

"Eyes for Others"

Yolo County Guide Dog Puppy Raisers

Web Site: www.yologuidedogs.com

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MAY 2008

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

Meeting Location Change

Please note our May meeting location will be at the Yolo County Library in Davis, on 14th Street near the Davis High School. Our monthly meetings are held the first Thursday of the month at 7:00 p.m.

In addition to our Monthly Meeting, we try to plan for two Required Outings. Sometimes, we also add in Optional Outings, which are fun events we think would make a great outing for you and your pup, which you can voluntarily go to on your own. Optional Outings do not take the place of a Required Outing, but are in addition to. Or sometimes we may have three required outings in a month because that is the way things happen, and maybe only one outing the next month because we know everyone's life is chaotic (such as December).

We try to plan things several months in advance so that everyone can arrange their schedule around our meetings and outings. These are "tentative" as you never know what can happen to change our calendar. Sometimes a new event comes up that we feel would be more beneficial to the group than one we had planned.

- May 1 ♥ Heartgard and Flea Control ♥ ♥
- May 1 Classroom Meeting - 7:00 pm
(Thurs) (Required Meeting) Yolo County
- Davis Library
- May 10 Whole Earth Festival, 2nd & A St. 1:30 pm
(Sat) (Required Outing) UC Davis Quad
- May 18 Our Fun Day (Required Outing) TBA
(Sun) E St Plaza (near Baskin Robbins),
Davis, CA. More information to follow.
- June 1 ♥ Heartgard and Flea Control ♥ ♥
- June 5 Classroom Meeting - 7 pm
(Thurs) (Required Meeting) Harper Jr. High
- June 8 El Dorado County Fun Day 8:45 am
(Required Outing) Meet at Mace Nugget
- July 1 ♥ Heartgard and Flea Control ♥ ♥
- July 10 Classroom Meeting - 7 pm
(Thurs) (Required Meeting) Harper Jr. High
- July TBA Soggy Doggy Swimming Party
- Aug 1 ♥ Heartgard and Flea Control ♥ ♥
- Aug 7 Classroom Meeting - 7 pm
(Thurs) (Required Meeting) Harper Jr. High
- Aug TBA To San Francisco on the Ferry

Leaders

- Janet Gift Home – 756-4148 Work – 758-4200
Email: janetgift@aol.com
- Pat Wight Home – 753-9084 Cell – 304-2050
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- Gail Bimson Home – 753-4255 cell – 902-0482
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- Julianne Phillips Email: gotjulie@sbcglobal.net

WEB SITE – www.yologuidedogs.com

Julie Young is doing the care and feeding of our web site. So if you have any newsy tidbits (small ones please), dog-related jokes or cartoons, or a picture of your puppy you want to share, email Julie at jayoung@ucdavis.edu. The web site contains the dates of outings, if you need to check a date.

We continue to thank Acorn Veterinary Clinic for sponsoring our web site. And a special Thank You for Julie for maintaining our website.

OUTINGS FOR MAY

ATTENDANCE AT MEETINGS AND OUTINGS

Meetings and outings are required by Guide Dogs for the Blind, Inc. as part of puppy raiser training responsibilities. Even though attendance at 80% of our meetings and outings is required, it's strongly recommended that a raiser attend as many outings/ meetings as possible during the time they have a pup. We try to plan our meetings and outings to accommodate everyone's schedule, realizing there are times when not everyone can attend. It is strongly recommended that puppy sitters, family members, roommates who will be handling the pup, attend the Monthly Classroom meeting.

These meetings/outings give the leaders the opportunity to observe the pup/raiser/sitters and to help work on any issues the pup/raiser/sitter may have.

With this in mind, it is requested that if a raiser is unable to attend a meeting or outing, he/she **must notify a leader**. If the pup is able to attend the meeting/outing but the raiser is not, arrangements may be made for someone else to take the pup to the meeting/outing. However, this should not become a habit. When a raiser signs on to raise a puppy, they accept the responsibility of attending the required meetings/outings.

