



Newsletter No. 65

December 2022

[amigosanimalesgto.org](http://amigosanimalesgto.org)

## Amigos receives a grant through The Humane Society of the United States

Amigos has just received an award to \$2,000 USD from the Alice Morgan Wright-Edith Goode Trust to expand our current public education program, with a special focus on teaching compassion for animals to young school children. The grant was recommended by The Humane Society of the United States, which administers the Trust. Its Grants Committee reviewed 65 grant applications and approved 29 of them, two from US organizations and 27 from international organizations.

This is our third grant from the Alice Morgan Wright-Edith Goode Trust. The first two, received in 2009 and 2014, supported our public service messages on city buses. (See page 6 for a brief article about our current messages.) Our

special thanks

to Saul Helfenbein, Sandra Ward, Joslyn Lewis, and Jim Sullivan for preparing the latest proposal.



*We aim to include both private and public schools in the program*



*Teaching preschoolers about pets' needs will be an important part of this program*

The goal of this program, entitled Teaching Children Compassion for Animals, is to expand children's awareness of animals' needs and welfare by encouraging children in the Guanajuato municipality, primarily those in kindergarten and the first six grades of school, to be more responsible toward their family pets, more compassionate toward homeless dogs and cats, more understanding of the needs of farm and working animals, and more aware of and sensitive to wildlife.

This year-long grant will enable us to build on our messages on city buses, talks at public schools, and other educational activities at sterilization campaigns, local events, social media, and TV and radio interviews. It will greatly expand opportunities for children to participate in activities fostering humane attitudes and behaviors toward animals.

Amigos will implement this program in collaboration with Fundación Corazón Animal, a local nonprofit association that focuses on animal rescue and shelter in Guanajuato. Our two organizations will mobilize volunteers to give talks in schools and create educational activities in various community settings.

We plan to use the grant to buy equipment and supplies needed for the program. The funding from the Trust will enable us to prepare appropriate messages for different elementary school age groups, print and distribute educational materials, conduct public events promoting compassionate behavior toward animals, expand talks and teaching sessions in public and private elementary schools and community centers, and convey compelling messages via radio and television.

We believe this grant will make an important contribution to the Guanajuato community and Mexican efforts to expand animal welfare policies and programs. Equally important, we will use the



*Volunteer Antonia López reading a story about how to pet a dog during a recent sterilization campaign*



*"Interviewing" a dog at an event celebrating pets*

grant to lay the foundation for long-term animal welfare education within the local public and private school systems. The latter endeavor will require significant increases in technical, managerial, and financial resources. We are confident we can mobilize these resources via our volunteers and partners, and with grants from friendly foundations and the Guanajuato educational community.

We welcome our readers' support in the form of ideas, teaching skills, technical support, or financial contributions in making the program a success and ensuring that our long-term goal of improving the welfare of all animals in Guanajuato becomes a reality. Please feel free to contact us—via email ([amigos@amigosanimalesgto.org](mailto:amigos@amigosanimalesgto.org)) or our website ([amigosanimalesgto.org](http://amigosanimalesgto.org))—if you would like to contribute to this important initiative.

## Sterilizations during the fall

Between September and November, we sterilized 399 animals, 383 of them at six regular campaigns and 16 at two workshops for our advanced veterinary students. Altogether, 216 dogs (146 females, 70 males) and 167 cats (115 females, 52 males) were sterilized.

### The campaigns

On September 4, we sterilized 75 animals at the Cultural Center in the village of Puente de las Puercas. We sterilized another 61 animals in the primary school Sostenes Rocha in San

José de Tránsito on September 17. The next day we sterilized another 19 animals in an unoccupied house in Villas de Guanajuato that could not be attended to on the 17<sup>th</sup>.



*Cristian Pérez helped Jim Sullivan wash surgical drapes in Puente de las Puercas*

In October we held two campaigns, one at the Manantial subdivision on October 2, the other in the village of Santa Teresa on October 29. At Manantial's headquarters we sterilized 87 animals. In Santa Teresa we sterilized 71 at the Salón de Eventos SHERK's.



