



EA PL Ears



EVERGREEN ANIMAL PROTECTIVE LEAGUE

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October / November 2005

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HAPPY HOLIDAYS TO ALL!

It's a wonderful time of the year, my favorite. But there is a potential downside for our furry pals, and I know I talk about it every year at this time, but I can't say it often enough. Please, please be careful with what you leave laying around the house!

Gift wrapping ribbon is one of the most dangerous, and seems to be one that cats especially can't resist. Every year I read something about an animal that died a horrible death because it ate some ribbon - and it's SO preventable! I know you want to leave your packages under the tree where they look pretty, but is it worth your pet's life? Wrap them in pretty paper and forego the ribbon, they'll look just as nice and you know your animals will survive the season.

Poinsettia and mistletoe are holiday favorites, but both are very toxic to pets. If you have any doubt about a particular plant, please look it up before you make it available for your pets.

We all buy or receive wonderful chocolates and candy around the holidays, please don't leave it where your dog can get to it!

There are too many for me to cover here, the ASPCA has a great website that covers many different kinds of

OCTOBER & NOVEMBER ACTIVITY REPORT

Karen MacFarquhar reports:
Cats/Kittens Adopted Out: 27

Patty Hatfield reports:
Dogs Adopted Out: 26

Ann Brown reports:
Cats Lost: 38
Cats Found: 34
Resolved: 9

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Give us your email address and we will start emailing it to you next month.

Be sure and check out the changes on our website!

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animal poisons, including some that you'd never think of. Take a minute and just review the list before the holidays, you might prevent a disaster! Here's their website:

<http://www.asPCA.org/site/News2?page=NewsArticle&id=8356>

Print the list out and take a minute to go over it with everyone in the family. Some time you could be gone and your children might inadvertently bring something home and leave it where the animals get to it, not knowing the dangers. Please educate them.

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CAT ROOM MEWS

By Ginny Reiss

It's the holiday season in the cat room and we have many cats hoping Santa brings them a wonderful new home and family in their Christmas stockings! We've had several adoptions of late and a few of our older cats have found foster homes. Buzz, the young cat with the neurological disorder, was one of the lucky ones who is now living in the home of one of our volunteers. We have several other older cats who are in great need of foster homes. If you can find it in your heart to open your home to one of these "senior citizen cats" it would be a wonderful gift to them. Please don't hesitate to call me at 303-717-1230 or email me at vandmreiss@aol.com if you might have an interest.

Cathie Messa has agreed to co-chair the cat room which is just wonderful! If you see her please let her know how grateful we are to have her on board. Cathie spends hours and hours in the cat room each week and has a special knack for knowing when a cat is sick or has a special need. We are lucky to have Cathie working with us!

As I look back over this past year I realize once again just how many volunteers it takes to make our cat program so successful. There are many, many people - **all volunteers** - who spend many hours each week being involved with the cats. We have volunteers who answer the phone, transport cats to vets, work those all important shifts in the cat room, run errands, clean the cat room, give the cats attention, administer medication, facilitate adoptions and foster home placements, donate money, food and other needed items, publish our newsletter, foster cats, foster kittens, help people find their lost and found pets, place needy cats with us - and the list just goes on and on. It always amazes me that a group of **volunteers** can accomplish so much. Thank you once again for all you do. Happy holidays to you all!

Ginny Reiss

BEWARE!

This is VERY scary, my thanks to Sandy Mitchell for passing this along, it was written by Maya Ananda @ Cold MTN Akitas www.coldmountainakitas.com

I have a warning to pass on with a story to tell of my own.....

On the way back from the Dobe National this year, I was walking one of the dogs at the airport waiting for the owner to return our rental car when the dog decided to throw up.....I was shocked to see a mass of green rubber-like material and immediately called the owner. The mass looked like something you would see in the pad under a carpet. I was assured the dog did not shred anything...and that the only thing the dog had been given to eat recently was a "Greenie"...one of those formed green dog treats that look like a toothbrush.....I couldn't believe one of those pressed dog treats would reconstitute into what looked like a mass of foam rubber pieces!

Well, after getting home my friend did an experiment....cut up one of those things and soaked it in water overnight....low and behold a mass of foam rubber crap! Certainly NOT digestible! We both made a note to never feed those things again...and then last night in the Seattle area the newscast did a piece on...you guessed it GREENIES! A whole story about dogs how dogs are DYING from blockages after eating those stupid things! Here is a link to the article....turns out they are NOT 100% digestible....DUH!

