

LIVING LIFE WITH A DIFFERENCE

This is a column dedicated to those women who have opted the unconventional professions, with an objective to do something different in life and make a difference to themselves as well as to the world around them. So here is the Inspira team introducing you all to a pack of three young women and their commendable contributions to our society and the "Dog society", The Pet Management Company – The Paws Pack and the 24-hour Rescue Organization.

"This was a never thought of profession in our lives", reveals Neha Panchamia (Masters in Human Nutrition), Tanya Kane (Masters of Economics) and Dr Shruti Srinath (ENT specialist), but we Love Dogs and our passion drives us - which is why today, we can't imagine doing anything else but working with animals and for animals. These 3 women as if it was planned by fate and as mere acquaintances, they joined hands permanently, for a better cause. One day, Tanya found a dog and she needed a place to keep it overnight. Neha responded, and they got the dog over to E-square. This incident brought both the dog lovers together and they thought of doing something for the dogs in our city. Initially, they thought of Dial-to-rescue but weren't sure how equipped they were to handle the rescues. Hence, they planned to start off on a smaller scale and then grow gradually. Tanya has been working with the Vet from the age of 15 and is aware of the First aid and rescue work done for the animals. Both she and Neha visited various pet management companies to understand how they function and understand their activities. They met lot of people who could help them in starting a company. They analyzed what they actually wanted to do for the dogs, and a lot of ground work was conducted to plan and start this company. Brainstorming for the name of this Pet management Company led to a planned packaged deal for animals in terms of training, grooming, nutrition etc. The name "The Paws Pack" was finalized in December 2006 along with the "24-hour Rescue Organisation". Shortly after, they found another dog lover Dr Shruti who joined hands with the Paws Pack Team. She is another dedicated member of this team.

Neha's family was completely shocked to hear of her plans to quit her job, putting her Master aside and work for animals only. Later on, they were the ones who fully supported Neha in her mission. With immense support from all the three families today, the girls are all set to handle and manage any situation in their lives and the Paws Pack has worked out really well. Initially, the team had to borrow money from their families to manage all the expenses; at times situations were so bad that they were put off, but saving one dog's life and the satisfaction that they got in doing that built their

enthusiasm and dedication.

For this noble cause Neha, Tanaya and Shruti are professionally trained for not only rescuing animals but training and grooming them as well. Today, the Paws Pack events and other activities help the Rescue Organization to operate. The Paws Pack team conducts training for dogs, dog walks, Nutrition, Pet Counselling, pre-pet counselling, basic grooming, emergencies etc. These generate funds for the rescue operations of stray dogs. Shruti and Tanya go to homes for dog training and have developed a good clientele. Neha handles grooming. They have also started Pet Tiffin which is delivered in the Deccan and Baner areas free of cost. The three young women are on the roads to rescue a dog at the dial of a call, and today they have a well equipped Dog Ambulance wherein full fledged surgeries can be done inside the vehicle, This ambulance has been customized as per the needs of the rescue team and is donated to the Company by Dilip Chabbria.

Their impressive rescue work has generated a lot of interest with animal lovers who want a platform to come forward and help the animals, Tanya says "Today we have about 60 volunteers out of which 30 are active and help us in our work. As volunteers, people are not expected to work 24 hours with us but they can help us in any small way possible like helping in events, donating food for animals, rescue work, adoption of dogs etc. Most of the volunteers are either students or young professionals, which also means that the youth is the one who wants to make a difference in the society. With this active participation we have divided the volunteers into groups such as adoption, sterilization and rescue. These groups are not only well handled but professionally managed by the group head; Varun Zanzale (Student of Zoology) who is the Rescue Coordinator along with Shibani Chitre who is working as the Sterilization Coordinator for our team. The Pet Adoption group is headed by Shweta Shahade (Student of Psychology) wherein they maintain records of all the dogs, their breed, age, health status, date on which they are brought etc. This group also maintains the record of the dog owners who have adopted them and their details,

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we follow a systematic procedure for adoption of a dog which includes telephonic screening of the family who wishes to adopt a dog, personal visits to the family in their house, understand their need, understand which dog would fit into their family etc. also signing up of forms and declaration from the dog owners, surprise visits to the families who have adopted dogs from the Pet Management Company etc.” So now it's not easy to adopt a dog by just bringing him/ her home, and just being a dog lover does not help us to adopt a dog because after all, it's a life that is coming to your house who gives unconditional

“Apart from the rescue work we also organize events for the members of our Happy Tails Club wherein we have hosted a Hawaiian Dog Party, Dog Dating, Birthday Bash, Doggy Day Trail to a farmhouse where the dogs had a great time dancing, swimming and paw painting. Indeed, enjoying freedom to the fullest. To make it interesting every dog received a participant certificate from the Paws Pack smiles Neha. We provide dog training, dog owners meet, pet counseling, pre-pet counseling to create awareness amongst the people about dogs. Many times wrong dogs get sold to wrong families which creates trouble for



THE PAWS PACK



love. To get this eternal gift you have got to deserve it.

