



The Straight Poop

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The Latest Scoop at Kamp K9

New Format!

Yes, The Straight Poop has a new look to it this month. We've been thinking about the format of our newsletter and trying to find ways to improve it; to enhance the content and to make it easier for you to read and enjoy, as well as making it easier on your email servers. We really hope you enjoy the new look, and invite you to let us know what you think!



Holiday Reservations

Like last month, we'll remind you once again that if you haven't made your boarding reservations for the upcoming holidays, do so soon! We're always busy, and we want to be sure we give our established customers first dibs on space.

Pit Bull Awareness Day

On October 26th, Luc & Jennifer were present for National Pit Bull Awareness Day at Pet Quarters in Scarborough. It was an event designed to help educate and dispel myths about a great and historical American breed, of which we've come to know and love a few! [* Click here to view pictures from the event *](#)

*****Microchip Day at Kamp K9*****

Kamp K9 will be hosting a low-cost microchip day here on December 13th from 10am-3pm; the proceeds will benefit the Animal Refuge League and their continued efforts on the behalf of animals. Details and information follow in the Info Feature on the next page. If you were thinking about having it done for your pets, or know someone who's been thinking about it for THEIR pet, this will be a great opportunity to get it done at a significant savings, as there will be no registration fee with HomeAgain. You'll need to pre-register for this; call or email us to sign up!

Happy Thanksgiving

On our list of things for which we're thankful: All our animal friends, their wonderful parents without whose support we couldn't do this, a great year of business in the face of a lot of bad economic news, and being lucky enough to be surrounded constantly by little souls who simply love. Happy Thanksgiving, everyone!

Turkey & fixin's are on the menu again this year for our Thanksgiving boarders! (NOTE: Let us know if your pal has any digestive issues that would preclude them from having any.)



“Microchips can help prevent accidental euthanasia from happening to your pet, should he/she become lost locally or during a long trip.”



A chip on a fingertip showing size



The implant procedure is painless and requires no anesthesia



A dog getting scanned for chip identification

Info Feature: Pet Microchipping

**Microchip day at Kamp K9 will be held Saturday December 13th 10:00am-3:00pm
Not limited to Kamp K9 customers - Call or email ahead to register**

Not to start off on too dour a note, but the sad reality is that every year in America, estimates put the number of cats and dogs who are euthanized in shelters between 4.5 and 6 million, mainly because they can't find homes. In some cases (more than you would like to think), animals who DO have homes but have somehow gone missing get euthanized because their families aren't able to find them.

Microchips can help prevent this from happening to your pet, should he/she become lost locally or during a long trip. Think about this statistic: only 16 percent of lost dogs and only 2 percent of lost cats are ever reunited with their families. This technology, which is safe and effective, is very much under-utilized in this country, which seems silly in light of the odds against your pet finding their way back to you should they get lost. At a cost of \$30 at this special event, it's also a bargain. (On average, veterinarians charge \$65 to implant a microchip. Owners must also pay a one-time registration fee, varying between \$15-\$20. By having this done at Kamp K9 via the Animal Refuge League, you're only paying \$30 for the cost of the implant procedure; the registration fee is being waived.) Your pet will be receiving the HomeAgain chip.

The implantation procedure is painless and doesn't require anesthesia. A veterinarian uses a hypodermic needle to inject a tiny transponder the size of a grain of rice, just under your pet's skin between the shoulder blades. The microchip contains a unique identification number which will be entered, in this case, into the HomeAgain database with your contact information. If your lost pet is found, a humane society chapter, veterinarian's office, or animal shelter can scan the microchip to read the number contained in the chip. You can also call HomeAgain to notify them that your pet has been lost, which is useful especially if your pet was stolen.) The identification number is then checked against the national database and as soon as your number is matched, you're contacted that your pet has been found. The chip is made out of an inert, biocompatible substance, which will not degenerate nor cause an allergic reaction. There are no moving parts to break, nor is there a battery which could go bad. Because of the way the chip is designed, once in place, it will not move to any sensitive organs or tissues.

Although technology can help find a lost or stolen pet, it's not fool-proof. For instance, if a person finds your loveable lost puppy on their doorstep, they're not likely to have a microchip scanner. Remember to place ID tags on your pet's collar, in addition to the microchip, for the best possibility of making sure that your pet is returned home safely. Also, there are a few different types of chips, and not every vet and shelter carries all the scanners needed to identify chips from every maker. The chips from the two dominant U.S. companies (HomeAgain and AVID) operate at the same frequency. This allows the scanner of each to detect the presence of the other's microchip, even if it can't actually decode the chip's encoded or (in AVID's case) encrypted ID. Some scanners distributed by HomeAgain for shelter use have for some time been able to both detect and decrypt the AVID ID chip, so the bottom line is this: through this special microchipping event your pet will be receiving a chip that is most likely to be detected and understood by the majority of scanners in the U.S.

