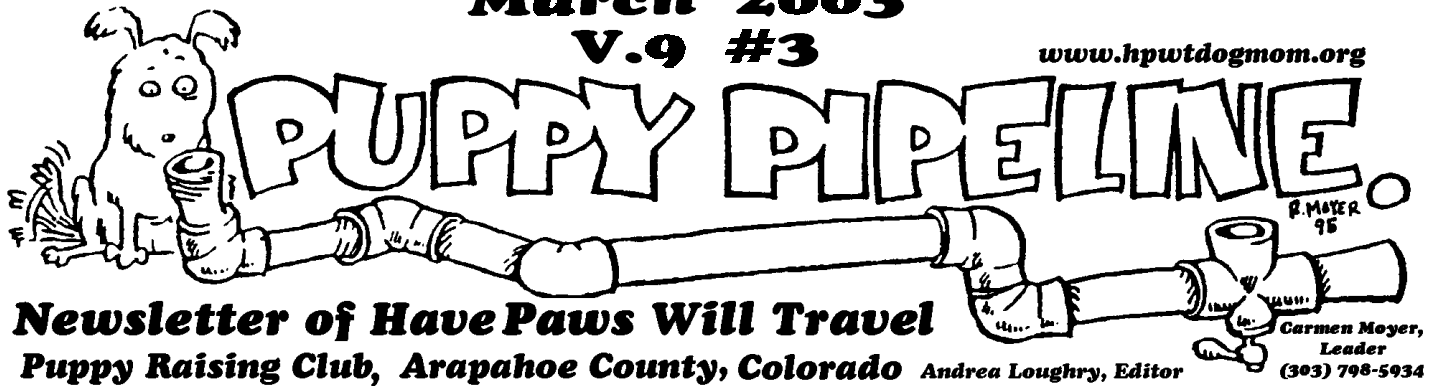


March 2003
V.9 #3

www.hpwt dogmom.org



HPWT SCHEDULE

Have Paws Will Travel club meets at 7:00 p.m. on the 2nd and 4th Tuesdays of every month at the County Extension building, with a social outing on the 3rd Tuesday. Call Carmen Moyer if you have scheduling questions.

Social Outing:

March 18th. Tentatively planned outing at the dog wash at PetCo on County Line Road & Chester. Puppies in training and career change dogs welcome. Towels & shampoo provided. Sign up times & price will be announced at the March 11th meeting, or contact Carmen with questions.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

The Spring GDB puppy workshop will be Saturday, April 26th. Place and time to be announced. Make a note on your calendar now for this all day-event. Guide Dogs for the Blind *requires* attendance at workshops for all raisers and their puppies.










DINNER A SUCCESS

Over forty people and their puppies attended the first ever Dogs with Vision/Have Paws Will Travel *Dinner in the Dark* on February 6th, including special guests Kim Jackson of *Dog Days of Denver Magazine*, Shaylen King from the Extension Office and a photographer from the *Littleton Independent*. Photos appeared in the Feb. 13th edition and several other local papers.

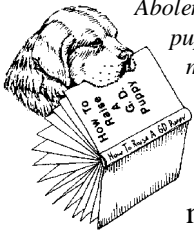
Everyone had the opportunity to try blindfolds and low-vision simulating glasses while eating and playing games with our puppies. It was an “eye-opening” experience that provided much empathy for our puppies’ eventual blind partners. One diner commented it was easier to manage with a blindfold

than with low-vision—a little residual vision can be distracting! Others experienced travel with a sighted guide for the first time, or discovered just how difficult it can be to keep track of a dog—even when he’s on leash—when you cannot see what he is up to. We also had literature from several national organizations for the blind. Visit our website at <http://hpwt dogmom.org> for links to the organizations, tips for interacting with blind people, and photos of the event.

Puppy Kisses to everyone who made “Dinner in the Dark” possible:

-  To Dot Dill and *Dogs with Vision* members for organizing the event, arranging for Fazoli’s spaghetti and bread sticks, and bringing desserts.
-  To Claire Benson for pampering our guests —prospective raisers and press—and for making the contact with Kong and arranging for the free toys!
-  To Jack and Bonnie McPartland for helping with set-up and for helping plan games.
-  To Andrea Loughry for arranging for the vision impairment simulators from GDB and making extra low vision glasses, and obtaining the literature on blindness.
-  To Carmen Moyer for fetching the salad and being our “waitress” for second helpings of spaghetti, and for helping with the set up.
-  To HPWT for supplying paper goods & plastic tablecloths.
-  To the Linda Sumner Memorial Fund for funding the meal and low-vision glasses for this educational and promotional event.

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 raiser and I were having a nice neighborhood walk when all of a sudden this huge growling dog came out of nowhere, jumped on me and tried to bite me! I wasn't hurt, but now I'm so afraid when I see another dog that I can't help but growl in self-defense. I don't like feeling this way, but I don't want to be attacked again. Help!

