

Stitch in Time

The Newsletter of Spay and Neuter Solutions, Inc.
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Welcome to Our New Board Member

Dot Jones, Director of Development

Dot Jones, Past President of The Hermitage No Kill Cat Shelter, has been an active animal welfare volunteer for the past 27 years. After many years of fundraising and managing the care of over 500 felines at The Hermitage, Dot decided to redirect her energies and talents toward addressing the root of the problem, “**pet overpopulation**”.

Dot initiated and single-handedly operated **SNIP** (Spay Neuter Intervention Project) as a model community-based program, targeting low-income populations throughout Pima County. **In two years, SNIP funded fixes for 2000 dogs and cats.**

At home Dot is the guardian to an active crew of five cats: *Oliver* and *Henry* – orange tabbies; *Sebastian* – a Bombay; *Pretty Boy* – a handsome tuxedo; and *Miss Marple* – a muted tabby/tortie. All of her cats are rescues and most are the result of student throwaways. In her work life, Dot was a Special Education teacher and a consultant to non-profit organizations. She also developed and provided special programs for disabled teenagers and adults.



Dot Jones & Sebastian

WELCOME to “Stitch in Time”, the newsletter for Spay and Neuter Solutions! We hope to keep you and our many other friends updated on our activities and progress in addressing the challenge of pet overpopulation in southern Arizona.



Ginger

For Those Of You Who Don't Know Who We Are ...

Spay and Neuter Solutions was founded as a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization on July 1, 2003. Pet overpopulation is an issue of great concern to virtually every animal welfare organization, many of which are overwhelmed by the number of homeless or abused pets in our communities. The goal of Spay and Neuter Solutions is to help make Arizona a pioneer state that can soon claim “**no more homeless animals.**” We work closely with other animal welfare organizations, each of which has its own mission and goals. The sole focus of Spay and Neuter solutions is in its name: we concentrate all of our efforts on spay and neuter issues.

We are dedicated to **PREVENTION** and **EDUCATION**. We provide for free and low-cost spay/neuter surgeries for companion animals in our community. We have negotiated discounted rates with participating veterinary clinics, and we pay all or part of the cost, depending on the need of the client. We also educate pet owners about the **importance of spay/neuter** in preventing the birth of unwanted animals and in improving the quality of life for their pets. **All donations** are used to promote and implement our programs and services.

To learn more about our mission, please visit us at www.spayandneutersolutions.org

About Ginger, Our New Mascot

by Katie Powers & Felice Schwartz

As you all know we lost **Wishbone**, our long time mascot, in 2007 due to old age (16). He was so loyal and diligent, I thought I would never again find another dog as great as him. With his tiny body of only 5 lbs. he still managed to be a guard dog with a big heart. He also had an adorable, unique smile that never failed to cheer up the saddest person. When he died, in my arms, I wasn't looking for another pet. I was so sure that another dog would find me.

On a scorching summer day, in August 2008, I received an urgent call from one of my neighbors. She said a skinny dog had wandered into her backyard and didn't want to leave. The woman was afraid of dogs because of a traumatizing childhood memory. I jumped into my car and approached the neighbor's backyard. What I saw when I got out is something

I will never forget; it was heart-breaking. A beautiful dog with reddish brown fur was stretched out under a bush. It was obvious she couldn't move because of pure exhaustion and pain. I noticed her bones were poking out from her skin, and even though it was clear she was in terrible condition, she still appeared to smile with her tongue hanging from her mouth. The good neighbor made a hamburger and offered plenty of water to the strange dog. After a few minutes I tried to get the dog to stand up, but she was struggling to move. When she finally did manage to stand up, I saw that she was limping. **I scooped her up into my car and took her home.** I fed her every half an hour and gave her a much needed bath. My four cats each came by to see what was happening, but the poor dog was too tired to react. It was the weekend, but I was able to reach the Humane Soci-

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ADOPT YOUR NEW BEST FRIEND!

Somewhere there is a cat or dog who needs you.

www.SaveMoreAnimals.org

You can be a driving force in the battle against pet overpopulation!



Pet-friendly license plate funds spay/neuter in Arizona
www.spayandneutersolutions.org

◆ PLEASE REMEMBER US IN YOUR WILL! ◆

Spay and Neuter Solutions, Inc. is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization.

