



Ruff Times



Volume V Issue 2

Animal Rescue Friends (ARF)

January 2016

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Happy New Year!

Director's Message

ARF Welcomes New Year

With the new year come resolutions and changes, and so it is at ARF. ARF's hardworking board members have decided to mix things up a bit to reinvigorate and recharge. These same members will remain on the board and continue to be the leaders of this very valuable organization, but some are now assuming new roles.

I was secretary for about four-and-a-half years, but I will now fill the position of director. Teri Hardy, who has been our vice president will now be our Director of Sadie's Clinic *and* Animal Welfare. Robert Hewitt will remain as Director of Search and Rescue, but will now also be Teri's assistant with Sadie's Clinic. Bill Walker, our amazingly talented grant writer, will continue to work hard obtaining much-needed funding, and Mary Lou Prosin will carry on as treasurer. Maria Lehman will continue to be a valuable volunteer and will be caring for our cattery twice a day during the week.

ARF is always looking for animal lovers willing to step-up and volunteer with us. We still need a few more board members, as well as special event workers (beer festival on June 4, anyone?). Volunteering with ARF is a very fulfilling activity. Whether you choose to help out just a few hours on Saturdays or Sundays, work a shift at our beer festival, assist in a search and rescue endeavor, or join the board, you will feel so very good about helping ARF in its mission to help homeless dogs and cats on our mountain. If you are interested in learning more about volunteer opportunities, please leave your contact info at 951-659-1122 or email me at janicemurasko@yahoo.com.

We at ARF wish all of our supporters a wonderful new year. We hope you will drop in on the weekends to say hello and lift a glass with us at our June 4 Second Annual *Paws for Rhythm and Brews* beer festival. 🐾

-Janice Murasko



A non-profit organization

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arfidyllwild.weebly.com

ARF Over-run with Found Dogs, Community's Help is Sought

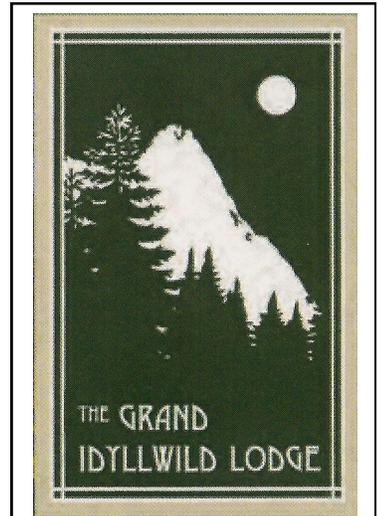
Things at ARF have been very busy, and a bit crazy, the last 10 weeks. Read on to get an idea of some of the things ARF volunteers handle on a regular basis...

In the first three weeks of November, SIX dogs were found on the hill and brought to ARF. Of those six, only one had any identification. He was returned to his family, as well the dog who was traveling with him. The other four, however, went unclaimed. ARF volunteers scrambled to find foster families, but came up one short. Thankfully, Living Free came to the rescue and was able to temporarily house the fourth dog until it was adopted. All four dogs are now in wonderful forever homes.

In the past five weeks, EIGHT dogs have been brought to ARF. Three of them had identification, but the phone numbers were incorrect. When a dog is microchipped or wearing a tag, but the phone numbers are not current, it puts ARF back at square-one. These owners were never found. Of the other five dogs who had no ID, three were lucky enough to make their way back to their owners.

When a dog is found, ARF works hard to find its owner. Board members make phone calls to the microchip provider, tries numbers on the dog's tag, creates and posts "found" signs, and posts info on Facebook. But the biggest and most difficult task is finding a place to house the dog until its owner can be found. ARF is able to house a found dog **for one night only** if there is no available foster family. If the dog's owner is not found after that one night, it must be transferred to the San Jacinto Valley Animal Campus. The SJV Animal Campus does *not* euthanize to make room. The dog will be safe there, but if/when the owner is found, he will face some stiff fees when picking up his beloved pet. The SJVAC will hold the dog for 30 days before making it available for adoption.

How can you help ARF with this "craziness"? First of all, please have your dog microchipped (only \$20 at ARF!!), using a permanent marker, write your phone number on the dog's collar, update your phone number when it is changed, make certain your yard is secure, and consider being a foster for dogs who are looking to find their way back home.



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Must-Read for Pet Owners in Riverside County

As you are probably aware, ARF is continually preaching the need to spay/neuter and microchip. There is a host of very good reasons for this, and one of them is that in Riverside County, spaying/neutering and microchipping *is the law*.

