



PAW Shakes

The Newsletter of the Partnership for Animal Welfare
SUMMER 2004

P.O. Box 1074, Greenbelt, MD 20768
www.paw-rescue.org

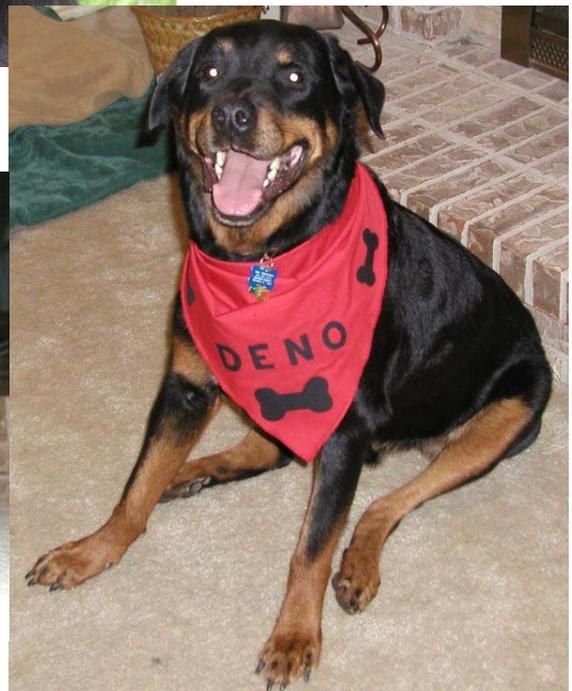
Adoption Stories

“GENTLE GIANT” CHALLENGES ROTTWEILER STEREOTYPE

by Linda and Tony
Moringello

Deno was adopted from PAW in September 2003. When we saw his picture on the website earlier that year we thought he would be adopted before we got the chance to meet him. Deno had already had two homes and needed a home where he would be a part of the family permanently. Being a Rottweiler, this was not an easy accomplishment for him.

When he came for his in-home visit, he made himself at home immediately. Deno has fit right in and our whole family has taken to him as if he were a puppy and not a full grown 100-pound Rottweiler! It seems like Deno has always been a part of our family and we couldn't imagine a day without him. Deno is a true companion.



When we take Deno out for a walk or to the dog park, he wears his favorite bandana and even loves to walk around in sunglasses. We make sure that people who meet him know he is a friendly Rottweiler, and we hope that Deno is helping to change the typical perception of Rottweilers. People who are apprehensive when they

first meet Deno fall in love with him in minutes and can't believe what a gentle giant he is. We have taken him to several training classes and he has excelled in every aspect.

We are so happy that Deno's foster mom took such good care of him before he chose to live with us. Deno is a true example of the old saying: *Dogs are not our whole life, but they do make our lives whole.*

Thank you, PAW, for everything you do.

Adoption Stories continue on pages 2, 4 and 5...

How to Contact PAW

PAW is a private, nonprofit, and all-volunteer pet rescue group. We do not have a shelter; instead, we keep dogs and cats in foster homes and in temporary kennel space until permanent homes are found.

Here's how to meet our adoptable pets:

- **ADOPTION SHOWS:** Visit one of PAW's weekend adoption shows, held at participating pet supply stores throughout the Maryland/DC area. For information on our next adoption show, visit our website, call the number below, or see our ads in the *Washington Post* Classifieds under *Pets:Dogs* and *Pets:Cats*. We usually have an ad every weekend listing the show location, date, and time.
- **WEBSITE:** To see photos and descriptions of all of PAW's adoptable animals, plus a list of upcoming adoption shows, events, tips, volunteer information, and more, visit our website at: www.paw-rescue.org.
- **CALL 301-572-4PAW** (301-572-4729) for listings of upcoming adoption shows, volunteer information, donation information, and more. (Since PAW is all-volunteer, we can't always return phone calls as quickly or in as much detail as with e-mail. Please visit our website for photos and information on our adoptable pets, since we may not be able to return such calls as quickly.)
- **E-MAIL:** For cat questions: paw_cats@yahoo.com. For dog questions: dogs@paw-rescue.org. Other addresses are listed on the website.

PAW Shakes

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Editor/Designer:
Kathleen Summers

Partnership for Animal Welfare, Inc.
P.O. Box 1074
Greenbelt, Maryland 20768
(301) 572-4PAW (-4729)
www.paw-rescue.org

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Adoption Stories, cont'd...

