



FOREVER HOME

Camano Animal Shelter Newsletter

Issue 3
Summer, 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.



Corbin, Noche, & Leo were all adopted recently.

Shelter Manager's Report

This summer brought changes to CASA, new events, shelter improvements and many new pets. Everyone has loved the subtle changes and we hope that will continue as more things unfold. Summer also brought some difficult days. The week of extreme heat in July took its toll. The staff added additional visits to the shelter in the evenings to make sure our pets were doing OK. The hottest day, before the air conditioning units started to arrive, it registered at 104 degrees inside the shelter. We were fortunate to have fabulous supporters and understanding community members step up to help us when we needed it. The staff and I and the CASA pets cannot thank you enough for helping us through that tough time. We are already starting to plan for the cold winter months to ensure all of the animals at CASA stay safe and happy while they wait for *Forever Homes*.

For many, shelters are perceived as the last resort or the end of the road for a large number of pets. We see that differently here at our shelter. CASA has been a safe haven for so many pets who have come in looking their worst, feeling their worst, and fearing the worst. We have a new student volunteer named Steven. He really wanted to visit dogs when he first came to the shelter with his mom. Steven was immediately overcome by sad feelings for all the dogs. We asked him why he was so sad and he told us that he felt bad that they had to live here. This feeling is extremely common and completely understandable. We told Steven it was all right to show his feelings, but that he should be happy for the animals here. For many of them this is a new lease on life. Some come to us on death's door, with untreated medical issues, homeless - living on the beach, and some just hurting for love they have never received. For those animals, CASA is their new beginning, the beginning of the rest of their new life. We are proud that our shelter is able to play this role for so many wonderful pets. We will continue to improve and grow as the world around us does so we can ensure CASA will always remain a great place for the community and the Island's pets.

Tegan Locker, Shelter Manager

Tetra's Story

Day after day animals sit in the kennels of animal shelters across the world. Some get a better chance than others. Kittens and puppies find homes fairly quickly. Everyone wants the rare and unusual looking pets. Small breeds of dogs find laps to lay on in no time. Then there are the black cats, the special needs pets, and the large common looking dogs who just sit there day in and day out. Each day they are passed by for the cute little one or the neat looking one. Unfortunately, the majority of people who visit shelters don't ever realize what they just passed by. That dog left behind may very well be the best one of the bunch, but too many people still judge a book by its cover or go in with one type on their mind.

On October 30th, 2008 a very young brindle Pit Bull came into CASA as a stray. With no owner in sight this 6 month old girl sat in the kennels and waited each day for her owners to come get her, but they never did.

Days passed and she watched new dog friends enter the kennels. She had a routine of greeting new dogs through their kennel doors. Most dogs had owners who came to claim them, some stayed but were quickly adopted, and a few stayed for months. None would stay as long as she did though.

When her stray hold was up the newly named "Tetra" became an official CASA dog and was added to the list of adoptable pets. Shortly after Tetra became a part of the CASA clan she was spayed and brought up-to-date on vaccines. She also came in with an ear infection that was treated and healed.

(continued on page 2 - Tetra's Story)



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CASA Web Site:

www.camanoanimalshelter.org

CASA E-Mail:

casa@camanoanimalshelter.org

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Cherie Lovell,
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Thanks to those who helped our old girl, Miss Kitty. She has improved and been adopted.

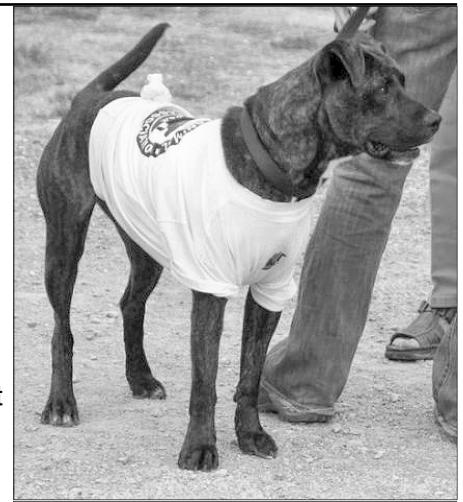
Physical Address:
160 Can Ku Road
Camano Island, WA
98282**Mailing Address:**
P.O. Box 1726
Stanwood, WA
98292**Phone:**
360-387-1902**Hours:**
Wed - Fri 11 - 3
Sat 11 - 4
Sun 11 - 3
Mon & Tue Closed*(continued from page 1 - Tetra's Story)*

