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City of  
**SACRAMENTO**  
Front Street Animal Shelter

April 2013

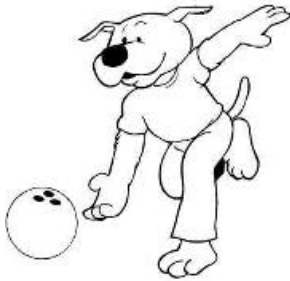
# Volunteer *focus*



WORKING TOGETHER TO SAVE LIVES AT THE  
FRONT STREET ANIMAL SHELTER!

## Bowling for Bullies!

April is "Bowling for Bullies" month! Each day, through the end of April, adopters of "bully" type breeds can bowl for reduced adoption fees. Each pin knocked down earns \$5 off the adoption. If they get a strike, that's \$50 off!!



All Service Hours sign-off requests have to go through Janice. Please do not ask other staff to sign your paper work!



## Looking for Something To Do?

Looking for something to do to help out? Here is a list of ongoing things that you can do to help out everyday:

- ◆ Put away any donations that are in the Reception or Administration buildings
- ◆ **Bag dog food!! We can never have too many prepared bags of food for our pet food pantry!**
- ◆ Clean the Behavior Evaluation Trailer
- ◆ Clean the counters, cupboards, doors & sinks in the admin building
- ◆ Clean the break room



## Kicking it up at the Auto Museum

It's almost here!! Our first annual Volunteer Bash on Monday, April 29th is coming quickly and will be here before we know it. Every volunteer and staff member and their families are invited to celebrate.

We have many awards to give out (to both volunteers and staff) as well as a raffle for some cool prizes. We'll be grilling up some hot dogs and eating the tasty treats everybody brings to share. This is going to be a very fun event and our opportunity to hang out and party together!

We do ask that you bring your own beverage (wine & beer welcome for those over 21!) and a side dish to share. We are looking forward to some yummy salads & snacks.

Please RSVP to the email invitation you received or at the event website <http://event.pingg.com/FrontStreetBash>, or directly to Janice at [jwagaman@cityofsacramento.org](mailto:jwagaman@cityofsacramento.org). We need your RSVP by April 20th so we know how many hot dogs to buy!

LET'S PARTY  
OUR VOLUNTEERS ARE  
AWESOME!

You are invited to the  
**Front St Volunteer Bash**  
April 29, 2013 6:00pm  
at the Auto Museum

## Offsite Adoption Events

Offsite adoption events are a fun way to get the word out about our shelter, our amazing animals available for adoption, and the many programs and services we provide to the community. This is a great way to help out and have fun too!! Thanks to the efforts of our new volunteer Outreach Program Leader, Shari Crum, we have many opportunities to be out in the community over the next few months. **But we need your help!! Sign up online for any of these events:**

- ◆ **Sunday, April 14th** 10:00-2:00 PetCo Unleashed (Florin & Greenhaven)
- ◆ **Thursday, April 18th** 8:00-2:00 Earth Day Celebration at City Hall
- ◆ **Sunday, April 21st** 11:00-4:00 Earth Day Celebration at Southside Park
- ◆ **Saturday, April 27th** 10:00-4:00 Pet-A-Palooza at Rusch Park
- ◆ **Saturday, April 27th** 10:00-2:00 Pet Extreme Adoption Event
- ◆ **Saturday, April 27th** 11:00-4:00 Sacto MOFO under the freeway at X & 6th

**Calling all dog volunteers for April 27th! We have THREE events that day—**whew! I know we can do it if we have lots of volunteers sign up.

If you have completed Dog Training II, you can help out at any of these events!!  
**Please sign up today online!**



## What Exactly is a Pit Bull?

by Dawn Capp, M.S., J.D.  
Founder, Chako Pit Bull Rescue

There is perhaps no greater confusion when it comes to breed than that which surrounds the bull-and-terrier breeds, particularly “Pit Bulls.”

The term “Pit Bull” is shorthand for the breed name American Pit Bull Terrier (APBT), as recognized by the United Kennel Club (UKC) and the American Dog Breeders Association (ADBA). But what about that *other* breed name sometimes associated with Pit Bulls – American Staffordshire Terrier (“Amstaff” for short)?

