



DAWG Tales



Best Dawg Rescue • www.dawg-rescue.org

Spring 2013

Dear Friends,

Hope your new year started well and continues that way now that it's spring! As for resolutions, we all make them, break them, and eventually avoid them. However, here's one that's easy to keep and a "win-win" no matter when you opt to do it: volunteer to help our dogs!

Why not take your devotion to dogs to the next level and volunteer at an occasional adoption show? You can ask for a specific dog, or we can match you with a dog of any size or personality. Worried about falling in love with a dog? It happens, but the "pain" turns to joy because you help select the future adopter.

Our dogs really need your help to become adopted. Please think about it and write our "dawg line" (dawg@dawg-rescue.org) for more information.

We have been alarmed at the number of stories out there about pet walkers losing dogs! We encourage people who work outside their homes to hire a service providing "potty relief" and some play time mid-day, but we don't recommend that the service walks your dog if you have a fenced yard. A backyard romp is better and safer. Even relatives may not be on top of a dog squirming out of a collar or harness (especially if temporarily pet sitting during your vacation). Don't have a yard? Ask your pet service to double leash your dog for walks. As for backyard escapes, any dog can get creative or acrobatic by catapulting over or crawling under a fence, which is one reason we discourage people from using dog doors. Watching a dog in a backyard is a "must" through a dog's entire lifetime!

Despite your best efforts, your dog may escape at some time in your life together. Often this resolves in a quick capture and "phew moment." But some dogs disappear. Take a moment to act on a tip from a professional tracker, whose service is your best (but not guaranteed) bet when looking for an escaped dog: take a small cloth, rub your dog's body and mouth area with it, and put it in a baggie. Tracking dogs need "pure scent,"

especially if there are other pets in the home. What's that saying about an ounce of prevention? Better yet, a precaution that takes a minute but could be a lifesaver.

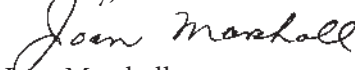
Our first newsletter of the year reports on the prior year's intake and adoptions. In 2012 we adopted out and took in 52 dogs, a good balance and a lot of work given the fact that one dog "out" and one dog "in" per week requires many trips from intake, vetting and adoption shows, to home visits and the final placement. However, it was a "slow" year all around. As for 2013, we've had a terrific start, with 23 adoptions and 24 new dogs already. With spring comes a slowing trend, so we have reduced intake accordingly. Nonetheless, we offer advertised adoption shows every Saturday of the year, which gives our dogs maximum opportunities to be seen and eventually adopted.

Articles in this issue include several borrowed from training/behavioral experts. Colleen Pelar's offers the "Find It!" game kids and dogs can enjoy together; Leslie Clift's article is about helping fearful dogs; and Stanley Coren's explanation of "the language of a dog's tail" is a new "take" on wagging.

Lastly, the first issue of DAWG Tales lists honorary and memorial donations to Best Dawg Rescue by individuals who want to help imperiled dogs while acknowledging a special someone or beloved pet. Because we are celebrating our tenth year, we realize that also means dogs we placed in the past are starting to leave for Rainbow Bridge. Please let us know if your dog has done so. When ready to love again, our dogs will be waiting for you.

Don't forget to consider volunteering, and we'll be in touch again toward Labor Day.

Sincerely,


Joan Marshall
President

Kong Stuffing the Easy Way

from *Six Things Parents Need to Know* by Colleen Pelar

The Internet is filled with terrific ideas for stuffing Kong toys. If you have a dog that really needs a challenge, I encourage you to hunt around for some creative ideas. However, most parents stop listening when you give them an actual recipe for stuffing a Kong. “Takes more than 1 minute? Never mind.”



I tend to fall in that camp myself. Occasionally I'll get inspired to stuff Kongs with exciting fillings, but on a day-to-day basis, I opt for the lazy route.

At All About Dogs, we spend a lot of time talking to people about the benefits of high-quality dog food. I'm a believer, so it may seem a bit surprising for me to reveal that one of my favorite Kong-stuffing treats is a generic dog biscuit. (Shh, don't tell the staff. They'll shoot me!) Dog biscuits are cheap, dry, and have broad ends so it's easy for me to stuff a biscuit in (without getting messy) and a bit harder for the dog to get it out. This won't keep a dog busy for 30 minutes, but 3 minutes is enough to bring a guest in without all the canine fanfare, make a quick phone call, or keep a dog busy while the kids are getting ready for their showers.

I also think leftovers are fair game. As long as the ingredients are safe for

dogs, why not put the last chicken nugget, a few green beans, or an apple slice into the Kong? That food is already cut up and ready to go . . . into the garbage disposal. Don't just feed it to the dog, but have the dog work for it. At the next meal, you'll have a few more Kong-worthy morsels. It's a never-ending supply in a household with kids.

