CONVERTED TRAPPERS NOW WORK TO HELP PROTECT ANIMALS

See story page 5
Dear friends,

I have had a dear friend for nearly twelve years. She was a black toy poodle that was supposed to have been a silver color.

Because her coat stayed black with only a few silver hairs, I named her Cynthia In The Cinders, after the story-book Cinderella. Cindy was truly a princess. She obeyed every command, and knew her proper manners in every circumstance. At the same time she sensed my every mood and knew when I was happy and when I was sad. When I was sick she kept a faithful watch at the side of my bed, standing up on her hind legs with front paws on the bed, to check on me, every time I awoke.

For awhile I had to travel a lot investigating people who stole dogs to sell to someone else. Cindy had to go live with my sister. She loved it there and loved playing with my nieces and nephews. As soon as I didn’t have to be away so much I made plans to send for her. Then I had to go away unexpectedly, and one of my friends, a stranger to her, had to meet her at the airport. He felt sorry for her, having to ride in the dark baggage compartment and not knowing where she was going. They became good friends right away.

As we took our walks each morning and evening Cindy had a way of knowing about each person we met. She always wanted to make friends with nice people. Other people she simply ignored. We stopped and talked to many of the people she wanted to meet, and they always proved to be kind people. How she knew how to tell a kind person just by looking at someone, I will never know.

When we moved to the country Cindy was overjoyed. She loved to walk the land with me and explore all the new sights and smells. Often she ran ahead on the path, scaring rabbits and quails into flight, then dashing back to me in happiness. Most of the time she followed obediently at heel, as my constant companion. When the underbrush was too thick it tangled in her wool. Then she would cry for me and I had to go back and carry her until we reached a clearing. On hot days we went swimming in the creek or just sat in the shade and enjoyed the cool breeze. When I spaded the garden, Cindy helped me dig.

She always knew when it was time for me to return home from work and she would be waiting. Her favorite greeting was to take my finger between her teeth and tug a little, whining in excitement. A favorite friend came to visit every Sunday at eleven, and she always knew when it was Sunday, and was waiting for him.

Last Wednesday when I came home Cindy wasn’t there to meet me. I called and called and searched all over. Still she didn’t respond. She has vanished. She was an old dog, but had she gone off to die, I would have found her. The only conclusion I can reach is that someone stole her. Death is a natural part of life, and all things that live must eventually die, making way for other beings to live new lives on earth. I would rather have found her body and known she died peacefully than to imagine what she is going through in strange surroundings, wondering why I don’t come and take her home. I’m worried about the care she will need if she gets sick because she is an old dog. I know she misses me as much as I miss her. But there is little I can do other than advertise for her, check the animal shelter every day, and hope.

Cindy wears my social security number, tattooed on the inside of her right hind leg. If anyone ever finds that tattoo, the National Dog Registry has my telephone number and address and they would call me right away. Because there are so many dog thieves I tried to protect Cindy from being stolen by having her tattooed and registered with the National Dog Registry. A thief who found that tattoo would know he couldn’t sell her and get away with it. He might dump her out in the street, but possibly some kind person would rescue her and bring her to the Animal Shelter. If someone did buy her and then found the tattoo, I’m hoping they would also report it.

I won’t give up hoping Cindy is found and she can come home once more.

Your friend,

[Signature]

NEWS FLASH ON CINDY ...SEE NEXT PAGE.
CINDY IS FOUND!!!

Just as we go to press, Arahkun's dog has been found. A man and his family had found Cindy, and liked her so much, they decided to keep her, even though they had heard the radio ad offering a reward. But when the man read the newspaper ad, saying that Cindy had been tattooed, and realized that he could be caught at any time with a stolen dog, he called Arahkun and returned Cindy. It was a truly joyful reunion, and Cindy is back in her beloved home, thanks to her tattoo. A happy ending to a sad story!

HALLOWEEN

Pets sometimes don't understand the funny costumes you wear on Halloween. Your dog might be frightened and not recognize you in your ghost or goblin costume. He also might want to bite any visiting witches or ghosts who come to your door for Halloween treats. Keep your dog inside on Halloween night, away from the front door so he won't be frightened. When you walk him that evening be sure he's on a leash so he won't try to run away if he is frightened by a visiting witch.

OUR COVER STORY
FORMER TRAPPERS NOW HELP ANIMALS

Carl Honer, 11, and Robert Hayes, 10, had four traps and caught a raccoon in one. Its leg was torn and it was dying. "We killed it, but we really didn't know how to kill it properly," Robert said. "We decided we were not going to use the traps any more." Then they saw The Humane Society's Special Report on Trapping. Within a few weeks they had collected 65 traps from friends and neighbors and turned them in to the Chester County SPCA.

