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Thank You to Mary Johnson of McCune, Kansas for sending us her puppy pictures for the Kennel Spotlight!

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Have a wonderful Thanksgiving & Happy Halloween!!

The Kennel Spotlight is published by Southwest Publications, LLC, P.O. Box 534, Wheaton, MO 64874
Phone (417) 652-7540; Fax (417) 652-7019 To update subscriptions, call (417) 652-7540 or visit our website at:
www.kennelspotlight.com
The Kennel Spotlight is printed by Action Graphics of Miami, OK.

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Dear Jim,

BEWARE OF WOLVES IN SLICK CLOTHING!

Several weeks ago on Sunday after church, we had friends over for lunch and during that afternoon, a black Jeep Wrangler pulled into our driveway. Two young boys jumped out and asked my wife if we had any puppies for sale. She told them we didn’t do business on Sundays but they could come back the next day. She mentioned to me when she came in the house that those boys did not look like puppy people to her so we thought we would stay on the look out for when they came back.

On Monday, we got up early as usual and got all of our pens washed down and cleaned out thoroughly. We had put all of our puppies in carriers outside the kennel so they wouldn’t get wet while we worked. We were busy with our wash downs when all of a sudden we heard a commotion outside and went out to check. I discovered the same 2 guys that had come the day before following our 5 year old daughter around all the other barns to the kennel. They seemed to be very polite and shook hands, telling me they were looking to start a kennel and were looking for breeding stock. I told them to come up to the house to talk and our way up there, I told them that if they ever stepped off my driveway again, I would have them arrested for trespassing. At this point, I had decided these guys were up to no good.

The 2 guys asked me if I had any Yorkie puppies or Shih Tzu’s, as they were looking for 2 females and a male. They both said they were originally from South Carolina and that one of their parents used to raise about 200 dogs. I told them I was sorry, (but was actually relieved), that we didn’t have and wouldn’t have any Shih Tzu’s for about another 8 weeks. I did tell them I would take their phone number and name and call when we had a litter ready to go. I asked them where they were from and one of them said they lived in Avon, New York. I was able to get their license number and traced down their names. Both men claimed they were on the way to do some sheet-rocking and painting in Wolcott and that a guy at their work told them we raised puppies. After they left, my wife and I had an uneasy feeling and we started calling our neighbors that were USDA licensed and we learned that these same 2 men had been at their places too. I decided to drive the roads and see if I could catch up with them. I followed them to my brother’s farm and I asked them where they had gotten our names from. One of the men confessed that his mother got our addresses from the USDA kennels on the internet. I again told him that I thought they were a bunch of liars when they told me they were on their way to work. I stated that I thought any sheet-rocker or painter would be ON the job by 10:00 AM and that if they were honestly painters, they should have at least a couple of paint stains on their ‘all too clean’ shirts and pants. I told the men that if they had connection with ANY Animal Rights groups, I did not want to see them in my neighborhood, EVER AGAIN! Those Animal Rights groups are like dirt to me and I have no use for them. The men said they would never be hooked up with those groups and that they were from South Carolina where everyone was so friendly that they would let strangers in their kennels but us ‘Northerners’ were much more hostile.

After they left, we went on the internet and got a list of the USDA breeders in New York State and we found out that there are only about 35 licensed kennels in our state. We called around and learned that these guys had been to at least 15 of these kennels in 4 days with the same story, ‘that they were going to start a kennel’. At some of the kennels, they had asked to see how to make pens for the dogs and insisted on seeing the parents of the puppies that they claimed they wanted to buy. Unfortunately, because of their ‘smooth talk’ and ‘clean cut’ appearance, at least 5 of the kennel owners let them into their facilities. That evening, we did some research on one of the men and were horrified to see that he was the same guy who had worked for Kathy Bauck in Minnesota (who had been slammed by the Animal Activists) and had taken pictures from the camera under his shirt in her kennels. He is also a member of CAPS-Companion Animal Prevention Society and perhaps many more Animal Activist groups.

I don’t care how clean your kennel is or how well dressed and smooth talking they are, NEVER, NEVER, let strangers into your kennel! On their website, they boast how they are professional LIARS and do whatever it takes to gain access into these kennels and farms so they can take pictures of these ‘poor animals’ and give them to the news media. And eventually, they will shut these people down.

(cont. on next page)
These Animal Activists have very different views than ours. They think that if you don’t sleep in the same bed and eat at the same table as your dogs, you are neglecting and abusing them! I also found that one of the men who came to our kennel is a vegetarian and that he believes anyone eating any kind of meat is doing wrong. This is very contrasting to me, as if I had to pick one kind of food to live on, it would probably be MEAT! Not only were these guys taking pictures but do you think they cared about the diseases they were spreading from kennel to kennel? NO!! We do believe that there are some cases where people need to have their animals removed if they don’t have the time or money to feed and water and properly take care of them. Those specific cases do bring a lot of unnecessary pain to the animals. HOWEVER, these Animal Activists are taking things too far!!!

Signed, a breeder from New York

To Jim,
I read your last article in the Aug/Sept issue on Rush Limbaugh and I completely agree. I’m not a dog breeder but I love dogs and always enjoy the Kennel Spotlight. Your writing is always interesting and right on! You have a very educated way with common sense. I enjoy your articles.

Skip White from Cassville, Mo.
Find Out Who Your Friends Are

By
Jean Anne Mayhall, President
Microchip ID Systems, Inc.

A favorite song of mine talks about how tough times or bad luck often bring opportunities to find out who your friends are. Not the fair weather kind, but those who just quietly support you. No matter what.

Recently, my company had an opportunity to find out who our friends are. In early August, hundreds of calls and emails began to suddenly pour into our office. The messages were all the same; the alarm being sounded by each was identical.

Breeders were alerting us about a critical situation involving the HSUS and a mainstay product we were selling. And they were buying. Had it not been for these friends, these leaders and diligent guardians of the pet industry, we would not have known what was taking place behind the scenes.

As we dug into the problem and developed solutions, it became clear that our friends were our teammates as well. Together we launched a counter attack and made joint decisions that will affect the industry in a positive way. I hope to share with you what we have learned and to make some small contribution to our industry.

Your Message is Being Heard

Dr. Wade and I have been involved in the professional pet industry for two decades. When the ‘Animal Rights Alarm’ went off at our company, we made a discovery we think you might find interesting. It has to do with the scope of that alarm and who it is reaching.

We have customers in every state. Thousands of them. They come from all walks of life. They are small, medium and large kennels, they are pet stores, they are groomers, rescues, dog registries, veterinarians, show breeders, disaster teams, universities, USDA licensees, brokers, horse owners, cat fanciers, reptile breeders and more. They all share one thing. Love of the animal. And you might be surprised to know that they also share your passion for stopping the mainline AR movement. They are hearing your message – they understand the threats to pet ownership and they are listening and reacting when you expose the source of the problem.

Change in the Wind

Over the past few weeks we have talked to many industry leaders, your lobbyists, and the presidents of all major state organizations. The general consensus is that the increased Animal Rights legislative activity is due in large part to the success that breeders are having in fighting the worn out, overplayed “puppy mill” image.

Momentum is in our favor. There is no better way to implode the AR movement than to discredit their accusations. Your dedication to professionalism and to providing America’s beloved pets must be showcased with as brilliant a light as possible.

Proactive and Positive

We want to continue to do our part to shine that light; to be proactive and positive. When friends in the industry stepped up to alert us to a problem with our microchip line, we reacted quickly. Alternatives were immediately made available, and privacy was protected. Now we want to do more.

In the spirit of shining a positive light on responsible breeders, we have kicked off these programs:

1) Our website now features a page called ‘Selling Your Pets’. It is intended to help breeders.

2) We have posted our first of many ‘educational’ articles, about the HSUS.

3) Privacy Flag -- We are the first company to offer a Privacy Flag for your account. This is an essential step in protecting the breeder and the pet at this time.

4) We launched online Microchip Activation just for your pet buyers. And we give them a small gift on your behalf.

We welcome more ideas!

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Have you ever wondered why one food costs so much more than another? Ever been online and seen discussions of ingredients as if that was the most important factor to choose a food by? I have, but I often wonder why many times they over look the most important information on the bag which is the Guaranteed Analysis. The GA (Guaranteed Analysis), that little box or listing of percentages of different things, tells you so much more about a food than the name or the ingredient list. It lists the minimum amount of protein and fat, moisture content, fiber content and many times the kcal content. What are Kcals; calories which equal energy. The amount of energy in a food determines how much of that food will need to be fed. Regardless of the wonderful ingredient panel a food can have a very low kcal amount or one for maintenance only. This will not help you if you have a very active dog, a puppy or a bitch in whelp or nursing. A lower kcal content will only cause you to use up the food faster as the dog has energy needs based on their activity level and reproductive status as well as their health status and age and they will consume a product until those needs are met. For instance a food can have 25% protein but only 340 kcals per cup as compared to a food with 25% protein and 450 kcals per cup, that is almost double the amount.

When it comes to pet food selection you really want to simply flip the bag over and read the GA. Note the fiber level is it 3% or 6%? Fiber is often used by lesser quality foods to fill up a dog or by foods made for overweight dogs. Is the fat level 12% or 16%? Fat is the preferred energy source for dogs and a lower fat level will most definitely mean a lower kcal level for that food. I have seen foods with fat levels between 8-12% and have seen these foods advertised for all life stages. While a food like this could be used in that manner it will take quite a bit of that food to meet your dog’s needs and leads to more expense for the owner. The moisture level is typically the same for all foods and is not something you need to really compare. Looking at the protein level, fat level and fiber will give you an idea of the make up of that food and the possible calorie content if it is not provided on the label. The AAFCO (Association of American Feed Control Officials) is currently considering requiring all manufacturers to list the kcal content of their foods per cup to make it easy for consumers to properly select the right food for their animal.

Don’t misunderstand me in that ingredients are not important, they are but you can find the fanciest and “best” ingredient panel on the planet but the food can also be the least cost efficient food on the planet as well. Consumers want quality along with value and there are many products on the market that fulfill both these needs you just have to know how to find them. Digestibility is also important. If a food looks great and the price is great but your dog is not digesting it properly or is intolerant to it you must select something else. Of course the other important topic involved here is price. Foods that make sure that all of the proper nutrients are present and digestible as well as having the proper energy levels will be more expensive than those that do not. Also, some products do tons of research and testing to determine the proper nutrition for animals and they have to pass this cost on somewhere; to the consumer, maybe not much but at least some of the cost. The bottom line is be educated, look at the GA when selecting a food, call the manufacturer if you must to find out the kcal amount per cup if it is not listed on the bag (in the 400’s is a good level for All life Stages and in the 350’s or around that is good for maintenance and less active animals) watch your animal to be sure that the product is a good match and also watch the amount fed to see if it is good for you economically. Some foods may be worth that high price but there are many excellent products with economical prices to choose from. Watch out for those foods that are too low in cost as it does cost a bit to prepare a proper product. Too low a cost could mean that corners are being cut somewhere again, look to the GA and you can sort out the reasonable from the inflated priced foods. Most of the older manufacturers have products they have been working on for years. Many claim these products are not “good” based on their ingredient panel but these people also will ignore the GA and not realize that these foods have been in the making for years and that manufacturers have learned many things over their time in operation that causes them to construct their products the way they do; many newer manufacturers will employ the formulators of these products to help them formulate their foods and then they will make sure the ingredient panel is “humanistically” acceptable, slap a high price on it and claim it is better when in reality the best dog food is the one your dog does best on and the one that is economically acceptable to you. It’s Kibblesense! Visit Cherri on her website: www.eastgsd.com/kibblesense
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WARREN STICE 913-205-2269
Let me start where all businesses and professionals should begin, with a ‘Mission Statement’. However, I would like to take this to another dimension. Breeders over the years have had a goal of raising a puppy to the eight-plus weeks, then marketing it. After the money had exchanged hands, they returned their focus on the next litter being produced and the marketing ideas for them.

