



THE Wanderer

Fall 2008

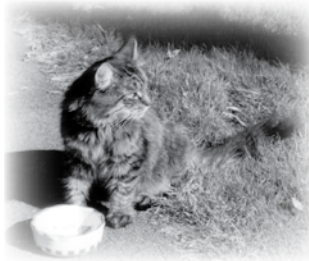
The Newsletter of Stray Pets in Need (SPIN) of Massachusetts, Inc.

www.straypetsinneed.info

Scruffie, A Much-Loved Cat

Ladies and Gentlemen of SPIN:

Once upon a time, about three years ago, a small tiger cat appeared on the scene. He looked as though he had stuck his little hand in an electrical outlet – his hair standing up on end – so I dubbed him “Scruffie.” Scruffie was very skittish and ran away when approached.



He was either homeless or very shy, except when it came to eating the food of another homeless cat, Maggie, or (according to our letter carrier) with the lady cats!! When I realized that Scruffie was of a mind to take over Maggie’s house, I came to the unhappy conclusion that he was, indeed, a stray.

Under the direction and with the invaluable help of Ms. Linda Montesano, Maggie was provided with a new house and eating area so that, if he chose to avail himself of the aforesaid setup, Scruffie would have a “home.”

I would see Scruffie periodically. He would come to eat and, after some two years, to get some attention, pats and “conversation.” I never did find out where he went when he was not in my immediate area. However, since he knew where to find shelter and food, I hoped for the best. I would see him infrequently but he appeared unchanged.

Then about a month ago I realized that Scruffie was not looking quite like himself and was staying in our yard almost all day. I knew something was wrong and I realized he was asking for help. Not surprisingly, I called upon Ms. Montesano for her expertise and assistance, both of which were granted me without hesitation. She took Scruffie to Dr. Anthony Cosimini at The Cat’s Hospital in Wellesley.

Scruffie and I would like SPIN to accept the enclosed donation in acknowledgement of Dr. Cosimini’s willingness and best efforts to help Scruffie, even though it was too late and he had to be put to sleep. My heartfelt gratitude and sincere admiration for all you do for those who are unable to help themselves, with which sentiment I know Scruffie concurs.

Sincerely yours,

Virginia L. Berthelson

Editor’s Note: Scruffie was FIV + and had been unable to fight a massive infection.

SPIN is Truly “PETS” In Need

Sue Webb, President of SPIN and Animal Control Officer in Wellesley, was called about a young, stray cocker spaniel. In attempting to grab him by his collar, he bit her in self-defense. With her keen understanding of animal behavior, she deemed it a “provoked” bite since he had given lots of warning signs. He quickly submitted once he realized he couldn’t get away. Sue deemed him a really good boy. SPIN provided medical care until he could be transferred to a shelter that does dog adoptions directly.

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About S.P.I.N.

“Promoting the well-being of animals and responsible human-animal relationships”

Stray Pets in Need of Massachusetts, Inc. is an all-volunteer non-profit 501c3 organization devoted to caring for homeless and abandoned pets since 1991.

SPIN has a temporary transitional shelter in Wellesley and also an adoption center at Kitty City at Pet World in Natick. Plans are underway to open a larger, permanent transition shelter in the Natick area to handle animals that need extensive recuperation time or a chance to have special handling by volunteers to resolve behavioral issues which may delay adoption for a while.

INTERESTED IN VOLUNTEERING FOR SPIN?

SPIN volunteers contribute in many ways: direct care providers, grant writers, foster families, fundraising initiatives, general administration and special projects like micro-chipping clinics. We are looking for contributors also to our newsletter. We need a volunteer to drive animals belonging to Seniors to and from vet appointments and people to drive cats/kittens from Pet World to The Cat Hospital and return. Specially trained volunteers are needed to foster animals coming from situations involving domestic abuse as well as volunteers with special interest in working with feral cats, which means cats who have had little or no contact with humans thus far in their little lives.

For more information on how you can help, call **781-235-1218** or visit our web site at **www.straypetsinneed.info**. You can also write to **SPIN at PO Box 812143, Wellesley, MA 02482**.