You can get more information at the KIRO television website here:

<http://www.kiroTV.com/investigations/5325021/detail.html>

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GINNY

I don't know how many of you have read the books "The Dog Who Rescues Cats: The True Story of Ginny" or "The Blessing of the Animals, True Story of Ginny" by Phillip Gonzalez, but if you have, you will be like I was, saddened to know that Ginny has passed away, at age 17. At the Westchester Cat Show in White Plains, New York on November 19th, there was a eulogy for Ginny, a Schnauzer-Siberian husky mix. Yes, you read that right,

at a CAT show! The club said that Ginny was named Cat of the Year in 1998 for her uncanny skill and bravery in finding and rescuing endangered tabbies. She saved hundreds of cats who were abandoned, injured or in harm's way. If you have not read these books, please consider it, they are wonderful, heartwarming stories. They would also make great holiday gifts to your fellow animal lovers.

My thanks to Patty Hatfield for sending me the article.

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EARS Spotlights Lin Theders

By William Shakespurr

When Lin Theders talks about her dogs, the tone of her voice rises to a higher pitch & the baby talk begins. "They are my babies," she says affectionately. There's no doubt that Lin adores them, & it's easy to see why they love her in return. Currently, there are six of them, where she lives on the south side of Evergreen.

Animals have played a big part in all of Lin's life. It all began in Cincinnati, Ohio, where she was born & raised. Her family always included at least one dog, with an occasional cat too, most notably a stray she took in & hid until she convinced her father to allow her to keep him.

Several years & several pets later, Lin began a 30 year career as an executive secretary at Proctor & Gamble, where she worked until her retirement in 2001. Five months after a visit out West, she packed up & moved to Evergreen to be close to Dave, her Colorado sweetie! Between the two of them, they had two big dogs, two little dogs & a kitty. In most households that would be more than enough, but then Lin got involved with the League! Though we volunteers rarely intend to keep our foster pets, most of us know better after working with the E.A.P.L. for a while! Lin is no exception with her current canine family including also Coco Bean, the Chihuahua; Sky, the border collie; Max, a St. Bernard /shepherd mix & China, a sweet Chihuahua without a lower jaw who she's fostered since July.

Lin also helps the League with dog adoptions. She reads & reviews adoption applications, interviews the applicants, does home visits & helps decide if a particular dog is a good match with a particular person. Though Lin picks up

dog adoption calls two days a week, seldom does a day go by when she doesn't spend an hour or two following up on several possible dog adoptions.

When considering a potential adoptive home, she always asks herself, "Would I take my own dogs to live there?" If the answer is, "Yes," she helps with the happy arrangements, & occasionally even makes the doggie delivery herself.

Not long ago, Lin was doing just that, when she brought a League dog to his welcoming new home. As she backed out of the steep Evergreen driveway, Lin drove into a ditch, leaving a front wheel poking three feet in the air! After waiting a couple of hours, poor Lin's car was finally towed out. She drove back home, back to the phone, back to the internet & back to her precious dogs.

Thank you, Lin, for all you do for the E.A.P.L.

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These are baby porcupines! My thanks to Linda Sheppard for sending them.

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A NEW BUSINESS

One of our very hard working dog adoption volunteers has started a new business. Her name is Patty Hatfield and the name of her business is "Lucky Dog" Walkers. Here are some particulars:

* **Great for dogs with high energy, separation anxiety, overweight dogs and dogs that just love to play!**

* **Pet First Aid Certified through the +American Red Cross**

* **Discounted weekly & monthly packages**
* **5% of net proceeds donated to Animal Welfare Organizations**

* **Bonded/Insured**

* **PET SITTING also available!**

* **Washington Park/DU/Bonnie Brae/Harvard Gulch area**



For more information call:
'Aunt Patty' Hatfield
303-733-7827

When you are deep in trouble, say nothing, and try to look like you belong.



Several people sent me this, my thanks to all.

HOLIDAY CARDS

The holiday card assembly effort this year was a great success! Big thanks you's to all who showed up to help with folding, packaging and delivering the cards, saving the League a bundle of money. And as usual, huge THANKS to **Isobel and Ed McQuiston** for organizing everything and working nonstop to get it all done and ready by the deadline.

Laura Mehmert created such a beautiful painting of the foxes for the card, and we are grateful. More on Laura below.

ABOVE AND BEYOND:

This month goes to Laura Mehmert, the talented and generous Evergreen artist who did the beautiful painting for our holiday cards this year. Not only did she do the painting, she managed to get the cards printed in Florida, immediately following one of the hurricanes. I asked Laura to tell me the story, and here it is:

We decided on the card kind of late, and contacted the rep in Kansas City about doing the cards(as quickly as possible) for us in Florida. All was fine, cards ready to be printed on Monday, all FedEx of proofs had been approved etc. etc. I really wasn't paying lots of attention to each hurricane that was slamming into the coast so no worries. Then I got a call saying our printer's facility had been hit by the latest hurricane, had roof damage, some water damage and no electricity and our cards weren't printed yet. They were thinking it would be back up in 6 days. Well, we had the volunteers lined up to fold cards and get them ready to deliver to the retailers! yikes...We called printers here in Colorado, the price was 4 times what we had in Florida, could we wait? Would people all ready have bought their Christmas cards? Would the Florida printer come through for us? calling calling....no electricity yet, but we're first on the list to print....calling calling what to do? Rep calls to say we're getting generators in for the printing...calling calling...people here, be patient, people there HELP!! Lots of nervous days and nights. Finally my rep called and said we'll print half of your cards and get them out UPS, immediately. whew!! But there's a risk of the cards being damaged in shipment by UPS rather than the safer way of sending them by truck on a palette. Well, we need them, we'll risk

it. The first shipment arrived in time with only a few damaged edges...the cards turned out great and the volunteers were back on line to fold and package. I was happy, Isabel was happy, Jackie was happy, our retailers were happy and we've learned a valuable lesson. Next year, we have them printed BEFORE hurricane season!!

Thank you so much Laura, for all you did, you truly did go Above and Beyond!

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KANDU

For those of you following the story of little Kandu, the sweet little dog born with no front legs, it just gets better and better.

Denver News channel 4 did a segment on him recently, (if you missed it, you can see it on Channel 4's website at:

http://cbs4denver.com/local/local_story_333082404.html

We've been inundated with people interested in adopting him, **Lin Theders** and **Linda Hoffman** are handling his adoption, and they report that there have been 28 applications! Not only that, they've come from Seattle, Pittsburgh, Texas and Indiana! Evidently the Channel 4 segment was picked up by some out of state stations.

Linda is posting an ongoing diary of his progress on our website, if you'd like to follow the updates. People are amazing, they saw this sweet little guy's courage in the face of such adversity and they want to be a part of it. Amazing what one little dog "can do", huh?

For those of you who receive this regular mail, I have attached the story and pictures at the end of this newsletter.

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PHOTOS WITH SANTA:

Reports are in that this year's Photos With Santa event was a great success! We saw some favorites from years past, plus some new dogs and cats that were there for the first time. You could identify them right away, they

were the ones being drug or carried through the door, because they just knew they were there to get a shot! Our big thanks to the Santas, who did a wonderful job. It's always a fun event that helps get us in the holiday spirit!

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From Reader's Digest:

"My sister's dog had been deaf and blind for years. When she started to suffer painful tumors, it was time to put her down. As I explained this to my seven-year-old son, he asked if Jazzy would go to heaven. I said I thought she would, and that in dog heaven, she would be healthy again and able to do her favorite thing: chase squirrels.

Jacob thought about that for a minute, then said, "So dog heaven must be the same as squirrel hell".

Judy Sutterfield

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This is an awesome picture, isn't it? My thanks to Sandy Mitchell for sending it to me.

DOGS SAVAGE A CROCODILE!

Sometimes nature is cruel but there is also a beauty in that cruelty.

The crocodile as one of the ultimate predators, can fall victim to the kind of implemented 'team work' strategy which is possible due to the pack mentality and social structure of canines.

See the following and remarkable photograph - but not if you're squeamish!



My thanks to Cathy Campbell and Bev Endsley for sending me this!

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Have the Kleenex box handy before you read the following:

Being a veterinarian, I had been called to examine a ten-year-old Irish Wolfhound named Belker. The dog's owners; Ron, his wife, Lisa, and their little boy, Shane were all very attached to Belker and they were hoping for a miracle. I examined Belker and found he was dying of cancer.

I told the family there were no miracles left for Belker, and offered to perform the euthanasia procedure for the old dog in their home.

As we made arrangements, Ron and Lisa told me they thought it would be good for the four-year-old Shane to observe the procedure. They felt Shane could learn something from the experience.

The next day, I felt the familiar catch in my throat as Belker's family surrounded him. Shane seemed so calm, petting the old dog for the last time, that I wondered if he understood what was going on. Within a few minutes, Belker slipped peacefully away. The little boy seemed to accept Belker's transition without any difficulty or confusion.

We sat together for a while after Belker's death, wondering aloud about the sad fact that animal lives are shorter than human lives.

Shane, who had been listening quietly, piped up, "I know why."

Startled, we all turned to him. What came out of his mouth next stunned me - I'd never heard a more comforting explanation.

He said, "Everybody is born so that they can learn how to live a good life - like loving everybody and being nice,

right?" The four-year-old continued, "Well, animals already know how to do that, so they don't have to stay as long."

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KATRINA Rescue Dogs: warning

I read something recently that I think is worth passing along, regarding the influx of dogs from Hurricane Katrina. The author of this article (Ranny Green, *Seattle Times desk editor*), had done some volunteer work in Slidell, LA, and had fallen in love with, adopted and brought back home a dog from there. She took the dog to her vet, where it was tested for heartworm. The results showed a "low positive", and the dog received treatment. After a bit of research, this author found one rescue organization that sent a team to the Gulf Coast in September and October, and brought back 31 dogs to Washington state. Two thirds of them tested heartworm positive. There is every likelihood that this is a familiar story to many rescue organizations.

The warning here would be to everyone adopting a Katrina dog to be sure and have it tested for heartworm as soon as it arrives.

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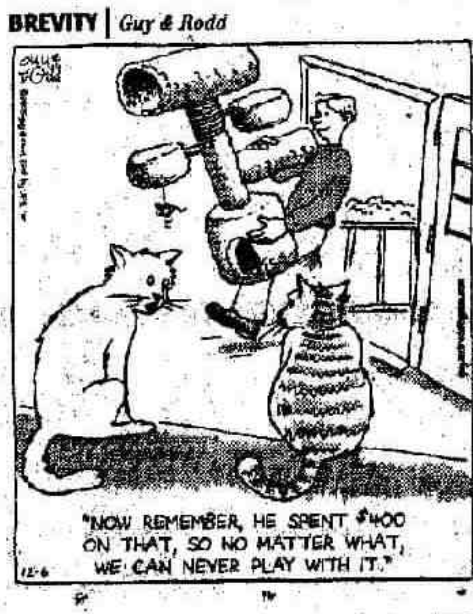
IF DOGS COULD WRITE LETTERS TO GOD:

Dear God:

Let me give you a list of just some of the things I must remember to be a good dog:

- I will not eat the cats' food before they eat it or after they throw it up.
- I will not roll on dead seagulls, fish, crabs, etc., just because I like the way they smell.
- I will not munch on "leftovers" in the kitty litter box; although they are tasty, they are not food.
- The diaper pail is not a cookie jar.
- The sofa is not a face towel; neither are Mom and Dad's laps.
- The garbage collector is not stealing our stuff.
- My head does not belong in the refrigerator.
- I will not bite the officer's hand when he reaches in for Mom's driver's license and registration.
- I will not play tug-of-war with Dad's underwear when he's on the toilet.

- Sticking my nose into someone's crotch is not an acceptable way of saying 'hello.'
 - I do not need to suddenly stand straight up when I'm lying under the coffee table.
 - I must shake the rainwater out of my fur before entering the house.
 - I will not throw up in the car.
 - I will not come in from outside and immediately drag my butt across the carpet.
 - I will not sit in the middle of the living room and lick my crotch when company is over.
 - The cat is not a squeaky toy; So when I play with him and he makes that noise, it's usually not a good thing.
- And last but not least: May I have my testicles back?



Here's a little tidbit I'll bet you didn't know about black cats, this is from the October 2005 Cat Fancy magazine.

“What exactly is a black cat? Genetically, black cats are tabbies. The gene that causes the banding we associate with tabbies has a non-banded form, so cats that are black with this form of the gene have no banding between the tabby stripes, making the tabby pattern. This essentially means that the coat has black stripes on a black background. In some of these cats, you can see

the banding on kittens or in bright lights. In others, you may never see any physical evidence that your black cat has stripes - but rest assured, it does”

So the next time you want to impress someone, pop off with this little factoid, they'll be fascinated. ☺



I do hope you all have a very happy, and safe, holiday season.

Please know that all your hard work and untiring efforts for the animals is very, very much appreciated. It is a special mission that you animal volunteers take on, and though they can't speak the words, the animals love you for it. I just know there's a special place in heaven for you all!

Happy happy holidays!!

Linda Hauser

