

FOREVER FRIENDS' NEWSLETTER

FALL 2008



MARION COUNTY DOG SHELTER, 3550 AUMSVILLE HWY SE, SALEM, OR 97317

SHELTER MANAGER'S UPDATE by ALLISON BARROWS

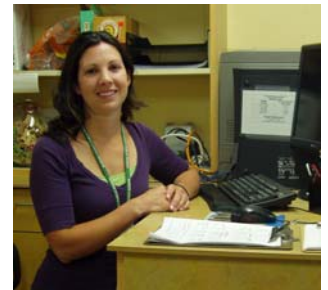
Dog Fest a Barking Good Time! Unpacking from Dog Fest is like unpacking from a weeklong camping trip. Despite the cleanup task, the event was a great success! I couldn't be more pleased with the amount of hard work and dedication that was put forth by the Dog Fest Committee, volunteers, and helpers from Public Works.

Dog Fest involves the community in a Celebration of the Canine/Human Relationship. You could hear squeals of excitement as owners ran through our agility course with their dogs, and laughter as a soaked dog shook water all over his owner after taking a dip in the wading pool. There were great demonstrations throughout the day to captivate the audience and teach them more about what dogs can do for us in our everyday lives. There was a lot of shopping going on at over 30 vendors' booths, which helped make our event festive.

We had 337 dogs and approximately 500 people in attendance. Dogs paid a \$3 entry fee, and their humans entered free. Each dog received a bandana as an entry ticket, goodie bag, and were able to participate in the activities and watch the demonstrations. We also had a fabulous raffle with several prizes valued at over \$100, and some over \$200! Dog Control raised \$1,898.85 from entry fees, donations, and raffle ticket sales, and an additional \$1,631 in license fees from our amnesty booth, for a grand total of \$3,529.85! We are happy to have the support of the public as we continue to promote Dog Control and the various services we offer.

Many thanks are in order for Chemeketa Community College for letting us use their grounds, Subway (at 2941 Commercial St. SE) and Gramma Jan's Sweet Sensations for providing sandwiches, and cookies and scuffins to volunteers, Emery and Sons for donating 400 feet of construction fencing, NW Natural Gas for donating our tents, and our many sponsors for the great raffle prizes they donated.

If you have not had a chance to check out the new shelter, it's not too late. Stop by and see the dogs that are available for adoption and don't forget to tell your friends. Thanks for your support!



*Allison Barrows,
Shelter Manager*



VET'S CLINIC by DR. A. H. BROOKS, DVM

Lady Luck must have looked away from this scrappy little 2-year-old terrier mix, leaving him to create a little of his own good fortune. Shelter staff could only guess why someone had used heavy plastic twine to keep this little guy contained. Smelling the sweet taste of freedom, he managed to break the twine, pulling so hard that it cinched tightly around his neck, to the point of near strangulation. None of that stopped this little guy from taking advantage of his newly discovered freedom and exploring the world around him.

When Dog Control Officer Bruce Daugherty got the call from a Marion County Public Works employee about a little terrier running in the area, he went to the scene. Unfortunately the dog was no longer there. Normally, Bruce would have left the area to respond to other calls, but he had a feeling he should wait around. His patience paid off. Fifteen minutes later, the terrier returned. Seeing the dog was in distress, Bruce immediately brought him to the Marion County Dog Shelter and notified Veterinary Technician Roxann O'Bryant of his condition.

Roxann knew this was a medical emergency when she saw the dog's swelled head, difficult breathing, and the twine embedded in his neck. She called Dr. Brooks for treatment advice, then carefully removed the noose, started an IV, injected meds, and applied topical first aid. Within 24 hours, the patient was well on the road to recovery. He also acquired his new name, Oscar, a nod to his uncanny resemblance to Oscar the Grouch of Sesame Street fame. When he was up to more surgery, Dr. Brooks fixed a hernia in his tummy. So once Lady Luck gave this guy a second glance, Oscar got a new lease on life, and he'll soon be in his 'forever'-adoptive home.



Dr. Brooks (r.) & Shelter Tech Felicia Pederson check out a new patient



Oscar as he came to the Shelter



All fixed up & ready for adoption!

Did you know?... The Shelter gladly accepts donations for our **Emergency Medical Fund**, which supports special care for dogs like Oscar. Please ask our staff for more information, and your tax advisor can tell you if it's deductible.

