School Program

It has been a busy and successful second semester so far for the Ottawa Humane Society's Humane Education School Program. Thirty-seven presentations were delivered to students (JK-8) in the Ottawa-Carleton District School Board, and the Ottawa-Carleton Catholic School Board from January 2002 to March 2002.

Topics promoted a variety of animal welfare issues and included twelve Dog Buddies visits, a popular Grade One bite-prevention partnership program between the City of Ottawa Public Health Department, the Children's Hospital of Eastern Ontario and the Ottawa Humane Society. Thanks to the volunteers who made these visits possible!

Viscount Adoption Project (V.A.P.) Returns!

The Ottawa Humane Society's Viscount Adoption Project (V.A.P.) begins on April 29, 2002 at Viscount Alexander Elementary School. The last V.A.P. session took place on February 12, 2001 to March 8, 2001 at the same location. The program was interrupted as the Humane Education Coordinator position at the shelter was vacant for an extended period of time.

V.A.P. is an innovative and successful program that aims to facilitate the psychological development of 'at-risk' children through an interactive relationship of child, facilitator, and dog. An attitude of trust, respect, empathy, and self-esteem is the desired outcome for each child who provides basic obedience training to a shelter dog which makes the animal more adoptable. Animals have been increasingly brought into therapeutic interventions with 'at-risk' individuals. A relationship with a dog addresses some emotional needs of troubled children in a non-threatening manner. Numerous V.A.P. sessions will be held during 2002.

By Tara Nollet, Humane Education Coordinator

Hope's story

(continued from page 1)

the SAVE fund were quickly raised.

We were able to provide Hope with the veterinary care she needed right away. Now the little calico kitten is recovering comfortably under the care of her foster parent, OHS Veterinary Technologist Cathy Leclair.

According to the vet, Hope's prognosis is outstanding. With daily care, bandaging and attending to the terribly torn leg and fractured toes, we have been able to save Hope's leg!

by Candice Nelson



Photo by Wayne Hiebert, The Ottawa Citizen

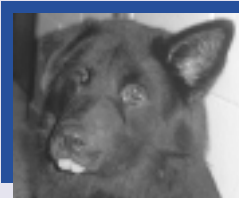
"Thousands of years ago, cats were worshipped as gods. Cats have never forgotten this."

-- Anonymous

OHS WISH LIST

Your donations of the following supplies will help us provide the best possible care for the 12,000 homeless and relinquished animals we receive each year.

- * leashes (heavy duty nylon)
- * orthopedic heating pads
- * 6-ft ladder
- * pee pads
- * Canadian Tire money
- * windshield washer fluid
- * back supports for lifting
- * assorted paint brushes for oil and water-based products
- * large and extra large wire crates
- * large vari kennel
- * puppy exercise pens
- * rubber boots (steel-toe)
- * nuts and bolts (all sizes)
- * multihead screw drivers
- * Hobart heavy duty dishwasher
- * laundry detergent
- * digital camera
- * 52L plastic containers
- * Adjustable wrench
- * drill bits (all types)
- * Disposable cameras
- * assorted rollers
- * dryer sheets
- * notebooks
- * rubber gloves
- * power saw
- * safety ear muffs
- * lactated ringers
- * fluid 1 L bags
- * office chair
- * VCR
- * computer scanner
- * 3-in-1 print center
- * roofing services
- * needlenose pliers
- * printer
- * polaroid film



Please contact the Society at 725-3166 ext. 252 if you are interested in donating any of these items.

Chimo's Story

(continued from page 3)

Each time he has picked himself up and carried on without complaint. As his legs failed we found ways to help him. His travel harness aids his little walks between sits on his blanket; a stretcher made from an old army camp bed to take him most evenings to his beloved basement rec room at TV (and 'chewie') time; carpet scraps under the covered verandah to help him reach the nearest 'comfort station'; and padded socks when needed for his weak back legs. On December 11th, we celebrated the 10th anniversary of our old grey wolf's homecoming, with joy and amazement. Surely, at about 15, he would now want to slip away, as quietly as he has lived his life? But no, he is as alert and vital as the day he came. He sits in "Chimo's Porch" at home, and in the woods near his car, the patriarch of all he surveys. He's a local institution, loved by all who know him, and intensely bonded with all his family. At Christmas, we even found him a "magic carpet" to recapture the world he knew in the long walks of his halcyon days. Most weekday mornings this past winter you'd find us, in our green coats, gliding across the Green Belt between Arlington Woods and Bruce Pit - Chimo on his toboggan! Now his precious snow has gone, you just might find us out and about on his new garden wagon. When will Chimo's story end? That is a secret, not ours to foretell. But whenever it may be, he will live on in our hearts, remembered as the greatest gift we will ever know.

John and Elaine Tunbridge, Claire, Alastair and all the family (including Scarlett and now Max, who came because there was Chimo...)

Planning Ahead

All too often, we leave things to the last minute. In some things, like Christmas shopping, it can be exciting and motivating. But some things shouldn't be left to the last minute.