WINNIE WON HER HEART

Stefanie Pryor writes...

Winnie came into our lives the week of Thanksgiving just last year. My new roommate already had two old dogs of her own that had seen her through rough times, a few moves, and now law

school. I had only known Tasha, an Australian cattle dog, for a short month when she passed away from bladder cancer after a full 14 years of life. Both Erika, my



roommate, and I were devastated. My friends had told me that I was foolish to get so attached in such a short time when I knew the diagnosis was terminal. Fellow dog lovers at work understood completely. Sadee, the black Labrador mix, was lost – she always had Tasha her entire life as her companion. After a few weeks, and a few discussions with Erika, I started looking on Petfinders.com and the PAW website.

PAW was a natural choice. A friend had adopted a puppy, then later, realizing that he needed a companion to run off the puppy energy, adopted a dog's dog, also from PAW. The owner had an easy experience with the adoption process and was steered in the correct direction for a great match.

Some are surprised with adopting an older dog – you only have a few years with them, you don't know their history, etc. But, as Kris Jordan, PAW foster mom said, older dogs really understand and appreciate getting a good home after a hard life. They truly know their forever home. I never had a doubt about looking for a mellow companion for Sadee and for myself.

Just from her picture and description, Winnie was the top choice for the house. Within two weeks, I took Sadee to an adoption fair to meet Winnie. Unlike previous dog visitors, Sadee did not bark in Winnie's ear. They just hung out together on the patch of grass like old acquaintances.

After a few tense days of waiting to find out if another family would get Winnie or I would, Winnie visited my house for the first time. She trotted through the house sniffing, but came to a dead stop in front of a full-length mirror. Later, when I picked her up from Kris's house, she

Continued on page 4...

In Praise of Adopting an Older Dog

by Marsha Rader

I fostered and then adopted Reggie, a small Beagle, in the Fall of 2001. Reggie came to PAW in the Spring of 2001 from a high-kill shelter as a skinny, arthritic dog with



worn and broken teeth from past ill treatment. Arthritis medicine helped the little guy get past his stiffness. Reggie's sweet personality charmed both the vet technicians at the hospital where he was treated (College Park) and PAW volunteers who took him to adoption shows.

Reggie, however, had a problem potential adopters didn't seem able to overcome—he was about eight years old. In spite of his personality and

friendliness with kids and other dogs, he wasn't getting adopted. As I took photos of PAW dogs and cats for our newspaper articles I saw Reggie still sitting there, week after week.

I decided to foster Reggie in October 2001 to polish his housebreaking skills and manners but ended up falling in love with this cheery, smiling, "older gentleman." After a month he was formally adopted. Although Reggie still does a vigorous morning stretch to get rid of the kinks in his neck and back (much like his human owner), glucosamine supplements have made him limber and healthy enough to jump waist high from a stand every time he sees a full food bowl! Now about 10, Reggie is a happy, healthy, devoted and spoiled pet.

Too many people mistakenly overlook "older" dogs (and cats) when seeking an adopted pet. An older pet is generally housebroken, used to being in a family situation, and has an established personality. What you see is what you get with an older dog whereas a cute puppy may grow up with a personality you can't stand. Also, an older dog tends to be calmer in its behavior.

With good veterinary care, many mature dogs are active and healthy into old age. Smaller breed dogs and mixes have lifespans that can extend into a second decade. For example, Reggie, as a small Beagle, could look forward to 15 to 17 years.

Best of all, an older adopted dog gives you a special love that seems to say, "I appreciate you seeing beyond a whitening face and a few kinks to save me." This is what my older PAW dog Reggie gives to me every day.

Vehicle Donations Keep PAW Rolling

Car or Truck Donations Help Homeless Pets



PAW recently received a very generous donation from the Odell family, which continues to benefit us because it got us started in a program to accept vehicle donations. If you have an older or unused vehicle, it can be a hassle to sell: taking calls, meeting strangers, trying to negotiate, transfers of title, etc. If you choose to donate that vehicle, you receive a tax deduction for the entire blue-book value, besides the satisfaction of helping our homeless pets!

We have partnered with a nationwide program that processes vehicle donations. When you contact PAW (the Fundraising Coordinator is the place to start), we will ask you for some basic information about the vehicle, and relay that to the processor. They will very quickly have a company contact you and arrange a mutually convenient time to pick up the vehicle and title, and they will provide you a receipt on the spot.

