



FOREVER HOME

Volume 8

Camano Animal Shelter Newsletter

Issue 2
Spring, 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

I wanted to use the manager message to talk, once again, about the importance of microchipping your pet. I thought I would be telling the story of a dog that came in just after closing, the day of our last low-cost microchip clinic. We recognized that dog right away and her owner had just been at the shelter having her microchipped. She was reunited with her owner immediately. What I didn't know was something else would happen just before this newsletter was written.

The morning of our Little Whiskers Event a stray dog came who was microchipped came to the shelter. We called the microchip company immediately and the customer service rep said, "Wait, this dog was reported missing in 2010." We were excited at the possibility of reuniting a lost pet after so long, but what we didn't know was that it had another owner the last four years who loved it very much and who had absolutely no idea this dog was a "missing" one who had been stolen. We were contacted by that person just as the original owner was at the shelter laying eyes on the dog he had missed for four years. The person who had loved and cared for this dog for those last four years was completely devastated, and rightfully so. The person who stole the dog had told quite a story back in 2010 about not being able to keep it. So they bought it and provided it with the loving home they thought it needed. When the dog was fixed they were told there was a microchip and that the clinic had called the person, but there was no answer. This current owner didn't know enough about microchips and no one seemed to offer education about them.

This whole series of events led to one of the most emotional situations we have had at CASA. If simple microchip education was more common, this might not have happened like this. We want to urge everyone to have their pet scanned for a microchip at any vet clinic or animal shelter. This is always free and no appointment should ever be needed. Make sure that any existing microchip is registered to you and is current. If you need help understanding this process the CASA staff is just a call away. We never want this happening to anyone again.

~ Tegan Locker

JOYS OF ADOPTING A SENIOR CAT

With kitten season approaching and many senior cats in CASA's care, it is appropriate to step back and ponder the joys of adopting a senior cat. "Do you have any kittens?" This is one of the most often-heard statements when people come to adopt. Adopters want as easy integration as possible with their pets and some adopters are still mourning the loss of an elderly pet and do not want to go through that pain again for a long, long time.

But there is something about a senior cat that is compelling. Scared, bewildered and sometimes pathetic looking, these pets were once cherished members of someone's family. To be in a home environment one day and at a shelter with many other cats the next day is terrifying for older animals. We cannot explain to them that their person died or the baby is allergic or their family moved to no-pets housing. We do not always know their history if they



Hubby, age 10 and Wifey, age 11 came to CASA in February and are still waiting for you to adopt them.

were found as a stray. We do not know anything about their struggles to survive before they came to us. We can only give them love and attention and hope they find a new home soon.

Older cats are content with a comfortable lap or chair (or their own kitty bed) to snuggle on and a window to watch birds. No worries about these felines climbing up your curtains or eating through your electrical wires as kittens are famous for doing. People ask how someone

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CASA Website:

www.camanoanimalshelter.org

CASA E-Mail:

casa@camanoanimalshelter.org

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Join CASA on
Facebook!

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

www.facebook.com/camanoshelter

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Courtney P.

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

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could bear to adopt a cat so old, knowing they would not have much time with her. The response is that she deserves to live the rest of her life with dignity and love. Knowing they don't have much time with her makes them appreciate their time together all the more.

Adopting an older pet can enrich your life in many ways. It is never too late for a second chance; animals are so forgiving and most importantly, they always, no matter how old, want and deserve love. It takes a special person to commit to an elderly cat, but the rewards are great. Senior cats know that you are giving them their second chance. As cats grow older, their need for you grows also. It is comforting to know that you are there for each other.

Come in and meet some of our older felines, talk to our staff. Spend a little time over the course of a couple of visits and get to know how they respond to brushing and petting and just sitting quietly next to them. They may not come up to you immediately, since they are used to being passed by, but they are waiting patiently for you to arrive. We consider it an honor to have these senior cats at CASA and hope that you come to meet them in the near future.

