



PALS PRESS

Newsletter of Calgary's Pet Access League Society "Pets Helping People"

ART MARKET 2005

FALL 2005

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Hello again everyone!!! Fall is now upon us and that means the Art Market is fast approaching. I've enclosed* a volunteer form with this newsletter and ask that you please take a moment to fill it out and fax or mail it back to the office at 250-9273, 3019 – 21 Street N.E. T2E 7T1.

ART MARKET is held in the Telus Convention Center (136-8th Avenue SE)

November 17, 18, 19 & 20, 2005. Volunteer hours are basically as follow:

Thurs & Fri. 10:00am-9:00pm (3 separate shifts of volunteers)

Sat. 10:00am – 6:00pm (2 separate shifts)

Sun. 10:00am – 5:00pm (2 separate shift)

Last year we provided booth relief for the artisans of the **ART MARKET**. As well, we had many of our four legged volunteers (along with their owners) promoting the PALS program. This year I would like to have at least 2 animals per shift. I would like to mix things up a bit and have different animals per shift (for example: one cat, one dog OR one large dog and one small dog) just to add some interest. Of course Guinea pigs and bunnies are welcome too! Last year we raised just over \$1,700.00 in the Looney Bin, which was an \$800.00 increase from the previous year. I think I can see \$2,000.00 for 2005 **ART MARKET**. Maybe with double the number of pets we could double the number of \$\$\$\$. Wouldn't that be awesome!!! So mark your calendars and please, please, please send in your volunteer forms.

For all those who volunteered last year, I thank you once again and hope that I will see you again this year.

Susan Douglas

Art Market PALS Volunteer Coordinator

* For those of you who receive the PALS Press online, this form is on pages five and six of the electronic version. *



United Way Donor Choice Program

Do you know that you can select the recipient of your United Way donation? The United Way has a Donor Choice Program that allows you to do just that. If you would like to see your money go towards supporting the PALS program all you need to do is:

- 1) Choose PALS Pet Access League Society as the designated recipient of your donation
- 2) Give them our Charitable Registration # 10781 1879 RR0001.

** It is imperative you quote this number, if not, funds will not go to PALS.**

What a great way to make a difference --- a few dollars deducted each pay cheque.

Each of you, as PALS volunteers, knows what that difference feels like each and every visit.

United Way is a great vehicle to enable us to continue our good work. Obviously, the more awareness generated for PALS will enable more visits that, in turn, will create more smiles for those we visit and hugs for our fur children.

Dates to Remember:

| | |
|-----------------------|-----------|
| Foothills Orientation | |
| Wednesday | Oct 19 |
| Pet Expo | Nov 4-6 |
| Art Market | Nov 17-20 |



Onward Into Fall



If you blinked this year you missed summer. In fact I am not really sure we had one at all. We seemed to go from a rainy season to...as I gaze out the window....another rainy season. This year it appears that summer, for those of you who blinked, coincided with Stampede week. Oh I am sure that there are people who remain firmly convinced that good weather is still coming. Sorry...you are in denial.... summer is over...the next sound you will hear will be the sound of windshield scrapers followed by the crash of cars skidding into each other. Speaking of crashes...

Joan and I experienced our own form of crash earlier this month. It came in the form of Joan's hard drive. Now most of our data is kept on a server that is backed up regularly but don't let anyone ever tell you that backing up eliminates all of the problems. On top of the actual getting fixed downtime, she lost all of her email records including her address books and some really nifty templates that made life, well, a whole lot easier. So instead of just having to install the programs, reconnect the network and get her email up and running, she's had to begin reconstruction of just about every shortcut that has to do with screenings, interviews and special visits. Needless to say she's been busier than a basset in a field of rabbits.

We have about 60 interviews and three pet screenings scheduled to take place before our annual Christmas collapse. I know this will be great news for all of you who need more volunteers in your facility. In addition, we have the Art Market and possibly another raffle coming up. And who could forget the.....



November 4th – 6, 2005

Big Four Building, Stampede Park

PALS will once again have a PR booth at Pet Expo so this means that we will need both two and four-legged volunteers to help promote the PALS program at this well attended event.

Show hours are: **Friday 4pm to 9 pm** **Saturday & Sunday 10am to 5 pm**
If you would like to volunteer for a 1½ hour shift with your pet, please email Joan at joan@palspets.com

or call the PALS office at 250-7257 and let us know what date and preferred time slot you would.

