



P.A.N.T.ings



The Official Newsletter of the Pet Assistance Network of Topeka

www.topekapant.org

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"I Couldn't Believe Someone Actually Cares Enough to Help People Keep Their Pets Through Difficult Times..."



11/05/2008

Dear Pant,

I want to thank you so much for the service you provide in helping to care for pets while in transition. When I was evicted from my home and didn't have anywhere to go the only option was to come to the Rescue Mission. However, because of my dog Sandi, I didn't consider it an option. When I called the Helping Hands Humane Society to see if they knew someone who would take Sandi on a temporary basis and they referred me to you.

I couldn't believe someone actually cares enough to help people keep their pets through difficult times. Your whole world falls apart + your pet is the only one who sticks by you + you just can't loose them too. So your caring service lifted a huge weight + allowed me to come to the Mission.

Now I am starting fresh in a new place with a renewed energy + my Sandi + I will be together again. This wouldn't have been such a positive experience if I had to mourn the loss of Sandi as well as every thing else - So THANK YOU from both of us.

PANT works!

We've only been in existence since August, but we sure have been busy! As of early December, we have served a total of 10 pets for 9 clients of the Topeka Rescue Mission, and 1 pet for a client of the Battered Women Task Force. Of those pets, we provided 8 spay/neuter services.

We can only continue this with your financial support. If you're looking to make a charitable contribution before the year's end, please consider PANT! All donations made to PANT through the umbrella of the Topeka Community Foundation are tax-deductible!

President's Message

We're new at this – we only started serving our animal and human clients in August – and we're all volunteers, but we wanted to keep you informed of what great things have already been accomplished with your help. So, it's with great pleasure that the Pet Assistance Network of Topeka (PANT) is sending you our very first newsletter!

For most of us, our pets really *are* family. We couldn't possibly leave them behind or abandon them if we suddenly found ourselves temporarily homeless – in fact, we'd need our best friend beside us even more during such a difficult time. But unfortunately the excellent human homeless shelters in Topeka simply have no way of providing shelter for any pets.

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President's Message (cont.)

PANT was formed as a non-profit corporation to fill that gap. We are an independent organization, but partner with The Topeka Rescue Mission and the YWCA Battered Women Task Force by placing the pets of their clients in licensed animal shelters (and paying for this care) until the owners can get back on their feet and reclaim them.

Instead of me explaining PANT's mission, you can read the letter that we received in November from one of our early clients. That says it all. It makes me proud, but mostly humbled, that PANT made such a difference in her life during a critical time.

If you're someone who already helps support PANT – thank you! You can see that your assistance has a huge impact. If you'd like to become involved, please know how much your tax-deductible donations are appreciated. You may contribute through our website www.topekapant.org or by mail at PANT Fund, c/o The Topeka Community Foundation, 5431 SW 29th St., Topeka, KS 66614. We also can speak to your civic/church/neighborhood group about the work of our organization. Just let us know through the website or by leaving a message at telephone 270-8104. And we can always use dedicated volunteers in a variety of tasks – applying for grants, writing and mailing this newsletter, staffing booths at events, etc. It's all for a great cause and you can meet some truly wonderful people who are dedicated to preserving the special bond we share with our pets.

Wishing you safe and happy holidays in the company of those you love.

Ruth Maus
President

Coming in Our Next Issue:

- Meet Board Member Jeannie Blanck-Griffith of the Cat Association of Topeka (C.A.T.)
- Advice from Dr. Joe Cook on caring for pets in cold weather
- Delicious Dog and Cat Treat Recipes

If you do not wish to receive this newsletter in the future, please call PANT at 270-8104 and leave a message to that effect. We will then remove you from our mailing list. Thank you.



Events

PANT has been raising community awareness and support of our mission at events like Paws in the Park, Blessing of the Animals, and a Nail Trimming Clinic with Dr. Matt Zupka of Sherwood Animal Clinic (pictured above) and Dr. Joe Cook of Family Pet Hospital.

On the second Saturday of every month, PetCo is generously providing us with a booth in their store on Wanamaker Drive. Please stop by and see us, get a "people treat," maybe drop off a donation, and sign up to become a PANT volunteer!



"GIVE A DOG A TOY AND HE'LL PLAY WITH IT FOREVER. GIVE A CAT A TOY, AND HE'LL PLAY WITH THE WRAPPER FOR FIVE MINUTES"