

Ramapo Kennel Club GROWL

AUGUST 2009

1958-2009

Legislative Successes Depend on Active Club Members and Breeders --

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Next Meeting
September 9,
2009

New York, NY – The AKC's long-standing reputation and credibility as the authority for all matters relating to dogs are among the reasons why policymakers regularly seek our input when developing dog-related legislation. The AKC's grassroots organization of nearly 5,000 local dog clubs, thousands of responsible dog owners and breeders, and the number of dogs and litters registered each year means that AKC support or

opposition can help make or break the success of legislation.

Whenever state residents are threatened with unreasonable laws impacting responsible breeders and owners— and this year has seen more than 800 such bills across the country – the AKC Government Relations department works closely with AKC state federations, local clubs and breeders groups to address the problematic language. We provide these groups with significant resources, assistance, information and direct communications with lawmakers. This model works because, unlike for-profit competitors, the AKC puts its resources back into benefitting the dogs it registers and this includes legislation.

Policy officials throughout the nation recognize the AKC and its state federations as supporting

reasonable laws that protect the rights of dog owners and breeders while ensuring integrity of the purebred dog and the welfare of all dogs. The AKC's position statements are accessible and well-publicized. Legislators also know that the AKC is self-regulating: the AKC inspects its own breeders; has zero tolerance for neglect and abuse; and recognizes the obligations of dog owners to abide by clean-up ordinances, leash laws, nuisance laws and other reasonable regulations.

AKC staff continues to develop successful legislative strategies based on mutually respectful interaction with policymakers. In Nebraska a bill that would have heavily regulated breeders and capped dog ownership at 75 dogs was recently postponed indefinitely

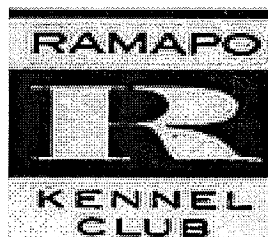
(continued on page 3)

MEMBERSHIP NEWS

We had the misfortune of missing an award in our last newsletter, so we wanted to correct that mistake. We forgot to include Candy Wisnieski and her CH Barksdale Rendezvous Bay Rough Collie.

Congratulation to Candy and her new Champion.
CH BARKSDALE RENDEZVOUS BAY
Rough Collie owned by Candy Wisnieski.

A special thanks to Shirley Irwin for assisting the club in getting our November speaker, Dr Tom Parisi from Valley Animal Hospital. Dr. Parisi who will speak on canine nutrition. It should be a great program, please invite your friends!



GROWL

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RKC OFFICERS RKC Board of Directors

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because AKC worked closely with breeders in that state. AKC constituents from Florida to Minnesota to West Virginia have worked with our talented staff and taken advantage of our useful resources and, as a result, have seen legislative successes in defeating bad bills.

In our ongoing efforts to provide these resources to our constituents, we are pleased to now offer a nationwide legislative tracking service. Updated daily this handy database gives fanciers access to pending canine legislation, including bill text, official legislative summaries, the latest legislative developments, the progress of specific bills, as well as the most up-to-date AKC legislative alerts and messages. We recognize that numerous bills are constantly being introduced nationwide and that is why we still rely on local club members to notify us of new legislation. If you hear of a bill we should add to the list, please alert us at doglaw@akc.org or call the Government Relations Department at 919-816-3720.

I encourage you to utilize our new tracking service and sign-up for our complimentary e-newsletter Taking Command, for up-to-date information on protecting your rights as responsible dog owners and breeders. AKC is here to help you prepare to engage in the legislative process with your state lawmakers. For more information visit: http://www.akc.org/canine_legislation/

Sincerely,

Ron Menaker

Chairman

A tax deduction -- for your pet

by Karen Datko



Is this an idea whose time has come? A new bill in the U.S. House would allow pet owners to deduct up to \$3,500 for "qualified pet-care expenses" for household pets, including vet bills.

Would the so-called HAPPY (Humanity and Pets Partnered Through the Years) Act give pet owners a break they deserve? Would it encourage more people to adopt abandoned or neglected pets? Would we finally be able to list some dependents on our income tax return? (Others have attempted -- unsuccessfully -- to use their pets as deductions.)

Bing: [New tax deductions](#)

Actually, the bill has some serious goals, according to PetWellbeing.com, including:

- Making it more affordable for people to provide the care their pets need.

- Making it less likely that pet owners are who suffering during the recession will abandon their pets.

