



# The Open Door

SUMMER 2014

[www.odas.org](http://www.odas.org) & [facebook.com/OpenDoorAnimalSanctuary](https://facebook.com/OpenDoorAnimalSanctuary)

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## GOVERNING BOARD

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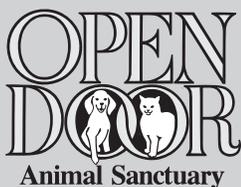
Tracie Quackenbush

Nadine Rinehart

### Emeritus Member

Kathy Hessler

*The Open Door Animal Sanctuary was founded in 1975 by Mrs. Joan Costello-Oetting and Mrs. Carol (Marlin) Perkins.*



## Working Towards a No-kill Nation

**It all begins with one stray cat.** One cat that everyone feels sorry for but no one wants to give a home. Some feed it but no one claims it. No one takes it to the vet to be spayed. No one wants to take it to animal control because it might be euthanized. Then when it has babies, no one takes them in. Then those babies start having babies and those babies start having babies. In five years that one cat becomes 12,680.



### **Are you aware that 70% of cats entering shelters & animal controls do not make it back out alive?**

If the community is ever going to stop euthanizing animals we have to start doing something more! In 2006, Open Door started a spay/neuter clinic and we have fixed 15,000 animals thus far, but that is not enough. In order to make a difference we need to start fixing the feral and community cats one town at a time, which brings up another issue with animal control.

Despite the significant, tangible benefits of community cat programs, and the trap/neuter/return (TNR) method of managing unowned, free-roaming cats, these programs are sometimes challenged by opponents who raise questions about whether this progressive approach is sound public policy, or is "legal" under state and local law. Opposition is almost always rhetorical, fear-driven and comes from outside

interests offering no feasible alternative. This opposition also operates on a flimsy foundation that runs counter to sound public policy and legal theory and misrepresents existing animal protection provisions.

Our Executive Director takes care of numerous feral cat colonies and spends most of her free time trapping cats. Recently an article came out in the Jefferson County Leader bringing to

light that Herculaneum (a smaller town in Jefferson County) trapped 15 cats and animal control charged them \$2300 to hold and euthanize the cats. That got the wheels turning as to how a city could do this and how we as the largest no-kill shelter could help stop further killings from happening.

### **After a meeting with the City Administrator and the Mayor we were asked to speak at the next City Council meeting.**

At the meeting the Aldermen would vote on our proposal to TNR instead of euthanize the town cats. On June 9th we gave it our all and it was decided that a team of TNR specialists would come into Herculaneum and fix all the cats for \$25 a piece to the city. This was a triumph and one that will be remembered for a lifetime.

Herculaneum, MO is setting an example that we hope will be followed by all!

## UPCOMING EVENTS

- Crazy Bowl, Friday, July 18th, 6pm, 4575 Lemay Ferry Road.
- Painting with a Twist, Sunday, July 20th, 4 to 6pm, 12623 Olive Blvd, Creve Coeur.
- Brighten the Days of Our Strays, Sunday, August 24th, 5:30pm-9:30pm, Spazio's in Westport.
- Greentree Festival, Saturday, September 13th & 14th, 10am to 4pm, Kirkwood Park at the corner of Geyer & Adams.
- Strut Your Mut, Saturday, September 27, 8:30am to 1pm, Tilles Park.
- General Grant Antique and Décor Mall, 8400 Watson Rd., Shrewsbury, Hours: 9:30am to 7pm, Mon-Sat, 11am to 5pm on Sunday. Cases #433 and #434 are sponsored by the ODAS Auxiliary. There is a wide variety of holiday items, vintage collectables, household items, etc. If you have items you would like to donate, please call 314.667.9747.

## OUR MISSION

ODAS is a no-kill shelter dedicated to preserving the life and health of homeless cats and dogs, providing shelter, food & veterinary care while fostering their social skills and encouraging their adoption into loving homes.

The Open Door newsletter is published quarterly for members and friends of the Open Door Animal Sanctuary, Inc., a no-kill, nonprofit, tax-exempt 501(c)3 charitable corporation. ODAS is funded entirely from memberships, bequests, donations, and special events. No material whatsoever may be used in any way without prior written consent of ODAS, Inc. All rights reserved. ©Open Door Animal Sanctuary, Inc. PO Box 870, House Springs, MO 63051

## Crazy Bowl Fundraiser

**What better way to spend a Friday night than bowling with friends?** This fun, laid back event includes three pitchers of beer per lane, a 50/50 drawing and cash prizes for the top three teams! Attendees are welcome to bring their own snacks and food, and the grill will be open.

