



Paws for Thought

Quarterly Newsletter of the Tehachapi Humane Society

Winter 2017

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Another terrible fire season and THS hearts go out to all the people that lost their lives, homes and pets. Even locally we had a terrible fire in the Cottonwood area that claimed many horses and other farm animals.

I'm going to tell my personal tale of the great benefits and drawbacks of having a pet microchipped. Microchip information can't be stressed enough in order to reunite pets with their owners.

This year was a sad one for me as I lost my 16 year old cat Elijah to a brain tumor and 3 months later my 12 year old Shih Tzu, Danika, to gall bladder and liver cancer. These two have been my couch potato buddies for many years and raised my kids with me.

As fate will have it, the end of May I was driving in Tehachapi and I saw something in the middle of the road, stumbling along. At first I thought it was a cat that had been hit by a car or something. As I got closer I realized it was a dog and when I got right to it I realized it was a Basset Hound!! One of my family's favorite dogs, we have owned two, and years ago used to foster for Basset rescue. Charlie and I had talked about how we would love to have a senior Basset again some day. Luckily my son Ricky was in the car so he got out and put him in the back seat and he was happy as a clam. We had him scanned for a microchip and sure enough he had one. The vet gave me the info to call and I did. The way they do it these days is they text the owner who then texts the finder. Unfortunately I, and probably many others don't text, but luckily one of my kids was home and was able to text the lady back for me. She had texted that she had given him away a long time ago and she kept getting these texts because he must have been getting out and could we find him a new home. We texted her that we wanted to keep him. She asked for his chip number and the phone number so she could get her info off the chip, which she did. So Bentley the Basset is now registered to me. All you have to do to change info if you rehome your pet, or move, is take him somewhere that can scan him, get the chip info, and for about \$19.95 you can get the info current again.

So after Danika passed my couch was so empty because Bentley is too big to be on it with me because of my medical issues. I started looking on Mojave shelter's website. There was a "Maltese" that had been there since right around the time I lost Danika. I have Maltese in quotation marks because he looked more like a small sheep. I called the shelter and talked to my contact there, Tawny. I asked her about the Maltese and she said he was just coming available and they had him for so long because he had a microchip and they had to hold him until they exhausted all possible ways of reuniting him. I told Tawny I was very interested in him. So she shaved him, he was so matted it came off in clumps and off he went to be neutered. When I got him he was shaved to the bone except for all this hair on the top of his head. He looked like one of the 3 Stooges so we named him "Mo" but I told Charlie I can't have a dog just named Mo so we named him Moteese as his formal name. All the info on the chip was wrong. It was all registered in Georgia, which is a long way from California. So I was

able to get him reregistered by a nice woman in North Carolina where the chip originated from. I was able to find out his exact birth date which was nice.

So Bentley came from the Bullhead City animal shelter and is 8 years old and Mo is from NC/Georgia but we are happy they are both living with us in Tehachapi for the rest of their lives. Wishes do come true. Mo is on the couch next to me as I write this.

So I guess what I'm trying to get across is make sure all your info is current on your pet's microchip. And if you end up adopting a pet you rescued off the street if it has a chip and the owner is not found you need to get the vet to scan the chip get the number and call and get everything put into your name because if you haven't done that and your pet gets out, that microchip won't help at all.

Happy Holidays to all

Kate

SaveMart SHARES

SHARES is now powered by the eScrip program. Go to www.savemart.com/shares to register. You will no longer need to present your SHARES card (which is now obsolete), you just enter your phone number or your SaveMart Rewards card. Either one will work if you register. We thank all of you for supporting us through the years with this program. This has provided us with much needed funds. We hope we can count on you for future help. If you need help, contact Betty, 822-0414 or at yelnep@yahoo.com.



Go to www.savemart.com/shares

Select "Enroll today!"

Select "Sign Up"

Enter your zip code

By entering your zip code, you will be taken to the next page to enter your name, etc.

Select continue

Select a non profit, start typing - Tehachapi Humane Society

Be sure to add the check mark to the little block in front of the name then select update

That's all! Thanks so much. We receive a much welcomed EFT deposit each month through this program



Amazon Smile

Thank you to those of you who have been supporting us this way. Every little bit counts!



Critter Partner Pledge

We have an ongoing program called Critter Partner Pledge that many of you have contributed to on a monthly basis and we thank you. This helps us keep to our budget and meet our monthly expenses. Contributions to THS are always tax deductible and are gratefully accepted.

MOJAVE SHELTER

Kate Lueder

Many years ago Mojave was our "adopted" shelter and THS made many improvements there. We also installed street signs pointing the way since it was so difficult to find. Since then our resources have been focused on spay/neuter and public assistance. After getting Mo there recently (you read about him in my President's message) I have been in contact with Tawny at the shelter several times. That poor woman is the only employee during the week and a fellow named Chris works alone on Saturdays. If anyone would be willing to become a volunteer to help Tawny or Chris out call Tawny at 661-824-1030 104 Mon-Sat closed 12-1 for lunch. Don't leave a message because she has a hard time getting back since she is there all alone. I asked if there was anything THS could get for the animals and she said they were very low on toys/treats. Betty bought \$150 worth and my family and I took them out to the shelter. I had 2 of my adopted granddaughters with me so we took a couple of big pups out to the side play area to let them run off some steam. The girls had a good time playing with them, but with my medical issues I needed to sit down. I realized that they only had a hard plastic bench and a wooden one that was falling apart. I asked Tawny if she wasn't worried about someone sitting on that bench and she said yes, she wanted to throw it away but it was too heavy for her to get through the office and out to the trash bin. Luckily we had the 2 young healthy granddaughters with us so we had them haul it out for Tawny. THS is in the process of getting her a new metal bench that Charlie and I (along with young healthy girls) will deliver to the shelter.

