



FOREVER HOME

Camano Animal Shelter Newsletter

Issue 2
Spring, 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.



Recently adopted pets from CASA.

Shelter Report

This year has brought both adoption joys and concerns to CASA. We are very thankful that most of our long-term dogs have found homes: Marigold, Savannah, Ruby, and Trapper. The length of stay ranged from nine to five months respectively. Fortunately, the majority of our recent dog intakes have been returned to their owners or found new homes in relatively short periods of time.

However, the surrendered and stray cats that have been brought to the shelter have not been adopted as quickly as usual. For one reason or another, older cats are being surrendered and are remaining at the shelter. Our mission is to find homes for all of our animals and as you may know, we do not limit their stay.

With spring here and kitten season now upon us, it is important that we find loving homes for these mature cats. No matter how clean the shelter is, overcrowding can lead to illnesses. We hope that you can find it in your hearts to adopt one of our mature cats. It is no exaggeration to say that they are extremely sweet and affectionate animals. Please check out the cats on PetFinder (www.petfinder.com) and/or come to meet these affectionate animals in person.

Five Little Kittens

This emotionally touching picture of five kittens was on the front page of the March 28, 2008 Everett Herald. It accompanied an article titled "Camano Island animal shelter's money running out". The article along with TV coverage and articles in other newspapers caused quite a stir and generated contributions of over \$30,000 for CASA. The five adoptable kittens were very much wanted by people who had seen their picture.



Dan Bates - The Herald

Bottom Row: Tux, Talker, and Trina; Top Row: Tucker and Timmy.

As a one-year anniversary of the generous outpouring, we thought you would like an update on the financial status of the shelter as well as the kittens. Those donations and subsequent fundraisers kept the shelter functioning last year and provided start-up money for the 2009 CASA budget. Possibly due to current economic woes, a decline in contributions has been seen so far in 2009. Unfortunately, expenses still continue to exceed projected income. We hope you will continue your support of CASA so that all of the dogs, cats, and kittens can be taken care of and given a chance to find their "Forever Homes".

The five little kittens have found their forever homes and brought joy to their owners.

Tux

Tux, the little calico female, lives with another cat that was adopted the same day.

Talker

Talker, now named **Yoda**, was adopted by the Hawkins family. Lydia, the daughter of the family decided to name him Yoda because his ears were so big and they reminded her of Yoda from the Star Wars movies. He has grown up to become a whopping 12.1 pounds. Yoda really is quite a talker, meowing as he follows Lydia around the house from room to room. She is his favorite. He is not allowed to sleep in Lydia's room at night because unfortunately his favorite spot is on top of her chest when she is laying down. While that was okay as a kitten, now he's just too big. She said he feels like a big brick. In the morning he meows at her door because he has endured a long night without her and he misses her. They love each other very much.



Yoda was Talker

(Continued on page 2 - Five Little Kittens)

In This Issue:

- Shelter Report 1
- Five Little Kittens 1
- Five Little Kittens—Continued 2
- "Putting on the Dog" Bake Sale 3
- 2nd Annual Rummage Sale 3
- Island County Leash Law 3
- Welcome to CASA 4
- Welcome to CASA-Continued 5
- Cat Declawing 6
- CASA Alumni 6
- Ways to Give to CASA 7
- CASA Wish List 7
- Animals In Need of Homes 8

CASA Web Site:

www.camanoanimalshelter.org

CASA E-Mail:

casa@camanoanimalshelter.org



CASA
Board Members

President Pro-Tem:
Barbara Peterson

Treasurer:
Martha Huyler

Secretary:
Chris Meshner

Members at Large:
Joe Collette
Molly Kaufmann
Stuart Wyatt

Staff:
Phyllis Kidwell
Cherie Lovell
Kim Thompson
Allison Zinnato

Newsletter Team:
Connie Parker, Editor
Martha Huyler
Cherie Lovell,
Photographer

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

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

Phone:
360-387-1902

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

(Continued from 5 Little Kittens, Page 1)

He loves to play and hide inside empty boxes and paper bags. Yoda has become a wonderful addition to the Hawkins family and they are all very happy to have him.

