

Art Auction to Benefit Shelter



Carrie Seaman and one of the many cats she takes care of

by Jan Kelly

Carrie Seaman has lots of cats and little help, so she has problems. Carrie has been running the Animal Shelter out of her home on Central Street and her property behind Northern Lights Leather these past 10 years. By donations and generous gifts of friends, the spaying of cats and dogs has gone on efficiently and quietly. Donations from three estates have also helped in the past. Carrie pays for the feeding of the animals personally and the cost averages \$3000 a year. At present, to be adopted, three wild cats which are fed daily behind *dodie's*, two wild ones on Pearl street and the rest at Carrie's home. Joyce Sara feeds the Shelter's and outside cats.

Spaying is a high priority and also absorbs a large percentage of the Shelter's funds. The Shelter usually pays 50 percent of the operation, cat or dog, and you have your choice of veterinarian. Spaying is the most effective method of controlling the number of homeless pets. A loved animal is a treasure. A wild one is a tragedy.

Routine veterinary care, shots, and care needed as the result of accidents are also part of the Shelter's program. You never know how many cats and dogs there are until they need help. Then you are so conscious of the numbers. That it has been done with such a small task force is remarkable.

In order to continue this program of help to stranded animals as well as privately cared-for pets, more help is needed. The Asheton House, Jim Kelly, the estate of Frances Euler, the estate of Eddie Euler, and the estate of Margit Jensen have done their share silently and generously. Many individuals have donated amounts of \$25-\$50. Now a big crush is needed: a benefit. The past benefits have been successful. The last one at the Pied Piper yielded \$1000, but that was long ago in time and dollars. Now Carrie would like to have an art auction of donated paintings. That's a natural for Provincetown. Needed will be: someone to run the auction, that is to find the space, to enlist the talent and energies of an auctioneer and to provide entertainment which is always a good draw and another Provincetown natural.

Some of the paintings Carrie has available for auction are by Mary Lefson, Irving Lefson, Valente, Ralph Ortiz, Kenneth Hersh, Horace Snow, and Taro Yamamoto. There are many first edition prints, also.

For 10 years the Shelter has operated on a marginal budget. At least let us maintain that and not let the operation sink for lack of financing. Who can help with this auction?