



CAMP GONE TO THE DOGS

NEWSWIRE

Volume 7, Issue 6



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The Editor Barks Out



Summer Camp – Days Away

We summer campers have been emailing each other with great anticipation. Old friends, new friends, old dogs, new dogs – it's all part of the experience. Get a head start; print your camp schedule and think about what you and your dog may wish to tackle this year.

This *NewsWire* contains quite a variety of subjects. Busily preparing, Jeanne sends some last minute tidbits in her *Ramblings*. Mary T provides her *Tips* on urine crystals and chemicals versus oils. *True Tails* tackles dog poop disposal. *Divine Tails* takes on a ghostly aura while *Bow Wow* provides pointers for traveling safely with your dogs. Of note, while driving through New York on our way to camp last year,

Karen Hurd and I were stopped by police at a seatbelt check point where they were checking for unbelted dogs. Fortunately, we each had belting systems for our dogs and passed through the checkpoint quickly. Please keep your dogs safely confined while traveling.

As in the past, the Drummers of Dogdom will host a drum circle Thursday after dinner in Happy Valley. Bring a drum or any other type of instrument, or just come to listen or dance. There will be a few extra drums if you would like to join us. We're dedicating this circle to one of our original drummers, Nellie, who cannot attend camp this year. See you all soon.

♥ Love those wagging tails ♥

— Valerie Steinman
Newswire Editor & CGTD Camper

CAMPERS: please send us your dog-related stories, poetry, jokes, etc., so we can share them with all who read the *Camp Gone to the Dogs* Newswire. Forward your material via e-mail to campnewswire@hotmail.com. In the subject line of your e-mail, please type the word, **newswire**. If you are submitting another person's story, please tell us the author's name or where you got the story (e.g., internet/e-mail). We reserve the right to edit your stories for content, grammar, space, etc. You must be a current or past camper to contribute to the Newswire. Thank you for your cooperation.

RICHTER'S RAMBLINGS

Jeanne Richter
CGTID Director



Hi Campers!

SUMMER CAMPERS

If you have not been on the web site recently, the Summer Schedule is posted. Please note that I have moved all of the Agility Classes to the back of the schedule. The Staff has developed so many new activities that we ran out of room on the front of the schedule.

Several Campers have contacted me regarding Internet access on the Marlboro Campus. We do not have network access, but the General Store *Sweeties* on

Route 9 has wireless internet. It is less than a ten-minute ride from Marlboro College.

If you have any Camp questions, call or email me prior to June 4th. After the 4th, I will be in Vermont setting up Summer Camp.

I am really looking forward to seeing you and your dogs at Camp. Have a safe trip and see you at Noon on Sunday June 6th.



FALL CAMPERS

You should have received your purple envelopes last week. I will be available through June 3rd for any Camp questions. The Camp Office will be closed from June

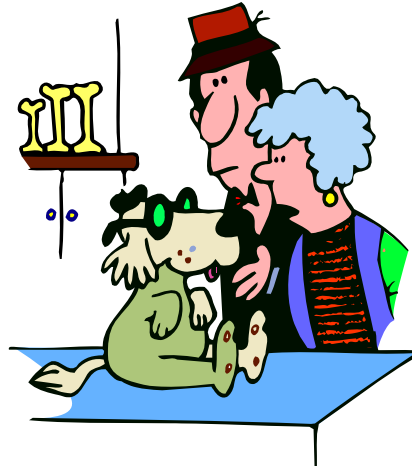
4th through June 13th. Have a fun-filled Summer with your dogs, and I'll see you in September.



Ruff Love

AARP The Magazine May/June 2010

www.aarpmagazine.org



The human-animal bond is mighty sweet:

24% of pet owners 55+ celebrate their pets' birthdays;

57% of pet owners 55+ say their pets are more likely than their significant others to give them welcome-home kisses.



Warmest Regards,

Jeanne 😊

MARY'S TIPS

Mary Thompson
CGTTD Instructor/Staff



Urine Crystals

I have had dogs who had crystals in their urine, and as long as they drank enough water and were able to empty their bladders enough times a day, I've never had to put them on a special diet or medication. It is more difficult with male dogs as they always seem to have a little urine left to mark another time.



Due to my worry over my dogs having kidney damage from Lyme disease, I have their urine checked twice a year. This last time, both dogs had crystals.

