



THE HEDGEHOG WELFARE SOCIETY

NEWSLETTER #70

MARCH / APRIL, 2014

To protect the well-being of hedgehogs through rescue, research and education of the people who care for them.



"Flowers Love You" – Paper Cut Art by Geetha Kaarthikeyan. Used with permission.

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Cut Paper Artistry

Artist Geetha Kaarthikeyan began working with paper as a young girl. She started cutting paper dolls and paper clothing for the dolls, as well as paper flowers and doll furniture. Her mother would often sit with her, helping her make small paper people and supplying them with paper prams and paper clothing. On weekends her father would help her make paper houses and huts, showing her how to make them stand upright.

Geetha Kaarthikeyan went to college and then got married. While she was pregnant with her son, she resumed her interest in cut paper. This time she focused on paper art which would look beautiful in a nursery. "Flowers Love You," the lovely hedgehog piece shown here, was created in the spring of 2013.

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*Taddy Nastuk was an enthusiastic participant in this year's Wheel-a-Thon!
Photo courtesy of John and Dale Nastuk. Used with permission.*

2014 HWS Wheel-a-Thon a Success!

By Jennifer Plombon

The 2014 HWS Wheel-a-Thon raised over \$2,400 this year, to be used for hedgie-friendly expenses such as emergency vet fees and operating costs. We are so very grateful to our membership for creating teams, collecting and donating funds, and donating prizes. **You are ALL Hedgie Heroes!**

Fifteen teams from the U.S. and Canada, competed including King's Court Runners (Linda W), Tru Chance (Sheila & Murfi), Whatcom Girlz (Jennifer P), Paws For a Cause (Deb W), Team Xavier (Larry T), Alicia's Team (Alicia), Team Ploof (Marie S), Team Comox (Keosha), The Quilled Friends (Laura D), Jill's Team (Jill), Taddy & the Canuck Crusaders (Dale & John), Vanilla Prickles (Jan E), Quick Quills (Will J), Campbell Kids (Margaret C), and QE2 & Co. (Elaine). Our top earner was Linda Woodring's King's Court Runners. Other top earners included Elaine, Deb, Larry, Deb and Keosha.

We tried something new this year and asked for gift cards to be donated as prizes (this was Dawn Wrobel's excellent idea, thank you, Dawn!). In the past, collecting and shipping larger prizes often cost more than the donated value. However, one truly awesome prize, the Grand Prize Winner's Gift, is not a gift card but a selection of handmade chocolates from Salt Spring Chocolates, owned by Ille Kaglik. Ille will be shipping a fabulous selection of chocolates valued at \$100, to Elaine Becker. Mmmmm, enjoy!

Gift cards were donated by Christine, Deb, Jennifer, Dawn, Laura, Donnasue, Tina and

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Any information contained in this newsletter is for informational purposes only and is not intended as a replacement for veterinary care if your hedgehog is sick or injured. The HWS cannot be held liable for any information contained in this newsletter.



Linda Woodring's hedgie, King Gromit, performing at a previous Wheel-A-Thon.

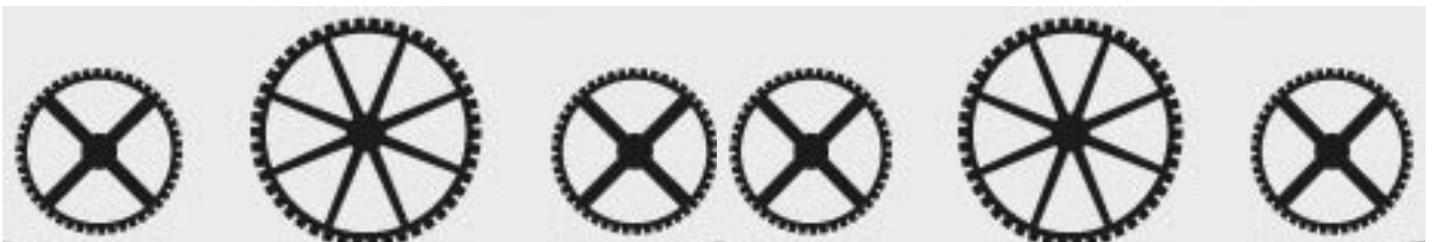
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Lisa. The gift cards were for fun (and useful!) places like *Walgreen's*, *Barnes & Noble*, *Starbuck's*, *Shell*, *Amazon*, *PetSmart*, *Target*, *Body Shop*, etc. They were won by teams *Tru Chance*, *Team Xavier*, *Alicia's Team*, *Team Ploof*, *Team Comox*, *The Quilled Friends*, *Jill's Team*, *Taddy et al*, *Vanilla Prickles* and *Quick Quills*.