Or get a wide-mouthed funnel and scoop your dog's meal into a Kong and “seal” it with something wedged across the opening. A broken dog biscuit will work.

Ready for something more “official?” Put a glob of canned pumpkin in the Kong, followed by some kibble or smelly dog treats and a chunk of banana. Fill the rest of the Kong with yogurt, canned pumpkin, or peanut butter and then freeze it for the dog.

“Find It”

A treasure hunt designed by you especially for your dog, the “Find It!” game is an activity that all dogs can play and enjoy.

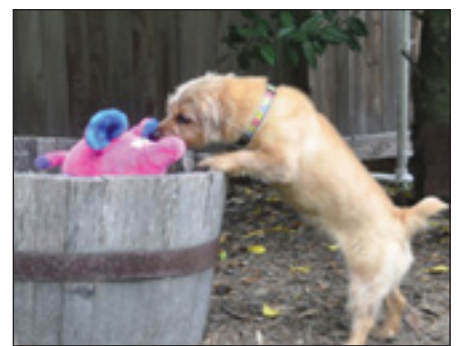
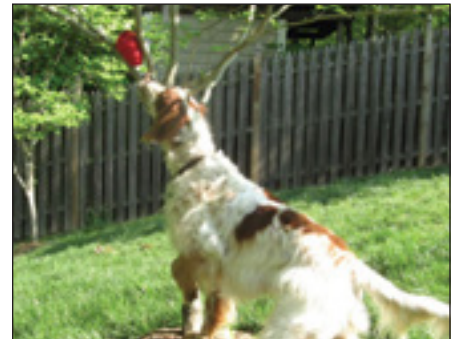
If I can find an activity that jazzes my dogs mentally and exercises them physically, I'm in. And if I can do this activity at my home. . . even better. That is why I love the “Find It!” game. It's easy to teach, and can be tailored to appeal to your dog's play preferences. Once taught, all you need to do is hide something your dog loves, turn him loose, and let the fun begin.

I hide a variety of things—a biscuit, a stuffed Kong, a favorite squeak toy, my husband, a visiting guest. . . whatever. And because play and training should always be seamless, I incorporate lots of manners (sit, wait, watch, trade) into the game. My terrier, Katie, loves to find and “kill” her squeak toys. To add to the

challenge, we often wrap her items in an old towel, giving her an opportunity to dig, pull, and tug to her heart's content. My husband and I hide smelly socks under leaves or on a low hanging branch, and then send our dogs to “Find It!” When they find the hidden cache, we all dance a jig and I offer delicious treats for the socks they bring us. Our dogs have a blast and we feel joy watching the fun. An added bonus? Tired dogs. Teach your dog how to “Find It!” and you'll have a fun game to play for years to come. It's a great rainy day activity, too.

Back Yard Fun

A high energy setter, Dooley's game of “Find It!” ends when he discovers that Kongs actually grow on trees.



Katie, a sassy Norfolk Terrier, ends her ground search when she finds her stuffed pink elephant hiding from her in the whiskey barrel.

Step-by-Step to Teach “Find It!”

Step #1—Introduce the Game

Have several high power treats handy. Stand or sit with your dog. If your dog has been trained to Sit and Wait, ask him to do so. Grab one of the treats and show your dog what you have. Drop it 4-5 feet away from your dog. Immediately look at, and point to, the treat as you say, “Find It!” Lavish your dog with praise as he darts over to lap it off the floor. Do this 4-5 times in a row and stop while it’s still fun. You have just introduced the name of this fun game.

Step #2—Repeat the Game/Extend the Distance

Over the next week, do the same exercise once or twice a day. Toss the treat farther and farther away. Keep each session short and sweet—quitting while your dog is still excited about the fun. When your dog recognizes the cue (Find It!) and needs no hints or hand pointing to know

what to do, you are ready to advance to Step #3.

Step #3—Hide the Treat in Advance

Hide several treats before bringing your dog into the room. Start easy by placing the treats in plain sight, but not readily seen (under a table, on the arm of a chair, next to a sofa, in a corner). Hide the treats in locations your dog is allowed (no furniture if that is off-limits) and places your dog can safely reach. When your dog enters, happily announce “Find It!” Give him time to think...it’s always better if the dog figures it out. When he finds a treat praise him and even give him an extra treat from your pocket so he realizes you are an important part of this fun. Do this for several days. Then, try the same game (making it

easy at first) in other rooms of your home. When your dog proves he’s a real detective, willing to search high and low, move to Step #4.

Step #4—Get Creative

Tailor “Find It!” to your dog’s play style by incorporating his favorite toys, and activities, into the game. Hunting breeds love a chance to sniff out their prize. How about hiding something with your scent in your fenced yard? And after your dog finds it, let him trade it in for a swift toss of the Frisbee. Terriers love to dig and root around. Try hiding a squeak toy in the grass, concealed in a small box, or under some loose newspapers. Older and lower energy dogs can usually find time to sniff out a tasty hidden treat or well stuffed Kong.

