

# **PetZ Gazette.com**

FEBRUARY 2026



*Happy Valentine's Day*

**Your Local Pet Resource Publication**



# PetZ Gazette.com

Santa Barbara  
Digital Edition



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*Did you know . . . !*

Around Valentine's Day, there's a jump in pet poisonings due to chocolate, which is toxic to dogs, and lilies, which can be fatal to cats. Artificial sweeteners such as xylitol, in candies or snacks, can also be lethal to dogs. So be aware during this holiday celebration.

*Did you know ... !*

\*The first photograph of a U.S. President was taken on February 14, 1849 by Matthew Brady in New York City. President James Polk was the subject of the famous picture.



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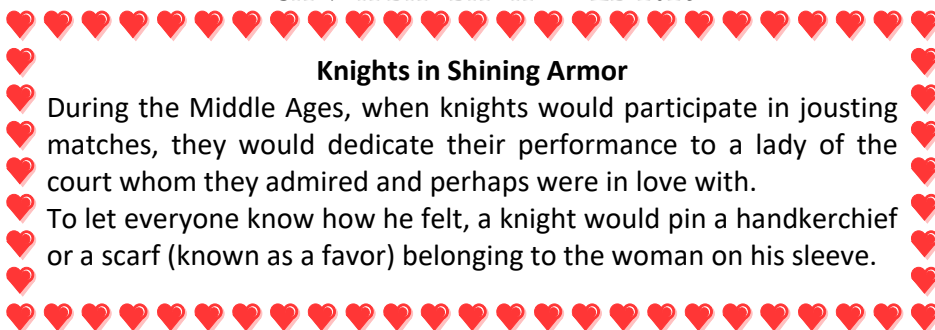
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## *Barks & Meow's Express!*

SANTA BARBARA - FEB 2026



### **Knights in Shining Armor**

During the Middle Ages, when knights would participate in jousting matches, they would dedicate their performance to a lady of the court whom they admired and perhaps were in love with.

To let everyone know how he felt, a knight would pin a handkerchief or a scarf (known as a favor) belonging to the woman on his sleeve.



### **FUN TRIVIA**



\*Before it became fashionable to give chocolates and flowers, the traditional gift given by a man to a woman on St. Valentine's day was a pair of gloves, symbolizing the request for a lady's hand in marriage.

\*The first dog to ever appear on the cover of Sports Illustrated (Feb 14th, 1955) was a Great Dane.

\*Physicians in the 1800's commonly advised their patients to eat chocolate to calm their pining for a lost love.

\*Beavers spend as much time bonding with their life partners as they do building dams.

\*The first cat video is more than a century old. Long before the internet, the first known cat video in the world was recorded in 1894 by the Thomas Edison Manufacturing Company.

\*Lovebirds are often associated with Valentine's Day. According to medieval tradition, February 14th marks the beginning of mating season for birds. Lovebirds were said to choose their mates on that very day, thus making them a favorite symbol for Valentine's Day.

\*A 'Cat Kiss' is when your feline friend slowly closes their eyes, meaning they're saying 'I trust you' and 'I feel safe around you,' and possibly even 'I love you', in cat language.

\*Sir Alexander Fleming discovered penicillin in 1928, observing mold killing bacteria on a petri dish, but it was Howard Florey and Ernst Chain who later developed methods for its mass production, leading to its widespread use and earning them the Nobel Prize with Fleming in 1945 for ushering in the age of antibiotics

### **Breed-Specific Dog Jokes**

How did the dog get from Boston to New York? He took a Greyhound.  
Why did the cowboy get a wiener dog? He wanted to get a long, little doggy!  
Which dog breed loves living in the Big Apple? A New Yorkie.  
Why aren't Corgi jokes funny? All of them are really short.  
Why are there no losers in a Dachshund race? They're all weiners.  
Why are border collies such good listeners? Because you can tell they really herd you.  
What did the Dalmatian say when he finished dinner? That hit the spot.  
What type of zoo has only one dog? A Shih Tzu.



### **QUIZ**



1. What is the scientific name for Love Birds?
2. What is the animal for Chinese New Year 2026?
3. What major invention was patented on Valentine's Day?
4. In Greek mythology, who was the Goddess of Love?
5. What two Disney dogs share a spaghetti dinner?
6. In what year did Hallmark make its first Valentine card?

### **Answers:**

1. Agapornis . 2. Horse. 3. The Telephone.
4. Aphrodite. 5. The Lady & the Tramp. 6. 1913.



## PAW-SCOPES

### DOGS

Your pooch is loving, caring and cute and February is their favorite month of the year, because they give more licks, kisses and tail wags than in any other month. When ready for their next adventure to the park, they want you to bring toys to play with and share in all their fun.

### CATS

This Valentine kitty can often be found sitting by its owner's feet, wrapping around legs, gazing into the eyes of his or her human, and "conversing" with a sympathetic cat sigh. Indeed, this loving creature often mirrors the emotions of his or her owner.

## SILLY STUFF

Why is a dog like a penny?  
Because it has a head on one side and a tail on the other.

What do you call two birds who are in love? Tweethearts.

What do squirrels give each other on Valentine's Day? Forget-me-nuts.

If I were a cat, I'd spend all nine lives with you, because you are purrfect.

What did the dog say to its Valentine? You're paws-itively the best.

What did the duck say to its Valentine?  
I'm quackers about you.

What did the rabbit say to its Valentine?  
Somebunny loves you!



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### Did you know . . . !

The Greeting Card Association estimates that approximately **one billion** valentine cards are sent world-wide each year, making Valentine's Day the second largest card-sending holiday of the year behind Christmas.

