



Hi Everybody!

The NADAC after Thanksgiving trial of November 26 & 27 was a lot of fun, and in spite of the many events going on that weekend, we had a pretty good turn out.

Our next trial will be January 7 & 8, 2017 and it will be an all games trial. I think that is the most fun of all my NADAC trials. The pre-entry closing date for that one is December 30. The February NADAC trial premium has been approved and is already available for downloading at www.coolcritters.com

There will also be a NADAC winter agility circuit of Fun raisers taking place in Lakeland. The premium for those are available on the NADAC website.

Also in January is the TDAA trial on the 14th and 15th. TDAA stands for Teacup Dogs Agility Association and is for small dogs only! The courses are geared towards the small dogs and most of the obstacles are smaller. There are lot of games in this venue and really loads of fun. That premium is also available for downloading at the website.

We will also be having raffles during all the trials to raise funds for our State Championship Competition teams. Cool Critters always sends two teams with a total of 18 dogs and handlers to the tournament which takes place in Kissimmee during the summer. This is not cheap, and proceeds from the raffles offset the cost for our team members.

Over the Rainbow Bridge

This past weekend Dr. Jackie Royce lost her beloved Boxer Rocky, A.K.A Chickenman. I am still in shock myself over his sudden

death because he went before his time and I know that pain very well. Chicken was a beautiful Grand Champion, an agility dog, and a service dog. He was always in Jackie's office and a big comfort to any child that might need her plastic surgery services.

We all loved Chicken, and he leaves a hole in Jackie's heart as well as a big void in the school.

We Need Empty Jugs!

I bought some new tunnel holders (much stronger and durable) for the competition tunnels. I decided to use gallon jugs filled with water inside the bags instead of sand. The water will be heavier, and after the show season, I can empty the containers and store until needed again without the mess of sand!

Each set of tunnel holders will need 4 gallon jugs. For the January 7 & 8 Games trial I will need 16 jugs. Please save your gallon jugs for me and bring them to the school!

Holiday Class Schedule:

We will have no classes from Monday, December 26 through Friday, December 30. Classes will resume on Monday, January 2, 2017

There will be no Friday morning Agility classes January 6 & January 13, 2017.

Please Clean Up after Your Dogs!

We have been finding some large piles of dog poop in the parking area during the morning classes on Tuesday. Keep in mind that all the parking areas are part of the school property, so you are responsible to clean up after your dogs there just like you do in the training fields!

Be Very Careful Backing up Please!

It is now dark during all the evening classes, so please be mindful of the neighbor's fence and landscaping as well as the mailboxes. If you have a large vehicle or have trouble backing up, please park in front of the puppy field instead of the house.

From Vetstreet.com

9 Holiday Dangers for Our Pets:

The holiday season should be a time for making happy memories with our families, and that certainly includes our pets! Unfortunately, there are many seasonal hazards for cats and dogs that could ruin Christmas and holiday celebrations:

1. Unsecured Christmas trees; make sure your trees are weighed down securely so that pets cannot tip it over, and if you happen to have a real tree, prevent pets from drinking the water — the bacteria and tree food it contains can cause severe gastrointestinal problems.
2. Tree ornaments might look like perfect, bite-size snacks to sneaky cats and dogs. To help ward off an ornament ingestion emergency, place ornaments high up on the tree, way above where pets can reach, and tie them tightly.
3. Electric cords, light strings and extension cords should be tied back, taped down and kept out of reach so that pets can't chew or get tangled up in them.
4. Tempting decorations can be shredded and pose a choking hazard for pets...keep them out of reach. If you typically decorate your home with potpourri, be very careful to never let your pet get near it — liquid and dried potpourris can be toxic.
5. Toxic foods like chocolate, alcohol, macadamia nuts, grapes, raisins, coffee and more. And bakers, beware: Uncooked dough with yeast will still rise if ingested, which can result in a trip to the emergency vet.
6. Whether you're baking ham, turkey or another variety of meat for your holiday dinner, never give your pet the bones. They can break teeth and cause mouth injuries, intestinal damage or obstruction.
7. Fatty foods -- Check with your veterinarian to find out which holiday delicacies you can give your pets. Some pets may be OK to enjoy a small bite of turkey once in a while, but don't go overboard with the table scraps. Consuming a lot of fat can cause gastrointestinal irritation or even pancreatitis.
8. Open flames: This goes for any time of year, but our warning is especially important during the colder months: Keep open flames inaccessible to animals. Be vigilant and do everything you can to prevent accidents involving candles, menorahs, or fireplaces.
9. Holiday plants like poinsettias, which can cause stomach irritation if eaten. Add holly, lilies, and mistletoe are toxic and can all cause severe damage to pets.