Warning about rope chew toys for dogs!

These popular dog toys present a danger many pet owners don’t know about. Read more at <http://bit.ly/12GTSMV>



Thank you to Your Dog’s Friend for “Digging In” to a Topic Relevant to Most Dogs!

Digging

It’s that time again. Spring is here, summer is coming, and so is digging.

What? You Didn’t Want Holes in the Yard?

Your dog has no idea that you didn’t provide him a yard so he could dig holes all over it. You, on the other hand, have beautiful grass or landscaping, and you would prefer to keep it that way. So, let’s take a look at some reasons why dogs dig

(and how to curb the behavior).

Reason 1: You May Have One of Those Breeds.

If you have a Terrier, Dachshund, or other breed intended to flush small prey out of holes in the ground, you have a dog that is hard-wired to dig.

How to Fix It: Create a dedicated digging area, where you can bury toys or treats for your dog to find. Your dog will soon realize that digging in this area is more rewarding

than digging in the rest of your yard. The ASPCA has a great primer on creating a digging zone for your dog

Reason 2: Your Dog May Be Seeking Prey.

Your dog may be actively pursuing insects or small animals living in your yard. Consider this possibility especially if your dog is digging at the roots of shrubs or trees, rather than at the boundaries of the yard.

How to Fix It: Look for signs of a pest/vermin infestation, and then

treat your yard appropriately. There are many non-toxic solutions to pest problems.

Reason 3: Your Dog is Bored.

A dog left to his own devices in a backyard will find ways to entertain himself. No playmate? No toys? Lots of energy to burn off? Might as well dig a hole!

How to Fix It: A digging zone, as described above, will help entertain a bored dog. However, human interaction is the best way to alleviate boredom. Take a walk, throw a ball or Frisbee, blow children's bubbles for your dog to pop, teach your dog a new trick, or play together with your dog's toys.

Reason 4: Your Dog is Trying to Escape.

Some dogs want to explore, go after a squirrel, or find that neighborhood dog in heat.

How to fix it: You can reinforce the fence line by burying chicken wire one to two feet below ground or by placing large rocks or railroad ties along the fence line. The more flexible fences, like chain link, are easier to climb over or dig under than more sturdy ones. But if you're putting in a fence, make sure that even

your sturdy fence goes all the way to the ground, unlike the ornamental fences used more for show than for containment.

Reason 5: Your Dog is Trying to Be Comfortable.

When it's hot out, dogs will dig a hole and curl up in it because the ground is cool. They may also dig a den to protect themselves from wind or rain if they're left outside in the elements.

How to Fix It: If the weather is uncomfortable for you, it's uncomfortable for your dog. Bring your dog indoors during unpleasant weather and provide a source of shelter, if your dog does spend time outside. In the summer, make sure your dog has drinking water. For outdoor play, run an oscillating sprinkler, or fill a plastic kiddie pool and toss in some balls, toys that float, or even ice cubes. Never leave your dog outside unsupervised for any length of time.

Reason 6: Your Dog Wants Attention.

In your dog's mind, there is a connection between digging a hole and getting your attention. When your dog digs, you come outside to "talk" to him. Woohoo! Of course, it's not

the best kind of attention, but it's what he has learned will work.

How to Fix It: If you catch your dog in the act, run him to the designated digging zone and praise him when he digs there. If you seem excited about what you find, your dog will follow your lead. And don't forget to give your dog attention when he is being good, not just when you see something you don't like.

Key Points to Remember

Digging is a behavior that's natural to dogs.

Figure out why your dog digs, so you can choose the right solution.

Some dogs, bred to catch small vermin underground, are hard wired to dig.

Provide more stimulation with walks, training, and play. A tired dog will sleep rather than dig!

Punishment won't stop digging. Yelling, shaking or, even worse, throwing a can of pennies will interrupt the digging, but only temporarily.

Creating a digging pit can provide a rewarding alternative and a more permanent fix.

Never leave your dog outside unattended.

Excerpt from "A Little Bit Backwards"

October 28, 2011 | Posted by Leslie Clifton

www.lookwhaticandodogtraining.com
lookwhaticandodogtraining@gmail.com

With fearful dogs, we must sometimes go "a little bit backwards" in order to gain traction and forward momentum. How we ache to reach, hug, love and stroke, but respecting the space of a fearful dog, waiting for them to nudge that hand and solicit attention is the way to go.

Yes, we feel desperate to stroke the silky fur and "make it all better." It seems like the right thing to do, but these dogs need time and space, not crowding. Allow these concerned canines find their way and progress will be so much faster.

As humans, with our impatient ways, we put the pedal to the metal, damn the torpedoes, in full steam ahead mode. We have little tolerance for the slippery slopes impeding

our forward progress. Flooring it on those icy hills often means skidding out of control. Similarly, forcing attention on a fragile being acclimating to a strange land, though well meaning, increases stress. Ease off on the pedal of progress and simply let the dog learn to "be" in this new environment. As Suzanne Clothier says, "always ask the dog." Dog body language never lies. They will tell you when it is not OK.

Keep in Mind that Your Fearful Dog may:

- Have an unknown background.
- Be woefully under-socialized.
- Lack trust in new humans.
- Not feel safe in the new environment.
- Lack domestic household experience.
- Have existed as a stray or shelter dog, with much accumulated stress.
- Be showing behaviors that are based in fear.
- Feel worse and/or attempt to bite when put in high stress situations, such as forced interactions with strange humans.

Recently, fearful Jett came into my life, via Lab Rescue of the Greater Potomac and his adopting family. Lovely, sweet Jett needed a similar approach as he learned to live in a new world, a strange land. Sudden movements sent him scurrying for refuge. A standing human reaching out? Intolerable. With appropriate dog-human interactions and body language, Jett is gaining traction in his new world and making strides in recovery.

Some basic pointers for new rescues:

Hold off on the family reunion, trips to doggy parks and hiking around

the block until you have a sense of who they are.

Give them their own space to just “be” in a low-traffic quiet room of the house with a cozy open crate, soothing music and good smells.

Use meals as an interactive time, to begin establishing trust. Sit/lay on the floor at a distance that is tolerable, and toss food away from you. Begin feeding from a passive hand when your dog can approach willingly.

Use appropriate body language. Sitting is better than standing. Sideways is better than full frontal. Never loom and reach overhead. Educate all who will interact.

That they need food to survive is often the only thing working for a fearful dog. Pair every human inter-

action with food wonderful food.

If you are not prepared to deal with the incremental progress often required, do consult with a positive dog training professional for guidance. Doing the wrong things, even well meaningly, can spell disaster.

Is there is a fearful dog in your life? Recognize that “a little bit backwards” means the world to this dog. Backing off and just allowing this dog to “be” on his terms will allow him the necessary traction to start moving forward on the slippery slope of his new life. He will gain trust in the clever humans who sit back, observe, and allow the fearful fellow to approach on his own terms, without restraint hurry or expectations.

Swimming is a fun activity for *some* dogs. (Not all dogs want to jump in, nor should they be pushed!) Did you know lakes, creeks, ponds and larger bodies of water can have danger lurking below, and toxic algae and deadly cyanobacteria (which kills in hours) on the surface?

Pools are safer for dogs who want to swim!



What a Dog's Tail Wags Really Mean: Some New Scientific Data

Specific tail wags provide information about dogs' emotional state.

Published on December 5, 2011 by Stanley Coren, Ph.D., F.R.S.C. in Canine Corner

Science is always providing new information that allows us to interpret the behaviors of dogs, or to reinterpret behaviors which we thought we understood very well—such as the meaning of a dog's tail wagging.

Perhaps the most common misinterpretation of dogs is the myth that a dog wagging its tail is happy and friendly. While some wags are indeed associated with happiness, others can mean fear, insecurity, a social challenge or even a warning

that if you approach, you are apt to be bitten.

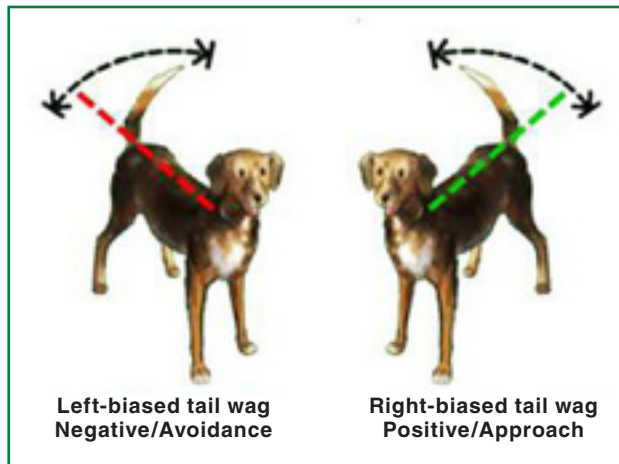
In some ways, tail wagging serves the same communication functions as a human smile, a polite greeting or a nod of recognition. Smiles are social signals and are thus reserved

mostly for situations where somebody is around to see them. For dogs, the wag seems to have the same properties.

Since tail wagging is meant as signal a dog will only wag its tail when other living beings are around-e.g. a person, another dog, a cat, a horse or perhaps a ball of lint that is moved by a breeze and might seem alive. When the dog is by itself, it will not give its typical tail wags, in the same way people do not talk to walls.

Like any other language, tail wags have a vocabulary and grammar that needs to be understood. Up to now scientists focused on two major sources of information, namely the tail's pattern of movement and its position. However new data adds a third important dimension to understanding the language of the canine tail.

