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Be sure to come by and see us at the MPBA Show in Springfield, Mo on March 5th & 6th!
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Mailbox

Dear Jim,
I just read your article on Service Dogs (see the Dec/Jan '09 issue of the Spotlight).

We went on an Alaskan cruise this past July '09. We had 4 blind people with their 4 seeing eye dogs on our ship and they had a friend named Michele who could see pretty good, but she was wheel chair bound. I had seen this group many times throughout the week and I talked to them but never messed with their golden lab dogs, because you could see they were working. There was one day when I found them standing in a "panic". We were all going to take the train on a 4 hour trip up through the mountains and there were 4 different trains and Geez....... these dogs could not read numbers on their tickets to lead them to the right train.... ha..ha… so I assisted them. I was so completely amazed of the trust & confidence these people had in these golden labs. It took me and the hubby days to figure our way around that ship. They were from the New York/New Jersey area and here they are on the other side of the world traveling with only the eyes of these 4 dogs and their friend who was wheel chair bound! Nothing was familiar to them like it would be in their home or familiar area. The morning we were checked off the ship, I was able to run into my friends once again, this time I bent down to tell the dogs we were checked off the ship, I was able to run into my old dog was not quite so eager to give kisses & licks, but he was a gentleman; I suppose he knew he was working. Enclosed is a photo of my new friends.

Marj

Hats off to the Kennel Spotlight for a good informative magazine for breeders and other dog lovers at every level who appreciate the rights we have to own & raise animals. I read your magazine from front to back, gaining information and insight in many articles. I was very interested in the article about Coprophagy, as I just had an incident where a well wormed puppy was taken to his new vet for his first check up with his new family & was said to have worms still, and to me that was just not as it should be because I knew he had been adequately wormed according to the normal schedule. When I spoke to my vet about the diagnosis, she just smiled knowingly and said “Puppies re-infest themselves if they eat poop”, So it is a revolving problem, we deworm, they re-infest. Good information to arm ourselves with so we, and the future new owners can understand & address the problem.

This last issue, I was waiting for the 3rd installment of the novelette “Winning the War” and it was not included. Hope it will be in this upcoming issue and I do want to read the outcome. I think this is work of fiction, but I know that it is a story that any breeder could unfortunately face.

Keep up the good work. God Bless, Deb Nihart, Indiana

A note from Lynn from the USA Breeders forum (www.usabreeders.com)

Here's just one idea I've pondered a lot ....Thanks To Jim and his writers, sponsors, etc... we have a true valuable teaching magazine available called the KENNEL SPOTLIGHT being published, what?? every 2 months, for lack of sponsors and funds. How sad it is when this magazine has REAL information in regards to the facts and what works, etc... to help contradict the negative out there, but yet how many breeders and others in this industry actually donate to the magazine and encourage it's growth or pass it on to their buyers???

I know I am way past due sending in a donation again to a magazine that promotes facts and actually has a publisher and the whole works that isn't negative about my business even if it is small; at least it is working to head off the negative and promote better animal husbandry while doing it! I don't know what the total is for it going into actual pet owner homes, but according to breeders and even some vets, I do know it is popular around here and on this board, which tells me this is one avenue of educating the public we all are sadly falling short in promoting and using to our advantage!

This magazine needs to GROW, not only in circulation to breeders, pet owners, vets, pet stores, Walmart etc... but in page content and educational value; especially NOW when we are being destroyed by lack of positive info and evidence for John Q public to see and read. One time-saving way of jumping into the fight would be to help make this magazine "ON THE STANDS VALUABLE"... one bored shopper in a Walmart line reading even a line or two is better than NO info. available to John Q public. And one line reading leads to several pages for many that are curious about cover page titles and with 63% of households owning pets if REAL VETS, REAL Whomever's put more teaching facts in more pages, soon those facts would be drawing more buyers who own pets and want to learn how better to care for them etc.... Not to mention counter acting the HSUS/AR movements negative BS... This magazine needs to be promoted with more articles by ALL who deal in animals in this industry from vets, vaccine makers, feed suppliers, pet stores; you name it and SOLD- not given away! Breeders, vets, pet stores you name it- need to be handing out order forms describing a little about the magazine to every new pet person they meet and it needs to be full of facts and stories that promote the real truths about this industry! And the beautiful thing about this is it doesn't have to start from scratch and take time... all it needs is MONEY and support from all getting it out there to everyone to quickly make it a national united working front against the AR movement!!!! It could be done and to one and all's benefit if only everyone would quit worrying about who might get the most benefit or most space or whatever out of the endeavor! We need John Q's attention in a positive way NOW... not 10 yrs and hundreds of studies later!
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New Advances in Artificial Insemination

By Dr. Sam Harkey, DVM

Technology seems to advance faster than ever before. Today we have medications and technology in the veterinary world that continues to be the cutting edge of medicine. One such tool is the endoscope. The endoscope began to be used in the human surgical field several years ago and has become the main technique used for abdominal, cardiac, and exploratory procedures. Colonoscopy has become a routine screening to adults to aid in early detection and treatment of colon cancers and polyps. The veterinary world is following just behind with endoscopes now being used for canine and feline spays, equine upper gastro-intestinal tract diagnostics, and for canine artificial insemination. One of the challenges to updating to endoscopic medicine is the high cost. Unfortunately each procedure typically takes a different endoscope and each endoscope can cost thousands of dollars.

In previous columns, I have discussed many of the steps to help insure success in your breeding operations (see the Kennel Spotlight, April/May‘08 issue). Thanks to the endoscope, we now have even better options. Trans-cervical insemination, is the newest and most cutting edge procedure available today for breeding success. The process is really quite simple, progesterone values are measured starting at approx. 7 days from visible signs of a heat cycle (swollen vulva, bleeding vaginally). Progesterone values enable us to know the exact day that the female has ovulated. Once it has been determined by a series of progesterone values that the time is right for insemination, the awake bulldog is placed on the exam table and the vaginal endoscope (a machine approx. 10” in length and about as big around as a pencil) is inserted into the vagina until the cervix is visible on the computer monitor. Once the cervix is located, a small flexible plastic catheter is then inserted through the endoscope and then through the cervix and the semen is then flushed through the catheter and into the uterine horns. This places the semen in the exact location that a surgical insemination would, but eliminates the anesthesia required as well as eliminates the need for an additional surgery to breed the animal. Once the insemination is completed, the endoscope can be removed and an exact due date can be scheduled. The benefits of this procedure versus surgical insemination are very clear, however, not all dogs can be trans-cervically inseminated. Larger dogs present difficulty due to the increased length of the vaginal canal and keep us from reaching the cervix. Our endoscope allows us to do this type of insemination on most bulldogs and smaller breeds. Trans-cervical insemination is not for everyone but can prove to be an incredibly useful tool for increasing breeding success in many kennels and preventing any additional surgeries required for insemination.

Feel free to contact us with any questions regarding Trans-cervical insemination at:

All About Pets (417) 442-PETS (7387).
Samuel L. Harkey, DVM

A funny story about breeding Neopolitan Mastiffs;

I have been trying to breed Dee this week. She does not like other dogs. She does not like the male dog I borrowed. The dog I borrowed is okay with that because he is a lot more interested in the contents of my kitchen. He cleared and ate everything on the counters the first night, (bread, cornbread dressing, dumplings). Once they were clear, he discovered the fridge. The second night, he opened it and cleaned it out! When I got home from work, the door to the fridge was wide open and there were condiments and wrappers strewn everywhere. Yes, I am down a pound of bacon, 1 1/2 lbs. of Italian sausage and a piece of catfish. I did recover my quart of fresh strawberries in the yard. They had been pureed—or maybe macerated would be a better word!

Today I am going to Artificial Inseminate her--not sure if she is ready--not sure I even care anymore!

I know your next question is, “did she get sick after eating all that?”. Naw! Neo gastrointestinal tracts must have ‘teflon’ linings—I have seen them eat everything from rose bushes to couches—nothing ever seems to faze their digestion. The borrowed brute normally eats a pair or two of socks a week at home and I thought we could ‘forego’ the socks while he was here, but I guess I was wrong! When he hit the fridge, he was probably just looking for something to fill in for the extra ruffage in stretchy material that he was not getting here. He went back home just a few minutes ago. I am down a futon and groceries...... by ‘Doc Davis’
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No matter how long you have owned or run a breeding kennel, it is always a good idea to give things a little review just to see where you are headed with your bottom line. Heaven forbid that any of us should be thinking of profitability with today’s political atmosphere and economic hard times. At the risk of being criticized for running our breeding kennels like any other business, let’s take a look at some of the things you may not have considered.

What’s that old saying, it’s not work if you love what you do? If you are a professional breeder, breeding dogs can turn into just a really big hobby and an expensive one if you don’t watch what you do along the way. Here’s another old saying, an ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure. Everyone in the breeding kennel business really needs to take this one to heart. Kennels that are built with the ability to easily and frequently be well cleaned are a must. It’s next to impossible to raise a healthy puppy in a dirty environment. Dams with pups need daily changing of whelping box materials. Parasites like coccidia and giardia abound in a dirty environment, not to mention many other health issues that can come into play. All kennel areas should have feces removed on a daily basis as well etc. etc. you know the drill.

Your kennel runs may be roomy enough for more than a few dogs in each, but considering the nature of dogs that are housed together and develop a pecking order, someone may be dominated to the extent that they can not hold their own if there are too many in a run. Even if you seldom have breeding bitches breaking out in fights, they can fuss at each other to where a male can not cover all the ladies in his run if you pen breed. Females that are housed together do frequently come into heat at the same time. Too many in heat at the same time in a pen can also mean someone is not covered.

I like to house my dogs in small family units of one male and two to three female at the most depending on the nature of the breed. Watch for the occasional alpha female who will not tolerate any other female being housed with her. Seldom do temperamental bitches refuse to get along with just a male. Although adult males can often be compatible when confined with only other males, I prefer to remove the possibility of adult males fighting simply by running them only with “their” girls and certainly never in a pen with both males and females.

Amazingly females that were housed together and got along fine for long periods can suddenly turn on each other for no apparent reason. Sometimes this is triggered by one if not all bitches in a pen coming into heat. Sometimes a bitch in advanced pregnancy can find herself at a disadvantage or a sick or injured animal can shift the pecking order in a pen. Always be on the lookout for any animal not doing well in their surroundings. Check your breeding records. Females that are not producing may just need to be moved to a different run where their pen mates are less dominant and they can move up in the pecking order. On occasion, moving her to a different male can make all the difference.

Frequently bitches may become territorial when you try and return a whelped female back to her old family unit or change someone’s pen assignment for one reason or another. We find that moving everyone in a new family unit into a new pen usually gets this in the bud. If it isn’t possible to move the whole family around, we frequently take both the females that will be new roommates for a little cart ride. They almost always seem to forget who was there first when they get back. Distraction and changing their focus is the key here.

