



CARE is a Non-Profit Organization  
Specializing in the Rescue and Placement  
of Homeless Dogs and Cats

## Winter Newsletter 2000

### HOLIDAY HAZARDS



Holiday season adornments are attractive to all creatures. The ornaments, foods, gifts, wrappings, ribbons, lights, and plants are all curiosities for pets. Pets will investigate new items by sniffing, tossing, chasing, and finally by having a taste. A few precautions will help you avoid the holiday crowds at the animal hospital.

The number one problem seen by veterinarians this time of year is stomach or intestinal disturbances caused by pets eating the holiday feast or other novelties. Scraps from the table can cause gastrointestinal upset and even predispose pets to life-threatening pancreatitis. Bones can get stuck in the mouth or perforate the intestinal tract and should be avoided. Chocolate is poisonous to cats, dogs, and birds. Plastic wrap and aluminum foil coated with good-tasting juices are enticing but can cause intestinal obstruction and damage if eaten by the pet.

Be sure leftovers and wrappers are properly disposed of. Keep pets on their usual diet. Treats formulated similarly to the pet's regular diet are healthy and safe. Also keep in mind while cooking that pets may not know about hot stoves or to stay out from underfoot. Keep pets away so they don't get burned or get hot foods spilled on them.

Several decorative plants are poisonous. Mistletoe and Holly can cause stomach upset with vomiting and diarrhea. The berries of these plants are attractive, easily swallowed, and potentially fatal if consumed. Poinsettias, like the leaves of most any plant, can also cause stomach upset. Use artificial mistletoe and holly; keep other plants out of your pet's reach.

Be sure Christmas trees are secured so that pets cannot pull them over. Omit preservatives from the tree-stand water and cover it so pets don't drink it. Don't spray snow on the tree unless it is labeled for pet consumption. Angel hair is spun glass and is irritating to both the inside and outside of your pet. Even glass ornaments and ornament hooks have been chewed and swallowed. These objects can cause problems from stomach upset to damaged intestines. Low-hanging ornaments are a real temptation, as are tinsel and electric lights. Decorative lights and electrical wiring can cause shock or burns when chewed on,

so remember to unplug holiday lights when pets are unattended.

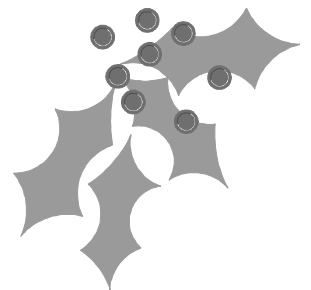
Holidays have lots of activity going on. Be sure doors are not left open as guests come and go. Indoor pets inadvertently left outside could be injured by frostbite, cars, or other animals. Also, watch that guests don't leave interesting objects, such as chocolate, ribbons, stocking stuffers, or other illicit treats, within your pet's reach. Sometimes it's best to put your pet in a separate area, both to relieve the pet of the stress of new people and to prevent accidents.

Don't leave wrapped gifts under the tree with an unsupervised pet; the wrapping, ribbon and enclosed gift are probably not compatible with your pet's digestive system. Ask Santa to put gifts out of your pet's reach so your pet won't beat you to them on Christmas morning.

When choosing a gift for your pet, consider the pet as an individual. Cats enjoy lightweight toys they can bat around, catnip toys, scratching posts and kitty perches. Dogs like balls, chew toys, and things they can carry around. However, beware of toys with parts, such as bells, buttons, string, yarn, or squeaky parts, that can be detached and swallowed. Watch how your pet handles a new toy until you are sure it is safe. Some dogs treat a stuffed toy like a friend and carry it around and sleep with it. Others will tear them up and eat the stuffing and get into trouble. Also, if there is more than one pet in the household, consider all the pets before buying for any one of them. A one-inch diameter toy for a cat is fine, but a puppy in the household may swallow it and possibly require surgery to remove it.

If your pet does get sick, consult your veterinarian before giving any medications. Many of the over-the-counter drugs, such as Tylenol, are toxic for animals even though they are safe for us. Don't wait to see if your pet gets better. If your pet is acting sick, consult your veterinarian.

