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Winter 2010 Volume 7 Issue 1

Magazine

Chesapeake Bay Retriever | Paws With a Cause | Diabetic Dogs | Mixed Breeds | Dog Walking





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Cover Dog

True, a 3-year old Chesapeake Bay Retriever, awaits her chance in the marshes of the Northern Kettle Moraine. Intensity and passion are hallmarks of this breed as well as an unshakeable sense of loyalty.

True shares her life with two humans, quite a handful for any dog.

She enjoys the hunt and is often at work in the wetlands and fields throughout the state. When not hunting or swimming, she loves a long nap and a good belly rub.

Her advice to humans: Live in the moment and don't take yourselves too seriously.



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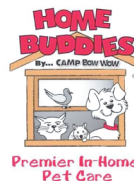
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Photo Submissions
If you would like to submit photos of your dog, please use the following means: E-mailed submissions are preferred at info@fetchmag.com. If hard copy only, mail to: Fetch Magazine, 1132 Burr Oak Blvd., Waukesha, WI 53189. Include following statement with signature for all photo submissions: I grant Fetch Magazine permission to reproduce my photo(s). Signed by: If you would like photos returned, please include a postage-paid, self-addressed envelope.

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I hear over and over again at events how much everyone loves Fetch! We do, too! And, we promise to provide a community for dog lovers with support, information and fun! We have lots of ideas that we think you will like and would like to hear from you too. Please feel free to drop us a note at info@fetchmag.com to share your thoughts.

Again, this issue is in your hands thanks to Joe and Jennifer, our wonderful advertisers (please tell them you saw them in Fetch!), my wonderful friend and co-publisher, Ginny Theisen, the writers, printers, distributors and our friends and families who have seen us become the "Fetch girls" over these past few months.

Thank you, everyone!

Marie

Dear Fetch Readers:

Whew! It has been a wild ride these last six months that have brought us to this point in time where you have this Winter issue in your hands. Joe and Jennifer Kojis have been the most wonderful people providing guidance, information and support. I have such great admiration for all the work they have done these past 6 years while holding a day job and raising a family to make Fetch the much-loved magazine it is today.

Dear Fetch Readers,

Becoming involved with Fetch Magazine has been an unbelievable experience. I thought it would all be about dogs, but I have found the human element just as fascinating.

I have been humbled by the passion I have witnessed from those of you who advocate the health and welfare of our canine companions. We aim to continue this magazine as a celebration of that passion.

Fetch has always been a stellar publication. I thank Joe and Jen Kojis for conceptualizing the magazine in the first place and for maintaining it as a fun and informative magazine for these past six years. They've done a super job!

Many of the features that you enjoy will still be part of the magazine. You will notice more articles and some new writing talent in this issue, as well as your favorite writers from past issues.

Look for us to be out and about at dog events and advertiser businesses. We love to meet our readers and hear your stories!

Ginny



Humane Society Adoptables



Washington County Humane Society
262-677-4388
www.washingtoncountyhmane.org

Looking for a calm cutie with the best personality around? We've got her and she's waiting patiently for you! Her name is Mesa and she is a wonderfully gentle girl with a great love of people. She is a hound mix, which means no cats - but dogs are great friends for her. Mesa is eight and great. She can't wait to meet and greet you!



Humane Milwaukee 414-421-8881
www.humanemilwaukee.org

Bella is a sweet lab mix, who will give you lots of kisses if you let her! She loves to play, but will also cuddle when it is time to relax. She loves bones, squeaky toys, and her favorite; a fox toy. Bella gets along well with the other dog and cats in her foster home, and would appreciate going to a forever home with another friendly dog.



Elmbrook Humane Society
262-782-9261 www.ebhs.org

If you think all Jack Russell Terriers are wild and crazy, you haven't met Chico. Yes, he's active, but he can settle down when the time comes. He's friendly and outgoing, and he would be great with kids 12 and over. Chico is good-natured and cuddly at times. Chico is 8 years old and crate-trained. A perfect size for any dog owner, he is a great companion enjoying the outdoors or lying next to you on winter evenings.



Humane Animal Welfare Society
262-542-8851 www.hawspets.org

Indy is an 8-years-young male black lab. He is a very happy guy who is full of life and enjoys a good romp with other dogs...and rabbits! Really! Come in to HAWS and see why Indy should grow old as a part of YOUR family.



Elmbrook Humane Society
262-782-9261 www.ebhs.org

Joseph is a happy boy. His tail wags all the time - life is good! He's a 2-year-old Beagle who likes to cuddle and give kisses. He also knows the "sit" command. Joseph is a puppy mill survivor, so he needs a person with a bit of dog experience to help him adjust to "life on the outside." He plays well with other dogs and likes to chew his rawhide bone. Do you have room in your heart for Joseph?



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Bring him home in time for Christmas... which also happens to be Rascal's 2nd birthday! This handsome male Pit Bull may be a "bully breed" but he's no bully. Rascal is loving, happy and rambunctious, and will enjoy going to training classes with you.

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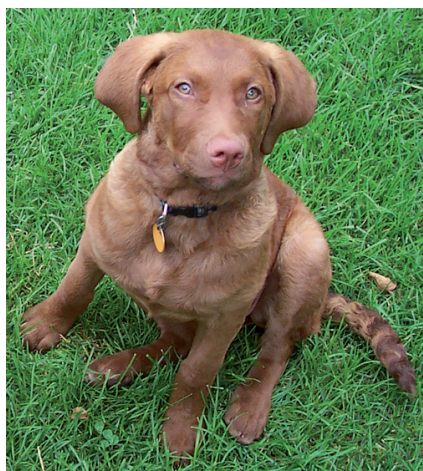
Chesapeake Bay Retriever

An American Original

Rocket's Lakeshore Eclaircie, (Ginny, my wife, and I called her Claire) was our first dog. Eclaircie, Claire's pedigree name, is French for "bright sunny moment". Claire was certainly that. She was the sweetest dog in the neighborhood. The neighborhood kids don't know my name, but they sure knew hers! Ginny's parents even "adopted" Claire and gave her the title of "Official Granddog" – certificate and all! Illness took Claire from us in 2008. We cried but were consoled by our second dog, and Claire's half sister, True. As a puppy, True wasn't quite as sweet as Claire. Ginny even had me look at hiring the Dog Whisperer, Cesar Milan, to come and help. True just needed some time and training. She's now as sweet as Claire was. Claire was and True is a Chesapeake Bay Retriever. Some people say that Chesapeake Bay Retrievers are hardheaded, protective dogs that are hard to train. Well, maybe some are, but not any of the ones I know!

The Chesapeake Bay Retriever, or "Chessie" as the breed is often referred to, has been called the quintessential American dog because of his determined and independent spirit. The Chessie is a retriever that originated from two New Foundland dogs that were rescued from a wrecked vessel in the Chesapeake Bay waters of Maryland in 1807.

Whatever the exact mix, it is assumed the Chesapeake Bay Retriever has several breeds in its genetic history. The Newfoundland, English Otter Hound, Flat-Coat Retriever, Curly-Coated Retriever, English Water Poodle, and even raccoon hounds of yellow and tan coloration are all possible contributors to this breed.



The American Kennel Club first recognized the Chesapeake Bay Retriever as a distinct breed in 1878. With its dense and oily over and undercoat, it is a breed well suited for its main passion – water retrieving. With this dense coat, it can work in cold and icy waters that other retrievers can not work in. The breed was developed with cold-weather, waterfowl retrieving in mind. But, it can also excel at upland game hunting (pheasant and grouse) and retrieving just about anything else you throw for it – training dummy,

Frisbee, tennis ball, sticks and even rocks. As a water dog, the Chessie has furry webbed toes for additional swimming strength. Some can even dive and retrieve objects from under the water!

As its name implies, the Chessie's outstanding hunting characteristic is retrieving and doing hundreds of retrieves a day is no problem. Stories abound of the Chessies' powers in retrieving – one recounts the story of a dog being swept away while attempting a retrieve in a wild river current only to return the next day with the duck. Another "marked" six ducks downed by several hunters and retrieved them all. The Chessie is a flushing breed, but individuals may show a tendency to point a pheasant



– providing it doesn't try to run away.

Because of his need to work and the requirement for exercise, make sure you can provide this before selecting a Chessie as your pet. A fenced yard is not required, but can be a great aid during training. Access to water for swimming can be a real plus. The Chessie will often seem to swim just for the pleasure of it. Combine that instinct with their love for retrieving and you have a "can't lose" situation.

Like many dog owners, Chesapeake Bay Retriever owners often would not consider owning any other breed. Rick and Chris Rosenberg of Blue Moon Kennels (www.blumoonchesapeake.com) in Grafton, Wisconsin agree. Rick's family has had Chessies for over 45 years. Rick and Chris have been breeding Chessies for 19 years. They also show and hunt with them. Chris said, "We love Chessies because they are not a popular breed. We breed towards the standard while trying to keep their look and integrity. We love the Chessies' personality traits of temperament, intelligence and sense of humor." Sense of humor? Yes, avid Chessie lovers know that their dog may display the tell-tale Chessie smile! I think they smile because they are having fun and enjoying life. Of these personality traits, Chris says what they breed for and what is the most important is temperament.

