



# Spay and Save

## Volunteer Newsletter



**ADOPTIONS**

**Nov/Dec**

**Cats 60**

**Dogs 3**

## Managing a Multi-Dog Household

Nancy Paolucci from [Animalsense.com](http://Animalsense.com)

"I promise, we will just foster until we find him a good home."

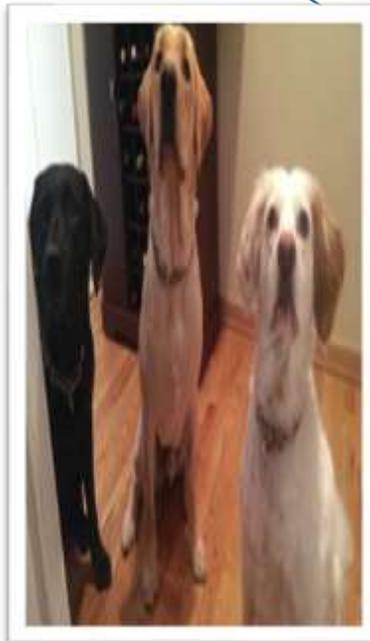
Those were my words almost six months ago to my husband, trying to convince him that we would make a great foster home for a ten-month-old male yellow lab. Gunner had spent his short life in two homes, found himself at the Humane Society twice and now he landed at our doorstep. I swore we could find him the perfect place. Well apparently, we did: OURS. Two months in, we realized that Gunner was here to stay and now we found ourselves out numbered, three against two.

Coming up with a game plan ahead of time on how to handle two, three, four or more dogs will cut down on frustration, fights and the possible loss of valuables. Here are a few tips and examples that I have picked up along this journey:

### Management

I've found the biggest key to a multi-dog household is management, management, management. Each house will be different but here are some standard tools that are used in our household.

- ♥ Feeding time can always be tricky with more than one dog so making sure that everyone has their own space is essential. This relieves any social pressure while they are eating, avoiding any resource guarding opportunities. Continued on Page 2



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## All About Perk Valley Pet Eatery

The Website describes Perk Valley Pet Eatery as Follows:

"In 2003, Gordon and Sue Kriebel opened Trappe Feed & Pet Supply on West Main Street in Trappe. The store initially was a full line pet store, with small animals and a live tropical fish department. Since that time, the focus of the store changed to a pet food and supply only model, mainly focusing on canine and feline products. Continued on Page 2

## Managing a Multi-Dog Household cont.

we take around four walks a day and thank goodness for the gentle leader! Our walks are much calmer with less pulling and zig zagging back and forth.

- ♥ Other management techniques include crates, gates, Kongs and leashes. Being able to give yourself and all the dogs time apart is essential to keeping a harmonious home. A Kong stuffed with peanut butter (or liverwurst in our house) and the dogs will be craving their alone time. Another great option for an overly anxious adolescent who won't leave everyone alone or likes to jump on guests is to keep a leash handy and use it in the house.

### Training

Even though having some great management techniques up your sleeve is so important, living in a multi-dog household wouldn't be possible without some training, even if it's just basic. It seems like one dog's problem can trickle down and affect the rest. You may feel the urge to immediately teach a group sit or stay but try to be patient and train each individually. Once you feel confident in each dog's training, it's time to slowly bring them together one at a time. Take it to the next level by introducing individual releases by each name but remember to take it slow with each new step.

### Not All Dogs Are the Same

Just like people, each dog is unique and has their own personality and strengths. It's important to remember this with multiple dogs, which can meld into a group on a day to day basis. Step back and look at the needs of each of your dogs. Does one need more exercise? More training? Or more mental stimulation? A lot of this will depend on age and breed of each dog. Take the time to play up to their strengths. I have two Labs and both are enrolled in agility classes and we make it a point to take them on longer walks as well as getting them into the water whenever we are at the lake. Our oldest, an English Setter mix, is more content with shorter walks but craves one on one attention from us. Whatever the needs of your dogs, it is essential to spend time with each one individually as your time allows.

You don't have to feel outnumbered in your multi-dog home. Define your expectations of your dogs and then meet those expectations through management, training and recognizing individual needs and strengths. It may take an adjustment period but soon you will be living harmoniously in your multi-dog household."

"For more tips and advice on multi-dog households, I recommend the book "Feeling Outnumbered? How to manage and Enjoy Your Multi-Dog Household" by Animal Behaviorists, Patricia McConnell, Ph.D. and Karen London, Ph.D."



## All About Perk Valley Pet Eatery Continued

"In 2009, the store changed its name to Perk Valley Pet Eatery and, in the fall of 2012, they relocated the business to the Trappe Shopping Center, where it is located today.

Gordon and Sue are active in the pet industry, attending trade events and seminars to learn about products and trends in nutrition. They have been recognized as a leading independent store and an innovative force in the market they serve. Gordon has been in the pet industry since 1979, in a variety of roles that have provided a depth of experience and knowledge. Sue has been employed in the past in the corporate pharmaceutical industry, leaving that behind to join Gordon full time in 2003."

Perk Valley joined Spay and Save in around 2005 and has been very involved with adoption days and featuring adoptable cats and kittens and now in the new location they have expanded their caging to one of the finest show cases in the business. See the pictures of the new Habitat on Page 5.

Over the years they have been instrumental in hundreds of adoptions for our organization with the aid of Altheda Anduze the Spay and Save Coordinator. This organization is truly a model for the independent retailer, and it has been our pleasure to work with them through the years.

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# Holiday Happenings



Left: Critter Care Vet clinic netted 736.00 in Photos with Santa and lots of Pet food. Below from left to right are Megan Glass, Donald Schroder DVM, Lydeah Carpenter, Allyssa Fields. Christina Karmilowicz, Sarah Sikora and Bob Sikora as Santa.



Right: Maria Robb and Paula Wenke from the dog Division at the Plymouth Meeting Mall on Monday nights - December 2, 9 and 16 netted \$44.00.



Left: Photos with Santa at the Exton Petco. From left to right. son Decklan, Sherry and Steve Mylar (manager of Exton Petco), Robin and Becky Resnick



Above: Perk Valley Pet Eatery had an PAWLiday Open House on December 7th and 8th which featured a rustic holiday photo booth that customers could use (with our assistance) to take photos by making a \$10 donation for the sitting fee. The donations were split between the 3 non-profits that PVPE supports, Spay and Save, Inc., Persians Plus, Inc. and the Daily Food Pantry! We were proudly able to present each organization with a \$200.00 check for their non-profit!



Left: On 12/07/2019, Royersford Veterinary Hospital hosted a Photos with Santa and invited Spay and Save to hold an adoption day. Phyllis, Snoopy and four adorable, 7-week kittens made the holiday scene complete. Thanks to Dr. Demaula, Dr. Worrall and staff for their hospitality.



Left: PETE SENNA, was an answer to our prayer in not only the adoption of Severous, a 3-year-old, black/white adult shy male cat, but also in agreeing to play Santa for the Limerick Petco's Photos with Santa. Pictured here with one of our dogs, Bennie.

## How do you Keep a White Sofa with Seven Cats?

By Toni Dougherty

Inevitably during my holiday parties someone asks me, how do you keep a white sofa so nice with 7 cats?

Well, the article about multi dog households gives some tips to the dog lovers so here are my tips to cat lovers. (By the way this idea has worked very well for a silk upholstered sofa in my sister-in-law's house with two dogs and two cats.)

Most important my cats are only allowed in the main part of my home on a limited basis. I have designed a cat room out of my enclosed porch with access to the garage by cat door for litter boxes. The room itself is indestructible in the choices of fabrics and flooring materials.

Although the opportunities for the cats to enter the main house are often hindered by cat fur, vomiting and even occasional marking. I care about my investment in my furnishing so I have gone to extremes one might say to protect them. I do it by covering them with mark proof, vomit proof, child proof and even kitchen grease proof coverings. When I have visitors, I remove the coverings and relegate them to the washing machine for a cleanup. Then after my guests are gone the furniture is again protected.

Following are the sites one can purchase these defenses.

Amazon Smile, Harriet Carter, Wayfair, Walmart. and Ebay



*Ah I can still see my investment and the animals do not like to sit on it either.*

## All About Perk Valley Pet Eatery Continued



*Gordon Kriebel and the lush Habitat in the new Perk Valley Pet Eatery Store in Trappe Pa.*

## The Best of Bubs and Smudge

Dear Christine:

"Bubs and Smudge are doing wonderful with us and our other two cats! They both like to chase things and are both very loving. Bubs loves to sit in front of our fire with the other cats. He is slowly becoming a lap cat. He follows me around the house like a dog. He loves to meow at the birds when he sits in the window. He has the cutest little chirping meow. He is my office assistant while I work from home. Bubs always lays on my personal laptop which I keep on the floor in our family room. He amuses us as to how much he loves laying on it. My husband got me a new laptop for Christmas, and he was sitting on the box even before I could get it out of the box. Continued p 5



## The Best of Bub and Smudge continued

Smudge has taken to my youngest daughter. Loves to jump on her dresser then leap over to her loft bed. Smudge loves to chase little puff balls around the house as she bats at them. She also loves to lay on her back and roll around. Smudge is obsessed with licking things. She loves to lick our hands, my son's and husband's hair, furniture, paper, the list is really endless. They will both hang together and lick each other, and play fight a bit. We are all so happy with them and we are so glad we could give these two special cats a wonderful place to spend their lives."

