

# Annual Report 2017

2017.4.1 – 2018.3.31

GREETINGS FROM MR. SHINICHIRO YAMASHITA, CHAIRMAN

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#### Report on the Situation of Activities in Fiscal Year 2017

I send my best regards to all members and supporters of JAWS and would like to show my sincere appreciation for the warm understanding and support regarding our animal welfare activities.

In fiscal year 2017, the subsidization of spaying/neutering operations, one of the core animal welfare activities of JAWS, targeted two prefectures, Okinawa and Aomori Prefectures, and we subsidized the operation of approximately 2,000 animals. In addition, our “JAWS Stray Cats Campaign” subsidized roughly 500 animals, and in total JAWS subsidized the operation of roughly 4,700 animals including those subsidized by branches and initiatives other than the abovementioned campaign. As a part of our animal rescue activities we have also proactively addressed issues such as animal hoarding and animal abuse cases which have increasingly surfaced as issues in recent years. Various approaches were used including filing charges.

We also engaged in educational activities such as the “Shelter Medicine Seminar” that addressed environmental factors for animals, the “RSPCA Workshop” with lecturers invited from the UK, and the “Workshop for Training Personnel for Disaster Responses” which targeted employees of local authorities. In addition to these, we have also launched the “Veterinary Forensics Seminar” beginning from the previous fiscal year to train veterinarians who can scientifically assess animal abuse.

In recent years, with the increasing number of foreign visitors in Japan, we have received many reports of cases that appear to these foreign visitors as animal abuse cases. With the Tokyo Olympics coming up in two years, we believe that the interest in the situation of animal welfare in Japan would inevitably rise. JAWS would like to further increase its effort in promoting and advancing animal welfare in Japan through approaches such as workshops and seminars.

The “Animal Protection Essay Contest” that we hold every year was in its 58<sup>th</sup> year, and we received 2,942 applications from elementary and middle school students including those from a Japanese school in the UK. JAWS believes that raising the interest of the young generation in animal welfare activities is a challenge for us and our duty. Thus, we perceive the essay contest as one of the events that we can further expand on.

Furthermore, in March we held the “Charity Bingo Party,” which we hold every year and many people look forward to. We were blessed with good spring weather on the day of the party and had over 1,000 participants which was an increase from the previous year. We hope that everybody was able to enjoy themselves at the event.

All activities of JAWS are supported by the membership fee and donations from everybody. We would like to put our utmost effort into continuing to improve the situation of animal welfare in Japan using the funding that everybody has kindly given to the organization. We appreciate your continued understanding and support.

As we wish the best of luck for all, we would like to report the situation of our activities for fiscal year 2017.

Shinichiro Yamashita  
Chairman

## I ANIMAL WELFARE ACTIVITIES

### Spaying and Neutering of Dogs and Cats, etc.

#### Prevention of Cruelty to Animals

The number of cases of violation of the Animal Welfare Act exposed by the police in fiscal year 2017 was 68; this is a record high since the National Police Agency started collecting data. Among these cases, abandonment was most often reported (35 cases), followed by the killing/injuring of animals (20 cases), and neglect (13 cases). When categorized by the types of animals, 70% of the cases were cats. In addition, there is an increasing number of reports of animal abuse video clips on the internet. A temporary worker who abused two kittens was fined 200,000 JPY, and the tax accountant who killed 13 stray cats was convicted on imprisonment of one year and 10 months (suspension of four years).

In fiscal year 2017, JAWS received telephone calls for 98 cases of animal abuse. This is a decrease in numbers from 110 cases received last year. However, there seems to be more variation in the types of cases reported to JAWS; for example, reports on animal hoarding cases and video clips on animal abuse have increased. When categorizing these cases by the types of animals, there were 27 cases on cats, 57 cases on dogs, and 14 cases involving other animals (goldfish, bears, owls, goats, lions, etc.).

JAWS believes that the number of animal hoarding cases would continue to increase in the future. At the same time, we also believe that it is crucial to collaborate with the government and other relevant agencies to address these cases and that there needs to be preventative measures and measures that allow for early intervention since these animal hoarding cases take a lot of time and effort to resolve. We also believe that there needs to be regulations such as those on emergency rescue of animals and orders to ban the keeping of animals, and for this reason, we are hoping that the period for the revision of the law during the next fiscal year would improve the situation.

As previous years, there were also many reports this fiscal year on neglect and cases where animals were provided inappropriate care. These cases involved owners in various positions such as animal handling businesses as well as private owners, and it makes us think about owner

responsibilities of those who own and/or possess animals. We believe that regulations encompassing private owners should be strengthened, such as drafting standards of care and management of animals based on the idea that all who own and/or possess animals are “owners.”

Regarding animal handling businesses, JAWS filed criminal complaints against a breeding facility in Fukui Prefecture that kept their animals under appalling conditions for animal abuse and the violation of the Rabies Prevention Act. The complaint has been accepted.

From this fiscal year, JAWS has put its efforts into the scientific and objective analysis of evidence for animal abuse cases which has proved useful for some cases. Through these cases, we have learned that objective and scientific evidence is a powerful tool in advocating for the voiceless animals. Thus, we believe that in the future, we should consider a system in which stakeholders such as the government and the police could easily share information regarding such scientific assessment methods.

There are differences among local authorities in how abuse and cases of inappropriate care of animals are addressed, and it must be said that the current law is not effectively and thoroughly enforced. JAWS believes that stakeholders need to discuss why the law is not enforced and take appropriate measure to change this. Currently, local authorities lack the manpower and are overloaded with work. Thus, we believe that there needs to be a specific standard that can be used by employees of local authorities to speedily assess the situation of care of animals and an expert consultation service that can provide assistance based on veterinary and legal expertise when the local authorities are having difficulties assessing the situation.

Stray cats are very often victimized in cases of non-accidental abuse (killing, violence, and exploitation). Stray cats were the victims of the abovementioned case of the killing of cats by a tax accountant. In many of these cases, cats that get used to people through feeding are victimized. Many of the stray cats that became the victim of the case reported last fiscal year in which a large number of stray cats were killed or went missing in a park were those that got used to people feeding them. JAWS commissioned an autopsy of a cat that died from this case and has been reported that it is highly likely that the cat died of ethylene glycol poisoning. Until now, it has been very difficult to collect evidence for cases involving stray cats to bring up as a criminal case. However, for this case, we were able to collaborate

with a university to identify the cause of death and to obtain scientific evidence. We hope that a development of a system and collaboration efforts based on veterinary forensics in addition to bringing these cases up as criminal cases using definite evidence would serve as deterrents for perpetrators who abuse animals for amusement. We must also remember that it is the stray cats that become the victims of human conflict stemming from irresponsible feeding of these cats.