The vehicle will be sold at auction and the proceeds (less a processing fee) are forwarded on to PAW. It's quick, it's easy, and we hope it's a great option for our donors. If you have a vehicle you are considering donating or if you have any questions, please contact PAW's Fundraising Coordinator at janetisman@aol.com. The program is able to take donations nationwide, so if the vehicle is in another state, no problem! As always, consult a professional tax advisor as needed.

PHOTO: The picture above shows the Odell's generous donation (they kept the Schnauzers, of course!)

Adoption Stories

WINNIE, continued from page 2...

was so sweet and climbed right into my back seat, calmly watching the entire hour's drive home.

From what little we know of her background, she was kept outside with minimal stimulation. She had food issues and did not know how to play. Over the past few months, she has learned how to play fetch, play with other dogs at the dog park, and go swimming. People at the dog park call her a true lady. She is gentle with the spastic dogs that don't play well with others. One couple was so happy that someone could finally play with their puppy, a one-year old still sorting out the concept of sharing both space and toys. She approaches humans languidly and routinely gets scratches from all sorts of people.

The food issue took a little longer to work through. Winnie has eaten some of the strangest things, including chewing through a Tupperware container to get to plain, white flour, not just once, but a few times; sealed plastic bags and sealed glass containers to dry pasta and dry rice; a zipped backpack to a metal container of Altoids; a popcorn container with dog food where the lid was tied down – she untied the rope and managed to get the lid off; a trash can tied down was not a match for her either. After raising everything above seven feet tall, and using two baby gates since she also learned how to either push the gates out of the doorway or climb over them depending upon the need, we finally reached an understanding. She was eating normal food, we always left Sadee and Winnie together, but never in the kitchen, and we stacked baby gates across doorways so they could still see out. We all settled into a routine.

Her chewing habit became a tad expensive due to her love of shredding tennis balls. Pet store tennis balls were too weak and she would pop and shred them in a matter of minutes. Fortunately, she never chewed shoes, newspapers, or anything that wasn't hers or Sadee's stuffed animals. I made a few calls and the Arlington Sports and Health Club gave me a bag of old, used tennis balls. Winnie's face was priceless when I dumped out 30 balls in front of her. She took the farthest one and walked off, simply overwhelmed. She has not shredded any since. Six or seven balls might be on the floor at any one time and we are still working on putting her toys away in her basket after she pulls them out. Sadee's stuffed animals are safe and no stuffing-pull fests have occurred.

Winnie will nudge, then shove your hand, arm or leg depending upon what is available, hence The Noodge. She wakes me up in the morning for work if I sleep through my alarm through a soft whine, then a nudge, then a shove. She loves car rides. I even came back one day to find her in the driver's seat and Sadee in the passenger seat ready to go. She enjoys watching the world go by via the front screen door, barking at any short dog, raising her hackles, or howling with the sirens.

This old dog has learned some new tricks and brought a wonderful life to her humans and her companions alike.

BEAGLE BESSIE MAKES SENIORS SMILE

Rev. Albert Konrad, Administrator of the Allegheny County Nursing and Rehabilitation Center (ACNRC), writes:

I am enclosing a copy of the inside page of our nursing home's June newsletter that features Bessie, who was adopted through your organization back in June 1998.

She is the perfect companion and also the perfect nursing home pet. The residents and visitors love her dearly and when she misses the occasional day, everyone wants to know where Bessie was and is she sick, not whether I was sick or not.

Please find enclosed a check from Bessie to help other dogs find a good home and life just as she did.

The enclosed newsletter reads, in part:



June 4th is Bessie's (ACNRC four-footed fur-ball Director of Resident Relations) 7th birthday and her 6th continuous year of service to nursing home residents. You will recognize Bessie – her head is too small, her ears are too long, her legs too short and her feet are badly splayed. Altogether she is just perfect!

Bessie came to me when she was almost one year old. She had been abandoned by her family and rescued by The Partnership for Animal Welfare of Greenbelt, Maryland. [The day after adoption] she was hard at work at a 136-bed nursing home on the Eastern Shore of Maryland. She has served here at ACNRC for the last 3 ½ years. Bessie is planning a party in honor of her birthday and work.

**Payroll Deduction Helps
PAW Save Lives...
United Way / CFC #9167**

Adoption Stories continue, next page...

