



The Way Home

An outreach e-communication from Papillon Haven Rescue (PapHaven)

Issue #94

www.paphaven.org

Spring 2020

2,000+ rescued & counting! Celebrating 17 years!

PHR's auction is seeking donations

As we enter the spring, thoughts of cleaning out the house are in the forefront of many of our minds. What to do with gently-used items and holiday gifts that are just “not your style”?

Well, here is a solution! PapHaven's bi-annual auction! This is a great opportunity to donate items that you don't have any use for and help a wonderful charity continue to do the good works to save pap and pap-mix dogs.

Interested? Got stuff to donate? Contact a team member for details about getting started. Sharon McGowan, of the Fund Raising Team, has kindly offered

to help warehouse the fund raising items. The Team is now: Lynn Pawley (Bskcreed@aol.com); Paula Dane (paulascoot@charter.net); & Sharon McGowan (mcgowansauer@outlook.com) with Jan Jorolan as a backup.

PapHaven thanks you in advance for all of your help!

Keep your eyes on the horizon ... PapHaven's auction will begin on March 23 and run until it's conclusion on April 5.

PapHaven's Spring Auction

March 23 thru April 5

www.papauction.info/



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Watch for the next issue of *The Way Home* for more exciting and informative stories.

As we approach this serious time, I pray for us all! Be safe and use common sense. Don't put yourself in harm's way.

Meeting our members

Ann Ness Johnson

I live in Austin, TX with my husband and 3 dogs (Dave, Bonnie & Freddy). Bonnie & Freddy are our PapHaven foster failures and Dave is a rescue found on the streets of Austin.

I have always been a big dog person but started dating a small dog person in high school who later became my husband. When we agreed to get a dog in college we knew that he wanted a small dog and I knew a small dog was more practical. After a lot of research I fixated on the Papillon and we had our first join our family over 10 years ago, while still in college.

Little miss Heidi was amazing and started our love the breed, we have since had Daphne & Bonnie plus Freddy the mix.

After college we moved to Austin, where we decided to build our first home, and we joined the PapHaven community as fosters once we had a backyard of our own in our new home. We have fostered over 40 dogs for PapHaven, to my husband's dis-



may, though I always remind him that he married a crazy dog lady.

Since fostering I have expanded my role with PapHaven to include being the TX foster lead for

PapHaven as well as the Facebook Admin, and all the many other misc items needed with the group over the years.

Outside of PapHaven I always volunteer to work with what I lovingly call

“naughty dogs,” which are medium to large breed high-level behavior pups who need additional help and support to make it out of the city shelter alive. This has also fueled my love and interest of dog behavior, which has made me a large advocate of fear free training after seeing the fallout over and over again of aversive tools.

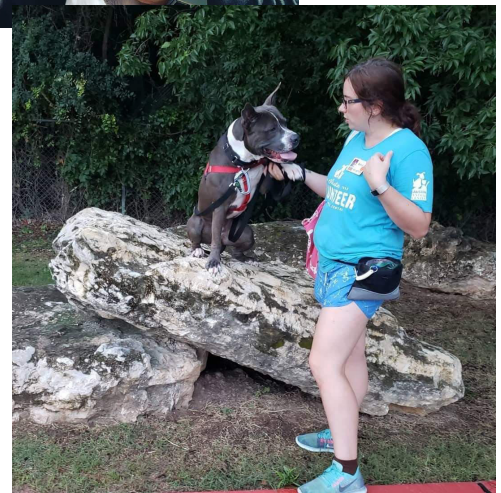
Outside of dogs I enjoy skiing, reading, traveling, hiking and camping. My husband and I have been lucky to travel and see many parts of our country as well as the world, which is another huge passion of mine.



Now the big new chapter of our lives is that we are expecting our first human child in the next week or so! So we have another PapHaven volunteer in the making.

OKAY! Who's going to be next? I will be reaching out to random members as each new publication gets under way ...

will you be ready when it's your turn? I will need approximately 350 words and at least 6 pics for each bio. *I will be in touch shortly!*



People Would Rather See Pets on Social Media

Paws Off Politics!

<https://www.dogingtonpost.com/paws-off-politics-people-would-rather-see-pets-on-social-media/>

A recent survey found that most people prefer to see photos of their friends' pets on social media – even more than pics of food and kids!