The coat of the Chessie is what most easily distinguishes it from other hunting breeds. It is thick and short, often wavy or curly with a fine wooly un-

dercoat. Colors range from any color of brown to sedge or deadgrass. The standard calls for males to weigh 65 to 80 pounds while females should weigh 55 to 70 pounds. Some breeders prefer larger, more powerful Chessies and you may find males over 100 pounds and females over 90 pounds.



Because of a heavy coat, Chessies can be either inside or outside dogs (providing they have adequate shelter, food, and water). Chris agrees, "It's a personal choice for the owner. We have about an equal number of customers that keep their Chessie inside as outside." Chessies make good house pets. Like most breeds, they should be socialized with people and other animals. Chessies enjoy being in the middle of activities and do not like to be left out – or behind. These dogs are intelligent and eager to please, and happiest while learning or working. Since Chessies are loyal and can be protective of their territory and "pack", proper socialization and obedience training will ensure they behave properly. Chris agreed "It's very important for Chessie owners to get their puppy into puppy class or obedience training. Socialization is the most important thing you can do for your Chessie."

As with many larger breeds, a primary health concern is hip dysplasia. Other reported health concerns for the Chessies are Progressive Retinal Atrophy (PRA) and Degenerative Myelopathy (DM). PRA can cause blindness while DM can cause affected dogs to lose hind limb mobility. DNA and other testing can be done to help reduce the chance of your Chessie contracting these diseases. Make sure your breeder offers Canine Eye Registration Foundation (CERF), Orthopedic Foundation for Animals (OFA), DM and PRA certifications.

If you're looking for a Chessie be sure to check the American Chesapeake Retriever Club site at www.amchessieclub.org for registered breeders and for puppies for sale. Chesapeake Bay Retriever Rescue dogs can also be found at this same website and also with the Chesapeake Bay Retriever Relief and Rescue (www.cbrrescue.org).

John Theisen

John Theisen grew up on a dairy farm near Allenton, WI and had many mixed dog breeds on the family farm. He now lives in West Bend with Ginny, his wife, and they can often be seen out and about with their Chessie - True.

DOGS IN THE HOOD

Brady Street

The Fetch team had encountered Mark before and we couldn't resist a little chat while at the Brady Street Pet Parade in October.

While other parade participants were decked in beguiling costumes, Mark's beagle quartet had arrived unadorned, save for a thick twist of leashes.

One would think that this many dogs of an energetic breed would be a case for canine chaos. However, this family remained curious, but calm.

Mark explained that each of the beagles was a shelter dog and he had picked them, one by one, after his first adoption had been a success.

While the beagles played with the crowd that had gathered, Mark introduced us to Abby (High Maintenance Girl), Sasha (Little Lady), Hobo (Juvenile Delinquent) and Salty (Just a Downright Good Dog). The labels were part of the fun and an indication of the affection that bound them together.

The beagles joined the parade as it started off toward the Pet Blessing. This was to be their second blessing of the weekend because, Mark explained, "Holy Water sizzles on these guys."

Ah, Mark, we know the 'sizzle' is just a wink from above.

"Spread the word—We pick up turd!"



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*Kim
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Dogs in the 'hood: Beagles on Brady Street

Around the *Water Bowl*

COMMUNITY BARK OPENS IN BAYSIDE

A new kind of doggy place -- where it's always yappy hour!

Community Bark, Milwaukee's only dog wash and coffee bar, opened with a bang in mid-September at 326 W. Brown Deer Road in Bayside -- right off I-43 and east of Sendik's.

"There are very few places like it," exclaims Andrew Appel, Community Bark's founder and a Milwaukee resident, "where people and their dogs are free to hang out inside and socialize with other dog owners. The fact that we serve fantastic Alterra coffee, bakery, have lots of comfy couches and provide free WIFI doesn't hurt either!"

Community Bark's customers are able to wash their own dogs or have the friendly staff wash them in a clean, social environment. Professional grooming is also available by appointment. Finally, there's a nice selection of top-quality pet supplies, such as Mequon's own Fromm's Family Foods, and the nearly indestructible Goughnuts toys.

Appel has been thrilled with the response to the new venture. "In our first five weeks I've gotten terrific feedback from our customers. Many of our regulars are delighted to have Alterra coffee in the neighborhood, others are excited to socialize with their dogs, and over 500 pooches have left the dog wash looking and smelling great!"

12 Community Bark is planning a Grand Opening in early December. To learn more and join their email list, go to www.communitybark.net or

call 414-DOGWASH (364-9274). You can also become a fan on Facebook at www.facebook.com/communitybark.

BIGGEST LOSER FOR DOGS

January 9th through March 6th 2010.

Group 1 under 40# from 10am - 11:30 am. Group 2 over 41# from 12:30pm - 2:pm

Where: Pet Supplies 'N' More
S83 W20411 Janesville Rd
Muskego WI 53150.

262-679-6776
psnmore@sbcglobal.net

Registration is required. Biggest Loser contest - ask for more details at the store. Contest starts January 9th and goes to March 6th, 2 groups of dogs one under 40#'s and one group 41#'s and over. Weekly weigh ins, exercise/play time, tips on weight loss for your pet. About 1 1/2 hour per week commitment. Cost \$20.00 for 8-week contest. Prizes awarded for 1st, 2nd and 3rd place. All participants will receive a prize if ANY weight is lost.

ANIMAL FAIRY CHARITIES

Animal Fairy Charities launches affiliate program to help animal shelters and rescues raise funds for their organization during this tough economic climate.

Animal Fairy Charities, Inc., a non-profit organization and

the creators of The Animal Fairy, will be offering other animal welfare organizations the chance to share in the sales of their popular holiday ornament and other related merchandise. The Animal Fairy Desk Piece and ornament symbolizes the guardian of all animals and was created to honor those for their years of service and commitment for caring for animals, to honor and pay tribute, to acknowledge those who love and care for animals, and as a commemoration for those who have lost a beloved pet. The organization is offering affiliate programs where animal shelters and rescues can earn a percentage of sales just by linking to Animal Fairy Charities store front and referring sales.

"Last year our Animal Fairy Holiday Ornament was very popular", said Debra Lopez, co founder of the organization. "With the holidays quickly approaching, this is a perfect time to get on board", Lopez added.

For more information about Animal Fairy Charities Affiliate program, you can log onto www.animalfairycharities.org or contact Debra Lopez at 262-989-0604.

Animal Fairy Charities, Inc., Franklin, WI (established June 2007) is a Wisconsin based 501(c)3 non-profit organization following a "United Way" method by providing the Animal Welfare Industry and supporters a way to give to one entity, which are subsequently distributed as annual grants to other non-profits that advance their mission.

BEST PET SUPPLY STORE THREE YEARS RUNNING!

End Of The Leash, LLC has something to BARK about! They have been voted the winner of the WISN A-List Best Pet Supply store for three years in a row.

Voters chose End Of The Leash as the "top dog" out of twenty one pet store options and posted 270 comments including: "Great service with friendly, helpful and knowledgeable employees. They sell only high quality food and fun stuff to accessorize your pet! :)" and "I love the small town service and when they know my dog's name. They really care about the happiness and well-being of my dog and all the dogs that come in." End Of The Leash has been providing the best in pet supplies, holistic & all-natural food and treats to Mukwonago and surrounding area residents for four years. They also offer full grooming services using all natural products in a relaxing, nurturing environment. Pamper your pet with a stone massage, Reiki session, or rain-drop treatment. Their mission is to help pets live a long, healthy and happy life. Their passion is to help owners become aware of what is in pet food and help them choose foods that are all natural and nutritionally complete, and to encourage them to be proactive about their pet's health. Cat lovers take heart - they carry the same great quality items for your feline friends too!

Dog Park Guides

(Listing of dog parks in Metro Milwaukee, Dane County, & Racine/Kenosha Counties.)

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SPA, PAW AND TAIL OPENS IN NEW BERLIN

Fetch welcomes Spa, Paw and Tail, a Premier Pet Resort and Day Spa in New Berlin.

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Doggie Day Camp accepts dogs of all sizes and features indoor and outdoor play areas, agility equipment and play pools. Naps and snacks are..of course...on the agenda.

Meanwhile, in the salon, certified staff members offer bathing and styling to all breeds of dogs and cats. Spa services include facials, paw rubs and Furminator treatments to decrease shedding.

This new business has a wealth of experience behind it. Stop in soon and give your pet a real treat!

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FETCH MAGAZINE WRITER AND THE NATURAL DOG 2010 ARTICLE

The Natural Pet store owner Kim Hecker is quoted in the Natural Dog 2010 Annual, on the stands since August 10, 2009 and available for a full year. Fetch Magazine writer Jean Scherwenka wrote the article, "Remedies From the Plant World," and holistic vet Chris Bessent is also quoted. Hecker's three Golden Retrievers, Mandy, Promise, and Max, appear in a stunning color portrait on page 83 of the Annual.

