PAWS & CLAWS NEWSLETTER Issue 1



What's going on?

Paws & Claws Newsletter

by Andrea Tedori, Candice Perkin, Del Rhea Watson, Lynn Stewart, Monica Moore, Shirley Walsh

MARCH 1, 2016

WELCOME to the first edition of Volunteers for Animal Protection newsletter. We are excited to share all the exciting news with our members, volunteers, and community supporters on the updates & what's going on at VAP.

There has been so much happening since our new Executive Board was voted in, and we want to share the news.

Before I go on, I want to personally thank all our Volunteers for the hard work each and every one of them give to our animals and shelter. The job isn't an easy one and it definitely isn't the cleanest one. I (Monica) helped in the cat room over the holidays and I realized just how physical the job is. I watch the volunteers in the cat & dog areas and it takes special people to do what you all do. So thank you for the hours you work, the endless laundry that you do and the love that you have for each and every friend we have in our home. I personally appreciate you all!

Donations have allowed VAP to purchase their new adoption trailer. This has been a big hit on adoption days and allows for us to take more animals to adoption days. The trailer is air conditioned, heated, has storage, sink, and kennels that can be adjusted depending on the size of the animal. With the viewing window, our potential adopters can see the animals and then visit with them before making their "new family member" decision.

We also have a new Catio from another generous donation for VAP. The new room is brightly furnished and we have 2 high school girls who are painting murals on the walls.

Thanks to a generous donation last November, we received \$52,000.00. We set aside \$15,000.00 in a medical fund for our animals, so we are now able to keep up on all dentals and other vetting needs.

Wi-Fi anyone? We now have Wi-Fi at the shelter and this is going to play a huge part in our goal to automate the shelter and rid ourselves of all the paperwork. Can I get an "Oh yeah!"

Paw News...we have added 7 new kennels in the back dog area, with the help of several volunteers including Roger, Christopher and Patrick. We also plan on replacing 11 old kennels in the original dog yard & reconfigure the design to reduce anxiety for the dogs. We hope to complete this by the end of March.

Several trees have been planted throughout the dog yard to provide much needed shade for the dogs. Danielle has done some landscaping, created pea gravel paths, and created a memorial garden for some of our furry friends that have left us. Thank you Danielle.

Layers of sand & crushed limestone were spread around and under the dog kennels as well as in the dog runs, to help alleviate the mud and standing water issue.

French drains were installed along the back fence to help drain water that accumulates during the heavy rains.

Claw News...things have been busy in the cat department. Andrea, Monica and Shirley have been working to get our new home ready for our adoptable cats. We have room to expand for more shelving, ramps and other fun things for our furry friends.

Roger has installed a new window on the back wall of the General Population room and the cats are enjoying the window while snoozing.

A new washer and dryer have been purchased for both the cat and dog departments and this has been a huge benefit for keeping up on all the laundry.

The biggest accomplishment for the "Claw and Paw" departments are the medical checks we have been able to do. Our animals have had dental checks and medical issues, but we now have the funds to make sure all of our dogs and cats are well taken care.

The new cages in the caged cat room have been an added plus, allowing for easier cleaning and the ability to house enough cats in a separate environment.



New Catio

Our new catio has lots of cubbies for the cats, shelves to climb on, a pole to test their climbing skills and rugs to just lay around on. The room is bright and cheery and we are excited to give our cats a new fresh home. The big window allows the cats to relax on a sunny day.



Scratching?

The cats can scratch to their hearts desire with this huge wall scratching design. The cat mural will be chasing butterflies, while our cats watch to see if they catch them.

Upcoming Events

CLEAN UP DAY: April 10, 2016 9:00-5:00. We need everyone's help in doing a huge Spring cleaning at the shelter. Time to toss out the old and give VAP a refreshed look. We need lots of strong men to help us. We will have pizza for those attending, so please let us know if you can help. Email Monica at mmoorevap@gmail.com

GENERAL MEETING: April 18, 2016 7:00 p.m. -8:30 p.m. Location to be determined

MOTHER'S DAY RAFFLE:

Thomas Markle Jewelers in Kingwood will be hosting a Mothers' Day Event benefitting VAP. Sarah Markle has generously offered a portion of their proceeds



art Disney's 'Mary Poppins' autographed Charles Schulz signed and han

to VAP. We would like to thank Thomas
Markle Jewelers for all their generosity and
support. The date is still to be determined,
but we will advise as soon as we have one set.

Thanks to the generous donation from Gregg Perkin and Antiquities Las Vegas, we have 2 pieces of artwork to raffle, valued at \$3,000.00 each. Tickets will be \$100.00 each and can be purchased by contacting Candice Perkin candicevap@gmail.com.



Coordinating a big fundraiser is a lot of work and takes a team to make it successful. Candice needs volunteers to assist her in reaching out to vendors, companies and individuals for donations, as well as the organization of the fundraiser.

If you are interested in being part of the Fundraising team, please contact Candice at candicevap@qmail.com



Welcome

VAP would like to welcome Candice Perkin and Jill Parks to our organization. These ladies are a true asset to VAP with their many years of experience.

