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* Hunte BEC Highlights!
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Dear MoFed Members and Supporters,

We are now in the final five weeks before the November election. As every political strategist knows, races are won and lost in the final six weeks of a campaign.

Last week we were called by the Ed Martin for Attorney General and Shane Schoeller for Secretary of State campaigns. Their campaign managers were in their offices brainstorming about winning in November. They determined that one way to accomplish that would be to engage our grassroots efforts we used in Prop B, and gave us a call. We discussed several ideas about getting the word out about the candidates and came up with the idea of printing 50,000 flyers for us to distribute concerning agriculture and the need to protect our family values in Missouri. We received them at the Hunte Seminar this week-end and distributed them to supporters to take back to their home areas for distribution at festivals, parades, political headquarters and anywhere else they can be given out to voters. Many yard signs and bumper stickers were also distributed.

We also received a call from the Spence for Governor campaign. I told them what the other campaigns were doing and they wanted to know if they could do the same. The Spence campaign also printed flyers and delivered them to the Hunte Seminar for distribution! It talks about dog breeders and quotes Spence as saying he will stand with other governors and tell HSUS they are not welcome in our state! It also states that half of Missouri's breeders have gone out of business during the Nixon administration.

Dave Spence, Ed Martin and Shane Schoeller took time from their busy schedules to drive to Goodman, Missouri to address professional breeders, distributors, supply companies and pet retailers at the Hunte Seminar this past week-end. They spoke to a large crowd of professionals about the need to protect viable small businesses in our state and to send a loud, clear message that animal rights extremists are not welcome in our state! Each vowed to work with the industry to protect those who do a good job with their animals!

Never have dog breeders and anti-animal rights issues played such a prominent role in three major statewide races! Our industry and campaigns against HSUS have reached new heights of recognition! For each of them to mention us specifically shows the importance they each think we play in state politics. As we've said numerous times, your credibility as responsible dog breeders has gained your industry the respect you so richly deserve!

We need to get everyone engaged! We are being called upon by these campaigns as ones who can make a difference of who governs our state in 2013! We must get these three candidates in office to STOP the ridiculous and strangling rules being put forward against dog breeders and responsible care of their animals, to stop the animal rights agenda of the state Attorney General, and to stop playing partisan politics by out of state special interests on our ballots by the Secretary of State!!

We need these flyers distributed to every corner of the state so they can be handed out! Boxes of flyers were sent with Barb York, Myra Burrow, Elaine Craig, Harriett Boggs, Dave Miller, Sharon Lavy and Karen Strange. Please do your part and contact one of these individuals if they are in your general area or call Karen or Barb listed below for contact information.

Remember - we have ONLY FIVE WEEKS to make a difference!! You MUST do your part to make this happen! The only way to make changes is to get out the vote! Let's get to work!

Please contact:
Karen Strange at 573-480-2389 or Barb York at 417-448-9484 for contact numbers to get flyers for distribution.
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Letter to Southwest Auction...

Good Morning Sandy,

I just wanted to take a moment and thank all of you. This has been an extremely hard and stressful couple of weeks, and you all have done everything within your power to help me be as prepared as possible for this dispersal. Although I did not get to meet you at the sale, the staff that I did was amazing. The morning of the sale, my Mother passed away so needless to say on top of the other loss last week, I was a complete wreck. Everyone totally stepped up to help me do what needed to be done and get on the road home to take care of everything that needed to be done this week. Again, thank You!

Also, do you know when I will receive the sale prices of everything and the check? I did not get to stay for the sale, and it has just been killing me not knowing how everything did.

My Very Best Wishes,

Jason Heck

A PUPPY’S PRAYER

Now I lay me down to sleep,
The king-size bed is soft and deep.
I sleep right in the center groove,
My human being can hardly move!
I’ve trapped their legs, they’re tucked in tight;
And here is where I pass the night.
No one disturbs me or dares intrude
Till morning comes and “I want food!”
I sneak up slowly to begin
My nibbles on my mommy’s chin.
For the morning’s here and it’s time to play,
I always seem to get my way.
Managing Females - No C-Sections!

Nothing in this world is more important than improving the life of one of God’s creatures. Some of you do not even realize that is what you are doing, but when you manage females, we avoid issues and have happier, more reproductive moms!

C-Sections
When selecting your females, it is important to know that reproduction ease and litter size go hand and hand. We do not set out to get more puppies. We selected away from C-Sections, and even litter numbers came. The mom that has one or two puppies has too much nutrition for them and too much room for the puppies. Puppies help start labor with stress hormones that trigger mom’s labor. If you are the only baby in the uterine horn, you have little stress and little reason to hurry up birth. We selected away from C-Sections and soon realized we were also selecting for even litter sizes as those were the moms that had less issues. The goal is to have reproductively healthy dogs. If that means larger litters then that’s fine, but the main focus is on easing mom’s job at birth. The small litter females went into labor 2 days later than the average litters and the puppies were larger on the small litters, therefore more C-Sections. Understandable as 2 days is a long time when you double your size weekly.

We still had a few C-Sections and the Veterinarians were reporting back Uterine Inertia as a cause. Breeders reported larger litters, tired moms, and moms with a history of being good milkers. With that, we looked at Calcium and the dairy industry on how they managed Calcium to prevent milk fever. Calcium demand is low to birth, then elevates quickly during labor and lactation – both at the same time! If you are low in calcium after giving birth you get milk fever – Eclampsia. Low on calcium during labor, you get ineffective contractions and tired moms that give up – uterine inertia. Having 6 to 8 birthings in a row is hard work especially if contractions are ineffective. Add calcium when labor starts and not before was the solution and if they have a history of C-Section or calcium responsive labor use every few hours until birth is complete. Give two doses of Breeders’ Edge® Oral Cal Plus or injectable Calcium Gluconate, 2 hours apart and repeat when whelping is over and nursing. (See Article Careful with Calcium.)

Easing Labor:
Since first time moms get tired and more worn out than 3rd litter moms, we started using Raspberry leaf extract which was used by the American Indians to ease labor and delivery. It worked well, and moms delivered easier and were less tired! That gave us an edge on Uterine Inertia and mothering. Tired moms don’t mother well!

Diet Is Critical:
Too much protein in the diet can cause C-sections by encouraging puppy growth in-utero and large birthing weights. Just be reasonable and switch the bitch to puppy food the last 2 weeks of gestation when she is out of room and needs more calories per bite. As a side if your adults are tearing your kennel up and chewing through wire, look at your protein in the diet. Protein does to dogs what candy does to kids – hypes them up and they have to get rid of that energy.

For small breeds, we often feed puppy food for life. They have higher calories per bite need and small breeds seem to do better on slightly higher protein. We are OK with that and have had few issues, if we have watched how fat the females get. We want them lean at birth but not thin or fat. Fat in the pelvis impedes the birth process and we are trying to prevent C-Sections.

When you manage females, you have to look at vitamins! Vitamins can take a kennel that averages 8-9 months between heats and get them back to 6-7 where they naturally should be. Prenatal Vitamins and especially Iron get your puppy’s Red Blood Cells to the max. They are born with all the RBC’s they will have until 6 weeks. We want our puppies to fight to live! Anemic puppies you will fight to save. (See article on Vitamins and Reproduction.)

