



***Please Help Us!***

***21265 Stevens Creek Blvd., Suite 205-427 • Cupertino, CA 95014***

*The Blessing of Growth*

Often we measure our success based on someone who is recognized as "one of the best." Your inspiration might be Whitney Houston, Michael Jordan, or Stephen King. Whoever it is, you just know that if you follow in their footsteps as closely as you can, success will follow. The same is true of Safe Haven Animal Shelter (SHAS). Our inspiration is Best Friends Animal Sanctuary in Angel Canyon, Utah.

In the 1970's, some dedicated animal lovers in Utah went from shelter to shelter, rescuing abused and abandoned animals that were to be euthanized. Many animals were rehabilitated and settled into new homes. Animals that weren't adoptable remained behind and their numbers began to grow. In the early 80's Best Friends was established to accommodate the growing numbers of animals in their care. Their mission is to provide a "no-kill" sanctuary where animals can live out their lives in comfort. Most animals are still being rehabilitated and placed into new, loving homes, but for those that are not adopted, a long life with Best Friends awaits them.

From humble beginnings, greatness grew. Currently, on any given day, you will find at least 1,800 animals at the sanctuary. Most residents are dogs and cats, but it's not unusual to find horses, birds, or any number of other animals.

But there's a lot more that needs to be done. According to Best Friends Web site ([www.bestfriends.org](http://www.bestfriends.org)), in the late 80's, 17 million homeless dogs and cats were

destroyed in shelters and pounds. By 1999, fewer than five million were euthanized. While a remarkable achievement, we don't want to see even one animal destroyed, unless no other option is available to end an animal's suffering.

But where will these animals live if a home cannot be found? Releasing them to the wild isn't the answer. Consider this: in our last newsletter, the article on Feral Cat Colonies mentioned that an estimated 40 million feral cats are living in the U.S. Now imagine that one pair of these cats is capable of producing as many as 420,000 offspring in seven years.

SHAS wants to help change these disturbing statistics. SHAS hopes to join Best Friends in helping "unwanted" animals by creating a similar shelter here in the Bay Area. In addition to the blessings our donors provide in the way of food and other supplies, space is a priceless commodity. Space is what allows us to continue to welcome additional animals into our loving community. Without it, we will be forced to turn animals away and that is the last thing we want to do.

SHAS plans on growing its current sanctuary. Our goal is to build a beautiful cousin to the Best Friends' shelter, a safe place where lost, abandoned, abused and unwanted animals in the Bay Area can find their way to a permanent home and happiness. If you are able to assist us towards this cause with donations of funds, land, or materials please contact Ginny Nichols at (408) 420-7233.

The animals thank you!

*A Message From  
Our President, Ginny Nichols*

As the New Year approaches, I wanted to take this opportunity to express my thanks and appreciation to all of our generous supporters. Without your continued support, our efforts would fall short of the goals we seek to obtain.

Over the past year, we have had a very successful adoption program and were able to place thirty-five kittens into permanent, loving homes. Thanks to all those who were involved with this process. During the winter months we will continue to work with feral cats, focusing on spaying and neutering to help reduce the growing populations in the community. When Spring arrives, we will be ready for any new kittens that are in need of support and loving homes.

SHAS held its first annual "Sale for the Animals" in Cupertino. Thank you for your donated items. I am happy to report that as a result of the sale, we raised over \$4,500.00 for the animals.

Construction is under way for our second feral cat facility! Completion is expected in early 2003. Your continued support enables us to move forward with these and other projects.

PLEASE remember to renew your membership for 2003.

Thank you for all you do for the animals.

Warmest Holiday Wishes,  
Ginny Nichols

***Five Things Every Dog Should Know***  
***By Joanie Levin-Yarlick CDT***

Teaching your dog basic obedience and establishing a mutual bond of trust, understanding, and respect are the foundations of insuring your dog's safety and well-fare. A dog who looks to you for guidance and responds to your requests can go more places with you and will be more welcome and accepted in the general community. So teach your dog well. Here are some tips:

**1. Fido Come.**

A solid recall is one of the most important commands you can teach your dog. Coming to you should always predict that good things (praise, petting, treats, or playing) will happen.

**2. Fido Stay.**

Stay is also extremely important in both usefulness and safety, for: staying at corners, opening doors, cars backing out of a garage etc.

**3. Fido Sit.**

Sit replaces jumping up for attention, and is a "waiting-patiently" alternative for the infamous "whirling-dervish" impersonation.

**4. Fido Down.**

When a dog is laying down, he's not running, chasing, pestering, or joining in on the fight.

**5. Fido Off.**

Learning off is a multi-functional command meaning "don't touch" that will carry over to off the furniture, counter, clothes, mud puddles, toddlers eating crackers, and that 10 day old pizza behind the bush.

Joanie Levin-Yarlick CDT is the owner of K9-Chops Dog Training in San Francisco. She is an accomplished SPCA Certified Dog Trainer; Behavior Counselor; and Professional Member of the Association of Pet Dog Trainers. To contact her, call 415-751-9941 or email [k9chops@aol.com](mailto:k9chops@aol.com). A 25% discount is offered for all rescue-adopted dogs.

***Mabel Needs the Gift of a Home  
and Others Do Too!***



Mabel is a sweet, tortoise shell tabby. While a little shy with strangers at first, this very intelligent animal loves people and should easily convert to a great indoor or indoor/outdoor pet. Those who worry about an outside cat harming other animals can rest easy because she has little hunting instinct. She often passively watches jays and pigeons, just a few feet away, eat the food out of her dish.

Safe Haven has many cats and kittens available for adoption. Contact us via phone or email for animal profiles.



***Volunteer  
Opportunities***

Safe Haven Currently Needs:

- Foster Caregivers
- Foster Care Coordinator
- Adoption Director
- Promotions Coordinator
- Educational Director
- Fundraising Director
- In-Kind Donations Coordinator

We also desperately need volunteers with construction experience to help us complete the expansion of our sanctuary.

If interested, please send an email to our Volunteer Director at:  
[volunteer@safehavenanimalsanctuary.org](mailto:volunteer@safehavenanimalsanctuary.org)

***Please Call (408) 420-7233 to Adopt or to Help Our Furry Friends***



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Safe Haven Animal Sanctuary was founded on the belief that no animal should have to go hungry, be homeless or live in fear or pain, regardless of its appearance or health. The Sanctuary believes that all animals deserve to be treated with dignity and respect and be provided with care in an environment that will help increase their opportunities for a better and safer life. If you would like to receive this newsletter via email, refer to our Web site at [www.safehavenanimalsanctuary.org](http://www.safehavenanimalsanctuary.org).  
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