Want to get a lot of likes on social media? Bust out the pet photos!

A recent survey of major pet insurance company policy holders found that almost 84% of people preferred to see photos of their friends' pets on social media. In fact, pets easily beat out other common categories like lunch photos (2.3%) and – gasp – cute kid stories (7%.)

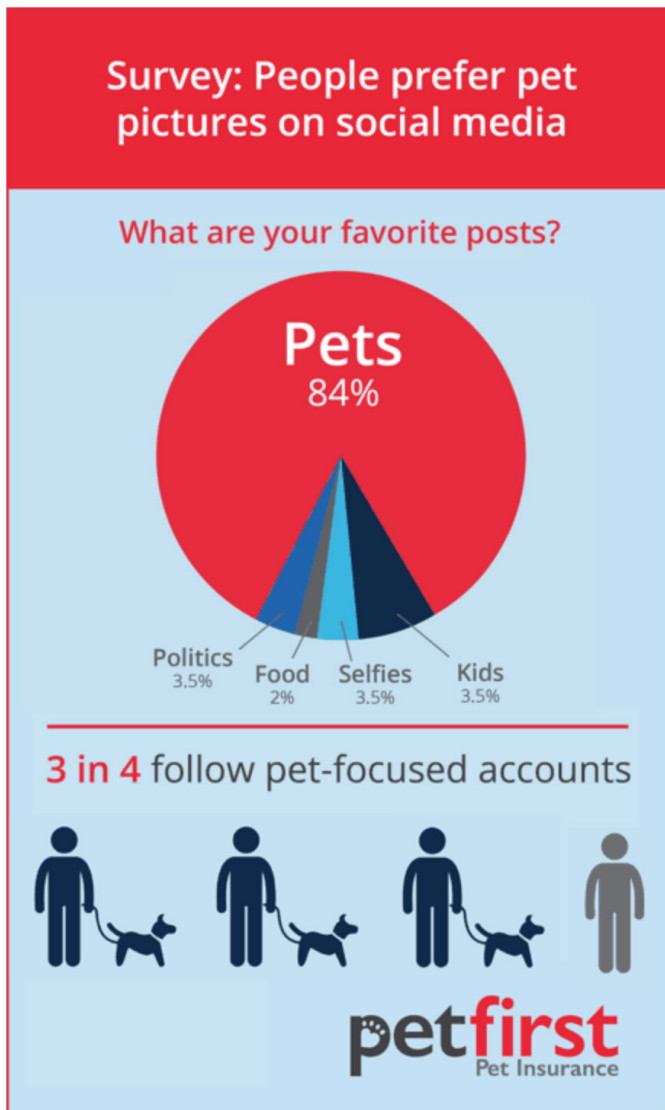


The number of people interested in your selfies was a tiny 3.5% – the same as the number who want to hear more about your politics. Ouch!

“Of course, we know firsthand how important pets are to the families who love them,” said the CEO of a major pet insurance company. “But it was interesting that the survey found that we also love other people’s pets. We never get tired of looking at our friends’ pups and kittens!”

About 3 out of 4 survey respondents said they follow at least a couple pet-focused social media channels – and more than 40 percent think their own pets are potential *Instagram* stars. About 13 percent have started accounts for their pets, and another 30 percent have considered it.

“The results are pretty clear,” said Blakeley. “Think twice before posting about your lunch or even your kids – bring on the pets!”



Things you need to get for your dog this spring

You'd probably consider your dog a fairly low-maintenance member of your family. Even if you supplement his diet with healthy people food, he's pretty easy to feed. He's happy whether you're taking him for a walk around the block or bringing him on vacation. And at bedtime, he probably sleeps just as well on the floor as he does in your bed. But just because your dog is low-key doesn't mean he won't need a few things to get ready for the warmer weather.

When winter turns to spring, your dog will spend a lot more time outside on hot, sunny days. And he might encounter outdoor pests. Or be exposed to common diseases. He might get seasonal allergies (just like you). And come across new hazards that pop up in your yard, on your neighbor's lawn, and at the park. Want to get your dog ready for spring? Read on to check out some things you'll need.

Vaccines & preventative medications

Whether you just got your dog or have had him for a while, make sure he stays up to date with vaccines and preventative medications.