PUPPIES IN TRAINING

- | | | |
|----------------|---------------|----------------|
| Daniel | Tracy Skinner | Phase 8 |
| Holiday | Julie Young | Phase 4 |
| Hugh | Janet Gift | Phase 3 |
| Mariah | Pat Wight | Phase 1 |
| Merrick | Adrien Huang | Graduating May |
| Oakley | Christina Rae | Phase 10 |

WALKING AT NIGHT

Try taking your pup for walks at night every once in a while. I noticed when raising Pria (now a career change), she got a little uneasy about shadows when I took her out to relieve. And it reminded me that we all need to take our pups for walks in the evening when it's dark. I did so with Pria, and she was nervous for about the first 10 minutes, then she calmed down and was fine by the end of the walk. You don't need to do it every night,

maybe once or twice a week. Actually, it's very pleasant out at the moment to walk at night. Praise your pup a lot along the way. Make sure you take a flash light along as spots in your walk may not be lighted by street lights.

If your pup is anxious, talk happily to them. Noises that normally wouldn't spook them in daylight may spook them, and of course if there's a breeze, shadows that move may make them spook a little too. You may want to start out with sitting on your lawn outside where it's dark, or go for short walks around your block. Stop now and then and let them listen and look, talking softly but happily to them, then go on. If they get are constantly "worried" about shadows and noises during a walk, it's best not to force the issue--talk happily with them, walk a little distance more before turning home. If you turn back home immediately when they start to get anxious, they will quickly learn that, "Oh, if I freak out, we'll get to go home." Go back to doing brief walks until they are comfortable, then gradually increase the length of your nighttime walks. Make it fun for them. If your pup has difficulties walking at night, be sure to let a leader know so we can work with them and you on this. Make sure you wear mosquito repellent...they may be out in force!!!

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SUMMERTIME ALERTS

SWIMMING FOR YOUR PUP: Yes, you may go swimming with your pup. However, if you think your pup is freaking out, don't push the issue. Lift and carry your pup into the pool. **Never ever push them in.** Once you're in the pool, hold them with their feet away from you, otherwise they will try to climb up on you and will scratch you with their claws. Walk around the shallow parts with them and let them calm down. Teach them where the steps are so that if they accidentally fall in the pool, they'll know how to get out. Take them several feet away from the steps and let them swim to the steps. Do this several times so they know where the steps are. (Jim says it takes about 20 times for them to learn where the steps are). Most pools chlorine levels, if kept maintained correctly, will not affect your pup's skin or coat. However, you can rinse your pup off with a hose if you have concerns. **Make sure you clean and dry your pup's ears after going swimming.**

FLEA CONTROL AND SWIMMING: Normally, flea control will last one month whether your pup is in water or not, so don't worry about that.

GIVING YOUR PUP A BATH: You should give your pup a bath only when needed (if they are stinky, if they roll in something that is gross, if they've been camping, etc.). Their skin can become very dry and irritated if given frequent baths. Use a mild shampoo only made for dogs or you may use Mane & Tail which is a gentle shampoo used on both animals and humans. It can be found in most drug stores (there is also a conditioner). Just make sure you thoroughly rinse the pups otherwise they could itch. Do not pour soap on their heads, but you can take a wash cloth and gently wash around their eyes and face and then rinse with water. When done bathing, be sure to clean out their ears to help them get rid of any extra water that may have snuck into them, otherwise they could get an ear infection.

KEEPING YOUR PUP HYDRATED! One of the things raisers forget about is making sure their pup gets water when they are out and about. It's especially important during these hot months. Our club has available collapsible water bowls which fold up to be very small. Petco also has little foldable plastic bowls for less than \$2.00, or there are water bottle contraptions that has a little water trough attached that folds up along side the bottle.

CAMPING/HIKING: You can take you pup with you when you camp and/or go on hikes. Here are a couple of reminders of the do's and don'ts when you go.