Trina

Trina, the little calico female on the bottom right of the photo, was named “**Cat-Face**” by James Holmes, the gentleman who adopted her. Cat-Face is the name that Mr. Holmes has given to all of the cats he has owned. The last one prior to Trina/Cat-Face lived for 18 years so we can tell that Mr. Holmes is a real care giver and cat lover. He says that she is a real clown and loves to pull the toilet paper off its roller and scatter it all over the floor. She follows him all over the house and sleeps with him at night as well. He is very happy to have her.

Tucker

Tucker was adopted by Inese Knepp and renamed **Sammy**. Sammy has grown quite large – he now weighs 13 pounds. He is very playful and loves to gallop around the house like a little horse. He loves to chase things around and play but he is careful not to scratch anything except his scratching posts. He is very affectionate and loves to cuddle but on his own terms. He does not like being picked up. He is an inside cat and sits at the windows during the day watching for squirrels and birds which he would love to catch. He is a typical cat and loves to get into mischief but Inese is very happy with Sammy and loves having him around.

Timmy

Timmy, the black kitten, was renamed **Mr. Lucky** by the Logg family who adopted him. Along with Mr. Lucky the family also adopted the Mama Cat who they named “Pretty Mama”. Mr. Lucky was very athletic and loved to run and jump all over the house. He and Pretty Mama were both inside cats. But Mr. Lucky was very curious about the outside and often tried to get out there.

Mr. Lucky was very affectionate and loved being with the Loggs, Richard and Renee. He slept with them at night and spent time with them whenever he could. Unfortunately, Pretty Mama must have not been well treated in her earlier life and she was scared to death when she went home with the Loggs. She hid out under the couch and other furniture for the first 3 weeks. Mr. Lucky was always near her and tried to get her to play and come out into the world. Eventually she did come out, but she kept her distance for a long time.

Last January when we had all of the snow, Mr. Lucky wanted to get outside in the worst way. One night when Mr. Logg was bringing in firewood, Mr. Lucky snuck out the door. It wasn't until later when Pretty Mama was looking for him and crying all over the house that his absence was realized. Everyone went out and hunted for him but could not find him. Unfortunately, the next morning he was found lying next to the road near the house. Someone must have put him there after their car hit him. Mr. Logg brought him into the house so that Pretty Mama could see him and understand that he was gone now. She touched his nose, licked him and sat by him for awhile and then retired under the sofa.

Over time Pretty Mama has become warm and affectionate and is very attached to her family now. Mr. Logg says “We miss our Mr. Lucky, but he is with us everyday as we have his mother's loving presence to remind us.”

The lives of these five little kittens have been as varied as their appearance. While we mourn the loss of Mr. Lucky, we are heartened to know that he found a good home and we celebrate the lives of the other little kittens.

Thanks to Allison Zinnato, one of our shelter staff, for conducting the research on the five kittens.

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.



Sammy was Tucker



Mr Lucky was Timmy



Pretty Mama

Mother's Day Art Studio Tour - "Putting on the Dog" & Bake Sale**Saturday, May 9th - 11:00AM to 5:00PM**

At the Camano Center – Blue Building next door to Camano Animal Shelter

There will be Baked Goods of all kinds including:

Cakes, Pies, Cookies, Breads, Muffins, Cupcakes, Munchies, and Pet Treats

In Addition, for a Snack or Lunch there will be:

- **BBQ Hot Dogs**
- **Soda**
- **Water**
- **Free Coffee**

CASA will be Conducting an Open House at the Animal Shelter Next Door to the Camano Center**2nd Annual CASA Rummage Sale****Saturday, June 13th – 9:00AM to 4:00PM**

At the Camano Center – Blue Building next door to Camano Animal Shelter

If YOU want to SELL Your TREASURES — Rent a TABLE for \$25.00**There will also be CASA TABLES!**

CASA is requesting donated items that will be sold at the CASA Tables to benefit our Animal Shelter. Please be sure that the items are Clean, Serviceable, Complete, and in Good Working Order.

