

Northwoods Humane Society – Deanna Persson, President

I have written in the past about the passage of time and how filling my pill box always gives me a jolt that two weeks have passed. How can that be?

Twenty years have passed since Frank “Can Man” and Charmaine Metzinger stepped forward and offered to take charge of our can recycling fundraising efforts. As they are approaching their 80’s, their bodies are saying ...’this is a bit too much for us’.

Their efforts have raised \$44,200 dollars for the Northwoods Humane Society.



We are now looking for a person(s) who would be willing to step in and fill their shoes.

This is not a glamorous task. The primary perk for those doing it is that their table gets to go first when we have our Paws of Appreciation Potluck dinner.

When we first started the can collection program Sheila Herbert worked on it, Wally McIntire, myself, and sometimes Bob Schroeder. The collection points are still the same – The Hutt, behind the Old Feed Mill and at the NHS shelter.

What does it take to do this task? You need a pickup truck or a SUV that can smell at times, old cloths and heavy rubber gloves and a sense of humor and forgiveness.

Frank and Charmaine choose to sort the bags they collect at home – removing garbage and re-bagging any other metals in separate bags. Most people are considerate and separate the metal cans from the aluminum and don’t include garbage (that is where forgiveness is needed). We are able to recycle aluminum, brass, copper and steel.

They then take the bags to Best Choice Recycling at W281 East River Rd in Hayward, just off Highway 63 South. Best Choice is open Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.

I ask them what the secret to their success with this project was and They said they enjoyed spending time together and knowing we were helping all those sweet animals.

Frank and said Charmaine said they will do the training for the next individual or team that volunteers. Charmaine also said they are going to miss doing the collecting.

This is an ideal way to help the Northwoods Humane Society if you are someone that cares about the well-being of the animals and someone that cares about the environment. You get to work outside, choose the day of the week that works for you and anytime between 8 and 4.

If this is something you are willing to explore, please give me a call at 715-634-4543.

- FYI:**
- Recycling steel and tin cans saves 74 percent of the energy used to make them from raw material.
 - Americans throw away enough aluminum every month to rebuild our entire commercial air fleet.
 - Americans throw out enough iron and steel to continuously supply all the auto makers in the entire nation.
 - A steel mill using recycled scrap reduces water pollution, air pollution, and mining waste by about 70 percent.
 - When you throw away an aluminum can, you waste as much energy as if you'd filled the can half full of gasoline and poured it into the ground.
 - Recycling one aluminum can saves enough energy to run a 100 watt light bulb for 20 hours, a computer for 3 hours, and a TV for 2 hours.
 - Metal can be recycled unlimited times. Paper can be recycled four to seven times. (ISRI)
 - Steel recycling is responsible for saving some 900 million tones of carbon dioxide emissions every year. (BIR)

Source: <http://www.gulfcoast.edu/procurement/recycling/facts.htm>
<http://www.sunberglimited.com/recycling-industry/interesting-facts>