



Whiskers & Tales

Vol. XII - No. 1

News about pets, people, and making a difference

Spring 2006

**Alaska Center for the Book
Anchorage Municipal Libraries
and Friends of Pets present
Reading Rendezvous
Saturday, June 3rd
Cuddy Family Midtown Park
12 to 4 pm**



and **TALES**

**Sponsored by ACS - ConocoPhillips - Tesoro
Friends of the Library - Alaska Garden & Pet**



*Summer Reading Program
illustrations by David Shannon,
author of Duck on a Bike, A Bad
Case of Stripes, and many other
highly praised children's books..*

What do you get when you combine the best of Be Kind to Animals Week with the kickoff to the Summer Reading Program? The tail-waggingest Reading Rendezvous ever! Each year the FOP booth at Reading Rendezvous is the crowd favorite, so this year's summer reading theme of "Paws, Claws, Scales and Tales" is a perfect opportunity to help kids learn more about our animal friends! Join us as FOP's Be Kind to Animals Week celebration (usually held in May) moves to Midtown to join the Reading Rendezvous. With fun activities and "close encounters of the furred kind," the story will truly leap off the page. Look for the giant balloon of Clifford the Big Red Dog to join the celebration - because pets and books are a kid's best friends this summer, and all through the year!



- Sign up for the Summer Reading Program
 - Take photos with Clifford the Big Red Dog
 - Dress up as your favorite pet for the Pet Parade (meet at the fountain at 11:30 am)
 - Meet REAL animal friends of all kinds!
 - Browse the Friends of the Library Book Sale
- ...and as always, read to the FOP dogs, who love a tall with a happy ending!

**Make tracks to the
Reading Rendezvous!**



Pet Patrol Exhibit moves to the Loussac Library

As the "Spot the Dog" exhibit concludes at the Anchorage Museum of History and Art, FOP's display at the gallery entrance moves to the Z.J. Loussac Library for the Summer Reading Program.



See page 3 for more about this retrospective of hundreds of Pet Patrol portraits by David Jensen of Alaska Pet-ography.

Board Notes...

At our annual meeting in March, officers were elected for 2006: Peg Banks, president; Michele Girault, vice president; and Kari Campbell, secretary/treasurer. In recent months, three of our Board members have reached service milestones. Kari Campbell has completed five years of service, while Michele Girault and Pat Orlandi have each dedicated 15 years to board service. Activities and accomplishments for 2005 are summarized at right.

This month we are beginning the process of an independent audit to review our financials, as part of our system of continued accountability to our donors.

Our board recently took a day's retreat to consider FOP's vision and direction for the future. We will be working over the next few months to develop goals and plans which utilize our resources for best impact. We are grateful to consultants Sue Scott of Psychology Resources and John A. Pagan for contributing their expertise and guidance to this process.

 Peg Banks
President

AACCC and FOP plan Pet First Aid classes

Ever wonder what to do... if your dog or cat is choking? If an accident happens which injures your pet, in your backyard or maybe miles from home? In an emergency, it's important to get to a veterinarian as fast as you can, but you can give your pet a better chance of survival in crisis if you know the concepts of basic first aid for pets. Anchorage Animal Care & Control and Friends of Pets will be co-hosting American Red Cross classes in Pet First Aid and CPR this summer, as part of our joint education outreach. Watch the Events page on our website at www.friendsofpets.org for the class dates as they are scheduled.



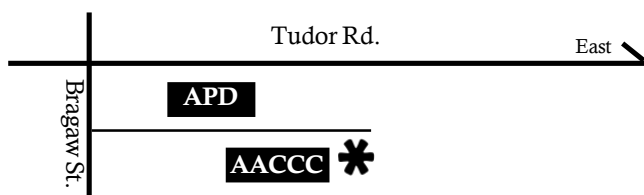
Activities and accomplishments In 2005, Friends of Pets....

