



DAWG Tales



Newsletter of Best DAWG Rescue, Inc.

Summer 2005

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

Message from the President



Dear Friends,

Summer is a wonderful time to enjoy dogs! This edition of **DAWG Tales** offers seasonal tips to help you enhance your relationship with your dog and keep him safe and happy.

Unfortunately, summer is also a “high volume season” at shelters because many people get rid of their dogs rather than board them or leave them in the care of pet sitters while on vacation. Unbelievably, some people also leave their dogs outside when they go on vacation. If you’re aware that someone has done this in your neighborhood, please contact Animal Control.

Since the last issue, we have had to say goodbye to two of our dogs: Lark, our precious princess of a Jack Russell Terrier, and Mason, who was with us for only one week. Both stories have been posted on our website, and tributes are given later in this newsletter.

We continue to take in as many dogs as we can, including medically-needy dogs when possible. We recently rushed to help several dogs who were left for dead in an abandoned house. Henry, one of the abandoned dogs, is featured in a separate section of this newsletter. Readers of the DAWG website have responded very compassionately to these dogs, and we were elated when a family recently adopted Buttercup and Baby Cakes (a mother dog and her daughter, also found in the house). Their bony bodies will soon fill out in their new, loving home.

People often ask us why we tend to select dogs in need of medical attention when we could take in far more dogs for

the amount of time, effort and expense spent on a dog with special needs. Our answer is simple. We are there for those dogs because no one else is. Why shouldn’t they get a chance at life and happiness? When we can do it—with your help—we are there for them. Perhaps the best illustration is explained by “The Starfish Story.”

An old man was picking up objects off the beach and tossing them out into the sea. A young man approached him and saw that the objects were starfish. “Why in the world are you throwing starfish into the water?”

“If the starfish are still on the beach when the tide goes out and the sun rises high in the sky, they will die,” replied the old man.

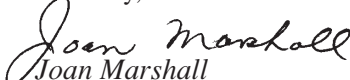
“That is ridiculous. There are thousands of miles of beach and millions of starfish. You can’t really believe that what you’re doing could possibly make a difference!”

The wise old man picked up another starfish, paused thoughtfully, and remarked as he tossed it out into the waves,

“It makes a difference to this one.”

Enjoy your summer and we hope to see you at the 2nd Annual DAWG Day Afternoon on Sunday, August 7, 2005.

Sincerely,


Joan Marshall
President

Thunderstorms—Be Wary!

Each year, hundreds of dogs are spooked by thunderstorms. They suffer heart attacks, become destructive, injure them-

selves, and find a way to bolt from their homes. Why would they want to leave the safety of their homes? Because they don’t know where the noise is coming from and simply want to flee. Even dogs who have never shown a fear of storms may become fearful later in life, especially if the dog sees another dog reacting fearfully.

Plan to help your dog before he turns to jello at the first clap of thunder. Ask your vet for medication that might help calm your dog (if you can administer it before the start of a storm), or try flower essences, such as Rock Rose or Rescue Remedy, to reduce fear. Some people attempt to mitigate their dog’s fear by using loud noises to desensitize them. An example would be to clang pots and pans at odd times so that the dog stops reacting as strongly to unexpected loud noises. Another way to help your dog is to mask the storm by turning up the radio or television.

If your dog runs to a place in the house where he feels safe, let him do so. Or calmly show him a safe place, such as under a bed or even a closet, at the onset of a storm. Above all, don’t coddle the dog or he will think that there really is something to worry about!

Be sure to watch that your dog has no access to doors, screened-in porches or windows, and know where your dog is during a storm. If your dog escapes, you will need to quickly mobilize your family and friends. Always have a poster on hand with your dog’s picture, description, offer of reward, and your cell number clearly identified. Distribute the poster to neighbors and post at intersections. With luck, you’ll find your dog quickly.

Escaped and terrified dogs are wary and confused, so don’t expect your dog to

come to you. With slip noose leash in hand, sit on the ground, and talk softly to your dog until he's within arm's length to slip the leash over his head. Do not chase your dog, although you might have to drive around your neighborhood until you spot him. Often lost dogs are NOT found, so prevention is the best course of action. If your dog escapes and you can't find him, please contact us at dawg@dawg-rescue.org to receive additional instruction on searching for your dog.

