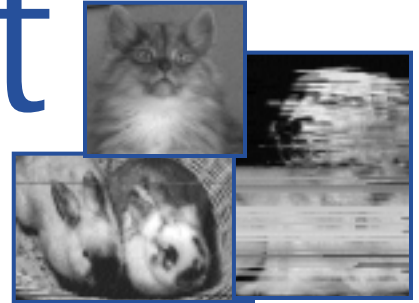




Our Best Friends

The Ottawa Humane Society Newsletter



THERE'S A CHAMELEON IN THE BUILDING!

What do you do when your Shelter's operational needs are not being met by its multiple, non-integrated, obsolete software program? You adopt a "Chameleon".

Chameleon is a software application designed specifically for shelter management. This one package integrates all of our day-to-day operations, including: Adoptions, Stray Animal Services, Licencing, Lost & Found, and Emergency Animal Services. Following a whirlwind round of training sessions, Chameleon was launched the first week of December 2001. Our previously paper-based animal tracking system, which required hours of after-the-action data entry into multiple computer programs, was immediately replaced by real-time data entry. For example, prior to Chameleon, each Adoption Counsellor was required to manually fill out long adoption contracts. Later another staff member would input the adoption information into two different computer programs. Using Chameleon, each Adoption Counsellor enters the adoption contract information as part of the real-time adoption procedure. Chameleon

(continued page 4)



One of our Wiggle Waggle Walkathon participants cools off at the Dog Wash station last summer.

OHS Auxiliary Needs You in 2002!

The Auxiliary of the Ottawa Humane Society, dedicated to raising money for the shelter's animals, is starting the new year with an invitation for **YOU** to join a great group in support of a very worthwhile cause. Last year's results were very good - this year can be even better - with YOUR help!

Now entering its 53rd year of existence, the Auxiliary has a new executive in place for 2002. Meetings are held in the shelter boardroom, 101 Champagne Ave. South, on the first Monday of the month at 1:30 p.m.(except holiday Mondays).

(continued page 3)

OHS Annual General Meeting

The Ottawa Humane Society's 2002 Annual General Meeting will be held on Tuesday, February 26 at Ben Franklin Place (Atrium and Council Chambers) of the City of Ottawa Client Service Centre at 101 Centrepointe Drive. The start time will be 7:00 PM.

On the agenda:
 Special Presentations & Awards
 2001 Annual Report Presentation
 2002 Board of Directors Elections

To verify that your membership is in good standing, discuss proxy voting options or arrange for a member's AGM package (available from February 19th) please call Tania Beriau, Development Assistant at 725-3166 ext. 252.

CONTACT NUMBERS

Main725-3166
Emergency725-1532
Fax725-5674
Dispatch/General InfoExt. 221

Email Address: .info@ottawahumane.ca
Website:www.ottawahumane.ca
Wildlife Centre726-6965
Wild Bird Care Centre828-2849

Departmental Extensions:

Adoptions236
Lost & Found223
Investigations224
Administrative Assistant233
Manager of Finance & Admin.234
Communications251
Executive Director232
Emergency Animal Protection
Services Manager.222
Events Hotline333
Tax Receipts257
Development248
Finance Assistant230
Manager of Development237
Humane Education Coordinator . . .235
Manager of Operations226
Manager of Volunteers231

Ottawa Humane Society
101 Champagne Avenue South,
Ottawa ON, Canada K1S 4P3

OHS NEWSLETTER

Editor: Kathryn Blair
Manager of Volunteers
ext.. 231

Contributors: OHS staff, volunteers
& supporters

If you have a story idea or comment, please contact the editor by phone or via email to kathrynb@ottawahumane.ca.

Stories, poems, letters and other submissions may also be sent by mail to OHS NEWSLETTER Editor.
Publication # 40013433

Did you know?

The Ottawa Humane Society's Pet Stewardship Program allows you to make provision for your best friends after you have passed away.

Charitable # 12 326 4715 RR0001

Our new website address is
www.ottawahumane.ca

A NEW YEAR'S RESOLUTION

As some members may be aware, last spring, OHS contracted with the Humane Society of the United States (HSUS) for consultation services. The initial focus was the Board of Director's wish for assistance in strategic planning.

