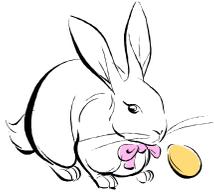


Stitch in Time

The Newsletter of Spay and Neuter Solutions, Inc.
P.O. Box 762, Cortaro, AZ 85652
Email: help@spayandneutersolutions.org
Website: www.spayandneutersolutions.org

April 2011



Enjoy Spring!
Be kind to each other,
to the animals and to
the Earth



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.

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. 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, and our team, please visit us at www.spayandneutersolutions.org

Don't buy a pet

ADOPT

Support local, no-kill shelters and rescue groups.

Early spay and neuter is the solution to pet homelessness.

If it works...Fix It

The story of D.O.G.

By Nick Hallett

My name is Nick and I rescued a puppy from my friend's house. When they found the mother a couple years before she had a broken back. A few years later she gave birth to four beautiful puppies. When I first went to my friends and saw them they had no water and old macaroni still in the pot to eat, in the middle of summer. So I bought at least three boxes of food and evaporated milk from the 99 cent store. I took care of them plus the mother every time I went down there which was everyday for three to four weeks. The puppies were sleeping under a piece of wood with a washing machine on top of it. I gave them food and water plus played with them every time I went down there. My mom finally said I could have a puppy and that's how I got D.O.G. Thank you **Spay and Neuter Solutions** for helping me get the pup fixed.



Plight of the Animals

The effects of the Great Recession on animal wellbeing are so apparent when you run a program like **Spay and Neuter Solutions**. Several years ago the requests for financial aid for surgeries started coming with stories about abandoned pets in many neighborhoods. We knew this was just the start of a very sad trend. People would tell us that a neighbor's house was foreclosed and that they left their dog behind (sometimes locked in the house with bowls of food and water in the hope that a real estate agent or someone else would find the animal and give it a good home). Some abandoned pets would be hanging around the house, waiting for its owner to return home or they would go the neighbors and beg for food.

Kindhearted people would take the pets in but invariably the animals were not spayed or neutered and the folks couldn't afford the surgery. This situation continues today, along with sad stories about people losing their jobs and now not being about to pay for spays or neuters. Unfortunately, people have to make very difficult choices about where their money goes and the pets go down several pegs on the priority list. When we think of how important it is for a family to be able to keep a pet without worrying about having litters of unwanted kittens and puppies, and how important the pet is in the lives of so many people, **Spay and Neuter Solutions** is proud to be able to help them.

Of course, you all know where this is going. It is only with the financial support of **YOU** and the many donors who have helped Spay and Neuter Solutions over the past 8 years (**we helped 7,028 pets so far**) that we can continue offering very low cost surgeries to pets of people who love their animals and want to keep them safe and healthy. So, we send a huge "thank you" to all of you and ask that you think of **Spay and Neuter Solutions** when you are wondering what special birthday, anniversary, graduation or "just because" gift you are considering giving a loved one.

PLEASE SPONSOR A CAT/DOG SPAY OR NEUTER

- Cat Neuter: \$29-\$30
- Cat Spay: \$50-\$58
- Dog spay and neuter: \$70-\$109 and above, based on weight.

BY DONATING ON OUR WEBSITE: www.spayandneutersolutions.org

OR BY MAIL CHECKS can be sent to Spay and Neuter Solutions, P.O.Box 762, Cortaro, AZ 85652



Think about donations to Spay and Neuter Solutions to celebrate birthdays and holidays or to honor a friend or loved one's life or your own pet. We will send a tax receipt to the donor and a card to the appropriate individuals or families.

10th Annual Animal Fair



Delma and Triger

Spay and Neuter Solutions once again had a booth at the Animal Fair, which was sponsored by SAFE (Save Animals From Euthanasia). It was a great opportunity to meet hundreds of people who proudly showed off their dogs and even a cat and a snake! We shared information about the importance of spaying and neutering their pets, of the health benefits the animals would reap from the surgery and, of course, the part they will play in addressing the issue of pet overpopulation. We also offered information about TNR (Trap Neuter Return) to those people who were doing their part in bringing the situation with community (feral) cats under control.

The fun part was seeing all the Chihuahuas dressed in baby clothes riding in baby carriages, petting the cat who sat on her guardian's shoulder and drank water from a little bottle, the pit bulls who put their paws on our display and wanted to kiss our faces, the little kids holding their pets and acting so proud, and meeting so many people who, when they saw our sign, immediately assured us that their pets were spayed and neutered.

Our booth was next to ABC's (Animal Birth Control) shot clinic booth. What a sight it was to see so many people (hundreds during the course of the long day) lined up with puppies and older dogs to get their dogs inoculated. We also wandered through the Fair to check out the services people offer to pets, from grooming to health care, to watch the demonstrations of the K-9 police officers and to admire the animals that so many of the booths had, from miniature ponies to huge Great Danes.

Thank you to all of our supporters who took literature from the Spay and Neuter Solutions booth, left donations and bought tee shirts. We look forward to participating in this great event next spring.



Randolph and Dust



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. Email 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:** please send your check to P.O. Box 762, Cortaro, AZ 85652.



SPAY AND NEUTER SOLUTIONS, INC. * PLEASE REMEMBER US IN YOUR WILL!