- * Be sure your pup's **flea & tick control are current.**
- * As you sit around the fire, **check your pup for ticks**, especially up around the ears, under its legs or wherever there's extra folds of skin.
- * **Mosquitoes bother pups terribly.** We spray mosquito repellent on our hands and put it carefully on the pup's head, be especially careful around the eyes, mouth, and ears, and then you can spray the rest of their coat. If they shy away from the sound of the spray, then spray it on your hands and wipe down their coat, especially do their tummy and legs.
- * Remember, the woods are a new setting for your pup. **It may be a little spooky** for your pup the first time it hears the hoot of an owl, or the loud snapping of a branch. Do not say, "Poor puppy, that's okay." Talk in a happy voice at all times.
- * **Remember to take plenty of water when you hiking.**
- * **Let your pup sleep inside your tent.** They are not used to the colder temperatures outside. We have even put blankets over their crates when it's been real cold at night. Or, this is the one time they can sleep next to you on the ground. Be sure you tie them down though. We had a pup that figured out how to nose the zipper up on our tent. Make sure, too, that they have a blanket to sleep on as the ground gets cold. If you need to, you can cover them with a towel or blanket.
- * **Don't worry if your dog gets filthy...** especially if you use mosquito repellent. A good scrubbing bath will take it all out when you get home. **Peanut butter** will help to take tree sap out of their coat. Or, you may have to snip it out with scissors.
- * **You can take your pup swimming** if you're at a lake or stream. But don't force them. Make sure you stay in shallow water and that they are **ON LEASH** at all times. You can use a longer leash (like a 15' foot one). Also make sure you clean out their ears with an ear wash so that it will help evaporate the moisture. Please stay away from ditch or dirty water. You don't know what is in the water that could harm your pup.
- * **NEVER EVER LET YOUR PUP OFF LEASH.** There are too many tempting sights and smells to lure them away, and they may run away.
- * **Check your pup's pads** after going on a hike, for thorns or cuts on its pads. If your pup will tolerate them, you can try booties for our puppy when you go for hikes.
- * **Be alert to dogs off leash...** Unfortunately, there will be all kinds of dogs off leash if you go to a camp ground. Most dogs are friendly and will generally want to greet your pup with tail wagging and ready to sniff. Watch for warning signs of aggression.
- * **Take extra food for your pup.** We've sometimes decided to stay an extra day or two, so it always helps to have extra food. Also, one time a loose dog came to visit and decided to stay, so we kept it overnight until late the next day until we found it's owners. The extra food came in handy!
- * **Exercise pens and/or your crate** comes in handy if you don't want to tie down your pup.
- * **Take a couple of throw rugs or tarp** to put down for your pup to lie on... it won't keep your pup completely clean, but it will help.

CAR TRAVEL: IF YOU LEAVE YOUR CAR, YOUR PUPPY MUST LEAVE WITH YOU. Your 30-second errand could turn into a 30-minute one. Guide Dog puppies have died in cars

when the raisers forgot they were traveling with a dog. Temperatures in a car during the day can rise very rapidly. If you have to leave your pup in the car, leave your pup at home.

- * Many motels will let pups **stay in the room.**
- * When riding in a car, try to **protect the pup from the sun**, even if the car is air-conditioned. The sun beating in through a window can make them hot, especially black labs. You can find see-thru window shades for most windows at an auto shop. This is safer than putting a towel in the window which I have seen people do.
- * Every time you stop to go potty or get something to drink, **relieve your pup and offer them water.**
- * Make sure you take the **Pup's ID card** and Rabies Certificate.
- * Not all towns know about Guide Dog Puppies in training, so be aware that **you may be denied entrance.** Do so graciously, don't pick a fight! They are **not** required by law to allow puppy raisers into their business.

HOT PAVEMENT & GRATES We cannot emphasize enough the importance of being aware of when the pavement, side walks, wooden sidewalks (even nails in wooden sidewalks), or metal grates are hot. Even dirt (if you take your pup on dirt to relieve) can be hot enough to burn.

