Check out our low-cost spay/neuter program at hsoyuma.com/spayneuter.

HUMANE Society The quarterly newsletter of the Humane Society of Yuma Fall 2008 Fall 2008 Fall 2008 Fall 2008

Fur Ball raises over \$100,000 for new shelter



CRISTYN WEIL,
New Shelter Project Chairperson

On August 23, 2008, the Humane Society of Yuma hosted the second annual Fur Ball to benefit the New Shelter Project at the Sonoran Pueblo Club of the Marine Corps Air Station. It was an extraordinary night of fine dining, fundraising, and dancing.

Thank you to the 300-plus guests who attended the gala and to the many volunteers, donors, and sponsors who together helped raise over \$100,000 for a desperately needed new shelter for Yuma's homeless animals.

I would especially like to thank our sponsors, Belleza/Kerley Homes, Yuma (Continued on page 5)

Walk 'n Wag to be held at future dog park

Put your best paw forward to raise funds for a new shelter for Yuma. Ask friends and family to sponsor you for either a 1 or 2 mile walk.

Walkers who raise more than \$50 will receive an HSOY baseball cap. If you don't have a dog, you can still participate! There will be many fun activities for both canines and humans alike. The City of Yuma will be selling food, with the proceeds going towards the development of the dog park. We will also hold an adoption fair.

(See insert.)

When: Saturday, November 15, 2008, 10am registration, 11am start.

Where: Future dog park behind the Pacific Ave. Wal-Mart.

Cost: \$10/walker. Register online.

THE WALKER with the most pledges wins *a bicycle* courtesy of **Mr. B's.**

The business team with the most combined pledges will win α luncheon courtesy of **Buffalo Wild Wings.**

THE SCHOOL TEAM with the most pledges will win a **naming opportunity** for a *kennel* in the new shelter.

Thrift shop opens at permanent location

The Second Paw Thrift Shop has opened its doors at its permanent location, at the northeast corner of 4th Avenue and 24th Street.

The store's revenue goes directly to our low-cost spay/neuter program.

The store is open on Tuesdays and Saturdays from 9am to 5pm. Sherrell Judish, HSOY board member, hopes to be able to open up the store throughout the week, but the limiting factor remains a shortage of volunteers.



GIVE HER THE PURRFECT GIFT: JEWELRY

An extensive selection of high quality, donated jewelry is on display at Paul Bensel Jewelers, with all sales proceeds going to the New Shelter Project.



"Carats for Cats and Canines" will continue through OCTOBER 17. There is still time to go down to Bensel Jewelers and buy her the purrfect present that will be a win for the pets and a double win for you!



Letter from our Executive Director

Hello again to our wonderful friends and supporters.

Since our last newsletter, we have wonderful news to report. Cristyn Weil and her Fur Ball committee put on another first class affair raising over \$100,000 for the new shelter. I know everybody had a "howling" good time.

Speaking of the new shelter, if you haven't heard about the "Carats for Cats and Canines" jewelry sale, get over to Paul Bensel Jewelers and

see what's going on. Vicki Kerley, one of our newest board members, created this novel event to help raise funds for our new shelter. We've already raised several thousand dollars from this sale. If you want to take part in this event you had better hurry, the sale ends October 17.

Board member Sherrell Judish has opened the doors to our new thrift store on 4th Avenue. She continues her

efforts to raise funds for our low-cost spay/neuter program to take a bite out of pet overpopulation. So remember, clear your house of all your unwanted, gently used items and get them over to the thrift store. What may be old to you may be a new- found treasure to someone else. Get the details at www.hsoyuma.com.

Our spay/neuter program continues to grow. We started this program in November 2007, and we've performed nearly 400 low- and no-cost surgeries. I'll have to say, this has been our greatest accomplishment in recent years. I know we're making a difference!

Most of you know our Development Director Elkie Wills is relocating to San Diego. She has accomplished many great things for our shelter, but it's time for her to move on and make a difference in another community. We wish her and her family the very best.

