

# WHISKERS



CONNECTING FRIENDS FOR LIFE

SPRING 2013

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**TANK, ADOPTED 12.22.2012**

MEET OUR COVER DOG, TANK! TANK WAS TRANSFERRED TO THE SAN ANTONIO HUMANE SOCIETY FROM ANIMAL CARE SERVICES. HE WASN'T HERE LONG BEFORE HIS IRRESISTIBLE SMILE AND LOVING PERSONALITY CAPTURED THE HEART OF HIS ADOPTERS, THE TIERNEY FAMILY. NOW TANK SPENDS HIS DAYS AS A CONSTANT COMPANION TO HIS NEW FAMILY: MOM, DAD, TWO SIBLINGS AGES 7 & 11, AND A FURRY FOUR-FOOTED BROTHER NAMED KAI. IN HIS NEW HOME, TANK'S FAVORITE ACTIVITIES INCLUDE BEING BEST FRIENDS WITH HIS BROTHERS AND SISTER, SITTING AT THE TOP OF THE PLAYGROUND SLIDE WITH KAI WATCHING DEER, AND PERFORMING TRICKS FOR TREATS. WE LOVE HAPPY BEGINNINGS AND THINK TANK IS THE PERFECT EXAMPLE OF HOW OUR SAN ANTONIO HUMANE SOCIETY DOGS AND CATS MAKE WONDERFUL COMPANIONS!



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## LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT/CEO NANCY F. MAY

Dear Friends,

Even though we are just getting into the New Year, 2013 has already brought us much success and excitement for the pets we care for and our shelter. We have found homes for hundreds of dogs and cats, launched our El Rey Fido fundraiser, started our Beat the Heat campaign, and the list goes on and on! This year we have also established several partnerships with organizations who share our mission of caring for the homeless pets of San Antonio. We are currently partnered with Animal Care Services, Methodist Mission Home, Alamo Area Mutual Housing Association, Family Violence & Prevention Services, Harlandale School District, Alamo Heights Junior High, and many more to promote pet education and how we can all make a difference for the homeless pets of our city, especially when working together.

This year, one of our main aspirations as an organization came to fruition; I am very proud to announce the achievement of our long-term goal of becoming a financially sustainable organization. We had hoped to be sustainable by 2015, but because of your help and generosity and our amazing team here at the SAHS, our expectations have been exceeded. In addition to everything presently happening, we also have big plans for the future; we are always looking for ways to improve our facility and better serve our community and the homeless pets of San Antonio.

Remember, our continued success and betterment of our community depends heavily on your ongoing support and donations. Please consider making a financial contribution this spring to help us continue to impact our city and the many furry friends that are in need of care and shelter before they are able to find their forever loving homes.

Finally, I would like to conclude with a most sincere thank you to all of our supporters. I am constantly amazed by the generosity of our friends and am confident we will only continue to improve as an organization because of your help. I am proud to be involved in such a caring community and look forward to working together for the City of San Antonio and the many homeless pets that look to us not only for a meal, but for a family, a home, and most importantly, a life.

Yours sincerely,

*Nancy F. May*

# 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!



# CATCHING UP WITH DR. BRIDGEMAN

One of the keys to a healthy pet is proper dental care! At many veterinarian offices, February is dental month and a great time to take advantage of lower costs to do what's right for your pet. Need to brush up on your knowledge of pet dental care? Dr. Courtney Bridgeman has the answers to popular questions about your pet's pearly whites.

**Q: How often should I clean my pet's teeth?**

A: Your pet's teeth are just like yours; ideally they should be brushed everyday with a toothbrush and toothpaste made for pets. They also need to be looked at by a professional at least once a year. Its best to start having them checked when your pet is young to prevent potentially serious conditions from occurring. Most veterinarians check your pet's teeth at every visit, regardless of whether it's your annual health checkup and shots or if they are coming in for something more serious. All pets' teeth are different and some pets require a check up or cleaning more often than once a year as they age.

**Q: What are some of the first clues my pet is in need of a professional teeth cleaning?**

A: If you haven't been to the vet in a while and your pet's mouth smells horrible, that may be the first sign that it's time for a checkup. If you open your pet's mouth and see discoloration around the top of the tooth near the gum line, it's time to see the vet. Yellow discoloration is a sign of tartar, brown or black discoloration is plaque and bacteria. If you can see where the gum line used to be and instead you see more tooth, that's a serious issue and means teeth may need to be removed.

