



# Short Paws

The official newsletter of Furry Friends P.A.T.S. Vol 19 Issue 3

April/May/June 2011



## Shirley Prather has earned her wings.....

**September 15, 1929 - May 23, 2011**

Shirley Prather passed away peacefully in her sleep at her home in Morgan Hill at the age of 81. Shirley was born and raised in Portland, OR, and received a Bachelors and Masters Degree from Oregon State and Stanford Universities.

She was a high school teacher for many years throughout Oregon. Shirley received a Fulbright Scholarship and spent the summer of 1966 studying and traveling in Ethiopia. In 1973, she earned a Doctorate Degree in Education from the University of Washington which led to her becoming an assistant professor and Director of Student Teaching at Portland State University in Oregon.

Married to Loy Prather for 33 years, they moved to Morgan Hill in 1979.

Upon retiring, an avid animal lover, she enjoyed showing her various breeds of dogs at American Kennel Club shows.

She was a dedicated volunteer of the Furry Friends Foundation and served on the Board of Directors and was a Team leader for over 25 years.

Loy Prather asked that in lieu of flowers to send donations to Furry Friends in Shirley's name.



## **Furry Friends**

### **Pet Assisted Therapy Services**

Our mission is to consistently facilitate delivery of the love and affection of our volunteers and their pets. We enhance the lives and touch the hearts of people with special needs.

#### ***Board of Directors***

President  
**Anne Tiry**

Vice President  
**Patty Guthrie**

Secretary & Treasurer  
Newsletter  
**Randee McQueen**

Director  
**Rhonda Hardy**

Administrator  
**Loree McQueen**

## **Dates to Remember for 2011**

Reading Buddies Classes  
August 28  
November 28

Tricks Classes:  
  
October 23

## **Calendar 2012**

**We are starting the calendar now for next year. Rhonda and Randee will be working on it. Send your pictures as you take them to : [calendars@furryfriends.org](mailto:calendars@furryfriends.org) or mail them to Randee McQueen, 2633 S Bascom Ave., Campbell CA 95008. If you want them returned, send a return envelope.**

**Just send us pictures for the general pages of the calendar (top part) We can put about 150 pictures in this part. We have been sent a couple already, please remember to send them all year..... a few from Valentines Day would be GREAT....**

**For a \$5 fee we will put your pets picture on a specified date on the calendar (birthday, anniversary etc) we have the potential of putting in 365 additional pictures this way.**

2012 Calendars will go on sale in the middle of December. We will have a PDF version of the Calendar available to be seen at that time.

# Furry Friends provides Stress Relief before Final Exams

On Monday, June 6 seven Furry Friends and their “handlers” helped relieve the stress of final exams at Monta Vista High School in Cupertino. Organized by **Danielle Kim** the team met the students during their lunch time just before exams began in the afternoon. Principal **April Scott** and Assistant **Principal Dennis Plaza** were enthusiastic about our visit, and will invite us back! Thanks Danielle, for all your work in putting the visit together. The team that visited Monta Vista included: **Danielle Kim** and **Mochi**; **Evie Butcher** and **Cookie**; **Yeffi Vanatta** and **Joseph**; **Maud Goldfield** and **Liberty**; **Linder Dermon** and **Albie**; **Barbara Minneti** and **Tycho**; **Rhonda Hardy** and **Penelope**.

## Do we have your correct E-mail Address?

If in DOUBT....

Send an email to : [admin@furryfriends.org](mailto:admin@furryfriends.org)

Send your name and your current e-mail address

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## Furry Friends is on FACEBOOK!

If you have a Facebook account, you can find Furry Friends as a group by searching for Furry Friends Pet Assisted Therapy Services. Furry Friends is also listed as a Cause Too! You will need the “Causes” app installed on your account. To find Furry Friends, open up the Causes app and search for Furry Friends Pet Assisted Therapy Services. Yes, we are in the digital age!

### Pupsicles - Dog ice cream recipe

Source: [www.dog-pound.net](http://www.dog-pound.net)

2 cups low salt beef or chicken broth

2/3 cup water

2 or 3 ice cube trays

Small rawhide sticks

Mix water with beef or chicken broth and pour into ice cube trays. Place in freezer and serve cold. Add a [rawhide stick](#) halfway through the freezing. This recipe is quick, easy, and fun. It's probably best to serve this dish outside.



**Pets that have earned their wings**

Maggie ~ Anne Tiry & Robert Young

Bailey ~ Annette Cable

Milo ~ Heidi Ng

# Macy's Community Shopping Day Event....

On Saturday May 14, Furry Friends participated again in the Macy's Community Shopping Day event. This is an annual event held by Macy's, where non-profit organizations like ours sell tickets to the shopping event. The ticket entitles the purchaser to great discounts throughout the store on Community Shopping Day.

