

Tracks



 Fall 2022

The Tulsa Society for the Prevention
of Cruelty to Animals Newsletter

**We speak for those who
cannot speak for
themselves.**

The Tulsa SPCA's mission is to
improve the lives of dogs and cats
and their human companions.



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happy tails

Active Dogs Are Happy Dogs

In May 2022, Ruger was surrendered to the Tulsa SPCA because he was being bullied by other dogs in his home. His owner didn't feel it was a safe environment for him, and made the difficult decision to give him to the Tulsa SPCA in an effort to find a home that would be a better fit.



Just one week later, that perfect home was found. Ruger's name was changed to Riggs and the adventures began. His new mom, Tarjei, told us this about Riggs: "I adopted Riggs in May and he has been living it up! We took a road trip from Oklahoma to Montana to visit family and he has loved every second of it!"

Riggs has been very active since being adopted. Tarjei told us about Riggs' favorite activities. "He loves to swim, go on car rides, walks, and loves every person and dog he meets," she said. "He is so sweet, smart, and playful. He has made my life so amazing just in the past couple months and I am so thankful for him!"

Riggs is one lucky pup, and we couldn't be happier for him!

Couch Cuddles

Bianca was found as a stray with her kittens. They were brought to the Tulsa SPCA and after spending time helping her babies to thrive, Bianca was ready to be adopted to a family of her own with her motherly duties behind her forever.

Matthew and Rachel Palmer were ready and waiting for her, and Bianca was adopted about a month after entering the shelter. At first, she was a little shy.

Bianca has been doing well," said Rachel, her two-legged mom, a few weeks after Bianca was adopted. "Her personality has come out fully now that

Continued on page 3



2022 by the Numbers

through Sept 2022



4,615

Spay/Neuter Surgeries



95

Dentals & Other Surgeries



14,649

Vaccines



11,169

Animals Seen



6,615

Wellness Exams



2,739

Microchips



1,184

Animals Placed



18,820

Pounds of Food
Distributed



1,226

Animals Brought
Into our Program



814

Cruelty/Neglect
Investigations



Continued from page 1

she's comfortable and used to my schedule. She still spends a lot of her time napping or relaxing, but she has also become very playful and enjoys when I come home from work. She grabs one of her favorite toys for us to play with."

Cats make great companions, and Bianca is no different. "Bianca has been a total sweetheart since she's come home with us," Rachel continues. "We enjoy coming home to her soft little "meows" she gives to greet us — and she's a total cuddle bug in the evenings when I am lounging on the couch. We are truly blessed to have been introduced to her, and I love her with all my heart."



VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT

Nicole Nedom

Q: Tell us a little about yourself and any pets you have at home.

I'm originally from Connecticut but have lived in Tulsa for almost 15 years. I'm a stylist at a local salon but also a national Hair Color Educator for Aveda. I travel and teach about Aveda Hair Color, and also the latest in hair color trends and techniques. I live in Tulsa with my husband, our now four poodles and our Sphynx (hairless) cat.

Q: How did you get involved with the Tulsa SPCA and how long have you been volunteering?

I started volunteering with the Tulsa SPCA in early July when I learned about the Standard Poodles being brought in from the puppy mill/hoarding situation in Ada. I'm allergic to most animals, but my parents had a poodle before they had me, so I've always been ok with them. (This also explains why I have a hairless cat!) Seeing those sweet dogs and reading about how much help the Tulsa SPCA needed — along with feeling a bit powerless about the state of the world — I saw this as a way I could do something meaningful to help my community. I spent a lot of time socializing with the poodles, but since they were all adopted, I now spend most of my volunteer time not in direct contact with animals. I like working at the shelter desk and at the vaccine clinic. But if I see an adorable dog, it's worth a few sneezes!

Q: What is a favorite Tulsa SPCA memory?

My very favorite Tulsa SPCA memory was when my husband first met Ruby (a standard Poodle) and we brought her home! I had really bonded with her through volunteering, but she was on a medical hold. When she was cleared and put up for



adoption, I convinced my husband she had to be a part of our family. I've always wanted a standard poodle, so I was happy that they met and instantly took to each other!

