NOVEMBER NEWSLETTER

Issue

EVENTS:

Pet Wash at Hobnob!!!

When: November 12th from 9:00am – 1:00pm

What: Your dog will receive a wash, blow dry, brush out and a nail trim if needed for just for $25, with $5 going to Hobnob for appreciation. We will have Hobnob's own professional Groomer "Kestra Cross" volunteering her time to ensure your pet is bathed and groomed properly!!

Why: Get your best buddy clean and fluffy for Pictures with Santa on Nov. 20th.

Where: Hobnob Pet Daycare, 8990 W. Colfax Ave., Lakewood, CO 80215
We will also be selling our T-shirts, hats, homemade goodies and doggie fleece blankets.

Family & Pet Photos with Santa John

Sunday, November 20th
9am – 2pm

Hobnob Pet Daycare
8990 W. Colfax Ave., Lakewood, CO 80215

Bring the whole family…Mom, dad, bro, sister and your beloved dog of course!!

Prices: $20 for settings, up to 5 poses
Photos will be taken by Denver Photographer, Woody Hirsh

Happy Thanksgiving

OCTOBER ADOPTIONS:

ACE **SNOWDEN** **BELLA** **BELLA** **DUSTY**

SMOKEY **AJAX** **DYLAN** **BEAR** **KAISER**

CALLIE **HANA** **ANGEL** **DASH** **TESS**
(Sept)

We have opened a new link for our adopted dogs.

If you have a video that you would like to share of your new family member please submit them to gsroar@gmail.com and we will load it on the website.
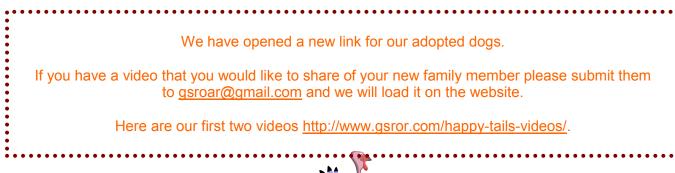
Here are our first two videos http://www.gsror.com/happy-tails-videos/.

Tracey's Training Tips

Common Dog Training Terms
(Speaking the Lingo of Other Dog Enthusiasts)

As we conclude our brief tour through some common dog training terms, please remember, this is not a comprehensive list but a highlight of the common ones. I used a number of online resources and books to gather the terms and definitions I presented in this three-part series. If you would like more information on the sources I used, please feel free to email Katie or I at GSROR. Stay tuned for next month when I will discuss reading dog body language and how that relates to reducing the number of dog bites for adults and, especially, kids.

Incompatible Behavior: Typically done when a dog is displaying an undesirable behavior, trainers will teach a different (incompatible) behavior that makes it impossible for the dog to do the undesirable behavior. For instance, if a dog is jumping on you and you teach him to "sit" on cue, then if you cue for a "sit" when he jumps, the dog will be physically unable to jump on you because he is in a sitting position.

Reward or Reinforcer: Presented to the dog when he does a desired behavior to encourage the dog to do the behavior again, this can be a treat or verbal praise or some affection or playtime with a ball. The key here is that the dog will determine what is rewarding to him, not the trainer. In addition, as a training session becomes more challenging for the dog, you might find that you will have to increase the value of the reward or reinforcer. For instance, you might use a milk bone to teach your dog to "sit" in your home, but at a park, where there are more distractions, you might have to use a piece of chicken.

Re-commanding: This is when you have cued your dog for a "sit," which he knows, but he doesn't sit, so you say it again. Generally , trainers discourage re-commanding a dog because the dog may learn that he doesn't need to perform the behavior the first time you ask, but instead will wait to hear "sit, sit, Fido, sit, sit."

Reminding: This is when your dog is doing a behavior you have cued and now something is about to change in the environment, like a dog is about to walk by or you are about to walk away from the dog. So, you repeat the cue to the dog. This lets the dog know that even though something is about to change, he should keep doing what he is doing.

