



The Poop Scoop

Tails and Tidbits for Team Sammie Volunteers and the Animal Lovers of Nevada County and Beyond . . .

Facts About Us & the Work We've Done:

- * During the more than 4 years that Sammie's Friends has managed the Animal Shelter, 8000+ animals have been placed.
- * Sammie's Friends Animal Shelter has a euthanasia rate of just under one percent.
- * In the 13 years since Cheryl Wicks went to the Shelter, over 13,000 animals have received veterinary care from Sammie's Friends.
- * In 2013 Sammie's Friends spayed/neutered over 2000 dogs and cats in the community.

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Fall 2014

Things That Trouble Me

I have been helping the animals in Nevada County since 2001. During that time I have interacted with more than 20,000 shelter animals and at least 10,000 owned animals in our community. That's a lot of animals. A few things stand out in my mind as troublesome:

Declawing cats: Declawing is NOT just nail trimming or removing a portion of the claw. It is surgical amputation of the first joint of the cat's toes, using either a scalpel, a guillotine-type cutter or laser. It is major surgery and should not be undertaken lightly. It is really 10 amputations if only the front toes are done. It can take months for all the nerve endings to heal. Your kitty will have intense pain for some time. In the beginning it may be excruciating.



Cheryl Wicks and Curt Romander
Co-Founders of Sammie's Friend

There are no benefits to the cat in declawing. In the long run there may not be benefits to the owner either. Declawing can lead to litter box problems. Declawed cats can associate the pain when digging in the litter with the litter box itself, avoid using the box and opt for the softer carpet instead. Declawing can lead to biting problems as well; they have lost their chief weapon of defense. Declawing changes their gait and can lead to arthritic problems later in life. Don't declaw, it is painful to the cat. You would never do this to yourself or your loved ones.

Dogs In Back of Trucks: Letting your dog ride in the bed of a pick-up truck is dangerous. The animal is at risk of being struck by a flying object, incurring an eye injury, or jumping or being thrown from the moving vehicle, which will seriously injure or kill your pet and may cause a traffic accident (you can be held liable).

At Sammie's Friends we frequently receive calls from people wanting help for a veterinary bill because their dog has fallen out of their moving pick-up and sustained life threatening and expensive injuries. It can cost well over a thousand dollars, not to mention

the suffering of the dog who has slammed into the roadway or been drug within an inch of its life. Personally I would never transport my dog in the back of an open truck.

California has laws designed for the protection of animals. If you intend to transport your dog in the back of a truck, the dog must be in a secured kennel, or cross-tethered to prevent the animal from jumping, falling or being thrown from the vehicle. It has to be tied with two leashes attached to two separate sides of the truck so it cannot hang itself or be dragged overboard.

I also see pick-ups parked in the sun leaving the dog sitting on the hot metal bed of the truck. Ouch! and in a warm fur coat too.

In the state of CA no human passengers are allowed to ride in the rear of an open pick-up truck. Both the driver and passenger are subject to being fined. Doesn't your dog deserve the same safety.

If you have questions about your cat or dog there are many resources available to you - veterinarians, dog trainers, dog and kitty behaviorists, the internet and books and television programs. If you need direction we can help you at Sammie's Friends.

Cheryl Wicks is Co-Founder of Sammie's Friends and the Director of Sammie's Friends @ Nevada County Animal Shelter

**14647 Mc Courtney Road,
Grass Valley, Ca 95949
530-471-5041**

Who's Who On Sammie's Staff

Ruth Rasmussen

I've always had this thing for animals... This is the perfect job for me. I help with the medical care and the rehoming of the animals. I'm the shelter's "cat whisperer", and people get me when they're scared of a cat and need help vaccinating or caging it. I'm now evaluating the cats to help better match people with their perfect cat. I don't want to be anywhere else, unless it's Tahiti. Where I probably would have exotic birds.

Doug Gorman

I spend my free time training with the Muay Thai Fighters. At the shelter, I work with Beverley on dog training three days a week, and I'm taking online classes to become a behaviorist. I also help with the medical care and the rehoming of the animals. I don't want to be anywhere else... unless it's Thailand.

