



TRACKS

We speak for those who cannot speak for themselves.

NEWSLETTER OF THE TULSA SOCIETY FOR THE PREVENTION OF CRUELTY TO ANIMALS WINTER 2009

2910 Mohawk Blvd.

Tulsa, OK 74110

918-428-7722

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Stormy and Pup Pup Clear Skies Ahead

By Brien Rose and Marcy Spence

Late June of this year, a call came for Tulsa SPCA Cruelty Investigator Wade Farnan: "We need your help. The Pawnee Sheriff's Dept. has received a complaint of abused horses and dogs at a rundown ranch."

The scene at the ranch was horrifying: two Malamute mixes penned behind a rusty wire fence, emaciated, flea infested and desperately in need of fresh water.

The owner had provided the poor dogs with a "home" consisting of 10-foot wire fencing nailed to an old trailer. There was no gate - they were simply nailed in, permanently trapped in a 10-foot by 10-foot patch of dusty ground with no shelter from the rain or the 100 degree Oklahoma heat. The owner also neglected to provide them with fresh drinking water, leaving them with only a rusty tub of algae and slime-covered goo from which to drink. For food, he thoughtfully shared his garbage. On this day it was a handful of rotting carrots strewn along the ground. After Wade and the Pawnee sheriff's deputy freed the filthy, starving dogs, they were so wary of human contact that it took three hours to coax them into a vehicle.



"Stormy and Pup Pup" - Continued on Page 2

'Tis the Season



From Thanksgiving to New Year's Eve, our friends at Southern Agriculture (71st and Sheridan Road location) set up a 'wish tree' in their lobby to make it easy for people to donate goods to support the TSPCA. The next time you're at Southern Ag shopping for your own critters, grab an ornament from the tree, add a suggested item or two to your cart and deposit them in the lobby boxes on your way out. We'll do the rest!

As always, donations may also be dropped off directly at our facility at 2910 Mohawk Blvd. All contributions are greatly appreciated and help us keep our pets happy and healthy until they find their 'forever homes'.

Looking for the perfect gift for your animal-loving friends and family? Let the Tulsa SPCA help make your holiday season pet-friendly by purchasing one of the following items:

Give a gift certificate to have a dog or cat microchipped for only \$30 (includes registration). Microchipping is a permanent, safe and convenient way to help reunite lost pets with their owners. Call 428-7722 for more info!

OR

Keep your pet safe with an up-to-date engraved pet tag. Gift certificates are available for \$6 each which includes printing (on both sides of the tag) and mailing. To view designs, go to the TSPCA Auxiliary website (www.heresthepoop.net) and click on 'Shop Now'. To purchase certificates, send a check - payable to TSPCA - to Tulsa SPCA, c/o Becky Robbins, 2910 Mohawk Blvd, Tulsa, OK 74110.



The dogs were taken to the Acadia Veterinary Hospital where they were treated for their many abrasions, insect bites and their severe flea and tick infestation. Their emaciated frames would take many weeks of good food to heal. After a full medical checkup, the newly-named Stormy (female) and Pup Pup (male) were brought to the Tulsa SPCA.

The road to recovery for Stormy and Pup Pup began slowly: learning to walk on a lead, accepting food by hand, allowing themselves to be touched and groomed. After much patient, hard work by the TSPCA staff, the pair has been able to move into the common areas of the kennels. Obeying simple commands - sit, stay and the like -



will still take time, but Stormy and Pup Pup have learned the beginnings of socialization.

The duo is available for adoption to a special home if their needs can be met. First, they must be taken as a pair. These two have been through quite an ordeal together and our adoption staff feels it would be unwise to separate them. Second, they need plenty of outdoor space. They aren't indoor dogs so they'll need plenty of fenced room to roam with decent shelter for inclement weather. Last, Stormy and Pup Pup have had a rough time of it and haven't had the experiences of other dogs. This means, unfortunately, that they cannot go to a home that they would share with either children (under 13) or other pets.

If you can provide this deserving pair with the space, patience and loving environment they deserve, contact us for further information about adding them to your family.

The Heartbreaking Reality of Puppy Mills



Trapped behind chain-link fences with no human touch other than to be bred, 20 small dogs waited to be rescued by Tulsa SPCA Cruelty Investigator Wade Farnan.

