



# **PAWPRINTS**



## **CLAUDIA'S PLACE**

The outside of the building is nearly complete and looks great. As soon as the ceiling is installed, some light fixtures added and painting is done, the office staff will be able to move into the “people” part. That will be a great improvement from the cramped quarters we now occupy.

We still need a Treasurer since we now have a Director filling two positions which is a great deal of work and is very time-consuming. If you think you would be able to help in this capacity, please contact the office. We require someone familiar with bookkeeping but will train for our particular needs.

## **PET PROFILE**

**Chloe and Meggie:** These two Shih Tzu females are a mother-daughter team and need to remain together. They are 12 and 9 years old, in generally good health, house-trained, leash trained, good with other dogs and love people. They would love to have a home where they could spend their remaining years in comfort.

## **HAPPY TAILS**

**Midge:** Our beautiful Australian Shepherd mix has traveled over the Summit to her new family in Nelson.

**Scamp:** This lovely little red MinPin has made himself at home with his new family in Salmo.

**Tucker:** A young black Lab mix, did not travel so far for his new home which he found in Lister.

## **PET POINTS**

April is **Animal Cruelty Prevention** month. Do your part to protect those who cannot protect themselves – don't ignore animal neglect or abuse. Let PAWS, SPCA or Animal Control know what is happening so this can be taken care of before it costs an innocent animal its life.

It has been proven that a child who abuses animals will often grow up to be an abusive adult who will abuse animals, women and children.

Remember – humans tamed these animals so humans must take the responsibility for keeping them safe in return.

## **DOLLARS AND SENSE**

Our baking events are over for this season. We did very well and earned a total of \$3791.60 for the seven events (Concert Concessions and Bake Sales) since the beginning of this year.

We would like to extend a huge thank-you to all the great bakers and those who donated their time to tend the tables. Many of our customers have learned to look for our Bake Sales because they love the variety and the home-made goodness that we offer. We have built quite a reputation!!

## **MEET OUR VOLUNTEERS**

The 2009 Board of Directors was elected at our Annual General Meeting in March. They are:

President – Dana Rittenhouse

Vice President – Lee Kitto

Secretary – Lynn Ray

Treasurer – Vicki McDonald (temporary)

Director – Dave Fowler

Congratulations to the newly elected directors and welcome back to the returning directors.

## **PURRS and GRRRS**

**Purrs** – to all the wonderful people who take advantage of every opportunity to have fun with their pets by including them in family activities, long walks or hikes and play time. By making sure they are adequately trained and socialized both pets and pet parent can enjoy a much richer, fuller life.

**Grrrs**: - to those who are only interested in making money from the animal who is forced into a life of breeding with little home life. This is simply a type of slavery of those who have no rights in their own lives – rights which all humans owe to these animals.

## **DID YOU KNOW?**

### **CATS**

- Eighty-one percent of Americans – more than four out of five – believe that leaving a stray cat outside to live out his life is more humane than having him caught and put down, according to a nationally representative survey conducted for Alley Cat Allies by Harris Interactive in April and May 2007.

Source: Chu, Karyen, & Wendy M. Anderson, 2007 U.S. Public Opinion on Humane Treatment of Stray Cats.

- Domestic cats purr at about 26 cycles per second, the same frequency as an idling diesel engine. A domestic cat hears frequencies up to about 65 kHz, humans up to 20 kHz. Its sense of smell is about 14 times stronger than that of humans.

- In the rear of a cat's eye is a light-reflecting layer called the “tapetum lucidum”, which causes cats' eyes to glow at night. This reflecting layer absorbs light 6 times more effectively than human eyes do, allowing a cat to see better than humans at night.

- Domestic cats - or any other cats - do not have nine lives. They also do not always land on their feet. It is said that a cat that falls out of a 20-story building has a better chance of surviving than when falling out of a 7-story building because it takes a cat at least 7 stories to co-ordinate itself to land on its feet. - -

- The tails of wild cats almost never lift higher than their backs.

- Cats cannot see directly below their heads that is why they do not see the food when you put it under their nose. Keep this in mind when you're feeding your kitty.

From Noah's Wish Newsletter

### **CAT PROOF YOUR GARDEN**

- Cayenne pepper and citrus peels don't hurt cats but will help repel them.

- For perennial beds, plastic sheeting or chicken wire over soil provides a permanent barrier to digging.

- If you mulch, use large wood chips – they're too much for puss to push aside.

- Set your sprinkler on an irregular timer to make the garden an unattractive zone.

- Forget upside-down mousetraps – they hurt cats too often.

- Avoid mothballs as well – they can poison wildlife and pollute water.