\*Excerpts from University of Illinois  
College of Veterinary Medicine



*If there is any kindness I can show, or any good thing I can do to any fellow being, let me do it now, and not deter or neglect it, as I shall not pass this way again. -*

*William Penn*

**A STORY FROM A DOG'S  
POINT OF VIEW**

Hello. My name is Dobie. I'm a beautiful, purebred Doberman puppy that was relinquished to the Humane Society when I was only 3 months old. At the time, I enjoyed the company of other dogs, but I was very frightened of humans because my previous "owners" did not take the time to socialize me.

Leeann, my C.A.R.E. foster mom, took me home to begin my socialization process that would ultimately make me adoptable to a loving home. With the support, guidance and encouragement of my foster mother and dog behaviorist Lou from *Baymont Dog Training*, I'm now 8 months old and doing much better.

Leeann feels I'd be a great addition and friend to a home that already has a (preferably female) dog in residence for me to play and bond with.

*Thanks, Dobie Gillis*

(If you're interested in sharing your heart and home with Dobie, please call C.A.R.E. for more details.)



**VISIT OUR  
WEBSITE!**

**www.carepets.org**

If you don't have internet access, you can always reach us the old fashioned way by leaving a message on either our  
Dogline at 408-227-CARE (2273) or  
Catline at 408-929-CATS (2287)

**About this publication:**

CARE's newsletter is published three times yearly and is distributed to CARE members, advertisers, sponsors and animal adopters in good standing.

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**END OF THE YEAR  
THANKS TO:**

**\*\*Monique Micheluzzi** for generously donating her time and skills to type information for our website.

**\*\*Maggi Scurra and Pandy Arrieta of KNTV-11.** Thank you for the opportunity of CARE appearing on KNTV's Datebook Segment September 24<sup>th</sup> to talk about our Family Dog Walk! The airing of your broadcast increased the South Bay's awareness of our rescue work and helped spread the word of our group so that more animals will ultimately find loving, permanent homes. Your support of C.A.R.E. is deeply appreciated and our organization looks forward to collaborating with you and KNTV-11 again in the future.

**\*\*All business and individuals who have been so generous with their kind donations and support.**

**\*\*Our indispensable veterinarians.**

**\*\*Our tireless volunteers and foster homes who put in countless hours to make C.A.R.E. a success. We could not do it without you!**

**\*\*Individuals and families who have opened their hearts and homes to a C.A.R.E. animal. Thank you for helping us save so many lives!**

**\*\*To all the animals in the world (both domestic and wild) who have touched are lives in so many ways and who bring us countless hours of joy and wonder. May the world be a kinder place for you to live in the coming year.**



***Meow it Loud,  
Bark it Proud!***

**Year- to- Date Adoption Statistics:**

**Cats: 228**

**Dogs: 446**

**Total Lives Saved: 674**

***CARE's Photo  
Contest!***



Send a picture of your four-legged pal doing something cute, funny or silly and win

fabulous prizes (including a Palm Pilot) and gift certificates! Both you and your pet will be featured in an upcoming C.A.R.E. newsletter! To enter our contest, please mail your photo along with a \$5.00 tax deductible entry fee to CARE. Good Luck!

**The  
Giving  
Tree**



In celebration of the Holiday Season, C.A.R.E. has placed a "Giving Tree" on display at our Adoption Center. This innovative tree allows our supporters to either stop by or mail in their holiday donations to CARE.

Decorated with colorful ornaments, The Giving Tree is creatively painted onto our Center's front window. Each ornament has a value of \$10.00, \$25.00, \$50.00 or \$100.00 and can be purchased to hang on our tree. Because all proceeds from the Giving Tree support our efforts, 100% of your tax-deductible donation will directly benefit the animals in CARE.

We invite our supporters to either mail, or better yet, visit our Adoption Center to place an ornament on our Tree and visit the animals available for adoption. We'd love to see you!

