

THE SILVER LINING

VOLUME 11, ISSUE 2



AVMA RESPONSIBLE OWNERSHIP PREVENTS DOG BITES

Breed-specific legislation (BSL) targets specific breeds of dogs that are wrongly thought to all be dangerous, most frequently "pit bull types," and places stricter regulations on these dogs or even makes ownership of them illegal. Several cities, towns and states across the United States and Canada have adopted breed-specific measures in an attempt to prevent dog bites in their communities. However, while BSL may look good on the surface, it is not a reliable or effective solution for dog bite prevention. The AVMA is opposed to breed-specific legislation. **Any dog can bite.** According to the U.S. Centers for Disease Control (CDC), more than 4.5 million people in the United States are bitten by dogs each year, and more than 800,000 receive medical attention for dog bites, with at least half of them being children. It is no exaggeration to say that dog bites pose a significant health risk to our communities and society. The issue of dangerous dogs, dog bites and public safety is a complex one. **Any dog can bite, regardless of its breed.** It is the dog's individual history, behavior, general size, number of dogs involved, and the vulnerability of the person bitten that determines the likelihood of biting and whether a dog will cause a serious bite injury. Breed-specific bans

are a simplistic answer to a far more complex social problem, and they have the potential to divert attention and resources from more effective approaches. The problem with breed-specific legislation AVMA's Policy on Dangerous Animal Legislation states: "The AVMA supports dangerous animal legislation by state, county, or municipal governments provided that legislation does not refer to specific breeds or classes of animals. This legislation should be directed at fostering safety and protection of the general public from animals classified as dangerous." There are several reasons why breed-specific bans and restrictions are not a responsible approach to dog bite prevention:

- Breed-specific laws can be difficult to enforce, especially when a dog's breed can't easily be determined or if it is of mixed breed.
- Frequently, breed-specific legislation focuses on dogs with a certain appearance or physical characteristics, instead of an actual breed. "Pit bulls" are the most frequent targets of breed-specific legislation despite being a general type rather than a breed; other breeds also are sometimes banned, including Rottweilers, Dobermans and boxers. However, it is extremely difficult to determine a dog's breed or breed mix simply by

looking at it. A study conducted by Maddie's Fund, a national shelter initiative, showed that even people very familiar with dog breeds cannot reliably determine the primary breed of a mutt, and dogs often are incorrectly classified as "pit bulls". Because identification of a dog's breed with certainty is prohibitively difficult, breed-specific laws are inherently vague and very difficult to enforce.

- Breed-specific legislation is discriminatory against responsible owners and their dogs. By generalizing the behaviors of dogs that look a certain way, innocent dogs and pet owners suffer. BSL can lead to the euthanasia of innocent dogs that fit a certain "look," and to responsible pet owners being forced to move or give up dogs that have never bitten or threatened to bite.
- Furthermore, dogs that are considered to be of a "dangerous breed" may already be serving the community in positions such as police work, military operations, rescue purposes, and as service animals. Contrary to being a liability, these animals are assets to society; however, they too, suffer due to misinformation and breed-based stereotypes.

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***“EVERYONE
DESERVES TO BE
TREATED FAIRLY
AND
OBJECTIVELY,
TWO-LEGGED OR
FOUR.”***

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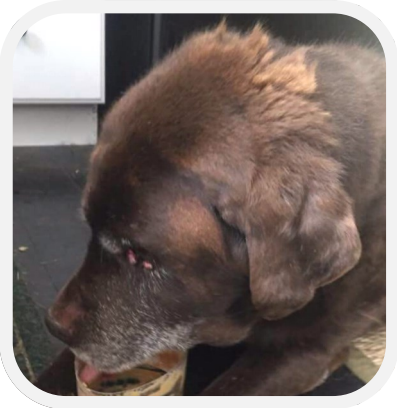
IN MEMORIAM



