



FOREVER HOME

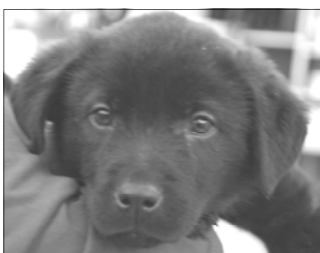
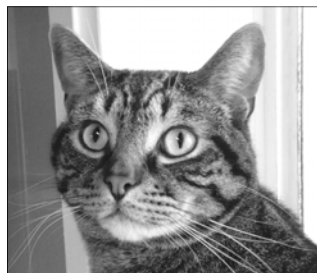
Volume 8

Camano Animal Shelter Newsletter

Issue 1
Winter, 2014

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

When someone comes into CASA and inquires about adopting an animal, there are many different questions that can come up. There is, however, one question that is almost always asked. What if it just doesn't work out? Potential adopters hear the same answer each time, "Please bring them back here!" CASA is dedicated to the welfare of each animal we place. Just because they leave our doors does not mean we stop caring.

We ask all adopters to call the shelter if they have any questions or concerns along the way and if things are not working out please bring them back to us, not another shelter. Even if life throws a curve ball and years later they cannot keep the pet any longer we tell them to please bring them back to CASA. Not only do we *want* to be there for the animals we have placed, we also feel it is our responsibility to take them back and care for them again.

Shelters all over are terribly crowded and CASA does not want to contribute to their burden. If one of the animals we have placed does end up at another surrounding shelter, we pick them up as soon as possible. We value responsible pet owners and we hope you value us too.

Tegan Locker

ZOEY - THE UNDERDOG

Every so often there are dogs at the shelter that just need some time away from their kennels and a chance to stay in a loving home. We are fortunate to have foster parents who are willing to provide this opportunity. Zoey, a pit bull, has been in a foster home to reduce the stress of the kennel. When asked what motivates foster parents to open their homes, we received the following reply from Nicole Dwyer, foster parent.

"The Merriam-Webster dictionary defines *underdog* as "a loser or predicted loser in a struggle or contest," or "a victim of injustice or persecution." According to Wikipedia the term was first used in the second half of the nineteenth century where its first meaning was "the beaten dog in a fight." In my experience as a CASA volunteer dog walker and recent foster parent to the pit bull Zoey, this term couldn't be more applicable than it is to some of the dogs that find refuge at the shelter.

In my opinion, all of the dogs at CASA have a bright spot in their personalities that deserves to be discovered and cultivated to help them be the best dog they can be. Sometimes this is overshadowed by a graying muzzle, a painful limp, a chronic skin problem, or simply their breed that results in hopeful new owners overlooking the potential in a dog. These dogs quickly become the underdog, and spend many months at the shelter waiting for that special person to take a chance on them while the younger, healthier, smaller, and more attractive dogs come and go through a quickly revolving door. This breaks my heart, and so I find myself time and time again rooting for the underdogs.



Zoey enjoying her foster home

In Zoey's case, her allergic skin problem and expensive food diet landed her in the underdog category. Consequently, she remained at the shelter overlooked and undiscovered for nearly 6 months. Her health began to deteriorate again, and it was time to bring her into

In This Issue:

- Message from Shelter Manager 1
- Zoey - The Underdog 1
- Zoey - The Underdog (cont.) 2
- 2013 Shelter Statistics 2
- CASA Alumni 3
- Happy Tails 4
- Happy Tails (continued) 5
- Your Gift Can Double in Value 5
- New Dog Yard Fencing 6
- Snowden's Journey 6
- Paws for Applause 7
- CASA Wish List 7
- CASA Animals In Need of Homes 8

CASA Website:

www.camanoanimalshelter.org

CASA E-Mail:

casa@camanoanimalshelter.org

Continued on page 2 - Zoey - The Underdog



Join CASA on Facebook!