*A Rescue Worker's Pledge:*

*Give me the helpless, the lost, the homeless and innocent ones just struggling to live in an uncaring world. Send these weak, abandoned lives to me—I offer them warmth, care, hope and love.*

# C.A.R.E.'s Family Dog Walk 2000: A Howling Success!

On October 8, C.A.R.E. held its Canine Family Dog Walk at the newly remodeled Par & Park Course in Campbell. The walk was a great way to raise much-needed funds for C.A.R.E., socialize with friends and fellow animal lovers and enjoy exercise, fresh morning air and delicious breakfast treats. This year's walk attracted over 80 participants and their canine friends and **raised over \$3,500** to support CARE's life-saving work.

It was a beautiful site participants, wearing this year's colorful C.A.R.E. dogwalk T-shirts, stood with their companion animals under a rainbow of balloons waiting for the walk to begin! Afterwards, guests were treated to scrumptious coffecake from **Hobee's** (Pruneyard, Campbell), delicious bagels from **Noah's Bagels** (Hamilton & Bascom Aves., Campbell), fresh fruit from **Whole Foods Grocery Store** (Hamilton Ave., Campbell) and juice from **Long's Drug Store** (Hamilton Ave, Campbell).

C.A.R.E. is grateful to our sponsors, participants and volunteers for partaking in our special fund-raiser and helping make the day a success. We hope to see you again next year!

### C.A.R.E.'s Canine Family Dog Walk 2000 Sponsors:

- |  |                             |                                     |
|--|-----------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| <b>** City of Campbell Recreation &amp; Community Services Dept.</b> | <b>** Farmer Family</b>     | <b>** Stacy's Wag 'N'</b>           |
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| <b>** "Nissan", "Trumpet", &amp; "Goldie"</b>                        |                             |                                     |


Door Prizes for this year's walk were generously provided by:

Crocodile Cafe - Tower Records - Santa Teresa Round Table Pizza - Noah's Ark Grooming - Oakland A's - Winchester Mystery House - Disneyland - Hearst Castle - The Exploratorium - Armadillo Willy's - Southwest Airlines - Classic Car Wash - Hotel De Anza - Pet Spa - Discovery Museum - Gaslighter Theater - Bella Mia - Madeline Grooming - Great America - An Jan Pet & Feed Supply - Summitpointe Golf Club - Sam's Pet & Feed Supply - The Mystery Spot - Outback Steakhouse - Golfland - Fresh Choice - Santa Clara County Water District - Schering-Plough Animal Health - Pacific Gas & Electric Company - Pruneridge Golf Course



## WANT TO STAY ON THE CARE MAILING LIST?

We are currently updating our CARE Newsletter Mailing List. If you are interested in still receiving future issues of this newsletter, please check the appropriate box and fill in your name and address in the coupon below. Thank you!!!

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> <b>YES! I would like to remain on the CARE Newsletter Mailing List!</b>                                    | <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; transform: rotate(-10deg); display: inline-block;"> <b>Won't you help us this Holiday Season?</b> </div>  |
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| <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Please apply my donation to your General Fund in support of CARE's cat &amp; dog adoption programs.</b> |   |
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**Please check whichever box(es) apply and include this coupon with your tax-deductible donation.**

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# HEALTH CORNER

## CATS AND DECLAWING

### NAIL TRIMMING

Dog and cats claws grow continuously. Unfortunately, when sharp claw tips become too long, your pet can injure himself by snagging his sharp claws on a carpet, screen door, or other objects. Keeping your pet's claws blunt reduces this risk of damage; therefore, veterinarians recommend nail trimming every few weeks. Handling a puppy's or kitten's paws from a young age will help them get used to future nail trimmings.

