



FOREVER HOME

Camano Animal Shelter Newsletter

Issue 1
Winter, 2009

Volume 3

CASA Mission Statement:

The mission of CASA is to find loving Forever Homes for all of our healthy adoptable animals. We strive to provide quality care and service to the animals and people of our community while encouraging and promoting responsible pet ownership.



Shelter Manager's Report

2008 was a busy and fun filled year at CASA with all of the successful events, many adoptions and volunteer involvement.

In the last six months many positive changes have been accomplished. CASA staff are now drawing blood for FELV testing and sending the samples to Phoenix Central Lab for results. Up and coming is a donated microscope to begin testing for fecal parasites but also test for various types of skin disorders. These tests not only enhance what CASA staff is capable of doing, they save money on other tests that are needed.

CASA staff members took a class on Washington State Laws and Ordinances pertaining to animal issues. Having this additional knowledge will aid them as they interact with and educate the public.

The staff has also been given 12 hours of professional training in dog obedience classes. The training was donated by Camano Island Kennels and conducted by its owners, Jason and Dianna Young. The shelter's dogs went through the training with staff and this has helped tremendously in lowering the dogs' stress levels. It also has produced better behaved dogs and that will lead to quicker future adoptions.

In the month of December, during the snowstorms and low temperatures, shelter staff was dealing with frozen water and one kennel heater not functioning. The weather forecast was for high winds and more snow. Just to be on the safe side, the decision was made that it was best to foster out our dogs instead of leaving them at the CASA location. Tony Cloud of Cloud's Canine, Jason and Dianna Young of Camano Island Kennels, and CASA volunteers Terry and Ayleen Bauman all offered to foster some of CASA's dogs. Staff member Phyllis Kidwell fostered our "Miss Marigold". Oddly enough, no impounded dogs came into the shelter during this time. The small, young kittens went with staff into foster care while the older cats were given extra bedding, water, food and litter boxes and remained at the shelter with the heat turned up. For several critical days, all of our CASA "kids" were cozy, warm and having an enjoyable holiday. Staff members have some interesting stories to tell about having cars stuck and being marooned in various places because of the snow, but in spite of these challenges they managed to be on the job daily to tend to the animals and keep the shelter up and running. A special "Thank You" goes to staff, fosters and volunteers for rallying in a time of need. The generous gestures of concerned community members, private citizens and businesses, demonstrate how CASA's animals and employees benefit.

As Manager, I have a goal and desire along with the staff, Board members and volunteers to see CASA become the best shelter in Western Washington. After this is accomplished we then can strive to become the best in Washington State. With everyone's support this goal can become a reality.

Linda Wickler, Shelter Manager

Marigold's Story

Marigold is a large 5 year old Alaskan Malamute/Shepherd mix who was brought into CASA together with her sister as strays on April 4th, 2008. Neither Marigold nor her sister was spayed. So as a first order of business, CASA made arrangements to have that done. Within a relatively short time, both sisters were adopted together by a family here on the island. Unfortunately they were returned to CASA within 2 weeks. Apparently the new owners were not prepared to deal with a rambunctious pair of dogs each weighing over 100 pounds. Shortly after their return Inia, Marigold's sister, was transferred to another shelter where she was quickly adopted and placed in a new home where it has been reported that she is doing very well. Everyone at CASA was happy that Inia had found her Forever Home. But sadly, Marigold found her sister's leaving hard to deal with. She became quiet and depressed. She and Inia had been very attached to each other. She adjusted to being on her own, but it took quite awhile for her to adapt.



When Marigold was given the standard temperament test that all dogs at CASA receive, it was discovered that she had an obsession with cats. It was recommended that she only be adopted into a home without cats. She also had a fear of riding in cars and refused to get into a vehicle unless she was physically forced into it. This wasn't easy to do since she weighs 125 pounds.

