



# For Pets' Sake Humane Society

## The Companion

September 2022

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

### BOARD OF DIRECTORS:

- Lynn Dyer- President
- Pam Smith- V.P.
- Liz Markum -Treasurer
- Suzanne Butterfield- Secretary
- Rachel Caciagli
- Debbie Davis
- Rachel & John Ficken
- Sally Jo Leitner
- Kathy McWhite
- Randy Rober
- Marian Rohman

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### ANNUAL MEETING: FOR PETS' SAKE ELECTS BOARD MEMBERS AND GAINS NEW MEMBERS

On August 21, 2022, For Pets' Sake held its Annual Meeting in Centennial Park. Required in the By-laws, the Annual Meeting is where Board Members are elected, or re-elected, and FPS Program Managers present a brief summary of their programs for the year. Reports were given on Cat Foster, Dog Foster, the Feral Cat Project, Spay/Neuter, Medical Assistance, Pet Food Assistance, Membership, Grants, and Endowment Fund. Two current Board Members, who were up for re-election, Pam Smith and Suzanne Butterfield, and two NEW Board Members Rachel and John Ficken, were elected to the Board. Look for information on our new Board Members in future newsletters.

A potluck followed the meeting and everyone shared good food and conversation.



During the social time, two NEW members signed up as FPS members. Both came to the meeting to find out "what For Pets' Sake

was all about" and were so impressed with all we do in the community, they became members. Thanks to our new, and old, Board Members, and our new, and old, members who came to the park for the Annual Meeting. It is great to see everyone and share the successes For Pets' Sake has achieved.



*New FPS Board Members Rachel and John Ficken*



## The Story of Roxy

On July 11th, the For Pets' Sake Dog Program Coordinator was contacted by an employee at the Cortez Shelter. One of her neighbors witnessed a dog being pushed out of a red SUV several days earlier, and the dog had been running around the neighborhood ever since. This neighbor thought the dog had been eating her feral cat food and also thought the dog was aggressive because she had barked at her.

We took a trap to the neighbor's property and got it set up with some rotisserie chicken. The next morning, the dog was in the trap and once we had her loaded up, she proved to be sweet and friendly and not aggressive at all. We named her Roxy and she appears to be about a year to a year and a half old, obviously already had at least one litter, maybe a Catahoula Great Dane mix. She's a beautiful girl with unusual markings and a powerful dog just learning leash manners. She was a little thin so we got her some high-quality food right away. Once she spent a week or two eating good food, her ideal weight turns out to be about 68 pounds. We discovered she already knows some commands including sit, down, shake, stay. And she's also doing pretty well with the head harness.

She's been living in foster home Debbie and John Davis' guest house by herself for about 6 weeks, and she's behaved flawlessly. No messes, no destruction. We got her fully vetted and spayed. She's goofy and fun and exuberant—a really great dog and we're still perplexed why somebody would dump her like that and we're determined to find her the best possible forever home where she'll never be abandoned again. We shared her on Facebook and sent her out to rescue partners for weeks, and she received no interest. Finally, we asked the founder of Denkai Animal Sanctuary to share her to her contacts, and within 15 minutes, she sent us a response from a woman living just 20 minutes away with three acres, another mellow male dog, and horses. We took her out for the meet and greet and she did so well. Roxy was a little reactive to the horses at first, but the woman has training experience and is sure that she can work with that. It looks like Roxy found her love connection! Now she'll have lots of adventures on the riding trails around Mancos. Happy life, Roxy!!!

## Ava and Her Babies

On August 10th, a FPS volunteer received a call from a friend's sister. An acquaintance of hers had given away her young female dog named Ava, and then was later alarmed to see pictures of Ava incredibly emaciated. She had also been allowed to breed, and had eight one-month old puppies nursing on her incredibly thin body. Thankfully these two young women were able to get Ava and her puppies back from these people that were starving her. FPS reached out to rescue partners with photos and the story, looking for a rescue partner to take the whole family. A huge ask.

*Oh Be Dogful* Rescue's Founder and Executive Director, Leigh, immediately responded and said she would take all of them! Then the mad rush was on to get them to their rescue in Crested Butte. Volunteers Debbie Davis and Louis King split the task, and the whole little family arrived safely just a few days later.



Leigh fell in love with them right away, and got busy getting good food in them all, and making sure they were healthy. Mama Ava and Leigh formed a special bond and are spending lots of time together so Ava's getting all the socialization and good experiences that she missed out on in her past life. All the little puppies are thriving and adopters are being pre-screened. We are so grateful for our amazing rescue partners and foster homes. Without them, these animals would have no hope.

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

## Meet the Fosters

Mr. Tristan is a gorgeous, happy-go-lucky, 4-month-old tabby point Siamese boy. We were contacted by his caretaker because he had a very bad upper respiratory infection and there was a concern that he had been injured—it seemed that his back legs just didn't work quite right. Tristan was relinquished to For Pets' Sake and he was quickly taken to Mill Creek Animal Hospital in Moab to be checked out. He was put on antibiotics for his infection, but they were unable to determine at the time what might be wrong with his back legs because it was intermittent. He improved very quickly from his upper respiratory infection, but he would still stumble around at times, his back end would sway when he walked and he would sometimes lean on walls for stability. Through past experience, we were able to determine that he had a mild case of the neurological disorder called cerebellar hypoplasia, also known as CH or wobbly kitten syndrome.

