



PALS PRESS

Newsletter of Calgary's Pet Access League Society

Fall 2002

Inside this issue:

Welcome	1
Entertainment Books	1
Calaway Park	2
Upcoming Events	3
Celebrities	3
Calgary Pet Expo	4
Blessing of Animals	4



Dates to Remember:

- * Blessing of the Animals - Saturday, October 5th
- * Bingo - Sept 30, Nov 9, Dec 19
- * Keeler Society Special Visit - October 24th
- * Pet Expo - November 2/3
- * Art Market - November 13 to 17th

WELCOME BACK and WELCOME!

I hope that everyone had a wonderful summer and you are now looking forward to resuming your regular visits. The end of summer heralds the beginning of the busy season for PALS. We begin our fall interviewing sessions and screenings, we prepare for events such as the Art Market and Pet Expo, and begin planning everything for the next year.

After completing her work on the Pet Walk, Laretta departed from PALS. Joan Andersen a long time volunteer with PALS was hired this month in the position of Administrative Assistant. Many of you have already met or talked to Joan as she has worked as the Special Events Coordinator for the past couple of years. Actually Joan's relationship with PALS goes back to 1982 when she joined PALS with Harvie her basset hound. I believe she was part of the original Belcher Bunch. I met Joan in 1995 and, even following the retirement of Morgan, yes, another basset, Joan remained an active volunteer in other ways. She became active on the Board in 2001 assuming the responsibilities of coordinating special events. Of course becoming "staff" meant that Joan had to retire her position on the Board but not to worry, she will continue organizing the Special events. I am truly looking forward to continuing my work with this very dedicated, talented and humorous individual.

PALS has also had the good fortune to have been offered the services of a professional photographer who is willing to take photos for our newsletter and website of the various special events that we participate in during the year. Tamzin Horan of Animals in Focus Photography is no stranger to the world of dogs. She began showing dogs at the age of 6 and entered junior handling at the age of 12. During her teen years she continued to show dogs, did obedience work and was involved with the Pony Club. Tamzin's involvement in photography began about 10 years ago when she decided to "find something that she loved doing and do it for a living". Look for her photos of the Pet Expo in the winter issue of the PALS Press.



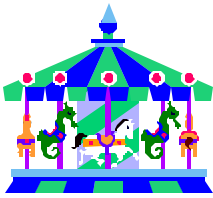
ENTERTAINMENT BOOKS

PALS is again selling Entertainment Books this year. You can get your copy from any of the following sources:

- | | |
|----------------------------------|------------------------|
| The PALS Office | Avenida All Pet Clinic |
| Landing Animal Clinic | Chinook Animal Clinic |
| West Downtown - Angie @ 297-9150 | Acadia Animal Clinic |
| East Downtown - Barry @ 691-6543 | |
- The cost is \$40.00.



CALAWAY PARK



Calaway Park held its 4th Annual Family Fun Festival this summer and, for the first time, PALS had a Public Relations booth at the event. Summertime can be a more difficult time to find volunteers with holidays and other outdoor activities beckoning, and planning outdoor events has the added challenge of preparing for uncertain weather (after all, this IS Calgary). This summer there has been the added difficulty of unseasonably cold weather alternating with scorching heat, so it was necessary to be prepared for extremes.

The weekend started with ominous overtones as skies darkened and temperatures dropped. Not to be deterred, we headed out on Friday evening to set up the booth. With people streaming out of the Park at closing time, we felt a little like salmon trying to swim upstream as we steered our cart in. But it was heartening to see that our location protected us from excess rain, wind, or sun, and that seating was readily available for our use. Little did we know that everything was about to change on Saturday!

The threatening skies had the Calaway team worried about providing reliable shelter for the band and their equipment. After all, dogs are quite a bit more “washable” than musical instruments – especially the electric guitars and amps. We did have some protection from the elements and, as it turned out, the relocation was quite fortuitous for us. Our new location meant that virtually every visitor to the park would be going past us at least once during the day, and the booth was readily accessible to people with wheelchairs or strollers. The weather slowly improved and the crowds grew.

The venue gave us the opportunity to present the PALS message to a different cross section of the public than we reach at other events. Because the visitors to Calaway are not all “locals”, we got a chance to talk to people from places where programs similar to PALS operate. As well, since people at Calaway are not necessarily “doggie” people, we even ran into a few who were completely unaware of PALS – so our time was well spent.

The kids loved the dogs and before long just about every kid at Calaway was sporting either a paw print stamp or a PALS logo stamp on their hand. Quite a few proudly displayed both. After they were stamped, the first thing they did was show their parents their hand. Hundreds of parents now have pictures of their kids cuddled up to a PALS dog wearing a trademark blue scarf.