"Qualified pet expenses" appears to include a wide variety of undefined things involved in providing care, with the exception of acquisition costs. Thus, the adoption fee at the pound would not be included. But would you get a tax break for the grooming session that includes nail polish for FiFi, or every can of Fancy Feast or each new toy? Or how about the little castle you buy for the fish tank?

The bill was introduced by Rep. Thaddeus McCotter, R-Mich., who has taken a ribbing. "You might also think that Mr. McCotter would have more important issues on his mind. For instance, the unemployment rate in his home state of Michigan is 15.2%," Howard Gleckman wrote at [TaxVox](#).

The humorous "[individual pet tax return](#)" linked to at TaxVox suggests that pet owners also get a pet damage credit for things like dog throw-up or other deposits on the carpet, or mauled furniture.

Kathy at [Blogging For Michigan](#) also notes that people can deduct expenses for their *own* medical care only if those costs exceed 7.5% of adjusted gross income, so the bill would give your pet's medical bills better tax treatment than your own.

"I'm all for responsible pet ownership, but I also think people should maintain the brakes on their car so I don't have to worry about getting rear-ended while I'm stopped at a traffic light," Kathy wrote in a mocking tone. "Maybe we should give car owners tax deductions for repairs."

We love our dogs, but we think this is kind of silly. Sure, pets have gained more legal rights in the last decade or so, and aren't simply property that you can treat any way you want. Thank goodness for that. But a tax deduction? We can imagine all kinds of problems, including how this would be enforced.

Cindi, a reader of [For the Love of the Dog Blog](#), also said she loves her dogs but "this legislation is ridiculous. A lot of our human citizens don't even have basic health insurance" (Certain tax breaks are available for people who have guide dogs or other service dogs and those who provide foster care for animals in collaboration with nonprofit groups.)

How about this idea? If you can't afford the real cost of pet ownership, don't get one.

The Pet Industry Joint Advisory Council supports the bill. On the other hand, the [From the Dean](#) blog at the Washington State University College of Veterinary Medicine said about the HAPPY Act:

I will mostly let this pass without comment, although in spite of the importance of our cats to my family, my recognition of the changing role of companion animals in society, and my involvement in this profession, I am still taking a bit of a sideways glance at this.



Meet the Breeds™

SAVE THE DATES:

October 17th and 18th, 2009

Jacob K. Javits Convention Center in New York City

Mark your calendars and be sure to attend the largest extravaganza of dogs and cats in the United States. Join the American Kennel Club® and Cat Fanciers' Association® as they host **Meet the Breeds™** presented by Pet Partners, Your Partner in Pet Health Care.

Held in conjunction with the AKC / Eukanuba National Championship for the past eight years, this will be the first ever stand-alone Meet the Breeds event and it's coming to New York City! Attend and show support for your favorite breed at the Javits Convention Center on October 17th and 18th.

Meet the Breeds will feature:

- More than 160 dog breeds and 41 cat breeds with expert breeders from all national breed clubs
- Demonstration rings including: agility, obedience, detection canines, search and rescue, grooming, earthdog and more
- Vendors with unique and useful items
- An exciting Best Booth in Show competition, where you can vote for the best breed presentation - All booths will be decorated to highlight the international heritage of each breed with colorful sets and costumes
- Meet the Breeds Art Contest - depicting student's personal drawings of their favorite breeds of dogs and cats. To find out about how to enter visit www.meetthebreeds.com

Buy tickets today at www.meetthebreeds.com and benefit from advance purchase discounts! The advance ticket price is \$10 for adults and \$6 for children 12 and under.

Come join us for a fun-filled day and share your passion for dogs! Sponsors include Invisible Fence, ADT Security Services, WebVet, YourDogsHeart.com, Jakks Pets, Paramount Chemical Specialties, Inc. and Go PetFriendly.com

The Ramapo Kennel Club will have a table as well! Please speak to Grace McGlynn at (845) 538-8734 or email her at gmglynn@aol.com if you are interested in assisting.

SHOW HANDLING CLASSES

TUESDAY EVENINGS

- Sept. 15 & 29
- Oct. 6 & 20
- Nov. 3 & 17
- Dec. 1 & 15
- Jan. 5 & 19
- Feb. 2 & 16
- Mar. 2 & 16
- Apr. 6 & 20
- May 4 & 18

DROP-IN CLASSES ONLY

7:00 - 7:45 PM

\$10.00 per class or a sheet of 10 coupons for \$90.00.

