



Ruff Times



Volume III Issue 8

Animal Rescue Friends (ARF)

March 2014

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Director's Message

Spring Fun with Fido



Although this winter wasn't one to keep our canines confined to the indoors as most winters usually do, we can still celebrate the arrival of spring by spending some active time with our pups. Our canines thrive on mental and physical stimulation. Sign your pup up for agility training this spring and satisfy its craving for mind-body challenges while making you a proud pet mom or dad.

One of the greatest pleasures in a dog's life is connecting with nature, particularly on hikes through terrain teeming with wild smells, lots of trees, and little critters running amok. While you're at it, you'll both get some fresh air and plenty of exercise.

Spring begs for fun in the sun and out in the new greenery. Take your pup to the dog park so it can catch up with its pawed pals while you do your own "Finally, it's spring!" socializing.

Our energetic canines aren't usually picky when it comes to playtime. Mix up your usual tennis ball fetching games with footballs, basketballs, Frisbees, ropes, sticks or miniature tires. Throw them, hide them, or play keep-away from your pup until you're both delightfully played out.

Perhaps you can teach some agility with a make-shift agility course. Dogs love to jump, so think about teaching him to jump through a Hula Hoop. You can also teach him to jump over a pole or crawl under it. Take some big cardboard boxes outside and make a tunnel for your dog to run

Continued on page 2



A non-profit organization

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Search & Rescue Director: Robert Hewitt

Secretary, Editor: Janice Murasko

Vice-President: Teri Hardy

Sadie's Clinic Director: Claudine Ellis



Sadie Says

Please Welcome Our New Director

Hi, my name is Claudine Ellis. Many of you may know me from my pet grooming business. I'm the new director of Sadie's Wellness Clinic here in Idyllwild. I will be working side by side with Teri Hardy running Sadie's Clinic for Dr. Michael Nastro and ARF.

Our goal is to continue providing the best service possible to the community. Dr. Michael provides pet exams, vaccinations, micro-chipping, and heart worm testing, just to name a few of his many services to the pets of Idyllwild and the surrounding communities. We are very fortunate to have him. He has been coming up once a month for the winter, and will be here every other

Wednesday for the spring and summer months starting soon. Dr. Michael has been serving this community for approximately three years.

To make appointments with Sadie's Wellness clinic please call (951) 659-1122 #2 . Please leave your information i.e. your name, pet's name, reason for visit, and a call back number. Calls are picked up daily. Your calls are very important to us and will be returned as soon as possible in the order they are received. We look forward to serving you and your precious pet.

All the best from Sadie's Clinic,
Claudine and Teri



Director's Message Continued

through, blocks of wood for steps to climb up and down. Agility can be fun.

"Find-It" is a fun game your dog can play both indoors and outdoors. Hide your dog's favorite treats and see if he can sniff them out. Be careful not to encourage digging. A game where you call your dog back and forth is a fun outdoor game to play. This game also teaches your dog to come when he is called. Two people stand on either side of the yard and call the dog. When the dog comes, reward with lots of praise and possibly even a treat, too. Make it as rewarding as possible.



Every minute you spend in positive activity with your dog, the better your relationship, which will lead to more desirable pet behavior.

If you'd like to get involved with more formalized agility or herding exercises, contact Mountain Pawlytechnic Canine Education in Pine Cove. You and your dog can participate in Treibball (herding balls instead of sheep) or basic agility activities.



The Groomer Says...

Good grooming begins at home, and brushing is the most important part of the process, so please take a little time for your dog or cat. It doesn't have to be every day. Two, or even better, three times a week will make such a difference in the amount of pet hair you will have to deal with in your home or car.

Brushing is a good way to teach your pet to be patient and still for you. Your pet will grow to love it and look forward to the next brush-out.

Be sure to brush through all the layers and use the proper brush or comb for your pet's coat. If you aren't sure what to use, ask your groomer. S/he should be happy to help you. After all, a pet that is well cared for at home (i.e. brushing and training) is much better behaved when at the groomers, which makes the grooming process less stressful and more enjoyable for your pet. And best of all? The best remedy for excessive shedding is frequent brushing.