The subject can be difficult to broach. Let's face it, none of us wishes to admit our mortality. However, leaving the details of the final disposition of our estates to the last minute isn't something that should be done.

It's an important and satisfying accomplishment to have legally established your wishes for your estate and to have assured your loved-ones that they won't face confusing and difficult details while grieving for your loss. A bit of planning can save you and your loved-ones trouble and confusion later.

As with most registered charities, the Ottawa Humane Society accepts bequests and other estate gifts. Unlike most other charities, the OHS also offers a Pet Stewardship Program to ensure that your wishes for your pet's future are respected. The Pet Stewardship Program is an agreement between you and the Ottawa Humane Society about the care and accommodations made for your pet in the event of your death or inability to provide care to your pet.

In all matters of planning the future, we recommend that you obtain independent legal or financial advice.

For further information about the Pet Stewardship Program, wills and bequests, you may confidentially contact the Manager of Development at 725-3166 ext. 237.

by Eric Adriaans, Manager of Development



Chimo and his "Magic Carpet"

Youth Skills for the Millenium

In June 2001, the Humane Education Program received a gift of \$16,617.83 to initiate a partnership with the Ottawa-Carleton Centre for Crime Prevention's Youth Skills for the Millenium program as an extension to the Viscount Adoption Project.

Youth Skills for the Millenium exposes 'at-risk' and disadvantaged youth (11-14 years old) to positive alternatives which include valuable career and life skills. Ten programs or modules are offered during the year, which include placements in various community organizations.

Participants are required to complete three of ten modules. Successful graduates receive a Certificate in Career Development and a Letter of Reference issued by the Ottawa-Carleton Centre for Crime Prevention. The program is free. One module consists of four Saturday sessions, consecutive or staggered, from 9-3pm.

Two caring modules have been completed at the Ottawa Humane Society that included eight participants. The purpose of this module is to expose 'at-risk' youth to shelter life, animal welfare issues, and aims to develop a greater sense of empathy between youth and animals. In addition, increased levels of confidence and communication skills are the desired outcomes for each participant. The third caring module will be held in May 2002.

For more information on humane education programs, please call Tara Nollet, Humane Education Coordinator, at 725-3166 ext. 235, or email taran@ottawahumane.ca.

OHS Auxiliary Spring Tea And Raffle

The Ottawa Humane Society Auxiliary members wish to extend a big "Thank You" to all those who have responded to the recent advertising campaign. New faces are appearing at business meetings, several people have joined the Craft Circle, and craft supply donations are increasing. As the Auxiliary busily prepares for the year's biggest fundraiser, the Annual Spring Tea and Sale with Raffle Ticket Draw, EVERYONE'S help is needed and appreciated!

Auxiliary meetings take place in the Shelter boardroom, 101 Champagne Ave. S., on the first Monday of the month (excluding holiday Mondays, then it's the 2nd Monday) at 1:30pm. The Craft Circle meets twice-monthly, at a west end location. New members receive a warm welcome.

Raffle ticket sales are underway at the Shelter and in local malls. Tickets are \$1.00 each, for 4 prizes of \$1,000.00. The draw will take place at 3:00pm, at the Tea. Get your tickets soon - YOU could be \$1,000.00 richer!

Tea, sandwiches and home-baked goodies will be served. Auxiliary crafts, gift items, plants and baked goods can be purchased. Plan to attend, and bring a friend!

Please note the new location for the Spring Tea this year:
Barrhaven United Church
3013 Jockvale Rd., Barrhaven
Wednesday, May 29th, 2:00pm to 4:00pm

For more information, call Auxiliary President Lydia Skanes at 728-5493. For tickets, please call Raffle Convenor Janice Gilmartin at 722-5485.

The Ottawa Humane Society would like to send out a special thanks to Heather Seeler of Windswept Farm and all who helped raise funds for their tireless work and effort in putting together her annual Jump-A-Thon! Many thanks for your generosity in holding the show and raising \$1,000 for the animals!



Heather Seeler of Windswept Farms and Gail Louis of the OHS surrounded by the fundraising team



Former Mayor Jackie Holtzmann looks on as Pam Menchions and Bruce Roney speak at last year's Spring Tea

Who let the Dogs (and Cats) out?

The Nepean Knights Jr. B Lacrosse Team
Welcomes the Ottawa Humane Society
Wednesday May 29th, 8:00 pm
vs. Gloucester at the Merivale Arena
Bring along gifts of toys for our furry guests
and get a free ticket for our draws!
Lots of prizes and fun
All children 12 and under free admission
Televised by Rogers Cable TV

SOMETHING THE KIDS ARE DOING!

Thanks to Cedarview Middle School!

A BIG warm thank-you to Cedarview Middle School for holding a Bowl-A-Thon in February 2002 to raise funds for the Ottawa Humane Society's companion animals. Eight hundred amazing students worked super hard to gather pledges, and after a fun afternoon of bowling, they collected approximately \$2,000! Your dedication to animal welfare is much appreciated.

