



The Fountain Hills TIMES

www.fhtimes.com

Wednesday, March 26, 2008

April 6

Paws Around the Fountain Adoptathon

If you thought "101 Dalmatians" was fun, wait until you see the first annual "Paws Around the Fountain" Adoptathon on Sunday, April 6, at Fountain Park.

This event is the result of Association of Dog Owners Group (ADOG) joining forces with the Phoenix Animal Care Coalition (PACC911).

The event is scheduled for 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the corner of Saguaro and Palisades, near the performance pad area.

Sheriff Joe Arpaio will open the event and sign those trademark pink boxer shorts for donations to benefit local animal welfare efforts.

PACC911 is a non-profit organization that has been a unifying force for more than 90 animal welfare organizations throughout Maricopa County for the past 10 years, providing opportunities for all of them to work together for the greater benefit of animals.

To this end, they organize numerous awareness, fundraising and adoption events throughout the year.

ADOG is a non-profit organization dedicated to promoting the Fountain Hills Desert Vista off-leash dog park and encouraging responsible pet ownership.

"Paws Around the Fountain" combines a fun day in the park for families and their pets, with a goal of placing 100-plus homeless dogs, cats and critters into new forever homes.

"We are pleased to join PACC911 in organizing and hosting this event," says Jerry Wise, president of ADOG, explaining that "part of ADOG's charter is to encourage responsible dog ownership and this is a perfect opportunity for a great number of rescued animals to find good homes in Fountain Hills and surrounding areas." Wise says the event would not have been possible without a very generous donation made recently to ADOG, in the amount of \$5,000, from a Fountain Hills family.

"The grant given to ADOG

by the Leslie and Donald F. Hastings family has enabled our organization to fund the event without impacting other member donations," Wise said.

"The Hastings were kind enough to donate this money with no strings attached. They simply asked us to use the money in a manner consistent with our charter and of greatest benefit to the animals.

"The opportunity to join with PACC911 in organizing and hosting this first-ever Fountain Hills adopt-a-thon was the perfect project, and we are immensely grateful to the Hastings for their generosity." The event is open to the public and even those not looking to add a pet to their lives are invited to attend and enjoy the day's festivities.

More than 40 animal rescue shelters, agencies and partners will offer hundreds of purebred and mixed breed dogs and puppies, cats and kittens, rabbits, guinea pigs, rats, and even horses.

There will be a fun and fast paced Fido favorite, "Lure Coursing," run by Arizona Jack Russell Terrier Rescue. Event attendees may enter their own dogs to run the Lure, for \$5 per run, or five runs for \$20.

DJ Jack Combes will be spinning the oldies all day long, perhaps even a little "What's New Pussycat" and "Me and You and A Dog Named Boo."

Micro chipping at a reduced cost will be available for pets. Also available will be a variety of pet-friendly organizations and local businesses.

More than two dozen businesses in Fountain Hills and east Scottsdale have contributed more than \$1,500 worth of gift certificates and items to be raffled in gift baskets. Raffle tickets are \$2 each, three for \$5 or seven for \$10. Raffle winners will be announced at noon and 2 p.m.

One of the items in the silent auction is a signed and framed limited edition print donated by Western artist Carlos Hadaway,



ADOG President C. Jerry Wise holds the framed limited edition of "Dogs in the Park" that Fountain Hills Western artist Carlos Hadaway has donated for the silent auction at the first annual "Paws Around the Fountain" Adoptathon on Sunday, April 6, at Fountain Park.

who is a regular Desert Vista Dog Park patron with his dog, Bonnie.

"Dogs in the Park" depicts 17 dogs of various breeds and mixed breeds.

The proceeds of the auction will go to the PAAC911 emergency medical fund, which subsidizes extraordinary veterinary expenses of their animal welfare partner organizations, saving many lives and reducing the use of euthanasia.

Animals available for adoption are already spayed/neutered and up-to-date on vaccinations.

Adoption fees are set by each individual organization based on factors including species, age and breed.

All adoption fees go directly to the sponsoring rescue organization.

For additional information about PACC911, call (602) 992-4779, or visit online at www.PACC911.org.

For more information about ADOG, call President C. Jerry Wise at 816-0196 or visit its Web site at www.ADOG.org.