## Feb 14th - On This Day!

**1779:** Captain James Cook was killed by Native Hawaiians near Kealahou on the Island of Hawaii.

**1849:** In New York City, James Knox Polk becomes the first serving President of the United States to have his photograph taken.

**1919:** UPS is Born. Valentine's Day is a time for sending gifts and the company that gets them there, UPS, got its name on February 14, 1919. On this day, the company began delivering packages outside of the Seattle area for the first time and took the name United Parcel Service. From that point, the company rapidly expanded into one of the largest carriers in the world.

**1961:** Discovery of the chemical elements: Element 103, Lawrencium, was first synthesized at the University of California.

**1990:** The Voyager 1 spacecraft takes the photograph of planet Earth that later becomes famous as Pale Blue Dot.

**2005:** YouTube is launched by a group of college students, eventually becoming the largest video sharing website in the world and a main source for viral videos.

## Cuddles & Snuggles

If snuggling up with your pup or kitty gives you the warm-and-fuzzies, then you're not alone. Researchers say that physically touching a dog or cat - including lots of belly rubs, ear scratches and nuzzles, significantly improves the mood and mental wellbeing of both humans and pets. So, get ready, set and snuggle to your hearts content!



### Did you know . . . !



The tradition of giving roses on Valentine's Day largely stems from England during the Victorian era, where the language of flowers (floriography) became popular, allowing people to send coded messages of love, with red roses symbolizing deep passion, though the association with love itself goes back to ancient Greece and Rome. While King Charles II of Sweden introduced a formalized flower language to Europe from Persia in the 17th century, it was in Victorian England that the custom of exchanging flowers, especially roses, flourished as a romantic gesture, popularized by writers and poets.

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Over 1/4 of pet parents have brought their pet on a date. If they were browsing a dating site, 85 percent of pet parents would be more likely to "swipe right" on a photo that included a dog or a cat. 59 percent of pet parents say they'd whip up a special meal for their pet to enjoy on Valentine's Day.

### Did you know . . . . !

The heart is the most common symbol of romantic love. Ancient cultures believed the human a man's truth, strength and nobility. The heart may soul lived in the heart. Others thought it to be the source of emotion and intelligence. Some believed the heart embodied be associated with love because the ancient Greeks believed it was the target of Eros, known as Cupid to the Romans. Anyone shot in the heart by one of Cupid's arrows would fall hopelessly in love. Because the heart is so closely linked to love, it's red color is thought to be the most romantic.



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## COMMUNITY DOG PARKS

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#### Arroyo Burro Beach Park

Located at 2981 Cliff Drive, this county park is the portal for the best known off-leash spot in the Santa Barbara area. Dogs are required to be on leash through the parking lot and bathing beach until, passing Arroyo Burro Slough, dogs are welcome to run free and cavort in the Pacific Ocean surf below the city's Douglas Family Preserve. Self service dog wash stations provided by County Parks.

Hours: Daily from 8:00am - Dusk

#### TUCKERS GROVE PARK

Newly fenced off-leash area at Kiwanis Meadow is now open. The new play area is at the eastern end of the park, and is near ample parking and a public restroom. This area also provides easy access to the San Antonio Creek Trail, a mostly shaded 1.5-mile route that heads northeasterly to a trailhead at CA Route 154. Tucker's Grove County Park is located at intersection of Turnpike and Cathedral Oaks Roads.

Hours: Daily from 8:00am - Dusk

#### TORO CANYON PARK

Located at the entry to this 74-acre wooded park, the off-leash canine play area consists of a fenced lawn area shaded by oak trees. Parking and restroom immediately adjacent. Address: 576 Toro Canyon Park Road.