Mickey Maslar



Bailey Shine



Oscar Urban



Ruger Thomaston Feed



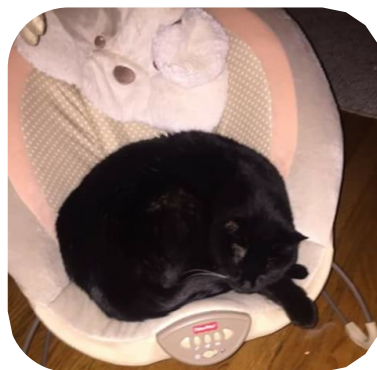
Kitten Cat Parr



Lexi Brisk



Razzamatuzz Barbeau



Milo Hyland



Grey Cat Monstella



Tuesday Progano



Paco Robanno Gioia

Bill of Rights for Grieving Animal Lovers

It is Hereby Declared that Grieving Animal Lovers have the Right:

To feel the pain of grief when the bonds with our pets are broken. The bonds we have with our companion animals are deep and strong; the pain we feel when those bonds are broken is real and worthy of our grief.

To feel shocked and overwhelmed by the intensity of our grief. Since our animals' life spans are so much shorter than our own, it is inevitable that eventually we will experience the loss of our beloved animal companions. The grief we feel at such times can be far more intense than we ever expected, no different from that of losing another special family member or cherished friend.

To understand our grief reactions, feelings and behaviors as normal. Grief is a natural, spontaneous response to the loss of a significant relationship.

To express our grief in our own unique way, within our own time frame. The course of grief is unpredictable and uneven, with no specific time frame. How we express our grief will vary among individuals, but we all get through it in personally meaningful ways.

To have our grief recognized by others as significant and legitimate. Since grieving over animals isn't generally accepted in our society, we may feel uneasy or embarrassed, as if we have right to feel or express our grief because our loss is not significant

enough. But we're not grieving "just an animal." Since we're the only ones who know how much our animals meant to us, when they're gone we're the only ones who can measure how very much we've lost.

To feel supported by others in our grief. When our companion animals die, there are no formal, public rituals where we can express and share our sorrow, talk about our loss and obtain the sympathy and support of others. At the very time when we need to be with others who understand, we feel isolated and alone. We need to find someone with whom we can openly acknowledge our feelings, express and work through our pain, and come to terms with our loss.

To honor the memory of our pets in whatever way we see fit. To memorialize our beloved companion animals is to honor and acknowledge the important role they played in our lives, to bring comfort to ourselves and to help us keep their love and presence in our hearts. Among other things, we can memorialize our pets by writing about them, making an album or a scrapbook, planting a living memorial in our garden, having a meaningful memorial service, funeral or ritual, or making a donation to a charitable animal organization in our pets' name.

Source: GriefHealing.org

"If it should be that I grow weak and pain should keep me from my sleep;
 then you must do what must be done, for this last battle can't be won.
 You will be sad, I understand; but don't let grief then stay your hand.
 For this day more than all the rest, your love for me must stand the test.
 We've had so many happy years; what is to come can hold no fears.
 You don't want me to suffer so, the time has come please let me go.
 Take me where my needs they'll tend, but please stay with me till the end.
 To hold me close and speak to me, until my eyes no longer see."

~ Final Journey, LLC
 -an in-home pet euthanasia service

Until one has loved an
 animal, a part of one's
 soul remains unawakened.
 ~Anatole France

How to Handle Territorial Aggression in Cats

Is your cat acting up, defending her territory, or otherwise being aggressive? Here are some of the reasons why this happens, and what you can do to help.

Territorial Cat Behavior

Territorial behavior in cats can present itself in a number of ways, for a number of reasons. Cats are more territorial than dogs by nature, and they can also be more solitary. Territorial behavior in cats usually involves urine marking (spraying), hissing, stalking, or attacking another cat. Territorial behavior can be more serious in cats than in dogs because cats see their territory differently, often viewing newcomers as invaders or intruders, whether it's a new cat in the household or neighborhood cats outside. Cats are also a little pickier — your cat may tolerate one cat but not another. Intact male cats can be particularly territorial, so it's important to spay and neuter pet cats. Even friendly, social kittens may become territorial when they mature. To avoid this, it's best to socialize your kitten from 3–12 weeks of age by getting her used to a variety of situations, even those outside the home, such as going to the vet or groomer. If your cat displays sudden signs of territorial aggression, especially out-of-box elimination, consider a visit to your veterinarian to rule out any health issues which may be causing the behavior. Spay or neuter any intact pets in your home. This alone can go a long way toward eliminating aggression. One intact pet can end up affecting all the pets in your household. Definitely don't let your cat fight other cats. Unlike dogs who are sometimes able to work things out, the more cats fight, the worse the problem can become.

