Pioneers Dick & Rose Coopman
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The AKC® Government Relations Department continues its work with local federations, dog clubs, breeders and concerned owners to protect the rights of responsible dog owners. In 2009 we have had a number of victories for owners and breeders at the state and local level, including:

**Colorado** House Bill 1172 • Breeder Licensing & Regulations
Status: Tabled indefinitely

**Florida** House Bill 451 • Mandatory Spay/Neuter
Status: Defeated

**Louisiana** Vermillion Parish ordinance proposal • Breed-specific Restrictions
Status: Cancelled

**Maryland** House Bill 495 and Senate Bill 318 • Breeder Licensing & Regulations
Status: Senate Bill 318 - Cancelled

**Montana** House Bill 191 • Breed-specific Restrictions, Statewide "Pit Bull" ban
House Bill 548 • Breeder Licensing & Regulations
Status: Defeated

**New Hampshire** House Bill 337 • Breeder Licensing & Regulations
Status: Defeated

**New Mexico** House Bill 667 • Breed-specific Language
Status: Revised mandatory spay/neuter from dangerous dog language

**Texas** Plano City Ordinance • Breeder Licensing & Regulations
Status: Defeated

**Virginia** Senate Bill 1151 • Mandatory Spay/Neuter
Status: Defeated

**Nebraska** Legislative Bill 677 • Breeder Licensing & Regulations
Status: Defeated

**Wisconsin** Oshkosh City Ordinance • Mandatory Spay/Neuter
Status: Defeated

**Bills we are currently monitoring, include:**
- Arkansas House Bill 864 • Breeder Licensing & Regulations
- California Senate Bill 250 • Breeder Licensing & Regulations
- Chicago IL Ordinance • Mandatory Spay/Neuter
- Florida House Bill 1249/Senate Bill 2002 • Breeder Licensing & Regulations
- Illinois House Bill 198 • Breeder Licensing & Regulations
- Indiana House Bill 1468 • Breeder Licensing & Regulations
- Minnesota Senate File 7 & 201 • Breeder Licensing & Regulations
- New York Assembly Bill 5507 • Breeder Licensing & Regulations
- North Carolina House Bill 460/Senate Bill 460 • Breeder Licensing & Regulations
- Oklahoma House Bill 1332 • Breeder Licensing & Regulations
- Oregon House Bill 2470 • Breeder Licensing & Regulations
- Texas House Bill 4277/Senate Bill 1845 • Mandatory Spay/Neuter
- Washington Senate Bill 5651 • Breeder Licensing & Regulations
- West Virginia Senate Bill 447 • Breeder Licensing & Regulations
- Wisconsin Senate Bill 110 • Breeder Licensing & Regulations
- Wyoming Senate File 133 • Breeder Licensing & Regulations

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On the cover, Cameron, Aspen & Biscuit enjoying the spring weather! Thank you to Kelli Cartwright of SW Auction Service for letting us feature her children on the cover!

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR:

Mr. Hughes;
Never in my life have I seen so much b.s. come out of any 4th rate backwoods podunk magazine as I have yours today. It is obvious you have never been to a puppy mill USDA approved or not. I have seen most of them in your little miserable little state, taken many photos of them and many of them, or should I say all of them are on the page of that worthless piece of crap C.C.Baird. I am so very very grateful you do not live next door to me. It wouldn’t be pretty. Kevin B. Woodruff

Mr. Woodruff,
I am sure that makes two of us that are happy you do not live next door to me. However, I am happy that you read my magazine, even though the logic in it obviously did not penetrate the thick skull and opinionated and prejudicial thought process that all of you “Humaniacs” seem to possess. I am very proud of our magazine and the articles that I and many other “High Volume” breeders contribute. We simply do not speak the same language and I doubt very much that we ever will. Where did you come into contact with our magazine and exactly which articles set you off? I have been fighting your kind for 50 years now so I have probably said or written thousands of statements that would make you angry enough to write the e-mail that you sent me. Sir, I am delighted that I have ruined your day!!! J.Hughes

Mr. Hughes,
It is apparent you are not bright enough to even type correctly. I found your magazine as I was wiping my butt with it because toilet paper doesn’t deserve that kind of treatment. You have not been fighting us “humaniacs” for 50 years because in my opinion you have been getting paid by the same morons that cause harm and cruelty to the thousands of animals they treat like it is just another day in the park. There are no such thing as “high volume” breeders and for your information, I have sent e-mails to the reps. from Oklahoma and Colorado encouraging the legislation to put puppy millers in their place. Lastly, you are making my day because people against the treatment of what you would call “profit” are winning the fight.
p.s. Learn how to use spell checker

Hmmm-I see that one has escaped from under the donkeys tail. JH

It’s apparent that what I have heard about you and your kind is true. I guess you can be called “inhumaniac.” KW

Hi Jim,
Love the magazine. Just a question with the auction service. What is your take on why there are a lot of breeders getting out of it? If done right, I would think it is big business???

Thanks, Dane

Hello Dane,
In every form of the livestock business, be it hogs, cattle (beef or dairy), etc... there is always mass entrance and exits depending upon the economy. This is also true of the investment field. Usually the most intelligent and therefore the most prosperous are those who believe in the contrarian principle, “buy in while everybody else is selling out.” Today, the scenario is totally different from anything we have ever experienced before. The country is almost bankrupt, companies like Montgomery Wards, Circuit City, numerous banks and investment companies, many that we considered the back bone of our country have disappeared. The dog business has been attacked on all fronts by the humaniac movement. They are dedicated to destroying our business. We are burying our heads in the sand and will not fight back. Many breeders have decided that this fact coupled with the worldwide economic situation and their inability to fight it, that the easiest way to cope is to just get out and come back another day if conditions warrant it. I have no way of predicting what the future will hold so I am falling back on old experience that may or may not work this time around. I am still a contrarian investor. I have not sold one share of stock. I am buying core foundation companies like General Electric but I am avoiding frivolous stocks like Starbucks. If I were not retired and old, I would be buying up good breeding dogs at these bargain prices until I got all I could care for properly.

Thanks, Jim

Dear Jim,
Sir, it was so great to meet you at the past MPBA meeting in Springfield. I love the “spotlight” and find it an interesting and informative read and look forward to it every month. It has answered many questions I didn’t even know the question to! It teaches and entertains. having said this, I wonder why there isn’t a subscription for it? I know of no other magazine geared to the breeder and NO other magazine that is free! I know of no other magazine that is free! I know the times are hard and this might not be a popular opinion, but it cannot be cheap for you to produce and I for one would be more than willing to pay rather than give up all the insight and knowledge you offer. We can at least pay for postage! If and when you do put a yearly fee on this, please feel free to bill be first. Anything worth anything is never free; an old family saying! On, as my 5 yr. old grandson decided to read my Feb issue while bathing, I need a replacement. You see, I keep every issue in a ringed binder after I have read it front to back and don’t want to miss out on any issues. Thank you again, for all of you and your staff’s efforts to keep us informed, Sincerely, Linda Owens CLO’S Kennels

Hi Linda, Thank you for the compliment! We will get another issue out to you right away!
Dear Carmen,

Great Job with the Colorado Legislation! You are my hero of the month! Jim

Hi Jim

I am no hero! I am a dog breeder! I am earth woman, as my good Indian friend has named me, a fulltime honest to god, baking cakes from scratch, fulltime mom and wife to my husband of 24 years, rural country girl that’s NOT going to sit back and watch as this new generation of panty waist, city dwellers (who forgot their roots) and the pioneers (farmers) that gave them their country, (who relied on animals, dogs,cows,mules) for their food and daily work and think NOW they can rearrange the basic order of nature by putting those animals in a place equal to me and you as humans. I love all animals equally and as a dog breeder, that means not allowing sub-standard kennels to go unnoticed and not allowing our state program in charge of the kennels, to ignore their jobs. It means demanding they, as well as all dog breeders and animal care givers, be decent and humane to the animals they chose to raise and those animals depending on them for their very existence.

We did get a new group up and going and I am very proud to say this one is going to be great!!

Colorado Pet Association is our name. Our purpose is education first and then legislation, because as we all know, they go hand and hand. Legislation IS, simply put, educating our politicians (and a few snot nose HSUS lobbyists) and the general public!!! CPA membership is open to everyone licensed for what they do in the pet industry. We are seeking corporate sponsorships and will be actively trying to educate anyone willing to learn.

I have registered as a lobbyist in Colorado so I can speak and not have some young punk (HSUS lobbyist) in my face threatening to have me fined. We will have a large number of our new state officers at the seminar in KS the 27th and 28th and I hope Sharon Munk will have time to sit and share her knowledge and advice with us as well as others who have pioneered in their state.

I have been getting your e-mails and forwarding them on to Colorado so they all are aware we are not alone and like most other states, are fighting for their livelihood also. Thank you for all your help and advice in our state and for the many other things that YOU, sir, have done and continue to do for our industry. The hero is YOU! And the people just like you that have gotten us this far, they are My Heros!

Respectfully:
Carmen Revord

WE WOULD LOVE TO HEAR FROM YOU!!
SEND IN YOUR COMMENTS & QUESTIONS TO JIM HUGHES @ jshughes1@sbcglobal.net or kathybettes@kennelspotlight.com

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Kennel Spotlight * Apr/May ‘09 • 7
**PIONEERS OF THE EARLY DAYS OF THE DOG INDUSTRY;**
 **DICK & ROSE COOPMAN**

By Jim Hughes & Kathy Bettes

Back in the early days when dinosaurs roamed the earth, there surfaced a man, being driven by a woman, [ain’t that always the case], who joined a host of other old dudes to perform the express purpose of saving the puppy industry. The Kennel Spotlight has done features on some of these people, but some have been very reluctant to have their story told. The Spotlight can only assume that these people have something in their background that they wish to hide, like cattle rustling and horse thievery, or possibly working for Miss Kitty in the Longbranch Saloon.

One couple that fills the bill of the reluctant pioneer is Dick and Rose Coopman. After an exhaustive search of the archives, [that’s my memory, I have known these people since they were banned from the Garden of Eden] we have determined that we can do an article now because at their age, they have outlived the statute of limitations.

Anyone who is or has been in the dog business will be very familiar with the Coopman’s and their history of the many facets of this business that they have participated in. They have never missed a meeting and have been a permanent fixture at every show since the old days. My first contact with Dick and Rose was the night so long ago when a group of dog brokers met in St. Joseph, Missouri to form an association that we called the Midwest Pet Producers and Distributors Inc. [MPPDI] which later was amended to APPDI. This organization saved this industry and the breeders of today owe the forward thinking members of this group a big debt of gratitude.

