



SAVE OUR STRAYS OF HUNTINGTON BEACH

# Stray News

Issue #48

Spring 2013

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

## Going Away Without Your Pet?

Vacationing without your pet may be the best option depending on your pet's health and personality and the type of vacation you are planning. There are several options for quality care and companionship while you are away. If you need some advice on which is best for you, ask your veterinarian for a recommendation.

Staying with friends or family. Many pet owners choose to leave their pet with a friend or family member. Be sure that the home where your pet will be staying is safe and comfortable for your pet. Are there other animals in the



household? Do they have a fenced-in yard? Make sure that the other family members are capable of taking care of your pet and know who to call in case of emergency and that young children will be supervised when they are around your dog or cat.

Boarding at a facility. Some dogs or cats are fine with boarding. When selecting a boarding facility, visit the business unannounced and request a tour. Ask to speak to some of their clients and ask lots of questions about making sure they feed appropriately and deliver medications as needed. Conduct a trial run so your pet spends a short visit at the facility and you get a sense of how your pet does. Your pet should return calm and relaxed. If so, then you have probably found a facility that's a good match.

Sitting at home. A house sitter or pet sitter will cause the least disruption to your pet's routine, and pets love their routines. Ask for personal references and referrals. Have the sitter meet you and your pet ahead of time so you can gauge your pet's reaction to the person.



## — Save the Date

The Save Our Strays 13th Annual "Pancake Breakfast in the Park" is Saturday, September 21, 2013

## Letter from a Friend

Hi Save Our Strays,

Thanks again for helping with this service (spay/neuter). Spooky went through the surgery with no issues and is back home. He no longer howls or attacks my girls so I do think I am keeping him. Without you I wouldn't know what else to do with him. Thanks for helping me keep him off the streets. Check him out, he was so hungry when he got home :)



Rana Sabeh

## Why do Cats Chase Balls of String?

Your cat's obsession with yarn is not unlike a lion's interest in a gazelle: stalking string is a predatory behavior, a very watered-down and domesticated version of a hunt. This type of play is good for cats; it helps discharge their prey-chasing instinct, and it also keeps them physically active and alleviates boredom. But sine string can damage a cat's digestive system if swallowed, try substituting a laser pointer-many cats love to chase its light.



# 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:

**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**

*Karen Chepeka*, President  
*Hank Beach*, Treasurer  
*Anna Monaco*, Director

*Beverly Wallace*, Spay/Neuter Program Director

©2013 Save Our Strays of Huntington Beach

# THANKS to our Sponsors & Patrons!

**Diamond Sponsor**

Franciska Ritchey

**Platinum Sponsor**

Michael & Josie Wittenberg  
 Tatiana Freitas

**Gold Sponsor**

Donald & Ellen Goodwin  
 Loren Mark & Steve Bjerke

**Silver Corporate Sponsor**

Love for Pets - Dwyer Middle School

**Silver Sponsor**

Thomas Fafard & Lynne Ehrlich

**Sponsor**

Anna, Hank & Taylor Beach  
 Barbara Beck  
 Susan Berger  
 Gerald & Patricia Chapman  
 Cathy Cook  
 Susan Hattabaugh  
 Lorraine Healing  
 Dava Kurhajian  
 Anne Luczynski  
 Connie Mandic  
 John & Margaret Mazotta

Lorrie Raia

Linda & Joe Revere

Sherrie & Blaine Seidenberg

Michel & Michael Stec

Sherill Stewart

Barbara Weber

**Patron**

Robert & Dale Case

Danni & James Engle

Lisa Fangupo

Loretta Fleming

Nancy Harman

Margaret Hunt

Craig Hatcher

Phyllis Kunishige

Janet Lewis

Yvonne Meza

James & Lucy Moxom

Anne Navarro

Judy Philpot

Catherine Richards & Giulia Nuccitelli

Mary & William Slavin

Annette South

Elizabeth Takeuchi

Janet & Ronald Von Freyman

Beverly Wallace

# 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:

<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>
<b>Diamond Sponsor</b>	<b>\$5000</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

**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**

# The Power of Many

By Anna Monaco

It was a Friday and it seemed today would be another ordinary day in Orange County for Rachel and her furry kids.

