

Petfinder^{PRO} ADOPTION OPTIONS

Austin, TX

Friday
October 21, 2016

WYNDHAM GARDEN AUSTIN
3401 Interstate 35 Frontage Rd
Austin, TX 78741

Join us! Petfinder Pro[™]
and Petco Foundation[™]
have brought together
some of the most popular
presentations and speakers
in animal welfare and
mixed them with plenty of
networking opportunities.
Did we mention it's FREE?
Register today at
[pro.petfinder.com/
adoptionoptions](http://pro.petfinder.com/adoptionoptions)
Please register at least
10 days in advance.

**THANK YOU TO OUR HOST,
AUSTIN HUMANE SOCIETY**

Questions? We're here with answers! Just
email us at adoptionoptions@petfinder.com.

9 am – 9:30 am

**SIGN IN AND FUEL UP: COFFEE AND
PASTRIES**

9:30 am – 9:45 am

WELCOME

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 – 10:30 am

GETTING THE MOST OUT OF PETFINDER

MELISSA VECERA

Melissa will review a few of the many benefits and resources that Petfinder Pro offers members. This presentation focuses on various tips and tricks to showcase your adoptable pets in the best light for increasing adoptions. Tips will include everything from taking and posting great pictures, crafting creative pet descriptions, and different ways of promoting pets online, as well as offline.

10:30 am – 11:45 am

SHELTER MEDICINE 101

BRIAN DIGANGI, DVM

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.

11:45 am – 12:45 pm

VEGETARIAN LUNCH, NETWORKING TIME

12:45 pm – 1:15 pm

PARTNERING WITH PETCO FOUNDATION

SUSAN COSBY-JENNINGS

Learn how the Petco Foundation is helping in your community, partnering with organizations like yours to increase lifesaving through its adoption and investment programs.

1:15 pm – 1:45 pm

BREAK

1:45 pm – 2:45 pm

**OVERLOOKED PETS: TRACKING AND
MARKETING THE LONG-TIMERS**

LINDA REIDER

Does your organization always seem to have the same type of pets sitting for longer than others? Are there dogs, cats or other animals that seem to stay...and stay? Luckily, there are ways to identify and move these great, yet sometimes overlooked pets, into adoptive homes. The first step is to know who they are; and the second, is to have a plan in place which focuses on their special attributes to find the right adopters! This presentation will cover both steps and allow for sharing of ideas from the audience too.

2:45 pm – 3:15 pm

BREAK

3:15 pm – 4:30 pm

**SHELTER DOG TRAINING TO RAISE
QUALITY OF LIFE AND ADOPTION RATES**

DAVID MURIELLO

The quality time you get to spend with shelter dogs is minimal, so it is critical to make it count. Don't miss these key training and communication tips that will enhance the mental health of the dogs in your care, improve their behavior and increase their chances of finding a great forever home. This workshop will enhance your skills as a handler and trainer, and the dogs will thank you for it! You will also learn about Temperament through Training - how to identify key behaviors that reveal a dog's personality - both fascinating and invaluable to know. All demos will be LIVE, with local shelter dogs that are unknown to David, so we can all learn together about personality assessment and making training decisions on your feet in real time.

4:30 pm – 5:00 pm

CLOSING REMARKS

Petfinder^{PRO} **ADOPTION OPTIONS**

Austin Speakers

MELISSA VECERA

PETFINDER

Melissa is a shelter outreach specialist for Petfinder. She has 10 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 MD SPCA. Since 2012, in her role as manager of the North American Adoption Options conference series, she has traveled to over 60 different cities to bring the latest animal welfare knowledge to local communities. She calls Maryland home, and shares it with her Dachshund named Lily, her Hedgehog named Olive, and often a foster cat.

BRIAN DIGANGI, DVM, MS, DABVP

UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA

Brian DiGangi is a Clinical Assistant Professor of Shelter Medicine at the University of Florida. He became the first shelter medicine resident to graduate from UF and received his MS in Veterinary Medical Sciences in 2010. Dr. DiGangi has published research on feline adoption, pregnancy detection and immunology. He is board certified in both Canine and Feline Practice and Shelter Medicine Practice by the American Board of Veterinary Practitioners. He has been a member of the Board of Directors of the Association of Shelter Veterinarians since 2010, currently serving as President.

SUSAN COSBY-JENNINGS

PETCO FOUNDATION

Susan Cosby-Jennings is the Director of Lifesaving Programs & Partnerships with the Petco Foundation. Her career in animal welfare includes working at both large and small, urban and suburban, animal control and limited admission shelters. Before coming to the Petco Foundation her last animal sheltering position was Executive Director of ACCT Philly, managing a large, poorly resourced, urban animal control shelter. Prior to that she held roles as President & CEO of the Pennsylvania SPCA, Executive Director of the Animal Welfare Association in NJ, and Chief Operating Officer of the Philadelphia Animal Care and Control Association in PA. Originally coming from the retail field, she has utilized customer service oriented and data driven strategies to improve shelter lifesaving.

LINDA REIDER

BUCKS COUNTY SPCA

Linda Reider is the Executive Director of the Bucks County SPCA in Pennsylvania, an organization that operates two open admission, "no time limit" animal care centers, investigates animal cruelty county-wide, provides 24-hour emergency rescue, and reaches into the diverse communities of the county to improve the lives of animals and their people. 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 31 years. She lives in the woods with her two cats, her patient husband, the foxes and the bears.

DAVID MURIELLO, CPDT-KA

CATCH CANINE TRAINERS ACADEMY

David Muriello is the founder and school director of CATCH Canine Trainers Academy, a national school offering state-licensed certification courses in dog training and behavior. In addition to his firsthand experience training thousands of dogs in private lessons, group classes and behavior workshops, David has extensive experience in hiring and teaching dog trainers. After six years as director of training at Biscuits & Bath (eight locations in New York City), David became the director of operations there, expanding his knowledge of dog care services including day and overnight care, veterinary services, walking, grooming and transportation. David has appeared as a dog expert on ABC-TV's Rachael Ray Show and the Discovery Channel and is regularly quoted in Dog Fancy magazine. When he is not working, his love of the outdoors draws him into long hikes with his Pit Bull/Pointer mix, Hazel, where the two of them love life among the sights and sounds (and scents) of nature.