

TAILS FROM THE ARK

A NEWSLETTER FOR NOAH'S WISH VOLUNTEERS

March 2010
Volume 1, Issue 16

Noah's Wish Enters 2010 LA Marathon

LA MARATHON

The Los Angeles Marathon (LA Marathon) is run through the streets of the City of Angels every year in the spring. This year the event is scheduled for March 21, 2010. For the first time Noah's Wish has been invited to participate in the race.

We have runners in both the 5K and full marathon and all of them have been hard at work garnering sponsors to support their efforts. They have done a tremendous job and thus far have collected over \$7,000 in sponsorships and the race is still several weeks away!

To assist participants with sponsorships, Noah's Wish has opened web pages for the individual runners, complete with their pictures, short biographies and how close they are to their goals. (Go to our homepage and click on the LA Marathon link to learn about the runners).



The inaugural Los Angeles Marathon was in 1986, born from repercussions after the successful 1984 Olympics held in Los Angeles. This first LA Marathon in 1986 had more than 10,000 entrants making it the largest inaugural marathon in the world. The Los Angeles Marathon course has changed a few times in the 24-year history of the race. The 2010 course is brand new and is currently nicknamed "Stadium to the Sea" it will feature a nice finish somewhere along LA's fabulous coastline.

All the different courses in the history of Los Angeles Marathon have had a tradition for encouraging entertainment along the way.

RUNNING FOR NOAH'S WISH ARE:

Marathon

David Avery
Rodney Bassett
Catherine Dudman
Jacob and Vera Helali
Dianne Montague
Zdenek Philip Hodousek

5K

Orlando & Melodie Aguillen
Dianne Drake
Marjolyn Deurloo
Eileen Finkelstein
Ellen Gray
Jasmine Guzman
Tammy Hann-Harlan
Alan & Stacey Holtz
Carrie Jones
CJ Loock
Thea Martin
Cindy Sanchez

Music, dancing and other sorts of entertainment keep spirits up, runners going and spectators staying. A total of 1,000,000 spectators usually line the course and celebrate the 26,000 runners at the finish area. The cheering may even be personal, as the runners' bibs will have their names printed on them.

The 5K run will take place on Saturday March 20, 2010 with 14 Noah's Wish participants. The 26 mile marathon on Sunday has 6 runners. Together they have raised over \$8,000 for Noah's Wish.

We have a special message to all volunteers in the Los Angeles area for March 20 and 21st, won't you join us to cheer our runners along the way! For more information, please contact us at info@noahswish.info.

Special thanks to Region 5 volunteers that have worked so hard to make this happen; Catherine Dudman and Region 5 Coordinator Thea Martin. As well as all the dedicated runners who chose to support Noah's Wish in this endeavor.



2010 Training Kicks Off in Middelburg, Florida

Submitted by JoEllen Cimmino



For the first location, training went remarkably well! There were very few glitches and the material was really well received. The session featured an outstanding training crew, and wonderful guest speakers! The feedback from attendees was also so extremely positive.

The sponsored medical topic was enlightening, and everyone was amazed at the information presented. At locations the sponsor is unable to provide an in-person speaker, they will conduct the training via a "webinar", a technological first for Noah's Wish.

People loved the two hands-on exercises, although preparation takes a lot of pre-setup, it really is fun for all!

During the Animal Species session, guest speakers brought their "pocket pets" and reptiles to display and discuss. This segment of the training was really popular, people enjoyed learning how to handle and care for some of the more exotic creatures.

This year we have a wide array of topics, lots of hands-on activities and plenty of interesting subjects - there truly is something for everyone.

Special thanks to Intervet Schering Plough for sponsoring the medical topic this year.

Remember, to check the website for our training schedule and if you haven't registered for training in your area, now is the time to do so!

Middelburg, Florida



Class of 2010 Group
Photo

Top Reasons Dogs and Cats Visit the Vet

Dogs:



1. Canine ear infections
2. Skin Infections/hot spots
3. Gastritis/vomiting
4. Enteritis/diarrhea

Cats:



1. Lower urinary tract disease
2. Gastritis/vomiting
3. Chronic renal failure
4. Hyperthyroidism
5. Diabetes

Region 5 Conducts Disaster Drill

Submitted by Thea Martin

On January 23, 2010, the first disaster drill of the year was conducted in Region 5 (Southern California).

The drill had all the aspects of a real disaster response, volunteers performed search and rescue operations; locating and bringing animals (of the stuffed variety) to the shelter, a number of challenging intake scenarios and a complete review of the sheltering operation.

