



# FOREVER HOME

Volume 17

Camano Animal Shelter Newsletter

Issue 2  
Spring 2023

### CASA Mission Statement:

The mission of CASA is "Bringing together animals in need and caring people, forever enriching their lives".



### JOIN US ON FACEBOOK

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

9,100+ Facebook followers  
[www.facebook.com/camanoshelter](http://www.facebook.com/camanoshelter)

**CASA is a Facebook Charity**  
Select CASA as a fundraiser recipient.



### Message from the Executive Director

Spring has sprung at CASA! The daffodils are blooming in front of the building and the steady stream of pregnant cats coming through our doors reminds us kitten season has begun. Spring is just the start of the busy months ahead. Ensuring CASA was adequately staffed before kitten season was a top priority and I'm happy to announce we filled our empty positions and welcomed two new staff members in March. The reality of the day-to-day operations at CASA is we rely heavily on knowledgeable staff and volunteers to care for the animals and prepare them for their forever homes.

Since January we have opened our doors to 54 cats and 73 dogs and most have needed some level of medical care beyond the basics of spay/neuter, vaccines, microchips, and flea treatment. We never know what situation will arise or what an animal will need from us from one moment to the next. Your support is vital to funding our mission and helping dogs and cats like those you see in this newsletter.

Whether you are familiar with CASA or not, I invite you to get to know us better over the coming months. In February we launched CASA Connections, a monthly eNews to keep our community up-to-date on the ongoing and happenings of CASA. Keeping our community involved and connected helps spread the word and increase adoptions allowing us to intake more animals in need. We will be busy with fundraising events, our Spring Market in May, our community outreach events such as our free microchip clinic in April, and our Pet Food Drive at IGA in June. We hope to see you at one of the events supporting CASA; the donations we raise at these events are crucial to cover the increased cat and kitten medical costs and increased staff hours during kitten season. We have many exciting goals ahead of us and I hope you'll continue to support us in our venture.

Cassie Morey, Executive Director of CASA

### CASA Vision:

A world in which every animal has a voice, proper care, safety, security and is free from abuse and neglect.

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### CASA Website:

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

### CASA E-Mail:

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

### The Long Wait

Imagine what Ricardo, Hachi, Dennis, and Deandra must be thinking as they sit at the shelter waiting to find their forever home. These dogs once had homes, but are now waiting patiently to be adopted. They came to the shelter in October and have been waiting since then (over five months). That is a long wait. It is difficult to understand why some dogs have to wait so long, while others come into the shelter and leave quickly.

Ricardo does have some placement restrictions, but there has to be someone who will meet him and give him a chance. "He is active, cuddly, devoted, loyal, and very intelligent. He could go to a home as an only dog or with other dog-friendly canines! He loves all people and would be okay with a confident dog-savvy cat." Both Ricardo and Hachi were transferred from another shelter due to space limitations.



Ricardo

Hachi is a big dog who loves people and life. "He is an active boy who loves to play and loves to go on walks. He does not realize he is a big guy, so he thinks he makes a great lap dog! One of his all-time favorite activities is car rides. He would do best in an adult-only home or with kids 8 and older. He does well with like-sized dogs, although he will need a home without small dogs or cats." One reason that Hachi may be overlooked is that when people come to the shelter looking, he just placidly sits there looking at them. He is not the "take me, take me" type of dog. We are hoping that when folks look into Hachi's eyes they see the lovable dog just waiting for his home.



Hachi

See more on page 2 - The Long Wait

**Mark Your Calendar!**

**CASA Friends**  
Second Thursday at 3 PM  
Island County  
Multi-Purpose Building  
Join us to help plan events!

**UPCOMING EVENTS**

**FREE Microchip Clinic**  
Saturday, April 22<sup>nd</sup>  
**Spring Market**  
Saturday, May 13<sup>th</sup>  
**Pet Food & Supply Drive**  
Saturday, June 10<sup>th</sup>  
**Open House**  
Saturday, July 8<sup>th</sup>  
**Dog Wash**  
Saturday, August 12<sup>th</sup>

**Board Members****President:**

Martha Huyler

**Vice President:**

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**Secretaries:**Gloria Ingraffia  
Wendy Weaver**Members at Large:**Allie Sanchez  
Jim Howard  
John Cole  
Sara Holcomb**Staff:****Executive Director:**

