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Dear Kathy, Sandy & Kelli of SW Auction Service, I want to take a minute to say “THANK YOU” to each of you for your patience and helpfulness. Every time my husband or I called in the last month you were always helpful and polite. You may not remember us or the situation we had...but we’ll remember you. Each of you ladies are very professional and we appreciate you. I’m sure you get your fill of complaints, but this time it’s a compliment for you!

With kind regards, Carl & Judy Monteer

Dear Jim,

I want to ‘Thank You’ for your article “Point & Counter Point” in the Aug/Sept. issue of the Kennel Spotlight. You made the point very clear and hopefully opened a few other eyes besides ours. One thing we did to try and keep connected with other kennel issues was to subscribe to the Kennel Spotlight. It’s all too easy for those of us without TV, radio, computer or regular large newspaper to recede into the woodwork and contend that we’re doing a ‘good job’ raising our pups. Anyone in this field to recede into the woodwork and contend that we’re doing a ‘good job’ raising our pups. Anyone in this field to recede into the woodwork and contend that we’re doing a ‘good job’ raising our pups. Anyone in this field to recede into the woodwork and contend that we’re doing a ‘good job’ raising our pups. Anyone in this field to recede into the woodwork and contend that we’re doing a ‘good job’ raising our pups. Anyone in this field to recede into the woodwork and contend that we’re doing a ‘good job’ raising our pups.

Hello! I am looking forward to your publication. I have been looking for something like this for a good long time and accidently came across it on the VelvetTouch website. I have shown poodles for many years and subscribe to numerous show magazines, but they are very much lacking in good articles, especially about how new legislation is going to affect all of us...commercial, hobby and show breeders. As you know, some show breeders feel that they are above the rest and think they are above it all. In the last year, I have known several excellent show breeders that have been shut down by their local humane societies. It is a scary world out there. Commercial, show and hobby breeders need to work together for the benefit of the dogs. My husband and I are considering starting a club in Nebraska meant to join all factions together. I have very much enjoyed the articles that are on-line on your website. Again, thank you.

LaGene Flowers, Designer Kennel

Dear Mr. Hughes,

Thanks for standing up for me in the last Spotlight mailbox. Also, I am proud to inform you that here in Ohio we killed ALL THREE DOG BILLS! Thanks to all involved especially NPCR who hired and paid for a lobbyist who got the NRA involved. The last bill made its way into the full senate but was out before it came to vote.

Respectfully yours, Ervin L. Raber

CONGRATULATIONS to a Pennsylvania Breeder:

On December 22nd, 2008, a Pennsylvania breeder had his day in court. The Breeder requested to not be named. After his name was wrongly tarnished in the newspaper—he wishes to simply go forward continuing to run his kennel. Much to his surprise, over a month after his inspections...a citation showed up in the mail for “Excreta”, among other concerns. This citation would have ruined his chances to apply for a ‘waiver’. He wanted to continue to operate his kennel with the intent to save enough mmoney to bring his kennel into compliance for the NEW law. The PA dog wardens stated in their case that...”the kennel was not properly cleaned or maintained...” Testimony from the breeder acknowledged the minor corrections needed—and MINOR at that! His concern was that these allegations were so MINOR that a citation was not warranted and “a citation was too much...for I am very good at cleaning my kennel everyday,” the breeder said. Michael Glass from America’s Pet Registry, Inc discounted the warden’s testimony. He pointed out that there are ‘many different levels of violations...and that Your Honor is requested to take into consideration the level of violations and its possible unfair consequences.’ Mr. Glass also illustrated that the photos submitted were not a proper representation of the kennel. Thanks to the help of a neighbor, additional photos were offered as evidence. The PA Dog Warden objected to Mr. Glass’ testimony and attempted to have his testimony dismissed due to relevance. The Judge’s decision after hearing both arguments agreed to admit the testimony on the basis of an “expert witness”. Subsequent to this argument, a Veterinarian testified to the breeders’ character. The Vet told the Judge that this breeder operates a wonderful kennel, gives the best of care to his dogs and always does everything needed in the best interest of his dogs. This is proof of the importance of having a veterinarian work with the breeder. After lots of preparation, and everyone’s testimony, the Judge declared the entire case...“DISMISSED”. 
KNOW YOUR DOG CHANGES!!

Just as life changes, so do the characteristics of dogs. When I showed Poodles in the 60’s, you never wanted a ‘mismark’, what now is in demand as ‘parti-colored’. In the 70’s, you never had white or parti-colored Schnauzers in any breeding group or show ring I competed in but you do now. Pomeranians were much larger and none of my show dogs were parti, but they are now. Things change and those who are in the business of having, breeding, treating and grooming dogs should be aware of the changes. Some of these ‘professionals’ are not aware of the current changes, and only make it harder for a good breeder who knows the official standards to explain the purebred dog.

Not too long ago, I had to defend a Poodle pup I sold a year ago as being a purebred due to a groomer’s comments. The groomer had the owner come back to my house and ask for money back. The pup was out of a silver mom and apricot dad. The little girl was of apricot tinge when born and sold. She is now a beautiful dog with more of a cream color and a faint apricot tinge on her ears and a more apricot tone on her ruff (neck area). Her coat texture on the ruff was a little different due to the melanin (skin, hair pigment). She was a well taken care of and groomed toy poodle. The groomer ‘professional’ sent the owner to get the money back but told her to keep the little girl because she was attached to her. The owner refused to tell me the “groomer’s” name at my request.

Now the first of the year, I had another groomer send a buyer back to my house because of a Yorkie that was not the usual color and ask for money back. The ‘groomer’ was not aware of all the new colors of Yorkies ranging from blacks, goldens and parti-colored and also merle. It is also known that the German Yorkies have a larger build and coat texture. One of these pups that I have seen, has the lighter tones to the feet, face and tail, as a Texas breeder said would happen as the dog matured.

My response to all of these so called “experts” is to curb your comments until you know the breed standards. I have spoken with AKC, UKC, CKC and five long time Poodle breeders, show handlers, and judges who agreed that my pups met all breed standards.

Nancy Moore, long time breeder and RN
MEET THE ANDERSONS OF “SUGARFORK KENNELS”  
by Kathy Bettes

The Sugarfork Kennel of Goodman, Missouri is definitely a ‘family affair’. Ken and Abby Anderson and their 4 children are very active in keeping the family business going. Each of the children have their own breeds to raise and take care of. Ben, who is 21, has English Bulldogs, St.Bernards and Boxers. Ty, who is 17, raises English Bulldogs, Boxers and Dachshunds. He is very active in the kennel and has been able to buy his own vehicles with the puppy money. Kate is 14 and has a variety of breeds she handles from Bulldogs to Welsh Corgis. The youngest, Sydney is 12, and she has Boxers, Dachshunds, Scotties and Bulldogs as well.

Ken and Abby have always had animals and with Abby growing up on a farm, she has a ‘special’ love for raising livestock. It all started about 15 years ago when the Andersons purchased a few Scotties and Westies and started selling puppies to Sundowner, a local brokerage in Goodman. Abby then bought a few Samoyeds and really fell in love with the breed. She thought about expanding until one day her favorite female Samoyed, ‘Snowball’, had gotten a hold of a dead groundhog. She had just weaned a litter of puppies but she was so sick, Abby was unable to save her. Heartbroken, Abby decided she had enough of raising dogs and sold Snowball’s pups back to the original breeder. Abby became pregnant with Kate and decided to quit breeding for a while but still kept a few dogs around their house. Ken was horseshoeing full time and traveling a lot until it got to be too hard on him physically so he started thinking about something else he could do closer to home.

The Andersons came up with a plan to start raising dogs again and make it full time. Ken had some past experience in carpentry so he started working on their kennel building right away. They bought a few more puppies from Brent and Tammie Cotton, some local breeders they knew and started to really expand. Ken and Abby knew it would be a lot of hard work but very rewarding, especially since they included all the children in the business. They have made sure the kids all have a savings account and have taught them about taking care of the dogs and managing their money. Ken has plans to divide up an old baseball field they have into large pens for their big breeds and is currently working on a new large breed kennel building complete with heated floors and indoor washrack. Even though they have a variety of breeds, their specialties are the English Bulldogs and Boxers. They sell most of their puppies on the internet but have recently solicited the help of PetConnect Online.
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to aid in their puppy sales. The Andersons also have a ‘special’ Bulldog named ‘Tucker’ who they have big plans of standing at stud.

Tucker, who I personally met upon my visit to the Andersons, had no problem posing for the camera. I think he knows he is the ‘future’ of the Sugarfork Kennel.

**The Andersons**

The Andersons have a very efficient heat source by using an outdoor wood stove for heating their water and buildings.

The outdoor runs are on concrete and have a large turn-out pen for the dogs to play and exercise.

“A special ‘Thank You’ to the Anderson family for allowing the Kennel Spotlight to feature them in this issue!”

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**The Casino Companion**

A business man enters into a large Las Vegas casino followed by his well groomed hunting dog. The two make their way to a roulette table, and the man sits down with his dog at his side. As the next game begins, the man’s dog tosses a mouth full of $1000 chips onto the table. Remarkably, the numbers each chip fall on, pay off. The dog quickly jumps up on the table and gathers up their winnings, and heads off to another table. Not to be lost, the man quickly jumps up and follows after his dog.

As before, the dog tosses a mouth full of chips onto the table for betting, and once again the couple walk away winners. Not to waiver from the drill, the dog jumps up on the table and scoops up their winnings, and jumps down. To yet another table, they head. This time the man’s dog dumps all of their winnings on one hand of Blackjack. Remarkably, the dealer presents an Ace and King to the man. A bit shocked, the dealer presents the man his winnings. Not to miss a beat, the dog hurls its massive body onto the game table, grabs all of their chips in its mouth, and jumps back down to the man’s side. Tired from all of the gambling, they find the bar to sit down at. The man asks for a Pint of Ale for his dog and just a club soda for himself. Puzzled by the man’s request and large pile of chips at the dog’s side, the Bartender asks the wealthy man what type of dog he has. Patting his canine companion on the head, he smiles and says, "An Irish Better...what else?"
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In 1958, I met my first wife. After she told me she had every intention on marrying me, I decided that maybe I should get to know her better. After 49 years, I am still learning things from her. For one thing, she still insists that she is the first and only wife that I will ever have. Kinda selfish, don’t you think? I did not know that a woman needs at least 75 pairs of shoes and an equal number of pocket books that match. I didn’t know that she needs 5 times more closet space than I am allotted. And I did not know that she would want to keep every puppy she ever laid eyes on.

I married this girl in 1959 and I have never been able to run her off. She is still here. She has been the proud owner of more dogs than I can keep count of. Her clothing allotment rivals the federal budget and she has enough jewelry to open a mall store. She tells me to carry the money in and she will do her best to unburden me from the load.

