



Stitch in Time

The Newsletter of Spay and Neuter Solutions, Inc.

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WELCOME to the third issue of "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 our progress in addressing the challenge of pet overpopulation in southern Arizona.

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

Spay and Neuter Solutions was founded as a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization on July 1, 2003, to address the issue of unchecked reproduction among companion animals. 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 are a member of AWASA (Animal Welfare Alliance of Southern Arizona) and 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 **PROVIDE FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE** to defray the cost of spaying and neutering for individuals in need, and we **EDUCATE** pet owners about the importance of these procedures in preventing the birth of unwanted animals and in improving the quality of life for their pets.

We are all volunteers; we receive no personal financial compensation. All donations are used either to promote the organization's activities or for program services. Please visit our website at www.spayandneutersolutions.org to learn more about our mission.

Looking Back at Recent Spay/Neuter Successes

Our update should start back in **November**, in preparation for the holiday season. The Tucson for Tucson fundraiser, supported and organized by Jim Click, was launched then, giving participating nonprofit organizations a chance to raise money by selling raffle tickets for a chance to win an SUV and other great prizes. Keep reading to find out how many we sold by the end of March. But first, let's go back to Christmas.



Rocky

In December, we attended the traditional International Bazaar at the St. Michael's Church, to spread the word of our existence,

share our knowledge with the public, and offer help for people who are financially drained.

Right before Christmas, we organized an international bake sale at the Sunflower by Del Webb Community. Cakes and cookies were prepared by American, Greek, German, French, Czech, Hungarian, Chinese and Vietnamese volunteers. We raised enough money to cover the spay/neuter operations of 15 animals. Many thanks to all of you who baked and helped to sell the goodies.

January started with a book-signing event. Local author Deborah Mitchell donated and signed her newest book, "What the Doctor May Not Tell You About Alzheimer's Disease." The sale of this very educational book, about a disease that is still unknown to



many people, was a successful fundraiser. We still have a few copies for sale. To purchase, please call (520) 247-6469.

February was cold and unusually wet by Tucson standards, but even the rain couldn't stop us from attending the yearly Arizona Animal Fair at Reid Park. Lines formed early to receive our special spay/neuter certificates at \$5.00 for cats and \$10.00 for dogs, to be



used February 28 at Animal Birth Control of Tucson, in honor of Spay Day USA -- 29

animals were altered.

This month also brought great news to our organization. We became the proud recipients of a PETSMART Charities grant that allows us to finance operations for at least 100 animals. We are very grateful for PETSMART Charities' trust and support. We also received a generous grant from the local Sundt Corporation foundation and from a beneficent anonymous donor.



Shadow

MANY THANKS TO ALL OF YOU WHO CONTINUE TO SUPPORT US!

SPECIAL THANKS TO "THE SPIRIT OF NIKE" WHO INSPIRED AND FINANCED HUNDREDS OF FREE SPAY/NEUTER OPERATIONS. THE 500TH FREE OPERATION WAS PERFORMED ON APRIL 14 AT THE VALLEY ANIMAL HOSPITAL. *THANK YOU, NIKE!*

Spay/Neuter Programs Reduce Unwanted Births

In **March**, we invited the Humane Society of Northern Arizona's Canyon Pet Hospital Mobile Clinic to Tucson. They performed 81 low cost spay/neuter surgeries in a day and a half. Their enthusiasm, fast and very efficient work helped to prevent the birth of hundreds of unwanted cat and dog litters. The event was a collaborative effort between Spay and Neuter Solutions and FAIR (Foundation for Animals In Risk). Financial support was available for qualified pet owners.

The demand was so great for these low-cost days that now we are planning to make these days a regular, monthly event that people



Keota

can count on. Visit our website at www.spayandneutersolutions.org to see schedules and locations and to register.

Although Spay and Neuter Solutions never planned to participate in animal rescue, we couldn't say no for a plea to save dozens of dogs from Kingman, where an animal facility's kennel license was revoked and more than 100 animals needed to be removed by the end of April.

First, we offered to finance the spay/neuter of unaltered dogs so

they would have a better chance of being adopted. Cynthia Taylor, founder of The Center for Animal Rescue and



Kirby

Adoption, arranged for all of the dogs to receive updated rabies vaccinations and vet exams.

Time was crucial in removing these animals from their situation, so when The Center for Animal Rescue and Adoption, who orchestrated a large number of dog rescues from the Kingman facility, asked for physical help, we couldn't say no. We drove up together to Kingman and delivered 10 dogs and puppies to Flagstaff to the Humane Society of Northern Arizona's no-kill shelter. Then we drove back to Kingman and loaded another 8 dogs into our van to bring back to Tucson for adoption.



Wiley

By the end of April, all animals were moved from Kingman and placed in permanent or foster homes. We were proud to be part of this rescue mission. Visit www.savemoreanimals.org/kingman for full story.

By the end of March, the dead-

line for selling raffle tickets was approaching. In the final rush, people, who were previously helped by our organization, offered to help sell the tickets. We would have never been able to sell 166 tickets without their help! Thank you again and again for your hard work, and many thanks to Mr. Click, whose philanthropy and generosity enabled us to invest a large amount of money into our mission.



In **April** we held an additional spay and neuter clinic, another 109 pet owners took advantage of the

low-cost spay/neuter days performed by the HSNA's Mobile Spay/Neuter Clinic.

In **May**, we will celebrate the loving, giving spirit of **NIKE**, a beloved German Shepherd. In honor of **NIKE**, our organization will sponsor a free spay and neuter day for rescued animals on May 21, 2005.

We hope to see you in the evening of Saturday, August 20, at Udall Park when we will commemorate National Homeless Animals Day in Tucson with a

How You Can Help Companion Animals



* **Spay and Neuter:** You personally can make a difference by spaying or neutering your pets.

* **Contribute to the Cause:** You can also make a difference by contributing to our cause. Do you like shopping? Please shop on the following sites, and part of your spending will benefit our organization. Please ask your family and friends to sign up, too, and support us! We are registered on:

- Escript.com,
- Igive.com, and
- Downbound.com, offering an unbelievable selection of vegetarian and vegan products.

To receive step-by-step instructions for using these sites, please visit our website at www.spayandneutersolutions.org

* **Fundraising for Us:** Consider organizing your next party as an opportunity to raise funds for our charity.

* **Volunteering:** We are always looking for volunteers to help with ideas, attend events or donate supplies such as paper, postage, printing services, gift certificates, etc. Please call us at (520) 247-6469 for more information.

Remember, all donations are used to promote the organization or for program services.

We are all volunteers; we receive no personal financial compensation.

Please make checks payable to Spay and Neuter Solutions. Our mailing address is P.O. Box 762, Cortaro, AZ 85652. You may also make your donation online at www.spayandneutersolutions.org via our secured PayPal link.

All of your donations are tax deductible!

There is a new driving force in the battle against pet overpopulation!

Please visit our website for more information on the new, pet-friendly license plate.



Freckles

The Adoption Option

If you are interested in adopting one of the dogs shown in this issue of "Stitch in Time," please

contact The Center for Animal Rescue and Adoption at (520) 237-2331 or www.savemoreanimals.org.