



# Fetch magazine

May 2005 | Volume 2 Issue 3



Howling with Beagles  
Canine Massage  
Choosing Proper Dog Gear  
Secret World of Dog Fighting  
Muskego Pet Fair





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# Publisher's Letter

During our first year in publication we received numerous requests to offer this magazine on a monthly basis. Easy for you to say... but not a chance we thought. Until now. For the entire summer, you will notice a new issue each time you stop by your Veterinarian, pet supply store, or canine event. If there was ever a time to share more about life in Wisconsin with our canine companions, it is now. Warmer weather calls us to do more with our four-legged friends. Just try to hold an agility event in your living room or watch a dozen Whippets chase a lure in your basement - probably not likely. But yet when the outdoors beckons more time from us, we are apt to pursue new interests that exercise and socialize our pooches a little more. We hope you find these new monthly issues to be exactly what you need to energize your outdoor activities.

The summer months also bring with them more events and activities offered by local pet boutiques, training facilities, and breed rescue groups, among others. Please review the Event Calendar in each issue to attend the events that interest you. Almost all events encourage canine participation or at least their attendance.

As always, this publication is available due to the generous support of our advertisers. When you get outdoors to spoil your little buddy, please make every effort to thank these businesses.

Have a great start to the summer!

*Joseph & Jennifer Kojin*

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Cover photograph of Rufus courtesy of Keri and Jim.

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# Ask the Trainer

## Making the Housebreaking Connection

My job as a canine behavior consultant is to problem solve and trouble shoot various different problems. One area that I deal with quite frequently is housebreaking. Last year in this magazine there was an article on housebreaking that provided some very good housebreaking advice. The author mentioned scheduled feedings, frequent trips outside (especially at key times), the need to supervise and the use of a crate. All of these points are ground work for good housebreaking but what if it the pup still isn't housebroken. Like any good detective sometimes the right questions need to be asked.

### Could it be a physical problem?

I always tell pet owners that before we jump to the conclusion that a problem is a behavioral problem first make sure you can rule out physical. So that would be a trip to the vet. Once this is done other areas can be looked at to understand why the housebreaking connection isn't being made.

### Are you giving the dog too much time outside?

A common problem is giving the pup too much time outside and he is enjoying the scenery rather than getting down to business. When you take the pup out only give him 3 to 5 minutes to eliminate. If he doesn't go in that time, bring him back inside and either keep him glued to you so you can see if he starts to eliminate inside or put him in his crate and attempt to take him back outside in another 1/2 hour or so. The key isn't the amount of time you keep the dog outside. It is in making the connection that when you take him out and give him your cue words (go potty, etc) that he needs to eliminate.

### Are we not rewarding in a way the dog wants to be rewarded?

Sometimes what happens is that the owner brings the pup right back inside after he eliminates and this can be okay for pups that want to go back inside but other pups would rather be rewarded by staying out longer or taking a walk or playing. The pup may realize that by eliminating immediately he ends up going back inside so be sure to reward him with more time outside after he eliminates if your pet enjoys the outdoors.

### Is the type of food or amount effecting elimination?

A big consideration in the housebreaking department is the type of food the pup is

getting and when. Remember everything that goes in must come out...including treats so be careful not to over treat. It is better to measure out the food each time rather than estimate the amount.

The quality of the food is certainly a big factor in the amount of elimination you are going to see. Keep in mind that canned foods are up to 78% water and a pup on canned food will urinate more often. Sodium nitrite is a color enhancer in some foods and it acts as a diuretic. Dog foods high in cereal and sugar/cereal mixture are low in digestibility and will be higher in stool volume. So a good quality diet and good quality of treat will be helpful to expedite housebreaking.

### How is your dog signaling to you that he has to go out?

I work a great deal with Bichon Frises and they can be very non-communicative when it comes to indicating they have to go outside. I have found that teaching them to ring a bell can be easier than teaching them to bark at the door and less destructive then having them claw at the door. I simply put a bell at the end of a string and attach it to the side molding by the door. This way the bell doesn't ring every time someone opens the door. I teach the pup to either hit the bell with their paw or nose (putting a dab of peanut butter on the bell can help the dog quickly learn the technique). The pup must be made to ring the bell every time before he goes out and eventually (sometimes in only a few days) the pup will start ringing it on his own.

Housebreaking is a major reason animals are released to humane societies everyday.

So if your pup or dog is having a problem in that area, now is the time to make the housebreaking connection before the behavior becomes any more engrained.

**Patti Muraczewski** has been a dog training instructor for over 28 years. She owns For Pet's Sake Dog Training School which offers both in home training and group sessions. Patti trains her dogs for obedience, flyball, agility and tracking. She is certified as a trainer through Association of Pet Dog Trainers and Animal Behavior College and writes for the national magazine Front and Finish.



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# Fair-ing out the fun: MUSKEGO PET FAIR SET FOR MAY

## It seems like a simple recipe:

Gather up some dog enthusiasts. Some dedicated volunteers, merchants, and supporters who want to make a difference. Arrange for some entertainment and activity - with plenty of energy and enthusiasm. Bring in experts and specialists who have something to say and know what they're talking about. Make sure there's good eats and drinks for those who may get hungry and thirsty. Have a couple events to occupy and distract the youngin's, if need be.

And sunshine. Plenty of clear blue skies and warm temperatures if you please - especially for May 21.

## The result?

A host of dog shelters and dog rescue groups receive some much-needed funding - and well-deserved exposure - throughout the community for their efforts to make a difference.

"What we're trying to do is raise funds. A lot of people don't know it takes a lot (of energy and dollars) to take in a dog," said Kathleen Karcher, the lead organizer of the Muskego Pet Fair. "Most of us - the individual volunteers - pay the bills ourselves."

"We're just trying to make people aware that these groups can use some funds," she said.

The fair is scheduled to take place - rain or shine - from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Saturday, May 21 on the grounds of Alpine Lanes, S80-W18700 Apollo Drive, in Muskego. Karcher co-owns Alpine Lanes with her husband, Lloyd.

Experts from veterinary clinics and shelters will be there to talk to you about your pet, as well as their organizations. About a dozen or so vendors will be on hand, as well, to offer advice on different products and services.

Funds raised through the Muskego Pet Fair will benefit at least 15 shelters and rescues, said Karcher, who volunteers for Good Shepherd K9 Rescue - regularly taking in dogs in her home.

Organizers wanted to make clear that the invitation to the fair is extended to the dog-owners' dogs. However, if you're unsure how your pet may behave in a fair environment - with plenty of stimulation and perhaps hundreds of people - maybe keep him/her at home and plan for next year.

Activities at the fair will keep dogs and their owners busy. Some events include:

- Lectures by experts on a variety of topics, including dog behavior and cardiopulmonary resuscitation for pets
- Agility testing activities for your canine
- Pony rides for your children
- Toe nail clipping services, again for your canine
- Hair clipping services for your dog
- Medical advice from veterinarians
- Various raffles for prizes
- Food and drink from Bub's Barbecue

"Most of the pet fairs I attend, the money doesn't get returned" to groups that could most benefit from the fundraising," Karcher said. "What we've been trying to do is get a lot of donations."

And the vendors have stepped up, too, in supporting the fair in many ways. Among the organizations participating include:

- Pet Supplies & More
- Bark Busters
- Unique Perspectives
- Kindness Canine Behavior Consultants
- Lucky Dog Day Care
- For Pet's Sake
- A Pet's Friend
- Companion Natural Pet Food
- Shadows Pet Services
- Petchef Express Inc.

Among the groups that stand to benefit from a solid turnout at the fair include:

- Fuzzy Paw Shih Tzu Rescue
- GRROW Golden Retriever Rescue
- CareBCS/Border Collies Rescue
- Lakeland Animal Shelter
- Ayoutli Wildlife Center, Inc.
- Bassett Buddies
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- Green Acres Boxer Rescue
- A.W.A.R.E. Alliance of Wisconsin Animal Rehoming Efforts
- Good Shepherd K9 Rescue
- Wisconsin Doberman Rescue
- Wisconsin St. Bernard Rescue
- White Paws German Shepherd Rescue

For more information regarding the fair or ways you can participate and support its efforts, contact Karcher at (262) 679-1250 or via e-mail at [cause4paws@wcf.net](mailto:cause4paws@wcf.net).

An avid dog lover, Milwaukee native and accomplished freelance writer, **Mark Edmund** has spent the better part of his life with canine companions.



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# Ask the VET

**Q:** My four-legged friend has recently appeared more lethargic and showing signs of extreme fatigue. We haven't noticed any changes in his daily routine. Are there any diseases that show this symptom?

