

# RUFF TIMES

Volume I Issue 12

Animal Rescue Friends (ARF)

August 2012

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### A POEM TO MY FOSTER DOG



I am the bridge,  
between what was and what can be.  
I am the pathway to a new life.

I am made of mush,  
because my heart melted when I saw you,  
matted, sore, limping, depressed  
lonely, unwanted, afraid to love.

For one little time you are mine.  
I will feed you with my own hand.  
I will love you with my whole heart.  
I will make you whole.

I am made of steel,  
because when the time comes,  
when you are well, and sleek,  
when your eyes shine,  
and your tail wags with joy,  
then comes the hard part.

I will let you go - not without a tear,  
but without a regret,  
for you are safe forever -  
A new dog needs me now!

By Diane Morgan

www.mcospets.org | www.facebook.com/mcospets | Conroe, TX

**Foster Families Needed;**  
**Share Your Home for a Day, a Week, or a Month**

**A message from ARF's Director of Operations**

## Heat Wave!

**Protect your pets!**



Foster care is an integral part of all rescue organizations. Without fosters, our mission to connect the unwanted, abandoned, and discarded pets with a forever friend "til death do us part" becomes pretty close to impossible. Fosters are the bridge and the pathway, as the poem states.

Please seriously consider making a small sacrifice, a small adjustment to your routine, and welcome a rescue dog into your home for just a few minutes. The joy that you will experience will last a lifetime. These animals are alive because of our fosters.

Thank you to our fosters of ARF who do not have the word "no" in their vocabularies: Elaine, Marylou, Glenda and Phillip, Barb, Juli, Ben, Catherine, Karma, Michael, Mardi, Linda and Brett and Colleen. ARF supplies all food, bedding, treats, and vet care to our fosters. -Maria Lehman



**Director of Operations:** Maria Lehman  
**Treasurer:** Mary Lou Prosin  
**Sadie's Clinic Director:** Caryn Gilbert

**A non-profit organization**

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

ARF House: 26890 Hwy 243, Idyllwild

[arfidyllwild.weebly.com](http://arfidyllwild.weebly.com)



**Secretary:** Janice Murasko  
**Education Director:** Jacqueline Siff  
**Search & Rescue Director:** Robert Hewitt



# Mayor Max Muses

## MYTH DISPELLED

I would like to dispel a myth. I heard that some people felt they did not need to donate to ARF anymore because our fund-raiser worked so well, and we were even denied a \$1,000 grant recently because they heard about the success of our fund-raiser. Think about this:

Did you know that more than 30 million animals die in the U.S. every year due to cruelty, neglect, and exploitation?

Did you know that 3 to 4 million cats and dogs are euthanized by U.S. shelters each year (nearly 10,000 animals killed every day)?

The amount we fund-raised doesn't even scratch the surface of what's actually needed to help animals on the hill, much less off the hill.

We generated \$31,150 of the \$65,000 goal we set for the year. Our yearly goal, however, was kept small because fund-raising is difficult. It was not set low because there aren't enough animals to help. Always remember this. You can NEVER do too much

to help animals. Whether 1\$, \$10, \$100, whatever you can do, please do it. ALL of the monies that go to ARF pay for the expenses of the healthcare, food, and fostering of the animals. ALL of us at ARF work as volunteers and receive NO compensation for our work. We want to help as many animals a year as possible. Please help and spread the word that financial assistance is greatly needed.

We will be happy when cruelty, neglect, exploitation, and euthanizing of animals no longer exist.

## LIFE AS I SEE IT

My campaign managers are often asked why we have such a wonderful life, so I wanted to pass along a rule by which we live that has made all the difference in our lives. Phyllis figured out early that positive energy (happiness, affinity, respect, admiration, love, generosity, i.e., these types of positive emotions) leads towards life, and that negative energy (hate, anger, viciousness, hostility, i.e., these types of negative emotions) leads towards death. So we only keep the positive energy people close to us (in business, family, friends and associates), and we don't keep close relationships with negative energy people.

