

# Actors and Others for Animals



Caring for Animals in Need who Share our Homes and our Hearts

## A Message From Betty White

*Dear Friends:*

Actors and Others for Animals and all the wonderful people there hold a special place in my heart, and I am deeply flattered to be the honoree of their first "Celebrity Roast." I know it will be an evening of laughter, surprises and love. I hope you will join me.

Since its inception, I have been a member and supporter of Actors and Others and am pleased to serve on their Board of Directors. They are guided by a passion to end the tragedy of pet overpopulation through spay and neuter efforts, a passion that has become a tradition.

Today to make the news, a story must be "sexy." Although "sex" is certainly the "cause" of pet reproduction, it isn't fun, pleasurable or desirable for the animals involved. The miracle of birth soon fades into the reality of homelessness and death. Unlike finding a cure for cancer or unlocking the mystery of life, there is no secret to stopping the source of pet overpopulation. It's not rocket science. It's simple arithmetic.

There's an old wives tale that says that "if you want to get something done, give it to a busy person." In my book, that's Actors and Others for Animals. Every day their dedicated staff are busy answering their phones, busy helping animal caretakers spay and neuter their pets, busy working hard to stop overpopulation. They have been doing so since 1971. It is their long-standing experience and sincere passion that makes the difference. It also means that your donation dollar is being stretched even further!



Betty White

### IN THE LAST YEAR YOUR DONOR DOLLARS HELPED

*June, 2003 through May, 2004*

| PROGRAM                | PETS/PEOPLE HELPED |
|------------------------|--------------------|
| Dog Spays/Neuters      | 3,339              |
| Pit Bull Spays/Neuters | 1,076              |
| Cat Spays/Neuters      | 8,462              |
| Bunny Spays/Neuters    | 182                |
| Medicals               | 936                |

On behalf of Actors and Others for Animals, I want to thank you for being an essential part of these accomplishments. We look forward to your continuing support as we remain committed to preventing the untold suffering caused by pet overpopulation.

## Please Help My Friend...

That one sentence in Mary Lee's letter said it all. *"My life is over without her. I will do anything to get her some help."*

She was speaking of her beloved companion, Rosie. Young, sleek and full of life, Rosie is a white, rescued pit bull mix. Perhaps it could just as easily be said that it is Mary Lee who was rescued from a life of loneliness and despair. Each gives the other a reason to get out of bed.

However, Rosie had hurt her leg while playing and was having a hard time walking. She was in obvious discomfort. A trip to the veterinarian discovered a broken femur. Surgery would be needed, but it was simply out of Mary Lee's financial reach. "I have tried everything to raise money for her leg and soon she will get worse," Mary Lee wrote seeking our assistance. "I'm so afraid she will lose her will to live." Mary Lee desperately wanted to help her friend, but she couldn't afford the medical treatment needed.

Rosie and Mary Lee live in a trailer park in a mountain region of Riverside County, California nearly 100 miles from Los Angeles. Working with her veterinarian, we soon learned that

*continues on page 2*

Mary Lee didn't completely comprehend the severity of the injury nor the need for post-surgical care. Because of this, he did not want to proceed with the surgery. After many back and forth phone consultations and negotiations, one of Mary Lee's neighbors volunteered to watch over Rosie during her recuperation, and the Petco Foundation graciously and generously provided the remaining \$500 needed to guarantee the surgery.

Because of Actors and Others, this story has a happy ending! Rosie is back to her old self and Mary Lee couldn't be happier. We were more than happy to go the extra mile to make sure that this family was able to stay together, but such stories are all too common.

Of all the older persons living alone today, approximately 77% are women living on a low or fixed income. Lack of money and living alone make all the other basics of survival difficult to manage. These women, and in smaller numbers, men, are forced to choose whether to pay the rent, see the doctor, or buy food when faced with an



Rosie

extra financial burden. Actors and Others has a long history of providing assistance to seniors. For many, a pet companion, like Rosie, is a life-line offering unconditional love, loyalty and friendship. With your help, we will continue to work hard to keep them together.