All participating teams were sent a hat and bag set, made by Jennifer P.

I don't doubt that the hedgies who wheeled for the cause had a fun time and I hope the human participants did as well. Our heartfelt thanks to all who participated in this event.

Jennifer P. & The HWS





Photograph courtesy of John and Dale Nastuk. Used with permission.

Wheel-a-Thon 2014: Taddy and the Canuck Crusaders

By Dale Nastuk

Taddy is a rescue. He was found in a parking lot with one of his eyes hanging out and the other badly damaged. With help from a guardian angel he found his way to another rescue. He was taken care of and, in October 2011, he was re-homed to John and I. His other Mom was pregnant and she always had premature babies so she needed to rehome four hedgies. Taddy is a sweetheart who never lets his blindness hold him back. He loves touring around the living room in his run-around ball. He is at least more than 5 years old and very possibly more than 6 years old.

In January he was noted to have a possible tumor on his snout. Following a visit from our wonderful vet, Dr. Annabel, he is on meds which he takes well for Papa.

Papa John does help Taddy by spoon feeding him canned food for baby cats. After treatment started, Taddy was back on his wheel and he and his team, Taddy and the Canuck Crusaders, were busy getting sponsors for the 2014 Wheel-a-Thon. We have raised around \$150.00 for HWS.

We are proud of our team at Canuck Hedgehog Sanctuary!

Meet the Helpful Hedgehogs from *Girl of All Work*

By Margaret Myhre

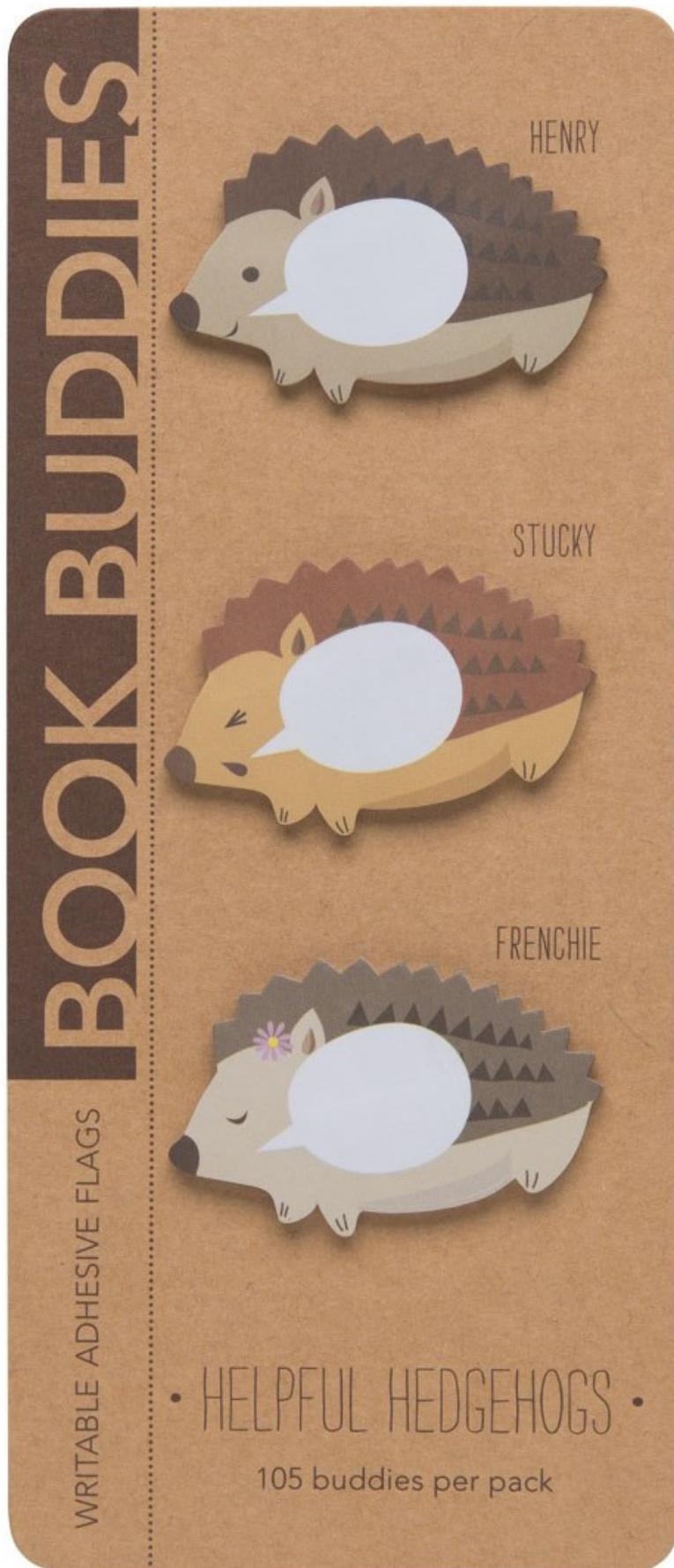
Sticky notes have come a long way from those boring yellow rectangles! This pack of 105 sticky notes features three helpful hedgehogs: Henry, Stucky, and Frenchie. Each one is equipped with a cartoon speech balloon where you can record their thoughts (or your own!).

The designer of the *Helpful Hedgehogs* as well as other stationery and office items is Dyna Kau. She grew up developing her “stationary awareness” at a Hallmark store owned and operated by her parents. Later she earned a Bachelor of Fine Arts in graphic design at the Art Center College of Design. After graduation she spent two years creating retail and hotel graphics at an environmental design company.

Then, after spending seven months traveling and sketching through Europe and Asia, Dyna set to work creating her own business. Her parents were very supportive and, a few months later, her company was born.

Her business is named “Girl of All Work”—from a nineteenth century European phrase used to describe a female domestic servant who is expected to handle many challenging household tasks. The term can easily be applied to contemporary women who have office jobs or work from home and to stay-at-home mothers as well. You can visit *Girl of All Work* online at:

<https://girlofallwork.com/>





Snezhok, Sochi's Albino Hedgehog

In September of 2011, some Russian teenagers were exploring the construction sites of the Olympic Winter Games sports complex in the resort town of Sochi. At one of the sites they discovered a small white hedgehog. Fearing that the hedgehog was sick, they took him to Sochi's Dendrarium Botanical Garden which has a small zoo.

According to Alexander Kornilov, the garden's director, the hedgehog was about two months old. In a press release he explained that albino hedgehogs "cannot survive in the wild because they have a fairly weak immune system and cannot defend themselves against predators." The hedgehog was named Snezhok (Snowball) in honor of the Winter Olympics. He was placed in a separate cage and fed a diet of meat, fish and cat food. At the time of his arrival, Snezhok was the only hedgehog in the park but the zoo staff hoped to find a mate for him. Kornilov suggested that Snezhok may be the only albino hedgehog in all of Russia and that achieving the birth of an albino hedgehog family in captivity could prove to be extremely difficult.

I was unable to find further information about Snezhok's life after 2012. However, three albino hedgehogs were born at a petting zoo in Moscow on August 26, 2013. They were named George, Alexander and Louis after the British royal baby, Prince George Alexander Louis of Cambridge! Perhaps Snezhok is the father of triplets!

Sources:

"Albino Hedgehog at Sochi exotarium." *Voice of Russia*. National Association of Television and Radio Broadcasters, n.d. Web. 21 Feb. 2014.
< <http://voiceofrussia.com/photoalbum/55442704/> >

"Albino hedgehog settles in Sochi park." *ExPatRu*. The Moscow Expat Site, Feb. 2010. Web. 21 Feb. 2014.
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< <http://expat.ru/forum/showthread.php?t=351001> >

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< <http://www.today.com/pets/albino-hedgehog-found-2014-winter-olympics-construction-site-946625> >

Thoughts from the C V O

By Deb Weaver

My main thought this winter (I live in Milwaukee) has been:

“WHEN THE HECK IS THIS FREAKING WINTER GOING TO END?!?!?”

