



Volunteer **V**oice

Issue 8

August 2012 Newsletter



Connor Hradecky
August Volunteer of the Month

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August Save The Date!

- **August 11th, 2012: This is the end of our “Summer Solstice” Adoption Special—all dogs \$20.**
- **August 16th: Nacho Day Fundraiser, 11am—2pm, Employee Breakroom on first floor**
- **August 18th: Shot Clinic, 10am—1pm**
- **August 26th: Volunteer/Employee Potluck Picnic, 12 pm—4pm, Riverside Shelter**

Reminders

We are having a Volunteer/Employee Picnic on August 26th, from Noon to 4pm, here at the Riverside Shelter. This picnic is for volunteers and employees to come and chill out, play some games and eat a lot of good food! There is a sign-up sheet posted by the time clock for this Potluck. Hope you all plan on coming. Please email Joel if you will be attending: JYoungb@rivcocha.org

Fundraiser: Nacho Day on August 16th from 11am—2pm, First floor Employee Break Room. If you would like to donate any items such as nacho cheese, chili, paper boats to serve them in, napkins, sliced jalapenos or sour cream, or money we would truly appreciate it. Plan on coming by—the Nachos are really good! Contact Joel for donations: JYoungberg@rivcocha.org

Thank you for all your support and the time and dedication in volunteering. All of you help make this shelter a better place for our homeless animals to be while they wait for their new families to take them home!

Pet Life Saverz Club Members

It is sad to think we are at the end of summer and all of our magnificent Pet Life Saverz Teen members will be heading back to school! You have no idea how much you will be missed. Here are a few comments from your compatriots here at the shelter:

“Exceptional group of Pet Life Saverz this year. Our adoptions increased 10 fold with you here.”

“It is encouraging to see young people interested in saving animals lives.”

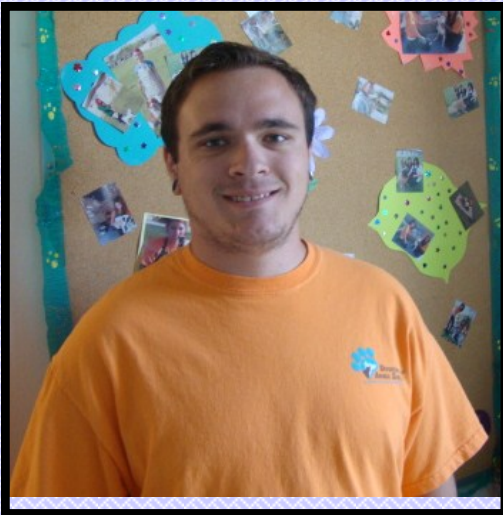
“What you do matters.....even if it’s one life, it does make a difference.”

“You were invaluable, mature and always did what we needed you to do—Thank You!”

“You raised the bar on the level of care and love you exhibited here at the shelter, not only for the animals, but towards every constituent who walked in the door. Thank you very much and we hope to see you during the coming months. You will be missed!”

Volunteer of the Month

Connor Hradecky



Since becoming a volunteer in May of this year, Connor Hradecky has already made a difference in the lives of animals and their families. Primarily Connor has been volunteering his services in cat adoptions and this summer at the Critter Kiddz Camp, but prefers to work with dog adoptions. Connor's most memorable moment so far has been to receive a letter of thanks from a customer he assisted with a cat adoption. The letter elicited feelings of happiness and gratitude for Connor. The shelter is very proud of Connor in learning through a constituent how he has helped not only the lives of the animals, but the lives of their adopters as well.

At home Connor has three dogs, one of which is a German Shepherd named Roxy. Roxy is the "leader of the pack" and acts accordingly. His other dog Harley, on the other hand, acts like a cat despite the fact that he is a dog. In his free time Connor enjoys body piercing and works at a body piercing/tattoo parlor. He loves music and can play the drums, guitar, bass, and piano!

To our volunteers Connor would like to say, "I really enjoy working with all of you here. All of the volunteers are really nice; we are like one big family."

