# Petfinder

Petfinder.com is the oldest, largest and most successful searchable database of homeless pets on the Web. It provides more than 14,000 animal adoption groups with free home pages and technical support to spotlight their adoptable pets online as well as providing networking platforms, discounts and gifts, and education for the groups. Visitors to the site, from the comfort of their homes, enter search criteria to see animals available for adoption ranked by distance from their Zip codes. The site has facilitated over 20 million adoptions since it was created in 1996.



The mission of the Petco Foundation is to raise the quality of life for pets and people who love and need them. Since its inception in February of 1999, over \$75 million has been raised through a combination of fundraisers in Petco's over 1000 stores and donations through the Petco Foundation. These funds were used to support more than 7,000 local animal welfare groups across the U.S.The Petco Foundation endeavors to create responsible animal guardians, reduce the number of adoptable animals euthanized, rescue animals in crisis and assist in modifying behavioral issues to make companion animals more adoptable. More information about the Petco Foundation may be found by visiting www.petcofoundation.org.

## Two ways to register

Registration is \$20 (\$10 for Petfinder members) and includes lunch and all materials. For more information email adoptionoptions@petfinder.com.

- 1. Register online by November 5, 2012, at www.petfinder.com/adoptionoptions/ and pay by credit card using Paypal.
- 2. Register by mail by sending this form along with a check made out to "Petfinder.com." Photocopy form for multiple guests. Mail, postmarked by November 5, 2012, to Petfinder.com, Melissa Vecera, 3815 Sunnyfield Ct., Apt. 1D, Hampstead, MD 21074.

Name:
Organization:
ull address of organization:
Public phone:
rivate phone (for our use only):
mail address:
Petfinder Shelter ID:

All lunches are vegetarian. Please check here if you need a vegan meal.

From I-49, head

Melissa Vecera 3815 Sunnyfield Ct., Apt. I Hampstead, MD 21074



ONE-DAY SEMINAR

# Adoption Options

Thursday, November 15, 2012

Holiday Inn Lafayette 2032 NE Evangeline Thrwy. Lafayette, LA 70507



Special thanks to Animal Rescue Foundation of Louisiana and Friends of Lafayette Animal Shelter

**Sponsored** by Petfinder™ and Petco Foundation

**BEHAVIOR** 

**PLACEMENT** 

**PROMOTION** 

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**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.

## **Agenda**

## SIGN IN AND FUEL UP: COFFEE AND DANISH

9 am - 9:30 am

## Housekeeping and Getting to Know You

9:30 am - 9:45 am

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

## **Welcome from the Petco Foundation**

9:45 am - 10:15 am Susan Rosenberg, Petco Foundation

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.

## Marketing Your Pets Online: Tips and Tricks to Increase Adoptions

10:15 am — 11:45 am Melissa Vecera, Petfinder

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.com.

#### **BREAK**

11:45 am - noon

## All attendees will receive

educational materials, breakfast, lunch, an Adoption Options t-shirt and a gift from the Petco Foundation.

DRESS CASUALLY AND BE COMFORTABLE.







Working with Animal Control to Save More Animals Lives!

Noon – 1:30 pm Laura Lanza,The ASPCA

In this day and age every community's animal groups NEED to work together for the benefit of all the animals. Open-admission shelters handle the vast majority of stray and unwanted animals in the nation. Most of them have moved into the forefront of public service agencies and are making a difference for the animals in their care. Rescue, feral cat, and foster groups need to reach out to these animal control agencies with a helping hand to enable these dedicated public servants to have more opportunities for new "forever homes" for the animals brought to their facilities. This workshop will review 21st Century goals and objectives of animal control and care facilities and show ways to open doors of collaboration that will enhance grant opportunities in the future.

## **VEGETARIAN LUNCH, NETWORKING TIME**

1:30 pm - 2:30 pm

## \*\*\*2:30 PM – 5 PM\*\*\* CHOOSE FROM TWO SESSIONS

## **Training Shelter Dogs**

Sue Sternberg, Rondout Valley Animals for Adoption

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.

## OR

## **All About Feline Respiratory Infections**

Stephanie Janeczko, The ASPCA

Frustrated by upper respiratory tract infections? Don't know what else to do? You're not alone. Upper respiratory infections are the most common infectious diseases in shelter cats. This workshop will focus on viruses and bacteria that cause URI, how they're spread, and how we can best prevent them and treat sick cats.

## **Our Speakers**

## **Susan Rosenberg, Petco Foundation**

Susan, who has been with Petco for 14 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 7,500 Petco Foundation charitable partners and over 1,140 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, which includes 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.com.

#### Laura Lanza, The ASPCA

In the 1970s Laura volunteered for Actors & Others for Animals and the ELSA Wild Animal Appeal. When she moved to Louisiana, she continued her work with Elsa as a regional director and started a humane society named Animal Concern & Education Corps. She helped found Louisiana Animal Control and volunteered as the regional rep for the Coalition of the Louisiana Animal Advocates. From 1983-2000 she was director of the Lake Charles/Calcasieu Parish Animal Control Services. She also served as a reserve sheriff's deputy for 11 years. Laura joined the ASPCA-NSO division in December 2000 and moved to Virginia for 10 years. She was presented with the ASPCA employee "ANGEL" Award in 2006 for her efforts during Hurricanes Katrina and Rita. In 2009, she represented the National Animal Control Association at the National Dog Wardens of England Conference in Birmingham, UK. She now lives in Louisiana and is the mother of five young adults and grandmother to five. She has a new four-legged companion, Paris, who was rescued from a puppy mill bust in Arkansas.

#### 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.

#### **Stephanie Janeczko, The ASPCA**

Dr. Janeczko received her D.V.M. from Cornell University in 2004. She spent time in small animal practice and worked with shelters and rescue groups before returning to Cornell as its first shelter medicine resident. 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 is the vice president of the Association of Shelter Veterinarians. She shares her home with her furry family – four wonderful cats and the three best dogs in the world!