



# Volunteer



**Patricia Brink**  
 May 2014  
 Volunteer of the Month

# Voices

Riverside Edition  
 Issue 5  
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# Save the Date

**May 7th: Arts for the Animals Children's Award Ceremonies**

**May 7th: Shot Clinic 10:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.**

**May 10th: Park N Bark**

**May 11th: Mother's Day**

**May 26th: Memorial Day (shelter closed)**

**May 28th: Volunteer Potluck Fundraiser**

## 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 Elvira at [EValenzu@RCDAS.ORG](mailto:EValenzu@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.

**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 Elvira at [EValenzu@RCDAS.ORG](mailto:EValenzu@RCDAS.ORG). *\*\*\*Space is limited.*

**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 Elvira for more information at [EValenzu@RCDAS.ORG](mailto:EValenzu@RCDAS.ORG).

**FACEBOOK & INSTAGRAM:** Make sure to follow the volunteer pages!

**Facebook:** RCDAS Volunteers ; **Instagram:** @RCDAS\_Volunteers



# Patricia Brink

VOLUNTEER OF THE MONTH

By Elvira Valenzuela

**Patricia** was interested to volunteer for the Department of Animal Services because of her love for animals. She has found it to be very rewarding and fun.

**Patricia** has been a volunteer for more than five months and has logged more than 100 hours working with various assignments including dog socialization, pet adoptions, and cat socialization. **Patricia** said that she enjoys interacting with the dogs because she gets to meet the public and answer questions they have. She loves that she is involved in finding a forever home for the animals.

One of her most memorable moments was when she adopted Emmet from the shelter. Emmet is a Chihuahua Italian Greyhound that she fell in love with when she would come in to volunteer and walk him. She would see him all the time and one day her thought was that she would not see him anymore. With her concern, she decided to adopt Emmet and bring him home where she would make sure to see him all the time.

**Patricia** added Emmet to a lovely pet family at home, which includes two other dogs by the names of Little Red and Sasha. She also has two cats, Tango and Kinker, as well as a beautiful horse named Midnight.



On her personal time away from the shelter, she enjoys training horses. **Patricia** has a special talent that she feels is magic when it comes to training the horses. She also enjoys golfing when she is not working, which helps her relax.

**Patricia's** message to the volunteers is to have fun with volunteering, as well as to be careful not to fall in love because you'll want to adopt them all.

