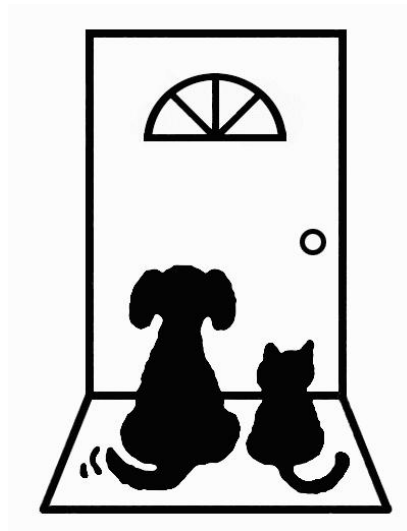


SEQUOIA HUMANE SOCIETY



A NO-KILL SHELTER
PROMOTING SPAY/NEUTER

2005 ANNUAL REPORT

MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of the Sequoia Humane Society is to provide shelter and humane care for homeless animals while working vigorously to end the tragedy of euthanasia caused by too many animals, not enough homes.



Name: Baton

Age: 18 months

Breed: Shepherd mix

Entry Date: February 2005

ADOPTED September 2005!

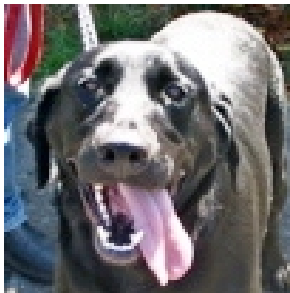
Name: Forest Kat

Age: 4 year:

Breed: Domestic Short Hair

Entry Date: June 2005

ADOPTED February 2006!



Name: Rocky

Age: 3 years

Breed: Labrador Retriever cross

Entry Date: August 2005

ADOPTED: October 2005!

Name: Squeek

Age: 2 years

Breed: Domestic Short Hair

Entry Date: June 2005

ADOPTED: August 2005!



Photos courtesy of Lynn Lowman

LETTER FROM THE DIRECTOR

Dear Friends,

During the past year I have been fortunate to be a part of the many changes taking place here at the Sequoia Humane Society, and it is with great pleasure that I share with you stories of our success and how we have improved the lives for animals on the North Coast.

First and foremost, we have significantly reduced the number of unwanted animals being born by helping people get their pets spayed and neutered. We recognize that spay/neuter is the key to eliminating pet homelessness, and we are doing everything we can to encourage pet owners to alter their animals. We have lowered our spay/neuter voucher co-payments to make them affordable for low-income families, even paying cash to pit bull owners to encourage them to have their animal fixed. During the second half of 2005 we issued 250% MORE vouchers than during the first 6-months of the year! In addition, ALL animals adopted from the Sequoia Humane Society are spayed and neutered – NO EXCEPTIONS.

In 2005 we held our first low-cost microchip clinic where – over a period of 4-days – we implanted microchip ID tags in 139 dogs and cats! That's 139 animals that will be returned to their owners should they become lost, and 139 LESS animals that will end up in a shelter or other adoption program. We are the lowest cost microchip service in the county.

Since our transition from an impound facility to a no-kill shelter, we have been discovering that when you eliminate the euthanasia option many of the animals that enter the shelter become long-term residents. Clearly, the shelter environment was not originally intended as a 'home away from home' for our animal friends, but rather a temporary stop on the way to a forever home. Extended exposure to confined conditions can result in stress for both cats and dogs, and we are working on ways to address this issue. Already – with a generous donation from SHS members, Cara & Jerry Brockhoff – we have greatly improved the quality of life for our feline residents by building catwalks, perches, ramps and steps in the cat room to promote socialization and exercise. During the coming year we have plans to put covers on the outdoor dog exercise areas, and improve the kennel space for our canine companions.

And that's not all. There are many other projects we have accomplished, and goals we have set for ourselves. As you know, we are a non-profit organization supported entirely by donations and grants; we receive NO government funding, nor are we fiscally tied to any national humane society. While we are in a healthy financial position, however, we have been operating on a deficit and we need your help to continue our humane mission.