- ♥ Provided a 24-hour telephone information center, free to the public with service donated by TekMate
- ♥ Rescued 119 pets, most with medical complications or other special needs; 87% of these were on request of Anchorage Animal Care & Control (we honored every such request this year)
- ♥ Spayed/neutered 1161 pets with our coupon assistance program
- ♥ Produced a new television PSA "Commitment" with production donated by SprocketHeads
- ♥ Presented the 11th annual Dog Jog
- ♥ Served on the task force for the Animal Control Advisory Board's strategic plan for animal care and control services
- ♥ Helped 45 families in immediate need of medical or emergency assistance funds
- ♥ Presented our annual Be Kind to Animals Week celebration
- ♥ Installed an entrance exhibit of Pet Patrol portraits for the year-long "Spot the Dog" show in the Children's Gallery at Anchorage Museum of History and Art
- ♥ Held holiday toy drive for animals at AACCC
- ♥ Presented the weekly Pet Patrol feature in the Anchorage Daily News, with portraits by Alaska Pet-ography
- ♥ Provided the adoption telephone hotline for AACCC
- ♥ Successfully sought grant funding for our spay/neuter program
- ♥ Offered pet behavior and training advice, and other information and referrals to hundreds of pet owners
- ♥ Developed a pet loss grief support resource packet for families experiencing this loss
- ♥ Provided the Safe Haven program to 12 pets of victims of domestic abuse, in partnership with Abused Women's Aid in Crisis (AWAIC), including a combined 461 days of foster care
 - ♥ Published a monthly list of pet-friendly rentals
 - ♥ Published a weekly list of adoptable pets distributed to veterinary clinics and other outlets throughout the community
 - ♥ Worked with schools and youth groups on service projects and education outreach
 - ♥ Presented our 9th annual auction of Quilts & Other Creations
 - ♥ Produced quarterly newsletter Whiskers & Tales
- ♥ Won Best PSA in the international Dog Fest Film Festival for our "Hero" PSA, produced by SprocketHeads
- ♥ Received the 2005 Special Award from the Alaska Kennel Club
- ♥ Welcomed 355,000 hits at our website www.friendsofpets.org
- ♥ Maintained a membership base of 600+ members with another 3,500 occasional donors and community contacts
- ♥ Participated in 22 community outreach events



Anchorage Animal Care & Control Statistics

Year ending Dec. 31, 2005	Year to date as of Mar. 31, 2006
Adopted - 3722	Adopted - 822
Claimed - 1501	Claimed - 296
Euthanized - 3046	Euthanized - 734



Anchorage Animal Care & Control Center • 4711 S. Bragaw St. • 343-8118

...and we did it all 
with our WONDERFUL volunteers!

Focused on making a difference

David Jensen, Alaska Pet-ography



David Jensen

Fourteen years have passed since two very shaggy dogs named Brandi & Callie were featured in the debut of *Pet Patrol* in the Anchorage Daily News on February 29, 1992. Since then, over 800 dogs and cats have found homes through this weekly newspaper feature with portraits of adoptable dogs and cats courtesy of Alaska Pet-ography. A display of hundreds of David Jensen's portraits of FOP's rescued dogs have graced the entrance to the "Spot The Dog" exhibit at the Anchorage Museum of History and Art. The FOP portion of the exhibit now moves to the Loussac Library for the Summer Reading Program "Paws, Claws, Scales & Tales."

FOP's rescued cats and dogs visit David's studio where the Alaska Pet-ography staff take portraits and prepare the images for publication. "It's difficult for a lot of people to visit the Anchorage Animal Care & Control Center when they're interested in adopting a new pet," David says. "With so many furry faces peering through the cages, many families feel so guilty that they can't adopt every animal

there, that they simply don't visit the center at all. Pet Patrol brings FOP's rescue efforts to the forefront by displaying these adorable pets one at a time through professional portraits."

David spent about three weeks scouring, scanning and editing dog images before producing the final, six-panel museum display. It brought back lots of memories. "Every pet has its own story," he said. "It was an awesome and tedious project. I was at first concerned with the possibility of losing the individuality of each story, but the overall collection came to life on its own. Participating volunteers, adopting families, financial donors, veterinarians, boarding facilities and so many others who have had a hand in this process will see for themselves the impact they've made on the lives of so many people and pets. And Pet Patrol will continue to thrive as long as it is needed in the community."

