



BOW-WOW BLAST™



The Official Newsletter of Animal Gambill's Critter Crusade®

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Critter Crusaders put their Paws FUR-ward to Help Pets during Flood!

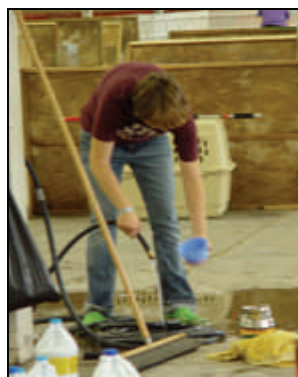
By: Animal Gambill

I meet Critter Crusaders every day who get furred-up in the best way about taking care of their pets, being safe around animals, and lending a helping paw to be kind to critters. Anyone and everyone has the PAW-portunity to be a Critter Crusader!

On August 4th, I volunteered with many Critter Crusaders who sprung into action when Louisville, Kentucky experienced a flood so devastating that the Metro Animal Services' animal shelter had to evacuate 250 dogs and 300 cats. The water reportedly rose from 3 inches to 3 feet in 30 minutes. The animals were relocated to the Kentucky Fair and Exposition Center for 2 days. Facilitating this emergency effort required many dedicated volunteers to stop at the drop of a paw and help out the staff at Metro Animal Services. Local HSUS representative, Pam Rogers, coordinated efforts with individuals and various local animal welfare groups. Some volunteers reported that they recently completed a FEMA Disaster Relief training that proved to be very helpful at this time.

Critter Crusaders showed up from all across Kentucky, including a brother and sister by the name of Sean and Tyler Warner. "I know that people sometimes talk about helping until the cows come home," said Tyler (age 13),

"but I was not just talking about it...I was helping...and because of my help, several animals felt better." Tyler fed dogs, helped keep them calm by walking them, and built make-shift kennels in the big arena. She really pitched-in and got her paws dirty. Tyler stated, "I cleaned the cat crates, got fresh water and food for them, cleaned litter boxes, and covered their crates up with sheets so they would feel less scared." Tyler was accompanied by her younger brother, Sean (age 10). Sean said that he stayed bow-wow busy on "Poop Patrol" and by helping transfer dogs from crates to the make-shift/fenced-in kennel areas. Sean stated that "It made me feel good to help all these dogs who didn't have homes to calm down and feel loved." Sean also talked about the joy he experiences with his own dog and 2 cats: "They cheer me up when I'm down...they lick me and sit on my lap."



Tyler Warner cleaned cat crates, filled water bowls and helped kitties feel secure.

Tyler and Sean are very thankful for the love their pets share with them every day. As Critter Crusaders, they take care of their pets at home by being kind, safe and resPAWnsible with them. Get down with your Bow-Wow selves Tyler and Sean! If you have a story you would like to share about being a Critter Crusader, contact me at:

www.animalgambill.org/contact.asp



Sean Warner moved dogs from crates. He then helped them feel safe and loved.

Inside this Month's Issue:

Critter Crusader Service Projects	2
PAWS-itive ReinFURSment	2
The Litterbox - Jokes	2
Adopting a Critter: What to Consider	3
When & How to Help Wild Critters	3
Be a Part of the Bow-Wow Blast	3
Crusading and CRITTER-okee	4

FUR-IFIC FACT:



A bunny's ears - no matter what shape - are used for hearing, sensing, and cooling itself when it's hot!

Catch A Can-Do Critter Attitude!® Start a Critter Crusader Crew at Your School

Louisville's flash flood wiped out much of Metro Animal Services' supplies and pet food. Maybe you would like to start a Critter Crusader Crew to start a donation drive for Metro Animal Services in Lou, Ky or for an animal shelter in your community. If you are in the Kentucky area and would like to donate food or supplies to Metro Animal Services, call 502.361.1318.

Critter Crusader Crews work together to help animals in a very PET-acular way. Jump on the bow-wow bandwagon and start a Crew at your school. For information about how to join the Critter Crusade and how to learn about different Critter Crusader Crew service project ideas, visit:

www.animalgambill.org/join.php

Here is one TAIL-tastic idea: Your class can sing CRITTER-oke songs or create skits about being kind, safe and responsible with animals. Take turns presenting the songs and skits to each other and to other classes at your school.

Check out CRITTER-oke lyrics on the back of each *Bow-Wow Blast* newsletter. Your teacher can safely download the karaoke melody of the song you choose. Contact Animal Gambill so she can feature a story about your Critter Crusader Crew in the newsletter or on the website: www.animalgambill.org/contact.asp



Dogs Need PAWS-itive ReinFURSmment Too!

