



# The Lucky Dog

Every Dog Wants to be a Lucky Dog!



Newsletter June, 2014  
Volume 1, Issue 3

## Fetching News



Well, Spring sprang, moved in and out rapidly and, as is customary in these parts, the heat is on!

Training has been in full swing and the Club is continuing to grow. We have a new member, Kay Rucks, momma of Nella and Rocky, two gorgeous German Shepherds, both of whom are presently Lucky Dog students.

We are excited to report that the spring fundraiser, our second Boston Butt and Rib sale was a success. Improvements in our facility and new equipment are on the shopping list; AND, we got a new roof so we won't be adding doggy kayaking to our list of fun things we're doing with our dogs this summer.

On March 22, we were asked by Pet Supermarket to be a part Of their customer appreciation

celebration. It was a great opportunity to give out flyers and get our name out there.

March 29, had us out and about in Headland, at **Paws Fest**, Charm Headland's bi-annual fundraiser. What troopers! Against all odds: heavy wind, a non-existent P.A. system and serious lack of restrooms, the performance team bravely forged ahead! We ARE a work in progress.

**Our club members volunteer their time, talents knowledge and experience with the objective of having fun with their dogs**

The Club was invited, and attended, the march in the **Cottonwood Parade and Festival** on May 3. It was just plain fun!

So for you folks who missed any of these Club events, we encourage you to plan on joining us at the next ones.

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We need more participation at all Club events. We may not always have enough notice to announce on the website but we will always let you know. (And, psst! Some ideas are floating about Lucky Dog someday offering a Doggie Freestyle class so some more talented pooches can learn some very cool choreography, and take the "performance team" to the next level and beyond.....

### Media News

• Lucky Dog Sports Club President, Lisa Gunn her dog and Lily were interviewed by Demetria McClenton on **WTVY** at the very crack of dawn on April 25, 2014.

They had three minutes only to talk about the Club, training, and they nailed it. Lily even got to show off a few tricks and did some ad-libbing on her own

which was hysterically funny (maybe, though, not so much for her.) You can actually see the interview if you go to the Home Page on our website, [www.wiregrassluckydog.com](http://www.wiregrassluckydog.com).

• By noon on April 30, 2014 there were almost 500 hits on an article about us, Lucky Dog Sports Club, published in **Rickey Stokes News**. Maybe some of those hits were from Lucky Dog members and students; If

you missed it, check the website Home page. The article generated a good amount of interest and calls have been coming in and classes have been filling up.

## Big Wins for Lucky Dogs at the Crossroads Cluster in Perry, GA

On the weekend of May 8-11, 2014, Lisa Gunn, Mary May, Gay Wildes and I, attended the dog show in Perry Georgia. I did not have a dog to compete, but I took pictures and my two little Chi boys, Paco & Chewy to help cheer for the competitors.

Competing were **Cocoa** May and **Rush** Wildes!

**Cocoa** competed in 3 Beginner Novice Obedience trials and 3 Rally Novice Obedience trials. In BNO she received a 1<sup>st</sup> place ribbon, a 2<sup>nd</sup> place ribbon, and a 3rd place ribbon. Additionally she received her AKC BNO title.

In RNO, **Cocoa** competed in 3 trials receiving 2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> place ribbons, and one non-qualifying score.

**Rush** competed in Novice Rally Obedience & Beginner Novice Obedience. He won two 2<sup>nd</sup> place ribbons in NRO and one 2<sup>nd</sup> place ribbon, one 3rd place ribbon and one 4<sup>th</sup> place ribbon in BNO.

The weekend was long and stressful for the competitors, but at the same time, fun and well worth the long ride!



# Belly Rubs



Happy Graduation to the April 5 and April 28 classes:

**Star Puppy:** Tony May & **Kona** and Anna Snellgrove & **Pele**

**4/5 Beginner:** Lori Grubbs & **Tibsy**; Kay Rucks & **Nella**

**Beginner 1:** Cindy Smithson & **Wyn**

**Beginner 2:** Linda Justice & **Charlie**, Christa Burger & **Noshoma**

**Beginner (pvt):** Derek Dean/ Emily Fleming & **Abbott**

**Beginner (pvt) :** Danielle Herrera w/Petey & Ollie

**Intermediate:** Sylvia Martin & **Cowboy, Sophie Noe** (Di taking pic)

Jeremy Keisler & **Tacoma**, Amit Skanham & **Bungee**

**Control Unleashed:** Di Noe & **PeeWee**, Paula Silavent & **Lexie**,

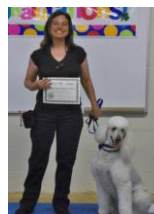
Christina Keisler & **Cuervo**, Brandi Davis & **Bella**



Star Puppy



4/5 Beginner



Beginner 1



Beginner 2



Beginner (pvt)



Beginner (pvt)



Intermediate



Control Unleashed

# Happy Tails

## RUGER's STORY

by Karen Martin

My awesome Pit Bull Ruger was picked up as a stray by Animal Control and taken to the shelter.

