



## Spay-Neuter-Now (SNN) 2019 Spring Newsletter

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### 25 Years Providing Community Assistance

2019 is Spay-Neuter-Now's 25<sup>th</sup> year of providing services for animals, people and communities!

Since 1994, we have spayed & neutered over 20,500 North Country animals!

Thank you to all our supporters, donors, volunteers and staff for making this possible!

Companion animal overpopulation is a problem that cannot resolve itself. The long-term solution is spaying & neutering on top of other animal support mechanisms. This is why SNN exists and why we all need to work together to make a lasting impact on this crisis.

Every cat & dog that we are able to spay & neuter will prevent more North Country animals from dying from starvation, disease, exposure, injury, human cruelty, neglect or abandonment. When a cat is spayed, each prevented litter represents hundreds of fewer future offspring and their litters needing assistance in the future.

SNN plans to continue to expand our ability to put a dent in pet overpopulation in 2019 and onwards! To do that, we need your help by spreading the word about Spay-Neuter-Now's mission and services. Our programs primarily operate throughout St. Lawrence, Jefferson and Lewis Counties in Northern New York State.

In addition to our educational programs, SNN programs providing spay/neuter community services currently include:

- **SNN's Mobile Clinic (Neuter Commuter)**
- **Partnership with Town & Country Vet Clinic (Ogdensburg)**
- **Partnership with Town & Country Vet Clinic (Potsdam)**
- **Partnership with Town & Country Vet Clinic (Massena)**
- **Partnership with Little Friends Vet Services (Lyons Falls)**
- **Partnership with The Animal Doctors (Watertown)**

Our programs have three primary eligibility criteria:

- **Cats & Dogs in Income-Qualified Households**
- **Cats in Military Households**
- **Caretakers of Stray, Feral, Colony and Free-Roaming Cats.**

SNN's programs depend on tax-deductible donations and fundraisers. If you are interested in making a donation or volunteering your time to help our mission, please let us know!



### Eleven Years in the Neuter Commuter II



This year also marks the 11<sup>th</sup> year the Neuter Commuter II has been in operation. During the harsh North Country winters the vehicle stays in hibernation and we perform MASH clinics by setting up surgery suites at our host locations. Over 8,000 animals have passed through our mobile clinic program doors for spaying & neutering.

SNN thanks this past season's mobile clinic hosts: All Souls Unitarian Universalist Church, Blue Seal Feeds Watertown, Glen Park Fire Dept., Jefferson County BOCES, Three Mile Bay Fire Dept., Town of Lowville and Village of West Carthage. Without your donating the use of your facilities for SNN clinics, we would not be able to continue our mission!

### Spay-Neuter-Now's Mission

*Our mission is to create & maintain a significant reduction in companion animal overpopulation in the North Country by providing help to animals, people and communities through education and prevention.*

**You can help your community by:**

- Give Information:** Share our program with others.
- Give Time:** Volunteer at an event or run a fundraiser.
- Give Resources:** Donate money or supplies.

SNN is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit.  
Please consider making a tax-deductible donation today.



### 2019 Pet Photo Fundraisers Hosted at Potsdam Agway 10am-12pm, 12:30pm-2:30pm

**Howl-O-Ween**  
Saturday October 26<sup>th</sup>

**Santa Paws**  
Saturday December 7<sup>th</sup>



Our long-time volunteer & professional photographer Genine Gehret [www.ggkphotography.com](http://www.ggkphotography.com) donates her time to take amazing photos of your pets. Photos are printed on site. \$10 donation for one photo; additional photos for \$5 each. Unique raffles & fun at each event!

**June 6<sup>th</sup> 2019 4pm-7pm**  
**The 7<sup>th</sup> Annual Spaghetti Dinner**  
**Silent Auction: 4pm-6:30pm**



Our biggest fundraiser of the year is coming up soon! SNN and Alley Cat Rescue of Alexandria Bay have been working hard collecting donated items for the silent auction and we hope to see you there!

The Riveredge Resort in Alexandria Bay hosts our spaghetti dinner, silent auction and take-home bake sale. Dine-in and take-out dinners are \$8 Adults, \$5 Children (under 10). The silent auction for 2019 will run from 4pm-6:30pm with an option to pick up your winnings that evening at 7pm, or we will contact the highest bidders the next day.

