

# Lifesaver Club Newsletter

June 2013

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# OUR MISSION STATEMENT

Establish a Service, Assistance and Therapy Dog program

for those who have disabilities.

Establish a Humane Education Program to provide a better understanding of animals.

Establish a Disaster Relief Program to provide temporary emergency care and shelter.

Establish a Program to Reduce the Number of Animals being abandoned or sent to shelters and killed.

## This Month's Success Story: Brannon and Margo



Since the beginning of their friendship, Brannon and Margo have proven themselves as an exemplar team. They have been awarded the American Kennel Club's AKC S.T.A.R. PUPPY March 16th, 2013, they were named Target's Great Team Hero end of Fourth Quarter February 2013, and Target's Top Performer for the month of May 2013. They have also put in around 880 hours of work hours together. Margo has assisted Brannon with his day-to-day life, in addition to his occasional moments of need. Margo has taught Brannon patience, given him confidence, and their

bond is tight and loving. When asked, Brannon told us that his favorite part of having Margo is that "when I put her vest on in the morning, getting ready for the workday, she puts her front paws on my shoulders and hugs me and kisses my face to let me know that we are about to have an awesome day." Brannon also enjoys seeing Margo run and play like a puppy, and work hard to learn new things.

Great work guys, we are proud of you and you've touched all our hearts. You definitely have a devoted fan base at Paws for Life, Animals Deserve Better!

Photo: Brannon and Margo having fun in the sun, getting a swimming lesson in preparation for a kayak trip

#### **Recent Rescue News: Out on the Field**



Paws for Life believes in hands-on training, out on the field. What does that mean? We were there to support the 2013 Walk for Autism, we've been welcomed to the Sandy Springs Farmers' Market, we charmed Piedmont Park with our hard work, and we can be seen across Marietta, with our service dogs faithfully by our sides.

The 2013 Walk for Autism was a great success, for everyone! Even with the rain, the event had a great presence in Atlanta. Kids had a great time meeting the dogs, and we were more than happy to show our

support for such a great cause.

At the Sandy Springs Market, we were thrilled to see excellent work from Polly, Mackenzie, Bruiser, Sadie, and Margo, all of whom had a blast in the sun with their families. Great exercise and fun for service dogs and their families!

On June 8<sup>th</sup>, Piedmont Park was witness to our devoted dogs. Wagons, backpacks, and agility courses all helped us teach our dogs how to help their owners carry groceries, and pull strollers and wheelchairs.



Great job, everyone! Our first impressions of you were great, and your continued work keeps impressing us!

Photos: (top left) Volunteers Lucile Feron, Lauren Hood, and Christine-Marie Feron, with their faithful companions at the 2013 Walk for Autism. (bottom right) Director of Public Relations Marine Feron, and service dog in training Kato, at the 2013 Walk for Autism.

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# Our Pet of the Month: Milo



This beautiful girl came to us in February 2012. Run-down, skinny, and nursing six gorgeous baby girls, she needed a good bit of TLC. Now that she has fully recovered, she is ready to go home, lay on the couch, and watch TV with her forever family.

Milo is about 3 years old. She is a corgi mix, and weighs about 20 lbs. She has gone through basic training, is housebroken, and is crate-trained. She is great with everyone, especially children, and enjoys cats and other dogs.

For more information on Milo and how you can help her, please contact our Director of Public Relations Marine Feron: 678-935-8762, mferon1@student.gsu.edu

# Keeping Your Pet Happy and Healthy: The Sun Is Out!

The sun is out, and so are we! Summer is the time for beaches, hikes, runs at the park, bike rides, and any other outdoor activity. The same thing goes for our dogs; they go everywhere with us, indoors or out.

When the sun comes out, so do hats, sunglasses, and sun block. We take the time and care to protect ourselves from the sun's damaging UV rays, and our dogs are just as sensitive as we are.

Here are some helpful tips to help your dogs escape the heat:



- Never leave your dog in the car, even for just a minute. Your car can reach temperatures of 120°F in as little as 5 minutes, leading to heat exhaustion and heat stroke. Your dog is just as sensitive to heat as you, so anything over 100°F can be very dangerous.
- Use sun block on dogs with no hair, thin or light coats, or pale noses and ears. They get sun burns, and the best way to prevent that is with sun block.
  - Do not shave your dog. It may come as a surprise, but shaving your dog can actually put it at a higher risk for heat exhaustion and sun burn. Fur works like insulation for a house; it keeps the dog warm in the winter and cool in the summer. When you shave your dog, you remove that insulation. Additionally, fur keeps your dog's skin protected from the sun's UV rays;

without fur, dogs get sunburned more easily.

- Water is a good thing, most times. Make sure that your dog has access to plenty of water throughout the day, to keep hydrated and cool. However, do not allow your dog to drink from puddles, rivers, creeks, or any other body of water. With all of the rain that Georgia experiences, sewers tend to overflow; this means that untreated water can be very dangerous for your dog.
- Limit the amount of time your dog spends in direct sunlight; less sun means less risk.

# How You Can Help

Paws for Life always appreciates help. We have lots of volunteering opportunities for those who want hands-on experience helping with the dogs. We also accept donations of any kind, especially:

- Dog food: Castor and Pollux, and Nutro
- Towels, sheets, bedding
- Tax-deductible check or cash donations

If you want to directly help one dog, ask Director of Public Relations Marine Feron how you can sponsor a service dog.

### **Available for Adoption**

All of these dogs are waiting for their forever homes. Visit our website for more information.



Sneezy 1.5 years Chihuahua



Ricotta 2 years Irish/Wirehaired terrier



Jane Austen 2 years Lab/Boxer



Kato 1 year White Lab SERVICE DOG



1.5 years Chihuahua



Fontina 2 years Irish/Wirehaired terrier



Charles Dickens 5 months Boxer/Lab/Pointer SERVICE DOG



Olive 1 year Boxer/Lab SERVICE DOG



1.5 years Chihuahua



Milo 3 years Corgi



5 months Boxer/Lab/Pointer



Buddy 6 months Golden Retriever SERVICE DOG



Abby 5 years Chihuahua/Skiperke



Nana 1.5 years Shepherd/Golden Retriever



Rudyard Kipling 5 months Boxer/Lab/Pointer SERVICE DOG



Sky 7 months Great Dane SERVICE DOG