

THE MONTHLY HOWLS AND OTHER MEWS



Carroll County Animal Shelter

April 2016

Community Cat Release Program

We, the Carroll County Animal Shelter, believe in the dignity and sanctity of animal life. We believe that companion animals are a product of human intervention and that we have an obligation to them in regard to humane treatment and responsible stewardship. We will alleviate suffering, prevent cruelty, and will treat every animal as kindly as possible. We have a duty to protect and care for suffering and homeless animals. Our values, decisions, conduct and behavior should set the tone and be a model for others, in their care and treatment of all animals.

Our mission is to be honest, respectful, and responsible, to be fair and just, caring and compassionate. We will strive to promote positive and collaborative relationships with other agencies, organizations, individuals and our community.

What would it take to end the euthanasia of healthy and treatable cats in Carroll County, Georgia? We asked ourselves this in August 2015, after reviewing our shockingly high euthanasia numbers. The euthanasia for cats and kittens in 2014 was 1,014, with 67.2% of all cats/kittens brought into the shelter being euthanized. Although the numbers are steadily coming down compared to 2010 when 85.2% or 2,341 cats were euthanized, we felt that there had to be a way to stop the killing of healthy cats in Carroll County. We did a lot of research and found a program called Trap-Neuter-Return that has a huge success rate in other parts of the country, and we knew it would work for us. We have modified it to fit our parameters of ordinances, naming our program, the Community Cat Release Program.

Any healthy stray cat, ages 5 months or older, brought into the shelter by the public or Animal Control is spayed or neutered, given their Rabies vaccine, and ear tipped to ID the cat while it's out in public. The cat is released back into its living area within days of entering the shelter. These community cats are often unsocial (feral), unadoptable, and euthanized in most shelters. Consequently, these cats also produce the majority of kittens entering the shelter.

The traditional method of euthanizing the majority of cats entering the shelter has NOT worked, failing to prevent further population growth. It is costly, leads to high employee turnover, and creates a poor image of the Animal Shelter as those high euthanasia rates are unacceptable to the public. Using this humane, cost-effective, non-lethal management plan, we are saving hundreds of cats and kittens each month and further preventing hundreds of thousands of unwanted kittens. Since the beginning of the Community Cat Release Program in November 2015, we have saved 220 cats and 45 kittens, increasing our live release rate up 96%. WOW! It excites us so much to know that we are making a difference for the cat population in Carroll County.

Please help us to continue this life saving program in Carroll County by supporting us and this program with your monetary donations, word of mouth and by volunteering your time with us at the Shelter.

March Monthly

Statistics

Intake

Dogs: 168

Cats: 94

4 Guinea Pigs

2 Chickens

2 Horses

1 Pig

Outcome

Dog Adoptions: 75

Cat Adoptions: 22

Other Adoptions: 7

Rescues: 19

Reclaims: 17

Community Cats: 50

Euthanasia: 46

Upcoming Dates

and Events!

4/16/16 Girl's Day Out! - April Spay Day

4/25/16 Hairball Awareness Day

4/26/16 Help a Horse Day

Warm Weather

Pet Safety Tips

May flowers aren't the only thing that April showers bring! We're heading back into the warmer months and warmer months mean changing health concerns for our furry companions.

- ◇ Never leave pets in a parked car! A parked car can easily reach 102 degrees Fahrenheit on an 85 degree day within 10 minutes, even with the windows cracked!
- ◇ Limit exercise on hot days and be sure to provide lots of water at all times
- ◇ When your pet is outside, make sure that they have ample shade to cool off in
- ◇ Warmer weather brings mosquitoes, the carriers of heartworm larvae which are one of the leading causes of death in dogs. Heartworms are easily prevented by monthly heartworm preventative
- ◇ Fleas and ticks will be much more prevalent during the warmer months and with prettier weather and more people spending time outside it is important to remember that flea and tick preventative

What's That We're Building?

As anyone who has visited the shelter may have noticed, we have construction going on in our back pasture! We are so excited about our new barn! This project has been in the plans since 2013 and ground is finally being broken to make our plans a reality. We are an open admissions shelter which means that we are obligated to take all animal that are brought to us by Carroll County residents. This includes horses, cows, pigs, goats, you name it, we take it! We have five acres on the bottom side of our shelter where we have been keeping these animals but we have not had any covered area to keep them. Enter the barn! With five full stalls and five half stalls, a wash room, covered outside areas, electricity and running water the barn is exactly what we needed!