Brokers throughout the years have had a goal of marketing to the stores and transporting to them. Again, after the money had exchanged hands, they too focused on the next week’s business.

Stores over the years marketed to consumers providing limited information on the puppy. Once again, the monies were exchanged and they focused on the next day’s transaction. Realizing all of this is over simplified, but to what degree? Sure, things have been tried over the years to improve breeders and breeding facilities, with several having limited success.

Brokers have had limited programs designed to help breeders and again, have had limited success. In addition, Brokers have had very limited knowledge of what goes on at some stores for puppy care. Thus, is it any wonder why consumers and their veterinarians are so confused and upset over the puppy we have produced?

We need to work together in our respective areas of expertise, to improve the results of our individual and collective goals. The responsibility we have should not end when the money exchanges hands. It is to develop the foundation, to the best of our ability, for a puppy to stay in a home, where they will receive and give enjoyment, love and protection to a family. This should start with our impressions and importance we put on each other. For as a flower graces us with its beauty, several things need to happen and be timed together for it to present the hidden phenomenon with the seed.

A missing component may be a mission statement that covers all entities. An example might be; ‘We diligently pursue all avenues to provide the healthiest puppy from birth to your family.’ This is a mouthful! It requires definite change to the process of raising, supplying and marketing of puppies. We must realize that a Broker cannot make up for a poor Breeder, a Pet Store cannot make up for a poor Broker, and a puppy should not have to make up for all of our failings throughout its lifetime.

In summary, I promise to use seminars, writings, research and my skills as a veterinarian, to help bridge these gaps. There is a lot of information available to all of us; we just need to apply it! This is my goal for this column which will be published in the ongoing Kennel Spotlight issues.

Don’t mess with my pet!
Protect responsible pet owners.

You love your pet. You take good care of your pet. How would you feel if the government tried to limit your ability to have pets in your life?...Angry?...Scared?...Betrayed?...Well, it’s happening. Each year, local, state and the federal governments propose thousands of laws that would restrict your ability to own pets – to include pet as vital members of your family. While we believe that some regulations are warranted to ensure that pets are well care for, we also believe that responsible pet ownership should be applauded, supported, and encouraged, not limited! If you are a responsible pet owner, why would the government not want you to love and care for a pet? Why, if you’re doing everything right, should the government be able to limit you from having and caring for a pet? The answer is that, unfortunately, many government officials don’t understand how their bills might affect you, the responsible pet owner. Worse yet, some legislators may not care. Radical animal rights activists often spread misinformation among lawmakers and the general public, creating an atmosphere of poor decision-making. If they had their way, many of them would completely do away with pet ownership...period. Help us protect responsible pet ownership by defending you and your pets against poorly written legislation. Join the “Don’t Mess with My Pet” campaign and for your contribution of $25 a year, you can help us guard responsible pet ownership on behalf of you and your non-human family members.  DontMessWithMyPet.org or contact pijac.org. Phone: (800) 553-7387
Improving the conformation, health and temperament of purebred dogs should be the goal of every breeder. What makes this goal reachable began when the studbook for breeds closed. The result was the establishment of specific breeds. By definition, closing the stud book means that the diversity of the genes for a breed would be restricted to those already present. Thus, when a stud book closes, no new genes are allowed into the breeds that were not already present in the gene pool. The exception is the occurrence of a few infrequent mutations. By closing a gene pool, the pedigrees of each breed became dependable and reliable as a tool for improving breed type, health and temperament. Further refinements occurred as breeders began to use breed standards as their guide for breeding and selection. The result produced a large number (N=170) of desirable breeds with verifiable ancestries. Over time, these closely monitored populations have become especially suitable for the study of diseases. Most of the major advances have occurred during the past two decades. With the advancement of DNA tests more improvements became possible at a faster pace. Other notable advancements included those in the area of digital radiographs, laboratory tests, nutrition and better breeding methods. Today, breeders can use these protocols to breed by direction rather than by chance.

When the canine genome sequencing project was first undertaken, the American Kennel Club, Canine Health Foundation (AKC/CHF) became one of its largest non-profit supporters. Once it was completed, the canine genome joined four other completed sequences, including one for the human and another for the chimpanzee. Many benefits were quickly realized. The breakthrough discovery on Neuronal Ceroid Lipofuscinosis (Tibetan Terriers) led to landmark stem cell replacement therapy in a California boy who was suffering with a disorder called ‘Batten Disease’. Other useful advancements quickly followed. For example, a test was developed for copper toxicosis (CT) in Bedlington Terriers where 25% are affected, 50% are carriers and only 25% are clear (Bell). Other discoveries included a test for juvenile cataracts in Boston Terriers along with the mechanism involved in the transmission of the tick-borne disease, Rocky Mountain spotted fever (Brewer). Genetic markers for illnesses in Basenjis, Standard Poodles and English Cocker Spaniels followed. These technological advancements demonstrate what can be accomplished when breeders, clubs and research efforts are combined.

The key to this kind of success involves cooperation and sufficient funding. Perhaps the best example was the collaborative effort between the AKC/CHF and the Orthopedic Foundation for Animals (OFA) which resulted in the development of the Canine Health Information Center (CHIC) (www.caninehealthinfo.org). CHIC is an online registry that works with parent clubs to establish a panel of testable disorders for specific breeds. The CHIC concept is that dogs achieve a CHIC certification by completing the health-checks identified by their breed club. Passing each health test is not a requirement for certification. CHIC is about being health conscious, not about being faultless. For those not ready to share in an open database, CHIC offers a way to protect the privacy of their information. CHIC enters all test information into their database. Breeders who chose to restrict their test results participate in the aggregate because summary data is useful for research and statistical reporting.

CHIC functions not only as a tool for breeders and their clubs but as a resource for health information that can be shared in various ways. In this respect, every breeder can participate even if they are only willing to share limited amounts of information. Restricted data has value because it can be used for general searches about diseases and traits. This is often useful for research and the calculation of statistical averages. For example, summary data is useful to breeders who wish to compare their results to their breed’s average.

Since its inception, the AKC/CHF has funded more than 340 studies. Many of the top ten diseases found in purebred dogs are being studied at 74 veterinary schools and research institutions worldwide including those located in Argentina, Great Britain, France, Germany, Australia, and the Netherlands. Because of the many new methods and technological breakthroughs that have occurred, there are more than 60 DNA tests now available for screening breeding stock.

**THE TIME PATH;**
One of the major obstacles in bringing new DNA tests forward is called the time-path. This is the amount of time and effort required to identify a problem, characterize it, call it by its proper name, and secure funding. If the researcher is successful and discovers a solution, a protocol is developed for use by veterinarians and breeders. Unfortunately, the time-path is often longer than most expect. For example, once a project has been indentified and funded, blood samples and pedigrees must be collected. If the researcher is successful and a marker found, the next step is to make the information
available in an easy to use and understandable manner. The time-path for the total process can be as short as a few years or as long as a decade. Each time a new test or new method is developed a new learning curve begins.

Veterinarians and breeders must learn what laboratories can administer the test, how the results can be used and interpreted and what mechanism is available to identity and manage the carriers. With this kind of information and technology, the genes that took years to collect can be saved while diseases and disorders can be controlled and eliminated. With DNA technology and new breeding protocols, the problems of the breeder can be addressed more directly. In the past the popular approach was to simply eliminate all of the carriers and affected dogs from a breeding program. Unfortunately, this approach quickly affected the diversity of a breed’s gene pool. Others took a different approach and conducted test-matings to identify carriers, affected and normals. This did not prove to be a desirable method because the undesirable genes are either present or not and test breedings often produced affected dogs that had to be carefully placed or euthanized. More recently, better methods have become available that can reduce many of the problems of the past. For example, DNA testing can be used to eliminate problems because it allows breeders to manage carriers while saving the genes needed to maintain breed type and temperament. The screening of breeding stock, followed by the selection of quality offspring, offers a significant improvement over test-matings.

It has been well established that DNA tests will help breeders decrease the frequency of defective genes. If no test is available, carriers can be carefully bred. The approach recommended is to breed carriers to those that appear normal when evaluated. The assumption is that the breeder will follow-up on the offspring produced. Using this approach, breeders can select normal offspring for future breeding. This is a slower and less certain approach and it will not eliminate all of the carriers but it will reduce their frequency. Because of the increased awareness of diagnostic tests, better decisions can be made with positive results.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR
Carmen L Battaglia holds a Ph.D. and Masters Degree from Florida State University. He is an AKC judge, researcher and writer; he has been a leader in promoting better ways to breed dogs. An author of many articles and several books, he is also a popular guest on TV and radio talk shows including several appearances on Animal Planet. His seminars on breeding dogs, selecting sires and choosing puppies have been well-received by breed clubs. Those interested in learning more about his articles and seminars should visit the website: http://www.breedingbetterdogs.com

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Parvo 2c “The New Parvo”

Outbreaks of the newest Parvovirus stain have been keeping me busy lately in discussions with breeders. There seems to be a great deal of confusion in the breeder world about Parvovirus, new and old. Parvovirus is one of your top concerns and it’s important to clear up some misconceptions about this devastating disease.

Parvovirus is a single-stranded DNA virus and unenveloped which makes it highly resistant to disinfectants, temperature and acidity levels in a kennel. This means it is critical that breeders maintain a properly sanitized kennel. Parvovirus is also highly stable in organic materials such as feces, urine, saliva and oil from dogs’ skin; which are additional factors working against us in defeating this disease. It is a highly mutagenic virus meaning that it evolves. The veterinary community anticipated that the 2b strain would eventually change to what we now call 2c and we know it will eventually mutate again.

Parvovirus 2c is known to be in 14 states. As of this writing (Fall, 2009) it will surely spread eventually to all states. It has been found worldwide since 2000. While very similar to 2b, there is a small genetic difference that makes 2c different in physical properties.

For breeders, the question of Parvovirus is “How does this affect us as breeders?” At this time there are conflicting reports regarding this virus. First it was reported that all current vaccines protect against the new virus but now there is conflicting evidence. There is good current research that one vaccine protects against Parvo 2c.

It is thought at this time that current tests for Parvo do a good job in testing for 2b and 2c. It is recommended that all kennels have Parvovirus testing available and that all pups showing signs of Parvo be tested to rule out the disease. One caution on testing: early in the course of disease the test can be negative. Good kennel management indicates repeating the test in 24 hours, especially if clinical signs worsen.