Spring is also the perfect time to refresh your memory on common doggy diseases – such as heartworm, Lyme, rabies, and leptospirosis – as cases tend to ramp up with warmer weather. Check your records or ask your vet to make sure your dog is up to date with his vaccines. And make sure you're administering other

medications, such as heartworm prevention, on the schedule your vet recommends. Prevention notes not all vaccines need to be administered yearly. So whether you're a new pet owner or have had your dog for years, you should keep records, and check with your vet to see what your dog needs this year.

Flea & tick medication



Whether your dog is a TV star or not, you need to get the proper flea and tick medication.

Forgot to give your dog his flea and tick medication over the winter? Then, spring is the perfect time to start again. The AKC notes fleas can infect your dog with tapeworm. And ticks can transmit Lyme disease, Rocky Mountain spotted fever, canine ehrlichiosis, and canine anaplasmosis (plus other serious conditions). Once your dog is old enough, you should use a monthly preventative medication to keep ticks and fleas away. But you should also regularly check

for fleas and flea dirt. And after you visit a wooded area or spend a lot of time outside, you should check your dog over for ticks.

A safe backyard & garden

Make sure you puppy-proof your backyard. Or at least supervise your dog closely.

As you're walking around your lawn and garden, making plans for spring and summer, take your dog into account. Many ornamental plants can poison your dog. Think azaleas, dahlias, and English ivy. And common flowers, such as buttercups and daisies, are toxic to canines. Even your fruit and vegetable garden may pose some dangers. Tomato greens can poison your dog, as can chives, mint, tarragon, onions, sweet peas, and many fruit trees. Ensure that you don't have any dangerous plants growing in your yard. (Even things you didn't plant can pop up in the spring.) And before you plant anything new, check whether it can hurt your dog.

Have a pool? Make sure you expose your dog to water slowly so he can get used to the idea. Let him explore the water on his own and give him treats for moving deeper. Let him move out of and away from the water if he wants to. Don't throw him directly into the water or drag him in, as he may become frightened. Be sure you supervise your dog carefully.

Another way to make sure your dog stays safe (and close to home) as he enjoys the great outdoors? A safe and secure

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Things your dog needs this spring (continued from pg 4)

fence. But a fence that hasn't been properly maintained lands pretty high on the list of backyard dangers for your dog. Walk the entire perimeter of your yard in the spring, looking for any places where your fence is compromised. You don't want sharp wire or splintering wood to hurt your dog. And you also don't want an escape artist to find his way out into the neighborhood through a broken panel.

Be sure to check your downspouts while your outside ... Sometimes they can get VERY jagged edges from lawn maintenance. These sharp edges are cause major pain and suffering to your pet, requiring vet care.

A chemical-free lawn

Unnaturally green grass isn't worth it if it makes your yard unsafe for dogs.

Also on the list of hidden dangers in your backyard? Commercial fertilizers, organic fertilizers, herbicides, insecticides, and pesticides. These products all help your lawn grow and keep weeds and pests at bay. But they can be very dangerous for your dog. They irritate your dog's respiratory and digestive systems. And some are even linked to higher incidences of certain kinds of cancer. The bottom line? You should probably forego the chemicals if you spend a lot of time outside with your dog. Or at least keep your dog off the lawn for a few days after it's been treated.

Coat & health care

Everybody knows that shedding increases in the springtime as dogs eliminate their thick coat. Brushing your dog's coat

regularly during this period helps keep the shedding under control. The dead hair and dandruff are easily removed, so the coat gets a new and fresh look. Furthermore, your furry friend feels relaxed each time you brush him. The best solution is to use a brush with soft bristles that massage the skin and loosen up dry skin. After brushing, wash his coat, clean his ears and trim his nails.



A shade tree, umbrella, or canopy

When you're hanging out outside, make sure your dog has plenty of shade.

Another surprising danger in your backyard? The sun. Dogs can get sunburned. And they can also develop skin cancer. That means your dog needs a shady place to relax when he spends the day outside. Most yards have a little bit of shade. But if yours doesn't, you can plant a shade tree. Alternately, you can set up an umbrella. Or you can put up

an awning or canopy to provide a little bit of cover. Whether you're hanging out by the pool, or just have greenery in your backyard, both you and your dog will enjoy the extra shade. Also along those lines, make sure your dog has access to fresh water to prevent overheating.