*Student vets Aurora Verver and Daniel Palafax in Manantial*



*The surgical team at the Cultural Center in Puente de las Puercas*



*Two patients await their surgeries in Puente de las Puercas*

Two unfortunate incidents took place at the campaign in Santa Teresa. A female dog was diagnosed with a transmissible venereal tumor, a type of cancer that is very contagious and requires various chemotherapies to be cured. The veterinarians recommended that she be euthanized, and her owners agreed, given the risks and the expenses that her condition posed. And one of our volunteers, Mary Beth Canavan, broke her wrist while helping to unload equipment. She nevertheless continued working at the campaign.



*Two kittens at San José del Tránsito*



*Suzy Thompson with Boo!*

On the bright side, Suzy Thompson, one of our board members who was volunteering that day, adopted a little black female dog, whom she named Boo! (with an exclamation point). Boo! joins two other rescued dogs in Suzy's household.

Our November campaign was held at the cultural center [Resplandor Internacional](#) in the village of Cajones on November 13. Seventy animals were sterilized that day.

Although most of the animals at our campaigns are females, the number of males has been increasing over the past several years. Given that male dogs can impregnate as many as 7 females in one day, and that venereal tumors can be fatal to male as well as females, we encourage people who have male dogs to sterilize them. Owners of male cats are increasingly aware that sterilizing them prevents fights and marking behavior.



*Volunteer Mayra Pérez García (left) with a client and her dog*

### **The workshops**

Besides our regular campaigns, our veterinarians provide training in rapid sterilization techniques to students of veterinary medicine who participate in the campaigns. Veterinary schools offer academic instruction on various aspects of veterinary care, but practical instruction in surgical techniques is limited and usually not offered until the final year of training. For advanced students who are interested in pursuing careers in

small-animal care, our program offers them the opportunity to learn sterilization techniques developed by the organization Spay Mexico that are not necessarily taught at their university.

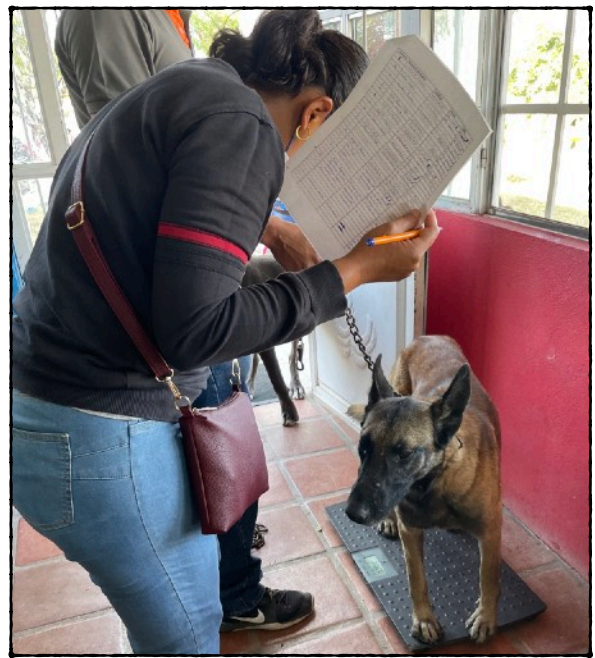
The advanced students who volunteer at our campaigns receive one-on-one instruction in these techniques at special workshops held at the private clinic belonging to Dr. Ricardo Montes de Oca. After receiving the training, they perform surgeries at our campaigns under the supervision of our two experienced vets.



*Dr. Verónica Almaguer anesthetizes a patient*



*One of our patients at Resplandor in Cajones*



*A patient is weighed in preparation for his surgery*



*Karla Ahumada operating on a dog while Dr. Ricardo Montes de Oca and Abril Herrera observe*

Meanwhile, students who are in the early stages of their veterinary studies or who plan to enter veterinary school can also participate in our campaigns by assisting the surgeons and other volunteers. They observe the surgeries and become familiar with our campaign protocols.

On October 15, Dr. Montes de Oca worked with Abril Herrera, now in her fourth year of veterinary school, who has been volunteering at our campaigns for the past two years. Under Ricardo’s supervision, she sterilized 3 female dogs, 3 female cats, and 1 male cat.

Another training sessions took place at Ricardo’s clinic on November 19. Vet students Karla Ahumada (also in her fourth year of training) and Abril Herrera sterilized 1 female dog, 2 male dogs, 5 female cats, and 1 male cat under his supervision that day.