**A:** The following is a true story from a veterinarian at the Wisconsin Veterinarian Medical Association. When it appears that every ounce of life has drained from your canine, a quick diagnosis from your veterinarian may be just the cure to get him back up and running.

## Nellie's second chance

Nellie was a sweet, Golden Retriever with heart melting brown eyes. She had lived with her family since she was a puppy and now was almost 10 years old. Tom and Janet, Nellie's mom and dad, were enjoying giving their full attention to their four legged companion, but lately had become concerned about Nellie's health.

Over the last few months Nellie seemed to be losing weight and seemed to have some days when she didn't feel well at

all. She seemed very weak at times and her rear legs would shake while just standing. Nellie would also have episodes of vomiting and diarrhea that would last a day or two then disappear. Nellie was also drinking a lot of water. One evening Tom and Janet had friends visiting who mentioned that they noticed Nellie looked as if she wasn't feeling well. Their friends had many pets over the years and, after listening to Tom's description of Nellie's symptoms, were saddened to say that they thought Nellie might have some form of cancer. Janet and Tom were devastated and hoped that their friends were being overly pessimistic.

Two days later, Janet came home and found Nellie collapsed on the floor. Nellie could barely raise her head, but would still weakly thump her tail when she saw her beloved companion. Janet phoned Tom and told him that their friends must have been right. Their worst fears had been realized and it was time to consider ending Nellie's suffering. They agreed to meet at the veterinary clinic that they had taken Nellie to about three years ago.

Tom and Janet waited in the exam room with sweet Nellie, tears in their eyes but sure they were doing the right thing. They were a little surprised to see Dr. Kelly come into the room without any syringes or needles. She bent down and held Nellie's face in her hands and stroked her soft head. Dr. Kelly began to ask Tom and Janet what they had noticed going on with Nellie that had brought them to this decision to end her

life. Tom and Janet described the symptoms that their furry friend had been showing and said they were sure she had cancer. Dr. Kelly listened carefully and continued to examine Nellie. After Tom and Janet finished relating their story, Dr. Kelly told them that based on their observations and her own exam, she had reason to believe something other than cancer was plaguing Nellie.

Dr. Kelly pointed out that Nellie was showing signs of shock, with pale gums and a weak pulse. Those symptoms, combined with the health changes Tom and Janet had described, were consistent with a condition called Addison's Disease. Additional tests would be needed, but right now it was important that Nellie be hospitalized and immediately put on intravenous fluids. Tom and Janet were a little apprehensive, as they had prepared themselves to say their last goodbye to Nellie, but they thought if there was a chance, they should try to treat Nellie.

A few hours later, Dr. Kelly phoned Nellie's parents and told them she had good news. Nellie was up and wagging her tail, groaning in admiration at every person that walked by her. She was back to her old self. Tom and Janet were ecstatic, yet surprised at such a sudden turn-around in their friend's condition. Dr. Kelly explained that based on her exam, her initial diagnosis was correct, as dogs with Addison's Disease respond very quickly to therapy. Furthermore, Dr. Kelly reported that the initial set of

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blood tests were consistent with the diagnosis of Addison's Disease, and the next day she would perform a second blood test to confirm the diagnosis.

Dr. Kelly went on to explain that the medical term for Addison's disease is Hypoadrenalcorticism. This problem is caused when the Adrenal gland is not producing sufficient amounts of hormones. These hormones regulate a variety of body functions that are necessary to sustain life. Without them, dogs are unable to maintain normal water and electrolyte balance, and start to show the symptoms of weak muscles, low blood pressure, and kidney failure. Left untreated, Nellie would not have survived.

The causes of this disease are due to injury to the tissue of the adrenal gland from infections, bleeding, or as it is believed most commonly, from the body's own immune system attacking the gland. The signs of Addison's disease are usually vague and non-specific. Sometimes the condition takes a much more serious form with weakness and collapse, as Nellie had demonstrated. Tom and Janet asked if there was anything they could have done earlier to diagnose this disease. Dr. Kelly told them yes, if they had brought Nellie in for an exam, based on the symptoms they described, the doctor would have recommended blood screening tests appropriate for Nellie's age. The resulting changes in potassium and sodium levels would have clued them in to Nellie's problem. At this point, Dr. Kelly explained that it was important to perform a test that would confirm the diagnosis of Addison's disease. This test is called an ACTH response, which measures the adrenal gland's response to an injected hormone. If the test supports the diagnosis of Addison's disease, a treatment plan would then be recommended.

Treating Addison's disease involves supplementation of the hormones that the adrenal gland is no longer secreting. This can be done through a daily oral medication called fludrocortisone, or with monthly injections of a long acting hormone called DOCP. Some dogs also benefit from an orally administered corticosteroid.

The next day, the results of the ACTH stimulation test were returned. This confirmed Dr. Kelly's diagnosis was correct. The doctor along with Tom and Janet decided that it would work well for them

to give daily medications to Nellie. Dr. Kelly stressed that this disease would involve life-long medication and periodic testing to make sure that the hormones were being adequately supplemented.

After two short days in the hospital, Nellie went home with her parents, all the way home pounding the car seat with her happy tail. As weeks went by, Tom and Janet were amazed the changes they had attributed to Nellie's advancing age were actually due to Addison's disease. She could run and fetch, and enjoyed nuzzling for affection at every opportunity. Tom and Janet realized that they had been given a second chance to love and pamper their friend that had given so much to them over their years together.

**The Wisconsin Veterinary Medical Association (WVMA)** is the professional association for veterinarians in the state. It was founded in 1915 and has more than 2,050 members, representing more than 90 percent of the veterinarians in Wisconsin. The WVMA assists veterinarians in improving and protecting animal well-being, public health, and agriculture.

*This column is not intended to replace regular veterinary care. If you have questions regarding the information presented in this article, contact Ask the Vet, your personal Veterinarian, or a clinic in your area.*



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# The Legal Beagle

**You Do Have a Dog in This Fight:**  
Why Every Dog Owner Should Care  
About Illegal Dog Fighting

*This month's Legal Beagle enters the dark world of dog fighting. Please be aware that the content of this article is strong and may be inappropriate for children.*

If you think dog fighting is not your concern because it involves pit bulls, gangs and drugs, you are not alone. You are, however, wrong.

Dog fighting is a cruel blood sport that inflicts abuse on fighting dogs and family pets alike. Sadly, dog fighting is still practiced today. To combat the problem, dog owners must understand dog fighting laws, the serious health and behavioral consequences to our canine companions, and what actions dog owners can take to prevent it.

First and foremost, every dog owner should know that dog fighting is illegal in every state. It is a felony offense in 48 states, including Wisconsin. Even the federal government has targeted this inhumane activity by making the interstate transport of dogs for fighting a violation of the Animal Welfare Act. Despite the law's uniform attempt to stop dog

fighting, most dog owners know little about it. This is because dog fighting typically occurs behind closed doors over drugs and money, making it difficult for authorities to prosecute and easy for the public to ignore.

The life of a fighting dog is tragic, as the horror of the ring often pales in comparison to the horrors outside it. Unlike a typical companion animal, a fighting dog is unlikely to receive pats on the head, kind words, or a warm bed at night. Instead, fighting dogs are systematically and cruelly treated throughout their lives to attack, maim, and kill their opponent. The stakes are high. A dogfight can last as long as two hours, ending only when one of the dogs is unable to fight due to injury or death.

Fighting dogs that win live to fight another day. Those who lose face an even worse fate. In Cook County, Illinois, dog fighter, Jermaine Banks, became so enraged when his dog lost an organized fight, that he doused the dog in flammable liquids and lit him on fire. Although witnesses tried to save the dog, he was so severely burned that euthanasia was the only merciful option. Sadly, such barbaric acts of "revenge" for losing a fight are not uncommon.

Those fighting dogs not killed for losing at their match face an uncertain future. Each day in animal shelters across the country, the discards of the dog fighting industry await a second chance. For many, that chance will never materialize. Fighting dogs can be difficult, if not impossible, to place for adoption. Many of these dogs are euthanized for safety reasons. The most popular fighting dog is overwhelmingly the pit bull, a breed once widely regarded as a faithful family pet. Due to their use by the dog fighting industry, pit bulls are increasingly and unfairly characterized as inherently dangerous.

Fighting dogs are not the only victims of this cruel sport. Dog fighters also abuse family pets by stealing unattended pets and using them as "bait" to train fighting dogs for the taste of blood. Family pets stolen for use as "bait" are mauled or killed when fighting dogs are set upon them in training exercises. According to National Geographic Magazine, news reports about stolen pets are on the rise, appearing in California, Colorado,

Florida, Illinois, New York, North Carolina, Ohio and Texas.

