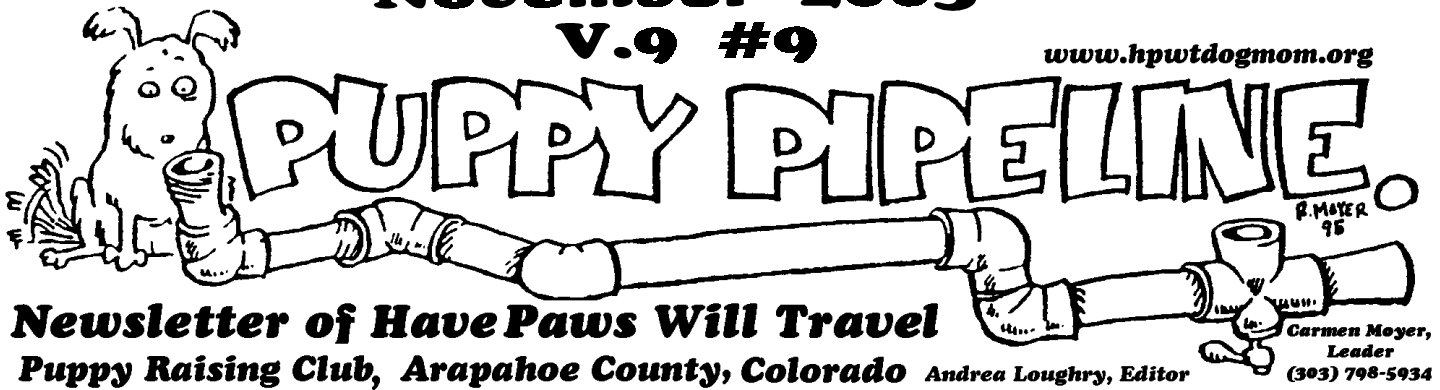


**November 2003**

**V.9 #9**

[www.hpwt dogmom.org](http://www.hpwt dogmom.org)



## **HPWT SCHEDULE**

*Please note changes from our regular meeting schedule.*

**November 11<sup>th</sup>:** Training meeting, County Extension Building, 7:00 p.m.

**November 18<sup>th</sup>:** No meeting for older puppies; young puppies contact Lizz Landert for meeting details.

**November 25<sup>th</sup>:** Training & Business meeting, County Extension Building, 7:00 p.m. Puppy Raising advisor Barb Deevers will teach the training class.

**December 2<sup>nd</sup>:** First-aid class by Randa MacMillan at 7:00 p.m. Content of class will correspond with the Dec 9<sup>th</sup> meeting. Meet at the Arapahoe Veterinary Hospital, 5856 S Lowell Blvd, Littleton 80123. (Just north of the intersection of Lowell and Bowles). 303-794-5574.

**December 9<sup>th</sup>:** Assembly of first aid kits, 7:00 p.m. Place to be announced. HPWT will fund one kit per puppy for all current raisers, and new raisers with applications in place before January 1, 2004. Come and take advantage of this wonderful opportunity to receive this important equipment for your puppy's safety. All raisers are encouraged to attend. (Leave puppies at home if possible).

**December 16<sup>th</sup>:** Holiday Dinner Party at Marie Callendars on South Broadway & Dry Creek Road at 6:30 p.m. Bring a gift for dogs or raisers worth no more than \$10.00 if you wish to participate in the gift exchange.

**December 30<sup>th</sup>:** Training Meeting at the County Extension Building, 7:00 p.m.

## **NAME CHANGE**

Since "Wilhamina" is quite a mouthful, James Creasey requested and received a name change for the female black lab he received on October 5<sup>th</sup>. The puppy's new name is WILSA, and we think it suits her well!

## **TRAPPER TRANSFERRED**

TRAPPER, a male yellow lab co-raised by Pat Fitzgerald and Carol Fey was transferred to another raiser home for evaluation in October, due to temperament issues.

## **SPECIAL DELIVERIES**

WONDER, a female yellow lab raised by Kelsey & Sheila Rea, will be specially delivered to Guide Dogs for harness training with Barb Deevers on December 9<sup>th</sup>. On the return flight, Barb will bring the Rea's a new puppy to raise. Best wishes to WONDER in her training, and welcome new puppy!