Cerebellar Hypoplasia is a developmental condition where the cerebellum of the brain fails to develop properly. This is the part of the brain that controls balance, stability, and fine motor skills. This condition is not painful or contagious and there is no change in life expectancy. The most common cause is when a pregnant cat is exposed to the panleukopenia virus and passes the infection to her unborn kittens. Though there is no cure or treatment, the symptoms will not worsen and kittens easily learn to live with the disability.

Tristan has adapted very well to his condition and knows his limitations. He certainly makes up in personality what he lacks in coordination. He is just a happy, loving, and playful boy who has a cute little swagger to his step. Tristan will be heading to one of our rescue partners very soon where he will find his forever home.



## Update on Dolly:

### Post-op 4 weeks and 3 days

We took Dolly, the dog with the broken leg and pelvis, back to Mill Creek Animal Hospital in Moab to have Dr. Scott evaluate an area on her right back leg which had the surgery for the compound fracture of her tibia. There was a two-inch by two-inch swelling at the surgery site. He was pleased at how well she is using the leg and that she has gained nine pounds.

After examining the site, he wanted to get an x-ray. Hardware is still in place and holding. Many of the small pieces of bone are indeed healing and filling in the gaps. The swelling on the leg is the result of an infection at one end of the main break in the bone. This is not healing so well.

Dr. Scott advised that if we could clear up the infection, hopefully that too will heal. He added another antibiotic and said to re-check in four weeks. If the leg gets worse (i.e., the infection spreads, or she stops walking on the leg), we need to bring her back sooner. So, we will wait and see how things progress.

In the meantime, FPS could really use your help for Dolly's ongoing care. Please donate and spread the word to your friends. To donate please go to our Facebook page, or send a check to FPS, Box 1705, Cortez, CO 81321.

## Cliffrose Again Supports FPS



Cliffrose and owner Ric Plese continue to be long-term supporters of For Pet's Sake. They are collecting Desert Dollars, and have been all year, that customers don't intend to use. It may be someone traveling through, someone who does not need them, etc., and at the end of the cash-in period, Cliffrose will donate the total value of these dollars to For Pets' Sake. The cash-in period ends September 15, 2022. If you have Desert Dollars you don't intend to use, please turn them in at Cliffrose before the deadline. We'll announce the results in our next newsletter.

Long-time For Pets' Sake supporter June Bishop donated static plants from her garden for Cliffrose to sell as a benefit to FPS. They went very quickly and special thanks go to Ric and June for making this possible.

Ric continues to be creative in finding new ways to help local animals.

**For Pets' Sake sends a Big Thank You to Ric and Cliffrose. Woof, woof, and Meow.**

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

### UPCOMING BOARD MEETING DATES

Thursday • **September 15th** • 6:30 pm

Thursday • **October 20th** • 6:30 pm

Call for information and meeting location.  
(970) 565-7387

### Halloween Bake Sale, October 29, City Market, Starting at 9:00 am

Ghosts and Goblins are anxiously awaiting the return of the For Pets' Sake Halloween Bake Sale. After a two-year absence, it is sure to be spooktacular as all the fantastic bakers come up with special tricks to make some delicious treats. Hope to see you there!

### Turkey Trot: November 24, 2022

It's not too early to start gearing up for the Turkey Trot. Held Thanksgiving morning at Parque de Vida, registration begins at 9:30 am. The Trot begins at 10:00 and you will be home in time to prepare and enjoy your Thanksgiving dinner. Hope you and your best friend will join us. You'll get your special Turkey Trot T-shirt. They're becoming collector items!

### Yard Sale: September 21 - 24

MANY volunteers are needed from setup on Monday, September 19 THRU cleanup on Sunday, September 25. Call us at 970-565-7387 if you haven't seen the sign-up schedule yet, and be sure to let us know which shift/s you can help with! See below for more info about the Yard Sale itself.

### Fall VAX Clinic

Plans are in the works for a fall low-cost VAX clinic. Our organizer is looking at early November. Stay tuned to our website, Facebook page, and this newsletter for further information.

## FOR PETS' SAKE HUMANE SOCIETY



# Huge Yard Sale!

Wednesday ★ Thursday ★ Friday ★ Saturday

September 21 ~ 24, 2022, 8:00 am~3:00 pm

Montezuma County Fairgrounds, Highway 160, Cortez

**DONATIONS ACCEPTED at the Beef Barn**  
at the Fairgrounds, September 20, 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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Absolute Bakery & Café  
Amrit Yoga, Mimi Scott  
Cortez Adobe Animal Hospital  
*Dr. Nancy Wegner*  
Dolores Food Market  
Encantos Products, LLC  
Four Corners Financial LLC  
Keesee Motor Company  
*Mary Ann and Joe Keesee*  
Mancos Valley Veterinary Hospital  
*Dr. Bruce Byrd*  
Mary Hanson  
Mesa Verde Media Services  
*Jennifer Hope*  
Montezuma Veterinary Clinic  
NetForce PC, Inc.  
Rustic Style Furniture  
Slavens True Value Hardware  
TDS Broadband-Cortez  
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Terry Woodrow: 4 Corners Properties  
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Cortez Animal Bed &  
Breakfast  
Dairy Queen  
El Grande Café  
Fahrenheit Coffee  
Roasters  
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The Farm Bistro  
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*Gail Binkly*  
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The Dog Ranch  
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