Chapter 8.21 of the Riverside County Municipal Code, section 8.21.010 states: *No person may own, keep, or harbor an unaltered and unspayed dog or cat over the age of seven months in violation of this section. An owner or custodian of an unaltered dog must have the dog spayed or neutered, or provide a certificate of sterility, or obtain an unaltered dog license in accordance with this chapter. An owner or custodian or an unaltered cat must have the animal spayed or neutered, or provide a certificate of sterility.*

There are two exceptions to this requirement, one being written confirmation from a California Licensed Veterinarian which states that the pet has a likelihood of suffering from serious bodily

harm or death if spayed or neutered, due to age or infirmity. The other exception is if the owner is a recognized breeder *as defined by Department policy*.

Section 8.21.030 governs microchipping. It states: *All dogs and cats over the age of 4 months must be implanted with an identifying microchip.* One exception to this regulation is for pets who might suffer a serious bodily injury, due to health conditions. This must be verified by written confirmation from a California licensed veterinarian. Other exceptions include a pet that is kenneled in this county but is not a resident, and a dog or cat that is over the age of 10 years.

Microchipping is ONLY \$20 at ARF (lifetime registration included), and Living Free holds spay/neuter clinics where you may have your pet altered for a donation of only \$25. These clinics fill up fast, so call for the next clinic date and make your appointment - Living Free 951-659-4687.



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WARNING: DO NOT TRY THIS AT HOME!



You win, Jenny - Yorkies can fly!

By Lois Sheppard

From ARF's Inbox

At Long Last, Heidi Finds Forever Family

My granddaughter and I recently moved to Idyllwild from Orange County. We loved the fact that Idy is certainly an “animal friendly” town. We have two small dogs, and they enjoy all the new smells of the surrounding area...pine trees, other dogs, and all that go along with life “on the hill.”

We had, until a couple of years ago, a wonderful cat we rescued. He was old, but with a LOT of spunk. After 4 years of joyful living with us, he was found to have very invasive cancer. We loved and will always miss our big old guy “Moki Flapjack.”

In November, I went to Sadie’s Clinic with the dogs (check up, shots, etc.) and noticed a beautiful lady in the cattery. Her name is Heidi. She is about 8 years old, and has markings that identify her as “special” in every way. In the meantime, my granddaughter was making inquiries about Bubbles, another adoptable feline, but she was already “spoken for” as they say. After a one-minute conversation, we realized we had to make our move for Heidi, or someone would scoop her up, too.

Heidi had been at ARF for three years. Gee, we thought, as nice as everyone is at ARF, it wasn’t the same as a real home and a forever family who worry, love, and care for their companion animals. So, we went to see Heidi. We learned all about her: medical, history, food, favorite things to eat and do, and we spent some time petting and cuddling her. There it was—a done deal. We would get Heidi on the Monday following Thanksgiving. We spent the days before her arrival getting a few toys, a fluffy bed, a cat tree, plenty of food (she LOVES pate) her own food and water dishes, and whatever might help her adjust to the home, us, and the two doggies.

WHAT a sweet lady Heidi is! She stays in the bedroom with my granddaughter, because she’s not too sure of what those dogs are all about. They like to sniff at the door to figure out what kind of new animal is going to be gradually in their midst all the time. Heidi will vocalize when she is miffed

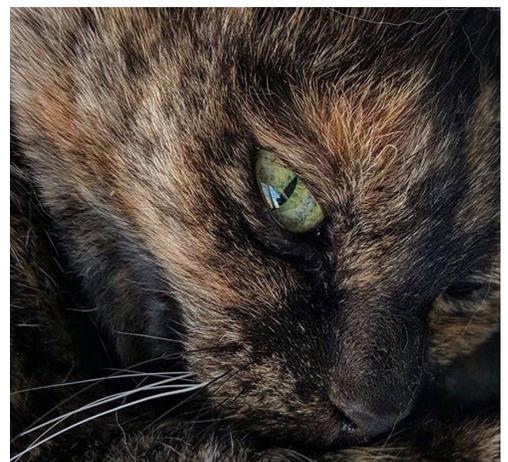
or happy. She purrs so loud the dogs hear her through the bedroom door—surely that means she’s a happy cat. Her mouth is formed in a permanent smile, too.

I know this letter of praise for ARF, for Sadie’s Clinic, and for the wonderful volunteers, will have to be edited (*Editor’s note-it wasn’t!*). So let me close with this VERY important message to everyone reading this. Adoption and rescue (and also “fostering”) are tremendous ways to make a big difference in YOUR life, not to mention the animal you save. We ALL need love, and having a beloved companion animal is a good way to GET and GIVE that. These animals DO know when you love them. They can feel your touch, the reassurance in your voice and they depend on you for their needs. By the way, the simple act of just petting a soft fur coat of a cat or dog can lower high blood pressure... Imagine that!

My granddaughter and I are SO grateful for Heidi now as a member of our family. We love her and treasure her...We will never abandon her, or disappoint her, or neglect her. She is our best girl forever! Adopt and rescue—especially the older animals who surely must wonder why they are so often overlooked. WE LOVE ARF! Thanks for reading our story!

