



Placer SPCA's *animalTimes*

Fall 2007



Tim sent us this update on Duncan's progress...

Duncan is doing **EXCELLENT**. We will take the first of two Foundation Skills Assessment tests in late September. Successful completion of both tests will certify us as "deployable" to assist in rescue efforts around the world—and we are getting there in record time.

Duncan is a "monster on the pile"—the best in our training group in negotiating wood, concrete, rebar, and wood piles, some as high as 40 to 50 feet, to find buried "victims." He has no fear, just loyalty.

He is the only dog who, after finding the victim, digs his way to them through large and heavy debris, and remains with them until I can get there and verify his find. This is a rare quality found in a few search dogs across the world.

The once underdog is now Topdog thanks to the people at the Placer SPCA, the Search Dog Foundation, and our hard work as a team. My promise is to continue the best of training with Duncan—so we can save lives wherever we're needed, throughout the world.

topdog!

Duncan, once homeless, trains to rescue others

When the stray yellow Lab arrived at the Placer SPCA in August 2006, staff quickly recognized that he was not your average energetic adolescent. Duncan's energy seemed boundless—and he was hyper-focused on fetching and other tasks. He simply could not be distracted.

And while he might find life in a typical household frustrating, Matt Green, the PSPCA's resident animal behavior expert, thought Duncan might make the perfect rescue dog.

The Search Dog Foundation agreed. Based in Ojai, Calif., the foundation recruits homeless dogs from shelters and rescue groups and provides socialization and basic obedience training—as well as six months of professional training.

After completing his initial training, Duncan was paired with Tim Brun a firefighter at the Los Angeles Fire Department's Station 33, one of the busiest in the country.

The two have continued training as a search and rescue team, with the goal of certification by FEMA, the Federal Emergency Management Agency. Once certified they will be ready to be deployed to find people buried alive in the wreckage of earthquakes, hurricanes, landslides, terrorist attacks, and other massive disasters around the world.

Duncan's innate energy, tenacity, and boldness provide the starting point for his training. Search and rescue dogs also have a keen sense of smell and the ability to focus on the scent of the buried human, ignoring all other smells or

noises—which would distract most dogs. They learn to navigate difficult terrain, honing in on "live humans" and barking when they find them.

"We're a perfect match," says Brun. "I am positive Duncan will save someone's life someday."

Duncan is doing so well, in fact, that Brun expects they will receive FEMA certification, which usually takes 18 months, within the next six months. They will be one of just six teams from L.A. County to join FEMA's elite international search and rescue corps.

When he's not working, Duncan is the perfect family dog. "My wife, Erica, and our children, Chloe and Noah, have welcomed this awesome canine into our home," Brun says.

"I'm so grateful the Placer SPCA recognized Duncan's special skills," he adds. "He's an amazing search and rescue dog." ♡

Learn more at www.searchdog-foundation.org.



PLACER SPCA

...for the love of a lifetime!

150 Corporation Yard Road
Roseville, CA 95678
(916) 782-7722 or (530) 885-PETS
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**On the Cover: Cold noses, warm hearts!
Marshall the cat and sweet Sassy are
hoping for a forever home.**

FROM THE CEO...

living love

This summer all of us who love animals were sickened, shocked, and angered by the alleged actions of Michael Vick, the Atlanta Falcons quarterback who faces federal charges for dogfighting. A U. S. District Court grand jury has named Vick and three others in a criminal dogfighting syndicate spanning several states.

We've heard the gruesome details. The indictment alleges that some or all four individuals starved dogs to instill aggression and "tested" them in fights against other dogs. It alleges that they shot, body-slammed, and hung dogs who did not "perform well" in the fighting arena. They even allegedly electrocuted a losing dog. And it seems they were motivated, at least in part, by the tens of thousands of dollars they could make gambling on the fate of these helpless dogs.

Dog fighting is not new—and it is very much present here in northern California. Sadly, so are many other forms of cruelty toward and neglect of the animals who trust us to care for them. I encourage everyone to keep their hearts and their eyes open and to immediately report abuse to your local animal control agency.