With few exceptions, breeding a dam less than one year of age is comparable to having a teenage pregnancy. Therefore we breed starting at one year of age for the dam. I favor early retirement for all of my dams for several reasons. Older dams are likely to be problematic, more c-section prone, not to mention a general decline in litter size and the ability to raise all the puppies in a litter. I like to retire everyone on or before 7 years of age because it is easier to find a good home for retirees if they are on the younger side of life. This also applies to my males for the same reason. No matter what your kennel size, recognize that the space and labor it takes to house and care for a dog properly has a value. Milking the last few litters out of an older dam is generally not a good kennel management practice if you take into consideration all of these factors.

Now you can do some numbers crunching. If you wish to keep your breeding program at an optimum you would simply need to take the number of dogs you have in that program and divide by the number of years you consider it feasible on average for them to remain in that program. That is approximately the number of outgoing retirees and the number of incoming dogs you should be welcoming into your program on an annual basis.

Of course not every dog in a breeding program is meant to be a good mama or papa. Considering that purebred dogs especially can lend themselves to breeding problems, I generally consider the three strikes you’re out a good rule for young dogs. Exceptions always abound, a bitch that never gets pregnant in the first place, bitches who harm their own pups or hardly ever raise a pup, a dam who really goes down hard on her first c-section or the vet informs you is simply not a good breeding candidate for some health reason or another, etc. These would make up your early retiree list and you wouldn’t want to give them three chances to get there. Don’t forget the boys either. You may find early retirees among them as well in males that do not have viable sperm, are lazy, or do not have the desire to breed for whatever reason.

It may seem obvious, but frequent grooming can be just as important in a breeding facility as anything else. It’s amazing how fast some long hair breeds can grow a hair coat. Health issues can arise if hair coats get too long and matted and nails are not kept trimmed. A male may not be able to service a female if they are too...
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overgrown. It is easier to keep dams, puppies, and the whelping box clean if she is well groomed. Make it easier for puppies to nurse by shaving or trimming the belly area on the dam. Puppies of long hair breeds can become easily impacted and adults can do the same so keep up on those sanitary cuts.

Sooner or later you will find a puppy that needs a different momma. Good prospective foster dams are those who are close in size to the breed the adoptee is, have or will have puppies that are close in age to the new adoptee, have plenty of milk, and not too many puppies of their own that would make crowding an issue for the newcomer. If you have a good prospect at hand there are some basics for successful adoption. The closer to the whelp time and birth date of a foster mothers own litter the adoptee can be introduced, the better. Placing the adoptee with its foster mother during her actual birthing process is usually most ideal. If that isn’t an option, start by removing all of the foster mothers own puppies from her sight. I usually take out the whole whelping box with her puppies in it. Place the adoptee in with its new siblings. Dams quickly identify their own puppies from another by smell, so mask the difference by powdering everyone with some form of scented bath powder, including the adoptee. Wipe the rectal area of all puppies with rubbing alcohol and further distort the bitch’s sense of smell with just a little touch of rubbing alcohol near her nose. Once again, I like to use distraction to accomplish the goal. Right after I give the bitch a nice tasty bowl of food and let her get started chowing down, I give her back the whelping box with all the puppies in it. Usually she is so distracted by the goodies that the newbie is the least of her concerns. Almost always she polishes off the dish, turns around and sniffs the puppies and goes back to business as usual. Don’t get in a hurry to leave her unattended at this point, but hang around long enough to satisfy yourself that all is going well with the adoption process. Sometimes you just can’t fool Mother Nature.

Health screen all incoming puppies and adults you bring into your facility. Isolate any newcomers and act like they have the plague until you have satisfied yourself and or your vet that all is well with them. A clean kennel is no insurance against brucellosis or a ringworm outbreak or a new strain of kennel cough. Nine times out of ten we bring in our worst problems. Once again, an ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure. Developing a good worming and immunization schedule for puppies with your vet is imperative. Remember that vaccines should be started early enough and be consistent enough to cover any lapse in the immunity a puppy receives from the dam, eventually allowing the puppy to develop its own immunity. Booster shots are important because like the name implies, a booster shot can up the immunity to a puppy tenfold or more than the initial shot. Good puppy shot programs should include boosters being given well before the puppy leaves the kennel since it may take several days for puppies to develop immunity. Don’t wait until a puppy is going out the door to be putting a shot in it. Once again, check with your vet about these issues, and more importantly, once you develop a good immunization and worming program, faithfully apply it. No matter how you market your puppies, no one is likely to become your repeat customer if your hand them a problem. Adults need to have a good worming and immunization program as well.

Remember that you and your kennel are consumers also. Once you decide on the dog food that will fit your needs, have you really shopped around to see who can give you the best deal on pricing? Contact the dog food rep in your area to see if they offer any kind of bulk pricing incentives, UPC, or coupon redemption programs. Do you have access to warehouse type stores that can offer you savings on cleaning supplies or whatever you need to run your business? Are your vaccines and wormers being brought to you at the best price? It pays to periodically shop around as I recently did. After years of dealing with the same vaccine and drug company, I heard through a fellow breeder about a company that not only was significantly cheaper, but also offered free shipping. My savings on this alone were huge, and the company proved to be as good if not better than the old one. Building supplies can also vary greatly, check around, ask others in your breeder community where they got the best price on such and such.

To me nothing is as thrilling as owning my own business and doing something that I truly enjoy at the same time. I am always in awe of the endless variety of sizes, shapes and colors that my puppies come in. It is a constant wonder to see the little personalities that bloom right before my eyes. I never tire of seeing the joy that lights up the face of a customer as they reach for their new puppy, people just melt.

It takes a lot of effort to be on top of any breeding program these days. The more you can streamline your kennel, the nicer your facility, the better your health program, the more money you save just by being a good consumer the better. I think you owe it to your dogs to keep yourself in the black because only then are you likely to be able to afford the things that add to the health and well being of a good breeding kennel. That’s my bottom line.

Editor’s note: Teresa Cloud has been a breeder for over 25 years now. She is the President of the Colorado Pet Association (CPA), and sits on the Pet Animal Care Facilities Act (PACFA - Colorado’s Animal Regulatory Agency) advisory committee. Like a lot of breeders this year, she has been very politically active against the HSUS type of legislative efforts that have invaded this state. Teresa states, “One thing I have learned, if you try hard enough you can be surprised by what you can accomplish. Numbers are important, but so are frequent well placed arguments. Love the Kennel Spotlight. Keep up the good work, so that we can keep up the work we love. Teresa Cloud
YES! We were born for the Spotlight!

We are CKC pups and yours can be too! Simply mention that you saw us in the Kennel Spotlight Magazine when dual registering your breeding stock and it's FREE! After all, what could be better than that?

You know this makes us famous, right?!

CKC's goal is to provide quality dog registration and educational services as well as products for dog breeders, handlers, and owners. CKC works to enhance the relationship between man and dog, and supports the use of canines for service to mankind. Become a part of CKC's growing family and take part in the many benefits we have to offer TODAY!

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Menadione (Vitamin K3) Dangerous?

By Cheri Pursell of It’s Kibblesense!

What are the facts in question?
1. Is this substance toxic in the application of pet food supplement?
2. What facts or evidence are present in scientific literature to support the argument that this substance is a dangerous ingredient in a pet food formulation?
3. What is the common amount of menadione used in pet food formulations and how does this amount relate to possibly toxicity?

To offer another side of this argument here is a link to an article on the topic by a pet food industry expert, (http://www.petfoodindustry.com/ViewArti ... x?id=16414) as well as an interesting article about a study in pet birds and Vitamin K3 (http://www.ingentaconnect.com/content/b...rmat=print)

My view? After tons of searching I have yet to be able to find an article that discusses an actual case of Vitamin K3 poisoning. It appears, according to the NRC (National Research Council) that it takes 1,000 times the normal dosage to cause toxicity in animals. We know there is not that amount in pet food. The synthetic version of vitamin k that we are talking about is also water soluble rather than fat soluble like vitamin k1 (the natural form found in green leafy veggies etc). Water soluble vitamins do not build up in the system; fat soluble vitamins do.

This was also stated in the Wysong article; (see http://www.wysong.net/vitamink.shtml)

Quote: Menadione (150-200 mg/day IV), as a radiosensitizing agent, was discovered to increase survival time (5.42 months with Menadione and radiation versus 3.77 months with radiation alone) in inoperable bronchial carcinoma patients. (36) Pretreatment of mice with transplanted mouse liver tumors by oral or intraperitoneal injection of vitamins K3 and C greatly potentiated the action of radiation (20-40 Gy dosages) compared to controls. (37) In rats, Menadione was active against Adriamycin-resistant leukemia cells. (3 Hepatoma-bearing rats receiving intraperitoneal injections of Menadione (10 mg/2mL weekly for four weeks) demonstrated an increased survival rate of 60 days compared to 17 days for controls (five of 16 lived longer than controls). (15) The anticancer activity of Menadione has also been demonstrated in a number of in vitro studies using both rodent (10,39-42) and human cancer cell lines. (11,12,43-45) Menadione was effective against multidrug-resistant leukemia cell lines and parental leukemia cell lines. (43)

This is apparently the study that produced the above quote;
Unite de Pharmacocinetique, Metabolisme, Nutrition et Toxicologie, Faculte de Medecine, Universite Catholique de Louvain, Bruxelles, Belgium. calderon@pmnt.ucl.ac.be

The decision of stressed cells to die or to survive is made by integrating signals at different levels through multiple check points. However, initiation and continued progression toward cell death by apoptosis in cancer cells may be blocked by mutation of the tumor suppressor p53 or overexpression of members of the bcl-2 family of proteins. The existence of such mechanisms indicates that cancer cells lose the controls regulating their cell cycle. Therefore, the activation of their programmed cell death appears as a major therapeutic target. Oxidative stress can stimulate growth, trigger apoptosis, or cause necrosis depending upon the dose and the exposure time of the oxidizing agent. A large body of evidence supports the idea that oxidative stress induced by redox cycling of vitamins C and K3 in association surpasses cancer cellular defense systems and results in cell death. The molecular mechanisms underlying such a process are, however, still unknown. Indeed, several types of cell death may be produced, namely autoschizis, apoptosis and necrosis. Combined vitamin C and K3 (3) administration in vitro and in vivo produced tumor growth inhibition and increased the life-span of tumor-bearing mice. CK3-treatment selectively potentiated tumor chemotherapy, produced sensitization of tumors resistant to some drugs, potentiated cancer radiotherapy and caused inhibition of the development of cancer metastases without inducing toxicity in the host. We propose the association of vitamins C and K3 as an adjuvant cancer therapy which may be introduced into human cancer therapy without any change in the classical anticancer protocols, and without any supplementary risk for patients. PMID: 12470246 [PubMed - indexed for MEDLINE]

Basically, I personally am not seeing this ingredient as a problem. I have seen no real facts that show that this chemical is toxic or causes ill health when used as directed. My conclusions as far as the questions I posed above?
1. Is this substance toxic in the application of pet food supplement? No, this ingredient has been used in pet and animal foods for over 50 years with no documented toxicity issues.
2. What facts or evidence are present in scientific literature to support the argument that this substance is a dangerous ingredient in a pet food formulation? None. To this date, I have found no such peer reviewed scientific or acceptable articles or case studies that give such information.

