

#86 – HSHA VOLUNTEERS' MATTERS – November 23, 2015

ATTACHMENTS: pdf of this issue; Holiday Open House flyer/poster; Magical Season of Giving flyer; Friendly's flyer {Feel free to print/post/share these flyers as you wish or are able.}



HOLIDAY VOLUNTEER HOURS – 7-10AM – Thanksgiving Day (Thurs., 11/26)

Have an enjoyable day with your family and friends!

At HSHA, we're thankful for all of our dedicated and committed volunteers. Your work on behalf of our organization – whether you handle our resident animals, do their laundry, stuff their kongs, or foster or help at our Clinics or events – makes it possible for more of our residents to find loving forever homes and for HSHA to offer programs and services to the communities we serve. THANK YOU, not only during this season but also throughout the year!

A letter from Volunteer Carla Gomora:

Dear Fellow Volunteers,

You will see a notice in the volunteer room that we are starting our yearly collection of small stocking stuffer items for the gift bags from the volunteers to our shelter employees. They work long hours and are often short-handed but deliver great care to our furry companions. A designated gift box will be in the volunteer room and will be checked regularly for donations.

We will pick a date to stuff the bags- details to follow. Anyone is welcome to help with putting the donations together as well as handing out the gift bags. I will let you know the date picked for that as well.

Items to consider donating: ^Chapstick

*^Gift cards in any amount ^Gloves ^Socks
^Lottery tickets ^Candy ^Gum ^Granola bars
^Any other items for a small gift bag*

Thank you all for all you do! I hope to see you around the shelter. If you need more information, you can call me @ 717-440-5060 or email me at cgomora@comcast.net.

QUARTERLY MEETING – Wed., 12/9 – 6:00 at Isaac's in Lemoyne. \$15. to me as your RSVP, please, by 12/6. (This includes food, beverage, tax, tip.) Because last year's gift exchange* was so well-received and enjoyable, we'll do that again this year. No real formal agenda, but we'll definitely talk about any questions, etc. you might have.

**For those of you who missed last year, please bring a \$5-10 gift (wrapped or bagged) that would be nice for anyone – male or female; any-species fancier; old or young.*

CONGRATS TO CYNTHIA KESSLER!

Cynthia was recognized at this year's Fur Ball as HSHA's 2015 Volunteer of the Year. She was selected based on her long service to HSHA in many capacities. Cynthia can be found tackling laundry, socializing cats, and walking dogs. She also is SAFER-trained. She attends many of our Quarterly meetings, and she has reached out to her municipality to encourage them to contract with HSHA for cats as well as dogs. ~~ We are truly grateful for all that Cynthia contributes to HSHA! Her name is being added to the perpetual plaque, so please watch for that – and pass along your own congratulations to her the next time you see her around the shelter.

OCTOBER'S HSHA TOP TEN!

☆Nancy Abt ☆Masha Cameron ☆Tim Delp
☆Dave Falgoust ☆Bill Gordon
☆Betty Harris ☆Sally Hitz
☆Monica Knopf Gail Kulp ☆Kim Lowe
☆Claudia Luci ☆Wendy Massar
☆Karen Spidle ☆John Swager
☆Marcie Warner ☆Lois Yeager

Our monthly **HSHA TOP TEN** recognizes each Volunteer who logged at least 10 days the previous month. October's **HSHA TOP TEN** are among the 117 Volunteers who logged hours at least once that month. Please remember to log your time because everyone's contributions to and support of HSHA are valued.

THANK YOU to EVERYONE who actively support HSHA, and **CONGRATULATIONS** to October's **HSHA TOP TEN!!!**

LAUNDRY TEAM OPENINGS – Please see Cathy Hartwick about times/days this critical Volunteer Team needs help. A couple of the regulars are out on ‘medical leave’ – *PLEASE* consider pitching in!

WELCOME, NEWLY-TRAINED SAFER FOLKS!

The following volunteers completed their SAFER training this month –

Tim Delp ~ Sandy Grant ~ Jen Hirt ~ Wendy Massar ~ Donna Van Zandt ~ Sue Waldschmitt

BAGGING FOOD – Volunteers are asked/encouraged/invited/needed to help bag food! No need to sign up – just ask Mariah or any of the front desk folks for instructions. (This practice is continuing as another effort to combat illnesses/cross-contamination.)

