





SARA'S GRAND ADVENTURE

By: Kim Eisele

It was a sunny afternoon, close to rumbling noise started and the closing time at The Animal League of Green Valley, where I had lived for almost three years. Oh, I thought—another long night without Was I going to my forever home? a human. My favorite times are cuddling with a person.

Then a volunteer entered my yard with a stranger, a large man with a beard. At first sniff. I could sense he was kind and a dog-lover. Could this be someone to take me home?

I was on my very best behavior and showed this friendly man, Nick, all my finest moves—sit, down, stay—I could tell he was impressed with me as he gently spoke to me and scratched behind my ears. But then, he was saying good-bye. Oh no, what did I do wrong? Please stay, my eyes implored as he left.

A couple of days later, a very excited volunteer leashed me up. As we rounded a corner, I saw the biggest truck ever. As my eyes took in the sight, my nose got a whiff of something remarkable. It was the essence of the kind man with the beard. Nick was back!

The next thing I knew, Nick gently picked me up and placed me on the very high seat of the gigantic truck. As I anxiously sat there, a large

truck vibrated. There were a group of my favorite volunteers, all waving at us, some with tears in their eyes.



And suddenly, we were moving. I immediately loved riding in the grand beast. The vibrating sort of lulled me into an almost sleepy state at times. And the scenes I saw outside the windows were incredible.

Since we left the shelter, I am almost always with Nick. We drive along the highways—I navigate, of course—with occasionally stops. At first when Nick left me alone in the truck, I was nervous because I have what humans call separation anxiety. However, I just hang my

head out the window, keeping Nick's scent in my nostrils; and before too long, he is back, usually smelling fresh and clean. At night I get to sleep in a comfy spot behind the seats, cuddled up with Nick. Nights are my favorite time in my new home

Life on the road in a long-haul truck is the greatest adventure a dog could ever imagine. We have visited New Mexico, Texas, Oklahoma, Colorado, Nebraska, Iowa, Minnesota, Kansas, Wisconsin, Illinois, Indiana, Louisiana, Mississippi, Alabama, Georgia, and Florida. I constantly get to meet new people and dogs.

Currently we are in Missouri at Nick's "other" home. I love Nick's



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five children and especially his wife. I enjoy snuggling with her on the couch while we keep an eye on the



baby. I also play with Knott Head— Nick's Mom's pitbull—who usually doesn't like other dogs. He likes me. though, because I love all of Nick's family and they love me back.

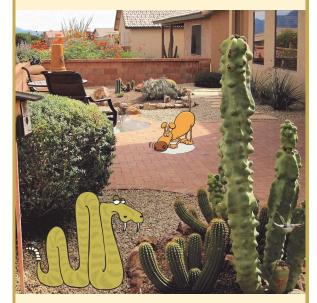
couple of days. Life with my person keeps getting better and better. I wag my tail and look fondly up at Nick, wondering what will be our next grand adventure?

Nick just whispered to me that we are hitting the road again in a

go pour me another cup of coffee

ove-to hear those old songs on the jukebox Cause I'm a Truck-Riding Dog,





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TALGV's Youth Intern Program is in its 9th year and has become an eagerly anticipated pursuit for both the high school participants and the year-round adult volunteers. This year, from May 28 through July 27, there have been 80 outstanding high-school students, including 30 YIP "veterans" who returned for their second, third, or fourth year of summer service.

The YIPs worked regular four-hour shifts (with most working two or more days), and did all chores necessary to care for the cats and dogs—feeding, walking, cleaning, bathing and socializing. They even surrendered their cell phones during shift time—yet another sign of their attention and commitment.





The majority of our YIPs were local teenagers living in Sahuarita /Green Valley who will be attending Sahuarita or Walden Grove High School, with several of them heading off to college in the fall. The undisputed winner of our "Mileage Award" was Elliot Li, from Beijing, China, who visits his Green Valley grandparents and joined us for his second summer as a YIP volunteer.

TALGV truly appreciated the efforts of these dedicated and hard-working students. It's a win/win situation for all of us—they got valuable hands-on experience in animal rescue and we got their help during those crucial months when many regular volunteers are away for the summer.

As Jean Davis (TALGV President and YIP Coordinator) says, "These young people are not only the future of animal rescue, but also a joy to those of us who work with them as they develop and refine compassionate values that will last a lifetime."



















TALGV Welcomes New Board Members

Sandy Hanover



I'm originally from a small community in rural Ohio, about 60 miles northwest of Columbus. Growing up, I had all kinds of pets from gerbils to bunnies to cats, dogs and horses, and even a huge fresh-water aquarium. I don't remember there ever being a time when I

didn't have multiple pets. I currently enjoy life with my husband and our two dogs, both TALGV foster failures, Gilroy and Dozer.

