



PAWPRINTS



CLAUDIA'S PLACE

The shelter and property have been hosting Dog Obedience Classes!! We are also going to be holding our first meeting at the shelter this month – dogs welcome. At last the property is coming to life.

Unfortunately, most of the trees that were donated to us have died (mice and weed killer spray). If anyone would like to sponsor a tree we would be very happy to accept it. Contact the office for more details on how to go about making a donation of this type.

We still need: a bookkeeper; foster homes (especially for cats); and office help - one day a week steady or for specific tasks such as Adoption Packages as needed). Office workers and foster parents must be members in good standing for these positions. We will train anyone interested in helping in these areas. PAWS is also interested in acquiring a child's play set – the sturdy plastic type for the back yard (all and any parts) for our dog yard. This can also be used in training and in agility courses. If you or someone you know has a set they would donate please let us know.

PET PROFILE

Chloe and Meggie are still looking for a place to call home. They are older Shih Tzu females, spayed, up to date on shots, friendly, good with dogs and all people. They both love walks but are top-notch couch potatoes and sun bathers, too. They are quite attached to each other so should stay together. If you can find a comfy couch in your home for this mother-daughter pair, please let us know.

PET POINTS

CHINCHILLAS: Cute rodents known for their luxuriously soft fur. They are most active at night, and their naturally nervous nature may not be suited or rowdier households.

PROS: No dander, so less likely to cause allergies; no natural odor.

CONS: Can be skittish; chew everything so homes need to be fully chinchilla-proofed; can overheat in warm temperatures; do not like to be picked up; require dust baths about three times a week with special "chinchilla dust" (from pet stores) to keep fur clean; extremely sensitive to diet changes.

FOOD: Commercial chinchilla pellets; cubes of hay; treats can include raisins, fresh apple and banana.

HOUSING: Multilevel (minimum 76- [height] by 61- [length] by 38- [width] centimeters) cage to allow climbing, set against a wall or in a corner in a quiet room away from cords and wires.

EXERCISE: Require a few hours outside the cage each day to move about and explore; a chinchilla wheel for in-cage exercise.

POSSIBLE MEDICAL ISSUES: Overgrown teeth; heatstroke; constipation or diarrhea.

LIFE EXPECTANCY: Ten to fifteen years, though some can live as long as 20 years.

NOTE: Be prepared for poop! They eat a lot of roughage. You will have to do frequent cleanings of their cage because they constantly produce stool.

Properly trained, a man can be dog's best friend. ~Corey Ford~

PEOPLE IN THE NEWS

Lori Cameron is a generous lady who has made PAWS the recipient of a percentage from the sales of some of her wonderful animal cards. She sells these in various locations around town with a variety of pictures. You can also order custom made cards from her site: www.tigzdesigns.com These make great gifts as well as helping homeless animals.

DOLLARS AND SENSE

While our main fundraisers are over until the fall, we still need funds for everyday expenses. Perhaps you would like to donate on a monthly basis? If so we can help set that up for you.

Estate legacies are another way to help PAWS in the future. And of course corporate sponsors would be very welcome.

PAWS is asking everyone to “click” for us. The following website is a contest for shelters with cash grants as prizes. Please vote for Creston Pet Adoption and Welfare Society every day.

www.theanimalrescuesite.com/clickToGive/home.faces?siteId=3

PURRS and GRRRS

Purrs – to people who realize their pet may need some place to roam safely and have installed a secure fenced area for them to do this.

Grrrs – to the number of people who still insist on traveling with their dog unsecured in the back of a pick up. Why do they think there is an enclosed front area if not for use of **all** family members?

DID YOU KNOW?

Pet Poison Alert: Move Away from Mothballs

Spring has sprung, and it’s time to put away your winter woolens! Beware, pet parents—take care when storing your cold weather gear with mothballs. These strong-smelling deterrents contain pesticides that repel sweater-loving moths but can wreak havoc on the health of your furry friends.

In the past year, the ASPCA’s Animal Poison Control Center (APCC) has managed 113 cases of mothball poisoning, and most of those accidents happened during the spring and summer months. According to the APCC’s Dana Farbman, CVT, the ingestion of just one mothball can produce significant illness. Naphthalene—an offending chemical found in some brands of mothballs—is toxic to dogs, cats and other animals, and if ingested, can cause serious illness, including vomiting, diarrhea, abdominal pain, swelling of the brain tissue, seizures, damage to the liver, kidneys and blood cells, coma and even death.

Farbman also advises pet parents to look out for mothballs that contain dichlorobenzene. “This insecticide is somewhat less toxic than naphthalene,” she says, “but it can still cause stomach upset and potentially even neurological effects if consumed in large amounts.”