Upon "Tetra's" arrival she didn't show many signs of training, so she was quite a handful of puppy energy. CASA was fortunate enough to have basic obedience/behavioral training donated to the shelter by a local kennel and Tetra was enrolled in it. It took only a few days of training and the staff already saw great improvements in Tetra. She learned all her basic commands and how to walk on a leash like a lady! She developed into an amazing dog and has become a staff favorite.

CASA participated in Poochpalooza which takes place in Marysville every year. Tetra was able to go this time and spent the afternoon showing all of the people there just what a wonderful girl she is and also that Pit Bulls can make great family pets. She won everyone over with her impressive charm!

Tetra truly is an awesome dog who would love to find her Forever Home sooner than later. She definitely knows she is loved here at CASA and is treated like family here, but she would prefer to have a human of her very own! If you are looking for a new companion, come into the shelter and meet Tetra, she'd love for you to take her to the park next door for a walk or just throw her ball in the play yard and get to know her. You are bound to fall in love with her once you meet and she looks up at you with those gorgeous eyes.




Thanks to Allison Zinnato, shelter staff member, for Tetra's Story.



Tetra wearing a CASA T-shirt.

New On-line Resources

In addition to our website, www.camanoanimalshelter.org we've added some great new resources to help you stay in the know about the goings-on around the shelter. You can reach the new Blog and Photo album from our website home page, but just in case you want to go to them directly:

- **CASA Blog:** We have a new blog! Visit the blog at <http://camanoanimalshelter.wordpress.com> to learn about the animals and shelter events/issues from the staff's point of view. Keep an eye open for up-to-date news.
- **CASA's Photo album:** Flickr hosts shelter photos, event photos and animal photos. Go to www.flickr.com/photos/camanoshelter/collections. There's no need to join, just enter the address and enjoy the pictures. 
- **CASA on Facebook:** Are you on Facebook? CASA has a Facebook page. Go to www.facebook.com, search for "Camano Animal Shelter Association," and "Become a Fan." 
- **CASA on MySpace:** CASA's also part of MySpace, another social network that allows people to share happenings. Go to www.myspace.com/camanoanimals. 

Coming Soon – New Music CD

We are pleased to announce plans for a CD of music by area musicians as a fundraiser for CASA. The musicians are donating their time and are taking care of production. We are collaborating on cover design and title and are hoping to have these CDs in time for the auction.

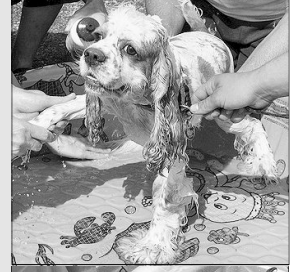
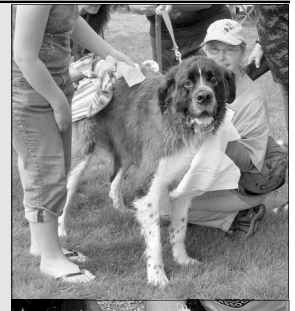
Some of the area musicians involved are: Norm Peterson, Darren Hakenson, Alex Cook, South End String Band, One Ton of Ducks, Gerry Andal and many more. There is also a selection by Laurie Z, a nationally known artist who had strong ties to this area. Plans for a CD Release Party are underway.

CASA Activity Updates

It was a busy spring and summer for the Friends of CASA. The Mother's Day Art Studio Tour – "Putting on the Dog" and Bake Sale saw the community flocking to the sale to purchase baked goods and relax with BBQ hot dogs. At our CASA Rumage Sale in June people rented tables to sell their treasures while others came to find the wonderful items they could not live without.