Debbie Freele

I'm a hair designer but dropped most of clients when I moved here. I've been at the shelter since 2004! I'm a runner and a mom. At the shelter, I give medical care, and vaccinations and help each dog and cat find its forever home. I don't want to be anywhere else... unless it's Wisconsin, or maybe watching the Packers, the Brewers and my son playing college baseball, OR at the rodeo watching my rodeo queen daughter.

Jade Good

I've been a jewelry designer for many years and I owned my own general engineering company for seven years. I have two kids and more than a few pets. I've always had animals in my life. I was a dog walker at Sammie's for over a year before I started working in the office. I handle the incoming and outgoing paperwork, some bookkeeping, and help Curt get our new computerized shelter software set up so I can begin training staff. There's no place I'd rather be... unless it were the beach.

Amy and Grant Gaines

Are married (to each other)! They came to Sammie's Friends after working at Best Friends Animal Sanctuary in Utah for over two years. Amy was a veterinary assistant in San Francisco before moving to Utah, and also a professional dog walker (walking six to eight dogs at a time)!

Grant managed a health club in San Francisco for five years, and worked for Coca-Cola "forever!" Now they are both working in the kennels and doing the daily hands-on care for the dogs, bottle feeding kittens, giving medicine, and helping to adopt out our critters. We LOVE San Francisco!

Dina Jacopi

I started out as a volunteer, and did some grant writing, and transported dogs. Now I'm on staff and do much of the marketing, including the Youtube videos, eBlasts, video clips shown in the lobby of the shelter and shown in Sammie's Nifty Thrift. You might have seen the ads I created for the Sierra Cinemas and for the big digital billboard on I-80. I also created and manage our new website (check out www.Sammiesfriends.org) and make promotional flyers for our critters. My job is a blast!

Cheryl Wicks

Cheryl is the Co-Founder of Sammie's Friends, the President of the Board and the Director of Sammie's Friends Animal Shelter. She originated the Volunteer program that we have today, in 2001 and managed it for the first seven years as a volunteer. Cheryl has the overall responsibility for leading the organization and planning for sustainability. The inspiration for all that has become Sammie's Friends was her precious indomitable, never-to-be forgotten, one-of-a-kind Sharpei, Sammie. "Never underestimate the impact of one small doggie."

Curt Romander

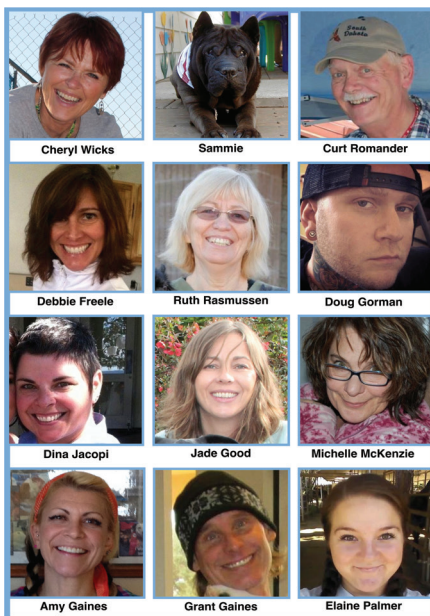
Curt is the co-founder of Sammie's and the Vice President of the Board. The financial needs of Sammie's Friends are under his management, and while he's not as visible as Cheryl and the rest of the staff, his work is critical to the health of the organization.

Michelle McKenzie

I started with Sammie's Friends as a volunteer grant writer back in '08, but in my past life I was a publisher, and am now a freelance writer and editor. I continue to write grants at Sammie's, but now I also help with the medical care and the rehoming of the animals. I also specialize in our livestock and equine fosters and rehoming. This just might be the most rewarding work I've done. I wouldn't be anywhere else, unless it were Scotland. (LOVE those Scotts!)

Elaine Palmer

I came from a background of race horses and pet stores and was a member of Future Farmers of America. I love working with animals, and have even bottle-fed foals. At the shelter, I'm part of the daily hands-on care of the dogs, the kennels, and much more! In my free time, I love horseback riding and taking my dog to the river.



Sammie's Nifty Thrift Shop — Update!

Sammie's Nifty Thrift Shop continues to thrive. We opened March 2, 2013 which is close to one and a half years ago. It's hard to believe it was that long ago since I can still vividly recall Opening Day where we did over \$7,000 in sales!

