




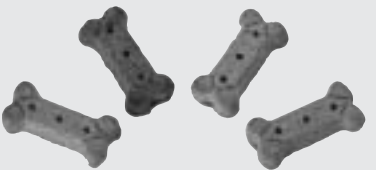

The Shamrock Foundation, Inc.  
 Quarterly Newsletter Winter 2004

## There's No Place Like Home, There's No Place Like Home, There's No Place Like Home,...

### Mission Statement



**The Shamrock Foundation** is a non-profit organization whose mission is to end pet overpopulation, reduce the number of companion animals destroyed in local shelters and save or enhance the lives of animals in need in our community. This is accomplished through spay/neuter, education, emergency medical assistance, rescue, foster care and the adoption of pets into lifetime homes. We are a group of highly committed, unpaid volunteers who have a passion for our mission and its goals. 🐾

**W**e've heard it a million times, and we all know it's true. In an effort to assure loving homes to more pets, Shamrock has partnered with several other groups to form PET GROUPS UNITED, including The Animal Care Society, Animal Protection Association, Community Pet Relief Fund, Inc., Louisville Metro Animal Services, Shamrock Foundation, Inc., Shamrock



Foundation / Greyhound Placement. For the past 4 years, we've saved hundreds of lives because member groups don't have to go it alone anymore! We've entered a new era of cooperation, respect and understanding.

When one group needs resources—foster homes, help with large vet bills, volunteers, assistance with special events, pet foods—other member groups all rally to share resources. If one group is contacted for an emergency and can't handle the logistics alone, we now have many others to help save these animals. And we've learned something very important: **It's amazing what people can accomplish when they don't care who gets the credit.**

PET GROUPS UNITED will again host **The FurBall**, our annual black-tie-optional fundraiser, on **Friday, February 13, 2004 at the Hyatt Regency Louisville**. It's an amazing event and a fun and important source of revenue for Pet Groups United. Who will win the VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR AWARD? The ANIMAL PROFESSIONAL AWARD? And, which nominee will the

judges select as the HERO ANIMAL OF THE YEAR? These stories and others will surprise and touch you and may make you cry.

**The FurBall** is an important celebration for Louisville's animal community. Please consider joining us for this spectacular evening. And when you come to **The FurBall**, be prepared to enter the HOMEMADE RUBY SLIPPERS contest. Get creative and come meet the folks who make animal rescue newsworthy every week!

**Tickets are \$75 each**, include dinner and dancing, and can be purchased by calling 502-899-PETS. And, you never know...you just might get to meet the Wizard! 🐾

~Sherri Marcoski

*President, PET GROUPS UNITED  
 And Shamrock Volunteer*



# The Shamrock Foundation

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*Our first issue is dedicated to the memory of **Mitzi Johnson**. A loyal and generous friend of The Shamrock Foundation.*

## Paw Prints Newsletter

The quarterly publication of The Shamrock Foundation.

## STAFF

<b>Executive Director</b>	Sharon Mayes
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www.shamrockpets.com



## Very Valued Volunteer

The Shamrock Foundation would like to take this opportunity to recognize **Ms. Joyce Vincent** who began volunteering with Shamrock eleven years ago and has been a tremendous asset in so many ways. She has been extensively involved with the Cat Committee in rescuing cats, putting them up for adoption and finding them homes. In addition, Joyce also has been involved in trapping and altering feral cats to solve their overpopulation problem. She has served as a Shamrock foster parent and has opened her home to animals in need on many occasions. Joyce serves as *Shamrock*



*Foundation's Correspondence Secretary* and has just been named *Co-Chair of the Cat Committee*. For the past three years she has been nominated for the **Pet Groups United Trooper Award** and this year she was the runner up. Joyce's compassion and dedication is evidenced by not only working with animals in need but by working with people in need as well. Examples include: Working with individuals who need financial support, providing transportation for individuals and their pets, and making food deliveries to people who are having a difficult time feeding their pets. In addition, Joyce has spent countless hours participating in Shamrock fundraisers and in coordinating volunteers for cat shows. Joyce is extremely creative and also dedicates a lot of her time to making various items for fundraisers, including her renowned homemade doggie biscuits and cat beds.

