



NewsGram

May/June 2008



MARK YOUR CALENDAR (upcoming events)

Saturday, June 14th – Dog Wash and Adoption Event.

The Jr. Humane Society will be having a Dog Wash & Adoption event at the Starbucks on Bayou Blvd in front of the Rave Theatres, from 10:00 am to 3:00 pm.

Saturday, June 14th – Doggie Bathe-in

The Humane Society of Pensacola will be having a doggie Bathe In at 400 N. Q Street, just north of Garden Street behind Fire Station #4, from 9:00 am to 2:00 pm.

Friday, June 20th – Take Your Dog to Work Day

June 20th is "National Take Your Dog to Work Day". If your employer has a pet friendly policy or if you plan to participate in this event, please let us know. There was a article in this week's Newsweek magazine indicating pet friendly workplaces are on the rise!! Let's see where Pensacola stands!

Thursday, July 17th – GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING.

Please plan to join us for our Summer 2008 gathering, 6:30 pm at the Senior Center at Bayview Park. Our very special guest will be Mr. Floyd Petersen, local flea expert, of Floyd Petersen Pest Control, who will bring us up-to-speed on the latest & best ways of preventing and controlling fleas & ticks in our houses and yards. The President will also update everyone on the events and successes of the first half of 2008. Humans only at this meeting, please. You can brief Rover when you get home.



THINGS YOU MIGHT LIKE TO CHECK OUT:

Escambia/Santa Rosa Pet Overpopulation Report - Read this interesting article, chock full of good information, on the Jury Duty Spay/Neuter web site:
http://www.jury-duty.org/includes/www_jury-duty_org/files/AssessmentforESCAMBIACOUNTY.doc

"3 Dogs & a Chick Bakery & Boutique" – a wonderful new retail store in downtown Ft Walton is located right next door to Coach and Four Gifts or across the street from the Indian Temple Mound. They have a full bakery offering treats for your dog and/or cat. There are treats, food, toys, beds and accessories for those who love to pamper their pets. Dogs are welcome and they have a court yard in back if you just want to sit and rest with your dog. It's a beautiful store that stands up to anything in Baytown, the Commons or anywhere else for that matter. Please stop in and welcome Nicole Poch owner of the newest retail store to the area! (850-243-PAWS)

"Walking the Dog..." – If you and your fur kid need a reason to take a evening stroll together, come join us on Tuesday evenings at 6:45 at the Bayview Dry Park. The group walks through East Hill for about 45 minutes, changing the route weekly to keep it interesting. Be sure and wear comfortable shoes and bring pick-up bags for your pooch and plenty of water for both of you.

"Yappy Hour" arrives in Pensacola – Mark your calendars for the 3rd Wednesday of the month and come chill out with your friends and your favorite fur kid at one of several local eateries who have opened their decks to well-behaved dogs and their owners. Next Wednesday (Jun 18th) we will be at the Oar House at 6:00 pm. (Weather permitting, of course). The Oar House is located at the South End of Pace Blvd adjacent to Bahia Mar Marina (1901 Cypress). A head count in advance would be nice if we want to reserve a table. While dogs are welcome, they are not required for attendance! Come join us. For future locations, look for a message on the yahoo list or call either Nikki (850-433-8050) or Lois (850-516-5319) for the location of the month.



KEEPING IT SAFE AT THE DOG PARK (DogAge® Tip of the Week)

Mention a trip to the dog park, and tails usually start wagging. The fresh air, exercise, and socializing are great for your pooch. To keep these outings safe and fun for everyone, ask yourself a couple of questions before bounding out the door:

- Are your dog's vaccinations up to date? This helps reduce the chance of picking up any illnesses from other dogs on the playground.
- Are you confident about your dog's training? Dog parks can be hectic places. But knowing that your pet will respond to your voice commands, even while playing with other dogs, will make it a more relaxing outing.