Eve Gehringer

## "Should Old Acquaintance Be Forgot?" a Tribute to Morag Steskal

A Tribute to Morag Steskal From Sue Wix, Long-Time Volunteer, Advocate and Friend: I believe in Fate:

It was a fateful Saturday in early 2000 that I met Chris at an adoption event and asked about volunteering. That same day, different time, Morag inquired about volunteering as well. Morag and I met at the next volunteer meeting. We were involved with cage cleaning at Petco in KOP, adoption days, transporting kitties and dogs and learning the in and outs of Spay and Save. We organized fundraisers (Gypsy Rose Restaurant, Collegeville Brothers in Garrett Hill, Johnny Cross Italian Restaurant in Skippack and Educational Seminars) just to name a few. Truly a wonderful period in my life, where I found dear friends whom I will love for my entire life.

Fast Forward, 2019, Chris, Val Nave, Morag and I tried to coordinate a get together, but I learned Morag was declining and I knew in my heart I couldn't wait. I was able to visit with Morag about a week before she left for Buffalo NY in July. I knew it was fate. It was as if no time had passed. We reminisced and caught up with life events. Morag wanted to be back by Christmas. She loved everything about the Season. I knew from my Respiratory Therapy education that she wouldn't be back, and it would be the last time I would see her.

Morag had a courageous spirit. It helped her to live during the fight of her life. She was kind, loyal, funny and committed to Spay and Save and the people she loved (animals too. 🐾) She is with Teddy, Bonnie Jean and all her past loves, animal and human. The beautiful irony is that our loss is another's reunion. We will be together again.

Love Sue Wix ❤️

## Volunteer Corner

### By Chris Daniels

On Friday night, December 27<sup>th</sup>, at the annual Spay and Save Christmas party, a very special woman presented me with a very special gift: The History of Spay and Save. This beautifully bound and crafted binder contained the newsletters TONI DOUGHERTY had written beginning in February 2005. I WAS ASTOUNDED. Since the inception of our organization in the late 1970's, no one had kept a "diary" or a written journal of what the organization has accomplished through the years. *THIS GIFT TOUCHED ME IN SUCH A SPECIAL WAY. I WILL NEVER FORGET IT.*

Not only is Toni an accomplished writer and interior decorator (as evidenced by the meticulous decorations adorning her home every single year), but she has also been a "hands-on" volunteer for over 25 years, attending adoption days, transporting, fostering and helping with cleanouts and cage cleaning. Toni, Spay and Save has been blessed by having you in it!!!! (You also throw a delicious holiday party! WE VOLUNTEERS THANK YOU FOR THAT!)

MANY THANKS AND GOOD WISHES to KATHY PLOVER who has given multiple, multiple hours to coordinating the Roxborough Pet Valu for the past six years. Under Kathy's direction, the volunteer schedule and training ran like a well-oiled machine. Kathy not only monitored the cats/kittens in the store on a daily basis but also was extremely mindful of keeping me informed of everything that went on in the store. Kathy did fundraisers for our organization such as the gift wrapping at the Pet Valu on December 18th. Kathy will be greatly missed. On a positive note, Joan Carr and Natalie Lebaire have accepted the positions of Co-coordinators of Roxborough Pet Valu. We wish Kathy Godspeed in all of her endeavors.



## Calendar of Upcoming Events

Date	Event Location	Coordinators
1 <sup>st</sup> Saturday	Gateway Pet Valu (Dogs)	Theresa Lare
1 <sup>st</sup> Saturday	Limerick Petco	Alicia Ferraioli
5 <sup>th</sup> Saturday	Paoli PETCO	Kathy Tierney
5 <sup>th</sup> Saturday	Conshohocken Pet Valu	Beth Licata
2 <sup>nd</sup> Saturday	Gateway Pet Valu	Janet Lynch
2 <sup>nd</sup> Saturday	Exton Petco	Chris Daniels
3 <sup>rd</sup> Saturday	Limerick Petco	Madelyn Ferraioli
4 <sup>th</sup> Saturday	Perk Valley Pet Eatery	Susan Trombadore
4 <sup>th</sup> Saturday	Roxborough Pet Valu	C Daniels/Joan Carr
4 <sup>th</sup> Saturday	Blue Bell Pet Valu (Dogs)	Paula Wenke

## More Happenings at Spay and Save

*Below: Holiday adoption. Little Jack finds his perfect spot in Carey family before Thanksgiving Day."*



*Above: Kimberly Shaw is in Hawaii for the holidays and sent me this photo from a habitat called "Dolphin Quest" where they fund research and rehabilitation for hurt dolphins.*

**Newsletter Editor:** Toni Dougherty

**Spay and Save Officers:**

- ♥ President: Chris Daniels
- ♥ Vice President: Naomi McCarron
- ♥ Secretary: Kimberly Shaw
- ♥ Treasurer: Ginny Shaffer



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