



# FOREVER HOME

Volume 5

Camano Animal Shelter Newsletter

Issue 3  
Fall, 2011

## 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.

## Message from the Shelter Manager

Animals find their way to CASA in many different ways. Recently the majority of animals coming through our doors are strays. When stray animals come to CASA they are looked over carefully, checked for a collar, their coloring and identifying marks are noted, checked for common ailments, and they are scanned for a microchip. In most cases animals come to us with no identification at all.

We rarely find a microchip, but when we do, it gives us needed hope of reuniting the lost pet with its owner. Unlike collars or tags, a microchip doesn't get caught in the brush and rip off, a finder can't just remove it, it never wears down and becomes illegible - the microchip is always there. A microchip in your pet can be scanned and traced cross country, over the border, and even 10 years later. Pet theft is quite common and a permanent microchip may help bring a stolen pet home.

If you are unsure whether your pet has a microchip you can have them scanned at your next vet visit. You can get your dog scanned during open hours at the shelter also. The staff is happy to bring the scanner out to your car and will write down the chip number for you. *(The shelter is unable to scan owned cats since scanning takes place outside of the shelter and the cat would need to be removed from a carrier to scan it. The vet is the safest place to have your personal cat checked for a microchip.)*

If you know your pet's microchip number you should call the company who manufactures the chip, give them the number and they will let you know if the microchip has been properly registered or if your information is current. To find out more about microchip implantation visit our website or the shelter in person. CASA currently offers low-cost microchipping for dogs by appointment and at select scheduled events. A small cost for a lifetime of added security.

Tegan Locker, Shelter Manager



## OLDER AND WISER AND WAITING FOR YOU

When many people come to CASA looking for a cat, they are immediately drawn to the playful kittens, completely bypassing the mature cats in the room. In shelters across the country, adult and "senior" cats in particular are consistently overlooked.

Adult cats find themselves at CASA for many reasons: because of allergies, illness or death of owners, a move to a new residence that does not allow pets, the breakup of a relationship or they were lost and never found. In such cases, there is nothing wrong with the cat itself, their lives have changed because of events beyond their control.

This year, it seems as if the adult and "senior" cats have stayed at the shelter longer than usual. Right now we have three "senior cats" waiting to be adopted. Miss Muffet, age 10, came to the shelter as a stray; her owners never came looking for her. Mr. Sandy, age 14, was brought to the shelter and surrendered with his housemate, Momma, age 3, because his owner had to move to a place that would not accept pets. MawMaw, age 14, also arrived as a stray.

Recently, however, we celebrated the adoption of Duffy, age 16, who went to a home with another senior cat, age 20 and Tom, our long-term resident was adopted.

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Miss Muffet waiting for her Forever Home.



Mr. Sandy, the black cat, relaxing with his friend and former housemate, Momma.

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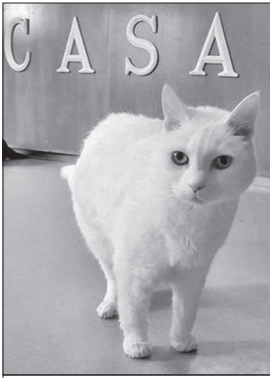
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## CASA Website:

[www.camanoanimalshelter.org](http://www.camanoanimalshelter.org)

## CASA E-Mail:

[casa@camanoanimalshelter.org](mailto:casa@camanoanimalshelter.org)



After a long stay at CASA, Tom has found his Forever Home!