A safe walking route

Make sure your dog doesn't encounter any major hazards on your walks together.

Even if you dog-proof your home and yard, you still need to protect your dog's safety when you walk him around the neighborhood. Hazards that were hidden by snow can come to light in the spring. (Buried dog waste and trash pose real dangers.) Furthermore, puddles and ponds can host bacteria and parasites. And lawns at your neighbors' houses or even in public parks might be covered in dangerous fertilizers and pesticides. Your dog probably wants to explore everything. So make sure he stays safe in the process. Whether you're walking your dog around your neighborhood or on the beach, make sure you watch out for any hazards.

New tags

Even if your dog spends lots of time inside, he still needs current tags.

Unsure whether your dog's tags are current? Check them this spring as you'll probably be out and about more with your dog. Make sure they're valid and include your current address. If you're getting new tags, make sure to follow recommenda-

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Things your dog needs this spring (continued from pg 5)

tions on what you should – and shouldn't – put on your pet's tag. You should use your phone number, your address, and a message, such as "I'm microchipped!" But you shouldn't put your dog's name on the tag. "It would be helpful for someone with good intentions; however, a person with less noble intentions could use that information to entice your pup away." Your dog might spend most of his time cuddled up with you. But you still need to keep his tags up to date.

New leash & collar

Even if your dog spends most of his time inside, he needs a safe collar and leash.

Hate thinking about what would happen if your dog got lost? Then, do your part to prevent it from happening. Check your dog's leash and collar to make sure they're still in good shape. Make sure a plastic buckle isn't cracked or bent. And ensure that a metal buckle isn't corroded. The same thing goes for the hardware on your dog's leash. And if the material of either the leash or collar seems too frayed or worn out, head to the pet store and replace them. Even if your dog won't venture far beyond your apartment, you should always have a safe and secure collar and leash on hand.

Pay attention to your dog's sizes as he might have gained some weight over the cold season. Check his collar to suits him.

Microchip

Whether you have a new puppy or a mature dog, make sure he has a microchip.

If your dog doesn't yet have a microchip, consider getting one this spring, again because you'll probably be venturing away from home with your dog more often in the nice weather. The AKC explains microchips come highly recommended by veterinarians, breeders, and animal-rescue organizations. And that goes whether you have a new puppy



or a mature dog. A microchip can help you find a lost dog or even track down a stolen dog. If your pup does have a microchip already, make sure the information on file is up to date. (An old phone number or address won't help you in the event that your dog does wander away.) Find out where your dog will be taken if he gets lost. And know which humane society or police department to call.

A doggy first aid kit

When taking your dog for a hike, always pack a first aid kit.

Planning to go hiking with your dog? Or thinking about taking him on a weekend trip? Then, you should make sure you pack a first aid kit for your dog. The *Humane Society of the United*

States advises starting with a first aid kit for humans and then adding pet-specific items to it. You'll need a pet first aid book. Also write down the phone numbers for your veterinarian, the nearest emergency veterinary clinic, and a poison control center or hotline. Make sure you have documentation of your dog's rabies vaccination status and copies of important medical records. And pack some self-cling bandages, which stick to themselves and not to fur.

Obedience or agility classes

Want your dog to learn some new tricks? An agility or obedience class can help.

Do you want your dog to learn some new tricks this year? Many obedience and agility classes start in the spring. So now is the time to find one and sign up. You'll have plenty of daylight hours to practice as the days get longer. Just remember to take it easy. If your dog has been cooped up inside all winter, he's probably gotten a little bit out of shape (just like you). Take things slow as you both get back in shape for the summer. And perhaps skip the long hikes, and stick to the backyard when the weather is just starting to warm up.

New toys

Make sure to have safe dog toys.

Most people think it's OK to let their dogs play with sticks. But sticks can cause numerous injuries for your dog. (Think splinters, pierced tongues, and punctured organs.) Dog toys offer a

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Things your dog needs this spring (continued from pg 6)

much safer alternative, and spring is a good time to take inventory and see whether any toys are too beat up to last another year. Try the pet stores – or even the local dollar store if you can find dog-safe options – for replacement toys you won't mind your dog taking outside. Even if you're just spending time with somebody else's dog, make sure you have safe toys on hand.