We are very grateful to all three veterinarians—surgeons Ricardo Montes de Oca and Arturo Rocha and anesthetist Verónica Almaguer—who along with our campaign coordinator Julia Salido lead our team, and to the dedicated volunteers who assist them. Our recent volunteers are identified on page 17.

## Two completely different bus messages appear on Guanajuato's streets

In the past, all our public-service bus messages have focused on the needs of dogs and cats. In September, however, we chose a new focus for two new messages: working and farm animals, specifically burros and hens. Both make the same appeal: ***I work hard for you. Please treat me well.*** The voices in the messages are implicitly those of the animals themselves.

The messages are displayed on the backs of two city buses, where hundreds of people have been seeing them each day. They will remain on the buses until the end of December. We welcome our readers' suggestions for new messages in 2023.



# Our Meet & Greet in September



*Gaby García and Mario Nieves entertained our guests*

It was loads of fun. About 45 people attended, enjoying a beautiful afternoon, drinks, and food in the garden of Hotel Embajadoras while Gaby García and Mario Nieves performed mellow jazz. John Denissen and Joslyn Lewis sold lots of raffle tickets for 15 prizes, including a mouth-watering peach pie baked by Susan Pataky; several stunning ceramic pieces donated by Gaby García and Joan Hicks de Romero; two charming pet-themed purses made by Sue Meyer; a box of cheeses and salamis from Salgadeira; a bottle of wine and a bottle of tequila; and various services (knife-sharpening, men's and women's haircuts, tai chi class, tech support). A

separate table displayed numerous attractive items from Terri Rasmussen's Tiny Tiendita, and a third displayed our greeting cards and information about Amigos.

Sandra Ward and Julia Salido spoke briefly about Amigos' work in the community, and Jim Sullivan invited those present to become donors and volunteers. At the end of the party, Joslyn, our treasurer, announced that the event had raised \$14,190 pesos—enough to sterilize 43 animals. Our thanks to everyone who made it such a success.



*John Denissen sold raffle tickets*



*Some of our guests*



*Everyone had fun*

# Save these two important dates!

## Our Christmas Market, on Sunday, December 11



Susan Grover making Christmas cookies

We're having our first holiday event since Covid on **Sunday, December 11**, in Plaza Baratillo from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. At the market we will be selling homemade Christmas cookies and cakes, orange marmalade, sauces, and other yummy goodies made by our volunteers—plus pet toys and collars, poinsettias, Amigos tee shirts with a new design, Amigos holiday greeting cards, creative gifts from Terri's Tiny Tiendita, and other items that will make perfect stocking stuffers.



Maureen Steltman preparing seville oranges for our marmalade



Marion Pritchard cooking the marmalade

We'll send you an online order form in a separate email. You can place your order for them ahead of time and pick them up at Susan Pataky's home (Terra Vista, Camino Real 36 at the corner of Blvd. Guanajuato) on December 9 or at Plaza Baratillo on December 11.



Susan Grover and Sue Parry at the last Christmas Fair



## Our 21<sup>st</sup> Anniversary Fiesta, on Sunday, February 19

We're finally having a *live* party again, our first anniversary celebration since 2020. It will take place on **Sunday, February 19, from 3 to 6 p.m. at the beautiful La Casa Grande in San Javier, courtesy of its owner, Ricardo Herbert.** As in the past, on the upper floor there will be delicious food and drinks, another auction of fabulous items and experiences, a raffle, plus gift items from Terri's Tiny Tiendita. At the end of the party, we'll have live music for those who want to linger, listen, and dance.



*Guests enjoying our previous live anniversary celebration, in 2020*

pesos. Each ticket will entitle the purchaser to food, one complimentary drink, and one raffle ticket. More details about the party will follow soon.

**We are seeking attractive items (of jewelry, clothing, and art, for example) and services and experiences that would be appropriate as auction prizes.** Auction items should have a value of at least USD \$50. We are also requesting raffle prizes, such as restaurant meals, and items for the second-hand store. If you can offer us any of these things, please [contact](#) us right away. We will get back to you promptly.

