



Fetch magazine

June 2008 | Volume 5 Issue 6

On the Trail of the Bloodhound
Tips for Walking Your Dog
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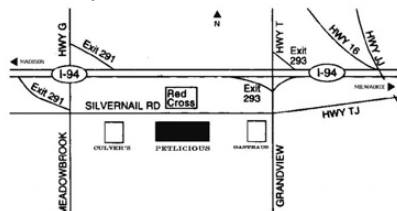
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Publisher's Letter

Hey owners of Borzois, Bulldogs, and Mastiffs...Your dogs are dumb! Whoa, that's a pretty strong statement, don't you think? The folks over at the Early Show on CBS recently put together a list of the top ten dumb dogs, and also a list of the top ten smart dogs. Scientific? No, purely subjective. I'm guessing it didn't fare well with their audience since any and all mention of this topic has been removed from their website. However, they do bring up an interesting thought. I know none of us would proclaim our dog to be dumb, but we'd be all too eager to share stories of things our companions did that were dumb. For instance, our Greyhound loves to chase and snap at bees. Not really a smart thing to do and I'm sure she'd not learn her lesson even if she caught one. Although she's doing something dumb, she's not really a "dumb" dog.

What about your pooch? What have they done that was dumb? What have they done that showed great intellect? We want to know. Does your dog run into the patio door...the same door that's been in place for the last ten years? Or, on the flip side, can your dog sense you're thirsty, go to the fridge, grab a beverage, and put it in your hand? Share your smart/dumb dog stories with the rest of us at our forum on www.fetchmag.com.

By the way, if you want to see the full list of dumb and smart dogs presented by CBS, log on to www.fetchmag.com and click on the smart/dumb dog forum.

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Ask the VET

Braces are appropriate for some canine faces!

I know what you're thinking. You've never seen a dog complain about their smile. They don't care about impressing others, but they do deserve to have a mouth that is pain free. Braces and/or advanced orthodontic care is an option available to pets that weren't born with perfect choppers. Braces are orthodontic appliances used to reposition teeth that are improperly aligned or "mal-occluded." The initial oral examination involves a bite or occlusal evaluation. If the bite isn't right, consideration is focused on whether the bite is functional and comfortable.

When the occlusion causes trauma, we refer to it as a "traumatic occlusion." The consequences of traumatic occlusions can be substantial. Teeth striking teeth or

soft tissues may result in tooth fracture, tooth inflammation (pulpitis), periodontal inflammation, pain and death of the tooth (non-vital tooth). Anachoresis is a technical term used to describe the spread of bacteria through the blood stream. Anachoresis is a major reason for the spread of infection from non-vital (dead) teeth and infections around the teeth (periodontal disease) to important organs such as the heart, kidney or liver. I cannot think of any benefit of anachoresis. Prevention of this spread of disease is our focus at the Animal Dental Center-Milwaukee and Oshkosh. Malocclusions should be evaluated carefully to ensure pets have comfortable, functional bites and to avoid serious consequences from the spread of bacteria.

Braces are not appropriate for all faces!

Braces are extremely beneficial for some pets. Braces can prevent pain and provide comfort. Orthodontic care is an advanced veterinary dental discipline. The fundamental principles and orthodontic techniques are complicated by the variety of facial shapes in veterinary patients. Think about the variety of cat and dog breeds. Some breeds have long narrow noses (Borzoï or Saluki), some shorter wide faces (Boxer or Bassett), the mid length noses (German shepherd) and others with very short noses (Himalayan, Pug). Clinical experience is mandatory to manage orthodontic cases for the veterinary patient. The veterinarian and client relationship is critical

to a successful orthodontic outcome! Two heads can be better than one and working together is very important.

Ethical considerations are very important. Altering the appearance of an animal for deception is never appropriate. Altering the occlusion to provide a comfortable and functional bite is appropriate but not always a simple procedure and at times not practical or even possible to perform. The benefits from orthodontics can be tremendous for the pet.

Consideration of the pets' temperament is very critical in the determination of whether braces are appropriate for a pet. Will the animal tolerate an orthodontic appliance? Is the pet an aggressive chewer and how will restriction of this behavior affect the pet? Is orthodontic care or dental extraction best for the pet?

Consideration of the owners' expectations, needs and time limitations are important determinants on whether braces are appropriate for a pet. Orthodontic care requires frequent occlusal evaluations. Does the owner have the time for multiple visits? It is important to clearly understand the procedural risks associated with orthodontic care. Realistic expectations from the procedure and a reasonably clear understanding of the prognosis are important in deciding if braces are appropriate for your companion.

Complicated orthodontic procedures may be unrealistic when simple dental extractions can provide a functional and comfortable occlusion with one anesthetic period. Sometimes keeping the treatment simple is best and avoids problems. Our priority is what is best for owners and their companions.



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At what age is orthodontic therapy appropriate?

Age is an important consideration in the determination of treatment options for malocclusions. Interceptive orthodontics is a selective dental extraction technique used in an attempt to prevent malocclusion of the secondary (adult) dentition. There are cases where interceptive orthodontics are performed during the primary (baby) or mixed (both baby and adult) dentition to avoid or to "intercept" problems with the secondary (dentition). The same patient may later require active force or passive force orthodontic appliances (braces) when their secondary (adult) teeth are all erupted.

Age does not always correlate with tooth development. This is especially true with the wide variety of companion animal breeds we work with. Tooth and jaw development may not even be the same for all areas of an individual pet's mouth. To evaluate for tooth development, dental radiographs are essential. The application of appropriate orthodontic forces differ at various stages of tooth development. Dental radiographs may be used in part to determine whether orthodontic care is appropriate and when it should be started.

What age is the occlusal evaluation performed?

It is ideal to evaluate a patient as early as possible with a malocclusion. Waiting for the patient to "grow out of the problem" may allow for the problem to progress and may eliminate less expensive treatment options. In some cases, there is a brief time period where a simple procedure can prevent major problems from developing. We find it preferable to examine the patient before five months age if there is a jaw length discrepancy. An "overbite" or an "underbite" is due to jaw length discrepancy and these conditions are likely to result in traumatic malocclusions.

If primary (baby) and secondary (adult) teeth are present at the same time, action is needed. You never want to see the primary and secondary canine teeth in nearly the same location because problems are very likely to develop! If dental extractions are performed, they must be performed meticulously. Primary teeth have fragile roots that easily fracture. Fractured root tips must be removed or

the benefit of removing the teeth are lost and infection complications may arise. Dental radiography is needed before, during and after the dental extraction.

What are the potential complications to orthodontic care?

With all treatment options (surgery or orthodontics), complications can occur. The most common reason for orthodontic treatment complication is failure to evaluate the patient with adequate frequency. Orthodontic care is time intensive and multiple appointments are needed. Proximity to the veterinary dentist is very important especially when orthodontic treatments are performed. Can the owner get to every appointment?

Attempts to move teeth too fast is a common cause for orthodontic complication. Gentle force must be applied to move teeth at the ideal rate. Too much force translates to potential tooth damage (resorption), periodontal inflammation and even tooth luxation.

Complications can also result from inadequate equipment, instrumentation, training and clinical experience. Clinical orthodontic case photos are available on our website; www.mypetsdentist.com. Feel free to check this site out every time you have concerns.

Dr. Kressin (FAVD, DAVDC) works as a team player with you and your primary care veterinarian to diagnose problems and to provide early treatment. More information about fees for services are discussed on this site; www.mypetsdentist.com.



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Training Bits

Parenting Your Pack

One of the most stress-inducing issues dog owners face today is when they decide to start a family. Behaviors that are thought of as no big deal, accepted or swept under the rug suddenly become unacceptable when adding children to the mix. As dog trainers we come across this situation all the time. "My dog nips or tries to bite kids"... "My dog has food/toy aggression"... "My dog is just so wild and naughty we have to put him in another room when guests come over"... With many parents-to-be who find themselves with these dogs their first knee jerk reaction is that they will have to re-home their dog. Humane societies and breed rescues are bursting at the seams from dogs who found themselves there because a baby had arrived on the scene.

This is what motivated me to co-author the DVD "Parenting Your Pack" *How to Prepare Your Dog Before and After Baby Arrives*. Being parents of young children that needed to live with older dogs, we wanted to educate people, save dogs and show families they could live cohesively as a pack.