Candice is VAP's new Fundraising Coordinator and brings years of experience from her work with Mothers Against Cancer, AIDS Foundation Houston and the Cleveland Area Interfaith Center & Food Pantry.

Candice's experience with fundraising for nonprofits is a valuable asset in helping VAP get the much needed financial donations we need.

Jill is a certified dog trainer and volunteers her services to work with some of our harder case dogs 3 times per week. Having this training will help the dogs become more adoptable.

When adopters contact us with real issues they are experiencing with their new dog, Jill helps them with help and/or advice. Doing this helps avoid an adopted dog from being returned back to VAP.

Jill also offers 1 free hour of training time to any adopter, who adopts one of the dogs she has trained. She goes through the commands the dog has learned and reinforces the importance of consistency.

Help Needed

VOLUNTEER COORDINATOR

VAP is currently looking for someone to take over the Volunteer Coordinator position. If you are interested, please contact Michelle Wolfe at mcwolfe2010@gmail.com

DONATIONS

WE NEED DONATIONS - VAP is a 501 (c) 3 nonprofit, no-kill shelter which means we get no state funding. All of our revenue comes from adoptions and financial donations from corporations, companies and individuals.

If you are able to donate or know of a company, organization or trust that would like to support VAP, please let us know. You can contact Lynn Stewart at lstewart.vap@comcast.net

VOLUNTEERS

WE NEED VOLUNTEERS – VAP always needs volunteers for our cat room, dog department, adoption days, vet visits, carpentry, bathing dogs, and many other things. If you know a friend, colleague, coworker, neighbor or family member who would like to volunteer at the shelter, please have them contact our acting Volunteer Coordinator, Michelle Wolfe at mcwolfe2010@qmail.com.

We need more volunteers ©

Many churches have programs for young adults who need a certain amount of volunteer hours a month, perhaps yours can help.

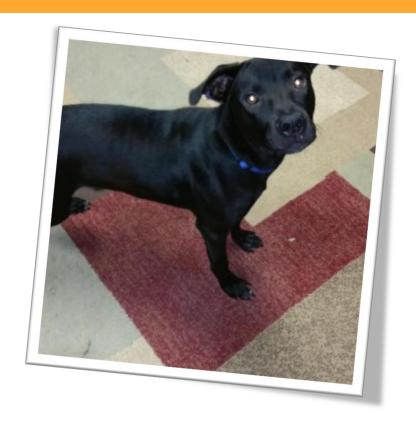
FOSTER HOMES NEEDED

WE NEED FOSTER HOMES – we are looking for individuals who would like to open up their home to foster a puppy, kitten, dog or cat.

When you open up your home you are giving an abused, neglected or abandoned animal a second chance on life. You can provide the security and unconditional love these animals have never known.

You also provide valuable information to the prospective adopter by informing them of all the animals habits. For instance; do they get along with cats, other dogs, small children and other likes and dislike.

If you or anyone you know may be interested in becoming a foster home, please send an email detailing your home situation (i.e. number of people living in the home, number/type of pets living in the home) and whether you are interested in fostering cats or dogs to vap shelter@yahoo.com



Thank You

All of us at VAP would like to thank all of our donators & supporters for everything you have done and continue to do for our organization.

With your help we are able to continue to grow and take care of all our furry friends.

- Albertsons Safeway
- Atascocita High School
- Amalye Calvert
- Burger King in Kingwood
- David Faure
- Doc-U-Mentors, LLC
- Dominos Pizza in Kingwood
- Donald & Amber Neilssien
- EP Energy
- Gregg Perkin
- Hometown Air
- Humble Bingo Unit Trust
- Humble Promotional Unit Trust
- James & Latrecia Blac
- John & Linda Arnold
- Kathryn & Anthony Delfine
- Kellie Keller
- Kevin Pipkins
- Kingwood High School
- Kingwood Park High School
- Kirk & Carol Hood
- Michelle Ellen Camarata
- NCL—National Charity League
- Patricia Myer
- PENCO Group, Inc.
- Raquel & Richard Wall
- Rodney & Laura Easterling
- Spring Creek High School
- SureFire Transportation
- The Petco Foundation
- Thomas Markle Jewelers
- Timothy Strickland
- VAP Volunteers, Foster families and VAP Members
- Walmart
- Walter Callahan
- Wang's Martial Art & Supplies

VAP's Board of Directors:

Gregg Perkin - Co-Director

Monica Moore - Co-Director, Secretary

Lynn Stewart – Treasurer, Dog Chair

Shirley Walsh – Cat Chair

 $Roger\,Watson-Maintenance\,Supervisor$

Candice Perkin – Fundraising Coordinator

VOLUNTEERS FOR ANIMAL PROTECTION

PO Box 5266 Kingwood, TX 77325 Hotline: (281) 358-9818 Email: vap_shelter@yahoo. Com

www.vapadoptions.org

Donate: http://vapadoptions.org/donate/