Sure, everyone has to deal with negative situations, but you don't have to make a regular diet of it. If a person takes you down emotionally, think about ways to buffer yourself from that person. You can

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**ARF has a new web site!**

Please take a look, and check it frequently for updates and important information.

**[arfidyllwild.weebly.com](http://arfidyllwild.weebly.com)**

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## Sadie Says

# Beware the Rattlesnake!



Not too long ago, we all heard about a local dog who was nearly poisoned...and another little pup didn't survive a rattlesnake bite. It might help your peace of mind to be prepared. The following facilities closest to Idyllwild usually have a dose of rattlesnake antivenom on hand. You might want to clip this and post it on your refrigerator!

[The Small Animal Hospital](#), 438 So. State St., San Jacinto, 909-654-7396.

[Dr. Frazier](#), Anza, 951-763-2343.

[Pets Vet](#), Meridian and Florida, Hemet, 951-929-6688.

Time is crucial, so rush your pet to the nearest full-service animal clinic, but it's always best to call ahead while you're on your way.

If your dog is at-risk, consider Rattlesnake Avoidance Training. There is a class in San Jacinto on August 18. Contact Darryl, 909-838-7537, [darryl96@aol.com](mailto:darryl96@aol.com).

Also, Sadie's Clinic has rattlesnake vaccines

available. We have heard from clients that this has worked for them if given consistently and buys you time to get your pet to the vet. Call the clinic for an appointment: 659-1122 #2.

For all emergency needs, our nearest emergency hospitals are:

[The Small Animal Hospital](#) (see above), open 8am-6pm weekdays and 8am-12pm Saturdays.

[CA Emergency and Specialty Care](#), 25100 Hancock Ave., Murrieta, 952-600-9803, open 24 hrs.

[Emergency Pet Clinic](#), 27443 Jefferson Ave., Temecula, 951-695-5044, open weeknights and 24 hrs on Saturdays.

For poison issues, there are national poison control hotlines available 24 hrs:

[ASPCA](#), 888-426-4435.

[National Animal Poison Control Center](#), 800-548-2423.

Consider keeping Benadryl on hand (1 mg per lb, every 8 hrs) and ask your vet about an epi-pen, which can be carried on hikes. To induce vomiting, use hydrogen peroxide according to a vet's instructions. Copy this information and keep it handy for an emergency.

(This information is not provided by a vet.) 🐾

## ARF Wish List

It is so easy to help ARF in its mission, even for those who are short on time and just cannot volunteer. ARF has a "wish list" of items that are vital to its daily operations. Please consider picking up one or more of these items and dropping them off at the ARF House. Your donation will be greatly appreciated!

dry adult dog food, canned dog food, laundry soap, bleach, cleaning supplies, dog treats, chew bones, electric clothes' dryer

For those who have a little time to spare, volunteers are needed for spring yard clean up, gardening, future dog run construction/setup, walking dogs or taking them on short hikes. Please contact ARF at 951-659-1122.

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## Trainer Talk

# Choosing the Right Dog for Your Family is Important

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.

A hound hunts using trail scent, sight, or speed. Pointers, retrievers, setters, and spaniels were bred to assist humans with hunting by manner of pointing and/or retrieving. Terriers were bred to hunt and kill vermin. Controlling the movement of livestock is a breeze with herding dogs.

Understanding how and why your dog's breed came to be will help you understand its behaviors. Have a mixed breed? Determining to the best of your knowledge possible breeds in the mix might explain some of its behavior.

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 it 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 moles.

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  
KAP CTP

# “But he *loves* my hugs!!” Think twice...

Your dog is adorable, no doubt. She’s so adorable that you, your kids, and your friends can’t help but envelop her in a big hug. And, you say, “She loves it!” Don’t be so certain...

Those who know how to read a dog’s body language will testify that very, very few dogs truly enjoy hugging their human family members and friends. To understand how they feel, you first need to know a bit about Spot’s body language.