Well, we didn’t have any kids when we first married, so she felt she needed a dog. We bought her a Pekingese puppy out of Ch. Jolly-we JJ. We then joined the Orange Empire Dog Club in San Bernardino, Calif. so she could show her dog. She won several ribbons which she proudly displayed all around the house.

One day she went to a flea market and there sat a basket full of German Shepherd puppies for $15 dollars each. She paid too much. I guess she felt I needed a dog too. So she brought this “thing” home. The first night it hid under the couch and howled all night long. Sounded a little like Jerry Lee Lewis. We fed it a can of dog food and the next morning I picked up four cans of puppy poop. How do they do that? The next night, I put her outside but around midnight someone called and called me a dirty name, so I had to bring her back in. After a few days, she was willing to stay outside because she had so many things to play with, namely the garden hose, which she destroyed. Then there was the game she invented, “See How High a Dog can Jump!” The prize was whatever piece of clothing she could pull from the clothes line. The more pieces she could reduce it to, the higher her score was. Another time she decided to run away from home by going to China, straight down. I was not thinking, I should have let her go, concreted the hole and called it a swimming pool.

Her greatest offense was not really her fault. But she had already committed so many atrocities that we had no patience with her. Sue called me to come home from National Guard Sunday training. She was trying to water the backyard and the dog thought it was great fun to move the sprinkler. When Sue sat it down where she wanted it, the dog would move it. Sue started to replace it when the dog ran through the water and splashed water on her and then proceeded to jump up on her. Out of frustration, Sue swung the sprinkler at her. She missed the dog and the hose wrapped around her leg and the sharp runner on the sprinkler hit her Achilles tendon and cut it in two. She had to have surgery to sew it back together. She had to wear a cast for 6 weeks. When they finally removed the cast, the tendon broke again. More intensive surgery was now required by splitting and splicing the tendon together again. Another six weeks of casting was now required again. By now the dog was growing a little thin on the generous side of me. I have always been an animal lover but we had not yet determined whether she was an animal or not. I would swear she emitted low guttural sounds and her eyes turned red in the dark when she thought nobody was looking. And I was never sure if those bumps on the back of her head were horns or bumps from the rocks the neighbors threw at her.

I was really fortunate that the county hired this “man’s man” to work in our lab. His wife had bought a Pekingese female dog and he was embarrassed to be seen with her. What he really wanted was a German Shepherd. Well, I just happened to have one that I felt I could part with. He came to look, thought 35 pounds was small for a 10 month old Shepherd but he would trade if I really wanted to. Hallelujah, did I really want to? I got a hernia trying to hold my enthusiasm in. To this day, I blame that dog for the size of my belly. Ruined a perfectly good figure.

Well, this little dog turned out to be a great mother. She raised four beautiful puppies which I sold for $35 dollars a piece, a fair price for 1960. However, I still do not know how Sue could justify keeping the money out of the dog that I traded my valuable German Shepherd for so that her dog might have a girlfriend.

One Sunday, I was at National Guard training when they called me to the office. It seems that I had a hysterical wife on the line again. “What’s wrong”, says me. “The dogs, the dogs, they are stuck together and are pulling each other all over the yard”, says she. “I tried to pull them apart but I can’t get them to let go”. The Captain told me to go home when he finally quit laughing enough to talk.

We had several litters of Pekingese puppies from her, which we sold to Birdland Pet Shop in Covina, California. The money was good and the puppies were a joy to raise, so we began to think about a full time commitment to the dog business. Sue allowed me to keep enough of MY money to buy me another German Shepherd, this time a very good dog from one of the kennels that belonged to the Orange Empire club. The sire and dam were both champions imported from Germany. I trained her and started to show her but soon found out that a novice handler in the German Shepherd classes did not stand a chance. We got one litter of pups from her but she developed cystic ovaries and was constantly in heat and would not settle again. We called
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her the neighborhood ‘lady of the night’ as she would accept any male dog, anywhere, anytime. She had no morals.

In 1964, we bought a farm in Missouri and moved 14 dogs and 2 kids in the back of a station wagon. I immediately started to make a kennel out of one of the outbuildings on the farm. From there we started a 50 year career in the pet industry. Within 5 years, we had a 320 dog kennel, 27 sows, 5 horses, 140 Holstein cows, 150 chickens and more barn cats than I could count. We sold our puppies to Petland and to Docktors Pet Centers when we first started selling from our Missouri kennels. We found that we could not produce enough pups to satisfy the demands from these pet store chains, so we started to buy pups from other breeders to meet our demands. That evolved into Do-Bo-Tri Kennels, one of the 5 largest brokers in the United States.

We had an insurance salesman call on us one day. Our new kennel was not finished yet so we were raising five litters of puppies in the house at one time. We also had a calf with the scours in the bathroom because it was in the dead of winter and he had pneumonia. The night before, for some reason, I woke up to sense that something was wrong. When I got up and looked out the window, the lights in the hog farrowing house were out. One of the sows had bitten the electric cord in two. The shock curled her tail. There were five litters of baby pigs and all of them were unconscious. I brought all seventy-two of those pigs into the house and stacked them into rows in front of the gas stove we had in the living room. We rubbed those pigs with bath towels until they started to revive. Only seven of them were dead. As they started to wake up, we put them into a playpen. Into this scene walked the insurance salesman. He stepped into the house, gagged, and stepped back onto the porch. He wanted to know how we could stand that smell, said he would be back later, and as he got into his car, he was muttering something about Ma and Pa Kettle and I think he called us “Hillbilly’s”. After that, I knew how to get rid of salesmen. You know, I cannot figure out why the memories of these incidents seem more humorous now than when they were actually happening!!
Doggie Daycare
By Dr. Sam Harkey

Several years ago the movie “Daddy Daycare” came out starring Eddie Murphy as a dad who is doing his best to deal with the loss of his job by starting a daycare while his wife went to work each day. Eddie went through some serious stressful situations as he learned how to care for a bunch of youngsters. With several kids of my own, I know how stressful kids can be to us, but have you ever thought about the stresses that kids go through? Thinking about this, it reminded me of what puppies experience during the process of getting a new home. If you have children, you probably remember when they first started daycare or school. Mom’s cry, dad’s worry and everyone is stressed out including the child who is learning what to do without mom and dad around. It doesn’t take long until the child ends up with a cold or other kind of illness and has to miss a day or so of school/daycare. When a puppy goes to its new home, it too suffers from very similar stresses. It was recently weaned from its mother, typically has to take a trip to its new home, either by vehicle or airplane, and then typically gets greeted with a house full of anxious new pet owners and often children who want to stay up late and play with the new puppy. Can you see how this is STRESSFUL!

There are some tools to help decrease this stress and eliminate many potential complications.

Stress can cause a variety of concerns with new puppies. Many of the reason’s behind these stresses make perfect sense if we understand the basic needs of puppies. Puppies sleep anywhere from 15-20 hours a day. When a puppy is not sleeping, it typically will eat a few bites of food, play for a few minutes and then return to sleep. When a puppy arrives at its new home, the natural reaction we have is to immediately play with it as long as we can possibly stay awake. We often try to teach it to sit, fetch, roll over, and speak all in the first night. Puppies need some down time, especially when they first arrive. It is best if we can play for several minutes and then let the puppy see where its new bed is and then let the puppy have some down time.

There are 3 common problems we see from the stress of the new home. The first is the most dangerous, hypoglycemia. Hypoglycemia, or low blood sugar, is a life threatening condition and is most frequent in toy/small breed puppies. Puppies that play and play without stopping to replenish their energy by eating some food are at the greatest risk of developing this condition. The symptoms include depression, lethargy, staggering when walking (appear drunk), and then worse symptoms develop such as a comatose posture, seizures, and then death. This condition can be easily treated by giving the puppy some Nutri-cal. If you do not have Nutri-cal, then honey or pancake syrup will work. If there is no response within 20 minutes, contact your veterinarian immediately. To try to prevent this condition from ever occurring, I recommend giving your new small breed or toy breed puppy Nutri-cal twice a day as a preventative for the first week in their new home.

The second common problem we see is upper respiratory illness. I commonly refer to this as a “cold”. There are varying infectious agents that can cause this from normal opportunistic bacteria that take advantage of the stressed immune system and set up residence, to kennel cough which can cause disease in even healthy strong immune systems. Prompt treatment for these “colds” is recommended and your veterinarian can get you the antibiotics you need to resolve this. Typically, colds only last a week or so but in some cases may take 2-3 weeks. If your new pet is not improving within 7 days let your veterinarian know and they may want to try a different medication.

The third problem commonly seen in new pets is “stress diarrhea”. Stress diarrhea can be caused by a bacterial overgrowth or by a few protozoa. Coccidia and Giardia are commonly seen in new pets when they are first examined. Your veterinarian will take a stool sample and look with a microscope to try to identify these. Treatment for both these protozoa is very simple and typically requires a week or so of medication to clear the pet of the infection. Bacterial overgrowth is common in puppies as well as adults. This condition is commonly called gastritis or colitis. Switches in dog food, table scraps, or getting into the cat’s food commonly cause this. Treatment typically is similar to the treatment for Coccidia and Giardia.

New puppies are such a joy to be around! The thrill of a new family member excites everyone and will bring fun for years to come. Just remember that the new member of the family needs some down time too! Lay some rules down about how long the kids can play with the new pup during the first week or so until the newest addition gets accustomed to its new home and family. These tips will hopefully make the transition a smooth one for everyone involved!
APRI PARADE OF CHAMPIONS 2008

Kay Rodgers Park resounded early on Saturday the 13th of December to the barks of champions, the greetings of owners, and the whine of blow dryers starting the grooming process as APRI’s annual Parade of Champions came once again to historic Fort Smith, Arkansas. Champions and their families from across the country traveled to participate in this prestigious invitational dog show, where APRI Champion dogs come to compete not only for several thousand dollars in prize money, but especially for the title of APRI Distinguished Champion, which is awarded to the winner of this show each year. From Minnesota, Iowa, Missouri, Arkansas, Colorado, Oklahoma, Texas, and Louisiana came a multitude of the best dogs anywhere in the country.

Top honors of APRI Distinguished Champion 2008 were awarded to the Non Sporting Standard Poodle HCK Dressed Like Gary Cooper. “Super Cooper” as he is known by his family, journeyed to Fort Smith from Colorado by way of Bolivar and Harrisonville, Missouri. Cooper belongs to Dawn Craig of Colorado and was superbly handled by 13 year old Jordan Craig, granddaughter of Elaine and George Craig of Butler, Missouri. Jordan may be young, but she has been involved in showing different animals with the 4H for several years. We congratulate her for the excellent job she does. APRI encourages youngsters to be part of our shows and never judges the handling process itself. It is inspiring, however, to see the results of the time, work, dedication, and sense of responsibility this young exhibitor has invested in showing her dog to his best advantage.