Hours: Daily from 8:00 AM to 10:00 AM, and 4:00 PM to Sunset

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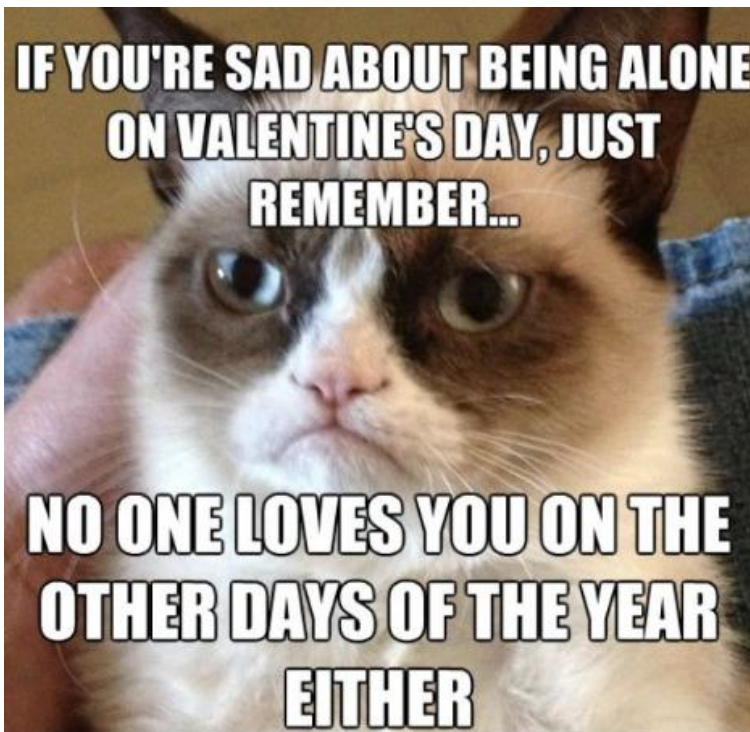
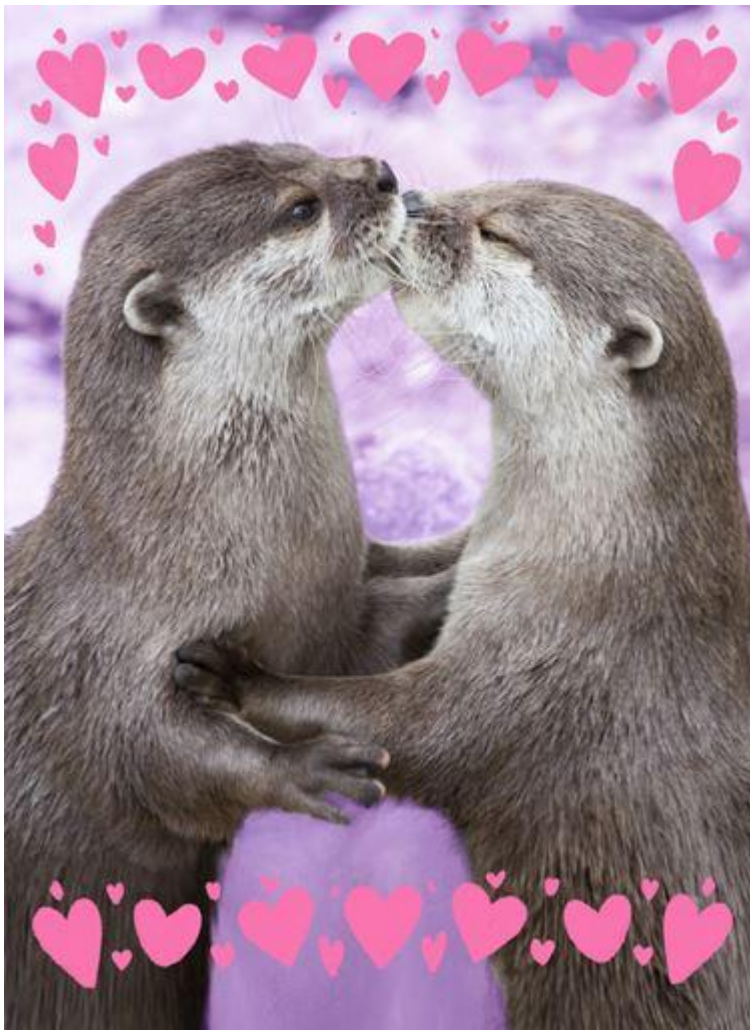
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# Doggy Dating 101

## Dog Lovers Fun Date Ideas

Valentine's Day represents romance.

It's a chance to celebrate love of all kinds, including the love you have for your dog and who knows, you might meet someone of the same ilk while out with your precious pooch!

Here's a few date ideas for dog lovers;

### 1 Check out different dog parks

It may not seem noteworthy to those of us who visit the dog park on a daily basis. The dog park, on the other hand, is a great dating activity for dog lovers. Check out other dog parks and take a picnic which will be fun for you and your dog and who knows who you might meet while there!

### 2 Go for a Romanic Hike

Hiking is one of the most romantic date ideas ever. It's also simple to include the dogs. Fill your daypack with snacks & drinks and head out on the trail.

### 3 Watch the Sun Setting

Drive to a gorgeous viewpoint, spread a blanket outside, or simply relax in front of a west-facing window with your friends. Pour some wine, make some hors d'oeuvres and dog treats, then sit back and watch Mother Nature put on a Valentine's Day performance. And take pictures to post to social media!

### 4 Shopping Date

Look for dog-friendly establishments, or simply stroll through your town's shopping district and window shop. Take your date (and dogs too) to the pet supply store to pick out a special Valentine's Day treat if you truly want to impress them.

### 5 Check Out a Dog-Friendly Cafe's

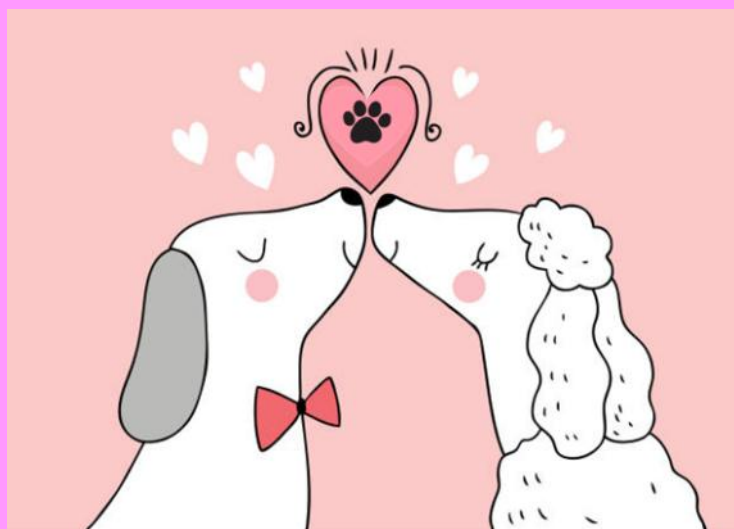
Need a coffee fix? Bring Fido with you! Many coffee shops offer outdoor seating, so you can sip on a latte with your pup by your side, and watch the passers-by. You never know who might come along!

And in case you didn't know, each Petzgazette area has a list of pet-friendly places to check out.

### Here's an after thought:

Wouldn't it be fun if someone came up with a dog park doggy "speed" dating event? (could be a lot of fun! Let us know if you do - we'd love to hear about it!) LOL!

