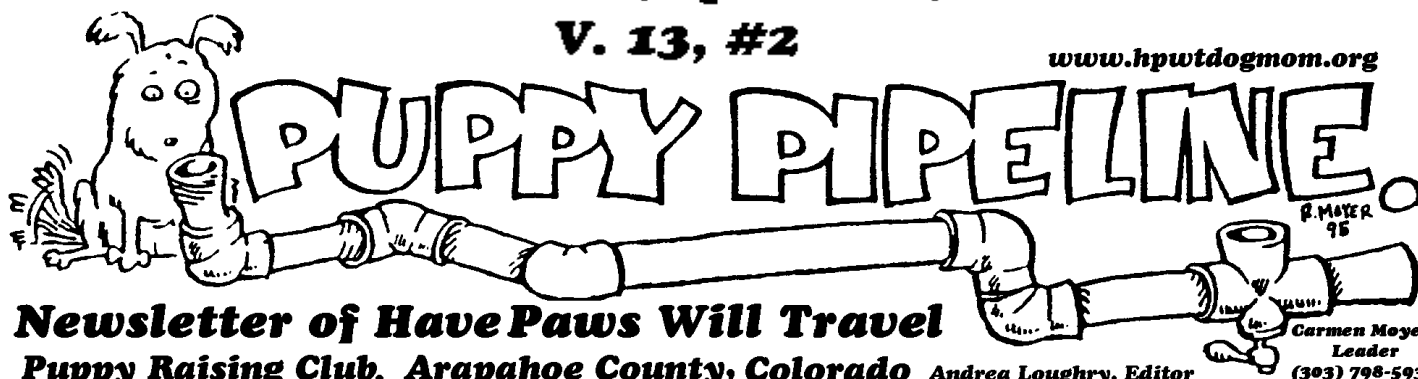


March/April 2007

V. 13, #2

www.hpwt dogmom.org



Newsletter of Have Paws Will Travel

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

SCHEDULE

April 10th - 7:00 p.m. Training meeting at the County Extension office. GUEST SPEAKER! Emily Simone, field representative from GDB, will speak about harness training and life for our puppies after they return to GDB.

April 17th - No social outing. Please choose a Doggie Tales program to attend instead:

April 14: Castlewood Library.

Contact Casey Horgan.

April 21: Sheridan Library. Contact Wendy Kalkus.

April 21st -11:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m. Programs for *American Girls Club* at Barnes and Noble (in Centerra, south of Ft. Collins right off I-25). Contact Deb Horgan.

April 24th - 7:00 p.m. Training and Business meeting at the County Extension office. Monthly Reports Due.

PUPPY PORTRAIT NIGHT!

We will photograph these dogs for their certificates:

CAPRI	ORIANNA	TRISHNA
CHANEL	SHEFFIELD	VALDEZ
ELM	SHELDON	VENUS
McCLOUD	THEODORE	

If you cannot make the meeting, please send your puppy with a sitter, or provide a good portrait of him for the certificate. Bring your clean puppy coat, if you want it in the photo, and have your puppy well groomed!

May 4th, 5th at 7 p.m & 6th at 1:30 p.m.

DU Ice Show at the Richie Center. \$12 for adults and \$8 for kids. This is a perfect stadium-type seating event for our puppies and our own puppy raisers Gina and Tom Rea will be skating!

May 8th - 7:00 p.m. Training meeting at the County Extension office.

May 15th - Social outing. Watch the website for details.

May 22nd - 7:00 p.m. Training and Business meeting at the County Extension office. Monthly Reports Due.

NEW PUPPIES

HPWT raisers received five new puppies in February and March. On February 9th, Lizz Landert and Barb Witcher received BRITTANIA to co-raise. BRITTANIA is a brindle lab, which means she's black all over by has brown mottling on her legs.



FLORITA, Carrie Wagner's female yellow lab, also arrived by air on Feb 9th. Christina and Danny Henderson received male black lab named FARNSWORTH on March 6th. FARNSWORTH is from the first litter of Carmen's breeder dog LABELLE. The March 31st puppy truck brought male yellow lab ROMAN to Caroline Seeberger, and sister yellow lab ROYALE, to Erin Lukacovic.

RETURNING DOGS

Six HPWT pups have returned for training this year. First to go Jenny Truax's male yellow lab HUTCH on Feb 20. CAELYN, a female black lab raised by Lizz Landert, was returned for harness training on February 23rd. Annette Bossert personally escorted her male black lab, BEN, and Rhonda Sutton's male yellow lab FRAMPTON, by air on March 2nd. The puppy truck took MADERA, a female black lab raised by James Creasey, and SLOAN, a male yellow lab raised by Christine and Danny Henderson, back to Guide Dogs for harness training.



