

Vol. 36 No. 1 • SPCA of Central Florida
 New Year 2011
 Your Local Humane Society . . .
 Saving Pets Since 1937!
 www.orlandopets.org

Pet Talk

Be an "insider!" Visit our website at www.OrlandoPets.org.
 You'll learn the latest information on special pets
 for adoption as well as useful animal care tips.

The 17th Annual Paws in the Park at beautiful Lake Eola in downtown Orlando

Saturday, February 12th, 2011

All you need is love. "Puppy Love in the 60's" that is! Get your groove on and get ready for Orlando's biggest and best pet walk. Disco your way to Lake Eola for the 17th Annual Paws in the Park.

Join thousands of other animal lovers, just like you, for a leisurely walk around Lake Eola in Downtown Orlando. Enjoy refreshments, live entertainment, shop the "Business Buddy" area and have lots of FUN in the name of a good cause!

The goal is to raise \$175,000, so we need your help. Remember you can walk with or without your dog, on Saturday, February 12th. Mark your calendar and start fundraising today by visiting www.OrlandoPets.org and get a head start! February 12th will be here before you know it!

Not sure where to start? Here are some great ideas from the cats and dogs at the SPCA of Central Florida:

Walk as an Individual and earn "Goodies" A minimum donation applies to all walkers (\$25 for adults and chil-



dren 10 years of age and under are \$10 with a paid adult). Participants who raise at least \$100 receive a commemorative event t-shirt. The more money you raise as a walker, the more "goodies" you earn. Just remember, **premiums are while supplies last** so you may want to pre-register. The top FUN-draisers in both individual and Pack categories receive additional prizes! Start fundraising today! At www.OrlandoPets.org, you can create your own website, e-mail friends and family for support and be on your way to reaching your personal fundraising goal!

Make "Pack" Tracks

Along with individual walkers, we're looking for energetic individuals who want to form a "Pack", a group of two or more people walking/fundraising together that raise at least \$500 (friends, neighbors, colleagues, classmates, family members, co-workers, club members and more). Each Pack gets its own name on a sign to identify it while they're walking and a group photo. Plus, the Pack members qualify for individual

premiums and prizes. Jump on www.OrlandoPets.org today to start your very own "Pack"! And guess what! You can form a Pack that doesn't walk - but just fundraises on behalf of our shelter pets, but walking at Lake Eola is great fun too.

— Continued on page 9 —

PAWS IN THE PARK
PUPPY LOVE:
 A TRIBUTE TO THE 60s

17th ANNUAL
 FUND-RAISING PET WALK

SATURDAY
 FEBRUARY 12th, 2011
 9AM-NOON
 LAKE EOLA PARK • DOWNTOWN ORLANDO

A FUNDRAISER FOR HOMELESS PETS
 Contests • Refreshments • Pet Business • Treats

SPCA of Central Florida
 Your Local Humane Society... saving pets since 1937

CFADA
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 PROGRESSIVE COMMUNICATIONS

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For more information visit: www.orlandopets.org

PetTalk

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Website: www.OrlandoPets.org

Founded in 1937, the SPCA of Central Florida's mission is to promote responsible human behavior toward animals.

ORLANDO HUMANE SOCIETY/ORANGE COUNTY

Located at: 2727 Conroy Road, Orlando, 32839

Shelter Hours:

10:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. Monday through Saturday

Noon – 4:00 p.m. Sunday

Public Vet Clinic Hours:

The Orlando Public Vet Clinic is open 7 days/week.

7:30 a.m. – 6:15 p.m.

Orlando/Orange County Main Phone Number: 407-351-7722

For Adoption Desk: X 221, X 284

For Animal Receiving Desk: X 235

For Business Office: X240, X273

For Cruelty Investigations: X 275

For Medical Clinic Appointments: X 226, X227

For Medical Clinic Cancellations: X 279

For Volunteer Services: X 236

Main Fax Number: 407-352-2070

HUMANE SOCIETY OF SEMINOLE COUNTY/SANFORD SHELTER

Located at: 2800 County Home Road, Sanford, 32773

Shelter Hours:

10:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. Monday through Saturday

Noon – 4:00 p.m. Sunday

Public Vet Clinic Hours:

The Sanford Public Vet Clinic is open Mon. – Sat.

7:30 a.m. – 4:15 a.m.

Sanford/Seminole County Main Phone Number: 407-323-8685

For Cat Adoption Desk: X 222

For Dog Adoption Desk: X 221

For Cruelty Investigations: Call Orlando number above

For Medical Clinic Appointments: X 226, X227

For Medical Clinic Cancellations: X 228

For Clinic Operations Manager: X223

For Shelter Operations Manager: X224

For Volunteer Services: X 246

Main Fax Number: 407-323-3792

All facilities are closed on major holidays.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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WHAT'S IN A NAME?

If you decide to include the SPCA of Central Florida in your will, please be sure to use the full legal name:

Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals of Central Florida, Inc.



Poll: Most Pet Owners See a Sixth Sense

Owners Say Pets Behave Oddly Before Bad News, Bad Weather

By SUE MANNING, Associated Press

LOS ANGELES — Two-thirds of U.S. pet owners say their animals have a sixth sense about bad weather, while 43 percent say their pets can sense bad news.

An Associated Press-Petside.com poll shows that 72 percent of dog owners report weather warnings from their pets, compared with 66 percent of cat owners. Forty-seven percent of dog owners and 41 percent of cat owners say they have gotten bad news alerts from their pets.

The poll conducted by GfK Roper Public Affairs and Corporate Communications in October shows pets convey these warnings in many ways.

Sixty-four percent of those polled say pets hide, 56 percent say they whine or cry, 52 percent say they become hyperactive, erratic or make unpredictable movements, and 36 percent say they bark or meow persistently.

Source: *The Associated Press*. Posted: 5:00 am EST January 11, 2011 Updated: 5:55 am EST January 11, 2011

An Important F Y I

The SPCA of Central Florida (formerly the Orlando Humane Society, the Humane Society of Seminole County and the Osceola County Humane Society) is a private, independent, 501(c)(3), non-profit agency.

Despite their many expensive, heart-wrenching videos/ads placed on TV by national animal welfare organization like HSUS, AHA, or ASPCA, please note the SPCA of Central Florida DOES NOT receive any proceeds from these solicitations.

FREE

COMMUNITY CLASSES
SPCA OF CENTRAL FLORIDA

CATS 411
APRIL 12, 2011 @ 6PM

PIT BULL CLASS
FEBRUARY 23, 2011 @ 6PM
APRIL 16, 2011 @ 2PM
APRIL 26, 2011 (ESPAÑOL) @ 6PM

PUPPY CLASS
FEBRUARY 24, 2011 @ 6PM
MARCH 12, 2011 @ 2PM

NEW "PAW"RENTERS
MAY 17, 2011 @ 8PM

DOG BEHAVIOR (WORKSHOP)
MARCH 12, 2011 @ 10AM
APRIL 16, 2011 @ 10AM

BASIC OBEDIENCE
THURSDAY EVENINGS:
JANUARY 6 - FEBRUARY 3, 2011
MARCH 24 - APRIL 21, 2011

INTERMEDIATE OBEDIENCE
THURSDAY EVENINGS:
MARCH 24 - APRIL 21, 2011

REGISTER AT: WWW.ORLANDOPETS.ORG
LOCATION: ORLANDO SHELTER.

SPCA VETERINARY CLINICS: ORLANDO AND SANFORD

THE HOURS FOR ORLANDO'S CLINIC ARE: 7 days a week. 7:30 AM-6:15 PM.
THE HOURS FOR SANFORD'S CLINIC ARE: Monday-Saturday. 7:30 AM-4:15 PM.

PLEASE NOTE PHONE EXTENSIONS

SPAY/NEUTER SURGERY:

Spay/neuter surgery appointments, Orlando Vet Clinic: 407-351-7722, X226
Spay/neuter surgery appointments, Sanford Vet Clinic: 407-323-8685, X226

GENERAL MEDICAL CLINIC SERVICES:

Medical clinic appointments, Orlando Vet Clinic: 407-351-7722, X227
Medical clinic appointments, Sanford Vet Clinic: 407-323-8685, X227

CANCELLATION LINES:

Appointment cancellations, Orlando vet clinic: 407-351-7722, X279
Appointment cancellations, Sanford vet clinic: 407-323-8685, X228

POST-SURGICAL COMPLICATIONS OR FOR COMPLICATIONS FROM HEARTWORM TREATMENTS:

Medical/Post-op, Orlando vet clinic: 407-351-7722, X225
Medical/Post-op, Sanford vet clinic: 407-323-8685, X225

THINGS TO REMEMBER:

- Clinic services are available for the pet of any person regardless of County of residence.
- General vet care services are available only for spayed/neutered animals or those with a medical deferment.
- Pets must be at least 3 months of age or 3 pounds for spay/neuter surgeries.
- Only healthy animals should undergo surgery. If your animal is not feeling well (sneezing, vomiting, diarrhea, etc.), please reschedule your appointment.
- When entering or leaving our clinics, for safety's sake, all cats must be in a pet carrier and dogs on a secure leash.
- SPCA of Central Florida Society members receive a discount on general vet services (**excluding** the spay/neuter surgeries).
- SPCA members must present their current year membership card at check-in time to receive the lowest cost general vet services.
 - Membership cards are not transferable.
 - Membership in other humane organizations will not apply for our Clinics' discounts.
 - Non-members may use the low-cost medical clinics, but please note the fees charged to non-members will be higher than those charged to SPCA members.
- Ask about our special senior citizens' (65 years of age or older) discount for wellness services only.
- Because of the high-volume of phone calls received by the Medical Clinics, you may reach voice mail when you call the numbers listed below.
 - If this is the case, please leave a detailed message on the voice mail.
 - The message should include your name, a daytime phone number, the time when you will be available for a callback, the reason for your call, and when you hope to schedule an appointment.
 - The staff are committed to providing you with excellent service. Your thoughtful use of voice mail will help in this process.
- You may pay by cash, check, debit, Discover, Visa or Mastercard.
- There is a \$10 charge for "no shows" or for cancellations with less than 24 hours notice.
- Full payment is expected at the time of service.

SPAY/NEUTER SURGERY COSTS

- *Because of the risk of contagion to other animals, proof of recent feline aids/feline leukemia tests is required at the time of surgery or clients may have their cats tested at our clinic on the day of surgery at an additional charge.*
- *Proof of dog's recent heartworm test or testing at clinic on the day of surgery, for an additional charge, is highly recommended.*
- *There will be additional charges for complications such as pregnancy, obesity, age, undescended testicles, etc.*
- *There will be additional charges for post-operative pain medication and e-collar if needed.*
- *Pets 5 years of age or older must have a blood test before surgery (super chem CBC - \$37.50 - \$67.25) per our vets' requirement to help determine the overall health of the pet.*
 - *Pets 5 years of age or older will first come in for a pre-surgery consult (\$25). A pet this age is considered a geriatric animal, and SPCA vets will first perform an exam to determine the overall risk to the pet of performing the surgery.*
- *Pets under 5 years of age have the option of having blood work done, but it is not required.*
- *According to County Code, all pets must be vaccinated against rabies. Pet owners must bring with them documentation of rabies vaccination or have their pets receive a rabies vaccination on the day of surgery.*

BASE SPAY/NEUTER SURGERY RATES: CATS

Male Cat Neuter \$25
Female Cat Spay \$35



BASE SPAY/NEUTER SURGERY RATES: DOGS

Male Dog Neuter:

Under 30 pounds \$35
31-70 pounds \$45
71-100 pounds \$55
101 - 125 pounds \$65
125 pounds or more \$75



Female Dog Spay:

Under 30 pounds \$40
31-70 pounds \$50
71-100 pounds \$60
101 - 125 pounds \$70
125 pounds or more \$80

Drop-Off Time for Surgery Appointments: 7:30 AM.

Pick-Up Time from Surgery: Afternoon of same day. Receptionist staff will inform you of pickup time at "drop-off," but must be before 5:00 PM.

There will be an additional boarding fee/penalty for animals that are not picked up by the end of the day and must be held overnight.

5th Annual Meow March and Celebratory Cat Events!

Cats Unite for the SPCA of Central Florida

"Meow March" is almost here again! So grab your cat, or should we say in cat terms, gently persuade your kitty to come closer to the computer (insert catnip or cat treats here) and start fundraising now for the 5th Annual "Meow March"!

You might be wondering what exactly is a "Meow March"? Cats marching? Glad you asked!

"Meow March" is a virtual cat walk done entirely on-line and from the comforts of your own home! The cats at the SPCA of Central Florida were ever so tired of hearing news about the dog walks and decided to do an event just for cats. How splendid! So they pounced on over to the business office, grabbed a mouse (the one attached to your computer of course!) and started creating the biggest and best cat event in Central Florida: "Meow March".



And from **March 1-31** on www.OrlandoPets.org, you and your kitty can create a personal website, upload a favorite photo and start fundraising for the SPCA of Central Florida. With just the click of your mouse and (remember the virtual one) hop onto www.OrlandoPets.org and you are on your way! Share your fundraising efforts with friends, family and co-workers through e-mail. And as you reach each fundraising level and increase your donations you will be on your way to the pot of gold or as the kitties would say the "golden sandbox" at the end of the rainbow.

Your royal feline will be given the same goodies, if not more, (due to the royal nature of cats) than our two dog walks for your fundraising efforts! And for each dollar you fundraise on and off-line you will receive e-mails showing exactly the programs and pets you are helping here at the SPCA of Central Florida. And as a special thank you after the event for your fundraising efforts, goodies or "premiums" will be shipped to your home for you and your cat! Front door service! Wow! Think of all that catnip and treats! It's like Christmas all over again!

Need motivation? Catnip not working like it used to? Here is a preview of where your fundraising goes here at the SPCA of Central Florida: with your contribution and support and your financial donations, **YOU** will be assisting in the construction and renovation to our current cat adoption area. For every dollar, **YOU** will be creating a cozy environment for a cat in need. These rooms will provide a "temporary" home for an animal in need, looking for their "forever" home. Join us as we renovate the Orlando cat adoption area, and help find homes for thousands of cats and kittens right here in the heart of Central Florida.

So gather up your favorite feline and keep your eyes, paws and claws on www.OrlandoPets.org for this upcoming purrrfect event! And mark your calendar today for these additional purrrfect events in honor of Meow March and the cats & kittens here at the SPCA of Central Florida:

Meow March Kick-Off Party

Sign-up for the 2011 event, meet other cat lovers and enjoy wine & light appetizers while shopping for a good cause...the SPCA of Central Florida!

Saturday, Feb 26th, 5-8 pm
BullFish in Baldwin Park
488 New Broad Street, Orlando

Visit www.bullfish.net for more info today!

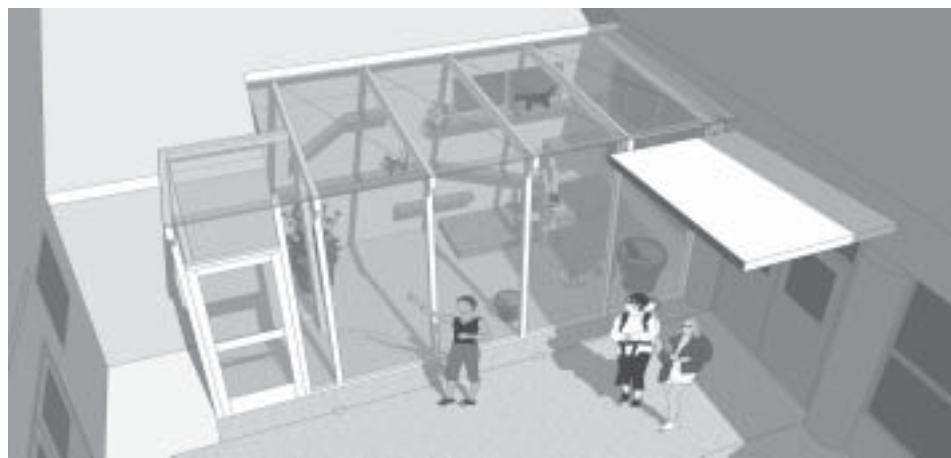
SPCA of Central Florida's

Cat Room Re-launch and Thank you Party for Meow Marchers

Saturday, April 9th, 3-5 pm

Join us in celebrating the grand launch of the NEW cat room here at the SPCA of Central Florida Orlando!

Visit www.OrlandoPets.org for more information!



10 Reasons Why You Should Get a Dog Instead of a Facelift

By Robert Tornambe, M.D.

According to the American Society of Aesthetic Plastic Surgery, American women underwent over 9 million cosmetic procedures last year. Americans spent almost \$10.5 billion on cosmetic intervention in 2009.

During that same time, some 2 million dogs were euthanized in this country. The Humane Society of the United States estimates that animal shelters care for between 6 and 8 million dogs and cats every year in the United States.

As a dog lover and dog owner since childhood and a plastic surgeon for some 23 years, I believe I am an expert on the subject of the love of dogs and cosmetic surgery. While a facelift can be a wonderful and satisfying experience, I would like to share with you why I believe getting a dog is a better alternative:

They Offer A Lifetime Of Love

The average facelift lasts approximately five to 10 years, depending upon technique and individual's skin type. The average lifespan of a dog, depending on breed and size, is 12.8 years. However, long after your loving dog passes away, the memories of extraordinary times together will live in your heart forever. Once your facelift begins to sag, your only memory will be the price tag to have it re-done!

They Are Cheaper

Dogs are cheaper than a facelift. The average facelift costs approximately \$11,000, depending on the city and surgeon. You can rescue a dog from the shelter for free, and even the most expensive pedigree dog does not cost more than \$1,500. Also, you will get a lot more bang for your buck with a dog because a dog will love and appreciate you forever.

They Make You Healthier

It has been scientifically proven that owning a dog increases your lifespan! Numerous studies have shown that dog ownership lowers your blood pressure, encourages exercise, decreases stress and loneliness, lowers your cholesterol and thus enhances your health. Dogs can sniff out some forms of cancer and recognize early signs of seizures, enabling them to warn their human companion to lie down to prevent injury. To date, no studies have been able to document any of the same health benefits from a facelift.



They Often Have Better Breath

A puppy's breath is special and sweet; your plastic surgeon's breath is a crapshoot.

They Can Be Your Hang-Out Buddy

Your plastic surgeon will hang around for a little while after your facelift, but your dog will happily be your companion and friend offering unconditional love for life.

They Won't Cause Talking Behind Your Back

People won't mock and sneer at you behind your back if you get a dog. A facelift?

They Fetch

You can teach your dog to do tricks; a facelift, not so much.

They Cuddle

After a long day or a horrible emotional experience, you can cuddle up with your dog and feel a lot better; not so with a facelift.

They Aren't Nearly As Risky

Possible complications encountered after a facelift include permanent facial nerve injury, poor scarring, bleeding, skin loss or irregularities and infection. The worst complication encountered with a well-loved dog includes an accident on the living room floor or a chewed slipper.

They Care

You can train your pet to be a Certified Therapy Dog and partner up with your dog and volunteer your services visiting sick patients in the hospital or troubled children in school. Animal-assisted therapy is a type of therapy that involves an animal with specific characteristics becoming a fundamental part of a person's treatment. It is designed to improve the physical, social, emotional and/or cognitive functioning of the patient, as well as providing educational and motivational effectiveness for participants. The experience is incredibly rewarding. People respond favorably after visiting with a dog; a visit with a facelift just isn't the same!

Source: *The Huffington Post*. Robert Tornambe, M.D. New York Plastic Surgeon and author of "The Beauty Quotient Formula." Posted: November 28, 2010 11:36 AM

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**To order this terrific food for your pets, visit the SPCA website,
www.orlandopets.org.**

Portion of the proceeds benefit the SPCA of Central Florida.

exactly right

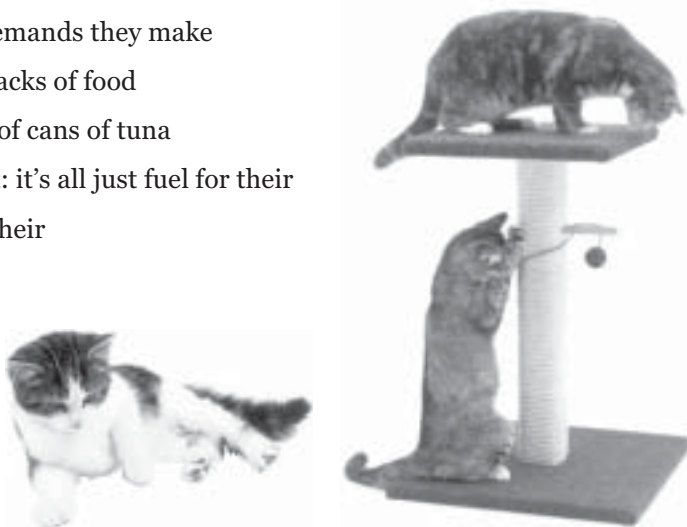
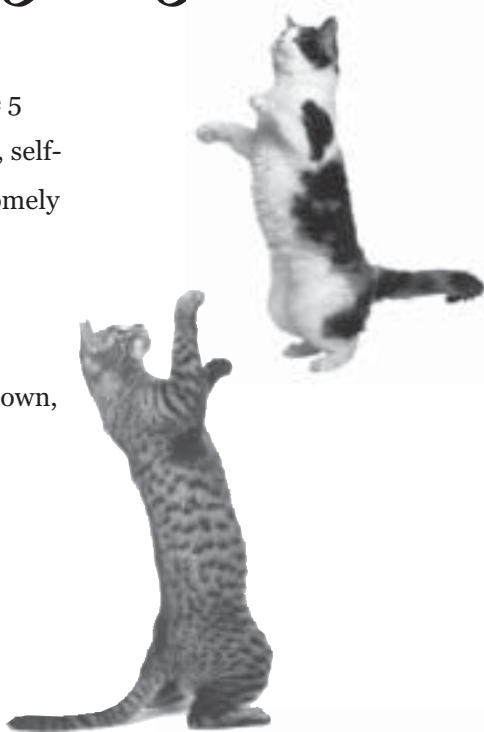
By Charles Bukowski

the strays keep arriving: now we have 5 cats and they are smart, spontaneous, self-absorbed, naturally poised and awesomely beautiful.

one of the finest things about cats is that when you're feeling down, very down, if you just look at the cat at rest, at the way they sit or lie and wait, it's a grand lesson in preserving and if you watch 5 cats at once that's 5 times better.

no matter the extra demands they make
no matter the heavy sacks of food
no matter the dozens of cans of tuna
from the supermarket: it's all just fuel for their amazing dignity and their affirmation of a vital life
we humans can only envy and admire from afar.

"exactly right" by Charles Bukowski, from The Night Torn with Mad Footsteps: New Poems. © Black Sparrow Press, 2001. Reprinted with permission.



Words That Mean a lot to Dogs

By W. Bruce Cameron

I've read that an average dog possesses a vocabulary of 200 - 300 words, which is enough for him to have his own Twitter account. Most people won't buy their dogs a Smartphone, though, so you don't see too many canines tweeting their friends unless they have access to a computer.

Here's an excerpt from a dog's wiki-dictionary of known words:

Sit (v): A word that means if you sit down your owner will give you a treat. Oddly, Sit works only some of the time. You can Sit all day while your owner is cooking tacos and he won't toss you one, even if you give him your most attentive expression. If, however, the owner starts saying, "Sit!" and he has a dog treat in his hand, you're golden. Just make sure you pretend to take a long time to figure it out and you'll keep getting treats. The minute you give in and start doing it on command, though, he'll say "good dog" and there will be no treat involved. No one knows why people think that being told "good dog" is reward enough - would they go to work everyday if, instead of getting a paycheck, their bosses just said they were "good employees"?

Stay (v): This word makes no sense: It means that while your owners walk away, you're supposed to just sit there. This can't be right. Surely, wherever they're going, the experience would be enhanced by having a dog present when they get there. If they don't want canine companionship, why did they get a dog? Also, there is no way to give a dog a treat if he Stays, because the owners have left. What good is a command if there is no treat involved? Worse, when Stay is over, the people will probably say "Come," and then give you a treat. So, at first, being with them is not good for a treat, and then all of a sudden it is. Probably if your owner tries to teach you to Stay, he is a mentally unbalanced person, so handle the situation however you need to in order to obtain a dog treat. (Once the reward for "Stay" migrates to "good dog" instead of a dog treat, we recommend you pretend to know what it means.)

Lie Down (v): First, some people say "Lay Down," which, as any dog knows, is bad grammar. Second, this one gets you a treat only after you're sprawled out on the floor, a position that makes it very difficult to chew. It's recommended you hold out for a treat before you Lie Down. Isn't that more convenient for everyone?

Bad Dog (n): The list of things you can do to qualify as a Bad Dog is so huge as to be bewildering. Your person left you lunch in the trash can when he went to work, so you helped yourself. Any reasonable dog would agree you showed excellent resourcefulness, but you guessed it, Bad Dog. Urinated in the house, which your person does all the time? Bad Dog. Barked at the mailman, who for all we know is on the verge of going postal? Bad Dog. You might as well give up trying to figure out what causes Bad Dog - you don't get a treat for being a Bad Dog; that's all you need to know.

Shake (v): Upon the command "Shake," you're supposed to raise your paw and let your person grab it and drop it. It's a dumb way to earn a treat, in our opinion. If you show some initiative and, entirely on your own, paw your owner in the crotch, you probably won't get a treat. (See Bad Dog.)

Dinner (n): There simply isn't a finer word in the human vocabulary than "Dinner." Most dogs try to explain this to their people by doing Sit, Lie Down, Speak, Spin, Shake and Jump, but usually most people don't get it and serve dinner only once or twice a day.

Too bad they don't understand dog words.

Source: *Denver Post*. Author: W. Bruce Cameron at wbrucecameron.com. For his previous columns, visit denverpost.com/brucecameron.



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If you haven't seen us lately, you haven't seen us at all. Come by for a visit. You'll be glad you did. And ... PLEASE ... Spread the word!



Packs Of people (and pets) needed!

"Paws in the Park is THE biggest and best pet walk in Central Florida!"

Saturday, February 12, 2011

Downtown, Orlando at Lake Eola

9 am to Noon

Help the SPCA of Central Florida raise much needed funds for all the programs that help Central Florida families and their pets! Top Packs win PRIZES!

a special trophy and bragging rights for one year!

What is a Pack?

A Pack is a group of two or more people who raise \$500 or more for the SPCA of Central Florida. A Pack may consist of friends, family, co-workers, students... pretty much anybody can join! Packs receive special recognition the day of the walk, along with "premiums" or goodies for their individual fundraising efforts.

How about some friendly competition?

Want to have even more fun? Have a friendly office competition! Whether it is a contest between company departments or a challenge with another company(s), you can compete to be the "Top Dog." The "Top Dog" of your competition will receive

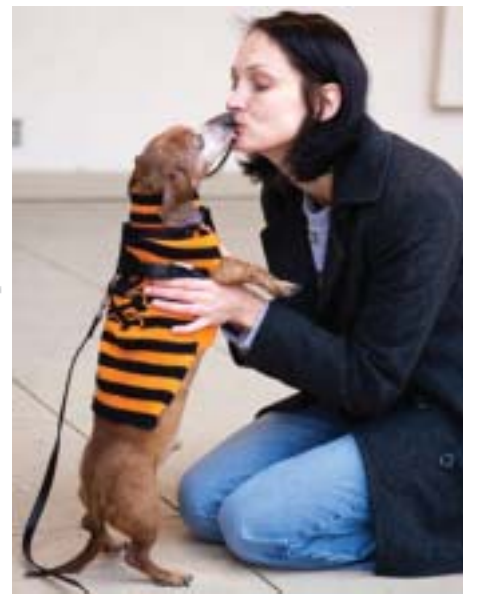
FUNdraising is EASY!

Fundraise on-line at www.OrlandoPets.org. Step-by-step instructions will guide the creation of your very own website for your Pack (Honest... it's simple and easy with our on-line program). Send your personal link to everyone on your email list, facebook, LinkedIn, myspace... Again, it's that easy.

You can always fundraise in person, collecting donations by filling out the Paws in the Park registration form, found on-line at www.OrlandoPets.org

Questions, ideas or comments? Want to register your "Top Dog" challenge? Call **Robin at (407) 248-1758** or Robin@OrlandoPets.org.

See you on-stage, at the winner's circle at Lake Eola on February 12th!





HAPPY TAILS

Dear SPCA of Central Florida,

This is a picture of **Summer**, the Saint Bernard we adopted a year ago. We sent this because we wanted you to see how Summer is doing, and you guys seemed to love him a lot, so we sent this picture. We hope you like it! Have a great and safe holiday!

**Stephanie and Brianna
Maynard and Ed Wilds**



Hi SPCA!

I love my new home! My best friend, Brianna, plays with me a lot! I get baths, and I am very happy with my new home! I'm doing great on training, and they take great care of me and love on me! I also got a Christmas present from them! I wonder what it is? Happy holidays.

Summer

Dear Barbara,

Thanks for all of your help with my precious pets, my cats **Henry, Max and Swirlie**. I am also sending you a picture of sweet **Izzie** who passed on 9/9 but still lives in my heart.

Again, thank you soooooe much for everything.

BIBI BIBI



Hi and Merry Christmas to all my friends at the SPCA of Central Florida,

I am loving the cool weather. My Mom puts a fire in the fireplace every morning for me to warm up by after my Dad takes me outside to sniff the cool air and run around my back yard.

I have been with my adoptive parents for 3 years now. I am such a sweet loving boy, and my Mom says I never do anything wrong!

Hope you have a Merry Christmas!

Love,
Rex Sturgeon



Dear Helen,

Fifty is settling in and is perking up. He does have quite a sweet personality; I may change his name to "monkey boy". He love to climb on all the furniture, and has a ton of fun doing it.

I do not understand why he is frightened of ceiling fans, but we will work on that. So no fans on until he gets used to them. My other two boys have welcomed him into the family and it is cute to see them take their afternoon naps together.

Kathy Ahern

Thanks for the note, Helen. Perhaps I will name him "**Huckleberry Hound**" because I do not see one bit of pit in him. He is very shy; I think he may have been abused previously. But, with alot of patience and love, he will come around.

He sleeps in my bed at night; first night he barked at three am at his reflection in the mirror. Now he is used to seeing himself, and loves the outdoors. He has his doggie door to use as he pleases.

I will send pics of the kids; I missed a great one of Huckleberry sleeping with his head on Fluffy's back. They were both curled up on their large doggie pillow in front of the tv & was so sweet. And Huckleberry is so shy of everything, but is learning he is safe now. He has accepted the boys, TV, ceiling fans, and sleeping in the master bed. I have no room now, but oh well... they are happy.



I also thank you for the pamphlets because I have found an attorney that can do a dog trust so that if anything happens to me, my boys will be very well cared for and be able to maintain their lifestyle in their own home &. Great suggestion for any new pet owner, and very important.

Have a safe and happy holiday, and thank you for my new boy... he is a sweet dog and needs alot of time and love.

Kathy Ahern



Hi Diane,

I just wanted to drop you a line and let you know how very happy we are with **Jake**. If you remember we adopted him from the SPCA in Orlando the first week in October. He is such a wonderful and gentle dog. Our cats love him, and our big Maine coon cat now has a buddy again.

I am so glad we did this. I cannot imagine how his former people must have felt having to give him up – they had to be heartbroken. There is absolutely nothing wrong anywhere with this dog. He is a godsend to us, and we love him very much.

Here is a picture of him playing "bench" potato on a bench we have at the end of our bed.

Have a wonderful Christmas and Happy New Year.

Diane Ferraro

Dear Diane,

I adopted my two dogs from SPCA. My dog, **Bella**, I adopted July on 2008 (collie mix, now 9+) and **Snuffles**, a black lab, I adopted July 2009 and now is 13+.



I regularly stop in and purchase treats, collars etc for them in your lobby, and one of the girls & regularly asks about her, so I thought I would send some photos.

Michael Pooler

— Continued on page 12 —

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Linda Vance

The Spates Family.
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The Simpson Dogs.
Snickers Goggin

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All my pets who now reside in heaven.
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Drew Chiaiese

Rambo.
Deanna Castro

Barbara Walker-Seaman & Mayan.
Del Seaman

Killer Boomer Leonard.
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Lorraine Lavoie

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Glen & Jennifer Hawkins

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Trotter.
Robert Albert

Carolyn Schaal.
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Alix - Simone Lendway.
The Kinnee Family

Candy, Cuddles, Tabby & Honey.
Diane Reese

Sara Elise Stanley.
Jody Scott

Charles Wise.
Jack & Pat Golliet

Phoebe.
Mary Lu Sheets

Beau Alday.
Brenna Broadway

Winks Hilyard.
Nancy Martin

Callie.
Nancy & Dale Bellows

Callie.
Nancy & Dale Bellows

Precious.
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Gail Rae Parke.
Jianping Yang

Gail Rae Parke.
Jianping Yang

Gail Rae Parke.
Jianping Yang

We Get By with the Help of Our Friends

Dear Diane,

My name is Joyce Nichols, and I would like to be put on the waiting list for the upcoming obedience class. I wanted to let you know how GREAT the pit bull class you taught last month was.

My teenage boys can't believe I might actually get a Facebook page just so I can join "Incredibulls". Thank you again for all of your help and making me proud to be an owner of a pit bull.

Sincerely,
Joyce Nichols

Dear SPCA,

A big Thank you for this special day... I was amazed at the number of people who showed up for this free spay and neuter day.

WOW!!! The staff must have been exhausted when the day was finished. It was amazing to see how everything worked out. I praise you all!!!! God Bless you and all the people who worked Soooooo hard.

Can't thank you enough.
Carol Rychlock

- Paws in the Park, continued from page 1 -

Or be a "Business Buddy" Vendor

Help market your products and services while at the same time promoting your own business! Sign up to sell merchandise, share information and make new connections with Central Florida pet enthusiasts. With over 3,000 walkers, it is an ideal market to promote your own personal business. Think about all the potential new customers you can reach in just one morning! We provide the tables and chairs for your display. Questions on becoming a Business Buddy? Call Judy at (407) 248-1741 or via e-mail at Judy@OrlandoPets.org!

After the walk, enjoy more FUN with our pet contests including: Best Hippie Shake Dance, Best Roll (your dog of course) and Best Woodstock Singer. Entrants must be registered for "Paws in the Park" to participate in the contests! In keeping with our mission, only spayed/neutered pets will be eligible for contests and prizes.

Find out more about "Paws in the Park" at www.OrlandoPets.org and start FUNdraising today!

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"Twas the Night Before Christmas" Pet Style

By Elyse Arellano

'Twas the night before Christmas, and all through the pound,
Not a puppy was stirring, no owners around.
Dreaming of bones and treats to spare
In hopes that Santa Paws soon would be there.

The kittens were nestled all snug in their crates,
With visions of catnip and toys that were great.
Their whiskers were twitching as they thought of the day
When boys and girls would bring them home to play

When out in the backyard there was such a sight
Santa Paws and his reindeer were landing from flight
The puppies and kittens got up with glee
And gathered around their big Christmas tree

The moon glistened like a puppy after a bath
They were all so surprised to see a secret path
They ran to the windows and to the front door
Left nose prints and paw prints and slobber galore

The kittens were cunning and took the door key
They all worked together and attempted to flee
With a meow and a hiss and a bark or two
With a push and a shove, out the door they flew

Now, Max! Now, Carlisle! Now Jake and Dixie!
On, Fluffy! On, Chloe! On Wizard and Frisky!
To the top of the porch, look there's a gate!
Someone left it wide open, it must be by fate!

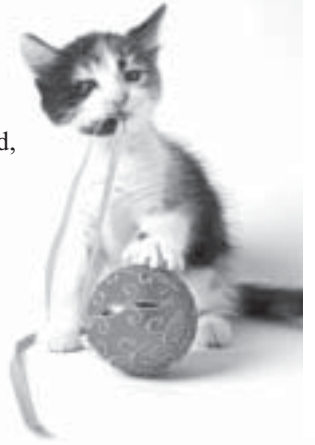
Look, there's a cow, a goat and a horse!
They stopped to say, "Hi!" to be friendly, of course!
The kittens were getting quite tired and lazy
The puppies were playing and acting all crazy.

When off in the distance they saw a bright light
It was Santa Paws and his reindeer. Oh, what a sight!
They piled in his sleigh and started to fly
They leaned over the edge and told their new friends, "Goodbye!"

Santa Paws told the puppies and kittens to rest
Tomorrow's surprise would be one of the best.
They all snuggled up around the presents and toys
They dreamed of playing with girls and with boys.

On Christmas morning they no longer would roam
Each puppy and kitten had found a new home
With bows tied around them, they waited under the tree
They thought in their heads, "Finally, someone loves me!"

Source: Elyse Arellano is 9 years old and is in 4th grade at The Master's Academy in Oviedo.



Choosing a Pet Sitter

Pet sitters do much more than provide a pet with food and water while their guardian is away from home.

A good pet sitter also spends quality time with the animal, gives him exercise and knows how to tell if he needs veterinary attention. What's more, pet sitters typically offer additional services, such as taking in mail and newspapers and watering plants.

But just because someone calls herself a pet sitter doesn't mean s/he's qualified to do the job.

Why hire a pet sitter?

A pet sitter—a professional, qualified individual paid to care for your pet—offers both you and your pet many benefits.

Your pet gets:

- The environment he knows best.
- His regular diet and routine.
- Relief from traveling to and staying in an unfamiliar place with other animals (such as a boarding kennel).
- Attention while you're away.

You get:

- Happier friends and neighbors, who aren't burdened with caring for your pet.
- The peace of mind that comes from knowing that your pet is being cared for by a professional.
- Someone to bring in your newspaper and mail so potential burglars don't know you're away.
- Someone who will come to your home so you don't have to drive your pet to a boarding kennel.
- Other services provided by most pet sitters, such as plant watering and pet grooming

Where do I find a pet sitter?

Start with a recommendation from a friend, neighbor, veterinarian, local humane society or dog trainer. Check online or in the Yellow Pages under "Pet Sitting Services." You can also contact the National Association of Professional Pet Sitters (800-296-PETS) or Pet Sitters International (336-983-9222).

What should I look for?

It's important to learn all you can about a prospective pet sitters' qualifications and services. Before selecting a pet sitter, interview the candidates over the phone or at your home. Find out the following:

- Can the pet sitter provide written proof that she has commercial liability insurance (to cover accidents and negligence) and is bonded (to protect against theft by a pet sitter or her employees)?
- What training has the pet sitter completed?

- Will the pet sitter record notes about your pet—such as his likes, dislikes, fears, habits, medical conditions, medications, and routines?
- Is the pet sitter associated with a veterinarian who can provide emergency services?
- What will happen if the pet sitter experiences car trouble or becomes ill? Does she have a backup?
- Will the pet sitter provide related services such as in-home grooming, dog walking, dog training and play time?
- Will the pet sitter provide a written service contract spelling out services and fees?
- If the pet sitter provides live-in services, what are the specific times she agrees to be with your pet? Is this detailed in the contract?
- How does your pet sitter make sure that you have returned home?
- Will the pet sitter provide you with the phone numbers of other clients who have agreed to serve as references?



Even if you like what you hear from the pet sitter and from her references, it's important to have the prospective pet sitter come to your home to meet your pet before actually hiring her for a pet-sitting job. Watch how she interacts with your pet—does your pet seem comfortable with the person? If this visit goes well, start by hiring the pet sitter to care for your pet during a short trip, such as a weekend excursion. That way, you can work out any problems before leaving your beloved pet in the pet sitter's care for longer periods.

Helping the pet sitter and your pet

Of course, even the most trustworthy, experienced pet sitter will have trouble if you haven't also kept your end of the bargain. Here are your responsibilities:

- Make reservations with your pet sitter early, especially during holidays.
- Ensure your pet is well socialized and allows strangers to handle him.
- Affix current identification tags to your pet's collar.
- Maintain current vaccinations for your pet.
- Leave clear instructions detailing specific pet-care responsibilities and emergency contact information, including how to reach you and your veterinarian.
- Leave pet food and supplies in one place.
- Buy extra pet supplies in case you're away longer than planned.
- Leave a key with a trustworthy neighbor as a backup, and give him and your pet sitter each other's phone numbers. Be sure those extra keys work before giving them out.
- Show the pet sitter your home's important safety features such as the circuit breaker and security system.

Finally, have a safe and fun trip. And remember to bring your pet sitter's phone number in case your plans change—or you just want to find out how Fluffy and Fido are doing.

Source: The Humane Society of the United States



America's Charities helps organizations like the SPCA of Central Florida carry out their mission of promoting responsible human behavior toward animals.

Help America's Charities help the SPCA of Central Florida. Give through America's Charities to the SPCA of Central Florida through your workplace giving campaign.

If you don't have a workplace giving campaign, call 407.971.0955 for more information.

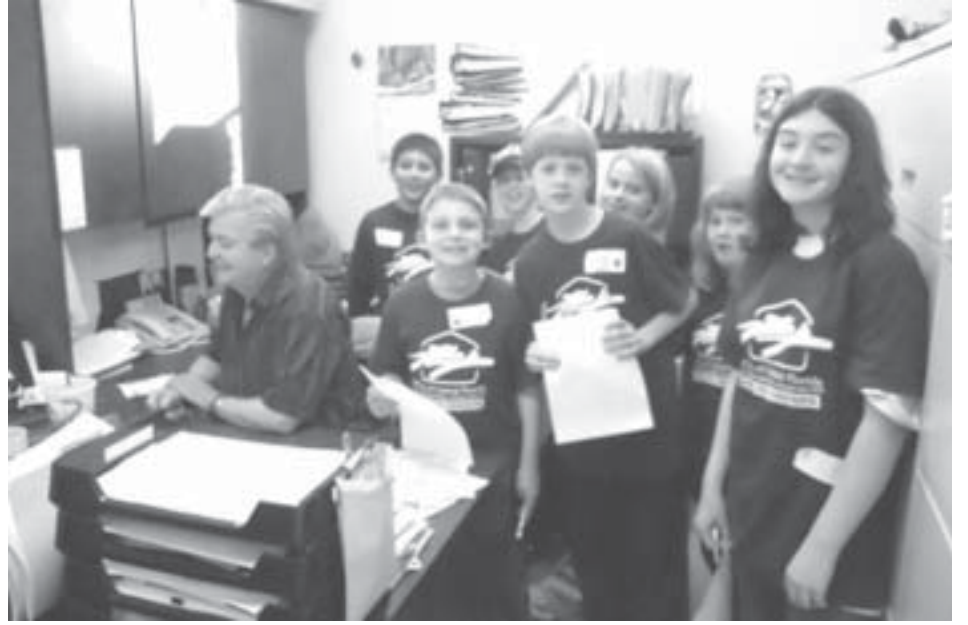
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"ANOTHER SUCCESSFUL HOLIDAY/SHELTER FRIENDS CAMP, DECEMBER 2010"



Merry Christmas Deb!

Thought you'd enjoy these pics of **Daisy Mae** having her first Christmas (I seriously doubt she ever had a Christmas before, from her history). She has been hilarious all day with the stuffed dog, running around the house and throwing it up in the air, sleeping with it, dragging it from room to room. My "seniors" just look at her like they're thinking, "We're much too sophisticated for that!" Pics attached, enjoy!

Jo Ann

Dear Deb,

It warmed my heart to see **Daisy Mae** jump up to kiss you today. I'm so glad y'all had a chance to visit. Also wanted you to know her HW test was negative, YIPPEE!

Forgot to tell you that when I put up my Christmas tree a few days ago, Daisy Mae just sat and stared at it and then started barking at it. I realized she has probably never even seen a Christmas tree. Well, I explained to her that that is where Santa Claus will leave her presents, and now she's patiently waiting for this Santa Claus guy.

Jo Ann

Note from Deb Morrow, Volunteer Manager/Sanford shelter and previously Daisy Mae's foster mom, when Daisy Mae was known as Houdini.

This is just such a cute picture of Daisy Mae (AKA Houdini) with her 2 sisters all curled up sleeping together. She couldn't have gotten a better home. By the way, the brown one was also a rescue from the SPCA. She was a 10 year old dog that Jo Ann adopted (when the dog was 10) from our Orlando shelter.



Yes, I believe in the mission of the SPCA of Central Florida, and I want to help!

Here's my donation of \$_____. Please use this contribution for:

- _____ General care of companion animals
- _____ Annual Membership in SPCA of Central Florida (\$30, \$50, \$100, \$200, \$500)
- _____ Cozy Care Center (treatment of sick sheltered animals)
- _____ Cruelty and neglect investigations
- _____ Pet Food Xpress (pet feeding program for seniors' pets)
- _____ Project F.A.I.T.H. (foster care for the pet victims of families in crisis)
- _____ Shelter spay/neuter program

_____ **I have named the SPCA of Central Florida in my will and/or trust documents.**

- My check (made payable to "SPCA of Central Florida") is enclosed.
- Please charge my: Visa MasterCard Discover American Express

Credit Card Number: _____ Expires: _____

Signature (required): _____

I'd like to do more! To help the pets of our community, I'd like to make a monthly donation of \$_____, through electronic funds transfer, on the _____ day of each month, beginning ____/____/____ and ending ____/____/____.

I understand I may cancel or change this option at any time.

(If you would like more information on the monthly donation option, you may call 407.248.1741 or visit our website at www.OrlandoPets.org)

Name (Please print): _____

Address: _____

City/State/Zip: _____

Home Phone: _____ Work Phone: _____

Fax Number: _____ E-Mail: _____

Contact me with more information on:

- Purchase of memorial tile
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