



American Pet

CATS, DOGS, FERRETS AND MORE

Magazine™

2015
v4i3

**ONE PET AT A TIME..
ONE DAY AT A TIME..
ONE LIFE AT A TIME..
YOUR VOICE MATTERS!**

NATIONAL BLACK CAT DAY
NATIONAL DAY OF THE HORSE
NATIONAL EPILEPSY AWARENESS

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The Publisher's Note

From The Desk of the Editor



GypsyPrince

3/95 - 6/13

♥
Dedicated to
the Black Cats
of KarpKatz,
Sorry, PeanutButter!



Tuffy

1973 - 1981

♥
November 17th
National
Black Cat Day

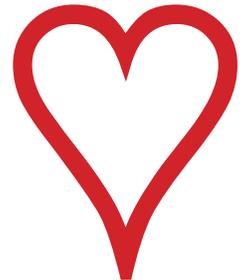


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MonkeyChow

6/01 - 4/02



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One Life at a Time..Your Voice Matters!

Have an AmericanPet Day!!

*Thank you again and HAPPY READING! #Meow #Woof
#Rescue #Adopt #Foster #NoKill*

*SUZIN
KARP*

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CONTENTS



On the Cover
HALEY
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FEATURES

- | | | | |
|-----------|--------------------------------|-----------|-----------------------------|
| 6 | Black is the New Dog | 18 | Walking Health Benefits |
| 10 | Facts About
Canine Epilepsy | 20 | Titus Barks |
| 13 | Halloween Safety Tips | 24 | Ruby Roo |
| 14 | Raw Feeding for Ferrets | 27 | Sammy Shelter Project |
| 17 | National Black Cat Day | 28 | Dougal Changed the
World |

DEPARTMENTS

- | | | | |
|----------|-----------------------|-----------|-----------------------------|
| 2 | The Publisher's Note | 22 | GypsyPrince's
Playground |
| 4 | Pet Celebrations | 23 | PeanutButter PURRS |
| 5 | Sponsors/Contributors | 30 | Best in Print |
| 8 | Business Marketplace | 32 | Social Media |



SEE PAGE 23

**HEIDI NEEDS
A FOREVER HOME**

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PET CELEBRATIONS

SEPTEMBER

- 8 National Pet Memorial Day
- 24 Rabbit Day
- 22-28 National Dog Week
- 23-29 National Farm Animals Awareness

OCTOBER

- Halloween and Halloween Safety Month
- National Animal Safety & Protection Month
- National Animal Wellness Month
- National Service Dog Month
- Adopt-a-Shelter-Dog Month
- World Animal Month
- 1-10 National Walk Your Dog Week
- 2 World Farm Animals Day
- 6-12 Animal Welfare Week
- 4 World Day for Animals
- 9 National Pet Obesity Awareness Day
- 16 National Feral Cat Day (nationalferalcatday.org)
- 13-19 National Veterinary Technician
- 21 Reptile Awareness Day
- 29 National Cat Day (nationalcatday.org)

NOVEMBER

- Adopt-a-Senior-Pet Month
- National Pitbull Awareness Month
- National Epilepsy Awareness Month
- Pet Cancer Awareness Month
- Pet Diabetes Month
- 4 - 10 National Animal Shelter Appreciation Week
- 17 National Black Cat Day

DECEMBER

- 2 National Mutt Day
- 13 National Day of the Horse
- 15 Cat Herders Day

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BLACK IS THE NEW DOG: *Cheer For The Underdog*



Written by Christina Bournias

Two rescue dogs—but only one of them grabs attention.

I walk the park with my light-colored Husky mix and my black and white Border Collie. Inevitably, the Husky makes heads turn. People will stop in their tracks and gush over how beautiful she is—ogling at her white mask and gold eyelashes. Kids point, “Look, a Husky! A Husky!” Adults reminisce about their first Malamute, and gawking people in cars honk their horns as they wiz by.

I smile politely, but turn to my big black dog and give him a wink.

After the petting party is over and the age thing has been discussed, we move on. But, not before a parting gift. We get an extra hug for my cream and tan dog. They tell me that she’s soooo pretty and give a longer than normal gaze back at her, not watching where they are going as they turn to leave. Then they usually snap out of it, and say, “Uh...and that one’s cute, too.”

It’s a sad fact that approximately 4 million dogs (and cats) are euthanized every year. The black ones are first in line. When a black dog enters a shelter, it’s usually a death sentence. Due to the overwhelming and unfair assessment of black dogs, there’s a term called The Big Black Dog Syndrome (BBDS)—well known to rescue organizations, but not always taken seriously by the general public—most likely, because people don’t realize the severity of the problem.

Common big black dog breeds, such as Labrador Retrievers, Rottweilers, Chows, or Newfoundlands—or any such black-like-mixes—are most difficult to adopt out, resulting in an abundance of unwanted hopefuls. Overpopulation is a tragedy. There are just not enough responsible homes for these deserving, innocent animals. Canines with black coats are often discriminated against because of their appearance.

THEORIES WHY BLACK DOGS ARE MOST DIFFICULT TO PLACE:

1. They don’t show up well in kennels to distinguish their best features.
2. People fear them. Whether they admit it or not, a person’s body language changes at the sight of a black dog, especially if the dog is excitable. Because they’re darker in color, their expressions may be more difficult to decipher.
3. Their teeth look whiter. Because of the contrast with their coat, they appear more menacing.
4. Magnitude. Because of the mere volume of black dogs, people don’t pay much attention to them.
5. Superstition revolves around the color black. The subliminal ‘black is evil’ is just not true for dogs. Think: Classic Black, Black is Beautiful, Black: Always In Style.

While there’s an undeniable stigma attached to black dogs, and we can do something about it. With increase awareness, we will help wipe out BBDS.

CREATIVE WAYS SHELTERS CAN SHOWCASE BLACK DOGS:

1. Make their space approachable and illuminated.

Avoid clustering all black dogs in one row by alternating kennels with other colored dogs. Keep clean, comfortable bedding and toys in view to present a fun, friendly environment. Take them out of their crates so they get noticed. Show off good traits by teaching them polite tricks like a “bow” or a “sit.”

Highlight the beauty of their nature to provide better chances of adoption.

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2. Feed them quality foods and keep them well-groomed.

Bathe and brush dogs often to keep their coats lustrous. People won't see beauty if it's hidden behind matted fur and dull eyes.

3. Take exceptional photographs.

Hire a professional photographer who believes in the cause and wants to make a difference for animals. Make certain the shots are well lit and the dog is against a contrasting background. A three quarter profile is much more clear than a full face. Use discernment with selected focus, angles and perspective photos. Avoid busy backgrounds or clumsy Photoshop techniques. Great images make for ideal posters, bulletin posts, and social media channels.

Capture images that resonate. When a dog has a happy face with their ears perked or tongue out, they are more likely to get noticed. If they have a ball in their mouth, or a bright toy next to them, they are most memorable. Personality videos are always a hit.

4. Post compelling bio and back stories.

Every dog has a story. A dog's profile should include the stunning characteristics of the breed. The more potential adopters know about the breed, the closer they are to saving their next dog. Knowledge is power for interested pet parents. Hire a professional copywriter who's vested in the cause and who's trained to write dog bios that work hard to reach targeted audiences. Finding forever, loving homes is the goal—good writing is worth the investment.

5. Give them a chance to shine.

Accessorize black dogs with colorful scarfs, collars, or coats. Orange, blue, yellow, and hot pink shades show well, as do fancy stones or beaded leashes for visit day. Black dogs are the perfect complement to Halloween costumes, winter backgrounds, bright red blankets, and patriotic American flags.

6. Honor all dogs with an interesting name.

When naming a black dog, make it cool. "Jellybean" is a fun example. This unexpected black puppy name is playful and denotes sweetness, not midnight or looming darkness. Choose a name people will never forget. (Make sure it's enjoyable to the dogs ears too.)