We love to share photos of our animals and updates on events. Post your photos too!

www.facebook.com/camanoshelter

Board Members

President:

Martha Huyler

Vice President:

Lindy Hawkins

Treasurer:

Cathy Massimino

Secretaries:

Mary Timmol

Gloria Ingraffia

Members at Large:

Kat Brown

Sara Schmitt

CASA Staff

Manager:

Tegan Locker

Staff Members:

Justine D.

Danara K.

Teianna S.

Physical Address:

198 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 page 1 - Zoey - The Underdog

Our home where my husband and I could offer her relief from the stress of the kennel. With a great deal of patience and perseverance, and the help of an excellent veterinarian, Dr. Tim O'Rourke at Animal Care Center in Mt. Vernon, we have been able to get to the root of the problem and Zoey is on her way to a full recovery after probably years of intractable itchy skin. While having her in our home Zoey's personality has blossomed, and she is now affectionately called "princess" having attained royal status amongst the ranks of my other two dogs.

Zoey's story is not uncommon, and I know there will be more underdogs to protect and love. Regardless of a dog's vice; whether it's a health issue, a weird little quirk, or they've just lacked the necessary loving interaction of a good home, it's amazing how an animal can respond to a hug, or an approving pat on the head, a walk in the woods, or a soft dog bed to lay in. In spite of their shortcomings, they all have something wonderful to show us and it just takes a little compassion and imagination to bring it out.

When Zoey finds her new forever home, I'm going to miss her terribly; the way she burrows under the bed covers to snuggle, and the way she smiles at me when I walk in the door after work, but we have to move on... there will always be more underdogs."



Bo, Merlin and Zoey ready to play.

2013 Intake and Outcome Shelter Statistics

Intake	Total	Stray	Surrender	Transfer In	Impound	Return*
Cats	255	172	77	1	0	5
Dogs	231	85	53	39	33	21

In 2013, 486 dogs and cats came to CASA. This is an increase from the previous three years. CASA takes strays, impounds and surrenders from Camano Island, but we also bring in dogs from other shelters and occasionally owner surrenders from surrounding areas as space permits. We were able to help 39 dogs from other shelters this year who may not have gotten a chance otherwise. We also took in: 2 rabbits, 1 rat and 1 iguana.

*Animals brought back to the shelter within one week of adoption are Returns.

Outcome	Adopted	RTO	Transfer Out	Died/DOA	PTS
Cats	217	7	7	9	6
Dogs	145	80	5	2	1

The majority of the animals that came into CASA in 2013 were adopted or returned to their owners. 35 cats and 8 dogs remained in the care of the shelter at the end of the year.

CASA works with a number of rescue and adoption organizations as needed to find homes for dogs who are difficult to place or who need more than a shelter provides, 5 dogs were transferred to rescue. 7 kittens were also transferred since we did not have enough foster homes.

As a No-Kill shelter, animals are never put to sleep for lack of space. The loss last year included 3 underage kittens who passed away in foster care and 3 cats and 1 dog who had to be put to sleep because they were terminally ill and in the final stages of their illnesses.

Mark Your Calendar!

CASA Friends

First Thursday of each month 7 PM
Camano Multi-Purpose Building
Join us to help plan events!

UPCOMING EVENTS

Glass Quest

Friday, February 14th -
Sunday, February 23rd

Microchip Clinic

Saturday, March 29th

Little Whiskers Open House

Saturday, April 19th

Bake and Plant Sale

Saturday, May 10th

**THANK YOU
BUSINESS MEMBERS!**

- AWR Inc. / General Contractor
- Camano Body Shop, Inc.
- Camano Canine Resort
- Camano Island Kennels and Grooming
- Camano Island Pet Grooming Salon
- Camano Storage
- Camano Veterinary Clinic
- Cat Nap Inn, LLC
- Certified Services Auto & Truck Repair
- Coastal Community Bank*
- Dog Style Grooming
- Edward Jones - Peggy Burr
- Geoffrey H. Anderson, D.D.S.
- Glass Tech Stanwood, Inc.
- Island Critter Sitters
- Krista's Pet Spaw
- Land Title Escrow*
- Mark's Camano Pharmacy
- Moonlighting Pet and Livestock Care
- Moonswept Studio
- Movement Arts Studio and Boutique
- Nani Oei Photography
- Northwest Veterinary Clinic - Stanwood
- Pet Neuter and Vaccination Clinic
- Pratt Pest Management NW
- Puget Sound Tree Care LLC
- Robert L. Stanton, D.P.M.
- Silver Springs Landscape & Design LLC
- State Farm Insur. - Leslie Tripp Agency
- Thomas Assoc - Insurance Brokers, Inc.
- TimLabs
- Ultimate Arch Orthotics
- U.S. Asset Forfeiture & Seizures
- Whidbey Island Bank
- Windermere Real Estate
- Windermere Real Estate - Linda Evans

