



DEPARTMENT OF
GENERAL SERVICES

CITY OF SACRAMENTO
CALIFORNIA

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ANIMAL CARE SERVICES
DIVISION

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CITY ANIMAL CARE VOLUNTEER HAPPENINGS!! October Report to the Advisory Committee For the month of: SEPTEMBER, 2008

October 27, 2008

VOLUNTEER HOURS FOR September, 2008

In September, 131 volunteers booked 3101 hours. Of these hours, 1770 hours were provided by 56 Foster Care Providers who cared for 59 animals in our foster program.

VOLUNTEER HIGHLIGHTS:

- ❖ We did not hold a Community spay neuter clinic in September because of a conflict with another event. However, we transported 42 cats to the Animal Spay Neuter facility in Auburn and continued an “in-house” spay/neuter program for dogs on our waiting list. Dr. Warner and staff fitted in 2-4 dogs per week to keep our waiting list numbers under control.
- ❖ With the help of a few skilled and trained volunteers, we’ve added the “Give A Dog A Bone” program to our shelter. Kathy Moreland and several experienced volunteers provide special care and stimulation to dogs “in the back” who are here for extended periods of time due to pending investigations. A similar program is also offered to select dogs who don’t pass their behavior evaluations but have the potential to do so. Again, several more experienced volunteers spend time improving the social skills of dogs by providing daily walks and interaction with people in our office. Staff is unable to spend time walking or socializing animals so the value of these programs helps improve our service to and care of dogs.
- ❖ I developed a cat adoption counselor training program that includes a step by step “how to” presentation for training all cat adoption counselors. The training program is designed for both staff and volunteers and includes

each section of our new Adoption Application that was developed in our “Adoptability” meetings. One group of volunteers has been trained under this program and I hope to see it utilized to train staff as well.

EVENTS AND TRAINING

- I gave 3 classroom presentations during the month of September, which included two elementary schools and one high school.
- On September 9, I attended the City-wide Volunteer Coordinators’ meeting at which we were presented with innovative ideas on recycling and a great educational piece on the effects of recycling from a global and local perspective.
- On September 10, we participated in the YMCA’s Senior Health Fair by providing our booth filled with handouts promoting the health benefits of pets (lowers blood pressure, reduces stress, etc.). We also took our “ambassador” kitty, Titanic, who was a bigger draw than anyone else’s candy bowls!
- On September 13, we set up our large display board, three tables and a tent at the “Celebrate Natomas” event held at the Natomas Community Center and sponsored by Ray Trethaway, City Councilperson from that district. There were more than 250 vendors and businesses at the event providing all sorts of community information. We staffed this event with 18 volunteers, 8 of which were our “Shelter Partners” teens! We provided educational materials about the shelter, our various programs, licensing and spay/neuter information, feral cat information and much more. Our ACO, Clinton Nelms, also spent the day with us chatting with people about field services.
- On September 17 and 25 our Community s/n program transported a total of 42 cats to and from the Animal Spay Neuter clinic in Auburn.
- On September 21, we held a volunteer appreciation event at the Grace Foundation in El Dorado Hills. We joined the County of Sacramento Animal Care and Regulation volunteers and enjoyed an absolutely fantastic day at this incredible horse rescue and rehabilitation center. Volunteers were treated to a “backstage” tour by the owner and founder, Beth DiCaprio, and we lunched under oak trees with rolling hills and grazing horses nearby. I believe everyone went away inspired and renewed about a beautiful place and wonderful people who care so much for animals.

- On September 24, Cindy Vasquez and I set up our booth at Cal Trans for an event targeted at Cal Trans employees. Each of the 20 plus booths were there to “attract” employee contributions. I gave a brief speech to employees about why they should send their dollars to Animal Care Services but, again, our animals were the hit! Ambassador, Titanic and my dog Heidi shared the spotlight this time!
- On September 28, we participated in the annual No More Homeless Pets “Super Adoption” held at Country Club Plaza Mall. We took 5 dogs from our shelter and cat foster care providers brought 12 cats. We also brought 4 rabbits available for adoption. 22 Volunteers participated by spending the day with our dogs and showing our cats and rabbits. Mid-day, there was a great “Parade Of Animals” throughout the Mall which drew quite a crowd of shopkeepers and shoppers. Fiona, the exotic Ibizen Hound mix, led the dogs and made quite an impression with her “sphinx” ears and “Pharaoh” body.
- During September I conducted 8 volunteer trainings including General Shelter Training, Canine Capers, Rabbit training and Feline Follies. Orientation in September included 32 potential volunteers.

Claudia Schlachter
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