GRADUATIONS

BAYLA, a female black lab raised by Carmen Moyer, graduated as a working guide to Edgar, 85, of Phoenix, Arizona. WARNER, a male black lab raised by Jeanne Bruns, graduated as a working guide to A.J., 22, of Texas on April 7th.



CONGRATULATIONS

Daniel and Kate Trujillo welcomed baby Margaret Mae, born 2/11/07 at 8:29 a.m. 6 lbs 11.8 ounces, 19.75 inches. She is healthy, sweet and beautiful.



ASK ABBIE

Ask Abbie is written by Jasper, a retired guide who has co-raised four puppies. Puppies may address their questions to abbie@hpwtdogmom.org. Jasper will answer in future editions of the Pipeline.

Dear Abbie:

Whenever the front door opens, I make a dash for freedom! It's fun to explore the neighborhood, and it's good exercise for my parents, too. They come running out of the house after me and chase me for blocks before they catch up! Trouble is, they always act mad at me. But hey, a dog's gotta be free, right?
—Escape Artist

Dear Escape~

It may be fun to dash out the door, but it's terribly dangerous! What if you got hit by a car, or lost or stolen? You would never become a Guide! You need boundary training to learn never to go through the door without permission. The time to start good habits is when a puppy first arrives, but even a dog who is used to making a break for freedom can learn boundaries. Here's something to practice when you're not going anywhere—so that you can understand the concept before you have to do it for real. Have your parents put you on a leash and help you sit and wait near the door—you know, like you do for your food dish. Then they open the door. If you break to go out, they should make a huge deal of it—"Oh, no! You were supposed to wait"—put you back on the same exact spot and try again. When you have a good concept of waiting, they can go through the door while you wait. If you try to follow them, you'll get the same end-of-the-world correction! Next they go to the end of the leash on the other side of the threshold or boundary, and give you the "okay" command. With enough repetition it will dawn on you that you can only go through the door when you hear the okay. It's like the doggie version of "Simon Says!" Now, you're probably wondering how you will take care of business while you're learning proper door etiquette. All your parents have to do is stop and have you wait on the spot where you've been practicing. They go through the door, and then give you the okay. Simple, right? If you start to follow before you hear the okay, they'll back you up and make you wait until you hear the word. The only way you will become trustworthy around the door is if your parents are 100% consistent on your having to have permission before you go through. You need to practice this at every doorway or gate that opens to an un-fenced area, and everyone in the house needs to do it the same way. Dogs' learning is very situation-specific, so you could have the front door solidly learned and gladly bolt through the back door or gate! One last thing: even when you think you are boundary trained to the door, don't trust yourself entirely. There's always the time when you'll see another dog or a squirrel across the street and bolt through—and that's the time you'll be hit by a car! Boundary training is a useful tool, but it's not a substitute for caution and awareness on the part of your parents of where you are and what you might do when the door opens.

NEW RAISERS

Carrie Wagner

Hi, my name is Carrie Wagner, I'm 14 years old, and I live in Lakewood. I'm in the 8th grade and am home schooled. I have been active in ballet and tap dancing for many years and I also enjoy swimming, golfing, ice skating, skiing, camping and fishing.

My three older brothers raised 5 Guide Dog puppies and I couldn't wait until it was my turn to raise a puppy. I love animals and I hope by raising a puppy I can make a difference in a blind person's life.

Just a few weeks ago I received my puppy, a female yellow lab named FLORITA. I absolutely love her! She is smart, energetic, and downright adorable! Whenever I sit on the floor she runs over to me and plops on my lap. She also loves to play tug-of-war. I am grateful for the opportunity to train her and be a member of HPWT!

Erin Lukacovic

Hi, I'm Erin Lukacovic. I'm 16 years old and a Junior at Smoky Hill High School where I am a Techie for the school's Guide Dog puppy friendly plays (Hint, hint!). I want to become a Guide Dog Trainer someday, possibly for Guide Dogs for the Blind, and thought raising a puppy would be a good place to start. So far I am thoroughly enjoying it. After I graduate I'm going to go to CSU to study Zoology. My mom, Nancy, is a Kindergarten TA for a school near our house and my dad, Paul, is a surveyor for the Bureau of Land Management. I have two older brothers, Jimmy and Michael.

