



March 1, 2008

Dear Friends:

ARPO sends out a very heartfelt "Thank You!" for your 2007 support. The Alliance for Responsible Pet Ownership, Inc. Board of Directors wants you to know how much you have helped us continue on our journey to ending the pet overpopulation problem we still face. Through your membership fees and generous contributions, ARPO is able to help Indiana's lost, abandoned, hurt, and surrendered animals.

One of our many examples this past year is Penelope. Just months ago in early November, Penelope was living in an unfathomable situation. Her owner had padlocked her collar to a heavy, two-foot chain when she was a puppy. Imagine having only twenty-four inches of freedom around the base of a tree! After surviving a year in these horrible conditions, and growing from a small puppy into a large adult, her collar had become completely embedded in her neck! Malnourished and bleeding from her neck wound, Penelope had every reason to distrust people. Yet, this emaciated Black Beauty gently wagged her tail and sweetly greeted the volunteers from Friends of Indianapolis Dogs Outside (FIDO), who had been alerted to her situation. FIDO representatives negotiated an animal surrender with the neglectful owner, and their first call was to ARPO to request our help in providing medical treatment, fostering, and potentially finding Penelope a new home.

Due to the lack of adjustment in Penelope's puppy collar, it had literally "grown into" her neck. Her wound was approximately an inch deep and required immediate vet care to get the now infected collar removed. Penelope knew that we were trying to help and was a trooper through it all. Harboring no ill-will against us humans, her true spirit began to shine once again. She happily enjoyed her new life in foster care, and began bounding around the yard with her foster playmates like she'd never known any other life.



Although she had a rough first year, a totally healed Penelope has now been adopted by a wonderful family where she will remain healthy and safe for many years to come.

Because of you, ARPO was financially able to provide a second chance and a happy ending for Penelope! We receive our support and funding from dedicated animal lovers like you, and in turn are able to provide medical attention and fostering for animals in our community who need it most. No more chains for Penelope!

In 2007 we were proudly able to:

- Achieve our 2,000th adoption in October!
- Adopt 220 animals into permanent, loving homes – this brings our total number of adoptions to 2,055 since ARPO's beginning in 1998 (as of 12/31/07).
- Provide \$45,262 of veterinary care to our foster animals (many of whom had NEVER experienced any vet care).
- Partner with Spay-Neuter Services of Indiana, Inc. (SNSI) and receive free spay/neuter surgeries at local veterinarians.
- Continue our partnership with local veterinarians for discounted services as well as continue a juvenile spay/neuter program to alter litters of kittens and puppies prior to adoption.
- Remain steadfast in our commitment of decreasing the overpopulation problem by adopting out only altered animals (medical necessity delayed only one spay/neuter surgery in 2007).
- Retain the top level for PetSmart's Reward Program by maintaining high standard adoption procedures, spay/neuter program, and adoption follow-up administration.

Even with all this success, ARPO's role in the animal community is still never-ending. Indiana's stray and surrendered pets are still being euthanized daily at an alarming rate, and the need for responsible pet owners has never been greater. Again, we stress how vital a role you play in this. It is only with your help that we are able to continue in our efforts to end the pet overpopulation crisis – sign up as a new member today or renew your old membership!

\$ 25 "Pick of the Litter"

\$ 50 "The Cat's Meow"

\$100 "Best in Show"

Your contribution can save a life!

To join, simply return the enclosed envelope with your tax-deductible contribution or join online today at www.adoptarpo.org under the "Sponsors and Donors" link.

Penelope thanks you -- and so do we!

ARPO Board of Directors