



SAVE OUR STRAYS OF HUNTINGTON BEACH

# Stray News

Issue #39

Winter 2011

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

## A Friend in Need

*by Anna Monaco*



It's cold out. The windows are fogged and she can see her breath as she breathes in the cold of the night. Life has been challenging to say the least. Rachel has lost her job and her house. Her car is now the place she calls home.

Despite the hardships she finds a way to stay positive.

The source of her happiness stems from her deep rooted faith and the company of her loyal companion and best friend Holly, a miniature schnauzer. Of all the things that could be troubling Rachel, one thing weighs heavy on her mind. Her little dog Holly needs medical attention and she needs it fast. You see Holly's teeth have not been tended to in quite some time and it seems she has an infection. With each passing day the pain increases. Holly is whimpering and has now stopped eating.

Rachel is scared. She can handle being jobless and homeless but not petless. On a leap of faith, Holly places a call to Save Our Strays of Huntington Beach (SOSHB).

Save Our Strays clearly understands the urgency of the call and immediately moves into action coordinating with the vet. Time is of the essence.

Rachel is able to get a few dollars to put gas in her car and gets Holly to the vet where they are waiting with welcoming arms.

Rachel's diagnosis was correct. Holly's is in bad shape with many teeth infected and suffering from malnutrition.

After assessing the situation, the vet calls SOSHB President, Karen Chepeka who is well informed of the situation. Karen approves the dental work and related medical treatment.

That day, during that phone call, SOSHB saved a life.

Rachel called in to SOSHB to thank everyone who came to her and Holly's aid. Holly made a miraculous recovery and continues to be one of the happiest, sweetest little schnauzers.

Rachel and Holly still call the car their home but if you talk to Rachel she will tell you that she is one of the luckiest ladies in the world. In what appeared to be one of her darkest hours, one of the most beautiful things happened. Rachel reached out for help. SOSHB was there and Holly was saved.

For those of you who make donations and are interested in knowing where the money is allocated, we hope you find comfort in knowing that SOSHB does its very best to ensure that we help our furry friends in their times of need. Stories like this give true meaning to the work of our volunteers.

## Don't Forget to Use GoodSearch.com

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.



# 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.

## 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:

<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:**  Sponsor \$100  
 Individual \$15  Silver Sponsor \$250  
 Family \$25  Gold Sponsor \$500  
 Patron \$50  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

*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

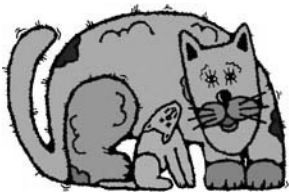
### SOSHB Board of Directors

*Karen Chepeka*, President  
*Hank Beach*, Treasurer  
*Anna Monaco*, Director  
*Anna Monaco*, Spay/Neuter Program Director

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# Home Remedies for When Your Pet Gets Sick

(reprinted from ABC7.com)



It's clear that many don't hold back when it comes to caring for their pets. Americans will spend \$47 billion on our furry friends this year alone.

But what happens when your pet gets sick and you can't get to a vet? There are some quick fixes you can probably find in your own home.

Veterinarian Melissa Webster from the Tampa Veterinary Hospital says if you can't get to a vet and your pet has a cut, grab your baking supplies. "Flour or corn starch can be a product that you can apply to a wound that will help coagulate the blood a little bit," said Webster.

Did your dog eat something that he shouldn't?

"Your pet ate a whole bunch of say chocolate, for instance, because chocolate can be toxic for dogs. I would highly suggest you get some hydrogen peroxide and give that to the pet until he vomits," said Webster.

As far as human medications, Benadryl is safe for pets with allergic reactions, one milligram per pound. "So a 50 pound dog would take two tablets or a 50mg dose in other words," said Webster.

"Pepto-Bismol is also safe in small doses"

So What are Some Doggy and Kitty Don'ts?

"I think as veterinarians, we say please don't give your cat Tylenol because you won't have that cat in the morning," said Webster.

Any form of ibuprofen, acetaminophen or aspirin can be deadly.

One pet myth is that olive oil makes their coats shine and look healthy. Vets say that's false — oil can actually cause pancreatitis in pets.

Experts say nothing replaces a visit to the vet, and if you're unsure of a home remedy, call one before trying to treat your pet yourself.