**Friday, July 18th**

**Doors open at 6pm,  
bowling starts at 7pm  
4575 Lemay Ferry Road  
Tickets are \$25 and proceeds  
benefit ODAS**

To reserve your spot, contact Arlene at **314.623.0412**.



## Painting with a Twist Wine and Art Party Benefit

**Channel your inner Van Gogh at this fun art and wine event!**

Painting with a Twist classes are not serious art lessons, but are intended for you to **relax, have fun, and leave with an awesome piece of artwork!** No experience necessary! You are welcome to bring your favorite bottle of wine or any other beverage of your choice and snacks to enjoy during class. Creve Coeur requires that attendees be at least 18 years of age to attend. Proceeds benefit Open Door Animal Sanctuary.

**Sunday, July 20th**

**4 to 6pm**

**Painting with a Twist  
12623 Olive Blvd.  
Creve Coeur, MO 63141  
Tickets are \$35 and  
proceeds benefit ODAS**



To register, visit [www.paintingwithatwist.com/crevecoeur](http://www.paintingwithatwist.com/crevecoeur), contact their studio at **314.434.7928** or [crevecoeur@paintingwithatwist.com](mailto:crevecoeur@paintingwithatwist.com).

**ODAS** has been offering hope  
and help for animals since 1975.

## 10th Annual Brighten the Days of Our Strays

**This is our 10th year hosting Brighten the Days of Our Strays, Open Door Animal Sanctuary's largest annual fundraiser.** This popular event will take place at Spazio's in Westport Plaza and feature a delicious catered meal from Russo's as well as a large and diverse selection of silent auction items. Tickets are on sale at [www.odas.org](http://www.odas.org).

**Sunday, August 24th**

**5:30pm to 9:30pm  
Spazio's Grand Ballroom  
12031 Lackland Road  
St. Louis, MO 63146**

**Tickets are \$70 Regular or reserve a  
VIP table (seating 8) for \$1000.**

VIP guests receive reserved seating, a VIP name tag, a special gift bag and recognition in the event program.

If you or your company would like to become a sponsor for this year's event or if you are interested in donating silent auction items, please contact Lindsey at [Lindsey@odas.org](mailto:Lindsey@odas.org) or **314.803.5005**.

## Dog Adoption Center Update

**Our new dog adoption center is complete and now an integral part of our canine adoption process.**

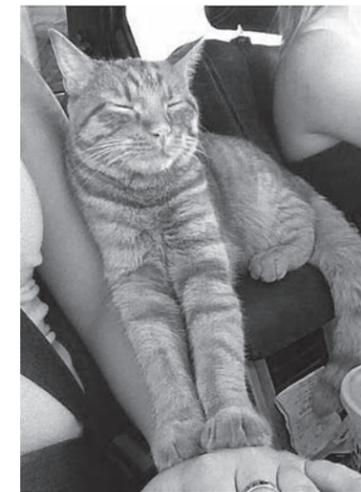
This new building is where adopters meet their new best friend in a quiet, cozy setting. The living room style interior allows our adoptable dogs to relax and provides our adopters with a comfortable setting to interact with dogs one on one. Here are some photos of the completed building and interior:



**This important project was made possible by our dog adoption center donors. A special thank you to:**

Bob and Marti Stricker  
Julie Dubman  
Open Door Animal Sanctuary Auxiliary Board  
Purina PetCare Company  
Rebecca Leinenbach  
The Grainger Foundation

## Microchipping Saves Lives!



**When microchipping first came about many people were scared of the idea.**

The needles were big and they were afraid it would hurt their animal; some felt it would give the animal an infection, some felt it was cruel, some even felt it was against their religion. Many shelters jumped on board, and now it is universal and everyone does it.

**Luckily for Rudy, his microchip saved his life!** Rudy was adopted as a small kitten from our Chesterfield PetSmart location in September of 2013. In May of 2014, Open Door received a phone call from a very high kill animal control in Las Vegas. Rudy had somehow made the trip to Vegas and was turned into them. We tried several times to call the adopter and left several messages. After two days it appeared that she was not going to call us back.

