



Helping Animals, People & Communities

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

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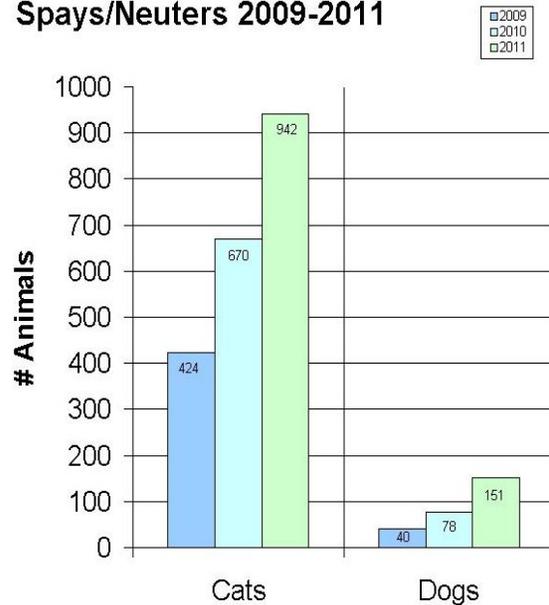


### Happy New Year!

2011 was another exciting, record breaking year for Spay/Neuter/Now (SNN). The Low-Cost Mobile Feline Spay/Neuter Clinic performed **895** spay/neuter surgeries from 72 towns or villages. The Voucher Program aided in **198** canine or feline spay/neuter surgeries. From October 1994 (when we started) through December 2011 SNN performed or aided in **11,936** spays/neuters.

In 2012, SNN will continue the goal of putting a dent in the pet overpopulation crisis in the North Country. We cover all of St. Lawrence & Jefferson counties and parts of Lewis and Franklin counties in New York State (roughly the size of Connecticut!)

#### Spays/Neuters 2009-2011



#### More Exciting Changes!



Kevin is currently wearing three hats! He is senior vet tech aboard the Mobile Clinic. In addition, he is President of the Board of Spay/Neuter/Now and he has just become General Manager. He and Karen Sandoval, our second vet tech, have taken over the management and scheduling of the Mobile Clinic and Voucher Programs.

Kevin is a North Country native and graduate of SUNY Canton's Veterinary Science Technology program. Karen is a graduate of a veterinary technology program in California and moved to the North Country with her husband, dogs, ferrets and cat.



**They are leading TEAM SNN!**

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!



## SNN Winter Mobile Clinic for Cats

### January

19<sup>th</sup> Lowville, NY (Hosted by Dr. Lucia Roberts)  
26<sup>th</sup> Lowville, NY (Hosted by Dr. Lucia Roberts)  
27<sup>th</sup> Canton, NY (Hosted by Canton Animal Clinic)

### February

2<sup>nd</sup> Lowville, NY (Hosted by Dr. Lucia Roberts)  
9<sup>th</sup> Lowville, NY (Hosted by Dr. Lucia Roberts)  
24<sup>th</sup> Canton, NY (Hosted by Canton Animal Clinic)

### March

1<sup>st</sup> Lowville, NY (Hosted by Dr. Lucia Roberts)  
8<sup>th</sup> Lowville, NY (Hosted by Dr. Lucia Roberts)  
30<sup>th</sup> Canton, NY (Hosted by Canton Animal Clinic)

SNN appreciates Dr. Lucia Roberts and the Canton Animal Clinic for hosting SNN Clinics through the winter months while the Neuter Commuter II is in hibernation.

## Santa Paws Event



For several years Spay/Neuter/Now has invited Santa to come to the Potsdam Agway and have his picture taken with your pets, family and friends. In 2011, not only did he come to the Potsdam Agway, but he also visited two days at petco in Watertown.

## The Escape Artist



This is the reason we recommend a hard sided carrier when bringing a cat to the Mobile Clinic.

## Christmas Tree Fundraiser



Spay/Neuter/Now's Tree was hosted by the Alexandria Bay Library received the most votes and was won by a Massena Resident.

## Tax-Deductible Donations

can be made to  
Spay/Neuter/Now  
47 Duck Cove Rd  
Hammond, NY 13646

YOUR FINANCIAL SUPPORT IS  
VERY MUCH APPRECIATED AND  
NEEDED TO KEEP THE  
MOMENTUM GOING.

THANK YOU!

Every \$50 means that we can  
spay or neuter another cat or  
dog in the North Country  
through the Mobile Clinic or  
Voucher Programs.

## SNN Offices Expand

Our offices have expanded in 2011 to better serve you, your animals and communities.

We now have updated contact information for our new offices.

### Administrative/Business Office

47 Duck Cove Rd ~ Hammond, NY 13646  
315-324-5969 (Bea)  
[spayneuternow@yahoo.com](mailto:spayneuternow@yahoo.com)

### Mobile Clinic/Voucher Program Office

PO Box 802 ~ Canton, NY 13617  
M/T 9am-3pm 315-486-0094 (Kevin)  
M/T/W 6pm-9pm 315-629-8651 (Karen)  
F 9am-4pm 315-629-8651 (Karen)  
[spayneuternow@hotmail.com](mailto:spayneuternow@hotmail.com)



Tim Wright & Karen Cunningham from the SPCA with Bea Schermerhorn & Kevin Mace from SNN.

