



Paws

Winter 2005

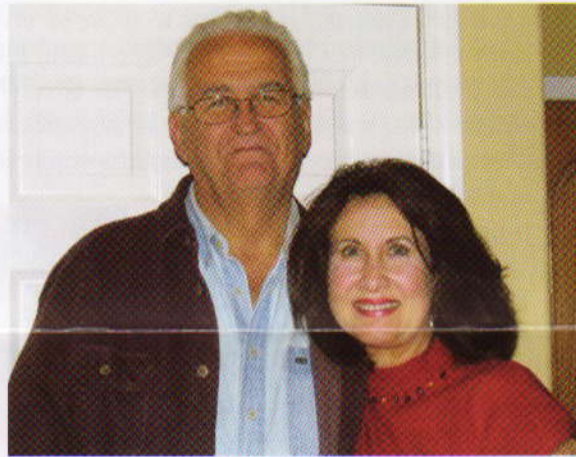
THINK

VALLEY VETERINARY CLINIC CHARITABLE NON-PROFIT CORPORATION

A MESSAGE FROM... DR. LOWELL L. NOVY

Happy New Year Greetings To You All!

We welcome Paula Temme of Simi Valley as our Director of Education and a member of our Board of Directors. Paula is well known for her career in dance, both performing and teaching. She has been arranging and holding our educational Correct Pet Care Classes for the last three years at local schools. We are reaching more and more youngsters and hope to reduce the "don't care about animals" attitude found in so many of our residents.



Dr. Novy and Paula Temme

Yes, Simi Valley has won our battle with the pet overpopulation problem, but we are still faced with the last 20% that are euthanized because they are relinquished (thrown away?) by their owners. I don't understand it, but there must be an answer, and we are searching for it.

After 45 years of working with pets and people, I think I've seen about every scenario possible.



A recovering calico.

But, then how about the old skinny calico cat that was found in a zipped-up backpack thrown in our parking lot? After a few

blood tests, we diagnosed a case of diabetes. Two injections of insulin a day and she is gaining weight and purring up a storm. But thrown away in a zipped-up backpack!

Two kittens, about six weeks old, were brought into the Clinic. They were found in a dumpster - not just in a dumpster, but in a cat-carrying case with a closed lid. It doesn't take much imagination as to what the end result would have been if the garbage truck had beaten the rescuer to the

dumpster. Of course, we vaccinated the kittens, spayed and neutered them and found them homes.

So far this year (in November, 2005), we have taken in and medically and surgically treated 124 unowned animals. Then we found them loving homes.

All of this is possible because of the Valley Veterinary Clinic Charitable Nonprofit Corporation's Benevolent Fund - funded by you, our dedicated members.

Every little friend deserves a good life. Please continue to help us. Your contributions are the life blood of this organization. We cannot continue without your assistance.

We helped many of the abandoned animals in New Orleans after Hurricane Katrina. The Board of Directors

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"Every Animal Deserves Care, Compassion and Respect."

A MESSAGE FROM...

DR. LOWELL L. NOVY (CONT.)



Rescued "Dumpster Kittens".

voted to send a sizable donation to one of the organizations rescuing and placing many of the animals that were abandoned.

Dogs and cats – puppies and kittens – are the greatest genetic inventions since the Tin Lizzy. Their "good morning" tail wags and purrs first thing in the day and their joyful greetings in the afternoon do more for the soul than a bagful of Prozac or Zoloft. They are our connection with something that is real. To please them it doesn't take a bigger house, a bigger car, or a really fancy meal. What wonderful additions they are to our families. How some of our species can discard (relinquish) these little companions, with no good reason, is a mystery to me. It is not okay to throw a pet away!

We are making a difference. I think we can all walk a little taller as we start to work on this "relinquished" problem. We cannot do it without your help – please send what you can.

All good wishes for a happy 2006.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Lowell L. Novy".

P.S. Hope to see you at our 2006 Banquet on February 11th – details on page 3.

BIG HEART, BIG HELP, BIG AL'S

By Diane Bentz

The work we do would not be possible without some very key players – Bill Knell, the owner, and Sue Gunter, Manager of Big Al's Pet Food Warehouse.

Big Al's may be well known to many of you due to its location close to the Clinic, but you may not know of the dedicated work they perform by housing, caring and adopting out excess cats and kittens from the Simi Valley area.