—Beating them to the Punch

Dear Punch:

Unfortunately, loose dogs are a huge problem for both puppies being raised and working Guides. Our puppy club has had several dogs dropped from the program after an encounter like you described because they could not overcome their fear. Many Guides must be retired after such an encounter, too.

Your raiser should work with your club leader and Puppy Raising Advisor to design a program to help you. This may include outings to places where you will be able to observe other dogs that are controlled, without interacting directly with them. They may prescribe even more powerful training techniques like counter-conditioning, too.

It's easier to stay calm when you encounter an aggressive dog if you have learned how to be mannerly around nice dogs. Raisers should begin by giving the okay to visit with another dog only when both dogs are calm (that means both dogs must be on a leash at first). If one of the dogs cannot keep calm, then the raiser should remove him from the situation until he can calm himself. Once both dogs earn the right to visit, it's important for the raisers to keep the leash loose. If people tighten up, the dogs may be signaled that their humans are apprehensive and start feeling defensive or aggressive. After all, if your person seems afraid, then you will be afraid, too. If you and the other dog start getting rough, your raiser should take you away until both dogs are calm again. Guide puppies are never supposed to run loose with other dogs unsupervised—even with your raiser's own pet dog! It's too easy to be injured or learn undesirable behaviors when your raiser isn't around.

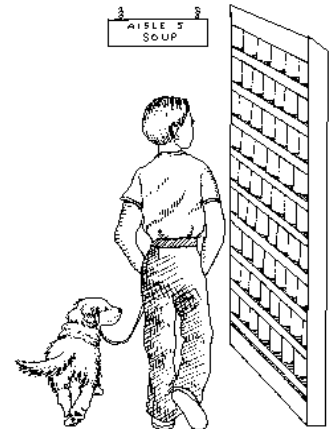
Raisers can prevent negative dog interactions by being extra aware of their surroundings and not putting their dogs in harm's way. That means avoiding

areas with loose dogs, and especially avoiding dog parks, where all the dogs are loose; and rough, unsupervised play is the norm.

When a loose dog does appear, like it did on your walk, the best thing to do is ignore it as much as possible and get out of the area quickly and calmly. If you don't respond to the dog, it may lose interest and leave you alone. If a dog does jump on you, it's best for the raiser to maintain a loose leash or even drop the leash so you have the freedom you need to protect yourself. Of course, a person should never try to break up a dog fight with their hands or body, because they could be bitten. A bucket of water or sturdy stick can be used as a last resort. If possible, it's good for your raiser to get the name of the dog's owner or witnesses to the attack in case they are needed later. Any incident of this sort should be reported immediately to the club leaders so they can get you the veterinary and behavioral support you need to recover and still have a chance at a career as a Guide Dog.

OFF-LIMITS OUTINGS

In addition to our daily errands, many puppy raisers seek out special outings for their dogs to give them a wider range of experiences. To help you plan your puppy's social life, here are a some rules from GDB:



PUPPIES ARE NEVER ALLOWED AT:

- Animal Parks and Zoos
- Amusement Rides (including Carousels)
- Dog Parks or Off-leash Dog Areas
- Escalators or Moving Sidewalks

OBTAIN APPROVAL FROM OUR PUPPY RAISING ADVISOR BEFORE TAKING YOUR PUPPY TO:

- Amusement Parks
- Dog Shows
- Fireworks Displays
- Gun Ranges
- Professional Sporting Events
- School
- Travel on Airlines



BLOOD DONORS HONORED

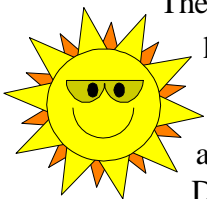
The Colorado Vet Specialists and Animal ER held an appreciation dinner for blood donors and their families on February 13th. The event was catered by County Line BBQ and had a Valentine's theme. HPWT participants included Susie & Chuck DeKruif with FURLEY, Sue & Bob Green with TYRO, and Carmen & Tom Moyer with LODGE. Two of Carmen's other career change dogs also participate: ARLIN, with his family Tiffany & Patrick Krampert; and JOEL with Caroline & Bill Wriston. Rounding out the donors are Dot Dill with SHILO, Becky & Brian Ward with JUSTIN and Jack & Bonnie McPartland with NEMOY. People were given sweatshirts with "My Dog Saves Lives. What Can Yours Do? Animal ER Blood Bank" printed on the back. The dogs all received toys. What a great way to thank these wonderful people and the important work of their donor dogs!

CONGRATULATIONS!

Crystal Connor, who is in charge of the Blood donor program, was accepted into the fall class of the vet school at CSU. Way to go Crystal, but we'll miss you!

SUMMER INTERNSHIPS

From Aerial Gilbert, GDB Director of Volunteers




The Guide Dogs for the Blind Internship program is designed to foster career development and provide needed services for our organization. It seeks to actively promote the values of Guide Dogs for the Blind and inspire career choices. Information packets are being mailed to all leaders.

