



NASHVILLE DOG TRAINING CLUB

# DIXIE RECALL

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JUNE 2010



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NEXT MEMBER MEETING:

**June 28**

## Avoiding Heat-Related Injuries in Dogs

by Nate Baxter, D.V.M.

Submitted by Sarah Karafa • Permission to crosspost or reprint granted

The first thing that needs to be understood is that dogs and people are different enough so that most of the [heat prevention] info cannot cross lines. I do not profess to know what the appropriate procedures for people are other than what I learned in first aid.

Dogs do not lose enough electrolytes through exercise to make a difference, but if the dog gets truly into heat stroke the physiology changes will make them necessary. BUT oral replacement at that point is futile, they need intravenous fluids and electrolytes and lots of it.

**Cooling:** Evaporative cooling is the most efficient mean of cooling.

However, in a muggy environment, the moisture will not evaporate so cooling does not happen well. I cool with the coldest water I can find and will use ice depending on the situation. The best way is to run water over the dog, so there is always fresh water in contact with the skin. When you immerse a dog in a tub, the water trapped in the hair coat will get warm next to the dog, and act as an insulator against the cool water and cooling stops. If you can run water over the dog and place it in front of a fan that is the best. Misting the dog with water will only help if you are in a dry environment or in front of a fan. Just getting the dog wet is not the point, you want the water to be cool itself, or to evaporate.

For most situations all you will need to do is get the dog in a cooler environment, i.e. shade, or in the cab of the truck with the air conditioning on (driving around so the truck does not overheat and the AC is more efficient). Up to a couple of years ago, I was very concerned about my dogs getting too hot in the back of my black pickup with a black cap. New white truck fixed a lot of that problem. When I had one dog I just pulled the wire crate out of the car and put it in some shade and hopefully a breeze. But having 2 dogs and running from one stake to another, that was not feasible. So I built a platform to put the wire crates on, this raises the dog up in the truck box where the air flow is better. Then I placed a 3 speed box fan in front blowing on the dogs with a foot of space to allow better airflow. I purchased a power inverter that connects to the battery and allows the 3 speed fan to run from the truck power. It has an automatic feature that prevents it from draining the battery. When I turned that fan on medium I would find that the dogs were asleep, breathing slowly and appeared very relaxed and comfortable in a matter of 20 minutes or less, even on very hot muggy days.

**Alcohol:** I do carry it for emergencies. It is very effective at cooling due to the rapid evaporation. It should be used when other methods are not working. You should be on your way to the veterinarian before you get to this point. We recommend using rubbing alcohol, which is propylene alcohol, not ethyl, for those of you not aware. So do not try to drink it. Alcohol should be used on the pads and lower feet area where there is little more than skin and blood vessels over the bones. Use a little bit and let it evaporate, you can use too much as some is absorbed through the skin. There are concerns about toxicity, but you have to get the temperature down.

I purchased those cooling pads that you soak in cold water, but found that the dogs would not lay on them. I would hold them on the back of a dog that just worked to get a quick cool, but have not used them for years. I also bought a pair of battery operated fans but found them pretty useless. Spend your money on the power inverter and get a real fan.

**Watching temperature:** If you feel your dog is in danger of heat injury, check its temp and write it down. Keep checking the temp every 3 minutes. I recommend getting a "rectal glass thermometer. The digital ones for the drug store I have found to be very unreliable. Don't forget to shake it down completely each time, sounds silly, but when you are worried about your companion, things tend to get mixed up. This is very important: once the temp STARTS to drop, STOP ALL COOLING EFFORTS. The cooling process will continue even though you have stopped. If the temp starts at 106.5, and then next time it drops to 105.5, stop cooling the dog, dry it off, and continue monitoring. You will be amazed how it continues to go down. If you do not stop until the temp is 102, the temp will drop way too low. I cannot emphasize this point enough.

When the dog is so heated that it is panting severely, only let it have a few laps of water. Water in the stomach does not cool the dog, you just need to keep the mouth wet so the panting is more effective. Do not worry about hydration until the temp has started down. A dog panting heavily taking in large amounts of water is at risk of bloat.

*(continued on page 2)*

## THE SCOOP ON DOGS

### Television Auditions For National Video Project To Be Held At Hotel Indigo in Nashville

Blind Squirrels Production Group out of Cincinnati, Ohio, will be holding auditions on Sunday, June 20, 2010, at Hotel Indigo, 1719 West End Avenue, in downtown Nashville. The group is in search of people and their pets to be featured in a video for Kroger and Purina entitled "Tales for the Pet Lover's Heart."

You and your pet's audition may become part of "Tales for the Pet Lover's Heart," a national television project. You can view examples of audition videos and learn more about the project at:

[www.talesforthepetloversheart.com](http://www.talesforthepetloversheart.com).

