



P.A.N.T.ings



The Official Newsletter of the Pet Assistance Network of Topeka

www.topekapant.org

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Numbers Tell of Community's Kindness

Want to know what PANT has accomplished as a brand new organization since our August 28th, 2008, kick-off? Quite a bit, actually! As of February 9, PANT has:

- Served 16 human clients from the YWCA Battered Women Task Force and Topeka Rescue Mission shelters
- Provided licensed shelter for 19 of their pets for a total of **448 days**
- Are currently boarding 7 pets for Topeka Rescue Mission clients

It still doesn't seem possible that thanks to the kindness of people like you, we have helped so many animals in this short time – especially since we are all volunteers! And we are really fortunate to have service providers who board many of the PANT client pets at reduced charges, or even at no charge, and veterinarians who provide spay/neuter, vaccination, parasite control, and other medical care at reduced charges. Thank you, wonderful service providers, for letting us stretch our resources for maximum effectiveness!! Due to the confidentiality of boarding pets for battered women, we are not able to reveal your names to the public, *but boy do we appreciate you!!*

(continued on page 3)

Save The Date!

Mark your calendars for an exciting summer event that will help TWO wonderful animal causes in Topeka.

On **Friday and Saturday, June 19th and 20th**, from 8:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m., PANT will partner with the Cat Association of Topeka (C.A.T.) in their annual huge – **HUGE - summer garage sale!**

The event will help us continue caring for the pets of temporarily homeless clients of the Topeka Rescue Mission and the YWCA Battered Women Task Force until the owners are back on their feet. It also benefits CAT, a no-kill cat shelter.

If you have anything you'd like to donate for the sale, please call us at 270-8104 and let us know. Or drop off your donated items the preceding Saturday (June 13th) at 4305 SW Windsor Ct., from 2:00 – 4:00 p.m.

See you there. Bring your U-haul for all the good stuff.

PANT is an all-volunteer, non-profit organization. **All donations are tax-deductible** and may be sent to PANT, c/o the Topeka Community Foundation, 5431 SW 29th, Topeka, KS 66614. Contact us at 785/270-8104 or visit our website at www.topekapant.org. Thank you for your support.

Stop By For a Treat

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," and find out about our upcoming events. Maybe you'd like to become a PANT volunteer!

Meet the Board: Jeannie Blanck-Griffith

Periodically we will focus on one of the members of our dedicated and tireless Board of Directors. This issue, we introduce **Jeannie Blanck-Griffith**.



PANT Board member Jeannie Blanck-Griffith with friend Bud.

“PANT fills a need where other shelters and rescue groups can’t.”

Jeannie is married, is a teacher with USD# 437, and lives in rural SN County. In addition to her husband, Jeannie lives with 6 dogs, lots of cats, and 31 pet geese. Jeannie explains why she became involved in PANT:

“Because I’ve volunteered for Cat Association of Topeka (CAT) for ten years, I have been able to see the trends and needs of animals in our community to some extent. I have always felt that the quality of life for people in our community is directly related to how all living creatures are treated. I believe strongly that we can accomplish no-kill practices if we embrace them philosophically and start

having our actions and community decisions reflect that philosophy.

“CAT has been doing this for 20 years in our community and when approached by Ruth Maus about the concept of what is now PANT, I thought this was a perfect fit—a perfect partnership for CAT and a perfect fit for me personally and philosophically. At CAT, we receive dozens of calls from citizens each year who, because of personal circumstances, cannot keep their pets. Many have indicated that they just need ‘a few weeks’ or ‘a few months’ and would want their pet(s) back after that period.

“PANT fills a need where other shelters and rescue groups can’t and it fills it in a way *that is complementary to those groups*. The animals that go through PANT are loved pets that already have a ‘home’ in someone’s heart. They do not belong in shelters and PANT is designed to provide a safety net to make sure that this is not where they end up. I am convinced that progressive thinking and creative problem solving (like what we’re trying to do through PANT) will help save more animals’ lives and help people live better lives also.”

You may contact Jeannie through our website at www.topekapant.org.



