



PAWPRINTS



CLAUDIA'S PLACE

The shelter is actually looking like a shelter now. It even has rooms!! The dry wall is nearly finished and the heating and plumbing are ready to install. The floors are soon to be finished.

The outside siding will soon be installed – weather and snow banks permitting.

We still need more funding to finish the kennels and runs, etc. but things are looking good with the recent donations coming in to help.

If anyone would like to donate toward the building in cash, materials or volunteer work – please contact the office. We can also use a Treasurer, Office Help and Foster homes.

PET PROFILE

Nellie is a 4 year old Chihuahua/Fox Terrier cross. She is spayed, leash trained, house trained and loves to be a lap dog. While she is timid of strange people and events she soon becomes more outgoing and curious. Red in color with tipped ears, she is a gentle, cuddly bundle looking for her own lap and another small dog who would play with her. She loves to run and really requires a well fenced yard as she will wander off if left on her own.

DOGS and CATS and BIRDS Oh My!!

“Stray” is a medium black dog – part black Lab and part Cocker Spaniel. For the time being he is residing with Vicki and her pack and enjoying the indoor life which was missing in his former life. He needs some dental work and will be visiting his doctor/dentist soon. After being groomed by our own Laryssa and Vicki he feels, looks and smells much better. This is another senior just looking for a warm bed, full water bowl, regular food and lots of love.

Shanny is still looking for just the right home for her. She needs a fenced yard and someone who is not afraid to set boundaries in her behavior.

Wynn is also still waiting for that special home. This cat-who-thinks-she-is-a-dog loves to keep her foster mom and foster siblings on their toes with her antics. She is a long haired dark tortoiseshell beauty, house trained and loving.

HAPPY TAILS

Cherry is the young “orchard” cat who was looking for the home she has finally found.

Valentine has gone to live with a family who also have another dog nearly identical to him.

Midge was a pound dog stray who came into PAWS when her time was up there. She is a young Australian Shepherd/Husky cross. She was adopted by the family who adopted Sidley. They saw her when they came to see Sidley and it was love at first sight for humans and canines.

Congratulations to all of them and their new families.

PET POINTS

HEDGEHOGS: Pint-size mammals known for their roly-poly, quill-covered bodies, as well as their gentle disposition, intelligence (they can navigate mazes with ease) and quiet nature.

PROS: Can be litter trained; no natural odor; nondestructive (won't chew furniture, cords, etc.).

CONS: Do not like to share cages – separate housing per hedgehog required; can become obese.

FOOD: Mealworms, commercial hedgehog food or good-quality (dry) cat, kitten or ferret food; treats of fresh fruit or vegetables.

HOUSING: Large cage or aquarium (minimum 91- by 61-centimeter base area); pine or aspen shavings; small box for "hiding."

EXERCISE: A hedgehog wheel and toys, along with playtime with its owner, will suffice.

POSSIBLE MEDICAL ISSUES: Wobbly hedgehog syndrome, a degenerative neurological disease; cancer; obesity.

LIFE EXPECTANCY: Four to seven years.

NOTE: Beware of mites. Mites are probably the number 1 reason hedgehogs see a vet. Mites themselves are microscopic, but watch for dandruff-like flakes on your hedgehog or loss of quills (bald patches).

DOLLARS AND SENSE

PAWS calendars are still for sale. Hurry and get your own before they are gone. They feature animals rescued in the Creston area as well as Creston's own Therapy dogs.

Calendars are available at: PAWS office, ABC Restaurant, Pharmasave, Creston Vet Clinic, Kootenay Medical Clinic, Pyramid Builders and Famous Fritz Meats.

Bottles and cans for recycling can be taken to the recycle depot and the refund donated to PAWS. You don't even have to sort for this cause!!

MEET OUR VOLUNTEERS

Lynn Ray and Bill Cook have recently returned from their trip to Turkey for Lynn's son's wedding.

We will expect a complete report at our next meeting!! Lynn, of course, is our very able Secretary.

Just a couple of days before their departure, Bill and Murphy met up with a patch of ice which threw them over the bank. Although they rolled several times neither occupant was injured beyond bruises but the same could not be said for the vehicle which protected them so well. Both recovered in time to go to Turkey and Pampered Pet Boarding Kennel – I'm sure you know which went where!!

PURRS and GRRRS

PURRS – to all the animal friendly people who leave their pets at home during cold weather rather than subject them to the cold when it is not necessary.

GRRRS – to all the unthinking, non-caring people who still insist on taking their dogs out in the cold in the back of metal-decked pick-up trucks. How would they like to have to stand in the freezing wind on an icy floor in bare feet?

"I had been told that the training procedure with cats was difficult. It's not. Mine had me trained in two days."
--Bill Dana (William Szathmary)

DID YOU KNOW?