We have wonderful, dedicated volunteers and employees. There are currently approximately 30 regular volunteers, and six part-time (the equivalent to three full-time) employees. All these people work extremely hard, but at the same time make it a "happy and friendly" environment. We're planning on having a picture taken of all our volunteers and employees in the next issue of The Poop Scoop!

I'm always amazed at the variety of items that are donated. Right now we have a large box full of laminated cork squares and circles, and dozens of new glass rulers. These items would be perfect for making personalized Christmas



gifts for friends and family. We also have an antique Player Piano (albeit in need of tuning and repair) that came in with about 200 music rolls in their original boxes. We also had a beautiful Oriental hutch with Mother of Pearl inlays that didn't make it on the floor for more than a day before it sold for \$1,500. Then there's always the "question of the day" piece that comes in where we have no idea what it is. We still place it on the floor and, low-and-behold, someone comes in and says "that's just what I was looking for" and explains what it is. This thrift store business is a funny business, and one that entertains us, works us hard, and keeps us on our toes every minute of the day!!

We want to thank all our fabulous donors and shoppers! We appreciate how you have supported us and we know you are the life-line to our successful business!

Store Hours are Monday through Saturday 10:00 am to 5:00 pm. Donations are accepted Tuesday through Saturday between 10:00 am and 3:00 pm.

Joanne Castles

Where Are They Now?

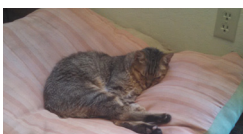


Poor Boris spent just over 9 months here at Sammies Friends, within that time he became a shelter favorite! He spent his days here being spoiled with love and all the canned food he could eat!!!! Finally a fantastic family decided they

were ready for a new addition, and thought Boris would fit in just perfectly! They were right! Boris loves his new family, and despite some medical issues they have stuck by his side! What a lucky guy! Here is what his new mom had to say about him:

We adopted Boris in Fall of 2012. I went into Sammie's Friends and asked "Who is the cat that has been here the longest?" and that's when Boris came into our life.

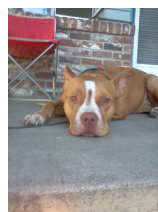
He is the toughest and coolest cat I know. Since he was adopted, Boris was diagnosed with feline calicivirus and oral stomatitis where in a last-ditch effort to control the disease all his teeth were pulled. Though it's a



drastic option, this did help Boris's condition. He is now on a strictly soft food diet and still has occasional mouth and eye infections.



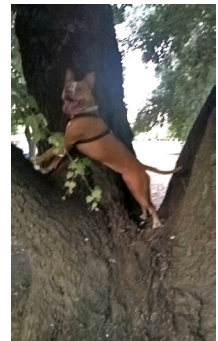
He loves to eat, terrorize his three other feline family members and go on walks with his four dogs. He sleeps with us every night. Though his medical conditions can be painful at times, he would never let you know it.



Who doesn't remember Pansey? She was such a sweet girl who just couldn't catch a break. We put in a lot of effort trying to find her a home, even put her in a bikini! She spent a lot of time here at the shelter, and one day finally found what she thought was her forever home. Unfortunately, due to unforeseen circumstances, her new owner was unable to care for her - so back to the shelter she came. Thankfully this turned out to be a blessing in disguise for our dear girl!

Pansey ~ now Rosie ~ has made herself right at home with a fantastic loving family who can't imagine life without her! Here is what her new mother had to say about her:

Rosie has been an amazing addition to our family! It is hard to have a bad day when she is around. Rosie loves going to the dog park to play with friends and chase squirrels. But her favorite pastime by far is swimming! If there is water nearby, she is in it! Rosie likes to go anywhere you are going and is always up for a car ride. She is the sweetest girl and is great at giving cuddles (and has been known



to comfort a nightmare or two). Rosie hasn't been with us much time at all but she has fit in beautifully. We couldn't imagine our lives without her (and her puppy kisses)!

"Rescue Me"

Rescue: An act of saving or being saved from danger or distress.

"Hi, you've seen me before, I'm the cat that nobody wants. I'm the one hiding in the back of my cage or the one that swatted at you when you walked by and sometimes I'm one of the black cats. It's true, I can be kinda grumpy when you come to visit. Maybe I don't feel like saying hello or being petted, and I certainly don't feel like playing with your silly toys. But can you blame me? I'm living in a metal cage, with a small blanket and a tiny litter box. You've seen me before because I've been living at the shelter for over 60 days!

