

# NEWSLETTER

## The Sampson Fund For Veterinary Care



### Ashes

Something just wasn't right with Ashes. The four-year-old gray and black cat was visiting the litter box a little too often, going in and out of it a lot. Then one day her owner, Kenny Westbrooks, saw her standing in the box for at least ten minutes...with nothing coming out. She was also lethargic and not interested in eating. He was concerned and brought her to Oceanside Animal Hospital in Sandwich.

Ashes, it turned out, had a urinary obstruction, rare in female cats. Females typically have urinary tract infections, while male cats tend to have urinary obstructions. There was no evidence of infection or bladder stones; urinary blockages, however, are life threatening. Ashes needed immediate emergency treatment. Unfortunately, the cost of treatment and several days' stay at the hospital was beyond her owner's financial means.

"It was going to be a lot more money than I could afford," Kenny said. "I didn't know how I would pay for it. I would have tried to scrape



up the money somehow, but I just didn't know what I was going to do."

Oceanside Animal Hospital is a relatively new Sampson Fund-affiliated hospital. Dr. Corey Blake, the veterinarian who diagnosed and treated Ashes, believed this was an appropriate case for the fund. "We generally look for cases that are curable," she said, "and animals that have been well cared for but whose owners are unable to afford emergency treatment." She told Kenny about the fund and he applied. The Sampson Fund agreed to help with Ashes' care.

It's easy to see how costs can rise. Ashes was admitted to the veterinary

hospital and received an IV catheter and underwent radiographs, urinalysis and blood work. After sedation, a urinary catheter was inserted to relieve the obstruction. Her bladder was flushed and the catheter kept in place for a few days to help reduce inflammation in her urinary tract.

Happily, Ashes responded well and was sent home with a special diet to help decrease inflammation in the urinary tract, normalize her urine pH, and prevent a recurrence. A dry food diet, Dr. Blake explained, can provoke urinary tract issues. "Canned food is the best recommendation for most cats. We also

suggest recirculating water fountains to encourage cats to drink more." (Cats are more likely to drink from running water.)

Dr. Blake added how thankful she is that The Sampson Fund was able to provide assistance. "It meant we could save Ashes by getting her the care she needed. Veterinarians hate to see pets euthanized if they have a condition that is treatable. The Sampson Fund allows us to help those pets, and for that we are exceedingly grateful."

"This is the first time she has ever been sick," said Kenny, who has had Ashes since she was a kitten. "She is doing really well now. I think the world of The Sampson Fund."



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

## Board of Trustees

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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**

**Oceanside Animal Hospital** - Sandwich

**VCA 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](http://www.sampsonfund.org)*

## MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT:

Dear Friends:

In the course of our everyday activities we sometimes neglect to appreciate the people who help us in so many ways. Fortunately, the upcoming holiday season reminds us to pause and reflect on all those for whom we should be grateful. The Sampson Fund could not help over 100 pets each year if it were not for the generosity of so many people. Our twelve affiliated hospitals provide the framework for our helping folks who need assistance in providing veterinary care for their dogs and cats. Last year we spent almost \$100,000 to provide financial assistance for critical veterinary care. It looks like expenses in 2013 will exceed that figure. We have no paid staff and rely solely on volunteer help. Our list of wonderful volunteers is elsewhere in this newsletter. If you would like to join this group, please contact us at [sampsonfund@verizon.net](mailto:sampsonfund@verizon.net).

There are several businesses and individuals who deserve special recognition for helping The Sampson Fund in fundraising endeavors this year. They are Brewster Book Store, Kyle Chirgwin, Irene Cooper, Country Garden, Dennis Animal Control Department, Hearth 'n Kettle, Holly Ridge Golf Club, Howl-A-Day Inn Dog Daycare, Klassy Kanines, The Lobster Trap, Patti McGan, Lori McKenzie, Randi Moberg, Moby Dick's Restaurant, Nauset Answering Service, The Orleans Inn, Riverway Lobster House, Vaughn Rowley, Snow's Home & Garden, Nick Trout, Nancy Warren and Charlie Wilson. If you see them, please tell them a big "thank you."

The Sampson Fund will be gift-wrapping at Snow's Home & Garden in Orleans during the holidays. Stop by and say "hi." We will also hold our popular Pet Photos with Santa on November 15 at Country Garden in Hyannis, December 14 at VCA Pleasant Bay Animal Hospital in East Harwich and on December 24 at Brewster Veterinary Hospital.

Best wishes for a very happy holiday season for you and your pets.

Patti Smith  
President

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### ***The Sampson Fund For Veterinary Care is grateful for the support of:***

The Banfield Charitable Trust

The Carson Family Foundation

Marian Craig Leers Charitable Trust

The Mary-Louise Eddy and Ruth N. Eddy Foundation

The Kristen Elizabeth Davis Memorial Endowment Fund

The Thomas C. McGowan Fund For Animals  
through The Cape Cod Foundation

### **Join the Christopher S. Donner Society**

The Society, begun in 2012, 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](mailto:sampsonfund@yahoo.com) or visit our website at [www.sampsonfund.org](http://www.sampsonfund.org) for a Christopher S. Donner Society membership form.