For more information about Pet Expo please visit their website at <http://www.canwestshows.com/petshow/index.htm>

Foothills Hospital

The Foothills teams are in dire need of additional volunteers. This facility only holds two orientations per year and all volunteers are required to attend an orientation before they can begin volunteering. These two factors make it extremely difficult to place people in the facility. If you would like to visit at the Foothills on either a Saturday morning or Thursday afternoon AND can attend an evening orientation on October 19,2005, please contact the PALS office.

The Squeaky Wheel Gets the Grease

Or

A Lesson In Cause and Effect

A note to all team leaders....if we do not receive visit reports we assume that all the people listed on your roster are 100% committed volunteers who visit regularly. That may not accurately reflect what is actually happening on your team but it will mean that you will be overlooked when new volunteers are placed.

On a similar note, summer months always see a drop in volunteer numbers. PALS is currently in full intake mode with three screenings scheduled for the fall. If you have been sending in regular reports and indicated a need for additional volunteers for your team we will try to accommodate you as soon as we can.

Entertainment books



Dine, Shop, Travel & Save

With the *Entertainment® Book!*

The New 2006 Entertainment Books are Now Available!

Just call or email the PALS office to find out how you can get your copy.

Save on Dining, Travel, Attractions, Movie Tickets, Groceries and more...

Up to \$10,000 savings for the cost of a \$40 book.

To find out more about savings visit the Entertainment website at <http://www.entertainment.com>

A portion of the proceeds from each sale supports the PALS program

Clown Classes

You don't stop laughing because you grow old. You grow old because you stop laughing....

Calgary's Caring Clown Association is holding monthly education classes from September 2005 to June 2006. These are drop in sessions and everyone is welcome. They meet on the second Tuesday of each month at the Alberta Children's Hospital. The room location changes so you'll have to ask information where the clowns are but the time is consistent 7 – 9 pm. Oh, if you end up in a corridor lined with portraits of politicians, you've found the wrong clowns. My sincere apologies to Miss Loosie for that remark.

For more information about the Calgary Caring Clown Association phone Cheryl Ann Oberg at 943-7629 or visit their website at <http://www.missloosie.com/caringclown.htm>

I think I might just go to find out why monsters don't eat clowns...is it because they taste funny?



Bingo



The PALS board of directors has voted to withdraw from bingo effective immediately. While the loss of income will be felt, it had become increasingly evident that volunteers were not willing or able to work bingos. This meant that a small core of people shouldered the entire responsibility, working increasingly long hours in a difficult environment. In addition, bingo revenues have been declining due to lower player turnouts and the impending smoking ban threatening to further reduce revenue.

When I began working at PALS in 1995, bingo was PALS' greatest source of revenue. Indeed it kept us financially afloat for several years. When we temporarily increased the number of bingos, we were able to build a reserve that strengthened our viability so I will be the first to say that bingo has served us well.

But it was finally time to put it to rest.

Over the years there have been many, many volunteers who have helped with bingo. For many bingo volunteers it was *veni, vedi, fugi* but, a number of people helped with as many bingos as they could. It is those people that deserve our utmost gratitude because they were instrumental in helping PALS achieve the financial strength we have today. I would like to say thank you to each and every one of you for your time, your effort and your commitment to ensuring that PALS had this source of income for as long as possible. I hope all of you will come to the wake. (Details to follow)

Shell Community Service Fund

Thanks to a \$1000.00 grant from the Shell Canada Community Fund, PALS was able to purchase a new monitor and printer for the office. We even had enough left over to purchase some heavy-duty surge protectors that, I'm sure, will save future hard drive crashes from happening.

These funds came at a very opportune time as Sandra's existing monitor had long ago passed its prime. Needless to say, Sandra was delighted to bid the old "see how deep we can make those squint lines go" screen farewell. The new printer is great, not only does it work properly, it also prints on both sides so we will save paper.

These funds were awarded to recognize and support the volunteer efforts of Shell employee Larry Best. Larry, his wife Maureen and their dog Rielly have visited the seniors at the Bethany Care Centre since 2000. This fall they will also be joining the Children's team as Rielly has let her owners know that she has lots of love to go around.

Shell believes that contributions of time, effort and caring to non-profit organizations benefit the entire community. Through the Community Service Fund, they recognize and support Shell employees who give personal time to non-profit organizations like PALS.

PALS would like to thank Shell for its continued support. Also thank you Larry, Maureen and Reilly for making the time to volunteer.



Medallions

The office still has a few 2005 20th Year Anniversary medallions available. Unfortunately cost prohibits us from mailing them out, but you are more than welcome to drop by the office and pick one up.



Charitable Registration # 10781 1879 RR0001

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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