If you must take your pup out during the heat of the day (starting at about 85F and above), here are some tips: When getting out of the car, make sure the pups are the last ones out so they don't have to stand around and wait for others to get out of the car. When you start walking to your car, make sure you have your keys in your hand and quickly unlock the door, and let them get in first before unlocking the other doors. If you relieve our pup, try to do it in shade. **DO NOT LET THEM STAND** on pavement/sidewalks/dirt that is in the sun, while putting jackets on. Move them to a shaded area or grass then put the jacket on.

If your pup does burn their feet, avoid any further contact with hot pavement, or take them home. **Do Not Leave Them In The Car.** When you get home, check their pads to make sure they aren't severely burned. If you can't see any signs of blistering, then no treatment is necessary. If there is evidence of blistering or your pup appears to be in pain when walking, you should contact your leader who made advise a vet appointment. On that same note, do not let your pup walk over any grates during the summer, unless the grates are cool.

Always check the pavement/sidewalk/dirt/grate with your hand laying flat on the surface for about 10 seconds if you are uncertain how hot they are.

A good rule of thumb: *If it's too hot for you to walk barefoot on, it's too hot for your pup. Also keep in mind that it's easy to get sidetracked by chatting and it's easy to forget puppy is standing on something hot. Never stop or walk slowly on a hot surface. Always move quickly to shade or grass.*

GUM REMOVAL TIP: I don't know what there is about summer and gum, but it seems like gum chewers are more apt to spit out their gum on hot days than cold. We've all been there... cursing up a blue streak when we step in sticky gum...well you can just imagine if one of our pups step in it...all those little hairs between the toes being globed together by yucky sticky gum. How to get it out, you ask???? Try peanut butter. The oils from the peanut butter takes that sticky goo right off. Try to wipe as much of it off after getting the gum off...and your pup will take care of the rest ...yum, yum! This is also a good way to remove tree sap (which your pup will get if you're in the woods).

ZOO/ANIMAL PARKS REMINDER: Just a reminder that Guide Dog Pups are not permitted into Zoos or Animal Parks,

because many animals see them as predators. And other animals may see them as food! So keep your pup safe and leave it at home if you visit a zoo. **That includes 6 Flags Marine World in Vallejo.**

MOVIE TIP Most movie houses will allow Guide Dog pups in training...what better challenge than the junk on the floor. But you probably don't want your pup to be wearing all that stuff... so take along a towel for your pup to lie on...

HEAT STROKE

It is very easy for a pup to get overheated when outside on hot days, especially black labs. You should be cautious taking your pup out starting about 85F. **Do not take your dog out for exercise, especially vigorous** when it is hot. You may be able to stay reasonably cool, but your dog cannot.. The signs we see with heat stroke include:

- Rapid panting (sounds like a locomotive).
- Rapid heart rate.
- Reddish mucous membranes best seen in the mouth.. Check their gums. They should be a light pink and slick. If they are a dark pink and sticky to the touch, the pup is dehydrated.
- Thick stringy saliva and later very dry mucous membranes.
- The eyes can get a glassy appearance.
- You may see stumbling, confusion, etc.
- The thermometer is very important. The temperatures for heatstroke are 104.9 to 109F.
- Jim Russell has seen dogs that lose the ability to use their rear legs, and may actually walk on their front legs while dragging their rear legs.

What to do if your pup has heat stroke? It is important to run the cool (not cold) water on the abdomen, where there is no hair. **DO NOT** use cold water or ice. Call the veterinarian and transport your pup immediately.

How to Prevent Heat Stroke? Dogs are not designed to work hard in hot weather. They cool only by panting, not by sweating (which is a much faster method of cooling).

- Provide water regularly.
- Stay in the shade as much as possible.
- Pups are never ever to be left alone in the car.

Hot Weather Coolers!

Pups like to chew on ice cubes too, so you can give them ice cubes any time. If you give them ice while inside your house, keep an eye on them to make sure they don't leave it on the kitchen floor. If they do, and you don't realize it, it could result in a nasty slip and fall for someone who didn't see it or the puddle of water a dropped cube leaves behind.