Open class, 10 dogs maximum.
First come, First served

FMI: SHOW HANDLING

LINDA HACHTEL
973-697-4337

LINMARVIZ@MSN.COM



www.ramapokennelclub.com

VFW
69 CAREY AVE
BUTLER, NJ 07405

DIRECTIONS:

Route 287 North or South--exit for Route 23 North. Continue north on Route 23 for approximately 1 1/2 miles. Watch for sign for Barifolde Ave. (Just after "Jiggs" bar/restaurant). Make right on Barifolde. Go to end and make right onto Carey Ave. Go approximately 3/10 Mi. to VFW Hall on right.

Route 23 Northbound (follow above)

Route 23 Southbound--From Kinnelton/Butler area) Go thru light for Boonton Ave (Just past Ford Dealer) continue to Moose Ave. Jughandle (Just before the next light) Cross over to Route 23 North and follow above directions.

NO CLASSES ON THE SECOND TUESDAY OR WEDNESDAY OF EVERY MONTH

CHECK WITH YOUR INSTRUCTOR FOR YOUR SCHEDULE

www.ramapokennelclub.com

INCLEMENT WEATHER INFORMATION

CALL RUTH 973-697-9456 OR

JOANNE 201-891-5090

**PET TRAINING/
OBEDIENCE CLASSES**

WEDNESDAY EVENING

- 6:30 - 7:15 KPT--- (under 6 Months)
STAR PUPPY PROGRAM
(UP TO 1 YEAR)
- 7:30 - 8:15 BEGINNER
- 8:30 - 9:15 RALLY ALL LEVELS

Enhance the relationship between you and your dog. Teach your dog to become a CANINE GOOD CITIZEN

FEES: \$125.00 KPT/BEG. (INCLUDES EQUIPMENT)
\$115.00 SHELTER/RESCUE/RKC CLUB MEMBERS

(proof required for shelter/rescue)

\$120.00 RALLY/NOVICE

(basic obedience required for Rally)

FMI: Training classes, Puppy classes, Rally

Ruth Henningsen
973-697-9456

ruthh.sno-dog@junio.com

Joanne Silver
201-891-5090
silverck@catrol.com



PET TRAINING/OBEDIENCE SCHEDULE

2009 - 2010

First Session

Sept. 16, 23, 30

Oct. 7, 21, 28

Nov. 4

Second Session

Nov. 18

Dec. 2, 16, 23

Jan. 6, 20, 27

Third Session

Feb. 3, 17, 24

Mar. 3, 17, 24, 31

Fourth Session

Apr. 7, 21, 28

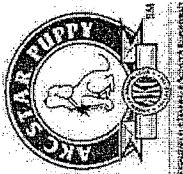
May 5, 19, 26

June 2

Class registration forms are available on our website under "classes" or 973-697-9456

www.ramapokennelclub.com

PROFESSIONAL TRAINERS, BREEDERS,
OWNERS OF MANY CHAMPION/
OBEDIENCE/THERAPY TITLED DOGS



OUR TRAINING STAFF ARE MEMBERS OF THE
ASSOCIATION OF PET DOG TRAINERS



CLUB MEETINGS

HELD THE 2ND WEDNESDAY OF
THE MONTH 8:00 PM

YOU ARE WELCOME TO ATTEND
RAMAPO KENNEL CLUB

GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS

VFW

45 PLYMOUTH STREET
FAIRFIELD, NJ

FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT
RAMAPO KENNEL CLUB ACTIVITIES
AND MEMBERSHIP

VISIT OUR WEBSITE OR SPEAK
TO ONE OF YOUR INSTRUCTORS

PUPPY KINDERGARTEN

PET TRAINING

**AKC S.T.A.R. PUPPY
PROGRAM**

WEDNESDAY EVENINGS

Get your puppy off on the
right paw. Join us and have
your puppy become a
"Star Puppy"

VFW HALL
CAREY AVE

BUTLER, NJ 07405

OBEDIENCE - MANNERS
CANINE GOOD CITIZEN INSTRUCTION
PUPPIES TO ADULTS

WE OFFER THE FINEST INSTRUCTION WITH
POSITIVE, GENTLE TRAINING METHODS.



HEALTH NEWS

Transitional Cell Carcinoma with VBTA study

We are looking for 500 dogs of specific breeds to participate free of charge in a study concerning Transitional Cell Carcinoma (TCC). The breeds being studied at the moment are, West Highland White Terriers, Scottish Terriers, Beagles, and Shetland Sheepdogs.

