



TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY

Stevenson Companion Animal Life-Care Center

Annual Newsletter • 2019-2021



Stevenson Center Newsletter • College of Veterinary Medicine & Biomedical Sciences

The Stevenson Center has had a busy 2019-2021. The past year has been unique for everybody. We have not been able to entertain visitors to the center during the pandemic. The permanent staff and student residents and student workers have been extraordinary during this difficult time. Our operation and pet care never skipped a beat and the entire crew has remained healthy by practicing stringent precautions. As always, we are grateful for the dedication and diligence of our staff. It is our sincere hope that 2021 will soon be safe enough for us to resume scheduling visitors.

We would like to share some of the changes in this newsletter that have occurred since our last newsletter. There are always changes in our pet population and also the student employees who progress in their studies and move on to their next chapter. Also, we would like to give thanks for the generosity of the center's friends who allow us the opportunity to provide the finest of care available to our resident pets.



Former Student Residents



Tim Turner was a student resident at the center from May of 2017 until May of 2019. He began his fourth year at the College of Veterinary Medicine & Biomedical Sciences when he moved out of the center. Tim graduated in May of 2020. We wish Tim the best of luck in all of his future endeavors.



Allison Heflin became a student resident in May of 2018 after working at the center as a student worker for 2 years. Allison moved out in May of 2020. She began her fourth year at the veterinary college in May of 2021. The entire staff and resident pets miss Allison very much. We hope she will continue to visit us and the pets who have formed close relationships with her frequently.

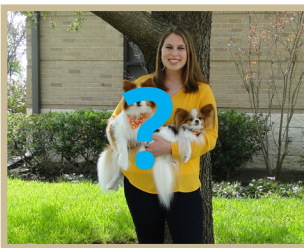


Catherine Caprio moved out as a student resident in May of 2021 when she entered her 4th year at the veterinary college. Catherine began working at the center as a student worker in 2017 and became a student resident in May of 2018. Our resident pets and staff will all miss Catherine. We expect to see her at the hospital when our pets have exams scheduled.

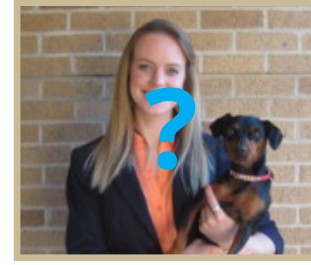
Current Student Residents



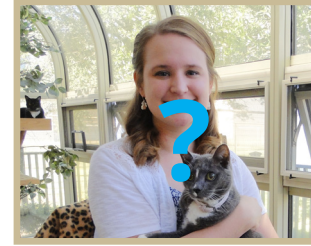
Sierra Key will begin her third year at the veterinary college in August of 2021. She stayed on as a student resident of the center. She began working at the center as a student worker in 2015 and became a student resident in May of 2017. The entire staff and pet population is ecstatic that Sierra is remaining with us. She is beloved by all.



Jackie Babin became a student resident in May of 2019. She will begin her third year at the veterinary college in August of 2021. Jackie stayed on at the center another year which is great news for all of us. She has fit right into the “family” and cares deeply for the four-legged kids for whom she cares. We are all happy that Jackie will be continuing on at the center.



Kelsey Ewart was our new student resident who came on duty in May of 2020 and began her 1st year at the veterinary college in August of 2020. We welcome Kelsey to the family and are excited that she settled in quickly in the midst of the pandemic. She is wonderful with the pets and the entire staff.



Pearl Chagolla came on as our newest student resident in May of 2021. She will begin her studies at the College of Veterinary Medicine & Biomedical Sciences in August of 2021. Pearl quickly learned her new position and is a welcome addition to the clan. The pets and staff are excited that she is here.

Our student residents care for the resident pets whenever the full-time staff is not on premise. This includes every evening, weekend, and staff holiday. They are devoted to the pets, the center and our mission. We are fortunate to have such a talented and competent group to help us accomplish our goals of providing the best care possible to these pets in a home-like environment. Living at the center and taking on this role is also beneficial to the students. They care for pets that are aging and they are privy to treatment methods for many different maladies that can affect older pets. This makes the students aware of what it may be like for their future clients when they are in practice and delivering diagnoses that could entail medication intervention. It helps our student residents to form these close relationships with our resident pets as well as helping the pets. It is our privilege to have this wonderful group of responsible students to help us with the resident pets.

The center also employs student workers who come in a couple of hours every day to assist the full-time staff with chores. These students are a tremendous help as there are many daily chores that need to be accomplished in order to keep the building pristine, the pets groomed, and provide plenty of socialization for the resident pets. Our pets and staff are all appreciative of the student workers and all that they do to help us out.

