



## NEWSLETTER OF ACTORS AND OTHERS FOR ANIMALS

WWW.ACTORSANDOTHERS.COM

SPRING 2007

### FAREWELL LETTER FROM EARL HOLLIMAN



When I was a week old, I was adopted by Henry and Velma Holliman who gave me all the love in the world and made me believe I could be anything I wanted to be. So I became an actor. They also instilled in me a deep love and respect for all animals. As a kid in Louisiana, I was never without a

dog and a cat. I had a goat named Napoleon and a pig named Alexander. Later in Texas, I even raised two baby armadillos (they're very clever, by the way). Obviously, animals have always played a huge role in my life and always will. So this organization was a natural for me.

In 1973, Jackie Joseph and Jodie Mann helped pull me up onto the bed of an old pickup truck, festooned with half dozen or so balloons, placed a small dog in my arms and off we sailed down the main street of Burbank as part of their annual community parade. Incredibly, this pitiful little "float" won a prize! That was my introduction to Actors and Others. I never left.....It seems like I'm still riding on the bed of that pickup truck with a dog in my arms!

Since 1976, I'm proud to have served Actors and Others as their president. Thirty-one years, a long time. During those years, A & O has been able to accomplish a great deal and I'm fortunate to have been a part of that. Sadly, there remains so very much more to be done. Many times, I've been asked why I work for animals instead of people. My reply has always been "Of the 100 to 300 calls a day our office receives for help, just how many of those calls do you think are made by animals?" We help people all day long. So many of them are elderly on fixed incomes and the only warm body they ever curl up next to is a dog or a cat. We help make it possible for them too keep their beloved companions.

Contrary to popular belief, this is not "my" organization. A & O belongs to our incredibly dedicated, hard-working staff and executive director, Sue Taylor. Their jobs are not easy. Many of the situations they face each day are heart-breaking. It's tough, too, when funds become so low that they're not able to help someone as much as they'd like. And that's where you, our supporters, come in. This organization also belongs to you. Without your generosity, Actors and Others could never have existed all these years. I know that sounds like a "pitch," but it's also the truth.

The purpose of this letter is to tell you that it has become necessary for me to retire from Actors & Others, and I assure you that I do so with mixed emotions. But I feel confident leaving this organization in the extremely capable hands of our dedicated and creative Board of Directors. And I ask all of you to join me in welcoming our new president, JoAnne Worley. I'm certain that under her caring leadership A & O will attain even bigger and better goals.

Oddly, I feel like a teenager leaving home for the first time. As an actor, playing this role of "President" is the longest run I've ever had. I'm going to cherish the memories, both of the struggles as well as the achievements. And I certainly will miss all those people who have so enriched my life. I want to thank everyone involved with Actors and Others. Especially all of you, our loyal supporters, for your trust and confidence.

I've been struggling for days over this letter. Saying "good-bye" is something I don't do well. Don't like it. Especially where there's so much love and emotion involved.

So if you'll please forgive me.....I think I'm just going to climb down off this pickup truck.

Love,

*Earl*

## Caring for Animal Companions Who Share Our Homes And Our Hearts



ACTORS and OTHERS for ANIMALS

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Founded in 1971 by  
Diana and Richard  
Basehart

On Location! Masthead by  
Word of Mouth Advertising  
and Graphics

Edited by Susan Taylor

# OH CHIHUAHUA!

Committed for over 35 years to caring for “All Creatures Great and Small,” Actors and Others has begun a new program offering FREE spay/neuter surgeries for Chihuahuas to complement our very successful free sterilization program for Pit Bulls and Rottweilers. Ever since Taco Bell glamorized the Chihuahua in its popular television commercials, these diminutive dogs have increasingly become a dog of choice for a large segment of our community and their numbers continue to rise. With all the media attention being focused on the Pit Bull over the past several years, the upsurge in the proliferation of these tiny but mighty dogs has been generally overlooked.

There are many reasons why animal guardians do not sterilize their companion animals and chief among them is the inability to afford the high cost of sterilization. Like all of our services, this program is aimed at low and fixed income individuals in Los Angeles County and surrounding cities. The Chihuahua program began on February 1 and will continue through November 30, 2007, or until funds run out.



### HOW MUCH DO YOU KNOW ABOUT CHIHUAHUAS?

What famous explorer wrote a letter to the King of Spain making reference to the Chihuahua?

