



SAVE OUR STRAYS OF HUNTINGTON BEACH

Stray News

Issue #46

Fall 2012

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

2012 in Review

Dear Friends and Supporters,

This year has been a busy year for Save Our Strays. We are so grateful to all our members, volunteers, sponsors and donors who supported us throughout the year and helped us achieve some milestones.

We provided spay/neuter assistance to over 120 dogs, cats and bunnies (23 of which were pregnant at the time of alteration). While we cannot say with certainty how many unwanted puppies, kittens and bunnies were prevented from being born, it is obviously significant.

We assisted more than 40 families with veterinary medical assistance for their pets. Without this assistance, these pets would not have received treatment and likely would not be the healthy, happy pets they are today.

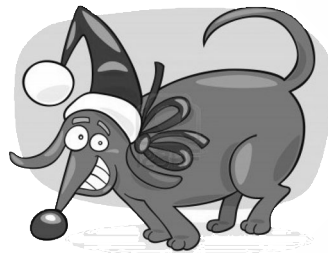
We spoke at Huntington Beach City Council meetings regarding the "puppy mill" ordinance. In 2014, pet stores in Huntington Beach will no longer be allowed to sell puppies and kittens bred from commercial breeding centers. They can only sell animals from shelters or rescue organizations. We also spoke out against the killing of coyotes in Huntington Beach. While the City Council did not make a decision at the November 19 meeting, we expect this issue to come again before the newly elected Council and that there will be a positive outcome for the wildlife in Huntington Beach.

With the new animal-friendly City Council in place, we expect that animal issues in our community will be taken seriously and given thoughtful consideration. Some of the existing Council has promised to be on the lookout for appropriate sites for a Huntington Beach animal shelter, which is the primary goal of Save Our Strays.

We are able to do what we do because of your support and dedication.

Happy Holidays and wags and purrs to you and your families (including the four-legged ones)!!

Karen Chepeka
President



Letter from a Friend

Dear Save Our Strays,

Thank you for your recent donation to my Pomeranian, Lauren. I know your organization usually only donates to the Huntington Beach area but I am so glad you took a chance and donated to us. She is scheduled for treatment and will be her healthy doggy self again! Words cannot describe how thankful I am for your contribution. If you ever need volunteers, Lauren and I would be more than happy to help.



xoxo,
Crystal Navarrete and Lauren

IN LOVING MEMORY

Gone But Not Forgotten

A donation was made by Tatiana Freitas to Save Our Strays in memory of Barbara Fischer, a true animal advocate. For more than a decade, Barb gave of her time, talents and pocketbook to improve the lives of the animals at the Orange County Humane Society in Huntington Beach (contracts with Newport Beach and Costa Mesa). She walked, socialized and fostered dogs. She also transported them to be groomed and paid for needed surgeries. As an experienced volunteer, she trained and mentored dozens of new volunteers. In addition, she purchased beds, blankets, sweaters, collars, leashes and special food for the animals to improve their kennel life. The animal community has suffered a great loss. She will be greatly missed by her friends and volunteers at the shelter and the dozens of animals who have no idea that they owe their lives to her efforts.

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 helps to cover printing and mailing costs of the newsletter and misc. other fliers throughout the year.

Stray News - Publishing Info

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

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THANKS to our Sponsors & Patrons!

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SOSHB Membership Information

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.

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.

SPONSOR

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

- 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

NEW T-Shirts: \$15 member \$20 non-member

Select T-shirt color: Purple Navy Turquoise

of shirts requested in each size: ___M ___L ___XL ___XXL

Crewneck Sweatshirts: \$20 member \$25 non-member

Select color: White Grey

of shirts requested in each size: ___M ___L ___XL ___XXL

Hooded Sweatshirt: \$25 member \$30 non-member

Select color: White Grey

of shirts requested in each size: ___L ___XL ___XXL

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

Easy Tips for a Pet Safe Holiday Season

There's nothing more scrumptious than gathering with friends and family for the holidays, but many of the ingredients in the human fun can result in distress for pets. As we kick off this season of lights, parties and yummy treats, we want to remind pet parents of the potential hazards certain goodies and décor can pose to our furry friends.

Avoid Too Much of a Good Thing

While the holidays are a time for giving, there are some foods you should not share with your furry friends. A taste of mashed potato or a lick of pumpkin pie shouldn't pose a problem. However, alcoholic beverages, coffee, onions, fatty foods, yeast dough and macadamia nuts can all lead to stomach upset, diarrhea or even worse—an inflammatory condition of the pancreas known as pancreatitis. A special no-no is chocolate, which if ingested can lead to death. And you may want to skip sharing the turkey-poultry bones can splinter and cause blockages.

Put the Meds Away

One of the most common holiday-related emergencies is the consumption of human pharmaceuticals. Make sure all your medications are securely locked away, and be sure to tell your guests to keep their meds zipped up and packed away, too.

That Holiday Glow

When you leave the room, put the candles out! Animals can easily knock lit candles over, causing a fire, and curious cats are particularly at risk of getting burned by candle flames. Also, be sure to use appropriate candle holders, placed on stable surfaces.

