



Helping Animals, People & Communities

## Spay/Neuter/Now (SNN) 2012 Fall Newsletter

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### The Neuter Commuter is on the Road

Spay/Neuter/Now's mobile clinic (Neuter Commuter II) has been on the road and spaying/neutering cats in 2012!

So far this year **571** cats have been sterilized in the mobile clinic and **181** cats/dogs through the voucher program giving us a total of **752** animals neutered by the end of August. Over the 18 years of Spay/Neuter/Now's programs, we have performed or aided in **12,688** cat and dog sterilizations.

This is over the "light" part of our spay/neuter season and our numbers of animals sterilized has gone up ~25% in both the mobile clinic and voucher programs.



SNN will be continuing our efforts to put a dent in the pet overpopulation crisis in the North Country.

**WE NEED YOUR HELP! Please Join TEAM SNN!**

### Welcome Aboard Dr. Romp!



Our new mobile clinic veterinarian Dr. Michael Romp enjoys his dinner before a clinic. He travels monthly from his home in Vermont into our area to do a set of back-to-back Spay/Neuter/Now mobile clinics.

**THANK YOU DR. ROMP!**

### JOIN TEAM SNN

Spay/Neuter/Now, Ltd. is a 501(c)(3) non-profit, grassroots organization dedicated to reducing the pet overpopulation in Northern New York State and was founded in 1994. Our goal is to reduce the pet overpopulation through Humane Education, a Voucher Program with participating veterinarians and a SNN Mobile Clinic.

We primarily rely on our volunteers and donations to keep our services running to help the animals, people and communities in an area larger than Connecticut. All donations go towards the educational and operational costs of SNN programs.

While financial donations are very much appreciated and needed, this is not the only way to contribute to SNN. You can help organize or run fundraisers, donate office or clinic supplies or get directly involved by volunteering at events or clinics.

**Tax-Deductible Donations can be made out to:**

**Spay/Neuter/Now, Ltd.**  
**47 Duck Cove Rd**  
**Hammond, NY 13646**

Please check out the WISH LIST (page 2) for supply donation ideas.

## SNN WISH LIST

Product/Service Gifts for SNN Fundraising

#10 Business Envelopes & Stamps

Paper (20 & 24 Pound)

Pens, Paperclips, Rubber Bands

Printer Ink (Epson Artisan 810)

Printer Ink (Epson Stylus C88)

Gauze (4"x4" or less, woven/non-woven)

Isopropyl Alcohol, Povidone Iodine Scrub

Nolvasan Solution and Surgical Scrub

Multipurpose Mats (24"x24"x5/8")

Donation Jars (Coffee Cans w/ Lids)

Gas Cards (for the Neuter Commuter)

Fleece (keeping cats warm for surgery)

Cat-Approved Carriers

## Spay/Neuter/Now Receives ASPCA Grant

The \$8900 grant was awarded by the ASPCA® in February 2012. The grant funds originate from the New York State Department of Ag & Markets in the New York State Animal Population Control Program (APCP), that is designated to aid in the sterilization of dogs and cats in New York State.



[www.aspca.org](http://www.aspca.org)

This grant funding was used to help cover the continuing operational costs of the SNN low-cost mobile spay/neuter clinic for cats and the SNN voucher program primarily for dogs. The grant funds directly aided SNN programs in sterilizing 209 cats in the mobile clinic, 14 cats & 52 dogs in the voucher program (275 cats and dogs total)!

## Many Thanks!



Over the 2012 winter the Neuter Commuter required some additional support work, repairs and maintenance.

We would like to thank Watertown Spring & Alignment in Watertown, NY and Wratten's RV Sales in Adams, NY for their expertise and hard work!

## Town of Hammond Starts SNN Clinic Discount

The Town of Hammond, New York has set aside a limited fund to promote and aid in the cat overpopulation in the area by offering a \$10 discount to Hammond residents neutering their cats at SNN mobile clinics.

This discount stacks upon the St. Lawrence Valley SPCA \$10 discount for most St. Lawrence County residents, meaning that Hammond clients will only need \$30 per cat for SNN clinics (normally \$50/cat flat fee that includes the surgery, vaccinations and preventative treatments)

## Friends 4 Pound Paws Brings SNN to Fowler



The Gouverneur/Fowler based organization Friends 4 Pound Paws (seen above with SNN Mobile Clinic Crew) was instrumental in raising spay & neuter awareness and arranging a SNN Mobile Clinic in Fowler,

## Grill Raffle



SNN board member and volunteer Rita Ford (left) and SNN founder Bea Schermerhorn (right) with Sandy, our Weber Q100 portable grill raffle winner.

NY at the Fowler Town Barn in late April. F4PP also offered an incentive discount of \$5 per cat for clients attending this clinic from Edwards, Gouverneur, Fowler, Hailesboro, Russell and Richville.

Spay/Neuter/Now applauds Friends 4 Pound Paws and the Town of Fowler for their support and efforts and we look forward to cooperating together in the future (including more mobile clinics).

For every human baby that is born there are 15 puppies & 45 kittens born. Simple math tells you that there will never be enough homes for them all. The solution is to stop the births by spaying and neutering. It is that simple. It is humane. It is our mission and it is what we do! PLEASE JOIN TEAM SNN!

