

We Need Volunteers.

If you have one hour, one day, or one week a month, we could sure use your help.
Please contact the office for more information - (818) 591-7037

Remember Oliver and Olivia, the two Scottish Fold Cats available for adoption in the last newsletter?

They've been adopted by S.O.P.H.I.E. member Richard Blacker!

Join us on Facebook

Look for Sophie Calabasas and you can also join the Group SOPHIE.

Turbo is in need of a new loving home.



Turbo is a playful, 9 year old Miniature Dachshund who yearns for his own home. His sweet nature makes him an affectionate and grateful little guy. He is wonderful with children and other dogs. Black and tan, neutered, has shots. **Contact 818-427-9753**

SOPHIE News - Winter Edition
S.O.P.H.I.E. Inc.
Los Angeles Pet Memorial Park
P.O.Box 8517
Calabasas, CA 91372

Address Correction Requested

◇ SOPHIE News ◇

Winter Edition

Save Our Pets' History In Eternity

January 2010



MARY C. DOUGHERTY *In-Our-Thoughts*

By Gail Wilson

S.O.P.H.I.E. is saddened by the death of Mary Carolyn Dougherty, who was a long-time advocate and staunch contributor and supporter of the Los Angeles Pet Memorial Park and S.O.P.H.I.E., Inc. Born on September 25, 1922, Mary passed away on January 18, 2010 after a brief bout with cancer; she was 87 years old.

The daughter of Charles G. Dougherty and C.C. Dougherty of Fresno, California, Mary moved to Hollywood in the 1950s

and became one of the first female morticians/funeral directors in Los Angeles. Her career took her from her first post at W.A. Brown & Son onto Pierce Brothers, the Rosedale Cemetery and the Hollywood Cemetery, before she officially retired in 1995.

Mary joined the S.O.P.H.I.E.

Board of Directors on July 26, 1990 and was reelected to a second term in 1992. She reluctantly tendered her Board resignation in November, 1992 due to her work schedule and family commitments, although she continued to be an advocate of S.O.P.H.I.E., Inc. and the Los Angeles Pet Memorial Park

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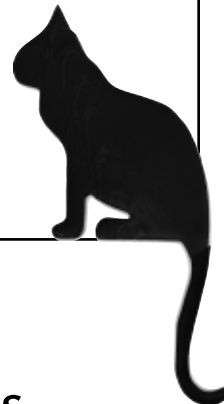
Our Park has faired very well during the recent heavy and consistent rain storms. The grounds crew worked diligently to keep all the drains open, and cleared the ditch that runs through our property. Every year we try to improve our water control and reduce erosion in and around the Park.

The 81 year old Mausoleum, that overlooks the park, developed some interior cracks due to the construction methods used in 1929. Permanent repairs are underway using a "state of the art" technique developed for old masonry buildings constructed without the use of steel reinforcement. The Mausoleum is a beautiful building that has niches for cremated pets, some dating back to 1929. During the resurrection of the Mausoleum for the Parks 80th anniversary, additional niches were added and are available for cremated pets.

I'd like to welcome a new member to the SOPHIE Board of Directors. Paul Swerdlick is a long-time SOPHIE supporter and previous Board Member. He brings much business and management experience to our Board, and is already working on projects to secure our Park's bright future.

Special thanks to Carin Belikoff, one of our SOPHIE's Angels (volunteers) who has helped us this year with our new computer system. Volunteers, gifts and donations are always welcome and appreciated by the Park.

Best Wishes, Your President, Dave Stiller



(Continued from Page 1)

MARY C. DOUGHERTY - In-Our-Thoughts

oftentimes consulting with Park management on industry issues. Mary's vast experience as a mortician and funeral director was invaluable to S.O.P.H.I.E. during its fledgling years and she was responsible for setting many of the standards and techniques that are still employed at the Park today.

Mary was interred in a niche at the Angelus Rosedale Cemetery on Washington Boulevard in Los Angeles on January 26, 2010. Monsignor Francis Weber presided over the lovely ceremony and a luncheon celebration of Mary's life followed at the Taix Brasserie on Sunset Boulevard in Los Angeles. Mary would be pleased to know that about 50 of her friends and family were in attendance.

Mary is survived by her sister, Barbara S. Dougherty (92). The family has requested that donations be made to S.O.P.H.I.E., Los Angeles Pet Memorial Park, in Mary's name. You can either phone the Park at 818-591-7037 to make a donation or mail it to S.O.P.H.I.E., Inc., P.O. Box 8517, Calabasas, CA 91372.

A plaque honoring Mary's participation with and service to S.O.P.H.I.E. is being placed on the Park grounds in her memory. You are forever in our thoughts, Mary.

Are you a S.O.P.H.I.E. Member??

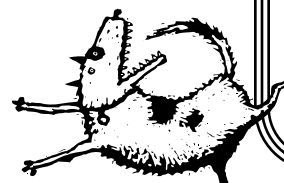
If you received this newsletter by mail you are, look at the address label and it will give you all the information, including whether you have a single or family membership and when your membership expires.