## Message From A&O's President

In 1971 hot pants and the Ford Pinto were in, the 26th Amendment lowered the voting age from 21 to 18, Jim Morrison died and Intel of California introduced the microprocessor. It was also the year that Actors and Others for Animals began.

Who knew back then that Intel's microprocessor would revolutionize the world? But here 33 years later, the computer is an essential part of every home and office and has certainly enhanced our ability to care for animals.

That is why I am so happy to be able to announce that Actors and Others has launched its new Website that will provide up-to-date information on our programs and services, news about upcoming events, an opportunity to ask our veterinarian a medical question and even a spot where you can honor a beloved animal companion.

I would also like to take this opportunity to thank Michelle La Pierre, Michelle Gavaldon and everyone at Word of Mouth Advertising and Graphics for the easy to follow and eye-catching design of our new site and for providing hosting and maintenance services. Established in 1987 by Michelle La Pierre, Word of Mouth provides an array of services from marketing materials to video promotions. An ardent animal lover, Michelle never forgot the financial and emotional support she received from Actors and Others many years ago and always vowed she would return the favor. An impromptu meeting with Betty White on the set of "The Practice" (another client) led to the beginning of what we believe will be a beautiful friendship.

So please, take a minute now to visit [www.actorsandothers.com](http://www.actorsandothers.com) and tell all of your friends! And don't forget to join me as we roast (toast?) our friend Betty White in March. It will be an evening of laughter and a celebration of our shared love of animals.



*Earl Holliman*

Earl Holliman

*President of Actors and Others for Animals*



*Charity Navigator is America's premier independent charity evaluator.*

*Actors and Others is proud to have received its highest four star rating.*

## A Legacy Of Compassion

One of the greatest gifts you can leave all your loved ones is an estate plan that makes your wishes known. If you haven't already, you should take the time now to ensure that you have an estate plan in effect. This will transfer your assets to those you care for with a minimum amount of effort and inconvenience and guarantee that your animal companions will continue to be cared for and loved.

At Actors and Others for Animals, we are deeply grateful to those friends who have acknowledged our efforts by remembering us in their Wills. And, in the process, they have created a loving, lasting memorial to their cherished pets. A bequest to Actors and Others enables us to widen our "Circle of Caring" and continue our crusade for compassion. No gift is too small, no gesture unappreciated, as we work together to provide more services for the benefit of animals and those who love them. A true legacy of love.

*Long time friend, Pati Behrs-Derek-Lindley presented Actors and Others with such a legacy of love recently in the form of a cherished, 1926 Steinway baby grand piano. Her daughter has requested that it be sold to help as many animals in need as possible. Pati was a Prima Ballerina and Leo Tolstoy's grandniece, but is best known as the first of John Derek's line of famous and beautiful wives. Born in Russia, her family fled to Paris after her father refused to partake in "pogroms" (anti-Semitic attacks). Pati survived World War II and Occupied France by dancing atop a baby grand piano in Parisian nightclubs, while at the same time doing all she could to hide the Russian Jews and Gypsies from the Nazis. Receiving a Hollywood contract after the war, she emigrated to the United States where she met and married John Derek and had two children, Russell (now deceased) and Sean. She would later marry Russell's pediatrician Dr. Lucius Lindley. Upon his death, she enjoyed a truly full, rich and extraordinary life in her deeply loved, adopted America, passing away, some say fittingly, on July 4th. Partial to poodles, Pati never lost sight of how important animals are in our life, a devotion she shared with her surviving daughter and best friend, Sean Catherine Derek. There was never a question in her mind, that she would bequest a portion of her estate to enrich the lives of companion animals. Actors and Others is deeply grateful to Pati and Sean for their ultimate gift of friendship.*

Remember, if there is a Will, then there is always a way for your legacy of love to live on! If you are in need of a referral for a qualified estate planning professional, we will be pleased to provide the name of an experienced attorney.