PAWS is not just for furry friends!! Early in the new year Vicki noticed an owl which seemed to be in distress. Accompanied by Lee for moral support, she returned to find the owl had not moved and did not seem inclined to do so. "Horton" was taken to the Vet Clinic where Dr. Rob gave it some glucose for energy. Vicki and Tara managed to make him take a few syringes of watery gruel. When he got enough energy back to try to snap Vicki's fingers they figured he was ready for some heat and peace and quiet. Horton spent a week at the clinic before traveling to Cranbrook to catch a flight to the Bird Sanctuary at the coast. We hope he gets a second chance at the good life now.

PET PANTRY

HOMEMADE PEANUT BUTTER DOG BISCUITS

1½ cups water	½ cup canola oil	2 medium eggs
2 tbs vanilla	¼ cup natural crunchy peanut butter	2½ cups wheat flour
¾ cup unbleached flour	1 cup cornmeal	¾ cup rolled oats

Mix liquid ingredients. Mix dry ingredients.

Pour liquids into dry ingredients. Mix until smooth.

Roll into ball. Turn ball out onto floured surface. Roll or pat to ¼" - ½" thick.

Cut with cookie cutter. Place on ungreased cookie sheet.

Bake 20 minutes at 400°. Turn off oven and leave biscuits in oven for another hour.

SIT - STAY

Before using specialized collars for training – be sure you have the knowledge and experience to use one safely and effectively. Citronella collars, electric fence collars, pinch collars and, in particular, no-bark electric collars can not only traumatize your pet it can also injure and even fatally injure the pet. If you think the behavior of the dog requires drastic means please contact a trainer who can assist in both assessing the problem with the dog and give you suggestions on how to correct these problems.

MEMORABLE MOMENTS

Several of our members have celebrated birthdays in the last month.

Both Ruth and William Mitchell-Banks have added one more year to their experiences.

Pete Harris has done the same.

Lynn Ray also decided to "get one year older and wiser".

Congratulations to all.

Do older dogs suffer from senility?

Yes. Many older dogs begin to show symptoms of the same conditions aging humans experience. Forgetfulness is chief among them. However, there have been scientific investigations published. As usually happens, the condition has been re-titled as Canine Cognitive Dysfunction Syndrome (or condition). If you have an elderly pet, try a Google search for the words Senility Dogs (don't put quote marks around both words) and you'll be fascinated by reading some, if not all, of the articles and studies.

COMING ATTRACTIONS

The first Concert Concession of 2009 will be on February first at the High School.

The first Bake Sale of 2009 will be held on February 12th and 13th, Thursday and Friday, to help our customers with their Valentine baking.

If you can bake for or help with either or both – please let us know. Our Christmas Bake Sale earned us \$1526.05 even with the bitterly cold windy weather.

TRIVIA and TIDBITS

- ◆ The common belief that dogs are color blind is false. Dogs can see color but it is not as vivid as we see; it is like our vision at twilight.
- ◆ Survivors of the Titanic included two dogs: a Pekingese belonging to Henry Sleeper Harper and a Pomeranian belonging to Miss Margaret Hays.
- ◆ The oldest known breed of dog is the Saluki, which is an Arabic word meaning noble one. These dogs were raised as hunting dogs by ancient Egyptians and may be traced back 7,000 years.
- ◆ The oldest breed of dog native to North America is the Chihuahua.
- ◆ That one year in a dog's life is the equivalent of 7 in a human's isn't exactly true. A more accurate calculation is as follows: At one year, a dog is the equivalent of 16 human years; at two dog years they are 24 human years; at 3 dog years, 30 human years; and every dog year after that, add 4 human years.
- ◆ Every minute, dogs take ten to thirty breaths.
- ◆ Dogs first distinguish objects by movement, then brightness, and finally by shape.
- ◆ Dogs have a sense of smell that is one of the keenest in nature. Humans might smell a pot of stew cooking on the stove, but a dog can distinguish the smells of each individual ingredient, from the beef itself to the potatoes.
- ◆ If never spayed or neutered, a female dog, her mate, and their puppies could product over 66,000 dogs in 6 years!
- ◆ Dog's nose prints are as unique as a human's finger prints and can be used to accurately identify them.

TAIL END

Important Links:

Cranbrook SPCA – 250-426-6751

Trail SPCA – 250-368-5910

Nelson 2nd Chance – 250-352-2228

Creston Vet Hospital – 428-9494

Kootenay Vet Clinic – 428 2822

Animal Control (Town of Creston only) – 428-2214

If you are interested in adopting a new companion, need to re-home one or have found a pet or lost one – please check out our ***Weekly Wag and Meow Mart*** which is posted at both Vet Clinics, Iron Kettle Restaurant or Lil' Mutt Grooming. Or check with the PAWS office - 1420 Northwest Boulevard - or on our website.

Everyone is invited to participate in PAWS events, projects, meetings and fund raisers.
If you are interested in volunteering, fostering or becoming a member please contact us.

CRESTON PET ADOPTION & WELFARE SOCIETY

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