Dog Training by Children of All Ages: Here's Why and How

According to the Centers for Disease Control in Atlanta, dogs bite approximately 4.7 million humans each year. Unfortunately, people don't realize that most bites are avoidable. Children are three times more likely than adults to be bitten. **Most dogs bite children because they were unintentionally provoked to bite, or because interaction between the child and dog was not supervised (or was supervised but the child was allowed too much interaction).** Children act, sound and appear different from adults, leading dogs to be wary or fearful of them, especially if children have accidentally hurt or scared the dog at any previous time. Dogs don't forget! Also, dogs are quite aware that children are not in charge. Dogs need to respect children and understand that good things happen when they do!

You can help improve your dog's perception of children by involving children of all ages in the dog's training process. Noted author and trainer, Pat Miller, suggests you train your dog to have a positive association with children, even babies. You can create this by carrying your baby

in a chest sling or back carrier while you train. If you use treats while training, your dog will believe the baby has something to do with those treats!

Even a toddler can be involved in dog training. How? The child can make your dog sit for a treat. Upon your verbal command or signal, have your child lift her hand up to her chest. The child can hide a treat behind her if the dog is jumping. This teaches the dog not to grab the treat, and teaches your child not to reward jumping. Be sure to praise the dog for sitting for your child. This will reinforce the dog's response to your child's commands.

Children of about six or older can create stimulating training exercises to help teach new behaviors. A child can command a dog to sit for a treat, and later to "wait" for a treat. If you haven't trained your dog to lie down after a sit/stay, involve the child by having the dog lie down for you, then for your child. Your dog will learn to respect and respond to your children at the same time.

An older child can participate in more sophisticated training, including simple dog tricks. For example, have your child teach your dog to jump through a hula hoop. Start by holding the hoop on the ground, then raise it gradually, adjusting the height only as high as your dog can comfortably jump (do not use this trick with dogs who may have spinal problems, such as dachshunds and beagles). If the dog enjoys the hula hoop, create a safe

obstacle course in your backyard. Often pet catalogs carry equipment for this purpose, or you could make your own course!

Some dogs are going to be more interested in this form of exercise than others. Be sure to research the kinds of activities your dog's breed finds fulfilling. Use your creativity to "blend" his natural urges with something that will be fun for everyone. Lastly, be realistic.

If your dog is small or older, the dog's ability or interest may be different from that of a younger or larger dog.

At all times, be sure to supervise all interaction between children and the dog.

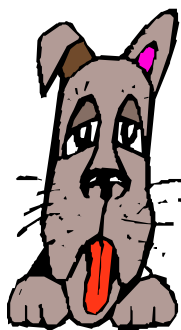


Make sure the dog is treated with respect. **NO teasing, provoking, grabbing, yelling, chasing, or tugging with toys is appropriate at any age.** Children (including visiting children) should never be left alone with a dog, or have bodily contact such as wrestling, as that action may be perceived as challenging, or at least startling, to the dog. And remember that **dogs are disturbed by high-pitched screaming and quick movements.** If your children are getting energetic or have friends over, make sure you keep the dog in a safe place that is off limits to the children.

Crates work well, but you can use a quiet bedroom to "settle" the dog with familiar toys and his blanket. When visiting children have arrived and calmed down, bring the dog **on a lead** to meet them. If you can't supervise all activities, return the dog to his safe place, especially if the dog is tired or has had enough of the commotion. These rules apply even to teenagers. Teenagers may be adult in size but don't act like adults. . . and the dog knows it.

The ultimate rule still applies to the adult in charge: **it is YOUR fault if a dog bites a child. Don't blame the dog!**

Editor's note: Other ways to ensure good dog/child relationships is to teach your children how to approach other people's dogs. Often children whose families include dogs don't understand that all dogs aren't like their own. Here are the rules to follow when approaching a new dog: Ask the adult in charge of the dog for permission to approach the dog. Approach the dog with your hand below the dog's head, not above. NEVER touch or intrude on a dog when he



Fatal Fun For Fido

Have you ever taken your dog to the store, confidently leaving the air conditioning on while you do your shopping? Some people have done just that, only to find their dog dying in a hot car, with the air conditioner shut down.