Free 5+ for 50+

Adopters over 50 years of age can adopt a cat 5+ years for Free.



Flea Market ~ Saturday ~ May 31st

CASA will sponsor a Flea Market at the Camano Multi-Purpose Center (blue building next to the shelter) between 9 am and 4 pm.

Hot dogs will be available from 11 am until 3 pm.

SALE ITEMS NEEDED: Spring is here. Time to clean out the house and garage. To donate gently used items for our Flea Market contact Sheri Rhoads at 360-631-5258 or 360-853-3581.

2013 Asilomar Live Release Rate

Starting with the 2013 data, CASA can now produce Asilomar Reports from within PetPoint, our shelter management system. Since 2004, the Asilomar Accords have been the most widely accepted approach to defining what it means to be a "No Kill" shelter and community (saving all healthy and treatable dogs and cats). Once organizations are using a common language with standard definitions for shelter animal categories, they can produce statistics that can be shared with other shelter communities. Without these numbers, each shelter acts in a vacuum, making their own definition regarding no-kill policies.

One of the statistics, commonly reported is the Live Release Rate, the percentage of the total animals leaving the shelter that leave alive. The formula takes the total live outcomes (adoption, return to owner, transfers) and divides it by the total outcomes (total live outcome plus euthanasia for any reason.) **CASA's Live Release Rate for 2013 is 98.5 percent.** Across the United States there are shelters with release rates well below 50 percent.

In addition to Live Release Rates, Asilomar Reports provide not only the usual Intake and Outcome numbers, but also counts based on the animals health (healthy, treatable-rehabilitatable, treatable-manageable, unhealthy & untreatable). To provide input to the reports, the staff evaluates each animal when they come to the shelter and when they leave, recording their findings in the PetPoint system. To learn more about the Asilomar Accords, see www.asilomaraccords.org

Being able to produce the Asilomar Reports is an accomplishment because now we will have the information available should it ever be required when seeking funding or grants. A copy of the 2013 Asilomar Report is available at the shelter at the click of a button. We did not need these reports to tell us how we are doing, but it is pleasing to see the statistics confirm our mission to "find loving Forever Homes" for our animals.

Mark Your Calendar!

CASA Friends

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

UPCOMING EVENTS

- Bake and Plant Sale**
Saturday, May 10th
- Flea Market**
Saturday, May 31st
- Car Wash and Pet Food Drive**
Saturday, June 21st
- Art by the Bay**
Saturday/Sunday, July 12th/13th
- Poochpalooza**
Saturday, July 12th
- Dog Wash**
Saturday, August 16th

**THANK YOU
BUSINESS MEMBERS!**

- Advantage Accounting & Tax Services
- 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
- 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
- Whidbey Island Bank
- Windermere Real Estate
- Windermere Real Estate - Brandy Timmer
- Windermere Real Estate - Linda Evans

CASA Alumni



Maximus Winnett
Adopted Feb 2014



Splash(formerly Jackie) and Dash (formerly Donna) Gowdy
Adopted Feb 2014



Moe (formerly Ariel) and Larry (formerly Patter) Schultz
Adopted Nov 2013



Tilford and Templeton Challenger
Adopted Nov 2013



Ducky Mezzone
Adopted Dec 2003



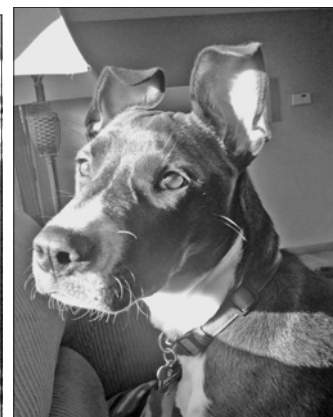
Gracie Rose Gardner
Adopted Oct 2013



Hazel Cornish
Adopted Jan 2014



Mr. Pusser (formerly Ichabod) King
Adopted Dec 2013



Bella Trowbridge
Adopted Oct 2013

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

HAPPY TAILS

Matilda



Matilda loves her forever home.