The minute I saw him at the shelter I knew I wanted to adopt him, but before I could bring him home, I needed to replace my old fence to make his area secure. I was so afraid he would be put down before the new fence was finished, so I went back to the shelter and asked them to please hold him for a few more days until my fence was finished. When I returned home from the shelter that day my fence was complete.

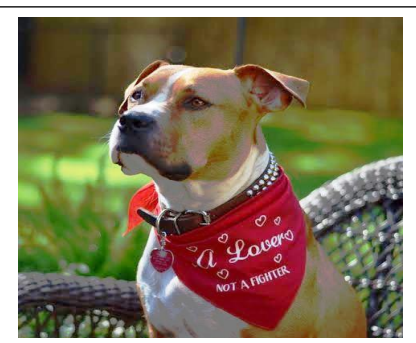
I grabbed a leash and rushed straight back to get him. I brought Ruger to what was about to become his forever home on October 12, 2012.

My vet said Ruger was probably about three years old at that time, so he is now 4 1/2 years old.

Ruger was afraid of EVERYTHING. I don't think he had ever been inside a house before.

He would cower and tremble or turn to stone when he was introduced to anything new. He would panic and bolt if he was startled. But every night I would remove his collar and massage his head and neck until he relaxed.

Little by little he began to creep closer to me when I got on the floor with him for his rub down. Trust took it's time building.



I started his training in "Control Unleashed" with Lisa Gunn, Lucky Dog Sports Club, and when he completed CU successfully, we progressed into Intermediate. Presently we are about to graduate Novice class.

I take him with me wherever I can, and he continues to build confidence. He is no longer terrified to go to new places and

meets strangers warmly with a wagging tail and gentle licks to their hands. He absolutely loves jumping over things and climbing on stacked bags of feed at Tractor Supply! Although he loves other dogs and is every bit a ladies man, he is a Momma's boy and I fall to pieces when he looks at me with his heart in his eyes.

Never have I experienced such devotion and loyalty. Never in my wildest dreams would I have thought that the frightened, insecure dog I brought home from the shelter would come to represent Lucky Dog Sports Club and perform like a pro with the Performance Team.

We have overcome our fears together with the help of our human and doggie friends. Ruger has taught me so much about overcoming anything if you have the love and commitment to make it through the hard times.

The first year was a learning experience that was emotionally draining for me, but he is my heart, and I can't imagine life without my bestie!

# Keep Pets Safe in the Heat

## How, where to cool animals down when temps soar

The summer months can be uncomfortable—even dangerous—for pets and people. It's difficult enough simply to cope with rising temperatures, let alone thick humidity, but things really get tough in areas that are hit with the double blow of intense heat and storm-caused power outages, sometimes with tragic results.

We can help you keep your pets safe and cool this summer. Follow our tips for helping everyone in your family stay healthy and comfortable when the heat is on (and even if the power isn't).

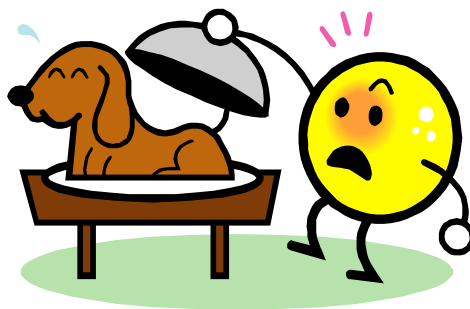
### Practice basic summer safety

#### **Never leave your pets in a parked car.**

Not even for a minute. Not even with the car running and air conditioner on. On a warm day, temperatures inside a vehicle can rise rapidly to dangerous levels. On an 85-degree day, for example, the temperature inside a car with the windows opened slightly can reach 102 degrees within 10 minutes. After 30 minutes, the temperature will reach 120 degrees. Your pet may suffer irreversible organ damage or die.

#### **Watch the humidity**

"It's important to remember that it's not just the ambient temperature but also the humidity that can affect your pet," says Dr. Barry Kellogg, VMD, of the Humane Society Veterinary Medical Association. "Animals pant to evaporate moisture from their lungs, which takes heat away from "Animals pant to evaporate moisture from their lungs, which takes heat away from their



body. If the humidity is too high, they are unable to cool themselves, and their temperature will skyrocket to dangerous levels—very quickly."

