



Newsletter

Fall 2025

Letter from Our Director, Tracy Frank

Good people truly make all the difference, and the next thirty years will be even more successful as we continue our mission of providing unconditional life for all animals.

Season's greetings from beautiful Guadalupe County! It's been a while since we've sent out a printed newsletter, and that's because printing and postage have become prohibitively expensive. We send out an E-letter once a month, but we recognize that many people still appreciate receiving the hard copy in the mail. Therefore, we will continue to send them out, albeit less frequently, and eventually transition entirely to electronic mail.

This year has flown by, and a lot has happened at SARA: we've sent almost 100 dogs and cats to rescue partners in Chicago, adopted out nearly as many here, and we've completed our new special needs and geriatric complex, known as Bill and Bruno's Barn, among many other accomplishments...

Next year will mark our 30th anniversary! I'm happy to report that we now have a team in place that will take over the reins at some point in the future when I become too decrepit to run the place—or we get millions and can start a SARA branch out in Far West Texas (as I've been trying to make happen for 30 years)—whichever comes first... hopefully the latter!

Rebecca and Zack Nesbit have signed on to carry SARA into the future.



Rebecca and Zack

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NOW**



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a secure donation online.**



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Support us for as little as \$2 a month: patreon.com/SARASanctuary

Letter from the Director, Tracy Frank (*continued*)

We met when they attended a visitor day about a year ago. They fell in love with one of our special dogs and adopted her (and another one since), and our relationship evolved from there, with the couple becoming regular volunteers and good friends. They join our fantastic managers, Maria Wilson and Ramundo “Mundo” Trujillo-Vaquera, both of whom live on-site and have made themselves indispensable through their hard work and dedication.

We have other employees and volunteers who also contribute to making everything here function smoothly. Still, there is a lot of staff turnover, and people get busy with their own lives and can't always volunteer.

Finding permanent staff members hasn't been easy. There isn't a lot of money for pay—you have to do the job for the right reasons: an abiding love for animals and a desire to make a difference in the world. It's reassuring to know that it's not just me trying to keep the place running, worried about the inevitable changes and who will take care of the animals when I'm gone, but that others share my passion.

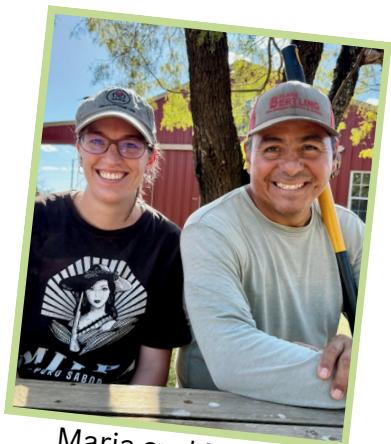
Good people truly make all the difference, and the next thirty years will be even more successful as we continue our mission of providing unconditional life for all animals.

We are thrilled about our 30th Anniversary and have grand plans to celebrate this milestone with a spring open house in March. We will continue to save even more animals and raise awareness about the outstanding work SARA does in 2026. We are making regular social media posts to get the word out, so be sure to follow us on Instagram and Facebook.

Thank you for being part of our family and for your generous support.

You complete us!

All my best,
Tracy



Maria and Mundo



Tracy and Medio Bueno



Kevin Our Snake Whisperer

Ways to Help Before the End of the Year:
Adopt or Foster from SARA
Volunteer
Host a fundraiser for us in your home or on Socials
Make a cash donation
Share our message with your friends and family
Buy our merchandise
Sponsor an animal as a gift
Donate a Memorial Tree and/or a Bench

Donate your car for an end-of-year tax break!

Call CARS 855-500-RIDE for more information

News & Upcoming Events

Vegan Thanksgiving Potluck- Nov 27th Noon to 4:00 PM

Bring a vegan dish to share or just come hungry! Show up early to volunteer.

Please RSVP to tracy@saarasanctuary.org.

Giving Tuesday, December 2nd through 3rd

24 Hours of Online Giving Around the World. Our goal is \$25,000 this year.



Volunteer Sign-Up and Orientation - December 13th, 10:00 AM.

Thinking about becoming a regular volunteer? Join us for a tour and meet-and-greet. Volunteers receive a free t-shirt!

Uptown Collar Angel Tree

Sedna, Freckles, Rocky, Brooke, and Hunter are being featured by Uptown Collar this holiday season as part of their Angel Tree. They are hoping for a mix of balls, puzzle toys and extra staff time.

Visitor Day - December 20th

Come out and celebrate the season and visit the animals. We will have a campfire, s'mores, and a wiener roast (vegan, of course), cookies, cupcakes, and spiced hot cider—everybody's favorite! We'll have plenty of carrots and apples for the animals, as well as merchandise including a new t-shirt design, a white elephant sale, a raffle, and more.

Partner Update

Seguin Snip Squad

A new non-profit hits the streets of Seguin in January 2026. Our new partners at Seguin Snip Squad are providing a much needed low-cost spay/neuter mobile clinic for dogs.

