

Hi Everybody!

Well, we have been very busy choosing and getting our Cool Critters teams for DACOF. What is DACOF? It stands for Dog Agility Competition of Florida. It is an annual competition which provides the opportunity for handlers and dogs to represent their organization as a team. The tournament will take place this year at the Silver Spurs Arena in Kissimmee, Saturday June 30, and Sunday July 1. The show will be indoors, air conditioned in a big dirt arena.

Each eligible organization can bring a maximum of three teams. A team consists of 3 dogs in Novice, 3 in Open, and 3 in Excellent. Partial teams of 2 dogs in each level is acceptable. At each level, the top two scores will be added for the highest scoring organization award. It is really a lot of fun for everyone involved, and a chance for each organization to bond as a team.

Cool Critters will be taking two teams this year: **Cool Team:** Michael Fortschneider and Voo Doo, Debbie Hartzell and Sasha, Hiroko Williams and Ellie in Excellent. Diann Address and Blue, Rita Isogna and Makaio, and Kathy Scott and Rudy in Open. Don White and Marley, Barbara Layton and Brie, Debbie Broadrick and Hemi in Novice.

**Critter Team:** Michael Fortschneider and Sosa, Lisa Fortschneider and Sissi, Julie Martinez and Tebow in Excellent. Julie Martinez and Bode, Shela Ellis and Billy, Kathie Scott and Sammy in Open. Don White and Oliver, Lynn Shaber and Dare, and Tiffanie Ivins and Tessa in Novice.

I am really excited about the quality of our dogs and handler teams, but most of all, I know everyone will have fun! This will be a great Tournament to come and watch, as there will be dogs from all over Florida competing. As the date approaches, I will send out directions to the show site.

### **No Classes**

There will be no classes on Memorial Day, Monday, May 28.

### **School Weather Report**

Since rainy season will be starting, I will once again be posting the weather situation at the school everyday at 5PM, on the school page in my website. Florida weather being what it is, it might be raining at your house and not here, or vice versa! This will eliminate a lot of phone calls all at once ☺

### **Weave Poles for Sale**

I have a set of stick in the ground weave poles that I am selling as a

fundraiser for our DACOF team. They were originally bought by an Obedience person several years ago, and he never used them, so he gave them to us for a raffle or fundraiser.

The weaves are not new, but were never used, and the metal rings on the bottom are a little rusted. They are top quality, schedule 40 PVC from J & J dog training equipment. The weaves sell for \$85 new, and I am selling them for \$45. They are currently in the pole barn if you want to check them out. If interested, send me an email.

### **Dog Massage Seminar**

We are planning a dog massage seminar with Ray Mashler for Saturday, August 11. Ray is very well known in the East Coast for his skills as an animal massage therapist and is always booked up at the shows. He operates Treasure Coast Pet Massage and is certified to work on dogs, cats, and horses. Check out his website [www.animalmassage.us](http://www.animalmassage.us) for a list of accomplishments and credentials.

Ray is planning a couple of two hour hands-on seminars for people and their dogs. There will be very little lecturing, he will teach you to feel your dog and spot injuries, muscle issues, and soreness. He will teach to gently massage your dogs, stretch them, get them warmed up for competition, and then cool down. This seminar is not just for competition enthusiasts, but for dog owners who simply want their dogs to feel good.

The cost for this will be \$60 for a two hour session and we need a minimum of 10 people in order for Ray to make the trip from the East Coast. If we end up with more than 10, we can probably convince him to do a third session. I have several people that were interested, and I want to have a firm number to get Ray committed, so please send me an email so I can start a list!

### **Nice Home Needed for a Lab**

Vikki Egan, Dunkin's Mom has a friend that needs to find a home for her 1 yr old female Labrador Retriever. If you know anyone that might be interested please let Vikki know. This girl would make a really nice agility dog. Vikki's email is: [k9daze@gmail.com](mailto:k9daze@gmail.com) Please email her directly.

### **A Fundraiser**

Lesa Phillips is coordinating a fundraiser for Paws for Friendship, the therapy dog organization that she and her rescue Chloe belong to, at PDQ, a new and fresh fast food restaurant in South Tampa (on 2207 S. Dale Mabry Hwy. across from Plant High School). When you go to PDQ on *Thursday, June 7 from 4:00-9:00 pm, and mention that you are there for the Paws for Friendship fundraiser*, the organization will receive 10% from all orders placed!