SIGNIFICANT BLACK DOGS IN HISTORY:

"Petey": American Staffordshire Terrier, TV original "Little Rascals"
"Mother Teresa": Newfoundland, Movie "Must Love Dogs"
"Bo": Portuguese Water Dog, President Barak Obama's family dog

Christina Bournias resides in Michigan with her 3-pack; three new beautiful adopted miracles. As her "Angelwriter", Nicodemus (1997-2010) is the wisdom behind the stories Christina shares. (#nica_knows) As an Accredited Pet Trainer, Christina champions the magnitude of building the bond between a dog and their person(s) by means of respectful communication and enduring admiration.

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October 1, 2015 is "National (Big) Black dog Day." Please join me as I celebrate the underdog on this real and important holiday. Never overlook a big black dog when you visit a shelter or rescue group. Pay close attention to all deserving black animals (dogs or cats) waiting to be noticed. Please find it in your heart to bring them into your home.

Thank you for considering adoption when searching for your next forever friend.

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Canine Epilepsy

Written by
©Dorothy Wills-Raftery

If your dog has had a seizure, and has been diagnosed with Canine Epilepsy, it can be a frightening time. As the parent of a nine-year-old Siberian Husky Epi-dog (canine epileptic) who was diagnosed shortly after his third birthday, I believe it is so important to spread the word that Canine Epilepsy and seizures do NOT have to mean a death sentence for dogs. There are many dogs who have, are, and will continue to live life to the fullest even with Canine Epilepsy. We don't know how long our canine companions - both Epis and non-Epis - will bless us with their presence, but we can make their lives as full and happy and love-filled as we can. And, whereas once upon a time euthanasia was the suggested protocol for dogs with seizures or Canine Epilepsy, that is not the recommendation today. Today, there are so many resources and healthcare routes to explore, both medically and/or holistically, and there are many treatment options available for the Epi-dog parent that just didn't exist years ago. There are also very important support groups available with other Epi-dog parents who share their stories, recommendations, treatments, and support.

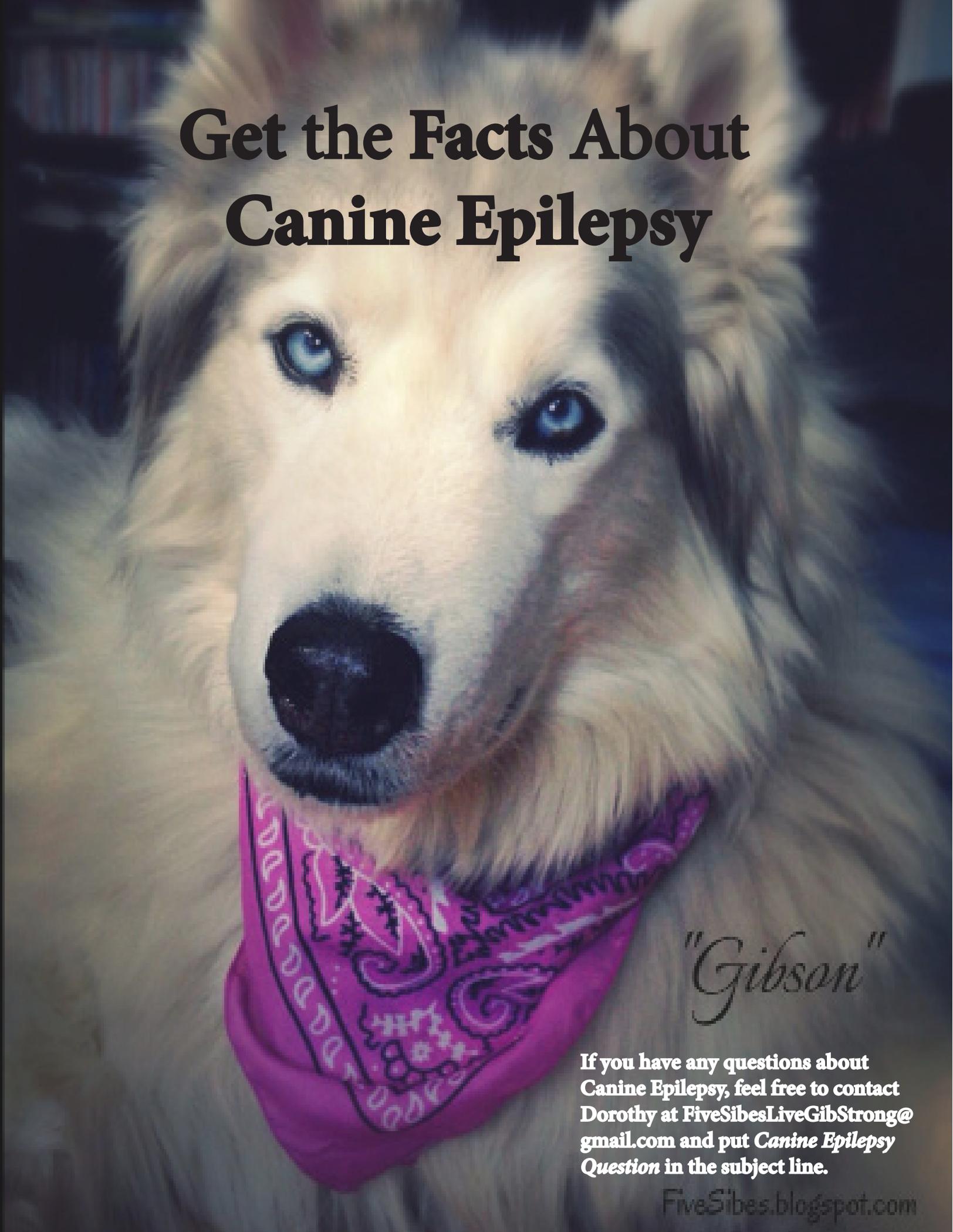
The big question is what should you do if your dog has a seizure? First, as any Epi-dog parent can tell you, bearing witness to a seizing dog is a very scary thing. Remembering Gibson's first seizures sends chills of fear down my spine. I will never ever forget how frightened I was. The first thing to do when your dog has experienced a seizure is get him to the vet so various tests and blood work can be performed to rule out any type of underlying health issue causing the seizures. Then you will discuss with your vet different treatment options for your dog. Or, you may be advised to just wait to see if another seizure will occur, or if it was a one-time thing (many things can cause a seizure and not all seizures are Canine Epilepsy).

Next, do all the research you can on Canine Epilepsy, seizures, medications, triggers, alternative therapies, treatments, etc. Become your own personal expert on the disease. Then, connect with other Epi-dog parents for support and information exchange. (An excellent group is the Epil-K9. To join, visit their website at www.canine-epilepsy.com).

Keep a journal of the seizures to mark down particulars to discuss with your vet. So many things can cause seizures, including toxins, foods, smells, flashing lights, stress, medications, illnesses, and genetics.

Keep in mind that there are many possible triggers, including absolutely no reason at all. But, there are also many different treatment options to explore. Sometimes they work, sometimes they don't. Sometimes it takes several attempts at changing the diet, or various doses and medications to get them under control or "managed." The thing about the sleeping Epilepsy beast is that even if the seizures are managed, one never knows for sure if it is truly managed, or if the seizure monster will make a return appearance. That is the fear all Epi-parents silently have, but pray will never happen. My Gibson is on a combination of medications and natural supplements. I've changed his diet and try to keep our home and his environment as stress-free as possible. Even if the seizures are managed, there is also a risk of side effects from the very medications used to help. Gibson has experienced many physical side effects of his medication, including weak hind end issues, which I choose to counteract with holistic and alternative therapies.

The important thing about being an Epi-dog parent is to never give up. Forge a solid, trusting relationship with your vet and discuss all possible treatments. Even if I had a crystal ball and knew when I first saw Gibson as a pup that he was to become an Epi-dog, I would not change one single thing. I would still scoop up that fuzzy fluffball with the bright blue eyes and love him with all my might because the love and happiness he brings to my life, makes it all worth it. ~ 



Get the Facts About Canine Epilepsy

"Gibson"

If you have any questions about
Canine Epilepsy, feel free to contact
Dorothy at [FiveSibesLiveGibStrong@
gmail.com](mailto:FiveSibesLiveGibStrong@gmail.com) and put *Canine Epilepsy
Question* in the subject line.

FiveSibes.blogspot.com

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Dorothy Wills-Raftery is an award-winning photojournalist and the author of *What's Wrong With Gibson?*, *Learning About K-9 Epilepsy*, *Getting Healthy With Harley*, *EPIC Dog Tales: Heartfelt Stories About Dogs Living & Loving Life with Canine Epilepsy*; and *Buddy, the Christmas Husky~A True Holiday Miracle* (all published through ArcticHouse Publishing). Wills-Raftery hosts "The Sibe Vibe" radio show that broadcasts online at Dog Works Radio and on iTunes. She authors the globally top-ranked FiveSibes™ blog (<http://FiveSibes.blogspot.com>), and is soon launching the FiveSibes.com website. You can follow her and the lives of her five Siberian Huskies, as well as news and reviews on northern breed dogs and all-things canine on her FiveSibes: Siberian Husky K9 News & Reviews Facebook page and on Twitter and Instagram under @FiveSibesMom.

Top 15 HALLOWEEN SAFETY TIPS FOR PETS

It's not a trick, no human treats. Keep chocolate and all Halloween candy away from where dogs can reach them. So many of these "treats" are toxic to canines. And ladies, that includes purses. Be sure they are zipped up so dogs can't get to toxic items such as gum (sugar-free with xylitol), medications, candy, as well as small items they can swallow, such as pins, batteries, etc.

Boo to spirits. Holiday time adults may partake in some spirits of the alcoholic type, but alcohol is toxic to dogs. Please keep drinks up and out of a dog's reach.

Some toys are scary! No small toy kid treats as they could become choking hazards. And watch out for those batteries!

Let's not play pretend. But, if you do dress up your pet in a costume, keep the pet where you can see him/her at all times. Never leave your pet alone in a costume as they can catch on something and get hurt. And some fabrics that tie around the neck can also tighten, posing a choking hazard. Be sure all costumes are flame resistant/retardant.

Looks good enough to eat. Some dogs may think their costumes look good enough to chew on, which also means possibly choke on, so keep an eye on them at all times.

Fright Night flight. Keep dogs safely in another room, in their crate, or behind a gate so they don't slip out the door when trick-or-treaters come calling.

Who are you? Be sure to have your canine pal's collar on with current ID tags, just in case they do escape during the commotion.

Out, out lit candle! Be careful not to have any candles or jack-o'-lanterns lit anywhere near your dog (and his tail and paws) to avoid burns and fire hazards.

No tricks, please. While dogs love socializing and playing with children, please don't take them out while trick-or-treating. Even the most docile pet can become scared and react differently from the norm, i.e. jumping, growling, biting, breaking free, etc. Leave them at home where they can be calm and safe in their own environment so everyone can have a Happy Halloween.

Hot stuff. Be careful not to dress them in too heavy of a costume or keep it on them for too long, thereby causing them to overheat.

Cool, clear water. Have lots of fresh, clean water available for your dog at all times.

No stress here. If you know your pet gets stressed from all the creepy talking Halloween decorations, music, visitors, and doorbell chimes, you may want to use a holistic or prescribed calming aid. Talk to your vet about what would work best for your pet.

Don't become a horror story. Please do not leave your dog alone on Halloween (or the night before). If you can't bring them in, stay with them. There have been some horror stories of people poisoning and abusing pets on Halloween.

Touch that dial! In case of an emergency, have your vet's, the 24-hour animal hospital's, and Poison Control numbers programmed into your phone's speed dial, as well as having them posted in plain sight.

Carve out fun time. Do be careful, but with a little pre-planning, you can keep the happy in Halloween for you and your furry best friend. Be sure to set aside some time to celebrate (maybe with a homemade pumpkin treat) for just you and your dog! ~ ©Dorothy Wills-Rafer



RAW FEEDING FOR FERRETS

Written by Joel Weiner, MD

Ferrets have been domesticated for over 2000 years and are one of the most popular pets in the United States. Although available from shelters and many private breeders, ferrets are most commonly purchased from pet stores by loving families who are typically attracted to and subsequently captivated by them. These new owners certainly want to provide the best possible new home for the ferret. Unfortunately, most pet ferret purchases are made prior to adequate research being done regarding the animal's needs. To further compound this situation, many pet store employees are ill-informed regarding proper ferret care. For the excited and eager ferret buyer, this poor information received at the pet store is like gospel as new ferret owners are eager to "learn" everything they can about their new pet. Due to this unfortunate combination of events, what often results is a less-than-ideal situation for the family and their new ferret. Although this information is not ill-intended, it is shared out of good will, regardless of the fact that it often lacks accuracy; and it is the ferret that ultimately suffers. It is particularly common for new ferret owners to receive misinformation regarding a proper ferret diet.



Something that is immediately noticeable by anyone observing a ferret is their four needle-like front teeth. These teeth are called canines and they are used for piercing and killing prey. You read that correctly, "these teeth are used for piercing and killing prey." What does that mean? That means that ferrets are carnivores. Their natural diet consists of whole prey (i.e. meat, organs, bone, skin, fur, etc.).

Another somewhat less noticeable characteristic of the ferret mouth is that the lower jaw (i.e. the mandible) closes completely within the upper jaw and cannot move to the left or right. This is quite a different design than the jaws of a human in which the rear teeth come together in what is known as occlusion. This allows humans (and other omnivores) to easily crunch down on various food items. Think how easy it is for us to crunch a peanut M&M using our rear teeth (a food item similar in shape to ferret-branded kibble). However, a ferret's jaw is ill-equipped to "crunch" kibble, which is often provided as their primary food source. Rather, their rear teeth are designed to cut, tear and rip flesh in a scissors-like fashion to render the pieces more easily digestible.

There is a saying in anatomy that "function always follows structure." This saying is known as the principle of complementarity. By understanding the structure of the ferret's teeth and jaw, we are able to identify its intended function; killing and tearing apart prey.

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Although many ferret owners will feed their ferret pre-killed prey such as mice, rats, chicks and/or rabbits, it is more common that a raw meat and organ diet (aka prey model, raw) is offered. These meat items are generally readily available at most grocery stores and butcher shops. A discussion of the appropriate combination of meat, bone and organ is beyond the scope of this article, but there are numerous reputable online forums that are ready and willing to offer assistance to those individuals who are eager to learn more and possibly implement or transition to a ferret-appropriate diet. It is important to know that a ferret will generally imprint on its food by six months of age. This can make the transition to a raw diet more challenging, but still worthwhile if the ferret is over six months of age.

So what are the benefits of an appropriate, raw diet for ferrets? Firstly, many illnesses caused by a ferret's inability to properly digest carbohydrates can be prevented. Preventing these so-called iatrogenic illnesses can save money on future veterinary bills. Furthermore, ferrets that are fed a raw diet are often larger, with better muscle tone and thicker, softer fur. They will often also have less odor and poop less. Will a ferret that is fed a raw diet be more aggressive and mean toward its owners? Absolutely not. Raw-fed ferrets are some of the sweetest, most docile ferrets I have known.

As you think about the benefits of offering your ferret a raw diet, keep in mind that an improperly balanced raw diet is worse than not feeding a raw diet at all. Therefore, I urge you to do your own research, consider your comfort level with feeding raw items to your ferret and go online and join one of the many forums dedicated to helping ferret owners transition their ferrets to the diet they were intended to have.

AFA is a national organization dedicated to ferrets and ferret enthusiasts everywhere.

- 🐾 The American Ferret Association's goals are to:
 - 🐾 Promote the domestic ferret as a companion animal through public education such as shows, newsletters, legislative education, etc.
 - 🐾 Protect the domestic ferret against anti-ferret legislation, mistreatment, unsound breeding methods, needless scientific research, and any practice deemed to lower the health standards or survivability of the animal.
 - 🐾 Provide constant and up-to-date information on vets, research data, rescue shelters, and other information of interest to ferret owners and pet professionals.

The author, Joel Weiner, MD, FACP is a member of the American Ferret Association Education Committee. He has shared life with ferrets for over 30 years and currently is guardian to Jasper and Zoey.

Visit the American Ferret Association to learn all about ferret care, foods & more!
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PHOTO: *GYPSPRINCE KARP*

RIP 6/29/2013 ~ 18.5 YRS

PHOTOGRAPHER: ©SUZIK

**OCTOBER 29th
NATIONAL CAT
DAY**

**NOVEMBER 17th
NATIONAL BLACK
CAT DAY**



National Black Cat Day: Hugs and Hisses

National Black Cat Day occurs on November 17, but it's not the only annual day showing appreciation for black cats. In fact, National Black Cat Appreciation Day took place on August 17.

Both holidays recognize the good things about black cats, and websites that mention them often belong to pet rescue organizations that welcome people to come in and adopt black cats on those days and beyond.

Why recognize black cats that way, and not all cats? Well, other cats may get their days of recognition too, but few people in the United States are unaware of the superstition that if a black cat crosses your path, your luck will turn bad.

Is that true? Well, I write Superstition Mysteries and have done some research on this. Lots of cultures do buy into that superstition and others that suggest black cats are bad luck. They could have been witches' familiars, or brought bad luck to ships at sea.

However, there are other superstitions that say it's good luck to possess a black cat, touch a black cat, meet three black cats in succession, or have one as a mascot on your sailing ship. And British and Japanese superstitions say it's good luck to have a black cat cross your path! Plus, some superstitions say the kind of luck a black cat generates depends on the direction it's going. For example, it may be good luck to have a black cat walk toward you but bad if it walks away.

The November 17 holiday may have been started in Italy a few years ago because black cats were being mistreated thanks to the local superstition that they're bad luck. Instead, people were encouraged to recognize them as being sweet animals and good pets.

Do you get the impression that the same kind of animal can lead to multiple superstitions? It's true! If you Google black cats, all sorts of sites come up that indicate both their good and bad reputations.

There are also Facebook pages such as For the Love of Black Cats (Black Cat Appreciation Page).

So, should we recognize the good in black cats and celebrate National Black Cat Day? It's up to you, but all the people I know who have black cats love 'em--and consider them, if anything, harbingers of the best of luck. But most characters in my Superstition Mysteries? They're not so sure.



Linda O. Johnston is the author of 40 published novels, including Knock on Wood, the second Superstition Mystery that premieres October from Midnight Ink--and yes, there are black cats in it. She additionally writes the Barkery & Biscuits Mysteries for Midnight Ink. The first, Bite the Biscuit, was a May release. She also wrote the Pet Rescue Mysteries from Berkley Prime Crime which were a spinoff from Linda's Kendra Ballantyne, Pet-Sitter Mysteries. Linda additionally writes for Harlequin Nocturne and Harlequin Romantic Suspense. Visit Linda at www.LindaOJohnston.com, friend her on Facebook and follow her on Twitter. She also blogs each Wednesday at KillerHobbies.blogspot.com and on the 18th of each month at Killer Characters.

I was found roaming the streets in Los Angeles, fending for myself with no one to care for me. If I'd been taken to a shelter, I would have never made it out because I had a bunch of issues: I threw temper tantrums, guarded my food and toys, and was sensitive to touch. So my rescuer took me to a foster home and from there I was adopted and found my forever home.

Meet Charlie Bear *the Rescue Dog*



Written by B.J. Taylor

Charlie Bear is a 5-year-old mutt who believes he won the lottery. No way could life have been predicted to turn out this good. In fact, his Mom Peep, B.J. Taylor, wrote the story of Charlie Bear's first year in their lives. It's an emotional, heart-tugging story that includes the big dog, Rex (Mom Peep's forever love): *Charlie Bear: What a Headstrong Rescue Dog Taught Me about Life, Love, and Second Chances* www.bjtayloronline.com

Guess what the first week in October is? It's National Walk Your Dog Week! That's right, there's a national observance of walking furry critters like me. I've gotta say, it's a good thing, and here's why (in late night show fashion, counting down to the top reason):

TOP 10 HEALTH BENEFITS WALKING PROVIDES YOUR PET

 *Helps Keep Pets Healthy. Regular exercise makes us more agile and limber—for when we jump off the sofa and run to the door. Helps you not worry about us breaking something.*

 *Helps With Weight Control. Mom Peep feeds me healthy food and not too much fatty people food, but I still need exercise, even though I am a little dog. Helps you save money on vet bills when I'm not overweight.*

 *Helps Digestive System. This is so true! When I take a walk I pee on everything. I mean just about everything. And I also move my bowels better when I walk. (Mom always brings a bag to pick up after me.) Helps you to know I won't be constipated.*

 *No More Destructive Behavior. Okay, it's true... I'm like a kid. If you leave me alone without something constructive to do I'll get into trouble. If you walk me, I'll be tired and less likely to chew up your favorite shoes, dig in the yard, or gnaw on the furniture. Saves you money on buying new stuff.*

 *No More Hyperactivity. Ever wonder why we run around in the house and tear from one room to another or run in race car circles? Too much oomph in our bodies and nowhere to go with it. A good walk helps to make me calmer, and I'm more relaxed and sleepy instead of restless at bedtime. Helps you sleep better too.*

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5 *No More Unruliness. When I jump up on people or knock over furniture it's because I'm full of pent up energy. Regular walks help with this. You'll like me better when I don't scratch your friends' legs or knock over flower vases.*



4 *No More Attention-Seeking Behaviors. When I bark or whine it's because I want you to pay attention to me. If we've had a walk, I won't pester you and will relax with you to watch TV or read. Helps you have a calmer pet.*



3 *Helps Promote Our Bond. I just want to be with you, spend time with you, be around you. If we walk, I get it all...exercise and time with my favorite person in the whole wide world. It strengthens our bond and leads to a strong, trusting relationship. Helps you feel closer to me too.*



2 *Helps Build Trust. I'm kind of fearful around other dogs, especially big ones. When Mom walks me I know she's got my back. If there's something that could hurt me, she's there to protect me, and I like that. I'm learning to trust her and to be more confident when I see other animals and humans on our walks. Helps you to trust me too.*



Charlie Bear Exhausted

AND THE #1 HEALTH BENEFIT WALKING YOUR PET PROVIDES?



1 *Helps Your Health Too. That's right. While you help me, you help you. It's not a chore to get out and exercise when you have me by your side. It's beneficial for us both.*

There you have it. All of those Top 10 Reasons for Walking Your Pet helps you to take care of you while you take care of me. And when you are happy, that makes me truly happy.

Woofs and Wiggles!

Much of this info comes from PetMD. Here's a link to the site:

http://www.petmd.com/dog/slideshows/general_health/top-ten-health-benefits-walking-your-pet-provides#

Note: I had a lot of issues. I also had a big dog mentor. It's all in here from Mom Peep's point of view (and a little of mine): CHARLIE BEAR: What a Headstrong Rescue Dog Taught Me about Life, Love and Second Chances.

<http://amzn.to/1vinAKT>

FIRST WEEK OF OCTOBER IS
NATIONAL WALK YOUR DOG WEEK

OMD.... #TitusBARKS

SO EXCITABULLS!



Hewwo eveyone n Happy Happy!

In dis article I wood like to talkie abouts some very important messagies or "Public Service Announcements"

Dis summer, I finks, was da worst by far wif hearin stories abouts doggies lefted in hot cars. I wood fink as da years go on dat peeples wood start getting da message but appawantwy not! I always want to gos in da car wif Mommy n Daddy, n I gets pissie n pout wen dey leave but den I finks about it..... I wood much radder bees here for dems wen dey gets home, den suffer a howwibull deaf in da heat of a car. I fink too many peeples feel guilty leavin dare furbabies home, not realized dat dad a chance of dems not bein dare wen dey come home is much worse. Many states is now implementin laws dat will allow anyone to bweak into a vehicle to save a life. I just can not imagine dat it wood ever come down to needin a law for somefin like dis. Pwease, fink about da end result wen your dog begs to come on a ride wif yous on dese hot days.

Anoder important subject, CHIP BAGS, CEREAL BAGS, ANY FOOD BAGS.....Dey is dangerus to us. Many pets have dies as a result of getting dare head catched in a cereal box or chip bag. We is curious cweatures wen it comes to food, speshally people food. Unfortunatwy, if yous leave a chip bag or cereal box out, da likely hood of us bein curious is a gweat one. Unfortunatwy, once we gets our head in da bag, it is not dat easy to gets off, and we can n will suffocate as a result. We had a fwiends furbaby die dis way n it is a howwible way to suffer. Pwease, tare up any n all chip bags n cereal bags afore yous frow dems out n do not leave dems ware we can gets to dems. Pwease share dis info wif eveyone yous nos. If we can save one life, it will bees worf it.

I wanted to share one of my fun weekends wif yous all. We set up my Kissy Booth at da Country Fest LI n OMD....wut a pawsome weekend! We love raisin awareness for Pit Bulls n rescue dogs. It bwings such a smile to my heart wen we can change one persons mind about our breed. So many peeples still believe dat rescue dogs is bwoken in some way.....afta meetin mees, dey realize dat we is no diffewent den any udder doggie, maybees even a lil more lovin cus we nos wut loneliness n sadness is. We was able to raise awareness n \$ for rescue at da same time....WIN WIN! We got to meet lots of new fwiends, I love my fwiends. Fankie yous to eveyone dat volunteered dare time or just came by to say hewwo n spend some time! Ruffs yous all!

Have a pawsome day eveyone n amemba, HAVE SOME FUN!

Titus and His Girl Hailey

CAR TEMPERATURE PET SAFETY CHART

Outside Temp (F)	Inside Temp (F)	
	10mins	30mins
70°	89°	104°
75°	94°	109°
80°	99°	114°
85°	104°	119°
90°	109°	124°
95°	114°	129°

Every year thousands of dogs die from being overheated in parked cars!

Leave your dogs at home on hot days



A large, light-colored dog, possibly a Weimaraner, is the central focus. It is wearing a white cowboy hat and a red bandana with a white paisley pattern. The dog is being petted on the head by a woman in a white t-shirt and dark shorts. To the left, a woman in a white tank top is holding a baby in a black shirt and denim shorts. The baby is looking at the dog with a smile. The background is a bright, outdoor setting with other people and colorful decorations, suggesting a fair or festival.

#TitusBARKS

WWW.AMERICANPETMAGAZINE.COM

**YOU CAN FIND OUR STORE IN OUR FACEBUTTS
LINKS OR AT WWW.TITUSANDHAILEY.COM**

GypsyPrince's



Playground



The **Road Runner** is the ultimate leash if you are looking for a hands-free dog walking experience. The sliding side-release buckle allows you to alter the length of the leash or unclip to wear it around your waist or shoulder.

Perfect for anyone who is active with their dog, the Road Runner uses our proprietary Soft Touch Webbing and Zero Shock Technology to absorb any sudden shocks. Reflective for night time safety and a neoprene lined handle for your comfort when used as a standard leash.



www.ezydog.com Phone: 208-263-3181

Award-winning 3Sixty Fun Leash Tie-out Makes U.S. Debut in June

Poochie-Pets named U.S. distributor of new, innovative pet leash tie-out. With an easy-glide, no harsh pull mechanism that allows the leash cord to smoothly retract into a 360° swivel case as the pet moves about, 3Sixty Fun securely keeps the animal from pulling and getting tangled. By twisting the handles, a steel spiral stake is secured into the ground, thus eliminating the need for tools. Lightweight and transportable with a 16' leash extension, 3Sixty Fun is designed for small to mid-side pets weighing up to 55 lbs. <http://poochie-pets.net>

For more information, images or product samples contact Dianne Howles at Poochie-Pets, LLC 860-408-9003 or dhowles@poochie-pets.net



Paws for the Cause www.pawstricounty.com Events Benefiting Tri-County Humane Society

SouthEast Counties of Florida
561-482-8110

a 100% NO-Kill! 100% of the proceeds from every monthly social event they host is for the tender loving care of at-risk, unwanted dogs and cats from Broward, Miami-Dade, and Palm Beach Counties benefiting Tri-County Humane Society.

6th Annual Animal Adoption Fair www.AnimalAdoptionFair.com

TBD August 2016
Fort Lauderdale, Florida
954-971-4432

Our Animal Adoption Fair is the War Memorial Auditorium at 800 N.E. 8th St, Fort Lauderdale All indoors and air conditioned. Animal Friendly. Veterinary Care, Live Music, Raffles. Food. Fun!



'PEANUTBUTTER'

Photo by: SuziK©

Where does the time go?

I have so much that I am excited about and want to tell you! First is Percy. It's all about Percy right now. He turned a year old last month and has become a big part of our lives. I love him more than I thought I would. He keeps me on my paws a lot of the time. Mommy has a few special names for him when he starts acting all kitten on us. We think that all the 9 KarpKatz, that crossed the Rainbow Bridge, got together and sent Percy to us. Both Mommy and I needed him and couldn't be more blessed with his unconditional love in our lives. He also gets to travel while I prefer to stay home.

Second is Heidi. She is our Foster Kitty. Mommy just can't stop bringing in furbabies & helping them find Forever Homes. Last year was the 4 kittens (Percy's older siblings) and Percy. I am not crazy about change in my routine. Though, I know Mommy cares enough to do her best with other furbabies and not neglect Percy and I. We hope to find Heidi a home real soon because Mommy 'snuck' her in and the landlord will not be happy if she is found out. If you know anyone interested, please contact me asap!

One Pet at a Time..One Day at a Time..

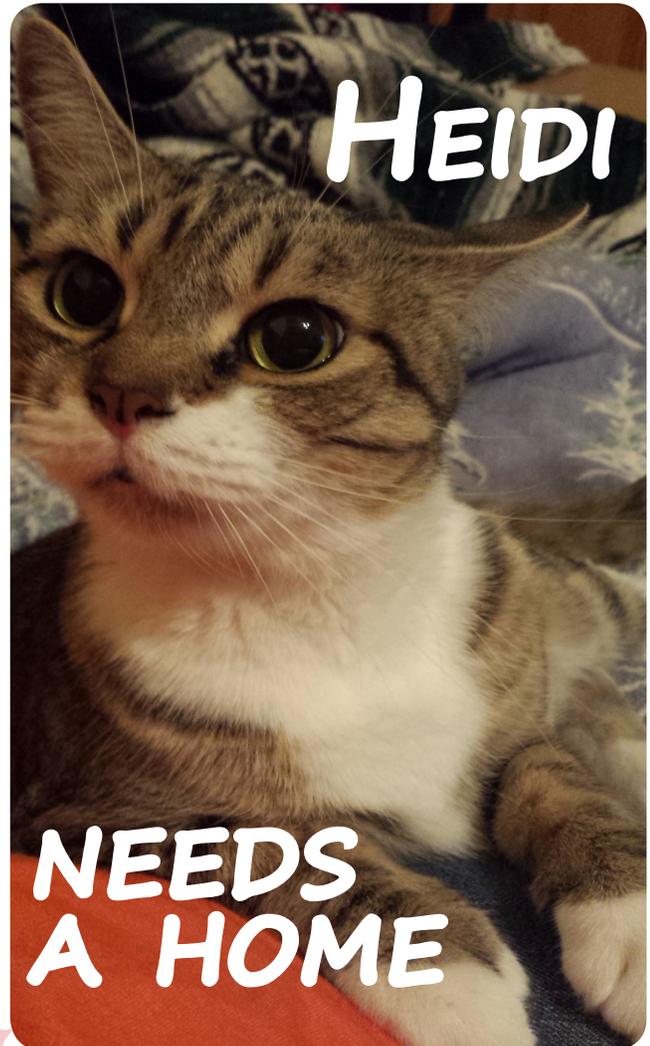
One Life at a Time..Your Voice Matters!

Thank you again and HAPPY READING!

#Rescue #Adopt #Foster #NoKill

PURRS & MEOWS, PeanutButter

**Have an
AmericanPet
Day!!**





Ruby Roo

Written by Karen Woodage

After suffering from depression for nearly 25 years and going in and out of therapy, Ruby has finally given me something to live for. After losing my dad to a heart attack and the constant bullying I suffered throughout my whole school life, the name calling, being punched and slapped, spat on and told how useless I was and I would never amount to anything in my life, I was beaten, I lost all my confidence, I never went out and never really had any friends. I would go to work and come home, and even that was a chore.

Ruby came into my life as a 7.5 week old puppy, when I was at my the lowest point of my life. A friend asked my to go and see her puppies as she thought they would put a smile on my face that had been gone for so long. As I walked in the door, the puppies all were bounding around, apart from one tiny puppy which just sat in the corner of the room away from the other pups, My friend said that this poor little girl was bullied by her litter mates and was so scared of the other puppies, A lump stuck in my throat as I was taken back to my childhood and all the memories came flooding back of the torment I went through for years at school with bullying which started just after my dad had died, I was just 11 years old, my life as I knew it had ended. Without thinking I decided to give this very special little puppy a chance that I never had, A way out from the sadness and torment that I had gone through, So we took her home.

I was at the lowest point and on the brink of ending my life and felt I had nothing to live for. But Ruby changed that for me. From day one Ruby would follow me over the whole house as if she was watching me, She would often whine as she looked at me as if she knew what was going through my mind and knew what I was thinking, It was like she was saying, don't leave me now mum, I need you. Ruby very slowly taught me to smile again. She taught me to start trusting people again and has gotten me out in the world, which could be so very cruel. She has been by my side through thick and thin throughout the good days and bad, Ruby knows just how I'm feeling each and everyday. When I am having a bad day Ruby will sit by my side put her paw on me and cover me with kisses, She seems to know just how I am feeling. Its hard to explain how much this very special little dog means to me, as not many people will ever understand. Ruby Roo has saved my life and has always been there for me when I have been at my lowest. She is my soul mate which I truly do believe that has been sent to me from above. Its hard to explain how much this very special little dog means to me, as not many people will ever understand. Ruby is my whole world and without her by my side I would not be here today to tell our story.

Ruby follows me wherever I go and I take her everywhere with me. She has given me the confidence to get out and start meeting people again. I first took Ruby to a local fun dog show, Ruby was 10 months old at the time, I also went with my daughter as I couldn't go to places alone. She pulled me over to a fun dog show ring and looked up and my with her beautiful brown eyes as if to say come on mum we can do this together, All of a sudden it seemed as if a light had been switched on in me that had been out for so many years, I felt an over whelming love for this very special little dog.



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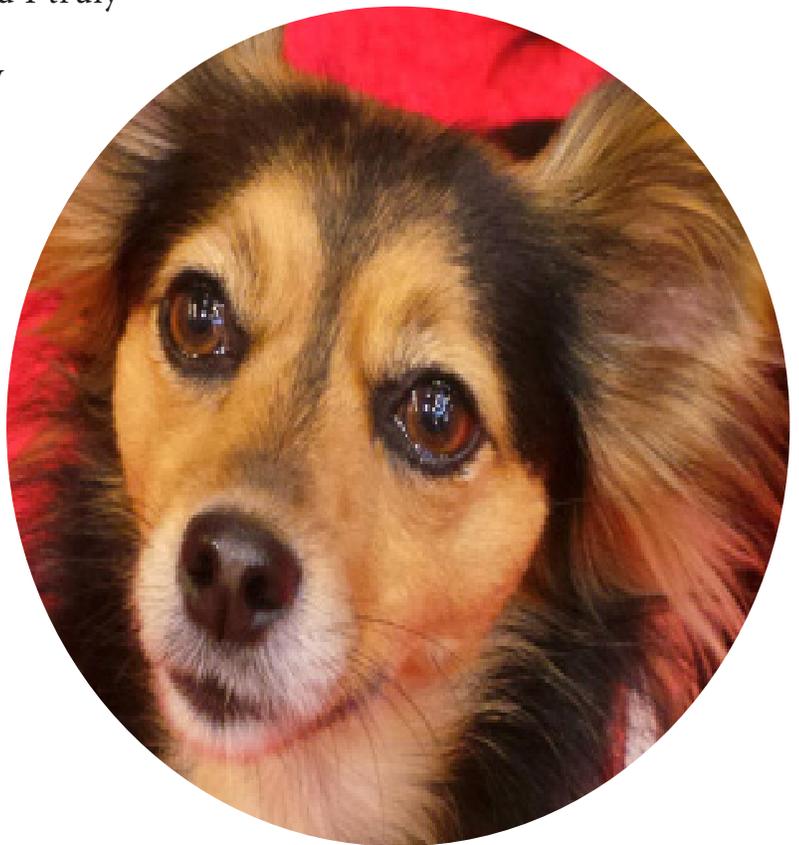
Just a year after getting Ruby I was diagnosed I had skin cancer, Ruby gave me the strength to carry on through the treatment and the 2 operations I had to remove the cancer, she would come running to me when I came home from the hospital and would never leave my side. Thankfully I am now all clear. I still find it really hard if I don't have Ruby with me, and she makes me such a strong person. I have good and bad days, but Ruby is always by my side. She never judges me or tells me to pull myself together, and she is always there for me. I can never repay Ruby for what she has done for me. Ruby is my world and my lifeline, and I truly believe that if it wasn't for her I'm not sure that I would be here today. I love my Ruby so much.

Ruby had been there for me all throughout my illness and in January this year it was my turn to be there for her. Ruby needed to have Patella surgery and my vets gave me special permission to stay whilst she had her operation as the thought of leaving her broke my heart. I held her after she had her pre-med and when she was sleepy the vet came and took her from me. I covered Ruby in kisses and waited for her during her surgery.

Almost 2 hours later they came and got me so I was with her when she woke up, she was still very sleepy as I sat on the floor in the kennel talking to her, she knew I was there, she crawled over and climbed into my lap for a cuddle and whined. She amazed the vets and nurses on how she had the strength to crawl to me. I held her for about half an hour and spoke softly to her, when she fell back to sleep I left her for the evening my eyes full of tears. I must of drove the vets mad as I called them all evening and all the following day making sure she was ok. She refused to eat anything whilst being in there, not even her favorite chicken.

On Friday I was finally aloud to take her home and the time couldn't come quick enough. As soon as she saw me she and I were so happy and she cried (as well as me) all the way home in the car. She ate a huge plate of chicken and smoked salmon and then we sat together the whole night and we slept with together, the following morning she woke up looking bright. Even though she must of been in pain and she was walking on 3 legs, Ruby would still follow me everywhere I went. 5 months later Ruby has bounced back and is now fighting fit, She still comes everywhere with me and is always by my side.

There isn't a day that goes by that I am not thankful that Ruby & I found each other. I thought it was me that saved her from a life that made her so sad but in truth it was Ruby that saved me. ~ 

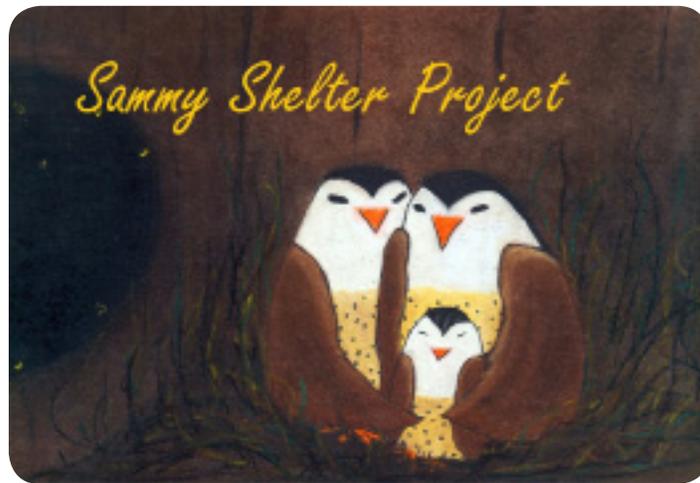




September 23 - 29
National Day
of the Horse
December 13th
National Farm
Animals Awareness

Over 20 years ago artwork for a children's story, "**Sammy Sparrow's First Flight**" was born.

I was on holiday break from college and sat on the floor in my bedroom using chalks to free images for the story that lived in my mind. The images have been tucked away in a scrapbook album until now. "Sammy Sparrow's First Flight" (ages 2-8) was released Dec. 25, 2014 by Guardian Angel Publishing. It is my third children's book. In conjunction with the book, I have created the Sammy Shelter Project to help EIGHT area humane organizations with the book sales. By ordering through the project website, ALL FUNDS from each book purchase will be donated to the organization chosen and noted on the form.



Use this link to visit that page

www.tracyahrens.weebly.com/sammy-shelter-project

Current humane organizations set to benefit from this project are: It's a Pitie Rescue (Peotone, Il.), New Beginnings for Cats (Bourbonnais, Il.), River Valley Animal Rescue (Momence, Il.), Cache Creek Animal Rescue (Anna and Joliet, Il.), Illinois Horse Rescue of Will County (Beecher, Il.), Iroquois County Animal Rescue (Iroquois, Il.), Kankakee County Humane Foundation (St. Anne, Il.) and Because Animals Really Kount (Kankakee, Il.). In "Sammy Sparrow's First Flight," a young sparrow named Sammy quickly learns why parents set rules. He was told not to fly alone at night. His wings are weak and Sammy falls into a bush below.

The world looks scary from the ground. A friendly owl flies Sammy back home to sleep under his parents' wings. The story is based on my childhood years of rescuing baby sparrows that fell out of a multi-room birdhouse high up on a pole in a neighbor's backyard. ~ 

How a Woman's Love for a Dog Named DOUGAL CHANGED THE WORLD

by MattieDog



With some training, dogs can do a lot of things, and sometimes dogs can change the world without any training at all. In a cozy little town in the UK, a little sweet, scruffy Cairn Terrier named Dougal changed the lives of hundreds if not thousands of animals all over the world. Dougal inspired his human caretaker, Lynn Haigh, to embark on a journey of love and compassion for all creatures.

"Dougal was a lovable rogue who was always getting in to trouble. He was always chewing on things he should not have, eating stuff he shouldn't," said Lynn, fondly recalling Dougal's misdeeds. "I was going through a time in my life when I was deciding what I wanted to do going forward," offered Lynn, who had made a successful name for herself in the rough and tumble corporate world.

Little did Lynn know that by taking this time off and that by spending more time with Dougal, Lynn's love for her little Cairn Terrier would inspire her to create something that would revolutionize animal rescue, catapulting the fund raising process for shelters in to the social media age. Lynn and Dougal would embark on a journey, using the internet to help animals from the UK, USA, New Zealand, Australia, Canada, and throughout the globe.

With Dougal by her side and serving as the muse, and at times encouragement, for the endeavor, Lynn cleverly built upon lessons she learned from her previous career to host monthly online fund-raising parties to help to meet the needs of various animal shelters and charities all over the world. Using Twitter as their platform, Lynn and Dougal lead monthly 24-hour parties, lovingly called 'PawPawty,' that took the internet by storm, and often was the number one hashtag on various social media platforms.

"Each month the animal community on Twitter had the chance to nominate a rescue, we tried to set some ground rules so that it was smaller less well known groups who did not have a lot of money for marketing. We then did a lot of research to make sure the groups were registered as a charity or personally known to someone in the animal community," said Lynn, proud of the work she and Dougal accomplished. Together Lynn and Dougal raised over \$50,000 and helped a large volume of animal rescues-ultimately helping to save animals and defray spay, neutering and adoption costs for the shelters and would be adopters.

"It means the world to me that somehow we changed things for some less fortunate animals, we actually saved some lives," Lynn fondly reminisces about her PawPawty day's with Dougal, "it also makes me happy to think that I now have lots of friends all over the world who I never would have met, if it were not for that little pooch."

Today, Lynn has a more brick and mortar lifestyle, happily running a little dog boutique, named after her beloved Dougal, called Dougal's Den (<http://www.dougalsden.co.uk/>), in her home town where she meet lots of lovely dogs and their owners. Looking back on her life with Dougal, who passed not too long ago at the age of 17 years and 3 months, "Doing the online animal-fundraising with Dougal really changed my life!"

Just like Anatole France said, 'Until one has loved an animal, a part of one's soul remains unawakened. Lynn has Dougal to thank for awakening her soul, helping her find a new way, igniting her passion for dogs and ultimately welcome new furry animals in to her life, Ozzy McDougal (a Cairn Terrier) and a Alfie (a Westie/Shih Tzu mix). Dougal still influences Lynn, as her business provides discount to all rescue dogs and actively supports a local dog rescue in their lovely part of the world. ~ 



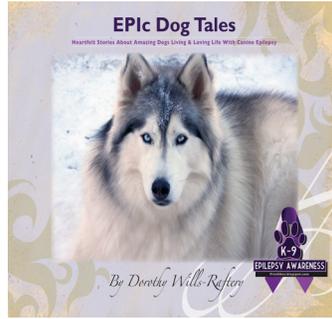
MattieDog is one of the coolest dogs on the planet! MattieDog is a freelance writer specializing in sharing the world from his point of view with the help of his mom, Rebecca Sanchez. MattieDog has won numerous social media awards, presented at animal-related conferences, has been featured in animal magazines, and is in the final stages of a four-part book series. MattieDog is based in Seattle, where he lives with his mom and dad and a plethora of other little fuzzy dogs. Check out Mattie at www.mattiedog.com

BEST 2015 in print

EPic Dog Tales

Written by Dorothy Wills-Rafferty

EPic Dog Tales : Heartfelt Stories About Amazing Dogs Living & Loving Life With Canine Epilepsy by Dorothy Wills-Rafferty, is a beautiful, coffee table book that is a collection of more than 120 truly inspiring and heartfelt stories about dogs who have lived/are living with Canine Epilepsy and how they do not let seizures get in their way of living life to the fullest.



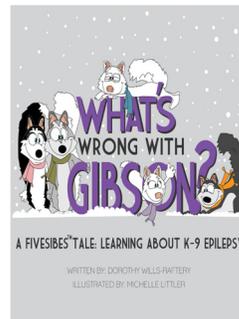
The book also contains a valuable library of online resources and information available to help navigate the sometimes stormy waters of Canine Epilepsy. A portion of proceeds from the book will benefit the Canine Epilepsy Resources Epil-K9 Foundation's "Emma's Seizure Fund" through the North Carolina State University College of Veterinary Medicine Neurology Department.

All books are available online from www.ArcticHousePublishing.com

What's Wrong with Gibson?

Written by Dorothy Wills-Rafferty
Illustrated by Michelle Littler

Welcome to the world of the FiveSibes™! They are five energetic Siberian Huskies who spend all of their days playing and learning together. Their stories are ones that children and adults of all ages will enjoy reading. The first book of the series, What's Wrong With Gibson?



Learning About K-9 Epilepsy, is based on one of the author's Huskies, Gibson, having a seizure, which is translated into a short tale that makes it easy for children (who may have Epilepsy themselves, know someone who does, or have a pet that has it) to understand. As the short story unfolds in easy-to-understand rhymes accompanied by colorfully adorable illustrations, the three young pups discover that their big brother has Canine Epilepsy and they get a hands-on lesson about care and first aid from the pack's alpha leader, Harley. A percentage of proceeds from the book will be donated to the non-profit Canine Epilepsy Resources center.

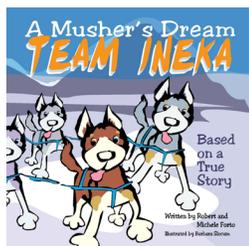
Buddy, the Christmas Husky

Written by Dorothy Wills-Rafferty
Illustrated by Barbara K. Slocum

Buddy, the Christmas Husky–Based on a True Holiday Miracle, is a book for all seasons bringing awareness to abused and abandoned dogs. This story is about an injured, starving, and homeless Siberian Husky who is rescued by a Good Samaritan one snowy Christmas Day.



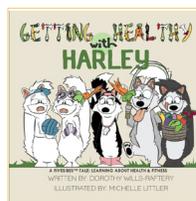
Through a network of caring people across thousands of miles, the Husky, who becomes known as "Buddy, the Christmas Husky," discovers that not all humans are mean and uncaring. His long journey brings him to find compassion, friendship, and a loving mom to call his own. A percent of the book's proceeds will benefit Buddy and "Buddy's Buddies" through the University of Georgia College of Veterinary Medicine.



A Musher's Dream: Team Ineka

Written by Robert & Michelle Forto
Illustrated by Barbara K. Slocum

Team Ineka: A Musher's Dream is based on a the true story of how the Iditarod-bound racing Husky dogs of Team Ineka came to be.



Getting Healthy With Harley

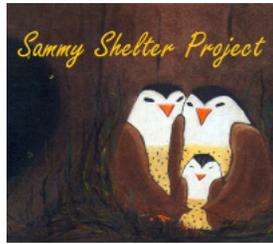
Written by Dorothy Wills-Rafferty
Illustrated by Michelle Littler

Welcome back to the world of the FiveSibes; five energetic Siberian Huskies who spend all of their days playing and learning together. Their stories are ones that children and adults of all ages will enjoy reading. The second book in the FiveSibes™ Tales series, Getting Healthy With Harley is based on one of the author's Huskies, the pack's alpha queen, Harley, as she has her annual vet visit and afterwards decides to help all of the FiveSibes adopt a healthier lifestyle through nutrition and exercise. The story unfolds through easy-to-read rhyming text and adorable colorful illustrations. A portion of proceeds from the book will be donated to the Save Our Siberians Siberspace Rescue Fund.

Sammy Sparrow's First Flight

Written by Rebecca Sanchez

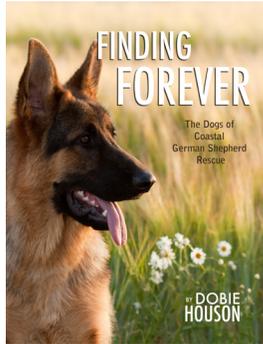
In "Sammy Sparrow's First Flight," a young sparrow named Sammy quickly learns why parents set rules. He was told not to fly alone at night. His wings are weak and Sammy falls into a bush below. The world looks scary from the ground. A friendly owl flies Sammy back home to sleep under his parents' wings. The story is based on my



childhood years of rescuing baby sparrows that fell out of a multi-room birdhouse high up on a pole in a neighbor's backyard.

The book sales help 9 humane organizations in the Chicago southland. All proceeds per book sold by use of a form provided through the website are donated to the organization selected by purchaser.

<http://tracyahrens.weebly.com/sammy-shelter-project.html>



Finding Forever: The Dogs of Coastal German Shepherd

Written by Dobie Houson

Finding Forever:

The Dogs of Coastal German Shepherd Rescue, is a heartwarming, profound, and joyful book about 26 amazing dogs and their search for a forever home. Anyone who has ever gazed into the

soulful eyes of their animal companion and wondered what they were thinking will fall in love with these German Shepherds and their beautiful stories.

Find it on Amazon.com at <http://ow.ly/cHA5B>

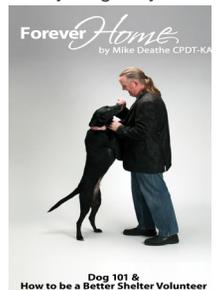
Forever Home

Written by Mike Deathe

Writing this book has been a challenge and a pleasure all at the same time. As I read and edit it (for what seems the 150th time), I realize it is way more than a book on how to be a great shelter volunteer. It is really a book about dogs, dog training and the ability to relate to your dog without malice, over the top control or even dominance. I am very proud of the ideas here, and really hope that all the people that read this book rush out to their local shelter, sign up as a volunteer and make a difference. I also realize this book has the potential to help people inside their own home with their own dogs, leading to a happier home for everyone involved. Even at the time of writing this last chapter, I have no idea what the title of the book will be. It was originally to be titled "So You Want to Be a Shelter Volunteer", but in looking at the final product I think it covers way more than that. I can only

hope that you, the reader, agree. I ask you to take this information, share it, find someone to help or maybe even decide to go out and join the group of us that are lucky enough to work with dogs and their owners for a living. (Dog Trainer is really not accurate, since we are first and foremost people trainers!) Every author thinks, or at least hopes, that everything they write will be thought of as a "masterpiece"! I hold no such hopes. I know there are as many different ways to train a dog as there are types of dogs in the world. Rather, I hope you found a nugget or two in this book that you cannot wait to try. Thank you for supporting Keep it Simple Stupid (KISS) Dog Training and go out and make a difference with your own dog or others' dogs. In the end, it is all about saving more dogs and finding them their forever homes. I hope you find few ideas to try along the way.

Mike Deathe CPDT-KA www.KeepItSimpleStupid.com
<http://www.kissdogtraining.com/blog/>



Teacup Turbulence

Written by Linda O. Johnston

Los Angeles animal shelter manager Lauren Vancouver has a soft spot for animals in need—and a keen eye for crime. . . Thanks to a savvy ad campaign featuring teacup pups sporting HotPets Bling—a new line of faux jewelry dog collars—small dog adoptions have skyrocketed across the city. So when Lauren discovers a shelter in the Midwest with more toy dogs than it can handle, she arranges a private plane to swoop in and fly the pups back

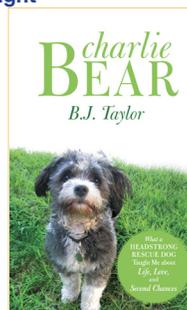


to LA. But Lauren didn't count on rescue worker Teresa Kantrim coming along for the ride. Teresa has cared for the dogs since they were found and doesn't trust anyone from LaLa Land to take over the job. Her biting comments clearly haven't earned Teresa any new friends, but when she turns up murdered, it's time for Lauren to dig into Teresa's past and find out who wanted her put down.

CHARLIE BEAR: What a Headstrong Rescue Dog Taught Me about Life, Love, and Second Chances

Written by B.J. Taylor

Everyone deserves a second chance and someone to love them, right? Even a stubborn little dog with behavior problems. The story of CHARLIE BEAR is an intimate look at the first year in the life of a dog nearly labeled "unadoptable" by his foster mother. As he begins his new life, Charlie Bear ferociously guards his food and toys, throws temper tantrums, and is sensitive to touch.



Although B.J. doubts their sanity in adopting Charlie Bear after he repeatedly attacks their other dog, Rex, she is determined to make it work for the sake of her husband, who has fallen in love. But when B.J.'s world begins to fall apart, she shares how time, patience, and faith helped her realize that Charlie Bear was not the only one who needed a second chance—she did, too.

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*'Percy'
the Intern*
Photo by: SuziK

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