

SPRING 2010 NEWSLETTER OF ACTORS AND OTHERS FOR ANIMALS

WWW.ACTORSANDOTHERS.COM

FIX A FELINE FOR FREE A HOWLING SUCCESS

On February 23rd, in recognition of Spay Day, an annual time set aside to encourage all citizens to sterilize their animals, Actors and Others announced that we would provide 400 free spay and neuter surgeries for the guardians of pet cats residing in Los Angeles County. President *JoAnne Worley* announced the special program on the *Stephanie Miller* national radio show.

We were blown away at the response! Within four hours we had over 400 requests – by the end of the registration period we had received just under 1,000! We were faced with a dilemma. What do we do!

There was only one thing for us to do – help everyone!

In total, 987 vouchers were provided. With an initial investment of \$20,000, in the end we allotted over \$49,000 to this program due to the overwhelming demand. This targeted and proactive program eliminated the births of potentially thousands and thousands of unwanted kittens.



We are grateful to the ten veterinary clinics who participated and made this program possible: Animal Clinic of La Mirada, Clinico/ San Pedro, Crenshaw Dog & Cat Hospital, Fix Nation, Gateway Animal Hospital, Golden State Humane Long Beach, Lynwood Animal Hospital, PDI-Pet Doctors of Industry, Spay & Neuter Clinic of Simi Valley and Valley Vet Hospital/San Gabriel.

This program was supported in part by a grant from the *California Community Foundation and the PETCO Foundation to whom we deeply thank for their sponsorship.*

> But first and foremost we thank ALL OF YOU who believe in our mission of ending pet overpopulation through spay/neuter. We would not have been

able to help everyone without your trust and generosity. With your continued support, both in dollars and shared conviction, we will never stop working diligently to spay and neuter as many animals as possible.

AND LET'S NOT FORGET THE DOGS...

In December of last year in celebration of the holidays, Actors and Others spayed and neutered 100 dogs for free in the underserved Antelope Valley. Using one of our mobile partnering veterinary clinics, each dog also received a free microchip and rabies vaccination!





And on January 12 and February 3, 2010, we provided the Riverside County Department of Animal Services with the funds to help sterilize 29 pit bulls under their new "Pit Bull Project." According to county officials, approximately one out of every five dogs in Riverside County shelters is a pit bull and nearly 73% are killed.

A LOOK BACK AT 2009



We are delighted to report another solid year in a time of economic unpredictably in which we facilitated **9,782** spay/neuter surgeries and assisted **1,468** guardians with veterinary emergencies. By working together, we have made tremendous strides towards reducing pet overpopulation.

And we also are very proud to have achieved a 4-star rating for sound fiscal management from Charity Navigator!

Caring for Animal Companions Who Share Our Homes And Our Hearts



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A RECENT COURT RULING PROHIBITS THE CITY OF LOS ANGELES FROM HELPING FERAL CATS

In 2008 a lawsuit was filed by various conservation groups to stop the City of Los Angeles from promoting the humane practice of trap, neuter and return ("TNR") for feral cats. Under California law, environmental impact issues must be identified and addressed before approving any policies. As a result, an injunction was signed which forbids the City from supporting TNR until an environmental study is done.

This ruling means that the City of Los Angeles cannot engage in or provide any TNR assistance to individuals or animal welfare organizations. They cannot educate people about TNR in any manner, including distributing literature or telling people who are dropping cats off at the shelter about this humane alternative, or continue to provide \$30 coupons to help with the expense of spay and neuter. The anticipated impact of this ruling is that more feral cats will now be reproducing and more cats will be killed in our local shelters, the cost of which will be borne by taxpayers. A step backwards for sure.

At Actors and Others, while we are dismayed by this injunction there is no law that prohibits us from helping feral cats and their caretakers, and we shall continue to provide vital assistance, from education on the proper way to set and manage traps to providing financial assistance with rising sterilization costs. We are monitoring the situation carefully and have formed a coalition with other TNR advocates to focus on what we can all do to keep the population from escalating and the cats safe. Our course of action now is to work with City officials and concerned conservancy groups to design a comprehensive TNR program that satisfies environment reporting requirements and recognizes the well-being of all animals.

