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City of
SACRAMENTO
Front Street Animal Shelter

June/July 2013

Volunteers *focus*

TEAM FRONT STREET: WORKING TOGETHER
TO SAVE LIVES!

Wheel of "Furr-tune"!

What WHEEL you win? This month's promotion is the Wheel of Furr-tune - so popular in June that it is back for another month! Adopters get to spin the wheel to find out if they get to save money on their adoption (up to 50% off) or make a donation!!



We are also doing a BOGO for our kittens! We have so many kittens in foster care and at the shelter, that we are offering a two for one special: adopt one kitten and get a second one free!



New Fee Schedule for the Shelter:

July 1st marks the beginning of our new fiscal year. Here are some changes to our licensing and adoption fees that you should take note of. Please see our website www.sacpetsearch.com for a full listing of all our current fees.

| Fee | Old | New |
|--------------------------------|-------|-------|
| Licensing – 1 yr altered dog | \$15 | \$20 |
| Licensing – 1 yr unaltered dog | \$150 | \$75 |
| Licensing – 3 yr unaltered dog | \$400 | \$200 |
| Licensing – 3 yr altered dog | \$35 | \$50 |

The biggest changes are to the licensing fees, as shown above. We have lowered the unaltered fees dramatically to incentivize licensing. At one time, it was felt that charging the high rates would result in more altered animals, but this has not proven to be the case. Lowering the fees should result in more compliance. Be sure to become familiar with all of the fees, so you can better answer questions!

New Volunteer Store!

Our Volunteer Resource Site is growing! We now have an online Volunteer Store. You can purchase your brand new Volunteer T-Shirts online! To access the online store, simply visit our website, www.sacpetsearch.com. Click on the Volunteer tab on the left and then click on the purple button labeled Volunteer Resource Site on the upper right.

On the Volunteer Resource Site, you will find all kinds of volunteer-related things:

- ◆ Resources such as training materials, the volunteer handbook, forms, and information
- ◆ The Volunteer Forum - where you can ask and answer questions of your fellow volunteers. Share your expertise!
- ◆ The Volunteer Store - where you can purchase your own Volunteer T-Shirt and, coming soon, other volunteer goodies like water bottles, lunch bags, hats, and more! All proceeds from the volunteer store go to support volunteer-related programs like the vaccination clinics, spay/neuter program, education/outreach, emergency surgeries for injured animals, foster care, and more!.
- ◆ The Volunteer Calendar—a good visual reference for upcoming events—don't forget to sign up through the MyVolunteerPage system for any activities you want to do!



If you have already purchased your shirt or earned your shirt through the Volunteer-a-thon, your shirt is waiting for you in Janice's office. Water bottles and lunch bags are on order and will be available soon.

You're invited to "Paws to Party"

The Front Street Animal Shelter invites you to be part of something special at our Paws to Party event, celebrating the wonderful work which saves thousands of animals each year. The Paws to Party event will be held at the California Automobile Museum, located at 2200 Front Street, Sacramento, CA 95818, on Friday, August 23, 2013 from 6:00-9:00pm.



At the event, Paws to Party guests will enjoy celebrated food, exceptional wine and beer, live music, and a large silent auction.

Looking for ways to help? Here are some ways that you can help make this event a smashing success:



- ◆ Help find items for our silent auction - if you know of a business that would like to donate, or have a vacation home you would like to lend out for the cause, please let Janice know ASAP!
- ◆ Help find sponsors. If you know of (or work for) a business or an individual that would be interested in being a Shelter Sponsor, please let Janice know ASAP.
- ◆ Help find vendors - we still have room for about six restaurants and 8 wineries - if you know of someone who may be interested in marketing their business through serving, please let Janice know ASAP.
- ◆ Help out the night of the event - volunteer positions will be posted on the website soon. This event is for volunteers age 21 or older as some of the jobs may include serving wine.
- ◆ Purchase tickets - and invite your friend to do so! Tickets are available online at www.sacpetsearch.com.
- ◆ Join our fundraising team - we are looking for a few good volunteers to help us raise the money we need to expand our programs and save more lives!