Part of our success is due to the work of Big Al's, as they will house and put up for adoption many of the cats and kittens we rescue. We spay and/or neuter all the animals we rescue, in addition to those received directly by Big Al's. Sue interviews anyone interested in adopting, who has to fill out a form and agree to keep the new cat or kitten indoors at all times. She is very thorough and counsels the adopter on the need for spaying/neutering of any other owned cats and regular vaccinations. The adopter receives recommendations regarding the correct diet for their animal, and a bag of premium cat food is provided.

Both Bill and Sue told us the number of excess cats and kittens has dropped precipitously over the last few years. Bill said in some years it reached 850 but has dropped to about 150. As of November 1st, 2005, Big Al's had adopted out 116 felines, of which 32 were adult cats. Bill stressed that



Bill Knell and Sue Gunter

the lower number of kittens allows Big Al's to assist with the rescue and placement of older animals that need just as much care and love. Big Al's also provides space on the second and fourth Saturday of every month for the Canine Adoption and Rescue League to show dogs looking for a new home.

We enjoy a valuable partnership with Big Al's. We thank them for the very BIG role they play in the lives of many Simi Valley cats and kittens.

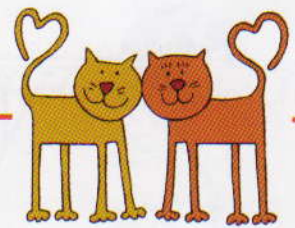


Wonderful Wine

Our first wine-tasting party was a big success. As well as lots of fine wines enjoyed in a beautiful flower-filled garden, music and the chance to receive a portrait from a caricature artist added to the enjoyment. It was a fun-filled evening which raised funds to care for our four-footed friends in need.



Love Your Pet BANQUET



Please join us for a *Valentine's Day* salute
to our beloved pets at our **Fourth Annual Love Your Pet Banquet**

February 11th, 2006 — AT THE WOOD RANCH COUNTRY CLUB, SIMI VALLEY

Cocktails 6:00 p.m. Dinner 7:00 p.m.
BLACK TIE OPTIONAL VALET PARKING PROVIDED

THIS EVENING WILL INCLUDE DINNER, DANCING, A SILENT AUCTION AND A RAFFLE FOR AN EXCITING ITEM.
As space is limited, we are asking interested individuals to commit to attending now.
The tickets are \$125 each. Please indicate on the form below the number of tickets required,
or if you would like to reserve a table for ten. A confirmation will be sent back to
acknowledge your reservation and payment.

All of the proceeds from the Banquet will support Valley Veterinary Clinic Charitable Non-Profit Corporation's
spay/neuter and education programs and provide assistance to pets and owners in need.

— Please RSVP by February 1st, 2006 —

If you have any questions, please contact Joyce Peters at (805) 526-2743.

YES, I'd like to attend the Love Your Pet Banquet (Due to limited seating, payment must accompany reservation)

Please reserve _____ ticket(s) at \$125.00 each _____ table(s) at \$1,250.00 each

Vegetarian food required for _____ people attending.

I cannot attend, but enclose my donation of \$ _____

My check is enclosed Please charge my credit card
(Please print and return in the enclosed envelope by February 1st.)

M/C



Visa



Card No. _____ Expiration Date: _____

Signature: _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

(Donations are tax deductible under section 501 (c)(3) of the IRS code.)

VALLEY VETERINARY CLINIC CHARITABLE NON-PROFIT CORPORATION



Novy's Notes

CANINE INFLUENZA

(1) So, who cares! (2) It's not here yet!

Answers: (1) All dog owners will care, especially if an epidemic hits us (cat owners can relax, this viral disease does not affect felines).

(2) Canine influenza is in southern California but no confirmed cases have appeared yet in Ventura County. But rest assured, it will get here.

Symptoms: Fever, depression, lack of appetite, a deep persistent cough.

Cause: Initially a viral disease. Many patients will get a secondary pneumonia.

Treatment: Antibiotics for the bacterial secondary pneumonia and support for the viral aspects of the disease. This is a long-duration disease – three to eight weeks.

Mortality: Death can occur in 1 to 10%, even if treated.

I would recommend staying away from canine gathering places (dog parks, etc.) until we feel the brunt of the new disease has passed. There is, as yet, no vaccine for your pet's protection. This virus is air borne and can be carried in on your shoes.

At present, prevention is the most sensible posture.

Valley Veterinary Clinic
Charitable Non-Profit
Corporation

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Jeff Moxie

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Joyce Peters

Paula Temme

If you are interested in
helping us distribute flyers,
or fostering feral kittens,
please call (805) 584-3823

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