

Happy Tails

Cleveland Animal Protective League

December 2010

Newsletter for Volunteers

Program Spotlight

Development

During the holiday season, there might be one place even busier than Santa's workshop: the Gift Processing Office at the Cleveland APL.

The Gift Processing Office, part of the Development Department, receives and records all the donations that support the shelter's operations. The office, staffed by Development Associates Terri Hall and Dawn Smith-Pennington, with help from Development Associate Lisa Tarcy and Office Assistant Molly Callahan, also makes sure each gift is acknowledged in a timely manner.

"With it being year-end, this department is extremely busy not only processing the regular donations, but donations being made in honor of loved ones



Terri Hall, left, and Dawn Smith-Pennington process nearly all the donations made to the Cleveland APL.

for the holidays," said April Clark, Associate Director of Development. "The support and commitment of our office volunteers is extremely helpful and truly appreciated."

Development volunteers do more than assist in Gift Processing, however. "We are always looking to expand our volunteer pool," April said. "Each year we need committed volunteers to chair or support the committees for Fur Ball. These roles are extremely important to the success of the event. In addition, we always have a great need for volunteers to support our department throughout the year for special projects and events."

Besides Fur Ball (next year on Nov. 5), the other main event is the Pledge for Pets Radiothon May 13-14.

For those who want to help our animals without working directly with them, Development might be a perfect fit. Current Cleveland APL volunteers interested in joining the Development team may contact April at 216-771-8823 or aclark@clevelandapl.org. Weekday daytime availability is needed.

Staff Snapshot

Name: April Clark

Title: Associate Director of Development

Years at Cleveland APL: 5

Duties: Reporting to Director of Development Judy Hunter, April oversees the Gift Processing Department, Annual Fund Program, Operations of Fur Ball and Radiothon and the *Pet Patter* newsletter.



Background: "I had worked in the Development Department at University Hospitals (UH) for 21 years, several of those with Judy. When Judy became Director of Development at the APL, she recruited me to join her team. I was so excited. The thought of raising money to help homeless animals thrilled me."

At Home: "Two male cats: Pooh, my Himalayan, and Peanut, my Orange Tabby. I fostered Peanut and adopted him my first year at the APL. One male dog: Scooter, my Chihuahua, also adopted from the APL."

Fur Ball 2010

Cold Noses, Warm Hearts

The Cleveland Animal Protective League's annual gala took place on Saturday, November 6, at the InterContinental Hotel Cleveland.

A record number of 375 guests helped us to raise more than \$178,000 to benefit the APL's Second Chance Program.

A committed group of APL volunteers work on this event all year long. APL Board Member Tanis Swan is the board liaison. She is joined by Janet Menko and Michelle Wheadon, who co-chaired the Auction Committee; Sue Speer and Kara Vlach-Lasher, who co-chaired the Auction Presentation Committee; and Bianca Cuic, who chaired the Decoration Committee.

This year we were pleased to have as our Honorary Chairs, Amy Hafner and Annie Thomas. We thank everyone who worked before, during and after the event to make Fur Ball possible.

Fur Ball 2011 will take place on Saturday, November 5, at the InterContinental Hotel Cleveland!



At left: Revol, the evening's V.I.P. (Very Important Pooch). **Above:** Celebrity Guest Rebecca Wilde. **Below:** Auction Committee Co-Chairs Janet Menko, left, and Mi-

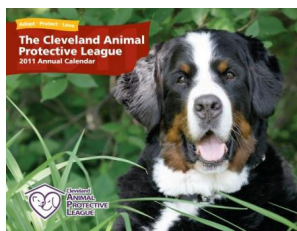
Video Stories Online

You can watch the video shown during this year's Fur Ball. The video, available at ClevelandAPL.org, features the stories of just a few of the animals who were helped by the Second Chance Program.



Photos by Jason Miller and Michael Nilsen

Calendars for Sale



If you're looking for the perfect holiday gift for your animal-loving friends and family members, we'd like to suggest the 2011 Cleveland APL calendar.

The beautiful full-color calendar is filled with photographs of pets submitted by the people who love them. Every pet photo that was entered in our contest appears somewhere on the pages of the calendar, which is available at the Cleveland APL or online at ClevelandAPL.org for just \$10.

All proceeds help the homeless animals of the Cleveland APL.

Happy Tails Staff

Sharon Harvey
Executive Director
Danielle Begalla
Volunteer Coordinator
Molly Callahan
Office Assistant



Dogs showed a preference for certain modes of transportation, whether outfitted in biker gear or riding an SUV along the parade route. At right, volunteers, from left, Gwen and Jeana Rifici and Jessi Parker helped with registration for the event.



Clowning around for a good cause.

Pets Dressed in their Halloween Best

A howlin' good time was had by both two-legged and four-legged participants at the Halloween Pet Costume Parade and Contest at Crocker Park in Westlake on Oct. 31.

A total of 129 participants registered for the second annual event, which raised \$645 for the Cleveland APL.

There were several categories of costume awards given, with the most original, going to the little dog that rode its own SUV through the parade. However, as you can see, there were many spectacular costumes to enjoy.

Thanks to returning volunteers **Gwen Rifici** along with daughter **Jeana**, and **Jessi Parker**, for their help with the registration for the parade and contest, and to **Scott van Valkenberg** (leader), **Karl Bloomstine**, **Kathy Erzen**, **Justine Helm**, and **Holly and Dominic Niro** for their adoption efforts through Rover, our offsite adoption unit, at the event.

Our Holiday Angel

Busy elf volunteer Barbara Reitzloff and her team completed a lovely tree on behalf of the Cleveland APL for your viewing enjoyment.

The tree is part of the Cleveland Play House's annual holiday display, available for viewing through Dec. 30.

We thank Barbara for leading this project and for her dedication as a Dog Adoption Specialist and Canine-ality Assessor for our Meet Your Match program at our shelter. And we wish all of our wonderful volunteers very happy holidays!



Our holiday tree is among those representing Greater Cleveland organizations and individuals on display at 8500 Euclid Ave.

Super Adoptathon Fills Shelter, Empties Cages

Two days, 179 adoptions and a weekend filled with happy tales: The Cleveland APL's Super Adoptathon was super!

The event on Saturday and Sunday, Dec. 11 and 12, at the shelter drew throngs of adopters, some of whom waited in line for as long as two hours to complete the process.

Under the leadership of Coordinator Jacky Kost, volunteers and staff worked tirelessly before, during and after the event to achieve our goal of emptying the cages. The event was made possible by a grant from the ASPCA.

Maybe it was the goodies, the reduced adoption fees, or just the presence of Santa, but everyone was on their best behavior!



Dozens of people and animals waited patiently to go home with their new best friends.



At last! Adoptions Supervisor Bree Alcox helps clients complete an adoption.



Jacky thanks Santa for his help.