Get your pup a child's wading pool, and fill it with 3 or 4 inches (or more) of water and let them splash around in it. You can put a bone or 2 in the bottom to see if they'll retrieve it. I saw them do this at Guide Dogs, and the pups went nuts over trying to get the bones out. Be aware...male dogs especially, for whatever reason, like to pee in the pools, so try to relieve your pup right before, or even a few minutes after they start playing... putting feet in water must be the stimulant. (Be aware that a wading pool left on your lawn may kill the grass it sits on if it's

there for an extended period of time.

After they have played in the water is a great time to trim nails because they'll be a lot softer to cut!!!! .

If you have a regular pool, you can take your pup swimming, just don't push them in. If you have to, carry them in. Or lead them in to the step. Get them to sit on the first step, and let them get used to it, then gently lead them into the next. Then, what really helps is if you get behind them and sort of hold them around the middle and walk around the pool with them so they get comfortable. Be careful of their paws!!! They sometimes try to paw at you in the water, and it can hurt, thus the main reason for holding them behind. Make sure you take them in and out of the pool steps 8 or 9 times so they know how to get out. This is very important. Do not leave the pups unsupervised around an unfenced pool. Never allow them to enter the pool on their own...only on command. Some pooches aren't meant to swim and may sink. If this happens, always support your pup when you're in the pool. You can place one of your arms just in back of their front legs, and the other at the flank area, and support them as they try to swim. We had a pup who never could swim without support, and her career change owners have to put a doggy life vest on her when they go swimming..

Just be aware that water causes pups to shed like crazy! So brush them a lot before going into the pool. Then once they dry, you'll want to brush them again because you'll have lots of doggy dust/hair devils running around your floor if you don't.

Please make sure you clean and dry their ears after playing in water to prevent ear infections.

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FOX TAIL ALERT!!

Foxtails are a serious hazard for any dog. During the Bay Area's dry season, April through October, pets are vulnerable to what we commonly call the "foxtail" which is the seed head of various grasses. They are distinguished by thin long, needle-like things that surround the fuzzy seed head. Foxtails can work their way into your dog's skin, but like a fishhook, they cannot work their way out. Emergency surgical intervention is often necessary to remove them.

To prevent foxtails from embedding in your dog:

- ** Remove all foxtails from your yard (best to kill or remove in Spring, before foxtails form. Mowing or weed-wacking only spreads the needles, so please cut them or pull out by hand)
- ** Do not let your dog walk or play in areas that contain foxtails
- ** When hiking or walking dog (on leash of course), do not let them off the walkway or sniff the area where foxtails are present. A foxtail can be inhaled in seconds!

Check your dog thoroughly:

- ** Between the toes
- ** Behind and in the ears
- ** Combing through the coat

Some symptoms of an embedded foxtail:

- ** Rubbing the eyes or squinting; swollen eyelids
- ** Repeated violent sneezing; nosebleed
- ** Rubbing the ears or shaking the head
- ** Raised, infected spot on skin or between toes; excessive licking of toes and feet

Foxtails can migrate through the body and are potentially life-threatening. If your dog shows any signs of having an embedded foxtail, call the veterinary clinic immediately and notify a leader. Do not wait to take your pup to the vet as the needles can move quickly.

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WHO IS ALLOWED TO HANDLE OUR DOGS

Only the assigned Raiser, Raiser family, authorized Roommates and Registered Puppy Sitters are allowed to handle our dogs. There are no exceptions.

What this means is if you need someone to hold on to your dog while you do something else, this person must attend meetings, must fill out an application, and must receive approval from the Leaders and Guide Dogs. One of the reasons behind this is the leaders have not been able to observe the person to see their training and handling techniques. Handling techniques often change, and the person needs to be up-to-date. Five minutes with someone who is unfamiliar with our techniques can undo months of training, can make the pup fearful, aggressive, etc. Another major reason is the liability issue if your dog should bite someone while under someone else's control or if someone trips over the pup and falls and injures themselves. Guide Dogs may not accept financial responsibility if a non-approved person is handling the pup and it could fall back to you and your family.

