

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



March 2021

Paws & Claws

HOPE, HEALTH, HOMES FOR CATS AND DOGS IN NEED



From the Director

I had an awful dream last night. I was at a big gathering and there was a line of couches and people were sitting next to each other, shoulder to shoulder, on those couches, listening to a welcome speech from the person in charge of whatever meeting my mind had made up. I was standing opposite the couches and it suddenly occurred to me that no one in the room was wearing a mask! I had forgotten to put mine on and no one else seemed to care. Then I woke up, feeling somewhat scared about catching Covid because I hadn't been wearing a mask in my dream and also depressed that this is what our world has now come to. It seemed like an episode from The Twilight Zone. When will it end and our real, normal lives resume?

We are looking forward to the time when we can welcome our volunteers back at the S.P.A. to help us socialize our animals and walk our dogs. We'd like to make adoptions easier without having to take extra precautions. Unfortunately, it appears that none of that is going to happen for quite some time.

In the meantime, enjoy your pets who, especially now, provide so much comfort and companionship. For those of you who love animals, but can't adopt, maybe you can benefit by becoming an owner of an S.P.A. cat or dog virtually. Dogs part of the program are shown [HERE](#); cats, [HERE](#). For only \$20 per month, we'll update you regularly about your pet while you help provide for his/her care. Or come to the S.P.A. and meet, adopt, and take home your new best friend!

Hang in there!

-Megan Gabel, General Director

Adoptions

	Dogs	Cats
February	0	1
YTD	3	3

Clinic/Office Hours:

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

Adoptions:

Mon - Sat: 11am - 2pm

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

Facebook: www.facebook.com/spasanmiguel

Donate and support our fundraisers: www.spasanmiguel.org/fundraisers

(Donate-Sponsor a Casita-Become a Member-Remembrance Tree Leaf)

Dogs available for adoption: www.spasanmiguel.org/adopt-me-dogs/

Cats available for adoption: www.spasanmiguel.org/adopt-me-cats/

Membership questions: MembershipSPA@gmail.com

Casita questions: SPACasita@gmail.com

Foster questions: SPAFosters@gmail.com

See what your donation dollars and pesos support: youtu.be/6grULRHi6Sk

Donate

March Pets of the Month**By Megan Gabel and Jayn Corral****Nicky**

About 7 months old, Nicky is a beautiful, unusual tabby with short fur that looks like a squirrel, without spots or stripes. She has a great confident, happy personality, likes to play, gets along well with cats and people, and loves to sit in laps.

**Collins**

Collins, about 6 months old, is a small, gorgeous tabby with fantastic markings, including white paws, an orange ring near the tip of her tail and huge green eyes. Rescued from the campo, she is still a little nervous around people, but has made friends with her roommates.

Travis and Fina, both medium-sized, were rescued by the S.P.A. from the Canine Control Center. About 2 years old, Travis is a wonderful, sweet dog, friendly to people and other dogs. He had been abandoned by owners and fed by neighbors for a while. Fina, about 3 years old, is very playful and affectionate. She seems to really like cats and pauses to wag her tail at those inside the cattery as we exit the S.P.A. for a walk.

**Travis****Fina**

Adopt any of these Pets of the Month during March and receive a free adoption kit. Preview all our animals at www.spasanmiguel.org (Adopt Me pages) and meet them at the S.P.A., Los Pinos #7, Monday-Saturday between 11 and 2, 415-152-6124.

February Adoptions

Dog adoptions: No dog adoptions this month.

Cat adoptions: Bohdi



Have you met . . . ? Here are some of our available cats and dogs!



[2021 Dog Adoptions](#)

[2021 Cat Adoptions](#)

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

Lost and Found Pets

By Megan Gabel

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

Important information:

1. Emergency help: 911.
2. Canine Control Center: 415-154-7200 – located behind the Presidencia.
3. Radio San Miguel: 415-152-0227 or 415-152-0799, Sollano #4.
4. Civil List San Miguel: [HERE](#)
5. Pet SOS San Miguel de Allende Facebook: [HERE](#)
6. The S.P.A.: Los Pinos 7, 415-152-6124.
7. Preventative steps: an identification tag greatly enhances the likelihood of reuniting a pet with its owner.

