

**MORE Ripley's Believe It Or Not Animal Stories**

*Canine Cat-Scanner* - Ginny, a dog owned by Phillip Gonzalez, seeks out and rescues stray cats from dumpsters, air conditioning ducts, and other dangerous places. Sometimes she rescues as many as eight injured cats in a week. There's even a charity named after her, the Ginny Fund, that provides money to help cats find good homes and to help pay the vet bills.

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

Address Correction Requested

# ◇ SOPHIE News ◇

Spring Edition

Save Our Pet's History In Eternity

May 2006



## S.O.P.H.I.E. Board Elections 2006!

by Ellen Newth

S.O.P.H.I.E. needs *your* creative ideas, skills and talents...so why not run in our upcoming election for a seat on the Board of Directors? While serving as a Board Member is a volunteer position, it can be a very rewarding experience. You must be prepared to attend meetings on a regular basis (generally once a month) and be willing to accept various responsibilities from time to time.

**If you would like to participate, you must inform the Nominating Committee by con-**

**tacting the Park Office before JULY 12, 2006.** Just tell Sandy, Donna or Jasmine that you are interested in running for the Board. They will forward your name to our committee and one of the members will contact you personally soon thereafter.

Aside from the Nominating Committee's designation of

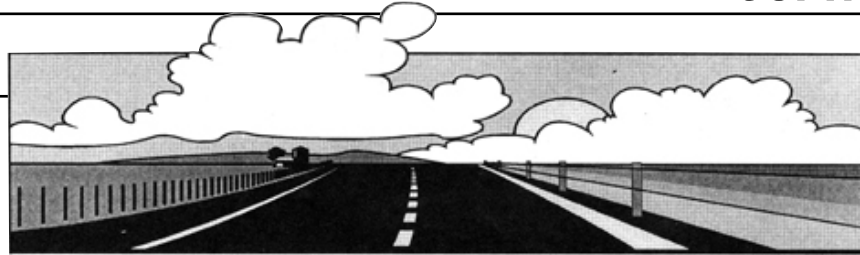
candidates, a member may be nominated as a candidate for the Board by a **Written Petition of Members.** A petition nominating a candidate must identify the candidate by name and address, be accompanied by a biographical profile (no longer than 100 words) and must be signed by at least 13 members. **Petitions must**

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Seymour's Space



Hi. Another years gone by and elections are coming up soon. If you would like to be considered for the Board, let us know.

The Parks in great condition, the road leading in has been paved. We still have our sign up in the hill. A Horse Crematorium is still in the works.

"Moments"

Moments are like butterflies in the wind. They can be beautiful, but you can't touch them before they fly away. But you can always remember how beautiful they were."

*Till the next time.*

*Your President, Seymour Odens*

### Ripley's Believe It Or Not Animal Stories



**Better Late Than Never** - Clem, a cat returned to his owner, Kurt Helminak of Bancroft, Wisconsin, after an eight-year absence.

**I'm Back** - Trixie, a Collie lost from John Eaton's car in Oklahoma, appeared a month later at her owner's home in Phoenix, Arizona, a distance of 1,000 miles.

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### Special thanks to Fran Sheridan

Fran has been sewing bags for our cremain containers for many years and is no longer able to do so. We would like to thank her for her many years of help. And now we need another volunteer to pick up where Fran left off. We will supply all the fabrics and materials necessary. And we are beginning to run low on bags. So if there is anyone who would like to volunteer for this task please call the office.

### Pooch-Friendly Parks!

Spring has sprung! And at this beautiful time of year it's great fun to take a stroll with your favorite 4-legged friend. Here are some Dog-Friendly Parks for you and your canine companions to enjoy...