After a downpour on Saturday night, the weather didn't know what it was going to do on Sunday. We sometimes had a hard time deciding whether we needed to bundle up to stay warm or to take off our jackets and don our sunglasses. Several of our canine volunteers needed their jackets at times, but they still lapped up many pats and hugs and even managed to sneak in a few kisses. One of them even somehow “won” some stuffed toys!

I would like to extend a big thank you to all of our volunteers, both two-legged and four. I enjoyed working with you and getting to know you better. I look forward to working with you at upcoming PALS events.

Thank you again.

Joan Andersen, Event Coordinator



UPCOMING EVENTS

Art Market - It's that time of the year again when Eileen's thoughts turn to coordinating the Annual Art Market. This year it will be held from November 13th to 17th at the Calgary Convention Centre. This is a great way to meet other PALS volunteers while helping to raise funds for PALS. Eileen needs volunteers, especially during the daytime on Thursday and Friday, to help with booth relief, sales at the PALS booth and PR work with your pet. If you can donate a few hours of your time, please contact Eileen at 271-2507 or email her at jjgavan@shaw.ca. This is a great way to "earn" your PALS shirt.

Special Visit - Volunteers are needed to attend a special visit at the Keeler Society on October 24th from 2 - 3 pm. The Keeler Society operates a day program in the city's N.E. for adults with developmental disabilities and, if you are interested in helping with this visit, please contact the PALS office. Thank you

Pet Expo - Nobody likes to think about November when the blossoms are still in the garden, but think ahead we must. Pet Expo will be here before we know it. This year, Pet Expo is being held on November 2 and 3 (Saturday & Sunday) on the top level of the Big Four Building at Stampede Park. We still need six or so volunteers to round out our roster! Please contact Joan Andersen during the evening (Ph res. 249-3484 or email jandersen@shaw.ca anytime) or call the PALS office if you would like to help out with this event (shifts are 1 ½ hours in duration).

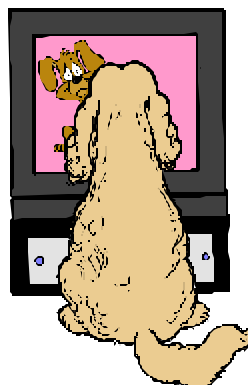
Bingo - If you can help out at any of the PALS bingos please call Audrey Giefer at 248-6422. The next bingo is on September 30th and this is another great way to earn a t-shirt. Hope to see you there!

PALS T-SHIRTS

There are some things in life that money can't buy and a "PALS blue" T-shirt is one of them. You can however earn one by doing at least ten hours of "extra" volunteering in addition to regular visiting. For more information on how to get your t-shirt call the PALS office.

PALS CELEBRITIES

Andy Warhol once said that everyone gets their 10 or was it 15 minutes of fame. Ping and Jacob received an abridged version when they appeared on the September 9th Big Breakfast Show with their owners Michelle Murray and Brian Wheatly. They did an excellent job representing the PALS organization. No surprises, not even from their host Jebb Fink! Thanks for doing such a wonderful job.



Look for something special on the packaging of a new dog biscuit due to hit the shelves this fall. Our very own PALS volunteer "Stormy" will be one of four dogs featured on the front of packages of Mountain Bones dog biscuits. On the back will be information about Stormy and PALS.

CALGARY PET EXPO

Location: The Calgary Pet Expo is hosted in the Lower Level, Big Four Building, Stampede Park - 1410 Olympic Way, NE. For a map and information visit the Stampede's website at www.calgary-stampede.com

Hours: Saturday, November 2 - 10am to 6pm
Sunday, November 3 - 10am to 5pm



Admission: All tickets are sold at the door on the day of the event. To get your discount coupon; \$2.00 off a family pass, visit any Pet Planet location after October 15th.

Adults - \$7.00/day Children under age 12 are free

Seniors/Students - \$5.00/day



The Sixth Annual

Blessing of the Animals

During the feast of St. Francis of Assisi

You are invited to bring your companion animals to this interdenominational celebration of life and thanksgiving for all creation. There will also be a special time to honour and remember those beloved pets that have departed.

Saturday, October 5, 2002

4:00pm

**Cathedral Church of the Redeemer
218—7 Avenue SE, Calgary**

(Please Note: The church is most easily accessed by C-train and is located across the street from the NW corner of Olympic Plaza. Parking is available behind City Hall or in various pay lots. There's a drop off zone beside the church.)

For further information:

**Calgary Humane Society 250-7722 ext. 303
Or Heather 249-7468**

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The Calgary Humane Society
For Prevention of Cruelty to Animals



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