

Dog Talk

The official *unofficial* newsletter for FEMA dog handlers

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From the Editor...what is a bark?

I got an email from Gail McCarthy asking for a copy of my description of a “bark” that I had published in a Dogtalk some time back. Well, “some time back” it was – I had to go back to May 2004 to find this one.

WHAT IS A BARK??

Webster defines “bark” as:

1. The harsh abrupt sound made by a dog.
2. a sound, as a cough, that is similar to a bark

To speak sharply, to utter a loud harsh voice

To me, this is definitely different than:

Whine – to protest or complain in a childish annoying fashion

Whimper – to cry or sob in soft intermittent sounds

Howl – to emit or utter a long, mournful, plaintive sound

Squeak – to utter or make a brief thin, shrill cry or sound

Squeal – to utter or produce a loud, shrill cry or sound



The DSCREP states ‘Due to the varied and stressful demands of a disaster search, an enthusiastic and OBVIOUS bark alert is imperative.

I believe the word OBVIOUS, is well, obvious!

Yes folks – the annoying neighbor dog tied up to his doghouse is BARKING.

We use the acronym FBILHS.. not FWILHS, FHILHS or FSILHS.

So, to bark, or not to bark.. that is the question. And you as evaluators must be able to make the appropriate call.

*The collar released, the dog ran away
Headed straight to the barrel, he soon would get to play.
But out of his mouth, there came no big bark
Instead just a whine – then he went to mark.*

Hydrocarbon Ingestion and Inhalation

Extract from paper by Lori Gordon

Treatment can be based on signs and symptoms and lab work. However you can treat them regardless if they got a little or a lot because oftentimes you just don't know! It is of little value knowing what amount will cause a problem without actually seeing how much they inhale or ingest, so we treat what we see and take precautionary measures of treatment (see below) if ingested or inhaled.

Never hurts to have extra shampoo. Predictions on hurricane season activity are not always accurate, so plan for the worst!

E. PETROLEUM DISTILLATE HYDROCARBONS

Sources:

These organic compounds, made up entirely of hydrogen and carbon, are derived from petroleum distillates. They include kerosene, gasoline, mineral spirits, diesel and fuel oil.

Mechanism of Action:

These have direct irritation effects to skin, eyes, and MM, sensitize the myocardium to catecholamines, and when aspirated potentially cause fulminant and fatal pneumonitis. Hepatic, renal, and CNS injury may also occur.

Clinical Signs

Inhalation

Conjunctivitis
Nausea, vomiting
Diarrhea
Depression
Tachypnea
Cyanosis
Hemoptysis
Confusion
Pulmonary edema
Hypotension, weak pulses
Convulsions
Collapse

Ingestion

Fixed pupils
Nausea, vomiting
Diarrhea (+/- bloody)
Depression
Abdominal pain
Ataxia
Dizziness
Incoordination
Coma, death

Topical

Conjunctivitis
Erythema
Dermatitis
Hypotension (long exposure)

Treatments:

Dermal

1. Wash with liquid detergent & warm water, clip hair that won't clean well
2. Avoid inducing hypothermia
3. Topical dermal agents

Ingestion

1. **Do not** induce emesis
2. Gastric lavage if ingestion within 1-2 hours, but caution! risk of aspiration
3. Activated charcoal only if no aspiration risk, benefit debated
4. Saline or sorbitol cathartic (no magnesium, which worsens CNS signs)

Inhalation

1. Remove source or relocate patient to well ventilated area
2. Secure airway, ventilate if needed, 100% oxygen
3. IV access, collect blood to monitor values
4. Seizure control (diazepam, midazolam, phenobarbital, pentobarbital, propofol)
5. Bronchodilators for bronchospasm (albuterol, terbutaline, aminophylline, theophylline)
6. Diuretics for pulmonary edema (furosemide, dopamine)