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SPIN is Truly “PETS” In Need *continued from page 1*

The foster caregiver recently sent Sue a message about Riley. He was put up for adoption by All Dogs Rescue and was adopted by a couple that live one block from the beach on Cape Cod. They had lost their cocker spaniel a few weeks before. Riley's "Dad" is a handyman and Riley goes to work with him everyday and according to the couple, gets "spoiled rotten" by them both. Riley had his portrait painted in oil. What a handsome and lucky dog he is. What a win/win situation for everyone.

Due to the disappointingly large number of cats considered more easily abandoned by their "owners" and the overwhelming number of cats who are allowed to get pregnant, SPIN deals

mostly with cats in their adoption program, Kitty City at Pet World in Natick. But "pets" is all encompassing. Sue has adopted out animals from rabbits to rats. Read on for one of her most unusual experiences.

Sue had complaints from residents at the recycling center about a wild turkey who had lost his mate, probably killed by coyotes, and was going after people at the center. Instead of having him killed, Sue worked hard to find him a home! She eventually found that Plimouth Plantation would welcome this guy into their village. Who would have thought Sue would succeed at finding a wild turkey a forever home? All of us who know her, that's who! Love and kudos to Sue! **S**

Dear Sue Webb,
I believe you were the ACO who last year heroically grabbed a stray cocker by the collar to keep him from running on the street, got bitten, and judged him a good boy anyhow.
I fostered this youngster, and just got an update from his adopters with a unique image of Riley (Jasper). They had him done in oil from a photograph!



Oil painting of Riley.

Thought I'd share this with you, as you truly rescued him. He is a beach boy now, living one block from the beach on the Cape with a middle-aged couple who had lost their cocker a few weeks before. His 'dad' is a handyman and Riley goes to work with him everyday, and gets spoiled rotten by both.

Regards,
Sarah

SUPER KIDS!

A group of students from the Bates School area in Wellesley, Heather, Julia, Laura, Sarah and Mary found a lost dog. They called the police to track down the owner by its tag. They brought the dog back to the owner who gave them a donation to split among themselves. Instead of taking the money for themselves, they decided to donate the money to SPIN in order to help other animals.

There's more! Two Wellesley Middle School students took it upon themselves to make some craft items and to try to raise some money for SPIN. Whitney Newton and Laura Halomka set up a table outside Roche Brothers Supermarket, sold their items and then donated over \$100 to SPIN. These two students have also been coming all summer to the Transition Shelter at Wellesley Animal Control. They have been cleaning and playing with the cats and kittens.

These young people we call SUPER KIDS! Praise and gratitude to these kids and whoever raised such thoughtful and responsible kids!

Morris for President!

Remember Morris the Cat, the orange tiger cat who was a rescued cat that 9 Lives made famous in commercials for its products?

Well, here are his Paw-licies, still very important for this year's election!

Domestic Policy: Domestic cats are far superior to wild cats, who are heavy in the lap and ill-humored.

Fur-ign Policy: Things were simpler when cats ruled the world.

War on Drugs: Just say "NO" to catnip.

Environment: Put a litter box on every corner.

Energy: Conserve energy at all costs; take frequent naps.

Democracy: Observe the "One cat, one vote" rule.

Campaign slogan: Walk softly and carry a big can opener.

Politics: No back fence deals.

Animal Rights: Fur coats should be limited to those who can grow them.

Population Control: Neuter is neater.

Family: Put a cat in your family tree.

Political Propriety: You won't catch me catting around. The media is free to follow my tail.

Political Scandals: Any cat would have smelled a rat.

Education: It all begins with good litter training.



Did I win yet?

9 Lives 1987 Star-Kist Foods, Inc.



Abraham



Kittens After Abe's Visit.

How to Learn About Kittens

Abraham was just shy of two years old when he came to visit his grandfather in Newton. It's always a special time when he comes because Abe and his parents live in Brooklyn. This last visit coincided with the fostering in Grandpa's house, of a very friendly tortoise shell Mom cat, her four tortie kittens and her two orange tiger boys.