As I approach my second year as your Executive Director, I've learned many things. The most important lesson I've learned is that we can make a change. We can change the fact that Yuma has too many pets and too few homes. We can change the fact that too many people don't understand the serious consequences of allowing their pet to breed unintentionally. We can also change the fact that 60% of our shelter pets never find a home, and become a tragic statistic of pet overpopulation.

We all know we can make a change. I'm happy to report we're on our way! As always, I want to sincerely thank all of our generous donors, our valuable volunteers, and a willing community! With your help our homeless pets won't stay homeless for long!

With warmest regards, Shawn Smith Executive Director Humane Society of Yuma



Mission

"To ensure the humane treatment of all animals, reduce the number of homeless pets, and promote the value and importance animals contribute to our lives and community."

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Greg Bussell
President
Jennifer Dixon
Secretary
Kathy Brandon
Loma Clark
Jackie Dugan
Sherrell Judish
Vicky Kerley
Kyla Smith
John Townsend

SHELTER MANAGEMENT

Shawn Smith
Executive Director
Annette Lagunas
Director of Operations
Elkie Wills
Director of Development
Mike Foster
Shelter Manager
Cookie Wagter
Office Manager

SHELTER INFO (928) 782-1621

285 N Figueroa AVE Yuma, AZ 85364 Office: 9am –5pm Tues-Sat Kennel: 11am-5:45pm Tues-Fri 11am-4pm Saturday

YUMA'S BEST PUBLIC SERVICE ORGANIZATION as voted by the readers of the Yuma Sun

200520062007

Humane Society of Yuma Y-PAWS

Yuma Providing Animal Welfare Support

Silver

Sabrina Arcuri

Karen Barcklay Molly Barney Gene Belous Ron & Linda Blake Liam Bradlow Lonna Brazeel Elaine Brown Paige Cane Kim Comancho Chauncey & Jean Dunstan Rick Eddy Charlotte Eddy Rebecca Eddy David Fochtman Margaret Gillette Colby Girard John & Amy Grable Dan Groehling Kish Hancock Geri Hengl Juanita Hornung Ron Jackson Marian Jenkins Dennis Johnson Carolyn Kemp Sandra Lanning Molly Larkin Michael & Stacy List Lumbard & Associates Frank Manson Laura McCullough Denise McGregor Donna McNutt Charlene Miranda David & Vicki Nelson

Nunn Better, LLC Lauren Patrick Devin Price Lisa Price Agnes Rey **Jackie Rodgers** Lonie Ross-Misenhimer Margaret Sidener William Stiles Bill & Laurie Veal Glen & Peggy Vorwerk Dawn Walters Wendy Weigand Marie Young

Gold

Wendy & Marty **Beckers** Wayne & Sandy Benesch Carolyn Butler John Cady Richard & Teresa Culkins Ralph & Ellen Farr Terry & Lorri Farr Dennis Friel Lynn & Janet Harnick Karen Hoffman Paul Hopper Sharon Hughes Jerry & Betsy Kanago Suzanne Kirk Rebecca Kuechel Paul & Linda Lerma Debbie Magrino

Conrad Mallek Iudi Marks Bill & Kathleen Martin Dennis McCarthy Pam Mendenhall Tracy Mercer W & V Myers Susan Naparstek Chuck Nordquist Chris O'Malley Sandy Pikula Rod & Dottie Priest Tony & Veronica Shea Kyla Smith Tammy & Ed Snook Richard & Sue Stallworth Steve & Jacque Stone Audun Taraldsen Chris Townsend John Townsend Carol Truett Roberta Ukra Bob & Cathy Walk Iannelle Watts

Moose Platinum

Sarah Wisdom

Women Of The

Charles Bishop Greg & Louise Bussell Loma Clark Betsy Codrea Sellers Crane Patricia Grasis

Jorge Holland Vicki Kerley Ed Luterbach Donna Mae Moore Myra Moran Judy & Casey Myers Barbara Richards Jeff Richards Mary Rose-Howard John & Susan Sternitzke Cristyn Weil

John Weil Richard Wegforth Yuma Kennel Club

Business Belleza Homes Club Yuma Boot Camp Coyote Partnership Daily Farms, Inc Karen's Candles -Party Lite Tonya Koening-Colsch Ioan Duquette Lisa Medina **Procon Structures** Red's Birdcage Wendy Turner

Saul & Modine Uribe

Rio Colorado Equine

Vet Services

We're your humane society & they need you.