Caroline Seeberger

As a first time puppy raiser and new resident to Denver I have a lot to discover about the beauty of Colorado and finally found myself a buddy to explore it all with me.

Somewhere after graduate school and in between dog sitting for friends, I realized I have the active lifestyle that could benefit a Guide Dog puppy and its mission to become socialized. My desire to become involved was strengthened through my friendship with a friend named Ted. His family had raised multiple dogs growing up and could only recount the joys of raising the puppies and the positive experiences it brought with them. The warmth and passion I saw in Ted and his family made it clear to me that it's a great cause and a learning experience that benefits many.

ROMAN and I have been hanging out since he arrived and it's been a blast. He's allowed to come to work with me, and is learning the basics of being an Architect (while sleeping all day long under my desk). We'll be designing recreation centers across the US and when he gets a bit bigger he'll have the joy of doing a few laps on the jog track with me when we do our site visits together.



NEW CLUB ROLES

Lizz Landert has returned to her role as baby puppy class leader for the spring crop of pups. Carrie Wagner is doing a fantastic job of helping with planning and dog handling.

Sloppy kisses to Lizz and Carrie for being such a great puppy training team!

Deb Groves has agreed to take on responsibilities as club treasurer from Daniel Trujillo. We've appreciated Daniel's efforts with the club's books since he took over; with a new baby in the house, we're sure Daniel can use the extra time. Sloppy kisses to Deb for stepping up to the plate!

PIN-UP PUPS

From Guide Dogs for the Blind

If you've ever thought that your dog ought to be a model, now's your chance! We're currently seeking photo submissions for consideration for our 2008 Gift Shop wall calendar. So, if you have a shot of your program dog or puppy that we'd be silly not to include in our calendar, please send it our way! Guidelines for submission:

- Pick your best shot. Send no more than one photo.
- Pictures should be of working Guide Dogs in harness or Guide Dog puppies wearing their puppy coats. No people in photos, please!
- Choose candid images, not studio photos. Photos taken in scenic outdoor locations or that somehow convey a season/event (Spring, holidays, etc.), or show a fun location (landmarks, etc.) are highly desirable.
- You must own the rights to the image, and be willing to grant reproduction rights without restriction to GDB. We will provide appropriate photography credits in the calendar.
- Submit photos in the highest resolution digital format possible; JPG files preferred. Submissions not chosen for the 2008 calendar will be posted in a photo slide show on our website in May.

Don't delay! Deadline for submissions is this Friday, April 13. Email submissions to Creative Manager Morry Anne Angell at mangell@guidedogs.com. You will be notified by the end of April only if your photo has been selected for inclusion in the calendar.

EMAILING REPORTS

From Barb Deevers

Accepting your puppy monthly reports via the email form on GDB's website is a success! However, the files are a little scattered, since everyone names them differently. When saving your puppy report to email please use this format:

Puppyname.tattoo.month.year

Example: Bindi.123A.01.07

Every little bit of organization helps!

MALADY OF THE MONTH

Skunk Spray from Darla Welty

Although "getting skunked" is more of a problem for rural dogs, our puppies may visit natural areas or encounter a skunk right here in suburbia and end up smelling nasty!

What You Can Do: Knowing what to do and having the ingredients on hand will save you and your dog from suffering any more than necessary. Skunk wash can be easily made at home from common ingredients. Buy enough ingredients for a few washings, and keep them and the recipe where you can get to it quickly. Here are two recipes. The recipe with the smaller ratio of peroxide is preferable for dogs whose coat color may be affected adversely by the peroxide (such as an all black dog).

Recipe #1

1 quart of 3% hydrogen peroxide

1/4 cup of baking soda

1 teaspoon of liquid soap

Recipe #2

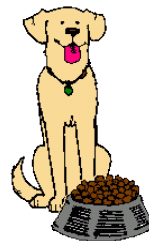
1 pint 3% hydrogen peroxide

2/3 cup baking soda

1 tablespoon liquid soap



Mix this up at the time of use (the mixture must be fresh to work properly). Pour or sponge it on the dog. Knead it well into his coat. Be careful to keep the formula out of the dog's eyes, nose and mouth; you can use a sponge to carefully wipe it onto his/her face. Let it sit two to five minutes, then rinse with plain water. If a second dose is needed mix a new batch from scratch. The mix reacts with the chemicals in the skunk spray and oxidizes them. If the mix is not fresh, the reaction will not work.



