



Volunteer

Voices

Riverside Edition

Issue 4

April 2014



Larry Rudolph

April 2014

Volunteer of the Month



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Save the Date!

April 17th: Final day to RSVP for the Volunteer Appreciation Dinner

April 19th: Shot Clinic 10:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

April 20th: Easter Sunday!

April 23rd: Volunteer Appreciation Dinner 6:00 p.m. – 8:30 p.m. at Crestmore Manor

April 27th: Art for the Animals Auction 4:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m. at the Riverside Art Museum

Reminders!

KIOSK: We are really in need of volunteers to help at the front desk. If you're able to volunteer, even for a couple hours, please e-mail Shea at srossite@rcdas.org. We will hold a monthly prize drawing for the kiosk volunteers. Anyone who signs up for and completes an entire shift will be entered into the drawing. Each shift worked is a separate entry. **Congratulations to Judie Kaczoroski, winner of March kiosk drawing!**

DOG BATHING AND BRUSHING: If you would like to help in the grooming room on Fridays from 9:00 a.m. to noon, please contact Shea by email srossite@rcdas.org. ****Space is limited.*

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 & INSTAGRAM: Make sure to follow the volunteer pages!

Facebook: RCDAS Volunteers ; **Instagram:** @RCDAS_Volunteers



Larry Rudolph

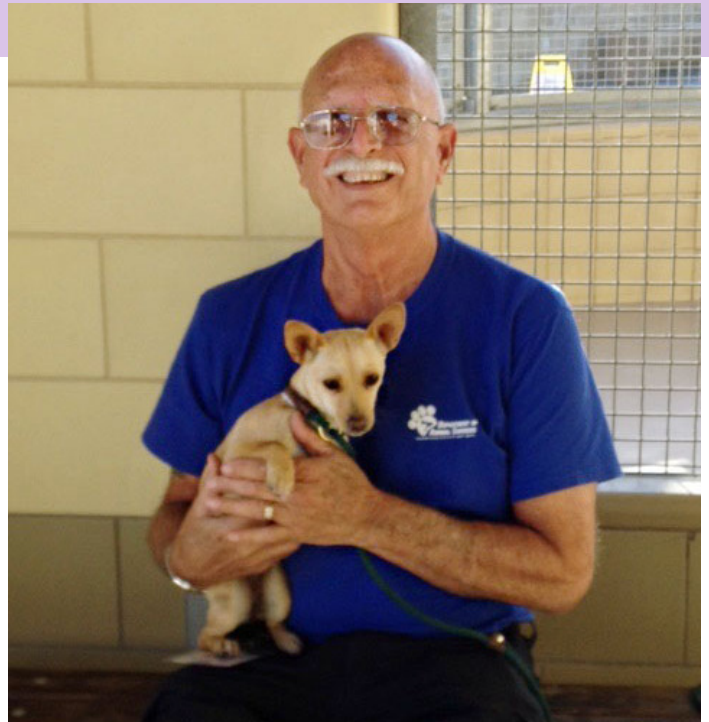
VOLUNTEER OF THE MONTH

By Shea Rossiter

Larry has always had a good connection with animals and thought working for the shelter would be a rewarding use of his time after his recent retirement.

He has been volunteering for more than 3 months and has logged more than 100 hours working various assignments including dog socialization, pet adoptions, information desk greeter, and special events. His favorite part about volunteering at the shelter is that he gets to see the behavioral changes in the dogs as he spends time socializing them. He observes that they become more comfortable and, therefore, more adoptable. He likes to show pictures of the shelter animals to friends and encourages them to adopt from our shelter. *Larry* has a dog named Yeager that he rescued from an abusive home when he was a puppy. He also has a 13 year old cat named Chico that likes to sleep between him and his wife. When he isn't helping out at the shelter, *Larry* spends time target shooting and gardening.

Larry would like to share this message with our volunteers: "Enjoy your time socializing the dogs. It helps them get adopted!"



Random Facts:

He has traveled overseas many times. His favorite destination was Austria because he enjoyed the lakes, scenery, and people.

He has recently developed a phobia of extreme heights.

If he could trade places with anyone for a week, it would be the sitting president.

If he could have a superpower, it would be the ability to talk with animals.

If he could be an animal, he would want to be a lion because of the freedom to roam around a vast range.

His favorite food is French fries.

MEET THE EMPLOYEE

By Shea Rossiter

Gisela Ramirez

Gisela works at the shelter in the Spray and Neuter Clinic as a Supervising Office Assistant. She decided to start a career with the Department of Animal Services five years ago because she wanted to learn and experience new things.

