



# FOREVER HOME

## Camano Animal Shelter Newsletter

Issue 2  
Summer, 2008

Volume 2

### 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.



These 3 animals were among those adopted during 2nd quarter.

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### CASA Web Site:

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

### Shelter Manager's Report

This is CASA's busiest time of year with volunteer dog walkers out in force and kitten season in full swing. On any given day we will have 25 kittens in the shelter waiting for adoption and 25 or more in foster care. CASA's kitten foster parents have told us what a wonderful experience it is to love these little ones until they reach 8 weeks old and come into the shelter.

Have you ever wondered how the adoption process works from the day a cat or dog comes into CASA until the day of adoption? Tours of the shelter are now available just by calling to make an appointment. During a tour, you will learn: why there is a holding period before adoptions can take place, what the procedure is to medically treat the animals, and what shelter life is like here at CASA. You will see first hand why our cats and dogs are less stressed than at most other shelters. I'm sure that after having a CASA tour you will leave pleased, knowing those in our care are happy until they find their Forever Homes.

If you would like to schedule a presentation designed to educate people about CASA please feel free to call the shelter and I would be happy to visit your school or club. Presentations and tours can also be conducted at the shelter for small groups. The tours are especially helpful for people considering becoming CASA volunteers.

By becoming a CASA member, you help support these displaced animals until the day they arrive at their new home - and what a joyful day that is!

Linda Wickler  
Shelter Manager

### Stubbs' Story

This is the story of a stray dog delivered to the shelter by the sheriff's department. Since she arrived without a name and was a Basset Hound with short, little legs, the CASA staff named her Stubbs. She was placed with Connie, a foster parent who would care for her until she was adopted. A visit to the vet established that she was 7 to 8 years old and, unfortunately, had extensive cancer that had spread to most of the major organs in her body. It was inoperable and she was expected to only live for 1 to 6 months.

As soon as her photograph appeared on [www.petfinder.com](http://www.petfinder.com), a national internet animal adoption database, many potential adopters came forward. These adopters disappeared when they found out her condition was terminal. Everyone at CASA wanted to give her a good quality of life for the little time remaining. Connie offered to continue caring for Stubbs as long as she could have a decent life. CASA committed to covering the cost of all prescriptions and doctor's visits.

Stubbs never responded to the name "Stubbs" which, after all, wasn't her "real" name but a new one just given to her. In her new home, she came to the name "Boots", which was the name of the resident cat. She was named "Betsy" since it sounded close to the cat's name.

Betsy became very attached to Connie. It often happens when an abandoned dog comes into a foster care situation they are so traumatized that they immediately form a strong bond with their new caregiver. Betsy quickly became a member of the family and went everywhere with Connie.  
*(continued on page 2 - Stubbs' Story)*

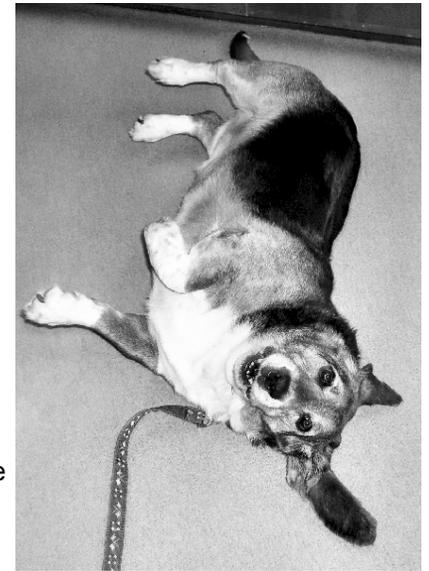




Kitten in a Copier—  
Nicknamed "CopyCat"

*(continued from page 1 - Stubbs' Story)*

Sometimes Connie brought Betsy to the shelter to visit with her friends there. Even though she was very sick, at first Betsy was very active and energetic. She was friendly, curious and loved interacting with people. She was a real "talker" and barked repeatedly as if telling a story. She "spoke" with everyone she met and kept them amused with her antics. She loved children, perking up whenever the school bus dropped off the neighborhood kids. At CASA she followed any kids who happened to be there around trying to play with them. Connie's next door neighbors have a 5 year old girl and Betsy loved visiting her and playing.



## CASA Board Members

**President Pro-Tem:**  
Barbara Peterson

**Treasurer:**  
Martha Huyler

**Secretary:**  
Leanne Ebsen

**Members at Large:**  
Joe Collette  
Chris Mesher

**Shelter Manager:**  
Linda Wickler

**Staff:**  
Allison Zinnato  
Cheri Lovell  
Kim Thompson  
Kylee Cleek  
Phyllis Kidwell

**Newsletter Editor:**  
Connie Parker

When she first arrived Betsy was quite thin and her hair was dull and dried out. She put on weight living with Connie. It seemed as if Betsy's favorite times of the day were breakfast and dinner. She also gobbled up treats she got from Connie and anyone else she could charm. After a while, her eyes brightened up and her skin and hair improved. She was a very sweet and loving dog.

As time went on she had trouble breathing and her energy level got lower and lower. After 3+ months, Betsy's condition deteriorated to the point that she had to be put to sleep. But Betsy's story does not end here, her legacy continues.

Thanks to Petfinder's "Sponsor Me" program, people contributed generously, covering all of her medical bills. Her name remained "Stubbs" in Petfinder. Whether Betsy or Stubbs, her story has touched many people, from the CASA staff and volunteers to others who have heard or read about her. Thanks to CASA, accommodations were found for her, and she was taken care of in her last days. Thanks to Connie, her last days were happy and peaceful.

Betsy's story will always remind the staff and volunteers at CASA of the role that the Camano Animal Shelter plays in the lives of Camano Island's dogs and cats. Betsy was only one of the many animals who come to CASA. Whether they are young, healthy and adoptable or old, sick and not long for this world, their lives are greatly improved by the hardworking staff and volunteers. We also cannot forget the generosity of people who give money and gifts to support the shelter as well. Without their support CASA would not be there when it is needed - and it will always be needed.

## Volunteers Needed

Volunteers are the backbone of any non-profit organization. Volunteers are people who generously dedicate their time and talents to a cause or mission. The mission of CASA is to promote responsible pet ownership and to help find "Forever Homes" for all of the animals in our care while providing them with a healthy and stress free environment.

You may ask yourself "What can I do as a volunteer at CASA?" Do you enjoy walking dogs, socializing cats, helping to clean and sanitize the shelter, or fostering dogs and cats? Perhaps you would like to assist the staff with greeting the public or answering phones. Volunteers are always needed to help in fundraising and special events.

Daily we hear positive comments of how our volunteers find value in their lives by dedicating their time and efforts for this mission. Consider how you might like to join the CASA team and enhance your life in this way.

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

Have you adopted from CASA? Send us a photo and we'll include it in our next newsletter! Mail photo to CASA or send via email to [CASA@camanoanimalshelter.org](mailto:CASA@camanoanimalshelter.org). Please include the full name of your pet and the month/year adopted.

**Physical Address:**  
160 Can Ku Road  
Camano Island, WA  
98282

**Mailing Address:**  
P.O. Box 1726  
Stanwood, WA  
98292

**Phone:**  
360-387-1902

**Hours:**  
Tues - Fri 11 - 3  
Sat 11 - 4  
Sun & Mon Closed

**Spreading the CASA story**

Volunteers who support CASA through fundraising and community outreach have joined together as the Friends of CASA. We meet the first Thursday of each month at 7 PM in the Community building next to the shelter to learn about shelter happenings and plan our future initiatives. New volunteers are welcome to join us.

In the past few months we have spread the CASA story via information booths at the Twin City Idlers, Art by the Bay, and the Car Collector's Show. Wearing CASA T-shirts and supplied with CASA membership forms and brochures, volunteers cheerfully answered questions for people passing by. Visiting dogs stopped for water and biscuits while supporters voted for "Cats are better than Dogs" versus "Dogs are better than Cats" by placing contributions into donation jars.



**2<sup>nd</sup> Annual CASA Dog Wash**

On a sunny, warm August 16<sup>th</sup> the second annual CASA Dog Wash was held at the shelter. Sixty-nine (69) volunteers came together to wash and dry dogs. Nail clipping was provided by Bathing Beauties Mobile Pet Salon and micro-chipping was available.

A total of 115 dogs were washed, 64 had nails clipped, and 22 were micro-chipped. The event, together with the Dog Wash mailing brought in \$3500 for CASA. This was a wonderful, wet and wacky way to make money for CASA. It was a great way to meet the community and share the mission of the Camano Animal Shelter. Thanks to all who participated.

Special thanks to:

- Bathing Beauties Mobile Pet Salon
- Camano Marine
- Camano Plaza Market – IGA
- Clean Spot Car Wash
- Curves
- Port Susan Athletic Club
- Skagit Valley Farmers Supply
- Sue Morrison of Coastal Duet Studios
- The Spare Room Vintage Flea Market

Also, the merchants who displayed posters.



**Camano Animal Shelter ALUMNI**

**Charlie Schufreider**



**Winkin', Blinkin', & Miss Noddy Johnson**



**Autumn Collette**



**Sarah Potts**



**Brandy Baumann**



**CASA CALENDAR**

**PAST EVENTS:**

- May:**  
Rummage Sale
- June:**  
Twin-City Idlers
- July:**  
Art by the Bay
- August:**  
Car Collector's Show  
2nd Annual CASA Dog Wash

**UPCOMING EVENTS:**

- September:**  
Harvest Jubilee
- October:**  
3<sup>rd</sup> Annual CASA Auction -  
October 4
- November:**  
3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Santa Pictures  
Lights of Love
- December:**  
Stanwood Community and  
Senior Center – Festival of  
Trees

**CASA 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual "Forever Home" Auction  
Saturday, October 4<sup>th</sup> 6:30 PM**

We are preparing for our 3rd annual "Forever Home" auction to be held Saturday, October 4, 2008, at the Camano Senior/Community Center at 606 Arrowhead Road, Camano Island. The auction will begin at 6:30p.m. for check-in, and then the fun begins! We have delicious appetizers, wine, beer, non-alcoholic beverages, coffee, and dessert. We'll have live music and lots and lots of wonderful items that we hope will be a "must-have" for you!!!

Just to mention a few of our auction items: limited edition prints, original works of art from many of our Pacific Northwest artists, beautiful glass creations, sculptures, original jewelry, wines, spa packages, gift certificates, vacations, special events, artisan crafted furniture, metal works, dinners, movie theatre tickets, and much, much more!!! Check our CASA website at [www.camanoanimalshelter.org](http://www.camanoanimalshelter.org) in the weeks to come for more details!

"Forever Home" is not only our theme but our mission. We strive to find happy, safe, loving families for all healthy, adoptable animals that come to our shelter. Last year, with the help of contributors like you, the auction raised over \$15,000!!! These funds are used to provide necessary daily support and medical care for the animals, grow our community programs, and keep our facility in top notch running condition.

Please take a minute to show your support for CASA. Invest in your community and the well being and happiness of the precious pets we take into our care. **Please purchase a ticket, for just \$20.00**, and attend this fun event and show your support for CASA!!! Tickets are available at the shelter at 360-387-1902 or call Leanne at 360-387-6816.

**SEE YOU THERE!!!**

**Did you know?**

The CASA intake numbers shown below tell a story about the Camano Animal Shelter. CASA welcomes not only impounded Camano Island dogs but stray and surrendered dogs and cats.

Island County provides the shelter building, heat, electricity and water plus an annual stipend, expressly for the purpose of housing impounded dogs (brought in by the Animal Control Officer) for five days. To meet the needs of Camano Island, the shelter also takes in stray and surrendered dogs (only 30% of the dogs are impounds).

In addition, stray and surrendered cats are cared for until they can find a home (60% of the 313 animals taken in so far this year were cats). The shelter was filled with kittens in July!

During the month of July, the average number of animals cared for by CASA in a single day (either at the shelter or in foster homes) was 69! Without contributions from the public CASA would not be able to help these needy animals.

	Impounded	Stray	Surrender	Total
<b>Dogs</b>	37	40	48	125
<b>Cats</b>		140	48	188
<b>Total Jan-July</b>				<b>313</b>

**Did you know:**

- Dogs communicate primarily through body language but can understand up to a couple of hundred words.
- Dogs are pack animals by nature. They need closeness, touching, and petting to be content and happy.
- Neutering and spaying do not cause obesity; too much food and lack of exercise do.

**THANK YOU  
2008 BUSINESS MEMBERS!**

- Camano Island Cellars
- Camano Island Kennels
- Camano Veterinary Clinic
- Cloud's Canine
- Glass Tech Stanwood, Inc.
- HR-at-Work.com
- Index Sensors & Controls, Inc.
- Invisible Fence of the Northwest

**THANK YOU  
MATCHING GIFT COMPANIES!**

These companies have generously matched the contributions made to CASA by their employees.

- Attachmate
- BP
- Microsoft
- Regence Employee Giving
- Verizon
- Washington Mutual
- Washington Post

**BUSINESSES—DONATION BOXES!**

The local businesses who display our Donation collection boxes are appreciated!

Featured location this period:

**PLAZA VIDEO**

**There are many ways you can give to CASA and the animals:**

**Become a Business Member** – Business memberships are \$100.00. Your company name will be listed in our newsletter, on our website, and at the shelter.