Computer-driven compressors will shut off when engines overheat, causing hot air to blow. Within minutes, a beloved dog can be unconscious or dead.

Best bet: leave your dog at home and be confident he'll be safe and comfortable waiting for your return...with a present from you, of course

is eating or chewing on a toy. NEVER wake up a dog. And NEVER pet a dog through a car window or fence, as dogs can consider those actions as a breach of their territory. Dogs naturally protect what is theirs. If you don't know why a dog has displeasing behavior, seek the counsel of an animal behaviorist or read a book on dog behavior. We guarantee you won't be as quick to blame the dog once you understand him more. Remember, he can't talk to you, so it's up to you to find out what makes him tick.

HEALTH...Caring For Animals

For this issue, we decided to pass onto our readers a "Q & A" with Dr. Michael Fox. Dr. Fox has written over 40 books, and lectures on animal behavior, among other animal-related topics. Dr. Fox's Q&A animal advice column, *Animal Doctor*, provides readers with the latest news in veterinary care and important health and safety reminders for all who live with animals.

Vaccine may have caused dog's partial paralysis

By DR. MICHAEL FOX
United Feature Syndicate

Dear Dr. Fox:

Q: Last May, our 7-year-old dog (a Rottweiler mix) got all her shots in her left shoulder. In a few days the left side of her face became partially paralyzed—she can't move her ear or shut her eye. Food falls out of her mouth because of a drooping lower lip. Her lip improved, and food now stays in her mouth, but there's been no improvement in the ear and eye. I put artificial tears in the eye several times a day. Could the shots be responsible for these problems? Could they have hit a nerve? Two vets say no. Also, some days she drinks too much and that adds to the problem. *B.T., Hollister, Mo.*

A: Your dog probably didn't need to be given any shots (except, perhaps, rabies, which is mandated by law) since she's 7 years old and had surely been vaccinated earlier. Most vaccines are good for many years. Your dog's reaction to the vaccines should be reported by your veterinarian to the drug manufacturers and to the FDA's Bureau of Veterinary Medicine. I don't believe a nerve was hit. Don't have your

dog vaccinated ever again. Her increased drinking could indicate the beginnings of kidney disease or diabetes, so she should have a thorough clinical checkup by the veterinarian, who should do it at no charge considering the dog's vaccinosis (adverse vaccine reaction). The results of the exam and the bill for it should be sent to the vaccine manufacturers.

Editor's note: For more information on vaccine reactions (vaccinosis), please download the Fall 2004 issue of DAWG Tales from our website. We have since learned that recombinant vaccines may be a safer vaccine option than killed virus vaccines. Please ask your vet to explain or contact us for more information

Robin's Corner

Bye Bye Bugs!

Fleas, ticks, mosquitoes and other pests do more than bug our pets. They can cause skin disorders, transmit parasites and spread deadly diseases.

While mainstream solutions have long involved harsh chemicals, they rarely eradicate the problem—and even worse, pose short- and long-term health hazards to our animals.

Preventing Problems

The first step is to keep your animals healthy. Fleas and other parasites tend to live on pets who are unhealthy and have weak immune systems; they have less effect on healthy animals. Feed your dog the highest quality foods and immunity-strengthening supplements.

Other smart defensive moves:

- Inspect your pet daily (see the next section).
- Keep pets indoors at dawn, dusk and early evening when mosquitoes are most active.
- Eliminate excess brush in the yard and any standing water that can serve as insect breeding grounds.

Natural Remedies for Repelling Bugs

- Add a tablespoon of organic apple cider vinegar to the water bowl. Rinse pet fur with apple cider vinegar; fleas don't like the smell or taste.

- Try essential oils. Lavender, peppermint and geranium essential oils repel mosquitoes. Lavender, lemongrass and geranium repel ticks. Lavender, lemongrass, peppermint and citronella repel fleas. Lavender also repels flies. Dab lemon oil or rosemary oil on dog collars to repel insects.

Commercial Bug Repellents

Effective choices include "spot on" types such as Frontline and K9 Advantix. Rather than use them year-round, apply monthly only during flea and tick seasons.

Insect growth regulators (IGR) can be used alone or in combination with other flea control products. They break the flea life cycle by inhibiting flea maturation. IGRs include Program.