David and his wife, Carol, started Alaska Pet-ography in 1989. They've since expanded to include other, less-furry subjects, including children and families, high school senior portraits, weddings and special events. David's studio is located at 9130 Elim Street, off Abbott Road. Closer to home, David and Carol are owned by four dogs and one cat - three of whom are FOP rescues, and all of whom, David says, have more 'bark-a-lounger' space than he does. "We wouldn't have it any other way!"



*The Jensens' dogs
Drew, Princess, Maggie, and Flash*



*All photos
this page
courtesy of
Alaska
Pet-ography*



Tillie's transformation....

A few months ago, FOP was called to Anchorage Animal Care & Control to rescue a small dog suffering from horrific neglect. Despite her terrible state, she was eager for human affection, wagging and pawing at the cage. We took some 'before' photos to help you appreciate the condition in which many of our rescued pets have come to us, and a recent portrait to show what your kind support did to reclaim her life and find her a loving home.



Left to right: A few quick snips with scissors revealed a hopeful little face; toenails nearly two inches long curved back into her feet - her paw pads could not be found through the matted hair; mats on her chest were the size of footballs; dental neglect resulted in terribly inflamed gums and diseased teeth. Tillie was taken to VCA East Anchorage Animal Hospital, where she was anesthetized for shaving and medical treatment, and awoke a brand new dog!



...into glamorous Gidget!

Photo courtesy of
© Alaska Pet-ography



Where are they now?



Bob

"On Nov 1, 2003, I adopted 'Palmer,' a Pomeranian from FOP. Palmer didn't really suit him, so I call him 'Bob.' He has been the best companion. When we are out on walks, people stop us to meet him. He has an outgoing personality, loves people, dogs and playing. He is the favorite at doggie daycare. Thanks for introducing us." - *Michele Barber*

2006 Golden Hearts Award

FOP is among this year's recipients of the Golden Hearts Awards, in the category of Volunteer Program. The Golden Hearts Awards are presented by the Anchorage Association of Volunteer Administrators and British Petroleum.



2005 Alaska Kennel Club Special Award

FOP was honored by the Alaska Kennel Club for our Safe Haven program to help the pets of domestic violence. Safe Haven is offered as a partnership with Abused Women's Aid in Crisis.



Bubba's legacy... Happy landings for Samson!



*Bubba (above)
and Samson (right)
portraits by
Alaska Pet-ography*



As we brought you the story of Bubba's inspiring life and his sad passing (*Winter 2006 issue*), the next chapter was already being written for his parents Laurie Hummel and Chad Parker...and an absolutely exceptional young Saint Bernard we had dubbed Samson. We knew that he was one in a million, but of course everyone would have to agree that they wanted to be a family! On one of Chad's regular trips back to Anchorage this winter, the meeting was arranged. Samson and Chad had a heart-to-heart about it, and Laurie voted by phone, "Bring me my boy!" The logistics of long airline travel for



giant dogs are a real challenge, but on March 1 (*Samson's first birthday and the day Laurie was promoted to colonel*), he and foster mom Toni Merrigan arrived at Washington DC's Dulles Airport to make the adoption official. He's fitting right in with older brother Boomer and sister Ruby, and the cat contingent too. As Chad is deployed to Afghanistan for the next year, and Laurie and the kids make their way back to West Point, we've sent them our very warmest wishes of the heart - in a big furry package!



(from top) Preparing for flight with foster mom Toni; visiting in the terminal with Michele; getting the okay from security. (below) Settling in at home with Chad.



Kind Kids!



