

Monthly Review of Cat and Dog Welfare Programme, China

(August 2012)

4th China Dog Ownership Management Symposium

successfully held in Dalian

Jointly held by Animals Asia, Humane Society International and Dalian Pet 100 and run with Dalian Dog Management Office, the 4th China Dog Ownership Management Symposium 2012 kicked off in northeast China's Dalian city from 16th -17th August. There was an increased attendance than the symposium in 2011 with 121 delegates from 34 cities attended the event, including 75 governmental officials, 31 delegates from animal welfare groups, and some experts from international animal welfare organizations.





Left: The 4th China Dog Ownership Management Symposium kicks off in Dalian Right: Q&A section, Mr Deng from Dalian Dog Management Office answers questions

It was a two-day conference, one day for discussion (Q&A section and group discussion), half a day for presentation and another half day for visiting Dalian government dog shelter. As of this year, we added more discussion sections into the conference. In the afternoon of 16th August, we separated the delegates into two discussion groups: government groups and animal welfare groups, in which the "insiders" could enjoy a free discussion by themselves. Then in the morning of 17th August the two groups joined together for further discussions. This new format was highly praised by the delegates.

During the presentations Dalian PSB shared their experiences of dog management, Dalian Chong Ai Tian Xia (Pet 100) group introduced how best to cooperate with local PSB's, HSI talked about US Shelters and Companion Animals, the Progress, Evaluation and Benchmarks and the director of Multnomah County Animal Services Portland, Oregon, USA made an overview of Animal Care and Control Public Policy in the USA. Wendy from Animals Asia introduced A Seven Point Plan to save lives and improve welfare in large scale rescues. As our special guest, HKSPCA showed the delegates how to catch stray dogs in a humane and safe way and how to make a simple stray animal catcher.







Left: Q&A section, Mr Wang from Tianjin PSB asks questions

Right: Delegates visit Dalian government dog shelter

Some of the delegates were old friends of Animals Asia and some had joined our workshop for the first time. Mr. You Long from Harbin PSB who has recently taken charge of the dog management work said the symposium was really helpful for him and he requested education leaflets for his future work. Mr. Zeng Guoping from Nanning PSB wished for a deeper cooperation and they hoped to introduce the dog ownership management symposium in Nanning city in the future.

As a platform for building up communication between animal welfare groups and local PSB's, the symposium is to be held once a year in different cities throughout China to encourage humane dog ownership management across the country.

Five winning photos of the 2012 World Animal Day photo contest are released

To celebrate the annual "World Animal Day" on 4th of October, Animals Asia Foundation launched the nationwide 2012 "Sharing Love with Them -- online photo contest" (Sina Weibo http://event.weibo.com/545121), with the Chinese famous TV stars "Tian Tian Brothers" ambassadors of the event. The activity ran throughout August and with 54 of the best photos selected and 5 winning photos out of the 2,448 submissions. Now all the rewarded photos are in the notice period and a formal announcement of the finalists will be announced by 26 of September. Totally 28,800 people joined the online event with the number of re-posts reaching 135,000.

With the theme of "Sharing Love with Them", the award is separated in five categories of "We are happy together," "We are a family," "The most creative photo," "The most touching eyes," and "The lost angels."







"The lost angels"

"The most touching eyes"



"We are a family"



"We are happy together"

"The most creative photo"



The event is to encourage responsible companion animal ownership and to help give stray animals a voice as well as to protest against eating cats and dogs.

The number of participants is more than that in 2011 and all the works we received this year seem to be of a higher quality. From the pictures, we could see some interesting differences from last year's. In 2011, most of the "roles" were young people while in 2012, we could see pregnant women, little babies, young couples as well as senior citizens with their cats or dogs which gave us a big surprise. Apart from focusing on being a responsible dog owner, the photos also showed attention to some hot issues happened in the animal protection field, like rescuing dogs and cats from the trucks which were heading to meat markets.

The online photo contest is followed by our "Cyclists love animals" activity from September to November and the celebrations for the World Animal Day, as well as a cross-country road show of our winning photos to spread love for the animals.

Dr Dogs join 1st Guangzhou Cat Carnival

Dr Dogs from Guangzhou joined Guangzhou's first Cat Carnival on 4-5th of August in the Baiyun Wanda Plaza. The event was a party held for cat-lovers in the city and over 200,000 people joined the 2-day event. The hall was separated into two parts, one was for the cat "beauty contest" and the other for local animal welfare groups. Animals Asia, Pamily (for stray dogs), and Guangzhou Cat had set up booths to attract visitors.





Paws graffiti on the face

Is it beautiful, designed by me





Left: Hello Xing, long time no see

Right: Dr Didi and Dr Chen Baobao introduce Dr Dog programme on the stage



We offered two fun games of "Paws graffiti" (painting a cat face and dog paw on people's arms or faces) and "Painting for a cat" (painting cat stickers). The colorful graffiti seemed to be a trend especially for the young people and also many parents and their little kids came to our painting table.

8 of our Dr Dogs took turns to be "guests" on the show. Dr Duoduo, a mini Chihuahua with long hair soon became popular with many adoring "fans". Duoduo's guardian Ms Huang introduced this little one to new friends with our animal welfare leaflets. A lady said with surprise that he was "adorable just like a little cat!" Dr Jimmy, the star in our Guangzhou team was already used to flashing lights for he had been on TV several times. Dr Didi and Dr Chen Baobao were invited by the MC on the stage to show the friendliness of our Dr Dog's and to welcome more friends to join us to work together for a better life for the animals.