Several months ago the dogs at CASA were enrolled in obedience/behavioral training. Classes were held one day a week with as many dogs participating as there were people to work with them. During these classes Marigold blossomed into a star student. She learned to walk well on leash, understood and followed instructions for all basic commands, and learned to enjoy the company of the other dogs in class with her. (continued on page 2 - Marigold's Story)

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CASA Web Site:

www.camanoanimalshelter.org

CASA E-Mail:

casa@camanoanimalshelter.org



(continued from page 1 - Marigold's Story)

Recently, during the December snowstorms, Marigold went into foster care with a CASA staff member who has one cat and a small dog. Neither of these pets was excited having a houseguest of Marigold's size. All three were closely supervised on the first day. By the second morning the two dogs were eating breakfast side by side and the cat played with Marigold's tail at the same time. Amazing!

In the past couple of months all of the shelter dogs have been alternating time in the CASA office while the shelter is open. As you may know, cats and kittens roam freely in the CASA office. Marigold has been enjoying her office time and has not had a single negative incident with the cats.

Marigold has mellowed and matured over the time she has spent at CASA. She is a more relaxed, well-behaved dog and is far more adoptable now than when she first got here. She will make some lucky family very happy. If you have been considering adopting a mature, big dog please come see Marigold. She holds a special place in the hearts of the CASA staff members and volunteers. Although we will miss her terribly when she is adopted, we tell her every day what a great big beautiful dog she is and that maybe today will be the day she finds her Forever Home.



CASA Board Members

President:

Leanne Ebsen

Vice-President:

Barbara Petersen

Treasurer:

Martha Huyler

Secretary:

Chris Meshner

Members at Large:

Joe Collette

Molly Kaufmann

Stuart Wyatt

Shelter Manager:

Linda Wickler

Staff:

Phyllis Kidwell

Cheri Lovell

Kim Thompson

Allison Zinnato

Newsletter Editor:

Connie Parker

2009 CASA Membership - Why become a CASA Member?

CASA, the Camano Animal Shelter Association, is a charitable, non-profit organization dedicated to the promotion of animal welfare and was established to provide care for the impounded dogs of Island County. CASA is responsible for the operation of the Camano Animal Shelter and receives limited funding from Island County in exchange for caring for dogs impounded on the island. CASA relies solely on donations for the care of all other animals, including all stray cats and dogs.

Any person interested in supporting the purposes for which CASA has been incorporated may become a member of CASA by paying the current dues. Annual dues are due and payable by the first of the calendar year. As a CASA member you have the joy of knowing you are supporting an organization that works tirelessly every single day to improve the lives of many neglected, abused or abandoned dogs and cats. Your tax-deductible membership fee helps CASA to provide these animals with loving care and a second chance for a wonderful life. As a member, you are included in the membership roll at the shelter and receive the CASA Newsletter, which provides you with ongoing information about shelter programs, activities, special needs, and events.

As a member you are also invited to the CASA Annual Meeting to elect new Board members and to discuss policies and concerns regarding helping CASA achieve its mission, "Finding Each Animal A Forever Home". Your voice counts! You can be a part of a caring, concerned, and compassionate community by becoming a member of the Camano Animal Shelter Association for 2009. Become a member or renew your membership by filling in the membership form within this newsletter, on our website, or stopping in at the shelter and filling out the form there.

2009 Island County Dog Licenses

All dogs living on Camano Island are required to have a 2009 Island County License. The new 2009 tags are now available at the shelter during regular hours. Please stop in to say "Hello" and purchase your new tags. Licenses may also be purchased at the Camano Island Annex on NE Camano Drive.



Visit www.camanoanimalshelter.org or www.petfinder.com to view and read about all of our adoptable animals.

Have you adopted from CASA? Send us a photo and we'll include it in our next newsletter! Mail photo to CASA or send via email to CASA@camanoanimalshelter.org. Please include the full name of your pet and the month/year adopted.

