



Ruff Times



Volume II Issue 3

Animal Rescue Friends (ARF)

November 2012

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Director's Message

All They Want for Christmas



*It's a merry, merry Christmas
When all the dogs have bones and homes
Oh my golly, it's a merry Christmas*

This year, let's make this a merry Christmas for Betty, Oreo, Candy Cane, and Winston, too. Their wishes are small and simple-just a warm bed by the fire with you nearby. Or maybe a walk in the sun with you, their favorite human. And hearing your voice in the evening will bring a smile as they welcome you home. They each are wishing on the brightest star with hearts full of love to give. Do you need a little love? -Maria Lehman



A non-profit organization

P.O. Box 719, Idyllwild, CA 92549 (951) 659-1122

ARF House: 26890 Hwy 243, Idyllwild

arfidyllwild.weebly.com



Director of Operations: Maria Lehman

Treasurer: Mary Lou Prosin

Sadie's Clinic Director: Caryn Gilbert

Secretary: Janice Murasko

Education Director: Jacquelin Siff

Search & Rescue Director: Robert Hewitt

Speakers' Series in Full Swing

The Sadie's Clinic Inaugural Speakers' Series was launched last month when Idyllwild acupuncturist Miles Thomas spoke to mountain residents about acupuncture for pets. **The series will now continue with Nan Arthur who will address the topic of aggression in dogs on Sunday, January 6.**

Nan Arthur has been training with positive reinforcement and operant conditioning since 1996 and is committed to using only positive methods with both humans and animals. She owns Whole Dog Training and offers private in-home behavior consultations and training in the San Diego area.

Nan emphasizes helping pet parents understand their pets and opening the lines of communication between the two species. Nan is involved with Freedom Dogs, a local Service Dog group that specializes in PTSD dogs and the support they offer to wounded warriors. She has also authored a popular book *Chill Out Fido! How to Calm Your Dog* and contributes to many publications. Whole Dog Training offers full-service dog training and behavior modification in the San Diego County.

The topic of aggression in dogs is an important one for both those who own dogs and those who do not. After all, dogs are living in every community, in every neighborhood.

On Saturday, January 19, Dr. Monica Diedrich, will address interspecies communication at the Nature Center. Using her intuitive gift, with heartfelt love, she enables her clients to participate in a dialogue with their pets by helping them look at their pets' experiences from the animal's point of view. After a consultation, they're better able to understand their pet's wishes, needs, fears, behavioral problems, health challeng-

es or end-of-life requests.

In addition to speaking from 12:30 to 2:00, Dr. Monica will offer individual 20-minute consultations throughout the day for \$40. Interested pet owners must register for these sessions and pay the fee in advance. As of the writing of this newsletter, only six spots remain. Interested parties should email Shela Boynton at shelab@greencafe.com or leave a message with ARF at 659-1122.

Speakers' series events are free to all and will be held at Mountain Pawlytechnic Canine Education at 23400 Hwy 243 in Pine Cove except for the January 19 event, which will be held at the Nature Center. Please see the entire schedule on page 4 of this newsletter.





Mayor Max Muses

I have a great life. I get to snuggle in and sleep on a giant queen size dog bed that is so soft, the weariness of my old dog bones just melts away as I sink in to the warmth of the covers. The windows are open, and as I sleep, I can smell all the goings-on in the neighborhood homes, the foods, the fireplaces, the pine trees, and the visiting coyotes, raccoons, birds, and squirrels, with possibly a dash of mountain lion wafting by. I can hear all the sounds of the neighborhood for miles it seems, and I seem to sense and know everything that is going on. First and foremost, I am in the moment, and in the moment, everything is perfect, and I can really be in the moment enjoying every second of my existence, and I am very thankful for it.

I can tell that my "owners" really love me, and I am always exhilarated to see them, and they never stop telling me how much they love me, and that I am "so cute." I would say my chronic attitude towards life is exhilaration, and I enjoy

everything that I get to do in a day which includes going places in the car that is fully equipped for my comfort, going for walks, eating, sniffing, being petted and talked to, and acknowledged that I am an important part of the family, and meeting wonderful people that pet me and also say I'm "so cute." I'm not sure what that means, actually, but I know it's a good thing, and I can perceive their affinity for me, and I can see their smiles and that my presence makes most people happier. When things are a little duller because my "owners" are working, I take this opportunity to snooze, so that the dull moments are over quickly, just like the night passes quickly when sleeping.

I am completely exhilarated by living, and I love every minute of it. I do not take it for granted, and I am not worrying about the past, present, or future, because I am alive and in the moment completely.

It is my wish this holiday season that you have the best of everything and that your life is a complete joy and that you love living every second of it, and that you are so excited about living that you can't wait to get to the next second. I hope that you experience the joy that I have every second of my life, and I sincerely wish this for you, and I want you to know that I love you, and that I am always exhilarated to see you.

