



Ruff Times



Volume VI Issue 3

Animal Rescue Friends (ARF)

October 2017

Director's Message

Proud of ARF's Accomplishments

I recently acknowledged to myself that another year is close to wrapping-up, and with that acknowledgement I realized just how much ARF has accomplished in 2017. I am proud of what we have done, and I anticipate that 2018 will be just as productive.

Last June we pulled off another very successful craft beer festival, and we are now beginning work on the 4th Annual Paws for Rhythm and Brews Beer Festival to be held on Saturday, June 2. Mark your calendar! We also added the monthly nail trim clinic to address the numerous requests for pet mani-pedi's. This clinic, held at the end of each month, sees a steady stream of dogs, cats, and even rabbits, from 9 a.m. until about 1 p.m.

Of course, where would our community members be without Sadie's Clinic? This clinic saves locals from a trip down the hill for annual vaccinations and testing. We are so happy that we are able to offer this valuable service. We see up to 60 pets per clinic!

Our inaugural *ARF Pets of the Year* competition raised nearly \$6000.00 to aid lower income families in providing veterinary care for their pets. This competition, which offered very valuable prizes for the winners, will occur again this coming January. Watch Facebook and this newsletter for information.

And as of the publication of this month's *Ruff Times*, ARF has assisted with nearly 70 lost/found dogs since January 1! Sadly, this is indicative of an epidemic of lost/wandering dogs on our mountain. I am proud to say we offer assistance to pet guardians in finding the source of a dog's escaping and showing ways to make a yard more secure.

ARF also offered two very informative sessions entitled *Cats 101* where a cat behaviorist and trainer addressed cat behavioral issues that puzzle many cat parents. Next month we are offering a short seminar to answer questions about using CBD oil for pets (see page 8).

What will 2018 bring? I cannot wait to see...I have some pretty good ideas in mind!



Janice Murasko
Director of Operations

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A non-profit organization

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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.

Your name: Jay Pentrack and Dolores Sizer

Family members' names: Ming (Shih Tzu), Junior (Adopted from Living Free)

ARF adoptee's name: His litter mates were named after the Big Bang Theory cast – we adopted Leonard.

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

ARF posted his photo on Facebook. Our friend Andrew who works at Mountain Paws told me he thought he would fit perfectly in our family. Once I saw the FB post, it was love at first sight! With Andrew's help, we adopted him the next day.

How did you come to know about ARF?

We lived in Idyllwild and had come to know ARF through their outreach within the community. Additionally, I publish *Idyllwild Living Magazine* and we do a pet issue every year. Janice Murasko has been kind enough to write about ARF for that and other issues. I have always been impressed by the commitment Janice and partner, Robert Hewitt, demonstrate on a daily basis.

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

The Facebook posting said about Leonard (now "Eddie"), "He is a very mellow puppy - not much for biting and chewing, and pretty darned quiet!" That was true until we brought him

home! He has the energy of 10 puppies, and immediately found our dogs toy basket and removed every toy (at least 20), and ended up falling asleep in the basket.

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

No. We adopted our year old Chi-Weenie, Junior, from Living Free.

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

He is one of the most loving, affectionate dogs we have ever had. He is a handful, but each day, he brings us more laughter and joy than we ever expected.

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?)?

If you're familiar with the cast of the Big Bang Theory, then you know that 🐾 Leonard's character is kind of mellow which our new puppy definitely was

not! He is an active, energetic little guy which sometimes gets him into a bit of trouble. He reminded me of a character on Leave it to Beaver – bad boy, Eddie Haskell; hence the name, Eddie!

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

We believe that we should be a No-Kill nation and adoption is the only way we can hope to achieve that goal. Pets surrendered to "kill" shelters run the risk of being euthanized daily,

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Mark Your Calendar!

Sadie's Clinic: Wednesday, 11/1

Nail Trim Clinic: Tuesday, 11/28

Please call 951-659-1122

Leave your contact info on option #2
of the voicemail



Adoptees of the Month



Sassy (a.k.a. Sassy Pants) is an adorable 4-year old Chihuahua mix. Sassy is absolutely wonderful with dogs, cats, and children. She loves to play and is very easy to walk. She is happy to greet anyone she meets. Sassy uses a doggy door. Spayed and current on all vaccinations (including rattlesnake), Sassy is ready to become part of a loving forever family. Won't you stop by the ARF House on the weekend or make an appointment to meet this very affectionate gal?

