



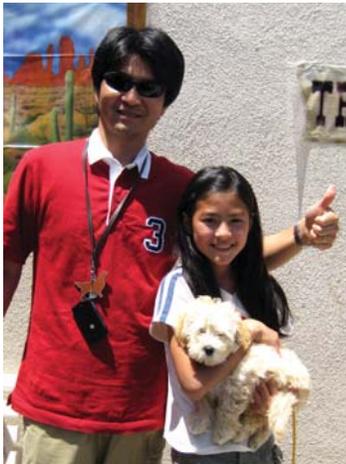
OC Community Resources

OC Animal Care Critter Chronicles

Volume 3, Issue 4 July 2008



Get Along Little Doggie... to the Pet Fair



These happy adopters show off their newest family member

A stampede of animal lovers enjoyed a day of fun and festivities at OC Animal Care's Pet Fair 2008 "Get along little doggie." On June 28th, there was a wide array of pet products, animal rescue organizations, and wildlife exhibitors for visitors to enjoy. A variety of demonstrations entertained the crowds, such as: Southern California Malinois Ring Sport Club, Wonders of Wildlife, Migratory Bird Rehabilitation, and Santa Ana Animal Services' Pet Amigos. The Soccer Collies couldn't be missed with their interactive demonstration for participants of all ages. The Explorer Post #538 was able to raise money for their program by selling snacks, refreshments, and barbecued hamburgers. Children had the opportunity to participate in a variety of activities to learn about responsible pet ownership and behind-the-scene tours of the shelter were offered by the vol-

unteers.

Along with the activities of the day, participants had the chance to adopt one of fifteen adorable puppies in the opportunity drawings. From Australian Shepherds to Poodles to Dalmatians, there was a pup to please anyone.

OC Animal Care staff participated in a friendly competition for "Best Booth" based on their approach to providing information on OC Animal Care's services. Congratulations to the Community Outreach Team for winning this year's competition for their "Wanted Posters" photo booth.

Each year during Pet Fair, OC Animal Care strives to find forever homes for as many shelter pets as possible. This year was a great success with 13 cats and 58 dogs adopted to new families. Thanks to everyone who participated and contributed to this exciting event!



Officer Reed teaches kids about responsible pet ownership with the help of his "Pet Amigo"

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We're Here for You
OC Animal Care
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Visit Us Online
ocpetinfo.com

Find a forever friend



OC Animal Care
Promoting Life Promoting Adoption

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"Promoting Life,



Promoting Adoption"

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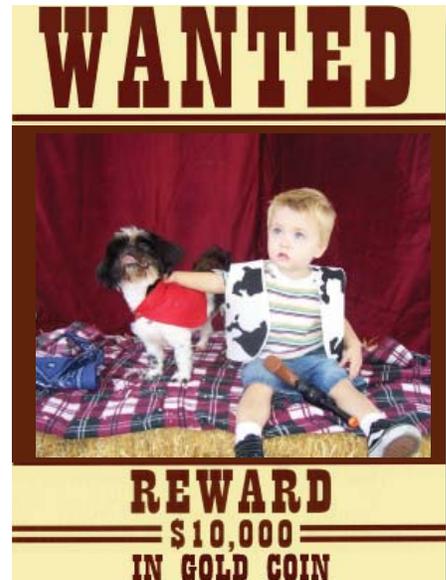
More photos from a day of fun at Pet Fair...



This little girl learns all about pet responsibility as she guesses what is inside these mystery boxes



Bruiser the shelter cat shows off the first place ribbon for the best booth competition awarded to the Community Outreach Team



Those attending Pet Fair had a chance to pose for a wanted poster with shelter pets

Bravo for Bravery

The red carpet was laid at the Marconi Automotive Museum in Tustin to welcome those honored for their bravery. On June 4th, the American Red Cross hosted their annual Bravo for Bravery Awards aimed at "Recognizing Extraordinary Acts of Courage." OC Animal Care was honored among the OC Sheriff's Department, Orange County Fire Authority, Newport Beach Lifeguards, and many other agencies and individuals. The nominees enjoyed breakfast while a slideshow depicted their courageous efforts. Maria Hall-Brown from KOCE was the Master of Ceremonies for the event as she welcomed each representative and spoke of their heroism.

