

Paw Prints – a Volunteer Newsletter

September 2015

No. 17

Dogs in Politics Day, September 23rd



On September 23, 1952, Vice Presidential candidate, Richard Nixon, gave a speech that was called the “Checkers Speech.” He had been accused of improprieties relating to a fund established by his backers to reimburse him for his political expenses. Wanting to defend himself as his place on the Republican ticket was in doubt; he flew to Los Angeles and delivered a half-hour television address. It was in this speech that Nixon stated that regardless of what anyone said, he intended to keep one gift: a black-and-white dog that had been named **Checkers** by the Nixon children, thus giving the speech its popular name.

The “Checkers Speech” was seen, or heard, by about 60 million Americans, including the largest television audience to that time and it led to an outpouring of public support.

With the reference to Checkers the dog in the speech, September 23rd has come to be known as National Checkers and Dogs in Politics Day.

Taken from: <http://nationaldaycalendar.com/national-checkers-day-and-dogs-in-politics-day-september-23/>

FAMOUS OVAL OFFICE PETS

DEMOCRATS

BARACK OBAMA

BO – the Portuguese Water-Dog

BILL CLINTON

SOCKS - Black Tabby

BUDDY – Labrador Retriever

JIMMY CARTER

GRITS – Siamese Cat

LYNDON JOHNSON

J EDGAR - Beagle

HIM – Beagle

HER – Beagle

BLANCO – Collie

JOHN F. KENNEDY

MACARONI – Pony

FRANKLIN ROOSEVELT

FALA – Scottish Terrier

REPUBLICANS

GEORGE W. BUSH

BARNEY – Scottish Terrier

GEORGE H.W. BUSH

MILLIE – Springer Spaniel

RONALD REAGAN

LUCKY - Bouvier des Flandres

REX – King Charles Spaniel

GERALD FORD

LIBERTY – Golden Retriever

SHAN – Siamese Cat

DWIGHT WISEHOWER

HEIDI – Weimaraner

BENJAMIN HARRISON

OLD WHISKERS – Ornery Billy Goat

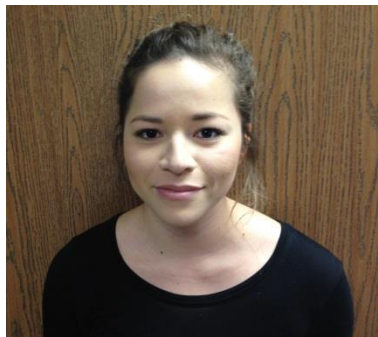
WILLIAM TAFT

PAULINE – Heffer

MOOLY WOOLY – Bull

<http://www.examiner.com/article/national-dogs-politics-day-celebrating-america-s-top-dogs-photos>

My Volunteer Story



By Alyson Gil

I choose to volunteer at the shelter because it feels good to make a difference in the lives of innocent animals. It's a place I look forward to going to because I know that by the time I leave, I've made sure that I've spread some happiness in an animal's life.

You can usually find me in the puppy room. To be able to feed, play, and hold puppies is a simple joy. I always leave wishing I could take at least one home with me. That's the hardest thing about volunteering here. But the good outweighs the bad, in my opinion, because dogs and cats are always getting adopted. And I can say I contributed in some little way to that. I may not be able to adopt one, but other families are doing it and are giving that dog or cat a new home and a new life.

I also see volunteering here as something that comes

SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS

Nicole Palmer	4 th
Chris Hopwood	8 th
Ashley Sessions	11 th
Linda Edwards	20 th
Logan Wilson	29 th
Savanna Garza	29 th

naturally to me. I'd been interested in applying because I knew I had to have some part in it. I've recently taken on a vegan lifestyle. It's changed my perspective on a lot of things, one being how humans should care for animals. Volunteering here has only reaffirmed that awareness and made me even more passionate about respect for all living beings. I also want a big dog of my own at some point. All of my family's dogs have been little, and I've never had a dog to call my own. So, I figured my best bet would be to experience firsthand the not so fun and messy parts of being an owner.

Volunteering here has definitely opened my eyes to the hard work and commitment that is required. Until that day comes when I have my own



pup, I'll stick to caring for furry babies here.

Alyson has been with the shelter since the beginning of 2015 and has worked with the pups now for 96 hours.

WE NEED TOWELS & NEWSPAPERS!!!

Kern County Animal Services is in dire need of bath towels & newspapers. The towels are used for soft bedding for the cats and dogs.

The newspapers are used in our puppy cages to help eliminate waste and cross contamination issues. Needless to say, we go through a lot of newspapers daily!

Please spread the word about our needs!

PETCO HELP!

You may have heard of our partnership with Petco. We need some adults that have the mornings free that can help us out. Contact the Volunteer Coordinator immediately for more information.



Coordinator's Corner

As we begin football season (for those who like football and haven't figured out that you SHOULD be following the Green Bay Packers), it is also a time to reflect and wish well a couple of volunteers who will be leaving us for college and bigger and better things.



Kayla Maddon was one of the first volunteers I had the opportunity to recruit,

train and join our team. Kayla was one of the first socializers with our shelter and now she is heading off to college this fall. Congrats to you Kayla as you head off to Agnes Scott College in Georgia.



Gabby Salazar was also an early volunteer who started with us in May of 2014. A socializer for the shelter making sure our animals get some time in the play yard. Gabby has also been to some of our adoption events, helping animals find their forever homes. Gabby will be heading off the Cal State Long Beach to start her Political Science classes.



Molly Calvin started with us in December of 2014 and has accumulated about 240 hours of service to the animals here at the shelter.

She is a puppy specialist and has been essential to us at clinics. Molly leaves us for the mountains and snow and will attend Colorado Mountain College and start classes for the Registered Vet Program.

We wish you all the best of luck and don't forget to visit us during your breaks!

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By the time you read this, Chris Hopwood will have left us. We are saddened to see him leave, but very proud to know he has joined the ranks as one of the newest and greatest ACW's of KCAS.

Chris has been a volunteer with us since June of 2014 and has logged in more the 100 hours of time with us.

Congratulations Chris!

*We will be rolling out some new procedural changes and adjustments over the next few weeks for cats and puppies. These will not be major changes, but are crucial to help combating cross contamination issues that seem to surface from time to time. Please make sure to pay close attention to them and as always, let me know if you have any questions about the changes.*