I wake up every morning feeling like I've done something wrong, but I don't know what. When the shelter doors open at noon, I watch all of my shelter mates get adopted. Every day I hear people talking about how sweet and loving all the other cats are. It makes me so sad. I watch people pick up someone else instead of me. Now, I know what you're thinking. You're thinking well at least I'm safe and at least I've got food in my bowl and fresh water to drink. That's all true. Trust me, I know in my heart that the staff and volunteers love me, but a shelter is still a stressful place to live. I am a loving, breathing feline and all I need is a real home.

If you want to rescue, then rescue ME. I need someone to look beyond the kennel door and imagine me living happily in their home. Rescue ME. Because in order for me to stay healthy and happy I need sunshine, fresh air, shelter from the elements, room for exercise, a view/objects for stimulation, a safe retreat from predators. I can't get that at the shelter. The sound of dogs barking... The smell of fear from the other cats on their first day... A constant stream of strangers staring at me... A shelter is not a home. Rescue me, please!"

Sincerely,
That Cat That Nobody Wants

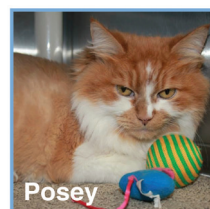
Sammie's Friends is very proud to be a no-kill shelter and over the last 13 years our euthanasia rate has lowered to less than 1%. We save lives every time we take in an animal. However, the issue of long-term stay has become more relevant than ever. For some cats, the road to adoption is paved with many, many stressful days in the shelter. They need and deserve our love just as much as any other. Please consider a true rescue and ask about adopting one of our long-timers. We know they will be eternally grateful and so will we!



Bella



Blackie



Posey

Before and After

Meet Boo: he was found left in a crate inside a garage. He was covered in feces and so badly matted that he couldn't open his mouth to eat or drink.

As soon as he came to us, he was rushed to the vet clinic. They had to put him under anesthesia due to the mats being so severe. After looking him over they realized just how many issues that this poor little guy had. He was extremely malnourished, needed the majority of his teeth pulled due to them being so rotten, he also had



luxating patella in both rear legs. Luxating patella is a condition in which the patella, or kneecap, dislocates or moves out of its normal location. This requires surgery, and months of rehabilitation. Luckily he had a wonderful foster mom, who took fantastic care of him, helped him put on weight, made sure he made it to all of his vet appointments, and kept him safe. After all this Boo was able to make a full recovery, he is a happy, healthy little guy who gets to be a normal dog. Boo's story gets even better! He found a fantastic home, and will live the rest of his life being loved, and spoiled, along with his two doggy siblings!!!



Volunteer Spotlight

Hank Sousa has been the quiet anchor of the Tuesday PM Dog Walking shift since February, 2006. He and his wife, Andie Reed, along with their Border Collie mix Gypsy, moved from the Bay Area to Nevada County in August of 2005. Gypsy had come from a Maddie's Fund Center in San Francisco, an organization committed to improving "the status and well-being of companion animals". She was a Senior dog who passed away less than a year later. Hank knew he had allowed Gypsy to live her life out in a loving home, a very good thing indeed, but he felt the void of not having a four-legged family member so he came out to the Nevada County Shelter and joined the Volunteer Program.

Over these 8 1/2 years Hank has walked with dozens of other volunteers on the Tuesday PM shift. Early on in his walking career there were three walkers per shift, as compared to five on a shift currently. There has been a need to increase the number of walkers because the trail has grown significantly in size, now being at least three times the size of the original trail. Today each dog gets a good 12 to 15 minutes of exercise, out in the fresh air, twice a day, with caring Volunteers. That feels good to both the dogs and the Walkers! Hank knows that the Dog Walking Program helps the dogs emotionally and physically which, in turn, makes them more attractive to potential adopters. He also commented that his attitude towards Pitbulls has changed over time: he used to be apprehensive about them but he's made many Pitbull friends over the years. A specific day that Hank particularly remembers was a Snow Day when only he and Curt and Cheryl, the Sammie's Friends Co-Founders, were able to get out



Hank Souza

to the Shelter. The three of them walked all the dogs - it took a while but it was a lot of fun watching the dogs romp in the snow. On occasion Hank also "subs in" on another shift that is short-handed.