## **HOLIDAY FUNDRAISER**

Barnes & Noble offers their holiday gift wrapping table as a fundraiser for nonprofit charities. Volunteers wrap customers' purchases in exchange for donations. This year, we are at the Park Meadows Barnes & Noble at 8334 S Willow (near Yosemite & County Line Road). We are scheduled to work noon to 8:00 p.m. on Saturday, Dec 20<sup>th</sup> and Sunday, Dec 21<sup>st</sup>. Call Lizz to schedule a time if you'd like to bring your puppy and earn funds toward a trip to your pup's graduation!

## **CLUB RESPONSIBILITIES**

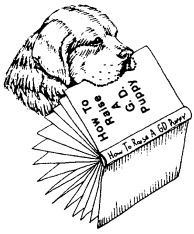
Since Mary Logan didn't get a new puppy when WARD went for harness training, she has passed along her responsibilities to other raisers. The Anderson family now runs the club store. Our new treasurer is Ellen Goldstein. Puppy kisses and wagging tails to Mary for her past efforts on behalf of HPWT, and sloppy kisses to our raisers who have taken on extra duties!

## **KONG WORKDAY**

*From Dot Dill*

I was very proud of the 40+ workers who showed up on a cold, dreary, very early Saturday morning to support our puppy clubs. Thank you to all the club members for their support...I really appreciate it.

## 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](mailto:abbie@hpwtdogmom.org)*

Dear Abbie:

I have a great game that puppies can play with their raisers. I call it "Bowling for People." All a dog has to do is run really fast, and then smash into their raiser and try to knock them down. Please tell your loyal readers to try it! It's really fun.  
—Wrecking Ball

Dear Wreck:

Running is fun for puppies, and it's fine exercise as long as you do it in an enclosed space, like a fenced yard, but smashing into people is definitely NOT a game that guide puppies are allowed to play! In their exuberance, many young dogs do accidentally run into or jump on their raisers. Perhaps your raiser thinks he is engaging you in play, or doesn't know how to stop you, but this behavior must be quickly extinguished if you are to become a successful guide. Think how terrifying it would be for your blind partner to be body-slammed by an eighty-pound out of control dog they cannot see coming! You could even injure the person you're supposed to be a help-mate to. Before you have an opportunity to run or jump again, your raiser needs to work with you on some commands. He should teach you to "sit" without the help of a leash by having you sit for everything, like getting your food, getting petted, attaching your leash—even when you're just walking past. If you don't already have an unbreakable "stay," you need to work on that with your raiser, too. Then, before you get a big head of steam up in the yard, your raiser can ask you to sit and you should be able to do so, even if your raiser is across the yard from you. Then your raiser can give you a "stay" command and approach you with a calm demeanor, pat you and praise you for being good. This technique also works if you get too excited about meeting new people when you're out socializing. If you can hold a "sit," then you can get pats from strangers without jumping on them. Doesn't that sound better than hurting someone by playing "Bowling for People?"

## PRESIDENT'S DAY DOG SHOW

It's not too early to start planing for the February dog show fund raiser. If you are interested in working clean up on President's day weekend to earn money toward graduation, please contact Carmen.

## DOGGIE TALES

*Our Doggie Tales volunteers will recognize this big black dog and her handler who faithfully help out at the library programs. We'd like everyone to know about these two wonderful volunteers who work side-by-side with us, so we asked them to introduce themselves.*

### GYPSY

*by Marty Dickerson*

Gypsy is a Bouvier des Flanders who joined our family in March, 1999 as a one year old. She was supposed to be our son's dog, but she chose me as her soul mate.



Gypsy passed her TDI (Therapy Dogs International) temperament test in 2001. We began visiting the assisted living facility, Sunrise at Orchard, and we still visit there monthly. We participated in Doggie Tales at Koelbel Library until they disbanded; last school year we attended another kids' reading program at Franklin Elementary. I was pleased that Arapahoe Library started Doggie Tales again. Several of the children have read to Gypsy during earlier sessions and like being "repeat readers" to Gypsy. It's fun to watch the children as they pick their dog to read to and to watch them interact with our hairy beasts!