JAWS has also launched workshops on captive wildlife and farm animals with lecturers invited from abroad. JAWS also collaborates not only with domestic organizations but also with foreign organizations in rescuing captive wildlife.

The situation of animals is still doomed by human ignorance and disinterest. Ignorance can be improved through education such as workshops. It is a challenge for JAWS to think of ways to garner interest of those who are disinterested. We believe that the situation of animal welfare in Japan would progress greatly if as many people as possible would recognize that animals are “sentient beings” regardless of whether one likes or dislikes animals and if this thinking becomes common sense.

The national statistics for fiscal year 2016 show that the numbers of dogs and cats surrendered and destroyed have decreased and that the numbers returned and adopted out have increased. The number of animals adopted out include those that were adopted by animal protection organizations. Not all aspects of animal welfare can be assessed by these numbers. It is important to consider whether the rescued animals are cared for in an appropriate manner in the facilities of the local authorities and animal protection organizations.

<グラフ翻訳>

<タイトル>

Number of Reports that JAWS Received

<縦軸>

Number of Cases

<横軸、左から右へ>

Animal Hoarding

Suspicious Deaths (i.e. poisoning)

Abandonment

Neglect  
 Inappropriate Care  
 Non-Accidental Injury  
 Animal Abuse Video Clips  
 Internet Sales  
 Inappropriate Handling

<福井県に関する写真キャプション>

▲Inside the facility of the animal handling business in Fukui Prefecture

National Statistics of Fiscal Year 2016

(Summary of the statistics of the Ministry of the Environment)

	Number of Animals Impounded		After Impoundment	
	Adult Dogs/Cats	Puppies/Kittens	Returned/Adopted	Destroyed
Dogs	34,231	6,944	30,500	10,424
Cats	22,492	50,132	26,886	45,574
Total	56,723	57,076	57,386	55,998

\*The number of puppies and kittens signify the number of animals not weaned.

The number of impounded adult animals with unknown owners includes animals seized under the Rabies Prevention Act. The number of animals impounded with unknown owners also includes a part of animals impounded based on prefectural/city regulations. The number of destroyed animals includes natural deaths such as deaths of kittens/puppies during impoundment due to causes such as diseases; for local authorities that do not distinguish between adult animals and puppies/kittens, the number is included in the adult animals.

Promotion of Spaying/Neutering of Dogs and Cats

The “Campaign for the Prevention of Abandonment of Cats and Dogs” for fiscal year 2017 targeted Okinawa and Aomori Prefectures. Okinawa Prefecture has been targeted for our “Three Year Spaying/Neutering Plan,” because the reproduction rate is high due to the environment and the warm weather in addition to the fact that the number of animals destroyed in the prefecture is relatively high. This is the last year of the three-year plan. Normally, this campaign accepts applications beginning from September, but for this time, we had two periods for application – one beginning in May and

one beginning in September – so that we can provide more options regarding the timing for the operation. For each prefecture, we planned to subsidize 600 females and 300 males, and as a result of discussions with the local veterinary associations, we subsidized 10,000 JPY per female and 5,000 JPY per male.

To spread the word, we had animal hospitals, local newsletters, and related local authorities put up posters. At the same time, we had news media and internet media such as SNS and webpages pick up the news. Because of these promotion approaches, JAWS received many applications.

In recent years, there have been many stray cat and hoarding issues surfacing. Some of the application post cards for this campaign were from individuals and volunteers who are addressing such cases, and these post cards had comments written on them expressing how these volunteers/individuals were sincerely hoping that they would receive the subsidies. For such cases, JAWS directly contacted the applicants and took their circumstances into consideration when choosing who to subsidize. As previous years, we took into account the fact that roughly 20% of those accepted do not actually apply for the subsidies and increased the number of applications that were actually accepted. The rate of utilization of this subsidy program (number of animals spayed/neutered ÷ number of animals accepted by this program × 100) was 76% for females and 75% for males in Okinawa Prefecture and 78% for females and 80% for males in Aomori Prefecture.

JAWS has received words of appreciation via telephone calls and letters from those who were able to make use of the campaign. Payments were made by the end of March to those who were accepted and spayed/neutered the animals by the set deadline via postal money order.

	Number of Animals Chosen (1 <sup>st</sup> and 2 <sup>nd</sup> applications)				Number of Animals Spayed/Neutered (1 <sup>st</sup> and 2 <sup>nd</sup> applications)			
	Cats		Dogs		Cats		Dogs	
	Females	Males	Females	Males	Females	Males	Females	Males
Okinawa Prefecture	925	385	137	61	698	291	109	42
Aomori	558	388	73	48	438	313	53	35

Prefecture								
Total	1,438	773	210	109	1,136	604	162	77

Continuing from the previous fiscal year, under the “JAWS Stray Cats Campaign,” JAWS subsidized the spaying/neutering of stray cats – 5,000 JPY per animal, maximum of five animals per person (excluding those who are already subsidized by branches of JAWS) – taken on by members of JAWS. There are many issues surrounding stray cats, such as irresponsible feeding and abandonment of cats by people who get overwhelmed, but JAWS believes that it is crucial to manage the numbers so that there is no increase in the number of animals that have to lead unfortunate lives. Thus, we started this campaign to alleviate the burden of old members of JAWS who have been involved in TNR activities. JAWS has spent its budget by early November, so this campaign has been terminated.