*Happy Valentine's Day!*





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- Loans from the Four-Legged Fund may not be used for cat declawing or dog de-barking procedures.

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## February is National Pet Dental Health Month

Have you noticed that your pet's breath, well.. smells really bad? Have you noticed that your pets eating habits seem painful or is eating and chewing slowly? Have you noticed blood on your pets toys or chews? Has your pet lost teeth? These could be a symptom of dental problems or other serious health issues. Did you know that more than 85 percent of cats and dogs over four years of age are affected by periodontal disease? Painful toothache, gingivitis and periodontal disease have mercy on no one, man or beast. Combining good dental hygiene at home with preventive veterinary dental care can help keep your pet healthy, pain free and save you money in the long run. An untreated dental infection is not only painful, but can result in tooth loss and spread infection to the heart, kidneys and other organs, and suddenly become life threatening. Here's a guide to help you keep your pet's teeth and gums happy and healthy.

### Brush Your Pet's Teeth

While it might seem difficult at first, with enough patience and plenty of healthy yummy rewards, you can turn tooth brushing into a bonding experience with your dog or cat. It's never too early to start familiarizing your pet with the tooth brushing routine. Be sure to only use toothpaste designed for pets because human toothpaste has too much fluoride and can be toxic to pets. If you are worried that your pet may bite you during tooth brushing or if your pet simply won't tolerate the toothbrush, ask your local Veterinarian for alternative home dental care options.

Start by rubbing your pet's teeth with your finger and some tasty pet enzymatic toothpaste. This will familiarize your pet with the brushing process and help your pet to learn to accept and even enjoy tooth brushing.

Work your way up to a pet toothbrush. Specially designed cat and dog toothbrushes, as well as toothpastes. A finger brush is a great choice after teaching your pet to enjoy a gum massage. You may also want to try a regular pet toothbrush and then determine what seems to work best for you and your pet. Focus on the gum line. The line where the teeth meet the gums is the most critical area to scrub.

### Consider Dental Toys, Healthy Treats and Food

While not as effective as brushing your pet's teeth, giving your pet healthy treats, food and toys specifically designed to promote oral health will help to maintain healthy gums and teeth by minimizing the development and progression of plaque, tartar and gingivitis. There are also excellent prescription dental care diets for both dogs and cats that can be used as treats or meals. Again, check with your local Veterinarian for advice.

### Take Your Pet To Your Vet

Pets are like people and need routine dental examinations, cleanings and care. Ask your Veterinarian to perform an initial screening dental exam as a part of your pet's comprehensive physical examination. He or she will talk with you about past and current medical history including any problems you may have noticed or have concerns about your pets health. Be sure to mention if you've noticed any dental health warning signs such as bad breath, oral pain, bleeding, drooling, and changes in eating habits or lost teeth.

During the examination, your Vet will check out your pet's mouth, teeth and gums for bleeding and inflammation, tooth loss, loose, cracked or damaged teeth, exposed tooth roots, plaque and tartar as well as oral foreign bodies and potentially cancerous lumps. This exam can usually be performed without sedation, unless your pet becomes aggressive or the mouth or teeth are very painful. If your Vet feels that a dental cleaning or other dental procedure is needed, be sure to follow through on their recommendations for dental care. If a dental cleaning is not needed, be sure to spend some of the appointment time discussing good home dental care that will help to keep your pet's teeth and mouth healthy and pain free.

While February is National Pet Dental Health Month, dental health should be a daily ritual for pet owners all year long.





## A BRIEF HISTORY

Early valentine cards were handmade, often containing handwritten verses and hand-drawn pictures. Many cards were hand colored and contained cutwork.

The mass produced, machine made, chromolithograph cards began in the 1840s. In 1847, Esther Howland of Worcester, Massachusetts, established a company to make valentines that were hand decorated with paper lace and other materials imported from England. Howland valentines have a small "H" stamped in red in the top left corner. Howland's company eventually became the New England Valentine Company - NEVCO.

Lace paper was invented in 1834. Collectors identify the period from 1835 to 1860 as the "golden age" of lacy cards. Embossed paper was used in England after 1860. Embossed lithographs and woodcuts developed between 1830-1840, with early examples being hand painted.

After the Civil War, George C. Whitney and his brother founded a company that dominated the valentine card market from the 1870s through the first decades of the 20th century. They acquired several companies, among which was the New England Valentine Company.

Brothers Clyde and Russ Hall founded Hall Brothers, which eventual became Hallmark, in the early 1910s. Arthur Norcross established the Norcross Greeting Card Company in the mid-1920s.



### VALENTINE'S Q & A

**Q: In the Victorian era, it was considered bad luck to do what on Valentine's Day?**

*A: Sign a Valentine's card.*

**Q: What is the only other holiday that beats Valentine's Day in flower sales?**

*A: Mother's Day*

**Q: What is the largest generation of pet owners who will likely be sharing Valentine's Day with their pets?**

*A: Millennials (those born between 1980 and 2000) are the largest generation of pet owners, and they are doting pet parents who will likely be spending some quality time with their pet on Valentine's Day.*

**Q: What Valentine's Day film is about a blogger who meets a handsome veterinarian on Valentine's Day?**

*A: "All Things Valentine" is about a blogger who has been unlucky on Valentine's Day until she meets a handsome veterinarian.*

The oldest known Valentine card was sent in 1415 A.D. by the Duke of Orleans to his French wife while he was imprisoned in the Tower of London. It is held at The British museum in London, England.

