



The Open Door

WINTER 2015

www.odas.org & facebook.com/OpenDoorAnimalSanctuary

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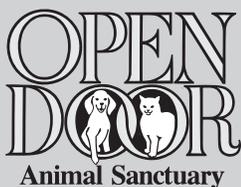
Tracie Quackenbush

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.



Happy Holidays from the Open Door Animal Sanctuary!

Chuckie Cheeks and Whiskey send you warm wishes this holiday season and remind us why LOVE is four-legged word. Our pets brighten the darkest of days, accept without judgment and love unconditionally. Happiness for us is a wet kiss at the end of a long day, a soft purr at our feet and a warm puppy to hold.

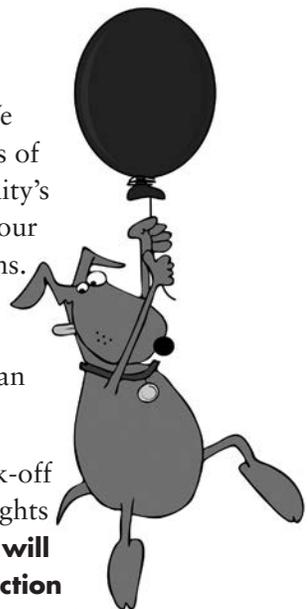
Sadly, there are dogs and cats in our community who don't have a place to call home this holiday season. Open Door Animal Sanctuary works hard every day to give these animals a second chance and you can make a difference too.

Help us find more homeless pets forever homes with a year-end gift.

Thank you for opening your heart and making a difference. We wish you peace this holiday season and all year long.

Reaching New Heights 40th Birthday Capital Campaign

2015 is a monumental year for Open Door. We are celebrating 40 years of caring for our community's cats and dogs through our many valuable programs. To date, we have provided hope, help, and healing to more than 100,000 precious lives.



This milestone will kick-off our Reaching New Heights capital campaign. **This will be a massive construction project involving several of our facilities.** The goal of the campaign is to improve the quality of life for our animals.

Our fundraising goal for year one is \$400,000 in honor of the 400 cats and dogs we care for daily and the thousands we've saved over the past 40 years. **The project will consist of two separate phases.** Phase one will begin in 2015 and includes rebuilding Second Chance, upgrading our dog kennels, and converting Pampurred Palace to an adoption friendly room.

Stay tuned for more information in the upcoming months and find out how you can help us build our dream shelter! The Reaching New Heights campaign will be featured on our website, www.odas.org.

UPCOMING EVENTS

- **Purina Beggin' Barkus Parade**, Sunday, February 8th, Soulard at the corner of Menard and Allen, 10am Registration, 1pm Parade.
- **Trivia Night**, Saturday, March 7th, American Legion Post 162, 9305 S. Broadway in Lemay. Doors open at 6pm.
- **General Grant Antique & Décor Mall**, 8400 Watson Rd., St. Louis, MO 63119. Hours: 9:30am to 7pm, Mon-Sat 11am to 5pm on Sunday. **Cases #433 and #434** are sponsored by the ODAS Auxiliary. It offers 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

The mission of Open Door Animal Sanctuary is to provide homeless cats and dogs with the highest quality of life and a second chance to find a forever family.

- 🐾 We are a "no kill" animal sanctuary; we do not euthanize cats and dogs for space.
- 🐾 We provide dedicated love and care to over 400 homeless cats and dogs. This includes 100 kisses a day, 365 days a year!
- 🐾 We provide our residents with a largely cage-free living environment.
- 🐾 We reduce pet over-population by offering a low-cost spay-neuter program and a humane education program to the community.
- 🐾 We operate a pet food pantry to provide support to families in need.

Since our founding in 1975, we have offered hope, help and healing to more than 100,000 precious lives.

OUR VISION

The vision of Open Door Animal Sanctuary is to offer a loving environment and eventual home for every cat and dog in need of our help.

On the cover: Berkley, a one year-old beagle. To adopt Berkley, contact the ODAS at 636.671.3643.

12 Strays of Christmas Adoption Campaign

This holiday season, Open Door will feature 12 adoptable dogs and cats in this year's "12 Strays of Christmas" adoption campaign with the goal of finding them and other adoptable pets at Open Door forever homes.

The campaign will kick-off on December 13th and will run through December 25th. Each day during the campaign two animals (one cat and one dog) will be featured via digital advertising and radio advertising.

Check out the "12 Strays of Christmas" campaign by visiting www.k-hits.com and make sure to follow Open Door Animal Sanctuary on Facebook for daily updates!

