



Volunteer
voices



Lynn Anderson
 2013 December's
 Volunteer of the Month

Riverside Edition

December 2013

Issue 12

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Save the Date

- December 19th: Volunteer Fundraising Committee in the Training Center; 5pm-6pm
- December 21st: Shot Clinic Day; 10am-1pm
- December 21st: "Santa Paws" Photo Shoot Volunteer Fundraiser; 10am-3pm
- December 24th: Christmas Eve Shelter Hours: 9am-12pm
- December 25th: Shelter Closed for Christmas Day
- December 31st: New Year's Eve Shelter Hours: 9am-12pm

Reminders

KIOSK: We are in need of volunteers to help at the front desk, especially in the late afternoon. If you're able to volunteer, even for a couple of hours, please e-mail Shea at srossite@rcdas.org.

BATHING/BRUSHING CLASS: We will be having bathing/brushing classes on Fridays from 11am-12:30pm provided by volunteer, Maria Byron. If you're interested in signing up for these classes, please contact us ahead of time to check for availability.

EVENTS: If you sign up for an event, please make sure to stay the entire designated hours. If you need to leave beforehand or cannot make it at all, please call/email the Volunteer Department.

SOCIALIZATION NOTEBOOKS: Make sure to sign in any animals you've socialized with during the day in our logbooks. We want to make sure we give credit to volunteers for your hard work!

PUPPIES: We are taking extra safety precautions to keep our puppies healthy. Volunteers should no longer be opening any kennels with puppies inside them.

FUNDRAISING COMMITTEE: Interested in helping raise funds for special volunteer events, such as our summer picnic and annual appreciation dinner? Then join the fundraising committee! We need lots of help and ideas! E-mail Shea for more information at srossite@rcdas.org

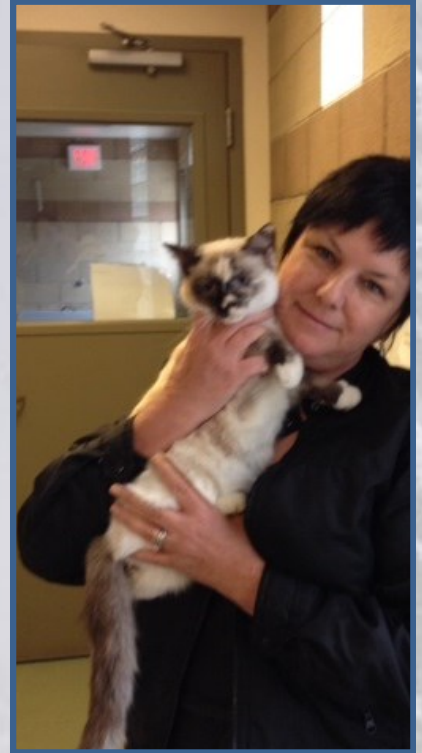
FACEBOOK AND INSTAGRAM: Make sure to follow the volunteer pages!

Facebook: RCDAS Volunteers; Instagram: @RCDAS_Volunteers








Volunteer of the Month

Lynn Anderson

Lynn began volunteering at our facility because she said she felt there was a critical need to help our animals get adopted. She enjoys helping individuals find the right pet. She recalls when she worked at an adoption event and assisted a lady with adopting a cat named Remy. She said that the cat was scared and wanted to stay wrapped in a bath rug, but she knew that the woman could gain the cat's trust and that they would be a perfect match! **Lynn** not only assists in adoptions, but is also a strong and vocal advocate for the shelter. She is an Executive Assistant to Riverside City Council Member, Mike Gardner, and together, they sit on the county's Art for the Animals committee. In this capacity, she contributes her ideas and works to make connections with other community members that can provide resources for shelter events. She encourages others to volunteer and tells them about the "amazing, compassionate, and dedicated" staff at the shelter. She stated that she is grateful to the county supervisors for investing in a shelter that provides quality care for animals. **Lynn** shares this message with volunteers: "Any two hands can make such a difference in the day of an animal. An hour here could save a life. This place is magical!"



RANDOM FACTS ABOUT LYNN ANDERSON!

