



PAWprints

A publication of MaxFund, a No-Kill shelter

Volume XXIV Number VI

Common Myths about Dogs

Source: <http://www.petlifeweb.com/>

When it comes to dogs and cats, myths abound, from misinformation about health care and disposition to demeanor and intelligence. The problem with myths, experts say, is that pet owners who act based on incorrect information can inadvertently endanger a pet. In addition, pet owners may become confused over what's truth and what's not.

It's hard to say which animal is associated with more myths - dogs or cats. Some myths have been repeated so often that they've turned into cliches or catch phrases. For example, the most common untrue dog saying, "You can't teach an old dog new tricks," probably stemmed from someone who couldn't get his adult dog to roll over and play dead.

With patience and understanding you can certainly teach old dogs new tricks, depending on what you're trying to teach the dog - or unteach the dog, which is usually more difficult. Dogs at any age can be taught to sit, bark when the doorbell rings and fetch a stick.

Does a wagging tail always signify a happy dog? In most cases, the answer is yes. "Tail wagging is similar to a human smile in that it is a social sign meant to communicate an emotional state to someone else," wrote Stanley Coren in his book, *What Do Dogs Know?* (1997, The Free Press, New York, NY).

Psychologists have learned that dogs reserve their tail wags for living things. A dog will wag its tail for a person, or another dog and may do so for a cat, horse, mouse or even a moth. If the dog is alone, however, it simply doesn't wag its tail. Thus, when you give a dog a bowl of food, it will wag its tail to say, - "Thank you. You've made me happy."

Pet owners need to be aware - dogs do wiggle their tails when they are agitated, tense, anxious, annoyed or ready to fight.

The expression "dog breath" means the opposite of minty fresh, but most pet owners think their dogs' bothersome mouth odors are just the nature of the beast. In truth, bad breath can be a sign of tarter buildup and bacteria. To reduce odor, brush your dog's teeth, and take him to the vet for routine dental cleanings.

Many people believe dogs that crouch or lower their heads when approached have been abused, but some dogs are so submissive that they naturally behave this way. Peterson cautioned, "Without being there and knowing what happened, it's hard to predict what preceded that certain behavior."

Although dogs love table scraps, pet owners need to be aware not all bones are good for dogs. Many bones can splinter when chewed and cause dogs to choke. Offer a nylon bone or rawhide instead.

People who think dogs only see in black and white have been misinformed. "Dogs see in color, but not the way we do," wrote Dr. Christine Wilford, D.V.M., at www.Kerryblues.org. "Veterinary ophthalmologists have determined that dogs are like people with red/green color blindness: They only have receptors for bluish and greenish shades, not for reddish ones. So, when a person with normal vision sees an orange ball on a grassy lawn, a dog sees only a greenish ball in greenish grass."

A dog doesn't necessarily have worms if it scoots its rear end. In fact, it could just be a behavior that alleviates discomfort from infected, full, impacted or ruptured anal sacs. Your vet or groomer can pop the sacs, which will provide relief for your dog.



FROM THE WORLD OF GUS

I live on a 44 acre farm in upstate South Carolina. Dad works in a great big garden, but the garden, our house and outbuildings don't make much of a dent in the 44 acres. The rest of it is fields, woods, and ponds, upon which nobody is allowed to hunt, fish, or trespass. In other words, I live in a game preserve.

At night Gypsy and I try to harmonize with the coyotes up on the hill, when we are out in our back yard. When we go on our daily walk with Dad around the farm, it is always the most exciting part of the day. Because Gypsy runs away, she is on a long lead tied to Dad's waist, but I get to run free. I gallop down the trail and thunder back, making frequent crashing side trips through the woods. Dad calls me a blundering, bombastic bumbler. *Is that a compliment?* Even though we find plenty of territory marking spots, fresh droppings, even places in the grass where deer have recently been lying down, I rarely even get a glimpse of a wild animal.