A Letter of Thanks

"Dear Connor,

I wanted to give you a follow up letter to let you know how Wanda was doing. She is the adorable little black and white kitty that you were the handler of."

Miss Thomson went on to tell about how Wanda's first few days at home went. She then continued on to say....

"As of today, Wanda has shown what an awesome, loveable, little kitty she is. She is very friendly with everyone in the house and has accepted all the pets and people she now lives with. You did an exceptional job in socializing her and giving me a little background on how she acts. Although she was not pleased with the dogs in the house, she has a great time chasing their tails and snuggling up with them. Even the male dog, who has finally figured out that she is OK! We are so happy that Wanda is now a part of our family. I wanted to let you know how she is doing because it would be hard for me to let go of a kitty and not know what happened or if he/she is happy or not.

Thank you again for bringing this lovely kitty into our lives."

- Lesley Thompson

Employee of the Month

Pam Holland



Pam Holland is one of our Western Riverside County/City Animal Shelter's dedicated Veterinary Technicians. Pam has worked at the shelter since 2007. Most days you can find Pam in Treceiving checking in all of the animals that come off the Animal Control Trucks, plus the animals coming in through Admissions from the public. She examines them for injuries, overall health, vaccinates them and takes their picture before they are logged into our system.

Pam's favorite part of being a Vet Tech is saving the lives of these wonderful animals coming through our doors. Pam has one pet, a little daschund named Penny (pictured above). One of Pam's favorite outside activities is going to the gym. Here she is able to build up her muscles for the days she encounters those 100 lbs dogs coming in through the sally port door!

To our Volunteers, Pam would like to say thank you for all of the hours you spend here at our shelter helping to save the lives of these animals.

July Volunteer Adoptions in just 14 days!

Cat & Dog Adoptions: 163 (93 dogs and 70 cats adopted!)

These adoptions took place July 16th through July 31st when we started to record the data, but many more adoptions took place prior to these dates. Following are the total amount of adoptions recorded in just 14 business days! Congratulations to the following top 5 Volunteers!

Cats: Lily Nguyen, 23; Jessica Mastrosimone, 6; Adelaida Cabanillas, 5; Xiomara Santamaria, 5; Skyla Salisbury, 5.

Dogs: Brandi Vasquez, 19; Alyssa Penn, 11; Ariel Sepulveda, 9; Haylee Gymer, 8; Adelaida Cabanillas, 6.

Remember: Every animal adoption is critical—it is one more life saved!

Volunteer Voices

Sierra Goudie

Acquiring 210 hours takes some dedication and Sierra Goudie has done just that. Currently a junior in high school, she volunteers as much as possible and helps out with the summer camps at the Western Riverside County/City Animal Shelter. Walking dogs, working with the cats and helping with the kiosk are all part of her daily routine. Her love for animals brought her here and says, "It's something I do to help the animals."

The feeling of getting an animal adopted is such a rewarding experience which she hopes everyone will get a chance to take part in. It is by far her most favorite task to do here. Not only does she assist others at the shelter, but at her school as well. She is in a club named Link Crew which helps incoming freshman adjust to high school life and CSF which helps support various organizations such as Breast Cancer Awareness.



To her co-workers here, she states, "always have a positive attitude and support each other."

Emily Skibel

Since the age of seven Emily Skibel had wanted to volunteer at the Western Riverside County/City Animal Shelter. It wasn't until she was 13 that she was able to do so. However, she did wait and is glad to say she is helping make a difference in the lives of the animals. All of the volunteers here are making a difference and she states, "I've met a lot of great people who share the same passion as me. It's great."

One of her most treasured experiences here would have to be, the time she got Teddy, a pit bull mix, to walk on leash. He was terrified of leashes and Emily said, "I felt so accomplished when I was able to walk him on one." Skibel enjoys soccer outside of volunteering. She also loves helping out the shelter's behaviorist, Jackie Schart, work with dogs who need a little more attention than others.

