



PALS PRESS

Newsletter of Calgary's Pet Access League Society

"Pets Helping People"

Fall2008

Inside this issue:

- **Visit Reports - Have Some Fun!**
- **Fall Screening**
- **Art Market**
- **Service Awards**
- **Thank You Thank You**
- **Spirit of Community**
- **United Way**
- **More Unusual Happenings**



Office Closed

The PALS office
will be closed
October 13th and
November 11th.

THE IMPORTANCE OF VISIT REPORTS

It is important for Team Leaders to submit regular reports to the PALS office as they are the only means of keeping track of who is visiting and who is not. Without these reports PALS staff has no means to monitor if a team requires new volunteers or if there is an issue that needs some attention. Reports are also useful in backing up information for funding sources and employee grant requests.

The PALS office is happy to receive reports any way that you want to send them in. Fax, phone or emails are fine. Other useful forms are available to Team Leaders. The PALS web site offers a visit report form for keeping track of attendance. This form can be found by using the following link: http://www.palspets.com/forms/VISIT_REPORT_FORM.pdf.

Other options include, faxing the form on a monthly basis, or sending it via snail mail. Some Team Leaders manage to be especially creative with their visit reports. See below for a way to write your reports "outside the box".

IT'S BACK TO SCHOOL!!!

On Thurs. Sept.4, "The wheels on the **BUS** went round and round, round and round, round and round".....and took the **K-9 KIDS** to Royal Park **SENIOR "HI!"**

Cassie, Nakita & Riley (attired in **TRENDY school outfits of BLUE**), were **TAILWAGGIN'** eager to see friends old and new and make the grade with top marks too!

It's "elementary" that they carried the **ABC's** in their backpacks- including T L C and X's & O's! No doubt there were dog bones and a few **apples** stuffed in as well. The **1 2 3's** in their backpacks added up to a school day that was in a class of it's own!

POP QUIZ: (also known as PUP QUIZ) Who are the students and who are the teachers at Royal Park? (I still don't know the answer.)

The fur kids learned so much more than just about **Clifford the BIG Red Dog** or "The Poky Little Puppy." The seniors learned that **P.D.(PALS Dog) DAYS** are their favorites!

They taught each other that **3 dogs + 50 seniors = 0 minuses!** Chalk this up to "Hands- on- Learning"! After all, the "principal" reason for going to school at Royal Park is to gain wisdom about what really matters and to graduate with honors in "Life's Lessons." (Achieving just the right amount of class clowning along the way.)

When the bell rang at the end of the day, there were no detentions and no one was sent to obedience school! Cassie, Nakita & Riley were the Teacher's Pets- they had each earned **3 red stars! ***** (1 star for attendance + 1 star for good behavior + 1 star for NOT eating their homework =3)

Please sign this report card here- Royal Park Team Leader

Bay Giving Day

Join us on Saturday, November 1st for "The Giving Day" at the Bay. This is a unique way to raise funds and PALS has decided to join in! The Giving Day is a one-day shopping event occurring at all Bay stores, nation-wide. Ticket holders will be treated to 15% off almost all items in store, as well as entertainment, special events, contests and so much more!

Tickets will be sent free of charge to volunteers and can then be sold for \$5. PALS will be able to keep 100% of each ticket sold.

Not sure how to get started selling the tickets? No worries – PALS has already ordered the tickets! If you are interested, please call the PALS office about obtaining the tickets and then sell away! Again, all proceeds will go towards PALS!

Story PALS

Story PALS is a literacy program where children with challenge issues, read to dogs in a fun non-judgmental environment. The program is in its second year and proving to be a favorite with both children and the dogs. The fall sessions for Story PALS will begin at the end of September and all spots are filled. If you are interested in volunteering for this program, the next session begins in February 2009. For more information, please contact Joan at the PALS office, or email her at: joan@palspets.com.