Holiday Ornament Drive



Give back to shelter pets this holiday season by participating in the annual Open Door Ornament Drive!

Open Door provided participating local businesses with ornaments featuring adoptable pets. The front of the ornament has a picture of an adoptable dog or cat, and the back lists what that animal wants for Christmas.

Patrons can take these ornaments home and bring the supplies listed on the back to Open Door Animal Sanctuary! It's a fun way to help cats and dogs who don't have a place to call home this holiday season.

If you would like to participate in the ornament drive and help make the holidays brighter for our animals, you can visit the following local businesses through December 31st:

<i>Associated Veterinary Specialists (AVS)</i>	<i>Treats Unleashed (5 St. Louis locations)</i>
<i>Advantage Veterinary</i>	<i>Watson Road Animal Clinic</i>
<i>Company B BBQ</i>	<i>Four Muddy Paws</i>
<i>Bar 101 Soulard</i>	

2015 Open Door Calendars Now for Sale!

We are now taking orders for our 2015 calendar – Adoption Success Stories. The calendar features six cat and six dog adoption success stories with updated photos and heart-warming bios of where they are now.

To purchase a calendar, visit Open Door's gift shop or contact Lindsey at Lindsey@odas.org.





Pet Winter Safety Tips

While freshly fallen snow can make the world appear as a winter wonderland, there are a lot of hidden hazards to be aware of for our pets.

CHEMICALS ON THE GROUND



It's common practice to apply chemicals to sidewalks and driveways in order to melt ice and snow throughout the winter season. Although this practice makes conditions safer for humans, our pets can pay the price. The main ingredient in most ice melt products is either sodium chloride or calcium chloride. **Both sodium and calcium chloride can irritate a dog's paws or be harmful if ingested.** One solution is to outfit your dog with a set of booties so that the footpads are protected. Booties are also good for keeping hard snow and ice out of the spaces between the toes, something that can be very painful for an animal. If your pet will not tolerate wearing booties, clean your dog's paws after walking outside on snowy days. Even if you don't see the ice melt, it may still be on surfaces. A dog that licks its feet after coming inside could experience vomiting or diarrhea.

CAR ENGINES



When cold weather strikes, felines (and other wildlife) will find comfort in the craziest and often most dangerous places, including warm car engines. If there are strays or outdoor cats in your area, check under the hood before starting your car. Cats can crawl up into the engine even if the hood is closed. You can also try banging on the hood or honking the horn to scare critters that might have cozied up near the motor.

ETHYLENE GLYCOL (ANTIFREEZE) POISONING



Another common winter practice is the changing of antifreeze/coolant in the car engine. There will always be unintentional spills to watch out for. **Many antifreeze brands have a pleasant taste to pets and unfortunately, very small amounts can be lethal.** As little as one teaspoon of antifreeze can be deadly to a cat and less than four teaspoons can be dangerous to a 10-pound dog.

Thoroughly clean up any spills, store antifreeze in tightly closed containers, and store in secured cabinets. Automotive products such as gasoline, oil and antifreeze should be stored in areas that are inaccessible to your pets. Propylene glycol is a safer form of antifreeze. Low Tox™ brand antifreeze contains propylene glycol and is recommended to use in pet households.

HYPOTHERMIA

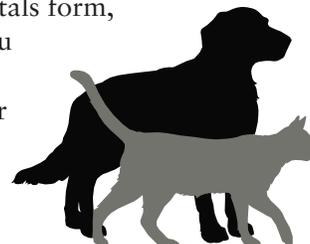


Your pet's body temperature can fall below normal when exposed to cold temperatures for a period of time. **Just because your dog has a fur coat does not mean he is protected from the winter climate.** Older pets and those in poor health are at higher risk. Hypothermia can lead to cardiac arrest, among other severe ailments that will require veterinary care.

FROSTBITE



Your pet's ears, paws and tail can rapidly develop frostbite when exposed to winter conditions. Frostbite occurs when your pet's body gets cold and blood from the extremities is pulled to the center of the body in an attempt to retain warmth. Ice crystals form, damaging the tissue. If you see ice crystals, don't try to remove them; take your pet to your veterinarian immediately.



DECEASED MEMBERS AND FRIENDS

Ona Backes
 Less Bernotas
 Mary Brady
 Ruth Blest
 David Duncan
 Lois Hill
 Jeanne Jackson
 Adrian Mix
 Joan Costello-Oetting
 Brooke Marie Peppers
 Lois Gail Reece

[ODAS has been offering hope and help for animals since 1975]

Wouldn't you like to fill their wish list?