Movement is a very important aspect of the signal. Dogs' eyes are much more sensitive to movement than they are to details or colors, so a moving tail is very visible to other dogs. Evolution has made tails even more visible, such as tails with a



light or dark tip, a lighter underside or a bushy shape.

The tail's position-specifically, the height at which it is held-can be considered a sort of emotional meter. A middle height suggests the dog is relaxed. If the tail is held horizontally, the dog is attentive and alert. As the tail position moves further up, it is a sign the dog is becoming more threatening, with a vertical tail being a clearly dominant signal meaning, "I'm boss around here," or even a warning, "Back off or suffer the consequences."

As the tail position drops lower, it is a sign the dog is becoming more submissive, is worried or feels

poorly. The extreme expression is the tail tucked under the body, which is a sign of fear, meaning, "Please don't hurt me."

Just as there are different dialects to a human language, such as a southern drawl or a New England twang, there are also dialects in dogs' tail language.

Different breeds carry their tails at different heights, from the natural nearly vertical position common to Beagles and many Terriers to the low-slung tails of Greyhounds and Whippets. All positions should be read relative to the average position where the individual dog normally holds its tail.

Movements give additional meaning to the signals. The speed of the wag indicates how excited the dog is. Meanwhile, the breadth of each tail sweep reveals whether the dog's emotional state is positive or negative, independent from the level of excitement.

As a result, there are many com-

We don't like dog parks!

There, we said it. But it has to be said, because dog park users don't always understand a dog's body language, much less what play behaviors (including bullying) may threaten your dog. Smaller dogs are at high risk if the dog park doesn't have a small dog area. Lastly, entry gates are a trigger for aggression. How so? Dogs rush gates and stress builds at each dog's arrival. If you must



use a dog park, make sure you enter when dogs inside are controlled by their humans and are at a distance. Here's what Your Dog's Friend has to say: When to intervene during off-leash play? If any of these things are happening: one dog rolling another, tucked tail, pinning a dog for 5 seconds or longer, hiding or hovering. Interrupt the behavior and consider taking your dog home!

binations, including the following common tail movements:

A slight wag-with each swing of only small breadth-is usually seen during greetings as a tentative “Hello there,” or a hopeful “I’m here.”

A broad wag is friendly; “I am not challenging or threatening you.” This can also mean, “I’m pleased,” which is the closest to the popular concept of the happiness wag, especially if the tail seems to drag the hips with it.

A slow wag with tail at ‘half-mast’ is less social than most other tail signals. Generally speaking, slow wags with the tail in neither a particularly dominant (high) nor a submissive (low) position are signs of insecurity.

Tiny, high-speed movements that give the impression of the tail vibrating are signs the dog is about to do something—usually run or fight. If the tail is held high while vibrating, it is most likely an active threat.

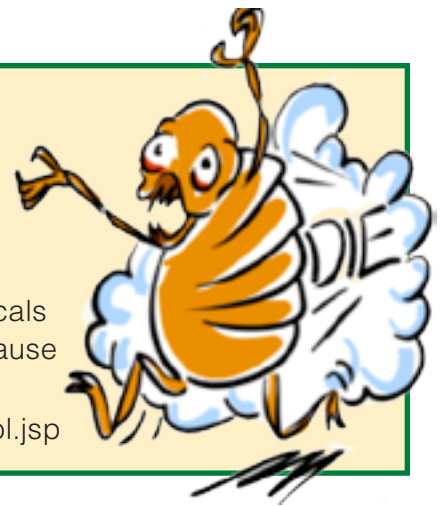
We can now add another newly discovered feature of dog tail language that may surprise attentive pet owners as much as it surprised scientists like me. It now appears that when dogs feel generally positive about something or someone, their tails wag more to the right side of their rear ends, and when they have negative feelings, their tail wagging is biased to the left.

Giorgio Vallortigara, a neuroscientist at the University of Trieste in Italy, and two veterinarians, Angelo Quaranta and Marcello Siniscalchi, at the University of Bari published a paper describing this phenomenon in the journal *Current Biology*. The researchers recruited 30 family pets of mixed breed and placed them in a cage equipped with cameras that precisely tracked the angles of their tail wags. Then they were shown four stimuli in the front of the cage: their

Sick of blasting your dogs with toxic chemicals that don't always work?

Enjoy the irreverent discussion about fleas and safe alternative treatments, instead of toxic chemicals that can be ineffective and can cause more harm than remedy:

<http://www.richsoil.com/flea-control.jsp>



owner; an unfamiliar human; a cat; and an unfamiliar, dominant dog.

When the dogs saw their owners, their tails all wagged vigorously with a bias to the right side of their bodies, while an unfamiliar human caused their tails to wag moderately to the right. Looking at the cat, the dogs’ tails again wagged more to the right but more slowly and with restrained movements. However the sight of an aggressive, unfamiliar dog caused their tails to wag with a bias to the left side of their bodies.

