

SHORT PAWS

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF FURRY FRIENDS P.A.T.S



letter from our president

Hello, Furry Friends!

Many of our teams are in need of additional volunteers, and several sites need captains. Having a captain is essential in order to for Furry Friends to do visits. Being a captain isn't hard, and it's very little additional work over and above doing your regular visit.

What's involved in being a captain?

- You will be the point of contact between the facility and Furry Friends; ideally, you'll check with the site prior to each month's visit, to ensure they're expecting us, and that there's no reason we **shouldn't** come (a flu or COVID outbreak, for example).
- Send a reminder email to the team prior to every visit.
- Send the visit attendance to our admin on a regular basis.

No training is required to be a captain, although we do hope to reschedule the captains training later this year.

We continue to get requests from new facilities who want us to visit, and new site requests remain on hold until we can resume visits at our existing sites. So please consider being a captain!

If you think you might be interested in helping in this way, please let us know! And consider coming to the Captains Dinner in April, to learn even more. Details on how to sign up are elsewhere in this newsletter.

Anne

Visit Highlight

Main Jail and Elmwood Correctional Facility

Last summer, Furry Friends started doing monthly visits at the Santa Clara County Main Jail in San Jose and at Elmwood Correctional Facility in Milpitas. Both visits are awesome, and additional volunteers are needed.

Visits at the Main Jail are on the 2nd Saturday of the month, at 9am. Visits take place in the infirmary units, with inmates who are interested in interacting with the dogs. We usually meet with one inmate at a time, under the watchful eye of the deputy escorting us. On our first visit, one of the men shared that he hadn't touched a dog in 13 years! The staff is also happy to see us, and get doggie snuggles; one of them thanked us for coming to visit this "forgotten population."

Visits at Elmwood are on the 3rd Thursday of the month, at 9am. Visits are often in outdoor recreation areas, or in dormitory-like settings with several inmates. Those visits too are under the watchful eyes of deputies escorting our volunteers. At the last Elmwood visit, one of the inmates said to the team captain, "Are they here to make us happy? Well, it's working."



Right now there are only 5 people who have the appropriate security clearance to do these visits. If someone goes on vacation or is sick, there is a very small pool of volunteers to pull from.

Think you might be interested in getting your clearance to join one or both of these awesome teams? Reach out to info@furryfriends.org for additional information, and for details on how to get started.

I have been a member of Furry Friends since 2000, and can honestly say that these are THE most satisfying visits I have ever done.

CAPTAINS DINNER

Some of you will remember that Furry Friends had an annual Captains' Dinner, to thank our captains for all their work during the year and to recognize their contributions to our organization. We had to suspend those a while back, due to the COVID lockdown.

We're excited to announce that we are holding a Captains' Dinner again! All captains are invited, and any volunteer who is thinking about becoming a captain is also encouraged to attend, as long as space is available.

When: Thursday, April 11, 2024, 5:30pm

Where: China Stix, 2110 El Camino Real, Santa Clara (located in Santa Clara Town Center)

Cost: \$10 per Furry Friends member, \$40 per guest

This is an opportunity to talk with other captains, meet the Furry Friends Board of directors and admin, and have a Q&A session with animal behaviorist Julie Bond.

Link to pay for the dinner:

<https://www.paypal.com/ncp/payment/GXVN9JCWCT5FE>

You can also find the link on our store page, under Membership and Other Fees: <https://www.furryfriends.org/membership-other-fees>

Sign up by Wednesday, April 3 to guarantee your spot!



PLEASE JOIN US AT THE CAPTAIN'S DINNER

Meet the board members and other Furry Friends captains! **Where:** China Stix (2110 El Camino Real, Santa Clara)

When: Thursday, April 11 2024, 5:30pm

Cost: \$10 per Furry Friends member, \$40 per guest



critter corner

JULIE BOND, M.S. ANIMAL BEHAVIORIST



Just as I did in the last two newsletters, I'm once again using my column to review some of the material covered in the etiquette class as many of you haven't attended one in several years and I'm always adding information to the class as our policies and procedures change/get updated over time. For those of you who have attended a recent etiquette class, this particular column will serve as just a gentle reminder of what we covered there. As always, if any of this isn't clear, or you have further questions, please let me know!

