



www.bestdoggietips.com
July 2009 Newsletter



Dear friends,

Welcome to our July Newsletter from www.bestdoggietips.com.

Contents

Recipe – Auggie's Wolfdown	Page 2
10 Things You Must Teach Your Puppy Before it is 1 Year Old	Page 3
Karma Dogs	Page 6
Ya Gotta Meet Molly	Page 8
Dogs Help Beat Cancer	Page 10
Fun Stuff – How to Photograph a New Puppy	Page 11
The Weird & The Wonderful	Page 12

We hope you enjoy the newsletter.

In order to keep a true perspective of one's importance, everyone should have a dog that will worship him and a cat that will ignore him – *Derek Bruce*

Recipe - Auggie's Wolfdown

This recipe is from the i-love-dogs recipe book, which you can download free at [BestDoggieTips](#)

Ingredients

16-qt stew pot with cover enough olive oil to coat bottom of pot
5-6 lbs. ground beef
2 50-oz cans chicken broth
4 cups water
1 3-lb bag frozen corn
1 3-lb bag brown rice

To Make

Brown ground beef in olive oil. When beef is cooked, add broth, water, and corn. (Note that broth and water amount to just over a gallon of liquid; you can also just dump in a gallon jug of water and add a bunch of bouillon cubes.) Bring to a boil.

Add brown rice, stir well, cover, and bring to a boil again. Reduce heat to low and simmer, covered, for 1 hour.

Remove from heat and let cool overnight. Makes approximately 40-45 cups of food. Divide the yield into generous 2-cup portions and freeze most of it (it freezes well). Always have some thawed in the fridge and microwave it for a minute or so to get it to room temperature.

Suggested serving is as follows:

Breakfast

1 portion (2 cups) Auggie's Wolfdown
1 cup high-quality all-natural kibble

Dinner

1 portion (2 cups) Auggie's Wolfdown
1 cup fresh shredded veggies
2-3 times a week: a little nonfat plain yogurt and an egg yolk

[Back to Contents List](#)

10 Things You Must Teach Your Puppy Before It Is A Year Old

Have you ever come across a dog at the dog park, or had to look after a dog for a friend, and found that they had absolutely no doggie manners at all? That's because they haven't been trained properly. Here are the 10 things you MUST teach your puppy before they are a year old, so you can have the best behaved dog on the street!

OK – we'll start with the basics....

Toilet Training. We all know it's important to teach your puppy where to go to the toilet, but it's equally important to teach them to alert you WHEN they need to go to the toilet. You might think it's easier to teach the puppy to go at pre-arranged times (after meals and just before bed), and this is true. However, there may be times in your dog's life (such as when they are unwell) when they might just need an extra pit stop.

It's a great idea to teach your dog to alert you when they need to go outside. Or, you can teach your dog to answer your question "do you need to go pee?". No seriously – if you ask this question each time they go out to do their business, they will eventually associate that phrase with going to the toilet. So when you ask the question, they will either be disinterested, or jump up ready to go. Trust me – this comes in very handy later on in your dog's life.

Sit, Stay, Drop. It seems to me I shouldn't have to mention this, but it amazes me the number of dogs who won't sit on command! The earlier you teach your puppy, the better. Drop can be particularly hard for puppies, but it's worth persevering with. The Drop command is quite a submissive action for a dog, and can be very useful when there are young children about, putting the dog below them in terms of height.

Walk on Leash & Off Leash With You. Going for a walk should be fun, but not out of control. Teach your puppy from an early age to stand still while you put on their leash (and collar if they don't wear one indoors). When walking, your dog should walk beside you – not in front, and not wandering all over the place sniffing and peeing. Your dog can have some "free time" (see later on in this article), but most of the walk should be by your side and calm.

It's also a good idea to teach your dog to walk beside you off leash (once you have mastered on leash of course). It's best to start this off in your own fenced yard before you move outdoors. And always take the lead with you as back up. However, this is very handy if your dog somehow gets out or off leash when you are outdoors. You should be able to call them to you and then put them on leash or walk them home without one.

Fetch & Release. Throwing a ball or Frisbee and having them retrieve it is a great game for a puppy. It's great exercise, it's fun, and they are with you! However, it is just as important to teach your puppy to release the ball or Frisbee when they return to you. It is more important actually – they

need to acknowledge that you are in charge of the game, and that the ball always gets given back to you.

Do NOT wrestle with the dog for the ball or Frisbee, and don't allow them to "play growl". Tug is a separate game played with a tug toy. In Fetch they must always release the ball back to you. If they won't – stop playing.