### THANK YOU TO THESE DEAR FRIENDS WHOSE RECENT GENEROUS BEQUESTS WILL BE FOREVER REMEMBERED

|                       |                       |                       |
|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| Molly Lamont Bellande | Janette Portenier     | Reathal Swader        |
| Evelyn Loewendahl     | Barbara A. Sutro      | Theresa Flanagan      |
| Elizabeth Sheldon     | Wyn Ritchie Evans     | Sally Mansfield Ruser |
| Margaret Cochran      | Ida Francis Underhill | Mary E. Hutschnecker  |
| Elynor L. Seaborn     | Marc Wilder           | Robert F. Prest       |
| Roya Gierman Katzer   |                       |                       |

## A Helping Hand

Actors and Others for Animals wholeheartedly views pet overpopulation as the greatest breeder of animal cruelty because it sanctions and promotes the improper idea that animals are disposable objects. That is why our main undertaking is to be proactive – not reactive – by preventing unwanted births through sterilization. We will take whatever opportunity arises to shout that message from every rooftop and street corner we can.

Earlier this year, we had the pleasure of doing just that at the top of Maine's Capitol Hill by arranging for Board Member and animal advocate



Loretta Swit testifying before Maine's Senate.

Loretta Swit to assist our friends in Maine pass a bill to fund a state-wide spay/neuter program through a voluntary tax check off. Testifying before the Senate Taxation Committee, Loretta acknowledged that "It is the national implications of your program and your bill that compelled me to fly all the way from Sunny California to the beautiful State of Maine, in February, to ask you to support LD 1763. Animal welfare advocates from all over the country are watching Maine to see what it will do. . . ." The Legislators got the message. Besides being the prudent thing to do, spay/neuter is fiscally responsible! On May 25, 2004, Governor Baldacci signed this bill into law and received a congratulatory telephone call from Loretta!



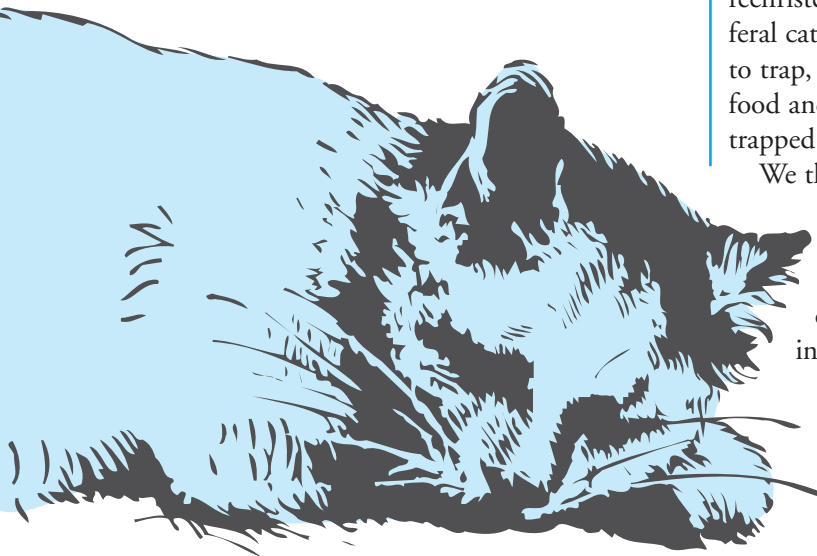
# Neutersol – New Chemical Sterilant

The Federal Food and Drug Administration has approved the first injectible neutering drug for puppies 3 to 10 months of age, and it is beginning to be used as an alternative to the traditional method of surgical sterilization.

Neutersol® is given as a single injection into each testicle and is 99.6% effective. There are very few side effects, and the puppy is able to walk and go home immediately after administration. Unlike surgical castration, puppies treated with Neutersol® are not exposed to anesthesia or post-surgical complications.

