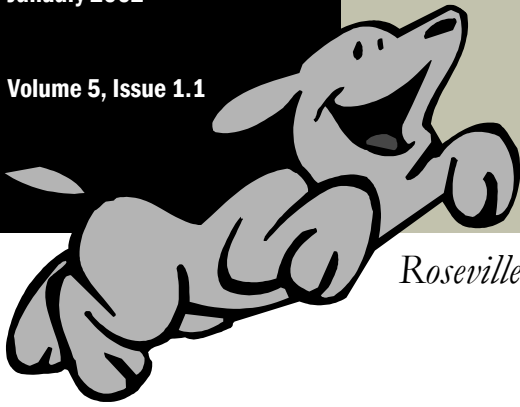


January 2002

Volume 5, Issue 1.1



The Scoop

Roseville Dog Owners' Group

Did You Know . . .

- RDOG meets the first Tuesday of each month at the Christian Life Center in Roseville. See page 8.
- The January meeting will be on Wednesday, January 2, 2002, at 7:00 pm. This was rescheduled due to the New Years' holiday.
- RDOG's new web site went online in December. Visit us at www.rosevilledog.org

Military Pets Find Safety Net

Groups offer foster homes to animals owned by service members who are called off to duty.

By Blair Anthony Robertson
Sacramento Bee Staff Writer

As military personnel continue to be called into service for the war on terrorism, they are often left to make frantic, last minute arrangements for their pets.

But some animal rescue groups that usually focus on stray and abandoned animals are doing their patriotic duty by offering foster and pen pal programs for military pet owners.

Recently, Jody Jones of Homeward Bound Golden Retriever Rescue and Sanctuary heard about an Air Force reservist who was worried about leaving her dog behind if she joined the war effort overseas.

"It caught me totally off guard," said Jones, whose Sacramento-based organization has saved and adopted out hundreds of dogs.

Homeward Bound says it will temporarily place a dog owned by military personnel in a similar home free of charge. There will also be a "pen pal" service that will allow the owner to keep track of his or her pet while overseas.



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New Officers, New Directions for RDOG in 2002

With a new slate of officers and new enthusiasm, RDOG is gearing up for 2002.

The December meeting was dedicated to electing officers and discussing goals and objectives for the group in the upcoming year. One of the main goals for the year is working with the City of Roseville to make improvements to the Marco Dog Park.

RDOG was instrumental in working with the City to create Marco Dog Park in 1996. The group continues to provide poop bags to park users free

of charge, as well as raising funds for park amenities such as benches and trees. RDOG's Park Improvement Committee presented a plan at the November meeting to add four additional benches, two additional garbage cans, numerous additional shade trees, and to replenish the crushed granite areas. The committee hopes to fund these improvements with a combination of RDOG funds, money raised from local sponsors, and funds from the City.

There are additional dog parks on the horizon for
(Continued on page 2)

New Officers...

(Continued from page 1)

West Roseville and Antelope. RDOG wishes to become involved in the planning process for these new parks as well.

The group also decided to lower the annual membership dues from \$25.00 to \$15.00. Our primary monthly expense, the poop bags at Marco Dog Park, has dropped considerably now that a new source for the bags has been found. The hope is that the lower dues will also help attract more new members to the group.

The Christian Life Center in Roseville has graciously agreed to let RDOG use their facility for our monthly meetings. Now that a permanent,

public meeting place has been secured, the group is hoping that more members will attend the monthly meetings. Guest speakers will present topics of interest at upcoming meetings.

The new RDOG web site has gone live at www.rosevilledog.org. The site will contain information of interest to RDOG members as well as a general-purpose reference to dog and pet resources in the area.

The officers for 2002 are: Donna Treibel, President; Lyn Billings, Vice President; Chris Dunlap, Recording Secretary; Debbie Lean, Corresponding Secretary; Patty Diehl, Treasurer, and Pamela Dallas and Vickey Meyer, Parliamentarians.