With complete love and admiration, I wish you the happiest of holidays this holiday season and in every day to come in every year.

Love always,



Mayor Max

aka: Maximus Mighty-Dog Mueller

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Sadie Says

Prevent Holiday Horrors

HOLIDAY ALERTS! Let's face it...this is a busy time with lots of distractions, visitors in and out, treats left out on low tables. Sometimes we aren't able to supervise our curious cats and dogs. Here are some things that can be dangerous, even life-threatening, to your pets.

Tinsel and ornaments can cause choking, intestinal blockage, and lacerations. Lights and candles often are responsible for electric shocks, burns, and fires. Ribbons cause choking and intestinal blockage. Think twice before you adorn your animals!

Food, especially rich, fatty meats, cooked bones, nuts (almonds, walnuts, macadamias, pistachios), onions, chocolate, grapes, and raisins. Ingestion of these goodies can be toxic, causing death, seizures, pancreatitis, and

choking. Please keep them out of reach and make sure garbage is inaccessible to your pets.

Plants can be toxic, causing intestinal distress, seizures and even death. Be wary of pine needles, holly, mistletoe and poinsettias.


New clinic equipment!

Thanks to a generous grant from the Carol and Kent H. Landsberg Foundation, the clinic has new equipment which will enable Dr. Michael to provide more thorough exams. We now have a scale big enough to weigh a Great Dane!

The clinic staff wishes you and your pets a safe, warm, happy holiday season!



Speakers' Series Schedule

 **JANUARY 6:** Nan Arthur *Aggression in Dogs* Ms. Arthur is the author of [Chill Out Fido](#) and owner of Whole Dog Training in San Diego. wholedogtraining.com

JANUARY 19: Dr. Monica Diedrich, Pet Communicator *Inter-Species Communication* On this day, Dr. Diedrich will be working with individuals and their pets, as well as speaking 12:30-2:00. Petcommunicator.com (NOTE: This event will be held at the Nature Center. **ONLY SIX SPOTS ARE LEFT for individual readings with Dr. Monica. Please call ARF if you'd like to reserve a spot. A \$40 fee is payable upon making the reservation.**)

FEBRUARY 17: Dr. Susan Foster *Energy Healing (Reiki)* PhD. in Clinical Psychology

MARCH 24: Margarat Nee *K9 Wellness Support, Nutrition for Dogs* theartofdog.com

APRIL 21: Janice Murasko *Safety First! Children and Dogs* [Bring your kids!](#)
mtpawly.com

Speakers' Series events will be held at Mountain Pawlytechnic Canine Education, 23400 Hwy 243 in Pine Cove, 3 to 4 p.m. unless otherwise noted. These events are free of charge and open to everyone. Please, no dogs. Questions? shelab@greencafe.com or janicemurasko@yahoo.com.

Trainer Talk

Common Myths About Dog Handling Debunked

In working with dog owners on a daily basis, I've heard so many assumptions/beliefs about dogs and their behaviors that are downright inaccurate. Read on about commonly believed myths and why they are just that...myths.

Myth #1: Dogs jump on people, dart out of the door ahead of their owners, and pull on the leash when walking because they are asserting their dominance.

There is no such thing as a "dominant" dog. While it is true that dominance and submission are part of social interactions, dominance is not a personality trait. When you observe what appears to be dominance, you are probably observing two individuals (dogs, people, etc.) wanting the same thing. Keep this in mind when you feel the need to be the "alpha" dog. The only thing exerting dominance over your dog (as an "alpha" dog) will do is intimidate and frighten the pup.

Myth #2: My hyper dog needs extensive exercise to help him burn up all that energy.

Yes, dogs need exercise, but what we need to consider is the type and amount of exercise. Are you responding to your dog's annoying behavior by grabbing the leash and taking him for a walk? Could it be you've trained him to behave in this annoying fashion because he's learned it'll get him out of the house/yard and on a great walk?? There is also a real danger of over-exercising your pooch. If you are able to take him on those mile-long jogs only once or twice a week, play fetch only sporadically, or visit the dog park only occasionally, you are risking injury to your dog (and possibly yourself!). Just as humans need to build endurance, so do dogs.

But did you know that mental exercise for dogs is just as important, and those who get this exercise using their minds by playing with food puzzles, Kongs, and training, need much less intense exercise.

Myth #3: Dogs won't know they've done

"wrong" unless they are punished.

Let's face facts...you can punish a dog for doing something wrong, but he still won't know what it is you want. And punishing your dog is likely to create a host of new problems.

Scientists at the University of Southampton in the UK evaluated whether punishment was a contributor to behavior problems and examined the effects of reward for desired behavior. Scientists concluded that those who used strong and/or frequent punishment had a significantly higher level of training problems and lower obedience in dogs. A similar study found that dogs trained with only positive reinforcement exhibited fewer problems.