Sassy

Augusta and Austin are ARF's adorable brother-sister kitten combo. They are looking for a forever home, and they'd love to be together. Although adopting them together is not a requirement, should you have room in your heart and home for both, ARF will greatly reduce the adoption fees. Please stop by to meet these sweet, loving kittens very soon!



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Sadie Says

Sadie's Clinic Offers Mani-Pedi's



Sadie's Clinic has gotten busier and busier since it first opened its door quite a few years ago. Your Sadie's volunteer staff arrives early the morning of each clinic day, preparing for the many four-legged clients they will see between 10 a.m. until sometimes as late as 6 p.m.

Dr. Nastro comes prepared to administer vaccinations, tests, and wellness checks. Sadie's Clinic is usually on the first Wednesday of the month. Once in a while that day is changed; check the board outside of the post office or on ARF's Facebook page for any changes. Appointments may be made by leaving a message at 951-659-1122, mailbox #2.

Pet guardians interested in low-cost spay or neuter should contact Living Free at 951-659-4687 as it has a clinic for this purpose once a month.

In addition to Sadie's Clinic, we now offer a monthly nail trim clinic for your cats, dogs, and even bunnies. At only \$15 per pet, this is a great deal for those pets who do not see a groomer on a regular basis, and for pet guardians who don't want to drive off the hill for a quick pet mani-pedi.

This clinic is usually held on the last Tuesday of the month from 9 a.m. until about 1 p.m. Appointments can be made by leaving a message at 951-659-1122, mailbox #2. Walk-ins are also welcomed.

Please remember that if there is a mosquito anywhere in the area at any time of the year, your beloved pet could contract heartworm. We encourage all pet guardians to keep their dogs on heartworm prevention year-round. If your dog has been heartworm tested within the last 12 months at Sadie's Clinic, you may purchase heartworm prevention any weekend at the ARF House during its open hours OR by calling 951-659-1122 to set up a time during the week.

We wish you a beautiful fall season and look forward to seeing you at our booth at the annual Idyllwild Christmas Tree Lighting event. 

Teri Hardy
Director of Sadie's and Animal Welfare



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Visit ARF at Idyllwild's Tree Lighting Event

ARF will once again have a photo-op booth at the annual Idyllwild Christmas Tree Lighting on Saturday, November 25. Bring your pooch and family members to take pic with the ARF reindeer after shopping for some great pet-related gifts. To warm your chilled bones, ARF will also be selling hot chocolate. Every penny earned at this event goes directly to helping ARF in its mission to care for and re-home homeless dogs and cats of our mountain communities.



Behind the Scenes

A Weekend at the ARF House

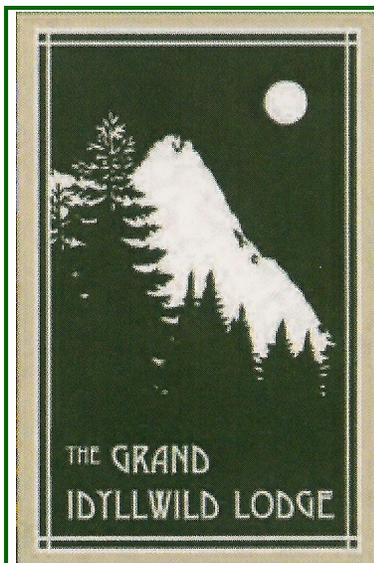
For more than one reason, the ARF House is open only on weekends, although appointments for during the week are easily arranged. Why doesn't ARF open during the week? The primary reason is a very small pool of volunteers. There are only three who staff the house on the weekends, and these are the same three who deal with any and all situations that happen during the week.

The second reason we are closed during the week is that there just isn't enough foot traffic to justify staffing. Phone calls are routed to voice mail, which is checked remotely at least five times a day. ARF does have a person who cleans the cattery and cares for the cats twice a day, Monday through Friday.

ARF opens its doors at 10:00 a.m. on both Saturday and Sunday, but in reality, a volunteer is on duty much earlier. Prior to turning on the "open" sign, this person cleans nine to ten litter boxes, sweeps and steams the cattery floors, feeds all resident cats, and then takes on the huge job of cleaning cat condos, beds, and scrubbing dirty litter boxes.

For the remainder of the day, this volunteer answers the phone, greets guests, coordinates dog walkers, com-

Continued on page 6



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ARF House Weekends cont.

pletes any adoptions, answers emails, completes paperwork, and deals with whatever situations arise (found dogs, lost dogs, etc). And of course there is always *at least* one cleaning task in the office and great room.