The Scoop

The Scoop is the official newsletter of the Roseville Dog Owners' Group (RDOG), P.O. Box 1216, Roseville, California 95678. The newsletter is published bi-monthly and is included free of charge in the membership dues.

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RDOG Officers for 2002

President	Donna Treibel
Vice President	Lyn Billings
Recording Secretary	Chris Dunlap
Corresponding Secretary	Debbie Lean
Treasurer	Patty Diehl
Parliamentarians	Pamela Dallas Vickey Meyer
Newsletter Editor and Webmaster	Josh Jacoby



Please Support Our Business Members!

RDOG's business members support us with their financial contributions — please support them whenever possible. Thank you from RDOG!

- Classic Kennels**
- Loomis Basin Veterinary Clinic**
- Willow Rock Pet Hospital**
- Roseville Veterinary Hospital**

Military Pets...

(Continued from page 1)

The Air Force reservist, who is a logistics specialist, says she will take advantage of the program if she is placed on active duty. The woman, who trains out of Travis Air Force Base, did not want her name disclosed.

"I was very worried. There's really no one here I would really trust," said the woman, owner of a 6-year-old Irish setter named Brandy. "I'm very protective of her. I definitely would feel a lot better knowing she is being properly cared for."

A foster home has already been selected for the reservist.

While local animal shelters say they have not noticed an impact caused by the departure of area military personnel, the war is expected to have an effect on shelters closest to military bases.

Mike Winters, executive director of the Sacramento Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, says the local SPCA traces its growth to animals left behind during World War II, when military men by the hundreds headed overseas. The group's first kennel master, Brayton "Marty" Martenstein, took in about 200 dogs and cats before his Carmichael neighbors urged him to locate them in a proper animal shelter.

Martenstein moved to the Sacramento SPCA's original location on Front Street next to the city animal shelter, Winters said. Martenstein died in 1985 at 92.

Winters says his shelter has not been flooded with military pets, but he expects any foster pro-

grams will help clear much-needed cage space.

"Absolutely I think I would help," Winters said. "We would use them as a resource to keep animals out of the shelter environment."

Mary Di Blasé, who has run Pets for Disabled Americans for several years in Southern California, realized there would be a need for pet foster programs as soon as the United States launched the war on terrorism. She recently heard of a military man who had to take his dog to an animal shelter because he could find no other options.

"I know what it did to the Vietnam vets," she said. "They came back and they had nothing. Many of them lost their wives, their homes, everything. This is not that war, but I know how important it is to come home to a pet."

Jones of Homeward Bound and Di Blasé say they are trying to raise money to support their programs so the military personnel won't have to pay for any of the pet care while they are gone.

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Homeward Bound Golden Retriever Rescue
(916) 487-0666. www.homewardboundgoldens.org

Sacramento Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (SPCA) (916) 383-7387. www.sspca.org

"I was very worried. There's really no one here I would really trust. I definitely would feel a lot better knowing she is being properly cared for."

Marco Dog Park Closes for the Season

The Marco Dog Park closed for the winter on December 1, 2001, much to the dismay of the local canine population.

The park is located in a four-acre flood control reservoir. During the dry summer months, this reservoir remains dry and usable, however as the rainy season approaches, the park tends to become extremely muddy and unusable. With the short days and wet weather in November, the

park was a wet muddy mess for several weeks prior to the official closure.

Last winter the park never officially closed, owing to the light rainfall and generally nice winter weather. The park should reopen sometime in the March-April timeframe, once the ground has had an opportunity to dry out somewhat from the winter rains.





Ten Tips for Dealing with Problem Behavior

By **Suzanne Clothier**

Special Feature to The Scoop

At one time or another, every owner has to deal with problem behavior. Understanding why your dog does what he does, and how to handle the situation correctly can help resolve problems quickly.