Joyce's mother Thelma, who is no longer with us, was also instrumental in helping to raise funds for Shamrock. The fundraiser for which she is most remembered is the **Puss and Boots Holiday Shoppe**. And because of her extensive involvement with this particular fundraiser, it has been dedicated to her memory. We are pleased that Joyce recently triumphed in her battle with cancer. Throughout this traumatic ordeal, including enduring chemotherapy, she never let it interfere with her commitment to help those who could not help themselves. Joyce's compassion and dedication are valuable gifts to our organization and those who have the privilege of working with her. Individuals like Joyce are the driving force behind the success of any humane organization and it is for this reason they are to be afforded the utmost respect and admiration. *Thank you, Joyce, for everything.* 🐾

~Sharon Mayes  
Founder and Executive Director of The Shamrock Foundation



## Very Valued Donor and Sponsor

I have always believed strongly in providing loving homes to animals. Pet ownership is a responsibility that includes controlling pet overpopulation through the spaying or neutering of pets. This will only happen through organizations such as Shamrock Foundation. Shamrock's volunteers promote this responsibility through public education, lobbying on behalf of favorable animal legislation, and seeking loving, adoptive homes for displaced pets. I love all of my pets, but especially my adopted friends—I currently have 13 cats and dogs including 3 cats from Shamrock, 1 cat from Kentucky Humane Society, 1 dog from GRRAND, and 1 dog from Woodstock Foundation.



*Patti Swope with her cat, Rocket, formerly known as Rasca, who was adopted from Shamrock in November, 2002.*

To assist Shamrock Foundation in continuing its mission, I will personally donate **\$75 (the cost of an intake exam, vaccinations, and spay/neuter for one dog or cat)** for any new or used vehicle purchased from a Sam Swope dealership (now through the end of 2004). If you are just beginning to shop or before you make your purchase, simply **call me at 502-499-5006** mention Shamrock, and I will insure that your purchase results in the \$75 donation (this offer does not apply after the sale or on previous purchases). *Your choice to do business with Sam Swope Auto Group can make a difference.*

My thanks to all the Shamrock volunteers for the valuable service you provide to our community. 🐾

~Patti Swope  
Executive Vice President of Sam Swope Auto Group  
and a Very Valued Donor

# Shamrock Rocks!



In 2003, Shamrock Foundation, a non-profit, all volunteer organization, raised and spent **\$152,000** to help the animals in our community by providing spay/neuter, medical and emergency care assistance. And because we strive to keep our operating cost to a minimum,

we are proud that **95¢ of each dollar went directly to helping the animals.**

In 2003 The Shamrock Foundation was responsible for:

- Spaying and neutering 1100 dogs and cats, thus preventing the killing of thousands of unwanted puppies and kittens
- Adoption of 251 cats and kittens into loving homes
- Adoption of 146 dogs and puppies into loving homes
- Aiding 310 animals in emergency situations
- Providing 665 animals with medical care
- Providing food and supplies to other organizations in need, including Appalachia and counties
- Rescue of 75 Greyhounds from inevitable death and the adoption of 74 Greyhounds into loving homes
- Habitat for Hounds, developed mid-year, provided 37 dog houses for animals in need of proper shelter

We strive to make this a kinder and gentler community for the animals and those who are their guardians. We thank all those who have helped us to accomplish this goal. 🐾

~Sharon Mayes

*Founder and Executive Director of the Shamrock Foundation, Inc.*



# Legal Beagle

## Is This the Year You Finally Give To Your Favorite Charity?

It's another Brand New Year. And every year, you have the best intentions and promise yourself that you'll make a gift from your estate to one of your favorite charities. There are so many needs! You know there's an important charity that supports your ethics and ideals and you want to do your part to help.

