



ANIMAL CRACKERS

QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER ~ AUGUST 2019

Do you like concerts? Just want to get out of the house? Want to help animals? Want to help FOCAS?

You now have a chance to do all of those things! Here's how it works. The Murphys-Angels Lions Club organizes and runs the beverage booths during concerts at Ironstone. They have graciously carved out a portion to help animals and FOCAS has been chosen as the recipient. FOCAS will get a portion of the profits from the beverage sales along with a portion of the tips generated. The portion FOCAS is allotted is based solely on the number of people FOCAS has in attendance at each show. FOCAS is allotted 1% for every volunteer!! We generally are allowed 20 volunteers so that would give us 20% of the profit/tips. That can add up to quite a bit of donations by the end of the year after a busy concert season!

How can you be involved? There is a Facebook page entitled "Ironstone Concert Volunteers" – Katie Miller Orlopp is the administrator for this Facebook page. Join that page and then post something like "I'm in" as a comment under each show you'd like to attend. Katie goes through the posts every few days to add people to the lists. When she marks the post with a "like" that means she's seen you and put you on the list. If you have questions or concerns, feel free to text her at (209)559-9934.

On the day of the show, arrive two hours before the show starts. The times are generally listed on the FB page. There is a parking lot just for concert volunteers that is past the regular entrances to the venue if you are coming from town (before the venue if you travel up Six Mile Road). When you enter the gates, an Ironstone security person will make sure you are on the list and give you a wrist band. Then go to the Lions table and they will tell you which booth you've been assigned to. Please wear closed toed shoes and comfy clothes. You will be given a black FOCAS apron to wear while you work. If you are working successive shows, you can hold onto the apron. Otherwise, give it back to the FOCAS volunteer who gave it to you. ****DO NOT LEAVE THE APRON IN THE BOOTH or give it to a Lions person.****



Katie Orlopp, Donna Remak, & Carla Lucas

“Now for a word from our sponsors”: SHOW UP if you sign up! Katie has to turn lists into Ironstone Security a week prior to each show. Once the list is in, it’s difficult to change it. If people don’t show up, that means we lose money and the people who do show up work for less of a percentage of the profits plus have to work extra hard with few breaks. It’s very frustrating. We understand emergencies but canceling because your tomato plant needs water (not kidding) just makes it difficult for everyone. *Now let’s have fun!*

All the concerts to date have been a great success and a lot of fun – and we are so appreciative of this opportunity that **Katie** has given to FOCAS! **Thank you, thank you, THANK YOU!!** She totally rocks!

Happy Tails Helpful Training Tips

By Sheri Logan

“Oh no! Not again!”



One of the most frustrating things as a dog owner is to deal with cleaning up after your dog has had an accident in the home. Cleaning carpets, furniture, walls...you name it. Just when we “think” your dog is housebroken; then THIS happens! It is really important that we don’t assume a dog knows where to go potty. We must teach him. Just like any other behavior.

Here are some tips on what you can do to help prevent accidents:

- First off, if your dog is having accidents in the home, even if it’s only once in a while, he is not considered housebroken. A dog is considered housebroken when no accidents occur (unless of course your dog is left in the home, unsupervised for a long period of time and your dog can’t possibly “hold it” that long).
- If your dog is new to the home, plan to take your dog out every hour, if not more, showing him where you want him to go potty. If your dog is puppy, take him out every 30 minutes. Give the command “go potty” each time you take him out and to the spot you want him to go outside. Take him on a leash at first and be patient with him as he sniffs around. If he doesn’t go after 5-10 minutes, then come back in the home. Repeat every 30 mins until he goes. It is important in the beginning to keep taking him out regularly because he is new to the home and still trying to figure things out.
- Feed your dog on a schedule, preferably twice a day. This helps you determine when your dog will most likely need to go potty. When you free feed your dog, you will be uncertain when he needs go and more accidents can occur.
- Remember to ALWAYS take your dog outside first thing in the morning when he wakes up, after he naps, eats, drinks, before bedtime, and after play. Even if you aren’t sure he really needs to go, take him out anyway. Give him an opportunity to go potty in the proper location and WATCH to make sure he does. So many times, we just open the back door and let your dog outside and then call him back in after a few minutes, not even knowing if he went potty. Then, as soon as he comes back into the home, he has an accident!
- When training your dog, make sure you reward him every time he goes potty. That

means you must be outside with your dog and have treats in hand. Try not to say “good boy” while the dog is going potty. This might scare or interrupt him, causing him to stop. So, make sure to praise heavily AFTER he has gone potty!

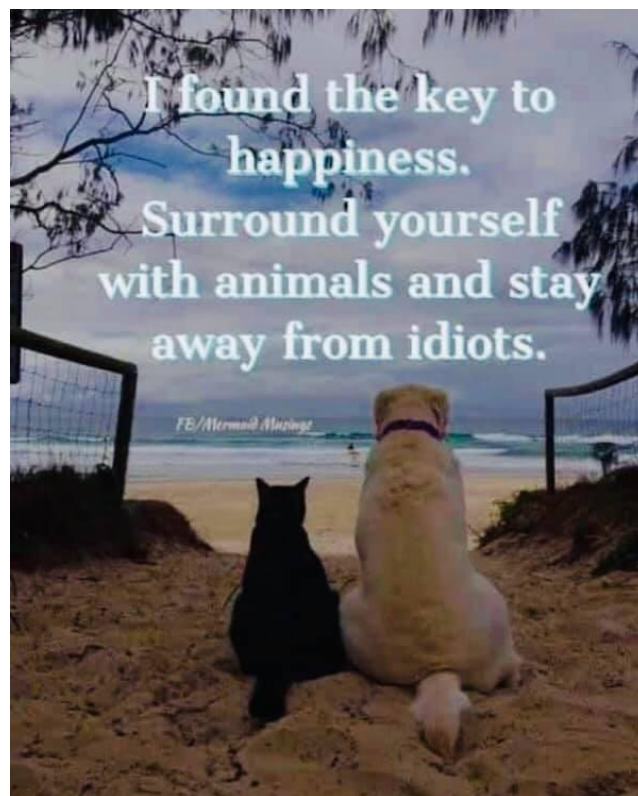
- If you take your dog outside to go potty and he doesn't, wait a few minutes and take him out again. Sometimes it might take a little while for your dog to decide where exactly he wants to go while he sniffs around for days to find the perfect spot! Be PATIENT! You can never take a dog outside too many times. Help him find a good spot by designating an area you would like him to use to do his business. This will certainly help you when it's time for clean up so you are not walking all around trying to find out if and where he went potty.
- If you notice your dog is having accidents in an area where there is a small rug, then make sure to remove it from the home. A lot of times a dog may have been trained to go potty on piddle pads and the dog sees a piece of rug as just that!
- If you can't keep a close eye on your dog when he is in the home, you need to confine him to an area where he can be that is safe and IF an accident occurs, will be easy to clean up. For example, an area might be a playpen or a laundry room. If keeping a close eye means you leash him so he is next to you, then do that. Leashing your dog indoors can be helpful while your dog is learning to be housebroken and is especially effective if you have a puppy. Make sure the dog is always supervised when on leash! If you see him sniffing around, then that is your cue to take him outside!
- If your dog has an accident and you catch him mid-stream...Give him a “EH-EH” command (startle response) and then take him outside

immediately to show him where he needs to go. Clean up the mess but don't let your dog see you. And most importantly DO NOT EVER SCOLD your dog after he has an accident. This will cause him to be afraid to go potty near you and then he may start hiding and finding other places in the home to go. (Make sure to clean up the area really well with cleaner that lifts the odor and stain so the dog does not smell his urine and want to go there again).

FINAL NOTE: Your dog wants nothing more to please you and be loved. We need to give our dogs direction and teach them! We can't expect them to learn correct behaviors on their own.

Happy Training!

Sheri Logan, ABCDT – Certified Dog Trainer
Logan's Happy Tails
www.sherilogan.thedogtrainer.org





This California Town Has a Dog for a Mayor and You Can Request a Meeting With Him

Max (Maximus Mighty-Dog Mueller) was voted into office during an election held on June 11, 12, and 13, 2012 in Idyllwild, and was inaugurated to a one-year term on July 1, 2012.

As Idyllwild is a non-incorporated town, it has no human mayor. Idyllwild Animal Rescue Friends (ARF), a non-profit 501(c)(3), sponsored its first-ever election for cats and dogs. Constituents cast their votes via \$1 donations each, and all \$31,000 of the proceeds benefited ARF. 14 dogs and 2 cats were nominated and ran for office.

Max, an independent, ran on the platform of “convey unconditional love and do as many good deeds for others as possible”.

Max's popularity moved the people of Idyllwild to appeal to ARF for his continuation in office. On February 9, 2013, ARF announced the extension of his one-year term to a second and final year, to end on June 30, 2014.

On April 2, 2013, Mayor Max passed away. The successor for the remainder of Max's term, Maximus Mighty-Dog Mueller, II, arrived in Idyllwild on July 21, 2013. Idyllwild Animal Rescue Friends approved his mayoral transition plan.

Upon his arrival to Idyllwild, Max was accompanied by two deputy mayors: Mikey and Mitzi (Mikey Mighty-Dog Mueller and Mitzi Marie Mueller). The trio is often referred to as "the Mayor and the spares" or simply "the Mayors of Idyllwild."

In March of 2014, as the June 30 end of Max's term approached, ARF solicited the town's interest in holding another election. Once again, the people overwhelmingly pled for Mayor Max's continuation in perpetuity. Mayor Max and his two deputies, Mikey and Mitzi, continue to serve the town of Idyllwild.

Feel free to contact the Office of Mayor Max of Idyllwild at any time on his Facebook page – just search “Mayor Max of Idyllwild”.



I forgot my cat outside.
I am too scared to let him in now.



CURRENT FOCAS BOARD

Debra Beaufort, Chair (Mokelumne Hill)
Viktorea Martinez, Secretary (Sonora)
Kim deArrillaga, Treasurer (Mokelumne Hill)
Michelle Cody, Director (Burson)
Darcy Zimmerman, Director (Vallecito)
Carol Cook, Director (San Andreas)
Nancy Cohen, Director (Murphys)
Diane Finnegan, Director (Valley Springs)
Sheri Logan, Director (Valley Springs)

The Public is always welcome to attend our meetings, which are generally held the first Wednesday of the month at the portable next to Animal Service at 12:00 noon. Meetings last approximately 1 hour.

LET ME EXPLAIN SOMETHING TO YOU: I AM NOT YOUR PET...



...YOU ARE MINE



Health tips by Doc Hopper

Seven Summer Tips for You and Your Dog.

Seven ways to carpe the summer diem.

By The Bark, June 2016, Updated June 2018

Sure, you could sit around inside with your dog, sweating and complaining about the heat. But why do that when there are so many ways to take advantage of the season's longer days and warmer weather?

1. Make your dog a warm-weather flop spot. Look for a shady area in your yard, dig a shallow pit sized to fit your pup, line it with a thin layer of concrete and before the concrete dries, poke holes in it for drainage. Once the concrete has set, fill the pit with playground sand, dampen it and let the fun begin.

2. Plan a toxin-free and dog-friendly landscape. No snail bait, no cocoa mulch, no lethal plants (check out the ASPCA site for a list of ones to avoid), no chemical fertilizers, no fungicides, no herbicides, no pesticides. Ideal landscaping/hardscaping material doesn't get too hot, is easy on the paws and—in a perfect world—doesn't track into the house on fuzzy feet; pea gravel and pavers fill the bill.
3. Have some good, wet fun—summer's prime time for water play. A caveat, however: keep an eye on your dog for signs of hyponatremia, aka water intoxication, which can come on fast and is life-threatening. Bone up on the symptoms and make sure your dog takes breaks.
4. Experiment with a new way to cruise. Rent a dog-friendly camper trailer or houseboat and see the world from a whole new perspective. Some camper rental companies will handle delivery, setup and hauling away; do an online search for a company in your preferred vacation spot. For on-the-water accommodations, check out Houseboating.org.
5. Take in a drive-in. Remember the al fresco movie experience of yesteryear? Some communities revive this lovely summer tradition, and some even allow you to skip the car and loll on a blanket under the stars. Search for summer + drive-in and see what comes up in your area.
6. Sign up for summer school and learn new skills or master old ones. Training, agility, herding and freestyle are all on the agenda. Then, there are dog camps—the summer camps of your childhood, but way better. For maximum relaxation, match the activity type and level to your and your dog's temperaments.

7. Mark your calendar with “dog days” concerts and sporting events. Special offerings tend to pop up this time of the year, perfect for enjoyment with the pooch.

We know we don't have to tell you this, but while you're having fun with the pup, keep safety in mind. Stay out of the sun during the warmest hours, have plenty of water available, dab sunscreen on both yourself and your dog (yes, there are sunscreens for dogs), take lots of well-shaded rest breaks and never, never, never leave your dog in the car. If you're out walking, listen to what your dog's telling you; let him rest if he wants to and don't coax him to go faster. Finally, do your best to avoid areas with foxtails, those sticky, diabolical grass awns (seeds) that burrow into fur and skin and, once well in, don't come out without surgery. If these wild grasses show up in your yard—which they're prone to do—pull them out while they're still green.



Our wireless doorbells sitting on their chargers....



your upset tummy, but your vet can also advise what to do if your upset lasts longer than a few days or if your symptoms worsen.

It could be something as simple as eating leaves or something as serious as ingesting something toxic. There are also many bacteria out there that you can pick up from sniffing around (like dog parks, the vet, the groomer, who knows!) which may require antibiotics.

Hope you're feeling better!
Janet

Dear Miss Penny Paws



Dear Miss Pennypaws,

I had an upset tummy last week so Mom fed me some stuff she called cottage cheese and rice. The rice looked like little bugs to me, but I ate it anyway because I'm a lab and we eat anything!

Signed,
Eternally Hungry

Dear Eternally Hungry,

I'm glad your mom noticed right away that something was wrong with you, but the very first – and most important thing your mom should do – is call the vet when your tummy is upset.

She many not know what is bothering you or what you might have eaten when she wasn't looking. Your vet very likely will recommend cottage cheese and rice or boing chicken – something that is soothing to

I'M NO BIRD EXPERT,



BUT I'M GUESSING

**ITS 4 FEMALES
AND 1 MALE**



Do you like cats?

Do you have a few extra hours each month?

Calaveras County Animal Shelter needs cat volunteers. Cat volunteer clean cages and communal rooms, cuddle and socialize kitties and do housekeeping tasks. If you are able to give your time and energy to kitties in need, the kitties will thank you with cat kisses and purrs and you will feel great! No experience...no problem. Training will be provided.

If interested, please contact:

Kathy Bandy - kbandy@co.calaveras.ca.com

Evan Jacobs - ejacobs@co.calaveras.ca.us

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Paint & Sip



Come join us for a great afternoon of fun and help raise some funds for FOCAS to support the needs of the animals at the Calaveras County Animal Services Shelter.



Sunday ~ October 20th

2pm – 5pm

Renegade Winery

8345 Main Street

Mokelumne Hill

RSVP Required

\$55 includes complimentary glass of wine and light appetizers.

Please send your check payable to FOCAS along with your name, address, and phone number to:

FOCAS

PO Box 22

Mokelumne Hill, CA 95245

Payment must be received no later than 10/10/2019. Space is limited to 42 participants. For more info, please email goldpup55@aol.com

Kibbles and Bits

A special thank you to all those that volunteer their time. The numbers are impressive! And thank you to Ed and Delores for keeping track of these stats and reporting them:

Month	Volunteer	
	Hours	Adoptions
May	219.5	11
June	253.8	3
July	303.5	10
Total	776.8	24.0

The Friends of Calaveras Animal Services (FOCAS),
Calaveras County Animal Services, Dr. Jules Wurzler, DVM
and Spence Ranch Feed & Supply
are offering

**FREE RABIES VACCINATIONS and
Microchipping**

**Saturday ~ September 28, 2019 ~ 9am to 12 noon at
Spence's Feed Highway 49 Angels Camp 95221**



Rabies is a deadly disease caused by a virus. We live in an area where the rabies virus can be found in wildlife and transmitted to your pet and you through a bite that punctures the skin. To protect your dog, other pets, yourself and your family, you need to vaccinate your companion. And for the protection of the greater public, the law requires you to vaccinate and license all dogs 4 months of age or older.

Questions?

Contact Animal Services at 754-6509

For Calaveras County residents only;

All dogs must be on leash and all cats must be in carriers.