

# SHELTER TALES

DCAWS

Volume 11 Issue 2  
Summer 2010

DCAWS P.O. Box 565, Salem, MO 65560  
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## WHAT'S HAPPENING ...



### PET PHOTO CONTEST

2011 Shelter Shaggies Calendar Pet Pinup Contest is now open. The first calendar was published for the year 1992 before the shelter was even opened. The 2011 calendar will be the 19th edition.

The contest is open to anyone from anywhere, the only exception being the 2010 winners. Rules are simple:

- Deadline is July 31, 2010. Entries may be mailed in, given to a shelter volunteer or left at the shelter.
- Enter one picture only. Sending more will place DCAWS volunteers in the position of choosing which one to submit to the judges and that needs to be your decision.
- Pictures must include a cat and/or dog. People or other animals may be in the photo also.
- Include information on the pet(s) in the picture, such as name, age, breed, something about the personality.
- Enclose a self-addressed stamped envelope.

Tips: Get the best shots possible. Of course, all pets are cute, which means getting a nice, clear photograph and, yes, a show one is important.

Prizes: This contest is for fun more than profit, but winners will receive a free calendar, winner's certificate and some pet treats and toys.

DCAWS has purchased a 12.5 acre lot on H Highway in Salem with plans to build a new shelter when funds can be raised. We will be writing grants and otherwise seeking donations from individuals and foundations.

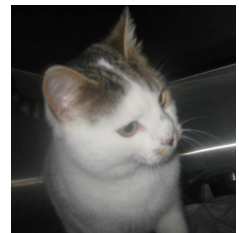
This is being done because the old building needs extensive repairs and additions. The contract with the city is up in a few years and negotiating renewal of that is not a desirable option. This building has served us well. However, we've learned a lot since 1993, enough to know we need improvement in the form of more efficient heating and cooling, surfaces designed for better sanitation and odor control, more separate areas for isolation, medications and treatment, office, storage, etc.

Collection banks are in place at several different local business. If you have or know of a business that would permit placement of a bank, please let us know. The land is debt-free; the funds used were saved over several years. See page 4 for additional information.



SAMSON

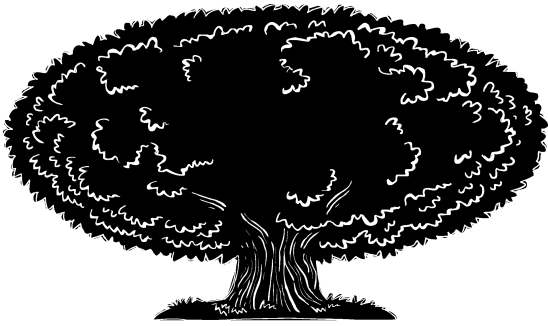
This handsome young male Anatolian shepherd mix has been at the shelter a long time.



KAYLA

This pretty girl, a Siamese/calico mix, has also been homeless a long time.

So what's wrong with them?  
Absolutely nothing!  
Come see them and all the others .. and take home a friend.



## Memorial Gifts

**Donations were received in**

**memory of:**  
Phyllis Hocker  
Louise Venn  
Bill Edwards  
Sam Fuhr

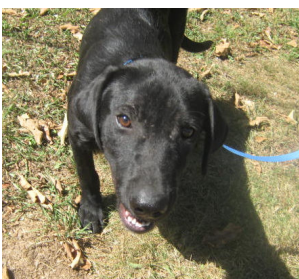


*Thank you to all who donated in honor of pets, family members and friends. The memorial gifts are put to good use in the care of homeless dogs and cats under our protection.*

### A HOMELESS DOG'S PRAYER

I know I'm not the kind of dog most people want. Most people come to a shelter looking for puppies, purebred dogs, tiny little dogs or very large dogs.

I am none of those things. I am a medium sized mixed breed, mostly black. Still, I have a lot of love to offer, but there are so many of us and the time goes by so slowly. My prayer is for a family of my own. I won't care about my owner's ancestry, size, race, religion, age, politics or social standing.



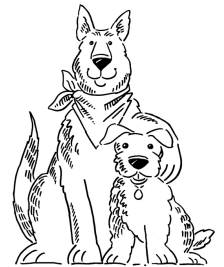
Please, can anyone answer the prayer of one so humble as I? My friends and I beg for help.

*DAISY*

This isn't new, but it's been a while since we ran it ... and some things bear repeating:

If you can start the day without caffeine,  
If you can get going without pep pills,  
If you can always be cheerful, ignoring aches  
and pains,  
If you can resist complaining and boring people  
with your troubles,  
If you can eat the same food every day  
and be grateful for it,  
If you can understand when your loved ones are  
too busy to give you any time,  
If you can overlook it when those you love take it  
out on you when, through no fault of yours,  
something goes wrong,  
If you can take criticism and blame  
without resentment,  
If you can ignore a friend's limited education  
and never correct him,  
If you can resist treating a rich friend  
better than a poor friend,  
If you can face the world without lies or deceit,  
If you can conquer tension without medical help,  
If you can relax without liquor,  
If you can sleep without the aid of drugs,  
If you can honestly say that deep in  
your heart you have no prejudice  
against any creed, color,  
religion or politics,  
Then, my friend, you are almost as  
good as your dog!

Author unknown



### FOSTER CARE

Like dogs and/or cats but unable to take any on permanently? Please consider being a foster parent. Time in a temporary home eases the anxiety of shy or abused dogs. It provides a safer and healthier environment for puppies and kittens until they are old enough to be "fixed" and adopted. It allows nursing moms to raise the little ones in a quieter, healthier place. Foster parents for pets are, indeed, angels in disguise!



