



# Siberian Husky Rescue of Florida, Inc.

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 An Official 501C Not-For-Profit Organization

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## THIRD QUARTER NEWSLETTER JUL - SEP 2008

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### FROM THE SHRF BOARD

There's a hint of Fall in the air these days, and that means our huskies are getting more rowdy as they enjoy the cool mornings and evenings. In that regard, a regular visitor to one of our PetsMart booths told us about Dog Scootering - a popular new sport that will keep our Sibes happy and give them plenty of exercise. If your dog loves to run (and what Sibe doesn't?), why not try this new dog sport? Slip your dog into a sled dog harness, rope him to a scooter, hop on the scooter and let him run. The dog and you become a mini mushing team. You ride the scooter, he runs and pulls. It sounds like great fun! Want to know more? Check out [www.dogscooter.com](http://www.dogscooter.com) and [www.sleddogcentral.com](http://www.sleddogcentral.com).

Also the advent of Fall means that SHRF will be getting busier with events between now and the end of the year. Be sure to check out our events calendar to find out what's going on over the next couple of months and decide what events you will be able to help us with. In particular, start cleaning out your garages and attics to round up items for our annual yard sale, which will be held on November 14<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup>. This year's sale is being hosted by Dawn and Lou B. at their home in Clearwater. This is one of our biggest

fundraising events and we need a lot of good items to sell and lots of volunteers to help with this sale.

As all of you are aware, these are tough times for people and their pets. SHRF is receiving requests almost daily from people who have lost their jobs and their homes and are forced to give up their pets. We do what we can to help these callers find a place for their pets, but it is becoming more and more difficult since most Rescues and Shelters are filled to capacity. Please say a prayer for all the animal rescue organizations who are being asked to help these animals in need.

For your information, the SHRF Officers/Directors for 2008-2009 are:

President	Carolyn D
Treasurer	Dawn B
Secretary	Christopher R
Adoption/Applications	
Director	Open
Foster Director	Jo Ann K

Board members can be reached at any time at 727-391-8934 or by e-mailing: [board@siberrescue.com](mailto:board@siberrescue.com)

Carolyn D., President

NOTICE: For the record, it is hereby noted that the current income tax documents regarding SHRF, Inc have been filed for 2007 and are available for public viewing upon request.

**"Whoever said you can't buy happiness forgot about puppies."  
Gene Hill**

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[www.siberrescue.com](http://www.siberrescue.com)

### **RESCUE PARTICIPATION**

If you are interested in becoming a volunteer or sponsor of the Siberian Husky Rescue of Florida, Inc., please visit the website at

[www.siberrescue.com](http://www.siberrescue.com)

and fill out the appropriate application OR call or fax us anytime.

### **NEWSLETTER ADVERTISING**

Business card size \$20 per year

1/4 page \$5 per issue

1/2 page \$10 per issue

Full page \$15 per issue

### **SUBMISSIONS**

All submissions and suggestions to this newsletter are encouraged and welcomed. Please forward to the mailing address at the top of page 1 or: [events@siberrescue.com](mailto:events@siberrescue.com)

## **From the Editors**

**Bob & Lorraine**

Now that we are about to enter the holiday season I thought I should briefly reiterate the need to be extra aware of possible dangers to our Sibes.

### **Food - Related Items:**

Rich, fatty foods, like gravy or grease, can cause problems ranging from stomach upsets to pancreatitis.

Alcohol can cause serious intoxications in pets. Clean up glasses after holiday parties.

Chocolate, coffee, and tea all contain dangerous components called xanthines, which cause nervous system or urinary system damage and heart muscle stimulation.

Uncooked meat, fish, and poultry can contain disease-causing bacteria, such as *E. coli*.

Bones from fish, meat, or poultry can also cause problems if swallowed.

Tobacco products can be fatal to pets, if ingested.

Uncooked yeast dough can expand and produce gas in the digestive system.

Grapes and raisins contain an unknown toxin, which can damage the kidneys.

Macadamia nuts contain an unknown toxin, which can affect the digestive and nervous systems and muscles of dogs.

Plastic or aluminum foil left on countertops are very tempting. If ingested, plastic or foil wrap (cellophane candy wrappers or food wrap) can cause choking or intestinal obstruction.

Meat-soaked strings from rump roasts are also enticing. Ingestion can cause a surgical emergency called a 'linear string foreign body' in the intestines.

Pet-proof your garbage. Garbage contains all kinds of other hazards.

### **Poisonous Plants:**

Many of the plants we have in our homes during the holidays can be poisonous to pets. If ingested, holly (leaves and berries) causes stomach upset and can be potentially fatal. Mistletoe upsets stomachs and can cause heart collapse, while hibiscus may cause diarrhea. Poinsettias have an irritating sap that can cause blistering in the mouth and stomach upset.

### **Decorations and Wrappings :**

Ribbons, yarn, and string can cause intestinal obstruction and bunching of the intestine along the length of the string.

Adhesives and glues can be toxic and are often attractive to animals.