The Amstaff, originally called the Staffordshire Terrier, is recognized by the American Kennel Club

(AKC). The AKC changed the name in 1972 to American Staffordshire Terrier to avoid confusion with the Staffordshire Bull Terrier. The first AKC Amstaffs were, for the most part, UKC American Pit Bull Terriers.

To this day, many dogs are dual-registered with both the UKC as an American Pit Bull Terriers and AKC as American Staffordshire Terriers. So, one dog can officially be both a UKC American Pit Bull Terrier and an AKC American Staffordshire Terrier. All Pit Bulls, regardless of registry, came from mixing bulldogs with terriers, and that is why they are often referred to as bull-and-terrier breeds or “bully” breeds. There are other bull-and-terrier breeds, such as the Staffordshire Bull Terrier and the Bull Terrier.

There’s some confusion about color. Many people think “blue nose” and “red nose” indicate breed lines, but these are merely colors, not “types” of



**AST or APBT?**

### Guess the Breed:

Is this dog an American Staffordshire Terrier or an American Pit Bull Terrier?

What traits define him as either?

Pit Bulls. Blue is a dilute of black. A blue dog is one that has the genetics for a black coat, but there are other alleles present that dilute the pigmentation, so black becomes grey. These alleles affect the color of the nose just as they affect the coat color, so a blue dog always has a blue (i.e., grey) nose. Similarly, dogs with red noses aren’t special. Again, they simply have alleles in their DNA that affect the pigmentation of their noses.

Incidentally, the black and white dog pictured above is dual-registered with the UKC as an American Pit Bull Terrier and the AKC as an American Staffordshire Terrier. So, whether you called him an Amstaff or an American Pit Bull Terrier, you were correct!

# What is Parvo? ... And why do we care?

Parvo is the abbreviated term for Canine Parvovirus, a viral illness that affects dogs. It invades the digestive tract and destroys the dog's intestines. It is very painful and very contagious. Its most common victims are young puppies who have not been fully vaccinated, but any unvaccinated dog can get sick. It's such a serious, dangerous disease that most unvaccinated puppies or dogs who catch Parvo will die.

Parvo is transmitted through contact with the feces of an infected/sick dog. It's **HIGHLY CONTAGIOUS**, just one stool contains millions of live virus cells and can infect many dogs/puppies. The virus can be found in the stools of infected dogs several days before any symptoms show up, and for at least 2 weeks after a puppy has completely recovered. This disease is so easily transmitted, and so virulent, that a dog only has to come in contact with a very tiny amount of infected material to get sick.

## What are the symptoms?

As Parvo affects the digestive tract, infected dogs will most likely have vomiting and loss of appetite. They will have diarrhea which is often bloody, yellowish in color, and extremely foul smelling. Other symptoms include fever and sluggishness. Puppies and dogs usually begin to show symptoms 7 to 10 days after being exposed to the virus.

## Why do we care?

The Front Street Animal Shelter sees many cases of Parvo. Because of its highly contagious nature, we have to take extreme measures to ensure the safety and health of our dogs. A dog or puppy that presents with Parvo on intake will be humanely euthanized. This prevents that animal's suffering and helps prevent the spread of the disease to the other, healthy dogs.

Unfortunately there are still cases that make their way to the kennels, undetected. This time of year we see a lot of cases with the changes in the weather. We need to all take special precautions:

- ◆ Please check with ACT staff before entering the Stray kennels—we have had several outbreaks there and are working hard to prevent the spread to other kennels
- ◆ Please do not take any puppies out of their kennels or put them on the ground anywhere!
- ◆ Please follow the directions of the ACT's exactly when cleaning kennels
- ◆ Please sanitize the poop scrapers when kennel cleaning and **DO NOT** take the scrapers from one building to another
- ◆ Please sanitize your shoes when entering or leaving kennel areas
- ◆ We recommend that you have one pair of shoes that you wear at the shelter and do not wear them home around your own animals





# Happy Beginnings—Tails of True Love!

**This is what it's all about! ADOPTIONS, Rescues, and "Fur-ever Homes!"** Here are some of the animals we all have helped have a happy ending this past month:



**Jasmine** came in injured and needed her leg amputated. She spent her recovery time with a foster family who had this to say about her: "Jasmine is recovering very nicely. She figured out how to take off both her cone and her t-shirt when we are not looking, but we've been keeping an eye on both her surgery sites and she hasn't

been scratching or licking. She likes to play with the string toy, but when she catches it with her one paw, she's not quite sure what to do with it! She flirts with Pooka outrageously, but he loves it and gives her kisses...we so enjoy her little purry self!" Jasmine came back to the shelter and was adopted on March 29th!