Camano Animal Shelter Hours Changing

In an effort to make the shelter more accessible to the public and to encourage adoptions, effective March 1st, we will be open on **Sundays from 11 AM to 3 PM** and closed on Tuesdays. All other hours remain the same. We hope to see you!

Physical Address:
160 Can Ku Road
Camano Island, WA
98282

Mailing Address:
P.O. Box 1726
Stanwood, WA
98292

Phone:
360-387-1902

Hours:
Tues - Fri 11 - 3
Sat 11 - 4
Sun & Mon Closed

Procedure	Dog/Puppy	Cat/Kitten
Spay	\$93 - \$145	\$78 - \$95
Neuter	\$81 - \$125	\$38 - \$78
Bordatella	19	
FELV		30
Distemper (first of 3 shots at \$45.00)	45	45
Worming (2 doses at \$6)	12	12
Rabies	45	45
Flea treatment (depends on weight)	25	19
Total "Free" Costs	\$227 - \$291	\$189 - \$246
Shelter Fee	\$135	\$100

Is a "Free" Pet Really Free?

Often people ask, "Why should I pay a fee to adopt a pet? It's cheaper to get one that's free to a good home."

When you adopt a pet from CASA, these routine procedures and vaccines are included in the adoption fee. Currently our fees are \$135 for a dog or puppy (includes county fee of \$35) and \$100 for a cat or kitten. These fees also include a free vet consultation certificate. At CASA we provide the medical care and testing needed to give a kitten or puppy a great beginning. Not only are they given appropriate medical care - they are also well socialized. It starts with their loving foster families. Then they come to the shelter where they are exposed to other cats and dogs and people as well. Please encourage your friends to adopt an animal from CASA.

This may seem so, but consider the costs* you will pay to have a vet perform the necessary procedures shown below.

* Weight and other factors affect the costs of Spay/Neuter, worming and flea treatment. Always ask the veterinarian questions about the different price ranges and why.

Should you decide to adopt a "free" dog or cat, please be a responsible owner and spay or neuter and vaccinate your pet. All animals deserve a caring and loving home.

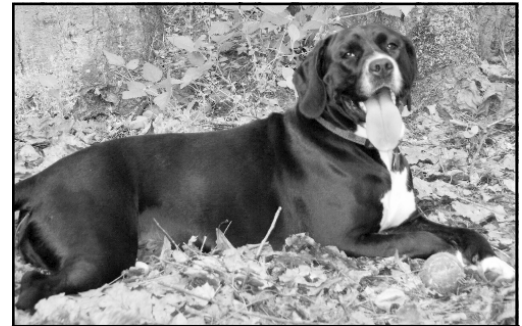
Camano Animal Shelter ALUMNI



Gracie and Dina Timmol



Mack Van Vleet



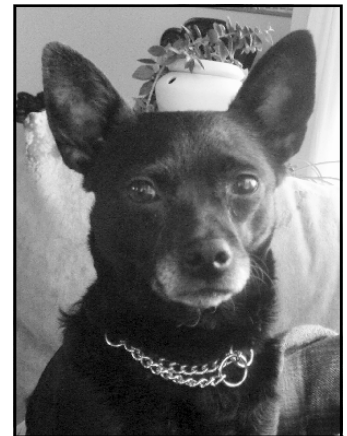
Angel Wright-Mealey



Luna Bella Crawford



Puppy Leathers
(Yes, they know he's a cat)



Rue Bearden

Mark Your Calendar!

UPCOMING EVENTS:

**Mother's Day Art Studio Tour
CASA's "Putting on the Dog"
and Bake Sale**
Saturday, May 9th

3rd Annual CASA Dog Wash
Saturday, August 15th

4th Annual CASA Auction
Saturday, September 12th

THANK YOU

BUSINESS MEMBERS!

