



# Paw Print

Summer 2004



## *Elvis Pinkus - 1992 to 2004*

“Until one loves an animal, a part of one’s soul remains unawakened”  
- Anotole France

*This newsletter is brought to you by:*

## **PAWS**

Peoples Animal Welfare Society  
**NOT FOR PROFIT ♦ NO KILL ♦ SINCE 1972**

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Registered Charity No. BN 88916 5577 RR0001

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# *Message from the President...*

In our 32 year history, PAWS has seen a number of changes, the most recent and evident appears before you ... our newsletter. We trust you will enjoy the new standardized format and the table of contents, on page 1, will ensure ease in finding your favourite sections and articles. In this issue we have more sponsors than ever before ... we encourage you to support them (see back page). As well, our much-anticipated web site will be launched this Fall at a new address ... [www.pawstoronto.org](http://www.pawstoronto.org) ... we'll keep you posted.



Over the years, PAWS has provided assistance to animals in needy situations; many have been starving, abandoned, abused and/or suffering from the elements. Most would never have survived had PAWS not intervened ... this has been made possible by loyal supporters like YOU. As a result of one of the coldest Winters on record and a Spring where a number of our "permanent residents" and "recent rescues" found themselves in emergency situations, our veterinary and other expenses remain astronomically high. **The animals need you NOW more than ever!**

We are currently in desperate need of a reliable van or truck, which would help greatly in our endeavors. If you or someone you know can help in this respect, please contact us.

Our work is both gratifying and frustrating and it is through the generosity of our membership that we soldier on. "I am only one ... but I CAN make a difference!".

*Kimberly Heys*  
President



## **URGENT TEMPORARY OR PERMANENT HOME REQUIRED:**



We have recently rescued a precious black and white cat ... named "Jasper". He appears to have an illness which is transmittable to other cats **ONLY**.

We are in **URGENT NEED** of a temporary or permanent home without other cats until he can be re-tested (DNA) to either rule-out or verify his condition.

### **PLEASE!**

If you or someone you know can help, contact Kim at (416) 491-2287 or Katie at (416) 824-9027 or e-mail us at [pawstoronto@yahoo.ca](mailto:pawstoronto@yahoo.ca)

Dear PAWS Supporters:

Here are some of the animals  
**YOU HAVE RECENTLY SAVED!**



### ***I NEED A HOME!***

(Some of our recent rescues)

**SUZY** - Suzy is a happy young girl looking for a home. A beautiful dark grey, she is very stunning indeed! She is less than 1 year old, spayed and up-to-date with all her shots. She is also house-trained and gets along with other cats very well. She is very chatty and always LOVES to cuddle and be cuddled.

**HULK** - Don't let the name fool you! This sweet 8 year-old tabby is a gentle giant just waiting for the perfect home! Note that Hulk is declawed.

**MAGGIE** - Maggie is a very special and unique calico-colored cat, just waiting for her forever home. She is approx. 8 years old and declawed.



**MISS M** - As you can see from the picture, Miss M has suffered an injured eye from being left to fend for herself. She is otherwise in good health and has been spayed. Shy but friendly, Miss M will

require a special home, ideally with no other children or pets.

The number of calls for HELP that we have received recently has been **OVERWHELMING!**

If you or someone you know would like to provide a special home to a loving animal

PLEASE contact us at

***pawstoronto@yahoo.ca***

For pictures on these and other animals:

***www.petfinder.org*** then click :

Shelter and Rescue Groups; Toronto;

PAWS; Our Pet List

(This list changes regularly)

### ***I FOUND A HOME!***

(Some of our recent adoptions)

**FURY** - who spent almost four years in our NO KILL shelter due to shyness was recently adopted by Julia (a very devoted PAWS member) who sadly lost India who she adopted from PAWS in 2000 - please see her "ode to India" on our upcoming website. Fury now has a special new friend not only in Julia but in Chocolate (India's Sister). We miss him very much but are thrilled that he finally has a wonderful new home.

**BUDDY** - a beautiful senior cat whose owner was devastated at having to part with him. Thankfully PAWS was able to help by referring his owner to a new PAWS member and the adoption was a success.

**CHESTER & GROVER** - TOGETHER AGAIN! Yes, Chester and Grover were adopted to the same home - with special thanks to Tabatha @ Secord Animal hospital.

**BABY** - a 1 1/2 year old black and white male who is spunky and pleasantly talkative - a very friendly guy now in a permanent and loving home!

### **PAWS Adoption Policy:**

PAWS adopts animals with the understanding that, should the placement not prove to be successful for any reason, the animal is to be returned to us. **WE NEVER EUTHANIZE THESE ANIMALS.** If possible they will be re-adopted. If not, they live out the rest of their lives at our shelter. If an animal has been diagnosed with a terminal illness, they are lovingly cared for at the PAWS shelter for as long as they are pain-free and enjoying a decent quality of life. Until such time as they are ready to cross the rainbow bridge ...