The first trip to assess their living conditions and health produced disturbing photos. When returning to the scene to remove the dogs, all but two of them had been moved to an unknown location. Refusing to give up, Wade followed up on a number of tips and was able to recover most of them.

The majority of the dogs have been identified as Poodles, Yorkies and Pekingese. They were emaciated, covered in

fleas and losing their hair. Some had medical conditions that needed immediate attention, such as this little guy who displayed symptoms of an eye infection.



Now safely sheltered at the TSPCA, they will get the medical care, nutrition and love they need to become the healthy and happy companion animals they deserve to be. As soon as they are released by our veterinarian, the search will begin to find their forever homes.

With your support we will continue our efforts in fighting animal cruelty. We couldn't do it without you,

About Tulsa SPCA

Location

2910 Mohawk Blvd.
Tulsa, OK 74110

Hours

Mon - Sat 10am to 5pm
Closed Sunday

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Coming soon to Twitter!

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We hope to offer our newsletter via email soon. If you'd be interested in receiving this publication in email format, please contact us at tspca@tulsaspc.org.



Adoption Tips From The Expert



An interview with Mary Green

Do you long for the pitter-patter of four little feet around the house? Is it time to bring home a hairy, licking bundle of joy? Before you start buying collars and a dog bed, there's some homework you'll want to do before selecting a new member of the family. Age, breed and temperament of the dog, age of your family members, current children, future children, energy level (both yours and the dog's) and living space are just a few of the things that the Tulsa SPCA evaluates when helping you find the perfect match. We asked **Mary Green**, of **K9 Manners & More** and staff training consultant to the Tulsa SPCA to give us some insight to the adoption process and answer some common questions that new adopters often have.

I want a certain breed of dog that my friend has.

When you're looking to adopt a dog, I think it's more important to consider the type of dog rather than the specific breed, especially since many dogs are mixed. For example, herding breeds (like Border Collies, Shetland Sheepdogs, German Shepherds) are more apt to chase things that move. Terriers (Schnauzers, Yorkies, Jack Russells) love to dig and are great mousers. Hounds can either be scent hounds (Bassets, Beagles, Bloodhounds) or sight hounds (Whippets, Greyhounds, Afghans). That means they have different motivators: a scent hound will use his nose and follow a trail wherever it takes him. A sight hound might spot a rabbit and take off like lightning!

Are all breeds good for homes with kids?

In our experience, we've seen dogs of every breed that are good with kids and ones that are not good with kids. I think it really depends on the individual dog and, to some extent, the kids. Small dogs might nip children that pursue them and want to pick them up, while big dogs can knock them over in a happy greeting. Both child and dog should have respectful boundaries with each other, which is why the Tulsa SPCA asks that no pets under 6 months of age should go to a home with children under the age of 6 years.

What do people need to do when their new "baby" comes home?

Be prepared! Have a crate on hand for the new dog and a litter box for the new cat. Create a schedule for taking the dog outside to facilitate house training. Determine feeding times and who is responsible. My colleague, Kim Sykes, uses a '24 hours of peace and quiet strategy' for rescued dogs that she brings home. The new dog is sequestered from the family dogs and given one-on-one attention, outside leash walks, and hand feeding for the first day. Don't take your new baby to a family gathering or host a party, and please... don't visit the dog park until you really know the dog!

What kinds of common behaviors can they expect from their new arrival?

Some pets walk right in and are right at home. Others might be timid, shy or even fearful. It is very common for a new dog to come in and urine mark his new home. Neutered dogs will do this, too! Don't assume that he knows where to go to potty. Take him out and show him where to go and where to find the water bowl. You also can't expect your new family member to know which toys are his and which belong to the 2-legged kids!

What can "parents" do to ease the transition into a new home - or with a new animal?

Be careful with introductions between the new and established animals. Even though you have been through a friendship test, you may see very different behavior from your dog when you bring in a new pet. Don't force friendships - allow the animals to become acclimated to each other over time.

How important is exercise for my new arrival?