At the 3rd Annual Dog Wash held next to the shelter in August, 66 volunteers came together to wash and dry dogs. It was a busy day with 123 dogs bathed, 73 nails clipped, and 20 micro-chips implanted. The Dog Wash event and related mailing raised \$4,300 for CASA. Special thanks go out to Dog Style Grooming, Camano Plaza Market, Re/Max Real Estate, Skagit Valley Farmers Supply and the Spare Room.

CASA was represented at Twin City Idlers, Art By the Bay, the Poochpalooza in Marysville, the Stanwood/Camano Fair and the Car Collector's show. The goal was to not only spread the word about CASA, but also to introduce all of our wonderful dogs and cats.



4th Annual

CASA FOREVER HOME BENEFIT AUCTION

October 3, 2009 ~ 5:30pm - 9:30pm

Auction to be held at:

**Camano Senior & Community Center
606 Arrowhead Road, Camano Island**

- SILENT and LIVE Auctions
- GOURMET APPETIZERS, DESSERT & COFFEE
- SELECTED WINES, BEERS & NON-ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES AVAILABLE FOR PURCHASE

TICKETS: \$25 in Advance ~ \$35 at the Door
Advance tickets may be purchased at the CASA shelter at the corner of East Camano Drive and Can Ku Drive, or call 360-387-1189, or on-line at <http://auction.camanoanimalshelter.org>



CASA is a non-profit 501(c)(3) organization dedicated to finding FOREVER HOMES for homeless animals. Donations are gratefully accepted.

Mark Your Calendar!

UPCOMING EVENTS:

- 4th Annual CASA Auction
Saturday, October 3rd
- 4th Annual Santa Pictures
November
- Lights of Love Tree
November/December

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
- Invisible Fence of the Northwest
- Mark's Camano Pharmacy
- Moonlighting Pet and Livestock Care
- Scandia Coffeehouse & Eatery
- Thomas & Associates Insurance
Broker, Inc.
- Windermere Real Estate

THANK YOU MATCHING GIFT COMPANIES!

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

- Attachmate
- BP
- Chevron
- Microsoft
- Pfizer
- Real Networks Foundation
- 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:

Huntington's Corner Grocery

Welcome to CASA

In the last newsletter, we toured the shelter's front office, cat room and support rooms. Since then, we have rearranged the front office making it more open and inviting. Our wonderful volunteers came together and transformed our sad little garden into a large low maintenance one that makes you feel like you are at the beach.

The previous article focused on the cat areas and, as promised, this part of the series will focus on how the dogs brought to the shelter are loved and cared for until they are returned to their owners or find a Forever



Renovated and enlarged garden done by Friends of CASA.



View of shelter from south east direction.

Home. In some cases dogs may be at the shelter for several months or longer. CASA's origins are rooted in the care of dogs. CASA, the Camano Animal Shelter Association, was formed in 1998 to oversee the operation of an animal shelter that would house dogs impounded on Camano Island. Island County's laws require that we provide a place to temporarily care for all dogs impounded on Camano Island. Island County provides the building, water, electricity and approximately \$30,000 for running the shelter. Because CASA has made the commitment to admit and care for other types of dogs than just those that are impounded, as well as take in cats, the shelter's expenses far exceed the allowance provided by Island County. As those familiar with CASA know, the Friends of CASA put in much effort to raise additional funds needed to run the shelter. Many generous financial donations help out as well.

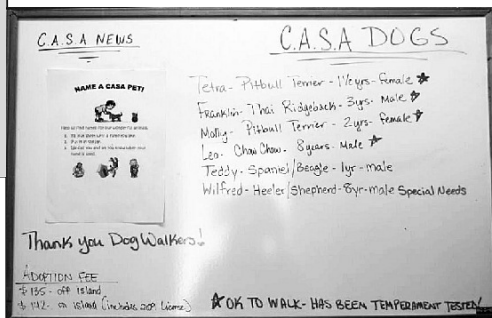
The dog area of the shelter consists of the **Kennel Area, Outdoor Runs** and a **Play Yard**.