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ety and Pima Animal Care and Control to report the found dog. They couldn't find any matching description, so I started my own investigation. I made pictures and hung flyers at every corner of the community. On Monday I took the dog to the closest veterinarian, where we found out she was micro-chipped to the Sierra Vista Animal Control.

Unfortunately, the owner never provided any detailed information to the chip company, so we couldn't identify her original owner. The vet examined the dog and recommended x-rays and

blood work. It turned out that the dog had, not one, but two broken hips. She needed surgery as soon as possible. My husband and I are on limited income so the operation of over \$2000 looked impossible. **Do you believe in miracles? I do.** The "Spirit of Nike" fund (we have been working together for years) offered to cover the expenses if I adopted the dog. By this time I had come to love her with all my heart. She is a mixed breed with the most gorgeous deep brown eyes, full of appreciation; her face reminds us of a female deer. And her behavior is wonderful. We named her **Ginger** and now she is part of our family. When she saw

how busy I was doing the work for **Spay and Neuter Solutions**, she volunteered to help. I told her **she has big paws to fill** if she wants to take on Wishbone's job. She said she could do it, so with great pleasure I introduce Ginger, our new mascot. Her job description will be to: meet and greet fundraiser participants, encourage all kinds of donations, and be an ambassador for a new movement: Kindness to each other, kindness to all the animals.



THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROUS SUPPORT!

- ◆ **IMS** (Innovative Mailing Services) who prints our newsletter free of charge, www.IMSTucson.com and
- ◆ **NPFE** (National Personal Finance Education) for their full office supply support, www.50-30-20.com.

Our Achievements Since 2003

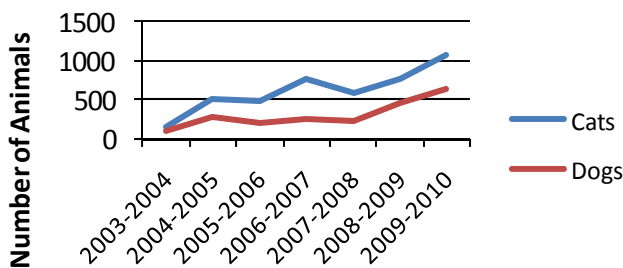
We closed our 7th fiscal year on June 30, 2010. As you can see from the charts, we provided financial assistance to **6,436 animals** between 2003 and 2010, an achievement we are very proud of.

In this last year alone we helped 1,704 animals, many of them community (aka feral) cats. Because of the poor economy these numbers are unfortunately growing. We could not have done this **without your generous donations.**

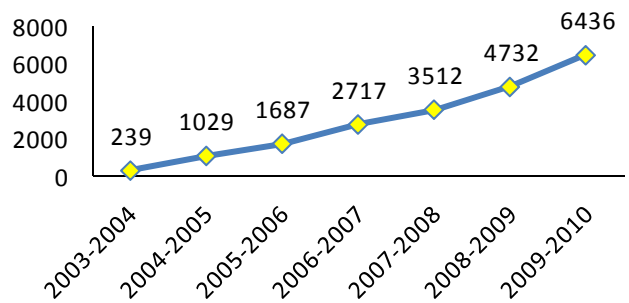
Thank you for your kindness to the animals and your continuous support to our organization.



Number of Animals Spayed/Neutered With Our Help by Fiscal Year



Cumulative Total of Animals Spayed/Neutered With Our Help



How to Support Spay and Neuter Solutions

- ◆ **Shopping Options:** If you are a shopper, consider doing your shopping through iGive.com or eScrip.com and we will receive a percentage of your purchase.
- ◆ **Ethical Choices:** If you are a vegetarian or vegan, DownBound.com offers a great variety of ethical goods and gifts; we receive a percentage of your purchase.
- ◆ **Car Talk:** If you have a clunker or a junker, please consider donating it to us. Call us at help@spayandneutersolutions.org for details.
- ◆ **Donating Online and at Work:** If you want to make a direct contribution, please visit our website, www.spayandneutersolutions.org, for information and a direct link to PayPal, Network for Good, and Arizona Combined Federal Campaign.
- ◆ **Giving by Mail:** If you use "snail mail", please send your check to P.O. Box 762, Cortaro, AZ 85652.



◆ **PLEASE REMEMBER US IN YOUR WILL!** ◆

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