

Shelter Scenes

WINTER 2017



spca cincinnati
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News for the friends and
supporters of **spca cincinnati**

The Journey of Silky



Silky, the Shih Tzu, came to **spca cincinnati** in the middle of the summer. The poor girl was in rough shape with densely matted fur all over her body and severe mats on her head. At

10-years-old, Silky had not been groomed for some time. She also appeared to have severe dental disease, which was very painful for her. But her patience was amazing and she could sense that she was in good hands.

With the help of one of our volunteers, Silky was groomed and all of the mats were finally removed. After the mats were removed from her head, one of our veterinarians discovered that she had had an injury to her right eye. The damage was so extensive that the decision was made to remove the eye. Our veterinarian removed the painful non-functioning eye and also began treating her dental disease with antibiotics. Unfortunately, sutures at the site of her eye surgery came out too early and the closure of the eye had to be repeated.

As she healed, Silky stayed with Mary, a foster parent, after the second closure of the eye. Mary was able to monitor her around the clock to see that there was no further problem with the surgery site. In two months, she healed sufficiently and her dental disease could be treated. There were a number of teeth that had severe periodontal disease and had to be removed. After her recuperation from the dental procedure, Silky was given the thumbs up for adoption. Guess who took her in? Mary, the woman who fostered her, took Silky home for good so she could live the rest of her life in pampered comfort! All



months of hard work and talented care by **spca cincinnati's** dedicated veterinarians, volunteers, and animal care staff. This was truly a happy ending!



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spca cincinnati is a nonprofit 501(c)3 organization. The organization is a humane society that continually strives to strengthen the human-animal bond and improve the welfare of animals by fostering the humane care and treatment of all animals. Through humane education and animal protection, we improve the quality of life in our community.

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CEO Message



In my last "CEO Message," I talked about constructing "Kitty City" and the value it would bring for cats sheltered in Northside. "Kitty City" is working and cats now have a better environment in which to wait for a new home.

Ensuring animal welfare is a human responsibility. A number of perspectives do exist with respect to the welfare of animals which are based on one's values or experiences. As **spca cincinnati**, one of our tasks is to reach out to the community and provide information/education about the well-being of animals. Proper housing, nutrition, disease prevention, care and handling are topics we discuss. Food, water and shelter have been the basics, but we believe animals of any species should not live in fear, be subjected to stress or endure any pain.

Through our 25 year relationship with Local 12, **spca cincinnati** has brought animals to the attention of the community. Pet segments not only showcase dogs and cats available for adoption, but stress spay/neutering, licensing dogs and microchipping all pets. We also stress that pet owners develop a strong relationship with their veterinarian. Since 1996, our Mobile Adoption visits to Kroger have distributed educational materials to thousands of people in the Tri-State.

This work can only continue with your kind help. *Adopt*, *Donate* and *Volunteer* remain the keys to assisting animals and people in the Tri-State. My thanks to you for helping.

Harold F. Dates
 President & CEO

Happy Tales A letter from

We love reading letters like these! This one came from Angie, who was assisted by Lieutenant Brandon Corcoran:

"I just have a compliment for the Animal Control officer that came out to my house yesterday. I had a stray dog that was hanging out on my porch and got a little threatening



Phoenix the Cat

This stray cat was brought into the Northside shelter in April of 2016 by Officer Ruth Vlastic. He was severely burned, most likely from a car exhaust. You can see in his entrance picture below that his whiskers on the right side of his face were singed off. There were severe burns to the right side of his mouth and cheek, the top of his spine (which you can see in the picture), the left side of his chest, and most of his belly and inguinal area. He was critical at this time and we had to treat his shock and dehydration before anything else. Because of the efforts of our dedicated medical staff, he survived. We decided Phoenix was a good name as we hoped he would continue to rise from the ashes.

Thus, began a long journey of hand feeding, fighting infections, removing dead tissue as needed, hydrotherapy, changing numerous bandages and lots of honey to get healthy tissue to work with. Then came numerous skin grafts and closure surgeries. After that, came scar reduction surgeries. In total, this was a four-month process, but we think Phoenix was well worth it!



Foster care was provided and Phoenix was adopted in August of 2016. After four months of kind care, Phoenix



is thriving in his new home. Phoenix is just one of many cats that come to **spca cincinnati** in dire straits and are rehabilitated for adoption by our excellent medical staff.

Your kind help through your generous contributions make this care possible. Thank you so much for helping Phoenix and many cats just like him.

our friends

with my mailman, so I called **spca cincinnati** right away. I have to admit, I felt terrible. I have three cats, though, so the dog couldn't stay here. I was so impressed by the person who came to pick him up. I assumed anybody who could do that job probably wasn't a real fan of animals. I couldn't have been more wrong. He was very nice to both the dog and me and even made sure I knew before he left that the dog DID have a chip. It put my mind at ease. I didn't get his name,

but I'm sure you can tell from my address and date of the visit. He's a real asset to your team! And the response time was fabulous. I don't own a dog leash, so I couldn't contain the dog, I just told them on the phone that at the moment he was sleeping on my front porch. Within an hour, the officer was here taking care of everything."

– Angie

Happy Tales

A letter from our friends

Dear SPCA,

Hi my name is Lily and a while back I donated to the SPCA and you guys had sent me something in the mail so I decided to write back . . . And I was wondering how old you have to be to volunteer there? If you guys could take the time to let me know then that would be wonderful. I hope many animals are adopted and are gonna live a happy life and I also hope many animals are being saved. Please let me know.

Your friend,

Lily

*We are very proud to receive compliments from young children, our next generation that will support the welfare of animals. As individuals, we do not consider ourselves heroes, but together as staff, volunteers and the community, **spca cincinnati** does heroic work for our animal friends.*



YWCA Bark Out Against Battering

YWCA's partnership with **spca cincinnati**

The YWCA hosted their seventh annual **Bark Out Against Battering** event. Dogs and their humans alike came by to the October 1, 2016, event at Washington Park in Over the Rhine. This event is held in October because that is Domestic Violence Awareness Month.

This YWCA Greater Cincinnati benefit advanced awareness of the partnership between **spca cincinnati** and local YWCA domestic violence shelters. Funds raised through the collaboration of the YWCA and **spca cincinnati** are helping to ease the fears of women in shelters by providing safe and confidential temporary homes for their pets.

This year's Bark Out partners also included Women Helping Women, Too Apparel and Washington Park. Sponsors were Movement Marketing and Roy Davis & Audrey Ann Photography.

Forty pups participated in a costume contest, judged by: Amanda Ingram Brennaman and her dog Millie; Cincinnati City Council member Yvette Simpson; and hosts Ray and Karen of Mix 94.9 "The Morning Misfits." The event also included pet trick-or-treating, a selfie photo booth, animal adoptions and a "Ruff Ruff" raffle.