### **Board Members**

#### **President:**

Martha Huyler

#### **Vice President:**

Marty Bloom

#### **Treasurer:**

Cathy Massimino

#### **Secretary:**

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#### **Members at Large:**

Shari Estep

Gloria Ingraffia

Bob Stanton

### **CASA Staff**

#### **Manager:**

Tegan Locker

#### **Staff Members:**

Natalie Chubbuck

Samantha Compton

Justine Doggett

Sheri Rhoads

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Connie Parker

Martha Huyler

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Camano Island, WA  
98282

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98292

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360-387-1902

#### **Hours:**

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

*Continued from page 1 - Older and Wiser and Waiting for You*

Have you considered the differences between cats and kittens? Consider the following reasons for adopting an adult cat:

- Their personalities are well developed and a good match is easier to make. The staff knows each of the adult cats and can help you find one that fits your own situation.
- There's no question as to how big they will get.
- Older cats are calmer.
- They are less likely to get into mischief around the house. They have outgrown juvenile energy that often leads to trouble. Adult cats won't be climbing up your leg or your curtains, knocking down knick knacks or just running full speed ahead for no good reason.
- They need less attention than young kittens, but can still be quite playful. Many available adult cats are barely out of kitten-hood themselves. They still have plenty of spunk and energy - they're just a bit more mature.
- They're quiet companions. They have well-developed manners, use the litter box and the scratching post without constant reminders.
- They still make strong bonds with their new families.
- Many don't mind if they are left alone while you are at work or school.
- Cats often live for 15 or even 20 years, so an 8 year old cat (*often called "senior"*) is only middle-aged and has many years of affection left to give.

These wonderful and loving kitties deserve a second chance. Once cats adjust to a new home where they can feel safe and secure again, they'll offer years of faithful companionship and unconditional love. Adopting an adult cat is a way to say to a deserving animal, "I believe in you." Most importantly, kittens are not kittens forever!

## Did You Know?

### **Kennel Improvement Project Underway**

This spring, the long-awaited Kennel Improvement project began. The dog kennels, housed in a metal "pole" construction building, although heated, were cold when the temperature dropped dramatically and hot when the temperature outside soared. After receiving approval from Island County, owners of the building, CASA insulated the top half of the kennels covering the walls with white corrugated sheet metal. The choice of insulation and wall covering was dictated by the cleaning/sanitation requirements.

While the insulation has improved the temperature variation dramatically, the metal walls produce a "surround sound" effect when the dogs bark. The project which also includes ceiling refurbishment, new kennel equipment and additional lighting is temporarily on hold until a soundproofing solution can be developed. Don't wait until the project is complete, stop by and see the new improved kennels any time.



The white vertical sheet metal on the kennel wall is part of the recently completed insulation project.

Have you adopted from CASA? Send us an email message and with a photo of your pet and we'll include it in our next newsletter! Please be sure to include the full name of your pet and the month/year adopted. Have a Happy Tail? Send that also. CASA's email address is [casa@camanoanimalshelter.org](mailto:casa@camanoanimalshelter.org).

**Mark Your Calendar!**

**CASA Friends**

*First Thursday of each month  
7 PM at the Camano Center  
Join us as we plan our events:*

**UPCOMING EVENTS**

**55+ Volunteer Resource Fair**

*Saturday, November 5th*

**Santa Pictures**

*Saturday, November 12th*

**Lights of Love**

*November/December*

**Annual Meeting**

*Monday, December 5th*

**THANK YOU  
BUSINESS MEMBERS!**

- AWR Inc. / General Contractor
- Bee Bookkeeping & Income Tax Service
- Blackbird Bakery Cafe
- Camano Body Shop, Inc.
- Camano Island Pet Grooming Salon
- Camano Mold, Inc.
- Camano Storage
- Camano Veterinary Clinic
- Canine Cozy Care Resort, LLC
- Cat Nap Inn, LLC
- CCR Camano Canine Resort
- Community Plumbing Services, Inc.
- Do-It-Yourself Legal
- Dog Style Grooming
- Edward Jones - Peggy Burr \*
- Glass Tech Stanwood, Inc.
- Krista's Pet Spaw
- Mark's Camano Pharmacy
- Northwest Veterinary Clinic - Stanwood \*
- Pet Neuter and Vaccination Clinic
- Pratt Pest Management NW \*
- Restoration Dental \*
- Scandia Coffeehouse & Eatery
- State Farm Insurance  
- Leslie Tripp Agency \*
- Terry W. Greer, Inc. P.S.
- Thomas Assoc - Insurance Brokers, Inc.\*
- TimLabs
- Ultimate Arch Orthotics
- Whidbey Island Bank \*
- Windermere Real Estate
- Windermere Real Estate - Linda Evans \*