Fortunately, Wisconsin law severely punishes dog fighters and those who support the dog fighting industry. Chapter 951, Crimes Against Animals, makes it a crime to intentionally instigate, promote, aid or abet, participate in the earnings from, or maintain or allow any place to be used for dog fighting. It is also a crime to own, possess, keep or train a dog for dog fighting or to intentionally attend a dogfight as a spectator.

Despite strong laws against dog fighting, it is next to impossible to prosecute. Because of the link between drugs and gambling, dog fighting is an underground activity. Therefore, the most effective way to stop dog fighting is with community involvement. Signs of dog fighting are easily recognizable when the community is paying attention. Such signs include scarring, bites, torn or missing ears and multiple pit bulls in one household. However, the most obvious sign of dog fighting, a fight in progress, is rarely seen.

As dog owners, we have an important role in protecting the well-being of all dogs, not just those we call our own. Fighting dogs are entitled to protection from abuse and authorities are legally empowered to seize any dog suspected of being used in fighting. Therefore, if you suspect dog fighting, contact the authorities immediately.

To learn about The Final Round, a campaign by the Humane Society of the United States to raise community awareness about dog fighting, go to [www.hsus.org](http://www.hsus.org).

To learn more about the rescue, rehabilitation and adoption of pit bulls, visit Out of the Pits, Inc. a nonprofit organization dedicated to the adoption and rescue of American Pit Bull Terriers. Go to [www.outofthepits.org](http://www.outofthepits.org).

**Megan A. Senatori** practices civil litigation at the Capitol Square Office of DeWitt, Ross & Stevens, S.C. She is an adjunct faculty member at the University of Wisconsin Law School where she teaches a course in animal law. Megan is a Co-Founder and Director of Wisconsin United for Furry Friends ("WUFF"), a non-profit animal welfare organization dedicated to creating a community of care for companion animals in Wisconsin through collaboration, coalition building and compassion. [www.wuffinfo.org](http://www.wuffinfo.org).

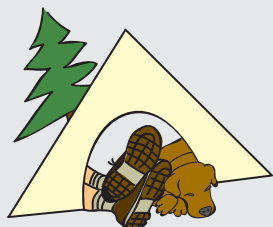


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# Rubbing Rover

If you bet me \$5 that my very food-motivated dog could be surrounded by tempting treats in a pet supply store, but yet lie contentedly on a soft, squishy blanket in a corner, cradled in the arms of a stranger, I would have thought I had just made an easy \$5. However, here was my dog, Louie, getting his very first massage from Doug Arthur, whom he just met



Photos courtesy of Stephanie Bartz Photography. Copyright 2005.

moments ago. Louie's tongue was dangling, his feet were flopping and he occasionally reached up and gave Doug some wet kisses. Canine bliss was evident.

Canine massage is "the manipulation of the muscles, skins and joints to promote increased circulation to all the organs and tissues of the dog's body. Massage therapy is different than petting in that it is a focused and deliberate way of touching the dog," states Doug.

Any age dog can benefit from massages. Doug says puppies usually are only able to sit still for 10 minutes during their first massage. Home visits often occur with older dogs to improve the quality of life in their senior years.

In addition to relaxation, there are many reasons to have your dog massaged. Massage can be used post-surgery. Gail Eder performs canine massage and does a lot of rehabilitation work. Gail's six year old golden retriever, Apache, broke her mid-back when she was just over a year old. She now has metal rods and cement in her back. As Gail demonstrated some massage techniques on her dog, Apache's paws drooped over the table and the rest of her body became completely relaxed. If Gail stopped to elaborate on a point, Apache thumped her with a paw to get the massage restarted.

Massage can also be used for performance enhancement for such events as agility trials, lure coursing and flyball. Doug had one agility dog owner tell him

that the dog ran 10 seconds faster on a jumper's course on the day that Doug had provided a pre-event massage. Gail states that massage can provide increased flexibility and joint strength and also lower injury rates because of the improved muscle tone and range of motion. Dogs can benefit from getting a massage before or after the performance event.

Massage can also reduce anxiety, shyness or stress in dogs. It can get a dog comfortable with being touched by someone other than their owner. Doug works with an 11 year old greyhound who is arthritic and very shy. While the dog initially was not enthused about the massage, she now greets him, then runs and lies on her heating pad to encourage Doug to start the massage. Gail has worked with dogs that have separation anxiety and are fear-biters. One particular dog had an unfortunate adoption experience and returned to the breeder as a fear-biter. When Gail first met the dog, the dog charged at her and barked. Gail acted submissive by lying on her back and putting her arms and legs in the air. Initially, the dog would only allow her to rest her hands on its back. After repeated visits and progression each time, the dog eventually greeted Gail by running and jumping into her lap.

A typical massage session will start by gathering information about the canine's history. The average session will last about one half hour but depends upon

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how receptive the dog is that day. Since the dog can't say "this or that feels good", the responses that the massage therapist monitors include the look in the dog's eyes, if the dog lifts their head and looks at them when touched in any particular spot, if the dog voluntarily moves from the sitting to the down position or if the dog rolls over and exposes their belly. The massage can also include stretching of all four limbs to improve the range of motion. After the massage, the dogs may be thirsty and should be given as much water as they want. Chances are they will drink more than they normally do. In addition to performing massage, both Doug and Gail will teach owners how to continue the massage therapy at home.

Numerous studies have shown that a human's blood pressure drops after petting a dog. A recent study by the University of Missouri-Columbia focused on the physical effects on both humans and dogs during petting. It showed the dogs' blood pressure dropped as soon as the petting started. So, while researchers are continuing to study the effects of human touch on animals, to me the most important feedback comes from my dog, Louie. Sitting in the midst of dog bones and toys and treats, the kisses he granted Doug spoke volumes.

**Contact Information:**

Doug Arthur  
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marial@execpc.com

Gail Eder  
262-236-4255  
geder1@wi.rr.com

**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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## Ridding your lawn of dead patches takes patience, planning



By now, you've noticed the damage. After months of our snowy, cold Wisconsin winter, this doesn't come as a surprise for any longtime dog owners to survey their yards and see the site. For many dog-lovers who own a home and like to have a lush, green lawn during the summer months, this ailment can be one of the dilemmas of keeping a canine.

Brown patches. Dog spots. Dead zones. Lawn burns.

There's hope for those who want to repair the damage that's been done over the winter months. There's hope for those who want to proactively head-off the situation and keep the grass in solid shape.

These nasty, unsightly spots in the backyards and lawns that Fido uses as his, uh, rest-stop can be easily countered in many ways. It just takes a little bit of time and attention - and persistence - if you want to make it happen.

Experts say this grass discoloration and green death is caused by the nitrogen content of Fido's waste materials. Nitrogen overload on grass usually causes lawn burn and dead patches. Sure, there may be some "fertilizer effect" on the

perimeter - where it's diluted a bit. But for the most part, the canine residue usually results in burns.

The concentration of nitrogen is much greater in Fido's liquid product, as opposed to the solid gifts he bears. Sometimes, the grass at the spot in question will regenerate on its own. Other times, the area needs to be re-seeded or re-sodded.

So what do the experts recommend?

First off, it's much easier to remove the solid gifts - taking away this nitrogen element from your lawn. So it's important to find ways to address the liquid line of waste.

Don't subscribe to the theories that feeding the dog Vitamin C or fruit or tomato juices - acidifying agents - will have a positive effect on the damage to the lawn. Not necessarily true. Neither will adding baking soda to the dog's water. You could cause harm to your dog's health by playing with its salt and water intake and resulting kidney and heart activities.

Better to make changes around the yard. If space allows, designate an area of your backyard or lawn as Fido's rest-stop. Use pea gravel or mulch in the area - and

include a marking post of sorts like a large rock, lawn ornament. Train your dog to use this area for its business - use a leash and/or food rewards to encourage the behavior.

Maybe your backyard doesn't have a convenient spot to ward off for Fido. For some, getting into the routine of taking walks to a park or a field away from the house for Fido to make its deposits can be part of the solution. Of course, this takes much time and isn't always convenient at 10 o'clock at night before you catch some zzz's.

Diluting the area with water is a good way to neutralize the spot. One study showed that watering the area with three times the volume of what Fido released has a positive effect of countering the lawn burn. Experts say it's best to saturate the areas up to nine hours after the deed has been done. After that, it may be too late.

Another idea that may take a little bit of more effort and planning is choosing a different type of grass. In another study, veterinarians in Colorado learned that certain grass types are less likely to be damaged by the large concentration of nitrogen in Fido's leave-behinds. For instance, tall fescue and perennial rye grasses proved to be more effective in countering the concentrated nitrogen soaks. The least resistant? Kentucky bluegrass and Bermuda. Experts say if you have many dogs confined in a small area of a yard - strongly consider this option of replanting to the more resistant grasses.

