



SAVE OUR STRAYS OF HUNTINGTON BEACH

# Stray News

Issue #22

Fall 2006

*SOSHB is a non-profit organization dedicated to improving the lives of lost and stray pets of Huntington Beach.*

## Pancake Breakfast in the Park 7<sup>th</sup> Annual Fundraiser – September 16, 2006

It's time again for our annual pancake breakfast! So, bring your family and friends (two-legged and four-legged) to the seventh annual SOSHB pancake breakfast in Lake Park (off Lake St. between 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> Sts.) from 8:00am to Noon on Saturday, September 16, 2006.



This year, some of our raffle prizes include:

- Passes to Disneyland
- Club 33/Disneyland privileges for 5
- A Trader Joe's gift bag
- Free Night's stay at the Waterfront Hilton
- Dinner at the Lazy Dog Café
- Gift certificates to dry cleaners, restaurants, hair salons and much, much more!

Raffle tickets for these terrific prizes will be sold throughout the morning.

Stop by and visit with some of our vendors like the animal communicator, dog groomer, dog apparel and other vendors with great pet related products and services.

Also, Orange County Animal Care Services and the Orange County Humane Society will hold pet adoptions for some wonderful dogs and cats who need a loving home.

The cost for all this fun is still only \$7 per person, payable at the "door". Come early to get your raffle tickets, the longer you are there, the better your chances to win one (or more) of the great prizes. For more details, visit our website at [www.SaveOurStrays.org](http://www.SaveOurStrays.org) or email [SaveOurStraysHB@aol.com](mailto:SaveOurStraysHB@aol.com) or call 714-442-1446.



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*Our goal in life should be to be as good of a person as our pets already think we are.*

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## Leaving Your Pet In a Parked Car Can Be a Deadly Mistake

As we approach summer and those hot California days, it's a good time to remind pet owners that we must keep our pets safe from the heat. All too often, dogs die a horrible, painful death due to the carelessness of their supposed caretakers. In confronting those who risk their pet's lives by leaving them in a hot vehicle, the number one excuse given is "I was only in the store a few minutes". Well, a few minutes is all it takes!

On a warm day, the temperature in your car can reach 160° in a matter of minutes, even with the windows partially open.

With only hot air to breathe, your pet can quickly suffer brain damage or die from heat stroke.

The Humane Society of the United States warns: When its hot-leave your pet at home!

Open windows, shaded parking areas or air conditioned cars with the motor off won't save your pet's life.

Also remember that the metal beds of pick-up trucks get very hot and can burn your dog's feet. Make sure you have a cover over the hot metal.

In addition, be sure you know the signs of heat stress: heavy panting, glazed eyes, rapid pulse rate, dizziness, vomiting, or a deep red or purple tongue.

If your dog becomes overheated, get him into the shade and take these emergency steps:

- Apply ice packs or cold towels to the head, neck and chest.
- Don't give an unlimited amount of cold water. Let him lick ice cubes or even ice cream.
- Get the dog to a veterinarian immediately. It could save your pet's life.



## THANKS to our Sponsors & Patrons!

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## SOSHB Membership Information

Save Our Strays offers numerous membership levels. *To join or renew*, please use the form below. Your membership expiration date appears on the address label of the SOSHB newsletter.

### INDIVIDUAL MEMBERSHIP \$15

Includes a year's subscription to *Stray News* and discounts at SOSHB events throughout the year.

### FAMILY MEMBERSHIP \$25

Includes a year's subscription to *Stray News* and discounts for the whole family at SOSHB events throughout the year.

### PATRON \$50

Patrons receive all the benefits of a Family Membership and are listed in *Stray News* and on the SOSHB website.

### SPONSOR

Sponsors receive all the benefits of a Family Membership and are listed in *Stray News* and on the SOSHB website.

Four levels of sponsorship exist:

<b>Sponsor</b>	<b>\$100</b>	<b>Gold Sponsor</b>	<b>\$500</b>
<b>Silver Sponsor</b>	<b>\$250</b>	<b>Platinum Sponsor</b>	<b>\$1000</b>

## SOSHB Membership/Order Form

Use this form to pay SOS dues and/or to order shirts & frames.