Clean & Safe Environment

You should also focus on cleaning your dog's bedding. A mild detergent or some vinegar should be enough to get rid of the fur, dander and bacteria that's built up over the cold season. Don't forget to clean his bedding every three months to kill flea eggs and parasites.

Pet-safe cleaning supplies

Does your dog spend a lot of time indoors? Make sure the cleaning products you use in your house won't hurt him.

It's called "spring cleaning" for a reason. Warm weather gives you the perfect opportunity to give your home a deep clean. But when you're stocking up on cleaning supplies, make sure you choose natural and pet-friendly products. PetMD reports you should check the ingredients list. Some of the things to look out for? You should avoid phenols, phthalates, formaldehyde, bleach, isopropyl alcohol, and perchloroethylene to make sure your cleaning products won't hurt your dog. That way, your dog can hang out inside with you,

without encountering dangerous chemicals.

A date with the sitter or kennel

Planning to travel, with or without your dog? Get him used to the process with a short weekend trip.

Planning to take some long vacations this summer? Then, you should use the spring to get your dog used to the sitter or kennel who will take care of him while you're gone. Take a short trip to see how your dog does. Then, you can feel more confident traveling for a longer period of time. Furthermore, if you plan to take your dog with you on your summer vacation, you should get him used to riding in a car during the spring. That way, everybody will be less anxious about it come summer.

Getting Ready for Long Trips

It is always a good idea to prepare your dog for a long trip, but spring is by far one of the best moments to start the preparation. Car rides with dogs are different and need attention and special care to avoid unpleasant incidents.

Spring and summer are the perfect seasons for vacations, so your dog needs special training to

better handle changes. Take short car rides with your dog around your town to get him used to the car before going on a long trip. Plan frequent breaks for relaxing and going to the bathroom.

Now that you know what steps to follow for preparing your dog for spring and summer, all you must do is use them and enjoy each moment you spend with your furry friend. Fun time is here! Prepare yourself to take advantage of it!

Outdoor Activities

Spring is perfect to share your favorite activities with your canine best friend. You can go for hiking, jogging, or any other type of activity that both of you'll enjoy. Make sure you get the right equipment and all the stuff your dog may need to feel comfortable.

If your dog has been cooped up all winter, he may be a little confused when you take him to crowded places. Feed him with treats frequently so he gets used to the new environment and remains calm. If you notice he becomes frightened, take him out of the area for a short break and then come back again.

A picnic or a sports game may be a great idea to spend some fun time outdoors with your best friend. Bring a blanket for your dog to rest and keep your dog calm while practicing your favorite game. Reward your dog for staying in place with praise and treats and give him some of his favorite toys to play with.



Dog-Related Tax Deductions You May Be Eligible to Claim

<https://www.dogingtonpost.com/is-my-dog-tax-deductible/>

With tax day right around the corner, many of us are searching far and wide for any deductions we can get! That got us wondering, are dogs tax deductible? Well... not exactly, but there are some dog related expenses that may be!

We all know our dogs are members of the family, but the IRS doesn't see them that way – they can't be counted as dependents. But, there ARE some dog-related expenses you might not be aware of! Of course, you'll want to check with your tax professional to make sure your write-offs are legitimate.

Moving Your Dog:

According to *Kiplinger*, If you moved during the tax year, it might be possible to deduct your moving expenses – including those specifically related to moving your dog. For example, if moving your dog requires special expenses, those expenses are treated no differently (in the federal government's eyes) than any of your personal effects. Making special arrangements to get Fido from your old home to your new one? Save the receipts!

Guard Dogs:

According to a tax expert, guard dogs can be a legitimate write-off. This would include the cost of caring for the dog, but not the dog itself. And, you can only deduct a percentage based on how much time the dog spends guarding. But, if you've got a guard dog that protects your business and inventory (I wouldn't really

try this one as a personal deduction) this could amount to a nice deduction.

Charitable Donations to Dog Rescues/Shelters:

It would be easy to assume that the costs of adopting a dog from a registered non-profit, 501(c), would be deductible – the assumption would be wrong. The cost to adopt a dog is not deductible. However, any donations made in excess of regular adoption fees most certainly are. According to the law, only those donations made where no goods or services are received in exchange (i.e., your new dog) can be deducted. Should you choose to make donations to your favorite 501c dog charity, make sure to ask for a letter of receipt that states no goods or services were received. Donations of both goods and services to an approved charity are tax deductible. When donating goods or services to an approved charity, ask for a donation receipt – you'll need it if the value of your donations exceeds \$250. To deduct a charitable contribution, you must file Form 1040 and itemize deductions on Schedule A.

