



PET HARBOR RESCUE & REFERRAL, INC.



Thunderstorms are a Brewin'

Upcoming Events:

Adoption Events:

**Saturday,
August 19**

10:00 A.M. - 4:00 P.M.

Stafford PetsMart

1160 Stafford Market Place

**Saturday & Sunday,
September 16th & 17th**

10:00 A.M. - 4:00 P.M.

Stafford PetsMart

**Saturday,
October 14**

10:00 A.M. - 4:00 P.M.

Stafford PetsMart

Photos with Santa Paws:

**Saturdays (2nd, 9th, 16th)
in December**

11:00 A.M. - 4:00 P.M.

Stafford PetsMart

**Basic Behavior Training
Seminar & Canine
Massage Fundraiser –
See page 3 for details**

**Please check our
website for updates
www.petharbor.org
Or call 703-583-HSKY**

Is your dog afraid of thunder? If your dog is sensitive to thunderstorms, he most likely is reacting to the loud noise. When a dog is frightened, he usually wants to flee, searching for safe harbor. Thus, when there is a thunderstorm, not knowing what to do and where to go, he may choose to try to escape from the frightening noise. If you know in advance a thunderstorm is coming, bring your dog inside your house and close any doggy door. Keeping your dog in the house is the best solution! We don't want our doggies to get hit by cars or get lost out there!

Sometimes a dog may try to cope with fears by being destructive. He doesn't mean to make you mad. He just has to dig that carpet or chew on that table leg to ease his anxiety. He may be clawing at that door to try to get out of the house. This is not just a problem for you – such destructive behavior may cause your dog to hurt himself.

So what should you do? Here are some things you should do and some you shouldn't do:

DO NOT:

- Scold your dog for being afraid of thunder. It only adds anxiety to your already frightened dog.
- Overly comfort and baby your dog when he is scared. Your dog will pick up on the feeling that thunder is something unusual and sometimes get even more anxious. You are rewarding your dog and teaching him it is ok to be afraid.
- Confine your dog. Even though it is his favorite crate, make sure the door is unlocked. Nothing is worse to a panicked dog than being confined and not being able to escape.

DO:

- Consult your vet. If your dog's reaction is severe, a vet may be able to prescribe medication to ease your dog's anxiety. Also consider consulting a professional animal behaviorist. Your vet will be able to recommend someone local for you.
- Make sure your dog's safe place, bed/crate, wherever his favorite place in the house is, is accessible. Try to observe where he goes when the thunderstorm happens. It may not be his bed or crate. His choice could be under your bed or under the dinner table. Wherever he chooses, make sure that the hiding place of his choice is accessible when you know the storm is coming, and make sure not to confine him.
- If your dog is able to pay attention to you during thunderstorms, play games or play with his favorite toy. This will help your dog understand something good can happen if he is calm during thunderstorms. Calm, attentive behavior should be rewarded, but make sure not to reward any timid behavior.
- Instead of babying your dog, act normally. Seeing you, his doggy parents, act in a normal fashion is most reassuring to your dog.
- Desensitize! Work on this on a day when it is NOT thundering. Get a CD of thunderstorms (You may be able to download storm sounds from the internet.) and play it at a very low volume during your dog's dinnertime, when you give him delicious treats, and when you play games. You can also massage your dog with this CD playing in the background. As your dog gets used to the noise of thunder, gradually increase the volume slowly over time. Make sure not to do this overnight but work on it slowly at your dog's own pace.