Everyone enjoyed the day, was glad to have the opportunity to hone their response skills outside the "real thing" and topped the session off with a pizza party complements of Dominos Pizza.

Special thanks to Cindy Sanchez, Planet Doggy owner, who graciously hosted the event at her facility and who spent countless hours setting up the drill to make it seem real and interesting.



Participating in the first disaster drill of the year were Region 5 Volunteers: Cindy Sanchez, John Lewis, Ken Weiss, Alissa Silva, Rachel Olvera, Patty Miller, Ben Manitco, Olga Bruno, Betty Donnelson, KK Fitch, Debora Bailey, Eileen Moore, Carrie Jones, and Region 5 Assistant Coordinator Thea Martin. The drill also included convergent volunteers: Lori Tanimura, Stacy Holtz, Alan Holtz, Ronald Schroder, Sherry Schroder, Mary Ann Vega, Gillian Zali and Thelma Balcombe.

If you are interested in organizing a disaster drill in your area, Thea will be happy to provide details. She can be reached on quatromeow@hotmail.com

Pictures from the Drill



Search and Rescue



Intake



Sheltering

Thank you to all of the volunteers that made this drill such as success!!

We couldn't do it without you!

Strange – But True!

Submitted by Charlie Crosby

- Dolphins can swim and sleep at the same time.



- Animals that lay eggs don't have bellybuttons.
- Shrimp can only swim backward.
- Rats multiply so quickly that in 18 months, two rats could have over 1 million descendents.
- A rhinoceros horn is made of compacted hair.
- Lizards communicate by doing push-ups.
- Reindeer like to eat bananas.

New Slidell Shelter

Take a look at the progress that has been made on the new animal control shelter currently under construction in Slidell.



Courtyard between kennels

A lot of progress has been made since the last update in December 2009. The anticipated opening date is now set for the April timeframe.



View from Lobby to Cat Room



Cat Condo



Kennel Area

As you can see things are coming along nicely in Slidell.

Slidell Reunion

Several weeks ago an email was sent out to all Noah's Wish Volunteers regarding a reunion in Slidell to bring together volunteers to celebrate the opening of the new shelter and to reminisce about the time spent in Slidell in the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina.

What we are looking for at this time is a "show of interest". How many of you would like to get together. The event is planned for mid-October 2010, just after the 5 year anniversary of Katrina. If you are interested in participating, please contact Dianne Montague at convergent@milesend.org. To better plan, we would like to have an idea of how



many of your would like to participate.

We'll provide more information as plans are developed and things begin to take shape. Again,

please let us know if you would be interested in participating.

Join us in Slidell October 16 & 17, 2010.

Cold Weather Common Sense for Pets and Livestock

While we're all anticipating an end to the record cold with ice and snow, here are a few hints to protect pets and livestock through this unusual cold spell:

- ❖ Indoor/outdoor pets, probably do not have an adequate winter coat for protections in these very low temperatures
- ❖ needed for normal body heat maintenance during extreme cold

- ❖ Weather conditions and wind-chill add greatly to the cold-stress for animals
- ❖ Pets should be brought inside or into protected covered areas with plenty of bedding and food and drinking water
- ❖ Livestock should be provided with wind-break and roof shelter and monitored for signs of discomfort like excessive shivering, weakness or lethargy
- ❖ Livestock need to be provided with extra hay/forage/feed as up to double the calories may be needed during cold weather
- ❖ It is critical that animals have access to drinking water. Usual water sources may freeze solid in low temperature.
- ❖ Special attention should be paid to very young and old animals during periods of cold weather.



Rescue Angels

Submitted by Ranny Green

"Tail tucked between your legs,
Confusion in your eyes
I know it's hard to understand
That someone heard your cries.

When loneliness is all you know
And pain is all you feel
And no one can be trusted,
And hunger's all too real...

That's the time the Lord sees you
And lets you know He's there
That's when He sends His messengers
The hearts that love and care.

Yes, rescuers are angels
You cannot see their wings,
They keep them neatly folded
As they do their caring things.

The medicine to make you well
Good food to make you strong,
And finally to help you learn
That hugs are never wrong.

The perfect place then must be found
The home where you can live
Secure and safe and happy
With joy to get and give.

When you reach your Forever Home,
Your place to feel whole,
The Angels smile, and off they go
To save another soul."