-Claudine Ellis



Idyllwild 4th of July Festival & Adoption Fair

A Salute to Country, Cats, and Canines

Friday, July 4th 11am to 3pm
 (Downtown Idyllwild following the parade)

Chili Cook-off Great Food Entertainment

Living Free



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Meet Our "Lake Fulmor" Dogs

This article was written by ARF's newest foster mom Donna.

Usually I would put ladies first, but in this case Archie (Archibald) is a hero who loved, cared for, and stayed by Bella (Arrabella) through what was one of our worst storms ever. Archie and Bella were found matted, soaking wet, scared, and wandering together near Lake Fulmor by a caring Idyllwild community member. Archie never left Bella's side. He kept her safe until ARF brought them into its care.

I have had them for a while now, and when I first met them, I wasn't quite sure that Archie wouldn't bite me. But really, he just didn't quite know me, yet. After several treats, I finally got a kiss and a wagging tail. After Archie saw I was okay, Bella came out from the kennel and ate some treats, barked a couple of times, then the petting fest was "on!"

We got them leashes, and they immediately ran toward us, sat to have the leashes put on, and were then ready to go. They both jumped into the truck, and we were off. When I brought them into my house, they checked it out and made themselves at home.

Archie still stays by Bella's side when I walk them in the meadow. They are inseparable! They are very playful and active dogs. Bella is a complete lady with paws crossed and a beautiful, singing voice. She is dainty until playtime when she is bossy and in charge of

taking any squeaky toy apart and shredding her animals. They both play run and enjoy each other's company, following each other everywhere.

Archie and Bella enjoy the outdoors, love to go on long walks through the meadow, and have their own schedule. They tell us when it's time go. They are barkers and need someone who can love them and care for them (*Editor's note: Whoever adopts these babies will receive free training to address the barking and any other issues*). They need to be groomed

and brushed. They like to sleep on blankets on the floor or on the bed (yes, with me on the bed!).

They have very different personalities. Archie is like a big dog checking out everything, but he loves to cuddle and have his tummy rubbed. He is a mellow dog. Bella is dainty and mellow as well. She likes to rest where she can see what's going on



in the world.

Someone who has a heart for the two sweetest dogs ever, please make Archie and Bella part of your family. They must stay together. We believe Archie is an American Eskimo, while Bella might (?) be a Sheltie-mix. Regardless, you will fall in love with them. Take them into your family, and they will change your life forever. They have changed mine!

With love and light
Always, Donna



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.

This month's buddy is Ruby. Ruby lives with her mom and dad Gary and Debra Martin here on our beautiful mountain. I spoke with Debra who enthusiastically told all about their wonderful luck in finding Ruby, just when they needed her.

Q. How did you come to make this ARF adoption?

A. I had lost my previous four-legged companion to cancer. I was a mess after that. I always drove by ARF when going through town. I would stop in, just to ease the pain, to visit with their dogs. Jane (Stonehill) saw that I needed help. We talked for a while (she asked a lot of questions). She mentioned that there was a dog at her house that just might be the right match. She called her neighbor to bring Ruby to ARF. In came Ruby...I should say "wild" Ruby, sniffing uncontrollably, but she was a god-send in my eyes-her beautiful eyes, red coat, curly tail, huge ears, and a LONG nose. Jane ask if I wanted to walk her; of course I did! The next challenge was my husband. I asked if I could take her to my house to meet my husband. I pulled into the driveway and my husband was sitting at the window. He saw Ruby and me and just shook



his head to say "NO!" Still, I took her indoors to meet him. Begging and pleading like a small child, I won. Eight years later she is till our sweet, loving four-legged friend and companion.

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

A. Is my dog the only dog that chases ravens? She just doesn't want them in her yard. All other birds are just fine, but that big, black raven...no way!