The other area involving dogs in which Hank has been active is the Dogs Run Free dog park in Grass Valley. The original momentum to establish a leash-free dog area came from "Idea Man" Jeff Russell. However, Hank's wife, Andie, took over the job from Jeff: she was the non-profit's contact person with the city administration. The dedicated Dogs Run Free Board of Directors helped secure permits, drawings, waterlines, fencing and ADA walkways and parking. Andie was putting in about 4 hours a day bringing concept to reality and Hank was her support system. Now Andie is still involved in overseeing the park. Hank, for his part, participated in early fundraising, helped to get the facility physically up and running and still helps maintain the grounds.

Like many Sammie's Friends volunteers, Hank is involved in other community endeavors. Two days a week he tutors 7th grade History and English at Seven Hills School. And, every other week, Hank is a mentor in the Big Brother Big Sister program. He has enjoyed a three-year relationship with his young man, now in the 10th grade, taking him on a variety of outings and exposing him to new perspectives on life.

Sammie's Friends thanks Hank for all he's done for our Shelter dogs. He's been a most reliable and conscientious Volunteer. If you'd like to meet him, come on out some Tuesday afternoon!

Annual Celebration

On Saturday, August 2, 2014, Sammie's Friends celebrated its 10th year anniversary with an annual celebration at the shelter. There were many silent auction and raffle items available, as well as gift certificates from restaurants to hair salons, to spas. Hot dogs, chips, brownies and water were sold for \$5, and Culture Shock was in attendance selling its great yogurt. In addition, Mitch Ward, Beverley Ward's husband, made and sold 31 pulled pork sandwiches and 32 strawberry shortcakes, all of which were delicious and a huge hit!

KVMR was in attendance for several hours, doing a live broadcast from the shelter.

In spite of the very warm weather, many in the community turned out for the event to support Sammie's Friends. Three dogs and four kittens were adopted, and \$2325 was made from the food sales, silent auction bids, and raffle sales.



Integrative Medicine for Your Furry Friends

By: **Peggy Roberts, DVM – Sierra Animal Wellness Center**

When I mention that I practice Integrative Veterinary Medicine, I am often greeted with a puzzled look. What is Integrative Medicine and how did I become a proponent and practitioner? More importantly, how can it benefit your furry friends?

In the world of veterinary medicine, there are mainstream vets practicing conventional western medicine and holistic vets offering alternative therapies. Those who combine the two approaches are called integrative vets.

Mainstream veterinarians are Doctors of Veterinary Medicine (DVMs) traditionally trained in conventional western medicine. The general approach is to treat symptoms of illness or disease with drugs and/or surgery. The primary focus is on treating existing symptoms.

Holistic veterinarians are also DVMs, who have received the same training from the same institutions as mainstream vets and have the same licensing and certification. They then go on to pursue additional training in alternative methods of healing. The focus of holistic veterinarians is to promote wellness and prevent health problems from developing.

Integrative vets bring the philosophies of both western and alternative medicine to their treatment of patients. In my case, I graduated with a DVM from UC Davis School of Veterinary Medicine in 1983, obtained my license and practiced Western veterinary medicine in the Bay Area for many years, eventually moving to the Sierra Foothills. Over time I began to feel some frustration with the limits of western medicine alone and began to seek out alternatives that would focus on the whole animal, not just a set of symptoms. In 2003 I pursued additional training in Traditional Chinese Veterinary Medicine (TCVM) with a focus on acupuncture, herbs, supplements and nutrition. In Western medicine, things have a cause and an effect - there is health or there is disease. In Traditional Chinese Veterinary Medicine (TCVM), things are more circular - there are balances and imbalances and health is in a constant state of change. Once the type of imbalance is understood a treatment plan can be developed.

Both types of medicine have practical application in the care of companion animals and they often complement each other. Integrative medicine allows practitioners to take a personalized approach to the healthcare needs of each animal with a focus on wellness and disease prevention. Instead of a standardized package of treatment

recommendations, your companion is evaluated as a whole being including personality, behavior, environment, history, diet and lifestyle. This allows a multi-pronged approach to those animals suffering from complicated conditions.

