

*The official newsletter  
for friends, volunteers  
and supporters*

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**We'd like to hear from you!**

Send all donations to:

Chihuahua Rescue &  
Transport  
P.O. Box 53115  
Cincinnati, OH 45253

Or go to: <http://www.chihuahua-rescue.org/>  
and click on "make a  
donation" in the left column.



**THE PREZ SEZ**

*In hard times, need grows*

This has been a year that was tough on everyone, and that includes dogs.

We've received the usual requests to take in dogs, as well as more requests from families moving into housing that doesn't allow pets or who can't pay the pet deposit. It's a sad situation to try to find a new home for a family member for reasons one never expected.

We can't take in all the dogs, so we have to deal with them one at a time. For the others, we try to offer suggestions so people can find ways to help the dogs themselves. That's a bit of a trick sometimes. One of my jobs as president is to answer the odd questions, requests and e-mail that come in every day. Sometimes it's not easy.

How do you respond to someone who bought a Chihuahua, loved it for a year or two, spoiled it and then, when they have a new baby, decide the housebreaking issues are no longer tolerable.



**SEE PREZ, PAGE 2**

REGIONAL ROUNDUP

## A quiet summer in the Midwest

The Midwest has been very quiet for a while now. We held our yearly Chi-Esta! this summer, where we all had a good time and sold quite a few items, but the annual Barktoberfest in Cincinnati was canceled. Adoptions are very slow, and we are loaded with foster dogs.

We need foster volunteers in Ohio, Indiana, Kentucky, Wisconsin, Minnesota, Michigan and Illinois. Foster families are required to have a fenced yard, a requirement that cannot be waived for the safety of our dogs. If you are interested in fostering dogs, please check the volunteer section of our website for contacts, and send an e-mail.

The holidays are here, and we're hoping you can open your hearts and homes to our little guys. There are so many who need homes. I turn down between 18 and 20 dogs a week that need care because of the lack of good homes and open foster spaces. Make a four-legged friend's holidays special by adopting another small family member. The love you get in return will make up for any extra work many times over, and your own little one will love a companion.

*Laura Hasenstab, treasurer,  
Midwest Region*

*Ohio, Indiana, Kentucky, Michigan, Minnesota, Wisconsin, Illinois*

## Southwest gears up for Chi-Esta!

Hello from the Southwest! We are busy as usual in our area with several adoption showings a month and other events in the metroplex.

We would love to have more volunteers and foster homes in the Dallas-Fort Worth area. We do a great job of saving Chihuahuas, but many are turned away because of a shortage of foster homes. CRT takes care of all medical bills at CRT-approved vet clinics; all you need to do is provide the dog food and plenty of love. Please send e-mail to SouthwestCoordinator@chihuahua-rescue.com if you'd like more information on becoming a volunteer.

Our 10<sup>th</sup> Annual Dallas-Fort Worth Chi-Esta! was held in October. We'll have a full report and photos in our next newsletter. We have been preparing for the Chi-Esta for months and expect it to be our biggest yet.

SEE ROUNDUP, PAGE 3

## PREZ

Then there are the families that allow a dog to misbehave, inadvertently reinforce it, and when the dog begins biting, they look to a rescue for help.

I also hear about cases where the only option I can offer for the dog is euthanasia. Sometimes I receive an angry response, but usually, the person thanks me for being honest and essentially, giving them permission to take the dog to the vet.

The cases I like best are the behavioral issues where I offer resources and some ideas for training strategies, and the owner writes back that something worked. That makes my day, sometimes even my week.

With these crisis situations, requests to take dogs in are increasing at the same time adoptions and donations are declining.

Remember, there are painless ways to donate.

Use iGive.com as a shopping tool for the holidays, and remember to designate Chihuahua Rescue and Transport as your charity of choice.

Consider asking your family and friends to donate to CRT in lieu of another box of dusting powder, another bunch of socks or an ugly tie.

Save your pocket change and the change in the sofa cushions and cash it in at the bank and send us what you've collected. Small change can make a big difference.

If you don't donate directly to CRT, consider making a donation to a "pet-vet savings account" to provide an emergency fund for your dogs.

Have a happy holiday season, and a prosperous new year.

*Lynn Buntin, president.*

## ROUNDUP

Be sure to check out our adoptions page. We have some gorgeous puppies available and many adult dogs that are looking for forever homes. If you can't adopt, maybe you could help with veterinarian costs by being a "best friend" sponsor. Come see us at the Frisco PetSmart twice a month to meet us and our dogs!

