

Newsletter of Have Paws Will Travel

Puppy Raising Club, Arapahoe County, Colorado Andrea Loughry, Editor

MEETING SCHEDULE

February 6th: (Thursday) Dinner in the Dark. This will be our social outing for February. Details below.

February 11th: Meet with Barb Deevers inside Southglenn Mall, in front of Sears near the food court for individual Dog evaluations:

6:00 to 7:00 p.m.	7:00 to 8:00 p.m.	8:00 to 9:00 p.m.
Rea	Creasey	Landert
Witcher	Goldstein	Logan
Moyer	Loughry	

February 16th & 17th: Dog Show Fund Raiser. Details below.

February 25th: 7:00 p.m. Training and Business Meeting. County Extension Building.

DINNER IN THE DARK



Thursday, February 6th, 6:00 p.m. Arapahoe County Multipurpose Building.

Fun dog training games will follow the meal. *Dogs with Vision* and *Have Paws Will Travel* are hosting this combined event for their members & puppies. Experience how blind people manage at dinner by enjoying a tasty meal while blindfolded or wearing vision impairment simulating glasses. Wear the blinds as much or as little as you like, or try various glasses for part of the evening. Contact Carmen or Dot with questions.

HOLIDAY GENEROSITY

Twenty-five people and eight dogs from twelve families attended the Holiday Party in December. We raised \$80 in donations for the MaxFund Animal Adoption Shelter, as well as an assortment of cat & dog foods for the Dumb Friends League's new Buddy Center in Castle Rock. Now that's the way to share the holiday spirit!

DOG SHOW FUNDRAISER

Feb. 14th-17th. Two, five-hour shifts each day, from 7:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. and 12:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. National Western Stock Show Complex, Event Center & Equestrian Building. Metro puppy clubs work together to clean up (yes, that means the poop brigade) at the biggest dog show between Westminister and the west coast. It's fun, cleaner than you think, and not very "icky" at all. Aprons, scoops, and other clean up materials are supplied. All you need do is wear a club or Guide Dogs shirt and your walking shoes. As a bonus, you get free admission to see some top-flight dogs and to check out the great dog stuff at tons of booths (between scoopings, of course). This is our biggest fund-raising opportunity of the year, and everyone is asked to make a special effort to take a shift. We are low on workers this year, so please help out if you possibly can! The dog show people love us because we clean up with a smile. Contact Pat Fitzgerald to sign up at eagleye@ecentral.com or 303-755-4374.



Schedule:

Friday 14th - 4 Paws 4 Service (Janet Pickett)

Saturday 15th - El Paso County club (Sandi Sharp)

Sunday Morning 7:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

Andrea Loughry, Carmen Moyer, Sidekicks For Sight (2).
NEED 10 PEOPLE - 6 OPENINGS

Sunday Afternoon 12:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m.

Lizz Landert, Carol Fey, Barb Witcher.
NEED 6 PEOPLE - 3 OPENINGS

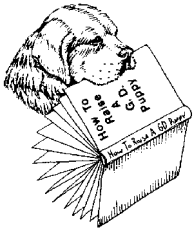
Monday Morning 7:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

Dot Dill & Dogs With Vision (6),
Barb O'Connor & Sidekicks For Sight (2).
NEED 10 PEOPLE - 2 OPENINGS

Monday Afternoon 12:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. (ALL FILLED)

Rea Family (3), Pat Fitzgerald, Dogs With Vision (2).

ASK ABBIE



Abolene is a career change golden and co-raiser of ten puppies. Address questions to Abbie c/o the editor or e-mail at abbie@hpwtdogmom.org

Dear Abbie:

My raisers are always pulling me around. I want to go here, they pull me back with the leash. I want to go there, they pull me the other way. They always walk slower than I want, so I pull and pull. The cool thing is, now that I'm older, I can make them go where I want because I can pull *them!* It's fun, but I think my neck is getting stretched out! Since I'm stronger, I think they should give up and go where I want and stop pulling me. Don't you agree?

—Pulling in Two Directions

Dear Pulling:

Sounds like your raisers are trying to give you collar corrections, but their technique isn't very good, thus all that pulling. They are supposed to be giving short, sharp jerk-release corrections that get your attention back on the command they've given, such as "let's go" or "sit." When they pull instead of jerk, it just creates a tug-of-war with your neck in the middle! It might help if your raisers practice the jerk-release correction by attaching the leash to an old rolled up towel or piece of carpeting. Even a chain-link fence will do. It's not fair to practice on you, because they will end up jerking you when you don't deserve it. Try to get your raisers to practice commands with you in your home or yard, so when you go out to socialize, you will be better at paying attention to them. It's always good to learn and perfect your skills in a distraction-free environment before you take your show on the road. Finally, let me put in a plug for head collars. The jerk-release correction that your raisers are having so much trouble with takes split-second timing, good technique, and a lot of strength, especially for a big, tough-necked dog like you. The head collar, while a little unsettling at first, takes all that jerking out of the relationship. It helps you focus your attention on what your raiser wants you to do, and gives them "power steering" to get you to do it. When you take the jerk out of your relationship with your raiser, you will find that you both can be happier about being together, and social outings will become fun again!

