

# W ISKERS



CONNECTING FRIENDS FOR LIFE

FALL 2012

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JESSE & SOPHIA MARTINEZ, AUGUST 2012

CHECK OUT THIS BROTHER AND SISTER DUO, JESSE & SOPHIA MARTINEZ! THEY WERE TWO OF THE MANY FANTASTIC MODELS WHO JOINED US FOR OUR CONNECTING FRIENDS FOR LIFE PHOTO SHOOT THIS PAST AUGUST. WE JUST CAN'T GET ENOUGH OF THEIR SMILING FACES AND LOVE FOR ANIMALS, NOR COULD WE FIND A CUTER TRIO TO GRACE THE COVER OF OUR FALL NEWSLETTER. THANK YOU SO MUCH TO ALL OF OUR MODELS; WE'VE LOVED USING OUR NEW PHOTOS ON OUR WEBSITE, BROCHURES, FLYERS, AND MUCH MORE!



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# LETTER FROM THE DIRECTOR NANCY F. MAY



As we make our way through fall and into winter, I'm looking forward to hopefully cooler weather and an exciting holiday season at the shelter. To kick off the holidays in good cheer, this winter marks two special milestones for the San Antonio Humane Society. In November we will celebrate our 10 year anniversary at our Fredericksburg Road location and our 60th birthday; 60 wonderful years of helping to care, shelter, and adopt out thousands of San Antonio pets to forever loving homes. I am so grateful to be a part of these milestones and can't wait to celebrate with all of our friends, human and animal alike!

While the holidays are a wonderful time for celebrating, they are also the perfect time for giving and helping those around you, especially those without a voice or means to help themselves. One way to help our San Antonio Humane Society dogs and cats in need is by joining our Humane Friends Giving Circle. This special group of donors makes a five year financial pledge to ensure ongoing financial support for our shelter operations. With the support of people like you, we are able to help the many animals that come through our doors and we will be able to continue to do so for years to come.

On a final note, I would like to welcome Seamus Nelson, our new Director of Communication, to our shelter family. As a longtime San Antonian, drilling member of the Navy Reserve, and an all-around great guy, we are excited to have him join our organization and look forward to the continued progress we will make as a team.

As always, thank you for your support and dedication to the well-being of our shelter dogs and cats. By contributing locally to the San Antonio Humane Society, you are helping us to connect friends for life.

Yours sincerely,  
*Nancy F. May*

P.S. Don't forget Paws on the Patio is just around the corner! Whether this is your first year to join us or you've never missed it, come out and dine with your dog while enjoying the company of fabulous friends and costume-crazed canines! And remember, all proceeds from the doggie dinners and photo contest entries go towards the care and shelter of our SAHS dogs and cats!

# TIME WARNER CABLE PAWS ON DEMAND



Want to meet some of the San Antonio Humane Society animals from the comfort of your couch? Check out Paws on Demand, found on the San Antonio On Demand Channel 988. Tune in today and you may just find your new friend for life!



# CAMP HUMANE: CENTERED ON SERVICE

This summer, campers were abound as our Humane Education Coordinator, Shannon Sledge, hosted six sessions of Camp Humane, educating more than 200 campers! In addition to our traditional Camp Humane and our Itsy Bitsy Camp Humane, a new type of camp was offered this summer called Service Camp Humane.

Service Camp Humane was designed for kids ages 12-14 who wanted to gain community service hours while enjoying the company of our dogs and cats. While at Service Camp Humane, campers trained dogs, worked in the kennels alongside our regular volunteers, bathed dogs, walked dogs, and completed service projects like making beds, leashes, and posters to promote our shelter pets. Everything these campers did during camp centered on benefiting the animals that are waiting to meet their forever loving families. At the end of Service Camp Humane, each camper was presented with a certificate to show they completed 20 hours of community service for the San Antonio Humane Society.