*Robin Pitre  
Southwest Region*

## Senior Chis find homes in Texas

Due to a special circumstances, we have several senior Chihuahuas in our area. Mostly those stay at my house, but I'm lucky to have found a volunteer to share my hospice duties. That's OK, but these seniors still take up space that could go to save dogs in danger. About a year ago, I came up with an idea that is a win-win opportunity. Here is the story of Maggie and her new buddy.

Maggie was one of the dogs left behind when a former CRT treasurer and board member Leclair Bissell died. I had promised I would take her dogs if she died before they did. Maggie, a black and tan whose full name is Magnet, was living at my home along with her mates, Olivia and Gigi. A young woman called me in search of an older dog for her father-in-law who was in his 80s. It hit me that this might be the opportunity Maggie was waiting for. I wasn't giving her enough attention and she could be the center of all this man's attentions.

We went over to meet Thomas, and Maggie proceeded to show me this was the right home. At the time, he used an electric scooter to get around outside his apartment. After Maggie had been with him a while, his need for that scooter diminished and now he seldom uses it at all. He and Maggie are doing great together. Leclair provided for the care of the dogs so I take her meds and whatever else she might need. I pick her up for her vet visits, but generally, she spends her time taking care of her octogenarian buddy.

Right now, I still have three seniors at the house, but they are doing just fine. However, if a match comes along, I'll just have to recruit another permanent foster home.

Several Chihuahuas in Texas are available for adoption. See our website at: [www.chihuahua-rescue.org](http://www.chihuahua-rescue.org)



CONNOR

In other news, CRT chapters in New York, New Jersey and Florida are temporarily inactive as we rebuild our teams of volunteers and foster homes. We need people who can follow directions and a chain of command, answer e-mail promptly, keep their coordinator informed, train the animals in their care and help to evaluate prospective adopters.

*Lynnie Bunten,  
South Texas/San Antonio, New Jersey, New York*

## Carolinas, Virginia need foster homes

Adoptions in our area have been slow but the number of shelters asking us to take in dogs continues to rise. We are in desperate need of foster volunteers. I am now turning away 10 to 12 a day. A shelter in South Carolina has asked us to take in 179 dogs seized from a hoarder, but our foster homes are full. We continue to have monthly adoption events but most people seem to be looking for a "free" dog.

If you would like to volunteer to foster dogs in the North Carolina, South Carolina or Virginia, please contact me at [carolinascoordinator@chihuahua-rescue.com](mailto:carolinascoordinator@chihuahua-rescue.com).

*Carla Johnson  
North Carolina, South Carolina and Virginia*

# Dear Diary, I'm feeling sick. Love, Margo

**Day 1:** Well, fall is here and it's time for my mom to take me for rides in my crate. The last time we went anywhere was to the vet, and I threw up all over the crate before we got there, but that's only because I knew where we were going. I promise I won't throw up if we go to the park!



**Day 2:** Okay. I couldn't help it. If my mom would drive like a sane person, maybe I wouldn't have to throw up.

**Day 3:** How exciting! Mom got out harnesses and leashes for Genna and me, and Sabrie and Pepper had to stay home! But just when I thought I'd have to bark from excitement (I never bark), I realized where we were going. Yep. The vet. And I learned a new trick, too. I managed to throw up both going there and coming home, and I hadn't even eaten



anything for seven hours! Not bad, huh? I got some shots from the vet, and I've attached a picture here so you can all see her. Do NOT, I repeat, do NOT allow

your moms to take you to see this lady. She stole my toenails right off my feet, and poked me with that needle about a hundred times. And worst of all, she *laughed* about it, as you can see. This was not funny.

**Day 4:** Someone in this house who isn't me is in big trouble. Sabrie was outside the other day, and my mom called her to come in. She came running in with a big mouthful of feathers! Like my mom can't "see," you know? So out she stomped to check the yard, and sure enough, there was a little sparrow (still intact) that Sabrie had started to pluck. And you know what her defense was? She thought it was a CHICKEN, and she was fixing dinner! Then she thought she'd distract mom by being cute. Even my mom isn't that stupid.