Because of this campaign, many animals were spayed/neutered as shown by the following chart:

Number of Animals that were Spayed/Neutered		
Number of Female Animals	Number of Male Animals	Total
264	237	501

In addition, JAWS is continuing its subsidization to “Fukushima University Cat Club,” a club of students at Fukushima University that rescues stray cats. JAWS is also providing subsidizations for spaying/neutering through its branches in order to promote spaying/neutering and to reduce the number of cats and dogs that have to lead unfortunate lives. The total number of spaying/neutering subsidized by JAWS is as follows:

	Females	Males
Total Number Subsidized by Branches	1,387	772
Total Number Subsidized by the HQ*	1,657	960
Total Number Subsidized by Branches and HQ	3,044	1,732

\*Includes JAWS Stray Cats Campaign, the Campaign for the Prevention of Abandonment of Cats and Dogs, support for spaying/neutering provided to stakeholders such as Fukushima

University, and CC Kuro

## “Act on Welfare and Management of Animals” – Activities Related to the Revision of the Law

1. With the request from the working team for the revision of the Animal Welfare Act of the “Diet Member Caucus for Reducing the Euthanasia of Cats and Dogs to Zero” JAWS spoke about the following:

- Situation and challenges regarding distribution in the pet industry for the timeframe beginning from after the previous revision (April) Dr. Machiya, veterinary inspector
- Current situation and challenges regarding inappropriate animal care among animal handling businesses (May) Ms. Kawasaki, head of Tochigi Branch
- Regarding animal abuse (issues on animal hoarding) (December) Dr. Machiya, veterinary inspector

2. Activities as a board organization of the “Japanese Coalition for Animal Welfare”

We were involved in lobbying activities based on a compact amendment proposal that lists ten points we would like amended during the revision period of the “Act on Welfare and Management of Animals.” During this fiscal year, we also drafted a “Guideline for Animal Care and Management” for the purpose of ensuring and enhancing the quality of life of animals under human care. The Guideline provides specific points on animal management and care based on the Five Freedoms, an international standard for animal welfare. The Guideline specifies the care keepers of animals as all peoples who own/possess animals regardless of whether they are organizations or individuals which makes the target of this Guideline everybody involved in the care of animals. Information was drawn from legislation and standards of care and management of the UK and Germany. In February, we invited Dr. Andrew Rowan, the Chief Scientific Officer of the HSUS (Humane Society of the United States) and held a citizen’s forum titled “Considering International Standards of Animal Welfare.” The event was a great success.

<写真キャプション>

▲ Lecture of Dr. Andrew Rowan

Activities Regarding Adoptions

<From the Headquarters, Branches, and CC Kuro>

As previous years, the Headquarters and the branches together helped animals look for new homes. From the Headquarters, seven dogs and one cat found new homes, and from CC-Kuro, 20 dogs and 47 cats found new homes. From the branches, a total of 273 dogs and 387 cats were adopted.

Milk Kira (mix breed, female, 1 year old)

Her ex-owner could not continue her care due to health reasons. JAWS was looking for a new owner and found a lovely home via an animal hospital that has been cooperating with the adoption activities of JAWS.

<Comment from Owner>

It has been 10 years since the first dog we had passed away. Dad, who now has some time off work, began saying that he now wanted a second dog that would heal him. Dad wanted to adopt a dog that is looking for a new home and went to the animal hospital that we used to use to get some advice. That is where he fell in love at first glance with Milk, and that is why she is at our home now. It seems like we are linked by fate. Milk seemed a bit wary at first, but now she is used to her new home and is her original active self. She is a very good girl; she is toilet trained perfectly, does not get into mischief, and always sleeps in her crate at night. It has been six months since she came to our house, but it seems like her bond with Dad is strengthening each day.

Yukimaru Shirahama (Ragdoll, male, 2 years old)

His ex-family was no longer able to keep him due to their child's allergic reaction, and JAWS helped look for a new home.

<Comment from Owner>

At first, he was too nervous that he would not even eat treats. He settled in after two to three days, and after several days, we were confident that he would be okay at our home and decided to adopt him. It has been one year since he came to our house; he is the youngest child of our family, a

bonding glue for our family, our idle, and our source of healing... He has many roles in our household. Recently, he has learned to jump onto the kitchen sink when I start cooking. He stays there while I cook, so I no longer feel lazy about doing the chore. He does not like to be brushed and runs away, and he kicks people to escape when he does not want to be held. He has also chewed and opened a hole in the rice bag. But nonetheless, our family loves him! We hope to have many more years of fun together.

Barry Kurihara (Miniature Dachshund, male, estimated to be 10 years old)

His ex-owner passed away, so we had to look for a new home. Three months after putting him up for adoption online, he found a lovely family.

<Comment from Owner>

It has been one year since Barry came to our house. He is very friendly and sweet, and he always wants to come up on my lap. The first day he came to our house, even the smallest sound would wake him up, and he seemed very anxious. Now Barry is a healer and a precious member of our family. He usually follows me around, asks my two daughters to play with him by bringing his toy ball, and he wags his tail, barks, and chases my husband and calms down when he gets his attention, maybe because he has some memories left of when he was rescued. Barry is leading a great life as a cherished member of our family.

CC Kuro

Making the Cattery Cage-Free...

During the previous year, we shared information about the newly built cattery. After that, we have steadily adopted out cats. Amidst our adoption activities, we started to think about providing an even more comfortable environment for cats and revamped the way we use the cat rooms. The rooms are not too big, but we proposed to make the rooms into play rooms for cats rather than a management-focused setting.

Until now, we had three-story cages for the number of cats housed in each of the rooms, but we thought that making all the rooms cage-free would create more space for cats and placed the cages in a different room. Because we moved the cages, there is now enough space to put in a cat tower, and now the cats have a relaxing environment.

It is easier for the cats to play with toys now, and there is now more space for the cats to move around. Looking at each of the cats being able to choose a place they like to spend their time, we feel that the cats are generally more relaxed compared to their previous state.

When the cats eat different diets or when the speed they eat differ, we need to be creative and use the cages placed in the other rooms during their meal time. But we are nonetheless happy with the change we made when we see visitors who want to adopt cats come into the room and taking their time to interact with the cats as they choose.

We hope to increase the time and space for visitors to interact with the dogs and cats so that more people would visit our Center.

<写真キャプション>

The previous catteries

The current cage-free cat rooms

Animal ID Promotion Organization (AIPO)

JAWS has been collaborating with the Japan Veterinary Medical Association and putting its effort into promoting microchips as a member of AIPO, an organization consisting of three groups.

The identification number registered inside the chip, that serves as a “name tag,” is managed under a centralized system. Thus, when a disaster like an earthquake strikes, the chip helps to unite the pet and its owner promptly and accurately. Microchip readers are increasingly located in local authorities throughout the country so that all locations are prepared for such emergencies. JAWS microchips all animals that are adopted out from the organization.

