



SAVE OUR STRAYS OF HUNTINGTON BEACH

Stray News

Issue #42

Fall 2011

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

Holiday Pet Safety Tips

A few holiday reminders for those with pets.

- Don't give chocolate to pets. It contains theobromine, which is poisonous to pets.
- Don't decorate with mistletoe or poinsettia plants. These plants are poisonous to pets – especially the mistletoe berries.
- No table scraps. High calorie/fatty foods can cause life-threatening pancreatitis.
- Don't use tinsel. It is dangerous if eaten.
- Move glass ornaments out of pets' reach.
- Put the meds away. Consumption by pets is the most common holiday-related emergency.
- When you leave the room, put the candles out. They can be knocked over causing a fire and curious cats can get burned.
- At New Years, be alert to noise-makers and confetti. Pets can become frightened and bolt out an open door or window. Ingested confetti can wreak havoc on the digestive track.

If you suspect your pet has eaten something harmful, seek immediate medical attention.

(Note: This article is informational only. It does not pertain to the specifics of any particular animal's care or condition, nor is it a substitute for professional veterinary evaluation and care. Consult a veterinary professional if you have concerns about your pet's health).



Pets and Pancakes in the Park in 2011

Save Our Strays' 11th Annual Pancake Breakfast in the Park was once again a HUGE success. The event was held September 17 at Lake Park in Huntington Beach. We raised almost \$3500 for our cause!

We served breakfast to over 250 guests and their four-legged companions. Guests enjoyed pancakes, sausage, garden burgers, fruit, bagels, muffins, croissants, orange juice and Starbucks coffee. Thank you to Tom De Sena and Tiffany's Restaurant of Anaheim for donating the yummy cinnamon rolls.

Mayor Joe Carchio and Councilmembers Devin Dwyer and Joe Shaw stopped by to enjoy breakfast and the festivities.

The raffle was once again the hit of the event and raised the most

Is Your Cat Allergic to Plastic Bowls?



Cats, like humans, are subject to many different allergies

Cats can obtain allergies from various sources, like pollen from weeds, trees and grass. One of the most common allergen contributors for cats is the plastic contained in their food bowls.

Prevention – Knowing how plastic affects some cats is key in preventing conditions and symptoms arising from the allergy. As a preventative method, owners should feed cats in metal or ceramic bowls instead of plastic ones.

Symptoms – Symptoms of plastic allergies include excessive itching, scratching and rubbing of surfaces. Cats may be seen licking their paws excessively. All of the aforementioned causes the skin to become raw and possibly infected if not properly treated.

Condition – Feline Eosinophilic Granuloma is a common allergen-related condition seen in cats that are fed out of plastic food bowls. Once a cat contracts this condition, it, like most allergies, is subject to return multiple times throughout its lifetime.

Treatment – Treatment of allergen conditions like Feline Eosinophilic Granuloma usually involves antibiotics and injections. Veterinarians also recommend a change in the cat's diet to include more fatty acids which act as a barrier on the cat's skin.

Natural Remedy – Natural remedies, like PetAlive Wound Doctor, are also popular treatments for skin allergies caused by plastic; however, with any natural remedy, owners should always consult with their veterinarian before using unfamiliar remedies.

money. Elizabeth Takeuchi was the lucky winner of the beautiful pearl necklace donated by PearlParadise.com. Our vendors shared their merchandise and information with attendees: Anamalia, California Greyhound Adoption Program, Dogma Pet Portraits, Dogs World Collars and Leashes, German Shepherd Rescue of Orange County, Laura's Natural Images, Stella & Chewy's Pet Food and Waggin' Tails Leash Holders.

An adorable little black dog found a forever home with one of our vendor reps. German Shepherd Rescue received three adoption applications and one of their pups went to a loving home.

Lots and wags and purrs go out to our attendees, sponsors and vendors. An extra special thank you to our volunteers who

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Keeping Your Membership Current

When we mail you your newsletter, we have a date just below your name. If your date is highlighted, it means it's time to renew your S.O.S. membership. Your membership fees help to cover printing and mailing costs of the newsletter and misc. other fliers throughout the year.

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:

Sponsor	\$100	Gold Sponsor	\$500
Silver Sponsor	\$250	Platinum Sponsor	\$1000
Diamond Sponsor	\$5000		

SOSHB Membership/Order Form

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

- Membership:**
- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Individual \$15 | <input type="checkbox"/> Sponsor \$100 |
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- 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.

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

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Save Our Strays of Huntington Beach
PO Box 4083
Huntington Beach, CA 92605
SaveOurStraysHB@aol.com
www.SaveOurStraysHB.org
(714) 442-1446

Karen Chepeka, Editor
Ann Kennedy, Layout

For article suggestions email
 SaveOurStraysHB@aol.com

SOSHB Board of Directors

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Heartbreak at Home

Save Our Strays received the heartbreaking email on 10/15/11. Jenny's mother Debbie had become disabled and was losing her home and forced to move. She had received an eviction notice and had to move within a couple of weeks.

She had a fourteen year old cat named Buddy, a nine year old lab mix named Tyler and a seven year old Dalmatian named Andrew. She had found an inexpensive apartment not too far away but they did not accept dogs and she could not afford the \$1000 pet deposit that would allow her to bring fourteen year old Buddy.

Foster or permanent homes were urgently needed for all three pets.