Like other toxic exposures, it’s important to seek immediate attention if your pet has ingested mothballs. Prompt treatment can make the difference between just another household accident and permanent tragedy. The prognosis for those pets who receive immediate care is quite good, provided no other underlying conditions like liver disease or anemia are present.

If you suspect that your pet may have ingested mothballs—or any other poisonous substance—please call your local veterinarian.

ASPCA’s Animal Poison Control Center

SIT - STAY

Obedience training classes are being held at Claudia's Place now. If you are interested in enrolling your dog (and yourself) in one of these classes, contact the PAWS office for further details. These classes are highly recommended for young pups as well as older untrained dogs. If you are not sure how to get control of your dog this is the place for both of you to learn.

TRIVIA and TIDBITS

Mothers

This is for the mothers who have sat up all night with sick dogs in their arms, wiping up barf laced with edible and inedible things and saying "It's okay baby, Mommy's here."

Who have sat on the floor for hours on end soothing dogs who can't be comforted.

This is for all the mothers who show up at work with dog hair on their suits, unexpected scratches on their wrists and poo bags in their purse, coat pocket, pants pocket and all other pockets.

For all the mothers who make their own dog food and treats. And all the mothers who don't.

This for the mothers who help the new mothers deal with the loss of their litter. And the mothers who help them cope when they are given new homes.

This is for the mothers whose priceless art collections consist of ribbons and photos.

And for all the mothers who froze their buns, sweated gallons, and swatted away bees to watch their precious prance into a ring and achieve 2nd place and then jump around as though they had won best in show.

This is for all the mothers who go to the special pet stores to collect the proper treats, food and toys no matter that it take 3 stops and 50 stoplights.

This is for all the mothers who taught their dogs to sit, come and stay. And for all the mothers who opted for sit.

This is for all the mothers who teach their dogs agility and obedience and actually understand that it needs to be FUN!

This is for all the mothers who took their dog to the vet assuring them that there would be no needles only to be told they need a blood sample.

For all the mothers whose dog has gone missing and was returned because she had the forethought to have a chip put between its shoulders.

What makes a good Mother anyway? Is it patience? Compassion? Ever available treats?

The ability to answer the door, hold back the dog and deal with a phone call all at the same time?

Or is it in her heart?

Is it the ache you feel when you walk out the door to your job every Monday through Friday knowing that 2 eyes are boring into your back?

The jolt that takes you from sleep to dread when you hear the sounds of heaving at 2:00am?

Years later, the guilt that won't go away when you have no other choice but to put your friend down?

The emotions of motherhood are universal, and so this is for you all. For all of us...

Hang in there. In the end we can only do the best we can. Tell them everyday that we love them.

MEMORABLE MOMENTS

Two more of our members have had a "special day" this past month.

Dana Rittenhouse has added another year to her hands on life experience.

Vicki McDonald has also celebrated another birthday.

Congratulations to both!!

COMING ATTRACTIONS

PAWS is taking a breather from meetings, events and fund raisers for the summer. The general day-to-day work at the office and by most of our members will continue as usual. The office will remain in operation during the summer so drop in and say hello!!

Can My Pet Catch Swine Flu?

Don't worry, pet parents! The recent, rapid outbreak of the H1N1 virus, previously known as swine flu, appears to present little risk of infecting our furry friends. In the past few weeks, only humans have been affected by the new virus, and it's still unknown how the virus will impact other species.

"Currently there's no data demonstrating any risk of dogs and cats contracting this strain of the virus," says Dr. Louise Murray, Director of Medicine at the ASPCA's Bergh Memorial Hospital in New York City. "However, owners of pet pigs, as well as farmers, should monitor their animals' health more closely and take steps to limit transmission from humans to pigs and vice versa."

If you do count a pet pig as your animal companion, please consult with your veterinarian about a Type A influenza vaccine, which is available and recommended for all healthy swine.

Dr. Miranda Spindel, Director of ASPCA Veterinary Outreach, adds: "Swine influenza or swine flu is one of the leading causes of respiratory disease in swine throughout the world. Like most influenza A viruses, swine flu generally causes high levels of illness in pigs, but fatalities are uncommon."

For the latest information about the outbreak and your pet's health, please visit the Center for Disease Control (<http://www.cdc.gov/swineflu>). If you suspect your pet is ill or if he exhibits any sudden changes in behavior, please contact your veterinarian immediately.

From: ASPCA

Within the heart of every stray...is the singular desire to be loved...

TAIL END

Important Links:

Cranbrook SPCA – 250-426-6751

Trail SPCA – 250-368-5910

Nelson 2nd 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

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