



OC Community Resources

# OC Animal Care Critter Chronicles

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## Fun in the Sun: Pet Fair 2009!

Pet Fair 2009, "Fun in the Sun," lived up to its theme with a large crowd in attendance enjoying the beautiful day! A variety of pet product vendors, animal rescue organizations, and wildlife exhibitors were on hand for visitors to enjoy. Highlights of the day included performances by groups such as: The Southern California Malinois Ring Sport Club, JumpStart Freestylers, Another Chance for Love, Shelter Dog Turned Wonder Dog, and Santa Ana Animal Services Pet Amigos. The Soccer Colies also couldn't be missed with their interactive demonstration for participants of all ages.



It was the perfect Pet Fair day!

The DJ on hand added some fun and music to the event; with even some impromptu dance sessions to the "Beach Boys." There was also a special appearance by one of the Orange Fire Department's fire engines, which allowed kids to explore the truck. Explorer Post #538 was able to raise money for their program by selling snacks, refreshments, and barbecued hamburgers and hot dogs.

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 go to Shelter Services for winning this year's competition!

Our goal during Pet Fair is to find forever homes for as many shelter pets as possible. This year, 66 animals were adopted to new families! Thanks to everyone who participated and contributed to make this year's Pet Fair extra special!



Fun in the Sun with Field Services!

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More pictures on page 2

"Promoting Life,



Promoting Adoption"

## More Photos from Pet Fair 2009!



## An Exciting Year for Our Explorers!

This has been a tremendous year for our OC Animal Care Explorer Post 538! The post has grown exponentially with the community's support. So far in 2009, OC Animal Care Explorers have taken a field trip to O'Neil Park in Trabuco Canyon, held a fundraiser at the annual OC Animal Care Pet Fair, volunteered numerous hours at the shelter, and much more. The Explorers, which is open to kids ages 14-21, has experienced recent growth due to an overhaul of the program. Emphasis on education, involvement, community outreach, volunteering, and most importantly fun are now the priorities. Many of the Explorers look forward to a career in animal control or veterinary medicine, and it's the program's goal to provide the ideal environment in which to promote these interests. One of the favorite programs that was recently added is the ride-along program. This allows the Explorers to see first hand how Animal Control Officers (ACO) conduct day-to-day business in the field. On ride-alongs, Explorers are given the unique

opportunity to handle a wide variety of animals, interact with the public, utilize the radio, and better understand the duties of an ACO. The ride-along program is such a success, that many Explorers are anxious to sign-up again! In June, the Explorers hosted a fundraiser at the OC Animal Care Pet Fair. Explorers set up a booth to promote the post and sell burgers, hot dogs, and chili to hungry visitors and vendors. By lunchtime, they had served over 100 burgers! Explorers will use the profits throughout the year to purchase equipment and take field trips. Recently, the Explorers took a field trip to O'Neil Park, in South Orange



Field trip fun for Explorer Post 538!

County. Orange County Park Rangers led the Explorers on a nature hike through the park, where they learned about the flora and fauna native to the area. They finished the night with some s'mores and a campfire back at the camp. We look forward to the continued growth and success of this program!



# Adopt-a-Pet



Name: Willy  
ID: A0970335  
Age: 7 years  
Breed: Cairn Terrier Mix  
Willy may be a bit older, but he still has lots of love to share. Make him your new best friend!



Name: Diego  
ID: A0948397  
Age: 5 years  
Breed: Domestic Short Hair  
Diego is full of love. Take this sweet boy home today!



Name: Nory  
ID: A0971809  
Age: 2 years  
Breed: Poodle Mix  
Nory is a sweetie pie who can't wait to meet you. Fall in love with her today!



Name: Logan  
ID: A0971639  
Age: 3 years  
Breed: Domestic Short Hair  
Logan will make the perfect companion for any loving family!



Name: Camille  
ID: A0970891  
Age: 1 year  
Breed: Pit Bull Mix  
Camille is a loving and happy girl who loves to play. Make her your walking partner!



