



SPRING 2021 NEWSLETTER OF ACTORS AND OTHERS FOR ANIMALS



It's been 50 years – 18,250 days, 438,000 hours, 26,280,000 minutes. We have struggled, persevered, and prospered, notwithstanding some lean years when we thought we might have to close our doors.

In 1971 spay/neuter was scarce, and birth control for pets meant simply killing the unwanted and homeless ones – and not in a very humane manner. It was also routine for people to allow their pets to roam as they pleased, resulting in unchecked litters.

It was clear to us then, as it is now, that spay and neuter is the only true way to control the pet population, and that is why it guides our way. When we became aware that pets were being surrendered or economically euthanized when veterinary care was unattainable, we established our Emergency Medical Program to keep these pets in their homes.

We have helped spay and neuter over 500,000 animals, and eliminated the birth of an untold more, and provided crucial veterinary care to nearly 25,000 animals.

Today in 2021, we continue to be a prominent source of assistance in facilitating spay/neuter surgeries and veterinary care for our neighbors with low income.

And remember, when we help a pet we are also comforting their family because it is never the pet that places that call for help!

ACTORS & OTHERS FOR ANIMALS

2020 TOP-RATED NONPROFIT



Most Recent Review

bondo

I love actors and others, any time I need financial assistance, they find a way. I don't need to use them a lot, but when I do, they are so helpful and can direct me to a wonderful vet to help me in my area. Animals would suffer unwanted pregnancy that adds to major population. Thank you bunches, you guys are my heroes!!!

greatnonprofits.org/org/actors-others-for-animals



A MESSAGE FROM OUR PRESIDENT, JO ANNE WORLEY

Dear Friends,

We were founded in 1971 by Diana and Richard Basehart ... and we're still here! Let's do the math, 1971 from 2021 ... 50 years. Wow! Without your help and support many animal companions would not get treatment and face an unknown future. Thank you for your regular donations that are so important to the work that we do on a daily basis.

Actors and Others is known throughout Southern California for its commitment to our core mission of providing spay/neuter, and other services, where needed. With your help, we can continue providing this much needed service, for the next 50 years.

To quote Stephen Sondheim, "Good times and bum times, we've seen them all, and my dear, we're still here." Thanks to each and everyone of you.



Caring for Animal Companions Who Share Our Homes And Our Hearts



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Founded in 1971 by
Diana and Richard Basehart

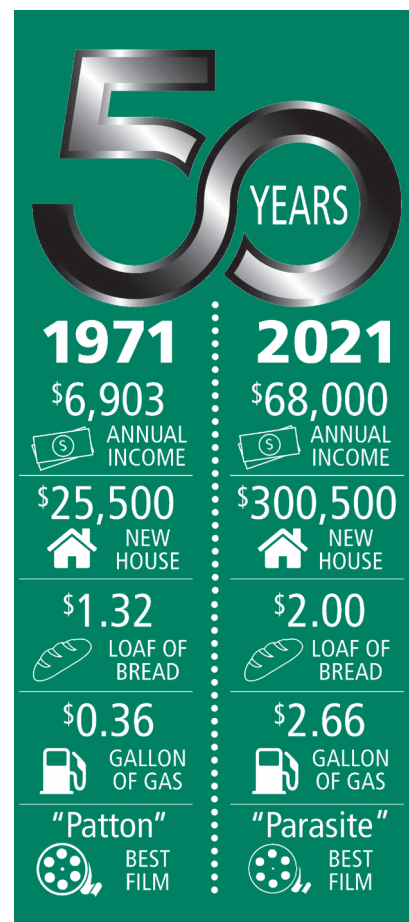
Edited by Susan Taylor

FROM THE VIETNAM WAR TO COVID-19

Life today looks a lot different than it did 50 years ago. In 1971 there were no personal computers, cell phones, e-mail, texting, social media, GPS or Amazon. All of these innovations have certainly made helping animals easier and more efficient, but also harder in some ways. And there have been many devastating tragedies in the last 50 years, but none have been so sobering or life-altering like COVID-19.

For us at Actors and Others, while we have had to alter how we operate, we have never stopped working hard to help as many animals as we can. Our Pet Assisted Therapy program immediately ceased as did Humane Education. For many months, countless veterinarian clinics stopped doing spay/neuter or non-emergency surgeries. **Since we have close relationships with many veterinarians, we continued to help where and how we could. And now, appointments are backed up for months in some cases. Even with so many roadblocks, we still were able to facilitate 5,902 spay/neuter surgeries and 519 medicals in 2020. As we like to say "one day at a time, one animal at a time!"**

Fifty years is a long time, and there have been many changes both good and bad to American life. But what remains constant, is that there are still a great number of pet guardians facing hardships. COVID-19 has thrown us into uncharted territory, but rest assured that Actors and Others will be here as always helping animals in need.



