



The Tulsa Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Newsletter

Events:

December 17, 2016

Barnes & Noble Gift-Wrapping Booth
8620 E. 71st Street, Tulsa

April 1, 2017

Tulsa SPCA Pranks & Paws Trivia Night
OU—Tulsa Founders Hall (43rd & Yale)

Summer 2017

Tulsa SPCA Paws & Pictures Movie Night
Admiral Twin Drive In

Summer 2017

Bingo Bash
OU—Tulsa Founders Hall (43rd & Yale)

Visit tulsaspc.org for additional event information.

We speak for those who
cannot speak for themselves.

The Tulsa SPCA's mission is to improve the lives of dogs and cats and engage the community to foster mutual well-being.

 tulsaspc.org
(918) 428-7722

 Tulsa-SPCA  @Tulsa_SPCA

 Tulsa-SPCA  tulsaspc

Helping Our Neighbors Near and Far

The spring and summer of 2016 will go down as one of the busiest ever. The Tulsa SPCA, along with many other agencies participated in a number of large-scale rescues, both publicized and behind the scenes. These were truly a group effort by the public, law enforcement, other rescue agencies, and of course our amazing staff and volunteers.

The first prominent rescue we were involved in was in Delaware County. We assisted the Oklahoma Alliance for Animals (OAA) by bringing staff to catch, assess, treat and transport animals. The situation and the condition of the animals was inexcusable. At the end of a long, hot day, over 40 dogs and cats were individually assessed and they and 300+ chickens were seized. This was a group effort by the Delaware County Sheriff's Office, OAA, Miami Animal Alliance, PAAS, and the Tulsa SPCA. Animal Cruelty charges were filed and the case is currently in the preliminary stages.

In August we had back to back, large rescues. Since the need is so great here in Oklahoma we typically limit our involvement to situations in our area. However, sometimes emergencies require we extend



Meeting point in Natchitoches, LA to transfer dogs.

our help. As rain continued to fall in Louisiana, the state, particularly the Baton Rouge area, experienced catastrophic flooding. The Humane Society of the United States was coordinating animal rescues there and reached out for help. We began discussing the situation on August 16th and had all arrangements in place by evening. The goal was to help empty Louisiana shelters of animals currently housed there to make room for animals displaced by the flooding. Our team left early Wednesday, August 17th for a rendezvous point in Natchitoches, LA. The drive was long and hazardous at times and we definitely all got soaked moving dogs, but we were happy to be able to help our neighbors in their time of need. While many of the dogs we brought from Louisiana have been adopted, there are a few still waiting. You can see them on our website — they all have LA in front of their names.



After returning from LA early the same morning, staff headed out that afternoon for another rescue. After unsuccessfully seeking help from others, the family of a woman in Henryetta eventually contacted OAA who referred her to us. Although outside of our primary service area, we immediately realized we needed to help. The woman began "rescuing" dogs but kept them confined in her house at all times to avoid detection. She continued this way for 15+ years. The conditions in the house were so bad, for the last year, she stayed exclusively outside the house, or in her car. The situation was uncovered when she became ill and was hospitalized. In order to enter the house, staff had to don hazmat suits and respirators. We were pleasantly surprised by the condition of most of the dogs. Although there were issues, they were in remarkably good shape. In all, we removed 23 dogs. The woman involved in the situation, willingly surrendered the dogs, is receiving psychiatric care and is living with family moving forward. We felt this was the best outcome and did not pursue criminal charges.

While these were not our only rescues, they illustrate the difference we can make with partnerships, teamwork, compassion and ingenuity. Most times, calls for help come in, we assist, and that's the end of it. We do what we do to help animals (and humans) in need without regard to recognition. These rescues however, are great examples of the difference we can make when we work together. We appreciate all the support we receive from the community, because without you, none of this is possible.



Inside the Henryetta hoarding rescue

Let us wrap your purchases at **BARNES & NOBLE** 8620 E. 71st St. Tulsa, OK 74133

Donations for gift wrapping support

TULSA SPCA

Saturday, Dec. 17
9 a.m. to 10 p.m.

A Letter From Mindy...



