



# February, 2012

## Shelter Events & News



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Volunteer Tails

Hi Everyone,

I hope everyone is doing great! I have three things to talk about in this edition.

First, I would like to reinforce to ALL volunteers that we have had a parvo outbreak this month. So, **please DO NOT interact or touch puppies under 6 months old. This disease**



**can kill.**

Besides not interacting with

them, please supervise the visitors. **Help us to save lives!**

Second, I will start working with a program called "VolunteerSpot". All you will need is an email address that you check regularly. So, if the email that you have in your application no longer exists please let me know.

This program will help you sign up for things through invitations that I will be



sending to you. It will even send you a reminder two days before the event. Very

nice huh?!

Third, I'm still searching but I think that I have found a program that will allow you to sign in/out using the computer from the lobby. It will help me and you to keep track of your hours.

That's it! Please don't forget the Paws N Behave workshop on the 11th at 11am.

Thank you for your great work,

~ Rafaela ~

### Petco Cat Habitats

Hi PETCO Volunteers,

Thank you for all your great work!

~Rafaela~



### Mark on Your Calendar!

#### Valentine's Sweetheart Dinner

Friday, February 10, 2012

At 7:30pm

Check our website for more information.

#### Paws N Behave Workshop

Saturday, February 11, 2012

At 11am

#### Petco Adoption Event

Saturday, February 18, 2012

From 12-3pm

#### Volunteer Orientation

Tuesday, February 28, 2012

At 5:30pm



## Animal News

### What is Parvo?

Parvo is a common and potentially serious viral disease in dogs. The virus is officially known as Parvovirus. The disease caused by this virus is commonly referred to as *Parvo*. The virus first appeared clinically in 1978, and there was a widespread epidemic in dogs of all ages. Since no dogs had been exposed or vaccinated (the vaccine didn't exist at the time), dogs of all ages died from the infection. The virus can "adapt" over time, and other strains of the virus have appeared since then, but properly administered vaccinations are the best protection. Canine Parvovirus is thought to be a mutation from the feline Parvovirus, also known as Feline Distemper virus.



#### What are the signs seen with Parvovirus infection?

There are three main manifestations of Parvovirus infection:

**Asymptomatic** - No signs seen. Common in dogs over 1 year old and vaccinated dogs.

**Cardiac** - This form of the disease is much less common than the intestinal form due to widespread vaccination. Severe inflammation and necrosis (cell death), of the heart muscle causes breathing difficulty and death in very young (less than 8 weeks of age) puppies. Older dogs that survive this form have scarring in the heart muscle.

**Intestinal** - This virus causes extreme damage to the intestinal tract, causing sloughing of the cells that line the tract. This can leave the patient open to a secondary bacterial infection. Most of the affected dogs (85%) are less than one year old and between 6-20 weeks old -- too young for the full set of vaccinations to be given. The death rate from infection is reported to be 16-35% in this age group.\*

#### The intestinal signs include:

**Lethargy**

**Vomiting**

**Loss of appetite**

**Diarrhea** - usually bloody, and very foul-smelling (a characteristic odor, particular to Parvovirus infection)

**Intussusception** - when a section of the inflamed intestinal tract telescopes into itself. This is an emergency.

**Fever**

The onset of the clinical signs is usually sudden, often 12 hours or less. The incubation from exposure to seeing the clinical signs varies from 3 to 10 days.

#### How is Parvovirus infection diagnosed?

This disease is diagnosed by physical examination, signalment (age, vaccination status, breed, etc.), and a fecal Parvo (ELISA) test. Additional diagnostics include blood work and radiographs. Dogs infected with Parvo typically have a low white count. Radiographs help rule out other potential causes for vomiting and diarrhea.

<http://vetmedicine.about.com/cs/dognz/a/parvodog.htm>

## Funny Animal Moment

THIS IS MY KISSING FACE



KISS IT!

## Attention Volunteers!

Help us with **facebook**.

**Step 1**– Become our fans.

**Step 2**– Share our posts with your friends.

**Step 3**– Help us to educate and send good dogs to good homes!

## ⌘ Volunteer Spotlight ⌘

Thank you very much!

This is Keaton Evans-Black . He has been a volunteer at the Kokomo Humane Society since the middle of August. Keaton is a dog walker and is



always happy to help with community events. Also, he has an important task of working with the cats at PETCO. Since he started, he has put in almost 40 hours of volunteer work. Thank you, Keaton, for all your awesome work. All the animals and the staff from the KHS appreciate you very, very much!

**A little more about Keaton...** *"I just want to help out and be around the animals. Pets are one of my favorite things and I figured there was no better way to enjoy them than by helping them."*

*"Those who can, do. Those who can do more, volunteer." ~Author Unknown*