We encourage you to stop by on the weekends to visit with the cats and dogs, and of course your dedicated ARF volunteers!



Baxter's Buddies continued

and despite what you might think, puppies are often the first to go because their weak immune systems pose a risk to the other shelter animals. Organizations like ARF give pets a chance at finding a forever home. They also provide all of the necessary vaccines, neuter and spay services, and microchipping to the pet you adopt. The love we experience from our adopted pets is greater than you can imagine.



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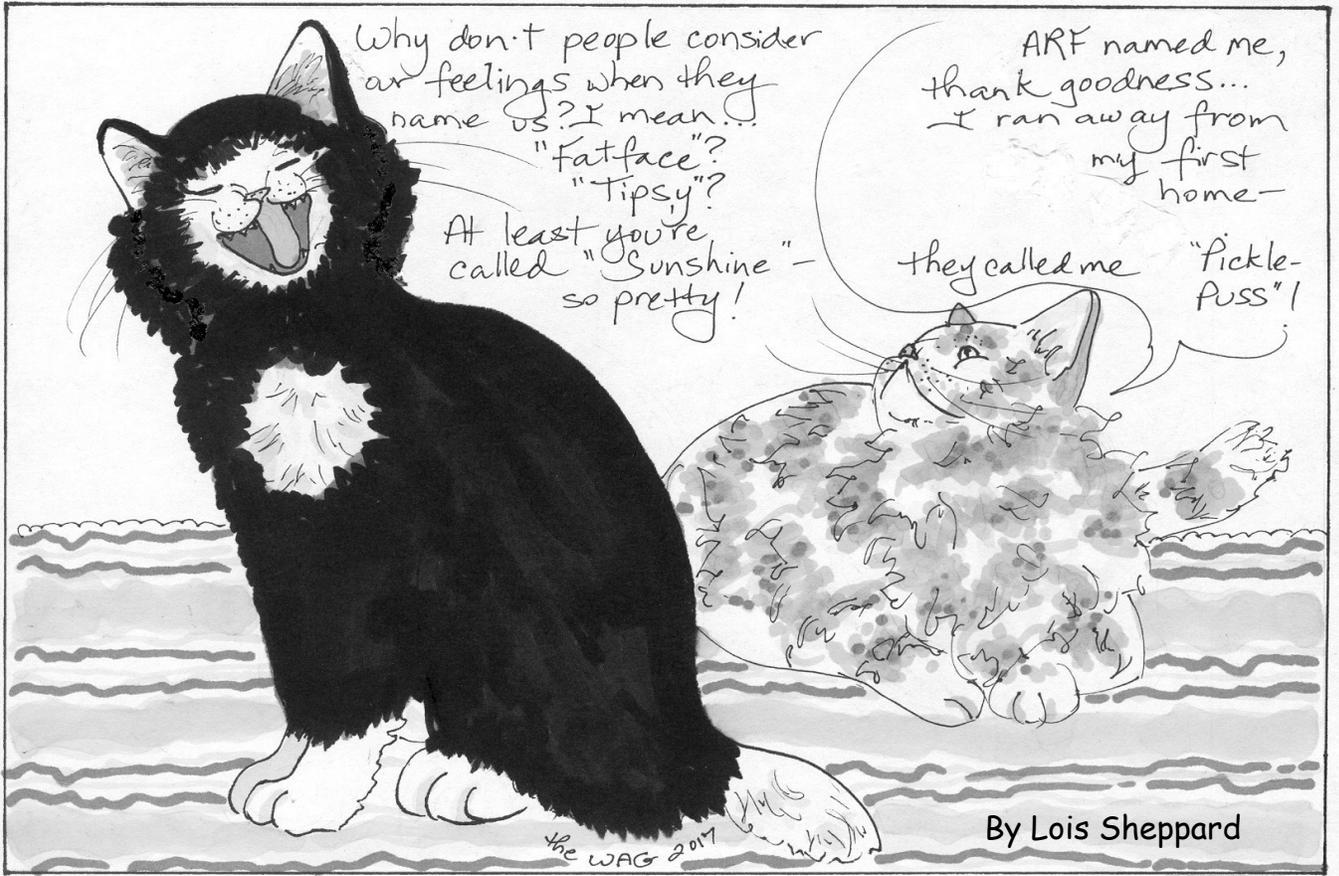
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Get your own personalized cartoon, created by Lois Sheppard. See page 9 of this issue.