- a. Francis Drake    b. Christopher Columbus    c. Marco Polo

What type of companionship does the Chihuahua prefer?

- a. Cat    b. Human    c. His own kind

What medical conditions are Chihuahuas prone to have?

- a. Slipping Knee Caps    b. Epilepsy    c. Tiny Tracheas

In what movie did Reese Witherspoon have a Chihuahua named Bruiser?

- a. The Man in the Moon    b. Pleasantville    c. Legally Blond

Answers: b, b, abc, c

## PET-ASSISTED THERAPY AND HUMANE EDUCATION

One of the hot topics in the news this year is about the need for universal medical insurance and health care. As we all know, having an animal companion snuggle up to us with an unending supply of love and admiration is truly the best medicine! There is no place where this is more evident than in hospitals and long-term care facilities where a visit with one of Actors and Others' Pet-Assisted Therapy Teams can bring a smile to a weary face and even lower blood pressure, anxiety and pain. Actors and Others currently has 19 Pet Therapy Teams going to senior centers, retirement homes and convalescent hospitals improving the physical as well as emotional well-being of all the patients they visit.

We are very glad to welcome Nancy Sweaney and her Golden Retriever, Ginger, to our Pet-Assisted Therapy program. We met Nancy and her beautiful rescued dog while participating in the first Animal Awareness Fair held at Frost Middle School and just knew they'd be a fantastic Pet Therapy Team. The residents eagerly await the regular visits they make to Topanga Terrace Convalescent Hospital.



In addition to distributing humane education material to young people as well as adults at the Frost Middle School event, Actors and Others is continuing to educate children about responsible animal care and the importance of spaying and neutering through its Humane Education program. Our public library program utilizes Tigger, a cuddly Old English Sheepdog puppet, as well as Midnight, a cat puppet. By using these puppets, Actors and Others has been able to educate countless children through entertainment about such topics as safety around animals and proper pet guardianship.

## A FEW WORDS FROM OUR NEW PRESIDENT



*Harmony and  
JoAnne Worley,  
President*

It was my friend, Jackie Joseph, one of the founding members of Actors and Others, who first introduced me to this wonderful organization. That first meeting was held, as I remember, in someone's home where many of us sat on the floor, neophytes to the cause. I was immediately hooked. Improving the lives of animals, what better gig was there!

I've worked in many different capacities since that first meeting. As an entertainer, a volunteer, PSA spot maker, errand runner and all around worker bee. I joined the Board of Directors in 1982 and have served as Vice President for approximately the last eight years. I am very proud, honored and humbled to now assume the presidency.

Whenever I do a show, either in or out of town, I always ask people about their pets and if they are spayed or neutered. I am lucky to have had a great teacher in Earl Holliman, who taught me that getting the message out sometimes means doing so every day, one day at a time, one person at a time and one animal at a time. We have all been privileged to have the "Earl Example" to learn from, and it is because of his great leadership that Actors and Others has grown to be the well-respected organization that it is today. It shall be my job to make sure that we continue on that same path.

My little rescue dog, Harmony, is a constant reminder to me of how important it is to take care of our animal companions and friends. My goal in life is "to be the kind of person my dog thinks I am."

*JoAnne Worley's instinctive comedic timing and irrepressible laugh makes her a favorite of audiences everywhere. Her work runs the gamut from television, movie and stage productions to game shows, talk shows, commercials, cartoons and opera. In February, JoAnne starred with a celebrated cast in the New York City Center's Encores! Production of Steven Sondheim legendary "Follies." Currently she is starring in "The Drowsy Chaperone" on Broadway.*

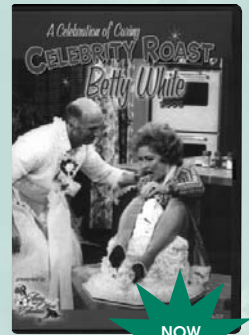
### DID YOU KNOW?