Continued on pg. 16
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3. What is the common amount of Menadione used in pet food formulations and how does this amount relate to possibly toxicity? Nutrient Requirements of Dogs 1985, the 6-member panel of experts on dog nutrition makes the following statement (page 27): "Although it is doubtful that supplemental vitamin K is necessary for the normal dog, it may be prudent to provide 22 micrograms of Menadione (or vitamin K equivalent) per kilogram of body weight daily for adult maintenance and 44 micrograms per kilogram of body weight during growth. This would be more than supplied by a dry diet concentration of 1.0 mg of Menadione per kilograms."

Hyperвитaminosis K

Vitamin K1 is apparently safer in large quantities than the water-soluble analogs and derivatives of Menadione (vitamin K3). The latter are widely employed, but they may produce toxic side effects in the newborn when administered parenterally. **Doses up to 10 to 25 mg of vitamin K have been administered to pregnant women prior to and during delivery, or to the newborn infant, to prevent hypoprothrombinemia and hemorrhagic disease in the child. When vitamin K1 was used, this practice was apparently not harmful; however, 5 to 10 mg of menadiol sodium diphosphate administered daily to infants produced hemolytic anemia, and 10 mg given 3 times a day for 3 days to premature infants resulted in kernicterus and death. (note this previous section is about HUMANS and Vitk3 effects on HUMAN newborns.)** The mechanism of toxicity involves erythrocyte hemolysis and subsequent overloading of an immature liver with bilirubin, which cannot be sufficiently conjugated and which in turn proves toxic to the neonatal brain (kernicterus) (Miller and Hayes, 1982).

The only reported case of toxicity in the dog occurred in a 1-year-old female Great Dane that ingested a packet of Warfarin and was treated intravenously with 30 mg of vitamin K1 in 5 percent dextrose and lactated Ringer's solution. An acute urticaria was observed with wheals first appearing on the face before progressing caudally over the entire trunk. Flatulence, lacrimation, and salivation were also noted (Jordan, 1979).

So, it appears the recommended dosage of Menadione in dog food would be 1.0mg per kg of food. The only reported toxicity issue/reaction to vitamin K in a dog was to the natural form Vitamin K1.

Now, I did go to The Dog Food Project article and again read through it. I searched the references provided and found they are all references to German books on nutrition or vitamins, none are studies. It appears the author of this article has assumed that because VitK3 is so very dangerous to human newborns it must also be dangerous to dogs (and cats.) This is a false assumption IMO as one reads all the literature they would understand that the negative reaction to vitk3 is severe in human beings (specifically infants) but not in animals. There is not one fact present within that article to show the possible toxicity in dogs, not one. It all revolves around the problem in human beings. This does not make vitamin K3 toxic to dogs anymore than dogs being sensitive to chocolate makes chocolate toxic to human beings.

I believe this is simply a case of over-reaction and oversimplification. The industry, the chemists, the veterinarians and pet food companies know this ingredient is not harmful to dogs as it is their job to know such things. They have a wealth of information to draw upon to reach their conclusions whereas we, the general public do not. References in a few nutritional books for human beings do not support the premise that Menadione in any form is toxic when used to supplement vitk in pet foods.

Here is some additional veterinary information on Vitamin K and Menadione: http://books.nap.edu/openbook.php?record_id=949&page=31

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**Be sure to check out Cherri’s website:**

[www.eastgsd.com/kibblesense](http://www.eastgsd.com/kibblesense)

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PUPPY POEM:

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.

Formula, 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; your 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*

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Campylobacteriosis in Dogs

Campylobacter jejuni is a small bacteria found in the gastrointestinal tract of dogs and humans. Over the last few years it has risen in importance as a major cause of illness found in breeding kennels. It is highly contagious and causes disease ranging from mild diarrhea to symptoms very similar to parvovirus, including death. Nearly half of all dogs carry these bacteria and show no signs of clinical disease and in turn act as shedders.

The disease and its adverse signs affect puppies more often than adults. Conditions that predispose kennels to outbreaks are overcrowding, lack of proper cleaning and disinfecting protocols, concurrent diseases causing illness, feeding of poorly cooked chicken, puppies with poor immune symptoms or heavily parasitized and over vaccinated pups. Stressful events such as weaning and shipping are also risk factors. Contamination of food and water containers is a common source of bacterial buildup.

Diarrhea is the main clinical sign seen in dogs. The diarrhea can range from watery to bloody or bile streaked and very often associated with dehydration. Straining to defecate is a common clinical sign. Fever is not always present but tends to be a low grade one when it occurs. Vomiting can be present for up to two weeks duration and often severe. In adults, the symptoms may be on the mild side but often tend to be reoccurring. The diarrhea is often mistaken with parvovirus. Death is common when Campylobacteriosis is found in young puppies and when treatment is either postponed or the treatment protocol is not the proper one.

Definitive diagnosis is made by a laboratory culturing the feces on special media. Fecals can be done and are suggestive of the disease but not diagnostic. The antibiotic of choice for treatment is Erythromycin. It is used in combination with fluids for correction of fluid and electrolyte imbalances. Remember that proper hand sanitization is required for human transmission can easily occur. As always proper degreasing and disinfecting of the premise is essential.
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Cryptosporidiosis – “Crypto”

Cryptosporidium parvum is a very small protozoan parasite of most mammals, including man. Being a protozoan parasite, it is similar to coccida and giardia, but much smaller.

Symptoms of “crypto” generally begin within seven (7) days after infection with the parasite. The symptoms are watery diarrhea, stomach pain, vomiting and dehydration.

This parasite may be solely responsible for these symptoms, however, many times puppies may have concurrent infestations of coccidia and/or giardia. Further studies need to be completed to investigate these relationships.

As mentioned earlier, this parasite may also affect humans. If seemingly healthy individuals contact “crypto”, it may cause symptomatic disease (i.e. nausea, vomiting and diarrhea), which is usually self limiting in 1-2 weeks.

Zoonotic potential of this protozoa is most concerning in individuals with weakened immune systems (i.e. HIV, immune system illness, cancer and/or organ transplant patients). Immunosuppressed individuals may develop serious, chronic and sometimes fatal illness.

There are no effective treatments for “crypto” in puppies. Supportive therapy (i.e. fluid replacement and nutrition) is only attempt at treatment and allow for infection to pass.

Preventative measures to be used when handling possibly infected puppies are: 1) Feed, groom, and handle healthy pups first 2) Wash hands and/or equipment with soap and water prior to handling ill pups.

Control measures for “crypto” are difficult at best. These measures include:

1. Keep organic debris in your facility to a minimum at all times.
2. Chlorine disinfectants (i.e. bleach, chlorhexadine, etc.) do very little at killing this organism.
3. Since this organism thrives in moist, humid environment, keep conditions as dry as possible and humidity at around 40-60%. Dry conditions eliminate the organism.

At the present time, measures for the prevention and control of Cryptosporidium should be integrated into the breeding facility’s handling and management practices, to minimize any “crypto” threat to the industry.

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The glitz, the glamour, the spit and polish—It all returned to Fort Smith, Arkansas for the 6th annual America’s Pet Registry, Inc., Parade of Champions. A short walk through the staging area of Kay Rodgers Park Expo Center on December 5th revealed some of the best representatives of their breeds anywhere in the world. From the Chihuahuas to the Borzoi and everything between, even the dogs seemed to know they were the best.

After a long, grueling day, the title of APRI Distinguished Champion of 2009 was awarded to Slash C’s Mee Lung of Laro, a beautiful Pekingese owned by Zoe Norris of Henderson, Texas. This outstanding dog made his way to the title of Distinguished Champion by way of enough perfect scores to be awarded APRI’s Champion Par Excellence. That honor is difficult to attain. In the history of APRI, only a very few dogs have achieved it.

The fact that there were five dogs with the Par Excellence title in the final judging at the Parade is proof of the level of competition at this show. Not only is the competition stiff, but the process itself is difficult. To even appear in the final, dogs progress through examination by four to five different judges who must sign off on the dog’s advancement to the next level. As if that weren’t stringent enough, the winner of each group then appears in a final judging like the one at this show with several other Par Excellence dogs. What’s a dog to do? Pekingese Slash C’s Mee Lung O Laro showed those attending what to do by winning two first place votes in that final judging, resulting in the title of APRI Distinguished Champion 2009.

The other groups were also well-represented:

**Hounds**

1ST Whippet: ‘Silhouette Love Me for a Reason’, owned by Shawn Cooper, also of Texas.

2ND Whippet: ‘Silhouette’s Crystal Ball’, owned by Shawn’s husband, Gregory Cooper.


**Herding Group**


2ND Shetland Sheepdog: ‘Royalty Jinx’d Ya’, owned by Jessica Queen of Missouri.


**Working Group**


2ND Boxer: ‘Donje’s Dare to Shine in Style’, owned by Connie McGill of Texas.


**Sporting Group**

1ST Cocker Spaniel: ‘Sunday’s Sgt. Gizmo’, owned by Michelle Neel of Missouri.

2ND Cocker Spaniel: ‘D&R’s Tri to be a Warrior Princess’, owned by Rebekah McGregor of Missouri.

**Non-Sporting**

1ST Lhasa Apso: ‘Call Me Billie Sue’, owned by Elaine Craig of Missouri.


Terrier Group
3RD  Miniature Schnauzer: ‘SB’s Christmas in July’ also owned by Sarita Chavez.

Toys
1ST  APRI Distinguished Champion Pekingese: ‘Slash C’s Mee Lung of Laro’, owned by Zoe Norris of Texas.
3RD  Yorkshire Terrier: ‘LTO’s Miss Tommy Beth’ owned by Mark Landers.

In addition to the many winners of these groups, several other dogs earned their way to the semi-finals:
* Cairn Terrier: ‘Jacie Chasey Birdie’ owned by Robin Kimbrough.
* Toy Australian Shepherd: ‘Spurin A Sharmane’, owned by Brenda Arnett.
* Toy Australian Shepherd: ‘Spurin A Sonja’, also owned by Brenda.
* Italian Greyhound: ‘Maplewood Dollar Money’, also owned by Tracy.

As America’s Pet Registry, Inc., has made the decision to move the Parade of Champions to a bi-annual event, planning for the next Parade of Champions in 2011, we celebrate and applaud the champions that dedicated breeders are creating. Their work is more than just work. It is a vocation of providing quality puppies for new owners to love and make part of their families. These breeders have done their jobs well. This prestigious Parade of Champions is a wonderful venue to spotlight the quality of the dogs that represent their breeders and APRI so well. Many of these beautiful champions have also had great success in other show arenas, absolute confirmation, if any were necessary, of the dedication these breeders bring to their programs, their determination to provide the best of the best to the world. This show is proof of that success. We at APRI salute you for your quality work and the love you exhibit for these beautiful animals. Whether or not you had a dog in the semi final or the final judging, the dogs the APRI world saw that day on the mats and in the staging arena are a credit to you and to us.

Submitted by Charlotte Rhoades of APRI
How long does a dog have to put up with this? It has been 8 weeks now since these pups were born. The first four were not so bad but these last four have been rough. Romp, play, nurse, and sleep; that seems to be the everyday routine for these seven pups. When does it stop? These kids need to get a life! Maybe develop an interest in something besides romping on their mother all day. They’re eating on their own, using the corner of the pen for their droppings, thus eliminating her need to clean after them and are pretty much self sufficient. They could be on their own now and quit being a pest to her.

But wait a minute, who is that stranger that is holding her pup? What does he care if her bite is all right, if her tail is kinked, if her hocks are strong? No, she does not have ringworm; that is just a little nick from sharp teeth and overly rambunctious playing. Why is he putting her in his car? Hey Mister, that’s my pup. Where does he think he is going with my pup? Bring her back!

I know I said that I wish I could have a little time to myself, but I did not really mean it. Three puppies left yesterday and nobody came back. Where are they? Will I ever see them again? Why did my master let those people take them? What does he mean when he said $200 and you take your pick except for Dominate? Why does he want a $1000 for Dominate? I don’t understand; I just want my puppies back!

Dominate and Becky Ann are all that is left. The rest of my pups have been gone for two weeks now. I have not heard a word as to where they are or if they will ever come home. I am worried sick. Dominate and Becky Ann have been put in a weaning pen and I have my pen back to myself now. Kind of lonesome, if you ask me. Taught me to be careful of what you wish for.

Thumb told Mary to let Bugle Ann out to run every day now to build her strength. It was time for her to go after the fox again. When she was out she could go down to the weaning pen and see her last two pups through the wire. Some day they would go on the hunt with her. She would teach them everything she had learned about Old Red.

Maybe between the three of them, they could catch that fox. But the fox had other ideas.

When Old Red saw Bugle Ann out to run every day now to build her strength. It was time for her to go after the fox again. When she was out she could go down to the weaning pen and see her last two pups through the wire. Some day they would go on the hunt with her. She would teach them everything she had learned about Old Red.

When Old Red saw Bugle Ann, he was concerned. That was the dog that had bit his tail. He still carried the scar, both on his tail and in his heart. He was not a happy fox to see her back in the hunt. He would not want to get too far away from his den with her around. O’boy, they have picked up the scent. Time to get moving! Red dropped over the rise and ran along the tree line out of sight. He could hear that incredible voice of Bugle Ann. He knew she would not lose the scent so he decided to go home early that night. As he crossed the open stretch of pasture, he saw her, and he knew she saw him. Here she came. He had better get it in gear because he had to beat her to the ravine that led up the hill to his den. But something was different. She was not even close to beating him. He could outrun her on his hind legs and she was trailing the pack. Red did not know why, he just knew he was outrunning Bugle Ann easily. Maybe he would make a longer night of it. He had noticed that she seemed out of shape. Her ribs were showing and her teats were hanging and she was breathing heavily. She was not going to catch him and he had outrun those other dogs many times before. What was he afraid of? Why’ nothing, of course. He was Old Red, the invincible fox.

When Bugle Ann came in that night, she was mortified. Red had taunted her, made a fool of her and laughed at her. She had tried to run faster but this was her first hunt after weaning the pups and she was just plain “out of shape”. She knew, and she knew that Red knew, that they were not going to come close to catching him. But she also knew
that Red did not know that a pup named Dominate loomed in his future. When that day came, she would see that leering grin of his disappear. Bugle Ann and Red had several encounters over the next few months, and each time she had moved up in the pack until she was finally leading it once again. Red was too smart to underestimate her. He saw her strength return. He knew she had slowed just enough that he could keep ahead of her. He was no longer afraid of her, but he respected her ability to just possibly outthink him. While he was running, he kept a sharp eye on her movements. He had seen her the night they had jumped a gray. The gray did what grays always do. He had made a beeline for his hole. When he got there, Bugle Ann was sitting in the entrance. The rest is not a pretty story. Red vowed that she would never cut the circle on him. Every time she cut the left circle, Red would cut right. Every time she cut the right circle, Red would go left. He knew he could out run her in a straight line run. He had her number. Her determination became overwhelming. She would plot her runs in her head. She knew she could win this battle if she could have one faster dog to push Red in a straight line and keep him there. She would just have to come up with another plan if this dog did not materialize.

She was regaining her reputation as the best fox hound in Jackson County, West Virginia. Thumb told all of his hunting buddies that he was going to take her to Charlestown to the state finals for the competition race. He had never had a dog good enough to enter that contest nor did he have the entry fee. In 1944, one hundred dollars was more money than he had ever seen in one pile. If he paid the entry fee, he had to win. Everyone conceded her first place in voice and brains but there was a doubt in conformation and performance. Well, he still had time to think about it. She still needed to fill out a bit and if she could get Old Red; well, he would just have to wait and see. Sometimes he and Mary and Bugle Ann would go down the road with a picnic basket of food to where the ridge dropped off into Evans to look at the lights and listen to the dogs of the neighbors as they ran. Thumb would smile and think and pet the dog and dream of that first place trophy with his and Bugle Ann’s name on it.

Old Red was watching them come. He thought of the number of times he had seen them cross the valley. Whose scent would they pick up tonight? He was no longer afraid of them. He had escaped them numerous times in the last two months. If they picked up his trail, he would simply out maneuver them once again. His business for the night was to find something to eat and he might as well be about it, dogs or no dogs. .......

To be continued...
DEAR MoFed Members....

BY KAREN STRANGE,
MOFED PRESIDENT & LOBBYIST

The HSUS (Humane Society of the United States) has filed with the Secretary of State a ballot measure titled "Puppy Mill Cruelty Prevention Act" against dog breeders to be presented on the November 2010 ballot for a vote of the people of the state of Missouri. It applies to breeders with 10 or more intact female dogs, limits the number of breeding female dogs to 50 per kennel, limits breeding to no more than twice in any eighteen-month period, requires daily exercise, veterinary care for any injury or illness, and requires controlled temperatures not to exceed 85 degrees or fall below 45 degrees. Facility and pen size requirements far exceed that which legal, licensed breeders currently must have to be in compliance with state and federal laws, and many of the requirements are virtually cost prohibitive when allowing only 50 breeding dogs maximum for generating income.

MoFed filed a lawsuit Tuesday, January 5, 2010, against the Secretary of State and State Auditor on behalf of all breeders in the state of Missouri. We have hired the Stinson Law Firm of St. Louis to represent us before the Circuit Court of Cole County (Jefferson City). Since MoFed could not be directly named in the suit and since it had to be an individual who is a registered voter and resident of the state of Missouri, MoFed President Karen Strange is named as the Plaintiff in the challenge to the ballot measure. The firm we have hired has been highly recommended as specialists in fighting ballot measures, and we're very encouraged with their expertise and reputation as specialists in handling such challenges. The purpose of our lawsuit is to hopefully prevent it from being placed on the ballot in November to be voted on by the people of Missouri.

MoFed has formed a PAC (Political Action Committee) to fight the proposed ballot measure and to pay expenses for the legal challenge. Please help us to keep this ballot initiative from becoming a reality! Donations may be made to: MOFED PAC, P.O. Box 14, El Dorado Springs, MO. 64744. Thank you!

Below is a summary of the counts the law firm has filed against the ballot measure. Under the listed counts are some of the direct points used in the lawsuit. The actual ballot measure language for which animal rights activists will be gathering signatures follows the legal challenge explanations.

SUMMARY OF LAWSUIT FILED BY MOFED AGAINST SECRETARY OF STATE AND STATE AUDITOR

Count I – This count alleges the summary statements prepared by Secretary Carnahan are insufficient and unfair and lists the reasons why it is so. The basis for this claim is that the summary statement does not fairly and without prejudice summarize the purpose of the measure.

• The use of the term “puppy mill” or “puppy mill cruelty” is inherently prejudicial and misleading. “Puppy mill” is a derogatory term for dog breeders and is likely to incite prejudice in favor of the measure. While these terms appear in the Initiative Petitions, creative drafting on the part of the proponents does not alleviate Defendant Carnahan of her duty to write a fair and impartial summary statement.

• 10 intact dogs are considered "large scale" in one section, but 50 dogs is "large scale" in another, creating a difference in the definition of "large scale" breeder.

The use of the term “puppies” in the second bullet point is inherently prejudicial. The portion of the Initiative Petitions summarized in the second bullet point uses the term “offspring.” The use of “puppies” will prejudice voters in favor of the Initiative Petitions. It is a term that invokes sympathy and its use is unnecessary.

Count II – This count alleges the fiscal notes prepared by Auditor Montee are insufficient and unfair for the reasons listed.

Count III – This count alleges the fiscal note summaries prepared by Auditor Montee are insufficient and unfair.

• Both counts II and III allege that Auditor Montee failed to consider the costs related to passage of the ballot measure in relation to lost revenues from breeders as well as additional costs involved in enacting the measure should it pass.

Count IV – This count alleges that the form of the initiative petitions are contrary to statute in that the petitions do not disclose all the sections that will be repealed or amended by the proposals.

• Requiring exercise periods for small breeds in winter and large breeds in summer will require breeders to be in direct violation of Chapter 578.005 animal neglect and cruelty.

Count V – This is a technical administrative law claim. It essentially alleges that Auditor Montee didn’t follow the correct procedure in preparing the fiscal notes.

Count VI – This is a civil rights (freedom of speech and equal protection) claim. This count alleges that your freedom of speech and equal protection rights were violated by Secretary Carnahan and Auditor Montee by not providing any public notice of their receipt of the initiatives (thus triggering certain deadlines (that we subsequently missed)) and by failing to include our cost submission but including costs submissions by proponents of the measure.

Continued on pg. 28
Finally...
A Microchip System Designed...and Priced...For Breeders!

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Below is the ballot measure presented by HSUS. The HSUS, ASPCA, Missouri Alliance for Animal Legislation and the Humane Society of Missouri have formed a PAC (Political Action Committee) to promote passage of the "Puppymill Cruelty Prevention Act" and to organize and to gather signatures in order for the measure to be placed on the ballot for the November 2010 election. Keep in mind this will NOT go through the legislative process but will instead go directly to a vote of the people should our lawsuit not be successful and should they gather the necessary signatures in a timely manner.

Missouri Ballot Issue “Puppy Mill Cruelty Prevention Act” for November 2, 2010

Be it enacted by the people of the State of Missouri:

Section A. One new section is enacted, to be known as section 273.345, to read as follows:

273.345 1. This section shall be known and may be cited as the “Puppy Mill Cruelty Prevention Act”.