ADOPTION "HAPPY-EVER-AFTERS"

Hi! My name is Buddy. I'm a Marion county Dog Shelter alumnus. I was adopted by the West family in July, 2007. They think I'm part lab and part border collie. Like the saying goes, "I may not be a purebred, but I am pure fun." My name at the shelter was Hummer—I was named after the SUV because I was extremely overweight!. My new family knew I could get in shape, so they changed my name to Buddy, a name that fits me well.



A slimmer & trimmer Buddy guards his favorite ball

Wow! What a difference a year can make when you find your "forever family"! First of all, I've lost a bunch of weight and actually have a waist now. My new family soon discovered how much I love the dog park. I go for long walks with my mom Debbie and my doggie sister Rosie at Minto-Brown park. I especially love going to the beach and swimming in Woahink Lake in Florence.

Life is now so good for me, and I hope all my dog friends at the shelter wind up as lucky as I am. Please come visit the shelter and tell your family and friends about all the great dogs waiting patiently for new homes. As Louis Sabin says, "A dog doesn't care if you're rich or poor, big or small, young or old...to your dog, you're the greatest, smartest, nicest human who was ever born. You are his friend and protector."

Please email your Adoption "Happy-Ever-After" stories & pictures to roslynworcester@hotmail.com

OCTOBER IS NATIONAL "ADOPT A SHELTER DOG" MONTH!

Looking for a loyal, lifelong companion? October is when ASPCA reminds everyone about the benefits of adopting a shelter dog. Remember, your new family member means a lifetime of food, shelter, medical care, and companionship. Today's shelter dogs are more adoptable than ever, due to the temperament testing and vet care they receive at our shelter. Our trained staff will be glad to help you select the dog that's the right size, temperament, and fits in with your family, including other pets. Our bargain prices range from \$85 to \$175, and include shots, microchip, license, spay/neuter, health exam, and a sample bag of Science Diet food. We're open for adoptions 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday—Saturday. Come in and find your new "forever friend" today!

DOG CONTROL OFFICERS' BEAT

Fall is a good time to double-check your fencing. With the colder weather, we tend to put our dogs out to go to the bathroom, or to exercise, without going outside with them. Ideally the dog is let out into a containment area when unsupervised, because as we all know, it is a violation of Marion County Ordinance for a dog to wander off of its property while it's not under direct control of its owner or keeper.

This is a good time to clarify that Marion County does not require that a dog be on a leash when it is off its property, but the Dog Control Ordinance does require that an owner or keeper must be in control over their dog at all times when it is off its property. For most of our dogs, this implies the need for some type of restraining device.

So, in winter, the weather tends to work against us. Wind blows open loose gates, knocks down old fencing, or knocks down trees or branches, which in turn knock down fences or gates. Sometimes we stack firewood against fences, never thinking that our dogs might climb the woodpile and escape.

The rain doesn't help either. It makes old wood soft, increasing the chance that the fence board or post that our dog has been bouncing off of all summer will finally give way. Rain also softens the ground a bit, making it easier for our diggers to excavate.

Take a few moments this fall to inspect your fencing, and replace or reinforce loose or broken boards. Push against your fence a few times the way Fido does when he's excited, and make sure the gate can't be bounced open by Fido or the wind. I recommend a lock on that gate as well. And look to see if anything is stacked against the fence that a dog might climb on. The dogs that I have owned have all learned to climb ladders on their own; and we are talking about breeds from a Chihuahua to a Sheepdog. They learned that simply because they wanted to be with me.



Officer Bruce Daugherty

SONYA'S BLOG

Warm summer days, cool spring nights
Too many things that's left to do
Bugs to chase, friends to see
No more time to waste round here
Every Angel loves to play

Devotion to the simple things
A nap, a snooze, some snuggle time
Saving up to use it up
Running through the grass
Every Angel yearns to run
The sun goes up, then down again
Another day to live

One more chance to play with you
Just one more second here
Every Angel wants to be

Here again, but gone again
No time left to stay
Portraits of a love so strong
Fleeting though it seems
Every Angel lives to love

An Angel with a cold wet nose
Disguised behind the fur
Love there unconditional
Life learned in the ruff
Every Angel earns their wings



License and Vaccinate Your Dog At The Marion County Amnesty Event!



WHEN? Saturday, November 15, 2008
10 a.m. — 3 p.m.

WHERE? Marion County Dog Shelter
3550 Aumsville Hwy SE
Salem OR 97317

**Late Fees
Waived!**

**Amnesty on
License
Violations!**

ONE STOP SHOPPING!

You can vaccinate your dog or cat and license your dog!

Dr. Sara Myers, DVM, will be at this event to give vaccinations and exams to your dogs & cats for rabies & other preventable illnesses!