Dr Dog and Professor Paws events

During July, Animals Asia carried out a total of 15 Dr Dog visits reaching 725 people; 2 Professor Paws course and 2 Care for Animals Presentation in Guangzhou, Shenzhen, Chengdu and Hong Kong. Here are some selections:

One of our senior volunteers - Alice Chan

Alice joined Animals Asia Hong Kong Dr Dog since 1995, nearly 17 years. Her first Dr Dog, Dr Barbie, was a Maltese Cross. Although Barbie had already left us for quite a while, every single time when we saw her pictures, we could feel how sweet and friendly she was.

Alice's family has five Dr Dogs now, Dr Candy, Dr Siu Mui, Dr Cherry, Dr Maisie and Dr Kelly, and also two new Bichon Frise. No word can be described how she has been contributed for AAF but we still have to say," Thank you Alice!"



Dr Dogs Visit Guangzhou Huiling

Guangzhou's Dr Su Su, Badi and Du Du visited Guangzhou Huiling (a home for people with mental disabilities) on 10th of August, where they had a very happy afternoon with 6 new friends from the Huiling Summer Camp. Ms Chen, Youth League Secretary of Guangzhou Sixteenth Secondary School and other 4 students were invited to join us on the visit.





During the visit, children played games and chatted with our Dr Dogs. A member of the Summer Camp called Li Jun was very scared at the beginning because he was chased by a dog in the past. Whatever the volunteers and students said, nobody could persuade him to play with any Dr Dog. Then when he saw lovely and docile Dr Du Du (a cute West Highland White Terrier), and with some encouragement from us, he started to touch the head of Du Du, gave Du Du snacks and even took Du Du in his arms until we had to say goodbye.

After the visit, students of Guangzhou Sixteenth Secondary School shared their feeling with us, saying they had learnt how to treat special groups equally. At the same time, they now knew how to get along well with dogs. Teachers and students said they hoped to take part in more Dr dog visits.

Professor Paws Visits Community to Promote Public Education

Chengdu Professor Paws carried out summer activities together with the children of Chengdu T-zone, bringing them a special summer holiday! Our Professor Paws course was separated into 3 parts including "care for life" presentation; Q & A session and interaction with Professor Paws. It was very interesting that during the Q & A session, many parents joined their children and raced to be the first to answer questions! In the third class, the students were divided into 2 circles to say hello and shake hands with Professor Paws as well as learning how to feed dogs in an appropriate way. The children made a colorful "wish tree" and wrote down their love for animals.







Children and Professor Xin Ba

In Shenzhen, Professor Paws came to JinYu LanWan community to promote correct dog keeping education. We received support from the local property management company and from the volunteers of the Shenzhen Dog Protecting Association. We added a variety of sessions into this activity which



included a correct dog keeping presentation, distributing leaflets, fun games and making friends with Professor Paws. We were surrounded by joy the whole day.



Support to Taiyuan Ai Xin Jia Yuan Dog Shelter

After being informed that a large number of dogs died due to lack of food in Taiyuan Ai Xin Jia Yuan Dog Shelter in northwest China's Shanxi Province, we immediately got in touch with Mr. Zhao Hongguang, deputy commander of Taiyuan PSB and Mr. Zhao Shoushan, head of Taiyuan Ai Xin Jia Yuan Dog Shelter. Zhao Shoushan told us some dogs died of disease (without urgent isolation of dogs) but not lack of food. Commander Zhao declared that all the stray dogs that were sent to the shelter had been placed on file. Now Taiyuan PSB is building an official shelter and Ai Xin Jia Yuan has started to disinfect the shelter and set up isolation area to prevent the spread of disease.

Animals Asia sent Taiyuan PSB and Ai Xin Jia Yuan Shelter our "Shelter Management Handbook" and "The 7 Points Rescue Handbook". We also sent our suggestion of humane dog keeping management and all our dog ownership management symposium materials to the government. We were saddened about the death of the dogs and hope for a more scientific and qualified shelter for the dogs with the help of society in the future.

2012 Guiyang Yoga Midi Music Festival

2012 Midi Music Festival was launched from 23rd - 26th of August in Guiyang Huaxi Park. We attended the festival as exhibitors and combined music to the theme of "care for animals." We carried out a series of events such as "Anti-eating cats and dogs", "Promise to be a responsible dog owner", "Be together forever" and "Care for the animals" to make our idea of caring for animals deeply accepted.









Care for the animals!

Anti-eating cats and dogs!

Promise to be a responsible dog owner!

Support for animal welfare groups

There were a total of five groups applying for public education materials for activities to protect animals this month which included; Uncle Yang Stray Animals Rescue Center, Tianjin Stray Animals Rescue Center, Shanghai Students Commonweal Brand Union, Little Animals Care Center of Hefei Dog Association and Qishan Commonweal Summer Social Practice Team. Shanghai Students Commonweal Brand Union carried out the promotion of anti-eating cats and dogs in the Shanghai Himalayas Center and Qishan Commonweal Summer Social Practice Team also did a local promotion. We have seen an increase of animal protection teams from schools and we believe that student animal protection teams will be a new and strong power to China animal protection. Come on everyone!





Animals Asia China Cat and Dog Welfare Team Animals Asia HK Dr Dog and Pro Paws Team August, 2012