If you have found yourself newly pregnant I am sure you have already started planning for your new arrival. You have nine long months to prepare for the changes that will occur in your home and lifestyle. While this is an exciting welcomed event, your dogs may not be in agreement since they have been the only "kids" in the house. Waiting for your baby to come home is not the time to start putting into place your plan for your dogs. In order to make this transition go as smoothly as possible, you will want to start doing things right now to prepare your dog for your new baby. Don't worry, even if you have already brought home your bundle of joy, you can still make the peaceful transition. It doesn't matter what your dog's misbehaving history entails. Dogs live in the here and now and from this day forward you can change things for the better. All it takes is setting new rules and boundaries that your dog will

need to live by once the baby arrives. The key is getting them ready before the big day actually arrives. The worst thing you can do is let nine months go by crossing your fingers with hopes your dog will accept this new addition.

First, you need to turn your attention to how you are living with your dog and if your dog sees you as

the pack leader. This is very important because once your baby arrives they will have to see them as a leader also. Therefore, ask yourself a few questions:

- Can you walk your dog without him pulling you down the street?
- Does your dog demand petting by nudging your hand?
- Does your dog bark at you for attention?
- Does your dog like to jump up on you or other people?

While these behaviors may be something that you have learned to live with, these behaviors can be potentially dangerous once your baby is home. It is imperative that these issues be managed before your baby arrives. Waiting until you bring home your newborn is not the time to get your dog to stop jumping on you. If your dog has not had any formal obedience training, this is the time to find a professional dog trainer to help teach your dog the basics. Obedience training not only strengthens the bond with your dog but gives you a handle on any problem behavior that may arise when your baby comes home. Most importantly, if your dog has shown signs of aggression in the past such as growling or biting (even nipping during play), seek out a professional dog trainer or animal behaviorist immediately.

A tired dog is always a good dog. Make sure your dog is getting plenty of good energy-draining exercise. Walking is a great bonding tool for you and your dog and the exercise is the best prevention for problem behavior. Your dog should be getting a minimum of 30 minutes a day of good steady walking (no stopping to sniff or going to the bathroom) with your dog at your side or behind you. If you feel like letting your dog stop to sniff or relieve themselves, you as the pack

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leader initiates when to walk and when to stop. If you are having issues with leash walking, get some obedience training to help. Once your dog is walking nice on leash you can add your empty stroller to the walk. This way your dog will safely get used to the stroller and you will get plenty of practice maneuvering both a stroller and a dog. Nothing replicates a pack more than the whole family going for a walk together with the stroller out in front of everyone, including the dog.

For the first year or so your baby will be in your arms a lot and your dog is probably not used to you carrying something constantly, especially one that wiggles and makes lots of noise. Prior to your baby's arrival, obtain a doll and carry it around with you and sit with it in your lap. Make sure you demand that your dog gives you space, doesn't jump and learns to respect the new family member in your arms. This way when baby does come home your dog will be used to seeing something in your arms and already respect the boundaries of the new family member.

Many dogs have never heard the range of noises your baby will make. These new sounds can make your dog nervous, anxious or excited. There are a lot of resources out there such as cd's of just babies crying and making noise. Now is the time to start playing these cd's and desensitizing your dog to these new sounds. Play them while you are carrying your doll and just walking around the house. If while playing these sounds your dog exhibits any nervousness or anxiety do not coddle or pet your dog in an attempt to soothe them. Petting equals praise. If you share affection with your dog when they are nervous you are validating their nervousness and anxiety when they hear a baby crying since you now rewarded this behavior by petting them. Instead, redirect your dog's attention to something other than the crying noises by working on your obedience commands or giving them something else to do besides focusing on the noise.

You may have noticed that your dog behaves a bit naughtier when their routines have been changed such as on holidays or vacations. Once baby arrives your daily routine will definitely change. Therefore, get your dog use to a different routine before it even occurs. Set up various times for walks, feedings and play time if your dog is use to doing things at certain

times of the day. Your early morning walks may be impossible to do with the new baby. The weather may not cooperate, a sitter may not be available and face it you may just be too exhausted. Varying your dog's schedule now will eliminate those moments of disappointment when your dog is anxiously waiting at the door for their walk because it occurs at the same time everyday. While your routine may change what should remain consistent is the order in which you do things. For example, walk first, mealtime, play and share affection.

The above are just a few things you can start doing to make the transition to

family life a hassle-free one. Just as you are getting prepared for the new baby, you must also prepare your dogs. Having a baby comes with enough stress and anxiety already, making sure your dog will be able to live peaceably with your son or daughter does not have to be one. If you want more information on how to introduce baby properly visit our website at www.pawsitivelyk9s.com for our DVD on parenting the pack.

Deanna Trampe is a co-owner and instructor at Paws-itively Behaved K9s. She is an AKC CGC evaluator and a professional member of the International Association of Canine Professionals. She is truly "Parenting Her Pack" which includes her daughter and three dogs, a 13 year old beagle mix and two rescued Rottweiler's.

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Got a Dirty Dog?

When's the last time your pooch had a bath...a really good bath? If you're still thinking, it may be time to schedule a wash. Not one of your favorite things to do? You're not alone. On a list of things dog owners dread doing with their canine companion, next to picking up stool in the backyard, is giving them a bath. First there's the water, water, water everywhere. Then there's the shaking which puts more water everywhere you didn't think water could go. And finally, there's the drying off period. Some dogs seem to think a roll in the dirt is an appropriate method of drying off. Of course, this results in another bath. Does this cycle bring back bad memories?

Starting this month, you can put down the old towels, dog shampoo, and nail clipper and pick up the phone. One call to Canine Clean and you can leave the scrubbin' to someone else. Every dog needs a bath at some point - some dogs more than others based on activities or mischievous behaviors. Having someone else handle the duties is the best way to go. At Canine Clean, we don't just show up to hose down your dog. You can choose a Full Bath Spa or a Quick Spa Treatment. Or, you can choose from an a la carte menu of options such as nail clipping, teeth brushing, gum treatment, ear cleaning, rough paws balm treatment, dry shampoo, and a coat treatment. With prices beginning at only \$5.00, why hassle with the mess of doing it yourself.

Canine Clean works by appointment only which means you can request these services as needed or set up a schedule for a bi-weekly ear cleaning, teeth brushing, paw treatment or more. Canine Clean's service area includes Glendale, Whitefish Bay, Shorewood, Fox Point, Bay Side, Mequon, and other East Side communities. To schedule an appointment, call 414-312-7703. For more information, visit www.canineclean.vpweb.com.



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Piles of Trouble

Tis' the season for spring-cleaning.

After a very long winter in Wisconsin it is important to properly protect yourself and your loved ones from the dangers associated with your pet's waste. If you thought the worst part of doggie land-mines was accidentally stepping in one, there's much more to be concerned about.

Probably the greatest concern associated with animal waste is pathogens. These organisms such as Cryptosporidium, Giardia lamblia, and Salmonella are easily spread through your pet's waste and can induce symptoms ranging from skin sores to chest pain. Other pathogens can cause diarrhea and abdominal gas. The pathogen Cryptosporidium has even proved to be fatal in people with weakened immune systems (including children and the elderly.) Dog and cat waste often contain roundworms and other parasitic nematodes. Infection by just a few roundworms usually causes no problems, but more severe infections may cause fevers, bronchitis, asthma, or vision problems. Pets, children playing outside, and adults gardening are most at risk for infection from some of the bacteria and parasites found in pet waste. Studies done in the Seattle area in the 1990s found that nearly all of the fecal coliform bacteria in urban storm water were of non-human origin and 35% of that could be traced to dogs. In addition to the problems associated with the improper disposal of pet waste, flies and other insects become attracted to the odor and create another vehicle for disease transmission.

So what can you do to protect your family and pets? If you take ALL of the following precautions, you will greatly reduce the risk of any health problems associated with your pet's waste. Wash your hands twice after being out in the yard. Leave your shoes at the door so you do not track any bacteria into your house. Most importantly, it is recommended that you pay the utmost attention to removing your pet's waste from your yard as soon as possible.

If you are looking for someone to take this 'dirty work' off your hands, look no further than professional pet waste removal services. There are numerous ones covering South & Southeastern Wisconsin.

Milwaukee Pooper Scoopers is one of the Milwaukee area's dog waste removal and dog walking services. MPS was founded by Erik Gehrke and Dustin Baribeau. These Carroll College alumni have degrees in Business Administration and have a strong entrepreneurial drive. Based out of Wauwatosa, WI, these two (and their crew) serve the greater Milwaukee area. They pride themselves on reliable, timely, and efficient dog walking and dog waste removal services. Visit www.milwaukeepooperscoopers.com or call (920) 213-8800 or for more information.