These are viable options that will work, but unless you are vigilant in watering the spots or walking the dog or keeping Fido within its designated duty zone, you will miss a spot here and there. If you can't bear to see those sites - the best way to repair the areas is to first remove the dead grass by raking and then scratching the top soil. Overseed or plug the empty spot with sod and proceed to water consistently and thoroughly in the days and weeks ahead.

An avid dog lover, Milwaukee native and accomplished freelance writer, **Mark Edmund** has spent the better part of his life with canine companions.



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# BREED PROFILE:

## *The Beagle*

### Happy Hounds

"Happy-go-lucky" said Beagle enthusiast Susan Taney "if one phrase described them it would be happy-go-lucky". The Beagle's jovial personality and friendly nature has made them one of America's most favorite breeds, number four to be exact according to the AKC's 2004 most popular breeds list.

To understand the Beagle's nature, it helps to know his origins. While the exact history of the Beagle is unknown, accounts of similar small hounds used for hunting rabbits in Europe have been recorded as far back as the Roman Empire. The name "Beagle" is thought to have come from the Celtic word "beag" or the Old English "begele" meaning small or "be'guele", French for gape throat.

The Beagle made it to America from England around the 1880s and America's National Beagle Club was founded in 1887 and eventually rose to be the nation's most popular dog in the 1950s.

They are inherently social animals originally bred to hunt in a pack. Beagles love companionship and usually get along well with children and other pets, although with their strong hunting instinct they may give chase to small animals if they haven't been raised around them. That also means that the little hounds don't always take well to being alone and when left to their own devices they can be quite mischievous.

Part of their success as hunters comes from their determined nature. Once a Beagle has set his mind to something, he'll work endlessly to achieve the goal. Pair that with his remarkable sense of smell and there can be trouble for this curious canine. He'll work endlessly until he's reached the cookie on the kitchen table, or the candy buried at the bottom of a purse.

If left unleashed, his curiosity and sense of smell will take him wandering. He'll leave his unfenced yard for a scent trail without a second thought. These are not a stand by your side breed of dog.

Put to a positive use, a Beagle's nose is a fantastic tool. While humans have around 5 million scent receptors, Beagles have over 220 million! The U.S. Department of Agriculture employs teams of Beagles and handlers, known as the Beagle Brigade, to search the nation's airports for contraband agricultural items.

Beagle's are also extremely receptive to food and will happily work for treats. Despite a somewhat stubborn nature, positive reinforcement works wonders when training. Notorious as food hounds, they can sometimes get food aggressive over their meals. Their gluttony can lead to obesity in these little dogs

Beagles come in two sizes, 13", which include anything, under 13" at the shoulder and 15", which ranges anywhere from above 13" but below 15". Ideally a 15" Beagle weighs between 20 to 30 pounds and a 13" less than 20 pounds.

Beware of any breeder claiming to specialize in miniature or pocket Beagles. Popular in 1300 and 1400s, pocket Beagles were bred to stand 9" at the shoulder. Today, while there may be some smaller 13" Beagles around 10 inches high, the AKC does not recognize pocket Beagles. They are actually considered a sign of poor breeding and often have a host of medical problems. There are no guarantees when selecting a Beagle as to how large he'll get. 15" Beagles can have 13" offspring and vice versa.

While Beagles are overall generally healthy dogs, poor breeding and obesity can lead to their most common health problems. Epilepsy, heart and disc problems, glaucoma and Cushing's Disease, the body's overproduction of the hormone cortisol, have troubled the breed. A healthy pet can have a life expectancy of 10 to 15 years.



To keep a Beagle healthy, exercise is a must. Not only will it help keep a hound fit, it can relieve excess energy that could be used negatively later. Beagles are not the type of dog that can be left alone in the house or backyard for extended periods of time. When bored they'll participate in unwanted behaviors such as digging up the garden, rearranging the knickknacks on the coffee table, just about anything to amuse themselves.

Oh, and don't forget the serenading. This little dog can have a very big voice. The "aroo" of a Beagle's howl delights hunters knowing that their dogs are fast



on the trail, but it can drive your neighbors nuts. Beagles aren't normally nuisance noisemakers, they might bark at a stranger or bay while following a scent, but some can be prone to howling if they are left alone too long.

Beagles also come in a variety of colors. The AKC recognizes any hound colors, which includes all shades and combinations of white or cream, black, tan/lemon/red, brown/liver, and blue/grey. The most common combination people recognize is the tricolor, black, white and brown, or a red/tan and white Beagle also known as a lemon Beagle. Just like with size, the coloring of the parents doesn't guarantee what color pups they'll have.

Grooming is a very low-key process with these dogs. While they do shed, they have short, easy to care for coats. Brushing once a week is usually all the maintenance it needs, unless he rolls in something stinky making a bath a necessity. Their long, pendant ears can be prone to infection so a regular cleaning and frequent checks for signs of a yeast infection or ear mites is a requirement.

Dog lovers in Wisconsin looking to learn more about Beagles or find that special hound will soon have another option. Brew Beagles has been serving Western Pennsylvania, Ohio, Michigan and Illinois and is now moving into our area. Upcoming events are being held in the Chicago land area, including Beagle fest at Hinkley Park in Park Ridge, Illinois on May 14th.

They are currently looking for volunteers in Wisconsin to provide foster homes, home visits for prospected adopters and transport dogs. Toscha Clausen, Co-director for the Midwest chapter of Brew Beagles, said volunteers were imperative to the success of the rescue in Wisconsin. She also suggests that families interested in Beagles visit one of their events or a local Beagle club. Field trial events are in the late spring and can be a great opportunity to see them do what they do best.

Like any other dog, Beagles require patience and love. For the right family, Beagles make an excellent companion. Their gentle temperaments and endless enthusiasm for life make the merry little hounds a source of constant entertainment.



For more information on Brew Beagles or to become a volunteer check out their website at: [www.brewbeagles.org](http://www.brewbeagles.org).

In addition to being an avid dog lover, **Keri Meyer** has spent several years in the veterinary field, currently as Assistant Hospital Manager at the Wisconsin Veterinary Referral Center.

*If you are interested in learning more about this breed, contact your local Breed Rescue Group, Humane Society, or Training Club.*



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# DOG DAYS OF SUMMER

Be a kid, go to camp! But this time, take your dog.

Dog camp is the place where you can unwind and celebrate nature with your canine companion. Participate in organized activities or take in a sunset while laying in the grass, all with your faithful best friend at your side.

Sometimes dog lovers are reserved about lavishing attention on their pets in the company of others. The dog camp setting allows dog lovers to embrace their affection for their pets and to explore a deeper relationship that can't be duplicated in everyday situations. "Everyone at camp believes they are the luckiest person alive because they have the best dog in the world -- and they are all right," offers GeorgiAnne Katek, seasoned camper with her mixed breed pooch, Xander. Your fellow campers will be compatible folks who treat their dogs as family members and share the common bond of canine companionship with each other.

Dogs are allowed everywhere on camp grounds, and in most cases may accompany you off-leash if you have verbal control. One of the most delightful aspects of dog camp is the fact that you can let your best buddy run free and play. Since only

other people who are also capable of controlling their dogs will be allowing them off leash, there is no worry, it's pack mentality and socialization for all.

Fun is integral to the mission of Camp Dogwood, owned and operated by Dave Eisendrath and Alysa Slay. Situated in Ingelside, Illinois, 48 miles northwest of Chicago, and less than an hour south of Milwaukee, Camp Dogwood covers 180 acres of woods, meadows and wetlands, situated on the picturesque shores of Wooster Lake. Repeat camper GeorgiAnne says there are a wide range of activities for people and their pooches to sample, including workouts for the athletic and options for the laid back. Dedicated professionals in their fields are on staff at Camp Dogwood and conduct the many daily programs. Taking advantage of the range of activities offered, you may just find your dog has talents you never knew. "Where else can I watch my dog swim on the lake at sunrise, enjoy a wide variety of activities throughout the day, get a massage for my pooch and one for me, then end up back at the beach late that night for a camp fire?" asks Katek.