2. The purpose of this act is to prohibit the cruel and inhumane treatment of dogs in puppy mills by requiring large-scale dog breeding operations to provide each dog under their care with basic food and water, adequate shelter from the elements, necessary veterinary care, adequate space to turn and stretch his or her limbs, and regular exercise.

3. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, any person having custody or ownership of more than ten female covered dogs for the purpose of breeding those animals and selling any offspring for use as a pet shall provide each covered dog:

(1) Sufficient food and clean water.
(2) Necessary veterinary care.
(3) Sufficient housing, including protection from the elements.
(4) Sufficient space to turn and stretch freely, lie down, and fully extend his or her limbs.
(5) Regular exercise, and
(6) Adequate rest between breeding cycles.

4. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, no person may have custody of more than fifty covered dogs for the purpose of breeding those animals and selling any offspring for use as a pet.

5. For purposes of this section, and notwithstanding the provisions of section 273.325, the following terms have the following meanings:

(1) “Covered dog” means any individual of the species of the domestic dog, Canis lupus familiaris, or resultant hybrids that is over the age of six months and has intact sexual organs.
(2) “Sufficient food and clean water” means access to appropriate nutritious food at least once a day sufficient to maintain good health, and continuous access to potable water that is not frozen, and is free of debris, feces, algae, and other contaminants.
(3) “Necessary veterinary care” means, at minimum, examination at least once yearly by a licensed veterinarian; prompt treatment of any illness or injury by a licensed veterinarian; and, where needed, humane euthanasia by a licensed veterinarian using lawful techniques deemed “Acceptable” by the American Veterinary Medical Association.
(4) “Sufficient housing, including protection from the elements” means constant and unfettered access to an indoor enclosure that has a solid floor; is not stacked or otherwise placed on top of or below another animal’s enclosure; is cleaned of waste at least once a day while the dog is outside the enclosure; and does not fall below 45 degrees Fahrenheit, or rise above 85 degrees Fahrenheit.
(5) “Sufficient space to turn and stretch freely, lie down, and fully extend his or her limbs” means having (1) sufficient indoor space for each dog to turn in a complete circle without any impediment (including a tether); (2) enough indoor space for each dog to lie down and fully extend his or her limbs and stretch freely without touching the side of an enclosure or another dog; (3) at least one foot of headroom above the head of the tallest dog in the enclosure; and (4) at least 12 square feet of indoor floor space per each dog up to 25 inches long; at least 20 square feet of indoor floor space per each dog between 25 and 35 inches long; and at least 30 square feet of indoor floor space per each dog for dogs 35 inches and longer (with the length of the dog measured from the tip of the nose to the base of the tail).
(6) “Regular exercise” means constant and unfettered access to an outdoor exercise area that is composed of a solid ground level surface with adequate drainage, provides some protection against sun, wind, rain, and snow, and provides each dog at least twice the square footage of the indoor floor space provided to that dog.
(7) “Adequate rest between breeding cycles” means at minimum, ensuring that dogs are not bred to produce more than two litters in any 18 month period.
(8) “Person” means any individual, firm, partnership, joint venture, association, limited liability company, corporation, estate, trust, receiver, or syndicate.
(9) “Pet” means any domesticated animal normally maintained in or near the household of the owner thereof.
(10) “Retail pet store” means a person or retail establishment open to the public where dogs are bought, sold, exchanged, or offered for retail sale directly to the public to be kept as pets, but that does

continued on pg. 30
American Canine Association, Inc.
“America’s largest veterinary health tracking canine registry”

The ACA’s Legislative Team routinely travels to different state capitals to correct the misinformation provided to lawmakers about the canine industry’s husbandry care, veterinary protocols, true statistics, proper facility housing standards, and other facts relating to the canine industry. ACA is fiercely dedicated to protecting our breeders, distributors, retailers, and canine owners.

Over the past 20 years ACA has forged strategic alliances with well respected organizations such as Farm Bureau, Pet Industry Joint Advisory Council (PIJAC), State Grange, Farmers Union, manufacturers associations, and breeder organizations on the state and national levels to coordinate lobby campaigns protecting the many facets of the our canine industry.

The well orchestrated attacks of the animal rights extremists and their legislative “cookie cutter” approach to eliminate kennel operations is unprecedented. Never before has this aspect of ACA had a greater importance than TODAY!

Funds from ACA litter registration provide the following essential protections for your kennel:

✦ Analysis of Proposed Legislation and Amendments
✦ ACA Telephone Round Table Meetings
✦ ACA Action Packs
✦ State and Federal Capitol Rallies
✦ ACA Provides a Member’s Forum
✦ ACA Strategic Lobbying Campaigns

Contact us
1-800-651-8332
www.ACAcanines.com
not engage in any breeding of dogs for the purpose of selling any offspring for use as a pet.

6. A person is guilty of the crime of puppy mill cruelty when he or she knowingly violates any provision of this section. The crime of puppy mill cruelty is a class C misdemeanor, unless the defendant has previously pled guilty to or been found guilty of a violation of this section, in which case each such violation is a class A misdemeanor. Each violation of this section shall constitute a separate offense. If any violation of this section meets the definition of animal abuse in section 578.012, the defendant may be charged and penalized under that section instead.

7. The provisions of this section are in addition to, and not in lieu of, any other state and federal laws protecting animal welfare. This section shall not be construed to limit any state law or regulation protecting the welfare of animals, nor shall anything in this section prevent a local governing body from adopting and enforcing its own animal welfare laws and regulations in addition to this section. This section shall not be construed to place any numerical limits on the number of dogs a person may own or control when such dogs are not used for breeding those animals and selling any offspring for use as a pet. This section shall not apply to a dog during examination, testing, recuperation, or other individual treatment for veterinary purposes during lawful scientific research; during transportations, during cleaning of a dog’s enclosure, during supervised outdoor exercise, or during any emergency that places a dog’s life in imminent danger. This section shall not apply to any retail pet store; animal shelter as defined on section 273.325; hobby or show breeders who have custody of no more than ten covered dogs for the purpose of breeding those dogs and selling any offspring for use as a pet; or dog trainer who does not breed and sell any dogs for use as a pet. Nothing in this section shall be construed to limit hunting or the ability to breed, raise, or sell hunting dogs.

8. If any of this section, or the application thereof to any person or circumstances, is held invalid or unconstitutional, that invalidity or unconstitutionality shall not affect other provisions or applications of this section that can be given effect without the invalid or unconstitutional provisions or application, and to this end the provisions of this section are severable.

9. The provision herewith shall become operative one year after the passage of this act. Be sure to join the ‘Friends of the Kennel Spotlight’ email list for more updates! www.kennelspotlight.com
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Find our ‘Blarney stones’ for FREE DOG FOOD!

Featuring Dr. Kenton Beard & AKC!!!
To whom this may concern,

I am really concerned with the state of this country. Missouri being one of my biggest concerns. Yes, I am writing about the amendment to the Missouri law that will be on the November ballot concerning dog breeders. For those who may not know about it yet, here it is: Shall Missouri law be amended to:

- require large-scale dog breeding operations to provide each dog under their care with sufficient food, clean water, housing and space, necessary vet care, regular exercise and adequate rest between breeding cycles.
- prohibit any breeder from having more than 50 breeding dogs for the purpose of selling their puppies as pets, and
- create a misdemeanor crime of “puppy mill cruelty” for any violations?

It is estimated state governmental entities will incur costs of $654,768 (on-going costs of $521,356 and one-time costs of $133,412). Some local governmental entities may experience costs related to enforcement activities and savings related to reduced animal care activities. Whatever happened to land of the free? There are already laws in place regarding dog breeders through the Missouri Department of Agriculture in regards to housing, sufficient food, necessary vet care, regular exercise and clean water. Why do we need to add more government laws and costs? This will raise taxes (like they’re not high enough already??). I see the need for the housing, food, vet care, exercise and clean water as well as many other people, but why do the higher-up animal liberalists need to add more? This is going to cost the state $654,768 with on-going costs of $521,356! Why not use this money to help the homeless or help starving children in this state?

If you read in the first amendment regarding adequate rest between breeding cycles, a licensed veterinarian will tell you that it’s healthier for a female dog to produce a litter with each cycle than it is to make them rest. If they rest because they’re made to by the breeder, then they can develop pyometra; which is an infection of the uterus. It can be life threatening. Most people don’t know, but a female will rest on her own by skipping a cycle or just not getting pregnant. There’s no need for the government to tell a dog what to do when they do this on their own naturally! These are just ideas from the animal rights movement and from PETA (People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals) as well. Yes, that’s the group that doesn’t believe in eating meat and they think we should all be vegetarians! Here are just a few quotes from prominent PETA leaders, as well as quotes from the Vice President of the Humane Society of the United States (HSUS) among others:

“We feel animals have the same rights as a retarded human child.” -Alex Pacheco (PETA) (Charleston, WVA Gazette-Mail, Jan 15, 1989)

Q: “What would happen...you have a child...the child is dying of diabetes. It needs an insulin injection. The only way to get it is from a lamb. Do you kill the lamb in order to get the insulin so you can save the child, or do you let the child die?”

A: “Well, I...would not even for myself...or for...I would not knowingly have an animal hurt for me or my children, or anything else.” -Cleveland Amory, Fund for Animals (Larry King Show, October 29, 1987)

“Animal liberationists do not separate out the human animal, so there is no rational basis for saying that a human being has special rights. A rat is a pig is a dog is a boy. They’re all mammals.” Ingrid Newkirk - Founder, PETA as quoted in (Vogue, September, 1989). “The life of an ant and the life of my child should be granted equal consideration.” Michael Fox - Vice President, HSUS.

“One day we would like an end to pet shops and the breeding of animals. (Dogs) would pursue their natural lives in the wild...They would have full lives, not waiting at home for someone to come home in the evening and pet them and then sit there and watch TV.” Ingrid Newkirk - Founder, PETA. “If we could shut down all sport hunting in a moment, we would.” Wayne Pacelle - formerly of Friends of Animals - Impassioned Agitator - Associated Press - Dec. 30, 1991 (Wayne Pacelle is now involved in the Humane Society of the United States).

Do we really want these animal liberalists making our laws and running our country?? Let’s band together and vote NO on this amendment! There are things that need done in other areas and for the sake of humanity! For the farmers out there that are reading this----are you next with attacks from these “terrorists” that are taking away certain rights one-by-one? They’ll be telling you how many cows, pigs, chickens, etc. you can have. Eventually, they may take away pet ownership all together. Stand up for your rights! Vote NO on the Missouri Dog Breeding Amendment!