Clinical signs can be the classics like vomiting and diarrhea but with this new strain, we are also seeing sudden deaths. If you believe that you have Parvo 2c in your kennel, it can be confirmed at the Veterinary Diagnostic Lab at Oklahoma State University.

Standard treatment involves keeping the puppies hydrated with fluids, using a broad spectrum antibiotic to prevent secondary bacterial infections and controlling vomiting. There are many treatment protocols but these are the staples.

Bleach, Trifectant and Virkon-S are the disinfectants of choice for Parvo prevention or outbreaks. They need to have a 10-minute contact time and always use a kennel degreaser beforehand. Fly control is essential in limiting the spread of the disease as well as proper sanitizing of kennel staff and handlers. Any new arrival to a kennel should be quarantined to prevent introduction of any disease.

Remember that without doing blood titers on puppies no dog can be thought to be protected against parvovirus till they are 16 weeks of age. That is why we need to continue our series of vaccinations against parvo till they reach this age. At this age we know that greater than 95% of dogs are protected with vaccinations.

One thing for sure is that we are likely to be dealing with parvovirus for a long time and with a proper preventive medicine program we can keep our risks to a minimum. Please feel free to contact me if you have any other concerns or questions about the health of your pups.

Rick Kesler, DVM has been addressing professional dog breeders throughout the Midwest on a variety of kennel health management topics. This article features information about the latest strain of Parvovirus, Parvo 2c.

Dr. Kesler is a 1985 graduate of Iowa State University School of Veterinary Medicine. He is member of the American Veterinary Medical Association and is licensed to practice in thirteen states. Dr. Kesler’s career has included small animal, equine medicine and surgery both in private practice and as an emergency room veterinarian. Dr. Kesler, staff veterinarian for Lambert Vet Supply, is available to speak at professional breeder seminars. Contact Dr. Kesler at drkesler@lambertvetsupply.com.

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AMERICAN STOCK DOG GOES TO FRANCE!

By Lois Stevens

In May of 2005, Sandra Conklin and I put together a plan for a new registry for the 3 size varieties of Australian Shepherds. We called it, ‘American Stock Dog Registry’ (ASDR). Our first dogs were registered in June of that year and in the last 3 plus years, we have grown tremendously and now also include Border Collies and Australian Cattle Dogs. Beside having dogs registered all over the US, Mexico and Canada, we have a huge following in Europe with dogs registered from Belgium, Germany, France, Sweden, Switzerland, Finland, Norway, Italy, Austria and Spain.

This year we began implementing American Stock Dog Clubs wanting another show/performance venue for the dogs registered with us. Our plan is big, as we want to include agility, herding, obedience and conformation in our shows, but we feel that to truly showcase these dogs, we want something for everyone. Little did we know when we set this plan in motion that our first show would be held in France! We were contacted in May by Marie Paule Van Rysselberghe of Maggymaussies in Ste. Remy de Provence France, asking us for help in putting on a grooming/handling seminar as well as a show for the Mini and Toy Aussies from France, Belgium, and Switzerland. We started planning along with Roxana Bourassa, our Show Coordinator from Glasgow, KY and owner of Wee Aussies. Roxana provided the Grooming and Handling part of the endeavor as well as stood in as judge for the show. She also has written our Junior Showmanship portion of our shows.

Because of the time of year, it was decided that I would go and Sondra would stay in the office because she has a young child. (No arm twisting needed here!!) The months flew by and suddenly we were on our way to France. We left the evening of August 25th and arrived in Marseille, France, the next day at 5:00 pm. We provided the medals for the show and a variety of other prizes but also asked for prizes from breeders we knew here in the US. Many thanks to: Ray & Perianne Williams of Saddlebags Aussies in Minnesota, Vanessa Anderson of Anderson Acres in Ohio, and Sylvia Whitmore of Rimfire Kennel in Oregon for the plaques for Best of Breed and Best Bred by Exhibitor for both sizes of Aussies. Also Wendy Ward of Celebrityward Kennel in Washington for the medals for the Junior Showmanship, Janet Doughty of BJBar Aussies in Washington for the hand braided leashes for the Junior Showmanship winners and Geri Stanfill of Cattle Call Toy Aussies in Oregon as well as TASAA (Toy Australian Shepherd Association of America) for contributing to the Breeder dinner held the day of the show. These contributors helped make the show EXTRA SPECIAL!

After spending a couple of days getting over ‘jet lag’ and doing some sightseeing, Friday evening arrived and so did the entrants. That evening was an informal dinner and just a general discussion of what the breeders wanted to achieve in their breeding programs. We had 3 really great interpreters—Barbara Dooghe and Carine Smets from Belgium, and our host, Marie. Many of the people spoke English, but quite a few didn’t. But we learned that there is sort of a universal language when people are discussing their dogs!

Saturday morning, bright and early, we started grooming dogs for the show. People were so hungry for knowledge and it was really rewarding seeing the transformation of the dogs for the show. We actually could have had a ‘2 day’ seminar on grooming, I believe. After lunch, we had a short handling seminar and started the show at around 2:00 pm. We relied heavily on our interpreters for help with the judging critiques. Half way through the show, we broke for the Junior Showmanship competition. We had 8 youngsters ranging...
from 7 yrs to 16 yrs of age. They were really a delight to work with and are already planning to train for the next year. We divided them into two age groups. I must admit that the little ones stole the show! The final part of the show was awarding the Best of Breed and Best Bred by Exhibitor plaques.

In all, we had 37 dogs entered in 16 classes from France, Belgium, Switzerland and Sweden. Everyone went away from the show with a positive feeling and anticipating next years show. And so are we……..

Lois Stevens is co-owner of American Stock Dog Registry, LLC
P.O Box 7510
Columbia, MO 65205
Evaluating Body Condition of Puppies

By Trisha Hefley, DVM The Hunte Corporation

It is important for breeders to evaluate the body condition of their puppies when monitoring overall health. It is not enough to base your feeding plan for puppies solely on the recommendations of your dog food bag. Breeders should also factor in on how their puppies look and feel. Individuals use the nutrients and energy from the food differently. In addition, need/usage changes with age, activity level, life stage, coat type, and body conformation.

Evaluation should be performed three ways. First, the ribs and shoulders should be checked. This should be done using both hands, palm toward the puppy, feeling for bone, muscle, and fat. Then, the puppy should be viewed from the side, which is best with the puppy at eye level. Finally, you should look down at the puppy from above. With puppies that have a fluffy coat, you may need to flatten the hair some to truly evaluate the body.

If you determine the puppy to be very thin, your veterinarian should be consulted as there may be other related issues of concern. If the puppy is thin, the daily ration should be increased and rechecked every 2 weeks until an ideal body condition is reached. For puppies with the ideal body condition, breeders should continue to monitor so that they do not become too thin. If you are checking an adult dog and he is determined to be overweight, his daily ration should be decreased and rechecked every 2 weeks until the ideal body condition is reached. You may want to consult your veterinarian to help you choose a weight management program to fit your dog.

General guidelines for evaluating body condition:

• An adult dog or puppy should be considered thin when: ribs, shoulders, lumbar vertebrae and pelvic bones are easily visible, if there is no palpable fat, an obvious waist and abdominal tuck, or prominent pelvic bones.
• An adult dog or puppy should be considered underweight when: the ribs easily palpable and may be visible, there is minimal fat covering, waist is easily noted when viewed from above, and an abdominal tuck evident.
• An adult dog or puppy should be considered ideal when: the ribs palpable, but not visible, a slight waist observed behind ribs when viewed from above, and an abdomen tucked up, flank fold present
• An adult dog or puppy should be considered overweight when: slight increase in fat over ribs, but still easily palpable, abdomen slightly rounded, flanks concave, flank folds hang down with moderate amount of fat—jiggle noted when walking, and fat over lumbar area and base of tail evident.
• An adult dog or puppy should be considered obese when: ribs and backbone not easily palpable under a heavy fat covering, abdomen rounded; waist barely visible to absent, prominent flank folds which sway from side to side when walking, and fat deposits may be present on the neck and limbs.

Dr. Hefley is a staff veterinarian at The Hunte Corporation. She can be reached at (800) 829-4155.

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Winning the War.....Part 2

(A novel by Adrienne Wilder-Loggins)

While I had very little doubt that Emily Ducat wouldn’t hold true to her word, part of me (a very small part), still held hope that the earth might crack open and swallow her whole. Unfortunately, that didn’t happen and the 24 hours passed and my dogs were still gone. Judge Sosbee held true to her word and ordered Mrs. Ducat to be arrested for contempt of court but unfortunately an Animal Rights group had heard of her “plight” and sent their lawyers in to argue her way out.

I won’t pretend to understand the details, but it had something to do with the fact that the foster homes were independent entities, responsible for their own actions of which were “not within Mrs. Ducat’s ability to control”, according to her lawyers. They didn’t say it like that of course. No, they used five syllable words and backed it up with quotes out of nine inch thick books that would have made good door stops but not much else. Ben took me home because my truck wasn’t running and I didn’t have any money to get it fixed. I didn’t have any money to do much of anything because my income was being held hostage by the cronies of the local SPCA chapter.

I’ve been between a rock and a hard place before but this was different. It was more like having to choose between being drawn and quartered or just hacked to death with a dull ax. Either way, it wasn’t going to be pretty, but both ends were going to draw equal blood thirsty crowds that would cheer on for my suffering without a second thought. And then there were the death threats. They started the afternoon Judge Sosbee had ordered the release of my property. All I can say is, thank God Maggie didn’t answer the phone! By Thursday, the local paper was out and Ben called me concerned for our safety.

“Frank, have you read the paper?” he asked. It was only eight o’clock in the morning and while I had been up since six (old habits die hard even in the light of animal rights people trying to ruin my life) I hadn’t bothered to go out and get the paper.

“Not yet. Is it bad?” I didn’t have to ask by the sound that Ben made I knew I needed one of those five syllable words the lawyers used on a regular basis to accurately describe just how serious it really was. “Frank…”

“Yeah, Ben.”

“You’ve got a gun in the house right?”

“Jesus, you aren’t serious.”

“They set my car on fire last night.”

“They”. It was quickly becoming a new type of verb for me. ‘They’ describing the people who resided in this town that had somehow lost any and all respect for human life. ‘They’, meaning individuals who lacked the ability to understand that not everyone is the same.

‘They’ wanted to see me dead, or more precisely, ‘locked up in a cage to stand in my own poop and die of starvation’, quoting one of the many recent phone calls I’d gotten. Ben said my name a couple of times before I remembered what I was supposed to be doing. I didn’t know what to say and my mouth didn’t seem to want to work. My hand was hurting because I was squeezing the phone too hard and I was grateful it was one of those cored dinosaurs that actually hung on the wall because if it hadn’t been, the receiver probably would have cracked. I finally made a sound and the sound became words. Lame as they were, at least I wasn’t standing there lock-jawed making cave man sounds in Ben’s ear any more.