HeartGard Day is February 1st!

CRAIG CORNER



Hello Everyone and Happy New Year to people and dogs alike! I wish for all of you a year filled with good health, much happiness, healing love and inner peace and strength. As for those of you who have loved ones in the military, my thoughts are with you. May we be lucky enough to avert this potential war and may your friends and family remain safe.

Often a new year brings change. . .and so it is with the Pet-A-Pup Program at Craig Hospital. Change can be both scary and exciting. I hope that you will find these changes exciting and beneficial in the long run, however I also understand the possibility for disappointment on your part.

As you may already know, Sam Andrews is now the Director of Volunteer Services for Craig Hospital in addition to his position as Director of Therapeutic Recreation. Sam has been at Craig for 30 plus years. Sam has some very specific goals for animal assisted therapy activities at Craig. The first goal is to expand the evening visitation program to include Craig staff members and their dogs, and to slowly involve more of the community. You will ALL be invited to participate in the revised Pet-A-Pup Program as soon as it is up and running again! I will need to draw upon your experience and support. Sam's second goal (also a personal goal of mine) is to restructure/expand upon the animal assisted work that takes place during the day. This will take time and money; Craig's fine development department, along with Sam and myself, will be pursuing funding. We hope to implement some of these changes in the next several months; we will contact you about resuming evening visits at Craig.

On a more personal note, from the bottom of my heart I want to thank each and every one of you and each of your dogs for the years of dedicated service which you have provided to the patients of Craig Hospital. Always with quiet compassion and sensitivity you have encouraged patients, family members and staff in their journey along the arduous path of rehabilitation. I personally have benefitted greatly from your support, friendship and wealth of knowledge. I hope to see each of you at Craig in the near future. Please feel free to contact me with any questions, concerns or comments.

Until next time . . . Take care.

Wendy Eder

Pet-A-Pup Program Coordinator

PUPPY KISSES



To Single Dog Workshop participants: Carol Fey, AMIGA, Lizz Landert with TERESA, Andrea Loughry with TEXAN, Carmen Moyer with GIDGET, and Barb Witcher with FADA. Sloppy kisses to Pat Fitzgerald & his pet dog BOO, for providing a wonderful dog-of-another-breed experience for all the participating pups.

To everyone who turned in worn-out toys at our toy exchange meeting. Sloppy kisses to Andrea Loughry for the idea and to Mary Logan for stocking and running the club store.

To Mary & Mike Logan for driving to Fort Collins with our stock of toys to repeat the toy-turn-in for a meeting of the puppy raisers there.

To Kathy McDaniel of the Extension Office for always doing a fine job of pulling info from our newsletter to include in the 4-H newsletter. Last issue even sported a photo from our Halloween party!

To 4-H Ambassador Maegan Shanteau for presenting a program for about thirty 4-H'ers in Aurora with AMIGA.

To Andrea Loughry for our new website, which has generated several new raiser inquiries. The toy page has been used by GDB puppy raisers everywhere!

To everyone who signed up for *Doggie Tales* at Franklin Elementary. Thanks to you they have enough dogs until the summer break.

To the Denver Young Artists Orchestra and Claire Bensen for making tickets available and welcoming us to their winter concert. There were 12 puppies in training, two working guides and 31 people present from Seeing is Believing, Dogs with Vision and HPWT clubs. Reas & Moyers represented HPWT, with WONDER, GIDGET, FADA and TEXAN in attendance. (Sloppy kisses to Carmen and Tom Moyer for personally picking up FADA & TEXAN and taking them on the light rail so that they could attend when their raisers couldn't, and to the people who handled them in the concert hall).

To Pat Holwell for donation of a large molded crate.

REMINDERS

Turn in small-sized collars, head-collars, puppy coats, crates, x-pens and other club-owned equipment when you are done with them for recycling or use by other raisers.



If you need to exchange or return a kennel, or pick up a folding crate for travel, call Sue Green. If you need a different size puppy coat, contact Carmen.

When you know your dog will need to lie quietly for a couple of hours on an outing, it's a good idea to provide some exercise time for the dog first. Plenty of relaxed time for relieving before leaving home is helpful as well. Relieving the dog beforehand is doubly important for active, indoor outings, because a lot of walking can stimulate the need to relieve and accidents inside are embarrassing and messy. Think ahead and set yourself (and your dog) up for success.