10th Anniversary for Golden Retriever Rescue

Golden Retriever Rescue of Wisconsin - a non-profit organization, will be celebrating our 10th year in operation in 2010!

We specialize in providing medical care, foster home and adoptive services for unwanted or abused Golden Retrievers all across the state of Wisconsin.

We are proud to announce our 1700th rescued Golden Retriever- Zoey. Zoey is the 101st dog rescued in 2009. Zoey has been with us now 2 weeks and she is an absolute doll! Her first day she had the spa treatment with the groomer and of course everyone fell in love with her. She is definitely high energy but at 2 1/2 she still has the puppy interest and the love of the good old tennis ball.

To see Zoey or any of our foster Dogs, please contact GRRoW via our website@grow.org.

Fetch Publishing for 2010

Folks, look for new issues of Fetch Magazine at the following times in 2010:

Late February
Early June
Early September
Early December

Sign up for email newsletter at www.fetchmag.com

SAVE-A-VET REMEMBERS THE 'FORGOTTEN K-9 SOLDIERS'

On a U.S. base in Iraq, a military working dog named Dexter detected explosives in a semi, driven by a suicide bomber. Dexter prevented the vehicle from entering the base and saved the lives of a thousand soldiers and an untold number of civilians within a quarter of a mile that day.

Working dogs like Dexter are used to sniff out explosive devices, perform search and rescue work, find illegal contraband, and provide personal protection. While many soldiers and marines work with these dogs regularly, most civilians don't know that these dogs are saving lives every day. Danny Scheurer, founder of Save-A-Vet and himself an Iraq veteran, calls these dogs "fellow soldiers."

When Dexter, a 10-year-old German Shepherd, completed his six-year tour of duty in the Navy, his military canine handler contacted Scheurer to find a home for Dexter. As a military working dog, Dexter and other canines like him have been trained to military standards. Some have been trained to kill. Ninety percent of the military working dogs cannot be adopted by a regular family because of their training or their injuries. Their fate is to be euthanized. "These dogs get the raw end of the deal," Scheurer said.

"His last handler got Dexter to us," said Scheurer. "Now Dexter is at one of our facilities. He has hip problems, so he sees a chiropractor monthly. He plays every day. He even moved his own bed so he could sit in the sun."

Founded in 2006-2007, the Save-A-Vet program finds a way to save military and law enforcement animals by provid-

ing retirement services for them. The program's main objectives are to open a facility in every state that provides both military and law enforcement the ability to retire their K-9 partners; to hire retired, injured, and disabled military and law enforcement veterans to work at each facility; and to get these "forgotten soldiers" classified as veterans instead of equipment.

"Because police dogs are already classified as officers," Scheurer said, "we focus on the military working dogs."

When police enforcement dogs finish their work, they are allowed to retire with their handlers. In the military, the handlers serve for six months, but the dogs typically serve for six years. When the dogs are retired, there is no single handler the dog could retire with. Instead, a military veterinarian checks them out for injuries and signs of post-traumatic stress and to see if the dog was trained for any kind of aggression. Dexter has very bad hips and was scheduled for euthanasia when an outcry was raised by both civilians and politicians to save him.

It would seem as if the Save-A-Vet program and the military would be at odds, but that's not the case. "The military is behind us and supports us," Scheurer said. "They don't know how to take care of canines, and there are no other programs like Save-A-Vet. They want to make sure the program is a success and to make sure that we don't take the wrong steps."

The Save-A-Vet program currently takes care of three retired canines on three small facilities in northern Illinois and

southern Wisconsin that were donated for this purpose. The humans who take care of the dogs are the board members of Save-A-Vet.

"We need a minimum of 15 acres of land for a pilot facility," Scheurer stated. "We're working with large corporations to find a sponsor, but land is most important. We've got enough resources to get the construction done, which would open the door for grants," Scheurer continued.

Scheurer's ultimate vision for Save-A-Vet is a secure condo facility in every state where disabled veterans could live, work and take care of retired working canines. "If we take our time and do this right," Scheurer said, "the dogs will be taken care of forever."

Currently there are volunteers in 22 countries and 49 states. The new web site for Save-A-Vet was actually donated by a volunteer. In July 2009, Save-A-Vet held its second annual fund-raising "extravaganza," which included a road rally, live music, and a kid's day pre-party. Scheurer is active in attending events that help raise public awareness about working military and law enforcement dogs. The web site address for Save-A-Vet is <http://www.save-a-vet.org>.

Kris Majdacic is a writer who lives in Glendale, Wisconsin.

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American Kennel Club accepts mixed breeds into their line-up

Whether you're a die-hard lover of the purebred dog, or happily attached to the paw of your mixed breed pooch, it's tough for any dog lover to deny that our four-legged friends, although domesticated, will always be in need of a little help from their best friends. Which is why one of America's leading advocates for dogs and their owners; the American Kennel Club® (AKC) will now recognize mixed breeds in its judging, classes and advocacy. This is good news for dog owners – great news for their dogs.

For those unfamiliar with the AKC, it is important to note that this 125-year-old organization does more than just facilitate competitions that captivate audiences. They remain the voice of dogs and dog owners who seek support from legislative bodies that can influence the health and well-being of our beloved pooches. Preventing animal cruelty and promoting responsible pet ownership are a top priority for members of the AKC board of directors. The implementation of a program specifically designed for mixed breeds is another step toward achieving this goal.

As of October 1, 2009, owners of mixed breeds are able to enroll their pet in the program and receive an AKC ID number. This is the first of three phases of this initiative. April 1, 2010 marks the date that enrolled dogs will be able to compete in mixed breed classes at stand-alone (separately held, by date and location, from purebred competition) AKC Agility, Obedience and Rally events. In other words, you won't find Mixed Breed Dog shows in the Confirmation Dog Shows, as these events are, by definition, judged by purebred breed standards.

In order to be eligible for this exciting new program, dogs must be spayed or neutered, and issued an ID number. The fee for listing your dog in the program is \$35.00.

What this program is:

A unique opportunity to enjoy the special camaraderie of mixed breed dog owners across the country. It is also a way to ensure that your dog is certified in the AKC Listing Service, which entitles you to discounted enrollment in the CAR Lost & Found Service, a free initial veterinary visit and trial membership to pet health insurance. Look for an

abundance of other discounts and other goodies that purebred dog owners have long been appreciating. Perhaps most importantly, the Mixed Breed Program affords pet owners an association with an organization that is dedicated to supporting the rights of dogs and dog owners everywhere.

What it's not:

Unlike purebred dogs that originate from an AKC-registered sire and AKC-registered dam, mixed breeds are not "registered". This means that AKC will not record any dog lineage, as offered to purebred dogs. While mixed breeds will be able to earn titles at events, they will hold separate titles from purebreds, and they will not be eligible for National Championships or Invitational events. Titles will be similar, but with a Mixed Breed suffix. An example might be the title of the Novice Agility Mixed Breed. The earned title will simply read NAM (Novice – Agility – Mixed Breed).

Where do I sign up?!

If you are the enthusiastic owner of a mixed-breed dog, and would like to enter your pooch in a competition, simply apply for a confirmation number by visiting the AKC website (www.akc.org) or calling 1-919-233-9767 to reach a Customer Service Representative. All forms will be available for downloading. The confirmation number is important because it allows the AKC to keep a record of the awards of all dogs. After April, 2010, keep an eye out for any competition at an AKC club that holds events for mixed breeds. These regional "clubs" of AKC are actually just organizations that hold dog shows that adhere to the guidelines set forth by the AKC. You will need your confirmation number to sign up for your dog to compete in any event, with the exception of Tracking (scent work).

While the Board of Directors at AKC has already signed on the dotted line for this ground-breaking new program, you can imagine that not everyone is pleased with the decision. "The response has been mostly positive, but we've had our share of complaints", advised Sydney Suwamknarat, Coordinator of Companion Events at the AKC. "People who enjoy the competition aspect of dog ownership have really welcomed the idea

of allowing mixed breeds into the arena", she states.

So how do you feel about the program? Are you a staunch believer that the AKC should honor only the purebred dogs, such as the Golden Retriever, American Cocker Spaniel or Yorkshire Terrier? Or do you feel that a dog by any name is a dog just the same? Perhaps you've been waiting for the perfect opportunity to show how lovely your mixed breed would look trotting down the runway at an AKC competition event. The AKC welcomes you to provide your feedback by visiting their website at www.mixedbreed@akc.org. Either way, you'll appreciate that, while all dogs may not be alike, they are equally loved by the American Kennel Club, and us.

Colleen Terry

Colleen Terry is the owner and writer of Douglass Avenue Dog Tales, a service that provides customers with the "framed fairy tale of you and your pet". She has self-published a children's book entitled *Can I Still Be Happy – When My Sister Is Sick?* Colleen lives in Waukesha, Wisconsin with her husband, Paul, and she is proud "mama" to Cocker Spaniels Oliver J. and Carmen Rose.


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A Match Made in Heaven

Cardiac Patients and Dogs in Need

Take adoptable dogs needing socialization and add cardiac patients needing exercise and what do you get? “A match made in heaven!” according to Kimberly Kalczynski, Volunteer Coordinator at Humane Animal Welfare Society (HAWS) in Waukesha.

