Cover Story...
‘Button Boy’ Landon Hansen & his fight for JHD!

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Juvenile Huntington’s disease is a Neurological degenerative terminal brain disease…JHD refers to Huntington’s disease that has an age of symptom onset ranging from Infancy to 20 years of age.

JHD takes away all of a child’s abilities over time, so for a child it makes it hard for them to do simple things like go outside to play with their friends on the playground or even blow out their birthday candles. There are many milestones that these kids might never experience. It’s terminal.

There is NO CURE. Please help us find one. Children who develop symptoms at a young age have a variation of differences in the disease progression than that of adult onset. Often the disease progresses more aggressively and their lifetime is anticipated to be anywhere between 3 to 10 years once diagnosis has been made; however this does not always hold truth for all cases. Symptoms may come and go and the age of development and presentation of symptoms. This combined with the lack of professional experience with these kids might be factors in untimely or miss diagnosis and lack of understanding the child’s full needs can contribute too many difficulties for family and professionals caring for these children.

Only an estimated ten percent of people at risk for Huntington’s Disease develop the juvenile form, but it’s hard to get accurate numbers. There’s so many more than that!! The younger the onset, the faster the progression; which makes it harder for family, friends and even doctors to cope with.

A huge question might be when should we be concerned that my child might have JHD? Due to the variability and the truth that children are developing and growing, and many other factors, the best answer would likely be “when there is an obvious change”, particularly one that is impacting the child’s quality of life. There is approximately a 40% chance that someone who develops JHD will develop epilepsy. Some ways to tell if someone may have JHD are if they have a decline in school, behavior issues, personality changes, impulsiveness, memory loss, difficulty with comprehension, balance or movement difficulties. The list could be quite long.

A significant question might be when should we test the child? This has been a controversial question. The response will vary dependent upon who you speak with. NO one wants to give a child a terminal diagnosis. A diagnosis is quite a serious step, keep in mind, diagnosed or undiagnosed if someone is symptomatic their genetics will not change. Taking the time to be sure everyone in the immediate family is as prepared as they can be is likely invaluable, while weighing the child’s care and needs for treatment in this process also. An experienced genetics and or pediatric neurology team is important in assisting the family along with involving a social worker with the HDSA.

It’s always important to not place expectations on a child with JHD, adapting their world to them, vs. adapting them to the world. Keeping in mind that all changes are not necessarily permanent, a child may be unable to walk one day and then the following day walk again as if there had never been an issue. MOST IMPORTANTLY to keep in mind that just because the child is terminally ill with a degenerative condition DOES NOT mean there is no HOPE or that nothing can help. Diagnosis is a new beginning NOT an end.

Children with JHD are quite special young people with invaluable lessons to teach anyone who’s life has been touched by these kids.
It has been too long…

Wow, how life changes so quickly…Nevaeh Iris came home safe and sound and as you can see by the pictures she is growing and is a blast to be around. Her smile is able to light up the room. Kate is doing ok.

She is struggling with her JHD. It causes her to fall or trip. It has caused her swallowing to be severely affected. The medication she was on before has caused many ticks and other issues. So we are weaning her off it and hopefully we can either stop medications or we can use a different one. I am angry that the ticks she developed from the medication she was on. It does NOT seem fair that I made sure to have her enrolled with doctors that specialized in JHD and HD and yet this happened. I am angry that no matter what, it is a losing battle. I am mad that HD has taken over our lives!!!…

Kate is fighting to keep going. I see her depression and I worry. I feel my depression and realized that even when I am doing my best it is not enough. I know that God has a plan and for that I am thankful. I often times see others and hear them fuss about their lives…AND I want to scream… “REALLY…I CAN’T DO THIS ANYMORE…instead I walk away. I walk away and pray for guidance and peace. I am sorry if it seems that I am overwhelmed…the truth be told I am…between Shawn being Autistic and ADHD and trying to help Kate, it can be overwhelming.

I see my loved ones and I know that they are here, and that I thank God for them each day. The struggles with the depression and anxiety I have are more to deal with my worries for my children. Kate, Mikey, Landon, Shawn, and Gabe. How to be a mother to them all and how to keep things going. And how to help all of them. I see our family and it makes me smile…I also at times want to run away screaming!!

How to make sure Mikey, Landon and Gabe all feel that their thoughts and feelings matter…and what to say when people look at Kate thinking she is drunk or something is wrong with her…I look at her and see my daughter; my child who drives me nuts, who makes me smile, who can make me cry and most of all who I LOVE…She works so hard at caring for her daughter and dealing with JHD.

Each day with all our children is a blessing and there are times when I wish I could fix things for them and give them whatever they need…I know this is not possible. I give them my love and show them my faith, and pray that God takes care of the rest.

It has been a hard year. But it has been filled with blessings and love too. My depression will go away and my anger to and it will come back…But so long as I accept God is in control…I will keep fighting.
**EARN A FIVE STAR RATING!!**

**ACA/ICA** now offers an innovative awards program to professional breeders who want to communicate and advertise their high quality kennels. **ACA/ICA** always endeavors to provide fine breeders, such as yourself, with new techniques and tools for marketing your puppies. Now breeders have an opportunity to have “Achievement of Excellence Star Breeder Award 2011-2012” printed next to their name on each ACA or ICA puppy application form. By achieving high ratings, breeders will demonstrate their high goals and accomplishments to potential clients. The star rating will be the standard that customers will use to measure and compare the quality of their puppy’s breeder, and every kennel will certainly want to achieve as high a rating as possible.

Participation in this program is completely voluntary. It assures the customer buying a puppy from you or at a pet store, that you are a professional. You will want to receive deserved credit for all that you do. This rating system is only available to breeders who register their litters with **ACA/ICA**, so if you are not an **ACA/ICA** breeder, register your litters now to take advantage of this offer. Being a part of the award system is FREE. Don’t lose this opportunity to add this valuable award recognition to your high quality kennel!

**HOW DOES IT WORK?**

The Achievement of Excellence Star Breeder Program has 5 levels. By completing all the requirements outlined below, a breeder would earn five stars and be considered top of the line! By completing some of the requirements, a facility can still earn stars to indicate high quality services.

Achieving a five star status certainly proves to clients and potential clients that you are a professional and high quality breeder. Earning stars in this rating system shows that you have the dedication and commitment in producing the very best puppies possible!

**HOW DO I GET STARTED?**

Contact our office at **1-800-651-8332** and indicate that you are interested in the Star Breeder Program. Our friendly customer service staff will explain the steps in proving your star requirements. All dog shows and educational experiences must be ACA sanctioned to receive credit toward your star ratings. Please feel free to call for more information.

**HOW DOES THIS HELP ME?**

**ACA/ICA** believes that this five star rating system will enable potential puppy customer clients to quickly identify professional and high quality breeders. Pet store sales associates are easily able to provide assurance when answering the uncomfortable question: “Did this puppy come from a puppy mill?” Customers searching for certifications, recommendations, and the health of puppies will be reassured that they are dealing with an excellent and trustworthy breeder. We believe that this system will enable breeders to show the quality of their breeding, ongoing education, veterinary care, and proper husbandry techniques thereby increasing the value of their pups and adult dogs.

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Managing Females - First Time Moms!

First time mommas are a hand full, mostly because they can't call their mom and ask if this is normal! Most do well, but with a little care, we can make first litter moms as effective as an older mom in puppy care.

45% of the losses with females happen in first time moms, but most breeders rarely loose a puppy with any mom, because they know the issues they face and prevent them! First time moms are young and need reassurance. A puppy's eyes are not open and they do rooting behavior to find the nipple, but first time moms don't realize a puppy isn't positioned to eat – older moms will tuck them. You can help them find the nipple and get a full tummy. Not eating goes with puppies getting cold. Once chilled, females will do "Bitch culling" and set the puppy aside not knowing what else to do.

Solving Bitch Culling:
- Take the puppy away and warm them up. Feed warm electrolytes with glucose the first feeding then Breeders' Edge® FOSTER CARE™ to help warm them up.
- Keep them warm until comfortable and sleeping normally on their side or tummy. Once warm, return the puppy to mom for care. She will take them back with no issues if their body temp is around 100°F. A rectal thermometer will help tell you they are ready.

Our job is to be sure that the puppy eats, that they are warm enough, and that they are content. Older moms nurture and mother consistently the 1st week, do a good job the 2nd week, and by the 3rd and 4th week they are getting kid-worn and will let you have them if you want. New moms often take one week to get into the mothering, nurturing groove.

A Few Things Breeders Do To Help:
- If Mom isn't happy – puppies die! Whelping box (MagnaBox Whelping Box) location is vital for first time moms and it needs to be where mom is most comfortable. Move new moms 2 weeks before expected date of delivery and get her comfortable with the whelping area. Recent case: Owner put a house dog and first time mom into the kennel whelp area when she came into labor – 11 puppies born. She lost 3 in 24 hours and 3 more looked like they were “going south” (owners words). We moved the whelp box to the breezeway between the house and garage and fed the puppies one time with Foster care milk replacer for energy and warmed them up with hot water bottle in a cardboard box. Gave mom back the puppies once warm and the owner made sure all puppies found the nipple several times a day. Mom was comfortable and did fine from that point on – 8 puppies are now 3 weeks old and doing well.
- Good mothers raise daughters that are good mothers. If their mom was a good mother, they get it by 48 hours and need little monitoring after that. If their mom was not a good mother, the first week is monitoring and assurance until they get it right.
- Tired moms don't mother well! Moms should birth their puppies in 12 hours. 18 hours is starting to get too long and never go over 24 hours or we start losing puppies. Some will die at birth and some will fade the first week because of long labor and low oxygen.

Prevention That Helps:
- Give moms calcium gel, like Breeders' Edge® ORAL CAL PLUS, when they start to whelp and repeat after every other puppy. Gel is absorbed through their mouth – they don’t have to swallow when nauseated while in labor. This helps with more effective uterine contractions and a quicker delivery.
- Breeders' Edge® OXYMATE™ PRENATAL Vitamins help moms give their puppies as many red blood cells as possible when they are born. We want puppies born fighting to live, anemic puppies we are fighting to save.
- Red raspberry leaf extracts eases labor by soothing the cramping of ligaments that happen before birth and between contractions. Cramping pain wears moms out and tired moms do not mother well! Used by the Indians, raspberry leaf extract makes first time moms better mothers! Use liquid (lbs/gal of water) for 3 weeks before whelping or just give Breeders' Edge® OXYMATE™ PRENATAL, it contains Raspberry leaf extract.
- Calming the nervous female the first few days is helpful. We don’t want moms doped up, just mellow enough so they calmly think about what they are doing and nurse their babies. Herbal products are best at that – Chamomile or Motherwort are the common herbal products used. Breeders' Edge® OXY MOMMA™ Postnatal Vitamins have Motherwort in it for calming and recovery.
- Pheromones have been used to calm, but tend to take days to take effect and have not stopped issues with nervous mothering. They are a help with loud noises and stress. We have used them with kennel remodeling to calm mothers and with thunder storms that scare dogs. They have been helpful in both these situations, but worth a try if moms are anxious over sounds in the environment.

Most moms have little or no problems, but first time moms have many issues we can help with. Manage moms for prevention of issues with prenatal vitamins and identify puppies not doing well and take steps to correct the issue. First time moms can’t call their mom and ask if this baby is OK – you are that go to person. Use prenatal vitamins to ease mom into milking while monitoring babies for tummy that are full and having them warm is always a win for you and for the puppy!

The materials, information and answers provided through this article are not intended to replace the medical advice or services of a qualified veterinarian or other pet health care professional. Consult your own veterinarian for answers to specific medical questions, including diagnosis, treatment, therapy or medical attention. Not to be used without permission of Revival Animal Health.
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MPBA had another great 2-day show this year on March 8th & 9th with over 800 in attendance and the speaker rooms full! The benefit auction on Friday night did $9500.00 in proceeds with an ADDITIONAL $7405.00 raised for the Juvenile Huntington’s Disease Foundation (JHD), thanks to the generosity of: Mid America Pets (Chris Fleming), Dr. Beukelman (Avenue Vet Clinic), & Ozark Jet a Pet (Tony Gunter). Many thanks to all who attended and donated items to the auction as well as the 54 vendors who set up booths and offered their goods and services for the breeders. Hope to see you again next year!! www.mpbaonline.org
A few pics from the Mid America Pet’s St. Puppy’s Day Celebration on March 1st!
Our very own Bob Hughes from Southwest Auction & The Kennel Spotlight was one of the featured speakers!

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IaPBA 2013 Educational Seminar

We added another great seminar to our history books; with a great lineup of professional industry speakers, a record setting number of vendor booths (54) and great turnout of professional breeders that attended both days. We had an awesome fund raising auction on Friday night with a large number of donated items that brought over $10,000 with Rob Hurd’s beard; which raised a record $3110 for IaFED. Teresa Steiber did the honors and shaved off the beard.

Over 125 people attended the banquet and they listened to Annette Sweeney (President of Iowa Agriculture Women) as well as Dave Miller, the new Missouri Pet Breeders Association (MPBA) President.

A big “Thank You” to all of our Vendors, and especially to the Gem Sponsors as well as the Board of Iowa Pet Breeders Association for making this great event possible.
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Why is HSUS against Bills that Fight Animal Cruelty? By the Humanewatch.org

More and more states are considering proposals that would require reporting of animal cruelty that is videotaped or otherwise documented to law enforcement within 48 hours. The idea is to stop animal cruelty faster, yet the Humane Society of the United States and other vegan animal liberation groups are hysterical, running around and acting as if the sky is falling.

Let’s clear up some of the misinformation being thrown around.

**Myth: The bills will harm free speech.** There is nothing prohibiting activists from telling the media what they document. There is no “gag,” simply a duty to report findings to authorities. That’s similar to how it’s against the law in some areas to fail to report a crime.

**Myth: The bills are a desperate attempt to cover up bad acts.** Gee, well, the bills require law enforcement to be notified of possible animal abuse, so that seems to be a rather poor cover-up scheme. And the videos could be used as evidence in open court. It’s not as if once a case goes to court that the media can’t cover all the details. Just look at the Jodi Arias trial.

**Myth: The proposals will harm whistleblowers.** Whistleblowers are protected as long as they report any apparent crimes to authorities within 48 hours. This means activists can still film undercover; they just have a duty to report.

**Myth: The bills are written by the conservative think tank American Legislative Exchange Council (ALEC).** One California paper’s editorial claimed a state bill copies ALEC model legislation. It doesn’t. That model legislation, first proposed in 2003 and called the “Animal and Ecological Terrorism Act,” is actually similar to a federal Animal Enterprise Terrorism Act that Congress passed in 2006. That’s an important piece of legislation in its own right to battle terroristic elements in the animal rights movement, but we’ll save that discussion for another day. (HSUS, by the way, also opposed this anti-terrorism law.)

Let’s repeat: Animal cruelty can still be covertly documented under these mandatory reporting proposals. The documentation just has to be reported to authorities. That’s hardly onerous or nefarious.

Remember, animal rights activists are not law enforcement and are not impartial. They have their own agendas, and the decision about how to proceed if they do find animal abuse should not be up to them. It should be law enforcement’s call.

Why would this bother animal rights groups? Because it means they can’t just sit around with the cameras rolling for months while animals are abused so that they can, say, splice together footage and concoct a (false) narrative, to say nothing of fundraising opportunities. Shouldn’t stopping animal cruelty be the one and only priority? You would hope so.

The primary issue here is stopping animal cruelty faster. Let’s not lose sight of that. And let’s hope the public doesn’t either despite the noise and propaganda from the Humane Society of the United States and its allies.

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Who’s Top Dog?

AKC Registration Stats for 2012

Earlier this year, the American Kennel Club© announced the nation’s top breeds based on their annual registration statistics. While there were some shifts among the top ten breeds, the number one spot still belongs to the versatile and loveable Labrador Retriever. In fact, the Lab has held the title of most popular since 1991.

2012 Most Popular Dogs in the US

1. Labrador Retriever
2. German Shepherd Dog
3. Golden Retriever
4. Beagle
5. Bulldog
6. Yorkshire Terrier
7. Boxer
8. Poodle
9. Rottweiler
10. Dachshund

Currently, the AKC recognizes 177 breeds with the Chinook and Portugese Podengo Pequeno joining the AKC family early this year. While the AKC has seen many trends over the years, 2012 was definitely the year of the large breeds. The Bulldog made its way into the top five, bumping the petite Yorkshire Terrier into the sixth place. The Golden Retriever also made its way back to the top, overtaking the Beagle for third place, while Rottweilers continued their climb up to the top 10 list by taking ninth place away from the Dachshund.

“Bigger breeds are making their move,” said AKC Spokesperson Lisa Peterson. “The popularity of the pint-sized, portable pooch just gave way to a litter of larger breeds in the Top 10. These predictable, durable, steady breeds, like Labs and Goldens, are great with kids and offer the whole family more dog to love.”

Breed Trends in 2012 Include:

- Mastiff-type breeds have risen in rank, with the Mastiff going from 34 to 26 and the Bullmastiff from 47 to 39 over the past decade.

- Dog owners are showing their love for Sporting breeds over the past year as the Spinone Italiano, Boykin Spaniel and the Welsh Springer Spaniel have all made their way up the list.

- “Bully” breeds are also on the move, over the past decade the Bull Terrier, Staffordshire Bull Terrier and the Miniature Bull Terrier are all making strong gains.

- Small dogs that are on the rise this year are the Havanese and Affenpinscher, while the once popular Chihuahua, Pomeranian and Pug have fallen lower on the list.
Facts and Stats throughout the decades:

- The top five breeds of the 1880’s were all working gundog breeds with the English Setter holding the number one spot. In fact, the English Setter remained in the top ten for four decades until the 1910’s.

- The Saint Bernard, who was accepted into the AKC in 1885, quickly became popular as they held the number-one spot for the decade. To this day, the Saint Bernard is the only giant breed to secure the top spot.

- The only breed to rank in the top ten every decade since the 1880’s is the Beagle. The Beagle held the number-one spot from 1953-1959. In 1950, Charles Schultz’s pet Beagle, Snoopy, caught the hearts of Americans in national newspapers.

- The Poodle emerged among the top ten breeds in the 1960’s and became the first breed to hold the number-one spot for two consecutive decades (1960-1982).

- That crown was taken away from the Poodle by the re-emergence of the Cocker Spaniel who held the number-one spot in the 1940’s. The breed became the most popular dog in the nation from 1983-1990. The Cocker earned the distinction of holding the number-one spot for more than any other breed for a total of 25 years.

- The Lab tied the Poodle for the longest consecutive reign (22 years) at the number-one spot in 2012.

- The Toy group has been steadily on the rise since the 1970’s, when it made up only 12% of the registry versus 23% today.

- The Working group peaked in the 1990’s at 17%, most notably due to the Rottweiler being in the Top 10 at that time, including several years in 2nd place.

To view the AKC’s Breed Rankings for 2012, please visit: www.akc.org/reg/dogreg_stats.cfm

We love hearing from our breeders! Send your comments and questions to the AKC Breeder Relations Team at dogbreeders@akc.org or 1-800-252-5545, PIN 74777.

All Photos © American Kennel Club
ARE YOU OUTRAGED?

I AM.

By Jim Hughes

A few months ago, I received an e-mail of a program print out from Columbia, Missouri television station KOMU Target 8 investigation of the supposedly non-profit Humane Society of Missouri. You know, that group of Humaniacs that is always first in line to steal your dogs in the name of animal rescue. That group that funded and supported Proposition B, the bill that passed and was later rescinded by a far wiser group of legislatures and signed by Governor Nixon. You know, these same bleeding hearts that steal and then sell your dogs at huge profits along with dog food and kennel supplies and almost anything else you can buy in a retail pet shop, thereby competing with private business as a tax evading non-profit organization. Let’s see now, you steal the dogs, use volunteer labor and have most of your supplies donated to you and then legally avoid paying taxes and then you sell these dogs for $300 to $400 dollars apiece. Folks, we are in the wrong end of this dog business.

Missouri Humane Society president Kathryn Warnick has been paid a total of almost $800,000 dollars in compensation and benefits in the past two years-while the organization ran a deficit between $500,000 and $800,000 dollars. There is a never ending plea to the public to donate more and more money to the Missouri Humane, even though they have an annual income of $18 million [that’s right, 18 million] dollars to operate as one of three St. Louis based humane organizations. Now if the Missouri Humane Society is $800,000 in the red and Ms. Warnick received $800,000 in compensation----well it figures that even I can figure out a way to balance their budget. However, next year she will probably have to skimp by on $280,000 dollars for salary as an accounting error has now been cleared up.

This is about the same salary that Wayne Pacelle receives from the Humane Society of the United States for overseeing an organization eight times as large and encompassing the entire country. When he finds out how much Katy is making he probably will want a raise and then that $19 dollars a month that they are constantly begging for will not be enough to cover the new expense. They will have to get two sad eyed dogs and play the tear jerking music even louder.

Communications director Jeane Jae has stated that the Society hires an outside source to insure that the salaries are in the norm with other salaries paid by similar organizations. Folks, I am starting to believe that the Humane business is a better business to be in than the breeder business. And consider this, the cost of living is one and a half times higher in Washington DC than it is in St. Louis. Poor old Wayne is getting shafted. If things don’t change he may have to sell one of his Lexus.

Jae said that Target 8 should look at the American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals instead of H$U$, so they did. ASPSA President Edwin Sayres earned more than $500,000 in compensation and all benefits last year, but the annual revenue for ASPCA is seven and a half times greater than its Missouri counterpart. It was also $13 million dollars in the black and it is based in New York City where the cost of living is twice that of St. Louis. Also looking deeper, Target 8 found that the Nebraska Humane Society paid Executive Director Judy Varner about $180,000 dollars in salary and benefits last year while the organization operated with about a $500,000 dollar surplus.

Meanwhile it was learned that Central Missouri Humane Society former executive director Dr. Alan Allert made about $60,000 dollars in compensation and benefits last year and Columbia Second Chance executives all reported they made NOTHING. “Everyone working in our shelter does it for the love of helping animals We are not there for the high paying jobs” said CMHS Shelter Relations Coordinator Colin LaVoute.

KOMU 8 analyzed the form 990 of The Animal Protection Association of Missouri based in St. Louis and found that Executive Director Steve Kaufman earned about $80,000 dollars last year while the organization got out of its prior years deficit. Stray Rescue of St. Louis paid Randy Grimm about $48,000 dollars last year, a fraction of their two and a half million dollar income. Grimm says he must think of the cost of the essentials of running the shelter and high salary is evidently not his main concern.

Now, breeders, I know that we are suspicious of anyone with animal rights leanings because it seems that they are all out to put us out of business, but some of these volunteers do have big hearts. These big hearted people seem to be easily brainwashed by the money grabbers who are in the humane business for the big money. Dry up these big salaries and watch these con artist disappear. I know from experience that a calamity such as the PUPS bill or Prop. B is needed to motivate the breeder community into a fight and donation mode. When everything is complacent we tend to go to sleep, not realizing that the movers and shakers of the humane societies are in the back rooms dreaming up new attacks to heap upon our industry. They have to in order to keep the donations coming in.
We almost defeated Prop. B when Lucas Oil contributed $200,000 dollars to our cause. The Humaniac side regularly receives: PETA-27 million dollars; HSUS-150 million dollars; ASPCA- 125 million; Humane Society of Missouri 18 million; 49 other state humane societies plus thousands of small city, county, and area shelters and the figures leap into the billions and the big spenders make sure that a large portion of these huge sums finds its way into their pockets. Even with all of this money floating around, the legitimate shelters that actually house the dogs, feed them and provide veterinary care for them actually operate in the red most of the time as HSUS and all of its sister crooks siphon off the contributions from the caring people who think their money is going to trickle down to the local shelter. Ain’t so, folks and we need to get that story out to the public.

So who will do it? Well, think about your state chapters. Think about Mo-Fed. Think about PIJAC. Support the people who work for your interest even when there is not a major calamity to try to control and defeat. We need to spend some major dollars on Public Relations for our industry. Join and attend your state chapter seminars and help these overworked officers of your state. The job you save may be your own!

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**Remembering Billie Lou**

*Aug 8, 1930 - March 7th, 2013*

Billie Lou Craddock, 82, a long time dog breeder from Asbury, Mo, passed away on March 7th, 2013 following an illness.

Billie was featured on the cover of the Aug/Sept ‘10 Kennel Spotlight and we had the great pleasure of celebrating her 80th birthday with her that year. She shared some of her wonderful experiences and interesting ‘home remedies’ with us that we included in the Spotlight.

Billie had a particular fondness of Bulldogs. She would say, “Bulldogs are the love of my life.” She told us how she had bought a pup once from Lorne Greene, the actor from ‘Bonanza’ and she spoiled that pup so much that she took her for a car ride every night before she went to bed. “That pup would just sit up in that seat and look out the window like she was a movie star!”

We will forever remember Billie Lou as a ‘star’ in our hearts. Our thoughts and prayers go out to Nikki Burnside and family.... Bob, Jim & Kathy
We’ve all heard the saying, “You can’t see the forest for the trees.” When focusing too much on a single detail, it can be difficult to accurately access the bigger picture. For example, I would assume that for the majority of those reading this article, the first thought that pops into the mind when thinking about or evaluating a disinfectant is; “What does it kill?” Now as appropriate as this question might be, can an overemphasis upon a single disinfectant characteristic alone interfere with the ability to adequately access its overall appropriateness? I would suggest it most certainly does, and in fact is a major reason for so many “supposed” disinfectant failures. In this article, I’m going to help you decipher and distill the world of disinfectants into a manageable toolset for evaluating the various options available today. In the course of doing so, we’ll be reflecting upon, among other things, the following two major questions:

- Is there a bigger picture to look at for understanding the role disinfectants play in reducing disease transmission in animal care facilities?
- What are the properties of an ideal disinfectant, and does such a disinfectant actually exist?

Understanding these questions will provide tools to easily and effectively evaluate the many disinfectant choices available today. You will then be able to better parse past and future conference recommendations and marketing information into the raw materials necessary for decoding and deciding what’s best for your own facility.

**Is there a bigger picture to look at for understanding the role disinfectants play in reducing disease transmission in animal care facilities?**

A stereoscopic vision allows for depth perception, a proper understanding of environmental variables, plus an understanding of the basic principles of disease transmission, are both important for understanding disinfectants and their role as contributors to the bigger picture of combating disease transmission. Disinfectants by themselves are only part of the equation. Having been a veterinarian for 29 years now, it still surprises me the number of times facility and practice managers continue to miss the mark on these simple principles. Failure to understand how environmental variables affect disease transmission, and/or failing to understand how infectious diseases are transmitted will be a recipe for failure no matter what sanitation program you may be employing or what disinfecting options you may be considering.

**A Look at Environmental Variables:**

Stress is a leading contributor to disease and animal care facilities are inherently stressful environments. Understanding some of the environmental contributors to stress will prove helpful for effectively minimizing disease transmission and creating a healthier environment. Major environmental contributors to stress include, among other things, ventilation, temperature, humidity and space.

**Ventilation:** Proper ventilation is necessary to minimize spread of disease and reduce unwanted odors. As a rule-of-thumb, facilities should be capable of exchanging air 10–15 times per hour, and variably adjusting the ratio of recycled air to fresh air. Therefore a 10,000 CF facility should have an air-handler capable of moving 100,000–150,000 CF of air per hour with the ability to adjust the proportions of recycled air to fresh air. Isolation wards should always be ventilated on a separate system from the rest of your facility, and some sort of quality air filtration system and/or air sanitizing program should be employed throughout the entire facility. Because hard surface disinfectants have little effect on air quality, it is important to recognize that numerous microorganisms are known airborne pathogens, and the very act of cleaning itself (when using high pressure sprayers) aerosolizes microorganisms and debris. Clean fresh air equals happier animals.

**Temperature:** To minimize stress, ambient temperatures should be maintained above 60°F and kept below 80°F (15–27°C) at all times, however, as a rule-of-thumb, temperatures should ideally be kept in a range normally considered comfortable for staff, animals and the public (68–75°F).

**Humidity:** Relative humidity should be maintained in a range between 30% and 70%. If your floor is still wet 10–15 minutes after cleaning, your facility humidity level is likely too high and should be promptly adjusted.

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Space: Because facilities differ radically in age and design, overcrowding and other housing variables like size of space, proximity to other animals, visibility of other animals, design comfort, light levels, and sounds, can all add to stress levels and act as an ongoing and huge potential contributor to infectious disease transmission regardless of the sanitation program being employed. If it’s not what a pet is used to at home, then stress will definitely be a factor affecting any animal staying in your facility. Did you know a sneezing cat can project aerosolized particles up to 5’ away from where it sneezes?

Basic Principles for Minimizing Disease Transmission:

Minimizing transmission of infectious diseases involves an awareness of numerous principles affecting how successfully microorganisms are transmitted. Overlooking any of these principles will alter your level of success at combating infectious disease transmission in your facility.

• An effective and diligent program must be in place as recommended by your consulting veterinarian for monitoring the health of animal entering a facility and the current health status of animals already in your facility. This program should minimally include mandated core vaccinations with ample opportunity given for conferred immunity prior to an animal’s stay.

• Stress levels of the population, environmental variables such as ventilation, temperature, humidity, and space; and age and facility design as already mentioned, all play significant roles warranting ongoing attention.

• It’s also important to recognize the various vehicles for spread of contagions. Microorganisms are transmitted directly from animal to animal through feces, urine, saliva, and via aerosol transmission (hard surface disinfectants offer little help here), and indirectly through a process called “fomite” transmission; whereby employees and visitors pick up contaminated material from one animal, and unwittingly transmit it to other animals on hands, feet, hair and clothing.

• The trafficking management of animals within a facility has significant potential for transmission of infectious disease if not managed and monitored correctly. This is an area I’ve often found to be completely overlooked in some sanitation programs.

• Other variables are more obvious and would include, function and capabilities of sanitizers and disinfectants, equipment being used for cleaning and disinfecting, quality of employee compliance with labeling directions, and a facility’s husbandry practices for care of its animals.

• Biofilms are an emerging topic of interest and warrant mention here because failure to understand the protectant effect biofilms confer upon microorganisms may result in failure of a sanitation program at controlling disease transmission. Biofilms are aggregates of microorganisms adhering together in a matrix of self-produced extracellular polymeric substances referred to as ‘slime’. This slime is a mixture of extracellular DNA, proteins, and polysaccharides, and is extremely resilient to penetration by numerous hard surface disinfectants. If a sanitizer or disinfectant can’t get at a microorganism, it can’t kill the microorganism. To highlight the importance biofilms play in disease transmission, the CDC has suggested biofilms contribute to over 2 million infections, 90,000 human deaths, and $4.5 billion dollars in excess human healthcare costs each year.

Now that you have an understanding of how environmental variables contribute to disease transmission, and you also understand how infectious diseases themselves are transmitted, it’s now time to move on and discuss disinfectant characteristics themselves and the role these characteristics play in reducing disease transmission in animal care facilities.

What are the properties of an ideal disinfectant, and does such a disinfectant actually exist?

Before diving into this section, let me first make a comment about customer perception. If you were to poll several hundred first time visitors to your facility, three dominant themes would emerge that control customers’ perceptions about your facility: What’s it look like? What’s it smell like? And how am I treated? You cannot afford to underestimate the power of these three perceptions. The first two of which are directly dependent upon your particular sanitation program and the products you choose to accommodate that program in your facility.

Let me begin by saying, the “ideal” or perfect disinfectant does not actually exist. This is because the extremes of safety and efficacy are often at odds with one another in use applications and during product development.

A flamethrower would do an excellent job removing unwanted microorganisms, but the immediate and long term effects and damage created in the process would be completely unacceptable. Being able to define what an “ideal” disinfectant should look like however, will help you sort out the many options available for sanitizing and disinfecting your facility and allow you to adequately evaluate any product on the market for
its suitability as part of your facility’s overall sanitation program. Keeping in mind, there’s much more involved than just, “What’s it kill?” What you’re looking for is balance. As you evaluate products, avoid the extremes. Use the list that follows as a comparison metric against which you will be able to evaluate the many disinfectant options you’ll encounter in the marketplace. Following are characteristics of an “ideal” disinfectant:

Properties of an Ideal Disinfectant:

- **Neutral pH** (preferably in the range of 6.5 to 7.5). The pH scale is a measurement of how acidic or basic a substance is and ranges in scale from a numerical value of 0 to 14. The lower the number the more acidic a substance is (hydrochloric acid has a pH of 1), the higher the number the more basic or caustic a substance is (sodium hydroxide has a pH of 14). The farther one moves away from neutrality (pH of 7.0), the greater the likelihood a substance will burn, corrode, or irritate; and the harsher a chemical will be on the surfaces it is applied, and the more dangerous it could be as an irritant to animals and people. Water has a neutral pH of 7.0.

- **Excellent cleaning ability.** Though cleaning is not generally considered, in itself, a process of disinfection; it is estimated that the combines effects of the removal of the medium in which contagions grow, along with a reduction in actual microorganisms counts and the direct cellular actions surfactants have upon microorganisms, account for reducing overall microorganism contamination by up to 90%. *Cleaning ability should rank near the top of your list of concerns in choosing a disinfectant as it accounts for upwards of 90% of your ability to control contagions.* As a rule-of-thumb, if you can smell it, you haven’t cleaned it well enough.

- **A 1:64 concentrate (2 ounces of solution per gallon of water).** Though super-concentrates (1:128 and 1:256 solutions) do have a place for use, those solutions do not contain enough material after diluting for effective widespread cleaning ability and odor control. Super-concentrates also lack dye concentrations sufficient for satisfactory color upon dilution and are therefore easily wasted, especially in facilities lacking automated dilutors; as personnel often pour solutions until they see satisfactory color. It’s just human nature!

- **Cost-effective.** Ready-to-use solutions are not cost effective options for widespread usage considerations. And as already suggested, super-concentrates, due to waste and inadequate cleaning ability, may not be genuinely suitable solutions for widespread usage consideration either.

- **One-step functionality.** You should ideally be looking for products with the ability to clean, disinfect, and deodorize in a single step; without rinsing or pre-cleaning being necessary for demonstrated efficacy. There is obviously a time and place for rinsing, as any substance will accumulate over time, but the key here is in having a product able to function in spite of rinsing or pre-cleaning being necessary.

- **Facility sparing.** Products you choose need to be compatible with the various materials commonly found in animal care facilities, like stainless steel, galvanized steel, carbon steel, aluminum, copper, vinyl, etc… With significant money invested in your facility, you don’t want to destroy your investment by using products with the capacity to easily damage your facility.

- **Hard water compatibility.** Hard water is water that has a high mineral content. This mineral content makes some disinfectants less efficacious. If your facility is in an area with hard water, check labeling before simply assuming a particular disinfectant is appropriate for use in hard water.

- **Ability to function in an organic load.** This is an often easily overlooked characteristic of a disinfectant. I still run into facilities using chlorine bleach who believe they’re using a product that will “kill everything,” not realizing that bleach use requires pre-cleaning, as bleach is significantly inactivated by the presence of organic debris.

- **Environmentally friendly.** As animal care facilities utilize significant amounts of disinfectants, choose solutions as environmentally friendly as possible. Many don’t realize how environmentally unfriendly some products are. Take bleach (sodium hypochlorite) as an example again. Bleach combines with organic substances to create carcinogenic byproducts (thihalomethanes, etc.). Not good news for the environment! These facts are putting pressure on numerous state government and local municipalities to rethink chlorine use and the levels permitted for various applications. We could in fact see an emerging movement toward limiting or banning chlorine use altogether.

- **Safe.** You want to use products in your facility generally regarded as safe for use around animals and people. But remember, safety is often in conflict with efficacy. The key here is balance. Utilize the entire metric of this article when evaluating a disinfectant and strive for as much balance as possible.

*Continued on page 26*
• **Ease of Use.** Time is money, and the more steps it takes to do a job, the more it generally costs a facility to do that job. Products like powders that are cumbersome to handle and dilute, or products requiring pre-cleaning, add unnecessary confusion and expense to a sanitation program. You want to utilize products easy to use and safe to use.

• **Pleasant Fragrance.** Remember what I said earlier about customer perception. What’s it look like? What’s it smell like? And how am I treated? If an odor bothers you, you can bet it also bothers animals who have a much more heightened sense of smell that we do. Odors create a negative impression of your facility and also add unwanted stress to animals as well as your staff.

• **Spectrum of Activity.** Without a doubt you want to utilize products having a superior spectrum of activity against the major pathogens of concern within the animal care industry. And you want to also have an ILD (Intermediate Level Disinfectant) or a HLD (High Level Disinfectant) available and on hand when and as may be needed during periods of disease outbreak, for use in isolation wards, and for intermittent facility treatment. This will be a disinfectant that is a step above the routine disinfectants generally utilized. It’s the “big gun” if you will. It should be clear however as you’ve been reading through this article that “Spectrum of Activity” alone is an insufficient basis for choosing a disinfectant. Remember...you need a complete and balanced package.

In summary, the ideal disinfectant doesn’t actually exist because the extremes of safety and efficacy are often at odds with one another in usage applications and during product development. Even still, numerous products are available today that are appropriate for use in animal care facilities and come close to the metric given in this article for identifying what an ideal disinfectant should look like. By keeping this list in mind, you’ll be equipped to easily evaluate disinfecting options and decide what’s best for your own particular facility. Remember balance is the key, and don’t forget there’s a much bigger picture to consider in developing an overall sanitation program than just, “What’s it kill?”

**Shawn E. Seitz, D.V.M.**
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Dr. Seitz has a diverse business background through a variety of business affiliations. After serving in the U.S. Naval Air Corps, he attended college graduating from Michigan State University with his Doctorate in Veterinary Medicine and began private practice. He then went on to develop and build a veterinary product distributorship for one of the nation’s largest Pet Product Distributors. Following that success, he moved to New England to take a position with a billion dollar a year medical supply manufacturing company and was instrumental in their efforts to build and develop a dominate presence among the veterinary community throughout the United States. He then left that position to start Alpha Tech Pet, Inc in 1989, with a focus on developing, manufacturing, and marketing various environmental products for use in the animal care industry. Since that time he has established a strong presence in the marketplace with sales of nationally branded items throughout the U.S. He also serves on the New England Board of Governors for Hope International, a Christian non-profit organization committed to microenterprise development, helping the poorest of the poor around the world start small businesses. Dr. Seitz is married with two children and believes solidly in commitment to strong family values. His favorite activities outside of work are reading the Bible, spending time with his family, golf, and serving in the church in which he and his family attend.

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I have a story you might be interested in. Aug 18, 2012 an e-mail hit my inbox. It would be after school before I would open it. My grandson, who resides with me, seeing it was from a family friend, of course would read it. This is a copy of that forwarded e-mail that would have an impact in a young girl’s life that is still continuing.

“Hi all, I am putting out the word to see if someone can help me. My nine year old niece has autism and severe emotional problems. She needs a service dog that can help her through the panic attacks and also be there with her to calm her when she is stressing. Her problems are bad enough that they may need to pull her from school and home school her. When she stresses, she gets migraines that put her right down in bed and puts her in school and home school her. When she stresses, she gets migraines that put her right down in bed and has even had seizures from them. The only time that Kaya relaxes and doesn’t have the issues is when she is holding my Gizmo. They were working with an outfit that would have an impact in a young girl’s life that is still continuing.

My sister is trying to get the authorities involved, but in the meantime poor Kaya is devastated because she is not getting her service dog. Her mom has $500 that was raised in a fundraiser that was organized here. Do any of you have a pet quality, hairless Chinese Crested puppy that will stay small enough that she could carry around with her? She would like to have a hairless because she loves bathing and putting lotion on my boys. It occupies her and she doesn’t think about her problems when she is doing it. She would also be able to dress it, which is another thing she loves. I do training, and have trained both of my service dogs, which do basically the same things for me.

Please is someone can help me out, I would be forever grateful. It doesn’t have to be a young pup; an older pup or young adult would work also. I could find her another breed around here, and possibly even a crested mix, but there are no local breeders that breed quality dogs. Considering what the dog is for, I think it is even more important that it be a dog that has a quality background. We also don’t care about papers. If someone can help her, I will make sure that I keep posted through here, her progress and post lots of pictures. Thank you in advance.”

The story doesn’t end here and it is that importance that needs told. With the many misconceptions out there concerning service dogs and their duties this story says; ‘Look I may be small, but I know my job and am able to do it’. The common perception of the public is that a service dog must be a large breed. The size of the dog does not matter, just their willingness to perform a function to help improve the life of a disabled or ill person. Now the public can have a better understanding of service dogs and their jobs. Cotton has shown his willingness to help Kaya live a better life even through a situation with much commotion and stress. His stability and big heart throughout this ordeal has proven his value to Kaya. Here is that continuing impact:

The August 18th, 2012 forwarded e-mail would set into motion a life changing event. Kaya Knapp, a Pennsylvania resident, who suffers from multiple health issues had been promised a potential service dog earlier in the year. By June, the service dog promised did not materialize devastating young Kaya.

Kaya’s Aunt sent the call out for help. That call was answered by an eleven year old Kellyville, Oklahoma fifth grader, Dakota Moorehead. After reading the e-mail over Meme’s (Cecilia), shoulder he asks if he could send Cotton Candy. ‘Cees Y Cotton Candy of Ula’, an AKC registered Chinese Crested, whom was to be Dakota’s future obedience and agility dog. Meme, Dakota’s grandmother, made no promises. An e-mail was sent to Kaya’s aunt with the offer of Cotton at no cost. Kaya’s aunt agreed to accept the fifteen and one-half month old Cotton Candy as her niece’s future service dog. The search to find transportation from Oklahoma to Pennsylvania began. Finally PetX2 pet transportation out of Missouri, stepped up to provide the needed transport at no cost upon hearing Kaya’s story. PetX2 made arrangements with the Petland pet shop in Monroe, Pennsylvania to accept Cotton for Kaya.

Unknown to Kaya, a trip was arranged on September 16 and Petland arranged to make this day special for Kaya. Petland pet shop donated a $100.00 shopping spree for Kaya and her soon to be service dog. Thinking Kaya and her aunt was there to pick up a rescued dog, Kaya was introduced to Cotton. It was love at first sight; and tears of joy flowed down Kaya’s cheek when it was announced she was holding her new service dog. Cotton would spend the next few weeks with Kaya’s aunt for basic obedience training and the skills for his new job. During those few weeks, Kaya would suffer multiple seizures, spending time in the hospital. It was decided even though Cotton needed more training it would be in the best interest of Kaya for that training to continue with his master at home.
Shortly after Cotton arrived at his new home, Kaya suffered a seizure. Cotton experienced his first seizure; he ran to Kaya’s mother in the other room for help then returned to Kaya. About seven minutes later, Cotton brought Kaya out of the seizure by licking her face and ears. Kaya came out of the seizure fully alert. This was a change from earlier seizures where she came to about fifteen minutes later in a disoriented state. Cotton handled his first seizure and instinct allowed him to know what was needed.

Kaya and Cotton would form a close bond over the next months. Kaya would gain confidence and make the A Honor roll for the first time during those months. His true test came on February 22nd 2013. Riding in a vehicle heading home, the vehicle hit an icy patch. The vehicle hit a utility pole causing windows to break. As the events unfolded, Kaya would be forced to watch as Cotton was ejected from the vehicle. The vehicle flipped onto its passenger side and continued sliding down the road. When the vehicle stopped, Cotton ran to the vehicle, circling looking for a way to return to Kaya’s side. Frantically, Kaya attempted to kick the broken windshield out to rescue her dog.

Throughout the commotion, Cotton remained calm and with the vehicle. The emergency personnel handled the situation exactly right. The driver, Kaya, and Cotton were transported to the hospital. The ambulance personnel used the gurney while examining Kaya so Cotton could be next to her. Cotton and Kaya were not separated, even riding down to x-ray with her. Compassionate Brookville Hospital ER nurses after ensuring Kaya was ok, tended to Cotton’s injuries as well cleaning the injuries to prevent infection. He would remain with Kaya throughout the ordeal. The driver and Kaya thankfully only suffered the typical scrapes and bruises. Cotton had the skin of three feet scraped off the pads, a scratch on his side, road rash on his chest, and a cut over his eye. Cotton’s feet are still tender but is otherwise continuing his job. Using Facebook to keep family and friends updated, Kaya’s mother posted late that Friday night.

“Thinking about how blessed I am tonight. A horrible wreck bad enough that a utility pole was snapped in two and my niece and daughter walked away. I have a niece who thought only about my daughter even though she was in pain and traumatized herself. I have a daughter who showed more courage than many adults would as she tried to kick out the broken windshield to rescue her dog. I have the comfort of knowing that Kaya’s dog will do anything to stay with her and do his job even when he was suffering too.”

It is not often a dog this young will retain his focus especially through this kind of stress. It is amazing that Cotton survived the ejection from the truck with only minor injuries. It is more amazing that the twenty-one month old dog that had not completed all of his training would be so focused on his master. Kaya has remained seizure free with Cotton’s help even with the extreme stress of the accident. Cotton has shown his willingness to help Kaya live a better life even through a situation with much commotion and stress. His stability and big heart throughout this ordeal has proven his value to Kaya. Kaya’s family continues to thank Dakota for giving Kaya back to them.

The generosity of the breeder/owners and the many caring others has improved the life of a young girl for many years to come. I would like to see that those emergency personnel, officers, and hospital staff in Pennsylvania receives the recognition that is so well deserved in being there for this child, her dog, and family during this traumatic incident. Those that helped Dakota get the dog to Kaya from Oklahoma to Pennsylvania need to be recognized as well. Without all these caring individuals, this story would not have been possible.

Please help me tell this story. I am so proud that my grandson thought first of someone in need and has made a life time impact on Kaya’s life, proud of Cotton and Kaya, and those that helped to get Cotton to Kaya along with the outstanding, knowledgeable emergency personnel. Cecilia Swagger

Special Thanks to the following: Karen Frank-Knapp (Kaya’s mother) from Summerville, Pa. and Kaya’s Aunt, Kathie Emerick, Chris Fleming from Pet Ex2 Office ~ 417-451-9800 and Kurt and Theodore Karcher from Petland in Monroeville, PA. ~412-380-2522

Editors note: Thank you to Lena Cross from ACA for sending this story to the Kennel Spotlight!

Kennel Spotlight * Apr/May ‘13 • 29
HSUS is the conniving enemy of anyone who owns an animal, hunts, fishes or likes to eat meat. They deceive the public into believing they are helping animals by donating a mere $19 per month only to use the majority of their funds to attack our rights to raise and enjoy animals. MoFed has always likened it to putting a frog in a pan of water on the stove and turning the heat on low. By the time the frog realizes the water is too hot, it’s too late. Is it too late for us as farmers, ranchers and producers? We think not.

When MoFed sank our teeth into the animal rights movement in the early 1990’s, activists were running rampant at our state capitol, passing more and more legislation that could eventually choke to death animal ownership and use in our state. The newly proposed ACFA law reared its ugly head and the wrath of MoFed was born. Never before had activists faced such determined opposition who willingly exposed their 12 Steps Agenda and called them out for exactly what they were—a group of radical extremists who threatened our way of life and the future of animal ownership and farming in our state.

Missouri has led the nation in demonstrating that we can fight back and we can defeat HSUS and their ilk! We have done it over and over. Since 1990, as many as a dozen animal rights bills have been introduced yearly at the state capitol only to suffer defeat when MoFed called at our troops. What began as phone trees to alert members of needed action has turned into e-mails, text messages and tweets that fly through cyber space in mere seconds. Grassroots took on an all new meaning when Prop B reared its ugly head in our state. Told early on that we could not attack HSUS because it wouldn’t look good turned into a battle cry when we countered with, “Then get out of the way! We’ll do it!” And we did!

The nation has come a long way since the early days of MoFed. Not only is the public more aware of HSUS, ASPCA and PETA, but they are spreading the word through social media, radio and television. What was once socially unacceptable has become politically correct to expose the truth behind the animal rights movement. Frank Losey has gained national prominence for documenting the illegal activities of HSUS, resulting in numerous Congressmen calling for investigations. Consumer Freedom and Humane Watch have jabbed at the heart of HSUS, displaying the truth about their deceitful fundraising practices from the streets of New York to satellite TV. Governors, legislators and congressional members are denouncing HSUS on the floors of their respective chambers. Multiple media sources and talk shows are exposing the truth. The internet is booming with articles and discussions about animal rights.

MoFed always hoped for the day that the animal rights movement would be taken seriously, and it is, but there’s much more to do. We need to spread the word with every opportunity, whether it’s social media or sitting around the dinner table. We need to support those who are fighting for you. We must stand united as one to defeat our enemy.

**We must and we will!**

www.mofed.org

**IT’S NOT TOO LATE TO FIGHT!!!**  By MoFed
Breeders Prayer

I love my little puppy; she makes my house a home.  
She is my very sweetest little friend; I never feel alone.  
She makes me smile; She makes me laugh; She fills my heart with love...  
Did some person breed her, or did she fall from above?

I've never been a breeder, never seen life through their eyes;  
I hold my little puppy and just sit and criticize.  
I've never known their anguish; I've never felt their pain,  
the caring of their charges, through snow or wind or rain.

I've never waited the whole night through for babies to be born,  
The stress and trepidation when they're still not there by morn.  
The weight of responsibility for this body in my hands,  
This darling little baby, who weighs but 60 grams.

Should you do that instead of this...or maybe that was wrong?  
Alone you fight and hope, one day, he'll grow up proud and strong.  
You pray he'll live to bring great joy to someone else's home.  
You know it's all just up to you; you'll fight this fight alone.

Formulas, bottles, heating pads, you've got to get this right,  
Two-hour feedings for this tiny guy, throughout the day and night.  
Within your heart you dread that you will surely lose this fight,  
To save this little baby, but God willing...you just MIGHT.

Day one; he's in there fighting; you say a silent prayer.  
Day two & three, he's doing well, with lots of love and care.  
Day four & five...he's still alive; you hopes soar to the heavens.  
Day six he slips away again, dies in your hands, day seven.

You take this little angel, and bury him alone.  
With aching heart and burning tears, and an exhausted groan,  
You ask yourself, "Why do this?.....Why suffer through this pain?"  
Yet watch the joy your puppies bring, and everything's explained.

So, when you think of breeders and label them with "Greed,"  
Think of all that they endure to fill another's need.  
For when you buy your puppy, with your precious dollars part,  
You only pay with money........while they pay with all their heart.  
Author Unknown
WASHINGTON, Dec. 21, 2012--The U.S. Department of Agriculture’s (USDA) Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) is amending its Animal Welfare Act (AWA) regulations to require all licensed and registered facilities to develop a contingency plan for emergencies so they can better protect their animals in disaster situations.

“Over the years we learned that many registered facilities do not have adequate contingency plans for natural disasters and other emergencies,” said APHIS Acting Administrator Kevin Shea. “This rule will give USDA licensees and registrants a greater awareness and understanding of their responsibilities to safeguard their animals and APHIS will provide guidance as needed while giving regulated entities the flexibility to develop a plan that works best for them.”

Under the rule, APHIS will give facilities the flexibility to develop a plan that works best for them and their animals. Each contingency plan will need to:

- identify types of emergencies common in the local area;
- identify common emergencies that could occur at their particular type of facility;
- outline specific tasks that the facility staff will undertake in an emergency situation;
- establish a clear chain of command for all employees to follow;
- identify materials and resources that are available at that facility or elsewhere; and
- ensure that all pertinent employees are trained on the plan.

This rule becomes effective on January 30, 2013. A written plan must be in place at all USDA-licensed and -registered facilities by July 29, 2013, and all employees must be trained on the plan by September 27,2013.

APHIS enforces the Animal Welfare Act (AWA). The AWA requires that minimum standards of care and treatment be provided for certain animals bred for commercial sale, used in research, transported commercially or exhibited to the public. It excludes those animals raised for food or fiber. Persons who operate facilities in these categories must provide their animals with adequate care and treatment in the areas of housing, handling, sanitation, nutrition, water, veterinary care and protection from extreme weather and temperatures. For more information on the inspection and enforcement processes, visit APHIS’ animal care website at www.aphis.usda.gov/animal_welfare/.

With Agriculture Secretary Vilsack’s leadership, APHIS works tirelessly to create and sustain opportunities for America’s farmers, ranchers and producers. Each day, APHIS promotes U.S. agricultural
health, regulates genetically engineered organisms, administers the Animal Welfare Act, and carries out wildlife damage management activities, all to help safeguard the nation’s agriculture, fishing and forestry industries. In the event that a pest or disease of concern is detected, APHIS implements emergency protocols and partners with affected states and other countries to quickly manage or eradicate the outbreak. To promote the health of U.S. agriculture in the international trade arena, APHIS develops and advances science-based standards with trading partners to ensure America’s agricultural exports, valued at more than $137 billion annually, are protected from unjustified restrictions.

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Note to reporters: USDA news releases, program announcements and media advisories are available on the Internet and through really simple syndication (RSS) feeds. Go to the APHIS news release page at www.aphis.usda.gov/newsroom and click on the RSS feed link.

USDA is an equal opportunity provider, employer and lender. To file a complaint of discrimination, write: USDA, Director, Office of Civil Rights, 1400 Independence Ave., SW., Washington, DC 20250-9410 or call (800) 795-3272 (voice) or (202) 720-6382 (TDD).

*KS Editor’s Note: See a sample plan layout on pages 30 & 31 of this issue.*
Socialization/Exercise/Grooming/Treatment/Quarantine/Pest Control
Euthanasia/Disaster Preparedness Plans  (Sample Plan)

Socialization and Exercise Plan:
During daily cleaning each animal will be removed from its primary enclosure. It will have free access to a turnout/exercise/play yard. The regular handling from the primary enclosure to the yard and back will provide human/dog interaction/socialization and regular exercise.

Grooming Plan:
While moving dogs to and from the yards they will be giving a general viewing. If there are any changes noted in said animal’s general well being it will be addressed further or as needed.

Once a week each animal will receive a general brushing and review. This review will include checking both ears, both eyes and both sides of the mouth, genitalia, toes, feet and coat condition. During times of shedding said animal will receive heavier brushing and/or care and bathing if needed.

Treatment Plan:
Each animal will receive an annual physical exam by an Oklahoma State Licensed Veterinarian and receive immediate medical care as needed. Medications, treatments or other care will be provided as directed and/or as needed.

Quarantine Plan:
No outside animals will be introduced to the kennel environment without a 2 to 4 week quarantine program. Any quarantine would take place at the veterinary office of my choice or on the kennel property away from all dogs currently on the property. A proper vaccination, de-worming program and testing for Brucellosis will be conducted prior to introduction to the kennel.

Any dog in quarantine will be taken care of last during daily chores, for bio-security reasons. There will be a bio-security station (bleach in and bleach out) in the immediate area of the quarantine area.

Any animal in the kennel that is being treated for a communicable disease will be placed into quarantine.

Pest Control Plan:
Regular cleaning, sweeping, mowing, edging, raking and daily removal of fecal material and/or debris will be conducted in an attempt to reduce, eliminate and/or prevent rodents, insects, spiders, fleas, ticks, parasites and other pests or vermin and odors. Any products used will be used in a manner consistent with labeling and/or under the supervision of a state licensed veterinarian’s supervision; not to exclude homeopathic and home remedies.

Euthanasia Plan:
Any Euthanasia will be handled by and/or under the supervision of a state licensed veterinarian or registered veterinary technician.
Disaster Preparedness Plan:

**Natural disasters**, “Acts of God” or plain bad luck can occur at anytime. These include, but are not limited to the following. Planning and thought has been put into protecting the dogs in this kennel from harm. Below is a minimum plan of action for the below situations. Additional steps will be taken as needed for any situation to protect my dogs from injury, harm or stress on a case by case basis.

**Snow storm** - Generator available to run heaters, extra feed on hand and extra water drawn into buckets for access to water. Have scrapers and shovels ready if needed.

**Ice storm** - Generator available to run heaters, extra feed on hand and extra water drawn into buckets for access to water. Have scrapers and shovels ready if needed.

**Tornado** - Have leashes available, attend to any animals that may be trapped or in need medical attention, secure any dogs that may be out of their primary enclosures. Call fellow dog breeders for any immediate needs. We have several breeder friends and breeder contacts who will house our animals should the need arise. We have also talked to the local fairgrounds about using their facilities should the need arise.

**High winds** – Have leashes available, attend to any animals that may be trapped or in need medical attention, secure any dogs that may be out of their primary enclosures. Call fellow dog breeders for any immediate needs. We have several breeder friends and breeder contacts who will house our animals should the need arise. We have also talked to the local fairgrounds about using their facilities should the need arise.

**Flooding** – Have leashes available, have access to a large vehicle which dog crates can be placed into for removal from the property should the need arise. Call fellow dog breeders for any immediate needs. We have several breeder friends and breeder contacts who will house our animals should the need arise. We have also talked to the local fairgrounds about using their facilities should the need arise.

**Excessive heat** – Clean and check all air conditioners and fans on a regular basis. Have access to back up air conditioners and/or fans, misting systems and wadding pools if needed.

**Wild fires** – Have leashes available, have access to a large vehicle which dog crates can be placed into for removal from the property should the need arise. Call fellow dog breeders for any immediate needs. We have several breeder friends and breeder contacts who will house our animals should the need arise. We have also talked to the local fairgrounds about using their facilities should the need arise.

**Structure fire** – The best prevention is attention to details. Clean and check all air conditioners, fans, heaters, heat lamps and/or pads and electrical plugs on a regular basis. Keep all flammable materials away from heaters. Turn dogs out that will get along with each other, have leashes available. Have access to a large vehicle which dog crates can be placed into for removal from the property should the need arise. Call fellow dog breeders for any immediate needs. We have several breeder friends and breeder contacts who will house our animals should the need arise. We have also talked to the local fairgrounds about using their facilities should the need arise.
The Dakota Pet Breeders Association was founded May of 2000. It was the combined effort of the 22 original members who realized the need to promote themselves as responsible breeders. Over the years, the membership has increased and today, stands at approximately 70 including members and associate members. Three main objectives were established in the association by-laws.

The first was to put forth a positive image of DPBA and its members. One event we hold is an America’s Pet Registry Inc. sanctioned dog show. The Dakota Pet Breeders Association and America’s Pet Registry hosted three, all breed, purebred conformation shows on August 11, 2012 in Viborg, SD. There were 63 entries and 23 different breeds of dogs including, Scottish Terrier, Russian Toy, Papillon, French Bulldog, Poodle, Australian Shepherd, Siberian Husky, English Springer Spaniel and Dachshund; just to name a few. The dogs are classified into eight groups: Terrier, Toy, Non-Sporting, Herding, Working, Sporting and Hound. In order to be declared as an APRI Champion, a dog must score at least 90% (180 of a possible 200) of the points in at least three shows. Two of which must be as an adult. The dogs are judged by overall impression, head, body and quarters. The show’s main purpose exhibits the advancements the DPBA has made in choosing breeds through selective breeding practices. The DPBA/APRI show is a family affair for young and old. Participants range in age from six to sixty, with many from out of state. It is open to the public and all are welcome to attend. Everyone who participates takes great pride in their dogs and they work hard to put their best foot forward.

The second objective is to keep abreast on legislation that affects DPBA members. All members are kept up to date on what is happening nationally, as well as what is being proposed in our state legislature. The South Dakota State Legislature and large agricultural community are a great benefit to the DPBA and its members. Both groups know the capability of bills that can adversely affect live animal producers and owners in the state. The DPBA cannot solely rely on these groups to protect its members from certain bills. The DPBA puts members on a contact list to keep them advised of important legislative information. DPBA members are given contact information for legislators to give their opinion on a bill. Each member contributes as they are able and to date, have been very successful!

The third objective is education; accomplished through an annual seminar which provides an opportunity to network and learn. Speakers present new information on keeping animals healthy and business thriving. Members exchange ideas through knowledge and experiences.

This year’s seminar will be a 2-day event on May 3rd & 4th at the Royal River Casino in Flandreau, South Dakota. Royal River Casino and Hotel offers activities for kids including a pool and video arcade. This venue offers great food and is considered by many to be the premier entertainment and gaming destination in South Dakota. Visit their website at: www.royalrivercasino.com for specials, promotions and general information.

There will be many vendors promoting their businesses and products including veterinary suppliers, nutrition specialists, equipment vendors, and brokers as well as companies promoting private sales. Some vendors offer seminar specials and onsite pick up for supplies.
There will be drawings for door prizes both days.

The tentative lineup of speakers includes: Jim Hughes (Kennel Spotlight), Rob Hurd (APRI), Dr. Kesler (Royal Canin), Dr. Bramlage (Revival Animal Health), Bob Yarnall (ACA), Mindy Patterson (The Calvary Group), Dr. Chester A. Gipson (Deputy Administrator of Animal Care). We are also working on a session covering the new USDA Contingency Plan that needs to be in place as of this year (2013).

Admission is always FREE! You do not need to be licensed or a DPBA member to attend. Networking events include a sandwich lunch ($7.99) and an evening meal ($12.99) on Friday, served in a meeting room. Meal tickets will need to be purchased in advance.

Come join us for a 2-day Spring Getaway!! We’ll provide an amazing opportunity to learn something new, and we think you’ll have a great time too! For vendor listings, membership inquiries, meal tickets and any additional information, contact the DPBA at: info.dpba@ymail.com or visit: www.dakotapetbreeders.com.

Professional photographer Calvin Kroger of Harrisburg, SD (a DPBA member) offered his services at this year’s dog show and furnished the photos in this article. Visit: www.calvinkroger.com to learn more about Calvin and see his work.

Here are some photos from last year’s dog show event!
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Deadline for June/July issue is May 24th
Contact Kathy at (417) 652-7219 or email: bathy@kennelspotlight.com
GO FOR THE GOLD!

The 2013 APRI show season is in full swing! Making Tracks (Moberly, MO) club would like to invite you to attend our 2-day event, June 1st & 2nd, 2013. We will be holding our shows at the Knights of Columbus Park in Moberly, Mo.

Saturday, June 1st will be our regular APRI Show, and Sunday, June 2nd is our Champions Only Dog Show!!
This year’s format is quite different from last years. However, we still have HUGE CASH PRIZES and beautiful trophies for the WINNERS!

Whether your dog is a prior Champion, or earns its Championship on Saturday at the APRI show, you will be eligible to enter the ‘GO FOR THE GOLD’. Pre-entry for GFTG show is $10.00 (must be entered by 5/17/13 for pre-entry price) and on show day, the entry is $15.00. You must provide proof of championship status of the dog at the time of entry.
Contact Karen Highland: karenh@nemr.net for entry and show information or check us out on Facebook at “Go For The Gold”. (quotes included) Contact APRI to enter the APRI show on June 1st.

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2012 Winners!

First Place: $500.00 Winner
Mary Ann McGregor

Second Place: $300.00
Melissa Porter

Third Place: $200.00
Terry Dirlam

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