Myth #4: If you give your dog "human" food, she'll learn to beg at the dinner table.

Begging at the dinner table has NOTHING to do with the type of food the dog is eating. If you fed her kibble from the dining table, she'd learn to beg. Feeding your dog anything from the table reinforces her begging. And make note of this: Many types of "human" food are much better for Fido than the additives found in many commercial dog foods: artificial coloring, preservatives, meat "by-products" and sweeteners.

Myth #5: The prong collar works by mimicking a mother dog's teeth and her corrections.

The prong collar works because it inflicts, at the least, discomfort, and at the worst, pain! The dog will avoid pulling on the leash to avoid the pain and discomfort...pain and discomfort created by the collar his loving owner has put around his neck. There is also a risk that the pain and discomfort associated with the collar will be attributed to something in the environment at the time the dog feels it, and this can lead to aggression toward the mistakenly identified source of the pain.

A certified positive reinforcement trainer can effectively and safely help you in working with your dog to correct undesired behaviors.



-Janice Murasko
KPA-CTP APDT

ARF Stats Speak for Themselves

Q. What does ARF do with funds donated by the community?

A. Put them to very good use!

ARF receives requests from pet owners on a daily basis, covering everything from help with finding a lost dog, to assistance with the financial burden of veterinary costs.

In just the last eight weeks, ARF has micro-chipped and registered 49 dogs at NO COST to the owner.

In the months of September through November, ARF disbursed up to ten bags of dog and cat food, handed out many leashes, collars, and ID tags. Additionally, ARF provided crates/carriers to three appreciative pet owners.

Four dog owners were grateful for ARF's assistance in covering veterinary costs.

In these past three months, ARF played a key role in reuniting twelve

dogs and one cat with their worried families. Wow!

And out of its operating budget, ARF paid for the spaying and neutering of sixteen cats and five dogs.

ARF is here to help the dogs and cats of this mountain community, working closely with their owners and those who share ARF's passion and compassion. Your generous contributions enable ARF to continue in its mission of helping pets in need through reaching out to pet lovers and owners.



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Maybe one of your new year's resolutions should be to invest time and energy into making your dog a better member of the family!

Mountain Pawlytechnic Canine Education

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Enroll today, begin classes this week

Janice Murasko, certified trainer

KPA CTP APDT

951-663-6642 mtpawly.com
mtpawly@gmail.com



✂ Clip and post at home ✂

ARF Lost Dog Hotline

951-663-6642



Baxter's Buddies

Who are Baxter's Buddies? They are his fellow ARF adoptees and their stories. Each month, Baxter will share the story of an ARF rescue, adopted into a loving, forever family.

What is cuter than a kitten? TWO kittens, of course! This month I have a purrfectly awesome story of two of ARF's kittens that found their forever home, together, just in time to celebrate the holidays with a loving mommy and daddy.

I first asked Sara and Martin to tell me how it was they came to the decision to add these precious kitties to their family. They told me they had seen the faces of the kittens in the Town Crier and just knew they had to pay a visit to the ARF cattery. "It was love at first sight," admits Sara.

Sara and Martin did change the kittens' ARF names from Lola and Jerry to Pickles and Snowballs. Sara and her aunt joked about naming them Pickles and Ice Cream. Pickles stuck, but Martin opted to go with Snowballs.

You'll notice in the photo of Pickles and Snowballs, they are very comfortable on the Christmas tree skirt. Sara says they love it, and she finds herself under the tree many times each day to straighten it out. The two kitties have become wonderful companions for Sara and Martin's other cat.



Sara and Martin learned of ARF, through the Town Crier, when they first moved to our hill last June. After visiting ARF and adopting the kitties, they have become wonderful volunteers. In response to my asking if they had any words of advice for someone considering pet adoption, Sara said, "Go for it! It's the best thing anyone could do. And the feeling you get from adopting is amazing...that warm, fuzzy feeling from helping save a cat or dog's life. My husband and I are very big about rescuing and adopting."

Take it from Sara, Martin, Pickles, and Snowballs...inviting a new four-legged member to join your family, as a foster or forever, is a wonderful way to embrace the holiday spirit! 🐾

Visit the ARF Christmas Trees!

The ARF Christmas trees, at the Fairway market and the ARF House, are decorated with ornaments, each with a holiday wish to help our community's neediest cats and dogs. Won't you please help fulfill these wishes?

Happy Holidays from ARF



Emily
Love the Hill as I do! 40 years!

Emily Pearson, Agent
DRE01309375
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Hill Resident is Now Pet First Aid/CPR Instructor

In February of this year I took a class in pet first aid/CPR sponsored by ARF. Classes were filled with ARF volunteers and other members of our community. It was put on by an instructor from PetTech, the premiere pet first aid, CPR, and pet care training organization in the United States.