***Your continued support*** of this unique  
NO-KILL organization  
means more than words can say!

KIBBLES N' BITS - KIBBLES N' BITS - KIBBLES N' BITS



Thank you for taking the time to read this issue of PAW Print.  
Please feel free to pass it along to a fellow pet-lover for their reading enjoyment.  
We always welcome new members! By spreading the word about PAWS  
(a strictly NO-KILL organization managed exclusively by volunteers)  
you are helping those *who can not help themselves*.

## Did you know...

- ◆ 89% of us believe our pet understands all or some of what we say.
  - ◆ 76% of us talk to our pet in a different voice.
  - ◆ 53% of us believe that our pet would come to our rescue if we were in distress.
  - ◆ 56% of us spend an average of two or more hours of quality time with our pet each day.
  - ◆ Nearly one-third of us spend more time with our pet than with family or friends.
  - ◆ More of us read nutritional labels on food we feed our pet than the labels on food we eat ourselves - 41 and 37% respectively!
  - ◆ 11% of cat owners have ended a personal or romantic relationship with someone due to their cat.
  - ◆ 48% of us consider ourselves emotionally dependent upon our animals.
  - ◆ 83% of us are likely to risk our lives for our pets.
- (Source: American Animal Hospital Association)



## The most well-travelled cat!

Whilst on a flight from Toronto, Hamlet escaped from his cage and got caught behind some panelling where he remained for seven weeks.

In that time he travelled just under 965,600 km (600,000 miles)

Equivalent to travelling around the world no less than 24 times!

Chocolate contains an ingredient that, while harmless to humans, can be harmful or even fatal if ingested by your pet. Please avoid giving your pet any chocolate!



Remember: Always use a safe carrier or leash  
when transporting pets!



**ELVIS** was a tabby who died very suddenly of a massive blood clot which paralyzed his back legs - while resting leisurely on his favourite couch. In his lifetime he had moved 5 times, crossed the country twice both on an airplane and in a car, and had spent several weeks at a vet clinic due to weight-related issues. At the time of his death Elvis was 12 and weighed 21 pounds.

### These are his stories...

Mom was just a thin, gray and white, four-year-old, tabby when she had me and my brothers and sisters under that porch on that chilly night in November. I would have to say it was thanks to that farm lady that we all survived - but I'm getting ahead of myself, let me start from the beginning, but then again not too far back - let's say the summer of '92.

Mom was abandoned young - her family had seen fit to leave her behind when they moved; instead of finding her a new home they let her loose in the neighbourhood. It was a stroke of luck that led her to the farm lady's back porch after several months of scrounging the town for food, water, shelter, and having run-ins with a lot of suitors who either took what they wanted or left with war wounds for trying. After several months of being on her own she found that porch: large and deep, a great place to hide, bring food, and catch a nap without the annoyance of the Toms of the town. Mom knew that through no fault of her own she was now pregnant and was going to need a place to raise us - this seemed like a good place ... if only she could just be left alone for awhile.

"Charles! Charles!" She was awakened by a screech. "Charles, I believe there's a cat under the porch."

"Now Helen, what makes you think that?" My mother slinked back further under the porch, hoping not to be seen.

"I've seen her go under there a few times, I'm just not fast enough to catch her - which is a wonder cause she's such a fat little thing. I hope she's not pregnant - the last thing we need around here is a bunch of kittens."

"Whatever you say Helen."

"I'm serious Charles, come out here and look under the porch with me. I'm pretty sure I can see her - those shiny green eyes ... you see her, right there in the corner."

"Well I'll be ..."

So much for the quiet hiding place, not only had mom been found out, but now she was sure she was going to be evicted from her new home - story of her life so far.

"Get me something to lure her out with Helen, I want to get a look at her."

"Don't you be getting any bright ideas Charles Henry."

The two people put out some rather tempting food over the next few weeks - turkey, chicken, beef stew - and every night my mother would sneak out and gobble it down - she knew it was a trap but she needed the food more, and was willing to take that risk under the cover of darkness ... sometimes, out of the corner of her eye, she would see the lady and man watching her from behind their screen door - sometimes holding hands, sometimes with arms draped around one another - but always smiling. My mother also realized that the food dish kept getting closer to the house ... but with eight little ones inside her she needed the nourishment.

One night she snuck out, making her way to the top of the porch as usual under the cover of darkness ... but this time the couple was outside waiting for her - sitting on chairs, between them lay a nice plate of turkey ... still warm. What to do? Mom approached cautiously.

"She's pregnant alright."

"Brazen too ... look at her walking right up to the turkey."

"When I was pregnant I would eat anything... She spends all her time under that porch, I wonder who she belongs to."

"Think she's a stray Helen."

"I'm not becoming the haven for no stray cats."