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2008 June | Fetch Magazine 11

Dog Class TV to Help Owners Control Loveable, but Unruly, Canines

A new canine television show featuring veteran dog trainer Amy Ammen will debut this month on MATA channel 14 and on U-Verse channel 99.

Dog Class TV will teach viewers how to train any canine to be “doggone great,” said Ammen, whose sixth book, *Hip Ideas for Hyper Dogs*, was released by Howell Books in 2007.

Dog Class TV segments include guest interviews, “Ask Obey” mailbag, “What Would Pavlov Do?” behavior tips, “Able’s Essentials” product reviews, and training secrets to help your dog get out – and stay out – of mischief.

The monthly series airs every Thursday at 4:30p.m., Friday at 10:00a.m., Sunday at 3:30p.m., and Monday at 1:00p.m. In the first episode, guest Marianne Anderson of Companion’s Rest Pet Cemetery talks with Ammen about how

to decide when euthanasia is the humane course of action and ways to memorialize a beloved pet. In addition, Ammen discusses introducing a new pet to the household and selecting the right dog for your circumstances.

Ammen decided to launch Dog Class TV to help owners bring out the best in their dogs – and to entertain dog-lovers who are, for one reason or another, dog-less.

“I admire what Cesar Milan has done to publicize the importance of basic training,” she said. “People need to know there is someone with the same problem-solving capabilities in Milwaukee.”

This is not her first time teaching via television.

“I took a three-year break, but was eager to get back to doing a series,” she said. “There are a lot of people who want to have a fun-loving, healthy, obedient, enviable, and all-around great dog. But few realize that they have diamonds in the ‘ruff’ right at the end of their leashes. Dog Class TV will show them how to

make the dog of their dreams a reality.” Most people appreciate a well-behaved, dignified dog, Ammen added. “Many understand that dangling a treat in front of a dog’s face will produce neither a satisfactory relationship or the level of control required to keep a dog both happy and safe. What’s needed instead are training techniques that respect the dog’s intelligence, work quickly, and give owners a true sense of accomplishment. And that’s what Dog Class TV provides.”

Ammen has been director of Amiable Dog Training since 1982. In addition to training and writing on canine topics, she performs with popular children’s entertainer Able the Dancing Chihuahua.

MATA channel 14 and U-Verse channel 99 serve the city of Milwaukee and north-shore communities.

For details, including episode summaries, additional tips, links, and video clips – or to leave comments or questions – visit www.DogClassTV.blogspot.com.

Desperate House Cats Adoption Weekend

(Yes, we promote cat events too.)

In honor of June National Adopt-a-Cat month, scenes from “Whiskerteria” Lane will be playing out right here in Milwaukee County on June 21 & 22, 2008 from 10:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m. Desperate House Cats are at MADACC’s shelter, 3839 W. Burnham St., West Milwaukee WI, clawing for a chance for adoption and to become a star in their own family!

Come and audition one of these cats to be your very own Happy, Not Desperate House Cat! Every one of these would-be feline starlets, all vaccinated, spay/neutered, licensed and microchipped, are waiting desperately to try out for parts as the beautiful female or handsome male lead role and wonderful addition to your family, all for a lifetime contract of \$75.00...

Gabrielle is the stunning dark haired former model that loves expensive gifts, but is looking for something more (maybe a chance to be the light of your life!)...

Edie, the blond bomb-shell, amazes everyone in the neighborhood with her style and “competitive spirit.” Be careful, not only will she charm you, but she may steal your husband’s heart! Her motto is always “it’s always about ‘me’ow”...

Bree, a fiery red-head keeps her space purrfectly immaculate! Beware – she is a control-freak and is setting out to grab your unending love and attention...

Susan is a perpetually sweet. She always means well, but things haven’t worked out like she planned. She has taken her tumbles with grace and is hoping to come up smiling once again when she finally finds that perfect match with you!

Lynette, the loving mom, slogging it out with little sleep and even less appreciation, has found new caregivers for her little

ones and is now hoping to branch out and have a successful life as a professional – her goal is to design an ad campaign to capture your affection!

Although they have all been neutered, handsome males are clamoring for the chance to grab a role in an adoptive family: Tom, the soft-hearted and loving “house-husband-cat,” Carlos, the exotic dark-haired man who is done with one-night stands and looking for a real relationship, Orson, the guy with nice teeth, but a hidden agenda (to sneak into your life when you are unprepared to fall in love), and of course, Mike who is the charming boy next door who can fix anything – even your empty heart!

The event will also have cat experts on hand, responsible cat ownership information and refreshments. For more information, please call 414-649-8640.

Milwaukee Area Domestic Animal Control Commission (MADACC) provides animal regulation and care services which protect the health, public safety and welfare of people and animals in Milwaukee County. For a link to their website, visit www.fetchmag.com.

Dogs Definitely Have Their Day at Central Bark Doggy Day Care

Activities, Attention Fill Time While Their Owners are Away

More than ever before, today's busy lifestyles make it difficult for many pet owners to give their pets the attention, structure, training, exercise and mental stimulation necessary for happy and well-rounded lives. Dogs crated or isolated for extended periods are deprived of social interaction and can become lethargic and destructive.

That is why Rebecca Pease is opening a Central Bark Doggy Day Care in Jackson to meet the needs of area dogs and the growing number of people who realize that dogs are not just pets, but friends, companions and family members with unique personalities and needs.

Central Bark Doggy Day Care offers programs specifically designed to enhance the safety and well being of dogs in its care, while still providing a social outlet for "dogs to be dogs."

A dog's stay at Central Bark is filled with activities and attention. Every day is filled with stimulation, interaction and play, as well as nap and quiet time. Central Bark provides a clean, healthy, fun and nurturing environment for dogs while their owners are away. The employees and I have just as much fun as the dogs to each day.

Pease's dream to open a Central Bark started back in high school with a project where she was assigned to come up with a unique business idea. Her idea was a dog day care-farfetched at the time-now her dream is a reality. Pease's Central Bark location services the areas of Slinger, West Bend, Kewaskum, Jackson and Hartford.

"Our client base is made up of dog lovers who understand that dogs need to be dogs," Pease said. "I use to work long hours and didn't have a whole lot of time to spend with my dog, like so many of my customers, so I decided to take my dog to the Downtown Milwaukee location. Once I saw how great it was for the dogs and the outlet it provided for dogs to socialize and develop in, I decided it was time I opened my own location."

Staff members are trained in canine first aid, CPR and animal behavior and continually work with dogs on common behavioral problems such as door dashing, jumping, excessive barking and chewing using "pawsitive" behavior modification by rewarding actions they want to see and ignoring or redirecting actions they want to discourage.

Services are not just limited to doggy day care. Other services include dog training, grooming, overnight sitting and the Central Bark Boutique, which specializes in canine products and gifts for the discriminating dog-loving shopper. Doggy birthday parties can be arranged.

Pease will celebrate the Grand Opening of her Central Bark Doggy Day Care location on June 14th from 1-4p.m. at 3767 Scenic Road. She will kick off the opening with a mini dog expo showcasing various vendors who will have booths where they can promote their pet products or services.

Central Bark currently operates 14 franchised and four company-owned locations in Wisconsin. Its plans are to sell at least 12 new franchises in 2008 with a goal of having 50 to 60 locations open by the end of 2010. Pease hopes to aid in that expansion by opening a second location in the Waukesha area while continuing to perfect the operations of her Jackson location.

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To groom or not to groom?

There is no question.

Do you view pet grooming as a necessity or nice to have? If you're not sure, choose which statement below best describes you:

- I have never considered grooming because my dog doesn't have long hair.
- Grooming is a luxury I can't justify spending my money on.
- Grooming is a treat for my pet, and I'll splurge once in awhile on it.
- I have my pet professionally groomed on a regular basis.

If you checked the last statement – good for you! If not, let me show you why regular grooming is essential to the health of your companion, regardless of their hair length. I'll also explain how a regular grooming schedule (usually every four to 12 weeks depending on breed and lifestyle) is just as important as the food and water you provide everyday. What's in a grooming?

First, let's look at what a professional grooming session entails:

- Trim nails and hair on pads of feet
- Clean and pluck ears
- Brush teeth
- Clean eyes and face

- Trim or a full haircut
- Bath with shampoo and conditioner
- Blow dry
- Brush out to remove loose hair
- Check body for lumps, moles, sores or anything out of the ordinary
- Anal gland expression (may be additional charge)
- Teeth brushing (may be additional charge)
- Deshedding treatment (optional service)
- Spa treatments such as facials, massages, pedicures, etc. (optional services)

Now that we've defined what it is, let's look at the main benefits of a regular grooming schedule.