This morning was an exception. As I was running down the path toward the big pond I stepped on something that wiggled under my foot. Yes there was wildlife right in the middle of the trail; it was a big snake. Dad said it was a five foot blacksnake. It apparently was taking a nap when I kind of ran over it. I had never met a snake before. It drew back its head and held it there in a sort of half cocked position as if to say, "What are you guys waking me up for? Don't you have any manners?"

I was about to answer when Gypsy whispered to me that the question was meant to be rhetorical. I don't know what that means, so I prodded the blacksnake with my nose. It wouldn't run. Maybe it couldn't run because it didn't have any legs. Anyway it didn't run and just wasn't much fun. So I was off down the trail, making enough noise to scare earthworms.

As I was charging back I could see Gypsy nosing the snake off the trail, and I thought I heard her apologizing to the snake for my behavior. Apologize indeed! I don't know if all snakes are like this one, but I found him to be cranky, no fun at all, and he smelled funny. And I still don't understand why we almost never see wildlife.

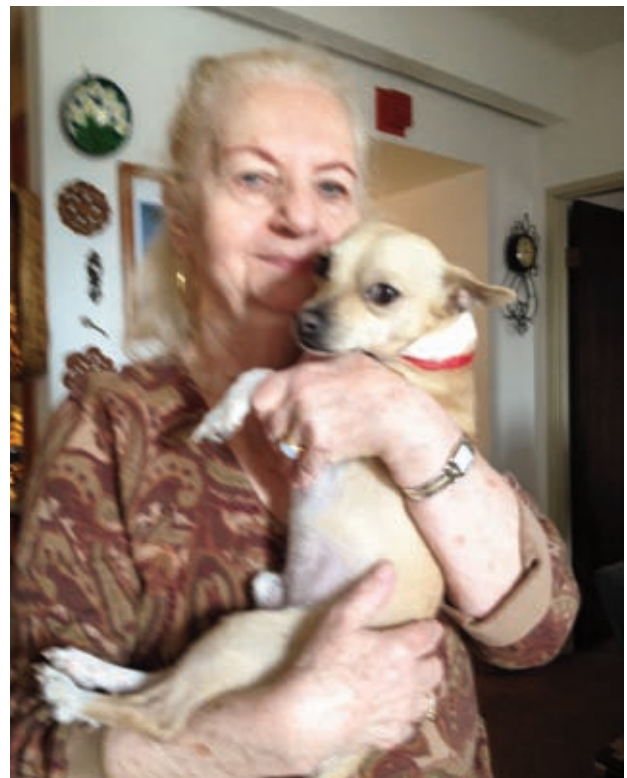
Volunteers of the Month...

LAURA MCGAUGHEY

Laura is a wonderful volunteer who has helped out in many ways. She mainly walks dogs but has offered her love to the cats as well. Laura especially likes to help the dogs who are having a hard time and need special attention, such as Petchouli. In fact, because of her love of working with animals, Laura started a pet sitting business and features some of the MaxFund dogs—such as Petchouli—on her website. She even has a link to donate to MaxFund from her site! She has also fostered two special needs dogs from MaxFund.

Laura has also become involved in the CHAMPS program to assist the dogs even more. She is becoming a certified professional dog trainer and veterinary assistant, and she brings her training experience to the dogs at MaxFund. She has even offered free training for some of the dogs at MaxFund. Laura also can be found at mobile adoptions to help get dogs exposure and hopefully adopted.

Thank you Laura for all that you do! We and the dogs are lucky to have you!



Josefa Edwards and Monte (previously Poe)



A CAT'S UNIVERSE

by Snoopy & Gizmo

Happy Spring! Happy Spring!

I think it is really going to happen this year. Mom and Dad are packing the motorhome and buying new stuff for in it. Mom says you have to have fresh spices for cooking. Was not sure what spices were but she said it is like fresh catnip as opposed to last year's batch. I can relate to that, fresh is always better.