- Camano Island Cellars
- Camano Island Kennels
- Camano Mold Inc.
- Camano Veterinary Clinic
- Cloud's Canine
- Dog Style Grooming
- Do-It-Yourself Legal
- Glass Tech Stanwood, Inc.
- HR-at-Work.com
- Index Sensors & Controls, Inc.
- Invisible Fence of the Northwest
- Mark's Camano Pharmacy
- Sawtooth Trucking, Inc.
- Thomas & Associates
- Insurance Broker, Inc.

THANK YOU

MATCHING GIFT COMPANIES!

These companies have generously matched the contributions made to CASA by their employees.

- Attachmate
- BP
- Chevron
- Microsoft
- Pfizer
- Regence Employee Giving
- Verizon
- Washington Mutual
- Washington Post

BUSINESSES—DONATION BOXES!

The local businesses who display our Donation collection boxes are appreciated!
Featured location this period:

IGA - Camano Plaza Market

Happy Tails

Missy arrived at CASA in August, 2008. She is a teacup poodle about 12 years old. She was found by two strangers who kindly brought her to our shelter. Weighing 3.4 pounds, she was underweight and also matted, had poor dental care and a left back leg that needed surgery. Altogether, she was obviously neglected.



A recent photo of Missy showing how well cared for and beautiful she looks now.

The staff and volunteers at CASA bathed her, de-flea'd her, cut out the mats, fed her and let her know she was loved. She went home with a loving "foster mom" who continued her grooming and feeding until I adopted Missy.

Once she came to our home, she was given dental surgery and surgery on her back leg with the kindness of Dr. O'Rourke. Her fur has grown out now and she has gained 1 pound. She has two sisters and a family that love her dearly. She also has her own car seat and loves to go on family outings.

I just want to give credit to all those people who have helped Missy. She is just a wonderful pet and we are so thankful to have her in our family.



Missy, shortly after she was trimmed to remove mats and given a bath.

Sandy Murphy

Did You Know?

In 2008 472 cats and dogs arrived at CASA. We are proud that so many of these animals were either returned to their owners or found other loving homes.

Cat Stats: The vast majority of cats and kittens were brought in as strays (or born at the shelter). Of these, 81% have already found homes while others are waiting to be adopted (either at the shelter or at foster homes).

Dog Stats: Dogs brought to the shelter by the Animal Control Officers are called "impounds". Percentage-wise, more dogs were surrendered by their owners than cats. (30% of the dogs versus 25% of the cats). Fortunately 50% of the dogs were returned to their owners and 43% found other homes.

	Total	Stray	Surrender	Impound	Found Home	Returned to Owner
Cats	280	212	68	0	223	4
Dogs	192	69	57	66	82	96
Total	472	281	125	66	305	100

There is NO TIME LIMIT for an animal at CASA. In fact, some of our animals have been at the shelter since April, 2008. Kittens often have a high mortality rate and sometimes die in foster care or have to be put to sleep if they are very sick and suffering. Dogs are only put to sleep if they are terminally ill or too aggressive to be adopted.

CASA averages 55 animals a day either at the shelter or in foster care. As of the end of December, there were 32 animals waiting adoption. Keeping animals at a shelter often increases their stress, but at CASA the cats roam free and dogs are allowed to play outside with "yard buddies" and then rotated into the main office for socialization. Thanks to the loving care of staff and volunteers, these long-term residents remain happy and enthusiastic while waiting for their new Forever Homes.

Thanks for Your Support

We held our 3rd annual **Camano Animal Shelter Association "Forever Home" Benefit Auction** on Saturday, October 4, 2008 at the Camano Senior and Community Center. "Forever Home" is not only our theme but our mission. This year with the help of event sponsors, item donors, attendees, volunteers and CASA staff, our auction raised over \$30,000 for the Camano Animal Shelter!!!

We at CASA want to thank all of you for the support you showed through our 2008 Auction. Through your event sponsorship and generous donations of auction items and services, you have partnered with us and invested in your community and the well being and happiness of the precious pets we take into our care. We at CASA offer you our most sincere **Thanks!**

Special Thanks To Our Event Sponsors!