Here are some basic guidelines that apply to nearly all problem situations:

Control the dog and you control the situation

By putting on a training collar and lead, you can control the dog. For many dogs, their training equipment means business, not playtime, and this can help in a problem situation. A dog who is on lead cannot run away or chase people or other animals, and his owner has a chance to help him understand what he should do by guiding him with the leash and collar.

Be positive

Instead of saying "NO", try giving your dog something positive that he can do for you, such as "Sit", or "Heel". This positive approach means you can praise generously for his good actions, instead of simply yelling at him. For example, a dog who jumps up can be told to sit, and helped if necessary, then praised for sitting.

Allow a dog to be a dog

Often, what owners consider problem behavior is simply normal dog behavior that they find unpleasant or annoying. For example, digging is a natural canine activity but distressing to a garden proud owner. Instead of scolding for what comes naturally, it might be kinder to set up an area in which you have buried small treats to make it more attractive than the rest of the yard, and praising your dog for digging in "his" garden.

Whenever natural behaviors conflict with what you might like, be creative and see if you can find an outlet for those interests and activities that is suitable for you both.

Be consistent

It is unfair to the dog to change your rules depending on what you're wearing, who's visiting or

the kind of day you've had. If your dog is allowed on the furniture, he will be confused when you yell at him because Aunt Bess is visiting and she doesn't think dogs should sit in chairs! If he's allowed to jump up when you're wearing jeans and a sweatshirt, don't be surprised if he can't tell the difference between that and your best evening gown. Whatever your rules are, keep them consistent.

Have your dog earn what he wants

While everyone needs a few freebies now and then, your dog will not think you are a wonderful owner if you play with him, walk him, feed him and pet him whenever he demands it. In fact, this often creates problems since from the dog's point of view an owner who can be "trained" this well is not one who deserves much respect. Teach your dog to say "please" by sitting, laying down or following some other command before he gets what he wants.

Be clear

Owners often confuse dogs by changing the words or commands, repeating them over and over again without showing the dog what is meant, and worst of all, assuming that the dog understands.

When in doubt, gently show your dog physically exactly what you mean, giving the command at the same time so that he can associate the two. Use clear, matter of fact commands when addressing your dog, and be sure that your praising tone is excited, enthusiastic and upbeat.

Remember that while we use words to communicate, dogs are masters of reading body language. If your body language tells the dog one thing, but your voice tells the dog something else, chances are he will believe your body language. This is why people who bend towards their dog and shake a finger at them while scolding "No, no, no" often receive a playful bark - their body posture is much more like a dog inviting play than a dog who is annoyed or angry.

Exercise, exercise, exercise!

The most common cause of problem behavior is

(Continued on page 5)

“Remember that while we use words to communicate, dogs are masters of reading body language.”

Ten Tips...

(Continued from page 4)

boredom and a lack of sufficient exercise. While you work or go out, your dog has little or nothing to do, and his need to exercise will not go away. A familiar yard or house is boring, and few dogs exercise on their own without interaction with their owners. Take the time to play with your dog, jog with him, walk in the woods, swim or take long brisk walks each day. A tired dog is always a well behaved dog!

Provide mental stimulation

Dr. Roger Abrante's suggestions regarding using one-third of your dog's diet for treats to be earned during training, one-third to be given as usual in a food bowl, and one-third to be "hunted" (try a Buster Cube, an ingenious new training aid which the dog must persistently work with to receive a few kibble at a time. Even a border collie will be amused by this for hours! Buster Cubes are available from Legacy by Mail - troydog@maui.net, or from your local pet store.) This "home alone" 1/3-1/3-1/3 program helps your dog expend some energy and provides much needed stimulation.

Understand your dog's genetic heritage

Whether you own a Doberman or a Beagle, a Samoyed or a Westie, it is important to under-

stand what your dog was bred to do. Owners often forget that the behavior that prompts a dog to run or stay close, hunt or guard, chase and kill or herd, work with people or work independently are all the result of generations of carefully selected traits. Research your breed's history, and talk to people who understand your breed's characteristics. You may find that Rover's tendencies, while annoying or amusing, are precisely what makes him what he is. You can then decide how best to work with your dog's instincts and where you need to concentrate training efforts.