~Unknown

*A wonderful tribute to
all you rescuers out
there
Thank you for all that
you do*

Noah's Wish 2010 Fundraising and Event Schedule

LA Marathon

Date: March 19, 20 & 21, 2010

Currently we need volunteers to helpstaff a Booth March 19th and 20th and to "cheer" our runners on for the Marathon March 21st. Contact Thea Martin (818) 424-1751 or quatromeow@hotmail.com for more information about how you can help.

Pet Expo

Date: April 16 - 18, 2010

Annual pet exhibition held in Costa Mesa, California.

10-10-4 Animals

Date: July 1 - July 31, 2010

Get "10 people to donate 10 dollars 4 the animals"! Noah's Wish annual fundraiser, the one time a year we ask volunteers to help with fundraising.

Pet Photo Contest

Date: August 1 - September 15, 2010

Submit your favorite pet photo, encourage your friends and family to vote for their favorite picture and the photo with the most vote wins a great prize.

Slidell Reunion

Date: October 16 & 17 2010

All Noah's Wish volunteers are invited to attend. A special reunion in Slidell, LA commemorating our participation in saving animals in the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina and the new Animal Control Shelter. Fun, Food and Entertainment - more details as the become available. Please email Dianne at convergent@milesend.org if you are interested in participating.

Fall Auction

Date: November 2010

Annual online auction conducted during the holiday giving season. There will be lots of unusual one-of-a-kind items available for that hard to shop for person on all of our gift lists.

Did you know?

Submitted by Thea Martin

Dog Facts

Dog Fact #1: A dog's nose has about 4 times as many scent cells as a cat's and 14 times more than a human's. That's why dogs are often used to track down illegal drugs and missing persons. They can sniff out their dinner from any room in the house!

Dog Fact #2: With patience and understanding you can teach any old dog new tricks, depending on what you are trying to teach, or un-teach the dog, which is usually more difficult. Dogs can learn at any age, and like humans, it's just old habits that are hard to break!

Dog Fact #3: Dogs see in color, but not the same way that we do. Veterinary ophthalmologists have found that dogs are similar to people with red/green color blindness, meaning they can see bluish and greenish shades but not reddish ones. To a dog, a bright orange ball on a grassy lawn appears as a light greenish ball in greenish grass. Go fetch!

Dog Fact #4: According to a recent survey, the most popular name for a dog is Max. Other popular names include Molly, Sam, Zach, and Maggie.

Dog Fact #5: An estimated 1 million dogs in the United States have been named the primary beneficiary in their owner's will.

Cat Facts

Cat Fact #1: A cat will almost never meow at another cat. Cats use this sound for humans.

Cat Fact #2: Cats, unlike dogs, do not learn tricks to win your approval. Cats can be taught to perform tasks such as retrieving toys and jumping through hoops - but it may take patience and perseverance...and quite a few yummy treats for your feline.

Cat Fact #3: A cat uses its whiskers as feelers to determine if a space is too small to squeeze through.

Cat Fact #4: A cat can be either right-pawed or left-pawed.

Cat Fact #5: A cat can jump as much as 7 times its height.

Cat Fact #6: Cats cannot sweat because they have no sweat glands.

Cat Fact #7: A cat's brain is more similar to a human's brain than that of a dog.

Cat Fact #8: A cat sees about 6 times better than a human at night.

Cat Fact #9: A cat's tongue is scratchy because it's lined with papillae - tiny backwards hooks that help to hold prey in place.

Cat Fact #10: A fifteen year old cat has probably spent ten years of its life sleeping.

Cat Fact #11: A frightened cat can run at speeds of up to 31 mph, slightly faster than a human sprinter.

Cat Fact #12: All kittens are born with blue eyes.

Cat Fact #13: Ancient Egyptians believed worshiped cats were sacred animals.

Cat Fact #14: In Asia and England, a black cat is considered lucky.

Cat Fact #15: Cat families usually play best in even numbers. Cats and kittens should be acquired in pairs whenever possible.

Cat Fact #16: Cats can see color. Studies have shown that cats can distinguish between red and green; red and blue; red and gray; green and blue; green and gray; blue and gray; yellow and blue, and yellow and gray.

Cat Fact #17: Cats have a third eyelid that is rarely visible. If it can be seen, it could be an indication of ill health.

Cat Fact #18: Cats lack a true collarbone and can generally squeeze their bodies through any space they can get their heads through.

Cat Fact #19: You should talk to your cat often. Cats love to hear the sound of their own name and your voice.

