



Stitch in Time

The Newsletter of Spay and Neuter Solutions, Inc.

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WELCOME to the fourth 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.

Happy Holidays from Spay and Neuter Solutions!

Happy Holidays! In the name of all the animals we helped with your support (the number is up to 1,423!), we wish you happy holidays and a healthy, successful New Year!

We know you receive many requests for donations this time of the year. You wish you could help everyone, but your budget is tight. You can help us without spending an extra dime! Just register with iGive.com, and every time you shop online at one of the participating stores, we receive a donation. Almost all major stores participate! You can support our organization as you do your holiday shopping online, without leaving the house or spending any extra money.

How does this program work? When you make a purchase from an online merchant that is linked to iGive.com, a percentage of your purchase price (anywhere from 1%-26%) will be donated to Spay and Neuter Solutions. Registration is free, and iGive.com does not charge any administrative fees, so 100% of your donation helps animals and people served by Spay and Neuter Solutions.

How to Help While You Shop

- ◆ Download and install the iGive.com "shopping window" from www.iGive.com/html/ShopWindow.cfm
- ◆ Register and designate Spay and Neuter Solutions as the recipient of your support
- ◆ If you know that a merchant is linked with iGive.com, go



directly to the merchant's website

- ◆ If you want to browse merchant linked with iGive.com, go to iGive.com's "The Mall" at www.iGive.com/html/mall.cfm

- ◆ When you first get to the merchant's website, the iGive.com "shopping window" will appear for a few seconds, letting you know what portion of your purchases will support Spay and Neuter Solutions

- ◆ Make your purchase. There is no additional step necessary to register your purchase with iGive.com. All of this takes place unobtrusively behind the scenes.

Here's a sample of the several hundred online stores that are linked with iGive.com: 1-800-Flowers, American Eagle Outfitters, Anne Taylor, Avon, Barnes and Noble, Coldwater Creek, CompUSA, Gevalia, Godiva, JCPenney, Lands' End, Linens 'N Things, Macy's, Mikasa, Office Depot, PETCO, Target, Saks Fifth Avenue, Sears, Sharper Image, Spiegel, Starbucks Store, and Toshiba.



Mildred

FUNd Raising Friday For Four Legged Friends

Another way to help us and create the perfect gift to that golfer on your list is to register for the upcoming charity golf tournament and luncheon at The Pines Golf Club in Marana on February 17, 2006. Our organization will be one of the beneficiaries. You will be able to play a full round of golf, eat lunch and make a donation for the same price you would pay just for golfing. You can sign up by calling Donn at (520) 744-7443, Ext. 204, or at www.thepinesgolfclub.com.

Looking Back at Recent Spay/Neuter Successes

We successfully closed our second fiscal year at the end of June. We helped to spay and neuter 1,423 animals during our two years of existence! We couldn't have done it without your generous support. Your donations keep us going.

Naturally, we are working hard applying for grants and raising money in any way we can to continue this important work.

In **August**, we organized the National Homeless Animals Day again, and, like last year, a large group of people joined us for an emotional Pet Blessing and a beautiful Candlelight Vigil at the Udall Park Amphitheater. The mayor's office issued a proclamation, and Dr. Scott Ruth, owner and surgeon of Animal Birth Control of Tucson, talked about his lifetime commitment to reducing pet overpopulation. His clinics -- now at two locations -- offer the lowest cost



Sadie

for spaying and neutering companion animals in Tucson.

September marked the sad event of hurricanes Katrina and Wilma. Our organization was among the first to offer help to the unaltered animals of the survivors arriving in Tucson.

November 21 marked our first "TOM & MOM DAY" featuring \$5.00 spay/neuter surgeries for male and female cats of low-income families or caregivers of feral cat colonies. In addition, ABC of Tucson donated free rabies shots.

December 3-4 is the traditional International Bazaar at the St. Michael's Church, where we spread the word of our existence,



Josie

share our knowledge with the public, and offer help for people who are financially drained and cannot afford to spay or neuter



Clara

their pets. This year, we will sell beautiful wood crafts, pillows, table mats and small jewelry, all decorated with animals, almost all less than \$10, providing the perfect gifts for animal lovers. Please mark your calendar and meet us at St. Michael's & All Angels Episcopal Church, 602 N. Wilmot at 5th Street, next to the library.

In **February**, we are planning a marathon spay and neuter month. This is our largest plan ever, and we hope that you will support this special event. Please ask your employer if they would like to be one of our official sponsors. They will receive great publicity, and, as always, all donations are tax deductible.

Also, please ask your veterinarian whether she/he would like to participate in performing surgeries. And please mention the plan to friends and neighbors.

Together, we can make a difference for animals and people!



Raven

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 websites, 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 eScrip.com, iGive.com, and Downbound.com, which features vegetarian and socially-responsible products.

To receive step-by-step instructions for using these services, 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 have a special project for those of you who love to sew -- making crafts to sell as a fundraiser. In addition, 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 make your tax-deductible donation at www.spayandneutersolutions.org via our secured PayPal link.

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.

The Adoption Option

If you are interested in adopting one of the homeless dogs or cats shown in this issue of "Stitch in Time," please contact The Center for Animal Rescue and Adoption at www.savemoreanimals.org or (520) 237-2331.



Beauty

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

SPECIAL THANKS TO "THE SPIRIT OF NIKE" WHO HAS INSPIRED AND FINANCED HUNDREDS OF FREE SPAY/NEUTER OPERATIONS.