



February 2024

# Paws & Claws



HOPE, HEALTH, HOMES FOR CATS AND DOGS IN NEED

## From the Director

If you lose your pet or find a pet, please follow the steps listed on our website [HERE](#). What's most important is to check Canine Control daily. Visit, call (415-154-7200), talk to the people there to enlist their help. A map to Canine Control is [HERE](#).

We know of an instance where a dog was lost in January and the owner checked Canine Control during January, but then stopped. Four months later, the owner saw the dog being walked on the street. The dog had just been adopted from Canine Control. So this dog ended up at Canine Control months after she had originally been lost. That's why it's important to keep checking.

An identification tag on your pet's collar will greatly enhance the likelihood that your pet will be returned to you, safe and sound. Incredibly, while most pet owners appreciate the importance of ID tags, many of their pets either don't have tags or don't wear them all the time. Some rationalize that their pet is indoors most of the time so a tag is not necessary. Indoor pets, however, are also at risk of being lost – a door left open inadvertently is all it takes.

Please take the time to report instances of animal abuse by calling 911 or 415-154-7200. The dispatcher will take the report and forward it to Canine Control personnel, who then will go out right away to check the situation. Don't give up - be persistent. English-speaking dispatchers are available because of our large expat community. These reports can also be anonymous.

We can all chip in to help dogs and cats lead safer, more secure lives in San Miguel de Allende.

-Megan Gabel, General Director

## Adoptions

	Dogs	Cats
January	2	0
YTD	2	0

### Clinic/Office Hours:

Mon, Wed, Thu, Fri: 9am - 3pm  
Tue, Sat (**Discount Days**): 9am - 4pm

### Adoptions & Volunteer\* Hours:

Mon - Sat: 11am - 2pm  
Masks required.

Los Pinos 7, Col. Lindavista  
San Miguel de Allende,  
GTO 37736 Mexico  
Ph: 415-152-6124

### U.S. Mailing Address:

S.P.A., PMB No. 18  
220 N. Zapata Hwy. #11  
Laredo, Texas 78043-4464 U.S.A.

## Easy Links

Website: [www.spasanmiguel.org](http://www.spasanmiguel.org)

Facebook: [www.facebook.com/spasanmiguel](https://www.facebook.com/spasanmiguel)

Donate and support our fundraisers: [www.spasanmiguel.org/fundraisers](http://www.spasanmiguel.org/fundraisers)

(Donate-Sponsor a Casita-Become a Member)

Dogs available for adoption: [www.spasanmiguel.org/adopt-me-dogs/](http://www.spasanmiguel.org/adopt-me-dogs/)

Cats available for adoption: [www.spasanmiguel.org/adopt-me-cats/](http://www.spasanmiguel.org/adopt-me-cats/)

Membership questions: [MembershipSPA@gmail.com](mailto:MembershipSPA@gmail.com)

Casita questions: [SPACasita@gmail.com](mailto:SPACasita@gmail.com)

Foster questions: [SPAFosters@gmail.com](mailto:SPAFosters@gmail.com)

See what your donation dollars and pesos support: [youtu.be/6grULRH6Sk](https://youtu.be/6grULRH6Sk)

\*For a required volunteer interview, email [info@spasanmiguel.org](mailto:info@spasanmiguel.org) Volunteers must be fully vaccinated.

[Donate](#)

## January Adoptions

Dog adoptions: Buddy, Fluffy

Cat adoptions: No cat adoptions



[2024 Dog Adoptions](#)

[2024 Cat Adoptions](#)

“Like” our [Facebook page](#) to get the latest news!

## February Pets of the Month

By Peter Soley and Megan Gabel



Xel-Ha, a gorgeous tabby with the Mayan name “where the water is born,” has lived her entire 5 years at the S.P.A. and feels safe with her friends there. Shy in earlier times, she now is always the first to greet volunteers from her cat perch by the door. A true people lover, Xel-Ha is bound to endear your heart with her sweet and earnest companionship.

