



Pet Tips 'n' Tales

by Mary Ellen "Angel Scribe"

Seeing is Believing!

My husband, Bence, is Hungarian, so when we were discussing which dog breed would best suit our family, he suggested the Hungarian herding dog, a Puli. I am half-Jamaican, so when I saw a Puli's photo with its remarkable corded coat (dreadlocks), I wanted one as much as he did. It was the perfect fit for our family.

So, we adopted Maci (pronounced Motti) and brought her home to join our two senior foster cats (whom we later adopted). Two years later, we adopted a third cat from the humane society; then one day Bence surprised us all and brought home a little black Puli puppy, Heidi Bean, topping off our active/crazy/fun family.

I was delighted to have another happy Puli puppy bouncing around. But not so with Maci! She was not pleased with this sudden 'in-her-face surprise'! No one had consulted her! She had enough to deal with three cats, and to add a rambunctious pup was, well, an insult! Maci set the stage right away by growling at Heidi. Bubbly, happy Heidi was not purr-turbed. She shadowed her big sister with her adoration. It only took a few days of adorable-puppy personality before Maci fell in love with her new sister - now they are best friends.

A Puli puppy's non-shedding-hypoallergenic hair is similar to a poodle's — curly. It was four years before Maci's hair grew all the way to the ground. We trim their hair once a month so it won't drag in the dirt, rain etc.

We don't bathe them often

because they take ages to dry — hours and hours — even with a blow dryer. I can't say I blame Maci because she hates going out in the rain. Sometimes we have to carry her to the park because she refuses to walk. Once we get home, we place towels on the ground for them because they like rolling around in them.

Sometimes we pull their face hair up into a pony tail so they can see better, but they usually run so much that their hair soon falls back down over their eyes.

Pulis don't shed, but their coats are not easy to manage. It also collects various leaves and greenery from the outside, which drop off inside the house. Fall is the worst time to have a Puli. I would be embarrassed to tell you of the litany of leaves and pine needles that attach to their fur during a walk!

Puli dogs have such fun personalities; they are agile, quick, smart, stubborn, love running and playing, and they are good guard dogs. It is, after all, in their breed. They are family oriented and loyal. Whenever one of our family members or close friends come by, they become so excited. At the same time, they can be wary of strangers.

The most common questions and comments we get from people who meet us on the street are:

'How can they see?'
'They look like mops!'
'Look dread lock dogs!'
'Did you do that to their hair? Is it natural?'

'How cute! They look like a pair of fuzzy black slippers!'
Our "girls" are lucky in that the three of us 'work' at a pet



Photo by Mary Ellen "Angel Scribe"

Seeing is believing! Yes! There are dogs under all that black fur! Mieke takes her two Puli pups, five-year-old Maci and three-year-old Heidi Bean, to work with her.

clinic in West Vancouver, BC. For five years they have come to work with me. They are free to roam the clinic but they mostly choose to sleep behind my desk. As soon as they hear a treat bag being opened they are fully awake! Having them makes for a wonderful coffee break, because their presence forces me outside for their puppy potty break. The break is healthy for all of us.

The dogs are comical to watch as they play 'tag'. Maci always chases Heidi and when she catches her she knocks her over so hard that Heidi barrel rolls a few times, then she springs back up, ready to be chased again."

TIPS

"To me dogs and cats are members of a family," said Mieke. "I wish everyone felt this way when considering adopting a pet. People should realize that a pet is a big commitment and that they are responsible for it for the rest of the pet's life."

"My friend gave me a fantastic glow-in-the-dark dog leash," writes Randy in Aromas, California. "Now, I feel safer when walking my dog because we are more visible! The lighted leash resembles a string of Christmas lights when on. It is a great gift for pet lovers who walk their pets at night."

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Foundation works to outfit rural libraries

BY JON STINNETT
The Cottage Grove Sentinel



Karren Timmermans hopes to find space in CG to host her Foundation.

