

NEWSLETTER

The Sampson Fund For Veterinary Care



Eight More Lives?

By Olivia Miller

Those of us who have pets know how much some animals adore chewing stuff. Usually it's not a major problem...well, okay, chewing your grandmother's priceless Oriental carpet might be an issue. But chewing typically results in a scolding for the animal (and hopefully a repair for the rug).

Sometimes, however, errant chewing can result in more serious problems...unfortunately, more for the chewer than the chewee. That was the recent scenario for Miko, a one-and-a-half year old male cat owned by Matthew Woods of East Falmouth. Matthew, who has two other cats, said he arrived home one day and saw his other cats, but he didn't see Miko.

"I was getting ready to go out," Matthew recalled, "when Miko came strolling by with a ball of string hanging from his mouth. I tried to gently pull it out of his mouth but the string wouldn't come out. When Miko started crying, I knew something was wrong."

Matthew's girlfriend called Falmouth Animal Hospital and was told to bring Miko in, which they did right away. X-rays uncovered the problem: Miko had ingested the string. Although the vet couldn't tell how long the string was, it didn't matter. It had already worked its way into the cat's small intestine.

Surgery had to be performed



to remove the string from Miko's innards. But the cost was an issue for Matthew, who works as a baker and pizza maker. Falmouth Animal Hospital, which is a member of The Sampson Fund For Veterinary Care, told Matthew about the fund. He applied for financial assistance and was accepted.

Miko underwent successful surgery to remove the string and is doing fine. "It was very scary though," Matthew added, "and could have been a lot worse. The vet said if a couple more hours had gone by, probably nothing could have been done to save him."

Having used up one of his nine lives, the double-pawed cat

that Matthew describes as "very affectionate and energetic" is back to his "rambunctious self," according to his owner. He's chasing the two older cats around the house, but one thing he's not doing is chewing string.

"I've owned a few cats but have never experienced anything like this before," Matthew added. "The doctor said Miko wouldn't learn anything from this, so I went through the whole house and threw away everything that could possibly cause another problem."

"I'm really thankful to The Sampson Fund. I was amazed to find out that there was something like this available to help out."



P.O. Box 1756, Orleans, MA 02653
www.sampsonfund.org
508-240-7387

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Sampson Fund

Affiliated Hospitals

Barnstable Animal Hospital - Hyannis

Brewster Veterinary Hospital - Brewster

Cape Animal Referral Emergency Center (CARE) - South Dennis

Cape Cod Animal Hospital - West Barnstable

Cape Cod Veterinary Specialists - Bourne

Falmouth Animal Hospital - North Falmouth

Dr. Michelle Jasny - West Tisbury

Lower Cape Veterinary Services - Eastham

New England Veterinary Oncology Group

Pleasant Bay Animal Hospital - East Harwich

Vineyard Veterinary Clinic - Edgartown

Veterinary Advisor: Lilan Hauser, DMV

SAMPSON FUND MISSION STATEMENT

To provide financial assistance for the rehabilitative veterinary treatment of critically ill or injured dogs and cats whose caregivers cannot afford treatment or who are found without known caregivers, thereby offering an alternative to euthanasia and preserving the unique emotional, social and beneficial bonds that tie animals and humans together.

For further information about The Sampson Fund, please visit our website at www.sampsonfund.org

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT:

Dear Friends:

Some special events highlighted our late winter and spring. The Farleys, owners of The Pancake Man in South Yarmouth, offered free pancakes with a donation to The Sampson Fund on February 28, International Pancake Day. It was a wonderful excuse to indulge while supporting The Sampson Fund. The Hot Stove Saloon in Harwichport generously supports local nonprofit organizations each month. Owner Ron Leidner designated The Sampson Fund as a recipient for March. Many brave souls (human and canine) dove into the water at West Dennis Beach for the fifth annual Polar Bear Plunge. CARE hosted this event, which brought in over \$1500 for The Sampson Fund. In April Patti McGan of Paws'n Claws Pet Sitting once again held a benefit for The Sampson Fund and The Animal Rescue League of Boston/Brewster Branch at Sons of Erin Hall in West Yarmouth. Great food, terrific music, a raffle, a silent auction and a very supportive crowd raised over \$1700 for each organization.

The second annual Sampson Fund Plants For Pets Garden Event was held May 19. Irene Cooper, chairperson of the event, did a Herculean job of organizing this major fundraiser. Over 1500 plants were offered for sale, including many special varieties of tomatoes. A spirited group of volunteers raised over \$9,000 to help dogs and cats on Cape Cod. Bravo to all who worked so hard to make this event successful!

Thanks to everyone who came by The Sampson Fund's table at The Animal Rescue League's Paws For Celebration in Orleans. It was a fabulous day with so many dogs and dog-lovers socializing.