TOYS ON VISITS:

Please don't bring toys on any leashed visits, including special visits. While I realize it might be tempting to bring a toy for the kids on the special visits to use to engage your dog, toys are only allowed on our off leash visits. Why? Because I test every animal at the off leash class evaluation for their non-reactiveness around toys, willingness to share toys, and their ability to drop any toy they have on command. Dogs in our regular programs and events are not tested extensively on these behaviors and may very well have issues in resource guarding that not only prohibit them from being on an off leash team, but would make another dog having a toy on a visit a risk for them to be exposed to, potentially triggering an aggressive episode.

RAW DIETS:

Back in 2022, Furry Friends implemented a new policy with regard to raw diets. Following the guidelines established by the AVMA, and endorsed by the American College of Veterinary Nutrition, we have asked that all volunteers refrain from feeding their pets a raw diet as doing so can lead to the transmission of pathogens between pets and immunocompromised individuals. Here is the statement released by the AVMA:

“The AVMA discourages the feeding to cats and dogs of any animal-source protein that has not first been subjected to a process to eliminate pathogens because of the risk of illness to cats and dogs as well as humans. Cooking or pasteurization through the application of heat until the protein reaches an internal temperature adequate to destroy pathogenic organisms has been the traditional method used to eliminate pathogens in animal-source protein.”

SKIN INFECTIONS:



If your pet has a “hot spot,” basically, a patch of moist dermatitis on their skin, you will want to refrain from attending visits until that patch of skin irritation characterized by an open, raw sore, has healed. The reason for this is that MRSA, Methicillin-Resistant Staphylococcus Aureus, a drug-resistant bacteria, is prevalent in most if not all hospital environments. MRSA can easily be transmitted from pets to people via open sores like hot spots. While MRSA will not make your dog sick, it can use that open sore on your dog as a way to move out of the hospital environment, potentially exposing other people in the community, including your family, to the bacteria.

DOING PET THERAPY VISITS OUTSIDE OF FURRY FRIENDS:

While Furry Friends does not put restrictions on their members from being a part of other pet assisted therapy groups or organizations, if you are doing visits on your own, whether part of another group OR simply by yourself in the community, you must not misrepresent yourself on those visits as being a Furry Friends member. Our visits are always on specific days and times. Our insurance covers us for these sanctioned visits. If you are asked by a facility to come back with your pet and visit on your own on an additional day, that's great! Just make sure they understand that you'll be coming back on your own, without our insurance covering you for that visit. You will not wear your Furry Friends t-shirt, badge, or use your purple leash. If you are doing additional pet therapy visits on your own, you will want to check with your homeowner's insurance or renter's insurance policy to see if they cover you for pet therapy visits or if you need additional insurance to do so.

SERVICE DOGS, THERAPY ANIMALS, & EMOTIONAL SUPPORT ANIMALS:

While the general public and the media often use these categories interchangeably, adding in new ones like comfort canines, there are important differences between animals used in each of these roles. We give every new volunteer a card in etiquette class that outlines the differences between service animals, pet therapy animals, and emotional support animals because we want to make sure all of our volunteers are educated on the differences and can go out into the communities we visit and make sure that others understand those differences as well. Service animals are afforded rights by the ADA, the Americans with Disabilities Act, to bring their animals into public establishments without restrictions. They can live with their owners in places that have no pets policies because their service animals are not pets, but medical equipment, required to aid them in the performance of specific tasks. Service animals go through extensive training so that they can tolerate a wide variety of situations and experiences reliably. While therapy animals and comfort canines go through some basic obedience training and evaluation for the activity of visiting patients for the express purpose of pet assisted therapy, they are not afforded any special privileges with regard to access to public spaces that don't already allow those animals on the premises. Emotional support animals are also afforded no special rights or allowances via the ADA. While basic manners are expected, they are not required of emotional support animals. People with emotional support animals cannot be discriminated against for housing, but their pets can be removed if they are disruptive, aggressive, etc. While it is possible for a service animal or an emotional support animal to also work as a pet assisted therapy animal, it is not, however, the case that every pet therapy animal is also a service animal or emotional support animal. And it goes without saying that vests, harnesses, ID cards, etc. are not accepted as the sole indication that an animal is trained as a service animal. There are simply too many fly-by-night companies and individuals out there turning a quick profit by "certifying" pets as service animals and emotional support animals when they have no business doing so. On more than one occasion, we've had prospective new volunteers come to etiquette class with the sole purpose of certifying their pets so they can "take them everywhere with them." We've had volunteers try to use their Furry Friends membership to get on airplanes, go into stores and buildings where only service animals are allowed, and onto school properties as "classroom pets." This is not what we do with Furry Friends. Anyone who attends etiquette class with that as their goal is immediately told that we don't do that, nor do we support anyone who intentionally misleads the public as to the role of their pet. Teachers who want to take their dogs into their classrooms, therapists who want their own pets helping with their patients, etc. are referred to organizations that evaluate individual animals for that type of work. Anyone who is caught misrepresenting their pet and using their Furry Friends membership to do so can and will be removed from the organization as that type of behavior puts us all at risk.