Actors and Others for Animals welcomes all methods of sterilization to prevent pet overpopulation and believes that Neutersol® is a needed addition. It is not, however, an absolute replacement for surgical castration, and each puppy must be reviewed individually to determine the best method for sterilization. Certain traits associated with testosterone levels may require castration. In addition, because testicles may still be visible on the dogs treated with Neutersol®, we believe that a permanent and uniform identification protocol still needs to be developed. At the current time, each clinic or program is left to devise its own method of identification.

We look forward to reviewing the results of further long-term studies of Neutersol® and certainly welcome the development of further chemical sterilants to help stop pet overpopulation.



# Actors And Others Continues To Help The Forgotten Feral Cats Residing In Trailer Parks

No one knows exactly how many feral cats roam the streets of every city and borough of America. They are an incredibly adaptable creature, settling in wherever they can find food and shelter. Here in Southern California, trailer parks are, for a feral cat, one of the better neighborhoods to call home. There's plenty of shelter available, a regular water source and compassionate humans who provide food.

Several years ago Actors and Others began a program targeting the economically disadvantaged and overlooked residents of local trailer parks and has successfully controlled and managed the feral cat (and domestic pet) populations at several neighborhood parks. Recently a request for help

was received from Sierra Springs, a trailer park with a large feral cat population. A young college student and former vet tech, Alison, wanted to improve the lives of her feral neighbors. Utilizing our donated ex-animal control truck,



Actors and Others' "Critter Coach" at Sierra Springs trailer park.

rechristened the "Critter Coach" and with the help of the Catnippers' feral cat sterilization clinic, Actors and Others is working with Alison to trap, sterilize and return as many cats as possible and providing food and medical supplies as needed. To date, 48 cats have been trapped and sterilized and many kittens adopted to good homes.

We thank Alison for her compassion and for making social responsibility a part of her daily life. As we always say, pet overpopulation is a community problem and one that will take all of us – as individuals and coming together as a community – to solve. By working together today, we are increasing the quality of life for those to come.

## To Whom It May Concern

Letter writing is not a forgotten art, it is simply a neglected one. Here at Actors and Others, we use pen and paper to advocate on your behalf as much as possible. Sending a personal letter remains one of the most effective and resourceful methods of educating and influencing our elected officials. Sending a letter on behalf of our celebrity members is especially effective.

Remember, in order to effect change, we must communicate with our legislators! Here's how we made our voice count recently:

**Support** California SB 1301 removing the sunset clause permanently ensuring animals adopted from shelters and rescue groups are sterilized prior to release. (Commonly referred to as the Vincent Bill.)

**Support** California AB 1857 to ban declawing of captive wild cats.

**Support** California SB 1548 outlawing ear cropping of dogs and requiring veterinarians and vet techs to report animal abuse.

**Support** Federal Pet Safety and Protection Act of 2004 aimed at Class B dealers seeking to prohibit them from selling dogs and cats to research laboratories.

**Support** California AB 2513 seeking to enact statewide breeding permits.

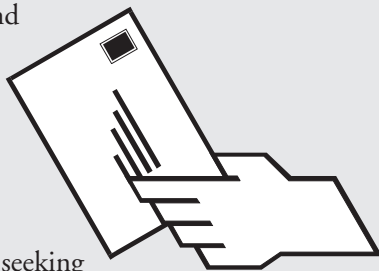
**Protest** the continued killing of Canadian harp seals for which the Canadian Government provides financial support.

**Protest** the suggested killing of approximately 30,000 koalas on Kangaroo Island, Australia.

**Protest** the AARP article encouraging older people to purchase a puppy and earn extra money by breeding.

**Protest** a new store called Woof & Company selling puppies at top dollar and seeking to have high-end stores in high-end malls across the country.

**Thanking** an Orange County, California judge for finding a man guilty of one of the most horrific cases of animal abuse for beheading his pet German Shepherd with pruning shears after beating her with a golf club and shoving a stake through her heart, and asking that he be sentenced to life imprisonment under California's third strike law.