Here is a wonderful pic of Heidi that we took when she settled in to her new forever home. Isn’t she just beautiful?!

Lucia Bartoli



Trainer Talk**Training: So Much More Than Sit and Stay**

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.

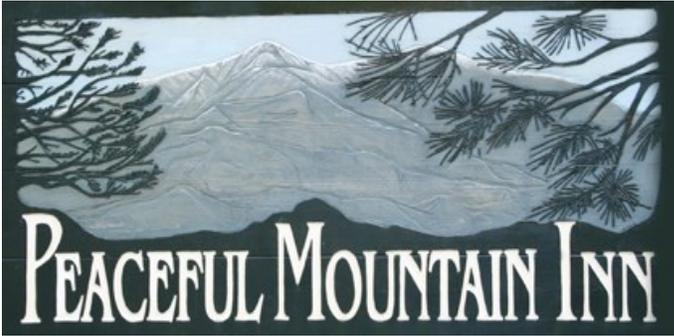
A couple of years ago, I began working with a couple and their new puppy. Because of her work schedule, the woman couldn't participate in training to the same extent as her husband, and the result was not unexpected. The dog formed such a strong relationship with the man, that his wife almost felt "left-out." 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 was working with a family and their small dog who, in their words, was always frightened, was hesitant to come to them when called, covered 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 covers 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



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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.

It was unbelievable—a local came into ARF one Sunday morning in November with an adorable little dog in his arms. He had been found wandering on Hwy 243 at dead man's curve! This caring man found a place to pull over and rescue this precious pup. We couldn't find his eyes through his long, matted hair, but there was no doubt that he was a very sweet and special boy, and we named him Muffin. He was quickly adopted by a loving family in Temecula. His new mom Jennifer Riddel tells the story.

Our 10 year old daughter has wanted a dog for a very long time. We told her that she needed to prove to us that she was responsible enough to care for a dog. She spent the last eight months being the primary care giver to our two cats. She cleaned the litter box every day and made sure they had fresh food and water. She even brushed them regularly. But we still were not sure that she was ready for a dog.

We told her that if she did well in school and played hard on the soccer field that we might get her one for her birthday (Oct 21) or Christmas. Well, she was awarded the Student of the Month in October and made the Temecula All Star team for

soccer. I was out of excuses so we started looking for a dog.

We agreed that we'd get a small dog. We didn't want one much bigger than our cats. We also wanted a dog that was "cat friendly." We are a very busy family, so I really wanted to find a sweet dog that was already trained – maybe a dog from a deceased elderly person. I hope that doesn't sound too bad???

I started looking online at Maltese Rescue and came across a dog named Pippen, who sounded like he might be perfect for our family. When I called about Pippen, Janice informed me that he was already adopted. However, she said she had another little dog that was just precious. He wasn't up for adoption yet, but would be on Saturday if his original owners didn't claim him. He was going to be at the Tree Lighting Festival on Saturday if we wanted to meet him. We drove up from Temecula to Idyllwild



Continued on page 8

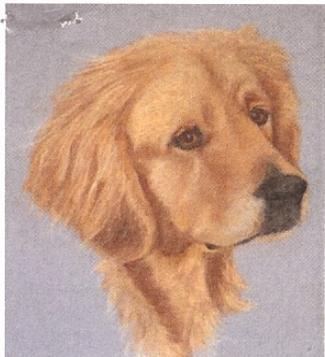
Chris Singer

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Adoptees of the Month

Kittens!

ARF in the past two months has taken in and adopted out five dogs, so this month we'll focus on kittens and cats looking for forever families.

Cats!



Chewy

We have a new "office cat" at ARF. Her name is Puddytat, and although she is a wonderful ARF ambassador, we know she'd be even happier in her own home. Puddytat is very, very friendly and affectionate. She is good with other friendly cats, but she'd prefer to be in a canine-free environment.

Two adorable kittens are waiting for their perfect families. Chewy (M) and Rey (F) are such playful, loving bundles of fur. **WARNING:** Good luck sweeping with these two in the room! Their favorite game is called "Attack the Broom."



Puddytat



Rey



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Baxter's Buddies continued

to meet the pooch. Needless to say, we fell in love right away.

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

I'll call this the dramatic dog rescue! We were visiting family in Palm Desert for Christmas and took him with us. They live on a golf course that has several community pools. We took him to the fenced in pool area with us. The kids were enjoying the heated pool and the adults in the hot tub. Bentley was running back and forth giving everyone kisses on their ears. Then he spotted a golf cart driving by and started barking at it. As the golf cart drove off and Bentley spotted some ducks on the golf course. He squeezed himself through the fence and started chasing the ducks on the course. The kids jumped out of the pool and ran to get Bentley. We put his "safe word" to the test and it didn't work. We were on our own! The ducks jumped into the lake and Bentley followed suit. As soon as he hit the lake the ducks got out and flew away. He turned around and started doggie paddling back to shore. We scooped him up and took him back for a nice warm bath. We

learned several things about him through this incident.