The consultants reviewed records and other material in advance of their visit, including policies and procedures, board and other minutes, job descriptions, sample forms, etc. OHS asked the public to comment and we understand that approximately 30 people responded. During their visit, 6 HSUS consultants were able to generate 466 recommendations on different parts of our operations.

Each section of the 238-page report includes consultant observations, a discussion of best practices and recommendations relevant to a particular department or operation of the OHS.

The issues raised by the report are largely detailed, rather than broadly focussed and so the report defies summary.

We believe that if one major theme could be identified, it would be that the OHS has tried to be all things to all people, and that the Society needs to engage the community in our work and in our planning. It is important to note that the report is universally favourable about the changes we have made and are making through the current operational plan, but warns that it is ambitious:

"A renewed enthusiasm and direction exists at the OHS"....There is a sense of new stability, and city officials, the public, other animal groups, the staff and Board of Directors have almost universally recognized this new solidity.

must be tempered with a caution that progress will not necessarily occur quickly" (pg. 151)

The board is addressing the governance issues and the management team is addressing the operational issues, with the Board's oversight. Recommendations have been sorted into the following categories:

- Critical/immediate,
- Add to current operational plan,
- Add to long-term/strategic plan,
- Error/Not advised/Already done.

From this, the management team is creating a short term plan that includes: actions, responsibilities, time lines, and required resources to complete the critical/immediate goals and those goals are being added to the current operational plan.

For its part, the Board will initiate a broad consultation process which will culminate in a new mission, mandate and a strategic plan.

In making specific recommendations and by raising important questions, the report will be a valuable tool to assist the Society in developing and improving our organization and services over the coming years.

OHS is proud that the HSUS sent a message that spoke clearly of the compassion and professionalism of OHS staff:

"The HSUS found no callousness or indifference to the plight of homeless animals at the OHS. Rather the team found the majority of individuals were committed to improving the OHS and its ability to function effectively in order to address animal problems in the community." (pg. 191)

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.

A VERY SPECIAL THANK YOU

We would like to take time to reflect upon the successes of the events that were held by and for the Ottawa Humane Society. Supporting events such as the For Pets' Sake Auction, the Wiggle Waggle Walkathon and the many other events that were held in 2001 help to raise funds for the animals under our care. It also shows that corporations and organizations truly care about their community and the important role that companion animals play in our society. Each sponsorship or donation of a prize equals more dollars directly helping an injured dog or sick kitten. Thank you!

Leader of the Pack (\$5000+ cash) Eukanuba

Alpha Dog (\$2500+ cash or product/services)

106.9 fm The Bear♦93.9 Kool FM♦Michael Davies Dodge Chrysler Ltd.♦
Ottawa Citizen♦Ottawa Congress Centre♦Rinaldo's Hair & Spa♦
Rogers Television 22♦Sears (Carlingwood)

Cat's Meow (\$1000+ cash or product/services)

BGM Exhibit & Display♦Bouclair (Merivale location)♦Canada Post
Canadian Canine Training♦Canadian Broadcasting Corporation♦
Colortex Screen Printing♦Honeybar Products International♦
Mill Street Florist♦National Arts Centre♦Plantagenet Printing♦
Subway♦Tyrell Reproductions Ltd.♦WestJet

Friends (\$500+ cash or product/services)

Barrington Brollies♦Fulford Gallery♦Hurst Marina♦Jessica Menchions♦
Nine to Five Coffee Services♦Monty Berke Landscaping♦
Richard Robinson♦Trudy Robertson

OHS AUXILIARY NEEDS YOU IN 2002!

New members are warmly welcome and invited to join in fundraising activities.

Members are busy throughout the year, preparing for and holding events. Treasurer Janice Gilmartin is hard at work organizing the annual Raffle Ticket Draw (4 prizes of \$1000 each), which will take place at the Annual Spring Tea and Sale, on Wednesday, May 29th. Please note the change of location for the Tea. This year it will take place from 2:00-4:00 p.m. at the Barrhaven United Church, 3013 Jockvale Dr.

In April and May, auxiliary members will be selling raffle tickets and Craft Circle "Creations" in local malls. Please support a good cause! Also, watch for notification of Auxiliary Garage Sales held several times a year.