Aluxe, Xel-Ha’s sister, is a beautiful tabby with very pretty markings and a warm nature. True to her Mayan name, she fills the S.P.A. cattery with her generous spirit, always befriending the newly-admitted kittens and helping them feel at home. Aluxe is a quiet, loving cat that will certainly bring endless devotion and affection to your home.



Oscar and Felix were abandoned street dogs, the best of pals, so close that the S.P.A. needed to accept both of them in October 2023 or each one would be bereft. Oscar, almost three years old, is very energetic, curious, and excited about life in general. Felix, a little over six years old, is gentle, sweet, calm, patient, and affectionate. The proverbial odd couple. However, instead of being a bonded, loving pair as represented, it turns out they got on each other’s nerves. So, we keep them separate at the S.P.A. They are in different playgroups and do fine with their new friends, just not with each other.



Adopt any of these Pets of the Month during February and receive a free adoption kit. Meet them and all our available cats and dogs at the S.P.A., Los Pinos #7, Monday-Saturday between 11 and 2, 415-152-6124. You can preview all our dogs here: <https://www.spasanmiguel.org/adopt-me-dogs/> and our cats here: <https://www.spasanmiguel.org/adopt-me-cats/> Clicking on the animal’s photo will take you to another page with a bigger photo, a bio, and, for dogs, a video.



## Sponsor a Kitty or Doggy Casita.

Your generous support will help with the enormous cost of care, food and shelter for our approximately 100 resident cats and dogs waiting for their forever homes.

Only \$30 a month\* for one year, or about \$1 a day.



For information on monthly or annual payment options, send us an email at [SPACasita@gmail.com](mailto:SPACasita@gmail.com)  
Questions? Call the S.P.A. office: 415-152-6124

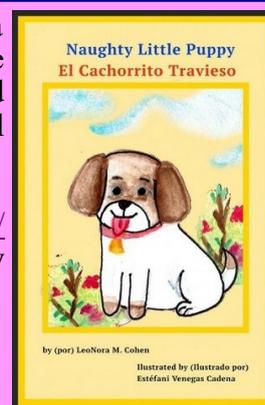
\* or peso equivalent

## Royalties from Children's Book Will Be Donated to the S.P.A.!

*Naughty Little Puppy (El Cachorrillo Travieso)* by Leonora M. Cohen is a bilingual, charming story about what it means to have a puppy as a pet. Suitable for 5-10 year olds, the story is beautifully illustrated and can be sung to the old folk tune, "Down by the Station Early in the Morning." In a subtle and delightful way, it teaches children how to be responsible pet owners.

To learn more about the book and purchase one (or more), click here: [http://leonoracohenbooks.webstarts.com/naughty\\_little\\_puppy.html](http://leonoracohenbooks.webstarts.com/naughty_little_puppy.html) - a great gift for any child who dreams of having a puppy.

The author has generously agreed to donate all royalties from sales to the S.P.A.



## Did you know that:

- the S.P.A. has been around since 1980 and is the oldest no-kill shelter for cats and dogs in San Miguel?
- we house an average of 100 animals (cats and dogs), providing food, vet care (including vaccinations and sterilization), and shelter for them until they are adopted?
- the S.P.A.'s clinic is a community clinic, open to the public?
- the S.P.A. relies SOLELY on donations to survive—we receive no government support?

Please consider helping us by becoming a member of the S.P.A., sponsoring a casita, and supporting other S.P.A. fundraisers. Our website details our fundraisers here: [www.spasanmiguel.org/fundraisers](http://www.spasanmiguel.org/fundraisers) and itemizes how to donate by PayPal, check, or cash. Call us if you have questions: 415-152-6124.

*Thank you!*

**Every dollar and peso you donate helps the S.P.A. survive.**

## Adopting an Older Cat Has Many Benefits

By Jayn Corral

Sure, kittens with emerging personalities are playful, exuberant, curious, and challenging as we wait to see how they'll turn out. When you adopt an older cat, you know what you are getting. Older cats have developed their personalities. They are litter-trained. Although they are playful and fun, they are content to relax because they have a longer attention span and better impulse control than the little ones.

Older cats cause less trouble. They already know basic etiquette. They are less likely to climb your curtains or knock things off tables and shelves. They know to use scratching posts instead of your legs. They have their permanent teeth so are less likely to eat things that they shouldn't, like your clothes, shoes, wires, etc. What their fur will look like and what size they will be are not unknowns.

Older cats are cleaner and face much fewer health issues than kittens who are more vulnerable. They know how to groom themselves. They fare better with families with children who are prone to drop them, step on them or squeeze them too tightly.

How about giving an older cat the opportunity to become part of your family? Frequently, people only consider adopting a kitten, without appreciating the advantages of an older cat. Often older cats will understand that they are being rescued and display their gratitude with affection, devotion, and love. Please meet Suerte, Ginger, Ritz, and Oreo at the S.P.A., Los Pinos 7, 415-152-6124, any day, Monday-Saturday, 11-2. We'd be happy to introduce you to them.



## We Have the Perfect Dog for You!

By Megan Gabel

The S.P.A. houses about 35 dogs right now with a range of personalities, appearances, and dispositions. Here are just a few we'd love for you to meet.

How about a happy, medium-sized, sweet dog with puppy-like qualities? That's Zola! About a year old, she is friendly, excited to meet new people, and very eager for walks.



Zola



Sasha

Then there is Sasha! About 2 years old, she is medium-sized, sweet, affectionate, and loving. And active. Your muscles will definitely increase as you work on guiding her on a walk. She's strong!

Nena is a real sweetheart. Medium-sized, almost 2 years old, she is a real challenge to get out of her casita, but, after that, she's easy-peasy to walk. More like a slow stroll, made even slower as you break to give her some well-deserved petting and praise. She's a lovely girl.



Nena



Poppy

Little Miss Poppy, about four years old, is a pistol. She's a beautiful, small dog who has learned to fend for herself. Most of the time, she's calm. She likes people and watches out for other dogs.

How about our Sofia who has been at the S.P.A. for way too long. About four years old, small/medium-sized, she has spent most of her time at the S.P.A. being shy, scared of new people, and reluctant to take a walk on the street because of traffic. She's improved over the years and is doing much better lately. We think she would blossom in a home with a patient, understanding owner.



Sofia

This is only a sample of our dogs. Please check our website at <https://www.spasanmiguel.org/adopt-me-dogs> to see the rest, including videos of each dog. Meet all our animals at the S.P.A, Los Pinos 7, 415-152-6124, Monday-Saturday, from 11-2. We have a wonderful variety from which to choose – we're sure the perfect one is waiting for you!

## The Poetry of a Good Leap Year





Sociedad Protectora de Animales  
Los Pinos 7, 415-152-6124

**Adoptions**  
Mon.-Sat.  
11 AM—2 PM

**Clinic Hours**  
Mon., Wed., Thu., Fri.  
9 AM—3 PM  
Tuesday & Saturday  
(discount days)  
9 AM—4 PM  
*By appointment is best.*

[www.spasanmiguel.org](http://www.spasanmiguel.org)  
[www.facebook.com/spasanmiguel](http://www.facebook.com/spasanmiguel)

**S.P.A. T-shirts & Caps**

Pick up one for yourself, a family member, and as a terrific present! Available at the S.P.A.



(Front)



(Back)

**Unisex T-shirts:** white or black (youth, S, M, L, and XL). This style is perfect for both cat and dog lovers and a meaningful souvenir of San Miguel de Allende!

**Women's T-shirts:** red, white, or black (S, M, L, and XL).

**Men's T-shirts:** white or black (M, L, XL, and XXL).



**All T-shirts:** donation of 200 pesos each.

**Caps:** red, black or khaki (donation of 150 pesos each).



## Our Daily Supplies Always Need Replenishing

The items below are supplies we replace on a regular basis. Please drop off donations at the S.P.A. during our regular office hours.