Trim your pet's claws by using a pet nail clipper. If this is your first time or if you are apprehensive, enlist the help of either your vet or a qualified groomer until you feel comfortable with the process. If you choose to trim on your own, be careful not to cut "to the quick" (the pink part of the nail containing blood supply and nerve endings). If you do, you will hurt your pet and they will probably not want you to touch their claws in the future. If you happen to accidentally cut to the nerve and blood supply, you can stop the bleeding by gently patting either flour or a powder called *QuickStop* onto the nail. Black nails will be more difficult to distinguish where the quick ends. Therefore as a rule, think of *blunting* the tip of the nail—not shortening the claw. Both dogs and cats have dewclaws located on the inside portion of either their front and/or hind paws. It is important to trim dewclaws since these nails when too long, can become ingrown and cause severe pain.

Special nail clippers and *QuickStop* can be purchased at your pet store. Most pets can learn to have their claws trimmed regularly without too much fuss. Remember to give your pet a special treat for being so good!



### Feline Birthdays

A kitten's first year of life equals approximately 16 human years. At the end of its second year of life, a cat is about 21 years old in human years. For each additional year, your cat ages about 4 human years.

<u>Cat Years</u>	<u>Human Years</u>
1	16
2	21
3	25
8	46
9	54
15	74
20	94



Like their wild ancestors, domestic cats use their claws for a variety of reasons. In some cases, scratching is a territorial behavior with cats marking objects in their territory. A cat's claws are also their first line of defense against attacks from other animals. By just extending their claws, they send a subtle warning message to "back off" before more force is needed.

Mostly, cats scratch just because it feels good and using their claws is part of their normal exercise pattern. Kneading, stretching and scratching helps to both strengthen and relax the muscles of the feet, forelegs, backbone and shoulders.

Because of these reasons, C.A.R.E. believes declawing a cat is not a humane alternative. The standard declawing procedure removes not only the claw, but also part or all of the terminal bone as well as the cells at the base of the claw. Consider it an amputation of part of the cat's body or, think of it as removing the last part of your finger all the way up to the joint closest to your fingernail!

Although this procedure is performed under anesthesia, post-surgically, most cats act as if they are in great discomfort because of throbbing due to their paws being tightly bandaged to prevent infection. Once these bandages are removed, the paws are sore and sensitive to walk on. When their claws have been removed, cats may have difficulty performing their natural stretching and kneading rituals. As a result, many declawed cats become weaker as they age and may experience debilitating arthritis in their backs and shoulders.

Declawing is not only a painful procedure; it removes a necessary body part for movement and defense. This can lead to long-lasting personality and behavioral effects such as nervousness and irritability. Most importantly, cats without claws have lost their first line of defense and can become biters because they can no longer use their claws as a warning. Less able to protect themselves, they cannot fight off other animals or escape quickly from a dangerous situation; therefore, ***a declawed cat must always remain indoors.***

Finally, declawed cats may stop using their litterboxes. Some apparently associate the pain they feel in their paws after surgery with trying to cover their waste with litter. Therefore, they may seek a less painful place to eliminate, such as the carpet or inside a bathtub. For more information about declawing, its alternatives and other behavioral issues, call the Behavioral Helpline at the Humane Society of Santa Clara Valley (408-727-3383 x753).



## Where Are They Now?

Many of our foster homes regularly receive updates from new adopters. Because it's natural for foster parents to become attached to their foster animals, it's comforting, reassuring and heartwarming for them to receive letters about their animal's progress in its new home.

Here are just a few updates...

### Quincy

C.A.R.E. foster parents, Bobbie and Hank Hansen were visiting with Humane Society Special Needs Coordinator, Jeri Seiden when they noticed a small kitten in a cage in her office. When Bobbie inquired about this little one, she was told he was "in quarantine because he's a biter." How, Bobbie wondered could such an adorable, orange, white and yellow 8-week-old tabby kitten be labeled "a biter"? After digging a little deeper, it was discovered this little 8-week-old became frightened and bit his previous owner when she abruptly introduced him to her dog. After listening to this story, Bobbie and Hank agreed to take the kitten home as a C.A.R.E. foster and named him "Quincy".



