

GIVING THOSE WHO HELP ANIMALS SOME APPRECIATION

This week (for the next few blog posts?) we're thinking about community, connection and cooperation. Scientists believe that, like people, all domesticated animals want and need the community and companionship of their human families. Even the most standoffish house-partner (I'm lookin' at YOU, cats-of-a-certain-temperament) relies on the humans and other animals it shares space with for food, comfort, entertainment, social cues and connections. And since we all already know that the animal community has plenty to teach us humans about unconditional love, heeding our instincts and living in the moment, we might as well accept their lessons on interdependence, too.

Here at SavingLife, we want to lead the charge by celebrating our interdependence with our partner organizations. We list them on our website, but we want to take a minute and tell you more than just their names. These organizations are founded and staffed by professionals committed to making the lives of animals better, longer and more fulfilling. Let's get to know them...

Brave Paws is a company dedicated to helping calm anxiety in dogs through sustainably sourced, responsibly made, clinically tested plant-based chewables. As many as 72% of dogs experience one form of anxiety or another, but they can't avail themselves of the methods humans use to manage and mitigate those feelings. So when Dr. Tony Durst, a research scientist at the University of Ottawa with a PhD in Chemistry, and his collaborators (Costa Rican botanists, and a biologist and a psychiatrist from his same university) discovered a combination of plant-based extracts that proved extremely effective at reducing anxiety in dogs while showing no evidence of any adverse effects, they developed them into Brave Paws chewables. And because bettering the lives of dogs just wasn't enough, Dr. Durst went on to partner with a Costa Rican co-op led by women that practices restorative farming to improve soil composition, as well as sustainable sourcing to ensure that the harvesting of the source plants for Brave Paws is not depleting the occurrence of those plants in the Costa Rican rainforest. Brave Paws is also committed to reducing their carbon footprint, seeking to minimize the company's negative effect on Costa Rica and on earth as a whole, while maximizing the positive financial impact on the people of Costa Rica by providing economic opportunity for the farming Co-op and ownership opportunity for Dr. Durst's Costa Rican collaborators.

Brave Paws is a safe and effective treatment for anxiety in dogs, which we at SavingLife obviously love. But they are also a company that seeks out ways to partner with all of their communities, ensuring that everyone - and everything - associated with Brave Paws comes away better for it.

And speaking of reducing anxiety in pets, some of the more stressful experiences for animals can come, much to our chagrin, at the hands of the very professionals and pet-parents who commit their lives to caring for them! Shelter life, boarding, grooming, vet visits...all of these experiences can be stress-inducing for our favorite furry friends. But **Zoundz Music for Pets** has an innovative - and science-backed - solution. In cooperation with board certified veterinary

behaviorist, Dr. Lisa Radosta, and in concert (pardon the pun) with several studies on species-specific music and its positive effect on animals and their well-being, Zoundz Music for Pets has developed an app with a variety of music channels designed to ease pets' anxiety in common stress-producing situations, both at home (travel time, house-guest happenings, alone time, etc.) and in more clinical settings (check-ups, surgery, grooming visits, social/meal/bed-times at a shelter or boarding facility, etc.). Zounds Music for Pets' proprietary music is composed by a team of animal behaviorists, veterinarian-scientists and music engineers, composers and producers, and is available by subscription to pet parents and professionals alike via an app that uses wi-fi and works with any iOS or Android device or Google Home.

But, of course, we don't just love them for their commitment to provide a product that enhances the lives of pets everywhere...we love them for their commitment to their communities! The Zoundz team has created **The Harmony Project**, whose goal is to provide Zoundz Music for Pets to every animal shelter and rescue in the US, creating a more relaxing environment for homeless pets, thereby reducing their anxiety and ultimately improving their chances to find a forever home faster.

And finally, reducing anxiety is fantastic for our pets' health and longevity, but sometimes a four-legged friend isn't anxious...they're just energetic! Maybe even more energetic than their loving pet parent or shelter staff knows how to handle! Enter **Barker Fun's Treat Clincher!** A safe, non-messy solution to holding a bully-stick, bone, Zilla treat container or any other delectable item designed to occupy your dog's attention, stimulate their brain or expend a little of their excess energy. Why is this needed, you ask? Because the very same treat-dispensers and chews-for-the-strong-and-destructive (pigs ears, bully sticks, yak sticks, etc.) that keep our most exuberant pets happy can also require near-constant attention from a human (either holding the chew or monitoring to make sure it isn't swallowed in giant chunks or buried in the yard) and can be a massive, slobbery mess. Barker Fun's Treat Clincher safely clamps on to a fence or piece of furniture and holds the Zilla treat container or chew safely up off the ground so dogs can self-entertain without the risk of choking. Made from sustainable aluminum and stainless steel and from vet-recommended non-toxic rubber, and winner of the 2021 Good Design seal for outstanding design-quality, the Treat Clincher and the Zilla food container, which holds peanut butter, wet dog food or any other creative delight your dog or cat loves to work to get at, help make it easier for pets and their humans to spend more quality time together (check out the video testimonials on their website!). And the Zilla Kennel Kit lets veterinarians and shelters safely clamp the Zilla food container on the bars of a crate, giving pets a tasty way to stay occupied while spending that time away from home.

We encourage you to visit the websites of these companies and keep checking our SavingLife.com site as we bring you new, innovative products to help your pet.