Before using any insect product, read the entire label. Many adult-strength products are too harsh for young puppies, and dog and cat products are not interchangeable. Don't use products on young, pregnant, debilitated, or elderly animals without consulting your veterinarian. Avoid contact with eyes, ears and genitalia. Also, avoid bathing animals soon before or after applying flea and tick control.

Inspecting and Debugging Your Pet

- Inspect daily—or better yet, after each outing. Prepare by having a flea comb to search for and remove fleas; tweezers or a tick scoop to remove ticks and burrs; cotton balls; alcohol; and a cup filled halfway with warm soapy water. Soak the cotton ball in alcohol before combing. You can also dab petroleum jelly on the comb to help catch fleas. Then inspect your pet from head to toe pad. Don't forget to check around and in the ears.
- Dab any fleas with the cotton ball soaked in alcohol. Then plunge the fleas to the bottom of the water cup. Next, flush the water down the toilet or rinse down the sink to prevent fleas from escaping.
- As for ticks, carefully remove the whole tick from your pet's body. A tick scoop, available at many pet supply stores, is the best tool for the job. If using tweezers, grasp the tick close to the skin, gripping its head. Steadily pull upward until the tick releases its grip. Do not twist or jerk the tick, since you don't

want to leave any head or mouth parts embedded in your pet's skin. Also, don't squeeze ticks, or disease-spreading secretions may be released. A loop of thread or needle placed between the jaws can also be used to remove ticks. Apply antibiotic ointment to the bite.

Flush ticks down the toilet or drown them in rubbing alcohol. Crushing ticks can spread disease. FYI, experts indicate that petroleum jelly, alcohol and hot match heads do not effectively loosen ticks, and hot matches have caused injuries.

- If your pet is attracting pests, use a shampoo with relatively safe pyrethrin or citrus oils.

Debugging Your Home and Yard

Whether or not you've seen fleas, you should vacuum all floors, rugs, furniture and other surfaces at least once a week, paying close attention to places the animal usually stays. To make cleaning easier, you can cover furniture and your pet's favorite rugs with sheets.

Fleas lay eggs, and eggs fall off where the pet goes. Thus you must treat your house if your pet has fleas. The life cycle of a flea is about four weeks, so figure it will take that long to rid your home of them.

Effective home treatment options include somewhat toxic foggers; commercial insect growth regulators such as Precor, Archer and FleaFix; and boric acid/Borax, salt, or diatomaceous earth. Many people steam-clean carpets before applying these treatments.

Some people have had success with

homemade flea traps. Fill a shallow container, such as a wide bowl or glass pie pan, halfway full of water and stir in several drops of dish soap. Place the container on the floor or table, then hang a light directly over it. Use a lower-wattage bulb to avoid heating areas too far beyond the water.

In the yard, you can spread nematodes to control fleas without toxins. These harmless worms feed on flea larva and other nuisance insects. Other nontoxic approaches to repelling fleas, mosquitoes and other bugs include spraying the yard monthly with diluted liquid dish soap, which can be combined with ammonia to repel bugs.

For details about insect control and treatment for your pet, home, and yard see the tipsheet at <http://www.dawg-rescue.org>.

Pawsitively Puzzled

Q: My dog loves to go hiking (on leash, of course!), so I'm thinking about taking her on an overnight camping trip. Where can I find a campsite that allows dogs? Are there any *special precautions* I should take? *Amy*

A: Many campgrounds allow dogs, some have separate "dog loops," and some don't allow dogs at all. Always check first, and make reservations with the park you plan to visit to be sure you don't get turned away. We suggest you check with your local Department of Parks and Recreation

or KOA (*Kampgrounds Of America*) that offer pet-friendly campgrounds: <http://www.koakampgrounds.com>.