Many people also promise themselves to reduce their tax bill. Fortunately, our tax law recognizes that gifts to a wide variety of charities—whether for people, animals or the environment—are eligible for tax deductions that reduce income, estate and gift taxes that may be due. For example, a CHARITABLE REMAINDER TRUST is a relatively simple transaction that transfers your asset to a trust, with directions to 1.) pay you a specified interest during your lifetime, and 2.) pay the remaining principal to the charity of your choice upon your death.

If you own an asset that has appreciated in value or was gifted to you by someone who bought it at a lower price than its current value, you may be reluctant to sell it because of prospective capital gains taxes. These asset types include stocks & bonds, real estate and business interests. However, if you give the asset to the Trust rather than selling it, the Trust can then sell the asset, invest the proceeds, pay you a certain income generated by the investment through your lifetime and then—at your death—pay the remaining principal balance to the charity of your choice.

Based on certain limitations, you receive a tax deduction that's based on the remainder value of the gift, which is calculated based on your life expectancy. And since the gift won't be in your estate when you die, life insurance may be used to make gifts to your heirs to replace the value they would have received if you retained ownership of the asset. Please consider establishing a Charitable Remainder Trust to support The Shamrock Foundation while it provides income to you during your lifetime. 🐾

~John L. Ackman, Jr.

*Attorney at Law*

ACKMAN LAW OFFICES

*And Shamrock Volunteer*

992-1541

# Shocking Shelter Statistics

It is often hard to comprehend the extent of **PET OVERPOPULATION** until you understand the huge numbers of animals put to death each year in Jefferson County alone! Before you allow your pet to have a litter, consider the heartbreaking statistic below.

2003

	Into Shelter	Redeemed	Adopted	Euthanized
<b>Kentucky Humane Society*</b>				
Cats/Kittens	WNA	WNA	WNA	WNA
Dogs/Puppies	WNA	WNA	WNA	WNA
<b>Metro Animal Services</b>				
Cats/Kittens	4827	90	238	2602
Dogs/Puppies	6426	1099	408	4383
Total 2003	11253	1189	646	6985

\* Many of the strays taken to the Kentucky Humane Society are then transported to Metro Animal Services later that same day. WNA Would not make available

*YOU can prevent these deaths!*

**SPAY AND NEUTER YOUR PET**



# Adoption Days

**FOR THE MONTH OF JANUARY-MARCH**

## Dogs & Puppies

**FRIDAYS 7PM-8:30PM**

Superpetz, Taylorsville Rd. at Hikes Point.

**SATURDAYS 11AM-2PM**

Petsmart, Hurstbourne Parkway

## Cats & Kittens

**Saturdays 10AM-1PM**

Superpetz, Taylorsville Rd. at Hikes Point.

**Saturdays 1PM-4PM**

Feeder's Supply, 315 Baxter Avenue

Call for More Information

**585-3220**

## Greyhound Adoption

Call for Adoption Days Times & Location

**Jennifer Watkins 241-3140**



## Information

Did you know that The Shamrock Foundation celebrates its 12th anniversary in 2004? To find out how to adopt an animal and/or how to become a member or volunteer please go to our website, today.

[www.shamrockpets.com](http://www.shamrockpets.com)



## beggin' rights

**\$ Money \$  
of course!**

All donations are tax deductible!

### FOSTER PARENTS

Shamrock will supply Foster Parents with food, litter & medical care so your only investment is a little time & lots of love...

### Pet Stuff

- Blankets
- Collars & Leashes
- Crates & Carriers
- Doggie Beds
- Kitty Beds
- Nail Clippers
- New Cat & Dog Toys
- Paper Towels
- Pet Food
- Dog Houses

### People Stuff

- Fax Machine & Copy Machine
- Filing Cabinets
- Office Supplies & Stamps
- Phone System
- Refrigerator



[www.shamrockpets.com](http://www.shamrockpets.com)

# Adoptable Cats

All of our cats and kittens have been tested for feline leukemia and the adults have also been tested for FIV. All our cats and kittens have their required vaccinations and have been wormed and spayed or neutered. Our list of available pets changes every week, so please visit **Cat Adoption Days** or our website, [www.shamrockpets.com](http://www.shamrockpets.com) to see the many wonderful felines that are looking for homes. And please consider adopting an older cat who is often overlooked because kittens are so cute & playful!



