

American Bullmastiff Association Archives Committee

The Bullseye

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The Bullseye



NEWS FOR, OF AND BY BULLMASTIFF FANCIERS

VOLUME XXII NUMBER 1

AUGUST 1998



NOPE!!! I DON'T KISS ON THE FIRST DATE!

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**Reflections of a First-Time Bullmastiff Buyer -
AKA "The Metamorphosis"**

By Lynne M. Klingler

Webster's Dictionary states that a metamorphosis is a "transformation". . . a marked change in appearance, character." Looking back at the last five months, the time that I have "shared" living space with my first Bullmastiff, I can only say that "metamorphosis" certainly sums up what this canine Casanova has brought about in my life. Tauralan Trump Card, or BRUTUS as he is known around the house by all those who know and love him (voluntarily and involuntarily, I might add), has calmly taken center stage as though it were his birthright, ever since the day I carried him across the threshold.

The act in itself is not particularly unusual for the myriad breeds of dogs that are fortunate enough to join the ranks of household pet and beloved family member. And if this is where the influence that young Brutus exerted on me did indeed stop, I probably would not be writing this article.

But that has NOT been the case with this adorable but highly demanding male puppy. Oh, no No, no! I have come to learn that the Bullmastiff's subtle powers of persuasion and art of supreme manipulation are legendary, and unfortunately my Bullmastiff pup has honed his skills to near perfection.

There are many ways that the exuberant, fun-filled puppy has orchestrated this metamorphosis in my life. Allow me to share with you just a few examples of Brutus' unwritten rules for our co-habitation, rules that have been the underpinnings of "the change" he has wrought in our household.

1. Concerning personal belongings, furniture, clothing, toys and the like: What's his is his, what's mine is his! This particular rule operates without boundaries, by the way. It not only includes all current possessions, but any possession to be procured in the near and distant future.
2. T.V. viewing is confined to only those hours when he can participate. Live telecasts are preferable, but recorded shows, movies, and various sporting events via the VCR are deemed acceptable as long as he gets to make the selection in advance.
3. No trips to Baskin and Robbins are allowed unless he gets to accompany the driver, sitting in the front passenger seat, of course, with the window rolled down so he can thrust his head out the window and feel the wind between his ears.
4. Snoring is to be viewed, at all times, as an expression of supreme contentment, as such, it should be perceived by family members as an act of endearment, and therefore revered by all.
5. All photos must include him as the focal point. However, he will not pose wearing ridiculous clothing, or in outlandish outfits that are unbecoming his dignity UNLESS guaranteed unlimited quantities of his favorite treats.
6. Going for walks about the neighborhood is one of his most cherished pastimes, as long as he heads and I heel.
7. Sniffing and smelling my friends or "extended" family members is perfectly acceptable behavior—after all, he can differentiate between a "good guy" and a "bad guy" at forty paces, and he's a lot better at picking my friends than I seem to be.

REFLECTIONS OF A FIRST-TIME BULLMASTIFF OWNER (continued):

8. Sleeping on the bed, (notably, my bed), is definitely preferred to sleeping on the floor, although sofas are a worthy substitute whenever he's been locked out of my bedroom.
9. Mealtime is something he relishes and eagerly anticipates, and therefore his meals must never be served late. Late is defined as "his getting his food after I've gotten mine". This is not acceptable. The correct order is as follows: He eats first. I eat second. No deviations and no excuses.
10. Laying quietly at my feet while I read the morning paper during breakfast, (not to be confused with passive-aggressive "begging"), is deserving of his regularly receiving tidbits of bacon or other delectable treats.
11. Pitiful, sorrowful looks are just that - intended to evoke the depth of sympathy for which the human being, and particularly the pet owner, is so famous. All forlorn expressions are to be immediately met with frantic alarm and a willingness to do anything to drive away his despair - either real or imagined.

As time has passed, I have been fortunate to meet a number of Bullmastiff owners who have shared many clownish tales regarding this wonderful, supercilious breed and, therefore, have made my metamorphosis a little easier. From them, I have learned (or been forewarned, depending on one's perspective) that silly puppy antics are not all that different than adult Bullmastiff antics. For example, both sleep upside down, or roll over and twist their bodies like contortionists. They also bark and charge T.V. dogs who bark on the television screen, run in their sleep when having "doggy-nightmares", and snore louder than most men. And all Bullmastiffs, regardless of age, are infamous for passing gas and then quizzically looking up at you, their expression enshrouded with innocence, as though amazed that somebody could make such a social blunder in public. Yes, it goes without saying to anyone who has ever had the distinct pleasure of owning this charming breed, that the Bullmastiff puppy or grown dog are born entertainers, "on call" 24 hours a day.

I've been told that the key to understanding the Bullmastiff enigma is to know that as far as the Bullmastiff is concerned, he owns you, and NOT visa versa. To cut to the chase: These dark-masked canines who could, with one just one look from their soulful brown eyes, make even a homeless person give up the contents in his shopping cart, perceive themselves as Masters of the Universe – to be specific, **YOUR** universe. Therefore, everything (and please allow me to repeat this for the animal lover-impaired) everything revolves around them.

See, wasn't that easy? They're the king (or queen) and you're the lowly peasant, relegated to a lifetime of servitude. Nothing wrong with that picture, right? Absolutely not. After all, it's a dog's world and if you don't agree, just ask Brutus, or the legions of Bullmastiff ancestors from which he's evolved.

All things considered, though, the metamorphosis Brutus has caused is a small price to pay for all that he gives in return. He unquestionably is the most loving and affectionate dog who's ever owned me. Actually, he doesn't even seem like a dog to be anymore. He's more like a person. And a very sage one I must admit.

The fact of the matter is that in the five short months that Brutus has been part of my life, he's taught me

REFLECTIONS OF A FIRST-TIME BULLMASTIFF OWNER (continued)

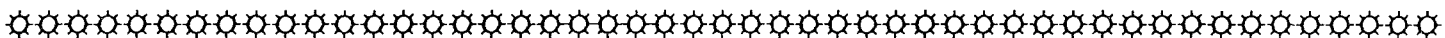
some very valuable lessons about myself and the world around me. Because of him I've learned to laugh more, and to not take things so seriously. I now take time to enjoy the small things in life that are really important – like stopping long enough in the morning to watch the frenetic flight of a hummingbird as it darts from here to there; or flopping down somewhere comfortable and taking an afternoon nap just because it feels good; or walking up to a family member and planting a kiss on their cheek for no special reason; and always, always knowing that the best place for me to be is within paw's reach of the ones I love. Yep, ol' Brutus is quite a scholarly tutor when it comes to Life and how to live it. And I, for one, am proud and most fortunate to be one of his students.

**RIGHT NOW RECIPES****HOT ISLAND CHICKEN****4 Servings****Preparation time: 20 minutes**

| | |
|--|--------------------------------|
| 2 tbsp salad oil | 4 cloves garlic, chopped |
| 4 skinless, boneless chicken breasts cut into large pieces | 2 tbsp finely chopped cilantro |
| 1/4 cup finely chopped yellow or white onions | 1/4 tsp ground cloves |
| 2 or 3 jalapeno or serrano chili peppers seeds removed and peppers finely chopped | 1/4 tsp freshly ground pepper |
| | juice of 2 limes |
| | 4 scallions, finely chopped |

Place the oil in a large skillet over medium heat. Add the chicken and saute' for 2 minutes. Add all of the remaining ingredients, except the lime juice and scallions, and saute' for 5 minutes, or until chicken is cooked through. Add the lime juice and stir well.

Garnish the chicken with scallions and serve immediately. This goes well with caesar salad.

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by Carol Beans

Medical information by Dr. Barbara Reichel

Artwork by Angela McGraw

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Occasionally I reprint an article from one of the early Bullseyes. This one is from the FEBRUARY 1982 issue and I believe is helpful enough to be worth reprinting.