They have been on *Taste of the Wild* (I mix all the versions daily), so I am changing their food. Now that doesn't mean that every dog

who is on that brand will get crystals! What were they on before you ask? *Evo*, and no crystals. But I won't put them back on *Evo* unless I have to as I did NOT read the protein ratio! I love the ingredients, just never looked at the rest of the label. I still have a hard time realizing I was so numb. My dogs are not active enough to handle over 30% protein. If I were competing with them, it would be a different story. Just going for daily walks (and swims, now that the pool is open) does not justify it for me.

So if your dog has crystals, you may want to consider changing dog foods. If I were home enough, I would start making their food again, but I am gone way too much to do that – at least until fall.

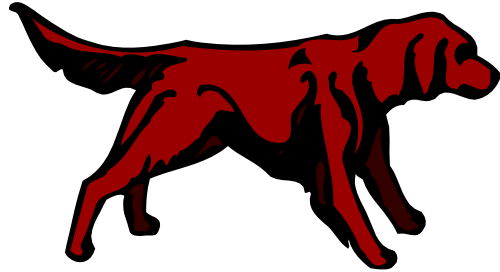


Chemicals Vs. Oils

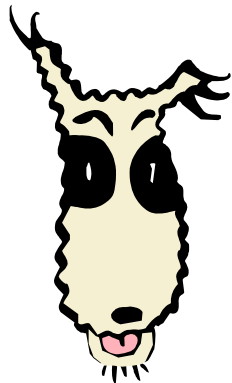
For those of you who do not like to use chemicals on your dogs, I have found two recipes for insect/tick repellent. I have not tried either of them yet on my dogs, but they come from highly thought of people in the tracking world.

1) Ten drops of Geranium oil in a small spray bottle filled with distilled water. Spray on dog and rub into coat. Use as often as needed.

2) Tea Tree Oil, Eucalyptus Oil, Sweet Orange Oil, Pine Needle Oil, Rosemary Oil, Sage Oil, Cedarwood Oil, Peppermint Oil, Citronella Oil. Use full strength. Mix 2-3 drops of each with 16 ounces of distilled water in a spray bottle. Shake before each application and spray lightly over entire body. You should be able to find all of these oils at a health food store. They can usually order them for you if not in stock.



Also at your local health food store, you may find K-9 Liquid Health for ears. If you have a dog who has a fair number of yeast infections in his/her ears, you may want to remember that name. We now sell it as quite a few of our clients swear by it to stop the infections (Getting them to change their dog's diet is not so easy sometimes.). You have to start with clean ears and then apply a few drops to each ear twice a week. You don't have to clean the ear out before putting the drops in as the ear seems to absorb the medication. Massage the ear after putting in the drops.



I will have some new and improved things to try at tracking this year. Hope you and your dog are ready for some fun! And remember: in tracking, EVERYTHING is a learning experience. There is nothing to wring your hands over and worry about. Just remember DWIP – Deal With It Positively!!

Mary T.

TRUE TAILS



Best Way to Dispose of Dog Feces

Audubon, January-February 2010

“Green Guru, Advice for the Eco-Minded”

By Susan Cosier

Getting rid of your pet’s poop is no laughing matter. Many kitty litters are composed of landfill clay-based silica, which is strip-mined, an environmentally destructive process. Instead, the Environmental Working Group, a public health advocacy organization, suggests using a sifting litter box or filling your existing box with wheat, corn, ground corncobs, alfalfa, or sawdust pellets (all available at pet stores).

Some cat feces carry a parasite called *Toxoplasma* that can cause severe infections in wildlife and people. Dog scat with hookworms or roundworms is also potentially harmful to humans. So refrain from burying dung to prevent contaminating groundwater, and don’t flush it

down the toilet – wastewater treatment plants don’t kill the parasites. Putting poop in a dark plastic bag and sending it to the landfill is the best option, says Patricia Conrad, a University of California, Davis, parasitologist who studied *Toxoplasma* in sea otters. The dark color absorbs heat, speeding up decomposition and killing pathogens.

“We’re cat fans, but we’re also wildlife fans and human health fans,” says Conrad. “Wild, feral, and owned cats make a very large contribution to the amount of feces that we’re putting in the environment.” Dogs do, too. So instead of letting poop sit in your yard or litter box, set it on the curb with the rest of your garbage.