Email [arosenenthal@blind-squirrels.com](mailto:arosenenthal@blind-squirrels.com) to lock in your audition time slot.

If you have questions or would like more information about the project, contact Assistant Producer Mallory Morehead at [mallory.morehead@gmail.com](mailto:mallory.morehead@gmail.com)

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## MEMBER Q! BRAGS

**Cheryl Brown** reported several brags this month: On April 23-25, we went to a TDAA trial in St. Louis. **Jackson** earned 4 Games legs and 3 Standard legs towards his TACH 2. He had 2 first places in Standard and 1 first place in Games. He earned his TMAG 2 title (Master Games) **Felix** earned 2 Games legs and 3 Standard legs towards his TACH 2.

Memorial Day weekend, we went to the combined trial at MTSU and competed in TDAA. Felix earned two more Standard legs and two more Games legs towards his TACH 2. Jackson earned 2 Standards and 3 Games towards his TACH 2. He also earned his TAM 2 title at that trial (Master Standard).

Then, we picked up a new addition to our family on Memorial Day. His name is **Spencer (aka Loteki The Winds of Change)** and he is a 3 lb. 4.5 month old energy ball!

Now, for rally. During the flood weekend of the Clarksville shows at our building, we showed in Rally. Felix got his 8th leg towards his RAE and Jackson got his 6th. Jackson won 3rd place in Excellent B and 4th place in Advanced B.

And, now the big brag! At the Huntsville rally trial this past weekend (June 12-13), Felix finished his RAE! He is now TACH Loteki Total Windfall RAE MXP MJP3. Yay, Fee! And, Mr. Jackson earned his 7th and 8th RAE legs with a 2nd place on Saturday in Excellent B. He also won highest scoring champion of record in Excellent B on Saturday and Sunday.

**Denise McClure's** 14 month old Berner, **Brighteye Keeper of the Stars TDX**, earned her tracking TDX title in Oconomowoc, Wisconsin on May 10th. Dot proudly follows in the footsteps of her mother Clue and grandmother Hayley, who also have earned TDX titles.

**Bruce Oppenheimer's** Schipperke, **Berry (Wyndsong Blackberry Princess, CD RAE)**, got her second Open leg the weekend of June 12-13 at the Huntsville trial.

### *Avoiding Heat-Related Injuries in Dogs, continued:*

Once the temp is going down and panting has slowed to more normal panting, then allow water. The dog will rehydrate itself after the temp is normal. If the dog has a serious problem and even though you have gotten the temp normal, get the dog to a vet, as it can still need IV fluids and some medication. Also, a case of heat stroke can induce a case of hemorrhagic gastroenteritis (not parvo), with a ton of very bloody diarrhea and a lot of fluid and electrolyte loss. These cases need aggressive treatment.

The best method of treatment is prevention. Learn to watch your dog, and see the changes in the size of the tongue, and how quickly it goes down. Learn your dog's response to the different environments, and be careful when you head south for an early season hunt test or trial. I have been to Nashville at the end of May, only 5 hours away, but the difference in temp and humidity did affect the dogs as they were used to more spring weather in Ohio. Try different things in training to help the dog cool and learn what works better. Another very important point: Do not swim your hot dog to cool it then put in put in a box/tight crate. Remember, evaporation cannot take place in a tight space, and the box will turn into a sauna and you will cook your dog.

Carry a stake out chain, and let the dog cool and dry before putting it up. I demonstrated this lesson this spring with my 10 month old pup. After doing a 15 minute session in yard drill on a warm 70+ degree day, she was panting pretty hard and was pretty hot. She was OK but it was time to stop. Just for the heck of it I took her temp. She was 103.6, above normal but too bad for a dog that had just finished working. In my back yard I have a 300 gallon Rubbermaid tub filled with water. I took her to it and she jumped in and out 3-4 times. She appeared totally improved, tongue was much smaller, and eyes brighter and her full spring was back into her step. So I re-took her temp and it was 104.2, so even though she looked better she was hotter. This is a perfect lesson to show not to get a hot dog wet and then put them in a box. The water on her skin caused the blood vessels to constrict, decreasing blood flow to the skin. Therefore the hot blood was shunted back to the dog's core and retained the heat. You may have felt the same thing, after exercising but still being very warm, take a shower and get cooled off but as soon as you turn the shower off you start sweating again.

### **NEW AVMA Website Devoted to Recalls**

Submitted by Claudia Dickerson

The American Veterinary Medical Association has a new website devoted to recalls of pet food and other products: <http://www.avma.org/petfoodsafety/recalls/default.asp>. This is a great site to bookmark, and you can even follow them on Twitter. The parent site also has animal health brochures, information on disaster preparedness for pet owners so that their pets can be saved, first aid tips, and a wealth of other information.