Fall Screening Sessions

Screening dates for new PALS members will be held on September 28th and November 16th. If you know of a pet that may be interested, please contact the PALS office at (403) 250-7257.

Art Market

The art market showcases the work of local artisans, including sculptures, paintings and many handicrafts. PALS volunteers provide much needed breaks for the exhibit workers. The art market makes a much-needed donation to PALS for their efforts and if anyone is interested in helping out, please fill out the attached **volunteer form** (please hyperlink to volunteer form) and send it to the PALS office by email, fax or post.

The dates for the 2008 Art Market are November 20th – November 23rd.



What do you get when you cross a black cat with a lemon?

A sour-puss.

What is Dracula's favourite kind of dog?

A blood hound.



Art Market 2008

PALS VOLUNTEER SIGN UP FORM

NAME: _____ I HAVE VOLUNTEERED AT ART MARKET BEFORE: YES _____ NO _____
 PET NAME (IF VOLUNTEERING WITH PET): _____ PET SPECIES/BREED: _____
 CONTACT #'s: HOME: _____ CELL: _____ WORK: _____ FAX: _____
 EMAIL: _____

PLEASE INDICATE BELOW YOUR VOLUNTEER POSITION AND SHIFT PREFERENCE

SHIFT SUPERVISOR (10)

Meets with and ensures all volunteers sign in, have name tags and understand their volunteer position. Contacts volunteer(s) from spare list ASAP in case back up is required. Provides PALS Volunteers with a break if required. Oversees all PALS Volunteers for their shift. Continually monitors all volunteers. Offers any Artisan a washroom break if scheduled booth relief is late in the shift.

SHIFT TIMES (PLEASE INDICATE BY "X")

Thurs. Nov. 20 ___(9:30am-1:30pm) Fri. Nov. 21 ___(9:30am-1:30pm) Sat. Nov. 22 ___(9:30-2pm)
 Thurs. Nov. 20 ___(1:30pm-5:30pm) Fri. Nov. 21 ___(1:30pm-5:30pm) Sat. Nov. 22 ___(2-6:30pm)
 Thurs. Nov. 20 ___(5:30pm-9:30pm) Fri. Nov. 21 ___(5:30pm-9:30pm) Sun Nov. 23 ___(9:30-1:30pm) Sun Nov. 23 ___(1:30-5:30pm)

BOOTH RELIEF VOLUNTEER (60)

Introduce yourself to each Exhibitor in your designated area and determine when they would like a break Keep track of times and return to booth at designated time. You will be responsible for approximately 11 Booths. You are required to either stay in the booth for a 20 minute period or simply go and get them a sandwich/coffee if that is what they prefer. Exhibitors will pay for any food/beverage they ask you to get. Each Exhibitor is entitled to ONE 20 minute break per shift. If they require additional break(s) there will be a \$5.00 charge for each 20 minute break.

SHIFT TIMES (PLEASE INDICATE BY "X")

Thurs Nov. 20 ___(11:30am-3:30pm)___(4:30pm-8:30pm) Sat. Nov. 22 ___(11:30am-3:30pm)
 Fri. Nov. 21 ___(11:30am-3:30pm)___(4:30pm-8:30pm) Sun. Nov. 23 ___(11:30am-3:30pm)
 ___I will be a spare volunteer (please indicate which shift)

PALS PR VOLUNTEER (34)

Bring your PALS registered pet and talk to the public about our program. Must stay at the designated spot. You cannot walk around the facility. Pet must be supervised and on leash at all times. So as not to stress the animals shifts are two hours. You are encouraged, however, to sign up for additional shifts with your pet OR volunteer elsewhere.