It is important to understand that we are talking about the dog’s left or right viewed from the rear as if you are facing in the direction the dog is viewing. That means that if you are facing the dog and drew an imaginary line down the middle of his back that positive right-sided signal would appear as tail swings mostly curving to your left.

This is not as strange a finding as you might think at first. Research has shown that in many animals, including birds, frogs, monkeys and humans, the left brain specializes in behaviors involving what the scientists call approach and serenity. In humans, that means the left brain is associated with positive feelings, like love, a sense of attachment, a feeling of safety and calm. It is also associated with physiological markers, like a slow heart rate. Contrast this to

the right brain which specializes in behaviors involving withdrawal and energy expenditure. In humans, these behaviors, like fleeing, are associated with feelings like fear and depression. Physiological signals include a rapid heart rate and the shutdown of the digestive system.

Since the left brain controls the right side of the body and the right brain controls the left side of the body, activity in one half of the brain shows up as movements on the opposite side of the body. For instance chicks prefer to use their left eye to search for food (approach behavior) and right eye to watch for predators overhead (avoidance). In humans, the muscles on the right side of the face tend to reflect happiness (left brain) whereas muscles on the left side of the face reflect unhappiness (right brain). So now we can add to this that positive feelings pull a dog’s tail to the right and negative feelings pull it to the left.

Unfortunately, if your dog’s tail is docked to a short stub it is going to greatly reduce your ability to spot this signal and deduce what your dog is feeling at the moment.

Stanley Coren is the author of many books including: *Born to Bark*, *The Modern Dog*, *Why Do Dogs Have Wet Noses?* *The Pawprints of History*, *How Dogs Think*, *How To Speak Dog*, and *Why We Love the Dogs*.

Honorary and Memorial Donations

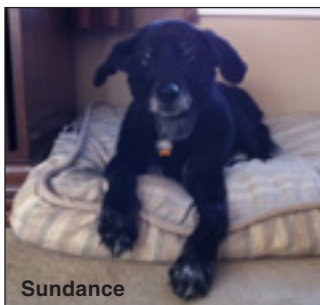
Mid-2012 – Early 2013

Thank you to for honoring or remembering family members, friends, and special pets—including many former “DAWG dogs” —through a donation that gives life and love to former shelter dogs through Best Dawg Rescue.

Memorial Donations



Daisy Hardee, from Maura Clover
Gabe, from the Crown Family
Sheba, from Kathy Rodeffer
Meechie, from Dorothy Snowder
Lilly and Meryl, from Ilene Pollack
Lark, from Warren Richardson
Yogi, from Kenneth Lightner
Sophia and Pearl, from Jessica Weissman
Sparky, from David Gary
Rocky, from Mark and Doreen Quarry
Rocky, from Warren and Sarah Eresian
Frosty and Dobbi, “We miss you more than words can express,” from Mark and Gloria Pound
Marble, Hansel and Cinna, from Brian and Donna Almquist
Emma, from Georgia Niedzielko
Dominic, from Kathleen Ludwig
Bear, from Barbara Berschler
Bailey and Maggie, from Eileen Cimbolic
Our beautiful Sundance, from Brian and Angela McCluskey



Sundance

Riley, my first beautiful rescue dog, from Diana Watson
Runt, from Mary Jean Engling
Happy Girl, from Al and Kathy Greuter
Pooh, from Eric Needy and Sujeeta Bhatt
Posey (a/k/a Pepper), from Janet Naglik
Ruby and Misty, from Chip and Karen Dellavecchio
PC, from Bridget Crowley
Wolfie, from Mike and Helen Keplinger
Katie, the very best of the Best Dawgs, from Bob and Barbara Awtrey
Maggie, from Rhonda Hawkins
Cinders, from Jim and Kristan Stover
Kitty Brown, from Heidi Cherry
Murray and Fruity, from April O’Neill
Smokey and Sophie Belle, from Keeley Calhoun
Brandy, Buddy and Squirt, from Luanne Seipp
Our dearest Scotty Mac, from John and Lynn Ailor
Cricket, from Nancy Brantner
Jake, Maggie, Sundance, Dusty, Digger and Isa, from John and DeAnna Deane
DeeDee, “our beloved beagle —you are missed!,” from James and Amy Ricciuti
Her Dog, Nu-nee and Dakotah, from Eddie and Christine Suiter
Margaret Wort, from Joan Patricia deLorenzo
My beautiful husky, Mufasa, from Sue Gordon
Daisy, from Joanne Goldman
Tippy, from Joanne Goldman
Jeannine Iwanicki, from Lydia Levis
Danka and Julik, from Olga Von Loewenstein
Chrissy, from James and Barbara Broomall
Mattie, “the cat who was set on fire. . .thank you for helping him,” from Marilyn Ridley
Bridgette, Tucker, Brandy and Ben, from Judy Crown
Dewey and Tug, from Maria Lurie
Charlie, from Susan Shapiro
Theodore, from April O’Neill
Harry the Harrier, from Neal and Martine Schmitt
Pooh Bear, from Jackie Von Schlegel
Sam, from Barbara Berschler
Maggie and Pistol, from Barbara Berschler
Ruth Razzano, from Matthew and Gail Fritsch
Ruth Razzano, from Samuel Liff
Ruth Razzano, from Dennis and Nancy Schiavone
Audrey Razzano, from Amy Pergosky
Audrey Razzano, from Bill and Yvonne Curry
Jasper, who was graceful and elegant, from Diana Watson
Jeannine Iwanicki, from Lydia Levis
Emma Hytken, from Rachel Howell and Robin Wilder