According to Lianne McLeod, author of *Camping With Pets*, you need to bring **special supplies** for use while camping with your dog, such as a product for de-skunking your dog, stuff to remove ticks, and insect bite treatments. Please refer to the spring issue of **DAWG Tales** to prepare a complete **emergency supply kit**. Be sure to check with local officials regarding **wild animals and snakes** indigenous to the area you have chosen to camp in. If snakes are venomous, ask your vet for advice on emergency treatment. Plan for the unexpected, and know where the **closest vet** is located. Of course your dog must be up-to-date on necessary shots. You might want to have your **dog examined by a vet prior to the trip**, especially if she hasn't had a recent check-up. You may be required to show proof that your dog is current on her rabies vaccination, so make sure you include a copy her **vet records** in your emergency kit. Ms. McLeod encourages people to **feed only the dog's regular food** to avoid GI distress or cause an emergency. Even corn on the cob can cause serious problems, as a dog can swallow the cob and would require immediate medical assistance. Also, **bring water from home**, along with portable bowls.

Decide **where your dog will sleep**. You may want to familiarize her with the tent, setting it up in your yard, and spending some time inside it. If your dog is crate trained, bring her crate to the campground.

DO NOT LET YOUR DOG OFF LEASH! Be aware that parks have strict rules regarding leashing dogs. Pack a six foot leash, because most parks that allow dogs require six foot lead on all trails. Do not allow your dog to disturb wildlife or other campers.

Unfortunately, accidents happen, and dogs can get off leash. Be aware that **lost dogs are not always found**, and that they can run for miles since they have no idea where they are. Ms. McLeod suggest that campers purchase new, fitted equipment for walking and securing your dog. We suggest you leave the retractable leash at home, and make sure the ID tag on your dog's collar includes a temporary number where you can be reached on your trip.

If your dog isn't fit, **help your dog become fit** prior to your camping trip,

Let sleeping dogs lie!

Leave your pet alone if he or she is sleeping. Even the most benign dog will snap if awoken from a sound sleep. Make sure your children do not approach or walk by a sleeping dog. Best bet: crate train your dog so that he goes to the crate when he wants quiet time. If your dog is not crated, create a special space for your dog within the area frequented by the family. Be sure the children respect it! If you must wake your dog, walk toward him so that he hears your footsteps or feels the vibration of your footsteps. Other ideas: softly clap your hands or whistle so the dog starts to awaken before you arrive.

Once fully awake, we're sure your dog will be his normal sweet self. If you want people to be considerate when you sleep, please extend the same consideration to your dog!



or scale back your hiking excursions in line with your dog's ability to exercise. **Watch for indications of soreness as well as heat exhaustion.** Some people invest in special **life jackets** for dogs who might be in the water. Bring a

long lead for "water adventures" to ensure your dog doesn't swim away and can be safely retrieved if in trouble.

And don't forget poop-scooping bags. You should be just as careful about

"cleaning up" while camping as you are at home.

Editor's note: For more information on safe camping with dogs, please refer to http://paw-rescue.org/PAW/PETTIPS/DogTip_Hiking.php.

EMERGENCY MEDICAL APPEAL!

When Best Dawg Rescue takes in dogs, we are prepared to support their spay/neuter, vaccine, dental, heartworm treatment and routine medical expenses.

However, our newest dogs have required extraordinary specialty services including leg reconstruction, knee surgeries, corneal scar removal, and bladder relocation so that they can live normal, pain-free lives.



Henry

And then came Henry.

Henry and his friends were abandoned and left for dead, without food and water for at least eight days. When they were found, one dog was dead. Loyal Henry stayed by his side and was too weak to get up. Henry was rushed to an emergency vet. . . and then to us.

We were the only chance for Henry and his friends. We were not going to let them down!

The daunting task of returning Henry and his friends to health has been rewarded by the dogs' rapid response to medical and tender loving care.

We need YOUR support now more than ever to give injured and neglected dogs like Henry the chance they deserve. **THANK YOU!**



Buttercup



Lacey



Lady Grace

Please print:

Name: _____

Street/Apt: _____

City/State/Zip: _____

Optional: Email address: _____

Optional: Telephone numbers: _____

Please return to:

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

OR Send a donation by credit card via networkforgood.org **THANK YOU!**



Baby Cakes and Buttercup find their forever home!

