



Pet Tails

Why Spay or Neuter?

by **Darcie Barnes, DVM, MPVM**

You've just adopted the cutest little puppy or kitten ever, or a loveable older pet who needed a home. The pet isn't spayed or neutered yet.

Are you wondering if it is really necessary or desirable to have the surgery done? Concerned about physical or personality changes? Will there be a big difference in my pet after surgery? Will my pet get really fat and lazy? Isn't it better for a pet to have at least one litter before it's spayed? The thought of surgery on my little friend is somewhat frightening, isn't it dangerous? And really expensive? These are a few of the questions that come up when people are considering whether to spay or neuter their pets.

Here at the Santa Ynez Valley Humane Society we very strongly believe **YES**, you should spay or neuter your pet. Not only is it beneficial for the pet, but is the only way to prevent the tragedy of pet over-

population here in the Santa Ynez Valley. All pets adopted from the Santa Ynez Valley Humane Society are spayed or neutered.



Dr. Nicole Marinelli performs surgery at SYV Humane Society

Sterilization has many health benefits for your pet. If spayed or neutered before maturity (before female's first heat, or before 6 months old for males), the risk of cancer of the ovaries, uterus or testicles, becomes zero. The chance of breast cancer is also very small in a neutered pet. Males, especially dogs, are at a much lower risk for prostate cancer or other prostate problems.

Pets spayed or neutered after ma-

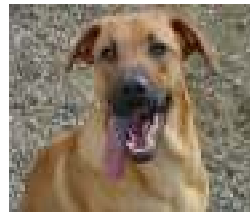
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Home Sweet Home

by **Kirsten Ruiz, Executive Director**

I joined the SYV Humane Society June 1st and was immediately impressed by the commitment to finding every adoptable animal a loving home.

The rehoming of animals continues to be a top priority for the shelter.



Toby was adopted August 4 after waiting for his new home since 12/31/2004!

Since January our staff has placed 70 animals into new homes. We are sure to successfully place many

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House of Treasures

By Carol Sherline

Twelve years ago the House of Treasures Thrift Shop opened in the conference room of the shelter.

After a year, the shop moved to a storefront on 2nd Street in Solvang. Then a guardian angel donated the property at 393 Alisal. We just celebrated our 10th anniversary at this location.

Throughout the last 12 years the shop operated through the dedication of the Santa Ynez Valley Humane Society's Aux-



iliary, a group of men and women who spend hours sorting, pricing and stocking the shop each week. All the monies earned from the shop directly support the humane society operations.

The Auxiliary also holds the annual RailFest fundraiser at the home of Susan and Ken Kelley. This money is used to purchase special items that are needed at the shelter. This year the Auxil-

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Letter from the President

Dear Supporters,

Here we grow again!!!!

Last year we completed a successful \$50,000 matching gift campaign. We were delighted with your generosity toward our animals.

The same anonymous benefactor was so impressed with our success that he has extended a **new \$50,000 match.**

Proceeds from this matching campaign will go into our endowment fund. The goal is to insure our ability to provide a high standard of care for our

cats and dogs while they wait for a new home.

Please write "matching gift" on your check so it will be "doubled." Send it to SYV Humane Society, P.O. Box 335, Buellton, CA 93427. We welcome donations in the form of stocks, bonds or other securities.

Thank you so much for considering our request.

Bruce A. Beeler
President
SYV Humane Society

Board of Directors

President
Bruce Beeler

Vice President
Jack Patterson

Secretary
Helen Bundgen

Treasurer
Carol Sherline

Chariman
Walter J. Thomson

Directors
Darcie Barnes
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Darlene Freeman
Cheryl Kerr
Ryan Kirby
Barbara Murphy
Wayne Natale
Laurie Owens
Betsy Riedy

Staff

Executive Director
Kirsten Ruiz

Kennel Manager
Wanda Zandonotti

Molly Brown
Renee Collura
Linda DeLaura
Malena Paolina
Teresa Romero
Amanda Skinner
Alexandra Smith
Stephanie Statom
Lori Wallace
Thomas White

Tails on the Trail and RailFest Success

On April 24th a record-breaking number of people and their dogs came out to support the shelter at our annual Tails

on the Trail dog walk. Thanks to our sponsors, donors and participants we raised almost \$20,000 to support shelter operations.



