



FLUFF STUFF

“The greatness of a nation and its moral progress can be judged by the way its animals are treated.”

— Mahatma Gandhi

A Pause For Paws

Dear Friends,

I am very excited to share with you the progress Four Legged Friends Foundation has made since our last newsletter. Donor contributions have increased, our programs have shown significant growth, and thanks to the successful revival of **Bow Wow Meow** last September, this wonderful event for animals in urgent need is going to be semi-annual!

On **Sunday, April 22, 2007**, the **Spring Bow Wow Meow** will assist local shelters in finding homes for those animals scheduled to be euthanized even though they are healthy, already spayed/neutered and given all their shots. Through this event, I am committed to educating the public on the consequences of pet over-population. You too can save a life and enrich your own by adopting that day!

In this issue of *FLUFF STUFF*, you'll meet three lucky pups we assisted, including Bumper whose family was supported by our **Another Sunny Day Fund**. Also featured is our “legal beagle” who has been part of the pack since FLUFF's conception and aided in bringing Four Legged Friends Foundation to the status of non-profit organization.



But the FLUFF Pack doesn't exist with you! It is only through your support that Four Legged Friends Foundation is able to increase public awareness about the contributions animals make to our families, the disabled, seniors, hospital patients, children and more. I personally thank you for continuing to inspire me each day.

FLUFFy Regards, Sandra Lollino, *Founder/President*

Woof's New?

services, gifts and — most importantly — *adoptions of dogs and cats* who were scheduled for termination at local

Last September marked the rebirth of **Bow Wow Meow** — *saving animals in urgent need!*

On a sunny Sunday, alongside the Brentwood Art Fair, The Greater WLA Chamber of Commerce Health Expo, food vendors and a children's play area, FLUFF assisted in filling 27 of 120 event booths with pet related products,

shelters. A good time was had by all, both two- and four-legged. And due to our success we've been given the go ahead to do it again! This spring, **Bow**

Wow Meow will be in conjunction with the Brentwood Art Fair and The Greater WLA Chamber of Commerce Business Expo. For this spring's event,



continued >

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FLuFF's Legal Beagle

Hi! I'm **Esti Miller** (seen here with my friend **Mollie**) and I'm the lawyer behind FLuFF. As a member of the Animal Issues Committee of the Los Angeles County Bar Association, I received an email some time ago requesting legal assistance in setting up a non-profit organization. When I met Sandra and heard about her ideas for FLuFF, I was hugely impressed by her energy and vision, and remain so today. Sandra has become a dear friend and I feel privileged and honored to be a part of her "pack."



I view all animals as precious beings with so much to give us; in return they need and deserve our protection. Preventing cruelty to animals as well as humans is at the top of my list of values and priorities.

As a member of the International Alliance of Holistic Lawyers, I also see myself as a helper, healer, and counselor. My private practice in Calabasas, Rosenthal & Miller, LLP, represents small to mid-sized business and individuals in all of their business and estate planning needs. We also represent several animal rights organizations and have developed a focus on providing for the care of people's pets in their estate plans. You may have seen me in my booth at the Bow Wow Meow last September. See you again in April!

Esti Miller, Esq., Attorney at Law, Rosenthal & Miller, LLP, 818-746-9222

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we have increased the number of pet related booths to 37, including dog agility demonstrations! So mark your calendar for Sunday, April 22, 2007, and join us as exhibitor, visitor, volunteer, or maybe even *pet-parent-to-be*! For more info on how you can participate in this *woofing good time*, visit us at www.flff.org or contact us at **310-441-2888** or events@flff.org. **Bow Wow Meow** needs your support to save animals in urgent need!



Another Sunny Day for Bumper



Bumper is a dog in crisis, in the midst of a family in crisis. While grieving the tragic death of their young son, Bumper's remaining family came home one day to find the 9-year-

old Pit-mix unable to stand or move his front legs and clearly in pain. Unable to bear the thought of putting Bumper down and losing another member of the family who brought them such joy, and limited by their current financial and emotional hardships, they searched for help online and found Four Legged Friends Foundation. Our **Another Sunny Day Fund** was used to assist Bumper who spent three days in hospital where the costs mounted as the veterinarians searched for the cause of Bumper's growing distress. An MRI and other tests were done which led to the diagnosis of Inflammatory Central Nervous System Diseases, and got Bumper started on his prescribed medications. Bumper went home, happy to be on his feet again. Thanks to all our supporters, Bumper got another chance at life, and his loving family got some much needed hope.

A Round of aPaws for Our Donors & Sponsors

Trish Devine, FLuFF's first donor, whose gift inspired FLuFF's founder to pursue her vision and potential.

Marcus Private Foundation for Cats & Pets, for their continued donations towards the care of injured strays, rescues and pets assisted through **Another Sunny Day Fund**.

Esti Miller, Esq., Attorney at Law, Rosenthal & Miller, LLP, em@rosenthal-miller.com, for being the attorney behind FLuFF and continuing to donate her time with legal advice and support.