**Day 5:** Another boring day. Too hot outside, no excitement, laid around biting my toenails all afternoon. After dinner, Genna got into my dogbed and I had to scare her out of it. That was easy—I just get up real close to her and stare. She always runs to mom and tells, but since she's twice as big as I am, mom doesn't believe her. If she won't get out when I stare, I usually go in the kitchen and rattle around, and Genna comes running in to see if I've found any food. While she's checking it out, I'm back in the dining room in my bed!

**Day 6:** I think today I'm going to ask my mom to take me, just me, not that little snitch Pepper, to the park. I heard there are ducks there, and I'd love to see one of those up close. Yes, sirree, a big fat duck, right in front of my face. That's what I want to see! Later.....

*Love, Margo*



# DONATIONS

## IN HONOR OF.....

**Lois West**, *Walter Bowe and Carlene Mendieta*

**Erika Davila**, *Lola Davila*

**Eddie and Jody Keenan**, *Gabby*

**Jessica Vaught**, *Deadeye Pete*

**Connie B. Bright**, *Viva*

**Mary and Dwayne Vaughan**, *Penelope*

**Shirley Weyenberg**, *Tequila*

**Linda and W.B. Plemons**, *Petey*

**Rose Ann and B.E. Wallace** *Aunt Ruby and Uncle Paul*

**Deborah Zihlman**, *Stella Mae*

**Casey Mogford**, *Gabby*

**Samantha Jacobs**, *Gabby*

**James Delnort**, *Zoey*

**Susan Kuffel**, *Jasmine*

**Dr. Paul Polner; Rich and Patti Hershey;**

**Janet Collem and Donna Maxwell;**  
**Mary Ann Renza; Len and Casey Arlen; Joyce Simononis and Glenn Slater; Renee Renza; Barbara Hassett; Susan Hassett; Marie Myers; Jason and Theresa Arlen; Marianne and Len Niklauski; Hendrix, Daisy, Burns, Bean and Rosie Facciolo; Liz Facciolo and Frank Grotti; Frank and Pat Wargocki; Hendrix, Daisy, Burns, Bean, Rosie and Elizabeth Facciolo**  
*In honor of newlyweds Frank and Ellen Facciolo*

**Jennifer Plodzien**, *Wilby, Penny and Noel*

**Ashley Petrie**, *Peanut and Cookie*

**Lisa Faella**, *Romeo*

**Tom and Cheryl Mason**, *Molly*

**Richard Hughes**, *Carla Johnson, Dobby*

**Barbara L. King**, *Beau and Chili*

**Geraldine Polson**, *Ozzie*

**Barbara J. Vance**, *Ninja and Danny*

**Mary J. Pitcairn**, *Daphne and Punkin*

**Debbie Barfield**, *Figaro*

**Tom Clarkson**, *Chloe*

**Paul Giordano**, *Bucky (Mr. Buck)*

**Dolores Patterson**, *Ali*

**Nancy Larrow**, *Kyle Farr and Nico*

**Madison at Dogster.com**, *"Will your breed win contest in plus fun"*

**Elizabeth M. Barreras**, *Theresa Barreras*

**Glenda Stewart**, *Wesley*

**Walter Bowe and Carlene Mendieta**, *Opi*

**James Ware**, *Mixie*

**Margo Wilbanks**, *Nusse*

*CRT's financial report is available at [www.chihuahua-rescue.org](http://www.chihuahua-rescue.org)*