Rachel Hyde, a long time volunteer and former employee who now works for Best Friends Animal Society in Kanab, Utah volunteered to make the trip to save our handsome boy. She and a friend drove to Vegas and took him back to Kanab to stay with Rachel until she comes to St. Louis in June. Many lives have been saved due to this tiny little chip. **Please make sure your pets have one.**

Hey there, I'm George and I am having the best time here at Open Door. Since I was living on the streets as part of a feral colony, this place is like Heaven. I no longer have to fight or scrounge for food and I have a lot of company now. Since I'm so cute, everyone stops to pet me, and that's just fine by me. I'm always up for making new friends, so maybe you could come volunteer with me.

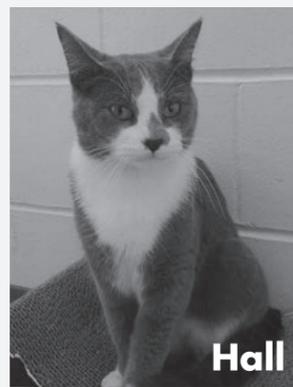


**George**

Excuse me, my name is Winifred and I'm a little shy. There's a reason for this though. I was in a home and I was happy there. Then my owners needed to get rid of me and they left me by a dumpster in an alley in St. Louis. Coming to the shelter was very stressful for me, so I get very excited when people come to visit me. I love being held and petted, and I really love being brushed. I know that you will love me the second you meet me.



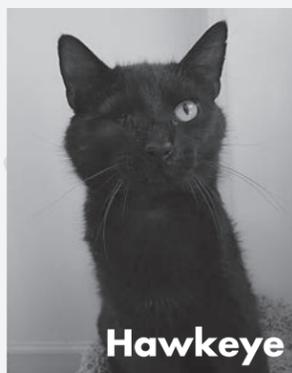
**Winifred**



**Hall**

Hello, my name is Hall. My brother Oates and I were abandoned by our family when they got evicted. While we were waiting to be rescued, a sewer line broke in our basement and the entire house smelled absolutely horrendous. When Open Door's Office

Manager and Cattery Manager finally got us out of there, we were so happy. Now we are both ready for new great homes. You should definitely adopt one (or both) of us.



**Hawkeye**

Hello, my name is Hawkeye and I had a pretty rough start to life. My owners dumped me in the woods and while trying to survive I was attacked by a wild animal. When I was found, my eye had ruptured and become horribly infected.

I am so thankful that Open Door was able to help me. Thanks to donations from wonderful people they could afford my surgery. I might only have one eye now, but I'm a happy, healthy boy. I hope more people read my story and donate to help more animals like me.

Good day, I am Pyro and I'm one of the senior citizens here at Open Door. I think I'd like to have another home, but I hear everyone say that older guys don't really get new homes. I think that's baloney! I know that there is someone out there who doesn't have a cat in his or her life that would love to rescue me. If you have a place in your heart for an older gentleman, please come by and see me.



**Pyro**

Hello, my name is Porkchop and I've been at Open Door most of my life. Don't be sad for me though because everyone loves me. I get a ton of attention, daily walks, playtime in the yards, and treats! I'm a proud participant of the Pet Pal program and I have made so many friends due to my involvement. It's so easy to support "lifers" like me with just \$10 a month. I'm definitely a one of a kind; I promise there's not another dog out there like me.



**Porkchop**



**Josie**

Hey, I'm Josie and have you ever seen a cuter face? If you're looking for a Beagle to share your home with,

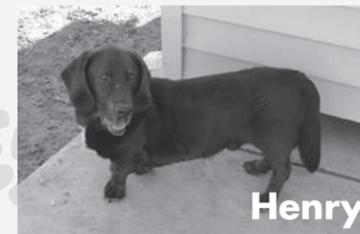
may I suggest myself? I love to play with almost any toy I can get my paws on. Even if it's way too big, it's still fun to try. I've heard that I'm a little chatty, people like that don't they? The one thing that I am best at is tracking. I love to follow the scent and have mastered it. If you're ready for a spunky, cute girl to steal your heart, come on in and we can chat.

Hey there, I'm Rocky and I'm a lovable guy. I was running the streets with my sister (who just got a home... lucky girl) when we were brought to Open Door. I'm an active guy that's looking to go to a great home. I like to walk, play, and snuggle. That's exactly what you're looking for, right? I know that I'm a big guy but I promise to be gentle with you.



