

As temperatures sizzle, remember that your dog is wearing a fur coat and can overheat even on a short run.

If your dog becomes overheated, **cool down slowly** with wet towels draped across back and held to ears and chest.

Summer Skill Building Workshop

Morning practice of scooter, sulky and bikejor skills was followed by the introduction of the urban musher steeplechase course. This course was designed for a fun event but also to introduce a novice scooterer to some of the challenges one might encounter on a day's adventure on a city bike trail or a country road. I think that the educational outreach program of K9 might include a course similar to this, which could help instruct and build confidence in dog and driver.

We enjoyed a delightful lunch by anne's catering and then settled in for an afternoon seminar given by Dr. Rhonda Snyder of Mountain View Veterinary Hospital, Lacey, WA on First Aid for the Urban Musher. Thank you so much for this, Dr. Snyder!

The most important thing is to watch your dog. If it is off it's food, take it to the vet. Too often, we attribute 'odd' behavior to psychological problems in the dog. Eliminate the physiological first. Below you will find a list of things to carry in your canine first aid kit. Prepare one of these for your car and scooter. That way you will be ready.

Rhonda spoke of the need to be prepared for an emergency. Know your own vet's emergency protocols; know the location of the nearest Critical Care vet; their payment protocols, hours, directions to get there. Have a list of the medications your pet uses, including vitamin supplements, so that you will not have to rely on your memory when in a stressful situation.

One of the most important things that Rhonda emphasized was to muzzle a dog under trauma. The dog is scared and/or hurt. Expect it to bite. She said that 1/3 of her owners who bring in their dogs for emergency treatment are sent to the hospital for treatment for bite wounds. Don't let this happen to you. Muzzle your dog and protect it and yourself.

Summer Skill Building Workshop cont.

Know your dog's resting temperature.

Check its heart rate (front left leg, where the elbow meets the chest), pulse rate (inside rear right thigh). In an unconscious dog use the tongue to check for a heartbeat or pulse. In a healthy dog, the pulse rate and the heart rate should be close. If not, or if below 60, take to the vet.

Cardiac arrest in the canine is most often fatal, unless caused by two things: 1) choking, 2) anesthesia.

If the dog is not breathing, but the heart is beating, practice the ABC.

Clear the Airway by sweeping your finger through the mouth.

Do not poke as you might push something further down the throat, unless it is a large object, like a ball, which you can remove.

Lay the dog on its right side, stretch the head out, and straighten the neck.

Put as much of your mouth as you can over the muzzle and puff... count to 15...puff.... Watch to see that the chest is rising.

Making sure that you take deep breaths between puffs insures that you do not hyperventilate, thus pushing Co2 into the lungs.

CPR in a dog takes much pressure and requires rapid compressions side to side.

Another thing to watch is gum color. Pale and/or sticky gums can indicate dehydration and shock.

Know what is normal in your dog. That is the best suggestion. Then, you will know when there is something unusual that needs vet care, and you will be able to tell your vet what is normal for your pet.

Scooting puts the dog under stress. Be aware of this and be prepared with water, first aid and attentiveness to the dog.

Becky Loveless' seminar on Canine Massage will be rescheduled.

Introducing:



Red Barn's King Caedmon: Canine Good Citizen!!

After months of hard work and training, Caedmon and I went up to Burien, Washington on Monday, July 9th and tried our hand (or paws) at the Canine Good Citizen test sponsored by the American Kennel Club. After the training and other difficulties I had with my former dog, Jake, it is important to me that Caedmon be a good citizen in public, especially as we work towards service dog training.

The test consisted of 10 parts:

- accepting a friendly stranger,
- sitting politely for petting,
- appearance and grooming,
- out for a walk on loose lead,
- walking through a crowd,
- sit and down on command and stay in place,
- coming when called,
- reaction to another dog,
- reaction to distraction, and
- supervised separation.

Caedmon passed all sections with flying colors, although he got a little distracted on the recall. He eventually made it to me and didn't wander off to the evaluator, so he was passed on that section. The evaluators absolutely fell in love with him during the 3 minutes they had him for separation test. He really wowed them with his focus on me. Check out http://www.akc.org/events/cgc/training_testing.cfm for more details on this test and what your dog needs to be able to do in order to pass.