Potpourri contains oils that can be toxic to dogs if eaten.

Candles can cause burns and fires.

Keep items such as tablecloths, table runners, etc., from hanging too low to the floor, and tempting happy dogs running by to grab an end and pull!

### **Gifts Under the Tree:**

Make sure to remove ribbons or ties before you present gifts to your dog.

Perfumes and after-shaves contain ethanol (alcohol).

Batteries for toys or other gifts can be toxic and cause intestinal obstruction.

### **Christmas Trees:**

Even though you take precautions, make sure your dog is always supervised when in a room with a tree.

Tree needles can be toxic and cause mouth and stomach irritation. Even needles and the wire of artificial trees.

Tinsel's shininess is attractive. When eaten, it can cause blockages. Best to leave it off the tree altogether.

Angel hair, flocking, and artificial snow are mildly toxic.

Chewing on electrical cords, including cords of lights can cause problems ranging from burned mouths, to electrical shock to death by electrocution.

Larger lights can become quite hot, and could also cause burns.

Place ornaments that are shiny, or could be swallowed or broken high up on your tree.

Decorating trees with food is asking for problems.

Water in the tree stand often harbors potentially harmful bacteria.

There's a lot more of which to be aware but I'm sure you get my drift. So, with all this in mind, the newsletter staff (all two of us) want to wish every one of you and all your furballs a happy and wonderful holiday season.

**Bob**

**"In order to really enjoy a dog, one doesn't merely try to train him to be semi-human. The point of it is to open oneself to the possibility of becoming partly a dog."**

**- - - Edward Hoagland "Dogs and the Tug of Life"**

**SHRF RESCUE VOLUNTEER OF THE QUARTER!!!!....**

**SHRF is proud to announce our  
Volunteer of the 3rd Quarter, 2008**

**MARY JANE B.**

Mary Jane is relatively new to SHRF, having signed on as a SHRF Volunteer in March of this year, but in those six months she has proven to be an eager, dependable volunteer. She is particularly valuable to the SHRF Board as she is active in a much needed area of the rescue - administration work.

Her first big task as a SHRF volunteer was to take responsibility for getting out a large mailing project to all the SHRF volunteers, and she did an

outstanding job. She also works the SHRF table at the Tyrone PetsMart in St. Petersburg every month, does one-month vet checks for newly adopted rescue dogs, and is a member of the SWASH-BUCKLER team, returning phone calls that come in on the rescue line.

Mary Jane jumped right in to help at the recent Car Wash/Dog Wash fundraiser in St. Petersburg, and she is willing and eager to help wherever needed. She is indeed an asset to SHRF and we are proud to have her on our team.

Thank you, Mary Jane,  
and CONGRATULATIONS!

SHRF Board

**The more I see of men, the more I admire dogs. - - - Jeanne-Marie Roland**

Journal of the American Veterinary  
Medical Association  
October 1, 2008

**Behavior society supports early puppy socialization**

A position statement on early socialization in puppies released in July by the American Veterinary Society of Animal Behavior encourages veterinarians to recommend puppies be socialized before the vaccine series is complete.

The guidelines state puppies can start socialization classes as early as 7 to 8 weeks of age. In general, they should receive a minimum of one set of vaccines at least seven days prior to the first class as well as a first deworming.

Additionally, puppies should show no signs of illness during the classes and should be kept up-to-date on vaccines throughout the class.

While veterinarians are appropriately concerned about infectious disease in young puppies, the fact is that behavioral issues—not infectious diseases—are the number one cause of death for dogs under 3 years of age, according to the AVSAB. Veterinarians contribute to these behavioral issues when recommending pets be kept away from possible

germs until their vaccine series is complete, the AVSAB stated.

"Puppies go through a sensitive period of socialization when they are uniquely prepared to benefit from exposure to social opportunities. From the time the owner adopts the puppy until 3 to 4 months of age, it is critical that the owner get the puppy out to meet other animals and people, and experience many different kinds of environments," said AVSAB president, Dr. E. Kathryn Meyer.

"These (unsocialized) puppies may also fail to develop coping mechanisms and grow up into dogs that are unable to adapt to new situations. This can severely inhibit the dog's quality of life as well as the owner's enjoyment of the pet," Dr. Meyer added.

To veterinarians who refrain from recommending early socialization because of the threat of infectious disease, Dr. Meyer suggested taking control of the situation.

"Have the puppy classes in your lobby where you know you can disinfect and you know who has entered," Dr. Meyer said. Doing so will greatly enhance the veterinarian-client-patient relationship. The pet is happier, and when the owners see this, they are more compliant, she explained.

## Man to police: Dog shot himself Officers wonder how terrier mix pushed trigger

Posted: July 10, 2008  
12:00 am Eastern  
© 2008 WorldNetDaily

A dog dead on the floor in a pool of blood and a smoking gun nearby. And the only "witness" to the tragedy was a man who told officers the dog committed suicide!

The report comes from the Rocky Mountain News in Denver, who wrote of Marlys Duggan and the loss of her beloved dog, Patches, a 2-year-old Jack Russell terrier mix.

Police arrested Ryan Cullen Hayes, 49, the son of Duggan's neighbor, on charges of animal cruelty, reckless endangerment and prohibited use of a weapon while drunk, the report said.

The incident developed recently when Duggan was visiting her neighbor, Rosemarie Mortimer, and brought her dog along.

"We went over there three or four times a week," Duggan told the newspaper. "He (Hayes) was always great with Patches. He would laugh when Patches would do something. He would always give Patches treats, and the dog would follow him to the kitchen."

On this particular visit, Hayes went apparently to get a beer, and Patches followed, the newspaper said.

"The next thing I knew, there was a loud explosion, and I thought it was a transformer that had blown," Duggan said. "I ran into the bedroom and Patches was on the floor, with a pool of blood around his head. I reached over and he was dead, he was already gone, and Ryan kept saying, 'I didn't do it, I didn't do it. The dog was playing with my gun that was lying on the floor next to my bed.'"

An urgent trip to the nearby Animal Critical Care Emergency Services proved no help for Patches, but did provide information to Duggan.

"A doctor from ACCES told me, 'No way it was an accident,'" Duggan told the newspaper. "They took X-rays and the trajectory of the bullet showed that Ryan was over him when he shot Patches."

The hospital called police.

According to a report from officers, Hayes denied having anything to do with the shooting, saying the dog had shot himself.

"But when officers asked how it was possible a dog could have put pressure on the trigger to shoot himself in the face, Hayes finally said he did not mean to shoot the dog and that it was an accident," the report said.

A court appearance was pending.

On the newspaper's forum page, Floyd Hill wrote, "I just looked up the word 'loser' in the dictionary, and there was that jerk's picture!!!"

### **Dog Myths**

Forget what you *think* you know about canine health & behavior.

*by Marry Sorensen*

#### **Feeding a dog garlic or brewers yeast repels fleas.**

Many dog owners swear by the effectiveness of such "natural" flea-control methods and use them year after year; however, no scientific evidence supports these claims, and garlic eaten in quantity can in fact be harmful.

**"Dogs need to sniff the ground; it's how they keep abreast of current events. The ground is a giant dog newspaper, containing all kinds of late-breaking dog news items, which, if they are especially urgent, are often continued in the next yard."**

*--Dave Barry*

**Please recognize and support these great professionals who help  
Siberian Husky Rescue of Florida, Inc.**

**Altamonte Animal Clinic**

510 East Altamonte Drive  
Altamonte Springs, FL 32701  
(407) 834-0202  
[altamonteanimalclinic@yahoo.com](mailto:altamonteanimalclinic@yahoo.com)

**Amazon Animal Hospital**

5300 East Bay  
Clearwater, FL 33764  
727-535-5433  
[www.amazonanimal.com](http://www.amazonanimal.com)

**The Day and Evening Pet Clinic**

3206 Alt 19 Hwy  
Palm Harbor, FL 34683  
727-785-7200  
[www.dayandeveningpetclinic.com](http://www.dayandeveningpetclinic.com)

**Florida Veterinary Specialists**

3000 Busch Lake Blvd  
Tampa, FL 33614  
813-933-8944

**Happy Tails Grooming and Boarding**

Joanne Gibbons  
11996 Seminole Blvd  
Largo, FL  
727-397-3581

**Millhopper Veterinary Medical  
Center, Inc.**

4209 Northwest 37th Place  
Gainesville, Florida 32606  
352-373-8055

**North Bay Animal and Bird Hospital**

9801 W Hillsborough Ave  
Tampa, FL 33615  
813-885-4477

**Pet Luv Spay/Neuter Clinic**

7348 Broad Street  
Brooksville, FL 34601  
352-799-9990

**Shores Animal Hospital**

Dr Shores and Assoc  
3811 N.W. 13th Street  
Gainesville, FL 32609  
352-372-8387

**Steele Animal Hospital**

Rita Manarino, DVM, PA  
5305 Seminole Blvd  
Seminole, FL 33708  
727-398-7601

**Tampa Bay Veterinary Specialists**

Thomas R. Miller, DVM, MS  
1501-A Belcher Road S  
Largo, FL 33771  
727-535-3500

**Temple Terrace Animal and Bird Hospital**

Link V. Welborn, DVM  
5023 Busch Blvd  
Tampa, FL 33617  
813-988-1189

**Underhill Animal Hospital**

Dr. Kelly Cole  
4900 Lake Underhill Rd  
Orlando, FL 32807



**WEB SITES THAT MAY BE OF INTEREST**

Watch the great dog escape: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yJ13Wcx4wjQ> = escape dog

Husky pups tug at your heartstrings: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NSMv81qoFh8>

**"I wonder what goes through his mind when he sees us peeing in his water bowl."**

**--Penny Ward Moser**

## Living with humans has taught dogs morals, say scientists

By [Daily Mail Reporter](#)  
21st August 2008

Dogs are developing a sense of fair play, scientists have found. Dogs are becoming more intelligent and are even learning morals from human contact, scientists claim. They say the fact that dogs' play rarely escalates into a fight shows the animals abide by social rules.

During one study, dogs which held up a paw were rewarded with a food treat. When a lone dog was asked to raise its paw but received no treat, the researchers found it begged for up to 30 minutes. But when they tested two dogs together but rewarded only one, the dog which missed out soon stopped playing the game.

Dr Friederike Range, of the University of Vienna, who led the study, said: 'Dogs show a strong aversion to inequity. I would prefer not to call it a sense of fairness, but others might.'

The first Canine Science Forum in Budapest was attended by more than 200 experts to discuss what is going on inside the mind of a dog. Human's inclination to invest dogs with human-like states of mind isn't as unscientific as it might appear as they really do have some remarkable mental skills that allow them to thrive in their strange habitat - our world.

Domestic dogs evolved from grey wolves as recently as 10,000 years ago since then their brains have shrunk so a wolf-sized dog has a brain around 10 per cent smaller than its wild ancestor.

Dr Peter Pongracz from Eotvos Lorand University, Budapest, and colleagues have produced evidence dog barks contain information that people can understand. They found even people who have never owned a dog can recognise the emotional 'meaning' of barks produced in various situations, such as when playing, left alone and confronted by a stranger.

His team has now developed a computer program that can aggregate hundreds of barks recorded in various settings and boil them down to their basic acoustic ingredi-

ents. They found each of the different types of bark has distinct patterns of frequency, tonality and pulsing, and that an artificial neural network can use these features to correctly identify a bark it has never encountered before. This is further evidence that barking conveys information about a dog's mental state, reports New Scientist magazine.

They also discovered people can correctly identify aggregated barks as conveying happiness, loneliness or aggression. 'Even children from the age of six who have never had a dog recognise these patterns,' says Dr Pongracz. Dogs are not just able to 'speak' to us - they can also understand some aspects of human communication.

At the forum in Budapest, Dr Akiko Takaoka from Kyoto University in Japan described as-yet unpublished work that examined what is going on inside a dog's mind when it hears a stranger's voice. She played dogs a series of recordings of unfamiliar voices - both male and female - with each voice followed by a photo of a human face on a screen. If the gender of the face did not match that of the voice, the dogs stared longer, a sign that their expectations had been violated.

Dr Takaoka said: 'This suggests dogs generate an internal visual representation of a male or female correlated with the voice.' She suggests that this ability to infer information about a person from their voice alone might help dogs communicate with people. It is generally accepted that a few other animals, including great apes, are capable of this mind reading to some extent, but it is nevertheless a quality reserved for only the most intelligent of species.

But Dr Alexandra Horowitz from Barnard College in New York prefers the term "theory of behaviour" to describe dogs' apparent insight. She said: 'I think there is a massive territory between a theory of mind and a theory of behaviour.' Her own recent study illustrates the point - when dogs play together, they use appropriate signals for grabbing attention or signalling the desire to play depending on their playmate's apparent level of attention, such as whether it is facing them or side-on.

That could be interpreted as mind reading, she admits, but a simpler explanation is that dogs are reading body language and reacting in stereotyped ways.

**"No animal should ever jump up on the dining room furniture unless absolutely certain that he can hold his own in the conversation."**

*Fran Lebowitz*

## The Truth About Cats And Dogs

Source: George Hunka  
[American Friends of Tel Aviv University](#)

10 Sep 2008

Thinking about adopting a perky little puppy as a friend for your fluffy cat, but worried that they'll fight -- well, like cats and dogs?

Think again. New research at Tel Aviv University, the first of its kind in the world, has found a new recipe for success. According to the study, if the cat is adopted before the dog and if they are introduced when still young (less than 6 months for kittens, a year for dogs), there is a high probability that your two pets will get along swimmingly. Results from the research were recently reported in the journal *Applied Animal Behaviour Science*.

"This is the first time anyone has done scientific research on pets living in the same home," says Prof. Joseph Terkel, from the Department of Zoology at Tel Aviv University. "It's especially relevant to the one-third of Americans who own a pet and are thinking about adopting a second one of the opposite species."

### Talk like a dog.

After interviewing almost 200 pet owners who own both a cat and a dog, then videotaping and analyzing the animals' behavior, TAU researchers concluded that cats and dogs can cohabitate happily if certain conditions are met. Prof. Terkel and his graduate student Neta-li Feuerstein found that two-thirds of the homes they surveyed reported a positive relationship between their cat and dog.

But it wasn't all sweetness and light (or, for that matter, bones and catnip). There was a reported indifference between the cat and dog in 25% of the homes, while aggression and fighting were observed in 10% of the homes.

One reason for the fighting might have been crossed inter-species signals. Cats and dogs may not have been able to read each other's body cues. For instance, cats tend to lash their tails about when mad, while dogs growl and arch their backs. A cat purrs when happy, while a dog wags its tail. A cat's averted head signals aggression, while in a dog the same head position signals *s u b m i s s i o n*.

In homes where cat/dog détente ex-

isted, Prof. Terkel observed a surprising behavior. "We found that cats and dogs are learning how to talk each other's language. It was a surprise that cats can learn how to talk 'Dog' and vice versa."

What's especially interesting, Prof. Terkel remarks, is that both cats and dogs have appeared to evolve beyond their instincts. They can learn to read each other's body signals, suggesting that the two species may have more in common than was previously suspected.

### Peacemaking Pets Can Be a Model for People

Once familiar with each others' presence and body language, cats and dogs can play together, greet each other nose-to-nose, and enjoy sleeping together on the couch. They can easily share the same water bowl and in some cases groom each other. The far-reaching implications of this Tel Aviv University research on cats and dogs may extend beyond pets -- to people who don't get along, including neighbours, colleagues at work, and even world superpowers.

"If cats and dogs can learn to get along," concludes Prof. Terkel, "surely people have a good chance."

### Somewhere in the Alps

One afternoon in the Alps, a father Siberian Husky and his son Siberian Husky were sitting in the snow. The son Siberian Husky turned to his father and asked, "Dad, am I 100% Siberian Husky?"

The father Siberian Husky replied, "Of course, son, you're 100% Siberian Husky."

A few minutes pass, and the son Siberian Husky turns to his father again and says, "Dad, tell me the truth. I can take it. Am I 100% Siberian Husky? No whippet or german shepherd or hunting dog?"

The father Siberian Husky replies, "Son, I'm 100% Siberian Husky, your mother is 100% Siberian Husky, so you are definitely 100% Siberian Husky."

A few more minutes pass, and the son Siberian Husky AGAIN turns to his father and says, "Dad, don't think you're sparing my feelings if it's not true. I gotta know -- am I 100% Siberian Husky?"

The father Siberian Husky was distressed by this continued questioning and asked his son, "Why do you keep asking if you're 100% Siberian Husky?"

" Because I'm freezing!"

## LUCKY ADOPTERS

### Comments from some people lucky enough to have adopted one of our SHRF dogs.



When our precious Husky, Shi, left us in January after 17 wonderful years, we both said we could not handle losing another animal. But, one day I was reading the classifieds and saw the ad for Husky Rescue. Thought it wouldn't hurt to check out their web page. Then we went to a pet store and played with Layla and another Husky. Then - the Husky Olympics. We were introduced to **Carmella** and it was love at first sight!!! We were able to foster her and then adopt her. What a blessing!! What a challenge!! She was in heartworm treatment, but as she felt better, she became more boisterous and stubborn at the same time. She loves to ride in the car and made the trip to Ohio just fine. She just returned home after seven days of doggie school. What a show she put on with the trainer for us! She is very smart and learns quickly. Now we have to take lessons to catch up with her.



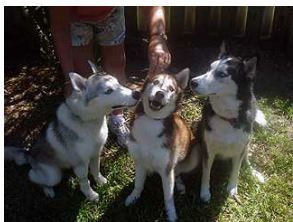
We adopted **JET** (formerly Sinbad) as a playmate and companion for our 2 year old Siberian Husky, Roxy. We first adopted Roxy from the SPCA. Someone had moved out of their house and left her ily, to our surprise, they choice, it was their word up hope of getting her checking the SPCA web-next day and picked her ity and loves to run and play. That's where the little guy comes in... now she has a play-mate and our family is complete. We couldn't be happier and Roxy is an excellent teacher for Jet.



behind. After contacting the fam-wanted her back! We had no against ours, but we never gave back! About a month later while site there she was! We went the up. She has the greatest personal-



Our family includes three Siberian Huskies, two adopted from SHRF. Neena (formerly Blue) came bouncing into our lives in 2004. She had been abused, and for a full year she never once "asked" to be petted. The day she pushed my hand off the computer keyboard and demanded some love was one of the happiest of my life! This June, **Xander** (formerly Bojangles) joined the pack. Xander was possibly neglected and unsocialized since he was terribly skittish and afraid of everyone, and his first impulse was always to curl up and hide. It's been a few months now but he's coming out of his shell, slowly but surely. He loves romping with his older "sisters" (see inset picture) and his favorite place is right between walks. Xander and which Xander takes toybox and hides crate, and Neena them on our evening Neena play a game in things out of the dogs' them in the back of his sneaks in and steals them back. Xander, Neena and Kita – three of the most loved dogs in the world! Thank you so much for all you've done for our family!!



There is never a dull moment around here with **Xena**, **Cooper** and **Logan**. Xena is now two and a half and has grown into a really good girl and wonderful Husky! She still likes to swim a couple of laps or lay on the first step in the pool. She loves her crate, although the door is never closed. When it's cool enough, she's always up for a trot or run beside me while I'm bicycling. She is getting the hang of "gee" and "haw" and at times pulls me so that I don't have to pedal! Cooper is our "happy boy". He has a good time ALL the time and amuses himself chewing toys...he liked our window sill, too! At seven months, he weighs almost 40 lbs. Logan and Cooper are about the same age. They have lots of fun playing and chasing each other. We have lots of fun watching them!