Healthy skin and coat.

Regular baths with moisturizing shampoo keep your pet's skin clean, nourished and healthy. The process of scrubbing, blow drying and brushing removes dead skin and hair, allowing air to circulate through your pet's skin and coat. This applies to all dogs, large and small, short or long hair. Most groomers also use a high quality conditioner that protects your pet's coat from damage and keeps it looking healthy.

Fresh smelling

Dogs shouldn't stink. In fact, they probably don't enjoy smelling bad anymore than you do. So, that "dog" smell you've gotten used to in your house doesn't need to come with the territory of owning a pet. Regular grooming – even if it's only every 12 weeks – will keep your dog, and

house, from smelling like a dog. (Plus, pets tend to love the extra attention they get when they smell good!)

Reduced shedding

Imagine how nice it would be to not have your floors, furniture, car and clothes covered in hair! A lot of loose hair is removed during the grooming process from blow drying and brushing. There are even additional treatments your groomer can offer that practically eliminate shedding for a period of time.

Maintenance of the basics

How do you know if your dog's nails are too long? The answer is NOT when they are starting to curl under their paws. Actually, if you can hear your dog's nails on the floor or concrete, they are probably too long. And, how often are you checking your pet's ears? If you're as busy as most people, it's probably not a priority. It is imperative to their health that all dogs and cats have their nails trimmed and ears cleaned/plucked regularly. The groomer will ensure your pet's nails are at a good length and her ears free from dirt and bacteria, which could lead to infection if left unattended. The groomer also checks your pet's teeth and gums to catch any issues that may be brewing.

Good looks

Looks aren't everything, but pets feel so much happier when they have a clean haircut. Even if you prefer the shaggier look for your pet, a groomer can make sure your pet looks its best at any length. At a minimum, your pet's face, paws/pads and hair around their hind area should be trimmed regularly. Excessive hair in these places, especially if it's dirty, can lead to hygiene problems, tangling and possibly infection.

Avoid mats

Mats are balls of hair that get knotted. They are painful because they pull the skin tight and can lead to skin ulcers, abrasions and other serious problems. Mats can be extremely difficult to remove and oftentimes require a complete shave down. Not to mention it can be very expensive to have a groomer remove the mats because it is so time consuming. With a regular grooming routine, most mats and tangles will be stopped before they get problematic.



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Preventive care

Just like people, dogs have ailments and issues that can pop up out of nowhere. Part of the groomer's job is to inspect your pet from head to toe to tail and spot anything abnormal. The more regularly the groomer sees your pet, the easier it is to notice things that aren't quite right.

Dander control

Regular grooming is a great solution to reducing the dander in your home. This is especially important if you or a family member has allergies.

What it all comes down to is doing what's best for your best friend. If you make the commitment to add a pet to your family, also make the commitment to provide regular grooming sessions for him. Coupled with good nutrition, grooming contributes to a longer, healthier life for your most loyal companion.

Shelley Koenings is owner of Portable Pet Groomers, a mobile groomer serving Waukesha, Milwaukee and Racine counties. She can be reached at (262) 895-4725 or shelley@portablepetgroomers.com. You can learn more about Portable Pet Groomers' services at www.portablepetgroomers.com.



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Create Healthy Yards for *Healthy Dogs*

Pets and Pesticides Do Not Mix

We all want safe, dog-friendly outdoor areas for our pets to play and exercise. We carefully avoid salted sidewalks in the winter and broken glass in the summer, but some of the greatest outdoor dangers to our dogs' health can't be seen, yet have deadly consequences—pesticides, chemical fertilizers, and herbicides. Avoiding these dangers takes a strong commitment that starts in our own backyards.

We face some strong opposition on this issue, however. The chemical industry's average annual pesticide sales bring in \$9.3 billion, the landscape industry's, \$35 billion. For these two industries to maintain that level of profit, they need to continue hard selling us on their picture of beautiful lawns and how to treat them. But what we need to do is focus on our own picture and commit to creating it.

Recent studies found that "dogs exposed to lawn pesticides are 4 to 7 times more likely to be diagnosed with bladder cancer" (Journal of the American Veterinary Medical Association), and "twice as likely to be diagnosed with malignant lymphoma in homes where the lawn was regularly treated with 2,4-D, one of the most common lawn pesticides currently in use." (Hayes et

al. 1991, Journal of the National Cancer Institute). The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency also warns us: "All pesticides are toxic to some degree... and most pesticides have not been adequately tested to determine their effects on people or the environment." So where do we turn for help in creating a healthy environment for our pets and other family members? Fortunately, we have excellent resources and support in both the Milwaukee and Madison areas.

Darrell Smith, founder of Earthcare Natural Lawn and Landscapes, does consulting, organic landscaping, and lawn maintenance in the greater Milwaukee area, and he starts by testing your soil. Pesticides kill the living part of our soil, the vital microbial life necessary for growing healthy plants. "It's more than just replacing a bag of this with a bag of that," Smith explains. "It's creating an environment where turf will thrive."

Smith acknowledges that creating a tougher turf for dogs' wear and tear can be challenging, but he says certain types of grass can handle more wear than others. Combination seeding can be helpful. He also recommends using organic fertilizers,

over-seeding, spreading fresh grass seed on top of existing lawn, and mowing higher. "An animal can tear off the top leaf, but unless he digs, he can't necessarily get rid of the root system, and the roots can then re-sprout," Smith explains.

Letting go of the "green carpet" idea allows creativity to run wild. For example, one of Smith's clients opted to mulch her path along the fence where her dog likes to run. Another client created a designated digging spot, then trained her dog to play its dirt games and bury bones in that area. Also, replacing worn turf with areas of inlaid stone or wood provides durable, low maintenance beauty. For more ideas or to contact Smith for his help, visit his website where you can also view some of his work at Alterra at the Lake, Shorewood Public library, and the Menomonee Valley soccer fields.

Smith highly recommends The Organic Lawn Care Manual by Paul Tukey, founder and national spokesperson for Safe Lawns, a public awareness campaign promoting organic lawn care methods. Tukey says, "I could probably write an entire book about why you should avoid lawn chemicals," but he chose instead to "give you the tools and information to make the change in your own life and landscape." His friendly writing style and color photos lead you through 12 chapters of practical information for creating and maintaining the yard of your dreams. He includes a recommended reading list and two pages of resources. Find Tukey's book in libraries, bookstores, and on Amazon.com.

Healthy Communities Project (HCP) is a non-profit organization based in Whitefish Bay, and their mission is to educate us about pesticides' impact on our health, our animals, and the environment, and to empower us to make positive changes. Their website provides excellent research and links to other sources. You'll also find how to be notified when a neighbor's lawn is scheduled for chemical treatment. HCP warns that the industry's little signs are misleading, "Pesticide Application—Keep Off Until [date]," as health risks to people and pets do not necessarily end after that date.

If you live in the Madison area, see Bando Lawn and Landscape's founder Jay Anderson featured in the April 2008 issue of Madison Magazine, "Tea Time in



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Jean Scherwenka loves dogs, writing, and the opportunity to combine the two in her articles for Fetch Magazine.

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Controlling the Beast on the Leash

The tug-of-war dog walk affects many families. It keeps pets from being invited on evening strolls in the neighborhood or brought to the state park for a hike. Owners are frustrated. They've tried to teach their dog "heel" with the other obedience commands, but it just doesn't seem to work.

The problem is that most owners don't realize heel is not the same as no tugging on the leash. Heel is a cue for the dog to walk next to and in step with the owner. Most pet parents just want to stop their pet from taking them for a walk, instead of the other way around.

Aimee Moore, a trainer at Dogs Best Friend in Madison, explains that while heel is an excellent cue to have, it is not realistic to have a dog on a "heel" for an entire walk. Instead she recommends working toward a no-pull "loose leash walk." Dogs have four legs. We have two. We just walk too slow for them, says Moore. Plus, most of the enjoyment of a walk for dogs involves the invisible things their noses can detect. For a walk

to be fun for all parties, a loose leash is key. The quickest and easiest way to achieve the loose leash is the proper collar, which will help the owner control the dog.

