



BARC Park at Hannah More

June 2008



Flea and Tick season has arrived! In our area, fleas usually arrive around Memorial Day weekend. The fleas are not waiting for school to be out, only for the humidity to reach a certain level. As the humidity levels increase, the dormant flea larvae left over from last flea season are awakened. Unfortunately, their long slumber leaves them very hungry and seeking a blood meal from the hairiest creatures available (usually your dog or cat). Be prepared for the flea invasion by protecting your pets with one of the monthly flea treatments. Frontline, Advantix, and Revolution are probably the three leading veterinary treatments for fleas. All three do an extremely good job against fleas. However, Revolution has not been proven to be as effective against all types of ticks. Ticks are becoming almost a year round problem for many pet owners. This is probably due to climate changes as well as increasing resistance by the tick to traditional insecticides. The ticks transmit many diseases to your dog, including Lyme Disease, rocky Mountain Spotted Fever, Anaplasmosis, and Babesiosis. Lyme Disease is by far the most common in our area. Tick

protection plus vaccinations is your best assurance for preventing this disease.

**Submitted by Dr. Bill Benson from
Advanced Veterinary Complex on
Main Street in Reisterstown**



Brian's Corner

Will your dog vouch for you?

A man wrote a letter to a small hotel in a Midwest town, which he planned to visit on his vacation. He wrote, "I would very much like to bring my dog with me. He is well groomed and very well behaved. Would you be willing to permit me to keep him in my room with me at night?"

An immediate reply came from the hotel owner, who said, "I've been operating

this hotel for many years. In all that time, I've never had a dog steal towels, bedclothes, silverware, or pictures off the walls. I've never had to evict a dog in the middle of the night for being drunk and disorderly. And I've never had a dog run out on a hotel bill. Yes, indeed, your dog is welcome at my hotel, and if your dog will vouch for you, you're welcome to stay here, too."

Author unknown



Puppy Poem

You can't buy loyalty, they say
I bought it though, the other day;
You can't buy friendship, tried and true,
But just the same, I bought that too.
I made my bid, and on the spot
Bought love and faith and a whole job lot
Of happiness, so all in all
The purchase price was pretty small.
I bought a single trusting heart,
That gave devotion from the start.
If you think these things are not for sale,
Buy a brown-eyed puppy with a wagging tail.

Author Unknown



Committee News

The parking area and road have been resurfaced. Looks great.

Hoses have been installed and sprinklers and pools bought. The dogs can enjoy the water on hot days.

Now that the paving is done, the Grand Opening is scheduled for Saturday, Nov.1, the day after Halloween. More about this in the future. Mark the date on your calendar!

Laundry baskets have been placed around the park area. These are for toys so they won't get mowed over.

The last Saturday of each month is clean-up day for the Park. Please meet at the park at 10:00 a.m.



Bath Time

Dog Licenses!!!

Baltimore County dog licenses will expire at the end of June. All owners should get notification in the mail. Please e-mail your new number to barcparkathannahmore@yahoo.com. Licenses can also be obtained at the Baltimore County libraries.



Breed Profile **Golden Retriever**

The Golden Retriever is a large breed of dog, historically developed as a gundog to retrieve shot waterfowl and upland game during hunting. As such they were bred to have a soft mouth to retrieve game undamaged and an instinctive love of water. Their versatility sees them employed in a variety of roles including illegal drug detection, search and rescue, as hunting dogs and as guide dogs. Its friendly, eager-to-please nature and patient demeanor has also made it one of the most popular family dogs in the world today. The Golden Retriever temperament is a hallmark of the breed and is described in the standard as "kindly, friendly and confident". They are not "one man dogs" and are generally equally friendly with strangers and those familiar to them. Their trusting, gentle disposition therefore makes them a poor guard dog. Any form of unprovoked aggression or hostility towards either people, dogs or other animals, whether in the show ring or community, is completely unacceptable in a Golden Retriever and is not in keeping with the character of the breed and as such is considered a serious fault. Nor should a Golden Retriever be unduly timid or nervous. The typical Golden Retriever is calm, naturally intelligent and biddable, with an exceptional eagerness to please. As the name suggests, the Golden Retriever loves to retrieve. Whether the object is a thrown stick, tennis ball, or flying disc, retrieving can keep a dog of this breed

occupied and entertained for hours, particularly if water is also involved. Goldens might also pick up and "retrieve" any object that is near to them upon their masters' arrival, all of this lending to their retriever name. Goldens are also noted for their intelligence, and can learn up to roughly 240 commands, words and phrases. These dogs are also renowned for their patience with children.

By the time they reach maturity, Goldens will have become active and fun-loving animals with the exceptionally patient demeanor befitting a dog bred to sit quietly for hours in a hunting blind. Adult Golden Retrievers love to work, and have a keen ability to focus on a given task. They will seemingly work until collapse, so care should be taken to avoid overworking them.

Pictures from the Park



Opening Day



Archie



Mikie, Tank, Bailey



Which is the Goldendoodle?



Ring Around the Rosie



Train



Bear



Zoey

IS YOUR FLEA CONTROL PRODUCT COUNTERFEIT?

The EPA has released the results of a multi-year investigation into counterfeited Frontline and Advantage packages sold in retail outlets. Forged packaging, mislabeled dosages and more improprieties have been uncovered. The manufacturers of these products sell their products only to licensed veterinarians, so product sold in retail stores must be obtained from black market sources. In many cases, foreign sources are used to obtain credible packaging, and actual flea product may or may not be used.

Product purchased directly from any Veterinarian's Office is legitimate. In fact, purchasing from a licensed Veterinarian is the **ONLY WAY** to be sure you are getting the true product.

The EPA has posted guidelines for how to determine whether product is genuine or counterfeit.

<http://www.epa.gov/pesticides/factsheets/petproduct.htm>

The EPA also has a site where you can report any possible counterfeit Advantage or Frontline products you may see in a store, either anonymously or, with your name, if you want a follow up of their actions:

<http://www.epa.gov/compliance/complaints.html>

Meriel, the company that makes Frontline, also has a web page explaining the EPA's findings and enforcement efforts, and explaining how to tell the difference between the real Frontline and the counterfeit product:

<http://www.frontline.com/epa>

Remember, Advantage, Frontline and Program are **legally sold only through veterinarians**. The price charged at retail outlets (whether a grocery store, a

pet supply store or a pet supply website) are often not less. Plus, you run the risk that you may not be getting what you are supposedly paying for. Many people are still unaware that retail outlets cannot legitimately sell these products.

Source: www.marvistavet.com



Notes From the Behaviorist

Rachel Lachow will be giving another Canine Behavior workshop on Saturday July 26 at 7 p.m. If anyone has any specific questions for her, she said she does not mind being e-mailed.

rachellachow@yahoo.com

Keeping Your Dog Safe at the BARC Park

Reading Body Language. Part I: The Tale of the Tail

Is your dog having fun at the park or is your dog afraid? Is your dog a social butterfly for a playground bully? Dogs often go through lots of play roles at the park based on who else is there and the key to keeping them safe is being able to understand their communication with you and the other dogs. I frequently hear people say, "well, her tail is wagging, she must be happy!". Nothing could be potentially further from the truth. Sometimes a wagging tail communicates happiness, sometimes, extreme aggression right before an attack. A dog's tail gives a lot of information and here is a little primer on understanding it.

Tail position upon meeting another dog is the key to understanding your dog's communication. When two dogs meet

they will usually have their tails in two different positions and the dog with the higher tail is signaling more confidence than the dog with the lower tail. A dog with a tail tucked tightly under is feeling fearful or submissive. A dog with a tail so high it appears to come up between his ears is feeling very confident and possibly territorial as well. The typical dog greeting involves a sniff to the face, then a circling and a sniff to the rear, and then back to the face. As they return to the face for the second time the play decision is usually made. You might see both dogs soften their stances, wag excitedly and start to play, or you might see the dogs stiffen as they decide what to do next. The tail position is crucial here. Two dogs that will play will usually still have different tail positions though usually both are wagging. Dogs for whom a fight could be imminent might both have their tails in a very high position, possibly wagging a slight amount. If the tails remain the same there will be a problem. It is a sign that instead of playing they are being confrontational. This is the moment for an owner to call his dog away before it escalates. Another bad sign is for a dog to have a very high slightly wagging tail while the other dog is signaling submission with a low wagging tail. The low wagging tail should turn off the confrontational tendencies of the first dog until that dog is a bully or has poor social skills. The best tailset to see is a wagging that is neither high nor low but at the level of the dog's back. Also, a low but wagging tail that appears to be making a circle is a dog signally submission but also a great desire to play. These tails are the signals of relaxed dogs having fun. As your dog's tail go up, watch to see who he's interacting with and look for it to go

back to a more neutral position. If your dog's tail is always high (and it's not a function of his breed), and he frequently scuffles with other dogs, he is probably not a good candidate for the dog park. Similarly, if your dog's tail is always low and tucked under, your dog is probably afraid and also not enjoying the dog park experience.

