



# Short Paws

The official newsletter of Furry Friends P.A.T.S.

Vol 17 Issue 4 / Fall 2010



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## President's Corner

Do you have 10 extra minutes a month to spend on Furry Friends? Do you like working with people and making decisions? Do you love knowing that you made a difference to people who need to share the warmth of your animal?

If so, then you are the ideal team captain that we're looking for! Furry Friends gets requests all the time from new facilities, from all three counties that we serve. We have to turn away many of these great sites because we do not have enough volunteers who are willing to be a team captain. We have put together a great training program, and mentoring is available to help new captains. Plus, you get to work with the new facility to determine the date and time of your visit, and how many animals and species for your team.

So join the elite team of Furry Friends volunteer captains today! Contact us at [admin@furryfriends.org](mailto:admin@furryfriends.org) and put your name down for our next training class. The next class is tentatively planned for sometime in February. Believe me, you won't regret it for a moment!

*Anne Tiry*

# Furry Friends

## Pet Assisted Therapy Services

Our mission is to consistently facilitate delivery of the love and affection of our volunteers and their pets. We enhance the lives and touch the hearts of people with special needs.

## Furry Friends

### Pet Assisted Therapy Services

#### *Board of Directors*

#### Executive Committee

President

**Anne Tiry**

Vice President

**Patty Guthrie**

Secretary & Treasurer  
Newsletter

**Randee McQueen**

Director

**Rhonda Hardy**

Administrator

**Loree McQueen**

## New Cameras for the sites!!!!

7 year ago we had received a grant to purchase all of the cameras that we have been using at over 50 sites. As many of you know, Polaroid stopped producing 600 film almost 2 years ago. We purchased \$1000 worth of film and now we are almost out of it.

We have done a great deal of research and found two cameras that we will slowly purchase for use at sites.

The first camera is a Fuji. It works on the same idea as a Polaroid. The film has the developing chemical in it. The picture is taken and it comes out of the camera to develop. This camera has rechargeable batteries or you can use AA's. With the ability to change batteries, an unlimited number of pictures can be printed.

The second camera is a Pogo, made by Polaroid. This camera has paper that is printed directly from the camera. The picture prints out in about 20 seconds. This camera has a rechargeable battery. We can not purchase additional batteries at this time, so we are limited to taking about 30 pictures prior to recharging. This paper has a sticky back that adheres to the PATS cards.

Both cameras print a 2 x 3 inch picture. PATS has had cards printed to give to clients.

These cameras are purchased as captains request them. Contact Randee McQueen if you would like one for your team or site.

# Volunteer Luncheon at HSSV - Community Room October 3, 2010

It was a beautiful day and a good time was had by all. This was Furry Friends, PATS thank you for being volunteers. Thank you to all that attended, both people and pets!!!





August 9, 2010

Furry Friends Organization  
PO Box 5099  
San Jose, CA 95150-5099

Dear Friends,

Great comfort can come from simple places. This is the case for the families at Ronald McDonald House at Stanford. Their local doctors have told them that they have done all they can to help, and the child's only hope lies in Palo Alto—far from home and the support of family and friends. As they pack for their journey, facing the uncertainty of a new hospital, new doctors, new insurance issues and a new place to stay, the stress of additional expenses and travel blend with the many uncertainties of their child's illness.

Upon arrival at Ronald McDonald House, the families are greeted by warm and caring volunteers, introduced to the House and the programs available to them, informed that their stay will only be \$10 nightly and that it will be waived if that proves to be a hardship... and the stress begins to dissipate. Once they settle in and meet their neighbors in the House, the realization that they have a support network further diminishes their level of worry about housing.

When a family stays at the House they have but one focus—the health of their child. Your contribution of the pet assisted therapy program for the children and families is so important because it helps make Ronald McDonald House the place where hope has a home.

You have our heartfelt gratitude!