Cassie Morey

**Shelter Manager:**

Rozalynn Muscolo

**Shelter Staff:**

5 Animal Caregivers

**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, The Long Wait)*

**Dennis and Deandra** are hounds that came to the shelter as strays and were never reclaimed. Dennis, 11, and Deandra, 9 would love to find a home together. Dennis enjoys hanging out with people and loves going on walks. Although he is a bit older, he is very active and would love someone who can keep up with him. Dennis gets along well with like-sized dogs. Dennis and Deandra could be separated but both will need a home without cats and Deandra would do best in a home with another dog as she is not a fan of being alone. Placing older dogs like these is always a challenge, but we are hoping that someone will open their heart and adopt them



Deandra and Dennis are patiently waiting.

Dennis and Deandra could be separated but both will need a home without cats and Deandra would do best in a home with another dog as she is not a fan of being alone. Placing older dogs like these is always a challenge, but we are hoping that someone will open their heart and adopt them

We hope that by the time this newsletter has been received, our four friends will have found homes, but even if they do, there will

always be those who are waiting for a home. You can help by following us on our website and spreading the word so that others do not have "The Long Wait."

**Foster Parents Needed**

Kitten season is upon us and CASA is recruiting foster parents! We have already had a few pregnant moms and kittens arrive at CASA. Most arrive and have a long wait before they will be fully vetted and available for adoption. Rather than staying at CASA, these cats would prefer to be in a foster home!

CASA sends motherless infant kittens, pregnant or nursing moms, and weaned kittens who are just not quite big enough into foster. Foster parents choose which animals they take and are provided all the supplies they need by the shelter. Fostering is fun for the foster family and is a huge help for the cats and kittens in need! Call the shelter for more information on how to become a foster parent.



Welcome to the world, little kitten.

**Message from the Shelter Manager**

CASA opens our doors to animals who sometimes would not be given a second chance. We often find ourselves taking in the dogs and cats that have been denied spaces elsewhere and working with other Western WA shelters by transferring dogs who have not been successful at their facilities. This opens kennel space for the larger open admission shelters, and hopefully drives down their euthanasia rates. Taking in the ones who need a little extra work and TLC leads to slower turnover for many of the dogs at CASA.

The longer stays can be stressful on the staff and the dogs, as we wonder when the right home will come along. Dogs who have been in the shelter system for a long time may become shut down, withdrawn or have increased behavioral issues. CASA relies on dedicated staff and volunteers to make the stay as positive as possible. Our intimate size allows us to work closely with these dogs daily and put in extra time exercising, socializing, marketing and matchmaking a perfect home. In some special cases, we reach out to other rescues for help in finding homes for our animals.

***CASA Alumni***



Ansel Tierra  
Adopted Nov 2016



Boba Goos  
Adopted April 2019



Rosie Tierra  
Adopted Nov 2016



Stella Capone  
Adopted Feb 2015



Smoke Simon  
Adopted Oct 2017

**Paws for Applause**

- Rockaway Grill and Tito's Vodka – thanks to Rockaway Grill for nominating CASA to receive \$1,000 through Tito's Vodka LOVE – a program that supports nonprofits bettering the lives of pets and their families far and wide
- Island Girl Paint Party - for donating her time and supplies for our employee appreciation party
- Paws and Wings Place and Island Girl Paint Party – new business sponsors
- UPS for printing services
- AmazonSmile participants through the years
- Supporters who create Facebook Fundraisers soliciting donations for CASA
- Donation Box Sponsor – Ladders Clothing & Company
- Microchip Sponsors—Camano Kerri North 48 Real Estate, Criterion Construction, Lankford Associates, Shipwreck Coffee, Windermere Real Estate, Berg's Bookkeeping and Tax Services

**Come to the CASA Spring Market!**

A wide selection of CASA gear such as Island Love and Logo shirts/hoodies and tank tops, CASA vests, hats and totes will be available. Pet-themed and hand-crafted items for pets and pet lovers will also be featured at the Spring Market on May 13th at the Camano Multi-Purpose Center next to the shelter.

Stop by to purchase delicious cookies, breads, cakes, pies and other baked goods. There will also be hot dogs, beverages, water and free coffee.