“I’m sorry, Ben. I’m…” I clenched my eyes shut and pressed my fingers against my lids trying to stop the hot wetness that was pooling at the corners again. Ben surprised me by laughing a little. “Don’t worry. Gives me an excuse to buy that new Hummer I’ve been wanting. Dotty did say the Jag would have to practically disintegrate before she let me buy something different…”

The sound of hope and cheeriness in his voice made me loose hold of the tears. Two hot lines cut down my cheeks. I hadn’t cried so much or so often since my brother died, and then I’d only been eight. “Darn it, Ben…”

“Now-now Frank, you’ve got to hold it together. You’re in the right on this. You’ve done nothing wrong.” “But no one cares about that, do they?” Anger coated every word. “No one cares that I wasn’t breaking the law. No one cares that I proved my case. No one cares that I take care of my dogs. No one cares that my rights, my human rights, are being torn away, trampled on…” I stopped myself. Just barely. I could have ranted for an hour or more but it wouldn’t do any good. So far it hadn’t accomplished a darn thing but upset Maggie and gave the house cat a bad case of diarrhea. “I want you to trust me, Frank. Can you do that?” I sighed. “You know I trust you.” He laughed again and I admired his cool demeanor.

“Good. You let me do my job.” He’d done more than his job. He’d done a lot more than my puny $1000 retainer could possibly cover. I’d offered him the title to the truck and the 3 acre tract near the back as collateral but he’d refused. Said he was tired of retirement and needed the exercise. I doubt he expected a marathon run. God knows I never expected this. “The world needs more people like you, Ben.” I said and I meant it. “Just hang up the phone and go get the paper before Maggie sees it.”

I nodded, even though he couldn’t see it. We said our goodbyes and I hung up the phone. All my weight leaned against the wall and I pressed the top of my head on the backs of my hands. I concentrated on breathing, I concentrated on staying calm. It took everything I had not
to stomp out of the house, go tearing across the lawn
screaming like a mad man. After all, wouldn’t that have
just put more fuel on the fire? “Is Ben alright?”

The sound of Maggie’s tired, but firm voice
made me suck in my self pity and straighten my
shoulders like the man my father raised me to be. I
plastered my face with a gentle smile and I tried my best
to retain a look of complete calm. I faced her and I knew
she saw right through the charade. That’s my Maggie,
sweet to a fault and sharp as a tack. She eyed me, her
baby blues narrowed to fine slits and the corners of her
mouth turned down. “Don’t you dare lie to me, Franklin.”

(She only called me Franklin when she was bordering on
mad). My mother only called me Franklin when she was
planning on sending me out for a hickory. Maggie didn’t
need a hickory to get through to me. She just had to give
me the stare. That alone was a sharp enough blow across
the thin skin of my male ego, to send me whimpering into
a corner. I held up my hands as if that would actually
ward her off. “I won’t lie to you but I also don’t want to
upset you.”

“As if anything could be more upsetting?” Her
eyes glittered and I knew she was thinking of the dogs.
The mammas and their puppies. The old stud dog, Billy
we’d retired but kept as a pet. He had to stay in the
kennel since his old habits of leg lifting just weren’t
going to die. And there was Hanna, fourteen and blind,
and that little scrappy hairball she called ‘Milly’. Dang
ing dog now? Six? No, maybe eight. It had been born without a leg and every year she’d
talk about placing her, but no one would
spayed and took her into town when she went to pick up feed. Stupid dog would go crazy every time she heard the
truck start. Sometimes she stayed in the house and other
times down in the kennel with her four legged friends.
How old was that dang dog now? Six? No, maybe eight.
It was hard for me to remember. I just hoped that who
ever had her had listened when we’d warned them of her
fear of thunderstorms. “Maggie…” I took a step closer
and she waved her hands at me. “Don’t you dare! Don’t
you dare change the subject. Now what happened with
Ben? Is it Dotty? Oh God, nothing happened to Dotty?”

I shushed her and pulled her into a hug. She
fought me at first but I think Maggie realized it was more
for me than her. I pressed my face into the curls on top of
her head and smelled coconut shampoo and her scent,
like sunshine. I closed my eyes and pretended for a
moment that none of this was real. It was a nightmare and
any moment I would wake up next to my beautiful wife
of 28 years and we’d be okay. Our world would be
stitched back together and tomorrow we’d be going to the
airport to deliver puppies. “Frank? Tell me about Ben.”
Her voice was muffled against my chest. I kissed her
once on her crown and opened my eyes back to the
nightmare that had taken over my life. “Someone set his
car on fire.” Maggie’s shoulders stiffened under my
hands. “Everyone’s alright. He just called to warn me.
I’m going to make sure the shot gun is clean and loaded,
and I want you to make sure you put the rifle near the
bed.” She didn’t argue. That was a bad sign. Or maybe
she just understood how bad things had gotten.
Something I guess I didn’t want to accept. “He also said
that the story in the paper was bad. He doesn’t want…”
he doesn’t want you to read it. I didn’t say it. Instead I
finished with, “us to see it.” That was better. Maggie
didn’t like it when I tried to treat her with kid gloves. It
wasn’t that she couldn’t be tough. She was tough as nails.
It was just that she refused to quit. Even I knew when to
turn tail and run but Maggie would stand in the way of a
freight train if she thought it would accomplish
something. And right now we were tied to the tracks.
“I’m going to get the paper.” She made it a
statement and even though I squeezed a little tighter she
pulled away. “Maggie…” I said, but she wasn’t listening.
“Those people are not going to control my life. They are
not going to make me so scared that I won’t even walk
down my drive way to get the damn paper.” She stepped
away from me and dusted herself off like she’s just taken
a spill into the dirt and it was time to get back up in the
saddle. “Besides, I need the air.” She didn’t look back
over her shoulder as she went out the front door. I
twitched as the screen slapped shut and even though I
told myself she’d be fine, I went up the hall so I could see
her head down the drive way. Her shoulders were stiff
and she kept running her hands through her hair. Maggie
was thinking, probably talking to herself, maybe
rehearsing the things she wanted to say but no one would
let us.

The clock in the hall chimed on the half-hour and
I thought about making us some breakfast. I wondered
what Emily Ducet would be eating; ham, toast and eggs?
I wondered if she felt the same way about people who
raised swine and chickens as she felt about those of us
who raised dogs? While we took cats and canines under
our roofs, in all fairness, I’d raised a few hogs who could
out think the best of man’s furry friend. Did she
understand that agriculture is what built this country? Did
she understand that by dividing and classifying the
creatures that we used we were paving the road to the
elimination of our ability to benefit from them? But then
maybe she’s against that too. It seems that more people
were becoming that way. I couldn’t help but wonder if
they’d thought about how to get food. It had to come
from somewhere. The land can only give so much and by
cultivating more of it to support the larger consumption
of vegetable matter, you take away more land for natural
habitat. Not to mention the land needs to eat too and that

Continued on pg. 26
SAME NAMES ~ SAME FACES ~ BETTER IDEAS

PICTURED FROM LEFT TO RIGHT
Top:  Trish Pointer, Kim Parsons, Jessie Brown, Marcia Carter, Jenny Crites, Heather Wilson, Michelle Kleinbak, Angela Baker, Meghan Owens, Bobbie Slaughter, Misty Fleming, Melissa Larsen
Bot:  Rey Bryant, John Johnson, Adam Pappacoda, Chris Fleming, Jeremy Toon, Jakob Hughes, Darren Slaughter, Darrin McKnight, Mark Hatfield, Tim Parr

SAME NAMES ~ SAME FACE

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Winning the War cont. from pg. 23

means waste from animals, as well as de-comp. Or maybe people like Mrs. Ducet just thought we could live happily ever after growing upside down tomato plants on our front porch?

I shook my head. Unbelievable. But in all honesty, I don’t think anything could surprise me now. Not after all this. Not after obeying the rules and the laws, having my property stolen and dispersed, and the order of its return ignored. Dogs have lived for thousands of years alongside human beings, dropping pups in holes they’d dug under dead tree trunks, or making out a nest in the straw of a privy. And here I was, putting them in a sound, secure environment, complete with temp controls, fresh food and water, the best vaccines, toys, and daily care. So what if my cages were a little worn out, and so what if some of the fleece covers in the whelping box were patched. My truck is almost 20 years old, my toilet in the hall still leaks a little, I haven’t bought myself a new pair of jeans in over 5 years, and the bottom of my favorite chair sags too! Fancy has just never been our thing. We replace what needs to be replaced; we use what still can be used. Maggie stopped at the end of the driveway, stooped over and grabbed up the paper. I thought I saw her hands shake but it was hard to tell from so far away. I saw her pull off the rubber band then roll it open.

I heard a pop and thought it was a car backfiring, but then I saw the cloud of white and Maggie toss the paper like it had bit her and her hands went to her eyes. Mother Mary of God….I was screaming her name so loud I didn’t even hear the screen door slap back hard enough to bust the top hinge. My long legs carried me through the front field, I jumped down off the small rock wall that divided the front yard in half and cleared the gully and landed half way in the drive. Gravel gave out under my boots and I slid, caught myself, grinding bits of rock into my left palm, twisted my ankle loud enough for it to fire off like a shot gun. I felt none of it, even when my bad knee started to scream because I was pounding down the driveway faster than should have been possible.

All I could see was Maggie, hands swinging in her face, a white cloud around her head, dust so fine it didn’t want to settle, clinging to her hair, shoulders, and keeping her in an unnatural fog. A million different things entered my mind. Poisons…Anthrax. But I chided myself, because where would they get that? What if it was Lye? Lye in her eyes could blind her. Oh Maggie, my poor Maggie. I slid to a halt and pulled her out of the dust. What should I do? I was afraid to touch her face. Her eyes were clenched shut and she was coughing so hard she couldn’t speak. Rings of white laced her nose, powdered her lips and I didn’t know what to do. I yanked off my shirt and used it to brush it off her face, wipe it out of her nose and mouth. Her tongue was coated in it and she spit off to the side and tried to say something but I was too busy panicking and trying to decide if I should try and carry her or just set her down and go get the truck. Then I remembered the truck wasn’t running and I cussed and scooped her up and started heading back towards the house.

Putting her in the tub wasn’t an option if it was lye, that would set it to burning. I didn’t know what it was. Smelled sweet. Smelled kind of familiar. I used a lot of insecticides on the back lot where I grew our garden. I tried to think of what it smelled like and all I could come up with was fabric softener sheets. The kind Maggie bought at the general store in town. My knee started to ache and my gait started to hitch. I refused to drop her or even put her down to go the rest of the way on my own. She said something and I told her not to waste her breath and she punched me hard enough in the chest to make me stop. She spit again, blinked and looked up at me, her hands swiping out the white from her eyes. “Baby powder,” she sputtered. “It’s just baby-powder, Frank, now put me down before your knee gives out and you fall on me and break my arm.”

“Baby-powder?” I hadn’t meant to say it aloud. I stared at her a minute longer, sputtering, sneezing and knocking the dust from her face. Maggie struggled and I put her on her feet, touched her face, coated my fingers with it, smelled it and tasted it. Baby powder. “God, Maggie, that could have been…” It could have been a number of things, all bad. I ran down the list again. “A small fire cracker and a balloon of some sort I think,” she said. I kept touching her hair, her face, her shoulders until she caught my hands and made me stop. “I’m okay.” I thought about Ben’s car. “Frank…” Her hand tightened on mine. “It was a dirty trick meant to scare us.”