Dog Cookie Recipe

2 t. dry yeast 1 ½ c. chicken broth ½ cup lukewarm water
3 T. honey 2 T. dry parsley 1 egg

5-6 c. whole wheat flour *Optional add-ins: ½ cup finely shredded carrot; ¼ c. grated parmesan.*

In large bowl, dissolve yeast in warm water. Stir in parsley, broth, honey, and egg. Gradually blend in flour. Knead 3-5 minutes. Roll out to ¼ inch thickness. Cut with cookie cutter. Bake on ungreased cookie sheet at 350° for 30 minutes, turn biscuits over and bake another 15 minutes. Turn off oven and let the biscuits cool in the oven for about 6 to 8 hours. Enjoy!

P.A.N.T.ings

PANT clients continue to share their letters of appreciation. We hope you don't get tired of reading them.

We don't!

In His Own Words... (a real client letter)

Dear (name of service provider),

*Hi, my name is ***** and I have been a guest of the Mission for a few weeks and wanted to thank you for taking my dog Jessy in this time of need for me. I fell on hard times and your services with PANT are a godsend. I thank the Lord everyday for your generosity.*

I hope you continue working with the Mission, because your ministry to aid the homeless and to take care of their pets is something that will be rewarded here as well as in the afterlife. Again, thank you for aiding me and many others in need of your services.

Sincerely,

(client name)



Community's Kindness

(cont. from pg. 1)

Together the kindness of donors, service providers, and volunteers of the PANT community are making a huge difference in the lives of people and animals who are temporarily homeless.

Sadly, we have had to put down two of the pets in our custodial care due to old age and infirmity. But the end of their lives was arranged with dignity and in the company of their owners, not as abandoned pets who had to be left behind somewhere to die alone. We are grateful that we could help here too.

We all LOVE our pets and hope to provide for all stages of their lives with comfort and respect. Thanks to your support of PANT, now the homeless and battered women clients are able to do that too.

Happy Spring to all! (Hopefully soon...)

Ruth Maus
President

Wish List:

- First class stamps
- No. 10 mailing envelopes
- No. 6 mailing envelopes
- Pet carriers
- Cash donations are gratefully appreciated

Call 785/270-8104 for information or visit

www.topekapant.org.

If you do not wish to receive this newsletter, please call PANT at 270-8104 and let us know.

If you know someone who'd like to receive it, tell us that too! Thank you.

“A dog has a lot of friends, because he wags his tail and not his tongue.”

- - Anonymous

got advertising?

Are you a business owner who would like to reach other supporters of the Pet Assistance Network of Topeka (PANT)? How about placing an advertisement in our newsletter?

Beginning with our next issue, scheduled to come out around June, PANT will be running advertisements for local businesses for only \$20.00 per ad for a one/eighth page ad (business card size.) Your ad will help support PANT, plus your information will be seen by everyone who receives the “P.A.N.T.ings” newsletter--our circulation is growing fast!

Reach other pet lovers, show them you're a PANT supporter, and deduct your ad as a business expense.

Please contact us at 785/270-8104 for more details.

Is my pet's PEANUT BUTTER treat safe??

We've all heard about the peanut butter recall, but not everyone may have heard that the recall has been expanded recently by the Food and Drug Administration to **include pet food products made from peanut butter produced by Peanut Corporation of America**. Those products may be contaminated by Salmonella. To find out if your pet's food or treats are affected, you can check out the FDA's searchable up-to-date listing of affected pet food products at

<http://www.accessdata.fda.gov/scripts/peanutbutterrecall/index.cfm#PetFood>

The list includes items such as **dog biscuits and peanut butter-filled chew bones, hooves and rawhides**. If in doubt, check the list. The FDA states that it has not received any reports of illness associated with the recalled pet food products. Let's hope it stays that way!

If you'd like someone from PANT to speak to your group or club about our organization, call 785/270-8104 and leave a message.

Or visit the PANT website at www.topekapant.org for more copies of this newsletter, press releases, volunteer applications, and contact information.

