

VOLUNTEER NEWSLETTER

April/May 2009

Busy Fingers around the Shelter

Our Busy Fingers sewing group has been very, well...BUSY for the past few months! This group of 15 volunteers just recently finished sewing over 400 fleece cat beds for all the sick cats in our Rehabilitation facilities. Of any population in the building, Rehab cats are the most deserving of the cozy beds to snuggle on while they convalesce at ACS, and I'm sure they are thanking the sewers right now!

Last summer, ACS was the recipient of a generous donation of over 100 lab coats from the University of Chicago Hospitals, but the coats needed to be patched. Enter our Busy Fingers group—they immediately got to work sewing the patches so our clinic staff can use them around the shelter.

And, the cat bed program has been such a great success that we are moving the operation over to the dogs too! Very soon, you will start noticing large fleece beds in the dog adoption room. Who sewed all those beds? You guessed it—BUSY FINGERS!

All of these projects while still keeping the shelter stocked with dog bandannas and clinic carrier covers! Please help me thank the Busy Fingers crew for their hard work and dedication to enhancing kennel enrichment and comfort for the animals! Anyone interested in joining this group of volunteers? Contact Darlene for more details.



Volunteer Roni Anderson finishing up some clinic lab coats.



Corie, an 8 year old orange tabby enjoys his new bed in Rehab



Volunteer Mary Kelly stands near the 400+ finished Rehab cat beds while *Gracie looks on.

**Who is that cute dog?!!* That's Busy Fingers mascot Gracie! Gracie was adopted by volunteer Marsha Mantei and has since become a regular at Busy Fingers sessions. Gracie was returned to ACS in the summer of 2006 after getting hit by a car. Dr. Dent performed two hip repairing surgeries for Gracie, The Busy Fingers volunteers were talking about her at one session, so Marsha (who was in the market to adopt) visited with her the next day, and the rest, as they say, is history!!



THE
ANTI-CRUELTY
SOCIETY

A Commitment to Caring *Since 1899*

Quick Announcements:

- Bark in the Park (May 2) volunteers still needed, please contact Darlene to sign up.
- Volunteer Book Club: April 29, 5p-6p: *A Lion Called Christian* by Anthony Bourke and John Randall.
- Bark posters are available for distribution, please help us sprinkle the city! See Darlene for details.
- 50/50 Bark in the Park raffle tickets are now being sold, \$2 each or 6 for \$10. See Darlene to purchase or sell tickets.
- Good Manners Program training dates: April 19 and May 10, (10am).
- Monday, May 25 Memorial Day—shelter closed for public adoptions, but open for volunteers: 8am-6:30pm.
- Don't forget to log hours after volunteering: myvolunteer-page.com.

Director of Vol Services:
Darlene Duggan

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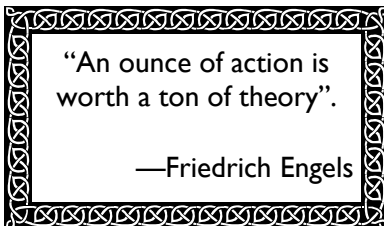
E-mail: dduggan@anticruelty.org

Web: www.anticruelty.org

ACS Online Networking

Check out the ACS youtube page for behavior and training videos, adoption videos, ACS media coverage, and lots of other ACS footage. Become a subscriber today!

<http://www.youtube.com/anticrueltytv>



ACS is also on Facebook! Become a friend of The Anti-Cruelty Society by typing 'The Anti-Cruelty Society Official Facebook Page' in the search field. The group is open to all, so spread the word to your friends and family to join. Members can share stories of adoption, upload photos, get pet tips from our Behavior and Training team and other ACS staff, and learn about upcoming events.

New Foster Blog—

<http://acsfosters.wordpress.com/>

In effort to promote our wonderful foster pets for adoption, volunteers have set up an ACS foster blog. The blog features shelter animals currently in foster care—foster parents will report on their daily progress, antics, and personality. There is a link to the blog from our ACS adoption homepage, but please also help us promote it by passing the link along to your family and friends.

Déjà Vu?



Darlene will be taking a maternity leave again beginning on May 2 and returning sometime in late July. In her absence, Alicia Obando will be in charge of all things volunteers/fosters.

Alicia's contact info:

aobando@anticruelty.org

312-644-8338 x 354

(Her desk is in the Humane Ed wing near the auditorium).

ACS Green Team

Dr. Barbiers has appointed a four member ACS Green Team to help initiate more environmentally friendly practices around the shelter. The Green Team has been hard at work and already has implemented exciting new practices around the shelter including:

- enrolling ACS in the City of Chicago's Green Office Challenge (chicagogreenofficechallenge.org),
- introducing a Community Supported Agriculture program (growingpower.org) that all volunteers and staff are welcome to participate,
- starting a cell phone and printer cartridge recycling program from which the proceeds will benefit the shelter animals (ask your friends/family/office coworkers/etc to donate old items),
- installing a bike rack in the shelter so staff and volunteers can bike to work (later this Spring).

If you would like more details about the ways ACS is going green, or to share your ideas for green improvements, please contact Darlene. We welcome all ideas and suggestions!

****Green Week** will be coming soon to ACS, watch your email and announcements for details**