And the caring starts at home. We must provide our own animals the best care possible—lots of love and attention, adequate and nutritious food, and an annual veterinary check-up.

We recently received a heartwarming letter from Jodie Jacklett-Ellis and Jim Ellis, a generous couple who adopted Kaci and Nina, two young kittens, from us last winter. Jodie and Jim wrote:

"Both cats had really experienced hardship and loss, and we truly believe that it is with the



Leilani Vierra shares a hug with Joey.

work that you folks do at the SPCA that saves not only lives but hearts with the spirit of life and kindness.

"Nina and Kaci are strictly indoors, where they will remain safe always. We feed them for optimal health and we work every day to fill their lives with love, utmost attention, lots of talking (yes, they both engage in conversation with us), warm windows and a nice breeze on a cooler day, tons of toys that they have both learned to enjoy, snuggly bedding, daily brushing, and weekly teeth brushing. We constantly reassure them that they are safe and loved always."

These two lucky cats are living the kind of life all companion animals deserve. Love truly begins in the home.

Leilani Vierra
CEO, Placer SPCA

Note: You can see Kaci's photo on page 5—she's a gorgeous, clearly adored tabby!



HOME, SWEET HOME! PLACER SPCA STATISTICS

	MAY	JUNE
Adoptions	153	165
Lost & reunited w/caregiver	50	54

Dear Matt—

Here's my problem in a nutshell: Noodles loves to dig! Otherwise my beloved cattle dog mix is the perfect pet.

—Digging for Answers in Lincoln

Dear Answers,

Digging is a normal canine behavior. To end Noodles' digging you must first understand why he digs. Is he left alone in the yard for long periods of time? Is he a high-energy puppy or adolescent? Some dogs need a "job" to keep them happy. Try to expand Noodles' world and increase his "people time." Regular walks, games of fetch or Frisbee, and/or an obedience class and daily practice will channel his energy. Provide Kong-type toys filled with treats or busy-box toys, and rotate them to keep them new and interesting.

Dedicated diggers need an "acceptable digging area" covered with loose soil or sand. If you catch Noodles digging anywhere else, interrupt him with a loud noise, say "No Dig," and take him to his designated area. When he digs in the approved spot, praise him.

If Noodles digs in a very specific area, at the roots of trees or shrubs, or in a "path" layout, he may be pursuing burrowing animals or insects. Use humane, nontoxic methods to remove these from your yard.

Does Noodles dig near building foundations, large shade trees, or water? Does he lie in his holes? Provide him the comfort or protection from the elements he is seeking with an insulated doghouse. If he prefers to lie in a hole, create an "approved digging area" in a protected spot. Provide plenty of fresh water in a bowl Noodles can't knock over.

If Noodles is digging to get your attention, ignore the behavior and make sure you spend sufficient quality time with him every day.

If Noodles is seeking escape to get to something, get somewhere, or get away from something, take extra precautions to keep him safely in the yard. Visit our website's behavior section and click on "The Canine Escape Artist."

Whatever the reason Noodles is digging, **never punish him after the fact.**

Dear Matt...

Matt Green is the Placer SPCA's director of operations and our resident expert on why animals do the things they do.

Visit www.placerspca.org for tips on common behavior issues!



Matt with Riley, a young Maltese Lhasa Apso mix who's hoping for a new home.

we're wishin' for...

- lams canned kitten food
- Kong toys (medium & large)
- Johnny Cat unscented, nonclumping cat litter
- Foster parents
- Dog and cat toys
- Digital camcorder
- Heska I-Stat Blood Analyzer and cartridges
- Cat beds with hoods
- lams dry dog and cat food
- Volunteers to walk and socialize with our animals

Please view our complete wish list at www.placerspca.org.

Dear Matt—

I recently enrolled Stormy, my Dalmation, in a training class. The instructor's recommending a head halter. What are your thoughts?

—New to Me in Roseville

Dear New,

A head halter (such as the Gentle Leader) is ideal because it is painless and works much better to prevent a dog from pulling than a choke chain or prong collar. It consists of two straps: one goes around your dog's nose, the other around her neck. The leash will fasten under Stormy's chin to a ring that's attached to the nose strap. When Stormy begins to pull, the design of the head halter causes her nose to be turned back toward you, making it physically difficult for her to continue pulling.

