



ADOPTION OPTIONS 2014

Monday, April 7, 2014

Holiday Inn and Fogelman Executive Conference Center
at the University of Memphis
330 Innovation Drive, Suite 206, Memphis, TN 38152

Join us! We've brought together some of the most popular presentations and speakers in animal welfare and mixed them with plenty of breaks and networking opportunities. (Please register at least 10 days in advance.)

9:00 am – 9:30 am SIGN IN AND FUEL UP: COFFEE AND DANISH

9:30 am – 9:45 am HOUSEKEEPING AND GETTING TO KNOW YOU

One person from each organization should be prepared to introduce your group. Feel free to bring business cards, brochures, news and/or fundraising items.

9:45 am – 10:15 am WELCOME FROM PETCO FOUNDATION

Susan Rosenberg

Learn how to use the high traffic of Petco stores to increase adoptions for your organization. Other valuable resources to benefit your group that are available through the Petco Foundation and Petco will be discussed.

10:15 am – 11:45 am MARKETING YOUR PETS ONLINE: TIPS AND TRICKS TO INCREASE ADOPTIONS

Melissa Vecera

After a brief look at Petfinder's free service to the animal welfare community, Melissa will review the many benefits, resources and services that Petfinder offers members. This will be followed by a few tips and tricks for increasing adoptions, using Petfinder.

11:45 am – noon BREAK

Noon – 1:30 pm FOSTER FOR SUCCESS: IMPROVING YOUR FOSTER PROGRAM TO SAVE MORE LIVES

Linda Reider

This is a comprehensive workshop, including foster program structure; recruiting and training foster caregivers; selecting animals to foster; managing a simple foster database; matching animals to fosters; supporting foster caregivers; vet care; promoting foster animal adoption, and evaluating success.

1:30 pm – 2:30 pm VEGETARIAN LUNCH, NETWORKING TIME

2:30 pm – 3:45 pm SHELTER MEDICINE 101

Stephanie Janeczko, DVM, MS, DABVP

This workshop will review some of the common challenges shelters and rescue groups face in preventing infectious diseases and keeping the animals in their care healthy. We'll focus on tips and tools that are critical to improving health and welfare, including optimal animal care practices, strategies to reduce disease transmission, health examinations, vaccination protocols and sanitation procedures. A summary of available resources for further information will be provided as well as some time for Q&A to cover those topics most important to you.

3:45 pm – 5 pm TRAINING SHELTER DOGS

Sue Sternberg

Animal welfare professionals have a responsibility to provide true quality of life for each dog in their program. This workshop covers the importance of achieving and maintaining quality of life for dogs in shelters. Training, behavior modification programs, and mental, behavioral and emotional stimulation for dogs will be covered. We will explore some fun and easy ways to train adoptable dogs so they can put their best paw forward. Shelter dogs will be used for demonstration.

Our Speakers

SUSAN ROSENBERG, PETCO FOUNDATION

Susan, who has been with Petco for 15 years, is national grants and disaster relief manager for the foundation and, as such, reviews and makes grant decisions and develops disaster relief practices. She works closely with over 8,000 Petco Foundation charitable partners and over 1,200 Petco stores that manage abandoned pets and adoptions. As a regular presenter at animal welfare conferences and workshops, she is the face of the Petco Foundation. In addition to her responsibilities at the foundation, she is a director for several animal welfare organizations in San Diego and works with disaster relief management organizations nationally. She is also an animal handler for the Animal Rescue Reserve.

MELISSA VECERA, PETFINDER

Melissa is a shelter outreach specialist for Petfinder. She has several years of volunteer experience, including writing press releases and attending meet-and-greet events on behalf of the Mid-Atlantic Great Dane Rescue League, Inc., and hands-on shelter experience at the MDSPCA. She has always loved animals and is continually looking for new ways to help them by spreading the mission of animal welfare. She currently works near Baltimore, MD, and shares her home with a Dachshund named Lily, whom she found on Petfinder.

LINDA REIDER, MICHIGAN HUMANE SOCIETY

Linda Reider is the director of statewide initiatives for the Michigan Humane Society, which operates three open-admission adoption centers and full-service veterinary centers, one satellite adoption center and six offsite cat centers in the greater Detroit area. She works to better connect animal shelters and rescue groups statewide through the Michigan Partnership for Animal Welfare (MPAW) state federation. Linda travels the state, visiting and advising animal shelters and rescue groups, represents MHS on state-level committees, is a founding board member of the Michigan State Animal Response Team and works on pet-related legislation. Linda holds B.S. and M.S. degrees, plus a certificate in nonprofit business and management, and has held various positions in the animal welfare field for the past 28 years. She lives with a bossy old Pekingese and her son's two hairy cats.

STEPHANIE JANEZKO, DVM, MS, DABVP, THE ASPCA

After receiving her DVM from Cornell in 2004, Dr. Janeczko worked in small animal practice with shelters and rescue groups before returning to Cornell as its first shelter medicine resident. She is board certified in canine and feline practice and is a member of the organizing committee for a board specialty in shelter medicine. She is also a certified animal welfare administrator and president of the Association of Shelter Veterinarians. Dr. Janeczko currently works for the ASPCA as senior director of community outreach shelter medicine programs, working locally in NYC as well as nationally to help shelters and animal welfare groups develop and improve their medical programs. She shares her home with her furry family – four wonderful cats and the two best dogs in the world – along with one very understanding husband!

SUE STERNBERG, RONDOUT VALLEY ANIMALS FOR ADOPTION

Sue Sternberg is founder and owner of Rondout Valley Animals for Adoption, a small, open admission animal shelter which serves both the local (upstate New York) community as well as runs national programs. Sue has over 30 years of dog behavior experience, including as a dog control officer, kennel and animal care technician at various shelters, dog trainer and behavior counselor, dog training instructor and temperament evaluator at the ASPCA, boarding kennel owner, veterinary assistant, successful competitor in a variety of dog sports, and teacher of dog trainers. Sue has published many educational guides which can be found at www.greatdogproductions.com. Her latest offering is a book and two-DVD set, "Train to Adopt." Sue has four dogs -- Hop Sing, Bea, Yeoman Rand and Gene Roddenberry -- who are all ruled by one awesome cat, Sanjay Gupta. She is an accomplished fiddle player, an avid mineral and fossil collector, loves Earl Grey tea, and is a major "Stargate Atlantis" fan.

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**A special thanks to our host,
Meows & BowWows Animal Rescue**