1. He can squeeze through the fence
2. He likes water
3. He can swim
4. We need continued training on his safe word.

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

We've adopted cats, but this is our first dog adoption.

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

Bentley is very social and playful. I walk him around the soccer field while my daughter is practicing. He barks when he sees other dogs, but is just saying "hello." He has been on a few play-dates with our friend's dogs. He loves running around and playing with them. He's one little cutie who is up for giving us lots of love and kisses.

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?)?

His ARF name was "Muffin." We changed it to "Bentley." No significant reason, but he just didn't seem like a muffin to us. His nickname is "B-Dawg."

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

Pets bring a lot of love, but be prepared for some household disruption. Our cats are not fond of Bentley, yet. They seem upset that their world has been turned upside down. Bentley barks at them,

and they hiss back. I'm convinced that he just wants to play with them, but they are not ready for that yet. I'm hoping they will eventually all love each other – or at least tolerate each other.



Sadie Says

Be Wary of Winter



Sadie's Clinic continues to be open to mountain residents once a month on the first Wednesday, although we might be facing some real challenges with our El Nino weather. We will open each month this winter as long as Dr. Nastro and staff are able to get to the clinic.

And speaking of weather, your pets need extra care and attention during this very cold and snowy time. A dog or cat who manages to sneak out of the house during the summer faces predator and traffic danger, but at least the nights are mild. But in the winter, the nights can be deadly. Please do whatever is necessary to secure your home.

Just this week, a local dog was diagnosed with stage 2 heartworm. He has been living on the mountain for nearly a year, and his original owner, who was new to the mountain, didn't know to protect him from heartworm. His new

owners are now facing vet bills which will mount into the thousands, and the treatment is painful and long for the dog. Be certain to keep your dogs up-to-date on heartworm testing and prevention. Once your dog is tested at Sadie's Clinic, heartworm prevention may be purchased at Sadie's for prices lower than online pet pharmacies.

And a quick reminder that Sadie's takes only checks or cash, so please come prepared. Please make your appointment for the February 3 clinic by calling 951-659-1122 and leaving a message, option #2. Your call will be returned within 24 hours so you may schedule visit with Dr. Nastro.

We at Sadie's wish you a very happy new year!

-Teri Hardy

So you want to breed your dog...

Because:

1. She/He is such a great dog!
2. I want to sell the pups for money!
3. It's good to have one litter before spaying!
4. My friend has a farm and can take the leftover pups!

Reasons not to breed your dog! (stats taken from Petfinder. Dogs looking for homes in PA,VA,NY,MD,OH,WV and DC!)

January 2011	
American Bulldog	2366
American Cattle Dog	3299
Australian Shepherd	3225
Beagle	8503
Border Collie	4494
Boxers	7483
Chihuahua	12293
Dachshund	5193
German Shepherd	2379
Golden Retriever	2585
Labs (Yellow, Black and Chocolate)	29286
Jack Russell	3471
Pit Bull	15317

Believe it or not...

ARF is already hard at work in the planning stages of the 2nd Annual Paws for Rhythm & Brews Beer Festival

Mark your calendar: June 4, 2016

We treat our festival volunteers very well! Each volunteer works a shift and then is invited to participate in festival activities, including beer tasting!

Volunteer spots are limited, however. If you'd like to be a volunteer, please email

Janice Murasko at janicemurasko@yahoo.com



Sponsorship: *a win-win partnership*



Last June's inaugural *Paws for Rhythm and Brews* Beer Festival was an overwhelming success and raised thousands of dollars to help ARF in its mission to help homeless dogs and cats in our mountain communities.

**ARF wants your business to be a sponsor of the
June 4, 2016 beer festival!**

**Sponsorship is truly a win-win for both the sponsor
and for ARF's dogs and cats.**

For a \$100 sponsorship*, your business will receive:

- *Advertising on ALL festival related publicity and on the festival website (arfbeerfest.com)*
 - *Its logo displayed at the event*
 - *Two tickets to the event (\$50 value)*
- *One year's advertising in the ARF e-newsletter, Rough Times (\$120 value)*
- *Inns/lodging sponsors will be featured on the "Lodging" link on the festival website*

Sponsorship fees will help to cover operational costs and permit fees, in addition to defraying costs to lodge brewery representatives for the night.

Please contact Janice at janicemurasko@yahoo.com or 951-659-6385
To ensure your business receives the maximum amount of publicity and
advertising, secure your sponsorship by March 1, 2016.