2018's Spaghetti raised almost \$5,000 thanks to the many people who came to dinner and bid on items. If you would like to make a donation of an item for the silent auction, please contact Kevin at [spayneuternow@hotmail.com](mailto:spayneuternow@hotmail.com).

**Gift of Spay Spring 2019 Report**



Some families have trouble affording our subsidized spay/neuter fees, or those fees still add up quickly when you are a caretaker of a colony of cats. This is why SNN started the Gift of Spay Fund. Gift of Spay funds have provided discounts for families in need of extra financial assistance, helping spay/neuter over 90 animals in 2019!

As funds allow, the goal for Gift of Spay is to be able to reduce the cost of a surgery for the client down to \$20 per pet. For instance a \$50 donation would provide the funds to discount one cat. Every donation helps, and smaller donations can be combined with others to reach the full discount for someone's pet.

Once your donation is gifted, SNN will send you a photo of the animal that you helped.



**Please have my donation to the Gift of Spay Fund to help:** CATS [ ] DOGS [ ] ANY ANIMAL [ ]

**Name:**

**Address:**



**TEAM SNN: Program Roundup**



Our mobile clinic has been running strong despite cancellations and rescheduling due to the harsh winter weather. We are expecting a busy spring set of clinics with Dr. Jennifer Risser in the mobile clinic. You can find our current schedule of clinics on SNN's website and Facebook page.

Our partner programs have also been keeping busy helping to provide additional spay/neuter services to eligible clients. Between the three Town & Country Vet Clinic offices, they have spayed & neutered over 250 cats and dogs in 2019!

**Summer Pet Safety**

As we are all out and about enjoying the scenery with our furry companions, it is important to remember their health and safety too! Always have plenty of fresh, clean water available and make sure a cool, shady spot is available to avoid heat stroke and sunburn. Do not leave your pets unattended in a vehicle, as even moderately warm days can quickly build to lethal temperatures in cars.

Another way to Beat-the-Heat is by spaying pets before they have their first heat cycle (most cats and dogs start their first heat at 6 months old).

**From Our Founder**  
**Bea Schermerhorn**



When other little girls were playing with dolls, I was playing with stuffed pets as an animal doctor. While I never went to vet school, over the years I've worked with a lot of cats & dogs. Almost all of my pets have been rescues of some sort, but my dog Rainey was a special case.

Rainey was abused by teenagers who had cast fishing hooks into her, wrapped her in fishing line and threw her into a snow bank in December. Fortunately she was rescued by Jefferson County Dog Control and after many days at the vets, she had started her long journey to recovery.

How can people do such heinous things to living creatures? The sad truth is that the North Country has a lot of animal abuse issues and we need to do something about it!

My Rainey passed away this winter, her abusers having never being caught, fined, jailed or even a slap on the wrist. Animal abusers tend to abuse people too. Animal abuse has got to be STOPPED!

In Rainey's memory, I would like to start an educational fund about animal abuse and how to stop such things from being swept under the rug ever again! Will you help? You can send contributions for this to SNN and please note "The Rainey Fund" with your donation.

**SNN Spay/Neuter Fees**

**All SNN packages include the spay/neuter surgery, pain management, rabies & distemper vaccinations and a check & treatment for fleas and ear mites.**

*\$70.00 per Cat*

*\$100.00 Dogs under 25lbs*

*\$120.00 Dogs 26-50lbs*

*\$140.00 Dogs 51-75lbs*

*\$160.00 Dogs over 75lbs*

**Call 315-486-0094 or 315-489-0541**  
[spayneuternow@hotmail.com](mailto:spayneuternow@hotmail.com) for more information or applications.

**Other Events**

John Miller is once again running a fundraiser for Spay-Neuter-Now! He has donated \$185 in lotto tickets and \$200 cash that he has been raffling. You can find Mr. Miller at Ogdensburg Walmart during his spare time this spring.

The winner will be drawn on June 12<sup>th</sup>. If you see Mr. Miller raffling tickets, please thank him for volunteering his time and effort to help animals through Spay-Neuter-Now!

We are also working on a fall fundraiser cruise!