Back By Popular Demand

Fresno Wildlife Rescue

Actual Wild Animals Hoot and Holler for the SPCA

Wednesday, March 21st.
General Meeting
Best Western Meeting Room
Doors open at 5:30 Program starts at 6:00
Light snacks, beverages
Wonderfully appealing for adults and children

Children welcome when accompanied by an adult
Your kids will love this program!

When the SPCA shelter opened on Friday morning, January 13, these five puppies were on a blanket in front of the gate. The temperature was 38 degrees and they were huddled together for warmth. Luckily they were discovered before they died from hypothermia.

Abandoning animals is against the law. The SPCA recognizes the difficulty of caring for animals during hard economic times and offers the Juanita Moore Spay/Neuter program, which pays for spaying and neutering in exchange for eight hours of volunteer time. Many owners have taken advantage of this program and avoided the difficulty of having a litter of unwanted kittens or puppies. This is the responsible way to deal with this problem.

As an owner, if you are presented with a litter as a “complete surprise,” call the SPCA of Mariposa County at 966-5275 and we will work with you. We understand that you think you are doing the right thing by leaving these pups outside our gate, but it is illegal, and it distresses everyone involved when they are found. And sometimes…they are not found in time.

All of these puppies have been adopted thanks to publicity from Fresno’s Channel 26 and Sierra Sun Times, Mariposa Gold Rush Cam.

The five lucky pups who escaped freezing to death at the shelter gate.

Cathy Garner from the Fresno Wildlife Rescue and Rehabilitation Center holding a falcon during her presentation.
The election of members for the board of directors for the SPCA will take place at the general meeting on Wednesday, March 21, at 6:00, at the Best Western Meeting Room in Mariposa. This year we are voting on four seats.

According to the bylaws, a nominating committee was appointed in January and at the regular board meeting in February it presented the following slate of candidates for election:

Roger Brunelle
Shirley Corbin
Neil Mosher
Janet Schoff

Three of the normally rotating seats are up for election. The three members now serving those positions have all opted to remain on the board for another term. Those three are: Roger Brunelle, Shirley Corbin, and Janet Schoff. Roger Brunelle has served for two years ably filling the Vice President’s role. Shirley Corbin, whose specialty is dog training, has already served a three year term and is being elected for a second three years. Janet Schoff also has served three years, the last two as treasurer, and is running for another three.

This kind of consistent service is of utmost importance to our organization. Board members who are willing to serve year after year know the history of past decisions, can organize long-term plans, and because they know and respect each other, they work as a well-oiled team. The SPCA benefits greatly from the generosity of these board members.

Fresno Wildlife Rescue and Rehabilitation is an organization of volunteers who rescue, rehabilitate, and release wild animals in Fresno County. Cathy Garner and her husband, Dave, respond to calls 24 hours a day. The animals are cared for at their Fresno home and after healing they are returned to the area where they were found.

Cathy comes to our general meeting with crates and cages of the animals she is currently helping. She moves among the audience with a bird, snake, or cat on her arm, for an up close and personal view we rarely get. This is accompanied by information and heart-warming stories about the animal rescue and little-known facts about habitat and attributes.

The fourth seat up for election is one vacated by Marlene Gilbreth, who resigned during the year because of job commitments in Merced. The new candidate is Neil Mosher. Here is his request for consideration:

“I can briefly tell you why I would want to be on your board. I have spent 14 years as a volunteer for local shelters, and am a mentor for new volunteers, teach a class in dog handling and training to volunteers, and was a board member for a year for Friends of SF (San Francisco) Animal Care and Control, which is a fund raising non-profit. While I cannot guarantee that I could make every meeting as I live in San Francisco, I do spend about a third of my time in Mariposa. Hopefully I could offer some ideas and help whenever needed. You do really great work and I know it is not an easy job but your results have been terrific. Thank you for considering me. Neil Mosher”

This slate was approved by the board of directors and will be approved by a voice vote of the general membership at the annual meeting. If there is anyone else who would like to be considered, that person can be nominated from the floor. He or she must have been a member in good standing for the last six months. If there is a nomination from the floor, there will be a vote by paper ballot.