Junior Paw \$10

Bronze Paw \$25

-Receive Y-PAWS window sticker.

Silver Paw \$50

Receive Y-PAWS window sticker plus: -Member-only emails to include shelter updates, special animal stories, and training tips. -Free nail clipping, \$5 off coupon at Petsmart, and \$10 off training at the Yuma Petsmart. -Newsletter recognition.

Gold Paw \$100

Receive Silver Paw benefits plus: -Humane Society of Yuma magnet.

Platinum Paw \$500

Receive Gold Paw benefits plus: -Humane Society of Yuma t-shirt. -Invitation to annual members-only breakfast.

Business Paw \$250

-Receive Y-PAWS window sticker. -Ad in adoption packet. -Newsletter & web recognition.

To apply, fill out the donation form on the backside of the newsletter, visit us online at hsoyuma.com/join, or visit us at our shelter.

THANK YOU!

Yuma County **Team Penning** Association for the generous donation of \$1,600 made during their 5th Annual Straw Stewart Memorial Team Penning and Ranch Sorting.



Bob Nalley for constructing and installing custom made steps for our spay/neuter trailer.

Pete Coronel, owner of Tacit Pest Control, for going above and beyond to keep the pests away from our pets.

Buffalo Wild Wings for donating \$1,000 for the farewell party for Brad Wills.

Happy Trails preschool for raising funds from a bake sale.

The economic downturn has put a strain on everyone's budget. We need to tighten our belts without lowering the standard of care we provide our pets. Help us save money by donating the following goods.

Greatest need: non-clumping kitty litter!

Newspaper Office supplies (black pens, copy paper, whiteout) **Blankets**

Sheets Paper towels Kitty toys

Mr. Clean **Clorox wipes Febreeze** 9" paper plates Scotch tape "Kong" dog toys Heavy-duty shop towels

Elkie Wills bids farewell to HSOY

After nearly four years as both the public face of HSOY and a driving force behind the scenes, Elkie Wills is saying farewell.

Prior to her recent promotion to the newlycreated position of Director of Development, Wills served as Community Relations Manager. That title, as anyone

close to the Humane Society of Yuma will tell you, does not do justice to all that she does here at the shelter.

Wills was the spokesperson, creative director, volunteer coordinator, donor development coordinator, and events planner. Additionally, she was in charge of fundraising and the humane education department.

On top of all that, Elkie always had

time for a shelter guest in need of some TLC, and she had a passion for connecting lucky shelter guests with rescue groups across the region.

When asked what she felt her greatest achievement has been while at the Humane Society of Yuma, Wills says she takes pride in

the fact that HSOY's public image has improved.

Annette Lagunas, Director of Operations, had many things to say about her departing colleague: "I will truly miss her upbeat attitude, her laugh, and her passion and love for these animals."



MEDIA MEOWS

TELEVISION

KSWT: "Pet Rescue" Saturdays & Sundays, 10pm, and Mondays, 4:30pm. KYMA: "Pet Talk" Wednesdays, 5pm; "Pet Thursdays" Thursdays, 12pm.

RADIO

Z93: Listen for "Pet of the Week" throughout the week.

KCFY: "God's little Creature Feature" Wednesdays, between 8am and 8:30am.

INTERNET

Yumanewsnow.com: Featuring one, adoptable pet weekly and updating Yuma on HSOY's current events.

Yumasun.com: View a photo of an adoptable pet and watch a video featuring various dogs and cats looking for a new home.

HSOY welcomes new patrol sergeant



The Humane Society of Yuma is pleased to welcome Aaron Acton, our new patrol sergeant.

Acton comes to us from Greensburg, Indiana, where he served as the only animal control officer for a county with a population of 40,000. He has also served as a police officer.

Moving with him from Indiana are his two daughters and his wife, who is originally from the Yuma area. The two met while Acton was stationed near Phoenix during his military service.

