



# PAWS of Jackson Hole

Pet Advocacy, Wellness & Support

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## PAWS Dog Park – Sophie’s Place Unleashed on Thursday, August 26, 2010!

### PAWS of Jackson Hole announced the Grand Opening of the new PAWS Dog Park – Sophie’s Place:

dedicated to the life and spirit of Kristen Ardinger Karn and her beloved dog, Sophie. The park is located at 250 Scott Lane in Jackson and opened on Thursday, August 26th. This new facility, the culmination of 10-years of efforts by the PAWS organization, offers off-leash space where local four-legged friends can play and socialize off of public trails and away from wildlife.

This space gives people the opportunity to meet and mingle with other like-minded dog owners and form community bonds. Plus, it gives local workers a place to take their dogs

before and after work for much needed exercise.

“PAWS has always known what many communities across the United States have acknowledged; that dog parks are vital community facilities that promote responsible dog ownership,” said Amy Romaine, Executive Director. “We want

to honor the life of Kristen Karn, a passionate animal lover and advocate, who was an integral part of this community and whose loss has left a void in the hearts of many Jackson residents.”

A dog park, is only successful if park users follow the rules. It will be imperative that dog owners leash their dogs when entering and exiting the park and that they clean up after their pets while inside. Dogs must be current on rabies vaccinations and must be licensed. PAWS will not allow female dogs in heat onto the premises. Park hours

are from 8:00 AM - Dusk in the winter and 7:00 AM - 9:00 PM in the summer months. For a complete list of dog park rules, please call PAWS at (307) 734-2441.

The PAWS Dog Park is funded

100% by private donors, grants and business sponsorships. PAWS would like to extend a heartfelt thank you to the following organizations: Community Foundation of Jackson Hole, Pierson Landworks, Westy’s LLC, and to all the individuals who donated to this park to ensure its success.

**PAWS Mission Statement**  
PAWS advocates for animals and promotes responsible pet ownership through local outreach programs. We are a resource for education, support and financial assistance; fostering collaborative relationships within the community.

### Become a PAWS Dog Park Ambassador

PAWS is actively recruiting Dog Park Ambassadors! If you have some free time and would like to volunteer to be part of an elite pack of Dog Park volunteers, please give us a call. We’re looking for people to spend an hour or two per week at the dog park, helping us to educate people about the rules and encouraging them to keep our park clean and beautiful. We’ll be asking volunteers to pick a set schedule and stick to it, to ensure proper coverage at peak times during the day. To learn more about this great volunteer opportunity, call PAWS today at (307) 734-2441 or email amy@pawsofjh.org. Ambassadors must be at least 16 years of age or accompanied by an adult.

# PAWS program updates



## Jackson/Teton County Animal Shelter

Our partnership with the Jackson/Teton County Animal Shelter is one of our strongest programs. We support our local animal shelter by coordinating dog walking volunteers, donating "adopt me" vests and high quality Kuranda® dog beds, hiring a trainer to work with the dogs, and hosting fundraising events like our Annual Home 4 the Holidays. We also promote the adoption of local homeless pets through sponsored TV ads and we fund special projects and improvements to the shelter building.



## Mutt Mitts

Every year, PAWS of Jackson Hole distributes over 110,000 free mutt mitts to the public on popular trails and pathways. The product we use is biodegradable and starts degrading the minute it is used. This year, we're asking people to help keep our community clean and free of pet waste by lending a hand and picking up an extra mutt mitt or two along your hike. If you happen to see a full mutt mitt on your way back from your hike this summer, why not grab that one too? A mutt mitt left on the trail is litter and when it comes to scooping the poop - two scoops are always better than one!

## Muffie Becks' McDoc Fund

This program offers financial assistance to Teton County, WY residents to help pay for unexpected or emergency veterinary care. Because of the economy, PAWS has seen a dramatic increase in requests for assistance this year. To date, we've distributed over \$15,000 in funding to local veterinarians to help offset expensive treatments. Thank you, Mr. Becks for your continued support of this critical program!

## Sean's Club

Every semester, PAWS partners with the Jackson/Teton County Animal Shelter and students at Summit High School for 6 weeks of intensive dog training. This humane education program aimed at at-risk students teaches kids to treat animals with respect and also helps the dogs with basic commands. All of the dogs that "graduate" from this program know how to sit and stay and this year, many of them learned basic agility. We want to thank Thomas Mikkelsen of DogJax Training for joining us this year and for helping to make this program such a success!

## FREE Spay/Neuter Voucher Program

This program, now in its third year has paid for the spaying and neutering of over 800 local pets! PAWS offers free spay/neuter vouchers to all residents of Teton County, WY that can prove that they've lived here for at least one year. We feel that this initiative is the most important thing we can do to reduce our local homeless pet population. If you have a pet that needs to be sterilized, please call PAWS today for your free voucher!