Cat Fact #20: Cats, not dogs, are the most common pets in America.

Pet Facts

Pet Fact #1: Dogs can donate blood to other dogs and cats can donate blood to other cats.

Pet Fact #2: Studies have shown that people who own pets live longer, have less stress, and have fewer heart attacks.

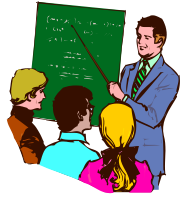
Pet Fact #3: Over 50% of all pet owners would rather be stranded on a desert island with their pet, not another person.

Author Unknown



Don't Forget

Volunteers are required to complete ICS training courses ICS 100a, 200 and 700. These classes are available online at no cost.



Once you have completed the course, don't forget to download the certificates and either email to info@noahswish.info or fax to 916-939-9479.

2010 Training Schedule

Middelburg, Florida	February 20 – 21
Auburn, California	March 6 – 7
San Diego, California	March 13 – 14
Leicester, Massachusetts	April 10 – 11
Indianapolis, Indiana	April 24 – 25
Arnold, Missouri	May 1 – 2
North Bend, Washington	May 15 – 16
Quesnel, British Columbia	June 5 – 6
Cheltenham, Maryland	June 19 – 20
Petawawa, Ontario	June 26 – 27

See page 10 for more information

A Special "Thank You" Goes to this Year's Training Sponsors

We truly appreciate the assistance the following organizations have provided to make the 2010 training season the success that it is:

- PetAG
- Intervet Schering Plough
- IAMS
- ACES
- Butler Animal Health

In addition we have received a tremendous show of support in the way of great door prizes from: Merck, Merial OXBOW, Premiere, Lupine, Jarden, Bayer and Coleman.

Tribute to Noah's Wish Volunteers

Author Unknown

Many will be shocked to find,
When the day of judgment nears,
That there's a special place in Heaven,
Set aside for volunteers.

Furnished with big recliners,
Satin couches and footstools,
Where there are no committee chairmen,
No yard sales or rest area coffee to serve,
No library duty or bulletin assembly,
There will be nothing to print or staple,
Not one thing to fold or mail,
Telephone lists will be outlawed.
But a finger snap will bring
Cool drinks and gourmet dinners
And rare treats fit for a king.

You ask, "Who'll serve these privileged
And work for all they're worth?"
Why, all those who reaped the benefits,
And not once volunteered on Earth.

April 18 through the 24th is Volunteer Appreciation Week.

Noah's Wish thanks you for all that you do
to make this organization what it is!

*Volunteers aren't paid
because they're priceless*

Balance their diet with Bene-Bac.



Regardless of what they like, make sure they're getting what they need. Incorporating Bene-Bac into the diet of your reptiles can make a significant difference in their overall health, especially during changing environmental conditions. Just a single gram is a concentrated source of 20 million live naturally occurring bacteria. Ask for Bene-Bac by name at your local pet store today.



© 2010 PetAg, Inc.
255 Keyes Ave.
Hampshire, IL 60140
1-800-323-0877
www.petag.com

Noah's Wish Disaster Response Training

BECOME PART OF A SKILLED AND PROFESSIONAL ANIMAL DISASTER RESPONSE TEAM



Exciting information on:

- Animal Sheltering
- Search & Rescue Techniques
- Infectious Animal Shelter Diseases
- Pocket Pets & Reptiles
- Safety in the Disaster Environment
- Disaster Information on Hurricanes or Earthquakes
- Volunteer Information
- Animal Intake Process
- Disaster Psychology
- Separate Track for Returning Volunteers on Generators, Vehicle Safety & Blood Borne Pathogens
- And a whole lot more!

Come—Campout with the class for a whole weekend and see how this realistic training simulates what disaster response is all about!

For more information about Noah's Wish or this exciting training visit www.noahswish.info or call: 916-939-9474

New Volunteers = \$125

Returning Volunteer, Student or Senior (62+) = \$85

- February 20 & 21—Middleburg, FL
- March 6 & 7—Auburn, CA
- March 13 & 14—San Diego, CA
- April 10 & 11—Leicester, MA
- April 24 & 25—Indianapolis, IN
- May 1 & 2—Arnold, MO
- May 15 & 16—North Bend, WA
- June 5 & 6—Quesnel, British Columbia
- June 19 & 20—Cheltenham, MD
- June 26 & 27—Petawawa, Ontario

Pre-registration is required and space is limited! Visit www.noahswish.info to sign up before it's too late!