I have been volunteering at CASA since November. I had several reasons for doing so, one of which was I was looking for my dream cat. There was nothing about her that attracted anyone's attention - just a small black short-haired cat who did nothing but sit in one of two spots at the shelter. Nothing about her called out: "Hey, look at me." She had come in as a stray and was at the shelter for six months before I took her home.

Week after week I would sit next to her and stroke her head and talk to her. Soon she was putting one delicate paw on my thigh. When she climbed onto my lap I was ecstatic. My feeling about her was that once she was in my apartment, she would blossom and thrive. I had never seen her off her spot on the bench. When I got her home I was amazed that she was so tottering and stiff. She could not jump on the couch -- she grabbed the couch with her claws and pulled herself up. Oh no! Time for a stairway to the couch, as well as to the bed, as well as to the window sill. The vet told me she was at least 10 and had arthritis. I started her on glucosamine and chondroitin and noticed an improvement within a week and

6 weeks later she is almost normal in her movements except for jumping up. She recently found a toy she likes and plays with it using her front paws and moving in fast circles. Her diet has made her fur sleek and shiny.

Shy invisible Matilda needed someone to see the sweet and loving girl she was. Who knows what her life had been like before she was brought to CASA as a stray. And some of the bigger cats can be quite intimidating for a small senior kitty. So six months of being passed over for the more exotic, the younger, the strong personality cats - she was patiently waiting for me.
~ Ruby D.

Missy

After planning and preparing to bring a dog into our family for nearly two years, in September we began our search. Looking specifically for a boxer, we came across Missy, a 2 year old boxer/ mastiff mix, on CASA's website and immediately fell in love with her goofy "smile." It wasn't until November, that we were able to travel to the shelter to meet her.

Missy was rescued by the kind people at CASA from another shelter. We cannot express how grateful we are that CASA staff had the good sense to see past her supposed issues and to save her. It turns out that while easily spooked and very protective of her people, she is far from vicious. She is a silly, wiggle butt who sometimes doesn't know her own strength or energy and has been known to flail around in excitement causing injury to the unsuspecting bystander. It is clear that in her former home she was misunderstood and perhaps mistreated as a result, but with some gentle care and consistent training, she is coming along very nicely. Transition from country dog to city dog still causes a bit of fear for her, as there are so many more loud noises and people around to protect us from.



Missy and her best friend in the whole world.

As a member of our family, she is irreplaceable. Within two days of being in our home she had adjusted to the pace of life and of course, the unlimited access to comfortable sleeping spots. She is a "people-dog," who prefers to go everywhere we go. When we go to the dog park or meet other dogs on the street she shows an extreme level of patience with young dogs and is learning to be confident in play with bigger dogs. It is clear that she was never taught to play, although she does carry her favorite Darth Vader toy around the house and paws (boxes) gently at people, she is still learning how to play with other dogs.

When we decided we wanted to bring a dog into our lives, I don't think we fully understood just how wonderful it would be for our family. As our 8 year old son put it, "Missy is my best friend in the whole wide world, forever and ever." ~ Holly Koenig

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.

Muffin and Shiba

Muffin loves to play.

The black kitten is Shiba, She is such a sweetheart and loves to talk. She will meow if you ask her a question and she'll have a conversation with you. I love her so much, every night she sleeps on the right side of me tucked into my arm or under the blankets. Every time I come home she comes darting past me and into my room to say hello and wanting a hug and pets. One thing that Shiba is really good at is stealing items and stashing them under my bed. So far I've found, socks, papers, a clean diaper (I have a baby sister), all of her cat toys and a few water bottles. but I still love her. The tortoiseshell is Muffin. She doesn't talk as much as Shiba but she loves pets and kisses. She'll often meow a whisper and paw at your arm wanting to be petted. If you pucker your lips to her, she'll reach up and give you a kiss. She loves the laser pointer we have and will chase it any time of the day. She will sleep on the left side of me also in my arm.



Shiba loves to talk.