They have also been kind enough to donate pumpkins over the Halloween season and keep spaces on their list for some of our dogs.



Pet Adoptions at Green Jay Gardens

Thanks to our good friends at this beautiful garden center for inviting us to bring dogs and puppies so they can find wonderful homes.

Check it out: greenjaygardens.com



Here, Everything's Better - Thanks to H-E-B!

Thanks H-E-B for always providing pet food to our animals, we couldn't feed everyone without them.

**Over 46 Million Turkeys will suffer and die for the Thanksgiving holiday.
Go Vegan for Compassion and make a difference in the lives of animals.**

Bill & Bruno's Barn is Open for Business!

We are thrilled to be able to keep so many of our older and special needs vulnerable dogs inside this spacious, climate-controlled building. We have created our own dog park, complete with yards and holding areas where dogs can run and play either in small groups or, for those that cannot socialize with others, their own secure area.

A great big thank you to William Philip for making this possible.

Bruno was one of our favorite beloved dogs whose life was cut short by cancer. He recently died after surgery to remove a fast-growing tumor. The new barn is dedicated to his memory.

A Moo-ving Tale!

Moving a 1000-pound cow isn't easy, especially when that cow is missing a leg and refuses to use her prosthesis! Lily Rose, our special young cow who is missing a portion of one of her back legs, had settled in a spot without shelter, and despite our best efforts to coax and lure her with treats to her enclosure, she remained decidedly stationary. With the cold weather approaching, we needed to find a solution.

We consulted a man who works at the local stockyard, and he advised us to use the hay hooks on a skid steer, stating, "We do it all the time." But let's face it, most people moving "downer" cows at the cattle auctions are not concerned about the well-being of those animals; they're just trying to expedite things. There are many documented cases of workers laughing as they drag a poor, doomed cow, unable to get up, to her final destination with a chain or brutally lift and drop her with a tractor.

So, we purchased the "Easy Cow Lifter" sling, and volunteer Brandon King brought out his backhoe, while a group of us assembled to make it happen. The Easy Cow Lifter was anything but, but finally, after a modification or two and a lot of trepidation, we got her moved into her warm and cozy pen under the barn overhang.

Nobody was hurt, despite the use of heavy equipment, a cow that didn't want to be moved, and a volunteer, Ben Hutchings, being sent flying about six feet after being hip-checked by Lily!

All's well that ends well—our sweet Lily Rose is happy and protected in her new spot. Teamwork makes the dream work!



William Philip, Lynn Carroll Werke and Bruno



Our Best Boy Bruno



Lily Rose

Wishlist

Dog and cat toys
Large Jolly Balls for the pigs, cows, donkeys, and horses
Greenie peanut butter pill pockets
Hay & Straw bales
Pumpkins
Timothy pellets for horses
Pine shavings
Guinea pig feed
Deer corn
All-Stock feed
Dog beds
Dog and cat toys
Cat carpet trees for our cattery
Dry dog food
Whole corn
Pumpkins, Sweet potatoes, Apples, Carrots
Horse treats
Paper towels
Paper plates
Cruelty-free cleaning supplies like Mrs. Meyers
Scrub brushes
Brooms
Newspaper
Small paper boxes for cat litter
Alpaca cat tree (lettoden.com)
Pick-up truck
Squeeze chute for cattle



A Vet on Staff

We are seeking an on-site veterinarian to visit us every week for surgeries, check-ups, rabies vaccinations, and general animal care. Having a vet come out to us will help us provide better care for the animals and make things easier and less stressful for our staff.

Clinic Needs:

Anesthesia machine
Surgery table
Surgery light
Mayo stand



Adopt Don't Shop this Holiday Season

Make the compassionate choice to adopt your next best friend. Millions of animals need a home.



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Cedric

We have had this sweet boy since he was about a month old. He and his siblings were brought to us after they were found in a ditch near the bodies of their mother and another puppy who had been hit by a car. They were dirty, hungry, and scared, but it didn't take long for them to become happy, playful little puppies.

All of his siblings have been adopted, but Cedric has severe hip dysplasia and will need a total hip replacement. A specialist must perform the procedure, and it's not cheap—on average, the procedure costs about \$15,000.

Please get in touch with us if you can help. Tracy@sarsanctuary.org.



Ollie

We were alerted to the plight of a sweet dog whose leg was severely broken and had already healed. He was also super skinny and suffering from heartworms. Incredibly, he had a home! He belonged to a neighbor of the woman who rescued him. He gave her the dog, saying he no longer wanted him.

Ollie will have to undergo surgery, and the prognosis is good that he will make a full recovery. He is a sweet boy who enjoys the company of other dogs and loves people, despite what he has endured.



Two Prairie Dogs, Loretta and Conway

These cute little guys arrived at our facility a few months ago. They are a bonded pair and, when adopted, they come with their own sturdy metal enclosure