Beneath each photo of the human-dog hug is a listing of the dog’s stress indicators. These indicators clearly show the dog’s participation in the hug is less than enthusiastic, and in some cases could put the human in a dangerous situation.



Whites of eyes  
Mouth open  
Leaning away from the hug

Your dog, obviously, cannot use words to tell you he’s uncomfortable, but he *can* and *will* communicate with his body language. An unhappy dog will let you know with all or some of the following:

- \*A stiff, tight body
- \*A closed mouth
- \*Flicking tongue
- \*Tail high & stiff
- \*Yawning (anxious)
- \*Tail tucked in
- \*Turning head away
- \*Freeze & stare
- \*Half-moon eyes (whites of eyes visible)



Tight mouth  
Ears tucked  
Overall “tight” body language  
Eyes look “worried”

Below is a photo of a very happy, relaxed Baxter. A happy dog will have “soft” eyes, his body will be relaxed and loose, he will have a



fast, vigorous tail wag, usually involving the entire rear end, and when sitting or lying down, his tail will be thumping on the floor. Notice that Baxter’s ears are up, and his eyes are bright. His mouth is open in a relaxed, loose manner, and his tongue is not hanging out in a panicked pant.



Panting, mouth open  
Whites of eyes  
Leaning away from the hug





# 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.

*I've often thought about Penny Lane. She was always in my ears and in my eyes after being adopted into a loving family. Penny Lane is now known as Lucy, and you know, I love Lucy. And I love that she is now so happy.*

*I recently caught up with Lucy's mom, Debra Faulkner, and asked her a few questions about Lucy and her adoption.*

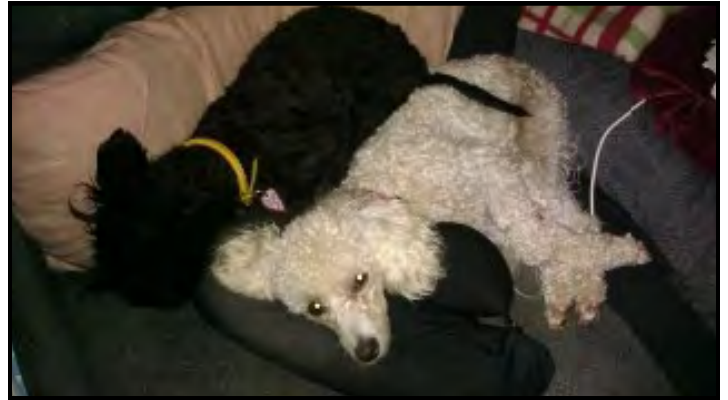
*Lucy now lives with Debra, her daughter Deanna, and puppies Mia and Kona. Debra has been a regular visitor to Idyllwild on the July 4 holiday for four years. This July 4, however, became a true holiday for Lucy when Debra decided to pay a visit to the ARF House. There, she saw Lucy and immediately fell in love.*

*Once home, Debra felt that Penny Lane was such a big name for such a little dog. She also thought that her new family member "looked like a Lucy." Hence the name, Lucy.*

*Lucy has fit into her new family very easily, "just like she always belonged here," said Debra. "She likes to put the toys back into the doggie bed that the other dogs leave out and loves playing with them. She loves to cuddle and sleep on my bed at night with Mia. She loves playing with the other dogs."*

*When I asked Debra if she has any words of encouragement or a recommendation for someone considering adopting a pet, she said, "Animals who are adopted are sometimes the best pets. They are just so happy to be in a loving home. They want to please you and are soooooo loving and sweet."*

*Lucy, we were sad to see you leave the ARF House because we knew we would miss you so much, but we were ecstatic to know you had finally found your forever home.*



Lucy and Mia nap together.