Doggie etiquette. When your puppy meets another dog or cat, it needs to know the right etiquette for introducing itself. Puppies usually learn this from their litter mates, but I have seen many cases where puppies were obviously taken away from their litter too soon, and they have no idea at all how to behave around other animals.

You'll know if your puppy has a problem by how it behaves when guests arrive. A well behaved puppy will approach the visitors and want a pat or some attention, but not demand it. Badly behaved puppies demand attention by pushing their noses at people, or jumping. If your puppy does either of these, chances are it won't behave very well around new animals either. And that could spell trouble at the dog park! Nip it in the bud now.

No jumping. Following on from our point on etiquette, you may think it's cute now that your puppy jumps at your legs to get attention or tries to jump on your lap. But wait until they are a fully grown dog, or when they try it on a frail elderly person and knock them over. No jumping on people – ever.

Sharing Food and Toys. This is a very important lesson to teach if you have, or plan on having, other animals or children in the house. Some dogs can be very possessive, especially with their food and/or toys. Puppies need to be taught at a young age that nothing is theirs alone – not their food nor their toys. You need to start this training when they are young. Take the toy or food away from the dog and give it to your child to give back to the dog. This teaches the dog that things come back – they won't necessarily lose them forever.

If you have another animal, especially another dog, then make sure that both (or all) dogs play with all toys. No toys belong to any one dog.

Go to your bed. Your dog needs a "safe" zone – somewhere they can go to get some time out, sleep, or eat their food. This can be their bed, a rug, or even their crate. Teach them from an early age to go there on command. This way, if puppy misbehaves you can send them for some time out with this command.

"Free" time. OK – I mentioned this when we talked about walking on leash. It is important that your dog is allowed some free time to run and play and be silly and sniff things and pee on things. Teaching your dog early by using the word "free" said loudly and happily will train your dog that now he can be himself! This is a great command to use at the dog park. You also need to have an "off" word so they come back to you when it's time to go home or back on the leash. Whether that's calling their name, or "come", or another word you use.

Who's in charge. If you have been able to teach your puppy all of the above behaviours, then you have also taught your dog who's in charge – you!

If you teach your puppy to be a well behaved, well mannered puppy, then you'll have a dog you can be proud of later in life.

[Back to Contents List](#)

Saving Dogs. Serving People.

Karma Dogs are primarily rescued dogs who have been given a second chance and now, with the help of their owners, help others by saving dogs and serving people. How do Karma Dogs serve people? By helping children become better readers, working with the disabled and teaching children (and their parents) how to be safe and responsible around dogs. How do they save dogs? By teaching others how to care for pets while being a responsible owner.

Teaching children today will make for safer, healthier and happier dogs in the future..

Karma Dogs was created as a way to give back to the community through the wet noses of therapy dogs. These dogs are primarily rescued dogs who, in return for the kindness shown to them, help others with their human owners.

Their primary goal is to teach adults and children alike that animals have an intrinsic value.

The Karma Dogs OK program was established after the senseless death of Phoenix, a pit bull puppy who was tortured by young men in Baltimore. Senseless animal violence, like what Phoenix endured, is a growing problem in Baltimore and around the country. Karma Dogs believes, as research suggests, that people who are unable to bond or empathize with animals have trouble developing and sustaining bonds with people. This can only lead to more violence down the road. It is their intention that by giving children something to be proud of, to be a part of, they will think twice before participating in violence towards any living thing.

The Karma Dogs Oath of Kindness is intended to make children stop and actually think about how important it is to be kind to all animals. "It is our hope that this program will open up discussions between parents and their children regarding the treatment of household pets and other animals, as well as empower children to discuss it among their friends. It should help them resist the pressure to comply with mental or physical harm to other animals, whether in the guise of childhood pranks or cruel activities like dog fighting."

Learn How to Be Safe and Responsible Around Dogs

Karma Dogs is dedicated to improving the lives of dogs. One way to do this is to teach people how to love and live with dogs. Many are afraid of dogs or don't know what to do to prevent being bitten by a dog. Many don't even know what is required for a dog to live healthily and happily.

One of the best ways to teach people a humane approach to companion animals is to talk to them when they are young. Karma Dogs has programs tailored to grades K-6 to help kids learn to speak dog and how to make their pet one of their best friends. If you would like Karma Dogs to come to your school or camp, please e-mail goodkarma@karmadogs.org for more information.

They also have a Guide To Dog Safety! It is a new coloring book that easily explains ways to stay safe around dogs. It's fun to read and even more fun to color! The coloring book is available for purchase on the website (www.karmadogs.org) or at Dogma, located in Canton, MD. The book is available at a bulk rate to schools, camps, churches, etc.