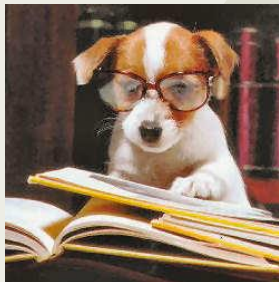
**Julie** was adopted on Museum Day! Daniele Yantos, an Auto Museum volunteer, met Julie at the adoption event and it was love at first sight! Daniele had long wanted an Australian Shepherd and it didn't matter that Julie was a senior dog with a few health issues. Julie was the first adoption of the day. Renamed "Jewels," she is now in a loving, forever home with Daniele and Mark Yantos.

Daniele writes, "Jewels has been a great source of smiles and general adorableness in our house. We play tug-a-war often with her using a rope toy. She still loves the ball from the shelter. We also got her a plastic water bottle cover that looks like a rodent of some sort which she enjoys. She is responding well to commands and training. Overall we are very pleased that we brought her into our home."



## March Shelter Stats:

- ◆ Cats Adopted - 106
- ◆ Cats to Rescue or Transfer - 26
- ◆ Cats Returned to Owner - 10
- ◆ Dogs Adopted - 104
- ◆ Dogs to Rescue /Transfer— 87
- ◆ Returned to Owner - 80
- ◆ # of Volunteers who logged hours - 164
- ◆ Volunteer Hours - 2,302
- ◆ Calls received by the City - 4,622
- ◆ Guess how many dogs volunteers worked with in March??? - you'll find the answer somewhere in this

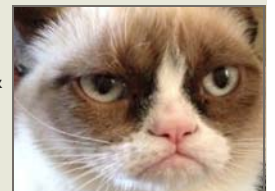


## Helpful Hints

- ◆ Please **DO NOT** walk through the Stray building. We have had some Parvo issues and need to minimize traffic through that building to contain the spread of Parvo.
- ◆ Please do not take members of the public through the backside of the cattery. When escorting guests to the cattery, please take them around the Adoptable building to the glass doors. Guests should never see the staff only areas!
- ◆ Please keep the clipboards neat and organized - Hang at eye level across the kennels and clip the kennel card to the clipboard. We need everyone's help with this—too many dogs are without clipboards!! These notes really help with adoption counseling, so please help out daily!
- ◆ **Please do continue to do the amazing job each and everyone of you accomplish! Our staff are very grateful for the help you give and thankful for everything you do!**

## Cattery Corner Grumpy cat wants YOU!

Our cats have been doing fantastic! They are flying off the shelves! That means we need more Cat Adoption Counselors & daily help in the cattery. Please sign up for as many shifts as you are able—we really need your help. We don't want any grumpy cats here!



**Lost and Found is overflowing!** Please reclaim your lost items by the end of the month. I will be donating them to the homeless shelter on May 1st!



## VOLUNTEER - A - THON!

During the month of May, we will be holding our first ever Volunteer Program fundraiser - a VOLUNTEER-A-THON!

This is your opportunity to brag to get your friends and family to help support the cause you work so hard for every day. It's simple:

- ◆ Set a goal for the number of volunteer hours you would like to see yourself work during the month of May - stretch and see how many you can do!
- ◆ Get pledges from your friends and family to support your volunteer work. Pledges can be flat amounts (example: \$10) or per hour amounts (example: \$1 per hour). Pledge forms will be available by May 1st.
- ◆ At the end of the month, report the number of hours you worked and collect your pledges. Please return all money collected by June 10th.
- ◆ Thank your friends and family members for supporting your volunteer work!

All volunteers who participate in the Volunteer-a-thon and collect pledges of \$20 or more will receive for free one of our new Front Street Shelter volunteer tee shirts! More information coming soon...

## Name Badges

Volunteers recorded 455 socializing and training sessions with dogs!

Your name badge is waiting for you in the Volunteer Sign-In area! All accepted volunteers who have completed orientation and Shelter Basics 101 have a name badge. If you have taken additional training, it will be listed on your badge. New badges are printed when you complete training, so check to see if you have an updated name badge.