As far as finding something to do here, Acton, an avid angler, reports that he has found the local fishing to be decent.

BetterYuma.org Golf Classic

On Saturday, September 13, 2008, Betteryuma.org held a golf tournament at the Desert Hills Municipal Golf Course that raised \$8,000 for the New Shelter Project.

The winners were Shawn Gillespie, Brad Guethle, and Brendon Jacks; second place finishers were Gabe Plaza, Julie Denton, and Eric Johnston.

The million dollar shootout was very exciting. Five people took a shot in front of TV cameras and onlookers, and we had several really close shots, with Ray Ochoa swinging last, and coming very close.

Enter to win the Desert Lily Quilters' 2009 Opportunity Quilt Kaleidoscope

Raffle will be Saturday, January 24th, 2009. \$1/ticket or 6 tickets for \$5.

SAVE THE DATE

Critter Country 2009

Keep February 28, 2009, clear on your calendar for the sixth annual Critter Country. There will be a band, both a silent and a live auction, and (of course) good food at Britain's Farm.





Volunteer

Volunteers put the human in humane.

Volunteer orientations are held on the first Thursday of every month at the Yuma Community Food Bank. You can fill out the volunteer application online at hsoyuma.com/support/volunteer.html. For more information, contact Elkie Wills at ewills@hsoyuma.com.

Thrift store

Our thrift store is a wonderful opportunity to raise badly needed revenue. We need volunteers to keep the doors open longer. Currently, we only have enough volunteers to be open on Tuesdays and Saturdays. We desperately need more volunteers in order to extend our hours and generate as much revenue as possible. If interested, call Sherrell Judish at 580-1000.



Dog walking

give to a sad shelter dog with only a leash and a pair of walking shoes, allowing a dog to stretch their legs and get some fresh air and some much needed exercise.

Foster homes

Consider opening your home to an animal seeking a temporary foster home. What is the role, what skills and environment home need? Compassion, care, understanding, value, and respect for pets. Tolerance for the unexpected (as no two animals are alike), spare time, patience, kindness, and lots of love are important qualities that successful foster parents possess. If Imagine the indescribable joy you can interested, contact Mike Foster at mfoster@hsoyuma.com or 782-1621 ext.

Fur Ball

Fur Ball, Cont. from page 1

Community Bank, The Sun, Glen Curtis Underhill PetSmart. Transfer Company, Kammann Development, Apartments, Misenhimer Hopper Aivazian & Tennant PC, Dr. Ernest Rillos, Dr. & Mrs. Steven Wallace, Naguin Precision Earth Moving Inc., D & H Electric, Country Club Honda, 1st Bank Yuma, Yuma Insurance Inc., Federal Credit Union, Law Offices of Larry Suciu, and Sun Graphics.

The live auction was a great success thanks to the talented Phil Seward of Smart Auctions, and contributions and donations from Avanti Skin Care, Paul Bensel, Gary Stephens, Teri Did It, Old Town Wine Cellar, Karin Griffin, Melba Wagner, the Glen Curtis family, Lamar Advertising. KYMA. Εl Broadcasting, Shawn Kammann, Larry & Sandy Pikula, Jed Limousine, and The Filter Factory/Denise Builders.

Thanks also to the numerous individuals and companies donated items to the silent auction (too many to list here) and to the Bose Corporation for donating the sound system that was the raffle prize.

The decorations were once again stunning thanks to the efforts of Sandra VanDeraa and the Cibola Spirit Line, and contributions by All Seasons Florist, Dancemakers, Dawn's Dance Studio, and Jeanie's Party Supply.

From the production standpoint, I would like to thank our Master of Ceremonies, Brad Wills, formerly of KYMA; Anable Aguirre and the staff of the Sonoran Pueblo Club (who, as usual, were flawless) for extraordinary dinner; and Mark Flint for the wonderful documentary of the shelter.

Highlights of the evening included the presentation of the Curtis/Perricone Award to Vicki Kerley for her outstanding contributions to the New Shelter Project and her dedication to the advancement of animal welfare in Yuma; the surprise donation of air time by KSWT; the impromptu challenge donation by David and Donna Elfers, that was matched by Page and Lonnie Misenhimer; and the purchase of the naming opportunity on two dog kennels at the new shelter by Clint and Kim Underhill. What a night!