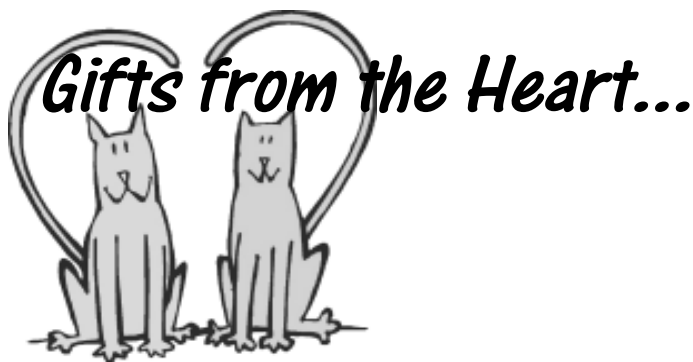
Ravenwood Elementary's Student Council recently welcomed us to present nearly \$400 in donations from their school-wide drive - much of it in coins because every bit counts. It was such a pleasure to talk to these young people and see their obvious concern - and their confidence in knowing they can make a difference in our community through their kind work. (And that bucket was really heavy!)



DOG JOG IS JULY 29 AT KINCAID PARK!



It's time to start stitching! Our 10th annual auction will be the best yet, and it's all to support spay and neuter right here in our community!



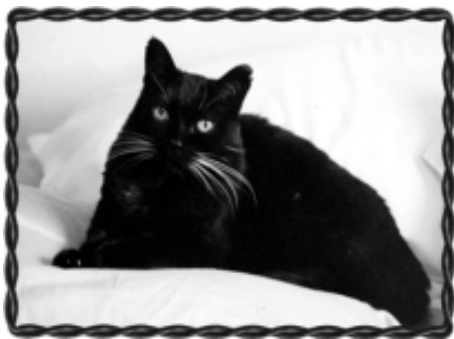
*to celebrate the dear ones in our lives today,
and remember those in our hearts...*

♥ **Alden Todd** by *Billie DeVore* ♥ **Amber** by *Jeffrey & Jean Sherman* ♥ **Amy Frankenburg** by *Carla Beam* ♥ **Bailey** by *Carolyn Ellingwood & Dave Bateman* ♥ **Barbara Jones** by *Kristie Belk* ♥ **Basil Koppenberg** by *Anne Nevaldine* ♥ **Bear** by *Tina & Brian Morrow* ♥ **Belay** by *Penelope Wells* ♥ **Benji** by *Ralph & Sarah Clampitt* ♥ **Bill Housley** by *David & Deborah Swinney, Lynn & Mary Lou Bavousett, Blanche Delong* ♥ **Blackie** by *Daniel & Cathy Gleason, Mary Gleason* ♥ **Blake** by *Wendy & David Longtin* ♥ **Bobbette** by *Cindy Marshall* ♥ **Bonnie Blue**

