

VOLUNTEER VOICES



AN RCDAS VOLUNTEER NEWSLETTER
RIVERSIDE EDITION

Volunteer of the Month Shalee Babis



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2015

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Volunteer of the Month

By Melissa Garcia



Shalee has been volunteering with the Department of Animal Services for approximately six months and started due to Platt College's Vet Tech requirement. Although volunteering is a requirement, she says that she has come to love it. Shalee's favorite task at the shelter is to socialize with dogs because by doing so for just five minutes can lead to a dog being adopted. One of Shalee's most memorable moments at the shelter occurred when a lady came into the shelter to get a horse but ended up adopting a dog instead. Shalee has pets of her own, which include two dogs named, Bentley and Ellee, and an African Gray Parrot.

Fun Facts

Phobias?

Spiders

If you could be any cartoon character, who would you be?

Sponge Bob Square Pants

Favorite Season?

Winter

Shalee says that she feels good volunteering because doing something simple really helps by making tasks less overwhelming for everyone. When talking about the staff, she says that they are all great, especially Elvira who has been so helpful and does so much for her volunteers. When she tells her friends and family that she volunteers at an Animal Shelter, they all get excited for her.

Shalee's message to the volunteers is: "Just 30 minutes out of your day can really help a dog/cat that has been here for months find a home"



Meet the Staff

By Melissa Garcia

Teresa Garcia

Teresa Garcia is an Accountant II with the Department of Animal Services and has been working here for 2 years. She says that what brought her to the shelter was how worthwhile and beneficial the Department of Animal Services is. Prior to working here, Teresa worked for Riverside County Office on Aging and Riverside Sherriff Department.

Looking out of the second floor window of her office in the Fiscal Department and seeing animals go to their forever homes is one of Teresa's favorite parts of her career at the shelter. Walking, gardening, and hiking are some of Teresa's hobbies outside of the shelter. She has two pet dogs named Snickers and Princess.

Teresa's favorite memories are enjoying the company of foster animals within the Fiscal Department. There is one particular dog named Chico who was first a foster animal and then got adopted by Ana. Now, Chico comes to the office everyday! Teresa said that having animals in the office is great because it helps relieve some work stress and It also makes her day. Teresa wants the volunteers and employees to know that "what we do here is important."



FUN FACTS

FAVORITE MOVIE:

Forrest Gump

FAVORITE COLOR:

Green

FAVORITE RESTAURANT:

The Fish House





Your Fellow Volunteers



By Melissa Garcia



CAREN TAYLOR

Caren has been volunteering with the Department of Animal Services since April of last year and says that she started volunteering because of her decision to change careers and become a vet tech. Caren spends the majority of her volunteering time at the clinic and says that she enjoys the fast paced environment, plus making a difference with the animal population. Caren loves to volunteer because she gets to work with animals and amazing people. One of Caren's most memorable moments at the shelter was when a dog was brought here from the streets with an injured arm that needed to be amputated by one of our Veterinarians. Fortunately, Caren says that the dog turned out fine and went to a rescue organization.

Caren owns multiple cats and dogs, which are named Webster (Chihuahua), Bear (Lab mix), and Alley (cat). Some of Caren's special interests and hobbies include learning about animals, hiking, and being involved in a Civil Rights group so that she can help people.

Caren's message to the volunteers is : "Thank you for volunteering and taking the time to come in and take care of the animals. Keep up the good work and thanks for the effort to help."



Fun Facts

What song best describes you?

Don't Worry Be Happy by Bobby McFerrin

Favorite Drink?

Water

Last Seen Movie?

Fast & Furious 7

Role Model?

Lori, her partner of 15 years.





Your Fellow Volunteers



Brittany Coronado

Brittany has been a volunteer with the Department of Animal Services for approximately a month and decided to start volunteering because of her love for animals and desire to help them with anything she could possibly do. At the shelter she walks the dogs to relieve their stress and socializes with dogs and cats so that they can become more loving than they **already are.** **Brittany's favorite task is to** spend time with the dogs and to take them out on walks. Brittany says that her most memorable moments at the shelter have been the times when she takes the dogs out, sits with them, and they start rolling all over her while showing her their love and care for what volunteers do.