On the ground floor we'll have our Amigos Store (so TWO tiendas this year) offering many attractive second-hand items. **The downstairs store will open at 2 p.m.** No tickets will be needed for people who just want to shop downstairs and not attend the party.

Tickets for the upstairs event will go on sale on January 1 and can be ordered online. Those for adults purchased before February 12 will be \$400 pesos; tickets can also be purchased at the door for \$450



*...and the Amigos shop*



## A veterinarian dedicated to our cause

### Dr. Ricardo Montes de Oca

Ricardo Montes de Oca is one of the three veterinarians who head our sterilization campaigns. Since joining our team in 2019, he has been invaluable to us, not only as a surgeon, but also as a mentor for veterinary students who volunteer at the campaigns, offering them one-on-one training in rapid sterilization techniques at his private clinic, and handling the few campaign cases that require follow-up care.

Born in Guanajuato, Ricardo grew up in the city of León, where he studied veterinary medicine at the University of La Salle Bajío and received his degree as a Doctor of Veterinary Medicine in 2012. He has also earned a diploma in infectious diseases of dogs and cats from UNAM (the National School of Higher Education) in León and a master's degree in administration of institutions of health from the University of La Salle Bajío. In addition, as we reported a year ago, Amigos arranged for Ricardo to receive training and certification in the sterilization protocols developed by the organization Spay Mexico at the University of Mexicali's School of Veterinary Medicine.



*Dr. Ricardo Montes de Oca*

Ricardo has worked in various public and private settings, including the city of Guanajuato's Animal Control and Assistance Center, where he still works part time. He moved his family back here five years ago and set up a private practice in Las Teresas. His greatest satisfaction as a veterinarian has been seeing how veterinary care improves the quality of animals' lives.

Although his practice focuses on dogs and cats, Ricardo's favorite animals are the wild animals that can be seen in our community. These include skunks, armadillos, foxes, coyotes, opossums, cacomixtles (nocturnal, arboreal animals resembling raccoons), and endemic birds.

Asked about our campaigns, he commented that he has observed over time that people attend the Amigos campaigns because of the quality of care we provide throughout the procedure and the few cases of post-surgical complications that occur. He noted that our protocols have been improved to guarantee the cleanliness and sterility of surgical procedures, and that this has resulted in much shorter and more successful post-surgical recoveries.

As for the situation of animals in Guanajuato, Ricardo believes that, to achieve control of canine and feline overpopulation and to reduce animal abuse, it is necessary not just to control births through sterilization, but also to educate people about being responsible for their animals' welfare. All members of the community—the government, private associations, and individual citizens—must be involved to realize these goals.

## Joan Weldon Hicks Armstrong de Romero (1930–2022)

Our vice president and dear friend Joan Hicks de Romero died on September 19. She was a loyal supporter of Amigos for many years, and her wise counsel and friendship are sorely missed. The matriarch of a highly esteemed family in Guanajuato and an important bridge between the Mexican and U.S. expatriate communities, she was always accessible to anyone who needed advice or help.

Joan was born in Jersey City, New Jersey. While studying Spanish literature at Wheaton College in Massachusetts, she came to Guanajuato as an exchange student in 1953, eventually married a young attorney named Enrique Romero Yllades, and settled here. Widowed while her children were young, she raised a family of five distinguished professionals: a mining engineer, a former governor of the State of Guanajuato who is now a senator, a former head of Mexico's import-export bank, and two physicians, one of whom served as mayor of the city of Guanajuato.

Joan also had a busy career of her own, which began with her supporting the work of the La Salle Institute and the Ignacio Allende Federal Elementary School. In 1970 she became a founding member of the Guanajuato chapter of the Pan American Round Table, a group that promotes cooperation among the countries of the Americas.

She was active in numerous social service organizations benefiting the Guanajuato community. In 1980 she co-founded Conexión Arco Iris, a social-welfare association of Mexican and American women that provides educational, health, and social support to Guanajuato families in need, and in recent years was its president. Beginning in 1990 she provided administrative support to an international summer program for law students based at the University of Guanajuato. She joined the Amigos board of directors in 2012 and became our vice president in 2020. In appreciation of her altruism, her contribution to education, and her dedication to the Guanajuato community, in 2011 the City Council officially recognized her as an outstanding citizen of the world.