**Thank You - Business Supporters!**

AAA Camano Heated Storage Advanced Image Concepts / Cinda S. Advantage Accounting & Tax Services Affordable Pet Care Apollo Concrete Sawing, Inc. Arrowhead Ranch Augusta Lawn Care - Stanwood Camano Camaloch Golf Course Camano Body Shop, Inc. Camano Canine Resort Camano Center Camano Storage Camano Veterinary Clinic Cascade Lumber, Inc. Cat Nap Inn Coastal Community Bank Dapper Plumbing, Heat/Air & Electric Darrow's Carpet	Designs Northwest Architects Eastside Salon Edward Jones - Brenna Casey Glass Tech Stanwood, Inc. Hamilton Lumber, LLC Happy House Construction Co. Heritage Bank His Biz Painting Island Girl Paint Party Krista's Pet Spaw Lenz Enterprises MGM Designs, Inc. Mission Motors Movement Arts Yoga and Pilates Northwest Veterinary Clinic – Stanwood Papa's Lockers Self Storage Paws and Wings Place Pets Ahoy Grooming	Puget Sound Tree Care LLC Regal Construction SchaSam Farms LLC Seven Lakes Dental Stanwood Hearing State Farm Ins. – Leslie Tripp Agency Stillaguamish Tribe of Indians Still River Mechanical Studio 271 Taylor's Excavating, Inc. TimLabs: Windows Computer Services The Picnic Pantry Tulalip Tribes Twin City Lanes Twin City Sportsmen's Club Washington Federal Windermere Real Estate Work of Art Auto Detailing
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## HAPPY TAILS

### Meezer

Meezer the Pleaser is her name and 15 years is her age. We adopted our older cat just before last Christmas and she is a delightful addition to our family. We hadn't planned to replace our last pet, a rescued Siamese cat named Tucker, who lived to age 18 ½, but we have a fondness for Siamese cats and remember how much we enjoyed Tucker as he got older. One day last December I stopped by CASA and saw Meezer, a beautiful Siamese older cat that had been surrendered two months earlier. We were sad to see her confined in her kennel (for safety reasons) and knew we wanted to give her a home.

In a short while she adjusted to her new surroundings and became comfortable with us. An older cat doesn't ask for much, except to be comfortable, fed, and petted as much as possible. Meezer "talks" to us with her strong meows. She is quite content as an indoor cat and has no need to claw furniture as a younger cat might do. She greets us every morning as if she can wait no longer to be with us.



Meezer greets us every morning.

We are grateful for CASA's care for all the animals, especially the older ones, and making the connections necessary to bring these animals and their families together. The wonderful staff at CASA was so supportive throughout the adoption process. We felt like heroes for adopting an older cat, when, really, the people who work there are our heroes. We are happy to have Meezer and want to give her the best life possible in her senior years.

~ Carol and Tom Curtis

### Mulder

We honestly weren't planning on adding another dog to our pack. After our 16-year-old blue heeler died this past summer, we still had a full house with two American bullies and a cat who thinks he's a dog. Then we heard about Murphy, who now goes by Mulder, the 3-month-old Great Pyrenees puppy who somehow had ended up at CASA. We decided to go meet him, still not sure if it was the right time for another dog, but as soon as we met and he tried to sit in my lap, we knew he had to come home with us.

Even though he is bigger than both bullies, they instinctively knew he was a baby and have treated him with so much patience. They all get along so well and the transition has been even smoother than we had hoped for. Mulder doesn't understand how big he is and always seems surprised by his own growth spurts when he suddenly he doesn't fit somewhere he had just been able to get into days before.

Mulder has been learning so much this past month. He is almost completely housebroken, he knows his name, a few basic commands already and is working on his manners when out in public. He loves going out to meet new people and seems to think every new dog he meets is his best friend. Mulder has already become an integral part of our family and we all love him so much.



"Baby" Mulder and friends.

~ Jason & Kjirsten Trujillo

#### 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).

**Dodger**



Dodger brings laughter.

Dodger was an absolute find, and we're definitely made for each other! I had lost my boxer the previous year and was very much missing the wiggles, laughter and personality he brought to my life. Dodger is all of those things and more.

I knew upon meeting him that he would need a lot of energy outlet and training—he's definitely not a beginner dog—but I'm happy to report that he's thriving with structure and love and consistency. He's incredibly smart, loving and active and excels in environments where he can use his brain to learn new things. Every day he grows in confidence, and together we're patiently working on his fears...while celebrating his strengths.

Life is filled with laughter again, and I love having this adventure-buddy by my side. Thank you, CASA, for all of your hard work during the months you cared for Dodger. For he and I, it was worth the wait!