“It worked,” I said, not caring that my voice cracked and that my hands were shaking. “Yeah well, it just pissed me off. I’m tired of being scared. I’m tired of being worn down…” She turned back toward the house and stopped. I stared at her for a long time trying to think of something to say but nothing came to me. I put my hand on her shoulder and she didn’t respond, but her muscles were tight and small little trembles shook her frame. “Maggie?” Fear stabbed me again but I looked up and saw what had concreted her to the ground.

Last year I’d painted our old farm house pale blue. It had been white for the first 5 years we lived there, then, yellow. But last year I’d decided to be a little daring and paint it the faintest, warmest blue. It reminded me of August afternoons where you did nothing but lay by the creek with your head on your shirt made into a pillow and your legs hanging off in the water all the way up to your knees. Maggie had laughed and told me I’d bought it

Continued on pg. 28
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because it was on sale. And after a while, I had admitted she was right. Still, it had turned out pretty. No, more than pretty, it had turned out down right nice. But now, big ugly letters making nasty words scarred the smooth slats of wood on the outside of our home. At first, none of it made sense; the lines jarred and ragged from sloppy work most likely done in the dead of night. ‘Better off dead than bred’ read the largest letters, on the wide expanse of wall that was the outside of the living room. Across the porch ‘die dog breeder’ arched over the door way. ‘Rot in hell’ was painted across our bedroom windows, the shades had been drawn, so it hadn’t been visible from the inside, even in the morning light. There was more, lots more, almost all of it in different colors, different kinds of lettering. You could tell several people had done it, all of them using some dark shade of spray paint. Mostly blacks and blues, but a few insults were in bright red. Words, ugly nasty words, that my mother would have washed from my mouth with a Brillo pad.

The layers of hurtful words crowded each other for space on the front of our home, eating up the August blue that had once been so pretty. “Son of a!@*!…” My hand tightened on Maggie’s shoulder. “They came to our house.” Yeah, they came to our house and we hadn’t heard a peep. We’d been so used to the dogs barking and letting us know when anyone was around, be it people, animal or imagined. Now with them gone, we didn’t have that warning system anymore. I found myself suddenly grateful that they’d only left us graffiti. They could have easily lit the place leaving us to burn to death in our sleep. They set my car on fire, Frank. Images of burning walls made my chest ache.

“Damn them…” Maggie shook my shirt in her fist, then threw it to the ground. “Those jerks will not get away with this! They will not get away with coming to my house in the dead of night and doing this crap to us! Do you hear me, Frank?” Maggie shoved my hand off of her shoulder and stormed toward the house. I reached down and threw out the case against you I went to tell her. Her and her friends were already working out ways to make the dogs disappear. The things they said, Frank…” “Maggie…” I called to my wife but she was still slapping paint on the house her anger drawn like a dark shade. “Maggie!” I said again and this time she turned around, her mouth open and ready to say something sharp. Instead she dropped the paint bucket which somehow managed to land upright and tossed the brush into the grass and came running.

“Oh my God, where did you…” She crouched down beside me and scooped up Kipper. The pug started making happy grunting noises deep in her chest. “She’s going to have these puppies any minute… I’m getting her in the house, I’ll put her in a whelping box in our kennel.
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bedroom. Don’t you look at me like that Franklin, I’ve spent the last twenty some odd years following every rule to the T and look where’s it’s gotten us.” Her eyes flipped up to Wayne. “And I just dare you to try and enforce any of them Wayne, eat my strawberries, Dursk!” She turned on her toe and ran into the house. Tiki was right on her heels. When I looked at Wayne, he was deep red across the cheeks and rubbing the back of his head with one hand and toeing the gravel with a shiny black toe. “She’s never going to let me forget about the strawberries is she?”

“Nope,” I said. “Yeah, I guess I can’t blame her. You know I get off today around three, have the next two days off. I’ll come by and help you paint that mess.”

I stood up, my knees cracking like fireworks. “That’d be real nice of you.” I looked back at the graffiti and frowned. I doubted I’d be able to stand the thought of that stuff staying there till 3:00. Nope. As soon as I could, I’d be arming myself with a paint brush and covering that God awful crap up. There probably wasn’t enough left over to do a fair job. I doubt the hardware store would still have that shade since they were changing distributors. I sure did like the August blue, but white would be way better than leaving that ugliness up there. “What were you saying about your sister and her friends making our dogs disappear?” I looked back at the graffiti and frowned. I doubted I’d be able to stand the thought of that stuff staying there till 3:00. Nope. As soon as I could, I’d be arming myself with a paint brush and covering that God awful crap up. There probably wasn’t enough left over to do a fair job. I doubt the hardware store would still have that shade since they were changing distributors. I sure did like the August blue, but white would be way better than leaving that ugliness up there.

“I didn’t stay for the details, but I made her give me those two. If there had been more I would have taken them too, even if it meant arresting all of them.”

“Are you telling me you arrested your sister?” A small wicked smile ticked at the corner of his mouth. “Yeah, but not officially. All I had to do was pull out my handcuffs and slap them on her and she was all tears. She told me she’d put the dogs out in the barn. I went out and got them and brought them here.”

“I appreciate that.”

“I want to tell you I’m sorry, Frank. And I am. But somehow sorry is what you say when you get caught eating someone’s strawberries, not tearing down their life.” I couldn’t agree more but I kept that to myself. “I’ll see you at 3:00 then.” I stared at the house because it was easier than looking at Wayne. I thought about paint some more and wondered how many coats it was going to take to cover that mess up. I heard the gravel grind as Wayne walked back toward his car and the door shut after he got in. There was a pause, like maybe he was thinking about saying something else but then the engine came to life and he started back down the drive.

Yeah, it was definitely going to take a lot of paint to clean this mess up…. (watch for Part 3 in the next issue)
The Kennel Assistance Program
from Michael Glass, APRI

With the tremendous support of America's Pet Registry Inc., I along with a devoted group of Pennsylvania dog breeders have been able to develop “The Kennel Assistance Program”. Thank you Kennel Spotlight for allowing me to share this experience with your readers.

We at APRI have one Mission that is first and foremost, and that is to provide YOU the breeder and customer with the very best canine registration service available in this country. We are able to provide such exemplary service because at APRI, we do not promote the interest of one group of breeders over the interest of another. Unlike our competitors, we do not have a caste system. It doesn’t matter if you only have one litter of puppies per year, or if you have multiple litters and show dogs, all breeders are considered valuable members of the APRI family, and treated with equal respect.

Within the framework of our primary mission of breeder support, it is necessary to constantly monitor and fight irresponsible legislation. Our competitors' old methods of waiting until there is a problem and then trying to stop the legislation from becoming law by conducting rallies or cutting backroom deals is no longer effective. Instead, APRI believes that we must be constantly diligent and persistent in our efforts to shape beneficial legislation or eliminate harmful legislation. At APRI, we know that next years legislation battles begin the day after this year’s legislation session ends. Though APRI is the only registry service that donates funds to the national lobbyist and to state groups such as MOFED, IAFED and ARKFED, we realize this is not enough to stop the new more sophisticated threat posed by the animal activist.

We have responded to this new threat by developing an information system that allows immediate updates, tele-conference calls and educational seminars without the breeder ever having to leave their kennel. We know that time is always a critical element and each moment must be wisely used. At APRI, we recognize that the Panic Tactics of showing up a few days before a bill is voted on or cutting back room deals for our show breeders are ineffective, and that while surge operations are at times necessary for success, it is essential that these types of efforts be focused over a substantial, sustained period of time in order to bring about long term security for our breeders.

However, despite our proactive efforts, there are times when we at APRI must respond to an existing situation such as the passage of the new Pennsylvania dog law. It is this very situation that caused our National Field Representative, Michael Glass to sit down with a group of concerned, dedicated Pennsylvania breeders and develop a ‘kennel assistance program'.

The Kennel Assistance program is more than just another inspection of paperwork or kennel walk through. This program is not another empty offer of help to convince the breeder to register their dogs with another registry service. Unlike other registry inspections, the program is more than a marketing tool. It is the most comprehensive kennel management assist and improvement program in the country. What makes the APRI Kennel Assistance Program effective is that it does not focus only on paperwork and disregard animal husbandry; this program provides guidance for both breeder and kennel management. It provides standards for both the physical elements of a kennel and standards of care for the breeder. This program ensures animal husbandry considerations are applied to kennel management.

When applied by the breeder, the Kennel Assistance program has exceeded the existing requirements of the Pennsylvania dog law without undue cost. The success of the program is evident by those that are currently using this program. This tremendous accomplishment has occurred in a hostile inspection environment, where the Governor’s SWAT Team inspectors have been directed by their boss to, “Get me Citations”. Considering the hostile environment that these inspections were conducted under, ‘receiving no citations’ is a pretty strong measure of effectiveness. The program is verifiable due to the fact that not one citation has been issued to any kennel.

The professional breeders in Pennsylvania have a huge bulls-eye painted directly on their chest. Many breeders are still in shock from the hostility that is displayed towards them by the governor and his SWAT team of inspectors. For those breeders who have waited for help that has never materialized from the other registry services, they continue to lay awake at night waiting for that early morning knock on the door by the SWAT team inspectors, but for the breeders who have implemented the APRI Kennel Assistance Program there is hope and feeling of security. These breeders have hope and security because through the implementation of this APRI program, they are taking control of their own destiny. No longer are they wishing for help that never appears, they are now in control and are capable of protecting their kennels and their way of life.

I have seen those ‘inspections’ over the past years destroy the hard working nature of the kennel and leave them at the mercy of the inspector. There needed to be a change. I have seen the other inspection programs that focus on paperwork, and have a total disregard for animal husbandry. And, I am not just talking about State and USDA inspections. I have heard so many others say ...you call us, we will help with your kennel and management programs, and we will give you ideas on how to better your operations...and on and on... With all due respect to the supposed good intentions of those offers to help a kennel....Unfounded rhetoric...I say to that. I know this may sound accusational...please consider that I am obviously not referencing those that ARE doing good for the cause.

I am safe to say that it is unlikely that ANYONE out there has visited and traveled more miles to more kennels from the smallest to the largest, from the hobbyist big and small to the professional big and small...visiting distributorships from Canada to California and in between...and pet stores...maybe just as many but not more.

And in December 2006 with the onset of a major Pennsylvania dog law make over...all of those years and tens of thousands of miles were put to the test...AND WE PASSED with flying colors. While the Pennsylvania professional dog breeders scurried

Continued on pg. 32
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with fear over the potential new laws and regulations and inspections and the Governors infamous 'SWAT TEAM'...APRI came up with a plan. We told the dog breeders to set the legislative concerns, bill proposals, swat team to the side...they are real concerns to work on now...with regards to your future. RIGHT NOW, today, ask yourself what you are going to do if they'(the infamous inspectors) show up at your door today!"

One other dog breeder and myself took this 'plan' to one dog breeders' kennel' We walked into his kennel with a pen and lots of paper and started to write everything down...EVERYTHING...from the top corner of the kennel to the bottom and everything in between. We looked and the kennels, cages, primary enclosures inside and out...we looked at the building inside out and upside down. We looked at the dogs from head to toe...we looked at paperwork from every aspect.

