

Hi Everybody!

Next month, at the Silver Spurs Arena in Kissimmee, will take place the annual Dog Agility Competition of Florida, DACOF for short. DACOF is an annual competition which provides the opportunity for handlers and dogs to represent their organization, in our case, Cool Critters, as a team. The tournament is very competitive, but also a lot of fun, because there's a lot of camaraderie as all the team members cheer for each other. The show will be indoors, air conditioned with three rings and three judges.

We have two teams of nine dogs and handlers, three at each level (Novice, Open, and Excellent) The Cool Team consists of: Novice Level: Lisa Glick & Husky Boone, Tiffanie Ivins & Boxer Tessa, Margo Barker & Sheltie Gracie. Open Level: Hiroko Williams & Rat Terrier Ellie, Lisa Fortschneider & German Shepherd Sosa, Diann Andress & Border Collie Blue. Excellent Level: Lisa Glick & Sweedish Valhund Scout, Jeff Boyer & Papillon Sizzle, Ileana Nadal & Boxer Tia. The Critter Team will be: Novice Level: Don White & Boxer Oliver, Trent Johnson & Boxer Marley, Ellen Kurland & Papillon Little Bit. Open Level: Lisa Fortschneider & German Shepherd Sissi, Shela Ellis & Aussie Billy, Susi Kirpatrick & Husky Luna. Excellent Level: Debbie Hartzell & Puggle Sasha, Susi Kirkpatrick & Husky Birdie, Ileana Nadal & Cavalier Rocketman.

We have had some really good fundraisers, which helped defray the cost of the team members for this tournament. A BIG tanks to all the people who donated all the wonderful items for our raffle in April, and also to Dr. Duke of Companion Animal Hospital for his generous donation of \$200 for the team. We also had run thrus last weekend, and Tiffanie donated half of the proceeds from her ultrasonic teeth cleaning to the team as well.

Mark your calendars for the DACOF tournament: June 25 & 26, at the Osceola Heritage Park Silver Spurs Arena , 1875 Silver Spur Lane Kissimmee, Florida 33815. The place is beautiful, lots of stadium seating, and you're all invited to come and cheer for our school team. It will be a BIG tournament, with teams from all over the state participating.

Class Schedule

Normally, we do not have classes on Monday, Memorial Day. However, we will be having Puppy class at 6:15PM and Basic Agility at 7PM. The puppy class has just started and I don't feel we can afford to miss a class. The Basic Agility has missed too many classes and we have to take advantage of the good weather while it lasts!

We will not be having Intermediate Agility class on Monday night. The new Basic Agility class will be starting on June 13 instead of June 6th, as we got rained out a class in the current Basic class.

K9 Nose Work Class

Mindy Longkor is ready to start the K9 Nose work Class. She's certified to teach a class but not to do a seminar yet. We are thinking that Wednesday from 8 to 9:30 PM would be a good time as the weather would be much cooler at that time, and dogs don't sniff very well if they are panting. The Advanced Agility class would be moved to Tuesday evenings at 7:15 PM and the Distance Class would be from 6 to 7:15 PM. Those interested in the Nose work class let me know how this works for you.

A Home for Dodger

Vikki Egan is looking for a home for her foster Great Dane / Catahoula mix. Dodger is a deaf dog, a big couch potato that would be a great dog for a family or a person who wants a loving companion. Vikki sent a photo: It is just a headshot but if anyone is interested, have them contact me and meet him in person. He is such a special and loving boy but just needs to be the only dog in his human's life. Vikki's email is k9daze@yahoo.com

Is Your Dog Suddenly Acting Grouchy???

There might be a physical reason for it! Low thyroid (hypothyroidism) will cause aggression and a radical change of personality in a dog that used to be calm. Have your vet send the thyroid test to Michigan State for a full range of values. Once on thyroid meds, dogs will usually return to their former selves.

Pain will also cause a dog to act grouchy, arthritis in older dogs will cause the dogs to snap when they are touched in areas of their bodies that are sore. Sometimes children stumble against the old dog, and cause pain in a sensitive area.

Have your vets do a physical if your pets looks and acts out of sorts, chances are, there will be a physical reason for it. Remember, they cannot tell you where it hurts!

Are You getting a Puppy this Summer?

Don't forget, by Florida law, all dogs sold MUST have a health certificate issued by a veterinarian. Do not fall into the trap of accepting a puppy with a "pending" health certificate. Also, if you are buying a purebred puppy, AKC requires that the breeder issue a litter registration form with each puppy at the time of purchase, which you can use to register your puppy individually and under your own name. Once again, do not fall for the "papers are coming" excuse. All litters can now be registered online with AKC.

Congratulations to Our Latest Graduates!

Super Puppy:

Keith Monroe & Kema (Bouvier)
Bradley Brown & Peanut (All American)
Karen Timian & Kimber (Miniature Poodle)
Alisa Miranda & Zoey (Yorkie)
Angela Biting & Pipoer (Boston Terrier)
Juli Shinozuka & Kyuu (Pyrenean Shepherd)
Lisa Fortschneider & Wicca (German Shepherd)
Brooke Carroll & Nelly (All American)
Michael Fortschneider & Angelo (Newfoundland)

Basic Obedience:

Bree Corso & Bullet (Shepherd Mix)
Melissa Parks & Riley (Golden Retriever)
Jennifer Duvall & Rio (Lab mix)
Glenda Dorety & Popcorn (Boxer)
Christa Leblanc & Niko (Boxer)
Denise Hall & Chance (Doberman)
Kristen Razvillas & Juno (Lab mix)
Genia Elsner & Dioge (Aussie)

Class Schedule

Monday:

6:15 to 7:00 PM - Super Puppy (Next class starting July 18, 2011)
7:00 to 8:00 PM - Basic Agility (next class starting June 13, 2011)
8:00 to 9:00 PM - Intermediate Agility

Tuesday:

9:00 AM to 10:00AM - Small Dog Agility
6 to 7PM - Distance work class
7:00 PM Masters Level Agility

Wednesday:

9:00 to 10:00AM - Beginner Competition Obedience Skills
10:00 to 12:00AM - Advanced Obedience and Rally with Susi Kirkpatrick
6:15 to 7:00 PM - Super Puppy class (Next class starting June 15, 2011)
7:00 to 8:00 PM - Intermediate Agility

8:00 to 9:00 PM - Advanced Agility

Thursday:

7:00 to 8:00 PM - Basic Obedience (Next class starting July 21, 2011)

8:00 to 9:00 PM - Rally Obedience

Friday:

9:00 to 10:00 AM - Advanced Agility

10:00 to 11:00 AM - Intermediate Agility

...and now, time for a pause...

Ileana