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

A. No, it's our second.

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

A. Let's reverse that question to ask, "How do we fit into her day-to-day lifestyle?" You'll need to ask Ruby.

Q. Did you keep the name ARF had assigned to your pet, or did you change it?

A. We kept the name ARF gave her.

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

A. Go to a shelter or rescue to adopt. These animals want to give unconditional love and need to have a home of their own and to know they are loved, too!







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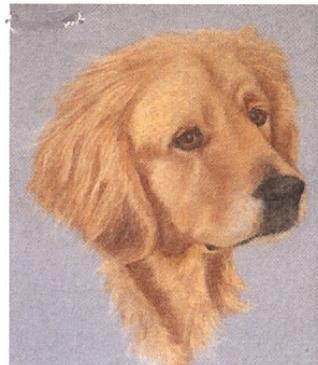
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Trainer Talk

Choosing the Right Dog for Your Family

Time to add a dog to your family? You'll no doubt look at your friends' dogs, consider size, and long for those adorable pooches on your favorite television shows. But what about the dog's innate behavior? What controls a dog's behavioral responses? Genetics. Genetic programming determines a dog's breed-specific behavioral repertoire, but it can be modified through learning.

Don't be surprised if your Sheltie enjoys barking at and chasing the kids in the park; she's herding! Does your Beagle make your crazy on walks with his sniffing every weed he passes? He's doing what he was bred to do! Wonder why your Jack Russell continually digs holes in the yard? She's probably in search of gophers.

Knowing a bit about breeds can help you make a wise decision in choosing a dog to become part of your family. As you consider getting a dog, whether it be your first dog or one you'd like to join your current pet family, ask yourself some questions and answer honestly.

Q. Is my family a very active one? And if it is, do the activities lend themselves to including a dog? If you can honestly answer YES, then a high-energy breed such as a Jack Russell, might be an okay choice. JRs need lots of exercise, but they also need lots of continual training and mental stimulation. A JR absolutely needs an owner and family very committed to *training and exercising on a daily basis*. What kind of active family is yours? A family that is very active with the kids' soccer games and marching band, and the parents' PTA and ambitious careers is probably the wrong kind of "active family." This active family's dog will most likely spend many hours at home, alone.

Unfortunately, many high-energy breed dogs find themselves members of families that chose them based upon "that cute dog on TV," not recognizing that the dog on TV was highly trained.

Q. Would my family enjoy the company of a dog that prefers to nap over chasing a ball? If you can honestly answer yes to this question, you'll need to choose a dog just as carefully as the family who wants an active breed. A Pug or rat terrier would be very happy on the sofa next to you as you enjoy your favorite NFL game. If you have children who hope to have a dog chase and retrieve a ball in the backyard, you'll need to look elsewhere!

But you don't need to look at purebreds to help you decide on the perfect dog for your family. A veterinarian or trainer can help you make an educated guess as to the

breeds that make up that loving mixed breed (a.k.a. mutt) you're eyeing at the shelter or rescue. Having an idea of the breeds that have made the mutt will give you an idea of the dog's genetic tendencies. If you really want to know the breeds in this dog's make-up, you can have a DNA test performed. Just ask your vet.

To be absolutely sure if a particular mixed breed is right for your family, work with the shelter or rescue to take him home for a trial period, but remember to factor in the "honeymoon" adoption period. The first week or two don't always give you an accurate picture of the real dog. Once he's acclimated to the new environment, he becomes more comfortable with being himself.

Regardless of what breed, or breeds, you bring into your family, you'll want to invest in some training to ensure a positive environment for both your family and your dog. 🐾

-Janice Murasko
KPA-CTP APDT

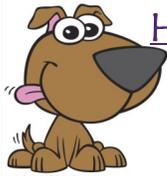
Big Plans for July 4

ARF and Living Free are teaming together on July 4 to bring a wonderful celebration of country, cats, and canines in the form of a freedom festival and giant adoption fair.

This inaugural event (which will encompass ARF's Pet Expo) will feature a chili cook-off, a dunk tank, live music, delicious food, and unique vendors. Contests, which were a part of last year's Pet Expo, will be featured. They will include *Mr. and Ms. Idyllwild*, *Strut Your Mutt*, and *Crazy Dog-Tricks*.