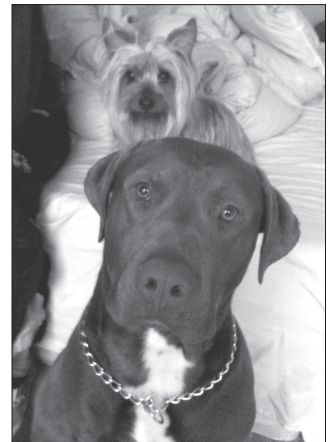
\* Welcome New Business Members

**CASA Alumni**



Joe Dryden

Adopted April 2011



Choco Howard (and friend)  
Adopted May 2011



Spencer Brenner (formerly Rex)

Adopted March 2011



Selma Watkinson (formerly Cher)

Adopted May 2010



Kloe Schurman (formerly Chloe)

Adopted March 2010



Moose Pearson (formerly Lyric)

Adopted May 2010



Zeus Applegate

Adopted March 2011

Visit [camanoanimalshelter.org](http://camanoanimalshelter.org) to view and read about all of our adoptable animals.

## Happy Tails — Friends Forever

I walked into the CASA shelter on a sunny day in September 2010, thinking I was looking for a dog I could take care of. The staff at CASA helped me meet the dog waiting to take care of me.

Tetra is a mixed breed with Pit Bull in her mix. Because of the Pit Bull part, many people passed her by (*I am thankful they did*). When asked if I had any breed restrictions, I did mention Pit Bull. My comment came from a lack of knowledge and a lack of exposure. The CASA staff gave me the details on Tetra's lengthy stay and explained how she had captured the heart of everyone associated with her, the staff and volunteers alike. After playing with Tetra, seeing her bright eyes and soaking in her playful spirit I knew she was coming home with me. I took the night to think over my decision but the next morning could not come quickly enough.



Lisa loves Tetra

Since coming to my home Tetra has taken very good care of me. She keeps me very active by walking, playing fetch, going for runs and playing with her many canine friends. Her best friend is a 3.5 lb Japanese Chin. They play, they run and even share bones.



and the feeling is mutual ...

Tetra has made many people I know rethink the generalizations that can accompany a Pit Bull. She receives treats from one person who would never feed a dog with Pit Bull in it. Another person who was very unsure because of the breed's reputation now sits on the floor and pets and plays with her, I think they have forgotten that Pit Bull part of her mix.

Tetra listens to everything I have to say both good and bad. She lets me vent, cry and celebrate, at the end of every conversation she reminds me that the world is still turning and her favorite toy is not going to throw itself. Tetra has taught me to not believe generalizations, to open my heart and most importantly, her favorite toy is not going to throw itself! Well done CASA, you kept my best friend safe and happy until I could get to her, we both say, THANK YOU!

- Lisa Boyle

(*Tetra was our feature story in the Summer 2009 newsletter*)

## Our CASA Family

We have always loved Golden Retrievers. Five years ago, we drove by CASA and saw that there was a Golden Retriever listed on the CASA board in front of the shelter. When I called the shelter, a staff member said the dog had numerous issues and was very "needy". Throwing caution to the wind we visited the next day and found her to be everything described and more, but felt she would fit in with our family so we adopted "Goldie". She was very hyper, didn't like car rides and had a problem being socialized around people.

She likes chasing balls, sticks and Frisbees. She also enjoys digging and gets along with other dogs. She's still needy and wants your undivided attention but has calmed down and is obedient (when it suits her). All in all she's a great dog and has a gentle disposition and plays well with our other CASA dog, Buddy.