By Riley

Hobo Kitty wanted me to tell you that it is critter cool for cats to connect



PAWS-itive things (food for example) with things that may otherwise tend to make them nervous or territorial (like smelling and seeing a new cat). In this example, food is

meant to increase PAWS-itive behavior by being a PAWS-itive reinforcement, or as I like to say > PAWS-itive re-inFURSmment.

For PAWS-itive re-inFURSmment to be successful, a RUFF-arific reward must immediately follow a behavior. For dogs, this may be a tasty treat or even a PAW-some pat on the hound-dog head > that works for me!

As you may know, I have a whisker-wacky fear of thunderstorms. I have no critter clue where this fear came from but it does exist in a big Bow-Wow way! Animal Gambill raps out with all kinds of upbeat and festive CRITTER-okee songs when it storms. As soon as I hear her, I start doing the Bow-Wow boogie and wag my TAIL-tastic self all over the place. She then gives me peanut butter smeared inside one of my cool rubber dog toys (called my Barkey Bone). Animal Gambill re-inFURSees my doggie desire to dance and wag instead of my desire to scratch the walls and jump through a window. She uses her hound-dog happy tone of voice,

CRITTER-okee lyrics and peanut butter as PAWS-itive re-inFURSmment for me...and you know what >>> it works! The more I dance and wag, the more she sings and puts peanut butter in my Barkey Bone!

Animal Gambill uses all kinds of PAWS-itive re-inFURSmment with me and Lordy. She knows Lordy really digs catnip so she uses catnip to re-inFURSe her desire for Lordy to sit or lay down. Yes, you guessed it, Lordy read Hobo Kitty's PAW-some product review about catnip in our first Bow-Wow Blast issue. Since then, Lordy can't get enough of that critter crazy stuff. Needless to say, Boss Paws and the rest of the cat crew are not too thrilled about Lordy's new addiction to catnip.

I'm Riley - Bark On!



The Litterbox - Jokes So Bad They Should be Covered Up!



Blowfish!

Hey Critter Crusaders! It's me, Blowfish, choosing this month's jokes!

Q: Why is a fish easy to weigh?

A: It has its own scales

Q: What's a rabbit's favorite music?

A: Hip-Hop

Q: Why do cats make terrible story-tellers?

A: They only have one tail!

Q: Why is a dog so hot in the summer?

A: It wears a coat and pants

Send us your own Litterbox Jokes! Just go to our website : www.animalgambill.org/newsletter.html

Adoption: Lots to Consider about Adopting a Critter

By Goldie

Hello Critter Crusaders. If you haven't checked out Animal Gambill's website yet, you may not know me. My name is Goldie. I've had the pleasure of living with Riley, Lordy, Hobo Kitty, Boss Paws, and the whole Gambill Gang. Just for the record, out of Animal Gambill's 3 dogs, I am paws-down the least Critter Crazy of the Bow-Wow Bunch. Some may say this is good, some may say it's boring, but I say: "It works for me." Most importantly, it works for Animal Gambill and our whole FUR-ific Family.

You see, before adopting me, Animal Gambill had to think about how I would fit in with her other pets and her lifestyle. First of all, she knew I would need to get along with cats and dogs. She had to think about money for my medicine (I have a thyroid condition), dog food, grooming, toys, licensing, dog care items (leash,

bowls, etc.), flea treatment, heartworm preventative, annual vet visits, vaccinations, and any other medical treatment.

I was 8 years old when she adopted me from GRRAND (Golden Retriever Rescue and Adoption of Needy Dogs). Even though I was an older dog, she had to be prepared to commit to give me a FUR-ever home for as long as I would live - up to another 10 years. She also had to consider my energy level. Riley and Lordy are bow-wow busy. I, on the other paw, am more of a chillin' kind of critter, so I mixed well with her lifestyle. Riley is scared of storms and Lordy likes to play a lot. Therefore, if she was going to adopt a third dog, she needed one that would be Canine Cool, not too stressed or high energy - that's me!

Yes, there are lots of things to think about before making the commitment to give a pet a FUR-ever home. Adopting a pet is a

big resPAWnsibility— it takes time, care, money, love and commitment, but it is also very rewarding. You get lots in return!

For more things to consider before you adopt a pet, please visit: http://www.hsus.org/pets/pet_adoption_information/what_to_consider_before_adopting_a_pet.html

Re-FUR to these PAW-some websites for info about GRRAND and Animal Gambill's Critter Crusade:

GRRAND.org
AnimalGambill.org

**This is Goldie
- Wag Around!**



I am Wild — Do I Need to be Rescued?

