



Wine 4 Paws Weekend Kick-off!

By Chuck Desmond

Love our fabulous local wine? Love your dogs?? Of course we do and so does Ms. Sarah Tomasetti. She and her husband plus a few family dogs moved to El Paso de Robles 5 years ago and it didn't take long at all for her to become involved with Woods Humane Society as a volunteer. As with all who move here and become involved with community activities, time to get over to Woods was harder to find. However, this lovely lady with a big 'ol smile just knew she had to continue to help them out. Raising money for the variety of the shelter's needs was the obvious choice she came to while enjoying a lovely beverage on the back patio. "Ah ha, combine the two. I can do this!"

Just in case you have been Rip van Winkleing for a few years, Woods Humane Society-Animal Shelter is our place for many kinds of animals but it's the headquarters to protect and shelter dogs while fostering the animal to human bond. Yep, the past two years of economics have been tough and the toll on dogs is just as harsh. They need us to be their advocates!



Sara Tomasetti created the Wine 4 Paws concept – a fundraiser for Woods Humane Society-Animal Shelter.

Last year, enlisting wineries to have a donation jar on the counter and kick in a piece of revenue for a one day fundraiser turned into the "Avenue Of Success." Sarah quickly realized that it seemed every winery had a few ol' happy hounds hanging around to greet the visitors. While folks can't wait to get to the tasting counter, they always have enough time to pet the heads of the dogs waggin' around at the front door. Wine, dogs and helping Woods Humane Society; the perfect combination! Last year 35 wineries participated and this time, the second year, there are 52 signed up! Here is how it works on this year's two-day event:

All of the participating wineries will be gladly accepting donations from visitors **April 10 and 11** and they are contributing a portion of their proceeds as their way of helping. The weather should be grand so why not choose these two days to go out and do some

wine tasting? Sarah and her crew wanted to extend the experience and make it more fun this year. Receive a Free Passport at any of the participating wineries and get it stamped.

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Here are but two of the vivid reasons to congratulate Hal and Judy for their outstanding work and tireless effort: Katrina and Haiti. While they say they miss routine work hours and steady pay checks, they wouldn't trade this for anything.

KVEC 920 AM is the local station and the show airs every Saturday

Five more and you become eligible for a raffle prize after the wineries close on Sunday afternoon. Easy to do over two days. There are also dog events at various wineries as well. A dog show, Hospice du Bone, and some specially blended wines are all part of the experience.

Printable maps of the participating wineries, a printable free passport, the list of participating wineries and events, and the list of prizes are all on-line to make it easy. Just click www.wine4paws.com and there it is. Or, you can use the Alexander Graham Bell contraption and dial 238-5271. Need to contact Sarah about sponsorship or questions? She's at: Info@wine4paws.com. This is a great cause as all the proceeds go straight to the care of the animals.

from 2 to 4 p.m. XM satellite is channel 158 and the show airs at 9 a.m. with a rebroadcast on Sunday at 2 p.m. Try it – you'll like it! www.AnimalRadio.com is where to find more information.

What a great area we live in!

If you know someone who should be spotlighted for this column, please contact me at CDESConsult@yahoo.com