It was a joy to have all of our Summer Camp Humane campers here at the shelter and we're already looking forward to the next camp, FALL CAMP HUMANE! Until then, to learn more about Camp Humane, visit [SAhumane.org](http://SAhumane.org)!



## CATCHING UP WITH DR. BRIDGEMAN

This fall mosquitoes seem to be rampant across the San Antonio area and much of the southern United States. Not only are they a nuisance to us and many animals, but mosquitoes are also carriers of heartworms, which can be devastating to our dogs and cats. All it takes is one bite from an infected mosquito to transmit heartworms to your pet. Luckily, there are many forms of heartworm prevention to help keep your pet healthy. We know you are just *itching* with questions, so here is our very own Dr. Courtney Bridgeman, Shelter Veterinarian, to get you in the know about heartworms.

**Q: There are so many kinds of heartworm prevention, are all created equal and how do I know which is right for my dog or cat?**

A: While all the heartworm preventions have been tried and tested to be equally effective against heartworms, they all have other benefits that make them unique! Ask your veterinarian which one is right for your pet.

**Q: My dog is an inside pet; does he still need heartworm prevention?**

A: While it's true that an inside dog has LESS of a chance of catching heartworms than an outside dog, no pet without prevention is completely safe. Most pets spend at least a little time outside, and let's face it, how many times have you been bitten by a mosquito in the house? It only takes one infected bite on your unprotected pet to create a heartworm infection.

*For the answers to the questions "My pet is on year-round heartworm prevention, is there a chance he could get infected?" and "How often should I get my pet tested for heartworms?" as well as other pet related questions, visit [SAhumane.org](http://SAhumane.org).*

# TIPSY:



**FROM MATTED**

**TO MARVELOUS!**

Working in a shelter, sometimes there's that animal that comes through the door and makes you look twice; Tipsy was one of those dogs. When she first arrived at our shelter, Tipsy had just been rescued by a good samaritan who saw her thrown from a car. While her current plight was reason enough to cause a fuss, Tipsy was also malnourished, suffering from anemia and neglect, and was so covered in fleas that we could barely tell the true color of her face underneath the hundreds of pests that plagued her.

With no time or desire to think of her past, our staff worked quickly to help Tipsy. The first night she was with us we bathed her, combed her, fed her, loved her, and did everything in our power to show her that she was safe with us. After two weeks of continuous care, Tipsy was acting like an entirely different dog! Before she could barely lift her head to eat and two weeks later she was jumping around, playing with our staff members, and really showing off her loving personality.

Unable to leave Tipsy's story untold, we Facebooked and Tweeted all about her and it wasn't long before local news jumped on the story. Overnight her celebrity status went through the roof and everyone couldn't stop talking about Tipsy! But there was one woman in particular named Margie who saw Tipsy as something more than a dog who had been given a second chance; she saw Tipsy as the missing piece to her puzzle, a new family member that was meant to be hers.

Tipsy's story was posted on Facebook August 9th, 2012; a horrible, yet hopeful day for Margie. Earlier Margie had to say goodbye to a loved companion, a dog named Daisy who regrettably passed away. Returning home, Margie was devastated as she sat down at her computer to distract her thoughts. It was then that she first read about Tipsy. [Continued on next page](#)

# TIPSY:

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Even though her beloved Daisy had just passed, Margie knew it was fate: "I will never forget Daisy or be able to replace her," Margie explained, "but I don't know life without a dog. Just as I had given Daisy an amazing life, I want to be able to do that for as many dogs as I can; I want them to know they are loved."

So how does this whirlwind story end? From matted to marvelous of course! The moment it was announced Tipsy was up for adoption, Margie had already been waiting outside the shelter for an hour, anxious to meet Tipsy and introduce her to Pixie, Margie's Chihuahua. Today Tipsy, renamed Snowflake, is settling into her new home and loves spending time with Margie. "She's doing really, really well," Margie updated. "As you can see she's definitely part of the family." We love happy endings for us, happy beginnings for families, and all of the happy moments in between! Thank you to everyone who helped to make this family possible!

