

## Spring Newsletter 2008

Welcome to the first online newsletter. Please feel free to let us know what you think by emailing us. Our address is on the website. If you have trouble reading this, you may want to print it out.

### **Pet Photo Day 2008**

Our 5<sup>th</sup> annual Pet Photo Day is scheduled for Saturday and Sunday, April 26 and 27. Saturday will go from 10 a.m.-5 p.m. and Sunday from 11 a.m.-4 p.m. We are currently taking reservations for 15 minute photo sessions with photographer Peg Jackson. The cost is \$55, is tax deductible, includes the sitting and a 5”x7” portrait, and 100% of proceeds goes to the Sunnyvale Public Safety Police Canine Unit to purchase equipment. A testimonial from Officer Wallace Miller follows. Please tell your friends, you don’t have to be a client to participate. If you would like multiple pets included, or would like to be in the photo with your pet, that is very acceptable. Please call (408)733-7387 to reserve your spot! If you would like to view some of Peg Jackson’s work, go to our website and click on the Pet Gallery, and you can see the last 4 years of outstanding portraits. On Saturday, Officer Klein and his dog “EJ” will be present. “EJ” is the new canine in the unit and will be the beneficiary of a new vest bought with the funds from this event! On Sunday,

Officer Miller and “Joe” will be here. Both of them are looking forward to meeting with all of you, answering questions, and showing off their partners. They will also have the equipment they use in training on display.

### **Officer Miller’s Testimonial**

“I was on patrol in the north side of town. I did a security check of a vacant building which had been broken into several times prior. I located a suspicious male subject hanging around the building. I stopped the subject. His story did not make any sense. I felt he was a lookout for a second suspect who was burglarizing the building. I placed my police dog in the ballistic vest which was purchased from the funds you provided. This provides the K-9 with added protection from firearms and impact weapons. We began to search the building and found evidence that someone had indeed been inside the building stealing items. We then located an open roof hatch. We wanted to search the roof with the dog. The only way to get the dog up the ladder to the roof was to carry him up the ladder. My K-9 partner weighs 92 pounds and would be very hard to carry up a ladder. The ballistic vest, however, is made for such occasions. I was able to attach the hind leg straps to secure the vest. We then attached a line to a built-in ring on the top of the vest. We were then

able to raise the K-9 to the roof by hauling up the line with the dog attached. Without the vest, I don't think we would be able to get the dog on top of the building to assist in our search, which would have placed the officers in greater risk.

Thank you for all of the time and effort you put into this project. Having a vest which is custom made for my K-9 partner, Joe, gives me a profound sense of security that I would not have without the vest.

Sincerely,

PSO Wally Miller and K-9 Giovanni van der Langerts ("Joe")

### **Staff Changes (for the better)**

Congratulations to Elizabeth. She has been promoted to Office Administrator, and she is getting married in May! We have hired a new receptionist. Her name is Danielle and she is coming back home to Sunnyvale from Gilroy. She has worked in veterinary clinics in the past, so has experience with protocols and pets! We are very excited about both situations as this should improve your visit experience.

### **Giardia Update**

Two issues ago we mentioned an outbreak of an intestinal parasite called Giardia. Unfortunately, we are still seeing a large number of cases, some of

which seem resistant to treatment. Because of this problem, we are now recommending adding a Giardia test with your routine annual fecal test. As an incentive to do this test as a preventive measure, we are offering a special price of only \$44 for both tests. If your pet is having diarrhea, both tests should be performed, but the original cost of \$66 will apply. This parasite is very contagious to other dogs, and in some cases, to humans. Please handle your pets feces appropriately and wear gloves while working in the yard.

### **Our New VetStore**

For those of you who prefer shopping on the web and having home delivery of your pet products, we have installed our own pet store and pharmacy on our website. It is called VetStore, and you can find the icon on our website. Just click on “Links”, then click on the VetStore icon and go shopping for pet products, toys, food, and medications. They will be shipped directly to your house. For pharmaceuticals, we can establish an automatic refill where the medications get sent after a specified amount of time so there is minimal hassle. As before, we can only authorize refills up to the annual exam date, because we cannot prescribe medications without a current doctor/client/patient relationship. We hope this is a

convenience you can use. Please call us with any problems or comments.

### **Doctor Fairchild**

We are having a second doctor available on Tuesdays and Fridays starting in May. Her name is Dr. Lara Fairchild, and she is a 1995 graduate of UC Davis Veterinary School. Our goal is to eventually make her full time if she wishes to stay in the Bay Area. I know you will make her feel welcome.