Mason has a home this holiday season because of his rescuers and you, VSA supporters, who make VSA’s rescue mission possible. Mason, a newborn, was brought to VSA after surviving a commercial lawn mower which killed his litter mates. He is almost ready for adoption. Happy holidays, Mason!

VSA’s Santa at PetSmart

VSA Wishes You Happy Holidays And A Wonderful New Year

VSA’s Programs Will Prevent 260,000 Births

VSA’s 2010 programs to sterilize feral and “casually owned” cats will prevent an estimated 260,000 offspring in five years. VSA’s focus on feral cat sterilization began in 2008 with a grant from Florida Animal Friends. Since the grant expired, VSA has continued the project with donations. VSA expanded its sterilization program this year to abandoned neighborhood cats, cats who “show up” at households which become caregivers. These cats are known as “casually owned.”

The benefits of VSA’s programs are exponential. Female cats produce kittens, which produce kittens, which produce kittens while the originating litters continue to produce kittens.

VSA’s feral cat program is directed by Christine Avery and is funded through donations. Major donors are Bill and Kathy Avery to whom VSA is grateful.

There are more than 50,000 feral cats in Collier County. Sterilization and return to habitat is the most effective, humane method of reducing the population. Collier County Domestic Animal Services has a program that allows trap, neuter and return of feral cats.

VSA, incorporated in 1982 to provide volunteers to the Collier County’s Animal Shelter then on North Airport Road, has a long-term commitment to dog and cat sterilization. VSA has offered low-cost spay and neuter vouchers for those unable to pay the full cost of sterilization since 1990. Twenty Naples area veterinarians participate in VSA’s collaborative program.

Please Become a Member of VSA or Renew Your Membership for 2011
Please use the form on the back page
5,000 Pounds of Dog and Cat Food Distributed in 2010

VSA’s program distributed more than 5,000 pounds of dog and cat food in 2010 to in-need animal owners and for sheltered animals.

The food was donated to VSA by individuals, various organizations such as the Humane Society of Naples, and retail businesses in Collier and Lee counties. Donations are picked up weekly by a VSA volunteer.

VSA has on-going arrangements to provide food to a no-kill private shelter and with individuals who are having financial difficulty. Without financial assistance, these individuals would not have been able to keep their pets.

VSA Updates

VSA will have another low-cost shot clinic in March. Please watch for the date in the media or e-mail VSA at vsarescue@aol.com for the date.

A VSA fundraiser 5K (3.1 miles) run or walk is planned for Disney World in February. The race route will be through the Magic Kingdom before it opens on a Saturday. Contact Yvonne Lamb, the race coordinator, at ylambie@aol.com.

Lenny Moore has become VSA’s treasurer. He is an accountant with KPG Accounting Services, Inc. of Naples. Lenny is an accomplished accountant and has a master of science in accounting from Florida Gulf Coast University. We are appreciative of KPG making Lenny available. VSA thanks Kathi Mattsson, VSA’s treasurer since 2009. She continues as a volunteer.

We are always in need of additional foster homes for rescued kittens. Contact Phyllis Estes at 230 290-6274 or at vsarescue@aol.com

Officers for 2011 were elected by the membership at the annual meeting, December 1:
Phyllis Estes, President
Leonard Moore, Treasurer
Christine Avery, V. P., Fund Raising
Karen Gudknecht, V. P., Special Funding
Yvonne Lamb, V. P., Communications
Angela Fieger, Corresponding/Recording Secretary
Mike Gordon, DVM, will return as a director

Volunteer Services for Animals, Inc.

VSA, a not-for-profit charitable organization incorporated in 1982, 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 sterilization of dogs and cats.

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
239 290-6274
239 261-4768 (donations & adoptions)
239 261-4768 (fax)
VSarescue@aol.com
www.volunteerservicesforanimals.com

Thank You Publix, Sweetbay and KPG Accounting

Publix and Sweetbay super markets allow VSA to have donation bins at the following locations:
Freedom Square
Pine Ridge Crossing Shopping Center
Riverchase Shopping Center
Mission Hills Shopping Center

VSA is grateful to KPG Accounting Services, Inc. for its assistance with our accounting and records storage.

KPG specializes in financial services for condominium and homeowner associations.