## II EDUCATION AND PUBLICITY

### Animal Protection Essay Contest and Events, etc.

#### The 58<sup>th</sup> Animal Protection Essay Contest

The Animal Protection Essay Contest, which has continued for more than half a century, received 2,942 applications this fiscal year which was an increase of close to 350 from the previous fiscal year. With the referral of JAWS UK, an affiliate of JAWS, there were applications from the Japanese school in London. There were many masterpieces, which made the judging process very difficult. The winner of the Minister of the Environment Award for elementary school children was Miu Nagato (5<sup>th</sup> grade, Mitsujo Elementary School, Higashi Hiroshima City) who wrote “Assistance for Becoming the Master” and the winner of this award for middle school children was Mona Mizuishi (9<sup>th</sup> grade, Ohdate Junior High School, Hachinohe City) who wrote “The Link Between Lives”. The winners read their pieces at the commendation ceremony. Other than these winners, 14 elementary school children and 14 middle school children – a total of 28 students – won awards including the special awards such as the Showakaikan Award and the JAWS UK Award. The commendation ceremony was held on November 19<sup>th</sup> at the Sunflower Hall of Tokyo Prince Hotel. Approximately 100 family members of the winners, judges, and invited guests attended, and the ceremony was carried out in a solemn but a relaxed mood. Unfortunately, H.I.H. Princess Hitachi was unable to attend, but the winners received gifts from the Princess, and the ceremony became a memorable event not only for the winners but also for their family members. After the ceremony, the winners read their pieces at the tea party, and the entire event became an exciting time full of joy.

#### The Main Event of the Be Kind to Animals Week

This year the indoor part of the main event of the Be Kind to Animals Week was held on September 24<sup>th</sup> at the Tokyo National Museum (Heiseikan), and the outdoor part of the event was held on September 23<sup>rd</sup> at Ueno Onshi Park. The theme for this fiscal year was “Let’s Protect Our

Pets! Disaster Prevention Measures.” For the outdoor event, JAWS held a booth for face painting, which was very popular during previous years. The children lined up with sparkling eyes and were all excited when they saw the finished paintings.

## JAWS Report

This year, JAWS issued the Report twice – issues no. 81 and 82. In addition to reports on the general activities of the organization, we wrote a report on the Animal Care Conference 2018, a conference in the United States where animal protection experts discuss issues and share experiences. We also wrote about the campaign continued from the previous year on the subsidization of operations for stray cats as well as advertisements and reports on seminars. The Report was sent to our members as well as stakeholders in the local authorities addressing animal related issues, the veterinary association, and other relevant organizations.

Workshops, Lectures, Interviews, etc.

## Workshops

### Veterinary Forensics Seminar [Basic Level]

With the increase of reports on animal abuse cases in recent years, there is a need for veterinarians that can scientifically diagnose “animal abuse.” For this reason, from this fiscal year we started the “Veterinary Forensics Seminar” targeting veterinarians and vet students. This seminar spanned two days and was attended by 47 people. Dr. Jun Saeki (DVM) and Dr. Aki Tanaka (veterinarian and a faculty of UC Davis) were invited as lecturers. They spoke about the roles of veterinarians when coming across animal abuse cases and the basics regarding the techniques and knowledge on appropriate evidence collection to assess whether the injury was accidental or non-accidental.

### Seminar on the Welfare of Captive Wildlife (Animals Used for Exhibitions)

In July we had Georgina Allen, a researcher on animal sciences with over ten years of experience on the welfare of wild animals and the Project Director at Wild Welfare, UK, lecture on the welfare and care of animals

exhibited in zoos. The lecture was about how there is a strong association between the behavior of animals and their mental state, and even if the animal is physically healthy, one cannot ensure their welfare unless their mental needs are met. One must meet both physical and mental needs to ensure the welfare of animals.

#### Other Regular Seminars Held Every Year

- Shelter Medicine Seminar
- Workshop for Training Disaster Response Personnel
- RSPCA Seminar

#### Lectures

JAWS sporadically held the “Seminar on the Basics of Animal Welfare” and also spoke for local authorities and animal protection organizations in Gunma and Akita Prefectures. In addition to this, JAWS served as a lecturer for the workshop for animal handling businesses in Togane City, Chiba Prefecture.

#### Interviews

As in previous years, JAWS accepted requests for interviews from many television companies, newspaper companies, magazines, and other media stakeholders. Specifically, JAWS received inquiries regarding the animal handling business in Fukui Prefecture which we brought to charge and provided information and materials. There was also an increase in the number of requests for interviews on animal welfare from elementary, junior high, and high school students as well as university students.

#### Telephone Inquiries

As previous years, JAWS received many inquiries regarding animals this fiscal year. Continuing from the previous year, there were inquiries regarding animal abuse on SNS and video websites, and it seems like the malicious intent behind these cases have been increasing over the years. There are some people who want their posts to go viral. However, some of the cases such as the case of the ex-tax accountant in Saitama Prefecture who tortured and killed 13 cats or the case where the perpetrator put chili

sauce on the excretory organ of a kitten and tortured the animal to death are nothing but cruel and remembered by many. Sometimes, the anonymous nature of the posts escalate the situation, and cruel posts stop when the name and the address of the individual who posted are identified. It is not only stricter penalties that are necessary to prevent animal abuse, but the internet also needs to be regulated, and companies that manage the website need a system for surveillance. In addition, JAWS believes that the training of expert individuals and agencies that can assess animal abuse and the promotion of the principles of animal welfare to the general public are also meaningful in addressing this issue.

### III FUNDRAISING

#### Appreciation for the Support

##### Design Cards and Picture Books Translated by H.I.H Princess Hitachi

There are two books that H.I.H. Princess Hitachi translated that are available – *It was Jake* and *Dot the Fire Dog*. The cards designed by H.I.H. Princess Hitachi continue to be popular. JAWS sells and advertises these products at places such as events and bazaars. H.I.H. Princess Hitachi kindly donates the amount that is raised by these products which boosts the image of the animal welfare activities of JAWS.