Adopter Stories

Pippin

Pippin has settled into his new home and now rules with an iron paw. He has decided that he must protect us from the constant threats to our safety like the treadmill, the exercise bike, the lawnmower, the weedwacker, images on the television screen, cats, dogs, rabbits, etc. When



he's not standing guard, he is always by my side. He sits in the garden when I weed, waits outside the shower, and lies on his pillow in my studio while I work. Pippin is never more than about 6 inches away from me. He shares my attention grudgingly with Twinkie and Marlie. But he is truly beside himself with joy when I utter his favorite phrase, "Do you want to take a nap?" when we all lie on the sofa together for a short rest. He's learned to sit, lie down, give kisses and wait for a treat, but stubbornly refuses to "shake hands." Too good for that one, I guess. He loves riding in the car and has already been to the Outer Banks and will go next week to New York. We love him dearly and are glad he joined our family.

Kathy

Annie

So much has happened in such a short time since you left me with Lynn and George on Friday. At the time, that was quite a traumatic experience, but I set about my job of bringing canine civilization to this needy couple. I am dictating this letter to George, a/k/a the boy, while I am laying on my back having my tummy rubbed by Lynn, the girl, a/k/a "yes dear."

Friday night was a little rough as Lynn and I did not sleep much. Nothing seems to keep the boy awake. On Saturday they learned that



if they sat on the floor, I would come to them and let them love me.

By Sunday night, they were eating out of my paws. I especially have the boy under my toes, and he is willing to scratch my head, rub my back, and hug me whenever I want him to, which is very, very often. Sunday I was helping him do some plumbing, replacing the faucets in the bathrooms. My job was to steal the tools and chew on the empty boxes that the new faucets came in.

As you can tell, I am completely in control here and I have decided to stay with these sorry people and try to make their lives meaningful.

My love to you and regards to all my colleagues at your house. I will write again and often.

George

Cookie/Cassie

Cassie is wonderful! She is so smart and cuddly and she does a great "full body wag." She's a great soccer player, kicking her "kong ball" around the kitchen. I have nicknamed her "Pele" for her soccer prowess.



She has been accident-free since my last email to you Monday. Yeah! She is learning to walk with me on leash. She is really doing well with that, better than Sophie and Kirby at that age.

She loves to find a stick in the back yard and sit up on the top step of the deck in the sunshine gnawing lazily. Such a sweetheart.

Peggy

Sebastian

Sebastian is doing just great. He is VERY relaxed now and acting like a happy, young pup. He loves his toys and plays like a goofy guy—tossing the toys and rolling over with his legs in the air while chewing. He has fallen off the couch in his joy of playing with his toys. It is a sight to see. Katie is starting to assert herself much more and pushes him around if he's in her way. She must feel comfortable around him and know he has no plans to hurt her. They are also starting to play chase more often. She is quit happy to have him around.



Sometimes when he is barking about something, she'll come strolling into the rooms and look at him like "What is all this ruckus about?"

Nancy

Reggie

Reggie has been excellent. He has never fully gotten over his male marking habit in the house, but is quite accepting of the doggie diaper I fashioned for him. :) It is our little compromise, since he is so good in every other aspect!

He is now completely adjusted to being around kids (which is good since we plan to have some one day!).

Reggie came to the beach with us in May. He was fascinated with the shells on the beach. He would dig, dig, dig until the shell went shooting between his legs and then chase after it and start digging again. He had a great time, but I think Wolfy thought he was nuts :)

I am really looking forward to August! It will be here before we know it.

See you soon!

Katie





Seamus

The dogs are doing great. Seamus watches everything Princess does. They have a blast with the dogs next door running the fence. He is a bundle. I took them both for a walk and you would swear they had been together for some time.

Chris

Gabriel and Ella/Katie

Gabie does LOVE to be loved-on! In fact, he is greedy about it. You must hold him and cuddle him—constantly! At times, it becomes annoying, but we love it—just as we love him—and he knows it.



And then Kate! Momma's girl! I love having a daughter just like me! She's just so bad! and I love it! What a talker. I was hoping that when we were visiting she would show her "true-self" but she behaved like a lady instead!

It's amazing to see how much Gabriel has grown. We think he's about leveled out. He was a very good boy when we took him for his "salon" day, a manicure and pedicure. He's "the bomb!" He weighs 70 lbs now. The first time we took him to the vet last year he only weighed 49 lbs! But he was a very sickly pup back then!

Please keep in touch! We visit the web frequently to see how the other pups are doing and are always so happy to see when one of his friends is adopted!

Take care and hugs to all of our friends!