Chuckie Cheeks I know that you want to take me home. I came to Open Door as a stray looking for a real home. They told me that I can't just rely on how cute I am to

find a home and that I should tell you folks a little about myself. For starters, I am an excellent dance partner and will waltz with you for hours. I also give the best hugs in the world. I get along well with other cats, but too much commotion makes me a little nervous. If it gets too busy, I just go find someplace quiet and lay down. If you're looking for an affectionate guy that loves to sit in laps and will curl up in bed with you, come by and see me. I promise to be your best friend ever!



Baby Girl I am a thirteen-year-old shepherd mix, who loves people and other dogs. I know you probably won't believe me, but I do not act my age. I am very energetic and agile! I can run, jump, and play like a five or six year old. You have to see for

yourself. My human had to give me back to Open Door after being with me for eight years, because he became sick and could no longer take care of me. I get along with cats too. I am afraid of storms, but who isn't? I am just a great gal looking for someone to love me. Could it be you? Come and see me, and let's find out. (Baby Girl also qualifies for our Seniors for Seniors Foster Program.)



Oreo I am in need of a new home. You see, my last mommy who loved me very much, passed away and her family could not care for me. I came to Open Door to try and

find a new mommy or maybe even a daddy. I am a very laid back cat that loves to lounge about all day. I still like to play, but playtime is starting to take a backseat to nap time. I am super sweet and get along well with all ages of people. I love other cats and smaller dogs might be okay, we'll see. So if you have a bit of a sweet tooth, come by and meet with Oreo!

Sarge Attention! Now, do I have everyone's attention?! Good. I am a four year-old American Boxer. I will admit to having a lot of energy and playfulness. I know a few commands and am eager to learn more. I love kids, and am good with all ages. I like other dogs, but I'm kinda rough when



I play, so another dog my size would be good. I love to go for car rides and walks, and I'll even jog with you. I grew too big for my previous owner to handle, so she brought me here. I really am a great guy. Won't you come and see me?

Sophia Hello there, I would like to take a few minutes to tell you how fabulous I am. Let me start by saying I am absolutely beautiful, but you already knew that, didn't you? I came to Open Door to find a new home since my last



one didn't appreciate me the way they should have. Of course, by "appreciate" I do mean "worship." I'm a bit of a diva if you hadn't guessed that by now. But once you get passed the divaness of me, I really am a good cat. I like to be petted and held, I like to play, and I adore looking out the windows to watch the world go by. I'm not a big fan of other cats, but if you have me, you really don't need another one anyway. If you are looking for a great cat, please come down and see me. Ask them about Sophia and they will bring you right to my chamber.

Apple I can be the "apple of your eye" if given the chance. I arrived from Georgia awhile ago and actually had been adopted for a short time, but...



It seems they thought I would be a couch potato, but you know, I am just too young for that kind of a life. Give me a fenced in yard and people who love to play with me, and I'll show you what an awesome dog I am. Oh, I do like to play with male dogs, but I have to be the one who chooses my playmate (I'm just picky like that). I am a sweetheart – no ifs, ands, or buts about it!

Or put them on yours?



Babe I am a six year-old rot/hound mix whose owners were unable to care for anymore. I am one of the sweetest girls you will ever meet. My human was able to keep me with him for two years, but then fell

on hard times. I am crate trained, and I know a couple of commands. I am good with kids, and even cats! I am playful, affectionate and rambunctious. I sound too good to be true, right?! Wrong! Come and see for yourself. You know where I'll be.



Michelle I'm an older lady that still has a lot of spunk and sass left. I'm sure you haven't seen a more beautiful cat than me, but I'm also a sweet girl that would love to be your baby. I've been looking for a home for a while now and the good folks

at Open Door keep telling me that some day soon I'll find it. I love to lounge around for most of the day, but when it's playtime I am up and at 'em. If you're looking to let a lady retire in style, ask to meet me. Ask for Michelle, the beauty queen. (Michelle also qualifies for our Seniors for Seniors Foster Program.)



Fievel You need a cat. Hey, I'm a cat. My name is Fievel and I'm absolutely purrfect for you. I'm a very sweet boy that loves to be petted and held. I love attention so much that I'll even follow you when you think petting time is over. I love to play, both with toys and with the other

cats. When I first got to Open Door I was pretty scared. I hid for a while and then when I came out, I hissed and growled at all the other cats. But I got used to the place and now I romp and roll with the other cats, and have a great time doing it. My favorite thing in the whole wide world is treats. You can handle that, right? Trust me, just come and see the cat named after a mouse and fall in love. Ask for Fievel.