CREATIVE TAILS



If I Didn't Have a Dog or Cat (an updated version)

I could walk around the yard barefoot in safety.

My house could be carpeted instead of tiled and laminated.

All flat surfaces, clothing, furniture, and cars would be free of hair.

When the doorbell rang, it wouldn't sound like a kennel.

I could sit on the couch and my bed the way I wanted without taking into consideration how much space several fur bodies would need to get comfortable.

I would have money and no guilt to go on a real vacation.

I would not be on a first-name basis with six veterinarians, as I put their yet unborn grandkids through college.

The most used words in my vocabulary would not be out, sit, down, come, no, stay, and leave it alone.

My house would not be cordoned off into zones with baby gates or barriers.

I would not talk baby talk: Eat your din din; Yummy yummy for the tummy....

My house would not look like a day care center, toys everywhere.

My pockets would not contain things like poop bags, treats, and an extra leash.

I would no longer have to spell the words: *B-A-L-L*, *W-A-L-K*, *T-R-E-A-T*, *O-U-T*, *G-O*, *R-I-D-E*, *C-O-O-K-I-E*.

I would not have as many leaves *inside* my house as outside.

I would not look strangely at people who think having one dog/cat ties them down too much.



I'd look forward to spring and the rainy season instead of dreading "mud" season.

I would not have to answer the question – "Why do you have so many animals?" – from people who will never have the joy in their lives of knowing they are loved unconditionally by someone as close to an angel as they will ever get.

How EMPTY my life would be!!!

Contributor: Barbara Zimmer
CGTTD Camper



DIVINE TAILS



Second Comings
The Old Farmer's Almanac 2008

Animals have long been believed to exist in a spirit world. Egyptians mummified cats to accompany their human masters into their existence in the afterlife. In 15th- through 17th-century Europe, felines were believed to be witches. In the United Kingdom, the appearance of a shadowy, caninelike creature with glowing eyes – called a "black dog" – historically has

been believed to foreshadow doom. Its counterpart in South Africa, the wolhaarhond, is a shaggy beast whose entire body is surrounded by crimson light.

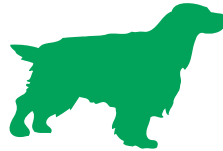
Since 1811, witnesses to the spectral battle between two armies that occasionally occurs in the sky at sunset at Chimney Rock, North Carolina, have claimed to hear the snorts and

cries of hundreds of horses ridden in the charge. In 1819, Washington Irving popularized the idea of the headless horseman with his legendary short story; for some Native Americans, such apparitions have not been uncommon sights.

According to Joshua P. Warren, author of *Pet Ghosts: Animal Encounters From Beyond the Grave* (New Page Books, 2006), these and other animal ghosts point to the possibility of

“phantimals” (phantom animals), paranormal creatures that appear more animal-like than human-like, and chance encounters with them.

GHOST BUSTERS, BEWARE: The existence of ghosts cannot be proven (at least as far as we know). It is possible to prove only that physical phenomena occur in conjunction with the appearance or sensing of phantoms.



BOW WOW



Traveling With Pets
AAA World, May/June 2010
By Rebecca L. Rhoades

This summer, millions of Americans will be hitting the roads to spend time with friends and family, vacationing in cities and national parks, and many will be bringing their companion animals with them. According to

the American Animal Hospital Association, 67 percent of pet owners vacation or travel with their pets. And while pet-friendly hotels and a wide range of supplies make traveling with pets easier, it still requires planning.

STAY OR GO?

While it's tempting to want to bring your pet with you, some animals aren't suited to travel. Before heading out on the road with your four-legged friend, ask yourself the following questions:

Is traveling safe for my pet?
Honestly evaluate your pet's health and his ability to travel.

Does my pet like to travel? If your dog runs and hides when you open the car door, consider

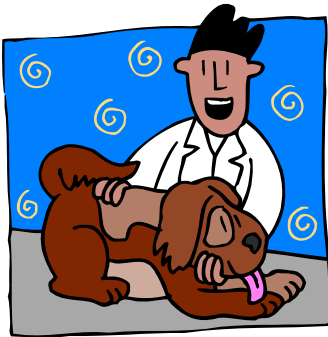
hiring a pet-sitter and leaving him at home.

Is this trip "pet-appropriate?" Some destinations just aren't animal-friendly.