- Batteries (AA)
- Brooms
- Cat baskets for kittens/cats to sleep in
- Cat food—Felix canned
- Cat food—Royal Canin Development for cats (soft & dry)
- Cat food—Royal Canin Gastrointestinal for cats (soft & dry)
- Cat food—Royal Canin Babycat Milk (dry powdered milk for kittens)
- Cat food platters (plastic, divided, circular trays)
- Cat litter (we use Petco bulk litter)
- Cat /kitten toys
- Cat scoops for litter
- Cat treats: catnip and other treats
- Cats: Feliway Spray and Feliway Diffuser
- Cleaning supplies: dishwashing soap, bleach, pinol or equivalent
- Dog collars (medium-sized)
- Dog leashes (1" wide)
- Dog food—Pedigree canned adult dog food and puppy food
- Dog food—Royal Canin Puppy Development for young puppies
- Dog sweaters and jackets: all sizes
- Dog toys for puppies and older dogs: heavy-duty balls, ropes, stuffed animals
- Dog treats: biscuits, and other treats (no rawhide or pig's ears)
- Hand sanitizer
- Hand soap (bar)
- Laundry detergent for washing machine (powder)
- Lysol spray (or equivalent)
- Mops (string mops)
- Office supplies: ball point pens (black); Sharpies permanent markers (black fine point); copy paper, laminating sheets, Brother TN450 laser printer cartridge
- Paper goods: paper towels and toilet paper
- Plastic bags: 48 cm x 60 cm (comes in a box) (not zip-lock)
- Plastic bags: 62 cm x 85 cm (comes in a box) (not zip-lock)
- Surgical gloves (size 6.5 and 8.5 preferably brands Protect or Ambiderm)
- Surgical masks
- Squeegees (long-handled floor squeegees – used to clean cage floors)



THANK YOU!

**The S.P.A.'s clinic is open to the public!** The S.P.A. can meet your pet's needs, from routine preventative care to diagnosis and treatment of problems to surgical procedures and more. We have a well-equipped clinic and offer packages to help you save on vaccinations and sterilization. Under the current circumstances, we prefer that no one enters the clinic other than S.P.A. personnel. If critical, only 1 person may enter the S.P.A. with his animal and that person must wear a mask and practice social distancing. Thank you for your consideration in following these rules.

## Preferred Providers

Our Preferred Providers offer a range of goods and services at a discount to S.P.A. members. Just show your current S.P.A. membership card at the time of purchase to receive the discounts specified below. Please patronize our Preferred Providers as a way of thanking them for their support of the S.P.A.

### VETERINARIANS

**MVZ RICARDO LOPEZ LANDEROS** - Rio Grijalva No. 10 - Nuevo Mexiquito - Ph. 415-152 6977

Hours: Monday-Friday 9am-2pm; 4pm-7pm Saturday 9am-2pm

Consultations – 10%, X-Rays – 10%, Regular Teeth Cleaning – 10%, Vaccinations - 10%

**MVZ EDGARDO R. VAZQUEZ OLMOS** - Plaza Primavera #16 on Salida a Queretaro - Ph. 415-152 6273

Hours: Monday-Friday 9am-2pm; Saturday 9am-12 noon.

Consultations – 10%

**MVZ MICHAEL KRONISH** - Salida a Celaya #57 - Ph. 415-185-8185; 415-109-9957

Hours: Monday-Friday 9am-6.30pm; Saturday 9am-2pm.

Consultations - 10%, Routine Vaccinations - 5%, Spaying/Neutering - 5%

**MVZ ALMA RUTH MIRANDA** - Stirling Dickinson #27 - Ph. 415-152-2341

Hours: Monday-Saturday 9am-6pm. Discounts apply to cash only.

General Surgery - 10%, X-Rays & Ultrasounds 10%, Hospitalization - 10%, Medications - 10%, Vaccinations - 10%.

### RETAILERS AND GROOMERS

**EL DESPACHO** - Las Moras #13 - Colonia Guadiana - Ph. 415-154-7195

Hours: Monday-Saturday 9am-3pm; 5pm-8pm

Food - 5-10%

**DUSTY PUPPIES** - Guardiania #17A – Colonia Guadiana – Ph. 415-154- 4555

Hours: Monday-Friday 10am-6pm.