## *Short-Lived Romance*

This is the story of Babette and Bob, a love that started with great promise and ended badly.

They met by chance and the attraction was immediate. Each thought the other to be awesomely cute and they had common interests that were significant, such as old movies, cappuccino and highly buttered popcorn. "I think what we have is forever," Bob said, and Babette agreed, thus plans for the future came up.

"What are you genetics?" Babette asked.

"My what?"

"Genetics. Yu know, like ancestry --are you mostly English or German or what?"

"Just a mixture of a lot of different things. Is that bad?"

"As long as there isn't a great deal of Scots?"

Bob swallowed hard. Was this the time to say his mother's maiden name was Haig? "Er, what difference would that make?"

"Well, you have a bit of a long and stern jaw. Attractive, but if it comes from the Scots, well, they're know for being stubborn and tight. I don't think I could stand that."

Bob was flabbergasted. His mother was easy going and perhaps even overly generous. "Never heard of such nonsense.. It's the kind of person you are that counts, not where your ancestors came from."

Babette was less sure. "Well, the strong traits can skip generations and pass down to the children."

"You do want children then?"

"Of course.. But I don't think I could deal with potty training very well. Or with teenagers. They are just so, well ... adolescent, don't you think?"

"Babette, how could we manage having children only between the ages of three and twelve?"

"I'm not sure, but something would work out."

She still looked so cute, petite and blonde like a China doll, eyes as blue as the sky. Bob badly wanted this to work. "I suppose we could adopt potty-trained toddlers, and then send them to boarding school after sixth grade. We could see them summers and holidays."

"It's a thought. Only adopting is riskier than having your own."

"How's that?"

"I know you. I've met your parents.. Therefore, I know some of the traits and quirks to expect and would be prepared to cope. With adoption, there is too much unknown."

"Traits and quirks? What does that mean?"

"Like the way your jaw is tightening up now. Stubborn, no doubt about it. And the way you often wipe your hands on your jeans. And how you laugh so hard at the same old jokes time after time."

"Look, Babette, I think we'd better take some time and think about this whole thing."

"But you're so cute," she replied with a sigh. "It could be worth a chance."

But with Bob cute only went so far ... and come to think of it, she looked a bit like a Persian cat ... and that was something he just didn't think he could handle long-term.

## DCAWS

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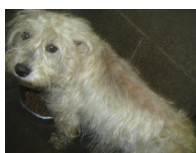
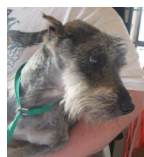
If sending mail, use only the P.O. Box address  
as the postal service is easily confused!

Phone: 573-729-3556  
Fax: 573-729-5612  
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Web site: [dcaws.org](http://dcaws.org)

Dent County Animal Shelter  
*The Shelter With A Heart*



## PUPPY MILLS



Vincent and Valerie came to us from a breeding operation. Beautiful little schnauzers with no idea how to act like dogs. Being petted was a foreign experience. They wag their tails, seeming to know people mean well, and are gradually learning not to be so fearful. These are only two of thousands ... and some of the luckier ones as they are healthy and with no signs of physical abuse, just basically ignored.

There is work going on in Missouri to prevent puppy mill cruelty, trying to ensure that dogs will be better treated, not cramped in small cages, will have exercise and annual veterinary care, not overbred, have excess to adequate food and water, no more wire floors, etc.

Check out [www.missourifordogs.com](http://www.missourifordogs.com).

## PETS FOR ADOPTION

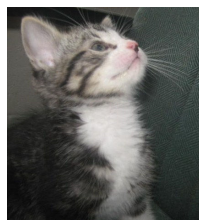
### WAYS TO HELP

For those who would like to help the shelter, either with daily expenses or the building project, but don't have much spare cash, here are some ideas.

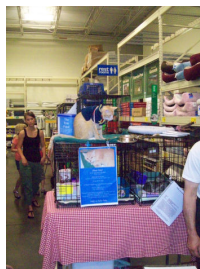
- Save aluminum cans and Best Choice Bar Codes for us.
- Organize a rummage sale as a benefit for us ... either as a family or with a club, church or some other organization.
- Or have some other type of fundraiser that is "down your alley"
- Drop change in the collect banks at local businesses.
- If you bowl in a league, arrange to donate a penny a frame on some nights.

### CAT SEASON

Kittens belong in the Murphy's Law category. Those involved in rescue work know that from October through April there are many requests for kittens ... and there aren't many available at all. Then May comes and there are kittens all over the place ... and no one seems interested. Pictured below are Sylvester, Sarabi and Kit-Kat, examples of fine kittens in need of homes.



### PETE'S STORY



Pete entered the shelter 5/7/2010. Someone pulled up in a pickup truck at a yard waste disposal site and was viewed from a nearby factory building. The person in the truck was clearly using a hammer. The door opened, closed and the truck left. A worried worker ran out to the site and found an orange tabby lying there, his head very bloody but he was still alive. Pete suffered much damage. His palate had been split in two, and thus his food and water would push up through his nose. His sense of smell was also gone. With these factors, he had to be handfed. He proved to be a most loving cat, grateful for attention, seeming to know he was being helped and not angry at all mankind because of his misfortune. Pete traveled to St. Louis where he stayed in foster care. X-rays revealed he had at one time been shot by a large caliber bullet and the shards remained in his neck. With this will to live, how could we not help him? Pete had successful surgical repair of his palate by a kind and wonderful veterinarian. He is now eating on his own and healing well. The picture shows Pete at PetSmart showing off his new coat and being a poster boy for cats with spunk. Donations to help with Pete's surgical bill would be appreciated.