### Membership:

- Individual \$15  
 Family \$25  
 Patron \$50
- Sponsor \$100  
 Silver Sponsor \$250  
 Gold Sponsor \$500  
 Platinum Sponsor \$1000

### T-Shirts:

- \$10 member  \$15 non-member  
Select T-shirt color:  White  Grey  
# of shirts requested in each size: \_\_\_M \_\_\_L \_\_\_XL \_\_\_XXL

### Crewneck Sweatshirts:

- \$20 member  \$25 non-member  
# of shirts requested in each size: \_\_\_M \_\_\_L \_\_\_XL \_\_\_XXL  
Available in several shades of pure white.

### Hooded Sweatshirt:

- \$25 member  \$30 non-member  
# of shirts requested in each size: \_\_\_L \_\_\_XL \_\_\_XXL  
Available in Westie White, Bichon White or Samoyed White.

### License Plate Frames:

- 1 for \$5  2 for \$8  
SOSHB will not mail frames. Call 714-442-1446 to arrange pick-up.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City/State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Email (optional): \_\_\_\_\_

Phone (optional): \_\_\_\_\_

**Total Amount Enclosed:** \$ \_\_\_\_\_ (Add \$5 per shirt for shipping/handling, or call 714-442-1446 for pick-up.)

Mail this form with your money order or check (payable to SOSHB) to:

**Save Our Strays of Huntington Beach**  
P.O. Box 4083  
Huntington Beach, CA 92605-4083

*Stray News* is published quarterly as a newsletter for members of SOSHB. You may reach *Stray News* at:

**Save Our Strays of Huntington Beach**  
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# Keeping Your Cat Happy Indoors

While many cats enjoy being outside where they can hunt prey and explore their surroundings, it's a myth that going outside is a requirement for feline happiness. Playing regularly with a cat easily satisfies her stalking instinct, keeps her stimulated, and provides the exercise she needs to stay healthy and happy.

Here are some tips for safely confining your cat and making the great indoors an interesting, feline-friendly environment that meets all of your cat's needs.

- Start young. Kittens who are kept indoors usually show no desire to venture outside when they grow up.
- Provide a screened porch or other safe way for your cat to experience the outdoors. Consider building or purchasing a "cat fence" or similar enclosure..
- If you live in a peaceful neighborhood in which you can walk without encountering loose dogs, consider buying a harness and training your cat to walk on a leash.
- Install a perch near a sunny window; padded perches can be purchased at many pet supply stores or through catalog retailers.
- Buy a ready-made cat tree (often called a "kitty condo"), or make your own.
- Play with your cat each day. Try different types of toys that recreate "fishing," "chasing," and "flying" prey. And leave "toys" such as paper bags and cardboard boxes out when you are not home.
- Give your cat a feline friend—they can provide one another with companionship and entertainment.
- Plant cat grass (available from pet supply stores) in indoor pots so your feline can graze.
- Clean the litter box regularly.

Even cats who are protected from roaming free should still be outfitted with a collar and visible identification. The occasional open window (make sure your windows have secure screens) or door offers a tempting opportunity for your cat to explore the outdoors. your house or if there is a fire or similar disaster. The collar and visible ID could help someone get your pet back to you. For extra insurance, consider having your cat microchipped.



Pets are not our whole life,  
but they make our lives whole.

– Roger Caras



# Spay/Neuter/Microchip Program Update

As most of you know, Save Our Strays sponsors a low-cost spay/neuter/microchip program for residents of Huntington Beach. We are able to offer this service because of a grant from the City of Huntington Beach. Since May 2003, when the program began, it has grown each year. This year, we expect to hit a milestone. We will likely spay/neuter our 200<sup>th</sup> pet and microchip our 500<sup>th</sup> dog or cat.

This is indeed some exciting news as this is one of the important goals of SOSHB. Pet overpopulation is an issue in which we can ALL have an impact. We strongly encourage EVERY pet guardian to spay and neuter their pets. What is interesting is that we have done twice as many spays as we have neuters. Is this because some believe that male dogs and cats do not need to be altered? Putting the pet overpopulation issue aside (albeit it is an important one), male animals should be altered for purely health reasons. Some forms of cancer which are prevalent in male dogs and cats are directly attributed to the lack of sterilization.

