



# FOREVER HOME

Volume 11 **Camano Animal Shelter Newsletter**

Issue 2  
Spring 2017

## 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.



Join CASA on Facebook!

We love to share photos of our animals and updates on events. Post your photos too with our 4,800+ Facebook friends!

[www.facebook.com/camanoshelter](http://www.facebook.com/camanoshelter)

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CASA Website:

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

CASA E-Mail:

[casa@camanoanimalshelter.org](mailto:casa@camanoanimalshelter.org)

## Message from the Shelter Manager

While we work hard to find the perfect home for each animal, sometimes it does not work out and they are returned to CASA. It is easy to think that a returned adoption is a “fail” for that animal, but this is a misconception that happens when one focuses solely on the animal leaving the shelter. We welcome surrenders because we do not want an animal staying in a home where it is not wanted; we welcome returns for similar reasons. Every animal is deserving of a home, but more importantly they are deserving of the *right* home where both humans and animals are happy. Someone might adopt an animal and when they get home they realize that animal is unhappy with the new home environment even after a long acclimation period. Regardless of the reason for the surrender, as a shelter, we often find that we learn even more about the animal and what their ideal home really looks like.

Just knowing we always want our animals back helps comfort those looking to adopt, as well as those who might be facing the decision to return whether it is a week after adoption or five years after. In the end, a return is far from a fail. It is a chance for that animal to do something different, for an adopter to adopt without feeling like they might become trapped if they chose wrong, or for an animal to get the chance at a home without ending up stuck there - unwanted simply because the shelter they came from didn't offer a full commitment to their welfare. This long-standing policy might also lead to someone taking a chance on an animal that had been with us a while that they wouldn't have chosen otherwise. That leap of faith may very well land them with the perfect dog they almost didn't pick. CASA offers the opportunity for adoption along with the open-door opportunity to return if they need us again and we wouldn't have it any other way.

Tegan Locker

## Black and Grey Everywhere



Wary cats peer down from wall shelf in cat room

“Cat hoarding” is a phrase that we hear in the news. A rescue team goes in, works to remove the cats from the home, and brings the cats to the shelter. What never seems to be very news-worthy is the follow up of these cases and the strain this usually has on the cats and the shelters that have committed to their rehabilitation. In the past, CASA has retrieved cats from homes with as many as 70+ cats living in one residence and has been successful in finding homes for those who have sought refuge at our shelter.

At the start of this year there were only a few adoptable cats remaining at the shelter on any given day (others were in foster). When we contacted other shelters, they were also lower on cats than normal. So when we a partner shelter contacted us looking for assistance with cats coming from a home which had an estimated 100+ of them, the shelter manager quickly agreed. Thankfully for the assisting shelter and the cats, their owner welcomed help and this allowed the shelter to take them in as groups instead of trying to catch, transport, and facilitate them all at once.

When our shelter manager first saw the cats at the partner shelter, there were several rooms of them. One thing stood out more than anything else with each passing room - these cats were almost identical; all were either grey or black. Other than some very slight size differences due to age, they all looked very much the same. Their owner had said that it all started with just two unaltered cats – a brother and sister pair of kittens they had brought to their home. This now large collection of cats is a living example of what occurs when cats are not spayed or neutered and left to their own accord. In addition to the sheer number of cats that had developed, this was simply way too many cats for a few people to socialize.

See more on page 2 - *Black and Grey Everywhere*

**Mark Your Calendar!**

**CASA Friends**

*First Thursday  
of each month at 7 PM  
Island County Multi-Purpose  
Building  
Join us to help plan events!*

**UPCOMING EVENTS**

- Bake and Plant Sale**  
*Saturday, May 13<sup>th</sup>*
- Draw Cat/Dog Art Contest**  
*Saturday, May 13<sup>th</sup>*
- Flea Market**  
*Saturday, June 3<sup>rd</sup>*
- Car Wash /Pet Food Drive**  
*Saturday, June 17<sup>th</sup>*
- Dog Wash**  
*Saturday, August 19<sup>th</sup>*

**Board Members**

- President:**  
Martha Huyler
- Vice President:**  
Sara Schmitt
- Treasurer:**  
Cathy Massimino
- Secretaries:**  
India Nishi  
Gloria Ingrassia
- Members at Large:**  
Toni Fenley

**CASA Staff**

- Shelter Manager:**  
Tegan Locker
- Assistant Manager:**  
Anna D.
- Shelter Staff:**  
Hollie D.  
Rozalynn M.  
Trisha T.

**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, Black and Grey Everywhere)*

We transferred in 13 cats from the first batch they removed from the home. Since the cats all came from the same location and were essentially a colony already we planned to house them in the purple cat room we had emptied and prepared the day before. Allowing them to live together similar to what they had been used to would be a much less stressful setting while they continued to get over lingering upper respiratory infections.

At CASA the staff placed the occupied carriers on the ground in that room and opened the doors. Some cats were too scared to move from the carriers, others immediately ran under the cat condos and huddled together. In the days to come, some of the cats came out to explore when it was quiet. Now even more of them are enjoying the cat perches and the tops of the condos, but remain scared and leery when staff enter their room. Most are quite receptive to petting and many enjoy privately relishing the little piles of catnip the staff leave behind before leaving their room after visits. They make progress each and every passing day.

When the staff initially examined them, they found that a few had colds (upper respiratory infections) which had flared back up with just the stress of moving from shelter to shelter. Because of this they would remain as a group in quarantine longer than the staff had hoped. Cats cannot be released into the regular shelter colony for weeks following a respiratory illness. Meanwhile, after another visit to the veterinarian for possible pneumonia with two of them, it was determined that a couple of the "kittens" were older than previously thought. This did not come as much of a surprise because the adults were very small themselves. The x-ray also seemed to show two had enlarged hearts and it is unknown if their small stature has anything to do with it or if this will actually pose a risk later on in their life.



Our new arrivals enjoy the comfort of the cat room while they adjust.



While they all successfully passed the FeLV/FIV blood tests, the staff continues to monitor them as some continue to recover from upper respiratory infections. Because many of the cats look identical shelter staff find themselves needing to use the microchip scanner to verify they are keeping tabs on each cat properly. The cats are not yet allowed into the catio, but the door remains cracked open and the fresh air coming into the room will aid in their recovery.

Their story continues and although we do not know when they will be cleared for adoption, families who do adopt these cats will be told of their story. It is feasible that some of them may take longer than others to warm up and adjust to a normal life, but in time, with love and patience, we feel the cats will learn to trust people again and enjoy their new homes. You can do your part by contributing towards their care and opening your heart to these innocent animals.



**THANK YOU  
BUSINESS MEMBERS!**

- Advantage Accounting & Tax Services
  - Affordable Pet Care
  - Apollo Concrete Sawing
  - Arrowhead Farm\*
  - AWR Inc. / General Contractor
  - Camano Body Shop, Inc.
  - Camano Canine Resort
  - Camano Pet Sitters
  - Camano Storage
  - Camano Veterinary Clinic
  - Cat Nap Inn, LLC
  - Certified Services Auto & Truck Repair
  - Coastal Community Bank
  - Dog Style Grooming
  - Edward Jones - Peggy Burr
  - Glass Tech Stanwood, Inc.
  - Grocery Outlet – Stanwood
  - Heritage Bank
  - Julz Animal Houz - Pet Supply
  - Krista's Pet Spaw
  - Little Caesars Pizza
  - Mark's Camano Pharmacy
  - Movement Arts Yoga and Pilates
  - North Sound Physical Therapy
  - Northwest Veterinary Clinic - Stanwood
  - Platinum Autoworks, Inc.
  - Pratt Pest Management NW
  - Puget Sound Tree Care LLC
  - Rebecca Bowler, LMP
  - Seven Lakes Dental
  - State Farm Ins. – Leslie Tripp Agency
  - Stillaguamish Tribe of Indians
  - Thomas Assoc - Insurance Brokers, Inc.
  - TimLabs
  - Toni Fenley
  - Windermere Real Estate
  - Windermere Real Estate - Linda Evans
- \* New business member

**We appreciate the support of  
these local businesses.**

***CASA Alumni***



Boo Boo (Cameron) Collins  
Adopted Oct 2014



Carla (Carlotta) Benson  
Adopted Dec 2016



Boo (Levi) and Scout (Crush) Post/Murray  
Adopted Feb 2013



Stevie Stephan  
Adopted Sept 2016

**CASA FLEA MARKET – SALE ITEMS NEEDED**

Please remember the CASA Flea Market when you start your spring cleaning. Your unwanted items may be repurposed and become someone else's treasures!

- All donated items must be in good, working condition
- We welcome items that can be moved easily
- Clothing new or "gently used" on or with hangers preferred.

**Things that sell well at our Flea Market:**

- Vintage/Antique collectibles and conversation pieces
- Glasses, dishes, home decor, toys, hobby supplies
- Jewelry, tools, fiction and non-fiction books, puzzles
- Small furniture and shelves, pet supplies
- Gardening supplies, sports products, fishing gear
- Camping and survival gear, canning supplies



**We will NOT be able to accept the following items:**

- Dirty, torn, broken, incomplete and well used items, soft furniture, artificial plants, suitcases, and used pillows.
- Heavy furniture, TV's, computer screens or large outside items.

**Volunteers** needed to help the day of the event.

For more information, email: [fleamarketcamano2017@gmail.com](mailto:fleamarketcamano2017@gmail.com)

**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](mailto:casa@camanoanimalshelter.org).

## HAPPY TAILS

### Cowboy

When Cowboy, Mila (my two year old pit mix), and I met for the first time I chose to make a leap of faith. I wasn't quite sure how we would become a happy pack, but I saw glimmers of hope. The first six days were hard. The dogs resented each other. Cowboy was nervously friendly. I told myself - give it a week. Adopting a deaf dog that has abuse issues is not going to be easy. I adopted Mila at eight weeks and she couldn't understand why this other dog was here and why it was important to give him a chance. I emailed Anna from CASA and told her the dogs were fighting and I was afraid to leave them alone. Two pit bull mixes can do a lot of harm even if they don't intend to. I can't tell you how much I appreciated her responses. I wanted to give them a week to work it out.

On the sixth day Mila learned she was strong enough to flip Cowboy on his back. To his credit, Cowboy wasn't threatened. He thought it was fun. The balance of doggie dominance shifted and the two became brother and sister from different parents. We weren't a pack yet, but we were on the path.



Cowboy and Mila have worked at their friendship.

Getting a deaf dog's attention when he isn't facing you can be difficult. On the third week Cowboy started to understand that love wasn't contingent on his behavior - it was just there. Mila was his friend and they were equals. He has learned a lot of American Sign Language: his name, good, no, come, sit and many more. He knows he is safe, warm, and loved. When I come home from work he is genuinely happy. He trusts me and isn't nervously happy any more. He isn't trying to dominate Mila and life is good.

What I want to say is give a dog with issues time. Give him or her time to unpack. Just be there and be kind because the companion of your dreams is there - waiting to be all they can be. Every day with Cowboy is better than the last. Cowboy is a big, strong handsome boy and I look forward to who he will be in another month, a year and further in the future. Thank you CASA for letting me adopt such a wonderful dog.

~ Stephanie Richert

### Harley

We had been looking at the CASA website and dropping in on occasion. We wanted to find an older cat and provide a comfortable home to enjoy those golden kitty years. We also needed a cat that would be okay with our 7 year old Jack Russell / Rat Terrier mix named Missy. Mr. Harley immediately caught our eye on the website and we had to stop by for a visit. We learned that Harley is a survivor and has been through a major surgery. He is very friendly and we were told he gets along with dogs and even made friends with a rabbit. We adopted Harley the next week and he has been a joy.



Missy and Harley are now best friends.

He immediately let our dog know who is the boss. He is quite a bit larger than the dog, and it was very funny to watch the alpha dog walk wide circles around a cat. Harley is only the second cat that Missy has ever seen. Since the initial meeting, Harley and Missy have become good friends, they play in the morning by running around the house chasing each other. Harley is a great companion, he is fun to observe because he is so curious about everything and he is very vocal, always "talking". He is very independent yet he is also very affectionate, on his terms of course. We thank CASA for providing such a great service to these animals and we are glad to be a part of the adoption process allowing room for another animal in need.

~ Kevan and Glenda Hanks

**Note:** "Harley's Long Ride" was the feature story for the Winter 2017 issue of Forever Home.

## Bogart and Friends

When I joined the staff at CASA, everyone told me that I would not be able to resist the kittens and cats that came through the door. They were right. In the past two years I have adopted three cats from CASA. Bruce, my first adoptee was a feisty brown tabby who pawed at me through his kennel. I loved his tough guy attitude. He has since become a love, a picture perfect cat who enjoys napping and bird watching. Tiny entered my home as a foster cat, a five day old kitten. He was very sick when I got him and I spent month nursing him back to health. I fell in love with this little guy and ended up adopting him.

Bogart stole my heart when he came to CASA wounded and in poor condition. He really did need a little extra TLC. When I came into the shelter and picked him up he wrapped his little arms around my neck and gave me a hug, he wouldn't let me put him down. At this point I was sold. He is still a big hugger. He spends his days lounging around the house, cuddling, and keeping the dogs in check. I love spending time with the cats at the shelter, but I am so happy to have these pets in my family. ~ Rozalynn Muscolo



Bogart loves to give big hugs.

## Cool Dog Facts

**Is it a duck...or a dog?** The Newfoundland breed has a water resistant coat and webbed feet. This dog was originally bred to help haul nets for fishermen and rescuing people at risk of drowning.

**It pays to be a lap dog.** Three dogs (from First Class cabins!) survived the sinking of the Titanic – two Pomeranians and one Pekingese.

**A Beatles hit.** It's rumored that, at the end of the Beatles song, "A Day in the Life," Paul McCartney recorded an ultrasonic whistle, audible only to dogs, just for his Shetland sheepdog.

**Wow, check out those chompers!** Puppies have 28 teeth and normal adult dogs have 42.

**Chase that tail! Dogs chase their tails** for a variety of reasons: curiosity, exercise, anxiety, predatory instinct or, they might have fleas! If your dog is chasing his tail excessively, talk with your vet.

**Seeing spots? Or not.. Dalmatian** puppies are pure white when they are born and develop their spots as they grow older.

**Dogs do dream!** Dogs and humans have the same type of slow wave sleep (SWS) and rapid eye movement (REM) and during this REM stage dogs can dream. The twitching and paw movements that occur during their sleep are signs that your pet is dreaming.

**No night vision goggles needed!** Dogs' eyes contain a special membrane, called the tapetum lucidum, which allows them to see in the dark.

**Pitter patter.** A large breed dog's resting heart beats between 60 and 100 times per minute, and a small dog breed's heart beats between 100-140. Comparatively, a resting human heart beats 60-100 times per minute.

From: 25 Cool Dog Facts, [www.petfinder.com](http://www.petfinder.com)



**BAKE & PLANT SALE**  
May 13<sup>TH</sup> 10AM - 3PM

FREE COFFEE

Baked Goods  
Plants & Flowers  
Hot Dogs

**CAMANO ANIMAL SHELTER ASSOC.**  
198 CAN KU RD  
CAMANO ISLAND, WA 98282  
360.387.1902  
CAMANOANIMALSHELTER.ORG  
501(C)(3) NO-KILL ANIMAL SHELTER



**ALL PROCEEDS BENEFIT CASA**  
Your local Animal Shelter  
South of Camano Plaza  
Next to the shelter

**A Day in the Life of a CASA Dog**

*8:00 AM -*

My favorite time of the day! This is when the CASA ladies arrive to care for me. By this time I am eagerly awaiting my morning turn-out so I can use the restroom and stretch my legs. I hear the water running as they clean out my room. Like magic, when I return from the play yard my kennel is spotless (though a little damp) and I have new bedding, fresh water, and breakfast! Someone must be doing a lot of wash to make sure I have such a comfortable bed. Each day when they are making up my room, they check to make sure that I'm okay also. When I don't feel well, the CASA humans give me special wet food with crunchy things in it. They call these things medicine...they don't taste good at all but I sure do love the wet food, so I keep eating. I have heard that the ladies come in early to be sure that I am taken care of, but also to have the shelter ready for people who are looking for someone special.

*11:00 AM -*

A new dog friend was brought in today! We all boisterously greeted him as he walked through the kennels. We love meeting new friends...well most of us do. Our new friend went into the back room where the CASA ladies look new canine members over and get them ready for adoption. A couple small pokes and a mediocre tasting deworming treat later and he is good to go! I guess it is a good thing because they tell me that the vaccinations, flea treatment, and wormer keep us all healthy. They also give us this thing called a microchip. Now it is not comfortable to get, but it makes me feel good to know that if I go out on an adventure, I can always find my people again. Next the new pup gets to go outside and look his very best for his profile picture that will help him find his forever home. The humans write stories about us to go with our photo so that we find the perfect fitting home.

*1:25 PM -*

A dog walker comes to play with me! What a treat! I bark my greeting and beg to be taken out first. With a clip of the leash, I am ready to go. We take off out the door, through a luscious grass field, and along the forested trails behind my CASA home. Smelling the fresh scents is a great break from my kennel and allows me to decompress so I am ready to meet more people! It is sure fun to get out and socialize. When I get back, I'm tired and I'm glad that even with lots of us in here, it really isn't very loud. It must be because of that colorful orange ceiling.

*2:00 PM -*

Another new dog comes in...this one ran away from home. She goes to a kennel in the very back of the building where she will wait for her people to come and bring her home. The CASA humans wave a wand over her to see if she has a microchip. Beep! She has a chip! Luckily for her, her people kept the chip information up to date and after some office work, she is prancing past us out the door and back home with her people.

*3:00 PM -*

My second favorite time of day! Dinner! The ladies bring us dinner, fresh water, and some snuggles. After everyone is fed, we get to take our turn in the dog yard to use the restroom again and stretch our legs before we settle in for the night.

*3:30 PM -*

I am tucked in and ready to relax for the evening. I didn't meet my forever home today but I am sure that I will tomorrow!!!

Story as told to Anna Dean, Asst. Manager



Staff and volunteers prepare the kennels and bedding; Lexie loves her blanket and is ready to play in the dog yard.

Paws for Applause to ....



SPONSOR ME



**Boo**, a black Chihuahua mix, came to CASA after bouncing from many different homes in his short 2 years of life. His most recent owner quickly realized he was struggling with an unknown illness and his symptoms were so severe they knew he was likely battling

something quite serious. He was surrendered hoping that CASA to take over, find what was wrong, and get Boo to feel healthy for once in his life.

Boo has already had a number of tests and x-rays since arriving at CASA. He has started treatment for Diabetes Insipidus, an incredibly rare illness which veterinarians suspect might be the reason for his ailing. Because it is so rare, the drug is hard to get and costly. Boo's care is quickly adding up, but we are determined to help him.

**Do you want to help Boo?** Please consider sponsoring Boo's road to healing and others like him.

Wish List

GENERAL SUPPLIES

- Liquid Bleach
- Dawn Liquid Laundry Detergent
- Copy paper

PET FOOD

- Canned Cat and Kitten Food
- KMR - Kitten Milk Replacement
- Baby Food - small jars of puree meats
- Royal Canin "Babycat" & kitten dry food
- Zignature Dry Dog Food

PET SUPPLIES

- Non-clumping/Clay cat litter or pellets

When you shop Amazon, you can link your account to CASA and we will receive a donation from **Amazon Smile**. No cost to shoppers. Sign up at [www.smile.amazon.com](http://www.smile.amazon.com).

**NEW: Look at the NestCam Security Cameras!**

*(We are able to watch Boo at the shelter 24/7 with one of these cameras)*



Visit [Amazon.com](http://Amazon.com) or [Smile.Amazon.com](http://Smile.Amazon.com).

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!



**BUSINESSES — DONATION BOXES!**

Featured location this period:

**Ace - Stanwood**

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

----- **YES . . . I WANT TO HELP CASA SAVE LIVES** -----

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)

**Sponsor Me** donation will provide needed care

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) nonprofit animal welfare organization and no-kill shelter. 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](http://www.camanoanimalshelter.org)





## CASA ANIMALS CURRENTLY IN NEED OF FOREVER HOMES



**Kate** came to CASA after her owners passed away. She was brought in with her sister Dupli-Kate and they will need to go to a new home together. These gorgeous ladies are in need of a calm, loving, and quiet retirement home. They love each other and will quickly bond to their new human companion.

**Dupli-kate** came to CASA after her owners passed away. She was brought in with her sister Kate and they will need to go to a new home together. They seem to do okay with other calm cats that respect their space. This change has been hard for them. Please come meet these two special ladies here at CASA.



I'm **Super Max**. I'm super energetic, super fast, super smart and am looking for an even more super human! Really I am a working dog. If I get too much pent up energy I can become less than super. You need a running partner each day? That's me! Please no homes with cats or kids. Come meet me today!

**Millie** is only two years old but has been in and out of shelters and has had four different homes. She is looking for a person who will be her best friend and protector. She's a bit shy when meeting strangers but warms up quickly. (*No Men, Dogs, Cats*). We know she desires an incredibly particular home, but we know it is out there somewhere.



### DONATE YOUR CAR

Our vehicle donation program is made possible by 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](http://www.donateforcharity.com)

### Sign up for CASA's eNews

to receive periodic email updates.

To enroll, go to the "News" Tab at

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



### See Our Story



Camano Animal Shelter Association  
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Stanwood, WA 98292

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