## SHRF, INC. EVENTS AND FUND RAISERS

### 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter Upcoming Events

We have several GREAT events coming in the 4<sup>th</sup> quarter to raise money so we can help as many Sibes as possible! For information just click on the tab that says "Our Events" on our web site.

In October, we have 3 presentations at 3 different local libraries, Oldsmar, Dunedin and Largo. We are doing a presentation on the book "Call of the Wild".

On October 18<sup>th</sup>, we have a table at the SPCA Pet Walk.

On November 14<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup>, we are having a garage sale in Clearwater. We can always use donations.

On December 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup>, we are doing Pictures with Santa at the Tyrone Petsmart.

WE CAN ALWAYS USE MORE VOLUNTEERS!!! So if you can help, please call 727-391-8934 or email [events@siberrescue.com](mailto:events@siberrescue.com). If you can't help... please come out and see us at any of these events or our monthly events at Petco and Petsmart. We would love to have you!!!

**CHECK OUR WEBSITE REGULARLY FOR EVENTS UPDATES!**

**"I wonder what goes through his mind when he sees us peeing in his water bowl."  
*Penny Ward Moser***

### Dog Wash at Georgie's Alibi – August 16<sup>th</sup>

SHRF had an excellent opportunity this past August to have a dog wash at the bar/restaurant Georgie's Alibi at 3100 3<sup>rd</sup> Ave N in St. Petersburg. Georgie's donated the space, the water, and all of the supplies to hold the dog wash. Between dog wash donations and some miscellaneous purchases, we raised \$200. Not bad for a few hours work!!! And we even had some fun!!!

We would love to thank the volunteers that participated, the previous adopters that supported the event, and lastly but most importantly, Georgie's Alibi for their participation in this event.

We hope to do another dog wash in the near future and more!!!!!!



## SHRF Presentation at St. Paul's School September 26, 2008

Janet E, Lou B. and Dawn B. put on a presentation at the St. Paul's School in Clearwater for the first grade classes. They talked about Siberian Huskies in general, the history of Huskies, and dog sledding including information about the Iditarod. The children learned quite a bit about Huskies from the presentation. Of course, Zack, Monte, Kolchak, and Juneau were the stars of the show. After the presentation, the children petted the dogs and asked more questions.



It was a fun event for all! We are all looking forward to doing it again next year. Hopefully, we can do some more presentations later at different schools.



### Pets join people in organic food craze

By [ALLISON ROSS](#)  
Palm Beach Post Staff Writer  
Sunday, September 28, 2008

BOCA RATON — Carla Hamersma said her budget may be tight because of the economy right now, but there are some things that she refuses to scrimp on for her family, including good quality food and nutrition.

Hamersma's sentiments aren't all that foreign for many consumers, given the continued boom in organic food sales despite higher grain and oil prices. What may be a bit unique is that on Hamersma's shopping list is not only organic food for her child and husband, but also her 12-year-old Siberian husky, Timber.

"Better nutrition has become a kind of preventative health care, and those furry, four-legged family members are not excluded," said Hamersma, who owns [HealthyPetFoodsDirect.com](#).

The Palm Beach Gardens resident is not alone. In the past several years, healthy, organic and holistic pet food

has grown in popularity, and stores selling these foods continue to do well in the slumping economy.

"There's a whole movement to eating green and eating natural ingredients in the human world," said Howard Ratner, owner of Holistic Pet Cuisine in Boca Raton. "Animals are now considered part of the family, and we should treat them as such."

Ratner's store is bustling these days, with usually 90-120 customers stopping by his little shop each day. Reading the labels in his store, the food sounds almost good enough to be eaten by humans. There are holistic dog biscuits made from braised lamb, trout and wild rice. There are even "fruit delight" smoothies for dogs.

None of the items comes from China; in fact, 95 percent of them are made in the U.S., with U.S. ingredients. None of the food has wheat, soy, corn or gluten.

"Grocery costs are definitely on the rise, but I will find other expenses to cut out in order to pay sometimes a premium for higher quality foods that are made without pesticides or chemical preservatives for my family - a family that includes Timber," Hamersma said.

## Why sled dogs are super dogs

Study: Athleticism of Alaskan huskies is superior to most other mammals

Discovery Channel Sept. 25, 2008

Alaskan huskies that participate in the grueling Iditarod Trail Sled Dog Race must run 1,100 miles while enduring heavy blizzards, temperatures as low as -40 degrees Fahrenheit and winds up to 60 miles per hour, all of which earn the hearty canines status as the world's premier ultra-endurance animal athletes.

How do they do it? New research suggests the canines are superior to most other mammals, including humans, in at least three key areas: They are unusually adept at adapting to exercise, they have superior aerobic capacity and are unusually efficient in using food as fuel.

Michael Davis, a professor at Oklahoma State University's Center for Veterinary Health Sciences, and his team have been studying Iditarod-racing dogs for 10 years.