Abe had never seen a cat or kittens before. When he came to the Cat's Corner Room in Grandpa's house, he stood at the doorway and just looked in. The Mom was lying on the carpet just passively watching her six week old kids running around like mad, applying a nanosecond attention span on a number of different toys and chasing each other tails as well as their own. Of course, there was the friendly wrestling and biting and screeching that often seems not so friendly. Well, Abe just watched it all for a long six minutes or so. Perhaps he was afraid of the scene with all the energy, sounds and sights new to him. But he then set out on an amazing experience of his own.

There was a large cage still on the floor from when the Mom and six kittens had first arrived. The door was tied open now so that they could go in and out. Abraham first got down on the floor and crawled into the cage. He got to the very back and turned around and sat there for a while, surveying the scene from inside the cage. Then he crawled out and sat in the middle of the floor picking up cat toys, looking them over one by one to see what the excitement was that they held. Watching the kittens trying to remove a ball out of the round track in which it relentlessly rolls, Abe let himself in for the same frustration and eventually gave up and just watched the kittens push the ball around in its track.

Abe wasn't reaching out to touch the kittens, just making his careful observations. As a couple of the kittens went in and dashed out of an open cat carrier, Abe crawled over to the carrier and started in head first. He struggled but kept crawling in. His waist was now at the opening of the carrier seemingly stopped from proceeding by his puffy underwear. But he managed to squeeze himself completely inside! There was no turnaround room so after a few seconds, he started to back out. Through all of this, Abe hadn't said anything or made any sounds at all, quite unlike his little self.

After clearing his way out of the carrier, he saw a three-tiered scratching post that the kittens were climbing up and down on, some reaching the table behind it where there was a large, round, flannel cat bed. Abe, with his Dad behind him, crawled up the three tiers, one by one, got onto the table and curled up in the bed, closed his eyes and rested for a few seconds. He then put his head up and giggled and said, "Cat!"

Grandpa is a retired child psychiatrist who put his spin on this amazing scene. He said that Abraham was learning about kittens by being one! Gratefully though curiously, Abraham never went near the food tray or the litter boxes. Maybe later when he really needs them. **S**

The Wanderer

Fall 2008

Published by
Stray Pets In Need of
Massachusetts, Inc. (SPIN)
www.straypetsinneed.info

Design: Marie Hoyt-Pariury

SPIN Officers

President: Sue Webb
Vice President: Lucille Riddle
Secretary: Linda Montesano
Treasurer: Moira Guigno

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Pam Cornwell, Jason Cornwell,
Donna McGlone, Christine Norman,
Lyn Woodhead, Carleen Vantine,
Peggy Webb

Adoptions: Marie Antobenedetto
and Adeline Apodemi

Foster Care Coordinator: Kim Taylor

Disaster Preparedness: Sarah Green

Data Base: Sara Fogg

Web Site: Judy Goodwin



EZ Girl Lives Up To Her Name

EZ Girl was adopted on August 26, 2008 from Kitty City, SPIN's adoption center at Pet World. Her new family writes that she "spent the first hour just exploring and then she found a few spots to hide and rest. She absolutely LOVED her wet food ... it must be nice for her to not share a bowl. She is a sweet girl and comes to us when we make cat sounds. The kids love her and as I suspected, she loves my husband and vice versa. I think we are going to stick with EZ as her name because she is just as her name implies." By adopting an adult cat, the personality is already developed. They didn't want the kitten crazies and they knew they wanted an affectionate cat. EZ is just such a kitty and she loves her new home and family! Thanks and warm purrs to the Spalti family! Win/win with SPIN! **S**