I got to go out and get in the motorhome. Mom says I need to get reacquainted with all my special places so I won't be afraid when we leave. Until I settle in I want to be held or I meow a lot. Once settled, I really enjoy traveling. It is fun to look out the window and watch people look twice at a cat riding in an RV. See... it is not just for dogs. Cats can be well traveled too. Mom even read me a couple of short stories about cats that travel in RVs. I even got a second pillow for behind the couch so I can lay there and look out the window and watch the birds once we get all set up (to me that means no more running in and out by Mom and Dad and they have put my couch slide out in place. This gives me a much better view as it sticks out past the rest of the RV). One pillow was not long enough to go all the way and I kept falling off behind the couch when I would fall asleep or stretch wrong. Now with 2 pillows it is a snug fit with no gaps. It is great!!

It will be nice to be an only cat again. I get all the love and attention and with the motorhome being the size it is they cannot escape me. They sit down and I am there whether they want me in their lap or lying on a leg, or not.

Well, guess that's all the excitement for now. Hopefully I can begin writing about my (our) adventures.

Your Cat Reporter, Snoopy

Visit us on the web at:
www.maxfund.org

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Distribution
3,953 Unaudited Circulation



Published monthly by MaxFund Animal Adoption Center, a true no-kill shelter to provide medical care for injured dogs and cats with no known owners, and to find new homes for these animals once they are recovered.

The MaxFund is committed to the following goals:

- Develop and implement educational programs pertaining to animal care, with emphasis on the importance of spay/neutering.
- Disseminate information on spay/neuter facilities and conduct

spay/neuter clinics for low-income families.

-Be a spokesperson for the animals on issues of animal welfare.

-Cooperate with other animal facilities/shelters in the accomplishment of the above goals.

Contributions for this newsletter are welcome. Please check the back page of newsletter for each month's deadline. We especially enjoy letters and photos from animals adopted from our shelter.

MaxFund Animal Adoption Center

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ARLEY

Arley is an active, easy-going and fun-loving kinda dog. He's a large and very fluffy German Shepherd mix.



JITTERBUG

Jitterbug is a 68 lb. German Shepherd mix. He is calm and gentle. Wonderful dog!



BUZZ

Buzz is a 3 year old grey Dachshund. He is a special boy. Silky smooth coat.



SAMANTHA

Samantha is a 12 year old poodle. She is quite the active senior dog. Likes other dogs and doesn't mind cats.



MAXIMUS

Maximus is a super cool cat with a precious face to match. He has a great personality!



SPOOKERS

Spookers is a super-cool guy. He's handsome and has healthy, soft fur. Enjoys attention.



ASPEN

Aspen enjoys being petted. She loves to just hang out. Declawed. Would do best in a quiet home. Loves laps!



ARMIDA

Armida is a quiet and sweet kitty. She enjoys being petted and getting attention.



SHELBY

Shelby is a dark tabby and is pretty unique. Very sweet and affectionate. Loves laps!

FOSTER OF THE MONTH

SUSAN MCLOON HODSON

This month's foster of the month is Susan McLoon Hodson, who has been fostering kittens for MaxFund for at least eight years! Imagine the chaos (and fun) of having baby kittens and mommas come in and out of your house every year. Susan is a wonderful soul who takes in these babies until they are ready to be adopted. In her eight years of fostering, she has fostered well over 50 kittens for the MaxFund!

Of course, all of the kittens she fosters are precious to her. But what really stands out for her is the first litter of kittens she fostered. She remembers seeing the momma and her five kittens in a cage at Maxfund, which served as her calling to foster. She knew she had room in her house and her heart to help. She actually kept two of the kittens and helped get two adopted to friends. Sadly, she has had some kittens pass away, which is to be expected. Although it is always hard for her, she realizes that nature doesn't anticipate that all of the young will survive and when mommas don't keep track of their babies or even abandon them, the kittens often don't survive despite Susan's best efforts. Thankfully, most survive and because Susan socializes them and gets them adoptable and friendly, to her knowledge all have been adopted.



