



PALS PRESS

Newsletter of Calgary's Pet Access League Society

Summer 2003

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Dates to Remember:

- * Hull Stampede Break-fast— July 8
- * Calaway Park—August 9 & 10
- * Confederation Park— August 14
- * Bingo - August 18
- * Pet Expo—September 27 & 28
- * Art Market—November 20 to 23

Sandra will be on Vacation from June 28th to August 5th. Joan's office hours during that time will be Tuesday through Thursday 9:30 to 5:30.

Hot Hounds, Cool Dogs

This is a condensed reprint from a previous newsletter.

Heatstroke occurs when the outside temperature approaches or exceeds body temperature so that panting, which normally dissipates body heat, becomes ineffective or even counterproductive. HEATSTROKE IS A MEDICAL EMERGENCY AND CAN BE FATAL SO PREVENTION IS VERY IMPORTANT.

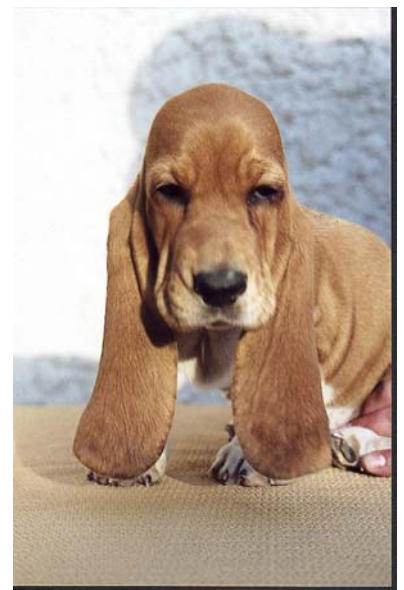
Prevention:

- Reserve vigorous activities for late evening or early morning. This especially holds true for pet owners who bike or inline skate with their pets.
- Rapid panting and a red tongue are early signs of overheating. These indicate it's time for your pet to slow down, stretch out in the shade, and have a long cool drink.
- NEVER leave your pet in a parked car during hot weather.
- NEVER leave your pet in an enclosed, unshaded area such as a deck, crate or dog run. Remember shade moves throughout the day.
- Make sure your pet always has access to water. Carry a water bottle when you go for a walk or car ride.
- Understand that double coated breeds, very young or old pets, pets with pushed in faces and dark coated pets are more likely to get heatstroke than other pets.

Finally, It is important to remember that facilities can become very warm during the summer. In addition, some have an atrium area that is both hot and humid. Remember to give your pet frequent water breaks and leave if your pet shows any signs of becoming overheated or fatigued.

New PALS Wannabe

There's a new PALS wannabe basset puppy around the PALS office these days. Her name is Joey, and Joan really needs your help with her socialization. She's 16 weeks old right now, with the brownest eyes and longest ears you've probably ever seen. Her Eccentric Auntie Sandra is trying to help train her, but Sandra's going on holidays soon so things will be WAAAY too quiet at the office. Joey is here Tuesdays, Wednesdays & Thursdays, so come on by and say hello. Be aware though that her teeth are like needles and everything is a chew toy to her.



6th Annual Pet Walk

A sincere THANK YOU to all the people who organized and participated in the 6th Annual PALS Pet Walk and Fun Day at Fish Creek Park. We had a lovely day for the event and everybody (both humans and canines) had a good time. We were fortunate to have the support of several local businesses. It is said that consumers applaud with their wallets. So please give a round of applause to Pet Planet, Jacobs Canada, Bernard Callebaut Chocolates, Sunnyside, Golden Acre, High Mountain Feed, Launder-A-Pet, The Flower Cottage, and, Avenida, Brentwood, Bridlewood and Elbow Valley Veterinary Clinics. Their generous support helped us to raise over \$5,000 for the operation and expansion of the PALS program.



- Photos courtesy of Animals in Focus Photography



Another Successful Casino!

Once again, PALS has held a very successful casino. A huge THANK YOU goes out to all of the volunteers who gave up their entire day or night to help with this event. Everyone showed up for their shift so our spares were given the day or evening off. Late shift volunteers showed up bright-eyed and bushy-tailed and ready to work. Granted, some of us were considerably less bright-eyed at the end of our shift, but that's part of the fun. to see if you can actually stay awake past 10:00 pm. Of course Sandra maintains that, when it comes to staying up late, practice makes perfect so she has already begun her training for our next casino in 2005! She's practicing real hard :-)

PALS stands to make about \$57 thousand dollars from this event, so our efforts were definitely worth it. We just feel that if you can have fun at the same time, it's a real bonus. Now, if we could spend that money however we wanted

Pet Friendly Accommodations

If you are looking for pet friendly accommodations for your vacation this summer, check out www.petfriendly.ca

The day is divided into two important sections. Mealtime. And everything else.

MEALTIME

Just because there does not seem to be anything visible around to eat certainly does not mean there is nothing around to eat. The act of staring at the underside of a table or chair on which someone else is eating sets in motion a chain of events that eventually results in food.

It goes without saying that you should carefully check the lower third of any space for edibles. Mouth-sized things which cannot be identified by sight or smell are considered gum.

When you actually receive a meal, submerge your head into it as you would a shower. Never, never look up again until a minimum of at least fifteen minutes after the obvious food is gone. This is important.

Just because your dish is empty does not mean that it is time to stop eating.

Remember that all food is potentially yours up until the time that it is actually swallowed by another. The lengthy path a piece of food will take from a plate to a mouth via a hand is as good a time as any to stake your claim to it.

When it comes to selecting an appropriate beverage, location and packaging mean nothing. There are absolutely no exceptions to this rule.

If you really see something you want, and all your other attempts at getting it have failed, it is only right to grovel shamelessly. As a second tactic, stare intently at the object of your desire, allowing long gelatinous drools to leak like icicles from your lower lip.

EVERYTHING ELSE

There are really only two important facial expressions to bother with: complete and overwhelming joy and nothing at all.

Any time that is not meal time is potentially nap time. The best time to take a nap is when you hear your name being called repeatedly. The best location for a nap is dead center of any street or driveway. The most relaxing position is on your side, all four limbs parallel.

The most practical way to get dry is to shake violently near a fully clothed person. A second effective method is to stand on a light-colored piece of furniture.

Personal Safety

At the first hint of any irregular noise, run from room to room yelling loudly. If someone actually comes into the house, rush over to them whether you know them or not. Then kiss them so violently that they lose their balance or have to force you away physically.

The greatest unacknowledged threat to life as we have come to know it is squirrels. No matter what you must do, make sure there are none in your yard.

Recreation and Leisure

Ball: There are two equally amusing sets of rules you will want to know.

- a. The Common Form, in which you receive a thrown ball and return it.
- b. The Preferred Form, in which you receive a thrown ball and eat it.

Car: As you know, any open car door is an invitation to get in. Once inside, your only goal is to try to get out.

Health

In the event of a trip to the doctor, always be on your guard. If you are vaccinated, urinate on the physician.

Since I have taken to sleeping under the bed, I have come to know tranquility I never imagined possible. You never really know when it might be cookie time. And that's what the dogs have taught me.

This & That

Calaway Park

Fresh Air, sunshine, dogs and kids. What could be a better combination?! Once again PALS will have a public relations booth at Calaway Park on August 9th and 10th during the park's annual Family Fun Festival. A large number of volunteers will be needed to man this booth. It would be MOST appreciated if people able to help with this event could let us know as soon as possible since many people are on holidays during August, making it harder to fill out our volunteer roster for the booth. Just call the office or email joan@palspets.com.



Pet Expo

NEWS FLASH. The 2003 Pet Expo will be at a different time than last year. This year Pet Expo is being held on September 27th and 28th. This is considerably earlier than previous years. We have been assured that there will be more space for the show this year than there was last time around, when the show was so successful that it was almost literally "standing room only". Volunteers wishing to work the Pet Expo can contact joan@palspets.com or phone the PALS office. Book early as this is one of our most popular events.



Bingo

On the Bingo front, there is GOOD NEWS and BAD NEWS. The good news is that the "divorce" is final and, as a result, PALS will not be working in conjunction with any other group. However, the BAD NEWS is that, since we won't be working along side of another group, we need to provide ALL of the volunteers every 80 days. This means that we will need up to 47 volunteers to help with an event. If you would like to help out please give Audrey a call at 248-6422.

Confederation Park

PALS has been invited back for our annual "Tea & Conversation" visit. If you and your pet would like to attend this special visit on August 14th at 1:30 p.m. please contact the PALS office .

Entertainment Books

The 2004 Entertainment books will be arriving at the PAL office the last week of August. If you are interested in purchasing one for yourself or helping to sell them, please contact the PALS office at 250-7257 or info@palspets.com



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Reminder

Did you forget to pay your membership dues? Just send a cheque or call the office with your Visa or MasterCard number. Annual membership is: \$20 Single. Family \$30. Thanks.

PALS In the News

Check out the article on PALS visits at the CYOC in the July issue of The Healing Paw at www.thehealingpaw.org



Have a Wonderful Summer!