That can depend on the dog. An elderly dog, or one recuperating from illness or injury, may not need as much exercise as the average adolescent dog. Don't assume that your dog will self-exercise by running in the yard. He may just develop bad habits of fence running! Be sure that you are playing fetch with him or kicking a semi-deflated soccer ball for him to chase, and take him for walks to explore the neighborhood. Small dogs tend to get the zoomies indoors, and often you can use this as an opportunity to teach him how to chase a toy. Mental exercise may be even more important than physical exercise! There are many interactive toys that dispense treats or kibble. There are even puzzle games for dogs to problem solve.

Does training my new dog really help, and when should the training begin?

The dog begins to learn the moment he comes into your life. He is learning about you, your routine and your environment. This means that you have to be careful what you teach! He may learn something very different from what you think you are teaching! Start with basics, such as sit for a treat and wait at a door, which the TSPCA dogs have already learned! We find that dogs do better in our programs at K9 Manners & More after they've been in their home for about 30 days.

Any tips from the expert?

Consider adopting again! Tell all your friends about your new pet and the great pets we have at the Tulsa SPCA. Going from a one-dog household to a two-dog household isn't a terribly huge strain on the budget. Since dogs are very

social, they like to have dog friends as well as people friends. Don't just adopt another pet to keep yours company - but if you have room in your heart and home for another, you might just double your fun.

The Tulsa SPCA works closely with potential adopters to help them find a loving pet and with our pets to find their forever home. What some of our pets lack in pedigree they make up for in spades in devotion, loyalty and love - so think heart, temperament and a good "fit" for your lifestyle before you think of how it looks, and open your heart and your home to a shelter animal - you can never go wrong when you're saving a life.

Mary Green, CPDT-KA (Certified Pet Dog Trainer Knowledge Assessed), owns K9 Manners & More in Broken Arrow. She is a professional member of the Association of Pet Dog Trainers, an associate of the International Association of Animal Behavior Consultants, and an AKC CGC (Canine Good Citizen) evaluator. Mary and co-trainer Kim Sykes, CPDT-KA are consultants for the Tulsa SPCA, assisting in training staff and volunteers, and working with their fabulous pets awaiting their forever homes. They can be reached at: www.k9-manners.com.



Super Sweetheart



Charlie was adopted by our family in August 2009 after our 14-year-old Westie passed away. We had a 2-year-old Westie who desperately missed his playmate and we were not sure if we wanted to do the "puppy" thing all over again! Our 7-year-old girl read in a children's book that "Heinz 57" dogs were sweet, loyal and smart. It was cute because she thought this was an actual breed. We found the Tulsa SPCA website and saw Charlie's picture. We met and completed the adoption process for him and while we were on vacation, we got the phone call saying we were the lucky new owners of Charlie! We couldn't wait to get home to Tulsa to get him!!!

Since then things have been better than we could have ever expected. Charlie was a little scared at first, but after he felt welcome at home he has responded beautifully. Every member of our family is crazy about him and thinks he's adorable with a very loving personality. He loves bones, balls and his favorite...a bear with a squeaker that almost sounds like he is talking when he squeaks it. He loves to run and play in the yard, play with our children and likes to be taken on walks. Charlie and Tex have become fast friends with lots of playing and exploring the yard together. They often curl up next to each other when they are lying down. But the thing he especially loves is being near any family member who will just sit and pet and love on him!!!

Thank you, SPCA, for your most important work and for placing Charlie in our home. He is a SUPER SWEETHEART and we look forward to many special years with him!!!
- The Bair Family

Tatum the Watch Cat... a Happy Ending

By Amanda Stephens

Everyone needs a companion and for Mary Carolan, that companion came in the form of Tatum, a watch cat of sorts. This match was made possible by PEF, or Pets for the Elderly Foundation. This program allows the Tulsa SPCA to offer adoptions at half price to senior citizens (age 60 and older). It seems that Mary and Tatum are a match meant to be.

Tatum came to the TSPCA as a stray that was found underneath a shed with her four kittens. She was a watcher from the beginning, ensuring her kittens were safe even until they left her for their new homes. After her kittens found homes, Tatum was moved to the cattery where she put on a few extra pounds (at one point she weighed 15 pounds). She was scared and alone with no one to watch over. Mary had recently lost her husband and had no one to fill the emptiness of her home. She was alone with no one to care for. Tatum was just the kitty for the job. With Mary, Tatum could be the watch cat she was destined to be. On September 3, 2009, Tatum found her Forever Home.