She loves helping customers and her co-workers. She also works closely with volunteers at our shot clinics and she often comments on how much she appreciates their help at these events. **Gisela** has three dogs: Buddy, Chole, and Ariel. She fostered Buddy and Chole and loved them so much, she decided to adopt them. Ariel was also adopted from the shelter. **Gisela** thinks that the shelter is amazing and she likes to share information about pet adoptions and shot clinics with her friends. When she isn't working at the shelter, she likes to read and watch TV.

Gisela would like to tell our volunteers, "Be knowledgeable and believe in yourself, have confidence, don't be afraid to ask questions."



Random Facts:

She loves the song "I Will Survive", because she feels it's inspirational.

Her favorite movie is "Braveheart."

The craziest thing that she has ever eaten was snails.

If she could trade places with anyone for a week, it would be Mother Teresa, because she helped the poor and cared for others without expecting anything in return.

If she could have a superpower, she would want to see into the future.

Her favorite food is pizza.

Volunteer Voices

Sarah Alderson



RANDOM FACTS:

- Her favorite part of volunteering is meeting new people and interacting with the animals as well as learning new things.
- She has several pets: a snake, two rats, three dogs, and two talking birds. One of the bird's favorite phrases is "Knock it off!"
- She likes to write stories and performs in a choir.
- Her favorite movie is "Lilo and Stitch" because the characters are really cute and it is a funny movie.
- Her favorite food is roasted chicken.
- If she could be an animal, she would be a parrot because they can fly and talk. They speak their mind!
- Her favorite season is Fall.

Her message to volunteers: "Make sure to focus on what you are doing."

Karen Leduc

RANDOM FACTS:

- Her favorite part about volunteering at the shelter is being able to assist in finding new homes and families for the animals.
- Some of her interests include: crafting, reading, gardening, and traveling.
- When she first visited our shelter, she was impressed with the architecture and size.
- She has visited several foreign countries. Her favorite was New Zealand because the scenery is pretty incredible and hasn't been disturbed by people.
- The craziest thing that she has ever eaten was haggis, but she ate such a small bite that she really couldn't taste it.
- Her favorite color is teal.
- If she could be an animal, she would be a dolphin, because they are intelligent and get to roam throughout the wide ocean

Her message to volunteers: "Make an effort to do your best!"



Adoptions & Socialization

Special recognition goes out to the following volunteers!

Karen Griffith, Joan Doup, Nicole Bennett and *Kristen Lothspeich* worked together to groom 8 of our shelter dogs in March. Most dogs walked - *Kelly Cartwright* walked 40 dogs, *Breonna Monterrosa* walked 35 dogs and *Erik Patterson* walked 34 dogs! Wow! Through a combined volunteer effort, we socialized more than 231 dogs and assisted with more than 25 adoptions in March! That's incredible! *Valerie Chavez* took 47 new pictures of cats and dogs in March!

Please, also remember to use the cat socialization and adoption log when you have assisted in showing or adopting a cat. We want to recognize these efforts as well.



Years of Service

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

Lynn Anderson with 3 years of service!

Donna Caplan with 4 years of service!

Tuzday Martinez with 6 years of service!

March New Volunteers

Please, join us in welcoming these volunteers!

Nicole Bennett	Malenee Herrera-Guzman	Claudia Ramirez	Caren Taylor
Manmeet Bhele	Nickolas Koch	Rosa Retzer	Amy Tran
Lisa Breit	Rachelle Litsheim	Veronica Reyes	Marissa Vasquez
Kelly Cartwright	Kristen Lothspeich	Karen Sanchez	Brandon Visnaw
Dayanna Fernandez	Julieta Morales	Isadora Silva	Briana Yglesias
Yesenia Figueroa	Krystal Nishimoto	Destiny Smith	Stephanie Zuniga
Stephanie Hernandez	Caylan Obando	Angela Su	

April Birthdays

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

Natalie Preciado 4/1	Janet Spellman-Marsh 4/14
Vanessa Zamudio 4/2	Judie Kaczoroski 4/15
Angelique Foust 4/3	Vanessa Garcia 4/15
Angela Su 4/4	Alexis Mendoza 4/15
Melainie Gregg 4/7	Samantha English 4/16
Liliana Cristales 4/8	Wendy Davis 4/17
Michelle Briseno 4/8	Jonathan Chen 4/19
Sarah Borgelt 4/8	Analyse Long 4/20
Maria Islas 4/8	Dalton Miller 4/20
Erin Tavaglione 4/10	Erica Franco 4/21
Priscilla Ramirez 4/10	Caitlynn Smith 4/23
Naya Riasat 4/12	D. Marie Foraker 4/25
Rosa Retzer 4/12	Elizabeth Stewart 4/27
Karen Leduc 4/14	Tuzday Martinez 4/28
Stacey Gutierrez 4/14	Myrian Figueroa 4/28
Alex Battiest 4/14	



Pet Corner!

