

Green Acres Kennel Shop Paw Prints

Volume 15, Issue 4 – Web Edition – May 2010

Here is our newsletter for May. We hope you find it informative. Don't forget to book your boarding reservations for summer month soon. As you know we fill up very quickly once the kids are out of school. If you're not going away but are going to be doing a "stay-cation" you might want to check out our daycare services if you need someone to watch the dog while you're gone.

Do we have your email? If so, we can deliver Paw Prints directly to you via email . As a reward for helping keep our distribution cost down, you will find special dollar-saving coupons in each email edition of Paw Prints.

Featured Product – Leashes & Collars

Spring has sprung and what better time to get your dog a new leash and collar. We have a wide selection of the latest designs from Lupine and TuffLock. Both companies offer a lifetime guarantee on their products. If the item becomes damaged, even as a result of chewing by your dog, just return it and we will replace it.

New Product – The Whole Dog Journal

We have been reading *The Whole Dog Journal* (WDJ) for years and are now pleased to be able to offer it to you in the store for \$5.95 per issue. WDJ is the equivalent of *Consumer Reports*, *Parenting* and *Science and Technology* all rolled into one for the pet dog guardian. The focus of this informational newsletter is natural dog care and training. They review dog products and food and also have great articles by some of our favorite trainers like Pat Miller. The May issue includes articles on; what to do if your pet wakes you too early, artificial preservatives used in pet food, dealing with dogs with bladder stones, aquatic service dogs, and preparing for the time when your dog crosses the rainbow bridge. Check it out! We think you will like *The Whole Dog Journal* as much as we do!

Frequent Buyer Programs

The slow economy has resulted in one of our distributors filing bankruptcy and reorganizing. This distributor was responsible for the frequent buyer programs we offer for California Natural, Evo, Innova, Solid Gold, and Wysong. Until they let us know if they will continue to accept these frequent buyer cards we must suspend these programs. We will continue to stock and sell California Natural, Evo, Innova, Solid Gold, and Wysong. The frequent buyer program for Natural Planet Organics, NutriSource and Pure Vita is not affected and has not been suspended.

Getting Your Cat to Like Their Carrier

How many of you can honestly say that your cat likes their carrier? Most cats only see their carrier when they are going to go someplace in the car – an issue in itself for most cats. Check out the article on our blog for (<http://www.greenacreskennel.com/blog/?p=924>) OR

<http://bit.ly/cxQ3kR>) for some tips on getting your cat to tolerate and possibly love their carrier. It will make both of your lives less stressful.

Staff News

Every month the Green Acres staff chooses two Staff Champions; someone who has done an exceptional job and someone who has publicly recognized another employee for doing an exceptional job. A hearty congratulations and thank you to our February champions; **Rachel** and **Hilary**, our March champions **Tracy** and **Shannan** and our April champions **Shannan** and **Tracy**!

Kate Dutra, Operations Manager and Lead Instructor at the Green Acres Kennel Shop in Bangor, has earned Level I recertification through the Certification Council for Professional Dog Trainers (CCPDT), the only internationally recognized certification program for professional dog trainers. Certificants must recertify with the CCPDT every three years, documenting a minimum of thirty-six hours of continuing education in CCPDT approved courses. Kate has been on the Green Acres staff since 1992 and is a Professional Member of the Association of Pet Dog Trainers (APDT).

Green Acres was the featured retailer in the May 2010 catalog from Super-Dog, one of our distributors. You can read the full article at: <http://bit.ly/97iVXa>

Congratulations to **Thelma** and **Louise**, our cute store kittens, who are celebrating their 9th year with us this month. Thanks for keeping us all entertained.

Web Site Recommendation

I like cartoons, and cartoons about pets are even better. If you would like a daily cartoon sent to your email, checkout - <http://drawthedog.com>. I think you'll love it!

Video Recommendation

As a Certified Dog Behavior Consultant, I work with many dogs that have serious behavioral issues such as aggression and anxiety. For a long time scientists were reluctant to recognize that animals have and are affected by many of the same emotions as humans. In this video link (<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HOWnXJW9LjI>) noted scientist Dr. Marc Bekoff discusses emotions and animals. If you are interested in what you see, I highly recommend Dr. Bekoff's book *The Emotional Lives of Animals*.

Charitable Focus: BHS Low Income Spay/Neuter Fund

This is the last month of our current drive to raise funds for the Bangor Humane Society's Low Income Spay/Neuter Fund. Pet over-population is a critical issue throughout the US and intact animals are a major reason for that problem. Green Acres will match every dollar donated. So far you have contributed \$78, which with our match will spay/neuter two animals. Let's see if we can double that by the end of the month.

Therapy Dog Tests Announced

Don will be conducting a TDI therapy dog test at Green Acres on Saturday May 29th and in Wells, ME on Saturday, June 5th. Details are available at: <http://bit.ly/9m7xZ5>

Tune in to The Woof Meow Show

Sunday evening at 8:30PM on WVOM 103.9FM and WVQM 101.3FM.

16MAY10 - How Can My Dog Become a Therapy Dog?

23MAY10 - Listener Questions Show #5

30MAY10 - ENCORE: Housetraining (original air date 24JAN10)

6JUN10 - Pet Food Myths #1

13JUN10 - Pet Food Myths #2

You can listen to many previous episodes of *The Woof Meow Show* online or can download them to your iPod or mp3 player. A full listing of previous shows can be found at: <http://bit.ly/aoXzsI>

Election Time for *Best of Surveys*

Once again it's time to vote for the **Best Kennel** and **Best Pet Store** in the Bangor region and if you believe we are deserving we would greatly appreciate your vote. Votes may be cast at: <http://www.bestofsurveys.com/vote-town.html>.