In our kennels there are far too many people giving advice that have no experience (or education) to back it up! When it comes to C-Sections, you can select and manage for few or none of them. We even have a few bulldog people who are developing “Free Whelpers” who give birth on their own. Now that is a challenge!
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It was cold, windy and raining. The ring could not be set up like normal with the pretty signage and decor. The dogs were wind blown and wet. So were the people. The chapter almost cancelled the show, but thanks to the perseverance of Lena Cross from ACA and the ‘die-hard’ exhibitors; the show went on with a success! Congratulations to all the winners!!

Places for the 1st Show:
“Always Anaheim”, Soft Coated Wheaton, owned by Carla Sullivan (1st in Breed & Group, 3rd in Show).
“Greywoods Something to Talk About”, Australian Shepherd, owned by Marcia Grauerholz (1st in Breed & Group, 2nd in Show).
“Kilyka’s Three Sheets at AEgir” (“Zane”), Newfoundland, owned by Nicki Dobson (1st in Breed & Group and Best in Show. Awarded ACA Conformation Champion).

Places for 2nd Show:
“Brenrae’s Hidden Treasure”, Australian Shepherd, owned by Marcia Grauerholz (1st in Breed & Group, 3rd in Show).
“Bogg’s Summit’s Sparkle Gem”, English Bulldog, owned by Harriett Boggs (1st in Breed & Group, 2nd in Show).
“AEgi’s Built Tonka Toughr”, Newfoundland, owned by Nicki Dodson (1st in Breed & Group and Best in Show)
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THE 2012 BEC WAS INSPIRING & ENLIGHTENING! The Hunte Corporation’s 2012 Breeder Educational Conference was held on September 28th-29th at their headquarters in Goodman, Missouri. As always, the annual 2-day conference featured exceptionally knowledgeable speakers, highly informative seminars, scores of service and product vendors, thousands of dollars in cash and prizes, and a wealth of valuable information for professional breeders. Speakers included Dr. Carmen Battaglia, internationally renowned dog show judge and canine expert, breeder, author and lecturer; Dr. Jerold Bell, canine geneticist (Tufts School of Veterinary Medicine); Dr. Joe Holzhauer (Pfizer Animal Health); Dr. Marty Greer (president of the National Animal Interest Alliance); Dr. Robert Gibbens (USDA); and Karen Strange. Topics included early neurological stimulation, infectious respiratory disease, genetic disorders, fertility and neonatal survival, and advanced puppy development. Dr. Kenton Beard provided an update on the Breeders Legal Defense Fund and breeders had ample time to visit exhibitor booths and talk one-on-one with the speakers.

The conference was Hunte’s 13th annual and focused on ways that all those within the industry can continue to improve, individually and collectively, while holding each other more accountable and routinely promoting the absolute highest standards of quality care and welfare for every animal.

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ALLERGIES & ATOPY IN DOGS

By Race Foster, DVM & Joe Bodewes, DVM
(Drs. Foster & Smith, Inc.)

Veterinarians who limit their practice to dogs and cats see a lot of skin problems. There are numerous conditions that cause problems with a dog or cat’s skin, but the most common, by far, is allergies.

Symptoms of allergies

Dogs with allergies may show the following symptoms:

- Chewing on feet
- Rubbing the face on the carpet
- Scratching the body
- Recurrent ear infections
- Hair loss
- Mutilated skin

A dog that is allergic to something will show it through skin problems and itching, i.e., pruritus. It may seem logical that if a dog is allergic to something he inhales (atopy), like certain pollen grains, he will have a runny nose; if he is allergic to something he eats (food allergy), such as beef, he may vomit; or if allergic to an insect bite (urticaria or hives), he may develop a swelling at the site of the bite. In reality, the dog will seldom have these signs. Instead, he will have a mild to severe itching sensation over his body and maybe a chronic ear infection.

In addition, allergic dogs will often chew on their feet until they are irritated and red (the feet are the only place dogs have sweat glands and these become inflamed with allergies). They may rub their faces on the carpet or couch, or scratch their sides and belly. Because the wax-providing glands of the ear overproduce as a response to the allergy, they get ear infections. Bacteria and yeast often “over grow” in the excessive wax and debris.

The skin lesions seen in an allergic dog are usually the result of him mutilating his skin through chewing and scratching. Sometimes there is hair loss that can be patchy or inconsistent over the body leaving a mottled appearance. The skin itself may be dry and crusty, reddened or oily depending on the dog. It is very common to get secondary bacterial infections of the skin due to these self-inflicted lesions.

Such infections may be treated with antibiotics.

Allergens

When a dog is allergic to something, his body is reacting to certain molecules called ‘allergens’. These allergens may come from:

- Trees
- Grass
- Weed pollen
- Fabrics such as wool or nylon
- Rubber or plastic materials
- Foods and food additives such as individual meats, grains or colorings
- Milk products
- House dust and dust mites
- Flea bites

The body’s response to an allergen

The reason that all these allergens cause itchy skin is that, simplistically, when allergens are inhaled, ingested, or come in contact with the dog’s body, they cause the immune system to produce a protein referred to as IgE. This protein then fixes itself to cells called ‘tissue mast cells’ that are located in the skin. When IgE attaches to these mast cells, it causes the release of various irritating chemicals such as histamine. In dogs, these chemical reactions and cell types occur in appreciable amounts only within the skin.

Genetic factors and time influence allergies

Remember that pets must be exposed to the allergen for some time before the allergy develops. Exceptions may occur such as an allergy to insect bites which may develop after only a few exposures. The pet’s body must learn to react to the
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allergen. It is a learned phenomenon of the immune system that is genetically programmed and passed from generation to generation in several breeds. Allergies are especially common in certain terriers such as Scottish, West Highland White, Cairn, and Wired Hair Fox; Lhasa Apsos; and larger breeds such as the English and Irish Setter, Retrievers, and the Dalmatian. Allergies are especially common in the Pug, Miniature Schnauzer, and English Bulldog.

In pets, allergies usually start to develop between one and three years of age. They may start as late as age 6 or 8, but over 80% start earlier. To make matters worse, as the animal ages, it usually develops allergies to additional things and the response to any one allergen becomes more severe.

**Diagnosing allergies**

Confronted with scratching pet and frustrated owner, it is too easy for a veterinarian to miss a diagnosis or at least fail to make the owner fully understand the problem. Sometimes veterinarians take the easy way out and “shotgun” the pet with several different medications hoping at least one will hit the target and make the signs go away. If the pet stops scratching, the hair starts to grow back and the owner can sleep nights…all may look well but the allergy is not necessarily cured.

Most allergies are the inhalant type and are seasonal (at least at first). The dog may be allergic to a certain tree pollen that is only present in the environment for three weeks out of the year. This case is easy to handle. No matter what you treat the animal with, she will start getting better in four weeks. In cases in which the allergy is mild but the irritated skin has become infected with bacteria, a broad-spectrum antibiotic will eliminate the infecting organism and the skin may return to near normal appearance even though the treatment has in no way been directed toward the allergy.

