

# PAWS pets roll into primary for special program

PARAGOULD News Paper

On May 10 two, three and four-legged volunteers from the Paragould Animal Welfare Society visited Greene County Primary School for a very special educational program.

Hundreds of first graders were treated to a skit designed to teach the children about proper pet care and responsible pet ownership. The highlight of the program was when "Secret Agent George Cooney," a three-legged coon-hound, and his buddy "Henry Wrinkles," arrived on stage in a customized Hummer car, with music blaring. Both dogs, adopted from and owned by PAWS volunteer Susan Boyd, were quite a sight in their sunglasses, hats and clothes, and Boyd translated for the dogs when talking to the children about their adventures and missions. Teacher Pam Lackey invited PAWS to do the presentation.

After the skit, the dog's assisted humane educator and PAWS volunteer Ruth Scroggin, who presented what is in a "responsible pet owner's suitcase." Inside items rite heartworm preventative, wormer, (showing the importance of proper vet care), a collar, an I.D. tag, leash, brushes and toys were shown. The children were taught about basic pet care. Scroggin also told them there was. one item that could not be placed in the suitcase. That item Was commitment, which all pet owners should have, because pets are not toys that can be returned, they are a life long responsibility, Scroggin said.

Henry Wrinkles and George Cooney are becoming celebrities with the skit Boyd has written. She uses her dogs to help the PAWS non-profit animal shelter raise money. A special thanks to Quinton Robbins, owner of RC Hobbies in Jonesboro, who donated his time to make the remote controlled Hummer and installing the stereo system. Also special thanks to Sign Tech for the artwork on the Hummer and PAWS volunteers Judy Maurizi, Elizabeth Holcomb, Glenda Kovalcin and Laura Wood.

Paragould residents are also asked to support the PAWS non-profit animal shelter.

Donations are always welcome and supplies like towels, kitty litter, bleach, collars, leashes, bowls and toys are always needed. An annual membership to PAWS is \$20 and entitles the member to 10 percent off vaccinations and office visits at Paragould Animal Clinic or Veterinary Healthcare, Inc. Tax-deductible, donations may be mailed to PAWS 1103 E. Kingshighway Paragould, AR 72450. Shelter hours are Monday through Friday from noon-6p.m. Call 240-0997 for more information or see pets for adoption online at <http://paws.media99.com>



"George Cooney" and his friend "Henry Wrinkles" visited children at the Greene County Tech Primary School

The kids learned about proper pet ownership.