Congratulations to W. Erskine Johnston Public School!

W. Erskine Johnston Public School held a "Spirit Day" charity drive in February/March 2002 and collected a whopping \$1200 for the Ottawa Humane Society. WOW! On behalf of the Shelter staff and companion animals, thank-you for your generous contribution and dedication.

Roberta Bondar Public School Fundraiser

An innovative group of students in Sherri Jessup's class at Roberta Bondar Public School raised \$144.00 for the Ottawa Humane Society! These animal-loving kids sold paw-print cut-outs to various classmates to benefit the shelter animals. Thank you for your generous contribution!



Eukanuba Presents, 4th Annual For Pet's Sake And All That Jazz Bachelor, Live & Silent Auction

Come out for a "howling good time" reminiscent of the roaring twenties and support the Ottawa Humane Society at the city's premier social event of the season. The Ottawa Humane Society is holding its 4th annual For Pets' Sake & All That Jazz Bachelor, Live & Silent Auction on Saturday, May 25th at the Crowne Plaza Ottawa. Join Wendy Daniels, Sandy Sharkey and Marlen Cowpland for a glamorous evening of swing & jazz music from Centralaires Big Band, as well as a bachelor auction with exciting date packages. There will also be a live and silent auction showcasing prizes ranging from tickets to Cisco Systems Bluesfest and the Ottawa International Jazz Festival, to green fees on some of Ottawa's finest golf courses.

Tickets are available at the Ottawa Humane Society
\$100.00 each or \$180.00 for 2 and includes a 3 course dinner.

For tickets and/or more information, please call
the Ottawa Humane Society - 725-3166 ext.248

6th Annual Summer Harvest Garden Party

Join Dr. Susan Beauchemin and her husband Kurt Wadele, the National Arts Centre's Executive Chef, for their sixth annual fundraiser for the OHS. Each year over 400 guests feast on dishes created by 25 of the city's best chefs in their home and garden. Last year the event raised an impressive \$35,000 and put a lot of smiling faces on many dogs and cats here at the Humane Society. This extravagant event will take place on Sunday,

THE DOG DAYS OF SUMMER

Many of our four-legged friends will be looking forward to hitting the infield once again. This year the Ottawa Lynx will be hosting Dog Days of Summer on June 21st. Come out on the Friday afternoon to help support the OHS and enjoy a great game of baseball. \$2.00 of every ticket sold to be donated to the OHS.

Saturday, May 25, 2002
The Crowne Plaza Ottawa,
International Ballroom
Doors open at 7:00pm.
Dinner served at 7:45pm.
Evening hosted by: Sandy
Sharkey, Wendy Daniels,
and Marlen Cowpland.
Live jazz performed by:
Centralaires Big Band

WHY DO WE TEMPERAMENT ASSESS?

The Ottawa Humane Society believes the public has the right to be safe from dangerous dogs. To do our part, the Ottawa Humane Society developed the Canine Services Department 5 years ago.

The purpose of this department is to provide a fair temperament assessment of each and every dog that comes through our doors. We want to establish that the dogs we put back into society are temperamentally sound and safe. Although we cannot make any guarantees, we have had great success so far.

The main goal of an assessment is to pull out the "raw temperament" of each dog. This is how the dog is genetically hard-wired from before birth. The assessment consists of a series of tests to trigger specific aggressions. As well, time is spent

with each dog to get a good sense of how he will likely react in all situations (with children, other animals, strange people, etc...)

All breeds of dogs come through the shelter and the Canine Services Department is not breed-prejudiced. Every dog is assessed in the same way and breed does not influence decisions. We look at the "whole picture".

Our Animal Behaviourist, Tara Davis, has 18 years of experience with dogs, 12 of those here at the Ottawa Humane Society. Over the years, she has become a certified dog trainer and a national speaker. She has also attended countless lectures and seminars held by animal professionals to keep up with all the latest in the 'dog world'. Much of her knowledge is based on experience, sheer talent and true passion for her

career.

The Ottawa Humane Society urges anyone who is looking to get a dog to adopt one from the Ottawa Humane Society. If this not desired, then please become educated on dog behaviour to be better prepared for adopting an animal and to be able to recognize the different types of temperament. *by Crystal Myers*



Tara Davis performing a temperament assessment of one of our best friends



OTTAWA HUMANE SOCIETY
101 Champagne Avenue South
Ottawa, Ontario K1S 4P3
www.ottawahumane.ca (613)725-3166

Yes! I'd like to support the Ottawa Humane Society.

My cheque is enclosed, payable to the Ottawa Humane Society

I'd like to use my Visa Mastercard

Card No. _____ Expiry date _____

Signature _____ Date _____

Do not trade my name with other organizations.

Please send information on wills & bequests.

My email address is: _____

**Please accept my
gift of:**

\$ _____