THE THYLACINE, OR TASMANIAN TIGER, PERHAPS THE MOST RARE AND MOST CRITICALLY ENDANGERED ANIMAL ON EARTH TODAY. IF IT STILL SURVIVES IN ITS NATIVE TASMANIA FOREST HOME, IT WILL BE DIFFICULT TO FIND. AN EXPEDITION IS SEARCHING FOR IT NOW. THE LAST CAPTIVE THYLACINE DIED IN A HOBART ZOO IN 1934. THE THYLACINE IS A MARSUPIAL.

New York Zoological Society Photo

CLEM AND JETHRO

The person accused of poisoning Clem and Jethro has been released. The judge decided that there just wasn't enough evidence to prove that she did it. The District Attorney's office is still studying the case, however, and may decide it should come before the grand jury.
HOPE FOR THE ENDANGERED

A total of 20 peregrine falcons have hatched in captivity at Cornell University this spring, giving increased hope this endangered species can be saved from extinction.

Dear Arahkun,

Many people, if their animal has puppies or kittens often put them in a box that says 'free animals'. Please remind people not to do that because if you don't stay there you don't know who will take them and they might not get a good home, and something could happen to them.

Thanks, Mary Friend, Age 10

Tux Gets Neutered

Here is a poem that has to be told about Tux when he was nine months old. I didn't want him to fight so I had to do something right. I didn't want him to die and that's not a lie!

I took my beautiful pet to the wonderful vet.
I got him neutered Monday because the vet was closed Sunday.
We're not wealthy but at least he's healthy.

Kim Harper
Redding, Ca.

During the past 150 years the rate of extermination of mammals has increased 5,500%. At this pace it will take only 30 years for the remaining 4,000 species to disappear.

Dear Mr. Hylton,

This is a copy of letters that I sent to Senators Weicker, Ribicoff, and Steele and Cotter. They all replied and agreed to help pass the bill.

Your friend, Jane Bonnell

Dear Mr. ________:

I wrote to you in March requesting help to establish a refuge for Tule Elk in Owens Valley, California. It has been awhile since then, and since you agreed to help, I am wondering what actions have been taken toward this project. I am told that a meeting is scheduled in September. I know you are busy, but when you have time, could you please write and tell me what is happening about it?

I certainly hope that the bill to establish a refuge for the Tule Elk is passed, for it will prove worthwhile to both the elk and the community. Thank you very much.

Sincerely, Jane Bonnell Age 12

Editor's note: Jane has written a very proper and polite letter. As we go to press we learned hearings were scheduled for September 24 and 25. We'll report what happened to this legislation in the next issue.

MANNING A LEMONADE AND COOKIE STAND TO HELP ANIMALS ARE LEFT TO RIGHT, STACY CULBERTSON, DONALD BEATTIE, GREGORY AND DREW CULBERTSON. ON ONLY TWO SUNDAY AFTERNOONS THEY RAISED A TOTAL OF $20 FOR THE ANIMALS. THE BOYS BAKED THE COOKIES THEMSELVES. MEMBERS OF THE BLACK BEAUTY KINDNESS CLUB, THEY HAVE ASKED THE MONEY BE USED AS SCHOLARSHIP MEMBERSHIPS FOR CHILDREN WHO CAN'T AFFORD TO JOIN THE KINDNESS CLUB, AND TO HELP PROTECT ANIMALS FROM TRAPS.
WILDLIFE PINS

Enamed and gold or silver trimmed pins of endangered wildlife are still available from KIND. They make very nice gifts. Each pin is only $2.

NEW PLAY

A charming play about ecology, written by our friend Charlotte Baker, has just been released. Adam and Eve and their children, realizing they have so polluted the Earth that they can no longer survive on it, seek to return to the Garden of Eden. They find that they must obey the wishes of the animals and promise never again to hurt a living thing to be permitted to return to the Garden of Eden. Entitled, "Return to Eden," it can be ordered for $1.00 from Parameter Press, 705 Main Street, Wakefield, Ma 01880.

PHOTO AND PROJECT CONTEST WINNERS

The winners of the Kindness Club Photo Contest are: First place - Valerie Skala, Second place - Colleen Reilly, and Honorable Mention - Fred Deckart.

The winners of the KIND Project Contest, Individual entries, are: First place - Susan Onzick, Honorable Mention - Tom Vogelsang.

The winners of the KIND Project Contest, Branch Club entries, are: First place - The Eagles in Lima, Ohio, and Honorable Mention - The Eagle Defenders in Eldridge, Iowa. Prize-winning photos and projects will be in next month's newsletter. Congratulations!

Your Kindness Club Letter is published monthly for members ages 6-10 by KIND, youth membership division of The Humane Society of the U.S.

R. Dale Hylton, Editor

Permission to reprint any portion of this newsletter is granted, provided that no material may be taken out of proper context.