**Q: Do dental sticks and toys really work?**

A: There are some products out there designed to help the dog scrape the plaque and tartar from their teeth. If you give your dog a dental chew, make sure you only let them have it when you are around to monitor their behavior. Some dogs have been known to choke on pieces of rawhide, stick, or bone as they break off pieces. Also, feed your pet the largest pet food kibble available. When a dog or cat has to bite through a kibble, the rough edge of the kibble can help clean the tooth. None of this should be instead of taking your pet to the veterinarian for a true cleaning.

For more information about all things animals, visit [SAhumane.org](http://SAhumane.org).



*What's  
new  
with*

# El Rey FIDO?

We've had ten wonderful years of El Rey Fido and as we look to the next decade of canine kings, we've made a few changes to the El Rey Fido competition to help us move into the future of fundraising for our shelter pets.

If you're entering your pet into the 2013 El Rey Fido fundraiser, here are a few new rules to keep on your radar:

- All contestants are required to be spayed/neutered in order to participate in the El Rey Fido fundraiser.
- Contestants are required to be licensed with the City of San Antonio, as per city law.
- The El Rey Fido Court will only consist of the top dog fundraisers.

In addition to new rules, we are also looking for more ways to have El Rey Fido active in the community. Currently we are in the process of making El Rey Fido an official San Antonio Fiesta event and hope to be included for 2015.

When it comes down to it, El Rey Fido is about having fun and raising money for the shelter dogs and cats at the San Antonio Humane Society. Remember, the registration deadline is March 15th and the fundraising deadline is March 21st! We look forward to celebrating our new 2013 El Rey Fido at a coronation party fit for a king on April 13 and can't wait to share in this fundraising adventure with all of our open-hearted and generous contestants!

# SUCCESS STORIES



You may remember an adorable golden eyed, three legged beagle by the name of 'Tres Nachos'. I just wanted to send you all over at San Antonio Humane Society a little update on the dog who I consider to be my best friend. "Cal" as he's been named since joining me in my life in 2007 has been on quite the adventure. He recently made the move across the country to NYC from San Antonio. He moved here with myself and his other dad in March of this year. And he has loved it. He has the pampered life of a city dog which is just the way he likes it. From his favorite vantage point on the balcony he can see the entire NYC skyline including the Empire State Building and the Chrysler Building. He shares a rather swanky apartment with his 2 dads and his 2 feline roommates, Sookie and Squishee. I've recently been cast in an off Broadway musical and Cal often comes to rehearsal and watches patiently and enjoys the music while catching up on some sleep, (which he always seems to be doing :)). Cal goes into the stroller to make Subway rides easier for him. Otherwise he might get stepped on. Cal is the sweetest dog in the world and wants to be friends with everyone, but his beagle nose makes him quite the puller, so he wears a gentle leader to keep him from pulling cause even on three legs he can give you quite the hand cramp with his pulling. :) so it's not a muzzle, it's a very comfy loose fitting gentle leader to make long walks easier, trust me, he's the LAST dog to need a muzzle... Anyhow, he just wanted to let all of his old pals at the San Antonio Humane Society know how he was doing and thank them once again for saving his life and having him sniffing around the run that day that his dad looked him in his big golden eyes and took him home. Thanks guys!"

*Christopher*

We adopted a precious little Siamese that my son named Sariya. The name means "God's Princess." My son bought her with money he had saved from doing chores around the house. We had a very special cat that died about a year ago. Her and my son had a very special relationship and I'm glad to say that he has found that again with another kitty. Our son was the only blonde haired, blue eyed member in our family and now he has another in his Sariya cat. We have 3 children total, our son is 7 and he has two little sisters, 2 years old and 6 months old. The cat loves all the kids and follows them around from room to room. She even sleeps in bed with the kids and of course, she LOVES to play with them. She is also very patient of the baby, who pulls and tugs on her as she crawls around the house and the cat very tolerantly lays there and lets her before being rescued by an older family member who discovers it. Yes, we found the PERFECT pet for our family at our local Humane Society and we are all very grateful.