Squirt fighting cats with water or use a whistle to distract them. Never try to pull them apart or you may get hurt, and never punish them for territorial behavior or they may become more aggressive. If the problem is ongoing, you may need to separate the cats while you work out the problem with professional help. Adding a new cat to a household can take a lot more time than adding a new dog. The cats need to be kept separate for a period. You can switch the new and resident cats' bedding so they can smell each other, and let them sniff under doorways or with the new cat in a carrier. Friendly social cats will probably be more accepting of each other while more independent cats or those who have been the only cat in the household may take quite a while. Sometimes it just doesn't work out and the cats have to live separately, but it's often worth the effort to try.

GETTING PROFESSIONAL HELP

Effectively helping a territorial cat become calmer and more social depends on the owner, the cat, and the situation. Early socialization and positive reinforcement to reward desirable behavior can go a long way toward developing a well behaved cat. Adult cats with territorial issues should be taken seriously as these behaviors can turn to aggression. If you have trouble resolving your cat's issues on your own, seek advice from a professional trainer or behaviorist. They can often help get things back on track for you and your cat — so you can both live together in a happier home.

Source: Purina

SOMETIMES I GET A LITTLE SAD AND FEEL LIKE BEING ALONE. THEN I TALK TO MY CAT ABOUT IT, AND HE REMINDS ME, I'M AWESOME. THEN WE DANCE.

Serving Your Cats Food

What you serve your cat's food on might not seem to matter, but it can actually make a big difference for your cat. We don't worry about whiskers when we eat, but for a cat, a dish that interferes with whiskers can make eating less pleasant. We'll give you a better idea of what your cat might like in a feeding dish.

Tip 1: Use a shallow bowl that a cat can grab food from without impeding her whiskers. A bowl that's too deep may be uncomfortable for her.

Tip 2: Choose a dish large enough to hold a day's worth of food, with a lip just tall enough to keep the food contained while letting her easily observe the room. Cat's like to be aware of their surroundings while they eat.

Tip 3: If you constantly find yourself cleaning up after your cat, consider a wide plate large enough to catch stray kibble or canned food. Hopefully these tips will help you feed your cat in a way that's as pleasant as possible for her.

Source: Purina

RESPONSIBLE PET OWNERSHIP

Is proper pet ownership in the eye of the beholder? Yes, to a point. Some might say it is not proper to allow your dog to sleep in bed with you while others wouldn't have it any other way. However, there are some primary aspects to pet ownership that are universal. This article below from the AVMA hits home with these particular points. Owning a pet is a privilege and should result in a mutually beneficial relationship. The benefits of pet ownership come with responsibilities. These include:

- Lifelong care of the pet. This means committing to the relationship for your pet's entire life.
- Selecting a pet that is suited to your home and lifestyle and avoiding impulsive decisions.
- Recognizing that owning a pet(s) requires an investment of time and money.
- Keeping only the type and number of pets for which you can provide an appropriate and safe environment. This includes appropriate food, water, shelter, health care and companionship.
- Ensuring pets are properly identified (i.e., tags, microchips, or tattoos) and that their registration information in associated databases is kept up-to-date
- Adhering to local ordinances, including licensing and leash requirements.
- Helping to manage overpopulation by controlling your pet(s)' reproduction through

managed breeding, containment, or spay/neuter. Establishing and maintaining a veterinarian-client-patient relationship.

- Providing preventive (e.g., vaccinations, parasite control) and therapeutic health care for the life of your pet(s) in consultation with, and as recommended by, your veterinarian.
- Socialization and appropriate training for your pet(s) to facilitate their well-being and the well-being of other animals and people.
- Preventing your pet(s) from negatively impacting other people, animals and the environment. This includes proper waste disposal, noise control, and not allowing pet(s) to stray or become feral.
- Providing exercise and mental stimulation appropriate to your pet(s)' age, breed, and health status.
- Include your pets in your planning for an emergency or disaster, including assembling an evacuation kit.
- Making arrangements for the care of your pet when or if you are unable to do so.
- Recognizing declines in your pet(s)' quality of life and making decisions in consultation with your veterinarian regarding appropriate end-of-life care (e.g., palliative care, hospice, euthanasia).

