



# Ruff Times



Volume IV Issue 7

Animal Rescue Friends (ARF)

May 2015

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Raise a glass for ARF!  
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## Director's Message

# A Village & Three Survivors

Within hours of the first sighting, ARF's Search and Rescue Team had six calls, and there were two at the ARF House. Three small dogs were running to and fro on Highway 74 near the Strawberry Creek Bridge. All concerned animal lovers stopped for what should have been an easy rescue, but they couldn't get close enough to these three. Not a one of them would come near a human nor to their vehicles to be brought to safety. Animal Control was contacted. They, as well, were unsuccessful. And this village worried. Knowing of the dangers in our forest, the cold nights, and a winter storm on its way, we worried as if these strangers were our own.

Daylight came, and armed with coffee, water, and treats, the village returned to see if they survived the night. Cheers of happiness. They were still there, and still lost, and so afraid. They were so close, but unreachable, until the patience of one human persevered. Ready with hot dogs, the best treat ever (except for bacon, of course), she lured two of them close enough to touch. But there was no sign of the Chihuahua. Tears of joy, mixed with tears of sadness, she brought them to safety. After a few days with not a sighting of the third little dog, ARF received a phone call. "I've got the Chihuahua!! I've got the Chihuahua!" But with a sob in her voice, "I don't see the others. Something must have happened."

Unable to keep her for the night, she had driven the Chihuahua to her friend in Hemet. But upon hearing the news that we did indeed have the two other dogs, she raced down to Hemet and brought the Chihuahua up to Idyllwild for the reunion.

Continued on page 6



**A non-profit organization**

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ARF House: 26890 Hwy 243, Idyllwild

[arfidyllwild.weebly.com](http://arfidyllwild.weebly.com)



**Director of Operations:** Maria Lehman

**Treasurer:** Mary Lou Prosin

**Search & Rescue Director:** Robert Hewitt

**Secretary, Editor:** Janice Murasko

**Vice-President:** Teri Hardy

**Sadie's Clinic Director:** Claudine Ellis

# Summer Almost Here

Now that spring is exiting and summer is just around the corner, it is time to remind everyone that leaving your dog (or cat!) in a car is not only dangerous for the pet, but it is illegal in the state of California.

Penal Code 597.7 PC was enacted in 2006.

The California Legislature based this law on the fact that leaving pets in a closed car in the heat, even for a short period of time, can cause severe injury and even death.

Even a moderately warm outside temperature such as 72 degrees Fahrenheit can quickly escalate inside a car, potentially adversely affecting the health, safety, and/or well-being of an animal.

And even when the windows are slightly cracked, an outside temperature of 85 degrees can cause the temperature inside the car to reach 102 degrees within ten minutes and 120 degrees within half an hour. These temperatures can cause an animal to suffer brain damage or even death within a relatively short period of time.

As long as your animal doesn't suffer great bodily injury, a first-time conviction subjects you to a maximum \$100 fine per animal. However, if the animal does suffer great bodily injury, you face a misdemeanor, punishable by up to \$500 and a maximum six-month county jail sentence.

A second or subsequent conviction subjects you to the same jail sentence and fine regardless of whether the animal suffers any injury at all.



## Sadie Says

# Saying Goodbye

It is a day all pet parents dread, but it is inevitable. Our pets don't live forever, and sometimes pet parents find it in the best interest of an ill pet to have it euthanized. Any veterinarian's office will help your beloved pet cross the rainbow bridge in a peaceful, dignified manner, but some pet parents would prefer to have this happen at home.

Recently, an Idyllwild resident used Home Pet Euthanasia of Southern California. This service was contacted in the morning and the veterinarian was in Idyllwild that afternoon. ARF is not endorsing this organization, but is sharing it as an option. The web site is [www.homepeteuthanasia.com](http://www.homepeteuthanasia.com). On this site you will find a plethora of information, including bios, support, and a fee schedule.



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# 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.

*Little Lily was adopted into the family of Doug and Sharen Lew about five years ago. I caught up with Lily recently and interviewed her family about their time together.*

Q. Please tell your story. How did you come to make this ARF adoption?

A. We went on PetFinder's website to just look at dogs available for adoption. No special breed. We saw a photo of her, and in addition to her being so cute, she also had an adorable underbite. She is both Chihuahua and Pug (Chug). I told my husband that she was at ARF in Idyllwild. We live in La Quinta, so I suggested we just take a drive up there to check her out. Both of us agreed that all we were going to do was look. When we got there we saw a little puppy, 1 1/2 years of age, sitting on one of the ARF members lap. I said "Is that Lily?", she said "yes" and that was all it took. We drove back down the mountain with our new furry family member.

