



HAF

A Quarterly Newsletter

Issue No. 2-Spring 2013

HAF Officers

President: Robyn Smith

VP: Eileen Faulkner

Treasurer: Janet Higley

Secretary: Lynn Kee/Pat Moss

Board Of Directors

Gillian Munn

Valda Ziemelis

Dick Leirer

Pat Moss

Pat Boone

From the President

In February 3 board members (Pat Moss, Dick Leirer and myself) went to a board seminar. I believe we thought we were there to learn how to BE a board but we soon realized that we already knew that. I think what we came away with is even more important.

It brought back our focus and enthusiasm for what we do and why we do it! I know when I left I was pumped up (like going to a football game where we win) so, what does it do for HAF-

I believe it has brought a fresh breath to an aging board and getting us refocused on the things we need to do to keep HAF running for years to come!

Speaking of an aging board we would love new volunteers, people that may have a special focus like:

1. Finances
2. Event ideas
3. Coordinators for all the great ideas
4. Grant writing
5. Media
6. Volunteers to work at events

We are not asking people to come to a meeting every month, we are hoping that getting volunteers in each area will create a more stream line affect and keep any one person from being TOO busy to handle the load.

Hope we here from you,
Robyn Smith,
President

Spay and Neuter ReportFebruary Cat Clinic

Total animals 21--7 Males and 14 Females at a total cost to HAF of
\$2,260.00

Also, in January and February Spay and Neuter coupons were used to spay and neuter 83 dog and cats at an additional cost to HAF of \$4,801.

Past Events

HAF's President Robyn Smith along with two board members: Richard Leirer and Pat Moss all attended a board seminar at the KPC Campus. The Homer Chamber of Commerce & Visitor Center held a board orientation and strategic and organizational planning session with nationally acclaimed speaker and facilitator Patrick McGaughey. The group came back motivated with a list of new ideas to make Homer Animal Friends a stronger, and more successful board.

2013 Upcoming Events

S/N cat clinic --April 2nd

Board Meeting-April 9th, 5:30 PM

Strut Your Mutt--June 29th

April is prevent cruelty to animals month

May 14 is disaster preparedness day

Other events will be announced as dates are set. Watch for your email. If you have not provided HAF your email address, please do so now. Its far cheaper and faster for us than snail mail.

Memorials and Honors

Donations received as memorials and honors from January 2013 through February 2013

In Memory of:

Jessica Cline in memory of Tess, Khia, Marty, Pal and Becca

Duncan Wanamaker for Lynn Drieling in memory of Jackson

Marion Abeldgaard in memory of Whiskers my best friend for 11 years!

In Honor Of:

Denise Pitzman in honor of Robyn Smith

Judy Fandrei in honor of all the dogs, cats, rabbits....

New Members

Four Paws Members

Jack Sibson Jr.
Debbie Speakman

New Members

David W. Green
Denise Pitzman
Jack Sibson, Jr
Debbie Speakman
Jude Fuller
Cynder Lynn Navrot

Homer Dog Trainers

In February Casey Moss and I - accompanied by my 10 year old Whippet, Booker visited Paul Banks Elementary School.

The attentive students learned how to be safe around dogs and how to care for their pets.

Later in the month all those kids, their teachers and chaperones traveled to Homer Dog Trainers to watch our dogs in action.

Many thanks to those folks who offered their time to make it a special day:

Eileen Faulkner for taking pictures on both days

Patti Jay and Birdie, the Poodle Perfect

Sue Post, Zuva and Mbira - the Best Boys Ever

Casey Moss and Karma - the Clever Cutie-pie

I am forever in debt to my wonderful 4-legged friends who teach - Booker the Beneficent, the intense Ms. Fancy and Blush, the Dachshund of Determination & Daring.



What is Canine Nose Work?

A **New Dog Sport** developed by professionals that train dogs to search for drugs and explosives. It is fun and easy and you don't need a lot of dog training skills. All dogs love to sniff and this sport allows them to sniff as much as they want and get rewarded for it. Dogs start by searching for food or a toy and graduate to searching for essential oils (sweet birch, anise and clove). All dogs benefit from Nose Work but especially those that are high-energy, non-athletic, older, fearful or anxious, physically-challenged, dog-reactive, not good off leash and high-arousal dogs that lacks focus.

Homer Dog Trainers started teaching this class in October and all dogs and handlers have enjoyed the game. Four dogs have successfully passed their ORT (Odor Recognition Test) and will move on to compete for a Nose Work I title.

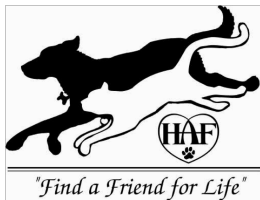
Finally a game where handler and dog are a team, but the dog is the leader. If you would like more information about **Nose Work**, contact Homer Dog Trainers.

Shelter Report

Much has been made over the years of the canine creature being 'Man's Best Friend', devoted companion and sidekick, etc. But what about our little furry friend 'Le Cat? Yes, yes, we all know the old myths about 'Evil black cats', and 'witches familiar', but come on folks, it's the 21st Century- get with it! Cats are complex, neurotic, quirky on a good day, granted- but, can a dog purr? Be trained to use a litter box?? Entertain his or herself for an entire weekend while you go skiing or snow machining?? No! 'Low maintenance' is our middle name, us feline creatures. And yes, it might take a little bit longer for us to open up and love unconditionally (hey remember the 'complex and neurotic' part?). No, we're not going to play that game of head cocked, paw out and devoted floor mat (come on, do you guys really fall for that old beggar's routine?!) But when we do give it up, watch out. You've never known such devotion as my little black and white, half-wild girl Ranger lavishes on me at two o'clock in the morning, cold nose pressed against my cheek, a driblet of drool as she kneads against my neck and chin. And then there's Red who came in a terrified and frozen ball of fur two years ago at the shelter, eyes congenitally sealed shut, somehow making it out there on his own; and now my most devoted friend, you would think he was a golden lab the way he trails me around the house! So, I'm not suggesting anyone run out and start buying cat poles and litter boxes today. But, maybe the next time the house feels a tad bit empty and you're thinking of bringing home a lifelong friend... you might at least consider one of the many wonderful feline 'kids' here at the Homer Animal Shelter.

Brian Smith
cat guy ~





Homer Animal Friends
PO Box 2300
Homer, AK 99603

Return Receipt Requested

We are on the web!

www.homeranimals.com

Email us at

homeranimals@gmail.com

Don't forget to "Like US" on