Dog Days of Wisconsin is operated by Jackie Jordan of Milwaukee and is located at Camp Helen Brachman, near Stevens

Point in Portage County, about 140 miles northwest of Milwaukee. The excitement and popularity of Dog Days of Wisconsin has drawn campers from states including Illinois, Michigan, Minnesota, Colorado, Iowa, Indiana, New York, Missouri, South Carolina, South Dakota and Florida. Campers have such a strong bonding experience with their dogs and each other that roughly sixty percent of the registrants this year are returnees. Think home-cooked meals in a lodge setting, including hikes, barks and crafts, swimming, canoeing, campfires, and costume contests, just to name a few of the many seminars and workshops offered. At night, four-legged best friends snuggle up with their humans by their side to sleep in dorm-style cabins. Each camper may bring a maximum of two canine companions, but several human campers may share one canine. Dog Days of Wisconsin offers the "yellow bandana" designation for those dogs needing a little extra room in their social comfort space, according to Jordan. But "because everything about camp is set up with the dog in mind, it radiates positive vibes and the dogs pick up on that." By the end of the session, a dog may have quickly shed that yellow bandana!

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Many camps incorporate fund raising into the everyday activities. Rescue, anti-cruelty, and humane society organizations are some of the recipients of donations gathered and returned to the community. Dog Days of Wisconsin, for example, will offer a special activity during camp this year called "rawhides in the haystack". For a two dollar donation, canine sleuths will be able to scamper around, sniff and dig in a pile of straw to find the special treat. Events such as the Good Bones program, The Dogwood Yard Sale and the Scrub 'Em Yourself Dog Wash are offered at Camp Dogwood.

Perhaps one of the best aspects of camp is that no one will think you are looney if you are crazy-in-love with your pet. "I appreciate spending time with like-minded people. When I'm at camp it's all about my dog," explains GeorgiAnne. It could be your dream vacation; dog camp is a celebration of dogs, our relationships with them, and the joys they bring into our lives. Recreate the excitement of camp that lingers from your childhood memories -- but add a new twist -- go with your dog!

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Deb Voss Quail is a writer living in Oconomowoc. Duke, her fearless terrier, helps her parent four teens. Duke also keeps track of every passing hour and lets Deb know when it's time for their daily walk.



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Basic Obedience	Monday, May 9th	6:30pm - 7:30pm
Puppy Socialization	Monday, May 9th	6:30pm - 7:30pm
Therapy Dog Class	Tuesday, May 17th	6:30pm - 8:00pm
Beginner Agility	Wednesday, May 18th	6:30pm - 7:30pm
Intermediate Agility	Wednesday, May 18th	7:45pm - 8:45pm
Therapy Dog Testing	Saturday, May 21st	9:00am - 1:00pm

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# Need Dog Gear?

## Try Before You Buy!



The Easy Walk harness in this photo is available from Kindness Canine Behavior Consultants.

In my classroom is a white, plastic bucket into which, over the past five years, I've thrown every item of equipment that has proven itself useless or unhelpful. The contents of my bucket are pointed out to everyone who comes in the door. "Help yourself!" I offer cheerfully. Funny thing, but that bucket is just as full as ever; no one seems interested in adopting anything that lives within its pristine circular walls. Maybe a good look at the contents

will explain why this dog gear, for which good money was paid, is now nothing but useless junk.

Let's start with the chain link leash. Very heavy, noisy; cheap plastic handle with sharp edges. What kind of behavior would prompt someone to buy it in the first place? A champion puller? Or one who thought holding the leash in his mouth was cool? What about the nylon collar with a plastic buckle, the kind you can't tighten enough to keep the dog from slipping out of? How about the H-style harness that helps the champion puller graduate to Olympic caliber? And another of those nylon collars . . . They certainly do come in great colors, though . . . Some kind of adjustable nylon leash . . . hmmm, now how does this work . . .? Nylon collar with metal buckle, the kind you can't tighten enough to keep the dog from slipping out of it. Some variety of harness designed to keep a dog from jumping, hopelessly tangled . . . where does this strap go??? There's lots more, but you probably get the idea by now. The point is folks buy a lot of equipment for their dogs that's at best useless and at worst dangerous. A lot of it doesn't fit the dog well enough to be comfortable, is not user-friendly, can be very expensive and even dangerous.

Dog gear is obviously a profitable market, based on the number and variety of items available in shops, catalogs and

online. Given the variety, how do we choose what's really going to work? In my experience, other than the basic neck collar and leash that our dog paradigm tells us every dog needs, most people buy a piece of equipment hoping it will solve a problem, for example, leash pulling. When it doesn't they buy something else. Through a process of trial and error, they may find something that works. But more often, they just find something that leaves them more or less frustrated than the previous equipment setup. Does buying dog gear need to be so hit and miss? Do we really need to spend so much time and money, with such unsatisfactory results?

Think of the last time you purchased a piece of equipment for your dog. If you bought it in a shop, did anyone ask if you were having a particular problem that led you to select that piece of equipment? If you were lucky enough to have someone ask you, and you indicated you did have a special need, was that clerk or assistant knowledgeable enough to suggest a range of options in the product category you were interested in? Choice is good, is it not? And best of all, was that clerk or assistant knowledgeable enough to try some of those options on your dog, expertly fitting and adjusting, so that when you put your money on the counter you knew for sure that you had the



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safest, most comfortable, most effective option available for its cost? If you answer no to any of these questions, chances are that dog gear may end up in your equivalent of my plastic bucket!

When it comes to other than a basic neck collar and leash, the fact is that most people buy equipment because they're having a problem. Leash pulling is probably the most common. In my experience, most people choose to resolve this problem not with training, which takes time, but rather with management, that is to say, equipment that will make it impossible or at least difficult for the dog to pull. I have no issue with this, because the right equipment can actually be a passive training device. Dog gear technology has become very sophisticated over the past 10 years, and many devices such as head collars and harnesses have been designed with passive training in mind. Because of the sophistication, as well as the potential for harm to the dog if the equipment is not fitted correctly, it's even more important to have your equipment fitted by someone who knows what they're doing. The most reputable dog gear manufacturers take their products seriously enough that they produce training videos and manuals, and even hands-on workshops to learn proper fit and usage. Halti head collars (Rodger Mugford) and the Easy Walk Harness (Premier Pet Products) are two excellent products supported by extensive user and vendor training.

So far we've talked about the first part of the story: Need Dog Gear? Let's talk about the second part: Try Before You Buy! I'm a firm believe in trying a variety of options on the dog. If the equipment is comfortable, the dog will accept it. If the dog accepts it, the owner is encouraged to "test drive" it around the block. As a result, we know precisely whether the equipment is working (the dog no longer pulls, jumps, lunges, etc.), whether the owner is comfortable and confident in its operation, whether the dog is comfortable wearing it (doesn't rub its face along the ground, climb out of its harness, refuse to move, etc.), and that the equipment is safe (will not cause injuries or allow the dog to escape). The process, of course, may take time. But it's well worth it knowing that the customer has the best option for her needs. As a result, equipment returns are minimal and we routinely hear com-

ments like, "My dog's not choking anymore and our walks are 200% more fun;" or, "My dog can't lunge at passing cars anymore and I don't need to do anything except stand there and hold the leash."

So the next time you're thinking about a new wardrobe for your dog, ask your seller: 1) What equipment options do you offer for the particular problem I'm dealing with; 2) Can you help me find the one which will work best for me and my dog; 3) Can I take it for a test drive outside the shop? If the answer to any of these questions is less than "Yes!" come see us!

**Claudeen E. Mc Auliffe** is an applied animal behaviorist and author. She holds a Master's degree in Education from the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, and is a Level 2 Tellington TTouch practitioner. She owns and operates Kindness Canine Behavior Consultants in Oconomowoc, providing classes and private consultations.



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#### Puppy ABC Classes (puppies under 6 months)

Tuesday, May 3rd, 6:30p.m.  
Wednesday, May 11th, 6:30p.m.  
Saturday, June 4th, 12:00p.m.  
Thursday, June 9th, 6:30p.m.  
Wednesday, June 22nd, 6:30p.m.

### Adult Manners Classes:

This is the next step after puppy class, or a great first step for dogs over 6 months of age. You can even attend if you did not go to puppy class, or as a refresher for an adult dog. We will teach you general training techniques and how to modify your dog's behavior in order to have a well-mannered dog. Your dog will get socialization to people, other dogs, and new things by coming to these classes. Like the puppy classes, all techniques used in this class use positive reinforcement and clicker training. Manners Classes, 6 week session \$80 for WHS adopted dog / \$100 for all other dogs.

#### Adult Manners Classes (dogs 6 month & over)

Tuesday, May 3rd, 7:45p.m.  
Saturday, May 7th, 9:00a.m.  
Wednesday, May 11th, 7:45p.m.  
Saturday, June 4th, 10:30a.m. & 1:30p.m.  
Thursday, June 9th, 7:45p.m.  
Wednesday, June 22nd, 1:00p.m. & 7:45p.m.  
Saturday, June 25th, 9:00a.m.



