



# Pet Gazette



Carrie Kuehl, Executive Director

**By providing affordable spay and neuter surgeries and wellness services, the Animal Birth Control Clinic promotes responsible, lifetime pet ownership and saves lives.**

## **\$20,000 Grant from the Waco Foundation Enables Hiring of First Executive Director**

The Animal Birth Control Clinic has big plans for its 18<sup>th</sup> year of providing quality, affordable spays and neuters to the Waco/McLennan County area. The plan began in February 2005 when the ABC Clinic board members decided to significantly increase the number of surgeries performed. This required additional resources and funding. Through a \$20,000 grant award from the Waco Foundation, Carrie Kuehl has been hired as the Executive Director to coordinate additional education, community visibility, fundraising and surgical services which began January 1, 2006. The grant is the 4<sup>th</sup> largest awarded for this grant cycle by the Waco Foundation. Additional funds are currently needed to maintain these increased programs and surgical services.

Performing spays and neuters effectively reduces the numbers of unwanted animals dumped to wander alone, hungry and scared; or surrendered then euthanized; or warehoused in no-kill rescue shelters. Last year the ABC Clinic performed over 3,700 spays and neuters and more than 10,900 vaccinations. These surgeries prevented approximately 30,000 unwanted dogs and cats from being born in the next litter. However, we must do more to stop the misery and unnecessary deaths of unwanted animals. Last year over 10,000 animals had to be destroyed at our local shelter.

Many reproducing pets are owned by low-income families unable to pay for their pet's sterilization surgery. For an average of just \$50 for a spay or neuter, you can help the Animal Birth Control Clinic help others. Spay/neuter is the humane, cost-effective alternative to the hundreds of thousands of dollars spent to capture, feed, shelter, and euthanize pets in our community. Donations are needed to increase the number of spay and neuter surgeries performed for pets and to provide education to citizens of Waco and McLennan County.

## ***Spay/neuter is a highly efficient use of animal welfare funds***

### **How to Give...**

Break the cycle of pain and misery caused by uncontrolled animal births...

- |   |  |   |
|---|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$500 for ten spay/neuter surgeries  | <input type="checkbox"/> \$150 for three spay/neuter surgeries | <input type="checkbox"/> \$50 for one spay/neuter surgery |
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$250 for five spay/neuter surgeries | <input type="checkbox"/> \$100 for two spay/neuter surgeries   |   |

Please mention if you'd like your gift made in honor or memory of someone or a special pet. Your tax-deductible donation should be made payable to the Animal Birth Control Clinic. Your generosity is appreciated.

## Volunteer Opportunities



### Hugs for our vaccination clinic volunteers!

“FUN” and “REWARDING” are the words most often used to describe volunteering at the ABC Clinic.

- Prepare vaccination certificate books, reminder cards & tags
- Vaccination Clinic sign-up clerks, and customer escorts.
- Receptionist for surgery days
- Record-keeping & data entry
- Serve on a volunteer committee

Do you have special skills?  
Call to discuss other opportunities! ~ 751-7796

### Daily Costs Include:

- surgical supplies: gloves, anesthesia, surgical drape, suture material, instruments
- clinic supplies: beach-sized towels, laundry detergent, cleaners, antibacterial soap, office supplies
- medical supplies: vaccinations, testing materials, medications
- utilities, insurance, salaries (veterinary, vet technicians, and office staff)

### We always need:

- \$8 New or old large bath towels
- \$15 Laundry Detergent-large
- \$10 General office supplies
- \$\$ Office Depot/Sams gift card
- \$25 Cat Carriers!
- \$15 Metal folding chairs

## Where Does the ABC Clinic Get Funds?

First, where the Animal Birth Control Clinic *doesn't* get program funds: the Clinic does not get funds from the federal government, municipalities, or organizations such as the United Way.

The ABC Clinic is a non-profit organization. In the past, the Clinic was awarded grants from the DJ&T Foundation to fund spays and neuters for low-income families. Smaller grants have also been awarded for computer and medical equipment replacements.

If spay/neuter surgery prices are not affordable, pet owners are less likely to have the surgery performed. By specializing in spay/neuter surgeries, the Animal Birth Control Clinic keeps quality high and prices low. The prices charged for surgeries (average of \$50.00) are actually lower than the expenses for the clinic to perform the surgeries.

Through affordable vaccinations, basic wellness services and products (such as flea and heartworm prevention), a limited amount of income is made for the difference between the prices charged for surgeries and the Clinic's actual cost of surgery. However, this leaves no funds for other services, such as education or assistance for low-income families. Any gift you can make to the Animal Birth Control Clinic is important and appreciated and can be ear-marked for your favorite part of all that is accomplished.



Dr. Baker performs a neuter surgery on “Scrappy.”

