



SAVE OUR STRAYS OF HUNTINGTON BEACH

# Stray News

Issue #27

Winter 2007

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

## Do Microchips Cause Cancer?

*Reprinted from the PetHealth Post*

Here we go again...Studies conducted in the 1990's suggesting microchips may cause cancer have recently resurfaced. This time published by the Associated Press, the story gained some momentum and was picked up by the New York Times, ABC News and other major media sources. The fact remains however that in the last 10 years, NO evidence has been found that in any way demonstrates the existence of a correlation between microchip implantation and incidence of cancer in cats and dogs.

We asked for comments on the latest version of this story from one of the industry's leading voices, Dr. Walt Ingwersen. For several years, Dr. Walt Ingwersen has been involved in discussions throughout the world regarding microchip implants for companion animals. He served as Editor of JAAHA (Journal of the American Animal Hospital Association) and has published a dozen articles on the subject. For the purposes of full disclosure, it should be noted that Dr. Ingwersen serves as and advisor to Pethealth Inc. from time to time:

"This is not a "microchips cause cancer issue" but rather that anything that gains entrance to the body and incites inflammation could be a trigger for cancer. This is extremely rare, although there appears to be a higher incidence in certain families or lines of animals indicating a genetic disposition. This predisposition does not simply apply to microchips but to ALL products/items that end up in a subcutaneous location, including vaccines, foreign bodies, etc., and even trauma.

Additionally, the aforementioned studies were flawed from an epidemiological perspective because the rodents used (e.g. 4279 CBA/J mice) were genetically selected to be prone to cancer; therefore they were not representative of the general population of companion animals as pets. Additionally, it is well recognized that one cannot extrapolate from studies in one species (e.g. mice) to another (e.g. cats and dogs.)

It is also important to know that work has been done to confirm the safety of microchips implanted into animals. A literature search only shows 2 case reports of a suspected inflammation-induced fibrosarcoma at the microchip implantation site, however there was not a definitive cause-effect conclusion as other injections had been give in the same area.

Additionally, the BSAVA (British Small Animal Veterinary Association) has had a robust adverse reaction surveillance system in place for over 10 years with only 2 reports of cancer

associated with a microchip implant. Again, there was no causality assessment provided and this may simply be a coincidental occurrence. Even so, based on all adverse reports received by the BSAVA, this only equates to a 0.6% incidence, which is extremely low, especially when one factors in the high rate of microchip use in the UK (the majority of dogs and cats are implanted with a microchip)".

Save Our Strays of Huntington Beach is 100% behind the use of microchips to reunite lost pets and their pet parent(s). We encourage every pet parent to get a microchip through our low-cost program for a cost of only \$5 plus the cost of registration.

## Letter From A Friend

Dear Save Our Strays Volunteers,  
Our veterinarian, Dr. Tyler, kindly informed me of your existence and gave me your telephone number the day before yesterday when we visited his office. I have adopted two new kittens, who would otherwise be homeless, and visited Dr. Tyler so that the kittens could have their first immunization shots. They are sisters, each 3 1/2 months old, who I have named Ava and Cleo. Dr. Tyler advises having both Ava and Cleo spayed in about a month's time and he suggested I submit an application to you requesting your assistance. Additionally, I have an older female cat, Megan, who has been spayed but has not had a microchip inserted. I intend to request microchips for both Cleo and Ava and would like to request the same for Megan. May I do that through your organization along with the kittens and at the lowered cost that you provide? Save Our Strays is a wonderful surprise to me and will be a great help to my pets. I am so glad to have learned about you. Thank you so very much!

Sincerely,  
Georgia Lee Alpi

## 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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## 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:

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| <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:

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Individual \$15 | <input type="checkbox"/> Sponsor \$100           |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Family \$25     | <input type="checkbox"/> Silver Sponsor \$250    |
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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.

#### 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**  
**PO Box 4083**  
**Huntington Beach, CA 92605**  
**SaveOurStraysHB@aol.com**  
**www.SaveOurStraysHB.org**  
**(714) 442-1446**

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 SaveOurStraysHB@aol.com

#### SOSHB Board of Directors

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# Pets and Pancakes in the Park

Save Our Strays' 8th Annual Pancake Breakfast in the Park was once again a HUGE success. The event was held September 15 at Lake Park in Huntington Beach.

We served breakfast to over 200 guests and their four-legged companions. Two sweet kitties were adopted from the County shelter (one tabby was adopted by President Karen Chepeka) and over \$2500 was raised for our cause! Mayor Gil Coerper, Councilmembers Keith Bohr, Joe Carchio and Cathy Green stopped by to enjoy breakfast and the festivities.