There are approximately 73 million owned dogs in the US (APPMA)  
There are approximately 90 million owned cats in the US (APPMA)  
Approximately 6-8 million dogs and cats enter shelters each year (HSUS)  
Approximately 3-4 million dogs and cats are euthanized in shelters each year (HSUS)  
Approximately 25% of all dogs entering shelters are purebreds (HSUS)  
There are approximately 4,000 to 6,000 shelters in the US (HSUS)

**SINCE 2000, ACTORS AND OTHERS HAS SPAYED OR NEUTERED 88,095 DOGS, CATS AND RABBITS**

American Pet Products Manufacturers Association (APPMA) 2005-2006 National Pet Owners Survey  
Humane Society of the United States (HSUS)

## DVD OF BETTY WHITE ROAST



**GET A COPY  
PERSONALLY  
AUTOGRAPHED  
BY BETTY!**

**NOW  
AVAILABLE**

Re-live that fun-filled day with Betty's friends and roasters *Ed Asner, Fred Willard, Angie Dickinson, Monty Hall, Gavin MacLeod, Cloris Leachman, Paula Poundstone, Alex Trebek, Tom Poston and Suzanne Pleshette, Tom Kennedy and Tom Sullivan*. The DVD of the Celebrity Roast of Betty White at the Universal Hilton is now available for only \$19.95, shipping and handling included. Just send in your check or money order made out to Actors and Others for Animals, or visit our website to purchase through PayPal.

Have a special birthday to celebrate, perhaps an anniversary and want that one-of-a-kind gift? How about a DVD personally signed by one of America's funniest actresses and animal lovers, Betty White. For a cost of \$35, shipping and handling included, Betty will inscribe "Happy Birthday Joe," or "Happy Anniversary Bill and Louise" or even just "To Kathy," and autograph the DVD. Just send in your check or money order with clear instructions on what you want to say, and remember to include your telephone number in case there is a question. Betty will be available to sign ten copies of the DVD each month, depending on her travel schedule. We will do our best to send the DVD as soon as possible, but please allow at least six weeks.

**For a preview of the DVD,  
please visit our website,  
[www.actorsandothers.com](http://www.actorsandothers.com).**

# CELEBRATION OF CARING/ TOAST TO DICK VAN DYKE

## 35th Anniversary Commemoration

What do *Elayne Boosler, Mike Connors, Tim Conway, Bryan Cranston, Nancy Dussault, Mitzi Gaynor, Steve Lawrence, Dick Martin, Charlotte Rae, Fred Willard* and *JoAnne Worley* all have in common?

They all filled the Universal Hilton ballroom with gales of laughter and tears of joy as they toasted the much beloved iconic entertainer, *Dick Van Dyke*, at the August 26th Actors and Others' Celebration of Caring fundraising event.

Returning Master of Ceremonies, *Monty Hall* of "Let's Make a Deal" fame, skillfully introduced each toaster and kept the festivities rolling along to the sheer delight of an audience of over 500 guests. From sharing personal remembrances to the telling of tall tales and even performing a song or two, each toaster turned the microscope on honoree and friend *Dick Van Dyke*. Film clips, produced by the multi-talented *Michelle Skrabut* of Word of Mouth Advertising and Graphics, beautifully displayed Mr. Van Dyke's prolific career, reminding everyone of the enormous versatility that has made him a true superstar. Ms. Skrabut donated her time and services, as well as that of her company, in providing all of the audio and video services for the event, for which Actors and Others continues to be indebted.

Adding to the fun, a series of life-size standees depicting Mr. Van Dyke as Superman, Hopalong Cassidy and even Marilyn Monroe directed guests to the simply fabulous silent auction. From autographed film posters, to weekend get-a-ways, and of course, all the haute couture for the pampered pet, this year's auction had something for everyone!

Actors and Others is sincerely fortunate to have the continuing support of *LuAnn Jalet* and *Diane Herrmann* of JNR Incorporated, a leading incentive, meeting, convention and debit card provider. These ladies are truly gifted when it comes to putting on a silent auction. With a hand-picked team of go-getters, they transformed the hotel ballroom into a shopper's heaven. Ms. Jalet is the Chief Operating Officer of JNR Incorporated, and it is because of her unselfish generosity and compassion that the Silent Auction was truly something to talk about.

*The key sponsor for the day was once again the Petco Foundation. With a mission to support community organizations and efforts that enhance the lives of companion animals while strengthening the bond between people and pets, the Petco Foundation has been a vital partner in our quest to end pet overpopulation. We are deeply grateful for their support and friendship – more so than words can adequately express. They truly made this day a Celebration of Caring.*

Over \$200,000 was raised during this afternoon of fun to help Actors and Others continue to bring spay/neuter services to the animals of the greater Los Angeles area.



