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Australian Shepherd JD has second thoughts about chasing a tennis ball into the Splash Dog pool at the 2010 Canine Carnival.

# Dog day

**Who:** Well-behaved leashed dogs and humans

**What:** Canine Carnival

**When:** 10-6 p.m. (booths close at 4 p.m.) Saturday

**Where:** Teton County Fairgrounds

**How much:** Admission is free, activities cost \$10 or less

**Web:** JacksonCanineCarnival.com

By Kelsey Dayton

**S**aturday is all about Jackson's dogs and the people who love them.

The third Canine Carnival offers treats, contests, entertainment and education for your pet, while raising money to help animals looking for a home.

Last year's event brought more than 1,500 people out to pamper their pets and support the Jackson/Teton County animal shelter, said Ayn Nesbitt, coordinator of the event.

The carnival raised about \$7,500 in cash and donated dog food, said Sandy Ress, owner of Pet Place Plus, who started the carnival three years ago.

Raising money for the shelter is important, but not the only purpose of the carnival, he said. It's a chance for people to get outside with their pets and celebrate living somewhere that appreciates and loves dogs.

The event offers some-



ALEXANDRA MIHALE / NEWS&amp;GUIDE

Sam and Ely Mosby get tips on training their dog, Cabela, under the supervision of trainer Walt Omlar at the 2011 Canine Carnival. This year's carnival takes place Saturday.

thing for every dog, owner and even people who like dogs but don't have one of their own, Nesbitt said.

The popular Course A Lure, an obstacle course dogs follow by chasing a moving fake fox tail, is back for the third year. The course involves a timed run, jumping through rings and navigating tunnels. Owners can follow along the side of the course to make sure

their dogs don't get lost. The course is one of the highlights of the carnival, so sign up early, because there is always a waiting list, Nesbitt said.

Back for its second year is another popular activity: Dogs Herding Ducks. Some herding dogs learn to work with ducks before advancing to sheep. Now any Jackson dog, regardless of herding ability, can give it a try,

Nesbitt said. A trainer from eastern Wyoming is bringing her ducks, a flock accustomed to dogs nudging them around. Herding takes place throughout the area, so you might be visiting a booth and need to step aside for a dog guiding nine ducks by you, Nesbitt said.

There also will be agility demonstrations throughout the day and the chance for dogs

to work with agility trainers.

For less athletically inclined dogs, Picasso Paws lets dogs express their creative side with nontoxic paint on the pads of their feet and a giant canvas to walk across.

What's a carnival without food? Dogs can bob for biscuits or, for dogs that don't want to work for their treats, have a stack of pupcakes, something like pancakes for dogs, Nesbitt said. For the dog with the especially voracious appetite, a hot-dog eating contest starts at noon.

There also will be nail trims, and vets and trainers will be on hand to answer questions.

For those wanting to immortalize their pets' likenesses, there will be the chance to get a clay imprint of your dog's paw or to have your pet sketched.

Don't have a pet? There's plenty for the humans at the carnival. Bubba's Bar-B-Que will serve food throughout the day. There are demonstrations by search and rescue and law enforcement dogs, raffle prizes and a silent auction for a chance for up to three people to fly an animal rescue mission with Dr. Peter Rork.

And if you can't stand to head home petless at the end of the day, there also will be an adoption tent with animals from all the area shelters.