Elections are important because they essentially determine how your organization will function. Input from the general membership is vital. Come to the general meeting and vote.

Cathy Garner and noisy rescued owl.
Visit their website at:
http://www.fresnowildlife.org/about.html

Recently rescued babies

http://www.fresnowildlife.org/about.html
What to do when you find a lost dog

During a recent thunder storm, the question arose about what to do with a frightened, stray dog. Dogs often become so frightened and disoriented by thunder that they run for many miles and end up distraught and disoriented in a stranger’s back yard. Wildfires cause the same panic in animals. People who want to help are reluctant to call animal control because of their fear that the dog they are reporting will be euthanized.

Animal Control is actually the animal’s best chance of being reunited with its owner. Owners know to call animal control and report their dog is missing. Often the animal will have a microchip which can be read by the officers, and the owner will then be called.

Finders can assure the officer that if the owner is not found, they will claim the animal after the waiting period. The SPCA can take possession of the dog and release it for adoption. The SPCA cannot accept a dog or cat from people who have found that animal on their property. The animal is almost always lost and therefore owned. Every attempt needs to be made to reunite that animal with its owner before it makes its way into the adoption system.

The idea that calling animal control to report a stray animal is a death sentence for that animal needs to be recognized as false. The Mariposa County Sheriff’s switchboard operators, Animal Control Officers, and the SPCA all work together during storms, fires, and weather emergencies to reunite animals with their owners and place unwanted or abandoned animals with new owners. Don’t be afraid to engage the help of these organizations. They are the animal’s best chance of going home.

President’s Message
by Pat Stacy

We have had a marvelously successful year. Because of the Juanita Moore Spay/Neuter Fund established at the beginning of the year, many, many more families were helped to spay or neuter their pets. $15,000 was set aside from the sale of the property donated to the SPCA in 2002 by Juanita Moore. During hard economic times, pet owners find themselves unable to afford to spay or neuter their dogs or cats. The SPCA helps with a new program in which owners volunteer eight hours of work at the shelter in exchange for spaying/neutering their pets. This work could include folding clothes or straightening the yard sale area, walking dogs, folding laundry, or brushing cats. After the eight hours are completed, the SPCA will then pay the veterinarian who performs the surgery. If an owner is not physically able to volunteer, he or she could arrange for a friend or neighbor to do the volunteer work for them. Call the shelter for more information on how to take advantage of this program.

The SPCA also helps provide an excellent place to buy low cost clothing, including children’s clothing, coats, boots, and blankets. The yard sale has toys and books for all ages, small appliances and kitchen ware. Purchasing these items from the SPCA is the perfect way to help make ends meet these days. Last year the SPCA found homes for 161 dogs and 134 cats. Each animal was healthy, spayed or neutered, vaccinated, and wormed. During last year’s outbreak of a fatal cat virus in the community, the SPCA cats remained healthy and unaffected, due to the outstanding management of shelter manager, Jeanette Lozano. The SPCA of Mariposa County is famous throughout Central California for maintaining a spotless facility with healthy, socialized animals for adoption. It receives no state or local funds, but operates completely from donations and the generosity of its members. If you are a contributing member, pat yourself on the back. If you would like to become a member of this society that provides so much to Mariposa call 966-5275 or drop by the shelter.
One little guy who found a great home for Christmas

SPCA of Mariposa County
PO Box 671
Mariposa, CA 95338

Spay and Neuter All Pets

Be sure to attend
SPCA General Meeting

Wednesday, March 21
Best Western Meeting Room, Mariposa
Doors open at 5:30, Program Starts at 6:00

Cheese Tasting, Snacks, Beverages
Highly Educational Program Presented by
Fresno Wildlife Rescue and Rehabilitation
Live Animals
No Charge

Public Invited
Children Welcome When Accompanied by an Adult

One little guy who found a great home for Christmas