Some time afterwards, I decided that I'd like to become an instructor. Because of the need for pet disaster preparedness on our hill, an ARF volunteer was able to get a grant from the ASPCA to pay for the training. Earlier this month I completed the three days of training in Carlsbad.

The class was incredible. Our minds were filled with information and hands-on training. The founder of PetTech, Thom Somes, taught the class, along with his wife Cindy Buzas.

There were several reasons I wanted to take this training. I want to be able to help with pet disaster preparedness on the hill, train as many pet parents as possible to be able to perform first aid and CPR for their pets if the need arises, so that they can stabilize them before getting

them to the vet, potentially saving their lives.

Classes will be starting after the first of the year. ARF's goal is to see a community of pet owners that is trained to save the lives of their four-legged family members in the event of an emergency. Keep your eyes and ears open for more information.

-Barb Reese



Winston joined Philip, Glenda, and friends for the 5K Suicide Prevention Awareness Walk recently. They advocated bringing dogs for a program called "Paws for Prevention," because they help give people a reason to live and feel needed. Winston was a good boy for the walk, and they all had fun! Winston is currently fostered by Glenda and her family while awaiting his forever home.



EMERGENCY!


Pet poisoning is truly an emergency, so being prepared for this situation is crucial. The ASPCA has an pet poison hotline (888) 426-4435, but it's not the only one. You might also want to investigate petpoisonhotline.com (Animal Poison Control Center). This site also offers an iPhone ap and a link for emergency instructions.

Please be aware that these hotlines do charge for assistance-ASPCA \$65, Animal Poison Control Center, \$39.

ARF does not specifically endorse any one hotline, but it does encourage you to be prepared. Have a number prominently posted in your home.

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Help them find a home



Adoptees of the Month



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Faith was found at the gate to a plant nursery, curled up in the weeds, near death. She had Parvo, was severely dehydrated and emaciated. Animal Rescue Friends (ARF) of Idyllwild graciously became her sponsor. She spent a week at the vet being treated for Parvo and has recovered fully. She spent a month getting her strength back and putting on some weight; which seems ideal at this point. She has had all her shots, tested and started on Heartworm prevention, and has been spayed by ARF. She is currently in good health; however, she is being treated for an eye infection at this time. The vet believes Faith is about 6-7 months old; she still has one of her baby canine teeth. At her last vet appointment about a week ago, she weighed 4.14 lbs; when found two months ago she weighed 4 lbs.

Faith is a very sweet sensitive puppy, with a fairly quiet activity level. She is, however, initially shy and defensive with strangers. She is slow to warm up to people; she spent some time on the streets alone and has some initial trust issues. It took her a couple of days to trust us and to become an animated puppy. As with a lot of Chi's, she trembles when she is nervous and overwhelmed by new people or too much noise. She will sometimes growl at new people, especially children. This is a behavior I think she will outgrow as she feels safe and more confident. She appears to prefer a quieter home, without children, and the constant companionship of a human or another dog. Her foster has three dogs and Faith gets along well with all of them. Again, this took a few days for her to warm up to the pack. They also have two cats which she has been slower to warm up to. She still thinks the cats are to be chased, although her tendency to do this is waning.

Faith was easy to crate train, house-train, and has no aberrant or malicious behaviors. Faith will be a blessing to whomever is lucky enough to adopt her. 🐾

-by Jackie Lasater



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Sadie and Carly's mom had been hanging around Julia's home for quite some time. She'd been feeding her, but couldn't get near her. Pretty soon she noticed Tilly (the mom's name now) getting chubby. She figured she was pregnant, but still couldn't get near her.

Soon the kittens came, only three. She called me to help her trap the family as she wanted to get them all safely inside. Plus, raccoons were hanging around at night and she was afraid they were going to get the kittens.

It took a few days, but I got them all trapped and into her downstairs room where they were safe. When they were old enough, Julia's son took one of the kittens. Then ARF took in the other two. Julia decided to keep Tilly, who has her own bedroom, but is now venturing out to be with the rest of the kitties and is slowly becoming part of Julia's kitty clan.

Sadie and Carly love each other very much. When you walk into the cattery at ARF, they are always cuddled up together in each other's arms. Being in the cattery, they've gotten more used to people and aren't as scared as they used to be. They also get out and play with the other cats now. Do you have room for two sweet kitties who'd like a forever home together?



-by Barb Reese



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Owner

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Sadie's Clinic Speakers' Series

Sunday, January 6

Nan Arthur

*Author of the book **Chill Out, Fido***

Aggression in Dogs

Free admission, donations accepted
3-4 p.m. @ Mountain Pawlytechnic
Canine Education

23400 Hwy 243, Pine Cove
Across from Pine Cove Market/gas station