



SAVE OUR STRAYS OF HUNTINGTON BEACH

Stray News

Issue #53

Summer 2015

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

A Huntington Beach Family-owned Business Gives Back

You might not be familiar with a local Huntington Beach family-owned and operated micro-brewery by the name of Four Sons Brewing. As you might have guessed, the brewery is owned by parents Duke and Daune Dufresne and their four sons, Deven, Derek, Drew and Dustin. They are all now part of the Save Our Strays circle of friends and supporters.



Derek, Drew, Karen Chepeka, Dustin and Deven,

In May, one of the “four sons”, Derek Dufresne, reached out to Save Our Strays as their first selected charity to participate in their “Give Back” program. They had heard about our work in the community and were interested in donating to our cause.

Each Thursday in the month of May, a portion of the proceeds were donated to Save Our Strays. It was a fun and simple way to raise funds to support our work. The event raised \$558.00 and will be used to continue our low-cost spay/neuter program. Wags and purrs to all those attended one of these nights.

If you are looking for a casual night out with friends or family, visit this interesting spot and try their plethora of different beers. **Four Sons Brewing will be celebrating their one year anniversary on September 5th** (Labor Day weekend). They are located at 18421 Gothard St. Ste 100, Huntington Beach, CA. 92648.

Ralphs Rewards Updated

The Ralphs Grocery Rewards program helps raise funds for Save Our Strays when you do your normal grocery shopping. Just register your Rewards card, as you have to do every September 1, and have it scanned at the cash register when you shop.



If you haven't registered Save Our Strays as your preferred charity, the instructions are listed below for both existing members and new members.

This is a simple way for you to donate to our cause! Save Our Strays has received over \$230.00 so far this year from this program.

PARTICIPANT REGISTRATION FOR THE NEW TERM BEGINS ON SEPTEMBER 1, 2015.

There is no pre-registration! This means that the first day you can register for the new term is September 1, 2015 or after.

1. All of you who are currently enrolled in the Ralphs Community Contribution Program will remain active until August 31, 2015.
2. Participants will be required to register or re-register for the new term at www.ralphs.com starting September 1, 2015.
3. Even if you registered as recently as June, July or August 2015, you will be required to register again, on or after September 1, 2015.

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Like Us on Facebook



www.facebook.com/Saveourstrayshb

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
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Huntington Beach, CA 92605
SaveOurStraysHB@aol.com
www.SaveOurStraysHB.org
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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:

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:

- | | |
|--|--|
| <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

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

Orange County Animal Shelter - An Embarrassment to our City and to Orange County

by Karen Chepeka

When the first Orange County Grand Jury report on the Orange County Animals shelter came out about four years ago, the findings were shameful enough.

With the recent second Grand Jury report, things have become even worse for the animals who are impounded and taken there, particularly those from our community of Huntington Beach.

We applaud the hard work and dedication of the staff and volunteers at the Orange County Animal Shelter who do their best under the most difficult conditions, with limited resources and support from the County.

We should all be embarrassed and outraged that in 2015 a wealthy community like Orange County operates a shelter in our name that exists under these conditions.

The shelter is understaffed, has poor physical resources, limited space for the animals, outdated enclosures that belong on another century, and sparse environments to foster animal well-being.

Most shocking is the level of noise and the stench and especially the despair in the eyes of most of the animals. It is heart-breaking and almost unbearable to walk through there without coming to tears.

The County does not have a viable plan to remedy these situations in the foreseeable future. The conditions at the County shelter are unacceptable and there does not seem to be likelihood that the County will address these deficiencies.

We as citizens should expect more from our elected officials. We should demand action by our City Council members. Save Our Strays believes the best way to represent the residents of our community and to reflect basic decency is to work together to explore the feasibility of locating, building, operating and maintaining a shelter to serve Huntington Beach. This has long been our goal.

A second option would be to look into the possibility of a multi-city shelter to serve Huntington Beach and a couple of neighboring cities such as Fountain Valley, Newport Beach, Westminster or Costa Mesa. We believe such a shelter would provide higher quality care and better service at a lower price. The City of Huntington Beach currently pays Orange County close to \$1M per year for its services.

Currently, in South Orange County, this very idea is being explored by the City Council members of Lake Forest, Laguna Hills, Rancho Santa Margarita and San Juan Capistrano.

