

## WPUSA May Newsletter

### In This Issue

Visit us on the Web!

WellPetUSA Loses Founder

"Amber's Pets" Created to Honor Founder

Flower Essences Help Tame the Beast

### Quick Links

[WellPetUSA blog](#)  
[More About Us](#)  
[How to Volunteer](#)

[Ways to Donate](#)

[Give through Paypal](#)

Your gift of \$10, \$25, \$50 or more will help WellPetUSA grow its Meow Wow Bow fund that will reimburse independent rescue organizations for their rising medical costs or its Pet Education and Awareness Training programs. You can also donate directly to WellPetUSA through Network for Good.

#### Give by Searching the Internet

By using GoodSearch.com and selecting WellPetUSA Inc. as the beneficiary, you will donate to WellPetUSA for every search you do! And it costs you nothing!

#### Give in Someone's Name

Looking for a memorable gift, or a fitting memorial for an animal lover? Donate a gift to WellPetUSA through JustGive.org and give the gift that keeps on giving!

#### WellPetUSA on the Internet...

Did you know that WellPetUSA has re-launched its Web site? Check out our freshly redesigned Web site at [www.wellpetusa.org](http://www.wellpetusa.org) There you will find news, articles, volunteer opportunities, and ways to donate to the WellPetUSA cause.

Did you know that WellPetUSA has a Facebook and a LinkedIn group? Join now. For Facebook simply add the Causes application and search for "WellPetUSA." For LinkedIn you can join here.

#### WellPetUSA Mourns the Loss of Founder Amber Pedraja

Amber's passion for animals was at the heart of her vision for WellPetUSA. She was well known to stop traffic on busy freeways to rescue a stray, or jump a fence to rescue an abused pet, or crawl under bushes and cars to get a litter of kittens.

So, her dream for an organization that would promote pet rescue and educate the public on pet welfare became a reality when we co-founded WellPetUSA. Her passion and vision were able to make WellPet what it is today. Through her efforts, countless dogs and cats found forever homes and brought joy to loving families.

Amber lost her battle with cancer on May 1, 2008. Yet her dream and spirit continues to live on in the hearts of the volunteers and board members that share her passion. WellPetUSA is Amber's legacy and it is in good hands. As co-founder of WellPetUSA and as a board member, I am committed to continuing on with her work with the help of all the many dedicated volunteers that make up our organization.

Cats and dogs continue to be abused and commercially exploited. Animal welfare and public education is still in short supply. Much work still lies ahead for us, but together we can make a difference. Through your contributions and volunteer work, we can continue to honor Amber's memory and her ongoing dream for WellPetUSA.

Sincerely,  
Dr. Luis Pedraja  
WellPetUSA Co-Founder and Board Member

## WellPetUSA New Staff Hires

As you may know, WellPetUSA is an entirely volunteer based organization. Therefore we rely upon the donation of funds and time. The donation of time is especially critical from our staff, advisory council and Board of Directors.

WellPetUSA is pleased to announce some new staff hires:

- Jacqueline Read (jacqui@wellpetusa.org) joins as Editor, writing for WellPetUSA's newsletter and blog.
- Richard Roberson (richard@wellpetusa.org) joins as Deputy Executive Director, Finance responsible for directing all of WellPetUSA's fiscal requirements and budgets.
- Katie Manion (katie@wellpetusa.org) joins as Development Director, reporting to Richard and responsible for WellPetUSA's fundraising efforts.
- Edwina Lewis (edwina@wellpetusa.org) joins as Grant Directors, reporting to Richard and responsible for grant research and writing to assist WellPetUSA in its fundraising goals.
- Jason Thompson (jason@wellpetusa.org ) joins as Director of Information Technology responsible for WellPetUSA's technology strategy and infrastructure.

We thank these individuals for the donation of their time and commitment to WellPetUSA. You can read more about each's background on our staff page.

If you are interested in volunteering your time to help WellPetUSA, please review our available staff, advisory council, and Board of Director positions. If you have interest in volunteering on one of the teams assisting Jacqui, Richard, Katie, Edwina, or Jason please feel free to email me the Chairman of our Board of Directors and Interim Executive Director, Heather Read at [heather@wellpetusa.org](mailto:heather@wellpetusa.org) to discuss your commitment and interest level.

## WellPetUSA Creates "Amber's Pets" as a Memorial to Founder

We are all saddened by the lost of our founder, Amber, who dedicated her life to helping others. While cancer robbed us all of Amber's energy and enthusiasm, her spirit will continue to inspire us to protect the animals she loved so much. To honor her memory and her passion for animals, the WellPetUSA Board and staff created "Amber's Pets." These pets will be a special beneficiary of the Meow Bow Wow fund each year. One family will be awarded up to \$2,000 to help offset medical costs for a pet afflicted with cancer. Stay tuned for more information.

## Flower Essences Help Tame the Beast

Contributed by Stacey Small

Animals think so differently than we do; it is up to us to try and understand their needs and behaviors since they cannot communicate in our language. Flower Essences can help to bridge this gap for us. Essences speak a subtle language - working from the animal's emotional perspective - and are a key to softening attitudes and allowing behavior to be modified without any trauma for the animal, or the owner.

Edward Bach, (1886-1936) was the originator of what we now know as Flower Essences.

Dr. Bach was a well-respected British physician, immunologist, pathologist and bacteriologist, but his dissatisfaction with the medical treatment of his time drove him to study the work of Samuel Hahnemann, the founder of Homeopathy. Like Dr. Hahnemann, Dr. Bach believed that true wellness comes from within and depends upon the balance of body, mind, emotion, and spirit. Whereas 'traditional' medicines address only the physical symptoms of illness, Dr. Bach found flower essences address psychological issues to treat and soothe the mind and emotional body.

Translated to the animal world, flower remedies can help with behavioral problems, such as biting, nervousness, fearfulness, and aggression. That, combined with the correct training and behavior techniques, should enable the desired behavior change(s).

For example, a dog with anxiety about being left alone, or a herd-bound or aggressive horse, would benefit from using Flower Essences in conjunction with behavior modification techniques, as the essences would relax the animal so that it's in a calm state when being trained. And there are many more uses for Flower Essences in conjunction with training!

Stacey is the founder of Equilite, Inc., an award-winning company dedicated to the creation of high quality, all-natural liniments, herbal supplements and Botanical Animal Flower Essences for behavior modification. You can learn more about flower essences at [www.equilite.com](http://www.equilite.com) or call Stacey at 800.942.5483.

Your donations and support will help WellPetUSA reach its fundraising targets for the Meow Bow Wow Fund which will help offset medical costs for rescue organizations and of course Amber's Pets, our memorial to our founder. We have many more initiatives planned for 2008 that we hope you will participate in.

On behalf of the Board of Directors and staff, please help us make 2008 a success!

Sincerely,  
Heather Read  
Interim Executive Director/ Chairman, Board of Directors, WellPetUSA, Inc.

©1996-2008 WellPetUSA, Inc. All Rights Reserved.