If You Lose Your Pet:

1. Visit the Canine Control Center at least every other day. An animal picked up by the Canine Control Center may have only a few days to live, so act promptly. The S.P.A. was lucky to have rescued Luke and Star from the Canine Control Center.
2. Contact Radio San Miguel. Describe your pet in detail and offer a reward.
3. Post photos and a bilingual description in the area where your pet was last seen, offering a reward for a safe return.
4. Post details and photos on the various IO Groups geared to San Miguel de Allende, in particular, the Civil List, and on Pet SOS.
5. Bring a photo with details to the S.P.A. to post.

If You Find A Pet:

1. Approach any stray animal with caution, offering food and water. If the animal seems too frightened and aggressive, get help from a skilled professional or the Canine Control Center. For cats too timid or frightened to approach humans, consider borrowing one of the S.P.A.'s humane cat traps.
2. If the animal is not aggressive, take the animal to a vet as soon as possible. Our S.P.A. vet (and others) will examine the stray, determine health status, and start vaccinations and any other necessary treatment.
3. Post details and photos on the Civil List and Pet SOS.
4. Bring a photo with details to the S.P.A. to post.
5. Listen to Radio San Miguel to see if anyone has advertised about losing a pet of that description.
6. If you cannot keep the animal permanently, put the dog or cat on the appropriate S.P.A. waiting list. However, be aware that you are responsible for the animal you found and that the wait for space at the S.P.A. may be long.
7. If you cannot give the animal a temporary home, please find a foster or boarding situation. Please call the S.P.A. for suggestions.

Report instances of animal abuse by calling 911. The dispatcher will take the report and forward it to Canine Control Center 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.

Please note that the S.P.A. is not equipped to help rescue a stray dog or cat, find a lost pet, or get involved with a situation involving animal abuse. We wish we had the personnel and finances to help all needy animals!





Discover SMA

***Proudly supporting the
Community,
Local Businesses,
and Non-profits
of San Miguel de Allende, MX
since 2014***

www.discoversma.com

THANK YOU, ROSS MACDONALD, FOR HELPING THE S.P.A.!

Waiving or reducing the normal fee for delivery service available through MacDonald Services (www.macdonald-services.com/) is a HUGE benefit to the S.P.A.!

We appreciate Ross's help and support!

Did you know that:

-the S.P.A. has been around since 1980 and is the only 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 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.

This one's for you, Paco

By Harry Burrus



Paco is a feisty, enthusiastic small/medium, café-cream colored lad of four. He arrived at the S.P.A. a year ago, rescued from the Canine Control Center at the eleventh hour. He's a go-go kind of guy. As you approach his casita, you see straightaway his eagerness for a walk; his whole-body shakes, rattles, and rolls—in a good way. He'd make Bill Haley proud. He's immediately likable.

On the sidewalk and street, he tends not to walk in a straight line. If he notices a street dog moving his way, he might deliver a strong shout out bark and then continue his expedition. He's a non-discriminate sniffer. A dedicated student of smells with an advanced degree, he won't take a chance on missing any aroma that reveals a history of what has preceded him.

Paco is an active sportsman with his S.P.A. group and he cherishes playing and interacting, challenging others to match his energy. The Energizer Bunny has nothing on him. Paco

doesn't do anything halfway. He's all in—a good reminder for me to be whenever I engage a project. Another good life example I glean from Paco is his appreciation for the now. He doesn't fret about the past or waste time worrying about the future or consider what if scenarios. After all, there's no point. The present is what matters to him and he devours it.

Legendary trumpeter Louis Armstrong in a 1932 command performance for the king of England said, "This one's for you, Rex." As I write this in 2021, I think, "This is for you, Paco."