Last year \$15,000.00 was presented to the OHS, by Auxiliary President Renée Phillips. This money has been designated for specific items urgently needed at the Shelter.

Fund-raising in 2002 is off to a good start. Crafters are hard at work, but more people are always needed. Would YOU fit in here? Why not give it a try? For further information contact Lydia Skanes at 613-728-5493.

**The Annual Spring Tea and Sale
Barrhaven United Church
3013 Jockvale Dr., Barrhaven
Wednesday, May 29th
2:00-4:00 p.m.**

Please note new location

by Noreen Macko , Publicity Rep

A Second Career

Edward Fitzpatrick's contribution to the Ottawa Humane Society's humane education program has withstood the test of time. This charming Scottish gentleman has been delivering informative animal-welfare presentations to the delight of young school children since March 1994. "After I retired from my accounting career, my daughter encouraged me to become a volunteer dog-walker at the OHS shelter. However, they didn't need me at the time, and suggested that I try the humane education program instead. Although I had a public speaking background, kids are a much tougher audience. They let you know immediately if they are not interested!" Edward runs into former students on occasion who recognize him from classroom presentations during their younger years. "They actually remember information from the visit. Children are like little sponges and soak up what you say. You must be very careful when speaking to them as a role model."

Eight years have passed since Edward became one of our humane education volunteers. He never did get around to dog-walking though. However, school children and the humane education program staff are glad he didn't. Thank you Edward!



Edward Fitzpatrick is a long time volunteer of the Ottawa Humane Society.

by Tara Nollet Humane Education Coordinator

DEAR PUMPKIN...

PRACTICAL ADVICE FOR
COMPANION ANIMAL OWNERS



Dear Pumpkin,

My human companion is a wonderful person; however, he is lost when it comes to buying me safe and amusing playthings. Can you give him any hints for some totally cool toys, pleeeeeease?

*Your Feline Friend,
PurrinCESS*

Dear PurrinCESS,

Our human companions do their best, but unlike us, they're not purrfect and can use some expert advice

periodically. From my own experience ping pong balls, cardboard boxes, paper bags and empty plastic film containers are all terrific.

Most humans know that string, rubber bands, ribbon, twine and the like are utterly unsafe....we could swallow it and end up at the veterinarian for a mighty expensive surgery!!! ICK!

Love and Purrs,
Pumpkin

Humane Education News

School Program

It has been a busy and successful season for the Ottawa Humane Society's Humane Education Program! Thirty presentations were delivered to students (JK-8) in the Ottawa-Carleton District School Board and the Ottawa-Carleton Catholic School Board from September to December 2001.

Topics promoted were a variety of animal welfare issues and included sixteen *Dog Buddies* visits, a popular Grade One bite-prevention partnership program between the City of Ottawa's Public Health Department, the Children's Hospital of Eastern Ontario, and the Ottawa Humane Society. Many thanks to the volunteers who made the first semester of the school program possible! Classroom presentations will resume in January 2002.

Foster a V.A.P. Dog

Foster homes for shelter dogs are urgently needed for the Ottawa Humane Society's Viscount Adoption Project (V.A.P.) in February 2002. This innovative and successful program 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.

Families house, walk, feed and love the dogs for five weeks. In addition, shelter dog foster families must participate in three one-hour orientation sessions for socialization with other V.A.P. dogs, training and trouble-shooting. Transportation of a foster dog to the program site or shelter is also expected three times a week. All dogs are temperament tested at the Ottawa Humane Society to ensure suitability and safety.

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

There's A Chameleon in the Building!

(continued from page 1)

produces the appropriate adoption contract

Chameleon also brought new abilities to the Stray Animal Services area. These include "ChamCam", which allows us to take digital photographs of all incoming animals, and incorporates these photos with the animal's on-line record. Soon, these photos and accompanying animal information will be displayed on our web-site as well as on remote kiosks. This will aid the public in finding lost animals, and in viewing animals ready for adoption.

As part of the total operations integration, Chameleon also replaced all previous cash register activities. This includes the sale of items from our "Shelter Store", including inventory tracking and payment of release fees and licence purchases.