Name badges are filed alphabetically by FIRST name. Please wear your name badge proudly!

## Volunteer Spotlight:

On April 11th, DOVIA (Directors of Volunteers in Agencies) Sacramento Chapter held its annual community volunteer awards, recognizing the achievements of both volunteer coordinators and outstanding youth volunteers. This year, one of our own youth volunteers was nominated!

Stephanie Wagaman, age 17, received the Outstanding Youth Volunteer award in recognition of her hard work and accomplishments for the shelter. Our Teen Program Leader, Vickie Oberg, nominated Stephanie for her dedication and service.

Stephanie has been volunteering at the shelter since September of 2012. During the past seven months, she has worked more than 254 hours. She cleans kennels, washes dishes, trains new volunteers, does adoption counseling, leads service groups, helps feed

animals, trains dogs, and does just about anything asked of her. Her special project has been the care and socialization of Titus, the Pit Bull who came to the shelter emaciated. She nursed him back to health and showered him with love. Titus is now available for adoption to the right family, thanks to Stephanie's efforts.

When you see Stephanie hard at work around the shelter, please be sure to give her a big congratulations and a pat on the back for doing such a good job!





# Celebrating Judy McDermott

*Animal Care Technician extraordinaire—and soon to be volunteer!*

providing breakfast goodies most every morning.

Before Judy came to work here, she

not working? Rest!!

What will she miss most about working here? The people and animals. But don't worry - Judy is not planning on staying away, she wants to join our volunteer team!

Each month we will be getting to know a different staff member.

It is with bittersweet feelings that we introduce Judy McDermott, Animal Care Technician extraordinaire. After twelve years of dedicated service here at the Front Street Animal Shelter, Judy will be retiring on April 27th! Judy has been a wonderful part of our team and her ever-present smile will be sorely missed. Judy has been almost like a team mom, taking new employees under her wing and

spent 18 years at Almond Growers. She went back to school to learn animal care. She worked in a boarding kennel in Florida and for the Placer County SPCA before coming home here.

When she's not working hard here, you will most often find her at home taking care of her mom, daughter, and three grandchildren. What does she like to do when she's

**Thank you very much for all of your help. You really do make a difference!**

What else is Judy planning on doing to enjoy her retirement? All of the stuff she never has time to do!

She wants to take her four legged girl and go to Carmel and relax on the beach. She wants to travel and see the sights. She wants to tackle all of the projects that have been calling her.

Happy retirement, Judy! We'll see you soon in a purple apron!



## Judy's Retirement Party: May 8th

Join us to celebrate Judy! Let's party together to show our appreciation for Judy's years of service here at the Front Street Animal Shelter. Judy has been a very important part of our team, and we will definitely miss her!

**What:** A party to celebrate Judy

**When:** Wednesday, May 8th at 6:00pm

**Where:** California Auto Museum

**Who:** Everyone!!

**Cost:** \$10 per person

**RSVP** by April 30th to Karen at [kdickinson@cityofsacramento.org](mailto:kdickinson@cityofsacramento.org)

Hope to see you all there!!



## CALENDAR



- ◆ **Volunteer Orientations:**
  - ◆ Wed. 4/17 5:30pm
  - ◆ Thurs. 5/2 5:30pm
- ◆ **Shelter 101:**
  - ◆ 4/20 or 4/21 8:30-10:30am
  - ◆ 5/4 or 5/5 8:30-10:30am
- ◆ **Cattery Class:**
  - ◆ Sat. 4/20 10:30 am
- ◆ **Shelter Greeter Class**
  - ◆ Sat. 5/5 10:00am Note day change!!
- ◆ **Next Available Dog Training:**
  - ◆ Starts May 19th
- ◆ **Offsite Outreach Events:**
  - ◆ Too many to list! See the Offsite Opportunities
- ◆ **Special Events:**
  - ◆ Volunteer Meeting 4/20
  - ◆ Volunteer Bash 4/29
  - ◆ Judy's Retirement 5/8

## Wish List

We would be most grateful if you could help us with these:

- ◆ Dryer Sheets
- ◆ Blankets & beds for the dogs
- ◆ Towels
- ◆ Portable radios
- ◆ Gas cards

# facebook

Follow us on Facebook at City of Sacramento Front Street Animal Shelter to keep up with more fun activities & animal stories!