



# For Pets' Sake Humane Society

## The Companion

August 2023

**Supporting Planned Pethood: Volunteers working to improve the lives of companion animals in Montezuma & Dolores Counties, Colorado**

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P.O. Box 1705  
Cortez, CO 81321  
(970) 565-PETS  
www.forpetsakehs.org  
info@forpetsakehs.org

### Foster Home Application



Check out our [facebook page](#).

## We Need YOU At Our Annual Meeting!

Once a year FPS invites everyone to our Annual Meeting and picnic, where we update all of our members and friends on what FPS has done and is doing to help animals in our area. We also elect, or re-elect board members. Please join us on Sunday, August 20th for this fun event (for details, see the announcement further in the newsletter).

Everyone is welcome--For Pets' Sake members and volunteers, anyone interested in membership or volunteering, and anyone in the community who just wants to know what we're up to. For thirty-nine years, For Pets' Sake has been an all-volunteer organization. People committed to helping the dogs and cats of the Four Corners have stepped up, helped as they could, and in many cases moved on. The players may change but our commitment to helping animals never does. We need more people to join our core group of volunteers especially with fundraising, feeding feral cats, providing foster homes for needy pets, or assisting in many other ways (anyone willing to sell items for FPS on eBay?.) Some volunteers are only needed a few times a year (like for our upcoming yard sale) and others, who can't stay away from the purrs and kisses, help every week. FPS would truly welcome your skills, talents, energy and time.

As For Pets' Sake enters its 40<sup>th</sup> year, the need for volunteers is even greater. In order to continue the important work we do, we NEED MORE HELP. Every month in the

newsletter you read heart-breaking, and heart-warming, stories about the animals (and their people) For Pets' Sake has helped. This work will not continue without more helping hands. Some of the key For Pets' Sake programs may be streamlined next year, due to the age and health issues of some of our Board members. A few more dedicated individuals would help For Pets' Sake set the path forward for the next 40 years.



Please join us at the For Pets' Sake Annual Meeting. Hopefully the heat will have broken some and the weather will be perfect for a fun get together. What a great way to meet YOUR For Pets' Sake Board Members and volunteers, and to make a commitment to the ongoing success of For Pets' Sake. Please join us. Local pets need YOU!! Together we can do so much more to help animals in need.

See You There!

## SOMEWHAT SILVER LINING

For Pets' Sake received a call regarding 9 Birman kittens and 5 adults living in an RV. The owner was told by his physician that he had to get rid of the cats due to his many health issues. We agreed that something had to be done, but what? We didn't know if these felines were friendly, feral, ill – all of which complicated the matter—and it was a lot of cats! The gentleman who had these cats was not easy to contact or talk to, and when we did, we still weren't quite sure what we were dealing with.

Something had to be done, so two of our members decided to take on this project outside of our usual foster program. We thought that this was going to be an easy enough project: oh were we so very wrong! On the first day we received 6 kittens and 2 adults in traps. Unfortunately, we had no idea who the kittens' Mama was. The adults were friendly, so we were able to determine that one of the adults was the Mom of a at least a few of the kittens, so she was given Mom duties for all of them. Tallulah was such a champ! Over the next week we received two more kittens about the age of the others, a Mama cat with 3 one-day old kittens, and 9 more adults. That's 22 cats and kittens! Obviously, the owner had no idea some of these cats even existed.

The older kittens were not doing well and required extensive intervention to keep them alive. Despite best efforts, we lost one of them. Even one of the newborns was lost. This poor baby weighed only 3 ounces at 3 weeks old. It's so hard when you put in so much effort to keep them alive and it takes a tremendous toll on our volunteers. You know that giving up is not an option.

Dealing with the adults has been a struggle as well. Only the first pair we received, the grandma and grandpa of the entire group, were friendly. Three were too feral for us to work with, so a For Pets' Sake volunteer took them in as barn cats. We are still working with the others hoping they will become mellow enough to be adoptable.