Sincerely,



Honey Meir-Levi  
Executive Director



Tina Alexander  
House Operations Director



Bri Carpaño-Seoane  
Family Services Director



[www.ronaldhouse.net](http://www.ronaldhouse.net)



# CRITTER DOCTOR Q & A

*JULIE C. BOND, M.S., ANIMAL BEHAVIORIST*

*Julie Bond works with Furry Friends, P.A.T.S. as our Animal Behaviorist. This column features some of the questions she gets from members. Want to better understand your pet's behavior? Contact Julie at [critterdoctor@furryfriends.org](mailto:critterdoctor@furryfriends.org). Remember to identify yourself as a Furry Friends member.*

Q: I've been an active Furry Friends member for almost 6 years. I recently attended the Etiquette Class with my new dog to the program. You approved us for visits and I have resumed my off leash visits with him. During class, you talk about leashes, collars, head halters, and body harnesses. I know that you specifically say in class that pinch collars can't be used on any Furry Friends visits. However, on my last off leash visit, I saw a teammate using a pinch collar on her dog. And she left it on the dog while he was running around off leash!

T. in San Jose

A: Thank you for bringing this very important issue to my attention. Indeed, we have a policy with Furry Friends that pinch collars (aka prong collars) are forbidden on ALL of our visits. Pinch collars present a risk to the people we visit in that they can get their hands caught underneath the prongs of an ill-fitting collar. On off leash visits, a prong collar can get caught on playground equipment, sprinklers, or another dog's teeth. Prong collars must be removed before any Furry Friends visit. If any Furry Friends members are using a prong collar on their visits, they need to be reminded by their team captains that these training devices cannot be used. If you are having trouble controlling your dog on leash, if he jumps up, or you have a shoulder or arm injury requiring a different form of restraint for your dog, please pursue a Gentle Leader Head Halter or a Gentle Leader No-Pull Harness. Both devices control pulling, jumping up, and weaving by dogs and are approved for all Furry Friends visits. Remember, however, that all harnesses (head and body) and any loose fitting collars must be removed before letting your dog loose on an off leash visit. Dogs on off leash visits must wear collars that are fitted; that is, a collar that an owner can grab if need be, but one which cannot pose a threat to the dog or any other dog that is being played with. This is why traditional metal choke chains are not allowed on off leash visits either. They pose a risk to the dog wearing the chain and to the other dogs in the social group. While I understand why some people like to use prong collars for training purposes, they have no place on our pet assisted therapy visits.

Q: My dog and I are on one of the off leash teams and we also do two leashed visits every month. A new member and her puppy recently joined our off leash team. During the first visit, the puppy approached one of the older dogs who had a toy in his mouth. The older dog froze with the toy and growled very menacingly at the puppy. The puppy quickly moved away and the older dog went back to chewing on the toy. I was very concerned about this interaction. Although I didn't observe any other dog approach this older dog with the toy, I was worried what would happen if another dog did approach? And what about the kids nearby who heard this dog growling? I've not seen this particular dog be a toy hog in the past, but this whole thing had me really concerned about future toy issues on my team.

E. in Mountain View

A: It is certainly not unusual to see an adult dog correct a puppy. Adult dogs will often growl at puppies that pounce on them, try to steal their treats or food, or take their toys. This is how puppies learn boundaries and respect. If this particular dog were to display toy possessiveness with other adult dogs, however, that would be a bigger problem. The nature of the off leash visits requires that the dogs on those visits be willing to share toys, treats, water bowls, and attention with other dogs. I'm hoping that you brought this situation to the attention of your team captain so that they can more closely monitor this dog's behavior, especially with toys. If he is simply correcting a puppy, then perhaps the puppy can be kept away from him or otherwise occupied. If it's a particular toy he doesn't want the puppy to have, then perhaps he shouldn't be allowed to have that toy at all on visits. If, however, he is possessive of more than one toy, or displaying toy possessiveness with other adult dogs, then this is a bigger issue. While we test for toy possessiveness during the off leash portion of etiquette class, it is possible for a dog to develop the problem during visits, particularly if they have an affinity for a particular toy. Toys on visits should always be toys that your dog is willing to share. If you see your dog being toy possessive, then you must immediately go out and remove the toy from your dog before the situation escalates. You want to tell the kids who are observing you that you don't like the way your dog was hogging the toy and not sharing; sharing is an integral part of our visits. It is much easier to explain why you are removing a toy or giving your dog a time out than to attempt to explain why your dog is growling or snapping at another dog who approaches when he has a toy. There is no place for aggression of any kind on our visits. If you are noticing that your dog is starting to become short tempered with other dogs on your off leash visits, or possessive of toys, treats, etc., please let your team captain know immediately so that we can take the necessary steps to correct the problem before it escalates.