Whiskey I'm a 1-1/2 yr old little ball of energy, who likes to play, go for walks, go for jogs or runs as long as it's just the two of us. But I'm not all energy – I love to cuddle also! I haven't found any four-legged friends yet, since I consider myself King of my castle. But I could be your best buddy if you let me. Won't you please come and see me?



What we want for Christmas:

Chuckie

- Cat toys
- Canned cat food (no shredded please)
- Cat nip!

Baby Girl

- Rawhides and Nylabones
- Blankets and towels

Oreo

- Foam-free bed
- Large litter box
- New scratching posts (sisal only please!)

Sarge

- Kongs and rubber dog toys!

Sophia

- A new cat collar
- Interactive cat toys to keep me busy!

Apple

- Chicken broth (for frozen treats)
- Foam-free bed

Babe

- Blankets to keep me warm this winter!
- Kongs and peanut butter
- Soft dog treats

Michelle

- Purina indoor cat chow-yummy!
- Scratching Pads

Fievel

- Dry shampoo so I can smell my best!

Whiskey

- A new collar
- Blankets, blankets, blankets!

The Holiday Bazaar

As many of our senior members remember, the Annual Holiday Bazaar was always a favorite Open Door event. Each year in November, numerous members and friends came to the one stop shop for Christmas, pet, and handmade items with the added benefit of knowing their purchases supported Open Door animals.



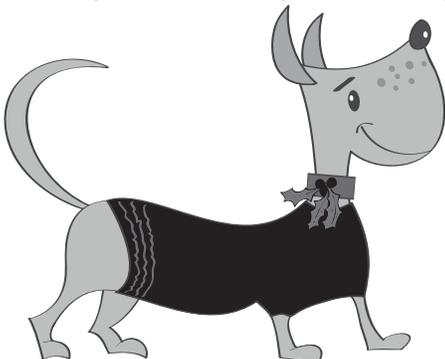
Unfortunately, as times changed the Bazaar became less popular and it wasn't bringing in the funds needed to sustain it. Due to the decline in popularity, ten years ago our Board of Directors decided to end the Bazaar indefinitely.



Since then, several members missed the Bazaar and begged for its return. Not only was it a place to shop, but for many the Bazaar was an annual tradition to see familiar faces and get into the holiday spirit, all while

Holiday Party at ODAS

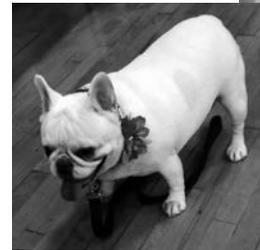
Unfortunately the Holiday Party scheduled for December 14th has been cancelled. We've had a busy year and we're providing a home for so many cats and dogs that we don't have room to set up for a party but feel free to visit any time. We're open seven days a week



helping a cause they loved. Due to this feedback, our Auxiliary Board decided to bring the event back in 2013 but on a smaller scale. To our delight, the event was such a success that they decided to move it back to the larger gymnasium for 2014.

This year, as soon as the doors opened at 9am there was a crowd! Shoppers enjoyed several booths with a variety of items for everyone on their holiday list (or for themselves). Bonnie's Basket Booth was a big hit and so was the bakery booth (featuring Tracie's famous fudge). The chili was fabulous as well, and everyone that attended left with a ton of great deals.

To top off this year's success, a generous donor stepped in to match all funds raised, doubling the profit for our animals! Many thanks to all the wonderful and dedicated Auxiliary volunteers who helped make this year's Holiday Bazaar possible.



Amazon Smile

Don't forget to set Open Door as your Amazon Smile Charity. AmazonSmile is a simple and automatic way for you to support Open Door every time you shop, at no cost to you. When you shop at smile.amazon.com, you'll find the exact same low prices, vast selection and convenient shopping experience as Amazon.com, with the added bonus that Amazon will donate a portion of the purchase price to Open Door.



Photography Fundraiser



Support Open Door by purchasing a fun throw pillow, iPhone case or art print featuring Open Door animals! Browse available merchandise by visiting these links:

www.society6.com/opendooranimalsanctuary

www.redbubble.com/people/odas

A special thank you to **Peggy Franz** for volunteering her photography skills to make this project possible! For more information or to contact Peggy for your own pet photography needs, visit her blog at www.franzsfeaturedfotos.com or 314.596.7990.