I'm so happy my step dad came with us. We came here wanting to get ONE cat, but we came home with TWO instead. Mom picked out Muffin and Shiba picked out my step dad. She walked up to him and got on his shoulder purring away and he fell in love with her. So we got both kittens that day and they cannot be separated. We all love them to bits, they are perfect for us, full of love, cuddles, kisses and pets. I recommend if your looking for a cat to come here and check them all out.

~ Shilo Charm

Keela (formerly Angie)

I wanted to update you on Keela. My girlfriend and I have had her for a little over 5 months now and words cannot describe what a joy she is in our daily lives! She is a credit to Pit Bulls and dogs everywhere. You would never be able to tell that she had a bit of a rough life before, she is always happy and loves her blankets and belly rubs. She even charms the socks off people who don't like Pits with her gentle, loving personality and great big Pit Smile.

I had a huge hole in my heart since my last dog passed and I was scared that I wouldn't be able to find a dog as amazing as she was. Thanks to CASA I found a wonderful dog and we are getting along GREAT!

Thank you again for running such a great shelter. These animals really need loving homes, but the flip side of that is that those homes need loving animals just as much. Had you and your staff not gone the extra mile, we would be missing such an important part of our family.

~ Travis Reid



That bone looks good!

Nabi (formerly Nevasca)

Nabi finally found her Forever Home.

When we went to CASA we had one dog in mind, but another family adopted him. We looked around saw this puppy, but after hearing how this little boy lost his dog, we decided he needed the puppy. The whole time this white polar bear looking dog, Nevasca, was eyeing us and we decided to see if she was a fit with our two dogs.

The three were best mates, she just laid down and let them sniff her like they were long lost friends. Nabi (her new name because Nevasca is a mouthful for small people to say) was on her way to a new family. During the processing phase we were informed we were her sixth family. Now this alone would make you wonder why such a gentle giant had gone through so many families.

She's a RUNNER. We didn't make it home to Whidbey Island before we totally understood this fact. Nabi was in the front seat and pressed the window button so she could jump out the window and run down the highway. All in all it has been a learning process, but like any kid you must figure out how to blend them into your family. Our anxiety ridden polar bear is learning she is in her Forever Home.

~The Miller Family

Support CASA While You Shop Fred Meyer!

Do you shop at Fred Meyer?

Now you can link your Rewards Card to CASA and we will receive donations when you shop!

- You can sign up by linking your existing Fred Meyer Rewards Card to CASA at www.fredmeyer.com/communityrewards. You can search for us by our name "Camano Animal Shelter Association" or by our non-profit number 81092.
- Every time you shop and use your Rewards Card, you are helping CASA earn a donation. You still earn your Rewards Points, Fuel Points and Rebates, just as you do today.
- If you do not have a Rewards Card, they are available at the Customer Service desk of any Fred Meyer store.



Local Artist Supports CASA

Many locals have seen his Camano Island version (with a Smile) of the classic French "Chat Noir" (Black Cat) image.

Now, local artist, Danny Koffman will donate 50% of the purchase price for orders placed through CASA for his "Chat Noir de Camano" and his new (Black Dog) "Chien Noir de Camano", available in three sizes, framed and unframed.

Visit CASA to see Koffman's "Chat and Chien" unique artwork, have a smile, and place an order.



TAMA - Dog Shelter in Argentina

While on a tour in Patagonia, Argentina we had the opportunity to visit an animal shelter, TAMA, in El Calafate. TAMA, which means "belongs here" was founded in 2007 when the local government passed a law to euthanize all the street dogs (homeless dogs that roam the streets). Volunteers banded together, gathered the dogs, and constructed a shelter near the city dump.

The shelter does not have a building, but consists of enclosures with dog houses, tin roofs and pallets surrounded by chain link fences. While the shelter resembles a "shanty town", it is home to 120 dogs. There were several dogs in each "room." Some came out to the fence wagging their tails to greet us, while others stood watch on top of their dog houses. They looked healthy and happy in their temporary home.