Source: AVMA

**“OWNING A PET IS
A PRIVILEGE AND
SHOULD RESULT IN
A MUTUALLY
BENEFICIAL
RELATIONSHIP”**

PROBLEMS THAT RESULT FROM LACK OF EXERCISE AND PLAY

Dogs can be like young children. If you don't give them something constructive to do with their energy, they'll find something to do on their own and you may not like it! Some of the most common behavior problems seen in dogs who don't get enough exercise and play are:

- Destructive chewing, digging or scratching
- Investigative behaviors, like garbage raiding
- Hyperactivity, excitability and night-time activity
- Unruliness, knocking over furniture and jumping up on people
- Excessive predatory and social play
- Play biting and rough play
- Attention-getting behaviors like barking and whining

Benefits of Exercise and Play:

The good news is that keeping your dog healthy, happy and out of trouble with daily exercise is a lot of fun and provides many benefits, including:

- Helps to reduce or eliminate the common behavior problems listed above, such as digging, excessive barking, chewing and hyperactivity
- Helps to keep dogs healthy, agile and limber
- Helps to reduce digestive problems and constipation
- Helps timid or fearful dogs build confidence and trust
- Helps dogs feel sleepy, rather than restless, at bedtime or when you're relaxing
- Helps to keep dogs' weight under control

Source: ASPCA

**EXERCISE AND
BEHAVIOR IS A
DIRECT CORRELATION**

CONTINUED..... **AVMA RESPONSIBLE OWNERSHIP PREVENTS DOG BITES**

- Breed bans do not address the social issue of irresponsible pet ownership. Dogs are more likely to become aggressive when they are unsupervised, unneutered, and not socially conditioned to live closely with people or other dogs.

Banning a specific breed can give a community a false sense of security, and deemphasize to owners of other breeds the importance of appropriate socialization and training, which is a critical part of responsible pet ownership. In enacting breed-specific legislation, cities and states will spend money trying to enforce ineffective bans and restrictions rather than implementing proven solutions, such as licensing and leash laws, and responding proactively to owners of any dog that poses a risk to the community.

- It is not possible to calculate a bite rate for a breed or to compare rates between breeds because the data reported is often unreliable. This is because:
- The breed of a biting dog is

often not known or is reported inaccurately.

- The actual number of bites that occur in a community is not known, especially if they don't result in serious injury.
- The number of dogs of a particular breed or combination of breeds in a community is not known because it is rare for all dogs in a community to be licensed.
- Statistics often do not consider multiple incidents caused by a single animal.
- Breed popularity changes over time, making comparison of breed-specific bite rates unreliable. However a review of the research that attempts to quantify the relation between breed and bite risk finds the connection to be weak or a sent, while responsible ownership variables such as socialization, neutering and proper containment of dogs are much more strongly indicated as important risk factors.

A better solution to dog bite prevention. Animal control and legislative approaches to protecting a community from dangerous dogs should not be based

on breed, but instead on promoting responsible pet ownership and developing methods to rapidly identify and respond to owners whose dogs present an actual risk.

The AVMA recommends the following strategies for dog bite prevention:

- Enforcement of generic, non-breed-specific dangerous dog laws, with an emphasis on chronically irresponsible owners
- Enforcement of animal control ordinances such as leash laws, by trained animal care and control officers
- Prohibition of dog fighting
- Encouraging neutering for dogs not intended for breeding
- School-based and adult education programs that teach pet selection strategies, pet care and responsibility, and bite prevention.

Source: AVMA



B.A.A.C. MEMBER OF THE QUARTER

Congratulations to Rose Rees Karmas! Rose hit the ground running when she became a member! She is a great asset to the organization and we are thankful that she is part of our family and we look forward to enjoying more time with her. In addition to volunteering for B.A.A.C., Rose is a mom to four dogs and three children. She enjoys music and being outdoors. She also recently became engaged to George, another B.A.A.C. Member!