The Fading Puppy Syndrome, Septicemia, And Other Puppy Diseases

Reprinted from
GAINES PROGRESS
Published by GAINES RESEARCH CENTER

PERHAPS THE MOST HELPFUL SUGGESTION FOR BREEDERS CONFRONTED WITH SICK PUPPIES IS TO SEEK VETERINARY ASSISTANCE AS SOON AS EVEN ONE PUPPY IN A LITTER STARTS SHOWING SYMPTOMS OF ILLNESS. THE SPECIFIC DISEASE MAY BE DIFFICULT TO DIAGNOSE. SICK PUPPIES LOSE GROUND QUICKLY AND MUST HAVE PROMPT MEDICAL/SUPPORTIVE THERAPY. IMMEDIATE VETERINARY ATTENTION IS NEEDED FOR THESE CONTINGENCIES. IT IS THE BEST CHANCE OF COMBATING PUPPY DISEASES.

FADING PUPPIES

It is estimated that 28% of all puppies die in the first week after birth. Some of these puppies suffer from lethal congenital defects, maternal neglect or accidents, such as being crushed in the whelping box. A large proportion of them however, die from what is defined as the "fading puppy syndrome." The syndrome is part of specific disease entities but perhaps the true "fading puppy" is the individual who (1) was born malnourished because its dam did not receive adequate nutrition during gestation, (2) is too weak to nurse effectively, (3) is not receiving adequate lactation, (4) is in an environment that is not sufficiently warm, (5) or a combination of these factors. Unless supplementary feeding is started within a few hours of birth, with frequent weight checks to monitor progress and adequate heat is provided, these puppies become chilled, weak, and ultimately "fade" and die.

Newborn puppies differ physiologically from adult dogs in several important ways. It is necessary to understand these differences to realize why puppies succumb rapidly to stress and to appreciate the importance of proper environment and care. They have body temperatures of 94 to 97 degrees F. for the first two weeks of life as compared to the adult dog's normal temperature of 100 to 101.5 degrees F. They do not have a shivering reflex until about six days of age and thus cannot maintain body heat. Their heart beats and respiratory rates are faster than those of the adult dog. Newborns must be kept in an environmental temperature of 85 to 90 degrees F for the first week of life: The temperature gradually decreased to 70 degrees F by the time the puppies are weaning age. They should gain 1 to 1 ½ grams daily for each pound of anticipated adult weight and should double birth weight in eight to ten days*.

PUPPY SEPTICEMIA

Puppy septicemia is the leading cause of death by disease in infant puppies, occurring from four to forty days of age and, typically, in vigorous puppies that were born normally and are efficient nursers. Illness is sudden. First one puppy starts to cry. It has abdominal distension, diarrhea and may have rapid respiration. Then it refuses to nurse, becomes dehydrated and loses weight rapidly. Death usually follows 18 hours after onset of symptoms. Another pupy becomes sick, then another and another. Septicemia can demolish most or all of a litter within five or six days.

It is caused by bacteria of the streptococcus, escherichia or pseudomonas types and frequently is associated with metritis or mastitis in the bitch. Metritis is a uterine infection that may be acute or chronic. In the acute phase, the bitch becomes ill soon after the litter is whelped; depressed with an

THE FADING SYNDROME, SEPTICEMIA, AND OTHER PUPPY DISEASES (continued):

abnormal vaginal discharge and a temperature which may rise to 104 degrees F. Chronic metritis may not cause over symptoms in the bitch and, in fact, may not be evidenced until she whelps stillborn puppies or puppies that succumb to infection shortly after birth. Mastitis is an infection of the mammary glands, usually one or two; painful and fever producing for the bitch. It can transmit bacterial infection to the litter.

Sick puppies are hypothermic, hypoglycemic, and dehydrated. Immediate concerns are to counteract these conditions. Otherwise, the puppies will die too quickly for further therapy to be effective. They must be taken from the bitch and the following steps affected:

For hypothermia: slow warming. The sick puppy's body temperature has fallen to 70 to 94 degrees F. It must be placed in an environmental temperature-incubator, heat lamp or heat pad – of 85 to 90 degrees F until body temperature has risen to normal for the infant puppy. Circulation must be stimulated by frequently turning and gently massaging the puppy during the slow warming process. Only the surfaces of the puppy's body will be warmed if this is not done. Temperature of the newborn puppy can be taken with an infant's rectal thermometer. Hold the puppy up by the base of the tail and insert the thermometer on-half inch into the rectum. Environmental temperature can be monitored with an inside thermometer on the floor of the whelping box or incubator. Relative humidity should be 55 to 60 percent; this can be accomplished by using a home humidifier in the room in which the whelping box is placed.

For hypoglycemia: glucose therapy. The sick puppy's blood sugar must be increased rapidly and the administration of glucose solution which is absorbed directly into the stomach, is the best means of doing this. Give the puppy 5 to 15% glucose in water, orally, 1 to 2 cc (millimeters) every half hour. As the puppy's condition improves, gradually increase the dosage to 4 to 6 cc. These puppies should not be given formula; it may not be absorbed and thus may cause intestinal blockage.

For dehydration: water, given orally. The glucose and water therapy described above should be sufficient. If the puppy's condition is extremely serious, the veterinarian may think it advisable to administer subcutaneous hydrating solutions.

Other therapy, recommended or administered by the veterinarian, may be to give antibiotics in some cases. Gamma Globulin serum is considered effective. The owner may also be asked to give the puppies commercial formula or a few drops of VERY FRESH liver juice very few hours after they have started to rally; this is strength enhancing.

Prevention starts with a pre-breeding veterinary examination of the bitch. Brood bitches should be checked by a rotating schedule in large kennels where examination of every bitch may not be practical. Bacterial culture and sensitivity testing should be performed on specimens removed from the vagina. These tests, however, should be mandatory when a bitch has a history of uterine infection, stillborn puppies or puppies that die soon after birth from bacterial infection. Appropriate antibiotic therapy should take place before breeding if the bitch tests positive. It may be advisable to have another course of antibiotics 48 hours before whelping. In no case should this be done haphazardly; antibiotics should be given only when necessary and under veterinary supervision.

Every effort should be made to have all the puppies take colostrum, the "first milk" produced by the bitch

THE FADING SYNDROME, SEPTICEMIA, AND OTHER PUPPY DISEASES (continued):

for 24 hours after whelping. This protects the puppy from disease for the first weeks of its life. Lack of colostrum seems to be among the precipitating factors of puppy septicemia.

The bitch should be in a state of nutritional good health, fed ample quantities of a good-quality commercial dog food product recommended complete for gestation and lactation. A feeding alternative is a complete and balanced puppy food product. Its high caloric density and protein content are advantageous for the gestation or lactating bitch. Liver, one-half ounce per thirty pounds, is considered an excellent food supplement for the gestating bitch, contributing to the strength and vigor of the newborn litter.

Kenneling should be clean and well ventilated with appropriate temperature and humidity. Unsanitary quarters will predispose the litter to disease.

NEONATAL SEPTICEMIA

Neonatal Septicemia affects puppies from one to four days of age. It is caused by a staphylococcus infection in the vaginal tract of the bitch, transmitted to the puppy at birth. An unclean environment should not be overlooked as a precipitating factor in the disease.

Infected puppies have swollen abdomens with bluish discoloration on the flanks. They cry, are hypothermic, dehydrated, and refuse to nurse. Death occurs 12 to 18 hours after bloating and crying begins unless antibiotic treatment is started immediately. Supportive therapy (heat, glucose, and water) as previously described also must be administered.

Prevention again involves prebreeding veterinary examination of the bitch with antibiotic therapy if necessary to counteract infection. Since an unsanitary environment is frequently involved with neonatal (and puppy) septicemia, kenneling should be clean and so should everything to which newborn puppies are exposed. This includes attendants' hand and scissors used to cut the umbilical cords. The cord should be dipped in or swabbed with iodine.

CANINE HERPES VIRUS (PUPPY VIREMIA)

This is another leading cause of death by disease in young puppies, transmitted at whelping as puppies pass through the vagina of a recently infected bitch. Puppies also can be infected by littermates or infected adult dogs. The disease is highly fatal if contracted by puppies during the first three weeks of life. Older puppies with herpes virus usually die during the first three weeks of life. Older puppies with herpes virus usually have mild upper respiratory infections from which recovery is uneventful. Susceptibility of infant puppies is thought to be their low body temperatures of 94 to 97 degrees F., that of the neonatal puppy. It grows poorly at the body temperature of the adult dog.

Affected puppies have soft, green, odorless bowel movements; this is the first symptom. They may vomit or retch, have shallow respiration which becomes gasping as the disease progresses and refuse to nurse. They cry piteously and continuously.

Keeping puppies in a high environmental temperature for 24 hours is the only effective treatment; even this is problematical. For three hours the temperature must be 100 degrees F. The puppies need fluid to prevent dehydration, given orally every 15 minutes. Then the temperature can be reduced to 90 degrees F for the remainder of the 24 hour period. If the puppies survive, the chances are better than

.....

THE FADING SYNDROME, SEPTICEMIA, AND OTHER PUPPY DISEASES (continued):

average that they will live. Treatment is not advised if a puppy already has started to cry; this indicates that hemorrhaging has started and survival is doubtful. If it should live, chronic kidney disease may develop during the first year of life.

In kennels where herpes virus is a recurrent problem a preventive method is giving gamma globulin serum as an immunizing agent to neonatal puppies from dogs recovered from the disease. Since canine herpes virus is spread by direct contact with infected dogs, urine and other body secretions, overcrowding in kennels is a factor in disease transmission.

TOXIC MILK SYNDROME

It has been reported that bacterial toxins in the bitch's milk caused by incomplete emptying of the uterus produce toxic effects in very young puppies, up to two weeks of age. Sick puppies cry, bloat, have diarrhea and red, swollen, protruding rectums.

They must be taken from the bitch, placed in a warm environment and given 5 to 15% glucose in water, orally, until the bloating has subsided. The bitch should be treated with appropriate medication to cleanse the uterus and antibiotics to prevent infection. The puppies can be put back with her as soon as treatment has started. They should be given a simulated bitch's milk product during the interval between glucose and water therapy and being returned to the bitch.

HEMORRHAGIC SYNDROME

Puppies have minimal production of a plasma protein called prothrombin during their first two or three days of life. Prothrombin is produced in the liver and, in conjunction with Vitamin K1, controls the clotting function of the blood. Without sufficient prothrombin, a hemorrhagic tendency can develop.

Affected puppies die within those first two or three days. They are lethargic, weak and decline rapidly in condition. Signs of hemorrhage may be evidenced by lesions on the lips or tongue. Surviving puppies in the litter should receive Vitamin K1. Most complete and balanced dog foods have sufficient Vitamin K for growth/maintenance of normal dogs.

OTHER CAUSES

When confronted with neonatal puppy deaths, the breeder also should consider the possibility of other infectious canine diseases; brucellosis, distemper, leptospirosis, canine infectious hepatitis and the "new" diseases, coronavirus and parvovirus.

MOST puppy deaths are preventable, with (1) selection of sound breeding stock, (2) a healthy, well-nourished bitch, (3) clean kenneling, (4) adequate heat for the bitch and litter, (5) careful supervision of puppies' early weight gains and (6) prompt veterinary assistance should puppies start to "fade", cry, or have any of the early symptoms of puppy diseases.

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- | | | |
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Gastritis Could Be The Cause of Chronic Vomiting

Reprinted from **DOG WORLD**, March 1998
Science And The Dog

It is alarming when your dog periodically vomits for no apparent reason. Many owners are familiar with the routine of aiding their dogs through these episodes, the carpet stains left behind and the helpless feeling that nothing appears to be wrong with their otherwise healthy dogs. Gastritis could be the culprit. Gastritis is a common condition in many breeds of all ages that is most evident by chronic bouts of vomiting.

Gastritis causes inflammation of the stomach lining and the resulting vomiting episodes. Typically, it requires long-term treatment but is not fatal. Currently the only method available for veterinarians to test dogs for gastritis is with an expensive procedure called endoscopy. Endoscopy involves inserting a scope through the dog's mouth to its stomach to get a biopsy of the stomach lining while the dog is anesthetized.

Vomiting also is a sign of disease of other organs including the liver, pancreas, and kidneys. Blood tests are available to help veterinarians diagnose some of these diseases: however, an easy blood test isn't available for gastritis. David Williams, M.R.C.V.S., PhD, and a team of scientists at Texas A & M University are beginning the study "Serum Immunoreactive Pepsinogens (Ips) as Markers for Gastritis in the Dog." They have set out to develop a blood test to simplify diagnosis of gastritis in dogs.

Williams' team is studying enzymes called pepsinogens that are likely to be released into the blood in increased amounts when gastritis is present. They predict elevated levels of these enzymes in the blood system will serve as a disease marker and can be used to create a diagnostic blood test. Blood samples from healthy pet dogs, pet dogs diagnosed with naturally occurring gastritis and vomiting dogs that do not have gastritis will be studied.

Williams is hopeful. "We anticipate the results of this study will open up a more affordable method to diagnose gastritis giving owners rapid access to specific treatments to control their dogs' vomiting. (Reprinted with the permission of Morris Animal Foundation, *Animal News*, Vol. III, 1997.)



Waiting for your ship to come in may finally lead you to suspect you are standing on the wrong dock.

The new year allows everyone to have a fresh start on his or her old habits.

Both a plow and criticism should have the same objective: to dig just deep enough to sow seeds that will grow.



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Ch. Sedentary's Chevy Chase, ROM

November 4, 1985 - February 9, 1998

"Part of my heart is gone forever; we miss you and will love you always old friend."

Kathy McAlister & Ed Brady

D'Lite's Little Rascal



OUR GIRL DID IT!!

Going Best of Breed from the classes was truly a thrill for all of us.

Owner handled for a 3 point major.

Thanks to judge Robert J. Moore

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AM., INT. CH. WHISKEY HILL'S LIL BOOGIEMAN



BOOGIE adds more **"Firsts"** to Whiskey Hill history! He became our first International Champion - Group Placing - Best in Show Bred by Exhibitor in **one** weekend. Special "Thanks" to judges Howard Dullnig, Joel Evans, Edna St. Hillaire, and Mr. And Mrs. Gomez for recognizing his qualities. He looks forward to seeing all his friends in September.....

WHISKEY HILL
Susie & Connie
650-588-2327

WHISKEY HILL PRESENTS.....
Whiskey Hill's Fire it Up (Elvis)



CH. TAURALAN SMOKEY THE BEAR x CH. SAVANNA'S DUTCH MUFFIN

Here's **ELVIS** at 6 months.....we are very pleased with our new boy!! He's just beginning to be shown and has been Reserve Winner's Dog in 3 of his 5 show appearances. **CONGRATULATIONS** to two of his littermates: **WHISKEY HILL'S ASHES N SOOT** (Bonnie Campbell) Best of Breed and Best Puppy in her first show in Canada; and **WHISKEY HILL'S FOUR ALARM** (Habersham, Bourne, Borg) for her major win and Best of Opposite Sex at her first show at the Reno Kennel Club. Watch for the "kids" at the Nationals in September.

WHISKEY HILL
Connie & Susie
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PATRIOT'S THUNDER CHIEF

HappyLegs Patriot's Dream X Ch. Beowulf Little Bit of Belle

(Ch. HappyLegs Luke of Hartford x Ch. Shady Oak Spot of HappyLegs

(Ch. Leatherneck Bit of HappyLegs x Ch. Leatherneck Beowulf Belle)



MACK was the first puppy born from our first litter and the first to win points. He is a very energetic young dog with a nice, short, compact body, very nice movement and a pleasure to show in the ring. We are grateful to his owner, Carolyn Thatcher, for letting us show **MACK** on a limited basis. He is first and foremost her family pet and companion. The fact that he is also a dog of show quality is just added icing on the cake! His brother, **Walker**, (**PATRIOT'S RED SKY AT WALKERS**) won WD and BOW in Orlando for two points June 21st and his sister **K2** (**PATRIOT'S GRAND TEXAS SAND**) isn't far behind.

MACK's mom, **DALLAS** has been bred to **CH. LEATHERNECK SPANKY McFARLAND** (Ch. Leatherneck Buffalo Bull Cody x Ch. Leatherneck Springmill Anna) with a litter expected July 22nd. Inquiries welcome.

PATRIOT BULLMASTIFFS

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A New Champion.....

Ch. Praetorian's Latin Lady



CH. KILROY'S POSTCARD FROM BOSTON x FAIR GO MAKALA OF PRAETORIAN

FIESTA finished by wining her last six shows in a row with the last being a four point major, taking BW and BOS. Thank you judge Bill Whaling.

She is a big girl at 25 3/4 inches and 118 pounds with a beautiful red coat and a perfect bite. With her loving personality and sweet temperament combined with a happy disposition, she is a joy to be with. Thank you Sandy Frontin (Praetorian), Terri Loberg and Doreen Hodgin (Kilroy) for your efforts in breeding such a fine example of our breed.

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EverLoyal Bullmastiffs

721 Morita Drive, Corona Hills, CA 91719-6125
909-278-0332

SILVER OAKS "READY TO RUMBLE"



He's Red, Hot and Ready! His name is
DYLAN

Owners:
Linda Gugusian
Malinda Raby
609-641-1018
Egg Harbor Tws, New Jersey

Breeders:
Silver Oak
Peter Kozel
Malinda Raby
415-899-0056
Novato, CA

In Memory Of

Ch. Buckshorn Red Sky At Night
CD, CGC, ROM



☞ Sky ☛

December 1990 - November 1997

SKY was our foundation bitch and my best friend. There are no word to describe the tremendous feeling of loss I have at her passing. I miss her terribly. She was the epitome of the Bullmastiff personality. Everyone who came here to visit was her friend, however, if an occasion arose, we knew without a doubt that she would have given her life to protect us. She truly was a dog of distinction and I am grateful for the priviledge of sharing my life with such a special creature

StoneBull Bullmastiffs

Steve Krulish and Jackie Smith

Keene, New Hampshire 603-352-7698

A "Sky" Son
"BRUCE"
StoneBull Nite O'Rob DeBrus



BRUCE is shown above winning a Group 2 on only the **FOURTH** time in the ring...nice start! He is OFA hips - Good and a normal thyroid.

BRUCE is a joy both in and out of the ring. His attitude is one of "smiling" and "laughs". Maybe once he finishes his CH. His mom may let him "play" in the obedience or agility ring.

He is adored by:

Jean Bonis

354 Mammoth Road, Londonderry, NH

Bred by:

StoneBull Bullmastiffs

603-352-7698

Shown and loved by:

Lisa Heffner

Introducing.....a "Sky" son

StoneBull's Julius Nitestar

BMF-1883 MI State Thyroid "Normal"



(December 11, 1995)

SHERWOOD TUCKER OF NIGHTTYDE x CH. BUCKSHORN RED SKY AT NIGHT, CD, CGC, ROM

JULIUS began his show career in April, immediately taking Winners Dog under Sam Pizzino at South County Kennel Club in Providence, Rhode Island. **JULIUS** is a large boned, 26", red-fawn with a beautiful bite, topline, and powerful side movement. We are trying to convince him that trotting around the ring, eating liver, is just as much fun as sitting on the couch with the kids, getting belly-rubs and watching baseball. Watch to see how well we do!

BREEDERS:

StoneBull Bullmstiffs

Steve Krulish & Jackie Smith

Keene, New Hampshire 603-352-7698

OWNERS:

Gary & Brenda Farley

Methuen, Massachusetts

Introducing.....a "Sky" grandson
NIX Pride of Deer Hollow Farms



(February 9, 1997)

CH. STONEBULL'S NITE STALKER NIX, CGC, OFA x CH. APPLE HILLS PLATINUM BLONDE, OFA

CLYDE is shown taking BW out of the 12-18 months class at the Greater New York Specialty show on June 6, 1998 for the 5 point major. I'd like to thank everyone for the enthusiastic support I heard as he was gaiting around the ring. **CLYDE** followed up this impressive win by taking BOB at Wampanoag Kennel Club on June 28, 1998. Not a bad start for a youngster! He will be shown sparingly during the rest of 1998, as we prefer to have him grow up slowly and continue to have fun in the ring!

BRED AND HANDLED BY:
NIX Bullmastiffs - Richard Blanchard
 Pascoag, RI 401-568-4292

OWNER:
Joseph Duarte III
 Bridgewater, MA

A "Sky" Grandson
"NATE"
Dur-Anya Nitesneak StoneBull, CD, CGC



NATE shown above at 15 months finishing his CD. He qualified for his first leg of his CD at 6 MONTHS OLD at our '97 Nationals. He is working on his CDX and BH with great character...sometimes too much.

NATE is minor pointed and will be emerging in the show ring this Winter.

NATE has prelimned OFA hips - Excellent, elbows - pass, and thyroid normal.

NATE is a very sizable boy, but most importantly, he has a wonderful sound temperament with a great sense of humor.

Lisa & Doug Heffner
Dur-Anya Bullmastiffs
90 Appleton Circle, Fitchburg, MA 01420
978-343-8587
dur-anya@ma.ultranet.com

Introducing.....a "Sky" granddaughter
Aisha's Night of StoneBull, CGC



(February 19, 1997)

CH. GAILWIN'S MYTHICAL MINOTAUR, CGC, OFA x CH. STONEBULL'S NIGHT SKY, CD, CGC, OFA

AISHA was sold to friends that have "Newfies" and are much into obedience and drafting competition. We never expected her to even set foot in the conformation ring. Well....surprise, surprise! **AISHA** is shown her taking Bos in Sweeps at the Greater New York Bullmastiff supported entry at the CT River Working Dog Show in Springfield, MA. She then went up to Canada, really as a companion to a "Newfie" looking to earn his last leg towards his Canadian CD, and came home with a BOB out of the classes and 3 points!! Way to go puppy girl!!

BREEDERS:

StoneBull Bullmastiffs
Steve Krulish & Jackie Smith
 Keene, New Hampshire 603-352-7698

OWNER:

Ed Laraway
 Northfield, Massachusetts

Introducing.....a "Sky" granddaughter

StoneBull's Good Night Moon, CD, CGC

(Preliminary OFA Hip - "Good", Elbows - "Clear" and MI State Thyroid - "Normal")



(February 19, 1997)

CH. GAILWIN'S MYTHICAL MINOTAUR, CGC, OFA x CH. STONEBULL'S NIGHT SKY, CD, CGC, OFA

CHLOE earned her CD in 4 shows with an average score of 181.5, at the tender age of sixteen months. She and her litter brother, **NATE (Dur-Anya Nitesneak StoneBull)** owned by Lisa and Doug Heffner, are now the third generation of obedience titled dogs here at StoneBull. She and I are going to take the plunge and begin training for Open competition, a new experience for both of us. Something tells me, **CHLOE** will be much better at it than I will be!!

StoneBull Bullmastiffs - Steve Krulish & Jackie Smith

Keene, New Hampshire 603-352-7698

T O D A Y

A NEW AMERICAN CHAMPION
CH. CAHILL'S RUN ON BLUFF CREEK, CGC



CAHILL finished his championship winning both majors in one weekend at the Colorado Kennel Club show in Denver, Colorado. Thank you judge Dorothy D. Nickles and judge Mabel "Jinx" Gunville for making ours a WINNING weekend.

CAHILL is a beautiful red brindle weighing in at 140 pounds and 26 inches.

OWNED BY:
LANICE AND MARK MILLER
217 Cunningham Drive
Colorado Springs, CO 80911
719-391-9152

T O M O R R O W
WE CAN REST
CH. CAHILL'S RUN ON BLUFF CREEK, CGC



CAHILL plans to take it easy for a while. We salute Linda Thompson, Kathy McAlister and Michelle Harms for their help, support, and guidance in our journey which included 6 Best of Breeds.

Thanks to **RANDY** and **JUDY PASBRIG** for the expert handling and care of their "Bastard Boxer".

HANDLED BY THE BEST:
RANDALL AND JUDITH PASBRIG

18175 Murphy Road
Peyton, CO
719-947-2904

WILD WEST BULLMASTIFFS

KEEPER'S MIDNITE MARAUDER, BMF-1890g25M-T

TAILWYNDE'S SUDDEN IMPACT x
MEX/INT'L CH. MOLLY FRONT-CADY'S RAPTOR, CGC



MacGregor picked up a 4 point major at the Mission Circuit under judge Patrick Doniere. Then over the 4th of July weekend, in Ventura, CA he won another point under judge Donna Buxton! He now has 6 points!

Mac is a proven sire (1 litter of 10 born 2/18/98 and a second litter due 7/16/98 out of **Upper Crust's Triga's Memory**). He stands at stud to bitches of quality. Check out our web site (www.bullmastiff.com) for pictures and information on upcoming breedings.

See ya'll at the National in September!

Owned and loved by:

Brian & Tracy Ferrick

15455 Rockwood Road, Escondido, CA 92027
760-745-5756 E-mail: wildwest@bullmastiff.com

WILD WEST BULLMASTIFFS

CH. GUARDMAN'S PETRA OF LONE PINE

CH. BLAZIN'S NAT KING COLE x
CH. MEGHAN THE GUARDMAN'S PUNCH, ROM

TO: CHUCK AND CAROL FLEMING, LONE PINE BULLMASTIFFS

Dear Chuck and Carol,

You have raised and loved PETRA from an 8 weeks old pup. When she matured, you gave us the opportunity to love and cherish her, then to show PETRA to her championship. You let me choose the sire of her first litter and then whelp that litter. I wish I could have kept all of them since they were her babies. The three youngsters we have from that litter filled the void PETRA left when she went home. And now, you have given us the greatest gift of all,.....PETRA herself.

We know what a hard decision it was to give her up, but Carol, your health is what is important now. You know how much we have loved her from our first meeting 2 years ago. She will always be an integral part of our family and hope you know how forever grateful we are for this unselfish gift of the heart.

We wish you continued improvement with your health, Carol, and Chuck good luck with your new teaching assignment. Our hopes and prayers are with you as you start a new chapter in your lives.

All our love,
Brian, Tracy, Thomas, and Courtney

Owned and loved by:

Brian & Tracy Ferrick

15455 Rockwood Road, Escondido, CA 92027
760-745-5756 E-mail: wildwest@bullmastiff.com



Tondra's Tally It Up



CH. MACKLE RANAH'S OF LEATHERNECK x CH. TONDRA'S NORTHERN EXPOSURE

TALLY is pictured going Best of Opposite Sex in Sweepstakes (to her brother) at the Greater New York Bullmastiff Fanciers Specialty in June under breeder judge Mimi Einstein.

Thank You Gary and Kara Anderson for such a beautiful girl.

OWNER:

Windover

Donna Pendleton

Scott A. Pendleton, DVM

740-942-2624

BREEDER:

Tondra

Gary V. Anderson

Kara M. Anderson

612-631-1487

TONDRA'S HERE'S THE BEEF



CH. MIKELL RANAH'S OF LEATHERNECK x CH. TONDRA'S NORTHERN EXPOSURE

ANGUS is pictured here winning his second Sweepstakes, this one under breeder judge Mimi Einstein. His first was won under judge Eric Long.

ANGUS has all of his point so far from the Bred By class. He has won Best of Breed 4 times in a row over many group placing and group winning Specials.

This litter at 13 months of age is doing very well in the show ring. **TALLY**, owner Donna Pendleton was BOS in Sweepstakes to **ANGUS**. **BOSS** owner Nancy Uhring has taken a specialty 5 point major with a total of 11 points. **COBIE** and **DAISY** owners Joe and Lynda Olliges have 9 point each.

ANGUS will be bred to **CH. TONDRA'S CHEW MONSTER**, mother of 1997 National Specialty BOS, a group winner, and a Specialty winner.

BREEDERS/OWNERS
TONDRA BULLMASTIFFS
Gary Anderson & Kara Anderson
 227 16th Avenue SW, New Brighton, MN 55112
 612-631-1487

Abbey Road Bullmastiffs
Father of the Year
the Gentle "Cosmo" and his fiery daughter
Abbey Road's Blonde Ambition



**AM, CAN, MEX, INT'L CH ABBEY ROAD'S FULL MOON FEVER, OFA x
CH. BLAZIN'S SUMMER DAZE, OFA**

As usual, all the ladies dominate the romantic softie **COSMO** and **GILDA** is no exception. A true gentleman to all, and he even spends quality time with his kids - what more can we ask for? I love you **COSMO!**

Kathryn & Tim Nibley
1165 E. Mountain Street, Pasadena, CA 91104
818-794-5863

Abbey Road Bullmastiffs
the sensational "Daisy" and her awesome pup
Bulhaben's Hot August Knight
"Auggie"



**AM, CAN, MEX, INT'L CH ABBEY ROAD'S FULL MOON FEVER, OFA x
CH. BLAZIN'S SUMMER DAZE, OFA**

What a wonderful partnership - Mari Hannigan's stunning Blazin' bitch **DAISY** and - well probably the most charismatic man about town, **COSMO**.

An eternity of thank yous to Mari for putting her heart and soul into this successful litter. She is a fine example - a real tribute to all dedicated breeders who live for their dogs.

Kathryn & Tim Nibley
1165 E. Mountain Street, Pasadena, CA 91104
818-794-5863

Abbey Road Bullmastiffs
Group Placing - Canadian pointed
Ch. Abbey Road's Material Girl
"Mighty Mattie" conquers Canada!



AM, CAN, MEX, INT'L CH. ABBEY ROAD'S FULL MOON FEVER, OFA x
SHILO'S CRISSY QUEEN OF HEARTS, OFA

Well "conquer" is a bit much... but we did have a smashing time seeing our wonderful, fun-loving Canadian friends and their lovely, well-bred dogs. My awesome **MATTIE** really stands among the best, with her sensational energy and enthusiasm for life. I love you **MATTIE!**

Kathryn & Tim Nibley

1165 E. Mountain Street, Pasadena, CA 91104
 818-794-5863

Introducing...
DROGHEDA'S HIGH EXPECTATIONS
"Caesar"



CH. WILD HEARTS MAIN ATTRACTION x TAURALAN GINGER TRUFFLES

CAESAR is a sturdy 25 ½ inch tall dog with a lovely bite. He is well on his way to finishing his championship. His temperament is wonderful. He is pictured taking Best of Breed at Flagstaff KC in June. **CAESAR** stands at stud to approved bitches.

Many thanks to Carol Beans and Debbie Vandagriff for all your support.

Drogheda Bullmastiffs has now been renamed to avoid a conflict with a kennel of a different breed. We are now:

TAIF BULLMASTIFFS

Shanita Duke

4112 E. Park Street, Phoenix, AZ 85040
602-437-0892

CAN. CH. TAILWYNDE'S COLD EXECUTION

BMF-1627F28M-T



TAILWYNDE'S NINE ONE ONE x TAILWYNDE'S HEEBIE JEBBIES

STEVEN M. BODNARUK
INXS BULLMASTIFFS

7312 34 Avenue NW, Calgary Alberta, Canada T3B 1N4
403-286-7267

Web Site
www.bullmastiff-bulldog.com
e-mail: steve.bullmastiff@shaw.wave.ca

Semen Shipped
World
Wide

Greetings from Reprisal Bullmastiffs



TAILWYNDE'S SUDDEN IMPACT x MEX, INT'L CH. MOLLY FRONT CADY'S RAPTOR, CGC

- * **KEEPER'S DOCKMASTER** (aka: Taurus is pictured above. He won a 4 point major in April at Lake Matthews KC, handled by breeder Tamara Cady.
- * Congrats to littermate, **KEEPER'S MIDNITE MARAUDER** (aka: Mac) and to co-owners Brian and Tracy Ferrick, for **MAC's** recent success in the show ring.
- * Crossing our fingers for Rick and Trina LaBatt (Alpha Bullmastiffs). They bred **CH. KEEPER'S FIREBALL** (aka: Drew) to BIS, BISS **CH. MR. U'S MUSIC MAN, CGC, CTD** in June.
- * Way to go Trina for winning the points with the latest addition to her family, **REPRISAL'S A CUT ABOVE** (aka: Bush); it was his first show.
- * Announcing the summer breeding of our brindle bitch **KEEPER'S LUCKY STRIKE** to **CH. TAILWYNDE'S DARRYL AND DARRYL** (planned last July)

We look forward to meeting everyone at the 1998 Nationals!

Reprisal Bullmastiffs **Carey & Tamara Cady**

2112 Haniman Drive, San Diego, CA 92105

619-263-3214

<http://members.aol.com/Reprisal4u/homepage-index.html>

e-mail - Reprisal4u@aol.com

Ch. Tauralan Ben Torridon



CH. TAURALAN LIONEL LOVE TOY x CH. DAJEAN SILVER HEATHER (English Import)

July has been a good month for **BEN**. He took breed at Long Beach KC under judge Edd Biven, Santa Maria KC under judge Charles Trotter, and Ventura County Dog Fanciers KC (day after Santa Maria show) under judge Donna Buxton (pictured here).

He is at stud to approved bitches.

TAURALAN
Carol H. Beans

12131 Arroyo Avenue, Santa Ana, CA 92705
Phone: 714-544-1824 FAX: 714-730-9106
e-mail: anakari@aol.com

Tauralan Nursery News



Tauralan That's My Hero

TAURALAN TO THE VICTOR x CH. TAURALAN TE AMO

This lovely, substantial red pup is pictured at 7 ½ weeks. He is from the first litter produced by either his sire or dam. His sire is a son of **TAURALAN TARTAN LADDIE** and his dam is a litter sister to **CH. TAURALAN BEN TORRIDON**. We are very pleased with the results of this breeding.

Two puppies from **LADDIE** and **HEATHER** (Ben's dam) are staying at Tauralan. Both are heavily pigmented, heavily boned fawns.

Also remaining at home is a lovely fawn bitch, **TAURALAN HEART TO HEART**, from **CH. CHEVAL BAL BRIGGAN** (English Import) and **CH. TAURALAN THAT'S AMORE**.

TAURALAN **Carol H. Beans**

12131 Arroyo Avenue, Santa Ana, CA 92705
Phone: 714-544-1824 FAX: 714-730-9106
e-mail: anakari@aol.com

BULLMAST

Est'd 1948



Brea Belle of Bullmast

CH. BEETHOVEN'S FIFTH OF BULLMAST x MAGNUM'S SWEET BRANDYWINE

MISSY has been having a wonderful time going BW at Pasadena, BOB at Bahia Sur and picking up her second major and going BOS at Santa Maria. She is well on her way to her championship.

MISSY will be bred to **BRICK** in the Fall.

PROUD OWNERS:
Tom & Stacy Green

INQUIRIES TO:
Pat O'Brien
1012 Dolores Drive
Fullerton, CA 92833
714-870-5235

BULLMAST

Est'd 1948



CH. CHEVAL BAL BRIGGAN (ENG. CH. DAJEAN RED DRAGON x CHEVAL LADY LUCK)

BRICK finished in style at 21 months of age, taking a 4 point major under judge Sharp at the Del Sur Kennel Club show.

BRICK will rest on his laurels for a while until he grows up a bit and then he'll be out as a Special.

BRICK is a proven sire (he currently has three litters on the ground) and is at stud to those who would be complimented by his type and pedigree.

Pat O'Brien

1012 Dolores Drive, Fullerton, CA 92833
714-870-5235

GOLDBARS JAX O'DREADNAUGHT



CH. BELRINGER CANDANCE IM BRAVO x CH. LEATHERNECK LADY DORE'
Whelped 9-4-96

JAX took Best of Opposite Sex in both back to back Contra Costa County K.C. shows in June against some fine competition. Thank you judges Howard Dullnig and Lowell Davis.

We're very proud of our girl. Shown here at 21 months, she is balanced and right on standard - 25", 105 pounds, lots of pigment, great movement and bite.

Looking forward to seeing you all at the National!

OWNERS:
DREADNAUGHT BULLMASTIFFS
Rick & Jeannie Stacey
Visalia, CA
209-337-2803

BREEDERS/CO-OWNER:
GOLDBARS BULLMASTIFFS
Michelle R. Harms
Holyoke, CO
970-854-2912

DNA and the AKC: Making Science Work For You

The AKC is pleased to offer three programs using DNA for unique identification and parentage verification of purebred dogs: the voluntary DNA Certification Program, the Parent Breed Club Program, and the Kennel Inspections/Compliance Audit Program.

Having completed a DNA Pilot Program in 1997 that resulted in the processing of more than 8,000 DNA samples, the AKC in 1998 is now prepared to process an additional 20,000-plus samples for the advancement of purebred dogs.

About DNA and Sample Collection

We can use DNA to uniquely identify dogs and verify parentage. Each dog has a unique combination of DNA, which is contributed equally by the sire and dam of the litter. Because each form of a gene (called an allele) is contributed randomly, these combinations can be analyzed and used to the advantage of the breeder.

AKC DNA testing does *not* require the collection of blood. DNA samples are collected using a small cheek swab. The process is noninvasive and painless to the dog.

Voluntary DNA Certification Program

This program has resulted from significant input from the fancy. The DNA Certification Program guarantees continuity from one generation to the next for breeders interested in using DNA to eliminate concerns or questions about both identification and parentage. The DNA Certification Program is an option – a voluntary program for owners and breeders electing to add value to their breeding programs.

The inclusive cost per sample for the DNA Profile is forty dollars (\$40). Owners electing to have their dogs profiled will pay for the service at the time the DNA samples are submitted. Included in the price is an 8 1/2 X 11 Certificate of DNA Analysis that will be issued by the AKC for each dog with a DNA Profile Number on record, and this number will appear on future Registration Certificates and Pedigrees. Contact the Compliance Operations & DNA Educational Services Department to order a test kit today.

Parent Breed Club Program

AKC representatives will be collecting DNA samples at Parent Breed Club national specialty shows in 1998, 1999, and 2000. This information will be used to build the world's largest database of purebred dog DNA and to guarantee that the genetic markers used for identification and parentage verification are appropriate for all AKC breeds.

The Parent Breed Club Program is fully funded by the AKC. Samples are taken at the shows and analyzed for free. In addition, for a fee of ten dollars (\$10), a dog owner who submits a sample will receive a Certificate of DNA Analysis and the DNA Profile will be identified by number on future Registration Certificates and Pedigrees.

Kennel Inspections/Compliance Audit Program

As part of regular kennel inspections, AKC representatives will take DNA samples at randomly selected kennels. DNA sample collection is used to guarantee the accuracy of the *stud book*.

The samples collected during routine kennel inspections will be used to verify identification and parentage of the dogs. AKC litter registration and privileges will be withdrawn when the parentage of litters is determined to be incorrect.

IMITATING ALPHA

By Charlotte Creeley
Reprinted from **The French Bullytin**
Volume 16, # 2
With permission from **A R Design, Inc.**

Editor's Note: This is from a French Bulldog publication but the information is valid in any breed. Thanks to Kathy McAlister for submitting the article.

Some years ago I got an early morning call from a distraught Pug owner, with whom I had placed a rescue puppy several months earlier. It seemed that the puppy, now a 16 pound adolescent male, had cornered her husband on her son's bed and would not let him get down. She apologized for bothering me so early, but her husband, a vice president at a local bank, was already late for work and she had no idea what to do next. I told her to throw a blanket over the little dog - taking care not to get bitten - wrap the ends up so that he couldn't get out and bring him right over. She was on my doorstep within twenty minutes to drop off her little bundle - another dog/owner relationship gone awry.

Bad dog? Not in the least. I kept the pup, appropriately named Mugsy, for about a month, subjecting him to every stress test imaginable. I took away his food in the middle of a meal, took the bones right out of his mouth, towed him around on a leash, and even bathed him, clipping his nails, and cleaned his ears without asking his permission. He remained throughout a model of propriety, never so much as curling a lip or offering any resistance whatsoever. There was nothing at all wrong with Mugsy - he was just another victim of submissive owner syndrome.

Alpha dogs are nothing new, and the course of treatment is usually a form of canine boot camp. No treats, no pats on the head, no privileges, no sitting on furniture, nothing until you do what I say, MISTER! The alpha dog is expected to earn his way back into polite society. It's a great theory in concept, but it almost never works, because the one really necessary element for success is still missing, and that's owner cooperation! It's a very rare small dog owner that can cold bloodedly cut off the biscuit supply and toss the little alpha on his head whenever he jumps on the bed.

Fortunately, there is another option. An owner can learn to be alpha - and, in all but the hardest cases - the alpha dog can be persuaded to give up control without having to give up bed and biscuits. Some dog owners are already blessed (or cursed) with an alpha personality, but the rest of dog owning population can learn to fake it by following this very basic guide for developing self assertiveness and becoming the alpha-owner they need to be.....

1) Don't shrink. An alpha dog stands tall and makes eye contact - he takes up as much space as he can, and he expects everyone else to get out of his way. Try standing up straight when you address your dog, and DON'T walk around him. It's your house, you pay the mortgage, not him. If he is in your way, move him aside. If he bumps against you, bump him back, only do it harder. Don't turn your body away, and don't avert your eyes. If he makes eye contact, hold it, and make him look away first.

2) Don't whine. Alpha dogs don't respect whiners and squeakers. Whiners and squeakers are usually less important dogs and puppies who want something from the alpha dog. The alpha dog himself doesn't whine and he doesn't ask questions - he gives orders. If you tell your dog to "stay", don't say "stay?", say "stay!" and say it only once. If he moves, put him back in place immediately. He'll get the idea. If you call him across the yard and he ignores you - and he will - go get him. Alpha dogs do not

IMITATING ALPHA (continued):

give second chances...

3) Take the best of everything for yourself. If he has a toy that he loves, you keep it. Let him play with it once in a while, but only because you want to play with it. Stop playing with it when you want to, no matter how much he wants to continue playing, and put it away. If he is accustomed to getting treats or bones, hand them to him. Make sure he realizes that everything food comes from your hand, not from his own diligence in searching the toy box or hanging out next to his dish in the kitchen. Don't let him get the idea that he is a resourceful and self sufficient hinter by letting him free feed.

4) Don't take order. If he poles you and prods you and sits on your lap, put him on the floor. Count to twenty, and then invite him to come over and sit in your lap and be petted. Invite him onto the couch. Invite him onto the bed. Invite him to your wedding, but make sure he has the invitation in his paw. Alpha dogs do not allow gate crashed under ANY circumstances.

5) Set the pace. One of the easiest ways to spot an alpha dog is to look for the little dog marching along anywhere from four to sixteen feet in front of his owner - depending on the length of the leash - pulling him along and stopping to mark every bush and investigate every item of interest while the owner waits on his bidding. Alpha dogs don't wait for anybody, so you shouldn't either. Give your dog time to take care of his business, and give him time to play, but make sure to spend some time walking at your pace with him either alongside or slightly behind you. A submissive dog will naturally drop into a heel position, but an alpha dog needs to be reminded.

6) Be compassionate. An alpha dog is a leader, and he looks after the needs of his pack. Do not be inconsistent, do not be unreasonable, and do not be cruel. You want your dogs to view you as an asset, not somebody to be feared.

Mugsey, the alpha Pug, was fortunate, because I was able to place him with a couple who were willing to take charge of him. Every year, there are thousands of other dogs, who through lack of their owners' ability or willingness to assume alpha status, progress from obnoxious adolescence to dangerous adulthood, and lose companionship of their owners, their freedom, their homes, and oftentimes their lives. And they lose it all through no fault of their own.

Bio: Dog trainer and occasional lawyer living with four obedience competitors (two French Bulldogs and two Pugs) and one really well behaved French Bulldog puppy, in Brockton, Massachusetts.



EVERYONE'S GUIDE TO THE BULLMASTIFF

By Carol Beans, artwork by Angela McGraw, medical information by Dr. Barbara Reichel

\$12 including postage

**Check payable to: Carol Beans,
12131 Arroyo Avenue, Santa Ana, CA 92705**

HANDLING AGGRESSION

By Barbara Colledge

There are different types of aggression but all have one thing in common. They must not be tolerated.

Aggression can be the result of incorrect breeding or rearing or even both. It occurs more frequently in some breeds than others and is often misunderstood. I once watched a West Highland White Terrier drag its owner over to a (fortunately) very placid Boxer and attempt to bite. Both owners laughed at the little dog and thought it showed a lot of character. I wonder if they would have felt the same if it had been a Rottweiler.

Often a much lower standard of behaviour is accepted from a small dog. But remember that small dogs can inflict a great deal of damage. If you have ever seen a terrier kill a rat you will know how much damage a small dog can inflict.

I would just like to say at this point. IF YOU HAVE AN AGGRESSION PROBLEM DON'T WAIT. ASK YOUR VET FOR A REFERRAL TO AN EXPERT IMMEDIATELY. Prevention is better than cure.

Let's imagine that your dog is starting to take over your household, won't get off the furniture when told, growls if you go near his food bowl etc. Is there anything you can do?

Quite a lot. First you have to lower his status. (see The Dominant Dog). Once you have done this he will be more amenable. You will then be able to train him and avoid any future problems with aggression since you will have established yourself as pack leader. Neutering will also help to control any possible problem. But real life is not quite as simple as this.

You may not have realised what sort of a situation you were allowing to develop with the young pup. It is cute when a baby puppy growls over his toy and won't give it up. But if that same animal, now an eighty-five pound eighteen month old male refuses to let you rescue your Persian rug from his playful jaws, you might feel intimidated if he were to growl and refuse to give it up.

Games of tug must always end with you taking permanent possession of the toy. But if there is any doubt, then tug is not a suitable game. The pack leader (which must be you) must always control the games.

From Nervous Puppy.....

Obviously most people would not dream of selecting a pup whose mother was anything but friendly or one who ran away to hide every time he was approached. But sometimes you are landed with a pup who has the potential to be nervous.

What do you do? For a start you take that pup out and about. Carry him everywhere until his injections are completed but don't deprive him of any stimuli whatsoever. The good breeder will already have accustomed the pups to as many different sights and sounds as possible. Now it is up to you to make sure his education is complete. Pups of a few weeks are much easier to socialise. Leave it until later and you will be struggling.

Even a bold puppy can be a problem if he is not well socialised early on. With a shy pup it is even more essential. If you can find a well run puppy class then by all means join. If you can't you will have to

HANDLING AGGRESSION (continued):

ensure that you don't allow anything to happen which might frighten the pup and cause problems for the future.

With a nervous youngster it could be disastrous if he were attacked by an older dog. Not all adults tolerate puppies so you need to be careful. The fearful youngster will soon discover that he can growl and possibly cause other dogs to leave him alone. Then as he matures he may well become the sort of dog who will instinctively attack another dog on the 'get him before he gets you' principle.

If his particular fear is people (and who wouldn't recoil if a dog snapped at them?) your pup could mature into a dangerous adult. Imagine owning (or being owned) by a dog who might suddenly decide to take a pot-shot at your neighbour or the friendly pup he meets when you are out for a walk.

You might even feel you can not take him out at all. People have even been known to exercise the aggressive dog in the middle of the night just so they didn't have to meet anyone else.

However there are some things you can do to ease the situation once it has developed. One thing you do not do with an aggressive dog is show aggression yourself. This will only serve to escalate the problem whatever kind of aggression he is showing.

First you have to decide what type of aggression you are dealing with.

Dominant Aggression.

If your dog is dominant, you will know because he will gradually have taken over your home to suit his convenience. The dominant aggressive dog might select your visitors, attacking those he decides he doesn't want around. Outside he may attack other dogs who dare to get in his way when out for exercise where he has probably chosen the route.

This dog suffers from a superiority complex. Don't hesitate to lower his status (see The Dominant Dog) and consider having him castrated to reduce his aggression. This should be done early if it is to have a significant effect.

Find a good training club once you have gradually taken control and learn how to train him. The recall is a particularly important exercise for the aggressive dog. It should be ultra-reliable.

Try to avoid situations which might provoke aggression if at all possible. Once you have become the pack leader you should be able to prevent him from attacking people. You simply place the dog in a down and take control of the situation.

Predatory aggression.

This is common amongst herding breeds. Border Collies can be a particular problem. Once again, if you have controlled the games from an early age and do not allow your pup to chase you he will be less likely to chase the postman, passing joggers etc. as he matures.

Obviously you need a very strong reliable recall for this type of dog so obedience training is essential.

HANDLING AGGRESSION (continued):

The temptation to chase is strong since the behaviour itself is intensely rewarding.

Practice dropping the ball-happy dog before allowing him to fetch and occasionally go and fetch the toy yourself. Don't allow him free exercise until his recall is absolutely reliable. A long line will help you to retain control. Then you can enlist the help of a friend. Get someone to run by. You can then practice first dropping then recalling your dog just as you did with the favourite toy.

If the temptation is still too strong your friend can use a water pistol. Your game with the favourite toy will soon become a much more interesting option than chasing the jogger or another dog.

Territorial Aggression.

This is another form of aggression shown by the dominant dog. He will guard whatever he sees as his property. It could be the house, car or the garden. Again, this dog should not be allowed to own property. His access to toys should be controlled by you.

People often make the mistake of allowing the dog to spend many hours outside, believing, wrongly that he needs to have plenty of freedom to run, play etc. The fact is that most dogs left in the garden simply lie down and wait to be allowed to rejoin the owner (the dog is after all a pack animal) or they learn to defend what they see as their own territory against all other living creatures. Try to make sure that your dog sees the garden, car etc as your territory as well as the house. Then territorial aggression is never allowed to develop.

Nervous Aggression.

Just because a dog is afraid of people or other dogs it does not follow that he is not a problem. A nervous aggressive dog can be lethal. Some people attempt to cure this type of aggression by forcefully checking the dog. This is one way to guarantee that the behaviour will escalate. A dog which attacks from fear has to learn to trust. A show of aggression towards him will have the opposite affect.

The dog which attacks people can learn to trust if he is taught to associate people with something pleasant. You can arrange to meet people you can trust in the park and get them to offer titbits or toys, whatever is the most likely to work for your dog.

At all costs avoid the dog-haters. People out walking with sticks are perhaps best avoided. One particularly unpleasant old man decided to make an unprovoked attack on my dog simply because he was off lead in the middle of the wood. The dog was at the time under control and showing no interest in the man. I think I managed to convince him that I was a much greater risk to him than my dog.

In the home it is tempting to let your dog crouch behind the furniture but this can cause more problems if he feels threatened in his safe place. It is better to let your visitors come in and sit down before bringing your dog in on the lead. The visitors must not look at the dog or make any attempt to befriend him.

Later, they can produce toys or food and the dog, once he is sure they are not interested in him, will gradually learn that they can be approached for something pleasant. You have control and can quietly

HANDLING AGGRESSION (continued):

praise him if he makes friendly overtures.

In extreme cases a dog can be muzzled to prevent any bites but if you do this you must first accustom him to wearing one and never leave him on his own for long if he is wearing a muzzle. If he learns to play so much the better. It is no good worrying that your dog may no longer be able to protect you once reformed.

A nervous aggressive dog is more of a liability. A dog who is friendly towards strangers is much more likely to differentiate between a friend and the rare person who might be out to threaten you in some way. The difficulty with teaching the nervous aggressive dog that he must not attack other dogs is finding quiet even-tempered dogs to help with the teaching process. Here your best plan might be to take him to a club where he will meet other dogs under control.

Under no circumstances should dogs be put at risk of attack so it is best to accustom your nervous aggressive dog to a muzzle, plain leather collar (never use choke chains they will only make things worse) and possibly also a halti headcollar. Then you can find a place to sit quietly where your dog can observe other dogs without being able to hide but also without feeling threatened.

If you can feel that the dog is learning to relax he can be praised and rewarded. If he is tense then the halti can be used to guide his head so he does not look directly at the other dogs. In a training club you have a chance of allowing him access to other dogs who are under control and not posing a threat so your dog can learn to relax.

Away from a controlled environment it is more difficult but not impossible to reform the nervous aggressive dog. It goes without saying that he should be on a lead when other dogs are about. But the lead should be slack. Tension will only bring out the dog's aggressive tendencies. Offer titbits or toys whenever other dogs are near, use the halti to turn your dog away from them and praise quietly if he shows no sign of aggression. Soon he may associate the sight of other dogs as a sign that something pleasant is in the offing.

If a strange dog does approach too closely take charge and if the owner doesn't remove the offending animal then do something yourself. A water pistol is a good deterrent. Once your dog realises he will not be threatened by another dog he may gradually lose his fear.

But the fearful dog is often this way through breeding. No amount of correct socialising is going to eradicate fear completely if it is an inherited trait. There are plenty of good natured animals around. Try to make sure that your pup is from good tempered parents and you have a chance of rearing a dog who does not have aggression problems on reaching maturity.

REMEMBER. IF YOU HAVE AN AGGRESSIVE DOG ALWAYS SEEK PROFESSIONAL HELP.

Barbara Colledge awaits your comments & suggestions

Created on 27th June 1996

DOG BUYERS

AKC wants you to know...

AKC PAPERS

If you buy a purebred dog that you are told is eligible for registration with the **American Kennel Club (AKC)** you are entitled to receive an application form from the seller that will enable you to register your dog.

AKC papers are very important. They set your dog apart, acknowledging its special status as a purebred dog. Even though it may not currently be in your plans, you may find at some later date that you may want to participate in any one of the many events or registry services available through the AKC. To participate, your dog must be AKC registered. In addition, registering your dog provides you with access to the many resources and materials the AKC has to offer. Because of the time limit restrictions imposed by our rules, it is important that you register your dog before the twelve month expiration date. Late registrations may be considered, provided that all the appropriate papers are in order. A penalty fee will be imposed.

If the registration application is not available at the time you acquire your dog, you must request and receive full identification of your dog in writing, signed by the seller, consisting of the breed, registered names and numbers of the dog's sire (father) and dam (mother), date of birth, name of the breeder and, if available its AKC litter number. Your dog is not eligible for registration until the litter is registered.

Don't be misled by promises of "papers" later. Demand a registration application form or proper identification as described above. *If neither is supplied, don't buy the dog!*

AKC REGISTRY

AKC is a registry body. A registration certificate identifies the dog as the offspring of a known sire and dam, born on a known date. It doesn't indicate the quality or state of health of the dog. You may want to consider taking your dog directly to a veterinarian before taking the puppy home.

BENEFITS OF OWNING A PUREBRED DOG

There are many benefits to owning a purebred dog.

* Purebred dogs are the result of a long process of selective breeding for specific physical attributes and temperaments. When you buy a purebred puppy, you know what to expect as far as size, amount and type of coat, and temperament in the grown dog.

* When considering a purebred dog, it's possible to narrow down the choices to those with attributes that most clearly fit your personal lifestyle and interests. For example, will the dog be good with your children? Will you have time to groom and exercise the dog properly? There are many breeds to choose from. One is sure to fit your lifestyle.

For more information, or to request a Dog Buyer's Education Packet, write to:

American Kennel Club
5580 Centerview Drive,
Raleigh, NC 27606

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