Q: I am very interested in the Reading Buddies Program that Furry Friends is now involved in. I would like to get more information on what these visits entail, what additional training I need, etc. before I sign up for an upcoming class. Is this something you can help me with?

C in Milpitas

A: Thank you for your interest in our Reading Buddies Program. Library and school visits are currently going on and new sites will be added in the near future. There is no specific prior professional training required. You must be an active Furry Friends member who has completed the basic etiquette class. You will then need to attend an upcoming Reading Buddies Evaluation Class where you will learn more details about how these visits differ from our regular pet assisted therapy visits. In addition, your pet will be evaluated for his/her suitability for this type of work. Reading Buddies visits require pets to be in much closer and constant contact with children than we see on our regular visits, thus a separate evaluation of each pet in this program must be done. All of the pets in the Reading Buddies Evaluation Class are tested for their suitability using children volunteers who read to them during the class. Furry Friends Board of Directors Vice President, Patty Guthrie, has spearheaded this new program and is actively working on a FAQ page for the Furry Friends website which will hopefully answer as many questions as possible for people interested in this exciting new program. Please check back with our website for this FAQ page and additional information on the Reading Buddies Program.

Does Furry Friends Have Your Correct E-mail Address?  
If in DOUBT....

Send an email to : [admin@furryfriends.org](mailto:admin@furryfriends.org)  
Send your name and your current e-mail address

# Help Children Develop Confidence and Literacy! Join the new Reading Buddies program!

The Reading Buddies program is a new Furry Friends program where children read to pets – dogs, cats, rabbits, and more – to encourage confidence-building and literacy. Similar programs have been instituted in libraries and schools across the country, and studies have shown improvement in reading scores and confidence in children who have participated in them.

Furry Friends started the Reading Buddies program last year on a trial basis at Discovery Charter School in San Jose, quickly spreading to two Santa Clara County libraries (Morgan Hill, and Milpitas), and a second school (Buchser Middle School in Santa Clara) . Results and reviews have been highly favorable, and the program is now expanding!



*Emma reads with Dolly, the Bernese Mountain Dog.*

Emma said, "It was really fun and I really liked the dogs, and the dogs were really nice." As of the end of September, 2010, there are now six official Reading Buddies sites:

Discovery Charter School, San Jose  
1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Friday, 1:30 p.m.

Buchser Middle School, Santa Clara  
3<sup>rd</sup> Monday, 2 p.m. (TB test & signing of  
volunteer form required)

Morgan Hill Library, Morgan Hill  
2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday, 3 p.m. (may run until 4:30  
p.m. on occasion)

Milpitas Library, Milpitas  
4<sup>th</sup> Saturday, 2 p.m.

Cupertino Library, Cupertino  
1<sup>st</sup> Thursday, 7 p.m.

Los Altos Library, Los Altos  
2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday, 11 a.m.

**More sites are getting ready to join all the time!**

Most sites are set up so that children read to the pets in blocks of time, 20 to 25 minutes or so at the most, with a break for the pets. Most of the sites are no more than an hour, or slightly under. Usually, medium to large dogs and their owners will sit on the floor on a blanket; the child can sit in front of the dog, or snuggle up to them! Cats and rabbits and small dogs may be held in the owner's lap on a chair, with the child sitting in a chair next to them.



### ***Mathias reads to Roxie, the sheltie.***

In order to join a Reading Buddies team, you and your Furry Friends pet must attend a Reading Buddies evaluation class. The next evaluation class will be held on October 24<sup>th</sup>, at 1:30 p.m.

Reading Buddies pets **MUST** be calm, and also **MUST** tolerate pets of other species (i.e., no cat-aggressive dogs). Although so far only two cats are Reading Buddies pets, the eventual goal would be to have all Reading Buddies teams comprised of multiple species, in order to give children a wide variety of pets to read to. This is an additional evaluation on top of the standard pet etiquette evaluation. If you and your pet were already on a Reading Buddies team before September 1, 2010, with the consent of the team captain, you will be grandfathered in and will not have to attend the evaluation. However, you may choose to take the evaluation if you so desire.

For more information, email [patty@furryfriends.org](mailto:patty@furryfriends.org). To sign up for the October 24<sup>th</sup> class, watch your email! Announcements will be made via the volunteer email lists!

## **FLIP Video Cameras**

**Thanks to Linda Haskell**, we receive 5 (yes five) FLIP cameras from Cisco. They are great to take videos. There is a USB port built into each camera for easy downloading. If anyone is interested in borrowing a camera to take pictures of a PATS Furry Friends Event or site visit, contact Randee at [Randee@com-ctl.com](mailto:Randee@com-ctl.com) to make arrangements to pick one up. PAT, Furry Friends has a You-Tube account. We can post pictures from visits as long as you have permission of all in the movie. It would be great to have pictures of various aspects and locations of where we visit and what we do.

## Furry Friends hosted a booth at Bark in the Park!

“Bark in the Park” is a yearly event held in San Jose, always around the 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday in September, in the Naglee Park neighborhood in William Street Park. Many vendors show up, and there are fun events and demonstrations.

This year, we were one of about 75 vendors who had booths at this exciting event. Other activities included demonstrations of Rally Obedience, Herding, Flyball, a disc dog demonstration, costume contests, and more!

We spoke to many different people at the event, educating interested people on pet therapy and on the many types of visits that Furry Friends does! We gave away many brochures and applications, and made many valuable contacts with prospective volunteers.

Many, many thanks to the volunteers that helped out at this event: Patty Guthrie & Dave Zemke and Crystal; Anne Tiry and Hannah; Loree McQueen and Oliver; Trish McAfee and Venous; Pat Long; Linda Haskell and Leo; Jill Cody & Jerry Grimes and Sassy; Debbie & Bill Vanderzwaag and Lucky; Julia Mitchell and Oscar; Cathy Feldman and Rosie; and Dee Niemann and Honey. Also, many thanks



to all of you who stopped by to say hi, and were showing off your Furry Friends shirts and bandannas! We couldn't make these events happen without our wonderful volunteers!

Trish MacAfee and Venous (left) and Patty Guthrie and Crystal (right) sit down to relax after putting up the booth and discuss the events for the day.

## Looking For Board Members

The Furry Friends Board of Directors is looking for new members.

There are currently 4 members on the board, and we would like to have 5 to 7.

Meetings are held the 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday of every other Month (6 times a year) with dinner from 6:30 to 7:00pm, and the meeting from 7:00 to 9:00pm.

If you would like to join us at a meeting to check it out, please e-mail [board@furryfriends.org](mailto:board@furryfriends.org) for meeting location and to be copied on the agenda.

## Summer Events

This summer has been an active month for many of our Furry Friend volunteers. Thanks to the following volunteers for making the following Furry Friends events such a success.