Paws for Friendship is an organization of volunteers sharing the

unconditional love of their personal pets with people in need, through animal assisted therapy.

Would you be so kind as to share this with everyone you know who frequents South Tampa? I have a pdf flyer available, if you want me to email it to you, let me know. Thank you for helping to spread the word!

### **Diamond Pet Foods Recall**

This food recall has been all over the news recently. On May 4, 2012 Diamond Pet Foods announced <<http://diamondpetrecall.com/diamond-expands-voluntary-recall/>> that it was expanding its voluntary recall to include batches of nine brands of dry pet food formulations due to potential contamination with \*Salmonella\* bacteria. The affected products were manufactured between December 9, 2011 and April 7, 2012. This current event is in addition to three other recalls announced by Diamond last month.

According to the company, none of the additional products being recalled have tested positive for Salmonella. However, the manufacturer claims it is pulling these products from store shelves "as a precaution".

Brands named in this recall now include:

- Chicken Soup for the Pet Lover's Soul
- Country Value
- Diamond
- Diamond Naturals
- Premium Edge
- Professional
- 4Health
- Taste of the Wild
- Kirkland Signature

Florida is one of the states where these brands were distributed. The recalled products were manufactured by Diamond Pet Foods in Gaston, S.C., and were distributed in the United States and Canada.

Important Batch Information:

Due to the ever-changing nature of this unusually widespread recall event, it is recommended that consumers visit the special Diamond Pet Foods Recall website <<http://diamondpetrecall.com/>> for the most up-to-date information.

You may also wish to check out the Diamond news release <<http://diamondpetrecall.com/diamond-expands-voluntary-recall/>> on which this

report was actually based.

The recall site provides specific batch information and diagrams that show how to read package codes and "Best By" dates to accurately identify affected products.

### **Congratulations to Our Latest Graduates!**

#### Basic Obedience

Lisa Dye and Bella (Australian Shepherd)  
Noretta Sheffield and Misty (Border Collie)  
Julie Wynne and Abbey (All American)  
Tracey Fajman & Wyatt (Blue Heeler)  
Nancy Lake & Belle (Boxer)  
Belinda Hopkins and Daisy (Rottweiler)  
Esther Stanford and Lina (Golden Retriever)  
Adriane Barlow and Harper (Vizsla)  
Mary Quinn and Swift (Boxer)

#### Super Puppy

Jacki Howell and Bentlee (Golden Retriever)  
Melissa Cordova and Bella (Lab Mix)  
Peter and Nancy Marino with Mieka (Schipperke)  
Colleen Faucett and Muffin (Miniature Schnauzer)  
Shelly and Jose Randolph with Ocho (Bulldog)  
Kathy Krzeszewski and Penny (Brittany)  
Michelle Davis and Leroy (Sheltie)  
Carole & Rob Bradley and BJ (All American)  
Heather Bennett and Molly (Labrador)  
Tessa Benz and Tootsie (Mini Labradoodle)  
Kirsten Johnson & Penny (Shiba Inu)  
Dave & Susan Willits with Maxx (Rat Terrier)  
Steven & Cheryl Wu with Buddha (Golden Retriever)  
Grady Dorman & Maile (All American)  
Lauren & Morgan Powers with Rucker (Standard Poodle)

#### Basic Agility

Jane Bugni & Cassidy (Aussie)  
Bill Bugni & Coal (All American)  
Amy Sona & Albert (Min. Poodle)  
Audrey Cull & Nellie (All American)  
Don White & Caleb (Boxer)  
Mary Quinn & Swift (Boxer)  
Melody McMichael & Zephyr (Standard Poodle)

Dawn Marshall & Paisley (American Staff. Terrier)  
Tracey Fayman & Wyatt (Blue Heeler)

### **Class Schedule**

Monday:

1:00 to 2:00 PM - Rally

6:00 to 7:00 PM - Super Puppy (Next class starting June 11, 2012)

7:00 to 8:00 PM - Basic Agility (next class starting May 14, 2012)

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

6:00 to 7:00 PM - Distance work class

7:00 PM Masters / Excellent Level Agility

Wednesday:

6:00 to 7:00 PM - Super Puppy class (Next class starting May 9, 2012)

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 June 7, 2012)

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

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

Ileana