

# VOLUNTEER NEWSLETTER

June 21, 2022

## THANK YOU FOR VOLUNTEERING

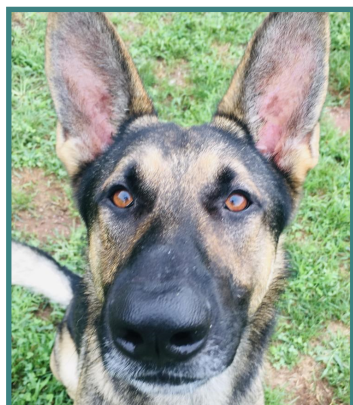
### ORBIT'S STORY

I started volunteering at the York SPCA in August of 2021 after my four-year-old Catahoula Leopard Dog (which was adopted from the York SPCA when he was approximately 4 months old) suddenly became ill and passed. I started as a canine enrichment volunteer which provides mental stimulation for the dogs through games and activities. Being retired I was able to volunteer several days per week and around the middle of August was when I first met Orbit.

German Shepherds have always been one of my favorite breeds and I am also a believer in adoption over buying. I would see him whenever I used the volunteer entrance and as trite as it sounds something in his eyes spoke to me.

No one never really knows the history of an animal that has been brought into the SPCA as a stray and Orbit was no exception. I knew from his time at the shelter that he was not a fan of the kennel so my original plan to crate train him was going to be a challenge. Once home I realized that crating him was not an option even though he would enter the crate on his own once I would attempt to close the door he would panic. The separation anxiety was so severe that I could not leave my house without taking him with me or having someone come sit with him, even attempting to mow my lawn while he was on a tie out in the yard did not work as he needed to be where ever I was, even if it was just 15 feet away.

My Vet placed him on anxiety medicine temporarily and then I started a new training regime. I would leave the house for five minutes to start and slowly increased the amount of time over several weeks. As the time increased so did his trust that I would return. I'm glad to say that it's been ten months now and he has become very comfortable with life in his new home. In closing, I would like to say that all that was needed for a successful adoption was trust, time, patience, and perseverance.



Norm  
Volunteer Supervisor  
Dog Walker

### ANIMAL COUNTS

#### As of June 21, 2022

Total Number of Animals: 304  
Adoptions Last Week: 25

#### Dogs:

Total Canine Count: 78  
Pending Adoption: 7  
Available for Adoption: 31

#### Cats

Total Feline Count: 192  
Pending Adoption: 9  
Available for Adoption: 51

#### Small Animals

Total Ferret Count: 1  
Total Rabbit Count: 7  
Total Guinea Pig Count: 14  
Total Rat Count: 4

Animals are typically categorized as unavailable for adoption for the following reasons:

- They are new to the shelter and undergoing medical procedures, health evaluations, behavioral evaluations, or need some time to decompress.
- They are undergoing a mandatory hold
- They are a SafePet animal seeking refuge in our shelter
- They are protective custody animal cruelty investigation. These dogs are technically not our dogs to adopt out. We are going through the legal system to have the current owner or the court to sign the pet over to us.
- They are pending adoption.
- They are too young for adoption.

## BEAUTIFICATION COMMITTEE

The York County SPCA will be hosting the first work day of our Beautification Committee. Join us on Monday, July 11th from 9AM-12PM to do some much-needed weeding. If you would like to join the Beautification Committee, please reach out to Volunteer Coordinator Bekah Smith at [bsmith@ycspca.org](mailto:bsmith@ycspca.org). Help us make sure our facilities put their best foot forward while welcoming people and animals to the shelter!



## WAGS TO RICHES GALA

Our annual Wags to Riches benefit gala is only a few months away, and we still have sponsorships available and openings for auction items!

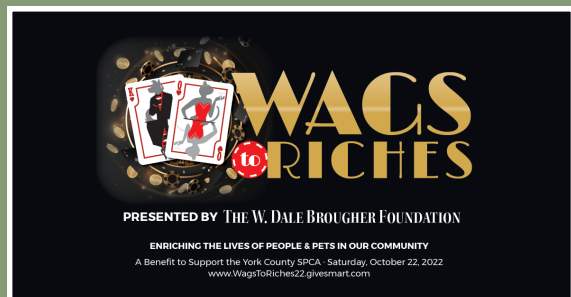
We invite you to join us and become a part of this exciting and rewarding evening by committing to Wags to Riches as a corporate sponsor, auction donor, and/or attending with your family and friends. Your support of Wags to Riches will provide much needed funds to help sustain the programs and services offered to York County residents and animals.

Wags to Riches will take place at the Out Door Country Club on Saturday, October 22, 2022. Our theme will be "Enriching the Lives of People and Pets in our Community."

This black-tie encouraged gala will include a welcome reception, a gourmet dining experience, silent and live auctions with something for everyone, a band to keep us dancing, and some special entertainment. Consider bringing your best James Bond and Band Girl vibes!

Learn more [here](#).

To become a sponsor to donate an auction item, please email [ksteckler@ycspca.org](mailto:ksteckler@ycspca.org). Thank you so much for your support of our furry friends!



## CALLING ALL CAT LOVERS!

It's kitten season and we need fosters! When you become a feline foster with the York County SPCA, not only are you saving the life a cat or kitten in need, but you are also opening space for the next life in need. Plus, all supplies, medical care, and other expenses are covered by us, so you have no out-of-pocket expenses when fostering.

To become a foster superhero, apply [here](#) on our website!



## JUNE IS...

National Pet Preparedness Month

American Humane's Adopt-A-Cat Month®

Adopt a Shelter Cat Month

National Foster a Pet Month

National Microchipping Month

National Zoo and Aquarium Month

## VOLUNTEER STORIES

We need your stories! Why do you volunteer? How did you get started and what keeps you going? What have been some of your most rewarding moments with the York County SPCA? Just like our animals, every volunteer has a story to tell. We want to hear yours!

Please send stories to Volunteer Coordinator Bekah Smith at [bsmith@ycspca.org](mailto:bsmith@ycspca.org).



## BUNNIES!

Have you been seeing more bunnies lately? We've been seeing wild bunnies outside as well as our pet bunnies in the shelter!

Just as our wild rabbit friends like to frolic through our gardens and yards, our indoor rabbit friends want to frolic about in a new home. We have several adorable buns waiting to be adopted at the YCSPCA, just like Mrs. Whiskers here.

Check them out on our [website](#)!

# LOOKING FOR NEW WAYS TO BE INVOLVED?

If you see an opportunity you are interested in, please email  
Bekah Smith at [bsmith@ycspca.org](mailto:bsmith@ycspca.org) for more details.

## CLINIC

The clinic is looking for help during the following times. We do ask the volunteers helping in the clinic commit to a weekly shift.

### **Registration (Tues and/or Thurs 7am-9am):**

Help in the morning with the registration process.

### **End of the Day Help (Mon, Tues, and/or Wednesday 2pm-4pm):**

Help at the end of the day with cleaning surgical equipment, laundry, cleaning cages, and other operational tasks as needed.

## DOG WALKING

Volunteers are needed to walk all of the dogs in our kennel each day. Walking provides the dog with the exercise, socialization, and outdoor time that they need. A dog walker's commitment to and impact on our animals well-being is invaluable. This is a strenuous, but necessary, role.

## KENNEL GREETING

We are looking for Volunteers who can manage the flow of community members touring the kennel during public hours. This is a great position for someone who is not comfortable standing or walking for long periods of time.

### **Hours assistance is needed:**

Tuesday through Thursday  
from 10:30AM until 12:30PM