At the end of the day...hours and hours later...and a 3 hour trip back home for myself...I got on the telephone and called my dog breeder friend back again and said "...not good enough...get me another kennel to visit and evaluate...I need more data and input..." I was not even close to tired. About 12-15 kennels later (together with my previous years of experience and kennel visits), we took all of our notes and made a 'list'. This list became the most comprehensive kennel assist program offered that was known in the country. WE WERE NOT DONE. The Pennsylvania dog breeders continued to fear an unexpected visit from the SWAT TEAM or an over zealous Pennsylvania inspector who was ordered by their boss "...I want citations..."

I continued my efforts visiting kennels and modifying the "list". This continued through early 2007. The dog breeders and I developed this program. It is more that a LIST...It is theory, application and a way of being. My continued trek to the kennels in Pennsylvania grew as this Kennel Assist program was shared. We spent many hours at each individual kennel. Our goal was to create a proactive defense to protect the kennels from unfair, biased, activist-based sate inspections. Some time passed and the telephone calls after Pennsylvania Dog Law inspections started to come in...I held my breath waiting to hear the results. Mind you please, to this point 'citations' were becoming as prevalent as wall paper in some of the Pennsylvania Dog Kennels.

I remember the first call from a kennel owner and his Lancaster county accent "...Hello Michael...(pause, pause, pause...), the inspectors were here...(pause, pause...)"

"Well...well...what happened...did you pass!?"

Kennel owner: "Well ... um yes...I passed...no citations!"

I then said, "The list...the list...did you do everything on the list...?"

Kennel owner: "Oh yes...I have some ideas for you to add...we did some more."

From that point, with the help of every kennel owner, the list got better and better. And, more calls came in, "Did you do the list...?" "Oh yes...I passed..." The citation rate of every kennel following the APRI Kennel Assist Program fell to ZERO.

Three years later, the Kennel Assistance program continues successfully today. It is the country’s most comprehensive program that exceeds all state laws, AWA and USDA. It is not an easy program. It involves discussion, interaction, and sharing. The magic to our success was not the 'list', it is the ‘ASSIST’. The program has been offered to dozens of kennels in Pennsylvania as well as a few other states.

We offer, suggest, and mostly WELCOME and dare anyone to challenge this program. It works and we close NO doors to anyone that can be a part of making it stronger. This program has been the foundation for proactive activities for other dog breeder groups throughout the country. May I add “......Sometimes these issues can get confusing and unfair at times (many times). As much as I am so, so, so, against these governmental and AR activities...I try to offer the dog breeders some ideas for protection...So many out there are doing tireless work in the effort to save the industry...the lobbyists...many clubs and their leaders and members...other groups and organizations and so on...We saw a need to create a 'proactive defense'---kind of an oxymoron I guess. I absolutely agree with the saying of one dog breeder from the Dakotas “...dogs gotta love 'em and let 'em be dogs" I do not think a kennel needs to be brand new and state of the art...to be publicly acceptable. There are other safe guards that we suggest to put in place to protect ones self.

War is not fair, whether here or overseas...and we are at a type of war. So, although others at times feel that I am being 'over-reactive' or 'over suggestive'...we have been successful. With the support of America’s Pet registry, Inc. we are not going away!

Michael Glass, America’s Pet Registry Inc.

A Fearful Thought from Michael Glass....

I was inspired to write the following as my own rendition of a memorial hanging in a museum in Washington D.C. relating to the horrors in Germany during WWII.

Please note: I like ALL animals and the entire animal and agricultural industry. The following is not my opinion...it is just a fearful thought if others feel this way.

* They proposed legislation for the farm animals, I did not help fight it—I do not like farming.
* They proposed legislation for the exotic animals, I did not help fight it—I do not like exotics.
* They proposed legislation for the commercial kennels, I did not fight it—I do not like commercial kennels.
* They proposed legislation for the pet stores, I did not help fight it—I do not like pet stores.
* They proposed legislation for the hunters, I did not help fight it—I am not a hunter.
* They proposed legislation for the sportsman, I did not help fight it—I am not a sportsman.
* They proposed legislation for the dog fanciers, I did not help fight it—I do not like showing dogs.
* They proposed legislation for the small hobby breeder, I did not help fight it—I do not like to breed dogs.

They proposed legislation for the household dog owner—There was no one left to help me fight.

Michael Glass, America's Pet Registry, Inc. 
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What is a breed standard?

Are you intimidated when it comes to conforming to AKC breed standards? There is no need; in fact, most standards are set only to help people achieve success. And that is exactly what AKC standards can do for you. Standards help define the ideal animal of a breed and provide goals for improving breeding stock.

Every breed recognized by the American Kennel Club has its own written standard designated by the national, or parent club of a particular breed. Breed standards provide breeders a complete picture of what the ideal dog of a particular breed should be in appearance, structure, and temperament. Breed standards serve as the official guide by which dogs are judged at conformation shows.

How can breed standards help me achieve success?

Do you want to be a successful breeder that stands out from your competition? Then abiding by your breed standard is vital to your success. When your puppies are of top quality in both appearance and health they are more valuable to your breeding program. Dogs are everywhere, buyers expect their very own puppy to look like what they have seen and liked about a specific breed before. Buyers are selecting a pure-bred puppy based on their predictability. Your buyers will be satisfied with their purchase knowing their puppy will grow up to be what they envisioned when they first purchased their furry bundle of joy. For example, a city resident may be selecting a Maltese because of their smaller size and portability; if their Maltese grows up to be well over 15 lbs. they are not going to be satisfied with their purchase. Another purchaser may be looking for an athletic dog as a running companion. If, for instance, their Boxer develops a health condition they will again be unsatisfied with their purchase.

Quality, healthy puppies can be your best advertisement through word of mouth, and best of all, it comes free to you. When people see things they like they will ask where they purchased it, bringing more business to you. Often puppies are turned down because of a lack of specific traits including, bad ears, incorrect coat, too large, too small, bad bite, hair loss, to name a few. Whether genetic or quality issues, they are concerns to everyone. Remembering to correct and stay away from these issues through selective breeding will help you maintain a top breeding program.

Understanding your breed standard starts with knowledge of breed type, which in turn, helps you breed better quality dogs. Breed type is what makes a particular breed of dog that breed. To set yourself apart amongst other breeders, you must ask yourself some important questions. What health issues does my breed have? What is the country of origin? What was your breed’s original function, and has that function changed today? Are the breed’s qualities intended for job function? What breeds went into the development of your breed? What are the health concerns of not only your breed but the breeds behind it? A complete understanding of your breed standard will help you better answer these questions.

It is important to learn key terminology within your standard; specifically words such as, should be, never, required, and must. These key words refer to specific disqualifying traits in breeds and should serve as a guide to your breeding program. In fact, disqualifications have been incorporated into standards for genetic and other health reasons. An example is ‘white’ Boxers and German Shepherds; both breeds have a disqualification of the color white. Through years of research, breeders have found that this color is often prone to deafness. The breed’s respective parent clubs have distinguished ‘white’ a disqualification so that future breeders will not have the same health problems breeders in the past have had. Standard disqualifications are vital to breeding overall quality dogs. Most buyers have done their homework and are knowledgeable about the breeds they are purchasing. Do your research as well to further educate yourself and maintain a level of quality in your own breeding program.

Where can I learn more?

The American Kennel Club has many resources to help you better understand your breed standard, including breed videos, written standards, and informative books. Visit the AKC online store at www.akc.org/shop/ for further information. The entire AKC website is full of knowledgeable information and always available to you at: www.akc.org.
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Today your rights as a dog owner and breeder are threatened by unjust limit laws, breed-specific bills, and inconsistent breeding regulations. Each year we monitor more than 850 state and national bills to protect the rights of dogs and their owners. We fight legislation that restricts the rights of breeders and owners who take their responsibilities seriously.

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Hunte’s Tenth Annual
BREEDER EDUCATIONAL
CONFERENCE FOCUSED
ON RAISING THE BAR!

Perhaps nothing describes Hunte’s 2009 Breeder Educational Conference better than the words of one who attended the 10th Annual event held September 25-26 in Joplin, Missouri.

“The speakers and the seminars were so helpful!”

As is the case every year, the 2009 conference featured some of the most noted and sought after experts in the fields of canine genetics, nutrition and animal welfare. Professional breeders from all across America gained valuable insight on a wide variety of topics intended to help them constantly improve their kennels and raise the bar in the entire industry.

Major topics included “Breeding and Developing Better Dogs,” “Improving the Genetic Health of Puppies,” “Genetic Disorders of Dogs,” “Managing the Animal Rights Challenge,” “Puppy Immunity and Maternal Antibodies” and many more.

The list of speakers included Dr. Carmen Battaglia, renowned canine geneticist, breeder and author of the book Breeding Better Dogs; Patti Strand, president of the NAIA and expert on responsible dog ownership issues and the animal rights movement; Dr. Jerold Bell, Professor and Director of Clinical Veterinary Genetics for the Tufts Cummings School of Veterinary Medicine; and many others.

Pat Hastings, AKC judge and author of several books on puppy development, delivered a compelling presentation to a standing-room-only audience; and Stacy Mason, the AKC’s first Breeder Field Representative, discussed the importance of breeder’s understanding of their public perception and image to an enthusiastic packed house.

Thanks to all of those who attended. It’s never too early to sign up for Hunte’s 2010 Breeder Educational Conference.

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Over $50,000 in cash and prizes, including two Caribbean cruises and a $10,000 check were given away
VICTORY!!

By Jim Hughes

We finally won one! So what if it was in Canada, this war has become a worldwide attack from animal activist! These idiots think they can subdue the natural bondage between humans and their animals. They like to pretend that they are only concerned with the welfare of the animals, but fail to acknowledge that domesticated animals can not survive if turned into the wild. Proof of point is the horses that are now facing starvation if the government does not step in to correct a grave injustice done to the horse industry by the bleeding hearts that successfully closed down the horse slaughter plants in the United States. We are now considering using several millions of tax payer’s dollars to feed these abandoned horses to prevent mass starvation. Counsel for the plaintiffs, Luc Barrick, has announced that the plaintiffs, James, Charlene, and Nicole Labombard, doing business as Paws “R” Us Kennel, were successful in their small claims court action against the defendant, Lorie Dixon, a.k.a. Lorie Gordon.

Paws “R” Us Kennels is a High Volume dog breeder in Shawville, Quebec, Canada operated by the Labombard family. They do an excellent job and are not afraid to show their kennels and dogs to potential customers. Paws “R” Us Kennels are the largest commercial dog breeding facility open to the public in Canada. Lorie Dixon is a past client of the kennel, who wrongfully alleged that the kennel was a “Puppy Mill” and proceeded to defame the kennel on various Internet discussion boards. In making his decision, Deputy Judge M. Galligan of the Superior Court of Justice at Ottawa, made these findings:

1. The term, “puppy mill” used in this sense is derogatory.
2. He found that Paws “R” Us is not a puppy mill and that they were wrongly described in that respect.
3. Not only has the defendant defamed the plaintiff, but the defamation is worsened by the use of the Internet, which is more serious for purpose of damages than defamation in other media.
4. The defendant’s action is particularly malicious in that her purpose was to close down the defendants business, even though she knew it to be the source of income and support for a family of some eleven persons.
5. In view of all circumstances, here will be a Judgment for the plaintiffs for damages in defamation, for interference with economic interests, and for interference with contractual relations in the amount of $10,000, plus cost.
6. He found no liability on the part of the plaintiffs in respect of the defendant’s dog care and the defendant’s claim is dismissed without cost.
7. The plaintiffs shall have cost of this action against the defendant consisting of a counsel fee of $3000 plus $1000 on account of disbursements and post judgment interest at the court rate from the date from which this judgment is issued.