##### Charity Bingo Party

On a nice spring day, March 18<sup>th</sup>, JAWS held its annual Charity Bingo Party at the Phoenix Hall of Tokyo Prince Hotel. The event was attended by over 1,000 people and was a great success. This year, H.I.H. Princess Hitachi was unable to attend, but she kindly donated door prizes for the event. In addition, as previous years, many sponsor companies and individuals donated great prizes to the event. The guests were very excited to see these prizes – they attentively listened to the numbers read out by the MC, and their eyes were glued to the board on the table in front of them till the very end of the game. It was a repetition of somebody calling out “Bingo” and a roar from the crowd, the checking of the board, the presentation of prizes, and a round of applause. It was a little before 18:00 that the pile of prizes were all distributed. As they left the venue, the guests told JAWS that the event was very fun and that they were looking forward to the party next year. We would like to show our sincere appreciation to the sponsor companies and individuals who donated prizes and products for sales as well as the volunteers who ran the stalls and did the heavy physical work in the background. We would have not been able to hold the party without the help of these individuals and companies.

##### Sales of Original Products

We have renewed the design and the color of our t-shirts and polo-shirts which are very popular. Together with our new product, such as the pass-case, these products have contributed to the sales of JAWS original products. In addition, the animal calendar receives applications mainly from a group of set supporters who request to have the photograph of their precious pets on the product, and there has been an increase in the number of new customers who want their photographs used on the calendar. JAWS would like to continue to put its effort into the printing of these original animal calendars which we perceive as a product that represents JAWS.

#### Regarding Compact Donation Boxes

JAWS has available ready-to-assemble donation boxes that are one size smaller. The box can be conveniently sent via the postal service, so we would appreciate it if stakeholders could use these to support our cause.

## IV MEMBERSHIP RECRUITMENT

### Recruitment of New Members

- This fiscal year, the steady recruitment of individual members ended up in success, and we had 446 new members and 186 members who withdrew. This resulted in a net increase of 280 members and a total of 2,728 individual members as of the end of March, which is a great increase. Officials of JAWS will continue to put their efforts into membership recruitment, but JAWS would appreciate it if members could also encourage their acquaintances who are interested in animal welfare to join JAWS. We appreciate the help of everyone in recruiting members.

The following chart outlines the number of members as of the end of fiscal year 2017 (March 31<sup>st</sup>, 2018).

Honorary Members	1
Corporate Members	29
Life Members	150
Sustaining Members	250
Associate Members	2,300
Junior Members	27
Total	2,757
(Total of individuals)	2,728

- Please be sure to notify the office if there are any changes in your address.

## V OFFICE REPORT

### Convening the Annual General Assembly

#### Annual General Assembly

- The annual general assembly for fiscal year 2017 was held on June 9<sup>th</sup>, 2018 from 13:00 at Standard Conference Room located in Higashigotanda. The first agenda was “The Approval of the Financial Documents for Fiscal Year 2017,” the second agenda was “The Appointment of 13 Board Members,” and the third agenda was “The Appointment of Two Auditors.” All agendas were approved and passed. Following this, “The Reports of Activities for Fiscal Year 2017” and “The Plan of Activities for Fiscal Year 2018” was presented, and the assembly closed at 14:30. The winners of the annual award were Dr. Mikako Tsushima, Student Council of Shirayuri Gakuen, and Yokohama Animal Cremation Center.

## VI REPORTS FROM OUR BRANCHES

Looking for New Homes for Animals, Providing Subsidies for Spaying/Neutering, etc.

- There are currently six branches that are active.
- JAWS UK also follows the activities of these branches and regards them highly. JAWS UK proactively cooperates with and supports the activities of these branches.
- Each of the six branches actively work to raise the visibility of the revised Animal Welfare Act. They also work to address issues unique to their communities and provide consultation on the care and management of animals, look for new homes for animals, and promote spaying/neutering. The following is a report on their situations.

### Network of JAWS Branches

#### Minami-Osaka Branch

Chizu Yamai, Head of Branch

#### Nagano (Toshin) Branch

Sumiko Tokuma, Head of Branch

#### Tochigi Branch

Akiko Kawasaki, Head of Branch

#### New Tokyo Branch

Rumi Inoue, Head of Branch

#### Sagami Branch

Hirofumi Sato, Head of Branch

#### Yokohama Branch

Tetsuo Hyodo, Head of Branch

## Tochigi Branch

### ◎ Promotion of Spaying/Neutering and Measures for Community Cats

We are promoting spaying/neutering as well as measures for community cats. We proactively use the subsidies provided by the Headquarters for cats without owners and dogs/cats rescued by our members as well as for the education of those who provide inappropriate care to their animals.

### ◎ Event to Provide Consultation Regarding Cats at Utsunomiya City Public Health Center

The vice-head of the branch, Dr. Asako Sato, is invited to an event to provide consultation regarding cats held at Utsunomiya City Public Health Center every March. At the event, she addresses inquiries from the public.

### ◎ Adopting Animals as an Organization

Tochigi Branch is an organization registered with Tochigi Prefecture Animal Welfare Consultation Center and Utsunomiya City Public Health Center as an organization that can adopt animals from these authorities to further look for new homes for them and is actively involved in promoting the adoption of dogs and cats that would otherwise be put down. Especially for the animals that we take on from these governmental agencies, we are covering their veterinary medical bills with funding donated from everybody. This activity has been providing second chances to the animals that would have otherwise been put down.

We are able to engage in this adoption program because of the immense cooperation of other organizations outside of the prefecture as well as individual volunteers in addition to the assistance provided by the Headquarters and the companies that support the Headquarters. These stakeholders make it possible for us to cover expenses for veterinary care and food for these animals. We sincerely appreciate the thoughts and support from everybody!

### ◎ Conviction of the Violation of the Rabies Prevention Act by the Animal Handling Business and the Committee for the Inquest of Prosecution

We pressed charges against an animal handling business in Yaita City, Tochigi Prefecture, and the business was convicted of the violation of the

Rabies Prevention Act. However, it was judged that there was lack of evidence for article 44(2). Thus, the branch collected petitions, and with the support from the public, we filed complaints to the Committee for the Inquest of Prosecution. Currently, the case is being reinvestigated.