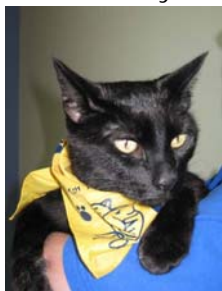
SHIFT TIMES (PLEASE INDICATE BY "X")

Thurs. Nov. 20 ___(10am-12pm) ___(12-2pm) ___(2-4pm) ___(4-6pm) ___(6-8:30pm)
 Fri. Nov. 21 ___(10am-12pm) ___(12-2pm) ___(2-4pm) ___(4-6pm) ___(6-8:30pm)
 Sat. Nov. 22 ___(10am-12pm) ___(12-2pm) ___(2-4pm) ___(4-6pm)
 Sun. Nov. 23 ___(10am-12pm) ___(12-2pm) ___(2-4:30pm) (closes at 5:00pm)

Please e-mail back to artmarket@palspets.com or mail to the PALS office at 3019 – 21 Street NE, Calgary, T2E 7T1. Or fax it to 250-9273.

Thank You!

10 Year Service Awards - PALS would like to recognize some exceptional human and furry volunteers that have volunteered for 10 years or more. Earlier this year, they were awarded a 10 Year Service Scarf. They are:



Jet Schollaardt

12 years



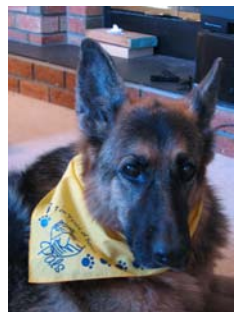
Buster van Heusden

12 years



Wishbone Kalyn

11 years



Reba Young

10 years



Abby Erdmann

10 years

This is an amazing accomplishment, so please extend your congratulations when you see them in your travels.

5 Year Service Awards are also available for volunteers who have been visiting for 5 or more years. When a volunteer brings their pet into the office for its 5 years re-screen, the pet will receive a 5 Year Service Scarf at the beginning of the screening session.

Thank You! Thank You! Thank You!

Thank You Konica Minolta Business Solutions Canada Ltd.

Over the past couple of years our old copier began showing signs that it was not long for this earth. It became increasingly temperamental; jamming, folding and mutilating paper and printing poor quality copies. Our copier tech informed us that it needed a massive transplant of parts that would cost hundreds of dollars and even then he couldn't guarantee that all the problems would be fixed. It was clear that we needed a new copier! We applied for funding through the Wild Rose Foundation but didn't receive it so, just when we thought that all was lost, the wonderful people from Konica Minolta heard of our plight and offered to donate to PALS a reconditioned copier. We gladly took them up on the offer and are now the thankful owners of a copier that is perfectly suited to our needs. In fact it is so perfect that we are able to do almost all of our printing jobs in house saving PALS money on printing costs!

So we'd just like to say to the people at Konica Minolta...

thank you so much for your generosity and help.

EOG Resources

PALS would like to thank EOG Resources for donating 10,000 PALS brochures to us. EOG has been a gracious supporter of the PALS program for many years now and we certainly appreciate all of their help!

Donations Thank you to:

Stikeman Elliott

Husky Energy & Husky Charitable Fund

Imperial Oil Foundation

First Calgary Savings

Canadian Western Bank

Loblaw Company Ltd.

Telus

Investors Group

Central Auto Parts Distributing Ltd.

Spirit of Community Program

Whether it's a donation of \$10 a month or \$100 a month, Albertans know the importance of charitable giving. In fact, Albertans are already some of the most giving and generous people anywhere, and it is through this giving that the Alberta government has developed the Community Spirit Program.

The Community Spirit Program was created to help increase charitable donations by individual Albertans to Alberta's non-profit and charitable organizations. The program is donor-driven, meaning everyday Albertans decide where they want their donations to go.

The Community Spirit Program is made up of two components: the enhanced charitable tax credit and the new Donation Grant Program. Program funding for both components is approximately \$100 million, which is divided as follows:

- Approximately \$80 million for the enhanced charitable tax credit
- \$20 million in new lottery funding for the Community Spirit Donation Grant Program.

How do you apply for the enhanced charitable tax credit?

