

Bluegrass Animal Welfare League, Inc.



"Dedicated to Responsible
Pet Ownership"

Newsletter

Spring 2008

ANNOUNCING THE 2008 PET JAMBOREE!

The date for the upcoming Pet Jamboree is April 27th. It will be held at the Thoroughbred Center on Paris Pike—Map is enclosed. All activities can be held inside the Center and booths can be set up outside if the weather is good. We hope that all rescue and humane organizations will take advantage of our offer to set up a booth at no cost. Business groups will be asked to donate \$25 for their booth space.

We plan to have all the usual activities such as obedience, agility, 4H activities, Blessing of the Animals, and something new this year: a good old-fashioned New England Penny Sale! These are lots of fun and we have received many really good prizes for this sale. (See kybawl.org for a list.) One can buy as many \$1 tickets as they want to. If you win something you don't want, there can be trading, which adds to the fun. Every gift will be worth more than \$1. For more details, call Sally, as she is the mastermind who thought this up! The sale moves fast, so put your track shoes on and join the fun, which begins at 3 p.m.

We hope to see all people and groups at this event, demonstrating their dedication to animal welfare. Lunch can be purchased at any time. Joann Lorrison will bring that delicious "Firehouse Chili," and of course Linda Campbell will be fixing those yummy hot dogs and other treats.

We hope homes are found for many of the sweet creatures that will be bathed and brushed and looking their best. Don't let these little angels down—Show your love of all animals and come to the Pet Jamboree! Booth and rescue groups can set up at 11 a.m.; the public can enter at noon.

PICTURES OF PETS AND/OR CHILDREN WITH SANTA

This picture event keeps growing! We appreciate Joseph-Beth Booksellers setting up a beautiful corner of their children's section and giving us three sessions to hold this happiest of Christmas fundraisers. The digital pictures by Phyllis and Penny were beautiful, and people were so happy to have this special gift for Christmas. Our Santa's, Terry Browning and Doug Maxon, are so good at getting pets and children to smile for the camera! This project is so popular that people just tend to sit around and watch the fun.

PICNIC WITH THE PUPS—2008

The 2008 Picnic with the Pups will be held on Sunday, September 7, 2008 at Keeneland. People have been calling since January to see the date for this popular fundraiser, so put it on your calendar now.

A PET'S PLEA

Treat me kindly for no heart in all the world is more grateful for kindness than the loving heart of me. Speak to me often, for your voice is the world's sweetest music, as you must know by the fierce wagging of my whole body when your footstep falls upon my waiting ear.

Take me inside when it is cold and wet. I ask no greater glory than the privilege of sitting at your feet beside the hearth.

Thank you for keeping my pan filled with fresh water, for I cannot tell you when I suffer thirst.

Feed me good food that I may stay well to romp and play and do your bidding, to walk by your side and stand ready, willing and able to protect you with my life should your life be in danger.

And...when I am very old and I no longer enjoy good health, hearing and sight, do not make heroic efforts to keep me going. I am not having any fun. Please see that my trusting life is taken gently and in your arms. Then I will leave this earth knowing with the last breath I draw, my fate was always safest in your hands.

BOOK REVIEW BY GLORIA BROWNING

Even Cat Sitters Get the Blues is the third installment in the Dixie Hemingway pet sitter mystery series, and arguably the best one so far. Author Blaze Clement's heroine and sleuth is a former sheriff's deputy in sunny Florida who is gradually adjusting to life after the tragic death of her husband and young daughter. Pet sitting suits the 30ish Dixie who is detail-oriented and has a great compassion for animals and people. In this book Dixie becomes involuntarily embroiled in the care of an iguana who belongs to a mysteriously ill scientist whose security worker is murdered. Although Dixie tries to resist being caught up in the tangled lives linked to the scientist, iguana, and murdered man, her curiosity and care for the people and animals involved lead her to solve the murder and confront the killer. *Curiosity Killed the Cat Sitter* and *Duplicity Dogged the Dachshund* established this series as pet-related, with dark undertones, not unlike Carol Benjamin's Rachel Alexander and Dash series. It's available through the public library and in stores.