Jenny had contacted several rescues about Tyler and was given a flat-out NO because he is a 9 year old dime-a-dozen solid black lab mix and would be very hard to place regardless of his sweet personality. She had spoken with the OC animal shelter in Orange and they said a dog of his breed, age and color would have very little chance of adoption and they currently tend to spend resources and space on more adoptable animals - AKA he would probably be an immediate put-down upon relinquishment. She asked everyone she knew and nobody could take him in, not even temporarily.

Andrew, the Dalmatian, had been accepted by a Dalmatian rescue but at the last minute Jenny was told that they already had too many senior Dalmatians.

The situation looked very bleak for these senior pets. Jenny's other Debbie was in pieces over the thought of giving up her beloved pets and where would they go.

Save Our Strays immediately sent out an urgent email plea for donations towards the pet deposit that would allow Buddy to stay with his Mom. We also asked for any foster or permanent homes for Tyler and Andrew.

Donations started to pour in from our generous members. We had reached almost \$400 when the news came that the apartment Debbie was supposed to move into had been rented to a couple of newlyweds who had no pets. She would have to move into a low-income apartment which did not allow any pets at all.

Responses had started to come in about the dogs. At last, finally some good news. Andrew had found a potentially permanent, forever home. The possible adopter was bringing her dog over to meet Andrew and if all went well, he was going to that special home. She had just lost a senior Dalmatian and was used to the breed. The meeting went better than expected and Andrew went to the perfect home for him.

Buddy now needed to find a home. A woman in West Covina responded to the email blast. She rescues senior and special needs kitties and offered to take in Buddy. What fabulous news!

Buddy had a drooling issue and hadn't been to the vet for some time so he was taken to the vet prior to going to his new home. It turned out he had an ear infection and an allergy to plastic food bowls, which accounted for his drooling and inflamed mouth area. After blood and urine tests were done, he was actually pretty healthy for a 14 year old cat. The funds collected for the pet deposit were used to cover the vet bill for him.

Tyler was the remaining dog searching for that home. Susan Hattabaugh, a long time member and volunteer with Save Our Strays, offered to foster him until a permanent home was found. As it turned out, that permanent home was not that far away. Her neighbor and friend, Craig Hutcher, had a Golden Retriever named Dakota, who he had been thinking about getting a friend. He heard about Tyler's plight and offered to give it a try. The first meeting between Dakota and Tyler went well and Tyler was accepted into his new



Dakota and Tyler

home. Very quickly, Dakota and Tyler have become fast friends and are now inseparable.

Not all situations end as well this one but this ending is one that we can all be grateful and proud of. The networking done by Save Our Strays members is so important in these situations and can make the difference in the outcome.

Wags and purrs to all of you who made donations and networked for these precious babies. We are so happy at how this turned out and it could not have happened without your support!

IN LOVING MEMORY

Gone But Not Forgotten

Save Our Strays received a donation from the Bolton family in remembrance of their dear friend Linda Wright, who recently passed away. She was very special to the family and will be greatly missed.

Dayton and Bobbie La Grua also made a donation in memory of their beloved Baby Luv who crossed the Rainbow Bridge on July 18, 2011. Baby Luv was regular participant in the Wiener Nationals as one of the fastest dachshunds. She was also featured in a book called Tinker's Tails and a movie called "Wiener Takes All". She attended many of the Save Our Strays pancake breakfasts and was a huge supporter.

Our thoughts are with the families in this difficult time.

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worked SO hard to bring it all together: Lien, Andy, Chris and Leeann Acevado, Hank, Anna and Taylor Beach, Will and Desiree Beaver, David and Anthony Berardi, Karen Chepeka, Leslie and Madison Correia, Linda and Randy Crossley, Warren Dubrow, Loretta Fleming, Susan Hattabaugh, Jennifer and Alex Jackson, Patti Johnson, Ann Kennedy, Pamela Meadows, Evelyn Oynebraaten, Judy Philpot, Heather Rogers, Barbara Schmitzer and Elizabeth Takeuchi.

A sincere thanks to all our sponsors: Anamalia, Andrews Square Vet Clinic, Aquarium of the Pacific, Armstrong Garden Centers, Beach Boulevard Pet Hospital, Beef Palace Butcher Shop, BJ's Restaurants, Buca Di Beppo, Captain Dave's Dolphin Safari, Cut N Dry Mobile Pet Grooming, D&M Dogs World, DeSimone Deli & Bakery, Disneyland, Dog's Day Out, Dogma Pet Portraits, Earthquake Management, Einstein Bagels, Fountain Bowl, Golden Spoon, HAPA Collective, Harvey's Steakhouse, Hilton Waterfront Beach Resort, Hyatt Regency HB, JT's Bagel Co., K1 Speed, L.A. Dodgers, Laura's Natural Images, Legoland, Lia Sophia, Mario's Restaurant, Maureen Eckhardt, Medieval Times, Mimi's Café, Pawsh Wash, Pearl Paradise, Pet Food Warehouse, Pet Supply HB, Salon Shanti, Salt Water Licks, San Diego Zoo/Safari Park, Sandy's Beach Grill, Santa Ana Zoo, Sea World, Silpada, Starbucks, Stella & Chewy's Pet Food, Supercuts, Surf City Dog Spaw, Susan Petrone, The Laguna Playhouse, The Lazy Dog Café, The Loft Hawaiian Grill, Tiffany's Restaurant, Trader Joes, Truwest, and Waggin' Tails.

New friends, new homes — why we do what we do...



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