DOGFOOD BY ANY OTHER NAME

Eukanuba has changed the labeling on its dog food recently. The formula our dogs should get when they turn one year old is now called "Eukanuba Medium Breed Adult." As with the previous version, the new formula is also available in "Eukanuba Medium Breed Small Bites." You may still find food labeled "Adult Maintenance" until the switch to the new packaging has been completed in all stores.

TAINTED DOGFOOD

Guide Dogs is well aware of the recent tainted dog food scare and has been updating us all by email. Puppy raisers can rest easy in the knowledge that all Guide Dogs approved foods are safe for our puppies to eat.

CAUTIONARY TALES

Paper Shredders

From: *FOSTER FILES* (a newsletter for Foster Families of the Fidelco Guide Dog Foundation), April 2007

PAPER SHREDDERS POSE DANGER TO DOGS!

Ellen Lutz learned that firsthand last month, when her golden retriever ambled into her home office and licked her paper shredder. To her horror, the machine latched onto his tongue, and began to grind. "He was screaming, and he was fighting for his life," says Lutz, adding that in his panic, the 67-pound puppy did even more damage to his mutilated tongue. She disconnected the shredder, and took him to a nearby emergency hospital. Some simple precautions can prevent accidents with paper shredders:

- Unplug shredders when not in use.
- Store shredders out of reach of animals (and, of course, children).
- Never put food wrappers through shredders.
- Do not leave shredders on the "automatic" setting.
- Buy a shredder with a safety bar at the opening.

Twisted Collars

from *Andrea Loughry*

I had heard that dogs can get entangled in each other's collars when playing, but I didn't give it much thought until it happened to my dogs. VENUS and JASPER were playing on the rug when I heard VENUS cry out. Her hind foot was hung up—twisted—in JASPER'S rolled leather collar. No worries, I thought, I'll just unbuckle the collar. Wrong! It was so tight that the buckle wouldn't budge. Next I got a scissors and started gnawing away at the leather—but rolled leather is nearly impossible to cut through: no luck. By now JASPER'S eyes were half shut; he was strangling to death. I tugged desperately on the buckle again, and this time it opened. Thank heavens that after the ordeal, both dogs were fine. Then I started to think—what if the collar had been metal instead of leather? What if they had been playing in the yard instead of right next to me? The moral of the story is to *never* leave a chain collar on your dog; do not let dogs play unsupervised, and never leave them together in the yard alone. Get a collar with a quick release buckle for your pet dog, and make sure all collars fit snugly to minimize the chances of getting entangled with another object or a dog!

Tie Downs

Dogs can become entangled in a tie-down and get in trouble fast. Most dogs learn how to deal with being on a tie down, but when sleeping, may roll over and end up hog-tied, which is at best uncomfortable and at worst dangerous. Never attach a tie-down to anything but a flat collar (esp. not to a head collar!), and do not leave your dog home alone on a tie down; use the kennel instead. When you do use a tie-down keep the dog in the same room with you and make sure to stay aware of his safety at all times.

PUPPY KISSES



To Nicole with THEODORE, Leah with SHEFFIELD, Janet with Daytona, and Carmen with Elm for a program at High Plains Elementary on March February 8th for about 65 children.

To February Doggie Tales participants: Mary Jo and TRISHNA, Rhonda with FRAMPTON, Chris with DAYTONA, Leah with SHEFFIELD, Marty with GYPSY, and Janet with CHANEL.

To February Village Visitors: Nicole and Deb with THEODORE, Mary Jo with TRISHNA, Carmen with ELM, Janet and Chris with DAYTONA and CHANEL; the Peet family with CLINT; Andrea with VENUS; Amanda and Mark with ORIANNA, and Deb and Casey with CAPRI and HARBOR.

To Casey and Deb with CAPRI; Nicole and Deb with THEODORE; Carol and Jacob with SHEFFIELD; and Carmen with ELM for a 45 minute program on March 7 for 20 small children in a classroom at Fox Hollow Elementary.

To March Doggie Tales participants: Carmen with ELM; Janet and Chris with CHANEL and DAYTONA; Tonya with SHELDON; Sheila and Gina with WONDER; Mary Jo with TRISHNA; and Deb and Casey with HARBOR and CAPRI.

To Carmen and Tom with LODGE, GIDGET and ELM for participating in an Honor Society awards program at Goddard Middle School, in honor of an 8th grader who had interviewed Carmen and won an award for her writeup.

To March 20th Cottonwood Creek Elementary Program Presenters: Deb and Mike Horgan with HARBOR and CAPRI; Carmen with LODGE and ELM; Andrea and Miranda with JASPER and Venus; and Deb & Nicole with THEODORE.

