

~ Gone Too Soon ~



SUGARLAND RANCH



A Community Based Non-Profit Company
Dedicated to Promoting the Human-Animal Bond

In Memory of
Sugar Bear,
Greta,
Honey Bear,
& Bubba Bear

Upcoming

Event, Mark Your Calendars:

MAY 23rd, 4:00 to 8:00 PM at Sugarland Ranch. SOS—Save Our Seniors—co-sponsored with WARF. The Bindle—Stiffs offering live music, Bar-B-Q w/ vegetarian options. The community is invited to get to know our seniors who are available for adoption. (see enclosed flyer). Exhibitors, reserve your space.

In Memoriam

Tash Teichgraeber

Freddy Muzea

Sugarland's Sassy Bear

Sugarland's Amos

Sugarland's Gunther

Sugarland's MaMa Cat

Ellie Spooner (aka Noelle)

Eve Morris

Jimmy Brunald

Sydney Tobias

Sugarland's Katie Bear

Maggie Medlock

Misty Dawn Medlock

Nalu Speicher

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March, 2010

A Message from Sugarland Ranch, Inc.

Before we begin, we want to extend our heartfelt thanks to all of you who have supported us over the years, either by entrusting your animals to our care when you've needed boarding services, those of you who have donated dollars to help support our various programs and veterinary emergencies, as well as many of you who have devoted your time volunteering. Thank you so very much for your unwavering support.

For those of you receiving this newsletter by email, hurrah for us, we succeeded in transmitting our first newsletter via the computer. For those of you receiving this newsletter by "snail mail", this means we do not yet have your email on file in our data base. PLEASE SUBMIT YOUR EMAIL ADDRESS TO robyn@sugarlandranch.org so we can send our newsletters electronically.

We feel very blessed to have remained afloat during the last 2 years, in a large part due to all of your support. We have much exciting news to share with you.

In 2009, Annie Hodge joined our Board of Directors. We are so pleased to have her join our team. Annie has a background in human services, is an animal advocate and previously served on the Board of Directors for the Alzheimer's Association. This year, 2010, we are looking for individuals who have an interest in joining us in an advisory capacity in the following areas of expertise: finance, fund development, marketing and capital expansion. If you have an interest in serving on this ad hoc committee with a specific charge and time limited involvement, please contact

Robyn at
1-800-713-7177 or
robyn@sugarlandranch.org to

learn about the specific responsibilities and time commitment. This issue discusses our programs and the dogs who have come to Sugarland as well as an important up-coming event. Once again, thank you, our members and supporters.

Warmest regards,

Robyn, Mack and Annie

FOR THOSE OF YOU RECEIVING THIS NEWSLETTER BY MAIL, PLEASE FORWARD YOUR EMAIL ADDRESS TO:

robyn@sugarlandranch.org

Email is more efficient allowing a cost saving way to communicate with our members and supporters. In advance, thanks!

Volunteer Program

A heartfelt thank you to the following Volunteers who have contributed their time, expertise, materials, labor, donations & lots of love:

- Kimberly Morris
- Trish Hafely
- Ashlie Brown
- Bob Needham
- Ben & Mary Anne Cameron
- Charlie & Bob
- TK & Shawn Rohan
- Mary Kraus
- Marlene Hutt
- Gail Turley
- Annie Hodge
- Michon Metzger
- Drs. Joe Coli & Ron Sandoval
- Pam Willmore
- Jodi Coli
- Judy Goulet
- Katy Anderson
- Old Navy
- Anytime Fitness—Sparks (Barry)
- Drs. Erin Rasmussen & Gary Sargent
- Judy & Jim Haar

More about our Volunteer Program



"Shamu", what a love!



"Jenna", doesn't like her picture taken!



"Buttercup"



"Miss Holly"

In early 2009, we invited a group of community leaders & advocates to work with us on refining our Mission and developing animal related programs that were needed in our community. That group of Volunteers included Drs. Ron Sandoval (Baring Blvd. Vet Hospital) & Joe Coli (Comstock Large Animal Hospital), Jodi Coli, Pam Willmore (attorney & animal advocate) & Annie Hodge, with input obtained through interviews with Bonney Brown, Nevada Humane Society, Washoe County Regional Animal Services, and

other rescue organizations. The Committee's work resulted in a re-commitment to our Mission—furthering, fostering, nourishing the human-animal bond—and the programs that are included in this newsletter & our website. Thanks to all of you. So many of our Volunteers have helped in so many vital ways including donations, walking dogs, digging us out of the snow, taking dogs to Vet clinics, helping to transport dogs to/from Vet clinics, data input & other administrative tasks. Your love & devotion enhances the lives of our

program animals in immeasurable ways. We appreciate each and every one of you. Also thanks to Animal Emergency Clinic, Baring Blvd. Veterinary Hospital & Dr. Tom Knafelc, Alpine Vet Hospital for donating services to "Buttercup." Our gratitude goes to Dr. Davyd Pelsue of Veterinary Specialists of Nevada for his on-going support to our beloved Mastiffs & senior/geriatric animals.