*Dick Van Dyke and "Super Dick" his superhero alter ego*



*Monty Hall, Charlotte Rae, Earl Holliman, Dick Van Dyke, Dick Martin, JoAnne Worley, Nancy Dussault, Gary Owens, Steve Lawrence*



*JoAnne Worley, Dick Van Dyke, Earl Holliman*



*Loretta Swit, Mitzi Gaynor*

*Thank You*  
**PETCO  
FOUNDATION**



*Volunteer Jennifer Berry*



*Readying the Silent Auction*

**ACTORS AND OTHERS FOR ANIMALS WISHES  
TO ACKNOWLEDGE AND THANK ALL OF  
THESE VERY SPECIAL FRIENDS FOR MAKING  
THE DICK VAN DYKE ROAST  
SUPERCALIFRAGILISTICEXPIALIDOCIOUS**

D.E.L.T.A./Leo Grillo  
Stewart Foundation  
Dr. Joyce Miller  
Page Layne Miller  
Jay Aldrich

Kelly Bowers and John Wagner  
Christine Davies  
Richard Del Belso  
M&M Properties  
Violet Parkhurst  
Maurice Stein

Elizabeth Szkiba and James Dowdy  
The Diane Warren Trust  
belinda

Burbank Junior Chamber of Commerce  
Gail Christensen  
Dream Fish, Inc.  
Larry Fazio  
Michelle Gavaldon  
Jackie Lewis  
Lithographix  
Mark's Garden  
Dale Olson

Pasadena Junior Chamber of Commerce  
Bob Palmer  
Jenna Jalet Paseka  
Jonathan Rattor  
Alice Roth  
Michael Stern  
Val Tonione  
Clara Tortomasi  
Willing Art Services

## PLANNING FOR THE FUTURE TODAY!

None of us can forget the Anna Nicole Smith saga. Dead at 39 with an out-of-date Will. She left her entire estate to her son, Daniel, who died just months before Anna, and did not provide her loved ones with any instructions about her infant daughter.

If we care about those we love, including our companion animals who give us so much love, we must prepare for their security and well being when we are gone. The consequences of not having a current Will or Trust when you die can be both emotionally and financially draining on your loved ones.

We are very grateful that an increasing number of our supporters have acknowledged our efforts by remembering us when they passed on. In considering your charitable giving plans, a bequest to Actors and Others creates a lasting legacy that will enable us to continue our work on behalf of animals in need. No gift is too small, no gesture unappreciated.

## A NEW WAY TO MAKE "THE GIFT OF A LIFETIME" FOR 2007 ONLY!

Under the Pension Protection Act, which Congress passed in August of 2006, any individual 70-1/2 years or older may transfer any amount up to \$100,000 directly from an IRA to a qualified charitable organization and pay no income tax on the distribution! You can help Actors and Others and the animals and get a tax benefit, too!

The donation must be directly transferred from the IRA account to the charity by the IRA trustee. This is very important – you cannot receive a check from the IRA trustee and then make the donation personally. You also cannot receive any personal benefit from the gift such as concert or sporting event tickets. The tax exemption will be disqualified under this condition. And, there is no additional charitable tax deduction allowed for these gifts.

Your continued support has made our work possible. You have helped us curb the pet overpopulation problem and care for at risk animals and their guardians. Maybe now is the time to make that "gift of a lifetime" and take advantage of this exciting tax benefit. The legislation is currently set to expire on December 31st of this year. Therefore, to qualify for the tax exemption, gifts must be completed by December 31, 2007.

As with all planned gifts, we recommend that you talk with your IRA trustee, tax advisor and attorney to ensure that this opportunity is appropriate for your financial and philanthropic situation. This option applies only to traditional and Roth IRAs. Other retirement plans such as 401(k), 403(b), SEPs, and SIMPLE plans are not eligible.

# SPAYTACULAR RESULTS FOR PIT BULLS AND ROTTWEILERS

In Los Angeles County shelters alone, it is estimated that up to 200 Pit Bulls are killed each and every day. There is no other breed that ignites more media attention or debate. In 1999 Actors and Others was the first in Los Angeles to step up to the plate to rein in such staggering euthanasia rates and prevent indiscriminate breeding by providing FREE spay/neuter surgeries for Pit Bulls and Pit Bull mixes.



From 1999 through January, 2007 **over 7,280** Pit Bulls and Pit Bulls mixes were spayed or neutered.