By Hobo Kitty

Have you ever come across an injured rabbit, a bird that appeared to have fallen from its nest, or another small, wild animal that seemed to be in some form of trouble? If so, you may have wondered how you could help it. Animal Gambill told me about her recent bird rescue effort and what she learned about wildlife rescue issues. You may find it strange that I (being a cat and all) would be interested in this topic, but I gotta say "I am cool like that!" Since I am cool like that, I want to help you know more about being "Cool like that" too!

Let me break it down for you. This is what I learned about helping wild animals:

*Tell a safe adult immediately. Do not touch the animal. All mammals can carry

rabies and have the potential to bite.

* Do not give the animal food or water. Feeding an animal an incorrect diet can result in injury or death.

*With the help of a safe adult, contact a wildlife rehabilitation center in your area. You may call your local Game & Fish Department, Animal Control Officer, Humane Society, or Veterinarian. They oftentimes know local wildlife rehabilitation centers and can give you their numbers.

*Inform the rehabilitator about the animal you think is injured or orphaned. Describe the condition of the animal and the situation. The rehabilitator will tell you if it is safe to feed the animal or give it water.

*The rehabilitator will be able to help you decide if it is best to leave the animal alone, attempt to move the animal back to its nest (if it was misplaced from its nest),

or facilitate a rescue effort (whether this means to take the animal to a vet, to the rehabilitation center, or if this means to provide some sort of support for the animal at the immediate location).

For more info about wildlife rehabilitators: <http://www.nwrwildlife.org/page.asp?ID=214>

This is Hobo Kitty - MEOW-ing Out!



Jitterbug wants YOU to be a Part of the

The Bow-Wow Blast Newsletter is hot off the hard drive and ready for you to download each month. Every edition is packed with articles such as:

- Critter Crusader stories, activities and updates
- MEOW-velous Movie Reviews
- Bow-Wow Book Reviews
- PAW-some Pet Articles

- Pet Product Reviews
- Critter-Cool Jokes and Puzzles
- And all kinds of PET-acular submissions from readers everywhere!

If you would like to submit your own animal stories, drawings, puzzles, and photos for consideration in a future Bow-Wow Blast newsletter, please download our official Bow-Wow Blast Staff Kit here: www.animalgambill.org/newsletter.html

Get down with your PAW-some self and send me your MEOW-velous stuff!



Join the Critter Crusade!



As a CRITTER CRUSADER, I promise to:

CARE FOR MY PET AND PROVIDE IT WITH CLEAN AND DRY SHELTER

REMEMBER TO FEED MY PET AND PROVIDE IT WITH FRESH WATER

USE SAFE PRACTICES AROUND ALL ANIMALS

SAFELY HELP INJURED/LOST ANIMALS (WITH THE DIRECTION OF AN ADULT)

AT ALL TIMES, BE KIND TO CRITTERS

DO CRITTER CLEAN-UP DUTIES SUCH AS GROOMING AND POOPER-SCOOPING

EXERCISE MY PET SUCH AS PLAYING WITH TOYS OR GOING FOR A WALK

REMEMBER TO TAKE MY PET TO THE VET FOR YEARLY CHECK-UPS AND WHEN MY PET APPEARS TO BE SICK OR INJURED

It's time to get down with your Bow-Wow self and join the Critter Crusade! To learn how to make a difference for the animals in your community and become a CRITTER CRUSADER visit: www.animalgambill.org/newletter.html

CRITTER-okee!™ (Critter Crusade Version of Karaoke)

We're Critters

(Sing these lyrics with the melody from "Beat It" by Michael Jackson)

You know we're critters – We're too cool for our fur
We can rock a bark and we can rock a purr
We fly and we hop and we swim that's fur sure
We're Critters, We're Critters

We have feathers, Some of us we have fins
Come in all sizes, All shapes and skins
One thing's fur sure, We need people being kind
Critter Crusaders, Can-Do lots to help

[Chorus]

Just feed us, walk us, pet us.... Take us to the vet for check-ups

You get rewarded – Be friends for life
Don't care what you wear, If your hair's in a spike
We're Critters, We're Critters, We're Critters, Critters, Critters

You have no critters, But you wanna be furred
Help a lost dog, Help an injured bird
You wanna be PAW-some, Spread the Bow-Wow Word
We're Critters, We're Critters, OOH

You gotta know it's not cool to be mean
Not cool to pull our tail, Or snatch our bone and scream
This freaks a critter out,
We might get scared, bite or leave
Critters Crusaders, Can-Do lots to help

JITTERBUG



Animal Gambill's Critter Crusade is a nonprofit organization whose mission is to educate children about animals while empowering them to help animals, interact safely with animals, and be responsible for their pets.

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You may submit your own animal stories, drawings, puzzles, and photos for consideration in a future Bow-Wow Blast Newsletter by visiting www.animalgambill.org. Submissions become the property of Animal Gambill's Critter Crusade.