He added that as the program developed, thanks to the support of mushers, he and his colleagues started studying dogs in other races and even began to conduct simulated races that could employ more scientific controls, such as monitoring the dog's heart and lung function.

"Overall, in the past 10 years, we've probably studied well over 5,000 dogs in various studies," he said.

Davis and his team noted that Iditarod dogs, which compete each March by running from Anchorage to Nome, do not usually suffer the adverse effects that are more common in other athletes. These include immune suppression, fatigue, muscle damage and stomach ulcers.

### Husky vs. human

Probing deeper into the dog's physiology, they made three other determinations, which will be outlined in a presentation at this week's American Physiological Society conference in South Carolina.

First, they found that the dogs rapidly adapt to sustained, strenuous exercise. Four days into the Iditarod, the dogs' biochemical profile returns to where it was before the race began, as though nothing had happened. Elite human athletes, in contrast, show signs of fatigue after continuous exercise and require recovery time.

Second, Iditarod dogs possess an enormous aerobic capacity, which refers to the ratio of volume of oxygen to body weight per minute. A fully conditioned sled dog's aerobic capacity is twice that of an untrained sled dog.

Finally, each approximately 55-pound sled dog can burn up to 12,000 kilocalories per day, which is the equivalent of 24 McDonald's Big Macs. A human would have to consume and efficiently process the equivalent of 72 Big Macs to fuel a day's Iditarod run.

Davis believes the dogs possess very thin cell membranes within

their muscle fibers that enable the canines to absorb nutrients from the bloodstream while exercising.

"The muscle has two choices for the source of energy — use what is abundant in the bloodstream, or use what is stored in muscles," he explained. "The latter is limited, and the more the muscle taps into those limited stores, the faster it fatigues."

He suspects sled dogs can consume a commercially-produced racing diet, supplemented with everything from salmon to congealed lard balls, and quickly convert it to usable energy.

Yet another animal could be nipping at the canines' top status, however, as man's most attentive follower.

In a separate study, Clive Wynne, an associate professor of psychology at the University of Florida, and his colleagues compared the performance of wolves against stray domestic dogs, to see which would be better at following human signals in a "watch and point to a can" test.

The wolves won.

"When it comes to watching humans, anything dogs can do, wolves can do just as well," Wynne concluded, adding that, "arguably, the wolves are better."

With their wild ways, wolves aren't exactly lining up for the Iditarod, though, which requires training runs that began this month.

## Love Is Free, But Pets Come With Costs

By KRISTEN LEVINE  
Tribune correspondent  
Published: September 10, 2008

You can't put a price on unconditional love, but with emotional commitment comes financial commitment.

When you fall in love with a pair of longing eyes, you don't think about the cost of cages, leashes, collars, annual veterinary visits, grooming, feeding and training. And then there's the damage to carpeting, furniture and shoes!

People who have always had pets take these expenses in stride, but those who have only had low-maintenance animals and first-time pet owners may get sticker shock.

Family pets have become the latest casualties of the economic decline affecting Americans. With so many people losing their homes to foreclosure, family pets are being surrendered at alarming rates - 20 percent more this year, according to a recent US News & World Report.

Now more than ever, it's important to consider both expected and unexpected costs your pet may incur.

The American Society for the Preven-

tion of Cruelty to Animals provides these guidelines for anticipating the cost of pet ownership. The figures are based on standard costs including feeding, medical care, supplies, toys, crates or cages, collars and leashes, grooming and other miscellaneous expenses.

**Small Dogs:** Little dogs cost less for feed and crates but expect to spend \$1,314 a year for a 5- to 20-pound dog.

**Medium Dogs:** Stepping up canine size to 20 to 45 pounds increases spending to \$1,580.

**Large Dogs:** Dogs weighing 45 or more pounds cost \$1,843 annually. **Cats:** Kitty costs are slightly less than canines. The typical cat owner will spend \$1,035 each year.

**Guinea Pigs:** Believe it or not, these little fur balls will go through more litter in one year than their feline friends. Expect to spend about \$705.

**Rabbits:** Surprise! A bunny buddy can cost more than a cat or a Guinea pig, approximately \$1,055 the first year.

**Pocket Pets (gerbils, hamsters, mice):** While these pint-sized critters don't require spaying or neutering, their daily needs add up to \$340 annually.

**Small Birds:** Smaller feathered

friends can be among the cheapest of pets to keep. Expect to spend \$270 the first year.

**Fish:** While they come with entirely different needs, fish can also be affordable friends for just \$235 each year.

The first year's costs for any pet will be a bit higher because of one-time expenses, such as crates and spaying or neutering. However, save your pennies because as your pet enters its senior years, medical costs will likely rise.

### Can't Buy Me Love

Designer collars, fancy footwear and gourmet pet treats may be enticing, but does your pet really need them?