		 Furry Friends Pet Assisted Therapy Services	 EMOTIONAL SUPPORT ANIMAL
	Service Dog	Therapy Animals	Emotional Support Animal
Function of animal	Individually trained to work or perform tasks for persons with disabilities.	Provides affection and comfort to many individuals in hospitals, nursing homes and other facilities	Provides emotional support solely to its owner
ADA right to bring animal into public establishments	YES	NO	NO
May live with owner even if there is a "no pets" policy in effect	YES	NO	YES
Ability to tolerate a wide variety of experiences, animals and people	Required	Required	not required but desirable
Training required	Extensive training required to perform task for owner	Basic obedience and good temperament required	Basic manners expected but not required by law
Consequences of bad behavior in a public setting	Can be removed from service	Can be removed from service	Can be removed from service

Animal vests, harnesses, ID cards, or registration are not accepted as the sole indication an animal is a trained service animal.

MAKE YOUR VISITS WORK FOR YOU & YOUR PET:

If you are on a visit and your pet doesn't want to enter a room, balks at meeting someone, or displays any apprehension whatsoever with a person, situation, room, or event, STOP. Don't force your animal to engage someone they don't want to engage, go into a room they are resisting, etc. It simply isn't safe and you run the risk of something happening such as a growl, snap, or bite. You also run a greater risk of creating a situation where your pet dreads doing visits and you have to discontinue pet therapy. If instead you watch your pet and listen to them, you reduce the risk of that happening. While I do test every animal coming into our organization for their behavior with a walker and a wheelchair, there are other kinds of medical equipment that may be off-putting for your pet. There are also different styles of walkers and wheelchairs and some may scare or startle your pet at first. Pets have a keener sense of smell than we do, so they may be avoiding interactions with someone they feel smells "scary," "different," or "ill/infirm." If your pet resists meeting someone, you can downplay it by saying something like, "Oh, I guess he needs a break. We're going to head outside for a bathroom break and some water" and then do just that. Maybe they did need a break! If you come back to the visit and they are still trying to head for the door, just let your team captain know you are leaving and head home. Better to end a visit early than push your pet beyond their comfort level. I have certainly met some Furry Friends members whose pets don't like elderly people, act strangely around patients with memory deficits, or who don't like children. And, yes, they can still do pet therapy with our organization! We simply need to steer those volunteers and their pets toward the visits they will be most comfortable attending. We have lots of visit choices in our organization, so it isn't hard to find the perfect fit that's safe for all concerned.

