



SAVE OUR STRAYS OF HUNTINGTON BEACH

Stray News

Issue #29

Summer 2008

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

Girl Scout Troop #1599 - For the Animals

At the May 17 volunteer meeting, representatives from Girl Scout Troop #1599, Madison Correia and Chloe Davis, really came through for the animals. They presented Save Our Strays president, Karen Chepeka, with a check for \$50.

These funds were part of their proceeds from their infamous Girl Scout cookie sales. Each troop selects a charity to make a donation. Madison is a long time volunteer with SOSHB. She has volunteered at several of our annual pancake breakfast events as well as the Surf City Animal Response Team (SCART) fundraiser last August.

Wag and Purrs go out to these hard-working young ladies! They truly are "For the Animals".



Madison Correia, Karen Chepeka & Chloe Davis

Letter From A Friend

Dear Karen,

I can hardly express the extreme gratitude for your and Randy's work for SOS. Prior to this, I was having no success in attempts to encourage my brother to have Buddy fixed, what with one excuse or the other. Finally, I got him past the "loss of manhood" argument and your help has put us over the top in paving the way to get the little ankle-bumper taken care of! Your organization truly makes a difference both in our family's lives and for the better good. If I can help in any way, please let me know.

Thanks so very much, SOS!

Nora Hyland and the whole Hyland Family

p.s. Buddy will thank you.....afterwards!

Did you know you can make a donation to S.O.S. through Paypal! Just go to our website at www.SaveOurStraysHB.org and click on the "Donations" link. It's that easy!

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.

July 19 Volunteer Meeting – 10:00am
Del Mar Mobile Estates Clubhouse
19251 Brookhurst Street
(between Garfield and Yorktown)

Aug 17 Surf City Animal Rescue Team/
Pet Fair in the Park
Central Park, HB – 10:00am-2:00pm

Sept 6 Volunteer Meeting – 10:00am

Sept 13 Pancake Breakfast in the Park
8:00am-12:00pm Lake Park, HB

Nov 15 Volunteer Meeting – 10:00am

Dec TBD Pet Photos with Santa Claws

For more information or volunteer opportunities, visit our website at www.SaveOurStraysHB.org or call 714-442-1446.

Keeping Your Membership Current

When we mail you your newsletter, we have a date just above 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.

THANKS to our Sponsors & Patrons!

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Girl Scout Troop #1599

Carole Johnson

Kathleen & Ron Jurgensen

Liberty Tax Service

Ann Minnie

Anne Navarro

Delia Raitt

Pawsitive Feelings Dog Massage

Christine & Roger Richardson

Joe Shaw

Dean & Sherrill Stewart

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

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 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Family \$25 | <input type="checkbox"/> Silver Sponsor \$250 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Patron \$50 | <input type="checkbox"/> Gold Sponsor \$500 |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> 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 - Publishing Info

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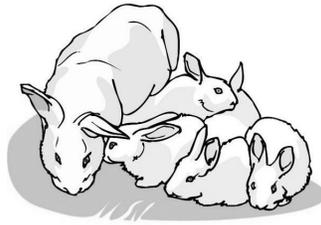
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Wild Things: Baby Bunnies

(Reprinted from *Animal Sheltering Magazine*, HSUS)

Kittens may be the mewling heralds of spring for the sheltering community, but this season is also prime time for wildlife births. For shelters, the ever-increasing numbers of injured and orphaned wildlife can mean panicked phone calls from the public.

Some rather kittenish-looking critters appearing in droves this season are baby rabbits, who are actually called “kits”. Baby bunnies are especially vulnerable to interactions with people, no matter how well-intentioned those people are. Due to their high-strung, stressed-out natures, wild rabbits are among the most difficult animals to successfully rehabilitate, even with expert care. It’s therefore best to keep them out of human hands whenever possible. In most cases, bunnies who end up with wildlife rehabilitators weren’t even orphaned or injured in the first place. They were kidnapped by well-meaning folks who found them alone and assumed they needed help. Learn about the nature of baby bunnies and these animals will stay healthy and wild.



First things first: Learn to tell the difference between a true infant rabbit and one who’s plenty independent. If he’s longer than 4 inches and has full fur, open eyes, and fully erect ears, then he’s a teenager who has already hopped the nest and is capable of looking after himself. Otherwise, it’s a safe bet mom is still in charge.

Kindhearted folk often assume that a baby mammal without a mother present is an orphan, but this isn’t necessarily the case. Mother rabbits feed their babies only

two or three times a day (generally at dawn and dusk) to avoid attracting predators; bunnies found alone in a nest – a shallow depression in the ground, lined with fur and grass – usually are not orphans.

But if you have reason to believe the rabbits have been orphaned, or if you find the nest has been disturbed, reassemble it as best you can and cover the babies with the same materials that covered them originally. Then put crossed sticks or yarn over the nest; this high-tech strategy will help you assess whether mom is returning to nurse her young. If the yarn stays undisturbed for 12 hours, contact a wildlife rehabilitator for advice.

Keep all pets out of the area and try not to touch the bunnies, as mother rabbits are very sensitive to foreign smells on their young and may abandon them. Should you need to pick up the babies, use gloves when handling them. And keep in mind that young rabbits will “freeze” to avoid attracting attention so don’t pick them up just because they are motionless.

Lawn mowers are the bane of bunny existence – careless mowing is one of the most common means of nest destruction and rabbit injury or death. But thankfully, prevention is a no-brainer. Always walk the lawn to check for rabbit nests before mowing. In areas with high clumps of grass, part the leaves gently with a stick to check for a nest at the base of the growth. If you do find a nest, mow a wide berth around it, or avoid mowing altogether for a while. The bunnies will be weaned and on their own within three weeks.

Important Phone Numbers for Pet Parents

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1 <i>National Pet Recovery Hotline:</i> 1-800-984-8636
– For Lost Pets | 4 <i>Emergency Disaster Hotline:</i> 1-800-227-4645
– For Natural Disasters |
| 2 <i>Legal Hotline:</i> 1-800-555-6517
– Info on What to Do About Pet Abuse | 5 <i>Pet Loss Support Hotline:</i> 1-888-478-7574
– Emotional Support for Loss of Pet |
| 3 <i>National Animal Poison Control Center:</i> 1-888-426-4435
– Life and Death Situations | 6 <i>Spay Helpline:</i> 1-800-248-SPAY
– Info on Low-Cost or Free Services |



Protecting Your Animals on

Celebrating July 4th is Fun for People, but Not for Your Pets

Save Our Strays recommends:

- Keep your pet in a safe; quiet place...their hearing is much more sensitive than ours. For pets who become nervous or upset, consult a veterinarian about tranquilizers. The vet will prescribe according to weight, age and condition of the pet. It is important to consult a veterinarian because tranquilizers can overdose or become toxic when combined with other medications, flea collars or sprays.
- ID Tags and current license tags with home phone number and an alternate phone number (including area codes) are important at all times, but especially during the 4th of July holidays. Consider a microchip. If you are a resident of Huntington Beach, Save Our Strays low-cost program offers them for only \$5. It cannot fall off and most shelters and animal control officers have scanners. More pets are lost at this time of the



year than any other. They are often hit by cars, never make it back home or are destroyed at shelters because their owners don't show up in time or at the right shelter to claim them.



If you have lost or found a pet:

- Put up signs, pass out flyers and place ads. All found ads are free and some lost ads are too. Place ads in the OC Register, LA Times, Pennysaver and any other community papers.
- Go to shelters, EVERY DAY, if possible.
- Have pictures and description details available.

Don't Give Up!



ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED