



Paws & Effect



The Newsletter of the SPCA of Northern Virginia

Winter 2016

The Language of Dogs

What Is Your Dog Trying to Tell You?

♥ BY Lyda Gould

Though many shelters are experiencing a boom in adoptions, too many pets are still being surrendered for a variety of very solvable, common behavioral issues. In the last issue of *Paws & Effect*, we explored some common behavioral issues in cats and their resolution as an alternative to pet surrender. In this issue, we're focusing on dogs.

What Your Dog Needs

Throughout all training, use only positive reinforcement. Never punish your dog for unwanted behavior. Always reinforce good behavior with a reward or praise. Be patient. Any efforts to change behavior will only be successful with consistency and commitment. The issues presented below may take a few days, or even months, to remedy. If you do not feel you are able to manage your dog's issues, or if you are concerned for your safety, we strongly advise you consider hiring a professional trainer or animal behaviorist.

Pulling on a Leash

Dogs pulling while on a leash is a very common problem. While it may seem like this is simply an inconvenient habit, robbing you of a pleasant outing with your dog, it can actually cause injury if the dog pulls you off your feet or yanks your arms when you are holding your child.

In addition, the pressure from pulling can damage your dog's sensitive throat, your shoulders, or your wrists.

Pulling is a natural behavior for your dog. They want to be out there sniffing out all the exciting stuff in their environment. They may even think they need to lead to make sure there are no dangers ahead for you. They don't understand they need to walk *with* you. It's also possible your dog has previously been "rewarded" for pulling. When you allow your dog to pull you to get to a favorite person or pup and they then get petted, loved on, or played with, you have actually rewarded them for the bad behavior. If this has happened, both you and your dog need to be retrained.

For the best leash training, use a sturdy nylon or leather lead. Avoid prong collars, which can be painful and injure your dog; retractable leads, which actually reward your dog for pulling and don't provide good control; and regular harnesses that leash around the chest and clip on the back, which give your dog more power to pull. For truly strong dogs or troublesome cases, consider a front-clip halter or a head halter (not to be confused with a muzzle) to help you manage your dog. Before setting out on your walk, make sure your dog is calm. If they're jumping at the outset, put the leash away and try again later, or get them into a sit-stay before heading out the door. Once outside, find an area with few distractions.



ABOVE: Ernie tears into his favorite ducky. Giving dogs appropriate things to chew will help keep them from going after things like your shoes.

TOP: The right kind of leash and lead, like the nylon one Vito is wearing, will give you the most control over your dog while out walking.

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Finding the 'Perfect Pet'

♥ BY *Dana Meeker*

We all want the “perfect pet,” but what exactly makes a pet “perfect?” The perfect pet could be a painfully shy kitten you worked with to gain their trust until they are purring peacefully on your lap or by your side. Or it could be the mouthy, bossy dog you brought home and trained with patience and kindness until they understood that life is good and a human can be the source of all good things, especially love. Or maybe it's the dog or cat with a chronic illness or physical deformity that just wants to be given a chance to live in a home and do everything they are able to do, often surprisingly more than you first thought possible.

According to Forrest Gump, “Mama always said life was like a box of chocolates. You never know what you're gonna get.” I can say the same thing about animal rescue. While many of our rescues are perfect snuggle bunnies from day one, sometimes a cat, kitten, or dog comes to us with what may seem like less than perfect attributes. However, these are the very animals who need our help – and your love – the most.

In this issue, we'll help you better understand your dog's behavior in our cover story. We'll show you how cats with chronic conditions can give you as much or more than you give them (page 4). And you'll also meet some special cats whose bodies may

not be perfect but whose hearts make them perfect pets (story at right).

With the help of our volunteers – especially Cat Coordinator Kathleen, Lisa at Ragged Mountain Dogs, and our wonderful foster parents – we bring all sorts of cats and dogs into our care, determine their states of health, assess their personalities, and figure out what they like and what they need in their adoptive homes.

We wish you all a peaceful and happy holiday season. Thank you for all your support and for spreading the word about how great it is to adopt a rescued animal. Why not spend some extra time with your animal companions to let them know you're thankful to have them with you.



SPCA of Northern Virginia
P.O. Box 100220
Arlington, VA 22210-3220
(703) 799-9390
information@spcanova.org
www.spcanova.org

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The SPCA of Northern Virginia is a volunteer-based, non-profit rescue organization. We rely solely on membership dues, donations and various fundraising activities for revenue. Our voluntary Board of Directors, committee members, and volunteers are responsible for all SPCA activities. We do not have a shelter facility and depend on foster parents to care for domestic animals until adoption.

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Do More 24 Update

Thanks to the generosity of our donors on June 2 during Do More 24, a local movement powered by the United Way of the National Capital Area, we were able to present the Anicura Veterinary Center with \$4,252 for the SPCA of Northern Virginia's Spay Inc. Assistance Grant. This grant subsidized very low-cost cat and dog spay/neuter surgeries where guardians demonstrated financial need.

The overwhelming response quickly exhausted the fund! In the end, guardians of 39 pets were able to spay or neuter their pets for just \$25. This covered eight canine spays, 12 canine neuters, nine feline spays, and 10 feline neuters. We were very happy to demonstrate our commitment to preventing needless euthanasia due to pet overpopulation.



From Heartbreak to Triumph

♥ BY *Hillary Haag*

In 2016, more than 300 cats and kittens were rescued by SPCA NOVA. Unfortunately, many of them arrived in heartbreaking conditions – sick, injured, or too young to fend for themselves. These cats came to us with broken bones and other injuries, as well as illnesses caused by bacteria, viruses, and parasites; and some even arrived with broken spirits. However, with the support of our network of volunteers, foster families, veterinary and rescue partners, and donors, SPCA NOVA made a big difference for many of these cats. Here are three of their stories:

Luke

Luke, an 8-month-old orange tabby, was rescued and taken to a local shelter by a



Luke recovers from surgery. He has since learned to walk again on only three legs.

good Samaritan who found him on the side of a rural road with an injury to his front left leg. A local vet determined Luke had likely been shot. Amputation was deemed the best option, so the shelter contacted SPCA NOVA for support. We agreed, and a partner vet performed the surgery. While Luke was recovering in his foster home, he instantly bonded with another foster cat named Peanut. Learning to walk on three legs was a challenge, but Luke eventually became a very mobile teenager. Luke and Peanut were eventually adopted together by a family whose son has a limb disability. Their hope for their son is that a cat with similar challenges will provide emotional support for him. It's orange tabby luck – it took a miserable experience for Luke to find his BFFF (best feline friend forever!) and a perfect forever home.

Sophie

Sophie, a 5-week-old Siamese-mix kitten, was trapped during a Trap-Neuter-Return (TNR) effort in Loudoun County. With a ruptured eye and severe upper respiratory infection, Sophie was deemed too sick to undergo anesthesia by the veterinarian at the TNR clinic. Sophie's future didn't look promising



ABOVE: Quiggley may not have a tail, but he definitely has a playful spirit.

ABOVE LEFT: Sophie has made a forever friend in her new forever home.

until the owner of the clinic reached out to SPCA NOVA for help. We agreed to help this beautiful little girl, and she underwent surgery three days later to remove her painful, badly-damaged eye. Sophie was fostered by a doting licensed veterinary technician, and after a long recovery, was ultimately adopted by her foster mom! Sophie only has good days to look forward to in her safe, loving indoor world.

Quiggley

Quiggley, a 6-week-old brown tabby fluffball kitten, was brought to a local shelter with a badly mangled tail. The shelter manager knew they wouldn't be able to fund surgery to remove his tail, so she contacted SPCA NOVA for help. He was brought to a partner vet office, and upon examination, it was discovered that most of his infected tail was dead, falling off in segments. It was

also discovered that the infection had traveled to his pelvis. Quiggley underwent surgery to remove what was left of his tail and was given a long recovery period with strict cage rest to allow his body time to mend. Upon medical clearance from the veterinarian, Quiggley joined an active foster household with canine and feline friends, and he hasn't stopped playing and purring! Quiggley is now available for adoption.

Sadly, there are cats and kittens in need of rescue everywhere. SPCA NOVA is fortunate to have so many dedicated volunteers and foster families, along with support and partnerships with local vets and fellow rescue organizations to help some of these broken cats mend and find loving forever homes of their own.

It Takes a Special Kind of Love

♥ **BY Katie McHenry**

Most of the cats SPCA NOVA takes in are strays or cats released to our care from local shelters, many of which are also former strays. We focus on strays – often kittens or young mothers – because they need our help the most, and we want to help decrease the overpopulation of cats by taking in those who haven't been spayed/neutered yet. Sometimes our rescued cats are sick and injured and need only short-term care before finding their forever homes (like Luke, Sophie, and Quiggley on page 3). In other cases, our strays are older cats or cats with chronic illnesses, and these “special needs” cats need longer-term support.

However, just because special needs cats need extra attention doesn't mean you have to be an expert to foster or adopt one; you just need to have an open heart and be willing to learn. I know this both from firsthand experience and from what other foster parents have shared with me.

Despite having grown up with cats since I was in preschool, in hindsight, I can honestly say I was a feline novice prior

to fostering several special needs cats. However, each new special needs cat I have fostered has been a great opportunity to further my own education. Here's what I've learned about some of the more common special needs some cats may have.

FIV (Feline Immunodeficiency Virus)

I've been fostering cats for SPCA NOVA for almost 10 years now, and of the nearly 20 cats I've fostered, three have been diagnosed as FIV positive. The first, Kango (formerly “Jack”), was among my first fosters – and he is still thriving in his forever home to this very day! The other two, Biscuit and Ozzy, are my current foster cats, and as it pertains to their FIV diagnoses, both remain in good health.

According to Cornell's Feline Health Center, anywhere from 1.5 percent to 3 percent of otherwise healthy cats in the United States have FIV, or the feline immunodeficiency virus. Because FIV is almost exclusively

transmitted via deep bite wounds, young male cats with outdoor access are most at risk for contracting the disease.

The only way to know for sure if your cat is FIV positive is to have your vet test their blood for the presence of antibodies. However, if the test comes back positive, don't panic! FIV positive cats can live long, healthy, normal lives – as long as you stay on top of their health.

As the disease gradually progresses, FIV-positive cats may experience immunodeficiency symptoms such as inflammation of the gums (gingivitis), weight loss, diarrhea and upper respiratory infections. In the case of gingivitis, your cat may need one or several of their teeth removed. Ozzy has had some of his teeth removed, but minus his missing an upper fang, you'd never know the difference. For FIV-positive cats with upper respiratory infections, a vet can prescribe nose drops, antibiotics, or antivirals. For FIV-positive cats with diarrhea, your vet will determine the best course of action (change in diet, antacids, anti-inflammatories, etc.) based on the underlying cause. From my own experience, out of the three FIV-positive cats I've fostered, only Ozzy has exhibited any FIV

symptoms – which were resolved by extracting a few of his teeth.

Keep in mind, FIV is a lentivirus – or slow virus – so these symptoms usually won't appear for years. If and when they do, it's important to make an appointment with your vet as soon as possible.

Inflammatory Bowel Disease (IBD)

In cats, the term “inflammatory bowel disease” – or IBD – actually refers to multiple disorders (rather than one single disease) that cause inflammation of the gastrointestinal tract. Symptoms can include vomiting, diarrhea, weight loss, and lethargy; and causes can range from genetics to food allergies to bacterial infections.

Usually, your vet will begin with an elimination diet to see if your cat has a food allergy. This simply means limiting the ingredients in your cat's diet. For instance, if your cat has been eating a chicken and corn diet, the vet might put them on a duck and potato diet. If the elimination diet has no effect, the vet will likely attempt to treat the underlying cause with drugs – usually corticosteroids to reduce inflammation. It's important to understand that while feline IBD cannot be cured, it can be treated.



Biscuit is in good health despite being FIV positive.

One SPCA foster cat, Qian, came into our care three years ago. At the time, we thought she was only about three years old and in good health.

However, within a couple of months, Qian started losing weight and began having diarrhea. We suspected IBD, and per the vet's instruction, we tried changing Qian's diet, using a dewormer, and administering anti-inflammatory medicines and antibiotics, among other trials. Eventually, Qian's blood work revealed she also had hyperthyroidism.

Hyperthyroidism

Because hyperthyroidism is common in older cats, we adjusted Qian's estimated age closer to eight. While many cats respond well to medication (Tapazole), this wasn't effective for Qian, so she underwent Radiocat treatment, which worked very well. Radiocat is radioiodine therapy that eliminates the benign tumors that



Qian has a happy forever home with someone who cares for her special needs.

cause hyperthyroidism with injections and a few days of monitoring – no surgery or pills required. After about a month, the thyroid typically returns to normal, which is what happened with Qian.

Following Qian's successful Radiocat therapy, she still had some vomiting and weight loss, so we treated her with hypoallergenic food, Pepcid, Reglan, and Prednisolone for six months. After feeling pretty confident she was stable, Qian was weaned off all her medications except Prednisolone. Today, she is happy, healthy and receiving minimal vet care. She's at a good weight with no vomiting or diarrhea, and she has been adopted by her foster mom, Jessica!

Treatment for both hyperthyroidism and IBD will be a mixture of trial and error, but once you find the right approach, the solution can be very effective.

Diabetes

According to Pets.WebMD.com, up to 2 percent of the U.S. feline population has diabetes, which is the body's inability to produce enough insulin to remove glucose from the blood. Diabetes tends to affect cats that are both overweight and older, and, according to Cornell's Feline Health Center, males are more likely to be affected.

Symptoms of diabetes

often include increased thirst and urination, weight loss and a ravenous appetite. If you notice any of these signs, it's important that you take your cat to the vet immediately for an examination that will include a glucometer reading to evaluate blood sugar levels in your cat.

If your cat has diabetes, the vet will recommend a low-carb diet, and you'll need to give them an insulin injection twice a day. Recently, my foster cat Ozzy was diagnosed with diabetes. Ozzy's vet had me practice inserting the needle when we were at the animal clinic – but once we got home, I was on my own. I used to be a squeamish girl who had to look at the ceiling while getting blood drawn. After giving Ozzy my first solo insulin shot, it became easier and easier. Now, it's just a routine – I tend to do it while he's eating, and he never seems to notice the shot. And trust me, if I can do it, anyone can!

Special Needs Cats Offer Special Rewards

Fostering animals, especially those with special needs, ranks among the top roles for me with "on-the-job-learning." After all, these cats have relied on me to not only feed and give



Ozzy has recently been diagnosed with diabetes, but he takes it in stride.

them shelter but also to keep tabs on their health, test for food allergies, administer medications, weigh them regularly, and research each disease for my own education. These experiences have been invaluable to my own personal growth. If I can master insulin injections, goodness only knows what the future has in store for me!

In other words, although I've helped each of my foster cats on their journey, each cat has helped me on my own. And I suspect other foster parents, and those who have adopted special needs cats, have experienced the same rewards.

If you're not ready to foster or adopt a special needs cat, you can still help. You can become a Cat Guardian Angel whose financial contribution helps us provide medical care for specific cats and kittens with special needs. Learn more at: www.spcanova.org/help/guardianangels_cats2.php. And any donation to SPCA NOVA helps support all of our programs, including paying the medical costs of foster cats with special needs.

The first method to try is a very simple, passive approach. Whenever the dog pulls, stop walking and wait for the leash to relax before walking again. It's that simple. Do this until the dog no longer pulls. If this is too passive for you, try the reverse direction method in which you stop, give an excited "let's go" command, and immediately reverse direction from where the dog is pulling. You may also combine these two methods into a stop-stand-change direction method whereby you stop, stand in place, and move in a new direction only when the dog is still and calm. This will have to be repeated a number of times at first, and you may feel as though you are not actually even walking because you're turning or stopping continuously. However, if you are consistent and committed, the dog will catch on. Always praise and reward when your dog makes eye contact with you and when they follow your lead.

Note, it is important to compromise on sniffing and, of course, going to the bathroom. A dog may have to pull away from you to engage in sniffing behavior – akin to our texting – which is completely normal and should be allowed.

Some dogs, particularly hounds, will actually sniff more than they walk.

Jumping on People

Jumping is how friendly dogs greet each other, so it's natural for your dog to try to do this with people they love or want to get to know. There's no question it's cute when they're puppies, but allowing your dog to jump on people will eventually become a problem, especially around children or the elderly. Often it is exacerbated by dog-friendly visitors who unwittingly encourage the dog to jump up to greet them face to face or insist they "don't mind" if the dog jumps on them. It is our responsibility to let it be known that jumping is never allowed. The mantra here is "all four on the floor."

This is an easy one to practice at home, or with a willing friend. Generally, you want your dog to sit before giving them attention, so practice the "Sit" command extensively with your dog. The distraction of a human that your dog loves ups the ante. Reward your dog for a "Sit" when a friend approaches and withdraw the friend when your dog jumps. Whenever the dog jumps up, withdraw or ignore them. Your dog does not get attention until all

four paws, and preferably butt, are on the floor. You can reward with a treat, hugs, kisses, pets, praise; but once they jump again, stand up, withdraw, and ignore. You can even turn your back if you need to, but if your dog is too excited, they could still jump up or nip to get attention. This exercise will need to be repeated many times over, and for a dog who has been jumping up for many years, this will need continuous practice. Be consistent! If you or a friend indulge them even once, they won't understand why this time it is OK to jump up but other times it's not.

House Training

Dogs and puppies do not naturally know they are supposed to do their business outside. It is our job to teach them to tell us when they need to go and to take them outside. Before beginning potty training, be sure there are no incontinence issues or medications, like steroids, that are known to cause frequent urination. You should plan on taking your dog out to potty upon waking, shortly after meals, after playtime, as soon as you return from work, and before bed. Do not withhold water as this can lead to medical problems. If you work long hours, consider hiring

someone to walk your dog during the day while you are away.

Crate training or keeping your dog in a gated area of the house until house training is complete will assist in a successful result. Dogs are motivated to keep their living area clean. They are far less likely to soil the same area where they are sleeping. When you come home, let the dog out of the crate and immediately direct them outside to relieve themselves. When you do take your dog out, tell them to "go pee" or "potty" and take them to the same spot every time. If they smell where they've urinated before, they'll be more likely to go in the same place every time, forming a habit. When they do go to the bathroom outside, make a big deal of it. Shower your dog with praise and continue to use the vocabulary that signals what they are doing is good. Conversely, when accidents happen inside, do not scold your dog. They're still learning, and it may mean you need to adjust the potty schedule. Just clean it up with a strong product so as to remove any evidence, try to figure out what happened, and move on.

Be aware that puppy mill and pet shop dogs may be especially difficult

to housetrain. For these, you may need to consult a trainer for help.

Destructive Behavior when Home Alone

According to the ASPCA “one of the most common complaints of pet parents is that their dogs are disruptive or destructive when left alone.” Activities such as chewing, digging, howling, barking, or inappropriate elimination are just some of examples of bad house manners.

First, we should differentiate between bad house manners and separation anxiety. Patricia McConnell’s booklet “I’ll Be Home Soon” does an excellent job of explaining the difference. Bad house manners are a behavioral/training issue. Separation anxiety is a serious emotional issue and may require the help of a professional dog trainer. Here, we’ll address bad house manners.

There’s no need to feel guilty about leaving your dog at home while you are out “bringing home the bacon.” Your dog is safe and snug, has a cushy bed, toys, and fresh water while you’re stressed out at work. Avoid being overly dramatic when you leave the house or return home. Keep it low key with a calm, loving “Bye bye” and “Hi there.”

Your goal should be to teach your dog good house manners so they can have free run of

the house during the day. Crate training until that is accomplished may be necessary. You should make sure you are providing your dog with the level of exercise and activity that is appropriate for their age and breed. No amount of training will compensate for a bored, high-energy dog.

If your dog is eliminating around the house while you are away, it’s time to step back and revisit house training. If it’s a new occurrence in a previously housetrained dog, perhaps a visit to the vet is called for.

Chewing is a normal dog behavior. Dogs, like small children, discover their world with their noses and mouths. Tearing the stuffing out of toys or sofa cushions is a blast! How are they supposed to know that the pretty sofa pillow or chair leg isn’t something they are supposed to chew on? Redirection is your job. Provide your dog with something really irresistible to chew on, like a Sterile Beef Bone or Kong toy stuffed with their favorite filling, such as cheese, peanut butter, or liverwurst. Calmly provide one just before you leave the house. Provide a treat-dispensing toy in the house for them to find and play with while you are gone. Use deterrents such as Bitter Apple, spiky carpet runners, or Boundary Dog Repellent to keep your dog

away from things they shouldn’t chew on.

Some dogs just naturally bark more than others but your dog’s constant barking while you are at work can lead to troubles with neighbors and landlords. One reason for barking may be because your dog is guarding your house.

If they have access to a window on a busy street, they may bark at anything that goes by or approaches the house. They bark; the perceived intruder leaves; mission accomplished; and the behavior is established. Consider housing your dog in an area of the house where they won’t have access to this kind of stimuli. You might want to put security cameras around the house to see what time of day your dog gets excited and what is going on at that time. Music to block out some disturbing sounds is another option.

Many dogs are calmer in their crates or in a smaller, confined space than in large open spaces. If you want your dog to think of their crate as their beloved, comfy den, make sure you never use crate time as a punishment. Combined with the ratcheting down of the drama of leaving, confinement of your dog in a crate with their favorite toy and bed while you

are at work may be just the ticket to keeping the destructive behavior at bay. Just be sure that your dog’s crate time is as short as possible. Give them run of the house as soon as they can be trusted for as long as possible.

Escape Artists

When dogs try to escape, it’s generally because they are bored, feel isolated, or have a desire to mate (if they haven’t been spayed/neutered). Some dogs are born escape artists. They know how to find the one weakness in your chain link, or the chipmunk hole under your wooden fence, or they bolt for the door at precisely the moment you open it. The best solution in this case is prevention. Hopefully, if you’ve adopted your dog, you were given fair warning if the shelter had records from a previous owner or shelter staff witnessed the dog’s



Naomi used to be quite an escape artist, but now her wanderings are limited to supervised outside time.

tendencies to escape. When outside with your dog, even if you have a fenced yard, it is highly recommended that you leash them and stay with them. Consider creating a double-door system either in your fence outside or inside at the doors of your home using baby gates. For some dogs, having a leash on even while you are with them inside the house is recommended. If you know you'll be having visitors, put the dog in another room until everyone has left. Don't count on being able to hold their collar while you open the door and greet your guests.

When walking your dog, here are a couple of recommendations: First, you know that loop handle at the end of the leash? Instead of holding it in your fingers, put your whole hand through so it sits on your wrist, then hold on to the length of the leash. Second, try using a waist leash that ties around your waist instead of being held in the hand.

Be especially vigilant when children are around. Repeat and ingrain in your kids the importance of keeping doors closed to keep the dog safe. If you know you have a dog who bolts on a leash, it may be better to have a policy of only allowing adults to walk the dog.

Food/Resource Guarding

Resource guarding is normal dog behavior. According to the ASPCA "wild animals who successfully protect their valuable resources are more likely to survive...." However, in the home, this behavior can be dangerous around people and other pets.

Resource guarding can vary from a relatively benign issue of coveting a favorite toy to violent aggression over toys, treats, or food. If you are concerned your dog's resource guarding behavior could lead to physical harm, we recommend you seek professional guidance before attempting your own training exercises. Most trainers will use a combination of counterconditioning and desensitization exercises to remove the dog's attachment to items. Methods used are generally carried out in stages.

If you currently have a dog with food aggression, always be sure to feed them without any other pets or children around, preferably in a quiet part of the house. If a favorite toy is the focus of the guarding behavior, note that removing it or throwing it away will likely result in a transfer of focus to another item. It is important that the behavior itself be addressed. The ASPCA website offers

a helpful guide for first steps as well as resources for professional help, if needed.

Don't Give Up

Dogs behavior is based on instinct, and sometimes their behavior leads to chewed up shoes, peed-on rugs, and our own frayed nerves. However, humans domesticated dogs thousands of years ago, so they now also have a strong instinct to obey their leaders (you), which makes them very trainable. For the vast majority of canine behavioral issues, there are answers – it's just a matter of understanding your dog's behavior and finding the right solution.

Please don't give up too quickly or decide that giving up your dog is the right choice. Taking your dog to a shelter could mean your dog will be euthanized when all that's needed is for you to understand what your dog is trying to tell you.

You can find additional canine behavioral resources at various online resources, and SPCA NOVA lists a few resources at www.spcanova.org/health/caninehealth.php. Additionally, if you're considering giving up your dog for a behavior-related issue, please contact us at information@spcanova.org to see if we can offer suggestions for resolving the issue.

2017 Dog Adoption Fairs

Weber's Pet Supermarket

11021 Lee Hwy
Fairfax, VA 22030
(703) 385-3766

Saturdays

January

14 & 28 ... 12:30 to 3 p.m.

February

11 & 25..... 12:30 to 3 p.m.

March

11 & 25..... 12:30 to 3 p.m.

April

8 & 22..... 12:30 to 3 p.m.

May

61 to 3:30 p.m.
20 12:30 to 3 p.m.

June

10 & 24 ... 12:30 to 3 p.m.

July

8 & 22..... 12:30 to 3 p.m.

August

12 & 26.... 12:30 to 3 p.m.

September

91 to 3:30 p.m.
23..... 12:30 to 3 p.m.

October

14 & 28 ... 12:30 to 3 p.m.

November

4 & 18 12:30 to 3 p.m.

December

9 12:30 to 3 p.m.

Schedule is subject to change, so please check our website for updates.



Gifts in Remembrance

SPCA NoVA welcomes donations made in memory or honor of someone special in your life. Please include the name and address of the person you would like notified of your donation, along with the name of the person or pet being remembered or honored.

In Memory of

- ♥ **“Bonnie,” a lifesaver with an incredibly big heart**
~ Lois Stover
- ♥ **“Clarence” Collins, former Lorton prison cat**
~ Dana Meeker
- ♥ **“Cubby” Balkin**
~ Jennifer Lebin
- ♥ **“Draper”**
~ James Tucker
- ♥ **“Georgia” Ragone**
~ Holly & Buddy Young
- ♥ **“Hanibal”**
~ Christa Biber
- ♥ **“Lucy” Graves, a very special and precious boxer**
~ Don & Pat Hill
- ♥ **“Mars” Adcock**
~ Margaret Caulk
- ♥ **“Mickey”**
~ Jennifer Scro
- ♥ **“Mocha” & “Tiger” MacKinnon**
~ Heather E. & John Rainbolt
- ♥ **“Molsen” Mount Miller**
~ Alice Meyer
- ♥ **“Muffin”**
~ Alice Katz
- ♥ **“Muffy”**
~ Margaret & Peter Brown
- ♥ **“Ozzy” McHenry**
~ Kathleen MacKinnon
~ Billy McFarland
~ Molly & Albert McHenry
~ Dana Meeker
~ Leslie & Danny Torbett
- ♥ **“Patience” Berry**
~ Kathleen MacKinnon
- ♥ **“Peanut” Wolfe-Perry**
~ Barbara Gist
- ♥ **“Pebbles”**
~ Regina Gustavsson
- ♥ **“Pinky/Mickey” Gould-Franz**
~ Dana Meeker
- ♥ **“Princess” Maiwurm**
~ Jan Mason
- ♥ **“Sally” Moore, former Lorton prison cat**
~ Dana Meeker
- ♥ **“Tipper”**
~ Richard & Joann Ackerman
- ♥ **Alicia C. Schuck**
~ David & Bonnie Sheehan
- ♥ **Audrey’s Beloved Cat “Ocie”**
~ Susan Medick
- ♥ **Brad Uhlman**
~ Hillary Butler
- ♥ **Heidi, we miss you**
~ Stephen Chan
- ♥ **Jackie**
~ David & Karin Hagan
- ♥ **Jeannette C. Cibinic**
~ Mary Ann Kopec Allen
- ♥ **John Austin Buchanan**
~ Tom & Jennie Abner
- ♥ **Noah**
~ Yin Chan
- ♥ **Pamela Sue Conyers Bauckman**
~ Holly Mossman
- ♥ **Robert Howard**
~ Melissa Martin
- ♥ **Rudy Velasquez, dearly loved**
~ Cecilia Laviolette
- ♥ **Ruth Ann Bantom**
~ Joanna Kamerer

In Honor of

- ♥ **“Angie” & “Bonnie”**
~ Janice E. Seeger & Cliff Shaw
- ♥ **“Annie,” the beagle**
~ Daniel Sahr
- ♥ **“Denver” & “Autumn”**
~ Lauren & Andrew Doucette-Wright
- ♥ **“JahMon” von Bernewitz**
~ Carol Kerins
- ♥ **“Jerry”**
~ Matthew & Kerenza Jerbi
- ♥ **“Mango” & “Dash”**
~ Angel & David Fischer
- ♥ **“Patton” & “Eisenmeower”**
~ Kimberly Jackson
- ♥ **“Petey”**
~ Patricia Broida
- ♥ **April Northrop**
~ Jenna Briggs
- ♥ **Barbara, Larry, & Teddy Clark**
~ Rachelle Palley
- ♥ **Cat Guardian Angel Program**
~ Marc Gasbarro
- ♥ **Catherine DeBritz**
~ Christopher Lupone
- ♥ **Cindy Berry**
~ Crystal Peters
- ♥ **Columbia Pike Animal Hospital & Dr. Kirchart**
~ Christa Biber
- ♥ **Cooper Patterson**
~ Virginia Orr
- ♥ **Faith Swennes, Happy Mother’s Day**
~ Robert Swennes
- ♥ **For Hamilton, Sadie, Maddie, & Grayson**
~ Sarah Dean
- ♥ **Gilbert (Gilly) Lockwood**
~ Karen & Jim Lockwood
- ♥ **Grandma Julie Keeler**
~ Kristy Pellerito
- ♥ **Gretchen Albers**
~ Gloria Veitl
- ♥ **Hillary Haag, thank you for getting me through**
~ Colleen Coghlan
- ♥ **My dear friend Arlene Cooper**
~ Gabriela Fabiana Marani
- ♥ **Israel Nares**
~ John M. Vaughn
- ♥ **JT Bock’s Birthday**
~ Chris Prochaska
- ♥ **Jake, Skittles, & Brumble**
~ Joseph Henle
- ♥ **John Day’s birthday**
~ Shirley Hobart
- ♥ **KM running the Marine Corps Marathon**
~ David & Bonnie Sheehan
- ♥ **Pat Hiltibidal**
~ Ivy Cheung
~ Varsha Gopal
~ Rong Lu
~ Charlotte Taupin
~ Joann Winterle
- ♥ **S&S appreciate M&M**
~ Sunny Ho
- ♥ **Silvia Galluch**
~ Andrea Boron
- ♥ **The Marriage of Devashree Gupta & Bob Gaines**
~ Stephen Watts
- ♥ **The marriage of Gina Genovese & Sebastian (Ben) Talotta**
~ Tom & Caroline Croswell
~ Shauna Ferguson
~ Mary Gerrity
~ Andrew Hnatiw
~ Fritz Kummer
~ Maryann Welsh
- ♥ **The marriage of Steve Ross & Sunny Ho**
~ Tshuan Fan
~ Jean Parcher
- ♥ **Winnie McLaughlin**
~ Alisa Strittmatter

Special Thanks

THANK YOU TO the following corporations and their employees for their Employee Giving and Matching Gifts Programs:

- IBM
- Allstate
- ECHO, the Employees Charity Organization of Northrop Grumman
- FM Global Foundation

THANK YOU TO all of our supporters who contribute through workplace giving under:

- America's Charities
- Combined Federal Campaign (CFC)
- Commonwealth of Virginia Campaign (CVC)
- Global Impact
- Local United Way campaigns

WE THANK

PATRICIA (Patsy) Leininger for her ongoing support of our Spay, Inc. program. Patsy donates all proceeds from the Canine Good Citizen certification tests she administers to our Spay, Inc. program.

EMMA REQUESTED

THAT her 4th birthday party guests bring donations for SPCA animals. They responded with gusto, bringing dog beds, toys, bowls, and treats to celebrate Emma and the rescue of our wonderful dogs and cats.

GINA GENOVESE

AND Sebastien (Ben) Talotta requested that their wedding guests make the world a better place by making a donation to the SPCA of Northern Virginia.

CARRIE SCHEIDT GOES

all out for her Kentucky Derby viewing party, inviting her many friends, laying out a beautiful spread, holding best tie and best hat contests, and raising funds for a favorite charity. SPCA NOVA was the featured charity for this year's running of the Derby, and we thank Carrie and her guests for the fun time and for their generosity.

WE THANK OUR

adoption partner, Pet Valu, their employees, and customers for their generosity. We received a generous gift of \$6,000, the proceeds from the sale of their calendars. In addition, customer donations made possible a check for \$829 during the Paws 2016 campaign.

WE SEND OUR

thanks to the Petco Foundation for its Spring A Pet fundraising campaign and to Petco associates and customers who helped make the campaign a huge success for SPCA NOVA and other Petco adoption partners.

FOR THEIR PARTY to celebrate their graduation from elementary school, friends Larissa and Kayla asked guests to bring supplies for rescued SPCA animals. Going all out, guests made their purchases and packaged them in pretty gift bags. The girls delivered the resultant hoard of supplies to a Weber's dog adoption day in July. They brought cat and dog food and treats, cat litter, pretty bowls, lots of leashes and collars, and plenty of toys to keep our doggie friends entertained until they are adopted.

STEVE ROSS AND

Sunny Ho have shared the joy of their wedding day with animals in need by requesting that family and friends make a donation to the SPCA of Northern Virginia.

THE 2016 YELPER

party theme was Cirque du Yelp. Held August 18, the party at the Clarendon Ballroom in Arlington raised over \$2,100 for SPCA NOVA's rescue efforts.

WE ARE GRATEFUL

for the following bequests:

- Estate of Margaret M. Fitch

FOR THEIR PBL

project, the 3rd grade class in Emerick Elementary School in Purcellville organized an in-school lemonade sale. The students did it all – from inception and planning, selecting a charity to receive the proceeds, to marketing, to finances. On June 2, during a special assembly, the students from the 3rd grade class presented SPCA NOVA with a check for \$339.90 and a pile of dog and cat supplies they'd purchased with some of the proceeds. It was truly an honor to meet these bright, motivated young people to thank them personally.



Lindsay and Hollyn prepare to serve lemonade to thirty patrons.

Cat & Kitten Adoptions

Purcellville Pet Valu (Fridays thru Mondays)

120 Purcellville Gateway Drive, Suite A/B
Purcellville, VA 20132
(540) 441-7637

Falls Church PetValu (Saturdays & Sundays)

Graham Park Plaza, 7249 Arlington Blvd.
Falls Church, VA 22042
(703) 942-8796

Stop by during store hours to see some of our cats or arrange in advance via spcanova@aol.com to meet an SPCA volunteer there (*handling of cats only when volunteer present*).

YES!

I want to help rescue animals in Northern Virginia.

Your tax-deductible donation to **SPCA of Northern Virginia** makes it possible for us to rescue animals in need, provide them with shelter and nutritious food, medical care, training, and nurturing care, all in preparation for adoptions into homes of their own. Thank you for being a force for animal welfare with your generosity!



Give a Homeless Animal A Second Chance



Donation Amount:

- \$25 \$50 \$75
- \$100 \$250 \$500
- Other: \$ _____

Memorial Gifts:

- In Memory of:

- In Honor of:

- Please send me information on how to leave a bequest to SPCA NOVA.

Name: _____

Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

E-mail: _____

Sign me up for your: e-Newsletter Print Newsletter

Make checks payable to **SPCA of Northern Virginia** and mail to:
SPCA of Northern Virginia, P.O. Box 100220, Arlington, VA 22210

If your company participates with the United Way or the Combined Federal Campaign (CFC), designate donation to "Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals of Northern Virginia."



United Way of the National Capital Area
United Way NCA Designation Code 8155



CFC Designation Code 94873

If your company participates with the America's Charities Campaign, you can donate to the SPCA of Northern Virginia, #19137.

The SPCA of Northern Virginia is an IRS-registered 501(c)(3) charity, EIN 54-1627788, listed under the name Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals of Northern Virginia.

Dog Wash a Big Splash

The annual SPCA of Northern Virginia Dog Wash Fundraiser is always a big splash (pun intended). Generally held at the end of summer, it provides a chance for many adopters to return to the Weber's Pet Supermarket parking lot, site of their adoptions, with their wonderful dogs. It's so gratifying and exciting to see how our dogs have come so far from their days immediately following rescue to being pampered, cherished pets. Some dogs enjoy the wash more than others, but we work with each guardian to provide the most enjoyable experience possible. At our 18th Annual Dog Wash on August 20, we caught up with several alums, including Kermit and Boone, Charlie, Fresco, and Reilly; as well as a few Ragged Mountain Dog alums, including Clyde, Mac, and Jill.

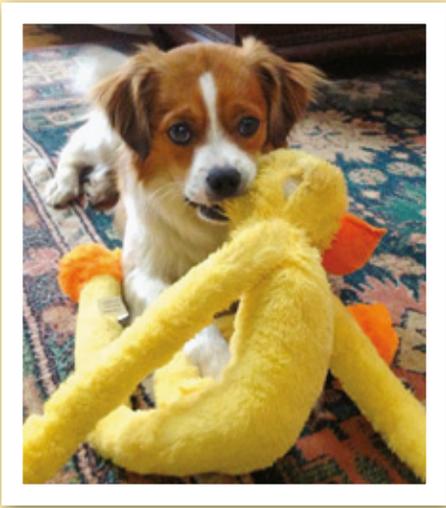




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Learning the Language of Dogs

Address behavior you don't understand to keep you and your dog happy together

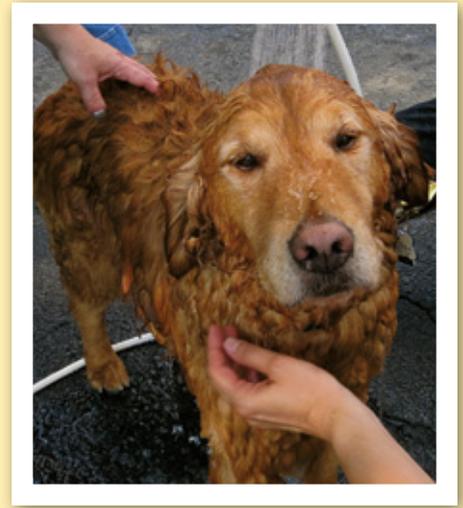
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Healing Wounds and Mending Souls

Stories of three cats we rescued this year

page 3



Pampering Dogs for a Good Cause

Our 18th Annual Dog Wash brought back old friends and raised money

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