**Fiona** All of Fiona's kittens were adopted, but Fiona herself remains in Shamrock's care. She was a very loving Mom and would be a great addition to any home. Fiona is about 1 1/2 years old and is extremely loving with a very mellow nature; she also gets along with other cats, dogs, and children.

**Status:** Available for adoption + Housebroken + Good with children + Good with other pets + Shots/Vaccinations current + No Special needs.



**Rex (darker) & Rufus (lighter)** Silver Persian, Male, 4 years old,

Rex is adorable and very loving, but can be skittish and doesn't do well around children. He loves to be petted, but does not like to be held. He would do best in a quiet, adult environment. Rufus is beautiful and friendly. He was shaved in the early fall, so he is only about half as fluffy as usual. Rufus is more docile and not as skittish as Rex and does better around children but prefers adult company. He will sit on you lap for short amounts of time.

**Status:** Available for adoption + neutered, de-clawed on all four feet + Not good with children + Shots/Vaccinations current



**Mermaid** is a 4-year-old black and white female who was feeding from a dumpster at a Kingfish restaurant. She has had a rough life, judging from the worn condition of her front teeth. She does not like other cats, understandably, as she surely had to fight for food for much of her life. She loves people, though, and is a wonderful lap cat and she certainly appreciates "fine dining."

**Status:** Available for adoption + Housebroken + Good with children + Not good with other pets + Shots/Vaccinations current.



**Buffer** is a sweet, extremely playful little guy with a lot of spunk. He is very friendly and still fairly young, but can get spooked at adoption days. A toy can occupy him for a long period of time and he's fine with children, but does not care for other animals.

**Status:** Available for adoption + Housebroken + Good with children + Not good with other pets + Shots/Vaccinations current + No special need.



### Spencer&Tracy

Spencer and Tracy had been living in a car over the winter with 2 other cats when the owner of the car called Shamrock for help. We rescued them in March and they still need a home. They are both sweet cats, but very shy—especially Spencer—at first. However, once adjusted, they're very sweet and loving. They like to play with their toys and like to sleep with you and must go together to quiet home with no small children or dogs.

**Status:** Both available for adoption + Housebroken + Not good with children + Good with other pets + Shots/Vaccinations current + Special Needs: Must go together to a quiet home with no small kids or dogs. Cats OK



**Tammy** is a 3 yr. old diluted calico female. She is very loving and affectionate and gets along with other cats as long as she has time to get acclimated. She was adopted as a kitten and returned and is being fostered at Animal Medical Center on Shelbyville Road.

**Status:** Available for adoption + Shots/Vaccinations current

# Adoptable Dogs

All of our dogs and puppies have been tested for heartworm, have their required vaccinations and have been wormed and spayed or neutered. Our list of adoptable dogs changes on a weekly basis so please visit **Dog Adoption Days** or our website, [www.shamrockpets.com](http://www.shamrockpets.com) to see the many wonderful dogs and puppies that need homes. Please consider adopting an older dog or open your heart and home to a Special Needs dog.

## Maisy

*2 years; 35 lbs; female; pit bull mix.*

Maisy is crate-trained, very sweet, likes to cuddle and is good with kids and dogs. She's also quiet, likes to chase cats and is very athletic. Maisy will climb a fence if left out unattended for long periods of time.

**Status:** Available for adoption + Housebroken + Good with children + Good with other pets except cats + Shots/Vaccinations current + Special Needs: Unknown

## Belle

*16 months; 46 lbs; female; lab mix.*

Belle is very sweet and loving and get along well with adults, children, cats and other dogs. She would love a playmate and has lots of puppy energy to burn. She enjoys the outdoors and loves to swim.