February 16 – August 1, 2008 SPIN Donation Report

\$7,500

Windsor Charitable Trust

Over 1,000

Immediate Care

William Saunders

Over \$500

Wellesley Animal Hospital –
Elizabeth Hartmann

In Memory

Roberta Taylor in memory
of Arlene Danforth

Gary fund

Mary Snow's and Donna
McGlone's birthday celebrations

Over \$200

In honor of Alastair Bastian's
birthday

Virginia Berthelson, in memory
of Scruftie

Eileen Neary, for Dorothy

Maria Kuntz, in honor of
Cubby and Lucy

Jackie Segel, in memory of Souci

Immediate Care

Cat's Hospital – Anthony Cosimini

A. E. Christopher

Maryanne Miller

Mary Snow

Gary Fund

Anonymous

Edgar Roca

\$100 and over

Nina Walsh in honor of
Sue Webb's birthday

In Memory

Michael Barnes, in memory
of Bernie and Bumble

Richard Current, in memory
of Eddypuss and Callie

Susan Foss, in memory of Dewey

Larry Strauborger, in memory
of Anne Carr

In Kind

Connie Main

Linda Montesano – supplies

Immediate Care

Girl Scout Troop 3358 Patriots Trail

Marta Kuzmniak

Mary McCall

Tim McLaughlin

Patrice Spaulding

\$25 – \$99

Clifford Berger, in honor of
Emily Pasco-Anderson

Gary Christiansen, in honor
of Jennifer Goodfellow

Donna Lee Lavine in honor
of Jazymn's 14th birthday

John Newton, in honor of
Lyn Woodhead

Lyn Woodhead, in honor of
Jason Cornwall

Nina Walsh – Happy Birthday Lyn

In Memory

Richard Bailey, in memory
of Anne L. Carr

Cathy Brauner – Fluffer

Mark Klein, in memory of
Michelle Koross

Marie MacDougall, in memory
of Saym and Zombie

Elizabeth Studley Nathans,
in memory of Moses, Magoo
and in honor of Tayer

Anne Orser, in memory of Ines
Bruna Kindrat

Laura Plant, in memory
of McFarlane

Kevin Patrick Seaver, in memory
of Anne L. Carr

Alan Weinstein, in memory
of Chibi

Shelter Fund

Dorothy Waldron

Jonathan Jenkins

Immediate Care Fund

Temple Aliyah

Bates kids – Heather, Julia,
Laura, Sarah and Mary

Peter Clark

Vincent Codispoti

Juanita Eaton

Peter Feil

Jonathan Jenkins

Jeanmarie Johnson

Fay Kravet

Ruth McDonald

Christine Norman

Joe Rizzo

Edgar Roca

Richard Slavin

Ada Suydam

Anne Terhune

Leslie Tsui

Stephen Walls

Susanne Walsh –
thanks for your help

Alaina Youngsma

Whitney Newton – crafts at
Roche Brothers

Lara Halamkas – crafts at
Roche Bros.

Matching Gift

Taras Zommers

In Kind

Elaine LaBelle – medication

Greg Clark – JoAnn's Fabrics
gift certificate

Belez Celebi – cat food

Carp Ferrari – cat food

John Kendal – cat food

Phoebe Rottersman – food,
litter, toys

Joanne Smith – medication

William Taylor – rabbit food



*I'm Tux and I'm now in my forever Home
for the Holidays!*

Calendar of Events

California Pizza Kitchen Fundraiser! Yum!



At the Natick Mall (Natick Collection) location of California Pizza Kitchen on Tuesday, September 16, there will be a special deal to benefit SPIN.

Simply pick up a flyer/coupon from anyone distributing them at the Mall from 3 pm to closing that day, go to California Kitchen, right next to Macy's, first floor and enjoy the great food at CPK and 20% of the purchases made will be donated to SPIN!

Flyers will be available at Pet World and at The Cat's Hospital, Route 9 West in Wellesley. We would be delighted to send you some for distribution and for yourself! We will try to have one to download from our web site: www.straypetsinneed.info.

Note: We are not allowed to stand directly outside CPK and hand them to folks going in but we will be elsewhere in the Mall: in front of Sears and other well-known stores. Volunteers to distribute flyers are needed and welcomed! Ask Lucille Riddle about the delicious pizza and salad at CPK! Buon Appetito a Tutti! Ciao! Or should I say Meow?

"Impudence"

Outside closed doors you claw the rug
With urgency I've never know in a cat
Demanding entrance to my office
My private space
Where clients unveil their souls.
Believing you belong wherever I am
Your right, your legacy.

When I open the door
Inspecting those present,
You honor each with a glance,
Walking in laps
Snuggling
Bathing on the rug.
Our intense, special conversation bores you
With triumphant glance
You curl around yourself and go to sleep

By Bunny S. Duhl



**Saturday, September 13
10 – 4 at Natick Common
"Natick Days"**; fun family activities, music, food, booths and displays by lots of non-profit groups raising money; SPIN will be there with animal-themed games for the kids to play and more!