-  She has four dogs and several cats, which she calls "special needs" cats, meaning that they aren't the cute and easy cats that most people would choose to adopt.
-  If she could be an animal, she would want to be Leona Helmsley's dog, Trouble, because he inherited her fortune.
-  She loves the music from "Phantom of the Opera."
-  Her favorite movie is "As Good as It Gets" with Jack Nicholson.
-  Her favorite season is winter.
-  Her favorite color is blue.
-  If she could have one wish, it would be to have no more homeless or unloved pets.








Meet the Employee

Carol-Ann Myers



Carol-Ann began her career with the Animal Services department five years ago when she was hired on as an Office Assistant through the county's Temporary Assignment Program. Through her hard work and dedication, she eventually secured a permanent position as the Assistant to Director, Rob Miller! **Carol-Ann** expresses that she really enjoys her job because she gets to exercise her creativity. She recently helped plan and participate in the Grand Opening of the San Jacinto Valley Animal Campus and she said she felt that it was a very rewarding experience. **Carol-Ann** also likes to participate in our events, especially when she gets to assist with adoptions. She gets a lot of satisfaction by helping the animals find new and permanent homes. She enjoys reading the heart-warming and interesting stories in our press releases about the animals encountered and rescued by shelter staff. When she isn't working, she goes to school and spends time with her nieces and nephews. She would like to tell our volunteers, "It's amazing to see the amount of time that they dedicate. Keep it up! It truly makes an impact!"

RANDOM FACTS ABOUT CAROL-ANN MYERS!






-  The craziest thing she has ever eaten were lengua tacos. She said that she thought they were good until she found out she was eating cow tongue!
-  Her favorite food is any kind of Mexican food, except maybe lengua tacos!
-  Her favorite cereal is Reese's Puffs.
-  Her favorite candy is Reese's Peanut Butter Cups.
-  She has a phobia of heights and undomesticated rodents.
-  If she could trade places with anyone for a week, it would be Katherine Heigl. She likes her as an actress and because she is the co-founder of an animal foundation.
-  Her favorite season is summer.

Volunteer Voices

Maria Byron

RANDOM FACTS ABOUT MARIA BYRON!




-  Her favorite part of volunteering is grooming the animals to make them more comfortable and adoptable.
-  If she were stranded on an island she would want to have her two dogs and a coconut tree.
-  In her free time, she likes to sew.
-  If she could change places with anyone for a week, it would be someone with a sailboat.
-  Her favorite color is yellow.

Her message to volunteers:

“Treat animals with respect. Keep in mind that they might be in pain and cranky. Don’t take it personally.”

Margarita Vargas

RANDOM FACTS ABOUT MARGARITA VARGAS!

-  Her first impression of the shelter was that it was nice and the employees were friendly.
-  She has a pit bull named Kilo and a Chihuahua named Isabel.
-  She is a professional hair stylist.
-  If she were stranded on an island, she would take her daughter, chapstick, and a hair product!
-  Her favorite movie is “La Bamba.”

Her message to volunteers:

“The animals need all of the love and care that you can provide.”



Adoptions & Socialization

Special recognition goes out to the following Volunteers:

For assisting with the most cat adoptions: **Samantha Erickson** with 7 adoptions and **Jesse Argueta** with 3 adoptions!

For assisting with the most dog adoptions: **Abi Hwang-Nable** with 6 adoptions and **Sianna Sanchez** with 5 adoptions!

For socializing the most dogs: **Frances Ngo** with 23 dogs and **Bayley Lawrence** with 18 dogs!

To **Joan Doup, Karen Griffith, Diana Castillo, Maria Byron, Marie Foraker and Brieauna Foraker** for collaboratively bathing and grooming more than 19 dogs!

Valerie Chavez took 106 new photos of our animals with the assistance of other Volunteers!

Years of Service

A VERY big thank you to the following volunteers for their years of service!

Judie Kaczoroski with 4 years of service!

Erica Franco with 3 years of service!

Maria Gonzalez with 3 years of service!

Pamela Soto with 2 years of service!

November New Volunteers

Please, join us in welcoming these volunteers!