Signed,
A concerned citizen of the State of Missouri.

for the animals’ cause.” -Alex Pacheco (PETA) (New York Times, Jan 14, 1989)

“Arson, property destruction, burglary and theft are “acceptable crimes” when used
Each of you needs to COMMIT to lending assistance. This will be money, time, and effort. **Mofed** provided a link to support this endeavor. Give as much as you can. Pass on the information to all your friends and industry people. MAKE them understand how important this is. Go to our website at [www.usabreeders.com](http://www.usabreeders.com) – we are providing the latest information on this drive from the AR’s with comments and commentary on what you need to do to help stop the effort.

For the past 20 years, **Mofed** has been the only real protection that the Breeding industry has had in fighting AR legislation and saving your butts. Now it’s time to help them. **Get the word out. Get those WALLETs out. It’s time to finally step up and fight for your rights.** Then realize that this fight is not just this battle. This battle is but one of many battles.

**It’s a WAR.** Wars are made up of individual battles that help define the war. This war will take years to fight and win, with many battles in between. **You must be prepared to help fight and fund this war.** Or..., go to [http://walmartstores.com/Careers/7745.aspx](http://walmartstores.com/Careers/7745.aspx) and fill out the Walmart Career application page. **There won’t be any bailout for the breeding industry, so you are going to need some income.**

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**BEGGING....by Jim Hughes**

I have seldom run across a reason to beg for anything. But beg I will do for funds to support Mo-Fed in their endeavors to support our industry. They are trying to protect your rights as law abiding business people that just happen to have chosen the kennel business as a way of making a living. The amendment the HSUS is trying to pass in Missouri will sweep all 50 states if allowed to become law. Missouri breeders are on the front lines in this battle. They have the entire live animal industry in the United States riding on their backs at this time and place in this war we have been placed into through no choosing of our own.

If the HSUS is successful in placing this albatross on our backs, the entire country can look forward to similar legislation being proposed in their state. Dogs are the first animal to be targeted because of the heartstrings they have the ability to pluck. But cows, chickens, hogs, and in fact all animals that are being raised for profit are in the sights of the leaders of the Animal Rights movement. This is just one more attempt to destroy our economy and force our country into a submissive role on the world political scene.

At one time, American agriculture could produce enough food to feed the world and American universities were teaching their students how to do this. I happened to be one of those students. Until the evils of the Animal Rights mindset took over the Animal Welfare movement, livestock production was considered a very honorable occupation. We need to see to it that, once again, we can hold our head high. We must not allow these Humaniacs to put us into the dark side of public opinion. You MUST support Mo-Fed in this initial endeavor to win this lawsuit with dollars, lots of dollars. PLEASE!! Send all you can afford plus a few more dollars to: MO FED PAC, PO BOX 14, EL DORADO SPRINGS, MO 64744 Also, I wish to commend Mr. Frank Losey for his attack on HSUS through the letter writing campaign to the Internal Revenue Service. And a big thank you to APRI for bringing this campaign to the attention of the breeders; Micheal Glass and Rob Hurd have been in our faces for a month now. Did you send your letter? If so, Thank You! If not, please explain to me, WHY NOT? And if you did not because it was too much bother or you just didn’t get around to it, then when these miserable !@*# come to steal your dogs, I will not cry for you. Don’t ask me to!!! **JH**
2009 was a milestone year for the American Kennel Club as we celebrated our 125th anniversary. It was also a year filled with many challenges affecting everyone across the country and responsible dog breeders and owners were no different. From a canine legislative standpoint 2009 was one of the busiest years yet, with more bills than any other year to date. Although faced with many legislative hurdles last year, the AKC Government Relations Department is proud to report that 2009 was a very successful year with many victories.

The successes of 2009 would not have been possible without the dedication and support of AKC federations, breeders, owners, and fanciers. Below are a few of our legislative highlights of 2009. For a complete listing be sure to visit the 2009 legislative successes web page at www.akc.org/canine_legislation/2009_successes.cfm.

**California**- Assembly Bill 241 would have prevented any person or entity from owning more than 50 intact dogs or cats. The AKC GR department opposed this bill throughout the legislative process by contacting the author and committee members numerous times, posting Legislative Alerts, and alerting our California breeders to the impacts of AB 241. AKC sent out over 5,700 email alerts with information to help California flight this bill. **AB 241 was vetoed by the Governor.**

**Colorado**- House Bill 1172 would have limited the number of unsterilized dogs over 6 months of age that a breeder could keep on premises (excluding dogs being temporarily boarded) to 25. It would have also mandated annual certification by a licensed veterinarian before a dog could be bred, and would have authorized the commissioner of agriculture to promulgate rules for certification and to inspect premises or records at any time. AKC GR worked closely with the Colorado Federation and contacted legislators on behalf of breeders in opposition of this bill. **On February 4, the Colorado House Agriculture Committee voted 7-5 to table the bill indefinitely.**

**Illinois**- House Bill 198/Senate Bill 53 These bills sought to establish strict restrictions on responsible Illinois breeders and limit ownership to 20 intact dogs over one year of age. The bills also required annual, unannounced inspections of private property and fingerprinting and background checks for all breeders who owned at least three “breeding” females. AKC sent out numerous Legislative Alerts and worked closely with local fanciers and dog breeders to address concerns with these bills. **These bills were tabled and a task force was established to further study dog breeding and sales in Illinois. Hard work by the AKC legislative liaisons on the task force helped prevent further action. The task force was unable to achieve consensus therefore no new legislation came out of the task force.**

**Indiana**- House Bill 1468 As amended by the Indiana House of Representatives House Bill 1468 contained numerical limits on dog ownership, strict breeding ages, warrantless inspections, and numerous other provisions restricting dog owners’ rights. The AKC provided numerous legislative alerts, sample letters, background information, legislative recommendations and talking points to constituents in Indiana. **As a result, Indiana breeders and fanciers succeeded in removing the restrictive portions of the bill. HB 1468 has been signed by the Governor.**

**North Carolina**- As originally written, Senate Bill 460 would have allowed for warrantless search and seizure and establish numerous unenforceable requirements on NC “commercial breeders.” While amendments were adopted, the bill still contained many problematic provisions. AKC worked with the North Carolina Federation of Dog Clubs and other like-minded organizations by sending out thousands of e-mail alerts, conducting legislative training sessions, providing extensive legislative analysis, and conducted a lobby day among other efforts. SB 460 passed the Senate, **but the sponsor pulled it from consideration in the House Finance Committee, rendering the bill dead for the year.**

**Oklahoma**- As originally written HB 1332 would have allowed for warrantless search and seizure and required that out-of-state breeders be licensed in Oklahoma to transport animals in Oklahoma for any purpose. AKC worked very closely with its Oklahoma Federation, sent numerous alerts to Oklahoma breeder and fanciers, and contacted key legislators and committees. An amendment removed some of the problematic language, but some concerns remained. The bill passed the House and gained preliminary approval in the Senate. **The bill committee refused to pass the bill, and HB 1332 did not move forward.**

On the following page is a chart reflecting the number of bills introduced in 2009 affecting breeders and kennels. The chart reflects how many bills followed a set formula that sought to place a cap on animal ownership, allow for unannounced inspections without probable cause, and impose numerous arbitrary and unenforceable requirements. Fortunately, many of the bills failed or were significantly improved through the amendment process.
Although 2009 was a very successful year, our legislative work is never ending. The AKC GR Department anticipates 2010 to be filled with a large number of challenges at the federal, state, and local levels. We also anticipate an increase in attempts by animal rights groups to bring anti-breeder proposals directly to the general public in the form of election-day ballot initiatives. However, with the continued help of responsible dog owners we will continue to persevere. 2009 proved that the united voice of responsible dog owners can be a very powerful too.

The AKC Government Relations Department has a variety of services to help assist responsible dog owners with legislative efforts, including working with the media to promote positions and programs, conducting regional Lobby Day events across the country, presentations across the country, contacting legislators and their staffs and sending materials directly to legislators and other government officials. For more information on specific legislation, or to learn more about how you can join our fight, contact the AKC Government Relations Department at (919) 816-3720 or doglaw@akc.org.

2009 Breeders Bills, by Result

- Failed: 76%
- Passed with Amendment (no limits): 9%
- Still Under Consideration: 6%
- Passed with Amendments (including limits): 9%

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Show your commitment to your breeding program by registering with the purebred registry that is committed to improving the standards for dogs.

- 125 years of maintaining the world’s largest, most renowned purebred registry
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- The registry most customers ask for - 9 out of 10 purebred puppy buyers prefer AKC
- The largest database of canine DNA profiles
- A dedicated Government Relations team who monitor state and national bills to protect the rights of breeders and dog owners
- The only registry that provides more than $1 million in funding for canine health research every year
- A dedicated Breeder Relations Department, with more than 90 years of AKC and breeding experience, available to answer your questions

For questions and to learn more about our breeder programs, please call 1-800-252-5545, PIN 74777 or email dogbreeders@akc.org today.

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Vaccination of Puppies, Part 2 of 3
By Dr. Layne Holmes
The Hunte Corporation

Considering what is known about the immunity of puppies (see previous article on Puppy Immunity, Kennel Spotlight Dec’09 issue) we can carefully plan a vaccination protocol for puppies. Since it is not financially practical or feasible to determine the exact level of maternal antibody protection in puppies, we may draw assumptions that can be applied to the general population of puppies.

In a kennel environment, where the population changes frequently, it is highly advisable to start vaccinating at an earlier age than in a home with only one female dog and her pups. Based on accepted scientific knowledge, initial vaccinations of puppies should start at around 6 weeks of age and be repeated at two week intervals. In situations where a kennel is experiencing a high level of illness, a vaccination protocol can start even earlier, around 4 weeks of age, using a vaccine that contains only the infectious agent that is known to be causing the problem. It is important to understand that early vaccinations are very unlikely to result in immune protection. This is because the maternal antibodies that are present fight the vaccine, resulting in a reduced level of antibody protection. When the maternal antibodies are sufficiently low, then puppies’ own immune systems begin to function and respond to the stimulus provided by the later vaccines. The differences between puppies with and without maternal antibody protection are demonstrated in the graph shown here.

Knowing that we are unable to determine exactly what level of maternal antibody protection any puppy has, we must vaccinate all puppies as though they had both poor and strong protection. This leads us to vaccinate at two week intervals, as long as the puppy is in a kennel environment, until the puppy is at least 16 weeks of age. This will help insure that each puppy receives a dose of vaccine after all maternal antibodies are eliminated, leading to appropriate stimulation of its immune system. When the immune system is properly stimulated, puppies will develop their own protection. This concept is illustrated by the graph below.

The darkened area shows the range of maternal antibody protection that a puppy can experience. The early vaccination helps to decrease that protection so the puppy can respond on its own. The later vaccinations cover puppies with a very high level of maternal antibody protection.

Dr. Holmes is a staff veterinarian at The Hunte Corporation. He can be reached at (417) 364-8597.