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Dogs Loving to Run



August 11, 2007

Snoqualie Tunnel Run

Make a campsite reservation EARLY at Lake Easton State Park for that weekend (around site 53 if you want to camp with the group). The run will be on Saturday. NWSDA will have their August meeting at the campground that evening. Mike and Doreen Johnson will do a sled dog demonstration that day also at the Campground.

Last weekend in September

Carole and Jeff Parsons malamute77@aol.com will be hosting a campout scooter/rig fun get together at Goose Creek Campground, Forest Rd 62 off of Highway 207, which is off of Highway 2. 62 goes past Fish Lake. Potluck on Saturday night.

First weekend in October

Canada here we come. The 2nd Annual Pinewood Fun Run. Camp and run the dogs out of the campground. Much fun is guaranteed. Becky alpinehsky@aol.com

October will be the NWSDA races.

November is time for the Spokane Dirt Rondo

December-Here come the Dogs Across America

K9 is planning a swap and shop in conjunction with one of the NWSDA events in the fall. Get your old gear ready to trade for other musher's old gear. You know, you need more stuff.

Lineout welcomes feedback, questions, tips, letters to the editor, questions about trails and equipment, and any other information you would like to share with people who scooter/bikejor with dogs. Address your communication to Lineout at barnstormer@fairpoint.net.

President's Message.....

Hello Scooterers,

Lynne Angeloro, Donna Morton and I drove together to Reno to a Dry Land Mushers' convention hosted by Fourteen Angels Foundation. ISDRA (International Sled Dog Racing Association) was there. Its board held its annual meeting and participated in the panel discussions and events. Lance Mackey, winner of the Yukon Quest and the Iditarod, was there with his wife.

The focus of the convention was Dry land mushing. People were saying that mini kennels such as those of scooterers were the future of the sport. They were saying that at snow races the larger team races had decreasing numbers of participants and that smaller team races had increasing numbers. They also said that many races had to be canceled due to lack of snow. Cancelled races means less income to ISDRA. Times are tough and times are changing. Eileen Burke Trent spoke of the difficulty her Sierra Nevada Dog Drivers Club has had financially with the lack of snow.

So she made me, Donna, and Lynne very welcome. She honored our stand for scootering. I was touched.

ISDRA is interested to be the sponsoring club for the Scooter Title. The Title committee of Daphne, Lynne and Jane Burkey has it prepared. We had sent it to ISDRA before the convention. They asked us to write a financial proposal for their board to look over. I told Dave Steele, executive director, that we would get the proposal to him in early August. You can read the scooter title on the web site.

Donna, Lynne and I had dinner with Lance Mackey at his table. I found him charming. When he was on the closing panel, he was asked what he thought would increase our sport. He had not realized he was to be on this panel and spoke without preparation. He said he thought there needs to be dry land events (races) inside where spectators can sit and watch and cheer. He also said that as much as possible starts ought to be mass starts as these are exciting for spectators. For me these ideas were big Ahas!

Lynne and I drove back together. (Donna flew back as she had to work Monday morning) We started thinking how great it would be to have races on indoor tracks or at greyhound tracks or even at Emerald Downs between horse races (field too soft for wheels?). We thought of racing sulkies, racing trikes and racing scooterers.

I have pages of notes and will spare you the rehash of them all but I can tell you that I am excited by the future of scootering and dry land dog mushing.

The next big thing on our to-do list is to get Dogs Across America planned and publicized. I look forward to working on that.

I am now the crash queen. I thought Donna was the crash queen but for the moment, I am. I am sitting here typing with bruises on legs and elbows and a shin that is so sore that I am aware of it most of the time - and it has been a week... While bikejoring my upper shin tried to push a rock into the ground. Did not work. And the week before that I crashed my sulky into a fence. Bent it! (Stupid steering on my part, especially given that rabbits were about.)

Give thanks that our summers include cool mornings and alligator free ponds as well as shady trails.

We will have a great schedule this fall both for races and for fun runs.