After receiving my MBA from Thunderbird in Phoenix, I was hired in 1982 by IBM in Santa Barbara, CA. Eight years later, I realized California just didn't work for me and came back to Phoenix. I spent the majority of my career working for software companies in the Valley of the Sun, mostly leading consulting groups helping businesses get financial benefit from their investment in technology.

When we moved to Green Valley in 2008, I still worked full-time and had two young dogs, so that limited the time I had available to volunteer. Still, I found a way to quickly move from a weekend dog walker at TALGV to being part of a special training group and then to the role of a Dog Care Coordinator in 2010. Somewhere along the way, I took on the dog foster program and also joined the team who follows up on dog adoptions. In 2018 I was honored to become part of the TALGV Board and am currently the Board Secretary.

My primary goal at TALGV is to maintain an environment where volunteers feel appreciated and, no matter what their role, can see the value that they bring to our resident cats and dogs. In addition, I see the changing demographics of our service area and want to use technology to help make TALGV more attractive to a broader pool of financial supporters.

Betty Melby

I was born in Grand Rapids,
Minnesota, and then lived
and worked in Minneapolis until my retirement.
For 27 years, I was a
Corporate Credit Manager
for Dayton Rogers
Manufacturing Company
and earned my Certified
Credit Executive title
during that time.



My husband Gordon and I have been married for 32 wonderful and fun-filled years. Our daughter Bonnie lives in California with her husband and cats, Onyx and Sophia. Before retiring, Gordon and I served for 15 years in the Coast Guard Auxiliary, Homeland Security, in Minneapolis.

We love animals and currently have two cats (Rascal and Lily) and our dog Blossom, who was adopted from TALGV. Blossom is an awesome dog—you might have met her at some community events we've done.

At the Valley Presbyterian Church, I volunteer each month to sort and organize donations and also work at our annual three-day Patio Sale. With TALGV, I help in The Attic Thrift Store two days a week. I am the Community Events Coordinator and have been the Co-Coordinator of the Special Events Committee. In addition, I've helped plan TALGV's entries in the County White Elephant Parades and worked on many other events, including "Give Your Heart to the Animals" dinner & dance, Blessing of the Animals, Volunteer Luncheons and "Doin' It Fore the Animals" golf tournaments.

As the Community Events representative on the Board, I'll strive to keep the public aware of TALGV's excellent qualities and to continue building our positive image in the community.

Biscuit Learns To Brush His Teeth

By: Micki Darling















Dental Care For Your Pet

Biscuit has beautiful shiny white teeth and NO gum disease. What about your cat or dog? According to PetMD.com, the majority of pets don't get adequate dental care and are in serious danger of periodontal disease as they get older. As we all know, dental problems are no fun—toothaches hurt!

Just like people, cats and dogs can accumulate a build-up of bacteria (tartar) on their teeth. Since pets can't brush, the tartar can progress to gingivitis (gum disease) which in turn can lead to infection and tooth loss (periodontal disease). Veterinarians estimate that 80% of all 4-year-old dogs and cats already show signs of dental disease.

The best way to protect your pet's teeth is by improving his dental care. Daily teeth cleaning at home can help. Use a small toothbrush and edible pet toothpaste—cats

and dogs can't spit and shouldn't swallow the ingredients in human toothpaste. It's easiest to start cleaning his teeth when your pet is young; but with lots of patience, older animals will learn to accept it. Chew toys and other dentalcleansing products may also be of value, especially those with the VOHC (Veterinary Oral Health Council) label.

> However, home care alone will not provide adequate dental care; even your best efforts only slow the accumulation of tarter. It's vital that your veterinarian carefully evaluates your pet's teeth during his yearly check-up. When necessary, your vet can use a general anesthetic to perform

a thorough below-the-gum dental cleaning and take care of potential problems before they become serious.

With a combination of professional care and home oral hygiene, your cat or dog can keep their teeth and gums healthy for their entire lives.



A Kitten Is...

wrapped around my heart.

a very busy baby—kittens go nonstop and then they crash.

a furry, purry stress reliever.

unconditional love, being playful, joyful and fun. Kittens will relax you, take your bad day away, and it's fun to watch them grow.



a loving companion who will inscribe a mark on my heart—and on my furniture.

irresistible—instant love.

a new model roadster, full of high test, ready to rock and roll into corners, with a loud motor and amplified purr!!! A kitten is

God's best friend

perfect
in my--zoooom--never mind

stuck to my leg
boxing the bathroom mirror
the best antidepressant

exhausting
the storm before the calm

climbing up my jeans and onto my shirt and "ow, stop that!"
running pell-mell down the hallway, careening around the corner,
jumping over the laundry basket and onto the desk and, kerplunk,
is sound asleep
stalking my sock
fearless
the surest way to melt a heart



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