## 5 Results of Cat Overpopulation

- 1) Health risks to people: Infections from cat bites, scratches, internal and external parasites and other zoonotic (communicable between species) diseases such as rabies.
- 2) Health risks to pets: The same as risks to people plus risks of feral or stray cats with distemper or other potentially fatal infectious diseases entering your community and placing your pets, colonies and barn cats at risk.
- 3) Shelters are overburdened by unwanted strays or litters. The ASPCA® estimates ~5-7 million companion animals entering shelters nationwide each year, of which 3-4 million are euthanized due to lack of space, poor or dangerous health conditions, behavioral risks, etc. Only 10% of animals received by shelters are neutered. (Source: [www.aspca.org](http://www.aspca.org))
- 4) An estimated 70 million feral/stray cats are in the United States and the average feral cat lifespan is only 2 years. Millions of feral/stray cats die every year from starvation, infections, parasites, disease, environmental/weather exposure or by humans.
- 5) Communities can become inundated with unsterilized, unsafe or unvaccinated cats. Eventually, this also costs the community financially to deal with the problem.

**Spaying/Neutering is a humane and effective means to prevent the cat overpopulation and it is what Spay/Neuter/Now does!**

## Spay-Ghetti Success!



Our first Spay-Ghetti Dinner on June 21<sup>st</sup> hosted by the Riveredge Resort in Alexandria Bay, NY raised \$2000 for Spay/Neuter/Now and Alley Cat Rescue of Alexandria Bay.

We thank the Riveredge for hosting us and the many community businesses & donors for their contributions for the silent auction!

## SNN Voucher Program

SNN vouchers provide financial aid to clients with animals by reducing the overall price at participating vets.

Female Dog \$50      Female Cat \$40  
Male Dog \$40      Male Cat \$25

*Income Guidelines Apply*

## SNN Mobile Clinic Schedule



Check our website for schedule updates.

- 9/20 Lowville NY
- 9/27 Ogdensburg NY
- 9/28 Philadelphia NY
- 10/20 Carthage NY
- 10/21 Hammond NY
- 10/25 Ogdensburg NY
- 10/26 To Be Determined
- 11/15 To Be Determined
- 11/16 To Be Determined

The Neuter Commuter II is on the road from April through November.

## Did You Know?

Spay/Neuter/Now is covering an immense area of 6000+ square miles (larger than Connecticut). SNN programs cover the entire area marked in red below.



This area covers all of St. Lawrence, Jefferson and Lewis counties. The population in this area is very spread apart and all three counties are within the bottom ten New York State counties for per capita income.

This confluence of conditions where people are financially unable to spay/neuter their pets or control the stray/feral population is why Spay/Neuter/Now began.

**SNN needs your aid so that together, we can continue to help animals, people and communities!**

## HUMANE EDUCATION



Spay/Neuter/Now believes that to make a more humane world, we need to start with educating our young people with humane values. That is why we have a Humane Education Program. Our director for the program is Peggy Blackmer, a retired 3<sup>rd</sup> grade teacher.

We also believe in the need for adult and professional educational programs. Our planned November workshop will have a guest speaker Dr. Kathy Makolinski D.V.M. from the ASPCA® will be lecturing on:

- ID Methods/Research
- Pediatric Spay/Neuter
- Client Education
- Feral Cats

Keep watching our website [www.spayneuternow.org](http://www.spayneuternow.org) and keep in touch for information on our upcoming workshop this November.

## Candy Bars for Cats (Dogs Too!)

Spay/Neuter/Now is doing a candy bar fundraiser for the 3<sup>rd</sup> year to aid in our operational costs. We hope that it is a success in 2012!



Bars sell for \$1.00 each and SNN receives \$0.50 profit from each bar. We cannot offer delivery or shipping services, but if you are in our operational area, there will be businesses and volunteers with available candy bars.

**\*\*\*Rabies Warning\*\*\* Multiple cases have been reported in Northern New York. Please exercise extreme caution when dealing with wild or stray animals or animals acting strangely.**

## Guidelines for Choosing a Charity

### How does the charity help my community and by how much?

SNN helps people with the cost of spay/neuter surgeries. The mobile clinic vaccinates and treats for fleas & ear mites in cats, which protects the community's people and pets from zoonotic diseases. Lower pet overpopulation also saves tax payer dollars.

### Does the charity address a problem that no one else does?

SNN is the only nonprofit organization in the North Country dedicated solely to spaying and neutering. It is what we do.

### Does it help to change lives?

SNN helps change lives for people by offering a low-cost program for spaying & neutering. People and communities are overwhelmed by a constant stream of kittens and puppies they cannot adequately care for. SNN changes lives for animals by reducing the number of litters that may never find homes, die by starvation or disease in the wild or overcrowd shelters. Neutering also improves the lifespan of pets by reducing the risk to many diseases and bodily stress.

### Does it have a long lasting effect?

Since 1994, SNN has performed or aided in over 12,500 neuters. SNN is helping to stamp out unnecessary euthanasia and prevent unwanted litters each year of every neutered animal's life.

## DOG WALK FOR SPAY/NEUTER



Spay/Neuter/Now and the St. Lawrence Valley SPCA (Ogdensburg, NY) are joining forces in a dog walk fundraiser to aid in spay/neuter efforts in St. Lawrence County.

All funds will be split equally and will go to SNN's continuing operational costs and the St Lawrence Valley SPCA's Furry Angels Medical Fund. This medical fund provides additional financial assistance to SNN voucher program by adding \$10 to the SNN voucher amounts and a \$10 discount to almost all of St. Lawrence County clients bringing cats to the SNN mobile clinic.

**Check the newsletter insert for more details.**