Congratulations Rose!



“THEM” BY AMY CONROY

Somewhere right now are thousands of voiceless animals who don't know what they did wrong to not have a lap to sit on, bed to lay on or love of their own. They are confused, scared, sometimes traumatized, in need of medical care and helpless. About 11 years ago my husband and I joined Bikers Against Animal Cruelty. We started off thinking it was simply a great group of people and a good cause. We were right and oh so wrong (in a good way I promise!).

We learned...

We learned about some of the abuse and neglect cases. There are awful cases where animals are left to die, burned, beaten, neglected and so much more, and worse! There were times we couldn't sleep. There were many times we cried. To this day I still cannot fathom how anyone could purposely hurt these animals. We learned how it is proven that almost all serial killers started with animals and leveled up as the thrill was lost. We learned the horrors of puppy mills and how they are bred sometimes forcefully for profit and left in such inhumane conditions, let alone; the damage poor breeding does to the bloodlines and health of the animals. We learned of feral cat colonies and how ignorant people just let the cats go and leave them behind to fend by themselves. We learned the horrors of some farming practices and the conditions in which they live. One cannot unlearn something once we have become educated. We can't "un-see" the reality.

Honestly I was angry....

For a while, I was very selective about what humans I dared to like. We spent countless hours advocating, raising awareness, volunteering and trying to make a difference. We fell in love with so many of our amazing members and volunteers. They became family. We stood and stand together, in support of our mission. Every time I thought we shifted the scale to the animals we would learn of more cases, situations and stories. At times we think our hearts can take no more and want to give up trying ourselves. It was overwhelming and some of the cases were down right hard to learn of and follow. Some fought SO hard and didn't make it. There were times when we had more cases than funds and had to be selective and limited on what we could contribute as an organization. Through all the challenges we didn't give up... we grew.

We talked, and talked, and then walked the walk...

Our first 2 dogs were bought (told you we were wrong... lol). Thankfully our Princess Fluffybutt lived to 16 and had a spoiled life.

Our pug was not so lucky and had mast cell cancer at 4 and we were blessed that he lived to 9 thanks to learning of grain free life styles and the garbage that goes into some dog foods. We learned personally about the effects of puppy mills that we previously had just advocated against. We felt the pain... the anguish... the hole left from an amazing soul whose life was cut short due to the greed of humans and the profit made from reproductive systems. Even though we were responsible and speutered our pets we lost one of our own leaving our family with a hole and ache that time doesn't replace. Unexpected surprises...

Since then, we only rescue and our hearts grew in ways we could not imagine. We volunteered and met so many amazing animals AND we met so many amazing humans who step up to rescue and volunteer their time, hearts, funds and even foster and volunteer their homes. We have 2 of our own rescues now and have also fostered. When you get to meet the people who rescue, volunteer and help the voiceless it changes your life. It certainly has ours. Our hearts grew bigger and bigger. Our voice got louder and our numbers of members, donations, supporters and contributions increased. We helped advocate and get laws in place. We used (and still use) social media to educate others about the reality of it all and give them a voice! The hope and faith we tried to give animals was nothing in comparison to the faith the animals gave us in becoming success stories and meeting more like minded humans at the other end of the leash. The ones who don't make it leave a paw print on our soul and remind us of why we can't ever quit.

It was THEM...

Over the years, my spine has declined as well as being a veteran with PTSD. Depression, anxiety, pain, lack of sleep and simply getting in my own way has joined me many times on this interesting path of life. What helped me *most* wasn't pills, potions, therapy or other things... it was the animals in shelters and rescues. It was THOSE who needed me to do something and be their voice. It was THEY who called me to action and get out of my own way to make a difference. It was THEM who reminded me that what I was going through was nothing compared to what they endured and yet still wagged their tail, didn't give up, learned to trust again and didn't stop giving unconditional love. THEY have introduced us to some amazing humans who share the path of rescue and share in our tears, fights, celebrate victories and remind us to never give up.