For Susan, fostering is a great way to help out and is so rewarding. Kittens and their mommas are incredibly fun to watch and, no matter how tough of a day she has had at the office, they make her smile. It is amazing at how ingrained the care of their young is in most mommas. Many are still



kittens themselves having gotten pregnant during their first heat. She enjoys socializing the kittens—handling them and playing with them as much as possible, which almost always results in kittens that will grow into great pets! Her whole family participates, and they all make the commitment before they take in a litter. There is nothing cuter than coming into the room to find a litter of kittens on her daughter's bed or hopping all over the place. As a bonus, she is an avid photography and has great fun photographing her fosters!

Thank you, Susan, for all the love and assistance you have given these kittens over the years. MaxFund is blessed to have you!

You, too, can experience the joys of fostering. MaxFund is always in need of fosters, especially cat and kitten fosters (we are coming into kitten season now and desperately need homes).





MAXFUND'S MAILBAG

Dear MaxFund,

I adopted Baby Boy (now Fergus O'Connor) on March 15, 2009. He was a little sad, he'd been injured (eyes, back legs, ears) and had had a hard life on the streets. At the time I adopted him, we didn't know if he'd be okay with my dog or not, but we did an introduction with my lab mix before the adoption, and Fergus seemed okay, so I decided to go ahead with the adoption. Since that time, I've rescued another dog (Finn, seen here), and Fergus adores both his dogs and his new life. Fergus's



Fergus O'Connor

hobbies are sleeping in the sun, watching bird TV (skylight over the bed), and kissing. He has become very particular about his pillow placement at night because he insists on sleeping right by me all night long, but that is his most demanding trait. He is the sweetest, mellowest, most affectionate and dog-friendly cat I've ever known. In fact, he is so dog-like we refer to him as one of the "three dogs" and told him he's a

bulldog-golden retriever mix (he's built like the bulldog). I just wanted to send an email to say THANK YOU to MaxFund once again for adopting the greatest cat ever to me and my pack.

Lisa Glaeser



Peanut

Dear MaxFund,
I adopted Peanut on April 20, 2009. He is my best buddy. This last year has been particularly hard, as my mom passed away. Peanut has been there to cuddle, sit quietly, and at times make me laugh. He just had his annual check-up with the vet who said he is doing fabulous (all 10 pounds of him!) and is quite the gentleman.

Thank you for bringing us together and for all the great work you do all year long.

All the best,
Cheryl & Peanut (*woof!*)



Cody

Dear MaxFund,

Just wanted to send a picture of Cody at his new place in Steamboat. What a great dog!! Always in charge here!

Thanks for everything!
Kathleen Matzdorf



Bella-B Averill

THEORIES OF CAT BEHAVIOR

LAW OF CAT INERTIA

A cat at rest will tend to remain at rest, unless acted upon by some outside force, such as the opening of cat food, or a nearby scurrying mouse.

LAW OF CAT MOTION

A cat will move in a straight line, unless there is a really good reason to change direction.

FIRST LAW OF CAT ENERGY CONSERVATION

Cats know that energy can neither be created nor destroyed and will, therefore, use as little energy as possible.

LAW OF BAG/BOX OCCUPANCY

All bags and boxes in a given room must contain a cat within the earliest possible nanosecond.

LAW OF FURNITURE REPLACEMENT

A cat's desire to scratch furniture is directly proportional to the cost of the furniture.

LAW OF CAT COMPOSITION

A cat is composed of Matter + Anti-matter + *It Doesn't Matter.*

LAW OF CAT OBEDIENCE

As yet undiscovered.



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Tuesday, December 4, 2012
for the third consecutive 24-hour
day of giving. Event details will be
released in June so stay tuned!