We've all seen the archaic choke collar, or worse yet, the prong collar, which are both loose until the dog pulls against the leash. Then, ouch! Many people still use these and they are commonly sold in pet stores. However, for big breeds with high pain tolerance, these really don't work. The dog continues to strain, merely barking more hoarsely at whatever it is that's grabbing his attention. Moore recommends trying one of the "no-pull" harnesses on the market. The old version of the no-pull harness had straps that pulled tightly around the dog's legs when the dog strained against the leash. Moore says there are some newer harnesses that work even better. Two brands she recommends are Premier's Easy Walker and the SENSE-ation Harness. Both types of harnesses strap around the dog's front legs, chest and neck. Unlike a collar it doesn't pull against the dog's throat. The hook for the leash is located in the front, on the dog's chest, so if the dog pulls, he or she is turned back with the leash, said Moore. She adds that dogs really don't mind wearing them.

The great thing about using a harness is that it will work immediately. It's not a "heel," but doesn't undermine the obedience command either. Owners can use both. If you have taught your dog the heel command, says Moore, it will come in handy when you want more control. If you want to cross the road, for example, you can ask the dog for the heel. Then release her once you've both safely crossed, adds Moore. Another new lead on the market is a head collar harness, such as a Halti, that goes around the dog's muzzle. This works on the principle, where the nose goes, so goes the dog. The key to using this is to redirect the dog gently, not pull the dog's head sharply to the side or you can injure your dog. Many people find these helpful, especially when training a young dog who hasn't learned to pull on a leash.

If you don't want to purchase a harness, there are ways to train your dog not to pull. One very popular technique is the stop and start method. It's best to start this activity in the house where there are fewer distractions. Hook the leash to your dog, who will immediately try rushing



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for the door. Just stand still. When your dog stops pulling on the leash, reward him and start walking. The dog will lunge forward again, so you stop. When the dog finally ceases his pulling (either walking back towards you or just stopping), walk again. Eventually the dog will learn that if he wants to go (which most dogs do) he can't pull on the leash. Owners can continue the lesson by stopping whenever the dog applies even slight tension to the leash. Praise the dog when he's by your side. The down side to this technique is it takes time and patience.

The stop and start technique can be used in conjunction with a no-pull harness. You can get the immediate benefits of control with a no-pull harness and then

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work on training your dog not to pull on the leash at all.

If you are really having trouble controlling your dog, professional help might be what you need. Professional dog trainers offer assessments and obedience training at many different locations. You can catch up with Aimee Moore at Central Bark Doggy Day Care in New Berlin. In the end, safety and fun are at the core of dog walks. Dogs need to be on leash and owners need control. Harnesses or no-pull training are a great way to get dog and owner back in step.

Emily Refermat is a dog lover and long-time writer who just isn't content without a pen in hand and the prod of a cold nose.

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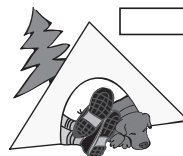
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MYPAW:

Milwaukee Youth Promoting
Animal Welfare

Wandering through the Great Lakes Family Pet Expo at State Fair Park this past year, did you notice a booth run by teens that were passionate about the issues of puppy mills and pet overpopulation? If you did, then you have been touched by the MYPAW program.

MYPAW stands for Milwaukee Youth Promoting Animal Welfare and is solely funded by the YMCA of Metropolitan Milwaukee. MYPAW's mission, in partnership with the Companion Animal Resource & Adoption Center (CARAC), is to help end the pet overpopulation crisis in the community and promote positive relationships with companion animals.

MYPAW started two years ago when Sheila Postotnik, one of the Program Directors for the YMCA's Sponsor-A-Scholar program, had a guest speaker cancel. The Sponsor-A-Scholar program provides a variety of academic support to low-income Milwaukee Public School (MPS) students who want to pursue college. Among other things, Sponsor-A-Scholar includes tutoring, ACT preparation classes, college tours and service projects.

Sheila asked Amy Christiansen, Executive Director of CARAC, to present to the teens. Amy did a presentation on animal

welfare that left the teens raising their hands asking to volunteer and get involved. Amy and Sheila decided to start slowly but according to Sheila, "It exceeded our expectations. MYPAW had a life of its own quite quickly because of the commitment of Amy and our students who are really passionate about the topics." Amy and Sheila arranged a tour of Milwaukee Area Domestic Animal Control Commission (MADACC) as the first outing for MYPAW. According to Sheila "It was pretty impactful. Many students have been exposed to animal neglect or abuse in their neighborhoods. The kids were crying and we were crying especially over the sick animals that you could clearly tell had been involved in fighting or neglect. The students were asking 'What can we do? Can we raise money? Can we raise awareness?'"

After that, MYPAW went to CARAC and saw that they take as many pets into the program as they can and work tirelessly to find them loving homes. Some of the teens have pets but the majority do not due to income. Some are afraid of animals because they have been exposed to loose dogs. So, MYPAW worked on getting the teens more comfortable around animals.

The MYPAW kids meet twice a month during the school year. Past activities included learning from many guest speakers, participating in the Pet Smart Greenfield grand opening as dog handlers and even a trip to Utah to Best Friends Animal Pet Sanctuary, the nation's

largest pet sanctuary. Five MYPAW teens worked with a humane educator there and spent two days learning hands-on with cats, dogs, pot belly pigs, wildlife and some birds.

What does the future hold for MYPAW? The program currently has five high school seniors. Some will stay local and some will go out of state for college. If they have time in their schedules, Sheila and Amy hope the teens come back as advisors, peer mentors or even start a humane education club on the college campus.

While participation in MYPAW is currently limited to students in the Sponsor-a-Scholar program, if other programs like the Boy Scouts or Girl Scouts wanted to start a club on their own, Sheila states they have a great curriculum that others are welcome to copy. Sheila's ultimate dream is "to be able to provide this as an MPS wide program and to provide it to younger kids as well."

Sheila said one of the best moments of the MYPAW program occurred at the Pet Expo this past year: "Seeing the kids take what they learned and being able to articulate that in an emotional, passionate way; that is what it is all about – being able to get the kids to be advocates. It gives me the greatest feeling in the world as a youth-worker. It gives me the chills a little bit. I get teary-eyed. You know, it is fun going on field trips but at times you wonder if they really get it on that other level. And they do, they really do. They never cease to surprise me."

Website links:

Companion Animal Resource & Adoption Center: www.companionanimal.org

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www.companionanimal.org/my paw.htm

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www.ymcamke.org then click "Participate", "Programs and Classes", "Mentoring Programs"

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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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This year, BREW is happy to announce two new vendors, WetNoze Photography (www.WetNoze.com) and animal communicator Debbie Henkes (www.debbiehenkes.com). Both will be available for services and a portion of all proceeds will be donated to BREW.

Whether you are a beagle owner, interested in adopting, or just want to support a great cause, Beaglefest is the place to be! Last year BREW Midwest welcomed over 300 beagles and their families and raised over \$10,000!

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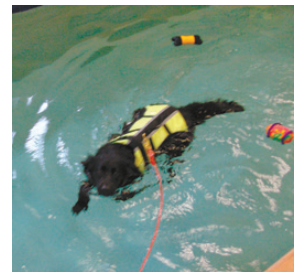
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BREED PROFILE:

The Bloodhound

With his giant stature and knowledgeable nose, the bloodhound is easy to love

Described as a “gentle giant” the bloodhound, also known as the St. Hubert hound, is best known for his incredible nose. The bloodhound’s snout is so finely tuned that many handlers depict this canine as a nose with a dog attached. As outlined in the article “Making Sense of Bloodhounds,” on pbs.org, researchers estimate that the bloodhound’s nose consists of approximately 230 million scent receptors, or 40 times the number in humans. While a human olfactory center is the size of a postage stamp, a canine’s can be as large as a handkerchief. The bloodhound’s olfactory center is among the largest in dogs. The bloodhound’s loose, wrinkled skin also aids in his scenting abilities. According to the PBS article, the wrinkled skin around the dog’s face traps scent particles and his long ears that drag on the ground collect odors and sweep them into the dog’s nostrils. His long neck and strong shoulders, which slope into his back also allow for tracking close to the ground.

Though they are expert trackers and trailers, a bloodhound doesn’t get his unique name from tracking blood. Instead, the term “blood” comes from “blooded” meaning pure-breeding. According to the American Bloodhound Club, Inc. today’s bloodhounds are direct descendants of the St. Hubert hound, bred by the 7th-century French monk, Hubert, also known as the patron saint of hunters. William the Conqueror later brought the hounds to England, where they were used as hunting dogs. Bloodhounds were brought to America during the colonial times. Presently, the bloodhound is the only known breed that can discriminate human scent; and is the only dog whose evidence can be accepted in a court of law.

