

Volunteer

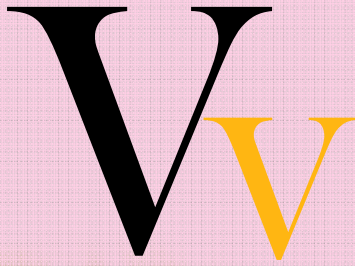


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February 2012 Birthdays

Bayely Bartholomew

Karina Becerra

Nicole Becker

Chachera Brantely

Densis Chan

Andrew Corona

Andrea Delgado

Ashely Garcia

Sierra Goudie

Katherine Hermsillo

Jocelyn Izquierdo

Devin Perdomo

Carly Pierce

Cassandra Read

Danielle Grace Sanchez

Kylie Sanchez

Sianna Sanchez

Maryjane Williams Peugh

February 2012 New Volunteers

Amy Bechler

Jeffrey Beenken

Dennis Chan

Elaine Che

Elena Cotterill

Andrea Delgado

Cari Fonseca

Andy Garcia

Barbara Gonzalez

Cynthia Goscinak

Maureen Guthormsen

Julia Hernandez

Shelby Karrer

Brian Lisheness

Ariel Murillo

Gloria Rivera

Skye Smith

Alejandra Unzueta

Elizabeth Walter

Karen Leduc: Volunteer of the Month



Karen Leduc has earned the honor of being selected Volunteer of the Month at the Western Riverside County/City Animal Shelter for February. Karen started volunteering when the new Western Riverside County/City Animal Shelter opened up in 2009.

Prior to volunteering, Karen was an elementary school teacher at Grand Terrace Elementary School in Colton. Karen said, "I knew I was coming close to retirement, and like everyone else I was looking forward to that, but at the same time, I didn't just want to do nothing...I wanted to be at a place where I could help people and, of course, animals." Karen decided a great place to put her desire to work would be the Western Riverside County/City Animal Shelter.

With her teaching skills, Karen felt she could aid the teen volunteers in becoming more confident in speaking with adults about adopting animals here at the shelter. Working with the teens has been very rewarding for Karen. As a result, many visitors comment how the teens assisting them in dog adoptions are polite, friendly and informed about the dogs they are considering to adopt! Karen has been very instrumental in helping our sheltered dogs find their forever home.

Jason Sanders :

Volunteer Choice for Employee of the Month



Jason Sanders, Sergeant of Field Services, has earned the honor of Volunteer Choice for Employee of the Month at the Western Riverside County/City Animal Shelter . Jason's natural passion for dogs led him to working in animal control. Prior to the Shelter, Jason worked with K9 Companions for six years.

In 1999, Jason came to work for the Western Riverside County/City Animal Shelter. During his tenure here, Jason had the opportunity to join the Riverside Shelter team going to New Orleans to assist in Katrina-ravaged city. From his experience there, Jason came back with a stronger passion for saving animals and serving his community of Riverside.

Aside from all of Jason's accomplishments here at the shelter, the one most near and dear to his heart was meeting his wife Eileen. They married in 2004. Eileen, who is one of our valued Registered Veterinary Technicians said she fell in love with Jason's great smile and his infectious sense of humor; Jason on the other hand said he fell in love with Eileen because he loves "tough women"! He is one of those wonderful human beings who can make any employee or volunteer who's having a

hard day, erupt into laughter. The Volunteers think the world of Jason and want to thank him for all of the help and guidance he shares with them on a daily basis.

Voices of Volunteers

Brenda and Kayla

As Brenda Perez drove past the Western Riverside County/City Animal Shelter, she knew she wanted to be a volunteer. Brenda is a university student with a career emphasis on veterinary medicine. She was thrilled to hear that the Western Riverside County/City Animal Shelter provides hands-on training in clinical duties for volunteers hoping to become veterinarians. Brenda attended classes at Riverside Community College, earning a 3.5 GPA and is now attending California Baptist University as a pre-med student.

At Cal Baptist, Brenda met Kayla Beaudion on her cross country team. Because of their love of animals and their mutual interest in medicine (both animal and human) Brenda and Kayla became friends. Kayla's major at Cal Baptist is in nursing. What could be better! Learning about Brenda volunteering here at the shelter gave way to Kayla quickly filling out the volunteer application and coming onboard.

During their summer break from college, both ladies assisted in our veterinary clinic with the many tasks that are needed on a daily basis.

Kayla and Brenda both have a love of pit bulls and loved being around them each day they were here to volunteer. Once their studies resumed, they were not able to be here as much as they would of liked. But that has not stopped them from coming in as often as they can.



Kayla Beaudion (left) and Brenda Perez (right) with a friendly Shepherd mix.

Voices of Volunteers

When people are passionate to do what is right, they will not let limitations stop them. This can be said of Ka-Ying Mok, (also known as Cactus) a young woman from Hong Kong. Cactus worked as a volunteer here in Riverside for 3 months and has now taken her skills she learned here at Western Riverside County/City Animal Shelter and at the ABC College back to Hong Kong. Growing up in Hong Kong, Cactus always had a strong desire for wanting dogs to be treated humanely.

Hong Kong is a very crowded city with most of its residents living in small apartments – and they love their animals as we do here, she said. The citizens of Hong Kong have strict guidelines on having dogs in their apartments. Cactus came to the United States determined to learn dog training techniques to improve the lives of her home town citizens and canine friends.

Cactus enrolled at the ABC College in Orange County upon arriving in the United States. While at ABC College, Cactus met Barbara Davis, an ASK Board Member and Volunteer here at Riverside. Barbara introduced Cactus to the volunteer program at Riverside and she soon was learning hands-on training with our sheltered dogs. Cactus is now on her way back to Hong Kong to become a Dog Trainer. There Cactus hopes to transfer all of the valuable training skills she learned at the Western Riverside County/City Animal Shelter.



Ka-Ying Mok (Cactus) volunteered at RCDAS for 3 months before going back to Hong Kong. Thank you Cactus on behalf of Riverside County Department of Animal Services for your spirit and tremendous generosity to our employees !

Voices of Volunteers

Debbie Campbell started as a full time Volunteer at the Riverside County Department of Animal Services in 2006. Being a volunteer is a lifestyle for Debbie. "I feel God gave me a love for dogs since the day I was born," says Debbie with cheerful certainty. Debbie's parents were both animal control officers. And it was her mother who fueled her daughter's natural zeal for dogs and taught her the joy of oil painting. After her mother's passing, Debbie took up her mother's paint brushes, and decided to make her life about what she truly loved, dogs and art.

Debbie strikes up a friendly conversation with all visitors to answer questions they might have in regard to adopting. She wants to make sure that each adopter receives all of the right information to help them and their new pet.



Debbie Campbell, stands beside her T-shirt design poster.



Through her artwork, Debbie donates more than 50% of her art proceeds to the Spay and Neuter Fund here at the Western Riverside County/City Animal Shelter. She also donates her proceeds to this Fund from the sale of her hand drawn T-Shirts at the Riverside Art Walk held each month in downtown Riverside.

Debbie has given countless hours of service here at the Shelter. And because of her hard work, she is admired by all who worked with her. Thank you, Debbie for your hard work and wonderful creative talents.