Adoption Stories, continued...

RIKKI'S ROADSIDE RESCUE

By Amy Bleich

How many times have you seen an animal running at large on the road? Do you stop to help if you can? Do you call animal control for help? Most people just drive on by.

On one particular hot summer day two years ago, two dogs

were seen running across a busy state road. People swerved to miss them, but didn't stop.

Finally a PAW volunteer happened along at the right time, and, with the help of another motorist, managed to get both dogs into her car. Both dogs were coated with fleas, very tired, over-heated and thirsty. The volunteer drove them back to her home to care for them.

One dog was feeling much better after a flea treatment, but Rikki was still miserable. She had little hair on her back from an adverse reaction to the many fleas, and what hair she had was dull and dry. Her skin was open and oozing. She remained weak and listless.

The dogs were brought to a veterinarian, who proceeded to further diagnose Rikki with heartworms. She had a long road of treatment and fostering ahead of her.

Enter the Lawson family, who had just lost their family dog, Oliver, who had been rescued at age seven and lived seven more happy years with them. They were searching for a new friend on the PAW website and came to an adoption show.



"We went up and down the rows. So many dogs, but we just couldn't adopt them all. Then I felt eyes on me and I turned around and this dog was staring at me. She was looking at me as if to say, 'come over and see me'. She was almost bald down her back, but she had a certain charisma. I knew in my heart she was the one, my movie star dog," remembers Amy Lawson.

Larry, Amy, Brady and Jessie Lawson, and their cats Spunky and Baby, welcomed Rikki into their home the day before Thanksgiving, 2002. She was renamed Ruby and soon blossomed under their care. Her fur grew in lustrous and healthy, and her eyes began to sparkle.

"We have spoiled her rotten, and we know it," says Amy. "We just think with her previous hard life, she deserves everything we can give her. She is a great dog and a perfect fit to our family. Thanks for bringing us together."

And is Rikki just as delighted with her new family as they are with her? Her happy smile says it all.

PHOTOS: The top photo shows Rikki when she had her skin problem, with most of the fur missing on her back. The bottom two photos show Rikki (now Ruby) enjoying life with her new human brother and sister.

ELVIS LIVES

Lori and Bruce Robieson write:

Elvis came into our lives on March 8, 2004, and what joy he has been. It all began by going to the PetSmart in Silver Spring several weeks before. Elvis at the time was known by PAW as Wiley and had been in the foster care of Kris Jordan.

When we first met Elvis, he was among at least 10 other dogs. During the showing at PetSmart there was a good amount of chaos, as one would expect with as many dogs in one place. But our Elvis was quietly sitting, paws crossed and watching everyone. This was the demeanor we were looking for. We found out that he was only 10 months old and a mix of lab, golden retriever and whatever else you can imagine. We submitted our application to Kris and she said that it would be reviewed and any news from her would be good news.

We anxiously waited for her call. Several weeks later she asked if we were still interested in adopting and if she could come by with Wiley. The only reservation we had with Wiley was our two old cats. At 15 and 16 years of age, we did not want their lives disrupted too much.

When Kris arrived with Wiley she took the time to let him explore our fenced yard and entire house and spend time with the cats. Kris has a cat, so she understood our concern with Wiley. However it was unfounded and he was great with the cats.

We were told that the decision would take several days, and it did. Later that week, Kris called and said that we were chosen as prospective parents for Wiley, if we were still interested. Of course we said yes!

Continued....

ELVIS, continued...

Later that week, Kris called and said that she could drop off Wiley on Friday. She felt more comfortable with us not going to work in the first couple of days that we had Wiley. As luck would have it, I had taken that week off for family reasons and said we'd take him immediately. She said we could have him that night.

Elvis was dropped off with sad goodbyes from Kris, and we were flying solo. This is what makes an adopted dog worth it. Wiley-now-Elvis had been crate trained by Kris, so he was on a schedule and already potty trained! Oh, how sweet it is! We had to train him not to run away and learn his new name, but all of it was easy and well worth it.

All in all, we cannot imagine life without Elvis. In the mornings I look forward to running with him in the park and his wagging tail when I come home. My husband wrestles with him and we have met many new friends at the dog park because of Elvis. If we should ever get a companion for Elvis it will be through adoption.

