



Ruff Times



Volume V Issue 6

Animal Rescue Friends (ARF)

June 2016

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Director's Message

Letting Freedom Ring for All

Along with celebrating our country's independence, I celebrate the possibility of independence for animals who are homeless, in neglectful or abusive situations, or awaiting forever homes in shelters across the country. Arthur Schopenhauer, author of *Basis of Morality* published in 1841 said, "The assumption that animals are without rights and the illusion that our treatment of them has no moral significance is a positively outrageous example of Western crudity and barbarity. Universal compassion is the only guarantee of morality." I couldn't agree more.

While the scope of animal neglect and abuse is far-reaching, I like to think that ARF is making a small dent in the problem, at least locally. I know there are many who feel the same when I show up at the ARF House to find donations of dog and cat food, toys, and bedding. My hearts warms when a monetary donation, no matter how small, comes to us through the mail, online, or delivered in person. Visitors to the ARF House play with the kittens and offer love to the cats, and I feel hopeful.

My hope for homeless animals is matched by my hope that one day soon (in my lifetime?) wildlife will be protected from poachers, and ranchers and farmers will raise stock with respect (until the time all humans become vegans!). I hope one day all people will learn to honor and respect the sentience of animals. But while waiting for that day to arrive, I will be working every day for ARF and the animals we serve.

I thank all of you for supporting ARF, forgiving us when we make a mistake, and knowing that all of ARF's volunteers do what they do because they truly love the animals. Happy July 4!



-Janice Murasko



A non-profit organization

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

ARF House: 26890 Hwy 243, Idyllwild

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info@idyllwildarf.org



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 Blue came to ARF when his guardian left him behind after being evicted from his home. Fortunately, a neighbor snapped him up and brought him to the loving arms at ARF and a wonderful foster family. Diane Fairchild, his new forever mom, talks about his story.

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

While walking Trixie in Idyllwild County Park, we ran into Blue and his foster parents, Roselyn and Lane. Everything went in slow motion from that point... Blue and Trixie immediately took to each other like they had been together all along. After chatting with Blue's foster parents, we learned that he was available for adoption. **END OF STORY!**

How did you come to know about ARF?

When I moved up here permanently, I visited ARF to see how I might volunteer. We already had two senior dogs (15 and 16 years old), so we were not ready to adopt at the time. I volunteered at the 1st Annual Beer Festival last June. That is

how I came to know more about the inner workings of ARF.

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

Everything about him is cute! Okay, Blue loves to pull himself across the carpet after he eats. We call it his "slinky move." He looks like a little miniature Border Collie with his ears all alert and his huge grin. It drives Trixie nuts! She usually ends up riding on his back while slinks across the carpet. Pure, FREE entertainment!

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

Blue is actually our 7th dog adoption over the past 25 years.

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

Blue fits in beautifully. I work from home—mostly on

the computer. Trixie (our other adoptee) needed a playmat, and companion. Now she has Blue. I have slightly longer periods of time working before we take our walk breaks and built in entertainment all day. Everyone is happy.

Did you keep the name ARF had assigned to your pet, or did you change it (and is there any

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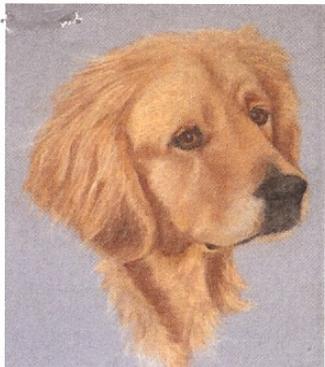



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Adoptees of the Month



LUCY

The ARF cattery is a lively place with kittens and adult newcomers. Lucy is part of a litter of six that was found with Mama under a deck. Lucy loves to cuddle one minute, then chase a toy the next. She is about 8 weeks old.

Ginger was left on ARF's patio with Maryann, both stuffed into a small carrier. Maryann has found a home, but Ginger is still waiting. She is a bit shy, but warms up to a loving lap. Probably younger than two years, Ginger will make a wonderful addition to a forever family.