Honorary Donations

Special thanks to Erin Hutson and Daniel Meola, who gave a donation to Best Dawg Rescue in honor of their wedding guests. And to Sarah and Grace



Rodeffer who requested donations to Best Dawg Rescue in lieu of birthday gifts.

Letter from the kids:
Dear best dawg, We (me and my brother) saved up our allowance to donate to you. We want to help. You gave us our dog cooper. His name used to be Bradley. He’s awesome fun and playful.
Thank you, Allison and Josh

Howie, by Karen and Lindsey Ott and Jim Mayer
David and Reine, from Sean McVeigh
Prince, from Jessica Grantling
Sarah Rodeffer’s birthday, from Joyce Abma, Keith Jahoda and anonymous friends
Grace Rodeffer’s birthday, from Susan Schantz and Lawrence Reyes, Ashley Dunlap, Jeannie Franklin, Gail Woods-Walker, Adrienne Butler
Kathy Rodeffer, Gretchen Buchen and family, from Mary Ann Vaughan
Kathy, Grace, Sarah Rodeffer and Gretchen Buchen, from Carolyn Rehbock
Best Dawg Gang, 2-legged and 4-legged, from Dan Michau
Sugar, from Jennifer Karmonick
Cody, by Scott Tkacz
Angela and Brian McCluskey, from Jeremy Osborne
Cookie, from Patricia Reynolds
Breezy and Shady, from an anonymous admirer

Linda Collyer, from Michael Collyer
 Lola, from Kenneth Lightner and Ilene Pollack
 Maisie and Bandit, from Dianne Thompson
 Elisa Vassa's birthday, from Eleanor Hansen
 Aaron, from Lisa Fridsma
 Simba and Sammy, from Susan Behm
 Sheba, my DAWG dog, from Dan Michau
 Happy birthday to Joan, from Joanne Goldman
 PG Shelter dogs saved by Best Dawg Rescue, from Amy Pergosky
 Twinky and Sunny (Sunkist), from Anna Bryan
 Pearl, from Mary Malarkey
 Pearl, from Bianca Black
 Pearl, from Fernando Marra-Lopez and Pamela Bilik
 Pearl, from Marcia Brier
 Our Best Dawg Rescue dog, Walter, from Iris Rainone
 Jake and Cooper, from Emmett and Helen Lauer
 Casie's second adoption anniversary, from Katherine Baumgartner
 Mandy Immerman and Joan Marshall, from Bruce and Toni Immerman
 Coco (a/k/a Pierce), the Best Dawg ever, from Joe and Ying Scherer
 Thanks to all you special folks out there, beautiful spirits. . . one of the thousand points of light, from Curt Campbell
 Henry, from Lisa Adams
 Big thanks for the wonderful work you all do to help and save these precious lives, from Dorothy Waddell
 Our wonderful Best Dawg Gunther, and the super people at DAWG, from Mary M. Mason
 Angus, now Kona, the happiest dog ever!, from Daniel and Lisa Elliott
 Kate, Spencer and Emerson, and the wonderful vol-

unteers who create happy families like ours, from Virginia and Lou Pilato
 My beloved Sheba (a/k/a Miracle), who has been keeping me on my toes for two years, from Dan Michau
 8th anniversary of Zeke's adoption, from Patricia Ferrell Meijer
 Maisie, Bandit and Sheena, from Dianne Thompson
 Toby (a/k/a Snowball), from Susan Rodak
 Best Dawg Rescue, without which we would not have Katie, Gabe and Feni, from Bob and Barb Awtry (RIP, Katie, from your DAWG friends)
 Dr. Kim Beck, from Susan Scherer
 Steel, from Mark and Lynn Brinker
 Tonka, from Mike Uster and Lisa Adams
 Sophie and Bella, from Bob and Celeste Hart
 Rosie (Red)—we love her!, from Kathleen Weber
 Joan Marshall, Judy McClain and Suzanne Arnold, from Elfriede Pace
 Cassie, from Katherine Baumgartner
 Liesel, from Bonnie Klem