## ANIMALS MAKE US HUMAN

By Temple Grandin and Catherine Johnson

Review by Claudia Dickerson

With a compelling title, a sweet-faced golden on the cover, an author famous for overcoming autism to earn a Ph.D. in animal science and for pioneering humane livestock handling practices for suppliers to McDonalds, and lead chapters devoted to keeping your pet dog and cat happy, this book is likely to be read widely by the people who attend our classes. This will create problems. While there is a lot to be learned from this book in spite of its juvenile and often ambiguous writing style – and I do strongly recommend it – it contains some dangerous advice and some information that is outright incorrect.

Frequently throughout the chapter on dogs and again toward the end of the book, Grandin romanticizes the unfenced yards and free-roaming dogs of her youth, reminiscing that they managed to remain safe from traffic and to get along well without dog fights or threats to humans. She paints the classic Lassie picture and advocates a return to this way of life. Even assuming that her recollections are accurate, with today's congested roads, working moms, and soccer schedules, this proposal is hardly realistic, and her recommendation is nothing short of irresponsible, if not outright dangerous. As instructors in classes attended by the general pet-owning public, we will have to argue against this attractive proposal from a seemingly credible source. More constructively, the book does touch on the need to meet your dog's emotional needs and the stress caused by separation anxiety and lack of stimulation, both far too common among pet dogs.

It was also a bit of a shock that such a well trained scientist and professor was so poorly informed about the basic principles of genetics. Grandin begins with a discussion of work done by Dr. Deborah Goodwin that correlates the degree to which a particular dog breed has been neotenized (bred to look more puppy-like and less like an adult wolf) with the extent of loss of important submissive and aggressive wolf behaviors. For example, the Cavalier King Charles Spaniel retains only two of 15 such behaviors, while the Siberian Husky retains all 15. This equips the Sibe to relate safely with other dogs in its pack, while the Cav's lack of ability to read aggression signals in other dogs and its loss of submissive behaviors can cause its intentions to be misread by other dogs, potentially resulting in conflict. This is very interesting material.

But Grandin then goes on to advocate getting a mixed breed for a pet, reasoning that these lost behaviors are from dominant genetic characteristics, and so they lie latent in each purebred and can be brought back by crossing with different breeds. Anybody who knows even the basics of genetics knows that if a gene is dominant, it will be expressed (in the absence of such complicating factors as reduced penetrance and variable expressivity); if these genes are in fact dominant, the behaviors are almost certainly lost permanently and cannot be re-expressed by crossing with other lines. In fact, the only way it would be possible to recreate these behaviors by out-crossing is if these genes are recessive.

Similarly, it was surprising to read with great frequency such phrases as "I think" and "I wonder." Rather than restricting her conclusions and advice to principles that are proven to be correct on the basis of scientific studies, rigorous logic, and other reliable methodology, Grandin too often wanders off into the murky territory of supposition and speculation. Her expertise is in livestock handling, and her lack of familiarity with dogs leaks through her veneer of authoritative statements about their training and emotional lives. I would put much more stock in suppositions from someone whose life is devoted to dogs and who understands the basics of training them.

Another flaw in her chapter on dogs is a too-heavy reliance on the work of others. She frequently quotes such experts as Patricia McConnell. A person seeking to learn how to keep a dog happy would be better reading the original sources. The material in this book does, however, point you to these sources and is thus a useful reference tool and starting point.

All of this makes me wonder whether the chapters on keeping household pets happy are bait to get people to read the remainder of the book, which is much better documented, more scientific in nature (in spite of occasional autobiographical meanderings that, while fascinating, are really beside the point), and pretty clearly a tract designed to support her crusade for the improvement of the quality of life for food animals and those housed in zoos. This is a laudable goal, and in fact her very persuasive explanation of how the animals with the worst quality of life are laying hens and milk cows has me rethinking my lacto-ovo-pescatarian vegetarian lifestyle. These chapters contain some very disturbing revelations and are not for the faint of heart.

In spite of its many shortcomings, this book tells some fascinating stories, refers the reader to important works of scholars in the area of animal behavior, and puts our dogs' emotional lives in a very interesting context. Even if you do not volunteer your time as an instructor for any of the "pet" classes, it is worth reading for your own purposes. But if you are an instructor, it is important to read this book so that you can be equipped to present other viewpoints to students who may have been misinformed by some of its less rigorous analysis.

**June 25 is Take Your Dog To Work Day!!** <http://www.takeyourdog.com/>

**The Dixie Recall** is published on the first of each month. Please submit blogs, classifieds and other contributions by the 20th of the month to appear in the next issue of the Dixie Recall. Submissions received after the 20th may appear in the following issue.