“WHEN YOU GET TO MEET THE PEOPLE WHO RESCUE, VOLUNTEER AND HELP THE VOICELESS IT CHANGES YOUR LIFE”

*IF YOU SEE A STRAY,
PROVIDE SHELTER.
IF YOU SEE NEGLECT,
CONDEMN IT.
IF YOU SEE ABUSE,
STAND UP AND DO SOME-
THING,
HENDRICK & CO.*

It was THEY who taught me more about life and the type of human I want to be. It is not over...

We join other extraordinary humans together in the promotion of responsible pet ownership, advocating for the voiceless, and stand tall like lighthouses in what can sometimes be a surging storm that feels like it doesn't end. The common thread is we have all been rescued by a rescue and many of us admit that they have saved us so much more than we "saved" them. Life can be hard at times mentally, emotionally and physically. While medical professionals certainly play a part in our path to well being the best medicine for me has been THEM. The rescues, shelters, volunteers and supporters make such a huge impact every single day and remind us why we can't ever stop. At times we may not al-

ways see eye to eye on certain topics and not share similar beliefs yet what keeps us together is that common thread of rescue and voiceless animals in need. While we do make a difference and the priceless feeling of volunteering certainly makes us feel great it, really isn't about us at the end of the day.

It was about THEM all along!

CONNECTICUT DOG LAW STATUTES

Sec. 22-339b. Rabies vaccination required for dogs and cats. Exemption from rabies vaccination. Rabies vaccination exemption certificate. Veterinarian appeal. Penalty. (a) Any owner or keeper of a dog or cat of the age of three months or older shall have such dog or cat vaccinated against rabies. Any animal vaccinated prior to one year of age or receiving a primary rabies vaccine at any age shall be considered protected for only one year and shall be given a booster vaccination one year after the initial vaccination and shall be vaccinated at least every three years thereafter. Those animals revaccinated after one year of age shall be given booster vaccinations at least every three years thereafter. Proof of vaccination shall be a certificate issued by a licensed veterinarian in accordance with subsection of (a) section 22-339c. A licensed veterinarian, upon request of the Chief Animal Control Officer, any animal control officer, municipal animal control officer or regional animal control officer shall submit to such officer a copy of such certificate and any associated rabies vaccination records for such dog or cat that has bitten a person or another animal.

(b) The State Veterinarian or the Commissioner of Agriculture, or the commissioner's designee, may grant an exemption from vaccination against rabies for a dog or cat if a licensed veterinarian has examined such animal and determined that a rabies vaccination would endanger

the animal's life due to disease or other medical considerations. Such exemption may be granted for an individual animal only after the veterinarian has consulted with the State Veterinarian, the Commissioner of Agriculture, or the commissioner's designee, and completed and submitted to the department an application for exemption from rabies vaccination on a form approved by the Department of Agriculture. After approval of such exemption, the department shall issue a rabies vaccination exemption certificate, copies of which shall be provided to the veterinarian, the owner of the dog or cat exempted from rabies vaccination and the animal control officer of the municipality in which the owner of the dog or cat resides. Certification that a dog or cat is exempt from rabies vaccination shall be valid for one year, after which time the animal shall be vaccinated against rabies or the application for exemption shall be renewed. (c) Any veterinarian aggrieved by a denial of a request for an exemption from rabies vaccination by the State Veterinarian, the Commissioner of Agriculture or the commissioner's designee may appeal such denial as provided in the Uniform Administrative Procedure Act, sections 4-166 to 4-189, inclusive. (d) Any violation of this section shall be an infraction.

Source: cga.ct.gov



CONTACT US

Greg Belcher, President.....email: jager6303@yahoo.com
Amy Conroy, Treasurer.....email: aeaconroy@gmail.com
Bikersagainstanimalcruelty.org 'contact us' link

**TO DO
NOTHING**



**TO SAY
NOTHING**



**STOPS
NOTHING**

REPORTING CRUELTY

Humane Society of the U.S. (Dog Fighting).....1-877-TIP-HSUS
Reward of up to \$5,000 for information leading to the arrest and conviction of a dogfighter
Humane Society of the U.S (Puppy Mill).....1-877-645-5847
We Tip Hotline1-800-78-CRIME

For immediate help dial 911 and as always, your local law enforcement, Animal Control Officer or Humane Society. Document all details of possible case, your "journal" of events can be a very powerful tool in proving cruelty, neglect and abuse and can be a great asset in the prosecution of an abuser.