2010 Nuts For Mutts 5K Walk Sunday, April 18, 2010

*Bring your pups and join us;
all proceeds will benefit New
Leash On Life, The Agoura
Hills/Calabasas Community
Center and The Rotary Club
of Calabasas.*

*Along with the walk there
will be other activities such
as pet adoption, Project
Dogway Fashion Show,
Hollywood Pet Tricks,
Celebrity Guests and Judges,
live music, food and 40
vendors, including The Los
Angeles Pet Memorial Park.*

www.nutsformutts.org 



Save Our Pets' History In Eternity

S.O.P.H.I.E., Inc.
Los Angeles Pet Memorial Park
5068 Old Scandia Lane
P.O. Box 8517
Calabasas CA 91372
818-591-7037

Park Hours:

MONDAY – SATURDAY
8:00 AM to 5:00 PM
SUNDAY AND HOLIDAYS
8:00 AM to DUSK

NEW Office Hours:

MONDAY – SATURDAY
8:30 AM to 4:30 PM

Website:

www.lapetcemetery.com
www.lapetpark.com

e-mail address:

lapetcem@sbcglobal.net

SOPHIE NEWS is published by S.O.P.H.I.E., Inc., Corporate Board members and officers are volunteers and serve without pay. Membership dues and gifts to S.O.P.H.I.E. are not tax deductible.

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HAVE A VERY "WEAVER" YEAR Contributed by Luella Wagner

As we enter this new year, we bring with us the memories of all of our loved ones, especially our beloved pets. We all know the powerful influence that our pets have on our lives, but we rarely realize the effect that they have after their passing. Sometimes it is more significant than when they were here with us in the physical realm. While their memories stay with us in our hearts and minds, their spirit continues to influence, inspire and guide in our everyday lives long after they have passed.

One such example is Weaver, beloved companion of local artist Tommy Hollenstein. Tommy Hollenstein suffered a tragic accident at the age of 24, when he broke his neck while bike riding. Traveling down a path which he had frequented several times, Tommy came upon a 5 foot trench that a contractor had recently dug. While going at top speed, Tommy was not able to stop and the trench was too deep for him to roll out. Tommy says that when he hit the ground, he had an out-of-body experience. He looked down at his motionless body and knew that he was not ready to die. He asked God for a second chance at life. God gave him that chance and so began a new journey of determination, recovery and endless love and companionship with a dog named Weaver.

A few years following his accident, a representative from Canine Companions contacted Tommy. Based in Santa Rosa, the organization Canine Companions was started in 1975 for the purpose of providing highly trained dogs to people with disabilities. In addition to providing practical assistance, the dogs also come with boundless energy, endless love and undying loyalty.

For 13 1/2 years Tommy and Weaver, a Golden Labrador Retriever, were inseparable. Weaver gave Tommy the independence he was seeking, enabling him to move into his own apartment and get a job. Tommy, by this time, was working as a sales representative for a medical supplies company. Weaver accompanied Tommy wherever he went.

As Weaver got older, Tommy wanted to capture their relationship in a truly unique way. An artist at heart, Tommy never quite found the technique he could use to express himself, until one day his inspiration came from Weaver. While working in his garage, Tommy threw down some paint on a board and had Weaver make footprints along side tire tracks from his wheelchair. This created a lasting memory of their endless bond. In the process, Tommy discovered a new art form that allowed him to truly express himself. He found himself coming home from work and spending hours developing, practicing, refining, defining and honing his craft, using his wheelchair as his paintbrush.

Tommy, with the help of Weaver, has created a brand new style of art that can be described as a compilation of vibrant art, fluid motion, interlocking patterns and a variety of textures and layers. Since then, Tommy has perfected his art and carved out a place for himself in the art world. His art has been compared to abstract expressionist painter Jackson Pollock. His story has been featured in Calabasas Magazine and the Daily News. He has been on KCAL Channel 9 News and KTLA Channel 5, and he is currently working on a documentary about his life. His patrons include actor Joaquin Phoenix, guitar player Slash and musician Elliot Easton of the New Cars. Since that day in his garage when Tommy and Weaver painted their first piece, Tommy's art work has been exhibited all across the U.S. and in art shows as far away as Australia. Tommy has a new companion, Hiley, who, like Weaver, accompanies Tommy everywhere. As a guest speaker, Tommy lovingly speaks of Weaver and credits Weaver with inspiring his life's work.

Today, Weaver is still a part of Tommy's paintings and while not visible to the human eye, Weaver is still with Tommy in his art studio, in his home, in his van and at his art shows. Tommy and Weaver remind us all that the bond between a pet and their owner can never be broken. All one has to do is to look for the signs, become aware and be open to the possibility, and this year expect that special gift from that special friend who never left, but is still sitting right next to you loving you more than ever!

Tommy Hollenstein's website is www.tommyhollenstein.com and Weaver is resting at Angel's Heaven at the Los Angeles Pet Memorial Park.

