



NASHVILLE DOG TRAINING CLUB

DIXIE RECALL

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DECEMBER 2009



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Check building availability by
using the Events Calendar at
www.nashvilledog.org.

Make ring reservations by
calling Bruce Oppenheimer at
322-6232 or email at
rental@nashvilledog.org.

NEXT MEMBER MEETING:
December 7

Time To Order Title Pins for 2009!

It is time to order title pins for all members who earned titles on their dogs this year. Please send me a list of your titles for 2009. All titles you earned in 2009 will get a pin. Any registry and any kind of title.

Please be specific on the registry and title. Also, please list each dog's call name, so I will know the dog's name when presenting pins. They will be presented at the January 2010 member meeting. Thanks!

– Kay Ford

Keeping Dogs At Home

Owner ignorance populates shelters with abandoned dogs and cats

– by Norma Bennett Woolf

Introduction

Several years ago, the Humane Society of the US initiated a voluntary breeding moratorium to urge dog breeders to stop producing puppies until all dogs in shelters were adopted to new homes.

“Until there are none, adopt one,” the slogan said.

Thoughtful and caring dog breeders were put on the defensive, pet stores were vilified, and all commercial kennels were lumped together as puppy mills no matter how they provided for their animals.

A new study that examined the reasons dogs (about two million each year) are surrendered to animal shelters has shed new light on the problem. The main reasons dogs are surrendered is that owners fail to obedience train or have unrealistic expectations of their pet; the dogs at highest risk of surrender are those acquired at low or no cost, especially those that do not visit a veterinarian regularly.

Gary Patronek VMD, PhD, one of the principle investigators on the study, presented the results at the NAIA Purebred Rescue Symposium last March. The work was published in the Journal of the American Veterinary Medical Association on August 1, and is corroborated in another study reported in the August 15 issue of the Journal.

Patronek and his Purdue University colleagues concluded that dog owners who pay more than \$100 for a dog, take him to a veterinarian more than once a year, and participate in obedience classes are more likely to provide a long-term home for the animal.

Veterinary care and obedience classes may reinforce the bonding of pet and owner, the researchers wrote “. . . by allowing the owner to experience and appreciate the positive aspects of pet ownership such as companionship, affection, entertainment, and security without overreacting to or being distracted by disruptive or unwanted behavior.”

Their conclusions challenge the assertions of activists that breeders directly and indirectly produce an “overpopulation” of pets and provide testimony for early intervention through education, a solution that breeders, breed clubs, kennel clubs, and the American Kennel Club have promoted for years.

(continued on inside pages)

THE SCOOP ON DOGS

A Brief History of Dogs

- The Bible mentions dogs 14 times.
- The earliest dog fossil dates back to nearly 10,000 B.C.
- Every dog on earth likely descended from a species known as the Tomarctus, a creature that roamed the earth more than 15 million years ago.
- Humans have kept dogs as pets for more than 12,000 years.
- The domestic dog has been represented in art for many years, with the earliest being sculptures of dogs found in Iraq and dating back to 6500 B.C.
- More than 1 in 3 American families own a dog.
- 70% of people sign their pet's name on greeting and holiday cards, and 58% include pets in family and holiday portraits.
- An American Animal Hospital Association poll found that 33% of dog owners admit to talking to their dogs on the phone and leaving answering machine messages for them while away.
- An estimated 1,000,000 dogs in the U.S. have been named as the primary beneficiaries in their owner's will.

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MEMBER Q! BRAGS

Marina Caro's Rhodesian Ridgeback, **Panzer**, completed his ASFA Field Championship in Calhoun GA on Nov 29th. He took back-to-back Best of Breed wins, with his most impressive win happening at the Region 7 Invitational on Saturday Nov 28th. As a matter of fact, it was the largest Region Invitational in the country this year. Panzer beat the #4, #5 and #12 Rhodesians in the COUNTRY and came home with a gorgeous trophy. Panzer earned his AKC and ASFA Field Champion titles within two months and we couldn't be any more proud of him. He now has a Field Champion title on both ends of his name and is known as **BIF FC Jager's Warrior Sun of Intrigue SC, FCh, RN, NJP, CGC**.

Marina Caro's Pembroke Welsh Corgi, **Flash**, earned his first Novice JWW leg at the agility trial in Montgomery AL on Dec 5, 2009. He did it in style with a 1st place, too!

Cheryl Brown Geer's two Papillons competed December 5-6 at the TDAA trial at the NDTA building. **Jackson** Q'ed in all seven of his runs, earning five 2nd places and two 3rd places. And, he finished his TMAG (Teacup Master Agility Games) title. **Felix** Q'ed in six of his seven runs and finished his TAM (Teacup Agility Master) title.

November was a big month for **June & Johnny Johnston's dogs**. Their German Shorthaired Pointer, **Zadie (FC AFC Fired Up Silver Zada JJJ)**, won three major field trial stakes and two seconds in large stakes in two weekends to finish her Amateur Field Trial Championship one weekend and her Field Championship the next. Their Pointer, **Ch. Fancy VCD2, MH, RN, MX, MXJ, NF**, had three placings and their German Shorthaired Pointer, **Ch. Heart**, had a placing one weekend and a major win in Amateur retrieving stakes the next weekend. One of Fancy's puppies that lives in Cincinnati, Cassidy, finished her show championship in November also.

Keeping Dogs At Home (continued)

The numbers

The research was done at the Humane Society of St. Joseph, Mishawaka, Indiana. The team compiled separate information for dogs and cats; they interviewed 380 people who surrendered their dogs for adoption and 905 owners who kept their animals. The control group was chosen from a random sample of dog-owning St. Joseph County residents.

Fifty-four percent of the dogs surrendered were six months to three years old and 15 percent were less than six months old. (The study included only acquired dogs, not surrendered litters.)

Fifty-one percent of dogs surrendered had been purchased for less than \$100 from a breeder or private owner. Nearly nine percent from these private sources cost more than \$100; 2.5 percent came from pet stores; and 3.9 percent from litters produced in the home.

Nearly 20 percent of the surrendered dogs came from a shelter, and about the same number were acquired as strays.

Nearly 41 percent of the surrendered dogs were obtained free from the previous owner.

Behavior problems occurring daily that contributed to surrender were:

- Barking, 41 percent
- Chewing, 24 percent
- Hyperactivity, 45 percent

(continued on next page)

27 Ways Dogs Can Improve Your Health

This slide show from www.medicinenet.com outlines several ways that owning a pet can be beneficial to one's health. Some you know, and some may surprise you.

<http://www.medicinenet.com/script/main/art.asp?articlekey=105279>

NDTC AKC LURE COURSING SEMINAR

Learn all of the Rules and Regulations that apply to this exciting sport that the dogs love so much. Presenter is Bob Mason, AKC Senior Executive Field Representative.

Time: Registration and breakfast will begin at 8:15 a.m. Seminar begins at 9 a.m. (Central Time)

Cost: \$30 per person (includes a continental breakfast & catered lunch on Saturday)

Please join us in Nashville, TN for our first AKC lure coursing seminar. We hope to have AKC lure coursing trials in the near future!! Those who wish may take the AKC judge's test at the conclusion of the seminar.

We will have a practice session at our designated field location on Sunday, January 17, 2010. Practice runs will begin at 10 a.m. The field is located at the UT Extension Center in Spring Hill TN (across from the Saturn plant). Bring your own shelter, chairs, food & water to the field. You will receive directions and additional information upon registration.

Questions? Feel free to email Marina Caro at marinacaro@comcast.net.

NEARBY DOG FRIENDLY HOTELS:

La Quinta Inn 4311 Sidco Drive, Nashville, TN 37204-4509, (615) 834-6900

Red Roof Inn 4271 Sidco Drive, Nashville, TN 37204, (615) 832-0093

Best Western Franklin Inn 1308 Murfreesboro Road, Franklin, TN 37064-3042, (615) 790-0570

Days Inn Franklin 4217 S. Carothers Road, Franklin, TN 37067-5043, (615) 790-1140

Quality Inn & Suites 1307 Murfreesboro Road, Franklin, TN 37064, (615) 794-7591

Red Roof Inn Brentwood 8097 Moores Lane, Brentwood, TN 37027-8005, (615) 309-8860

Ramada Limited and Suites 6210 Hospitality Drive, Franklin, TN 37067-5063, (615) 791-4004

- Housetraining accidents, 21 percent
- Aggression to other pets, less than eight percent
- Aggression to people, less than nine percent.

Conclusions

Purebred pets are at lower risk of surrender to shelters than mixed breeds, and dogs purchased for more than \$100 have the lowest risk factors of all.

Dogs less than two years old are at highest risk for abandonment, especially if they are mixed breed, unneutered, live in a family with children, or require more care or attention than the owners expected when they obtained the animal.

Dogs acquired between the ages of one and two years are at higher risk for abandonment than puppies, perhaps because they came to their new owners with established behavior problems.

Dogs that are adopted from a shelter

are at relatively high risk of return, leading to the idea that behavior counseling programs at shelters should be evaluated to determine their effectiveness.

Dogs that spend most of their time separated from the family, either in crates or in the yard, are at greater risk. This discovery should warn obedience instructors, shelter staffs, and veterinarians who recommend the use of a crate that they must provide clear information on its proper use.

Dogs that visit the veterinarian more than once a year and those that attend obedience classes -- the best places to get educational information on behavior -- are more likely to remain in their original homes.

Curiously, the discovery that increased veterinary visits can influence a dog's longevity in the home comes at a time when the trend is toward fewer visits, not more. Early rabies and parvovirus vaccination and sterilization can wrap up a puppy's regular visits by the age

of four months - before owners get tired of chewing, barking, and other normal but exasperating behaviors.

"Such practices will compress preventive veterinary care for puppies into a shorter period and fewer visits, as has been reported in the United Kingdom, thus decreasing opportunities for client counseling by veterinarians during the period of greatest risk for relinquishment," the researchers concluded. "Although these results should not discourage prepubertal sterilization of dogs, they highlight the importance of maintaining and perhaps increasing the frequency of contact with clients during the dog's juvenile and early adult years."

Thanks to Debbie Gordon for suggesting this article for use in the Recall and for obtaining permission from the author.

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NDTC CLASSIFIEDS

EVENTS, SEMINARS, AND ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM MEMBERS

VISIT US ON THE WEB AT WWW.NASHVILLEDOG.ORG

SHOWS IN DECEMBER

Dec. 12-13 Obedience and Rally (Indoors). Chattahoochee English Springer Spaniel Club at Atlanta Obedience Club Training Building in Norcross, GA. Show closes November 25.

SHOWS IN JANUARY

Jan. 8-10 Agility (Indoors). Oak Ridge Kennel Club at East TN Ag Expo Center in Harriman, TN. Show closes December 16.

Jan. 28-31 Obedience, Agility and Rally (Indoors). NDTC at Williamson Co. Ag Center in Franklin, TN. Show closes January 6.

SHOW n GOs IN JANUARY

Jan. 3 Obedience and Rally (Indoors). Obedience Club of Chattanooga at the OCC Training Building, 244 Lake City Road, Flintstone, GA 30725. Two rings. Open and Utility from 8 a.m. - noon, Rally and Novice from noon until finished. No pre-registration. Building opens at 7:30 a.m. All runs are \$5. For more information, Contact Fay Taylor at (423) 886-2171 or Cell (423) 364-9181. Visit our Web site at www.chattanoogaobediencelub.org.

Jan. 23 Obedience (Indoors). Sponsored by Nashville Dog Fanciers at NDTC Building. Building opens at 7:30 a.m. Registration from 7:30 a.m. - 11 a.m. Three rings. All obedience classes begin at 8 a.m. \$6 first entry, \$4 second entry of same dog.

PRIVATE LESSONS

Curt Brock available for private lessons. If you need some help working with your dog, e-mail Curt for lessons in his air-conditioned building. Contact cbrock@tntech.edu for more information.

Sandra Edson offers private agility lessons for one-on-one instruction in agility, contact Sandra Edson at (615) 325-9765 or by e-mail at sancrestfarm@comcast.net

Pat Thorne available for private obedience lessons Pat has been training dogs for 25 years. She has put UD titles on seven of her dogs, and OTCH titles on two. Pat can be reached at (615) 274-2926.

Jeff Whitsitt available for private tracking lessons. For one-on-one instruction in tracking, contact Jeff at (615) 482-3046 or by e-mail at jswhitsitt@gmail.com.

DOG BOARDING

Dog Boarding in my home. House dogs only. Dogs will have house privileges, scheduled walks and play time in fenced yard. Crated or put in x-pen for naps and nights. Concierge services priced accordingly. Interviews preferred and may be required. Contact Robin Raushenberger at (615) 418-5248.

FOR SALE

I have a few jumps that I would like to sell. They are about two years old and only lightly used (due to my own laziness and not any problem with the jumps!). I'd like to sell them together, as a group, for \$75.

- High jump and broad jump, lightweight Practijumps, from J and J, 4 ft. wide
- Set of 4 PVC practice bar jumpS

Please contact Judy Gluck at (615) 292-7695 or by e-mail at judithgluck@aol.com.

NDTC UPCOMING TDX TEST

Sunday February 14, 2010 at Cheatham Wildlife Management Area on Headquarters Road in Ashland City, TN

Entries close on Thursday, February 4, 2010 at 5:00 p.m.

Test Secretary:
Jeff Whitsitt
NDTC Test Secretary
3729 Hillbrook Court
Nashville, TN 37211
Cell phone: (615) 482-3046
email: jswhitsitt@gmail.com

Entry fees are \$100 (includes AKC Recording Fee). Checks should be made payable to the NDTC and mailed with entry to the Test Secretary.

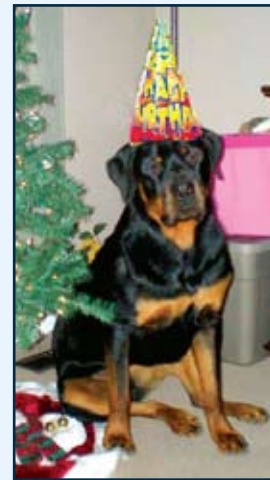
Judges:

Mr. Herbert Morrison, Athens, GA # 1569
Mr. Stephen Ripley, Westfield, IN # 4826

Prizes: The standard qualifying ribbons will be offered to qualifying tracks.

Committee: Wendy Boehme, June Johnston, Beverly Stewart, Carolyn Whitsitt, Jeff Whitsitt, and Connie Womack.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY MADDEN!



Our Rottweiler, Madden, turned 2 yrs old on Dec. 9th. He has taken Puppy Class, Level 1, Level 2 and Level 3 a couple of times at NDTC. He had TPLO surgery a while back and has been away for some time though. He's doing well now and finally got the okay to get back to exercising and some normal activity.

John Brew, Julie Warren and "Madden" Von Brew

HABITAT FOR HOUNDS ACCEPTING BIDS FOR DOG HOUSES



The trailer with all the dog houses is at Garr's on Lebanon Rd.. signs are posted that read Mt Juliet Animal Shelter, Habitat for Hounds Silent Auction Bid. Roy Garr has flyers with the bid prices & info regarding dog houses with a color picture to pass out to folks. All proceeds from the silent auction benefit the Mount Juliet Animal Shelter Benefit Fun. For more information, call (615) 429-5079.

Advertise in NDTC's Classifieds! There is no charge for ads, and they may pertain to any subject you think would be of interest to the members, from private lessons to events to birthdays. Place an ad in the Classifieds by emailing editor@nashville.org.