A definitive diagnosis of an allergy and determination of exactly what the animal is allergic to can only come in one of three ways. They are:

- Allergy testing (intradermal or blood testing)
- Eliminating things individually from the animal’s environment until the culprit is isolated.
- Response therapy

The later is not as exact, but usually shows the quickest improvement for the pet and is easiest on the owner’s pocketbook. An excellent example of this would be a dog that is allergic only to tree pollen. Every year, in the same month, the dog starts chewing his feet, scratching his sides, and rubbing his face on furniture. The veterinarian chooses either a tablet and/or single injection that will suppress the allergy for the 3-4 weeks necessary. In two days, the animal is back to normal and only has to wait until the following year when he or she will be returned with the same problem. The veterinarian will glance at the file and probably repeat the same treatment. The veterinarian is now two for two, and in the owner’s eyes, has reached the level of genius.

Unfortunately, things just do not always go that well. A more common scenario in a dog, for instance, would be that the dog is now five years of age. When he was 18 months old he started scratching and has not stopped since. There are large areas of his skin that are 2 to 3 times their normal thickness, it is cracked open and bleeds intermittently and is completely void of hair. The ear canals are painful, infected, and swollen to the point of limiting the dog’s ability to hear. The dog is uncomfortable, rarely able to sleep through a night, waking frequently to scratch or chew on himself. He may even have intermittent fevers from reoccurring bacterial skin infections. He still enjoys being a dog, however, chasing squirrels, eating treats, and looking forward to the bus bringing their children home. The owner and dog have now been in every veterinary clinic within a 100 mile radius and that circle will probably soon grow larger. And to make matters worse, the dog is getting worse.

This is an isolated but not rare case and we wanted to tell you about it here so you could appreciate the true difficulty of the diagnosis and treatment of canine allergies. It is extremely important that we find out what allergen(s) the dog is reacting to in order to really help such a dog.
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Be sure to check out our website; [www.plasticrate1.com](http://www.plasticrate1.com)!
Despite its name, the Humane Society of the United States is not a pet shelter group, and doesn’t run any pet shelters. But it does spend an inordinate amount of time attacking farmers as part of its self-admitted anti-agriculture agenda.

Recently, one of the tactics HSUS has used to try to distinguish itself from its kooky allies at PETA is working with smaller agriculture groups as part of a divide-and-conquer strategy. This gives it “cover” against charges it’s anti-agriculture, while allowing it to throw its weight around attacking other farmers in the animal agriculture industry with an unrelenting series of attacks, whether frivolous lawsuits, SEC complaints, or similar assaults. Essentially, HSUS is trying to position itself as a friend of “family farmers” and merely an opponent of “Big Ag.” (A false dichotomy since most farmers are family farmers, but that’s a topic for another day.)

The latest deal that HSUS has cut is with a group called the Organization for Competitive Markets, a small cadre of beef interests that opposes the check-off program that pays for general advertising to promote beef-eating. (Think: “Beef. It’s what’s for dinner.”) HSUS’s legal team provided free research to OCM to support OCM’s lawsuit seeking to throw a wrench in the program. But is the enemy of OCM’s enemy its friend? One agriculture columnist checked out this latest link-up and came home skeptical of HSUS’s motives:

I sat through [HSUS CEO Wayne] Pacelle’s speech to OCM in Kansas City and I waited to hear him talk about markets and what the HSUS could do for family farmers. Pacelle talked…and talked. But he never got to the part about how the HSUS was going to help support family agriculture.

HSUS talks a big game about “humane” animal agriculture and “family farmers,” but is short on “walk” for a very good reason. If HSUS defined some food products from animals as “humane enough,” it couldn’t move the goalposts as easily in the future. It’s a lot harder to move a fixed goal than a wishy-washy one further towards veganism, and HSUS knows this. After all, despite claiming to be looking out for the egg industry, HSUS won’t serve a single egg at its annual conference, even a free-range, organic one.

Catering to a tiny fringe tells you who’s really running the show, and it’s not Mr. Moderate. After all, why does HSUS care about general marketing finances? Since when is that in a “humane society’s” purview? It isn’t, nor are the donors to HSUS who see the weepy commercials with dogs and cats knowledgeable that their donations are funding lawyers to engage in these shenanigans.

This is simply a political revenge move. One beef group opposing HSUS’s “egg bill” in Congress gets check-off money. HSUS is just looking for a way to get even since, so far, that bill has basically gone nowhere. That’s not speculation—Wayne Pacelle actually said so himself.

Should it really shock us that HSUS is facing a lawsuit under a law designed to fight the mob?

So, if Pacelle wasn’t talking about how HSUS specifically intended to help small-scale agriculture, what was he talking about? The columnist reports:

Instead, Pacelle preached to a room full of people who grew animals for a living — who have lived with animals from the day they were born — about the “bond between us and animals” and how we have become “alienated from animals.”

That’s funny, especially given Pacelle’s own statements about the bond between animals and him—or lack thereof. He once told an interviewer, “I don't have a hands-on fondness for animals”
and “there’s no special bond between me and other animals.” Given that HSUS has 50 in-house attorneys, we’d suspect there’s evidence he has more hands-on fondness for lawyers (to say nothing of the pension plan).

The columnist concludes:

And what has HSUS done, publicly, to bring over their largely urban constituency to support independent farmers and ranchers? Well, HSUS did pay for a few sweet rolls and some coffee at the OCM convention, a donation celebrated in a sign set next to the silverware. But what else?

 Somehow, we bet the coffee wasn’t provided with cream. Remember, the only food item bearing HSUS’s logo is Tofurky, and HSUS promotes a “Guide to Vegetarian Eating.”

Its food policy director is a former PETA activist who called a decrease in meat consumption “good news.” If animal agriculture groups want to work with HSUS, all they will change is their place in line for HSUS attacks.

Is their livelihood really worth some rolls and a cup o’ joe?

Posted by the Humane Watch Team
www.humanewatch.org
BART—“ONLY THE LONELY"

By Jim Hughes

Bart had been gone for about three days before Vi found him. Sure enough, he was at the cave and wondering why this hole in the ground had such a powerful attraction to him. He could barely remember his mother and the time he had spent there, but he could remember his brother well. Vi had cared for them both for several months before she was forced to send his brother to the zoo. Bart never knew where his brother had gone but there was so much fun and games at Fred’s Bar and Grill that he had never really missed him until now. As he lay in the cave with his memories coming back to him, he certainly missed him now. He was lonesome.

He first sensed and then he smelled someone approaching the cave. The smell was familiar and he jumped up to investigate. As he looked out from the cave, he saw Vi with a galvanized bucket of his dinner in her hand. The Game Warden had stayed a little ways back with his rifle loaded and cocked. You just could not predict what a hungry bear would do. Vi expected Black Bart to run up to her, but would it be for joy and dinner or would it consist of grave danger? She had to chance it. She told the warden to be ready but not to shoot unless she screamed for help.

Bart did not know what to do either. His choice was to go back into the very depths of the cave or to come out and show Vi that he was glad to see her. He was free but he was also lonely. And, he was hungry! She had dinner! Maybe a beer! But he was free and he wanted to stay that way. Why couldn’t Vi just stay there with him? He approached her slowly but stopped about ten feet from her. He stood very still and Vi knew he was thinking the situation over. She placed a dish on the ground and put some of his food in it and then backed up a few feet to give him space. He licked up the food and looked for more. This was the danger point. He might attack her to get the rest of the food or he may play lovingly and beg for the food like he had learned to do at home.