Working Dogs For the Next Century

By Scott Thomas

Not many would doubt the value of the dog to mankind. As we move in to uncertain times we find ourselves looking to modern technology to keep us safe, yet we continue to find more useful roles for "Man's Best Friend". In March of 2010, the Penn Vet Working Dog Center hosted a conference in Philadelphia to address and discuss how to advance the use of working canines. The conference organizer's goals were clear; to bring together, scientists, academics, and practitioners that would confer on the advances achieved and to discuss the possibilities that the future may offer in improving our canine partners. This conference entitled "Selecting working dogs for the next century, Scientific advances and Man's Best Friend", met or exceeded all of it's intended goals.

The challenges of hosting such an event are myriad. This conference was borne out of discussions held in Ieper, Belgium, the host site for 2009's International Working Dog Breeding Association's biennial conference. The IWDBA's conferences have been so well attended and have grown so diverse, that it has been growing increasingly difficult to network and keep the conversations active during the lapses between conferences. It was felt that a smaller conference held in the interim years would foster the continued exchange of ideas between academics, scientists, and canine practitioners. The Penn Vet Working Dog Center conference from concept to event was accomplished in just over 6 months. That amazing effort was directly attributable to Cynthia Otto, DVM PhD and her extraordinary staff.

The task of trying to satisfy attendees from a variety of backgrounds and disciplines was met with a diversity of speakers, and open forum for discussion, and an environment of warm hospitality. The opening speaker, David Kontny, shared with the attendees his thirty year career working with dogs with both the United States Air Force and the Department of Homeland Security. He challenged the audience to look forward with vision and to continue the exchanges nurtured at conferences like this one. Speakers presented on a wide range of subjects and topics from sled dogs genetics to working dog fitness. Many of the speakers were some of the most sought after speakers based on their canine expertise. Gail Smith VMD, PhD and James Serpell, PhD represented the University of Pennsylvania, Edward Morrison DVM and Robert Gillette DVM, MS represented Auburn University, Eldin Leighton PhD from The Seeing Eye and president of the International Working Dog Breeding Association, and Catherine Andre' from Rennes University, France were are just a small example of the of the caliber of speakers at this conference. These individuals not only presented pertinent information but were also very active in the many discussions that took place at this event. Other topics covered between March 12th and March 15th were canine olfaction, search and rescue dog selection, managing canine genetics, the impact of epigenetics, and some new ideas in canine nutrition. Short presentations were given at the end of each day under the section for Highlights From the Field. These fifteen minute presentations were power packed and their concepts were discussed passed the lecture time and well into the dinner hour. A delicious buffet was ready directly outside the lecture hall at the end of each days conference, where the conversation continued for hours beyond the days scheduled presentations.

If your desire is to take your canine, canine teams, or your program to the next level events like these will inspire you. Information is not only available in the form of formal presentations, but in the networking and the informal conversations that take place during breaks, on the bus, in the elevator, the hotel lobby, and even at the doughnut shop. You will not only reinforce existing relationships and partnerships, but you will make new contacts that will help you meet your goals. Everyone can be their own self appointed experts in the comfort found from the familiarity of your own program, but improvement comes through critical discussions and through gaining perspective outside of your comfort zone. A conference like Penn Vet Working Dog Center's conference allows you to leave your comfort zone in the company of other like minded individuals and will definitely improve your knowledge and understanding of the capabilities of Man's Best Friend.

Conference Podcast Available: www.PennVetWDC.org

Working Dog Tribute Slide Show: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2bYcYXHOADI>



Upcoming Conferences

Penn Vet Working Dog Conference (www.PennVetWDC.org) "Defining, developing and documenting success in working dogs" September 7-9, 2011 Pallasades NY held in conjunction with "Finding One Another": the 10th Anniversary Tribute to the Search & Rescue Community of 9/11

International Working Dog Breeding Association (www.iwdba.org) October 2011, Johannesburg South Africa

Participate in our bloat survey

Gastric dilatation and volvulus (often called "Bloat") is a potentially life-threatening condition. The literature points in many directions which has not brought dog owners any closer to a solution. For these reasons we have developed a new survey that focuses on some of the factors that might contribute to its occurrence.