The program is the idea of Susan Kidder, a founder of the pet therapy program at Waukesha Memorial Hospital. The HAWS program has cardiac patients in the last phase of their rehabilitation, and therefore exercising independently, walking the dogs at the humane society on a regular schedule.

The program started early in 2009 with a general volunteer orientation session for the potential walkers. These included Dick Hagemann, Charlie Christenson, Ole Bleiler and Bob Jesion. Charlie said he was interested in the program because “I am an old country

ing in general at HAWS and then reviewed the rules and policies of dog walking.

The biggest rule? All dog walkers must pick up the poop! The dogs get walked in all sorts of locations, including the HAWS property, nearby walking trails built by Boy Scouts and Eagle Scouts and some neighboring properties that allow them to walk there as long as the property is kept clean. Other rules for dog walking include keeping the dogs separate so that there is no contact unless they are housed together. Additionally, each dog has their own leash and toys which shouldn't get intermixed.

How do dogs become a part of the program? The original plan for the cardiac patients, who just also happen to be seniors (or as Charlie puts it “old codgers”), was to encourage them to go with the smaller or older dogs because they would be easier to handle. Kimberly laughs, “These guys didn't go for that. They just went for whoever was up for adoption. They ended up walking everybody.” According to Jennifer Smieja, HAWS Development Coordinator, “When we started out, the idea was

that we would put these little marker cards on the kennels of the dogs being walked by the guys. People would know these are the dogs being walked by the cardiac program walkers. It would give you an indication that these would be the kind of dogs that would be more easy-going and easier to handle. But now every dog has a sign!”

The dogs get more than exercise. According to Jennifer, “for whatever reason, a lot of our volunteers are younger females. So, this is a whole other group that the dogs are getting exposed to socially. When the dog is up for adoption, we can say that the dog has been exposed to different ages and sexes.” Charlie says, “You know, I get the leash to take Rover for a walk today and Rover goes cowering in the corner. He doesn't know who I am from a bale of hay. Tomorrow someone else is going to walk into his cage, his territory. These poor little rascals just don't have the social skills so the program is good for them that way.”

For the cardiac patients, there are the obvious exercise benefits. But Jennifer also adds, “Every single one of the car-

diac volunteers has been a dog owner in the past. And, maybe they can't have a dog now because of lifestyle or health or it just doesn't work out for them to have a pet right now. For them, it is a way to get their 'dog fix'. It shows that even if you can't have a pet in your household, you can do something to help. Also, these guys were not close friends when they started this program. They have formed new friendships." According to Charlie, "There is a real good bunch of dedicated people at HAWS. There are some regulars who walk every day. We get to meet nice people who spend their spare time also doing good deeds for other little critters. It is a good bunch of people down there."

The program benefits the HAWS team, too. According to Kimberly, "They are a good group of guys. They are responsible and reliable. They come when they are supposed to come. They follow the rules. They are super cool to be around because they are so funny and sarcastic and a really fun group of guys." Jennifer chimes in "They bring a really neat energy to the building."

The plan for the future of the program is to expand the number of participants. Kimberly said, "The people at Waukesha Memorial are already recruiting additional people." According to Jennifer, "ProHealth Care wants the program to grow as much as we do. The guys who are doing it now are helping talk it up with other patients. Other patients are getting a better

idea of what these guys have gone through in the program. It is getting a bit more popular at the hospital as another option for exercise."

And walking dogs for exercise is not just limited to cardiac patients. Jennifer says HAWS is always looking for volunteers. According to Jennifer "There is never a bad time to sign up. As it gets cooler, there is typically a drop off in volunteers. People who like the outdoors should come to HAWS in the winter. There are places to walk even if the snow flies. You don't have to worry about wearing your hiking boots. We make sure there are paths for you."

Volunteers are needed year round both inside and outside. HAWS volunteer orientation sessions are on the website (www.hawspets.org) and there is no need to pre-register. The sessions are held even if only one person shows up.

The hardest thing about the program, according to Charlie, is making time to do it. He expands saying "Everyone says when you are retired, you can do this and do that. But there is just NO time for this and that. You wonder how you got everything done when you had a regular job to do. Something will be put on the back burner because you are going to spend an hour or so walking the dogs. But they deserve it and, hey, you catch up later (on your chores.)"



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So the mixture of dogs and humans is a winning combination. According to Kimberly, "The guys need to do this. The guys want to do this. The dogs look forward to it and get to know the guys. And the dogs love them."

For Charlie, it is all about the dogs. As he says, "It must be terrifying for all those critters in there. Every day is a new experience. I mean, holy mackerel, every time when I walk by I just hope and pray that they get a good home. When I put the dog back, I pet it and love it up and give a treat. I say, I hope you aren't here the next time I come. I hope you get a good home, buddy. And, sometimes it works that way."

Marie Tubbin

Marie Tubbin loves spending time with her two best buddies, her husband, Mike and her dog, Louie. She met Mike at Burger King and Louie at HAWS and considers those two of the luckiest days of her life.

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Dream of Fields

A Dog Park Story

"Look, we're getting a dog park", my husband said, as he waved the bright orange announcement. It was enough to make me perk up my ears ... and so did the dog. This is no small piece of news for this West Bend community, with strict 'no pets' ordinances in its city parks. While neighboring communities have relaxed their parks' dog bans and even reserved off-leash space in their parks, West Bend has remained firm in its no dogs policy.

This has been a source of contention for the past decade, with dog-lovers waging repeated, unsuccessful campaigns to open park lands for the dogs in our town.

Okay, enough of the rocky history. I had to know more about this dog park! My investigation led me to a meeting with Jill Recore at a local coffee bar. Jill is no stranger to dogs. Not only is she an instructor at GoOverRover Obedience and Agility Training Center but she also shares her home with several labs named for Beatle's songs....Abbey Road, Hey Jude...you get the picture.

Jill's involvement in the park project started innocently enough in 2008, when she attended a meeting at the local library. The meeting was hosted by members of the Common Council and the Park, Recreation and Forestry Department. The intent was to determine if there was interest enough to support the idea of a dog park in West Bend. After the meeting, a private committee, K-9 Friends of West Bend was formed to carry on the dog park mission and Jill found herself the leader of the pack.

The task was formidable. In order to qualify the park idea for a Common Council vote, the group had to first gain approval from the

city's Park and Recreation Department. ... that meant planning, a lot of planning...and a little bit of luck.

With the cooperation of the Park and Recreation Department, a search began for a proposed location. Several spaces were considered, but each would have required costly development. Then, the Rolfs Park emerged as a viable location. This land had been sold to the city at a discounted price by the Rolfs family, who has figured prominently in West Bend's history as founders of Amity Leather. Rolfs Park includes 39 acres of prime meadow and woodland on the south end of town.



The K-9 Friends group formed a vision of the park as an eco-friendly space with benches and state-of-the-art waste stations made of recycled plastic.

Of the 39 acres, 10 acres have been reserved as an off-leash dog park. This space will be completely fenced, with separate entrance and exit doors to accommodate the varying energy levels of canine visitors. A portion of the entrance will be paved, allowing access for disabled visitors, as well. Jill envisions mowed trails ranging throughout the prairie and wooded areas of the park with benches for resting and waste stations for, well... you-know-what. The remaining 29 acres of the park will consist of woodland trails for human use.

Jill hopes it will become, "a place where dogs anticipate their owners coming home, putting them into their car and driving to their 'new dog park' that is their place to enjoy the smells, run, play ball, Frisbee and socialize with many new friends each time they come. Along with their owners, meeting new dog friends and building our city into an incredibly inviting community for many to come, experience and enjoy." Aw...you just can't argue with that kind of dog-love, can you?

It was exactly this passion that gained the Park and Recreation Department's approval in February of 2009. The bigger challenge was yet to come as K-9 Friends prepared to take their plea before the Common Council in March. Given the history that the city park dog vote has had over the previous decade, it was understandable that K-9 Friends approached the night of the vote, uncertain as to the outcome. They did not go alone, however. Over two hundred West Bend dog-lovers were also in attendance, providing an overwhelming bulwark of support for the cause. When the Council voted in favor of the dog park, a resounding cheer erupted from the many supporters.

But there was a bit of a catch. While the Common Council agreed to relax the city's ordinances enough to allow the off-leash park, they would not fund it. Every penny necessary to build the park and provide ongoing maintenance would be the responsibility of K-9 Friends.

Undaunted, the group re-energized for the next challenge, that of collecting the necessary funding for the park. The community of West Bend has backed this endeavor, turning up for fund-raising events and pledging donations. Local businesses have chipped in and a fencing contractor has stepped up to discount the fencing. Still, there's a long way to go.

Today, K-9 Friends of West Bend is still hard at work on the financing aspect of the park and in planning for the future upkeep. Because this is not a city-funded operation, the park will have a yearly user fee of \$25 per household and is also expecting to rely heavily on volunteers.