Bart’s gentle nature came to the fore front. He sidled up to Vi and then rolled over to show her his belly. She sat down on him and started to rub his head as she gave him spoonfuls of his food just like she used to do when he was a small cub. He loved it. So did she. The warden breathed a sigh of relief and put the gun down. Vi played with Bart for about an hour and then she slipped on his leash and collar and started to take him to the truck. He would not move. She coaxed him with baby talk and then with stern commands but a bear will do what a bear wants to do when a bear wants to do it. He would not go to the truck. Finally Vi had no choice but to leave Bart at the cave and return home empty handed. But she was happy. She would take him food every other day for a while to see if he really wanted to return to the wild or if he would tire of freedom and come home willingly. She never took him hamburgers and beer and she hoped he would miss that. Most of her other customers could not seem to go for very long without that beer.

The game warden accompanied her on her first few visits but he felt he was not needed. So after that Vi went alone. Fred was worried about the unpredictability of the bear and he wanted her to take somebody with her, so she took a school girl that worked around the place and had fed Bart a few times. This time they decided to go into the cave and see just how deep it was. They always brought more food than Bart would eat because they only fed him every other day. They left the bucket outside as they explored the cave. Bart ate his fill and then went to lie down to wait for the girls to come out of the cave. But trouble was coming down the path. The old boar was out roaming his territory and leaving his brand of “NO TRESPASSING” signs along the way. He spied Bart and he did not like what he saw. He saw competition. He did not want another young boar in his backyard. He reared up on his back legs and let go with a mighty roar that said, “Run or fight”. Bart ran! Right into the cave with the girls. The boar started to chase Bart into the cave but then he spotted the bucket of food. He ate it all and then laid down at the mouth of the cave to sleep. Bart and the girls were both inside the cave. Vi had no idea that another bear had showed up while she was looking things over.
When Vi stepped out of the cave, she saw the new bear asleep. She quickly stepped back inside to think about what she was going to do now. She had no weapon for protection and she was worried about Bart. If she could get past the bear to her truck, she could drive up to the cave and pick the school girl up. But what about Bart? She knew it was common place for a mature bear to kill a young bear to eliminate future competition. She couldn’t do anything about the old boar and she was not going to abandon Bart to the rules of nature. She decided to block the mouth of the cave with her truck if she could and then just wait it out.

As she tiptoed out of the cave, here came Bart behind her. Silence was no longer an ally. The boar roared his challenge to Bart and Vi jumped into the truck. The old bear charged Bart with claws and teeth and Bart was terrified. He ran back into the cave to be with the teenager. The old bear was showing the world that he was king of the hill. He was issuing a challenge to all the world that this was his territory and he was protecting it. Vi was panicked at the thought of the young girl getting hurt in that cave as she floored the gas feed and headed for the mouth of that cave. She and the bear arrived at the same instant. The truck pinned the bear to the side of the mouth of the cave and he could not go in or back out. The window was down and the teeth of that bear was only inches away from Vi’s face. The girl was screaming and Bart was screaming and the bear was roaring and Vi was crying and any other animal within hearing was probably peeing their pants. The girl jumped into the truck and Vi slammed it into reverse and backed away, rolling up the windows as she did so. The boar attacked Bart as he ran after the truck and tore his left cheek open. He knocked Bart off his feet and was starting to bite and claw him when Vi rammed him from behind. When the bear reared up to offer his challenge to the truck, Vi drove it right into his midsection. With his ribs probably broken and the breath knocked out of him, he gave up the fight and took off.

Bart was bleeding badly. His face was torn and he had several gashes on his side and stomach. He needed to see a vet. She opened the back of the truck and begged him to get in. He had been loaded many times before so the truck was no stranger to him. She knew that if he refused to load, she would have to get the game warden up here to tranquilize him for his trip down the mountain to see a doctor. Bart was pretty traumatized but some how he knew that he needed help. He was really one smart bear. Some animals seem to be able to reason things out and Bart was one of these animals. He crawled into the back of the truck and Vi started down the mountain. When she got on the road she realized that the front fender was pressing against the tire. She tried to pull it off the tire but she was not strong enough. The young girl was still crying and was no help at all. She had to go look for a heavy tree branch to pry the fender off the tire. She was able to pry it up enough to drive in a straight line but every time she turned the wheel the tire bit into the fender. And in the mountains of West Virginia you turned the wheel a lot. The tire blew out before she got to the vet’s office but she continued on the carcass until she got there. The vet gave Bart a shot to put him to sleep and performed the surgery right there in the back of the truck. The gas station took the fender off and put on a new tire. Vi drove Bart back to his pen at Fred’s Bar and Grill. She backed up to the pen gate and opened the gate on the truck and just let Bart lay there. She knew he would get out of the truck and go into his bear house by himself when he woke up. He had 178 stitches to close his wounds and 85 town folks to make sure he woke up all right. Bart was a well loved bear. Vi was going to have to wait a few days before she could decide whether Bart was wanting to go back to the cave or stay at Fred’s Bar and Grill.

The next day, half of Fred’s customers came by to see Bart. Every one of them bought him a beer. Bart got roaring drunk. Vi got worried. What do you do with a drunk bear? Some drunks want to fight. Some think they are lovers. Some just want to sleep it off. When Bart had had all the beer he could drink, he went into his house and slept it off. Vi thought that maybe Bart was contented now to just stay home. (To be continued...)
Marketing Tips for Breeders

The AKC’s marketing team is dedicated to helping breeders be more successful, especially in this challenging economy. We have observed a correlation between breeder success and the degree to which they market their businesses. Now more than ever you must be visible to those you are trying to sell, especially when they are ready to buy.

A much debated topic is the definition of marketing and which tactics are most effective. So we thought it might be helpful to share our views.

What is marketing?
There is great confusion about what marketing actually is. Is it simply advertising? Or public relations and press releases? Or events? Or is it direct mail and email? Or websites? Or Facebook? Or simply logos and trademarks?

Based on many years of experience working with small businesses like yours, it seems the definition is much simpler.

*Marketing is everything that enables the sale to take place.*

Think about that for a moment. It’s all the messages you send working together in the right combination to help your buyer say “yes.”

Sure, a website is essential so you can be discovered. But often overlooked factors are how you answer the phone, your kennel’s appearance, the sign out front, and even how you dress. Marketing is all these factors working together in the right combination. Let’s review what this means in choosing the right mix to build your business.

Start by asking these questions.

1. **Who am I trying to reach?**
While many people will say “I need new customers” they often overlook the importance of people they’ve done business with in the last 5 years. Maintaining a conversation with these folks by direct mail or e-mail, or even telephone calls, reminds them of the great experience they had doing business with you. It also creates the opportunity for you to ask them for referrals. This is by far the most efficient way to acquire new customers who will already understand the value you provide.
2. What message do I want to send?
The phrase “a picture is worth 1,000 words” really is a truism. No matter how you communicate with your target, visual images convey far more than words. What did you do with the last e-mail you received that was all words and very long? You deleted it. But a striking photo, especially of a puppy or a puppy with children, sends not only the message that you are a dog breeder, but that you care for and love your dogs. The visual message is far more powerful than words.