~ Ellice Lien

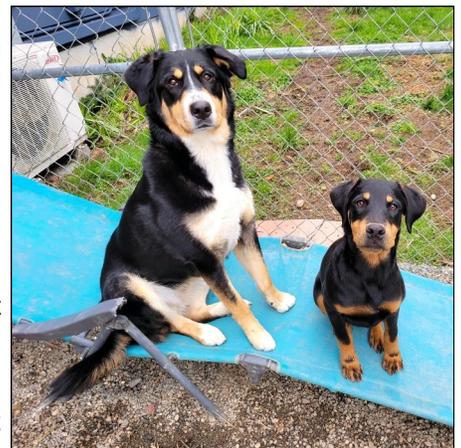
**Frank (aka Romulus-purple collar)**

The first time CASA posted this litter of pups on Facebook, I knew I was in trouble. I jokingly showed my partner, Criss, the picture of these adorable puppy faces with an evil laugh. "Ha ha. We should get a friend for Squirrel." Squirrel is our 80 lb, 18-month old Husky-Bernese Mountain Dog mix.

We had a good laugh and moved on with our lives. The last thing we needed was another puppy, we just finally got past the major destruction of our lives. So here I am, minding my own business, when up pops a text from Criss with a picture of one of the CASA pups.

"What are you doing?" I text back. "Nothing..." he replies. "Well Stop It." I say, but now it's in my brain.

So I am at the shelter the very next day meeting puppies. Jillian brought out the three males who were still available. I played with them and watched them interact with each other. It wasn't long before Romulus (purple collar) stole my heart. We came back to visit him as much as possible until the day we were able to bring him home. It was only about 10 days, but it felt like forever!



Squirrel and Frank are best friends.

We named him Frank. He was pretty scrawny at first, but he is slowly turning into Big Frank! He and Squirrel instantly became best friends and professional wrestlers. Our house is extra crazy and goofy, and even though it's a lot, he completes us!

~ Amanda Schulz & Criss Huni

In memory of departed pets:

***"The first time I laid eyes on you,  
I knew right from the start.  
That you were meant for me alone;  
you left paw prints on my heart."***

~ Anonymous

- ♥ Bella Love
- ♥ Diesel Peters
- ♥ Lacey Spector
- ♥ Lionel Perkins
- ♥ Rosie Love
- ♥ Winston Lim



## Happiness is an Indoor Cat

You love your cats. You want them to be healthy and happy, and to be with you for a long time. The best way to do that is to keep them inside your home. Indoor-only cats may live as many as 10 to 15 years longer than cats who are allowed to roam outdoors.

Cats who live all or part of their lives outside face many risks: being hit by cars; being killed or injured by predators such as coyotes, eagles or a neighbor's dog; being trapped and dumped far away from home; being stolen and perhaps inhumanely treated; being deliberately or accidentally poisoned; and contracting serious or fatal diseases such as feline leukemia or feline infectious peritonitis.

The benefits to you, the owner, are also numerous. You will have healthier pets who need fewer visits to the veterinarian; your neighbors will appreciate you for ensuring that your cats are not fighting at night or digging in their flower beds; your cats will have few or no problems with fleas, worms or ticks; and your pets will never disappear and leave you wondering what happened to them and whether they will ever return. You will know that even in the wettest and coldest weather, your indoor cats are safe and warm, with access to clean and healthy food and water. You can put up a bird feeder in your yard, secure in the knowledge that your cats will not be able to kill the birds that you and they enjoy watching from inside.



Birdwatching is fun.

Many of us wonder if we are depriving our cats of a "wildlife" experience by keeping them inside. It's important to remember that they are domestic animals, and lack the instincts and skills to live outside. Provide your indoor cats with a variety of toys, perches and scratching posts to provide the stimulation and exercise they need. If you still feel that an outside experience is beneficial, why not build a "catio?" This enclosure, usually accessible from inside the house, allows cats to be in a controlled outdoor environment where they are still safe.

With proper care, you can enjoy the company of your feline friends for many years.

## Less Than Perfect

Meet Achilles, the poster child for animals who come with physical issues. Achilles has been adopted but the love he showed to the animals and anyone he met will long be remembered. His ears were infected by ear mites which caused hematomas that had to be drained. This in turn made folds in his ears. He wasn't born this way, but being an outdoor cat, the ear mites were able to thrive.

