

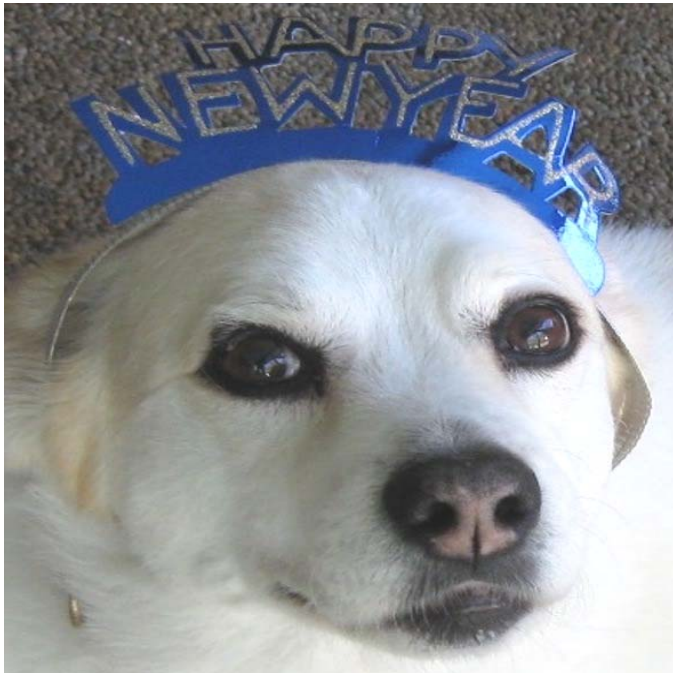


Animal Talk



Winter 2009

Volunteer Services for Animals, Inc., 6017 Pine Ridge Road, #330, Naples, FL 34119



Rescued Dog Clipper

Happy New Year

Bottle-Fed Kittens A VSA Niche

Kittens separated from their mothers before they can eat and drink on their own are of special concern for VSA. They don't survive without their mothers. VSA's bottle-feeding program expanded in 2008 with additional volunteers. Program volunteers saved numerous kittens which otherwise would have not have lived. They are either ready for adoption or have already been adopted.

Often, small kittens are found without their mothers who were scared away by human activity or were killed. Kittens do not typically eat and drink on their own until six weeks to two months of age. Therefore, the commitment VSA volunteers make for newborn kittens is substantial with feedings initially every two hours.

See photo to the right

VSA's 2008 Vouchers Will Prevent Over 4 Million Births

VSA's 2008 sterilization program activities will prevent an estimated 4.2 million births of puppies and kittens in Collier County in the next five years. VSA issued over 1,385 vouchers and expended \$24,275 in 2008.

Of the total 4.2 million reduction, it is estimated about 2.3 million will be from kittens and their offspring and 1.9 million from puppies and their offspring.

While these reproduction figures may appear astounding, reproduction rates are exponential. A single cat or dog will have numerous offspring each year. The offspring and the offsprings of the offspring will also reproduce, resulting in as many as 1,400 to 1,800 kittens or puppies in five years from a single animal. These reductions are in addition to VSA's voucher program for feral cats

VSA offers low-cost vouchers to animal owners in financial need. Twenty-two veterinary clinics participate in the program by offering reduced-fee surgeries without which this program would not be possible.



A VSA volunteer feeds a rescued kitten at Ava Maria's Posh Pets event



Brother and sister, Lucy and Ricky, have been together from birth. VSA adopted them together in September to Patty Gallagher of Naples who submitted this picture entitled “The Lucy and Ricky wrap”

Mahala Goes to New Home



Charlotte, Landon, Noah and Sadie All Doing Well

In our last newsletter, we reported on the adoption of Charlotte, Landon, Noah and Sadie to their new Tennessee home. They are each special-needs cats (FIV and feline leukemia). Lisa Smallwood Frizzell of Madison saw our notice on Petfinder.com and offered to take all. Joel Moskowitz of Marco Island, who regularly drives to Tennessee, took them in the cab of his 18 wheeler. VSA volunteer Kathy Avery fostered them until the trip.

We heard from Lisa recently. “These are beautiful cats, Kathy. I would not trade any of them for his or her weight in gold. They are all so affectionate and loving,” Lisa writes.

Dear Members and Friends,

Imagine a community in which there are no homeless animals. All animals would have the option of life and have loving homes. VSA is striving for that day, and we made progress in 2008. VSA’s two main programs, cat rescue and dog and cat sterilization, both significantly expanded in 2008.

VSA’s rescue program vastly increased its number of foster homes and accepted more than twice the number of homeless cats and kittens in 2008 compared to 2007. VSA also opened a second adoption center at Petco in North Naples. By the end of 2008, permanent homes were found for almost all of the rescued cats and kittens. Those remaining continue to be offered for adoption. VSA’s program is no kill.