Kennel Area - The kennel area, located to the left of the front office contains twenty (20) kennels. Eleven (11) of the kennels have doors that open onto private outdoor runs dedicated to that kennel's resident dog. Inside each kennel, there is a Kuranda (brand name) bed. A Kuranda bed looks like a canvas cot with 4 short legs that allows a dog to sleep comfortably above the floor. Of course, each kennel also contains food, water and toys. There is an information sheet attached to the door of each occupied kennel that contains the dog's Petfinder information, a small erasable board showing how many days the dog has been at CASA, a packet of information updated by staff and dog walkers and very importantly, the dog's leash. Dogs are walked nearby in the park next door or up Can Ku Road by a dedicated group of volunteer dog walkers. A sign in the kennel area indicates which dogs may be walked by volunteers. Impounded or stray dogs are brought to the shelter and stay



Leo smiling with Cherie, a shelter staff member.

there until they are retrieved by their owners. If there is no identification on a dog and no way for shelter workers to contact an owner, the dog becomes a ward of CASA if it is not picked up within the pre-defined waiting period. If CASA staff has identified a dog's owner but are not able to contact them, the dog is put on a 14-day hold to allow a recognized owner a little more time to retrieve their pet. All new dogs reside in kennels located at the back of the kennel area and are not available for public viewing or walking until they have undergone a temperament test and passed it.



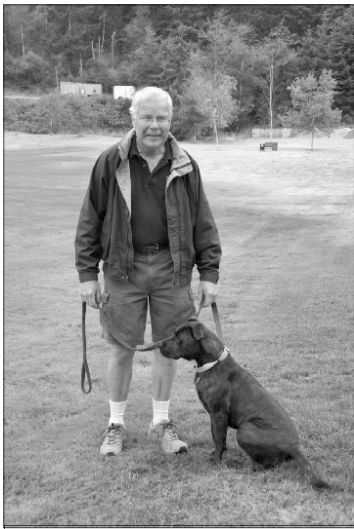
White board used in kennel area for information.

(continued on page 5 - Welcome to CASA)

(continued from page 4 - Welcome to CASA)

Besides taking in impounded and stray dogs, CASA also accepts owner surrendered dogs. However, according to its county contract CASA must assure that there is always space available for impounded dogs. Since kennels with lots of large dogs are sometimes intimidating for smaller dogs, small dogs are often cared for in foster homes. They usually spend evenings at their foster home but days are spent at the shelter so they can be seen for possible adoption. Adoptable dogs remain at CASA until they find their Forever Home. Since these dogs often need medical attention, they are taken to the veterinarian and the staff assures that they receive the required assistance. This may mean providing a special diet or medication. All adopted dogs are spayed or neutered before leaving CASA.

Outdoor Area – As mentioned earlier, the 11 kennels with outdoor runs are all next to each other so when they are out in their runs the dogs can see each other. From these outdoor areas the dogs enjoy observing what’s going on. If something’s happening, one dog will start barking and will soon be joined by a chorus of barks

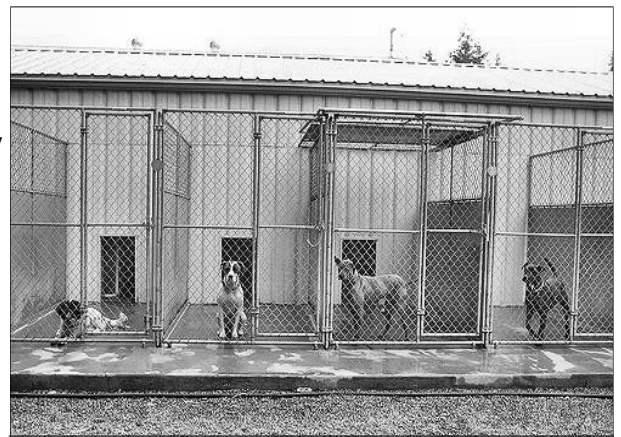


Our feature dog Tetra with Oluf, one of our volunteer dogwalkers.