## Help Get The Neuter/Spay Stamps Reprinted

On September 20, 2002, the United States Postal Service (USPS) issued 250 million social awareness stamps dedicated to spaying and neutering. Depicted on the stamps were Kirby, a former homeless shelter puppy, and Samantha, a former homeless shelter kitten. Samantha and Kirby were the tangible faces of the millions of homeless animals in America helping to put the issue of sterilization at the fingertips of the public at large.

An unprecedented team of thirty national organizations including Actors and Others for Animals united in response to the stamps. Under



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the banner American Partnership for Pets (APPS), these diversified organizations put their differences aside to promote the stamps as an educational tool to help the public be responsible pet guardians, including the need – the duty to spay/neuter.

Within the year, the extremely popular stamps sold out. APP is now asking the USPS for a reprint. Commemorative stamps are rarely reprinted, but APP is confident that based on their track record and the continued public demand, the USPS may make Neuter or Spay the rare exception!

Please help all us in the American Partnership for Pets win a reprint of these very worthy stamps. We want to surpass Elvis as record holder of the most commemorative stamps printed! Visit [www.americanpartnershipforpets.org](http://www.americanpartnershipforpets.org) where you will find a sample reprint request letter and other stamp and spay/neuter information. The USPS is paying close attention to the letters it receives so every one counts!

# Hats Off To Humane Education Volunteer - Ethel Margolin

Volunteers are an essential part of any successful program, and we would like to take a minute to introduce and thank one of our own very special volunteers, Ethel Margolin. Ethel has been a volunteer with Actors and Others for 17 years, beginning in 1987 in our Pet Assisted Therapy program. She and her beloved dog, Puppy, were regular visitors to Northridge Hospital in our then brand new program. From there, Ethel went on to assist our Humane Education Program where she continues to teach compassion and the importance of the human-animal bond. Countless times she has presented the thought-provoking video, "Paws, Claws, Feathers and Fins" to schoolchildren and led lively discussion on responsible pet care.

At Platt Library, she is known as "Grandma Ethel" and regularly reads books to the children, always encompassing a bit of compassionate coaching. A recent humane education program presented by Ethel and staff member Stephanie Parke was so well received that they have been asked to offer it to other Los Angeles public libraries. Thank you, Ethel for helping us prepare our younger generation on how to care for our animal companions!



Humane Education Volunteer:  
Ethel Margolin

## A Bird's Eye View Of Our Pet Therapy Program



Moluccan Cockatoo

Actors and Others for Animals has proudly and successfully offered our Pet Assisted Therapy program to local retirement homes and convalescent hospitals for over 15 years. Hundreds of community seniors have enjoyed the dogs and cats who visit regularly. Last year, Dorothy Blanchette and her 9-year old Moluccan Cockatoo "Peaches" joined our lineup and instantly became a favorite.

Dorothy is active with Friends of Parrots Rescue and Adoption and holds down a full-time job. But she and Peaches find time in their busy schedule to visit Summerville Retirement Home in Chatsworth. With a lift of her wings (so that she can be petted), a sweet disposition and an obvious love of people, Peaches has elevated the spirits of many a lonely

senior! Linda and David, the activity directors, are thrilled to have Dorothy and Peaches, as well as Eileen Sweet and her delightful dog, Maisie, as a part of the Summerville family. Pets serve so many roles in our lives helping to improve morale, strengthening self-esteem and enhancing the quality of all of our lives.

*If you are interested in joining either our Humane Education or Pet Assisted Therapy volunteer programs, please call Stephanie at either 818.755.6045 or 818.755.6323.*

## Actors and Others for Animals

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# Dear Actors and Others...

I am writing on behalf of my brother, Staff SGT Steven Mollnhauer, currently deployed in Iraq.

On Sunday, August 22, 2004, we learned, much to our horror, that his beloved dogs, Scout and Ellie were dropped off at The Humane Society for Ventura County the previous Friday.