Barb

Missy

Just wanted to give you an update on Missy. We have really bonded. She follows me everywhere. :) She is such a great dog. She is so smart. I swear she knows what I am saying when I talk to her.



I can't believe how lucky I am to have been able to adopt her. She is such a great dog! She is special. When I walk her, we always get stopped by people, they always say "what a pretty dog, she has unusual markings, what is she?" When I walk her its almost like she prances! hahaha

I've started walking her at 5-6 times a day around the neighborhood and on the trail. She loves it. I just wanted you to know she is doing well and we love her very much. :)

Leeann

Daytona

Daytona is doing great. She has fit right into the family and she certainly has come into her personality. She's quite spoiled and demands our attention, but we love giving it to her. She thinks she's a lap dog and spends a lot of time sitting on top of me. She also thinks that Alan is her play toy, so whenever she wants to play, she goes up to him and gives him a little bark. That's his cue to get down on the ground with her. She also loves playing out in the yard. Her name suits her perfectly because of the fact that she runs in circles in the back yard as if she's in the Daytona 500!

We have so much fun with her, and are so happy to have her in our family! I am sending



a few pictures so you can see Daytona. She recently participated in the Maryland SPCA walk and had a great time. She completed the walk and ran the agility course, which I'm sad to say was a bit of a disaster. She had some trouble with the tunnels and got a little freaked out but overall she had a great day.

I'm sending a few pictures so you can see what she's been up to. We'll keep you posted. THANKS!

Kim, Alan & Daytona

Dasher

We're having a great time with Dasher. He's doing really well on his own while we're gone, and is so excited to see us when we get home. He's really well adjusted, seems quite attached to us, and is friendly with others. The only time he seems to get frustrated with other dogs is I think when another dog is off leash and he, of course, is not. I think he just gets frustrated that he can't get to them.

Dasher's doing very well with the deck and enjoys lying in the sun (this weekend especially). He really is a special dog. We can't picture life without him!

Annie



Tinkerbelle and Mulligan with their adopter!



Georgia in her new home!

Lark, our precious spunky princess,

enjoyed a wonderful year with her foster family. You left us too soon, little one!

When Lark first arrived, knowing the seriousness of her condition, I told myself that I would not become attached to her. Fortunately for me, Lark would have no part of that. In no time at all, she had won me over. Our other Jack Russell Terriers were another story. She was shunned at first because of her physical condition. She had to sit on the sidelines while the others played, but she never gave up her dream of playing again. In time, thanks to Joyce's loving care, and modern medicine, Lark's condition improved.

One of my fondest memories of Lark is the first time she chased a rabbit across our backyard, running at full speed (for her). She was a Jack Russell again!

Gradually she made her way into the group. She never backed down from an argument, and I don't remember her losing many. She was one of the gang!

Although the competition for affection from the other Jack Russell Terriers was fierce, Lark always seemed to be the first one to greet me at the door. Tail wagging at a hundred miles an hour, hopping up and down like a rabbit, the whole time howling like a wolf.



On Memorial Day, Lark's fragile condition took a severe turn for the worse. There was nothing else that medicine or love could do.

She was put to sleep on Friday, June 3, 2005. I know she died as she had lived, with class, dignity and absolutely no fear.

Lark is survived by two heartbroken parents and four, hard-earned hairy friends. She will be missed greatly by all of us and anyone else she ever met. Thank you for giving us the opportunity to love her.

—Warren Richardson, Lark's foster dad

We mourn the loss Mason whom we had for only a week.

This one year old waif of a dog didn't have the strength to survive pneumonia, despite our best efforts and specialty veterinarian care.

We will remember Mason as an angel who wanted to see what earth was like. He couldn't survive the experience, but left us with a permanent impression of pure love on four spindly legs.