It didn't take Tatum long to get the lay of the land in her new home. She has quickly become a kitty in charge of things. She will wake Mary up for breakfast by hopping up

on the bed. She will allow her to go back and "catnap" but not for too long because playtime is vital. If Mary is sleeping in, Tatum will watch over her, making sure all is okay.

Tatum loves to play "hostess" to the visitors to their home and will

follow Mary around the house

like her little shadow. Tatum has become lovingly nicknamed "Baby Girl." She loves to play and has a good time with Mary's "grandpuppy" who comes to visit. Tatum is still trying to lose some weight, but she is happy, healthy and enjoyed by everyone in the family. Mary's favorite comment about her is that Tatum is "one of a kind."

From scared and alone to happy and secure, both Tatum and Mary have found a bond with each other that cannot be broken. This is a truly happy ending.





Our list of needs and wishes keeps growing. Your generosity in providing these items helps us help them! Thank you so much!

For a complete list of needs and wishes, please visit www.tulsaspc.org

For Pet Care & Playtime

- Canned or dry dog & cat food (Science Diet, Pedigree, Beneful or Iams please)
- Double-sided kitty and small dog food/water bowls
- No-spill dog and cat bowls (all sizes for inside and outdoor)
- No-pull dog harnesses (all sizes, especially large & XL)
- Squeaky dog toys (all sizes; durable rubber type, Nylabones)
- Washable chew toys and heavy rope toys (great for chewers!)
- Kitty litter (non-clumping)
- Kitty toys (soft balls, interactive "fishing poles", small "chase" toys)
- Hot dogs (training treats) 
- Dog sweaters (all sizes)
- Comforters, quilts, thick blankets for comfy bedding at night
- Frisbees
- Agility-training equipment (or materials to build our own)
- Agility "run-through" tunnels

For Babies and Foster Care

- Baby gates
- Microwave for cooking ground meat (for baby food) and heating towels (to wrap puppies and kittens) 
- Plug-in night lights
- Extra-small pet baby bottles (for preemies, puppies & kittens)
- Pet baby bottles (small and standard sizes)
- Electric baby-bottle warmer
- Soft baby blankets
- Esbilac milk replacement for puppies
- KMR milk replacement for kittens
- Dry baby cereal
- X-pens for puppies & kittens
- Premium canned kitten and puppy food
- Puppy pads (reusable/washable)
- Soft kitty beds with backs

Everyday Needs

- Large scrub brushes & handles
- Bottle brushes
- Baby wipes
- Measuring cups

- Lysol (spray & liquid)
- Fabuloso floor cleaner (purple)
- Zip ties
- Metal poop-scooper sets
- Dawn dishwashing liquid
- Powdered cleanser, with bleach
- Ziploc Bags (sandwich & gallon sizes)
- Heavy serving spoons (for portioning canned foods) 
- Wooden clothes pins
- Small lamps (nightstand size with low-watt bulbs)
- Surgical overhead light
- Rubber containers (all sizes, with lock-down lids for storing dry food)
- Large tins (popcorn size, for dry food)
- Syringes (1cc and 3cc sizes)
- Surgical gloves
- Tarp to cover kennel roofs for added protection against rain, sun
- Rubber-backed rugs for outdoor kennel bedding during daytime outings
- Large Scotch-Brite scrub pads
- Industrial mop heads 

Happy Tails



Watch for 'Wags' to sniff out a few of our alumni's Happy Tails! We hope you enjoy reading updates submitted by the new families of our former charges. Keep those stories and photos coming our way via email at tspca@tulsaspc.org.



A Perfect Match



Bella (formerly Lady) has done exceptionally well. She has only been with us for 2 weeks and has adjusted so well, it is like she has always been a member of the family. She is very well trained and in her 2 weeks here has not had an accident in the house. She loves to cuddle in her own bed during the day and sleeps with us most of the time at night. She has had the full run of the house since we brought her home and she loves to take walks with us and our grandson. It has been a perfect match for all of us. Our thanks to all at Tulsa SPCA.

Put Your Paws Together...



for the Good Guys!