To say that he was devastated would be an understatement.

Upon hearing that Scout and Ellie were stuck in California, I frantically began making phone calls. For nearly 24 hours, I reached one dead end after



Ellie they weren't afraid to use.

However, we still found no way to come up with the sums necessary to get Ellie and Scout from LA to Tucson.

Jolene at The Humane Society of Ventura County offered me the number for your organization and within in mere minutes, I found Dianne. Her calm reassuring voice and willingness to help bring the dogs home, relieved a very heavy burden and brought hope to our situation.

Although there were heat restrictions preventing airlines from flying Ellie and Scout into Tucson,



Scout

Actors and Others was undeterred. When two readers of my blog offered to drive the dogs to Tucson, Actors and Others jumped at the chance to pay for gas and even donate dog food!

One of the happiest moments of my life was when I received a phone call from the desert, and I was able to tell the heartbroken soldier on the other end that his precious pets were on their way home, having made friends in some very wonderful places.

I have chronicled the entire story in my web-blog, complete with pictures. I am singing the praises of Actors and Others for all the world to hear.

To quote my brother from our phone call on Wednesday, August 25th, "I am overwhelmed by the generosity of these wonderful people that I don't know. There are truly good people left in this world."

Thank you Actors and Others for your generosity, your compassion and above all, for making it possible to bring Ellie and Scout to us and for mending the broken heart of a soldier, thousands of miles away from home serving his country. We will forever be in your debt.

Sincerely,

*Tara Lynn Floyd*

*Tucson, Arizona*

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Staff SGT Steven Mollnhauer

Writing on behalf of:

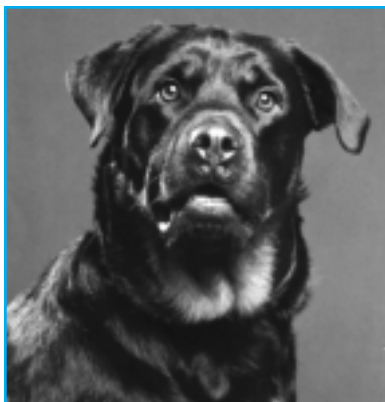
*Staff SGT Steven Mollnhauer*

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## California Community Foundation Grant

We are thrilled to report that Actors and Others has received a three year grant to enhance our current Pit Bull sterilization program and expand it to include



Rottweilers. This project is supported in whole by a grant from the California Community Foundation to whom we are deeply grateful.

Our experience has shown us that many who chose Pit Bulls or Rottweilers as animal companions truly want to be responsible pet guardians but are unable to afford the high cost of sterilization. In addition, a rising fear in crime coupled with the growing social status in "owning" a Pit Bull or Rottweiler has resulted in indiscriminate breeding that attract many who want to exploit them for financial gain. Judged "dangerous dogs," Los Angeles area shelters are overwhelmed with the result of such random breeding and euthanasia rates for these breeds are simply frightening.

The specific goal of this project is to provide an additional 500 free sterilization surgeries a year of

Pit Bulls, Pit bull mixes, Rottweilers and Rottweiler mixes for low and/or fixed income LA City and LA County residents with an emphasis placed on those communities whose residents are facing the greatest odds.

Founded in 1915, the California Community Foundation holds assets totaling more than \$500 million and manages more than 1,000 individual charitable funds. It makes grants to nonprofit organizations serving the communities of Los Angeles County.

Join Actors and Others for Animals in Roasting Betty White  
**MARCH 12, 2005**

*A Celebration of Caring*  
**CELEBRITY ROAST**  
*Betty White*



We're changing gears, trading in the runway for the expressway (of the verbal variety), and day for night. Please join us as we roast the irresistible and irrepressible Betty White. This very special evening full of fun, surprises and laughter will be held on Saturday, March 12, 2005 at the Universal City Hilton and Towers.

**MARK YOUR CALENDARS NOW.**

**Actors and Others**  
 **for Animals** 

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