To HPWT's GDB Spring Workshop attendees on March 31. We had 100% turn out of our raiser families that were in town that weekend! The main dishes everyone brought were yummy, too. Sloppy kisses to Carmen for supervising the trustees setting up the chairs on Friday and for helping break down the setup afterwards.

To Jeanne, Barb, Pam, Liz, and Sheila, for their dedication to HPWT's sales booth at the Spring Workshop. Sloppy kisses to Rhonda, for making sure merchandise was available. Our sales this time were the best in memory!

To Wendy Kalkus for receiving the 4-H Foundation Scholarship. Wendy will be attending Stanford in the fall. Congratulations!



REMINDERS

It is standard GDB policy not to "loan" our guide dog puppies. This means we do not leave them with an unauthorized sitter, send them off on an adventure with a classmate, or let them stay in a classroom with a trusted friend. In short, a puppy raiser or member of the raiser's family familiar with GDB policy must be responsible for the dog at all times. These rules are made because of all the "worst case" kinds of things that can and sometimes do happen.

COUNTY FAIR STORY

Ed Note: We proudly present the final installment of our youth raisers' 4-H County Fair Stories.

By Casey Horgan

Raising a guide dog is a singularly rewarding experience. I have learned too many things to list but I will try to identify the most important things. First of all, I have had much more contact with the blind community. There are so many opportunities today for the blind. One of the most impressive institutions, which I would not have come across without HARBOR, my current Guide Dog puppy, is the National Sports Center for the Disabled. It offers hiking, rock-climbing and even downhill skiing for the blind. I learned of the organization while visiting Winter Park, the organization's headquarters, with HARBOR. Because we had HARBOR with us in her Guide Dog puppy coat, a man approached us and asked if we had seen some of the blind skiers who had been coming down the main hill all day. At our incredulity, he told us of the National Sports Center for the Disabled. It is amazing what is available to people today. On an emotional level, I have also learned a lot. I have learned that it is indeed possible to love a second puppy as much as the first, however improbable that may have seemed when my first puppy left.



Though raising a Guide Dog puppy can be hard work, there are many rewards. Most are altruistic in nature. I feel rewarded because of the difference I have made in someone else's life. I am beginning to understand that the daily contact HARBOR and I have with people is helping to educate my community about the wonderful world of service dogs, and hopefully, by doing so, we are making our world a better place for the next service dog. Also, it amazes me the effect a dog can have on another person. Sometimes, people, especially children, will come up and just start talking to the dog about all of their problems. These are people who need someone to talk to and see a dog as a nonjudgmental outlet for that need. It makes me happy to feel that have made someone's day better, if only for a moment.

Now I will tell you a little about HARBOR. She has always been a very easy dog to train. She is incredibly willing to please and is very smart. When she was a puppy,

only once did I have to get up during the night to let her out, and that was the very first night we had her. She seemed to intuitively know the command "come," which made me very happy. Within a month she knew how to sit, lie down, and wait. one of her most impressive "tricks" is her response to the command "that's enough" which signals to a Guide Dog to stop what she is doing. Even at a young age, when playing with a toy and told "that's Enough," HARBOR would drop her toy. Soon after we could tell her "that's enough" while she was eating and she would stop, sit and wait for us to tell her "ok." One absolutely wonderful thing about Harbor is that she never begs. While my pet Australian shepherd is under the dinner table, practically drooling, HARBOR is lying in the living room, chewing on a toy. This is because she has never received people food, a rule for Guide Dogs. Apart from her required commands, HARBOR has picked up on some common phrases and their meanings. For example, she knows the meaning of "do you want some dinner?" also, she knows other worlds like "bedtime" and "downstairs." She will also find any member of the house when asked. For example, "where's Mom?" she will run around the house until she has found that person. She also knows the words "ride" and "outside" over all, HARBOR has been very easy to train, due to a soft personality and natural intelligence.

I believe my exhibit for the 4H fair requires some explanation, so I will give an explanations. Many times I have come across people who say they could never raise a Guide Dog puppy because they could not stand not letting the dog be a regular dog. I have even had people go so far as to chastise me for making the dog "work for me." Some people merely think that a guide dog's life is all work and no play. For my exhibit, I have chosen to create a scrapbook chronicling all of the fun times Harbor and I have had this part year. I wish to prove that there is more to a Guide Dog's life than obedience and work. There are so many fun things that a Guide Dog gets to do that people do not necessarily see. They get to play with their toys, play in the snow, play with other dogs, and even play dress-up on Halloween. They can go hiking and swim in the streams. In short, they can be dogs.