Over the past year, although physically impaired by complications of a fractured hip, Joan remained active in Amigos, attending our meetings via Zoom, and continued to lead Arco Iris. The Amigos board and Joan's many friends in the Guanajuato community extend their deepest condolences to her family. All of us miss her warm and wise presence.



*Joan Hicks de Romero*

## Other noteworthy items

### A sobering article about Mexico's pet problem

On November 16 the online *Mexico News Daily* published the article "Expat rescue groups work to stem Mexico's never-ending tide of unwanted pets," by Leigh Thelmadatter. Here's the link: <https://mexiconewsdaily.com/mexicolife/expats-work-to-stem-mexicos-never-ending-tide-of-unwanted-pets/>.

### Adopta Guanajuato has issued another beautiful calendar

Adopta Guanajuato's 2023 wall calendar will become available on December 15 and can be ordered by telephone (+52 473 114 7085). The price is 300 pesos per calendar. As in the past, the calendar, measuring 14 X 11 inches, will feature colorful photographs of rescued dogs and cats in various Guanajuato locations. Proceeds from the sales will support Adopta Guanajuato's rescue activities.



## From our archives

### Missa Him

by Duke Miller

*This article originally appeared in the April 2013 issue of our Newsletter.*

I woke every morning to the sounds of dogs barking, howling, whining, snarling, and sometimes fighting. Of course, I went to bed with the same noise. The middle of the night was no better: up at 2 a.m., staggering toward the toilet with the identical sad tuning. It was like sitting in a theater balcony listening to an orchestra warm up, except the musicians were insane dogs dressed in formal tails.

After moving into my home, I had made a point of tracing each dog voice to its rightful owner. I would ask, "What do you call your dog?" People were always happy and proud to tell me the names. Soon I was able to match the voice, name, and location of each dog in the symphony. At night when they played, I could see their faces. There was Lacquer, an angry percussionist, who played like he wanted to grow human hands and beat the hell out of somebody instead of his drums. Old Elmo, trying to harmonize with disintegrating hips, who plaintively howled in a thin, high voice that rivaled the most delicate first violin. The brass was handled by Mucho, Puppy, Puppy 2, Walli, Yaki, and Luna. Combined, they put the Tower of Power to shame in an aggressive, out-of-my-way way. Luna, Boi, Huff, Puff, and Duque were the woodwinds, with the bassoon being their weapon of choice.

Every orchestra needs a conductor, and his name was Roque. He never barked, only growled, and in his haughty walk, the other dogs sensed a leader of their band, a stoic to guide them through the days and nights of undulating music.

One day as I walked in the *callejones* admiring the many roof dogs that spent their entire lives guarding roofs, an emaciated, but beautiful dog started to follow me. I called her "Missa Him" for unknown reasons and I would see her from time to time and then she got pregnant. Over the next few months I watched her six puppies all die in various ways. In my dreams at night Missa Him would come to me and whimper sadly.

After all the puppies were gone, Missa Him started to show up daily at my gate. I began to feed her. Her eyes were like a romantic movie. The male dogs lined up to take advantage of her and she got pregnant again. I decided I couldn't bear to watch a new litter of puppies die, so I called Amigos de los Animales. They came to the rescue and paid to have her spayed.

I helped Missa Him into the car that would take her to the veterinarian. She looked at me with trusting eyes, and in that moment she peacefully lifted me up and a warm wave filled my body. I closed the door and watched as the car drove away.



*Missa Him at the author's home*

During her recovery in the side garden of my home people would stop and ask, "Why are you imprisoning my dog?" I soon came to realize that most of the neighborhood looked upon Missa Him as "their" dog. I told them that after ten days, when she was better, I would let her out to run free. That seemed to satisfy them.

On the fateful tenth day, Missa Him's stitches were removed and she was ready to return to the wildness of the garbage, running packs, speeding cars, disease, alleyways, and part-time owners. I took off her blue collar and opened the gate. She trotted out and with the backward kick of a hind paw, she was gone. I decided to eat an avocado.

About five minutes later I heard a scratching sound. It was Missa Him. I opened the gate, but she walked away and looked back at me. She wanted me to follow her, so I did. We cut through alleys and down dirt paths, along fences and across backyards, up steep hills and into fields choked by plastic. Big buses and trucks roared by us in the narrow streets. Other dogs viciously snapped or sniffed at her. She inspected all manner of decaying things and licked dirty water. For one hour I followed and looked with her eyes. We would stop to rest and I petted her.