Contact Kevin Gaffney at 434-8866.
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>In Memory of</th>
<th>In Memory of</th>
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<tr>
<td>Walter Michael “Mike” Keller</td>
<td>Elizabeth G. Perkins</td>
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<tr>
<td>Beloved son of a friend of animals</td>
<td>A faithful VSA Volunteer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lori Stuber</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>In Memory of</td>
<td>In Memory of</td>
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<tr>
<td>My Parents, Ethel and Lawrence Morrell, who cared for and loved Over 40 cats in Homestead, Florida</td>
<td>Sebastian</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>By Camille Schaller</td>
<td>Our faithful companion for eighteen wonderful years</td>
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<td></td>
<td>By James R. Gibson Jr.</td>
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<tr>
<td>In Memory of</td>
<td>In Memory of</td>
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<tr>
<td>“Cookie” Sudbrook</td>
<td>All of our Dobie kids who have gone to the bridge</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>By Karen Gudknecht</td>
<td>By Chuck and Mary Danielian</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>In Memory of</td>
<td>In Honor of</td>
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<tr>
<td>Satchel who was loved by all</td>
<td>VSA for helping the mama and her kittens at a shopping center</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>By Carole Mendelsohn</td>
<td>By Ashot &amp; Denise Karamian</td>
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<td>In Memory of</td>
<td>In Memory of</td>
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<tr>
<td>Melissa</td>
<td>Rusty, Tigger and Spike, our wonderful cats</td>
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<tr>
<td>My shy little cat who loved drinking out of my bathroom sink</td>
<td>By Dick and Joan Hedderick</td>
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<tr>
<td>By Lana Chadwick</td>
<td>In Memory of</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Tczar, my blue angel</td>
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<tr>
<td>By Marilyn Wahl</td>
<td>By Marilyn Wahl</td>
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<tr>
<td>In Honor of</td>
<td>In Memory of</td>
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<tr>
<td>Misty, Shayna and Kitski</td>
<td>Daughter Frances and her strays</td>
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<tr>
<td>By Mark and Louise Markowitz</td>
<td>By Katherine Robinson</td>
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<td>In Honor of</td>
<td>In Honor of</td>
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<tr>
<td>Phyllis Estes</td>
<td>All of the dedicated VSA volunteers</td>
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<tr>
<td>An outstanding humanitarian</td>
<td>By the VSA Board of Directors</td>
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<td>By James and Lori Stuber</td>
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You Can Make a Difference in the Lives of Animals

I attended the University of Florida's conference for animal shelters this past fall. While VSA does not have a shelter facility, our volunteers shelter rescued cats and kittens in their private homes. The conference keeps us current on the latest in veterinary medicine and shelter operations.

Shelter veterinarians, directors, technicians and volunteers from both governmental and not-for-profit organizations such as VSA attended the conference. The attendees came from throughout the United States and the world. I sat next to a veterinarian from South America. The conferences are presented by UF's School of Veterinary medicine which offers a shelter specialty for veterinary students. The conferences are excellent.

The room was filled with animal professionals struggling with too many animals with too few resources. Few animals are being adopted and many become sick from simply being in the shelter where disease easily spreads. While the conference was excellent, the reason to have these conferences is not. It is a disturbing reflection on how our society still has not become engaged in the plight of abandoned and unwanted animals. The solution is so obvious and inexpensive. Instead our society asks these professionals, including in Collier County, to dispose of dogs and cats that have done nothing to deserve this fate. It is time that we, as individuals, say “NO MORE.” Let’s provide a voice to the animals destined for death.

The solution is simply fewer animals by spay and neuter. The average cost is about $50, less than the cost of a dinner or movie out for a family. VSA has three programs for free or low-cost sterilizations. Other organizations in Collier County also have programs. I urge you to look around. See what needs to be done to reduce the animal population. Act and give us a call if you need help. Only YOU can prevent animal over population. Please also donate to VSA so it can continue its focus on sterilization among its objectives. Thank you.

Phyllis Estes
VSA President

I want to help VSA give life and love to animals:

My contribution: [ ] $50 [ ] $100 [ ] $250 [ ] Other $__________ [ ] I wish to become a VSA member ($20 for 2011)

Gift From: Title [ ] Mr. & Mrs. [ ] Mr. [ ] Mrs. [ ] Ms. [ ] Other____________________

Name(s)________________________________________________________________________________________

Address_____________________________________________________________________________Unit _________

(Street, P.O. Box)

Address __________________________________________________________________________________________

(City, State and Zip Code)

This gift is made in [ ] honor [ ] memory of:______________________________________________________________

[ ] I wish to have my/our gift in honor or memory of acknowledged in the VSA newsletter with the following statement:
____________________________________________________________________________________________________________

Please limit to about 10 words

[ ] I wish to receive periodic e-mails and newsletters regarding VSA activities and achievements.

E-mail:___________________________________________________________________________

Please make checks payable to VSA and send with this form to: VSA, 6017 Pine Ridge Road, #330, Naples, FL 34119

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