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Curious about using CBD oil for your pets?

Get your questions answered on
Saturday, Nov. 4, 10 a.m.-noon
at the ARF House



- What is CBD?
- How can CBD benefit your pet?



CBD oil is used to address

***Anxiety:** pacing, shaking, barking, trying to escape, etc.*

***Pain:** possible symptoms might include difficulty walking, using stairs, jumping onto or off of furniture, decrease in appetite, reactivity, etc.*

***Improving the quality of life** for pets with cancer or epileptic seizures*

**Seating is limited. You may reserve a seat:
951-659-1122 or email info@idyllwildarf.org**

Speaker: Aaron Thames
Farmacopeiapets.com
Mob Rescue

This is presented by ARF strictly for informational purposes as a service to the local community. ARF holds no position in regard to use of CBD.

A unique, custom gift for your pet-loving friends

Local artist Lois Sheppard will create a cartoon featuring one or two pets for a \$30 donation to ARF (Idyllwild Animal Rescue Friends).

The 5x7 cartoon, suitable for framing, reflects the individuality of each featured pet. To order your personalized cartoon, Lois will need one or more photos of the pet(s) and a brief description of what makes the pet special (personality, favorites, etc.). Deliver photos, description, your contact info, and a \$30 check (payable to ARF) to the ARF House or mail to ARF at P.O. Box 719, Idyllwild, 92549.

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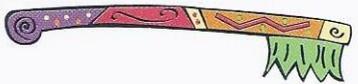
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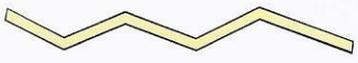


This is a win-win! Go online to order this awesome ARF tee shirt, get a discount by using code *SupportARFofIdyllwild*, and ARF gets 25% of all sales! Tee shirts come in unisex, women's, and youth. Also available are sweatshirts, racerback tanks, and tank tops.

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Safety Tips for Dogs and Winter Weather



Better Homes and Gardens recently published a great article for dog owners who live in regions that get very cold in the winter. With credit to BHG, here is important reading for all pet owners who live in and around Idyllwild.

Walking dogs is a great way to get exercise while appreciating the frozen terrain. However, it's important for dog owners to pay attention to common wintertime hazards.

Extreme cold is a noticeable risk to keep in mind when walking dogs, but there are less obvious dangers to keep in mind as well. Cold-weather chemicals can find their way onto dog's paws, and pet owners must watch for signs of dehydration and frostbite.

Here are five easy ways to keep your pet happy, healthy, and safe on every dog walk this winter.

1. Look for Signs of Exposure

Smaller breeds with less fur are more susceptible to cold weather, but the AAHA recommends that all pet owners look for the following signs of exposure while walking dogs in cold temperatures:

- Whining Shivering Appearing anxious
- Slowing down Stopping movement

Looking for places to burrow

If you notice any of these signs, return indoors immediately. As a general rule, it's good practice to remember that if you're cold, your dog is too!

2. Always Use a Leash

According to the APDT, more dogs are lost in the winter than in any other season. Use a leash when walking a dog in the winter as

unleashed dogs may run onto semi-frozen lakes or ponds.

3. Keep Your Dog Hydrated

Dogs are just as likely to get dehydrated in the winter as they are in the summer, according to the AKC. Be sure to provide plenty of fresh water before and after walking a dog walk during the winter season. Keep in mind that snow is not a suitable alternative to fresh water.

4. Be Aware of Chemicals

Sidewalks and driveways are frequently topped with chemicals like antifreeze and ice melters throughout the winter. These chemicals can get onto dogs' feet and cause abrasions. Dogs may also lick chemicals off their feet, resulting in stomach problems.

Consider dressing your dog in booties when going on a walk. If your dog will not wear booties, use a warm cloth to wipe their paws immediately after you return from a walk. ASPCA also suggests Musher's Secret as an alternative to booties. The waxy substance can be applied to your dog's paws and will protect toes and paw pads outdoors.

5. Check for Frostbite

A dog's footpads, nose, ear tips, and tail are at the highest risk for frostbite during the winter, according to PetMD. After each walk, check these points on your dog for frostbite. Frostbitten skin will stay pale and cold -- even after being inside. The skin may also swell and turn red. Always consult a veterinarian if you believe your dog has frostbite.



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