Play Yard – We are fortunate that the shelter has a play yard that surrounds the outdoor kennels and comes right up to the front office and cat rooms. This is a favorite spot for most of the dogs. The staff rotates them to be sure they each spend time in the play yard and, if possible, the workers spend time with individual dogs to interact and play with them. Whenever possible there are “yard buddies”, i.e., placed in the yard at the same time. The staff can watch the dogs from the front office and the cats peek out their windows at the dogs. Prospective adopters have the opportunity to meet the dogs in the play yard. This gives them the opportunity to spend time with the dog in a safe, relaxed atmosphere. Although a visit to see the dogs may be noisy, we know our dogs are happy. Thanks to the care and concern given to the dogs by the volunteers and staff we are confident that the dogs waiting for their Forever Home know how much they are loved.



Here is the play yard currently occupied by 2 buddies. It extends beyond the building on the left with lots more room that can't be seen.

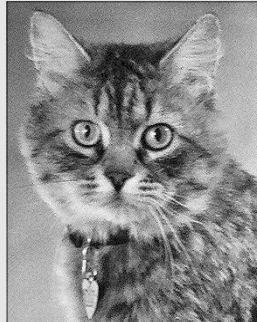


Kennels with outdoor runs attached work very well for the shelter dogs as can be seen in this photo.

Camano Animal Shelter ALUMNI



Izzy (CASA: Yozark) and Fiona Sale August, 2008



Lionel Perkins April, 2009



Peek Halliday ~ June, 2008



Buttons (CASA: Callie) Kelley ~ June, 2009



Daisy Bishop ~ May, 2008



Kona Bell (CASA: Roady) June, 2009

Happy Tails

Reuben's Happy Tail

A 5-year-old red heeler named Rusty came to CASA in February, 2009 and was adopted in April. Rusty's story illustrates the power of www.PetFinder.com in placing animals and how a dog's life can be changed.

Here is what Rusty's new owners had to say: "We lost our old blue heeler from old age and were looking for another heeler-type dog to take in to our remote wilderness home in the Yukon, Canada. We wanted to try getting an adult rather than a new pup for two reasons: the main one being we've always had a dog around camp to bark at bears, etc. and the other reason was I liked the idea of rescuing one from the seemingly endless lists of poor dogs looking for homes.



Rusty's picture as seen on www.PetFinder.com.

While we were on holiday in Australia, we started looking at the websites. Rusty was on our "short list" for shelters to call when we got back to Canada. He had such a nice face. So after a couple of phone calls we drove down to Camano Island. After taking "Rusty" for a little walk he reminded us a lot of our two-dogs-ago yellow heeler that we'd had for 12 years. We changed his name to "Reuben" "and the rest is history". He had a long journey with us before we actually got home. So we all got well acquainted while

travelling north. He had a vet visit, a car ride, a stay in two strange houses, a ride on a jet, more car rides, a hotel stay, a ride on the ferry, another car ride (!), and then a small plane ride (which he hated). Then finally we got to our home in the Yukon - in lots of snow.



Reuben's arrival in Alaska—still a way to go before they get all the way home to the Yukon in Canada.

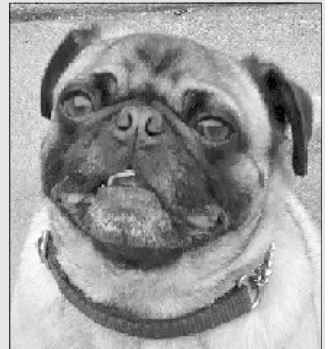
As it gradually became Spring and the snow melted, Reuben's territory widened. He has grown to love it and he is free and happy here. He's chased a bear out of camp, warded off several wolves, herded the bulldozer, barked idiotically at the ravens who teased him, and kept me company and entertained with his antics all summer long. He has a ball that he pushes around with his nose and paws so he entertains himself as well!

