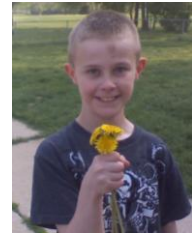




We step in, when you step out

Newsletter



Happy Mother's Day

Issue 4

May 2010

Featured Pet!



Working hard or hardly working?

Nikita Trate

By owners: Mary Jane and Ken Trate

Instead of the Featured Pet of the Month, this should probably be titled, "Things I Learned from the Puppy from _____." Nikita, the cutest puppy in the world, literally strutted into the house at 7 weeks. She chased the cats (who were bigger than her!), chewed everything in sight, nipped, barked, created a ruckus while we tried to sleep, and had no intention of following directions of any sort. Our vet's comment was a very tentative, "Well, I think she's probably trainable."

These days, at 12 years plus, she is a sweet old

continued on page 2

Life in the Doghouse Seminar



Lindsay Allard, Sarah Kalnajs, and Becca Riddle

In April, we attended a two-day seminar in Madison presented by the Golden Retriever Rescue of Wisconsin Inc. and Blue Dog Training & Behavior LLC. In the dog world, Sarah Kalnajs B.A./CPDT/CDBC, is a well-known and well-educated dog behaviorist.

We had the opportunity to learn many different signs of dog aggression and stress, the proper ways to greet a dog, puppy socialization, how to live in a multi-dog household, and so much more. Like, Victoria Stillwell (from Animal Planet's "It's Me Or the Dog"), Sarah believes in positive reinforcement for training methods and how much more effective it is.

For more information about Sarah visit:
www.bluedogtraining.com

continued from page 1

lady. She spends her time sleeping in the sun, barking at nothing in particular, having her ears scratched, and enjoying short walks and car rides. She's on a special diet and we have to give her a hand when the rear end refuses to cooperate with the great ideas the front end has, but overall she's a happy girl. And, yup, there's still some cat chasing left to be done.

So, what did we learn from that crazy puppy?

- If at first you don't succeed...sign up for another session of Beginner classes!
- Paper shredders are dangerous. Dogs can (and yes she did) get their tongues in there with serious consequences—we were lucky; some have died.
- German Shepherds can jump a 6' fence without a running start.
- A full size German Shepherd CAN squeeze herself into a laundry basket.
- If on second try you don't succeed...try a third session of Beginner classes.
- When a dog with IBD says she needs to go....she isn't kidding.
- If you know there is "something wrong with my dog" go to the vet, and stay there till they figure it out.
- Way too many classes later-you CAN get an Obedience title on a goofy, attention deficit dog
- Agility is fun, and addictive!
- Yes, you can get that crazy German Shepherd over a dog walk safely—and go on to get Agility titles too!
- Patricia McConnell, Sarah Kaljnas, Leslie McDevitt, Karen Pryor, Susan Garrett are my "friends."
- GM sells a program where the dealer will clean your car for you when your German Shepherd gets too excited while waiting for you, has an "accident" and tracks it all over the car. Yes they will. Yes it is expensive, but it is sooo very worth it.
- Puppies from, well, you know; can turn into the dog of a lifetime.
- And so much more.....

Brewers Game

It's not too late to send back your postcards, but please be sure to send them back as soon as possible. We'd like to get a good head count before the game. We will be holding a raffle on game day using your returned postcard so be sure to get it in! Prizes will include: treats, toys, and gift certificates.

While trying to make it easier on everyone, I made it harder on myself by not leaving the names of who the postcards are coming back from (on some of them.) Please mark down your name somewhere on your card before you send it back. Thank you!

We will not be available:

- Sunday, July 11th (for Brewer's Game)
- Saturday, September 18th
- November 20th and 21st
- December 18th and 19th

We are very sorry for the inconvenience!



On May 16th
Happy Birthday, Becca!

Come see Becca and the
Dekorah Lee Project play at
Shank Hall on Saturday, June 5th
Contact us for tickets
www.dekorah.com

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

MILWAUKEE PUG FEST 2010

PLACE: MILWAUKEE COUNTY INDOOR SPORTS COMPLEX

DATE: SUNDAY, MAY 16TH, 2010

TIME: 10:00 A.M. – 4:00 P.M.

A celebration of the Pug

www.milwaukeepugfest.com

SPRING FLING VENDOR FAIR

PLACE: MILWAUKEE COUNTY ZOO

DATE: SUNDAY, MAY 23RD, 2010

TIME: 9:00 A.M. – 3:00 P.M.

Come visit us and many other vendors at this event, including our **Celebrating Home** business. Contact us for tickets, which are only **\$5 per person**. They include admission to the zoo and parking.