A TRULY HEARTWARMING STORY FROM 50 YEARS AGO

When Actors and Others was in its infancy, we held some adoption events. We recently received a letter that took us down memory lane back to those times. It reminds us how the interaction with our pets lasts long after they are gone.



"Around 1970 I got a Cocker Spaniel from a weekend outreach you were doing in Chatsworth, CA. His name was 'Terry,' and he was all black. I was 10. I was the 6th of 8 kids. It was a crazy childhood, and the dog was a way for me to get away and stay in the hills. I was the paper boy for the Herald Examiner, and Terry would run behind me most days, and I would have to turn around and take him home. I grew up and married, and eventually divorced. We had 3 amazing kids and moved to Knoxville TN. I have grand-kids as well. I'm an old Man now. I have Cancer again for the 3rd and last time. Last year I moved to Virginia to be close to my kids. I know you think you're saving Animals but you save people too. Thanks for giving me my childhood friend." Don H. (Edited for length and clarity.)

ACTORS & OTHERS Mini Puzzle!

You can quarantine with our own
Betty White and this unique
mini puzzle - **and you'll help animals!**

\$2 of each
puzzle goes
to spay/neuter
and vet
assistance!

WHERE TO PURCHASE:
<https://micropuzzles.com/collections/actors-and-others-for-animals>



A SNAPSHOT OF HELPING ANIMALS AND THEIR GUARDIANS



FERAL CATS LIVING ON THE EDGE

We didn't know what we were getting into when we agreed to help a disabled, mentally challenged and low-income feral cat guardian. We could cover the cost but not the hands-on trapping. Annette at TNR Riverside came to our rescue as they have in the past, and went above and beyond. It was an intricate situation that needed careful handling. They found about a dozen scraggy cats and kittens, some needing medical care. The kittens were removed and one cat was euthanized. Some education was given, and supplies were left. This unfortunately isn't an isolated situation. We don't know what the future holds for these cats, but can take comfort in knowing they can't reproduce.



DENTAL CARE

One of the most common requests for help we receive concerns dental disease. Left unchecked, infections can result in major health problems. In fact, the American Veterinary Dental Society notes that more than 80% of dogs and 70% of cats show signs of oral disease by the time they are 3 years old.

When 12-year old Maltese mix, Penny Lane, woke up one morning and couldn't open her jaw, her guardian Kelly P. took her to the vet and learned she had dental disease and needed a "bunch of teeth" pulled. The price was going to be up to \$1,500. Struggling every month just to pay for shelter and food, Kelly was directed to Actors and Others. We were able to direct her to a vet that was a quarter of the cost, and paid a portion. Penny Lane had 13 teeth removed and is feeling amazing these days.

ANTERIOR CRUCIATE LIGMENT OR ACL TEARS

The role of the Anterior Cruciate Ligament or ACL is to maintain stability of the knee. Tearing of the ACL is one of the most common orthopedic injuries and one that is often misdiagnosed. While costly surgery is sometimes needed, many dogs will actually recover well without it. Therefore, it is important that you research and understand the injury and the treatment options. A good place to start is tiggerpoz.com.

Wendy H. turned to us when her dog Tank tore his ACL. He had been limping for months and the first veterinarian thought it might be arthritis. Wendy had lost her hearing several years ago and Tank actually received training and registration as a certified service dog. When he wasn't getting better, a visit to a second vet confirmed an ACL tear and an estimate of over \$4,000 for surgery. This was overwhelming and out of her range as she was not working and her husband's job was in limbo. We referred her to a clinic that charged approximately half of that cost and helped financially as well.



THE HOMELESS



Homeless advocate Grissel wrote: "Actors and Others for Animals once again stepped up to help a homeless lady's dog named Boy. They have always been responsive and never hesitates to offer assistance. I am impressed by the dedication and commitment of this organization whom truly care for the animals. Boy is one happy camper!" (Edited for space)

MEMORIALS, TRIBUTES, AND CELEBRATIONS

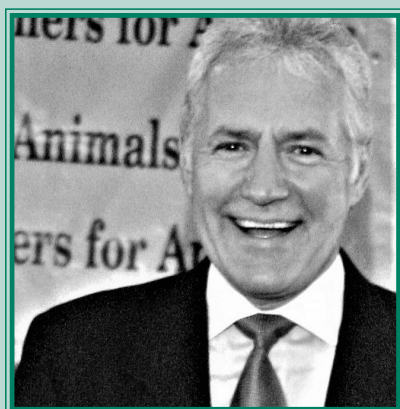
CURTAIN CALL



FRED WILLARD

You know you are funny when fellow comedians call you one of the funniest people they know. That was Fred Willard. Through 60 years and too many roles to list, he entertained us with his sometimes subtle, sometimes outrageous,

always innocent characters who you could call a friend. That is what Fred was to us — a good friend. He was always there together with his family to support us. His wife Mary was one of our Board Members until her sudden death, and after that Fred's light was a little dimmer. He will always hold a special place in our hearts.