Your prez, Daphne

My K-9 Massage Protocol

by Becky Loveless 7-2007



I am not a professional dog massage therapist or Certified Therapeutic Touch practitioner. This is not a lesson in deep tissue massage or chiropractic treatment; that is for serious injury and a skilled provider. This is my simple guide to help you detect and resolve early injury and get in-tune with your dog's body and mind.

Why do it?

To increase blood flow to muscles and release tension;
Detect large and subtle changes to your dog's body;
Provide stress relief for you and your dog.

When to do it?

If time permits, I like to do a quick massage before I run.
Even putting on harnesses and booties provides some form of detection of possible problem.
Most working dogs are massaged after the run when the dog is rehydrated and cooled off.

What will I need?

A relatively quiet area large enough for the dog to lay down.
I use an old bath mat for a rug.
Massage oils and/or essential oils are optional.
I use Algyval and some essential oils mostly to increase blood flow to the dog's muscles and help my arthritic hands.

Start the massage:

With my dog standing and me straddling them I start with the head and gently stroke the dog. Start with several soft, slow strokes from head to tail. When your dog begins to relax, scratch gently behind the ears, moving to the cheeks, under the chin, over the nose, between the eyes and over the head. Rub each ear several times between your thumb and forefinger, working from base to tip.

Continued next page.

My K-9 Massage Protocol continued

I will now rub the Algyval or oils into my hands and apply AWAY from the face. DO NOT GET into the dog's eyes or mouth.

Using three fingers, move slowly over the neck, shoulders, and chest in small circular patterns. Lightly squeeze down the length of each foreleg, then place three fingers on each side of the leg and softly rub opposite directions several times. If your dog is comfortable with having his feet handled, use your thumb and forefinger and give each foot a couple of soft squeezes. This is a good time to look out for any burrs, ticks, or skin abnormalities. Use common sense in dealing with wounds, lumps, rashes or any sore spots.

The second phase of the massage can include placing your thumb and index finger on each side of the spine and 'walking' them toward the base of the tail, and then the outside of each thigh. Move down the rear legs in the same way as on the front legs. If at any point, your dog resists, respect his wish and move to the last area or technique he enjoyed before moving on. Finish up with several soft, slow strokes from head to tail. You can use any or all of the techniques with the dog standing or laying down.

Be relaxed and enjoy the experience, your dog will if you do.

Thank You Alpine Outfitters for your outstanding and continuing support.

*With great appreciation,
K9scootersNW*



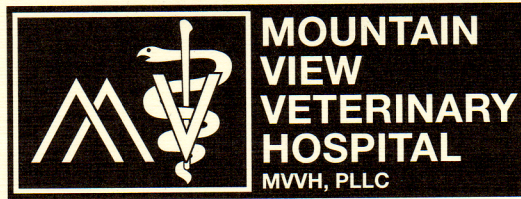
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Thanks to Dr. Rhonda Snyder for her time and expertise at the summer skill building workshop. Here is Dr. Snyder's list of useful First Aid Kit supplies.



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Karen A. Hook, D.V.M.

Diane Desselle, D.V.M.

Joanne Salloom, D.V.M.

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PET FIRST AIDE KIT

- Gauze for a muzzle or a muzzle*
- A large towel or blanket if you have room for transport or drying or cooling*
- Gauze and vet wrap for bandaging*
- Disinfecting solution, if ok with your vet *
- Hydrogen peroxide to induce vomiting
- Eye wash*
- Pepcid AC, if ok with your vet*
- Scissors*
- Thermometer*
- Gauze pads for cleaning wounds*
- Gloves*
- E-collar
- Saline for moistening tissue (eye wash works in a pinch)
- Hand held battery operated fan.*
- Spray bottle of water.*
- ASK YOUR VET FOR ADDITIONAL IDEAS

*indicates important for racing

Important Numbers and doses

ASPCA Poison Control: 1-888-332-3651

Washington State Poison Control: 1-800-222-1222

My Vet:

Hydrogen Peroxide: 1 tablespoon for 10lbs, repeat up to 3 times

Deskunk: 1 qt. hydrogen peroxide (3%), ¼ cup baking soda, 1 tsp liquid soap.

Benadryl : 1mg per pound, up to 75 mg, up to three times daily—check with your vet

Pepcid: about ¼ mg per pound—check with your vet.