

The Scoop

News from the Pet Assistance League

Pet Assistance League of Virginia

December 2013

Dear PAL supporter,

Here's a short update to all of the happenings since the last newsletter. Adoptions overall have been down a bit this year, not sure if it's just the current economic climate. Donations have also been below previous years. Vet bills are up.

If you're considering adding a pet to your family, please visit PAL or one of the many shelters or rescues in the area. There are many very adoptable cats and dogs (and other species as well!) just waiting for a forever home. Please consider giving them a chance at a life. Also check out our friends over at the Empty Shelter Project, www.espnova.org.

With much thanks to Cyndy, PAL has a "New and Improved" website! Check it out at www.pal-va.org. A few pages are still under re-construction, but we're steadily working on it. If you have any photos and stories of PAL alumni you'd like to submit to be included on our "Happy Tails," or "In Memory Of..." pages, please send them to 4PALpets@pal-va.org.

Check our website for a special offer from BarkBox through the month of December.

PAL now has its own Wish List at Amazon.com. Just click on the Amazon Wish List icon on our website to see what PAL needs. You can help PAL help homeless animals by purchasing directly from Amazon. Amazon will then ship directly to PAL. Hold onto that receipt, though; your donation is tax deductible.

PAL has a new Facebook page and is now listed as a non-profit organization! Please visit us on Facebook at www.facebook.com/PALofVA and "Like" us! Invite all your animal lover friends to visit and like our page, too! PAL is also on Twitter and Instagram! Follow us and we'll follow

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Woofs and Purrs

Special thanks to Banfield Veterinary at Hedges Run in Woodbridge for the recent donation of veterinary services and cash donation. Stop by and see Lisa and check out their services!

Time for Change

Too much change weighing you down? PAL can help! We've started putting a special jar out on Saturdays during the adoption event at PetSmart. So come on by and say 'Hello', and drop off all that heavy change. I promise PAL will put it to good use.



you right back! Find PAL at @PALofVA on both Twitter and Instagram.

Helping Pet Assistance League of Virginia (PAL) at Amazon and 1,400 other great stores is truly simple. Just visit [iGive.com](https://www.igive.com), click on your favorite store, and you're done. For every purchase you make, PAL receives a donation from iGive. There's no additional cost to you!

We're really struggling with trying to pay off the vet bills. You know how expensive it gets taking your own pets in for checkups and vaccinations, try multiplying that by 50 or 60! We're fortunate to have many wonderful vets in the area to work with, but the costs are still very high.

We're always in need of dog and cat food. We prefer Purina, since we can use the [Weight Circles](#).

And now I make my plea for foster homes. If you've ever thought about becoming a temporary foster home for a dog or cat waiting to find a home, please consider it. We most often hear, "It would be too heartbreaking to foster and then have to give the dog/cat up". Well, I have to admit that it is difficult. They quickly become part of the family. But there's an incredible sense of satisfaction knowing that you made a real difference in the life of an unfortunate homeless animal. If you'd like to find out more, just give us a call, send us an email or stop by the Dale City Petsmart on Saturday afternoons.

From all of us at PAL, have a Happy Holiday and Best Wishes for the New Year.

Sincerely,

Dave

Pet Assistance League of Virginia

Did you know ...



You can help PAL by saving Weight Circles from Purina brand dog food? For every weight circle PAL turns in to Purina, we get points. Once we have collected enough points, Purina mails PAL a check. This money is used to feed the many pets in temporary foster care, as well as help toward our significant veterinary bills.

Wish List

Purina Brand dry dog food and cat food
Friskies can cat food
Pedigree can dog food
Blankets
Towels
Bleach
Papertowels
Large black garbage bags
Advantix Flea and Tick preventative
Martingale dog collars
Dog harnesses

What's up with CFC?

Due to a submission error, unfortunately PAL was not included in the 2014 Combined Federal Campaign. This is quite a big hit for us financially, so if you're a prior CFC supporter please consider making your contribution directly to PAL.

Litter on the Go

By Jura Koncius, Thursday, December 19, 2013

About a third of all American households own at least one cat. And this time of year, many more cat owners are traveling and bringing their cats with them.

This brings up the subject of on-the-go litter boxes. These disposable boxes are more efficient and convenient when you are on the road than using the traditional plastic boxes that you have to fill with litter, clean out and wash regularly.

A common brand of disposable litter trays that are sold with litter already inside are Cat's Pride KatKit Disposable Trays. They are made of recycled plastic and have clay cat litter already in them. The Kitty Kan enclosed disposable litterbox, is sold with disposable scoops and sometimes a separate travel cardboard cat bed, also made from recycled materials. This is good for cats that like privacy when they are using the litter box.

These boxes are not intended for daily use, as they are more expensive than traditional litter boxes, but they are useful for many different situations. Some people also like to get a stack of disposable boxes for their cat sitters when they go away, to make their job a little less messy. They are also good if you are having guests and you have to quickly sequester your cat in a spare room, away from someone who is allergic to or afraid of cats. Disposable little boxes are also appropriate to use if you have multiple cats and one of them is sick and has to be separated from the others.

About Us

The Pet Assistance League of Virginia (PAL) is a non-profit organization (501c-3) that helps find homes for displaced and abandoned animals, primarily dogs and cats. Founded in 1986, PAL has helped thousands of animals find permanent homes with caring families.

Find your best friend - visit our website at www.pal-va.org

email us at info@pal-va.org

PAL line - (540) 659-5018

Adoptions Saturdays at [Petsmart](#) near Potomac Mills.