*Furry Friends extends a big
WELCOME to our new
volunteers.*

January 2024

Hon Wai Chan
Albert Belman
Drucie Belman
Ella Heard
Hannah Vicars
Jamison Glore
Laura Meyer
Linda Scarboro
Patty Pratt
Alexandra Goodyear
Teddy Albert
Anthony Diepenbrock
Audrey Szutu
David Signorotti
Diane Ramelli
Jim McConnell
Jennifer West
William Brokaw

Feburary 2024

Cheri O'Neil
Derek Cheng
Holly Fleming
Joanna Wishner

March 2024

Jennie Fong
Erika Landine
Robin Shaban
Erin Evers
Marilyn Ritchie
Elydia Garibay
Margit Oklevik

2024 Etiquette Training



April 28 at 10:30 a.m.
May 19 at 10:30 a.m. and 1:30 p.m.
June 23 at 10:30 a.m.
July 28 at 10:30 a.m. and 1:30 p.m.
August 25 at 10:30 a.m.
September 22 at 10:30 a.m. and 1:30 p.m.
October 27 at 10:30 a.m.
November 17 at 10:30 a.m. and 1:30 p.m.



CALL FOR VOLUNTEERS

THESE SITES ARE LOOKING FOR VOLUNTEERS!

CRESTWOOD BEHAVIORAL HEALTH

1425 FRUITDALE AVE SAN JOSE, CA 95128
2ND AND 4TH TUESDAY 2PM

HOPE SERVICES

30 LAS COLINAS LANE SAN JOSE, CA 95119
2ND TUESDAY 9:45 AM

MENLO PARK VA MEDICAL CENTER

795 WILLOW ROAD BUILDING 360 MENLO PARK, CA 94025
2ND & 4TH TUESDAY 3:00 PM

MERRILL GARDENS - WILLOW GLEN

1420 CURCI AVE SAN JOSE, CA 95126
3RD MONDAY 1:00 PM

SAN TOMAS CONVALESCENT HOSPITAL

3580 PAYNE AVENUE SAN JOSE, CA 95117
3RD TUESDAY 4:00 PM

SAN JOSE BEHAVIORAL HEALTH

455 SILICON VALLEY BLVD. SAN JOSE, CA 95020
2ND & 4TH SUNDAY 1:00 PM

SANTA CLARA POST ACUTE CARE/VALLEY HOUSE

991 CLYDE AVENUE SANTA CLARA, CA 95054
3RD TUESDAY 10:00 AM

SKYLINE HEALTH CARE CENTER

2063 FOREST AVENUE, SAN JOSE, CA 95126
1ST MONDAY 11:00 AM

ELMWOOD CORRECTIONAL FACILITY

701 S. ABEL ST MILPITAS, CA 95035
3RD THURSDAY 9AM

COUNTY OF SANTA CLARA MAIN JAIL

150 W. HEDDING ST, SAN JOSE CA 95110
2ND SATURDAY, 9AM

CREEKVIEW HEALTH CENTER

2900 STONERIDGE CREEK WAY PLEASANTON, CA 94588
2ND TUESDAY 10:30 AM & 3RD THURSDAY 1:45 PM

CUPERTINO LIBRARY STAFF VISIT

10800 TORRE AVENUE, CUPERTINO, CA 95015
4TH TUESDAY 2:00 PM

IDYLWOOD CARE FACILITY

1002 W. FREMONT SUNNYVALE, CA 94087
2ND WEDNESDAY 2:00 PM

KENSINGTON PLACE

1580 GEARY ROAD WALNUT CREEK, CA 94597
2ND SUNDAY 2:30 PM

LABOURE RESIDENCE

26000 ALTAMONT ROAD LOS ALTOS HILLS, CA 94022
3RD WEDNESDAY 10:00 AM

LOS GATOS THERAPY CENTER

482 W SAN CARLOS STREET SAN JOSE, CA 95126
3RD THURSDAY 4:00 PM

TELECARE SC PSYCHIATRIC HEALTH

482 W SAN CARLOS STREET SAN JOSE, CA 95126
4TH FRIDAYS 10:15 AM

THE TERRACES OF LOS GATOS

800 BLOSSOM HILL ROAD LOS GATOS, CA 95032
1ST & 3RD THURSDAY 2:00 PM

MILPITAS LIBRARY - STAFF VISIT

160 N. MAIN STREET MILPITAS, CA 95035
4TH TUESDAY 2:00 PM

OFF LEASH SITES NEEDING VOLUNTEERS

KIPP PRIZE PREPARATORY ACADEMY

1250 S KING RD, SAN JOSE, CA 95122
3RD THURSDAY 2:30 PM

CALL FOR SITE CAPTAINS

We STILL have a number of sites awaiting visits - each first requires a Team Captain! As a Team Captain, you will serve as a point of contact between the Furry Friends Team and the site.