Fundraisers!

Since July 2015 the Carroll County Animal Shelter have treated 10 dogs with heartworm disease. We have provided 12 animals with emergency medical care when they entered our shelter injured. We have saved 324 cats through our Community Cat Release program. We have vetted and sent into adoption 1125 animals.

All of these things cost money, and while we strive to be as cost efficient as we can, our budget is shrinking faster than we can afford. To counteract this we have decided to start fundraising! We are in the process of setting up several different fundraisers for the coming months and are super excited for these coming events. We need you to spread the word for us and get this information out there so everyone in the community knows about us! In May we are having a 5k fun run for owners and their dogs and we expect to be doing a movie event in conjunction with the Regal Carrollton Cinemas this summer as well.

As well as fundraising we are always accepting item and monetary donations for the shelter and these allow us to continue to do the things that we do for the animals in our care.

Volunteer Program

We are starting a brand new volunteer program and would love for you to be a part of it. Volunteers are a valued asset to our shelter! To become a volunteer just visit the shelter and fill out a two page volunteer application and complete a short orientation. We have developed different levels to our volunteer program that will allow our volunteers to have more access to the shelter as they progress in ranks. We have new and exciting things coming up that we would love to have each and every one of you be a part of. Our volunteers walk our dogs, socialize our cats and spend time working with our adoption animals so that they can begin life in their new homes as well adjusted as possible. If you are unable to walk our dogs or socialize our cats we have other opportunities for volunteers as well! We are expanding our social media presence in the form of this newsletter and would like to start a blog and Twitter account and much more. These will be run by a dedicated volunteer or group of volunteers so there is something to help with for everyone, so come on by and become a part of our exciting new program!

Our goal in revamping our volunteer program is to revitalize our existing group of volunteers as well as attract new volunteers who want to make a difference in their community and to the animals who live here. We want to attract volunteers who care for these animals and their welfare as we do and utilize them in our ongoing mission to better the animals in our shelter and our community. We welcome every age group to volunteer, however, anyone that is not yet 18 years of age must be accompanied by a parent or guardian while in our shelter. This doesn't stop our younger volunteers as they come with a parent or guardian and get to spend quality time together with the animals. This would be a great way to spend a Saturday or time during the summer! If you would like more information about our developing volunteer program please contact Sarah, our Volunteer Coordinator at the shelter!

Carroll County Animal Shelter believes in the dignity and sanctity of all animal life.

Want More Info?

[Give us a call!](tel:7702143590)

(770) 214-3590

[Find us on Facebook!](https://www.facebook.com/ccasgarecue)

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ccasgarecue](https://www.facebook.com/ccasgarecue)

[Find us on the web!](http://www.carrollcountyga.com/149/animal-shelter)

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[Want to make an item donation through Amazon.com?](https://amzn.com/w/14FV7236XTHXK)

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[Looking for adoptable animals?](http://www.petfinder.com/pet-search?shelterid=GA38)

[www.petfinder.com/pet-
search?shelterid=GA38](http://www.petfinder.com/pet-search?shelterid=GA38)

Cat of the month

Baby

Meet Baby, a sweet although reserved feline beauty. Baby has been here at the shelter with us since December 15, 2015. This big girl has lots of life experience at 7 years old but she has lots of life still to go! Baby was surrendered to us by her caretaker because her elderly owner was no longer able to care for her. Baby is a sweet cat who would do best in a household with no children or other pets, she is at a stage in her life where she enjoys sunbeams and a low stress lifestyle, a home where she could curl up in your lap or next to you!



Dog of the month

Ona

Meet Ona, a lovely hound mix who enjoys long walks where ever you want to go and candlelit dinners with a loving family. She has been here at the shelter with us since November! We can't believe it! This sweet girl would love to find her forever home soon and we believe April will be her month. Ona is just over one year old now so she has plenty of love and energy to spare. Ona was brought in to the shelter by a member of the public as a stray and she is a medium to large sized dog who would be perfect to snuggle up with or to play with in the yard.



Place
Stamp
Here

Carroll County Animal Shelter
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Carrollton, GA 30117