Along with their great scenting abilities, bloodhounds also make wonderful pets, says Sandi Singer-Adams, executive director of Midwest Bloodhound Rescue,



Inc. “Bloodhounds are no different from any other breed. Before getting one, the potential owner needs to research the breed and know what they are getting into before getting the dog,” she says. “Bloodhounds can and do make wonderful pets for families that have educated themselves on the breed and proper pet ownership. If your family is very sedate or gone for long time periods, without a fenced yard, then a bloodhound would not be a good choice. If it is important to you to have a ‘spic-and-span’ home, don’t get a bloodhound.” When considering the adoption of a bloodhound, there are several factors people need to be aware of, adds Singer-Adams.

“Bloodhounds are giant breed dogs. They are not going to grow up with your child – they are going to outgrow your child very quickly,” she explains. “They drool, they shed. They are highly intelligent and they have the best nose of all the canine breeds. They need a tremendous amount of physical and mental exercise. A bored bloodhound will find ways to entertain themselves – and what amuses them usually doesn’t amuse the owner.”

Bloodhounds are avid chewers throughout their lives, she adds, but as puppies they can be very destructive chewers. In addition, because of their high-

ly-tuned nose, the dogs cannot be trained to stay in a yard or be contained by an underground fence. An above-ground fence, with a minimum height of 4 feet, is mandatory.

“There are 3 rules to successfully living with a bloodhound,” says Singer-Adams. “Number one – don’t underestimate the power of their nose. Number two – don’t underestimate their intelligence; and number three – you have to out-stubborn them. They have been bred for generations to be intelligent, strong-willed, stubborn dogs.

You aren’t going to change that.”

In addition, says Singer-Adams, bloodhounds don’t bark – they bay – loudly. “In a suburban setting, a bloodhound’s bay can usually be heard for several blocks. Most neighbors find their bay less annoying than the yapping of smaller dogs but the noise level can be an issue for some pet owners.”

Some articles suggest bloodhounds can be aggressive toward other animals; Singer-Adams disagrees. “Bloodhounds are very social animals and many of them need to be housed with multiple dogs. They do not have a “prey” drive but smaller, furry critters can still seem like very interesting play toys. The key with any breed of dog is understanding the breed’s basic nature, proper supervision and training. The only area of aggression





cause of the condition is unclear, bloat or Gastric Dilatation Volvulus Syndrome (GDV) occurs following dilatation and rotation of the stomach on its long axis.

"Bloodhounds are prone to many ailments other giant breeds or deep-chested dogs are – hip dysplasia, joint problems,

arthritis, bloat. Entropion of the eyes is a fairly common genetic issue," says Singer-Adams.

With his adorable face and powerful nose, the bloodhound makes a great companion, but Singer-Adams stresses getting to know the breed before adopting one, or they just might run you ragged.

"A lot of people think that bloodhounds are just like the Clampett's bloodhound on the Beverly Hillbillies. They are not! Easy-going does not mean lazy or without a lot of energy. A 5 mile hike for your bloodhound is just a pleasant stroll."

For additional information, visit: www.bloodhounds.org/page2/page22/history.html www.pbs.org/wnet/nature/underdogs/bloodhounds.html www.akc.org/pdfs/breeds/ClubFlierPDFs/Bloodhound.pdf

Jamie Klinger-Krebs is a freelance writer who writes a regular monthly column "Pet Talk" on <http://www.gmtoday.com>.

that should come naturally to a bloodhound is food aggression, and it should not be displayed towards people. Owners need to work with their pup to nip this problem in the bud while young because it will be much harder to break when the dog is older."

If you choose to adopt a bloodhound, be sure to care for it properly. The American Bloodhound Club suggests brushing his coat once a week to keep it sleek and shiny. Also keep his ears clean and nails clipped. Caring for a bloodhound's big, droopy eyes is also very important. Be sure they are clean and free of debris. If they appear cloudy, consult a veterinarian.

Torsion, or bloat, can also be a potential health risk in bloodhounds. Though the

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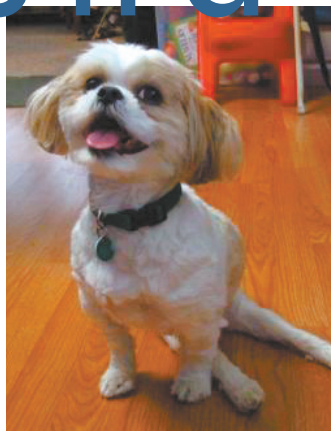
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Badgerland German Shepherd Rescue
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gsd4me@bgsr.org, www.bgsr.org

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

German Shorthaired Pointer

Wisconsin German Shorthaired Pointer Rescue, Inc.
414-327-5102 or 414-614-5102
lisa_gsprescuewi@yahoo.com
www.wgspr.com, www.wgspr.petfinder.com

Glen of Imaal Terrier

lakerun@execpc.com

Golden Retriever

GRRoW (Golden Retriever Rescue of Wisconsin)
(888)655-4753
president@grrrow.org, www.GRRoW.org

WAAGR (WI Adopt a Golden Retriever)
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
jbanaszak@yahoo.com

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.ffaari.org

Labrador

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

www.labradorconnection.org

Maltese

Northcentral Maltese Rescue Inc.
262-633-9371, malteserescue@hotmail.com
www.malteserescue.homestead.com

Mixed Breed

Happy Tails Dog Rescue
www.happytailsdogrescue.net, pups2save@yahoo.com

Fluffy Dog Rescue
www.fluffydog.net, 262-538-2535

Neapolitan Mastiff

www.neorescue.net, mhweglarz@msn.com

Poodle

920-625-3709
poodclubofamerica.org, mj.doege@yahoo.com

Pug

NIPRA (Northern IL Pug Rescue & Adopt.)
nipra@pugrescue.org, www.pugrescue.org

Great Lakes Pug Club
www.Greatlakespugclub.com, 414-531-9301

Rat Terrier

Wisconsin Rat Terrier Rescue INC.
608-697-7274, wrtr@bigfoot.com

Rottweiler

True Hearts of Rottweiler Rescue (THORR)
www.thorr.org, trueheartsofrottrescue@yahoo.com

Wisconsin Rottweiler Rescue
608-224-0272, www.wirottrescue.org

MidAmerica Rottweiler Rescue
www.adoptarott.org

Saint Bernard

AllSaints Rescue
414-761-6305, www.allsaintsrescue.com
allsaintsrescue@earthlink.net

WI St Bernard Rescue
414-764-0262
wtresq@jmuch.com, www.wstresq.com

Shar Pei

Shar Pei Savers
www.sharpeisavers.com, info@sharpeisavers.com

Shih Tzu

Fuzzy Pawz Shih Tzu Rescue of WI Inc.
fuzzypawz@gmail.com
www.fuzzypawz.org, 414-731-1682

New Beginnings Shih Tzu Rescue
920-722-3070, AWood52140@aol.com
414-801-3763, living_floor_mops@yahoo.com
www.nbstr.org

Standard Schnauzer

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

Vizsla

Central Wisconsin Vizsla Club (CWVC)
Grusnick@wi.rr.com, 414-759-4161, www.cwvc.org

Westie

Wisconsin Westie Rescue, Inc.
920-882-0382, westies@edsboats.com
www.petfinder.com/wiwestierescue

Yorkshire Terrier

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

Event Calendar

June 2008

1 Sunday

What: Spinal Manipulation Therapy & Acupuncture w/ Dr. Lisa Kluslow
Where: Petlicious Dog Biscuit Bakery, Pewaukee
When: 10:00am - 4:00pm (reservations required)
Info: 262-548-0923, www.petlicious.com

6 Friday

What: AKC Obedience & Rally Trial
Where: W1314 Cedar Drive, Ixonia
When: All Day
Info: www.milwaukeeedog.com

What: Rally Run Thrus
Where: For Pet's Sake, Mukwonago
When: 6:30 pm (\$6)
Info: 1-888-581-9070

7 Saturday

What: Bark in the Park
Where: 4321 N. Ballard Rd, Appleton
When: 8:30 - Noon
Info: www.foxvalleypets.org

What: Nail Trimming, Teeth Brushed, etc
Where: Pet Supplies 'N' More
When: 10:00am - 1:00pm
Info: www.portablepetgroomers.com,
www.petsupplies-n-more.com