And while this has been a terrible situation for the cats, the conditions for the owner were not any better. His health issues prevent him from working and he was living in a place with no electricity unless the generator was working. He was very depressed over the situation with his cats. Friends were telling him to just open the door and let them fend for themselves. The problem was that he lived only 20 feet from a major highway. These cats had never been outside and would have no idea how to take care of themselves. He wanted to relocate, but the cats had to be gone for him to move back into the RV. He was down to his last \$16 dollars and did not know how he was going to make it. His luck changed when he was given some money and a new generator by a friend. With all this help he was able to move to a temporary location until he can explore other options. He now has a smile on his face and is looking forward to being able to move to be closer to his grandchildren.

Things don't always work out the way we want them to. But this time we were able to make a tangible difference in both the cats' and owner's lives. That feels good. But we still have all these cats to deal with. . .



*Opal, Pearl and Diamond*



*Virginia and Veronica*



*Cecilia and her flock of kittens at 5 days old.*

# MEMBERSHIP DRIVE UPDATE

Have YOU renewed your membership to For Pets' Sake? Members make everything we do possible. As a non-profit, totally volunteer organization, every dollar you give goes to help the animals. Currently FPS has 122 renewed members.

Reminder letters will go out in early August to those who have not yet renewed. In these difficult times of rising prices, FPS needs YOU more than ever. Please send in your renewal today.

## THE HUGE YARD SALE IS COMING: PLEASE SEE THE FLYER BELOW



### Board Meeting Dates

*(Now on Mondays, instead of Thursdays)*

**Monday • August 7th • 6:30 pm**

**Monday • September 11th • 6:30 pm**

Call for information. (970) 565-7387



### Pennies for Pets Update

Thank YOU to all who stopped by the Farmers Market Community Booth on July 1st and lost their heavy metal in the Pennies For Pets Jars. FPS collected \$663 to help needy pets in our community and also shared information with many people regarding how FPS helps our local animals. Still happy to take the change, FPS can really use the paper money too. FPS thanks everyone for what they are able to give. Every penny, dime, quarter, and dollar helps pets in Montezuma County.

### For Pets' Sake Annual Membership Meeting

Please join us on Sunday, August 20, from 1:00- 3:00 for a Pot Luck and Membership Meeting in the Picnic Pavilion in Centennial Park in Cortez. We'll be electing For Pets' Sake Board Members and discussing other fun stuff. We promise to keep the business brief with plenty of time for socializing. Please bring a dish to share. Beverages provided.

Learn about everything that YOU made happen over the past year and see why YOUR membership is so important. A drawing will be held and the lucky winner will receive a set of Animal Art Works trading cards.

### Thanks to Cliffrose!

A BIG thank you goes out to Ric at Cliffrose. Throughout the year he collects Desert Dollars not needed by purchasers and twice yearly gives For Pets' Sake a check for the total amount of these desert dollars. In June Ric presented FPS with a check for \$511. Thank you, Ric, for always being a champion of For Pets' Sake and the animals we help throughout the year.

# Dog Days of Summer

What do we mean by the “Dog Days” of summer? Are we blaming our furry companions for this sizzling heat? According to [Farmers' Almanac](#), the phrase is used to refer to the period from July 3 to August 11 when the days are so hot, they are not fit for a dog. But the origin of the phrase is found, not with our dogs, but in the stars. During this time of the year Sirius, the Dog Star in the constellation Canis Major (The Greater Dog), is the brightest star in the sky after the sun. In the summer, Sirius rises and sets with the sun and the ancient Romans believed that it added to the heat of the sun. Thus, the term Dog Days of Summer came to mean the 20 days before and 20 days after this alignment of Sirius with the sun - July 3 to August 11 each year.

Show your dog that you love him/her, and that you don't blame them for the extreme heat of summer, by making some frozen pupsicles.

