



# BEST FRIENDS OF BAKER, INC.

## Winter, 2009 Newsletter

### MISSION STATEMENT

Best Friends of Baker Inc., advocates for the needs of domestic pets, particularly dogs and cats, in Baker County, Oregon. We promote respect, dignity, humane treatment, and responsible population control through education and spaying and neutering, medical needs, shelter, foster care and thoughtful placement and adoption of all the animals.

P. O. Box 183  
Baker City, Or 97814  
541-519-PETS

[www.bestfriendsofbaker.org](http://www.bestfriendsofbaker.org)

email:

[bestfriendsofbaker@yahoo.com](mailto:bestfriendsofbaker@yahoo.com)

This newsletter was made possible through a Leo Adler Foundation grant. Thanks again Leo!



### Best Friends Board Members

Marilee Tiedemann - President  
Liz Estabrooks - Vice President  
Karen Skeen - Secretary  
Norma Job - Treasurer  
Susan Castles  
Lisa Coughlin  
Trina Duncan  
Brett Hamilton, DVM  
Dan Moore  
Sandy Osborne  
Carmen Ott  
Milo Pope  
Kelly Tanzey

**"Animals suffer as much as we do... until we extend our circle of compassion to all living things, humanity will not find peace." --- Albert Schweitzer, The Philosophy of Civilization**

### We Wish You Happy Holidays

**Best Friends, along with their four-legged friends, invite you to join us in the Twilight Parade on Saturday, December 5, at 4:45 p.m. at Main and Madison. Bring your pet! We will be walking with all our favorite fur partners. The more the merrier! Come and celebrate the Holiday Season with us. For more information, please call 541-519-7387.**

### Have Dogs, Will Travel

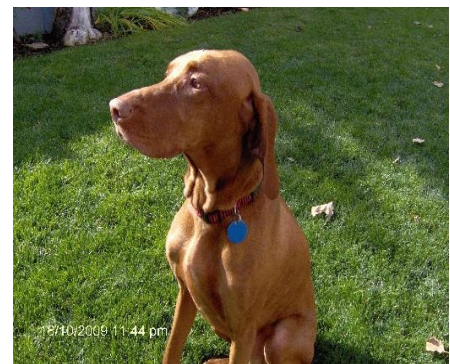
Best Friends volunteers have traveled over 21,000 miles assisting in the transport of 108 dogs across the US to their Forever Homes.

### Joyce McKie Was Best Friends

Twenty two years ago, Best Friends of Baker was a lady named Joyce McKie. She owned South Window Kennels and boarded pets. Joyce also took in those pets left at the end of her lane that nobody wanted. She provided unending love, and opened her purse for vaccinations, spays and neuters and sought out new homes for her rehabilitated guests. Joyce was the true beginning of Best Friends. Without Joyce McKie, Best Friends would never have survived its first year or the many years after. Joyce, her friend John and her loyal dog Heather now reside in Haines, Oregon. Happy Holidays, Joyce!

*"If you have men who will exclude God's creatures from the shelter of compassion and pity, you will have men who will deal likewise with their fellow men." St. Francis of Assisi*

Louie, a handsome Vizsla, was almost euthanized because he snapped at someone. He was taken into the Best Friends program and to a veterinarian for a well-check. It was discovered that Louie had two abscessed teeth that were causing him extreme pain. They were removed, other sore spots treated and he was on the mend. Louie had also suffered severe abuse and beatings from his owner. After six weeks of love, attention and being spoiled in foster care, Louie moved to his new home in Walla Walla and joined his Vizsla brother, named Jed. We wish Louie and his new family the best of everything in his new "forever" home.



## Why Pets Shouldn't Be Gifts

Most humane organizations, reputable breeders and veterinarians will tell you that giving pets as a gift is a bad idea. Animals require a lifetime commitment. Dogs and cats can live to be 15 years old. Would you make a 15 year commitment for someone else? Experts agree that when people give pets as holiday gifts, the pet pays an awful price. Puppies and even adult dogs need quiet, schedules, and lots of time and attention as they adjust. When was the last time you had such a day during the holidays? Matching a pet with a family takes a family's commitment. Without the family making this decision together, the pet may get off to an unhappy start and may find an uncertain future at a shelter. Pets serve us in many ways. Let us honor them by thinking ahead during the holidays.

Be sure your pet is getting plenty of nutritious food and a good supply of water. Check the water bowl two or three times daily in freezing weather to ensure it is not iced over. As little as \$15 for a heated water bowl will save you the worry and protect your pet. Even the most resilient of animals need special attention in extreme temperatures. A blanket in a doghouse often traps moisture and is not easily cleaned. Clean straw is warm, biodegradable and inexpensive. Spread generously 6-7" thick and replace as needed. Cats will snuggle near a warm engine in the winter. Honk or bang on the hood prior to starting your vehicle!



### Ben the Doberman Pinscher Dognostition

Ben came to Best Friends when his owner could no longer care for him. He was adopted by a family in Dallas, Oregon. They discovered his special talent. Mrs. owner had chronic leg pain. Ben continually bumped her leg with his head. Annoyed, she considered returning him to Best Friends. A life threatening blood clot in her leg was discovered. Her doctor said that Ben's attention to her leg saved her life. Ben now goes to work with his owner at a veterinary hospital. He is also a health therapy dog. There is more to Ben's story than space will permit.

Euthanasia is the leading cause of pet deaths in the US. **TRY THE ADOPTION OPTION :**

Speckles, male Border Collie mix. 3 years

Barkley, female Border Collie mix. 3 years

Tipper, female Border Collie mix. 3 years

Luna, female Border Collie mix. 3 years

Cheyenne, female Schnauzer mix 7 months

Scooter, male Basset Hound mix 2 years

Go to [www.bestfriendsofbaker.org](http://www.bestfriendsofbaker.org) for photos and details.

Jose, female Border Collie mix, 1 year

Taffy, female Miniature Pinscher 2 years

Grey/White Manx, male 2 years

Black kitten male 6 months

Black kitten male 6 months

Black and white kitten male 6 months

Black and white female cat – senior

### THIS HOLIDAY SEASON INVEST IN COMPASSION

A gift to Best Friends of Baker, Inc. will help our organization with funds essential to running effective campaigns and programs in Baker County to benefit pets in need. All gifts are tax deductible. Best Friends of Baker, Inc. P. O. Box 183, Baker City, OR 97814, is a 501c3 organization. There are several gift options:

\$5.00    \$10.00    \$20.00    \$25.00    \$50.00    Other

I would like to designate my donation to be used for:  Shelter Fund  Use as needed

Emergency Medical Care  Spay/Neuter  Pet Food.

HOW COOL is your dog in the back of your pickup? Depends on your speed and his shelter. At 32 degrees driving at 30 mph cools him to 17 degrees, and at 20 degrees at 65 mph he shivers at minus 5 degrees.