*Meet Marty, Gypsy, and some wonderful kids at the next Doggie Tales session on December 6<sup>th</sup>. Contact Kelsey Rea if you can attend with your older Guide Puppy or career change dog.*

## A LETTER FROM JANE

Dear Puppy People,

*This has been a year of many expected and unexpected changes for me. When unexpected events creep up I have learned that you get through these difficult times anyway, with a little help from your friends. For some reason I thought that when something was expected that that would make it easier to go through, but what I found out is that it just makes difficult things different. One thing remains the same. In both cases I got through it all with a little help from my friends.*



*Thank you all for surprising me when I was too shy to ask for help. Thank you for being there in a hurry when I learned my lesson and came out and asked for help. I will try to be there for you as you have been there for me.*

*Jane Smoak and Family*

## THE K-9 BUDDY PROGRAM: ANOTHER WAY TO GRADUATE

*From: The Puppy Raising Department*



Guide Dogs for the Blind is pleased to introduce another way for our puppies to graduate and serve the blind. It's called the K-9 Buddy Program, and it works like this: dogs that are not suitable for guidework may be chosen to graduate as a K-9 Buddy in the home of a visually impaired child, ages 17 and under. The dogs' jobs will be to introduce the concept of a guide dog and promote the human-animal bond to visually impaired children, which may lead to an application for a guide dog when the children are old enough.

Puppy raisers can feel proud if their pup is selected to graduate as a K-9 Buddy! When possible, the K-9 Buddies will be presented to their new partners at graduation, alongside guides and breeders. When that is not possible, other arrangements, as in the case of in-home trainings, will be available. Graduate and raiser can choose to stay in touch—just as it is with a guide dog user.

Applicant families for the K-9 Buddy program must meet the same qualifications as puppy raising homes, and will have training, follow-up and support from GDB staff.

Other than the placement of guides, breeders, and now K-9 Buddies, raisers will continue to have the first option of adoption or placement of dogs they raised. (Puppies received prior to December 1, 2003, will be offered back to their raisers first; those placed after December 1<sup>st</sup> will be considered for the K-9 Buddy Program first.)

Guide Dogs for the Blind, Inc. is pleased with the prospect of extending our mission to include blind and visually impaired youth, through canine partnership. We would like to extend our sincere appreciation to our puppy raising community for their role in helping us bring this exciting new program to fruition and we will keep you updated with program developments. Please contact a leader if you have questions about the K-9 Buddy program.



### REMINDERS

Please return all GDB equipment, such as head-collars, small puppy collars, puppy coats, crates, and x-pens, as your dog outgrows them, or they are no longer needed. Just hand them to a leader. We'll make sure the items are recycled.

Please write a thank you note to the Purina company for the free puppy food, if you haven't already done so. Address letters & photos of your puppy enjoying its food to: Purina, Steve Huntley and/or Barb Herron, 4555 York Street, Denver, CO 80216

## ONLY YOU CAN PREVENT DOG DISTRACTIONS

*From Barb Deevers*

Dog distractions are the number one reason for career change of a guide dog puppy. There are many things raisers can do to get their puppies off on the right foot, as far as dog distractions are concerned.

Every time you are on the end of the lead of a puppy, you have a responsibility to be ready, willing and able to handle the dog. While other things may be happening around you, you must be able to manage the dog in the environment, or to take the dog out of the situation. Try not to put the puppy into a situation that it will be unlikely to be able to handle.

Be aware of where your puppy is and the needs of other puppies around you: each puppy needs his space. Permitting your puppy to sniff or interact with another dog may inhibit the other dog's progress as well as the progress of your own puppy. By permitting your puppy to sniff another puppy, even for a moment, without first gaining control and expecting appropriate behavior, you are rewarding your puppy for being dog distracted. You may occasionally permit sniffing or a brief interaction—but *only* when each dog has displayed calm and controlled behavior.

Remember, Guide Dog puppies may not interact or play with other dogs, even in a home environment, without leader approval. For your puppy's emotional and physical safety, we ask that before you allow your puppy to socialize with dogs living in the home of friends or family you visit, that those dogs be screened by a leader before your puppy goes with you to that home.

We do not expect our puppies to ignore other dogs altogether; however it is important that we provide the guidelines and consistent handling required to ensure our puppies have the best chance possible to succeed as guides. Frequently, raisers get caught up in the "Oh, that's his brother he just wants to say hi" mind set and forget they are laying the ground work for dog distractions and uncontrolled behavior. Our puppies must earn the privilege of interacting with another dog—even a sibling—through their calm, controlled behavior.