WE'RE ONLINE!

WWW.BIKERSAGAINSTANIMALCRUELTY.ORG

WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/BIKERSAGAINSTANIMALCRUELTYINC

Hoodies, Tanks, Tees & more on our website!



DONATIONS NEEDED

We are always in need of donations: cleaning products, pet food, pet toys, blankets, towels, litter, beds, pet toys, and anything else that can improve the lives of pets! Bring your donations to any of our events, or reach out to one of the officers listed above!

MEMBERS WANTED

If you are interested in becoming a member, visit our website for an application, meet us at an event or reach out to one of the officers listed above! We have riding and non-riding memberships. Members work events, attend fundraisers, court hearings, fundraise and spread awareness and education. We have many different areas of interest such as Public Relations, Education, Events and more!

2ND QUARTER DONATIONS - THANK YOU!

Jan Trendowski
 Joyce & Michael Vaudreuil
 Barbara Drake
 Richard Knecht
 Dell YourCause LLC
 Jeff Laforge
 America's Charities
 Travelers
 Truist by Frontstream
 Steven & Mary Ann Verinis
 Marie Stary

Dell YourCause LLC
 Network for Good
 Richard Knecht
 Maynard & Linda Saucier



2ND QUARTER CASES

Thanks to our generous supporters and donors we were able to provide funding for the cases below to get immediate medical attention and a second chance at a life. They will not be let down by humans. Many times, emotional scars take longer to heal than physical. Please, if you see an animal in need, speak up immediately, don't hesitate!

'Tater' - Connecticut Tater is a 7-year-old Chihuahua mix. He jumped out of a third story window onto the cement where he broke his pelvis on both sides as well as his hip. Donation to assist Kenway's cause. www.Kenwayscause.org

'Kiwi' - Connecticut - Kiwi is an approximately 2-year-old Terrier mix. He was hit by a car and required surgery for a fractured pelvis. He was able to have his cherry eyes fixed while he was having surgery for his hip. Donation to assist Kenway's Cause. www.Kenwayscause.org

'Bear' - Connecticut - Bear surrendered after he was attacked by another dog, resulting in severe injuries leaving him unable to use his front legs and walk. His front right leg is shattered, the 3 bones are completely broken. His front left leg is unusable due to a luxating elbow which needs to be replaced and put in a splint. His back right leg is injured as well. Bear also required pain medication as well as antibiotics to prevent infection from the wounds on his arms. www.BullyBreedRescueInc.org

Total 2nd Quarter Medical Donations: \$2,000.00

We encourage you to visit the webpages above to learn more about the life saving work these beautiful organizations accomplish everyday and learn what you can do to lend a hand for the thousands of other pets that they rescue, treat and rehab.

Help is always needed and appreciated.



MOTORCYCLE SAFETY - *DYING TO IMPRESS*

FORT RUCKER, Ala. (Sept. 15, 2017) - Riding down the street, I couldn't shake the feeling something was wrong. That morning, I'd decided to take my young son riding with me, but we'd only gone a couple of miles when I had a foreboding feeling of disaster too intense to ignore. I took my son to the mall where my wife worked, planning to leave him with her while I rode the bike home. I didn't want him with me if something happened. Unfortunately, my wife's boss wouldn't allow her to watch him while I rode home and then drove back. So I put my son back on my bike and carefully rode home, wondering all the while what I was sensing as we cruised through the streets and intersections. I was relieved when we safely turned into the driveway. Still, I couldn't shake this ominous feeling.

We pulled off our riding gear and went into the house. Because this was my son's first ride, I'd bought him a complete set of personal protective equipment. After all, wasn't that what my older brother, Hector, had taught me? He'd been a Motorcycle Safety Foundation instructor where we'd grown up in Puerto Rico. He'd also taught sport bike riding techniques and participated in National Hot Rod Association drag races. He was an avid rider and very good at what he did. He'd drilled safety into me from the moment I purchased my first motorcycle, making sure I bought a machine I could handle.