JINGLE DOGS

Do all heads turn to the sound when you and your dog enter a room? If your dog's tags seem jingly and distracting, try putting plastic key rings on them. These inexpensive rings, meant to help identify keys, come in lots of colors and can be found at any hardware store. You can even color-coordinate them with the rabies tag or puppy coat! They are nicer looking than taping the tags together, and less messy, too. When your dog's tags are quieter, it's much easier to be discreet.

MALADY OF THE MONTH

by Randa MacMillian, D.V.M.

Gas: Dogs have gas from two sources: some dogs gulp air with excitement or play, which travels the length of the GI and then out the other end. The other, more common source is ingesting gas-producing foods. The most common culprit is corn. It ferments in the GI track and produces gas. Corn is, unfortunately, in almost all dog foods. (Some more so than others). Garbage mouth & filth eating could also be a culprit.

What You Can Do: Discuss a change of diet for your dog with Randa. (Remember, any time a Guide pup changes food, it must be approved first). Purge the yard of anything the dog may be snacking on, such as fruit fallen from trees; and faithfully clean up doggie waste. And remember, with any luck, this too, shall pass!



GDB VET PROTOCOLS

from GDB Puppy Raising Department

- Raisers who are within their \$250 annual allotment, and are seeking general veterinary care information, should contact their leader.
- Raisers who have exceeded their \$250 annual allotment, and are seeking pre-authorization for veterinary services, may call the Vet Bill Hotline at (415) 492-4117. (See *More on Vet Protocols* for additional contact information).
- In the case of a medical emergency, raisers should seek local veterinary assistance immediately if pre-authorization is not possible in a timely manner. For example, in the case of a puppy ingesting poison, or involved in a car accident, raisers should seek veterinary care immediately, and contact GDB and their leader as soon as possible.

Leaders will contact Guide Dogs as necessary to consult about puppy vet visits.

If you have any other questions regarding this policy change or the communication procedures, please contact your puppy raising advisor. Thank you.

VETS AND LEADERS

from Carmen Moyer



If all the changes in vet procedures have you a bit muddled, just remember this one thing: *call a leader before going to the vet.* (That said, routine shots, authorized spays and neuters can simply be recorded on the monthly puppy report). If your total vet expenses are nearing \$250, you will need to arrange for pre-authorization through GDB, too. Randa MacMillian is HPWT's leader for vet concerns—call her at work or at home, or email in non-emergency situations. (Of course, you should call Carmen or Andrea if Randa is unavailable and you need help right away). We, as leaders, can make the judgement on whether the pup's condition is "unusual" or "persistent" and inform Barb Deevers. We can also help you navigate the pre-authorization maze. Always include vet visits on your monthly report, and email Barb Deevers and our leadership with the results of a vet visit right away so that everyone is in the loop about the health concerns of your puppy.

MORE ON VET PROTOCOLS

from Barb Deevers, PRA

1. Please copy me on vet information. If I do not require the info I will delete it. However, knowing that Fluffy had a thorn in his paw and saw the vet on Sunday at 1:00 a.m. helps keep everyone informed should questions arise.
2. GDB has hired a staff person who exclusively handles vet authorizations. Talking to her directly will expedite pre-authorizations and minimize miscommunication. Julianne Carpenter can be reached directly at 503-668-2112 or by fax at 503-668-2141. She works 9:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m. most weekdays. She can also be reached at jcarpenter@guidedogs.com.
3. You may use VetConsult@guidedogs.com for general vet advise or questions (please copy me.) Your vet should continue to consult with the GDB vet staff as they always have.
4. For emergency or last minute vet visits, please obtain a copy of the medical records and a copy of the bill for the visit. You may fax this info to Julianne so that she understands the issue and can make notes in the vet record. Billing will then be aware of the visit and be able to process the bill.
5. Each puppy is only permitted one *post*-authorization without "investigation." A *post* authorization comes when the vet department is informed of a visit *after* the fact. Except in emergencies, puppies are required to obtain PRE-authorizations. If it becomes a habit to do the leg work afterwards, reimbursement is not guaranteed.
6. Pups placed in homes prior to August 1, 2002 are "grandfathered" in as not requiring authorization numbers. Even in these cases, for procedures, X-rays or other diagnostics (other than a straightforward vet visit) you need to contact GDB vets, just as you always have. For pups placed after August 1st, there is no need for an authorization number for a regular exam as long as they are within the \$250 limit. As above, procedures, X-rays, etc. require a GDB vet consult.
7. If you receive a decline letter for a medical bill, your leader and I will work with you to straighten out the situation with Guide Dogs.

CANINE CREATION STORY

from the Internet

On the first day of creation, God created the dog.