ALEX TREBEK

When Alex Trebek passed away after a very courageous battle with pancreatic cancer, we joined with the rest of America in mourning his loss. As the long-time host of "Jeopardy!" Alex made knowledge, education and sophistication cool.

Many of us grew up watching "Jeopardy!" He was a nice, kind and unpretentious gentle-man. He was also a generous supporter of Actors and Others. You were a class act, and we will miss you.

BEQUESTS ARE OUR BREAD AND BUTTER

We continue to be especially grateful to those who remember us with bequests, as they are essential in keeping our doors open. Thank you to **Rick Feldman/Paul Jolly, William Weiss, Peggy Jane Rea, Edna Weiland, Linda Sue Bolt, Jean Aubuchon Cinader, Eileen Carole Komm and Domenic Zirolì** for their legacy of love.

IN MEMORIAM OF

KATHLEEN VESTUTO, REHEARSAL CLUB — **Memory of Marsha Kramer**
JO ANNE WORLEY — **Memory of Leonard Tirman**
MARY ANN JOHNSON, LESLEY HUGHES — **Memory of Richard Basehart**
LYNN GONZALEZ — **Memory of Joshua Gonzalez**
NORMA DIAZ — **Memory of Papa Diaz**
JEFF/NANCY GRAFF — **Memory of Elvis Presley**
BONNIE GARNER — **Memory of Mary Willard**
LORI GOLDEN — **Memory of Art Alisi**
LAURIE COHN — **Memory of Rick Feldman/Paul Jolly**
JO ANNE WORLEY, REGAN LEE, BREN TULLY, PHIL/MELINDA PROCTOR, ANDY GACH — **Memory of Fred and Mary Willard**
TAMMY ALBERTSEN — **Memory of Doris Day**
MICHAEL STERN, JODIE WILSON, DEE AYN A CHRISTENSEN, MARLENE WILSON, LEA PRICE, JANINE ISON, DONNA ADDISON, SCOTT DEWEES, KAREN SEVERINO, GLENN ROSENBLUM, MARY/JIM CLARK, SHERRY MILLER, ARLETA OWENS, JO ANNE WORLEY — **In Memory of Jennifer Berry**
PATRICIA DELANEY — **Memory Mary Willard**

IN HONOR OF AND MEMORY OF PETS

DIANA SPRINGER — **In Honor of Baby and Lucky**
CAROLE JANE GRANT — **To the Stines in honor of Red**
NANCY SCHNEIDER — **For Ace**
JUDY DUNCKLEE — **Honor of Kitty Bobi, memory Boss Kitty**
TONI SHERMAN AND DON — **To Tracy Sherman and family in memory of Maggie Mae, to Dahlia Gallin — memory Figgy, to Dianne Wolman — memory of Bruin**
TAMMY ALBERTSEN — **Memory of Zeus**
KATHRYN SANDER — **Honor of Kirby and Cooper**
LYNN ANN LEVERIDGE — **To the Hubers in memory of Rincon**
SIMONE SHEFFIELD — **Memory of Johnny**
ACTORS AND OTHERS — **To Jackie Joseph Lawrence in memory of Skye**
THOMAS BULLINGTON — **Honor of Peanut Butter**
SHELLEY HERMAN — **To Matthew Rader in memory of Zoey**

MESSAGES OF TRIBUTES AND CELEBRATIONS

LESLEY HUGHES — **Honor of Diana Basehart**
SHERRY FERGUSON — **Honor of Laura Lanza**
TONI SHERMAN AND DON — **To Linda Swift and Paul — Congrats. Wedding**
JUDITH BENATAR — **Happy Birthday Earl Holliman**
ERIC LOWRY — **Happy Birthday Jackie Joseph**
DEBORAH SMALLER — **Happy Birthday Sally Rainer**
RICHARD SKIPPER — **Happy Thanksgiving Jackie Joseph**
MICHAEL LOCKETT — **Merry Christmas Kim Huff**
DANIEL TIRMAN — **To Gwen Tirman and family Happy Christmas**
DAN GOGGIN, SIMONE SHEFFIELD — **Happy Birthday Betty White**
ZACH/JODEE MILLER — **Happy Birthday Allan Miller**

ACTORS AND OTHERS REMEMBERS

JENNIFER BERRY, ART ALISI, LORI GOLDEN and GAIL CHRISTENSEN. And we remember these long-time Pet Assisted Pets, **ASH** (Lisa Erving), **SILKY** (Sophie Sargis), **ROXIE** (Kristie Shields), **FRANKIE** (Kathy Wyer), **DUDLEY** (Diana Berrones) and **BITSY** (Rick Chance).