Last, but not least, I would like to thank the New Shelter volunteers: Kelley Baliukas, Dan Groeling, Samantha Page, Nancy Patterson, Sandy Pikula, Lonnie Ross-Misenhimer, Kyla Smith, Susan Sternitzke, Sandra Van Deraa, Jan Watts, and Elkie Wills, all of whom put in countless hours of volunteer time to make the night special.

I hope to see you all again next year at the Humane Society of Yuma's third annual Fur Ball, where we will celebrate the groundbreaking for the new shelter!

Cristyn Weil chairs HSOY's New Shelter Project.

Pet Care

HOLIDAY SAFETY FOR YOUR PETS

The following has been adapted from various sources from both HSUS and ASPCA sources on how to keep your pets safe during the holidays, from Halloween to New Year's.

HALLOWEEN

Keep your pet in a quiet place, away from trick-or-treaters and other activities. You may know that the miniature monsters and goblins who come knocking on Halloween aren't real, but pets don't.

Dogs and cats are creatures of habit and could become frightened or agitated by the unaccustomed sights and sounds of costumed visitors. In addition, frequently opened doors provide a perfect opportunity for escape, which can go unnoticed during all the commotion. Be sure all pets are wearing collars and ID tags in case of an accidental getaway.

Don't let the family dog accompany the kids on their trick-or-treat outing. Children may have a difficult time handling a pet during the festivities and your pooch could get loose, especially if your dog is spooked by the strange sights and sounds of trick-or-treaters.

Keeping your cat inside the house all the time is the best way to go. If you let your cat go outside, however, make sure to keep him or her inside on Halloween.

ALL HOLIDAYS

Keep open flames like candles and jack-o'-lanterns out of your pet's reach and beyond the range of swishing tails. Curious critters risk being singed or burned by the flame—they could also easily knock over a candle or pumpkin and cause a

fire.



An otherwise good kitty being bad during the holidays.

Keep candy away from pets. All those sweets may taste great to critters, but candy, especially chocolate, can be toxic to pets. Candy wrappers can also be harmful if swallowed. Instead, tempt your pet with a few of his favorite treats.

Keep decorations that pets could chew on—like streamers, tinsel, and fake spider webs—and wires and cords from electric decorations out of reach. If pets chomp on holiday decorations they could choke or become ill, and if they chew on electrical cords, they risk a potentially deadly electrical shock. Pets could also become tangled and injured by dangling cords or decorations.

PETS MAKE TERRIBLE PRESENTS!

Adding a pet to the family is a serious, long-term commitment. It's a decision that needs input from everyone who would be involved in caring for the animal

Adoption is the best way to add a new pet to any family—just wait until after the gifts have been opened and the New Year's corks have been popped. The Humane Society of Yuma offers gift certificates that will allow the recipient to take their time and pick out a companion that's just right for them. Your decision to wait may be the best gift you give your family this holiday season.

Does your dog have a nice, warm bed to sleep in? Shouldn't every dog?

Kuranda Dog Beds are ideal for shelters. They have patented orthopedics and are very easily cleaned and guaranteed chew-proof.

Kuranda's "Donate A Bed" program enables individuals to donate beds to the shelter of their choice at discounted prices.

The donation will be sent directly to the shelter, in your name. Your donation is 30% to 35% off the regular, retail price.

Go to kuranda.com and select the Humane Society of Yuma, or follow the link from our website.