The halter must be properly fitted to be effective and comfortable. The neck strap should be as high up on your dog's neck as you can get it, just behind her ears, and just tight enough for you to fit one finger between it and Stormy's neck. The nosepiece should be adjusted so that when your dog's mouth is closed, it can slide down as far as the beginning of the skin on her nose, but not so loose that it can slide off the end of her nose. The nosepiece will sit just below Stormy's eyes. Make sure that the metal ring to which the leash attaches is underneath Stormy's chin.

Most dogs initially resist a head halter. Stormy may try to get it off by pawing at her nose or rubbing her nose on the ground, on you, or on anything she can get close to. Distract her by throwing a trail of treats on the ground in front of her, or keep her moving by offering treats from your hand and praising her. Most dogs eventually accept head halters. When Stormy associates the halter with going for a walk, she'll begin to react positively to it, and soon, both of you will enjoy taking walks together!

Finally, *never* use a hard jerk with the head halter, and never use it with a retractable lead. Stormy should wear her head halter only during on-leash walks with you and/or when you're directly supervising her. If she wears it around the house, she'll have plenty of time to work at getting it off, and will eventually succeed.

another gold record!

18th annual BBQ & Blues the best yet



PHOTOS: JESSICA HUGGINS

“We couldn’t have asked for a better outcome—the weather was fantastic, the entertainment a hit, the turnout amazing, and, of course, the amount of money we raised was phenomenal. **We had our highest day of sales ever!**”

Leilani Vierra, CEO
Placer SPCA

The Placer SPCA is still dancing from the success of its biggest fundraising event of the year: the 18th Annual BBQ & Blues benefit. Thousands of blues enthusiasts and animal lovers flocked to the Gold Country Fairgrounds on July 14 and joined emcees Charlie Thomas (The Eagle, 96.9 FM) and Lisa Gonzales (CBS 13) to raise more than \$135,000 for homeless companion animals in Placer County! Guests enjoyed an all-star line-up, including headliner Elvin Bishop, Rod Piazza and the Mighty Flyers, the Lou DeLuca Band, and more.

Blues fans also had the opportunity to shop for some great buys from the nearly 40 vendors present and to support two other local nonprofits. The Auburn Lions Club and Sierra Family Services joined us this year to offer delicious food and dessert as a way to raise funds for their causes.

A special thank you to the more than 200 volunteers whose generous efforts helped ensure the event’s success, as well as to our event committee for the countless hours dedicated over the last few months. ☀️

18th Annual BBQ & Blues Signature Sponsor
The Harry Rosenberry Foundation

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Eric & Denise Fiddymont



Placer SPCA CEO Leilani Vierra (right) with our energetic emcees, Charlie Thomas of The Eagle 96.9 FM and Lisa Gonzales of CBS 13.



Headliner Elvin Bishop got the crowd on their feet and dancing to his hit, *Foiled Around and Fell In Love*.

Classic Kennels

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- Larry & Patricia Payne
- Auburn Placer Disposal Services
- Satellite TV Specialists
- Placer Environmental

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- Wild Women in the Garden
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- Rancho Roble Vineyards
- Beerman's Beerwerks
- Kelli's Cookies
- Jamba Juice

meow!

Kaci (right) and her new sister Nina were adopted from the Placer SPCA in January. Their "Mom" sent us news of their new lives...

"Kaci loves to carry soft balls in her mouth and drop them where you are sure to see them and throw yet again. She loves to chase a flashlight beam, while Nina looks at her with disdain at this action. Nina seems to know that chasing that light will never result in catching it, but Kaci still finds this to be a joy. They are delightful cats!"

did you know?



Duke

The Placer SPCA is a nonprofit organization dedicated to enhancing the lives of companion animals and supporting the human-animal bond through adoption, reunification, education, and affordable spay and neuter services. Our shelter is located in Roseville and our programs serve the entire county.

We rely on grants and individual donations from animal lovers like you in order to offer our wide variety of programs.