We know we can count on your support. We will be providing any and all updates and any calls for action via E-newsletters and alerts. Please be sure we have your email address if you wish to be kept informed on this important issue.

WHAT WOULD <u>YOU</u> DO IF GIVEN \$100,000 TO DONATE TO CHARITY?

That was the question Parade Magazine asked in a recent poll. Dividing causes into 16 charitable categories, "animal welfare" came in 4th with 9% of the total allocation. But what is more striking -- and shows that public service is still a cornerstone of the American way -- is that 78% of those polled believe that the actions of one person can improve the world!

The poll was split on the various types of volunteer work that respondents took part in, but although most everyone has had to tighten the purse-strings and make cutbacks, 87% gave a financial donation in the last year.

And finally, something that all of at Actors and Others and all of you already know, helping others makes us feel good about ourselves as well (39%). See the complete poll results at www.parade.com.

MEMORIALS, TRIBUTES AND CELEBRATIONS



In Loving Memory - Dante and Clio

We invite you to honor and share memories. Birthday wishes or a thank you to a special animal lover or veterinarian are also welcome. When accompanied by a contribution of \$20 or more, tributes or accolades will be printed in our bi-annual newsletter or in the future, on our website.

In memory of Peter Garcia Patrick McHugh In loving memory of Eva McGillin Marliese Haas Herta Schultz In memory of Sammy Marilyn Rice In the name of River Morgan Christine Bender For Christopher and Jenji Noxon In memory of Rufus Ann Alan "Buz" and Rhea Kohan In honor of Jay Aldrich and Robert Dugan Sonia Flaum In honor of Ron Corcillo Margaret Corcillo and David Pietsch In memory of April, my diva dog **Rosilin Jacobs** In honor of Richard Maloof's 70th birthday Michelle Mazurki In the names of Eileen D. Culp And Christine Bender Jennifer Morgan In the name of Dorothy Apple Laurie Cohn In memory of Blanca **Rick Rice** In memory of Gladys Evelyn Marchena Linda K. Marcheva In the name of Clara Tortomasi Jennelle Cornaggia In the name of Misty on her 16th birthday Mary Oyler In memory of Kevin Coughlin Wanda Tomaski

In memory of Dusty (the dog) Carole Jane Grant In loving memory of chum-cat Chirpalong Catsidy Elan Carlson In honor of Zachary Cynthia B. Straub For Colette Laurent and Steve Boehm In memory of Panther Carole Grant In honor of Elizabeth Taylor Marjorie Everett In memory of our dear Danny Boy Judith Ann Levitt In the name of June Chandler and Hal Sweenv Heidi Wrage In the name of Bukus Valenzuela-Rios Elvia Valenzuela In the name of Ron Corcillo and **Geralyn Ruane** Rebecca Scott In the name of Harlan West Sheila Irani In memory of Reba McEntire, much adored therapy dog Sharon Bivins In the name of Katherine Bard and Roxy Jill Bloksgaard In memory of Evelyn Cohen Carolyn Lorenzo In memory of Fluffy and Muffin, loving feline companions for 17 and 20 yrs Duke Thomas Low In honor of the best cat

Susan Ziegler

You can also create a loving legacy by remembering Actors and Others in your Will or Trust. Actors and Others is very grateful to **William Roberts, Barbara Shields, James Lyons** and **Ronald French**. By remembering Actors and Others when they passed on, these dear friends created a loving, lasting memorial to the affection they had for their cherished animal companions, and their desire to improve the lives of animals in need. If you are interested in establishing such a gift to Actors and Others, we will be happy to work with you to see that your commitment and love for animals may live on.

EYES WIDE SHUT

We receive so many requests for financial help, that we tend to forget those calls that only need a friendly voice and a bit of encouragement and understanding. That is until someone reminds us how important just being there really is.