As always, the center remains successful due to the fabulous daytime staff. They all know the center’s mission and are devoted to making that happen in an incredible fashion. Montana Conaway has been an Animal Caretaker at the center for four years now and continues to be a wonderful addition to the “family”. She is in touch with the animals and tends to all of their physical and emotional needs. Kim Muth has been an Animal Caretaker at the center for nearly seventeen years showering our resident pets with love and devotion. Our pets and staff are ecstatic that Kim is one of our team members. Janet Broadhead has been with the center for over twenty years. She is our Veterinary Technician who coordinates the care of the pets. The center is extremely fortunate to have Janet who makes sure that our pets are always in the best of health in every aspect. Ellie Greenbaum is the Associate Director who has been at the center for twenty-two years. Ellie runs the day to day operations and handles accounting duties and personnel issues for the center. Dr. Sonny Presnal is the center’s Director. He has been the head of operations for twenty-three years. The center has flourished under his leadership. Our staff’s longevity speaks volumes to their dedication and commitment to the program and the pets under our care. This is vital to the success of the program.

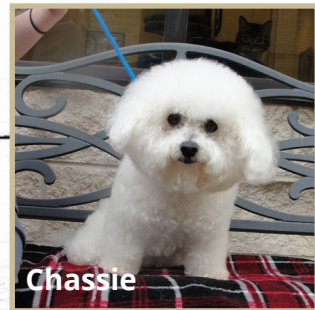


Pet Losses This Year

We have lost 14 of our precious resident pets since our last newsletter in 2018. Pumpkin was a beautiful and sweet 10-year-old cat that we lost in December of 2018. Also, in December of 2018 we lost our dear 15-year-old terrier mix, Reggie. In April of 2019 our wonderful 15-year-old Labrador, Fred, passed away. Our little 18-year-old Bichon Frise, Chassagne, passed away in June of 2019 as well as our sweet little 12-year-old cat, Annie. In February of 2020 our beloved 19-year-old cat, Willie, passed away. Then in April of 2020 another long time resident, Dice, a 20-year-old cat left us. Our 9-year-old Rhodesian Ridgeback, Jake, passed away in July of 2020. In August of 2020 we lost our 15-year-old Border Collie, Sophie, and our 16-year-old Yorkshire Terrier, Mikey. Our 15-year-old Boston Terrier, Patty passed away in September of 2020. Sam, our 17-year-old Maltese left us in November of 2020. Our beloved cat, Gracie, who came to the center in December of 2008 left us in February of 2021. Emmi, a wonderful 10-year old dog, passed away in April of 2021. As you can imagine, all of these losses affect us deeply as we fall in love with every resident pet that enters the center. It was our good fortune to have all of these wonderful friends as long as we did and we miss them terribly. They were all very special to us.



Annie



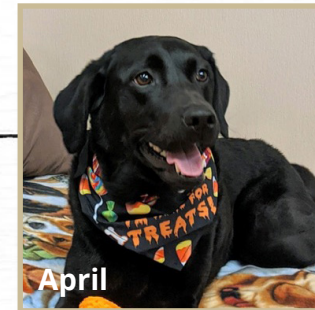
Chassie



Dice



Emmi



April



Blossom



Chaco



Dash



Fred



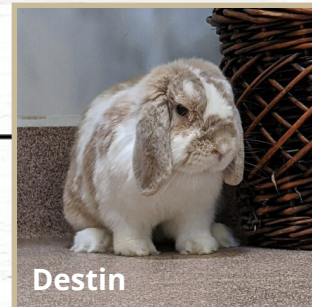
Gracie



Jake



Mikey



Destin



Dexter



Kacey



Patty



Pumpkin



Reggie



Katie



Millie



Pecos



Sam



Sophie



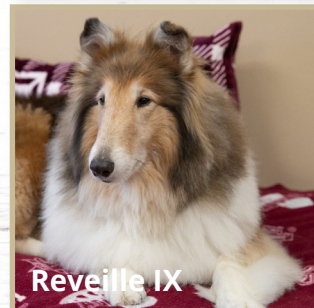
Willie



Riley



Zeke



Reveille IX

New Pet Residents

There have been 13 additions to the center family since our last newsletter. Chaco, a rabbit from New Mexico, entered the center in November of 2018. Kacey, a cat from South Carolina, came to the center in May of 2019. In June of 2019 two more rabbits, Pecos and Blossom, came to the center from New Mexico. Then in July of 2019 a Dandie Dinmont Terrier, Millie, entered the center from Houston, Texas. In July of 2020 a rabbit, Destin, came to the center from New Mexico. April, a beautiful black Labrador, came to the center from San Antonio in September of 2020. Also, in September of 2020, a sweet cat, Katie, came to reside at the center. Four cats, Dash, Dexter, Zeke, and Riley, from Addison, Texas came to reside at the center in December of 2020. Our newest resident pet is the retired mascot of TAMU, Reveille IX. It is our honor and privilege to provide Reveille's care and housing during her well-earned retirement. As always, we are all excited when new pets enter our "family". All of them are loved deeply and we are grateful for the opportunity to care for them.



Enrollment Update

Currently, there are 289 owners enrolled in the program from 35 states and 2 countries with 721 pets. The 710 enrolled pets are comprised of 349 cats, 326 dogs, 22 birds, 16 horses, 2 donkeys, 3 rabbits and 3 pocket pets. There are 9 dogs, 15 cats, and 4 rabbits residing at the center at this time.

