



SAVE OUR STRAYS OF HUNTINGTON BEACH

Stray News

Issue #41

Summer 2011

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

Pancake Breakfast in the Park 11th Annual Fundraiser – September 17, 2011

It's time again for our annual pancake breakfast! So, bring your family and friends (two-legged and four-legged) to the eleventh annual SOSHB pancake breakfast in Lake Park (*off Lake St. between 11th and 12th Sts.*) from 8:00am to Noon on Saturday, September 17, 2011.

This year, some of our raffle prizes include:

- ✿ Passes to Disneyland, Aquarium of the Pacific, San Diego Zoo and Sea World
- ✿ Unique gift baskets
- ✿ Dog Grooming and pet sitting gift certificates and pet supplies
- ✿ Dinner at the Hyatt Regency Hotel
- ✿ Gift certificates to Mario's Restaurant, BJ's Brewery, Buca De Beppo, hair salons and much, much more!



Raffle tickets for these terrific prizes will be sold throughout the morning.

Stop by and visit with some of our vendors with great pet related products and services.

You will be able to get your pets paw print cast in plaster for you to take home as a souvenir.

The cost for all this fun is still only \$7 per person, payable at the "door". Come early to get your raffle tickets, the longer you are there, the better your chances to win one (or more) of the great prizes. For more details, visit our website at www.SaveOurStraysHB.org or email SaveOurStraysHB@aol.com or call 714-442-1446.

Six Tips for a Pet-Safe Summer

Summer is in full swing for everyone, young and old, furry or not, across the country. But with these carefree months of no homework and late days of sunshine comes an increased risk for illness and injury for our furry pals.

From unpredictable weather to unusual routines, our animals are exposed to all sorts of hazards during the summer months and your pet is counting on you to keep him safe. Check out these top six tips for keeping your animal secure all summer long:

- ✿ Give your pet access to plenty of fresh water at all times. Even the healthiest pets can suffer from dehydration, heat stroke and sunburn if overexposed to the heat.
- ✿ Avoid lathering your pet with any insect repellent or sunscreen not intended for the four-legged kind.
- ✿ Keep your pet away from matches, citronella candles and lighter fluid, which if eaten, can irritate the stomach, lungs and central nervous system
- ✿ Be cool near the pool. Don't leave pets unsupervised around a pool, lake or high waters-not all dogs are expert swimmers or know how to exit a pool.
- ✿ Never, Never leave your dog, cat or any other animal friend alone in a car!!! The inside of a car can heat up very quickly-even with a window open. I see it ALL the time in Huntington Beach.
- ✿ Be prepared! From earthquakes to fires, we've seen the devastation that severe weather has brought to pets and their families. Develop an evacuation plan well ahead of time in case you are forced from your home in an emergency.

Have a pet-safe summer!



Save Our Strays has lost some very dear friends in 2011.

Joan Jones, a long time member and supporter of Save Our Strays passed away very suddenly due to some medical issues. She will be greatly missed by her family, her loyal companion Rusti, and the Save Our Strays family, as well as our four-legged friends. She was a true animal lover.

Also, a donation was made to Save Our Strays by Dorothy Bolton, in memory of Floyd Fairbanks. Floyd was a dear friend of Dorothy's and the husband she lost, Harry. Floyd is survived by his wife, Doreen. Both the Bolton and the Fairbanks families are friends to our furry companions.

Our thoughts and prayers go out to both families.

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 help 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:

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 Sponsor \$100
 Family \$25 Silver Sponsor \$250
 Patron \$50 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

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

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Art Center Dog-a-Thon

On Saturday, June 25, Save Our Strays joined the Huntington Beach Art Center for an exciting day of fundraising.

The day started with a dog walk with approximately 100 walkers and their four-legged friends walking a one mile route through downtown Huntington Beach. After the walk, the day was filled with art projects and product give-a-ways for attendees and their pets. There was also live music that was enjoyed by all.

Save Our Strays had a booth at the event and volunteers, Lesli and Madison Correia, Susan Hattabaugh, Elizabeth Takeuchi and Karen Chepeka enjoyed a day of sun, food and talking to attendees about our organization.

Funds raised will help support the Art Center's exhibitions and programs throughout the year.