# Bite Back

## Against Dog Abuse and Neglect

A dog is tethered to a steel pole driven into the ground. A six-foot chain restricts the dog to a small wooden house, a dirty water/food dish and multiple piles of droppings. Day after day you see the dog in this position, so what do you do? Do you march up to the owner(s) and tell them to treat their dog better? What if they're your neighbors? Do you call the police? Is this treatment even illegal? According to a representative of the Humane Animal Law Organization of Wisconsin (HALO), it depends on the circumstances.

Kiki Vander Housen, inspired by animal crime shows on Animal Planet, is the driving force behind HALO, the new online reporting vehicle for the Milwaukee area. The idea is, concerned dog lovers can log on and report abuse and neglect via the HALO website. Vander Housen then uses the contact information they provide to get in touch with them and discuss the report. "We call and interview them," says Vander Housen, "to make sure it's not just to piss off the neighbors."

From there she decides if additional action is required. "There are times you have to visit the scene to look for yourself," says Vander Housen. It's a type of detective work, she admits, citing her interest in crime shows including the listening skills involved in interrogation. "I like to listen between the lines," she says.

If the situation appears to be real or Vander Housen can see the problem the

next step is the HALO postcard. "It informs those people of what the law is," says Vander Housen, who also adds specific notes about the situation and tips on how the owner(s) can "clean up their act."

The previous situation of a dog tied outdoors first depends on the breed. A husky or other large, hairy dog can live quite comfortably outside, even during Wisconsin's coldest months as long as it has proper shelter, food and water, a Chihuahua or a Pit Bull can not. "I'd say most people have to familiarize themselves with the laws," says Vander Housen.

She tells the story of an owner she saw who had an old couch outside for his dog's bed. After receiving the postcard he went out and bought a brand-new arctic doghouse. "It's not that he didn't care about his dog, he just didn't know," concludes Vander Housen.

The postcard also states that the appropriate agency has been contacted. For instance, Vander Housen notifies the Milwaukee Area Domestic Animal Control Commission (MADACC) when there is a dog running loose. "Every time I've called them they've always done a terrific job," says Vander Housen. If it's a dog bite, waste removal issue or noise complaint, the Department of Neighborhood Services is the proper contact.

The person who did the initial reporting can also find out the status of the alleged neglect or abuse via the website and the data is kept to aid in prosecuting repeat offenders.

If the owner given a ticket chooses to appear before a judge they might claim ignorance. "What we're trying to do is eliminate that," explains Vander Housen. "They'll be able to use our data that this [offender] has been warned three times." Hopefully the judge will fit the punishment not only to the crime, but harsh enough to discourage future violations.

Currently Vander Housen spends less than an hour a week running HALO and investigating reports, but she is worried she might not be able to keep up with demand if HALO is fully utilized. Additionally, Vander Housen has been footing the bill, although she just recently wrote a proposal for an endowment. "If [anyone] wants to contribute, they could send me stamps," laughs Vander Housen.

"It's very interesting work," she continues. "It satisfies a lot of my interests." It's not only the crime aspect for Vander Housen, but the love she has for animals. Her own Rottweiler, ACE, almost came to an untimely death when as a puppy his previous owner decided to move, taking ACE and a five year old German Shepard to the vet to be euthanized. Luckily, ACE was spared and sent to Rottweiler Rescue. "That's how I got him," says Vander Housen proudly.

Ultimately, when you see a dog in distress, trust your instinct. "If it really drives [you] crazy or [you] feel passionate about it [you] should report it," Vander Housen says. Sometimes owners just need a reminder of the rules and the postcard can give them that in a non-threatening, but informative way, while also allowing law agencies hard evidence of repeat offenders. "My real goal would be to get people to own up to the responsibilities they have or give up the dog."

Let's face it, we are all dog lovers who want a happy life for any wet-nosed companion and HALO is one vehicle to help make this a reality. Check out [www.haloofwi.org](http://www.haloofwi.org) today.

**Emily Refermat** has written and loved dogs all her life. As a child, she read her stories to Aurora, a protective standard Schnauzer. Now, Refermat writes for a living, reading her articles to her husband, two cats, and Siberian Husky/Collie mix named Maya.



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# Living with an elderly dog

Good care should start early and last a lifetime

Living with an elderly dog has its ups and downs. There are good days when your dog is the happy, playful friend she's always been. But, then there are days when she's just not quite herself and she may just decide to take snip at you, this is all part of getting older. Those of us who've had our beloved four-legged friends with us for a long-time dread the day when our dogs grow old and tired, but as with humans, aging is inevitable. Though we can't turn back the hands of time, good healthcare and lots of love throughout her life will definitely keep your dog healthier and happier in her senior years.

Though there is no real equation to measure the aging process in dogs, most dogs reach "old age" at about seven years, says Jill Degrave, education director for the Wisconsin Humane Society in Milwaukee. Small dogs tend to live longer lives than larger dogs, while larger breed dogs, such as Newfoundlands, have an average life span of six-to-eight years. As our dogs grow older they become more prone to ailments and possible disease. They will also slowly begin to lose senses such as vision and hearing.

"Older dogs are at risk for kidney problems, congestive heart failure, arthritis and cancer," adds Degrave. "Periodontal disease affects about 95 percent of geriatric dogs, so tooth brushing is important to help reduce the risk of teeth/gum problems."

To keep an aging dog happy and healthy, it's important to follow the recommendations of your veterinarian when it comes to diet and exercise. According to the American Kennel Club, an aging dog does not require as much food to maintain her weight. Veterinarians may recommend converting to a senior diet, which contains easily digestible nutrients and also prevent obesity and gastrointestinal upsets by limiting fats. Older dogs are also prone to dehydration, so easy access to water is also important.

"Diet often depends on the dog," says Sue Brahm a veterinary technician at Lakeside Animal Hospital in Milwaukee. "Some elderly dogs don't eat well, while others eat just fine, so diet becomes important because you don't want them to gain or lose too much weight. There are a lot of new diets on the market targeted for elderly dogs, but you really want to talk to your veterinarian first to decide what's best for your dog."

Routine, annual health check-ups are always recommended at any age, but they are also important for elderly dogs, says Degrave. Biannual visits are suggested as your dog becomes geriatric.

"If you think of how quickly the lifespan of a dog can go, if they're only brought in every other year or whenever they're due for a rabies shot - that's a huge span of their life," adds Brahm. "Things can happen much quicker in an older dog in terms of kidney disease, cancer, etc., so if we catch things sooner, the easier it could be to do something before it gets too far."

Exercise will also help keep your aging dog happy and healthy, but Brahm warns that exercise should be limited to what your dog can tolerate. "Sometimes joint or arthritis issues may prevent them from exercising as much as they want too, so keeping a close eye on what they can tolerate is important."

If you notice a bluish haze in the eyes of your aging dog, this generally indicates the onset of vision problems, adds Degrave. Vision problems are common in older

dogs and the American Kennel Club recommends a consistent environment will help your dog adjust. Not rearranging the furniture or moving things to a new place will lessen the risk of confusion or stress, which may worsen the condition.

Keeping your elderly dog comfortable will also help keep her happy. Making sure she has a soft bed in a warm place and limiting time outdoors in extreme temperatures is important. The American Kennel Club also suggests routine grooming in order to keep the coat and skin from becoming dry; this will also help you notice any lumps or abnormalities that should be checked-out immediately.

As your pet ages, be sure to give her the love and care she deserves and the quiet time she needs. Though she may still need lots of love and attention, she may not always want it, so be attentive to her limitations.

"Animals are really good at hiding pain so it's really important to recognize your dog's personality as they grow older so you can spot problems early, good health can go a really long way," says Brahm.

## Recommended care for an older dog:

- Regular mild to moderate exercise
- Annual to biannual medical check-ups to detect problems early
- Reduce exposure to extreme weather (a sweater may be necessary in very cold temps)
- Make the surroundings familiar and secure for the dog who has lost vision and hearing
- Put carpet runners over slippery floors and steps to help with footing
- Soft bedding may make an arthritic dog more comfortable
- Elevate food and water bowls if necessary
- Keep the dog mentally stimulated
- Feed a senior diet and watch weight

Source: Jill Degrave, education director, Wisconsin Humane Society

**Jamie Klinger-Krebs** is a freelance writer and avid animal lover who lives in Jefferson County with her husband, two dogs and two cats. Having been around animals her entire life, Jamie can't imagine what life would be like without "four-legged" kids to keep life interesting.

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# Dog Days are Fun Days at Happy Hounds, LLC



Photos courtesy of Happy Hounds, LLC.

Michelle Richards worked and played with dogs her whole life. In school her book reports and speeches were always about dogs, and in college her demo videos featured her training her dog to sit, come, or down stay. No surprise that last year, after twelve years in the corporate world, Richards and her good friend Carolyn Summers opened their own business working and playing with dogs at Happy Hounds, Germantown's doggie daycare and training facility.