As of this time, Dr. Dean J. Cerf of the Ridgewood Veterinary Hospital is offering the following:

- 1) A short lecture on TCC and an innovative, minimally invasive laser technique to treat, not cure TCC.
- 2) A VBTA test- a rapid latex agglutination test for bladder tumor analytes in canine urine as an aid in the detection of bladder cancer (owner to bring urine sample collected within 8 hours of lecture).
- 3) A urinalysis- checks for infection, hematuria, protein, etc.
- 4) Bladder ultrasound- to scan for any signs of a tumor.

Ridgewood Veterinary Hospital will supply in advance a sterile urine container and questionnaire.

Owners need to bring their pet with them, with a relatively full bladder.

Lectures and testing will be done at the Ridgewood Veterinary Hospital for groups of less than 50 or Dr. Cerf and a few members of his staff would travel to your club meeting. They will present the lecture, collect samples and questionnaire, and perform ultrasound. Results will be available within two weeks of testing. Any patients showing signs of disease will have the option of being treated at their regular veterinarian or at the Ridgewood Veterinary Hospital. The cost of any and all additional testing or treatment will be the sole responsibility of the owner.

You can go to www.ridgewoodvet.com and read about the work Dr. Cerf has been doing to fight TCC and also see a video of the procedure.

Please contact me with any questions.

Thank you in advance for you participating in the healthy future of our pets.

Kathy Wyder CVT
Ridgewood Veterinary Hospital
320 East Ridgewood Ave.
Ridgewood, NJ 07450
201-447-6000
kwyder@ridgewoodvet.com

The Rabies Challenge Fund Charitable Trust

The goal of The Rabies Challenge Fund Charitable Trust is to extend the legally required interval for rabies boosters to 5 and then 7 years, based on the findings of the rabies challenge studies currently underway at the University of Wisconsin School of Veterinary Medicine. If the studies' results demonstrate that the rabies vaccine confers 5, and possibly 7, years of immunity, there would be a significant impact on controlling rabies and reducing adverse reactions associated with the vaccine.

Today I am writing to ask for your help. The Rabies Challenge Fund relies on donations to finance the multi-year challenge studies that began in November 2007. Due to the economic downturn, the Fund has a \$125,000 shortfall for the third year of the studies, scheduled for this fall. This deficit threatens the future of the research.

Costs for the studies' third year are \$175,000. Since January, we have raised nearly \$50,000 of that amount. We need to have eighty percent of the total funding for the year's budget in hand to begin the third year of the studies. Please contribute what you can, as soon as you can. **All donations received will be used to finance the direct research costs of the rabies challenge studies.**

With your help, we can raise the \$125,000 necessary to complete the third year of the 5 and 7-year rabies challenge studies. Tax-exempt donations can be mailed to The Rabies Challenge Fund, c/o Hemopet, 11330 Markon Drive, Garden Grove, CA 92841. Credit card donations can be phoned in to Hemopet (specify they are for The Rabies Challenge Fund) by calling (714) 891-2022, ext. 13.

Thank you for your support of this important work.

Sincerely,
Kris L. Christine
Founder, Co-Trustee
The Rabies Challenge Fund
www.RabiesChallengeFund.org
ledgespring@lincoln.midcoast.com

Successful efforts by The Rabies Challenge Fund over the past year leading to changes in state rabies laws/municipal ordinances to the 3 year national standard:

Cheyenne, Wyoming
Wichita, Kansas
State of Alabama
State of Arkansas
State of Rhode Island.

DATES TO REMEMBER

All membership meetings are held at the

*VFH Hall
45 Plymouth Street
Fairfield, New Jersey*

8:00 p.m.

- | | |
|--|--|
| September 9th | Membership Meeting – Speakers will be Linda Deutsch and Julian Proeger, Esq. about the NAIA. Dog Legislation is a major area of concern for all of us and they will update us and answer your questions. |
| October 9th-12th | Harvest Cluster |
| October 11th & 12th | Ramapo Kennel Club Point Shows |
| October 14th | Membership Meeting – Rick Eppler will speak to the membership about products/apparel for club fundraisers and great gifts. |
| November 11th | Membership Meeting – Dr. Tom Parisi from Valley Animal Hospital will speak on the all important issue of canine nutrition. |

Ramapo Kennel Club GROWL
11 Pershing Avenue
Ridgewood, New Jersey 07450

FIRST CLASS MAIL