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FLAGSTAFF-SEDONA DOG MAGAZINE

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COVER DOG CONTEST

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**Deadline Dates - 3/31/22, 5/31/22, 7/31/22,
9/30/22, 11/30/22 and 1/31/23**



Bonnie Blue, Our Cover Dog

Name: Bonnie Blue

Hometown: Born and raised Jersey Girl and loved the beach, but now my momma, me, and my little brother Clyde love and live in Arizona. Forget the snow, bring on the sun! We love Clarkdale, Arizona.

Age: 7 years June was my bday, but I love to celebrate all summer long.

Favorite brand of kibble: Well, I have food allergies, so to keep my mom on her toes my diet changes from time to time. Right now it's Wild and Free Bison, Pea, Potato and Venison recipe. When my mom can, she makes me the best food ever in the crock pot with simmered beef and veggies. I drool when it's dinner-time and love love love food.

Favorite people food: Bananas and kale. Don't laugh, I love Whole Foods!

Favorite toy: Any toy that belongs to my little brother Clyde.

Favorite outdoor activity: Walking the neighborhood and saying hello to all of my wonderful neighbors at Mountain Gate, or going to center square of Clarkdale and smelling the green grass and seeing what fellow pups have been there too. The green square of Clarkdale reminds a little of Jersey.

Favorite indoor activity: Modeling for my mom. I love to have my photo taken—daddy always said I should be a model!

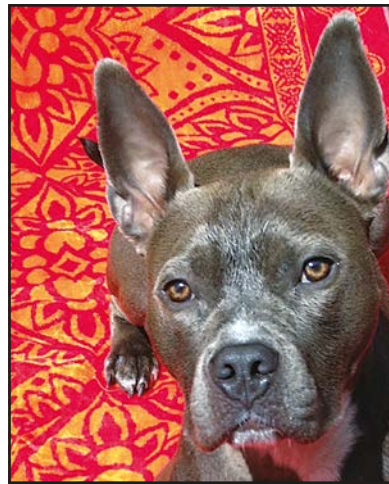
Favorite nap spot: On my back patio, snuggled next to Clyde. Or (best spot over) near my mom in the evening as she finds something for us to watch on TV. My favorite movies are The Minions...and they love to eat bananas, too!

Fitness regimen: Chasing my brother, walking...yes, plenty of walks, and if we are really, really good, after our walks sometimes we go to Starbucks for the best thing ever—a puppacino!

Favorite person: My Grammy. I get cards from her on my birthday and all of the holidays. I love her. She's sooo good to me!

Describe your perfect canine pal: My best and most favorite buddy is my little brother Clyde. He was adopted, just like me.

Describe your perfect day: When I'm walking with my momma and Clyde, when people stop their car to say hello, it makes my day to see everyone smiling and having fun.



Tucker's Take

Dad Steps In It (No, Not That)

Well, I'm coming in with this column a wee bit past deadline. It's just I couldn't stop laughing when I thought about what I was going to write about, and of course Hazel would hear me and snort and chuckle too.

It's rare for us to see Dad's deer-in-the-headlights look because of *us-on-four*. We even got a few stammers out of him as his mind desperately sought to get the rusty drawer open marked "E" for excuses.

We've seen this look before on Dad's face several times, but not because of us. Pack Mom has powers that *we-on-four* do not possess. Enough said.

Keira started it all with a simple question in between bites of breakfast, which caught Hazel's and my attention—though we kept on eating away, but only for a second longer. Then we stopped.

Keira's question (directed at Hazel and me) was, "How come you guys always vote down my ideas?"

What made us stop eating was, at first thought, we knew it had been a couple of months since Keira had piped up with an idea for us to mull over.

I shot a glance at Hazel, and she confirmed my suspicion by briefly looking up at Dad and returning to her kibble.

As sheriff of the pack, I felt it was time to begin an investigation. Dad, who was standing nearby waiting for us to finish breakfast, shifted nervously as I raised up and sat next to my half-empty bowl and looked directly at him.

"Why the long face, Tuck?" The old joke between Dad and me sounded liked a diversion tactic this time.

I just kept staring up at Dad, refusing to budge from the matter at hand. Hazel and Keira came near my opposite flank from Dad, not sure whether I was distracted enough that they could empty my bowl without reprisal. Fat chance.

Back to Dad who, with a shallow sigh, confessed to acting as proxy on behalf of Hazel and me.



Intermission

You see, unlike Hazel and me, Keira likes to follow Mom or Dad all over the property and through the house for extended periods of time. She's curious about everything they do, whereas Hazel and I have seen it all and would rather just do our outdoor business, then lay in the sun.

Apparently, during Keira's rounds with the two-leggeds, she's been coming up with a steady steam of ideas of things for us to do together, and Dad has been pretending to go ask the seniors (Hazel and me), then coming back to tell her that we had said no. Multiple times, mind you.

As Dad was explained all this to us, it did not go over well with me or Hazel. As rambunctious and impractical as Keira's ideas can be, we might have missed out on some honest-to-goodness fun. With Mom and Dad so busy in the lead up to WOOFStock, we'd felt a bit neglected as of late. Some levity and impromptu outbursts might have done our hearts good.

As sheriff of this pack, and with the authority vested in me, and based on Dad's own testimony, it was my judgment that a remedy was in order.

Negotiations began, and Dad relented to a settlement. Keira was to list the last three ideas she could remember, and if Hazel and I would have voted yes to at least two of them, then her next idea would be greenlighted without a vote.

Here were her ideas:

1. Cover the backyard with whipped cream, and throw whipped cream balls so that we could play chase and catch.
2. Give us all a ride in the white car instead of the truck. (This particular car has the feel of being in a boat on the lake, but has velour seats that holds stubbornly to dog hair.)

3. Have Dad put peanut butter on his shoes, then let us try to catch him out side in the backyard.

When Dad heard Keira recite her list, he put his head in his hands for a moment, then with a deeper sigh, asked Hazel and me for a verdict on what would have been our votes.

We conferred in the hallway and decided to graciously nix one idea, and vote yes on two. That way, Dad could say it was close. Since we both understood that you really can't make a whipped-cream ball, and we were pretty sure a backyard covered in cream would probably lead to all of us having to endure scrubbies afterwards, we chose no on that one.

We returned to the living room to announce our verdict of voting yes on two of three. Dad, with visible trepidation, turned to Keira for the pronouncement of her latest brainstorm.

"Muzzle-Teers!"

Collective puzzlement floated through the room (not unusual with this bunch). Keira, miffed at the lack of excitement shown for her idea, tried again.

"Muzzle-Teers! The Three Muzzle-Teers, we're going to do a play!"

Dad mumbled something about, "Not swords again", while Hazel and I wagged enthusiastically for Keira (even though we weren't sure what a muzzle-teer was). Dad got up and opened the patio door so we could take our excitement, and victory, outside.

Keira spun like a top and barked out, "Dalmation, I'm Dalmation!" (Read: d'Artagnan).

"...and you, Tuck, will be Pathos. And Hazel, Porthole. And Dad, you will be Error Miss!" (Read: Athos, Porthos, Aramis)

Dad muttered below his breath, "What could go wrong?"

I trotted past Dad to do my business and said, "I hope you've learned your lesson."

I didn't give him time to answer me. I think he got off easy this time—after all, he could've been running around with peanut butter on his shoes.

~Tucker Oso



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by C.L. Dreves

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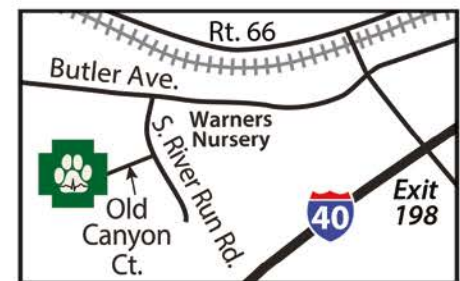
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Hot-Car Dangers

By Shari King

The following is a true story. Joann (not her real name) was a veterinarian who was fortunate to own her own animal hospital. As the owner, she often brought her two large dogs, Cooper and Ducky, to the clinic with her.

One hot day in July, her husband dropped Cooper, the younger of the two dogs, off at a veterinary surgeon in the early morning for a scheduled ACL repair (knee surgery). Joann was worried about the dog, but personally knew the surgeon and was certain he was in good hands.

She left for work in her black Suburban with Ducky, the older dog. Usually her commute to the clinic was boisterous with Cooper moving from window to window, but Ducky was a mellow golden retriever. He lay down quietly in the rear seat of the vehicle and fell asleep.

Just as she arrived at the clinic, her husband called on her cell to ask if he was to pick up Cooper. Joann, distracted by her phone conversation about her younger dog's surgery and with her busy schedule for the day forgot that Ducky was



in the car.

When the surgeon called her with an update on Cooper's surgery hours later she suddenly remembered that she had brought Ducky to work with her, but by then it was too late.

Every year, many dogs suffer and die when owners make the mistake of leaving them in a parked car. It can happen even to a veterinarian.

Parked cars are deathtraps for dogs. According to the American Veterinary Medical Association (AVMA) the temperature inside a vehicle can rise almost 20 degrees in as little as 10 minutes. A vehicle can quickly reach a temperature that puts a pet at serious risk for heatstroke and death, even on days when it doesn't seem

all that hot to you.

An independent study that was published on the AVMA website showed that the interior temperature of vehicles parked

outside ranged from 72 to 96 degrees Fahrenheit, and those temperatures rose steadily as time increased. The study also found that cracking the windows had very little effect on the temperature inside a vehicle.

Another study, performed by the Louisiana Office of Public Health, found that the temperatures in dark sedans as well as a light gray minivans parked on a hot, but partly cloudy day, exceeded 125 degrees within 20 minutes.

Animals can sustain brain damage or even die from heatstroke in as little as 15 minutes. Beating the heat is extra tough for dogs because they can only cool themselves by panting and by sweating through the pads on their feet.

Unlike us humans, dogs and cats don't respond to heat in the same way. We regulate our body temperature through the many sweat glands all over our bodies. Dogs and cats have only a few sweat glands located in their paw pads and around their noses.

In order to cool themselves, our pets release heat primarily by panting. The sweat glands in their paw pads and noses do help with dispersing heat but only minimally.

Hyperthermia, or heatstroke, occurs when your pet's body temperature reaches 106 degrees or higher.

At this temperature, neurological and organ dysfunction and failure occurs. Once their temperature reaches 108 degrees or higher, it melts the proteins which make up the foundation of all the cells in the body.

While there is no definite point at which these systems fail, higher temperatures and longer periods of heat exposure will lead to more organ dysfunctions and the distinct possibility of death.

Heatstroke symptoms may include restlessness, excessive

HOW HOT IS YOUR CAR?



VEHICLE TEMPERATURE		
OUTSIDE TEMP (F)	INSIDE TEMP (F)	
	after 10 mins	after 30 mins
70°	89°	104°
75°	94°	109°
80°	99°	114°
85°	104°	119°
90°	109°	124°
95°	114°	129°

Source: Veterinaryclinic.com

Even with the windows cracked, the temperature inside a vehicle can increase within minutes. When in doubt, don't leave them in the car, leave them at home. They'll thank you for it!

HOT-CAR DANGERS

thirst, thick saliva, heavy panting, lethargy, lack of appetite, dark tongue, rapid heartbeat, fever, vomiting, bloody diarrhea, and lack of coordination. If a dog ever shows any of these symptoms, get him or her out of the heat, into an air-conditioned vehicle, and then transport that pet to a veterinarian immediately.

If you are unable to transport the animal, bring the dog into an air-conditioned building and call animal control and tell them it is an emergency. Provide water to drink, and if possible, spray the dog with a garden hose or immerse him or her in a tub of cool—not cold—water to lower the body temperature. Avoid covering the animal's body with wet towels or blankets as the heat needs to be able to disperse.

You can also place the dog in front of an electric fan and apply cool, wet towels to the groin, stomach, chest, and paws. Be careful not to use ice or ice cold water: the temperature should be decreased gradually to allow the dog's body to acclimate.

If a pet needs to be hospitalized from heatstroke, the treatments to save his or her life can be costly and may include: Intravenous fluids to treat the dehydration and to cool the body down internally. Oxygen therapy, anesthesia, and airway intubation for pets that are having breathing difficulties or are unconscious. Blood tests to assess the severity of dehydration, to test for clotting problems, and to assess organ function.

Medications can include gastric protectants and anti-nausea medication in cases of vomiting and diarrhea (as the gut may slough its lining and start to die) Antibiotics to pre-

vent secondary sepsis (blood poisoning) and pain relief medications.

The pet may need blood or plasma transfusions. And lastly, ongoing monitoring and treatment usually in an intensive care unit.

While all pets can be at risk of heatstroke, there are some pets that are more susceptible. These pets include the very young or old; thick- or long-coated dogs as their coat retains the heat; overweight and obese dogs; large breed dogs; extremely active, or working and hunting dogs, such as shepherds and retrievers.

Also included are dogs who have any type of respiratory disease or breathing problems, such as laryngeal (vocal cord) paralysis, or a collapsing trachea. Dogs who have heart problems or any type of cardiovascular disease can suffer very quickly and die from heatstroke.

According to information supplied by the Animal Emergency Service, Brachycephalic breeds are 146% more likely to suffer from heatstroke than any other dog breed.

Brachycephalic breeds are the short-nosed and flat-faced animals. Their smaller and narrower nostrils, long soft palate, and under-developed and smaller airways prevent the efficiency of adequate air flow, which means they struggle to cool themselves. These breeds include pugs, English bulldogs, French bulldogs, Pekingese, and Persian and Himalayan cats.

If you see a dog left alone in a hot car, note the car's color, model, make, and license plate number. Have the owner paged in the nearby business-

es. Call your local police to be dispatched, and animal control. Have someone keep an eye on the dog. Don't leave the scene until the situation has been resolved.

If the authorities are unresponsive or too slow, and the dog's life appears to be in imminent danger, find a witness and then do whatever it takes to remove the endangered animal from the car. Tend to that animal, then wait for authorities to arrive.

In fact, there is an Arizona State statute, House Bill 2494, that states you must: Notify Law Enforcement or Emergency Personnel first. Must in good faith believe the child or pet's life is in danger. You must remain with the child or animal until emergency personnel arrive.

Animal Control Officer Shannon Gray shared that although this law protects the person breaking a window to save a pet from criminal charges, there could still be civil charges brought on by the vehicle owner for the damage. However, Arizona State Statute 13-2910, Section 7, in regards to cruelty to animals, refers to an animal confined in a motor vehicle.

It states that a person commits cruelty to animals if the person intentionally, knowingly, or recklessly leaves an animal unattended and confined in a motor vehicle and physical injury to or death of the animal is likely to result.

Every year, hundreds of dogs die from heatstroke because they are left in parked vehicles. We've all heard it before: "I'll just be a few minutes while I run into the store," or "He'll be okay, I cracked the windows...."

These excuses don't amount to much if your dog dies from being left in a hot vehicle.

Before you invite your dog to go and run errands with you, ask yourself, "Do I really need to take him with me?" If the answer is no, leave the dog home.

That old saying "love'em and leave 'em" can actually be a very good thing for a dog in this situation. When it is hot, please leave your dog at home. He'll be safe and happily waiting for you at the door when you return.

Here is a lifesaving tip that can save not only dog's life but also sleeping babies. Take an ordinary clothes pin. Paint it. Decorate it. Or simply just write your pets on it with a Sharpie marker. Attach it to an obvious vent on the dashboard of your car.

Whenever you get into the car with your dog, attach the clothespin to your keys. It will serve as a visual reminder that you have your dog with you and can be a lifesaver.



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HOT-CAR DANGERS



they age, and sometimes their companion animals get neglected as a result, and we want to ensure that does not happen."

Veterinarians in the Verde Valley will be made aware of the project and will submit their request for funding to HSS after the family or senior meets certain criteria specified by the grant. The intention of the grant is to keep up to 40 seniors or families in Yavapai County and their companion animals together.

Since inception, ACF of Yavapai County has distributed more than \$24.7 million in grants and scholarships to local nonprofit organizations and students. Their mission to "give where you live" is reflected in the approval of this \$15,000 grant. Lisa Sahady, Regional Director, Arizona Community Foundation of Yavapai County shared, "This grant was made possible by our Pat and Gerhard Kroenaur Animal Friends Fund—one of eight Field of Interest Funds in our annual competitive grant cycle. Pat and Gerhard loved their animals and they would be proud to know their legacy gift, which created this fund is keeping seniors, families and their pets together."

The project will be launched over the next month as Verde Valley veterinarians will be informed of the process for submitting their client's requests. For more information on the project, please contact Felicia Filep, Director of Development at the Humane Society of Sedona at 928-282-4679, ext. 130m or ffilep@HumaneSocietyofSedona.org

Founded in 1966, the Humane Society of Sedona continues to take in lost, injured, and surrendered dogs, cats, and other small animals from 10am to 4pm daily by appointment only. Its mission is to build a caring community where every adoptable or treatable companion animal finds a loving home.

Verde Valley Caregivers Coalition is a community-based 501c(3) nonprofit established in 1992 to solve the critical social issue of older adults living alone without family or friends to help assist them with activities crucial to their independence so they can remain in their homes. About 28% of their clients have companion animals.

Founded in 1993, the Arizona Community Foundation of Yavapai County was the Arizona Community Foundation's first affiliate. The Arizona Community Foundation of Yavapai County enjoys the advantages and economy of centralized management and administrative resources while the local Board of Advisors brings regional knowledge and expertise to address the community's unique needs. ACF of Yavapai County has over \$68.8 million in assets.



KEEPING VERDE VALLEY SENIORS, FAMILIES, AND THEIR PETS TOGETHER

Project Partners Humane Society of Sedona & Verde Valley Caregivers Coalition with a Grant from The Arizona Community Foundation of Yavapai County

Yavapai County families and seniors who are a part of the Verde Valley Caregivers Coalition (VVCC) now have the ability to request financial support for lifesaving and quality of life veterinary care for their animal companions thanks to a \$15,000 grant from the Arizona Community Foundation of Yavapai County.

Jennifer Brehler, Humane Society of Sedona (HSS) Executive Director stated, "Our goal in proposing this partnership with VVCC was to help ensure that families, and especially older adults living in Yavapai County would be supported during times of crisis with their pets, and not have to forgo medical treatment for their pet.

"We saw a 41% increase of owners giving up their animals last year and we wanted to help reverse this trend. We were overjoyed and relieved when we received the news our grant request for this life-saving project was approved by the Arizona Community Foundation of Yavapai County. For us, it is all about keeping people and their pets together, and that is what this funding and project does!"

The project's goal is to assist up to 40 Yavapai County seniors or families with veterinary expenses relating to lifesaving or quality of life care. Preference will be given to Verde Valley Caregivers Coalition clients, but all cases presented by local veterinarians to HSS will be reviewed by Ms. Brehler and funding determined.

VVCC's Director Kent Ellsworth said, "We are thrilled to partner with HSS and of our 1,900 seniors, at least 500 of them have pets that make a huge difference in their lives. To be able to have funds available in addition to our Pets Count Too! Program will be lifesaving both for these seniors and their four-legged family members! 50% of our clients live at or below poverty level, so they are already challenged to cover personal expenses as

SUMMER KIDS & KRITTERS CAMPS

The Humane Society of Sedona (HSS)'s 2022 Summer Kids & Kritters Camps were a huge hit this June and July, and were back in person at the Shelter!

Over 30 children aged seven to twelve years old had an incredible time in each of the three week-long session learning about animals, their behavior, and how to take care of them. Not only did they get to help the staff care for the shelter's dogs and cats, the campers had special guest speakers who brought creepy crawly critters like snakes and scorpions and less scary animals like a pair of local quails for them to meet!

Daily classes included crafts and fun activities with their fellow campers and HSS volunteer instructors and staff. The kids also learned the importance of "hugging a tree" if they ever got lost when in the wilderness from Yavapai County Search and Rescue's K9 Team.

The shelter looks forward to having the camps in person next year, so please sign up early as three of the four sessions sold out. For more information and photos, visit:

HumaneSocietyofSedona.org/events/kids-kritters-summer-camp-registration/

RESCUE TALES



Guess what? Dogs never wake up one day and decide they don't love you or don't want you anymore. Apparently some humans do, and we see it more often than we'd like to. Like the family that had their dog its whole life but then found it didn't get along with their new puppy, so they surrender the one who's been with them for 10 years. It's unfathomable!

You'd be surprised how many people literally trade in their old one for a new one. How do you just walk away from a member of your family?

That dog has no idea what it did wrong, why it's here, or what's going to happen to it. It's scare, and it's waiting for you to come back. But you're not coming back. And here it sits everyday while countless people walk by not even giving him a chance because he's older, and everyone wants the young ones and the puppies.



Gina

So many dogs are overlooked every single day. They aren't even given a chance to meet you because you walk by them.

You see an old dog, you see the breed, you see them barking and jumping up, or maybe you see them just laying on their beds doing nothing. Do you think any of those dogs are judging you as you walk by their kennels, like you're judging them?

The dog isn't in there thinking, "Hmmm, that one's too old to play with me, that one has dirty clothes, that one smells funny, that one looks mean." They don't care what you do for a living, what kind of car you drive, how big your house is or any of that. They only want to give you their unconditional love for the rest of their lives. And they deserve your love in return.

I don't think you really understand what you might be walking past. Perhaps it's one of the most lovable, devoted, and precious dogs you'll ever know. Take Gina for example.

She's an 11-year-old American Pit Bull mix who's been here since August of 2021, except for the 28 days she was adopted and returned for being dog reactive. Her original owners had her for 10 years but had to surrender her because they were moving! (Don't get me started!)

She has awful kennel presence and either just lays against the door so you can't really see her. or she's barking and jumping up. So people just walk by and don't even

ask about her. BUT, she is the most lovable, precious, devoted, playful dog.

She's been hanging out with us in the Admin Building everyday...following us around, laying in one of her three beds, munching on treats, coming to us for some loving and to have her butt scratched. We go out in the bark park and play with her and her favorite thing—the tennis ball!!

If she was just given a chance by everyone walking by her kennel only seeing an 11-year-old Pit Bull, they would see the REAL Gina and fall in love with her just like we have. She is so full of love and just wants someone to take her to her forever home so she can be your best friend!

What's the whole point of this? Well, there's a couple things. First, I'll just go with the old cliché of, "Don't judge a book by its cover." Second, you really don't know what the story is on these animals here waiting for a home. Third, dogs never wake up one day and decide they don't love you or want you anymore.



Do you believe in "love at first sight?" Mr. Merkley does. You see, Mr. Merkley lost his dog of 10 years back in March. He decided he needed a new furry friend and so began his search. He visited a couple of local animal shelters, but he didn't feel a connection with any of the dogs he met. He heard about Woofstock in Prescott Valley, so he decided to take a look.

The first booth he encountered was Pets Return Home. He spoke with volunteer Becki who asked him what kind of dog he was looking for. He wanted an adult dog who was not too big.

The volunteer introduced him to Isabelle, who was about two years old. She was found wandering on the reservation and was pregnant. The Black Hat Rescue in that area picked her up. A few days later she had seven male puppies.

The shelter reached out to Pets Return Home to see if we had room for



Mr. Merkley & Isabelle

mom and puppies. PRH agreed to take the whole family who eventually all came to Woofstock looking for their forever homes.

Mr. Merkley took Isabelle for a walk around the grounds. When he returned to the booth, Becki asked Mr. Merkley if he would like to walk another dog she thought was suitable for him. Mr. Merkley said "No, I've found the dog I was looking for."

After putting down a deposit, he went home and immediately filled out an adoption application, which was approved. Since Mr. Merkley lived in Chino Valley and Pets Return

Home is in Clarkdale, the volunteer who helped him at the adoption event agreed to deliver Isabelle to Prescott Valley.

No one knows Isabelle's history. Mr. Merkley is working with her on how to use the doggy door and leash training, as well as chewing

and digging etiquette. Isabelle is now Bella, and she is enjoying the good life with Mr. Merkley.

Five of her 7 puppies are still available for adoption. Please visit our petsreturnhome.org website to check out volunteering, adopting, and donating.

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Hiking with Lily: Growing Up Trails

By Melissa Bowersock

HIKING WITH LILY: GROWING UP TRAILS



Lily is almost eleven months old now, practically an adult. Well, okay, maybe not. But she's maturing at a fast rate, and I continue to be amazed at her levels of understanding. Since I've never had a Wheaten before, I don't know if they are all super smart or if she's a rare Brainiac, but her vocabulary is enormous.

When we first started serious training, I was concerned because my husband had a tendency to use different words than I did, and I was afraid Lily would be confused by the variations.

I'm from the "tell them what you WANT them to do" school, and my husband was very free with the simple word "No." Surprisingly, Lily seemed to take it all in and figure out exactly what we wanted, no matter what language we used.

Since we take her hiking frequently, the trails out in the wild offer a zillion opportunities for sniffing and exploring. Lily has learned our favorite trail very well and usually trundles along without too much pulling to the side, but of course the occasional scent will draw her into the brush. Luckily, she's learned the command, "This way," and almost immediately corrects back to the main trail. If she veers left, "This way" brings her back to center; same with the right.

Once in a while there's a scent so fascinating that she has to inspect it further, but if we give her a minute for that, then start out again, she's happy to come along.

One issue that I have is that my knees are bad. I've penciled in knee replacement surgery for

this winter, but in the meantime, I have to take it slow going uphill or down—especially down. I have to take baby steps, and with Lily's puppy exuberance, there was always the fear that she would drag me down an incline.

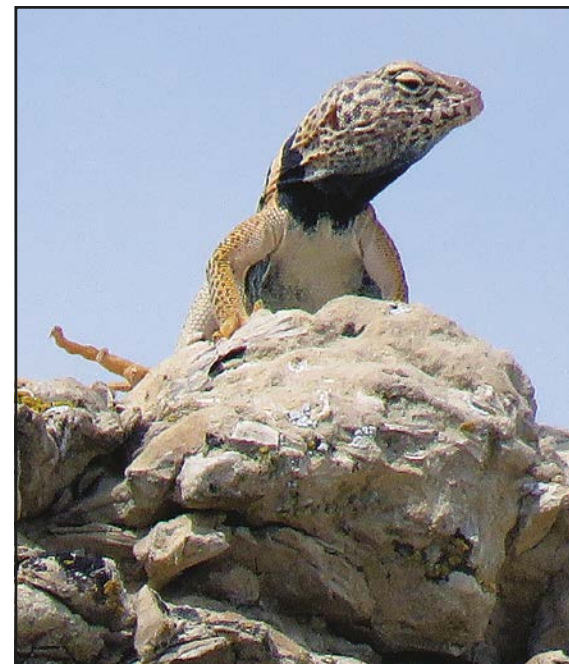
A short time ago, I noticed that if we stopped anywhere along the trail for more than 30 seconds or so—to take a picture or enjoy the wildflowers—she would sit. She wouldn't whine or pull or jones to go on; she'd simply sit down and wait until we were ready to continue. If we were in shade and it was warm, she would lie down and go full-on frog dog until we were ready. This wasn't anything we taught her; she just figured it out on her own.



With that behavior in her kit bag, I decided to start training her to walk with me downhill. I keep a short leash on her so she walks beside me, and give her constant reassurance, plus I tell her, "Easy, easy," and "Stay with me." Surprisingly, she does, and without complaint. If I need to slow even more in order to find good footing, she will just sit down and wait.

I'm actually amazed that she does so well. We went from the distracted puppy pulling in all directions to this calm, easy walk in record time. Walking with Lily has evolved from a frustrating struggle to pure joy. We know now that she is going to be an absolutely perfect trail dog.

Well, almost perfect. She has this one tiny weakness: Lizards. Ever since it's gotten really warm, the lizards are out in force, and with



their quick, mercurial movements, they grab her attention in a micro-second.

Lily has a very strong prey drive and reacts to anything running away. We're still working to break her of chasing the cat, but the cat can give as good as she gets so it's not a huge problem. With the lizards, though, Lily will change direction, make a hard left or right and LUNGE after the tiny beasts, practically pulling an arm out of its socket in the process.

We're learning to keep an eye out several steps ahead as we go, so we've at least got some advance notice that Lily might be tempted to make a wild dash, and we can mitigate her response. Or not. An instinct like that is a little harder to overcome than training simple behaviors like sitting or lying down. But we're working on it.

I think two things are in our favor. One is consistency. Any dog trainer will tell you that consistency is key, and we've worked hard to reinforce the good behaviors that we want to see in Lily. The second thing is time. Most of the over-the-top, reckless, and excited behaviors are easing with Lily's growing maturity. While she retains her puppyish enthusiasm, she is settling into life as a calmer, more biddable companion, and for that we give a long sigh of relief.

Losing Annie as suddenly as we did was absolutely traumatic, but Lily has reaffirmed for us the unparalleled joy of sharing our lives with one of God's most loving creatures. She is a smiling, happy pup, always ready for a walk, a treat or a snuggle in my lap.

I don't know what we, as humans, ever did to deserve such a loving, trusting companion, but I am eternally grateful to our distant ancestors for that gift. More than ever, I understand the maxim: Dog is God spelled backward.

Chase's Corner: Doggie Fun Day

By Chase & Jan Tomlinson

Yipee! My mom said we were going to a doggie fun day. I think it was going to be at our training field. I was so excited about it as I really love to do fun things with my mom. I didn't know exactly how we were going to have fun, but I was all in for it.



When we got to the field, there were lots of other dogs and people already there. My mom told me there were seven different activities and I could choose which ones I wanted to do. There was agility, treibball, doggie dancing, rally, tracking, scent work, and doggie massage. Wow!

They all looked like fun, but I chose doggie dancing, scent work, and doggie massage. Lots of the other dogs chose to do everything to see what they liked best. I have done classes in treibball, rally, agility, scent work, and a long time ago, doggie dancing. So, I decided to

do my favorite ones and maybe learn something new.

I started out with doggie dancing. You know I am a very good dancer, and we danced to a Beach Boys song. I don't know how to surf, but I did my best dance moves and barked along with the song. I'm going to have to improve my moves and learn some new ones. Maybe I'd be better at ballroom dancing, and my friend, Shanel, could be my

partner. She's in love with me and has even grown a ruff to look like mine! The only problem is that she is much taller than I am, so I'd have to get some stilts. I wonder how dancing on stilts would be?

The next activity I did was scent work. My nose works really well, and my mom can never trick me when she hides my scent containers in the house. Sometimes, she even hides them outdoors. I find them every time!

When I went to do it, it was like an Easter egg hunt! There were all of these colored plastic eggs all over the ground. Oh, no! I forgot to bring my Easter basket to put them in. I thought Easter was over.

The instructor explained that was NOT the way it worked. I was supposed to find the egg that had the scent in it. So, I started sniffing. I sniffed and sniffed and sniffed and sniffed. Boy! There

were a lot of eggs to check. Yay! I finally found it. I was so good at this game that the instructor hid another one behind a sign. That was even harder, but I found it right away. No fooling me, as I had my trusty GPS (my nose) with me, so I can find things quickly.

The third thing I chose to do was doggie massage. I had worked so hard at the other two, I deserved a nice, relaxing massage. Lyndie and Joe were giving the massages and it felt so good! I wrote about Joe in a previous issue. I love going to the doggie spa. This was a good way to end my day.

I hope you'll find some fun activities to do with your human. There are lots of possibilities out there. So, Happy Sniffing, Dancing, Tacking, Rally, Treibball, and Agility.

~Sir Chase, Royal Sniffer

CHASE'S CORNER



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Tips for RVing with Your Pets

By Stacey Wittig

Now that we are deep into the Dog Days of Summer, you may be ready to escape the most stifling period of the season. Of course, RV camping with your favorite four-legged traveling companions is one way to get away. But, before you go, here are some road-proven tips from pet-loving RVing experts:

Invest in a collapsible impact crate that is easily stored flat when not in use.

"Some people may be apprehensive to travel, especially full time with a large dog, but our Vacationer provides us ample space to all live comfortably," says Kristi Stevens about RVing with her family, including Ruko the Golden Retriever. "We have a large bed for him in front of the fireplace and even have room for a 40" collapsible crate that we can put in the front or back of the coach."

The dog-loving family lives out of a 2017 Holiday Rambler Vacationer®, 36H. In a recent media release, they also recommend double-checking that the campground where you want to stay is pet-friendly. "Most are, but some don't allow big dogs or dogs at all," reports Kristi of Adventurtunity Family, who blogs about their adventures at AdventurtunityFamily.com

Take time to train your canine traveling companions.

"Take time to train your dogs. If they're not well-behaved at home, they definitely won't be well behaved in new environ-



Ruko and Kade Stevens in Holiday Rambler. Photo courtesy REV Group.

ments," Scott and Sophia Murray advise in the same media release. They RV with two Golden Retrievers, Gaston and Sven, and their cat Holly Hox.

"If your dog is allowed on your couch or bed at home, plan for that in your motorhome," states Scott. "Gaston and Sven love to sprawl out on the floor wherever we are, whether that's at home or in the motorhome. Because of that, we made sure we found a motorhome with a king bed, expandable sectional couch, and opposing slide-outs. We didn't want to feel like we were constantly walking through an obstacle course [while] traveling with them."

The Murrays chose a 2016 Holiday Rambler Endeavor® 40DP as their mobile getaway home. Follow @GastonTheGolden on Instagram.

Identify and close any interior passageways that might tempt Kitty to explore

"We learned [that] the hard way," says Charity DeVries, who enjoys full-time RV life with her family, Great Pyrenes, and two cats. "After a day of travel, we pulled into our campground and heard a faint meow. KitKat had found a gap at the front of the RV and had been sitting on the generator the entire time we were driving that day. She was just fine, but it was another lesson learned."

Charity and her husband share YouTube videos about traveling in their 2004 Fleetwood RV Discovery® 39J at GratefulGlamper.com. Likewise, Charity warns you to locate your cats before putting the slides in or out.



Charity DeVries and her traveling pets. Photo courtesy REV Group.



Wendy Gaynor's cat Miranda. Photo courtesy REV Group.

Stomp your feet when entering your motorhome

"When entering or leaving the motorhome, stomp your feet or make some sort of noise to make sure the cats aren't at the door waiting to bolt out," suggests Wendy Gaynor, who travels solo with three cats, Cleoatra, Zipper, and Miranda.

The 72-year-old drives a 43' American Eagle® luxury motorhome from American Coach. She also advocates microchipping your pet in case they get out at a fuel stop or campground.

"When traveling, remember that cats are not tourists. They do not need to see the scenery and would rather be in their own small, cozy space," advises Wendy. "Make their cat carrier warm and inviting by putting a towel or blanket in it."

Stacey Wittig is a travel writer who calls Flagstaff home. Find more ways to simplify travel at unstoppablestaceytravel.com

TAKE SMART TECH ON RV TRIPS

- Keep track of the nearest emergency veterinary hospital at vcahospitals.com
- Get a Waggle RV Pet Temperature Monitor, which sends texts or email alerts about potentially unsafe conditions for your pet. "The best part is no Wi-Fi is needed since it uses cellular data," says Charity and Ben DeVries.
- Use the BringFido app or bringfido.com to find dog-friendly restaurants and destinations.
- Filter hiking paths by "Dog Friendly" on the AllTrails app, and bring a leash.



Gaston (L) and Sven (R) in front of Holiday Rambler with slide-out. Photo courtesy REV Group.



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2009: Alabama to Minnesota

By Jewel

Hi, my name is Jewel. My sister and I were living in a back yard in Alabama, where we only had each other for company, I was called "big girl" and my sister was "little girl", we sometimes ate, and the unpleasant backyard gave us something called mange. One day we took a long car ride to Minnesota where we were brought to Braveheart Rescue, a rescue for Huskys. We have Siberian Husky in us, but we looked like black labs. It was there that they renamed me Jewel.



Looking so sweet, that blue 'jewel' of an eye. Jewel at home in Burnsville, Minnesota.

One day the rescue brought us to a pet store in Burnsville, Minnesota to hopefully find our fur-ever home. I was four at the time. My sister was adopted right away and left me. I was so lonely, scared, and not sure what to do. A nice lady came in and sat down in front of my kennel, I slowly came out and sat next to her. She talked to me softly, and I laid my head in her lap and let her pet me. It felt so good, but then she left again I felt alone and scared.

A week later that same lady came to the rescue, and she brought two men with her, I did not realize then that they would be my fur-ever family, but they were! My first few weeks were hard, I did not understand them but liked hearing them talk to me. They fed me, but I was so afraid of not knowing when I would eat again, I would stash some of my kibble under a dresser, just in case I needed food later.

Mommy took me to puppy classes; I was the biggest one in class at four years old! I learned so much and it was fun. The little ones would want to play with me, but I knew



2011, home from the pet hospital after a blood transfusion and lots of Vit K injections to save me from rat poison.

school was important. I learned how to roll over, shake paws, wait, and walk next to my person. The teacher was very happy with me.

I loved going to the cabin in Brainerd, Minnesota. I could run free, and there was a big lake to swim in, but I'm afraid of water. I would step in it, and then step out as fast as I could. Sometimes it was a

game with the waves. My favorite thing to do with my daddy was go for boat rides when he would go fishing. Fish are cool. My brother Tim would play with me, and together we would dig a hole in the sand for us to play in. I love my brother.

I got sick one time when I was six years old. They said the cause was rat poison. I couldn't walk, couldn't hold my head up, and I was bleeding everywhere. Mommy and

Daddy were so scared, but they got me to the doctor, and I had to have a blood transfusion. It took a long time to get well and be able to walk right again. I had acupuncture on my back & legs, and I took a lot of medications. My parents love me so much they never left my side, and when they were at work my best friend, Arlo, and his mom would watch over me.

I love road trips and camping. Daddy would

always let me lead when we would go hiking, and there was always something good to smell on the trails. Camping was always fun, but it's so hard on my legs now. We don't go camping anymore.

In May 2022 me, Mommy and Daddy went on a trip together, just the three of us. We went to the Grand Canyon. We walked a bit, and it sure was

pretty, but I was so tired afterward. Mommy kept saying it was, "Jewel's Grand Adventure in the Grand Canyon." I got to sleep in a hotel and be with my parents. I knew it was a special time for all three of us.

I howled at the moon once, in my best husky voice. That was fun. It was snowing, and I love snow, but in Arizona there is no more snow. Kind of a bummer because I'd find mice in the snow every winter, and I love jumping and



These are my stepbrothers Merry and Pippin. They are so crazy, mommy yells at them all the time. I guess they are ok. I know Pippin (R) loves me; he always wants to lay next to me, and that's cool.



Sept 2009. My first day with my fur-ever family, this is my brother, Tim.

catching them. Mommy makes me spit them out when I would get one.

My favorite brand of kibble: Nutro with a scoop of Nutro stew. Sometimes I get an egg, too!

My favorite people food: Anything but especially blueberries and banana's

My favorite toy: I never had a toy when I was younger, but my

Fur-ever family gave me lots of stuffies with squeakers and those are my favorite.

My favorite outdoor activity: I love my two walks a day with daddy. When I was younger, I loved chasing the squirrels.



My brother Tim and I playing in the sand at the Cabin in 2010.

My favorite indoor activity: These days I love my naps

My favorite nap spot: I have a bed, but I prefer the tile floor. It is cooler

My perfect day: Wake daddy at 4:30am to go pee. Nap, wake daddy at 5:30am for breakfast. Nap, take a short walk. Nap, take a lunchtime pee. Nap, sometimes another short walk, then dinnertime. Nap, treat time at 7pm, then pee, 9pm bedtime. Plus, mommy and daddy give me lots of hugs and kisses.

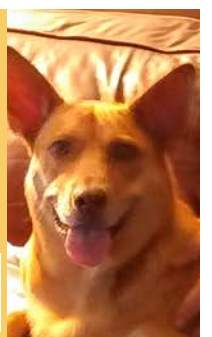


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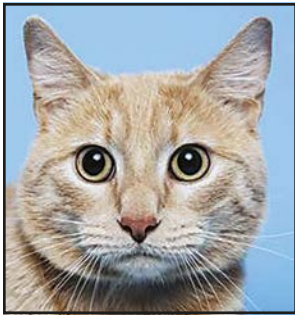
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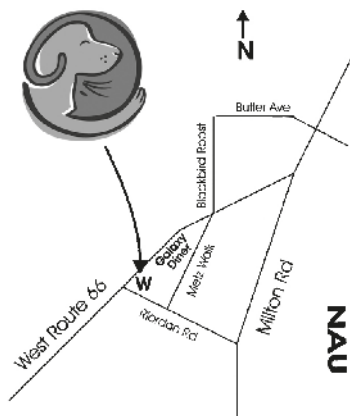
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REBEL: A 6-month-old mixed breed female. She is a very sweet and active girl. She gets along with children and other dogs. Sedona Humane Society 928-282-4679



JUNIPER: A handsome and goofy redbone coonhound mix. A cheerful, active fellow who would love a family that is equally active. A perfect jogging or hiking companion. Sedona Humane Society 928-282-4679



XENA: A 1-year-old black female English Bulldog mix. She is a mix of pure energy and cuddle bug. She loves to be with her people. Sedona Humane Society 928-282-4679



OSA: A 6-month-old white pit bull terrier mix. She is an active and affectionate girl who is still learning a few things. Sedona Humane Society 928-282-4679



EUGENE: An adult white male Staffordshire mix with the most unique "eyebrows". He is affectionate, good on a leash, and weighs about 60 pounds. Verde Valley Humane Society 928-634-7387



AUGUST: A young male German Shepherd who weighs about 70 pounds. In addition to being stunningly handsome, he is smart, affectionate, and active. Verde Valley Humane Society 928-634-7387



MARCY: A lovely adult female Cattle Dog mix. She is a bit shy. She walks well on a leash and is good with other dogs. Verde Valley Humane Society 928-634-7387



DONUT: A charming female terrier mix puppy. She is very people friendly and loves cuddles and kisses. She should weigh about 25 pounds fully grown. Verde Valley Humane Society 928-634-7387



BEEZ: A 3-month-old male lab/retriever mix. He is super sweet and full of fun. Please contact his foster family at 928-699-3871 or High Country Humane 928-526-0742



ARWEN: A 2-year-old MALE Australian cattle dog. A friendly, even-tempered guy who loves praise and hugs. He gets on well with other dogs. High Country Humane 928-526-0742



PINKY: A 1-year-old mixed breed female. She is very affectionate, loves people, and gets along with most dogs. She is hoping for a loving home of her own. High Country Humane 928-526-0742



BEE-BEAR: A male Belgian Malinois/Australian Shepherd mix. He is a loving, super-active pup with high energy. He would be the ultimate jogging or hiking companion. Coconino Humane Association 928-526-1076



MABEL: A 2-year-old female Australian Shepherd mix with beautiful blue eyes. She is gentle, affectionate, even enjoyed playing with her foster's dogs and toddler. Coconino Humane Association 928-526-1076



SHADOW: A 3-year-old black and tan Siberian Husky mix. He is a high energy fellow who would make the ultimate hiking buddy. Coconino Humane Association 928-526-1076

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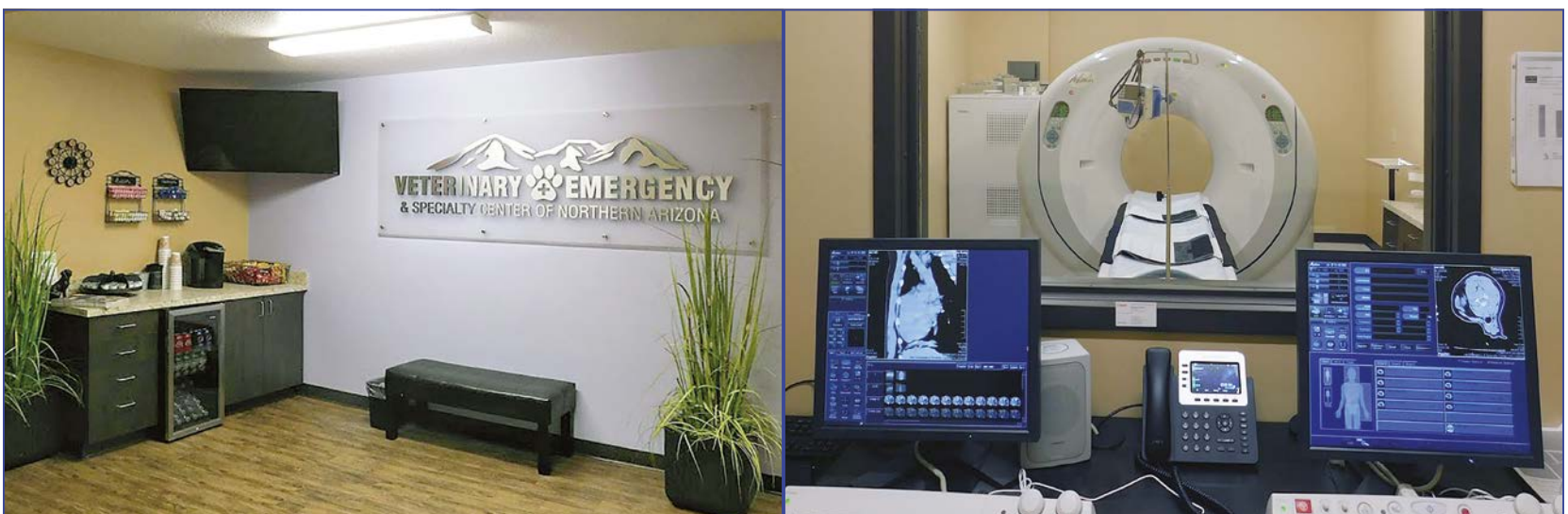
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Friday 5pm-8am	Tuesday - 5pm-8am
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Sunday - 24 hours	Thursday - 5pm-8am
Monday - 24 hours	