Name: Tallulah  
ID: A0944995  
Age: 2 years  
Breed: Short hair rabbit  
Tallulah is a gentle and affectionate bunny who will hop right into your heart!

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](http://ocpetinfo.com), or simply come down to the shelter!

# A Tale of a Tegu

**OC** Animal Care recently had a unique visitor that we don't normally see. An Argentine Tegu or Giant Tegu gave shelter visitors something fun and different to see. The Tegu is a large lizard that comes from South America. Although, we do see our fair share of lizards, iguanas, snakes and turtles at the shelter, we rarely have such an exotic visitor. Tegu monitors are powerfully built with sharp teeth and claws. Male Tegus can grow as long as 4 feet and they tend to have big, bulky body, while the females are usually more slender. The name "Tegu" means "lizard" in an Amazonian Indian language. They are usually mild-mannered once removed from their enclosure and they are very intelligent. As natural burrowers, they have

a tendency to tunnel under laundry piles. They also don't move very fast and tend to display curious and exploratory behavior. If you are prepared for an interactive lizard and will appreciate its intelligence, then an Argentine tegu may be right up your alley.



# Angels for Animals

OC Animal Care will be featured at Angels Stadium on Saturday, September 12th for the second annual "Angels for Animals" event to promote animal adoptions. Stop by the OC Animal Care booth under the big Angels caps at the main entrance for team memorabilia, give-



away items, and to meet adoptable animals. Proceeds from the event benefit local animal shelters and animal rescue organizations. For the game time and more information, please visit [ocpetinfo.com](http://ocpetinfo.com) or [angels-baseball.com](http://angels-baseball.com).



# Catopia

Calling all cat lovers! OC Animal Care is sending the purrfect love home in our second annual Catopia. Join us as we celebrate cats in this unique adoption event on Saturday, August 29th, from 10 am to 2 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, reducing the adoption fee! There will be activities for the kids and a bake sale! This will be an event you won't want to miss! For more information, visit us online at [ocpetinfo.com](http://ocpetinfo.com), or contact the Public Education Office at (714) 935-6301.



## Grand Slam Grooming

Thank you to all of the OC Animal Care Dog Grooming Volunteers for helping all of these wonderful dogs feel better and find their new forever homes. Your hard work and dedication is greatly appreciated! Please enjoy these amazing before and after photos!



# Crazy About Cats!

## Cats: The Purrfect Mood Booster?



Any cat lover will tell you that there are many benefits of having a cat companion. Research has shown that pets can lower our blood pressure and anxiety, alleviate depression and help us cope with stress. They also enrich our lives by offering unconditional love! It's not completely understood exactly how

animals benefit our well-being, but their companionship and acceptance definitely brings out the best in their owners. One thing that's for sure is that your animal's presence can boost your mood; therefore making you feel happier and healthier. Let's make sure we thank our forever friends for making our lives better.

Source: Real Age Newsletter

## A Litter Box for Lunch?

It may look like your cat's litter box, but this tasty recipe is sure to be a big hit!

What you'll need...

1 lb lean ground beef, 1 can of spicy chili beans in sauce, undrained, 1 cup of salsa, 2 cups of broken tortilla chips, 4 medium green onions, sliced (1/4 cup), 1 medium tomato, chopped (3/4 cup), 1 cup of shredded cheese (4 oz). If desired, you may add more tortilla chips, shredded lettuce, salsa, sour cream and guacamole

Cooking and Serving Directions:

1. Heat oven to 350°F. In 10-inch skillet, cook beef over medium heat 8 to 10 minutes, stirring occasionally, until brown; drain. Stir in beans and 1 cup salsa.
2. In ungreased 2-quart casserole, place broken tortilla chips. Top with beef mixture. Sprinkle with onions, tomato and cheese.
3. Bake uncovered 20 to 30 minutes or until hot and bubbly. Arrange tortilla chips around edge of casserole. Serve with lettuce and additional salsa.