After receiving Hank & Bobbie's TLC, Quincy's personality emerged, proving to be irresistible to his new adopter, Ann Ranish. As Hank & Bobbie said, "We loved him SO much! We really miss the little guy, but he got a really special home and a family that really understands his personality...they're even keeping his name!"

Here's what Ann had to say about life with Quincy:

*Dear Hank & Bobbie,*

*Quincy is doing very well and is enjoying exploring his new home. He spent much of Sunday afternoon (the day of his adoption) peeking out at us from behind the piano or from under the bed. However by mid-week, he was sauntering around the house and seems quite at ease with us.*

*He's very affectionate and demands frequent hugs and cuddles. But then he's soon off again. He spent quite a while this afternoon batting a stray grape around the kitchen and dining room floor. Another soccer player!*

*Thanks for rescuing him and taking such good and loving care of him. He's a great addition to our family!*

*Sincerely,  
Ann Ranish*

## Where Are They Now?

### MAX

Max the dog lived an unstable and erratic life before arriving at the home of Michelle and Matt MacKenzie. Unfortunately, Max's story also demonstrates how disposable pets are in our society.

Max was initially dropped off by his first owners at the Shelter, rescued by one of their friends and was relinquished to the Shelter once again before arriving in the C.A.R.E. foster home of Marc & Michelle Collopy. Eventually, Max found what was thought to be a permanent home, but accidentally escaped and was missing for a week. Thankfully, Max was eventually found at the Shelter (once again) where his new adopters promptly gave him up.

Without question, Michelle took Max back into her home as a foster until he was again (and finally) adopted by Michelle and Matt MacKenzie, his last and most devoted home. In fact, in celebration, Max and his new family were participants in this year's Dog Walk!

Max's foster mom, Michelle Collopy, describes Max as "a lucky big boy". But luck was just a part of it. Had it not been for Michelle being there when Max needed her most, he would have certainly fallen through the cracks. Thank you Michelle for hanging in there with Max until his ideal, loving home was eventually found.

Here's the latest on Max's new life...

Dear Michelle,

As to our new life with Max (otherwise known as our "Big Angel"), it's been quite an adventure! Max is a big, bumbling love who has added so much zest and joy to our lives! He's our first dog, so it took some adjusting for us (especially Gryff, the cat)! But after establishing boundaries and finding outlets for everyone (quiet time for Gryff and long stints at the dog park or beach for Max), all involved have settled in quite well.

Max spends his days either at our side or in Doggie Day Care with his 10 best friends. His nights are spent curled up in the middle of our bed (King-size because Queen could not accommodate me, my husband, the cat and a ninety-pound angel).

We can't imagine life without Max. His oversized paws match his oversized heart, his beautiful brown eyes and his constant gratitude and excitement at being part of a family. Thanks so much for everything, especially bringing Max into our lives!

Sincerely,  
Michelle MacKenzie



## ***Top 10 Signs Your Dog Didn't Like the Gift You Bought Him for the Holidays:***

10. *Carefully leaves it next to the pooper-scooper in the back yard.*
9. *Prefer the box to the gift.*
8. *Slinks away with embarrassment at first mention of "walks in the dog park in that nice new red-and-green sweater."*
7. *Secretly calls his vet and makes an appointment to have you fixed.*
6. *You keep finding your spouse playing with the gift you gave your dog.*
5. *You see Fluffy the cat wearing a collar five sizes too big.*
4. *You catch him placing "dog for adoption" ads in local newspapers.*
3. *Lifts leg on Christmas tree after seeing what the neighbors gave their dog.*
2. *"Accidentally" hurls your gift in the fireplace while playing fetch.*
1. *Asks you for the receipt.*