Statistics

June

Patrol service calls 1017
Dog licenses issued 369
Dogs turned into the shelter 401
Cats turned into the shelter 666
Dogs adopted 112
Cats adopted 66
Animals released to rescue 39
Animals returned to owner 44
Cruelty cases investigated 103
Cats & dogs euthanized 800

July

Patrol service calls 955
Dog licenses issued 355
Dogs turned into the shelter 520
Cats turned into shelter 762
Dogs adopted 131
Cats adopted 50
Animals released to rescue 56
Animals returned to owner 71
Cruelty cases investigated 71
Cats & dogs euthanized 792

August

Patrol service calls 927
Dog licenses issued 341
Dogs turned into the shelter 489
Cats turned into the shelter 607
Dogs adopted 95
Cats adopted 44
Animals released to rescue 42
Animals returned to owner 68
Cruelty cases investigated 73
Cats & dogs euthanized 768

HSOY SUCCESS STORIES

SNOWFLAKE FINDS LOVE ON THE NET

This is Snowflake in her new yard in Tucson. She has been to the groomer and the vet (he said I got a real steal) and she is one great dog. I couldn't be

happier with her. She is fun to have around, and has adapted seamlessly to being an inside dog. Thank you for putting her on the web. I never would have found her



otherwise, and she is a joy. I don't know if you ever contact the former owners, but I would love for them to know that she has a good home. She is the center of the universe here.

Barbara

PIXIE

This is Sheryn and Richie Wright, and we are the proud parents of our adopted little toy poodle, PIXIE.

She has been with us a little over a month now at 4 months old, and we are thoroughly enjoying her. She is a happy little girl, and is a lot of fun, too.



She likes to play with her toys, retrieving them after we throw them down the hallway. She comes back with her toy running as fast as she can in our lap in our chairs. She makes us

laugh a lot!! She is so funny! She is a great joy to us, and we love her very much.

Thank you HSOY.

Sincerely, Sheryn Wright

TWO CATS, ONE HAPPY FAMILY

Our family adopted Clark in the Spring of 2007 and Vador in the Spring of 2008 from the Yuma humane society and both have been a wonderful addition to our family.

Clark, the orange & white male cat, was abandoned along with his siblings in the foothills area, rescued by Jeanie

Foerester & taken to the shelter where my children fell in love with Clark at age 3 months old. He sleeps with my



daughter every night & is a ball of fun.

Vador, the black cat, was left at the shelter at age 3 due to his family moving out of the area & couldn't take him. Luckily, he was placed at Petsmart for adoption through the humane society while we were shopping there for an item and my husband fell in love with him and knew he would be a perfect playmate for Clark. He's our watchdog cat and is a great companion for our family.

We would love to adopt more, but have a small home. These cats are part of our family & will always be loved & cared for in our home.

Having pets is such a good way to teach my children responsibility, gentleness, kindness, & commitment. They are better than any toy I could buy my kids.

Thanks! Rhonda Maese

To see more success stories go online!



We've got a Jeep for sale!



1983 Jeep CJ-7. This jeep is in great shape and perfect for four-wheel fun or just running around town. The engine is a 4.2 liter and runs well. The mileage is 139,171. The donor took great care of this jeep and performed meticulous maintenance, so take off the top and enjoy the cool months ahead. \$4,500 obo. For more info, email ewills@hsoyuma.com or call 782-1621.



THANK YOU GROOMERS!

Many of our dogs who come to us need a trip to the beauty parlor. The following groomers give these dogs "miracle makeovers." Also, they provide adoptees with a return appointment at no cost or a reduced cost.

- Bowzer's Body Shop
- The Dog Spa
- Paws and Claws
- Petsmart
- Renee Leads
- Waggins West



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Receive multiple newsletters? Would you like it sent to you electronically? Prefer to be taken off our mailing list? Email us at newsletter@hsoyuma.com, or call (928) 782-1621. Please include information as it appears on the address label. Thank you.

Join the Humane Society	of Yuma	
J		Junior Paw \$10
Name(s)		Bronze Paw \$25
Address		Silver Paw \$50
City S	tate ZIP	Gold Paw \$100
The state of the s	tate ZII	Platinum Paw \$500
D 4		Business Paw \$250
Memorial Garden small memorial \$40 bot large memorial \$70	Web Sponsorsh 1 month \$20 3 month \$56	ip 6 month \$110 1 year \$200
I would like the inscription to read I would like my sponsorship to read		· ·
	Make checks payable to HSOY and mail to 285 N. Figueroa Avenue, Yuma, AZ 85364	office use only activation date database intro pack