#### **Limit exercise on hot days**

Take care when exercising your pet. Adjust intensity and duration of Keep your pet from overheating indoors or out with a cooling body wrap, vest, or mat (such as the Keep Cool Mat). Soak these products in cool water, and they'll stay cool (but usually dry) for up to three days. If your dog doesn't find baths stressful, see if she enjoys a cooling soak.

#### **Watch for signs of heatstroke**

Extreme temperatures can cause heatstroke. Some signs of heatstroke are heavy panting, glazed eyes, a rapid heartbeat, difficulty breathing, excessive thirst, lethargy, fever, dizziness, lack of coordination, profuse salivation, vomiting, a deep red or purple tongue, seizure, and unconsciousness.

Animals are at particular risk for heat stroke if they are very old, very young, overweight, not conditioned to prolonged exercise, or have heart or respiratory disease. Some breeds of dogs—like boxers, pugs, shih tzus, and other dogs and cats with short muzzles—will have a much harder time breathing in extreme heat.

#### **How to treat a pet suffering from heatstroke**

Move your pet into the shade or an air-conditioned area. Apply ice packs or cold towels to her head, neck, and chest or run cool (not cold) water over her. Let her drink small amounts of cool water or lick ice cubes. Take her directly to a veterinarian.

*The Humane Society  
Of the United States, May 22, 2014*

### Peanut Butter Popsicles

*These easy DIY treats will please your pup*

(Serves a family's worth of dogs)

- 1 cup peanut butter, preferably unsalted and unsweetened
- Half a ripe banana, mashed
- Water as needed

In a small mixing bowl, combine peanut butter with a little water or half a mashed banana. The water and banana aren't essential, but they help with freezing consistency.

Line an ice cube tray or cookie sheet with wax paper. (You don't have to use the paper, but it can make prying the cubes out easier.)

Spoon the mixture into the cubes, or drop onto the tray just like you would cookie dough. Freeze for several hours or overnight. If you need to reuse the tray right away, pop out the cubes and store them in a bag or container in the freezer.

Serve, and turn any hot dog into a happy camper.

#### Tips

*Pet popsicles can be made out of all kinds of things your dog (or cats) eat normally, so experiment to see what your dog likes best.*

*You can fill up a rubber Kong-style toy and freeze—a great cool-down treat for when you will be away for a few hours.*

*Try treats suspended in water, watered down wet food, and favorite frozen veggies.*

*Avoid: onions and onion powder, salt, macadamia nuts, tomatoes, potatoes, rhubarb leaves and stems, avocados, and anything else on this list.*

# Bulletin Board

## How much is that Doggy in the window?

### Wanted:

- A kid's kitchen set
- A small kid's shopping cart
- Dog-size remote control cars
- Used tennis balls
- Used collars

- Used leashes
- PeePee cleaner
- More club members to commit to cleaning our training facility at least every other week (we've had a few – we need more)

### For Sale:

- Retro makeup vanity – lightly used \$150 obo (contact Paula f/m/i)
- Wire crates  
18w x 20-1/2h x 24L
- Travel kennels  
17w x 19h x 24L  
17w x 16.5h x 25L  
16w x 15h x 24L  
23w x 24h x 28L  
\$25 & up depending on size  
(Contact Chief f/m/i)

## Events

June 20, 21 & 22	Dock Diving (Blue Ridge, GA)
July 25 & 26	Agility (Bainbridge, GA)
Sept. 13 & 14	Flyball (Clanton, AL)
Sept. 26, 27 & 28	Agility (Birmingham, AL)

## Funny Bones



A man tied his Great Dane outside the grocery store and went inside to do some shopping. A little while later another man came over to him and asked if the Great Dane outside was his. He replied that it was and then

the other man said, "I'm sorry to tell you this, but I believe my dog just killed your dog." The owner of the Great Dane looked at him and asked what kind of dog he had, to which he replied that he had a Chihuahua.

The Great Dane's owner

looked at the other man as if he'd lost his mind and asked, "How could that be?" The other man replied, "Well I'm afraid he choked on him."  
*(That's funny! I don't care who you are)*

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## Lucky Dog Sports Club

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*Every dog wants to be a lucky dog!*

LUCKY DOG SPORTS CLUB OF THE WIREGRASS is a not for profit organization put together by a group of volunteers who are dedicated to providing fun and educational activities for dogs and their owners.

Our trainers are committed to helping you develop and maintain a solid relationship with your canine companion.

We offer basic obedience instruction as well as performance sport and competition training with a strong emphasis on FUN! Courses range from Star Puppy and Beginner to competition classes, and we're experts in creating well behaved, well-mannered dogs.

Check our website for class schedules and more information.

We're on the Web!  
[www.Wiregrassluckydog.com](http://www.Wiregrassluckydog.com)