Dear Tulsa SPCA Patrons,

Everyone in animal rescue knows the magnitude of the problem we're facing. The vast numbers of strays, the shocking number of hoarding/cruelty rescues and heart-breaking euthanasia numbers at some shelters make it impossible to forget. Our agency is committed to helping address the problem at every level.

The only way to turn things around is by becoming a community where spayed and neutered animals are the norm, not the exception. This requires cooperation between agencies, access to affordable services and enforcement of laws requiring animals to be spayed/neutered. We know it is possible. The reason we transport animals to northern and eastern communities is because they've done it so successfully they now have a need for adoptable animals!

As mentioned in our last newsletter, we hired a full time veterinarian in May. Our original goal was offering public spay/neuter services by fall 2016. As we began to plan, we realized we needed more time to offer services safely and efficiently. Our new target is offering public services beginning in early 2017. In the meantime, we are offering some services to rescues, including spay/neuters, vaccinations and health certifications. We also recently pur-

chased equipment to allow us to take digital X-rays (also available to rescues).

Our hope is, through cooperation, be it on rescues, medical services, transports or just idea and resource sharing we will begin to make measurable change in the number of homeless animals and animals in need. We've already seen the difference this can make through things like Clear the Shelter and hoarding, cruelty and disaster rescues. While rescue agencies (including us) have not always worked together, we hope this is a sign of new attitudes and efforts.

Our mission to improve the lives of dogs and cats and engage the community to foster mutual well-being is always at the forefront of our program decisions. We have many exciting plans for 2017, but we can't do it without your continued support. Your generosity, whether it is through monetary donations or gifts of time and expertise make our work possible. Thank you so much for your support over the years and we hope you'll continue to be a part of the exciting work we have planned for the future.

Mindy Tiner
Executive Director, Tulsa SPCA

Clear the Shelter

On any given day when you visit your local animal shelter you can expect to witness what can only be described as organized chaos. Dozens of dogs will be barking, cats meowing; cars and people will be coming and going continuously. On July 24 this was NOT the scene at the Tulsa SPCA and at hundreds of other rescue organizations across the country. The day before, July 23, the Tulsa SPCA hosted Clear the Shelters, the largest adoption day of the year, and it was an overwhelming success. Like many rescues, the Tulsa SPCA was the closest to empty it had been all year.

Over 400 animals across Green Country found a forever home, making July 23, 2016, the largest adoption day this area has ever seen. Fifty-eight of those pets were adopted from the Tulsa SPCA.

Originally initiated by animal shelters in North Texas, Clear the Shelters has grown into a nationwide initiative with more than 400 animal rescues in 27 states participating. In 2015, 20,000

dogs and cats found forever homes nationwide. This year that number climbed to an astonishing 45,000.

The Tulsa SPCA reached out to the 16 area rescues that participated in 2015 and several new rescues encouraging them to participate in the nationwide event. This year, 21 rescue organizations from the Tulsa area came together with one purpose, to find permanent homes for as many animals as possible.

The support we received from the Tulsa community to promote Clear the Shelters was overwhelming. Woodland Hills Mall provided clean, air-conditioned space for 10 independent rescues that did not have brick-and-mortar buildings of their own. Additionally, Channel 2 News, Tulsa's Channel 8, The Tulsa Voice, and 104.5 The Edge all heavily promoted the event, which helped spread the word across the city.

To all of the families and individuals that adopted that day, we thank you.



When you adopt from a rescue you save two lives. The one you adopt and the one that will take their place. Without your continued support the work we do would not be possible. Thank you for continuing to support the Tulsa SPCA and the animals in our care.



Continue the Work of the Tulsa SPCA Through **Planned Giving**



In 2015 the Tulsa SPCA adopted out over 370 dogs and 225 cats. The organization microchipped over 700 animals, and it provided vaccinations to over 4,000 pets through our Low-Cost Vaccination Clinic. At this point in the year, the 2016 statistics already show growth from last year's outcomes.