During the journey, people would greet her and call her by different names: Bonita, Estrella, Duquesa, Mama, and Patches. All of which were better than Missa Him. “Where have you been?” they would ask, and I could tell that they loved her in their own way.

She led me to three homes. I knocked on the doors and they said, “Yes, we feed her and let her sleep here sometimes. Our kids really love it when she has puppies.” Most called her una bruta noble and it was true; despite the poor odds, she had a character that radiated a royal dignity; a dog to lie at the foot of a king and queen. I told the people that she had been sick and lost her puppies, and that she had been staying at my place, but now she was *liberada* and ready to return to her old life. They all thought that was a good thing.

Missa Him followed me home. I didn’t let her inside the garden where I had kept her bed. I wanted to keep my promise to let her roam. She stood looking at me, wagging her tail, but I went inside leaving her there. A few hours later I looked out and I could see her lying on the concrete. It was getting dark. The cold wind was picking up. I opened the gate and she entered.

Later I regarded my face in the mirror and thought that it was true. I liked dogs better than people and I knew that I would try to keep her. I wondered if the neighbors would let me and then I turned off the lights. The dogs were making desperate music and as I listened, the sounds became distant and slowly I lost consciousness of the restless, foreign world.

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*Duke Miller is a writer who lives in San Miguel Allende. He and his wife, Tres, who was an Amigos board member when they lived in Guanajuato, still have Missa Him, who’s now about 13 years old. Also part of their household are another rescued dog named Tillie and two recently adopted kittens, Birdie and Stormy Bell.*



*A recent photo of Tres Miller with Missa Him and Tillie*

## Your support enables us to continue our important work

We depend upon the donations we receive to provide services to the community. **Our average costs** (in U.S. dollars): campaign sterilization, \$24; bus message, \$85 per month; 100 copies of our coloring book "Dales la mano" (Give them a hand), \$88. **Donations in any amount are gratefully accepted and acknowledged.**

### A smarter way to donate?

If you are considering donating to Amigos, you might want to check out this tax-advantaged method: arrange with your IRA provider to donate to Amigos directly from your IRA. By doing so you will benefit by having your RMD (required minimum distribution) reduced by the amount of your donation. This results in a lower tax bill for you because your RMD is lowered. You will still have the same amount of income net after your donation as you would have before, Amigos receives the same amount that you were going to donate anyway, and you have a lower tax bill.

Disclaimer: Amigos de los Animales does not provide individual tax advice, so please check with your IRA provider for the details and how to set up the donation so that you reduce your tax bill. Amigos de los Animales de Guanajuato, Inc., is a 501(c)3 public charity, and its Federal tax ID number is 20-4820854.

As always, Amigos deeply appreciates your financial support. It's what keeps us going!



Donate

**We have a new Donate page on our website!** Now, you can donate quickly & securely using PayPal, Apple Pay, Google Pay, Mercado Pago, bank transfer, or credit/debit cards, all in one place. You can even leave us a comment and have it displayed on our Donor Wall, so that others can appreciate your generosity. Maybe your comment will inspire others to give! Check out our new donate page [here](#).

**Using Zelle, you can make transfer to our account at Chase Bank at no cost.** To do so, go into your bank account online, click on Zelle, and enter our name (Amigos de los Animales de Guanajuato, Inc.) and our email address (amigos@amigosanimalesgto.org) as the charity you wish to support. Chase will notify us of the transfer so that we can thank you.



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**You can make a donation to our Mexican bank account at BBVA, No.** 0116390749, Clabe 012210001163907490.

**You can make a cash deposit to our BBVA account of up to 1000 pesos at any OXXO store** for just 10 pesos. Our Bancomer card number is 4555 1130 0801 2017. Again, please tell us when you make the donation so that we can thank you.





**If you have an Amazon.com account in the U.S., you can shop at Amazon's charity website and support us with your purchases.** At no additional cost to you, 0.5% of the price of your eligible purchases will be donated to Amigos. To set up your charitable giving through Amazon, go to Amazon's charity website, [smile.amazon.com](https://smile.amazon.com), and select Amigos de los Animales as your preferred charity. Two charities with this name will appear. Choose the second one, Amigos de los Animales de Guanajuato. Amazon will do the rest.