FRIENDLY'S FUNDRAISER – Cindy Kable has organized another great fundraiser for our Shelter Buddies – **Thursday, 12/3**, from 4-9PM @ the High Pointe Commons Friendly's (by Target/Penney's)– NO TICKET, ETC. needed – just grab a friend, come out, have a bite to eat, run into some HSHA pals AND support HSHA! ☺

DONATION BIN ITEMS – Please do NOT take things out of the donation bins, regardless of how small or seemingly insignificant they might seem. We have to record all in-kind donations (and can actually get in trouble for not doing that) – so this reminder is going to all volunteers (and staff). *THANKS!*

MAGICAL SEASON OF GIVING – NOW THROUGH DEC. 7 – Colonial Park Mall – Shop as you would normally, then just present receipts to Guest Services – and earn points for HSHA! Top 2 organizations at the end will win a \$1,000 cash donation from the Mall! Each shopper may enter to win a Mall gift card, just for participating. Mondays & Tuesdays are double point days; Mall Gift Card purchases are triple points anytime. These cannot be combined. (Santa arrives on Nov. 21!) On Tues., 12/1, Santa will be ready for a free photo with your favorite pet.

TOMBSTONES – These memorialize peoples' pets. Allowing our dogs to urinate on them is disrespectful.

REPEATING ... REPEATING ... REPEATING ...

STEPPING BACK & STEPPING UP - After more years than she cares to remember, **Linda Little** has decided to ease up on her volunteer duties and pass the **Laundry Team Leader** torch to **Cathy Hartwick**. Our deepest gratitude to Linda for being at the helm of this critical Team and doing everything possible to keep that area running smoothly and efficiently. Linda promises to continue to help with Laundry when needed and to remain an active Shelter Buddy, so this isn't 'goodbye' at all. ~~~ As for Cathy – Thank you for stepping up! You're gonna be great!

SIGNAGE THROUGHOUT THE SHELTER – Each of you is responsible for reading/following all signage for the health and safety of the animals and people alike. If you have a question, check with a manager.

1) SEE SOMETHING – 2) SAY/DO SOMETHING – THEN 3) REPORT IT – If you see anyone doing something incorrectly or unsafely, speak up. Get the animal out of harm's way. If it's a volunteer or staff member, this also is a good time to introduce yourself and get the other person's name. This does not have to be – and should not be – a confrontational situation. Think of it as doing something *for* the animal not *to* the person. Then let a manager or me know – who, what, when, etc.

HSHA WEBSITE EVENT INFO – feel free to clip/save/share these quick instructions ☺

>Click on **EVENTS** on the homepage.

>Click on **CURRENT EVENTS** - This takes you to a list of 'buttons' for our own annual events (Penguin Plunge, Shelter Sweetheart Week, etc.)

Click on the **button** for the event you want more details/info about.

>Click on **EVENTS CALENDAR** – This takes you a 'regular' calendar with such things as offsite events we'll be at, our low-cost Clinics, other events here at the shelter.

Click on the **specific event** you're interested in to see more details – location, time, etc.

NO TURKEY – Our vets have asked that our residents do not have turkey this holiday season due to the digestive upsets. (They noted that we lost 2 kittens last year who broke with profound fetid diarrhea when anesthetized for surgery - likely from a secondary potassium imbalance.) A turkey-flavored made in the USA dog or cat treat would be ok, if it is felt they need to have something.

On the other hand ...

EAR TICKLES AND BUTT RUBS – No calories – hypoallergenic – healthy – no known side effects – no history of recalls – mutually beneficial - enjoyed by both giver and receiver – never run out – good for any species – no need to read a label or fine print - just sayin'

WORKPLACE GIVING - For Federal and State employees + any other employers that will match contributions made to charitable organizations. Check with your human resources office about that. Spread the word to let others know how much their support is needed and appreciated!

The codes for HSHA are: >CFC (Combined Federal Campaign) – 77697

>SECA (State Employees Combined Appeal) – 4401-0027

>United Way – 3022

WEBSITE TO CHECK OUT - <http://www.cdc.gov/healthypets/pets/index.html> - Thanks to Volunteer Carla Gomora for sharing!

REMEMBER ...

➔ **HSHA WEBSITE** – Explore it regularly – tons of good info (remember the Current Volunteer Page!) – AND be sure to click on 'Events' at the top of the homepage, then 'Current Events' for the annual/current 'biggies.'

➔ **CURRENT VOLUNTEER PAGE** (under Get Involved on the HSHA website) – Check it out for these documents. Many have been updated, so make sure you're current. *General Volunteer Manual **** Dog Walking Manual **** Cat Socializer Guide **** Event Orientation **** Quiet Kennel Guidelines **** SAFER Manual **** Wish List **** HSHA Volunteers' Matters*

➔ **VOLUNTEER INCENTIVE/REWARD PROGRAM!** How many times will YOUR name be in the fish bowl this quarter? 😊



FACEBOOK – HSHA is there – *Humane Society of Harrisburg Area* – check it out & 'like' it!