**APRIL 4:** Hitachi Data Systems "Take Your Dog To Work Day, Santa Clara

FF volunteers: Ellen Bond & Quinn and Hannah, Ann Zis & Scotch, Linda Haskell & Leo

50 Hitachi employees attended

**\$1500 donation**

**SEPTEMBER 15:** Bark in the Park, San Jose

FF volunteers: Patty Guthrie, Dave Zemke & Crystal, Linda Haskell & Leo, Loree McQueen & Oliver, Anne Tiry and Hannah and others.....

200 visitors

25 potential enrolled volunteers

**\$250 donation**

**September 25:** Meet n Greet, Pet Food Express, Campbell store

FF volunteers: Lynn & Secret, Sashi, Nancy Wong & Nicki, Linda Haskell & Leo

25 visitors

10 potential enrolled volunteers

**opportunity to continue Meet 'n Greet at 27 Pet Food Express stores**

**October 3rd:** Furry Friends Volunteer Luncheon, Humane Society Silicon Valley, Milpitas

30 attendee volunteers with 15 four-legged volunteers

## Upcoming Events

**OCTOBER 17:** Fall Furry Flurry Walkathon, participating with Bay Area Siberian Husky Rescue, Los Gatos Creek Park, Campbell (get pledges for walking that will go to PATS, Furry Friends)

**OCTOBER 24:** Reading Buddies Evaluation Class, Sunnyvale

**NOVEMBER 3:** Active Seniors Event: Humane Society Silicon Valley, Milpitas

**DECEMBER 4:** Los Gatos Holiday Parade, Los Gatos

**Barnes & Noble Gift Wrapping,** Almaden Fashion Plaza (Almaden Exp/Blossom Hill Rd)

NOVEMBER 28: 9am-1pm

DECEMBER 18: 1pm-5pm

DECEMBER 19: 9am-1pm

DECEMBER 20: 1pm-5pm

Watch your email for more details!

**Do you like to tweet?  
Furry Friends is looking for  
you!**

Furry Friends would like to establish a presence on Twitter. Official 'tweets' can be submitted from the board and from other volunteers. If you are interested in helping out by creating a Twitter account and managing it, please let us know!!

**Support Furry Friends  
While You Shop!**



**JOIN TODAY**

eScrip is one of the many ways our members can support the organization. Using eScrip provides a percentage to Furry Friends for every purchase you make.

**Register Online**

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

**Register by Phone**

(800) 592-0942

**Use our group name & ID number  
when registering:**

**eScrip Group Name**

Pet Assisted Therapy Services

**Group ID Number**

144028815

There is an annual fee of \$10 to register. This fee is charged to your credit card when you sign up for an account. If you have questions, please send email to [admin@furryfriends.org](mailto:admin@furryfriends.org)

or

call the office.

**Thanks for helping Furry  
Friends through your eScrip  
Subscription.**

***Fund Raising***

*What if Furry Friends Pet Assisted Therapy Services earned a donation every time you searched the Internet? Or how about if a percentage of every purchase you made online went to support our cause? Well, now it can!*

*GoodSearch.com is a new Yahoo-powered search engine that donates half its advertising revenue, about a penny per search, to the charities its users designate. Use it just as you would any search engine, get quality search results from Yahoo, and watch the donations add up!*

*GoodShop.com is a new online shopping mall which donates up to 30 percent of each purchase to your favorite cause! Hundreds of great stores including Amazon, Target, Gap, Best Buy, ebay, Macy's and*

*Barnes & Noble have teamed up with GoodShop and every time you place an order, you'll be supporting your favorite cause.*

*And if you download the GoodSearch – Furry Friends Pet Assisted Therapy Services toolbar, our cause will earn money every time you shop and search online - even if you forget to go to GoodShop or GoodSearch first! Add the Furry Friends Pet Assisted Therapy Services toolbar at*

*<http://www.goodsearch.com/toolbar/furry-friends-pet-assisted-therapy-services>*