I'm sure many of you have had the same thought. As I write this today states across the south are having an ice storm. I think they named it Pax. Why in the world do the weather folks think they need a name for every storm now? Bet the hurricanes feel bad that they aren't the special ones anymore!

Our daily temperature averages were 10 degrees below average during January, and have been 15 degrees below average so far this February -- the day we hit 50 we're all going to have heat stroke here. We've also had more than our usual snow amount for the entire winter. It's been a shovel or shiver kind of winter.

All this has gotten me to thinking about “being prepared” at home. Seems like we're dealing with more extreme weather, no matter what time of year it is. It's probably more important than ever for all of us to make sure we've got what we need on hand (for humans and animals) to see us through a few days. I, for one, never seem to have a working battery in my radio. If the electricity went out it would be my only way of hearing news. And I probably don't have enough water in the house either. Although, on the upside, there is plenty of hedgehog kibble! It might be a good time for all of us to look around and do a few things that will make our lives a bit easier if Mother Nature decides to throw a hissy fit in our neighborhood.

My second thought this month is to thank everyone who participated in this year's Wheel-a-Thon. Whether you were one of the 16 teams that ran, or someone that supported a team, HWS couldn't survive without this fund raiser. And, of course, thanks to all the hedgies!

My third thought is to take this opportunity to wish Board member Linda Woodring a speedy recovery from her knee replacement last month. I take over her rescue chair duties when she steps away from HWS -- and I'm sure I speak for all the rescue site folks when I say this -- get well soon.

My last thought? COME ON SPRING! I'll risk the heat stroke!



7 Foot Hedgehog Appears in Clapham Common, London

In February of this year visitors to London's Clapham Common may have been startled to see a very large hedgehog in the park. The giant hedgehog is promoting *Natural Curiosities*, a television series presented by David Attenborough. The hedgehog is a realistic sculpture that is twelve feet long, eight feet wide and seven feet tall! Created by sculptor Andy Billet, the hedgehog is covered in fake fur made from a combination of coconut fiber and willow and has two thousand quills made of soft wood spikes. Billet described the task of creating the sculpture as "challenging", explaining that it took weeks to replicate hedgehog skin tones and to make the quills as lifelike as possible.

David Attenborough said the giant hedgehog was

a fitting tribute to one of our most delightful species. Hedgehogs have some interesting habits and play a very useful part in keeping down all kinds of insect pests. What people don't know about hedgehogs is that in the wild they have vast territories and they roam for miles on end. How do they mate? Very carefully!

This is the second series of Attenborough's *Natural Curiosities* program. It is a ten-part series which explores the lives of amazing animals with distinctive evolutionary characteristics. In addition to hedgehogs, the series will present information on emperor penguins, wood frogs, rhinos, gorillas and vampire bats as well as other creatures. The television series began on February 18th and will continue to air on Tuesdays at 8:00 PM this spring on the UKTV channel **Watch**, a general entertainment channel broadcasting in the United Kingdom and Ireland.

According to a survey of 2,000 British adults commissioned by **Watch**, "74% of people are concerned about the dwindling population of hedgehogs and believe more should be done to protect them. In addition, 25% of Britons report that they have never seen a hedgehog in the wild!

"Giant Hedgehog Marks Launch of Sir David Attenborough Series 'Natural Curiosities.'" *Huffington Post UK/PA* , 16 Feb. 2004. Web. 27 Feb. 2014.

<http://www.huffingtonpost.co.uk/2014/02/16/giant-hedgehog-sir-david-attenborough-natural-curiosities_n_4797781.html>.