At birth, however, the umbilical cord wrapped around his left rear leg and caused part of it to come off. This is a very rare occurrence, but walking on three legs certainly doesn't slow Achilles down. We hope that Achilles reminds adopters that a "less than perfect" can really be the perfect animal for them.

*Rescue animals aren't broken, they've simply experienced more life than other animals. If they were human, we would call them wise. They would be the ones with the tales to tell and the stories to write, the ones dealt a bad hand who responded with courage. Don't pity them. Do something. Help a rescue. Donate. Volunteer. Foster. Adopt. But most of all be proud you have their greatness by your side."*

- Unknown



Meet Achilles



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!

**Did you know you can make a difference?**

Veterinary services and all supplies have risen dramatically,  
but your tax-deductible charitable gift of:

**\$25** can provide vaccines for one animal or microchip 3 animals

**\$50** can provide KMR milk replacement formula for a litter of kittens or vital blood and urinalysis lab work for one sick and/or senior animal

**\$100** can provide two months of basic care for a typical long-term animal or microchip 12 animals

**\$250** can provide FIV/FeLV blood tests for 16 cats

**\$500** can help us spay/neuter one litter of kittens and their moms or provide a FIV/FeLV blood tests for 35 cats

**\$1000** can provide dental cleaning and extractions for an older cat or dog

**Provide Specialty Medical Care**



Since her arrival at CASA Nikki has had many medical hurdles to overcome. After being passed over time and time again Nikki was finally placed in a loving foster home. Shortly after placement, Nikki had a mass form between her toes, and it was growing fast. The mass was removed, but this meant amputation of two of her toes. Nikki is her happy self and is spending her days learning to walk on her paw again! She is expected to make a full recovery. Donations like yours help CASA provide specialty care for dogs like Nikki!

**SHELTER WISH LIST**

- Any Type Basic Cat Litter
- Dry and Canned Kitten Food
- Kitten Milk Replacement Formula (liquid)
- Kirkland Dry Dog & Cat Food (Costco)
- Liquid Laundry Detergent
- Garbage Bags
- Standard Size White Copy Paper
- Volunteers and Kitten Foster Homes

**---- YES . . . I WANT TO HELP ANIMALS IN NEED ----**

**Enclosed is my tax deductible gift of:**

\$25  \$50  \$100  \$250  \$500 Other \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

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

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

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. By providing your email address, you are giving permission to be included in our eNews communications. You may opt out at any time and we never share your information.



**Camano Animal Shelter Association**  
198 Can Ku Road Camano Island, WA 98282  
360-387-1902 [www.camanoanimalshelter.org](http://www.camanoanimalshelter.org)



# CASA ANIMALS ARE ALWAYS IN NEED OF FOREVER HOMES — CASA NEWS



**SATURDAY APRIL 22ND 11AM-4PM**



**FREE CAT & DOG MICROCHIP CLINIC**

AT THE CAMANO ANIMAL SHELTER 198 CAN KU RD CAMANO ISLAND  
360-387-1902 [camanoanimalshelter.com](http://camanoanimalshelter.com)



**Bring your pet!**

Dogs and cats must be privately owned pets, able to be handled, cats in a carrier, dogs on a leash, AND BE AT LEAST 2 LBS AND 2 MONTHS OLD.

**Mark your calendars**

Spread the word about our Spring FREE Microchip Clinic thanks to these generous Event Sponsors.

**EVENT SPONSORS**





*In loving memory of Sammy*







**CELEBRATING 25 YEARS!**

CASA was founded in 1998 and is celebrating our 25th anniversary this year.

Stay tuned for more information on how you can join in the anniversary celebration.

**CASA CONNECTIONS ENEWS**

If you are not already receiving our new monthly CASA Connections eNews, sign up by sending an email to [casa@camanoanimalshelter.org](mailto:casa@camanoanimalshelter.org) with subject "Subscribe to CASA Connections". Remember you can always unsubscribe.



**CASA**  
Camano Animal Shelter Association  
*Bringing together animals in need and caring people, forever enriching their lives.*




To make a donation from your mobile phone, just scan the QR code.

**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

[www.donateforcharity.com](http://www.donateforcharity.com)



*Read about: The Long Wait...*



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**Camano Animal Shelter Association**  
PO Box 1726  
Stanwood, WA 98292