

TEAM *times*

TEACHING EVERYONE ANIMALS MATTER

A NON-PROFIT AFFILIATE OF SACRAMENTO COUNTY ANIMAL CARE AND REGULATION

Winter 2009-10

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www.sacanimalshelter.org
www.saccountyshelter.net
Sacramento County Animal Care and Regulation
3839 Bradshaw Road, Sacramento, CA 95821
Shelter Volunteers: 916-875-5848

Outfit your critters at the new Critter Outfitter

Critter Outfitter, TEAM's new retail pet supply and gift store, will be open for business in the new county shelter beginning on Wednesday, December 16, from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m.

By Pat Wilcox, TEAM Founder and Chairperson

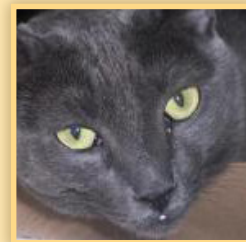
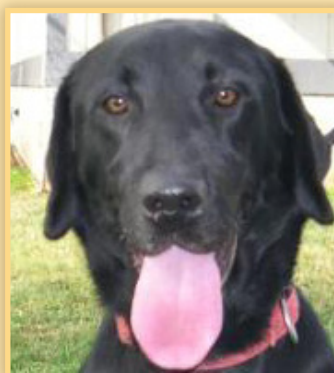
All are invited to stop by and visit our new shop in Sacramento County's beautiful new shelter, now at 3839 Bradshaw Road, next to Safetyville.

Critter Outfitter will offer all types of pet-related items to help both adopters and members of the public find quality supplies for their animal companions. The competitively priced pet products and supplies will include such items as bowls, litter pans, leashes and ID tags, as well as a range of toys and gift items. Proceeds from the store will help provide medical care and comfort items for the shelter's animals.

The store will be open five days a week: Wednesday, Thursday and Friday, from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m., and on Saturday and Sunday from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. It will be closed on holidays and on Mondays and Tuesdays, when the shelter is closed. New merchandise will continually be available.

TEAM, Teaching Everyone Animals Matter, is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization that also raises funds to sponsor and support animal adoption programs at offsite locations, including the FUR (Friends of Unwanted Rabbits) adoption program at two PetsMart stores in Folsom, the LAPCATS adoption program at PetsMart at the Elk Grove-Laguna store, and a dog adoption program at the Rancho Cordova PetsMart store. TEAM also underwrites flea treatment for all of the dogs and cats taken into the shelter, funds monthly spay/neuter clinics, provides funding for the special medical needs of the shelter's animals and promotes special offsite adoption events managed by shelter volunteers. TEAM was founded in 1997.

Please join us for the opening of our new Critter Outfitter shop on December 16 and support TEAM's efforts to help shelter animals.



Note: The TEAM board would like to extend its sincerest appreciation to longtime, and now former, board member Jill Telfer for her exceptional work on behalf of Critter Outfitter. Her business expertise and dedication to the retail store project was invaluable from the beginning. And that was just a part of all that she contributed to TEAM during her tenure on the board. Jill's professional assistance to the board and commitment to shelter animals will be missed. Thank you, Jill! 🐾

TEAM'S newest endeavor: Critter Outfitter

As the plan for the new shelter began to evolve, TEAM's board members came up with the idea of an on-site retail store to further the mission of raising funds to treat and care for some of the shelter's sick and injured animals. An additional, and equally important, goal was to make shelter animals more adoptable by offering quality pet-related merchandise in a convenient location.

Now, after many months of hard work, the idea of an in-house retail shop is soon to be a reality.

The store will be open to both adopters and the general public looking to purchase quality items for their pets, and will be run entirely by volunteers.

"It's really exciting to see our Critter Outfitter pet supply store and gift shop coming together," says Pat Wilcox, TEAM's founder and chairperson. "It's going to fit so well in our beautiful new shelter. And it's amazing how the right new volunteers show up just at the right time to play a part in getting everything in place."

Anyone interested in helping out at the new shelter store can contact Pat Wilcox at pwilcox@jps.net for more information. 🐾

– Craig Carnes and Dan Baxter, TEAM board members

Donate to TEAM with PayPal, available on our website at www.sacanimalshelter.org. Thank you!

Calling all "Critter Tipsters"

Blow the whistle on animal abuse—and be eligible for a reward

TEAM, in partnership with the county Department of Animal Care and Regulation (AC&R), has a program in place to reward those who "blow the whistle" on animal abuse and neglect in our community. It's called "Critter Tip."

Through the "Critter Tip" program, TEAM will pay up to \$500 to the first person who alerts county AC&R when animals are:

- abused, neglected or put in life-threatening situations;
- subjected to situations that result in animal injury or death;
- cause animals to be confiscated by AC&R;
- involve a combination, or all, of the above.