Brittany's talents include doing hair and makeup, which she plans on going to school for once she graduates. Playing softball and volunteering at the shelter are some of her hobbies. Brittany has four Chihuahuas and three **cats.** **Her dog's names are** Misty, Sadie, Joey, and Zoey and her cats are named Mama, Lucky, and Angel.



FUN FACTS

Favorite Car?

2014 Chevy Camaro

Favorite Sport & Team?

Baseball & The Angels

Phobias?

Spiders and Snakes

Favorite Color?

Teal

Favorite Song?

Crazy For You by Kalin & Myles



Shelter HAPPENINGS

MEGAN'S BIRTHDAY TOUR



Shelter HAPPENINGS

Employee Awards



Shelter HAPPENINGS

AFA Children's Ceremony



Shelter HAPPENINGS

St. Patrick's Day Potluck



Shelter HAPPENINGS

Art for the Animals Live Auction



Shelter HAPPENINGS

Dog Olympics



New Volunteers

Mariam Abusharar	Pedro Martinez	Danali Robles
Elsa Mae Argumedeo	Alexandra McBride	Mayra Salazar
Christine Bautista	Patrick McElroy	Nathan Anthony Solis
Raelyn Chumley	Anayeli Mendez-Sanchez	Geneses Soto
Sarah Fisher	Jasmin Munoz	Ellen Summerour
Vincent Furman	Gilbert Murillo	David Valadez
Evelyn Gonzalez	Hannah Myatt	Jose Vasquez
Camille Hawkins	Alexandra Orozco	Rene Villanueva
Adrian Hernandez	Ruchir Patel	Roman Williamson
Taylor Jarrett	Mariela Perez	Morgan Wray
Catherine Johnson	Kristen Reed	Viktoreja Zavala
Lizeth Lopez	Desi Robba	
Bianca Lopez	Juliet Robba	

Be Sure to Seek Out & Welcome Our New Volunteers!!



Birthdays



Joanna Fuerte	3/1	Miranda Harris	3/12	Noemi Cerda	3/25
Leslie Mills	3/1	Charlene McKinley-Powell	3/13	Sarai Gomez	3/26
Virjo Rozon	3/1	Melissa Richardson	3/14	Bayley Lawrence	3/26
Priscilla Saunders	3/2	Adam Rivera	3/14	Jennifer Alphin	3/27
Christine Risto	3/3	Emily Anderson	3/15	Carolyn Badger	3/27
Karen Sanchez	3/4	Samuel Barajas	3/15	Samantha Cruz	3/28
Marisa Adams	3/6	Deanna Carlson	3/16	Chela Owens	3/28
Rachel Hale	3/6	Lynn Anderson	3/19	Desirae Perez	3/28
Jasmine Jones	3/6	Susan Lepidi	3/19	Ariel Sepulveda	3/28
Kara Billinger	3/7	Temothy Parsons	3/19	Alexandra Callahan	3/29
Ronesha Eason	3/7	Rochelle Vargas	3/19	Latisha Plance	3/29
Madison Vicario	3/7	Sandra Herrera	3/20	Cynthia Barrios	3/30
Zulema Fleck	3/8	Jade Lechuga	3/20	Yvette Gildo	3/30
Perry Sanchez	3/9	Lisabeth Santana	3/21	Matthew Haddad	3/30
Emily Cota	3/11	Kelly Stark	3/21	Heather Hutchinson	3/30
Lauren Dattilo	3/11	Jeffrey Writer	3/21	Melissa Gutzwiller	3/31
Erika Ortiz	3/11	Jasmin Portillo	3/22	William Jauregui	3/31
April Pantell	3/11	Kaitlyn Rush	3/24		

Please take a moment to congratulate these volunteers for their dedication to the animals.

Animal Trivia

Did You Know?



Red-Eyed Tree Frogs have bright red eyes to shock their predators eyes!

The **American Crocodile's** average life span in the wild is 70 years and can weigh up to 2,000 pounds!



King Cobra snakes can reach 18 feet in length, making them the longest of all venomous snakes!



"Quote"



"Every once in a while a dog enters your life and changes everything"



-Anonymous



Thoughts? Opinions? Ideas?
We want to hear it!!
Contact your Volunteer Coordinator.

www.rcdas.org