

Hi Everybody,

Well, we are all ready for the Cool Critters NADAC trial this weekend. We will be loading the truck on Friday around 11AM after the 10AM Intermediate Agility class. Helpers get a 4 week class card. If you can come to the arena and help set up, you will get another 4 week class card.

For the new students, the trial will be held at the Mosaic Arena at the Manatee County Fairgrounds in Palmetto, and you are welcome to come and watch. The arena is covered, has beautiful bleachers and a great breeze.

To get to the arena, from I-75: Take exit 224 (old 43) onto US 301 westbound. It becomes 10th St. W. in Palmetto. Continue to 14th Ave. You will cross US 41 and business 41. Turn right onto 14th Ave. and continue to the fairground entrance on your right.

Run Thrus

We will be having run thrus and a cookout on Friday, May 15, from 6 to 9PM. This will be a fund raiser for our DACOF (Dog Agility Competition of Florida) team. The competition will be held at the Silver Spurs Arena in Kissimmee, and we need to raise money to help finance our team's entry fees.

Our run thrus are always fun. We will have a Standard course set up in the Advanced field, and a Jumpers course set up in the Basic field. Fees will be \$5 per run, \$2 additional runs (same dog), and for \$10 you get unlimited runs and a hot dog or hamburger and a drink.

No Classes

There will be no classes on Friday, May 1, to Friday, May 8. I will be going to Boxer Nationals.

Standard Poodle Looking for a Home

Joni Ress is looking for a home for her Standard Poodle Davie. She wants Davie to have a good home, however she doesn't want to have anything to say about where he goes, so she's leaving the decision up to Diann Andress.

Davie is a 3 year old nurtured standard poodle. He loves people; he would make a good therapy dog. He knows a little agility.

Diann's email is dogsarehappy@msn.com, I have photos of Davie, and if you're interested in him, send me an email and I'll send you a photo.

A Warning!

A member of another list I'm on alerted us that In Defense of Animals is seeking a donation of \$1 with every purchase made on eBay.

Most people would probably react that this "a great way to help animals and they've made it so easy I'll do it."

The vast majority of donors would not realize this is a hard-core animal rights organization (on par with People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals) and they would send that buck without checking what it was really going to be used for.

From <http://www.idausa.org/>

"It is the policy of In Defense of Animals to no longer use language that accepts the current concept of animals as property, commodities and/or things. Rather than refer to ourselves or others as "owners" of animals we share our lives with, we now refer to ourselves and others as "guardians" of our animal friends and to animals as "he" or "she" rather than "it."

The president of "In Defense of Animals," Dr. Elliott Katz, said in 1997: " It is time we demand an end to the misguided and abusive concept of animal ownership. The first step on this long, but just, road would be ending the concept of pet ownership."

Please let your friends and family know **In Defense of Animals is an anti-pet organization**. If they want to help animals, they can make a donation to a local no-kill shelter, to breed rescue, or to an organization fighting for pet owners' rights. Give them the name of a group you support, or help them find one worthy of their contribution. If you or a family member are eBay enthusiasts, you could counter the IDA campaign by keeping track of your purchases (or sales) and donating a small percentage of your monthly total to an organization that actually does something FOR pets and our right to have them.

Congratulations to Our Latest Graduates!

Daytime Basic Agility:

Kim Thompson & Pirate (Bouvier)
Ava Cerasia & Maggie (White German Shepherd)
Diann Andress & Blue (Border Collie)
Susan Davis & Rudy (Springer Spaniel)

Super Puppy:

Becky Morgan & Izzy (English Mastiff)
Meghan O'Brien & Barley (Lab)

Class Schedule

Monday:

6:15 to 7:00 PM - Super Puppy (Next class starting April 20, 2009)

7:00 to 8:00 PM - Basic Agility (next class starting June 1, 2009)

7:00 to 8:00 PM - Conformation (This is an on-demand class)

8:00 to 9:00 PM - Intermediate Agility

Tuesday:

9:00 AM to 10:00AM - Small Dog Agility

6 to 7PM - Distance work class

7:00 PM Masters Level Agility

Wednesday:

10:30 to 11:30 AM - Rally

6:15 to 7:00 PM - Super Puppy class (Next class starting May 20, 2009)

7:00 to 8:00 PM - Intermediate Agility

8:00 to 9:00 PM - Advanced Agility

Thursday:

7:00 to 8:00 PM - Basic Obedience (Next class starting March 21, 2009)

8:00 to 9:00 PM - Rally Obedience

Friday:

9:00 to 10:00 AM - Advanced Agility

10:00 to 11:00 AM - Intermediate Agility

Some Words of Wisdom from George Carlin

The paradox of our time in history is that we have taller buildings but shorter tempers, wider Freeways, but narrower viewpoints. We spend more, but have less, we buy more, but enjoy less. We have bigger houses and smaller families, more conveniences, but less time. We have more degrees but less sense, more knowledge, but less judgment, more experts, yet more problems, more medicine, but less wellness.

We drink too much, smoke too much, spend too recklessly, laugh too little, drive too fast, get too angry, stay up too late, get up too tired, read too little, watch TV too much, and pray too seldom.

We have multiplied our possessions, but reduced our values. We talk too much, love too seldom, and hate too often.

We've learned how to make a living, but not a life. We've added years to life not life to years. We've been all the way to the moon and back, but have trouble crossing the street to meet a new neighbor. We conquered outer space but not inner space. We've done larger things, but not better things.

We've cleaned up the air, but polluted the soul. We've conquered the atom, but not our prejudice. We write more, but learn less. We plan more, but accomplish less. We've learned to rush, but not to wait. We build more computers to hold more information, to produce more copies than ever, but we communicate less and less.

These are the times of fast foods and slow digestion, big men and small character, steep profits and shallow relationships. These are the days of two incomes but more divorce, fancier houses, but broken homes. These are days of quick trips, disposable diapers, throwaway morality, one night stands, overweight bodies, and pills that do everything from cheer, to quiet, to kill. It is a time when there is much in the showroom window and nothing in the stockroom. A time when technology can bring this letter to you, and a time when you can choose either to share this insight, or to just hit delete...

Remember; spend some time with your loved ones, because they are not going to be around forever.

Remember, say a kind word to someone who looks up to you in awe, because that little person soon will grow up and leave your side.

Remember, to give a warm hug to the one next to you, because that is the only treasure you can give with your heart and it doesn't cost a cent.

Remember, to say, ' I love you ' to your partner and your loved ones, but most of all mean it. A kiss and an embrace will mend hurt when it comes from deep inside of you.

Remember to hold hands and cherish the moment for someday that person will not be there again.

Give time to love, give time to speak! And give time to share the precious thoughts in your mind.

AND ALWAYS REMEMBER:

Life is not measured by the number of breaths we take, but by the moments that take our breath away.

...and now, time for a paws...

Ileana