# PAWS ON THE PATIO

SAVE  
THE  
DATE!

OCTOBER 29, 2012 • 4PM – 8PM  
CANYON CAFÉ IN ALAMO QUARRY MARKET

*Come dine with your dog and don't miss  
the best canine costume party in town,  
guaranteed to be a howlin' good time!*



# WHEN GEORGE MET HURRAH

Late one August evening, a Facebook message found its way into the mailbox of Mikael Persson, Web Coordinator for the SAHS. While Mikael is used to being flooded with messages and questions from all over the world (even from as far away as Sweden!), and diligently responding to each and every one of them, something about this message was different. It was from a woman named Desiree Dicks who works at a local San Antonio hotel. She and her coworkers had grown fond of a temporary resident at the hotel and wanted to give him something special.

Aside from befriending the staff and being kind and courteous to them in every way imaginable, temporary resident George McCullough is also a veteran of the U.S. Army. He was chosen for a program called Pets For Patriots and was assigned Quinn, a beautiful German Shepherd who he loved dearly. However, after receiving Quinn, George had a knee replacement and was advised against handling a large animal. Deeply saddened to be parted from his new family member, George found a loving home for Quinn with a police officer in Fort Worth. Desiree had observed what an amazing pet owner George had been and saw how much he needed to have a dog in his life, but one that was the perfect fit for him. It was then that she contacted the SAHS, asking for help to find George the perfect friend for life.

Touched by Desiree's compassion and George's story, Mikael passed along the message and we couldn't wait to make this wish come true! It didn't take long to arrange for George, Desiree, and her family to visit the shelter. George spent just a few minutes in the shelter before walking up to Hurrah's cage; she wagged her tail and pressed her nose against his hand and he knew she was the one. They sat together for a while and Hurrah curled up in George's lap where she soon fell asleep, as if she had done so a thousand times.

Today George and Hurrah are more than friends for life, they're family. They spend their days together, enjoying each other's company and trying to stay out of trouble; we all know how Chihuahuas and Army boys can be, now look what we've done getting them together! We can't wait to hear more from these newly connected friends for life.



## SUCCESS STORY

### "SEAMORE" AKA SIDNEY

In August 2011, I took a trip to the SA Humane Society after finding the most adorable cat online. At the shelter, he was incredibly shy, clinging to the kind staff member in the cat house. Yet once he was brought to me, he would not leave my lap! Since then, Sidney has grown far more bold; he now believes he is the king of the house! He is the sweetest little guy with a playful streak that melts your heart. I am so happy to have adopted him and enjoy having his companionship every day! I also like to brag that he is the world's most handsome cat. I love my little buddy :)

*-Emily Prukop*

# SEEING A NEED:

*Volunteers taking charge and making a change*

There is no denying that here at the SAHS we have the most selfless and kind-hearted volunteers, a shining example being Laura Bradstreet. While volunteering in the bathing room, Laura noticed that the dogs were plentiful and the soap and water never seemed to stop flowing, but she too always managed to leave looking like she was the one getting a bath. Laura realized our bathing room had all of the necessities to keep running, but we were lacking in the details. So what did this great girl do? She gave us something we were in need of for a long time, the bare accessories!



Enlisting the help of her mother, Mary Lou (who is all the way out in Wisconsin, mind you), this pair decided they would outfit our bathing room with stunning new waterproof aprons! As you can see from the photo, our former blue aprons served more decorative purposes than anything else, but our new handmade aprons are shining smocks of practicality, functionality, and above all else, dryness! Our staff and volunteers can't stop raving about what a wonderful job Laura and her mother have done and what a great service they have provided for our volunteers and shelter. A thousand thanks for the aprons I'm sure we'll use thousands of times! Now, who's ready to volunteer in the bathing room!? See the back cover for more info on volunteering!