Class Schedule:

Monday:

6:00 to 7:00 PM - Super Puppy (Next class starting **Jan. 23, 2017**)

7:00 to 8:00 PM - Basic Agility (Next class starting **Feb. 13, 2017**)

8:00 to 9:00 PM - Intermediate Agility

Tuesday:

9:00 to 10:00 AM - Advanced Agility

10:00 to 11:00 AM - Intermediate Agility

7:00 to 8:00 PM - Distance Class

Wednesday:

10:30 AM - All levels Rally Obedience

6:00 to 7:00 PM - Super Puppy (New class starting **Feb. 8, 2017**)

7:00 to 8:00 PM - Intermediate / Advanced Agility

Thursday:

7:00 to 8:00 PM - Basic Obedience (Next class starting **Jan.12, 2017**)

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

I am also planning a daytime puppy class, or basic obedience and a daytime agility class in the cooler weather. Any of you interested in a new daytime class please let me know!

Congratulations to Our Latest Graduates!

Super Star Puppy:

Fred Krueger & Gunner (Border Collie)

Cindy Holt & Stella (German Shepherd)

Bobbi & Justice Williams with Gracie (Goldendoodle)

David & Teresa Petitt with Sadie (Mini Aussie)

Suzi Metz & Trooper (German Shepherd)

Bill & Deanna Almand with Molly (Goldador)

Jay Bolnick & Ralph (Chesapeake Bay Retriever)

Tammy Rotscheid & Dolly (All American)

Basic Agility:

Charlotte Glandon & Penny (Aussie)
Cheri Scott & Berkely (Aussie)
Sean Siegel & Hope (Shepherd Mix)
Matt Creager & Ruby (Terrier Mix)
Teresa Valenzuela & Jeter (Siberian Husky)
Joan Mylchreest & Sioux (Aussie)

Basic Obedience:

Cathy McDonald & Sebastian (Golden Retriever)
Tammie Ferger & Pearl (Lab / Catahoula Mix)
Rebecca Toth & Brinley (Whippet Mix)
James Enicks & Charlie (Pit Bull Mix)

A Few Thoughts for The End of a Year

It seems that as we grow older, the years go by faster. In the rush to get things done, and plan for scheduled future events, we forget to enjoy the present. To remind ourselves of what's important, I like to refer often to the following article:

IF I HAD MY LIFE TO LIVE OVER - by Erma Bombeck (written after she found out she was dying from cancer).

I would have gone to bed when I was sick instead of pretending the earth would go into a holding pattern if I weren't there for the day.

I would have burned the pink candle sculpted like a rose before it melted in storage.

I would have talked less and listened more.

I would have invited friends over to dinner even if the carpet was stained, or the sofa faded.

I would have eaten the popcorn in the 'good' living room and worried much less about the dirt when someone wanted to light a fire in the fireplace.

I would have taken the time to listen to my grandfather ramble about his youth.

I would have shared more of the responsibility carried by my husband.

I would never have insisted the car windows be rolled up on a summer day because my hair had just been teased and sprayed.

I would have sat on the lawn with my grass stains.

I would have cried and laughed less while watching television and more while watching life.

I would never have bought anything just because it was practical, wouldn't show soil, or was guaranteed to last a lifetime.

Instead of wishing away nine months of pregnancy, I'd have cherished every moment and realized that the wonderment growing inside me was the only chance in life to assist God in a miracle.

When my kids kissed me impetuously, I would never have said, "Later. Now go get washed up for dinner."

There would have been more "I love you's." More "I'm sorry's."

But mostly, given another shot at life, I would seize every minute...look at it and really see it .. live it, and never give it back.

Stop sweating the small stuff.

Don't worry about who doesn't like you, who has more, or who's doing what. Instead, let's cherish the relationships we have with those who do love us.

Let's think about what God HAS blessed us with. And what we are doing each day to promote ourselves mentally, physically, emotionally.

I hope you all have a blessed day.

Hug your dogs and have a wonderful Christmas everyone!

Ileana