**Q: How did Valentine's Day get its name?**

**A:** The holiday is named after St. Valentine, a somewhat mysterious historical figure. Though there are several legends about him, one of the most popular theories is that he was a priest who officiated the weddings of soldiers in the third century A.D. During this time, Roman emperor Claudius II forbade young men from marrying, aiming to strengthen Rome's soldiers. Legend has it that Claudius figured out what St. Valentine was up to and put him to death, making the saint a martyr for love.

# SEND LOVE. **FETCH LOYALTY.** GROW YOUR BRAND.

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**Eve Smith**  
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# VALENTINES DAY PET SAFETY TIPS



## Flowers



All Lilies are fatal to cats. Roses can cause punctures to the mouth and paws, and possible bowel obstruction if swallowed.

## Chocolate



Chocolate and coca are highly toxic to cats and dogs! Bakers chocolate is the worst! Do NOT feed them anything with chocolate!

## Candy



Some candy and baked goods are made with a sweetener called xylitol. This is toxic to pets and can cause hypoglycemia.

## Decorations



Tape, ribbons, bows, balloons, and wrapping paper can become a choking hazard. Dispose of them before your pet finds them!

## Cocktails



A small amount of alcohol can cause illness, even coma or death. Keep cocktails away from pets and wipe up any spills ASAP!

## Candlelight



Curious kittens can burn themselves by pawing at lit candles. Never leave candles or a fire unattended with pets.

# Great Love Stories in Films

The best love story movies of all time often blend epic romance with societal challenges, featuring classics like *Casablanca*, *Gone with the Wind*, and *Titanic*, alongside modern favorites such as *The Notebook*, *La La Land*, and *A Star is Born*, all exploring enduring themes of sacrifice, destiny, and their love connections. Here's but a few to remind you of how love endures and conquers! No doubt you might be able to stream some of these delightful and heartwarming films online or through whatever platforms you may subscribe to. Below are a few all-time romantic movies to watch.

## Timeless Romantic Classics

***Gone with the Wind* (1939):** A sprawling historical romance centered on Scarlett O'Hara.

***Casablanca* (1942):** Widely regarded as one of the greatest, focusing on sacrifice during wartime.

***Roman Holiday* (1953):** A charming tale of a princess falling for a reporter.

***High Society* (1956):** Starring Grace Kelly. (A remake of the 1940 classic film *The Philadelphia Story*).

***West Side Story* (1961):** A musical retelling of the star-crossed *Romeo and Juliet* narrative.

***The Sound of Music* (1965):** Epic romantic musical with memorable songs & based on a true-life story.

## Iconic Modern Romances

***Titanic* (1997):** An epic romance bridging class divides.

***The Notebook* (2004):** A definitive, enduring story of lifelong love.

***Pride & Prejudice* (2005):** A critically acclaimed adaptation of Jane Austen's classic.

***Carol* (2015):** A romantic drama that love comes in many ways.

***La La Land* (2016):** A modern musical exploring the balance between love and ambition.

***Call Me By Your Name* (2017):** First love is often the most intense, for better or for worse.

***A Star Is Born* (2018):** A roller-coaster of love vs jealousy, arena rock vs dance pop & tragedy slipping into redemption.