3. How should I design my messages?
The simple answer is keep it focused. Extensive testing has shown the most effective communications have a single focal point. Don’t try to jam your entire story into every email or your website homepage. The reader will be searching for the main point, and if there isn’t one, they will be frustrated. Here’s why. If I throw you five balls, what are the odds you will catch one? But if I throw you one ball, how likely are you to catch it? Pretty simple principle, but very important.

4. How do I decide where to place my message?
The answer to this question is a little tricky. It depends on your budget, of course, but also on understanding who you are trying to reach. This is called targeting.

The best place to gather insights from your target is by looking at the people you have done business with over the past three years. Sit down for a few moments and try to describe them. Are they mostly men or women? How old are they? Are they working or retired? Are they middle income or well off? Do they have children? Do they live in cities, suburbs, or rural areas? This profile will help you decide the right message and the right way to reach them. Nothing is more valuable than insights from your current customers.

Knowing your target helps decide how best to reach them. For example, if your target audience is 60 years or older, newspaper is often most effective. If you are targeting those in the 35 to 59 range, a mix of direct mail, email, and a website may do the trick. And if you are trying to reach younger folks, a strong website is essential along with a Facebook page.

So take time to understand your target, and then decide the right combination to communicate with them.

Summary
Marketing can be as simple or complicated as you want it to be. But given the time pressures breeders face, it makes sense to spend as much time understanding your customers as it does pulling together your plan. If you have questions or tips to share, please contact your

AKC Breeder Relations Team at 1-800-252-5545, PIN 74777 or dogbreeders@akc.org.
To: Mr. Jim Hughes, Editor in Chief Kennel Spotlight

Re: A Call for Reason (Jun/Jul 2012)

Dear Mr. Hughes,

I’m writing in response to your June Kennel Spotlight article…. I was one of I’m sure many you were talking about -plain ignorant. I too felt that working hard, caring, loving, cleaning - all meant something great for my animals, business, reputation, etc. We worked so hard to have a kennel built - we were excited, proud and work many years to get to that point. The kennel was not without problems - okay, that’s life - adjust, fix, move on. Little did I know that the Animal Rights Extremists - namely HSUS and their affiliates that ever so gracefully plot behind the scenes, were working every angle on our kennel, family, business, livelihood... Little did I know how much of a political game this was/is. I don’t like or have time for games. I did not know there was a game. I did not know “their” rules. I thought I was minding my own business, doing everything to the best of my ability, running my business above and beyond rules and expectations. After all, I had been to many state inspected and approved facilities in this state that were not what I had expected - if they were okay and I was doing things better, I certainly would be okay right? Not if you are ignorant to politics. Not if you don’t know that HSUS is lurking out there, waiting to strike.

I have been compelled to educate myself about many groups and their agenda - and let us not forget the many guises they go by. I have to keep reminding myself that I actually do live in the United States of America and as of this moment, the HSUS doesn’t own or operate this country….it’s truly scary how deep their parasitic veins run feeding how much power they seem to feel they have and/or are entitled to.

I’d be happy to fill in the blanks about what we’ve been through over the years, especially as everything has been one sided, but basically, it’s not any different than what many of the breeders west of us have to endure on a regular basis..... The basics leading up to my fight against HSUS and other animal extremists/ activist starts out.....

A woman called a couple times and wanted to purchase a puppy - she had to visit that day because of her son’s schedule - they arrived (fraudulently identifying themselves as puppy buyers) and asked to see the available pups, my daughter took them to the puppy area; I came out to speak with them & didn’t feel that this 19 year old was in any situation to purchase a puppy for his girlfriend.

The woman really had no interest in the puppies - she kept asking about the dogs, the kennel, the yard, the livestock.... she asked if they could visit them & were told they could not go into that area due to insurance restrictions. I knew there wasn’t an interested in a puppy nor did I have an interest in selling a pup to them. I received an important medical phone call and excused myself - my daughter (15 years old at the time, experienced with pups & customers) was escorting them out of the yard as I left. They turned around and headed straight for the kennel as my two daughters told them they could not go down there; told them they had to leave; insisted they stop; demanded this numerous time. Her son starting shooting pictures of the kennel and dogs; and in the older outdoor kennel area that no longer housed dogs but had a bucket of tadpoles living in green water, pictures were taken. My daughter got in front of them with a large puppy in hand and the woman shoved/ assaulted my daughter out of the way as she started to drop the puppy. I was inside on the phone with my third daughter - we saw what was transpiring and how distressed and upset my girls looked - I raced down to the kennel. I never saw the camera but asked them to leave and escorted them out. My girls were shaking, crying and the older one told me what happened and how the boy was taking pictures under the direction of the mother and would not stop when asked to but when they saw me coming hid the camera quickly.

Of course you can see where this is heading.... brand new outside kennel (used it only a couple days!), problems with the cement pads draining as they were contracted to do....older puppies in one pen messed, dumped a 5-gallon bucket of water, bowls were tossed in the mix, messy pups.... an activists dream come true. Did they show pictures of all the nice clean pens with all the nice clean dogs? No. That wouldn’t make sense for their cause. No, only the one messy pen and remember the green bucket with the tadpoles - that picture... claiming it was the dogs’ water! It wasn’t even in the kennel!

This woman contacted the police, ACO, State Vet, and all her “friends”. She stalked my property, took pictures of customers, visitors, friends, family, etc. She sent these pictures to the state. She appeared at all hearings, yelling out, showing her pictures, claiming “puppy mill” and all my pups were sick. She tried to shut us down with the town & take away our dogs until they could decide if our town approved kennel was legal - lead by this woman, the neighbors she recruited and her HSUS ASPCA animal law attorney. The attorney that works closely with the state vet. The same group that is on the Governors’ council for animals - the ones that put through what they want for laws.

It was hell and a lot of money that I didn’t have. I worked endlessly doing what they requested, researching, getting educated, calling, writing - anything and everything even though I knew I had done nothing wrong. If there was any concern about the health and welfare of my animals - they would have been taken away - there wasn’t; they were in excellent health.
They quarantined my kennel for a pup diagnosed with distemper (deemed healthy by the buyers vet & revaccinated) two weeks after sale and sold four months prior to the quarantine. I tested all pups and dogs as demanded - all negative - but these people wouldn’t let up on the state, and of course when you have the state veterinarian on the animal activist side - politics rule. The state vet is not at all interested in helping anyone with anything - just turning any issues over to the AGs office instead of educating or advising. It's a very sad situation.

I couldn’t figure this out. Why would I be shut down for a disease I didn’t have? That they obviously didn’t think much of because they sent the inspector here for an unannounced visit (we lost power for over a week in this area due to an ice storm & he was checking on all facilities to see how they were managing) and he wasn’t in any protective gear, was inside the kennel just days after the quarantine was ordered, petting the dogs & checking them out (inspection report stated all was fine). A quarantine that the state refused to release for 7 months. Why seven months?

Because the state vet wrote he wanted to consult with experts in the country and other vets about distemper (I know this sounds odd, but I have all documentation). Wow, I knew of numerous kennels with parvo - highly contagious - they were not quarantined, required to test all dogs/pups and some were not even addressed by the state even though the state was made aware of the situation. I figured it out. Politics. I played the game wrong. Very wrong. I tried going above the state vets head to his boss. Bad idea. She refused to help. I went to attorneys for advice - they advised going to his boss. I did everything but play the game and bow down to the animal rights people that really thought I would just go away.