We are not affiliated with Placer County Animal Services, which has a sheltering facility in Auburn, and is a government agency funded by tax dollars. We work cooperatively and collaboratively with them to best serve the animals in Placer County. 🐾



Have you remembered the Placer SPCA in your will?

Here is sample bequest language you can take to your attorney:

"I give, devise, and bequeath (*indicate amount or percentage of property*) to the Placer SPCA, federal tax number 94-2607682."

For more information about helping the animals at the Placer SPCA in your will, please contact Susan Willson at (916) 782-7722, ext. 102 or funddevelopment@placerspca.org.

donations

Placer SPCA Memorials, Honorariums, and Kennel Sponsors (April 24–July 25, 2007)

IN LOVING MEMORY OF... (PEOPLE)

Annie Koyama

Gary Cranfill & Mary Ann Howard
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Missy

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My Ditty

Kimberly Jordan

Phillip

Bob & Jeannette McKnight

Kiko, faithful companion

Patricia & Richard Marquez

Abby

James & Elizabeth Bland

Gemini

Mary Hellen

Willow

Peter & Elenor Helfer

Spike

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Emma

Visa

Jill & Jim Condon

Orion

Liz & Dan Letson

Newton

Gloria Green

Solid

Mary & David Terrell

Sweet Oscar

Mrs. Betty Jones

Lindy

Kay Thompson

Axel, our beloved, faithful, stinky dog

Carole Lewis

Sadie Kistler

The Miller Family

Tibi-Su

Lilly Gillam

Bert

Babs & Pete

Rowdy

The Rapozo Family

Comet

Patricia Anderson

Sienna Mayhew

Deborah Mayhew

Aldo & Leslie's Akita friend

Robin McConnell-Trimble

Zuzu Atkission

Mark & Lilly Gillam

IN HONOR OF...

Linda & Jennifer

Dorothy Stevens

Jessi ~ The dog I fell in love with at the shelter

Carol Blackman

Madison Sweeney's birthday!

Craig Sweeney

Melissa & Martin Curle's wedding

Aaron Werner

Jennifer Tindall's birthday!

Nora Liang

Ann Huskinson

Marilyn Rowe

Bichon & Candi, for their love and companionship

Larry & Shiela Lovato

Gus & Debra Smith

Kay & Randy Lewis

Guster ~ Buster's Birthday

Diana Davis

Mom & Daddy, you finally made it!!!

Robin Moreau

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Denise Simpson-Hentzy

Molly ~ Welcome to the family

Bill & Wanda Williams

Kay Funes' birthday!

Pete & Sandy Mogensen

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Mimi Longway and all of her animals

Curt Longway

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Mark & Lilly Gillam

Hope ~ Forever in our hearts

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In loving memory of our pets

Andrea & Barry Holt

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Sponsored by Krista Behl

In memory of precious Squeaker

Jack & Gale Wright

In loving memory of Mimi Longway and all of her animals

Curt Longway

Sponsored by 6th Grade Builders Club ~

Buljan Middle School 2006–2007



THANK YOU, Placer SPCA 2007 Corporate Sponsors!

The Placer SPCA's Corporate Sponsorship Program provides individuals and businesses the chance to pledge their support to our organization through various fundraising opportunities. We are pleased to acknowledge the following businesses, which have pledged their assistance to us this year:

SILVER SPONSOR

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The KMS Group of Companies

JewelrySupply.com

The Buzz Oates Group of Companies

the shelter scoop



learning love...and more

Our fourth annual Humane Kids Camp was a four-paw success! During the five, week-long sessions more than 60 animal-loving youngsters enjoyed spending time with a few of our current and former shelter animals—and had the opportunity to learn about and meet horses, captured nonreleasable wildlife, a parrot and reptiles. Thanks to our friends at the Folsom City Zoo Sanctuary, campers aged 10 to 12 spent an amazing day visiting, learning about, and helping out at the Sanctuary.

“We are thrilled that so many young people in our community want to learn more about animals,” said PSPCA CEO Leilani Vierra. “We hope these kids will grow up to fulfill our vision that every animal is treated with kindness and respect.”

