



FLuFF STuFF

"If a dog will not come to you after having looked you in the face, you should go home and examine your conscience."

— Woodrow Wilson

A California Nonprofit
Public Benefit Corporation

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Welcome Mat

My name is **Sandra Lollino** and I want to welcome you to FLuFF! I've always known that animals have a profound effect on our lives. As a child, the only friend I felt comfortable telling my hopes and dreams was **Butch, our family dog**.

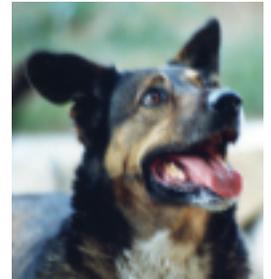
I've never forgotten the bond Butch & I had or its significance in my life. That personal experience became my source to make a difference for people through animals. As I shared my passion with anyone who would listen, Four Legged Friends Foundation grew into existence because of supporters like you. Today, FLuFF is flourishing in



bringing assistance to the disabled, seniors, children, troubled teens, hospital patients, the animals and more. Without your support we wouldn't be able to expand, service and educate our communities about the influence of the human-animal bond. For that I thank you and invite you to peruse our first newsletter — *FLuFF STuFF* — and discover how your continued contribution is making a difference.

FLuFFy Regards,

Sandra Lollino, *Founder/President*



Tugging Around the Corner

Save the date: **Sunday, September 17, 2006**. San Vicente Blvd. between Bundy and Darlington will be closed off for the Brentwood Art Fair, in the center of which will also be a Health Expo and...drum roll please...the **3rd Annual Bow Wow Meow!**

The **Greater West Los Angeles Chamber of Commerce** in

conjunction with **New Leash On Life, L.A. Animal Services** and **Four Legged Friends Foundation** is organizing this pet fair complete with silent auction, comic and musical performances, celebrity appearances, pet photography contest, raffle, pet products of all kinds for sale...Most important of all, there will be dogs and cats who are currently scheduled to be euthanized in overpopulated city shelters, available for adoption!

The 1st and 2nd Bow Wow Meows were held in 2001 and 2002 respectively. Our own Sandra Lollino resurrected the event in the course of her work with the WLA

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Woof's New This Quarter



We've all seen the signs on restaurant and shop doorways prohibiting pets. Some make exceptions for animals assisting persons with disabilities. Others apologize for not allowing even these, citing the local laws which allow them that right. What is less known are stories like the one brought to us by **Roz Silberschein**, who is hearing impaired, and her **Certified Hearing Dog, Brenda**. "When restaurants, hotels and such first see us, they expect me to be blind. On several occasions I have been overtly asked to leave..."

This is just one example of the harassment human/animal teams routinely endure.

Though dogs for the blind have been trained formally for over 70 years, more recently organizations all over the world have developed the training of dogs to assist people dealing with a variety challenges and disabilities, including paralysis, epilepsy, and autism. These are working animals, not pets, and covered under the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA).

Each of the 50 states has laws specifying where persons with Assistance Animals are allowed to go and what happens if someone tries to interfere with those rights, as well as what identification is needed for the dog and what happens to people who misrepresent themselves or their animals as qualified under these laws.

Roz and Brenda received their certification from **Canine Companions for Independence (www.cci.org)** at one of its five regional centers and two satellite offices spanning the country, and are re-tested every three years by **Assistance Dogs International (www.adionline.org)**, a coalition of not-for-profit organizations that establish and oversee the standards and ethics of Assistance Dog training and placement all over the world.

"I don't give up easily," declares Roz, "but some people do. They hide at home, afraid of the confrontation."

Roz carries documentation to this effect with both her and Brenda's photos on the front and information on the back explaining the Service Animals Code of Federal Regulations and its relationship to the ADA. But by the time and effort it takes to get a manager to read and understand this verification, often under the scrutiny of other customers and passersby attracted by the commotion, the human half of the team is embarrassed and demoralized.

FLuFF's Freedom & Ease Program is dedicated to identifying and educating businesses, entertainment, transportation, etc., where service animals are welcomed — *with freedom and ease*. For more information on this and FLuFF's many other programs, please visit our website at www.flff.org.



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Chamber of Commerce, and it was through this process that FLuFF first and formally came into being as its own entity.

Sponsors are greatly needed, and the event will provide a wonderful opportunity for every aspect of the pet related world to advertise and promote its causes, services and products. For more info call the **WLA Chamber of Commerce (310) 475-8806** or **Four Legged Friends Foundation (310) 441-2888**.



New Pup in the Pack

Hi! I'm **Eleah Horwitz**, and anything I really know about love, I learned from a beagle-mutt named **Mabel**. We rescued each other for eight wonderful years, and she lives on in my heart and mind as a powerful muse.