The end result has been an example of cooperative effort between law makers and the energetic and driven K-9 Friends of West Bend. I cannot imagine the amount of effort that has gone into this endeavor by a group of citizens who have nothing to gain for themselves and everything to gain for our canine residents. It is a true mission of love.

As I drive through town on highway 45, I can now see hints of the dog park to come. A faint mown trail winds through the fields to the south...and yes, in my mind's eye, I can see them...dogs jumping and running, people in groups and alone,

all of them enjoying the space and the freedom. Yes.

To keep up with the progress of this mission, visit the K-9 Friends website at www.westbenddogpark.com.

Stay tuned on how you can help with this effort and check frequently to see what fun community events are planned to support the park. Fetch will also feature dog park events on our Events Calendar and will be Tweeting as events are planned in support of the park.

Throughout the writing of this article, Jill has been insistent that, "without the members of the K-9 Friends group, each playing a specific role, the Park, Recreation & Forestry Dept, the Common Council, the citizens of West Bend and local business support, this park would not come to be. We thank you all for each of your efforts. This will be a diamond in the ruff for many canines."



How You Can Help

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City of West Bend – Dog Park

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A donation matching challenge has been issued by the Prescott Family Foundation, through the end of 2009. This is a great opportunity to make a donation and see your donation matched, dollar for dollar.

Check for the latest news and events at:

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Ginny Theisen

Ginny Theisen lives in West Bend and is co-owner of Fetch. She juggles way too many hobbies, a day-job...oh and loves spending time with dear hubby and the family dog. Life is full of wonders!



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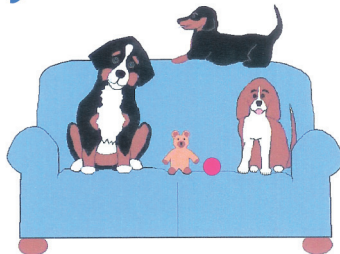
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Paws with a Cause



When Patrick Schmitt heads out of his Port Washington home, his assistance dog helps him open the door and closes it behind them. Aries, the dog Schmitt received from the Michigan-based group Paws With A Cause (PAWS), has opened more doors for him than he ever imagined. "Before I got her, I didn't care even to go outside," said Schmitt, 25. "Now that I have her, I get out. It's nice."

Schmitt, a quadriplegic since a motorcycle accident on Sept. 1, 2006, suffered a spinal cord injury that left him unable to move from the chest down. He can move his arms, but his hands are nonfunctional. This is where Aries, a 2-year-old yellow Labrador, comes in. She is able to bring him a dropped cell phone, remote control and even loose change. Aries also brings him something else. "Socially, it's done wonders," said Schmitt, who loves to talk to people but sometimes felt alienated when he went out. "When I used to go to a (Brewers) game, people would just look at me like, 'There's a kid in a wheelchair,'" he said. "Now, with (Aries), people will come up and have a conversation with me." Schmitt and Aries have only been working together since May. Before then, Aries spent several months being trained to become a service dog at PAWS's headquarters in Wayland, Michigan.

Paws With A Cause began 30 years ago when co-founder Mike Sapp helped train an acquaintance's pet Cairn Terrier, Crystal, to be a hearing dog. Sapp had trained Dobermans for show as a hobby. He then realized how great the need was as he began receiving requests from other people who were deaf or hard of hearing and wanted him to train their dogs. Since then, the organization has grown to train more than 2,200 assistance dog teams in several areas of service including seizure

response and social support. PAWS dogs help people challenged by more than 25 different disabilities.

"There is such a need for diverse service dogs," said Deb Davis, national communications manager for PAWS. "And, there is no disability that strikes two people the same way." Which means each dog must be trained for a client's specific needs. The first step is connecting a potential client with one of 66 PAWS field representatives around the country. The field representative then assesses the client's needs and sends the information back to PAWS. One dog may need to be trained to help a person with multiple sclerosis keep his balance while walking; another may be trained to open doors and retrieve items; and yet another may be trained to comfort a person during a seizure.

According to Davis, although PAWS once used dogs from shelters or trained clients' pets, a breeding program was developed about 10 years ago. Most of the dogs now come from that program. Selected puppies then stay with a foster home until ready to begin formal training at about 12-15 months of age.

Once trained, the dog is sent to the field representative who then works with the dog-client "team" for six to eight months. They work together to become a certified team through PAWS and are re-certified every two years. The cost of training and lifetime care of each dog is approximately \$20,000. That cost is funded by donations and other fundraising projects, but clients do not pay to receive a dog.

Cindy Dasbach, one of three PAWS field representatives in Wisconsin, has been with

PAWS for about two years. Schmitt and Aries are her first team. Dasbach, of Saukville, has been involved in obedience training for 11 years. She said training service animals is something she has always wanted to do and that working with her team has been a rewarding experience. "The client, the puppy and I have gotten so close," she said. "It doesn't feel like a job to me. I love it so much." Her hope is to help Schmitt, and others, lead a more independent life. "Right now, (Patrick) relies on other people for his needs," Dasbach said. "I want to make it so he no longer has to ask people for help."

In the three years since his accident, Schmitt's family has been his support team. He lives with his parents, Mary and Mike, in a new home built completely accessible for him and his mother has become his main caregiver. His older sister, Katie, lives nearby and helps him get out and about. Aries is the newest addition to that support team. She performs tasks for Schmitt able-bodied people might take for granted. And she provides him with a new sense of independence. "It's amazing what a dog can do," he said.

If you would like more information on Paws With A Cause, fostering a puppy or obtaining an assistance dog, visit www.pawswithacause.org or call (800) 253-7297.

Ana M. Menendez

Ana M. Menendez is a freelance writer from Milwaukee who loves hanging out with her dog, Wrigley.

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If your pet's bite is not right, they likely will suffer in silence and not show any sign of their pain. So what is the "bite"? The bite is also called the occlusion. It is how the teeth come together when the mouth is closed. Animals with bad bites (malocclusions) will eat and play in spite of an uncomfortable mouth. It is a shame that they may have pain every time they close their mouth. To help your pet, take an active role in identifying these malocclusions, regardless of their age.

There are many different types of malocclusions. Let's focus on a common one we see in dogs. Sometimes the bottom canine teeth are pointed in the wrong direction. This can cause the teeth to hit the roof of the mouth. This is known as "base narrow" or "linguoversion" of the mandibular canine teeth. This condition can be on one or both sides. It can result in severe trauma and pain to the roof of the mouth. They can often create holes that can be shallow or deep enough to penetrate the nasal cavity. Long-term respiratory problems can result. These patients suffer from pain every time they close their mouth. Causes of this condition include: deciduous (baby) teeth that stay in too long, overshot jaw, a lower jaw that is too narrow, or one side of the lower jaw that is longer than the other (wry bite).

Options to treat this malocclusion are: dental (tooth) extraction, surgically lowering the height of the tooth, or orthodontics to move the teeth into normal position. All of these treatments eliminate the pain and discomfort. Let's explain these treatments in more detail.

Dental extraction can resolve the problem, however by taking out the tooth, the dog can no longer chew with it. The procedure can be technically difficult when teeth break during the extraction procedure. Also, the roots of the teeth contribute to the strength of the lower jaw (mandible) and extracting them will weaken the jaw. Fracturing of the jaw may also be an unfortunate consequence of the procedure. In most cases this is the least optimal treatment plan. It can be painful and risky.

A second treatment option is to surgically shorten the height of the lower canine teeth and cap the tooth. This involves carefully removing part of the crown of the lower canine tooth so that it no longer hits the roof of the mouth. Then a restoration is applied to protect the pulp (blood and nerve supply of the tooth) so that the tooth stays healthy and alive. Follow-up evaluations are needed to ensure

Bad Bites

Does Your Dog Need Braces?

that the tooth does not die. The huge benefit of this procedure over extraction is that the tooth remains functional and there are minimal risks of jaw fracture. Pets typically experience no discomfort from this procedure.

In some situations orthodontic correction is the preferred method of treatment for these "base narrow" lower canine teeth. Most cases can be successfully managed with braces. Not all dogs are candidates for this option. It really takes the right dog with the right bite and the owner with appropriate time and energy. An orthodontic appliance is placed to gradually move the lower canine tooth into a better position. This will result in the elimination of trauma to the roof of the mouth. This option is a win, win scenario. The pet no longer suffers from the trauma of the malocclusion and the tooth remains functional.

When the bite isn't right something needs to be done for the pet's comfort. We see many happy patients and owners after this condition is correctly treated.

Your veterinarian will work with you to decide if extraction, crown reduction or orthodontics is right for you. There are also veterinarians who specialize in dentistry who are available to assist you.

Dr. Dale Kressin

**Dale Kressin DVM, FAVD,
Dipl. AVDC**

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PHOTOGRAPHY

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Dancing with Two Left Feet?

Dancers with Woofs Dance Teams

While the thought of dogs dancing with a human may conjure up visions of something from America's Funniest Home Videos, it really is based upon basic obedience training, while adding other dimensions such as music, timing, costuming and showmanship.

Or, for members of Dancers with Woofs, the area's only canine freestyle dance organization, it provides an opportunity for dogs of all breeds to enhance the bond with their owners, while bringing joy to someone else's life, said Diane Jones, head of public relations for the non-profit group.