To be placed on a “notify list” for next year’s camp, send

an e-mail to humaneedu@placerspca.org or leave a message at (916) 782-7722, ext. 253. Please include parents’ name(s), address, telephone number, e-mail address, and child’s name and age. Our camp is open to children aged eight to 12 years. ♡

A huge thank you to everyone whose help and support made this year’s camp possible:

The Placer SPCA Board of Directors
Lilly & Mark Gillam
Vicki and the Folsom City Zoo Sanctuary
Janet and horse friends Precizjon and Rex
Aaron and Sherry, Gold Country Wildlife
Krissi, Companion Parrot Connection
Ryan, Star Eco Station
Troy, Roseville Animal Control
Matt, Jessica, Victoria and Sybil, Placer SPCA Staff
Edith, Jeanie, Shelly, Babs, Glenda, Laura, Andrea, Haley, Melissa,
Dario & Conner, Placer SPCA Volunteers

Our website will receive a face lift this fall, thanks to a generous grant from the Placer Community Foundation. Pictured are (back, left to right) PSPCA board member Ced Damby, co-chair of our Marketing Committee, and PSPCA CEO Leilani



Vierra, (front, left to right), and Placer Community Foundation board member Ruth Burgess (with PSPCA alum Francis) and Foundation CEO Veronica Blake (with PSPCA alum Katie). ♡

PLEASE JOIN US...

Thursday, September 6–Sunday, September 9 ▶ Gold Country Fairgrounds, Auburn

PETMOBILE AT HOME AND GARDEN SHOW
Info: (916) 782-7722, ext. 113

Wednesday, October 24 ▶ 4:30–9 p.m. ▶ Roseville Elks Lodge

SUN CITY EVENING OF HOPE
Info: (916) 782-7722, ext. 102

Wednesday, October 24 ▶ 6–7 p.m. ▶ Placer SPCA RABIES & MICROCHIP CLINIC

\$5 rabies vaccination and \$20 microchipping
Info: (916) 782-7722, ext. 114

Saturday & Sunday, November 10 & 11 ▶ 11 a.m.–4 p.m. Placer SPCA

SANTA CLAWS PHOTOS
Info: (916) 782-7722, ext. 102

Thursday, December 6 ▶ 5:30–8 p.m. ▶ Placer SPCA PLACER SPCA HOLIDAY OPEN HOUSE

Info: (916) 782-7722, ext. 102

VISIT THE PETMOBILE AT ONE OF OUR REGULAR LOCATIONS...

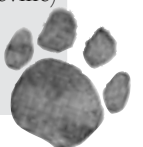
PetsMart (10363 Fairway Drive, Roseville)

PetsMart (318 N. Sunrise Avenue, Roseville)

Peet’s Coffee & Tea (1010 Pleasant Grove Blvd., Roseville)

Raley’s (765 Highway 65, Lincoln)

Visit www.placerspca.org for dates and times.





**Placer Society for the Prevention
of Cruelty to Animals**

150 Corporation Yard Road
Roseville, CA 95678

(916) 782-7722

www.placerspca.org

Shelter Hours

Tues & Fri-Sun: 11 a.m.-4 p.m.

Wed & Thurs: 2-7 p.m.

Closed Mon & holidays

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Santa Claws is coming to town!



Santa is making a special trip this holiday season to the Placer SPCA! He'll be on hand to pose for photos with you and your furry companion at the Placer SPCA shelter on

Sat & Sun, Nov 10 & 11, 11 a.m.-4 p.m.

Choose from several photo and package options (starting at \$8).

Great for holiday cards for family and friends!

Professional setting and photography courtesy of
Mike Martin Photography!

All proceeds benefit the Placer SPCA.

THANK YOU, paw club sponsors!

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In loving memory of Richard F. Hanley
~ Elaine Hanley

Rick Kavooras, Mouldings & Millwork Inc.

Rita Lind

In memory of Max, my beloved cat
~ Mary Lee Welch

Sheila & Steve Epler

Jim & Trish Schreiber

Ced & Susan Damby

Mary & Glenn Meyers, Southwest Grading Inc.

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~ Seevers, Jordan & Ziegenmeyer

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