What: Germantown Pet Expo
Where: East Kettle Moraine Moose Lodge
When: 10:00am - 4:00pm
Info: www.fetchmag.com (Event Calendar)

What: Mounds Dog Fest 2008
Where: Alliant Energy Center, Madison
When: 10:00am - 3:00pm
Info: www.moundspet.com

What: Beaglefest
Where: Bark Avenue Daycamp in Bartlett, IL
When: 11:00am - 4:00pm
Info: www.brewbeagles.org

What: WI Bichon Bash
Where: Washington County Humane Society
When: 1:30pm - 3:30pm
Info: www.fetchmag.com (Event Calendar)

8 Sunday

What: Animal Communication w/ Rebecca Moravec
Where: Petlicious Dog Biscuit Bakery, Pewaukee
When: Noon - 5:00pm (reservations required)
Info: 262-548-0923, www.petlicious.com

13 Friday

What: Obedience & Rally Run Thrus
Where: Cudahy Kennel Club, St. Francis
When: Gate entries (6:30-7pm), Run thrus 7pm
Info: www.cudahykennelclub.org

What: Yappy Hour (reservations required)
Where: Petlicious Dog Biscuit Bakery, Pewaukee
When: 6:30 - 7:30pm
Info: 262-548-0923, www.petlicious.com

What: Obedience Run Thrus
Where: For Pet's Sake, Mukwonago
When: 6:30 pm (Novice), (Open) Follows Novice
Info: 1-888-581-9070 (\$6)

14 Saturday

What: Canine Massage
Where: Pet Supplies 'N' More, Muskego
When: 2:00 - 4:00pm
Info: www.petsupplies-n-more.com

What: Let's Talk About Boarding Your Pet
Where: Animal Motel in Butler
When: 1:00 - 2:00pm
Info: www.animalmotel.net

What: Canine Massage
Where: Petlicious Dog Biscuit Bakery, Pewaukee
When: Noon - 4:00pm
Info: 262-548-0923, www.petlicious.com

What: Reiki I Class w/ Jeanette
Where: Animal Doctor Annex, Muskego
When: Noon - 4:00pm
Info: 414-422-1300, www.animaldoctormuskego.com

19 Thursday

What: K-9 Injury Prevention Seminar w/ Dr. Lisa Kluslow
Where: Petlicious Dog Biscuit Bakery, Pewaukee
When: Call for time.
Info: 262-548-0923, www.petlicious.com

20 Friday

What: WAAGR Rummage Sale
Where: Hemlock Ct and Mill Rd in Menomonee Falls
When: Friday & Saturday
Info: www.WAAGR.org

What: Agility Run Thrus
Where: Cudahy Kennel Club, St. Francis
When: Gate entries (6:30-7pm), Run thrus 7pm
Info: www.cudahykennelclub.org

What: UKC Agility Run Thrus
Where: For Pet's Sake, Mukwonago
When: 6:30 pm (\$6)
Info: 1-888-581-9070

21 Saturday

What: WAAGR Rummage Sale
Where: Hemlock Ct and Mill Rd in Menomonee Falls
When: Friday & Saturday
Info: www.WAAGR.org

What: Westie Fest 2008
Where: Riverside Park, Nekoosa
When: 11:00am - 3:00pm

Info: 715-325-5760, www.fetchmag.com
What: Pet First Aid Class
Where: HAWS in Waukesha
When: 1:00 -4:00pm
Info: 262-879-0165, www.hawspets.org

What: Forest Home Animal Clinic Open House
Where: 11222 W. Forest Home Ave, Franklin
When: 1:00pm - 4:00pm
Info: www.foresthomeanimalclinic.com

What: Training Help for You & Your Dog
Where: Pet Supplies 'N' More, Muskego
When: 1:30 - 3:00pm (\$20/individual, \$25 w/ dog)
Info: 262-679-6776, www.petsupplies-n-more.com

22 Sunday

What: Throw Your Dog a Turnip w/ Claudene E. McAuliffe
Where: HAWS, Waukesha
When: 1:00 - 5:30pm (Tuition \$87.00)
Info: 262-542-8851, www.hawspets.org

25 Wednesday

What: Essential Oils Class w/ Tresa Laferty
Where: Petlicious Dog Biscuit Bakery, Pewaukee
When: Call for time.
Info: 262-548-0923, www.petlicious.com

27 Friday

What: Yappy Hour (reservations required)
Where: Petlicious Dog Biscuit Bakery, Pewaukee
When: 6:30 - 7:30pm
Info: 262-548-0923, www.petlicious.com

What: Adult Dog Play
Where: For Pet's Sake, Mukwonago
When: 7:00 pm (\$10)
Info: 1-888-581-9070

28 Saturday

What: GRROW
Where: Petlicious Dog Biscuit Bakery, Pewaukee
When: 11:00am - 1:00pm
Info: 262-548-0923, www.petlicious.com

What: Reiki II Class w/ Jeanette
Where: Animal Doctor Annex, Muskego
When: Noon - 4:00pm
Info: 414-422-1300, www.animaldoctormuskego.com

Every Sunday

What: Puppy Social
Where: Best Paw Forward Dog Training
When: 5:45 - 6:15 p.m.
Info: 262-369-3935

What: Puppy Parties
Where: For Pet's Sake, Mukwonago
When: 12:45 p.m. (except holiday weekends)
Info: 1-888-581-9070

Every Monday

What: Conformation Run Thrus
Where: For Pet's Sake, Mukwonago
When: 7:40 pm
Info: 1-888-581-9070

What: Get Your Dog's Nails Trimmed
Where: Pet Supplies 'N' More, Muskego
When: 5:00 - 7:00pm (only \$10)
Info: 262-679-6776 (no appt necessary)

Every Tuesday

What: Puppy Kindergarten Class w/ For Pet's Sake
Where: Petlicious Dog Bakery, Pewaukee
When: 6:30 p.m. & 7:30 p.m. (7 week course)
Info: 262-548-0923, www.petlicious.com

What: Agility/Confidence Drop-in Classes
Where: Teaching Dogs, Oak Creek
When: 7:45pm
Info: 414-416-1406

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A Dog Auction...

My Own Personal Experience - Part One

This experience changed my life. I hope you will read this two part segment and realize Puppy Mills need to be outlawed - TODAY.

I have no idea where to begin this story... On Wednesday, March 12, I attended my first dog auction in Thorp, WI. I had so many fears about what it would be. And sadly, each and every one of them came alive.

I had begged a friend of mine to tag along for moral support, so Margie came with me. As we drove closer to Thorp, on the cold, dark and windy day, our anxiety level grew. We would say things like, "I am freaking out!" or "There seems to be a sense of ominous darkness in this area."

I am sure there is. Clark county is home to over 23 puppy mills - over half of all the puppy mills in the state of Wisconsin. At least at last "count."

We found the auction barn whose entrance was lined with protesters. They were all dressed in orange holding signs that read, "Stop the abuse," "Ban puppy mills," "Stop the Hell."

Stopping the Hell seems like an exaggeration to those unfamiliar with the puppy mill business, but we would find out in just minutes that Hell has got to be better than what these dogs endure.

Since my original intention was to join the protest, we walked out and found one of the leaders. Her name is Eilene Rhode and she is with the WI Puppy Mill Project. She informed us of the many things her organization has done to end this horridness. Last year, they made a large buy and purchased half the dogs at the auction. She explained how they have the support of many large organizations: PETA, WI Humane, WI Vet organization and many more including Best Friends. Sadly, WI legislation is extremely slow to grasp the understanding of the horrendous business they allow to "thrive" in their state. It is animal cruelty at its best.

Though we were scared to go in, Eilene told us that if we wanted to know what we were protesting we should go in and see. And, we should do it before the auction

started because, otherwise, we wouldn't really be able to see the dogs.

We made our way to the pole barn. Our hearts were racing with anxiety and fear. The sign on the door read, "No cameras, no recordings." We walked in completely unaware of what we would see or how we would be seen.

At first glance, we saw the chairs and bleachers all set-up...and then to our right were stacks of hay, hiding numerous cages filled with dogs. Cautiously, we made our way to the entrance of the hay stacks and immediately, my heart sank. I could feel the tears well up in my eyes.

Hundreds of dogs in cages: no barking, no whining. Some not doing anything - only curled up, looking away from all the people.

My stomach knotted and it was all I could do to not faint or scream. This was Hell.