"Daycare and training go hand in hand," Richards said. "When a dog in daycare is having trouble doing the down stay, we can pull her into another room and work with her. The owner is pleased because they want a good, well-behaved pet they can take places." Richards and Summers designed their training curriculum using a combination of methods from the top animal behaviorists.

"I always tell people that training your dog is like raising your kids-there's not just one way to do it, and you can't do it the same way with every dog," Richards explained. "Some dogs are real soft, others are real dominant and bull headed. You have to be able to watch a dog's personality, how it is or isn't responding to the training and techniques, and you need to have other techniques and tools to modify what's not working for that dog."

Richards and Summers pride themselves on their individualized training. "People get a dog to be fun," Richards said. "They don't get it thinking this is going to be three years of work and ten years of pleasure." She believes the last thing an owner wants after a hard day at work is to try and find 15 minutes to train the dog. So they teach owners how to fit training into every day life.

In addition to obedience, a Happy Hounds dog can learn agility, AKC Canine Good Citizen training, Delta Society Therapy Dog training/testing, and receive private lessons in the facility or at home.

A typical Happy Hounds dog day begins at 7:00am with supervised group play in the indoor play rooms, or weather permitting, outdoors in the 7,000 square foot, fenced-in play yard. In summer, the dogs cool themselves in kiddie pools and sprinklers. Outsized toys prevent scuffles by allowing space for more than one dog's mouth. Three-foot tug ropes can accommodate up to five dogs in a rowdy tug-of-war.

From 11:00-1:00 all dogs retire to their crates for a nap, and those unfamiliar with crates nap in the den or one of the four playrooms. Dimmed lights and smooth jazz relax the tired dogs to sleep.

After naps more play is supervised by Playologists, staff members specialized in observing dog behavior and play styles. "We may split the dogs into groups based on play styles-wrestling, rough and tumble, run and chase," Richards explained. A new dog's behavior is observed on its first day, and its training, interactions with other dogs, and play style are discussed.

"We go slow and give individualized attention to each new dog," Richards said. "If we have 13 dogs in the room and just open the door to let the new dog in, all 13 will charge this newcomer. That's totally stressful and overwhelming for the new dog, and it's asking for trouble. So we introduce them one at a time."

Dogs attending Happy Hounds daycare or training must be current on their



shots and vaccinations. "We want all dogs to come in healthy and go home healthy," Richards said.

Every day Richards gets her daily dose of dog companionship, and she loves it. Animal behavior intrigues her, and she and Summers are always getting ideas for doing more. They've both worked with humane societies and rescue groups. "The majority of dogs at humane societies are there for behavioral issues that, with a little bit of time and training, could've been worked through so they could stay with their original owners," Richards said. "Many people think they can't change their dog's behavior." She and her partner have never met a dog they haven't been able to work with.

At 6:00pm owners arrive to take their dogs home. Most dogs are so exhausted "they're crashed before they get out of the parking lot," Richards said. "This is something you want to do one to three days a week. Only a few come every day." Owners report that dog days at home mean day-long naps, resting up for the next visit to Happy Hounds.

Happy Hounds Doggie Daycare & Dog Training, N115 W19150 Edison Drive in Germantown Industrial Park off of 41/45; 262-502-DOGS (3647); Monday-Friday, 7am-6pm.

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

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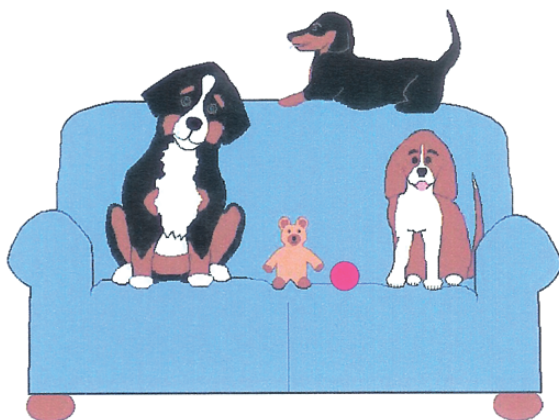
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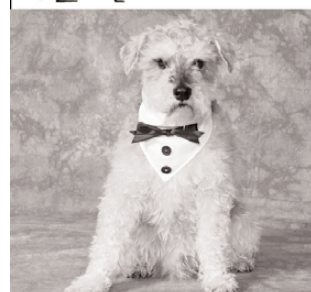
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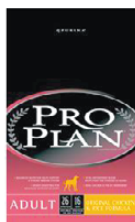


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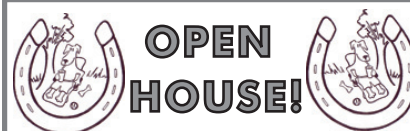


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www.aire-rescue.com

## All Breed

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Mukwonago, WI  
262-363-0557  
heavenlyrescue@lycros.com  
www.hhr.petfinder.com

## American Water Spaniel

Holly Trimberger  
Milwaukee, WI  
414-840-7411  
rescueaws@yahoo.com  
www.americanwaterspanielclub.org

## Cocker Spaniel

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262-255-0246  
WiCockerRescue@Juno.com  
www.geocities.com/WiCockerRescue

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

## Collie

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

## Dachshund

Badger Dachshund Club  
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IN, IA, MI, MN, MO, OH, and WI  
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rescue@mwdr.org  
www.mwdr.org

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www.dalrescue.net

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sosdalrescue@core.com  
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## Doberman Pinscher

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Pam Haefner  
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414-536-4477  
widoberescue@aol.com  
www.wi-doberescue.org

## German Shepherd

Jo Aschauer  
German Shepherd Rescue Alliance of WI  
414-461-9720  
yur\_rltr@execpc.com or  
gsdrsq@hotmail.com  
www.gsraw.com

Karen Frank  
Good Shepherd K-9 Rescue  
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gshepherd@gsk9r.org  
www.gsk9r.org  
(ccow@ticon.net)

## Glen of Imaal Terrier

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lakerun@execpc.com

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Wisconsin)  
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www.GRRoW.org

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## Italian Greyhounds

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## Mixed Breed

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## Neapolitan Mastiff

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mhweglarz@msn.com

## Pug

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Wisconsin & Illinois  
NIPRA@pugrescue.org

## Rat Terrier

Wisconsin Rat Terrier Rescue INC.  
Betsy & George Gorham  
608-697-7240  
wrt@hotmail.com

## Rottweiler

Wisconsin Rottweiler Rescue  
Joan Sweeney  
Madison, WI  
608-224-0272  
www.wirottrescue.org

## Scottish Terrier

Melanie Battson  
Door County Scottie Rally Inc.  
920-969-9497  
dcsr-rescue@new.rr.com

## Shih Tzu

Fuzzy Pawz Shih Tzu Rescue of WI Inc.  
Northern Illinois and Wisconsin  
shihtzuwi@yahoo.com  
www.geocities.com/shihtzuwi/ or  
www.geocities.com/slhopk/  
501c3 non-profit

## Westie

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

## Yorkshire Terrier

Yorkshire Terrier Rescue of Wisconsin  
Patricia A. Moon  
414-747-0879  
shyyorkiemom@yahoo.com  
Judi Iding  
414-383-2779  
judii2000@yahoo.com

The Breed Rescue Groups listed in Fetch Magazine are provided as an informational resource only. We believe that you should feel comfortable with your chosen Group. Therefore, before supporting or adopting from a listed Group, we urge you to contact and meet with their representatives to gain a better understanding of their practice standards and philosophies.

Groups are not screened on an individual basis. However, Groups that receive numerous complaints or quality inquiries will be asked to furnish evidence of credibility.