Barry Rix – Paladin Sound
Blazing Saddles Restaurant & Lounge
Bruce & Gail Caroon
David A. Kohles, Attorney
Dennis & Sally Kohloff
Greg Reilly – Reilly Mortgage
Advisory Group

Haggens Food & Pharmacy
Joanne Koehn Floral Designs
Leslie A. Fox
Let's Frame It
Mark's Camano Pharmacy
Patrick & Carolyn Richardson

Port Chatham Smoked Seafood
Stanwood Hotel & Saloon
Starbucks – Stanwood
Tim Bragg – Tim Labs Computer Svcs
Tom & Carol Curtis
Warm Beach Camp/John Overton

Holiday Activities

To round out the year, the Friends of CASA participated in three holiday events that raised almost \$3,000. In November, the 3rd Annual **Santa Pictures** saw people bringing cats, dogs and even a parrot to **Skagit Farmer's Country Store** in Stanwood to have their pictures taken with our wonderful Santa.



FESTIVAL OF TREES

We sponsored a **CASA tree** at the Stanwood Community and Senior Center Festival of Trees. The tree, decorated with a cat and dog theme, was auctioned and the proceeds went to CASA.

LIGHTS OF LOVE

The response to our **Lights of Love** tree was remarkable. Owners and friends donated in honor or memory of their pets. Tags with the animal's name were hung on the CASA tree at the **Copy This Mail That** store located at the Camano Plaza.



The new year started with a Pot Luck dinner at which CASA supporters celebrated the one - year anniversary of the Friends of CASA, the staff, the many volunteers, as well as the tremendous support of the community – near and far. We thank you for your generous support in 2008.

Reasons to Call a Vet Immediately

Breathing Difficulties

Labored breathing especially when coupled with pale or bluish mucous membranes of the mouth and gums should be checked immediately. Honking, snorting and violent sneezing that does not stop on its own or any time the animal seems anxious associated with the above.



Serious Bleeding

Apply direct pressure to the wound. Get help if bleeding is not controlled in 10 to 15 minutes.



Major Trauma

If your pet has fallen, been struck by a moving vehicle, or suffers multiple wounds from an unseen accident, see a veterinarian even if the pet initially appears unharmed.

Lacerations and Bite Wounds

Wounds that penetrate the skin are contaminated and may become infected within several hours. Many wounds that seem minor externally often hide more extensive injuries to vital tissues below. Any bite from a wild animal should be taken very seriously.

Collapse or Loss of Consciousness/Seizures

Illness or injury can make your pet too weak to stand. Neurologic problems can impair or prevent normal movement and further attempts at walking may result in even greater injury. If you suspect your dog is having or has had a seizure, please call your vet immediately.



Prolonged vomiting or Diarrhea/Blood in Feces

Many diseases begin with vomiting and/or diarrhea. Regardless of the underlying cause, multiple episodes can lead to severe dehydration and shock.

Difficulty Urinating and Constipation

Be observant here. Attempting to urinate without normal urine flow may be an obstruction, which may lead to fatal uremic poisoning.

Infections

If you discover an infected wound or abscess, or if your pet suddenly becomes worse while on medications for infection, the infection may have spread and be causing toxicity.



Eye Problems

Redness, tearing, pain and eyelid spasms usually suggest an acute problem in one or both eyes. Such symptoms can go quickly from bad to worse.

Poisoning

When you know or suspect that your pet had ingested a poisonous substance, call immediately to receive emergency instructions and to assess the need for additional medical treatment. Animal Poison Control is 1-800-548-2423. Available 24 hours a day. (Fee for Service)



Based on article from Friends of Somerset Regional Animal Shelter, FOSRAS, "Animal Tales" Newsletter



There are many ways you can give to CASA and the animals:

Become a Business Member – Business memberships are \$100.00. Your company name will be listed in our newsletter, on our website, and at the shelter.