## Spay/Neuter/Now Thanks St. Lawrence Valley SPCA

SNN awarded the Ogdensburg, NY based SPCA a plaque of appreciation for their dedication and support in spaying/neutering in St. Lawrence County. The St. Lawrence Valley SPCA has been aiding people and animals going through SNN programs and clinics since 1999.

Karen Cunningham said, "Every cat that SNN spays or neuters is one less litter that will end up in a shelter." She added, "It is impossible for shelters to adopt their way out of the pet overpopulation crisis." The SPCA continues to fundraise to continue this community support.

The SPCA recently expanded to cover all of St. Lawrence County except Massena addresses with a \$10 voucher for clients going through SNN's programs. Massena Humane Society has a similar cooperative program in Massena.

### Senior Pets for Senior People

Don't overlook the adoption of a senior pet. Just think about it for a minute: if you are 60 and get a puppy, you will probably be 75 when the dog goes to the Rainbow Bridge. Are you going to want to go out and walk it every morning and night or go through the house training and chewing stages?

Suppose you get a cat at 75, will you want to be chasing after that pet when you are 90? Senior pets for senior folks... it works.



Volunteers are very important to the success of a Spay/Neuter Clinic. Christine Mace of Colton, NY is shown keeping the paperwork straight at a clinic held at the St. Lawrence Valley SPCA in Ogdensburg, NY.

If you like animals and believe in what Spay/Neuter/Now stands for, please get in touch with us to **JOIN OUR TEAM!**

### Neuter Commuter at PHS



Potsdam Humane Society hosted a SNN Clinic at their new facility in fall 2011.

The need for organizations to coordinate and cooperate together cannot be stressed enough. In 2011, SNN worked together with other animal organizations in the region including the St. Lawrence Valley SPCA, Potsdam Humane Society, Massena Humane Society, Jefferson County SPCA, Friends 4 Pound Paws and the Lewis County Humane Society.

## Humane Education



Community outreach is an important component of Spay/Neuter/Now. This fall we continued to offer Humane Education classes to local third graders. Peggy Blackmer (a retired third grade teacher) and her yellow Labrador Retriever, Daisy, visited Hammond and Morristown Central Schools.

Peggy's presentation touches on feelings, care & needs of pets and how to be a responsible pet owner. Any schools interested in this program should contact Spay/Neuter/Now to set up a date for a presentation.

## Food for Thought

The pet overpopulation crisis regularly rears its head in the North Country. Shelters lack the facilities or space to combat the stray and surrendered animals in their areas of coverage.

Building larger shelters is not the solution. Spaying and neutering is the solution. Peter Marsh, a New Hampshire attorney and Founder of *Solution to End Overpopulation of Pets* located in New Hampshire has worked diligently both in his state and to share down to earth ideas on how the problem can be solved or at least brought under control.

He says, "We won't win our fight against pet overpopulation until we begin to take our own advice. Most companion animal protection groups and shelters spend less than 5% of their budgets on neutering assistance programs. Any system that spends 19 times more to treat a problem than to prevent it in the first place is doomed to an endless struggle."

He goes on to say, "Neutering programs more than pay for themselves. It's cost us (in NH) \$840,000 to operate our program for 5 years, lock stock & barrel, including all veterinary fees

and administrative expenses down to the last paper clip. During that time 22,000 fewer cats & dogs entered our shelters than in the 5 previous years before the program. This has saved us more than \$1.5 million dollars on impoundment costs alone, not counting the savings to municipalities from reduced animal control expenses."

His program is a state-wide program, but similar plans can be downsized to areas like our North Country. To make it happen it is going to take the full cooperation of all the shelters, animal control facilities, municipalities and rescue groups all working positively together. All egos have to be left on the curb. North Country: Are you ready to tackle this problem with a permanent solution or are you content to put a Band-Aid on it?

Spay/Neuter/Now is committed to make this happen. It is Do-Able. Please, will you help? Please consider joining **TEAM SNN**. -Bea Schermerhorn, Founder of Spay/Neuter/Now, Ltd.

Spay/Neuter/Now is the only non-profit organization in the North Country that is solely dedicated to low-cost spaying & neutering. Please continue to support us so that we, together with your help, can make this a more humane world, one animal at a time.

**Tax-Deductible Donations can be made to:**  
Spay/Neuter/Now  
47 Duck Cove Rd  
Hammond, NY 13646

## THANK YOU!

If you would like to receive our e-newsletter you can include your email with a donation or you can email [spayneuternow@hotmail.com](mailto:spayneuternow@hotmail.com) with the subject line: NEWSLETTER

**YOUR FINANCIAL SUPPORT IS VERY MUCH APPRECIATED AND NEEDED TO KEEP THE MOMENTUM GOING. THANK YOU!**

Email: \_\_\_\_\_