Q. Do you have any cute/unique stories about your adoptee?

A. As you would expect she is as spoiled as can be. Her favorite place to lay is on her human mother's lap. Occasionally, a pillow on the couch, a chair, or a sunny spot on the carpet. The first night at our home we attempted to have her sleep in a doggie bed beside our bed. She wasn't accepting that. She has been sleeping in bed between us, under the covers, ever since. Some nights she gets a little pushy and tries her best to push us out of bed. Actually, she's just stretching. For only 18 lbs she is very strong little dog.

Q. Is this pet your first pet adoption (from anywhere)?

A. No. Over the years we have adopted a Chihuahua mix, a poodle, a lab, and two springer spaniels. All lived long and healthy lives. All were spoiled.

Q. How has your ARF pet fit into your family's day-to-day lifestyle?

A. It's as if this is her home, and she is allowing us to live with her. She's trained us very well. We take her for three walks each day and a quick before-bed potty.

Q. Did you keep the name ARF had assigned to your pet, or did you change it (and is there any sentimental, specific reason for the new name?)?

A. We kept the name she had at ARF. It works well with our last name of Lew. We call her Lily Lew.

Q. Do you have any words of encouragement or recommendation for someone considering pet adoption?

A. Adoption is the best way to go. They are all so desperately in need a good home with loving humans. It's the best thing there is for both their health and yours. We were so lucky to have found our furry child.

If your dog doesn't do what you ask, it doesn't understand what you want.

End the frustration! Train your dog!

*Positive Reinforcement Training*

Janice Murasko, Trainer

KPA CTP APDT

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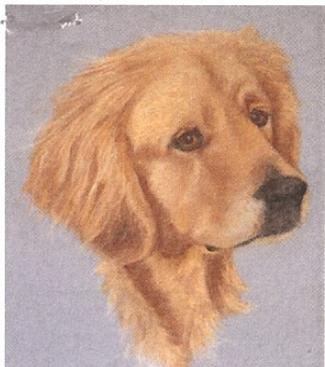
Chris Singer

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## Saturday, June 6

Idyllwild Nature Center

11 a.m.—3 p.m.

[www.arfbeerfest.com](http://www.arfbeerfest.com)

Pre-sale \$25 At the gate \$30

Non-drinkers \$5



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Trainer Talk

## Training Your Pet; Everyone Wins!

I love dogs, and I love training them. But what I love even more is working with dogs and their family members. I think what many dog guardians don't anticipate about training is that they and their dogs come away with much more than just behaviors on cue.

One of the best and most important byproducts of positive reinforcement training is the strong bond between the dog and his human. When a dog's guardian has honored and respected his dog's intelligence with positive, useful training, his dog will want to, and will do anything to please.

A couple of years ago, I began working with a couple and their new puppy. Because of her work schedule, the woman couldn't participate in training to the same extent as her husband, and the result was not unexpected. The dog formed such a strong relationship with the man, that his wife almost felt "left-out." Anyone could see how that dog felt about his "dad." When a stressful situation presented itself, the dog immediately looked to Dad for guidance. There wasn't anything the man could ask of that dog that wouldn't happen. Not long ago, the woman rescued a puppy and began training in earnest. She now has a similar relationship with the puppy.

Recently I began working with a family and their small dog who, in their words, was always frightened, was hesitant to come to them when called, cowered when they reached for her, and barked insanely whenever anyone came to visit. After just two weeks of training some very basic foundation behaviors, their report was exciting. They told me that she no longer cowers and seems to have confidence. She is no longer barking insanely at visitors; instead, she gives a few alert barks, then looks to them for direction. Simply put, I have helped this family give their dog new, healthy coping skills!

We send our children to school for a host of reasons. We want them to learn much more

than just the basics. We want them to be well-rounded, socialized, and confident. We want them to become lifelong learners! Let's do the same for our very intelligent pets. Ask and you shall receive. Dogs (and cats and guinea pigs, etc.) want to be challenged beyond the basics of sit and stay. And when you take on this challenge, you will discover a new, very satisfying relationship with your pet. 🐾

Janice Murasko  
KPA-CTP APDT



**Pet Supplies Galore @ Yard Sale**  
Spring cleaning? Bring your useable items to ARF, and we will add them to our annual yard sale. 100% of the proceeds benefit the homeless 4-leggeds.

**We will be selling:**

*Dog crates and cages of all sizes*  
*Dog beds of all sizes*  
*Animal toys and sweaters*  
*Grooming tools, food and water bowls*  
*Leashes*

**Please call ARF with any donations.**  
**Thank you.**

# A Village and Three Survivors, con't

And again, the village of Idyllwild has made us proud. Four days of phone calls, driving time, changing of routines, endless treats, water, hot dogs, and love of the four-leggeds brought this reunion to a success. *We at ARF are so proud to call this community our home.*

**And now, introducing the survivors who are happy to call Idyllwild home, as well:**



Katnis, the Maltese/Bishon-mix is a young female. She was matted and dirty, but so happy to be rescued.

