Out the Open Door: Adoptions at PHS

The PHS adoptions department finds homes for thousands of pets each year. From traditional pets like dogs, cats and rabbits to the more exotic tortoises, parrots and iguanas, our adoption counselors are expert matchmakers.

But their work doesn’t stop there. Did you know that the adoptions team does more than just adoptions? They are responsible for all domestic animal placement, including our rescue, foster and working cats programs.

Every year, hundreds of animals receive a third chance with one of our many rescue partners. Our rescue coordinator secures safe placement for shelter animals, often with special needs due to age or medical condition. Since 2010, over one thousand Chihuahuas and mixes have also found new homes thanks to transport programs that relocate small dogs to rescue partners and shelters around the country where they are in high demand.

The foster program is another way we save lives at the shelter. Our foster coordinator temporarily places orphaned, baby animals with volunteer foster parents until they are (continued on back page)
Steve McNall

After 36 years working tirelessly for the welfare of animals at the Pasadena Humane Society & SPCA, Steve McNall is retiring. A specific date has not yet been set to allow for a nationwide search for the next president and CEO.

During his tenure, Steve has brought PHS from a concrete and chain-link organization with a $500,000 budget to the current financially secure, state-of-the-art animal welfare organization with a $10,000,000 budget.

Steve has a long history with the organization. His grandparents and parents adopted dogs from PHS. His family has experienced first-hand the difference Steve’s leadership and vision have made in changing the shelter from a depressing “pound” to a welcoming shelter environment with happier, healthier animals.

Steve began at PHS as an animal control officer and worked with State Humane Society to professionalize the position changing the public perception from “dog catcher” to humane officer. Throughout his career he took a firm stand against animal neglect and abuse and helped define the link between abusing animals and child, spousal and elder abuse.

Blood-sport was common in Pasadena in the late 80’s and 90’s. One of Steve’s many victories was working with local police departments to stop pit bull and cock fighting in our service area.

Community health and safety have always been a top priority for Steve. Over the course of his tenure, PHS has developed and expanded a disaster response team, licensing programs for many of our cities, vaccination of shelter animals on intake, and a public low-cost vaccination program to help keep our community and its animals more free from disease. In assisting residents of foothill communities, our wildlife department helps residents and wildlife coexist with fewer incidents.

Responsible pet ownership and keeping pets in homes are another part of Steve’s vision that has materialized programmatically. Our humane education and behavior and training programs help secure the human-animal bond and plant seeds for the future.

Steve’s accomplishments are profound, but he maintains that he has had a strong team of players who were like a family to him. That being said, Steve’s leadership has guaranteed that the Pasadena Humane Society & SPCA is well-prepared for the future.
Steve’s legacy is truly for the animals.
So, you are finally ready to adopt a pet. What should you expect from the adoption process? Kevin McManus, the adoptions supervisor at PHS, answers a few important questions.

**What should potential adopters consider before adopting a pet at PHS?**

We are here to find the best match possible between adopters and the animals in our care. Keep in mind that a pet’s personality is way more important than its looks. It’s best to try to find a pet that will fit into your lifestyle. If you run five miles a day, then that nine-month-old boxer mix might be a great match. If you are a couch potato, the eight-year-old tabby could be a great TV watching companion.

**How long does the whole process take?**

We say that it’s best to allocate at least 30–45 minutes for the counseling process. It can take longer if you need to do a meet-and-greet with your current pets. If the pet you’re adopting is already spayed or neutered, he or she can go home with you the same day. If not, it can be two or three days until your new pet is ready to go home.

**What if there is a waitlist for the animal I want to adopt?**

Sometimes we have a new arrival that is very popular, so we will create a waitlist of interested adopters. Instead of placing all your hopes on that one pet, my advice is to look around for an animal that is currently available for adoption. They are just as likely to be great pets in your home. If you are sure that the pet with the waitlist is the one you can’t live without, call the adoptions office on the day the animal is available for adoption and be prepared to come to the shelter on that day.

**For more information on adoption at PHS, visit** www.pasadenahumane.org/adopt.
Louie’s adoption journey began when he arrived at PHS in October of 2014 as a stray. The 10-year-old Chihuahua had clearly been someone’s pet, but, sadly, no one came for him. Louie patiently waited in the kennels week after week for his forever home.

Enter the Andrews family. In 2006, the Andrews adopted a bonded pair of dogs from the Pasadena Humane Society—Madeline, a Shepherd mix and Lady, a Chihuahua. When Lady passed away in the fall of 2015, the family was heartbroken, but 6-year-old Raleigh Andrews took it the hardest. After grieving the loss of her beloved dog, the family decided to return to PHS to adopt another senior Chihuahua in Lady’s honor.

When the Andrews family arrived at PHS in December of 2014, they immediately knew Louie was the one. "As soon as Louie and our daughter Raleigh set eyes on each other there was no turning back," says Samantha Andrews, Raleigh’s mom.

"Louie has been a wonderful addition to our family,” Samantha adds. “Raleigh and Louie are the very best of friends. They are thick as thieves. They love each other unconditionally.”