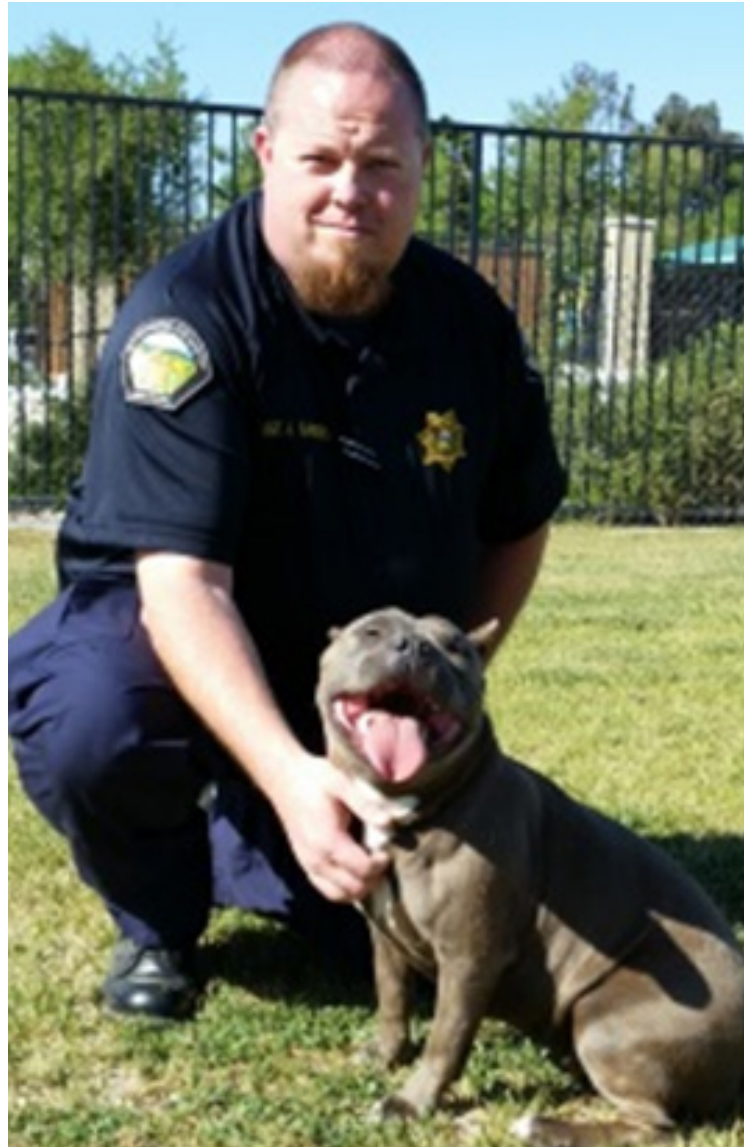
# Jason Sanders

**Jason** has been with animal services for more than 16 years. Since he was in high school he knew he wanted to be an animal control officer because of an experience.

Before **Jason** worked for the county he was a kennel attendant at a dog training school and he was also in the United States Army Reserve. One of the reasons Jason loves his job is because of the rewarding job of getting vicious dogs off of the streets to make Riverside County a safer place.

One of his favorite memories he has so far working for the shelter is flying to help rescue and save dogs that were affected by Hurricane Katrina in 2005. **Jason** has three miniature schnauzers; they are named Darka or Sparky, Jonsie, Sunny and he has one Chihuahua named Mousie.

**Jason's** message to the volunteers and employees is, "Thank you for your hard work and sacrificing your time to help make a better life for the animals."



## Fun Facts:

When Jason is not at the shelter he enjoys playing the video game Grand Theft Auto online.

His dog Mousie only has three legs.

If he could have a superpower it would be the power of flight.

Jason has an irrational fear of zombies.

He is afraid of heights.

His favorite type of food is a good cheeseburger.

His favorite movie genre is horror.

Jason's favorite band is Pantera.

His favorite movie is "Hellraiser".

# Volunteer Voices



## Nick Koch

Nick has been volunteering with the Riverside County Department of Animal Services for a month. He started volunteering because he needs experience with different types of dogs. Nick's ultimate goal is to be an animal behavior consultant. His favorite thing to do at the shelter is to socialize and walk the dogs and teaching them tricks along the way. At home Nick has a Labrador named Oliver, a Westie named Sandy, a cat named Lucy and two turtles and a couple fish. Nick knows many languages including Russian, Tagalog, Cebuano and even American Sign Language.

Nick's message to the Volunteers is, "If you like working with animals you'll have a lot of fun here and if you want to experience animals this is the best place to be".

### FUN FACTS:

If Nick could have any superpower it would be to understand and speak to animals.

If Nick could be any animal he would be a wolf.

His favorite book is "The Great Gatsby".

His favorite season is winter.

## Nicole Bennett

Nicole has been volunteering with the Riverside County Department of Animal Services since March 2014. Her favorite task to do at the shelter is walking and socializing the dogs because it makes her happy to take them outside their kennels. Her most memorable moment is when she was working the front kiosk she was playing with one of the dogs in the life rooms and a customer saw the way she interacted with it and adopted the dog. She owns two pets; a Pit bull named Duchess and an English Staffordshire named Duke. Nicole loves to do photography especially when it involves animals.

Nicole's message to the Volunteers is, "Your time is appreciated and you should spread the word about how great volunteering is".

### FUN FACTS:

If Nicole could have any superpower it would be the power to read minds.

Her favorite candy is Abba-Zaba.

Nicole's loves the bully breed.

Nicole always keeps jellybeans stocked up at her house.



# Adoptions & Socialization

Special recognition goes out to the following Volunteers:

In total, volunteers socialized and walked more than 277 dogs in April! That's incredible! Let's try to see if we can walk even more dogs this month!

For socializing the most dogs: **Erik Patterson** with 47 dogs, **Manmeet Bhele** with 44 dogs and **Larry Rudolph** with 43 dogs!

There was a total of 17 dog adoptions in April. Well done! 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!

**Pauline Purcell** with 2 years of service!

**Karen Leduc** with 3 years of service!

**Judie Kaczoroski** with 4 years of service!

# April New Volunteers

Please join us in welcoming these volunteers!