Check furryfriends.org for our next Captain Training dates.

REGULAR SITES NEEDING CAPTAINS

CUPERTINO HEALTH & WELLNESS

22590 VOSS ROAD CUPERTINO,
CA 95014
WEEKDAY VISITS REQUESTED

SUNNY VIEW MANOR
22445 CUPERTINO ROAD
CUPERTINO, CA 95014
2ND SAT 10:00 AM

SARATOGA ADULT CARE
19655 ALLENDALE AVE
SARATOGA, CA 95070
MONDAY OR TUESDAYS

PACIFIC GARDENS
2384 PACIFIC DRIVE SANTA
CLARA, CA 95051

PLUM TREE CARE CENTER
2580 SAMARITAN DR, SAN JOSE,
CA 95124

READING BUDDIES TEAMS NEEDING CAPTAINS

ALUM ROCK LIBRARY
3090 ALUM ROCK AVE SAN JOSE,
CA 95127
2ND MON 4:00 PM

EDENVALE LIBRARY
101 BRANHAM LANE EAST SAN
JOSE, CA 95111
1ST WED 4:00 PM

MORGAN HILL LIBRARY
660 W. MAIN STREET MORGAN
HILL, CA 95037
2ND WED 3:00 PM

SANTA TERESA LIBRARY
290 INTERNATIONAL CIR SAN
JOSE, CA 95119
MON, TUES, OR FRI AFTERNOONS

FOOTHILL ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
13919 LYNDE AVE SARATOGA, CA
95070
1-2PM WEEKDAY

CALL FOR READING BUDDIES



FURRY FRIEND LISTENING EARS NEEDED

ALUM ROCK LIBRARY

3090 ALUM ROCK AVE SAN JOSE, CA 95127

ALMADEN LIBRARY

6445 CAMDEN AVENUE SAN JOSE, CA 95120
2ND WEDNESDAY 4:30PM

SCOTTS VALLEY LIBRARY

251 KINGS VILLAGE ROAD SCOTTS VALLEY, CA 95066
2ND TUESDAY & 4TH WEDNESDAY 3:00 PM

HILLVIEW LIBRARY

1600 HOPKINS DRIVE SAN JOSE, CA 95122
1ST SATURDAY 1:00 PM

APOSTLE'S LUTHERAN SCHOOL

5828 SANTA TERESA BLVD. SAN JOSE, CA 95123
2ND THURSDAY 1:00 PM

FOOTHILL ELEMENTARY

13919 LYNDE AVE SARATOGA, CA 95070
1ST FRIDAY 10:45 AM

SANTA THERESA LIBRARY

290 INTERNATIONAL CIRCLE SAN JOSE, CA 95119

SILICON VALLEY PET PROJECT

14408 UNION AVE SAN JOSE, CA 95124
3RD THURSDAY 4:00 PM



board of directors

PRESIDENT

Anne Tiry

VICE PRESIDENT

Sal Guardino

SECRETARY

Bill Chow

TREASURER

Randee McQueen

Board Members

Duane Hinders

Bob Armstrong

Paul Fulton

Bronte Reed

Grace Chung

Grace Mittelstaedt

Elizabeth Basile

ADMINISTRATOR

Mandi Green

admin@furryfriends.org

ANIMAL BEHAVIORIST

Julie Bond

Carrot Pupcakes

PUPCAKES INGREDIENTS

- 1/2 CUP ORGANIC BUCKWHEAT FLOUR
- 1 EGG
- 1 TEASPOON BAKING POWDER
- 1 TABLESPOON MANUKA HONEY
- 1/4 CUP ORGANIC COCONUT OIL
- 1/2 CUP COCONUT MILK OR WATER
- 1/2 CUP GRATED CARROT
- MINI CUPCAKE PAN

ICING INGREDIENTS

- 50G YOGHURT DROPS
- 1 TABLESPOON COCONUT OIL
- CAROB DROPS (OPTIONAL)
- GRATED CARROT (OPTIONAL)

