

Humane Society of Elmore County News – 26 May '14

Rea Cord

Director

We hope everyone is enjoying a wonderful Memorial Day and taking some time to think about and thank all the men and women who have sacrificed so much in our Armed Forces to keep our country safe and secure. We salute all past, present and future members of our military for your selfless service! And we also hope everyone can appreciate all of the military working dogs, horses, donkeys and other animals that have also been an integral part of our military history as they work side by side with our troops enhancing their capabilities & saving lives.

This is the time of year for boating on Lake Martin, Lake Jordan, area rivers and even the Gulf. Many families take their dogs along for fun on the water (not too many take kitties), and we hope you have planned for your dog's safety just like your own. If your dog hasn't yet been on a boat, then it might help to let your dog explore the boat while it is still docked or on a trailer a few days before your outing. Just like you, your dog needs its own personal flotation device (PFD) which it should wear while aboard. You can find PFD's for pets in area pet, sport and outdoor stores and on many on-line stores as well – make sure to get the correct size for your dog to ensure your dog's safety. We have had dogs rescued from the middle of Lake Martin brought to our shelter and never reclaimed – in these few cases these dogs were at the point of exhaustion and thank goodness they were saved. When in a body of water as large as Lake Martin, if a dog falls overboard and is not noticed it might not be able to make it to shore before tiring out. Like getting used to the boat, let your dog get used to his PFD before heading out on the water. Make sure to carefully supervise your dog and have a plan in mind for how you would retrieve your dog from the water (especially a larger dog) should you need to get him back into your boat. Give your dog a shady, secure spot to rest and pack a dog first aid kit in the event of hazards from fishing gear and walking around unfamiliar shores. One last caution might be to not feed your dog too much before going out in case it is susceptible to motion sickness – smaller snacks might work better than a big breakfast.

Do you ride motorcycles, love animals and want to support our shelter? Then make sure to join in on the 12th annual "Cruisin 'fer Critters" on Sat, June 21st at Papa T's, 3420 Atlanta Highway, Montgomery, AL 36109 starting at 11 am! The Predator's Motorcycle Association and numerous supportive businesses are the reason Cruisin' is likely the biggest motorcycle oriented fund-raising event in the River Region and you simply don't want to miss all the fun on the 21st! Registration starts at 11 am and each 'hand' is \$20 for which you get an event patch, goodie bag, food, door prize ticket and more such as live music, motorcycle games and just a great day of fun. Sponsorships start at \$100 and are critical to this so please contact John West at 334-294-7154 or email us at the shelter at hselco@bellsouth.net if you would like to be a sponsor. 'Cruisin' brought in over \$12,000 last year for our 'Critters' so let's help the Predators meet and exceed this again this year!