If you are thinking about adopting, please consider Paco and other S.P.A. animals (cats or dogs) as a possible new family member. Our available cats and dogs are on our website <https://www.spasanmiguel.org/> - the "Adopt Me" pages. For both, our adoption fee is only 600 pesos and includes all current vaccinations, deworming, and sterilization. Our adoption hours at the S.P.A., Los Pinos #7, are Monday-Saturday between 11 and 2. Only one person may enter the S.P.A. for an adoption interview. That person must wear a mask and stay at least 6 feet away from S.P.A. personnel.

Please help support the S.P.A. by bringing your dogs and cats to the S.P.A.'s clinic to receive care from our great veterinarian, Dr. Omar Córdova. We offer lower-cost services and special prices and hours on Tuesdays and Saturdays. Call 415-152-6124 for more information and an appointment.



Feline Aggression

By Jayn Corral

Running an animal shelter can be a tricky and very complicated endeavor. Add to that the communal living aspect for cats such as what the S.P.A. has. We have group living arrangements – our cats are not caged. We create separate spaces for cats of different ages and temperaments. Just like people, cats have a variety of personalities, needs, and preferences. Put them all together and you never know what will happen.

Having arrived at only three months old and spending more than two years at the S.P.A., Nadia has seen many cats come and go. She loves people and is a wonderful cat in all ways except one. Nadia will accept and become friends with some new cats and terrorize others. We cannot figure out why.



Then there is Ritz, a sweet one-year old. She is friendly with cats and volunteers, yet the sight of our veterinarian makes her go crazy, really insane! We try our best to make the experience tolerable for her. Nothing seems to help yet, but we're working on it. In the meantime, Dr. Omar Córdova is not taking it personally.

Feline aggression is hostile or violent behavior intended to dominate or intimidate. There are several types of feline aggression, including play, fear, petting-induced, redirected, pain-induced, status induced, territorial, maternal, inter-cat, and idiopathic. An aggressive cat will show signs such as dilated pupils, flat ears or whiskers, and erect puffed twitching tail. Aggression develops gradually, usually between 8 to 24 months of age, beginning with hissing and growling, escalating to swatting and chasing, then attacking and fighting. Catfights are seldom fatal, but the wound has an 80% chance of becoming infected, which, if left untreated, can lead to death.

When cats are surrendered to shelters because of problems with their behavior, the behavior at issue is usually aggression. A cat can victimize another cat, people, or in the case of re-directed aggression, anyone within striking distance. If not stopped, aggressive behavior can become a learned and accepted behavior. So, it is very important to recognize and manage it.

Managing aggressive behavior begins with a proper introduction to the new situation, people, or other pets. Typically, the newcomer is the victim so he should be given his own safe haven, separate from other cats for a few days or even longer, if necessary. Using treats, a shared toy, and exchanging bedding are ways to gradually get the cats to accept each other. It is never appropriate to scold or punish the aggressive cat. A squirt bottle with water will let the cat know the behavior is not acceptable. If you have an aggressive cat or end up adopting one, the situation is challenging, but not hopeless.



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.

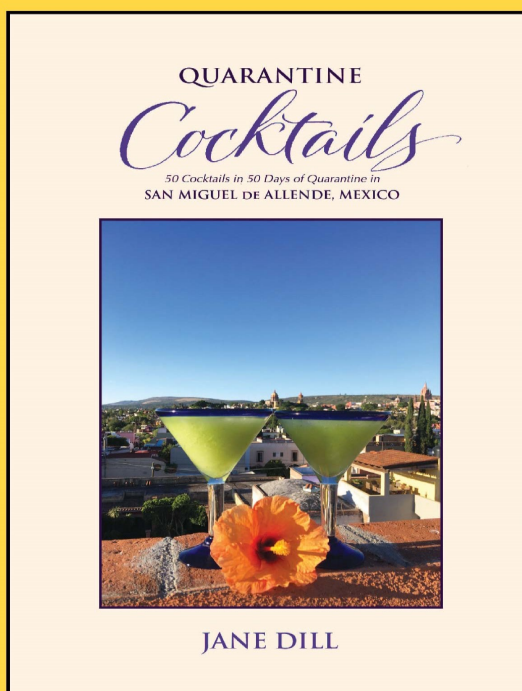
www.spasanmiguel.org
www.facebook.com/spasanmiguel

The S.P.A.'s clinic is open! 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.