OC Animal Care was nominated and awarded the "Bravo for Bravery Medal" in the animal category for our efforts during the Santiago Canyon Fire response in October 2007. As the fire consumed over 28,000 acres, OC Animal Care staff worked around the clock to provide care to pets and their owners. We provided 150 animals with food and water until their families returned home, 100 animals were transported in the field to escape the flames, 186 animals were provided assistance at the evacuation shelters, and 212 animals were evacuated from the fire and cared for at the shelter.

Jennifer Phillips, Director of OC Animal Care, represented the agency by accepting the award. "We are very honored to be recognized by the American Red Cross for our work in the Santiago Canyon Fire. We continue to strive for excellence in our emergency response efforts," stated Phillips.

Thank you to the American Red Cross for your assistance in the Santiago Canyon Fire and for recognizing our agency with this great honor.



Jennifer Phillips accepts the award on behalf of OC Animal Care

Adopt-a-Pet



Name: Nory
ID: A0902030
Age: 2 years
Breed: Schnauzer mix
Nory is a bit shy at first but once he gets to know you he will jump in your lap.



Name: Milton
ID: A0900075
Age: 6 years
Breed: Silky Terrier
Milton is sweet, affectionate, and he loves when you talk to him.



Name: Chloe
ID: A0898796
Age: 5 years
Breed: Domestic short hair
Chloe is a volunteer favorite. She likes to visit and is a sweetheart.



Name: Thumbalina
ID: A0898822
Age: 2 months
Breed: Domestic short hair
Thumbalina likes to be held and she will purr all day for your attention.



Name: Daniel
ID: A0892454
Age: 5 months
Breed: Short hair rabbit
Daniel is an energetic boy who likes to hop about and play.



Name: Pumpkin
ID: A0898622
Age: 5 months
Breed: Short hair rabbit
Pumpkin will warm your heart with his gentle temperament. Add him to your family today.

OC Animal Care makes every effort to promote all of the wonderful animals we have available for adoption. At the time of publication, these animals were in need of lifelong homes. All adopted animals are spayed/neutered, vaccinated, and microchipped prior to leaving the shelter. If you are interested in adopting a pet, please visit us online at ocpetinfo.com, or simply come down to the shelter!

Katie's Korner

Have you ever wondered what you can do to help decrease the number of homeless and unwanted pets that are brought in to animal shelters?



Spaying and neutering your own pets is the first place to start. Spaying and neutering not only helps to control pet overpopulation, it also provides many health and behavior benefits to your pet. Here are some examples of what you can expect from a spayed or neutered pet:

- They are less likely to roam or fight.
- They are generally more affectionate.
- They are less likely to get certain types of cancer or diseases.
- Male cats are less likely to spray.
- For dogs, licensing fees are significantly reduced.

OC Animal Care requires that all cats and dogs are spayed or neutered when they are adopted. The simple fact is that spaying or neutering your pet will greatly increase their life span and improve their quality of life.

Catopia

Calling all cat lovers! OC Animal Care is sending the purrfect love home in our first ever Catopia. Join us as we celebrate cats in this unique adoption event on August 23rd, from 10 am to 3 pm. Cats of all ages, colors, and breeds will be available for adoption. For each cat adoption, OC Animal Care will be giving away a free carrier and pet care supplies. Additionally, each cat adoption includes a free spay or neuter, a \$40 value. Kids will have the opportunity to create a catnip sock sure to make any kitty go crazy. Plus, meet representatives from local non-profit cat rescue organizations. This will be an event you won't want to miss! For more information visit us online at ocpetinfo.com, or contact the Public Education Office at (714) 935-6301.

The purrfect kitty might be waiting for you!