Thanks from a Volunteer

When [PAW dog] Gallagher and I were on our way to an adoption show in February, our car was hit head on by a turning driver, right in front of Kash's Realty in College Park. I was stranded in the intersection with my car and a shaken PAW dog. I ran into the real estate agency to call someone, and help was soon on its way. Nonetheless, I was by myself and it was late winter. Michael Griffin, whose grandfather owns Kash's, came out with water for Gallagher and hot chocolate for me! He is only nine years old but kept me company for the better part of an hour while the police took care of everything. I want to thank him for being a guardian angel to me and Gallagher that day!

-Katrina Pearthree, PAW Volunteer

Special Donations...

In Honor of People

In honor of all the wonderful PAW volunteers, by Kathleen Krebs

In honor of Annabelle Arthur, by Megan Arthur

In honor of Dr. Mark Hocking, by Tonia Fike

In honor of Dr. Nancy Ruth, by Mr. and Mrs. John E. Fike

In honor of Gene Higa, by Sam and Jane Ireland

In honor of Marie Grothe Martin, by Anonymous

In honor of Marsha Rader for her wonderful photography on behalf of the PAW animals, from the PAW dogs and cats.

In honor of Sherrill and Dave's 17th anniversary, by Stephen Jones

In honor of Susan Popescu's retirement, by Tilden Middle School Remembrance Committee

In honor of Suzanne Mattingly, for taking over the huge task of medical coordinator, by Joan Marshall

In honor of Vivian and Vincent Daddino, by Laurie Daddino

In Memory of People

In memory of Debbie Breuer, by Liz Dietz

In memory of Margaret Archer, by Richard and Barbara Drechsler, Mr. and Mrs. G.A. Singer, Calvin Fabre, Tracy Clark, and Sara Campbell

In Honor of Pets

In honor of Blackjack, Louie and Buster, by Nancy Fox

In honor of Gallagher, Lindsay and Whistle and pups, by Joan Marshall

In honor of Gina and Gizmo, former PAW dogs, by Dianne Thompson

In honor of Hopy, who was adopted from Ciudad Juarez, Mexico, by Harry and Deborah Segal

In honor of Lindsay, who has kept her loving ways despite cruelty from a human, by Roger and Judy McClain

In honor of sweet Lindsay, in hopes of a speedy recovery, by Jill Cooper

In Memory of Pets

In memory of Mystic, by Tonia Fike

In memory of Reds Monty Montgomery, my rabbit of 11 years, by Judith M. Smith

In memory of Skitz, Randy's cat, by Carol Kossuth

In memory of Tippy Fiddler, by Ellen Oberholtzer

In memory of Yammer, by Steve and Carla Virtue

PLEASE NOTE: Some gifts may have been received after the deadline for this issue. They will be printed in the next issue. The animals thank you for your support.

Pet Foster Homes Needed

Would you like to help a homeless cat or dog, or even a whole litter of kittens, become a success story like those featured in this newsletter? The first step in saving the lives of all of these animals was finding them a foster home. The need for foster homes for homeless pets is always urgent. Without them, PAW has nowhere to bring dogs and cats who have run out of time at local shelters.

Foster pets share your home until they find their "forever families." You provide food, love, and gentle training; PAW provides all necessary medical care, and can loan crates and other supplies. You may specify a breed or size that you prefer. **At the current time, we have an especially urgent need for foster homes for litters of kittens who are too young to be adopted.**

For more information about fostering for PAW, go to: <http://www.paw-rescue.org/foster.html>. To discuss fostering a dog, please contact dogs@paw-rescue.org, or for cats, contact paw_cats@yahoo.com.
Thanks!

PAW Shakes to...