The Sampson Fund joined in the first anniversary celebration at Howl-A-Day Inn doggy day care in West Yarmouth. Owners Susan and Kevin Eldredge hosted quite a party with a steel band, face painting, police dog demonstrations, birthday cake and loyal clients who came to offer congratulations.

Coming up on Friday, June 15, is The Sampson Fund Day at Moby Dick's Restaurant in Wellfleet. The Barry family, owners of Moby Dick's, will donate a portion of the day's receipts to The Sampson Fund. Treat yourself to a wonderful lunch or dinner at this popular spot and support our efforts. We hope to see you there.

A summer tradition...dog washes by dog groomer and long-time supporter Randi Moberg. Save the dates, Saturday, July 14, and Saturday, August 11. Bring your dirty dogs to Pleasant Bay Animal Hospital in East Harwich from 9 to noon.

We welcome New England Veterinary Oncology Group to The Sampson Fund affiliated veterinary hospitals. N.E.V.O.G. provides comprehensive cancer care and treatment for pets.

And lastly, if you are feeling lucky, you will want to buy a raffle ticket (or many raffle tickets) for a brand new iPad. We'll be selling raffle tickets at our events this summer, or you can purchase them on our website, www.sampsonfund.org. \$5 each or 5 for \$20.

I hope your Cape Cod summer is spectacular.

Patti Smith

Join the Christopher S. Donner Society

Ensure the future of critical veterinary care for Cape Cod dogs and cats whose owners cannot bear its costs alone.

The Society provides special recognition for those members who have included The Sampson Fund For Veterinary Care in their long-term plans through bequests or other deferred-giving arrangements.

Christopher S. Donner, VMD, former director of Pleasant Bay Animal Hospital, founded The Sampson Fund For Veterinary Care in 1986 and remains an active member of The Sampson Fund Board of Trustees.

Please contact us at sampsonfund@yahoo.com for a confidential Christopher S. Donner Society membership form.

PLANTS FOR PETS **GARDEN EXTRAVAGANZA**

Our theme for Plants For Pets 2012 was bigger and better – and our second annual garden sale certainly was. We had more of everything – plants, garden boutique items, events. And as far as better goes, we exceeded last year's gross by 55.39%, an achievement to be proud of. Last year's gross was \$5,834.00; this year's was \$9,065.61, with a minor amount more expected. Expenses have yet to be totaled but are expected to be minimal.

Those of you who attended enjoyed the beautiful sunny day, the atmosphere of fun created by the band Tim Sweeney and The Fringe, delicious home-baked goodies, grilled hot dogs, and Guess Harley's Weight contest. And when you shopped till you dropped, there was a one-minute chair massage to give you strength to continue.

Many of you mentioned that you were at the sale not only to buy Cape-grown plants, tools, garden accessories and raffle tickets, but you were also there to support the good work of the Sampson Fund. We very much appreciate what you do to help animals in need of emergency or critical veterinary care on the Cape.

We are grateful to CARE for hosting the event, to Provincetown Graphics for producing the promotion materials, to Waystack Realty for providing its van to transport our plants, to Barbara-Anne Foley for photographing the event, and to the Barnstable County's Sheriff's Office for providing and erecting the tents.

Many fine local businesses donated products or gift certificates, and you can show your appreciation by patronizing them.

Amazing Tails Pet Grooming
Box Office Café
Cape Cod Dog
Cape Cod Underdogs
Cape Organics
Crocker Nurseries
Flowers by Mary
Harwich Pet Supply
Mahoney's Garden Center
Mid-Cape Pet & Seed Supply
Pamela Phipps Gardening Service
Pine Tree Nursery
S&J Exco
Snow's Home and Garden

Bayberry Gardens Incorporated
Brewster Sand & Gravel, Inc.
Cape Cod Pet Resort
Cape Maid Farms
Chatham Beach Dog
Derbyfield Country Kennel
Green Spot Garden Center
Howl-A-Day Inn
Mid-Cape Home Centers
Elaine Felos Ostrander, Artist
Paws and Claws
Quilt Bank of Bayberry Quilters
Sew Fine Designs of Cape Cod





P.O. Box 1756
Orleans, MA 02653



Summer Dog Washes

**Saturday, July 14 and
Saturday, August 11
9 a.m. to noon**

Pleasant Bay Animal Hospital
Route 137 & Queen Anne Road, East Harwich
508-432-5500

You could win an **iPad!** In **The Sampson Fund For Veterinary Care Raffle**

Tickets Are \$5 each or 5 for \$20
You may buy raffle tickets at our summer events
or on our website: www.sampsonfund.org
Drawing is Thursday, August 30.
(You do not need to be present to win.)