



ANIMAL CRACKERS

QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER ~ NOVEMBER 2019

I shall Not Eat Bees!!!

You may have been there – you're outside playing with your pup or just enjoying the fine weather and here comes your pup looking very different than they looked earlier! Yep – they were stung by a bee. A dog that gets stung by a bee will have a serious swelling.



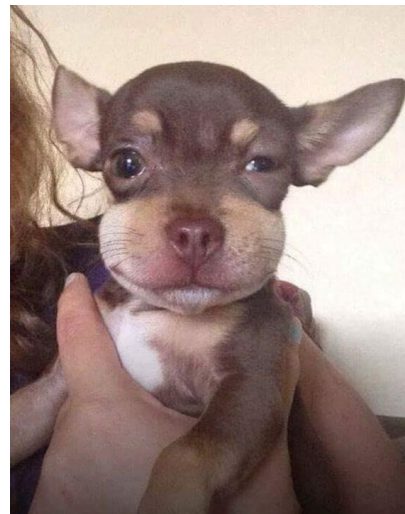
As funny as they may look to you – and I've had it happen to my pups and they DO look funny – some dogs may be highly allergic to a bee sting.



Your first step should be to give your pup some Benadryl. Because dogs metabolize different than humans, the dosage is 1 mg per pound of body weight. So, a 70-pound dog would get 3 25 mg tabs. It is very safe to give to your dog.



In rare cases, if the dog is highly allergic to bee venom, he will have anaphylactic shock, which is dangerous. A dog with anaphylaxis may get extremely swollen and if the airways are affected, it may stop the dog from breathing.



Keep an eye on your pup for any dizziness or difficulty breathing and seek immediate veterinary attention at once.

One thing you can do to help eliminate the possibility of a sting is to make some environmentally and pet safe bee spray.

NON-TOXIC BEE REPELLENT

Fill a spray bottle with water nearly to the top. Add a few teaspoons of liquid dish soap; this will help the next ingredients dissolve and distribute evenly. Add a few drops of peppermint essential oil – enough that you can readily smell when you spray the mixture. Then add 1/8 teaspoon each of cinnamon and cayenne pepper. Shake well. Strain and refill spray bottle.



From the Top Dog:

Good Morning All,

It is with great excitement that I announce to everyone that the BOS has passed the Fee Flexibility Program for Animal Services!!!!!!!!!!

So, what does this mean? Well under certain circumstances AS is allowed to reduce fees for adoptable animals. Please see the below for qualifies as a reduced fee.

1. Any animal that has been available for adoption for more than 15 days the overall fee for the adoption will be 50% off. **Please note the stray/wait period does NOT count towards for the 15 days.**



2. Overpopulation: AS only has 21 dog kennels and 34 cat cages. When either of these get to 80% or above the overall adoption fee will be 50% off. For dogs it will be 16 or more and for cats it will be 27 or more.
3. The 55-5-5 program: Any adopter over 55 years old adopting any pet over 5 years old, the total adoption fee will be \$5

If anyone has a question please let me know!

Evan Jacobs, Manager

Animal Services

Desk: (209) 754-6926

ejacobs@co.calaveras.ca.us

From Cynthia Pino: The Calaveras County Board of Supervisors, not the shelter, sets the adoption fees We have been asking for fee flexibility for 15 years and Evan got it done! This is FABULOUS news!!!

For clarification—The total adoption fee is regularly \$80 for dogs and \$60 for cats. Now it will be \$40 and \$30 respectively when the doggie or kitty qualifies. An already altered cat will be \$10—\$2.50 adoption and \$7.50 microchip. There will be no problem in meeting the criteria for cats right now because the cat houses are full!

Health tips by Doc Hopper



Holidays Can Bring Health Dangers to Our Pets

This is a repeat from last year around this time but I think the information is important enough to share again.

It's the most wonderful time of the year—until your pet ingests some tinsel or decides to drink from the Christmas-tree water. As we excitedly welcome family and friends home for the holidays, it's often a time when we can be less than vigilant about our pets and what they're getting into. And unless your houseguests are conscientious pet owners themselves, chances are they aren't aware that they may be creating a toxic environment for your pet. Here is a list of what veterinarians say are potentially harmful and to keep out of the reach of Fido and Fluffy. Though cats tend to be less adventurous than dogs in sampling these new taste sensations, they can be every bit as toxic to felines. (Naturally, the same can be said for children.) Should you believe your pet has consumed any of one of these, contact your veterinarian or the ASPCA Animal Poison Control Center (888-426-4435) immediately.

Pretty, shiny baubles everywhere

Dogs may not appreciate the beauty of holiday décor as much as see them as new chewing opportunities. Keep wreaths, candles, ornaments and other festive accessories out of his or her reach. Strings of electric lights plugged in also present the danger of electrical shock. It's never wise to leave a dog or cat alone at home with the Christmas tree, this is the time to take advantage of a safe and secure mudroom or crate.

Chocolate, chocolate and more chocolate

Whether it's a gift of gourmet chocolates or yet another batch of the neighbor's homemade fudge, chances are you have lots of chocolate lying about. Chocolate is teeming with theobromine, an alkaloid toxic to dogs. It can cause seizures and even death. Symptoms that your pup may have binged on chocolate include vomiting, diarrhea, irregular heartbeat and muscle tremors.

Holiday lattes and other coffee treats

Our coffee addiction may kick into overdrive during the busy holiday season, but caffeine is a definite no-no for dogs. It is a stimulant and can cause seizures, abnormal heartbeat and even death. Specialty coffee drinks topped with whipped cream are particularly tempting to canines, so keep them up high and out of reach. Be sure to place the chocolate-covered coffee beans high on a shelf as well.

Alcohol

Though you likely won't intentionally pour your pets a bowl of wine or spiked eggnog, your pawed pals may take the liberty of lapping out of any glass in which they can get their tongues. Wine, beer and hard liquor can cause seizures, respiratory failure, decrease in blood sugar, low blood pressure and a drop in body temperature. Always keep alcoholic beverages away from your pets.

Unbaked dough

That bowl of rising bread dough on the counter can mean death for your dog. Unbaked bread dough can expand in your pup's stomach and cause bloat or a twisted stomach. Symptoms may include vomiting, retching, elevated heart rate, weakness and a distended stomach. Another danger in unbaked dough is the yeast, which converts into alcohol in your dog's stomach. The alcohol is quickly absorbed into your dog's bloodstream and can result in alcohol poisoning. If your dog eats dough, get it to a vet immediately.

Sugar-free treats

Congratulations on dropping that extra ten pounds you've been carrying around ahead of the holiday season. Well-meaning friends who know you're counting calories may give you sugar-free goodies containing xylitol, a lower-calorie sugar substitute. When consumed by dogs, it may lead to a drastic drop in blood sugar and liver damage. Lethargy occurs quickly after ingestion and can be fatal.

Ibuprofen or other over-the-counter medications

Perhaps you tend to get holiday stress headaches or pull a few muscles putting up the Christmas lights and find yourself relying on Ibuprofen or other pain relievers. You wouldn't think of leaving these medications out on the counter when the grandchildren visit so do the same for your furry companions. Keep all over-the-counter and prescription drugs out of reach as both can cause liver and kidney damage, severe ulcers, anemia and even death.

Macadamia nuts

Who doesn't love yummy macadamia nuts often found in holiday treats? It's also the delicious gift that many vacations to Hawaii thoughtfully bring home. These delectable treats can prove toxic to your dog. Symptoms typically occur within twelve hours of ingestion and may include depression, weakness, tremors, vomiting and pale gums.

Turkey skin, turkey bones and table food scraps

While your pup may whine for a treat during the holiday dinner or beg Uncle Al for a snack under the table, bones from poultry, fish, pork and even beef can cause choking or splinter in your dog's digestive tract. Fatty table scraps, turkey skin or leftovers can lead to pancreatitis and high-sodium fare can cause your dog to drink too much water, resulting in bloat or a twisted stomach. Human food is best kept for humans.

Fruits, nuts and other meal ingredients

Grapes, raisins, onions and garlic left out on counters in preparing appetizers, baked goods or entrees can be toxic. The same is true of walnuts,

which can be poisonous to animals when only slightly moldy in their shells.

Poisonous holiday plants

Poinsettias have long suffered a bad rap as a toxic plant for dogs. Contrary to belief, poinsettias are not deadly though they can cause severe irritation to the mouth and stomach and sometimes vomiting when a large amount is consumed. Eating Christmas tree pine needles can similarly produce oral irritation, vomiting, diarrhea, lethargy and posterior weakness. Holly, commonly found during the Christmas season, can cause extreme vomiting, diarrhea and depression. Perhaps two of the most dangerous to your pets are Mistletoe and most varieties of Lilies. The two plants are often used for holiday décor and as gifts but when consumed by your dog can lead to the symptoms above as well as difficulty breathing, erratic behavior, hallucinations, collapse and even death.

Dogs and cats don't understand what's bad for them and many dog owners can attest that a dog will eat anything at least once. The holidays can be accompanied by a bit of chaos and lack of routine and watchfulness as we eagerly anticipate celebrations. Make sure yours are ones to remember fondly by paying attention to the added dangers in food and décor that the season can bring for your pets.

Foot hanging off the bed

My cat:



Critter Corner



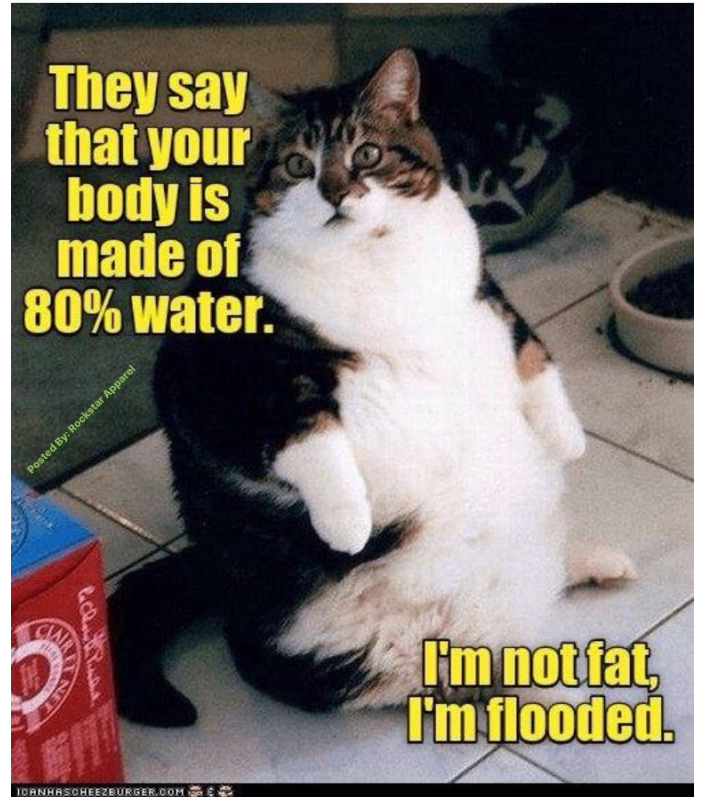
Hi All,

I just want to take a moment and thank all of the volunteers who help out AS. Without your help the animals here would not get the attention they deserve. I also want to thank all of the volunteers who help the animals outside of the shelter, like creating flyers and working with the newspapers to get them adopted. I know things have been very crazy here since August, everyone is putting in overtime, and everyone here at the shelter greatly appreciates the support!

Thank you for all that you do here at Animal Services.

Evan Jacobs, Manager
Animal Services
Desk: (209) 754-6926
ejacobs@co.calaveras.ca.us

when you take your makeup off and he still calls you pretty



Kibbles and Bits....

The Public is always welcome to attend our meetings, which are generally held the first Wednesday of the month at noon, at the building next to the Animal Services building. The December meeting will be our holiday celebration so that will not be a business meeting. Please join us in January!

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### Free Rabies Vaccinations and Free Micro Chipping

December 7th

9 am to 12pm  
Location: Save A Pet Thrift Store  
120 Pine Street, Valley Springs

Sponsored by FOCAS, Calaveras County Animal Services, Ramona Simko, DMV, RSQ209 and Save A Pet Thrift Store.

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Stats (by Ed and Delores Ransom)

Month	Volunteer Hours	Adoptions
August	194.0	5
Sept	304.0	8
Oct	248.0	1
Total	746.0	14

Happy Tails Helpful Training Tips

By Sheri Logan

“Oh, don’t worry...my dog is friendly! He LOVES everyone!”



We see this all too often. We consider our dog to be no threat to another person or dog so we allow ourselves to approach other people and their dogs without hesitation. Just because your dog is friendly, does not mean the dog you are about to approach is friendly too. This particular dog may shy or possibly dealing with reactivity issues. So, what should we do and how should we act in these situations? Well, let’s start by talking about “Space Etiquette” for dogs! The following tips are for people who have “friendly dogs”, “dogs off leash”, or “retractable leash dogs” and how they can help honor a dog’s need for space.

- First off, dogs NEED space! Dogs have the same rights as people do when it comes to space. Some dogs are sensitive to things or have “triggers” that cause them to react. This does not mean that a dog is “not”

friendly, it just means that this dog needs more space. Would you allow a stranger to approach you and put his/her hand on you? I bet not! You would tell the person to back away and do not come that close again. Well, we need to honor that same rule when it comes to dogs.

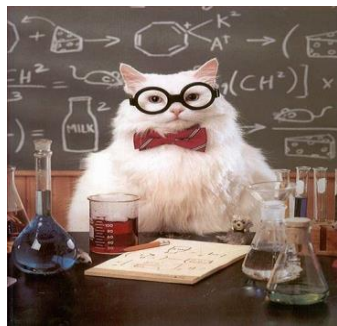
- Secondly, LISTEN to the person when they say to you, “please call your dog off”, “my dog has issues”, “my dog is not friendly”, “my dog is training”. This person is alerting you to keep your distance and you should not consider this to be rude but honor their request and back up or walk away.
- Thirdly, this is how you can “honor” their space:
 - Never allow your dog, if he is off leash, go up to another dog on leash
 - Lock your retractable leash when you see other dogs
 - Ask before approaching or petting another dog
 - Have COMPASSION for people with shy or reactive dogs

When a dog is reactive, it is extremely difficult to correct this behavior. It takes a lot of patience and training to create a positive association with a behavior that causes a dog to be reactive. You might think, “well, why does that person, who has a “reactive or shy” dog, allow the dog out in the public?” That is a good question! Well, the reason is because to correct this type of reactivity, one must use counter conditioning which requires the owner to slowly work their dog in situations where they may be shy or reactive so they can associate this reactivity with some very positive rewards. That is why it is SO important to keep your space.

If you are a dog lover, as am I, when we see a dog, usually what happens next is “Aww, how cute” and immediately we feel the need to walk up, talk to the owner and pet the dog. So, let’s try and change our way of thinking. Next time you see a dog, make eye contact with the owner and ask, “is it OK to approach or pet your dog?” Then honor

their request and don't take offense if they say, "No, my dog is not friendly". There are plenty of dogs out there on leash that you will be allowed to pet, so let's make a conscious effort to be compassionate toward those dogs that may need the extra space!

Sheri Logan, ABCDT
Certified Dog Trainer
Logan's Happy Tails
"Where obedience leads to Happiness!"
In-home Private Dog Obedience and Behavioral Training
(925)337-0046



**NEW
EDUCATION
OUTREACH**
By
**Darcy
Zimmerman**

Darcy Zimmerman and FOCAS launched a new program called "Kitten Season" in October aimed at bringing awareness of the plight of unwanted animals to the fourth and fifth grade students in Mark Twain School District.

The program has two parts; the first demonstrates how quickly unneutered cats can multiply. The students were astounded that within just a year or so, things would get completely out of hand! The second part of the program teaches facts regarding the plight of homeless animals via the game of bingo, and then gives students a chance to show what they have learned by creating posters that will be hung throughout the community.



The students were engaged and interested!

In November the 4th grade students at San Andreas Elementary will participate, as will Hazel Fisher, Michaelson, and Valley Springs schools in the near future. FOCAS would like each fourth and fifth grader in the county to be exposed to this issue.



If you would like this program to come to your school, please contact apmlo@hotmail.com .

In case you haven't smiled today yet! 😊



Dear Miss Penny Paws



Dear Miss Penny Paws,

My owner thinks I eat my meals too fast. What do you think? Keep in mind, she makes me sit and wait before I'm allowed to eat and I flood the floor with drool while waiting. I can devour 2 cups of food in about 10 nano seconds.

My owner has tried hand feeding me and taking my dish away half way through my dinner, but nothing slows me down. A friend suggested putting a big rock in the middle of my dish so I'd have to eat around it. I don't know if that would work – what if I ate the rock too? Personally, I don't understand why she is so concerned.

Signed,
Speedy Eater

Dear Speedy,

Not only is it better for your digestion to eat slowly, but it's better manners as well. Your owner needs to watch you for food protectiveness too. Are you really that hungry? Or are you trying to eat fast so no one else can get to your food?

How is your weight? If you're underweight, maybe you need more food. Do you get enough exercise? A large rock will work, but there are many dog food bowls out there for speedy eaters. Some have a large hump in the middle, some are designed like a maze.

Adding warm water to the food helps sometimes to slow down gobbling, but soft mush food can create more plaque so you'll have to brush after every meal. If your owner picks up your bowl half way through your meal, she should add a treat (like a liver snack) to the bowl when she gives it back, so the experience is a positive one.

Happy digestion,
Miss Penny Paws





Our first Paint & Sip fundraiser was held at Renegade Winery on October 20th. We had 39 participants and raised \$780.



Paint & Sip

It was SUCH a fun event – be sure to join us when we do another one next year!



PATCHES NOW AVAILABLE FOR ORDER!!!

Dora Robinson of Embroidery DR can make patches for us – these are great for sewing on shirts, bags, whatever.

Dora has generously donated the set-up charge, and the patches are available in a variety of colors: white with royal blue, black with red border (both pictured below), navy with black border and black with black.



With a minimum order of 12 pieces (and these can be a mix of colors) the cost is \$7.00 each. If we can put together an order of 24, the cost drops to \$4 each.

So far, just from the board, we have 7 ordered. Dora can even do embroidery directly onto your garment, just email her at embroiderydr@gmail.com for a quote and specifications.

If you're interested, please let me know – goldpup55@aol.com



Easy Fundraiser – COUPON BOOKS

We now have Mother Lode Budget Maximizer coupon books to sell. This is a great fundraiser because there is no cost to us for the books, we just sell them and keep the \$10!



There is an amazing array of participating vendors in both Calaveras and Amador Counties. Please purchase one for yourself, and take some to sell. Contact Kim or Debby to get some books!

Beaudog1944@gmail.com (Debby) or goldpup55@aol.com (Kim).

These are great stocking stuffers too!



Calaveras County
Environmental Management Agency

891 Mountain Ranch Rd, San Andreas, CA 95249

****PRESS RELEASE****

Contact: Evan Jacobs, Manager

Release Date: October 31, 2019

Release Time: 11:30 AM

On Tuesday October 25, 2019, two dogs associated with the recent attack on two miniature horses in the Valley Springs area were released to their micro-chipped owner and taken by the owner back to Stockton, where they reside. This is the first substantiated incident in Calaveras County involving either of these dogs, and as a result, the legal standard for Animal Services to file a 'potentially dangerous dog' petition under state law has not been met at this time.

Pursuant to California Food and Agriculture Code Section 31602:

"Potentially dangerous dog" means any of the following:

- (a) Any dog which, when unprovoked, on two separate occasions within the prior 36-month period, engages in any behavior that requires a defensive action by any person to prevent bodily injury when the person and the dog are off the property of the owner or keeper of the dog.
- (b) Any dog which, when unprovoked, bites a person causing a less severe injury than as defined in Section 31604.
- (c) Any dog which, when unprovoked, on two separate occasions within the prior 36-month period, has killed, seriously bitten, inflicted injury, or otherwise caused injury attacking a domestic animal off the property of the owner or keeper of the dog.

The above represent the only legal bases for filing a petition in Superior Court to have the dogs declared "potentially dangerous" by a judge. Because this incident constitutes only one such occasion, Animal Services cannot at this time file a petition pursuant to Section 31602(c). Animal Services is aware of what has been posted on social media regarding other alleged incidents involving these dogs and has investigated those fully; our investigations have found that these reports are either inaccurate or cannot be substantiated.