



# The Animal Advocate



Newsletter of Stockton Animal Shelter Friends

Volume 3, Issue 1 / Spring 2009

## Shelter Spay/Neuter Clinic: A Success!

As of May, 301 cats have been altered at the City/SASF spay/neuter clinic at the Animal Shelter. This has been ENTIRELY with volunteer veterinarians, technicians and just plain volunteers who are dedicated enough to make animal over-population control a priority. The clinics have been conducted monthly or bi-monthly on Sundays only since December. Once the word got out, the need has been overwhelming. Hundreds of people have called the Spay/Neuter answering machine—so many, that there was no one to return all the calls!

Each clinic has gotten smoother as vets and helpers alike have gotten the hang of how to work within the clinic and with each

other. They have become a well-oiled machine.

The clinics have focused on feral cat colonies mostly within city limits and cats in the SASF adoption program. Now that we've solved the insurance problem, we can pay vets to work on Saturdays as well and step up the number. The plan is to start altering dogs regularly.

There are several heroes that have made this clinic possible. First, we must thank our anonymous donor for the money that built the clinic. Next, is Tammie Murrell whose vision and unwavering leadership got all the pieces of the puzzle together along with Mariann McDonnell. And Jenifer McCollum, vet tech extraordinaire



who got the clinic equipped and regularly makes it all happen. Don't forget Dr. Julie Damron who helped with clinic set-up and has volunteered countless hours performing surgeries as did Dr. Kathy Allen. Dr. Novy and staff from Simi Valley helped us set up the clinic and how to make it work. Hero helpers Lisa Goodin & Jamie Larson must be thanked. And the volunteers: Dr. Ken Groves, Dr. Wu, Dr. John Kim, Amy Able, Tomi London, Amanda

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### Adopt-A-Pet Center Hours:

Tues-Fri: 12 to 5 pm

Saturday: 10 to 4

Sunday: 12 to 4

Closed on Monday

Williams, Sara Herny, Melissa Peris, Odri Peitrusiewicz, Felicia Frades, Danielle Dorton, Jennifer Maurer, Dina Reiswig, Jennifer Stipe,

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## STRUT YOUR MUTT (and swim)

Save Saturday, August 22 for the 10th annual Strut Your Mutt/Dog Day Afternoon pet fair & doggie swimming event. As always, Victory Park is

the place. The "Strut" is at 10 am with swimming throughout the day. There will be contests, a raffle, booths, activities and a chance for you to raise

\$ for animals by getting paid **pledges** for your strut.

Cost is \$20 for the Strut, \$10 for the swim or \$25 for both.

Call 639-2633 for





## Volunteer of the Quarter



*Jonathan Northington, volunteer extraordinaire!*

About six months ago, a young man named Jonathan came to volunteer at our Hammer Lane Discount Pet dog adoption event. He was a home-study student in need of seventy-five hours of volunteer work to graduate. Jonathan was on the quiet side and when we put him to work, he didn't say much. He just did what we asked. What could be better!

Jonathan continued to show up at each adoption event, still quiet, and help set up, walk dogs, clean up after the dogs, help feed them, and whatever else needed to be done. My wife, Mary, commented to me what a good volunteer he was. I'm usually too busy with the dogs to pay much attention to the volunteers.

I began to watch him more and noticed that he did not need to be asked to clean up after a dog but just did it. He always arrived early enough to help set up and stayed late to tear down. He did not sit around talking but walked dogs or helped people looking for a dog. I also noticed that he knew the personality of each dog, especially the ones that had been in the adoption program longest.

As time went by, we depended on Jonathan more and more. We knew that he would pick up the slack when others were busy with adoption paperwork or other issues that might arise. If we needed something done, he would do it. It seemed that he really enjoyed working with the dogs and with us.

Lately, we have

been giving him more responsibility. About a month ago, Jonathan started completing the forms for a dog adoption. He was hesitant at first, but now, all I have to do is give him the paper and say we have an adoption. He makes sure the paperwork is completed correctly. Recently, I noticed that he even typed out his own personal kennel inventory and referred to it on a regular basis when talking to people looking for a particular dog.

It has been a pleasure having Jonathan volunteering with us. Hopefully, he has learned skills that can be used throughout his life, but we know he will remember some of the dogs whose lives he helped save.

- Steve Komure

### Wish List Drop-Off Sites

1) Adopt-A-Pet Center: 7475 Murray Dr. #19 (see hours on Page 1)

2) Discount Pet Dog Adoption: 1140 W Hammer Ln (see hours on Page 3)

## Wish List



SASF always needs volunteers and we know that many people don't have the time to spend. But there are other ways you can help animals. Here is the "wish list" of items needed at the adoption center for the animals:

- towels/wash cloths
- canned pet food
- new dog & cat toys
- pet brushes & combs
- washable pet bedding

- Portable pet kennels
- Operating supplies:
- energy-efficient refrigerator
  - waiting room chairs
  - TV-VCR combo
  - laundry detergent
  - dishwasher detergent
  - bleach & cleaning supplies
  - paper towels
  - toilet paper
  - large & small garbage bags

- portable electric fans
- Office supplies:
- 8 1/2 x 11 white computer paper
  - post-it notes
  - scissors
  - pads of paper
  - computer equipment (call SASF first)
  - a digital camera!
  - **BASKETS**, dog toys & treats for the Strut Your Mutt raffle!!!!