Thank you for supporting the lifesaving work of the Sequoia Humane Society. I hope we can look forward to a day soon when no animal is abused and every pet has a loving home☺



Cynthia MacMillan, Executive Director

PET ADOPTION CENTER

At the core of our mission is providing shelter and humane care for homeless animals – this is what we do at the SHS Pet Adoption Center. In addition, we work to place animals in loving, *forever* homes. The happiness and welfare of each animal at the SHS Pet Adoption Center is of prime concern to us. We take our responsibility as caretakers seriously, and perform this duty in two ways: by providing a high quality of care, and seeking to match people with pets that fit their personality and lifestyle.



The SHS kennel staff are knowledgeable about animal care. Each animal that comes through our facility is given a complete health examination – dogs are tested for heartworm and Lyme’s disease and cats for feline leukemia and FIV (feline immunodeficiency virus). All animals are vaccinated, spayed and neutered, and microchipped before adoption. Animals receive routine maintenance such as grooming, de-worming and flea preventative, and are loved and exercised daily.



At the Sequoia Humane Society we’re not looking to get animals out so we can take more animals in. Our goal is to place animals in caring homes where they will be welcomed as members of the family – members for life. To that end we get to know our animals so that we can tell potential adopters about their needs, habits and behaviours. We talk with people about what they are looking for in a pet, and encourage them to seriously consider their decision to adopt a cat, dog, puppy, kitten or other animal before making a lifetime commitment to their care. Our adoption process may seem extensive to some, but it is the best way we know to ensure a good match, and hopefully to keep these animals in good homes and out of our shelters and rescues.

If you haven’t seen the new front office, I encourage you to come visit us! A fresh coat of paint and a new front counter really brighten the entryway and create a warm, comfortable environment in which to choose a new animal companion. We are also working to improve our customer service, and encourage your feedback on how we can better serve you. Please feel free to call (442-1782) or email (humane@sequoiahumane.org) with your suggestions.



2005 Adoption Stats

Cats	193
Dogs	180
Other*	8
Total	381

*SHS also adopts rabbits & guinea pigs, and your occasional goat or duck!

SPAY/NEUTER PROGRAM

Spay/neuter is the key to ending pet overpopulation. By halting the birth of unwanted pets we keep animals that might have been abandoned out of our shelters, which prevents the overcrowding that leads to euthanasia. **During 2005 SHS helped spay and neuter 635 dogs and cats!** In addition, all of the animals adopted from SHS have been spayed and neutered. That's over a thousand animals that won't be breeding, which equates to hundreds of thousands of lives saved. That's our goal – to save lives!



One unaltered female cat and her offspring can produce 420,000 kittens within an average 7-year lifespan, and dogs are not far behind in their reproductive capacity. At this very moment SHS has a momma dog that gave birth to 13 puppies while at the Humboldt County Animal Shelter. Granted, we'll be able to find homes for these cute little puppies – and most of the fuzzy little kittens that come through in the Spring – but what about all those adolescent & adult dogs and cats left homeless? And what happens when those cute balls of fur become untrained adults? Who will care for them then?

The Sequoia Humane Society's spay/neuter voucher program helps low-income individuals and families spay and neuter their pets. People are asked to bring proof of income and a photo ID to the Pet Adoption Center, where – for a very low co-payment fee – they are issued a voucher and an appointment is made for them at one of our participating veterinarians. It's that easy.

SHS offers the lowest co-payment of any spay/neuter assistance program in the county. That's because we want to make sure that people who can't afford to get their animals fixed don't continue contributing to the pet overpopulation problem. If you can't afford our co-payment, you probably can't afford to own an animal.

Funding for our spay/neuter programs comes in part from grants, but mostly through donations. During 2005 SHS was the recipient of a D.J. & T. Foundation grant in the amount of \$5,000 that helped pay for the spay/neuter surgeries of large dogs (over 45 pounds). In December 2005 we received a \$4,434 grant from the Marie Raleigh Trust (through the Humboldt Area Foundation) to help fund spay/neuter surgeries for cats. Our total spay/neuter trust expenses during 2005 were \$34,742, and as of February 2006 the fees veterinarians are charging for low-cost spay/neuter surgeries went up. Clearly there is a need for more spay/neuter funding.