* Welcome new business members

CASA Alumni



Keiki (formerly Sweet Pea) and Leila (formerly Mia) Fielding Adopted Oct 2013



Charlie (formerly Diablo) Gascoigne Adopted Aug 2013



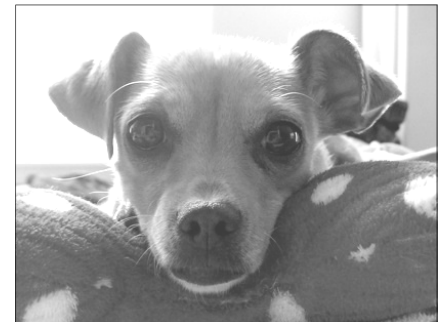
Bella (formerly Betty) Wilbert Adopted Oct 2012



Angel Larson Adopted Nov 2013



LOBO (formerly Dexter) Espinosa Adopted Jan 2013



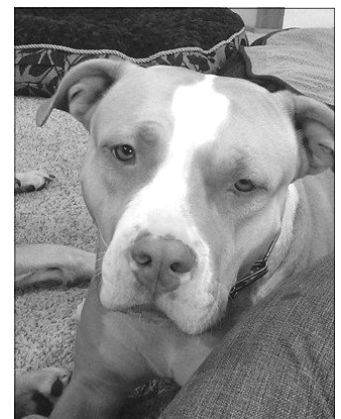
Dez Peterson Adopted May 2012



Aston (formerly Maxx) Ostrofe Adopted Sep 2013



Rubin Collitt Adopted Aug 2013



Miss Lady Moore Adopted Dec 2013

Visit camanoanimalshelter.org to view and read about all of our adoptable animals.

HAPPY TAILS

Paco



Paco waited patiently

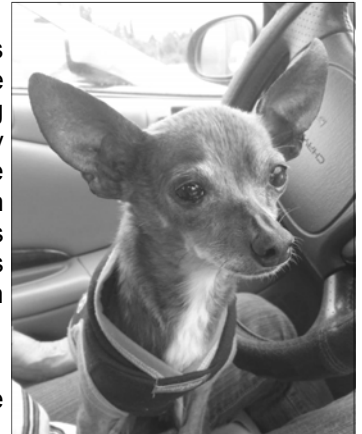
Paco came into my life very unexpectedly in June, 2013. I was not looking for a companion just yet, but just a look at Paco's face severely tugged at the heartstrings! The fact that he was partially blind and deaf and in poor condition only made it more of an urgency to adopt him. I also knew he would likely not be very adoptable due to his older age. Paco was all skin and bones, about two-thirds bald, and his blind eye was not looking very good.

Paco is super, super sweet and just a great old, little companion. He is quite social and loves to be around people. He is very attached to me (and so am I to him). He gets home-cooked meals plus homemade dog snacks and dessert- all of which have dramatically increased his body weight and enhanced the look of his coat and overall appearance. He naps on the sofa and sleeps in bed with me. Paco loves to be taken everywhere and really enjoys riding along in the car with me. Despite his age, he can be very playful and he is a very smart little dog. Paco is super spoiled, and I do everything possible to give him a wonderful life in

his golden years.