The Cottage Grove community is home to a surprising number of organizations with a nationwide and sometimes a worldwide scope. Such is the case with the Pilcrow Foundation, whose director Karren Timmermans, hails from Cottage Grove but aims to support public libraries throughout the country.

Timmermans said the Foundation was formed in 2013 to continue the work of the Eugene-based Libri Foundation, which works to provide new hardcover children's books to small public libraries throughout the United States.

"Libraries are often the center of the community, where people come together to learn and share ideas," said the Foundation's website. "Providing quality children's books to rural public libraries ensures an opportunity for active engagement within the community and lifelong learning."

The Foundation partners with rural libraries, which are asked to raise one-third of the cost of

the books that will enhance their collections.

Timmermans said the Foundation's first cycle of applications are due in early May. In addition to perusing them, she said she's looking for space locally from which to run her program, including space from which to house, order, ship and move hundreds books.

"We're just getting off the ground," Timmermans said. "It's very exciting."

More information on the Pilcrow Foundation can be obtained by phone at 541-767-3604 or by email at pilcrowfoundation@gmail.com.

Museum to showcase local artwork

Highlights from the Cottage Grove Museum's art collection are on exhibit from now through the end of June 2015 at the Cottage Grove Museum, 147 H St., Cottage Grove.

The exhibit, "Paintings, Drawings, Carvings and More: Art from the Museum Collection," features over a dozen paintings by local artists including works by Robert Drenner, who is best known locally for his murals in the old Cottage Grove High School. Examples of original drawings of Oregon's covered bridges by well-known art teacher Catharine Filmer, along with drawings of familiar local sites by Sujo, Roger Lovelace and Evelynne Plueard are also on exhibit.

A sampling of the museum's

collection of hundreds of folk art woodcarving pieces by Cottage Grove resident Carl Small, including examples of his carvings of animals, chains and puzzles along with over a dozen examples of his hand carved pliers and tools are also featured.

The Cottage Grove Museum is open Saturday and Sunday from 1-4 p.m. Beginning Memorial Day weekend, the museum will expand its hours to Friday through Sunday, from 1-4 p.m. Admission is free but donations are requested.

For information, contact: Cottage Grove Museum Board President Becky Venice at 541-942-4269 or b_venice@msn.org, or TaraSue Hughart, Cottage Grove Museum Coordinator at 541-968-2254 or tarasuehughart99@gmail.com.

LORANE COUNTRY NEWS

BY LIL THOMPSON
For the Sentinel

There are several events on the calendar this week and weekend. First, the book fair continues through Friday, April 24. Then today, April 23, be sure to come to the annual Grandparents Tea at Applegate Elementary starting at 12:30 p.m. It begins with a talent show and entertainment with awards following. Guests may review the books in the book fair before and after the tea.

This Saturday, April 25, there is a car wash at the Ray's parking lot in Veneta from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. to raise money for the CHS girls softball team.

Then, Saturday evening offers a delightful spaghetti dinner

followed by a fun time playing bingo. It all starts at 5:30 p.m. at Lorane Grange. Black out is growing! All proceeds go toward the Grange's re-roofing project.

It is hard to believe, but the Crow High School prom night is May 2 at Deep Woods in Veneta from 8-11:30 p.m.

There are still some scholarships due later this month for the CHS seniors: April 28 is the deadline for the "Edward Cooper Cougar Scholarship," "Karen Diess Cougar Scholarship" and the "Cougar Athletic Scholarship," and applications for the Oregon Jaycees Foundation Scholarship are due on April 30. This is the last chance to apply.

Join us for Art Walk this
Friday from 6-8pm
In Downtown Historic
Cottage Grove

Cottage Grove

ART WALK

Last Friday of the month beginning in April.

Look for the flags!
www.cgartwalk.org

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FRIENDSHIP SUNDAY

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...then be our guests for worship on

Sunday, April 26th at 10:30 a.m.

Coffee hour to follow.



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