We had our "usual" table at Macy's Valley Fair Women's store, on the upper level by the outside door to the parking lot. We get to bring our Furry Friends to the event, and we are a huge hit with shoppers as well as the store personnel.

We did not participate in the split of proceeds from in-store ticket sales this year because we did not sell our minimum of 100 tickets. But we did make \$560 from our ticket sales, which is great! Thanks to those of you who sold tickets, or purchased tickets yourselves.

Furry Friends would also like to thank the following members who represented our organization by staffing our table that day:

Rhonda Hardy and Penelope; Yeffi Vanatta and Joseph; Kathy Noether and Meko; Debra Bayerd Ramsey and Chloe, Jayanthi Srinivasan and Piper; Lisa and Laura McGrath and Andy; Lillian Wong, Danielle Kim, and Mochi; Lynn Smith and Sashi; Patty Guthrie, Dave Zemke, Mokey, and Crystal; Lissa Sheldon and Bailey; Anne Tiry and Hannah.

## Welcome New Members and their Pets

Teri LaBounty	Simba	Jennifer Parks	Opal
Nina Chan	Pulani	Terri Ducay	Vinyl
Christine Byerley	Suki	Mary Tremaine	Gizmo
Mitzi McElliogott	Candy	Shirley Wright	Tyson
Susan Kane	Riley & Kona	Chris Johnson	Einstein
Dana Holve	Denali	Mathew Holve	Tioga & Sierra
Lissa Sheldon	Bailey	Barbara Lee	Coconut
Michelle Liu	Charlie	Anne Kearney	Dexter
Donna Wagner	Lacy	Melissa Wagner	
Wendy Sprague	Molly	Lindsay Sprague	
Kris Heil	Bitsy	Quinn Winters	Toluca
Jason Steinberg	Cracker Jack	Diane Steinberg	
Ann Cagney-Heen	Dusty	Melaine Tursic	Bodie
Susan Croft	Jack	Masha Fellman	Chasca
Linda Wygren	Karma & Sophie	Laura Clemmensen	Maddy
Eloise Lovelace	Haskae	Sharen Schoendorf	Kody
Katie Fissel	Lucy	Jennifer Kim	Bailey
Eden Kim		Yeffi Vanatta	Joseph
Kirsten Winters	Quinn	Andrea iAnnieî Phillips	
Mitzi Phillips	Sage		
Howard Dernehl	Luxor	Claire Weber	Reglisse
Nathan Weber		James Hodges	Ginger
Kristy Sieverson	Ruby	Susan Melville	Ernie & Bertie
Lauren Fissel	Lucy		

## CRITTER DOCTOR COLUMN

**JULIE C. BOND, M.S.** ~~~~~ **ANIMAL BEHAVIORIST**

On April 5 and 11, I had the opportunity to meet with many of our team captains when they attended the annual Captains Training Meeting at Randee McQueen's house. It was a great opportunity to catch up on what has been happening on our teams and discuss issues that have arisen during visits. Everyone took an "ice breaker" quiz to get the ball rolling on the meeting. The purpose of the quiz was to present behavioral scenarios as they had actually occurred on different teams during actual visits, and find out what our team captains felt should be done to resolve the issues. We then discussed the answers as a group, looking for the best possible outcome for our members, our pets, and the people we visit. I'd like to summarize the results of that quiz here so that we can make sure the correct information is getting out there to our entire membership.

The first quiz question had to do with flexi-leads and choke chains. Flexi-leads are not allowed on any Furry Friends visits or at any events we attend. Choke chains may be used for indoor, leashed visits, but not for off leash visits. In addition, the leashes given out during etiquette class should be used for all visits. If you are missing your Furry Friends leash or need a new one to replace an old, frayed, or lost leash, please email Loree McQueen and she will make sure a new leash gets to you for visits. 55% of the captains who attended the meeting did not know that choke chains were OK for leashed visits, but did know that members should be using their Furry Friends leashes and not other leads.

The second quiz question dealt with a member on your team overhearing a teammate's dog growling and snapping at another dog during a visit. I was pleased to see that 80% of the captains attending the meeting knew the appropriate course of action. Basically, the problem needs to be addressed immediately even if the team captain did not observe the growling/snapping dog. Both the owner of the growling dog and the dog who was growled at need to be spoken with to determine what exactly occurred. It could be something straightforward like one dog crowded another in an enclosed space; this is easily rectified. However, if this is something that is occurring with regularity or is symptomatic of something else aggressive developing with the growling dog, then the team captain must submit a report to the board so that I can intervene and work with the growling dog and their owner to insure the safety of all on our visits. Typically, reports are only filed if contact is made between a pet and a person or a pet and another pet. However, if you see something behavioral brewing on your team, it is important to document it so that the board and I may pursue it in full. Ignoring growls, snaps, and barks on visits is not a good policy and has the chance to spill over into larger events which affect our entire membership and what we do.

The third quiz question addressed pinch collars on visits. As expected, 70% of the team captains present knew that pinch collars are not allowed on any visits. If you see a member arrive with a pinch collar on their dog, please let your team captain know immediately. It is perfectly fine for your team captain to loan that member another collar to use for the remainder of the visit. If a spare collar is not available, the dog should be removed from the visit, particularly if the dog is on an off leash visit and that is the only collar available.

Question number four addressed the very delicate topic of pet hygiene. The majority of the team captains attending the meetings understood that it was their responsibility to make sure that all pets attending visits are clean and well-groomed. If a team member arrives with a smelly dog, that needs to be addressed. We cannot wait for a patient, or worse yet, a staff member of the facility, to point out the problem. As uncomfortable as it may be, team captains must deal with animals who are not presentable for visits. Everyone is told in etiquette class that while their pets do not have to be bathed for every visit, they do need to be clean smelling, brushed/combed out, have clean faces (no eye messes, smelly ears, dirty facial hair or folds), and have nails short enough that they do not click on the floors.

The final test question dealt with a whining/barking dog on a visit. Whining and barking are clear signs of anxiety for a dog. 60% of the team captains attending the meetings knew that they needed to find out what was going on with the barking/whining dog immediately. They knew that they should take the owner and dog aside, ask them to step outside to see if this is about needing a bathroom or water break, and ultimately sending the dog home if he/she is still anxious. An anxious dog is much more likely to become an aggressive dog if pushed. Anxious animals need to be removed from their visits for the safety of all the pets visiting that day and the people we are visiting.

We ended the quiz with a brief essay question regarding treats on visits. Basically, what to do if you observe a teammate's dog snapping at a patient's fingers when taking a treat. Even if the team captain does not observe this, it must be addressed immediately. Whether contact was made or not, this is not acceptable behavior. While it is often the case that dogs will make a grab for a treat if they feel another dog may be honing in on their snacks, it cannot occur on our visits. Whether the result of aggressively trying to keep the treat from another dog, or just a case of over-exuberance, snapping at fingers cannot occur EVER. Dogs who attend visits where treats are allowed must take treats gently every time without prompting (i.e. without being told easy or gentle), and they must be non-competitive over food. If problems are repeatedly occurring because of treats on visits (i.e. dogs are unfocused on the people, looking around for treats all the time, snapping or scrambling for treats, competitive for food, etc.), then treats should be removed from future visits. Not all Furry Friends sites allow treats to be used. 80% of the team captains attending the meeting knew that even if a facility allowed treats for visits, it was ultimately up to them if treats were allowed on their teams.

This last thought, the notion that team captains have the power to declare their visits "no treats allowed," brought up another important issue. That is, that team captains are in charge of their teams. They get to determine who is on their teams, period. They can turn down members who complete etiquette class and want to join their team if they think the pet won't be a good fit for their visits. They can ask someone to leave their team if it isn't working out. They can request a board member or myself to come out and observe a visit and make recommendations on how to make the visits more productive as well.

The board and I sincerely hope that all of the team captains attending the meetings this Spring felt that they were worthwhile learning experiences. I definitely felt that we addressed many important issues and answered/clarified a lot of behavioral and procedural issues. If you are a captain and were unable to attend one of these meetings, please let us know. We will try to set up one more makeup meeting this Summer. If you are not a team member but have questions or concerns about issues that are arising on your teams, please don't hesitate to let us know that as well. Feel free to discuss any issues with your team captains, with the board, or with me directly. We are all here to insure that your visits are safe, fun, and productive experiences for all.

## ***Reminder to All Volunteers:***

***When you go to a sporting event, like a Giants game or a 49ers game, how do you tell who plays for what team? By the team uniform, of course!***

***Just like a sports team, Furry Friends has a "uniform" too – our tee shirts, other clothing items with the Furry Friends logo, and our purple or teal leashes for our pets.***

***Please wear your Furry Friends tee shirt or other Furry Friends attire on your visits, and use the purple or teal leash provided at the etiquette class.***

***Check out our on-line store to order additional tee shirts or other Furry Friends apparel:***

<http://www.furryfriends.org/storeMain.html>

# Lucile Packed Children's Hospital celebrated it's 20 anniversary on Sunday June 28<sup>th</sup>

Furry Friends was invited to have a table at the event. Furry Friends that participated were: Rick Salazar and Dougal, Janet Lynch and Jenny, Rina Larson, Bill Davis and Lexi, Christine Johnson and Einstein, and Nancy Wong and Niki.



We are now a registered group with AKC to receive the title of Therapy Dog. Woo Woo. This program started today.

## How to Earn the Title: Qualifications

To earn the AKC Therapy Dog title, you and your dog must meet the following criteria:

1. *Certified/registered by an AKC recognized therapy dog organization.*
2. *Perform a minimum of 50 visits.*
3. *The dog must be registered or listed with AKC.*

All dogs are eligible to earn the AKC Therapy Dog title, including purebreds and mixed breeds. To earn the AKC Therapy Dog title, dogs must be registered or listed with AKC and have a number in order to earn a title. This includes any one of these three options:

1. AKC registration number – used by purebred dogs.
2. Enrolled in AKC's PAL Program.
  - [PAL is Purebred Alternative Listing](#). PAL (formerly called ILP) is a program that allows unregistered dogs of [registerable breeds](#) to compete in AKC Performance and Companion Events. PAL dogs include the many wonderful purebred dogs who may have come from shelters or rescue without AKC registration.
3. Enrollment in AKC Canine Partners Program – used by mixed breed dogs.
  - A special Canine Partners enrollment form is available for mixed breed Therapy Dogs — [AKC Therapy Dog Enrollment Application](#). This form must be submitted along with the Therapy Dog title application form.

## Have a safe 4<sup>th</sup> of July- tips for your pets

**Leave your pet at home.** Fireworks displays can be disorienting and frightening to pets, even those used to going places with their people.

**Create a home sanctuary.** Leave your pet in an area of your home where he or she is safe, comfortable and sheltered from any outside noise and lights. An inside room, where the pet normally spends time and is comfortable with no windows or doors to access the outside may be best.

**Protect your property.** When scared, some animals can become destructive, so be sure to remove anything that can become damaged or might harm your pet if it was to be chewed.

**Never leave pets outside and unattended.** Even in a fenced in yard, panic can lead a pet to escape and get lost, or become injured while trying to seek refuge.

**Make sure that your pet always wears identification.** In the unfortunate event that your pet was to get lost, an updated identification tag greatly increases your chances of being reunited, even if your pet is microchipped.



# Take Your Dog to Work Day at Hitachi Data Systems

Hitachi Data Systems in Santa Clara marked the 13th Annual Take Your Dog to Work Day by hosting an event for their employees and staff.



Employees were encouraged to bring their dogs to work on Thursday, June 23, 2011 and participate in a lunch time dog fair, complete with area dog service vendors, a raffle, a talent show, and free photos with them and their dog(s).

The event was a huge success with over 15 vendors, including Furry Friends.

Heather Lilly and her 3-year old Bernese Carter and Troy Riewe with his 7-year old Greater Swiss Morgan staffed the Furry Friends booth and talked to Hitachi folks about our wonderful organization and how they can get involved with their dogs. Carter and Morgan were quite the hit, with many people stopping to pet them, give them treats, and take their picture.

As you can see from this photo, Troy, Morgan, and Carter (Heather is taking the picture) staffed our booth well. We encourage other Furry Friends volunteers to get involved in staffing a booth at the various events we attend throughout the year. Watch your email for notices that are calling for volunteers to help.

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## Newsletter Editor –needed

Do you have a little spare time and are great at putting information into a readable format? It does not have to be fancy. It is currently being done in Word. We have Adobe products available also for an editor to use. PATS would like to be able to put out a newsletter every two months. It can be very short and to the point. It could be only a few pages or longer if you want. All articles will be sent to you from board members and volunteers for different events. The editor can add other information as they choose. It would then be sent PDF to the web coordinator and the Treasurer who mails out the few that are mailed. If you are interested and or would like more information about the newsletter, please contact Randee at [Randee@com-ctl.com](mailto:Randee@com-ctl.com) or (408)377-2900

## Membership Renewal

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Additional names under the same address \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone # \_\_\_\_\_ email: \_\_\_\_\_

Individual \$40 \_\_\_\_\_ Family : \$60 \_\_\_\_\_

Send payment to: \_\_\_\_\_ or go to our website and pay using PayPal

PATS, Furry Friends

<http://www.furryfriends.org/memberRenewal.html>

P.O. Box 5099

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