It becomes our responsibility as residents to let our City Council know that we will not tolerate these conditions for our precious animal friends. Our Council must respond to the Grand Jury report with a resounding "Not in our community".

Email our City Council and police chief and let them know these conditions are unacceptable and demand better. Attend City Council meetings and make your voice heard. Together, as one voice, we make change happen.

Send your comments to: SaveOurStraysHB@aol.com.



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IF YOU HAVE NOT REGISTERED YOUR REWARDS CARD ONLINE:

1. Log in to www.ralphs.com
2. Click on 'Create an Account'
3. Follow the 5 easy steps to create an online account
4. You will be instructed to go to your email inbox to confirm your account
5. After you confirm your online account by clicking on the link in your email, return to www.ralphs.com and click on 'My Account' (you may have to sign in again first).
6. View all your information and edit as necessary
7. Link your card to your organization by clicking on:
 - a. Community Rewards
 - b. Edit my community contribution and follow the instructions

- c. Remember to click on the circle to the left of your organizations' name

IF YOU ARE ALREADY AN ONLINE CUSTOMER:

- 1 Log in to www.ralphs.com
2. Click 'Sign In'
3. Enter your email address and password
4. Click on 'My Account' (In the top right hand corner)
5. Click on 'Account Settings'
6. View all your information and edit as necessary
7. Link your card to Save Our Strays by clicking on:
 - a. Community Rewards
 - b. Edit my community contribution and follow the instructions
 - c. Remember to click on the circle to the left of the Save Our Strays name

Letter from Your Cat: *Do You Really Love Me?*

by Dr. Tony Buffington

“Dear Owner,

Thank you for rescuing me and taking me in — I love our home together. Now that we have been around each other for a while and I have grown up, it’s time for us to agree on what we like and need for a strong and healthy relationship. Even though we are different in many ways, we both like to be shown love and expect to be appreciated and understood for whom we are.

As you know, I come from a long line of solitary hunters of small prey, who were themselves prey for larger carnivores (dogs) and primates (humans), so I need to be able to trust you to be comfortable with you (I’m sure you understand). I can show you how I feel with my body language. For example, please let me come to you when I want attention. Like you, I feel afraid when affection is forced upon me or when unwanted ‘friends’ (feline or otherwise) are moved into our house.

We both like to choose what we like to eat, drink, and use in the bathroom (litter for me, TP for you). When we are offered choices, we can express our preferences and be happy to have them respected. And speaking of bathrooms, we both like them private and clean. Imagine having to depend on someone else to flush and clean your toilet when they feel like it! If you have questions about this, our veterinarian friends have recently put out some great information for you.

We also need to keep our nails in shape, and in addition to keeping them beautiful, I need mine to eat with and to protect myself. You can get yours done; I need to do my own, so I need a good place to scratch to keep them healthy and a little help from you when need a trim. You can help me find the best places to do this in our house by putting a reminder (foil, sticky tape, etc.) on things you don’t want me to scratch and by giving me a great place that is OK to scratch close by and praising me for using it so I’ll know what you want (and don’t we both love praise, too?).

Speaking of praise, neither of us likes to be yelled at or hit. It is scary and makes us feel bad. It also isn’t helpful just to tell us what not to do; we need to understand what we want each other to do instead. So please show me what you want by using the “scratching post strategy:” Put things on stuff you don’t want me to scratch (climb on, sleep on, etc.) to remind me what not to use, but then give me places that are OK to use — and praise me lavishly for using them.

We also both like our things left alone. You have drawers to keep your things out of sight, and I like my things — food and water bowls, litterbox, resting area — in quiet, private places. And you know how we really don’t love going to the doctor but know we need to? If one of my resting places also is a nice cat carrier, taking me to the veterinarian for my annual checkup will be a lot less stressful for both of us! You could even put a scratching post next to it so I can stretch after I get up from a nap like you do.

And we both like hunting for food. For you, it’s finding that great new restaurant before anyone else does; for me it’s prowling our house in search of prey. Just like you, I have my favorites, and I can show you what they are if you’ll give me the chance. There also are toys that dispense food that I might like to play with while you are away (just do an Internet image search for ‘cat food puzzle’ to see all the possibilities to make or purchase for me).

I hope this helps you understand how much we have in common and how easy it is for you to show me you love me as I love you. Just follow the Golden Rule!

*Sincerely,
Your Faithful and Devoted Cat”*



ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED