

SOCIEDAD PROTECTORA DE ANIMALES  
DE SAN MIGUEL DE ALLENDE, A.C.



January 2024

# Paws & Claws



HOPE, HEALTH, HOMES FOR CATS AND DOGS IN NEED

## From the Director

**Happy 2024!** We wish each of you a healthy, happy, and prosperous new year.

Thank you for all that you did to help the S.P.A. during 2023. We are pleased to let you know that, thanks to you, we were able to take full advantage of the offer from anonymous donors to match new December donations up to a total of \$2,500! Terrific.

We appreciate and need your continued support during 2024. You make it possible for us to provide food, care, and shelter for an average of 100 animals (combined total of cats and dogs) while they wait to be adopted.

Please take advantage of our clinic services for your pets. The S.P.A.'s on-site clinic and our full-time veterinarian, Dr. Omar Córdova, offer lower-cost, high-quality health care for your pets. Tuesdays and Thursdays are discount days at the S.P.A.'s clinic. We stay open later (until 4) and the vet's consultation fee plus most vaccinations are reduced on those days.

We also have packages to reduce the cost for providing full protection for your cherished cats and dogs. Please see our website [HERE](#) for details about what the various packages include.

Our 2024 New Year's Resolution is to provide shelter for as many cats and dogs that we can reasonably handle and find them good and loving homes as quickly as possible. We have quite a few cats who have been at the S.P.A. for too long and dogs who have spent most of their lives with us. We can dream, can't we? We never lose hope.

-Megan Gabel, General Director

## Adoptions

	Dogs	Cats
December	2	1
Total 2023	21	21

### 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**

## December Adoptions

Dog adoptions: Nellie, Zack

Cat adoptions: Happy



[2023 Dog Adoptions](#)

[2023 Cat Adoptions](#)

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

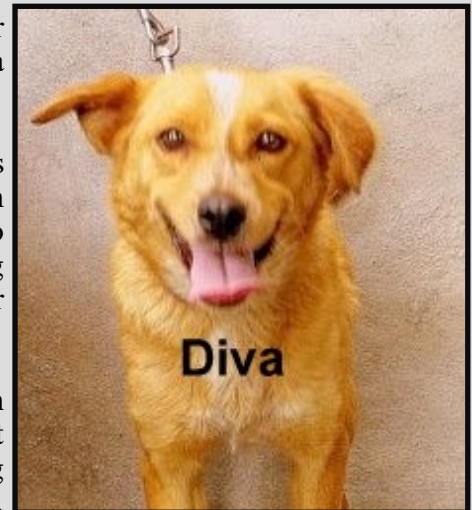
## January Pets of the Month

By Megan Gabel and Peter Soley



Bambi and Diva were rescued by the S.P.A. from Canine Control, the City's kill shelter. We're happy to have saved these two beauties. Small/medium-sized girls, they both love to go for walks and do well on a leash. Bambi, about 1 year old, is a very sweet, friendly girl. Every volunteer who spends time with her is impressed by her gentle personality. When her harness is put on her to go for a walk, she stretches out on the ground, waiting to be buckled in, easily maneuverable by sliding her body across the floor. She is a real delight.

Diva, about 1-1/2 years old, is a very happy, lively girl, with a sparkling personality. She will do everything in her power to stay out of her casita so she can spend some extra time running around and checking out her neighbors. She is eager for attention and very friendly..



Honeycrisp is a darling calico mix, curious and coy with humans. She was rescued from the street on October 30, 2023 at just under a year old. Once she befriends you, she loves getting her neck rubbed and enjoys sitting quietly on laps and beds. Never contentious, Honey plays when engaged and also loves sitting back and observing. Soulful and sweet, Honeycrisp will bring peace and quiet companionship to any home.



Sunny Beach arrived as a young kitten at the S.P.A. in March 2023. Athletic and confident, he loves to play and always is the first to pounce on any bauble that comes his way. Yet when the toys are put away, this blue-eyed beauty loves his lap time and is eager to cuddle. An agreeable boy, Sunny is bound to fill your home with warmth, good vibes and loving energy from day one.



Adopt any of these Pets of the Month during January 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.

## Tres Amigos: Angel, John, and Pammy

By Harry Burrus

Throughout history, there have been trios known for unique aspects of their relationship. Threesomes like Snap, Crackle, and Pop, The Three Musketeers, The Kingston Trio, Peter, Paul and Mary, and the Three Tenors, are well known. Add the S.P.A.'s Angel, John, and Pammy to the list of famous trios (with a slightly smaller audience). Angel and John were already a formidable duo. John was always a challenge to get out the door for a walk, but was energized by Angel. Around the same age (close to four), Pammy, had the same hang-ups' as John, so I thought maybe Angel could double her influence to give Pammy courage as well.

Angel is a small/medium-sized girl with de Kooning black and white body markings, a blended tan, black, and white face, and alert, dark eyes. She's comfortable meeting new people. Once on the street, she moves at a good clip until an alluring smell momentarily sidetracks her and she pauses to investigate. She will toss a lookout bark at street dogs, alerting them she's not a girl to mess with.

John is medium-sized, with a muted caramel, amber-colored coat, with a creamy white chest and white inner thighs. He has striking gold eyes outlined with pharaoh-kohl contouring. A good-looking lad. At first, John is wary of new people. He's nervous and cautious. You have to earn his trust, which can take a while. His surprisingly friendly demeanor is a pleasant surprise. However, while all that is good, John is afraid of the street. Loud noises, fireworks, cars rushing past, deter him from going for a walk. If he makes it out of the S.P.A. door, you're generally good to go. He may walk up to the street door, even poke his head out, but that's it. Mr. Reluctance.

Pammy, a beauty with burnt orange, brown swirl coloring, possesses a high nervous energy demeanor. For long periods, she'd remain in her tinaco if a volunteer sat in her casita. After you sit with her multiple times, if you are lucky, she rewards you by coming close, revealing a surprisingly friendly demeanor, sometimes, generous with kisses.



(continued on next page)

**Tres Amigos: Angel, John, and Pammy****(continued)**

I and two other volunteers approach their casitas. We're uniformly greeted with enthusiasm. Once we have saddled up the Tres Amigos with harnesses, the posse is ready to capture the street. Getting out the S.P.A. door to the street for John is the first challenge. If cars whizz past or a handful of people walk by, John balks. Refuses to move forward. Sometimes, he's stubbornly indisposed to step outside, even if the street is clear. A few encouraging words (or a lot), and generous friendly tugging will move the reluctant troubadour forward.

Out the door, we take on the street. The formation varies. Early on, Angel was out in front, followed by Pammy and then John. As is often the case, a female steps in to provide leadership. Pammy eagerly follows Angel and John stays close to the wall as cars whizz past. It's fun watching the dynamics alter. Somedays, Pammy chooses to ride point, moving quickly. When John slows or stops, I pull a reverse Hansel and drop treats behind me, which gets John moving as he hurries to pick them up. This continues for some distance. We all get a kick out of seeing the shy Pammy out front, establishing a rapid pace. Twice, John has stepped up his game and has surged forward. Today, Pammy and John established a fierce pace all the way to our turnaround point—a spot we call “the treat seat,” just before an abandoned flat-tired ancient VW. We give the trio the expectant treats and head back, our return a surprisingly relaxed pace. It's a kick for all of us to see the three dogs enjoying the walk. As we unleash them in their casitas, we praise them for conquering the street.

Meet John, Angel, and Pammy at the S.P.A., Los Pinos 7, 415-152-6124. Enjoy their videos at this page of our website: <https://www.spasanmiguel.org/adopt-me-dogs> Click on each photo to go to the next page where you will be able to see a video of each dog. Adoption hours are Monday-Saturday, 11-2.



## No Muss, No Fuss – Virtual Adoptions!

By Megan Gabel

For those of you who love animals, but can't adopt, how about becoming a virtual pet owner? The Adopt Me pages on our website (<https://www.spasanmiguel.org/>) provide the opportunity to "adopt" cats like Aluxe and dogs like Sonny and bring them virtually into your home.

Aluxe has been an S.P.A. resident for 5-1/2 years, having arrived when she was only one week old. A beautiful tabby with very pretty markings, she is known as "Tia Aluxe" because she comforts and cares for our newly arriving kittens. She is extraordinarily frightened by loud noises and becomes a professional fighter if anyone tries to pick her up. Once assured that there is no danger, she enjoys petting and attention. She has made the S.P.A. her home and is perfectly content to remain there to carry out her duties as Tia Aluxe. She is a perfect virtual adoption candidate.

Sonny has been at the S.P.A. for 10 years. He was just a baby, only 2 months old, when he arrived. Although it's hard to tell, he is a sweetheart. He generally doesn't care for strangers or other dogs. It has been years since he has been willing to climb the stairs to walk outside the S.P.A. and go for a walk on the street. He has gradually allowed various volunteers to sit with him in his casita and let them pet him and give him treats. Although he is a large boy, he likes to stretch out across volunteers' laps and cuddle. For exercise nowadays, he runs around the inside grounds of the S.P.A. solo or in the back exercise area if he is the only dog there. Another perfect virtual adoption candidate.



More cats in our virtual adoption program are shown here: <https://www.spasanmiguel.org/virtually-adopt-me-cats>

More dogs in our virtual adoption program are shown here: <https://www.spasanmiguel.org/virtually-adopt-me-dogs>

Virtually adopt (\$20 USD per month) Aluxe, Sonny, or another cat or dog in that program and we'll give you regular updates about your chosen virtual pet. Help the S.P.A. provide a safe haven, food, medication, and love that they deserve. It's a great way to become part of the S.P.A. experience.



## 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.**

## The Poetry of a Shared Meal







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!



Sonny

## 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  
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** - Guadiana #17A - Colonia Guadiana - Ph. 415-154- 4555.  
Hours: Monday-Friday 10am-6pm  
Diamond Naturals - Dog/Cat Food - 10%, Regular Teeth Cleaning - 20%, SPA Bath Only - No Clipping -  
By Appointment - 10%, Pet Supplies - 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.

**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 stay 6 feet (2 meters) away from S.P.A. personnel. Thank you for your consideration in following these rules.

*Please call 415-152-6124 for an appointment with our vet, Dr. Omar Córdova.*

## Rewarding Memberships

We, at the S.P.A., hope you are winding up a wonderful holiday season. It's that time of year when we all take stock of what brings us joy, a time to look back and reflect on the past year, and, of course, to look towards the new one with an eye on what we want it to be and who we want to be in it. January is named for Janus, who looks both forward and back. I hope it has been a year full of great memories, and the coming year will bring health, happiness, and joy to all the two and four-legged souls in your household.

The S.P.A. would like to thank **Denis Robert** and **Perle Vandette** (family) for renewing their memberships. We couldn't 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 stay at least 6 feet (2 meters) away from S.P.A. personnel. 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](http://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.**