In order to reduce the number of unwanted animals, VSA continued to provide low-cost spay and neuters vouchers to those in financial need. VSA issued almost double the number of vouchers by the end of 2008 over what we issued in 2007. This program is critical to reducing the pet population. As mentioned on page 1, VSA’s 2008 efforts will result in a reduction of 4.2 million kittens and puppies within five years. VSA’s spay and neuter program is in its 12th year.

We depend upon our members, contributors, faithful volunteers and other friends to help us make strides toward our goals. Thank you for helping VSA. We continue to need and appreciate your help.

Phyllis Estes
VSA President

Mia Has New Friend



Cathy Thrives Happy Ending--Cathy Thrives



Just After Rescue



At Four Months

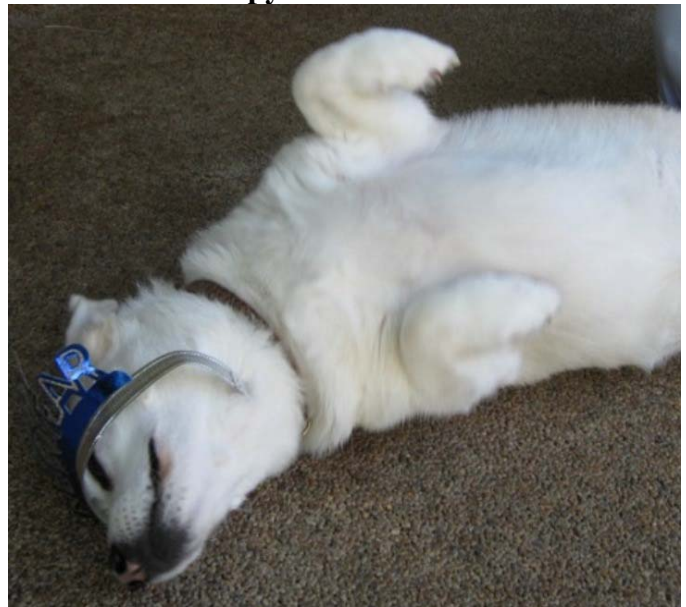
Cathy, thrown from a vehicle, rescued and brought to VSA last fall, is now a happy, healthy kitten ready for adoption.

**Please Join VSA Or
Renew Your
Membership and
Make a Donation
Help Us Rescue
More Cats and Kittens
and Stop More Births of
Unwanted Puppies and
Kittens in
2009**

Taking Clipper's New Year's Photos Was Not Easy, Whew!



I'm Sleepy--Partied Too Much



Scratch My Tummy



Are We Finished Yet?

**In
Memo
ry**

Volunteer Services for Animals

VSA is a not-for-profit charitable organization which is working to bring about a time when there will be no more homeless pets.

Our primary efforts are on two fronts--rescuing and adopting homeless cats and kittens and encouraging and assisting animal owners to sterilize their animals.

VSA's efforts extend throughout Collier County. Our efforts are collaborative with other non-profit animal organizations and Collier County Domestic Animal Services.

We have little administrative overhead. We do not maintain an office or have any paid staff. Rescued animals are housed in volunteer homes. Our work is supported entirely by donations and occasionally with grant funds. Thank you for being part of this work of love.

Contact Information:

6017 Pine Ridge Road, #330

Naples, FL 34119

597-4930 (information line)

261-4768 (donations & adoptions)

261-4768 (fax)

VSArescue@aol.com

www.volunteerservicesforanimals.com

VSA periodically receives donated dog food. Most of the food is dry. It is of good quality. Some is prescription diet food.

If you know of someone in financial need who needs dog food, please call Phyllis at 261-4768.

They must be able to pick up the food or have it picked up.

**Thank You Publix
and Sweetbay**

**Publix and Sweetbay super
markets allow VSA to have
donation bins at the following
locations**

**Pine Ridge Crossing Shopping Center
Riverchase Shopping Center
Mission Hills Shopping Center**

-----Please Clip Here and Return-----

[] Renew my membership (\$20) [] Become a VSA Member (\$20 annually)

[] And/Or Make a Special Donation \$_____

Name _____ Telephone _____

Street/P.O Box/Unit # _____ E-Mail _____

City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

VSA has tax exempt status under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Service tax code, tax identification number 59-2197365. VSA is registered as a State of Florida non-profit organization, registration number SC-05661. 100% of your contribution is retained by VSA which does not contract with any solicitors. A COPY OF THE OFFICIAL REGISTRATION AND FINANCIAL INFORMATION MAY BE OBTAINED FROM THE DIVISION OF CONSUMER SERVICES BY CALLING TOLL-FREE (800-435-7352) WITHIN THE STATE. REGISTRATION DOES NOT IMPLY ENDORSEMENT, APPROVAL OR RECOMMENDATION BY THE STATE.

**Please Make Checks Payable to Volunteer Services for Animals, Inc. and Mail to
6017 Pine Ridge Road, #330, Naples, FL 34119**