WE NEED VOLUNTEERS TO HELP AT THE RUMMAGE SALE!**For Volunteering or Questions - Please Call the Shelter at 360-387-1902****ISLAND COUNTY LEASH LAW**

As the weather starts warming up, there will be more people out and about with their dogs walking around Camano Island on the beaches and elsewhere. It is important to understand the leash law for Camano Island and how it can affect you and your pets. In Island County, for each violation of the leash law, if you are convicted it is possible to be fined up to \$500 dollars and spend up to 90 days in jail. In addition, your public record will reflect that you were convicted of a misdemeanor. This can affect your life for years to come.

Here is the Camano Island Leash Law (Island County Ordinance No. C-102-02):

"It is unlawful for the owner, keeper, or person having custody or control of any dog to permit a dog to run at large on public school grounds or public playgrounds; to permit a female dog to run at large while in heat; or, to permit a dog to roam, run, stray, or be away from the premises of the owner or custodian and to be in any public place or on any public property or the private property of another in the county, unless such dog, while away from the premises of the owner or custodian, is controlled by a leash or chain not more than eight (8) feet in length, such control to be exercised by the owner or custodian or other competent and authorized person(s)."

The ordinance also states that if your dog is found in violation of the above statute, *"it may be impounded, subject to redemption"*. So far, in 2009, there have been 8 misdemeanor convictions of this Island County ordinance. Island County beaches are also included in this law.

According to Island County Ordinance 9.40.280, Section A: *"Dogs, pets, or other domestic animals are not permitted on any designated swimming beach, picnic, or play areas in any Island County park or in any park building unless specifically permitted by posting, (with exception of certified guide dogs/service animals), and in any County Park areas that are specifically posted for dogs and other pets on leash; they must be kept on a leash no greater than eight (8) feet in length, and under control at all times."*

You should also be aware that your dog could be declared a *"potentially dangerous dog"*. This means *"any dog that when unprovoked: a) inflicts bites on a human or domestic animal either on public or private property, or (b) chases or approaches a person upon the streets, sidewalks, or any public place in a menacing fashion or apparent attitude of attack, or any dog with a known propensity, tendency, or disposition to attack unprovoked, to cause injury, or to cause injury or otherwise to threaten the safety of humans or domestic animals."* (Revised Code of Washington 16.08.070)

If your dog is involved in such an action you *"as the owner of any dog that without provocation, is found guilty of violating the above Code, could be found guilty of a Class C Felony, punishable by up to five years in prison, a fine of up to \$10,000, or both."* Some local housing associations have individual rules or Civil Laws that apply to residents' dogs. Those are in addition to applicable county and state laws. If that is the case for you, violations can result in Civil Court charges in addition to County and State charges.

Sorry to bring such depressing news on the brink of another wonderful Camano Island summer, but we do believe that it is better to know the law and what the repercussions might be for dog owners and the dogs they love. This is far preferable to just going along and unknowingly putting yourself and/or your pet in a situation that could end up being dangerous and costly.

Mark Your Calendar!**UPCOMING EVENTS:****Mother's Day Art Studio Tour
CASA's "Putting on the Dog"
and Bake Sale**

Saturday, May 9th

CASA Rummage Sale

Saturday, June 13th

3rd Annual CASA Dog Wash

Saturday, August 15th

4th Annual CASA Auction

Saturday, October 3rd

**THANK YOU
BUSINESS MEMBERS!**

Camano Body Shop, Inc.

Camano Island Cellars

Camano Island Kennels

Camano Mold, Inc.

Camano Veterinary Clinic

Cloud's Canine

Do-It-Yourself Legal

Dog Style Grooming

Glass Tech Stanwood, Inc.

HR-at-Work.com

Index Sensors & Controls, Inc.