Train your dog

Every dog should have basic manners, but dogs are not born knowing how to behave. Take the time to train your dog on a consistent basis using kind, positive methods. Find a class near you whose methods and philosophies you like. If faced with a behavior problem you can't solve, ask people you trust for a recommendation of an experienced trainer and get professional help fast. The sooner you begin working on a problem the sooner you will have it solved.

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New RDOG Web Site Goes Live

The Roseville Dog Owners' Group has a new presence on the Internet at www.rosevilledog.org.

The web site was developed by Josh Jacoby, who holds the dual title of newsletter editor and webmaster. Josh volunteered for the two positions at the November meeting.

In addition to spreading the word about our organization, another goal is to provide a resource for dog owners in the area. Where are the best places to have fun with your dog? Who in the area provides grooming and boarding? How about dog licenses — how do I get one? We will also have links to popular dog-related web sites.

Of course, doggie birthdays are a prominent feature on the home page.

Some parts of the site are not yet entirely functional, but will be over the next few weeks.

We also intend to get some of the RDOG historical information on-line, including meeting minutes and newsletters.

Come visit the site today at www.rosevilledog.org.

If anyone has suggestions for web site content, please don't hesitate to email them to webmaster@rosevilledog.org.



Winter Care Tips for Canines

By Pamela Dallas
RDOG Parliamentarian

Responsible dog owners know those winter winds and cold temperatures create special needs and dangers for our canine friends. Here are a few tips to keep them healthy and happy during this festive time of year.

Your dog's bed or crate should be kept in a warm, draft-free area, preferably slightly elevated off the floor. Extra blankets or bedding will make your pets sleeping area cozy and warm. Tiled and uncarpeted areas may become extremely cold so place blankets, rugs or pads in these areas.

Wind chill makes days colder than actual temperature readings. Be attentive to your dogs body temperature and limit time outdoors. Remove ice and snow from your dog's paws and coat at once. Towel or blow-dry your dog if he gets wet from rain or snow. It is important to dry and clean his paws after an outing. This helps avoid tiny cuts and cracked pads. If your dog should get frostbite treat it promptly. Thaw out frostbitten areas slowly by applying warm, moist towels that are changed frequently. Continue until affected areas become flush. Contact your veterinarian as soon as possible.

It takes more energy in the winter to keep body temperature regulated. Staying warm requires extra calories, especially for a dog that spends a

lot of time outdoors or is a working animal so feed your dog accordingly. Also, always provide plenty of clean, fresh water. Dogs can dehydrate just as easily in the winter as any other time of the year. Snow is not a substitute for water.

Be careful with supplemental heat sources. Fireplaces, wood burning stoves and portable heaters can severely burn your dog.

Winter can bring special dangers to your dog. This is a time when many people use anti-freeze and it often collects in driveways and roadways. Be extra careful while walking your dog, even a small amount can be fatal to your pet. In your own home, thoroughly clean up spills at once and keep containers tightly sealed. Unfortunately, anti-freeze smells and tastes good to pets. This is also the time of year for parties and visits from family and friends. Be aware that alcohol and chocolate are toxic to dogs. Bones, fatty foods and sweets can be harmful. Keep your dog on his regular diet and ask guests not to give out too many "special treats". Many of the extra plants we bring into our homes in the winter are poisonous to our pets. Keep Holly, Mistletoe, Poinsettias and other toxic plants away from you dog.

With extra precautions and awareness you and your dog can enjoy a healthy, happy winter full of fun activities and special events.

"Keep your dog on his regular diet and ask guests not to give out too many 'special treats.'"

Meet Steve Forsty, Local Dog Trainer, at the February Meeting

Steve Forsty, of Custom Dog Training in Roseville will be our featured speaker at our February meeting.

