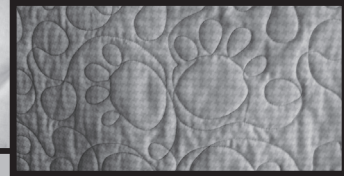


Quilt will go to the highest bidder!

The Grand Quilters generously donated this gorgeous twin-sized quilt to Grand County Pet Pals so we may raise money to support our mission. We will be either raffling this beauty off or putting on Ebay. Please watch our web site for more details (www.gcpetpals.org).

The black and white photos do not do the quilt justice as it's a myriad of bright & beautiful colors with a doggie theme. The back even has paw prints swirling in a wonderful pattern.

This would look great in your home or as a gift for that special someone. The holidays are right around the corner!



PLEASE CONTACT LISA JONAS AT PRESIDENT@GCPETPALS.ORG or VISIT WWW.GCPETPALS.ORG FOR MORE INFORMATION ON GRAND COUNTY PET PALS VOLUNTEER OR MEMBERSHIP OPPORTUNITIES.

FIND US ON FACEBOOK AT FACEBOOK.COM/GCPETPALS

Mutterings

**PET FOOD DRIVE
NOVEMBER 20TH at GRANBY
CITY MARKET**
Watch for ad in paper and
online at www.gcpetpals.org

**SAVE THE DATE FOR PET
PICTURES WITH SANTA PAWS!**

**DECEMBER 3 at the Historic
Church in Fraser and**

**DECEMBER 4 in Granby
location TBD**

**Save the Date!
ROMP & STOMP at the GRAND
LAKE NORDIC CENTER
SUNDAY MARCH 11, 2012**



ISSUE 3 * FALL * 2011

GRAND COUNTY PET PALS

the SCOOP

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PRESIDENT**
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The Wind in their Hair

by Suzie Royce Cruse

Growing up in Southern California in the 1970's, we rarely wore seat belts. My younger sister and I would also cruise around in the back of our dad's pick-up truck with the wind whipping at our hair, waving at other drivers passing us by. It was also pretty common back then to see dogs standing up in the back of trucks smiling with their mouths slightly open, taking in the smells of the road.

What's changed through the years is that we wouldn't think of letting our children get into a car without a seat belt, nor would we let them ride in the back of a pick up truck on a freeway. Why do we still let our dogs jump in the back, unrestrained, wind wildly combing their hair? I'm not talking about driving slowing down a dirt road on a ranch. I often see dogs getting jerked around standing in the bed of a truck while their owners hit the brakes on the corners and sway up Berthoud Pass. Just because our dogs stand on four legs does not mean they can't lose their balance and fall out onto the road, going 50 mph.

"Dr. Doug Teague of the Wheatridge Small Animal Hospital in Colorado says, 'Orthopedic injuries are the most common if the dog is lucky enough to still be alive. I see a lot of broken legs and joint injuries.' Dr. Teague also told of a dog tied in the back of a truck by a long chain who fell out and had a tremendous amount of skin scraped from his thigh as he was dragged along the road."

The safest way to transport a dog is inside the vehicle in a secure carrier or with a harness and seat belt restraint. These methods prevent driver distraction and, in the event of an accident, minimize injury and prevent the dog bolting into traffic. If the dog must ride in the truck bed, a secure carrier or, at the very least, a harness and short cross tie (so he doesn't have enough slack in the rope to get over the side) to protect him from being thrown out. These common sense precautions take only a few moments and can prevent pet injuries and death, costly veterinarian bills, and traffic accidents. Be smart and secure your dog! **Don't lose your best friend!**



Grand County
PET PALS

P.O. Box 1972
Granby, CO 80446

Grand County Pet Pals Board

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President

Petra Recor
Vice President

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Grand County
PET PALS

gcpetpals.org

Dedicated to the welfare of our pets
in Grand County Colorado

NEAT QUOTE:

"If there are no dogs in Heaven then

when I die, I want to go where they went." - Will Rogers

EVENTS: Past & Upcoming



Doggie Drag: The 13th annual Doggie Drag was a fun and profitable event. Although our participation was down greatly, we still raised \$10,600 net income to support our mission of promoting responsible pet ownership. Simon Zink and Jean Wolter were first

across the finish line for the 5K and for the 2K the first place winners were Ajax, Sabryra Liddle, Colton DeLong, and Shayna Wilcox. Deb Pitzer was our Pledge Drive contest winner with the most pledges collected. We raised \$3,065.00 in pledges from 6 people asking friends and family to support our cause. Way to go!

Pet Food Drive November 20th at City Market in Granby! Come out and support Grand County Pet Pals as we collect food for the animals at the shelter as well as Max's Full Belly Deli which provides food for families struggling to feed their pets in these difficult economic times.

Pet Pictures with Santa Paws coming up December 3 and 4! New locations in Fraser at the Historic Church and in Granby (location is TBD). Both events are from Noon to 4PM. Come one, come all...you, your kids, dogs, cats, goats and ponies are invited to have their picture taken with Santa Paws. After each sitting, the best image in electronic format will be provided to you for only a \$10 suggested donation.

Romp and Stomp Snowshoe and Nordic Ski Event March 11th! Grand Lake Touring Center, Grand Lake Colorado. Details to come but we know there will be silent auction items and beautiful trails to stomp upon for you and your favorite canine!



Happy Tails: Homeless to Happiness

by Jeri Peirce

When you are a cat and very pregnant, being homeless and alone is not what you want to be. But that's exactly the predicament in which Lulu found herself just 2 weeks before her five beautiful babies were born. Luckily for Lulu, the staff at the Inn at SliverCreek recognized Lulu's plight and called the Grand County Animal Shelter, where she safely delivered her brood under the watchful eyes of the shelter staff.

At this same time, the Sanderson family had decided to add a cat to their family which already included two dogs. They had decided an adult cat would be the best fit for them, but after carefully checking out the cats at the shelter, they



hadn't been able to find that special one. It was then that a shelter staffer introduced them to Lulu and her babies. In spite of the draw of those five darling kittens, they immediately fell in love with their mama, Lulu, and knew she was the one for them.

Choosing Lulu to be a part of their family proved to be a lesson in patience for the Sandersons, but they were willing to wait for her. The entire family came to visit her often at the shelter as her babies

grew towards the time they could be weaned. Becky Sanderson says that this time actually turned out to be a time of bonding and learning for the entire family. While they waited for Lulu to come home, they made preparations for



her homecoming – even getting books for the kids from the library about caring for cats. Of course the girls, Rachel, 11, and Ella, 8, loved the kittens; but they soon began to realize just how much work a kitten could be. As they

watched Lulu's kittens grow, they learned first hand about the needs of growing kittens and were more and more convinced that Lulu was their gal.

Finally the day arrived when Lulu was ready to take her place in the Sanderson's home. Her kittens were weaned and on their way to their own new homes, and Lulu had been properly spayed. She has turned out to be the perfect fit for their family; and, in the two months since joining the Sandersons, she has made herself perfectly at home. She returns their love by guarding the house from mice and has become the playful and loving cat she was always meant to be.

PLEASE SUPPORT PET PALS!

We are a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization so your donation is tax-deductible to the extent allowable by law

**YES! I would like to join (or renew with!)
Grand County Pet Pals and help animals in our community.**

New Member **Renewal**

Lone Wolf (individual): **\$25.00**

Pack (family): **\$50.00**

Working Dog (business): **\$100.00**

Additional Contribution _____

I'm already a member but want to donate! _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

Apt./Unit: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____

E-mail: _____ I do not have email

Please mail check payable to:

Grand County Pet Pals
PO Box 1972
Granby, CO 80446

Please contact me for volunteer opportunities with:

Grand County Pet Pals

Grand County Animal Shelter

Guidance on Animal Care is Everywhere if You Just Look

by Lisa Jonas; President GC Pet Pals

I'm constantly reading about animals in books, magazines and online. There are lots of heart-warming and heart-breaking stories out there and I thought I would share a post found on my friend's Facebook page written as if from a puppy.

"I died today. You got tired of me and took me to the shelter. They were overcrowded and I drew an unlucky number. I am in a black plastic bag in a landfill now. Some other puppy will get the barely used leash you left. My collar was dirty and too small, but the lady took it off before she sent me to the Rainbow Bridge."

Would I still be at home if I hadn't chewed your shoe? I didn't know what it was, but it was leather, and it was on the floor. I was just playing. You forgot to get puppy toys.

Would I still be at home if I had been housebroken? Rubbing my nose in what I did only made me ashamed that I had to go at all. There are books and obedience teachers that would have taught you how to teach me to go to the door.

Would I still be at home if I hadn't brought fleas into the house? Without anti-flea medicine, I couldn't get them off of me after you left me in the yard for days.

Would I still be at home if I hadn't barked? I was only saying, "I'm scared, I'm lonely, I'm here, I'm here! I want to be your best friend."

Would I still be at home if I had made you happy? Hitting me didn't make me learn how.

Would I still be at home if you had taken the time to care for me and to teach manners to me? You didn't pay attention to me after the first week or so, but I spent all my time waiting for you to love me. I died today. Love, Your Puppy."

These and other sad stories, poems and such always brings a tear to my eye. They frustrate me as well because I believe the people that read stories like these are animal lovers like you and me who would never do such things.

My hope is that a post or article like this will be read by the kind of person who considers animals disposable, leaving them tied up with no food or water; or by a person who considers an animal their personal punching bag; or by someone who simply doesn't consider animals at all. Maybe, after reading such an article, that person will consider trying something different with their dog or seek guidance on an issue they've been experiencing. Someone might even realize that having an animal just isn't right for

them at all. Sadly, however, the majority of the time this just doesn't happen. We continue to see shelters filled with animals who once had homes, but through ignorance and circumstance, end up homeless.

And, unfortunately, many shelters are not shelters at all. Too many become temporary holding locations where animals are killed simply because they are homeless and because the shelter needs to make room for more animals streaming in.

The answer is education. Teaching people that animals are not disposable, that they need proper training, love and consistency to avoid the problems noted in this Facebook post. Where to begin? How do you get people who don't respect animals to see the light? That all creatures on this earth deserve compassion and respect. I don't have all the answers but posts like this I guess are a start, if it makes one person think before they send their pet packing for solvable problems.

But are they reading and willing to learn?