*SOS booth
with Susan
Hattabaugh &
Lesli Correia*



*Will Beaver
and his dogs,
Boss, Sanford
& Farley*

10 Reasons Not to Buy a Puppy From a Pet Store

Most dog lovers know about the often horrid conditions of puppy mills, the unregulated breeding facilities owned by disreputable breeders. Dogs are often bred far too frequently, are kept cramped together in squalor, and are not socialized with humans. In addition, these breeders do not always care about the health and strength of the breed, which often results in genetic illnesses, poor health in general and unlikable personality traits. But many of these same dog aficionados, who have t-shirts and bumper stickers denouncing puppy mills, don't know that most puppies sold at pet stores come from there.

There are some pet stores that buy their puppies from commercial kennels regulated by the Department of Agriculture. However, even these pups tend to be unhealthy and unsocialized. This is partly due to the fact that commercial kennels tend to breed many different breeds in one facility and they breed for quantity, not quality. Therefore, their interest does not lie in the healthy promotion of a certain breed but rather in how many sales they can get. So, before you buy that cute puppy in the window, consider the downsides of pet store pups:

1. Bad Health: Because so many pet store pups come from puppy mills, they are not the result of careful breeding and they are usually not well cared for before coming to the store. Some common illnesses and conditions are neurological problems, eye problems, hip dysplasia, blood disorders and Canine Parvovirus.

2. Behavioral Problems: Because breeding is indiscriminate, behavioral problems are not weeded out generationally. You'll also find that a pet store's staff is not likely to have any training in dealing with behavior issues so the puppies continue to do the wrong things, which become habit.

3. No Socialization: Pet stores pups are often pulled away from their litter at far too young an age, often at only four or five weeks. The earliest a puppy should be separated from his pack is eight weeks and most reputable breeders will say at least 10 weeks. This lack of time socializing with his siblings means that puppy will not develop important canine skills. Likewise, a puppy who has not been handled by people from about three weeks will not naturally socialize well with them.

4. The Downfall of the Standard: In a broad sense, purchasing a puppy from a pet store and then breeding her means you are ruining the standard of that breed because the previous breeders were not concerned with it.

5. Lack of Information: A member of a pet store staff is not an expert on a breed and often not on dogs in general. Purchasing a puppy from a store means you will not get the lowdown on that breed or likely help with any behavioral or other questions.

6. Return at Your Puppy's Peril: Most pet stores do offer a warranty of sorts where you can bring the puppy back if he has problems. They don't tend to tell customers that the puppy's fate, once returned, is usually euthanization.

7. Housebreaking is a Chore: Pet store puppies have spent all their short lives in cages. They do not have the opportunity to develop the natural canine instinct of eliminating away from their food and bed. This causes problems when you try to housebreak them.

8. What You See Isn't Necessarily What You Get: If you see what looks like a Maltese in the window, you may find, as she grows, that there's a little Maltese in there somewhere but mostly she looks like a Terrier. There is no guarantee you will get a purebred dog if that's what you're after.

9. Poor Value: A puppy from a pet store generally costs between \$400 and \$2,000. This is often more than you'd pay at a reputable breeder who can ensure you get a healthy puppy and provide support afterward.

10. Questionable Pedigree: You're paying for a pedigree, or AKC papers, when you buy a puppy from a pet store but it's very likely that it's not genuine. If the papers are genuine, it still doesn't mean the puppy is a good example of its breed.

What are our options other than pet store puppies? Adopt your next dog from the local animal shelter or breed-specific rescues!

Humane Societies, local animal shelters and breed rescues are all good places to look. True, you don't have the benefit of meeting your pup's parents but rescued puppies are thoroughly examined for any illness or condition, are socialized by staff and trained early on. Also, if you adopt a mixed puppy you will likely find he is very healthy as mutts are often healthier than purebreds.

So the next time you see that adorable puppy in the window, pause and think about the downsides of pet store pups. Buying from such a store is, in essence, supporting them and the horrible practice of puppy mills. And it is also almost a sure bet that you'll have a bad experience.

Second Annual Yoga Fundraiser a Success

On May 21st, Save Our Strays had its second yoga fundraiser, hosted by Cloud Nine Yoga Co-op and led by SOS volunteer Linda Crossley.

The class was a “Karma Yoga” class which is designed for any level yoga student. Research has shown that both owning a pet and yoga have many of the same health benefits. And, it is not a coincidence that many yoga poses are named after animals, such as cat, dog, horse and fish.

If you have never attended a yoga class, you might be surprised to know how quickly you feel the results.

After the class, we all enjoyed some wine, tea, cheese and fruit while we relaxed further in the afternoon sun and shared some social time.

Overall, a great time was had by all. All funds raised at the event were donated to Save Our Strays to support our low-cost spay/neuter program. A very special thank you to Cloud Nine Yoga for the use of the facilities and Linda for donating her time for the event.



ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED