HAPPY HOLIDAYS

FROM THE KENNEL SPOTLIGHT STAFF

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Bob, Jim & Kathy

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A special “Thank You” to Mary Johnson and Pet Connect for submitting their puppy pics!

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Hello Jim,

I was just sent an on-line copy of your Kennel Spotlight and I find it very sad and disturbing that you did not investigate the people you allowed to write articles. The piece I am referring to is “From the Rolling Hills of Holmes County” (Oct/Nov ‘08 issue), written by Ervin Raber. Did you know that this torturous facility is one of the largest ‘commercial’ breeders in Ohio and former owner of the notorious Buckeye Dog Auctions? How could you possibly allow this to even advertise knowing that he has tortured these beloved creatures for profit? I’m hoping that this is now brought to your attention you will print something about this in your next upcoming publication.

Judy C Hilliard, Ohio

Hello Judy,

This article was written by Roy Raber, not Ervin Raber, and from the pictures shown, I am convinced that Roy has nothing to be ashamed of. He is USDA licensed and seems to be a very responsible breeder of dogs. Also, in defense of Ervin, I have been to his kennels and I am proud of him and his facility. He is a fine, upstanding man who represents our industry very well. Your problem is that, I am assuming, you are an Animal Rights Activist and as such, you are committed to seeing the destruction of the Pet Industry. We just do not think alike. Your ideas of animal cruelty and ours are so far apart that without a major movement on your part to discuss and compromise on our differences, we will never come close to accepting anything you have to offer. I have been a High-Volume Breeder for 50 years and I REFUSE to be ashamed of my industry! This magazine is intended to help and strengthen our breeders and I am proud to publish articles that depict our more conscientious members.

Jim Hughes, Editor in Chief

Hello Mr. Hughes,

First, I want to tell you I love the Kennel Spotlight magazine. I read it over and over several times. I have a question and I thought I would just go straight to you to ask your expertise. In your experience, for a small kennel owner that is making a living being a dog breeder, how many dogs do they typically own? How many does the medium kennel owner have?? Where do they sell the majority of their puppies? Auctions, newspaper, internet, Hunte Corp, etc...????? I know that this may be a general question but I just wondered? I live in SW Oklahoma and I am a teacher who is wanting to get ideas of what it would take to become a breeder full time.

Thanks, Dane Mellford

Dear Dane,

First, you cannot make a living with a small kennel. I would recommend a medium sized kennel of 100 females plus 2 or more males for every breed you raise. You should have 10 breeds to always have at least 1 or 2 breeds bringing top dollar. Stay with at least 5 or 6 ‘bread & butter’ breeds like, doxies, poodle, shih tzu, terrier, maltese, cocker, etc. The best place to sell is anywhere you can find a buyer. Brokers are your most trouble free source. Those who try the internet should be prepared to handle unreasonable complaints and demands for refunds. You may also have trouble with airlines and ultimately you will burn the extra income you receive. I would recommend that you get a federal and state license, even if you do not need one because I feel the time is coming when you will not have a choice. You will need to join OKPP and NAPO for help in your business. You can contact Reda Ratliff at teejie1949@wmconnect.com. One of the MOST important things is to make sure you feed a top quality dog food and use top quality vaccine. Do not try to save money here, these are VITAL to your success! Thank you for your question and your compliment of the Spotlight.

Jim Hughes

Send us your questions or comments! We would love to hear from you! email: jshughes1@shyglobal.net or kathybettes@kennelspotlight.com

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How it all began……

I had worked a stressful job in town for years. Finally, I had a complete stress breakdown and ended up in the heart Hospital in Joplin with a Heart Cath done. The findings were from excessive stress. This left me with Epstein Bar or better known as ‘Chronic Fatigue Syndrome & some Fibermylgae’, as stated by the specialist caused from stress over a long period of time.

The specialist said in her opinion I would never work a job in town again. For months I was ghostly pale, had no energy and could not even take myself to the grocery store. Some days I could hardly get out of my own way! At times my blood pressure would spike dangerously high and I would end up in the Emergency room with a little pill under the tongue. I had to carry Glycerin spray with me for about 3 years. My local doctor tried to get me on disability, but I was denied.

I was raised on a farm and was my Dad’s helper. We milked cows, raised bottle calves, chickens, pigs and such. I was used to working hard and always loved the baby animals. Anything that looked hungry or scared just stole my heart and I had to nurture them. I had seven brothers all younger than me and also five sisters with only one older than myself who was mom’s helper. As we all know with one income, things can get a little tight at times. My brother who raised Lhasa Apsos, (his favorite & some other breeds) said to me, “Well! You were always taking care of animals when you were growing up and you loved them so much! And with your experience working for Laura (the vet) and grooming, you could start raising dogs. They can relieve a lot of stress.”

It was then that a bad tornado came through the area and one of the neighbor’s kennels and home were wiped away as if it were hardly ever there. The neighbor happened to be my brother’s brother-in-law. A lot of the dogs were never found, some were found dead or so badly injured the vet could not save them. Most of the survivors were housed at my brother’s place. One day, my brother called and asked, “Would you be interested in 5 Lhasa Apso adults for $200.00 each? I really don’t have room for anymore right now and we just cannot get enough places fixed for them soon enough with the cleanup were doing and my brother and sister-in-law living there after loosing everything.” So I started in September of 2000 with those five Lhasa Apsos and an outside pen for a few weeks as it was warm weather. With my brother’s help, we converted an 8x12’ building into a Kennel. We cut a hole in the back wall, put in a window and air conditioner and replaced the door with a windowed door. We insulated the walls and ceiling, cut holes, put in spring loaded flipper doors, an exhaust fan & ceiling fan and light. We finished it off with the indoor pens and outdoor runs. I now had an 11 pen kennel facility that I was very proud of.

Well, as we all know, there is always that one puppy we cannot seem to part with and it wasn’t long until we grew big enough to buy a used 10x20 Sundowner kennel that I later refurbished. I was getting stronger and stronger all the time and my health was returning. So was my need for more room! We had a 10x30 building built with an 8 inch insulated floor to be the whelping building. My husband and I wired and insulated the walls and ceiling. We sheeted the walls and ceiling and covered the walls with white fiberglass. We also made a wash-down framework and used white fiberglass on it also.

I made a lot of trips to the Hunte Corporation that summer for supplies. Tandem tenderfoot, fiberglass, wash-down ends, PVC fittings, 1x1 black plastic coated wire, doors and red plastic feeders. I had them plastic weld a sink into a countertop to fit my 6’ grooming area on one side and put a countertop with cabinets on the opposite side, for grooming and bathing.

I told my husband from the start, “if I’m going to do this, were going to do it right! The dogs will have AC in the summer and Heat in the winter. No drinking ‘ice water’ in the winter or ‘hot water’ in the summer. I will have AKC dogs and will keep the best puppies from the best parents to exceed the AKC breed standard for disposition and hair coat. And of course, good temperament is a must!” I said, “A person can have the best looking dog but without a good temperament and friendly disposition towards people and other dogs, you really don’t have it right.”

I have been raising AKC registered puppies since the fall of 2000. I have kept the best from my best. I have never been

M. Johnson story cont on pg 10
bitten or even growled at by any of my dogs. I can reach right in and assist at whelping, pick up the puppies and hold them as soon as they are born. And I always tell the moms they do a ‘good job’, give them a hug and tell them their babies are beautiful as I gently caress the backs of the newborns. The glowing mom’s seem to look in the eye and know just what I am saying!

In addition to the dogs in the 3 buildings, we have three spayed or neutered house pets: a Dachshund, (who was our first pet), that claims a recliner as her bed, a Shih Tzu, (who claims my pillow for her bed) and a Lhasa Apso, who was my baby baby. His mommy pulled too hard on the cord when he was born and now we know what he looks like from the ‘inside out’ when mommypull didn’t want those stitches in her baby boy! He sleeps beside the bed on his little sleeping mat. (Now who could part with that boy!?) We also have 5 spayed, retired Lhasa Apsos who run and play in the yard with the oldest one being 10 yrs.

As for me, I’m now 63 and still going strong! If I get stressed, I hug a puppy, particularly one of the Lhasa Apso, they are the best little huggers! I have not had to carry Glycerin spray for 8 years nor have I been in the emergency room with spiked blood pressure. Now!

Who is man’s best friend? Yes, it’s a Dog!

The Journey......

When you bring a pet into your life, you begin a journey - a journey that will bring you more love and devotion than you have ever known, yet it will also test your strength and courage. If you allow, the journey will teach you many things, about life, about yourself, and most of all, about love. You will come away changed forever, for one soul cannot touch another without leaving its mark. Along the way, you will learn much about savoring life’s simple pleasures - jumping leaves, snoozing in the sun, the joys of puddles, and even the satisfaction of a good scratch behind the ears.

Your house will become muddier and hairier. You will wear less dark clothing and buy more lint rollers. You may find dog biscuits in your pocket or purse, and feel the need to explain that an old plastic shopping bag adorns your living room rug because your cat loves the crinkly sound. You will learn the true measure of love - the steadfast, undying kind that says, “It doesn't matter where we are or what we do, or how life treats us as long as we are together.”

Respect this always. It is the most precious gift any living soul can give another. You will not find it often among the human race. And you will learn humility. The look in my dog's eyes often made me feel ashamed. Such joy and love at my presence. She saw not some flawed human who could be cross and stubborn, moody or rude, but only her wonderful companion. Or maybe she saw those things and dismissed them as mere human failings, not worth considering, and so chose to love me anyway. If you pay attention and learn well, when the journey is done, you will be not just a better person, but the person your pet always knew you to be - the one they were proud to call beloved friend. I must caution you that this journey is not without pain. Like all paths of true love, the pain is part of loving. For as surely as the sun sets, one day your dear animal companion will follow a trail you cannot yet go down.

And you will have to find the strength and love to let them go.

A pet’s time on earth is far too short - especially for those that love them. We borrow them, really, just for awhile, and during these brief years they are generous enough to give us all their love, every inch of their spirit and heart, until one day there is nothing left. The cat that only yesterday was a kitten is all too soon old and frail and sleeping in the sun. The young pup of boundless energy wakes up stiff and lame, the muzzle now gray. Deep down we somehow always knew that this journey would end. We knew that if we gave our hearts they would be broken. But give them we must, for it is all they ask in return. When the time comes, and the road curves ahead to a place we cannot see, we give one final gift and let them run on ahead - young and whole once more.

“Godspeed, good friend,” we say, until our journey to a place we cannot see, we give one final gift and let them run on ahead - young and whole once more.

But give them we must, for it is all they ask in return. When the time comes, and the road curves ahead to a place we cannot see, we give one final gift and let them run on ahead - young and whole once more.

We would like to thank Mary for allowing us to feature her in this issue of the Kennel Spotlight. Mary is an outstanding breeder with many accomplishments including several ‘Litter of the Week’ awards & ‘Breeder of the Year’ award from the Hunte Corporation. Congratulations Mary!

Sincerely,
Mary Johnson

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In the April issue of the Kennel Spotlight, the editor requested input on how to improve your kennel, how to shed the label of being a substandard breeder and how to raise the bar. I have no excuse for not sharing a few thoughts with you earlier.

First, let me say as an American Kennel Club (AKC) Kennel Inspector over the years, it has been my privilege to inspect many beautiful kennels that register their dogs with the AKC. Many of these kennels go “Above and Beyond.” During this article, I am going to ask those kennels to raise their bar too.

When AKC implemented a ‘care and conditions standard’ and a DNA program, many breeders left our registry. Today, many breeders are coming back to the AKC because of these very same programs. Why, you ask? Breeders are coming back to AKC because many states do not have a state inspection program. If you live in one of those states and are not United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) inspected, how do you separate or identify yourself as “doing a good job?”

By what standard do you tell your puppy buyers you are of your breeding stock? If you start with your main male and get the parent club recommended health and genetic tests done, then you’ve raised the bar. You can raise the bar one dog at a time until your entire kennel is done. Remember these tests are a TAX deduction for you. It is a business expense.

I challenge you to handle your dogs on a daily basis. I challenge you to build turnout yards and to use the AKC Breed Standards and How They Affect You as a Breeder.” After hearing me speak on this topic, how many of you went home and read your breed(s) standard(s)? How many of you then researched and studied these standards in depth? How many of you had a dog, loved it, had a litter and the rest is history? How few kennel owner/operators have a business plan or a long term breeding goal. By now many of you have heard me speak about “AKC Breed Standards and How They Affect You as a Breeder.” After hearing me speak on this topic, how many of you went home and read your breed(s) standard(s)? How many of you then researched and studied these standards in depth? How many of you went to your breed(s) parent club website and found out what health and/or genetic issues are affiliated with that breed? How many of you are getting Orthopedic Foundation for Animals (OFA), Canine Eye Registry Foundation (CERF) or B.A.E.R (hearing) testing done on your breeding stock? How many of you have been to the Canine Health Information Center (CHIC) database?

How many of you are handling your breeding stock daily? How many of you have built and use turnout yards? All of the above mentioned items will put you a step ahead of your competition and improve the image of your kennel and that of the industry.

So how do you form a business plan? The first thing is to ask yourself what you can do to make the buyer want to buy your puppy before they buy it from someone else? Ask yourself, what can I do to set myself apart from the other breeders who raise the same breed(s) I do? Be the best you can be. It does not cost anymore to vaccinate or feed a dog that has good breed type opposed to a ‘so-so’ representation. So, why not reap the benefits of having good quality breeding stock and improve on each generation of your breeding stock?

After you have researched and studied your breed(s) standard(s), you need to evaluate your dogs against their individual breed standard. As you do this, you may sound, the next thing you need to do is seek the opinion of a person who has a lot of experience in that breed. Over the years, I have been guilty of being “kennel blind.” I may have liked a particular dog’s personality or color to the point that I could not see that dog’s glaring faults.

Never breed your female to a male that is of lesser quality. Never breed your male to a female that is of lesser quality. In other words, know all of your dog’s strengths and weaknesses. Breed to improve on each dog’s weaknesses. Know what faults are hard to breed out of a program. Always do matings that improve on the next generation.

If you hold a puppy back for breeding stock or buy a new dog, make sure it is better quality than what you already have. If it is not, then why have it?

If you are USDA or if your state requires an annual veterinarian check for your license renewal, or if you just want to “raise the bar” and get rid of the “substandard” label…then make an effort to health test your breeding stock. If you start with your main male and get the parent club recommended health and genetic tests done, then you’ve raised the bar. You can raise the bar one dog at a time until your entire kennel is done. Remember these tests are a TAX deduction for you. It is a business expense.

I challenge you to handle your dogs on a daily basis. I challenge you to build turnout yards and to use them. Both of these things will make your dogs healthier, happier and produce better. They will also “raise the bar” and get rid of the “substandard” label. Trust me when I tell you other breeders are already doing the things I have mentioned above. I have seen these things on my inspections. They have already “raised the bar.” Don’t be left behind!

For more info on OFA, CERF or B.A.E.R, please visit the following websites:

http://www.caninehealthinfo.org/healthinfo.org
http://www.umdfo.org/cerf.html
http://www.caninehealthinfo.org/

Written by Stacy Mason, AKC Breeder Field Representative

Mary Johnson

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BE THE BEST YOU CAN BE!
By Stacy Mason

In the April issue of the Kennel Spotlight, the editor requested input on how to improve your kennel, how to shed the label of being a substandard breeder and how to raise the bar. I have no excuse for not sharing a few thoughts with you earlier.

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Written by Stacy Mason, AKC Breeder Field Representative

Mary Johnson

Photos courtesy of
Mary Johnson
The following is an article written by Sally Schuff and reprinted with permission from Foodstuffs Magazine. The comments inserted are by Jim Hughes to make the points made by Sally applicable to the dog business.

Here is the challenge for the Humane Society of the United States (HSUS). Try to understand the purpose of Animal Agriculture or you could be the ones who are blamed for the major mistake of killing the industry.

Animal Agriculture is not about torturing animals in “Factory Farms or Commercial Kennels” nor poisoning the environment nor obesity. Animal Agriculture IS all about providing high quality human nutrition, not only for the developed countries of the world, but for third world countries where quality, protein rich, nutrition is essential for the physical and mental well being of the citizens of those countries.

While we are not proposing that canines can be considered ‘foodstuff’, we are contending that a choice made to own a purebred dog, to work it, to show it, to love it, to play with it, to sleep with it, to use it as a companion or best friend, should be made by the individual as per their constitutional rights and not by a bunch of politicians who cannot think for themselves and therefore must listen to the Animal Rights Idiots who tell them what to think and do. And for that matter, who are we or they to think that we have the right to tell an ethnic group of people who do eat dog that we are going to legislate a change on their dinner table?

Meat, milk, eggs, poultry, and fish are high quality, protein rich foods that contain the essential amino acids required for human development. They hardly qualify as social evils. This also holds true for the high volume breeder who is producing the family pet for the psychological development and well being of the child.

When Animal Agriculture is attacked, as it clearly is by the HSUS, there is a clear danger that it could be destroyed or damaged by well meaning, but uneducated people. Considering global population growth, HSUS might want to think twice before risking the blame for promoting a future protein shortage.

On Sept. 10, Danielle Nierenberg, billed as an animal agriculture and climate change specialist for HSUS, showcased the group’s agenda. Her remarks came in Washington D.C., at a Hudson Institute discussion of a new peer-reviewed paper showing that the use of bovine growth hormones reduces the dairy industry’s carbon footprint by reducing the number of animals and inputs needed to produce milk. In taking exception to the conclusion of the submitted paper, Nierenberg said, “there are numerous studies showing that Escherichia coli and Avian Influenza increase in factory farm conditions.”

However, when Hudson Institute Director of Research on global food issues, Alex Avery, challenged her to cite her sources, Nierenberg was unable to do so. Nierenberg’s attack was revealing. She called large-scale operations “filthy and disease ridden” and said, “my perspective is one that is critical of industrial animal agriculture, mostly the largest of the large scale operations. I am not critical of small and medium sized dairy, chicken and pig farmers who have worked very hard in this country to raise animals.”

Is this philosophy also carrying over to the puppy producer? We find that state after state and city after city is limiting the number of dogs one is allowed to keep. Or, does the number keep dropping year after year until soon there are none? What Nierenberg missed, and what HSUS always misses, is not the size of the operation. What really matters is management!! People manage animals; they manage animal health and well-being, environmental remediation, public health concerns and community acceptance. The excellence of an animal operation is governed by how good the people are—not how big the operation is.

“IT WOULD BE REALLY HELPFUL IF HSUS COULD UNDERSTAND THIS!!!”

Maybe we could hope that HSUS could lower it’s voice and understand that animal agriculture IS not the evil industry that they paint it to be. Animal breeders are always looking for better ways to improve their husbandry and the well being of their charges. Most importantly, it is an industry that produces a product essential to human nutrition, and frankly, it could use all the well intentioned help it could get. Whatever its motives, HSUS needs to be concerned about what it’s current attack agenda will mean to the future of animal agriculture. If that agenda brings on a global shortage of high quality, protein rich foods, then the blame will fall squarely on the shoulders of HSUS and it’s sister organizations.

And my prediction—another industry will leave the shores of the United States.

Article by Sally Schuff of Foodstuffs Magazine & Jim Hughes, Editor-in-Chief, Kennel Spotlight
The Truth be Known
By Linda D. Witouski

Recently, I was confronted with a comment regarding the distribution of information regarding legislation. The comment was from someone who already knew all about the terrors of the internet highway, I found the comment to be most degrading to those that have been working in the trenches with legislation issues across the country, protecting those that wouldn’t protect themselves and felt it was a worthy comment to respond to. The simple comment that had me talking to myself for several hours was “The Animal Rights activists seem to be the only people out there with the resources to inform the public. Someone needs to let the public know what’s really going to happen to them”.

There are many of us, but not near enough, that have been preaching, writing articles, educating and literally begging for people to see what is going on around them, since the early 80’s! The onslaught of information has been escalating over the years and only recently, has anyone decided to actually pay attention. Kennel Clubs across the country have and continue to use the media and the internet to disseminate information - organizations hold seminars regarding the issues confronting the dog loving populace - the AKC sends out alerts, but not near as often as other groups that work in the legislation trenches. Those alerts are non stop, daily and up to date. The internet is agog with information.

There has never been a withholding of information on the part of our fellow breeders and owners. What we have had is the inability of the dog people to use against us, yet our own people use those same animal rights names for those who are their fellow breeders!

The animal rights crowd loves the fact that the dog owning, showing, breeding, racing (of whatever speed), loves the fact that the dog owning, showing, racing, is a peace and harmony - it’s one of their greatest weapons, created for just the purpose it seems to serve. How many times have we seen fellow dog owners go up against the same people, and continue to use the very same names, don’t bother to help - in fact, they sit and talk about it and refer to those people using animal rights terms and have even created their own AR term of “show millers”.

We’re supposed to help each other, not assist in running our fellow dog owners and breeders down. You may not agree with something they do or the way they do it, but they are still our fellow breeders and if they need assistance (for a variety of reasons such as age, health, loss of job, confiscations, et al) yet, how many times have you helped them with truly understanding, nobody seems to want to participate. It is impossible to force people to be involved for they do have a right to make a choice...for now. Relax - some others will tell you what to do.

It’s unfortunate that the choice may come down to having animals...or not. Without the concern & assistance from the dog owning, dog loving, freedom of choice loving, competitive people, (and I do mean each and every one) - rest assured, somebody will soon be relieving the burden of your inactivity in legislation issues for they will be telling you how many dogs you can have, if any, what kind, where to get them, how many times you can breed a dog, if at all, what vet to use, how many permits you will need to own/breed a dog, at what age your dog has to be spayed/neutered, the type of living arrangements required, what kind of records you must have and who gets copies of them - the list will go on, making it impossible - monetarily, mentally and physically impossible - to consider owning any animal. How will you feel when someone knocks on your door and tells you that you must “get rid” of all but 3 dogs - which ones you will choose to keep and how will you feel watching the others loaded into a truck dispatched for some shelter? How will you feel when you are now going through your home, inspecting every corner and crack, because somebody called in a complaint about your dogs? How much can you afford for citations, lawyers fees, shelter costs and how will you ever recuperate from the heartache?

Forewarned is forearmed - sooner or later, somebody will be making your choices for you and when that happens, there is nobody to blame but yourself. The information and people to help you become involved are out there! Supporting Legislation and AKC, I just returned from the AKC Delegate meeting and it’s dismal. At this time last year, registrations were 1.5 million and current numbers are at 1152,000 and continuing on a downward spiral. The AKC has acknowledged that the future is becoming dim and the possibility of them remaining the reigning registry of the world may soon be history. Though that may not mean much to some of you, it should. If the AKC continues to lose ground, they will also lose face in other areas, including having “clout” regarding legislation. The word of AKC and AKC breeders will mean nothing to legislators or the general public and AKC pups will be worthless, right along with AKC dog shows, titles and awards. Although some profess that they don’t want to be “thrown in the pile with those other breeders”, it’s part of the sport and you will become just what you dislike. The end of the sport, and your passion for same, will be visible on the horizon. The choice will have been made for you.

Dog people tend to be their own worst enemy and sadly, doing a good job of it. You still have the freedom to choose to make a difference. I, and all the others that have been working to protect all dog owners in this country, hope you’ll make the right decision. The cards are on the table. Bet, Call, Raise or Fold - the choice is yours.

Linda D. Witouski
AKC Judge & Delegate, Owner of DogLegislation@yahoogroups.com and MiniPinsReviews@yahoogroups.com, she is the AKC Legislative Liaison for PA and SC, and assists groups in any state.
Tracy’s K & J Pets

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Our extensive and comprehensive “Quality Control Program” means your pets are loved and cared for continuously, until they are delivered to our customers. We believe “NO OTHER PET DISTRIBUTOR DOES IT BETTER!!”

Breeder References Available

We at Tracy’s K & J Pets would like to take this opportunity to ‘Thank You’ for your patronage and support. We count on the health and welfare of your puppies as our ‘Number 1 goal! We feel that working closely with YOU the BREEDER brings us the BEST PUPPIES!!!

For ALL your pet supply and kennel needs, be sure to check out CountrySide Supply in Fair Grove & Southwest Kennel Supply in Wheaton, 2 convenient locations to SERVE YOU!!

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I am a breeder!

My food receipts for a family of 7 and my dog food bills match. My water bill has doubled, my electric has tripled. It is I, a breeder, who when my fringe quit, saved the dog meds and let the food go bad. My feet find the way to the kennel before I have even grabbed a cup of coffee in the morning and the kennel is my last stop before bed.

While my friends are on a cruise to the Bahamas and my family meets for Christmas, I am home delivering puppies. I haven’t had a real vacation in 7 years, but maybe soon. All plans are made around heat dates, whelp dates and vet dates.

I shower and 10 minutes later my grandkids say I smell like a dog. My clothes are all stained with fecal matter, urine, afterbirth or bleach and I have to remember to clean my shoes before church.

Most of my friends breed dogs, who else can you call at 3 am for support? Who else has the experience I sometimes need, the meds I sometimes need, or just an uplifting word I sometimes need? Who else would understand how it feels to have invested hours and hours in a weak puppy to lose it? Or the joy in investing hours in one that lives?

I have slept on the floor beside a litter until the crucial 2 weeks have passed. I have bottle fed a litter of 12, feeding every 2 hours and it taking 90 minutes to do for weeks at a time. I have learned to be proficient at micro-chipping, vaccinations, sub-q fluids, bottle feeding and tube feeding. My vet knows me by first name. The vet knows my children. The vet now knows my grandchildren.

My vet knows it was I who added on the wing to the vet clinic.

I am a breeder

It is to me that 63 days takes on new meaning still excited by every new life. It is I who delivers all my pups, towels and heat lamps on ready. Happiness and sadness are sometimes intermingled. Even though it increases my work load, I look forward to the 10 day stage when eyes open, and puppies begin to emerge from the helplessness of new borns. Puppy breath, a first bark, and a heart of exploration.

I am not uneducated, unemployable, illiterate or lazy as some Animal Rights folks would imply of breeders. I am a conscientious lover of animals and I have found my niche. I am a breeder.

And although I feel no shame, there is a part of me that feels the need to hide from powers that could come to invade my home and take my dogs ...maybe for finding a mild infraction, a leaf in the water dish? A kennel not yet cleaned for the day? A rash I am home treating?

I tell my children and grand children to hush, do not tell others we are ‘dog breeders’, and I wonder when did breeding puppies go into the same secret place as criminal activity? I am a breeder and I am not cruel, dumb, uncaring or criminal.

I am not raking in money while sitting on my butt. Every penny I make I earn through blood, sweat and tears.

My greatest joy is a healthy puppy and a wonderful home.

The cards of thanks and the pictures of my puppy with its new family is the fringe benefits of my efforts. I am an animal lover, nurse, midwife, heavy laborer, customer service representative, and marketer. AND I am a breeder.

Submitted by Kathy Rocha, Scottie Rescue

The BreederSelect Total Whelping System is all you need from the whelping stage to the time the puppies are on their own. Tired of the WORK, the MESS, and the SMELL? Provide a healthier, cleaner environment for you and your puppies and reduce your work by 75%. You deserve a break, order one today!

Save 5% (Use Coupon Code KS1208) and choose from four sizes with optional tops and accessories. Call us today, or visit our website for more information and to place your order.

Call Us Today!
817.270.5948
Or Visit Us Online:
www.BreederSelect.com
It must be kept in mind that the single most important thing in caring for any animal enterprise is keeping the energy flowing. All animals have the same basic needs, including humans. We will dehydrate much faster than we will starve, freeze, or die from other kinds of exposure. Unless you are willing to haul water from the creek, you are going to have to get it out of the ground. In today’s modern society, we no longer hand pump or bucket water from a hand dug well. The well is drilled and the water is gotten from a submersible pump. This means electricity. This means a generator. A working plan for a generator is to make sure it is wired properly. The average person who buys a generator doesn’t know how to get it started, how to hook it up or what to plug it in. How big should it be? That depends on what you want it to do and how much you are willing to pay for it. The minimum size is going to pump your water, or keep your freezer going, or light your house, or run your heater or air conditioner. BUT NOT ALL AT THE SAME TIME! If you want to replace your electric company with a heater or air conditioner. BUT NOT replace your electric company with a heater or air conditioner. BUT NOT

HYPOTHERMIA AND FROSTBITE and what they mean to your dog

Hypothermia is a lowering of the core body temperature below the dog's normal 101.5-102.5 normal rectal temperature. Substantial lowering of the temperature interferes with the metabolic functions of the body and affects the internal organs. A dog's first reaction to the lowering of his temperature is to shiver. Shivering increases muscle activity, which in turn, increases heat production. At the same time, his blood circulation shifts away from his legs and feet to his internal organs. Mild hypothermia causes an increase in blood pressure and heart rate, but if the time and severity of heat loss continues, heart rate and blood pressure decline and cardiac arrhythmias or cardiac arrest can occur. Severe hypothermia leads to respiratory depression, lethargy, lack of coordination, paralysis and collapse. Treatment for hypothermia involves rewarming of the body. In mild cases, use corticosteroids and monitor the dog for heart arrhythmias and pneumonia and check for frostbite. Prolonged exposure to the cold can also cause frostbite—the death of tissue in the extremities. Dog toes, tails, ear tips and scrotum are the most common frostbite areas. Frostbitten tissue appears pale and is cold to the touch. It should be rewarmed slowly and given time to heal. It may turn red and swollen and be very painful as it heals. If it does not heal in three or four days, amputation of the dead tissue should be done to avoid gangrene or mummification of the area. Obviously, prevention is worth more than a pound of cure with hypothermia and frostbite.

Packing Holiday Essentials

Here are some common pet hazards to watch for during the Holiday Season:

Bones: The holiday turkey or chicken will leave a lot of tantalizing bones, but don’t feed them to your pet! Small bones or bone chips can lodge in the throat, stomach and intestinal tract.

Holiday Plants: Holly and Mistletoe are extremely poisonous when eaten. The lovely Poinsettia may not be truly poisonous, but its milky white sap and leaves can cause severe gastric distress. Keep plants out of your pet’s reach.

Electrical Cords: Holiday lights mean electrical cords for kittens and puppies to chew. Be sure you have cords secured and out of the way.

Pine Needles: Check around holiday trees and boughs frequently. Ingested pine needles can puncture your pet’s intestines if sharp enough.

Ornaments: Sharp or breakable ornaments, dries, and even aluminum foil should be kept out of reach. String objects, especially tinsel and ribbons, are to be kept away from the pet’s intestines if sharp enough. Pine Needles: Check around holiday trees and boughs frequently. Ingested pine needles can puncture your pet’s intestines if sharp enough. String objects, especially tinsel and ribbons, are to be kept away from the pet’s intestines if sharp enough.

PROTECTING ‘FIDO’ FROM WINTER HAZARDS!

What is the big deal about anti-freeze and is it really harmful for dogs and cats? The answer to this is ‘YES’!

Anti-Freeze is extremely toxic to dogs and cats. Unfortunately, anti-freeze is sweet tasting and pets will consume it. If they find even a few drops in the driveway or on the garage floor, one-half teaspoon of anti-freeze per pound of dog body weight is enough to cause the clinical signs of poisoning. The poison attacks the nervous system and the kidneys; these symptoms include depression, lack of coordination, vomiting and diarrhea, increased thirst and seizures. The toxin is rapidly absorbed and symptoms can begin within an hour of exposure. The toxic compound in most anti-freeze is ethylene glycol. If you suspect your dog has ingested anti-freeze, call your veterinarian immediately. There is an antidote available but time is of the essence. The poison can be fatal if the kidneys are damaged. Antizol-vet is available as a prescription drug to be given intravenously if poisoning is suspected or confirmed. There is a new anti-freeze on the market made from propylene glycol that appears to be safer. However, the glycol is also toxic, and though it does not attack the kidneys, it does affect the nervous system and may cause lack of coordination and seizures. The best bet is to carefully cap all containers of anti-freeze and keep them out of the reach of pets. If small amounts do drip when you are adding them to the car radiator, clean them up and flush the area with water.

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Articles by Vicki DeGruy & Norma Bennett Woof-Copyright 2008 by Canis Major Publications. All rights reserved. Used by permission. You can view other articles on their website, www.canismajor.com/dog

HOLIDAY PET HAZARDS

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From the American Animal Hospital Association (AAHA): you can visit their website at www.healthfugnet.com

WEATHER EMERGENCY PREPARATION PLAN

By Jim Hughes

LIFE SAVERS IN CUBS

Mark Santo
www.santohill.com
573-289-7122
The night was dark and cold. The year was 1946. Six men and two boys sat on the ground around a large fire. The fire was hot. I was one of those boys. My uncle Thumb, yes his nickname was "Thumb", had a way of saying why they called him that. My uncle Thumb owned a farm looking down in Evans, West Virginia. We were all sitting on his hillside, listening. Listening for the voice of Bugle Ann.

Bugle Ann belonged to my uncle, but she had been named by my dad after a motion picture he had seen a few years earlier about a foxhound of that name. This pup looked a lot like the dog in the movie. She was not barking. Nobody could tell if she was even in the race, much less how far behind the leader she was. There were seven dogs chasing the red fox that night. We heard six. No sound came from Bugle Ann. We would not know if it was her even if she did bark. We had not heard her after a fox before. This was her first night out.

They had been running for about an hour and now all six of the others were baying in pursuit of the old red fox. He was a local fox of some age and much cunning. He had already crossed the creek twice and jumped from the big rock cliff to throw the dogs off the scent, but Leon, my dad’s old dog was not going to be fooled by something that easy to figure out. That old red was going to have to walk the log, double back, run up the creek and lay false trail before he could risk going even close to his den, much less entering into it’s safety. That’s just the nature of a red. A grey will make a fast beeline for his den and just wait the dogs out. But that old red was going to have to be chastised and punished for being heard was not in the pack. The man on the box knew. She had never been heard before. But the dog new had sounded. Was this Bugle Ann? No one knew. The dogs did not get fed before a run. At dark, they turned the dogs loose. The dogs did not get fed before a run.

Dad always fed the horses when he thought we were all going hunting. He walked the log, jumped off and then jumped up the creek twice and jumped from the big rock cliff to level out on an easy slope. Mom fixed the food for the dogs and baked potatoes in the embers. The dogs did not get fed before a run. At dark, they turned the dogs loose. The dogs did not get fed before a run.

Oh, could that dog sing! She took old red down right back on again. He again slid the leaves to the bottom of the hill. He walked the log, jumped off and then jumped right back on again. He again slid the leaves to the bottom and then took to the creek. He lost them. The dogs started yelping in mass confusion but Leon started the circle, his nose to the ground. He would catch that scent wherever he crossed it. About 10 minutes passed and Leon let out a yowl. He had picked up the scent. All the dogs started baying at one once. Probably smelled that old fox pretty bad and he knew what to do. He jumped the bluff. Left the dogs standing at the top trying to find the scent down to the bottom. The dogs were once again running in circles looking for scent. There was none. The fox stopped and immediately knew why the leaves came up and kids waiting at the bottom.

The dogs were crisscrossing and circling to pick up the scent. They were moving farther out to expand their ground coverage. No fox. After about one hour, the dogs started to return back to the fire. One by one they came in. But a new voice sounded. One that had never been heard before. One that sounded so beautiful that you knew the dog that emitted it must be beautiful also. This had to be Bugle Ann. The fox was moving and Bugle Ann was right behind him. He pulled into his bag of tricks to try to shake her but she had him in eyesight. She sang into the night for all the world to hear. It was an exciting sound as you could feel the excitement of the fox hunters. The fox heard her and he was going to run Bugle Ann for her first time in the 6th grade at school. We had no tractor, no milking machine, no electricity. No running water except for the two creeks that flowed through the place. Our recreation consisted of homemade ice cream, a guitar and a fiddle, a lot of neighbors visiting and those all night fox hunts.

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It was also my job to throw out the hay to the cows, body when they thought we were all going hunting. As with all breeds, the quality characteristics were genetic. You could not train a dog, hands on, that was running full bore 3 miles away. He learned to perfect his genetic characteristics by hunting with an experienced old dog like Leon.

Print Hughes was my dad’s name. We lived near Logan, Ohio where dad kept the hounds. I was in the 6th grade at school.

The dogs did not get fed before a run. After about one hour, one of the dogs set to yelping. Then two more joined in and then Leon. When Leon started, you knew the other two were going to follow. When he heard the other two, he doubled back and picked up the scent for the other dogs to come too. They had almost gotten back to the fire, so they had a lot of ground to cover to return to the chase. But Bugle Ann had her prey in sight. She was not going to lose him. Oh, could that dog sing! She took old red down right back on again. He again slid the leaves to the bottom of the hill. He walked the log, jumped off and then jumped right back on again. He again slid the leaves to the bottom and then took to the creek. He lost them. The dogs started yelping in mass confusion but Leon

start over again. So did my dad. But any dog that quit early and came to the fire received a pretty dire beating. Where was Bugle Ann? If she came in she would be replaced. If she quit for rabbits she would be chastised and punished for being worthless.

In the days of WPA, men worked for 2 dollars a day. By 1946, our soldiers were coming home from the war. Production had halted and jobs were hard to find. Baloney sold for 10 cents per pound. There was not much in town to buy other than the usual such as hogs. The hogs were in splintered shaving and poor shape. At 20 cents a piece and Leon was worth $100 dollars.

A good dog was a prize possession to a country farmer or a blue collar factory worker, but a country gentleman, if you could find one, would pay a bundle for a dog like Leon.

Another trait that was often sought after was a beautiful voice. Some dogs brayed almost as bad as a donkey. Some yelped in an irritating voice that just plain got on your nerves and some could sound like Bugle Ann of movie fame. These sounds are what we listened for during the night to tell who was in the lead. Smarties like Leon had been trained most important. Speed and the voice drove the value up also. Everyone wanted a breaking voice. A grey with all breeds, the quality characteristics were genetic. You could not train a dog, hands on, that was running full bore 3 miles away. He learned to perfect his genetic characteristics by hunting with an experienced old dog like Leon.

The leader she was. There were seven dogs chasing her. She had never been heard before. But the dog new had sounded. Was this Bugle Ann? No one knew. The dogs did not get fed before a run. At dark, they turned the dogs loose. The dogs did not get fed before a run.

We worked hard on that little farm in 1946. We had no tractor, no milking machine, no electricity. No running water except for the two creeks that flowed through the place. Our recreation consisted of homemade ice cream, a guitar and a fiddle, a lot of neighbors visiting and those all night fox hunts.

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A LION WITH LARYNGITIS

By Jim Hughes

I need an answer from somebody who knows and will have the guts to give it. WHAT GOOD IS A USDA LICENSE??? It certainly does not protect us from being labeled with the term, “PUPPY MILL.”

The complaint is that only 7% of the dogs that live in the United States come under the jurisdiction of the Animal Welfare Act. 93% of all dogs in the country get a free ride and this is getting worse, not better. With the advent of the internet, breeders have found that they can get around the requirements for being licensed. They do not sell to pet shops or brokers at the wholesale level. The American taxpayer is pumping 19 million dollars per year into APHIS to inspect and license dog breeding facilities. Those breeders being inspected and licensed should be getting some value for their time and money, yet when a “Puppy Mill” charge is leveled at one of them that has just passed an inspection and been licensed, USDA will not stand up to the Animal Activist groups and defend their licensee. The Humanieac groups are picketing California stores and trying to close them down to avoid all the bad publicity and harassment these groups are causing them. When they defend their sources of revenue by saying they only buy from USDA licensed breeders, it means nothing because the APHIS people only want to stick their heads in the sand and ignore the question. Well, even with your head in the sand your butt is still sticking out and I think it is time for The Kennel Spotlight to do some kicking on that butt.

South Lake Tahoe is considering passing a city ordinance making it illegal to sell a puppy produced in a puppy mill. WELL, JUST WHAT IN HELL IS A PUPPY MILL??? It is time for USDA to stand up and say, “You sure are not talking about one of “our inspected and licensed kennels”, are you? Because we certify that this kennel certainly does not fall under this sub-standard label”. After all, if the American public can depend on a superior product from a USDA inspected and certified dog breeding kennel, then I would assume we can also be suspect as to the quality and purity of our meat, milk and eggs that we have to come in contact with on a USDA stamp of approval for.

The attacks upon our industry by these Animal Activist idiots have got to be met. For crying out loud, people, we are a 41 billion dollar industry, the third largest in the country, and we are collectively taking a whipping from these movie stars, TV reporters, Oprah, and many others who do not have a clue as to what they are talking about. I have been battling these attacks from our enemies for 50 years now and believe me when I tell you, they are a zillion times worse than these past 2 years than ever before. And not just against us, they are against ALL animal enterprises as we know them today.

A new bill is being introduced by Senator Durbin [SB 3519] in the Illinois General Assembly (Bill [HB9649] in the house that is designed to replace the defunct “PAWS” bill from Rick Santorum. This bill is being labeled the “PUP” bill, which is a back door selling 50 or more puppies per year to be licensed by APHIS, no matter how or who he sells to. The above mentioned bills all have one thing in common to us in our industry, so no matter how cosmetic the wording in this bill is, it is to gain our opposition, if for no other reason than the Humane Society of the United States endorses it. Why do they want this bill if they place no value on USDA inspections and been licensed?? However, if this bill passes, it will relieve the lopsided emphasis placed on the aforementioned 7 percent under government regulation. There has always been the question of the unconstitutionality of the prejudice shown toward the High-Volume breeder by the original drafters of the Animal Welfare Act. In the future, this may be the case. Possibly “PUPS” will correct this situation.

I call for the USDA to intervene when a raid is made on one of their licensed kennels. If this kennel needs to be shut down, then the USDA needs to be the one doing the confiscation of the dogs long before the local animal control and SPF, or a local guy just doing it. Possibly “PUPS” will correct this situation.

In 1974 you were granted a budget of 4 million dollars. If anyone is going to criticize and demoralize our industry, we as the owners as to a convenient time for an inspection in the 1970’s but today take an unrealistic attitude that the kennel owner or his representatives must be on premises from 7am to 7pm, 6 days per week.

3. Who decides and why is it deemed necessary to write directives that change the scope of review of our industry, so no matter how cosmetic the wording in this bill is, it is to gain our opposition, if for no other reason than the Humane Society of the United States endorses it. Why do they want this bill if they place no value on USDA inspections and been licensed?? However, if this bill passes, it will relieve the lopsided emphasis placed on the aforementioned 7 percent under government regulation. There has always been the question of the unconstitutionality of the prejudice shown toward the High-Volume breeder by the original drafters of the Animal Welfare Act. In the future, this may be the case. Possibly “PUPS” will correct this situation.

Inspectors and the drafting of laws and regulations that we all feel that we can live with. THEM, AND ONLY THEM, DO I EXPECT THEM TO ENFORCE THESE LAWS AND DRIVE THESE SUB-STANDARD KENNELS OUT OF BUSINESS. In the December 2005 issue of The Kennel Spotlight, we asked some very important questions from the AKC and the USDA. The AKC answered all of our questions and explained their reasoning. Dr. Gibson totally ignored our requirements and任意 questions submitted by our readers and he again totally ignored our request. I will pose these same questions for a third time here and now, reminding Dr. Gibson of his statement that he wished to be receptive to the ideas and wishes of the breeders he regulates. Questions are:

1. After reading The Kennel Spotlight, I would like to know if we can expect a different attitude from Dr. Gibson. The point was made that USDA is considering a friend and helpmate to all of agriculture except the professional dog breeder. Why is this so and can we expect a new attitude from a new director?

2. Why did the AWA inspectors make an appointment with the owners as to a convenient time for an inspection in the 1970’s but today take an unrealistic attitude that the kennel owner or his representatives must be on premises from 7am to 7pm, 6 days per week.

3. Who decides and why is it deemed necessary to write directives that change the scope of review of our industry, so no matter how cosmetic the wording in this bill is, it is to gain our opposition, if for no other reason than the Humane Society of the United States endorses it. Why do they want this bill if they place no value on USDA inspections and been licensed?? However, if this bill passes, it will relieve the lopsided emphasis placed on the aforementioned 7 percent under government regulation. There has always been the question of the unconstitutionality of the prejudice shown toward the High-Volume breeder by the original drafters of the Animal Welfare Act. In the future, this may be the case. Possibly “PUPS” will correct this situation.

South Lake Tahoe is considering passing a city ordinance making it illegal to sell a puppy produced in a puppy mill. Well, what in the world is a PUPPY MILL??? It is time for USDA to stand up and say, “You sure are not talking about one of our inspected and licensed kennels, are you? Because we certify that this kennel certainly does not fall under this sub-standard label”. After all, if the American public can depend on a superior product from a USDA inspected and certified dog breeding kennel, then I would assume we can also be suspect as to the quality and purity of our meat, milk and eggs that we have to come in contact with on a USDA stamp of approval for.

The attacks upon our industry by these Animal Activist idiots have got to be met. For crying out loud, people, we are a 41 billion dollar industry, the third largest in the country, and we are collectively taking a whipping from these movie stars, TV reporters, Oprah, and many others who do not have a clue as to what they are talking about. I have been battling these attacks from our enemies for 50 years now and believe me when I tell you, they are a zillion times worse than these past 2 years than ever before. And not just against us, they are against ALL animal enterprises as we know them today.

A new bill is being introduced by Senator Durbin [SB 3519] in the Illinois General Assembly (Bill [HB9649] in the house that is designed to replace the defunct “PAWS” bill from Rick Santorum. This bill is being labeled the “PUP” bill, which is a back door selling 50 or more puppies per year to be licensed by APHIS, no matter how or who he sells to. The two above mentioned bills all have one thing in common to us in our industry, so no matter how cosmetic the wording in this bill is, it is to gain our opposition, if for no other reason than the Humane Society of the United States endorses it. Why do they want this bill if they place no value on USDA inspections and been licensed?? However, if this bill passes, it will relieve the lopsided emphasis placed on the aforementioned 7 percent under government regulation. There has always been the question of the unconstitutionality of the prejudice shown toward the High-Volume breeder by the original drafters of the Animal Welfare Act. In the future, this may be the case. Possibly “PUPS” will correct this situation.

I call for the USDA to intervene when a raid is made on one of their licensed kennels. If this kennel needs to be shut down, then the USDA needs to be the one doing the confiscation of the dogs long before the local animal control and SPF, or a local guy just doing it. Possibly “PUPS” will correct this situation.
Winter Skin Care for Pets

Wet late fall and early winter weather can create several skin and coat problems for our pets. Among those are dry, flaky skin, a dull bridle coat and more seriously, red, inflamed lesions caused by a serious skin infection.

Hair Mats Lead to Bigger Problems

Hair mats can lead to significant skin infections by holding moisture next to your pet's skin. This is a major problem for any animal who spends any time outdoors in the rain and snow. Large hair mats may never dry thoroughly, leaving the skin underneath constantly moist, an ideal breeding ground for bacteria and yeast that cause infection. Constantly moist skin can lead to skin infections that can be time-consuming and expensive to treat. Bacteria, yeast and other fungus thrive in the damp, dark conditions that a thick hair mat creates on your pet's skin. Painful skin infections often go hand-in-hand with chronic ear infections. As anyone whose pet suffers from chronic skin and ear infections will tell you, prevention is much less expensive and easier than long-term veterinary treatment.

If your pet already has large, hard-to-remove hair mats, they will need to be carefully removed. A trip to the grooming salon may be the best way to deal with very tangled hair mats.

Bathing Your Pet in Winter

During the winter months, we recommend that you avoid bathing your pet unless it is absolutely necessary. There are several good brands of pet bathing wipes available for quick spot cleaning that when combined with a daily brushing, will usually keep your pet's coat in good condition during the winter months. Pet wipes are especially handy for spot cleaning your cat or puppies who need to remain warm.

If you must bathe your dog, use a gentle, oatmeal-based shampoo that contains skin moisturizers. Read the ingredients to be sure your shampoo doesn't contain skin-drying ingredients such as alcohol. Many shampoos contain anti-italic and anti-tangling ingredients for an all-in-one skin soothing treatment. If your pet's dry skin and itching are severe, visit your veterinarian for recommendations on medicated shampoos.

Always be sure to thoroughly dry your pet after bathing during winter months to prevent a moisture problem. In winter, pay special attention to drying the hair between the toes to prevent infection and sores.

Great Skin, Lustrous Coats from the Inside Out

When evaluating your pet's skin and coat condition, don't overlook the importance of diet. Beautiful coats depend on quality nutrition providing minerals, essential fatty acids and other nutrients for that championship quality coat. Each breed has unique nutritional requirements which may not be fully met by commercially prepared diets. Talk with your vet before adding supplements to your pet's diet. In the long run, you'll save money on unnecessary supplements and select what your animal really needs. The field of animal nutritional supplements is vast and continues to grow with quality products. While heredity rules much in the area of a pet's coat, you can use nutrition to bring out the best in your dog or cat.

Dr. Rick Kesler, DVM

Dr. Kesler is a 1988 graduate of Iowa State University School of Veterinary Medicine. He is a member of the American Veterinary Medical Association and is licensed to practice in thirteen states. Dr. Kesler's career has included small animal, equine medicine and surgery both in private practice and as an emergency room veterinarian. Dr. Kesler, staff veterinarian for Lambert Vet Supply, is available to speak at professional breeder seminars. Contact Dr. Kesler at drkesler@lambertvetsupply.com.
Taking Another Look at the ‘AKC’

It’s hard to turn on the news these days without hearing the term change. Certainly we hear it a lot with respect to politics, but it applies to other aspects of our lives as well. As we at the American Kennel Club celebrate 125 years in 2009, we are experiencing change too. We embrace the value of our past, but recognize that innovation and change are imperative to our shared future and the future of American breeders.

Throughout our 125-year history, the AKC registry has been a mainstay for breeders. It is the gold-standard of registries—and the only not-for-profit registry that provides value-added services to breeders of purebred dogs. Over the years we have dedicated our efforts to continuously expanding, improving, and enhancing our services to breeders. As we approach our historic anniversary, we are re-dedicating ourselves to expanding and improving our relationship with all our breeders, small and large alike. If you haven’t looked at the AKC lately, we invite you to take another look at what we have to offer.

The AKC Registration department provides same-day turnaround for online litter applications and 2-3 day turnaround for paper litter applications. In 2009, we will introduce Electronic Litter Kits, a service that will allow breeders to print their own puppy papers from the convenience of their homes. Goodbye turn-around time, hello real-time access to AKC registration papers immediately after a litter is registered. This will be done by adding one step to the existing online litter application process, and using state-of-the-art technology that preserves the integrity of the AKC studbook.

The AKC’s world class Customer Service department, which handles over 43,000 calls each month at the Raleigh, North Carolina operations center, is working with the registration department to implement our new Administrative Research Registration (ARR) program. This program enables AKC staff to research pedigrees for dogs not currently registered with the AKC to determine their eligibility for AKC registry. The AKC is the only registry that has an extensive inspections program. Through this program, the AKC has been able to play a role in the ongoing improvement of the pet industry, thereby creating additional business opportunities for breeders. Inspectors build lasting relationships, providing breeders a resource they can feel comfortable contacting.

In our quest to improve the lives of dogs and their owners, AKC supports the Canine Health Foundation’s efforts to study the causes and origins of canine disease and afflictions to formulate effective treatments. The AKC/CHF funds research and disseminates information about canine health research, advances in veterinary healthcare, and best practices in breeding management.

We at the American Kennel Club recognize that high quality professional breeders are a part of our history—and an important part of our future. We hope you will take another look at the AKC. We think you’ll like what you see.

This article is the first in a series of ongoing articles to be featured in The Kennel Spotlight. Future articles will highlight specific services we offer professional breeders. We welcome your questions or suggestions. 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.

Michelle Baker will oversee a staff dedicated to the needs of professional breeders. We welcome your questions or suggestions. 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.
The Animal Rights Votes: Not only do they send the Greyhounds toward Extinction, they also change the way we Farm and the price of Food!

By Charlotte McGowan

(Massachusetts) - Grey 2K USA, the anti-dog racing Animal Rights Group, moved to Massachusetts a number of years ago expressly to put the two dog tracks in the state out of business. They tried first to work through the legislature and failed. They tried a referendum in 2002 and lost by a small margin. The next referendum try was squashed by a lawsuit but with their third referendum try, they have succeeded. They used the media, the vast financial resources of the anti-animal-use HSUS, and simply overwhelmed the facts with cruelty rhetoric for voters. Recently, they succeeded in passing a measure that will close the state's dog racing Animal Rights Group, moved to small dog tracks by 2110, throwing close to 1000 people out of work in two already financially ailing tracks. The measure was titled a measure that will close the state's dog racing for voters. Recently, they succeeded in passing a measure that will close the state's dog racing. The measure passed with a margin of nearly 56% to 44%.

One newspaper reported that animal rights groups spent $670,000, with much of the money going toward emotional television ads about the plight of dogs. They also reported organizing up to 3000 people including students to push the measure to pass. The measure passed with a margin of nearly 56% to 44%.

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1. Score one point if you just love puppies and think it would be so much fun to order the ones you love the most, play with them all day long, and have lovely families spend lots of money in your store, never complain, always know exactly what they’re getting into, adore you for selling them their new pet, never have a problem with any of the puppies they buy, and run a fairytale business that only exists in fairytales.

2. Score one point if its your first month of business and you’ve just driven 2 hours in the snow to pick up puppies at the airport, and you need to grab them and rush back to the store because the only employee in the store is leaving soon BUT the cargo man has just smiled at you and said the puppies won’t be in for four more hours because they missed the connecting flight.

3. Score one point if you don’t mind going weeks without petting one puppy because you’re too busy paying bills, answering phone calls, giving medications, trying to figure out why the third medicine you’ve tried is not making a sick puppy well, tracking down employees who didn’t show up, calling back customers, and cleaning poop out of cages.

4. Score one point if you can’t celebrate New Years, Christmas, Thanksgiving, go to your cousins wedding, go anywhere or do anything because you have to be at the store, 24/7.

5. Score one point if you hate confrontation but someone is standing in the middle of your store screaming that they have a $200.00 bill for Giardia, their puppy well, tracking down employees who didn’t show up, calling back customers, and cleaning poop out of cages.

6. Score one point if you really like the voices of your newest breeders but you’ve never bothered to visit them and now that you have to refund someone for a dog that died of Parvo and pay their vet bills, so they don’t sue you, the breeder said “the dog left healthy, you had it for a week, and it is not covered by any warranty.”

7. Score one point if you’ve never dealt with cherry eye, luxating patellas, open fontanelles, grade three heart murmurs, ringworm, or megaesophagus, but by your first year you’ve had dogs with any or several of these and you’ve spent hours on the phone with your vets, customers vets, the breeders, the angry customers and it all ends up costing a fortune.

8. Score one point if you want to make sure that none of your customers have to deal with any medical issues so you have vet fix a hernia, cherry eye and have him to treat full blown pneumonia and now you’re in debt to your vet for at least a thousand dollars (and that’s with a professional discount)

9. Score one point if you haven’t sold a dog in a week but you’ve given a refund for one that came back, you owe the vet money and you just noticed you’re out of vaccines, low on two or three different antibiotics and worms, almost out of puppy food and need to make the $300 minimum to order it, you’re out of syringes for the vet to give vaccines, out of cleaning supplies which help keep dogs free of disease and parasites, out of printed materials and contracts, need to file vaccine records and registration papers and don’t have enough help, money or hours in the day.

10. Score one point if you don’t have $1500 dollars to order all of the above.

11. Score one point if ¼ of the little puppies you brought in three weeks ago haven’t sold and are not so little anymore and you realize there’s no way you can sell them for what you thought you would and people are asking for younger dogs but you can’t afford to buy more puppies if these don’t sell and you don’t have the cages or money to take care of more than you have now.

12. Score one point if you just lowered your oldest dog to just $25 over what you paid for it but of course the microchip, shipping, food and vaccine bills make it so you’re now losing money on this dog whenever it does sell.

13. Score one point if you have a good selection of puppies but find that everyone who walks in asks “when will you get a female of that breed?” (when you have a male or vice versa), or “when will you get a Scottie?” when you have a Westie, or “When will you have one that’s eight weeks old – the ten week olds are “too old”)

14. Score one point more when you are so tired from dealing with customers and breeders and vets all day and the new employee you hired calls to say he won’t
Old Dogs
By Jim Hughes

How many times have you gotten the old picture album out to look at people, including yourself, that looked considerably better than they do today. As we age, our teeth fall out, our hair falls out, diabetes and arthritis and finally heart failure and cancer do us in. But in our demise, agony and despair make us pray for our lord to call us home. In the Dr. Kevorkian controversy, I could not come to a decision on how I feel about this case. Obviously, a large number of people sought his services. But he went to jail.

Well, our dogs also grow old. Their hair falls out, their teeth go bad, they get arthritis just like we do. Humans spend 80 percent of their medical expenditures for a lifetime in the last two years of their life. The same holds true for a dog, 80 percent of medical expenditures are spent in the last 3 to 4 months of their life.

Many of these dogs are kept beyond their productive lives out of love for the animal. Over the years, we begin to realize that we are unable to care for as many dogs as we once could, but alas, which ones do we get rid of. We agonize and put off the making of this decision. We pick out the ones we are going to sell but we find that no other breeder really wants a dog that has not produced a puppy in two years. She used to be an excellent mother and a loving dog that was always at the front of the pen, wanting more than her share of the attention that we were passing out that day. We just cannot put her down. Well, we will just have to pick another one.

We have, say, 200 dogs and we are going to need to remove 25 dogs. Because of our physical ailments, we simply cannot care for that many. Now Spotty is 8 years old, has not produced a litter in over a year and she bites. She has also developed a habit of eliminating inside her next box. Well, that was an easy decision. Only 49 more to go. Sparky is a loving dog but she is so arthritic she needs help getting back inside the building and besides, she is 10 years old. Only 48 more to go. Etc., etc., etc. Only 30 more to go. This decision is getting harder and harder. Nobody will buy Sammy because he is 11 years old but she is with pups. Maybe I can keep a couple of females out of her, so she stays. The same story is true from about 10 more that I had originally planned to sell. None of the dogs that are left deserve to die so I will call rescue and give them away. They will not be roaming around outside, unsupervised. Make sure your office and puppy room are as close to the front gate as possible. None of the dogs that are left deserve to die.

Rescue arrives to get the dogs and all seems to go well. They take them to the vet and he starts to put them through the routine. Dip, bathe, worm, vaccinate, etc., whether they need it or not because he has told them “they came from a puppy mill”. He needs to do a lot of dental work, an eye is getting glaucoma like symptoms, maybe the kidneys are getting bad, etc. The cost is going up and up for these dogs.

Finally, after about $200, they are ready to go to new homes. These dogs are now 70 to 100 years old in human years.

A new puppy would have been a much better decision for both the rescue and the family who wants a dog. For the veterinary cost alone a new, quality, healthy puppy could have been purchased from a breeder. Or another option is adoption from a local humane shelter. The new dog owning family could have then avoided the never ending cost of veterinarian care and the heartache that lies ahead in the very near future. Sometimes euthanasia is by far the best choice for all concerned.

Several of the dogs are returned because the ravages of old age are taking their toll. The rescue operator remembers seeing other old dogs at the kennel and he is mad for all the money he/she has spent on these old dogs that cannot be cured for any other reason but old age, so he contacts one of his many friends at the Humane Society to tell them about this obvious “puppy mill” just outside of town. If they will raid this kennel and give the rescue enough dough to recoup their investment in these old dogs, the rescue will show them where the dogs are and testify to the justice of the peace that he should grant a warrant to animal control to confiscate all of this breeders dogs and Hello, you are on Oprah.

You, the breeder, has allowed your heart to rule your head. You have found a home, through rescue, for your beloved older dogs for a few months. You are now out of business and possibly in jail or at least fined and your reputation in the community ruined. On top of all this, the dogs must endure the life ending pain and discomfort associated with death. They cannot even understand what is happening to them. Plus the dogs that have just been stolen from you are going to be evaluated and if more than the minimum amount of veterinary care is needed, your old dogs are still going to be put down. Run your business like a business. Consider the fact that an old dog gets older still. His vet bills get bigger and bigger and his nursing home care eventually becomes more than the new owner can handle. They not only want out from all this care that they have gotten themselves into, but now they are turned off of the idea of ever owning a dog. You have lost a potential customer for life.

Do not let your enemies on your property. Do not let prospective customers any closer than the puppy buying room. Bring them to the customer and bring the mother at the same time. This action shows that you are proud and confident of the quality of your dogs. It also makes sure that when the customer asks to see the parents of the puppy, as they always seem to do, they will not be roaming around outside, unsupervised. Make sure your office and puppy room are as close to the front gate as possible. Blanket your property with “NO TRESPASSING” signs and prosecute if your rules are violated.

When a dogs starts to show the signs of old age and detractions from the appearance you wish to portray, move it to another area where it will not be seen by your customer. If you are invaded by television or newspaper reporters and they happen to
We went, we saw, we learned.

We were told at the Carmen Battaglia for 24 hours on sessions on breeding better dogs. We learned about his "stick dog pedigrees" - an awesome way to see the genetics in the dogs. We were hanging around and we had the chance to talk with him for maybe 30 minutes or more and pick his brain further. If you’d been there, you might have had the opportunity too! I missed Andrea Ball-Morawora on Enrichment and Socialization for Adult Breeding Dogs, and Dr. Paul DeMars on Immunization—Parvo. I entered. I wanted to hear Dr. Jerold Bell on Ways for Breeders to Improve Health in their Pups, but instead I ran into Patti Strand, who I’d never met but have corresponded with and we chatted for about 1.5 hours. Neat lady. Scary stuff she has to say. (More on that in a bit.)

In between each "headline speaker," the Hunte Corp staff veterinarians gave "mini" lectures on various topics from parasites to vaccines to any number of other topics. There were PDA sessions on how to groom your dogs in a manner that is gone now. And I picked up two copies of the Bill Jac mini treats that my dogs will eat for an even better price than I bought them for in March! HA! My girlfriend got some Frontline for 40% off. (She had never heard of the Frontline before.)

Dr. Cohorn came with some pretty graphic pictures of what happens to puppies, and how many of you will now require 3 consecutive monthly tests for a car, well, I hope I’ve said things that might make you take back control of the media from the Animal Rights Challenge. She told us that she believes if we do not take back control of the media, in 10 years we will not own dogs. And this doesn’t just apply to dogs, it applies to every animal. She said that if you buy and sell. And this ENTIRE two day event was about standards and their commitment to excellence in the puppies and the breeding better dogs. Everything that was presented had that animal rights challenge. Everything.

I'm a car dealer. But I sell Maseratis, not Fords. For most of my family, a Ford is a perfectly acceptable car. But for the professionals... You can’t do something like that. For me, a Ford just isn’t gonna do it. I was impressed by how many of you are working on genetics and how you can make better dogs. I was impressed by how many of you are working on genetics and how you can make better dogs. I was impressed by how many of you are working on genetics and how you can make better dogs. I was impressed by how many of you are working on genetics and how you can make better dogs.

What do we lose tomorrow??? Better keep your eye on the ball here folks, because all those folks we're fighting right now over people coming into playing will be fighting against us. And I have to wonder whether this is just the tip of the iceberg. What do we lose tomorrow??? Better keep your eye on the ball here folks, because all those folks we're fighting right now over people coming into playing will be fighting against us. And I have to wonder whether this is just the tip of the iceberg. What do we lose tomorrow??? Better keep your eye on the ball here folks, because all those folks we're fighting right now over people coming into playing will be fighting against us. And I have to wonder whether this is just the tip of the iceberg.

I'm a car dealer. But I sell Maseratis, not Fords. And there are a number of professional breeders who are going to whup us on experience. You can't win this battle, the war is surely lost. Either we wake up and fight with every single person we can lay our hands on, or we lose. We Them (where them is Professional Breeders) is no longer an acceptable frame of mind. Nobody is going to make you breed dogs for a living, but we are gonna get you costing us. And the few dogs a year we produce in our hobby kennels are no threat to their livelihoods either. NOR are THEY a threat to us. Remember, Fords and Maseratis.

I agree with everything she said. I don’t care why the professional breeders attended the seminar and sat through 2 days of educational information. They DID it. And if you say 25% of them partook in the boot camp, then they have a spiteful view of their kennels...and next year a few more, and the year after that a few more...there is soon going to be little difference between a hobby breeder and a professional. And if you think professionals are gonna whup us on experience. You can't win this battle, the war is surely lost. Either we wake up and fight with every single person we can lay our hands on, or we lose. We Them (where them is Professional Breeders) is no longer an acceptable frame of mind. Nobody is going to make you breed dogs for a living, but we are gonna get you costing us. And the few dogs a year we produce in our hobby kennels are no threat to their livelihoods either. NOR are THEY a threat to us. Remember, Fords and Maseratis.

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be in tomorrow and now you have to be in the store 12 hours the next day instead of eight.

15. Score one point if the customer who just came in and bought your most expensive dog and said “set me up with everything I need” turned out to be using a stolen credit card and the credit card company won’t pay you for that.

16. Score one point when you decide you really have to hire mature employees to groom the dogs, administer wormers and medications, help clean cages and poop and pee all day and kids don’t clean well, and you also need someone professional to sell dogs with knowledge of the breeds and experience in sales because just you can’t do it all, but you find you have to pay $15-$20 per hour to get that person.

17. Score one point if you bring in dogs late one night and are just too tired to make cage cards, collars, put together a folder for each puppy, record all the sire, dam, breeder, and vaccine info in the books, so instead you go home and first thing in the morning the agriculture department is there for an inspection.

18. Score one point if you finally got one evening off but 15 minutes after you walk in your house your vet is closed. Score one point when you decide you really need a morning off or a day off to do some personal errands: go to the dentist, get a haircut, buy a birthday gift, go somewhere that isn’t opened after you get out of the store at night but you can’t because you can’t afford to pay employees to be there when you aren’t selling dogs everyday.

19. Score one point if you told your breeder exactly who you won’t take that puppy back so they look to be just in and looked nothing like you expected and you know you won’t get the price you need to get so you call the breeder and they say “send it back but you have to pay the shipping, make the airline reservation and you have to take it to the airport” which of course you can’t do because you have to be in the store.

20. Score one point if you really need a morning off or a day off to do some personal errands: go to the dentist, get a haircut, buy a birthday gift, go somewhere that isn’t opened after you get out of the store at night but you can’t because you can’t afford to pay employees to be there when you aren’t selling dogs everyday.

21. Score one point if you just sold a puppy and are thrilled that you can now pay some overdue bills with the money, but the customer calls two days later and says they didn’t know their child was allergic, didn’t know it would be so hard to train, didn’t know vet bills would be so expensive, didn’t know the landlord wouldn’t allow dogs, didn’t know their wife wouldn’t want it, didn’t realize it would cry all night, didn’t know it couldn’t stay in crate all day, didn’t know it wouldn’t get along with their other dog AND...of course they have to return it! You try to explain puppies are a final sale but they beg, they cry, or yell at you and say “you’re only in it for the money” or tell you that “this is an exceptional case”, or tell you that “they are coming to drop off the puppy whether you like it or not and have already tested this breeder does on her dogs, want to know if testing this breeder does on her dogs, want to know if you ever had any problems with this breeder, or supporting puppy mills, or only in the business for the money even though there are a lot of professions that would make more money with less stress and shorter hours and more holidays and more respect.

22. Score one point if actually manage to convince the customer you won’t take that puppy back so they call the agriculture department and find out that by law you have to take it back if they have a vet letter saying its unfit for sale, so they go to their vet and get a letter saying the puppy has coccidioi, giardia, hypoglycemia, hernias, ear infections, skin infections, or any problem which is a final sale and you have to return the puppy and they have to give them an additional $200 to cover their vet bills.

23. Score one point if you think you’re using the best breeder in the world and the puppies they send will never get kennel cough, pneumonia, Coccidioi, Giardia, hypoglycemia, hernias, ear infections, skin infections, or anything and eventually they get all of those things and you have to treat them or pay to have your vet treat them because that is pretty much what puppies get no matter where they come from.

24. Score one point if you think you just pick out some cute puppies put them in a store, clean the cages once in the morning and once at night and just wait for people to buy them and give you lots of money and smile at you because you have the best job in the world and there’s always so much money coming in and very soon you realize there’s much more money going out: for food, for medicines, for vaccines, for equipment, for vet bills, for gas, for utilities, for paying rent, for cleaning supplies, for more electricity because your opened 7 days a week 12 hours a day, for huge payroll costs to get people to work so you don’t have to spend every waking moment 365 days a year in your store, because you’re in the live animal business and there is no business more controversial, harder, more stressful, more time consuming, more exhausting, with more overhead and unforeseen expenses than the live animal business and that’s what you’re in!

25. Score one point if you realize that you’ve just spent the last ½ hour giving free advice to someone who’s asked every question about housebreaking and vaccinating and what the customer thinks is more free vet advice about what to do when a dog coughs or won’t eat, or has strange things in its stool and they explain they’re “just checking all this out with you because they like you and trust you” But they’re getting their dog somewhere else because your prices were too high, or you didn’t have the right breed and they needed it right now, or you were too old or yours was the wrong color, or they didn’t know you sold dogs or they decided to go to a real breeder because “no offense - they’d never buy from a store.”

26. Score one point if the customer you think is very close to buying a puppy, now wants to see pictures of the parents, wants to know if they can speak to the breeder before they decide, take the dog to their vet before they commit to it, try it out for a few days to see if “things work out”, ask you to hold it three weeks until their kids birthday, want to know all the genetic testing this breeder does on her dogs, want to know if you can temperament test the dog to see if it’s the right one for them, want you to guaranty it will never get the disease or that the puppy want to know if you can provide references from other people who’ve bought dogs, want to speak to the store vet to ask for all the information on this puppy, and want your lawyer to check the contract before doing anything.

27. Score one point when the 30th person of the day has walked in asked to see all of the puppies, asks a question, and then says “They’re all so cute - I could take them all” and then walks out without taking anything.

28. Score one point if you have a family come in with two little kids who take one of everything off your shelves and all the toys off the hooks, loudly squeak everything they can, asks to see a small puppy, drop it, and then hurry out of the store when the puppy is screaming and you rush it to the vet with a broken leg.

29. Score one point if a customer just came into the store and said “oh what a fun business - I think I’ll try this for fun when I retire.”

30. Score 1 point if you started this business with very little money in the bank just for fun, you wouldn’t take much to get started and after you sell your first or two puppies you’ll have made everything back and have more than enough money to cover everyday business, but now you realize instead of even making any money you forgot about all the expenses involved in just starting the business, running the store, taking care of the puppies, and the cost of BUYING the puppies and you’re $10,000 in debt in just a few months and rent is due soon, payroll is tomorrow - which is higher now because you had to get more help to work the 12 hour days 7 days a week, and you just don’t see how you can make it unless you sell about 75 puppies a month.

31. Score the final point if you love dogs more than people, take the very best care of them that you can, actually feel relieved less stressed and calmer when you have a puppy in your arms, wouldn’t hesitate to drive to the store any time of day or night to care for a sick puppy, tell your vet “do everything you can and don’t give up”, actually turn away customers who you honestly feel don’t have the means, or sense or knowledge, or willingness to properly care for a puppy or have told you something that signals the puppy will not be safe and you know most of your breeders very very well because its important to you, but you are still accused everyday of selling bad puppies, or sick puppies, or-taking homes away from shelter dogs, or supporting puppy mills, or only in the business for the money even though there are a lot of professions that would make more money with less stress and shorter hours and more holidays and more respect.

*Article by Nancy Silverman of Puppy Love, Danbury, CT. www.loveapuppy.com
2500 Attend The Hunte Corporation’s Breeder Educational Conference

The Hunte Corporation’s Ninth Annual Breeder Educational Conference was a huge success, with participation of more than 2500 professional pet breeders and pet industry leaders. The Conference took place on September 26-27 in Joplin, Missouri.

The Breeder Educational Conference is the nation’s largest event for professional pet breeders. It is sponsored by The Hunte Corporation, the world’s leading licensed distributor of puppies and animal care systems provider to the professional pet industry.

A roster of internationally distinguished experts spoke on topics including canine nutrition, genetics, animal health, veterinary medicine, animal care and regulation. Speakers on topics including canine nutrition, genetics, animal health, veterinary medicine, animal care and regulation. Speakers included renowned canine geneticist Dr. Carmen Battaglia; Dr. Chelsea Cohorn and Dr. Paul DeMars, Oklahoma State University; Andrea Ball-Morawa of USDA/APHIS and Patti Dr. Chelsea Cohorn and Dr. Paul DeMars, Oklahoma State University; Andrea Ball-Morawa of USDA/APHIS and Patti Strand of the National Animal Interest Alliance.

“The Breeder Educational Conference attracts the very best breeders in America, who attended in the largest number ever this year,” said Andrew Hunte, founder and Chief Executive Officer of The Hunte Corporation. “This year’s conference reflects the tone of breeder excellence that prevails throughout the professional pet industry, and the very bright outlook for the industry,” he said.

Exhibitors representing premium pet products and services also participated at the Breeder Educational Conference. They included pet food, pet supply and veterinary supply companies, as well as several national pet registries, professional breeder associations, national trade associations, and regulatory agencies including USDA and the State of Missouri. More than $50,000 in prizes was awarded, including a $10,000 grand prize and two Caribbean cruises for two. According to Steve Rook, President of The Hunte Corporation, “The Tenth Annual Breeder Educational Conference will be more exciting and informative than ever before.” It will be held on September 25-26, 2009 at the Holiday Inn Convention Center (formerly known as the John Q Hammons Convention Center). For more information, please contact Steve Rook at (800) 829-4155

Andrea Ball-Morawa of USDA/APHIS addressed the Breeder Educational Conference.

NEWS RELEASE !!!

2500 Attend The Hunte Corporation’s Breeder Educational Conference

February 7th, 2009
Dakota Breeders Association, Mitchell, South Dakota

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

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

March 13th & 14th, 2009
IaPBA-Iowa Pet Breeders Association, Meskwaki Bingo Casino Hotel, Tama, Iowa. Contact Julie Petersen (515) 836-8114

UPCOMING SOUTHWEST AUCTIONS

DEC. 13th, 2008-Paul Laws, Kirkville, MO

WINTER BREAK UNTIL FEBRUARY, 2009

1ST SALE FOR ’09: FEBRUARY 7th, 2009-

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2nd SHOW #1: FEBRUARY 7th, 2009-

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1ST SALE FOR ’09: FEBRUARY 7th, 2009-

Consignment Sale, Wheaton, MO
Log on to the SW Auction website for more info: www.swkccmeauction.com

Southwest Auction Service of Wheaton, Missouri, had a special sale over the Halloween weekend. In addition to the dog sale that day, a costume contest was held for the kids. Bob Hughes, owner of Southwest Auction, had the ‘trick or treaters’ line up in front of the crowd and had everyone clap for their favorite costume. The line up was as follows:

Toy Group
winner was a Havanese--Maxinaux’s Zippy Doo Dah, owned by Juanita Kimbrough

Terrier and Non Sporting Group
winner was a Standard Poodle--HCK Dressed Like Gary Cooper, owned by Dawn Craig, shown by Jordan Craig

Working and Herding Group
winner was a Miniature Australian Shepherd, Spurin A Sharmane, owned by Brenda Arnett

Show Number 3: Top Dog for the third show was again the Standard Poodle, HCK Dressed Like Gary Cooper owned by Dawn Craig and shown to perfection by Jodan Craig

Toy Group winner was a Miniature Pinscher--Maxinaux’s Zippy Doo Dah, owned by Juanita Kimbrough

Terrier and Non Sporting Group
winner was a Standard Poodle--HCK Dressed Like Gary Cooper, owned by Dawn Craig

Hound and Sporting Group
winner was a Beagle --Windkist too Hot To Handle, owned by Rae Lynn Mercer

Working and Herding Group
winner was a Miniature Australian Shepherd--Spurin A Sharmane, owned by Brenda Arnett

In addition to the APRI Dog Show, they held a Youth Showmanship Class. There were two groups, 8 and younger and 9 and older…..what a treat that was, watching the youth, showing everyone else up!

The names of our future handlers were: 9 and older….what a treat that was, watching the youth, showing everyone else up!

The names of our future handlers were: 9 and older and 8 and under – what a treat that was, watching the youth, showing everyone else up!

The names of our future handlers were: 9 and older in order of photo, Jordan Craig, Chriss Vargas, Clint Oehring, Jaclyn Crawford, Maggie Fish, and Hayden Murphy. The names of our future holders were: 9 and older in order of photo, front row-

Damen Webb (3ys), Lea Wacketon (4yrs), Callie Reynolds (6yrs), Michelle Grace (4yrs), Jodan Paulson (5yrs),

Jat Ridenhour (7yrs), Hunter Parris (3yrs), Shane Minor (4yrs)

Toy Group
winner was a Yorkshire Terrier--Sunset Aces

Top Dog
winner was an Australian Shepherd, Spurin A Sharmane, owned by Brenda Arnett

Working Group
winner was an Australian Shepherd, Spurin A Sharmane, owned by Brenda Arnett

Arnett Laws, Kirksville, MO

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Focus:...
PetConnectOnline Hosts Breeders Seminar

PetConnectOnline, an online puppy sales service, hosted a breeder appreciation and education seminar on Nov. 8th at their new facility in Goodman, Mo. The purpose of the seminar was to show appreciation to breeders who use the marketing services of PetConnectOnline.com, according to Danny Bailey, founding owner and operator.

“PetConnect is all about the breeder,” Bailey said. “We appreciate the efforts of all our breeders 365 days a year, but this one day gave an opportunity to express it.” Education and information was the secondary purpose of the seminar. “We wanted to help breeders have a better understanding of what we do in order to make a sale for them,” Bailey said.

The featured speaker for the seminar was Dr. Elizabeth Dittman, veterinarian for Midway Veterinarian Clinic of Neosho, Mo. Dr. Dittman addressed avoiding common dog health issues such as coccidia, giardia, worms, hernias, luxating patellas, ear mites, and yeast infections in the ear.

Grooming tips, lunch, and door prizes were also provided. Any breeder who missed the seminar may request the information was the secondary purpose of the seminar. “We wanted to help breeders have a better understanding of what we do in order to make a sale for them,” Bailey said.

The best age to list puppies is five weeks old, depending on the breed, although it is much more challenging. Smaller breeds are easier to sell than larger ones at this age, Bailey said, noting that potty-training is a big plus.

Bailey has more than 35 years experience in the pet industry and has personally worked with most of the breeders in the area for many years, having co-owned a brokerage in Goodman for several years. Bailey has raised puppies since he was a kid, has sold and managed the manufacturing of kennels, and managed and trained game bird hunting dogs. He personally raises a select number of high-quality dogs and puppies as a family project.

Through his experience, he has become acquainted with numerous reputable dog breeders of all dog breeds, he said. These experiences led to the formation of PetConnectOnline.com and PawPrintsAcrossAmerica.com in 2005, along with the help of wife Latonia, who has marketing and professional writing experience, and son Chad, who has computer expertise.

Current staff members include Becky Dewitt, who has more than 20 years experience in the pet industry; Sara Burr, sales and office assistant; and Dee Stewart, administrative assistant to Bailey. All staff members are pet lovers, and most raise dogs as well.

For more information about the services of PetConnectOnline.com, call 417-364-5900 or email breederadmin@petconnectonline.com.
FOR SALE! AKC AUSTRALIAN SHEPHERDS, Red-Bi female 2 yrs., Red-Tri female 1 1/2 yrs, (2) Red Tri females 4 months, (1F/1M) Red Merles 3 months. (479) 787-7387 or email: dhall0205@gmail.com

AKC CHAMPION YORKIES & MALTESE!! SHOW KENNEL REDUCTION due to health reasons. Champion Sires & Dams, Adults and Puppies. Barbarella Kennels (405) 392-4717, visit their website: www.Barbarellastar.com

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KENNEL MARKETPLACE: Sell your Breeding Stock, Supplies and Equipment on www.kennelmarketplace.com NO MEMBERSHIP FEE! Contact Laura Bone at Kennelmarket@leadhill.net or phone: (866) 637-7284

PBT MARKET PLACE: Sell your Pups and Kittens on www.PBTmarketplace.com Only $1.00 to list!! $15.00 when SOLD! NO MEMBERSHIP FEE! Contact Laura Bone at Pbtmarket@leadhill.net or phone: (866) 637-7284

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C & J SHARPENING: ANDIS, OSTER & DOUBLE K-Blade Sharpening. Metal Blades $5.00, Ceramic Blades $6.00. Mail-in’s Welcome! Contact Cindy at (417) 722-4533 or Cindystersriers@man.com

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