It is hard to imagine the City of Tulsa without the services of the Tulsa SPCA. Established over 100 years ago, the Tulsa SPCA has provided a safe haven for abandoned, abused or neglected animals. We continue this dedication with an animal cruelty investigation department, adoption services and a wellness clinic. Additionally, we promote a stronger quality of life for domestic animals in our communities, through ongoing rescue services, rehabilitation, education, advocacy, community service and outreach. Perhaps your beloved family pets — possibly adopted from us — have offered love and companionship that enriched your life immeasurably.

The livelihood of the Tulsa SPCA depends on our donors. If you would like to help us continue to serve animals, please consider leaving a legacy through a charitable bequest in your will or living trust. You can honor your pets and help ensure that the Tulsa SPCA maintains its mission to improve the lives of dogs and cats and engage the community to foster mutual well being. These planned gifts provide the resources to create extraordinary opportunities to ensure the future of charitable organizations like ours. Fortunately, through our partnership with the Tulsa Community Foundation, financial advice and direction is provided at no charge to you, to better understand the benefits of planning, as well as designating assets to the Tulsa SPCA. For additional information about how your thoughtful act can make a significant impact in support of the mission of the Tulsa SPCA, please contact our Executive Director, Mindy Tiner at mtiner@tulsaspcpa.org or 918.428.7722, ext. 27.



Volunteer Spotlight Kennetha Ray

What made you want to become a volunteer at the Tulsa SPCA?

In September of 2015 I retired and was having trouble adjusting. A friend of mine had served on the board of Tulsa SPCA and suggested that I volunteer. It filled a void as I felt like I was making a difference in some small way—not only for the animals and staff, but for the mission of the Tulsa SPCA.

How long have you been volunteering for our organization?

I started in January of 2016 so I've been volunteering for almost a year.

What is a memorable or significant moment you've had while volunteering at the Tulsa SPCA?

Every time we find an animal a permanent home! I love happy endings!

What do you like most about volunteering with the Tulsa SPCA?

I've always worked in "helping" professions and helping animals in any way that I can is always my favorite part.

Any special memories or moments you'd like to share that you've had with any of our animals at the Tulsa SPCA?

This spring, I fostered a litter of four puppies. I got them when they were about three weeks old and took care of them for six weeks. The Tulsa SPCA provided all of the food and loaned me a pen for outdoor play. It was so much fun playing with them and watching them grow. If you love puppies and are looking for a very rewarding project, then fostering may be the right fit for you. Caution though, your heartstrings will be tugged!



Why would you encourage others to get involved/be a volunteer at the SPCA?

It is a great opportunity to learn new things and feel like you are contributing to a great cause.



Holiday Pet Safety Tips

The holiday season is a wonderful time to make new memories with your family. That includes furry family members too! Just be sure those memories aren't the kind made while waiting anxiously in an emergency veterinary clinic. Here is a list of important things you should watch for to help keep your pet safe during the holidays.

Don't throw your dog a bone. Bones are brittle and sharp pieces can get lodged in your pet's esophagus or intestine. Because poultry bones are hollow, they can break easily.

Keep chocolate out of reach. Chocolate contains theobromine and caffeine, which can be toxic to dogs. Make sure chocolate candies left out for guests are kept away from your dog.

Keep a lid on the garbage can. During the holiday season, there is a lot of activity in the kitchen and

several new, tasty smells flowing from the garbage can. Ensure your garbage can is covered because goodies found in the trash can present a significant risk for gastritis for pets and can also be a choking hazard for dogs and cats.

Watch out for holiday plants. Popular plants including poinsettia, mistletoe and holly can cause vomiting and diarrhea. Play it safe and contact your veterinarian if you believe your pet has been nibbling on one of these plants.

Store wrapping supplies away from pets. Pets who ingest ribbon or tinsel can develop a foreign body obstruction. Foreign body surgery can be traumatic and expensive. Keep ribbon and other string and tinsel put away and pick up loose wrappings quickly.

This article was first published on PetFinder.com.



Volunteer Spotlight Kate Kouplen

What made you want to become a volunteer at the Tulsa SPCA?

I really like animals, and know I can impact the community

How long have you been volunteering at the Tulsa SPCA?

1 year

What do you like most about volunteering with the Tulsa SPCA?

Helping the dogs and helping Angela and Kelly.

Any special memories or moments you'd like to share that you've had with any of our animals at the Tulsa SPCA?