By microchipping all your pets, the chance of a lost loved one being returned to you increases dramatically.

These services are offered to residents at a significantly reduced rate. Our spay/neuter program requires only a \$30 co-payment (paid directly to the veterinarian). If the resident is a Medicare or MediCal recipient, the co-payment is only \$5. By offering these services at a discount, some pet guardians who would otherwise be unable to afford these services, can now take advantage of them. Our microchip identification is available for a co-payment amount of only \$5 to all residents.

Working together, we can have a positive impact on the number of animals who are euthanized each year and reduce the number of animals entering our shelter system. If you would like more information about this program, please call us at 714-442-1446 or email [SaveOurStraysHB@aol.com](mailto:SaveOurStraysHB@aol.com).

## Calendar of Events

Mark your calendar! Events are held in Huntington Beach unless otherwise noted. For more information about events, call SOSHB at 714-442-1446.

**Sep 9 Volunteer Meeting** – 10:00am  
*Del Mar Mobile Estates Clubhouse*  
19251 Brookhurst Street  
(between Garfield and Yorktown)

**Sep 16 Pancake Breakfast in the Park**  
*Lake Park* – 8:00am-12:00pm

**Nov 11 Volunteer Meeting** – 10:00am

**Dec Pet Photos with Santa Claws**  
Location TBD

For more information or volunteer opportunities, visit our website at [www.SaveOurStraysHB.org](http://www.SaveOurStraysHB.org) or call 714-442-1446.

# Dog Food and Nutrition – People Foods: Are They Safe?

– from [www.DogAge.com](http://www.DogAge.com)

There is much controversy over what dogs should eat for canine health, proper nutrition and wellness. Some groups believe that feeding dogs raw red meat and bones is the best; some groups believe natural homemade dog food is best; others will claim any dog food will do.

DogAge recommends sticking to mostly a dog food diet to ensure proper nutrition for all stages of your dog's life. Dogs are omnivorous—they enjoy meat and vegetables. To ensure that your dog receives the proper nutrients, choose a dog food that states it provides a 100% complete and balanced diet.

DogAge advises against feeding your dog raw meat, due to the risk of bacteria and cysts that might be present in uncooked meat. Dogs who eat mostly table scraps or homemade dog foods tend to consume too much fat and not enough nutrition, and therefore have older DogAges.

Some people foods, however, are OK for dogs in moderation (no more than 10% of the total diet) such as:

- *Vegetables* – Most veggies are OK for dogs, either raw or cooked. Stay away from onions and garlic because they can cause anemia in dogs.
- *Rice and pasta* – Low in fat and calories, these foods make great treats. Use these to add some bulk for weight control diets.
- *Cooked meats without bones* – Small amounts of cooked red meat

may be OK when fed occasionally and in moderation. Remember that cooked meats can be high in fat and do not contain the proper balance of nutrients your dog requires.

- *Dairy products* – Dairy products, such as cottage cheese, low-fat yogurt, and hard-boiled eggs are OK when fed in moderation.
- *Fruits* – Dogs will eat both fresh and dried fruits. Stick with apples, berries, bananas, and seedless watermelon. Don't let your dog eat too much! Too much fruit may upset your dog's digestive system.

## **Foods to keep away from your dog are:**

- *Sweets* – Under any circumstances, DO NOT let your dog eat chocolate. The chemical theobromine contained in chocolate is toxic to canines and even in small amounts can prove to be fatal.
- *Uncooked red meat and bones* – Uncooked meats may contain harmful bacteria, parasites, and cysts, which may make your dog sick. Bones may be dangerous because they can splinter and puncture your dog's gastrointestinal tract.
- *Chicken and turkey bones* are a potential hazard for your pooch. These small bones can splinter and puncture the stomach or intestines, or cause choking.
- *Grapes and raisins* can be toxic to canines if eaten in large amounts.
- *Onions and garlic* can cause anemia in dogs.



ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED