

PAD for PAWS FOUNDATION

Keeping Pets and Their People Together



Summer/Fall 2014



Paws Up for Samantha Wigen

Pad for Paws wants to thank Samantha Wigen for taking the initiative to help feed Helena's many hungry dogs and cats. She led her troop #3846 in their Girl Scout Derby held on March 14. The evening's festivities resulted in a large donation of cat and dog food. Credit for the great success must be given to the whole troop and volunteers who supported Samantha's hard work. Additionally, the troop completed part of a badge requirement for holding the Derby.

We much appreciate Samantha's work on behalf of Pad for Paws. She is a loyal, hard-working participant in our monthly "scooping parties" when volunteers bag portions of cat and dog food for distribution to Helena Food Share and many elderly and economically challenged households around Helena.

Pad for Paws thanks everyone who attended the Derby and remembered all the needy cats and dogs with their generous donations.



Another Splendid Wine Tasting Evening!

Pad for Paws joined up with Laura Fix at Island Liquors on May 7 for another wonderful evening of wine tasting that was sold out two weeks before the event. Now an established tradition each spring, the wine-tasting drew a record crowd of wine lovers who had the opportunity to sample delicious red and white wines from around the world. Laura's generosity and enthusiasm largely contribute to the event's success each year.

The evening's tasty wines were once again beautifully complimented by Melissa O'Hair's scrumptious hors d'oeuvres, including shrimp, ham, pork loin, and beef tenderloin, and a taste-tempting variety of cheeses and crackers. Medallions of French bread, hot cheese dips, fresh fruits, and a rich sampling of mint and chocolate squares and cheesecake rounded out the evening's fare. Midway during the evening, a

drawing was held for three raffle prizes. The first-prize winner, Jamie Beverly, received a case of the wines featured during the event. The second prize, a 3-liter Jeroboam bottle of Hedges Red Mountain wine, went to Angela Joki. Third-prize winner Janet Harper won a wine basket with several wines, a wine-bottle holder, and other wine-drinking accessories. Record ticket sales, raffle tickets, and generous donations from guests brought in substantial funds to meet the needs of hungry cats and dogs around the Helena area for several months.

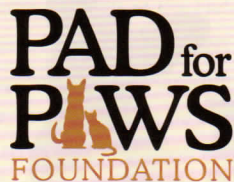


Laura Fix Congratulating First-Prize Winner Jamie Beverly

Pad for Paws is once again very grateful to the many pet lovers around Helena who turned out to support this very worthy cause. Their never-failing care for the often forgotten cats and dogs in our community inspires us to do our very best to alleviate pet suffering.

What's Inside

Page 2 | Good & Bad of Dog Play | Beer & Brats Fundraiser
Page 3 | New K-9 Member | Memorial Donations
Page 4 | Fido Fun Fest | Hank the Tank | Cool-Headed Courage



Board Members

Garry A. Pistoria

President

Ronald Stottlemeyer

Vice President

Nancy Jardon

Treasurer

Heather Kahler

Cristina Jardon

James Stiffler

Contact Us

Pad for Paws

Foundation

P.O. Box 287

Helena, MT 59624

406.442.7373

On the Web

www.padforpaws.org

Email

info@padforpaws.org

Facebook

Pad for Paws Foundation

Newsletter

Ronald Stottlemeyer

Articles

*“To err is human,
to forgive, canine.”*

— Anonymous

The Good and Bad of Dog Play *by Tom Kandt*



Why do dogs play? We don't know for sure. There are many species that play, including human beings. Dogs playing in the wild, however, seems counter intuitive because it can burn up valuable energy and take an animal's attention away from predators. Actually, playing may enhance survival. Noted neuroscientist Jaak Panksepp has a new take on play. He has identified seven primordial emotional systems in the subcortical brain that all mammals, and some non-mammals, have in common. One of them is play. Panksepp believes play has developed as an adaptive evolutionary behavior. He argues that it promotes stronger social bonds and serves as practice for real-world survival challenges, like hunting and fighting.

Whatever the reason for dog play, good play can develop bite inhibition, communication skills, and friendly responses to other dogs. Bad play, however, can result in nasty fights and injury, emotional trauma for both dogs and owners, and a lower quality of life for the dog that can't be trusted around other dogs. Let's look at the good and the bad of play.

Good dog play is balanced. There is a lot of give and take. Both dogs are having fun, and their bodies show it. Body movement is loose, bouncing, and inefficient. Mouths are relaxed and happy, exhibiting a sometimes silly-looking play face. There are also times when dogs change body positions, the bigger dog allowing the smaller one to be dominant. This kind of play behavior is known as self-handicapping, a sure sign of good playing. Similarly, dogs sometimes do role reversals, which means that one dog assumes the playing behavior that the other was doing.

Both dogs will likewise make friendly play gestures like play bows, turning and hitting with the hips, and mutually stopping when things get rough. They may growl and bark, and it may sound like a fight, but it isn't. They may even mouthe one another, but the mouthing is soft and inhibited.

Bad play is quite different. Dogs' bodies are tense and tight. Their movements are stiff and planned. There can be neck biting and collar pulling. There might be body slamming which is fun only for the slammer. There is sometimes pinning and mounting by one dog, which can result in a fight. Lack of play skills may result in one dog's harassing another, or two or more dogs ganging up on one. If you see one dog standing with its head over another, intervene immediately: this is a challenging posture. Finally, if one dog is trying to get away from another, break up the "playing" quickly. Generally, there should be periodic breaks in play to control over arousal, which can result in fights.

Helena's dog park is a place where dogs can romp and play. I have seen no fights there, and dogs are generally well supervised. Remember: the dog park is not a place to teach a dog proper play skills if he or she lacks them. Contact a professional trainer for that. If you cannot control your dog's play, it's best to keep him or her out of the park.

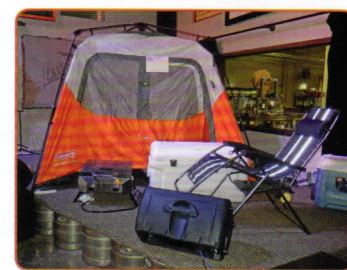
But if your dog has good play skills, then unbuckle the leash and let 'em rip! Watching healthy dogs play and romp with reckless abandonment is a tonic for the soul.

Tom Kandt is a certified, professional dog trainer and canine behavior consultant in the Helena area.

A Great Evening at the Beer and Brats Fundraiser

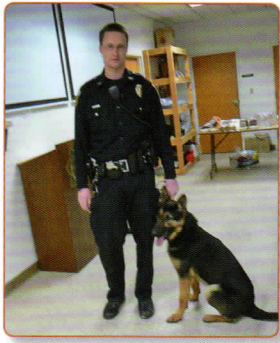
On Tuesday evening, August 12th, hundreds of people turned out to support Pad for Paws' annual Beer and Brats evening at the Lewis & Clark Brewery. Braving a late afternoon thunderstorm and downpour, supporters lined up well before the event started at 5:30. No one wanted to miss out on cold beer, brats, and raffle tickets. People filled the tables on the patio to catch up with friends. On tap this year were some great raffle prizes offered for the low ticket prices of \$1 each or 6 for \$5.

First prize was a camping package that included a four-person tent, a camp chair, a tabletop propane grill, a large cooler, and a \$50 Lewis & Clark Brewery gift card. Kathy Carrierre was the lucky winner of this gear that retailed at over \$1,000. Janet Harper won second prize, a gift basket containing a \$50 VISA gift card, ceramic mugs, a frisbee, teas, sunglasses, and lots more. Third prize—a large cooler and a \$25 Lewis and Clark Brewery card—went to Sandie Stiffler.



Thanks to all of you who came out to share good times with friends. We especially want to thank our sponsors for their help in making the evening a success: The Lewis and Clark Brewery, Valley Bank of Helena, Jim and Sandie Stiffler, and First Interstate Bank. We also offer a special thanks to Butch Biskupiac from Carroll College for the loan of a large propane grill for the evening's cooking.





New K-9 Member in Helena

The Helena Police Department has a new team: Officer John Kaleczyc and his four-legged partner, DINO. They spent several weeks of intense training in North Carolina and are now ready to begin their partnership in Helena.

The Pad for Paws Crew wishes Officer Kaleczyc and Dino all the best and I am sure we will be seeing them around Helena serving our community.

Memorial Donations

Pad for Paws thanks the generous people who have kindly remembered beloved friends and pets with memorial donations.



Donors

Pets

Janet Harper
Mike Blessinger
John and Marcia Maynard
Mike Blessinger
Nancy Kraft
Geri Semmens
Debbe and Garry Pistoria
Mary Spaulding
Bill Cloud
Constance Lere
Janet Harper
Dick Morgan
Santee Spendlove
Ruth Anne Hansen
Linda Simmons
Debbe and Garry Pistoria
Nancy Kraft
Dick Morgan
Marilyn Grant

Janet Andrew Weeks
Norma Tirrell
Wayne and Kathy Carriere
Wayne and Kathy Carriere
Ron and Joan Stottlemeyer
Kristin Bakula
Debbe and Garry Pistoria

Dave and Nancy Kraft
Kathryn M. Cutting
Dick Morgan
Sarah Jaeger

People

Clayton Sheets
Len and Carol Lutey
Norma Jean Greenfield
Bonnie Welch
Arlene Welch
Lee Ann Hall
Diane Nickman
Jennifer O'Loughlin
Janet Andrew
Garry and Debbe Pistoria
Curtis Blake
Karen Screnar
Clayton Sheets

Memorials/Honorariums

Kiri and Kittaly
Gracie and Tigger
Kittaly and Kiri Harper
Buddy Kraft
Buddy Kraft
In memory of Shawnee Reeser
The Kraft dogs Buddy and Fergus
Grandkitty Bailey Hill
On behalf of Jackson the dog (Miles City)
In memory of Buddy Kraft
"Casse" dog of Sheila and Dennis Lopach
"Harley" cute and beloved Westie of Crystal and Dave Shors
My beloved psycho cat Sasha
Stoll, Bogy, and Kraft
Beloved family horse "Tigger" Jardon
Beloved pets Tigger and Atticus Jardon
Much loved boy Atticus Jardon
In memory of my dog Charlie
Dick Morgan's remarkable companion Charlie,
and my good four-legged friend and neighbor.
Charlie Morgan, who spent 12 years bringing joy to Dick Morgan
In memory of Dick Morgan's Chuck
Laura Fix and Bud Clinch's dog Jasper
Gail and Kerry Brown's beloved lab
"Atticus" Jardon
In memory of Charlie, Dick Morgan's wonderful little dog
In loving memory of "Jasper the gentleman," beloved dog of Bud
Clinch and Laura Fix, and "Little Charlie," beloved dog of Dick Morgan
Dick Morgan's dog Charlie
"Charlie" Morgan
"George," my neighbor Ann Seliskar's sweet and cute dog
Charlie, beloved pal to Dick Morgan

Betty Algard
Betty Algard
Betty Algard
Allen Petersen
Allen Petersen
Allen Petersen
Allen Petersen
Debbe Pistoria's mother
Kevin O'Loughlin
C.W. "Bill" Leaphart
Herb Jardon
Bill Leaphart, Sr.
Ralph DeLong
Hans Algard



Fido Fun Fest Project *by Marsha Paine*

Three students at the Helena College University of Montana created the Fido Fun Fest event as their final project in their Capstone Class. Planning started on February 6, 2014 when Pad for Paws agreed to be their project partner. The three students' hard work paid off on a blustery, fun-filled Saturday afternoon at Paws Park on April 5, 2014.

The day's activities had two purposes: raising public awareness of the great need Helena's hungry dogs and cats have for pet food and recognizing the good work that the Pad for Paws Foundation does.

Eager participants came to the event, donating 225 pounds of pet food. In



Event Coordinators Awarding a Prize to the Best of Show Winner and His Owner

addition, \$165 came in from donations to purchase much needed dog food.

Additionally, behind the scenes, a homeless dog named Chance was getting a new lease on life when Hannah, a Carroll College student, entered him into the talent competition. While participating in an event that involved pulling off Hannah's socks, he got a brand new chance in life by being adopted to live in Shelby, Montana.

It has been awe-inspiring for the Capstone students to work with Debbe Pistoria of the Pad for Paws Foundation. She generously donated her time and ideas for the project along with providing great prizes for the winners of different competitions.

Hank the Tank

Meet Hank, a hound cross who has finally found a permanent place to lay his head! It was a long time coming. He was often passed around from one owner to another. The last one was very kind to him, but realized he could not give Hank the home he needed. That's when a wonderful woman and her son stepped in and rescued him. They were not planning to adopt Hank, but sometimes you have to do what is needed whether timing is right or not.

When the new owners discovered that Hank had serious health issues requiring extensive vet care, they worried about being able to pay for it. Hank needed surgery to remove the ugly tumor on his back leg/hip area. Also, his mouth and teeth needed attention. His new owners called Pad for Paws for financial assistance to help cover the bills. We were happy to pay part of the costs. We also decided he needed special high-protein food to improve his dry, flaky coat. Since he could also use an orthopedic dog bed to sleep comfortably, we gave him one for inside the house and one for the porch.

We are happy to report that Hank sailed through his tumor surgery and that after several weeks on an improved diet, his coat is shiny and smooth.

He now has a new bounce in his step and never lets his new family out of his sight. A thoroughly contented boy, he spends a good part of the day happily dozing on the porch.



Cool-Headed Courage

Stephanie Morrison and Cleo, her three-year-old lab mix, were climbing one of Mt. Helena's trails on a Sunday morning in early spring. Suddenly the hike turned to chaos.

"At first Cleo was just pawing her face," Stephanie explains. Then she began to heave, as though she were getting sick. "I didn't see anything on her face, but when I looked into her eyes, I saw the light fading from them. She wasn't breathing."



Quickly surmising that Cleo must be choking on something, Stephanie tried the Heimlich maneuver. It did not come easily with Cleo, who is a big girl. Terrified, Stephanie saw it was not working. Cleo's legs began to stiffen. She was dying in Stephanie's arms.

Staying calm, with no one to assist her, nor any experience to guide her, Stephanie shoved her hand down Cleo's throat. "My arm was half way down when I felt something move. Cleo began to gasp." Once Cleo was breathing normally, she and Stephanie sat down for several minutes, taking in the enormity of what had just happened. "It was abject terror," Stephanie recalls. "Cleo is my furry friend, my life partner."

Later that day, Cleo was pronounced fully recovered by a vet. As for Stephanie, her courage continues. She "got back on the horse" the next day and took Cleo for a hike.

Happy trails, Stephanie and Cleo.