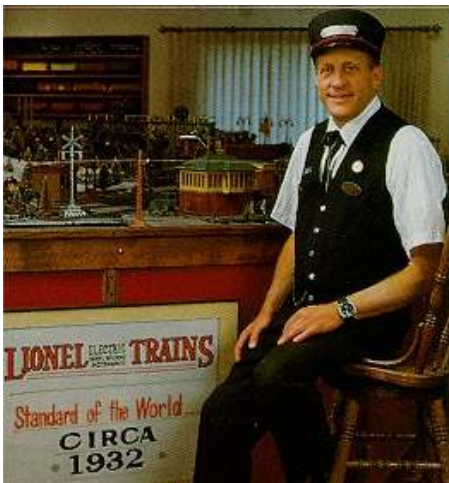
Shelter supporters enjoying "Tails on the Trail" 2005.



Dog agility demonstration by Goleta Valley Dog Club



Molly Brown with Caliber and Jenna Edwards with Oleigh



Ken Kelley welcoming visitors to the RailFest.



Model trains in the "Great Train Room" at the Kelley's home.



The SYV Auxiliary raised almost \$3000 with their annual RailFest fundraiser and Wings and Wheels the following weekend. 391 supporters enjoyed the toy train show events in July.



Why Spay or Neuter?

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turity also have decreased rates of reproductive and breast cancer, just not as low as those spayed or neutered before reproductive age.

Intact pets are injured more frequently in fights with other animals and more likely to wander and be injured or lost while searching for mates. Pets that are spayed and neutered are much less likely to roam and fight. Your veterinary bill should be lower overall when your pet is spayed or neutered.

But what about personality changes? If any personality change occurs, it is likely to be positive. Spayed and neutered pets are more bonded and pay more attention to their owners. Cats will spray less or not at all (especially if spayed or neutered before puberty), male dogs will "lift their leg" less often and both male cats and dogs will be less aggressive, especially to others of their species.

Since bonding and protectiveness toward their humans are not sexual behaviors, spayed or neutered dogs will still be protective of their humans- their talents as watch dogs will not be changed by surgery.

There are no reasons dogs or cats need to have "one litter"

before spaying or neutering. No personality changes occur after having a litter that wouldn't have occurred naturally as a result of aging.

In fact, litters of puppies and kittens add to the overall animal overpopulation problem. Did you know that one female cat and her offspring can produce as many as 420,000 kittens in 7 years? Did you know that one female dog and her offspring could produce as

many as 67,000 puppies in 7 years?

You may find homes for all of your pet's offspring, but for every puppy and

kitten that finds a home, another one, in a shelter or loose on the street, doesn't.

The financial and emotional cost of breeding, correctly raising and finding homes for puppies and kittens often exceeds any expected financial gain from their sale.

After surgery, pets have somewhat lower metabolism. This means that you can feed less food: a spayed or neutered pet is cheaper to feed. The pet may have a tendency to be less active because the urge to roam and find a mate is gone, but obesity can easily be avoided by less food and more exercise, which is good for both of you.

There are no reasons dogs or cats need to have "one litter" before spaying or neutering.

Wish List

Healthwise dry pet food
Canned dog & cat food
Tennis balls
Cat beds
Nylabones
Kong toys
Sponges
Paper towels
Copy paper

Rescue Remedy
DAP(dog appeasing pheromone comfort & spray)
Feliway

Please call the shelter for more information on the following items:

Cash register (QuickBooks compatible)
Fire-safe combination safe
Portable shade canopy

Household item donations accepted at the House of Treasures Thrift Shop.

*Volunteers
Wanted*

House of Treasures
Thrift Shop

If you are interested in becoming a volunteer contact Susan Tate

Tel: 805-688-1031

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Home Sweet Home

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more animals by the end of the year.



Thelma was adopted on July 23 after waiting since 2/21/2004!

Even with this success we have animals waiting for months or even years for new homes.