Featured Dog - Asher



Our last newsletter featured Bethany. Bethany, now named Niki, has a fantastic home. Asher is our featured pet this time because he is the dog who has been with us the longest & is very deserving of a wonderful home. He's a 4-year-old woolly black & white Siberian Husky. His birthday is approximately October 7, 2001, & he weighs 54#. Asher says he is THE most handsome Siberian Husky in the universe, also the happiest & funniest. Total animation. Show him a toy, & watch him come alive. Some folks think he is a kitty because he reaches for the highest perch. You will find him on top looking down. Do not let his age fool you. He acts no older than a toddler. High energy. He is so full of love. He absolutely worships all sorts of people. As he has a strong prey drive, he cannot live with cats or mini dogs. He is fine with all dogs around his size or fine by himself. In a yard, he plays with dogs 24/7, but put him on a leash & he gets fussy with all other dogs. Though he loves toys, without them, you will find him springing & bouncing about. He overcame heartworm disease and is perfect now! Confinement for treatment was difficult because he wants to play, play, play. He is chockfull of kisses for all people & will jump up on you for hugs. He always smiles and wags. No dull moment is allowed around him. Exuberance plus. He needs training! You need a 6' fence or a leash for him. He jumps shorter fences. As a stray, he went to a VA county shelter and then to rescue. He just wants a home where he can love someone. Pet Harbor policy is pets be indoor pets. However, if your yard is safe for him, we will make an exception because Asher has decided he can't stop playing long enough to learn potty training. To learn more about Asher and other terrific Siberian Huskies waiting for homes just like yours, visit us on the Web at www.petharbor.org or call us at (703) 583-HSKY.

Featured Cats - Kittens

Quintuplets! Well, sort of. Our featured kitty is our 5 kittens. Cindy Ann, Alexis, Telmo, and Smallwood (C.A.T.S.) are littermates. Coming from a shelter, the kittens came to us with upper respiratory infections & rhinotracheitis, infections which spread like wildfire through catteries and shelter environments, tough bugs for kittens to handle. Telmo, sadly, died after a week of hospitalization. After battling the illnesses, these trooper kitties are back to being normal kittens, which means high energy, sharp nails, and claiming everything as their personal toys. Our kitten policy requires you have a kitten or young cat at home or adopt two kittens. Kirby and Ping are unrelated to C.A.T.S. or to each other but share an approximate birthday of April 7, 2006. The C.A.T.S. kittens were born approximately April 16, 2006. The kittens each weigh between 2.5 and 3.5 pounds. Spayed, neutered, vaccinated, and having tested negative for feline leukemia and feline AIDS, they are ready to go home! Though they're all extremely playful, each has a unique personality. Ping is a sit-on-your-shoulder purr machine who jumps high. Cindy Ann is the type of kitty who swishes in & out of your feet. Kirby is a

daredevil who likes to chew on fingers. Alexis is a small, gentle cuddle bug. Smallwood has a sweet side and a playful side, but he is the vet's favorite. He had a rough time with his eyes from the illness and had to twice have his eyelids opened under anesthesia but is fine now. Do you have room in your home and hearts for some kittens who promise to return lots of love and animation? To learn more about them or see more pictures, write to us at info@petharbor.org or visit our Web site at www.petharbor.org or call (703) 583-HSKY. If you can't adopt, the kittens want you to consider making a donation. So far their veterinary care has been about \$1,000.



Happy Tails!

As a result of our last newsletter, Tiger, our featured cat then, found a fantastic home with a former adopter whose elderly kitty had passed away.

For all national capital area federal employees, you can contribute to Pet Harbor through your CFC program. When you sign up through work, just write in organization ID 7387! Thank you to all signed up already!

We Are a Participant of the CFC!



Adopters:

Please remember to update & keep contact information current with us.

Many lost dogs are able to get home because of the tag or microchip, but if we can't get in touch with you, we can't let you know where your animal is.

If you have a dog, please contact Ali at dogfollowup@petharbor.org

If you have a cat, please contact Crystal at catfollowup@petharbor.org

Pet Harbor Rescue and Referral, Inc. is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit corporation organized under the laws of the Commonwealth of Virginia. Donations are tax-deductible. Our mission is to save lives of and educate people about Siberian Huskies and cats.