Overweight Dogs

Obesity is an extremely common problem in pets and, as with humans, can be detrimental to the health of a dog. The overweight pet has many added stresses upon his body and is at an increased risk of diabetes, liver problems and joint pain.

1. Obesity develops when energy intake exceeds energy requirements. The excess energy is then stored as fat. Once a pet is obese, he may remain obese even after excessive caloric intake stops. The majority of cases of obesity are related to simple overfeeding coupled with lack of exercise.

2. Certain groups of dogs appear more prone to obesity than others. Specific breeds (Labrador retrievers and pugs, for example) and older dogs are particularly prone.

3. Is your dog a hog? As a subjective assessment of body condition, you should be able to feel the backbone and palpate the ribs in an animal of healthy weight. If you cannot feel your pet's ribs without pressing, there is too much fat.

4. Also, you should see a noticeable "waist" between the back of the rib cage and the hips when looking at your pet from above. Viewed from the side, there should be a "tuck" in the tummy—the abdomen should go up from the bottom of the rib cage to inside the thighs. Dogs who fail these simple tests may be overweight.

5, 6, & 7. We recommend that you consult your pet's vet before starting on a weight loss program, which should include these major areas:

5. Correct Diet

Overweight animals consume more calories than they require. Work with your veterinarian to determine your pet's caloric requirements, select a suitable food and calculate how much to feed. The diet should contain a normal level of a moderately fermentable fiber and the type of fat that prevents

the skin and coat from deteriorating during weight loss. Diets that dilute calories with high fiber lead to increased stool volumes, frequent urges to defecate and variable decreases in nutrient digestibility.

6. Exercise

Increasing physical activity can be a valuable contributor to both weight loss and maintenance. Regular exercise burns more calories, reduces appetite, changes body composition and will increase your pet's resting metabolic rate.

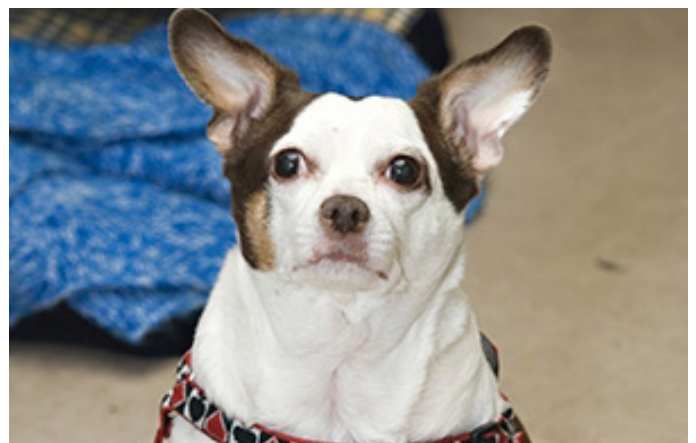
7. Owner Behavior Modification

A successful weight management program requires permanent changes in the behaviors that have allowed the pet to become overweight. Perhaps you are giving your pet too many treats, for example, or not giving him enough opportunities to exercise.

8. Are you committed to your pet's weight loss? Here are some important things you can do:

- Remove the pet from the room when the family eats.
- Feed your pet several small meals throughout the day.
- Feed all meals and treats in the pet's bowl only.
- Reduce snacks or treats.
- Provide non-food related attention.

<http://www.asPCA.org/pet-care/dog-care/overweight-dogs>



Courtesy of the ASPCA website.



2014 VOLUNTEER APPRECIATION DINNER

Wednesday, April 23rd

6:00pm to 8:00pm

Crestmore Manor - 4600 Crestmore Rd.

Riverside, CA 92509

Dress is beach casual

There will be entertainment as well as dinner.



Please RSVP to Laurie Dozier

Contact: ldozier@rcdas.org or 951-358-7997





Art for the Animals

Live Art Auction Fundraiser

To Benefit

Riverside County Homeless Pets

Sunday, April 27th, 2014 4:00-7:00pm

Please Join Us

Art for the Animals is a live art auction fundraiser to benefit the homeless shelter animals of Riverside County. Come join us for a fun evening of art, food, and spirits. Special guest auctioneer **Dan Bernstein**.

At the Riverside Art Museum (RAM)

3425 Mission Inn Avenue, Riverside, CA 92501

Sunday, April 27th, 2014

From 4:00 pm to 7:00pm

Silent Art Auction

Bidding begins at 4:00 and closes sharply at 5:45pm. Bid on exciting items such as donated artwork, an awesome dinner package for four at the Downtown Riverside Fire Station, including a tour and ride in a fire truck, and many more!



Live Art Auction

Including work from multiple artists from 6:00pm to 7:00pm. Plus special featured work by Riverside artist **Joan Coffey**.

www.rcdas.org



View from Descanso Beach,
Featured Artist Joan Coffey