I cry as I write this; re-living the experience. Every fear I had was glaring at me. Cage upon cage, I would see these adorable dogs with no spirit. They had checked out of this world. They wouldn't respond to even the friendliest of hands. They were broken and it broke my heart.

Dachshunds, Maltese, Chihuahuas, Westies, Yorkies, French Bulldogs, Bichons, Poodles, Min. Pin, and many more. Including #171...

#171 was the oldest and most pathetic dog at the auction. He was listed as a Chinese Crested and with all the matted hair, obviously a Powder Puff.

Margie and I talked on our drive to the auction if we would try to rescue any. We are not a shelter or a rescue. I am a writer for Best Friends and a Board member for my county shelter, but I had no real place for a dog. But, the thought was there. Margie has a fondness for the Doxies and she had already started her list of the most pathetic ones.

Even though our intentions were only to see what a dog auction was and how the dogs in puppy mills were treated, we

couldn't leave the auction barn. I believe that protesting is important. People need to see what an atrocity this is, but I was so overwhelmed with grief and pain, I could only stay and watch in disbelief.

As we each, slowly, went from cage to cage, trying to engage the dogs - Quietly hoping that our sincere voices and gentle touch would raise their spirits, our agony grew. There were so many.

Next I knew, Margie was getting her license from the car so we would have a bidding number.

I stared at so many dogs. Holding back the tears. Trying to find some sense of understanding. It is the year 2008, how could such cruelty exist? I admit my naivety. Being at this auction was the second step in pursuing my passion of animal welfare. A few years ago, I finally stepped in my county shelter. This experience made that one seem like a walk in the park.

There were two Beagles who would only cower in their cage. I would stick my finger through the chicken wire to pet them and they felt nothing. Their eyes stung my soul; they were done. Their life was nothing but agony so they had checked out. It is so extremely sad - beyond words.

One by one, I would speak to them, "Hey little guy..." I would open the cage door and pet them. But, only a moment with each one because the line of cages seemed unending.

Somehow some spoke to me more than others. Perhaps, it was their eyes... screaming to me, "Get me out."

A Mennonite man touched me on the shoulder and said, "The auction is about to start, and you need to go to the seats."

Brought back to the present, I realized I was the only one left at the cages. I was terrified and numb and completely sick to my stomach.

I made my way to the seats and found Margie who already had a bidding number. They were out of the auction packets. Which, ironically featured a beautiful,

- continued on page 31

WET DOG SMELL

I will never complain about that wet dog smell. Never, ever. Yesterday I took my 2 year old lab, Seamus for a walk on a quiet section of Lake Michigan beach. I brought along a training dummy and a Frisbee that I thought I had cleverly concealed in the game pocket of a three-sizes-too-big-for-me training vest, but, I'm not a Lab.

Seamus knew exactly what was going on. He practically did somersaults on the way to the water. I wished that I could be that happy over anything.

I threw the dummy into the shallow water and Seamus went after it, like a bullet. He brought it back, barked at me with a hurry-up bark. I threw it. He took off. So happy to be wet. After five really good retrieves, I figured it was time for a change up. So, I brought out the Frisbee.

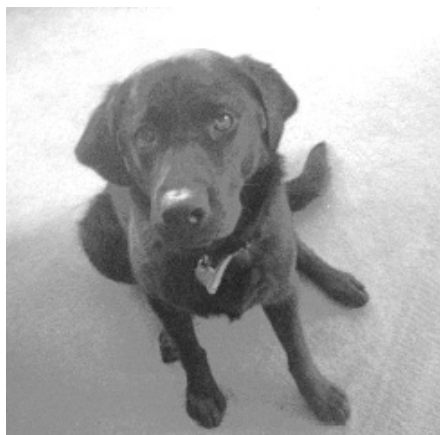
Frisbee toss is a different game than Dummy toss. With the Frisbee, I let him run ahead so that he can catch it. With the training dummy, he has to sit and wait for me to send him. I love to do the Dummy toss whenever other people are around, because he does it really well and I have to say, it makes me look like I know what I'm doing.

I threw the Frisbee. It skimmed the surface. Seamus had to dunk his face into the lake to get it. Good dog! My next throw caught more wind and went further out than I wanted it too, but Seamus was already in the lake, swimming, before the bright red disk hit the water . . . and sunk.

This had happened once before, but on a small pond. I threw a Frisbee and he went in after it, but the thing sunk, which confused the heck out of Seamus. He kept paddling in circles, looking for it, I kept calling him but he was a dog obsessed. I finally had to get into a row boat and drag him back to shore.

This was Lake Michigan. I had no row boat. Seamus had substituted a flock of Mallards for the missing Frisbee. They were bobbing near the break water. Seamus was fixated on them.

I stood on the beach. I blew my whistle. I commanded him to heel. I called his name. His black head got smaller and



smaller and smaller as he paddled further and further away from the shoreline.

I kept shouting. Seamus! Heel! Suppertime! I flapped my arms. I jumped up and down. I looked like I had just won a vacation package worth \$135,000 on The Price Is Right. He kept swimming. Away. Out. Out. Out.

I thought I would never see him again. I thought that either he would wash up somewhere near Summerfest or Lansing. How would I tell the kids? At what point should I give up and go home? Should I call 911? The Coast Guard?

And then, two ducks got spooked. I'm sure they didn't expect to see a black Lab a mile out on the lake. They took off and flew towards the shore. Seamus turned and spotted me.

20 minutes had passed. The temperature of the water was . . . well, I guessed that even for a Labrador, bred for the waters off the coast of Newfoundland, it was a tad cold.

Seamus's pads hit the sandy bottom and he came out onto the beach. He shivered. I knelt down beside him, rubbed his fur with my jacket. He shook and got me all wet. I didn't care.

We got back to the car. He jumped in the back. We drove home. I filled my lungs with that delightful wet dog smell.

Mel Miskimen is an author, playwright, podcaster, comedian and the alpha female to Harvey, a 12 year old Golden and Seamus, a 1 year old Lab. Her book, *Cop's Kid: A Milwaukee Memoir*, is available online and at Barnes & Noble. Visit the website, www.singlemarriedwidoweddivorced.com to hear the podcast. You can email her at: mmiskimen@wi.rr.com.



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continued from page 29

female Maltese on the cover with a pretty bow tied on her head. There weren't any dogs who looked like that here.

In 2004, Becky Monroe resigned as Human Resources Manager from Corporate America with the intent to give back and follow her passions. That goal led her to working in a wildlife sanctuary, animal control, and to become a News Writer for Best Friends Society in Kanab, UT. Most recently, she co-founded a charity for her county animal shelter. In just four years, she has already experienced so many wonderful and sad things concerning animals. However, her soul strongly seeks to end the cruel life dogs endure in puppy mills. Becky lives with her husband and daughter in Woodstock, IL.

Make sure to pick up next month's issue of Fetch Magazine for part two of this story. Or, if you'd like to read it now, visit www.fetchmag.com and you'll find a link to the rest of the story on our home page.

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Every Wednesday

What: Conformation Drop-In Training

Where: Greater Racine Kennel Club, Racine

When: 7:30 p.m.

Info: www.grkc.org

What: Get Your Dog's Nails Trimmed

Where: Pet Supplies 'N' More, Muskego

When: 5:00 - 7:00pm (only \$10)

Info: 262-679-6776 or 262-662-0104

Every Saturday

What: Playtime at the Playground

Where: Puppy Playground, Oak Creek

When: 9:00am - Noon

Info: 414-764-PUPS

The information for the Event Calendar is provided to Fetch Magazine by many sources and is accurate at the time of printing. We encourage you to call ahead to confirm event details.

Training Classes

Looking for training classes? You'll find the list of new classes at www.fetchmag.com.

Click on **Training Calendar**.



WISCONSIN VETERINARY REFERRAL CENTER

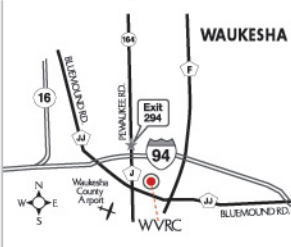
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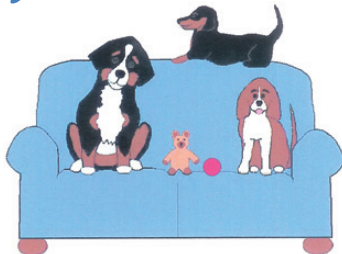
www.wivrc.com





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Proper Paws University

June 25

MADISON AREA

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EAGLE RIVER AREA

Humane Society of Vilas County

August 23

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