GINGER



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Trainer Talk

Fido and Family Fun; When Should He be Included?

Summer is the time for all types of gatherings- BBQs, picnics, outdoor concerts, July 4 parades, and trips to the beach. These events are wonderful, relaxing escapes for families; they enjoy the socialization and change of scenery. Often dog parents will bring along their four-leggeds to enjoy the day, but if they were to look closely, they might see that their fur babies are not appreciating the outing as much as they might think they are.

Dog parents love their furry family members so much and want to share them with friends, family, and the community. But doing so often puts the dog in a very stressful situation. Granted, there are dogs who thrive on attention, from anyone and everyone. But strangers' reaching into a dog's "space" to pet or scratch is often unwelcomed and puts the dog in a difficult position. How does a leashed dog, at this parent's side, avoid the unwanted attention of a well-meaning stranger?

Even dogs who enjoy all the attention might experience stress caused by loud noises, strange environments, and crowds. Lots of people, new sounds, and new smells can be very stressful.

What are signs that Fido isn't really enjoying the outing? Knowing his signs of stress will help his parents to recognize that bringing him along maybe wasn't the best idea.

Lip and nose licking: This type of licking isn't the same as when the dog has been fed a spoonful of peanut butter; it has nothing to do with food.

Yawning: No, she isn't bored or tired. Stress yawning is intense and more repetitive.

Panting: A dog who has not just participated in physical activity and is panting most likely is stressed. The hanging out of the tongue is very extended and the mouth is opened. BTW: If the panting suddenly stops and the mouth closes, *be very aware*. This is a danger sign, and something bad could very well happen.

Avoidance: If Fifi appears to be cowering, curling up, looking away, and/or pulling back, she is very stressed. Keeping her in the current environment is unkind, maybe even cruel.

Shedding: Dog parents usually see intense shedding when their dogs are at the veterinarian's office. If the dog is "blowing hair", it is stressed.

Pinned ears, hard eyes: If the dog's ears are pinned down/back or her eyes look "hard" (as opposed to "welcoming"), there is danger ahead. She is very stressed and could easily react by snapping or biting. If she growls, her parents should first thank her for the warning and then immediately identify the stressor and remove it or her.



Identify the stressor and remove it or her.

In this photo it is easy to see that something very bad is about to happen. The very sad thing is

1) the child could easily be badly injured and 2) the dog will take the blame even though it is put in a lose-lose position of not being able to escape and being very stressed. If no one recognizes its

Continued on pg 5



This beautiful vacation rental is a short walk to town!

Sheila Zacker-
Idyllwild Realty
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Why Spay and Neuter?

FACT: One unspayed dog and her offspring can produce **67,000** in six years, and one unspayed cat and her offspring can produce **420,000** cats in seven years. Is there any wonder as to why shelters and rescues are overwhelmed? Aside from the pet overpopulation problem, unspayed and neutered dogs and cats are at a much greater risk of mammary and prostate cancer.

Additionally, alter animals are far less likely to contract deadly and contagious diseases such as feline AIDS and leukemia. Spaying and neutering also makes animals far less likely to roam, fight, or bite.

Taxpayers are footing the bill for problems caused by unspayed pets. Approximately \$2 billion tax dollars are spent annually to respond to problems caused by the overpopulation crisis. Personally, money spent skyrockets when a litter comes into a home.

Of the litters born, 6 to 8 million unwanted cats and dogs end up in shelters and rescues, and except for those who are fortunate enough to find their way into a no-kill facility,

half of them will be euthanized because there just isn't enough room to accommodate them all.

To those who claim they cannot afford to spay or neuter their pets, ARF encourages them to consider that the cost to alter the pet is far less than caring for a litter. Additionally, there are MANY spay/neuter clinics who will alter a dog or cat for a token fee. Living Free (in Mountain Center—951-659-4687) in partnership with Luke's Legacy (<http://lukeslegacyfoundation.org/>) hosts a spay/neuter clinic once a month and charges only \$25 per pet.

Statistics courtesy of PETA.