In 1967, while living in Denver, Colorado, the Coopman’s had one German Shepherd dog (the family pet) which they bred and raised several pups with her until Rose decided that she wanted a Pomeranian. Rose had always loved Poms and thought she could do well raising them. Dick, being the man he is, set out to find Rose a group of Poms but came home with a whole kennel instead. Dick was a painting contractor and did not know anything about raising dogs but when he found a breeder in Ottawa, Kansas who wanted to sell out of the kennel business, his business instincts took over. He saw a chance to supplement his income from the painting business, so he bought Rose about 50 dogs, with the caging and equipment included. Thirty six of these dogs were the foundation poodles that Rose is so well known for today. Poodles were not her original breed of choice, (she didn’t even like them back then) but along with a few Dachshunds and Schnauzers, Rose became a professional breeder.

Then another opportunity opened itself up to the Coopmans. A friend they knew was working for an out of state broker but her husband wanted her to quit because of the amount of hours the job demanded. Dick thought he would try that so he contacted the broker and soon a deal was reached and they started shipping puppies for him. After about a year, that broker quit the business and Dick and Rose decided to try it on their own. In 1974, the Coopman family moved to Waverly, Kansas and bought out an elderly couple’s entire home and dog breeding business.

Soon they were brokering full time as well as caring for nearly 300 breeding dogs. We do not know if Dick felt that he needed to work Rose that hard to raise 6 children, 4 girls and 2 boys, or if he needed 6 kids to take care of that many dogs. But, anyway, Coopy’s Kennels became a highly recognized force in the dog breeding and brokering business. While brokering Dick and Rose picked up puppies in several states and set up puppy bookers along the way to make things easier. Dick also got the idea to truck puppies to pet shops. He was probably one of the first to truck puppies back east, as he felt it would be easier on the puppies.

In the early days of dog shipping, we used several different kinds of shipping crates to send the pups on the airlines. Some of these were homemade by the shipper himself, others were made and sold by some enterprising shipper who could automate his procedure and some were shipped in a wire and wooden slatted lettuce crate called the Bruce crate. None of these crates looked very cosmetic to the public and we were aware that we were shipping a bad image of our business to the pet stores. Mr. J.C. Rogers had developed a clam
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shell type crate made from plastic and it soon became the dominate shipping container in the industry. They called their company “Plasticrate”. In 1981, Dick entered into negotiations for him and his brother Dave to buy the company. It took a bit of doing for Dick and J.C. to reach an agreeable price, for in those days, it was a big step for a girl raised on a Menominee Indian Reservation in Wisconsin and a fellow who did what he had to take care of his family. But he was successful and Dave and Dick became the owners of Plasticrate. Then in '83, Dave decided to devote full time to his Zoysia grass business and Dick wanted to buy him out and change the design of the crate to fill the retail outlet demands for the crate. At that time, Dick and Rose also decided to give each of their children a 5% share of the company making it a true family business.

Being the ambitious man that he was, he always had an idea simmering in the back of his mind to try in case the present idea was not working. Because of a conflict of interest worry that he might lose crate sales if he continued to compete with his customers as a broker, he chose to close Coopy’s Brokerage and just sell crates to his competitors. He also took on a distributorship to sell dog and cat food for the Iams Company. Along with those businesses, he also started a kennel supply business known as Richard’s Supply Company. So when I needed crates, he could also deliver my dog food and my kennel supplies and medications.

Like all of us old war horses, age began to catch up with Dick. He did not want to admit to it or give in to it, but when his heart started talking to him, he was forced to listen. He sold his dog food distributorship and Richard’s Supply Company to Dwayne Bevitt of Iowa. Several years later, he sold Plasti-Crate to Mike Powers who also owns Kennel Aire. They manufactured a wire cage and wanted to expand to handling plastic products. Dick continued to work for the new company (Kennel Aire) for the next six years. He retired from Kennel Aire in 2002. After a few years, he felt that retirement was not for him, so he went back to Kennel Aire and asked and received a distributorship to sell to breeders and brokers. He ran that company until 2007 and then sold his distributorship to Calvin and Monica Rutledge. Monica now runs the company just as her father did, trying to live up to his high standards of service first, equality and commitment to all customers. But Dick will still not sit down and take life easy as he deserves. He can still be found representing Plasti-Crate at every seminar they attend. When he finally passes on and gets out of Rose’s hair, the kids will probably have him stuffed, mounted and placed in the booth at the trade shows.

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THE “PUPPY MILL” WARS
How Colorado Won Its First Battle in the “Puppy Mill” Wars by Teresa Cloud

Just like about ten other states, right after the holidays, Colorado found itself embroiled in its very first go round with animal rights (AR) groups. In a very short three weeks, we found ourselves going from rumors that HB 1172 was in the works, to standing before the Colorado House Committee assigned to do the first review of the bill. It was like going from 0 to 99 MPH in the blink of an eye. Yes, we won the first battle, but just by the hair on our chinny-chin-chin.

Colorado dog kennels are unique on several levels. There is only a hand full of dog breeders in Colorado, around 250, as compared to many other states. For the past 14 years we have been governed and regulated by the Pet Animal Care Facilities Act (PACFA), a good piece of legislation that has been emulated by any number of other states. Several glaringly bad animal abuse cases here in Colorado have driven public concern about animal welfare to a public outcry. To be sure, similar examples exist in most every state, not that the AR’s need any excuse to put us under their line of fire. In typical fashion, the AR’s brought in HB 1172 to target only dog breeding operations, the “puppy mills”. It totally ignored that there was equal if not greater abuse being identified at all levels of the pet industry here, not to mention at individual pet ownership levels as well. For a lot of good reasons, we had foolishly let the only state organization for dog breeders, Professional Licensed Dog Breeders of Colorado; self destruct, so when the call to arms came, it was a mad scramble.

How did we win? “If not for the courage of a fearless crew”, the battle would have been lost. We had to rally and draw up a game plan in one heck of a hurry. I could write a book about all the aspects of this bill, the arguments we used and or didn’t get a chance to use, and the game plans we sat up until late into the night and marched all over the state to organize. The Colorado Federation of Dog Clubs, helped at ground level and brought in their lobbyists to help fight on the hill. We had the support of both APIR and AKC not to mention the advice, help and support of many other national and state organizations and individuals outside the state. Out of the woodwork came the sporting dog groups and dog fanciers. It took a monumental effort by a lot of good people to get us in the clear again. By joining forces, we were able to bring this piece of bad legislation to a HALT! As dog breeders, we find ourselves to be the victims on many levels:

First, we are victimized by the AR’s whose grist mill will chew up anyone who gets in the way of their radical agendas. Everyone wants a puppy, but no one wants to see the process that it takes to keep up with the public desire and demand to own one. As professional breeders everywhere struggle to offer the public with healthy, good quality, affordable puppies raised in humane conditions, we are taking a beating. How do professional breeders fight people who want to take away the right and ability of individual businesses to exist and thrive in a competitive market, free from unnecessary regulation? As it becomes more politically correct for individuals to hop on the band wagon of these AR groups, most people are being led like lambs to help the AR’s ultimate agenda. Little do they realize that their efforts may someday affect the rights of individuals to own any pet anywhere in the United States. There is an element out there that feels we should all be vegan, and that pet ownership is tantamount to slavery. They want to make these judgments for us all, and use every means within their power to achieve their goals.

Second, we as dog breeders, along with the animal industry as a whole in Colorado, find ourselves with a broken system. We determined, and the House review committee seemingly agreed, that the PACFA basic design was sound and not in need of legislative changes of any kind, or at least not HB 1172. For some time, dog breeders in Colorado have been calling for more inspections and greater enforcement of the PACFA. Hopefully by reinforcing the self-funded PACFA with adequate staff and a new attitude, we will empower it to become pro-active. PACFA has a tremendous job ahead of it to meet the growing public concern for animal welfare here in this state. We as the regulated community can no longer sit back and trust that everything is being taken care of. Everyone, from the hobbyists, AKC show kennels to the professional breeder are tainted by the existence of substandard kennels. We are going to have to support the system that regulates us all, or possibly see ourselves put out of business by the AR’s and the public support they can generate.

Third, we as dog breeders are sometimes our own worst enemy. Unfortunately here in Colorado, what made a good kennel up until now was almost totally based upon the ethics of the persons involved. For those who can not measure up to good standards on their own, we need and must be able to rely on good systems designed to either make substandard kennels improve or take them out of business. Sometimes we, as dog breeders, may need to be a part of that system. We need to stop sweeping dirt under the rug at home or in our dog breeding communities. We need to admit to ourselves that we as dog breeders are not being targeted just because no one among us can raise a puppy well enough to suit the AR’s. The public can not be lulled into looking the other way every time it buys a sick puppy or sees news at 9 with the latest “puppy mill” pictures. We need to clean up our act across the board, so we can all bear scrutiny to the light of day.

So, Colorado has dodged the bullet on the “puppy mill” wars for the moment, but we can not
afford a rocking chair approach to the future. If for no other reason, this bill made us abundantly aware of the shortcomings we have here in Colorado. That old saying that we are only as good as our weakest link could never be truer than for everyone concerned in the pet industry. Sometimes we as dog breeders become so embroiled in being victimized by the AR’s we forget we are concerned animal welfare citizens ourselves.

Here in Colorado we learned some invaluable lessons. AR’s fight dirty and they fight hard. In the legislative process, we were not given a chance to rebuttal any of their accusations. They live in glass houses, and don’t hesitate to throw stones, even though their own rescues, shelters, humane societies, etc. often don’t have inspection reports any better than those among us they are supposedly so concerned about. Many of them also have had their doors shut due to animal neglect here in Colorado. The Colorado Attorney General has taken the Colorado Humane Society to court, and it isn’t because they were being so “humane”. Humane Society of the United States (HSUS) is a radical animal rights group. Despite its name, it does not operate a single animal shelter, but exists only as a political organization. They all have seemingly endless budgets, concerns, and time is ever on their side, all the while patting themselves on the back that they unquestionably are in the right.

No doubt the AR’s will be back at our door. Hopefully, we have learned from our mistakes, and will be better prepared to fight them when the next battle comes around, and it will. We felt the whole world watching, because based on how Colorado and other states treat the rights of a select group to dog ownership, is how the constitutional rights of individuals may be addressed in the future. Rest assured, we fight the good fight.
**BUYING AND SELLING IN TODAY’S PET INDUSTRY**

By Glenn L. Knox     www.usabreeders.com

Things used to be so simple. You sold your pets by selling them to a broker who then sold them to a pet store, running a newspaper ad in the local paper, or posting a message on the bulletin board at the local grocery store. *Ah yes, the good old days.*

Over the past several years, the world changed. The internet became a treasure trove of sales opportunities. People, who normally sold to brokers, found that with a little hard work online, they could sell to pet stores directly, OR they could market their pets direct to the consumer. *That was great, right?*

Well, for awhile. Some things happened to help spoil this utopia of sales.

1. The AR wackos learned how to use the internet too. And use it they do.

2. Thieves, learned how to scam customers, stealing their money and delivering no pets or the wrong pet, causing customers to be leery of internet sales.

3. Customers, can be crazy. Dealing direct with the customer is not for the faint of heart, and some breeders are finding this out the hard way.

4. Pet stores sometimes provide false information and purchase pets for re-sale, from breeders who are not licensed to sell wholesale. This can cause great harm to the breeder in question.