# NDTC CLASSIFIEDS

EVENTS, SEMINARS, AND ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM MEMBERS

VISIT US ON THE WEB AT [WWW.NASHVILLEDOG.ORG](http://WWW.NASHVILLEDOG.ORG)

## SHOWS IN JUNE

**June 11-13** Obedience and Rally (Indoors). Evansville Obedience Club's "Novice Fest" is especially for beginning exhibitors and/or dogs. Held at Evansville Obedience Club Training Center in Evansville, IN. Show closes May 31.

**June 19-20** Obedience and Rally (Indoors). Five Flags Dog Training Club at Pensacola Interstate Fairgrounds in Pensacola, FL. "C" Match on Friday, June 18. Show closes June 2.

**June 25-27** Agility (Indoors). Murfreesboro Obedience Training Club at MTSU Livestock Center in Murfreesboro, TN. Show closes June 2.

## SHOWS IN JULY

**June 17-18** Obedience and Rally (Indoors). Murfreesboro Obedience Training Club at MTSU Livestock Center in Murfreesboro, TN. Show closes June 23.

## 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@ntech.edu](mailto:cbrock@ntech.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](mailto: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](mailto: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.

## NOTICES

**Heeling Class** will be on break for the summer and will resume in October.

## LURE COURSING FUN TRIAL

**NDTC** will hold an AKC Fun Match Lure Coursing Field Trial on Sunday, June 25 in Powell, TN. Entry fee is \$5.00. Trial begins at 4:00 p.m.; roll call is at 3:30 p.m.

Directions to trial site:

-I-40 E toward KNOXVILLE

-Merge onto I-640 E/I-75 N via EXIT 385 toward ASHEVILLE

-Merge onto I-75 N via EXIT 3 toward LEXINGTON

-Take the TN-131/EMORY RD exit, EXIT 112, toward POWELL

-Turn LEFT onto E EMORY RD/TN-131 for approx 1.1 miles

-Turn LEFT onto STAR MOUNTAIN WAY.

For more information contact Marina Caro at [marinacaro@comcast.net](mailto:marinacaro@comcast.net). Phone on the field is (615) 604-7497

## SHOW 'N GO OPPORTUNITY

Lisa Mueller, Evansville Obedience Club wrote to ask the following:

As you know, my brother, Bill Parrill, is an AKC Obedience/Rally judge. The Evansville Obedience Club's seminar committee is hoping to have him come to Evansville August 7 and 8 to critique interested handlers performing obedience exercises. These sessions can be video taped as well. The members of the seminar committee would like to know if you and any of your fellow handlers or students would be interested in a critique session. Please let me know what you think and if you have any questions.

You can contact Lisa directly at [krazyforkees@aol.com](mailto:krazyforkees@aol.com).

## OBEDIENCE FUN MATCH AND WEDNESDAY CLASSES

**Cheryl Tisdale** will hold an Obedience Fun Match on Saturday July 3rd. Running order of Utility, Open, Novice. \$5 per run.

Judges for the fun match qualify for free runs or building time.

Match starts at 8:30 a.m. until we run out of folks. Please contact Cheryl with the number of runs you need at [eqwynd@peoplepc.com](mailto:eqwynd@peoplepc.com).

## WEDNESDAY PRACTICE SESSIONS

**Cheryl Tisdale** will be offering practices at her place on Wednesday evenings beginning on June 23.

Novice: 6 p.m.

Open: 7 p.m.

Utility: 8 p.m.

There will be no charge - also no instructor. This is an opportunity to come train, have some bodies around to help with distractions, stand for exams, run-throughs and hopefully enough dogs to get some good stay groups going. Practice sessions will be on a drop-in basis; no reservations are necessary.

For more information, contact Cheryl Tisdale at [eqwynd@peoplepc.com](mailto:eqwynd@peoplepc.com).

## SEMINAR

### Greg Strong Breed Handling Seminar

Join Greg Strong on July 17-18, 2010 at the Bon-Clyde Learning Center in Sanford, N.C. for an exciting weekend dedicated to making you a better handler! This information packed seminar will cover all aspects of showing a dog. Beginner and intermediate handlers will greatly benefit from Greg's vast knowledge of the show dog world while seasoned exhibitors can gain valuable insight into the finer points of handling.

Working Participants: \$225 both days

Audit, both days: \$100

Audit, one day (Sat. or Sun.): \$60

Snacks and Lunch Provided

For more information please call (919) 774-8861 or e-mail [www.bon-clyde.com](http://www.bon-clyde.com).

**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](mailto:editor@nashville.org).