The shelter is staffed completely by volunteers who come to the shelter twice a day. The dogs are let out to play and exercise each day and then return to the shelter. Since they are located so far out of town and are fed inside the shelter, they always return and do not run away. At TAMA all dogs are spayed and neutered. TAMA is actively participating with the town to provide spay and neuter services for all dogs of the community.

TAMA relies on contributions and fundraisers to provide food and medical care. They have received some large donations that has allowed them to start building a facility. Unfortunately, inflation rate is so high in Argentina, the money is not going as far as planned.

While the physical structure was very different from CASA, as we talked with the volunteers, it became apparent that the common tie was love and concern for animals and the desire to find homes for them. To learn more about TAMA, visit their website at www.tamacalafate.org and their Facebook page, www.facebook.com/tama.elcalafate. It is in Spanish, but "pictures speak 1,000 words", and so does the love of animals.



A place to stay while they wait.



Watching for visitors.

Support CASA While You Shop at Amazon Smile



Amazon.com recently unveiled its exciting new community giving program, AmazonSmile. Now when you shop at Amazon, you can link your account to CASA and we will receive a donation from Amazon Smile. There is no cost to shoppers. Sign up today at www.smile.amazon.com.

Paws for Applause to ...

Dr. Jim O'Rourke of the Animal Care Center in Mount Vernon who performed ACL surgery on Zoey's leg and to the donors who funded the surgery. Zoey, featured in our last newsletter, has since been adopted by her foster parents.



WISH LIST

GENERAL SUPPLIES

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

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 or Smile.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!

Remember to check our **website** and the recently updated **Amazon Wish List** frequently for new needs.

BUSINESSES — DONATION BOXES!

The local businesses who display our donation collection boxes are appreciated!
Featured location this period:
IGA - Camano Plaza Market

In memory of departed pets:

- ♥ **Diego Allie**
- ♥ **"Diesel Dog" Peters**
- ♥ **"McDuff"**



----- 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



Pearl is a beautiful senior British Shorthair cat looking for a quiet home. (No dogs please unless they are old and not too mobile.) She'd love a home with a nice window. Rays of sunshine are the loves of her life. She has lots of love and purrs to share. Pearl may be older, but she's the prettiest cat at CASA.

Boots, a Singapura/Abyssinian mix, came to CASA so scared we thought she might be feral. After weeks of calming down, she is like a different cat. In the right, quiet, environment we feel she will bond tightly with her person. She should be fine with another friendly cat. Do you have room in your home and heart for Boots?



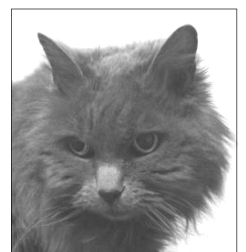
Sandy is a Miniature Poodle/Bichon mix who is about 7 years old. She was surrendered by a senior citizen who could no longer keep her. She seems to be good with children, cats and other dogs. Sandy requires a grain-free diet and treats due to allergies. She'd love to find her Forever Home with you. Come to the shelter to meet her.

Jasmine is a very sweet yet timid Rhodesian Ridgeback mix who would do best with teenagers or older. It may take a while for her to warm up to you (especially if your are a man), but once she does, she'll be the best fetcher, running partner and large lap dog. She likes most canine friends, but is not a fan of felines. Does Jasmine fit your lifestyle?



You have to be calm and quiet to see this magnificent creature. Joanna has short dilute grey hair with hints of orange. What a stunning cat! If you walk slowly and call her by name she might come within reach. Come see if you are one of the lucky few that gets to meet this gal and share her purrs. Come to CASA and meet her today.

Lena is a 15 years old kitty who would love a warm fireplace to sleep next to and someone who would take the time to tenderly brush her beautiful fur. Lena is easily scared by loud noises or fast movement so an older home would fit her best. She tends to keep her distance from others but is willing to share the house. Please come and meet this sweet girl.



See their story.....



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