## Romantic Comedies and Dramas

***Dirty Dancing*. (1987):** This sexy summer-camp romance defied its critics to become a classic.

***The Princess Bride* (1987):** A beloved fairy tale passed down between generations

***When Harry Met Sally...* (1989):** A quintessential "friends-to-lovers" story.

***Pretty Woman* (1990):** The ultimate love rom-com starring Richard Gere & Julia Roberts.

***Ghost* (1990):** A love story, a ghost story and a corporate crime story with mystic elements.

***The Body Guard* (1992):** A romantic thriller drama with dynamic stars Whitney Houston/Kevin Costner.

***Sleepless in Seattle* (1993):** A heartwarming story of fate and connection.

***Notting Hill* (1999):** An all-time favorite, especially around Valentine's Day.

***The Wedding Planner* (2001):** A rom-com about love, destiny and other events you just can't plan for.

***Love Actually* (2003):** An ensemble film exploring various facets of love during Christmas.

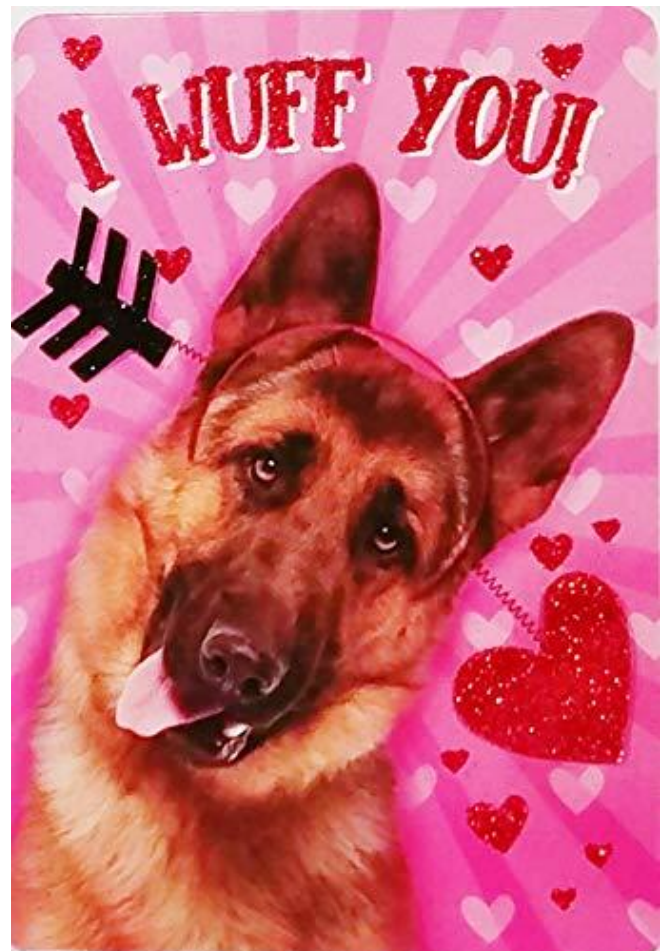
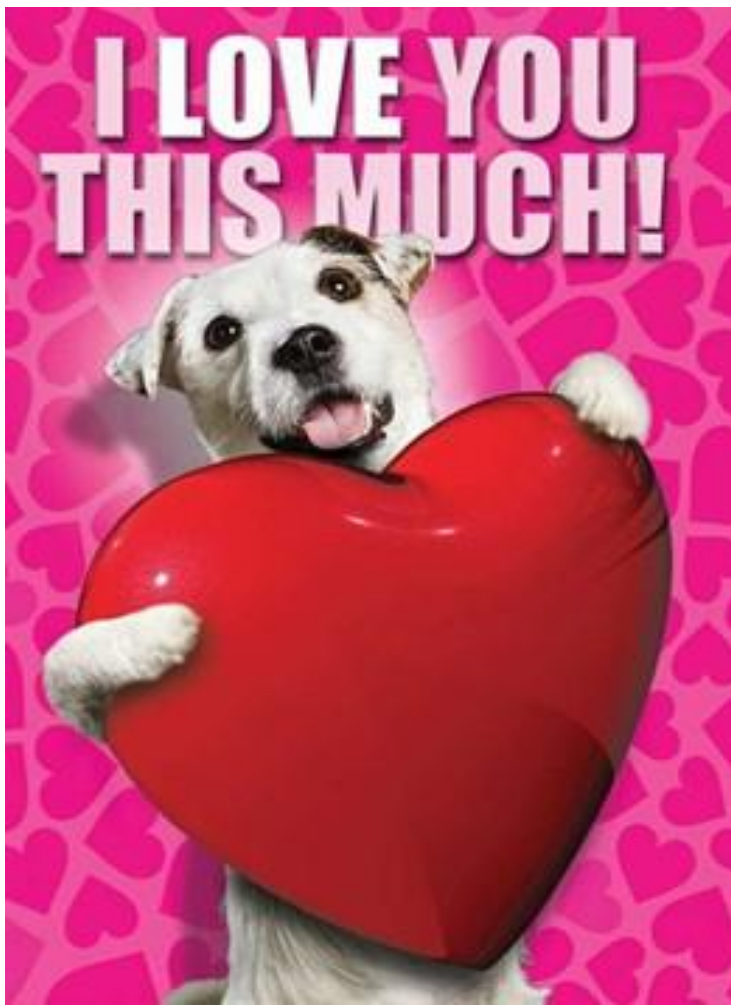
***P.S. I Love You* (2007):** A heartfelt tearjerker with only one thing left to say, "P.S. I Love You".

***Mamma Mia* (2008):** A musical love story with songs from ABBA, and a sequel in 2018.

***Valentine's Day* (2010):** A rom-com movie with intersecting storylines.

# HAPPY VALENTINE'S!







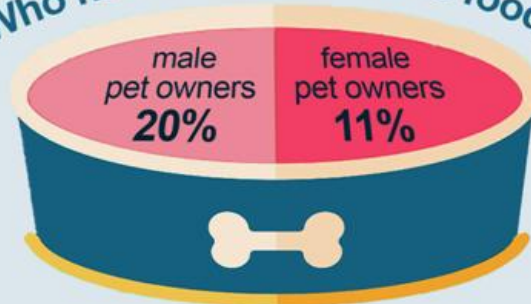
# PET INFO

**73%** of pet owners think their pet is smarter than average



**27%** of pet owners have put their pet on a diet

Who has tasted their pets food?



**76%** of pet owners agree, cat people and dog people have different personalities

Who has brought their pet on vacation?



Who has used their pet to get a date?

male pet owners **23%**  
female pet owners **9%**



Owners Who Dress Up Their Pets

Dog Owners **40%**  
Cat Owners **33%**

**60%** sleep with their pets

Who admits they are more likely to date someone with a cute pet?

male pet owners **37%**  
female pet owners **24%**







I like you  
oodles  
& poodles,  
Valentine.

From:

Happy  
Valentine's  
Day!



From:

You are  
doggone  
Awesome,  
Valentine!



From:



I  
Wuff  
you,  
Valentine!



From:

Will you  
be my  
Valentine?



From:

You are so  
doggone  
Cute,  
Valentine!

From:



From:



Valentine,  
let's be  
friends  
forever!



You are  
Paws-atively  
amazing,  
Valentine!

From:





# FUN FACTS



Dogs may not have as many taste buds as we do (they have about 1,700 on their tongues, while we humans have about 9,000), but that doesn't mean they're not discriminating eaters. They have over 200 million scent receptors in their noses (we have only 5 million) so it's important that their food smells good and tastes good.

Cats aren't nocturnal—they're crepuscular. Cats are most active at dawn and dusk, mirroring the hunting patterns of their wild ancestors. You might notice bursts of energy during these hours, followed by long naps throughout the day. This is called being crepuscular and it's their natural rhythm, not just a spot of midnight mischief.