## Actions You Can Take For a More Humane Community!

- 1 Call your U.S. Senators when there is pending animal protection legislation that needs support.
- 2 Vote for animal friendly candidates at the city, county, state and federal level.
- 3 If you see animal cruelty in your community, report it to your local police department and animal control. To not report it is to be as guilty as the abuser.
- 4 Write a letter to the editor of your local newspaper urging readers to support animal protection legislation.
- 5 Spay or neuter your pets to help reduce the number of homeless dogs and cats.
- 6 Adopt a pet from your local shelter to save the life of a homeless animal.
- 7 Shop with compassion. Always buy cosmetics free of animal testing and garments and accessories free of fur or fur trim. If you are not sure, ask or don't buy.
- 8 Find out how your legislators voted on animal protection issues. You can visit the Humane Society Legislative Fund at [www.hslf.org](http://www.hslf.org) to find out.

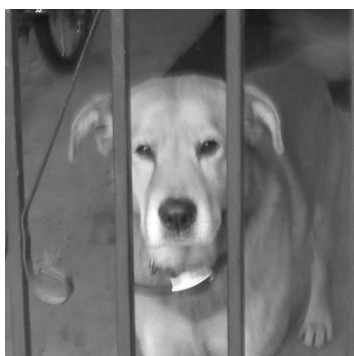
## A Forever Home for Biscuit

By Anna Monaco

Save Our Strays is always happy to share the good news! This story is just another example of how "people working together" benefits all!

There are times when we are faced with heartbreaking decisions. A family was relocating out of state and they were unable to take their beloved pet, Biscuit with them.

Save Our Strays received the news and jumped in to help. Joined by countless supporters, everyone quickly moved into action sending emails and making phone calls in an effort to find a home for this beautiful boy. The night of January 12th our prayers were answered. A family with three children met Biscuit and they had an immediate connection.



Biscuit seemed to feel right at home and we are confident that he will be very happy and receive lots of love. There is a saying..."when one door closes another opens" and so is the story for Biscuit.

Save Our Strays would like to thank all of you who continually help us spread the word as we try to find foster and forever homes for our furry friends. Each phone call, every email makes a difference. YOU make a difference and we want you to know we appreciate your support and collaboration.

We would not have so many success stories and happy beginnings without you.

# Ralphs Grocery and Save Our Strays – *Community Partners*

Ralphs Grocery and Save Our Strays have teamed up to raise funds for our cause. Ralphs is offering to donate a percentage of all sales made by registered “Ralphs Rewards” card holders to our organization. All you have to do is register your Ralphs card and select SOS as the receiving organization. What could be easier? To register for the program, just follow these easy steps:

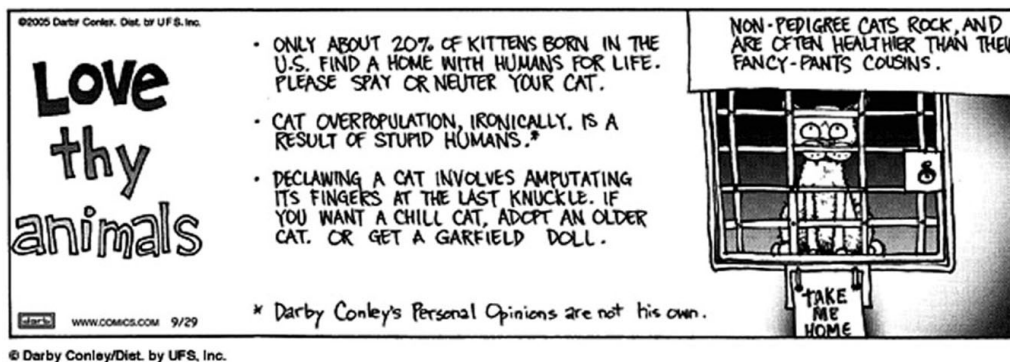
- Register online at [www.ralphs.com](http://www.ralphs.com)
- Click “Services”, then click on “School Programs”
- Click on “Community Contributions”, then “Learn More”
- Click on “Participant”, then “Enroll”
- Be sure you have your Ralphs Reward card available and then register your card with Save Our Strays of Huntington Beach by following the online directions

If you do not have a Ralphs Reward card, they are available at the customer service desk at any Ralphs store.

If you do not have online access, you can sign-up by calling 1-800-443-4438.

Simply swipe your card every time you shop for groceries and we start earning a rebate.

Barks and meows to Ralphs for initiating such a great community program!



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