Decorations Can Be Dangerous

Holiday decorations such as breakable ornaments, string, ribbon and dreidels should be kept out of paws' reach. These traditional decorations can cause choking or severe intestinal problems if swallowed. All holiday light strands, loose wires and electric cords can also pose serious dangers to your pet, especially puppies, who can chew on them.

Go Tinsel-less

Kitties love this sparkly, light-catching "toy" that's easy to bat around and carry in their mouths. But a nibble can lead to a swallow, which can lead to obstructed digestive tract, severe vomiting, dehydration and possible surgery. It's best to brighten your boughs with something other than tinsel.

Forgo the Flowers

Be careful with holiday floral arrangements. Lilies are commonly used this time of year and all varieties, including Tiger, Asian, Japanese Show, Stargazer and Casa Blanca can cause kidney failure in cats. Poinsettia plants are also poisonous to pets. In addition, common Yuletide plants such as mistletoe and holly berries can be potentially toxic to pets. Holly, when ingested, can cause pets to suffer nausea, vomiting and diarrhea. Mistletoe can cause gastrointestinal upset and cardiovascular problems. Safe alternatives include artificial flowers made from silk or plastic.

Oh, Christmas Tree

Cats often see trees as fabulous climbing posts. Be sure to securely anchor your tree so it doesn't tip and fall, causing possible injury to your pet. Also keep in mind that tree water may contain fertilizers that can cause stomach upset if ingested. Stagnant tree water can also act as a breeding ground for bacteria, and, if ingested, a pet may suffer nausea, vomiting and diarrhea.

New Year's Noise

As you count down to New Year, be alert to any pet hazards such as noise-makers and confetti. Noise-makers can frighten your pets, causing them to bolt out an open door or window. Confetti, if ingested, can wreak havoc on the digestive tract.



Holiday Travel

Before traveling with your pets by car or plane, make sure they have all the required vaccinations and are wearing identification tags and/or are microchipped. If you are traveling by car, be sure to secure your pet safely with a seatbelt harness, crate or barrier and make frequent stops, allowing pets time to exercise and relieve themselves.

If your dog or cat accidentally ingests any potentially harmful products and you need emergency advice, please consult your veterinarian or the ASPCA's Animal Poison Control Center at (888) 426-4435 (a fee applies) or www.aspc.org/apcc.

Pets and Pancakes in the Park 2012

We say it every year but it is really true. Save Our Strays' 12th Annual "Pancake Breakfast in the Park" was the biggest to date. The event was held Saturday, September 29th at Lake Park in Huntington Beach. We raised over \$4300 for our cause!

We served breakfast to over 200 guests and their four-legged companions. Our guests enjoyed pancakes, garden burgers, sausage, fruit, bagels, muffins, croissants, orange juice, bottled water and Starbucks coffee.

Councilmembers Joe Shaw and Connie Boardman stopped by with their dogs Sookie and Laika to enjoy breakfast and the festivities.

The opportunity drawing was once again the hit of the event with the Wyland lithograph drawing top dollar in our silent auction. Our vendors shared their merchandise and information with attendees: The Bark and Meow Foundation, Diggity Dawg, Evangers Dog Food Co., German Shepherd Rescue of Orange County, Getaway Pet Care, Green Girl Maid Service, Hope Assisted Crisis Response, Jamba Juice, Just Food for Dogs, Laura's Natural Images, The Lily Sanctuary, Pet Food Warehouse, Salt Water Licks and Wagdazzle.

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

Plenty of wags and purrs go out to our attendees, sponsors and vendors. Most of all, an extra special thank you to our volunteers who worked SO hard to bring it all together: Lien and Leeann Acevado, Hank, Anna and Taylor Beach, Will Beaver, Rosemarie Bent, David and Anthony Berardi, Karen Chepeka, Leslie and Madison Correia, Linda and Randy Crossley, Warren Dubrow, Lisa Fangupa, Loretta Fleming, Rhonda Godbehere, Susan Hattabaugh, Jennifer and Alex Jackson, Patti Johnson, Ann Kennedy, Lee Love, Pamela Meadows, Evelyn Oynebraaten, Heather Rogers, Barbara Schmitzer and Elizabeth Takeuchi.

A sincere thanks to all our sponsors: Albertsons, Angels Baseball, Aquarium of the Pacific, Armstrong Garden Center, Beach Boulevard Pet Hospital, Beef Palace, BJs Restaurant, Buca di Beppo, Captain Dave's Dolphin/Whale Safari, Disneyland, Dodgers Baseball, Dog's Day Out, Einstein Bros. Bagels, El Torito, Extra Storage, HAPA Collective, HB Car Wash, Hilton, Waterfront Beach Resort, Hyatt Regency HB, JT's Bagel Company, K1 Speed, Karen Lee Photography, Lanaray Benton, Marios Restaurant, Mimi's Café, Pet Supply HB, Petsmart HB, Ralphs, Salon Shanti, San Diego Zoo, Sandy's Beach Grill, Santa Ana Zoo, Sea World, South Coast Repertory, Starbucks, Stater Bros., Supercuts, Tiffany's Restaurant, Westminster Community Theater, and Wyland Worldwide.



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