On the second day, God created man to serve the dog.

On the third day, God created all the animals of the earth (especially the horse) to serve as potential food for the dog.

On the fourth day, God created honest toil so that man could labor for the good of the dog.

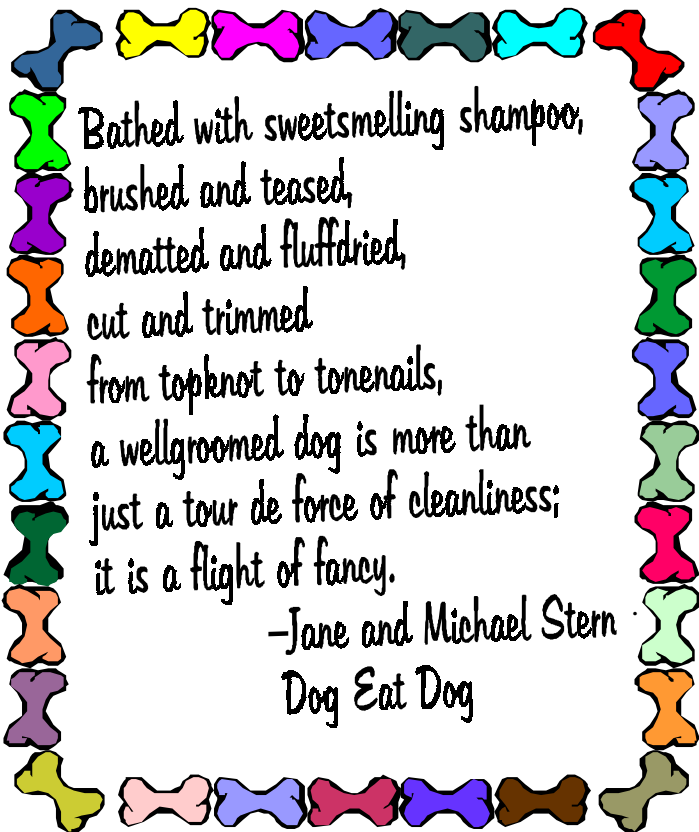
On the fifth day, God created the tennis ball so that the dog might or might not retrieve it.

On the sixth day, God created veterinary science to keep the dog healthy and the man broke.

On the seventh day, God tried to rest, but He had to walk the dog.

GDB SCHOLARSHIPS

Annually, Guide Dogs for the Blind, Inc. is pleased to sponsor scholarships to youth puppy raisers. The applicant must be a senior in high school, have actively raised a Guide Dog puppy for Guide Dogs for the Blind, and be pursuing an education in any field of study at an accredited college, university, technical or trade school. The deadline for scholarship applications is May 15th, 2003. Contact Cheryl Paddack at (800) 295-4050 or cpaddack@guidedogs.com if you need more information.



BOOK REVIEW

Bones Would Rain from the Sky: Deepening Our Relationships with Dogs

by Suzanne Clothier

Ever look into those pleading brown puppy eyes and wonder just what your dog is thinking? Holistic dog trainer Suzanne Clothier knows and she shares her secrets in this empathetic, humorous, and down-to-earth book. No cookbook on how to get your dog to "sit," Ms. Clothier instead suggests examining the dynamic between human and canine. Dogs, she believes, are completely honest and tell their own truth at every minute. Our job is to learn to read their signals and communicate better with them. A simple shift of thinking makes a world of difference: from "walk the dog" to "walk *with* the dog," from "dominate alpha" to "*leader*" can open up a world of possibilities. Ever practical, Ms. Clothier does not suggest that house manners and training are in some way a betrayal of dogkind. Rather, she emphasizes that since living in a civilized setting *is* unnatural for a dog (the ancestral wolf never had to deal with apartment living and busy streets!), it is our duty to give them the training and social skills they need to coexist with us in our modern world. Her insights into canine behavior, thought processes, and language truly can help "deepen our relationships with dogs." Whether you are thinking of getting a first puppy, or are welcoming your twentieth, *Bones Would Rain from the Sky* will refresh your enthusiasm for understanding and loving a canine partner. On a scale of one to five, *Bones* gets five kibbles with gravy on top!

(reviewed by Andrea Loughry)

Ed Note: Find this title at the library, or buy it direct from <http://www.flyingdogpress.com/>

WEBSITE EXCITEMENT

Just in time for Dinner in the Dark, we've added several links about vision and blindness to the website. Especially fun is the vision simulator found at <http://my-vision-simulator.com/> which gives a good idea what it's like to have various forms of progressive vision loss. Check it by clicking on the "links" icon on our home page <http://hpwtdogmom.org>. If you have comments on the website, or if there is information you would like to see included, be sure to let us know!