## RDOG



You may have noticed our new "Fetch This" advertising campaign in the Jackson Hole Daily Newspaper. This year we launched a new series of ads that takes aim at some issues that are fundamental to animals in Jackson Hole. Check out "Love ya 'till Labor day," our ad that talks about how our local shelters fill up at the end of the summer. Or, "The odds are good, but the goods are odd" in which we highlight the fact that backyard breeders have no interest in protecting the health and welfare of the dogs they sell. It is our hope that these ads help to encourage responsible pet ownership in the valley.



## SafePAWS

Last year we built a custom dog home on the property of the Community Safety Network to provide a safe haven for the pets of victims of domestic violence. This year, we dedicate the home to Coney Hayashida and his person, Maria for all of her efforts to get the SafePAWS program off the ground 4 years ago. Today, we are one of only 25 domestic violence shelters in the U.S. that allows pets on premises!

# In memory of Dash, Bob & Dinger

Three of the Jackson/Teton County Animal Shelter "long-timers" passed away this year.

We'd like to take this opportunity to remember them and to thank their adoptive families for taking such great care of them!

## Dash Hirschfield

EJ Hirschfield didn't have to meet Dash and his best friend, Wick to know they were the dogs for her. All she had to do was read an article in the local newspaper about how both dogs were one day away from breaking the record at the animal shelter for longest stay. Within minutes of reading the article, her wheels were in motion, and both dogs were on their way out of the shelter and into her home. EJ has always had a soft spot for older pets. "I think their eyes tell me how very, very grateful they are to have an opportunity to live an enormous life."



Wick and Dash Hirschfield

Once in her home, Wick and Dash followed EJ everywhere and became her best pals. Even though they both came home with some lumps and bumps, she had high hopes that they'd have a few good, long years left to live. Unfortunately, for Dash, that was not the case. Only a few months after EJ took him home, she received the bad news that Dash was not well. He passed quietly, but is missed every day by his buddy Wick. Still, EJ has no regrets: "There's value to all ages of life. If we don't focus our attention toward older animals, they are simply discarded. They deserve the chance to be happy. I was blessed every day that I had Dash in my life."

## Bob & Dinger Cochran-Dougall

Bob was not only the most loving dog but the dog that loved being loved the most. The wagging tail, large smile and impatient nudges were a constant greeting whether you were coming home from a long day at work or just reentering a room. His endless kisses were to reconfirm that he was there and would not mind a treat, if you were so inclined. Bob can't be mentioned without Daisy - his true love. This pair was inseparable; a testament of the loyalty and love our animals can feel for one another. Bob graced our family for such a brief time but his memory will last a lifetime.

Dinger was adopted from the Jackson Shelter shortly after his Dad returned from Baghdad. He was the Pet of the Week and the growth on his nose and 15 page medical history could have meant many things: that he was a soldier, that he would be expensive, that he was a prolific forager inside and outside the house, but mostly that he would be unforgettable. We always joked that he must have nine lives so we stopped counting. A stunt double for the Black Dog on Martha's Vineyard, Dinger made the transition to the East Coast with aplomb, even at 12 years old he was leading the pack after a two-hour trail run. He was the stuff of legends...



Lori Cochran-Dougall with Dinger, Daisy and Bob



## IN MEMORY OF LOCAL FRIENDS

- Johannes Andersen
- Lucy Babcock
- Bear Bird
- Wembley Bommer
- Shadow Brooks
- Pilot Carranza-Habib
- Dinger & Bob Cochran-Dougall
- Cody & Jackson Dubois
- Pearl Finch
- BJ Findlay
- Tanner Fishman
- Ginger Fitzgerald
- Wrigley Fitzgerald
- Carlos Frame
- Brodie Graham/Terra
- Ripley Hamilton
- Sammi & Tobi Hanes
- Annie Harris
- Coney Hayashida
- Smudge Hesser
- Dash Hirschfield
- Banks Hultman
- Montana Huyffer
- Cache Kelleher
- Java Love
- Doc Marsh
- Toto Mercer
- Amber Peterschmidt
- JoJo & Luci Romaine
- Treasure Trauner
- Anna Zimet

# A celebration of critters!

## The 5th Annual Fur Ball – March 19, 2010

### A pack of wild pet enthusiasts and animal lovers filled the Four Seasons ballroom

for the 5th year in a row at the PAWS 2010 Fur Ball. With mutt mitts adorning tables and George Clinton's Atomic Dog playing in the background, there was no mistaking what revelers were there to support – our local pets and animal shelters, of course!