by *Martha Dunn* ♥ **Bozette** by *Marjorie Carter, Penelope Wells* ♥ **Bruno, Susie & Tallulah** by *Patti Chesnutt* ♥ **Brutus, Oosick & Groucho** by *Jackie Cox* ♥ **Buck & Cody** by *Bob Wienhold* ♥ **Champ Browning** by *Tom, Wendy & Jessica Browning, Randy & Julie Roberts, Ken & Kathleen Jesiel, Gary & Patricia Gottschall, Michele Girault, Michael & Holly Frankel* ♥ **Cheyenne** by *Kristie Belk* ♥ **Chisana** by *Jacqueline Musgrave* ♥ **Connie Zarndt** by *Kathy Howse* ♥ **Cookie Marx** by *Anne Nevaldine* ♥ **Easy** by *Gail Galleher* ♥ **Elsie Stevenson, Yotus and Kit-Tee** by *Jim Stevenson & Kathy Zins* ♥ **Emma Kane** by *Monica Kane* ♥ **Fearless** by *Joan & Gary Thisby* ♥ **Fred** by *Deborah Wahrer* ♥ **Fro** by *Michele Girault* ♥ **Gizmo & Sage** by *Julie Jessen* ♥ **Gucci** by *Charlene Spadafore Vassar* ♥ **Hazel Warwick** by *Jean Donatello, John & Justine Johnson, Gilbert & Lucy Whitehead* ♥ **Jackie Joy** by *Martha Andrew, Shirley Hanson, Lyal Hanson, Carmen Urias, Dody Froehlich, Kristina Jacobs, Coshok's Canine Castle, Betsy Randall* ♥ **Jake the "ADN Dog"** by *Kristie Belk* ♥ **James & Sheila Woodcock** by *Susan McDonald* ♥ **James O. Campbell** by *The Campbell Family* ♥ **Jasmine Samsa** by *Julie McCann* ♥ **Jenny & Jilly** by *Dorcas Lutz* ♥ **K.C.** by *Donna Prewitt* ♥ **Koby** by *Michele Girault* ♥ **Louann & Amy** by *Sheila Clark* ♥ **Maggie & Spot** by *Deb Price* ♥ **Maggie Mae** by *Gary Dunst* ♥ **Mary Alice Jones** by *William & Sara Bulen* ♥ **Mary Kuzia** by *Richard & Patricia Lynch* ♥ **McKinley & Nutmeg** by *Kim & Robin Hamelin* ♥ **Mesa** by *Daniel & Rachel Cheyette* ♥ **Michel** by *Christine Sitbon* ♥ **Mickey** by *Penelope Wells* ♥ **Misha** by *Tiare Kaufman* ♥ **Missy & Bitser** by *Lori & Jim Kedrowski* ♥ **Mocha** by *Edward Greene* ♥ **Mocha** by *Judy and Scott Rogers* ♥ **Mocha** by *William & Shart Strasser* ♥ **Nancy Burnette** by *Penelope Wells* ♥ **"O" Clark** by *Peg Banks* ♥ **Ollie Woods** by *Woods Plumbing & Heating, Tom & Anna Woods, Dog Tired Doggie Daycare, Michele Girault, Dirk & Kari Campbell, FOP Board of Directors* ♥ **Patricia Schultz** by *Charles & Nancy Protzmann, Ed & Mathilde Grey* ♥ **Pebbles** by *Michele Girault* ♥ **Perry** by *Dorcas Lutz* ♥ **Rebel** by *Bridget Bushue* ♥ **Rosie** by *Marcia Hoffman-Devoe* ♥ **Rupert** by *Stephanie Rhoades* ♥ **Sachmo & Mr. Puggins** by *Mary Flaherty* ♥ **Sasha, Smokey, Misty & Roxanne** by *Bonnie Henry* ♥ **Scamper** by *Jung Azar* ♥ **Scotty Smith** by *Dirk & Kari Campbell, FOP Board of Directors* ♥ **Shadow "Shad"** by *Merlyn & Shirley Berke* ♥ **Shadow** by *Marjorie Carter* ♥ **Sheba** by *Linda Howard* ♥ **Sophie** by *Joe & Kathleen Gianotti* ♥ **Spencer** by *Alice & Mike Messick* ♥ **Stout** by *Marjorie Carter* ♥ **Taffy & Tiffany** by *Dianne Toebe* ♥ **Zeke** by *Emily Becker*



If you have recently experienced the death of an animal companion
and need help coping with grief,
FOP offers a free information packet that can help.
Contact Peg at 689-7787 or peg@friendsofpets.org.



Blackie
1990-2006

Our beloved cat, Blackie, came to our home as a stray in 1990 and, after over 15 years of wonderful companionship, left us on February 8 of this year. We were blessed to have him in our home for so long. From his chewed-up ears and shiny black fur to his distinctive white whiskers and his desire to always be near our side, he entered our hearts and never let go.

He provided us many years of unlimited and unconditional love and affection - the least we can do is honor his memory by supporting Friends of Pets and all your work to place animals into loving homes. Also, many thanks for the grief packet.

We're taking this loss hard and we appreciate the support this has provided.
- Cathy and Dan Gleason

Meet our Sanctuary Animals...

Missy

This sweet retriever mix female is a typical happy, tail-wagging Lab who's been waiting patiently this last year for her forever home. Once we rescued her from Anchorage Animal Care & Control, we learned that her hips were not in great shape. We've had her checked out by a specialist who says she'll be fine with regular exercise and play. She currently is having water therapy (and loves it!). With her sweet and happy nature, she'd make a wonderful family pet.