THANK YOU!

If you are interested in volunteering, please contact Robyn at:

robyn@sugarlandranch.org

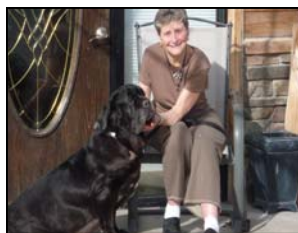
Retirement Home for Senior/Special Needs Dogs

We have fondly initiated a campaign in collaboration with WARF (Wylie Animal Rescue Foundation) known as **SOS** (Save Our Seniors). Dogs and cats who enter this program come from local shelters & must be of a senior/geriatric age, have at least one other problem & be a high risk for euthanasia at the shelter. We now have "Buttercup", who came to us from the Douglas County shelter; "Shamu", "Yin-Yang", "Miss Holly", all came to

Sugarland from our friends at Washoe County Regional Animal Services. "Jenna" is a collaborative adoption project with WARF. She is currently residing at the Ranch after failing a placement and being at the Tahoe Shelter for a very, very, long time. Our **SOS** campaign is dedicated to finding qualified homes for these adorable seniors, then we can accept more dogs into the program and save more lives. Our focus is to raise community

awareness of the many benefits of having a senior/special needs dog or cat as a companion. The special bond that develops is never forgotten & lingers in your heart forever. Sugarland Ranch values are centered around the belief that living beings should never be discarded simply because of their age &/or special needs. Sugarland Ranch & WARF are co-sponsoring a fun, outdoors event at Sugarland on May 23rd from 4:00 to 8:00 PM to increase adoptions for this special group of animals.

Mastiff Rescue Program



"Medea" & Robyn.
"Medea" is a senior, visually impaired Neapolitan Mastiff with special needs.

We currently have 9 Mastiffs in our program, many of whom are very senior with special needs. They will remain at our sanctuary until they make their final transition. We lost 4 of our Mastiffs this past year due to cancer & natural causes. They continue to watch over Sugarland. Remaining are "Brigit", "Baby Bear", "Anna Bear", "HoneyBubbs", "Jeruska" "Cupcake", "Lily Bear", "Precious" & "Medea." "Brigit" is a female Old English Mastiff who came to Sugarland

in 2003. She will remain with us due to her aggression w/ strangers. "Medea" is visually impaired & has suffered multiple health problems; most recently she survived gastric torsion surgery. "Anna Bear" has had multiple orthopedic problems & isn't "out of the woods" yet. She is facing yet another surgery this summer. "Anna" is a young spayed female Neo. "Lily Bear" survived gastric torsion surgery, thanks to all of our Members & support-

ers; she is now thriving at Sugarland. We thank Kim Morris for fostering Mia in 2009 & helping with her transition to her forever home. "Sancha" was adopted by Real & Judy Goulet. "Sancha" is a beautiful blue, female Neo. She landed in rescue as a result of a divorce. She is certainly living the good life with Judy & Real! Sugarland requires that a "Family Profile" be completed by anyone interested in adopting a Mastiff. Our goal is to further the human-animal bond with placements that are magical and 100% the right fit between the human & the Mastiff.