When Scarlett came to the Tulsa SPCA and then seeing her be adopted into the perfect home. I loved watching Scarlett play with squeaky toys.



Why would you encourage others to get involved/be a volunteer at the SPCA?

Over the past year, I have seen how much one person can make a difference. It's awesome.





HAPPY TAIL

Fate = A Happy Ending

While visiting the Tulsa SPCA shelter, a twinge of sadness and jealousy struck Shea McFadden as she watched an adorable puppy named Marshall get adopted. She had her eye on him and was hoping to make Marshall a part of her family. Luckily, Marshall's brother, Miles, caught Shea's eye with a wagging tail and "a huge puppy smile." Miles arrived at the Tulsa SPCA with his brother Marshall on August 8. They were members of an unwanted litter of puppies and were fostered until they returned to the shelter to be neutered and to find their new homes.



after day she checked the Tulsa SPCA website to see if he was still available. One afternoon's visit to the site left her heartbroken...he was no longer on

the website. Shea still had hope and visited the shelter. As fate would have it, Pabu was patiently waiting in his cage for her.

Pabu loves his new home and his big kitty brothers, Gryffin and Pippin. They welcomed him and now spend their days chasing each other around the apartment, wrestling and cuddling on the couch. Pabu has learned to respond to Shea's body language and now serves as a therapy dog. Their favorite thing to do is visit Biscuit Acres Dog Park and while his bark is more of a "pathetic high pitched squeak" he holds his own! Pabu spends his evenings snuggling with his stuffed polar bear and is almost always wearing his red bow tie. The family of five is finally complete with the addition of little, helpful, fierce Pabu.

Shea, owned two cats, but felt something was missing in her life until she took home Miles, who now answers to the name Pabu. Shea had to convince her boyfriend, Lee, that they needed a dog so she was not able to take home Pabu the day she saw him. Day

January–August 2016

Food

- 8,500 lbs. of dog food
- 3,000 lbs. of cat food
- 9,000 lbs. of cat litter

Does not include food provided to homeless pet programs

Medical Care

Over \$80,000

Includes medical supplies, vaccines, veterinary care and preventatives (heartworm, flea and tick, etc.)