Reminders from the Shelter:

- ◆ **Please do not take kittens from different kennels** for meet & greets together - this helps prevent the spread of illness!
- ◆ **Please do not walk dogs after 10am when it is very hot** out - this helps prevent heat stress for our dogs! 
- ◆ **Please do not take out big dogs without the appropriate leashes and collars.** All big dogs should have a martingale collar and carabiner leash. The collars are in the volunteer cubicle, and the leashes (donated by Chako) are in Janice's office. Our leashes and collars are expensive, so please do not take them home or give them to adopters. We have the VIP leashes for giveaways!
- ◆ **Please keep the newspaper rolls ready to go** - they should be about 3 inches in diameter and only contain two page sheets. Please recycle all glossy ads and half sheets. 
- ◆ **Please do not put holds on adoptable animals past 2:30** the next business day. 

Fundraising updates:

As many of you know, most of our programs do not receive direct funding from the City. We need to raise money in order to grow and develop programs like our pet food pantry, spay/neuter program, vaccination clinics, community outreach programs, and injured/sick animal veterinary fund. Here is a quick update on some of the fundraisers that you may have participated in over the past few months:

- ◆ **Volunteer-a-thon** - raised \$1,470! \$735 went to our volunteer program, \$245 went to the vaccination clinics and \$490 went to the spay/neuter program.
- ◆ **Big Spoon Yogurt** - raised \$191
- ◆ **Groupon campaign for Heartworm** - raised \$5,350
- ◆ **Fun events at Woodland Fairgrounds** - raised \$2,000

In addition, to learn more about fundraising and to better direct our fundraising efforts, Janice has received a scholarship from the ASPCA to attend the 8th Annual Bridge to Integrated Marketing & Fundraising Conference in Washington D.C at the end of the month! Look for more ways to help us raise the funds needed to increase our impact in the Sacramento community - and save more lives!

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A GRANT FROM THE 

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 beginning: (Adapted from Evelyn Dale's column "Paws for Thought" in the Davis Enterprise)

Marge: Magnolia, also known as Large Marge, arrived at the city of Sacramento Animal Care Services so heavy she could hardly walk. The problem? She was overweight and lethargic due to a thyroid deficiency known as hypothyroidism. When Kim Long's daughter asked her what she wanted for her birthday, she answered, "Another dog." This was shortly after Kim's older male Queensland heeler Stonewall had died. When Kim's daughter saw Marge at an offsite Food 4 Fido adoption event, she knew she'd found the dog for her mom. Apparently, Marge knew this, too, because she fell fast asleep on the ride back to the Front Street shelter where she sensed that this was her last night in a kennel.

The next day, Kim and her grandson, Evan, brought



Marge home and renamed her Magnolia. Kim reports that Magnolia fit right in with her three other dogs — Verbena, Beauregard and Tallulah — as well as her two cats, T and Kaweah.

Sunrise and Shade: It's heartbreaking when you can't keep beloved pets and even more so when they are a bonded pair. Back in March, Sunrise and Shade were tearfully relinquished to the city of Sacramento's Front Street animal shelter because their owner could no longer care for them. Gina and the staff were determined to find a good home for these two senior dogs who were littermates.

And so the media outreach began. Featured on Front Street's Facebook page and Fox 40, they attracted a huge following, but the March 16 offsite adoption event at the Pet Department Store proved to be their lucky day. Jerrylee Vanderhurst, an ardent follower of their situation on Facebook, arrived and announced, "I've got to adopt these two now!" Vanderhurst's long-time partner, Dennis Nevins, had already agreed to take them into his home and care for them for their remaining years. And so these two senior dogs were adopted that very day.

"Sunny" aka Sunrise and Shade now live with Dennis enjoying the good life in Napa's wine country.



Shelter Stats:

| | May | June |
|----------------------------------|-------|-------|
| Cats Adopted | 86 | 112 |
| Cats to Rescue or Transfer | 82 | 61 |
| Cats Returned to Owner | 4 | 2 |
| Dogs Adopted | 114 | 122 |
| Dogs to Rescue or Transfer | 52 | 71 |
| # of Volunteers who logged hours | 159 | 165 |
| Volunteer Hours | 3,063 | 2,722 |
| Calls received by the City | 4,513 | 4,475 |



BOW-MEOW BLOOD DRIVE

HELPING PEOPLE & PETS

Tuesday, July 30 • 9:00 AM - 4:00 PM
 BloodSource Midtown Donor Center
 1608 Q Street

Appointments encouraged, walk-ins welcome!