I met Buddy, our Border Collie, in July 2007, when he appeared at our house. This dog with black and white spots came up to me. He was so happy, wagging his tail and circling my car. The next morning, my neighbor said that they had called Animal Control and the dog was now at CASA. I went to CASA and asked about adopting him. They explained I'd have to wait for the prescribed period to see if the original owners would come to get him. No one came to pick him up, so . . . we adopted Buddy.

Buddy likes playing in the water with Goldie. He can't swim, but when Goldie brings back a stick, he barks and takes it from her. He enjoys playing football, basketball, catching tennis balls, and chasing and eating bubbles. Buddy will carry his football and basketball around in his mouth. If something is missing in the yard, you can surely find it in Buddy's collection under the house. Buddy is a smart and loveable dog. He loves to travel and can't wait for his next adventure. We love our CASA dogs.

- Jim, Connie and Jessica Barrett



Here is our Goldie. . .



and her best friend, Buddy.

## Hammer's Forever Home



Hammer surveying his domain

Life has changed for Hammer since he found his forever home. Featured as one of the "Invisible Animals" in the Winter 2010 newsletter, Hammer continued to stay in his cage and watch as people passed him by. There just did not seem to be an adopter in sight. When my brother wanted to foster and help a homeless dog for his Senior Project, I knew Hammer was the perfect dog. I admit it was a bit of a setup because I knew my brother and father had been trying to talk my mother into getting another dog. This seemed the perfect way to give Hammer a home. After insisting this dog "did no wrong" and that it was a misconception that shelter pets are in a shelter because they

all have "issues", Hammer went to his new foster home.

They quickly fell in love with the gentle giant and adopted him in March, five months after he arrived at CASA. Hammer now spends his days in rural Ferndale with nothing to do but swim in the ponds, play with his Yellow Lab friend next door, watch football with his new family, and sneak the occasional nap on the couch when no one is watching. My family tells everyone about his story and that they could not have found a better dog.

- Tegan Locker



So many things to do ...

## TNR—What Does It Mean?

We are excited to say that the spaying and neutering of free roaming and feral cats on Camano Island is helping! We are so lucky to have a number of free TNR (*Trap Neuter Return*) resources in our area. NOAH, PurrfectPals, and the Feral Cat Project all offer FREE spaying/neutering and ear-tipping for free roaming and feral cats. These programs require you to drop off and pick up the cats but it is of no cost to you. All cats are ear-tipped so cats who have gone through a TNR program can be spotted from a distance while within a feral colony. This way you and others will know that the cats who have a clean cut tip of the ear have been spayed or neutered and will not contribute to more unwanted feral kittens.

This year we have seen a significant drop in homeless kittens making their way to our shelter. Does this mean we are not getting very many kittens at all? No, a large number of kittens still find their way to CASA but it is a slightly more manageable number overall. We firmly believe this is due to the kind individuals who work hard at trapping and participating in the local TNR programs. Thank you for helping our community!

To find out more about TNR and the local programs available to you visit the Resources page on the CASA website, [www.camanoanimalshelter.org](http://www.camanoanimalshelter.org).



This kitten has been ear-tipped for identification

## Forever Home Auction – Major Fundraiser — Volunteers Needed



For the past five years, CASA's major fundraiser has been the annual "Forever Home" auction. This event has provided funding for the animals at CASA and has been successful thanks to the many volunteers who organized the event, the business sponsors and the community who came together to support CASA.

We have postponed our event for this year and plan to sponsor a major fundraiser in the spring. This is an urgent request for volunteers. Planning and hosting an event this size requires many, many volunteers. To help with organization, procurement, sponsorship and many other data and clerical tasks, please contact the Friends by coming to our next meeting, calling the shelter or sending an email to [casa@camanoanimalshelter.org](mailto:casa@camanoanimalshelter.org), subject line "Fundraising Volunteering." No prior year experience needed... just a willingness to help out this great cause!