Those animal cruelty cases that are ultimately referred to the District Attorney's Office are eligible for "Critter Tip" rewards, and TEAM will work with AC&R staff to evaluate reward candidates on a case-by-case basis. Rewards will be paid when formal charges are filed by the District Attorney. Tipsters can choose to remain anonymous.

TEAM urges everyone to help protect the health and safety of the animals in our community by being alert and getting involved when animals are in trouble. **All reports of animal abuse/neglect should be made immediately to the Sacramento County Department of Animal Care and Regulation at 916-368-7387.** 🐾
Animal Care and Regulation:
www.saccountyshelter.net
TEAM: www.sacanimalshelter.org

TEAM funds a series of spay-neuter clinics targeting low-income residents

Last spring, TEAM launched a series of monthly spay/neuter clinics targeting low-income pet owners throughout the county. The clinics were scheduled on Sundays at the shelter to maximize participation, and pet owners were charged a low flat \$20 fee for the surgery services, which also included vaccinations.

Veterinary services for the clinics, underwritten by TEAM grant funds, were organized and scheduled by the shelter's volunteer coordinator, Celeste Ingrid, who also found second- and third-year UC Davis veterinary students as well as technicians from the Blue Cross Veterinary Hospital to assist. Shelter and TEAM volunteers, working in morning and afternoon shifts, handled intake and discharge duties.

During the first clinic, seven dogs and eight cats were altered. Eleven dogs and six cats were altered at the second, and 14 at the third, including three female pit bulls, one of whom had been bred multiple times.

A fourth clinic in October focused on foster animals, so as to make them "adoption-ready," and included a foster pit bull, three foster cats, a shelter Boxer mix and a shelter cat. The October tally also included five owned cats and one owned Chihuahua mix.

TEAM clinics will resume in the new year. 🐾



A new roof — and a new life — for Robinson

By Donna Cicogni, TEAM Board Member

The first time I met Robinson, he had joined the other neighborhood strays for the free meals I provided. My house is a popular free food stop-off. Robinson is really quite beautiful. I didn't know then that he is a "Rag Doll," a breed I was not familiar with. He became a regular, and even though he wasn't very friendly, I looked forward to seeing him for mealtimes.



Robinson's cat condo

I personally believe the answer to the feral cat and stray problem is TNR—trap, neuter and release—but Robinson is wily and I couldn't catch him for two years. Then one lucky day, Robinson was at my door, and with the help of a cat-loving neighbor I managed to get him into a trap.

On the way to the vet, Robinson snuggled into the blanket, enjoying the air conditioning and purring. Then, after a thorough checkup, came the bad news: Robinson tested positive for feline leukemia. The vet told me he could re-check Robinson in eight weeks and that sometimes the re-check comes back negative. Despite limited funds, I was willing to pay for a foster home for him for the eight weeks. Unfortunately, I couldn't find one. My vet agreed to keep Robinson for three days.

Now what do I do? I couldn't release him because he'd be contagious to other cats. I couldn't bring him into the house because I have other cats of my own. I finally figured out a plan: I would build Robinson a house. He could live there for the eight weeks, and if the re-test came back negative, I would open the door and Robinson could come and go. If it came back positive, the house would be Robinson's forever home.

With my ideas and the help of one of my husband's friends, we built a beautiful home for Robinson. (Actually, we converted an old spa gazebo.) Robinson now has a couch, a rug, a cat tree, a heater, a lamp and a view of the back yard.

I don't know how long Robinson has, but he and I are going to enjoy every minute of it. 🐾

Just in time for the holidays...50% of the proceeds from the sale of selected PartyLite candles will be directed to TEAM and its ongoing animal aid programs. To find out more about this exceptional PartyLite benefit for TEAM, contact Toni at tonibaxter@gmail.com, or at 916-450-1233.

Also, **custom-made cat trees** are now available! Mention the beautiful cat trees in the habitat rooms at the new county shelter, and 10% of the purchase price will be donated to TEAM's LAPCATS program. Details: Pat and Dana Maroney, 916-782-9663, pdmaroney@surewest.net or Barbara@stagedtomove.com

How TEAM Helps the Animals – 2009 Year to Date

Revenue (contributions, grants, special events, adoptions, interest)	\$ 53,029
Special medical needs, foster care, adoption promotions (3 PetSmart locations), spay/neuter, animal-related expenses (cooling unit, flea/tick control, leashes, habitat room furnishings)	33,932
New Shelter Grand Opening (retail store startup costs; sponsor brochures/tiles)	5,581
Community outreach and education (Safetyville display, web site)	1,490
Miscellaneous (insurance, volunteer t-shirts, sales tax, bank charges, postage, printing)	6,832