Peeta, whose face reminds us of a King Charles Cavalier, is a young male.



Rue, the Chihuahua-mix, is a young female.

They may all be adopted separately, as they seem to be fine on their own now. Not one had a chip, collar, or tag, and all are very friendly and good with other dogs.

### Thank you Idyllwild.

#### **Cast of characters:**

Myla: rescued Peeta and Katnis (with hot dogs)  
Pam: midnight rescuer of Rue

Cheryl: weekend volunteer

Andrew: Groomer

Arlene: foster

Elaine: foster

Dennis: foster

Barb: overnight caregiver (among many other things)

ARF volunteers: Janice, Robert, Maria, Marylou, Teri, and Claudine



Katnis, groomed and ready to be adopted!

*ARF volunteers will continue to do what they can to care for the homeless dogs and cats on this mountain . YOU can help by supporting our fund raisers!! We hope to see you on June 6 at our craft beer festival (see page 4).*



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## Choosing a Trainer for Your Dog *and* You

The Cummings School of Veterinary Medicine at Tufts University recently released an article regarding choosing a dog trainer. This article offers some good guidelines for selecting a trainer for your dog *and* you. Below are Tuft University's suggestions:

1. Ask the potential trainer the following:
  - A. Do you believe that while physical punishments or "corrections" are not ideal, sometime they simply must be employed?
  - B. Do you give corrections with a collar by jerking a dog's head?
  - C. Do you ever use choke or prong collars?

*If the answer to any of these questions is yes, move on. Training should never involve pain or fear. That teaches the dog that you are scary; it doesn't teach him HOW to follow your cues. Rather, training should be positive, with*

*reward for getting it right and no frustration for getting it wrong.*

2. Ask the potential trainer if s/he is a member of the Association of Professional Dog Trainers (apdt.com), which promotes positive, no-punishment training.

Beyond asking questions, go with your gut. Just like choosing a tutor for your child, you want to hire someone about whom you have a good feeling. But that takes education! *Interview* the trainer, *observe* her training another dog. Does the individual seem like she would be a good fit for your pet? Is the tail of the dog up and wagging or down and tucked? Does the person seem ready to scold? Does the trainer appear to have the flexibility to "learn" the dog she's trying to teach?

Take care in choosing a qualified, certified, positive reinforcement trainer. 

## Three Cheers!

ARF's dogs, cats, and volunteers thank these Idy businesses for continually collecting the most donations in the ARF donation buckets:

Coyote Red  
Village Market  
Spruce Moose

And special thanks to Mountain Paws who donates a portion of its sales to ARF and The Vault who hosts sales of special items to benefit ARF.

Please stop by to visit these wonderful merchants.

*They reflect the true spirit of Idyllwild!*





Help them find a home

# Adoptees of the Month



How about a dog that is small enough for your lap, but not so small that he'll be stepped on? Peeta, one of our "Hyw 74" dogs is looking for the perfect home. He is good with other dogs, indifferent to cats, and loves to snuggle. He can be a tad bit shy at first, but quickly warms up to everyone.

Won't you set aside a few minutes to come to the ARF House to meet this precious boy? **WARNING:** Your heart will melt, and you'll find yourself completing an adoption application!



Tommy is a 4-year-old male. He's not a meower, but will talk or purr when shown attention. And he welcomes the occasional pet or under the chin rub. Tommy is good with all other cats and even the canine crowd. His favorite pastime is sunbathing in the outdoor cattery, watching all that nature provides. Often, we find him on a cat perch, just watching life go by in the window. Tommy is a very mellow cat, with little requirements. The only thing he needs is his very own home, with a window seat of course.



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All competitors, men and women, will keep their beautiful beer steins AND all the beer in them! The two winners will also receive awesome trophies to proudly display for years to come.

Register for the competition (maximum of 12 competitors) at the ticket sales desk by 12:30 at the beer festival on June 6.

Competition begins at 1:00

Want to see what it's all about? Check it out on Youtube:  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NIF9hfIM1bM>



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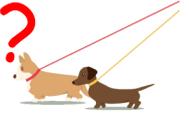


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# Where Does Your Dog Belong?



Where does your dog belong? She belongs in a lot of places, most notably at home or on the end of a leash. ARF's Search and Rescue team is called out to help find a lost dog, or to find the owner of a found dog, multiple times every month.