2005 SHS SPAY/NEUTER VOUCHER PROGRAM STATISTICS

	Jan	Feb	March	April	May	June	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Total
Cats	20	28	32	18	18	13	36	31	57	68	60	52	433
Dogs	1	9	10	13	4	14	49	28	15	22	16	19	200
Total	21	37	42	33	22	27	85	59	72	90	76	71	635

EDUCATION & OUTREACH

One of our main challenges this year has been to educate the community about our new role as a no-kill shelter. While it is no longer our job to take in stray animals (they now go to the Humboldt County Animal Shelter), the “pound” image is difficult to alter (no pun intended☺). The best we can do is put out the word – and ask you, our members, to do the same – that the Sequoia Humane Society is a no-kill shelter that promotes responsible pet ownership through our adoption, education and spay/neuter programs. We are committed to improving the quality of life for companion animals on the North Coast, as well as providing the highest quality care for the animals that come through our shelter.

We’re working on spreading our message in a number of ways – through media articles, press releases, newsletters and public events. Every person we speak with – through our staff, board members, volunteers and customers – is an opportunity to convey our humane mission. It can be an uphill battle because animals are an emotional issue, and many people feel differently about questions such as what are appropriate adopter qualifications. It’s important to remember that our goal is to speak for the animals who have no voice of their own – not argue amongst ourselves.

SHS works with local schools to educate our youth regarding responsible pet ownership and kindness toward animals. Judy Lewis – our current board president and a retired teacher – distributes “KIND News” (Kids in Nature’s



Defence) - a humane education publication put out by the National Association for Humane and Environmental Education - to several local classrooms. Many teachers have brought their classes to the SHS Pet Adoption Center for educational tours – including the North Coast Charter School at Big Lagoon, which serenaded the cats with folk songs! Several South Bay Elementary School students were recognized for demonstrating exceptional kindness to animals by volunteering at the SHS Pet Adoption Center, and many local high school students have completed community service hours by grooming cats, walking dogs and assisting

with special projects.



A local Boy Scout troop completed their Eagle Project at SHS by clearing away brush around the perimeter of the dog walking area, and several California Conservation Corps crews have assisted us with significant tasks, such as painting the exterior of the Pet Adoption Center building. All groups participating in volunteer-type projects are given a tour of the facility, where spay/neuter and responsible pet ownership are always the number one topics!

During the coming year we would like to expand our outreach even further, by participating more in local events, as well as inviting school groups to the shelter for summer programs and/or after school activities.

VOLUNTEERS

The Sequoia Humane Society has one of the most dedicated groups of volunteers in Humboldt County (and that's saying a lot!). There are many animal lovers out there, but those people who are passionate about animals – who are willing to give up their time to make a difference in the life of homeless cats and dogs – are a special breed.

The SHS volunteer program is a win-win situation for people who want to help animals, and for the animals themselves. Volunteer opportunities at our Pet Adoption Center include dog walking, cat grooming, puppy & kitten socializing, as well as the more down and dirty tasks such as cleaning kennels. Many volunteers help with offsite adoption events

by transporting dogs & supplies, and sharing information about our programs and adoptable animals. We also have several volunteers who perform a valuable service by fostering neo-natal kittens (this means getting up in the middle of the night to bottle feed!). And then there is that special group of volunteers at our Tailwaggers Thrift Store, many of whom have been with us for 10+ years and have spent hundreds of hours sorting donations, arranging displays and greeting customers. Simply put, we would not be able to accomplish most of the wonderful work we do without the selfless dedication of our volunteers.



Tailwaggers' volunteers



When 2005 began we were passively accepting volunteers and holding orientations as needed. During the second quarter we revitalized our Volunteer Coordinator position and began to actively recruit new volunteers. Since then our volunteer base has steadily increased, and we are retaining more volunteers thanks to the efforts of Cheri Williams, our current volunteer coordinator. Cheri spends time following up with new volunteers, soliciting feedback that will help us further improve our volunteer program.

Every volunteer makes a difference by enhancing the quality of life for homeless animals at our shelter and helping us to provide services to our community. However, there are a number of volunteers that have gone above & beyond the call of duty by giving personalized attention to special needs animals, consistently volunteering several hours on a weekly basis, and being available to lend a hand whenever they are needed. Following is list of our 2005 volunteers, with a few 'golden volunteers' highlighted whose service has been exceptional:



SEQUOIA HUMANE SOCIETY VOLUNTEERS

Joann Jones

Donna Alvarado

Olivia Alvarado

Nancie Baker

Margaret Reuter

Steve Haines

Tyler Federico

Amber Ferriman

Christine Fiorentino

Rob Ellion

Sarah Hart

Molly Hoffman

Jessika Rex

Alicia Neely

Jake Neely

Rachelle Crabb

Jeremiah Cypert

Karen Danner

Tracy Dawson

Dorothea Dishun

Molly Cook

Mona Beaver

Margaret Birkluer

Charlotte Yarbrough

Steph Chague

Tomica Baquet	Alissa Greer	Haley Collins	Norma Goerlitz	Lucus Cohnell
Jeanette Barry	Barbara Guerrero	Robert Shaw	Joshua Eckroth	Jamee Spellenberg
Sherry Beyer	Jenny Hinkson	Laura Trads	Cathy Enis	Ann McWhorter
Vicki Boger	Tim Johnston	Karen Williams	Daniel Roediger	David Moulton
Ashlee Bowser	Kelsey Kuhn	Robin Wright	Jay Stainbrook	Nicole Powell
Laura Bridy	Amanda Lipscomb	Lynn Crosthwait	Carol Telesky	Kelly Kindred
Arlene Capeder	Vicki Lore	Beth Johnson	Janice Tracy	Carole Farlan
Angela Cappasola	Claudine McClellan	Norma Morrison	Nancy Wilson	Ruth Burke
Lisa Schlotmann	HCAR Crew & Christine			

Thanks!



WOOFSTOCK 2005

Woofstock 2005 was our most successful event ever! We took in almost \$15,000, with a net income of \$10,800 – all of which went to support our adoption and spay/neuter programs. Our annual Mutt Strut brought dogs and their human companions to parade along the waterfront, raising almost \$4,000 through pledges and donations. The contests were a highlight of the event – with the costume contest being a special favourite! All the bands that participated in the event donated their time, and Six Rivers Brewery generously donated several kegs of high quality beer. We would also like to thank the many business sponsors that contributed generously, both through monetary and in-kind donations.



Photo by Lee McClaughlin

Woofstock 2005 Business Sponsors

Alpha Dog (\$500)	Tailwaggers (\$125)	In-Kind Sponsors
Mazzotti's Restaurant	Nutro Products	Myrtle Avenue Veterinary
Humboldt Plastics	Pace Chem Dry	Pierson's Building Supply
Bay West Supply	Reprop Financial	Pro Pacific Auto Repair
	Blue Max Pizza	Roy's Club
Big Dog (\$250)	Frederick Bott	Sequoia Personnel
Alex's Jewellery Box	Britt Lumber	Skipper & Breckner
North Coast Co-Op	Capital Business Machines	"P.J." Paul Nicholson
Coast Central Credit Union	Chapman Engineering	Sun Valley Floral Farm
Equity Resources	Fortuna Veterinary Clinic	Vern's Furniture
Ferndale Veterinary	Harvey Harper, Co.	WBCO Electric
Fidelity National Title	Lost Coast Brewery	Yakima Products
Pacific Aer	Mark Harris, DDS	
PALCO	McCrea Nissan	Bands
PETCO	Moore's Sleepworld	Kulica
Wells Fargo Bank	Muddy Paws	Papa Bear
		Clint Warner Band
		Checkedered Demons
		Vintage Soul

Businesses Donating Raffle Prizes

B&B Grooming	Vellutini Baking Co.	Grooming by Linn
McKinleyville Animal Care	Spirals of Life Wellness Center	Sea River Jewelry
A&L Feed	Griffith Luoma Chiropractor	Barbara Shults
Gourmet Dog Biscuit Co.	Nilsen's Feed	Bhakti Rocks
The Farm Store	Shedcrafters	Gallery Dog
It's All About the Dogs	Fortuna Feed	Balanced Aquarium
Café Waterfront	Taraluna	Hometown Buffet
Fin-n-Feather	Earthstones	Beauty Stop
Pins Plus	Two Feather NAFS	Jabberwocky
Nails by Peggy	Fortuna Veterinary Clinic	Shalamar
Ferndale Emporium	Ferndale Clothing Co.	

FINANCIAL REPORT

While our programs are the vehicle through which we accomplish our mission, our funds are the fuel that keeps that vehicle moving forward. Simply put, we could not do what we do without your financial support.

Thanks to the prudent financial planning of former executive director, Kathleen Kistler, SHS has a significant reserve from which to draw. However, we have been operating on a deficit since the impound contract with the county ended in July 2005, and our savings won't last forever. We are looking for ways to diversify our income – e.g. new grants and business opportunities – but we recognize that our strength lies in what we know, and are therefore focusing on enhancing our current programs in an effort to make them more effective. For example, income generated by Tailwaggers Thrift Store has been steadily increasing as we improve the quality of our merchandise. As you can see from the following financial reports, our donor base plays a major role in our fundraising efforts.