Invisible Fence of the Northwest

Mark's Camano Pharmacy

Moonlighting Pet and Livestock

Care

Sawtooth Trucking, Inc.

Thomas & Associates Insurance

**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

-Washington Mutual

-Washington Post

Employee Giving Companies

Boeing Employees

Community Fund

BUSINESSES—DONATION BOXES!

The local businesses who display our Donation collection boxes are appreciated!

Featured location this period:

Elger Bay Cafe**Welcome to CASA**

The shelter is open to the public Wednesday through Sunday each week and closed on Monday and Tuesday. Normal open hours are 11AM to 3PM except Saturday when it is open 11AM to 4PM. Many of you have never been to the shelter or have not visited it for a long time. In this two-part series we will take you on a tour of the shelter. Remember though, we'd love to have you visit us.

Front Office – From the outside, the shelter may appear impersonal and institutional. This perception changes the minute you walk in the door. There are signs on the door

warning you to open the door carefully since cats and kittens roam free at the shelter. This warning is particularly important during kitten season. The front office is the hub of all shelter activity. From behind its large U-shaped desk the staff greets you while cats gaze down at you from their perches in various cat trees, tops of counters and cabinets, and on top of the office computer terminal. At times they are also spread around on the floor as well. Sometimes there might be one sneakily edging towards the door as it is being opened. Kitten season brings lots of cute little ones skittering around on the floor playing with toys and each other as well as exploring. Beware! The front office is where people come to inquire about adoptable animals, report



missing pets, deliver strays, and drop off donations. Camano residents can also obtain annual dog licenses here. It is the social hub of the shelter where volunteers interact with the cats and learn more about the animals at the shelter. Groups of pictures of current and former residents are cheerfully displayed on the walls along with various animal related informational posters, notices, and art work. Every day selected dogs who are currently staying at the shelter are brought into the front office one at a time on a rotational basis. This is done so that they can become more familiar with cats and also allow them to relax with people in a friendly atmosphere. It also lets them get away from the kennels where they reside in another section of the shelter and reminds them of that other world out there. The cats consider the front office their family room and are always curious to see anyone new who walks in the door.

Cat Room – The second largest room at the shelter is the cat room. It has cat trees, benches, cat beds, cages and toys, lots of toys for the

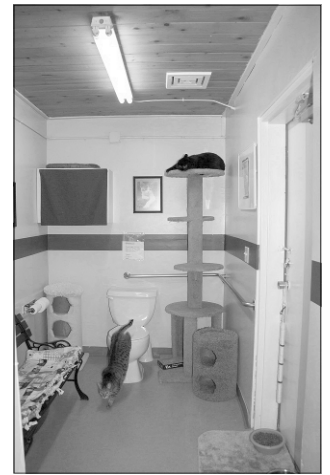
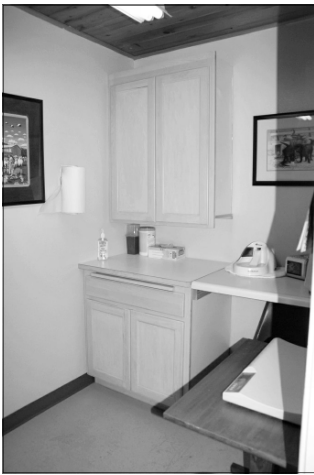
cats to play with. Prospective adopters and people just wanting to visit with the cats come here to sit and wait for the cats to come over and greet them. From the cat room the cats can watch the dogs in their outdoor play area (more on this next time). The cages in the cat room are used for cats that do not socialize well with other cats or cats requiring special monitoring. Occasionally, when we have too many male alpha types at one time we have to play musical cats and move them around a bit to keep them apart so they



don't fight. They are placed in one of the large cages in the Front Office or kept in the Cat Room so that they are separated. We try to be fair and switch them around as much as possible.