## **ON THE ROAD AGAIN**

### ***Travel Tips from Cesar Millan:***

- 1.) **Prepare.** Don't make it a last minute "pack-and-let's-go." Your dog will sense your anxiety and tension. Be ready days in advance, so that your dog has a normal experience before he has to get in the car or on the plane.
- 2.) **Don't feed your dog for at least 6 hours before plane travel.** Some people recommend 8-24 hours. However, make sure your dog has access to water – enough to keep hydrated but not full.
- 3.) **Bring your dog's blankie.** Or his favorite stuffed animal, toy, bone--any item which is familiar to your dog and will comfort and relax him.
- 4.) **Use a soothing scent.** Instead of using drugs, try reaching your dog through his nose! Lavender is a great scent that can relax the brain. Drugs can make a dog drowsy and may leave him feeling disoriented and uncertain how to establish himself in a new environment.
- 5.) **Go on a long walk.** A recently exercised dog will be in a more relaxed state during any long trip.
- 6.) **Take a break.** On a long car ride, stop every four hours during the day for your dogs to relieve themselves, move their organs, and learn that they're going to another environment. It is important for a dog to experience the different temperatures, smells, and feelings that come with a new environment. This will help make them feel that they are part of the process of moving to a new area. Once the sun goes down, you can go eight hours non-stop.
- 7.) **Don't leave your dog in the car.** Summer temperatures can make a car heat up fast. Add an over-excited dog, and dehydration could be the result.
- 8.) **Go on another walk.** Once you arrive at the hotel, ask the staff where there is a nice, safe place to walk around. Then take your dog there for a walk to relax him.
- 9.) **Claim your new space.** Now you are ready to go to your hotel room. Enter first. Get the dog to stay where he is. Don't let him wander around or he'll assume control of the situation. While you are unpacking, showering, or making phone calls, he is waiting. The only one who should move in the environment is you--until you are ready, then *you* initiate activity. It's important that your scent is everywhere before the dog settles in.
- 10.) **Balanced dogs make better travel companions.** There is no specific breed or size of dog that naturally travels better than another, but an unstable dog will not make a good travel companion. Always nurture a **balanced** state of mind in your dog, and you will create a more pleasant traveling experience for both of you!

**Can't bring your dog along?** Find a good substitute pack. In a kennel, your dog should be immediately adopted as a member of the pack. The staff should be able to get your dog focused on what is there for him – and not leave him mourning over the fact that you left. It is a big deal for a dog to detach himself from a pack. The new pack should equal or better the pack he just left.

### ***Don't forget to book your travel plans on [MillanFoundationTravel.com](http://MillanFoundationTravel.com)!***

A portion of the sale will be donated to the **Millan Foundation** in support of the rescue, rehabilitation, and placement of abused and abandoned dogs.

Support the TNR (Trap, Neuter, Release) program for feral cats in your area. Contact your local Political Representatives to make your views known. There are at least two options being considered at this time. PAWS is willing to work with the community using the TNR method but will not support a plan of eradication of these animals.

Contact PAWS for further information on the TNR process and learn how you can help.

Communities must work together to solve this problem – but not at the expense of innocent cats lives.

## **MEMORABLE MOMENTS**

Birthdays this month: Congratulations to Diana Miller who celebrated her special day this month.

## **TRIVIA and TIDBITS**

**HEDGEHOGS:** Pint-size mammals known for their roly-poly, quill-covered bodies, as well as their gentle disposition, intelligence (they can navigate mazes with ease) and quiet nature.

**PROS:** Can be litter trained; no natural odor; nondestructive (won't chew furniture, cords, etc.).

**CONS:** Do not like to share cages – separate housing per hedgehog required; can become obese.

**FOOD:** Mealworms, commercial hedgehog food or good-quality (dry) cat, kitten or ferret food; treats of fresh fruit or vegetables.

**HOUSING:** Large cage or aquarium (minimum 91- by 61-centimeter base area); pine or aspen shavings; small box for "hiding."

**EXERCISE:** A hedgehog wheel and toys, along with playtime with its owner, will suffice.

**POSSIBLE MEDICAL ISSUES:** Wobbly hedgehog syndrome, a degenerative neurological disease; cancer; obesity.

**LIFE EXPECTANCY:** Four to seven years.

**NOTE: Beware of mites.** Mites are probably the number 1 reason hedgehogs see a vet. Mites themselves are microscopic, but watch for dandruff-like flakes on your hedgehog or loss of quills (bald patches).

*Children who grow up with dogs and cats in the home have a significant reduced risk – up to 50% less – of developing common allergies – from a study following hundreds of children from birth to nearly age seven.*

## **TAIL END**

Important Links:

Cranbrook SPCA – 250-426-6751

Trail SPCA – 250-368-5910

Nelson 2<sup>nd</sup> Chance – 250-352-2228

Creston Vet Hospital – 428-9494

Kootenay Vet Clinic – 428 2822

Animal Control (Town of Creston only) – 428-2214

If you are interested in adopting a new companion, need to re-home one or have found a pet or lost one – please check out our *Weekly Wag and Meow Mart* which is posted at both Vet Clinics, Iron Kettle Restaurant, Sunset Seed or Lil' Mutt Grooming. Or check with the PAWS office - 1420 Northwest Boulevard - or on our website.

Everyone is invited to participate in PAWS events, projects, meetings and fund raisers.  
If you are interested in volunteering, fostering or becoming a member please contact us.

### **CRESTON PET ADOPTION & WELFARE SOCIETY**

Box 253 Creston BC V0B 1G0 Phone: 250-428-7297 (428-PAWS)

Email: paws@kootenay.com Website: www.paws-crestonbc.org