# Event Calendar

## May 2005

### May

#### 1 Sunday

**What:** Animal Communication with Rebecca Moravec

**Where:** The Natural Pet, Bay View

**When:** 12:00 - 5:00 p.m. By Apt. Only.

**Info:** 414-482-PETS, 20 min./\$40, 30 min./\$60

**What:** Mothers Day Photo's by SliderPhoto

**Where:** Petlicious Dog Bakery

**When:** 10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. (reservations req.)

**Info:** 262-548-0923, www.petlicious.com

#### 3 Tuesday

**What:** Therapy Dog Info Meeting

**Where:** Happy Hounds, Germantown

**When:** 6:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.

**Info:** 262-502-3647

#### 5 Thursday

**What:** Start of: Life Skills for Puppies 8-20 weeks

**Where:** Kindness Canine Behavior

Consultants, Oconomowoc

**When:** 7:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. (ends Jun 23)

**Info:** 262-569-1050, info@kindnessk9.com

#### 6 Friday

**What:** Yappy Hour

**Where:** Petlicious Dog Bakery

**When:** 6:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m. (reservations req.)

**Info:** 262-548-0923, www.petlicious.com

**What:** Obedience Run Thru's

**Where:** Happy Hounds, Germantown

**When:** 7:00 p.m.

**Info:** 262-502-3647

#### 7 Saturday

**What:** Doggie Dayz

**Where:** Dynamic Pet Palace, Hartford

**When:** 8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

**Info:** 262-673-6911, www.dynamicpetpalace.com

**What:** Love Your Dog Day

**Where:** The Dog Spot, Wauwatosa

**When:** 10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

**Info:** 414-258-3444 Please call for details.

#### 8 Sunday

**What:** Greyhound Rescue

**Where:** Petlicious Dog Bakery

**When:** 12:00 p.m. - 2:00 p.m.

**Info:** 262-548-0923, www.petlicious.com

#### 9 Monday

**What:** Throw Your Dog a Turnip! How nutrition influences behavior.

**Where:** Harmony Pet Care, Waukesha

**When:** 7:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.

**Info:** 1-888-581-9070 or 262-263-4529

**What:** Basic Obedience & Puppy Socialization

**Where:** Happy Hounds, Germantown

**When:** 6:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.

**Info:** 262-502-3647

#### 13 Friday

**What:** Dog Nutrition Network

**Where:** Pet Supplies 'N' More, Muskego

**When:** 7:00 p.m. 262-679-6776

**Info:** Social group for natural food feeders.

**What:** Obedience Run Thrus

**Where:** For Pet's Sake, Mukwonago

**When:** 6:30pm Utility & Novice, 7:30pm Open

**Info:** 1-888-581-9070

**What:** Flyball (\$20/6 months, \$9 walk-in fee)

**Where:** Amiable Dog Training, Greenfield

**When:** 6:30 p.m.

**Info:** 414-289-7785, www.dogclass.com

#### 14 Saturday

**What:** USDAA Agility Trial w/ Milw. Dog

Training Club. Spectators welcome!

**Where:** Greater Racine Kennel Club

**When:** Saturday & Sunday May 14th & 15th

**Info:** www.milwaukeekeedog.com

**What:** Puppy tips w/ Chris from Bark Busters

**Where:** Pet Supplies 'N' More, Muskego

**When:** 10:00 a.m. - ?

**Info:** 262-679-6776 Free

**What:** Canine Massage by Doug Arthur

**Where:** Petlicious Dog Bakery

**When:** 10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

**Info:** 262-548-0923, www.petlicious.com

**What:** Animal Comm. Workshop w/

Rebecca Moravec

**Where:** Petlicious Dog Bakery

**When:** 10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

**Info:** 262-548-0923 (reservations required)

#### 15 Sunday

**What:** Spring/Summer Photos with MindWorks

**Where:** Pet Supplies 'N' More, Muskego

**When:** 10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

**Info:** 262-679-6776, (Appts. Requested)

**What:** The Big Bang: Thunderstorm/Noise Fears and Phobias

**Where:** Kindness Canine Behavior

Consultants, Oconomowoc

**When:** 1:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.

**Info:** 262-569-1050, info@kindnessk9.com

**What:** Animal Comm. Mini Consultations w/ Rebecca Moravec

**Where:** Petlicious Dog Bakery

**When:** 12:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m. (reservations req.)

**Info:** 262-548-0923, www.petlicious.com

#### 17 Tuesday

**What:** Therapy Dog Class

**Where:** Happy Hounds, Germantown

**When:** 6:30pm - 8:00pm

**Info:** 262-502-3647

#### 18 Wednesday

**What:** Beginner & Intermediate Agility

**Where:** Happy Hounds, Germantown

**When:** 6:30pm (Beginner) 7:45pm (Inter.)

**Info:** 262-502-3647

#### 20 Friday

**What:** Yappy Hour

**Where:** Petlicious Dog Bakery

**When:** 6:30 - 7:30 p.m. (reservations req.)

**Info:** 262-548-0923, www.petlicious.com

**What:** AKC Agility Run Thrus

**Where:** For Pet's Sake, Mukwonago

**When:** 6:30 p.m.

**Info:** 1-888-581-9070

**What:** Teacup Agility Run Thrus

**Where:** Amiable Dog Training, Greenfield

**When:** 6:30 p.m.

**Info:** 414-289-7785, www.dogclass.com

#### 21 Saturday

**What:** Muskego Pet Fair (vendors & rescues)

**Where:** Alpine Lanes, Muskego

**When:** 10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

**Info:** 262-679-1250 or 262-679-6776

**What:** Therapy Dog Testing

**Where:** Happy Hounds, Germantown

**When:** 9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

**Info:** 262-502-3647

**What:** Door County Scottie Rally (parade)

**Where:** Baileys Harbor

**When:** 9:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. (registration limited)

**Info:** www.doorcountyscottierally.com

**What:** Carnival Charity Event

**Where:** Central Bark DDC - Downtown

**When:** 10:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

**Info:** www.centralbarkusa.com

#### 27 Friday

**What:** Fun & Games Night

**Where:** For Pet's Sake, Mukwonago

**When:** 7:00 p.m.

**Info:** 1-888-581-9070

**What:** Yappy Hour

**Where:** Amiable Dog Training, Greenfield

**When:** 6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.

**Info:** 414-289-7785, www.dogclass.com

#### 28 Saturday

**What:** Reike II w/ Rebecca Moravec

**Where:** Petlicious Dog Bakery

**When:** 10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. (reservations req.)

**Info:** 262-548-0923, www.petlicious.com

**What:** Spring/Summer Photos with MindWorks

**Where:** Pet Supplies 'N' More, Muskego

**When:** 10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

**Info:** 262-679-6776, Appts. Requested

**What:** WAAGR Perennial & Plant Sale  
**Where:** 2547 W. Wending Drive, Glendale  
**Info:** 414-517-7725, [www.waagr.org](http://www.waagr.org)

**Every Thursday**

**Who:** Amiable Dog Training with Amy Ammen  
**Where:** Channel 14 (MATA/MCM)  
**What:** T.V. Show 6:00 p.m.

**Every Saturday**

**What:** For Pet's Sake Puppy Parties  
**Where:** Central Bark DDC, Downtown  
**When:** Noon (except holiday weekends)  
**Info:** For Pet's Sake 1-888-581-9070

**Who:** "Your Family Pet" with Amy Ammen  
**Where:** WRRD 540am The Word  
**What:** Radio Show 9:00 a.m. - 9:30 a.m.  
**Info:** Expert interviews and pet-related news.

**Who:** Amiable Dog Training w/ Amy Ammen  
**Where:** Channel 14 (MATA/MCM)  
**What:** T.V. Show 10:30 a.m.

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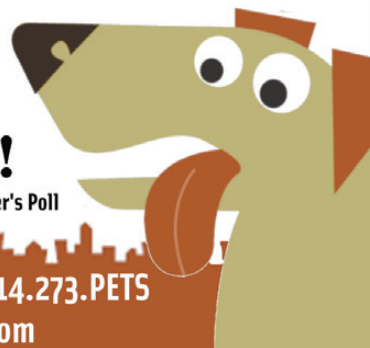
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# S Around Town



*Kizzie* Kristin, Milwaukee



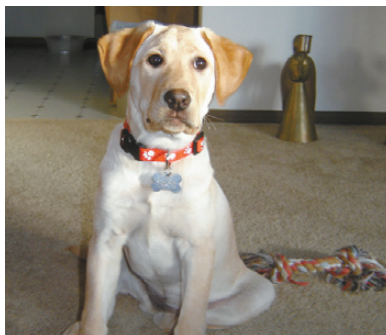
*Lacy* Cindi



*Conor* Susan, Waukesha



*Ricky Ricardo* Heidi



*Lady* Carrie, Cedarburg



*Jug Head* Cherly



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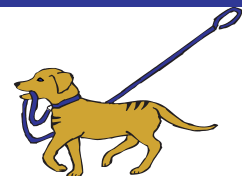
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# Do you think your breed is top dog?



As you know, Fetch Magazine features a different canine breed in each issue. What have we picked for our 2006 issues? Nothing! **We're leaving it up to you.** Send in photos of your favorite pooch and at the end of this summer we'll tally the results. The breeds with the most photos received will be featured in our 2006 issues...PLUS your photos will appear in your breed's issue.

Email your photos to [info@fetchmag.com](mailto:info@fetchmag.com) or mail them to Fetch Magazine, P.O. Box 070489, Milwaukee, WI 53207. Want to make sure you never miss a future issue? Send in a subscription with your photos and we'll mail you all remaining 2005 issues PLUS all 2006 issues for only \$14.00. Send in your photos and subscription today!