Sources:

http://news.nationalgeographic.com/news/2005/11/1115_051115_pet_chips.html

[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Microchip_implant_\(animal\)](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Microchip_implant_(animal))

<http://www.dog-food-zone.com/pet-articles/microchip.htm>

Random thought: We are never more foolish than when we're trying to be clever. Just ask anyone who's ever tried to do their own home improvements.

Kamper Profile: Gracie Bergeron

Our profile this month features our newest and most active Junior Kounselor. Gracie, adopted by us in the beginning of April, is a spirited little girl who is either a Pekingese/Cocker Spaniel mix, or perhaps an oversized Tibetan Spaniel (our strong hunch). She came to us through Pickett Paws, a rescue group based in the Pickett County, TN, Humane Society chapter, which has foster families in the Northeast. She had been neglected and then abandoned; she and another dog were dropped over a fence into someone's yard, who called Pickett Paws. There she received care for her coat, which was in fairly bad condition, she was evaluated and fostered, and eventually declared ready for adoption in fairly short time. Meanwhile, Jennifer had been wanting to fulfill a long-time dream of getting her own little girl dog, and the timing was absolutely perfect. She was brought to our attention by Victoria Reynolds, whose family fosters for Pickett Paws, and from the first night she was brought to us, she settled right in and wanted so much to be a part of our family. She now has the time of her life every day on the job as Junior Kounselor, playing with all the day campers and boarders here, using her surprising speed and agility to stay a step ahead of those whom she encourages to chase her. She's one special little girl, and another example of how dogs with harsh beginnings can recover, continue to love us, and become the best companions.



“She had been neglected and abandoned; she and another dog were dropped over a fence into someone’s yard.”



Gracie, on her first night with us, proved to be quite a lap dog from the get-go, though our old cat Joey (background) was not too impressed at first.

Photo of the Month



Sometimes you just luck out with the light. This view of the field across the road from our driveway was taken in early October as the sun was coming up between the Earth and cloud cover.

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**Where all your
pets are treated
like family!**



On the Web at

www.mykampk9.com

**Kamp K9's Mission:**

To provide pets with a safe, fun, comfortable and active haven for boarding, day care, & grooming, with the comforts of home, and without the stress of confinement.

Links

- A great place for your puppies to hang out until they reach a certain size and/or age: "Dances With Dogs" at www.danceswithdogsmaine.com
- The trade organization that Kamp K9 belongs to, The American Boarding Kennels Association, has changed its name to the "Pet Care Services Association": www.petcareservices.org
 - Lots of beautiful little souls are waiting for a safe, loving forever home at <http://www.geocities.com/mainecockerrescue/index.html>
 - Another place to visit for the aid of Cocker Spaniels: www.betsyscockerplace.com
 - Visit the Animal Refuge League's site at www.arlgp.org
 - Feed a shelter animal for free every day...go to www.theanimalrescuesite.com/cgi-bin/WebObjects/CTDSites.woa/wa/gotoSite?destSite=AnimalRescueSite
 - For a peek at Luc's not-so-secret other life, visit www.lucbergerondrums.com
- Here's a link to the site of a very good band in which I get to play: www.bobcharestmusic.com
- Speaking of drums and such, here's a good place to do your percussive shopping: The Drum Shop in Portland www.drumsforless.com
 - Check out the web site of a cool dog info paper: www.downeastdognews.com
 - Another good canine info mag: www.DogInSight.com
 - A New Hampshire-based rescue and adoption organization called Life's Little Paws can be found by visiting www.lifslittlepaws.com
- Christopher Signore, who is a very good and honest insurance rep (as well as a drummer), can be reached at www.rousseauinsurance.com and www.newcreationfinancial.com

Jennifer's father, R.N. Cohen, is a VERY talented artist who has produced some stunning paintings. He's known around here for his paintings of the East End, Old Port pubs, and other local landmarks, as well as landscapes of France and Italy. His gallery is located on Fore St. next to the Fore St. parking garage entrance. Take a look at his work at www.rncohen.com

If you'd like YOUR link added, let us know, and we'll be sure to include it next time.

That's all for now. Thanks again as always!