Adoptions Soar at the Pet Expo



One adopter came all the way from Torrance for the Expo and was thrilled to find Larry the kitten

Puppy tails were wagging and kitties were purring at the OC Animal Care booth during America's Family Pet Expo. From April 11th – 13th, OC Animal Care featured a variety of animals available for adoption at the Orange County Fairgrounds. Thousands of visitors attended the event and 26 lucky animals found their forever homes during the weekend. One family was hopeful to find a kitten to bring home from the event. After three months of saving their allowance money, their three kids

finally set their sights on the kitten they had been patiently waiting for. As the little kitten played with her brother, the family just couldn't resist, so their parents decided to adopt both kittens together.

Another lucky shelter resident finally found his forever home. Lemur, a nine year old Pug mix, came to OC Animal Care on February 3rd as a stray. He patiently awaited a new home for over two months with very few people interested in adopting him. The staff at OC Animal Care had a place in their hearts for this special senior, so they featured Lemur as Pet of the Week, took him to several mobile adoptions, and he even starred in an episode of KOCE's Real Orange. Finally at the Pet Expo, Lemur found his fairy tale ending after a member of an animal rescue group decided to add him to her family. OC Animal Care staff and volunteers celebrated as they said their good-byes to their furry friend.

The Pet Expo was a weekend full of heartwarming adoption successes.



Lemur finally got his fresh start

The Gift



De'Lamor with her generous donation to the animals of OC Animal Care

OC Animal Care is thrilled when our younger citizens desire to help out animals in need. 11 year old De'Lamor Aguilar is a 5th grader at Sea Cliff Elementary School in Huntington Beach and an aspiring Animal Cruelty Investigator with a passion for animals. Like most kids eagerly anticipating their upcoming birthday,

De'Lamor and her family were busy making plans for the big event. Guest lists, games, food and cake, still needed to be decided, but De'Lamor was adamant on just one thing from the beginning – the gift.

Determined to make a difference, De'Lamor decided to pass on the usual party gifts and instead requested that her guests bring donations to benefit animals in need. When she explained that the money was to be used to purchase food for homeless pets at OC Animal Care, the guests gave a generous \$250 in donations. In addition to De'Lamor's generosity, Paul Cavanaugh of Paul's Pet Food was so moved by this kind act of selflessness, he matched her donation and personally made the delivery of 10 extra large bags of dog food.

The staff at OC Animal Care was touched by this story, so they planned a small reception to recognize De'Lamor for her kindness to animals. The Aguilar and Cavanaugh families watched excitedly as De'Lamor was honored

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De'Lamor her family, Phillips, and the Cavanaugh family

with a Certificate of Appreciation by the Director of OC Animal Care, Jennifer Phillips. "It is truly refreshing to see someone so young, give so unselfishly, to benefit homeless animals in our community. She is an inspiration to others, regardless of age, and her efforts are worthy of our recognition and appreciation."

While the plans for next year's birthday bash are not clear, De'Lamor stated, "It's sure to include helping animals." When asked what she would like to say to other 11-year-

olds, she commented, "Anyone can do it. All you need is a love for animals and the willingness to help those in need."

While posing for a photo with shelter residents, the Aguilar family fell in love with Teddy, an adorable 10 year old Poodle mix, which they later adopted. The Cavanaugh's also added a lovable Shih Tzu puppy to their family. With two shelter pets finding their forever homes and many more with their bellies full of the donated kibble, it was a happy ending all around. Thanks De'Lamor, the world is a better place with you in it.



De'Lamor and her little sis check out some of the animals in the shelter

Pet Battle of the Bulge

Is your pet over loved and packing on the pounds? While pets enjoy treats and rich foods, sometimes it becomes excessive and their health begins to suffer. It is estimated that nearly half of the pets in the United States are overweight or obese. Feeding Fido a few extra scoops a day can have long-term consequences and increase the risk of disease. Obesity in pets can cause many of the same diseases that overweight humans encounter, such as: heart disease, cancer, and arthritis.

Here is a quick way to check if your pet is at a healthy weight:

- Their waist should be defined
- Their ribs should be easily felt along their sides
- The abdomen should be firm, rather than sagging

If your pet is overweight or obese, consider putting your pet on a diet and exercise plan. Transition your pet slowly to a diet food that is low in calories. For a 50 pound dog, they should be fed less than 750 calories per day. Some animals will be hesitant to eat diet food, so try adding a small amount of ketchup, seasoning, or gravy to make it more enticing. Overweight or obese animals should get exercise two times per day for 10 to 15 minute

increments. Weigh your pet once a month until the ideal weight has been reached. Typical weight loss will be 0.5 to one pound per month. For more information on keeping your pet healthy, contact Lindsey Sevigny, Public Education Officer at (714) 935-6301.

