

Welcome to the first issue of Desert Dog News!

As I sit down to write this, it is my first day back from a weeklong vacation. All three dogs joined my husband and I on a camping excursion to Southern Colorado. The trip was relaxing, fun, beautiful and cool (notice my hat in the photo). But the highlight for me was the dogs. We found fantastically remote campsites near rivers, streams, forests and meadows where the dogs were allowed to be dogs.

Pablo, an 80-pound Dane and Lab mix, ran and ran and ran some more. The only thing that dog loves more than running is sleeping in a comfortable bed after a good long run. I am pretty sure Pablo got his fill of running because he's barely left his bed since we returned.

Junior, our 12-year-old Shepherd mix, is a "soaker." His favorite activity is lounging in water and diving for rocks in rivers. He was in heaven in cool Colorado where every one of our campsites was near moving water.

Sweetie, a Terrier mix and the newest edition to the family, can get just about anyone to play, even curmudgeons like Junior. If she wasn't coercing one of the boys to play, she was holding her own participating in their antics whether that was hopping over boulders, crossing creeks or chasing bunnies.



These three dogs plus all the ones that came before were the inspiration for Desert Dog News. I wanted to create a community, a forum, a publication especially for Tucson's pet lovers.

Published bi-monthly, Desert Dog News will inspire and inform Tucson's pet guardians. Each issue will include articles of interest to Tucson's pet community that will hopefully inspire, inform and delight readers. I hope you enjoy reading this issue of Desert Dog News as much as I enjoyed putting it together. Feel free to write to me at gretel@desertdognews.com. Your ideas, suggestions and comments will help shape the future of Desert Dog News.

-Gretel Hakanson

PS. If you like Desert Dog News (and like that it's FREE), please support the advertisers.

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Arizona Animal Fair
is taking place on
Saturday, Feb. 16, 2008
at Reid Park in Tucson

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