## Simplest frozen treats

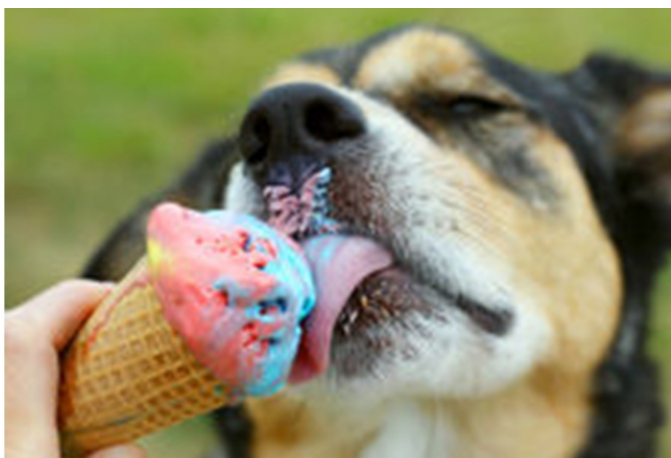
Blend a carrot, apple, kale, or banana with water or low-sodium broth.

## Peanut Butter Pupsicles (or dog “ice cream”)

Put 4 ounces of peanut butter in your liquid measuring cup (eyeballing a big glob is fine). Add 3 ounces of water and 2 ounces of plain yogurt to reach 9 ounces.

**NOTE:** Double-check your peanut butter to make sure there isn't any xylitol (an artificial sweetener often found in peanut butter). Xylitol is extremely toxic to dogs. Also, get reduced sodium or no-salt-added peanut butter as too much sodium can also not be good for dogs.

Just blend ingredients and freeze in paper cups, ice cube trays, or muffin cups. Add a dog biscuit or kibble for extra crunch. Many additional recipes can be found with an online search for “pupsicles.” Enjoy!



*Roxy and Apollo keeping an eye on the activity on their street. . . together.*

## ROXY UPDATE

Remember Roxy? I trapped her west of Cortez and then fostered her for 4 months. She was quite dog-reactive so it took me a long time to introduce her to my dogs. She lived alone probably the first month. She was adopted once but when the adopters resident dog kept hooking his head over her back, she finally reacted and she was returned to us. I thought I would never find her a permanent home and then a lovely couple in Farmington saw her on Petfinder. We've received several photos and updates about Roxy in her new home and everything is always so positive and heartwarming.

I just checked with them to see how she's doing and they sent me this picture of her with her Bearded Dragon friend Apollo. . . surveying their domain. I love it so much.

~Debbie Davis/ For Pets' Sake Dog Program Coordinator  
720-271-9040

**FOR PETS' SAKE HUMANE SOCIETY**



**Huge  
Yard  
Sale!**

**Wednesday★ Thursday ★ Friday ★ Saturday**

**September 20-23, 2023, 8:00am~3:00pm**

**Montezuma County Fairgrounds, Highway 160, Cortez**

**DONATIONS ACCEPTED at the Beef Barn**

at the Fairgrounds, Tuesday September 19,  
11:00 am to 5:00 pm. Early donation times  
and pickup of LARGE items can be arranged.

Call 970 565-7387.

**Please, NO computers, printers, or other  
techtronics, NO paint or chemicals, NO  
televisions, and NO tires!**

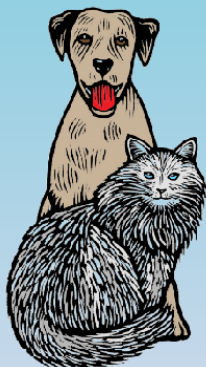
# THANK YOU TO OUR BUSINESS MEMBERS AND SUPPORTERS, AND TO ALL OF OUR MEMBERS AND VOLUNTEERS!

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Sonja Horoshko/ Artist  
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Vibrant Pet Animal  
Hospital  
Walmart  
WildEdge Brewing Collective



For  
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Serving pets and the people who care about them  
since 1984. Can **YOU** Help?

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