Fido & Family Fun *continued*

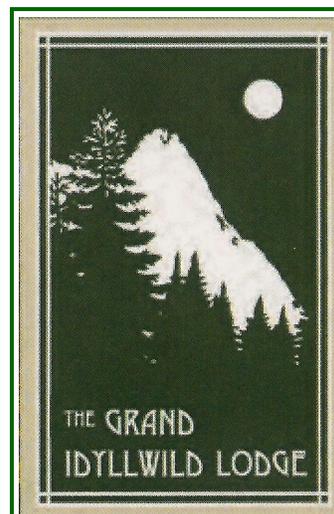
signs of stress and then immediately intervenes, tragedy is inevitable.

Other signs of stress include excessive sniffing, scratching, urogenital check-out (repeated checking/licking genitals), crying and pacing.

So this summer, before deciding to take Fido or Fifi along on the family outings, pet parents should think long and hard about the dog might be affected. They should also ask themselves if taking the dog is for their benefit (showing friends and family just how darned cute he is...) or if the dog *will truly enjoy the outing and benefit from it*. Dog parents need to remember that their four-legged family members cannot communicate in advance that they would prefer to stay home where they are comfortable and relaxed.

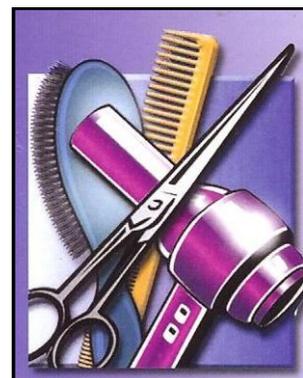


-Janice Murasko
KPA-CTP
APDT



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Be a good neighbor and a responsible pet parent. Pick up the poop! Just because a bear poops in the woods and doesn't clean up, doesn't mean that you & your dog may do the same!



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Baxter's Buddies continued—Blue

sentimental, specific reason for the new name?)?

We kept the name Blue. It is perfect for him. He knows that is his name.

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

Adopting a pet can be life changing in so many ways. If you are not prepared for the responsibility, don't do it! Save everyone the frustration and heartbreak. If you are prepared, get ready to have more love and joy than you could imagine. I have learned over the years of adopting these sweet babies that no matter how bad I feel, they serve as a constant reminder of how resiliency can build gratitude. I am a better person, because of the pets I have adopted.

ARF is so happy that Blue has found the most wonderful forever family. We bet the perfect pet is awaiting you!




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Sadie Says

Summer Safety for Pets



I am always left speechless after seeing stories on the evening news showing children and dogs left to bake in hot cars. It's difficult for me to believe *anyone* is unaware of the dangers of hot cars and helpless children and dogs left inside. But it still happens. Dogs and children pay the price.

sidewalks, in the street, or on sunbaked decks are able to vocalize their distress in order to be picked up or moved to shade. Dogs, unfortunately, do not have the same ability. I have witnessed dog parents totally unaware of their dogs' discomfort and pain while walking them around town. The dogs are hopping from foot to foot and frantically looking for shade.

Dog parents: PLEASE consider your dogs' feet as you have them out on leash during the day. **Place the back of your hand onto the concrete/cement/blacktop for 11 seconds.** If doing so feels uncomfortable or burns, think of what it will do to your dog's paws! If it is too hot to walk your dog safely, consider the following:



1. Walk your dog early in the morning or in the later evening.
2. Have Fifi wear dog booties.
3. Use a dog stroller.
4. Walk on grass only.

We at Sadie's Clinic know you want the best for your pets, and we are here to help you. Our clinic is open once a month (the first Wednesday of the month unless a holiday weekend dictates a change) for wellness checks and vaccinations. Because we're open just once a month, it is important that

Continued on pg 8

BE KIND! LEAVE YOUR DOG BEHIND!
It's HOT !!!!
 But do you know just how quickly your car's temperature heats up?

Outside	Inside	Time to Reach
75	100	10 minutes
75	120	30 minutes
85	90	5 minutes
85	100	7-10 minutes
85	120	30 minutes
100	140	15 minutes

The German Shepherd Dog Community

Another thing that happens to dogs, but probably not so much to children, is burned paws (feet) caused by walking on VERY hot pavement.