Service/Therapy Dogs:

According to IRS Publication 502, You can include in medical expenses the costs of buying, training, and maintaining a guide dog or other service animal to assist a visually-impaired or hearing-impaired person, or a person with other physical disabilities. Just make sure you've got good medical records to back you up,

should questions arise.

Jobs With Dogs Expenses:

If you own and operate a business with dogs, of course your dog-related business expenses are deductible. If you're a trainer, you may be able to deduct mileage or transportation costs for visiting clients and their dogs. If you're a dog walker and need to purchase business related items like leashes and poop bags, those expenses can be itemized. As with any job-related expense, just make sure to keep all receipts and be able to prove the items were for job duties, not for your personal pet.

Fostering Dogs:

As a result of *Van Dusen v. Commissioner*, animal rescuers nationwide that are fostering dogs and/or cats for approved charities may claim the expenses during tax time. An approved charity is one that is recognized by the IRS with the 501(c)(3) designation as a Not-for-Profit organization. Fostering expenses eligible for deduction are food, medicines, veterinary bills, crates, garbage bags, and the like. Even a portion of your utilities can be considered expenses as long as a specific area of your home is only used for the care of the animals and nothing else.

As always, discuss these potential deductions with your tax professional to confirm they are legitimate for your personal financial and tax situation.

Simple Ways to Cure Your Pet's Boredom

Our pets are a huge part of our lives. However, they are not the only part of our lives, and that means that sometimes you will be busy and your pet will be bored.

Boredom manifests itself through bad behavior. A bored dog may chew on things he knows he's not supposed to, bark excessively, or dig up your yard. A bored cat, meanwhile, tends to act aggressively, eliminate outside of the litter box, and constantly be grooming and scratching. Boredom is not uncommon in dogs and cats, but it is potentially harmful if it goes too long without being addressed. Excessively bored pets can become aggressive, depressed, or even ill.

Maybe your pet isn't acting out, but is simply staring at you begging for attention when you really need to get something else done. Either way—there are some simple things you can do to deal

with and prevent pet boredom.

Make Sure Your Pet Gets Plenty of Time to be Active

Staying active is a great way for your pet to beat boredom. Your pet should be getting lots of opportunities to play in non-confined spaces. For dogs, walks and fetch are great means for exercise and stress-relief. Cats don't require as much activity, but a climbing tree or tower will provide some much needed freedom to roam.

Get Creative with Toys

When it comes to toys, it's definitely more about quality than quantity. Interactive toys—such as those that require your pet to figure out how to release a treat – are awesome boredom busters. Hide toys around in the house in your pet's favorite places

for them to find. And rotate what toys are available to your pet so that their options are fresh and engaging.

Play Dates

Maybe you can't adopt another pet, but if you know somebody who has a dog or a cat that gets along with yours, try bringing them together for some playtime. Your pet will appreciate getting to socialize and having a companion, and you will appreciate how much less stressed they seem. For your dog, consider doggy daycare if you're going to be out of the house a lot.

Keep Your Pet Healthy

A healthy pet is a happy pet. Feeding your pet a healthy, well-balanced diet, always having water available, and making sure their space is clean goes a long way towards dealing with behavioral problems that may come about from boredom.

Always Find Time For Your Pet

It is crucial that you make sure you are giving your pet one-on-one attention every day. Training, playing, bathing, and belly scratching are all great ways to show your pet how much you care. It won't cure boredom, but it will help with your pet's health and general well-being.

Be conscious of your pet's mood, and do your best to keep your pet engaged and active. You both will be happier for it!

Show your PHR Pride!!!



Show your pride and support at the same time!

PHR will soon be selling these wonderful tshirts to help support their efforts to rescue papillon & pap-mix dogs in the US.

Pricing for the shirts is still tentative - should be between \$20 & \$25. If you are interested, contact Jan Jorolan at jorolan@catc.net to reserve the sizes you wish to purchase.