**Rocky**

Good day, I'm Henry and I know that you've already fallen in love with me. I'm one of the older gentlemen here at Open Door. I was adopted from here a long time ago and was returned because I have some health problems. My back is bad, my hips are bad, and I have a hard time "holding it." I'm an old man, what do you expect? If it weren't for the gracious donors who help keep the doors open, I would have had no place to go. Thank goodness for Open Door and its supporters.



**Henry**

Hello my name is Jezabell and I am in the mood for some cuddles. When I was given away from my home of 11 years I was one sad lady. However, spending time with all the people and dogs here at Open Door has cheered me right up. I love being petted by all the volunteers and I even like going for walks with them.



**Jezabell**

If anyone wants to spend a little time with a great girl, come out and visit with me.

## Summer Pet Safety Tips



The summer months can be uncomfortable, even dangerous, for pets and people. As temperatures rise, so do cases of heatstroke which unfortunately claim the lives of countless pets each year.

**There are several things you can do as a pet owner to prevent this from occurring.** The following tips will help keep your pets safe and cool this summer.

**1. Never leave your pets in a parked car!** Not even for a minute. On a hot summer day, temperatures inside a vehicle can rise rapidly to dangerous levels. For example on an 85-degree day, the temperature inside a car with the windows opened slightly can reach 102 degrees within 10 minutes. See below for a more detailed look at how temperatures inside your vehicle can rise rapidly to dangerous levels:

### How long does it take for a car to get hot?

Outside Temp.	Temp. in Car	Time it Takes to Reach
75	100	10 minutes
75	120	30 minutes
85	90	5 minutes
85	100	7-10 minutes
85	120	30 minutes
100	140	15 minutes

As you can see, even on mild or cloudy days, with windows open, a parked vehicle quickly becomes an oven. Every summer, animals left in unattended cars suffer brain damage and die from heatstroke. On days where temperatures reach 75 degrees or higher, it's best to leave your companion at home or make sure to take them with you when you get out of the car.

**2. Limit exercise on hot days.** When temperatures rise, limit exercising your pet to the early morning or evening to prevent overheating. Adjust the duration and intensity of the exercise based on the temperature. Asphalt gets very hot and can burn your pet's paws, so walk your dog on the grass if possible. Always carry water with you to keep your pet hydrated. Pay special

attention to pets with white colored ears as they are more susceptible to skin cancer and short-nosed dog breeds which are more prone to heatstroke.

**3. Don't rely on a fan.** Pets respond differently to heat than humans do. Fans don't cool off pets as effectively as they do people. Dogs and cats sweat through their feet and dogs stay cool by panting to expel heat. If your pet is outside on a warm day, make sure they have protection from heat and sun and plenty of cold, fresh water. You can also add ice to the water when possible. Tree shade and tarps are ideal because they don't obstruct air flow. A doghouse does not provide relief from heat – in fact, it makes it worse because it traps heat inside.

**4. Watch for signs of heatstroke.** Extreme temperatures can cause heatstroke in your pet. Symptoms of heatstroke include heavy panting, glazed eyes, a rapid heartbeat, difficulty breathing, excessive thirst, lethargy, fever, dizziness, lack of coordination, profuse salivation, vomiting, a deep red or purple tongue, seizure, and unconsciousness.

Animals are at particular risk for heatstroke if they are very old, very young, obese, not conditioned to prolonged exercise, or have heart or respiratory disease. Some breeds of dogs like Boxers, Pugs, Boston Terriers, Shih Tzus, and other dogs and cats with short muzzles, will have a much harder time breathing in extreme heat due to limited respiratory function.

How to treat a pet suffering from heatstroke? Move your pet into the shade or preferably, an air-conditioned building. Apply ice packs or cold towels to her head, neck, and chest or run cool (not cold) water over her. You can also wipe her paws off with a cool towel. Let her drink small amounts of cool water or lick ice cubes to rehydrate and cool her down. Take her directly to a veterinarian.

## Safe and Sound

A famous saying at Open Door is "what's next?!" You never know what or when something is going to happen. Most of the time it's good things that happen, but sometimes it is not.

Wednesday, May 28th started out like any other day, lots of visitors and several potential adopters looking for a kitten. **At the end of the day when it was time to put the animals away we realized that one of our kittens was missing.** After looking for an hour we started retracing steps and discussing who went in and out of the building he was stolen from. It was determined that one of two visitors took our Frank Sinatra!