In 2004, Actors and Others received a three-year grant from the California Community Foundation to expand this hard-hitting campaign to include Rottweilers and Rottweiler mixes. Under this grant -- in less than 2-1/2 years --from September, 2004 through January, 2007, **1,593** Pit Bulls, Rottweilers and mixes were sterilized.

*Directly* as a result of your support and that of the California Community Foundation, Actors and Others was able to take a proactive role in preventing countless unwanted litters and immeasurable human and animal suffering by sterilizing absolutely FREE over **8,873** Pit Bulls and Rottweilers.

Now that is what we call teamwork!

## REDUCTION OF PIT BULLS AND ROTTWEILERS BORN DUE TO ACTORS AND OTHERS FREE SPAY/NEUTER PROGRAM

8,873  
70,984  
141,968  
283,936



One (1) Pit Bull has an average of 8-12 puppies and can breed at least 2 times a year.

Conservatively saying 8 in each litter, in two year's time breeding twice, this program has eliminated the potential birth of at least 283,936 puppies.

And this doesn't even count the puppies' ability to mate!

When you figure that they can also produce a like number of litters, the number is simply incalculable!

## A SPECIAL AWARD FOR ACTORS AND OTHERS



Actors and Others for Animals was an honored guest and award recipient at the 2007 San Fernando Valley International Film Festival Gala Awards Dinner held on March 25th.

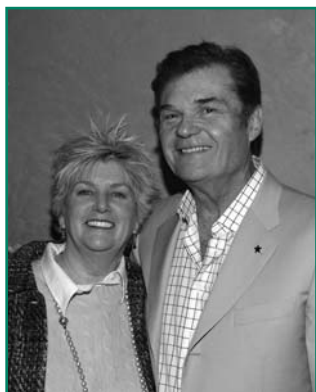
The theme of the 2007 Awards was "Lights, Camera, Animals," in honor of all those who have contributed to the entertainment industry -- both two and four-legged. The evening also spotlighted the devotion of the Festival's Board of Directors -- and many of the presenters and award recipients -- to animals. To this end, a portion of the gala's proceeds were donated to Actors and Others.

Board members Earl Holliman, Jackie Joseph, JoAnne Worley, Mary Willard (with husband Fred) and Loretta Swit were present, in addition to Executive Director Susan Taylor. Many dear friends were also in attendance including emcee Fritz Coleman, Ed Begley, Jr. and Jane Withers, and every one of them took a moment to tell the packed audience of their love of animals and long-time support of Actors and Others. Betty White (another Board Member) was unable to attend to pick up her "Achievement in Television" Award, but also sang the praises of Actors and Others in the humorous film clip shown in her absence.

New president JoAnne Worley accepted the "Special Recognition Award" on behalf of Actors and Others for Animals thanking the Festival for its support and reminding all the new as well as seasoned filmmakers to always properly care for our animal companions both in their films as well as in their every day life.

Thank you Randy Salter and Val Tonione for making us a part of the 2007 San Fernando Film Festival.

# A TAIL WIGGLING WELCOME TO OUR NEWEST BOARD MEMBERS



**MARY WILLARD** is an award-winning playwright. Her musical comedy, *Moon Shine!*, co-written with country star, Marty Stuart, was chosen as a finalist in the ASCAP/Disney Musical Workshop and was produced by the Grove Theatre in Upland, California where it won two Inland Empire awards. Mary's short plays are part of the play collection in the library at Stanford University. Her comedy *Elvis and Juliet* ran for one year in Los Angeles and had a production in New York City in May and June of 2006. The *New York Magazine* praised it and said it was a "zingy comedy of manners."

She and her husband Fred are active in animal causes. They have rescued crows, squirrels, skunks, cats and dogs, and have a new cat, Mittenz, who meowed on their doorstep and hasn't left since!



**LAURA LIZER WORD** is a third-generation native of Los Angeles, and began her charity work at the young age of 11, when she volunteered as a "candy striper" at Cedars-Sinai Medical Center. As founder and president of Laura Lizer & Associates, Laura has built a company from an initial loan of \$700 into one of the most respected business management firms in the entertainment industry. Laura has a long and distinguished resume of philanthropic service beginning in the 1980's with her work on behalf of Children's Hospital. More recently, she served four years as Treasurer of SHARE, a well-known organization in Los Angeles that, for over 52 years, has raised more than \$40 million for children's causes and the Stewart House, a center that serves child victims of rape and sexual abuse.