Actions leading up to the courts decision were:

On April 6, 2002, Lorie Dixon purchased a Labrador Retriever from Paws “R” Us Kennels. She declined the one year guarantee against hereditary defects in addition fee. For the next two years everything was cordial between the two parties.

In the spring of 2004, a problem arose with the then 2 year old dog, as it developed hip dysplasia. The client, Lorie Dixon, chose to have the dog euthanized without any consultation with the breeder, rather than undertake the expense of remedial surgery. Upon being advised of the problem, the kennel immediately offered to supply a replacement dog, free of charge. On April 9, 2004, Ms. Dixon came to the kennel and received another Golden Retriever. Ms. Dixon seemed happy with her free dog thru April, May, June and July, but in August, she contacted the kennel and said the dog had developed Mange and she was going to shut the kennel down. She then began to post defamatory remarks on the internet.

Mr. Louis McCann, an inspector with PIJAC Canada, testified that in 2002, some of the Labombard family were members of his association for the purpose of taking educational programs. They requested that an inspection be made of their premises, and the findings of the PIJAC inspection were very positive. In the report, Mr. McCann stated that the Labombard’s showed genuine interest in always trying to improve their operation. Mr. McCann stated, “What I found did not support a designation of a puppy mill”. Dr. Ailva Jong served as the veterinarian for the facility in 2004. She declared that, with the exception of a few isolated cases, the health of the animals were excellent and that this facility was in no way to be classified as a “puppy mill”.

Dr. Sylvie Choquette replaced Dr. Jong in November, 2004 and was still caring for the animals at the time of this trial. She too, stated that this facility would not be considered as a “puppy mill” in the Code of Practice for Canadian Kennel Operations. Finally, Dr. Choquette testified that she was present at the time of one of the visits there by Daniel Davenport of the Montreal Humane Society.

Mr. Jack Long, the Mayor of Claredon Township, testified that after receiving many calls of complaints on Paws “R” Us Kennels, he determined to visit the kennels personally. He found that the dogs were in a good and clean environment and found no justification for the complaints to his office. Ms. Dixon
produced a number of witnesses who submitted negative testimony from past clients of the kennel concerning conditions they had found at the kennel.

David Davenport is a peace officer in the Province of Quebec, an investigator for the Canadian Society for Protection of Animals and associated with the Montreal Humane Society. He stated that Paws “R” Us was a puppy mill, as was various others which he had been forced to shut down, but that he had taken no action against it as he had made recommendations and gave advice to the kennel personnel on five different occasions and that his recommendations had been followed. His failure to act against the facility obviously contradicts his opinion of it.

Ms. Dixon has, because of her many defamatory remarks, cost the kennels $9,050 in lost contracts plus an unknown amount of possible customers. Although there is evidence of some health problems plus unusual levels of barking noise and foul odor from time to time, the Judge, having reviewed all of the evidence offered by both parties has ruled that Paws “R” Us is NOT a puppy mill. He has determined that Ms. Dixon was particularly malicious in that her actions were for the express purpose of forcing Paws “R” Us out of business. In view of all this, the Judge has awarded the kennel $10,000 plus $3,000 in legal cost plus $1000 in court cost. This judgment became final on July 22, 2009, seven years after the incident took place on the dysplastic dog. The message of this article is FIGHT BACK!!
My little Maltese Puppy Story…

It’s dead…darn it, I should have gone out there sooner! I assume this has happened to many people but had never happened to me. No, I am not perfect. I just almost live with my little dogs. I really love them, so when one is having babies, I am always there for them or at least in front of the TV monitor until she starts to have puppies, then I am there with them the whole time. Well, this time I messed up.

I had been watching this little Maltese off and on for about 3 days. She was a first-timer and seemed a little nervous, so I kept close tabs on her, as I do all my babies. The time was late and I was very tired, so I decided to set the alarm for about 2 hours because she had started her bowel purging and that usually takes about that long, especially for the first-timers...or so I thought. I lay in bed and watched her, unable to go to sleep, but thinking that the prone position would help revive me somehow. She would do the usual running in and out and in and out, then dig, dig, dig at anything in her whelping area. I had the camera moved to a very close position so I could see any change in the size or color of her “birthing parts”. I never once saw her do anything that even looked like a push position and after about 30 minutes of fighting to stay awake, I finally dozed for about a half hour…the gravity on the eyelids and the checking every three hours for the past 3 days was taking its toll on my body. Note: I should have never lain down.

I woke up abruptly as if something had shaken me. I looked at the monitor and she seemed to be licking something and she was not in her whelping box. I ran out the door and to the kennel. For some reason, I decided to check the run before I went on inside....and there it was...a dead puppy. The little thing was cold and partially stiff, as the temperature was about 50 degrees, and still had the placenta around its back half. I grabbed it up and ran inside, rubbing it all the while. When I got inside to her whelping area, there was another puppy squirming around in there and she wanted to pick it up and carry it around. I started suctioning its little mouth with a bulb syringe and rubbing it chest and doing some gentle chest compressions...all the while feeling that it was dead but my heart and maternal instinct kept me going. The puppy’s color was pure white...I am talking the toe pads, stomach, nose and everything. I wondered what drove me on...I was sure it was dead (maybe I just felt the need to comfort it)...then, all of a sudden I thought I saw the little thing arch its neck and gasp...no, it couldn’t be...yes, there it was again. My dead puppy was clinging to life. I rubbed her and gently shook her with her head down (all the while supporting it) and then suctioned her some more. She made a little squeaking sound and I was elated again. Yes, maybe she has a chance! I kept warming and rubbing her and had to do light chest compressions a couple more times and then all of a sudden she cried, just like when the doctor spanks a baby’s bottom. She started squirming...she was breathing...the color was coming back into her little body and she was getting a pretty shade of pink. Her little tongue was getting dark pink but her little body was still chilled. I held her against my stomach and massaged her neck and chest area gently with my fingers to help warm her. She started trying to suckle on my finger, Yes folks, there is a Doggie God...my dead puppy was alive.

I placed her in the warm towel with the other puppy. The mother had not started pushing for her last puppy yet, so I prepared some warm newborn milk with colostrum and fed her and her sister a small amount just to keep them warm inside and keep them strong.

The little momma was now delivering her third baby girl and I attended to her. I then gave her back her other two girl babies and all started nursing and curling up together. The time then was 3:00 a.m. and time for me to go in and collapse for a few hours. I woke up about 8:00 a.m. and went out to check on momma and babies, and to my joy, all were full and warm.

I would like to say this is a situation I will never find myself in again, but I am only human and at some point, exhaustion will take over the body. For this time though, my diligence and love for my puppies brought a dead little girl back to life and hopefully one of playful, healthy happiness!   By Donna Walters

![Image](image-url)
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PC IV 22H x 21W x 28L
PC V 28H x 26W x 36L
PC VI 31.5H x 27W x 41L
In a round about way, I came across an article by Katie Bray of Best Friends entitled “A new witch hunt in Massachusetts”. Best Friends is the name of a No-Kill Animal Rights organization based in Utah. In the past, we have published articles from Best Friends and they have done the same for us, even though we are both very careful not to convey any acceptance of the other point of view. Maybe we could be called ‘friendly enemies’. Or, at least, enemies that tolerate each other. But I do recognize the fact that they are committed to the demise of the pet industry.

However, we both seem to abhor Breed Specific Legislation, [BSL]. This article by Ms. Bray informs us of pending legislation by the city of Mashpee, Massachusetts to murder all newborn puppies with any link of breeding or even a resemblance to the Pit Bull. If this trend were to take hold, as seems to be the case nowadays with any hair-brained idea sponsored by any animal rights nut-cases, then we would see the total annihilation of many breeds.

Ms. Bray writes, “Best Friends Animal Society feels compelled to emphasize that the aim of this by-law is to hunt down all dogs and destroy any offspring. This bylaw is a representation of misinformed policy-makers and the public making panic-induced decisions without consideration of civil liberties and reason. It takes on a school of thought similar to the witch hunts that took place in Massachusetts over 300 years ago whereby paranoia and panic is taking over logic and reason. These assertions and recommendations are counter productive to ensuring the safety of town residents and are wholly unsupported by any scientific evidence.” “Best Friends opposes canine profiling as it does not reduce dog bite incidents nor effectively manage dangerous dogs. Rather than breed-discriminatory restrictions, legislators should mirror good generic dangerous dog/reckless owner laws that have been enacted in Illinois and Minnesota.”

There is logic in the stand Best Friends takes to prevent the genocide of the Pit Bull and consequently, any look alike breeds that the radical do-gooders deem to deserve to be eradicated. The city of Mashpee will hear this disgusting breed discriminatory bylaw at its annual town meeting on October 19, 2009. Let’s all try to put a stop to this ridiculous attempt to destroy a breed. And while we are attempting to save a breed, let’s attempt to re-educate a breeder that would emphasize his idea that to breed a better Pit Bull would be to select for better fighting and killing techniques. These dogs have many loving qualities that can be brought out by breeding away from violence and into affection.

To gain an understanding of the confusion that surrounds the identifying of the Pit Bull from other similar breeds, go to http://www.pitbullsontheweb.com/petbull/findpit.html and see how many guesses it takes for YOU to identify the real Pit Bull.
Our Mission
The American Sporting Dog Alliance (ASDA) is an association representing the mutual interests of sporting dog owners, breeders, trainers, guides, hunters, field trialers and handlers of all the sporting breeds. We also seek common ground with hunters, farmers, landowners, pet food and supply companies, and wildlife management and veterinary professionals. We work with individuals, groups, clubs and organizations in order to further our common goals, and to combat the threats against the traditions we represent. Those threats have become powerful and pervasive in American society today.

Dear ASDA supporter,

It is with great sadness and a heavy heart that I must announce that John Yates, founder and Executive Director of the American Sporting Dog Alliance, passed away on Tuesday, September 15th, during cancer surgery. He had been battling this dreadful disease for 8 months.

He had always been an outspoken, fearless and eloquent supporter of human rights and personal freedom. Once he decided to fight for an issue he deemed worthwhile, he held on tight and refused to let go.

He lost a few but won so many!!

He will be missed.

In keeping with his wishes, because he was, ultimately a very spiritual and private person, there was no funeral or public ceremony to mark his passing. In lieu of flowers, we have asked that you continue to support ASDA by joining or donating to help us carry on without him.

Many of his reports are archived on-line or saved on his computer. Sometimes, the questions change but the answers remain the same. He never made a report without suggesting a way to battle the injustices we, as dog owners, must face. Those suggestions and words of wisdom will not be silenced! With your help, we can continue to speak out for freedom.