There are 29 positions available in the following departments: Training Department, Vet Clinic, Dog Placement, Volunteer Department, Gift Shop, Planned Giving, Human Resources, and Kennel Department.. Raisers must be 16 years old to qualify. The application deadline is April 4, 2003. Contact your leader for more information and an application form. *Ed. Note: HPWT has had several participants in this program and they all report it was a fabulous experience!*


SPRING HAZARDS




Now that spring has sprung and it's finally snowing in Colorado, it's time for a reminder about cold weather hazards to our dogs.

 Be aware of snowmelt when social outings take you through parking lots, or neighborhoods, and wash your dog's feet and belly as soon as possible when you get inside.

The chemicals can be irritating to pads and harmful if ingested when the dog licks his feet.

 Antifreeze is a common winter poison; be aware of its presence in your own garage, and also in parking lots where some may be spilled on the ground. Just a few licks of a tasty-looking green puddle could cause a trip the emergency room!

 It can get pretty cold during a spring snow storm, and our dogs are mostly indoor animals, so don't leave your pup in the yard longer than you would be out yourself without a coat on a cold day. Frozen paws, ears, and noses are no fun.

CAREER CHANGE DOG PLACEMENT CHANGES

From The Puppy Raising and Dog Placement Department

The adoption fee for a career change dog through the Dog Placement program has been increased to \$500. All applications received prior to March 1st will be grandfathered in at the \$300 level once matched with a dog. If you receive questions about the adoption fee increase, please include the following information into your response:

- All of our dogs have been socialized in the field; some have had training under the supervision of professional dog training staff.
- We have a complete history of the career change dog including pedigree, medical and behavior history.
- All dogs are neutered or spayed and have received all required vaccinations.
- Our new adoption fee is consistent with other U.S. Guide Dog schools, and below what many private parties would charge for similar dogs.

For more information, visit the Dog Adoption web page at <http://www.guidedogs.com/placement.html>. *(Ed Note: puppy raisers may still adopt a career change dog they have raised with only the cost of transportation home).*

SAY THANK YOU

The Kong company generously donated Kong toys for all the canine participants at Dinner in the Dark. We had so many extras, that several boxes were sent to GDB for the puppy kennels. If you received a Kong, please write a thank-you note to:

Ms. Robin Low Nelson,
c/o Kong Company,
1619-D Table Mountain Parkway,
Golden CO 80403-1641.

FOOD POLICY CHANGE

From GDB Puppy Raising Department

There has been a small change to the Nutritional Policy: we have reworded the second-to-last paragraph of the policy to read:

Dogs in training at our campuses are fed Eukanuba Adult Maintenance (this can be Adult Maintenance or Adult Maintenance

Small Bites; not Large Breed Adult Formula). In order to provide for a more seamless transition of puppies from raising homes to the training kennel, we recommend that raisers

transition their puppies to Eukanuba Adult Maintenance or Adult Maintenance Small Bites at 12 months of age. Raisers should gradually transition to the new diet over a period of 5 - 7 days, gradually replacing the previous food with the new one.



COUPONS AVAILABLE

Purina Pro-Plan coupons: Check out the Pro Plan internet site at www.promotions.yahoo.com/proplan for \$2.00-dollar-off dog food coupons. Just enter your zip code. You can also enter their sweepstakes, for a possibility to win two years of free dog food.

Iams and Eukanuba dog food coupons:

Just follow the instructions listed at <http://www.iams.com/> or www.iamsco.com/ to have coupons mailed to you. You can also enter the Iams Nutritional Challenge, to win a lifetime supply of dog food.



PUPPY KISSES

To dogs who stayed at another raiser's home in January: AMIGA, WONDER, GIDGET, TERESA, and FADA.



To Claire Benson & Dot Dill of *Dogs with Vision* for including HPWT members in the Kong Factory fund raising event on March 1st.

To Presidents' day weekend dog show fund raiser participants: HPWT: Fey, Fitzgerald, Ford, Landert, Loughry, Moyer, Rey, Wilson, and Witcher. Kisses also go to: 4 Paws 4 Service club, Sidekicks for Sight, Liberty on Leashes. Sloppy kisses to Pat Fitzgerald for a terrific job of organizing the workers on all shifts.

To HPWT *Dinner in the Dark* attendees: Creasey & KIMMY, Landert & TERESA, Loughry & TEXAN, MacMillan, Moyer & GIDGET, Rea & WONDER and Witcher & FADA.

To Kelsey Rae for doing a Guide Dog program at her school with WONDER.

To Randa MacMillian for sharing her veterinary expertise with us each month during the "vet visit" segment of our business meetings.

To James Creasey, who recently completed his 100th business flight with a Guide Dog puppy.

To Carmen Moyer's career change dog, LODGE, who holds the record for blood donations: he has given eleven times, most of them for emergency cases.

WEBSITE EXCITEMENT

Did you know HPWT members have raised 130 puppies in our eleven years of existence? Now you can view all of our career changes and graduates and their raisers on line! Simply go to the career change or graduate page and then click on the archive icon. [Http://hpwtdogmom.org](http://hpwtdogmom.org)