Furry Friends extends heartfelt sympathy to the owners of pets who have earned their wings and will be waiting at the Rainbow Bridge:

Chad Haskell - Linda Haskell  
Evo Freitas - Carolyn Freitas  
Jessica Dias - Dorothy Dias  
Sugar Bunny Branch - Joni Branch  
Koa Chu- Yvone Chu  
Vickie O'Malley – Rainbow O'Malley

## Furry Friends is on FACEBOOK!

If you have a Facebook account, you can find Furry Friends as a group by searching for Furry Friends Pet Assisted Therapy Services. Furry Friends is also listed as a Cause Too! You will need the "Causes" app installed on your account. To find Furry Friends, open up the Causes app and search for Furry Friends Pet Assisted Therapy Services. Yes, we are in the digital age!

## Welcome *NEW* members

Barbara Laskin	Julie
Melissa Cooper	Randy
Rebecca Arora	Carson
Debbie Batterton	Seeker
Nina Chan	Pulani
Rachel Chan	Pulani
Kathy Campbell	Kailu
Mark Lund	Gus
Stacey Nitta	Maya
Patti Hansen	Karma
Wendy Wingo	Hazel
Elizabeth Silva	Lucy
Holly Huenemann	Lady & Windy
Marsha Smith	Lulu
David Abouav	Sabre
Jenny Abouav	Sabre
Laurin Chicknoff	Pasquel
John Cooper	Randy
Annmarie Hulette	Teddy
Robert Olin Grimes	Lillie
Norma Jean Grimes	Buddy
Sarah Birrell	Ashleigh
Linda Patel	Gidget
Maud Carol Goldfield	Liberty
Susan Pinheiro	Chloe
Deborah Meza	Sedona
Kerry Mahrer	Tess
Michelle Choquette	Lacy

### Safety Requirements

Walk: Dogs must be on a 6 foot or shorter leash (NO flexi leashes); be currently vaccinated for rabies; appear to be in good health; Female dogs in heat cannot participate; Puppies must be at least 4 months old; Bring poop bags to pick up after your dogs.

### Entry Form for walkers

To register for 5 K walk, please fill out this form and sign it. Feel free to make as many photocopies of this form as you need to register each participant/family.

Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Pet's name(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

In consideration of accepting my entry, I, The undersigned, intend to be legally bound for myself, my heirs, executors and administrators to waive and release any and all rights and claims for damages I may have against the beneficiaries, organizers, sponsors, advertisers and employees, volunteers and committee members, federal, state and local governments or private parties on whose property this event may be run including but not limited to the City of Campbell, the County of Santa Clara, the State of California, Pet Awareness and Welfare Society for SJACS and the Bay Area Siberian Husky Club of any and all injuries suffered by me or my animal(s) while traveling to or from, or participating in this event.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Registrant's Signature/Guardian if under 18 years                      Date

Pre-Entry Fees must be received no later than October 12, 2010

\$25 per person\*, # of people \_\_\_\_\_ \$ \_\_\_\_\_ or

\$60 per family\*, (up to 4 people) \$ \_\_\_\_\_

T-shirt sizes and number requested:

\_\_\_\_S \_\_\_\_M \_\_\_\_L \_\_\_\_XL \_\_\_\_XXL

**Make checks payable to PAWS for SJACS.**

MAIL THE REGISTRATION FORM WITH FEES TO:

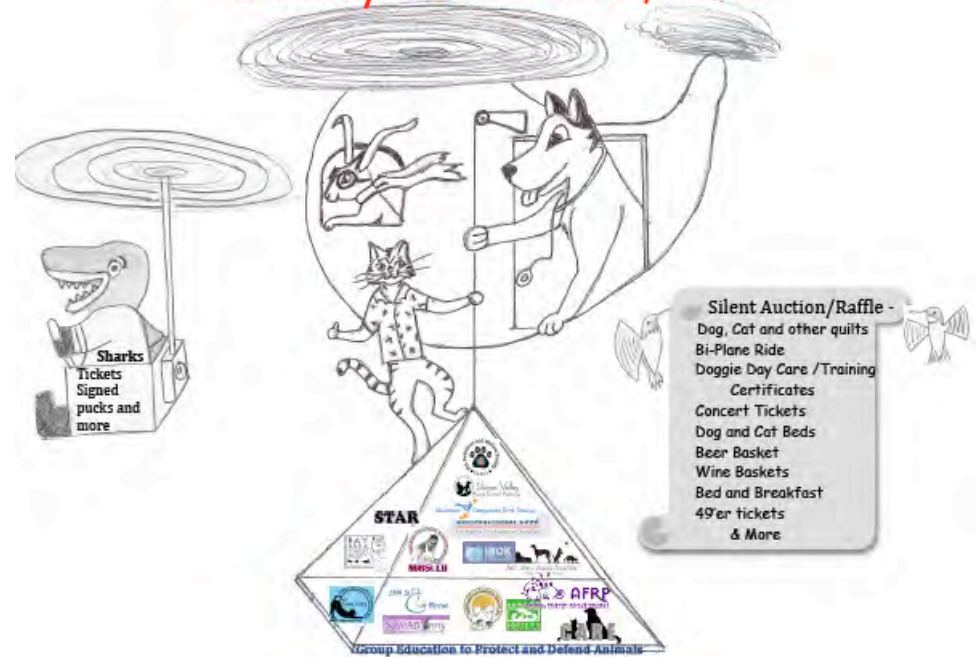
**PAWS for SJACS, 2633 S BASCOM AVE, CAMPBELL CA 95008**

\*Day of Walk fees will be \$30.00/person, \$80.00/family

For more information and additional entry forms, call 408-559-3230 x 108 or visit our Web site at [www.PAWS4SJACS.org](http://www.PAWS4SJACS.org).

# 8<sup>th</sup> Annual Fall Furry Flurry Fun Festival

## Sunday October 17, 2010



### Los Gatos Creek Park, Campbell

#### Fun Festival activities

- 5 K walk with your pet
- Bobbing for Wieners!
- Ask the Behaviorist!
- Have Fun with Rally Obedience
- Costume Contest
- Largest Dog/Smallest Dog Contest
- Musical sits And MORE.....

Each **walker registrant** receives a t-shirt, raffle ticket, pet goody bag, and more.

Sign in – 9:00 to 10:30

5 K Walk – 9:30 to 12:30

Contests/Games – 11:00 to 12:30

Raffle Drawing – 12:30

Silent Auction – 1:00





**Furry Friends P.A.T.S.**  
**(Pet Assisted Therapy Services)**  
P.O. Box 5099  
San Jose, CA  
95150-5099

**website:**  
**www.furryfriends.org**  
(ask your captain for a password  
to the volunteer area)

**join our Yahoo! group:**  
**furryfriends-volunteers**  
(visit [www.groups.yahoo.com](http://www.groups.yahoo.com) and  
type in "furryfriends-volunteers" in  
the text box under "Join a Group")

**email:**  
**admin@furryfriends.org**  
**phone:**  
**(877) 4FF-PATS (877-433-7287)**

THANK YOU

to

*Teri La Bounty*

*for being Editor of the  
Short Paws Newsletter  
for the past couple of  
years. You did a  
GREAT job  
and you  
will be  
greatly  
missed.*

Thank you to **Linda Haskell** for her work as a Board of Director for the past few months. She was instrumental in the donation from Cisco of the 5 Flip Cameras, the donation from Hitachi and setting up the Meet 'n' Greet at Pet Food Express stores.



**PET ASSISTED THERAPY  
SERVICES  
P.O. BOX 5099  
SAN JOSE, CA 95150-5099**

**Reach us toll-free! 877-4FF-PATS (433-7287)**

**[www.furryfriends.org](http://www.furryfriends.org)**