◎ The Animal Hoarding Case in Utsunomiya City

The case has surfaced as an issue several years ago, and there was a sudden increase in the number of complaints and inquiries to the branch this year. Together with the Headquarters, the branch went to inspect the site. There are over 100 dogs on the site for which measures to restrict reproduction have not been implemented, and the number of puppies have been increasing. There was one old man in his 70's who has been caring for these dogs, but he has not been able to provide sufficient care, and the dogs are emaciated. The premise is full of garbage, and the space is very limited and cramped. For this reason, there are fights among these dogs, and some dogs die from injuries from fighting or get bitten to death. Others are left without care even if diseased, and the case was a typical case of neglect. The police are also concerned about this case, and the guidance provided by the government has strengthened after we inspected the site. However, the situation of the dogs have not been improved, and there was a need to restrict their reproduction and provide veterinary care. The owner of the dogs was acting like a typical animal hoarder and did not want to give up the ownership rights of these dogs. The only thing that the branch could do was to take the time to convince the owner to give up his rights and improve the environment for the animals with the consent of the owner. Luckily, there is already a certain level of rapport between the branch and the owner, and the owner is surrendering his ownership rights a little by little. We are currently spay/neutering the dogs with the support from the Headquarters.

The case is not only a case of neglect but is also a violation of the Rabies Prevention Act, and the person has been causing trouble in his neighborhood. Thus, we would like the government, who has the authorities to supervise and provide guidance, to take stronger measures. In addition, the branch strongly believes that there needs to be regulations not only for businesses but also for these private pet owners.

<写真キャプション>

Before treatment

Cat that has regained its health after treatment

1) Number of Animals Subsidized for Spaying/Neutering Operations (total number of dogs/cats = 179)

Dogs	Males	6	Cats	Males	64
	Females	11		Females	98
Total Number of Dogs		17	Total Number of Cats		162

2) Number of Dogs and Cats that were Adopted (total number of dogs/cats = 64)

Dogs	Males	14	Cats	Males	21
	Females	12		Females	17
Total Number of Dogs		26	Total Number of Cats		38

(Akiko Kawasaki, Head of Branch)

New Tokyo Branch

During fiscal year 2017, we adopted out 4 kittens.

The first two of these kittens came to us in June when they were roughly one month old. They were very friendly to people and well bonded with each other. However, immediately after they came to us, they had to be treated for urinary hemorrhage and bladder inflammation. The treatment was not effective, and we could not figure out the reason despite echography and blood tests. We had the kittens examined at a university veterinary hospital, and they were diagnosed with vesical bleeding. The hemorrhage worsened when they were stressed, so we medicated them with hemostatic agents and minimized their stress. We were able to get the cooperation of the faculty of Yamazaki School who announced to students and other stakeholders that the kittens were put up for adoptions, but we were worried because nobody came forward to adopt them. These kittens were not in perfect health, so we wanted somebody with a good understanding to adopt them. Time passed, and our anxiety was mounting. The cats were still vulnerable to stress, but in November, we decided to take the risk to have

Yamazaki Vocational School use these cats for their practicum. In a short time, vocational school students who wanted to adopt these cats came up. The students were both very understanding about the health condition of the kittens, so the staff members of the branch were comfortable about adopting these kittens out to them.

We received another set of two kittens during the autumn season in September. The two that were rescued before them were vulnerable to stress, so these new kittens were taken care of by the faculty of Yamazaki School on a different floor. These new kittens were afraid of people, and we struggled with them every day. In addition, one of the kittens had abnormalities in its ear and needed treatment. Since these kittens were afraid of people and one of them needed treatment, like the other two, it took a while to find new homes for them. All four kittens ended up spending time with us till 2018. After that, the two cats that were rescued first found homes, and the remaining two spent their time at the veterinary hospital. They continued to be afraid of people, so we tried keeping them apart from each other, and we had different people hold and play with the kittens to get them used to handling a bit by bit. Amidst this situation, we also had these kittens participate in adoption events and classes of the school. After a while, a student who was interested in adopting the kittens came up! The two ended up finding new homes. Their new owners report that they have now both gotten used to their new environment and are very friendly to people. We are grateful to the staff of the hospital and the saloon as well as the faculty of Yamazaki School who took their time to advertise to students. These individuals helped us spread the word regardless of whether they are members of JAWS or not. The adoption of these kittens were made possible because of the support we received from many people.

The cats we cared for this year all had issues, and it was difficult to proactively look for new homes for them. We were able to reconfirm that slowly creating an environment in which people can come and see and interact with the kittens facilitated the adoption process. The situation of each animal is different, and sometimes it is difficult to overcome the barriers, but we hope to increase the number of opportunities for people to come and actually interact with the animals.

#### 1) Number of Animals Subsidized for Spaying/Neutering Operations

Dogs	Males	0	Cats	Males	4
	Females	0		Females	2
Total Number of Dogs		0	Total Number of Cats		6

## 2) Number of Dogs and Cats that were Adopted

Dogs	Males	0	Cats	Males	2
	Females	0		Females	2
Total Number of Dogs		0	Total Number of Cats		4

(Rumi Inoue, Head of Branch)

## Yokohama Branch

Every third Sunday of the month, we host an adoption event from 10:00 AM. Every time, there are people wanting to adopt the animals who are waiting to get into the event from a little past 9:30 while we are still preparing. During fiscal year 2017, we adopted out 20 dogs and 91 cats. This is a total of 111 dogs and cats.

Recently, people say that cats are becoming very popular, and perhaps because of this trend, there are many who come to us who are getting cats for the first time. We were able to adopt out many cats by providing a thorough explanation on how adult cats are the easiest to keep for first-timers since they already have a set personality. Depending on the circumstances, we rent out cages to people adopting a cat for the first time or adopting a kitten. Among the many things you need for cats, we especially recommend owners to purchase a ready-to-assembly cage. These cages can be used to manage cats with diseases as individual compartments and are also convenient when a disaster strikes and you are evacuating with your pet.

People who come to surrender their animals at the adoption events have different reasons. For adult animals, reasons include moving to a place that does not allow pets and the inability for the owner to care for them due to being hospitalized for health reasons or moving to a nursing home because of old age. For adult cats, there are some cases in which the owners end up surrendering, because the cat was not spayed/neutered after being purchased from a pet store and multiplied in numbers.

Individuals who are involved in spaying/neutering or feeding community cats watch out for pregnant cats, get the newly born kittens used to people until they can easily be held, and bring these kittens to our adoption events.

Some ask us to put up for adoption kittens of stray cats that give birth in their gardens, because they are unable to keep cats in their homes. However, these individuals kindly take care of these kittens at their houses until we find new homes for them.