Children who are allowed to walk barefoot on

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Fun Facts About Fido

As a matter of fact...

- many domestic dogs are capable of reaching running speeds of about 19 miles per hour when running at full throttle, and members of the greyhound family are the fastest at up to 40 miles per hour.
- dogs can hear sounds that are ultrasonic.
- overweight dogs, generally speaking, are so because of too many snacks, high-fat foods, and lack of exercise.
- in WWI, Airedale terriers worked 12 hours a day on strict rations carrying messages to and from the front line.
- dogs have sweat glands ONLY on their feet.
- in England, poodles were bred originally to hunt ducks and geese in muddy swamps.
- the average dog has 42 permanent teeth.
- small quantities of grapes and raisins can cause renal failure in dogs. Chocolate, macadamia nuts, cooked onions, or anything with caffeine can also be harmful.
- the phrase "raining cats and dogs" originated in seventeenth-century England. During heavy rainstorms, many homeless animals would drown and float down the streets, giving the appearance that it had actually rained cats and dogs.
- the Basenji is the world's only barkless dog.
- eighteen muscles or more can move a dog's ear.
- dog nose prints are as unique as human finger prints and can be used to identify them.
- petting dogs is proven to lower blood pressure of dog owners.
- dogs are amoral. They don't know guilt or revenge.
- dogs like sweets a lot more than cats do. While cats have around only 473 taste buds, dogs have about 1,700 taste buds. Humans have approximately 9,000.

Sadie Says continued

you make an appointment.

Our next clinic is Wednesday, June 29. There will be no clinic in July. Call 951-659-1122 and leave a message on option 2 in voice mail. I'll get back to you very quickly to make your appointment.

-Teri Hardy
Sadie's Clinic Director



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ARF in July 4 Parade

Be certain to watch for ARF's entry in the annual July 4 parade. This year ARF will have a float early in the parade (unit #16), so please set up your chair in a great spot and cheer us on!



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"Bark first - ask questions later..."

By Lois Sheppard

Another Successful Beer Fest Fund Raiser

Photos by Peter Szbaldi & Chris Martin



7 Big Cat Myths BUSTED!

Declawing your cat is a minor procedure:

Declawing is an amputation and the surgery is extremely painful. Think of having your fingers amputated down to the first knuckle. It is inhumane and cruel. It essentially cripples a cat, rendering her unable to partake in innate behaviors or to defend herself.

Your cat is fine outside: Does a cat *really* want to be outside? What it really wants is stimulation, and all the healthy stimulation it needs can be provide indoors—a window seat with a view, toys, training. Facts: Outdoor cats have an average lifespan of 4 to 5 years, while a full-time indoor cat has an average lifespan of 12-18 years.

Feral cats make bad pets: Feral cats need extra time and patience to transform into comfortable house cats. Feral cats have the same great hearts and personalities as their more-domesticated counterparts. They just need humans to give them a chance.

Cats are brats: Remember, cats' behaviors are instinctual. Scratching, peeing outside the litter

box, or biting at your hand are behaviors spurred by instinct and environment. Take a look at the cat's world through his eyes.

You can't train a cat: Wrong! A cat is very trainable. Using positive reinforcement techniques, you'd be amazed at what your cat can learn. And a trained cat is great entertainment for your next party

Cats are low-maintenance pets: Okay, so most people don't walk their cats and cats *do* sleep a lot, but they *absolutely* require time and attention to be healthy and happy.

Cats think like humans: Cats think like cats, and cats do what cats do *because they're cats!* They act on instinct, and we humans need to remember that. Learn to understand why cats behave as they do, and you and your feline will have a healthier, happier relationship!



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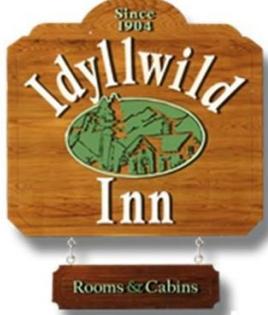



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