Q: Why would you encourage others to volunteer at the Tulsa SPCA?

The Tulsa SPCA staff is so amazing and helpful and the organization is top notch. It's great to see a team of people that genuinely care so much about the animals they serve. If you love animals and are looking for a way to make a difference in your local community I would recommend giving the Tulsa SPCA a try! There are so many ways you can help — from direct pet care and socialization, to helping with the vaccine clinic where you can help people get what they need to have happy and healthy pets. It's rewarding and fun, and even the smallest acts can make a big difference.

A Rescue for the Records

By Louann Buhlinger

In what was expected to be a standard rescue of 10 or so dogs in a neighboring community, the Tulsa SPCA took on the herculean effort of saving 64 standard poodles, doodles and Bernese Mountain Dogs from a single-family home in southern Oklahoma this summer.

The dogs were living at a home in Pontotoc County owned by an elderly woman who had previously been a breeder but was recently widowed and unable to fully care for the animals. "The rescues were in bad shape when they arrived," said Mindy Tiner, Tulsa SPCA CEO. "All were matted and most had health problems including fleas and ticks, anemia, infections and lacerations."

Tulsa SPCA's involvement started at the request of the Oklahoma Alliance for Animals (OAA) who initially assisted law enforcement with the cruelty case after several dead dogs were found on the street outside the property. OAA contacted the Tulsa SPCA for help with transporting the dogs, grooming, healthcare, housing and adoption. "When we help in areas far outside of Tulsa, it is a larger scale cruelty situation where the community doesn't have many resources," said Tiner.

With no hesitation, the team stepped into action to rescue and treat the animals. Clinic Manager Erin Johnson and Animal Connections Manager Lauren Holder traveled to the

home near Ada to collect the dogs and bring them back to Tulsa. During this time, Renee Russell, Tulsa SPCA Vice President of Operations, began readying the campus, staff and volunteers to treat, groom and house the animals.

Upon arrival, each dog's health was assessed, and treatment was given by the medical team headed up by Dr. Megan Buford, Dr. Cristen Thomas and Erin Johnson. "The dogs required vaccinations and deworming due to flea and tick infestation," said Johnson. "And we checked their eyes and skin for infections and lacerations." The Tulsa SPCA's main goal was to help the dogs get medically comfortable as soon as possible which they achieved within 72 hours. "We saw an immediate improvement in the dogs' physical and emotional well-being," said Johnson.

The community responded to the news of the rescues immediately through gifts of cash and in-kind goods including food, collars, leashes and toys. Others were quick to volunteer to work with the dogs providing assistance with grooming, caretaking and facility upkeep. In fact, more than 140 volunteers served a total of 746 hours over the initial two-week period. "The community overwhelmed us with their hands on assistance and the financial generosity for these dogs," said Tiner.

The Tulsa SPCA took on the herculean effort of saving 64 standard poodles, doodles and Bernese Mountain Dogs from a single-family home in southern Oklahoma this summer.



Crissy before (left) and after (right)



Beaker before (left) and after (right)



Briar before (left) and after (right)

Soon after, the rescues were ready for foster and adoption with fosters coordinated by Director of Community Engagement Taylor Roepke, and adoptions managed by Lauren Holder and Animal Placement Specialist Reagan Fleming. To date, all the dogs have been adopted with one remaining in foster care.

There are so many success stories among the rescues including Ruby who was adopted in August. She was one of the last to leave the Tulsa SPCA because she was frightened of people. Today, she loves to romp and play with her new fur siblings and toys. While she's still learning to trust, she improves every

day. The same is true for Lulu who now is walked daily by her family through Maple Ridge in Tulsa.

"The rescue of the dogs from Pontotoc County made up some of our toughest days at the Tulsa SPCA," Tiner said. "It was physically, mentally and emotionally difficult, but the staff was able to get through it because we could see an immediate improvement in the lives of the dogs."

And after all, that's what makes the Tulsa SPCA so special. The level of commitment by the volunteers and staff surpasses expectations every day of the week. And, you can hear it in the happy barks of the grateful rescues.