5. Lawyers for the AR wackos, interested in shutting all breeders down, use the internet now to find breeders and then try to get information about them and their sales.

What I have noticed, is that breeders now have to turn into CSI type investigators just to make a sale! At our site, [www.usabreeders.com](http://www.usabreeders.com), I have noticed hundreds of different posts explaining what some people do to try to protect themselves from being harassed. This is unbelievable. Some of the measures that people take to try to protect themselves are:

1. Requiring a land line based phone number to contact the buyer. The number must be identifiable as the person calling (not a pet store or business).

2. Taking first inquires by e-mail, then switching to phones to verify who someone is.

3. Verifying identity by requiring contact with the person’s vet or place of work.

4. Requiring a face to face meeting before the sale takes place.

5. Getting references from customers that are not family members.

Plus many other methods. Why do they have to get down to this level? Safety, of doing business in the pet industry. To keep themselves safe from unscrupulous pet stores that are trying to buy pets from sources other than brokers, from AR wackos who are trying to purchase an animal that they will try to “use against” the breeder (finding defects in the animal that they can sue for or exploit online by defamation of the breeder in an attempt to drive them out of business), or just customers that turn out to be slightly loonie and they won’t leave the breeder alone. *Or, many other reasons not even mentioned.*

The fact is, this world has changed, and breeders have had to adapt to this changing environment. Anyone who has not adapted, will find themselves in a pickle. I simply don’t see any of this changing in the future. If anything, it’s going to get harder and harder to sell. One thing that does need to change, are the laws governing wholesale sales. This is one of the major reasons that breeders have to stoop to these levels, especially breeders who are not USDA licensed.

When a pet store, or other entity that re-sells the pets, purchases an animal from a breeder who is not USDA licensed, then re-sells the animal, the pet store is not liable for violating any USDA laws. The breeder is. In fact, the fines for this are quite hefty, and the AR wackos LOVE to find breeders that have done this, either on purpose or by accident. Even though the breeder had no idea that the animal was destined for re-sale, it’s still the breeder that must be appropriately licensed for the transaction to be “legal”.

So, the laws need to change so that any entity that purchases at the wholesale level, must also be issued a license, and then MUST purchase the animals from a licensed entity. Failure to do so should result in a hefty fine, or revocation of license to do business. This is the only way that breeders can then ratchet down the paranoia level for selling, to just being worried about AR’s and loonie customers.
The Allege New Dog Law Violates Rights

ROYERSFORD (PA) – The Professional Dog Breeders Advisory Council, Inc., along with Clymer & Musser Law Firm in Lancaster, Pennsylvania, announced today the filing of a federal civil action against Dennis Wolff, Secretary of the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture.

The federal civil suit alleges that the recently enacted changes to Pennsylvania’s Dog Law, enrolled as Act 119 of 2008, violates numerous rights guaranteed under the United States Constitution, including discriminating against out-of-state kennel operators, providing for the entry into a home of a kennel owner without probable cause, creating disparate regulatory schemes for similarly situated kennels, and eliminates due process rights when official action of the Department of Agriculture is taken.

“The federal civil action alleges that Act 119 unconstitutionally subjects kennels and dealers to searches by agents of the Department of Agriculture without a proper warrant. Under the new statute, any kennel owner who refuses admittance to a State Dog Warden creates probable cause for issuance of a search warrant. If a kennel owner refuses entrance for an inspection, the Act creates probable cause for issuance of a warrant based on the mere fact that the owner denied entrance. The Act also empowers the Department and its employees to enter the ‘premises of any person for the purpose of investigation,’ including any home or other building in which a dog is kept.

It is a generally held principle of law that the warrantless search of a home or business is presumptively unreasonable, and the test for reasonableness of probable cause is the need to search against the invasion the search entails. Warrants are necessary and a tolerable limitation on the right to enter upon and inspect commercial premises. Act 119 allows the Department and its agents to enter into not only the business premises but the homes of kennel owners without a constitutionally sufficient search warrant. According to the filing, the Director of Dog Law Enforcement, Jessie Smith, has stated at meetings that if a kennel owner has any pet dogs in their home, then the home is subject to search under the new dog law. The filing alleges that such laws violate the Fourth Amendment to the United States Constitution.

A third constitutional deficiency that the Professional Dog Breeders raise in their federal action relates to the procedure governing the Department’s issuance of “cease and desist” orders under Act 119. The Act requires that when the Secretary of Agriculture issues a cease and desist order, the owner of a kennel must immediately stop operating a kennel, acquire no additional dogs, notify the department before euthanizing any dogs, and permit state dog wardens to inspect the kennel without a warrant. Such actions, under Act 119, result from the mere receipt of a cease and desist order from the secretary.

The Professional Dog Breeders allege because a cease and desist order ends all business transactions of a kennel, a kennel owner is placed out of business without any meaningful opportunity to be heard or to appeal the decision of the secretary. Further, Act 119 contains no timeframe in which the Department must act on providing administrative review; this omission otherwise gives the Department unilateral authority to economically destroy a kennel which seeks an appeal of a cease and desist order, which violates the Due Process Clause of the Fourteenth Amendment to the United State Constitution.

The Breeders also raise an Equal Protection issue in their federal civil complaint. The Equal Protection clause of the Fourteenth Amendment protects against arbitrary government action by requiring similar treatment of those who are similarly situated.
File Federal Civil Suit

(Cont.) The suit alleges that Act 119 targets and singles out commercial kennels for treatment and scrutiny far different from all other kennels that are also regulated. The law includes an additional 12 pages of requirements solely for commercial kennels, including 27 different additional areas of regulation.

Only commercial kennels must:
1. Satisfy a 12 point requirement for primary enclosures; 2. Provide detailed amount of floor space for each nursing dog; 3. Conform to housing requirements of dogs based on sex; 4. Maintain a written program of veterinary care; 5. Comply with heating and cooling requirements for housing facilities; 6. Comply with ventilation requirements for housing facilities; 7. Comply with lighting requirements for housing facilities; 8. Comply with moisture requirements for housing facilities; 9. Follow detailed directives on cleaning of primary enclosures; 10. Abstain from stacking primary enclosures when dogs are less than 12 weeks old or more than two rows high and limit the height of the uppermost primary enclosure; 11. Provide for smoke alarm and fire extinguishers and sprinkler systems; 12. Provide for daily removal of various forms of dirt; 13. Comply with detailed cleaning requirements for primary enclosures; 14. Follow methods of sanitation or primary enclosures and food and water receptacles; 15. Conform surrounding grounds and buildings to various guidelines; 16. Institute a program for control of insects; 17. Permanently retain records; 18. Maintenance of veterinary records; 19. Seek the intervention of a veterinarian in order to euthanize dogs; 20. Refrain from stacking primary enclosures for dogs older than 12 weeks of age; 21. Provide floor space for dogs over 12 weeks of age and additional dogs; 22. Provide specific type of flooring in primary enclosures; 23. Follow guidelines for entry ways

25. Provide for outdoor exercise for dogs; 26. Follow directives on administration of rabies vaccination; and 27. Have dogs examined by a veterinarian once every six months.

The Breeders believe that if animal welfare were the true goal of the new law, then the laws applying to commercial kennels would equally apply to all similarly situated entities, such as private kennels, boarding kennels, nonprofit kennels and rescue network kennels. Instead, these extensive and new requirements only apply to commercial kennels, further evidencing that the real goal of the new law is to drive commercial kennels out of business. According to Yarnall, “If the true goal was to protect the health, safety and welfare of dogs, then wouldn’t these new rules be good for all the dogs in Pennsylvania – regardless of location - not just some of them?”

Finally, the suit alleges that the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture violated the Federal Privacy Act by requiring anyone seeking a kennel license to submit their social security number on an application. The Federal Privacy Act was designed to protect citizens against the improper use of a citizen’s social security number by governmental entities. No government entity may require someone to submit their social security number without notifying the individual whether the disclosure is mandatory or voluntary. In its 2008 kennel license application, the Department of Agriculture required the submission of the applicant’s social security number, failing to explain the statutory authority that requires disclosure or whether the disclosure would be voluntary.

The suit seeks to have the federal courts declare certain provisions of Act 119 found in sections 209, 219, 901, 207(a.3), (h) and (i) unconstitutional as they violate the Commerce clause and the Privileges and Immunities clause, the Fourth Amendment, and the Due Process and Equal Protection clauses of the Fourteenth Amendment of the United State Constitution, respectively. The suit asks the federal court to prevent the department of enforcing these provisions of the new law, to require the Department of Agriculture to reimburse all excess fees charged to out-of-state breeders, and to prevent the Department from collecting numbers in violation of the Federal Privacy Act. “The Association takes this necessary action in order to provide for the uniform application of the law, to preserve the rights of our members, and to invite the Department of Agriculture to work with us to promote the best breeding operations in the nation – based on a collaborative effort, instead of a punitive one,” said Yarnall. “We have and will continue to support appropriate changes that will improve kennel conditions.”

For more information on the Pennsylvania Dog Breeders Federal Law Suit, you can contact:

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Royersford, PA 19468
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THE 19TH ANNUAL MISSOURI PET BREEDERS SEMINAR

It was a very busy time at this year’s MPBA seminar held in Springfield, Missouri on Feb. 27th & 28th. An estimated 1200 breeders and guests attended this event. Friday was especially jammed packed with breeders checking out the various vendors and attending the seminars. Exhibitors commented they did exceptionally well and there were several new faces this year. Barb York, who was elected this year’s MPBA President, told us the booths were sold out early this year despite the ‘soft economy’ and the record attendance helped to prove that the pet industry is still strong. The exhibitors really went all out on their displays including ‘Pro Cut’ who had a trailer out front with his ‘on site’ blade sharpening for the breeders attending the show and NPCR with their outdoor tent offering breeders free lunch both days. Many of the exhibitor booths had very large displays offering their new products and services.

The auction which was held Friday night after the banquet, had a much better attendance with a lot of new people commenting that it was the most fun at an auction they have ever had. Bob Hughes of Southwest Auction Service, which hosted this event, helped to raise just under $10,000 in proceeds to benefit the MPBA organization. There were several speakers slated for the show and one of the highlights was at the “Your Business and Legislation” seminar which was put on by Frank Losey (the MPBA Lobbyist) and Karen Strange of MoFed. Representative Jim Vielbrock of District 134 spoke and really got the breeders motivated in taking a pro-active approach to the ongoing negative legislation in the pet industry today. Rep. Vielbrock is very well known as a ‘go getter’ for the fight against the Animal Rights Movement.

MPBA also had their annual meeting to elect new officers. Barb York was unanimously elected President, Maggie Bullock for Publicity Director, Myra Burrows for Correspondence Secretary, and Rae Lynn Mercer for Vice President, who took Barb York’s previous position. Despite the cold weather front and snow that moved in on Saturday and inhibited some people from attending, the MPBA seminar was a great success!
TRACY’S K&J PETS and COUNTRYSIDE SUPPLY Host Breeder Lecture

On Feb. 6th, Tracy’s K&J Pets and Countryside Supply hosted a lecture for some local breeders to promote education and awareness of responsible breeding practices. They invited Dr. Don Bramlage of Intervet/Schering-Plough Animal Health to speak about Parvo disease and its history in the canine world.