VACCINATION & SERVICE FEES

\$10.00—Kennel cough
\$10.00—Distemper/parvo
\$10.00—Rabies
\$55.00—Micro-chipping with registration & \$5.00 off rabies vaccine if done the same time.

SHELTER STAFF UPDATE

Congratulations to Sonya Heard for being selected as our new Shelter Office Manager. Sonya has worked for Marion County a total of 10 years, first, with the Salem-Keizer Transfer Station as a Scale Attendant, and then as an Dept. Specialist 2 with Dog Control.

Sonya has been involved with the Dog Shelter from day one in the following areas: Development and training on computer program we use to track and manage each case; implementation of policies, procedures, forms, desk guide, and phone tree; dispatching officers to locations throughout county; taking and handling complaints; and working with the City of Stayton on dog control agreement. As Office Manager, she supervises 3 Department Specialists, sets policies and procedures, and works with customers. The best thing about Sonya becoming Officer Manager is her enthusiasm, positive outlook, and total competence and commitment to whatever she undertakes!!

Sonya is truly a woman of much energy and many talents. In her spare time, Sonya is an accomplished writer, producer, and director of plays at the Brush Creek Theater. In addition to all of this, Sonya finds time for a husband, 3 teenagers, and 2 Newfoundland dogs. You can visit Sonya's Shelter Blog by visiting the Statesman Journal's Community Blog at www.mcdogs.net.



Sonya Heard, Shelter Office Manager

VOLUNTEER HIGHLIGHTS by JOLENE BRAY



Jolene Bray, Shelter Volunteer Coordinator

Over the past six years, I've worked with dog control and shelter in various capacities, but recently I was tapped for a more formal role - volunteer coordinator. Given my history with the program, staff, and volunteers, it was felt I'd be a good fit. We also wanted to lighten the load on Debbie West who does just about *anything* if asked. She and I will continue working together, but her focus will shift more towards outreach events.

New Volunteers: Since our last newsletter, we've welcomed eleven new volunteers: Willa Bray, Carrie Cover, Stacey Frentress, Patti Gabriel, Kelsey Hanson, Margaret Kincaid, Emily Lovatt, Mike Newman, Robyn Orr, Jen Roper, Cindy Scott, and Shawna Stouder.

Outreach Events: We have been fortunate enough to fill our outreach calendar with many events. Each Saturday we are at PetSense, PetSmart, Salem Saturday Market, and PETCO, which are all adoption outreaches. If you are able to attend any of these events and volunteer a couple of hours, we can use your help. On Saturday, November 8th, Marion County Dog Shelter will be participating in the **Shopping Extravaganza at Woodburn Company Stores**. This promises to be a fun event as well as a fundraiser for the shelter.

Staff and volunteers will be selling tickets to this event to raise money, but we still need volunteers to help out that day. Debbie is in talks with the event planner about shifts needed and will update us as info comes in. For more information, visit <http://www.woodburncompanystores.com/extravaganza.html>, and contact Debbie or me if you are interested in volunteering and/or purchasing a ticket for this great event. And finally, our last big event is the Salem Holiday Market. This is always fun and a great opportunity to get the dogs out in the community. This is a chance to help our dogs AND browse through some local holiday merchandise. Or in other words, support our shelter and community. If you are interested in volunteering for any of these outreaches, please contact me.

Help Wanted: We still need outreach event and adoption counseling volunteers. These are positions that are flexible in your time commitment. If you are able to work one outreach every two months, that's great. If you are able to volunteer for three hours every other Saturday adoption counseling, that's great too. You can set your schedule and we will work with you. **And finally**, it's been an exciting (i.e., roller-coaster ride) beginning for me in my new role.

Volunteer Spotlight



Meet MCDS Volunteers Shelly Brown and Devrey Hachenberg, a mother-daughter dog walking team. They meet almost every Saturday at the Shelter for a morning of walking adoptable dogs and spending quality time together. Shelly started a week before the Shelter opened in Oct. '06, and Devrey came to us in Apr. '07, commuting from McMinnville. Devrey enjoys walking, playing with, and getting to know the dogs. Shelly is committed to walking because she believes each dog deserves special attention, time outside, and the opportunity to socialize with other dogs and people. They enjoy making a positive contribution to each dog, and helping to find his/her forever home. Thanks to Shelly and Devrey for their dedication!

Shelter phone 503-566-6966 www.mcdogs.net Hours: Mon.-Sat. 8:30-5:30

Please submit FOREVER FRIENDS articles & ideas to roslynworcester@hotmail.com