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**Pet Tips 'n' Tales**  
by Mary Ellen "Angel Scribe"

**The Parish Pup**



MARY ELLEN ANGEL SCRIBE/COTTAGE GROVE SENTINEL  
Emilie, Patti and their dog Fritz are bike enthusiasts.

Fritz is a show stopper with his little paws resting on his bike seat like other dogs with their paws on a vehicle's window sill! I spotted him biking with his family and beeped my car's horn for them to pull over for his must have story. And boy does he have a good one!

"Miniature Schnauzer's are the best dogs in the world," admits St. Barnabas Anglican Church Priest Emilie. "Fritz is two-years-old, playful, good-natured, easy going, smart, and as you can see from his photo, very cute. He shares his sweet spirit and spark of joy with all he meets."

Fritz's job is the pastoral care outreach worker at his New Westminster, BC church and is an integral part of church life.

He brings life, joy and love to everyone he meets. Parishioners care for him, play with him, and sit with him. He takes care of their neighborhood by cheering the sad, sick or lonely. He moonlights at Senior Care Centers as well as visits homebound people. The parish celebrated his birthday with hotdogs and the daycare's children made him a cardboard house and gifted him a doggie ball.

The parish pup also paw-ticipates in the Feast Day of St. Francis inviting all breeds, sizes and colors of dogs for a blessing. They also invite the animal charity group PAWS for Hope, http://pawsforhope.org/ who hold a free pet clinic for the poor.

Last year, Emilie invited a Central American refugee fam-

ily to live with her for eight months. The family's three rambunctious children (ages 6, 4, and 2) played with Fritz.

"Fritz was patient as the little ones learned to be gentle and kind to him," said Emilie. "I think he was the best part of their lives during the hard, first few months of adjusting to a new life in a foreign country. The family speaks Spanish so he picked up a few new words!"

Patti and Emilie are active cyclists and use bicycles for transportation to work and around town.

"When Fritz arrived, I purchased a bicycle Buddy Rider, so he could be part of our cycling life," said Emilie. "He enthusiastically jumps up and down when we say, 'Buddy Rider!' We frequently bike to our favorite heavily-treed park where Fritz spends hours doing loop de loops after squirrels, and ridiculously leaping over fallen logs twice his size, chasing long-gone squirrels until he is frothing at the mouth. Thankfully for us and the squirrels, he has never caught one."

The benefits of having a dog are endless. Being in a deep relationship with one means that we are even more deeply connected with all of God's creation. We are invited to love Fritz as he is, not in any other way, as a four-legged one, a perfect creature, and to care for him in ways that will make his life carry on until its end in the fullness of his own dogginess. With him, we are invited to remember how big, beautiful and vulnerable this whole world is and to love unconditionally like he does.

Fritz is such an important part of our lives, that we are planning for him to paw-ticipate as our ring bearer at our marriage.

Fritz enjoys accompanying

my fiancé, Patti, to the community choirs that she conducts," said Emilie. "He is usually quiet and well behaved, but one time he was sent to the car for howling. The only other naughty thing was 'digesting' an entire New Yorker magazine!"

TIPS

"It is vitally important to adopt the right kind of animal companion into your life," counsils Emilie. "Different people have different needs. Animals are our friends, not our toys or our possessions, and they are dependent on us their entire life. It is important to have the right kind of companion for different stages in our lives, and different situations. Fritz is healthy and happy because he is the right dog, in the right family with the right working situation. He is a blessing to everyone he encounters, and we will do all that we can to keep him healthy and safe. Research breeds before adopting to make sure it is a fit for your family."

Share your own fun, amazing or simply crazy pet tips and tales at angelscribe@msn.com

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**Meet the DJ/Program Host**

**CAMERON REITEN**

I was born in the small town of Valley City, North Dakota on December 21, of 1986. I moved to Oregon in 1994 when I was seven years old. I graduated from Cottage Grove High School in 2005. In 2003 I came to KNND as an intern in the news department. My eight week internship served to reinforce my conviction that I wanted a career in radio. I was hired in 2005 after graduation and have been working at the radio station since. I have numerous duties at KNND, among them local news producer, host of the Rockin' Oldies Morning Show, as well as the Round Up Classic Country and Western Hoedown, (Monday and Thursday 11:00 am - 3:00 pm) and the ever popular Swap and Shop show. As of June of 2013, I am also now the proud owner of KNND, and love the opportunity to carry on the tradition of service that has been the hallmark of KNND.

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