Good News and the Many Ways You Show You Care for the Pets!

A big happy-birthday wish goes out to **Alexis Clonts**, and a bigger thank you for the money donations she received for the TSPCA animals instead of personal gifts.

One of the more frequently mentioned names on this list has come through for us once again. **Keith Kantner** brought the clinic some much needed medical supplies, locking medicine storage cabinets and some acupuncture equipment. Thank you for your loyalty to our cause!

Thank you does not seem adequate to say to one of our company sponsors who come through for us annually. **ResourceOne** has exceeded expectations once again with their month-long fundraiser and tailgate party for TSPCA. We received a wonderful monetary donation along with a large variety of materials to help our babies. May we offer a **BIG THUMBS UP!!!**

WOW!! It was like Christmas at TSPCA. We had a **HUGE** donation of some much needed equipment in the form of computers with monitors, printers with extra ink cartridges, memory cards, flash drives, digital cameras, space heaters, a coffee maker and a case of copy paper. All this from a wonderful man from Illinois, **Pierre Blanchard**. He joined our Jog-the-Dogs program and, in the course of talking with some of our employees, learned of our needs. Being an animal lover, Pierre decided to offer his help. Needless to say, we are overjoyed!!

Braden Manufacturing decided to hold a fundraiser and TSPCA was one of the lucky recipients of the proceeds. **Sharon Stone** and a couple of her co-workers came into our office with a big bagful of toys, leashes and collars and several blankets. There was also a very nice check to help with other needs. We (and the pets) are so grateful for these companies who love the animals.

Wendy Barnett and her crew of compassionate workers at **Companions Forever Pet Memorial** make possible a peaceful and respectful ending for the lives of the occasional pets that have incurable conditions and pass on while in our care. Heartfelt thanks for making this difficult situation more bearable for us all.

Kudos to **Kevin Davis** of **Kevin Davis Company, Inc.** for the loads of river rock that help keep rain soaked play areas usable during the Oklahoma Monsoon season.

Master Lube & Wash in Sand Springs provided service of the TSPCA pick-up truck, including a donated air filter and a discounted service charge.

Thanks to the **many community businesses** who welcome our Mobile Adoption Center (MAC) and adoptable animals to their locations. Among those visited in the past year are The Boy Scouts, Kmart, *Gaga-A-Gogo*, Lambrusco'Z, Maurices, MotoPhoto, PETCO, PetSmart, Pumpkin Town, Southern Agriculture, The Dog Bowl and Whole Foods. We appreciate the invitations and look forward to seeing everyone in 2010.

A special thanks to **all our volunteers**, without whom our MAC would not be out in our community. The weekend hours they donate enable us to visit the many businesses listed above as well as many special events. Thanks to these dedicated volunteers we were also able to participate in the "Blessing of the Animals" at St. Dunstan's Church, the BooHaHa parade, the Bridges Walk, the Owasso and Collinsville Christmas parades, a DHS adoption party, East Tulsa Prevention Coalition's 10th Anniversary Celebration, Fathers & Families Expo, Irish Paws and Fall Furry Scurry at Hicks Park, a Glenpool block party, the Holland Hall Book Fair, the MS Walk, Rock & Rescue, SpringFest, Earth Day and Adoption Month at the Tulsa Zoo and Woofstock. Whew! That's a lot of volunteer hours donated!

Our MAC is one of our best tools for showcasing our adoptable pets. **Hunter RV Center** in Sapulpa repaired the MAC generator at a discounted price and provided a \$50 coupon for the next visit.

Two Girl Scouts have chosen to plan their coveted Gold Award projects to help the TSPCA pets. The first scout, **Emily Hall**, planned several projects: blankets made especially for the MAC cabins or soft padding for post-surgery pets, an Angel tree in the summer with space provided by Southern Agriculture that brought in a wide variety of "Wish List" items for the pets, and an afternoon of re-covering damaged cots that provide our dogs with a warm sleep area away from cold, hard flooring.

The second scout, **Anna Dennis**, organized a "Doggy's Day Out" for pets and owners on the grounds of Bishop Kelley High School. The service group from Bishop Kelley provided volunteer help and a commitment to continue the event in the future. Set in a carnival atmosphere, there were vendors, contests for pets and owners, games and presentations by the TSPCA about pet care and training. Fund raising activities were held prior to the event. Admission to Doggy's Day Out was a donated item from the TSPCA Wish List.