Louie has enjoyed numerous adventures with the Andrews family, including a trip to Big Bear and flying first class to the Connecticut shore for a family vacation this past summer.

Looks like little Louie has hit the jackpot!

How has your animal companion made a difference in your life? When did you first adopt from PHS? Share your adoption story with us by emailing us at pr@pasadenahumane.org with “Scoop Happy Tails” in the subject line. Your story may be featured in a future issue of Scoop, on our website, or on our social media channels! Include a high resolution photo (at least 3 MB at 300 dpi) and your story (no more than 300 words).
HELP US GROW PHS

Constant Companions

Become a Constant Companion today and save lives all year long as a monthly donor. Homeless and helpless animals are counting on your kindness and generosity.

Every year PHS takes in over 12,000 dogs, cats, rabbits, birds and other animals. Your monthly commitment will ensure that these lost, injured and homeless animals are given nourishing food, comforting shelter and much-needed medical care.

It’s easy to become a Constant Companion. Just visit us at www.pasadenahumane.org/companion and your debit/credit card will be charged every month. At the end of every calendar year, you will receive a giving statement for tax purposes.

As a Constant Companion, the homeless and helpless animals at the Pasadena Humane Society & SPCA can count on your monthly gift to provide the vital support they need. For more information or to set up your monthly gift, please contact Melissa Fuentes at mfuentes@pasadenahumane.org or 626.792.7151 ext. 130.

Volunteer and Help Rehabilitate Animals in Costa Rica!

Save the date!
From October 19–29, 2016 travel with other PHS supporters and explore the eastern region of Costa Rica.

You will have opportunities to see green sea turtles nesting and hatching, while also watching for crocodiles, manatees, jaguars and birds. Additional, unique experiences include volunteering at an animal rescue and rehabilitation center, a tour of one of the best sloth sanctuaries in the country and much more!

Trip cost is $4,149 per person double occupancy or $5,789 for single occupancy and includes a $500 donation to PHS, which is tax deductible to the fullest extent of the law. Price does not include airfare. A $1,000 initial deposit is due by March 31, 2016.

Space is limited! Reserve your spot by contacting PHS travel agents Heidi Hoehn or Monica Saito at 626.795.0291 or by email at heidi.h@travelstore.com or monica.s@travelstore.com.

When you donate to the Pasadena Humane Society, you help animals in Arcadia, Bradbury, Glendale, La Cañada Flintridge, Monrovia, Pasadena, San Marino, Sierra Madre, and South Pasadena. The Pasadena Humane Society & SPCA is not part of any national animal organization. All of the funds you contribute to PHS stay locally. Donate to the Pasadena Humane Society & SPCA and help the animals in your community.
Please join us for the 17th Annual Doglegs, Birdies and Eagles Golf Tournament to benefit the animals at the Pasadena Humane Society & SPCA on Monday, April 18, 2016 at the San Gabriel Country Club.

Sponsorship, program ads, dinner tickets and entry into the popular helicopter ball drop opportunity drawing are now available by visiting pasadenahumane.org/golf, emailing events@pasadenahumane.org or calling 626.792.7151 ext. 167.

Tickets to the awards dinner are only $100 each. The dinner will feature cocktails and hors d’oeuvres followed by dinner, a helicopter ball drop, silent and live auctions, an awards ceremony and a guest entertainer.

Entry into our golf ball drop opportunity drawing is $25 for 2 balls, $50 for 5 balls or $100 for 12 balls. The lucky winner(s) will receive a percentage of the total ball sales—up to $10,000!

You also may show your support for the animals by becoming a sponsor (starts at $1,500), sponsoring a tee sign or flag (starts at $250), purchasing a program ad (starts at $100), donating to our silent auction or donating items for our goody bags.

Do you want to help raise money to save the animals in your community? Consider hosting your own community fundraiser to support the Pasadena Humane Society. Community fundraisers can be anything from a lemonade stand in your neighborhood, jeans day at your workplace, or a dinner party where each guest brings a donation. The possibilities are endless!

In 2015, generous individuals raised over $120,000 for animals in need by hosting their own community fundraiser. This support helped provide food, shelter and medical care for the thousands of animals who came to PHS last year.

For fundraising ideas or tips, please visit pasadenahumane.org/communityfundraisers, email events@pasadenahumane.org or call 626.792.7151 ext. 167. If your event is open to the public, please notify us at least 6 weeks in advance so that we can help publicize it.
Out the Open Door (continued from page 1)

big and healthy enough for adoption. Since 2014, the foster program has enabled PHS to care for almost one thousand very young kittens.

In 2015, the adoptions department created its newest program, Working Cats. This program finds alternative living situations—such as barns, stables, businesses, or rural properties—for cats that would not flourish as a house pet. Now, free roaming and feral cats are spayed/neutered, microchipped, vaccinated and put to work controlling rodent populations.

The PHS adoptions department goes to incredible lengths to find placement for the animals that come through our open doors. For more information about adopting a pet or our pet placement programs, visit pasadenahumane.org.