Honey Bear's Country Kennels

We are very excited to announce that effective January 1, 2010, Sugarland Ranch, Inc., the non-profit that Mack and Robyn co-founded in 2001, acquired the operations of Honey Bear's Country Kennels. Now all of our programs are under the non-profit umbrella of Sugarland Ranch, Inc. All boarding services remain as they always were; nothing has changed except the corporate structure. This change provides the organization with enhanced fund development capabilities. When you board

your animals with us, you support our overall non-profit mission. Honey Bear's provides a revenue base for overall operations allowing 100% of donated funds to be directly applied to the program animals and their cost of care. Honey Bear's is open to the public & our office hours are 8:00 AM to 3:00 PM, 7 days a week. You can make boarding reservations by contacting 1-800-713-7177. We thank all of our boarding Customers for their loyal support since 2004. We continue to be dedicated to

providing the best of care & services to your dogs and cats. You can visit our kennel operations by going to: <http://www.sugarlandranch.org> and clicking on "Honey Bear's Country Kennels" at the left of the home page. We can give tours anytime during open office hours; you do not need to call and schedule a tour appointment. Robyn continues to bake fresh chickens on a daily basis, along with jasmine rice and an array of other homemade foods. We also provide quality dry foods for your pets' delight.



Our beloved "Honey Bear"
1999—2007

Sugarland's Military Deployment Program

This program was the idea of our Board Member, Annie Hodge. It was an immediate, unanimous Board decision to develop this program. "Mr. Hunter" is our first guest. Lt. Shaw, "Hunter's" Dad, contacted us from Ft. Bliss in El Paso, Texas requesting our services. He adopted "Mr. Hunter" from the Humane Society in El Paso. It was love at first sight, "a boy and his dog" never changes despite how old the boy is! Lt. Shaw

found out that he was being deployed to Kuwait, he had to figure out what to do with "Hunter"? His family was not prepared to care for "Hunter" for at least a year. Lt. Shaw found Sugarland as an option and drove "Hunter" straight through from El Paso, Texas. It was an emotional departure leaving his best friend. "Hunter" misses his Dad very much. We set up Skype so that Lt. Shaw can visit with "Hunter." After the first Skype

visit ended, "Hunter" continued to look for Lt. Shaw under the computer table!!!



"Hunter" with the National Guard Color
Guard 3/14/10

We are prepared to accept more military dogs & cats. This program is totally supported by community donations.

***"Be a part of
caring for
soldiers' pets
while soldiers
are deployed
caring for us."***

Out and About at Sugarland Ranch

Mack visited Best Friends in Kanab, Utah, August of last year; he met a few of the Founders, took advantage of one of their workshops where he got to spend time with other individuals from shelters & sanctuaries all over the USA. Robyn was invited to Best Friends in January, 2010, to help them transition their current "fitness" program to an animal physical therapy program, specific to their underwater treadmill treatments. While there,

Robyn, accompanied by Annie Hodge, met with John Garcia regarding specific canine behavioral issues and also met with one of their Founders.

On March 14th, we were invited by our local National Guard to promote our Military Deployment Program at the "fun run", co-sponsored by the Guard and the Reno Gazette Journal. We met lots of wonderful folks. "Mr. Hunter" was a sensation and had his picture

taken with the Color Guard. "Jeruska", one of our rescue Neapolitan Mastiffs accompanied "Mr. Hunter" but slept through most of the event!!!

Mariah, one of our awesome staff members, is again trying out for the Reno Rodeo, she's quite an animal enthusiast. We have two new staff members, Molly & Deanda, whom we appreciate very much.



Robyn at Best Friends teaching staff about physical therapy treatment for this little pooch post hip surgery.



Sugarland Ranch, Inc.

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SUGARLAND'S PET MEMORIAL WEBSITE—NEW PROGRAM

<http://www.sugarlandspetmemorials.org>

We developed this website with the expert assistance of Matt Minten, *Innovative Web Designs* in 2009. This website comes from our hearts & our desire to provide a place for human companions to memorialize their beloved pets. We have found writing memorials to be very much a part of the grieving process. It is whatever you want it to be. For us, it has been a spiritual journey where we are connected between our world & their world — a world that is beyond & so little understood, yet it generates so much interest & sometimes fear. We made the decision that any revenues generated from this website would contribute to saving more lives, the highest honor to the pets we've loved & lost.

We invite your feedback on whether or not this site meets your needs. We want to hear about your experiences on this site & perhaps what you might be willing to share with others. I continue to go to the site & visit with my Companions. I always feel their presence & it comforts me & somehow fills the huge emptiness that their passing leaves behind. We look forward to hearing from you.

This website also contains information about death & dying & the grieving process by Dr. Elisabeth Kubler-Ross & other experts in the field. We look forward to providing additional information on hospice & palliative care services available to you as you make your journey toward end-of-life decisions with your Companions,. Writing & posting a memorial perhaps is the final celebration of life as our companions make their final transition.

Warmest regards,
Robyn

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SUGARLAND
RANCH
INC.