We need owners who have had a dog that bloated and/or a dog that did not bloat. This survey is the joint effort of Dr. Carmen Battaglia PhD of the AKC and Dr. Cindy Otto DVM, University of Penn, Vet School.

Our goal is to look at conditions that are relevant to the further study of this disease. Your contribution is appreciated. A summary of the results and findings will be posted on the website www.breedingbetterdogs.com in November 2010.

Click here to complete the survey: <http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/WS2VKFP>

Share your stories from 9/11

In partnership with StoryCorps, the National September 11 Memorial & Museum is pleased to host opportunities in the New York area for victims' family members, first responders, volunteers, survivors, and witnesses of the 9/11 attacks to share their stories with the Memorial Museum. Dedicated September 11th Initiative recording days are held at the Foley Square StoryBooth and at our 9/11 Memorial Preview Site.

These stories will play a vital role in the Museum's exhibitions and programming, enabling us to present authentic accounts of 9/11 and its aftermath.

Click [here](#) to listen to StoryCorps excerpts.

StoryCorps is a national oral history initiative that conducts 40-minute interviews in a conversational format, typically between two people who know one another. Participants engaging in these remembrance interviews can be anyone who would like to share a 9/11 story.

You can learn more about our partnership with StoryCorps and ways to participate here.

To schedule an interview, call 212.312.8800 or email collections@sept11mm.org.



WWW links....

Good article on Hip Dysplasia

<http://research.vet.upenn.edu/Portals/29/PDFdocs/Jemima%20Harrison%20Feb%202010.pdf>

New website for NZ USAR Dogs

www.usardogs.org.nz



*Great use of
showers at the NV
test- for both dogs
and handlers!*



☆☆☆☆ Kudos to.....☆☆☆☆

DOGTALK is pleased to announce that the following Canine Search Teams have recently gained certification (or re-certification) as FEMA US&R Canine Search Specialists:

☆☆ Las Vegas, NV – April 2010

Handler	Canine	Task Force
John Bernstein	Jack	NV-TF1
Linda D'Orsi	Cody	CA-TF8
John Dean	Dually	AZ-TF1
Don Peyton	Shelby	AZ-TF1
Luke Koetitz	Zoe	UT-TF1
Karen Minchow	Zeteo	UT-TF1
Sonja Heritage	Asta	VA-TF1
Hilda Wood	Mako	FL-TF1
Jim Houck	Pierce	CO-TF1
Ellen Scheffler	Guy	CO-TF1
Benn Kayne	Belle Star	CO-TF1
Deborah Burnett	Hunter	TN-TF1
Kari McLean	Lab	TN-TF1
Lauren Tague	Buster	TN-TF1
Wade Haller	Rex	CA-TF5
AJ Frank	Zara	WA-TF1
Vickie Spears	Boogie	TX-TF1
Shelley Swedlaw	Scout	TX-TF1
Carla Collins	Scrappy	TX-TF1
Liz Baumgartner	Blitz	NM-TF1
Deanne Tuggie	Kai	CA-TF5