**Status:** Available for adoption + Housebroken + Good with children + Good with other pets + Shots/Vaccinations current + No Special Needs

## Badger

*3 years; 50 lbs; male; shepherd mix.*

Badger's an active and intelligent dog who loves to travel. He'll make a great family pet because he's very anxious to please and is good with children and other dogs.

**Status:** Available for adoption + Housebroken + Good with children + Good with other pets + Shots/Vaccinations current + Special Needs: Unknown

## Monty

*9 years; 10 lbs; male; Manchester Blue Terrier mix.*

Monty has some skin problems that are responding well to treatment and good food. He is a mellow fellow who loves to sit in your lap and just be with you. Good with dogs, cats and older children.

**Status:** Available for adoption + Housebroken + Good with older children + Good with other pets + Shots/Vaccinations current + Special Needs: Unknown

## Midget

*13 years; 4 lbs; female; purebred long-haired Chihuahua.*

Midget has been very lonely since her elderly owner died. She is a wonderful lap dog and not too active and is good with other dogs, cats, older children. Midget would be a wonderful friend for a senior citizen who needs love & companionship.

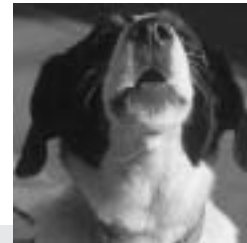
**Status:** Available for adoption + Housebroken + Good with older children + Good with other pets + Shots/Vaccinations current + Special Needs: Unknown

## Sophia LaPee

Sophia represents 13 puppies from 2 litters that were born on Dec. 1, 2003. One litter is Sharpei-Terrier mix and the other is a Border Collie-Dachshund mix. We have black, brown and black and white puppies and all are healthy & very well socialized.

**Status:** All available for adoption + Housebroken: Unknown + Good with children + Good with other pets + Shots/Vaccinations current + Special Needs: Unknown

Future issues will feature a cat and dog available from **Metro Animal Services**. Please consider them when you want to adopt a pet.  
*You'll be saving a life.*



## what's barkin'

### dates to remember

## 2004

### February 24 (Tuesday)

Spay Day (Spay USA & Doris Day Animal League)

### March 12-14 (Friday-Sunday)

Kentuckiana Cluster of Dog Show

### April 3 (Saturday)

Tag Day (AHA)

Prevention of Animal Cruelty Month (ASPCA)

### April 18-24

Animal Cruelty/Human Violence Week (HSUS)

### May 2 (Sunday)

Mayday for Mutts

### May 2-8

National Pet Week (AVMA)

### May 2-8

Be Kind to Animals Week (AHA)

### May 16-22

National Dog Bite Prevention Week

### June

Adopt-a-Shelter Cat Month

### June 25 (Friday)

Take Your Dog to Work Day

### August 5 (Thursday)

Art for the Animals

### August 21 (Sunday)

National Homeless Pets Day

### September 19-25

National Farm Animals Awareness Week

### October

Adopt-a-Shelter Dog Month

### November

Adopt-a-Senior Dog Month

### November 6 & 7 (Saturday and Sunday)

Puss & Boots Holiday Shoppe

### November 7-13

National Shelter Recognition Week (HSUS)



# Animal Answers LIVE

If you've got a pet or pets, then chances are you've got questions about them. Whether you're wondering about their behavior, medical well-being, training, or pet products, you can get answers on this lively and educational show. Host **Jackie Gulbe** and her canine co-host **Murphy**, have interesting and knowledgeable veterinarians, trainers, and other pet-related guests each week to answer your questions. The show also features adoptable animals from The Shamrock Foundation, Metro Animal Services and the Animal Care Society. If you and your pet are looking for fun activities the weekly calendar will keep you up to speed with Louisville's pet community happenings. **Animals Answers LIVE!** is a must see for any animal lover. The show airs **every Wednesday at 7p.m. on Insight's Channel 2** and you can catch reruns throughout the week. Tune in to the new channel 2, Jackie and Murphy are waiting for your call!