At almost 8 years old, Spoofy has been easy to overlook. She's been with us since 2001. Spoofy enjoys lounging on top

of cat posts and furniture and



Spoofy lounging at the shelter

watching everything from her "throne."

Lulu's been homeless since 2002. She prefers calm, so avoids greeting people with the rest of the cats but if you spend time just relaxing with Lulu, she'll reward you with a long, comfortable snuggle.

We will continue to provide shelter and care for animals

like Lulu and Spoofy for as long as they need to find new homes, but our ultimate goal is a permanent home.



Lulu stretching after a nap

If you're interested in adopting Lulu, Spoofy or one of our other homeless animals please visit the shelter.

Why Spay or Neuter?

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But is spay/neuter surgery safe? There is always a risk when surgery is performed, but today's safer anesthetics and monitoring procedures minimize that risk.

For most pets the procedure is simple and no complications occur.

Pre-surgical checks can be done to determine if your pet is at increased risk. Your veterinarian can recommend what is most appropriate for your pet.

Costs for spay/neuter surgery run from under fifty to hundreds of dollars. Prices are based on your pet's needs, your

desires and each veterinarian's profit structure.

Non-profit groups like the SYVHS, and others, typically use the same materials and

Non-profit groups like the SYVHS, and others, typically use the same materials and monitoring devices as a full-service clinic.

monitoring devices as a full-service clinic.

Fees are low at a spay/neuter clinic because the organization pays for most of the

surgery to encourage the public to spay and neuter their pets. Often, because they are outpatient facilities, spay/neuter clinics will not perform surgery on high-risk pets.

Ultimately, whether you spay or neuter your pet is up to you. Please help your pet live a

longer, healthier life and help every pet in your community find a home by choosing to spay or neuter.

If you have additional questions, we'd be glad to answer - just call us at the Santa Ynez Valley Humane Society.

Low-fee spay neuter and vaccination clinic offered every Wednesday. Call 688-8224 for details and an appointment

Gifts Received December 2004-July 2005

In honor of people who love animals...

Jim and Phyllis Irwin

The Morelli Family
Alan and Lynn Bozer

Muriel Tarlow

Dorothy Coon

In memory of people who love animals...

Grace Beach

James and Irene Haven

Amy Beeler

Michael and Agnethe Fitzgerald

Carol Sherline

B.P. and Phyllis Spoon

Mary Lou Buchtel

Madeleine Chapa

John and Otilie Ewing

John and Helen Farver

Doris Lawrence

Gary and Barbara Steed

Michaelene Wuesthoff

Georgette Castagnola

Dario and Dorothy Castagnola

Jane Acker Clark

Mary Foss

Joyce Duer

Claire & Dwight Watts

Stan and Karen Roberts

SYV Humane Society Auxiliary

Irene Haven

Sandra Beach

Junette Hunter

Elizabeth Quick

Ann Young

Florence Jensen

Bud and Pat Harvey

Josephine McCullough

SYV Humane Society Auxiliary

Brian and Jean Chaney

Kathie Kuelgen

Gabe & Mirian Chrisman

Bill Mittry

Robert Renwick

Shirley Nickerman

Thomas and Carolyn Petersen

Denise Ore

Rick and Linda Marzullo

Mrs. Ralph Ruth

Mr. Ralph Ruth

Betty Sparklin

Jean Seward

Mary Ann Train

Claire Bettencourt

Toni Vance

John Campbell

Victor and Martha Bacos

Naomi Wornom

Junichi and Emiko Shimizu

In memory of beloved pets...

Autumn

Milo & Leslie Voorhis

Biscuit

Laura & David Stanton

Dazzy

John Mata

Kyote

Marcel and Donna Hinsbeeck

Lexie, Penny and Slick

Whitney Grant

Lucky

Bruce & Liz Beeler

Mickey

Gabe and Mirian Chrisman

Maggie

Cindy Reed

Gretchen Hughes

Ozzie

Robert & Debra Hargreaves

Pookie

Leslie Gillies

Sadie

Judith Etchelecu

Samantha

Vicki Rochester

Schotzy and Moose

Laura & David Stanton

If we missed a memorial or honorarium contribution please let us know.