In Yokohama Branch, our adoption process is not on a first-come-first-served basis, but instead, we look at the home environment of those who request to adopt and consider against our assessment standards.

We also adopt out adult cats that test positive for feline immunodeficiency virus (FIV) upon thoroughly explaining the condition. We believe that these cats can live long healthy lives without developing the disease if they can lead stress-free lives as a part of a family with a comfortable living environment, lots of love, and appropriate understanding.

#### [A Day at the Adoption Event]

There are a total of 13 staff at the adoption event including the volunteer students from Yamazaki School and Nihon University. The dogs are leashed and positioned in the outdoor area, and the students take thorough care of them. The cats are in cages appropriate for their body sizes. Upon request, visitors can hold the cats that have been vaccinated. There are many visitors who come to the adoption event, so we set a time limit to control the flow of people. Some visitors appear like they want to stay longer when their time limit is up and they are asked to exit the rooms.

During this particular day, there was a father who came with his family who requested to hold an adult cat. Both the cat and the father seemed healed by each other's presence, and the case led to a successful adoption.

#### <写真キャプション>

Venue of the adoption event

Staff at the adoption event

Cats that found happy homes (1)

Cats that found happy homes (2)

1) Number of Animals Subsidized for Spaying/Neutering Operations (total number of dogs/cats = 162)

Dogs	Males	5	Cats	Males	61
	Females	6		Females	90
Total Number of Dogs		11	Total Number of Cats		151

2) Number of Dogs and Cats that were Adopted (total number of dogs/cats = 111)

Dogs	Males	10	Cats	Males	51
	Females	10		Females	40
Total Number of Dogs		20	Total Number of Cats		91

(Tetsuo Hyodo, Head of Branch)

#### Sagami Branch

As with previous years, the main activities of Sagami Branch for this fiscal year was the adoption events held jointly with Yokohama Branch, citizen education regarding spaying/neutering, and provision of subsidies to cover treatment expenses for animals without owners.

The central area of Kanagawa Prefecture, the base of our activities, used to be a mixture of pastoral areas with a lot of nature and newly developed residential areas, but recently there has been rapid development changing the area into an urban setting. With this change, we see less stray cats, but we believe that the cats have just found places to hide and that the actual number of stray cats have not decreased.

The reason behind our thinking is that we do not feel that the number of inquiries, such as requests for spaying/neutering cats or inquiries on how to trap cats, have not really decreased. We even get the impression that inquiries on issues, such as stray cats roaming in the premises of newly built apartments or people feeding cats in front of convenience stores, have actually increased in numbers.

If urban development continues, there may be more cases of conflict between humans and stray cats. The branch is considering exchanging information on this issue with other branches as well as sharing measures

and ideas to address these issues.

<写真キャプション>

Stray cat hospitalized for treatment

1) Number of Animals Subsidized for Spaying/Neutering Operations (total number of dogs/cats = 30)

Dogs	Males	0	Cats	Males	8
	Females	1		Females	21
Total Number of Dogs		1	Total Number of Cats		29

2) Number of Dogs and Cats that were Adopted (total number of dogs/cats = 1)

Dogs	Males	0	Cats	Males	1
	Females	0		Females	0
Total Number of Dogs		0	Total Number of Cats		1

(Hirofumi Sato, Head of Branch)

Nagano (Toshin) Branch

As previous years, Nagano Branch focused on adoption events, educational seminars, and spaying/neutering. This year, we got a strong impression that as we continued to engage ourselves in animal welfare activities, there seems to be an increase in the number of animal hoarding cases over the years.

We believe that this is an issue that reflects the social challenges of the current Japanese society as nuclear families increase in numbers and the society ages with a growing number of senior citizens living alone and/or getting isolated from society.

Nagano Branch has also received many inquiries on conflicts stemming from keeping a large number of animals. This year, we were able to liaise with the Headquarters as well as Tochigi Branch in cases of animal rescue at these hoarding sites which is an impressive part of our activities that merit reporting.

Because of the vertically divided animal-related governmental bodies, it is difficult to liaise with other prefectures (other branches). Amidst such circumstances, we were able to engage ourselves successfully because of the appropriate assistance of and requests for support sent out by the Headquarters. This is a result of the passion that JAWS staff and supporters share on “saving as many lives as possible,” and we thank everybody who has cooperated with our efforts.

We are hoping that this passion and network become strengths to change our society, and we will actively continue with our work.

#### Collaboration with the Government

- ◆ Adoption event held jointly by Saku Public Health Center and Saku Branch of the Aigokai (Nagano Prefecture Animal Welfare Association)  
Held twice a year (June and October); panel exhibition for citizen education also held at Saku Public Health Center simultaneously
- ◆ Adoption event and educational seminar held with the support of Hello Animal, the Animal Welfare Center of Nagano Prefecture  
Held adoption events and educational seminars  
[Content of seminar at the adoption event in June]  
Lecturer: Dr. Etsuko Oikawa, Head Veterinarian of the Department of Food and Public Health, Health and Welfare Bureau, Nagano Prefecture  
Lecture: “Current Situation of Animal Welfare in Nagano Prefecture and Future Challenges”  
[Content of seminar at the adoption event in November]  
Lecturer: Dr. Osamu Iizuka, Director of Hikarigaoka Animal Hospital Group  
Lecture: “Toward a ‘True Zero Euthanasia’ – Current Situation of Cats Put Down in Shelters”

#### <写真キャプション>

Animals that found happy homes

An animal hoarding site before cleaning → After cleaning

1) Number of Animals Subsidized for Spaying/Neutering Operations (total number of dogs/cats = 500)

Dogs	Males	9	Cats	Males	218
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	Females	12		Females	261
Total Number of Dogs		21	Total Number of Cats		479

2) Number of Dogs and Cats that were Adopted (total number of dogs/cats = 127)

Dogs	Males	12	Cats	Males	51
	Females	20		Females	44
Total Number of Dogs		32	Total Number of Cats		95

(Sumiko Tokuma, Head of Branch)

### Minami-Osaka Branch

“Stop the vicious cycle.”

This fiscal year, the number of animals that we provided subsidies for spaying/neutering increased from the previous fiscal year. This is an increase for two years in a row.