Become a Newsletter Sponsor – Newsletter sponsors, for \$50.00 are listed on the back of the newsletter. This contribution will help defray the cost of producing the newsletter.

Matching Gifts – Check with your employer to see if they will match your contribution to CASA.

Children’s Birthday Party – Having a birthday party? Consider asking the guests to bring an animal toy and monetary gift for CASA.

Memorial/Honorary Gift - Give a donation in memory of or in honor of an individual and we will mail an acknowledgement to the individual or family.

Pet Memorial – If your pet has passed away, remember him/her by giving a donation in memory. Your pet’s name will be included in our next newsletter. Consider adopting from CASA, but if you are not ready, consider a monetary donation quarterly representing the money you would have gladly spent on your pet.

CASA does not sell or otherwise disclose donor information outside of the organization. This policy has no exceptions. We do not sell or exchange your information with any other organization - public, private, or non-profit.

CASA Wish List

- Cardboard Cat Scratchers
- Kirkland Brand Dry Dog/Cat Food
- Dry Kitten Food
- KMR – Kitten Milk Replacement
- Baby Food – Small jars of pureed meats
- Dog Toys – All Kinds
- Blankets for Dog Bedding
- Cat Litter (Non-Clumping)
- Liquid Bleach
- Liquid Laundry Detergent
- Copy Paper (8½” x 11”)
- Postage Stamps – We use lots of stamps! A roll of stamps can be purchased on-line at <http://shop.usps.com>

Special Thanks to



Thank you Russ Sapel and everyone at Anderson Appliance in Mount Vernon for donating a new clothes dryer to replace our tired old one!



**CAMANO ANIMAL SHELTER ASSOCIATION
APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP**

**Mail application with check or money order to:
CASA**

P.O. Box 1726 Stanwood, WA 98292

Name: _____ \$15 Single Membership

Address: _____ \$25 Family Membership

City/State/Zip: _____ \$100 Business Membership

Telephone: _____ \$ _____ Added Donation

Email: _____

Yes, I am interested in volunteering

Please do not include me in email notifications

I do not wish to have my name listed at the shelter as a member

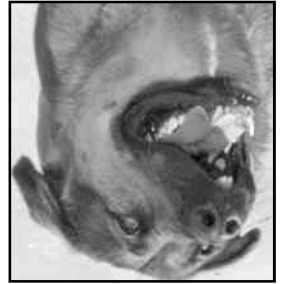
Camano Animal Shelter Association

160 Can Ku Road Camano Island, WA 98282 360-387-1902

www.camanoanimalshelter.org

CASA is a 501 (c) 3 non-profit shelter for animals

See Marigold's Story!



PERMIT # 285
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PRESORTED STANDARD

Stanwood, WA 98292
PO Box 1726
Newsletter of CASA



**CASA ANIMALS CURRENTLY IN NEED OF
FOREVER HOMES**



Peabody: 4-5 yr old Australian Shepherd. Easygoing, friendly, lovable. Housetrained & Neutered. Needs a fenced yard.

Ruby: Young Pit Bull Terrier/ German Short Haired Pointer female. Smart, energetic. Loves to run & play at the beach, swim, play fetch. In obedience training now—very smart!



Priscilla: Young female cat came to us pregnant. Her kittens grew up and most are now adopted. Priscilla now needs a home of her own. Friendly & quiet.



Noche: Came to CASA as a young, beat up tom cat. Now is altered. He loves kittens - needs a home of his own.



Clover: A young tabby female cat with entrancing eyes in need of a Forever Home of her own.



Savannah: Young Labrador Retriever mix. About 1 yr old. When she first came to shelter very scared but now relaxed & friendly. Loves to play with toys & people. Would make a great pet for someone who will spend the time to make friends and train her.



Tetra: 1 yr old female Pit Bull Terrier. Friendly, energetic, loves people. Knows some commands - Needs more training. No cats.



Leah: 2-3 yrs old. Shy at first but now adjusted to the shelter. Loves to have her back scratched & play with people.