

Paw Prints

The Volunteer Newsletter – Spring/Summer 2021

PAW PRINTS YOUR VOLUNTEER VOICE

Welcome to Paw Prints, TVAR's volunteer newsletter. We would welcome your feedback – whether that be in the form of articles what you would like to see highlighted in the newsletter; volunteers you would like to see spotlighted – and the list goes on. As always – thank you ALL for ALL that you do for these deserving animals. Without each of you – so many more would be lost.

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*A message from your Board of
Directors to TVAR Fosters,
Volunteers, and Employees*

TVAR & Covid 19 update



2020 and early 2021 have been difficult, to say the least. While keeping our fosters and shelter volunteers and employees safe, we have continued to foster and adopt out kittens, cats, dogs, and puppies. Our one-on-one adoption meet and greets have been successful but much more time consuming and difficult. The Shelter hours have been reduced but our seasoned group of volunteers have continued to help socialize and facilitate adoptions. The Board wants to thank and recognize our dedicated volunteers who throughout this difficult time continue to give their hearts and time to save all these deserving animals. Without you the animals would never have had a second chance. We are hopeful that soon we may be back to some form of normalcy and again be able to hold adoption events and have our kittens at PetSmart and PetFood Express.

Oklahoma.....OK!

With feelings of deep Gratitude but also deep Loss, we say goodbye to **Gary and Jan Zeigler**, long time volunteers and Friends. Many of you know the Zeiglers and their adorable girl Lacy who they adopted from TVAR in 2012. They have contributed to TVAR in so many ways! They have led our photography team for years and years – and always supported our Farmer’s Market adoption events each and every Saturday. Constant Participants as our photographers at adoption events and the Shelter, they presented our animals in the best possible light helping us get them adopted. Gary also served on TVAR’s Board of Directors and as TVAR’s President. Jan has contributed her wonderful talent as an artist to our auction items at our annual fund raisers. Always upbeat and smiling, they both have been an important part of TVAR’s family and will be missed terribly. As they settle into their new life in Norman, Oklahoma we wish them nothing but the best. We hope they will come back to visit us often and stay in touch from afar.

Bev Terry has graciously agreed to take on the photography lead.



Volunteer Appreciation Event

Unfortunately, we had to cancel our annual volunteer appreciation event last year because of Covid-19. At this time, we are still unsure if we will be able to hold it this year as well. As you know it is our chance to personally thank and acknowledge your tremendous service and sacrifice to help fulfill TVAR’s mission of giving our

animals a second chance. We are hopeful by later this summer the situation will have improved to the point that we may be able to hold an event of some kind. We will keep you posted as the situation unfolds.

TVAR's Annual Fundraiser Gala

We have also postponed our 2021 Fundraising Gala with the hope of being able to hold it again sometime in the future. We were fortunate to have hosted our 2020 event at the end of February last year, just before the shutdown. As you know, we rely on public support to keep our operations going so not being able to fund raise in the usual manner created challenges and difficult decisions for our Board of Directors. We are working hard to replace those funds in other ways but look forward to hosting an event in the future. To do so, we do need volunteers who would like to work with the Board on this annual gala. If you are interested in volunteering, please reach out to Sue James at SueJ@tvar.org



TVAR Board Matters

TVAR's Board of Directors is the governing body of our organization and meets monthly or more frequently as required. The agenda varies depending on the organization's needs at the time, but typically includes discussions on various financial matters, fundraising and donor outreach efforts, and program matters. During the last year much of our attention was on dealing with Covid-19 and its effect on the organization. TVAR's Board of Directors welcomes any comments or suggestions from our volunteers and is always searching for new ways to improve our image and fulfill our mission of saving homeless Dogs and Cats in the Tri-Valley Area and giving them a Second Chance.



Board Spotlight



Meet **Brooke Bruns** our newest Board member. Brooke is a CPA and a Partner at Armanino LLP, the largest independent accounting and business consulting firm based in California. Her specialty is Audit, and she has been involved with many non-profits including the San Francisco SPCA. Brooke is also a member of Armanino's Woman's Advancement Network. She is well versed in animal rescue and a welcome addition to your Board of Directors. Her wealth of knowledge of non-profits and business will be a tremendous help in shaping the future of TVAR's successes. Welcome Brooke!!

Kittens, Kittens, and MORE Kittens



Meet **Jeff Lool**, TVAR's new kitten coordinator and administrator. Jeff was hired in July 2020 at the beginning of the Shelter in Place. Jeff comes to TVAR from the SF Animal Care & Control Department. Starting in 2018 Jeff worked at a Pet hospital in Contra Costa County, where he remains "on call" on his day's off, under the guidance of a Registered Veterinary Technician and a Veterinarian. From 2015-2018 Jeff worked at the East Bay SPCA primarily working with kittens, fosters and the public both during treatments, as well as processing kitten placements.

TVAR is so fortunate to have Jeff on our staff and he works well with the fosters, especially Debby Pedro and Maureen Kennedy who help fill in for Jeff on Jeff's days off. Jeff has an amazing understanding of kitten behavior and is deeply knowledgeable about medical issues that kittens face. Jeff is handling most medical needs, pulling kittens from ECAS, and is working with our volunteer fosters. Through his efforts, the support of our amazing kitten foster volunteers, and with assistance from our pet store partners, TVAR was able to find forever homes for hundreds of kittens during the

2020 Shelter in Place. Jeff is well liked and respected by the Board of TVAR, the Shelter staff and Shelter Veterinarian alike and all the kitten fosters and volunteers. Welcome Jeff!!



Shelter Volunteer Kudos

Meet **Bill Tetard** volunteer extraordinaire. A resident of Danville, Bill started volunteering at the shelter 3 1/2 years ago. At first, he would come a few times a week but once the county went into the Covid shelter-in-place Bill started coming almost daily to help the dogs get out for fresh air and exercise.

Bill's mission at the shelter is to work with dogs that need more socialization and manners to make them more appealing and adoptable. The staff at ECAS have at times asked him to work with some special dogs to help them gain confidence and leash manners.

While Bill loves all the shelter dogs, he has a special place in his heart for Bull Terriers. He worked daily with our white bull terrier, Bailey. When no candidates for adoption happened at the shelter, TVAR was able to find Bailey a spot with Bull Terrier Rescue. Bill loaded Bailey in his truck and made the trip to Petaluma to a kennel that worked with the rescue until Bailey was put in a foster home where he thrived until adopted.

Bill's great attitude and sense of humor is genuinely enjoyed by his fellow volunteers as well as the ECAS staff. Thank you Bill for all you do for the animals!!



Shelter News

NEW YARDS! NEW FENCING! HOORAY! At the direction of Jennifer Wills, Animals Services Supervisor, ECAS has replaced all the fencing at the shelter. And it looks fantastic. The new fencing was critical because it had been dozens of years since TVAR installed the old ones, and many were



rusting and breaking down becoming dangerous for both the dogs and people. There is also new sod to complement the artificial grass recently installed – the small yard by TVAR and the large yard by ECAS.



The yards are now good to go for all seasons. We know the volunteers all appreciate Jenn's efforts and love the upgrade and of course, so do all the dogs and puppies. Thank you Jennifer!!



If you know of anyone who hasn't received a copy of Paw Prints and would like to be added to the mailing/email list please let us know.

TVAR Resources Contact Information

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