There is currently a moratorium on the enrollment of large animals at the center. This should be a temporary situation as we pursue efforts to secure new large animal facilities.



Resident Pets' Medical Care

Our resident pets receive their health care from the Texas A&M Veterinary Medical Teaching Hospital. The VMTH is a state-of-the-art facility with specialists in many fields who can diagnose and provide treatment for the resident pets. The pets have annual exams and vaccinations. Some of our geriatric residents also have semi-annual exams. All of our pets' medical needs are met by the VMTH including emergency care. We are fortunate to be next door to the hospital for all of our needs, day or night.



Enjoying Life.

Enjoying Friends.



Stevenson Center Advisory Board

The center is very fortunate to have 9 dedicated individuals that serve on the Stevenson Center Advisory Board. These dedicated individuals serve as a sounding board to the Director and Associate Director to render their advice on major decisions for the center. The board meets at the center three times annually. They are briefed at each meeting on all the activity of the center. Additionally, they are given a very detailed financial report. Their input has been invaluable to the staff over the past 20 years since the Dean first appointed it. The Dean upon the recommendation of the Director appoints six members to three-year terms. The remaining three are permanent members by virtue of their position with the college.

Currently the members of the Stevenson Center Advisory Board are:

Mr. Bo Connell, Assistant Dean for Hospital Operations

Dr. Bert Dodd, Clinical Professor, Department of Small Animal Clinical Services

Dr. Stacy Eckman, Clinical Assistant Professor, Department of Small Animal Clinical Services

Mrs. Susie Geppert, SCALC Donor/Friend, San Antonio, TX

Mr. Tim Geppert, SCALC Donor/Friend, San Antonio, TX

Dr. Sharman Hoppes, Clinical Assoc. Professor, Department of Small Animal Clinical Services

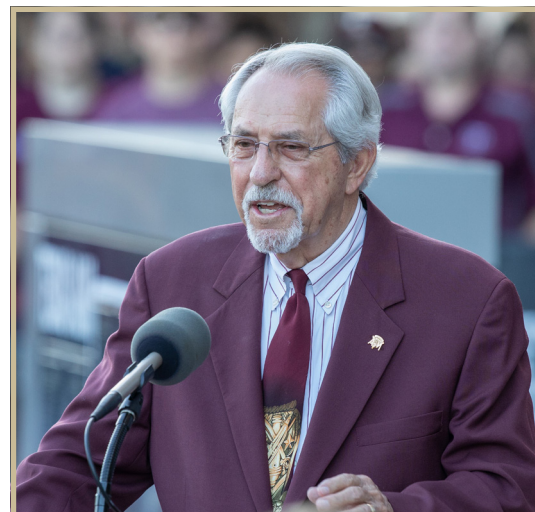
Mrs. Mattie Stevenson, SCALC Donor/Friend, Houston, TX

Dr. Kevin Washburn, Professor, Department of Large Animal Clinical Sciences

Dr. O. J. "Bubba" Woytek, Asst. VP of Development & Alumni Relations, CVM

Dr. Henry L. "Sonny" Presnal, Director, SCALC, Chairman of Advisory Board

Mrs. Ellie Greenbaum, Associate Director, SCALC



We Appreciate Your Support

Wish List

The center is fortunate to have so many friends and supporters of this program. We are often asked what the center needs. Gift cards to Walmart, Target, PetSmart and Petco are always welcome as well as monetary donations. These gifts help us replenish toys, bedding, and pet furniture which need frequent replacement.

Thank you all for your continued support and friendship. The Stevenson Center is forever grateful for your generosity and thoughtfulness. We wish you and your families good health and joy.

Web Site

The center's web site address is <https://vetmed.tamu.edu/stevenson-center/>. If you would like to make a gift in memory or in honor of a pet or person you can print out a Gift Form under the "Support" tab on the web site and send the completed form along with your donation to the Stevenson Center at the address provided on the form. There is also a link to "Online Giving" where you can make a gift using a credit card. The center will send a letter of gratitude to all donors and a letter of notification to persons designated by donors informing them of the gift. The entire staff and resident pets are grateful for all gifts to the center. We greatly appreciate your support.

Gift Giving Form

Donor's Name: _____

Address: _____

Amount:\$ _____

If in Memory or Honor of a pet or person (please circle):

Name: _____

Send Acknowledgment (if in memory or honor) to:

Name: _____

Address: _____

This gift is to support:

Miscellaneous (as needed)

Please make checks payable to: **Stevenson Companion Animal Life-Care Center**

Please mail to: Stevenson Companion Animal Life-Care Center
College of Veterinary Medicine & Biomedical Sciences
4461 TAMU
College Station, TX 77843-4461

Thank you for your generosity.





The Stevenson Companion Animal Life-Care Center is a privately funded program of the College of Veterinary Medicine & Biomedical Sciences at Texas A&M University, and as such is a resource for friends of the college to provide a home-like environment for their pets when they can no longer care for them.

The center fosters educational experiences for professional students by providing opportunities in which they can attend to the care and needs of companion animals.



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& Biomedical Sciences