We'd been home about 15 minutes when the phone rang. Picking up the receiver, I heard my wife's trembling voice. Before I could speak, she told me Hector had been killed in a riding accident. My fears hardened into reality as she gave me the facts. Riding with friends on their sport bikes, Hector had been racing on a narrow, winding road. It was 97 F with 100 percent humidity that day in Puerto Rico.

Anyone who has ever ridden in such conditions knows that heat and precise riding are fatiguing. Even though my brother was noticeably tired and dehydrated, his friends encouraged him to push his limits. And there was no way Hector would be the last rider in the group or head home before finishing the ride. Hector had led the pack as they reached a fork in the road. Suddenly, a horse and rider trotted out in front of him. Locking his Yamaha R1's brakes, he flew off and struck a metal support wire, breaking his neck. His friends stopped, but they couldn't help him. For 17 minutes, he lay on the side of the road gasping for his breath before he died. He'd made a common mistake made by many of us who ride in groups. He'd succumbed to peer pressure and died while trying to impress his friends. That was nearly 10 years ago, but I still miss him every day.

So what does this have to do with you? If you're a rider, maybe a lot.

Riding motorcycles is popular among Soldiers. We buy motorcycles for practical reasons, such as their lower cost compared to cars and greater fuel economy. Riding also gives us something in common with other Soldiers who ride and bonds us with them. Unfortunately, even after taking the required MSF rider training, some Soldiers still choose to ride irresponsibly. Wanting to look cool, tough or be part of a group, they ignore traffic laws and ride their bikes too fast for conditions or their skills. Giving in to peer pressure and trying to fit into a group, they ride to the edge of their abilities and beyond. This doesn't have to happen (to Soldiers). Just like we did during deployment, we need to stick together and make sure we and our buddies make smart choices while riding. To do that, we can:

- Identify the hazards and control them by using risk management.
- Perform preventive maintenance checks and services on our motorcycles so they're ready for the road.
- Start off riding smaller, less powerful and less expensive motorcycles. Only after mastering them should a rider consider something bigger, more powerful and more expensive.
- Learn from others' experiences. During group rides, pair new riders with experienced riders to transfer riding skills. This is a key element of the Army's Motorcycle Mentorship Program. If your organization or installation has an MMP, joining is a great way to build skills and camaraderie with other riders.
- Plan a route within the skills of the group's least experienced riders.
- Do a riders' brief before group rides. Brief the route and plan stopping points along the way.
- Use effective PPE when riding. A simple, long-sleeve cloth shirt will disintegrate almost immediately when it touches the pavement. Skin grafts are painful and costly.
- Avoid giving in to peer pressure. If the group is engaging in risky riding or breaking the law, choose to ride safely and obey the law. If the group leaves you behind, ride at a safe pace and catch up with them at the next stopping point.

Ride to arrive

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BIKERS AGAINST ANIMAL CRUELTY, INC.

Our Mission: Bikers Against Animal Cruelty, Inc. (B.A.A.C.) is an organized group of compassionate enthusiasts who advocate against animal cruelty and neglect, promote responsible pet ownership and help to defray costs of emergency veterinary care for ownerless victims of cruelty and neglect.

B.A.A.C. started in 2007 as a grassroots effort focused on providing supplies to shelter animals and financial assistance for cruelty victims to receive life saving medical treatment. All the animals that we aid are in the care of organizations who rely on donations to sustain their efforts. Medical care can be very expensive and many non-profit groups and some town animal control facilities have limited funding. Our organization helps offset those costs by donating funds directly to the medical facility treating the victim.

TO SAY NOTHING, TO DO NOTHING, STOPS

Yes, I would like to help Bikers Against Animal Cruelty, Inc. by donating to help change a life! B.A.A.C. has been able to help hundreds of animals by making financial contributions towards their care. We thank everyone for their support, without it we would not be able to help the victims.

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Thank you for your support. Together we can do great things!



To Do Nothing - To Say Nothing - Stops Nothing