## Cathy's Corner

### *We're Having a Heat Wave!*

#### **What is heatstroke?**

In simple terms, heatstroke occurs when a dog or cat cannot regulate its body temperature. They sweat through their paw's and dissipate excess heat by panting. Heat stroke is an emergency that requires immediate attention and prompt treatment, especially if a dog or cat is exposed to temperatures of 104 degrees or above with no shade or water. The best treatment for heatstroke is prevention.

Some signs of heatstroke include: excessive panting, dry gums that become pale and grayish, weakness, increased salivation, rapid or erratic pulse and in extreme cases, seizures or coma can occur.

Recognizing the symptoms of heatstroke and responding quickly is essential for the best possible outcome. Make sure they get into the shade and apply cool, not cold water to the inner thighs, stomach and foot pads. Keep the pet moving as it cools down and only allow small amounts of water. If the pet drinks too much water too rapidly, it could lead to vomiting or bloat. Lastly, make sure to always see your vet. The effects of heatstroke can last for 48 to 72 hours; so even if your pet appears to be fully recovered, the veterinarian needs to determine if there was any damage to your pet's kidneys or liver.

#### **Note from the author**

The Internet is a wonderful tool, but I found many conflicting websites while researching. I had this article read by my personal vet to check for accuracy. This article is for informational use only. I highly recommend that you still seek information from your own veterinarian.



## Upcoming Shelter and Community Events



**OC** Animal Care is always looking for ways to promote adoptable animals and the shelter and the service we provide. 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 email your

information to Elizabeth Alianell, Public Education Officer, at [elizabeth.alianell@occr.ocgov.com](mailto:elizabeth.alianell@occr.ocgov.com). Here is a list of the upcoming events in which OC Animal Care will be participating:

- Tustin's National Night Out at The District in Tustin, Tuesday, August 4th (6 pm - 9 pm)
- Dog Days of Summer at the Fullerton Market, Thursday, August 13th (4 pm - 8 pm)
- Foster Caretaker Seminars at OC Animal Care, Saturday, August 15th (10:30 am)
- La Palma Civic Expo at Central Park in La Palma,

- Saturday, August 15th (5 pm - 8 pm)
- Irvine Park Event and BBQ, Sunday, August 16th (12 pm - 3 pm)
- SCART's Pet Fair in the Park ant Park Bench Cafe in Huntington Beach, Sunday, August 23rd (10 am - 2 pm)
- Catopia at OC Animal Care, Saturday, August 29th (10 am - 2pm)
- Angels for Animals Event at Angel Stadium in Anaheim Saturday, September 12th (game time TBA)
- Save our Strays Pancake Breakfast in Huntington Beach, Saturday, September 19th (8 am - 12 pm)
- Vaccination Clinic at the Laguna Hills Community Center, Saturday, October 3rd (9 am - 1 pm)
- Volunteer Orientation at OC Animal Care, Saturday, October 3rd at 10 am and Wednesday, October 7th at 6 pm
- Santiago Oaks Park Event, Saturday, October 17th (9 am - 3 pm)
- Acorn Day at O'Neill Regional Park, Saturday, October 18th (10 am - 4 pm)

## Celebrating Success

**OC** Animal Care takes great pride in promoting our success in adopting our animals into 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 the success story of "Buck" and how he found his forever home, as told by his new family...



Thank you so much for the help and care you showed us in adopting our puppy. His name is "Buchholz" (pronounced "Buckles") but we call him "Buck" for short. He is very smart and is learning so fast! He is silly and fun and has found his place in our little family. The shelter really surprised us with the care and attention you gave. You surpassed all of our expectations. We wanted you to know how much "Buck" means to us. We would not have been able to adopt him without your help. We tell everyone that

OC Animal Care has amazing administrators and staff. I hope that tons of people come to adopt! Again, we thank you so much for all of your help!

~ Eric and Juliet