### The Joys of Fostering

One of the most difficult periods in my life was when my daughter left home to go to college. Talk about an "empty nest." A few weeks later I walked into CASA to volunteer: walk dogs, help clean, play with the cats and kittens and yes, I became a Foster Mom. That was five years ago. Since then I have fostered five dogs and several cats and kittens.

In "My Favorite Things" from the Sound of Music, Julie Andrews sings, "Raindrops on roses and whiskers on kittens," Well, there you go – whiskers, soft fur, sweet little meows. All of these come with kittens. I fell in love with fostering, watching them grow, develop their personalities and become strong and independent. One year my husband thought I was fostering flying squirrels! As he walked by the outside studio where I foster kittens, he saw through the window this grey creature flying through the air, then landing on my shoulder!

There's nothing better than having a kitten all curled up in your lap softly purring just before falling asleep. It can be very bittersweet when I say goodbye, but I know they deserve a loving home of their own. I'm not saying the "empty nest" feeling is completely gone, but my life is so much richer and fuller since these sweet animals have come into my life. I would highly recommend fostering - even if you don't have an "empty nest" to fill!  
- Theresa Fletcher



Theresa visiting her foster kittens at the shelter

### Dog Wash a Success



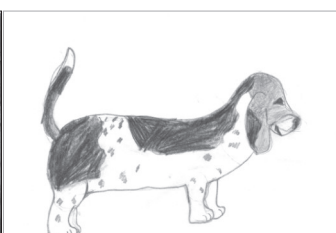
The first shift Drying Team is ready for customers. 69 volunteers and 165 dogs participated in the event.

Big dogs, little dogs, all breeds of dogs came to the 5th Annual Dog Wash. Thanks to the volunteers and CASA supporters, the Dog Wash and associated mailing, earned \$4,600 for the shelter.

151 dogs were bathed, 90 had their nails clipped, 8 were microchipped. Special thanks to the businesses who publicized our event and to Bathing Beauty Mobile Pet Salon, Krista's Pet Spaw and JenniferMary Photography.



Freshly-washed and wearing their new bandanas, the family poses.

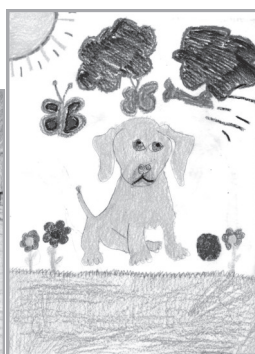


### WINNING ENTRIES

**Elger Bay**  
Best in Show - Chloe C.  
People's choice 2-3 - Olivia H  
People's choice 4-5 - Heidi G

**Utsalady**  
Best in Show - Gabby G  
People's choice 1-2 - Frances Z  
People's choice 3 - Anna J  
People's choice 4-5 - Anna B

### Draw-a-Cat Draw-a-Dog Art Contest



The students' artwork was enjoyed by customers at the Bake and Plant sale.

### Donate Your Car



Our vehicle donation program is made possible through our partnership with Donate For Charity. When you are ready to donate your vehicle, you may call Donate For Charity toll-free at (866) 392-4483 or donate online at their website: [www.donateforcharity.com](http://www.donateforcharity.com).

### Shop eBay - Support CASA



CASA is a Mission Fish certified charitable organization with eBay Giving Works. Plan on selling something on eBay? eBay Giving Works is a fun easy way to support our cause. Simply list an item for sale on eBay, select our organization to benefit and choose the percentage you want to give. When your item sells, Missionfish will collect your donation, send it to CASA and provide you with a tax receipt. It's that easy. Boost your sales and benefit our very worthy cause by using eBay Giving Works!