- **GLORIA POUND** for buddying up with our dogs in boarding, making sure they are loved, walked, and socialized. Major tail wags!
- **THE GOLDFARB FAMILY** for all their hard work with the BaySox games. Woofs and purrs...
- **SUZANNE MATTINGLY** for the exemplary job she is doing for the PAW animals as medical coordinator.
- **KATRINA PEARTHREE** for her work with our Channel 9 appearances and for her generous offer to take on adoption show coordination responsibilities.
- **THE 7th GRADE STUDENTS AT STONE RIDGE MIDDLE SCHOOL** and their teacher, **IRIS RAINONE**, for having a bake sale to raise money for PAW's homeless pets.
- **RUTH CHASE** and her associate, **JEANINE VAN DE MERWE**, of the **COVENTRY SCHOOL FOR DOGS AND THEIR PEOPLE** in Columbia, Maryland for providing PAW adopters, fosters, and show handlers with a class on "handling leash reactive dogs." Barks and woofs!
- **THE POTOMAC ALMANAC** for featuring an adoptable PAW dog and cat every week in their paper. Purrs and wags!
- **PRESTON COUNTRY CLUB** and **REISTERSTOWN BOARDING KENNEL**, for boarding some of our homeless pets at reduced rates. Wags!
- **GAZETTE NEWSPAPERS** for featuring a promotional spot for PAW in some of their weekly editions. Meows and purrs!
- **PAW's FOSTER FAMILIES**, who open their homes seven days a week to give PAW's dogs and cats a second chance at happiness. We couldn't save lives without you. Arf!
- **VETERINARIANS AND STAFF at Beltway Referral Associates, Chesapeake Veterinary Cardiology Associates, College Park Animal Hospital, Family Veterinary Clinic, Gaithersburg Animal Hospital, Hyattsville Animal Hospital, Kenhaven Animal Hospital, Laurel Park Animal Hospital, Metropolitan Emergency Animal Clinic, Nebel Street Animal Hospital, St. Charles Animal Hospital, St. Leonard Animal Hospital, VCA Veterinary Referral Associates, Watkins Park Animal Medical Center, and Wheaton Animal Hospital** for providing reduced-cost vet care to so many of PAW's homeless dogs and cats. Wags!
- **PRINTING IMAGES of Rockville**, for printing this newsletter at reduced cost. Meow!
- **WUSA TV'S PETLINE 9** for featuring an adoptable PAW dog each month on a live TV spot on the Saturday morning news.
- **WTOP NEWS RADIO STATION** for broadcasting PAW's humane pet care tips one day a month.
- **LAST BUT NEVER LEAST**, we thank the Maryland-area **PETSMART** and **PETCO** stores, for hosting our weekly dog and cat adoption shows. Paw shakes and purrs to all!

Membership/Donation Form

Partnership for Animal Welfare, Inc., P.O. Box 1074, Greenbelt, MD 20768

www.paw-rescue.org 301-572-4PAW

PLEASE CHECK AS MANY AS APPLY:

Membership: **Single** (\$25) **Family** (\$45)

Renewal: Please check here if this is a renewal membership.

Additional donation: I am enclosing an additional gift of \$_____

I enclose an additional donation **in memory of:**

A person: _____ A pet: _____

I enclose an additional donation **in honor of:**

A person: _____ A pet: _____

Volunteer: I am willing to help in the following capacity:

Total Enclosed: _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____ E-mail: _____

Please make checks payable to the Partnership for Animal Welfare and mail to the address above. The animals thank you.

Fun-Loving Dog Seeks Family

Princessa is a sweet, two-year-old retriever who was found running at large. When she wound up at her local animal shelter, her owners were located and contacted, but they did not want to pay a fee to redeem her. Eventually she found her way to PAW, but is currently staying in a kennel. Princessa is very loving and attentive and desperately needs an owner to share her life with. She is an active dog and would be good for an active family with older children. She loves riding in the car, but loves cuddling more. Because it appears that she has spent a fair amount of time fending for herself, she would benefit from some basic obedience training to help her mature into the well-behaved and beautiful young lady she was meant to be. If you would like to meet Princessa to adopt or foster, please call (301) 572-4729 and leave a message for PAW's dog coordinator.



Ariel is a shy but charming tabby who was rescued, along with her family, from a perilous life outdoors. Ariel and her siblings have adapted well to a much safer existence as indoor cats. Her siblings have been adopted, but this sweet girl still needs a quiet, understanding home. If you are interested in meeting Ariel, please contact PAW (see the contact info on page 2). Thanks!

Basket Bingo is FUN-Raising!



Quick—mark your calendar for **Sunday, November 7th**! This is PAW's next Basket Bingo event, and it's a great way to have an afternoon of fun while helping homeless pets. So gather a gang of animal-loving (or game-loving) friends

and come on down to the **Bowie Elks Lodge**. Doors will open at 1:00 and bingo starts at 2:00 p.m. Refreshments will be available, and there will be door prizes, special games, and other fun events. Tickets are \$12 if reserved in advance. Complete driving directions and ticket info will be posted on the PAW website at www.paw-rescue.org. See you there!



Partnership for Animal Welfare
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Greenbelt, MD 20768

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