NOW ON SALE! QUARANTINE COCKTAILS

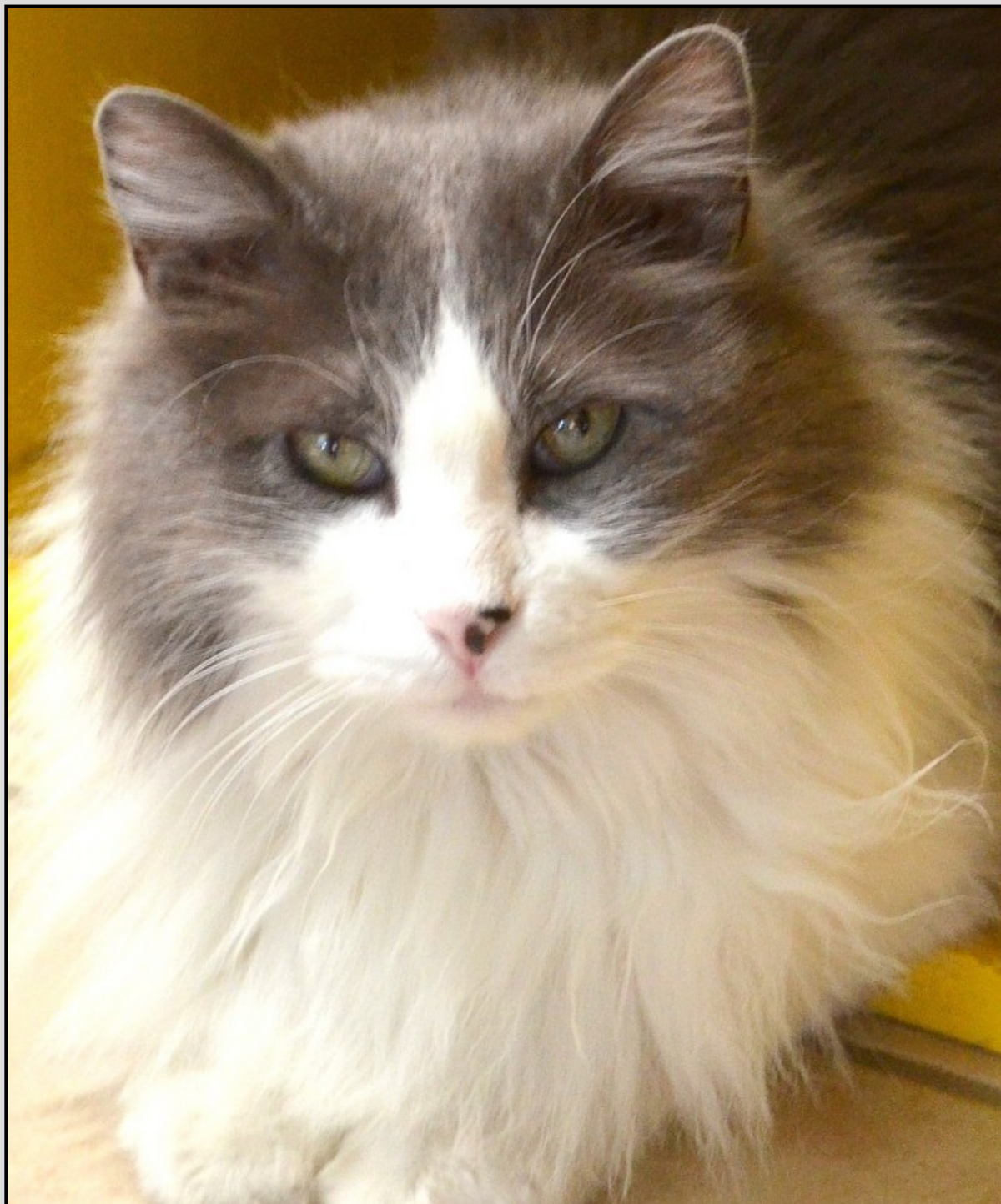
*50 Cocktails in 50 Days of Quarantine in
SAN MIGUEL DE ALLENDE, MEXICO*