THINK ABOUT IT.....It was Wednesday evening at about 11pm and my husband had just returned home from the hospital where our daughter was born just hours earlier. He was exhausted and starved from the long day that touched on every emotion he possessed. He walked through our front door and was instantly greeted by Charley, our 3 year old Labrador. Charley had been alone since 7am and in true Charley fashion, basically tackled my husband so he would take him out immediately. They took a short walk and returned home where my husband had a quick bite and conked out in front of the TV in our bedroom. Charley lay quietly next to him on our bed. The events that took place a couple of hours later have been described by some as a divine intervention or miracle if you will, but Charley and my husband know the truth.

The time was 3am and Charley was barking steadily at our front door. My husband lay sound asleep in our upstairs bedroom without so much as a stir. The barking continued without notice. After about 15 minutes, my husband was startled awake by our 70 lb. Charley as he jumped squarely on top of him in the bed and began to bark and growl. Naturally my husband told the pooch to be quiet and lay down. Just after pushing the dog off of the bed Charley ran down the stairs and barked furiously at the door again. This finally got attention as my husband stumbled down the dark stairway. He turned the corner into the foyer and through the small glass window of the door, the flames were illuminating the entrance way. My husband shot out of the house through the garage to assess the situation and called the Fire Department. He was able to locate our extinguisher and tried to put out the flames. Within minutes the Fire Department arrived and controlled the situation. The fire had started in the light next to our front door where some leftover dry leaves were caught and ignited from the heat of the light bulb. A firefighter on the scene congratulated my husband on having a smart dog that not only saved our home but also potentially saved my husband’s life. We will always treasure the day we brought Charley home from the pet store. I know that any dog lover will agree that Charley was the miracle that night and when we brought our new baby home he was right there with us in our joy. THIS COULD HAVE BEEN A TRUE STORY IF HSUS HADN’T STOPPED ALL ANIMAL COMPANIONSHIP...THINK ABOUT IT........
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Lambriar, Inc.
the Nation’s leading buyer of puppies HOSTS BREEDER EDUCATIONAL SEMINAR!

Lambriar hosted the first breeder educational seminar for the 2010 year last month on Jan. 16th at the Holiday Inn in Springfield, Mo. The show was very well attended and the breeders really enjoyed the good information and a free lunch sponsored by Intervet Schering Plough. Ron Praisewater, a Missouri Dept. of Ag state inspector, gave a slide presentation and talked to the breeders about proper sheltering for their dogs and ‘making sure their kennel fits the size of their dogs’. There were several examples of a variety of kennel styles in his slide show that included different add-on options; ie: cameras, smoke detectors, etc… Marcus Richmond from APRI (America’s Pet Registry Inc) spoke to us about the current legislation happening in Missouri (see article on pg. 26 of this issue) and how breeders need to get involved and support MoFed in fighting the HSUS who is attacking the pet industry.

Stacy Mason from AKC also spoke about ‘raising the bar’ on the kennels by health testing and proper socializing so that retiring breeding stock could be ‘rehomed’ more easily. She encouraged the breeders to contact their customer data base and get testimonial letters and help secure the votes needed to defeat the negative legislation. Josh Paige, Operations Manager for Lambriar, reminded everyone that the pet stores can also pull up USDA inspections online and can sometimes be influenced by negative reports. Door prizes were given out throughout the day by the registries who attended; APRI, AKC, ACA and UABR. Breeders really enjoyed taking advantage of the awesome show specials provided by Lambert Vet Supply who was there with a booth filled with lots of great products!

The main theme of the seminar was ‘Getting Back to the Basics’. Dr. Joachim (Dr. J) gave his presentation about the Basic Immunology of puppies and their care from birth to 8 weeks when they are brought to the distributor. Dr. Kessler of Lambert Vet Supply provided a very interesting presentation on ‘disinfecting the kennel’. He informed breeders that if their kennel was properly disinfected, there would less focus on diseases such as Parvo and Distemper and that the cleaning process involves more than just the inside of the dog and puppy runs. He explained the effectiveness of certain chemicals and the pros and cons of different disinfectants more commonly used.

Dr. Bramlage from Intervet/Schering Plough spoke to us about the importance of proper vaccinations and the usage of them for prevention of the more prevalent diseases like Parvo and Kennel Cough. He stated that puppies double their size every 7 days therefore making their tissues more attractive to viruses and bacteria. His focus was on protection but to not overdo the vaccines; the puppies need active solid immunity before they are exposed to the wild viruses.

A special thank you goes out to Lambriar for hosting a great day for breeders to get together to learn and share information and for inviting the Kennel Spotlight to attend. For more information on upcoming seminars, please contact Sarah Talkington at Lambriar, Inc. (800) 735-5364. Don’t miss out on the next one!! (see Lambriar’s ad on page 21.)

MPBA Southwest Chapter holds AKC Health Clinic

On Wednesday, Dec. 11, 2009, the Southwest Chapter of MPBA (Missouri Pet Breeders Association) held an all day health clinic. It was a bitter cold day to have the clinic but with the help of AKC Rep. Phyllis King, Dr. Sam Harkey of All About Pets Vet Clinic in Purdy, Mo and Dr. Jackie Pearce of Columbia, Mo., it was a great success! Dr. Jackie (as she likes to be called) did the CERF testing on the dogs while Dr. Harkey did the OFA Patella and Cardiac testing. Starting at 8:00 am and finishing at 5:00 pm made for a long day but it was well worth the efforts put on by many as we saw a total of 50 dogs.

A big ‘Thank You’ goes out to Dr. Harkey, because he donated himself, his office and his entire staff for the day free of charge. I can’t say enough good things about Dr. Harkey; he is a very skilled and knowledgeable vet and anyone would be lucky to have him for their veterinarian. I don’t want to forget to thank Stacy Mason, the Senior AKC Breeder Field Rep as without her and AKC, this clinic would not have been possible. Jean Lafferty and myself stayed the whole day to help with paperwork and whatever else was needing to be done. Thank you to all the members of the SW Chapter who helped throughout the day also.

We, as Professional Breeders, need to focus on raising the best puppies we can and by doing the health testing, we can help ensure our success. We would like to invite all breeders in the SW Mo area to come to our monthly meetings currently being held in Cassville at library on the 2nd Tuesday of every month; 7:00pm.

Contact Janice Swofford at jswofford@centurytel.net for more details. By Janice Swofford
AKC Champion Majestic Frozen Assets

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Why settle for the rest when you can have the best!!
“My granddaddy had a pet bear once.” The boy's face lit up. “How did he name it?”

“He named it Lue. And it was big.” I looked up at him and he was staring straight ahead. His small dark eyes were about halfway to the corner store near the hardware shop. That was my second miracle for the day.

“I’m not a church going man. For me, religion is a private issue. And while I try not asking God for too much, I found myself asking God for something big. Huge in fact. I needed the miracle of miracles, even if it was in the form of a flying house that would land on the top of a particular witch crushing her flat. Hate makes you do that. It makes you wish bad things on people that you normally would never think of. I didn’t like the person I was becoming. I didn’t like the thoughts I was having. So I tried not to think of them and concentrated instead on the tractor ride. The sound of the engine ticking and popping; the sound of the tires grinding away against the asphalt and the sounds of the paint cans sitting between my worn out boots, rattling against the metal basket McMurray had rigged onto his tractor to carry groceries.

The bench seat I sat on was uncomfortable and about halfway home, I started to think I should have walked. Of course the darn thing hadn’t been made for a person, it had been ‘jerry-rigged’ for his old cow-dog Hank. How long had that beast been dead? Just thinking about him made the scar on my left thigh hurt. A present for the time I’d taken the dare from friends to put a single finger on his tractor. After they’d put 28 stitches in my right arm, checked the two mirrors he’d bolted to the front end of the tractor and made the turn onto the lane that cut down through rich green farmland toward my house. “Bears forget their place,” he repeated. “And Ellie was wild. She was always wanting to be with the bears.”

But he had a new wife named Ellie, and when she saw that cub, she begged and begged him not to kill it. Ellie couldn’t have no babies, so she got it in her head that she could make that cub hers.” He stuffed the red cloth back into his front pocket and was quiet so long, that I started to wonder if that was all. “Granddaddy knew how dangerous a bear could be. Normally he would have just killed an orphan cub. A quick clean death rather than let it starve or freeze or get torn up by another bear. But he had a new wife named Ellie, and when she saw that cub, she begged and begged him not to kill it. Ellie couldn’t have no babies, so she got it in her head that she could make that cub hers.” He stuffed the red cloth back into his front pocket and was quiet so long, that I started to wonder if that was all. “Granddaddy knew better but he loved Eli and wanted to make her happy. So he let her have that cub and raise it. It didn’t take long for that critter to start causing havoc. He’d sneak out at night and go a mile down the road and get into someone’s smoke house and eat himself into oblivion. Granddaddy had to sell 2 of his best mules that year to pay for the damage that Lue did. Couple times he’d picked up the shot gun but Ellie’d come running and crying and she’d throw herself over that bear to protect him. Course granddaddy would have never shot Ellie. He loved her. Loved her too much.”

McMurray let his foot off the gas, held out his right arm, checked the two mirrors he’d bolted to the front end of the tractor and made the turn onto the lane that cut down through rich green farmland toward my house. “Bears forget their place,” he repeated. “And Ellie forgot that Lue was a bear. Eventually one spring, when bears are at their foulest, that Lue went after one of the neighbor’s kids. Of course, granddaddy went and got his gun and Ellie went into one of her flying fits and told him he had no right because Lue hadn’t actually hurt the child, he’d just scared him a little.

Continued on pg. 42
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But granddaddy had seen it before. Lue was gettin’ brave. He was gettin’ lazy. He was gettin’ it in his head that he wasn’t a bear and that he could have what ever he wanted when ever it fancy’d him. And Ellie, she’d forgot Lue was a bear. Granddaddy told me more than once he wished he’d just shot that bear in the beginning. He told me more than once he wished he’d shot that bear in the middle and that he cursed himself for not killing that bastard right then. He knew bears. He knew what was coming next.” He pulled out his handkerchief again and blew his nose. Paused a moment and blew it again. “It was close to Christmas and Ellie was baking a nice goose, pies, and even a ham. Her family, important people, was supposed to come and visit and she wanted everything perfect. She’d put Lue out on the back porch. Most bears hibernate but Lue usually remained active over the winter. Sometimes he’d sleep under the back porch in a burrow he’d dug but mostly he’d wait around to be fed. And since the winter was really warm, he was especially ornery and wanting his share of meals.” He paused again, tucked away his red cloth and stared at the road ahead.