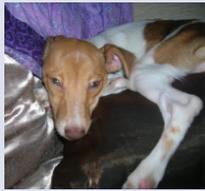
Elizabeth Crozer, our first winter quarter UCLA Extension intern whose excitement is as supportive as her fundraising experience. Her skills have been an asset in coordinating the spring Bow Wow Meow.

Happy Tails

Meet two extraordinary dogs, and the two extraordinary humans who rescued them.

Last December, **Sabrina Gennarino** and her husband **Peter Gasperz** received a high-priority email blast from **www.itsadogsliferescue.org** — with whom Sabrina has done extensive volunteer work — that there was a dog at the South Central branch of L.A. Animal Services who had less than a day to live if someone didn't rescue him. Sabrina and Peter, already the proud parents of three dogs, a cat and some turtles, raced to the shelter only to find that another rescue organization had already scooped up the doomed dog in question. But the *Gasperinos*, as they've come to be known, do not step into a shelter and leave empty handed. Although the funds designated for the first dog went to the organization who rescued him, the Gasperinos reached into their own hearts and pockets to rescue Dexter & Danny.

Danny, a four-month-old Italian Grey/Chihuahua mix was, well, sick as a dog. Already dehydrated and malnourished when he was dumped at the pound, by the time he was released to Sabrina & Peter, Danny had pneumonia. Gentle giant Dexter's time on the streets had earned him puncture wounds, swelling in his legs, mange, worms and infections in both ears. Sabrina and Peter took both dogs



to their veterinarian for treatment. Only then did Sabrina ask for help, in an email sent to her personal list of animal advocates. FLuFF's Sandra Lollino answered the call and contacted the **Marcus Private Foundation for Cats & Pets**, who generously covered both dogs' medical bills.

Danny needed to be on antibiotics for a while, had never seen a leash before, and was as timid as he was tiny. But after a few weeks of patient and diligent care, Danny was healthy, housebroken and ready for adoption. When a couple at a weekend adoption event fell in love with Danny, the Gasperinos took their application and personally checked them out. In a few more weeks Danny, renamed Neiman by his new parents, was ready to make the transition to his new home.

Dexter had gone home with Sabrina & Peter right away — where he promptly tried to eat Sabrina's cat! Trusting new people and entering a new home already full of pets would be a challenge for anyone, and Dexter's trauma had been so severe that the slightest provocation put him into "fight or flight" mode. Others might have called it quits there, but Sabrina & Peter believe psychological understanding and proper obedience training are basic requirements for being responsible pet owners. With today's abundance of trainers for hire, books, DVDs, videotapes, and the many pet related programs you can find on your television every day for free—there's simply no excuse not to try.



Says Sabrina, "Sit and stay are fine, but you've got to know why dogs do what they do and how to deal with it. You're got to fix the behavior, or it's not a balanced, healthy, happy dog." Within a matter of weeks, that's exactly what Dexter has become, and although the original plan was to foster and then seek adoption, Dexter is now a permanent member of the family.

This wasn't the first time FLuFF encountered this remarkable team. It was when Sabrina and Sandra teamed up to assist a dog named Sunny that our **Another Sunny Day Fund** was born.

Eleah Horwitz, FLuFF's Communications Coordinator, eleah@fluff.org, who continues to donate many hours to our publications, Bow Wow Meow and ever expanding roster of programs.

Eddie DeAngelini, Website Consultant, www.punkfunkandjunk.com, without whose donated time our website would not be what it is today.

Eva Forberger, Accounting Consultant, eforberger@sbcglobal.net, who continues to donate her time to keep FLuFF records on track and makes sure our taxes are filed properly.

Shelly Streilein, Art Director, Streilein Design, smstreilein@earthlink.net, who continues to donate her time and talent to the production of FLuFF's brochure and newsletters.



Paws on Pages

Kevin Henkes, the creator of numerous award-winning and best-selling picture books featuring mouse characters, was awarded the Caldecott Medal for distinguished American picture book for children for his foray into feline adventure, *Kitten's First Full Moon*.

In this beautiful book, a kitten sees the moon for the first time and, mistaking it for a bowl of milk in the sky, tries desperately to reach it. The story is spare and full of suspense as the kitten's persistence leads to ever increasing blunders.

Departing from his usual crow-quill pen technique, here the author experiments with a brush and ink, outlining the kitten in thick black strokes. Against a rich charcoal on cream palette, the moonlit kitten seems to leap right off the page. Repetition of circles in the moon, flowers, and the kitten's paws and eyes provide an opportunity to practice counting and identifying shapes. Echoing phrases give even the youngest audience the feeling of "reading along."

When the poor kitten — wet, sad, tired and hungry finally goes back home, there's a bowl of milk waiting for her on the porch. Like one of our favorite lost characters in American literature, the kitten realizes there's no place like home. Lucky Kitten!

Four Legged Friends Foundation was founded in June 2005 to make a difference in the lives of the disabled, seniors, low income families, hospital patients, children and more through animals. Our programs are created to increase awareness on the emotional and physical value animals have in our lives and, in doing so, impact more people and animals that are in need. Our website www.flff.org will provide you with more detailed information.

New Members of the FLuFF Pack



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Perla & Ami Karney
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