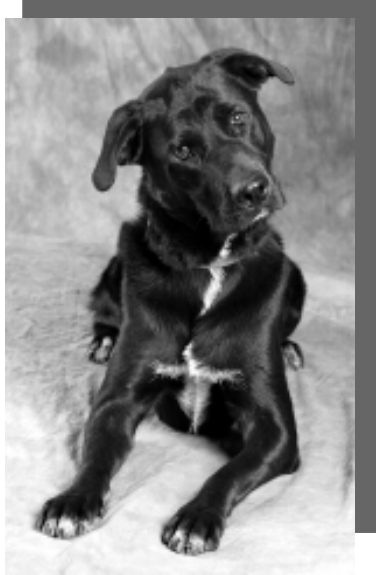


Photo courtesy of
© Alaska Pet-ography

Our rescue program includes two categories of animals who are with us long-term. **Long-term fosters** have no particular issues to prohibit adoption, but after one year still have not found the right match. **Sanctuary animals** have poor adoption prospects due to old age, medical issues or other problems, but their quality of life is good and euthanasia is not recommended. Currently two dogs and three cats are part of this family (they don't know they are homeless!). But the reality is that our commitment to their support diverts both space and finances from other animals who could be saved. We hold the hope that each of these special souls may yet find a loving family of his or her very own.

Prevent a litter!

A donation of just \$40 will provide a spay/neuter assistance coupon to a pet owner in financial need. Thank you for caring!



*Sanctuary updates: Sabrina has been adopted!
Simon has crossed the Rainbow Bridge.*



An animal's eyes have the power to speak a great language.

- Martin Buber



Be part of the Friends of Pets family!

Please mail completed coupon to FOP, P.O. Box 240981, Anchorage, AK 99524

Name: _____

Address: _____

City/State/Zip: _____

Phone: _____

Email address: _____

Include me in occasional e-news updates

Donations of \$10 or more receive a newsletter subscription. If you do not wish to receive a newsletter, please check here .

Gifts from the heart:

In honor of:

In memory of:

Send an acknowledgment to:

Name: _____

Address: _____

I want to make a one-time general donation. New donors receive a window sticker to alert emergency services of the pets in your home.

\$25 \$50 \$75 \$100 \$250 \$ _____

I want to make regular monthly donations. Thank you for your ongoing support! Indicate the monthly amount:

\$15 \$25 \$35 \$50 \$100 \$ _____

I want to sponsor the sanctuary animals.

Sponsorships are \$20 monthly.

Please send me a supply of donation envelopes.

Please charge my credit card below each month.

Total donation: \$ _____

Check or money order enclosed

VISA MasterCard Expiration date: _____

Account # _____

Signature: _____

Looking for a warm heart...

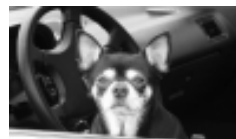
Jones
and
Blue



Photo courtesy of © Alaska Pet-ography

These two neutered male cats are gentle companions who would like to continue to live together. Jones is a 10-month-old tabby mix with extra toes; Blue is a Russian Blue mix about 3 years old. They were cherished pets, released to us with the hope we could help find someone who would love them dearly. They have lived in a quiet adult home, and because Jones is pretty shy, a home with small children is not recommended. For adoption info, call 333-9534 or use the online application at www.friendsofpets.org.

Arctic Rainmaker Touchless Car Wash



It's spring breakup and your car is under that mud... somewhere! Every Wednesday is FOP Day, with \$1.00 donated from every wash. Your support really helps us so much! Arctic Rainmaker is at the corner of Arctic & International.



*we're on the web at
www.friendsofpets.org*

FOP Board of Directors

*Peg Banks, President Michele Girault, Vice-President
Kari Campbell, Secretary/Treasurer
Marjorie Carter - Delynne Chambers - Patty Hickok
LeeLani French - Patricia Orlandi - Deborah Voves*

Newsletter printing by Alaska Business Supply

Friends of Pets, Inc. is a nonprofit organization formed in 1989 to make Anchorage a community where all pets are loved, wanted and cared for, through education, prevention and intervention.



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www.friendsofpets.org

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**Reading Rendezvous is June 8
with Paws, Claws, Scales & Tales!**