Saturday, October 4

SPIN Benefit Yard Sale in Ashland; from 10 to 2; behind the Dairy Queen in Ashland Route 135

Saturday, October 25

MICROCHIP CLINIC FOR DOGS AND CATS; \$15 pre-registration: send a check to SPIN, PO Box 812143, Wellesley MA 02482 Indicate for "Microchip" Walk-in \$20 (STILL AN ENORMOUS BARGAIN!) Pet World, Route 9 East Natick, opposite Macy's; 11 to 1

ALSO THE DAY TO PICK UP YOUR PIES! See form in this newsletter.

Saturday, November 29

Make Holiday Boxwood Trees at Lyn Woodhead's house in Natick; see article in this newsletter for info.



Order a Holiday Boxwood Tree!

Sunday, December 7

**Pet World, Route 9 East,
Natick, MA**

Pick up your pre-ordered boxwood trees and buy another one! Free pizza, music! Buy other holiday gifts for pets and friends! 11 to 3. Also **MICROCHIP CLINIC FOR CATS AND DOGS!** Same time and place. See above October 25 for registration info.

Saturday, January 10, 2009, 11 – 1

MICROCHIP CLINIC at Pet World. See above for details; music and complimentary pizza to warm you up on this cold January day!

Fall Raffle Benefit SPIN

Your choice: Kitty or Doggy Gift Basket!
Value \$50

Raffle tickets may be purchased at any SPIN event, (see calendar), at Pet World or via mail.

Tickets are \$1 each or 6 for \$5

Send name, address and phone number to SPIN, PO Box 812143, Wellesley, MA 02482 and tickets will be filled out for you.



Holiday Boxwood Trees for SPIN

On Saturday, November 29th, 2008, at 12:30 pm, volunteers for SPIN will be constructing and decorating boxwood trees to be sold at SPIN's fund raiser, "Home 4 the Holidays" which will be held at Pet World on Sunday December 7th. Come join us and make a tree for SPIN and make one for yourself, too!

You will need to bring a container for your tree, a box to take it home in as well as small shears for pruning. To offset SPIN expenses there will be a \$10 charge (cash or check made out to SPIN) to volunteers who make their own tree. There is no charge to make a tree for SPIN to sell on December 7th.

Space is limited so please RSVP to www.straypetsinneed.info or call 781-235-1218 by Monday, November 24th so that SPIN will know how many places to prepare.

If you would simply like to purchase a tree and your order is placed before November 24th, the cost is \$25. After that the cost will be \$30.

Call 781-235-1218 to leave your name to order a tree. You can pay for and pick up your tree on Sunday, December 7th at Pet World, Route 9 East, between noon and 4 pm.

Come join us and learn how to make these beautiful trees and help the animals, too!

Wish List

- Baby food, chicken flavor, for sick cats
- Canned cat food
- Dry cat food
- Bleach
- Non clumping clay litter
- Terry cloth towels all sizes
- Cat toys
- Digital still camera
- Science Diet ID and AD dry and canned food
- Postage stamps
- Trash bags
- Gallon Zip Loc bags
- Scrubber sponges
- Used cell phones Cash for Critters
- Used printer cartridges (except Lexmark)
- Triple antibiotic eye ointment, new
- Large or XL dog crate
- Revolution for parasite control
- Commercial or mixed use zoned land in Natick to purchase/donate
- Architect and property inspection services
- Gift Cards to grocery stores, pet stores, hardware home improvement stores
- Gift Cards to restaurants, for goods or services or new merchandise for fundraising events
- SAVE RECEIPTS FROM SHAW'S/ STAR SUPERMARKETS FOR CASH FOR CRITTERS PROGRAM

DROP OFF LOCATIONS:

Pet World, Rte 9 East Natick (*across from Macy's*) and Wellesley Animal Control, 485 Washington Street, Wellesley

RECEIVE **\$10.00 OFF** A NEW SERVICE OF **\$50.00** OR MORE WHEN YOU BRING THIS COUPON TO:

CONCEPTS SALON and DAY SPA
51 ELIOT STREET
S. NATICK MA 01760
508-655-3355

all coupons redeemed will be **matched by CONCEPTS and donated to SPIN**
(not to be combined with any other offer, expires 10/15/08)



Excuse me, ladies. Bon appetit!