4-Legged Fixed Program



Jane Budnick, owner and operator of 4-Legged Kids, Inc., launched a special program in January to assist the sanctuary with spay/neuter efforts. **For every new client, 4-Legged Kids donates the cost of one spay/neuter surgery to Open Door**, with a goal of 1000 pets

fixed by July 1st, 2017, which marks the company's 20th anniversary.

Jane's hard work and generosity paid off because in 2014, 4-Legged Kids donated 72 spay/neuter surgeries to Open Door! Thank you Jane and the 4-Legged Kids family for helping Open Door tackle the pet overpopulation crisis head on.

4-Legged Kids Inc. provides a wide variety of pet related services to the St. Louis area including pet sitting, training, electric fence installation and more. To learn more and help Jane meet her goal, visit www.4leggedkids.com or call 636.405.0400.

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.

Princess Azara

One of the happiest moments in a rescuer's life is seeing an animal go home that would have been dead had you not been there to help change their life.



Seven years ago a seven month old female black cat was trapped at a nursing home in Herculaneum.

The home did not want her returned and she wasn't friendly at all. Our Director, Tracie, has a soft spot for black cats and was determined to tame her. Six months later, Princess Azara became a very sweet little girl. Because she was one of Tracie's favorites, she became an office cat.

Two years ago a couple came to the shelter to adopt a cat and fell in love with Azara, but since they had just lost a black one, they decided on another cat. Fast forward to this Halloween when Azara was posted on Facebook wearing a costume, the same couple saw her and decided that she was waiting for them to come back and adopt her!

Since Open Door was the only home Azara has known our Director was hesitant that she wouldn't adjust. Well Azara proved her wrong! She loves her new home and family (even though the other cat is a little crabby!)

What makes this story even sweeter is that her new home is a half mile from where she was originally trapped!

Art from the Heart

On any given day you never know who is going to walk into the office at Open Door Animal Sanctuary. Even after meeting the individual, couple or family, you still don't really know them. However, sometimes we are able to make a slightly deeper connection with our adoptive families.

This was the case with Cat Summers who adopted Kaizer, a German Shepherd from Open Door. Our President loved the dog and was able to spend some extra time with Cat while she was at the shelter. A few weeks later Cat surprised us with a beautiful piece of art she painted of two of our office cats and the following poem:

True Love

Look closely at this art
It was painted on an old piece of wood
Disposable, right?
But just like so many cats & dogs
It has found new life and became
a beautiful piece of art
Thank you for rescuing & for supporting
Open Door Animal Sanctuary
Who sees & restores the beauty in every animal.

Cat Summers



PO Box 870
House Springs, MO 63051
636.671.3643

Seeking Young Friends Advisory Board Members

The Young Friends Advisory Board will be a volunteer leadership board consisting of young professionals whose primary goal is to raise awareness and support the fundraising and advocacy efforts of Open Door Animal Sanctuary.

We are looking for young adults, ages 21-35 years old who have a passion for helping animals and display an extraordinary commitment to fundraising and advocacy in their community. The Young Friends Advisory Board will consist of approximately fifteen members who will focus on the following three areas: Membership and Awareness, Special Events, and Corporate Giving/Outreach.

This is a great opportunity to develop skills in leadership, event planning, fundraising, and outreach and will help build your professional network. If you are interested in joining the Young Friends Advisory Board, please contact Lindsey Burg at Lindsey@odas.org or 314.803.5005.

Seeking Dedicated Members for Brighten Event Committee

ODAS is currently seeking passionate and motivated volunteers to serve on next year's Brighten the Days of Our Strays Event Committee. This is a terrific opportunity to make a profound difference in the lives of our animals and the thousands of animals ODAS will help in years to come.

The primary responsibility of this committee will be to raise money for the event by selling sponsorships and tickets as well as procure silent auction items. Candidates should be passionate about helping homeless animals and willing to tap into their community connections in order to maximize fundraising potential for this event. Committee meetings will be held once per month starting eight months before the event date.

If you are interested in joining the "Brighten" Event Committee, please email Lindsey@odas.org or call 314.803.5005. Thanks for your support and interest!

Open Door is open 7 days a week from 10am to 4pm, (Tuesdays until 5pm), 365 days a year. We love adult volunteers and welcome all our members to come visit our beautiful shelter. Our dogs love to be walked and our cats like to be brushed! All 350 of them adore attention from new admirers so they can show off and try to win you over. They do however love their 100 kisses a day and demand it from everyone who walks through our door! So please come visit our precious angels; you won't regret it.