**Become a Newsletter Sponsor** – Newsletter sponsors, for \$50.00 are listed on the back of the newsletter. This contribution will help defray the cost of producing the newsletter.

**Matching Gifts** – Check with your employer to see if they will match your contribution to CASA.

**Children’s Birthday Party** – Having a birthday party? Consider asking the guests to bring an animal toy and monetary gift for CASA.

**Memorial/Honorary Gift** - Give a donation in memory of or in honor of an individual and we will mail an acknowledgement to the individual or family.

**Pet Memorial** – If your pet has passed away, remember him/her by giving a donation in memory. Your pet’s name will be included in our next newsletter. Consider adopting from CASA, but if you are not ready, consider a monetary donation quarterly representing the money you would have gladly spent on your pet.

**Estate Planning** – Remember CASA in your will or estate.

**Please notify us if you:**

- Have address changes
- Are receiving 2 newsletters
- Want to be removed from our mailing list.

**Send email to:**

**CASA@camanoanimalshelter.org**

*CASA does not sell or otherwise disclose donor information outside of the organization. This policy has no exceptions. We do not sell or exchange your information with any other organization - public, private, or non-profit.*

**CASA Wish List**

- Cat Trees
- Cardboard Cat Scratchers
- Canned Cat Food
- KMR – Kitten Milk Replacement
- Baby Food – Small jars of pureed meats
- Dog Toys – All Kinds
- Blankets for Dog Bedding
- Paper Towels
- #10 Mailing Envelopes
- Copy Paper (8½” x 11”)
- Table Top Copier (Copy Machine)
- Postage Stamps – We use lots of stamps! A roll of stamps can be purchased on-line at <http://shop.usps.com>

**www.iGive.com — You Shop, CASA Wins!  
Your stores, Your cause, Their money**

Help Camano Animal Shelter for free. Shop online at over 700 brand name stores and a portion of each purchase will be donated to CASA! Just go to <http://www.iGive.com>, sign up, and start shopping on the Internet.

**www.goodsearch.com — You Search & CASA Wins!**

When making inquiries or doing searches on the Internet just use <http://www.goodsearch.com/> as your search engine of choice and CASA will receive a donation each time you search for something. Select **Camano Animal Shelter** as your charity of choice and we will start receiving donations sponsored by you every time you look things up on the Internet by using **goodsearch!**

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

Enclosed is my TAX DEDUCTIBLE gift of:

\$15     \$25     \$50     \$100     \$250     Other \$ \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name (Please print)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Street

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

\_\_\_\_\_  
Phone Email address

*If this donation is a gift or in honor or memory of someone special, please include a note and we will mail an acknowledgement to the individual or family.*

I am interested in becoming a volunteer.

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

**Thank you for your support!**

CASA is a non-profit 501(c)3 corporation.

All donations are tax deductible to the full extent allowed by law.

Please make check payable to CASA.

(Credit Card donations accepted via PayPal at [www.camanoanimalshelter.org](http://www.camanoanimalshelter.org))



See Stubbs' Story!



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

Stanwood, WA 98292  
PO Box 1726  
Newsletter of CASA

**THANK YOU**  
**CASA Newsletter Supporters**

**CASA ANIMALS CURRENTLY IN NEED OF**  
**FOREVER HOMES**



**INDEX**  
SENSORS & CONTROLS

**Production Associates Needed**  
\$10.50 to start. Stop by 7112 265<sup>th</sup> in Stanwood (across from the Cinemas) to apply. Your dogs & cats will love your short work week and 3-day weekends!



**BENTLEY**  
Akita [Mix] - Medium Adult Male. Nice size at @45 lbs. Just finished Obedience Class—Waiting for his Forever Home. Wants to please someone. Just look at those eyes!



**SAVANNAH**  
Black Labrador Retriever [Mix] Large 8-10 Month Female. Needs care, attention, & training to reach potential. Can be the perfect family dog with patience & love.



**RUBY**  
Pit Bull Terrier, Australian Cattle Dog/Blue Heeler [Mix]—Large, Young, Energetic Female Loves to run, swim, fetch, play—rides well in car—Needs love & caring family.



**MARIGOLD**  
Shepherd, Alaskan Malamute [Mix] Large Adult Female. A sweet, friendly & playful girl. A little sad since her lifelong companion was adopted. She'll perk up with a loving family of her very own.!

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East side of the freeway off 300th St, exit 215. 1/4 mile north of NOAH.



**LOTS & LOTS OF KITTENS THIS TIME OF YEAR! COME SEE, LOVE, LAUGH, & ADOPT!**