Dr. Bramlage discussed the different types of Parvo and the affect it can have on puppies as well as adult dogs. He included a power point presentation to show the evolution of Parvo and the ongoing studies being done by Schering-Plough and other companies to fight this deadly disease in kennels throughout the country. Dr. Bramlage went on to explain how the disease is passed on through different species of wildlife and what affect the ‘Hi-Titer’ vaccine can do for canines. He reminded breeders that the goal of vaccinating puppies with a Parvo vaccine is to stimulate active and solid immunity before exposure to wild Parvovirus.

Several breeders attended this event and really took advantage of Dr. Bramlage’s Q & A following his lecture. In an effort to continue to provide breeders with the latest information and education, Tracy’s & Countryside Supply will hold a seminar on the first Friday of each month. For more information on the lecture schedule, please contact Tracy’s K&J Pets at 800-786-2513 or Countryside Supply at 800-462-4562.

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OLD RED
By Jim Hughes

He had been hiding in that hole for three days now. He was getting hungry. Twice he had looked out to see if those blasted dogs were still out there but he just could not get his nerve up to go forth. Bugle Ann had almost got him that time. She had pulled about an inch of hair from his tail as he dove down the hole into his den. He knew that only her inexperience is what saved him. If she had locked her bite on that tail instead of calling for Leon and the other dogs, he would be dog food.

There was a squirrel gathering nuts in front of his den. If he could just run out there and grab that squirrel, he would have his meal for the day and he could stay in the safety of his den for another day. But he knew that he would have to put his fright behind him. He had just made one little mistake, he had underestimated Bugle Ann.

Finally, hunger drove him from his nest. He came out and looked around. There was not a sign of danger anywhere. What was wrong with him? He was the hunter. A fox must be quick, a fox must be smart, a fox must be brave to survive in the wilds of West Virginia. He already had quite a scare but he had survived it, now he had to shake it off. That pep talk to himself started his adrenaline going but it did not make his tail feel any better. He had licked the blood off for three days now but it was going to scar. He would never be able to forget Bugle Ann. He knew she would be back and the next time she would be more experienced.

Well, he had to make first things first. He had to live the rest of his life so where was that squirrel? He made two attempts to grab the squirrel but he realized that it was going to take more concentration than he could muster because he had one eye out for Bugle Ann. What if she came back? And worse yet, what if Leon came with her?

Leon was back in Ohio, but Old Red did not know that. Bugle Ann was in her dog pen up by the barn waiting for the next hunt. Boy that was fun, chasing that fox all over the country and getting to be with the other dogs. And she was quite proud of herself; she had almost caught that fox. Her master was bragging to everybody that would listen about her and giving her special treats and a lot of petting. She could take all of the attention for another 100 years and not tire of it. The other dogs seem to pay her more respect now. She was eager for the next run.

A few nights later, Uncle Thumb opened the pens and said, “lets go”. The dogs were out of those pens like a shot. They were going hunting again. Dogs like to do what they were bred for. Bugle Ann had a thousand years of genetics in her system that cried out to hunt. When Leon was not there, Major was the lead dog. He took them out across the valley to the woods on the hill to see if they could pick up the trail of a fox. The dogs were crisscrossing the countryside with their nose on the ground for about an hour when Bugle Ann finally caught a scent. Was that the fox? She was only on her second hunt and really was not sure what a fox scent smelled like. But she still had the memory of that tail in her mouth.

She was quite sure the smell was the same. She let out a sound that sounded like pure gold to a fox hunter. She was on the trail. The other dogs quickly joined her and they were all howling after the scent as they tried to catch up with Bugle Ann. They crossed the valley, jumped the creek and headed up the hill. Bugle Ann just knew that she would have the fox in her sights within a few minutes. She thought, “this is my night, I will not let him slip out of my jaws this time.” But something about this chase was different. They were running as hard as they could go but they were not catching up to the fox. The run was straight line, not the zig and zag as before. No doubling back and crisscrossing your own tracks. She was starting to give out and they had only been running for about twenty minutes. The last time she had run about four to five hours and still had plenty of stamina left. What she did not stop to think about was the last time they stopped and searched for the scent on numerous occasions when the fox had given them the slip. Old Red was able to hide for ten to fifteen minutes before they could find him, so both the fox and the dogs were able to rest and catch their breath. But this fox was running straight line as hard as he could go. She was giving out and she did not know what the trouble was.

But uncle Thumb knew what was wrong. He had been there before. He could tell from listening to their voices that they were running straight line. Only one reason for that, Bugle Ann had jumped a gray. The gray was making a beeline for the den. This night was going to end early. But, in the sport of fox hunting, this was a fairly common occurrence.

Old Red sat on a hill and watched the whole race. Better him than me, thought Red. The gray does not like to play with the dogs like a red will do. Reds take great pleasure in outsmarting a pack of hounds and they run all
night as a source of entertainment for the fox, the dog, and the hunter. Greys just want to get it over with. Old Red wondered where that big dog was. He might not have jumped on the trail of the grey as quickly. You had to keep an eye out for Leon, he was almost as smart as Old Red. That young gyp still had a lot to learn, he might just teach her a thing or two if Leon would just stay out of the picture.

Bugle Ann saw the grey far ahead of her. It seemed like he was slowing down. If she put on a burst of speed she might just catch him. But he was stopping and turning to look at her. Their eyes met for just an instance and then he was gone, disappeared into thin air. When Bugle Ann arrived at the spot from where he disappeared, all she could see was a deep hole in the ground. Her nose told her he was down there but there was no way to get to him. Well, next time she would know better than to chase him, she would just go straight to his hole and wait for him to come to her. Let the rest of the pack chase him.

The dogs returned to the fire and to the hunters waiting for them. Bugle Ann was mortified for her imagined error. But uncle Thumb knew she was not experienced enough to be able to tell a grey from a red. Bugle Ann crept up to her owner, tail between her legs, begging forgiveness. Uncle Thumb patted her head and told her it was all right. But next week he was going to take her over to Ohio and let her hunt with Leon. The more time she spent with Leon, the better dog she would make. Both my dad and my uncle agreed that a pup from those two would be hard to beat and it was arranged that they would breed her on her second heat. Leon was all for that idea. But that is a future story....

Old Red had no way of knowing that Bugle Ann would be going to Ohio to hunt with Leon for a while. He had no way of knowing that with what she learned from Leon, along with her youth and speed, she was going to make a formidable enemy. He was just glad that he could quit worrying about her every time he needed to hunt for squirrels or rabbits. Those Canadian geese were easy to catch but he did not want one for every meal. Without worrying about Bugle Ann, he could concentrate on better tasting game. He started to roam a larger area again. He could look for bird eggs and other tasty items further away from his hole without worrying about Bugle Ann. Life was getting better again. That near miss he had had on the day of the hunt and left him shook up for several weeks but by now he had all but forgotten Bugle Ann. He had no way of knowing that he might be making the biggest mistake of his life. Bugle Ann was coming home! She was Bugle Ann, in her and her owner’s opinion, “the best darn fox hound in the state of West Virginia”. Look out, Red, you are going to need every ounce of your cunning and your special experiences from making fools of the local dogs. Your days are numbered.
KENNEL SPOTLIGHT TRIVIA! (sorta like Jeopardy!)

Search your past issues of the ‘Kennel Spotlight’ and see if you can find Jim Hughes (our Editor in Chief) articles and the titles. Here are some clues:

A. The thermometer on the concrete floor would be 92 degrees if your hot water heater is set at about 140 degrees.
B. Despite it’s name, it does not support any local animal shelter in the world that can be found.
C. The Border Puppy Task Force-a group of 18 animal control and health agencies and protection groups.
D. It means targeting one or more specific breeds for passing laws to regulate them separate from the overall dog industry.
E. The commercial breeder cares more about health, personality and cuteness than he does about rigid show ring standards.
F. An internet blog from Dog Politics-a nationwide survey of dog owners.
G. What is happening? We are being attacked on every front by Animal Rights Activists.
H. All breeders should join their state breeder organizations and NAPO and attend as many educational seminars as possible to become as educated as possible.
I. Americans are in love with their dogs and cats.
J. In ‘62, I offered God a deal. I would give him my soul which he obviously wanted very much, in exchange for something I wanted very much.
K. We seem to be short on it around here. There are a lot of readers who know more than just how to raise dogs.
L. What good is a USDA license? It does not protect us from being labeled with the term, “Puppy Mill.”

answers are at bottom of page

FUN FACTS:
• Chewbacca, the hairy Wookiee in the Star Wars movie, was inspired by George Lucas’ loyal dog Indiana, an Alaskan Malamute.
• Celestial Companions-The constellation Canis Major (the great dog) follows his master, the constellation Orion (the hunter), as Orion crosses the sky. Sirius, the dog star, is the brightest star in the heavens and is located on the shoulder of Canis Major, lighting the way for the hunt.
• Fido-The once popular name ‘Fido’ comes from Latin meaning fidelity.
• A dog’s nose-Human’s have 5 million cell receptors in their noses, while most dog breeds have more than 100 million. The membranes in a dog’s nose, if unfolded and laid out, would be larger than the dog itself!
• Doggie Facial Expressions-Dogs have about 100 different expressions, most of them made with their ears. Unfortunately, the likes of bulldogs and pit bulls only have 10, due to their breeding. Therefore, these dogs easily get misinterpreted by other dogs and often get into fights.
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The Kennel Spotlight goes GLOBAL!!!!

Well, I guess The Kennel Spotlight Magazine has finally been noticed by the big city boys! We got an invitation to attend the APPA show in Orlando, Florida, as a member of the industry press corps. Kathy and I received confirmation from Kerry Sutherland, a public relations consultant for the Global Pet Expo. The show was held at the Orange County Convention Center, a huge complex of buildings, with adjoining parking lots and numerous hotels, maybe somewhat smaller than the King Ranch. Even though Kathy had a room adjacent to the complex, she needed a shuttle to get her back and forth. Orlando is a very large city and the overabundance of warm weather and sunshine has done something to the personality of the drivers in that city.

Here in the Ozarks we show a little courtesy toward our fellow drivers. If I have waited at a stop sign for 4 or 5 cars, I think I have waited long enough and I kinda stick the nose of the car over the line a couple of inches. Someone always waves you into the traffic flow out of courtesy. In Orlando, that’s a good way to be in Tampa way before you wanted to go there! There are always the horns and the fingers waving in the air and my Missouri license plate always generates the sound of “hillbillies” being yelled at me. I live in Neosho, a town of 10,000 people, but Kathy works in Wheaton, a town of 500 people. More than once, I have driven this 26 mile stretch of back roads and never passed a car in either direction. In Orlando, 50 cars will pass the driveway before I can even put the key in the ignition. I-4 has 4 or 5 lanes of traffic to park on with cars stretched out before and behind you as far as the eye can see traveling in both directions. It says the speed limit is 70 miles per hour, but around 4 to 6 pm and 7 to 9 am that is slowed down somewhat to about 7 miles per hour. In the late evening, when it is too dark to read the signs, that is stepped up to 80mph with some clowns doing over 100. I could not live there.