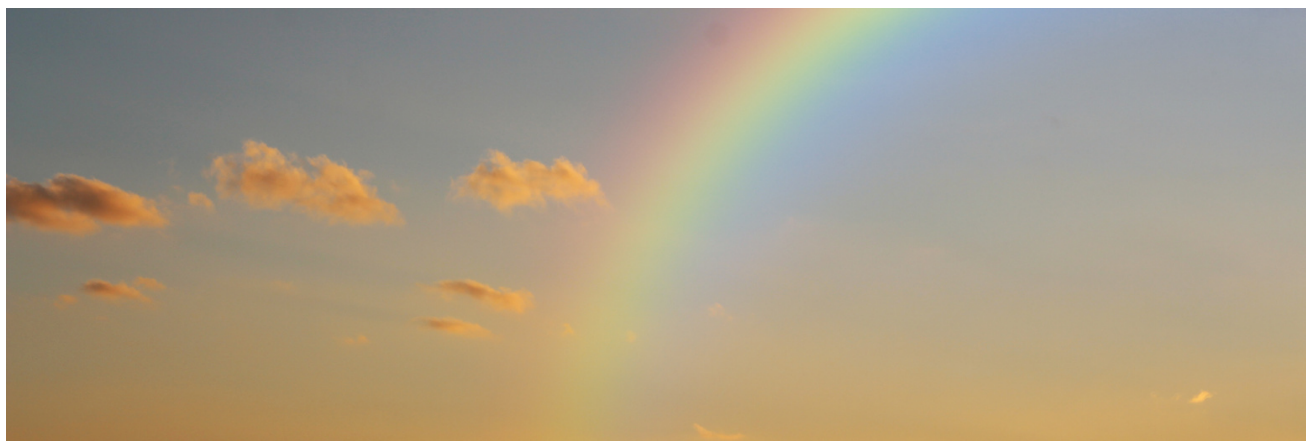
PUPCAKES DIRECTIONS

- PREHEAT OVEN TO 160°C
- IN A BOWL COMBINE BAKING POWDER AND HONEY AND MIX WELL
- ADD BUCKWHEAT FLOUR, COCONUT OIL, COCONUT MILK / WATER AND EGG TO BOWL
- MIX UNTIL WELL COMBINED
- ADD GRATED CARROT AND MIX THROUGH
- DIVIDE EVENLY INTO CUPCAKE PAN
- BAKE IN OVEN FOR 15 - 20 MINUTES

ICING DIRECTIONS

- MELT YOGHURT DROPS & COCONUT OIL OVER A LOW HEAT
- CAREFULLY DRIZZLE MELTED YOGHURT DROPS OVER PUPCAKES
- ADD YOUR OPTIONAL DECORATION TO TOP OF PUPCAKE BEFORE YOGHURT DROP SETS





friends beyond the rainbow bridge

Pet: Shasta Owners: Curt & Arlene McClelland
 Pet: Toby Owner: Sandra Delvin
 Pet: James Owner: Diane Rudy
 Pet: Crystal Owner: Patty Guthrie & Dave Zemke
 Pet: Flower Owner: Rande McQueen
 Pet: Hana Owner: Lisa Hirano

"Over the Rainbow Bridge you went.
 I always knew you were Heaven sent.
 I cherish our time spent together.
 'Til we meet again,
 I will love you forever".



anniversaries

2 Years

John McBain Jr
 Kerri Antes
 Sheila Russell
 Pam Goodman
 Mark Goodman
 Paul Fulton

5 Years

Clare Rhodes

1 Year

Sue Nicholls
 Lisa Marie
 Elinor Kumpf
 Alison Kumpf
 Heather Dean
 Susan Jang
 Susan Wolf
 Lucia Liu
 Josh Gitomer
 Glory Bratton

Caroline Sherman
 Kristy Phillips
 Kelly Look
 Grace Chung

10 Years

Deborah Armstrong
 Jessica Mangold

4 Years

David Yoshida
 Carole Hayworth
 John Motroni
 Catherine Motroni
 Barbara Kitviat