You may remember reading about Rachel from some years ago. Her story was printed in our newsletter and it captured the attention and hearts of so many Save our Strays members. Rachel had lost just about everything and was living in her car with her pets. With the help of Save our Strays, we were able to get Rachel's little dog the medical and dental attention that was so critically needed. Since then Rachel has been successful in finding a home and gaining employment. After nearly a year of stability Rachel lost her job due to downsizing. Unable to pay rent, Rachel and the pets have returned to living in the car. But Rachel does not let this get her down. She remains strong and optimistic.

Rachel has a job interview and went to the thrift store to purchase a new blouse to look good for the interview. She secured her service dog, Cider, just outside the store. And then she heard a commotion! Cider had been teased and had his ear pulled by a child. He snapped at the child and scratched the child's arm with his tooth. Although it was not a serious incident someone called animal control and Cider



was taken to the Orange County Animal Shelter and placed in quarantine.

Rachel respected the concerns of the child's parents yet was devastated. Alone, scared and without her service dog, Rachel was overwhelmed and distraught. She called Save Our Strays.

Within minutes the dialing started as S.O.S. members initiated efforts to ensure Cider's safe return to his family.

President, Karen Chepeka reached out to those she knew at the Orange County Animal Shelter. Good news. A joint effort of contributions from Save our Strays and the Orange County Animal Shelter ensured that Rachel and Cider would be reunited.

Cider would complete his quarantine period and then be safely returned to Rachel.

When Rachel received the good news, she quietly wept. She took a breath and shared that she wanted to send her love, appreciation and prays to everyone at Save Our Strays. She said most days...aside from her pets...she feels like she walks alone. Today, Rachel feels surrounded by a loving family of friends. That family is YOU...all of you that support the efforts of Save Our Strays. Together not only do we save lives, we reunite families and heal hearts!



## Springtime – Increased Coyote Sightings

Increased coyotes sightings are normal during spring and early summer due to increased daytime activity. Mother coyotes are on the prowl for food, not only for themselves but also to feed their hungry pups. Most mother coyotes give birth in April, May and June.

Coyote family groups will investigate and chase off any perceived threat to the pups. Coyotes pose no threat to people or pets as long as we work together to reinforce their natural fear of humans.

One simple way to help prevent unwanted encounters is to keep dogs on a short leash (less than 10 feet) at all times.

Also, keep cats indoors unless strictly supervised.

Hazing is the only proven way to reinforce the animal's fear of humans. If a coyote approaches, attempt to scare it away by waving your arms in the air, shouting or using an air horn (the best method).

Please respect these wild animals. Do not attempt to approach them, feed them or look for their dens. Like any mother or family member, coyotes want to protect their pups and keep them safe. When the coyote pups are able to leave the den, probably by the end of June, there should be less coyote activity overall.

# Why Do Dogs Drool?

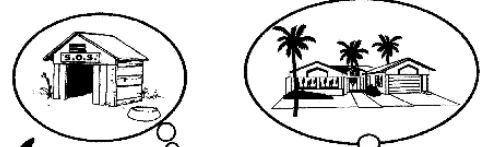
If your pup's friendly welcome leaves your clothes looking like you've been attacked by a giant slug, you can probably thank his genes. Certain breeds' lips just leak more than others.



Notorious droolers like Newfoundlands, bloodhounds, and basset hounds have loose jowls and lots of skin around their mouths where saliva can accumulate, making it far too easy for them to share their slobber.

AS for reasons for drooling, dogs are like humans. Their mouths release saliva in the presence of food, or when they're anxious or excited. This behavior is perfectly normal, but if your dog begins to slobber more than usual, or if the saliva smells bad, you may want to swing by the vet: a wound in the mouth (from, say, a splinter), a dental infection, or even poisoning might be behind it.

# Thank You for Your Support!



Promoting A Pro-Humanic Animal Shelter For Huntington Beach  
[www.SaveOurStraysHB.org](http://www.SaveOurStraysHB.org)

## Save Our Strays



P.O. Box 4083  
Huntington Beach, CA  
92605-4083

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED