



Editor: Paul Kimmerly

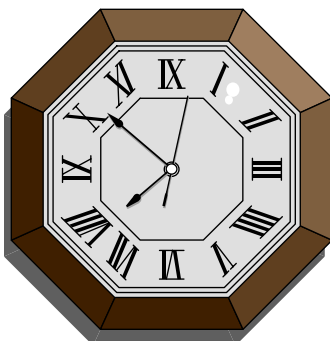
February 2006

It's Trial Time in the Heartland

For the 14th straight year, the Heartland Jack Russell Terrier Club will host our annual spring terrier trial. This year, the trial will be held on April 29th and 30th at the Douglas County Fairgrounds in Lawrence, KS. Our old friend, Barrie Wade will return to judge the Heartland Trial for the fourth time. Barrie is a true gentleman and takes the time to make each exhibitor feel welcome. Jeff Rooney from Colorado returns to judge one of the go-to-grounds at this year's trial. The club's own Stephanie Poppe will judge the other go-to-ground. Doug Minnich from Tennessee will handle the job of racing judge. An agility judge has not been identified yet, but will be soon. The trial will feature agility, conformation and the novice and open go-to-grounds on Saturday. Sunday will feature racing and super go-to-ground. Our annual rescue raffle on Saturday to benefit the Heartland Club and the Nebraska Jack Russell Rescue will be held on Saturday.

With so many events and so many exhibitors, the trial needs volunteers. We need help with everything from help setting up to catching dogs at the racetrack to serving as go-to-ground den steward. There are many other jobs at the trial where we could use your help. If you are interested in helping out, please get in touch with our trial chair at pjkimmerly@kcnet.com or (913) 220-4499. If you volunteer, you'll receive a free class at a future Heartland event.

Time to Renew Your Membership for 2006



If you have not renewed your Heartland membership for 2006, this is your last chance to receive a free class entry at this year's spring trial. We must receive your renewal by March 1st for you to receive your free class. If you have not renewed, three asterisks (***) will appear next to your name on the address page of this newsletter. Please consider receiving your newsletter by email. It helps the club save on printing and postage costs. Plus, the pictures look a lot better in color. With two trials and two fun days planned for 2006, you won't want to miss out on this year's terrier fun.

New Heartland Web Site

The Heartland Club is proud to announce that our web page is up and running. Visit www.hwjrtc.com to check it out. The web page features information about the club, past newsletters, a calendar of events and a wealth of pictures. It also features links to other pages of interest to Jack Russell owners.

The page looks terrific. Special thanks go out to Mary Stevens for overseeing the design and creation of the web page. I think you'll agree she did a fantastic job.

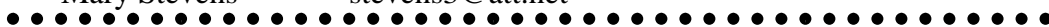


2007 Trial Chairs Needed

This year is the last year that Paul Kimmerly will chair the Heartland spring trial. The club is planning to conduct a dual trial in 2007. This means that two complete trials will be held on the same weekend. This means a full slate of events will be held on Saturday and on Sunday. As a result, the club will need two individuals to fill the role of trial chair. The job includes gathering volunteers, planning the events and making sure that things run smoothly on the day of the trial. The club would like the new trial chairs to apprentice at our spring and fall trials this year to learn the ropes. If you are interested in chairing one of next year's trials, please get in touch with any member of the Heartland Board.

The Board members can be reached by email at:

Crystal Bowen	gemstone2300@hotmail.com
Julie Burden	n2it143@aol.com
Rick & Joy Helms	huntmoor@direcway.com
Jenni Mitchell	mitchellj@weblink2000.net
Mary Stevens	stevens3@att.net



VOLUNTEERS NEEDED EARN A FREE CLASS

**EVERY YEAR, THE HEARTLAND TRIAL IS A SUCCESS
BECAUSE OF THE HARD WORK OF OUR VOLUNTEERS.
A VERY SPECIAL THANK YOU GOES TO ALL OF OUR PAST VOLUNTEERS.**

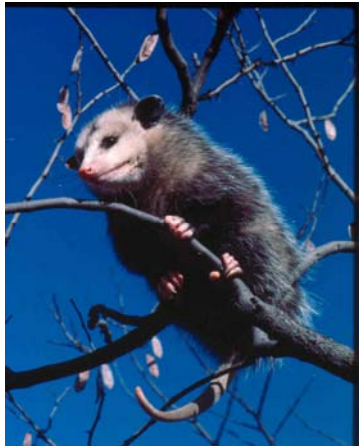
**WE ALWAYS NEED MORE HELP WITH EVERYTHING FROM SET-UP
TO EVENT STEWARDS TO RACE CATCHERS TO TAKE DOWN.**

**IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN HELPING,
PLEASE GET IN TOUCH WITH PAUL KIMMERLY AT
Pjkimmerly@kcnet.com or 913-220-4499**

***ALL VOLUNTEERS RECEIVE A CERTIFICATE
FOR A FREE CLASS AT THE NEXT HEARTLAND TRIAL.***

Hunting in the Heartland

Kansas Wildlife and Parks Magazine recently published a special section containing the Kansas Furbearer Guide. This special section contained brief descriptions of a number of animals that are traditional and non-traditional quarry for the Jack Russell Terrier. The magazine was kind enough to give the Heartland Club permission to publish these descriptions in our newsletter. To subscribe send requests to *Kansas Wildlife and Parks Magazine*, P.O. Box 8059, Red Oak, IA 51591.



VIRGINIA OPOSSUM

The Virginia opossum is the only marsupial native to North America. Opossums are highly adaptable and range throughout Kansas, but are most common in the eastern part of the state where deciduous forest and water sources are most common. Like some of the other furbearers, the opossum thrives in and around towns and cities, taking advantage of abundant food and shelter inadvertently provided by people.

The opossum is generally identified by its long snout, typically grayish fur and long, scaly, prehensile tail. They also have 50 teeth, more than any other Kansas mammal. About cat-sized, they typically weigh six to thirteen pounds, with males being somewhat larger. As a marsupial, the reproductive process of the opossum is unique among Kansas furbearers. Females have a fur-lined pouch called a marsupium in which young develop. After a gestation period of less than two weeks, up to seventeen tiny, naked and blind young are born. Developed just enough to survive outside the uterus, only those able to crawl into the marsupium and attach to one of the thirteen nipples may survive. They remain attached to a nipple in the pouch for the next two months, undergoing most of their basic development. An average of seven young make it out of the pouch, and they are fully weaned and on their own by about 100 days of age. Within a short time after the first litter has become independent, another litter is born.

The opossum finds daytime shelter and refuge for extended periods of cold in rock, wood or junk piles, hollow trees or logs, burrows of other animals or various other crevices. Densities of eight to ten opossums per square mile are probably common in Kansas, but phenomenally high densities of 259 per square mile have been recorded in prime waterfowl habitat. The diet of the opossum is extremely diverse, but primarily consists of plant matter including fruits, berries, grains and invertebrates including beetles, grasshoppers, crayfish and snails. Small mammals, birds and their eggs, and all types of carrion are also consumed opportunistically.



Though highly prolific, opossums experience extremely high mortality and rapid turnover rates within the population. In fact, few survive past one year, and virtually none past two. Populations are drastically reduced by periods of drought or extreme cold, and are very susceptible to human-induced mortality, especially roadkill. The opossum is a good swimmer and climber, but lacks in speed and intelligence. A common predator evasion technique is “playing dead,” which is effective only on those predators that choose not to kill. The great horned owl is the opossum’s primary predator, though coyotes, bobcats and other carnivores will sometimes kill them. Opossum are resistant to rabies, but may be severely impacted by a variety of parasites.

The opossum is a significant furbearer in Kansas in terms of the number harvested, usually ranking third behind raccoons and coyotes. However, individual pelt value is very low, so most are harvested either in damage control situations or incidental to the pursuit of other species. Most opossums are trapped, but some are also taken by houndsmen. Over the past five seasons, annual harvest has averaged almost 27,000.

Preventing Dog Bites

From Good Neighbor News

Published by State Farm Insurance

The statistics on dog-bite injuries are startling. Each year, more than 4.7 million people are bitten by dogs, about 60 percent of them are children. In fact, more than half of all children have been bitten. Almost 1 million people seek medical treatment for canine attacks. Twelve people each year die as a result of dog bites.

Insurance companies paid an estimated \$250 million for claims from dog bites in 1996. The 1998 bill for State farm, the leading insurer of homes in the United States and Canada, was about \$75 million for dog bite liability claims.

“Dog bites can result in serious, life-threatening injury to the victim and can leave the survivor scarred and disfigured. This is a significant issue for all of us,” said Dr. Richard Swanson, president of the American Veterinary Association (AVMA). “Fortunately, it is also a problem that can largely be prevented.”

Since May 1998, State Farm and the AVMA have distributed more than 7 million free brochures and children’s activity book providing information about responsible pet ownership and safe behavior around dogs. State Farm and the AVMA hope that by providing information to dog owners to help socialize their pets as friendly companions, we can teach people how to avoid being bitten.

To reduce the chance of your dog biting someone:

- Socialize your dog so it feels at ease around people and other animals.
- Don’t put your dog in situations where it may feel threatened or teased.
- Obey leash laws. Don’t let your dog roam free.
- Train your dog to obey basic commands such as “stay,” “sit” and “come.”
- Keep your dog healthy with the proper vaccinations. Control parasites.

If a dog approaches you, these tips may reduce your chances of being attacked:

- Don’t run away.
- Stay still until the dog leaves, or back away slowly until the dog is out of sight. Avoid eye contact.
- Remain calm.
- If you fall to the ground or are knocked down, curl into a ball, placing your hands over your head and neck. Protect your face.

Thanks to the Heartland Club

At the Heartland Halloween Happening, the club asked our exhibitors to include \$1.00 per dog to benefit the Jack Russell Terrier Club of America's Research Foundation. The club was able to raise \$113 in this way. We received the following note of thanks.

Dear Heartland Working Jack Russell Terrier Club,

Thank you for your generous donation of \$113 to the Jack Russell Terrier Foundation. Your gift dated 11/11/05 will be added to others and will help us fund research and assist us in collecting and storing DNA samples at the University of Missouri. Your club's donation will be acknowledged in a future issue of *True Grit* and on our web site.

Thank you again for asking your exhibitors at your fall event for contributing to the foundation. It is caring owners of Jack Russells that will help us understand inherited diseases in the breed.

Chris Levine
Treasurer, JRTRF

Dreams or Fantasy? The reality about dreaming dogs.

From The Iams Company
Consumer Care

Call us with your pet-related questions 1-800-423-6036.

Twitching. Smiling. Pedaling or whimpering in his sleep. Could these be signs that your dog is dreaming? The answer of course, is an emphatic Yes.

The reality is that both dogs and humans dream for the same reasons to revitalize the body and mind. And though with their larger brains, humans experience five different states of sleep, dogs are similar in that they share two of the same Rapid Eye Movement (REM) and Slow Wave Sleep or SWS. What are the differences between the two?

During SWS, the brain waves move at a slower pace and though he appears calm and at rest, this is considered a transitional state of sleep. His muscles are not totally relaxed and he may stir from time to time. This would explain why dogs who appear to be sleeping wake-up instantly at the sound of a potato chip hitting the floor.

In the REM state however, your dog is experiencing full restorative sleep. Her brain waves are moving at a much livelier pace and her eyes begin rapid eye movement. It is during REM sleep that you may notice her smiling, twitching or perhaps even experiencing the great duck hunt in her mind. This indicates that your dog in all likelihood is dreaming. It has been said that dogs, not unlike humans, who are in the REM sleep state could sleep through a tornado.

Surprisingly though, not all dogs dream. Dreaming seems to occur more often in puppies and in older dogs. Why dogs in their prime dream less is still a mystery to researchers but they theorize it could be traced to the development of the brain stem. Just remember that sleep contributes to both your dog's physical and mental well-being and the old adage, Let sleeping dogs lie are good words of advice to live by.

Puppy Gentling

By Mark S. Vass

Used by permission from *PetLife* magazine

Although the calendar has propelled us into the 21st century, our professional understanding about what makes a dog do what it does is still in its infancy. Fifty years from now, someone will undoubtedly recreate this article with yet another viewpoint. When does a dog's personality become permanent: in the womb, its first day of life, or its first month? Canine professionals will continue searching for the finite answer. Although dogs come in all shapes and sizes, purebreds and mixed breeds, there is one common ingredient – an aversion to being handled!

No matter what the mix, most hate to be touched for an examination, held for a nail trim or restrained for the insertion of a catheter. The canine patient rapidly becomes stressed, and sometimes uncontrollable over what may be a very simple procedure that could prove to be lifesaving. This very example is why trainers specializing in puppy problem prevention emphasize an exercise called "gentling."

By teaching a puppy to accept simple handling and restraining in a gentle manner, the human puppy bond quickly becomes strong. Demonstrating tender and positive leadership significantly reduces aggressive behavior and establishes the owner as an approachable and caring leader. This easy-to-learn, important skill builds a puppy's self-confidence and supports a more sociable and friendly personality. Additionally, gentling also educates a puppy on how to accept routine examinations, while developing trust in its handlers.

How to Begin

Gentling, one of the most basic behavior tools that teaches a puppy good manners, should be taught between the age of seven and sixteen weeks old. This is one of the first times that a puppy will be exposed to both the concept of leadership, and the human-to-dog bonding experience.

Gentling has two basic components: *restraint* and *handling*. In its simplest form, restraint means to hold a puppy stationary against its human family. Practice on a daily basis until the dog exhibits trust and will almost become limp in the handler's grasp – like a lifeless doll.

As the restraining exercise begins, hold the dog in many different positions. This can include holding it in the air, cradling it in your arms, and holding it down on its side. The most advanced restraint is holding the dog on its back while on the floor, and moving it from one side to the other with only a brief hesitation when all four legs are straight up. This is not to be confused with the "alpha roll," which is a method of questionable outcome. When this particular technique is mastered, you and your new canine friend are on the road to cooperation and respect.

If when beginning this process a puppy begins to act fearful, take one step back and begin again with small, baby steps. For example, if a puppy begins to panic when restrained, put it down and walk away. Comforting the puppy to ease its fears might send a message of praising it for its "panic attacks." The next time you begin with the restraint exercise, move a little slower than you did the first time. In each case, it's imperative that you allow only a small amount of fear, and remain calm until the puppy relaxes.

How can you tell when a puppy is experiencing fear or anxiety? Look for increased muscle tone (tensed muscles), increased size of the whites of the eye, struggle or urination.

Conversely, you will be able to tell when a puppy is relaxing when its muscles soften and its eyes return to normal. Sometimes, it may take a deep "cleansing" breath, or sigh.

When the young dog begins to understand its role in this exercise and starts showing signs of becoming more tranquil, it can then be released from your grasp and praised for relaxation. The main objective is for a puppy to realize that the way it will receive praise or freedom is to give of itself.

The second component to the gentling exercise is called handling. Handling means gently moving a puppy against its will. The goal is to hold the puppy still in any position without it struggling. When the dog is finally able to reach this point, rub your hands all over its body and move its head and limbs to every comfortable position. Take great care to ensure that nothing negative or startling occurs during this process.

Now that the puppy is no longer afraid of being handled, begin to perform a routine examination. Even if you aren't sure of exactly what to look for, cover every inch of the puppy so that you learn what normal looks, feels and smells like. Open its mouth and look at its teeth. Look at its ears, paws, nails, belly and under the tail.

Successful gentling is a combination of restraint and handling. It establishes the human owner as having rank, without punishment. This not only gentles it, but also creates a powerful bond between the puppy and its human family. Demonstrating your leadership at an early age will potentially reduce aggressive behavior later in the dog's life. It will also help create a dog that breathes with self-confidence.

As theories continue to be formulated regarding the best way to teach and shape a dog's being, one thing will always hold true – our final goal is creating a mutually respectful canine-human understanding, and pleasure able relationship.

2006 Membership Form

The Heartland Jack Russell Terrier Club was formed in November 1991 for the purpose of informing Jack Russell Terrier owners across the Heartland region of terrier trials and special events. Our goal is to help members learn more about Jack Russell Terriers, their special needs and unique abilities.

We encourage all members to send in any information that would be of interest to other Jack Russell owners. Please send any articles, stories, classifieds and notices of activities to:

Paul Kimmerly
4921 W. 72nd Street
Prairie Village, KS 66208
Pjkimmerly@kcnet.com

Dues for this club are \$15.00 annually per household. Like the Jack Russell Terrier Club of America, our memberships run from January 1st through December 31st. Current members have until March 15th to renew memberships without loss of privileges. Any memberships received after October 1st will count towards the following year. Members will receive one free class entry to the Heartland Spring and Fall events. To join, mail the membership form below with dues payable to the "Heartland Jack Russell Terrier Club." Please return the form and dues to:

Heartland Jack Russell Terrier Club
C/o Paul Kimmerly
4921 W. 72nd Street
Prairie Village, KS 66208

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

Please mark here if you prefer to received your newsletter by email: _____

How many Jack Russell Terriers do you own? _____

Is this a renewal? Yes No

Signature: _____

Suggestions for articles you'd like to see:

1) _____

2) _____

Classifieds

Prairie Creek Jack Russells

Litters Due end of March 2006

Daybreak Todd

(Button Top Willie x Prairie Creek Spree)

X

Sow's Ear Steiff

(The Hollow AfterMax x Sow's Ear Snippet)

Sow's Ear Stetson - Bronze

(Garon's Sailor x Lost Acres Revlon)

X

Mach One B2 Spirit - NHC

(Sow's Ear Julien x Orion Fly Girl)

For Info or Reservations

Mary Stevens

816-697-3489

www.prairiecreekjackrussells.com

Persimmon Hill Terriers

Litter Expected Mid April 2006

Persimmon Hill Falcon - NHC

(PointofView Simon x Wolfriver Dynamite)

X

Shadow Run Mercedes

(Sweet Haven Chevy x Oakwood Wendy)

For Info or Reservations

Jenni Mitchell

785-418-7616

www.persimmonhillterriers.com

Hunter's Moon Kennel



Standing

Meadowlake Scar

- 11.5" Tan & white smooth coat
- N.H.C. to groundhog
- 13 Working Terrier Championships in 2003 & 2004, Scar's offspring won numerous championships

Hunter's Moon Artemis

- 11.5", tan and white smooth coat
- N.H.C. to raccoon and groundhog
- Multiple Working Terrier Championships

Wildgoose Kerm

- Bronze Medallion
- 13" tri-color, rough coat
- 10 years old and still hunting
- His sons and daughters are following in his winning pawprints

BAER, CERF and
Von Willowbrand's normal

Charlene & Joe Schlueter
P.O. Box 307
Cuba, MO 65453
(573) 885-4478

joebsi@fidnet.com

Daybreak Jack Russells Standing at Stud

Daybreak Todd

(Button Top Willie x Prairie Creek Spree)

Contact

Jenni Mitchell / 785-418-7616

Mary Stevens / 816-697-3489

www.daybreakjackrussells.com

Heartland Classifieds

Send ad with payment to:
Paul Kimmerly, 4921 w. 72nd Street
Prairie Village, KS 66208

or

Pjkimmerly@kcnet.com

\$5.00 for a single issue
\$20.00 for the entire year.

Heartland Working Jack Russell Terrier Club

4921 W. 72nd Street

Prairie Village, KS 66208

If *** appears next to your name, you have not renewed for 2005.