The Global Pet Expo, which took place on Feb. 14th thru Feb 16th, is billed as the pet industry’s largest annual trade show. It is sponsored by the American Pet Products Association. The 800 or more booths from the members of the APPA are the people who manufacture and sell the inventory of the pet stores across the nation, the leashes and collars, the bird cages, the fish tanks, the dog toys, etc, etc… As we walked the aisles of the show, we saw a few familiar faces, but not many. It was hard to picture the products of the retail pet trade being used in the large scale dog breeding kennels that we are used to seeing. Some of the dog food companies are the same ones that we see at our seminars but some are very special with all natural ingredients and holistic additives that price them out of the reach of a large scale kennel but not for the pet shop who then sells it to the family pet that ‘nothing is too good for or too expensive for’. We saw pet grave markers, offered by Mr. Vincent (Jim) Milano of Milano Monuments, stainless steel feed bowls from Wet Noz, represented by Johanna Hunt, caging and crating made as designer pens for indoor confinement within the home, odor and stain remover, offered by Sea Yu, Quincy Yu, president, dog sweaters and snow boots, flea and tick control products, etc. Use your imagination, almost everything you can think of for the pet industry was displayed on the floor of the trade show and offered for sale.

We saw an odor and stain remover that seemed to work fabulously offered in 6 ounce spray cans. Their minds were shocked when we asked them the cost of a 50 gallon drum. We saw dog treats packaged in 2 pound containers. We asked the price of a 50 pound sack. We saw all natural holistic dog food in 12 and 20 pound bags. We asked about 50 pound bags with quantity discounts. They offered 10 bag discounts, we asked about an 18-wheeler load. We surprised them with our size and they surprised us with their prices, but we could work some cooperation with a change of mind set in both of us.

One place that seemed unworkable was with pet grave markers. They wanted to talk to us and as we talked, these ideas started to jump into my mind. So many of us now deal with the final consumer. We sell a puppy out of Fluffy Jo to a customer. She has the dog for two years and it is accidentally killed. She feels the pup she bought from you cannot be replaced from anybody except Fluffy Jo. She orders another puppy from the same mother, hoping to get an almost clone puppy to replace her dead one. She sends a deposit and agrees to wait for the puppy. You then send her a letter of condolences for the loss of her original puppy plus a grave marker plus a stuffed dog depicting your breed. Why would you do that, absorb that expense for no...
reason? Because you are not a “Puppy Mill”. Because you are a caring, conscientious BREEDER. Because you want to change the image that the public has been brainwashed into believing about your industry. Because, if you have cut out the profit that the broker and the pet store have been making and pocketed that money yourself, YOU CAN AFFORD IT!! You have become the Pet Store!!

I know you can not afford the $125 dollar Wet Noz Stainless Steel feed bowl that weighs 5 lbs. A San Francisco chain of restaurants ordered 100 of them to serve salads in. But, there were some fancy bowls with football, golf ball, baseball, etc. bottoms on them that looked great from Gulf Coast Products, represented by Stacie Parfait. They were much cheaper and looked great. I was imagining what they would look like when they were sitting in your pens, being featured on the Oprah show. Or maybe the Pet Fly Dog Beds would look so good in your kennel that Oprah would not even want you on her show, especially if you had some dog toys from World Wise laying in the bed. Mr. Jonathan Poretz would be glad to help you acquire a few of these. Of course, the pet stores have the showiest products displayed on the fanciest fixtures in our business and that does not exempt them from the scathing criticism of the “Humanianic” cameras. I was told one time by one of the chief Humaniacs, “you just cannot get good enough to suit me”. Well, we do not care, but we better get good enough to suit a judge. The theme of the show and particularly the new products featured this year, was all about ‘green’; organic, all natural and earth-friendly. New varieties of organic food and treats were also introduced, as well as ‘homeopathic’ herbs, which are advertised to treat everything from inflammation to digestive problems. They even had people from ‘Shoo!Tags dressed up in giant animal costumes waving at you from the entrance to promote their products. We attended the press reception (sponsored by Purina) with free food and drinks to rub ‘elbows’ with the pet industry’s various magazine editors and publishers (Dog Fancy, Cat Fancy, Dog Daily News, etc…) It gave us a good chance to promote the Spotlight as the only publication representing the Professional Breeders. We had a great time and gave out lots of magazines and hopefully bridged some of the gap between retail and the high-volume breeder.
Routine Deworming Schedule Important For Every Kennel

“Your Dog Has Worms.” These are words that no breeder ever wants to hear from their veterinarian. The fact is that virtually all puppies are born with internal parasites or are infected shortly after birth through the mother’s milk. The most common of these parasites are roundworms, also called ascarids, and hookworms.

Both of these parasites can be transmitted to humans The Center for Disease Control and the American Association of Veterinary Parasitologists recommend the routine deworming of dogs on a regular basis. Understanding something about ascarids and hookworms can help responsible breeders see the importance of a strategic deworming plan and the steps they can take to prevent further infection in their kennel.

**Ascarids or Roundworms**

Roundworms are primarily a problem for puppies. Adult dogs typically are not infected with ascarids, but the larvae can encyst in the adult female’s tissues, only activating during the last stages of pregnancy. The worms then pass through either the placenta or through the milk infecting the puppy.

Roundworms live in the puppy’s intestines, often causing a bloated, pot-bellied appearance in combination with a dry rough coat, coughing or gagging. The puppy exhibits a general failure to thrive with diarrhea and or vomiting being common. Roundworms are not always visible in the puppy’s stools, although they may be seen as a spaghetti looking mass in the feces. Roundworms can grow to a length of several inches and can cause intestinal blockage, resulting in death.

Female ascarids can produce more than 200,000 eggs a day, resulting in millions of potentially infective eggs spread around the area where the puppy plays, eats, sleeps and roams. Once the eggs are laid, they develop a hard shell, enabling them to live in the environment for years. Dogs become infected by ingesting the eggs. Eggs hatch in the intestine, develop into larvae which then crawl into the trachea and are swallowed. The larvae then grow into adults and the cycle repeats.

**Hookworms**

Hookworm infections are another common puppy infestation problem. A severe hookworm infection can kill a puppy. Hookworms attach themselves to the walls of the small intestine with their teeth and suck the puppy’s blood. This causes anemia, diarrhea, weight loss and progressive weakness. Hookworms are normally not visible to the eye, and must be diagnosed with fecal testing.

Hookworms, like roundworms, are passed from the pregnant female to the puppy, either through the placenta or through the mother’s milk. Hookworms can infect dogs and humans by passing through the skin. The hookworm larvae are able to penetrate the skin of the paw or human foot, and once inside the body, they migrate to the lungs and the trachea. When swallowed, the larvae then pass into the digestive system, attaching to the walls of the intestine where they mature into adult worms. Adult hookworms generally live 1-5 years, making a chronic hookworm infection very difficult to cure.

Hookworms thrive in the moist, dark conditions of soil or plant vegetation. An adult female can lay up to 30,000 eggs a day. In the soil, hookworm eggs can develop into infective larvae in as little as 5 days. The larvae can remain a danger for weeks, spread by rain, insects, and active movement of the larvae or a mobile host.

**Tips to Control Parasites**

Have your new puppies tested either by your veterinarian or do it yourself with a parasite diagnosis kit in your kennel. Follow your vet’s recommended deworming schedule to prevent future infestation. Strategic deworming is key to controlling a parasite problem.

Clean up and properly dispose of feces promptly. Do not allow feces to stay in your pens, kennel or runs. It is a myth that the sun will kill the parasite eggs in outdoor feces. Keep children away from areas that may be contaminated with dog feces.

Have your dogs checked for worms every 6 months. Consider more frequent strategic deworming if your pups spend time in communal dog runs or other areas.

Dr. Kesler’s strongest recommendation is that prevention is always easier than treating an existing problem. Ensure your pups are off to a healthy, parasite free life with diagnostic testing and treatment as needed. Lambert Vet Supply is your one stop supplier for all the affordable, reliable deworming medications and testing supplies your kennel needs. Call us today for help in selecting exactly the right products for your needs.
Roundworms

Important for Every Kennel
Routine Deworming Schedule

Dr. Kesler's strongest recommendation is that prevention is always easier than treating an existing problem. Ensure your kennel has the proper strategic deworming plan and the steps they can take to prevent further infection.

Female ascarids can produce millions of these parasites are transmitted to the puppies through the placenta or through the milk of the mother. The most common of these parasites are Roundworms and Hookworms.

Roundworms live in the puppy's intestines, often causing a bloated, pot-bellied appearance. These are words that no breeder wants to hear.

Roundworms are not always visible in the puppy's stools, although they may be seen as a spaghetti looking mass in the feces, though they may be seen as a very difficult to cure.

A chronic hookworm infection can kill a puppy. Hookworm infections are an important movement of the larvae or a cycle repeats.

While Supplies Last.

Kennel Spotlight • Apr/May '09 • 29
PRIDE  part 2

By Jim Hughes

Are you ashamed of the business you are in? Do you actually believe any or all of that garbage the Humane Society of the United States is putting out about you? Do you think YOU fit that bill and that they are actually describing your kennel? If you answer yes to these questions, then get out of my business. If you do not want to get out of my business, then clean up, shape up, and stand up so you can be proud of what you do.

When you read the articles the reporters write when a kennel is busted and the dogs are stolen, look to see if any of the charges might be labeled on you someday. If you feel there is the slightest chance of your kennel falling under any of these charges, then clean it up, fix it, get into compliance!

GET A LICENSE!!! Ask for one whether you need it or not! Get your state license if you can and if your state does not have a bill requiring one, then start working on one to present to your state legislature. If you help write it, then chances are, you can live with it when it comes. It will come, I assure you. The HSUS knows that they have more money and more people to push these bills into law than we have to fight them. Over the years we have been pretty successful in controlling outrageous demands at the federal level because we were able to marshal our forces into one huge effort to defeat our enemy. But can we fight on 50 different fronts? Do we have the soldiers in this war to post a defense on 50 different fronts? NO. We must get ahead of the game.

The future depends on you, the breeder. The Kennel Spotlight is not under attack and threatened with oblivion. The registries are not being prosecuted for animal abuse. No one is going to put PIJAC or the breed clubs in jail. But we all recognize that our future rests on YOUR shoulders, not the other way around. As a group, the vast majority of you has, in the past and still do today, expected someone else to fight your battles for you. An all too common excuse is “I do not have the time or the money to go to the state house and stand up for my rights”. Well, if the Animal Rights people have their way, you will have a lot less money but you will have all the time you will ever need. I have been banging my head against this brick wall for 50 years and it is still standing. I am looking back on things we could have done 20 years ago to avoid some of our problems of today. It saddens me greatly to see our missed opportunities, mostly from lack of finances.

When the time comes for you, the breeder, to stand up and tell it like it is, what do you plan to say? Which of you will point to your accomplishments with pride and which of you will hang your heads and say “I did nothing”?

The first thing you must do is be willing to stand tall and say with pride, “I am a breeder of dogs, I sell family pets to America’s citizens through internet sales, pet shops, newspaper ads, referrals from past customers, etc. etc. and I am darn proud of it!”

Then you can tell them you are federally and state licensed and inspected by these agencies more often than child care centers, assisted living and nursing home centers and you can and will show them these inspection reports.

You must then be willing to represent your industry at town meetings, appear on television and radio to tell what you do and answer questions about the public’s misconception of your industry due to outright lies and misconstrued ideas of what defines ‘animal abuse’. You can take dogs to the PTA meetings or to play day at the nursing homes. You can enter your town parades with as many dogs as you can get kids to lead them. You can quit hiding. If the homosexuals can do it, why can’t you?

You must join your state breeder’s clubs, run for office and then insist that the group do something to perpetuate this industry. This club should become a member of NAPO and/or PIJAC. This club should join MO-FED or another lobbying group like them or start one or hire one to promote this industry and fight these bills introduced by the AR.s. We have got to turn this negative image around.

I attended the APPMA show in Orlando, Florida in February. As we walked thru the show booths and stopped to talk to the people in the booths, we were asked what our magazine was about and who were our readers? When we tried to explain that we wrote for the High-Volume breeder who sold many of his puppies through the pet shops we were constantly hearing, “Oh, you write for the puppy mills”? There was no malice nor hatred nor condemnation in the question. These people were professional sales people for the supply companies that sold inventory to the pet shops. The term “puppy mill” immediately jumped into their heads as the accepted term...
to identify us. We found that we were spending more time explaining that the term was offensive to us and not politically correct than we were in trying to convince them that it would behoove them to advertise with us.

So many of you now sell over the internet at retail prices and cut the wholesale level out, that you are in essence operating a retail store. If so, then you should act like one. We talked to a fellow that manufactured dog bowls. Stainless steel dog bowls. Heavy, expensive dog bowls at $125 each. Now how am I going to even attempt to convince this man that my readers might just order 50 or so? But there were dog bowls much more attractive that what we see in our every day kennels. Could you possibly see your way clear to purchase some of these high end, more expensive bowls for ‘appearance sake’ only? How about pens and beds and toys and all of the things you see that cost more but look so nice? How much will you spend on your image when the investment will not make you one extra dime? You cannot continue to operate your kennel with old equipment. If it looks like a puppy mill, if it smells like a puppy mill, if it feels like a puppy mill, then I bet it is a puppy mill. THE KENNEL SPOTLIGHT CONDEMNS SUB-STANDARD KENNELS! MPBA condemns substandard kennels. All of the respectable state breed clubs and their members and affiliates condemn substandard kennels. Shape up, grow up and act like the professional you are. Be proud of who you are and what you do!

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**NE TEXAS CANINE EXHIBITORS APRI DOG SHOW WAS SPECTACULAR!!**

On March 14th, dog show enthusiasts convened in Jefferson, Texas, for the 2nd Annual NE Canine Exhibitors APRI all breed conformation and Top Dog show down. The final lineup of dogs in each of the 3 shows was of superior quality in the breeds represented. The breeders and handlers are to be commended for producing and maintaining such high quality! Congratulations to the following Top Dog winners of each of the 3 shows: Show 1: Whippet-ChPc. Silhouette’s Come Sail Away, owned & shown by Shawn Cooper. Show 2: Min.Australian Shepherd-Ch. Sagonaige’s Red Raider, owned & shown by Cynthia Porter. Show 3: Min.Schnauzer-Ch. SB’s Dreaming of Paris, owned & shown by Sarita Chavez.

A very successful judges’ educational seminar was conducted and many more of these are being planned for future presentation. The next one will have been held at the Minnesota Pet Brdrs Assoc. Seminar by the time this publication is out. Hats off to the club, show committee, show coordinator and judges for a very exciting and enjoyable show! Congrats to all the winners!! Thanks to all who helped make the show a HUGE SUCCESS!!

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Canine Legislation: What Is The AKC Doing About It?

Across the nation, breeders and owners of purebred dogs are under legislative attack by organizations whose agenda includes ending our great tradition of purebred dogs as family pets and working companions.

While it may sometimes appear that the AKC is not actively involved in the legislative process, this is not the case. Some of the GR department’s greatest successes are the bills you never hear about—those that have never been formally introduced or never make it past committee hearings.

A large part of the GR department’s work is conducted outside the public eye. The first thing the department does when we learn about a potentially damaging bill is to research the measure and conduct an in-depth analysis of the impact of the measure. GR may also contact lawmakers, negotiate language, educate officials about sensible dog laws and responsible ownership, and suggest alternatives to restrictive breeding laws or bans.

The GR department works with club- or organization-based legislative liaisons and statewide federations to learn about state or local legislation of concern and to implement grassroots political strategies. At the local level, the AKC depends on hearing from affected individuals, organizations and clubs to learn about possible new ordinances. At the state level, GR works with state federations of dog clubs and employs legislative tracking software to follow the activities of 50 different state legislatures. At the federal level, the AKC employs the team of Greenberg Traurig, LLP to represent the interests of responsible owners and breeders throughout the nation.

Some of the services the Government Relations department offers include:
- Bill/ordinance analysis for pending legislation
- Model laws, ideas and options for effective legislation
- Talking points/background materials to help you work with legislators/local media
- Sending materials to you or directly to legislators or government officials
- Legislators’ contact information and easy-to-customize sample letters
- Using internal communications tools including database e-mail system to inform AKC breeders and constituents about legislative issues in your area and issue calls for action. Updated information is regularly provided via the AKC GR department website www.akc.org/canine_legislation; the legislative alerts subscription program, the Taking Command newsletter, and AKC.org news column posts.

Breeder Legislative Liaisons. The AKC GR department encourages breeders to participate in the AKC’s political outreach by signing up to become breeder legislative liaisons. Breeder legislative liaisons represent local or regional breeders’ organizations and serve as contact points for the AKC GR department whenever legislation is pending that may impact breeders in the area. Legislative liaisons provide information to the AKC GR department about new bills or possible new ordinances and receive information and the assistance listed above. For more information about becoming a breeder legislative liaison contact the AKC Government Relations department.

As of March 2009, the AKC’s GR department is monitoring over 600 dog-related measures in state legislatures, as well as issues at the local level, and potential new measures at the federal level. For more information, contact the AKC’s Government Relations Department at 919-816-3720 or e-mail doglaw@akc.org.
If you use Pet SuperJuice, it doesn’t cost you... it saves you many times over the purchase price. Adding Pet SuperJuice - 2 Cents per dog or pup per day and you’ve avoided Stress Diarrhea, Weaning Difficulties, Fading from Digestive Issues, Poor Immunity Transport Diarrhea, Diarrhea in New Homes - PRICELESS!
ANTI-DOG ENFORCEMENT
What Every Dog Owner Needs to Know:

Dog owners and ethical breeders are increasingly being targeted. Disgruntled neighbors may retaliate against dog owners, and many other reasons drive complaints and anti-dog enforcement action, which many times may be conducted illegally. The following text outlines methods of inquiry and enforcement that may be used by local officials in an attempt to enforce ordinances in your community and suggested techniques of response. These techniques are entirely legal and based upon the rights of citizens as stated by the US Constitution. No breeder or rescuer wants to have Animal Control come knocking on the door ... but, if they do, it will help if you know what your options are. Remember, Animal Control is law enforcement. They are bound by the same Constitution as any other government agency. To protect yourself, you need to know your rights.

These vary slightly one jurisdiction to another, but some general principles apply. One rule applies everywhere: NEVER physically resist an officer.  

When Animal Control is At Your Door:

1. Do not let them in, no matter how much they ask. Animal Control generally cannot enter your home without a warrant, or without your permission. While regular police can enter in emergency situations when human life is at risk (i.e., they hear gunshots or a scream inside), there are few, if any, situations in which Animal Control can enter your home without a warrant. Simply tell them (very politely) they may not come in.

2. If you let them in, anything they find in “plain sight” can be used against you. In some circumstances, Animal Control officers, unable to find a legitimate reason to make an arrest, have reported building or zoning violations. This may include caging you attached to a wall without a building permit, that extra outlet in the puppy room, having more pets than allowed by zoning, even extension cords in violation of fire codes! No matter how clean your kennel, if they want to find a violation ... they will.

3. Do not talk to them from an open doorway. Step outside and close (lock it, if possible) the door behind you. This is necessary because:

   A) Anything they see through the open door is in “plain sight” and may be the basis for an arrest or probable cause for a search warrant.

   B) If they make an arrest or even feel threatened, they are usually permitted to search for weapons in your immediate area. Do you keep a baseball bat behind the front door for your protection? Even if you don’t, once they step inside to look, they are in your home and may continue to search.

   C) It is hard not to be intimidated by someone in authority. Some animal control is even done by local police, who carry guns. It is easy for them to get “in your face”, causing you to back up into your home. Once you go in, it will be interpreted as an invitation to follow.

4. If they claim to have a warrant, demand to see it. In general, a search warrant must be signed by a judge. A warrant to search your home for dogs does NOT include an inventory of your jewelry box. A warrant to search your kennel in the garage or in the barn does not include a search of your home.

5. In some locations, dog owners may have obtained special “breeder or rescue permits” that stipulate that Animal Control has your permission to enter your kennel at any time. If you have signed such a permit, they still cannot enter against your wishes since you can revoke permission at any time. However, if you refuse permission, it may allow them to cancel your permit, so you have to weigh the consequences.

6. WARNING -- anyone in lawful possession of the premises may be able to give permission for a search. Make sure your roommate, babysitter, dog sitter, housekeeper, etc. know they should NEVER let animal control into your home or on your property (i.e., backyard, garage, barn, etc.).

How to Handle Questions:

1. Don’t answer any questions beyond identifying yourself for the officer. Anything you say to the officer in your defense cannot be used in court (hearsay). Anything you say that is harmful to you will be used in court (confessions are not considered hearsay). You cannot win except by remaining silent.

2. Be polite, but firm. Do not argue, bad-mouth, curse, threaten, or try to intimidate the officer.

3. Do not lie to an officer; however, it is NOT a lie to exercise your right to remain silent.

4. Keep your hands in plain sight. People have been shot by police when common objects, such as a wallet, were mistaken for a gun.

