

# Report from New Orleans

## Friday, May 14

Our final day, Friday, we went to ARNO (Animal Shelter of New Orleans). This was the day many of us had been anticipating all week and it did not disappoint. We were greeted by the manager and many barks. The shelter was founded in the aftermath of Katrina to help care for abandoned animals. Unfortunately, abandoned pets and feral animals remain a large problem in New Orleans and thus the shelter is as busy as ever. After the groups read through a rather lengthy notebook of procedures to avoid trouble between animals and on the spread of diseases, we got to work. A small group was assigned the cats while the rest were on dog duty. There was quite a



system in the kennels. Each dog was leashed in the cage and then taken out for a walk. As one of the students walked the dog, the cleaning crew cleaned and disinfected the cage, changed the water



Near the end of our work day on Friday, we were given the job of washing the dogs. Each dog required a rinse, a scrubbing with shampoo, another rinse, and then they needed to be dried off. It was so much fun to be in the water with the dogs. It was so satisfying to see the clean, fed dogs in their washed cages and know that we contributed to that good cause.

and toys, and then placed new papers and a bowl of food in the cage so that, when the dog returned from his walk, a clean cage and breakfast awaited him.



Because they didn't go for walks, the cats had the pleasure of tormenting their volunteers as they cleaned and prepped their cages. Later in the day, we helped to wash litter pans, food bowls and a few dogs. It was a great day of service.

Our last day ended with a visit to Tr. Laura Krebs' home. She and her husband moved to New Orleans last year and she was thrilled to host some of her former students. She treated us to a Cajun crawfish boil and pizza in her backyard. While some found it

spicy, several students dug in and finished 12 lbs of crawfish. Later Laura's son, Carl, broke out the beads and it became a real party! Ice cream finished the night in style.