Submitted by Rachel Lachow



Dog People

Dog People:
are a special breed not usually recognized by the AKC.
think everyone has dog crates in their living room.
have messy houses yet their kennels are spotless.
can always find a show catalog from somewhere within arm's reach.
have kids who know more about the "birds and the bees" when they're five than most people know when they are 40.
drive trucks, vans, and station wagons especially equipped to haul dog crates.
can never be reached on a weekend, they're usually at a dog show.
will drive 400 miles, spend \$100 on gas, \$200 on a motel and \$150 for meals to bring home a 35 cent ribbon.
have kids who regard "bitch" as just another household word.
have lush, green, beautiful back yards and they've never bought a bag of fertilizer.
get up at 6 AM to walk the dogs, can be at ringside dressed to kill at 8 AM, but have trouble getting to work on time.
will usually give up the \$150,000 home

in the suburbs to move to a shack on 10 acres so they can have a \$150,000 kennel.
never miss a closing date for entry fees, but pay the mortgage 10 days late.
had rather be audited by the IRS than investigated by the AKC.
use dog food bags for trash cans and 30 gallon trash cans for dog food.
talk for hours on the phone to another dog person in a language known only to dog people.
have parents who think they've lost their minds.
have dog friends who think they are terrific.
are crazy.

Author Unknown



When Disaster Hits, Are you Prepared?

By Lydia Levis Bloch (Baltimore Dog Magazine, Summer 2008 issue)

You're driving to work vaguely listening to the news. Suddenly you hear, "Severe floods are expected in the Baltimore area, expect evacuation orders when the hurricane reaches land late afternoon." Your pooch is at home safe and sound. Can you reach him in time? Where will you go if you need to evacuate? Is your emergency kit ready? Are you prepared?

Are you ready?

By definition, disaster preparedness begins way before disaster strikes. Rule number one: have a plan. Disasters are stressful enough. They are not the time to devise a plan. We cannot stress enough the importance of being prepared for all types of emergencies, from natural disasters to terrorist attacks," said Department of

Homeland Security Secretary Michael Chertoff, on the Department of Homeland Security's web site www.ready.gov. The site contains fact sheets on preparedness, a rundown on the contents of an emergency kit and a kid-friendly link to the topic.

Families should have insurance, including flood insurance, which typically is not part of a homeowner's policy. Know evacuation or escape routes, and develop lists of phone numbers and contact information of family members, relatives or friends. It is useful to have the name of an out-of-state friend or relative whom family members can contact to let them know they are safe. You should have a first aid kit, flashlight, radio, moist towelettes, enough medicine, water and food for at least three days, credit card and cash, etc. Before a disaster, gather contact information about places you, your family, and your pets can go. This will include relatives and friends living outside your area, a list of local animal boarding facilities, animal rescue organizations or shelters and their phone numbers.

When it comes to pets, the Humane Society of the United States (HSUS) advises owners to design a disaster preparedness plan and put together an emergency kit (see sidebar). It recommends owners leave a house key with a neighbor who feels comfortable with the pet and can bring it to safety. Leave the emergency kit where the neighbor can locate it. If evacuation is necessary, know the neighbor is willing to take the pet, and if possible, meet later at a designated location. The best means of protecting your pet is to take your pet and emergency pet kit with you when you evacuate. When animals are left behind alone they can become lost, injured or killed. Never leave an animal tied outside; most likely it will die. It is preferable to leave your area as quickly as possible, rather than wait for an evacuation notice. If you stay behind, you risk being told by rescue officials that you must leave your pet. If you cannot evacuate and are told to stay indoors, bring your pets inside, have medications, food and water handy, and stay

informed by listening to the radio until it is safe to go outdoors.

No matter what you decide to do, having up-to-date contact information and identification for your pets is essential. The American Kennel Club founded Companion Animal Recovery (CAR) to help unite owners with their pets by providing 24-hour recovery services for animals who have a microchip, tattoo or AKC CAR collar tag. Lifetime enrollment in the program costs \$12.50. To find out more about the service or enroll your pet online, go to www.akccar.org or call 1.800.252.7894.

Few imagined that a disaster like Katrina could really happen, let alone unravel the way it did. Even fewer of us believe disasters can materialize in our own backyard. Having a little knowledge and being prepared will help. Are you ready?

“I Packed my Pet’s Emergency Kit with...”

- Food, water and medicines for five days including pet bowls
- Medical and veterinary records
- Carrier, toys, blanket or bed
- Litter box and litter (include garbage bags for waste)
- ID attached to your pet
- Pet carrier with blankets or towels, and/or leashes
- Current photos of pet with physical description (in case of separation)
- Name and number of your veterinarian
- Container to carry everything
- Newspapers, paper towels, grooming items, household bleach

- from *The Humane Society* www.hsus.org

Pick up the latest issue of “Baltimore Dog Magazine”, available at vets and dog kennels. It just put out its 1st anniversary issue!