Tips for Over-Eating Critters

- Feed more frequently with small meals
- Instead of giving treats for behavior, use affection and praise
- Exercise and walk regularly
- Determine the amount of food, rather than using self-feeders
- Use crunchy vegetables as treats, instead of biscuits
- When your pet begs, offer him water



Upcoming Shelter and Mobile Events



OC Animal Care is always looking for ways to promote adoptable animals and bring them into the public eye. One way that we do that is through our participation in local community events. Each week we prepare animals at our shelter to go out into the

public and potentially find a new home. Mobile adoptions are a great way to promote animals, provide information to the public, and inform our local communities of the services we provide. Here is a list of the upcoming mobile events in which OC Animal Care will be participating:

- Foster Caretaker Seminar at OC Animal Care, Orange, Saturday, July 19, 2008: 10:30 a.m. - 11 a.m.
- Mobile Adoptions and Vaccine Clinic at the Laguna Hills Community Center, Saturday, July 26, 2008: 9 a.m. - 12 noon.
- OC Fair at Orange County Fairgrounds, Costa Mesa,

Friday, August 1, 2008: 12 noon - 11 p.m. Saturday - Sunday, August 2 - 3, 2008: 10 a.m. - 11 p.m.

- Mobile Adoptions at Costa Mesa Bark Park, Thursday, August 9, 2008: 9 a.m. - 1 p.m.
- Mobile Adoptions at Park Bench Cafe, Huntington Beach Sunday, August 17, 2008: 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.
- Mobile Adoptions at PetSmart, Rancho Santa Margarita Sunday, August 20, 2008: 2 p.m. - 4 p.m.
- Catopia at OC Animal Care, Orange, Saturday, August 23, 2008: 10 a.m. - 3 p.m.
- Mobile Adoptions at Lake Park, Huntington Beach Saturday, September 13, 2008: 8 a.m. - 12 a.m.
- Mobile Adoptions at Heritage Park, Huntington Beach Saturday, September 27, 2008: 11 a.m. - 5 p.m.
- Volunteer Orientation at OC Animal Care, Orange, Wednesday, October 1, 2008: 6 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.
- Volunteer Orientation at OC Animal Care, Orange, Saturday, October 4, 2008: 10 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.

OC Animal Care is always looking to participate in new events. If you have an upcoming community event that you would like us to be a part of, please send your information to Elizabeth Alianell, Public Education Officer, 561 The City Drive South, Orange, CA 92868, e-mail her at ealianell@ochca.com, or call her at (714) 935-7681.

Celebrating Success

OC Animal Care takes great pride in promoting our success in adopting our animals to forever homes. We often receive updates from visitors that tell us heart warming stories of how they were either reunited with their lost pet, or had found the perfect companion to take home. Here is a story of a cat named Sasha who found her forever home.

I adopted my one year old cat named Sasha from OC Animal Care on January 8, 2008. She is truly a delight and the best pet I have ever had.

She is full of personality, sweet, and loving. She actually plays fetch and follows me everywhere. She never ceases to amaze me with how smart she is, and she seems to learn new tricks daily. She is a little clown and constantly does things that make us laugh, like jumping straight up in the air like a basketball player, or meowing over her new found toy. She is always performing and my neighbors have all commented on how lucky I was to get such an amusing cat.

Our home is more complete now that Sasha is here. I also feel good knowing that this sweet cat has a good home now. I often wonder what she has been through, but it doesn't seem to matter now, as she is so healthy and happy.

I saw so many great cats and dogs at the shelter, and I wish to encourage more people to give these great pets a chance and a home. The love I get from Sasha the cat is more than a reward.

Thank you!

Robin



Sasha clowns around under her warm blanket



"Promoting Life,

Promoting Adoption"