They were not going anywhere either - after all, I found out that the woman that came to my home, had been after me for at least six months prior to her visit. She'd been calling, writing and gathering info from anyone and everywhere. She had never been here. I didn't know she lived a street away from me. I didn't know she had an agenda against my family and business. I didn’t know that she had been trying to get me shut down for a very long time - just because I existed. Just because we did what she found appalling – bred dogs/animals. And who is she? She’s on the board of a dog rescue committee and feels the need to rescue all the animals she considers abused by breeding.

I closed my eyes, melted and became captive in my home, on guard for my home & animals for three years. I let this group, these people, threaten and control my life, my family’s lives for far too long. They continued trespassing, kennel break-ins, threats on our lives, damage to property, proof in many cases & no help from the police. I was going to let it all just be and hope it would go away. Things go away if you let them die down - right? After four years, it’s still out there; the internet never forgets the bad news—bad sells. I continued breeding, advertising, fighting for my reputation back but quietly in the background as I protected my land, animals, family from these people and their actions against us. I needed to have my own self respect back and stop hiding from these “animals”. They were really angry to find out that I was still in business. Really angry. After reading from many sources what has been going on in this country in other states, I felt these people shouldn’t be allowed to get away with these illegal behaviors against us. I’ve been told that I live in a “snobby” state - New Hampshire - especially for breeders grouping together for a cause. I would have to agree - at least from my experience. It’s certainly not the “live free or die” state anymore either. When the news came out, I was contacted by dog club members that knew I was exactly what the HSUS needed for bills that were to be voted on and the timing was just days before the bill - how convenient - the pictures were taken in September and appearing on TV just days before a precious vote - 5 months later in February and the story was totally out of context (the news station was involved, a bad story has to play out to sell the news – it has to be one sided - what did I expect?).

When I contacted the dog groups & other breeders/sellers for assistance in a case against me (mentioned below) - even just their time and expertise, asking if there was a possibility of pro bono or lower fees from dog group members that were attorneys or someone they knew, no one wanted to be involved (but highly recommended I obtain council). Some breeders/sellers and others in the industry, that I thought I knew well, became quiet - I was told it was because they were in fear it would cause these animal rights groups to focus on their business if they supported me and in this economy, no one can afford the states wrath or their business being sabotaged by HSUS.

I understand; I don’t want anyone to go through what we’ve been through. I just hope if someone is in this position, I can help at least with what I’ve learned. Attorneys - many aren’t aware of the laws, can’t be bothered, don’t want to deal with someone being accused of being a “puppy-mill” even though the state vet says there aren’t any in NH and the word is used as a derogatory/negative term to include anyone that breeds animals - good or bad.... but you already know this from what you have to deal with in your area! So, many attorneys already have an attitude that if you’re accused or having to defend these accusations, they must be true. It’s just a very humiliating position to have to be in and defend endlessly.

I’m convinced these groups are getting stronger because many of us are/were scared. The police will not file charges in many cases. We are sick of fearing for everything we love.
My kids are fearful for their lives if left home alone and an alarm goes off - it was never like this before - there weren’t any alarms or security. After reading about other breeder’s situations, these groups are doing the same to them as they’ve done to us and in many cases, worst.

After almost three years, I decided that I would go after the person(s) that violated our rights and got the ball rolling for her own recognition. I filed suit in district/small claims court for damages due to the offenses committed by this woman and her son. It’s been going on for almost a year now. The judge just granted their motion to dismiss on the claim of stalking - there were other procedures that we were to follow - fair enough. He also ordered that regarding the claims of trespass, threat, assault, invasion of privacy, defamation and fraud - we may proceed because these are common law actions that may be pursued and we certainly have provided plenty of evidence to substantiate these claims.

He also gave the defendants additional time to file a motion for jury trial in superior court (NH district courts do not handle jury trials). They motioned but never requested a jury trial (which is part of the requirement in NH RSA) - only a transfer to superior court so I motioned an objection hoping to keep this in district court for the judge to consider. They made it very clear in court mandated mediation that if I didn’t end the suit immediately, they would countersue and bring in the media because they want a media circus. They have taken the whole case and turned it around to the bad breeder and intend to make it about me - not about my case against these two people and what they have done. We’re all nervous about the fallout from this - we went through the phone threats and the people posing as customers coming to take pictures and then threaten us; the break-ins, damage, flooding the kennel, breaking the fencing, footprints in the snow, etc.... and a jury trial? That’s the perfect venue for their show.

I’ve objected to their witness list - it consists of anyone that’s ever complained about a puppy and animal rights people, etc. Of course, there aren’t any witnesses to her actions - no one that can “okay” what was illegally done by her and her now police officer son. I’m fighting this “war” against an attorney that is the epitome of HSUS!

He gave the defendants the okay to file a requested counterclaim. They filed. They are suing for harassment, damage to her reputation and business, that I’ve filed a frivolous lawsuit, etc, etc. I motioned my objection and basis for objection.

I am not an attorney and have only had one course in college of business law back oh.... 30 years ago. I’m thankful for the internet but it’s been extremely challenging and I don’t know that I can compete in a superior court jury trial by myself. I wrote to Kennel Spotlight for advise a few years ago & my letter was published - this is the same attorney that was suing me for a puppy sold that died of Pancytopenia - a rare blood disorder that developed years after purchase which they stated I knowingly & willfully sold them a dog with a disease that neither they nor their vet knew about. She was suing me for 30K and tried to have my home attached before the trial for 50K. I did the best I could in motions to superior court - I wrote a motion for summary judgment and it was granted - albeit overturned on objection. Eventually, I had to bring in an attorney - I have nothing against hiring attorneys - it’s just a financial issue and the last four years have taken its toll. Their attorney demanded I answer her discovery questions that had nothing to do with this purchase/sale/puppy. She demanded tax returns, vet records, client names/address, ad locations, veterinarians, etc for ten years. She stated she wanted to be sure my dogs were taken care of properly! The demand motion was denied w/ the help of an attorney as well as the attachment of my home - three strikes. But what about now, without council? Against the activist that have lots of money, time and energy? I’m on my own.

Next? The final pretrial conference in a couple weeks and I'm trying my last straw at a motion for summary judgment - not easy to write as a Plaintiff but I'm trying since I do have plenty of documented proof (most supplied by her own letters and TV interview -admitting to her/their actions). We’ll then know if this case is being transferred to a higher court, if their countersuit is granted, if their witness list and exhibits are allowed.

I don’t know if I have a chance in hell. I don’t know if anyone even cares - they haven’t for the past four years. I wish, at the very least, for support, not to go this alone. I hope this has a positive outcome because it will show others - whether animal breeders, hunters, farmers, furriers and anyone that these activists have a reason to hate and put on this list to destroy; that we have rights and they will be held responsible for their illegal actions. Even if this doesn’t go well, at the very least, the court did recognize and grant permission to proceed with the claims of fraud, trespassing, assault, invasion of privacy, threatening & defamation. That was a victory in itself. At least to me.

