

Giving is a big part of life for John and Shelley. He reckons that his own start in life has made him particularly keen to help others. "I was orphaned in New York City at age two," he explains. "I lived in foster homes until I was four. I was adopted and brought back to Georgia by my real father's sister."

With the adoption and the move, John gained a family and an opportunity. "I could have spent the rest of my young life in an orphanage at a time when orphanages were not the best places to be, but instead I was given a chance to do something else," he explains. "Everyone needs a chance. I had mine. Shelley had hers and maybe we can give that chance to someone else."

Charity Begins Near Home

The generosity of their customers who buy their products makes charitable efforts possible, explains John. He and Shelley contribute to Shriners Hospital in Tampa, FL, and Paul

Newman's Hole in the Wall Gang Camp, as well as to animal shelters.

Just in the last 18 months, EnviroSpec has shipped 12,500 pounds of dog food to shelters throughout the nation. The food was "much-needed," says John, and he and Shelley were happy to be able to lend a helping hand.

Suzie's Friends Animal Sanctuary is named for the stray dog that showed up in 2002, a dog that a veterinarian determined had been dragging one of her front legs for two years. After the leg was amputated, Suzie stayed and the shelter began. "Shelley said, 'We have to build this animal shelter,'" explains John. She is the force behind it today.

"People will detour [from travel routes] to visit Suzie's Friends," says John. He and Shelley welcome the visitors. Over 99 percent of funding the sanctuary derives from profits from EnviroSpec. The sanctuary operates without volunteers. Employees of EnviroSpec begin their day early

by helping with cleaning and caring for animals.

John and Shelley start each day at five A.M. They get up that early every day to feed and care for five colonies of 75 cats living in their home's surrounding neighborhoods.

Strong advocates for spaying and neutering cats and dogs, John and Shelley want to see a world where every cat and dog can one day have a home. "We have spayed/neutered over 2000 animals in the last five years," says John.

By seven A.M., John and Shelley are replying to e-mail messages. At eight A.M., they both go to their offices. "Shelley handles the money end, and I handle the marketing, engineering, production, etc.," explains John. At five P.M., they go back to the woods and feed the cat colonies. Viewing "Wheel of Fortune" and "Jeopardy" constitutes the evening's entertainment for John and Shelley before Shelley heads off to



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