

## PAWS FOR SWEETPEA NEWSLETTER

VOLUME II ISSUE I JANUARY 2004

*In Memory Of Sweetpea (O.D.)*



Sweetpea, the dog that Richard (Dick) Clark found abandoned in Rutland State Park in 2000, pregnant and in very poor health, passed away recently after enjoying the last few years of her life at Treasure Hunt Farm.

Dick had taken the boxer mix home from the park and within a couple weeks she gave birth to a litter of puppies. They were either stillborn or died shortly after birth despite attempts by Dick and his stepson, Alan Pulkkinen, to warm and bottle feed them. Dick then brought the mother dog, who he had named Sweetpea, to Westside Animal Clinic in Worcester for evaluation and care.

It was obvious that Sweetpea, who was estimated to be between nine and eleven years old, had carried many previous litters. Due to her run down condition, she had heartworm in addition to other illnesses. Sweetpea was cared for and treated by Dr. Trom and Dr. Murphy of Westside Animal Clinic before she was adopted by the Williams of Treasure Hunt Farm in Rutland. The Williams renamed the dog O.D., short for Other Dog.

With the patience and love of the Williams and the staff at Treasure Hunt Farm, O.D. learned to coexist peacefully with the barnyard animals. She loved lying in the warm sun during the summer and waiting for the woodstove to warm her in the cold months. Her favorite activity...going for rides in the farm truck!

Considering her age at the time of adoption she was doing well until last spring when Dr. Rice of Holden Veterinary Clinic found protein in her urine. This fall Christie Miller, a Treasure Hunt employee as well as, the current president of Sweetpea F.O.R. Animals, brought O.D. to Lancaster Animal Hospital. They found her to be in complete kidney failure and recommended euthanization. She died peacefully knowing the love that she enjoyed since that day she was found in the park. She is missed very much by all at Treasure Hunt Farm and by everyone who knew her. Her memory will live on in Sweetpea F.O.R. Animals which was founded in response to the sadness Dick Clark felt in finding a dog left on its own to survive. O.D., AKA Sweetpea, was cremated and it is the wish of Sarah Williams and Dick Clark that her ashes be a part of the cornerstone when the Sweetpea shelter is built.

Donations to the building fund in O.D.'s memory can be sent to Sweetpea F.O.R. Animals, P.O. Box 897, Rutland, MA 01543.

## **2ND ANNUAL GOLF TOURNAMENT**

Sweetpea hosted its 2nd annual golf tournament on Sunday, September 28th at the Quail Hollow Golf Club in Oakham MA. This year's event was a great success, raising over \$5,200 after expenses! Thirty-six golfers participated and were joined by another 21 people for the post tournament buffet. Thanks to everyone who supported the event - our golfers, sponsors, raffle donators and diners. The winning all-male team was Steve Miller, Richard Miller, David Tucker and Phil Buso. The winning mixed male/female team was Tom Gould, Bill Wood, Larry McDevitt and June Derosier. We hope everyone enjoyed the day, despite the rain! Mark your calendars for the 2004 golf tournament which will take place on Sunday, August 22nd at Quail Hollow Golf Club. We hope you'll join us for a fun day!

## **PHOTO WITH SANTA**



This is a photo from our third annual pictures with Santa at Palatine Kennels in Paxton which was held on December 7th. All that attended had fun with Santa.

## **CAT ADOPTION DAY**

On Saturday November 8th a cat adoption day was hosted by Flo's Farm Stand in Rutland. We had a meet and greet with 15 cats and kittens that were available for adoption. We would like to Thank Flo for sponsoring this event and helping us to make it a success.

## **HOLIDAY FUNDRAISER**

On Sunday November 23rd we participated in a fundraiser at the Solomon Pond Mall in Marlborough called The Evening of Giving. Tickets were sold for an evening of shopping, door prizes, entertainment and sheer fun. This was our first year of participation. We were able to raise \$468 for our shelter fund and we raised another \$156 for the Simon Youth Foundation, which provides educational and career development for young people.

## **MARK YOUR CALENDARS FOR OUR UPCOMING EVENTS!**

May 15, 2004 --- 2nd Annual Dog Walk

August 22, 2004 --- 3rd Annual Golf Tournament

We would like to feature stories about adopted friends in our newsletters. If you have a Sweetpea story and would like to submit it to the newsletter, please send it to: Sweetpea FOR Animals, Inc. P.O. Box 897 Rutland, MA 01543 ATTN: Newsletter