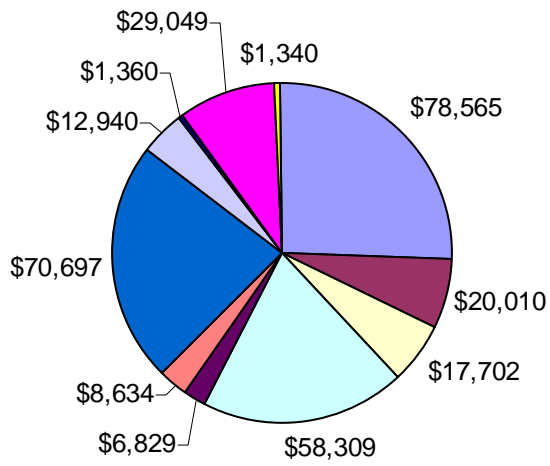
2005 Profit & Loss Summary

Total Income	\$317,411
Total Expense	\$416,315
Deficit	-\$98,904

Balance Sheet Summary

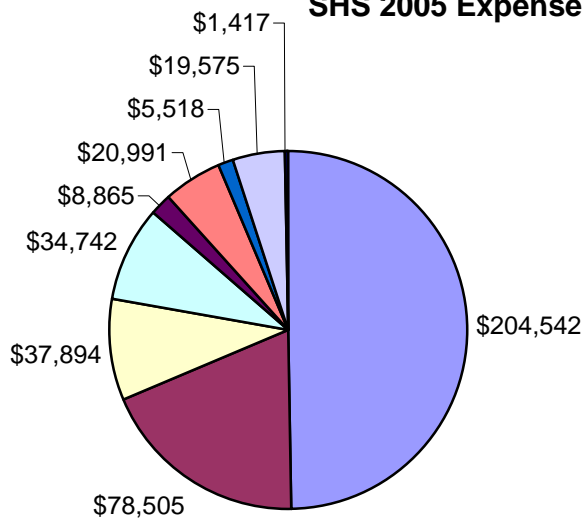
	<u>Dec 31, 05</u>
ASSETS	
Current Assets	<u>833,701.73</u>
Fixed Assets	138,315.71
Other Assets	85,714.29
TOTAL ASSETS	<u>1,057,731.73</u>
LIABILITIES & EQUITY	
Liabilities	2,132.44
Equity	1,055,599.29
TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY	<u>1,057,731.73</u>

SHS 2005 Income



- Donations
- Fundraising Events
- Grant & Estate Funds
- Humboldt Area Foundation Grants
- Investment Income
- Pet Store Sales
- Tailwaggers Sales
- Adoption Fees
- Microchip Fees

SHS 2005 Expense



- Shelter Expense
- Administrative Expense
- Tailwaggers Expense
- Spay/Neuter Trusts
- Insurance
- Fundraising Expense
- Pet Store Expense
- Utilities
- Miscellaneous

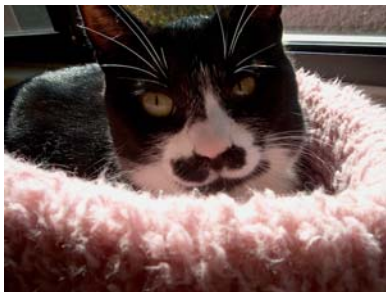
BOARD OF DIRECTORS & STAFF

Board of Directors:

President: Judy Lewis
Vice President: Gene Bass
Secretary: Jennifer Raymond
Treasurer: Petra Miller
Director: Andrew Kroemer
Director: Al Tracy
Director: Tom Heilmann
Director: Ed Greenwood
Director: Lana Sheely

Staff:

Executive Director: Cynthia MacMillan, M.B.A.
Kennel Manager: Wanda Regan
Customer Service Manager: Carrie Mays
Tailwaggers Manager: Sarah Connelly
Bookkeeper: Corey Tipton
Volunteer Coordinator: Cheri Williams
Customer Service (shelter): Susan Pahl
Kennel Staff: Jodie Green
Jacob Pratt
Teresa Lopes
Christi Kennedy
Jefri Ann Williams



Chloe



Pearl



Chloe Ann

SAS Shelter Cats