Support Rooms – There are three behind-the-scenes rooms that provide the necessary support for the shelter. The **Med. Room** is used to monitor the cats on a daily basis to assure that they stay healthy and where fosters are brought for periodic checkups. Of course, no shelter can exist without a **Laundry Room**. The washer and dryer run constantly at CASA to assure the animals have clean bedding. The **Tub Room** contains a large wash tub where dogs are bathed and litter boxes washed and sanitized.

Isolation Room (ISO) – The Isolation Room, the only room almost completely filled with cages, is the first room that cats see when they are brought to the shelter. Each new cat remains in the room for five days while they are initially monitored for health conditions, have blood drawn for tests and evaluations, and are given various standard vaccinations. This is also the room where sick cats stay and are treated until they recover.



Rest Room – You will rarely find rest rooms included when a shelter is described. But in our case the rest room, which is located in a corner of the Front Office, is used for all cats and kittens as their first step toward entering the regular CASA population. The new cats go into the rest room with the door closed for their first day out of ISO where they are confronted with and acclimate to new sights, sounds, and smells. On the second day the door is opened and they are allowed to venture out and visit other areas of the shelter. From that point on, they can stay where they want in the available space.



During kitten season, there are times when we have twenty or more new kittens in the shelter and the only way to keep them safe is by keeping them barricaded in the rest room. The rest room has a Dutch door that enables its top half to be left open so that visitors can watch the kittens and their antics while keeping them confined and safe so they are not underfoot. Visitors often enter the rest room to play with the kittens and get to know them a little so they can pick out their new pet. Once they are comfortable and sharp enough to watch out for dangerous situations, they are integrated into the regular cat population until they go to their

Forever Homes. It is fun to see the adult cats take on fostering the new little kittens, play with them and show them the ropes. Because of the relatively small size of the shelter we

have to take advantage of every last inch of usable space. Please take the time to come visit for a firsthand look. This is a warm, friendly place. To learn more about the intake/adoption process, you can schedule a shelter tour.

Meanwhile, if you are in the area while driving by, read our bright yellow sign in front of the shelter to see the dynamically changing counts that only hint of all the shelter activity. In the next issue of the newsletter we will have a description of the dogs' area.



CAT DECLAWING**Why it's a BAD Idea for Your Cat!**

Scratching is a natural behavior for cats. This removes the dead husks from their claws, marks territory, both visually and with scent glands in their paws, and stretches their muscles. Unfortunately, what is natural behavior for a cat often is considered misbehavior by a cat's human guardian, especially when furniture or other household objects are damaged in the process.

5 REASONS TO NOT DECLAW YOUR CAT:

- **Declawing involves amputating the entire last part of the 10 front toes.** A comparison in humans would be cutting off a person's finger at the last joint.
- **General anesthesia is used for this surgery, which always has a certain degree of risk** associated with it.
- **Declawing, whether performed using a scalpel or laser, provides no medical benefits to cats and is a painful procedure.**
- **Nerves, tendons and muscles are severed along with the joints, making recover from declawing painful and lengthy.**
- **Declawing robs a cat of an integral means of balance, movement, and defense.**

5 ALTERNATIVES TO DECLAWING:

- **Scratching posts offer an alternative to scratching on furniture.** Cats can be trained to use these fairly easily, especially if sprayed with attractive scents, like catnip.
- **Discourage your cat from clawing furniture by using an aversive scent or spray on furniture** which cats generally do not like, such as citrus.
- **Keep you cat's nails trimmed.** If the claws are clipped as needed, cats will have less desire to remove the husks of dead claws through scratching.
- **Nail caps are available commercially to cover the claws.** A non-toxic adhesive is used to attach a plastic cap over each claw.
- **Cats should be treated with respect.** Declawing is banned in many other countries because it is considered cruel.

Speak with your veterinarian about alternatives to cat declawing. Remember: Your cat depends upon you for protection.