As an example, shortly after completing my TCVM training I met a young

Dachshund and Australian Shepherd mix. "Ginger" had been diagnosed with idiopathic epilepsy and was being treated by UC Davis neurologists. She was on very high doses of phenobarbital and potassium bromide but grand mal seizures continued almost daily. After her first acupuncture treatment she was seizure free for about 10 days. Over time we changed her diet, incorporated herbs, lowered her doses of phenobarbital and potassium bromide, monitored her thyroid function and added supplements to counteract the impact of the seizure medications to her kidneys and liver. Using this combination of modalities we saw her seizures reduced to one or two per year, and this little girl who came to us with a very poor prognosis had another 10 happy years with her family.



**Dr. Peggy Roberts, DVM
and Torrie**

While Ginger's story is very dramatic, it illustrates just how powerful integrative medicine can be. Without the intervention of western medicine and drugs, she may not have survived such severe and dramatic seizures. But she was also suffering side effects from the high doses of seizure medications to the point that she literally could not walk. Acupuncture, herbs and supplements vastly improved the quality of her life.

Integrative medicine can enhance the life of almost every animal that it touches, whether a puppy or kitten in need of a good start in life or a beautiful senior like "Beth" dealing with aches and pains of old age and the most severe case of hip dysplasia I had ever seen. This approach has helped so many patients with a wide variety of conditions like "Bear", a young Australian Shepherd recovering from severe spinal trauma, "Dahlia", a beautiful cat who was wasting away from chronic diarrhea and vomiting and "Anna Bella", a lovely pit mix - and Sammie's Friend - who had lost all of her fur and was in a stupor when we met her. Each of them has benefitted greatly from acupuncture, herbs and a change in diet based on individual needs and those who have needed treatment with western medicine have improved most dramatically when supported with TCVM.

The way I see it, it's always a good thing to have more tools available when diagnosing and treating our animal friends.

eSCRIP Earns LOTS of \$

Contributions from SPD and Save Mart are totaling over \$1,500 per month! Both stores contribute 3% of your purchases if you are a registered supporter of Sammie's Friends. The amazing and gut wrenching truth of the matter though is that it could be well over twice that amount. Why? Because only 45% of our registered supporters are using their scrip card when they shop!

If you shop at either of these stores, please let me know and I'll get you registered and you too can earn "free money" for Sammie's Friends! If you are already a supporter, please remember to use your card. If you are an SPD shopper and don't have your card, ask the cashier to enter your phone number! It's as easy as that!

Any questions, call or email me – Joanne Castles 273-0603 or 701-7098 / sammiesnifty@gmail.com or jcastles@sbcglobal.net

Where is She Now? Mary Kranz

If there were a Sammie's Friends Volunteer Hall of Fame, Mary Kranz would be among the very first inductees. Mary first arrived at the Nevada County Animal Shelter in the spring of 2003, when the Shelter was still managed by Animal Control and the Volunteer Program was still in its infancy. Her official title was "Dog Walker" but Mary always did so much more. She made tons of fliers to aid in adoptions, fostered kittens and dogs, helped plan the Adoptathon for four years and sometimes stepped up to help the Cat Cuddlers when they were short-handed. She was among the first of the Sammie's Friends volunteers, helping Cheryl Wicks in numerous ways, but she also interfaced with Animal Control, helping to save animals and change attitudes. Her savvy was evident as she zeroed in on animals who were likely to be euthanized and started working on their placement as soon as they came in the door.

It was a sad day for us in Nevada County when Mary, her husband Chris and their four pets (dogs Sammy and Jack, cats Sophie and Jeep) moved to Carson City, Nevada in the early fall of 2007. But our loss was Nevada's gain because Mary joined the volunteer program at the Carson City Shelter, working hands-on with both dogs and cats. She took a particular interest in unsocialized dogs, be they scared-y dogs or unfriendly/"nasty" ones, and the Shelter management was happy to have her do that work. That is until there was a change in management and a "re-vamping" of the Volunteer Program. The euthanasia rate soared and Mary quit the program.

Of course she didn't quit the animals. Mary then went to the Nevada Humane Society in Reno and signed up to work there. There is a much different environment than that in either Carson City or Nevada County, however, as it's a huge Shelter with a daily population of about 400 dogs and 300 cats, on average. There are very strict rules that volunteers must follow and training specific to the area in which a volunteer wants to work. Of course Mary completed the training for everything - Dog Walking, Cat Cuddling and Small Animal Care - and does all that she can given the constraints of working in



such a large facility.