### BLOOD DONORS SOUGHT

The Animal E.R. continues to seek canine A-negative blood donors. If you have a career change or pet dog that hasn't been typed yet, please contact Kira Staggs at 720-283-9348.

# HALLOWEEN PARTY

About 70 people and 35 dogs from five Denver area clubs enjoyed a “Cat-erwalling” good time at the Halloween party. The cat-walk fashion show and the live band were new this year, but they were only part of what made this the best Halloween party ever! Relive the fun on our club website. Just click on “Events.”

## PARTY PURRS



To Pam Kalkus for her energy, ideas, and organization, without which the party would not have happened.



To Bonnie McPartland for setting up the costume contest, prizes, puppy water barrels, and her help with a million and one details.



To the Arapahoe County 4-H Extension office for providing the building as well as “trusties” to set up the stage, tables and chairs in advance.



To announcer extraordinaire Jack McPartland for running the costume show.



To Debby and Harvey Schwartz for being photographers *magnifico*.



To Chris Ford for technical wizardry with the morning decorating and moral support.



To Caroline Wriston and *Liberty on Leashes* for the smooth registration process and bonus prizes.



To prize donors *Sidekicks for Sight* for the sweatshirts, Dogs with Vision for the festive collar covers, and *Have Paws* for leather leashes.



To Lizz Landert for keeping great records of last year’s details, which made party planning easy.



To Jane Smoak for arranging for her son’s band, "Ian' s Guys" to entertain during dinner. They were AWESOME!



To Wendy Kalkus for picking out a terrific theme and designing the invitations to go with it.



To the clean up girls: Carmen Moyer, Lizz Landert, and Jane Smoak..



To our costume judges, Kira Staggs and Megan Ellis of the Animal E.R.



To Andrea Loughry for photographing the event with the club’s new digital camera & loading the pictures on the website. Sloppy kisses to Tom Moyer for additional pictures from his personal digital camera.



And last by not least, to everybody who worked to put together such splendid costumes, brought food to share, and had a great time!

## PUPPY KISSES



To Tom Moyer and Chris Ford for pickup and delivery of 96 donated 40 pound bags of ProPlan on Puppy Truck day, October 24th. Sloppy kisses to Tom for the use of his trailer, which makes to job so much easier!



To Dot Dill and *Dogs with Vision* for including Have Paws members in their Kong workday fundraisers. We appreciate the opportunity to earn money towards our puppy’s eventual graduation in a warm, clean, and social environment, which also happens to be a lot of fun.



To HPWT members who turned out in force—fourteen strong—for the Kong workday on November 1<sup>st</sup>. Families who sent at least one worker included: Logan, Loughry, Jonas, Witcher, Landert, Ford, Moyer, Kalkus, and Rea.



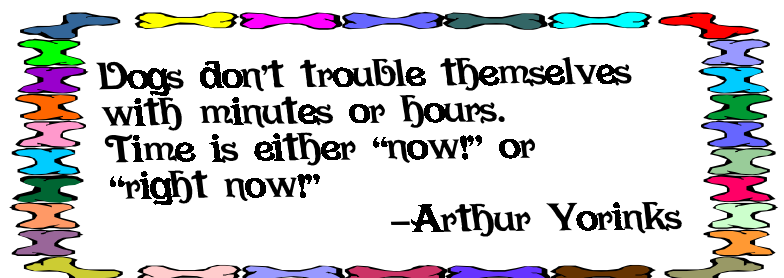
To Carmen Moyer and career change dog Lodge who passed their Delta Society Pet Partners test in October. Congratulations!



To blood typing participants: DruAnne Marshall with HARRIET & KEATZ Jane Smoak with SONIC Carole Salamaha with TRESLER, Andrea Loughry with JASPER, Ellen Goldstein with AMIGA, and Chris & Janet Ford with DAYTONA. In the search for A negative blood donors, only DAYTONA qualified. Sloppy Kisses to Magen Ellis and Krya Staggs, Vet Techs from the animal E.R. who did the blood typing, and to Lizz Landert for providing refreshments for our guests on blood donor night.

## LOST AND FOUND

A slotted serving spoon that was left on the salad table at the Halloween Party. Call Carmen to claim it.



Dogs don't trouble themselves  
with minutes or hours.  
Time is either "now!" or  
"right now!"

—Arthur Yorinks