Steve is the owner, operator, and a full-time instructor at Custom Dog Training. He has been involved in the pet industry since 1975 and has been training dogs professionally for 20 years.

Custom Dog Training was started in 1982, originally in Carmichael. The studio moved to Roseville in 1988, and offers classes and private lessons on a full-time basis. The studio is located at 801 Riverside Avenue, Suite Y, in Roseville.

Steve, who has been in the pet industry for 26 years, will be discussing how to "read" your dog, among other things. It promises to be an educational evening for everyone.



Happy Birthday!

January

Candy Callaghan, Jan. 1
 Domino Stalenger, Jan. 1
 Zachary Harrington, Jan. 2
 Lucky Treibel, Jan. 4
 Yuba Pinnick, Jan. 5
 Ginger Mauk, Jan. 5
 Abbie Callaghan, Jan. 10
 Franklin Hodge, Jan. 11
 Zak Clark, Jan. 18
 Little Bear Haviland, Jan. 22
 Nipper Meyer, Jan. 25
 Kobe Lean, Jan. 26

February

Jessie Cobb, Feb. 1
 Nick Daneau, Feb. 1
 Dudley Hale, Feb. 1
 Keaton Stevens, Feb. 1
 Cassie Wagner, Feb. 1
 Lessa Willebrand, Feb. 2
 Andy Price, Feb. 10
 Ginger Prager, Feb. 12
 Sydney Medley, Feb. 15
 Indy Silvius, Feb. 27

Is your dog's birthday missing? Call (916) 774-2854 or email birthdays@rosevilledog.org to add his or her name to the list.



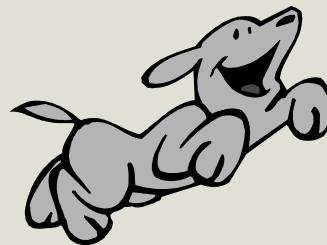
Upcoming Outings with Your Pooch

January	Muir Beach Marin County
February	Dog Show at Cow Palace Daly City
March	Snow Trip Location TBD
April	Overnight Wine Tasting* Location TBD
May	Point Pinole* Richmond
June	Point Isabel Richmond

* = tentatively planned

We're always on the hunt for fun, dog-friendly places, and the RDOG trip agenda for 2002 is packed with great spots. We have not yet finalized the dates, but please check our web site for up to the minute information on these fun outings!

www.rosevilledog.org



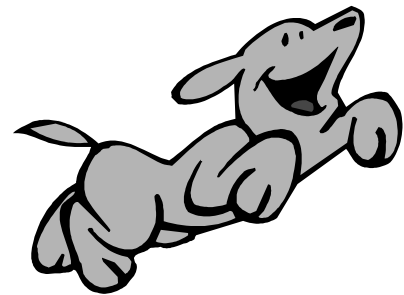
Roseville Dog Owners' Group

P.O. Box 1216
Roseville, CA 95678

(916) 774-2854
info@rosevilledog.org

Promoting Responsible Dog Ownership

WE'RE ON THE WEB!
WWW.ROSEVILLEDOG.ORG



RDOG Meeting Information

The Roseville Dog Owners' Group (RDOG) meets monthly on the first Tuesday of each month, starting at 7:00 pm. We are pleased to announce our new permanent meeting place:

The Christian Life Center
119 Fern Avenue
Roseville

If you are coming from Cirby on Riverside (heading towards Douglas) the street after Darling is Fern. Take a right turn and the next street is Clinton. The church is on the corner.

Meeting Schedule

Wednesday, January 2, 2002, 7:00 pm
(note: this meeting has been rescheduled due to the New Years' holiday)

Tuesday, February 5, 2002, 7:00 pm

Tuesday, March 5, 2002, 7:00 pm

Tuesday, April 2, 2002, 7:00 pm

Tuesday, May 7, 2002, 7:00 pm