Cues: Anything that gives the dog information and creates a behavior is a cue. Cues are numerous. They can be a word or a hand or body signal from a trainer, or they could be a sound or action in the environment. You probably know that saying "sit" is a trained cue for the dog to sit. Another example of a trained cue would be for a dog to sit when you stop moving forward on a walk. However, cues can be unintentionally learned, as well. For instance, picking up your dog's leash could be a cue to get excited because he is about to go somewhere, or hearing a can opener could be a cue to him to run to the kitchen because he is about to be fed.

IN THE LOCAL NEWS:

The Longmont Humane Society (LHS) has confirmed a nasty strain of the Canine Parvovirus disease running through the Longmont Community and has been informed that cases are being seen in the Metro Denver area as well. This illness is an unusual strain of the Parvo disease in that it appears to be affecting older dogs. Parvo typically affects dogs 3 years or younger, with the majority of those under the age of 1. In addition, it is strong and the initial presentation is not typical. It is taking down animals fast. If your dog is not updated on vaccinations, please get to your vet ASAP, particularly if you see symptoms or even unusual lethargy in your dogs.

Parvo Fact Sheet updated 9/22/2011

Overview
The disease caused by the Parvo (Canine Parvovirus) virus is much more common in puppies than in adult dogs because it thrives on the developing cells of the growing pup. The virus tends to congregate in the dog's intestinal tract, leading to digestive upset and inhibiting the production of infection fighting white blood cells. It is the most widespread lethal viral infection among domestic dogs. It can even lead to heart failure. It is worth noting, the parvovirus is completely avoidable with the application of a simple vaccine.

Symptoms
When Parvovirus is present, it generally affects the digestive tract. Infected dogs will be unable to absorb fluids. This leads to severe diarrhea, which is often bloody, yellowish in color and extremely rank. Other common parvo symptoms include vomiting, loss of appetite, sluggishness and fever. On average, puppies and dogs begin to show symptoms 7 to 10 days after being exposed to the virus.

Transmission
Canine parvovirus is highly contagious and is transmitted through the fecal matter of an infected animal or a carrier, though carriers generally do not exhibit any symptoms of the disease. The virus can survive in the environment for up to 5 months and is able to endure a wide range of temperatures and conditions. Additionally, parvo is resistant to most disinfectants and can be readily transferred to a number of surfaces. For example, if you stand in the place where a dog with parvovirus has recently defecated, there is a high probability of you bringing the virus home on your shoes.

Treatment
While there is no actual cure for parvo, there is standard treatment. This primarily involves the prevention of dehydration, dispensing medicine to bring down the dog's fever, administering broad range antibiotics and even providing blood transfusions if the situation requires it. If the dog begins treatment within 24 hours of the onset of symptoms, it has a 50 percent chance of survival. However, even if the dog survives, it is still possible to contract the illness again.

Prevention
The best way to prevent a parvovirus infection in your dog is to follow the standard immunization schedule. Puppies can be vaccinated when they are 6 weeks old. Bear in mind, dogs who have received the Parvo vaccination can still contract the illness, but their chances are greatly reduced. Prior to receiving their shots, puppies should not be allowed to play with other dogs or to roam in popular dog recreation areas. Dogs or puppies with parvo should never be allowed to leave their own yards. The virus is specific to dogs, but if you believe there is a possibility you have come into contact with the parvo virus, wash your hands, shoes and clothes in a solution of 1 quart of water mixed with 1 ounce of standard chlorine bleach.

Precautions
If your dog has been diagnosed with the parvovirus, be sure to keep him away from all other dogs for the duration of treatment and for at least 4 weeks after recovery is complete. Thoroughly clean any dog wastes from your yard and disinfect any areas the dog inhabits with a strong solution of chlorine bleach and water, approximately ½ cup of bleach for each quart of water. Rinse the dog's food and water bowls in the bleach solution and add it to the wash cycle when you launder the bedding.