"There's a special bond that exists with our dogs, so being able to apply that bond and extensive training to bring joy to someone's life is very rewarding and special," said Jones. "We've performed at nursing homes, schools, senior centers-anywhere and any place where dogs are welcomed, we'll go."

"We're the only group in the state," declared Jones. "There are groups in Michigan, Ohio, New York and other states along the East Coast, but for some reason, it hasn't caught on here," said Jones. "We're working to change that."

The group has a full schedule of activities, ranging from demonstrations at area senior living communities and day care centers to performances at local pet stores and special events. It recently hosted its third annual Freestyle Dance Camp, and will even be appearing at a Christmas tree lighting ceremony, where members and their canine partners are learning new routines using popular holiday music. It's also planning to host Wisconsin's first canine freestyle dance competition in April 2010.

The World Canine Freestyle Organization (WCFO) founded in 1999 and the sport's governing body, defines canine freestyle as a "choreographed musical program performed by handlers and their dogs. The object of musical freestyle is to display the dog and handler in a creative, innovative and original

dance, using music and intricate movements to showcase teamwork, artistry, costuming, athleticism and style in interpreting the theme of the music."

Judging in the sport is very much based upon Olympic sports, Jones said. "Technical merit comprises 50% of the overall score and includes how accurate one is doing the movements, the precision and execution of the moves and the degree of difficulty involved in performing them," explained Jones. There's even a requirement that the dog and its handler during any freestyle routine must use at least 75% of the area of the performance ring.

Artistic impression comprises the remainder of the score and includes "the animation and enthusiasm of the performers, how they appeal and connect with the audience and the creativity of the choreography of dance in the routine." Costumes—minimally for the dog, more so for the handler—and how they relate to the music and appeal to the audience also are judged.

"Any dog is a good candidate for freestyle dancing," exclaimed Jones. "Anyone, any dog, any breed, mixed breeds and any size are welcome—it's absolutely for all dogs and their owners. You don't have to have a pedigreed dog to enjoy the sport. We've had dogs from Border Collies to St. Bernard's participate in freestyle dance."

"It truly is one of those activities where what you put into it is what you get out of it, and it requires a lot of training," explained Jones. "Many people fail to realize that an hour's worth of basic dog training for eight to 10 weeks is quickly forgotten and needs to be reinforced. Freestyle dancing requires a commitment to regular training."

Not only are the dogs diverse, but participating owners and handlers are as well. Titling competitions are held in several divisions based upon skill and age levels of both the owner and the dog, including junior, senior,

beginner, intermediate, advanced and even a Handi Dandi division for the physically challenged dog and/or handler.

According to the WCFO, the origins of musical canine freestyle dancing were found in Canada in the late eighties, in Europe in the late eighties and early nineties and in the USA in the early nineties. Various individuals—obedience trainers, dressage trainers, choreographers and show business personalities—claim to have invented the sport. In the mid-gos canine freestyle demonstrations started becoming part of dog obedience trials. As trainers and others became interested, the sport slowly gained credibility. Sponsorship of larger, popular events by pet food manufacturers fueled the dog owning public's interest until the WCFO was founded to spread awareness of the sport.

Some of Dancers with Woofs founding members initially saw a demonstration of canine freestyle dance during the late gos at an Illinois dog show. Intrigued by it, they eventually formed Dancers with Woofs in 2005 with eight founding members.

Dancers with Woofs welcomes anyone interested in learning more about canine freestyle or the group to attend one of its free practices every Monday at For Pet's Sake in Mukwonago, call Mary Ann Coutley at 262-684-5191 or visit the group's website at www.dancerswithwoofs.com.

Daryl L. Skaradzinski

Daryl L. Skaradzinski and his wife Anne, who also has written articles for Fetch, share their home with three dogs. He's General Manager of the Milwaukee Post newspaper, and enjoys traveling, camping with their pets, hot, spicy foods with cold beers and all are avid Packers fans.

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It's all about The DOG

Wrigley Comes Home

Earlier this year, I decided that I wanted to adopt another rescue dog to keep my first rescue dog, Griffin, company (actually this was for me but it sounds less desperate if I say it was for the dog). I found Griffin in June of 2008. Although I fell in love with every dog I saw (which is typical of me, which is why I should have been sedated during this process), Griffin jumped off the web page and said, in my head, because she can do that stuff, "Clearly you will have fallen madly in love with me. If you hurry I might not be snapped up by someone else, leaving you heartbroken and incapable of connecting with any other animal for the rest of your life. Don't be an idiot."

Realizing that this dog who I had never met (and was already delusional about) was clearly in control, I made arrangements to meet her. When we were introduced, I was mesmerized. Not only was she beautiful (obviously an intentional cross breed of wild Australian dingo and domestic white-tailed deer. Okay, fine, we have no idea what her lineage is.) She looked directly into my eyes and wagged her entire rear end. I had been praying that she wouldn't give me that "talk to the paw" look and tell me (again, in

my head) to leave immediately and find a less discerning dog. She didn't. She licked my face and then dropped to the floor, pretending to be submissive, so I could give her a good tummy rub. Needless to say, I was accepted as her new "forever mom" and she now runs both my life and that of my boyfriend, who also hears her talking in his head.

ANYWAY...the adoption of the new kid, a/k/a Wrigley, occurred on a Sunday this past February.

I had again been looking for our new pal for some time when I discovered Wrigley, a little Min Pin being fostered in Illinois. It was love at first sight, just like when I found Griffin. I received a call from Wrigley's foster mom on a Friday, offering to actually bring him to our home that Sunday afternoon. How could one refuse?

Wrigley's avid dog-rescue foster parents arrived on Sunday with Wrigley in tow. I was transfixed. He is a gorgeous little guy, and clearly more full of beans than could be depicted in his photos. I knew that, irrespective of whatever Min Pin "quirks" might await me, I had to have him.

Wrigley's foster folks are very nice people and, as I said, very avid about dog rescue. They were quite conversational about such topics as how nicely Wrigley's scrotum was healing from his recent neutering, and their hopes that he wouldn't develop the habit that one of their other dogs has acquired in which he hops onto the nearest human lap and expresses his anal sacs.

A moment of silence.

"Wow, yes, I hope he doesn't either. I'd like to see The Dog Whisperer take that one on..."

I smiled and deftly changed the subject to Wrigley's diet, exercise requirements, and so forth.

"Well, he's a little skinny so he'll need extra food, and you should give him some yogurt to help with his dander problem. Now keep an eye on that because you don't want that to turn into mange. That mange is really bad news." Oh good. Mange. I sort of know what this is and that it's unpleasant, so after they leave, I Google "mange":

(continued on Page 34.....)



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Calendar of **EVENTS**

Animal Communication

Animal Comm. w/Rebecca Moravec
2:00 – 6:00 pm
December 9
January 6
February 24
Animal Doctor, Muskego
414-422-1300
www.animaldoctormuskego.com

Massage/Doga/Reike

DOGA (Yoga for Dogs) Class
Every Saturday afternoon at 1:30 pm
4 My Dogz Prof. Pet Training, Sussex
262-820-0763 www.4MyDogz.com

Massage by Geri Gordon
December 12 2:00 PM - 4:00 PM
Pet Supplies 'N' More S83 W20411
Janesville Rd Muskego WI 53150
262-679-6776 www.petsupplies-n-more.com

Camps/Classes/Seminars

Journey through Companion Animal Loss
Sundays, 1:00 PM to 3:00 PM
Heidi M. Endres, M.S.A.T.
Elmbrook Humane Society, Brookfield
Ages 7 and up. Reservations Required
262-782-9261

Introduction to Essential Oils
December 2 5:30 – 7:00 PM
Animal Doctor, Muskego
414-422-1300
www.animaldoctormuskego.com

Solving Common Canine Behavior Problems
December 7
January 25
Humane Animal Welfare Society,
Waukesha
www.hawspets.org

Dog Behavior Seminar
6:30 – 8:30 pm
December 8
January 5
February 4
Wisconsin Humane Society, Milwaukee
414-264-6257 www.wihumane.org

Let's Talk about Boarding Your Pet
1:00 pm
December 12
January 9
February 13
Animal Motel, Butler
262-781-5200 www.animalmotel.net

Training Help
1:30 PM - 3:00 PM
December 19
January 16
Frank Allison III, APDT
Pet Supplies 'N' More S83 W20411
Janesville Rd Muskego WI 53150
Bring your dog and questions to Frank Allison III, APDT.

Feisty Fido!
January 11 6:30 PM – 8:00 PM
Bad Dog Frida, 2094 Atwood Avenue,
Madison, WI
Chelse Wagner from Dog's Best Friend
Training addresses leash aggressive
and/or reactive dogs.
www.baddogfrida.com

Camp Dogwood
January 15 – 17
Camp Henry Homer in Ingleside, Illinois
312-458-9549 www.campdogwood.com

Pet First Aid Class
1:00 – 4:00 pm
January 16
February 20
HAWS, Waukesha 262-879-0165

How to Raise a Puppy and Keep Your
Sanity
February 7 1:00 pm
Humane Animal Welfare Society,
Waukesha
262-542-8851 www.hawspets.org

Fundraisers/Gatherings

Wisconsin Adopt A Golden Retriever
(WAAGR) Golden's Holiday House
December 5 10:00 AM to 4:00 PM
River Heights South Subdivision in
Menomonee Falls at the home of one
of WAAGR's members.
Visit www.waagr.org or call
(414) 517-7725.