**Questions about making a donation?** Contact us at [amigos@amigosanimalesgto.org](mailto:amigos@amigosanimalesgto.org).

## **We appreciate our recent donors**

**A special donation:** In October we received a significant donation from the Dwyer Family Gift Fund in memory of the fund's founder, Paul Dwyer, a citizen of the world and free spirit who loved Mexico. The Fund's administrators chose Amigos de los Animales for the donation because of our longevity as a small animal-welfare organization with a proven record of accomplishments. The donation will be applied to projects advancing our mission.

**A holiday sale:** On November 17, Terri Rasmussen held a sale at her charming gift shop, **Terri's Tiny Tiendita**. She served punch, cookies, and cake to her customers. The event raised \$8000 pesos for Amigos.

**Queridos Amigos (Dear Friends), who have pledged to contribute \$1200 a year for three years:** Ron Mann and Sandra Ward; Bill Merrell; Steve Murdock and John Denissen; Tom Reavley and Guillermina Amézquita; Jim Sullivan and Joslyn Lewis

**Sustaining Friends, who contribute monthly:** Martha Deutsch, Hannah Dixon, Angie Gentry, Mariana Gómez Grobet, Kimberli Issacs, Joslyn Lewis, Victor Márquez, Isabel Nuñez Ortiz, Karla Peyton, Charles and Terri Rasmussen, Dianne Romain, Richard Thurston

**Other good friends:** Mary Beth Canavan, Kathleen Davoli, Beth Lozano, Daniel Roark, Joel Villalon

**In-kind donors of raffle prizes for our September Meet & Greet:** John Denissen, Gaby García, Joan Hicks de Romero, Joslyn Lewis, Ron Mann and Sandra Ward, Sue Meyers, Endre Patak, Susan Patak, Terri and Charles Rasmussen, Tom Reavley, Jim Sullivan, Bob and Suzy Thompson, Terry Woodruff

**In-kind donors for the Christmas Market:** Beth Appling, Sarah-Anne Kullah, Sue Meyers, Susan Patak, Marion and Lyle Pritchard, Julia Salido, Sandra Ward

**Other in-kind donors:** John Denissen, Ruth Windsor



## And many thanks to our recent volunteers

**Board members:** Rosemarie Conde, John Denissen, Nancy Hager, Saul Helfenbein, Sarah Anne Kulla, Joslyn Lewis, Bill Merrell, Tom Reavley, Julia Salido, Jim Sullivan, Suzy Thompson, Sandra Ward

**Sterilization campaigns:** veterinarians: Verónica Almaguer, Ricardo Montes de Oca, Arturo Rocha; campaign coordinator: Julia Salido; advanced veterinary students: Karla Ahumada, Abril Herrera, Daniel Palafox, Laura Uvalle, Aurora Verver; other volunteers: Katya Amaya, Mary Beth Canavan, Rosemarie Conde, Joel Gaytán Espinoza, José Luis Cortés González, Carlos Donato Sandoval, María Francesca Espinosa, Gustavo García, Jeff Gimprich, Joslyn Lewis, Antonia López Palacios, Beth Lozano, Vero Mares, Gris Martínez, Juana Mondragón, Cristian Pérez, Mayra Paola Perez García, Eduardo Rodríguez, Dulce Sandoval, Vicky Sandoval, Jim Sullivan, Suzy Thompson, José Torres, Jorge Luis Vargas Barrera, Flor Elena Velázquez Barroso, Jonathan Zapata

**Christmas Market:** Dyan Amirault, Genie Fuller, Susan Grover, Sarah Anne Kullah, Joslyn Lewis, Sue Meyers, Sue Parry, Susan Pataky, Marion Pritchard, Terri Rasmussen, Julia Salido, Kris Santiago, Maureen Steltman, Jim Sullivan, Suzy Thompson, Sandra Ward, Terry Woodruff

**Newsletter:** Sandra Ward (editor), Martín Lozano (translations), Jim Sullivan (layout and mailing)

**Social media:** Joslyn Lewis

**Website:** Jim Sullivan