Murphy & Jackie

## media schedule

### Monday

**WHAS-TV** 6:30 - 7:00AM Featured Pets-of-the-Week

**99.7 WDJX** with Peter B. & Kelly K 7:00-7:15AM

**102.3 The MAX** Lambert & Lindsey Show 7:15-7:30AM

### Wednesday

**Insight Channel 2** - Animal Answers LIVE! at 7:00PM

The show airs several times during the week at various times

### Friday

**84 WHAS** Radio with Terry Meiners adoptable animals are featured between 5:30 & 6:00pm

### Saturday

**WLKY-32** Pet-of-the-Week between 7:30 & 8:00 am

**WLKY-32** Pet-of-the-Week between 8:30 & 9:00 am

### SNITCH

**Pet Peeve**, features the week's worst Metro Animal Services injustice in the ZIP CODE CRIME WATCH SECTION.

# Habitat for Hounds

**M**any dogs in our community are left outside in the cold weather with little or no shelter. Unfortunately, many are often chained with a tree as their only shelter. Habitat for Hounds was formed to gather & distribute doghouses to animals in need of shelter. We invite you to make a tax-deductible donation or donate a doghouse in good condition to Habitat for Hounds, in affiliation with The Shamrock Foundation.



Since inception in the spring of 2003, Habitat for Hounds has collected 45 doghouses and delivered 26 of them to needy animals. When they're delivered, it's often the perfect time for our volunteers to talk with the owners about the importance of proper pet care, including altering their animals, and encouraging them to bring their pets inside to be a healthy and active member of the family. Living in a doghouse twenty-four hours a day, seven days a week is not the best situation for a dog. Dogs are pack animals and form strong attachments to people and rely on us for food, water, shelter and affection. We also remind pet owners that dogs kept apart from their family members are more likely to become unhappy, anxious and aggressive. Lastly, a chained unaltered dog is most likely to bite, as the frustration of being trapped in a lonely environment continues to build.

If you know of a dog that desperately needs a doghouse, would like to donate a doghouse or would like to make a contribution to help a dog who lives without shelter, please call us at 585-3220 and leave a message. Or make your check payable to Habitat for Hounds and mail to P.O. Box 20086, Louisville, KY 40250-0086.

Please don't leave us out in the cold! 🐾



~Anita Tyler  
President,  
Swain Marketing & Public Relations  
Longtime Shamrock Volunteer

## A Rebuttal to Those Who Say they Couldn't Possibly Volunteer

**W**orking in Animal Welfare is a very challenging proposition. Because there are so many situations and topics that need attention, those who persevere learn to pick their battles. For some it's spay/neuter, for others it's rescue work, some choose to foster, while others raise money and awareness or take on the law makers.

Originally I was going to remind people how important it is to make sure that your animal always wears a current ID tag (**Tag Day** is Saturday, April 3, 2004). But somehow my thought turned to the many people I meet who say, "I just love animals, but I couldn't stand to volunteer, I'd take them all home." If you dissect and analyze this statement you will realize how ridiculous it really is.

First off, if you love animals so much, how could you not do something to help them? It could be anything. Collecting aluminum cans and donating the profits to help the animals, visiting schools to educate children about responsible pet care, calling people who have lost their animals and telling them how to go about trying to find them and where to look, volunteering for fundraisers (hint, hint, **Art for the Animals** is coming up in August), or working on this newsletter—the list goes on and on.

So, you couldn't stand to volunteer? It's not like getting a root canal. It can be lots of fun and very satisfying. Even the smallest amount of time and effort can make a big difference. The challenge is finding your niche. You may try several different activities until you find your calling, but please don't give up. The animals really need your help.

The second statement "I'd take them all home."—not possible. Unless you have a serious psychological problem that predispose you to becoming a collector! You may end up with one or two more than planned, but your fellow volunteers, the organizational powers that be and just plain time and money will keep any sensible person in check.

So, now that I have exposed the "I just love animals, but I couldn't stand to volunteer, I'd take them all home." reason for not helping—and maybe, irritated a few folk, too—I hope more people will become active somehow, somewhere, someway.