Marcia Brier, from Rick Paden
 Brian and Angie McCluskey, from Rosalie Hull
 Dawn, I give thanks every day for having Dawn in my life, from Kathleen Ellis
 Dedicated volunteers of Best Dawg Rescue!, from Fernando Marra-Lopez and Pamela Bilik
 Mickey, from Eileen Cimboic
 Our current babies, Boagie, Bella and Tucker, from Brian and Angela McCluskey
 Bernie, who says thank you very much!, from Joan and Cynthia Sargeant
 Aunt Joan, love Dusty Skylar (a/k/a Summer), from Howard and Serena Weisman
 Freddie, from John King
 Suzanne for bringing Molly into my life, from Anne Marie Kohlhepp
 Lucy (a/k/a Sparkle), from Sam and Nora Whitmore
 Sophie and Ozzy, from Mary Rust
 Ginny May, from Leonore Sek Ali and Diamond—thank you!, from Michael and Patricia Culpepper
 Charlie (a/k/a/ Lambert),

from Susan Bruckheim
 Keebler, Sassy, Willie and Mick, from Anne Stepan Kaci (a/k/a Keller), from Maurice Kreindler and Phyllis Mate
 Grady the Lab, from Kathryn Matthews
 Maisie, a project dog no one but DAWG would have pulled from the shelter, and Aunt Joan who took such good care of her, from Jane Lawton
 Natalie Wilson, from Judith Randlett
 Our wonderful rescues Baby, Stuart Little and Pippin, from Jim and Toni Honeywell
 Thank you for saving my life, from Super Dave
 Our wonderful Sawyer (a/k/a Blizzard), who remains a wonderful addition to our family, from Dana Tompkins
 Bren and Blair, from Suzanne Mattingly
 Our rescue dog, Molly, who is the smartest dog I've ever had, from Diana Watson
 Zeva (a/k/a Nina), from Susan Shapiro
 Elisa Vassa's birthday, by Eleanor Hansen

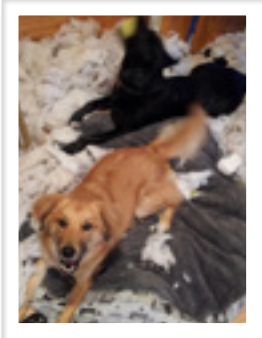
Please support us TODAY, so we can help dogs when they need us!

- \$25 \$50 Other: \$ _____
- Annual pledge of \$ _____ payable (select one) monthly or quarterly
- Credit donation of \$ _____ (go to www.networkforgood.org and select Best Dawg Rescue/DAWG).
- Gift of a security (please contact us at dawg@dawg-rescue.org)
- Other: Please explain: _____
(please print)
- In (Circle one) memory or honor of:
 Notification to: _____ Address: _____
 Your name: _____ Address: _____
 Phone: : _____ email: _____

Interested in helping in other ways? Designate Best Dawg Rescue to receive donations in your name at iGive.com, giveline.com, and goodsearch.com. If interested in volunteering, please contact us at dawg@dawg-rescue.org.

Keep in touch!

We love to hear from friends and adopters via notes and pictures.



Moving?

If you have moved or are planning on it, please let us know by emailing us at dawg@dawg-rescue.org.

If you moved over a year ago, the post office is unable to forward mail and returns it to DAWG. Thanks!



Our grateful thanks to . . . Beltsville PETCO and Rockville and Laurel PetSmart for sponsoring our weekly adoption shows; and College Park Animal Hospital and Countryside Kennels, for extraordinary care and services at reduced rates that help DAWG dogs get well and live well until adopted. We also thank the Outer Office in Fulton, MD for printing our newsletter.



Best Dawg Rescue, Inc.
PO Box 34213
Bethesda, MD 20827

DAWG TALES—Published by Best Dawg Rescue, Inc. (DAWG)

A nonprofit 501(c)(3) organization dedicated to rescuing and adopting overlooked and medically needy animals in the Washington D.C. metropolitan area.

Editors: Kassy Mattingly and Mary Lynn Ritzenthaler
Designer: Karen Eskew

Best Dawg Rescue, Inc.
PO Box 34213,
Bethesda, MD 20827
301-407-BEST
www.dawg-rescue.org

Medical Director: Joan Marshall
Application Review Director: Joanne Goldman
Videographer: Suzanne Arnold
Volunteer Manager: Mary Lynn Ritzenthaler

2013 Board of Directors

President: Joan Marshall
Vice President: Moira Gingery
Secretary: Mary Lynn Ritzenthaler
Treasurer: Joanne Goldman
Member-at-Large: Judy McClain

Check out our adoptable dogs and DAWG Tales in color at www.dawg-rescue.org

Dogs need help 365 days of the year! Please give and volunteer through the year.