

Dedicated to Healthy Animals, Happy Homes

Melanie didn't stop there with her service to the animals; she was instrumental in getting the Pups in the Park program up and running. Ever since then, she has never hesitated to take the lead and make constant

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improvements with her suggestions and ideas. One of the most important impacts Melanie makes is encouraging other volunteers to join Pups in the Park walkers to give more dogs a chance to have exercise and a better chance to be adopted. She never seems to tire and only works harder with the addition of new volunteers, She trains them and makes herself available to assist the staff members.

She continues to better her skills as a volunteer. She recently attended the dog training course which equips her to work one-on-one with several shelter dogs teaching them basic commands and improving their chances for adoptions. As a direct result of her commitment to being the best volunteer she can be and always striving to learn more, several dogs were able to find a new home. Melanie's deep care and concern for the shelter dogs is evident in all the work she does, from showing up early to walk the dogs to searching for opportunities to increase her knowledge. She continually puts the dogs' well-being above her own. She currently cares for a lost stray and has even adopted a dog from the shelter.

It is clear that Melanie is a very dedicated and caring volunteer whose generosity of her time and caring spirit have not only benefited the animals in the shelter, but the countless other volunteers and shelter staff. We are happy to award Melanie with Volunteer of the Year 2012, a VIP portfolio and a \$25 gift certificate to On The Border.