Alexis Brucks	Alexandria Gonzales	Dalton Miller
Millie Cessna	Guadalupe Gonzalez	Mariel Morales
Alan Charlton	Kristina Knaggs	Melissa Ong
Jessica Chau	Bayley Lawrence	Natalie Preciado
Brandon Cheek	Cyndi Malsed	Nayab Riasat
Lindsey Coberly	Christine Manthe	Kaitlyn Rush
Angelique Foust	Alexis Mendoza	Natalee Stapleton

December Birthdays

Let's wish the following volunteers a very special day!

Christine Manthe 12/1	Jacqueline Vega 12/23
Mary Anderson 12/5	Nicole Whitman 12/23
Abi Hwang-Nable 12/6	Maya Wiltz 12/24
Donna Caplan 12/9	Guadalupe Gonzalez 12/24
Jessica Chau 12/16	Selina Ortega 12/27
Kelsey Mackelvey 12/20	Elizabeth Arcos 12/31
Nicholas Barnes 12/23	

Pet Corner!

Here are some winter exercise guidelines taken from the ASPCA website:

1. Entice your pooch with off-leash exercise sessions, playing tug or fetch, or romping with canine buddies—the more aerobic the activity, the warmer the dog will be.
2. Winter is a great time to enroll in indoor training classes. Sports like agility and flyball are often taught in heated facilities and are excellent exercise for the canine body and mind.
3. Walk your pet in wooded areas during the winter months. The forest not only provides protection from wind, but the rich smells, sights and sounds can be infinitely interesting for dogs to investigate, distracting them from chilly temperatures.
6. Many dogs dislike going outside during winter because snow, salt and chemical de-icers hurt their paws. Canine booties can protect paws, while keeping them warm—and disposable latex boots are available for dogs who don't like the feel of thicker boots.
7. Musher's Secret, a waxy substance that you can apply to your dog's paws, can be an effective alternative to booties for protecting toes and paw pads in snow and ice.
8. Getting your dog to play outside may simply be a matter of keeping her warm: Dress puppies—who don't have as much body fat as adults—in a coat or sweater.
 - Get waterproof gear for wet days.
 - Invest in a well-fitting coat that covers your dog's back *and* underside. (Fleece is nice!)
 - Staying warm during winter takes more energy, so increased food intake may be necessary. Good body condition means you can feel, but not see, your dog's bones. If you can see his spine, hips and ribs, then he's too thin and you should talk to your veterinarian about increasing his food intake.
9. If you've tried everything and your dog still seems miserable when you take her outside, provide extra exercise indoors by playing games that involve physical exertion, like tug-of-war.
10. Help your dog expend *mental* energy by feeding her meals in food-puzzle toys, giving her plenty of things to chew, teaching her new tricks and playing interactive games like hide-and-seek.

Make sure your dog has access to shelter and water at all times. And please remember, if you're cold, your dog probably is, too, and it's time to come home.

Shelter Happenings

Here are some photos of our Volunteer/Employee Movie Night! Thanks to all who joined in on the fun... and for those who couldn't make it, we hope to see you next time!



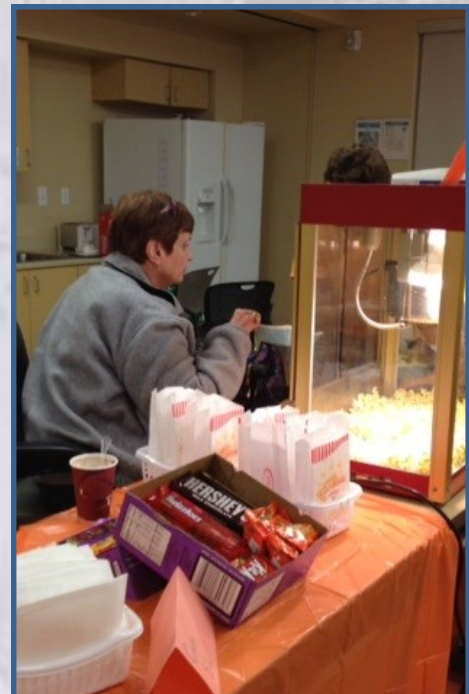
Can't watch a movie without popcorn!



Volunteer, Kathy Morris did an awesome job working the concession stand!



Abi brought some guests to the event!



Judie Kaczoroski and her husband, Tony, provided us with popcorn and nacho machines for the event!