### **HOLIDAY ETIQUETTE FOR DOGS**

1. Be especially patient with your humans during this time. They may appear to be more stressed-out than usual and they will appreciate long, comforting dog leans.
2. Humans may come home with large bags of things they call "gifts". Do not assume that all gifts are yours.
3. Be tolerant if your humans put decorations on you. They seem to get some special kind of pleasure out of seeing how silly you look with fake antlers.
4. Your human may bring a large tree into the house, set it up in a prominent place and cover it with lights and decorations. Bizarre as this may seem to you, it's an important ritual for you humans, so there are some things you need to know:
  - a) Don't pee on the tree
  - b) Don't drink water in the container that holds the tree
  - c) Mind your tail when you are near the tree
  - d) If there are packages under the tree, even ones that smell interesting or that have your name on them, don't rip them open
  - e) Don't chew on the cord that runs from the funny-looking hole in the wall to the tree
5. Your humans may occasionally invite lots of strangers to visit during this season. These parties can be lots of fun but they also call for some discretion on your part:
  - a) Not all strangers appreciate kisses and leans
  - b) Don't eat off the buffet table
  - c) Be pleasant, even if unknowing strangers sit on your sofa (continued next page - bottom)



## **Start the New Year off on the Right Paw by Choosing a Great Vet!**

*When choosing a veterinarian, be brave—your animal is depending on it!*

1. Ask to see a copy of the vet's license. This should be posted in a public area of the clinic.
2. Ask for a brief tour of the clinic; if you are refused, consider taking your animal elsewhere. The clinic should appear clean and orderly with animals housed comfortably in clean cages or kennels.
3. Observe your animal. Is your companion shy around the vet? Does s/he cower when the vet enters the room?
4. Observe the veterinarian. Is he or she nervous or irritable? Does the vet take your companion into the back room for even simple procedures? Are the technicians rough when handling your animal?
5. ALWAYS exercise your right to be with your animal at all times! If the vet or vet tech wants to take your companion to another room, request that you accompany them.
6. If your animal must stay overnight (and always question this), make sure someone will be there to monitor your animal.
7. Ask questions! A good vet should explain what they are doing and why.
8. For anything major, seek a second or third opinion. You are entitled to copies of your pet's medical records and x-rays.

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### **HOLIDAY ETIQUETTE FOR DOGS (continued)**

- d) Don't drink out of glasses that are left within your reach
6. Likewise, your humans may take you visiting. Here's where your manners will also be important:
  - a) Observe all the rules in #4 for trees that may be in other people's homes (4a is particularly important)
  - b) Respect the territory of other animals that may live in the home
  - c) Tolerate children and turn on your charm... big time
7. Finally, a big man with a white beard and a very loud laugh may emerge from your fireplace in the middle of the night. PLEASE DON'T BITE HIM!

## Learning From...a Dog

If a dog were your teacher, you would learn things like...

- When loved ones come home, always run to greet them.
- Never pass up the opportunity to go for a joyride.
- Allow the experience of fresh air and the wind in your face to be pure ecstasy.
- When it's in your best interest, practice obedience.
- Let others know when they've invaded your territory.
- Take naps and stretch before rising.
- Run, romp, and play daily.
- Avoid biting when a simple growl will do.
- On warm days, stop to lie on your back on the grass.
- On hot days, drink lots of water and lay under a shady tree.
- When you're happy, dance around and wag your entire body.
- No matter how often you're scolded, don't buy into the guilt thing and pout...run right back and make friends.
- Delight in the simple joy of a long walk.
- Eat with gusto and enthusiasm. Stop when you've had enough.
- Be loyal.
- Never pretend to be something you're not.
- If what you want lies buried, dig until you find it.
- MOST of all... When someone is having a bad day, be silent, and sit close by and nuzzle them gently

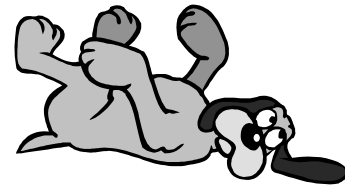
## Holiday "Santa Paws"

### Photos!!!

Just in time for the holidays!!

Pictures make great gifts!

*Join us on Sunday,  
December 10th at Petsmart on  
Hamilton Ave (near Latimer)  
from 11:00am-5:00pm!  
Prices vary. Call 408-227-CARE  
for more details!*





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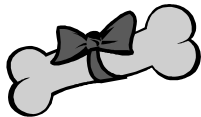


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