GOODBYE, TOMMY

In 1989, BAWL presented the first Pet Festival at Lafayette High School. We contacted the Lexington Fire Department and requested that they send an arson dog and handler to the event to demonstrate what service dogs do for us. We were so lucky that they sent Captain Tommy Lorrison and his beloved dog, Mya. Tommy was the keeper and handler of the first Lexington Fire Department arson dog, and both Tommy and Mya served until their joint retirement in 1996. From then on, Tommy never missed a BAWL event. He was always at the sites before anyone and usually was the last to leave. He kept his eye on every aspect of the fundraisers and he knew what a "nervous Nellie" Virginia was, so he kept his eye on the entrance and would hurry and tell her that "Jack Pattie's on the way in," or "the band is on its way," so she would relax. He wouldn't take an office, so one day Virginia asked him what he wanted to be called. After some thought, he said, "maybe 'Official Greeter.'" That didn't even begin to cover what he did for us, including making his "Firehouse Chili." All BAWL members will forever miss the quiet presence of this animal lover and dedicated public servant. Our love and condolences go to his wife Joann.

CONDOLENCES

Condolences go to Diane Busby and family for the loss of her Mother, Nancy Baxter.

Condolences to Shirley Davidson on the loss of her husband J.T. Davidson.

CAT DIARY (author unknown but we thank them for the laugh)
Day 983 of my captivity."

My captors continue to taunt me with bizarre little dangling objects.

They dine lavishly on fresh meat, while the other inmates and I are fed hash or some sort of dry nuggets. Although I make my contempt for the rations perfectly clear, I nevertheless must eat something in order to keep up my strength.

The only thing that keeps me going is my dream of escape.

In an attempt to disgust them, I once again vomit on the carpet

Today I decapitated a mouse and dropped its headless body at their feet. I had hoped this would strike fear into their hearts, since it clearly demonstrates what I am capable of. However, they merely made condescending comments about what a 'good little hunter' I am. Idiot!

There was some sort of assembly of their accomplices tonight. I was placed in solitary confinement for the duration of the event. However, I could hear the noises and smell the food. I overheard that my confinement was due to the power of 'allergies.' I must learn what this means, and how to use it to my advantage.

Today I was almost successful in an attempt to assassinate one of my tormentors by weaving around his feet as he was walking. I must try this again tomorrow - but at the top of the stairs.

I am convinced that the other prisoners here are flunkies and snitches. The dog receives special privileges. He is regularly released and seems to be more than willing to return. He is obviously retarded.

The bird has got to be an informant. I observe him communicating with the guards regularly. I am certain that he reports my every move. My captors have arranged protective custody for him in an elevated cell, so he is safe.....For now!

JOIN BAWL!

Your tax-deductible membership dues will help support our programs to halt pet overpopulation: Humane Education and Spay/Neuter Subsidies. The Bluegrass Animal Welfare League, Inc., meets on the first Tuesday of each month at 7:00 p.m. at Mayfair Manor (Integrated Health Services), 3300 Tates Creek Road. All members are welcome to attend, as is anyone thinking of joining.

_____ I would like to join BAWL!
(\$15 regular annual membership donation;
\$10 for senior citizens and students)

_____ I do not wish to join at this time, but would
like to make a contribution of \$ _____

Name (please print)

Address

Phone

Would like to volunteer _____

Mail to: Bluegrass Animal Welfare League
P.O. Box 4704
Lexington, KY 40544-4704

Directions to Thoroughbred Center

Take exit 113 off of I-75/I-64 (one exit north of I-64 East.) Turn left (NE) onto Paris Pike (US 68). The Thoroughbred Center is 2.3 miles on your right.

From New Circle Road turn onto Broadway heading northeast. Broadway becomes Paris Pike. The Thoroughbred Center is 3.5 miles from New Circle Road.