Keep your eyes and ears open for more details as the date nears. Dig out your best chili recipe, begin rehearsing your dog for the crazy dog-trick contest, beautify your cat or dog for the Mr. and Ms. Idyllwild election, and practice prancing your pup around the ring for the Strut Your Mutt competition.

Interested vendors should contact ARF at 951-659-1122 or Living Free at 951-659-4684.



Help them find a home



Adoptees of the Month

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Introducing The Mertzses, Fred and Ethel! Both are young pups, and will soon grow right into those paws. They came into the ARF door as a couple, as they enjoy playing, eating and sleeping together. And not just that. They are together, learning good house manners.

Everything's better with a friend is Fred's motto. So Ethel tags along. Fred and Ethel could be adopted together or separately. They require an active family that understands the antics of puppies, a home that will play ball, Frisbee, and play in the water, says Ethel, as she is the water lover. Fred prefers the dryer ground, But he's up for a game of catch any day. Of course, they have a healthy appetite and are learning clicker training, so treats are a must. Big bed for nap-time, barks Fred, and someone to cuddle with on cold nights. They both will bring laughter to your life and many smiles as they grow with you. By the way, Fred and Ethel Mertz are not barkers, unless they see a feline, so no cats please.



BOOMER



Boomer just can't believe he has lived at ARF for over a year now. His birthday was February 27th, and even though he is a year old, he still is a playful, mischievous kitty. He has bravely said goodbye to his brothers and sisters, and being the youngest of the cattery, has had to take matters in his own paws. So flipping the cat toys up in the air, scrambling to catch them, and tossing them across the room keeps him busy.

Boomer's thoughts: I'm fun. I love to play cat and mouse. I am not a meower. Definitely the most handsome cat in the cattery. I never make a mistake out of the litterbox. I like other cats. I actually like dogs too. The only thing I am missing is my forever human and life would be good.

Mountain Lions: They're Here!



It's a fact: Mountain Lions are on our mountain! Puma, Cougar, Panther, Mountain Lion, Catamount...all the same animal. The Mountain Lion is our very own North American lion.

The male Mountain Lion is solitary and territorial. Each male has a range of 75 to 125 square miles. So to see one in the wild is an exciting and very rare event. We have Mountain Lions right here in the San Jacinto District of the San Bernardino National Forest. If you doubt that fact, come see me, and I will gladly show you a picture of a wonderful specimen right in my front yard in Pine Cove! Some abilities of the mountain lion:

- Can bound over 40 feet in a jump
- Can leap 15 feet up a tree from ground level
- Can climb over a 12 foot fence
- Travel many at an average speed of 10 mph
- Reaches speeds above 50 mph in a sprint

They are primarily located in the 14 western states. Mountain Lions are *opportunistic hunters* typically hunting alone from dusk to dawn. Their prey are primarily deer,