**Griffith Dog Park** - At North End of the John Ferraro Soccer Field on North Zoo

**Hermon Dog Park** - Arroyo Seco Park, under the Avenue 60 bridge

**Laurel Canyon Dog Park** - 8260 Mulholland Drive, Studio City

**Runyon Canyon Park** - 2000 N. Fuller, Hollywood

**Sepulveda Basin Off-Leash Dog Park** - 17550 Victory Blvd., Lake Balboa

**Silver Lake Dog Park** - 1850 W. Silver Lake Drive

**Westminster Dog Park** - 1234 Pacific Avenue, Venice

**Whitnall Off-Leash Dog Park** - 5801 1/2 Whitnall Highway, Burbank



### Save Our Pets' History In Eternity

**S.O.P.H.I.E., Inc.**  
**Los Angeles Pet Memorial Park**  
5068 N. 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

**Office Hours:**

MONDAY – SATURDAY  
8:30 AM to 4:30 PM

**Website:**

[www.lapetcemetry.com](http://www.lapetcemetry.com)

**e-mail address:**

[lapetcem@mindspring.com](mailto:lapetcem@mindspring.com)

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

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**SOPHIE News Staff**

Margie Sillman Yantz, Editor

## S.O.P.H.I.E. Board Elections 2006!

(continued from page 1)

be received in S.O.P.H.I.E.'s office no later than **JULY 28, 2006**. The names of candidates nominated by this method will be placed on the ballot along with the candidates named by the Nominating Committee and their biographical profiles will be distributed to members along with those of the other nominated candidates.

There are currently four seats open for a two-year term of office (ending in 2008) and one of them could be *yours!* So don't delay...call the office NOW at (818) 591-7037 and let us know of your interest!

### Any contractors in the membership??

If so, we need your help. Please contact the office at (818) 591-7037



## MORE Ripley's Believe It Or Not Animal Stories

(continued from page 2)

**Good news.-** *Fluffy, a kitten owned by Mrs. Clyde McMillan, appeared at the newspaper that had published a want ad asking for its return.*

**It's a Good Thing I'm So Smart-** *Bobby, a parakeet lost for 18 hours in Withywood, England, was returned to its owner after announcing its name and address.*

**Tree Service.-** *In 1997, Sergeant Cyril Jones, attempting to parachute into Sumatra, crashed into the forest and was suspended in the trees for 12 days. He survived by eating fruit brought to him by a monkey.*

(continued on back cover)

## From The Desk of The Client Relations Manager

By Sandy Dunaway



Hello everyone.

Spring has sprung. Amazingly we have been having some fairly heavy April and May showers.

And they have been reeking havoc for our groundsman in keeping the lawn mowing and edging under control. They are still catching up. Bear with them as they have a monumental job to do in addition to handling all the burials and cremations. The appearance of the cemetery means a lot to all of them as it does to the families. We all want your loved ones resting in a peaceful and pretty place.

The crew has also been trying to re-paint the porch deck and will do so during a sunny period.

When you come to visit, stop in the office and see our new look and say hello. Jasmine had an idea of displaying all the beautiful silk flower arrangements. And they look wonderful in the display room. Kudos to Jasmine.

We also finally have a much larger selection of urns for cremated remains. Probably the largest selection anywhere.

We are still offering engraved Tribute Bricks. They go in the Waiting Garden between the Mausoleum and the Crematory. The bricks are a loving and lasting tribute and make a great gift. They can be for people or pets.

Our website is in the process of being updated. Our original website designer Sandy Rifman has moved out of town. Thanks Sandy for all your hard work.

Teri and Michael Dipperstein are working hard redesigning our new website. A special thanks to them for doing a great job. Our website is [www.lapetcemetery.com](http://www.lapetcemetery.com).

Also, if anyone is interested in volunteering time or skills please let us know. We need someone to make cotton bags that the cremated remains container goes in. We supply all the materials needed. The bags are very simple to make. We also have other tasks available for volunteers such as special mailings, making folders, etc. Give us a call. Any time you can give is greatly appreciated.