As I write this Reuben is sprawled out on his mat in the kitchen. He's been kept busy the past few days keeping the whiskey jacks (birds) off his new moose bone. They won!"

Kate and Ian Warrick

Harley's Happy Tail

Harley, a little pug formerly named Hairy Potter, was adopted in April, 2009 and is doing in one word: F-A-N-T-A-S-T-I-C!!! Harley has been a wonderful addition to my family and I am so very happy to have found him. He has settled in very nicely and has become quite the pampered pup - thanks to my girlfriend. His day usually consists of a morning walk before work, then off to day care to play with his friends during the work day. The doggy day care has a web cam so my girlfriend and I are constantly checking in on him, and we often will call or email each other saying "Did you see what Harley just did?"



In the evenings we usually go for another walk (depending on the weather). Then it's play time and after that off to bed. He has really flourished with all the one on one attention he gets and we just couldn't be more in love with the little guy! My girlfriend has gone a little crazy with all the coats and sweaters she wants Harley to wear. Harley just rolls his eyes and looks at me like "Dad, help me out here!"

Thank you for everything! Harley has completed my family and I couldn't be happier. Michael Pamintuan

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.

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. 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 Wish List

General Supplies

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

Pet Food

- KMR - Kitten Milk Replacement
- Baby Food - small jars of pureed meats
- Royal Canin baby cat and kitten dry food
- Canned kitten food
- Canned cat and dog food
- Dry Kirkland Dog/Cat food

Pet Supplies

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

Office Supplies

- Copy paper (8 1/2" x 11")
- Postage stamps – rolls can be purchased on-line at www.shop.usps.com

~ 4th Annual CASA Benefit Auction ~ Sincere Thanks To Our Title Sponsors:

- Scandia Coffeehouse & Eatery
- Thomas & Associates
Insurance Broker, Inc.
- Wendy Windsor-Wosnig
- Windermere Real Estate

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.



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 2009/2010 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) organization.
All donations are tax deductible to the full extent allowed by law.
Please make check payable to CASA.



PRESORTED STANDARD
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
STANWOOD, WA
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Newsletter of CASA
PO Box 1726
Stanwood, WA 98292



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



Gentry - This beautiful 4 year old neutered male cat was found abandoned in an unoccupied house with his sister. They were trapped there for over a month without food or water before being discovered and brought to CASA. Gentry is a friendly, mellow fellow who enjoys sunning himself on a warm window sill. Come and visit him - he will love to spend time with you.



THIS IS KATIE! This tiny, older female shih tzu was found hobbling down the middle of a road and brought to CASA by a caring person. She was obviously neglected and in very bad condition. Her hair was long and matted, her nails so long some pierced her feet. Most likely she was discarded by a callous backyard breeder. (Yes, they exist even on Camano Island.) She was not spayed and had obviously produced lots of puppies.. CASA staff cleaned her up, gave her needed medical treatment, love and caring. They named her Katie. She now needs a loving home with people who will give her the care she deserves and never had. Through it all Katie has responded warmly to all who have shown her care, love and affection. Please help Katie with a donation or a new home.

This is Rosie! Rosie is an 8-year old survivor who was placed in a very bad situation. She was declawed as a young cat. Recently, in the last year, her owner asked a friend to watch Rosie temporarily but never came back for her. Unfortunately the friend kept Rosie outside for the last 5 months and, of course, she could not defend herself. When she was brought to CASA she was covered with scabs and sores caused by attacks from other outside animals. She's on the mend now but needs a new home with somebody who will give her the understanding and love she deserves. Can you come see her and help her out?



**- KITTENS -
KITTENS - KITTENS**

It seems late in the year for kittens but we have lots of them right now! If you have been thinking about getting a kitten, stop by and see them running around playing and learning what being a cat is all about.

FiFi - Fifi came to CASA as a stray mother with 4 kittens. She was a very good mother. Now that her babies are ready for homes of their own Fifi needs to find somebody for herself. She is very sweet and affectionate with people. She loves to be held and petted. Come see her! Maybe you are her special one!

