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ANDREA FOR ANIMALS BLOG

A PLACE TO COMMUNICATE WITH THE FRIENDS AND SUPPORTERS OF THE ANDREA FOR ANIMALS FUND RAISING WEBSITE, PET RESCUE AND/OR CLIENTS AND FRIENDS OF ANDREA KIM/KK'S PET SITTING

SATURDAY PET BLOG

SATURDAY, JULY 24, 2010



The Puppy Mill Project and Andrea For Animals : A beautiful partnership



ABOUT ANDREA



owner of KK's Pet Sitting and founder of AndreaForAnimals.com animal fund-raising website

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BLOG ARCHIVE

- ▼ 2010 (10)
 - ▼ 07/18 - 07/25 (1)
 - The Puppy Mill Project and Andrea For Animals : A ...
 - ▶ 07/11 - 07/18 (1)
 - ▶ 04/18 - 04/25 (3)
 - ▶ 04/11 - 04/18 (1)



Several months ago, as I was driving down Western Avenue, a woman waved at me to talk to me about my car magnets, which were about pet rescue. At a stoplight, she said that I must be a real animal-lover, like herself, to have them, especially the one against puppy mills. She gave me her business card, and I contacted

her that evening. She explained to me that she was a volunteer for The Puppy Mill Project, and that the group would love to have me in their corner.

I don't know when I first understood the concept of a puppy mill, or when the connection between mills and pet stores really sunk in, but I have known about them, and have been against puppy mills for many years. Please see [The Puppy Mill Project's website](#) or even [Wikipedia's page](#) for more information. I cannot understand why anyone would still buy a puppy from a store.

At first, I didn't have the time to go to their protests, which are held almost every Saturday. They were focusing on a local chain of pet stores called Pawsh Puppies, which had four locations. They were protesting the Northbrook Court location regularly. Northbrook Court shopping Center even threw them out of the mall on one Saturday, simply for wearing anti-puppy store t-shirts in the mall. It was a sort of "silent" protest. When they started focusing on another of the Pawsh Puppy stores, located on Halsted (now closed) in Chicago and a more convenient a location for me, I started becoming more involved. I brought my boyfriend, a freelance photographer, Dallas Yanez with me to photo-document the protest. He often takes photos for charity events, particularly for pet rescues. I even

- ▶ 03/28 - 04/04 (1)
- ▶ 03/21 - 03/28 (1)
- ▶ 03/14 - 03/21 (1)
- ▶ 01/24 - 01/31 (1)

- ▶ 2009 (77)
- ▶ 2008 (24)
- ▶ 2007 (16)

brought a couple of dogs to get more attention to the group. Since then, I've been attending as regularly as I can, invite people to participate, and bring Dallas along for each new location. I also wrote an article about them for The Examiner.com in May.

Pawsh Puppies has recently changed their name to Planet Pooch, possibly to try and trick consumers who have heard so much about their unethical puppy suppliers. It won't work, because The Puppy Mill Project is already protesting their new store on Clybourn Ave.

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Photo by Dallas Yanez. [Click to enlarge](#)

The founder of The Puppy Mill Project, Cari Meyers, is a strong, passionate voice for the dogs in puppy mills. It is inspiring to me that she has the courage and strength to persevere, even in the face of threats and frivolous lawsuits against her by puppy mill stores trying to cover their "assets."

The main goal of The Puppy Mill Project is educating consumers of the truth about puppy mills and dogs sold in pet stores. In addition to this, however, the Puppy Mill Project has also been facilitating rescue operations and transporting puppy mill dogs to rescue groups in the Midwest.

In early June, 22 dogs were rescued and transported to rescues; on July 10th, 11 dogs were rescued; on July 14th, 28 dogs were rescued; and on July 17th, 11 dogs were rescued. All of these dogs were going to be killed if The Puppy Mill Project did not step in. In the case of the most recent group, the puppy mill owner had already dug the dogs' graves. They were in imminent danger. Since their rescue was a rush to save their lives, the dogs had to be transported before veterinary care could be obtained for them, and they did not have time to get commitments from rescues beforehand. The Puppy Mill Project incurred a great deal of expenses from medical care for these dogs. Since July 17th, they have been quarantined and their veterinary needs addressed. Most have now been transported to rescue groups, but a few remain in Chicago. Please look at some of the 11

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on Slide.com. The boxers in these photos still need foster homes.

Obtaining and transporting unwanted dogs relinquished by puppy mill operators requires a great deal of effort, communication and cooperation between volunteers. It also costs money for gas and other travel-related expenses. Veterinary care costs are incredible. Please consider contributing to the medical care of the 11 most recently rescued, future puppy mill rescues, as well as the ongoing education of consumers and efforts made to influence legislation. We've started an online "ChipIn fund" and the transactions are securely handled via paypal.

Thank you, and I'll see you at the protests!

POSTED BY ANDREA AT 10:06 PM

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