



Dear Supporters:

As always it has been a very busy year for the animals. All of us who work to help animals keep wishing the need for our services would diminish or end entirely. Realistically we know our work will never end but our dream for it to diminish is a goal we all work towards each and every day. I don't know a single rescue, shelter or humane organization who wouldn't love to be put out of business. For if that happened, it would mean that as a society we embraced the concept that animals are family members and deserve the same respect as we give to others. It would mean everyone realized how critical spaying and neutering is to save the millions that are euthanized in our shelters every year. It would mean we all took up the cause of animal welfare and demanded that

all animals deserve an honorable life while they share this time on earth with us. That is a wonderful dream and someday, with your help, it will be a reality.

Like all organizations that work to save animals, our holiday wish list is long. Below are just a few things that are easy but have the most impact for your donation dollar. Please share these suggestions with friends, family or businesses who may be able to help us with our mission.

Attend or participate in the special **fundraisers** that our friends put on for us. Many of these happen between newsletters so please sign up to be on our email list. If you are concerned we might sell or share your information, don't be. Our respect for your support is great and your information is safe and secure with us.

Pledges are the easiest way for you to help us. Check with your employer to see if they have a program in place to have a monthly, bi-monthly, quarterly or annual donation deducted from your paycheck. Often employer's payroll plans do not charge a fee so we receive the full benefit of your donation. If they don't have program ask them to start one. Donations through United Way and PayPal are great too but be aware they do charge fees. You can even set up an automatic donation from your online bill payment program which is deducted directly from your checking account. If you prefer to write a check, just let us know and we will mail you a years worth of return envelopes.

Donate in **memory** or in **honor** of a friend, family member, pet, birthday, anniversary, favorite veterinarian, pet sitter or milestone. These donations will be listed in our newsletter.

We are always in need of **free services**. We work very hard to keep our administrative costs low so we can use the greatest portion of your donations to help people save their pets and expand our spay/neuter program. Free copy services or gift cards to Staples or Office Depot would be sincerely appreciated

Screamin Daily Deals is one of those fantastic programs where everyone wins! You receive emails offering huge discounts for restaurants, spa's, entertainment, harbor cruises, portraits, laser tag, Nascar, hot air balloon rides, wine tasting, gourmet cookies and cupcakes, pizza, bed & breakfast packages and so much more than I can list here. There is **NO COST** to you to join this program. **AND**, while you are saving tons of money we receive a portion of the proceeds to help animals! **PLUS**, if you join and refer a friend you receive a \$10 credit towards your purchases. No kidding, this is a great program and you can always opt out if it doesn't work for you. When you join remember to choose Orange County then type in and select Orange County Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals.

During this holiday season please remember the homeless pet owners who live in our community. For whatever their reason for being homeless one thing is important to remember, they love their pets unconditionally and the bond they have with them is deep. A homeless person's pet is often the only thing in the world they have. They will protect their pet with their life and they will feed them before they feed themselves. Through our **No Empty Bowls** campaign we have distributed pet food collected by our good friends at **Animalia** and **Doggie Town** in Huntington Beach. We have also given out dog tee shirts donated by **American Apparel** and warm pet coats and pet blankets given by donors to get them through the cold winter months. If you cannot donate to our program with food or cash perhaps you can buy a 'gift card' to a local or chain pet store (not the ones that sell animals please) and give it to a homeless pet owner. Small gestures make a big difference.

Our greatest wish is to remember the thousands of wonderful pets in our shelters and rescues. Please adopt, never shop and always spay and neuter.

Our very best to you and yours for a magical Holiday season. May all *your* wishes come true.

Donna Calkin, President, OCSPCA Board of Directors and Office Staff, Stacy and Katie