Welcome from our new captain of volunteers

Hi, All! My name is Amy W, and I am the Volunteer Coordinator for Pet Harbor. Pet Harbor and its homeless fur babies need your help! There are so many different ways to volunteer. Every little bit helps save our homeless Siberian Huskies and cats.

For instance, a shelter will call us and ask us to save Nanook from death row. It takes volunteers to evaluate, transport, medicate, transport to/from vets, help Nanook write his bio, post his bio, answer inquiries, make records, keep records, keep Nanook, feed Nanook, wash Nanook, take Nanook to events, play with Nanook, love Nanook, tell folks at events and via phone & e-mail about Nanook, and much, much more.

I am sure we can find something everybody can enjoy and where you would thrive. Believe me, I will find your niche.

Here are just a couple of volunteer opportunities: TRAINING, event assistants, animal evaluators, transporters, bathing, grooming, & animal care. There are also many behind-the-scenes opportunities, such as application processors and returning phone calls and e-mails.

There are many other opportunities, and I couldn't possible list all of them. Perhaps you can even suggest some! So please volunteer and help save these beautiful animals. They deserve the best. And with volunteers like you, we can give them the best. Contact me at (703) 583-HSKY or pitchpole@petharbor.org to say "I can help!"

What: Basic Behavior Training Seminar

When: Sunday, September 10, 2006 1:30 pm ~ 2:30 pm (may reschedule in case of rain)

Where: City of Falls Church (will inform signed-up participants privately)

How much: Voluntary donation to Pet Harbor at the time of the event

RSVP: starfish@petharbor.org or call 703-599-5330

Come learn a crash-course on basic obedience behaviors. We will discuss how to get your dog's attention, and go over basic rules of dog training which will help your dog settle into your house and help you communicate better with your dog. This seminar will be followed by a canine massage workshop.

What: Canine Massage Fundraiser

When: September 10, 2006 (Sun) 3:00~ 4:30

Where: City of Falls Church (will inform signed-up participants privately)

How much: \$50 per canine/human pair

RSVP: starfish@petharbor.org or call 703-599-5330

Note from our President: What keeps Pet Harbor alive is donations & volunteers. What keeps the volunteers going, though, is the success stories. If you adopted from us, please keep in touch with stories & pictures. Have your pet write his/her success story to post on our Web page. Rescue is difficult because we necessarily endure horror stories. Fortunately, we have stories like yours to motivate us! While donations are vital, so, too, are the success stories. Keep 'em coming! Thank you!

Looking for some exciting reading? Check out our recommendations at our Amazon store and a portion of your purchase will be donated to Pet Harbor.

www.petharbor.org/amazon.htm

Thanks to the support of people like you, Since incorporation in 2000, we have found homes for 352 dogs and 112 cats!

We're on the Web!

Visit us at:
www.petharbor.org

We Have Shade!

In our last newsletter, we were in the process of adding 4 kennels at a cost of \$4,082. Now we have added shade and storage for the dogs in the dog yard at a cost of \$3,610. In the hot summer months, most of the dogs crowded under a trampoline. Now they have other options!



Thank you for your help. We still need a lot of help to pay for the kennels & shade/shed barn. Remaining open in the kennel & barn fund is \$6,856.90. If you can help, send tax-deductible donations to

Pet Harbor Rescue
P.O. Box 1502
Glen Allen, VA 23060
or through PayPal to ebay@petharbor.org.

Cool Treats – Good Eats

Use a dab of peanut butter to "plug" the small end of a Kong and then put 1% milk-fat yogurt diluted with a bit of water in and "plug" the other end with more peanut butter, freeze overnight, and....dogs will love it.
Try vanilla or raspberry yogurt. Instead of yogurt, substitute non-fat cottage cheese or no-sodium chicken or beef broth.

Pet Harbor Rescue and Referral, Inc.

PO Box 1502
Glen Allen, VA 23060



Address Correction Requested