JANE DILL, the S.P.A.'s volunteer calligrapher for the Remembrance Tree (for 8 years) has written a book! **QUARANTINE COCKTAILS** is a collection of 50 cocktails and "mocktails" developed during the lockdown last spring and posted nightly on Facebook. It's "Quarantine Mixology", improvising and having fun with whatever ingredients you have on hand. Also makes a great gift! Available in SMA at the Galería San Francisco at the Fabrica la Aurora.

ORDER HERE for SMA or Amazon/US:
www.janedill.com/cocktails

The Poetry of the S.P.A. as Home



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 Remembrance Tree exists in a prominent position, right at the inside entrance to the S.P.A. It is a permanent, beautiful, and impressive eight-foot copper-colored structure with branches containing leaves for honoring a departed pet.

Volunteer **Jane Dill** of Jane Dill Design (www.janedill.com) (thank you, Jane!) inscribes on a leaf the pet's name, the owner's name, and a personal message, if desired. The one-time cost of each permanent leaf is \$100 US (or peso equivalent).

To purchase a leaf or learn more, please email: SPARemembranceTree@gmail.com



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
Questions? Call the S.P.A. office: 415-152-6124

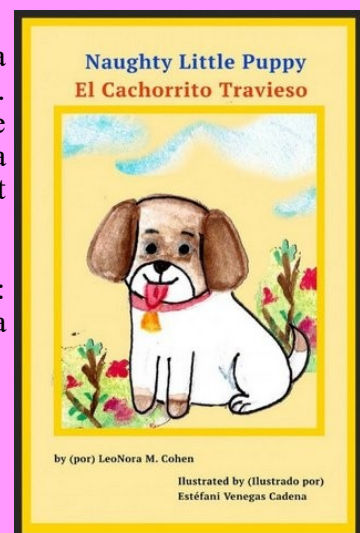
* or peso equivalent

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 - 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.



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/ (via PayPal) or in our office.

Please email MembershipSPA@gmail.com if you have questions.



Luke



Ginger



Buffy



Remy



Georgina

Beautiful Crafts / S.P.A. T-shirts & Caps

Click [HERE](#) to see the Catalogue of Jayn's Crafts AND learn how to place an order for local delivery or pickup (NEW!!). Some examples are shown below. See the catalogue for more!



S.P.A. T-shirts & Caps

Pick up one for yourself, a family member, and as a terrific present!



(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).



Rewarding Memberships

With Covid-19, our lifestyle has changed. We stay pretty secluded and eat every meal at home—a big change for us. These days we find ourselves grateful for the entertaining companionship of our S.P.A. alumni cats Chuckie, 8 (adopted in 2013) and Ruben, 5 (adopted in 2016). Their morning antics of chasing, wrestling, and following the sunspots around the house remind us to enjoy each day.

The S.P.A. appreciates the support of **Steven and Lynn Weisberg** (family), **Karen Hafer** (individual), **Kathleen Williams** and **Alex McLeod** (family), **Stephen Weideman** and **Sue Smith -Weideman** (family), and **Jack Gewarter** and **Karina Anaya** (family), all of whom renewed their memberships in February. 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 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.spasanmiguel.org for our available cats and dogs (photos, biographies, and videos) ("Adopt Me" pages) and to learn about us and how you can help. Please remember that 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/spasanmiguel, 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
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.**