## IN MEMORY OF.....

**Jaime Hunt**, *Kaya*

**Marcia Musial**, *Anna K. Wallace*

**Nancy Larrow**, *Leroy*

**Colleen and John Castro**, *Humphrey and Marigold*

**Jack and Jennifer Poole**, *Basil (Lil' B)*

**Laura Wingrove**, *Little Bit*

**Judy Gee**, *Kitty Pritchard and Melody Manor*

**Paul and Ruby Skatnicki**, *Booth Wallace, 1928 - 2010*

**Anonymous**, *Bella*

**From your case management family**, *Stephanie Rea Crawford*

**Mike and Cynthia Haynsworth**, *Booth Wallace*

**Nancy Davis**, *ChiChi*

**Kat and Stan Clark**, *Lily*

**Kathy S. Fox**, *Trixie, Dixie Lou, and Skeeter Bug*

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# DONATIONS



## IN MEMORY OF.....

**Susan Herrington, Mickey**  
**Linda and Wayne Moffet, FEA**

**Colleen and Oliver Dold, Cricket**

**Dick Dickerson, MushMe**

**Debbie Barfield, Leroy**

**R.J. Strafford and Sonny, Selma Hill**

**Melinda and Charles Loy, Sugar Lump and Pepe**

**Nancy Davis, ChiChi**

**Lee Holleck, Zippy**

**Maureen Monteiro, Elizabeth Kimmey**

**Joan M. Slaughter, Chico (Jane and Sami Shamilk)**

**Joanne and Scott Fountain, Tom Penn**

**Brian and Lisa Waugaman, Catherine "Buffie" Wiczorek Corsale**  
**Lorie Burns, Glen Cusack**

**Shellie Anderson, Angel**  
**Nancy Davis, Chi Chi**

**The Scarlet O'Hatters, Red Hat Group From Pasco County, Fla., Susie Allison**

**Jacqueline Chapman, Frank R. Light, San Diego, Calif.**

**Nancy Davis, Chi Chi**

**Daniel Minninger, Zoe**

**Claude Blakely, Baisa and Manfred**

## SAVE-A-CHI

**Jack and Jennifer Poole, Harley**

**Margaret Edwards, Fancy, Boo and Lottie**

**Pat Winne, Sarita**

**Marion Mergo, Tlalli**

**Lucy Seward, Hiker and Taco**

**Christi Van Horne, Sabrie**

# Thank you!

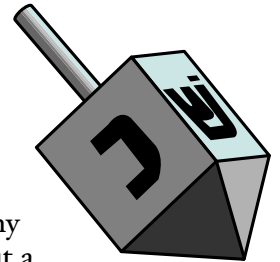


Fireplug Inn supports CRT by collecting donations and providing free boarding for our foster dogs. If you live in the Dallas/Fort Worth area and are looking for doggy daycare or bed-and-breakfast for your small dog, be sure to check them out!  
<http://www.firepluginn.com>

## Vote for Margo!

**DEAR DIARY:** I'm so disgusted. My mom told me pretty soon people were going to get tired of hearing my opinions on everything! How stupid! Who wouldn't like to hear what I think about things? No one, that's who!

I'm going to prove my point, so I need some help. If you want me to keep blogging, then here's what you need to do: Send \$5 for each dog/person who wants to read my blog, and I'll put a special holiday page on our website acknowledging your donation! It will look like this:



### MARGO'S HOLIDAY PAGE!

*John and Mary Smith, along with Rufus Bingo Smith, support Margo's blog and wish everyone Happy Holidays! (\$15)*

OR

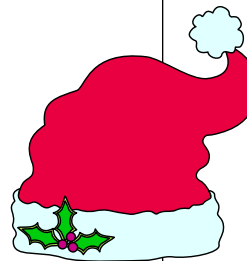
*Rufus Bingo Smith supports Margo's blog and wishes everyone a Merry Christmas! (\$5)*

Cool, huh? Better get those pens out and start writing.

You can send it to my mom at CRT, Inc. P.O. Box 53115, Cincinnati, OH 45253. You can also use PayPal if you go to our website.

Let the dollars roll in.....!

Love, Margo



# Traveling with your furry friends

BY JACKIE BUSCH, DVM

Traveling can be stressful and traveling with your companion may add additional stress, but, if you properly plan and prepare, it can become a memorable experience for your family. Planning and preparation should include not only the travel plans and the destination, but a wellness exam for your pet and its travel necessities.

Before travel, an appointment with your pet's veterinarian is recommended to insure your pet is not only healthy for travel, but that all vaccinations are current and that additional vaccinations for travel to a specific area may be addressed as well. If your pet gets anxious during travel or succumbs to motion sickness, your veterinarian may be able to prescribe medications to insure your pet is comfortable. Obtaining copies of your pet's history, including a rabies certificate, is essential for travel in case you may need to seek veterinary care elsewhere. If your pet does not have a microchip, this is a good opportunity to have one implanted as a means of permanent identification. Traveling by plane or to other areas of the country may require a health certificate. It's recommended that you call the airline or discuss with your veterinarian if traveling by car. With the health certificate, there is a period in which the pet must have been examined by the veterinarian; some airlines require the certificate to be completed within 10 days of travel. Be aware that if you are traveling outside of North America, it may take several months to complete all the country-specific requirements.