☆ Littleton, MA - May 2010

Handler	Canine	Task Force
Teresa MacPherson	Georgia	VA-TF1
Jennifer Massey	Atticus	VA-TF1
Elidora Chamberlain	Katy	MO-TF1
Melody Greba	Army	IN-TF1
Cathy Schiltz	Jac	MO-TF1
Mark Dawson	Hero	MA-TF1
Brian Smithey	Powder	FL-TF2
Shelia Mckee	Bliss	CA-TF6
Jill Haynes	Chance	CA-TF6
Theresa Caywood	Phedra	MA-TF1
Eric Gray	Riley	CA-TF2
Dallas Fletcher	Pryse	NE-TF2
Connie Jackson Armbruster	Eno	OH-TF1
Tom Moorcroft	Rascal	MA-TF1
Kay Rice	Jazz	OH-TF1
Mark Hopkins	O.D	MD-TF1
Norman Charbonneau	Owen	MA-TF1
Jane Servais	Embers	MD-TF1
Deborah Burnett	Keno	TN-TF1
Jonathan Talin	PeeWee	MA-TF1
Chris Burr	BlackJack	NV-TF1
Roger Burns	Chipotle	VA-TF2



★ Collierville, TN – June 2010

Handler	Canine	Task Force
Victoria Ledwell	Fonzie	MD-TF1
Ethan Gladney	Chip	TN-TF1
Scott Mateyaschuk	Aragon	NY-TF1
Robert Macaulay	Helios	CA-TF3
Heather Wilkerson	Anika	TN-TF1
Gary Hay	Wiley	IN-TF1
Scott Hofstetter	Hank	NE-TF1
Tim Steckler	Moose	AZ-TF1
Matthew Kirk	Stella	CA-TF8
Brent Brainard	Fletch	CA-TF8
Susan Bonney	Luau	WA-TF1
Teresa McPherson	Banks	VA-TF1



In memory of...Polly

January 13, 1995 - June 2, 2010
Newburgh, Indiana

It is with great sadness that we announce the loss of Polly, Marti Vanada's beloved half Border, half Golden (Coltriever) SAR dog.

She had a special start in life that may have helped prepare her for her life's calling. When she was just two weeks old, her mom developed an infection, so the puppies were fed formula, to which, it turned out, she was allergic. So, she was separated from the litter and nursed back to health. The owners did not intend for Polly to go to just any home, only a very special one. Little did anyone know at that time what a terrific search and rescue dog she would become, but Marti saw Polly's potential and her heart and dreamed of what lay ahead.

Polly was an exceptional dog in so many ways. For most of her life, she was FEMA Type I, training locally and with IN-TF. She was a quick learner, with a keen intellect and a strong work ethic. She was friendly and outgoing. She had the ideal temperament for her life's work with the right mix of love, devotion, diligence, playfulness and determination. For those who observed her training, she was a role model, working tirelessly with her handler and beloved owner, Marti. She was focused and intense when working and laid back and cool when she was not. Marti had a command, "Go be a Golden," and she'd go lie down.



Polly's life was multi-faceted. She was devoted to her person, staying close by Marti's side through thick and thin. She was bright and eager to learn, from basic obedience to agility to the most difficult and demanding search techniques. She trained diligently and served willingly. She was relied upon for her expert alerts in water, wilderness, and disaster searches. She was at the top of her class, being certified FEMA Type I at the age of three, re-certifying biannually as required, including after double ACL surgeries. (Following her ACL surgeries, Polly actually re-certified Type II and Type I in one weekend!)

Polly and Marti were deployed to New York City on 9/11 where she was called upon to serve in the most horrific conditions. She searched for victims and comforted anguished firefighters who'd bury their face in her fur. Because she so loved playing with her frisbee, she was known as the "frisbee dog." She was even featured in two books: [What Dogs Teach Us](#) and [Dog Heroes of September 11](#). Throughout her life, Polly and Marti gave numerous talks and demonstrations about search and rescue; at each, Polly was the center of attention.

Polly loved life and all those she encountered. Whether it was playing frisbee for reward and relaxation, or visiting each person on the bus or in a room in her friendly, tail-wagging way, Polly touched many lives. She had such heart. She will be deeply missed.

In tribute from Polly's biggest fan and Marti's sister,
Laura Lazet



Even Dogs Do IT...



Please forward any news, scheduled events, letters to the editor, or other info you want disseminated via **DOGTALK**, the underground canine newsletter to Anne McCurdy: amccurdy@clarian.org