~Jackie Gulbe

**Don't say I can't, say I'll try.** 🐾

Assistant Director for Community Relations, Metro Animal Services

Shamrock Foundation Board

Host of **Animal Answers Live**

# Happy tails



in the Knose



*Paco, the luckiest dog in the world*

## Paco

Paco arrived at my house on May 1, 2003. He was the first pup I picked up from the box of five. . . he was two weeks old, hungry and a tiny bundle to hold. He was born in the backyard to a Mama dog who was poorly nourished and had nine pups unbeknownst to the owner. Before the word was spread to Shamrock volunteers, several of the pups died of dehydration, however most were saved, Paco was among them.


Paco was bottled fed for several weeks and grew before my very eyes. He stayed in a playpen where he could see and be seen and was described on our website as a Lab mix. Then suddenly two pointed ears emerged and Paco became a shepherd mix! He loved playing with my dogs and received lots of attention, but I knew that he deserved even more.

We began to attend Shamrock Foundation adoption days where Paco at three months was overshadowed by younger, cuter pups. However, he was finally noticed by a young couple looking for a companion for their young female shepherd. Paco was introduced to their dog, training tips were given, the application had been processed and Paco went to his new home where he is doing great! Here is an excerpts from a recent letter from his new owner:



"He's doing great. He's finally beginning to gain some extra weight. At five months we are told he is in his adolescent stage of development and will gain more weight which we are really noticing now!

He's very friendly, loving and playful and he Allie and Shadow get along nicely. He is a bit protective and still barks initially in unfamiliar settings and around new people, but we are following Sandy Otto's advice to take him places and have others give him treats. This seems to slowly be helping. He's fine after a few minutes after getting familiar with strangers.

I've sent these pictures of **Paco and Allie** hanging out in the garage-one of their favorite places - there's so much to get into. They've taken ownership of the futon and the hot tub steps. I've also sent pictures of Paco's first camping trip and hike at Red River Gorge. He had a blast! At the end of November, we're taken them to a cabin in Gatlinburg for a week. We'll be sure to send pictures from that trip too. We are so thankful that Paco was given a great start in life because of your love, nurturing and dedication to him. Thanks again for all you've given him and the wonderful gift he's been to us." 

~Susan Meyer

Dog Committee Chair

Shamrock Foundation Secretary

## Tips for Calling The Shamrock Foundation CALLING 585-3220

*Please,*

- Listen carefully to the message and follow the instructions.
- Understand that rarely will a person answer the phone, volunteers pick up the messages and return calls.
- When leaving a message speak clearly and be sure to leave your Allies.
- Be patient our volunteers try to return calls as quickly as possible and in order of importance.

*To insure a return phone call be sure to:*

- Leave your number or numbers.
- Leave a brief message regarding your situation.

*If you haven't received a return call within 48 hours, please call back.*

Because a volunteer may have tried to return your call.

- Make sure the numbers you leave are correct.
- Perhaps a family member or someone in the household has taken a message and has not relayed it to you.
- Please know that your caller ID will not show Shamrock Foundation's number, therefore you may have received a return call and not realize it.
- If you don't have an answering machine or voice mail, it is difficult for a volunteer to leave a message. Volunteers will try to return a particular call up to 3 or 4 times and have to move on to other calls.


We can **always** use volunteers. Please call 585-3220. **Ginny Stottman** Voice Mail Coordinator & Board Member



When you adopt a dog, frequently there is little or no information about it. The first couple of weeks you may also have a dog that does not yet display his normal behavior. Once he becomes acclimated his true behavior will surface. When the dog joins your family it is a perfect opportunity to establish new ground rules. Establishing leadership is the most important. Leadership exercises helps to teach the dog to recognize that all human family members are dominant and in control.

In "doggy language" the alpha dog usually leaves and the other pack members follow. The first exercise to practice with the dog is to make him wait until you proceed into another area. When you walk into a hallway or from room to room gently place your flat hand in front of the dog telling him to "Wait" as you enter first. The dog then may follow after you. If your dog likes to rush ahead then keep a leash on him. Before you approach the entry, use the leash to stop the dog from going in first. With your family or friends, hold the dog back and allow them to enter first.

