

History of the Santa's Reindeers, as told by Paul Harvey

The most famous reindeer of them all was the son of one of the hardest working reindeer, **Blitzen**, the de facto leader of the merry sleigh bunch. Blitzen met his wife, whose name is **Mitzi**, on a summer vacation to Montana. Rudolph has been by Santa's side from the day he was born, and is in charge of all the new reindeer when it comes to training and flying. Rudolph is married to Clarice and they have three reindeer: **Rudolph Jr**, **Mitzi** and **Pax**. Yes, they all have red noses that glow at night.

Dasher was a life-long bachelor, but did enjoy a bit of the nightlife during his off time. He would disappear for weeks on end before showing back up.

Dancer was married four times (to **Wini**, **Angel**, **Stella & Holly**), but because of winter travel and his participation in dance competitions, his marriages never lasted long. He does have one son, whose name is **Abner**, from when he was married to Stella. Dancer is also the strongest overall of the reindeer and he won the 1971 & 1972 Mr. Reindeer Iron Deer Challenges in Vancouver.

Prancer married **Nora**, stepsister of Blitzen. Nora & Prancer traveled the world in high style, but Prancer would always return to help with sleigh duties every Christmas. Nora would always stay at the last stop, because she did not care for the winter cold.

Comet was always single, but had addiction and weight problems all his life. After weight loss surgery, he wrote a book on Addiction: Eggnog, A Slow Death. He became quite famous for writing self-help books. You probably read some of them (the How to Dummies books) under his pen name.

Cupid lived with her father **Beemer** who was disabled after a freak accident in training when he was young learning how to fly the sleigh. Even with his disability, he was a great coach and mentor to all the future reindeer. Cupid eventually got married to **Casper**, brother to Prancer and they had two reindeer, Santa and Klaus.

Secretly in love, **Donner** and **Vixen** eventually revealed their relationship, married and had nine little reindeer, **Comet Jr.**, **Blitzie**, **George**, **Snowball**, **Cane**, **Freda**, **Frankie**, **Jaz**, and **Cletus**. **Comet Jr.**, **George** and **Cletus** are the only ones to have joined the family business.

Vixen, while married to Donner, was a stay at home mom, but also created a very famous company called Reindeer Droppings Chocolate Company. You can find many of their selections at most Walmart stores.

Now you know the rest of the story!



ZIP

OUR TAKE



ZAP

A look at animal welfare from the eyes of ... these two!

ZIP: Happy New Year Zap. It's 2018!!!!

ZAP: True True It is 2018 and an even year ... and this is my year.

ZIP: Really?

ZAP: Yes, even years are always better for me. Maybe I am superstitious, but I think it true. I mean, what I am saying is that 2018 is the year of the Cat!

ZIP: Actually Zap, The Chinese New Year is the year of a Dog.

ZAP: Shut up!it's a Cat. OUR TAKE SAYS NEW YEAR ANIMAL IS CAT!

ZIP: (Shaking his head) You are crazy.

ZAP: A cat is a mysterious animal that can sneak up on you, or just sleep on your lap. Cats help with health issues of our human partners and we are quiet. We take care of ourselves and hardly leave messes.

ZIP: What about damage to furniture?

ZAP: No, we just identify the need for new furniture quicker than our humans can. We warn them when there is a potential structural failure coming.

ZIP: WHAT!?!?!?!?

ZAP: Yes, we are the protectors of our humans' health -- dogs just warn by barking.

ZIP: Umm yeah.....but we normally do not ruin furniture for some lame reason.

ZAP: But Cats are so valuable that people have many cats and take care of them all.

ZIP: Ok.....I think we need to go see the Vet. I'm sure Doctor Wilson would think otherwise of your attitude.

ZAP: Dr. Wilson is my friend. I like Dr. Wilson. She loves me.

ZIP: OK, whatever you say. Onto the next month!! Have a good one.

NEWS & NOTES

MILESTONE HOURS	
(as of Sept. 30 th , by Quarter)	
Rhonda Montgomery	2295
Shawn Fernberg	1000
Julie Langers	885
Deborah Waits	828
Barbara Fowler	816
Megan Reyes	808
Crystal Struckhoff	683
Jean Absher	634
Ben Neal	528
Barbara Beckstrom	518
Teddi Rawles	479
Rhonda Smith	460
Danny Spanks	459
Stan Cameron	436
Nancy Apodoca	436
Rowena Yong	435
Nancy Ballinger	336
Tabitha Sanchez	299
Kristen Danley	287
Sarah Abate	287

January Historic **Events**:

January 1, 1776 - During the American Revolution, George Washington unveiled the Grand Union Flag, the first national flag in America.

January 1, 1863 - The Emancipation Proclamation by President Abraham Lincoln freed the slaves in the states rebelling against the Union.

January 3, 1959 - Alaska was admitted as the 49th U.S. state with a land mass almost one-fifth the size of the lower 48 states together.

January 20, 1945 - Franklin Delano Roosevelt was inaugurated to an unprecedented fourth term as president of the United States. He had served since 1933.



Coordinator's Corner

I hope that we all had a wonderful holiday season. I hope you got everything you wanted from your friends and family, ate hearty and made sure you were thankful to others this season.

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You will notice that there have been many recent changes to the shelter; most will not affect the volunteer program directly, but there will be some modifications.

- The intake rooms will become a major part of the volunteer program in 2018, and there will be some major changes to the cleaning processes. Those changes will be detailed in new Policy & Procedures and once that is done, then some volunteers will be taught how to do this job to assist the staff.
- Pup room #2 will no longer be a pup room. While I understand why it is happening and why we need the room for a different purpose, I am sad to see that go. As we grow the spay & neuter program, less puppies have been born and this is a great thing. But the Foster program continues to grow and this will be the next hard focus of how to address this issue.
- In 2018 we will need some key adult volunteers who would be willing to help with a couple of new programs we want to roll out. One is the need for a couple of volunteers to be assigned to the Foster Program. This would involve four hour shifts to assist the staff on Wednesdays and Saturdays.
- Secondly, we want to have some adult volunteers who are willing to help release TNR cats into county areas. You would come to the shelter and staff would load up a shelter vehicle and then you would go to areas in the county and release cats that were trapped, sterilized and now need to be released back to their "homes." This also would be a four hour shift. To be eligible for this, you must be at least 21 years of age with active insurance and a driver's license.

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Have a great January to begin an even greater 2018!