Adoption day at ARF

## Mayor Max Muses, continued

still be nice, but you don't have to hang out. It's easier to accomplish your goals when you are surrounded by positive energy people, and life is simpler and more fun too. When things get complex and negative, you can be sure you may have a negative person in close. Take a look. You don't even have to tell a person they are negative or that you're making a change. You can just change by how you elect to spend your time, where you spend it and with whom. Life can be fun, simple, and abundant when you're surrounded by positive energy people.

Love always,



**MAYOR MAX**

aka: Maximus Mighty-Dog Mueller

## Shelter vs Rescue

What is the difference between a pet rescue and a pet shelter? A pet rescue aids pets in need of homes and medical attention. Generally speaking, a rescue does not house the pets, but instead the pets are kept in foster homes until adopted.

A pet shelter cares for and houses the pets until they are adopted. Shelters can be larger, such as the Humane Society, or a smaller, independent organization.

Technically, ARF is a *rescue*. We do, however, house a small number of cats. We take as many dogs as we can find fosters. We would love to help everyone who calls us looking to rehome a dog, but unfortunately, we cannot unless we have a foster standing by.

In the case where we do not have a foster available, we offer an assisted adoption. With assisted adoptions, we help by advertising online and at the ARF House, as well as inviting the dog to spend the day with us on the weekends during our open hours so interested families may meet him or her.

## Pet Trivia

### How much do you know?

Think you are pretty pet savvy? Take this quiz, then check your answers at the end.

- All cats are born with \_\_\_\_ eyes.
  - green
  - brown
  - blue
- Adult dogs have \_\_\_\_ teeth.
  - 48
  - 32
  - 42
- A cat can jump as much as \_\_\_\_ times its height.
  - 7
  - 2
  - 10
- A polydactyl is a:
  - dinosaur
  - a cat w/ extra toes
  - a dog w/ six toes
- A cat has \_\_\_\_ rows of whiskers.
  - 3
  - 4
  - 2
- Dalmatian puppies are born without spots. True or False
- Dogs sweat through their \_\_\_\_\_.
  - ears
  - feet
  - nose
  - all of the above
  - b & c only
- What pet can be "dimorphic"?
  - dog
  - cat
  - lizard
  - bird
  - snake
  - hamster
- Guinea Pigs originated in:
  - New Guinea
  - the Andes
  - Asia
  - USA
- What is the only snake that builds a nest to lay its eggs?
  - Rattlesnake
  - King Brown
  - King Cobra
  - Scarlet

ANSWERS  
 1. c 2. c 3. a 4. b 5. b 6. true  
 7. e 8. d (Birds are considered dimorphic if it is possible to distinguish males from females of the species based on the colors of their feathers.) 9. b 10. c



Help them find a home

# Adoptees of the Month

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It's the burrito babies! Sisters Elsie and Tawny are young, 9 month old deerhead Chihuahuas. Their owners simply turned their backs and walked away, abandoning them to a certain death. At first they found comfort in each others arms, so when you saw one, the other was close by. In a short time, they have learned trust and love at the ARF house, making them individuals with separate needs. Yes, they still like to play together and console one another in a storm. But sisters will be sisters, and Elsie has decided that cuddling in her comfy bed is what she likes best. Tawny is more inquisitive, and requires more exercise. Walking backwards on her back legs only took a little practice. And Elsie has that snuggling down pat. Both are doggy door trained. They are available for immediate adoption or fostering. 🐾

M  
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Y



Looking for the perfect cat? The softest pure white fur and sky blue eyes make Monty a joy to come home to.

His favorite pastime is snuggling in his cat tree and watching the world. Never a meower and litter box trained, you'll hardly know he's there. He always welcomes the human hand for a neck rub, especially before meals. He is a lover of anything "fishy" in his bowl.

A bit of a loner, Monty is good with other cats, will tolerate the canine crowd, and even has shared his meal with kittens.

Monty is 5 to 6 years old, and although his eyes show sadness for losing his human, he is forgiving once you touch him. Please give Monty a home so he can show you his love. 🐾

Denise Edmiston  
*Owner*

Curves

*Independently Owned*

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