I believe so strongly in the direction Sandra Lollino is taking Four Legged Friends Foundation, I can't stop talking about it — or writing about it either! It's an honor to join FLuFF's staff as Communications Coordinator, where I'll be working on our quarterly newsletter, brochure, and other things that involve words. How about you? I want to hear stories about your precious animals for our Happy Tails to You Collection! Email me at eleah@flff.org I look forward to welcoming you into the ever growing pack of FLuFF's friends.

Gifts of Life for George & Valentine



George was found digging through trash and brought to **The Rescue Train**. After a thorough check-up he was diagnosed with an enlarged heart, but happily will be just fine with annual doctor visits. George was adopted by an adoring family including two other dogs as well as two humans (one of whom's head George sleeps on every night).

Lizet Castrajon came to the rescue of **Valentine** and gave her to **Taya Shapiro** who immediately brought her to an animal hospital. Valentine had spent days lost and with a mangled leg that had to be amputated. Valentine is still in need of a loving home, and you can find out more about her by emailing Taya at bowbaya@yahoo.com or visit www.organichealthandbeauty.com/Valentine.html, which includes video of Valentine running playfully and even gracefully, fully adjusted to her new tri-ped status.



FLuFF is proud to acknowledge one of our supporters, the **Marcus Private Foundation for Cats & Pets**, who gave \$1,500 towards the medical bills of these two beautiful dogs.



Paws on Pages

Among the many ways we can experience the special qualities of animals is through books. And if it engages your kids and makes you laugh, all the better.

Case in point, **Walter the Farting Dog**. This series of children's books offers hilarious escapades with a common theme: The affectionate but flatulent Walter is ever on the verge of

eviction, separated, and even kidnapped from his family. Not only does Walter always make it back home, but manages to do so in increasingly heroic ways. He protects the house from burglars, leads the police to a bank robber, gas-propels a stranded cruise ship to safety, and in **Rough Weather Ahead for Walter the Farting Dog**, saves millions of butterflies from a freezing windstorm with a warm breeze that melts the frost off their wings.

While the printed words spare our noses from the full force of Walter's odoriferousness, the illustrations

bombard us visually with artwork generated by a digital painting and collage technique. Walter manages to appear simultaneously unaware and apologetic, but the humans and their surroundings are as jarring to the eyes as Walter's smell would be to the nose.

Crass? Perhaps. But the Walter books are funny and endearing and about something everyone experiences. They're also *New York Times* best-sellers, and have been translated into the French, *Walter Le Chien Qui Pete*, and Latin, *Walter Canis Inflatus*. Now that's some classical gas.

Cash For Critters

You can generate funds for Four Legged Friends Foundation as well as help the earth by sending your empty toner cartridges and obsolete cell phones to CKA Associates. This recycling program which includes Cash For Critters, Kash for Kids and Recycleaid, will provide collection boxes, pay shipping costs, and donate from \$1 to \$12 per recyclable item. Simply log onto www.cashforcritters.com, download the Collection Form and fill it out using our information:

Contact Name:
Sandra Lollino

Organization & Check Payable to:
Four Legged Friends Foundation
Reference number #FO 0064

Address/Phone/Email:
1812 Overland Ave. Suite 201, Los Angeles, CA 90025
310-441-2888 • sandra@flff.org

You can list your own name and address as the sponsor, then download their pre-paid UPS shipping label and mail your collection box. It's that easy to make a difference! Thank you!



Donor & Sponsor Acknowledgments



Marcus Private Foundation for Cats & Pets, for the donations to directly help injured strays.

Natalie Huot & Tim Morton, for generously allowing their wedding guests to donate to FLuFF in lieu of wedding gifts.

Eddie DeAngelini, Website Consultant, Punk, Funk and Junk, www.punkfunkandjunk.com, for donating his time to create and update our website www.flff.org.

Esti Miller Esq., Attorney at Law, Rosenthal & Miller, LLP, emiller@raslaw1.com, for donating her time to prepare FLuFF bi-laws, articles of incorporation and board meeting documents.

Eva Forberger, Accounting Consultant, eforberger@sbcglobal.net, for donating her time to advise and prepare FLuFF's accounting procedures and annual taxes.

Shelly Streilein, Art Director, Streilein Design, smstreilein@earthlink.net, for the graphic layout of our business cards and our first newsletter.

Jose Sandoval & Alvaro Zepeda, Freelance Graphic Artists, Ignite Graphics www.ignitegraphics.tk, for the design of our very own FLuFF dog!

Our intention at Four Legged Friends Foundation is to support people and animals by educating the public on the positive mental and physical influences animals have on us, and by assisting animal related organizations in the expansion of their own services and programs, including the training of assistance dogs, animal shelters and rescues, paying veterinary bills for low income seniors, troubled teens, rescue dogs, pet therapy, and much more.

We are able to continue our mission because of giving people like you. Donations to FLuFF can be made through our website by using PayPal or you can mail your contribution to:



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Thank you! And please check out our website at:

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