With the spring comes summer, and elections for the new board members. If you have any thoughts or questions please see the information in this newsletter. And as always we are here if you have any questions or problems. Please feel free to call or stop in. We will be happy to assist you.

Sandy



## Why dogs don't live longer than people...

*Being a veterinarian, I had been called to examine a ten-year-old Irish Wolfhound named Belker. The dog's owners, Ron, his wife, Lisa and their little boy, Shane were all very attached to Belker and they were hoping for a miracle. I examined Belker and found he was dying of cancer. I told the family there were no miracles left for Belker, and offered to preform the euthanasia procedure for the old dog at their home. As we made arrangements, Ron and Lisa told me they thought it would be good for the four-year-old Shane to observe the procedure. They felt as though Shane might learn something from the experience. The next day, I felt the familiar catch in my throat as Belker's family surrounded him. Shane seemed so calm, petting the old dog for the last time that I wondered if he understood what was going on. Within a few minutes, Belker slipped peacefully away. The little boy seemed to accept Belker's transition without any difficulty or confusion. We sat together for a while after Belker's death, wondering aloud about the sad fact that animal lives are shorter than human lives. Shane, who had been listening quietly, piped up, "I know why". Startled, we all turned to him. What came out of his mouth next stunned me. I'd never heard a more comforting explanation. He said, "People are born so that they can learn how to live a good life - like loving everybody all the time and being nice, right?" The four-year-old continued, "Well dogs already know how to do that, so they don't have to stay as long"*

*Live simply. Love generously.  
Care deeply. Speak kindly.*

## SOPHIE's Angels

Thank you to the angels who have contributed to SOPHIE thru April 25, 2006



Martha Arnold-Charnay

Esta M. Arnold

Ron Schlager

Vi Logan

Ken & Julia Gouw

Jan W. Skotnicki

Aroon W. Mukhey

Allan & Barbara Rhodes

Theresa Badour

Ruth K. March

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Mr. & Mrs. Robert Biggs

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John & Elizabeth Feichtinger

Remy O'Neil

Ruth Svabensky

Rudi & Marainne Fruth

Raquel Garcia

Linda Reitz

Kevin & Maggie Dibben

Ron Schlager

Marina Krause



Patrick & Janette Poston in memory of "Mia" ♥

♥ Gail Wenig in memory of all her pets

Willard & Laura Edwards in memory of "Brandy Domoto" ♥

♥ David G Escobar in memory of "Patches"

Sharon Schwartz & Glen Doernberg in memory of "Roland"

Frank & Ceclia Cayell in memory of "Skeeter & Chico"

Juanita Ditrick in memory of Richard Felperin ♥



## Remember S.O.P.H.I.E. with a Planned Gift

by Ellen Newth

A planned gift to S.O.P.H.I.E., a not-for-profit corporation, is a wonderful way to show how much the Los Angeles Pet Memorial Park has meant to you. It also serves as a fitting tribute to those who rest here on our beautiful grounds. In fact, one of the nicest things you can do is to dedicate your bequest in memory of the pets you have loved.

A gift *without restrictions* is generally the most useful, because it enables us to apply the funds to our immediate needs. However, you may dedicate your contribution to a particular area of interest. For example, Margaret Carey, a long-time S.O.P.H.I.E. member, wanted to help with the renovation of our lovely mausoleum. A generous bequest from her estate was essential in allowing us to complete the project in a timely manner.

When preparing a will or trust, it is important to seek the counsel of an attorney who specializes in estate planning. That way, your wishes will be properly communicated and documented.

We hope that you will tell us when you have named S.O.P.H.I.E. in your will or trust. We would very much like the opportunity to thank you for your generosity.

If you prefer to remain anonymous, your gift will be kept confidential. However, at the same time, recognition of your bequest can encourage others to do the same. Whatever the case, we will honor your wishes, because we value and appreciate your support.

If you have any questions regarding a planned gift to S.O.P.H.I.E., please feel free to contact us at your convenience.

