



# PALS PRESS

Newsletter of Calgary's Pet Access League Society

"Pets Helping People"

Summer 2008

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## UNCONDITIONALLY OURS

During our life-time, we are sometimes blessed with a one in a million canine companion. We sometimes raise them from puppy hood, or they come from a shelter to their new forever home. However we received these beautiful creatures is not important, but the connection that they make with us is.

We will do anything for these dogs, so that they will have the best life that we can provide for them and what they give in return is priceless. The unconditional love and bond that they have for us cannot always be explained or understood, but we all know what it feels like.

This bond is so strong; our dogs will work for us, entertain us, and put up with all of our human silliness without blinking an eye. Throughout their lifetime, they may compete for show championships, performance titles, work as a therapy dog, or most importantly, become our best friends. Though these titles are not important to the dogs, it does however, show the teamwork of a human and their dog.

The truth is these wonderful companions live their lives as if tomorrow never existed. They make us laugh, frustrate us, listen to us without ever having an opinion, offer friendship, and finally heartache.

They are born with the ability to be forgiving when we yell at them, to miss us even when we are only gone for two minutes and comfort us when we need it the most. There has never been a more complete package put together than our four-legged furry, barking, licking, loving dogs.

We as humans depend on someone or something to care and nurture, and for all of us these dogs are our family. We worry when they get sick; sometimes spend a fortune to make them better, and when it is not possible, we give them back the unconditional love they gave us by setting them free from their illness and pain. There will come a time when we will have to help our friends cross over and when it is time, the tears we cry are tears of sadness, memories and love.

This is dedicated to all of our one in a million dogs past, present and future.

Written by: Judy DeWaard

In Loving Memory of Winston, Carly, Apollo, Scandal, Annie and Sam



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## PALS SUMMER HOURS

PLEASE NOTE that due to staff holidays, the PALS office hours from now until August may be somewhat changeable.

If you need to come by the office, please call first.

We'd hate to miss you.

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**Paul and Bingley** are an unlikely duo who have become great friends while visiting at the Chinook Care Centre. Paul is a 4 year old Yorkie Bichon Cross. Bingley is a 2 year old cat adopted from the MEOW foundation. They have a lot in common, including weighing 14lbs, lounging on the residents beds and sharing the limelight at the facility.

Would you like to see your pet's photo on the PALS home page? It's relatively easy to do. Just submit a photo of your pet wearing its PALS scarf along with a short biography to [petofthemonth@palspets.com](mailto:petofthemonth@palspets.com).

For more information on submission criteria, please visit the PALS website at [www.palspets.com](http://www.palspets.com) and click on the 'Members' section.

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### **FUNDRAISING NEWS**

The recent casino brought in \$77,275 for our two days of work! This amount is slightly lower than previous quarter results due to new no-smoking bylaws, but this is still a substantial amount and will be integral to PALS operations until the next casino, which is scheduled for 2010. Thanks to all who helped make this possible – your involvement will continue to help PALS over the next two years.

### **VOLUNTEERS**

We are currently looking for conversationalists to volunteer their time! In September PALS is launching a three-month evaluation to see how we can improve our volunteer services and improve our volunteer intake process.

If you enjoy talking to other PALS people, and would like to help out the organization from the comfort of your own home – this might be the perfect task for you! An interview guide will be available to assist you. Call or email the PALS office if you are interested.

### **LOOKING TO JOIN A DROP-IN TEAM?**

#### **BRENTWOOD INTERCARE,**

2727-16 Ave. NW (the first right turn after 29 Street when going EASTBOUND on 16 Avenue - access from westbound 16th is not possible)

- Visits are on the 2nd & 4th Monday morning of the month at 10 am

#### **WENTWORTH COURT,**

5709 - 14 Ave. SW (on the west side of Sarcee Trail, take the first right (at the lights) and then the next right. Proceed to the end of the brick buildings complex and turn right through the gate. Go straight back towards the large pyramid-shaped fountain which is in front of the entrance).

- Visits are on the 1st and 3rd Thursday evenings of the month at 7:00 pm.



**SOCIETY FOR THE TREATMENT OF AUTISM**

The Society for treatment of Autism is looking for **three to four volunteers** during the mornings of the following dates:

Approximately 8 children aged 7-17 years with autism

**Date:** Thursday July 17

**Time:** 9:45 am

**Date:** Thursday July 24

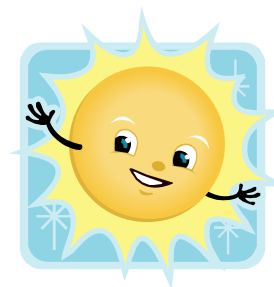
**Time:** 10:30 am

**Date:** Monday August 18

**Time:** 10:00 am

**Date:** Tuesday August 19

**Time:** 10:00 am



**Location for all visits is:** 94 Avenue SE

Please contact the office if you are interested in any of the above visits.

**UPCOMING SPECIAL EVENT****ANNUAL HULL STAMPEDE BREAKFAST**

This is a favorite event every year and is open to everyone so pack your cowboy hat, kerchief and furry friend and head to the Hull Stampede Breakfast

**Location:** 2266 Woodpark Ave. SW

**Date:** July 8

**Time:** 9:00 am – noon

The more the merrier!

Come with your PALS pet and help make it a fun day for everybody. Feel free to drop in for a few minutes or stay from start to finish. Please just give us a phone call or email so that we know you are planning on coming so we can track your volunteer hours and ensure we have enough grub for y'all. Help entertain "pardners" both big and little who are waiting in line to see all the many attractions. STARS and HAWK1 helicopters, mascots in costumes, singers, and dancers will all be there to help make this a special day. Your dog will sleep for two days afterwards!

**A BIG THANKS**

A ginormous thanks to Anne Matthews and her close Pal Daisy, who have volunteered at the Alzheimer's Society Club 36 every month for the past six years. The time Anne and Daisy shared with the members of the Alzheimer's Society Club 36 was priceless.

As Anne and Daisy have now retired, PALS is looking for a new dynamic duo to take on this commitment. In the past, the visits were on the last Friday of the month at 10:30 am, but Wednesday mornings would also work. There are visit possibilities in both the north and the south end of the city. If you are interested, please contact Joan at the PALS office.

**Online Donations Reminder** - PALS is pleased to offer you the ability to make donations online using either *Pay Pal* or *Canada Helps*. Both offer ease of use and security so now making a donation to PALS is easier than ever. All you need to do is visit the PALS website and click on the Giving and Support tab or click on this link <http://www.palspets.com/donate/> . To find out more about *Canada Helps* visit their website at [www.CanadaHelps.org](http://www.CanadaHelps.org).

### SUMMER FUN REMINDERS

Every year at this time we send out reminders on hot weather and how it can impact our furry friends, but every year we hear stories of dehydrated pets. Here are a few quick tips to keep your pet comfortable as the temperature soars.

- Always ensure your pet has access to lots of fresh water – even if you think you are just running out for a few minutes.
- Ensure your pet has a shaded and cool area to escape to.
- Instead of one or two big walks, try doing a number of smaller walks to prevent exhaustion and heat stroke.
- Once the thermometer hits 30 degrees, pavement can be painful to your furry friends' paws – try walking on a grassy area – even better if you can find a spot with trees to provide some shade.
- Bring water for your pet while on walks – most pet stores carry camel backs and water bottles specially designed for your pet.
- Fans and cooling beds can provide added relief to pets with especially heavy or thick coats. Most pet stores also carry cooling vests for an affordable price.
- DO NOT leave your pet unattended in the car. The temperature inside a car can quickly rocket leading to dehydration, heat stroke and even death. If you see a pet who has been left inside a sweltering vehicle, please do not hesitate to contact animal services during the day (3-1-1), or after hours the Calgary Police (264-1234).

If you are traveling with your pet in the car – turn on the a/c or crack the windows.



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The reason a dog has so many friends is that he wags his tail instead of his tongue.

-Anonymous