Schedule of Events

- **September 5** Shelter closed for Labor Day
- **September 24-25** Los Alamos Old Days—Look for the SYV Humane Society booth
- **October 15** Los Olivos Day in the Country—Look for the SYV Humane Society booth
- **October 16** National Feral Cat Day
- **October 31** Halloween—Remember to keep pets safe inside
- **November 24-25** Shelter closed for Thanksgiving
- **Every Wednesday** Low-fee spay and neuter clinic and vaccinations available by appointment. 688-8224

Continue supporting the Santa Ynez Valley Humane Society



Donations help the animals at the Santa Ynez Valley Humane Society and support our low-fee spay and neuter program.

You can also make a donation as a gift or in honor or memory of a beloved pet or person.

All donations to SYV Humane Society, a 501(c)(3) charitable organization, are tax-deductible as allowed by law.

Please use my donation towards: Amount

General shelter and clinic operations _____

In memory of In honor of _____

Endowment matching gift campaign _____

2006 membership dues

Regular \$25.00

Sustaining \$50.00

Business \$100.00

Life Member \$1000.00

Total: _____

Please send a receipt to:

Address listed on the back of this form

My cancelled check will serve as my receipt

Address listed below

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____

Zip Code: _____

Please notify of honorarium/memorial gift:

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____

Zip Code: _____

Volunteer Thank You

Thank you to Walter and Mary Jean Thomson for hosting the annual staff and volunteer dinner at beautiful Rancho Felicia.

Guests enjoyed barbeque from Bruce's Prime Cuts in Lompoc and music by Wildwood.

SYV Auxiliary members planned the event to celebrate and thank our volunteers and staff for the wonderful work they do for the animals.

Volunteers also received a special thank you, a travel mug imprinted with the Society's logo. Additional mugs will be on sale at the shelter for \$5.

House of Treasures

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ary will purchase a phone system and contribute 1/2 the cost of an anesthesia machine.

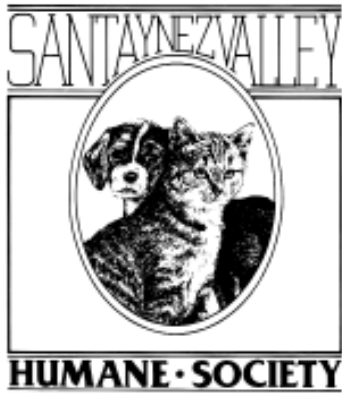
Overall the auxiliary provides over 10% of the annual operating budget for the shelter.

Visit the shop at 393 Alisal Road, directly across the street from the Royal Scandinavian Inn. You will always find interesting and fun "treasures".

A special thank you to our auxiliary members and community volunteers for all their hard work. Also, many thanks to everyone who donates "treasures". Without these donations, we wouldn't have a shop.

Shop Hours
Monday 10:00 – 2:00
Tuesday closed
Wednesday-Saturday
10:00 – 4:00
Sunday 12:00 – 3:00





P.O. Box 335
Buellton, CA 93427

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Solvang, Ca. 93463

Petfinder Partnership

by Kirsten Ruiz

On June 29th the Santa Ynez Valley Humane Society increased the opportunities for adoptable pets by joining Petfinder.com. Petfinder.com allows potential adopters to find animal shelters near them and view adoptable animal information.

Since going “on-line” with Petfinder.com, we have averaged 55 potential adopters visiting our animals through cyberspace each and every day.

In addition, we are able to offer one month of free pet health insurance for all adopters through this partnership.



Xander waits for a new home at the shelter in Buellton.

Santa Ynez Valley Humane Society
PO Box 335
111 Commerce Drive
Buellton, CA 93427

Phone: 805-688-8224 Fax: 805-693-9804
Email: humane@syv.com
Website: www.syvhumane.org

Shelter Hours: Monday-Saturday 10-4
Clinic Hours: by appointment Wednesdays

House of Treasures Thrift Shop
393 Alisal Road
Solvang, CA

Phone: 805-686-9521
Hours: Monday 10-2, Wednesday-Saturday 10-4,
Sunday 12-3