“Being professionals we three head the rescue team and are available 24X7 on the telephone. We have rescued dogs in a very bad condition – hit and run by vehicles, hurt badly, beaten up, unhealthy, wounded etc. and managed to get them at our kennel and saved their lives too. After complete recovery, they are left back at their locations from where we brought them or else, they are adopted by people free of cost. On an average we rescue 4- 5 dogs a week and have found homes for more than 100 dogs as on date. Today, we have 8 dogs in our kennel who are treated by the animal doctors. We have received immense support from the Vet Doctors and almost 20 doctors have helped us in treating the rescued dogs. But that wasn't easy at all as we faced bad times wherein people did not even come forward to pick the dog. They have insulted us, called us emotional fools, discouraged us, laughed at us, many of them questioned our work and lots more, but still saving that one dog's life kept us going and we tolerated anything at that point” shares Shruti.



both and converts them or people around them, into anti-dog feelings. Animal behavior is important for people to understand before getting a dog; the right kind of breed is to be selected as per the family requirements and their surroundings. Hence to

improvise training skills Shruti and Tanya have recently attended a 21- day residential advanced training course with a leading animal behaviorist at Nilshi” says Neha.

Speaking about the dog menace, all three had to say that most of the time, that human beings are partially responsible for the menace and that there are several reasons why this could happen – dog fights, unnecessary teasing by children and elders too, dogs who are unwell, dogs who are irritated, and dogs who are displaced from one place to another area not belonging to their earlier surroundings etc. Most of the time there are human factors that bother the dog and provoke him to attack. “Rabies is a big problem in India with most of the dogs” adds Tanya.

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Mentioning their future plans the girls have to say, Paws Pack has introduced us to a lots of people and today lots of people know us, it feels good to be recognized and to be known by people. We see a difference though slow happening in society. We have a long way to go where we will not see dogs which we can rescue and no strays but just pet dogs. We have received lot of compliments from people and many have come forward to help us. Recently we have been donated a land in Lohegoan where we plan to build a dog hospital and dog hostel in the next six months. We also plan to conduct various activities and events for the dogs. But most importantly, our work would concentrate on educating people, as there is a dire need to create awareness amongst people as to what they are missing in their lives by not having a dog as a pet. Dogs can influence your world and spread

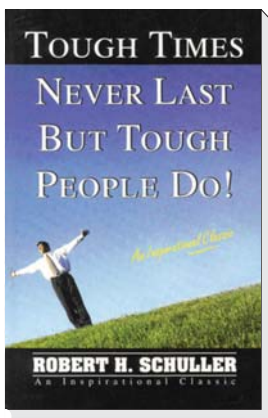
happiness all over; there are Dog therapies, which help people to come out of their depression and loneliness. We the Paws Pack team have a responsibility to create this awareness amongst people and have them adopt a dog with a motto, caption One Dog One Home. We also want to send out a message to society, that – “Don't just point fingers and talk about any issue but move on and work; you can surely make a difference” .

So now we all know that if we find a Dog which is to be rescued, or we need to know more about Dogs just dial – 9764542929.

Hats off..!! to the Dogs lover team and we pass on our sincere wishes to the Pet Management Company-All the very Best.

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BOOK REVIEW



Tough Times Never Last But Tough People Do!

Author :
Robert Schuller
Publisher :
Advantage Quest Publication
Class :
Self-improvement/Inspiration
Price : Rs.95/-

In this international best seller Dr. Robert Schuller reveals- What is the secret ingredient of tough people that enables them to succeed? Why do they survive the tough times when others are overcome by them? Why do they soar when others sink?

According to the author the difference between those who win & those who don't, is the application of “Possibility Thinking”. Winners dare to dream. They commit themselves to it. They dare to try; to take up risk. They believe themselves & they understand failure is an event not a person. They never quit.

Schuller has split the book into different phases - each with a new immensely persuasive & inspiring thought which is really worth mentioning.

*When you've exhausted all possibilities, remember you haven't. *Nobody is a total failure as long as he

dares to try doing something worth while. *Its impossible to fail totally if you dare to try. *If it's going to be, it's up to me! *Never let a problem become an excuse. *The one battle most people lose is the one over the fear of failure. Try – start – begin - & you'll be assured you won the first round. *God's delays are not god's denial. *Today's decisions are tomorrow's realities. *Take care? People who take care never go anywhere. *Take a chance, Take charge, Take control. *You won't win if you don't begin. *The 'me' I see.....Is the 'me' I'll be! *There will never be another now – I'll make the most of today. *There will never be another me – I'll make the most of myself. *Decision making is easy if there are no contradictions in your value system. *Brownouts do not have to be burnouts. *Beginning is being half done. *Know when to hold on & when to let go.

In this book Dr. Robert Schuller beautifully translates his philosophy of “Possibility Thinking” into an action plan for success & enlightens us on how to turn our setbacks into new beginnings, dreams into successes & success into newer possibilities.

So.....here's learning how you can be too!

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