The alpha dog of the pack moves around and the other dogs defer to him by moving out of his way. You should practice moving the dog out of your way. Some adopted dogs may not like to have their collar taken hold of to guide them so keep a leash on the dog and anytime he body blocks you , move him off to the side with the leash. Move the dog out of the way when a child is walking near him. If he jumps onto the chair before you sit down, use the leash to remove him from the chair. And you should do this for your visitors or children if he tries to take their chair. When you are petting the dog and your child walks up to be near you, move the dog a few steps away, allowing the child to come near you without being blocked by the dog.

In a pack of dogs the alpha always eats first. So when you prepare your dog's food, snack on something in front of him or have your meal first. If children are present hand them something to snack on before giving the dog his food dish. When he sees you eating first, it raises the status of the human from a dog's point of view. All these exercises should be practiced on and off for at least six months to a year. By using these tools the dogs will defer to you and others family members as they become more accustomed to their new home. 

~Sandy Otto

Owner of **Puppy Preschool, Inc.**,  
which services puppy owners with  
private in-home lessons and group classes,  
Member of APDT since 1998,  
Leading trainer on Animal Answers,  
Conducts Puppy Smart Start seminars,  
4-H leader for ten years with Kids & K9's  
You can contact Sandy at 502-241-1390.

## Joining Hands To Bring Christmas To Eastern Kentucky

**A**ngels of the Rainbow, the community outreach program of *Rainbow Spiritual Education Center, Inc.*, joined hands with other community organizations to bring Christmas to Grethel, Kentucky in December 2003. This is the sixth year that Angels of the Rainbow took critical donations to this small, distressed community in Eastern Kentucky. **Open Door Community Fellowship, Third Lutheran Church, Thrifty Truck Rental, the Native American Support Effort (NASE) and Shamrock Foundation** have joined hands with the Angels of the Rainbow to make a difference! All these



*Bleachers running the length of the gym were filled with Shamrock donations.*

volunteers enthusiastically give their time to collect donations and deliver them to the community.

Three years ago, Shamrock began sending pet food to Grethel, starting with about 800 pounds in each of the first two years. This past Christmas, Shamrock asked, "How much can you take?" Angels of the Rainbow said, "We'll make room." The Angels were quite surprised when Shamrock donated over four skids of pet food for the Grethel animals!! Shamrock tried

to donate more, but the truck just couldn't hold any more.

The caravan left for Grethel on Dec. 19th and arrived Mud Creek Clinic by late afternoon.

**Eula Hall**, founder of the clinic, organizes the annual Christmas party, with the help of a wonderful staff and volunteers. The children see Santa; get one or two toys and a bag of fruit and candy. Adults get to choose a few items from donations that include household items, clothing, shoes and canned goods. Over the past three years, Shamrock has added joy by providing the gift of pet food for the community's many companion animals.

The Clinic not only puts on the Christmas Party but also supports the community by provid-

ing dry and canned goods, toiletries, medicines, and necessary personal items. Eula explained that it takes about \$500 a month to be able to provide the food items alone. The Clinic also helps to supplement the costs of resident's prescriptions, which costs about \$1,200 per month. Many people have no insurance.

When the group arrived, volunteers helped to unload all the pet food, and other donations. Eula, who is a dog mom, said it was wonderful and they will be glad to receive pet food any time.

The Rainbow Spiritual Education Center is grateful to all of the organizations who have helped to make this annual outreach a success. Everyone involved has truly made a difference. For more information about Angels of the Rainbow community outreach, contact:



Rev. Cyndi (C.J.) Wright, Executive Director  
**Rainbow Spiritual Education Center, Inc.**  
(502) 386-9680 or email [RSECenter@aol.com](mailto:RSECenter@aol.com)

A Non-Profit, 501c(3) organization



*Angels with Eula Hall*



**Shamrock Foundation, Inc.**

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