Members of the Christopher S. Donner Society:  
Mr. Robert Bourgoïn, Dr. & Mrs. Martin V. Haspel, Mr. & Mrs. Robert F. Smith

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follow  
us on



If you are receiving this newsletter in the mail, either we do not have your email address or you have indicated a preference for a mailed copy. If you wish to have future copies of the newsletter sent electronically, please email your address to us at [sampsonfund@yahoo.com](mailto:sampsonfund@yahoo.com).

# A *big* thank you...

Volunteers are the life blood of nonprofit organizations, particularly for those like The Sampson Fund that have no paid staff. The following people have contributed in so many ways to help us. If you would like to become a Sampson Fund volunteer, contact Danni at dannij240@comcast.net, 508-737-4431 or Nan at nanpoor@verizon.net, 508-432-0742.

Scott Anderson  
Jack Bakker  
Carol Barry  
Amy Berry  
Debbie Cannata  
Irene Cooper  
Norma Demarest  
Donelle Denery  
Ann Donner  
Kathleen Downing  
Lisa Eddrede  
Lois Farmer  
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Barbara Felton  
Barbara –Anne Foley  
Katie Gibbs  
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Debra Hemeon  
Jeanne Hliva  
Kevin Judge  
William Kaser  
Chris Kaufmann  
Kaitlyne Keefe  
Pam Kielhack  
Steve Kielhack  
Sherry Kinney  
Rachel Kirchgessner  
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Beth McCartney  
Lori McKenzie  
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Bev Millar  
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Leslie Nangle  
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Deidre Root  
Marcia Seeler  
Tina Shaw  
Ashlee Shuemaker  
Jennifer Shuemaker  
Ginna Smyth  
Chris Smyth  
Mary Stripling  
Tim Sweeney & The Fringe  
Sally Tarbell  
Nancy Warren  
John Wittmann  
Stephanie Wittmann  
Joe Yukna

## Gift-Wrapping at Snow's

Once again The Sampson Fund is participating in Snow's Home & Garden gift-wrapping for charity program. Sampson Fund volunteers will be wrapping your holiday purchases for a small donation. Please stop by and say hello. We will be there on the following dates:

**Saturday, November 30, 1-4**

**Sunday, December 1, 11-2**

**Saturday, December 7, 11-2**

**Sunday, December 15, 10-1**

**Tuesday, December 17, 1-4**

**Thursday, December 19, 1-4**

**Friday, December 20, 1-4**

**Sunday, December 22, 1-4**

**Monday, December 23, 1-4**

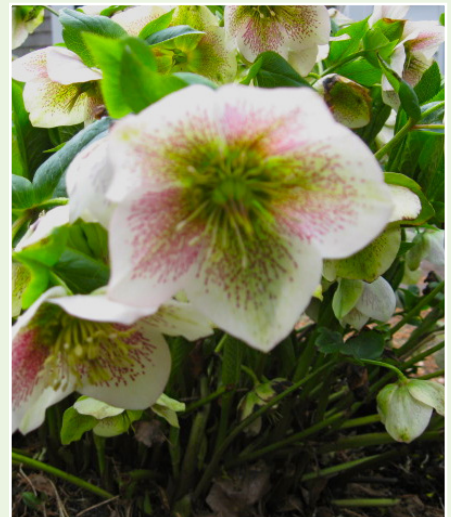
The Sampson Fund  
For Veterinary Care  
**Annual Meeting**  
**Thursday, December 5,**  
**at 6:30**  
Brewster Police Station, Route 124,  
Brewster

### SAVE THE DATE

#### *Plants For Pets Garden Sale on Saturday, May 17, 2014*

We have been preparing for our fourth annual Sampson Fund Plants For Pets Garden Sale. Our letter requesting donations for the sale appeared in the September 22 Write to Know column of the Cape Cod Times. Response from people who wanted to donate was spectacular. We received approximately 40 calls from generous animal lovers, who offered us a wide variety of plants. We have dug, picked up or had delivered some very special plants, including many icons of Cape Cod - hydrangeas and hostas. Everything has been heeled in for the winter and will be potted up for the spring sale. We are also stocking up on wonderful and unusual items for the garden boutique.

It was heartwarming to receive two calls from donors whose animals



had been helped by The Sampson Fund and who wanted to "give back." And we even heard from someone who knew Sampson!

If you have items for the boutique, garden tools or plants to donate, contact Irene Cooper at 508-430-6105 or irenecooper@comcast.net.

### FYI...

Your AAA membership can save you money on pet prescriptions. AAA members and all members of the household – including pets – can use AAA Prescription Savings. Prescription medication that is also generally prescribed for human conditions may receive a discount by taking the prescription, written by a veterinarian, to a participating retail pharmacy.

## **Pet Photos with Santa**

We hope to see you and your pet at our Pet Photos with Santa events. This year we will kick off the holiday season at Country Garden in Hyannis during Country Garden's special holiday open house. Then on December 14 we will be at VCA Pleasant Bay Animal Hospital in East Harwich, and for a final holiday gathering we will be at Brewster Veterinary Hospital the day before Christmas.



**Friday, November 15, 4 to 7**  
at Country Garden, 380 West Main Street, Hyannis  
*Santa, aka Joe Yukna*

**Saturday, December 14, 9 to noon**  
at VCA Pleasant Bay Animal Hospital ,  
Route 137 and Queen Anne Road, East Harwich  
*Santa, aka Jack Bakker*

**Tuesday, December 24, 10 to noon**  
at Brewster Veterinary Hospital,  
56 Underpass Road, Brewster  
*Santa, aka Bill Kaser*