Recently, Paco has been battling severe ear infections and some skin problems- issues that were probably around due to his condition before CASA got him. He is on a strict diet (chicken, turkey, rice only) to discover any food allergies and his ears are looking much, much better. As far as his blind eye, it is looking great and has not swollen since I adopted him. We have a phenomenal vet who has been treating Paco. Thank you, CASA, for bringing Paco into my life!

~ Vanessa Duke



Paco loves to go everywhere

Nala

Nala has turned out to be a completely wonderful addition to my home! CASA told me before meeting her that she was shy, especially of men, and had a difficult past before coming to the shelter. I came to meet her anyway, and we actually spent two hours together before Nala allowed me to pet her head. A short walk together got her past this initial shyness however, and she was happy to get in the car with me to go home. After a long drive and a tour of my apartment, she promptly pinned my hand to the floor and licked my palm for several minutes. We both knew it was a perfect match.

Five months later, Nala is a changed dog. She is happy to meet new people and new dogs at the dog park, and loves to play fetch. Her best friend is a coworker's border collie pup, and they wrestle and play together for hours at a time. Nala loves my girlfriend too, and had a great time on a family camping trip last fall. I get compliments everywhere we go on how pretty she is, and friends have commented on her obvious growth since her adoption.

This week we started a training program and Nala has shown tremendous growth in obedience in just the last few days! She is a smart, loving companion, and I am so grateful to CASA for making our introduction! ~ Ryan Harris



Nala and her best friend, Ryan

Nala was featured in the Fall 2013 newsletter as a dog who had been returned to the shelter multiple times.

Have you adopted from CASA? Send us an email message 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.

Cairo

We adopted Cairo in early March, 2013, with the understanding that we'd forgo the cute kittens and provide a nice home to an older cat. We thought we'd be doing Cairo a nice favor- and turns out we were the ones that were favored.

Cairo is a Russian Blue, a beautiful cat. We quickly realized he was very regal – he had us as an adoring audience within a week. We were properly responsive to his every need and gazed upon his beautiful appearance as he walked around the house assessing us and our two pugs. He put the dogs in their place – they kept a good 4 feet from his body at all times and they were properly respectful. Cairo was laying down the rules!

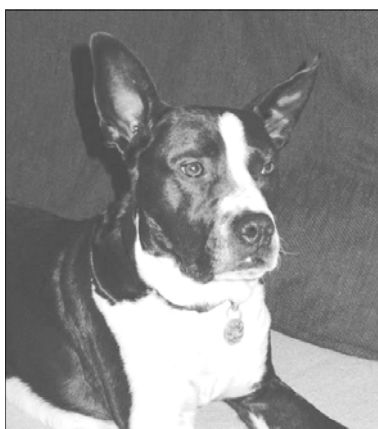
Within four weeks it was as if we'd had Cairo in our lives for many years. He found a place at the foot of the bed in the night and decided it was okay to sit at one of the stools at the kitchen counter if someone was there sipping a cup of coffee. Cairo loves to socialize. He loves seeing the grandchildren and will sleep in the guest room when they stay over. He runs to the front door to greet them. He enjoys company.

Cairo also has a compassionate side. When he realized that one of our pugs was blind, he relaxed his “four foot rule” and actually moves out of the way when he is an obstacle in the pug's path. He will gently reach out and touch the pug from time to time in a very endearing manner – almost as a caress and offering reassurance. We find him sitting close by the pug, again a manner of reassurance from time to time.

We were quick to realize – we were the ones that were blessed by Cairo. He “owns” this family and we love him. Thank you CASA! ~ Gaylen and Mike Heacock



Cairo is sociable and compassionate.



Rio (Borneo) is one of the family.

Borneo (now Rio)

Rio (Borneo) has settled in well. We changed his name because when we called him Borneo, he did not respond. My family liked the name Rio better and in a day or two he responded to that name.

He has had a visit to the vet and is looking healthy. He has had his first visit to the groomers and did very well. We have him in dog training and that is going good. He is a happy dog and is very happy in his new home. My grandson and Rio are best buds; he sleeps with Josh and loves to go for his walks. He is one of the family.

~ Carol and Bob Edwards

Borneo was also featured in the Fall 2013 newsletter as a dog who had been returned to the shelter multiple times.