The Search and Rescue team is always ready and willing to help an owner look for his lost dog, and more importantly, the team is ready and willing to help dog parents find ways to better secure their beloved pets. It is dangerous for dogs, no matter where they live, to be out on the streets, but it is especially dangerous here on our mountain. Predators, elements, and a fast-moving highway are a recipe for disaster! No matter how "tough" an owner thinks his dog is, the fact remains that the dog could easily succumb to a severely cold, snowy night or an attack by a mountain lion or a pack of coyotes. And even if he was lucky enough to avoid predators, a call to animal control by an agitated neighbor could land the innocent dog on death row at a shelter.

Walking a dog off-leash is iffy, at best. No matter how convinced an owner is that her dog will always stay by her side, **THERE IS NEVER ANY GUARANTEE!** She could be startled into the path of an oncoming car or irresistibly lured away by a rambunctious squirrel or loping deer. And once she's gone, can the owner guarantee she will return when summoned? And even if she could, how can she protect her from what awaits around the corner or behind the tree while running loose? Just very recently, ARF's Search and Rescue was called to help a visitor to the hill whose dog just "disappeared." We soon learned that she was walking her very old, very ill dog off-leash. She turned her back for "just a minute," and when she turned back, her dog was gone. The good news is the dog was found. The owner swore over and over

her dog would never wander off...but it did.

Another thing to consider is mountain residents who are not-so-tolerant of dogs running loose in their neighborhoods. Owners who allow their dogs to run free in the neighborhood and owners who walk their dogs off-leash are **in violation of the law** (6.08.150 & 8.04.050 Riverside Co Municipal Code) and are subject to citations should a disgruntled resident file a complaint. Dog owners should also consider liability issues. If your off-leash dog causes a car accident or scares that little old lady walking down the street who falls, breaking a hip, **THE OWNERS ARE LIABLE.**

So please, for the sake of your dog's safety, keep him safe at home in a secure yard and **WALK HIM ON A LEASH.** Your dog will thank you as will fellow dog parents who want to walk their dogs without worrying about encountering loose dogs.

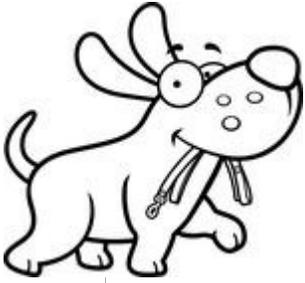
-Robert Hewitt  
ARF Search and Rescue Director

ON A 78° DAY:



Car parked in **SHADE** = 90°  
Car parked in **SUN** = 160°  
in minutes

PLEASE DO NOT LEAVE  
YOUR DOG IN THE CAR!



# Mark your Calendar! Prepare your Pooch!!



## Strut Your Mutt

It's Idyllwild's version of the AKC Westminster Show!

Enter your **mutt** in one of five categories:  
*extra small, small, medium, large, extra large\**

A panel of judges will choose the "best" of each size.

The five "Best of Size" will then compete for BEST IN SHOW.

Prizes will be awarded to the winners of Best of Size and Best in Show.

### Entrants must meet the following guidelines:

1. Dog must be a mutt (Sorry, but no AKC recognized breeds)\*
2. Dog must be well-behaved in the presence of people and other dogs
3. No costumes
4. All dogs must be on a leash at all times
5. Each dog must have its own handler

### How does Strut Your Mutt work?

The handler will "strut" his/her mutt in a large circle in front of a panel of judges. Judges will consider:

- Grooming/appearance
- Well-mannered while walking with handler
- Personality
- Hygiene and modesty (refrains from pottying while in the ring)

### HOW TO ENTER YOUR MUTT

Register your mutt at the ARF Booth at the July 4 Festival no later than 1:00 p.m., pay your entry fee of \$10, and get your contestant number. Competition will commence at 2:00.

Pure bred dogs are invited to enter the Crazy Dog-Tricks contest.

#### \*Size categories:

X-small 2-9 lbs    small 9-35 lbs    medium 35-65 lbs  
large 55-75 lbs.    X large 75+ lbs.





# July 4 Festival Crazy Dog-Tricks Competition

*Start practicing now! Show the world just how talented your favorite four-legged can be!*

## Crazy Dog-Tricks Rules

- ANY dog of any breed (mutts, purebreds, etc.) may enter.
- Each entrant will be allowed to perform one trick or concise set of tricks.
- Because we love dogs, each dog will be allowed several "do-overs" if necessary.
- Each entrant must be registered no later than 1:45 p.m. on July 4.
- All entrants must be "ready to go" at the event no later than 2:15 p.m.

## How to Enter

1. Sign up and pay the \$10 entry fee at the ARF Booth at the July 4 festival by 2:00.
2. Be "ready to go" by 2:15 p.m.

**The competition will commence at 2:30 p.m.**

Questions? Ask Janice at 951-659-6385 or [janicemurasko@yahoo.com](mailto:janicemurasko@yahoo.com)