Mona Burns is sponsoring the TSPCA Lonely Hearts pets at her business, **Fitness Studio**. During November and December she will collect donations of "Wish List" items or cash to help care for these special guys.



..... more good guys

Johnny Trimble of **Tail Waggers Boutique** helps beautify some of our more bedraggled pets. He comes up with just the right "doggie do" to make them feel proud again. You should see the way they strut as they exit the salon after their spa treatment.

A tireless volunteer, **Elaine Palmquist**, devised an idea for involving Tulsa runners and walkers in a new program that is going strong. Jog the Dogs invites those interested in getting and staying fit to come to the Tulsa SPCA to pick a willing canine running or walking companion. The dogs greet the arrival of their friends with great enthusiasm and everyone benefits.

Big applause goes to a volunteer with a magic touch for dogs that have the most need for consistent and patient training. **Lisa Brooks** gets the SOS call when a dog has not responded to the best efforts and available time of the TSPCA staff. These dogs persist in behaviors that greatly reduce their likelihood to find a home. Lisa takes the pet in and makes it one of the family, expecting that rules and manners will be respected. The "Lisa touch" works and, after weeks of determined effort by both Lisa and her family, when the right person comes along a success story has been made possible.

Sing praises for **Maria Gaw**, who adopted one of our dogs and works with the **Tulsa Youth Opera**. This group split the proceeds from a performance of Noye's Fludde (Noah's Flood) between The Youth Choir and TSPCA.

Why not consider becoming a regular volunteer at the Tulsa SPCA and...

...travel with our Mobile Adoption Center (MAC) to a variety of events and locations to help showcase our adoptable cats and dogs.

...join the Pets Are Love (PAL) program and take dogs to visit area nursing homes.

...come out to our facility and participate in our 'Jog the Dogs' program. Walkers are welcome, too!



Our Perfect Little Boy

We wanted you to know that Rocket has been a perfect little boy. He lets us know when he needs to go outside and enjoys a nice cat chase every now and again. His new fleece 'blankies' are his favorites; he sleeps in bed with us and has not been a problem at all. He loves to walk on his leash and has not been aggressive to our neighbors or their pets. Rocket smiles and wags his tail and obeys all the verbal commands we give him. He loves to be held and has been wonderful to have. I think my husband will be naming him Harley Joe; he is our little buddy and a joy to our life. He is a keeper.

Our gratitude to **Patricia Espinoza** for establishing a donation box at her work place, **PSSI**. Already bags of towels, warm blankets for cold winter nights and other items are arriving with Patricia on her volunteer visits to the TSPCA.

PAM Distributors' Randy Walker and his staff get continued bouquets of appreciation for keeping the donated internal camera network and paging system in working order. What a great tool in locating staff and tracking activities taking place on our grounds.

Special thanks to **Mark Fritz** of **Peak Up Time** and **Larry Johnston** of **Computer CCU** for donating consultant time and expertise to establish a solid plan that would allow the TSPCA to assess and set goals for a functional, dependable computer system.

The **TSPCA Auxiliary** provides so much help in many areas. Every weekend **Bruce Hall** takes the photos of adoptable pets and posts them to our website. The Auxiliary also purchased two new air conditioners for the TSPCA and purchased and installed a misting system to keep the staff cool during the hot summer. This is just the tip of the iceberg; their help is invaluable and so appreciated!

There are so many other individuals and companies we want to thank. We can't list all of you each time but know that we couldn't do what we do for the pets without your help. Thanks to everyone!

...visit our cats and dogs for some hands-on fur therapy.