The OHS shelter staff is to be congratulated for so quickly and adeptly climbing the steep learning curve associated with learning a sophisticated software program and assisting with putting new and improved processes in place to take advantage of our new capabilities.

by Harriet Farmer

"He who is cruel to animals becomes hard also in his dealings with men. We can judge the heart of a man by his treatment of animals"

Immanuel Kant

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
- * disposable 35mm cameras with flash
- * rubber boots (steel-toe)
- * nuts and bolts (all sizes)
- * multihead screw drivers
- * Hobart heavy duty dishwasher
- * assorted rollers
- * wall anchors
- * tapcon screws
- * rubber gloves
- * power saw
- * safety ear muffs
- * lactated ringers
- * fluid 1 L bags
- * 12 volt power tool
- * vcr
- * computer scanner



Please contact the Society at 725-3166 ext. 237 if you are interested in donating any of these items.

Miracle Max

Our “Miracle McGee” not only has a new home, he has a new alias, Max. Roger and Cindy, his new family, wish to thank “all who played a role in finding this perfect companion”.

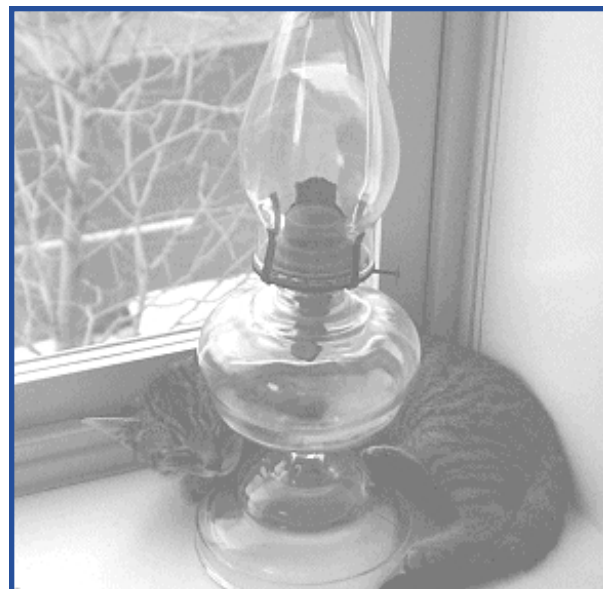
When Roger and Cindy came to the Ottawa Humane Society, they considered a few different cats. But, for some reason, Roger’s attention kept coming back to that unassuming little brown tabby. Once the kitten was in his arms, a staff member told him about Max/McGee’s incredible rescue from an Ottawa marsh area by a brave German Shepherd mix.

Roger felt an immediate bond with Max; his life had also been permanently changed by a severe accident followed by an extraordinary rescue. Only a year ago, Roger’s car had collided with a moose, leaving Roger perilously trapped in a swampy wooded area. A team of rescue workers had to free him from his vehicle with the “jaws of life”.

Max and Roger are two survivors brought together by fate. They are a great example of how humans and animals can relate to each other in many diverse and significant ways. Undoubtedly, their uniquely shared experiences will help them to support and enrich each other’s lives.

Roger tells us that Max has settled into his new home wonderfully, “Now that he’s been with us for a month, we can’t imagine a more perfect pet, with a more ideal personality. He has brightened our lives considerably.”

Miracle Max curled up in his new home!



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 Eric Adriaans, Manager of Development at 725-3166 ext. 237.

by Eric Adriaans, Manager of Development

by Candice Nelson

Eddie Bauer

During August of 2001, the staff and clients of Eddie Bauer at the Bayshore Shopping Centre raised \$2,988 through collections and special events.

The donation comes as part of the Eddie Bauer Associate Giving Campaign it is the first time that organizations have been chosen by associates at the Eddie Bauer stores.

Thankfully we receive many calls every year from organizations and individuals who want to help the Ottawa Humane Society (OHS) in some way. From craft sales and car washes, to garden parties and golf tournaments, there are many ways to raise funds to help the animals. These events are considered to be third party events.

A third party event is organized completely by an outside organization or individual to raise funds that would benefit the OHS. In cases where OHS endorses the event, a third party contract would be created and kept on record by the OHS. If your organization is thinking of holding an event for the OHS, please contact us for more information about third party events at 725-3166 ext. 248.