Birds are lifelong companions to 6.1 million U.S. households. And we mean lifelong—some bird species can live well over 60 years. The oldest parrot, a Major Mitchell's cockatoo named Cookie, enjoyed 82 years of life.

While Cookie may be an outlier, many more common pet bird species offer impressive lifespans. Cockatiels are one of the most popular species of pet parrots, and they typically live 15–25 years in captivity, with the oldest recorded living for 35 years.

The poodle haircut was not created by one person, but rather developed by German water retrievers in the 16th–17th century to improve swimming ability. Shaving the legs and hindquarters allowed for better mobility while keeping the chest and joint hair, protecting vital organs and joints from cold and injury.





## HORSE TRIVIA



Some people will never understand how much you can love a horse but that's ok the horse knows...

A horse whisperer is a skilled horse trainer who uses intuition, natural horsemanship, and non-verbal cues (like body language) to communicate with horses, building deep trust and understanding to resolve behavioral issues or train them gently, without force or intimidation, making them seem like they are being "whispered" to. The term gained popularity from the movie of the same name but refers to trainers who understand equine psychology and subtle communication.

### Signs That a Horse Trusts You

When you are grooming your horse, he may reciprocate this care and affection and "groom" you back.

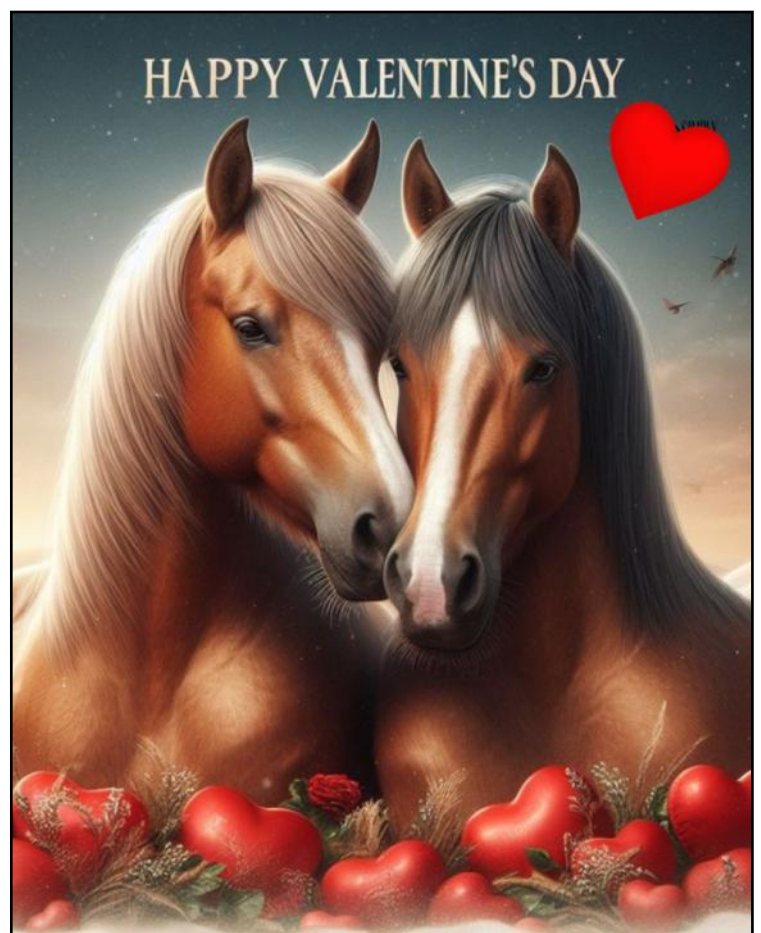
A horse may nibble at your shoulders or head, lay his head on your shoulders, or nudge you in the back, like a mini "back massage."

A loving horse will follow you without a lead rope or halter.

When you enter the barn and your horse hears you, he will whinny or snicker in his greeting.

Horses may trot directly over to their loved one when they first see them.

Sometimes horses will blow air in your face through their nostrils to show you they care about you, like they do with other horses.



## SANTA BARBARA Local Pet Rescue Groups

Name	Phone #
<a href="#">ASAP, Anim Shelter Assistance Program</a>	805-683-3368
<a href="#">Bunnies Urgently Needing Shelter</a>	805-683-0521
<a href="#">C.A.R.E.4 Paws</a>	805-968-2273
<a href="#">S.B. Humane Society</a>	805-964-4777
<a href="#">www.resqcats.org</a>	805-563-9424
<a href="#">SBC Anim. Serv. Foundation</a>	805-260-2386
<a href="#">Santa Barbara County Animal Services</a>	805-681-5285
<a href="#">SPARC Rescue</a>	805-225-8045