Jennifer Alphin	Levi-Lin Ferro	Catherine Narvaez
Patricia Antonio	Cynthia Flores	Shannon Penrose
Stephanie Cuevas	Jennifer Gaona	Kenneth Petrone
Julija Dainovskaja	Nathaniel Greeley	Felina Rosales
Amanda Danko	Jackie Guevara	Andrea Rubio
Baley Dean	Lorena Lozada-Sanchez	
Cherelle Eleby	Sherry Marshall	

# May Birthdays

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

Marlene Gomez 5/01	Harmony Weischedel 5/18
Becky Yoo 5/03	Arthur Jensen 5/19
Noemi Villareal 5/04	Robert Osborne 5/21
Mariah Loomis 5/06	Christ'Ann McKinney 5/22
Chelsea Olson 5/07	Marissa Vasquez 5/26
Andrea Rubio 5/08	Dana Winchell 5/26
Dayanna Fernandez 5/11	Allie Saenz 5/28
Stephanie Pascual 5/12	Samantha Erickson 5/29
Taylor Vance 5/13	Monique Garcia 5/30
Janelle Centella 5/14	Kobe Kendall 5/30
Levi-Lin Ferro 5/17	Sherry Marshall 5/31
Angeles Martinez 5/17	



P<sub>et</sub>  
C<sub>orner!</sub>



# Springtime Plants that are Toxic to Pets

Spring has sprung! If you're anything like us, you're itching to dust off your green thumb and get gardening. But before you break ground, keep in mind that a number of popular springtime plants can be poisonous to pets. To make sure that you don't cultivate a danger-zone for your furry friends, we've put together a list of ten common toxic varieties:

**Azalea/Rhododendron:** Members of the Rhododendron species (also known as azalea) contain substances known as grayantoxins, which can produce vomiting, drooling, diarrhea, weakness, and depression of the central nervous system in animals. Severe azalea poisoning can even lead to death from cardiovascular collapse.

**Chrysanthemum:** These popular blooms are part of the Compositae family, which contains pyrethrins that may produce gastrointestinal upset including drooling, vomiting, and diarrhea, if eaten. In certain cases, depression and loss of coordination may also develop if enough of any part of the plant is consumed.

**Cyclamen:** Cyclamen species contain cyclamine, a toxin that can produce significant gastrointestinal irritation and intense vomiting. The highest concentration of cyclamine is actually in the root portion of cyclamen, though the entire plant should be avoided.

**Daffodil:** Yes, even the popular daffodil—aka Narcissus—can cause vomiting, salivation, and diarrhea when ingested. Large ingestions can lead to convulsions, low blood pressure, tremors, and cardiac arrhythmias. And beware: bulbs are the most poisonous part.

**Kalanchoe:** Commonly referred to as the Mother-In-Law plant, the Kalanchoe species contains components that can produce gastrointestinal irritation, as well as those that are toxic to the heart, and can seriously affect cardiac rhythm and rate.

**Lily:** While they're not toxic to dogs, members of the Liliaceae species are especially dangerous for cats. The ingestion of even a small amount of this plant can lead to severe kidney damage for your feline friend.

**Oleander:** All parts of Nerium oleander are considered toxic, as they contain cardiac glycosides that have the potential to cause serious effects—including gastrointestinal tract irritation, abnormal heart function, hypothermia and even death.

**Tulip:** Tulips contains toxins that can cause vomiting, depression, diarrhea, and hypersalivation. Although the entire tulip plant is considered toxic, it is the bulb that is the most poisonous to animals.

Though this list covers ten of the most common springtime toxins, it is important to note that more than 700 plants have been identified as potentially harmful to animals! Please visit our full list of toxic and non-toxic plants to make sure that your garden is safe for your pets.

If you think that your animal is ill or may have ingested a poisonous substance, contact your local veterinarian or our 24-hour emergency poison hotline directly at 1-888-426-4435.

<http://www.asPCA.org/blog/ten-springtime-plants-are-toxic-pets>

# Shelter Happenings



Farewell to Shea our Volunteer Service Coordinator that moved out of state.

## Dog Olympics 2014



# Volunteer Appreciation Dinner



# Arts for the Animals



Featured artist, Joan Coffey, showing off one of her amazing pieces.