*Autumn*



# Dog Birthday Parties

Celebrate your pooch's latest year (or seven!) with all of their party-animal friends! The San Antonio Humane Society is now offering birthday parties for cherished canines. Our doggie birthday party package includes:

- Use of our education room and courtyard for your birthday dog and up to 15 of their four-legged friends for an hour and a half
- Dog-gone cute, paw-shaped, birthday cake for the canines
- Happy Birthday fabric bandana for the pooch of honor
- Fully decorated room including a happy birthday banner
- 15 minute presentation about the SAHS and the services offered
- The freedom to run your party in our dog-friendly space (SAHS staff will not be supervising the party)



For more information or to book a party, visit [SAhumane.org](http://SAhumane.org) or contact Shannon Sledge, Humane Educator, at [education@SAhumane.org](mailto:education@SAhumane.org).



## VOLUNTEER APPRECIATION PARTY 2012

On December 15, 2012 we had a great time celebrating our amazing volunteers and all of the wonderful things they do with a Volunteer Appreciation Party. Our hearts are continuously warmed by the generosity of our hundreds of volunteers and we could not imagine the shelter without them. We hope everyone enjoyed the food, games, photos, and time spent among friends, we sure did. Thank you to all of our volunteers!





# Thank You SITTERLE HOMES!

Talk about keeping donations local, Texas-based homebuilder Sitterle Homes stepped up to make a difference for San Antonio's homeless pets! For every home sold in the last quarter of 2012, Sitterle Homes donated \$250 to the San Antonio Humane Society and Animal Defense League. We feel so lucky to have such a charitable partner who shares in our mission of helping our city's pets.

We've heard a picture is worth a thousand words, so we think the best way to say thank you is to share some of the happy faces you've helped through your generosity!



San Antonio Humane Society presents

## BEAT THE HEAT

FEBRUARY ONLY  
GET YOUR FEMALE CAT  
FIXED FOR **\$20**

Must mention this ad when making appointment

MAKE YOUR APPOINTMENT NOW —  
LIMITED AVAILABILITY

Call **210-424-7595**

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



In collaboration with

**PETSMART**  
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# 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 \$5 coupon for Hill's Science Diet food, and a collar with a personalized tag. (\*some restrictions apply)

# VOLUNTEER

- Visit SAhumane.org for orientation dates.
- Email volunteer@SAhumane.org to reserve your spot for orientation.
- A volunteer orientation and follow up meeting are mandatory for each individual prior to volunteering.
- An orientation fee is required (per person) which covers a volunteer T-shirt or apron, badge, and insurance coverage in case of an injury.
- Individual 12-15 years of age are referred to as Junior Volunteers and must have a parent/adult (18 years of age or older) volunteer with them at all times and those 16 years of age and older can volunteer on their own.
- 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
- Visit 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!



The SAHS feeds our pets Science Diet pet foods.

# UPCOMING EVENTS

## HUMANE HIGHLIGHTS TOUR

**When:** February 6 at 12 PM & February 20 at 6 PM

**Where:** San Antonio Humane Society, 4804 Fredericksburg Rd

**What:** Join us for an informative, behind the scenes tour around the shelter and learn what we are doing to make a difference. RSVP to Crystal Ochoa at cochoa@sahumane.org

## MUST LOVE PETS

**When:** February 12, 5-7 PM

**Where:** Grand Hyatt San Antonio, 600 E. Market St

**What:** An evening of mixing and mingling with your pooch. Complete with pet trivia, a photo booth, drinks, and complimentary sushi and parking!

## PAW OUT MS!

**When:** March 2, 8 AM

**Where:** AT&T Center, 1 AT&T Center Parkway

**What:** SAHS Pet Adoption and Paws Out MS 1 mile and 5k walks.

## JEWISH COMMUNITY CENTER PET PARADE

**When:** March 2, 1-3 PM

**Where:** JCC Soccer Field, 12500 NW Military Hwy

**What:** SAHS will offer \$10 microchips during the parade and pet-friendly activities.

## SPRING SERVICE CAMP HUMANE

**When:** March 11 & March 15

**Where:** San Antonio Humane Society, 4804 Fredericksburg Rd

**What:** A camp where teens can earn service hours for school, church, or other organizations.

## SPRING CAMP HUMANE

**When:** March 12-14

**Where:** San Antonio Humane Society, 4804 Fredericksburg Rd

**What:** A 3 day camp for kids ages 7-11 who are wild about animals!

## EL REY FIDO CORONATION

**When:** April 13, 10 AM

**Where:** Grand Hyatt San Antonio, 600 E Market St.

**What:** Party with El Rey Fido 2013 as he is crowned top dog of the city and enjoy a canine-friendly fiesta.

Want more info on any of our upcoming events? Visit [SAhumane.org](http://SAhumane.org)