Mr. Hughes, I’m writing to tell you, I do care and thank you for all your time & energy. It does matter - no matter how thankless and frustrating it may seem at times - I’ve learned and will continue to learn from you and others like you. I have a long way to go and will continue to try and educate whomever I can about HSUS and their partners in hopes that in the future there will be a joint agency, someone like MOFED (wow!), to support breeders from all states - it’s just too overwhelming to take on as an individual, something the activists are fighting pretty much as a cohesive unit; they have lots of funding, resources and most of all support - something we as individuals or in smaller breeding/farming states
don’t seem to have. I know my fight is a little thorn in comparison to the giant fights all of you have been taking on for a very long time and the damage it's done to the animal and breeding industry as a whole, as well as the families that have been subjected to emotional and economical damage and loss. Animals are a subject that pulls heartstrings and that's what HSUS banks on. That's how they got/get the votes needed to pass legislation. That's where their next paycheck will come from and that's how they make a “small thorn” disappear and they're no longer the bad guy. I hope someday many people will recognize what these organizations are being allowed to get away with and the harm they are doing to everyone. HSUS shouldn’t be given the right to take away anyone else’s right to earn a lawful living, just because they don’t agree and are being allowed to do so. Please keep up the much needed, great work and support for all of us - big and small in the animal industry!!!!

Sincerely,
PF
Recently, the Humane Society of the United States published a 5 year report on complaints of puppy buyers about sick puppies they had purchased from pet stores, brokers and online sales.

As part of their so-called, “puppy mill campaign”, they said they had received over 2,000 complaints via the HSUS website and their puppy mills tip line. HSUS claims that buyers contact them for a variety of reasons; anywhere from how to pursue a consumer complaint to having the seller shut down. They also go on to say that these 2,000 complaints are only a ‘fraction’ of the unsatisfactory reports nationwide. How did they come up with that reasoning?

The report shows that just under ½ of these claims were for puppies that became ill after they arrived at their new home so what does that tell us? How do the sellers (breeders) know what has transpired with their pups after the new owners have taken possession? HSUS claims that a 1/3 of the complaints were for defects that occurred much later on up to a year of age. As breeders, we know a lot can happen to our animals depending on circumstances and how they are handled.

One example is from a customer who said they purchased their Golden Retriever puppy with severe hip dysplasia. They reported that they had to have one of the pups hips replaced at 4 months. Now why would someone purposely BUY a puppy that had hip dysplasia? Obviously, if a puppy had hip dysplasia (unlikely), he or she would be severely lame when this customer looked at him to begin with. Makes you wonder, doesn’t it? Maybe a report should be done to question potential buyers. Does the buyer know that large breed puppies should not be running up and down stairs or going on excessively long hikes with their owners until they are closer to a year of age and their bones are more developed? Do they know that young puppies under 6 months of age are still somewhat fragile and more susceptible to injuries if they are not watched carefully? And depending on the breed, young puppies should not be allowed to jump off of high rise furniture and excessively handled by young children without proper supervision.

It would be very interesting to know how many potential ‘puppy’ buyers have ANY knowledge of the breed they are looking at and what possible health hazards are associated with that breed.

The report goes to illustrate graphs and charts for the different states and whether the complaints were pet store or breeder/broker related. They even noted that many ‘buyers’ were not certain if their puppy came from a breeder or a broker because many complainants only knew who shipped or provided the puppy. So are they saying they send their money to no one or anyone?

Do these same people buy a car and not know what car lot it comes from? Even more ridiculous is the ‘methodology’ that HSUS used for this report. They said their data was collected from ‘anecdotal’ rather than statistical sampling. Checking the Webster dictionary, it lists ‘anecdotal’ as a ‘short, interesting or humorous account of a real or fictitious incident’ with the synonyms being, ‘fable, story, tale, or yarn.’ Interesting, don’t you think?

In final, this report was listed as a ‘very small sample of all of the events that likely occurred nationwide.’ Just another one of the many fabrications from the Humane Society of the United States to influence the public against the dog industry.

Cold Weather Tips for Pets.....

* After a walk, remove any ice or snow from your pet’s paws and towel him/her off to avoid a chill.
* Make sure your pet receives plenty of high-quality protein if he or she is outside—staying warm burns more calories.
* Never leave your pet in a car in cold weather, a car is like a refrigerator and may cause hypothermia.
* Save that shaved look for warm weather; dogs can use a bit of a fur coat when temperatures dip.
Some more pics from the Show Me Breeders Show...see the results on pg. 10

“Check out my new doo!”

“Pick me, pick meeee!!”

“Was’up?”

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ARE YOU OUTRAGED? I AM...

By Jim Hughes

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

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

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

Communications director Jeane Jae has stated that the Society hires an outside source to insure that the salaries are in the norm with other salaries paid by similar organizations. Folks, I am starting to believe that the Humane business is a better business to be in than the breeder business. And consider this; the cost of living is one and a half times higher in Washington DC than it is in St. Louis. Poor old Wayne is getting shafted. If things don’t change he may have to sell one of his Lexuses. Jae said that Target 8 should look at the American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals instead of HSUS, so they did. ASPSA President Edwin Sayres earned more than $500,000 in compensation and all benefits last year, but the annual revenue for ASPCA is seven and a half times greater than its Missouri counterpart. It was also $13 million dollars in the black and it is based in New York City where the cost of living is twice that of St. Louis. Also looking deeper, Target 8 found that the Nebraska Humane Society paid Executive Director Judy Varner about $180,000 dollars in salary and benefits last year while the organization operated with about a $500,000 dollar surplus.

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

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

Now breeders, I know that we are suspicious
of anyone with animal rights leanings because it seems that they are all out to put us out of business; but some of these volunteers do have big hearts. These big hearted people seem to be easily brainwashed by the money grabbers who are in the humane business for the big money. Dry up these big salaries and watch these con artists disappear. I know from experience that a calamity such as the PUPS bill or Prop. B is needed to motivate the breeder community into a fight and donation mode. When everything is complacent we tend to go to sleep, not realizing that the movers and shakers of the humane societies are in the back rooms dreaming up new attacks to heap upon our industry. They have to in order to keep the donations coming in.

We almost defeated Prop. B when Lucas Oil contributed $200,000 dollars to our cause. The Humaniac side regularly receives: PETA-27 million dollars; HSUS-150 million dollars; ASPCA-125 million; Humane Society of Missouri 18 million; 49 other state humane societies plus thousands of small city, county, and area shelters and the figures leap into the billions and the big spenders make sure that a large portion of these huge sums finds it way into their pockets. Even with all of this money floating around, the legitimate shelters that actually house the dogs, feed them and provide veterinary care for them actually operate in the red most of the time as HSUS and all of its sister crooks siphon off the contributions from the caring people who think their money is going to trickle down to the local shelter. Ain’t so, folks and we need to get that story out to the public.

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

MoFed Mission Statement:
“Our goal has always been and shall always be to protect the rights of animal owners and enthusiasts against the devastating effects of the animal rights movement”

www.mofed.org
A Dog Named ‘Lucky’

Anyone who has pets will really like this. You’ll like it even if you don’t and you may even decide you need one!

Mary and her husband Jim had a dog named ‘Lucky.’ Lucky was a real character. Whenever Mary and Jim had company come for a weekend visit they would warn their friends to not leave their luggage open because Lucky would help himself to whatever struck his fancy. Inevitably, someone would forget and something would come up missing.