#### BUSINESSES—DONATION BOXES!

The local businesses who display our Donation collection boxes are appreciated!  
Featured location this period:  
**Wayne's Corner Café**

### WISH LIST

#### GENERAL SUPPLIES

- Liquid Bleach
- Liquid Laundry Detergent
- Dryer Sheets
- Liquid Dish Soap (*no antibacterial*)

#### PET FOOD

- KMR - Kitten Milk Replacement
- Baby Food - small jars of pureed meats
- Royal Canin "Babycat" & kitten dry food
- Canned Kitten Food
- Dry Kirkland Dog/Cat Food (*Costco*)

#### PET SUPPLIES

- Cat Kuranda beds (Use [www.kuranda.com/donate/5133](http://www.kuranda.com/donate/5133) and get 30% off)
- Non-clumping cat litter or pellets

#### OFFICE SUPPLIES

- Copy paper
- Postage Stamps

**SPECIAL DONATION REQUESTED**  
Flat Panel TV / DVD Combo  
(for training)

Visit [Amazon.com](http://Amazon.com) and enter "Camano Animal Shelter" to see our Wish List



#### In memory of departed pets:

- Jackson
- Max Hanson
- Rocky Olson
- Willie Peterson
- Tigger Starke



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

**Enclosed is my tax deductible gift of:**

\$15    \$25    \$50    \$100   Other \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Single Membership (\$15)    Family Membership (\$25)

Business Membership (\$100)

My donation is in Memory/in Honor of a person or pet (Please include a note with honoree's name and contact person if you want the gift acknowledged)

Please send my gift receipt via e-mail so more of my contribution can go toward helping the animals (Please provide e-mail address on the form to the left.)

I do not need a receipt for my donation.

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

I am interested in becoming a volunteer.

CASA does not share/sell donor information, and every dollar you give makes a difference. We are a 501(c)(3) non-profit animal welfare organization. Federal Tax ID #91-1913293

CASA appreciates your generosity. All donations are tax deductible to the extent allowed by law.



**Camano Animal Shelter Association**  
198 Can Ku Road Camano Island, WA 98282  
360-387-1902   [www.camanoanimalshelter.org](http://www.camanoanimalshelter.org)

## CASA ANIMALS CURRENTLY IN NEED OF FOREVER HOMES



Stan is a 4 year old male tabby cat who would love to find a new home. He has a lot to offer a new family. He knows the ropes and can fit into any cat compatible situation available. Give him a chance – you will be glad you did. He'll always give back more than he receives.

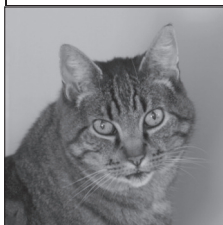
Bubba is a friendly 2 year old Pit Bull who needs a new home. He ended up at CASA due to an unfortunate economic situation where his owner had to move in with family. Bubba then had to live with another male dog and they just did not see eye to eye. So, his owner brought him to CASA knowing that Bubba would be given a good chance of finding a great new home. Bubba lived peacefully with a female dog in his former home. He just needs a warm, loving home of his own. Come on down and say hello to this cute guy!



Coco is a sweet 9 year old girl who came to CASA from another Washington shelter that was overcrowded. She is a "Chi-weenie", a designer name for a dog that is a combination of a dachshund and Chihuahua. People at CASA have grown to love Coco and have found her to be a friendly, well-trained little dog who clearly came from a loving home at one time in her life. She deserves a warm, caring home where she will be truly cherished. Come say hello to Coco – you will never regret it.



MawMaw (*as they say in Louisiana*) is a lovely 14 year old girl who doesn't wish to be judged by her age, but rather her warm, loving nature. If she could talk she would tell you she has a lot of life left in her and nothing but love to give.



Miss Muffet is about 10 years but she can be spunky and playful. She loves people food and really would love your cozy home and cozy lap! She lost her home and family and she would love to meet you and go home with you.



Squeak is a 5 year old kitty boy who is warm and friendly when given the chance. He will bloom in a calm, quiet home where he can explore his domain and learn what his new owners prefer him to do for them. Like a dog, he also comes when called!

*See Our Story . . .*



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

Newsletter of CASA  
PO Box 1726  
Stanwood, WA 98292