## JIMMY FEIGEN FEVER!



The San Antonio Humane Society has Jimmy Feigen fever! On August 30th, Jimmy Feigen, 2012 Olympic silver medalist in the 4x100-meter freestyle relay, was welcomed back to San Antonio with a party fit for a hometown Olympic hero. Hosted by the San Antonio Humane Society with generous help from Whole Foods Market at Blanco, SAHS staff, volunteers, and members of the San Antonio community were invited out to the shelter for a meet and greet with Jimmy.

We all couldn't help but be star-struck as he signed autographs, showed off his Olympic medal, and took time to talk with each person who came to see him, all in the midst of holding puppies and passing out high-fives to inspired youngsters. Aside from being a superstar athlete in the pool, Jimmy is also one of the most genuine and down-to-earth guys you'll ever meet. His love for his family, friends, and the San Antonio community is beyond compare and despite his busy schedule, he still finds time to be humble and charitable as an avid supporter of the SAHS mission. We had so much fun celebrating Jimmy's homecoming with him and spreading our Jimmy Feigen fever around town!

# ADOPTIONS

- Open from noon to 7pm every day except major holidays.
- Regular adoption fees range from \$30 to \$99.
- All animals adopted from the San Antonio Humane Society have been spayed or neutered and received their first set of vaccinations, de-wormer, and flea prevention. Cats are tested for FIV/FELV and dogs receive heartworm prevention. Both dogs and cats come with a microchip, 14 days free vet care from VCA hospitals, 30 days of free pet insurance\*, a starter bag of Hill's Science Diet food, and a collar with a personalized tag.

(\*some restrictions apply)

# VOLUNTEER

- Visit [sahumane.org](http://sahumane.org) for orientation dates.
- Email [volunteer@sahumane.org](mailto:volunteer@sahumane.org) to reserve your spot for orientation.
- A volunteer orientation, follow up meeting, and \$25 orientation fee is required in order to volunteer.
- Volunteer hours are 8am-7pm, every day except major holidays.

# FOSTER

- Think you're ready to be a foster parent? Contact our Foster Care Coordinator at 210.226.7461 ext 120 or [foster@sahumane.org](mailto:foster@sahumane.org)
- Visit [sahumane.org](http://sahumane.org) to download a foster application.
- We provide everything you will need to foster our dogs or cats, all you need to provide is a loving temporary home until they are ready to be adopted!

# UPCOMING EVENTS

## "PAW"DOPT-A-THON

October 13 & 14, 12-7pm at SAHS, ACS, ADL, & SAPA  
4804 Fredericksburg Rd.

Come meet your new friend for life at the San Antonio Humane Society as shelters around the city join together for a super "paw" dopt-a-thon! All dogs/puppies will have an adoption fee of \$25 and all cats/kittens will be \$10.

## MAYOR CASTRO'S HOWL-O-WEEEN

October 27, 10am-1pm at Brackenridge Park  
3755 N St. Marys St.

Join us for this family friendly event, promoting responsible pet ownership while having a howlin' good time with your hound!

## PAWS ON THE PATIO

October 29, 4-8pm, Canyon Café in Alamo Quarry Market  
225 E. Basse, suite 600

The race is on for the best canine costume! We can't wait to see the costumes you and your four-legged friend will sport at the San Antonio Humane Society's favorite event, Paws on the Patio! We'll be serving up human and doggy dinners as well as hosting competitive costume contests for your canine. All proceeds from the doggy dinners and photo contest benefit the SAHS. This event is open to the public; we look forward to seeing you there for our favorite friend-raiser of the year!

## GRAND HYATT SA PRESENTS STORY TIME WITH SANTA PAWS

600 E. Market St.

Can you believe we're already thinking about spreading winter holiday cheer with our favorite jolly man, Santa Paws? Well neither can we! Stay tuned to our website, [SAhumane.org](http://SAhumane.org), for more information about when and where you'll be able to hear Santa Paws read a story and you might even get to share in his hot cocoa and holiday cookies, too!



The SAHS feeds our pets Science Diet pet foods.

# Go Social With Us!



## You Can Find Us On!