## Quality, Caring Veterinarians & Staff

Leigh Ann Milton-Robert, DVM  
Theresa Baker, DVM  
Carrie Kuehl, Executive Director  
Linda Reece, Clinic Coordinator  
Lacy Carnahan, Veterinary Technician  
Kim Miller, Veterinary Technician  
Sharlene Hammond, Veterinary Technician  
Angela Hudson, Veterinary Technician  
Celia Hooper, Administrative Assistant  
Stephanie Hudgens, Veterinary Technician

## Waco Animal Coalition Formed

The ABC Clinic, Waco Humane Society Animal Shelter and Fuzzy Friends have formed an alliance to share needs, information and resources to more efficiently tackle pet overpopulation.

Four billboards were used with the names of the three partners to encourage the decision to adopt, spay and neuter, as the alternative to breeding and buying pets. Resources were also pooled for a similar billboard on Waco city buses.

The ABC Clinic is offering an extra vaccination clinic at the Waco Humane Society's Paws In the Park April 29, 2006.

Look for more great work from the coalition for the animals!

*\$56 is the average cost to care for one animal for just one week at a shelter.*

*\$50 is the average price for a spay/neuter surgery at the Animal Birth Control Clinic.*

*Spay/neuter is the simple solution.*

**We appreciate these veterinarians for their continued support:**

Leigh Ann Milton-Robert, DVM  
Theresa Baker, DVM  
Lynn Harper, DVM  
Ruann Pittman, DVM  
Kelly Gilliland, DVM  
Gayland Gowdy, DVM  
Suzanne Brown, DVM  
Terrie Boedecker, DVM

## Ordinances Discussed for Proposal to the City Council

The Waco animal coalition is discussing the following ordinances for proposal to the City Council to improve the well-being of pets and citizens of Waco.

### 1. Microchipping/Registration

A one-time, \$20 registration of altered pets gives permanent identification, increases owner reclaims at shelters, promotes owner responsibility of at-large animals. A portion of the one-time fee is to be allocated to a fund to spay/neuter pets of low-income families.

Unaltered pets will have an annual registration of \$40. This encourages spay/neuter without punishing responsible pet owners.

More than 27 animals were euthanized each day at the Waco Humane Society last year. This ordinance will help lower this number due to a reduction of reproducing pets in our community.

### 2. Tethering/Chaining of Animals

This is a public safety hazard. 20% of all fatal dog bites are from restrained animals. The City of Waco Animal Control Department investigates about 10 reported dog bites per month.

Dogs are commonly bound by wire, rope or heavy chains. Restraints often become imbedded in neck tissue due to growth and neglect. These dogs lack socialization due to isolation. They suffer from teasing, higher occurrence of water/food neglect, and unsanitary area due to feces.

Animal Control Officers will enforce this ordinance through visible drive-by inspections. Owners of tethered dogs will be given a 30-day warning to provide a fenced yard or an adequate fenced dog run.

Other Texas municipalities that have adopted similar tethering laws have reported positive feedback. Waco can become a more socially responsible city by refusing to condone this inhumane treatment that creates danger in our neighborhoods.



Lacy cuddles with Crissy, a Pug, as she recovers from her spay surgery.

## Board of Directors

*Executive Director, Carrie Kuehl*

*President, Pat Stone*

*Vice-Pres., D.J. Ortman*

*Secretary, Marie Cox*

*Treasurer, Viki Linthicum*

### *Members:*

**Penny Gifford**

**Julie Fugitt**

**Suzi Wiseman**

**Lacy Carnahan**

**Rudy Herzog**

### *E-Mail:*

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**Phone: 254-776-7303**

## Big Wags

Thank you to our Corporate Partners

**Providence Healthcare  
Swift Outdoor Advertising**

**Dynamic Designs  
Regent Care Center**

**Kelly Realtors**

## Tour the Clinic

We are proud of our well-trained, caring staff and offer a tour to show how 25-30 quality, affordable spay/neuter surgeries are performed each day. If you would care to tour the clinic, please call!

## Memories and Hugs

*In Memory of:*

Molly, Maypo, & Critter

**by Col. Robert Darden**

Marcus by Nancy Craine

**by Viki Linthicum**

Sam Bailey

Angel Barfield

Buffy Brow

Schurka & Sasha Bunn

Baron Filer

Skeeter Holcolmb

Prissy Hutyra

Polo Jaynes

Jessie Kuehl

DeeDee Lloyd

Magic McKenzie

Sundance Patton

Lucy Pilant

Lady Plemmons

Trudy Ratcliff

Boomer Ward

Shotzie Young

**by Penelope's Pet Grooming**

*Hugs to:*

Dr. Stacie Layne Virden

Pat Stone

Rudolph Brow



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