[Back to Contents List](#)

Ya Gotta Meet Molly

Meet Molly. She's a grey speckled pony who was abandoned by her owners when Hurricane Katrina hit southern Louisiana . She spent weeks on her own before finally being rescued and taken to a farm where abandoned animals were stockpiled. While there, she was attacked by a pit bull terrier and almost died. Her gnawed right front leg became infected, and her vet went to LSU for help, but LSU was overwhelmed, and this pony was a welfare case. You know how that goes.



But after surgeon Rustin Moore met Molly, he changed his mind. He saw how the pony was careful to lie down on different sides so she didn't seem to get sores, and how she allowed people to handle her. She protected her injured leg. She constantly shifted her weight and didn't overload her good leg. She was a smart pony with a serious survival ethic.

Moore agreed to remove her leg below the knee, and a temporary artificial limb was built. Molly walked out of the clinic and her story really begins there.

'This was the right horse and the right owner,' Moore insists. Molly happened to be a one-in-a-million patient. She's tough as nails, but sweet, and she was willing to cope with pain.

She made it obvious she understood that she was in trouble. The other important factor, according to Moore, is having a truly committed and compliant owner who is dedicated to providing the daily care required over the lifetime of the horse.

Molly's story turns into a parable for life in post-Katrina Louisiana .The little pony gained weight, and her mane finally felt a comb. A human prosthesis designer built her a leg. The prosthetic has given Molly a whole new life, Allison Barca DVM, Molly's regular vet, reports.

And she asks for it. She will put her little limb out, and come to you and let you know that she wants you to put it on. Sometimes she wants you to take it off too. And sometimes, Molly gets away from Barca. 'It can be pretty bad when you can't catch a three-legged horse,' she laughs.

Most important of all, Molly has a job now. Kay, the rescue farm owner, started taking Molly to shelters, hospitals, nursing homes, and rehabilitation centers. Anywhere she thought that people needed hope. Wherever Molly went, she showed people her pluck. She inspired people, and she had a good time doing it.

'It's obvious to me that Molly had a bigger role to play in life, Moore said. She survived the hurricane, she survived a horrible injury, and now she is giving hope to others.'

Barca concluded, 'She's not back to normal, but she's going to be better. To me, she could be a symbol for New Orleans itself.'

This is Molly's most recent prosthesis. The photo shows the ground surface that she stands on, which has a smiley face embossed in it. Wherever Molly goes, she leaves a smiley hoof print behind.



[Back to Contents List](#)

Dogs Help Beat Cancer

Cancer technology keeps tails wagging

A new cancer treatment program using nanotechnology is reporting success in prolonging the life of some terminally ill canine companions.

Lane Cove company EnGeneIC has created a cancer treatment called the EnGeneIC Delivery Vehicle (EDV) as part of a Department of State and Regional Development supported biotechnology project.

18 dogs with late stage cancer were treated as part of the project and reportedly experienced a rapid decrease in the burden of cancer and an improvement on their quality of life.

EnGeneIC says its EDV technology delivers anti-cancer drugs directly to tumours without exposing other healthy cells to damage, reducing the risk of side effects as seen in chemotherapy patients. The EnGeneIC treatment has seen dogs suffering cancer injected with cancer fighting nanocells containing drugs coated in molecules that actively seek out cancerous cells.

Once the nanocells reach a cancerous environment the cancer cells swallow the nanocells and the drugs are released as part of a natural process inside the cell.

Dr Jennifer MacDiarmid, Joint Managing Director of EnGeneIC, said the EDV project is progressing very well. "Several of the dogs treated with the EDVs have stable disease and some may be in remission which is very positive," Ms MacDiarmid said.

"The important observations are that most of the treated dogs showed clear evidence of rapid decrease in cancer burden and despite repeat dosing there have been no significant toxic side effects to the EDV treatment."

Melanie Filiios, whose pet German Shepherd Penelope was treated under the EnGeneIC project, said: "When my vet diagnosed Penelope with her tumour the outlook wasn't very good. It was a particularly aggressive cancer and I was told if we didn't amputate her leg Penelope would die.

"The tumour in her hind leg was huge, roughly 8 centimetres by 15 centimetres and following 19 weeks of the trial the tumour has shrunk considerably.

"If Penelope was to die tomorrow words can't describe the improvement in quality of life that she has had over the last five months as a result of this trial. I'm very thankful that we were able to be a part of it."

EnGeneIC says the next challenge was to expand the EDV technology to use a combination of drugs to fight off drug-resistant tumours that may surface during remission.

