

Pearl River County SPCA
ANIMAL SHELTER
Post Office Box 191
Picayune, MS 39466
(601) 798-8000

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“Happy Birthday, Dante”

On August 29, 2008, a two-month-old Australian Cattle Dog puppy was adopted from our shelter; his former owners didn't want him. June 10th was his birthday and his new mom sent this note:



“Dear Friends,
 Happy second birthday to our Dante dog! We could not have asked for a better companion. His favorite treat is peanut butter, and he loves a squeaky ball. Dante just passed his “Love on a Leash” obedience test, and his AKC Canine Good Citizen test is scheduled for July 13th. We hope to be able to visit nursing homes and hospitals to spread his happiness and joy. He loves going for practice visits and is gentle enough to join patients in their beds. He also travels with me to clients’ offices and has become something of a mascot! We cannot imagine life without this little personality, and are so grateful to you for bringing him to us. Thank you, Fran Peacock.”



**PETSMART CHARITIES
 RESCUE WAGGIN’**

This news deserves the front page: Since the Rescue Waggin’ Program started in June 2009, **189** of our dogs and puppies have been sent to Wisconsin and Michigan for adoption.

Can you imagine what our little South Mississippi puppies think when they land Up North with eager adopters waiting for them?

Getting ready for these monthly transports requires a lot of extra work from our employees and volunteers, but it is well worth it.

On June 17th, the shelter was visited by David Wintz, Shelter Manager of the Rescue Waggin’ Program. He gave us good marks for our shelter operations, and seemed especially pleased that he “didn’t hear any cats sneezing!” His evaluation and advice will allow the SPCA to submit a second grant proposal for shelter improvements.

We encourage all our friends to shop Petsmart stores, which also support the shelter with in-store adoptions (Slidell) and donations.

THANKS - THANKS - THANKS

There is no way to adequately thank the many local businesses, organizations, and individuals who donate goods, services, or money to the shelter. Our appreciation to

these “Friends of the Animals.”

- Dub Herring Ford/Chrysler
- MeLinda’s Fine Gifts
- The Animal House
- Claiborne Hill
- The Lutheran Church
- Creative Ventures
- Polly Esther’s Closet
- Winn-Dixie
- Walmart
- WRJW-AM Radio Station
- The Picayune Item
- Picayune/PRC School Children

And there are loyal friends who donate by mail, at the shelter, or during fund raisers.

- And last - but certainly not least - the veterinarians who support us by taking loving care of our shelter animals and offering great advice:
- Dr. Dean Stringfellow
- Dr. Anne Borgen
- Dr. Kevin Smith
- Dr. Jacqueline Broome

1-688-989-SPAY (7729)

Spay/neuter for cats, \$30; dogs, \$45. This price includes a rabies vaccination. Purchase coupons at the Picayune or Slidell Shelter.

See www.prcspca.org
 or visit the Shelter at
 1700 Palestine Road
 Picayune, MS 39466
 10 AM - 5 PM, Monday-Friday
 601-798-8000

VOLUNTEER SUPERSTAR

Carla Gerrard, a Californian, moved here in 1998 with the U.S. Navy at Stennis Space Center. She retired in 2002, worked with several volunteer groups, but in



April 2004, she found her true calling as a member of the SPCA.

In May 2004 she organized a Rabies Clinic; an annual affair offering low-cost vaccinations.

Carla is also involved in all shelter planning projects,

In 2006, she realized that without a good spay/neuter (s/n) program, the problem of pet over-population would never be solved, so in October, she arranged for a huge mobile s/n unit to come to Picayune. She pulled together all the vets, volunteers, logistics, and cat owners to spay or neuter 1,336 cats! She has since acquired over \$44,000 in grants. These support an on-going Low-Cost/High Quality Spay/Neuter Program (cats-\$30, dogs-\$45) which she organized and administers. For information, call 866-989-7729.

Combined with s/n of all shelter animals before adoption, a total of **9,721** animals have been altered since 2006, and shelter surrenders are slowing decreasing.

Carla comes up with spay/neuter "specials" such as "Snip Your Pit" and "Nab Your Lab" week, Un-Mother's Day and Un-Father's Day.

For the past two years, she has directed a Pet Food Pantry.

Looking for Carla? You will have to catch her on the run; the Wal-mart parking lot at 6:30 am to meet a s/n transport, organizing clients and volunteers for a mobile s/n unit; writing grants; or taking care of her own 42 cats, 6 dogs, 2 foster dogs, 1 horse, and 1 burro!

Carla truly qualifies as a **VOLUNTEER SUPERSTAR!**

A Dream Come True

For a long time, the SPCA President, Maria Diamond, has dreamed of having an outdoor playpen for the cats. Not only does the fresh air reduce the incidence of upper respiratory disease, so common in confined spaces, but it gives the cats quality time outside their cages.



With donations from the community, and really hard work by two of our volunteers, the 10x10-foot pen was completed. A glass door was added to allow supervision of the cats while exploring their new and exciting playpen.

SHELTER FACELIFT

In conjunction with the Rescue Waggin' Program, the shelter received a \$16,400 PetSmart Charities grant to paint and seal the concrete and cinder blocks in the dog runs, kitchen, and isolation



areas. This cuts down on contamination. With those funds and other donations, concrete pads and ten kennels were added out

back so the dogs can be housed there while indoor runs are being cleaned.

And not to let the cats get ahead of the dogs, four large fenced play areas have been added, which will also be used for the behavior testing of our adult dogs.

Please visit to see the improvements, and hear of our plans for the future!

KIDS' SUMMER PROJECT

If you would like to keep your kids busy for awhile, try this:

Get some old (long) socks and empty 10- or 12-oz. plastic water bottles. Put a few pebbles in the bottle, put the bottle in the sock, and tie the end. The kids have now made our dogs' favorite toy!

Other cat and dog toys are also needed - without stuffing, please.

And when you bring the toys to the shelter, you just might find a new furry friend to take home.

SAVING ANIMAL LIVES

There are two effective ways to save the lives of dogs and cats: spay/neuter and adoption.

In the last year, 202 cats and 290 dogs were adopted at the Slidell PetSmart, but we have only one "crew" that takes dogs each week. With another crew, going Saturday or Sunday, we could almost double the number of dog adoptions. Can you help save 290 lives?

Call Maxine at 601-749-9201.

PEARL RIVER COUNTY SPCA

The SPCA is a non-profit organization, chartered in 1986, dedicated to promoting the welfare and humane treatment of animals.

Meetings on third Thursdays, 7:30 pm, 157 Tennyson Cove, Picayune.

Dues are \$10 a year, \$7 for seniors, \$5 for students, or \$20 for a family, Patron for \$100 or more. Checks may be mailed to PRC SPCA, P.O. Box 191, Picayune, MS 39466. Please include phone number and e-mail address.

(June 2010)