Washington Co. Humane Society Festi-
val of Trees
December 5 and 6
3650 State Road 60, Slinger, WI 53086
www.washingtoncountyhumane.org

HAWS MOBILE ADOPTION CENTER
11:00 AM - 2:00 PM
December 12
January 17
February 13
Pet Supplies 'N' More S83 W20411
Janesville Rd Muskego
Dachshund Get Together
December 12 11:30 AM - 1:30 PM
Organizer: motorbuzz@idcnet.com
West Allis, WI
To sign up, join pets.groups.yahoo.com/
group/MilwaukeeAreaDachshund-
Lovers/messages

Milwaukee Pet Store Protest
11:00 AM – 3:00 PM
December 12
December 19
Puppy World, Greenfield
http://milwaukeekeepetstoreprotest.webs.com/

Rockabilly for Rover (MADACC)
8:00 pm
December 12
Kochanski's Concertina Beer Hall

Great Lakes Pet Expo
Saturday, February 6th, 10am-6pm
Wisconsin Expo Center
State Fair Park
www.petexpomilwaukee.com

Wine & Whiskers presents
"Mardi Paws"
Saturday, February 20th
Benefits Elmbrook Humane Society
Westmoor Country Club, 400 S. Moor-
land Rd, Brookfield
www.ebhs.org

2nd Annual Spay-ghetti Dinner
Saturday, February 20th
Moose Club Lodge in Kenosha, WI
www.safeharborhumane.com

Pet Parties/Play Groups

Yappy Hour
Benefit for Green Acres Boxer Rescue
January 21 6 pm – 8 pm
Caesar's Pet, Greendale
414-423-5800 www.caesarspet.com

Playtime at the Playground
Saturdays, 9:00 am – Noon
Puppy Playground, Oak Creek, 414-764-
PUPS

Playgroups
Saturdays, 9:00 – 11:00 am
Ruffin' It Resort, Madison
608-310-4299 www.ruffinitresort.com

Pooch Playtime
Sundays, December 20 to January 31
1:30 – 2:15 pm
Wisconsin Humane Society
414-ANIMALS www.wihumane.org

Puppy Party
Sundays 11:30 am – 1:45 pm
Adult Dog Party
Sundays 12:45 – 2:00 pm
For Pet's Sake, Mukwonago
800-581-9070 www.forpetsake.cc

Pup Social
Sundays, 5:45 – 6:15 pm
Best Paw Forward, Hartland
262-369-3935
www.bestpawforward.net

Photography Sessions

Slider Photo - Holiday Photos with
Santa
10:00 AM - 04:00 PM
December 6
December 12
Petlicious Dog Bakery, Pewaukee
By appt. only (262) 548-0923

Sporting Activities

Obedience & Rally Run Thrus
2nd Friday of the Month 6:30 pm
Cudahy Kennel Club, St. Francis
www.cudahykennelclub.org

Agility Run Thrus
3rd Friday of the Month 6:30 pm
Cudahy Kennel Club, St. Francis
www.cudahykennelclub.org

Lure Course Running
2nd & 4th Saturdays (weather permit-
ting)
Rock's Positive K-9 Training, Big Bend
262-662-4160
frankallison@rockspostivek9training.
com

Rally Obedience Run Thrus
4th Sunday of the Month 6:00 – 7:00 pm
Proper Paws University, Racine
www.properpawsuniversity.com

Teacup Agility Run Thrus
1st Friday of the Month 6:30 pm
Proper Paws University, Kenosha
www.properpawsuniversity.com

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(Continued from Page 31)

'a persistent and contagious disease of the skin causing inflammation and itching and loss of hair; affects domestic animals and sometimes people'.

Fabulous. I made a mental note to avoid Wrigley's developing mange at any cost.

"So how's he doing with his potty-training?"

"Well he's been real good with us--no accidents at all, and he goes to the back door when he wants to go out."

As foster mom said this out of the corner of my eye I caught Wrigley lifting his leg and squirting on my cherry wood entertainment center.

This did not shock me. Of course he's going to do these things—he'd been

passed around for weeks and surely felt the need to mark this new place as HIS.

Besides, he'd already made himself at home by thoroughly sniffing Griffin's (very indignant) butt. Having found it acceptable, he then leaped onto my boyfriend's lap and tried earnestly to French kiss him.

Wrigley's mom then brought out the adoption paper work and we went over it together. Should I sign, I would accept any and all responsibility for Wrigley's very existence, including the avoidance of MANGE. I could not let him run away accidentally, trade him for another mange-free dog, or give him to someone else because I discovered that "Min Pin" is actually just a euphemism for Attention Deficit Disorder.

Okay, that's a bit dramatic. Like many breeds, Min Pins are independent and need a lot of training and consistency. If you don't make that investment they will simply take over

your home and feel perfectly within their rights to invite their friends over to watch Animal Planet and eat your Doritos while you're not looking. That being said, if you make the commitment and follow through, Min Pins are intensely loyal, eager to please, loving, and hilariously funny. You just have to fulfill your end of the bargain.

I agreed to all of this and signed on the dotted line. I felt like I'd just passed my citizenship test.

At this point, Wrigley had officially joined our family. We shook hands with his now-ex-foster family and they said a tearful goodbye to Wrigley, who had apparently already moved on and was snorfling down the crumbs under the couch cushions with wild abandon.

We had NO idea what we'd just signed up for...but that's another story.

Susan Dornan

Susan Dornan currently resides in Brookfield, WI. While she makes a living in the Information Technology industry, her true passions are dogs, great wine, dogs, making people laugh, and of course, dogs. She shares her life with two rescue pups and a boyfriend with the patience of a saint.

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www.heavenlyheartsrescue.org

Operation Bring Animals Home S&R Team
262-224-1964, www.obahrescue.com

Brew City Small Dog Rescue
414-313-2040, www.brewcityrescue.org
Heather@brewcityrescue.org

One Life @ A Time Small Breed Rescue
414-517-7469, www.onelifeatathetime.petfinder.com

American Water Spaniel

414-840-7411, info@awsrescue.com
www.awsrescue.org

Australian Shepherd

262-424-2820, www.steppinstonerehabcenter.com

Basset Hound

Basset Buddies Rescue, Inc, 262-347-8823
info@bbrescue.org, www.bbrescue.org

Beagle

BrewBeagle Rescue
midwest@brewbeagles.org, brewbeagles.org

Bichon Frise

Little Buddies Rescue, 1-888-581-9070

BPB Rescue

(Bordeaux, Pug, & Boston Terrier)
262-573-7837, bordeauxdogue@gmail.com

Border Collie

MidAmerica Border Collie Rescue
414-449-0888, www.midamericabcrrescue.com
MidAmericaBCRescue@yahoo.com

262-424-2820, www.steppinstonerehabcenter.com

Boston Terrier

WI Boston Terrier Rescue
414-534-2996, Ollie1022@sbcglobal.net
www.wisconsinbostonterrierrescue.com

Boxer

Green Acres Boxer Rescue of WI
info@greenacresboxerrescue.com
www.greenacresboxerrescue.com

Brittany

American Brittany Rescue, 1-866-brit911
www.americanbrittanyrescue.org
info@americanbrittanyrescue.org

Cavalier King Charles Spaniel

Cavalier King Charles Spaniel Rescue Trust
262-253-4829, rguarascio@wi.rr.com

Chesapeake Bay Retriever

www.crow.org, 920-954-0796

Chihuahua

Wisconsin Chihuahua Rescue, Inc.
608-219-4044
www.wischirescue.org, chigirl@wischirescue.org

Chihuahua Rescue U.S.A.
www.chihuahuarescueusa.com
info@chihuahuarescueusa.org

Cocker Spaniel

Wisconsin Cocker Rescue
262-255-0246, WiCockerRescue@Juno.com
www.geocities.com/WiCockerRescue

Shorewood Cocker Rescue 262-877-3294
www.cockerrescue.net, elaine@cockerrescue

Collie

Minnesota-Wisconsin Collie Rescue
612-869-0480, collietalk@aol.com, www.mwcr.org

Coonhound

American Black and Tan Coonhound
920-779-6307, www.coonhoundrescue.com
sjoch@yahoo.com, jayne23@neo.rr.com

Dachshund

Badger Dachshund Club, 847-546-7186

MidWest Dachshund Rescue, Inc.
rescue@mwdr.org, www.mwdr.org

Dalmatian

Dal-Savers Dalmatian Rescue Inc.
414-297-9210
loveadal@yahoo.com, www.dalrescue.net

Save Our Spots Dalmatian Rescue, Inc
414-365-2679
sosdalrescue@earthlink.net, www.sosdalrescue.com