If, after answering these questions, you feel that the trip is in your pet's best interest, or if it is necessary because you are moving, taking the proper precautions can minimize the risk for your beloved friend.



PREPARATION



If your pet's only experience in a car has been a trip to the vet, you will want to

acclimate him to riding in the car a few weeks before your trip.

Start with short trips, such as 5- or 10-minute drives. And always remember to end the trip with a positive reward, such as a special treat or fun activity. Slowly lengthen the trips to 30 minutes or one hour.



Road Safety

We fasten our seatbelts, so why not our pets? For your animal's safety, always restrain him when traveling.

A variety of restraints are available that offer added mobility and provide an option to the traditional metal travel crate. Safety harnesses, which attach to

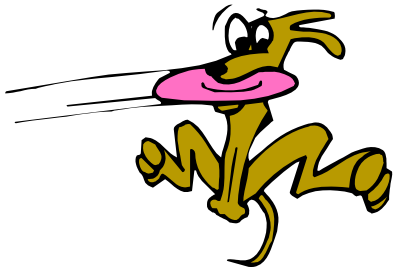
any seatbelt, allow your animal to sit or stand comfortably, while safety gates, made either of metal or mesh, give him mobility in a restricted area. Sturdy, well-ventilated crates are a must for smaller animals, such as cats, that normally don't travel as much as dogs.

RVs offer pet-owners more freedom and interaction with their animals, but it's still important to pet-proof these rolling homes. All objects, including food and medicine, should be properly stowed, and all closet and cabinet doors should be securely closed. To avoid injury to loose animals during sudden stops and turns, block off small areas with baby gates.

No matter what type of vehicle you drive, you will need to stop

TRAVEL KIT

Don't forget to pack a separate bag for your animal. To avoid an upset stomach, take some of his favorite food, as well as a gallon of water because water characteristics change regionally. Cats can generally travel for 8 to 10 hours without having to use a litterbox, but it never hurts to bring along a disposable litterbox for emergencies or overnight stops. You will also need to bring a pet first-aid kit and some extra towels, in case of accidents. And a favorite toy or pillow will give your animal a sense of familiarity.



every few hours for a pet pit stop. And always remember to put the leash on your pet before you open the vehicle's doors.



Keep a current health certificate for your pet handy during interstate travel because many states require one.

To help ensure a safe and comfortable trip, AAA offers *Traveling With Your Pet: The AAA PetBook* [available at your local AAA office]. Now in its 12th edition, this informative book lists more than 13,000 animal-friendly AAA Approved hotels and campgrounds, as well as pet-accessible attractions, animal hospitals, and much more. You'll also find tips on preparing for car and airline travel, both domestic and international.



Play Tag

Pets should wear collars and travel tags that display inoculation and ID info and your mobile or local number.

Pack your pet's veterinary history, proof of vaccinations, medications, and your vet's contact information. In an emergency, visit a local veterinary clinic accredited by the American Animal Hospital Association: to find one, check

with a local shelter or visit www.healthypet.com.



Excerpt from "Ruff Riders" by Laura Daily, *AARP The Magazine*, July/ August 2009 www.aarpmagazine.org



NEW ADDITIONS



At time of publication, we were unaware of any new additions.

The Rainbow Bridge

Because of its many colors, the bridge connecting Heaven and Earth has come to be known as the Rainbow Bridge.

Just this side of the Bridge, there is a land of meadows, hills and lush green valleys. When Beloved pets die, this wonderful place serves as their home. There is always an abundance of food and water and warm sunshine. Old and frail animals are young again, and those who have been maimed are made whole. They make new friends and play all day.

There is one thing missing from these carefree surroundings

though, the companionship of their loving masters.

Time passes and soon another day comes when one of them is distracted by a familiar scent. With nose twitching, ears at attention and eyes staring in delight, this one runs from the group....

You have been seen.

As you embrace, your face is kissed again and again and again, and once more you look into the eyes of your loyal companion. You cross the Rainbow Bridge together, never again to be separated.



The following camper's dog has crossed the Rainbow Bridge:

Gracie, Debbie Cartney's beloved Golden Retriever

UNTIL TAILS UP

(As of May 31, 2010)



CAMP

TIME TO WAIT

Summer

June 6-12, 2010

1 Week

Fall

September 5-11, 2010

3 Months

September 12-18, 2010



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