

## Skeeter Goes to School

Centenary College has a new mascot: a Catahoula hound, the state dog of Louisiana.

School officials adopted a Catahoula named Skeeter from a shelter in Houston, Texas. When he is not attending games and events, Skeeter stays with Rick DelaHaya, Centenary College's marketing and communications director, and his two dogs.

"We are going to enroll him in obedience class and also train students as handlers," DelaHaya says. "He really is a good fit for the college."



## Big Easy Gets a Little Easier

Veterinarians, vet techs and students from across the country worked wonders at the St. Bernard Parish Animal Shelter.

"I was devastated by the state of affairs as I passed through the Ninth Ward and St. Bernard Parish," says Dr. Cindy Otto, a project volunteer. "Arriving at the animal shelter, it was clear that it, too, had suffered. But unlike the overwhelming sense of gloom elsewhere, here was hope and promise."

In New Orleans for the 13th International Veterinary Emergency and Critical Care Symposium, the volunteers moved the animals and then cleaned and disinfected every inch of the building. They scraped, spackled, sanded and painted the walls in the Mardi Gras colors of purple and green. Two animal holding rooms were turned into surgery and treatment rooms. Ceiling panels and surgery lights were installed, along with doors, cabinets, sinks and tables.



Photo courtesy LSU School of Veterinary Medicine

The St. Bernard Parish Animal Shelter is also the first focus of the Louisiana State University School of Veterinary Medicine's outreach program for shelters in the New Orleans area. Vet students from LSU will perform spay/neuter procedures there.

## Great Stuff!

Not sure if the kids are ready for the commitment of a dog or cat? Adopting a stuffed animal may be the answer.

StuffedAnimals.com has launched an online stuffed-animal adoption service at [www.stuffedanimalshelter.com](http://www.stuffedanimalshelter.com). Once you choose the animal you wish to "adopt," it is shipped directly to your home along with an adoption "cerstufficate" and a Stuffed Animal Shelter Club Membership.

After the pet arrives, "stufftomers" (as the customers are called) can return to the website to register their pet and receive official adoption records. Better yet, a portion of each adoption fee is donated to actual animal shelters.



Photos courtesy Centenary College of Louisiana

## Spay/Neuter Spokes-man

In early April, Bill Craig hopped on his bicycle at the Dallas Humane Society in Dallas, Texas, to start an 800-mile solo journey to the Paulding Humane Society in Dallas, Georgia.

His goal? "I want to bring the message of spay, neuter and adopt to as many communities as I can, making more people aware that it is incumbent on us to make a change," he says. Bill brought attention to shelter overcrowding and raised money for the humane societies in the five states along his route. For more information, visit the Dallas to Dallas Ride for Wet Noses site: [www.d2d4wetnoses.com](http://www.d2d4wetnoses.com).



Photo courtesy Humane Society of Dallas