While they talked mom crept closer to the plate hoping their nattering would keep them busy long enough for her to snafu a piece and run off. But when she got to the plate there was just too much, and in bite sized pieces, how could she take only one small piece she was so hungry - and in her condition she did not run like she used to. There was no pausing, she ate - whatever the consequences, she ate.

"She's a pretty one." A hand came down and touched her back ... she stiffened, ready to defend herself if necessary. "Wonder how many she's gonna have." The hand lightly stroked her back.

"Let's wait and see."

"Charles ..."

Continued on next page...

Two weeks later my mother gave birth to me and my seven siblings - I was the last ... and the runt - so they said. The farm lady and man let my mother live under the porch and ween us - they also fed us as we got older. We all learned to trust them. My mother explained that we would not always be together but she hoped we'd find good homes - like she had - but she also warned us about how cruel some people can be ... she told us about her life on the street and about being abandoned from her first home.

When I left my mother I was eight weeks old ... she made her home under that porch on the farm with a couple of my siblings - I was to live my life elsewhere, with my sister - at least for a little while anyway. My adventures were just about to begin.

### **PAWS Editorial ...**

Not all cats are as lucky as Elvis and his mother. Thousands of animals are abandoned each year, left to fend for themselves by thoughtless owners who, for one reason or another, did not take their commitment seriously. Please remember that shelters are not cures for the problem ... we are band-aid solutions for a growing problem. Please help support PAWS so that we can help get these animals off the street and into permanent responsible and loving homes.

Join Elvis every issue for another adventure and be sure to check out the PAWS website, coming this Fall, [www.pawstoronto.org](http://www.pawstoronto.org) for more interesting and informative stories.



## After Care...

One of the realities of life is that through an untimely tragedy or by natural aging, a beloved pet may well survive us. Pets are members of our family and we need to think about their care and protection when we can no longer provide it. Don't overlook your pet(s) when making your estate plans.

If there is someone whom you think may agree to take your pet(s), talk it over with them now. If they have reservations, now is the time to find out.

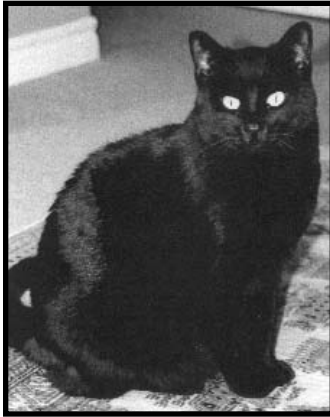
Should you wish to have your pet(s) taken in by a responsible, no-kill shelter such as PAWS, you can indicate whether you wish for them to live out the rest of their natural lives at the shelter, or have the shelter find them a new, loving home. Here is a sample provision you can insert in your will to protect you pet(s):

*"If at the time of my death I own a pet or pets, I direct my Executor to deliver them as soon as possible to PAWS (Peoples Animal Welfare Society), (a) to be cared for there until a suitable permanent home is arranged OR (b) to be cared for at their shelter for the rest of their natural lives. I further direct that a bequest of \$ \_\_\_\_\_ be paid to PAWS (Peoples Animal Welfare Society) in consideration of their good work."*

You should discuss such provisions with your lawyer, amend them as need be and then update your will without delay.



# Memoriams...



## India

*Always remembered by Julia,  
Chocolat, PAWS and The Heys Family*

## Buster

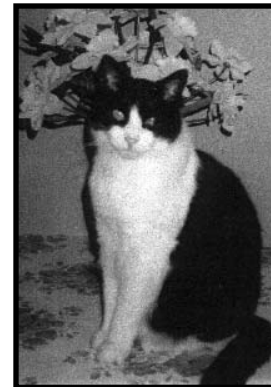
*Who left us on January 17th, 2004 after a full and happy life as chief "keeper of the grounds" keeping the ducks, chickens and geese safe from predators.*

*An English Mastiff-Lab cross, he was huge -but his heart was his biggest feature. He loved anyone who would take a minute -or five- to pet him and he especially loved children. He would lay down in the grass and let them crawl all over him -the more the merrier- and love every minute of it.*

*He will be greatly missed by all at the  
Evergreen Acres Bird Sanctuary.*

## Elvis

*Please see the cover and page 5. His cute face and kind, loving nature, will be sorely missed ... his memory will live on within these very pages as his memoirs will be included in our newsletter in the coming months.*



## Shadow

*"I miss him dearly"  
- Kathleen Neal*



## Pumpkin

*Dearly missed by  
Joan McGowan*

## June Stephen

*Lovingly remembered by Faye,  
Ashley, Dean and  
Alex Stephen, and the  
Rowatt Family*

These precious pets had special families who loved them dearly. Your support of PAWS ensures that these and other families will find new companions to love.

PAWS would like to extend their condolences to these and others who may have lost loved ones since our last issue.



**Please support our sponsors...  
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**YES!**

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