Mary has also signed up to train for a new group called Canine Rehabilitation Center and Sanctuary (CRCGivesLife.org), a doggie rescue program dedicated to helping dogs recover from trauma such as abuse, neglect, long-term confinement and other special cases. If you

"Friend" Mary on Facebook, you will get her posts of some wonderful homeless dogs that they have rescued.

Mary's interests are not entirely with four-legged animals. She is the Teacher's Assistant for a Kindergarten teacher at Fremont Elementary School in Carson City. The teacher, whom Mary met at the Shelter, asked Mary if she wanted to help "socialize" children: socializing is right down Mary's alley so off to school she went! Mary says that "kindergarten is hard!", not that the work with the animals isn't!!

Mary and hubby Chris still live in their home in Carson City, along with Jeep the Cat who moved over the hill with them. The other three Four-legged Family Members who made the move from Grass Valley have gone to Doggie and Kitty Heaven but there's a new dog in the home, Jordi, a 2 year old Black Lab mix that Mary adopted from Sammie's Shelter. Chris and Mary enjoy their home lives but they are also world travelers, having seen a great deal of the world so far. Their last trip was to Eastern Turkey, Amsterdam and Budapest and their next trip will be to Africa.

When I asked Mary to proof-read this article her response was that it was fine except that I forgot to mention that Mary feels like "the one thing that's missing on this side of the hill is all the great friends I made at Sammie's Friends". Well, let me not forget to say "Mary, you're always welcome back!!!!!!"

What's the Buzz; Tell Me What's Happening (or Why Volunteer)?

People volunteer for so many reasons, but two important reasons are 1) Volunteering lets us participate in a cause we're passionate about, and 2) Volunteering lets us make a difference beyond what we can ordinarily do on our own.

Sammie's Friends is fortunate to have many dedicated and passionate volunteers working with us to improve the lives of our animals. It's fun, fulfilling and, well, fuzzy!

Even if you love dogs, but feel that dog walking is more of a workout than you're prepared for, and you love cats but a

good sniff and your allergies would send you rocketing out the door, there are other ways to be a part of the whole. You can help in the office answering phones, or take animals to their vet appointments, take a dog to an Adoptathon, help with a Sammie's Friend's event, or volunteer at Sammie's Nifty Thrifty. Volunteers also foster animals that aren't ready for adoption.

So, if you're ready for fur, fun and loads of camaraderie with like-minded people, stop by the shelter to see what all the buzz is about. And why not fill out a volunteer application while you're there?

YES, I want to help make a difference in the lives of the unwanted animals of Nevada County! Sammie's Friends is a volunteer organization created to raise veterinary funds for the animals at the Nevada County Animal Shelter and other disadvantaged animals in the community. Our work with the animals is made possible by the donations of generous individuals in our community. All donations are greatly appreciated, and all monies raised are for the benefit of the animals. Checks may be submitted to the address below, or visit our website at www.sammiesfriends.org and click on the Paypal link for credit or debit cards donations.

Name: _____

Address: _____

City, ST, Zip: _____

Phone Number: _____ Donation Amount: _____

As a 501 (c)(3) Non-Profit, all donations made to Sammie's Friends are fully tax-deductible and can be mailed to Sammie's Friends, 14647 McCourtney Rd., Grass Valley, CA 95949.

THANK YOU!

Did You Know...

Lack of funds is not a reason to leave your cat or dog unspayed/un-neutered.

There are two low cost clinics you can use:

*Animal Spay and Neuter Clinic:
530-889-8800*

*AnimalSave:
530-477-1706*

You can get vouchers from Sammie's Friends.

Or for additional financial support you can call:

- For pitbulls and chihuahuas:
Kathleen at Pound Puppy Rescue
530-274-8079
- For cats and other breeds of dogs
Cheryl at Sammie's Friends 530-471-5041





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Veterinary Care for Disadvantaged Nevada County Animals

Sammie's Friends is a 501c Non-Profit organization founded in 2004 by Cheryl Wicks and Curt Romander to provide veterinary aid to the animals at the Nevada County Animal Shelter. Today, Sammie's Friends provides medical assistance to shelter animals and other disadvantaged animals in the community, and works closely with the NCAS Volunteers who help to socialize and find forever homes for the unwanted dogs and cats of Nevada County.