“Granddaddy worked some days in a saw mill in town. He’d come home late. Not that it would have mattered. Hospital in those parts was fifty miles away. And as far out as they were... no phone... no car.” I was kind of hoping McMurray would stop with his story. I really didn’t want to hear the rest. “Lue was asleep in the kitchen floor with not much left of Christmas dinner. He’d come through one of the windows; probably when Ellie had refused to open the door for him. If she had scolded him for his tantrum, he sure as heck didn’t care. Granddaddy found Ellie in the bedroom. She’d drug herself in there and tried to tie off the leg wound with one of her best dresses. But that Lue had torn open her artery and there was no amount of tying that was going to stop the blood. Lue didn’t even stir when he came in the door, fat and satisfied after eating the half-raw goose and pies. Granddaddy got his gun down off the wall, loaded it and shot Lue point blank in the side of the head. He said that darn bear never even opened his eyes. Granddaddy never forgave himself. Ellie was buried in the church yard and he burned down that house and built a new on the far side of the land. He remarried about ten years later to my family, important people, was supposed to come and visit and she wanted everything perfect. She’d put Lue out on the back porch. Most bears hibernate but Lue usually remained active over the winter. Sometimes he’d sleep under the back porch in a burrow he’d dug but mostly he’d wait around to be fed. And since the winter was really warm, he was especially ornery and wanting his share of meals.” He paused again, tucked away his red cloth and stared at the road ahead.

There was a reason why he was telling me this little piece of his family history but for the life of me, I couldn’t figure out what it was. So I asked him and he shot me a glare hot enough to make me flinch. He blinked once or twice, and then looked back up and out across the field. I could see my house and the ugly words tumbled out of my mouth. “Huh?” I looked at her, wondered if that chicken tasted as good as it looked and kind of hoping Tiki would leave some scraps. Maybe I could sneak a bite after Maggie went to bed. But by the way that dog was snarling it down, it was unlikely there would even be a chunk of gristle left. Maggie said something else and the one true word of male wisdom tumbled out of my mouth. “Huh?” I looked at her, blinked twice, and tried to pretend I understood what the heck she was getting at. One long finger tapped against her lip, the others tucked under her elbow. I could practically hear her thinking, that mental engine of hers thumping with power while my own continued to back fire.

“Maybe we need to go to the press with this, Frank. Maybe we need to remind people the nature of the bear. I can’t bring myself to believe that the human population has gotten so stupid. Surely, if we explain ourselves, they’d see what this is really about.” The baloney sandwich in my stomach gained about 20 pounds and slid down around my left ankle. Maggie’s eyes
burned. “Honey, they butchered us in the paper,” I reminded her. Granted, I never did get around to reading the thing, but it was on the lips of every person in town. I’d only stood in the paint aisle five minutes before hearing the worst of it from two young ladies and one of the store clerks standing in the next aisle. And by the way the cashier stared and glared at me as I checked out… way too many were believin’ it!

“That’s because Shelia couldn’t write a piece of truthful news if her life depended on it. She was a gossip in high-school and she’s still one of the biggest mouth pieces this town has.” She stood up and grabbed up the plates, practically tossing them in the sink. “Do you think Channel 9 would listen to us? Or that guy from channel 17, what’s his name?”

“Elwood,” I said. My brain was doing flip-flops over every reason this was bad. I looked at Maggie again and her face was flushed, her hands working the edge of the counter, her feet shuffling back and forth. Uneasy, agitated, like a game animal that’s decided to put up a fight it knows it can’t win. It knows that the thing hunting it has claws and teeth but for whatever reason, it has decided to turn on the thing tracking it and face it, even though it may very well mean a sooner death. Not a cleaner one. No, it will still be just as bloody, just as painful, and just as horrid. I begged her with my eyes not to do this, but her own stare flashed back. “We don’t have a choice, Frank. We don’t have a choice but to try and remind people what this is really about. It’s not about the dogs, it’s about our rights. Our property being taken from us and kept from us illegally. It’s about people like Emily being allowed to get away with destroying our lives because she doesn’t like the way we choose to live. It’s no different than persecuting someone because of their faith or origin.” She crossed her arms and leaned against the counter. “I never figured McMurray for much of a philosopher, but he’s right about this one. The bear’s gotta’ die.” I opened my mouth to voice my opinion, but closed it just as quick. The look on Maggie’s face told me she’d done made up her mind. Nope, she didn’t want to hear what I had to say. Besides, at this point what did we have to loose?

The screen door fell out of the jam and flopped to the side. I’d have to fix that tomorrow too, sometime between the painting and getting the truck running. Hopefully Wayne would have an extra belt I could borrow. His dad had been real handy with ears years ago before Alzheimer’s had eaten up most of what he knew. I made a mental note to go and visit him when all this was over. I walked Tiki around the yard waiting for her to potty while Maggie got on the phone and set to calling the news stations. I didn’t want to hear what she had to say. Honestly, I still wasn’t too keen on the idea. But what else could we do? A cold wind licked the back of my neck and I shivered. For late spring, it was going to be a bitter night. The sky had that cold, clear look to it that promised it wouldn’t be possible. A lone car rolled up the road in the distance, its dark color made unrecognizable by the coming night. A horn blew, headlights flashed, and loud young voices cut through the twilight, screaming obscenities. The chorus was so badly rehearsed, that making out what was being said was next to impossible. Tiki raised her head and barked a few times. The car slowed enough that I started to wonder if they were going to get out and cause a scene but after a moment, the wheels screamed and the engine roared and they took off cackling and howling like some sort of mad animal. I heard Maggie swear behind me and I looked back to see her fighting with the screen door, trying to set it up back in the frame so the other hinge wouldn’t warp. “Just leave it there, Maggs. I’ll get it in the morn’in, promise.” She struggled with it a little more then gave up, pushing it off against the house. I winced. That angle was going to bend that other hinge bad.

“Channel 17 wants to talk to us on Monday. I called Ben and asked him if he would come.” Maybe Ben had told her not to do it. Please…oh… please… “Ben thinks it’s a great idea.” I frowned and hoped it was dark enough that she wouldn’t see it. Darn it, Ben. “You still don’t like the idea?” Maggie’s toes met mine and she had to crane her neck back to look me in the face. No, I didn’t. I put one hand on the side of her head and stroked her soft cheek with my calloused and hammer worn thumb. “Ben liked the idea?” I made it a question rather than a statement. She put her hand over mine and nodded. “Yeah, he hopes that maybe even a few people fostering the dogs for Emily might come forward and return the dogs if they hear the real story.” “You really think that there are people out there willing to believe our side?” She studied me for a moment. All I could see were the faint outlines of her face and her baby-blues reflecting the stars. “Yeah, I do. I need too. I, then we’re doomed.” Watch for ‘Part 4’ in the next issue!

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Kennel Spotlight * Feb/Mar ‘10 • 43
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TOTAL SELLOUT! AKC ADULT FRENCH BULLDOGS, All young, healthy, and Champion pedigrees. 11F/2M All colors, asking $1000-$5000 ea. OBO. Will sell individually or in groups. Call Kathy at (918) 857-3780
After 20 years we are now expanding our business! Until now we have primarily been a specialty auction service, but with the next generation of auctioneers coming on we have decided to expand. We have over 5,000 references, computerized clerking and invoicing, cataloging, web site listing, mailing lists for potential buyers, invoice division for consigned sellers and full time office personnel and auction staff. We will handle your auction as if it were our own from start to finish! Whether you have a $5,000.00 or $5,000,000.00 auction, your sale will get our full attention! Real Estate, Automobiles, Guns, Antiques, Farm, Livestock, Machinery, Large & Small Equipment, Household items, we can do it all. It’s all about reputation & marketing and we know how to bring the buyers to your sale. Don’t make a mistake that can cost you thousands of dollars, call us first!

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CALENDAR OF EVENTS

FEBRUARY 20th, 2010
OHIO CONF.-Ohio Professional Pet Breeders Association conference, Millersburg, Ohio. For more info contact Ervin Raber at (330) 574-0621.

MARCH 5th & 6th, 2010
MPBA-Missouri Pet Breeders Association Spring Seminar, Springfield Expo Center, Springfield, Missouri (across the street from the University Plaza). For more info contact Rae Lynn Mercer at (417) 259-1017 email: rambling@getgoin.net, or Carolyn Jurewicz at (417) 924-8617 email: dach@centurytel.net.

MARCH 12th & 13th, 2010
IPBA-Iowa Pet Breeders Association Annual Seminar, Meskwaki Convention Center, Tama, Iowa. Be sure to check out their new ‘GEM SPONSORS’ program. For more details contact Julie Peterson at (515) 836-8114 or Carla Zumbach at (319) 465-5782.

MARCH 19th & 20th, 2010
KPP-Kansas Pet Professionals Educational Seminar, Ramada Inn, Salina, Kansas. There will be an Appreciation Social on Thursday evening (Mar. 18th) from 7-9:00 pm. For more info contact Keri Rienr at (785) 626-3646 email: watermanfarms@yahoo.com or Sara Meyer at (785) 855-2251 email: bijsandguys@hotmail.com.

MARCH 20th, 2010
NIPBA-Northern Indiana Pet Breeders Association conference, Shipshewana Town Center, Shipshewana, Indiana. For more information contact Milan Wingard at (260) 562-2852.

APRIL 16th & 17th, 2010
MnPBA-Minnesota Pet Breeders Association Spring Seminar, Jackpot Junction Casino, Morton, Minnesota. We will have our ‘Exhibitor Showcase’ where the vendors can advertise their products & services. For more info contact Sheila Haag at (320) 453-6921.

UPCOMING SOUTHWEST AUCTIONS:
FEB. 13th-SARAH’S BLUE SKIES KENNEL DISPERSAL, McALESTER, OK.
FEB. 20th-CONSIGNMENT SALE, WHEATON, MO
FEB. 27th-KAE SHERRELL & CONSIGNORS, RICHLAND FAIRGROUNDS, RICHLAND, MO.
MAR. 13th-CONSIGNMENT SALE, WHEATON, MO.
MAR. 20th-MIDWAY KENNEL DISP., POTEAU, OK.
For more up to date information, check our website; www.swkennelauction.com

IOWA PET BREEDERS SEMINAR SHOW SCHEDULE
MARCH 12th & 13th, 2010:

Friday, March 13th: 8:00 AM Registration. Some of the days activities include a ‘one-on-one’ with Amy Gerst and Cell Cytology (must pre-register for this one!). We will have one full hour with Dr. Bob Page answering all your questions. Dr. Ben Hatler will be speaking about Neurology and Rob Hurd from APRI and Iowa Pet Brdrs. will give a talk on ‘Kennel Perception.’ We will have a banquet and annual auction on Friday evening after the show.

Saturday, March 14th: 7:30 AM Registration. We will be having sessions on the topic of breeding stock care by Dr. Rick Kesler of LVS and Dr. Page on new dog health tests for the kennel owner. Nancy Carlson will show us how to ‘Market your Puppies’ and we will have a legislative session with a recent HSUS victim. Dr. Page is beginning to reduce his speaking engagements, so BE SURE TO ATTEND!! For more info: Betsy Fickel (641) 923-0833 or email: whinwoof@msn.com or email: juliesjewelspuppies@hotmail.com

Thank you to our ‘Friends of the Kennel Spotlight’ who have contributed to help keep the magazine ‘FREE’ to all professional breeders!
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