Sincerely, Donna Yates

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www.americansportingdogalliance.org
BREEDERSELECT TOTAL WHelpING SYSTEM: Individual whelping kennels that keep your puppies safe, clean and comfortable. This is a contained whelping kennel, not just a whelping box. Reduce cleaning time by 75%. Use in dog nursery or in the house. You deserve a break! WWW.BREEDERSELECT.COM. Call 817.270.5948, Azle, TX.

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AKC PEKINGESE FOR SALE! 1M/4F, ALL YOUNG DOGS! Champions in bloodlines, microchipped, some possibly bred. I am selling due to other commitments, and need to reduce some of my breeding stock. $300/ea for Females, $600 for the Male (he is EXCEPTIONAL!) Located in Washburn, MO. (417) 826-5917

AKC BASSET HOUNDS FOR SALE!! ALL YOUNG ADULTS, 1M/6F, microchipped, some Females possibly bred. Some Chmps in pedigree. The Male is EXCEPTIONAL w/ Chmps in his pedigree as well. Need to cut back due to other commitments. Call (918) 464-7717

FRENCH BULLDOG SELLOUT!! For more info call (785) 792-6325


OKLAHOMA KENNEL PROPERTY 4 SALE!! 29 ACRES w/Ranch Style Home, barn, workshop plus (2) 32-Run Portable Kennel buildings w/ heat & air and (80) Young Lhasa Apsos, Many bred, AKC CH. bloodlines. Price $235,000 for all. Call (918) 529-4578

CUSTOM DOG PENS FOR SALE!! (18) Dbl stack pens w/ washouts built by Southwest Kennel Supply. Each row has (8) 24"x48"x30" pens. Washouts are heavy duty PVC plastic. Feeders & lixit waterers included. Also available (12) Free standing pens also built by SKS, they measure the same as the above pens, built on aluminum legs, includes P-88 feeders, good shape! Just a little over a year old!! Will consider delivery. MUST SELL!! MAKE OFFER!! Please contact Chad at (720) 936-3631 or (720) 936-0298

COMPLETE PET BUSINESS FOR SALE!! New 32x80 Kennel Building w/ inside & outside runs, separate whelping room on the interior w/ excellent large whelping pens, in-floor heat & auto waterers. Breeding stock consists of 90 dogs, Yorkies, Maltese, Cavaliers, Shih Tzus, Bostons, Pugs, Japanese Chins and Poodles. Also: a Retail Pet Store across the street from kennel & situated on Main Street. All fixtures, equip. and inventory including commercial reptile habitat and aquarium systems, rodent cages, puppy display pens, etc..Inventory @ retail is approx. $50,000. Total pkg $175,000 or may consider selling seperately. (785) 691-9670

AKC REGISTERED PARTI-COLORED YORKSHIRE TERRIER PUPPIES FOR SALE!! Call Bert Miller (330) 567-0081 Ext. 2

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‘07 WHORTON KENNEL BUILDING FOR SALE!
10X20, (6) 3X3 inside/outside runs, stainless steel washdowns, electric, has a $1000 Propane Heater, motion lights on door & over runs, auto waters & feeders, Only used for 6 months! Located in western Colorado-can deliver if within 150 miles. (970) 872-2233

FOR SALE!! AKC/APRI REG. BRUSSELS GRIFFON YOUNG BREEDING STOCK! COMPLETE SELLOUT! 4M/4F, red & belge, will email photos. Reasonably priced. Call (402) 469-0784 or email: fantasyforest@gtmc.net. Also: Looking for a Parti-Yorkie Female.

AKC PARTI YORKIES FOR SALE!!
(1) Female is a parti-$4000.00, (1) Female parti-gene carrier-$2000.00 Both are littermates, born 7/10/09. Shipping Available. Phone (920) 894-2457

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ENTIRE KENNEL FOR SALE!! 70+DOGS & (2) KENNEL BUILDINGS & EQUIPMENT. Breeds for sale: Yorkies, Dachs, Bichons, Shih Tzus, all ACA Reg. 
Kennel Buildings: (1) ’00 32-Run Sundowner, (1) Home-built portable whelping, both are in good shape! Just $25,000 for all! Phone (501) 412-0292 (located in Arkansas)

‘King’
‘Macho Man’
‘Tucu’

*CHECK OUT OUR AKC CHAMPION SIRED YORKIES, SHIH TZU & LIASA APSO PUPPIES FOR SALE*
We also have Maltese, Standard & Toy Poodles available. Visit our websites for pictures! www.sunsetacreslihasaapsos.com, www.sunsetacressyorkies.com, poodlesbysunsetacres.com & sunsetacresshihtzus.com. Or call Elaine at (660) 232-2060 Email: sunsetacrespuppies@yahoo.com

BREED SELLOUT!!
APRI REG. WESTIES, 1M/5F, some may be bred, Male is proven & aggressive breeder. APRI REG. COCKERS, 1M/3F, Buffs & Reds, may be bred, females typically have several colors of puppies. Would like to sell as package, price is negotiable. (573) 210-6361 or email: lionslady1966@yahoo.com. Check out our puppies at www.bunkhousebrats.com

KENNEL REDUCTION!! QUALITY YORKSHIRE TERRIERS FOR SALE!!
Due to health reasons, we must reduce our breeding stock. We have many fine adults and puppies available. Shipping is available. Call (417) 850-2622 or email: pinoakkennels@leru.net

LITTER KITS and/or adult PEDIGREES, 3 thru 7 generations at AFFORDABLE PRICES! www.pedigreeservice.com FREE fax, FREE siblings, FREE CHMP bloodline, etc...Discounts on large orders. Little Dixie Professional Pedigrees: 3542 W. 24 Hwy, Huntsville, MO 65259 Phone (660) 670-2235 or (660) 277-3555, Fax (660) 277-3553 or email: mpreston@cvalley.net Prices: $5.00 (litter) thru $50.00 (7 generations)

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We also have Maltese, Standard & Toy Poodles available. Visit our websites for pictures! www.sunsetacreslihasaapsos.com, www.sunsetacressyorkies.com, poodlesbysunsetacres.com & sunsetacresshihtzus.com. Or call Elaine at (660) 232-2060 Email: sunsetacrespuppies@yahoo.com

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OCtober 23rd & 24th, 2009

PCBA-Professional Canine Breeders Association Seminar-Mount Pleasant Civic Center, Mount Pleasant, Texas. 12x12 Booths are $150.00. Contact Rhonda Falls (903) 945-3030. * Special note: Friday has been reserved primarily for the vendors to have adequate opportunity to display, demonstrate & discuss products or services for visitors and attendees. Saturday we will have the speakers and education seminars including *Jim Hughes* from the Kennel Spotlight! Booths will be open both days.

November 21st, 2009

TSPPA-Tri State Premier Pet Association Seminar-Independence, Kansas. Contact Shirley Walton at (620) 378-2600

December 4th & 5th, 2009

PPA-Professional Pet Association Seminar-Moberly Community College, Moberly, Missouri. Contact Cathy Griesbauer (573) 564-2884 or Sharon Lavy (573) 656-3367.

2010 Dates

February 6th, 2010

DPBA-Dakota Pet Breeders Association Seminar-Royal River Casino, Flandeau, South Dakota. Featuring ‘Pat Hastings; The Puppy Puzzle’. For more info contact Pat Nieses (605) 997-2789 or Lori Huber (605) 327-3432.

February 6th & 7th, 2010

NEOKPP Pet Expo-Will Rogers Downs-Cherokee Casino, Claremore, Oklahoma. Contact Gary Phillips at (918) 785-2300 or (918) 373-1720

March 5th & 6th, 2010

MPBA-Missouri Pet Breeders Association Spring Seminar-Expo Center, Springfield, Missouri. Contact Barb York at (417) 876-5787 or email: York@healypc.com

Mikayla Bassett

Mikayla is a 5 year old girl from Webb City, Missouri and would have started kindergarten this year. On July 6th, she became ill and was taken to the doctor. Within a short time, she was diagnosed with Leukemia and was taken to Childrens Mercy in Kansas City. She has not been home since then and there have been 2 rounds of chemotherapy and will soon be a third treatment. So far, the Leukemia is not in remission. It looked like it might have been on Sunday, Aug. 30th, but the news on the following Monday was that it was back. She will have a bone marrow transplant when they can get some control over the Leukemia. The donor will be her 9 month old brother who is the match for her. The form of Leukemia she has is known as ‘AML’ (Acute Myeloid Leukemia-cancer of the blood cells) which is in her bones as well as in her blood. AML is typically the most curable for of Leukemia. The doctor is currently trying some experimental drugs and will follow up with more chemo treatments. Mikayla is a fighter and very strong. The family thanks Southwest Auction Service for all of their help with the benefit auction that raised $4000.00 on Sunday, August 30th. Southwest Auction is sponsoring Mikayla by raising money for her medical expenses at all the upcoming auctions. To date, SWA has raised over $400 in the first few auctions. Cards & donations can be sent to:

Willamina Bassett
1717 West B St., Joplin, MO 64801

God Bless You and Your Families,
The Family of Mikayla

Upcoming Southwest Auctions:

October 10th-Billie Sample, Pleasant Plain, Arkansas

October 17th-Carolyn Lowe, Walnut, Kansas

October 24th-Consignment Sale, Wheaton, Missouri

October 31st-No Sale! Happy Halloween!

November 7th-Joe & Caryl Freeman, Seneca, Missouri
Friends of the Kennel Spotlight

By joining Friends of the Kennel Spotlight with a donation of $25.00 or more, you will receive:

- Weekly E-News Bulletins with up-to-date information on pet industry legislative issues and educational shows & seminars.
- Free Gift
- With every donation, The Kennel Spotlight will donate a percentage to help fight legislative issues around the country.

We are proactive in the fight to ensure that YOU the Professional Pet Breeder can continue to thrive in all parts of the country.

Your donations help to support the production of the Kennel Spotlight to keep it free to all professional breeders around the country. We urge all of our readers to support our advertisers! They are the ones bringing you this publication in hopes that you will gain the many benefits from the information they provide in this magazine. Whether you need dog food, vet supplies, kennel supplies, products, grooming supplies or registration services, our advertisers offer you the best products & services, knowing that with your success, therein lies their success! We appreciate everyone’s support!!

We would like to Thank our list of Friends who sent in donations:
Sharon Lavy, Gene Banta & Michelle Overbay, Raymond & Irene Sims, Anne Michaux, Kate Hanewinckel, Sharon Munk, Duane Yoder, Robert Wardrope, Donna Zieman, Becky Simminger, Kim Caruthers, Robert Beachy, Sarah Henery, Deborah Allen, Carolyn Tennis, Sharon Turner, Marie Doherty, Sue Garrison, Larry & Deborah Warren, Linda Thorp, Paul Cummings, and Ruth Norris. Thank you from the Staff of the Kennel Spotlight!

_________ YES, I want to protect my business and gain access to up-to-date information from the professional pet industry on a weekly basis. Enclosed is a donation of:

____ $25     _____ $50    ______ $75    _______ $100    _______ OTHER

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NOTE: You can also go to our website at www.kennelspotlight.com and join Friends of the Kennel Spotlight using our online system!
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