It is exciting that the office receives many applications for subsidies, but we are sometimes anxious about how much more the number is going to grow in the future and whether this is going to deplete our funding. At the same time, we are deeply grateful for the TNR activities that our members put efforts into and see how hard they must be working.

Recently, TNR has spread widely. The number of veterinarians who understand the activity has increased, and there are vet hospitals that would give you special rates. Even individuals who are not skilled in trapping the cats could ask for expert help. Things like this may be factors that are increasing the number of animals subsidized.

Even if the cats receive operations, the lives of cats living outdoors could be full of danger. For cats that are friendly to humans, they may be put up for adoption, but they may equally be victimized by humans. On the other hand, wary cats can protect themselves but will unlikely find new homes. It is hard to say which is better, but nonetheless, it is better to reduce the number of cats living outdoors.

We have made many accomplishments, but yet, we still do not feel that the number of cats have been reduced. We feel this way, because the

number of inquiries of animal hoarding caused by reproduction of the animals in private households has not decreased.

The majority of these cases involve individuals living alone regardless of age and gender. For these individuals, there is probably nobody who slams their brakes. It is frustrating that these people do not feel that they are causing difficulties for themselves by keeping 20-30 animals alone under financially tight situations. Some of these individuals are on welfare.

It is the job of the government to visit the site and provide appropriate guidance upon reports from neighbors that note the foul odor or the noise of the animals.

Secondary damage can be done by the government completely relying on the private sector to do the clean-up work because of all of the food and veterinary care expenses that have to be borne by whoever cleans up the aftermath. In reality there are already a number of private organizations that suffered these consequences.

In order to prevent this vicious cycle, there needs to be a system of collaboration between the public and private sectors so that it is the government who proactively provides guidance and the private sector cooperates where possible.

➤ Collaboration with the Government

- Osaka Prefecture Animal Welfare Promotion Council
- Osaka City Animal Welfare Promotion Association
- Osaka Prefecture Animal Welfare Promoter Workshop
- Sakai City Animal Welfare Fair
- Subsidization of part of the expenses for spaying/neutering of dogs and cats adopted from Osaka Prefecture
- Memorial service of dogs and cats that were put down
- Adoption events for dogs and cats and obedience classes at public health centers of core cities as public-private partnership initiatives; “Obedience Classes for Dogs” of Osaka Prefecture

➤ PR Activities

We launched a campaign for the prevention of animal abuse, looked for new homes for animals, did fundraising activities, and held a bazaar at Nakanoshima Festival.

➤ Telephone Inquiries 190 cases

<写真キャプション>

Cat that is happily asleep

Cats peering out from the veranda of an empty house

Stray cats in a park

1) Number of Animals Subsidized for Spaying/Neutering Operations (total number of dogs/cats = 1,282; includes the cases of Osaka Prefecture)

Dogs	Males	48	Cats	Males	349
	Females	57		Females	828
Total Number of Dogs		105	Total Number of Cats		1,177

2) Number of Dogs and Cats that were Adopted (total number of dogs/cats = 353)

Dogs	Males	62	Cats	Males	89
	Females	133		Females	69
Total Number of Dogs		195	Total Number of Cats		158

(Chizu Yamai, Head of Branch)

VII REPORTS ON FINANCIAL AFFAIRS  
(For the Annual Report of Fiscal Year 2017)

1) Situation of Assets (unit: 1,000 JPY)

	FY 2017	FY 2016
Cash equivalent	29,370	19,233
Supplies	758	712
Other current assets	948	950
Fixed assets	166,083	179,243
Special assets	164,910	178,014
Others	1,173	1,173
Total assets	197,241	200,138
Total debt	6,663	8,505
Net assets	190,578	191,633

- Our net asset at the end of this fiscal year is 195,000,000 JPY which is a million JPY decrease.
- Our cash equivalent increased by 10,000,000 JPY due two cases of large donations from the public.
- We reached into 10,000,000 JPY of the Fund for the Prevention of Abandonment of Dogs and Cats and 4,000,000 JPY of the Animal Rescue Fund which led to a decrease of 13,000,000 JPY in the special assets. 136,000,000 JPY of the special assets is restricted net assets.
- JAWS plans to use its special assets mainly for animal welfare activities from FY 2018.

2) Situation on Income and Expenditure (unit: 1,000 JPY)

	FY 2017	FY 2016
Balance brought forward from the previous account	191,633	194,072
Income from membership fee	31,444	29,903
Income from donation	68,539	89,902
Income from fundraising	6,155	5,865
Other income	5,712	4,723
Total income	303,483	324,465

Operating expense	93,372	110,424
General expense	35,082	36,386
Business expense	58,290	74,038
Management expense	10,247	9,329
Expenses for fundraising, etc.	9,285	13,078
Total expense	112,904	132,832
Balance to bring forward into the next account	190,578	191,633

- Our overall income decreased by 18,540,000 JPY.
- Our income from membership fee increased by 1,500,000 JPY due to factors such as the increase in the number of associate members. For donations, we received two cases of donation of legacies from the public, and our income from public donation increased by 26,300,000 JPY. We did not receive any large specified donations, so our total income from donations decreased by 21,360,000 JPY.
- Our overall expenditure decreased by 19,900,000 JPY.
- As for our operating expenses, our animal rescue expenses decreased by 10,600,000 JPY. As with previous years, we also launched the Campaign for the Subsidization of Spaying/Neutering Operations of Stray Dogs and Cats and subsidized 30,800,000 JPY. Our PR expenses decreased by 5,500,000 JPY.
- Expenses for fundraising includes expenses such as those for the bingo party and decreased by 3,800,000 JPY.

#### Budget for the Fiscal Year 2018

(unit: 1,000 JPY)

Balance brought forward from the previous account	190,578
Income from membership fee	31,000
Income from donation	40,000
Income from fundraising	5,500
Other income	5,200
Total income	81,700
Expenses for animal welfare activities	91,600

General expense	39,100
Business expense	52,500
Management expense	11,000
Expenses for fundraising, etc.	10,100
Total expense	112,700
Balance to bring forward into the next account	159,578

- For fiscal year 2018, JAWS expects a decrease in the income from donation but is planning to continue to place an emphasis on its animal welfare activities such as animal rescue, subsidization of spaying/neutering operations, the essay contest, etc.
- JAWS will continue to increase the number of members to create a stronger foundation for its activities and would like to further expand its animal welfare activities.