For other interesting tips, visit **DogAge** at <http://www.dogage.com/index.aspx>



PDOA NEWS DESK (News & Updates)

Vending Machine at the Vickery Center Dog Park – a “dog-related” vending machine has recently been installed at the Vickery Center Dog Park. The machine, which takes cash and credit cards, carries a variety of dog stuff to interest any dog owner. This includes, but is not limited to Bark Bars, 4pak Paisley Bandanas, large and Snack Packs of Puperoni, Beggin Strips, pink & blue “Love to Run” dog jerseys, Dog Wipes for tails and coats, self pouring Dog Water Bottles, Soft Sided Frisbees, Mint Flavored Rope Toys, chew toys, Prince and Princess Squeaky Toys, Bottled Water & Gatorade (for people), foldabowl water bowls, K9 Quencher, squeaky Tennis Balls and Bones, Squeaky/Furry toys in every shape and size and bone shaped waste bag holders.

The inventory may change from time to time and suggestions are always welcome as to other items you might like to see. If this machine is a success, we could see machines in some of the other dog parks as well. (contact sandy.clark@alltel.blackberry.com for more information & suggestions)

Pet Friendly Evacuation Shelters – Just as an update, Commissioner Robertson has confirmed that County staff members are currently working on the project and are coordinating with the School Board staff to iron out details. Any influence any of you might have with the school board will be appreciated. Let them know you support the use of schools as evacuation centers, following the lead of numerous other counties in the state of Florida.

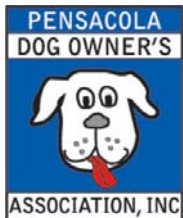
Canine Care Fair postponed – we have recently been offered some wonderful assistance with this event but to make sure it is done well, we need to reschedule it to a later date. Stayed tuned for some exciting updates as plans proceed with this important event.



FOOD FOR THOUGHT – Electronic Collars

Electronic collars are used to both train and discipline dogs. There are several different types available. Though the application of these types of collars may be offensive to some people, they do have specific applications that can SAVE a dog from potential harm.

Some electronic collars used in conjunction with an "invisible fence;" however, this is not the only use for these collars. Many trainers use electronic collars to train dogs to be aware of potential dangers such as poisonous snakes. Most of the collars used are controlled remotely by the trainer. The collar emits an electric shock to the dog when it violates the "invisible fence" or the trainer's command. The shock can usually be controlled from a mild tickle to a hard jolt. Other collars are used to control unwanted barking. Some people feel that an "invisible fence" should not be used as a primary containment for some breeds such as Basenjis, but it may be a useful last resort for diggers/climbers where other means to contain the dog are ineffective.



Another type of electronic collars uses an audible signal rather than an electrical shock. These collars are also usually remotely controlled. Some collars allow for alternate use of either a shock or audible signal. After the collar is properly fitted and the dog is released, the dog has virtually no knowledge of the origin of the electric shock or the audible signal and as a result, will associate it with the behavior that brings it on. Most breeds will respond successfully to one of these training methods.

Electronic collars should be worn only when the dog is supervised and never when extreme weather conditions are present. They are not intended for use as permanent collars. Read and follow the instructions thoroughly, or consult a professional trainer before using.

As a responsible dog owner, you have the right to make the decision as to how your dog should be trained based upon your dog's breed, personality, and lifestyle. There is no single training solution that works for every dog. Keep that in mind whenever you decide what is best for your own dog.

(contributed by John Fraser, of Brat Chat.)



BIRTHDAY GREETINGS

Long time PDOA member and "Godfather" of the dog beach, Byron Campbell, had a birthday on June 6. We would like to wish him a very Happy Birthday (he's 80 years young!) and thank him for all he does to maintain the beach.

Happy Birthday, Byron !



Pensacola Dog Owners Association

<http://www.pensacoladogowners.org/>

Questions, comments and inputs to the NewsGram may be directed to conniefleming@cox.net