Married to television executive Rob Word, Laura and her husband have an eight-year old son, Robby. As a lifelong pet guardian, Laura's appreciation and love of animals knows no bounds. She has always stressed the importance of speaking out for those who can't speak for themselves and is proud to be a part of Actors and Others.

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## GoodSearch USE GOODSEARCH.COM TO SEARCH THE INTERNET

Developed as a way to make this world a better place, GoodSearch is a search engine which donates 50% of its revenue, about a penny per search, to the charities and schools designated by you, its users. The more people use the site, the more money goes to those in need. You use it just as you would any search engine, and it's powered by Yahoo! Just go to [www.goodsearch.com](http://www.goodsearch.com) and enter Actors and Others for Animals as the charity you want to support. Then with every click, you will be helping animals in need. If just 500 people search with GoodSearch four times a day, we can raise about \$7,300 in a year! Our mothers were right, "penny wise, pound foolish."

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## Ralphs SHOP AT RALPH'S GROCERY AND HELP ACTORS AND OTHERS

In you live in California, you can help support Actors and Others by simply shopping at Ralphs Grocery store using your club card. Every time you shop and swipe your card, Actors and Others will receive a rebate. To sign up, register your Ralphs Club Card online at [www.ralphs.com](http://www.ralphs.com) (click on Community Contribution). If you do not have access to the online sign-up, you can call 1.800.443.4438 for alternative sign-up methods.

# WE'VE MADE A DIFFERENCE!

Dear Actors and Others:

This message is merely to acknowledge a card I received in the mail today from your organization. It was a card thanking me for a contribution I had made to your organization. No thanks are necessary to me. My thanks goes to you for all of the help you have given me over the past few years both financially in helping me with spaying/and or neutering several of my animals (of which I have many) and in also always taking the time to talk to me over the phone when I needed advice with problems I would have with my animals in not knowing what to do in certain situations. Animals are my passion and what I love most together with my deep concern about what is happening to our wild life. You've always been there for me when I needed you so I felt compelled to tell you how I felt. I wish there were something I could do more financially but due to my health problems and limited income, I just can't really do anything financially at this time. All I know is that I have been going through really hard times and sometimes just want to give up, but then I realize that my animals need me and they give me the motivation and drive that I need to keep going on. That's basically the gist of why I am sending you this message and I God bless you for all the help you have given me and for your compassion for the animals who need so much help. Keep up the good work.

Judy

---

Hi Susan,  
That really helps clarify the system. That one email does more for this dog than all the efforts of the last several months.

Thank you,  
A. M.

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*Thank you Sue for writing back, being honest and for your suggestions. Most places haven't had the courtesy to even do that, but I have received a form letter or two from places I have been donating to for years, and not one had suggestions for me to try. Thanks again for your kindness and empathy. Your Association has always been there when mom needed help and I so appreciate it.*

*Have a wonderful day.*  
Wendy

Hi Diana,

I have wanted to "Thank You" over and over again, for your help in obtaining surgery for our beloved Skylar. It is taking her a very long time to recover, but just to know -- G-d Willing that she is gonna be around for a while longer is a big relief.

If you ever are need of a volunteer in the West Valley, as long as it's not outside in this heat, please let me know.

Thank you and a big hug to you and your organization.

Audrey and Skylar, too

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Just a quick note of thanks for the voucher you sent on behalf of Haiku! He was neutered last week and is healing very nicely.

I so appreciated your donation towards his surgery. Still paying medical bills from two seniors who crossed Rainbow Bridge in the last year and now taking care of my senior Lab and Akita (who will be getting spayed within the month once she's done cycling), it was just so very helpful to receive your voucher.

Thank you for all you do for the animals and the people who love them!

Yours 4 paws,  
Denise

---

Dear Actor's and Other's  
I just wanted to thank Actor's and Other's and Diane for your recent help. My dog needed to have her leg amputated due to a cancerous tumor and my regular vet wanted to charge me \$3000, which I could not afford. I was afraid I would have to put her to sleep. Diane referred me to a vet who did the surgery and after care for \$700 and was absolutely wonderful. Ebony is home and doing great! She's happier than she's been in a long time. Thank you for saving her life! I would be happy to donate my time at any of your events. Just call!

Cindy