**From The Desk of The
Client Relations Manager**

By Sandy Dunaway



Hello Everybody,

Looks like we survived the holiday season. Thanks to everyone in cooperating in holiday decoration removal. The crew really appreciates your help.

The crew works hard out there and they deserve a big round of applause. If you see one of them, make sure to tell them you appreciate them. Kind words can go along way.

We are now in the rainy season and so far so good. We don't have to use as much water and the grass looks nice and green.

We have a new groundsman/driver, his name is Emad. Emad is a hard worker and families have appreciated his kindness in their time of grief. Welcome Emad!

Some of you may be interested in "Nuts for Mutts" the Walk. We will have a booth there. It's being held Sunday, April 18th at The Agoura Hills/Calabasas Community Center.

Hope all of you are listening to the Warren Eckstein radio show every Saturday morning. You can learn a lot about your little ones. KRLA 870am.

Thanks to all of you who purchased ornaments and contributed to our Memorial Tribute Book this year and helped make it a big success. Margie did such a good job putting it all together.

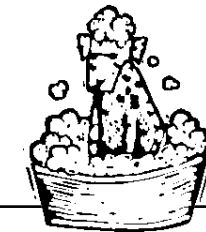
Please feel free to contact me with any comments, problems or questions.

Sandy**New Advertising
Opportunities at
The Park**

We are now offering advertising in these newsletters to help offset the rising costs of printing. A business card size ad is \$35 per insertion. Distribution is over 2500+.

We are also offering an advertising program in the showroom where businesses can display their information and business cards. It is \$40 per quarter, \$75 for 6 months and \$100 for one year. Please contact Margie at (818)591-7037 for more information.

Please do not remove any items from other people's gravesites.



**Please
remember all
pets must be on
a leash when at
the Park.**

SOPHIE's Angels

Thank you to the Angels who have contributed to SOPHIE thru February 28, 2010

Scott and Cheri Tesar

Sanford & Flora Tisherman



Clarence & Flory De Voe



Wilma Mundie

Felix J. Vescio

Jane Studwell



Joan Krolak

Cathy Laubscher

Ethel Richards

Ronald & Katherine Robinson

Gerald & Sharon Higgins

So-Yeng & Lee-Wen Chen

Vi Logan

Leigh Karin Padilla



Richard & Sandra Parigan

Sandra Ashton Phillips



Edward & Murphy Romano

Dr Robert & Yu Nan Martin

Edna & Deborah Leslie

Lisa Forchette



David & Mickey Abrams

Nancy & Frank Guiffre

Stiller Family Charity Foundation

Roxanna Klimovich

The Ladouceur Trust

Martha Cooper

Kim O'Bannon

Dolores & Sam Chacon

John E. Sanders

Ron Lieberman

Margaret Brown

Mark and Gail Glasser

Debbie J. H. Fratkin

Cherly Gusukuma

Marjorie Caraplis Trust

Charles & Patricia Rasmussen

John Hill

Scott Whittle

Allyne L. Urick

Margaret Brown

Jim & Melanie Smith

Stan Israel



More SOPHIE's Angels

Scott and Cheri Tesar in memory of J,K,K,R

Felix J. Vescio in memory of his three beloved Pugs

Jeanne Lamalfa in memory of Herb, Lucky and Shadow

Robin Iaconelli in memory of Princess and Precious

Gary and Raelynn Gagliardi in memory of HP and Sasha

Judy Idriss in memory of Mary Dougherty

George A. Poate in memory of Mary Dougherty

Marc and Mary Rajswing in memory of Mary Dougherty

Ed Challinor in memory of Mary Dougherty "who was a loving crusader for animals and who helped me many times when I lost my babies. Also in loving remembrance of my beloved dogs Spike, Spike II, Jeremy, Pepper, Katie and Ginger who I pray to be with in a short time. They were all taken care of there and are my only family."

Albert and Ruth Lark in memory of Kodi, Kodi Bear and Lera

Carol Gibbons in memory of Flame

Constance Lawton in memory of Samantha

Sharon & Dan Gerlach in memory of Pepper

Kevin Mcevoy in memory of Honey and Buttons

Albert and Ruth Lark in memory of Ryan Woolsey

Danny & Debbie Moscaotolo in memory of Deserata



Special thanks to:

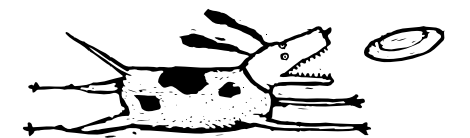
Volunteers

- Jonah Dotan
- Suzie Dotan
- Jim & Teri Odom
- Caryn Belikoff
- Danica Mitchell

We need volunteers for help with filing, clean up, organizing, scanning, newsletter design, etc.

Special thanks to

Jim and Teri Odom for not only donating all the printing for the holiday mailing, but putting it all together as well....that was over 2800 mail outs!



The Park donates your blankets, towels, toys and beds to Operation Blankets of Love, a nonprofit group that distributes these much needed items to homeless pets at all the pounds and rescues in Southern California. We are also a drop off location as well.