6th Annual
Molly-Dharma Run for MaxFund

Sunday



June 10th, 2012

Always the 2nd Sunday in June

A Motorcycle Ride and Block Party

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Motorcycle Ride Starts at:
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Motorcycle Registration: 9am /Start: 10:30am – Sunday June 10th 2012

\$20 Single Rider - \$25 Two-Up

Free breakfast burrito for 1st 200 provided by **Platte River Bar & Grill**

Ride Ends with Block Party at MaxFund 1pm – 5pm

Online Registration at www.MaxFund.org thru June 6th

Join us on Facebook / Molly-Dharma Annual Motorcycle Run for MaxFund

MaxFund is a 501(c)(3) non-profit charity organization.



DOGS AND WATER SAFETY

By permission Pet Friendly Canada
<http://www.petfriendly.ca>

Water is a great temptation for many dogs, particularly when the weather is hot and the water presents a cool oasis. Pet owners, too, love to watch their dogs swim, play, and have fun. However, keep in mind a few things before you take your dog out for a day of play on or in the water:

When enjoying the outdoors, bring extra water for your dog as well as a portable pet travel bowl.

Bacteria and parasites are common in natural water sources, particularly stagnant water (which may contain algae, some types of which are extremely dangerous to dogs, maybe even fatal). This can result in diarrhea, vomiting, and other symptoms and may require you to consult with your vet.

Don't let your dog drink from the pool.

It may look clean & pure, but pool water is filled with chemicals that can cause your dog to get sick.

Don't assume that all dogs can swim (or like to swim).

Don't throw your dog into the water, as he may panic and even drown before you can react.

Don't leave your dog unattended in the water.

For most dogs, swimming is unaccustomed exercise and they may tire easily as they are using muscles they don't normally use. Also, steep banks or pool walls can make it hard for dogs to climb out on their own - they may need your help.

Carefully check your dog for skin irritations or for bites after he enjoys some water playtime.

Bacteria or other microscopic organisms may cause irritation, or he could even have been stung by a jellyfish if he was romping about in the ocean. Take your dog to the vet if he's showing signs of pain or itchiness.

Rinse your pup off well with fresh water after he enjoys a romp in the ocean or in the pool.

Salt water or pool water (which contains chemicals) may irritate his skin and eyes.

If you're taking your dog out boating, make sure you purchase specially made doggy lifejackets.

You wear one, and so should your dog!



WHEN I GOT MY NEW DOG

I asked for strength that I might rear her perfectly;
I was given weakness that I might feed her more treats.

I asked for good health that I might rest easy;
I was given a "special needs" dog that I might know nurturing.

I asked for an obedient dog that I might feel proud;
I was given stubbornness that I might feel humble.

I asked for compliance that I might feel masterful;
I was given a clown that I might laugh.

I asked for a companion that I might not feel lonely;
I was given a best friend that I would feel loved.

I got nothing I
asked for,
But everything
that I needed.
I got a dog



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Thanks to the following people and businesses whose generous contributions help all the animals.

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In memory of TyBoy & Primo – Crystal & John Babos
In memory of Bo – Joseph Davis
In memory of Sharron & Bob Spurling's beloved,
Bear – Anne Kropf
In memory of Lucky – Natalie Landau
In beloved memory of Slicker, who went to cat heaven
this week. He will be dearly missed by all his friends,
age 15-1/2 - William, Judith, & Michael Hoffman
In memory of Joe & Carri's beloved, Rosie – Tom Ori
In memory of Wyatt, George & Marcina Grimberg's 11-1/2
year old Greyhound – Sara Oxley
In memory of Lady, a sweet and gentle companion and
neighbor – Kenneth Suess
In loving memory of Persia and Sabrina - two cats who
had the good fortune of living with Marla McMahan
and family – Linda McMahan
In memory of Blacky – Judy Uhrich
In memory of Debbie & John Ross's beloved, Socks
– Mercede Peebles
In memory of Jennifer Hoffman & Jon Fowler's beloved,
Weeto – Char Cygnar
In memory of Bandit, the best Old English Sheepdog in
the world – Penny Hamilton
In memory of Shirley A. Williams' beloved, Star
– Catherine & Lonnie Dunn & Bette Jean
In memory of Millie – Travis Douthit
In memory of Darla – Gerald & Virginia Hambrick
In honor of Ms Blitz, owned and loved by Nancy Speer
and Ray Anderson – Elaine Stuart
In honor of Daisy who was so loved by Yvonne &
Richard Zuber – Lily Appelman
In memory of Peggy & Ted Scott's beloved dog, Tillie
– Carol West
In memory of Robin Furuta's beloved Forest – Pamela Shinto
In memory of Levi - thank you for the joy
– Love, Ruby & Faith
In memory of Stella Anne - Laurie & Paul Christensen
– Carrara