All participants will receive MyBloodSource Rewards and for each blood donor, BloodSource will donate a pound of pet food to the Sacramento Pet Food Bank (Titanic's Pantry).

To help support the Sacramento Pet Food Bank, you can donate blood at any BloodSource location or mobile blood drive by using Donor Club #2127.





**Heat Stroke
CAN Kill!**

**Take Time To
Cool Down
&**

Hydrate

Staying Safe at the Shelter

Summer heat is here to stay! **And we want you to be safe.** Heat safety is nothing to ignore. The Center for Disease Control estimates more than 650 deaths occur each year as a result of heat illness - and it is entirely preventable!! Here are some warning signs of heat stress. Pay attention and be sure to take time to cool off. Take care of yourself by following these suggestions: while working at the shelter (or at home):

Please do

- ◆ Drink plenty of fluids - water is best - **STAY HYDRATED**
- ◆ Avoid alcohol, caffeinated drinks, or heavy meals
- ◆ Wear **SUNSCREEN!**
- ◆ Remove any heavy clothing
- ◆ Rest in the shade or inside where there is air conditioning
- ◆ Put ice or water on neck or armpits to cool off
- ◆ If you start to feel sick, please let someone know right away and seek medical attention!

Symptoms of Heat Exhaustion

- ◆ Headaches, dizziness, lightheadedness or fainting
- ◆ Weakness and moist skin
- ◆ Mood changes such as irritability or confusion
- ◆ Nausea or vomiting

Symptoms of Heat Stroke

- ◆ Dry hot skin with no sweating
- ◆ Mental confusion or losing consciousness
- ◆ Seizures or convulsions

You can help keep animals safe too! **Please do not take our dogs out for walks or training after 10:00am on a hot day.** Watch for signs of overheating in dogs: excessive panting, hyperventilating, weakness, confusion or inattention, increased salivation at first and then dry gums, vomiting or diarrhea.

Keep your pets at home safe from the summer heat, too! Make sure they have plenty of cool, fresh water. Cool them down with a garden hose shower. Watch for hot pavement when taking your dog for a walk - keep those paws burn-free! Good grooming will help keep your dog cool - before shaving them, check with a groomer or vet. Make sure there is shade available at all times for the dog!

Communicating with the Volunteer Program

“The staff at the Front Street Animal Shelter recognizes that you, our volunteers, are the true heart and soul of our organization. It would be impossible to accomplish our mission of saving lives without the sacrifices you make on our animals’ behalf. Your complete unselfishness in giving your time, talents and treasures is beyond compare and truly makes our organization’s programs successful.” (from your Volunteer Handbook)

Each of those words is true - I am committed to the volunteer program and growing the program each day. Our volunteers really do make the difference as to whether we are even able to open our doors! I value each member of the team and want to fully support you.

The exciting news is that our volunteer program is growing! We now have over 500 registered volunteers at the shelter. We need each of you and many more to continue to make an impact in our community and to grow our programs and save lives. **The bad news is that I sometimes have difficulties responding to everyone’s request in a timely manner.** I do my best, but there are days that I receive more than 200 emails and 25-30 voice messages. Please be patient!! I am committed to responding to you, but sometimes it may take a little while.

Here are some suggestions for working together to improve our communication:

- ◆ **If the question is urgent and needs a response within 24 hours,** please send me an email or text that is marked urgent (jwagaman@cityofsacramento.org or 916-806-9587) Please identify yourself so I know who I am responding to.
- ◆ **If the question is not urgent,** please do not mark your email as urgent. I will do my best to respond to you within one week. Should I fail to respond within a few days, please send me a second email - every once in a while, my email box eats an email and I don’t receive it.
- ◆ **If your communication is strictly informational in nature,** (example - you are ill and will not be in for your assigned shift) I may or may not respond as time permits.
- ◆ **I try to respect my family and not work when I have time off with them.** If you are emailing, texting, or calling me after 5pm or on my days off (usually Mondays or Tuesdays), I will not typically respond until I am back in the office. However, if your request is urgent and cannot wait until I am back in the office please mark your communication as urgent and I will do my best to respond quickly.