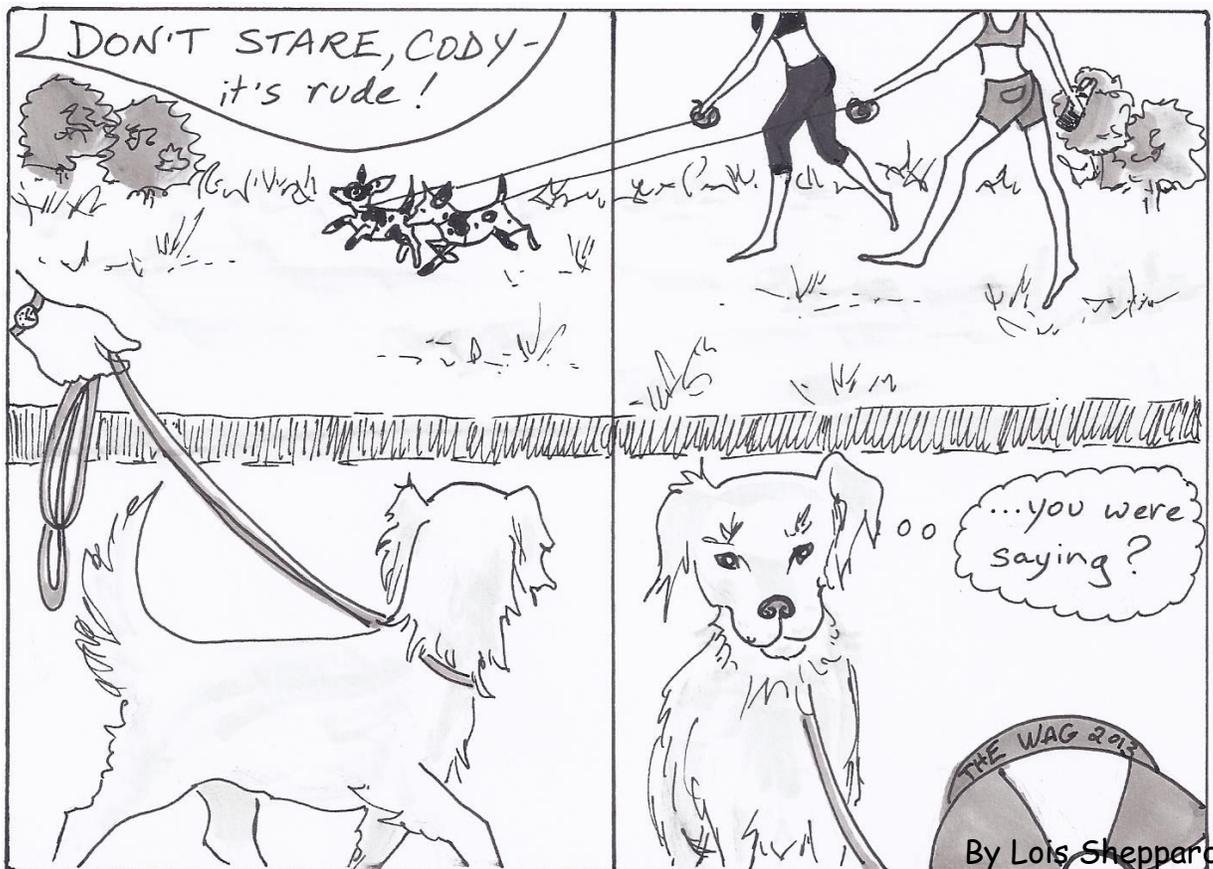
and they almost always take their prey from behind. On average, a lion will kill a deer every ten to four-teen days. They will also dine on coyote, raccoons, rodents and **most certainly domestic pets.**

If you provide the opportunity for an easy meal to an opportunistic hunter, then Fifi and Fido have no chance, right? We who live in our hill communities can do many things to protect our pets and ourselves from predation by this most efficient killer. **The single easiest way to protect your pet is to bring it inside at night.** To leave your dog or cat outside risks their lives and baits the predators. You are playing a losing game and eventually your pet will lose. **Your pets depend on YOU to protect them, so think it over before you spend another night in your warm and safe home while your pet sits out in the yard waiting to be carried off.**

-Robert Hewitt
ARF Search and Rescue Director



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Animal Rescue Friends of Idyllwild (ARF) Is Raising Funds & Helping the Planet Through Recycling

Recycle

Recycle Empty Inkjet Cartridges, Cell Phones & Small Electronics

Drop off your recyclables at the ARF House



Buy Recycled

Buy High-Quality Remanufactured Inkjet Cartridges

When you recycle...

We receive funds from Planet Green for collecting and sending in these recyclables!



When you buy recycled...

- **WE WIN**
We receive a 15% donation of every inkjet cartridge you purchase
- **YOU WIN**
You save up to 70% buying high quality remanufactured inkjet cartridges vs. the original brand
- **THE PLANET WINS**
Buying remanufactured inkjets reduces landfill which makes the environment greener
- **PLANET GREEN WINS**
Support an American remanufacturer who is here to stay 



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