Second and third places in the Terrier and Non Sporting group went to Kerry Blue Terrier Hot Stuff Sami of Sadie Rose owned by Teri Franzen of Staples, Minnesota and Norwich Terrier Winder’s Tuff Enough owned by Clay Winder of Butler, Missouri. Kerry Blue Terrier Sadie Rose owned by Ann Terwilliger Hehr of Minnesota and Miniature Schnauzer Praygein Chocolate Swirled Kisses owned by Katherine Steinbach of Wheaton, Missouri were also selected as finalists in this group.

The other group winners were also extraordinary representatives of their breeds. The hound group saw a sweep of the top three places as Whippet Silhouette’s Come Sail Away, Whippet Silhouette’s Crystal Ball, and Ibizan Hound Serandida’s Spirit of Kala, all owned by Shawn or Gregory Cooper of Longview, Texas, placed first, second, and third respectively. Also competing in the finals for the hound group were Weimaraner Silhouette’s Solid Gold owned by Ronald & Rhonda Grimm of Mechanicsville, Iowa and Labrador Retriever Ridenhours Hampton of Libertycrk owned by Seth and Carrie Ridenhour of Belle, Missouri.

Toys were represented in first place by Havanese Sherrex’s Brock Star owned by Juanita Kimbrough of Drexel, Missouri. Second place in group went to Chihuahua Flying Diamond Quick Draw owned by Tracy Henderson of Exeter, Missouri, while Chinese Crested Kai’s Ceesy Sparklin’ Freedom owned by Cecilia Swagger of Sapulpa, Oklahoma took home third place honors for the toy group. Cecilia proves the dedication owners have for their dogs and this show by coming just a couple of days after surgery. Italian Greyhound Lamars Chorus Line also owned by Tracy Henderson shared in the final judging of this group.

Miniature Australian Shepherds Spurin A Sonja and Spurin A Sharmane, both owned by Brenda Arnett of Edwards, Missouri, were awarded first and second places in the Working and Herding group. Third place went to Shetland Sheepdog PBF Amarillo by Morning owned by Steve and Sherry Crossno of Bluffton, Arkansas. Other members of the finalists of this group were Bernese...
America’s Pet Registry Inc. takes great pride in the Champions that represent us so well, their breeders, their owners, and their exhibitors. It is our pleasure to take the opportunity of the Parade of Champions to showcase and spotlight the incredible work and commitment of these folks who produce such wonderful representatives of their breeding programs. APRI breeders are committed to providing dogs that can win in the show ring, in the field, and in the home as a part of a family, and this show is a testament to the success of these APRI breeders and their dedication to their dogs, as well as to their love for those animals. We at America’s Pet Registry Inc. are extremely proud to be a part of that goal.
A commonly overlooked aspect of preventive medicine in kennel management is air quality control. Poor air quality, reduced air transfer or circulation and incorrect humidity levels can lead to higher illness and infection rates among puppies.

Highly contagious upper respiratory infections, such as kennel cough, are commonplace in the kennel. With proper air transfer and humidity, they can be significantly reduced. These infections are primarily transferred dog to dog or human to dog through panting. If you manage the air in your kennel, you will reduce the dog’s panting, thereby reducing the spread of bacterial and viral agents.

Humidity control is the most important factor in air quality control. Humidity should be kept at 55% in your kennel. If the air is too moist or too dry, there will be an increase in panting among the dogs. Increased panting leads to an increase of moisture, viruses and bacteria in the air which dogs then breathe in via nasal transfer.

The second consideration for air control is the turnover of air in the kennel. Low turnover leads to a build up of ammonia and carbon monoxide in the air, creating breathing difficulties for the animals. Additionally, an infected dog can shed virus for at least as long as they are sick and with some illnesses, for a couple weeks after recovery. Maintaining a constant turnover of fresh air in your kennel as well as stable oxygen content in your kennel will help avoid the excessive panting, which contributes to the spread of respiratory illness.

Lastly, air circulation is critical to controlling odor issues in the kennel. Busy breeders often think that surface sanitation is all that’s needed to control odor. Ventilation, circulation and humidity are all factors in the control of kennel odors, as well as routine sanitation. The use of kennel decking, fans or other air circulation units will all contribute to the flow of fresh air in the kennel.

Kennel cough, now called Canine Infectious Respiratory Disease Complex (CIRDC), is a common disease found in kennels. There are many contributing factors that can make it a hard complex to treat. Antibiotics such as doxycycline and clavamox are good first round choices but do nothing to treat secondary viral invaders. In kennels, pneumonia is a common sequela to kennel cough, and nebulization is the treatment of choice. Adding sterile saline to the nebulizer is recommended because it is a decongestant and aids in breaking down the mucus in the airways.

Vaccinating for kennel cough using an intranasal vaccine is a good way in keeping kennel cough to a minimum and the severity of clinical signs down. Using Echinacea Purpurea root in your kennel is an inexpensive way to boost the immune system of your dogs and when experiencing outbreaks of reducing clinical signs of disease.
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INVASION OF THE PRIVACY SNATCHERS !!!

It was a scene right out of a movie. I couldn’t tell if we were extras in a Comedy or Drama, but it was definitely a Horror. And there weren’t any golden awards. Horror is a fascinating thing for most of us, especially when it’s happening to someone else. The twist on this particular story is where the whole thing was taking place - and the cast of characters. Who would think a small town in Lancaster County, Pennsylvania, would treat its dog-loving neighbors with such disrespect? Things in Manheim, Pennsylvania, are out of control. New residents in a small but swanky development, carved out of a farmer’s corn field only a few years ago, are “upset” because the Amish man on a 70 acre property a half mile away raises dogs. Never mind that they can’t see the building from their places without looking out an attic window. Never mind that the farm is clean and neat. Never mind that they don’t hear dogs barking or that none of them has ever been inside his kennel building. They’re “offended and something must be done!”

Remember the story about the woman in Puritan days, scorned for her love affair? The one who had to wear the scarlet letter “A” sewn onto her clothes identifying her as an adulteress? Well, the letter that went out to kennels in Penn Township wasn’t scarlet in color, but behind it was a woman with a temper. She had moved into one of those fancy houses a year or so ago, lost her job at a lawyer’s office and was filled with rage. “It’s those dogs!” she told her husband about country smells as they drove around. In truth, it was pig manure. One would think a real dog lover would know that.

At her insistence, a letter was issued by the zoning office, informing seven state and federally licensed kennels in the township that they were breaking the law. “What law?” the kennel owners asked, from miles around. “The one we made about ten years ago,” they were told, “and never told you about. The one requiring special permission.” Kennel owners had to pay $400 each for the right to present their cases and ask for “variances” to be issued for their properties. Hearing dates were set.

As the quasi-lawyer woman and her conies watched, case after case went on over the next several months. Pleading for their livelihoods before a panel of judges, dog breeders answered invasive questions and fielded high-handed remarks from an attorney, a zoning officer and three zoning commissioners as a gentle stenographer clicked away. Comments directed to them from the crowd and letters to the editor were rude, disrespectful and inconsiderate as they pressured the zoning board to make the “Ethical” decision. Interesting catch-phrase, “Ethical treatment.” It’s got a familiar ring to it. It should. It’s from “People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals.” But, most of us know them as “P.E.T.A.”

How does this relate to dogs? It relates because, while we are busy enjoying our dogs and all that they mean to us, organizations such as P.E.T.A. are flocking to our legislative authorities with all kinds of complaints using people like the out-of-work lawyer wanna-be. Penn Township isn’t alone. Neither was pre-Hitler Germany when it became the society with the most far-reaching animal protection laws ever known. What’s it all about? In the long run, who knows. But, according to the National Animal Interests Alliance (N.A.I.A.), various states around the country are catching on. If you think Al-Qaeda is the only terrorist group out there, check out the N.A.I.A. website and think again. After that, there should be no doubt in your mind that organizations founded for the protection of our animals have been infiltrated by militants out to break down our animal-related sports and industries. But, after more than twenty years of “gorilla attacks” on private breeders, farms, research projects, racetracks - you name it - state and local governments are taking a new look at such interference and finally calling it what it is …”Terrorism.”

Those hearings for the kennel owners? Too bad the zoning officials didn’t have a copy of the “mobster list” from the N.A.I.A. website (naiaonline.org). Scattered among the crowd, their insulting remarks being written into the public record, were animal militants who don’t even live in Penn Township and have never set foot inside those kennels. It’s interesting that none of the “judges” sitting on the panel have, either. How do I know? One of those kennels is my own.

Best Regards, Ron Hevener
Lochranza Kennels  www.ronhevener.com

Dear God,
Why are there cars named after the Jaguar, the Cougar, the Mustang, the Colt, the Stingray, and the Rabbit, but not ONE named for a dog?
How often do you see a ‘cougar’ riding around? We do love a nice ride!
Would it be so hard to rename the “Chrysler Eagle” the “Chrysler Beagle”?  

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Tim and Bobbi Jo Powell
Kennel Owners

“Respiratory problems in puppies and dogs are nonexistent at our kennel now…”

Create a healthier environment for your dogs and puppies. Contact EZ Breathe at 866-822-7328 or visit www.ezbreathe.com for more information.

Did you ever notice when you blow in a dog’s face he gets mad at you? But when you take him in a car he sticks his head out the window!
Litter Size and Singleton

By Dr. Carmen L. Battaglia

When two or more breeders gather together their conversation often times center on the number of pups born and what might have gone wrong. For years breeders have speculated on why some litters are larger than others. Since most breeders are not trained in biology or in veterinary medicine a review of these questions was addressed.

Background:

Nature has always allowed animals to adapt to their living conditions. For example, horses and cattle live in herds as herbivores and cover considerable distances each day. They tend to have a long period of gestation and produce a single offspring. Their young are born among the herd as it moves slowly because only in the middle of the great herd can they be protected. The problem is quite different for canines. They live in small communities and their young are born in a safe hideout. Because they hunt they can not afford a long period of gestation. The reason that carnivores usually do not have single offspring litters stems from the nature of their existence. They must be constantly hunting to struggle for existence and the casualties among their young are high. Severzov calculated that the morality among young wolves was 45% at the end of the first year and a further 32% by the end of their second year with a total loss of about 77% for all young wolves. If their litters consisted of only a few pups, the likelihood would diminish that the survivors could contribute to maintaining the survival of the species.

There are several ways to approach the study of litter size in dogs. One perspective is to look at what can influence the size of a litter; another is to study one-puppy litters. Goldbecker and Hart reported experiences with both. For the one-puppy litters they suggested the use of foster mothers and to treat the singleton as an orphan because they have similar problems. They believed that these pups needed siblings or other dogs to interact with in order to learn the rules of the dog world. To that end it is generally accepted that at least for canines, littermates provide valuable and necessary practice sessions. Interactions provide opportunities for using their teeth, developing eye contact and a wide range of other canine behaviors that become useful as adults.

Most of the small breeds, notably the toys and terriers usually produce very small litters. This is in part because of their very small size, which limits their capacity to carry large litters. But in the larger breeds there are wide variations in litter size ranging from 1 to 21 and in some instances they have been larger. Breeders have for years unsuccessfully tried to make improvements in litter size via breeding and selection techniques with little success. While many traits have high heritability, litter size is not one of them. It has a low heritability, around 10 - 15% which means that one can not count on the genes to increase the number of pups born. What can be expected will largely be determined by the non-additive factors of dominance. For example, wither height has a heritability estimate of 40-65%, which is reasonably high.

Therefore, it is relatively easy for the breeders of the German Shepherd Dog to produce offspring with high withers. However, when it comes to litter size selecting parents who come from large litters will not improve the number of pups born. However, the physical condition of the dam at the time she is bred however has been shown to increase or decrease litter size. For example, obese bitches tend to have smaller litters than those that are fit and trim. Nutrition is still another factor that was suspected to affect litter size. Some thought it would vary between and within breeds. The fact that there are large variations in litter size attracted the attention of Russ Kelly, a noted nutritionist. He set out to better understand litter size by examining what would happen if nutrition became the variable.

What he found was that the diet fed bitches during their pregnancy did influence the size of their litters. To do this he studied three colonies of bitches that were in whelp. One colony was fed only a dry ration of good quality dog food. The second was fed the same dry ration but supplemented with cottage cheese. The third was fed the same dry ration with supplements of cottage and meat. The important point here is that two of the three colonies were fed extra protein supplements. The colony that had the largest number of pups born alive came from mothers not fed any supplements. His findings make clear that supplementing a high quality, nearly
perfectly formulated dog food with rations of cottage cheese and meat would interfere with the number of pups born alive. In other words, supplements added to a good quality commercial dog food reduces the chances for larger litters. This finding is good news to dog breeders.

Singleton pups

The singleton pup is a one-puppy litter. To better understand these pups three general questions were used. They focused on the whelping process, behavior during and after weaning and the effects of the dam during their development. While many species have single births the canines are not one of them even though there are many breeds that only produce one or two puppy litters. Small litters can be directly related to the selective breeding practices that breeders have used over the years to fulfill the physical size requirements of their breed standards. The other explanation for variations in litter size has already been demonstrated to be nutrition and conditioning. Since there was no body of literature on this subject several breeders and veterinarians were contacted that had reported experiences with single puppy litters. Many of the breeders said that a singleton pup could be a little dog aggressive, less sociable and a little more “abnormal” than an average pup born with littermates. Others said that singleton puppies were not problem pups until they started to take notice of their surroundings. All of the breeders interviewed had also produced pups with large litters and thus had some basis for making the comparison. Most of the breeders assumed that a singleton would be larger than normal thus producing delivery problems, which resulted in a “C” section. Veterinarians on the other hand reported a wide range of different experiences that did not necessarily agree with those indicated by the breeders. Most veterinarians said that a singleton was not a larger, stronger or smarter pup then others of the same breed when larger litters were produced. They also noted that the singleton did not necessarily make a better companion. Only a few reported that they noticed behavior problems even though many lacked interaction with other littermates. Based on the experiences of these two groups the recommendations that can be offered suggest a number of approaches. Apart from having no littermates to interact with, the lack of companionship could be compensated for if the dam is encouraged to provide daily stimulation and attention. Puppies learn to be a dog by being part of their “pack” in the nest. Keeping the singleton occupied was found to be important and most recommended handling by different individuals to keep them from becoming bored. While most dams naturally encourage their pups to play, they also teach them good manners. As soon as these pups are old enough they should either go to their new home (8 weeks is early enough), or have them introduced to the owners other dogs.

Three breeders that had a singleton pup produced by frozen semen were also contacted. All reported that the pups were of normal size for their breed (Afghan Hound, Whippets, and German Shepherd). The dams of these singleton puppies had produced average litters before and after the singleton. The cause for the singleton litter according to these breeders was the use of frozen semen. All of the sires had previously produced average size litters. The breeders of these frozen semen litters indicated that it was just bad luck that only one pup occurred. All of these singletons were born naturally except the one produced from 16-year-old semen. Most of the dams had had a previous litter naturally. The classic reason for singletons being born by Caesarian does not seem to be related to the use of frozen semen. The conclusion that one can draw from this material is that breeders of a singleton should take extra care to be sure that they are occupied and do not become bored. Since most dams can only provide a limited amount of playtime these pups should be given more opportunities to play with others (Malcolm Willis). Playgroups were suggested as excellent ways for singletons to learn the social rules of the canine species. All agreed that supervision by humans should not be ignored because the singleton can be injured during unintentional rough play.

The group was asked about the singleton when it had become an adult. While this study was limited to several breeders and veterinarians. They all agreed that the bitches involved in this limited study were considered to be good mothers and had plentiful supplies of milk. Most seemed to adore they’re one and only pup and none were overprotective or lacking in interest. Some were raised in the house as opposed to the kennel. Most

Cont. on page 26
Once upon a time, there were 2 dogs who lived next door to each other. One of the dogs was a female _____________ Terrier named ‘Punky’ and the other was a ______________ Retriever named ‘Garth’. They were best buddies. ‘Punky’ loved to play _______ and eat dog _____________. ‘Garth’ liked to lay around and take afternoon _________. One day a bad ___________ came with thunder and __________________. Punky was really afraid. “Don’t worry,” said Garth, “I’ll ____________ you.” Just then, a big gust of wind blew in and picked up both ___________. They landed in the next _________ far away from their home. “What will we do?” cried Punky. Garth, who was the _________ one, wasn’t worried. “I’ll get us home, we just have to use our keen sense of ___________ and watch out for ________ on the road. It wasn’t long before Garth was able to pick up the _______ and after several long miles ____________ and ___________ made it home safe and sound.
WORD SCRAMBLE:

Things dogs do:
RLWOG _____________
LOHW _____________
HWCE _____________
ECFHT _____________
OZNOES _____________

Big Dogs:
EAGTR AEDN __________________________
ARGEMN HDRHEPSE ____________________
ETTRITWOER _______________________
RHISI DLWOOUNHF_____________________
ATSNI NEARRBD______________________

Terriers:
HWSLE ___________________
TBOONS ___________________
CAKJ LRSULES _______________
SEGLHIN OTY _______________
SRKOYEIHR __________________

What kind of dog can jump as high as a tall building?
Any kind. A building can’t jump!

Why does a dog scratch himself?
Because no one else knows where it itches!

What is more amazing than a talking dog?
A spelling bee!

How does a dog stop a VCR?
It presses the “paws” button!

ANSWERS: word scramble

BIG DOGS:

TERIERS:

THINGS DOGS DO:

FUN FACTS ABOUT DOGS

A dog’s whiskers are touch-sensitive hairs called vibrissae. They are found on the muzzle, above the eyes and below the jaws, and can actually sense tiny changes in airflow.

An American Animal Hospital Association poll showed that 33 percent of dog owners admit that they talk to their dogs on the phone or leave messages on an answering machine while away.

An estimated 1 million dogs in the United States have been named the primary beneficiary in their owner’s will.

At the end of the Beatles’ song “A Day in the Life”, an ultrasonic whistle, audible only to dogs, was recorded by Paul McCartney for his Shetland sheepdog.

Contrary to popular belief, dogs do not sweat by salivating. They sweat through the pads of their feet.

Dachshunds are the smallest breed of dog used for hunting. They are low to the ground, which allows them to enter and maneuver through tunnels easily.

Developed in Egypt about 5,000 years ago, the greyhound breed was known before the ninth century in England, where it was bred by aristocrats to hunt such small game as hares.

Dogs are mentioned 14 times in the Bible.

Dogs can hear sounds that are too faint for us to hear, and also can hear noises at a much higher frequency than we can. Their hearing is so good that they probably rely more on sound than on sight to navigate their world.

Lassie was played by several male dogs, despite the female name, because male collies were thought to look better on camera. The main “actor” was named Pal.

The phrase “raining cats and dogs” originated in 17th Century England. During heavy downpours of rain, many of these poor animals unfortunately drowned and their bodies would be seen floating in the rain torrents that raced through the streets. The situation gave the appearance that it had literally rained “cats and dogs” and led to the current expression.
of these pups received more supervision and more early human socialization than normally would have been provided while in the nest with a litter. In order to fill the gap involving the lack of stimulation some were placed with other litters. All grew to be normal and healthy. Most but not all were considered well-adjusted adults.

It is not hard to see why swimmers and runts have several things in common with the singleton. During the first few weeks after birth they all tend to be hand raised. They are given so much attention they can be categorized as being treated as a singleton. The differences between them are that most swimmers and runts do no grow up to look like their littermates and few ever become good show or working dogs. Because they are given so much attention and handling, the human bond generally is very good and most make wonderful pets.

Based on a review of this complex subject and the answers gathered, it seems fair to use a conclusion reached by Scott and Fuller in the 1950’s. While they did not study singletons and litter size per se, they did study differences between breeds and individuals within a breed. One of there conclusions was that there are measurable differences between breeds that are both physical and behavioral. They found that although there is a great deal of overlap between breeds, the individual capacities they will have are likely to be highly variable. They also found that most pups that become great performers and able to perform extraordinary tasks seem to have different capacities. In short, they “probably have special combinations of certain capacities which are largely the result of accidental selection”.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR
Carmen L Battaglia holds a Ph.D. and Masters Degree from Florida State University. As an AKC judge, researcher and writer, he has been a leader in promotion of breeding better dogs and has written many articles and several books. Dr. Battaglia is also a popular TV and radio talk show speaker. His seminars on breeding dogs, selecting sires and choosing puppies have been well received by the breed clubs all over the country. Those interested in learning more about his seminars should contact him directly. Visit his website at http://www.breedingbetterdogs.com
So you want to Open a Puppy Store, Quiz: Part 2

Because my first article submission to the Kennel Spotlight magazine seemed a little depressing at second review, I asked myself if those were my ‘true feelings’ each and every day that my husband and I have owned our business.

The following gives a truer picture of our life at “Puppy Love”:

You know how much you love your business when a sweet family finally chooses a puppy and the eight year old son stretches to lift his little piggy bank onto the counter and says “I’ve been saving my whole life for this!”

You know you love your business when two brothers in their 30’s who were referred to your store, carefully choose a pretty Shih Tzu puppy for their mother who’s husband just passed away and say “We know this puppy will be just what she needs right now”.

You know you love your business when the little dogs running around your house are the ones you just “couldn’t resist” and their licks, wiggles and wags bring you joy everyday.

You know you love your business when your husband’s license plate says “Pudpaddy” and you, by default, are the “Pupmommy”.

You know you love your business when you can offer a Poodle or Shih Tzu solution to three little children who are told by their mother that “Daddy is allergic so we may not be able to buy a puppy today” and one of the children offers his own solution: “Daddy can sleep in the garage”.

You know you love this business when six months after a tiny precious Chihuahua puppy was stolen from your store with no clues and no luck finding it, and after nights of being worried sick if the thief would know how to deal with hypoglycemia and vet care, a nervous woman walks into your store and says: “I have to talk to you. My daughter came home with a puppy several months ago and said her boyfriend gave it to her. I’m certain now that she took it from your store. I’d like to apologize profusely, assure you that the puppy is fine, and pay in full.”

You know you are proud to be in this business when you’ve been trying to save a two pound puppy who’s been vomiting, hasn’t been eating, and looks like its on its last legs at midnight and in the morning you walk the dreaded last few feet into the room where you expect to see his lifeless body but instead he’s trotting around like he owns the world and staring at you with his head to the side as if to say “thank you! I’m feeling much better now!”

You know you are proud of your business when week after week, year after year, customers who have bought dogs, even the ones who may have had a problem initially, tell you how reassured and relieved they are that you follow up, reach out, and go the extra mile, even if it means driving to an emergency clinic to pick up a puppy you can treat before it costs a customer hundreds of dollars to leave it there.

You know you are proud of your business when it is your goal to resolve every problem, answer every question and always put the health, safety and well-being of your puppies first.

You know you are proud of your business when the select group of employees you have finally found after years of hiring, firing and searching, continue to show themselves day after day, to be the most hardworking, devoted, loyal and compassionate people you know.

These things and more make it all worthwhile!

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Recently, the HSUS accused Petland, the national pet store chain, of selling dogs bred under appalling conditions at ‘puppy mills’ around the country. The animal rights group made the charges at a news conference in Washington. HSUS did an eight-month investigation citing that the dogs were inhumanely treated. The group stated that pet stores should not be buying puppies from ‘abusive puppy mills’ and that all large volume breeders are puppy millers. Here is Petland’s response:

An Open Letter to the Editor regarding HSUS

DEAR EDITOR,

After reviewing hours of footage on the Humane Society of the United States (HSUS) web site video archive, Petland, Inc. has discovered that numerous images and footage in the video HSUS released about Petland were actually taken from unrelated HSUS stories.

Petland is outraged that HSUS would intentionally use video footage of unrelated kennels in the report to try to mislead the general public into believing these facilities have a connection to Petland. Petland produced screen images of many of the duplicated video clips, showing both the Petland video and videos of where many of the clips actually originated. (see [www.petland.com](http://www.petland.com))

ABOUT THE HSUS

The HSUS name is misleading, Petland contends, because the average consumer thinks they are the parent organization of all local humane societies. The fact is, they are NOT, and very little support in the form of dollars, actually makes it to the local level.

Here are a few facts, taken from HSUS’ 2006 tax returns available on the HSUS web site ([www.hsus.org/web-files/PDF/hsus-2006-form-990.pdf](http://www.hsus.org/web-files/PDF/hsus-2006-form-990.pdf)):

2006 Tax Return: Return of organization exempt from income tax

- $91.5 million Amount HSUS received from direct public support
- $85.8 million Amount HSUS spent in Functional Expenses such as:
  - $28 million spent on HSUS Salaries and Benefits
  - $17.8 million spent on mailing costs
  - $8.9 million spent on publications and campaigns
  - $3.7 million spent on travel costs
- $127 million Amount HSUS has in stocks, and publicly traded securities. None allocated to any support programs.

Petland urges consumers to donate to their local shelters, where their donations will directly impact the lives of the animals in their communities.

REQUEST AND REVIEW OF DOCUMENTATION

Petland has asked Stephanie Shain of the HSUS to turn over documents detailing the stores investigated, the breeders visited and the nearly 17,000 puppies in question, none of which was turned over to the USDA. Petland intends to request and review ALL of the documentation. Petland will assist the USDA in any investigation of these facilities and will conduct their own unannounced inspections. And, if necessary, will take immediate action.

Wayne Pacelle, president and CEO of the HSUS, recently told Newsweek, “I don’t require that my audience be in complete agreement with me...that’s the point of having dialogue – you sit down with people who have different emphasis.” Petland asks where is our dialogue?

Petland has not been asked to sit down and have a conversation with HSUS. That is, until Petland called
Shain and asked for documentation, only then was a discussion requested.

PETLAND IS PART OF THE SOLUTION

At Petland, our number one concern is for the health and well-being of the pets within our care. The fact that HSUS has conducted an 8-month investigation and at no time, did HSUS contact the proper authorities or call the police to shut these kennels down is completely unacceptable and demonstrates their lack of concerns for the animals themselves. HSUS held on to the footage and waited until November sweeps to publicly release it, unbeknownst to the USDA (the governing body) and to Petland. They used this same maneuver with the cattle industry in January of 2008, waiting nearly two months to release their report, which charged that what the investigation revealed was a danger to our national food supply. What responsible agency would hold on to information that was potentially dangerous to our nation’s food supply or endangers animals?

Petland has a strong commitment to our pets and our communities and has been an industry leader in pushing for better animal care. Petland has volunteered its help in recovery and rescue efforts and has rallied their communities for homeless animals and animal-related charities. Through our Adopt A Pet program, Petland nationwide has adopted out more than 270,000 homeless puppies and kittens by working with local shelters, hobbyists and rescue groups. Petland is part of the solution.

If the HSUS wants to do some real good, they need to become part of the solution. They need to report the results of their investigations promptly to the proper authorities and actively work to shut down substandard facilities. HSUS should be spending their considerable dollars ($91 million), not on salaries and fundraising propaganda ($85.8 million), but on No Kill Shelter efforts and direct donations to local humane societies who are in dire need of support.

Sincerely,
Petland, Inc.

Runway Pets, Inc.

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(417) 452-7000 (Fax)
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The American public’s right to own a pet of its choice is under attack. The future of the right to own and breed dogs ethically is connected to the strength of the AKC. You—the ethical breeder—are an important part of that strength. This is why we are pleased to introduce the brand-new AKC Breeder Relations Department. The goal of this department is to provide you with superior customer service by presenting special offers, addressing your questions, and providing breeder education/support at seminars and on-site visits.

The new department, based out of the Raleigh, NC Operations Center, is headed up by Michelle Baker. Michelle has been with the AKC for four years, and has already worked with many of you in her former role as Director of Customer Service. She understands how much dedication you put into your breeding practices, and looks forward to stepping up communications with an important part of the AKC’s customer base. Michelle can be contacted personally at mab2@akc.org.

Three Breeder Field Representatives – Stacy Mason, Kandy Hale, and Phyllis King - join Michelle in the Breeder Relations Department. Their role is to represent the AKC’s most important clients -- breeders. They will attend breeder association meetings, give presentations, distribute educational and marketing materials, visit breeders on-site (when requested) to educate them about kennel conditions, health and breeding issues, preparing for an inspection, helpful AKC programs, and so on. AKC Breeder Field Representatives understand the Commercial Pet Industry and the issues facing professional breeders.

In addition to the Breeder Field Representatives, the new department includes Account Representative Theresa Bowling and Program Administrator Alex Williams, who will be your primary point of contact when you call the AKC. They will personally assist you when you call the AKC Breeder Direct line with registration questions/issues; bringing breeding stock back to AKC; and letting you know about new programs and services.

Meet Your AKC Breeder Relations Staff

Stacy Mason: Senior Breeder Field Representative

Stacy will continue in her current role as part of this new team. Many breeders have seen or met Stacy at the AKC booth. She attends and speaks at many breeder conferences and meetings across the United States in an effort to share general dog and AKC information with all breeders. Stacy was born into a life of dogs. With her parents, she has raised Toy Poodles, Afghan Hounds, Whippets, Greyhounds, Italian Greyhounds, Shih Tzu and Yorkshire Terriers. She also handled and trained all breeds of dogs professionally. She has trained drug detection, search and rescue, cadaver, as well as agility, rally, obedience, tracking, trailing and protection dogs. A former AKC judge, Stacy began working for AKC in 2004 as an Inspector. Two years later she became AKC’s first Breeder Field Representative.

Kandy Hale: Breeder Field Representative

Kandy has been a breeder for over 25 years. Her kennel, Puppy Paradise, was classified by state and federal inspectors as one of the top 10 kennels in the United States. It was consistently recognized for the quality of its animals’ health. Kandy designed, supervised, and assisted in the set-up and landscaping that brought about her facility’s top ratings. Kandy has also been employed as a Veterinary Technician since 2005.

Phyllis King: Breeder Field Representative

Phyllis has been a breeder for over 10 years. Her kennel, Dacas, was recognized by the USDA as one of the top Kennels in Oklahoma. She has been very active with the Oklahoma Pet Professionals, serving as Treasurer and Membership Secretary. She is also a member of IAPBA, MNPBA, MPBA, NAPO, OAIA, OKPP, QSBA, STEPP.

Theresa Bowling: Account Representative

Theresa has worked for the AKC for nine years in the Customer Service and Special Services Departments. Most recently she has worked specifically on Registered Kennel Names and Impure Breeding Cases. She is an avid dog lover and shares her home with a Boston Terrier, a Pug and a German Shorthaired Pointer.

Alex Williams: Breeder Relations Administrator

Alex has worked for the AKC for nine years in Customer Service. She brings a wealth of knowledge to this new department.

Our new breeder relations department is just one example of how the AKC utilizes its resources to benefit breeders and dogs. The future is in all of our hands: By working together, we can protect the rights of breeders, the care and conditions of dogs, and the integrity of our registry and our breeders.

For feedback regarding the ways AKC can further help breeders or questions on any of the programs described in this article, please contact the AKC’s Breeder Relations department at 1-800-252-5545, PIN 74777, or e-mail dogbreeders@akc.org.
In a bold new initiative, AKC held a conference on Jan. 20, 2009 at their new facility in Raleigh, North Carolina, with the heads of State Breeder Organizations and other select individuals with great influence over the commercial breeding industry. Their goal was to mend broken fences that resulted in decreasing registrations for the titling agency. The meeting began with a full tour of their impressive new facility and a detailed presentation regarding the flow of activity.

Concerns were presented on the behalf of all the Breeders that became innocent victims for offering AKC purebred registration papers to customers, which later became revoked, either due to unchallenged administrative errors or false information reported by the owner of a previous generation where the error originated. I am speaking of revoked pure bred registration privileges due to a result of unmatched DNA results that the end customer was faced with and additionally, the selling Breeder had no previous knowledge of.

AKC’s stated they cannot offer purebred registration privileges in those instances in order to maintain the integrity of the blood line (Purple AKC Title), however, they do offer non-purebred registration certificates (Orange AKC title) which the puppy would be eligible to receive, thus still offering a form of AKC registration. In addition, the Breeder, after breeding 3 consecutive generations with matching DNA results, is eligible to upgrade from non-purebred to purebred certification for all puppies born after the 3rd generation. Although AKC did not support or reject a suggestion that a statement be added to the Breeders sale contract disclosing the titling agencies warranty, which reserves their right to correct or cancel the title at anytime, it provided the basis for breeders to begin examining alternative methods of protecting the Breeders from liability to the customer for revoked registration privileges. Additionally, concerns were discussed about the need for more prompt, courteous and personal service offered to the commercial breeders.

AKC is now processing nearly 60% of all paperwork and 40% of all litter applications online, speeding up the processing time. They also created a new department specifically dedicated to Breeder Relations, over seen by David Roberts, VP of Registrations and Customer Service and headed up by Michelle Baker. Now when the Breeder has questions about their paperwork, they can speak directly to the person that is their liaison. They will secure the information for you internally and promptly report back the findings. The best number to contact Michelle direct is 1-800-252-3345 and when prompted for a pin #, either enter your pin # or 74777.. You can also reach Michelle at 919-816-3555. However, again she has informed us the best number is the 1st number provided. AKC has also assigned additional field representatives to assist the commercial breeder. (see opp. pg)

Another large concern was that AKC has not been aggressive enough in their support of the commercial breeder against attacks of the anti-dog breeding and Animal Rights groups. The purpose of a title agency is to issue title. The title declares the owner of the property. The protection of ownership rights are granted to us under the US Constitution and the Bill of Rights. Titling agencies, above all other vendors in our industry services, should be the 1st to assist in our defense, as so declared by the very title certificate they generate! The Breeder Relations department will be looking into new ways to enlighten the public in support of the commercial breeders.

Lynn Mourning
I have just finished reading two articles which appear on the USA Breeders web site. One is a big hearted lady from Wilson Oklahoma who, at one time, worked for a Humane group in Texas. The author of the article wrote, “there was an old lady who lives in a van—she has so many dogs, she doesn’t know how her lifestyle can withstand”. Animal rescue groups don’t understand how a 71 year old lady living in a stripped out trailer can care for more than 120 dogs. She is asking for help. “But the dogs mean everything to her”, says Scott Sutherland, director of Southern Oklahoma Animal Resources [SORE]. “she loves the dogs, but she has to be taking care of herself, too”.

She is unemployed, her and the dogs are living off a $700 Social Security check each month. $500 goes to dog food and $200 goes to her. These dogs are all strays and their offspring, so no additional funds come from the sale of pups. The dogs continue to breed and grow in numbers. She heard about SORE a few months ago, Sutherland said, and called him, seeking urgent help.“I can’t live like this anymore. I have all these dogs and I don’t know what to do” the lady said. Sutherland visited her place and it was a mess. They could not even count the number of dogs that lived there..

None of the dogs, which were mostly lab mixes, had any shots, none were neutered, they had never seen a vet as she treated them herself with penicillin she occasionally administered. Even though she recognized her need for help, she would not give all of them up. She allowed Sutherland to remove 76 of them, but she has kept 40. Sutherland hopes to get the rest at a later date, dependant upon her willingness to release them. The Ardmore Animal Shelter has brought her feed on several occasions but when they try to take the dogs, she will not release them.

Only 15 of the dogs that have been removed are adoptable. The rest will “need a little more time” until they have received all the necessary medical treatments and have been properly socialized. They are not aggressive but shy from lack of human touch. She will allow some to be removed, but then want them returned. “We have to convince her all over again to allow us to keep them. The situation is not classified as simply a hoarding case but a human one as well. This woman has nothing. She lives in a filthy shell of a van that sits on flat tires. “These animals are everything to her”, says Sutherland. “If you remove some dogs, then yes, you have rescued some animals, but maybe you have destroyed a human being in the process, too. She is part Cherokee Indian and is willing to be admitted to a facility available only to people of Native American descent, but she will not go until she knows that all of her dogs are taken care of.

What is wrong with this situation? Nothing. Everything. Scott Sutherland must be a rarity in the Animal Activist world. He is actually concerned about the well being of the human in this case. I believe he should be president of The Humane Society of the United States. 98.735% [makes it sound believable] of all Humaniacs would take her dogs, charge her with animal cruelty, and ask the judge to send her to jail for the rest of her life. I would bet that the simple fact that she does not sell these pups for a profit gains her all of this sympathy. BUT, how many times have I talked to breeders with tears in their voice asking me “what can I do”, “they are taking my babies”? It breaks my heart!! I do not need to touch on the violations , from penicillin to dirty, overcrowded conditions. What has my attention is Scott Sutherland. I do not know this man, but he actually is concerned about the person in the picture.

The next article is called “Puppy Hell”, written by Mary Van de Kamp Nohl. This article appeared in the Milwaukee Magazine [www.milwaukeemagazine.com and click on puppy hell] and featured Wallace Havens, starting with his early history, following him through to his establishing himself as “the father of the designer dogs”. His Puggles breed is his chief claim to fame, landing him in the eye of Marie Claire Magazine, The Wall Street Journal, [front page], and the New York Times Magazine plus an appearance on CBS “Sunday Morning”. He is a past board member of NAPO and an outstanding credit to the High Volume breeder community. OR, Or, as Ms Nohl would have you believe, and she has done an excellent job of presenting her list of facts to supplement her argument, Mr. Havens is the devil reincarnate. She criticizes almost everything about the man. His kennels are better than most of us but not good enough for her. His care for his animals is better than any humane shelter, but not good enough for her. He is willing to help any breeder to better their operation, even to founding the breeder club in Wisconsin, but therein lies a fault in her eyes. He is helping the kennel industry grow and is upgrading those he comes in contact with so as to better fight adverse legislation.

She is also very much annoyed with the Amish and Mennonite people who have moved into Wisconsin to escape the harsh laws handed down by Governor Ed Rendell of Pennsylvania. Do not forget that name. He is your enemy. He owns two dogs making him twice as knowledgeable as...
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When: March 17th, 2009
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ex-Senator Rick Santorum, co-sponsor of the PAWS bill which was defeated a few years ago, but is now being reintroduced as the PUPS bill by Illinois Senator Dick Durbin. Are you not glad we have all these experts telling us how to run our business? It would seem that these Lancaster County transplants do everything wrong. It seem these gentle men of the soil, whose heritage goes back several hundreds of years of working with animals must consider the dog an animal and not a pet and therefore obviously they are not qualified to raise dogs in Wisconsin without the help of the Wisconsin State Legislature, who needs to be advised by Ms Nohl and her Humaniac friends.

And so, we now get to the crux of the story. We do not speak the same language. We speak agriculture. They speak humaniaa!! Their definition of animal cruelty is based on “Where would mama’s little snookums like to sleep tonight, with mama in her bed or on the expensive feather pillow in snookums bed?” Our definition is based on adequate food, water, and shelter in a kennel with 100 to 1000 dogs. Their thoughts are that every dog needs picked up and kissed, half the time in the mouth. Usually right after they just licked their butt or ate their pen mates poop. An animal rights judge in New York once ruled that a dog was not an animal, he was a companion.

Now, I love dogs, BUT they are not equal to my grandchildren. My dog sleeps on a pillow in the garage. Dogs are my animal of choice, but they were not superior to my cows, horses, or pigs. I felt the same conviction to care for all my animals equally. I went to Cal Poly to earn a B.S. degree in Animal Husbandry. There I was taught to produce food for Americas table, as economically as possible. I was offered a job by the Argentina Dept. of Agriculture to use that knowledge to help them to also use American technology to streamline their methods of production. The things I learned and did under the guidance of the instructors at the university would land me in jail under the new definition of “animal abuse”. I learned to rope a calf, tie it, brand it, castrate it, dehorn it, vaccinate it, delouse it, untie it and watch it run back to it’s mother in less than 5 minutes. I learned to catch pigs, stick them head down into a funnel and castrate them, notch their ears according to the formula for identification, snip their baby teeth and cut their tails, all in one smooth, fast, and economical operation. I learned to debeak chickens, butcher turkeys, break horses, etc. etc. and I used all of these skills when making my living in farming. I used various skills from my animal husbandry classes to raise dogs. To me, the dogs had it made compared to other farm animals.

So, please excuse me if I do not spend much time worrying about mama’s little baby and where it wants to sleep. A dog is a dog, that’s an animal. He is entitled to basic care of medicine, food, and shelter. Whatever other special entitlements you wish to heap upon him is your privilege, but I want you to quit trying to shove your ideas of humane care down my throat.

I have never seen a kennel where the dogs are forced to sleep in their own excrement or housed in a stack cage where their droppings fall upon their companions below them and I have been in thousands of kennels, yet in every story these sob sisters wish to write about us this is what they describe. It is a lie, but so what! Even if these charges were true, they eat the stuff. I can sleep beside a plate of bacon and eggs. I am sure the animal activist is much more concerned about it than the dog is. God made us the way we are. We do not lick our babies butts clean but dogs do. We do not eat other peoples manure [unless it comes in on tomatoes or other produce from foreign countries], but dogs do. We do not howl at the moon, unless the inspector is making our life a living hell. Dogs and people have different values, let it stay that way. They are pack animals and just like the wolves and coyotes, they do not particularly need human companionship. It is really the other way around, we seem to need canine companionship.

Right now, all people raising dogs are banding together against the common enemy, Humaniacs. The show people want to keep the right to raise mama’s little snookum’s, the high volume breeder wants to raise his dogs just like he always has, the sporting dog people do not want interference in the raising and training of their dogs, the cattle and sheep raisers need their dogs to run their business and the Humane Society of the United States and PETA and Best Friends and all the other people who live off of us really do not want their source of income to dry up. If we disappear, some bright soul at HSUS will say, “we just killed the goose that laid our golden egg”.

We will never have a meeting of the minds with the activist but we can meet with reasonable individuals, if there are any, from the other side and work on compromise. We give a little, accept some new changes and in exchange for our support on some changes, they back down on their more radical desires. We did this in Missouri some years ago and it has worked beautifully. Some breeders hate the restrictions and some activist hate the lack of more oppressive restrictions, so those of us that are more middle of the road thinkers, we think the law is working that both sides helped to write.

As I said, we do not speak the same language. So, lets hire an interpreter and get this controversy over with.
CALENDAR OF EVENTS

February 7th, 2009
Dakota Breeders Association, James Valley Community Center, Mitchell, South Dakota. For more info please contact Wendy Engel at wendyengel@mt-rushmore.net

February 7th & 8th, 2009
Mid-Missouri Winter Dog Show, sponsored by the American Stock Dog Registry and IABCA, Moberly Area Community College, Moberly, MO. CGC and Eye Certifying available and Formal Pet Photographer. Contact IABCA (International All Breed Canine Association) at (503) 316-9860.

February 27th & 28th, 2009
MPBA-Missouri Pet Breeders Association Spring Seminar, University Plaza, Springfield, Missouri. Contact Barb York at (417) 876-5787

March 7th & 8th, 2009
NEOKPP-Northeast Oklahoma Pet Professionals Pet Expo. Contact Gary Phillips at (918) 785-2300

March 13th & 14th, 2009
IaPBA-Iowa Pet Breeders Association, Meskwaki Bingo Casino Hotel (1504 305th St., Tama, Iowa) Contact Michele Kruse at (319) 750-3123 or email: MGKruseIA@aol.com

March 27th & 28th, 2009
KPP-Kansas Pet Professional Seminar, Holiday Inn, Salina, Kansas. Contact Sara Meyer (785)855-2251

April 3rd & 4th, 2009
MnPBA-Minnesota Pet Breeders Association Spring Seminar, Jackpot Junction Casino, Morton, MN. Contact Sheila Haag at (320) 453-6921

UPCOMING AUCTIONS:

February 7th, 2009- Consignment Sale, Wheaton, MO
February 14th, 2009- Jason Wattenbarger, S. Coffeyville, OK
February 21st, 2009- Judy Koehn, Burns, KS
March 7th, 2009-
March 14th, 2009- Lisa Simerman, Brookfield, MO
March 21st, 2009- Flip Wilson, Poteau, OK

KANSAS PET PROFESSIONALS (KPP) SEMINAR MARCH 27th & 28th
FEATURED SPEAKERS:
• Dr. Bob Page, sponsored by APRI
• Dr. Ben Hatler, sponsored by NEOTECH
• Dr. Rick Kessler, sponsored by Lambert Vet Supply

UPCOMING APRI DOG SHOWS

March 14th, 2009- NE Texas Canine Exhibitors, Kellyville Community Center (Hwy 49W Jefferson, TX) Contact Joan Richardson (903) 331-0452

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

May 9th, 2009- Upper Cumberland Kennel Club, Gainesboro, TN. Contact Karen Smith (931) 268-9210

May 16th, 2009- OKKP-Checotah, Oklahoma

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

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

Raylee Box update;

It’s been a year since the Southwest Auction Service had a fundraising event at one of their sales for Miss Raylee Box, an 8yr old cancer patient from Sulphur Springs, Texas. The auction, which was held Feb. 8th & 9th, 2008, helped to raise over $4500 in proceeds to help the family’s huge medical expenses. Since then, we have kept track of Raylee’s condition and we are very happy to report she is in remission and doing very well. She still has to go for regular treatments every 3 weeks but is able to live a fairly normal life. Raylee has a special interest in greeting cards so anyone who wants to send her well wishes can send their cards to: Jan Campbell c/o Raylee Box
P.O. Box 138
Sulphur Springs, Texas 75483
ARKANSAS FARM BUREAU

Farm Bureau Supports AG’s Animal Cruelty Proposal

LITTLE ROCK — Arkansas Farm Bureau’s board of directors voted recently to support animal cruelty legislation that will be proposed in the 87th General Assembly by Arkansas Attorney General Dustin McDaniel. The organization called up long-standing policy in supporting the bill, said Randy Veach, president of Arkansas Farm Bureau. Veach cited the following Arkansas Farm Bureau policy in announcing support for McDaniel’s bill:

We oppose cruel and abusive treatment of animals;
- We support common-sense animal cruelty legislation, with the rights of producers being secured;
- Violations of Arkansas animal cruelty law should remain a misdemeanor, except in extreme cases of cruelty;
- Only certified law enforcement officers should be authorized, by law, to make arrests for animal cruelty offenses.

“We applaud General McDaniel for his diligent work in crafting legislation that addresses abusive treatment of animals, while protecting the interests of agriculture,” said Veach, a cotton, soybean, rice and wheat farmer from Manila (Mississippi County). “We know how much detail has gone into crafting this proposal, and are hopeful that this bill can move through the legislative process as presented. “This legislation includes very specific definitions of what constitutes cruelty, and places arrest authority in the hands of law enforcement officials. Those are the areas that have caused the most difficulty in past efforts to get an animal cruelty bill passed.” Arkansas Farm Bureau has supported bills each of the past three legislative sessions that would have made repeat offenses of animal cruelty a felony, while opposing other proposals that included unclear language and continued the practice of allowing private citizens to have arrest authority. “We have fought for a common sense application of animal cruelty laws. We believe what is being proposed by the attorney general reflects a lot of work, input and agreement over what Arkansas’ law should include,” said Veach. “General McDaniel brings a lot of credibility to the process of crafting a law that limits the risk of unintended consequences.” Veach noted that several agricultural groups have been involved with the AG’s office in crafting the proposed legislation. The proposal is expected to be filed during the first week of the legislative session. Arkansas Farm Bureau is a nonprofit, private advocacy organization of more than 227,000 families throughout the state working to improve farm and rural life.

If you have any comments or questions about this advisory please e-mail us at: publicrelations@arfb.com

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Jackpot Junction Casino, Morton, MN
1-800-WIN-CASH www.jackpotjunction.com

The MnPBA board & new seminar coordinator are bringing in many ideas for this seminar that are different from past years, including:

- **$500, $200, $200, $300 Drawings**
  given throughout the seminar; must be present and current MnPBA member at the time of these drawings; each membership limited to one cash prize

- **door prizes** donated by the exhibitors

- **$250 in Early Registration Drawings**
  everyone registering for the seminar by March 3, 2009 will be entered (excluding MnPBA board & exhibitors; drawing held after first speaker; must be present to win)

- **gift bags** with free items for registrants

Registration forms will be mailed out early 2009 and need to be returned to the seminar coordinator by March 3, 2009 to be entered in the early registration drawings, gift bags, and to receive the reduced rate banquet tickets of $15 sponsored by Royal Canin! Menu includes: pit ham, slow roasted pork loin, grilled marinated chicken breast, sour cream & chive mashed potatoes, garlic roasted baby reds, buttered corn, salad, dinner rolls, carrot cake, coffee, tea & milk)

More details regarding speaker and exhibitor information will be announced in upcoming newsletters as it becomes available!

To reserve exhibitor booths or register for the seminar, contact Sheila at 320-453-6921

Jackpot Junction room rates:
Thurs., April 2nd = $46  Fri., April 3rd = $66

Whether you are a current or potential member, if you have one dog or many, if you are a breeder, industry supporter, exhibitor, distributor or supplier, you all have a place in our organization and will benefit from this FREE Seminar!

You will be able to attend the seminar & reserve hotel rooms after the pre-registration deadline of March 3rd, but we encourage you to register early so you can be entered in the drawings and so we can better plan the event to be a success!

Seminar includes:
- 8 speakers
- exhibitor booths
- banquet
- door prizes/gift bags
- fundraising auction

Speakers
- Bretaigne Jones, DVM, sponsored by Royal Canin
- Dr. Rick Kesler, sponsored by Lambert Vet Supply
- Robert Ovrebo, DVM, sponsored by Tech Mix
- Jim Hughes, with Kennel Spotlight
- Dr. Sandra Koch, with the University of Minnesota
- Dr. John King, Exec. Dir., MN Board Veterinary Medicine
- Carol Podstad, of Classic Clips (puppy grooming demonstrations)
- Stacy Mason, American Kennel Club

Exhibitor Showcase
The Exhibitor Showcase will feature booths showcasing products & services. They always offer great show discounts & specials, so start making your supply lists! Many have products you can purchase right at the seminar so you will save on shipping expenses!
While my complaint is with the whole filled out Passport. Regardless as to whether your difference is with the IRS, the Justice Dept., the Social Security or any other Washington agency, they all will argue to their [or your] last breath that these regulations, irregardless of the show of rationality or lack of same, have been chiseled in stone, or maybe titanium. Some of these archaic rules and regulations must have been written by these same politician’s grandparents and irregardless of a multitude of common sense arguments to the need to change them, these bureaucrats are committed to keeping them in place until God, himself, returns to earth to change them and even HE must have a properly filled out Passport.

While my complaint is with the whole Washington establishment, my specific complaint today is with the USDA, or, specifically APHIS. Have you ever tried to reason with them? Is this a “mission impossible” job? These guys are licensed veterinarians! I took a few vet classes while getting my degree in Animal Husbandry. I know you have to have a high degree of brain power to pass those courses. Where does that intelligence power go when you try to persuade one of them that there is a better way?

Specifically, we are talking about one particular case, but as the frustration sets in, we might as well condemn the whole situation. Washington STINKS. The Supreme Court, Congress, the Senate, the whole darn mess. It parallels the story.

A lady was written up for delivering dogs to an auction across state lines without a Health Certificate. She lives in Arkansas and her vet has his office in Missouri. He is licensed to practice in both states. He is right on the path from her kennel to the auction. He is her veterinarian of choice because of his expertise in the dog business and the fact that he offers a professional discount to High-Volume kennels.

Now the regulations do state that a health certificate must be obtained if you cross state lines for the purpose of entering your dogs into commerce. She can cross that state line legally if she is taking her dog to the vet with the intent of bringing it back home again. Or she can haul it all over Arkansas for any reason and be legal. The problem is, she hoped to sell it at the auction. HOPE is a key word. Many of you have found that in today’s market you will not take what is being offered for the dog, so it goes back home with you. Or maybe you just wanted to visit the auction to check out what was being offered and the prices these dogs would bring, so you brought little Fifi along for the ride. Now you are legal.

Same trip, same vet, same auction, different intent. One, you are legal, one you are illegal. Or, you could bring her to sell, but there stands the USDA inspector, so you tell him/her the dog is not for sale. Now, you are a liar. Some people make an art out of lying but some people just cannot bring themselves to lie, no matter what the consequences.

Another scenario, you raise dogs in Kansas City, Kansas. Your vet is across the street but that street happens to be Stateline and he is on the Missouri side of that line. Sure, there is a vet 30 miles west of you that offers High-Volume Kennel discounts but you are going south-east to the auction. Does this not scream for a little common sense attitude on the part of the Inspector? Sure it does, but then the inspector risks a censure from his supervisor for not following the written letter of the law. Is this not the place where Dr Gibson should step in and write a position paper to allow the inspector to use some of that common sense without him/her being in jeopardy? Does Dr. Gibson even answer his phone? Does Dr. Gibbens {different Dr.} ever change his mind? Does Dr. Sabala ever see anything the breeders way or are his inspectors always right?

It is 5:00 in the morning. You need to be at work by eight. [No, Dorothy, the breeders are not millionaires from raising dogs] and you are hurrying through the morning feeding and cleaning. It rained last night and the outside runs are a little sloppy. You get their re-circulated high priced premium dog food all over you as you try to clean that slop up. Yes, there is one in heat that needs to be bred and you are going to have to take the one in labor by the vet. Your mood is in terrible shape and the kids better not look at you in the exasperated way that kids can do unless they want yelled at just as you are doing right now to that USDA inspector that wrote you up last week, even if he is 20 miles over on the other side of the county. Do you now ever stop to think about that bored to death veterinarian inspector that must be on the job by 9:00 am in his clean office, with his white shirt and possibly a neck tie, who must sit there all day and try to think up a new regulation to force upon you so he can justify his job? Do you really believe he has any experience in knowing why he wants this new regulation? Did he ask you if it would make your job easier, more profitable, or the dogs more comfortable? Did he ever consider grandfathering a rule he wished to change so as to make it easier on the breeder? Has he ever field tested this idea before it became law? We have enough laws! Let’s save some taxpayer’s dollars and fire all the people whose job it is to make new laws!

Common Sense—we got tons of it. We got it just like E.F.Hutton. We worked for it. If APHIS needs any, just call and ask us. We can spare some.

AND I, FOR ONE, CERTAINLY THINK YOU COULD USE SOME!!!
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I have been responsible for producing ten’s of thousands of gallons of milk to feed Americas families. I have produced hundreds of thousands of pounds of beef and pork for the same reason. I have raised acres and acres of wheat and hay to produce this food. I have always been very proud of helping to feed America.

I have come into contact with some very rich and successful people in my walk through life. I have shook hands with Sam Walton in the Walmart store in Branson, Missouri. I have bought hamburgers directly from the McDonalds Brothers in a small hamburger stand in San Bernardino, California. One brother cooked them and the other brother served them. This was the only McDonalds in the world in 1950. I have had lengthy conversations with JB Hunt of trucking fame when he helped with the financing for the Hunte Corp. to buy Do-Bo-Tri Kennels. I really liked the man.

These are all well known billionaires that had humble beginnings. I have also known many less famous but very successful people on a somewhat smaller scale. I can attest to the fact that all of these people were very proud of their accomplishments and held their head high when appearing in public. Think about the successful people you have known or seen on TV and see if you can get yourself to be intimidated by these people. If you are ashamed of you in the day of judgment before God, then Christ will be ashamed of you in the day of judgment before man, then Christ will be ashamed of us.

I have been responsible for helping to place over 400,000 puppies into the hands of loving families for companions for children, house bounds, lonely oldsters, young married’s, or anyone wanting a purebred pet puppy. In doing so, I have provided jobs for 24 people and a market for thousands of breeders to sell their puppies. I am 74 years old and pretty set in my ways, and you know what, I AM DARN PROUD OF WHAT I DO AND THE WAY I DO IT!! I refuse to allow a bunch of sniveling, undereducated, busy body, sob sisters who will downright lie to try to convince the general public that I/we are the monsters that they portray us to be. BUT, I am getting sick and tired of fighting for you folks when you will not stand up and fight for yourselves. It is estimated that only 7 percent of the breeder population has ever made any attempt to defend themselves or their industry. We are getting our butt kicked in this war because we do not have any soldiers.

Okay, what set me off this time? Read below!

I got an e-mail referring me to the internet; No Puppy Mills North Carolina #3. And with all this BS they spread over the internet or on Oprah, they can convince the unknowing public and their legislators that the puppy breeding facilities should be shut down or seriously confined by laws that make it impossible to obey. I must say, these sob sisters do have an active imagination and an ability to write a convincing set of lies. In this article and many like them, we are accused of operating a kennel with the following conditions:

1. Abusing our animals — Spotlight asks, “by whose definition”.

2. Allowing feces and urine to fall on dogs from above — Spotlight, “I have never seen a two tiered facility that did not have a wash down partition between the cages.”

3. Feet deformed from living on wire. Spotlight — “I housed 300 dogs on wire and never witnessed this problem.”

4. Mother dogs are sick and starved. — Spotlight— “please explain to me how a sick and starved mother could give enough milk to wean a litter of puppies.”

5. Toenails growing in circle back into dogs foot — Spotlight— “could happen but we always clip nails when we shear dogs down both spring and fall.”

6. No shelter from the elements — Spotlight — “in 50 years, I have never witnessed a dog that did not have at least a dog house.”

7. Puppies shipped at 5 to 6 weeks old — Spotlight— “this is against USDA rules. BUT, before USDA, this was a common practice and no adverse situations ever arose from it.”

8. Pet stores will let puppies die rather than spend money on veterinarian care. Cheaper to replace it. — Spotlight— “We are in this business because we love dogs, the pet store owners are in this for the same reason. It just does not happen.”

9. Uncaring breeders will breed rejected dogs with defects such as kidney malfunction, blindness, hip dysplasia, behavioral problems, etc. — Spotlight— “the breeder who does these kind of things digs his own grave and will soon be out of business.”

10. Debarks his dogs by ramming a pipe down his throat to destroy his voice box — Spotlight— “I have been in this business for fifty years and I have never seen or heard of anyone doing this. I would not even know how to do it if I were so inclined.”

11. Etc. etc, etc.

The reason I know these people are illiterate is because they called me the ‘Chief of Monsters’. Now if they cannot see what a sweet, kind, gracious, even tempered and wonderful person I am, then all of their other accusations are to be suspect also. The bible says if you are ashamed of God before man, then Christ will be ashamed of you in the day of judgment before God. You cannot function in this business if you have allowed yourself to be intimidated by these people. If you are ashamed of the business, get out! If you do not want to
get out, get proud! Stand up for your rights. Pull your head out of the sand and fight back. Six times a year, I tell 13,000 breeders how I feel about this business. If every one of you would e-mail, write, or call your state, county, and federal representative and tell him your views on the dog industry, you would see some major changes in the way these legislators look at things. But what can we expect when they only hear the AR side of things?

Take pride in yourself and stand up for your rights. Our enemies are getting better and bolder. We are afraid of the retribution if we stand up for ourselves and our profession. A controversial subject will be posted on USA Breeders and 200 people will read the post but less than a dozen will comment on it. When we are asked to write a letter to a legislator either supporting or condemning a bill before him, only 7 percent of us will respond. If we are asked to e-mail him, only 3 percent will respond. If we are asked to call him, we have less than 2 percent response and if, lord forbid, we are asked to do all three, the response is so low that it is not measurable. Also, if we ask people to talk to legislators to propose a bill favorable to our industry, the response is non-existent.

However, if anybody actually takes it upon themselves to think up a proposed law and get it presented, the amount of criticism heaped upon that individual by both his AR enemies and his supposedly “breeder friends” is overwhelming, making him vow to never again put himself in that position. We are becoming a do-nothing group of breeders that will never defend ourselves and then complain because nobody else defended us either.

In years past, before internet sales, we only had brokers to sell to except for an occasional “out-the-door” sale. The brokers sold to the pet shops and they sold to the public. The shops were always the ones that took the heat when a sale went bad. They did the public relations, paid the vet bills, and tried to appease the customer when a puppy sale proved unsatisfactory. Today, you are the retailer with your web site and frankly, you are doing a lousy job with your customer complaint department. Now these customers are complaining to their legislators and to the Humane Society about their perceived mistreatment at the hands of the unscrupulous breeder. And the backlash is covering us all. If you sell to a broker, you are a wholesaler and have a right to expect your pet store to handle all of these small complaints, but if you sell through the internet at the retail level and get the retail price, then you must handle your complaints in a professional manner or you are going to be legislated out of business.

People, you must take PRIDE in your profession. Do the job right! If all you want to do is breed, then let someone else do the customer relations and expect him to make a profit. You must become professional! These are things YOU MUST DO:

1. Join your state and national groups who are trying to help you.
2. Go to their educational seminars and keep up on the latest.
3. Donate your money to help fight adverse legislation. There is no “free ride”.
4. Be a soldier in this fight. Write, call, e-mail, be a pest to anybody and everybody.
5. Quit criticizing those volunteers who work for nothing on your behalf.
6. Become one of those volunteers. Run for office in your state organization.
7. Start a breeders club.
8. Get off your {polite word, polite word} and DO SOMETHING!
9. Remember, I still love you all-this hurts me more than it hurts you-mama said.

DOG PROVERBS:
“Whoever said you cannot buy happiness forgot about little puppies.”--Gene Hill

“All knowledge, the totality of all questions and answers, is contained in the dog.”--Franz Kafka
HB1332 OKLAHOMA PET QUALITY AND ASSURANCE ACT

Watch out Oklahomanian’s! Here is another Animal Rights written bill to put additional laws into effect against dog breeders & dealers. Here are a few of the requirements that basically mimic many of the USDA regulations:

*Anyone who is a breeder, dealer, animal rescue, out of state dealer, shelter or pet store cannot sell, give away or transfer a total of 25 or more animals in a calendar year without this new ‘Pet Quality Assurance License’.

*Each applicant must submit a veterinarian’s health care protocol (just like USDA).

*The breeder’s premises is subject to inspection by a Pet Quality Assurance Agent.

*A husbandry and breeding protocol must be in writing and be presented to the PQA Agent.

*Any out of state breeders/dealers must also have a PQA license to transport, operate, maintain or deal with the animals in Oklahoma.

*The PQA license must be on display at the premises and a copy must accompany each bill of sale.

*All records are public.

*The license can be revoked if the breeder refuses to allow the PQA inspector on the property.

*If any animals are seized by the inspector, the PQA Dept. has the right to transfer the animals to almost anyone they choose to; other licensed PQA breeders, shelters, or they may be euthanized.

*No animals transported under 8 weeks of age and then all must have a microchip for identification and a valid health certificate.

In summary, if this bill is passed, it will enforce additional licensing fees to breeders that are already USDA licensed. Breeders need to be aware of these bills that are trying to get passed by the Animal Rights activists. For more information on this bill and other legislation, please check out the Oklahoma Legislation home page on the internet.

To everyone!!! We need a massive e-mail and calling campaign and we need it today!!!!

This will effect all of us sooner or later!!!!!!!!!

Please make the time right now to call and e-mail everyone you know and even those you haven’t talked to in years! Ask your local school teachers,farmers,banker,vet supply company, etc., and ask them to call and e-mail representative Beth McCann TODAY!!!!!!!!! Tell her how this will effect you and how this is bad for the Colorado economy and small businesses and how this bill will put people out of jobs and homes. Make suggestions on how Colorado can stop abusive treatment of dogs! (like hiring more inspectors!!!!) for PACFA so they can enforce the current laws that are in place!!! When you talk to her and e-mail her please be nice, be convincing and let her know your are a voting tax payer that strongly disagrees with this bill!!!!!!! Carmen Revord, Colorado Breeder

Beth McCann-Phone- 303-866-2959
e-mail- beth.mccann.house@state.co.us

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