"I decided to bring you full circle on the story of the little white cat with the one eye. We discovered her living under a pick-up truck. In addition to having the missing eye, and some missing teeth, she was emaciated, and so dirty and matted that she was actually pulled to one side and couldn't straighten out.

Even though she looked terribly old and sick, the doctor felt she would improve with medication and food and lots of love. The little white cat moved into our home - and took up residence in a large crystal bowl in the center of a long table in the dining room. This area became her "apartment" from which she reigned. We tried many names. But she responded to only one - "Sweet Pea." And so, she became our Sweet Pea.

I am an animal lover, and have had many adored pets throughout my life. In my original e-mail, I asked about Silicone eyes for animals. Sweet Pea taught me the nonsense of such a question. She became the most beautiful cat in the world to me. It was so great of you Susan and Dianne both to respond with help and encouragement when Sweet Pea entered our lives. It would be a shame for you to never know of all the beauty that followed.

Many Thanks, Steve



CELEBRATION OF CARING 2009



George Schlatter and Barbara Feldon



Bruce Vilance and Rip Taylor



Jimmy, Dick and Patty Van Patten



Gary Owens



JoAnne Worley



Loretta Swit and Nancy Sinatra

Actors and Others was delighted to toast the groundbreaking television classic "Rowan & Martin's Laugh In" at our annual Celebration of Caring fundraising event sponsored by the **PETCO Foundation**.

Spearheaded by Dan Rowan and Dick Martin, "Laugh In" turned the variety show format on its head, and introduced us to a group of unforgettable entertainers including our own president, the inimitable **JoAnne Worley**. Each week, the show offered a fast moving barrage of jokes, one-liners and running skits that focused on the social and political issues of the day. On November 15th, 2009, the sold out audience was transported back to a time of psychedelic clothing, chicken jokes, and silly vaudevillian antics.

Hosted by the multi-talented and always funny **Bruce Vilanch** who set the mood by announcing "Hello, I'm Chastity Bono," the celebrated panel of toasters included **Arte Johnson, Gary Owens, George Schlatter, Barbara Feldon, Nancy Sinatra, Rip Taylor, Dolly Martin, Marla Pennington Rowan**, our dear friend **Fred Willard, JoAnne Worley** and video appearances by **Lily Tomlin, Tim Conway** and **Bonnie Hunt**. Thanks to **Drissi Creative Studios**, Dick and Dan were also present, brought to life on an 8-foot tall backdrop featuring their photographs.

Other guests included, Actors and Others' founder Diana Basehart, president emeritus Earl Holliman, board member Loretta Swit, Billy Barnes, Charles Brill, MaryAnn Mobley, Gary Collins, Jimmy Van Patten, Beth Grant, Jane Kean, Mitzi McCall, John McCann, MaryAnn Mobley, Peggy Rae, Leonard Maltin, Connie Sawyer, Stella Stevens, Tina Sinatra and Elaine Hendricks.

The 2009 Award of Caring was presented to popular actor, humanitarian and diehard animal lover **Dick Van Patten**. A long-time and valued friend of Actors and Others, Dick is a co-founder of the premium pet food company, Natural Balance, and is a tireless promoter of the well-being of animals.

Other highlights included a display of original "Laugh In" costumes on loan from NBC/Universal Archives and Collections and a salute to the 20th Anniversary of Actors and Others' Pet Assisted Therapy Program.



A BIG FICKLE FINGER OF FATE THANK YOU

FOUNDATION

Gail Campbell D.E.L.T.A./Leo Grillo Natural Balance Pet Foods P.K. Foundation **Jay Aldrich** Diana Basehart **Dr. Joyce and Page Layne Miller** Sherry and Skip Miller Miller Barondess LLP Nancy Sinatra Mary Willard **George Schlatter Productions** Art Alisi Art on Glass by belinda Lithographix LAgraphico **SCHAWK! NBC/Universal Archives and** Collections **Cinema Secrets** Susan Rosenberg Larry Fazio **Greg Wilson Ron Snyder** Matt Mueller Dream Fish, Inc. Luis Solivan **Michael Stern** Maria Martirosyan Willging Art Services