5. Do not touch the officer in any way. Do not physically resist an officer, no matter how unlawful his or her actions.

6. Don’t try to tell your side of the story; it cannot help.

7. Do not threaten the officer that you plan to file a complaint for their actions.

8. If the questioning persists, demand to speak to a lawyer first. Repeat as necessary.

Gathering The Facts:

1. Get the name and badge number of each officer involved. If he/she does not volunteer this information, ask.

2. Ask the name of the agency they represent. Different agencies have different enforcement responsibilities.

3. Ask why they are there. Request factual basis of the complaint and complainant’s identity.

4. If they have other people with them (HSUS, press, etc.), get names and organizations for all present.

5. Note names & addresses of any witnesses to the encounter.

Continued on page 36
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“Respiratory problems in puppies and dogs are nonexistent at our kennel now…”
6. If you are physically injured by an officer, take photographs of injuries immediately, but do not forego proper medical treatment as soon as possible.

7. Write down all information, as well as date and time of incident, immediately while details are still fresh in your mind.

8. If your rights are violated, file a complaint with the appropriate body.

**If You Are Arrested:**

1. **REMAIN SILENT** -- answer no questions until you have consulted with a lawyer.

2. **DON’T EXPLAIN ANYTHING** -- you will have time for explanations after you talk to your lawyer.

3. They must allow you a phone call (for calling a lawyer or to arrange bail) within a reasonable amount of time. They are **NOT** allowed to listen to your phone call to your attorney, but may “monitor” the rooms for “your protection”. Do not say anything you do not want overheard; save that until after you are out on bail.

**Telephone Inquiries or Threats:**

You may receive telephone inquiries concerning the number of dogs you own and whether any dogs or puppies are for sale. Other questions may also be asked. Your response should be to inquire “Are you interested in a puppy?”. If the answer is “yes”, ask for the person’s name and phone number. Suggest that you or a responsible breeder will contact that person at a more convenient time for you.

If the answer is friendly and genuinely inquisitive, invite the person to look at your puppies. If you are asked, “What is the price of your pups?”, simply say that puppies of this breed are being sold for between “X” and “Y” dollars. NEVER say that you are selling them.

If you are asked, “Are these your puppies?”, you should ask, “Why do you want to know?”

If conversation indicates the person represents County Clerk’s Office or other official body, ask for:

--- Full name, title & phone number
--- Agency’s full name and address
--- Supervisor’s full name and phone number
--- Nature of inquiry (what it is about)
--- Why the inquiry is being made
--- How your name and phone number were obtained
--- Ask that all future questions from that agency be submitted in writing

**Preventative Measures:**

1. Always keep your kennel clean and take good care of your animals.

2. Consider a PO Box or other address for business cards and advertisements. Keep descriptions of your location general (i.e., Southern California, rather than the name of the city where you live). The internet can provide anonymity for initial contacts. You can even buy a “remote prefix” to get a number from a nearby community forwarded to your phone or to a voice mail. Avoid local newspaper classifieds, they are often monitored.

3. Screen any potential puppy buyers carefully. Always be alert that they may be Animal Control or even Animal Rights working under cover.

4. Don’t allow strangers into your home until you have screened them.

5. Be fair and honest in all of your dealings, and be on good terms with your neighbors. Most animal control contacts are complaint-driven. Some complaints may arise as harassment by people with unrelated grievances against you. It may be a disgruntled dog buyer or a cranky neighbor who does not like you parking in front of his house.

6. Anything about you that can be observed in “plain sight” from the street or sidewalk can become probable cause for a warrant. Even areas on your property open to visitors can be dangerous. Be aware of which areas of your home and property are visible from the outside and plan accordingly.

7. If you are confronted by Animal Control and turn them away, assume they will be back. Use the time available to make sure everything is clean and presentable. If you are over the limit on the number of pets, find friends who can provide temporary shelter for your dogs.

Whatever you do, stay calm and keep your wits about you. Just say “NO”, no matter what threats or promises of leniency they make. **When in doubt, SAY NOTHING, and speak to a lawyer ASAP.**

Submitted by Thea King, OKPP

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AKC CAR Launches New Web Site at [www.akccar.org](http://www.akccar.org)

AKC Companion Animal Recovery (AKC CAR) is pleased to announce that it has launched a new website at [www.akccar.org](http://www.akccar.org). The new design is easy to navigate and features a tool bar providing access to key sections of the site, including Pet Identification Products, Pet Recovery Services and the Online Product Store. The site is also tailored to the many different audiences that rely on the AKC CAR website for information: Pet Owners, Veterinarians, Shelters/Non-Profits, Clubs and Breeders. “AKC CAR continues to offer new products and services aimed at increasing the number of lost pets recovered. It is important that our web site evolve and be a natural extension of our organization.” said Tom Sharp, Vice President and CEO of AKC CAR. “This new architecture will not only make it easier to navigate for the pet owner and animal care providers, but also will allow AKC CAR to add new cutting edge solutions as a leading microchip ID system and recovery service provider.” The new site makes it simple for pet owners to enroll new pets and order replacement collar tags. Also important to increase pet recoveries is simple access to updating pet’s records. AKC CAR does not charge for records updates since proper information is critical to a lost pet’s recovery, and AKC CAR strongly encourages pet owners to keep their information up to date. Found pets can be reported via the website. If the pet owner chooses, AKC CAR will provide instant text messaging and email alerts to let the pet owner know their pet has been recovered. For vets, animal shelters and breeders, purchasing microchips or scanners is made easy with the online store. For more information on AKC CAR visit the new site at [www.akccar.org](http://www.akccar.org) or call 1-800-252-7894.
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TOP 10 REASONS WHY ALL RESPONSIBLE BREEDERS SHOULD "CONDEMN SUBSTANDARD KENNELS:"

10. It’s the TRUTH!!! And it’s true because responsible breeders care about their animals’ health and welfare, and are appalled when they read or hear about deplorable conditions in an isolated, substandard kennel that is used to discredit the other 99.9% of the truly responsible breeders.

9. Responsible breeders need to “Tell Their Story,” instead of letting the malicious lies and half-truths go unanswered. And by condemning “substandard kennels,” responsible breeders will enhance their credibility when they “Tell Their Story.”

8. “Silence,” as reflected by the absence of a growing chorus of “condemnations,” allows those who spin the “half-truths” and lies to get away with what they are saying, which has created the perception in the minds of the Public and Elected Officials that any responsible breeder who sells his or her puppies through pet stores or over the internet is a “PM.”

7. Most Elected Officials at the Federal and State level have bought into the idea that breeders are “PMs” because they hear the half-truths over and over again, which is “quietly” reinforced by assertions that “if they really cared about their animals, they would condemn bad breeders, and since they don’t make such a condemnation, they obviously are all bad.”. That is but one example of the misrepresentations being made by the “DISTORTION MILLS!”

6. Public condemnations of substandard kennels by responsible breeders DO NOT, I REPEAT, DO NOT HURT THEM AND SUCH CONDEMNATIONS IMPROVE THE CREDIBILITY OF RESPONSIBLE BREEDERS! For example, three years ago, Senator Santorum was the “champion” of the HSUS, and had repeatedly sponsored Bills that would have crippled the breeder industry. He had introduced the PAWS Bill (which came before the PUPS Bill), and he was considering the request of the HSUS to add a breeding limitation to the PAWS Bill. However, when he learned of the MPBA condemnation of substandard kennels, he did the following three things:

• He issued a Press Release in which he acknowledged that the vast majority of breeders were responsible breeders who truly cared about the health and welfare of their dogs.

• He stopped using the “PM” phrase, and never again used it.

• He resisted HSUS pressure to add the breeding limitation, and then he stopped pushing the PAWS Bill and allowed it to “die.”

That was the POWERFUL RESULT OF A SINGLE CONDEMNATION, AND THAT REPRESENTS THE POWER OF CREDIBILITY. Just think of how powerful the credibility of responsible breeders could become if the chorus of public condemnations was significantly increased!!!!!!

5. Responsible breeders need to reinforce their credibility, as never before, and they may do so by publicly condemning substandard kennels and putting HSUS on the defensive - - YES, PUT HSUS ON THE DEFENSIVE! For example, multiple condemnations could result in Elected Officials asking HSUS and other animal protection and rights groups: “Since responsible breeders have condemned substandard kennels, why do we need to make the changes in laws that you are urging??????

4. Public condemnations will slow down the full court press of HSUS, which is bragging about how it has successfully orchestrated 225 new laws at the State Level, and has enlisted the support of the Georgetown Law School to help it in its crusade to put all responsible breeders out of business.

Continued on page 40
IOWA SHOW HIGHLIGHTS

On March 13th & 14th, at the Meskwaki Casino and Convention Center in Tama, Iowa, the Iowa Pet Breeders held their 2009 seminar. They had a full line up of speakers which included Dr. Ken Mallard of Stratford Vet Clinic, Bonnie Schindler of Teachers Pets & PPA, Dr. Breaigne Jones of Royal Canin and Dr. Rick Kesler of Lambert Vet Supply. There was a lot of vendors who offered some great products and specials throughout the show. The beautiful hotel hosed a great banquet on Friday night followed by the IaPBA fund raising auction which did over $3000.00 in proceeds to benefit the club. The Iowa Pet Breeders officers really went all out to make sure everyone had what they needed and welcome them to the show. They even hosted a complimentary brunch on Saturday for all the breeders and exhibitors. A dog grooming demonstration was held by Tedra Edwards and she really showed us some ‘short cuts’ on preparing a dog for sale (no pun intended!). We encourage all breeders to take advantage of these free seminars not only for the education, but for the great product specials they offer at these shows. Be sure to make plans to attend next year—don’t miss out!! A special thanks to the Iowa Pet Breeders Association for inviting the Kennel Spotlight to attend and enjoy this great event!

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3. If HSUS and other animal protection and animal rights groups are not confronted with the need to “Tell the Whole Truth, and Nothing But the Truth,” their influence with Elected Officials will continue to grow, and the credibility and influence of responsible breeders will continue to diminish. Multiple condemnations would become a major part of the “WHOLE TRUTH!”

2. If the echoing chorus of public condemnations by responsible breeders grows louder, it will allow responsible breeders to put HSUS on the defensive by asking over and over again: “Since responsible breeders are uniformly condemning substandard kennels, why has the HSUS never publicly condemned those who violate the “Animal Enterprise Terrorism Act?” Does its “silence” and lack of condemnation of acts of terrorism that are prohibited under this Act mean that they support such acts of terrorism?????"

1. IF RESPONSIBLE BREEDERS DO NOT UNIFORMILY JOIN IN THE CHORUS TO PUBLICLY CONDEMN SUBSTANDARD KENNELS, THE PROBABILITY OF RESPONSIBLE BREEDERS BEING DRIVEN OUT OF BUSINESS AS A RESULT OF INCREASINGLY UNREALISTIC, OVERLY RESTRICTIVE AND PUNITIVE BREEDING LAWS WILL DRAMATICALLY INCREASE.

A public condemnation of a substandard kennel can be less than 50 words, but those few words will have the power to “move mountains” and slow down the growing momentum of HSUS. The following language is what I recommend to be used in any public condemnation:

“The (Name of Breeder Group) condemns all substandard kennels which reflect poorly on the vast majority of responsible breeders who have demonstrated by their actions that they are in compliance with existing animal welfare laws and regulations, and that they truly care about the health and welfare of their animals.”

HSUS’ 100 POINT CHANGE AGENDA FOR ANIMALS: To date, this is the most ambitious, aggressive and invasive agenda that HSUS has ever undertaken. It is focused not just on the Department of Agriculture, but on just about every other Department in the Federal Government. Specific Offices that are “targeted” by HSUS include The White House; the Departments of Justice, State, Defense, Transportation, Commerce, Education, Treasury, Interior, Housing and Urban Development, Health and Human Services, the Environmental Protection Agency, the Consumer and Product Safety Commission, the Federal Trade Commission, and even the U.S. Postal Services!

How far reaching are these 100 initiatives? They range from establishing an “Animal Protection Liaison in the White House” to prohibiting the U.S. Navy from conducting training exercises that are essential for protecting the “national security” of the U.S. And according to the HSUS 100 Point Agenda, the new version of a “PUPS” Bill will include an explicit limitation on how often a dam may be bred. Yet another reason for a public condemnation in order to increase resistance to the “steamroller” efforts to put responsible breeders out of business in 2009!

APHIS’ PROPOSED REGULATION THAT WOULD REQUIRE BREEDER CONTINGENCY PLANS FOR NATURAL DISASTERS MAY GO BACK TO THE “DRAWING BOARD!!!!”:

As a result of a series of communications that I had with representatives from the Small Business Administration (SBA), the SBA Office of Advocacy sent a letter to the APHIS Administrator which highlighted flaws that SBA strongly recommended be considered. The contents of the letter can not be ignored by APHIS, which means APHIS must address at least nine shortcomings in its proposed regulation. The following extracts from the SBA letter highlight the most significant shortcomings that simply cannot be ignored:

•“APHIS is not in compliance with . . . . and (APHIS) does not have a factual basis for assuming the costs would be minimal for the affected entities (breeders).”

•“APHIS could have done a better job of gathering data . . . .”

•“APHIS fails to address and analyze any costs associated with evacuation of animals, backup sources of water and power, etc. Additionally, the rule fails to analyze what types of equipment or supplies might have to be purchased immediately in order for affected small entity facilities to be equipped to handle an emergency evacuation should the occasion arise.”

•“(APHIS) is required to publish a compliance guide pursuant to Section 212 of the Small Business Regulatory Enforcement Fairness Act.”

In light of these comments, I anticipate that APHIS will either withdraw the Proposed Regulation, or publish an amended Proposed Regulation, which will require a new public comment period and greater scrutiny from the Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs (OIRA). Significantly, OIRA has the authority to stop the publication of any regulatory regulation!
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World’s Largest Annual Pet Products Trade Show Strong Despite Recession

*Global Pet Expo 2009 Lives Up to the Industry’s Reputation of Being Recession Resistant With Growth in Attendance over 2008*

*(Greenwich, CT., March 16, 2009) — Last month’s Global Pet Expo in Orlando, Florida is proof that the pet industry is managing to swim in a sinking economy. While retailers in most industries may be worrying about the possibility of the worst year in generations, those in the pet products industry are finding themselves in a bright spot among much of the gloom of American business. After compiling the final show numbers, leaders from The American Pet Products Association (APPA) and Pet Industry Distributors Association (PIDA) announced that Global Pet Expo 2009 exceeded expectations in nearly every aspect with thousands of vibrant, innovative and useful new pet products introduced, more buyers attending the show than last year, and a record number of retailers from around the rest of the world.*

“With so many stories in the news of decreased attendance at meetings and trade shows in the United States, we were unsure of how the current economic environment would affect our industry and Global Pet Expo 2009,” said Andrew Darmohraj, APPA Senior Vice President.

And for good reason, according to a survey of its members, UFI, the Global Association of the Exhibition Industry found that 62 percent of show organizers around the world saw their businesses decline in 2008. Nearly 70 percent said they expect at least a 10-percent decrease in revenue in the first half of this year. But, that was not the case for Global Pet Expo, held February 12-14 in Orlando, Florida, with 779 exhibiting companies, 2,306 booths and total attendance up this year by 2%. That totals more than 4,100 buyers – a positive indicator that despite the economic downturn, this industry continues to stand strong. “This year’s show both in terms of numbers and energy was an extraordinary example of the resilience of the pet industry and reinforced our research that Americans value their pets. No matter the economic climate pets remain a top household priority,” said Darmohraj. Furthermore, Global Pet Expo 2009 truly was *global* this year with international attendance higher than ever before, at nearly 25% of the total buyer attendance rate, representing 65 countries from around the world.

“Global Pet Expo is always an important part of our sales and marketing strategy,” said Alan Cook, President of Lucky Litter LLC d/b/a/ Brilliant Pet. “This year was no exception. We received substantial interest in our new products, and were pleased at the record interest and traffic from international retailers.” This sentiment is backed by another recent study that shows promoting your product or service at a trade show is still one of the best ways to grow. The Center for Exhibition Industry Research found that even though attendance and exhibit space may decrease in recessionary periods, key buyers continue to attend trade shows and the percentage of attendees that actually have plans to purchase remains high. “A huge number of exhibitors and visitors left this year’s Global Pet Expo with a renewed sense of buoyancy and a spirit of new momentum,” said Darmohraj.

Global Pet Expo’s success is reflected by industry spending figures announced at the show. As projected, industry spending in 2008 hit $43.2 billion and is projected to grow another 4.9% to $45.4 billion in 2009. Global Pet Expo is a gathering of attendees from around the world representing the leading retail chains, pet superstores and mass-market retailers, distributors, wholesalers and independent retailers. These attendees spend three days surveying the hottest pet products before they hit store shelves. This year they witnessed everything from a product that teaches fish to perform tricks and a growing number of organic and eco-friendly products, to a lost dog tracker and intelligence graded dog puzzles. Each year thousands of new products are launched and debuted at Global Pet Expo.

Global Pet Expo 2010 will be held March 25-27in Orlando, Florida at the Orange Country Convention Center.
ST. PUPPY’S DAY AT MID AMERICA!

It was definitely a ‘Lucky Day’ for the breeders at the Mid America Pet Breeder Appreciation Day on March 17th in Neosho, Mo. Well over a 100 breeders attended the festivities which included representatives from AKC, Nutro Pet Foods (who sponsored the event) and Midway Vet Clinic of Neosho. Mid America Pet along with Pet Ex 2, which is the transportation side of the company, hosted a great free BBQ with all the fixin’s, drinks and even dessert! David Roberts from AKC along with Stacy Mason, Kathy Peaker and Phyllis King, answered a lot of the breeders questions regarding registration and fees. Stacy Mason, who is the Senior Breeder Field Representative, spoke to the crowd about new and upcoming services for the breeders, and the discounts they can receive by contacting the Breeder Relations Department. Dr. Kenton Beard of Midway Vet Clinic, spoke to the breeders about the importance of vaccinating, worming and most of all, cleanliness in the kennels. His staff, Dr. Liz, Georgia and Jodey, were also on hand to answer questions and talk to breeders about their products and services. Nutro Pet Foods had their representatives there helping educate breeders on proper nutrition and had several pallets of Nutro Dog Food available as prize give aways. When the breeders arrived at the event, they registered and received a crossword puzzle to fill out along with the booth names to be stamped and turned in for a drawing for several wonderful prizes: a weekend getaway to Branson, an EZ Kennel Program, Free gas cards, T-Shirts, Vaccines, Free Health visits to Midway Vet Clinic, and tons of Nutro Dog Food! In addition to these great prizes, the event was also eligible for Continuing Education Credits and Bonuses to breeders who sell their puppies to Mid America Pet. The weather was beautiful and it was a great day to enjoy some good food and wonderful speakers and take advantage of some great prizes!! A big ‘Thank You’ to Chris Fleming and the Mid America Staff for inviting us to this fun event!

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CALENDAR OF EVENTS

April 24th & 25th, 2009
OKPP-Oklahoma Pet Professionals 10th Annual Seminar, Biltmore Hotel, Oklahoma City, OK. Booth spaces are $225.00. For more information, contact Reda Ratliff (918) 396-2386

May 8th & 9th, 2009
QSBA-Quad States Breeders Association 4th Annual Seminar, Holiday Inn City Center, Fort Smith, AR. Booth spaces are $250.00. For more information, contact Debbie Slama (918) 962-5403

June 19th & 20th, 2009
PPA-Professional Pet Association Seminar, Moberly Community College, Moberly, MO. For more info contact Cathy Griesbauer (573) 564-2884

August 1st, 2009
SEMPBA-Southeast Missouri Pet Breeders Seminar, Bess Activity Center, Three Rivers College, Poplar Bluff, MO. Booth space is $150.00. Set up, dinner & auction will be on Friday night, July 31st. Please contact Tim Toombs (573) 998-2284

OKPP SEMINAR SPEAKER SCHEDULE:
Friday, April 24th:
8:40-10:00 Skin Diseases, Part 1-Dr. Kessler, DVM
10:30-12:00 Whelping to Weaning-Dr. Tracy Thompson, DVM
1:30-2:30 Brucellosis, Part 1-Dr. Gentry, DVM
3:00-4:00 Speaker to be announced
4:30-5:30 Speaker to be announced
5:30 Dinner
6:45-7:45 Perception & Image-Stacy Mason, AKC
8:00 Auction-Need donations!

Saturday, April 25th:
8:30-9:30 Brucellosis, Part II-Dr. Gentry, DVM
10:00-11:00 Cardiology-Dr. Nicole Ponzio, DVM
11:30-12:45 Skin Disease, Part II-Dr. Kessler, DVM
12:45-Luncheon for Everyone-sponsored by OKPP
2:30-OKPP Business meeting

UPCOMING UPRI DOG SHOWS:
April 18th, 2009-Youth Show-Crossroads Breeders. Contact Shauna (417) 345-4000

April 25th, 2009-UPPA-Nebraska. Contact Lori Gruber (308) 584-3620

May 9th, 2009-OKPP-Checotah, OK. Contact Belva Couch (918) 473-3437

May 16th, 2009-Upper Cumberland Kennel Club, Gainesboro, TN.-Contact Karen Smith (931) 268-9210

June 6th, 2009-Making Tracks for APRI-Moberly, MO. Contact Francis Schmidt (660) 963-2155

June 13th, 2009-Minnesota Pet Breeders, Staples, MN Contact Teri Franzen (218) 894-0005

UPCOMING SOUTHWEST AUCTIONS:
April 11th, 2009-Consignment Sale, Wheaton, MO
April 18th, 2009-A&M Puppies, Alison Henry, Lane, OK
April 25th, 2009-Juanita Carter, Kinta, OK
May 2nd, 2009-Tammy Graham, Kirksville, MO
May 9th, 2009-Special Bulldog Sale, Wheaton, MO
May 16th, 2009-Dan & Rosemary Lafferty, Seymour, MO
May 23rd, 2009-Consignment Sale, Wheaton, MO

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