Doberman Pinscher

Wisconsin Doberman Rescue, Inc.
414-536-4477, www.wi-doberrescue.org
widoberrescue@aol.com

Shadow's Doberman Rescue
262-662-4838, www.draffhorseinn.com

English Springer

English Springer Rescue America, Inc.
715-845-8716, www.springerrescue.org
kcmcheinking@verizon.net

French Bulldog

French Bulldog Rescue Network
414-744-5717, beemeli@sbcglobal.net

German Shepherd

German Shepherd Rescue Alliance of WI
414-461-9720, www.gsrw.com
yur_rltr@execpc.com or gsdrrs@hotmail.com

Good Shepherd K-9 Rescue
608-868-2050, www.gsk9r.org
pawmeadows@hughes.net

Badgerland German Shepherd Rescue
24hr. Message service 414-921-0310
gsd4me@bgsr.org, www.bgsr.org

ARF's German Shepherd Rescue Inc.
www.arfrescue.com, gsd@arfrescue.com

WhitePaws German Shepherd Rescue
www.whitepawsgsr.com, 920-606-2597
calspence@aol.com

Wisconsin German Shepherd Rescue
920-731-1690, CFilz@aol.com

German Shorthaired Pointer

Wisconsin German Shorthaired Pointer Rescue, Inc.
414-327-5102 or 414-614-5102
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president@grow.org, www.GRRoW.org

WAAGR 414-517-7725

www.waagr.org, president@waagr.org

Greyhound

Greyhounds Only Inc., Adoption & Rescue
414-559-0445 or 773-297-GREY (4739)
goinc@aol.com, www.greyhoundsonly.com

Greyhound Pets of America - WI
414-299-9473, www.gpawisconsin.org

Herding

Southeastern Wisconsin Herding Dog Rescue
262-554-2048, www.wiherdingrescue.com

Irish Setter

Irish Setter Club of Milwaukee
920-734-6734, muttsgo@aol.com

Irish Wolfhound

262-968-3421, 262-547-3705
ibanazsak@yahoo.com, marussell01@centurytel.net

Italian Greyhounds

star279@juno.com, 414-559-0445
www.midwestigrescue.com

Jack Russell Terrier/All Dog Rescue

414-747-8726, 414-297-5104
pensjackpack1@att.net, www.ffari.org

Labrador

Labrador Education and Rescue Network
847-289-PETS (7387), www.labadoption.org
learnedogs@labadoption.org

The Labrador Connection

414-299-9038, www.labradorconnection.org

Labs N More 414-571-0777
LabsNMoreRescue@yahoo.com
www.LabsNMoreRescue.petfinder.com

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www.neoresscue.net, mhwelglarz@msn.com

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www.nbstr.org

Standard Schnauzer

Standard Schnauzer Club of America Rescue
schnauzr@gmail.com, www.standardschnauzer.org

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Grusnick@wi.rr.com, 414-759-4161, www.cwvc.org

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Wisconsin Westie Rescue, Inc.
920-882-0382, westies@new.rr.com
www.wisconsinwestierescue.com

Yorkshire Terrier

Yorkshire Terrier Rescue of Wisconsin
414-747-0879, shyyorkiemom@yahoo.com

Living With a Diabetic Dog

“Diabetes ... in a dog, really?” That’s the usual response I receive when I tell people my dog is diabetic. And yes, canine diabetes or diabetes mellitus is a real and serious disease. But, if treated properly diabetic dogs can live a happy, normal life.

Prior to my border collie Dale’s diagnosis last winter, my best friend’s miniature pinscher, Bodie, passed away from complications of diabetes the year before. Though Bodie’s case was much different than Dale’s, when I heard the word diabetes spill from the mouth of our veterinarian, my heart skipped a beat. For three years prior to her dog’s death I listened to my friend tell me the ups and downs of diabetes. The insulin, the special diet, exercise routines and the

constant fluxuation of glucose and blood sugar, it all seemed so overwhelming ... and expensive.

What lead to my dog’s diagnosis was a series of signs that I didn’t immediately recognize. Though many diabetic dogs lose a dramatic amount of weight prior to a diagnosis, Dale became more bloated. This sign wasn’t obvious to me right away because he’d been on the chubby side for a number of years. Then came the fatigue. As any border collie owner knows, this breed is high-energy and Dale had always been an active dog. Instead of wanting to play, he’d curl up in a corner and take long naps. Next he started stopping on our daily walks, sitting down in the snow and refusing to get

up until he was ready. And then came the thirst and constant urinating. Dale would finish an entire bowl of water in minutes and whine at the bottom of the stairs in the dead of night begging for us to let him outside.

Though at the time I attributed much of these issues to his age, it was when Dale started shaking and refusing to eat that I knew something was definitely not right. After talking to us about Dale’s recent habits and conducting a urine and blood test, our veterinarian determined that Dale was indeed diabetic. He explained that diabetes mellitus is a disease of the pancreas, a small but vital organ located near the stomach that has two populations of cells. One group of cells produces the enzymes necessary for proper digestion. The other group, called beta-cells, produces the hormone insulin. Diabetes mellitus, the doctor explained, is the failure of the pancreatic beta cells to regulate blood sugar.

He further explained that with the proper diet and the administration of insulin that Dale would soon feel better and get back to his active self. Insulin, he said, acts as a gatekeeper by standing at the surface of the body cells and opening the door, allowing glucose to leave the blood stream and pass inside the cells. Glucose is a vital substance that provides energy and must work inside the cells. Without an adequate amount of insulin, glucose is unable to penetrate the cells. Therefore, left untreated diabetes causes glucose to accumulate in the blood, which can be fatal.

Dale now takes shots of insulin twice a day and is on a special diet of Hill’s Science Diet W/D. Though there are many prescription diets available for diabetic



“Hope” Before

“Hope” After

This is a story of Hope and change. No not that "Hope and Change", this Hope and change. Hope is a 9 year old Aussie from Ohio. These pictures were taken to show the before and after of supplementing with Fido-Vite. The resulting change seems more dramatic considering the short time frame of 8 weeks and Hope is 9 years old. Change we can believe in!

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dogs, W/D has proven effective in Dale's case. Routine has also become a priority in keeping his diabetes in check since eating and administering insulin must be done every 12 hours. Administering those first shots was nerve-wracking and getting him to eat the new food was a challenge. But, nine months after his diagnosis Dale is doing great. His weight is down and under control, his eyesight is good (sight loss is a normal side effect of canine diabetes) and his last glucose curve (an hourly test administered by the veterinarian to determine the level of glucose in the blood throughout the day) was picture perfect. Though living with a diabetic dog certainly has its challenges, we've been lucky. I admit, the food and insulin aren't exactly cheap, but once I consider the alternative the cost becomes a non-issue. With his special diet and medication, Dale's monthly expense reaches close to \$100.

Many signs of diabetes can be easily mistaken or overlooked. If you feel your dog may be showing signs of the disease check with your veterinarian right away. The earlier diabetes is identified, the faster you may be able to bring it under control.

For more information on canine diabetes visit <http://www.caninediabetes.org>.

Jamie Klinger-Krebs

Jamie Klinger-Krebs is a freelance writer living in Jefferson County. She shares her home with a husband, daughter, two cats and one crazy border collie. Jamie can be reached at jklinger-krebs@yahoo.com.

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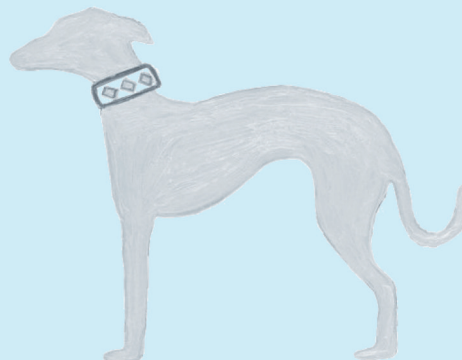
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Winter Pet Tips

Anti-Freeze smells good and tastes very sweet. Very small amounts can kill your pet. If a dog walks through it and then licks its paws, that could be enough. The damage is done by chemicals crystallizing in the kidney, so symptoms may not show up for a few days and then it may be too late. Thoroughly clean up any spills; store anti-freeze in tightly closed containers where pets can't get to them.

Holiday treats such as candy, chocolate, turkey and fixings, fatty foods and alcoholic beverages can be dangerous. Keep your dog on its regular diet, as the rich foods served around the holidays can make your pet seriously ill.

Poisonous plants including Christmas rose, holly, mistletoe, philodendron, and dieffenbachia are toxic to dogs. Keep them off the floor and out of reach.

Holiday paraphernalia like electric cords, tinsel, glass ornaments, candles, spray-on snow, ribbons, plastic or foil wrapping, and Christmas tree preservative can be dangerous for your dog. Use caution and good sense when decorating and enjoying the holidays.

Cold weather maintenance includes removing ice, salt, snow, and mud from your dog's coat and feet as soon as possible. If the skin looks reddish, white or grey or is scaly or peeling in cold weather it could be a sign of frostbite, and you should talk to your veterinarian immediately.

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