Cruelty

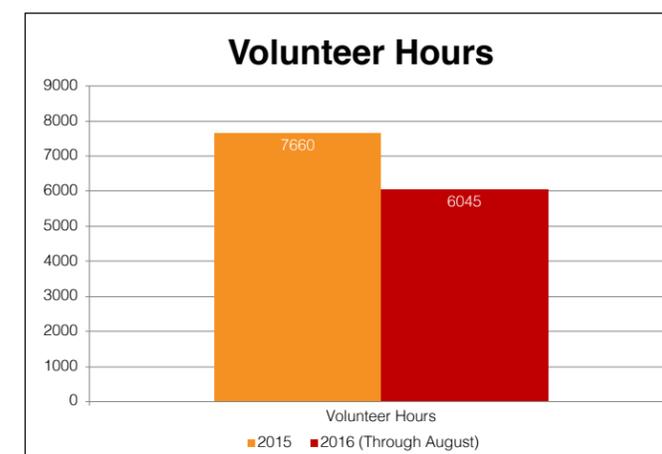
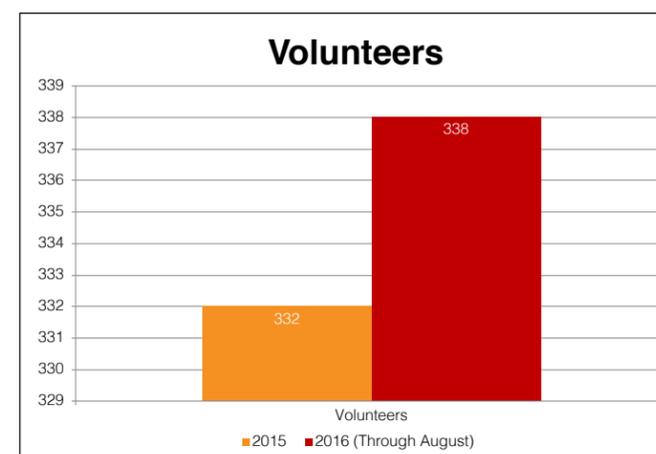
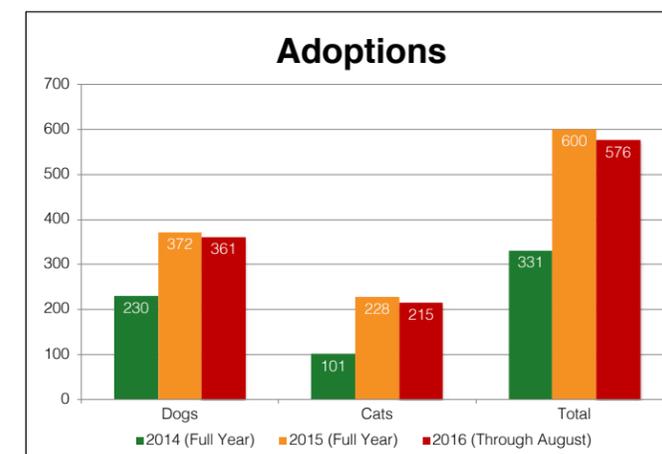
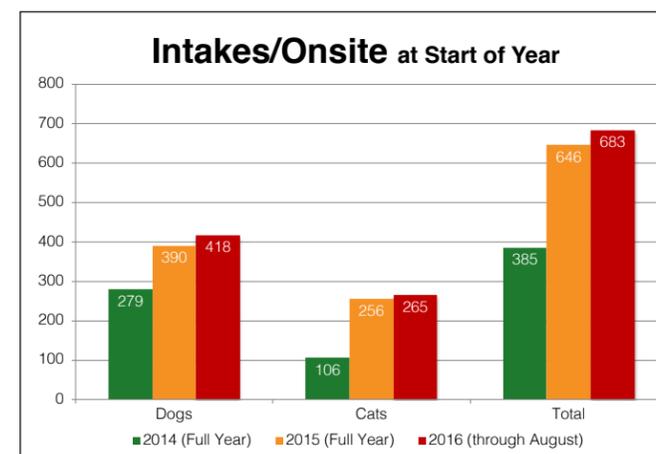
370 completed investigations

Watch for our full Annual Report in the Spring!

Please consider sponsoring a Kennel, Run, Space in the Cat Colony Room or on the Mobile Adoption Center (MAC). Yearly sponsorships available (please call us for more information):

Yearly sponsorships available (please call us for more information):

- **\$1,000** — Outside Run
- **\$500** — Kennel or Cat Colony Room at the Shelter
- **\$250** — Kennel Space on the MAC



HAPPY TAIL

The Adventure of Black Beard



Once upon a time there was a tiny black fluff of a kitten who lived in an apartment complex with a mother and her daughter. Some people think black cats are lucky while others think black cats bring bad luck. Fate guided this cat through a life of adventure.

One day the black kitten suddenly disappeared. The owners were devastated and called on friends for help to find their pet. The friends became determined detectives and enlisted the help of fate. Three weeks later the small kitty was found. Someone had kidnapped and imprisoned the kitten. The kitten was rescued, but three toes had been cut off and abuse was suspected. The little cat recovered

by forming a solid pad in place of the missing toes. However, the original owners were unable to keep the now rescued kitten.

A human friend at the Tulsa SPCA became involved, putting in a plea to establish rescue status for the little kitten. The Tulsa SPCA named him Black Beard and provided needed medical care. Enter Jenni and Erik, a couple who stopped by the Tulsa SPCA looking for a cat to call their own.

At first, Erik was unsure about a cat, but all it took was for Black Beard to crawl into his lap in the Cat Room and the deal was sealed!





Tulsa Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals
2910 Mohawk Blvd • Tulsa, OK 74110-1419

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SATURDAY, APRIL 1, 2017

No foolin'!

6 p.m. – 10 p.m.
OU Tulsa - Founders Hall
4502 E 41st St
Tulsa, OK 74135

FOR SPONSORSHIP
OPPORTUNITIES
OR TO PURCHASE TICKETS,
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OR
CALL 918-428-7722
OR
<http://tulsaspc.org/trivia-night/>