“This event continues to be our biggest night of the year and 2010 did not disappoint, said Amy Romaine, Executive Director.

The theme this year was “Say yes to adopting” and PAWS surprised our three local animal shelters by presenting them each with a check for \$1,000. Board President, Larry Hamilton encouraged the crowd to donate generously by saying, “If all goes well tonight, next year these checks will be for \$10,000.”

In addition to the live auction and raffle, PAWS screened a short video that highlighted success stories of local pets that were adopted out of our three local shelters into happy homes. “We wanted to show people how much joy these animals have brought into the lives of the families that adopted them, and judging by the cheers from the crowd, I think we accomplished that goal!” said Amy Romaine.

We would like to extend a heartfelt thank you to the Jackson Community for supporting PAWS at this event and at our other events throughout the year. We could not accomplish our mission without you!

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Top Dog Sponsors: Gavin, Buttercup, Stanley and Ira



Top Dog Sponsor Jackie



Top Dog Sponsor Henry



Another happy bidder



PAWS president Larry Hamilton escorts PAWS executive director Amy Romaine



Jacques Dubois bids



Larry Hamilton of PAWS presents a \$1000 check to each of three local animal shelters

# PAWS news



## Old Bill's 2010 Saturday, September 11th



Join PAWS and Jackson's non-profit community on the town square on Saturday, September 11th for Old Bill's Fun Run for Charities. Old Bill's began in 1997 and to date has helped Jackson Hole charities raise over \$60.5 million.

Thanks to Old Bill's, PAWS is able to continue to provide valuable services to this community. One-quarter of our annual budget comes directly from individuals who donate through Old Bill's. Programs like our FREE Spay/Neuter initiative, our financial assistance program for people who need help paying for unexpected vet bills, our educational platform and the new PAWS Dog Park cannot be successful without your support. Please give generously this year!

The Old Bill's 2010 giving period began on July 4 and all donations must be received by the Community Foundation office by September 17, 2010 at 5pm. Please write one check payable to Community Foundation of Jackson Hole. All checks must be accompanied by an official red donor form. Donors may also give with a credit card online at [www.oldbills.org](http://www.oldbills.org).



Sandy Cousins, AJ Cargill and Kate McGowen at the Putt for the Pooch Park Golf Outing, June 2010

## Putt for the Pooch Park Golf Outing

Saturday, June 5, 2010  
Jackson Hole Golf & Tennis Club

PAWS 1st Annual Golf Event was a hole-in-one as golfers came out to drive funds for the new dog park. Whether you're a master or amateur, join us next June to tee up for a great cause!

Special thanks to Modern Electric for sponsoring the Bar-B-Que, to Snake River Brewing for donating the Pooch Park Pilsner and Leg Lifter Lager, and to Dr. Ernie Patterson of the Animal Care Clinic and Dr. Steve Carter of Teton Animal Hospital for sponsoring the team who accomplished their best shots at the 19th hole!

## Farmer's Market on the square - September 18th

Join PAWS and the Jackson/Teton County Animal Shelter at the Jackson Hole Farmer's Market on Town Square on Saturday, September 18th. Not only will you find great locally grown produce and fantastic baked items, but we'll be bringing dogs from the shelter that are looking for their forever homes! Drop by our booth for free coffee and pass a little love along to one of our furry friends.

We'd like to say thank you to the Jackson Hole Farmer's Market for donating money to local non-profits. Every year, 10% of all sales at the Farmer's Market on Town Square goes to local non-profits that participate all summer long. We really appreciate it!

## Donate pet supplies and equipment!

Not only do we accept cash donations, but PAWS accepts items such as beds, supplies and equipment like this set of doggie wheels. All items are first offered to our local shelters, but if there is not a need, items are then offered to pets in our community.

Chance was experiencing some nerve damage in his hind quarters and was having a hard time getting around. With these donated wheels, he's up and around and enjoying his daily hikes again. We are so grateful for generous donations like these that have such a huge impact on our local pets.



Chance Maddex and his new wheels!

# The Purebred predicament

The puppy mill industry has spent decades exploiting our love of purebred dogs.

## Best of breed, best in group and best in show

are all awards at the annual Westminster Kennel Club Dog Show. At this prestigious event judges critique dogs against standards written and ratified by the American Kennel Club (AKC). Qualities the judges look for include: the long body of the Daschund, the wrinkles of the Shar Pei, and the short face of the Bulldog. But are these qualities the very things that are causing health problems in these animals? Critics of dog shows will say, yes.

It is a fact that short-faced dogs like the pug and the bulldog suffer from breathing problems and the long-bodied Daschunds and Basset Hounds have notorious back and disk problems. Labrador Retrievers, the AKC's most popular breed, are prone to 19 genetic disorders and 45% of all Scottish Terriers die of cancer.