MARCH :

Mar. 17 Diamond Lil Thomas

Mar. 29 Kirby Woodring

Mar. 29 Eulalia Bennett

Mar. 29 Mariah Wrobel

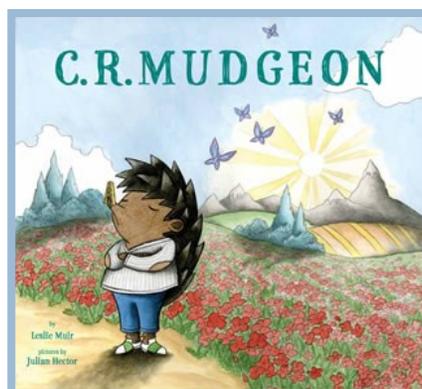
APRIL :



Congratulations Taddy !

THE LITERARY HEDGEHOG

C. R. Mudgeon by Leslie Muir. Illustrated by Julian Hector



C.R. Mudgeon is a shy, quiet hedgehog who likes to stick to a strict routine. Every evening he dines on a bowl of celery root soup with no salt and a cup of dandelion tea with no lemon. Every Tuesday he treats himself to one small fig for dessert. And every evening he puts on his woolly slippers and his soft, worn sweater, and settles into the same old chair in front of a small fire to read his favorite book, *Medical Cures from A to Z*.

Then one day everything changes! As he steps out of his home to select his Tuesday fig, he is startled by a carpet of red poppies leading to a brand new mailbox bearing the label "Paprika's Place"! Paprika, an enthusiastic squirrel in gardening gloves, dashes up to C.R., squealing "A neighbor!" "A friend!" C.R. is overwhelmed, "...about those poppies..." he begins..."I'm seeing spots..."

"Wonderful," booms Paprika, "Red spots are so cheerful, I'm off to plant a bazillion cherry tomatoes near your door!"

C.R. hurries home to consult his medical book and take a nap.

The next day, C.R. smells a tickly, peppery smell. When he sips his soup it tastes thin and pale. Paprika offers him some of her homemade volcano sauce. C.R. sniffs the bottle, sneezes into a ball and rolls back to his home. There he puts a clothespin on his nose and goes to bed.

Each day a new smell, sound or color disrupts his routine. One night there is even a mariachi band practicing at Paprika's house. When C.R. marches over to complain, Paprika cheers "Our maraca man is here!" Turning chili-pepper red, C.R. says, "I am not here to shake my maracas!!"

Finally, C.R. slips a note into Paprika's mailbox asking her to move to a faraway tree.

The next evening, after a day of complete silence, C.R.'s soup tastes pale and boring. The quiet has given him a headache. And Paprika's house is dark and still. He knocks cautiously at her door, has she moved away? A droopy Paprika opens the door and whispers, "I have the whooping whiffles."

Immediately C.R. springs into action. He tucks Paprika into bed and hurries home. He makes some celery root soup and adds a smidgen of salt. He brews dandelion tea, adding five enormous squeezes of lemon, and he finds the sweetest, plumpest fig in the garden. Then he removes his good bye letter from the mailbox and hides it in his pocket, before delivering soup and tea to Paprika.

Paprika comments that the soup is "very rooty" and the tea is "very tart." The fig, however, is "*perfect!*" From that day on, C.R. Mudgeon picks a sweet fig every Tuesday and brings it to mariachi band practice at Paprika's house where he finally learns to shake his maracas!

Muir, Leslie, and Julian Hector. *C.R. Mudgeon*. New York: Atheneum Books for Young Readers, 2012.

ISBN: 9781416979067

Fundraiser for HWS

By Deb Weaver

We received an email asking if it was OK to hold a fundraiser for HWS. Below is part of the email we received:

"My name is Amy Maddox, and I am an independent Beauty Consultant with Mary Kay. My son Alex is 10 years old and he loves hedgehogs! At his suggestion ("Mom, can't we do something for the hedgehogs?"), I'm thinking of holding a fundraiser for your organization."

Below is what Amy is offering for HWS:

From February 14 through March 15, Amy will donate 25% of all prepaid orders placed at

www.marykay.com/amaddox16

to the Hedgehog Welfare Society. The order must have "*I Love hedgehogs!*" in the customer notes section in order to qualify for this offer. As an additional incentive, all orders over \$25.00 will ship free.

I must say I'm a Mary Kay user for my own skin care needs, and am very pleased with the product (not sure if this endorsement will help or hurt this cause!).

HWS would like to thank Amy (and her son) for doing this for us.

Happy shopping everyone!