Bath, grooming, teeth cleaning & nail clipping - 5% (cash only),

**XOLOSPA** - Calle Refugio #2-1A Col. San Antonio - Ph. 415 100 4405

Hours: Monday - Friday 10am-2pm & 4pm-6:30pm. Saturday 9:30am-2:30pm.

XoloSpa is operated by one woman specializing in small to medium dogs.

All grooming services including nail clipping - 10%

Being able to take advantage of our Preferred Providers program is just one benefit of becoming a member of the S.P.A. Members receive a 10% discount off the S.P.A. vet consultation fee every day.

If you are a member or join at the time you adopt, you will receive 10% off of the adoption fee (600 pesos). Please JOIN US! Individual memberships are \$40 US/500 pesos and family memberships (2 person limit) are \$50/600 pesos.

Join online here [www.spasanmiguel.org/members/](http://www.spasanmiguel.org/members/) (via PayPal) or in our office. Please email [MembershipSPA@gmail.com](mailto:MembershipSPA@gmail.com) if you have questions.

## Rewarding Memberships

I'm a huge music fan, and we all have different tastes in music...which is as it should be. One of the most eclectic musicians that I enjoy (you may not) is the infamous Kinky Friedman. I bring him up not so you will listen to his music, but for this quote from him: "Money can buy you a fine dog, but only love can make his tail wag." I love that line. Go make some tails wag.

The S.P.A. is grateful to **Casey and Cindy Roth** (family), **Julie Wilson** (individual), and **Michelle McGowan and Dieter Storr** (family) for renewing their memberships. We would also like to welcome **Brent McCubbin** and **Ashley Scotty** (family) as new members of our S.P.A. family. Welcome, and thanks! We are happy to recognize you, and we could not do what we do without you.

You can join or renew online via PayPal through our website [HERE](#), in our office (by cash or check), or via other methods (see same website page). Please email [MembershipSPA@gmail.com](mailto:MembershipSPA@gmail.com) if you have questions. We accept checks for membership dues as follows: (1) by check (**U.S. or Mexican**) to **Sociedad Protectora de Animales de San Miguel de Allende, A.C.** (full name required by bank); or (2) by U.S. check to San Miguel Community Foundation (for a U.S. tax receipt) (mark for S.P.A.). Your membership dues (\$40/500 pesos-individual, \$50/600 pesos-family [2 members]) will help the S.P.A. continue its wonderful work caring for many of the unwanted cats and dogs of San Miguel while they wait for their forever homes.

-Randy

## Learn About Us and Our Cats and Dogs

**\*The S.P.A. is open for adoptions as long as certain precautions are followed. If you come to the S.P.A. with family or friends, only one person will be allowed to enter the S.P.A. to be interviewed for an adoption of a cat or dog. That person must wear a mask and practice social distancing. Adoption hours are Monday-Saturday, 11-2.**

**\*Check our website:** [www.spanmiguel.org](http://www.spanmiguel.org) for our available cats and dogs (photos, biographies, and videos) ("Adopt Me" pages) and to learn about us and how you can help. Adopting a shelter animal saves two lives—the one that is adopted and the one we now have room to take in.

**\*Follow us on Facebook** at [www.facebook.com/spanmiguel](https://www.facebook.com/spanmiguel), stay up to date, and see our happy albums of success stories—those S.P.A. animals now in forever homes.

### EDITOR: Harry Burrus

If you need or want to contact me for any reason regarding Paws & Claws — to submit a story, send a photo, just to make a comment — please email me at [SPAPawsandClaws@gmail.com](mailto:SPAPawsandClaws@gmail.com)  
**It would be great to hear from you!**

**Advertise in Paws & Claws and reach a large audience of animal lovers and consumers. Our rates are reasonable and our readership is large. Please don't hesitate to contact me if you have questions.**

Number of Issues	Full Page	Half Page	Quarter Page
1 monthly issue	200 MXN	180 MXN	150 MXN
3 monthly issues	500 MXN	450 MXN	375 MXN
12 monthly issues	1800 MXN	1500 MXN	1300 MXN

**Preferred Providers: ask about our 15% discount.  
 To convert to dollars, use current conversion rate.**