The issues are too many to list and for the people who fall in love with these animals, only to lose them too quickly, it is heartbreaking.

Unfortunately, there is no easy solution for the predicament of

the purebred dog. There are many reasons why people buy purebred dogs. Some do so because they grew up with a certain breed; others think of a purebred dog as a status symbol, many people simply like the look or temperament of a certain type of dog. And when there is a demand, there will most certainly be a supply.

The puppy mill industry has spent decades exploiting our love of purebred dogs. And even though the AKC preaches responsible breeding practices, it also pursues registrations from "high-volume breeders" (i.e. the puppy mills). The revenue stream from these registrations is simply too tempting for the AKC to ignore. For example, in April of this year, the AKC launched "Dollar Deal Days", which allowed breeders who registered 11 litters or more in nine months to register the 11th for a dollar. Additionally, the AKC is opposing a ballot initiative in Missouri that would

crack down on puppy mills by requiring higher standards of care and limiting the number of breeding dogs to 50. (HSUS, All Animals Magazine, May 2010).

Most people who breed purebred dogs claim some affiliation with the AKC as a seal of quality for their puppies. They are well aware that there is a public notion that AKC registry equates to responsible breeding practices.

AKC registration means that the parent dogs were registered, that's all. It could also mean that an irresponsible breeder lied or was mistaken about the breeding that produced the litter, or that an unprincipled breeder was committing outright fraud to raise the value of the puppies. Registration itself is neither a guarantee nor even an indication of quality. No one examines the parent dogs or the puppies to see if they really qualify for registration, and AKC depends on breeders to be

honest when applying for a litter registration. Some unethical breeders apply for registration forms for puppies that have died or were never born, and they then use these certificates on puppies of doubtful parentage.



## How to find a healthy purebred dog

So, how does an average person find a quality purebred dog? There are a few things you can do as a consumer:

The first thing you should do when considering adding a pet to your home is to go to your local shelter. Over 25% of all dogs in shelters are purebred, so why not save a life and get the pet you've been looking for?

Secondly, do your research. There are breed specific rescues in the U.S. for virtually every breed of dog. These rescue groups dedicate their lives to the health and welfare of their breed of choice. They are wonderful resources.

Next, choose a responsible breeder. A quality breeder will let you see

where the puppies are being raised, and will let you see the breeding parents. She will ask you lots of questions about your lifestyle and your home. She will not place puppies too early and will also ask that if you are unable to care for the dog, to please return the dog to her.

Never buy a puppy from a pet store or from a breeder that you are unable to visit in person. If you do get to see the home of the breeder, make sure that you are comfortable with the condition of the home. It is common for people to think they are "rescuing" a dog from an irresponsible breeder by paying the fee to get the dog out of there. In reality, by paying the fee,

you are encouraging this breeder to keep doing what they are doing - breeding for profit.

Lastly, consider a great mixed-breed dog! There are so many fantastic "mutt-i-gree" dogs out there. Many experts believe that animals from genetically diverse backgrounds will be healthier and less prone to the inherited issues passed down through family lines.

If you are considering adding a pet to your home this year, please visit [www.petfinder.com](http://www.petfinder.com). You can search the site by breed, size, age, and location and there are thousands of pets to choose from. Your new best friend could be just a couple mouse clicks away!

# Some of this years' adoptions



The annual Home for the Holidays event successfully places animals in happy homes!



Porter prancing in the snow



June and Buddy



Monte and Susan

## PAWS, The Jackson/Teton County Animal Shelter and The Animal Adoption Center: WHAT'S THE DIFFERENCE?

PAWS of Jackson Hole is an animal advocacy group that has seven programs that support the Jackson Hole area, one of which is to promote the adoption of local homeless pets from the Jackson/Teton County Animal Shelter, Star Valley and Targhee animal shelters.

The Jackson/Teton County Shelter is our local municipal shelter and is located on Adams Canyon Road, south of town by the Recycling center. It has an open admission policy and takes in all stray, abandoned and surrendered animals in Teton County, Wyo. This facility is not a kill shelter, and there is no time limit on an animal's stay.

The Animal Adoption Center is dedicated to saving the lives of abandoned animals and is located on N. Glenwood Street in downtown Jackson. Its focus is on rescuing animals from kill shelters and other organizations outside of Teton County, Wyo. and includes rescues from other states.



## PAWS of Jackson Hole

250 West Pearl Ave.  
PO Box 13033 : Jackson, WY 83002  
(307) 734-2441  
[info@pawsofjh.org](mailto:info@pawsofjh.org) :: [pawsofjh.org](http://pawsofjh.org)

SUMMER 2010  
NEWSLETTER



PAWS of  
Jackson Hole

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