Communicating with the Shelter Supervisor



When we are not open to the public (before 9am Wednesday-Sunday or anytime on Mondays or Tuesdays) our doors and gates are closed and locked. If you need to get in to the shelter to volunteer, please call the Shelter Supervisor at 916-215-4254. Lori is the supervisor Sunday-Wednesday, and Suzi is the supervisor Wednesday-Saturday. There may be times when you call and our supervisor is in the middle of doing something urgent and is unable to answer your call. **Please keep calling!! Don’t give up and go away - we are counting on your help!** If the supervisor phone is not picked up after several calls, then please call Chief Dan at 916-718-8204. He usually has a radio on him and can radio for someone to open the gate.



Meet the Staff: Alexis Shaw

Animal Control Officer extraordinaire!

four years. She started out as a volunteer with the Lodi shelter at age 19, and then took the training required to become an officer. She holds many certifications including the basic PC 832 arrest, search and seizure, and firearms, as well as the animal fighting investigation certification. She is also trained to help with animal rescue in natural disasters. In 2011 she went to Arkansas with the ASPCA to train on the procedures of shutting down puppy mills.

When she is not hard at work, you would most likely find her

outdoors! She enjoys kayaking, fishing, dirt bikes & mountain bikes, and camping with her three dogs—two terriers and a German Shepherd. She also volunteers for Big Brothers/Big Sisters and has an 11 year old “Little Sister” - they are on their way to Disneyland this summer! She loves to bake and is the “Good” in the Hood and Good food blog with co-worker Robin Tomlin.

What does she love best about working here? “Saving animals from mean people and saving people from mean animals!” What would she change if she could? More help!

Even if someone forgets to thank you, always know that what you do makes a big difference!

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

Meet Alexis Shaw, Animal Control Officer. Alexis has been working with the Front Street Animal Shelter for five and a half years. She came to us from the Lodi Police Department where she was and Animal Control Officer for

Volunteer Spotlight: Shari Crum

Meet Shari Crum, our volunteer Outreach Program Coordinator! Shari has been volunteering here since October of 2012. Shari has been an invaluable asset to our volunteer team. She has taken on the Outreach Program and really taken it to the next level! Because of her efforts, we now have an offsite adoption event scheduled every weekend - sometimes several in one day!

Shari has helped the Shelter have a presence at events and venues that we have never before had the opportunity to partner with. We have adoption event opportunities at Petsmart on Truxel, PETCO Unleashed at Greenhaven, Elk Grove, Fair Oaks, and Sacramento, Pet Extreme, the Pet



Department Store, Fairytale town, Bloodsource (the upcoming Bow-Meow Blood Drive), the Sacramento Zoo (coming in September) and the Old Sugar Mill Winery (coming soon!)

In addition to her hard work with our offsite events, Shari helps to administer our Facebook page and has recently taken on helping out with new volunteer orientations. Shari is a true superstar!



CALENDAR



- ◆ **Volunteer Orientations:**
 - ◆ Wed. 7/17 5:30pm
 - ◆ Thurs. 8/1 5:30pm
- ◆ **Shelter 101:**
 - ◆ 7/20 or 7/21 8:30-10:30am
 - ◆ 8/3 or 8/4 8:30-10:30am
- ◆ **Cattery Class:**
 - ◆ Sat. 7/27 10:30 am
- ◆ **Next Available Dog Training:**
 - ◆ Starts July 7th
- ◆ **Offsite Outreach Events:**
 - ◆ Every weekend! Sign up online!
- ◆ **Special Events:**
 - ◆ Volunteer Meeting 7/18
 - ◆ Bow-Meow Blood Drive at Bloodsource 7/30
 - ◆ Paws to Party 8/23

Wish List

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

- ◆ Shoe boxes
- ◆ Dryer Sheets
- ◆ Blankets & beds for the dogs
- ◆ Towels
- ◆ Portable cd players or 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!