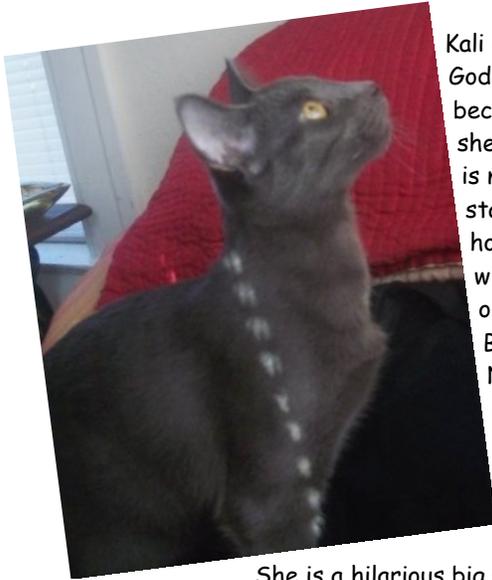
...help take pictures of our new arrivals every weekend to keep our website up to date.

Find out more about these and other opportunities by attending an orientation meeting on the 2nd and 4th Saturday of each month at 10 a.m. at the TSPCA location at 2910 Mohawk Blvd. No need to call....just come on by! Or visit our website and click on 'Volunteering your time' in the 'How you can help' section.





Confident Playmate



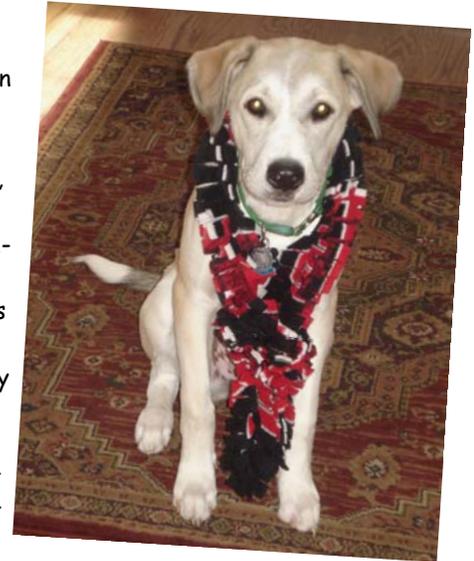
Kali Ma was named after the Goddess of Destruction just because I liked the name, and she definitely lives up to it. She is not afraid of anything and it started the day we brought her home. She came out of the box with confidence, which caused our other full-grown cat, Bagheera, to run and hide. Now they love each other and make great playmates. We always catch her with her tongue sticking out like the pictures of the Hindu Kali, living up to her namesake.

She is a hilarious big girl who gives us lots of love and has a nonstop purr-box.



Absolute Delight!

Just a note to thank you for putting Arrluk in our lives! He is an absolute delight...he sits, lays, stays, shakes and high-fives! He goes to Biscuit Acres at Hunter Park just about every night. He enjoys meeting new friends but is a little shy at first.



Sue's Journey

By Marcy Spence

Wade Farnan, Tulsa SPCA Cruelty Investigator, was the first person to help Sue on her journey of rescue, healing and finding her new family. From the first minute Sue met Wade she was a docile and loving girl. It all started when a concerned citizen alerted Wade about an emaciated dog with a large wound in her back abandoned at Keystone Lake. This helpful lady assisted Wade in rescuing the starving pup who rushed her immediately to the Tulsa SPCA to treat

her severely injured body. Although badly wounded, the little Lab mix was calm and cheerful, and upon her arrival she bounded out of the car to greet her future. Upon examination, this scared little girl was found to have an 8-inch laceration down her right shoulder that was both wide and deep. Our veterinarian determined that it probably resulted from crawling under a jagged metal shed. During recovery, our clinic staff noticed a lump in her other shoulder which turned out to be a .22 caliber bullet that could not be removed. When spending time with Sue you would never have guessed what a horrible existence this spunky, black Labrador mix had suffered at the hands of humans.

Always a little shy at first but so eager to please, Sue recuperated fully and went through the socialization process at the Tulsa SPCA up to the time she found her forever home... the home of Jason and Traci Gowens and their three children. After making several trips to the Tulsa SPCA to find just the right dog, the Gowens family found the perfect addition to their home. Soon after meeting the Gowens, Sue was sitting for treats and wagging her tail as she played with the children. The family reports that Sue is recovering from her shy ways and has become the family protector (from strangers and moles!), takes frequent walks with the children and loves to toss toys in the air to catch and protect them. A once starving dog has even become a dog-food gourmand - expecting a little flair in her food - but still a grateful, happy dog thankful for a safe and loving home where at last she no longer has to roam.