At home she has three dogs of her own. They are Maggie, Foxy, and Max along with three birds and a guinea pig named Jenny.

For as long as she can, Emily will continue to volunteer her time to help these animals in need.



Volunteer Voices

Makayla Zayes



Between volunteering at an animal shelter in Banning and the Western Riverside County/City Animal Shelter, Makayla has a total of five years in the volunteer field. She focuses on adoptions and helping out in the clinic with the Vets. "I like helping people with information. This way they are more comfortable which in turn helps the animals get adopted!"

Singing, ballet and hip-hop dancing are a few of her hobbies she couldn't live without. Kitty Kat, her German Shepherd, and an unnamed guinea pig are also on that list.

A positive attitude and nice smile are always a great way to get constituents to come back and our volunteers here are doing an outstanding job at that! Keep it up!

McKayla Grant

Since she was five years old, McKayla Grant has wanted to help animals in anyway that she could. When her cousin and aunt, who had previously volunteered at the Western Riverside County/City Animal Shelter, told her about the volunteer orientation she decided she would go through the process to become a Pet Life Saverz Youth Club Member.



"It's been fun. I enjoy working with the dogs so I plan to continue with that." McKayla is not really a cat person although she does have a cat named Schreech. Like many teens here, she would like to become a veterinarian. "There's a school in Kansas that I've been looking into. Their animal program is supposed to be a really good one." Whatever she decides to do, she knows that her time and commitment here is helping animals in need and people who are in need of an animal companion.

Critter Kiddz Camp 2012!

Critter Kiddz Camp was held July 16—27, 2012. Our volunteers, Connor Hradecky, Sierra Goudie, Megan Sandoval, Emily Skibel and Sianna Sanchez were instrumental in assisting our counselors during the two weeks. Each week there were 30 children who loved learning about our animal world—not only about dogs & cats, but llamas, mini horses, alligators, snakes, & turtles.



August 2012 New Volunteers

Kaitlyn Antonio	Chrystal Holk	Kathy Morris
Cassandra Aviles	Jessica Joneson	Jennifer Orozco
Starr Berkey	William Lind	Tiffany Riser
Shelby Bundy	Erika Lopez	Alison Rogers
Andrea Casas	Rene Lopez	Raiza Sanchez
Amanda Coover	Claudia Marin	Torrey Stutzman
Dorothy Cordova	Sara Marquez	Rebecca Nicholls
Monika Donisthorpe	Armando Medina	Marissa Saucedo
Marlena Downey	Deloris Medina	Marla Mentriken
Karen Griffith	Marina Moreno	Stanley Morton

August 2012 Volunteer Birthdays

Acosta, Alitta	28-Aug	Kubiak, Janine	20-Aug
Adame, Misael	28-Aug	Lewis, Ryan	27-Aug
Anguiano, Angela	19-Aug	Mok, Ka-Ying	22-Aug
Cisneros, Carolina	6-Aug	Moutschka, Terry	9-Aug
Crim, Destiny	31-Aug	Nalivansky, Jodie	6-Aug
Davis, Barbara	24-Aug	Neault, Amy	25-Aug
Djordjevic, Barbara	25-Aug	Porter, Jacob	20-Aug
Dyson, Jonathan	17-Aug	Purcell, Pauline	18-Aug
Faugier, Rochelle	23-Aug	Raicevic, Sophia	Au 13
Feng, Susan	21-Aug	Saucedo, Breanna	19-Aug
Flores, Vivian	20-Aug	Sepulveda, Veronica	13-Aug
Gymer, Haylee	25-Aug	Smith, Stephanie	26-Aug
Jimenez, Aldair	3-Aug	Torres, Adrian	4-Aug
Klein, Barbara	6-Aug	Walsh, Kerri	11-Aug

Thank you Rob Murphy!

At one of our last Shot Clinics, Rob Murphy, one of our new Volunteers, donated several cases of water for all of the constituents standing in line to obtain their vaccinations for their animals. The shelter would like to thank Rob for his generosity. Thank you, Rob!