Thank for thinking of us!



# Message from Animal Services

## Barking Dog Ordinance with Allen Perry

The City of Stockton Animal Services Division is trying to implement a new procedure regarding barking and animal noise in the city. There are no more time limits for a noise violation and we do not need two neighbors to complain.

The noise ordinance has been renamed Sec. 7-127 Keeping of Animals as Constituting Public Nuisance. On the first call we go to the reporting party's house to obtain a brief description of the problems with noise. Then, we also go to the animal owners house to advise on legal responsibilities, licenses, and training suggestions. We also explain that if we

receive a second complaint and the reporting neighbor is willing to sign the citation as a witness, that they can be cited into court.

If a later complaint is made, we have both the reporting party and the animal owner sign a citation. At that point, both parties are given the opportunity to explain their situations to the judge.

We really hope this will alleviate some of the ongoing unresolved noise issues between neighbors. If you have any new questions, the public can always contact Kathy at the Shelter, 937-7445.

Other AS thoughts:

- Remember that summer is

here...it is WAY too hot to leave any pets in a car for ANY amount of time

- Be sure to treat all your pets for fleas & ticks
- Keep a large supply of water & provide adequate shade for your pet
- Don't forget to license both cats & dogs
- Spay & neuter your porch cats
- And don't just spay & neuter them—make sure they get micro-chipped, too. If they are ever brought in to a shelter, this will save their lives.

- Katherine Potter



**Barking Dog Ordinance is now called "Keeping of Animals as Constituting Public Nuisance —Sec. 7-127 of the Stockton Municipal Code"**



**Spay/Neuter vouchers available at the Adopt-A-Pet Center (7475 Murray Dr) and Animal Shelter (1575 S Lincoln St)!**

## Shelter Stats

	2009 thru April		2008	
Dogs Redeemed	230	11.5%	612	11.4%
Dogs Sold	700	35.1%	1,532	28.4%
Dogs Euthanized	1,064	53.4%	3,249	60.2%
Cat Redeemed	97	5.7%	35	.6%
Cats Sold	240	14.2%	600	10.1%
Cats Euthanized	1,352	80.1%	5,328	89.3%

## Dog Adoption Sites

**Discount Pet**, 1140 West Hammer Lane -- 1st, 3rd & 5th full weekends of the month, Saturday, 10 am-4 pm & Sunday, 12 Noon to 4 pm

**PetSmart**, 10520 Trinity Pkwy -- 2nd & 4th weekends of the month, Saturday, 10 am-4 pm & Sunday, 12 Noon to 4 pm



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www.stocktonpets.org

*Help us help animals!*

**Stockton Animal  
Shelter Friends**

*It is, and will be, the mission  
of Stockton Animal Shelter  
Friends to reduce pet  
overpopulation, encourage  
responsible pet ownership  
and promote humane  
treatment of animals.*

## Thank You's

Dear SASF:

Last October our daughter adopted a small puppy you had rescued. Ellie is now about 9 months old, and is intelligent, sweet & lovable—even though she is 60



pounds now and still growing. She is a Labrador mix and we knew she would be good-sized.

We encourage everyone looking for a pet to check the Animal Shelter first—we saw another four or five dogs, both large and small that were also ideal candidates for adoption.

Thank you for helping save so many dogs from euthanasia. We are enclosing a check to be used in your areas of greatest need.

Sincerely,  
Dr. Alan Huber

## A Simple Thank You...

For several years when I was a little down, or simply stressed, I would visit your shelter and pet, brush and just love the cats there. Always in the back of my mind thinking if there was the right one, I would take him/her home.

Two weeks after my son enlisted in the Navy, magic happened. It was not the cat I thought I would end up with or the one I was looking for, but the cat that was meant to be.

My son has been away for 2+ years. This cat keeps me together, I'm sure. A typical Siamese...a screamer, picky eater, only loves me, even some chronic medical issues (runny nose). But she has become my right arm. She knows my every mood and always makes me feel like a million, even after a bad day.

While Abby is not really a substitute for my son, she has filled part of my heart.

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Kati Prieto, Martha Zamudio, Maranda Casteli, Athena Martin, Jayne Freeman, Claudia Christensen, Marie Marino, Julie Barkett, Candee Mazzuloa, Caryna Bun, Sandra Goulart, Shannan Heiss, Christina Butcher, Becky Abbott, Nanette Wagenknecht, Leona Overton, George Hough, Susan Platt and Paul Caton. Can you believe we had this many volunteers working these clinics? It's amazing! Thanks to all the folks who are REALLY making a difference in pet overpopulation in San Joaquin County.

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