[Back to Contents List](#)

Fun Stuff - How to Photograph a New Puppy

- ☺ Remove film from box and load camera.
- ☺ Remove film box from puppy's mouth and throw in trash.
- ☺ Remove puppy from trash, brush coffee grounds from muzzle.
- ☺ Choose a suitable background for photo.
- ☺ Mount camera on tripod and focus.
- ☺ Find puppy and take dirty sock from mouth.
- ☺ Place puppy in pre-focused spot and return to camera.
- ☺ Forget about spot and crawl after puppy on knees.
- ☺ Focus with one hand and fend off puppy with other hand.
- ☺ Get tissue and clean nose print from lens.
- ☺ Put cat outside, put peroxide on the scratch on puppy's nose.
- ☺ Put magazines back on coffee table.
- ☺ Try to get puppy's attention by squeaking toy over your head.
- ☺ Replace your glasses and check camera for damage.
- ☺ Jump up in time to grab puppy by scruff of neck and say, "No, outside! No, outside!"
- ☺ Clean up mess.
- ☺ Sit back in chair with lemonade and resolve to teach puppy "sit" and "stay" soon.

[Back to Contents List](#)

The Weird & the Wonderful

He's a slum dog and he's worth ... thousands



THERE'S nothing unusual about adopting a homeless dog - unless it was rescued from a Mumbai street and cost about \$12,000 in air fares, vaccinations and quarantine fees.

Walking along a Mumbai street in 2004, Aine Corbett heard a crying sound - and made a decision that eventually cost every cent she had.

"It was a puppy curled up at

a bus stop. People were stepping over him," Corbett recalls.

"I picked it up and said to myself, 'Shit, this is going to cost me money.'"

Hungry strays were nothing new to her. By then she had been working in telecommunications in India for two years and volunteering for an animal welfare charity. So why this dog?

"I don't know," she says, talking in the Balmain home she shares with the same Indian stray - now a sleek four-year-old named Punna - and a golden retriever. "When I first came to India it was hard not to take strays home, but there are so many - where would I stop?

"But I think I'd reached a point where I'd had enough. By then I'd seen so many stray dogs. I'd had enough of the misery. I couldn't save every dog, but I could save one. Everyone deals with it in their own way."

The likes of Punna are common on Mumbai's streets and rubbish tips. So skinny you can count their ribs, they are descendants of pariah dogs, native dogs that have survived as scavengers for thousands of years, according to Welfare of Stray Dogs, which works to reduce Mumbai's homeless dog population by desexing them and encouraging adoption.

As a WSD volunteer, Corbett learned basic first-aid for dogs. "The idea was to treat injuries to street dogs quickly before maggots got to them, otherwise they would be eaten alive. But I could afford to take serious injuries to the vet."

She kept an eye on the dogs on her street, paying desexing fees and feeding them - a job that meant many bites and subsequent rabies shots.

As she deloused the stray puppy in her Mumbai flat, she briefly considered taking him to a shelter. "But I couldn't. I'd visited one, and they're run by good people, but their resources are limited. All the dogs were in one large pen. Many of the puppies have been maimed either from dog fights or botched attempts to kill them."

When Corbett's contract and her relationship ended, she had to work out how to bring Punna home. Australia accepts animals only from approved countries, and rabies keeps India off the list. The same challenge applied to her golden retriever, brought from Melbourne when she took the job.

The dogs spent six months in the US, which accepts dogs from India, and then needed only one month's quarantine in Sydney. The total cost?

"About \$24,000 for both dogs," Corbett, 38, says. It was all the money she had. "A girlfriend put me up for three months when I got back to Sydney and I took out a \$10,000 loan."

Punna, with long legs and curling tail, has adapted to life in suburban Sydney.

"He's an independent dog, but he has a gentle nature," she says. "And he can smell a rubbish tip a mile away."

Poop slueths on the prowl



An Israeli city is using DNA analysis of dog droppings to reward and punish pet owners.

Under a six-month trial program launched this week, the city of Petah Tikva, a suburb of Tel Aviv, is asking dog owners to take their animal to a municipal veterinarian, who then swabs its mouth and collects DNA.

The city will use the DNA database it is building to match faeces to a registered dog and identify its owner.

Owners who scoop up their dogs' droppings and place them in specially marked bins on Petah Tikva's streets will be eligible for rewards of pet food coupons and dog toys.

But droppings found underfoot in the street and matched through the DNA database to a registered pet could earn its owner a municipal fine.

"My goal is to get the residents involved, and tell them that together, we can make our environment clean," said Tika Bar-On, the city's chief veterinarian who came up with the idea for the DNA experiment.

[Back to Contents List](#)