Our Director and Office Manager immediately went to work posting photos and knocking on doors, desperate to find our baby. The internet and Facebook helped spread

the word quickly, by Thursday afternoon most of St. Louis knew a kitten had been stolen from Open Door. The hardest part was telling the woman who had him on hold that the kitten she had fallen in love with was gone.

**Thankfully, Thursday night our Director received a phone call from a man stating that he had our lost kitten.** The story he told didn't matter, all we wanted was the kitten back.

Our Director met the man's wife and our kitten was delivered safely back to Open Door! Many thanks to everyone who shared his story on Facebook.



## The Dog Days of Summer

Even though the humid dog days of summer in St. Louis are upon us, the dogs at ODAS are staying cool as cats thanks to Mary who included us in her estate plan over 20 years ago. **Mary's bequest to Open Door enabled us to build the two large kennels that provide access to an outside run and climate controlled inside space to the 100 dogs living at Open Door.** Due to Mary's planning and deep commitment to Open Door Animal Sanctuary her memory and generosity will live on forever.

## To Remember the Animals...

You can make a lasting memorial to a humane cause by making a bequest to The Open Door Animal Sanctuary in your Will. Such bequests are tax deductible for estate tax purposes.

### Suggested Form of Bequest:

I give and bequeath to the Open Door Animal Sanctuary the sum of \$\_\_\_\_\_ dollars (or, if insurance policies or their property, please describe).

To assure that your kind intentions are carried out in accordance with your wishes, please be sure to use our full corporate title: *The Open Door Animal Sanctuary.*

The Sanctuary was founded in 1975 as a no-kill shelter for injured, abandoned and unwanted dogs and cats. We are a private, nonprofit charity, supported by people who care about animals. For further information, please contact Tracie Quackenbush at 636.671.5439.

### WISH LIST

- 50' Hoses
- Hose Nozzles
- Deck Brushes
- Shelves
- Large Rubbermaid Containers
- HP 60 & 61 Ink Cartridges
- Cleaning Supplies
- New Cat Condos
- Scoopable Cat Litter
- Loving Forever Homes

### DECEASED MEMBERS AND FRIENDS

- |                 |                |
|-----------------|----------------|
| Bill Anderson   | Chett Mucklow  |
| Lee Bell        | Mary Jo Rees   |
| Donald Burns    | Anna Rowe      |
| Clifford Dister | Judy Showcross |
| Eric Hanson     | Eileen Welch   |
| Bob Herbst      | Terry Wiggins  |
| Pat Hurtz       | Helen White    |

# OPEN DOOR

Animal Sanctuary

PO Box 870  
House Springs, MO 63051  
636.671.3643

Non-Profit Organization  
U.S. Postage  
**PAID**  
House Springs,  
MO 63051  
Permit No. 1

## Wooftrax-Walk For a Dog App

**Support ODAS simply by walking your dog.** Use the App each time you grab for the leash. It's healthy for you, your dog, and helps our animals. To start using the app visit [wooftrax.com](http://wooftrax.com), click on the "Download on the App Store" button at the top of the page to install the free app. You can also search for "wooftrax" on your smart phone. Donations are based on the number of people walking and the total miles walked. The amount per mile donated varies based on these factors.



## Auxiliary Update

**The Auxiliary has been busy these last few months.** We were fortunate to be able to participate in two events held at Zion United Methodist Church in South County. First, **in May, we attended a flea market there and brought along two adoptable dogs from ODAS.** As always, the dogs hammed it up and stole the show. Then on June 1st, the church held their **annual Pet Blessing.** Vic Colombo, our Board President, brought his dog Chrissy who he adopted from ODAS, and she enjoyed helping raise funds and awareness for the shelter.

**A garage sale where all proceeds went to the Auxiliary Board was held for two days during the last week of May.** We had many items donated to us for the sale and a lot of them were vintage and/or antique. Those vintage/antique items are put up for sale at our booth at the General Grant Antique Mall. The antique mall is located on Watson Rd. in Crestwood. Stop by and see our merchandise in Booth 434!

We thank everyone who has supported us in all of our events. We're taking the summer off to gear up for two big events this fall. We will be at the **Greentree Festival** and our annual **Holiday Bazaar**, both will be held in Kirkwood.