HONOR AND MEMORY LISTING

In honor of people

Dan and Charlotte Fishman, my animal-loving neighbors, from Joanne Goldman

In honor of dogs/pets

Katie, on her first adoption anniversary, by Barb and Bob Awtrey

Sadie and Camrie, by Sandy Rambo. (Note that Sadie died following the donation in her honor)

In honor of everyone who fights against animal cruelty, by Robin Tierney

Lark, by Warren Richardson

(Please see his special tribute to Lark)

In memory of people

Donna Buczek, from Deborah Stultz

Robin Poole, a true dog lover, by Betty Dolan, who donated the printing of this newsletter in Robin's honor

In memory of dogs/pets

Claudia and Suki, the lovely corgis of Tom and Jean Helfand, by Elizabeth St. John

Aphrodite, Ginnie Maurer's precious, petite girl. A perfect kitty, by Judy and Roger McClain

Violet, who brought a smile to all who met her, by Judy and Roger McClain

Sadie, a sweet girl, by Judy and Roger McClain

Dickens, our best boy who is deeply missed but always close in our hearts, by Judy and Roger McClain

Snoopy, by Catherine Hardy

Dickens, by Robin Tierney

Kathy Wall's dog, Smokey; Liz Allen's dog, Bea; the Shaw family's dog, Jeb; and our own Tucker, by Elizabeth St. John

For Shooter, who didn't survive being abandoned by his owner, by Lynn and Chris Lee

Prince, my parent's beloved little dog for over 12 years, by Karen Eskew

Silence Is Not Golden... To Your Dog!

When placing dogs in adoptive homes, we often suggest that adopters leave mild music or talk radio on when leaving for the day. "Soft noise" can help a just-adopted dog minimize anxiety and successfully transition him in his new home.

Katherine Houpt, VMD, an animal behaviorist at Cornell University in Ithaca, NY, concurs. She believes music soothes animals and "tunes out" other distractions. "If your dog is barking at the garbage truck, then by all means turn on the radio so it can't hear it," states Dr. Houpt.

Dr. Houpt frequently deals with destructive dogs, and believes the music, and radio or television programs reduce the stress that aggravates destructive behavior. Music or other masking noises similarly lessen the effects of thunder and

fireworks. (See Thunderstorms—Be Wary! in this newsletter.)

In addition, radio or TV "noise" provides comfort because it duplicates the sounds in a home. If you choose to have music playing while you're gone, remember that many forms of music, even mod-

ern classical music, can be jarring or harsh at times.

Human studies have shown that music can slow the breathing, relax the muscles, and reduce the heart rate. So give your dog a dose of stress relief by turning up "good noise!"

Thank you to the Sponsors of our 2nd Annual DAWG Day Afternoon!

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Our grateful thanks to...

PETCO (Beltsville, Bowie, Columbia, Ellicott City, and Rockville stores) for sponsoring our weekly adoption shows; and College Park Animal Hospital and Preston Country Club for Pets, 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 services.

HELP WANTED!

**Must be a good typist and be good with a computer.
Successful applicant must be bilingual. We are an Equal
Opportunity Employer.**

A short time later a lovely golden retriever dog trotted up to the window, saw the sign and went inside. He looked at the receptionist and wagged his tail, then walked over to the sign, looked at it, whined and pawed the air.

The receptionist called the office manager. He was surprised, to say the least to see a canine applicant. However, the dog looked determined, so he led him into the office. Inside, the dog jumped up on a chair and stared at the manager expectantly.

The manager said, "I can't hire you. The sign says you must be able to type." The dog jumped down, went to the typewriter and proceeded to quickly type a perfect business letter. He took out the page and trotted over to the manager, gave it to him, then jumped back up on the chair.

The manager was stunned, but told the dog, "That was fantastic, but I'm sorry. The sign clearly says that whoever I hire has to be good with a computer."

The dog jumped down again, went to the computer

and proceeded to demonstrate his expertise with various programs, produced a sample spreadsheet and database, then presented them to the manager.

The manager was dumbfounded! He said to the dog, "Hey, I realize that you are a very intelligent applicant and have fantastic talent, but you're a dog—no way could I hire you."

The dog jumped down and went to the sign in the window and pointed his paw at the words, "Equal Opportunity Employer."

The exasperated manager said, "Yes, I know what the darn sign says. But the sign also says you have to be bilingual."

The dog looked him straight in the eye and said, "Meow."



Have you mailed in your **DAWG DAY AFTERNOON** Registration Form?

If you didn't receive a flyer or misplaced it, please contact us at dawg@dawg-rescue.org. Registration will be closed by August 1, so don't delay! See you at Greenbelt Park, Holly Section, on Sunday, August 7, 1 to 4 PM!



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