Mary or Jim would go to Lucky’s toy box in the basement and there the treasure would be, amid all of Lucky’s other favorite toys. Lucky always stashed his finds in his toy box and he was very particular that his toys stay in the box.

It happened that Mary found out she had breast cancer. Something told her she was going to die of this disease......in fact; she was just sure it was fatal.

She scheduled the double mastectomy, fear riding her shoulders. The night before she was to go to the hospital she cuddled with Lucky. A thought struck her....what would happen to Lucky? Although the three-year-old dog liked Jim, he was Mary’s dog through and through. If I die, Lucky will be abandoned, Mary thought. He won’t understand that I didn’t want to leave him! The thought made her sadder than thinking of her own death.

The double mastectomy was harder on Mary than her doctors had anticipated and Mary was hospitalized for over two weeks. Jim took Lucky for his evening walk faithfully, but the little dog just drooped, whining and miserable.

Finally the day came for Mary to leave the hospital. When she arrived home, Mary was so exhausted she couldn’t even make it up the steps to her bedroom. Jim made his wife comfortable on the couch and left her to nap. Lucky stood watching Mary but he didn’t come to her when she called. It made Mary sad but sleep soon overcame her and she dozed.

When Mary woke for a second she couldn’t understand what was wrong. She couldn’t move her head and her body felt heavy and hot. But panic soon gave way to laughter when Mary realized the problem. She was covered, literally blanketed, with every treasure Lucky owned!

While she had slept, the sorrowing dog had made trip after trip to the basement bringing his beloved mistress all his favorite things in life. He had covered her with his love. Mary forgot about dying. Instead she and Lucky began living again, walking further and further together every day. It’s been 12 years now and Mary is still cancer-free. Lucky. He still steals treasures and stashes them in his toy box but Mary remains his greatest treasure.

Remember.....live every day to the fullest. Each minute is a blessing. And never forget....the people who make a difference in our lives are not the ones with the most credentials, the most money, or the most awards. They are the ones that care for us. If you see someone without a smile today give them one of yours! Live simply. Love seriously. Care deeply. Speak kindly. Leave the rest to God.

A small request....
All you are asked to do is keep this circulating, even if it is only to one more person, in memory of anyone you know that has been struck down by cancer or is still fighting their battle.
The Pacelle Tale.

Wayne Pacelle was going to be the feature at his book signing at the Books A Million in Ames, IA recently so I decided to go and check out what all the hoopla and swooning ladies was about.

He got into his spiel shortly after 7 p.m. Carol Griglione, HSUS state director was there wanting people to sign in. Not.

It was his usual stuff. Animals are sentient beings and have feelings just like we do. Had to endure his loooong, taaaall tale of how his family acquired a Westie and how bad he felt when he discovered there was an animal shelter not too far from them.

The pig farm he visited the day before so impressed him. The pigs were soooo happy being.... well, just being pigs.

Americans just want their food humanely raised and that's all HSUS wants, too. He plum done furgittin' the 12 step agenda.

Change is happening as more and more companies are signing on to cruelty free pledges. It is slower than what some want, but need to keep patient, and it's through people like those in attendance educating the public, that the change will happen legislatively. Just have to be patient he repeated. Didn't miss a lick to hammer Steve King.

Amazing how they can skew a simple statement into something almost unrecognizable. Pacelle did say that there are state laws in place, but federal oversight is needed. Didn't spend much time on dissing him.

Throughout the meeting a couple of zealots kept looking over my way. I finally decided to acknowledge them and smiled and waved at them.

Good thing my guardian angels were watching over me as the dagger looks could have killed me deaded.

I was taping the meeting and about 1/3 of the way through my camcorder died on me. I discovered the disk I had in already had a couple hours on it. So I whipped out my voice recorder. Haven't checked it yet to see if it picked things up as I was standing in back of the seated area. There were approx. 32-35 people. Some would drift in and out of the meeting.

His speech lasted an hour.

My favorite part of the meeting, and my camcorder was dead - I am guessing that someone informed him whom I was, because when the xxx(puppy mills) came up again he took a few steps in my direction, looking me in the eye and said, "We don't buy from puppy mills do we?"

I just smiled. He repeated with a bit more emphasis, "We don't buy from puppy mills do we?"

I just smiled.

"DO WE?"

I just smiled.

Needless to say all eyes were on me during this little discourse. Sorry Wayne, I don't feel the least bit intimidated by your manner. I said nothing to anyone as it would have been a waste of good oxygen. So ends my saga. Yep, I had me a gooood time! Sometimes the best effect is to be like a pesky little gnat. So how was your day? :)

Hubby's Tale:

Sunday evening as he was coming home, he met a buddy on the blacktop. So they did the courteous thing and paused for a 'farmer's chat' (that's when 2 farmers meet on the road for an "informational" exchange). They stopped on a small rise so they could observe traffic from either direction.

Suddenly, they hear a shrieking and screeching. What the ?????? The party that lives a short distance from where they stopped, Phyllis Wessling, was hot footin' it down the road screeching at them, "Move it! I said move it! Get out of here!"

Hubby just waved her off and they kept talking. Wessling is an ardent follower of our nemesis in Iowa. She continued with her hysteria and then demanded hubby get out of the truck. When hubby asked why, she replied, "So I can sick my dog on you." She has a Great Pyrenees.

When that tactic didn't work, she started taking down license plate numbers. Hubby, who is normally a patient man, saw it go 'poof'. He said, "Go ahead. Call the Sheriff. I'll even help you. You tell them it's Kevin Fickel."

SHRIEK!!!

SCREEEEECH!!!

SQUAWK!!!!

"You're the jerk that lives up the road!" To which he replied, "And you're the one that lives here."

The sheriff called the next morning as they are required to follow up on any complaints. He wanted to hear hubby's side. They claimed Wessling alleged she thought they were going to drop some cats or something off as so many people dump cats at her place. ???????? Really? Not. Eccentrics.....UGH!

End of Hubby Fickel Tale.
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October 13th & 14th, 2012
ACA Dog Shows, Coffeyville Breeders, City Park, Coffeyville, KS.
Contact Lena Cross at (610) 858-6214

October 20th, 2012
ACA Dog Shows, First Quality Pet Breeders, Family Center Mall, Harrisonville, MO.
Contact Lena Cross at (610) 858-6214.

October 26th & 27th, 2012
Contact Glen Yoder at (574) 825-0717.

October 27th, 2012
UPPA Educational Seminar; Pat Hastings Puppy Puzzle Plus, Kearney, Nebraska.
Contact CeeCee Polt at (308) 650-2041.

November 3rd, 2012
Tri-State Professional Breeders Educational Seminar and ACA Dog Show, Civic Center in Independence, KS.
Contact Lena Cross at (610) 858-6214.

November 9th & 10th, 2012
PCBA Educational Seminar, Civic Center in Mt. Pleasant, Texas.
Contact Steve Epperson at (903) 681-0717.

November 16th & 17th, 2012
PPA Educational Seminar, Moberly, Missouri.
Contact Cathy Griesbauer at (573) 564-2884.

December 1st, 2012
SEMPBA Christmas Show & ACA Dog Show, American Legion in Poplar Bluff, MO.
Contact Lena Cross at (610) 858-6214 or Terry Cozart at (573) 989-3241.
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