The majority of growth in today's pet industry is a result of buying non-essentials. But they shouldn't come at the cost of basic veterinary care and good food. What's best for your pet and your budget? Spend more time than money. Be sure to play each day, practice training or simply walk your pet. Giving them time and attention meets every companion animal's needs - and it doesn't cost a dime.

Write to pet-lifestyle expert Kristen Levine at Fetching Communications, P.O. Box 222, Tarpon Springs FL 34688, e-mail [kristen@fetchingcommunications.com](mailto:kristen@fetchingcommunications.com).

## A Dog's Prayer

Now I lay me down to sleep,  
The king-size bed is soft and deep.

I sleep right in the center groove  
My human being can hardly move!

I've trapped her legs, she's tucked in tight  
And here is where I pass the night

No one disturbs me or dares intrude  
Till morning comes and "I want food!"

I sneak up slowly to begin  
my nibbles on my human's chin.

She wakes up quickly, I have sharp teeth  
I'm a puppy, don't you see?

For the morning's here and it's time to play  
I always seem to get my way.

So thank you Lord for giving me  
This human person that I see.

The one who hugs and holds me tight  
And shares her bed with me at night!

# HAPPY ENDINGS 3rd Quarter 2008



*Congratulations to all of these newly adopted dogs and their families!  
We truly appreciate your love and devotion to our SHRF Sibes!*

## A Rescuers Creed

I shall be a believer of all that is good in man and of all that is deserving in animals. I shall plead for their lives, campaign for their safety and uphold their right to a natural death. I shall seek out the injured and the maimed, the unloved, and the abandoned and tend to them in their last days. I shall not forget their place in the hierarchy of life, nor that we walk in each other's paths. I shall bear witness to the wonder they bring into our lives and to the beauty they bestow upon our souls. I shall renew their spirits when they are waning, bind their wounds when they bleed, cradle them when they whimper, and comfort them when they mourn. I shall be near them in their hour of greatest need - a companion and friend when the time has come. I shall watch over them and console them and ask that the angels gather them in their arms. From the creatures of the earth I shall learn the fruits of compassion and undying love, and I shall be called the beloved of God. In their company I shall indeed be blessed. - Susan M. Pearson

## Why own a dog?

Why own a dog? There's a danger you know,  
You can't own just one, for the craving will grow.  
There's no doubt they're addictive, wherein lies the danger.  
While living with lots, you'll grow poorer and stranger.

One dog is no trouble, and two are so funny.  
The third one is easy, the fourth one's a honey.  
The fifth one's delightful, the sixth one's a breeze,  
You find you can live with a houseful of ease.

So how 'bout another? Would you really dare?  
They're really quite easy but, oh, Lord the hair!  
With dogs on the sofa and dogs on the bed,  
And crates in the kitchen, it's no bother, you've said.

They're really no trouble, their manners are great.  
What's one more dog and just one more crate?  
The sofa is hairy, the windows are crusty,  
The floor is all footprints, the furniture dusty.

The housekeeping suffers, but what do you care?  
Who minds a few noseprints and a little more hair?  
So let's keep a puppy, you can always find room,  
And a little more time for the dust cloth and broom.

There's hardly a limit to the dogs you can add,  
The thought of a cutback sure makes you sad.  
Each one is so special, so useful, so funny.  
The vet and food bills grows larger, you owe BIG money.

Your folks never visit, few friends come to stay,  
Except other "dog folks" who live the same way.  
Your lawn has now died, and your shrubs are dead too,  
But your weekends are busy, you're off with your crew.

There's dog food and vitamins, training and shots.  
And entries and travel and motels which cost lots.  
Is it worth it you wonder? Are you caught in a trap?  
Then that favorite one comes and climbs in your lap.

His look says you're special and you know that you will  
Keep all of the critters in spite of the bill.  
Some just for showing and some just to breed.  
And some just for loving, they all fill a need.

God, winter's a hassle, the dogs hate it too.  
But they must have their walks though they're numb and  
your blue.  
Late evening is awful, you scream and you shout  
At the dogs on the sofa who refuse to go out.

The dogs and the dog shows, the travel, the thrills,  
The work and the worry, the pressure, the bills.  
The whole thing seems worth it, the dogs are your life.  
They're charming and funny and offset the strife.

Your life-style has changed. Things won't be the same.  
Yes, those dogs are addictive and so is the dog ame.

Unknown Poet

## You know you're a dog person when...

**You watch simply awful movies because your breed is either featured in a cameo scene or there's a 3-second camera shot during a crowd scene.**

## Dog helps save elderly couple from Florida fire

The Associated Press 11:04 AM EDT, September 20, 2008

TAMPA - Tampa fire investigators say an elderly couple's dog may have helped save them from an early-morning blaze.

Authorities say 82-year-old Alice Ferrari and her 83-year-old friend Ted Kolanko were asleep around 4 a.m. Saturday when their small dog started acting up.

Ferrari thought the dog needed to go outside, but when she opened the door, he ran out and right back in. She then discovered there was a fire in the ceiling of her laundry room.

The occupants and their dog escaped without injury, though house damages are estimated at \$50,000. A cat is still missing.