Your Gift Can Double in Value

There are many ways to contribute to CASA. Check to see if your company has a matching gift program or if you can give where you work via an employee giving program. Ask your friends and relatives to check to see what is available at their places of employment. The following companies contributed to CASA in 2013 on behalf of their employees or members. Thanks to our donors who availed themselves and CASA of these benefits.

Allstate Giving Campaign
Boeing Company Matching Gifts Program
Cambia Employee Giving
Chevron Matching Gifts
Costco United Way Employer/Employee
Employees Fund of Boeing
Google Matching Gifts

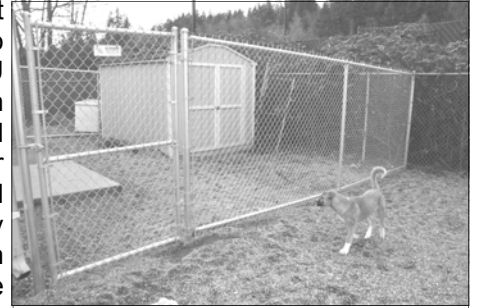
Macy's East
Microsoft Matching Gifts
Puget Sound Energy Foundation Employee Matching Program
Russell Matching Gifts
United Way of Snohomish
Vanguard Charitable Endowment Program
WA Combined Fund Drive

New Dog Yard Fencing for the Shelter



Looking across to the kennel yard from the office yard.

Dogs love to go for walks. However, when they are not being walked, they like to be outside. In order to provide exercise for our dogs, there is a large U shaped dog yard here at the shelter that extends from the side of the kennels, around the back of the kennel building and in back of the office area. Whenever possible, dogs that get along well together (we call them “yard buddies”) are taken outside to play together. Sometimes, however, dogs must be out in the yard alone. In addition to its exercise function, the dog yard is also used as a “meet and greet” area when potential adopters visit along with their families to meet our residents.



New configuration provides two yards.

In December some changes were made to the dog yard that will allow it to be used more efficiently. By having new chain link fence installed, the yard was split in half. This means twice as many dogs can be out at the same time. Visitors can meet their new “best friend” in the area behind the office while another dog can be playing next to the kennels.

Improvements like this allow us to make better use of the small space we have allowing us to provide a better quality of life for our dogs while they wait for their “forever homes.”

Snowden’s Journey

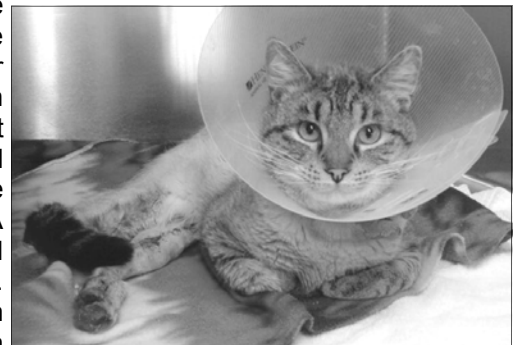
Snowden came to the shelter badly injured after likely being hit by a car. CASA was contacted when his owner could not pay for the necessary vet care and felt their only option might be to end Snowden’s life. Immediately after arriving at CASA he was taken to our local vet clinic to get an assessment of his injuries and make him more comfortable. After the initial assessment was made he was taken to Dr. O’Rourke in Mount Vernon treatment. He determined that Snowden had breaks in two legs, some broken toes and had fractured his pelvis in multiple places. It was his opinion, however, that with surgery on the main leg, some splinting on the other, and strict crate rest for his pelvis - Snowden could live, and have a full life.



Snowden with casts on his legs

At that point, it was obvious that CASA would pay for whatever he needed.

The operation was performed the very next morning. Since Snowden could not use his rear legs very well he struggled with the litterbox so he remained at the veterinarian’s until he could move enough to once again use the litterbox. He came to CASA to rest, but being “a cat”, he did not adhere to the rules. Somehow, he broke his leg again in that super solid kennel with nothing but a plastic litterbox and his food bowls in it; he had to go back for another surgery and more care.