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# VENTURA CO. RESCUE GROUPS



## Local Pet Rescues

Clickable Links	Phone #	Location
<a href="#">Agoura Animal Shelter</a>	818-991-0071	Agoura Hills
<a href="#">All for Love Animal Rescue</a>	805-445-3535	Call for Details
<a href="#">Animal Foundation of America</a>	805-905-9951	Thousand Oaks
<a href="#">Animal Rescue Volunteers</a>	805-579-8047	Simi Valley
<a href="#">Bubbles Dog Rescue</a>		Los Angeles
<a href="#">C.A.R.L.</a>	805-644-7387	Call for Details
<a href="#">Cassie's Cat Cafe</a>	805-232-4228	Ventura
<a href="#">Cats at the Studios</a>	818-341-8936	Call for Details
<a href="#">Cat's Cradle Rescue</a>	805-485-8811	Ventura
<a href="#">DaisyLu Ranch</a>		Camarillo
<a href="#">Dobies &amp; Little Paws</a>	805-524-5102	Fillmore
<a href="#">Dog Days Search &amp; Rescue</a>	805-551-9706	Simi Valley
<a href="#">Eastwood Ranch Rescue/Adoption Ctr</a>	818-338-1551	Agoura Hills
<a href="#">Friends of Milo Foundation</a>		Simi Valley/LA
<a href="#">Furry Funding</a>	855-777-7007	Westlake Village
<a href="#">Healthcare for Homeless Anim.</a>	818-483-4228	Ventura County
<a href="#">Herman Bennett Foundation</a>	805-445-7171	Ventura County
<a href="#">Humane Society of Ven. Co</a>	805-646-6505	Ojai
<a href="#">Karma Rescue</a>	310-512-7833	Los Angeles
<a href="#">LIFE Rescue</a>	818-707-2007	Westlake Village
<a href="#">Lucy Pet Foundation</a>	805-499-5829	Thousand Oaks
<a href="#">Mad Love Animal Rescue</a>	213-364-2353	Los Angeles
<a href="#">Military Animal Project</a>	805-551-1168	Ventura County
<a href="#">Paw Works</a>	805-852-1744	Ventura/Oxnard
<a href="#">Petcare Foundation</a>	213-403-0129	Los Angeles
<a href="#">Pink Paws</a>	805-492-1885	Thousand Oaks
<a href="#">Pivot Educational Outreach</a>	805-889-4800	Ventura County
<a href="#">Purrmaid Café &amp; Adoption Center</a>	805-419-6116	Camarillo
<a href="#">Purrlandia Cat Lounge &amp; Cafe</a>	818-230-2724	Thousand Oaks
<a href="#">Save A Rescue</a>	888-440-6467	Nationwide
<a href="#">Shelter Hope Pet Shop</a>	805-379-3538	Thousand Oaks
<a href="#">Serenity Place Rescue</a>	818-999-4022	Call for Details
<a href="#">Simi Valley Missing Pets</a>	805-522-7867	Simi Valley
<a href="#">SPARC</a>	805-525-8609	Santa Paula
<a href="#">Surfcats Café &amp; Adoptions</a>	805-500-7125	Ventura
<a href="#">The Little Angels Project</a>	818-515-5461	Agoura Hills
<a href="#">Valley Cats, Inc</a>	818-883-5252	Westlake Village
<a href="#">Ventura Co. Animal Services</a>	805-388-4341	Camarillo/SV

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#### We help pet owners

Our struggling pet owners relief program offers a helping hand to the homeless, veterans, seniors, disabled, and low-income families.



#### OBOL is on-call for emergency relief

When natural disasters like earthquakes, fires, and floods strike, we are there to support.



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[Pacific Coast Pets](#)  
[Pet Food Express](#)  
[Wild Birds Unlimited](#)

## SIMI VALLEY/ MOORPARK

[Kahoots Feed & Pet](#)  
[R&R Pet Lifestyle and Supply](#)  
[Theresa's Country Feed & Pet](#)

## CAMARILLO

[Healthy Pet](#)  
[Petropolis](#)  
[Pet Supply Camarillo](#)  
[Pet Supplies Plus](#)

## VENTURA/OXNARD

[Pet Food Express](#)  
[Protein for Pets](#)  
[Sailor & Friends](#)  
[The Wharf](#)  
[Ventura Pet Barn](#)

## SANTA BARBARA

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[Lemos Feed & Pet Supply](#)  
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## Conejo Valley



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[www.barksnrecagourahills.com/](http://www.barksnrecagourahills.com/)



## Simi Valley/Moorpark



**Double T Kennels**  
**All Breed Dog Boarding**  
5040 Barnard St,  
Simi Valley, CA 93066  
**805-583-8280**



[www.doubletkennels.com](http://www.doubletkennels.com)

## Santa Barbara/Goleta



**Camp Canine**  
803 E Montecito St  
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**805-962-4790**

[www.campcaninesb.com](http://www.campcaninesb.com)



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# CAN DOGS FALL IN LOVE?

Every dog parent has wondered: when your pup gazes at you with soft eyes, tail wagging, heart practically glowing — is it love? Or is it just food and belly rubs keeping you at the top of their list? The truth is, dogs may not write love songs or send roses... but science shows they do experience a form of love. And it's rooted in brain chemistry that's surprisingly similar to our own.

## The Oxytocin Effect

Oxytocin is known as the "*love hormone*" in humans — released during hugs, kisses, and bonding moments.

When dogs make eye contact with their owners along with physical contact too, oxytocin levels rise. That means your dog literally feels a chemical rush of affection when they look at you.

## Beyond the Human Bond

Dogs form deep bonds with other dogs (and maybe even other animals). If you've ever seen two pups become inseparable — playing together, sleeping side by side, whining when apart — that's their own version of a canine crush.

Dogs may not feel "romantic love" like humans do, but they do form lifelong attachments built on trust.

## How Dogs Show Their Love

- Soft, relaxed eye contact
- Following you from room to room
- Leaning on you or pawing for comfort
- Joyful greetings when you come home, ie., tail wagging or yapping
- Jealous nudges when your attention is elsewhere
- Sharing toys or food — a huge sign of trust

## The Difference From Human Love

Dogs don't fall in love in the romantic, poetic sense that humans do, but they do experience attachment, affection, loyalty, and joy — the same building blocks we associate with love. For them, love means security, companionship, and consistency. In many ways, it's love at its purest: simple, unconditional and lifelong.

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