The Importance of Legacy Gifts in Estate Planning

By Kelly M. Hunt, Estate, Probate and Trust attorney

Estate planning can be a difficult and emotional process. For many, this leads to a lack of even basic planning, such as wills, powers of attorney, or advanced directives. Yet, these are important tools for helping both you and your loved ones know your wishes when the unthinkable happens.

One way to ease the difficulty of estate planning is to consider charitable gifts, often called legacy gifts. These involve allocating part of your estate to something you care deeply about.

Aside from helping a worthy cause and something you love; legacy gifts can lessen gift and inheritance taxes. This means that, aside from helping your favorite cause, legacy gifts can provide for giving the maximum benefit to those left behind.

Another important part of estate planning is taking care of both our human and non-human loved ones. Fur families are very important, and you want to make sure to plan for both them and others like them. Helping those causes working to care for animals and improve their rights through legacy gifts are an important way of doing so.

The Tulsa SPCA is one such organization which believes that animals deserve love, safety, medical services, and humane care. It understands that

animals give unconditional love and acceptance and need to be taken care of, especially when their human counterparts are no longer around.

The love given by our animals offer improved psychological and physical well-being for both. The Tulsa SPCA makes every attempt to facilitate this special bond through placements, community events, and programs. The Tulsa SPCA also takes animal abuse and neglect seriously, and zealously investigate every report that comes in.

If you care about your fur family and animal welfare in general, a legacy gift to the Tulsa SPCA will ensure that you help an organization whose values align with yours. Since this gift will also minimize the impact of taxes and other costs to your estate, it is an excellent option to your estate plan.

I consider both estate planning and animal welfare to be so important that I offer free basic wills to anyone leaving a legacy gift to the Tulsa SPCA. Any amount helps this amazing organization continue to offer great support to our fur family members. I also offer a discount to those wishing to expand your estate plan to other important items such as powers of attorney, advanced directives, and trusts. Reach out today and help those who can't help themselves.



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Free basic wills to anyone leaving a legacy gift to the Tulsa SPCA and a discount to those wishing to expand their estate plans



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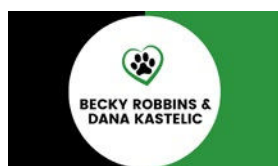
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\$10 per ticket

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6 days/5 nights Big Cedar Lodge Private Cabin

2nd Prize
Pet Portrait by Laura Marrs

3rd Prize
Tulsa SPCA Swag Bag

tulsaspcaspa.org/raffle



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10.27.22


Yappy Meow-er

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308 S. Lansing

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Furever Home!

The Tulsa SPCA Brings Together Families



Birdie



Blush



Bramble



Chia



Clara Bell



Cowboy



Dovie



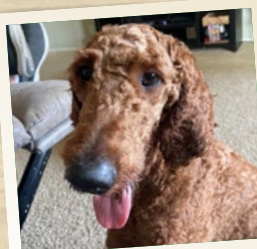
Ezzy



Goose



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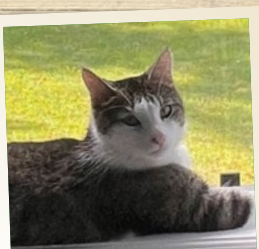
Jerome



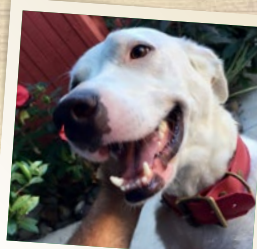
Jini



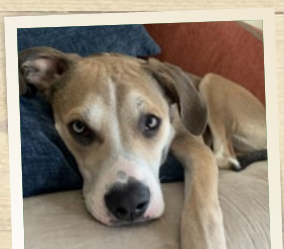
Mango



Martin



Nigel



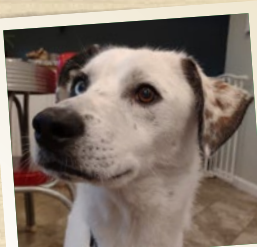
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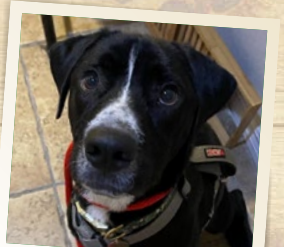
Sage



Togo



Yoshi



Zero