Casts removed; trying to protect the legs

Snowden is at CASA resting again and purrs whenever someone comes near his cage in the isolation room. He’ll stay at the shelter until he has recovered completely and he can move on to his next adventure. Rest assured, although Snowden seems to have used up a couple of his nine lives, he is happy as a clam and is incredibly resilient. Thanks to donors who helped make this surgery a reality and to Dr O’Rourke for the terrific care and generosity. CASA is committed to saving an animal’s life whenever possible. You help us do that!

Paws for Applause to

- **Skagit Farmers Supply Country Store and Mr. Jeter - Santa Pictures**
- **Mark's Camano Pharmacy - Lights of Love**

Donate Your Car

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



CASA Shirts

CASA sweatshirts and T-shirts are available for purchase at the shelter and all events.

BUSINESSES — DONATION BOXES!

The local businesses who display our donation collection boxes are appreciated!
Featured location this period:
Twin City Lanes

WISH LIST

GENERAL SUPPLIES

- Copy paper
- Liquid Bleach
- Liquid Laundry Detergent
- Dryer Sheets
- Liquid Dish Soap (*no antibacterial*)
- Toner cartridges* **NEW**

PET FOOD

- KMR - Kitten Milk Replacement
- Baby Food - small jars of puree meats
- Royal Canin "Babycat" & kitten dry food
- Canned Kitten Food
- Dry Kirkland Dog/Cat Food (*Costco*)
- Grain-Free dry dog food
- Soft dog treats & grain-free treats

PET SUPPLIES

- Non-clumping/Clay cat litter or pellets



Visit Amazon.com and enter "Camano Animal Shelter" to see our Wish List
Or
Click on Amazon Wish List from our website. When you place an order from our Amazon.com wish list, your donations will be shipped directly to our shelter!

Help us save on expenses by donating general supplies and office supplies as requested. Check our [website](http://www.camanoanimalshelter.org) and the **Amazon Wish List** frequently to see details on these ***NEW** items.

In memory of departed pets:

- Peek-a-Boo Jann*
- Heidi Larsen*
- Summer, Autumn, Winter, Stars and Stripes Perkins*
- Buddy Wilson*



----- 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



CASA ANIMALS CURRENTLY IN NEED OF FOREVER HOMES



Hazel, a Norwegian Forest Cat mix, was brought to the shelter with another cat, Opal, when her family moved. They would prefer to stay together. Hazel is quiet, but turns into a different cat when you start petting or brushing her. She is a loving and affectionate cat. She would love a calm home where she gets lots of attention.

Opal is a shy, yet loving, 4 year old cat. She is very quiet unless you bring out a brush or start to pet her. That is when the purring starts. Opal would do best in a quiet or calm environment. Do you have a little oasis that needs some purrs? Come see Opal (and her best friend Hazel) today.



Harley and Capone are a bonded pair. They have been together their whole lives and would love to stay together. These two adorable and fun boys have a ton of love to give and a lot of life left in them. Don't let that grey fool you. (Here's Harley, age 8)

"The boys" have been loved and well cared for by a family who can no longer keep them. CASA was asked to find a much deserved forever home for them. Come to CASA and meet this dynamic duo. You won't be disappointed. (Here's Capone, age 9)



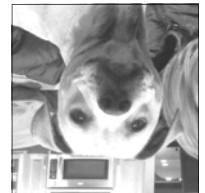
Beta is a friendly laid back girl who likes to be petted on her head and especially behind her ears. She loves treats and tasty wet food and will make a great couch companion and TV watching buddy! Beta has been at CASA since May 2013, often overlooked because of all the other black cats that were at the shelter. Won't you take time to come meet Beta? She is a real gem!



Before you recycle your newsletter consider sharing it with a friend or leaving it for others to read at the places you visit.

Introducing others to CASA is a great way to help the animals at the shelter.

See Zoey's Story.....



NON-PROFIT ORG.
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
STANWOOD, WA
PERMIT #297



Camano Animal Shelter Association
PO Box 1726
Stanwood, WA 98292