Packing a "bag" for your pet will help ensure you do not forget anything. Included items should be paperwork and recent color photographs as well as medications (this may include heartworm preventative and flea and tick preventative). Food as well as water should be packed to help avoid any



gastrointestinal upset. Comfort items, such as your pet's bed, favorite toy or blanket can help decrease anxiety. Pets should always travel in a crate or a harness which attaches directly to the seatbelt. A good tip is to buy a crate that is "airline approved" even if you will only be traveling by car. This is your pet's safety seat. It should be large enough for the pet to stand, turn and lay down comfortably. It needs to have adequate ventilation and, if traveling by car, should be placed out of direct sunlight. If traveling by plane, include a "live animal" sticker on the outside.

Your pet should wear a collar with identification tags in case of loss. Traveling on an empty stomach may be best for your pet to prevent motion sickness. During car travel, it is recommended that short, frequent stops (every three to five hours) be made to allow your pet to stretch, exercise, relieve itself and have a drink. Always put the leash on before opening car doors so there is no chance of escape. Remember to never leave a pet unattended in a car, even for a few minutes.

If your travels include hotel stays, always inquire before arrival if they accept pets and, if so, are there any restrictions about size or breed. The ground floor is best to allow quick and easy access to the outside. Ask if there is a certain area in which your pet should be walked, and be respectful: walk them only in that area and pick up their droppings.

Traveling with your pet can result in a memorable vacation for your family. With so many pet-friendly cities, hotels and B&B's, traveling has become easier than ever. For pet travel guides, check [www.dogfriendly.com](http://www.dogfriendly.com). Check your AAA office for additional information.

*Jackie Busch is a veterinarian with the Avon Veterinary Clinic in Avon, Ind.*

# Putting the groove back in trick knees

BY DAN MEAKIN, DVM

Patellar luxation, or dislocation of the kneecap, is a common condition typically affecting small and toy breed dogs such as the Chihuahua. At All Creatures animal hospital, patella luxation is one of the most common orthopedic surgeries we perform. It affects one of both knees to varying degrees; however, most commonly the knee cap pops out medially.

While patellar luxation can be caused by trauma, it is usually due to conformational deformities of the rear limbs that affect muscle pull and alignment, leading to “slippage” of the kneecap out of the central groove of the femur. The most common reported signs for mild luxations are “skipping” while running or occasional limping in the affected limbs. The condition is often referred to as “trick knee,” as the knee cap is repeatedly slipping out of joint and causing the dog a skip or having to straighten out its leg to reinsert the kneecap into the worn out or nonexistent groove. The condition always worsens with age and can lead to two complications such as arthritis or cranial cruciate ligament tears if left untreated. One common complication is arthritis from the continual wear and tear on the joint from the leg slipping out of joint. Patella luxation occurs in different severities or grades (one through four) with the mildest form only “slipping” out of position when forced, and the most severe form being permanently fixed in a luxated position. The higher the grade, the more obvious the clinical signs become, such as the dog limping or skipping.

Most dogs will show intermittent lameness with skipping of steps, holding a rear limb at an



abnormal angle or “locking” up the knee joint before returning to a normal gait. Patellar luxation often occurs in both knees and signs may be seen in both legs. If cartilage is worn down from constant rubbing, lameness and pain will be more obvious and severe. With grade three and four luxations, dogs may also experience a mechanical lameness due to alteration of their normal muscle-pulley mechanism.

Treatment can be conservative without surgery

for low-grade patellar luxations, especially if dogs are not showing intermittent or persistent lameness. For more severe grades or dogs showing signs frequently, surgical correction is usually recommended. The goal of surgery is to realign the “patella-mechanism” and allow the kneecap and its main muscles to line up and ride in the centered groove of the knee. Surgery usually involves deepening the groove to “capture” the patella. In other words, we put a new groove in the knee. In addition, surgery may involve moving the muscle attachment of the patella into better alignment and adjusting the joint capsule tension to not pull the knee cap out of position. If severe deformation of the bone is present, correction of angulation may have to be performed. For the more severe deformities, it is best to consult with an experience veterinary surgeon or a board-certified specialist. The good news is that with proper surgery, most dogs have a good to excellent prognosis for return to normal function.

*Dan Meakin runs All Creatures Animal Hospital in Amelia, Ohio*



TRAINER TIME

# HOME ALONE

## Relieving your dog's stress when you're not there

KRISTIN GIESEKER, *Animal Behavior and Training Specialist*.

Separation anxiety is something many owners struggle with. It's a large issue that's hard to cover in just a few tips, but I'm going to try to do that here.

1) **EXERCISE!** Dogs need daily exercise to burn energy, relieve stress and maintain a good level of health. Make sure you are providing the appropriate level of exercise for your dog's breed, age and health level each day. Give your dog at least a 15 minute brisk walk or jog before you're going to be leaving for the day, so that it doesn't have so much energy to stress with.

2) Invest in a crate (for dogs with anxiety, I recommend the plastic kennels). While this is an expense, the things your dog may destroy in a bout of anxiety will cost you far more. Leaving an insecure dog loose in an open space is cruel. Dogs need jobs. When a wild dog is a puppy, its mother will leave it in a den with its siblings, and the puppy's job is to stay hidden from predators. When you leave a dog loose in an area unsupervised, the dog now has many jobs to pick from. Pace? Find things to destroy to ease the boredom? When we crate our dogs, we are telling them, "Your job is to stay here until I come back for you." The dog's options are to sit, lie down, stand, or pitch a fit. If pitching a fit is unproductive and yields no reward (the dog is let out or the human returns to soothe it etc.), the behavior will gradually disappear. If the dog has exercised beforehand, the 'lying down' option becomes more attractive.

3) Be prepared before you leave. After you've crated your dog, you want to make sure you can walk straight out, so get everything squared away before you put your dog in the crate. It's best if you



**DOGS LEFT ALONE WILL OFTEN FIND SOMETHING TO DO TO EASE THE BOREDOM.**

can do all these things before the walk, so you can walk back, crate the dog, and go.

4) Make the crate area as low-distraction and stress-free as possible. Close blinds or curtains in the room to cut visual stimulation. Cut audible triggers around the home by leaving a radio or television on at a moderate (speaking voice) level and crating your dog in a room without much echo (an echo tends to cause dogs to bark for longer just to hear themselves). For severe cases or for puppies, I'll often leave a ticking clock on top of the crate. The tick mimics a heartbeat, and many dogs find it soothing. You can use a dog-appeasing pheromone diffuser or spray in the crate area to give it a soothing smell, but be sure to follow any precautions on the bottle.

5) When you leave, make sure it's no big deal! Don't apologize or have one last cuddle or speak soothingly to your dog. If someone took you to a building you'd never been to, and said, "I'm SOOO

**SEE TRAINER, PAGE 10**

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**TRAINER**


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sorry to do this to you, but I promise it won't be so bad, and I'll be back for you as soon as I can" and left, you'd wonder if something awful wasn't going to happen, too! Get a small, non-salty treat (to prevent encouraging heavy water intake), walk the dog over to the crate, put them in, give them the treat, shut the crate door, and say goodbye in an upbeat tone as you walk out.

6) Coming home should be like leaving — low-key. The best thing to do is to come home, put your things down, and take your dog straight outside to potty. After your dog has relieved itself, call it to you for some calm attention.

7) Practice leaving and coming back when you don't actually have to be gone. If you crate your dog, leave the room, wait until its calm, and return and let it out. It will start to get the picture that calm behavior in your absence may be rewarded with your presence. It may take a very long time

initially, but the wait is worth it. When you practice, come back at random intervals so your dog doesn't feel like you will be gone all day every time it is crated.

A special note: If you are gone for more than 6-8 hours at a time, either arrange for someone to take your dog out during the day to relieve itself or make its 'crate' area a small room where it has a bed on one side and newspapers or pee pads on the other. It is both unfair and unhealthy to ask a dog to hold its bladder and bowels all day.

Having another dog around is incredibly helpful to most dogs with separation anxiety. Dogs are social animals that naturally live in packs. Leading solitary lives can be very hard for them. Adding a second dog (preferably a stable adult without separation anxiety) may be all the companionship and influence your dog needs.

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# The gift of life: CPR for your pet

BY DIANA GARDNER-WILLIAMS

A Pet CPR class offered by the American Red Cross in Greensboro could help people save their pet's life.

Shirley Sanders, a Red Cross volunteer, demonstrated the technique recently using a synthetic Dalmatian.

Before administering CPR, make sure your pet is unconscious by checking its breathing. Place your hand in front of its nose, careful not to block air intake. Check your pet's heartbeat by listening to its chest. If your pet is not breathing, quickly place your finger in the mouth and pull out the tongue, looking for foreign objects. If nothing is in the throat, gently move neck until it is straight.