Silent Memories

In memory of my beloved daughter, Susan Unger
– Joseph Davis
In memory of David Michael –
Allen Hughes
Manny Newburger and Barron & Newburger, PC
In memory of my Father, Sam, who loved dogs
– Wendy Busch
In memory of Joan Kahler – Sharon Sandefur
In memory of Sue Hopkins – Jeannine & George Munger
In memory of Carrie Danly – Vincent Gambino

In loving memory of Lillian M. Vasquez. Auntie Ya Ya,
you were always playful, quick to laugh, gentle and
kind. You will be missed and never forgotten
– Patricia McNeill
In memory of Betty MacCue – Sally Meiresonne
In memory of Lillian M. Vasquez
(February 1922 - April 2012)
Paul Schmidt
Mike Meier
In honor of our grandma Evelyn Shupe, who lived with
compassion and dignity – Amy Hebert

Honorable Mentions

On behalf of Mr. & Mrs. David Wells
– Mr. & Mrs. Miles Gordon
In honor of Amy Yurkovich – Alan Grasso
Happy birthday to Mary Jo Nolan from Shirley & Dude
In honor of Bryn Abshire's birthday – Fiona Mcquaid
Thank you to Nanci Suro for saving FIV & leukemia
lives from the Western Slope of Colorado and
Denver – Jan Eckhardt & Beth Jones
In honor of Molly...formally Barbara. We adopted her
from MaxFund a year ago and she's just an AWESOME
little dog – Stacy Zimbleman
In honor of David Paul's 90th birthday –
Sue Bicknell
Peggy & Isaiah Shafir
Happy Birthday, Kara Chapman! Love, Carey, Erin
& Gray (and Nalla, Zain, & Marley)
In honor of Maxie kitty's 5th birthday – Carol Johnson
For the love of a dog named Bear – Susan Kiehn
In honor of Claudette Hertner's retirement –
Fatoumata Doumbia
Barbara Kemper
Robin Davis
Teresa Thompson
Merilee Anne Schultheiss
Judy Kadlec-Fuller
In honor of Jasper – Paul Jed Villanueva
Thanks, Robert Gratiot for allowing me to be of service.
Love, Bob W.
In honor of Buddy – Michelle Baxter
In honor of Dawson Roberts' 10th birthday
– Nikki Kuosman
In honor of Jordyn Roberts's 10th birthday
– Nikki Kuosman

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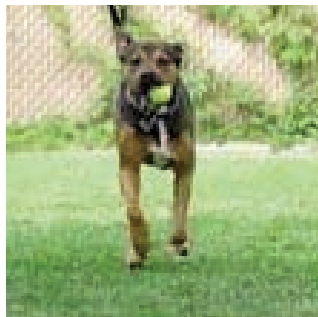
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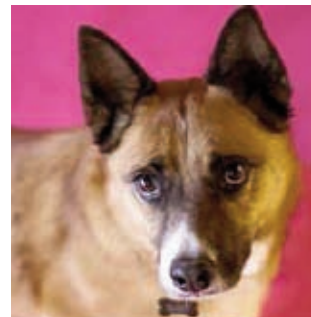
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