[Printed with permission from Humane Society Veterinary Medical Association www.hsvma.org]

Camano Animal Shelter ALUMNI

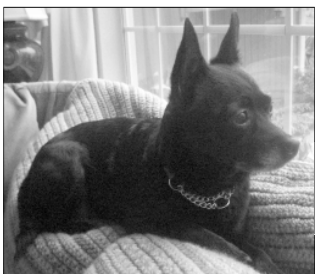
**Gracie Myers
(formerly Marigold)**



Piper Pepper White



Savannah Scott



**Rue
Bearden**

**Tippy &
Tessa
Wilkerson**



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.

MAILING LIST UPDATES
The United States Post Office has implemented a policy that will return undeliverable mail to CASA with a fee attached. We have included the “or current occupant” on our labels in an attempt to reduce the number of returned newsletters. Please help us update our mailing list by notifying us if you: have address changes, are receiving two newsletters or if you want to be removed from our mailing list. Send email to: casa@camanoanimalshelter.org.

CASA Wish List

General Supplies

- Liquid bleach
- Liquid laundry detergent
- Hand held heavy duty spray bottles (for cleaning)

Pet Food

- KMR- Kitten Milk Replacement
- Baby Food- small jars of pureed meats
- Royal Canin babycat and kitten dry food
- Canned kitten food
- Canned cat and dog food

Pet Supplies

- Medium size dog Kurunda beds
See www.kuranda.com
- Non-clumping cat litter or stove pellets

Office Supplies

- Copy paper (8 ½” x 11”)
- Postage stamps – rolls can be purchased on-line at www.shop.usps.com



YES ...I WANT TO HELP THE ANIMALS AT CAMANO ANIMAL SHELTER

Enclosed is my TAX DEDUCTIBLE gift of:

\$15 \$25 \$50 \$100 \$250 Other \$ _____

Name (Please print)

Street

City State Zip

Phone Email address

If this donation is a gift or in honor or memory of someone special, please include a note and we will mail an acknowledgement to the individual or family.

I am interested in becoming a volunteer. I would like to become a 2009 Member of CASA.

My employer will match my gift. Enclosed is my completed matching gift form.

Thank you for your support!

CASA is a non-profit 501(c)3 corporation.
All donations are tax deductible to the full extent allowed by law.
Please make check payable to CASA.

Dan Bates—The Herald



PRESORTED STANDARD
 U.S. POSTAGE
 PAID
 STANWOOD, WA
 PERMIT # 285

Newsletter of CASA
 PO Box 1726
 Stanwood, WA 98292



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



Tetra: A Pitbull-Terrier mix about 1 year old. She has a great personality and is full of energy. She knows basic commands but really needs someone to work with her. She's been at CASA for 6+ months. She loves people and is waiting patiently for her Forever Family to come get her.



Kinsley: About 3 years old, he came to CASA as a stray. He is one of the most easy going, friendly cats you will ever meet. Loves pets, belly rubs, and people in general. He's hard not to notice as you come in the door. He's always waiting, looking at the door, hoping to meet a new friend and maybe his new owner.



Rocket: A German/Australian Shephard mix. He's probably 2 to 3 years old — a very sweet, loving boy. Crazy about car rides, playing ball, and having his belly rubbed. Interaction with friendly people is what he loves most.
 He's waiting for you!



Romeo: Former owner moved and surrendered this 5 year old neutered male tabby and his stepbrother, big black cat Bentley. Romeo is a real lover—we think that's how he got his name. He loves to give kisses and be close to people. He would love to have his own person and home of his own.



Shamus: Very cute and lovable 3 year old male tabby. He loves to sit in a cat post and greet people as they pass by. He loves affection and being held like a baby. Can somebody take this baby home?



Miss Kitty: She is 13 years old and was surrendered to CASA because the owner's husband decided he didn't like her after she'd been with them for 7 years. Miss Kitty has had a history of UTI and is currently being treated for one now. She also needs further tests. With better care she should flourish and hopefully live for years. She'd do best in a relaxed, laid back home with cat lovers and other cats. Any contributions towards her medical care are appreciated.