Councilmember Keith Bohr did a fantastic job as our guest announcer for the raffle. The raffle was once again the hit of the event and raised the most money.

Lots and wags and purrs go out to our attendees, sponsors and vendors. An extra special thank you to our volunteers who worked SO hard to bring it all together: Wendy Benson, David and Anthony Berardi, Keith and Elizabeth Bohr, Melissa Carson, Irma and Jessica Castaneda, Karen Chepeka, Cathy Cook, Leslie and Madison Correia, Linda and Randy Crossley, Warren Dubrow, Loretta Fleming, Patti Johnson, Alex Jackson, Ann Kennedy, Evelyn Oynebraaten, Barbara Schmitzer and Elizabeth Takeuchi.

A sincere thanks to all our sponsors: Animalia, Batzi Belt, Beach Boulevard Pet Hospital, BJ's Restaurant & Brewery, California Academy for the Healing Arts, Catalina Fish Kitchen, Chimayo at the Beach, Cookie Lee Jewelry, Daphne's Greek Café, DC Shoes, Inc., Disneyland, Duke Stanley, Farmer Bros Coffee, G & H International Group, Inc., Happy Dog Pet Salon & Boutique, Harding Construction, Huntington Beach Carwash, Huntington Dog Beach, Izzy's Bagels, King's Fish House, Leave It 2 ME, Macaroni Grill, Magnatek, Mario's Restaurant, Mimis Café, O'Connell's Pub & Grill, Ooh La La Salon & Day Spa Orange Mercantile, Pawsh Wash, Peet's Coffee & Tea, Pet Supply, Polly's Bakery Café & Pies, PWC & Associates, Salon Shanti, See's Candies, Silky Sullivans, Starbucks, SuperCuts, Terri Steuben – Animal Communicator, The Bone Adventure, The Los Angeles Zoo, The Park Bench Café, Tiffany's Restaurant, Total Body Care, Trader Joe's, Wag My Tail Pet Salon and Waterfront Hilton - Shades Restaurant.



*Dog for Adoption*



*Four-legged attendees and their pet parents*



*Bunny for Adoption*



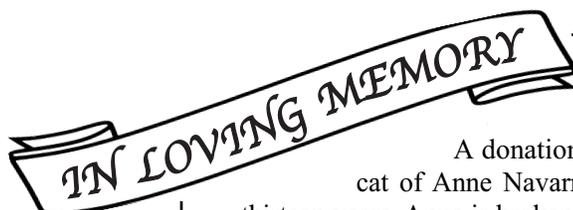
*Volunteer Chris MacDonald, President Karen Chepeka, Secretary Elizabeth Bohr, City Councilmember Keith Bohr and Mayor Gil Coerper*



*Cathy enjoying the day with her "kids"*



*SOS President Karen Chepeka & Councilmember Joe Carchio*



## Gone But Not Forgotten

A donation was made to Save Our Strays in Memory of K-C, beloved cat of Anne Navarro. She was a once homeless kitty who lived with Anne for thirteen years. Anne is broken-hearted over her loss. No one will ever take her place.

# SCART 2007 Pet Fair in the Park

Surf City Animal Rescue Team (SCART) hosted its second annual "Pet Fair in the Park" on Sunday, August 19th in Central Park in Huntington Beach. SCART is a local, non-profit organization whose mission is to respond to animal needs and assist other agencies during a crisis or disaster.

Save Our Strays set-up a booth at the event, along with lots of other vendors. SOSHB volunteers Linda and Randy Crossley, and Leslie and Madison Correia manned the SOS booth. They handed out fliers about our low-cost spay/neuter and microchip program as well as gathered signatures on a petition in support of our own pro-humane animal shelter. Participating in this event went a long way toward educating our community, specifically about the fact that Huntington Beach does not currently have their own animal shelter.

There were lots of activities, including agility events and a raffle, as well as a vast amount of education about available animal services. A great time was had by all and we plan on attending again next year.



*SOS Booth with volunteers  
Leslie & Madison Correia*



ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

## 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.

***Dates to be determined***

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

## Don't forget to use GoodSearch.com for your Holiday Shopping

Just go to the website, [www.GoodSearch.com](http://www.GoodSearch.com), under the charitable organization, type Save Our Strays of Huntington Beach, click the button to "verify". Then just use the search engine like you normally would to search the internet for information.