The shelter is in good hands with Tawny. She works hard to notify rescues of the dogs/cats she has and gets a lot of pets out that way.

If anyone would like to volunteer or donate whatever Tawny is in need of please call her and chip in so we can help her out in the great job she is doing with her limited resources.

Kate

SUZE'S STORY

Diana Carrafa

The Tehachapi Humane Society (THS) was conducting patrol visits in April 2010 when they discovered a 4 yr old Suze at the "high kill" Mojave Animal Shelter. She was a pathetic looking ShiTzu with an over grown, matted coat and a broken spirit. Having lost my first pet ShiTzu, Mr. Nicky, volunteer Theresa McClain knew I had a soft heart for this breed. Theresa sent me a very sad, first look photo of Suze that immediately went to my heart ... I reacted by saying "she's mine"! On 6 May 2010, and Suze's future sister, Lucy, and I traveled to Tehachapi THS to formally Adopt Suze and bring her home. It was during her first visit with my Veterinarian that we learned Suze's right eye had been permanently damaged ... called a "dead eye". Since then Suze has lost 98% vision in her other eye and is what I call "legally" blind plus a bit "hard" of hearing. Nonetheless, she fit right in to this family and navigates the house and yard like a sailor at sea. She's now 11 yrs old and continues to love her daily treats, getting hugs & kisses, and totally loves her biweekly Spa Day with Groomer Diane. After grooming we call her "Princess" because she seriously knows she's been pampered and looks even more beautiful! THANK YOU to the Tehachapi Humane Society for the volunteer rescue work you do and finding forever homes for these otherwise "lost" animals. We LOVE our Suze!



Amy Burke

Sadly, we must bid farewell to one of our volunteer members, Amy Burke. Amy, for a number of years, has been the board secretary, in charge of bake sales, and covering the office on Mondays distributing pet food for the needy of Tehachapi. She has filled in for me at the Shot Clinic plus so much more for THS. Amy's husband has accepted a new job in Northern California starting in January, hence; her departure from here this month. We are truly going to miss her dedication and do wish her the very best in her new location. Thank you, Amy, for all you have done for our organization. We are extremely grateful to have had you working with us.

Events

Dec 9 th ,	Saturday, Shot Clinic, our office, 10 AM to 12PM, Dr. Billingsley
Dec 13 th ,	Wednesday, Fix Your Pet Clinic, Dr. Billingsley
Dec 16 th ,	Saturday, Shot Clinic, Tehachapi Vet Office, 10AM to 4PM
Dec 25 th ,	Monday, Office Closed, Christmas
Dec 28 th ,	Thursday, Fix Your Pet Clinic, Tehachapi Vet
January 1 st ,	Monday, Office Closed, New Year's Day
January 10 th ,	Wednesday, FYP Clinic, Dr. Billingsley
January 13 th ,	Saturday, Shot Clinic, our office, 10AM to 12PM, Dr. Billingsley
January 15 th ,	Monday, Office Closed, Martin Luther King Day
January 20 th ,	Saturday, Shot Clinic, Tehachapi Vet Office, 10AM to 4PM
February 10 th ,	Saturday, Shot Clinic, our office, 10AM to 12PM, Dr. Billingsley
February 14 th ,	Wednesday, FYP Clinic, Dr. Billingsley
February 17 th ,	Saturday, Shot Clinic, Tehachapi Vet office, 10AM to 4PM
February 19 th ,	Monday, Office closed, President's Day
March 10 th ,	Saturday, Shot Clinic, our office, 10AM to 12PM, Dr. Billingsley
March 14 th ,	Wednesday, FYP Clinic, Dr. Billingsley
March 17 th ,	Saturday, Shot Clinic, Tehachapi Vet Office, 10AM to 4PM
April 11 th ,	Wednesday, FYP Clinic, Dr. Billingsley
April 14 th ,	Saturday, Shot Clinic, our office, 10AM to 12PM, Dr. Billingsley
April 21 st ,	Saturday, Shot Clinic, Tehachapi Vet Office, 10AM to 4PM
May 9 th ,	Wednesday, FYP Clinic, Dr. Billingsley
May 12 th ,	Saturday, Shot Clinic, our office, 10AM to 12PM, Dr. Billingsley

A REMINDER

**Donations to the Tehachapi Humane Society
Before December 31st are tax deductible this year.**

WE HAVE BEEN GRACED BY MANY

n Memory of:

Don Maben

Geoff Pugh

Kenyon Kemp

Randy Forbes

Anne Galvez's husband

Rick Weyek's Father-In-Law

Tom Doriski's Mom

Stewart Peck

Steve Rosen

Lynn & Larry's Daughter

Leo Metzler

Sue's Pug Georgia

Rocio's Brother

Christy's Mom

Marcie Knittle

Sir Duke



TIME TO RENEW



YOUR MEMBERSHIP?