You don't need to apply for the tax credit. You simply need to claim your total eligible charitable donations on your personal income tax return each year.

Including the federal tax credit, Albertans will now receive a 50-cent tax credit for every dollar donated over \$200.

The donation grant will be calculated by dividing the program's funds (\$20 million) by the value of individual donations received by eligible applicant organizations. The donation grant will vary from year to year depending on the number of program applications received and the value of cash donations. Donation grants can be used to support an organization's operations, programs and/or capital projects.

What a great way to support PALS.

Please see: www.communityspiritprogram.ca for more information.

United Way

Another way to support PALS this year is through the United Way. The United Way has just kicked off their fall campaign, and PALS volunteers may use the United Way's Donor Choice Program to direct their donations to PALS.

This program allows donors to designate and consolidate their charitable investments to specific charities such as PALS. The United Way passes along these gifts, as directed, to the recipient charities.

Donations can be made using the United Way on-line Donation Form. To donate to PALS, please look for the Optional Designations button when you specify your donation amount. You can search for "Pet Access League Society" under the Registered Canadian Charities section to allocate a percentage of your donation to PALS.

There are printable Pledge Cards if you choose to mail in your donation. When filling out the form please refer to section "2C" to allocate money to PALS.

Here's a link <http://www.palspets.com/donate/UnitedWay.shtml> for more information.

Art Market

Many thanks to Susan Douglas who, after many years helping to coordinate the Art Market has decided to step down. Without saying, we are looking for a dedicated individual who can fill her shoes! This person should have strong computer and organizational skills, in order to coordinate this very important fundraising event for us. Basic responsibilities include sending and responding to emails related to Art Market, scheduling and confirming shift times with volunteers, set-up and tear down and overseeing the four-day event.

Over the past several years Susan streamlined the whole process, so very little phoning is actually required. If you are interested in this position or would like more information, please email Sandra at info@palspets.com.

At this time we would like to thank Susan for her years of dedication to PALS and the Art Market. She instituted many changes that streamlined the Art Market and was an absolute pleasure to work with. We wish you all of the very best in your retirement.

More Unusual Happenings

The PALS application form asks questions which often elicit some amusing and unexpected responses.

One question asks, *"What doesn't your dog like?"* You'd probably expect an answer like: nail clipping, or the vacuum cleaner.

Sometimes the answers are touching:

- To be out of sight of me -- he worries....

Sometimes the answers are VERY specific:

- A black Lebanese Water Dog named Coco

But how about these for answers:

- PLASTIC GARBAGE BAGS!

- Loud obnoxious people

• Shrimp without cocktail sauce

And the ultimate unusual answer for doggie dislikes is still:

- Didgeridoo noises

Interesting responses to a question were also received when asked: **What type of collar does your animal wear?** One would typically expect an answer like: Training collar, or Buckle collar. How about these for answers?

- Regular neck collar (*isn't a collar, by definition, for the neck?*)

- She wears a soft material collar which holds her dog tags, and for walks she likes to wear her matching harness. (sounds like a fashionista)

But the funniest of all collar answer is still: PINK



Charitable Registration # 10781 1879 RR0001

BOARD OF DIRECTORS
 President: Angie Young
 Vice President: Brian Jack
 Treasurer: Fraser Boyd

DIRECTORS
 Jim Heaton
 Kristi Kasper
 Joan Lister
 Dr Wanda Vockeroth
 Mark Whiteman
 Sharron Winter

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
 Sandra Johnston

VOLUNTEER COORDINATOR
 Joan Andersen

PET ACCESS LEAGUE SOCIETY
 3019 - 21 Street N.E.
 Calgary, Alberta
 T2E 7T1

Telephone: 250-PALS (7257)
 Fax: 250-9273
 E-mail: info@palspets.com
 Website: www.palspets.com

Newsletter: Shannon Boyd, Jennifer Poole
 Newsletter Editor: Denise Ronsky