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 (YSM) 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 including valuable career and life skills. Ten programs or modules are offered during the year, which include placements in various community organizations. One module consists of four Saturday sessions from 9am-3pm. Participants are required to complete three of the ten modules. Successful graduates receive a certificate in Career Development and a letter of reference issued by Ottawa-Carleton Centre for Crime Prevention.

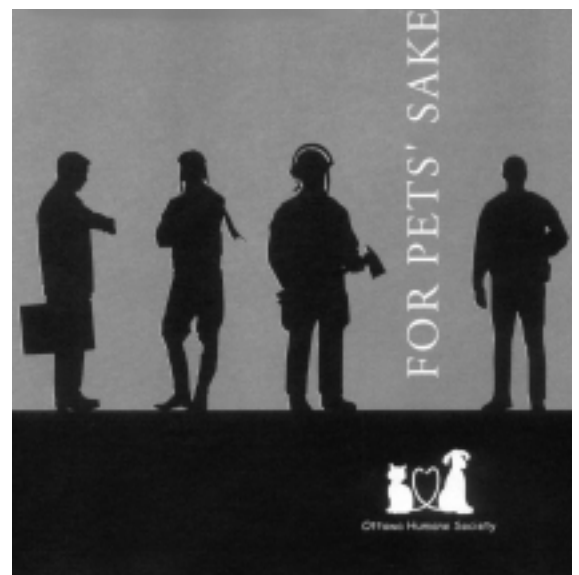
Five participants are currently involved in the Ottawa Humane Society's first Caring Module. The purpose of this module is to expose "at risk" youth to shelter life, animal welfare issues, and aims to develop a greater sense of empathy toward animals. In addition, increased levels of confidence and communication skills are the desired outcomes for each participant. Three of four successful sessions took place in November 2001. The final session will be completed in January 2002.

by Tara Nollet, Humane Education Coordinator



A special thanks goes out to the staff and clients of Eddie Bauer at Bayshore Shopping Centre who raised \$2,988 for the Ottawa Humane Society. Pictured are: Jesse Grant, Alisan Pike, Rhonda Sawyer, Aaron Watt.

GET READY FOR THE PREMIERE EXCITEMENT AUCTION OF 2002!!



EUKANUBA PRESENTS THE 13TH ANNUAL WIGGLE WAGGLE WALKATHON

by Pauline Nielsen, Events Coordinator

With a 12% increase in donations, the 13th annual Wiggle Waggle Walkathon raised a record-breaking \$76,000 for the animals in need! The scorching weather did not put a damper on the fun that was had by all, although our volunteers in charge of providing drinking water for the four-legged and two-legged attendees were kept very busy.

Everyone was greeted by the gigantic 24' black lab hot air balloon from our sponsor Eukanuba, as they entered the registration grounds. Wendy Daniels (106.9 fm The Bear) came back for the 8th year as emcee for the day and the New RO's Elissa Lansdell and her canine friend Mojo led the 5km walk through the picturesque Arboretum.

Attendees were entertained with a demonstration by "Elliott Smith's Mystical Magic" and an amazing show of the power of scent with the Canada Border Services drug detection team, Don Murray and his partner "Gunner".

Congratulations to all of our prize winners, including, as the grand prize, two air tickets from WestJet.

Many thanks to our many volunteers and sponsors. We could not have done it without you!

The 4th annual For Pets' Sake ...with a twist!

OHS is pleased to announce a fresh new face for the annual For Pets' Sake Auction.... For Pets' Sake & All That Jazz will be coming to town in May. This elegant evening will feature a full dinner, dance, live & silent auction. You will remember the fun and exciting bachelor auction portion of this evening from previous years... this year we've added Opus, an 18-piece jazz/swing ensemble that will be playing live with tunes from the 20's, 30's and 40's. So circle your calendar, dust off your dancing shoes and come out to support the animals! Please call 725-3166 ext. 248 for more details!

Third-Party Events are a winner for OHS

Thank you to Sue Deak and everyone at Import Auto Leasing & Land Rover Ottawa for holding a BBQ to support the animals in need. While raising almost \$300, this dynamic team brought in a live remote team and regular OHS supporters, Stuntman Stu and 106.9 fm The Bear.