If it is apparent the neck is injured, do not move the animal. Close your pet's mouth and place the 2-liter bottle over nose and mouth and gently blow until the chest expands. Continue rescue breathing once every 5 seconds and periodically check for foreign objects.

The next step for unresponsive pets, is chest compression, which should never precede the rescue breathing technique. Lay your pet on its right side (the heart is located on the lower left side of chest). Place one hand directly on the heart, and with the other hand support the chest by holding the underside of the



**American  
Red Cross**

*Together, we can save a life*

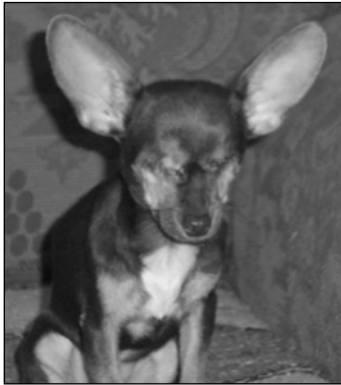
SEE CPR, PAGE 11

# Lesson in love and forgiveness

BY PAMELA STANLEY

*Lollipop Lollipop, Oh Lolli Lolli Lolli Lollipop, Lollipop POP!!!*

When I met this little girl, that is the name that popped into my mind. Maybe it was because I'm a sucker for the physically challenged Chis, or maybe because, despite the horrific injuries to her eyes, she was as sweet and cheery as a delightful piece of candy.



Lolli was dumped at an area shelter after her 'owners' allowed both of her eyes to become so ulcerated that one actually burst. When the shelter notified CRT about this 2.5 pound, 5-month-old darling, a volunteer immediately picked her up and took her to the vet. The vet determined Lolli was blind and that the ulcerated, infected eyes were only causing her pain, so the

recommendation was to remove them.

CRT asked my husband and me if we would foster Lolli. We already had four blind dogs. We said yes, and when I picked her up and saw the bright purple sutures across her face where her eyes should have been, she stole my heart.

Almost immediately I realized Lolli didn't need sympathy, only love. She adjusted to our home within an hour of arriving, making friends with Oliver, Camille, Mango and Precious, our other adopted CRT furkids.

Perhaps even more amazing than Lolli's ability to function, is the impact she has on the people who meet her. It can be shocking to meet a dog with no eyes. The first reaction is usually a little gasp or a muttered 'oh, poor thing.' People are curious about what happened and horrified at the cruelty humans are capable of inflicting on helpless animals. But therein lies an opportunity to educate people about the issue of animal abuse. Just as important is the fact that after only a few minutes of interacting with Lolli, they stop seeing her disability. Instead, they see an affectionate, happy, well-adjusted dog who deserved a chance to live. They see a dog who forgives the human race despite the people who hurt her. They see a dog who wants nothing more than to love and be loved. She teaches a valuable lesson: inner beauty, illuminated by forgiveness and love, is what's important.

Last December, Lolli became a permanent member of our family. She was simply too beautiful to let her go.

## CPR

heart. Press down on the area above the heart about 1 inch if they are medium-sized. Press harder for larger animals, softer for smaller.

Chihuahuas, cats and other small pets should only receive chest compressions with the thumb and forefingers of one hand. The approximate count for larger animals is 80-120 per minute and 10-150 for smaller pets.

Continue compressions and rescue breathing until you can hear a heartbeat or normal breathing. Take them to your veterinarian as soon as possible. They stand a better chance of survival if pet owners are well educated and prepared for such events.

Pet CPR classes can range from 9 to 30 individuals, and schedules are listed on the website at <http://www.redcross.org>

### FIRST AID KIT

The purpose of the kit is to provide temporary comfort and stability while transporting the animal to the veterinary or emergency hospital.

- blanket
- hand sanitizer
- whistle
- scissors
- gauze bandages of various sizes
- bandage tape
- potable drinking water
- cold pack
- eye dropper
- 2-liter bottle cut off at the spout
- nylon leash
- pediatric rectal thermometer
- water-based sterile lubricant
- hydrogen peroxide
- isopropyl alcohol



**YOUR DONATIONS HELP CARE FOR DOGS LIKE CAMMY AND FLOWER WHO ARE LOOKING FOR A HOME IN TEXAS. PLEASE VISIT OUR WEBSITE AT [WWW.CHIHUAHUA-RESCUE.ORG](http://WWW.CHIHUAHUA-RESCUE.ORG) AND VISIT US ON FACEBOOK.**



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