If you have any questions about this, please contact Janet, Pat, Gail, or Julianne.

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"TIS THE SEASON TO BE FLEAING"

If, for whatever reason, you have not been using flea control on your household pets, now is the time to start to begin as the weather warms up. And of course you should be using the flea/tick control provided by Guide Dogs on your pup.

A WORD OF CAUTION!!!! Be aware that the topical flea controls can take paint off walls and other items if it comes in contact with such items while the fur is still damp. I have no idea what it does to carpeting if your pup decides to roll over on its back. So Guide Dogs suggests you put it on before your pup goes to bed at night, and probably make sure the pup is either on tie-down or in a crate, especially if the pup loves to lie on its back when it sleeps. By morning most of the liquid has absorbed, and if you brush the application area a little each day, it helps to distribute the residue through the hair. The first 12 hours seems to be the time when disappearing paint might happen.

It is a good idea to give your pup a bath at least a day before you put the flea control on, especially if it's Advantage. Advantage comes off if your dog swims in chlorinated water or has a bath with soap. Top Spot lasts through several baths. It says it lasts up to 3 months, but if you bathe your dog a lot or it goes swimming a lot, you should use Top Spot every 1 to 1½ months.

If you want to control fleas in your home, you have to also treat your other pets, especially inside/outside cats. Your lawn may be flea free, but as soon as kitty wanders into someone's yard that is not flea-free (say that 10 times really fast!) and kitty isn't using flea control, the kitty will reinfest your yard/home.

Oh, did you know that monkeys don't get fleas...tis true!!!

TICKS: Yes, we have ticks in town. I picked one off of Santee in the past, so be on the lookout. Thoroughly do a "feel" exam of your pup by taking your hands and feeling all the creases and skin folds around their ears, neck, underarms, flanks, and then do a whole body check, rubbing deeply into their fur. If you find one, call one of the leaders and we will explain how to take them out.

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WHERE OH WHERE HAS MY PUPPY'S COAT GONE?

So, have any of you started to experience the nightmare of shedding hair? It does get better...really it does.

FYI, Guide Dogs recommends to their blind students to use the Zoom Groom brush. It's a soft rubber brush with 1 inch long spikey looking cones coming from it. This weird looking brush

does pull out the loose hair, but be sure to do it outside, because hair will start flying everywhere. It's excellent when you're giving a bath, because those spiky cones act like fingers, and they are a lot easier on your hands, plus your pup will love the massage.

There are a couple more brushes I've had good results with. The one I highly recommend is called the Furminator. We can order them on line at a much cheaper price. They normally run about \$45 for a medium brush. But I think we sell them for about \$35 (unless the price has gone up from our supplier). They are the only brush I found that really grabs the hair and pulls it out much quicker than others. There are some tricks to using it, so if you get one, I (Pat) can give you some tips. One tip is for all brushing is to wear old clothes, and do it outside. This brush creates giant clouds of fluff. If you use a Furminator outside, please "corral" the hair and don't let the wind blow it all over as your neighbors may not appreciate it. ☺ It doesn't take much of a breeze to send it all over the place, including in your mouth, etc.

Another one that works well has thin short wire bristles that are bent at the end. I can't remember the name of them. This really grips the hair, and you don't have to vacuum yourself off after using it. You have to frequently check it though to make sure it's not full of hair. Be sure not to press too hard, because it could irritate the pup's skin. And use it for short periods of brushing so their skin doesn't get sore.

There's also a shedding rake I think they call it. It has saw-blade like teeth like a horse's curry comb. It's a fairly large metal hoop with teeth like a saw blade on one side and flat on the other. This is great for pulling hair out as well. Again, gentle with the pressure. *Oh, and both the wire brush and this "rake" are great for pulling hair up out of the carpets and fabric seats of cars...*

Puppy raisers sometimes save the loose hair to stuff in a small pillow...something to keep after pup goes back for training.

Also be forewarned if you should give your pup a bath, and after the coat is dry, the hair will seem to fall off by itself. You could swear you got all the loose stuff out before the bath, but trust me, the area where your dog lies down while its coat dries will gradually turn into a monster dust bunny. Brushing should only be done when the pooches are dry as it tends to be harder to get hair out when wet which your pup will definitely not like.

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STINKY FEET SYNDROME

Have you noticed that sometimes your pup's feet start to smell, especially when it's warm, kinda like dirty socks in the locker room? There are a couple of things that can cause this. Your pup usually spends very little time outside in the winter, so their feet usually don't collect dirt. But as it starts to warm up, you and pup may be spending more time in the back yard, or walking dirt paths. What is different is that they are probably now stepping in dirt, and maybe the lawn is a little damp and the pup runs through it, and then back to the dirt. Or now, because all our lawns are soggy, the mud collects on their feet. You know what the combination of dirt and feet makes...you got it, stinky feet. It's probably one of the nastiest smells a dog can have (other than icky ears)...well almost one of the nastiest smells. One way to prevent stinky feet is you take a towel and dry their feet off before coming into the house. You may want to wash off their feet thoroughly before going into the house, or put them in the bath tub with the drain plugged and let a couple of inches of water in. This lets you really soak them. If you use soap, make sure the foot is rinsed thoroughly, especially between the toes. Then after you think they are clean, dry them, and then do a foot inspection for any cracks or sores in the pads or between the toes. An infection or open wound could be another source of stinky feet.

Sores on pads can be caused by lots of things, irritation from certain surfaces, walking through yucky stuff (so avoid places

where cars have been parked, as oil as well as the deadly anti-freeze may be there). Another cause could be their pads may get blisters from standing on too hot pavement which is discussed later. If the sores do not go away after a couple of days, time to visit the vet.

Puppy Chuckles ***K-9 to the Rescue***

HOW TO TAKE GOOD PUPPY PICTURES

1. Remove film from box and load camera.
2. Remove film box from puppy's mouth and throw in trash.
3. Remove puppy from trash and brush coffee grounds from muzzle.
4. Choose a suitable background for photo.
5. Mount camera on tripod and focus.
6. Find puppy and take dirty sock from mouth.
7. Place puppy in pre-focused spot and return to camera.
8. Forget about spot and crawl after puppy on knees.
9. Focus with one hand and fend off puppy with other hand.
10. Get tissue and clean nose print from lens.
11. Take flash cube from puppy's mouth and throw in trash.
12. Put cat outside and put peroxide on scratch on puppy's nose.
13. Put magazines back on coffee table.
14. Try to get puppy's attention by squeaking toy over your head.
15. Replace your glasses and check camera for damage.
16. Jump up in time to grab puppy by scruff of neck and say "No, outside! No, outside!"
17. Call spouse to clean up mess.
18. Fix a drink.
19. Sit back in Lazy Boy with drink and resolve to teach puppy "sit" and "stay" the first thing in the morning.

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Newsletter Notes: Hi everyone, I (Pat Wight) have had a pretty long break in doing newsletters, that's why this one is so long. But please take the time to read it all as there is some very important information.

If you would like to see something discussed in a newsletter, please let me know. These were done monthly until I started working full time, and boy does the time fly by. I am going to try to do better and do more frequent newsletters as I feel they help reinforce things us leaders tell you during meetings and outings. We have such a large group, that it is hard for everyone to hear everything that leaders may say, especially during outings when we are walking all scattered out. We also sometimes assume everyone knows something discussed earlier, but that may not be the case.

So please feel free to ask questions, talk about your experiences you've had with your pup (Good or bad). We all learn from each other. Sometimes a raiser may be experiencing the same difficulty you are, but think they have to "suffer in silence" or thinks a behavior is normal for a puppy until someone else brings it up. Plus us leaders can't offer help if we don't realize there is a problem.

We also like to hear the funny stories about your puppy.

May email is paws4sight@gmail.com

*On behalf of us leaders and Guide Dogs,
I would like to thank you all for all you do for our
program and our club.*