Take a 'bow' Janice Blank and everyone at Mitel Corporation for holding their annual Holiday Craft Sale and raising more than \$1,300! Many thanks to the crafters who donated a portion of their sales to a good cause.

Sears St. Laurent's Jewelry & Cosmetics Departments held their annual Black & White Gala in November, with OHS as this year's recipient. This elegant evening is held by invitation only, to give their valued clients a jump on holiday shopping. The big 'draw' of the evening was a gift basket valued at \$900 along with six other gift baskets. Shoppers generously supported the cause and more than \$430 was raised - thank you!

THE DOG DAYS OF SUMMER

Ah, those lazy days of summer seem so long ago - but many of our four-legged friends will be looking forward to hitting the infield once again. Thanks to the Ottawa Lynx and PETSMART, for inviting the community and their best friends to support the OHS last August by spending a Sunday afternoon at the ball game. \$2.00 of every ticket sold was donated to the OHS. Thank you to KOOL FM as the media sponsors and to PETSMART for providing the sporty bandanas and gift bags.

The Party of the Summer!

Despite a cloudy and rainy start to the day, Mother Nature brought out the sun just in time for the many guests to enjoy the scrumptious buffet at the fifth annual Summer Harvest Garden Party.

With more than 25 Ottawa-area chefs, Dr. Suzanne Beauchemin (OHS Board Member) and husband Kurt Wäldele (NAC's Executive Chef) created another gastronomical extravaganza for almost 400 patrons. With a mix of jazz and Dixieland music by the pool, an auction (traditional and silent) that included a trip to the Caribbean & Las Vegas and many great door prizes, more than \$45,000 (tbc) was raised for the animals in need. Kudos to Dr. Beauchemin & Mr. Wäldele, along with their hard-working team of volunteers!



The team at Auto Import & Leasing and Land Rover Ottawa held a BBQ last summer to raise funds for the Ottawa Humane Society.

HEADING SOUTH FOR THE WINTER?

Many Canadians head south for the winter, taking a vacation from the chilly weather. Most pets have to stay behind with friends or family, since travel arrangements for pets can be difficult and expensive. Unfortunately, the Lost and Found Department receives many phone calls from dog and cat owners after the vacation, looking for missing pets lost from their pet sitters' days or weeks previously.

It is better to be safe than sorry - therefore we at OHS have created a checklist for vacationers who must leave their pets behind with friends, family or professional sitters. Should your pet become lost, you will have a greater chance of recovery if you follow the steps below:

Before the Vacation:

- have a tag made up that reads "I'm being pet sat by:" with your pet sitter's name, address and phone number. Your pet should always wear a nylon collar and this tag while you are away

- leave your pet sitter's name, address and phone number with your vet. Inform your vet of your vacation.



- if your pet is licensed, call the City of Ottawa (580-2400) to leave your pet sitter's name, address and phone number with your license number.

- if your pet is microchipped, call OHS or the microchip provider to leave your pet sitter's name, address and phone number as the alternate contact number.

To prepare the pet sitter:

- leave these important numbers with your pet sitter: where you can be contacted during your vacation; your vet's office and emergency phone numbers; and the Ottawa Humane Society's Lost and Found Department (725-3166 ext. 223)

- equip the pet sitter with a recent colour photo of your pet

- instruct your pet sitter to notify you, your vet and OHS as as soon as possible if your pet goes missing.

- leave a note with your pet sitter granting them permission to claim the animal should it end up at the shelter

- leave a note with your pet sitter granting them permission to decide upon any emergency medical treatment should your pet need it (remember that the pet's care bills are still yours!)

Hopefully, these tips will prepare your pet sitter for any eventuality. Knowing your pet is well looked-after should help you relax on your vacation!

by Michelle Tribe

DONOR INFORMATION

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: _____

Charitable Registration Number 123264715 RR0001

Business Reply Mail Number 40056390



OTTAWA HUMANE SOCIETY
101 Champagne Avenue, South
Ottawa, Ontario K1S 4P3

**Please accept my
gift of:**

\$ _____