All four of these cats were adopted on the same day by incredible animal companion, Jack Baer, because the cats had become close buddies at Kitty City. Purrs and Pats to Jack Baer!

Ever So Humble® Pie Company, Inc.

153 Washington Street E. Walpole, MA 02032
 (508) 660-9731 www.eversohumble.com

Name:	Email Address (If Applicable):
Phone:	Delivery Date:

New England Apple Pie Freshly peeled apples tossed with brown sugar and spices, heaped high beneath a delicate flaky crust.

Apple Crisp Freshly peeled apples topped with rolled oats, whole wheat flour, butter and brown sugar.

Blueberry Crumb Flavorful and juicy wild blueberries covered with a crunchy topping of brown sugar, butter and rolled oats.

Chocolate Cream Our own rich, dark chocolate filling topped with a pillow of sweet cream.


Jumble Berry Pie *Our Blue Ribbon Winner!* Tart Cape Cod cranberries, sweet strawberries, wild blueberries and zesty oranges.

Key Lime A tart and tangy taste of the tropics.

Squmpkin A Creamy custard made of field harvested squash, sugar pumpkins, low fat milk and spices.

8" Pie Serves 6

Apple Crisp Serves 4

	New England Apple	Blueberry Crumb	Chocolate Cream	Jumble Berry	Key Lime	Squmpkin	Apple Crisp	Total Items	Total \$
Name & Phone	\$13.95	\$13.95	\$13.95	\$13.95	\$13.95	\$13.95	\$10.00		
Total Items									

Allergy Alert: Produced in a facility that uses eggs, milk, wheat, pecans, walnuts, almonds, almond oil.

Mail this order form with your check payable to: STRAY PETS IN NEED, PO Box #812143, Wellesley, MA 02482-0014

PICK-UP OF FROZEN PIES will be at Pet World, Rt. 9, Natick on Sat. Oct 25, 2008, 11:00am – 2:00pm, orders must be received by October 14, 2008, please include a phone number or email with your order so we can reach you for pick-up reminder.

The Pies come frozen and you will be helping SPIN while having a fantastic dessert for any special event you want to share with family or friends.

**The Newsletter of Stray Pets in
Need of Massachusetts, Inc.**

PO Box 812143

Wellesley, MA 02482

Phone: 781-235-1218



Now I lay me down to sleep...

If You Go, They Go

That is the most important message to people who find themselves in a disaster where they are being told to evacuate. Taking your pets with you is best. Sue Webb and Linda Montesano have been helped in getting the word out by lots of kids, including the super kids and parents at Temple Beth Elohim in Wellesley.

Disaster kits are comprised of several items in a zip-loc bag including: a sheet of general information that will help people and their animals

survive disasters whether they are accidental, acts of nature or intentional. Also, there is a self-sticking paper collar to put on your pet, especially cats who don't already have collars, on which you can write your name and contact information. There is a bottle of water to remind you that storing water enough for everyone including pets is crucial. Also, you are advised to have a recent photo of yourself and your pet to help in post-disaster reunions. Health records, including rabies certificates and any special medication your pet may need, must be part of the kit. A sample of food with no expiration is included, as well.

Two hundred of these kits were assembled at the Temple on Mitzvah Day (Good Deed for Others Day). They were then disseminated by other kids at various locations around the town. A similar procedure was done by Newton Girl Scouts last year who made it a year-long endeavor.

For more information on how to prepare for a disaster including one in which you may be quarantined in your home, contact SPIN via our web site:
www.straypetsinneed.info.

Can you believe it?

SPIN has adopted out 6,433 kittens and cats since its beginning in 1992. As of this writing on August 28, 2008, there have been 32 adoptions this month alone. Heartfelt praise and gratitude to Marie Antobenedetto, Shelter Manager and Adoption Counselor extraordinaire and to Adeline, also an Adoption Counselor and the staff at Pet World for making a welcome place to facilitate adoptions. Isn't it amazing? And in each adoption there is a story to tell...