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ABKA NEWSLETTER

MAY 2006



ABKA
THE TRADE ASSOCIATION FOR PET CARE PROFESSIONALS SINCE 1977
2006 CONVENTION & TRADE SHOW
ORLANDO, FLORIDA NOV. 8-11, 2006

2006 ABKA CONVENTION AND TRADE SHOW SPEAKERS

The 2006 ABKA Convention and Trade Show will be held from November 8-11 at the Wyndham Hotel in Orlando, Florida.

ABKA is in the process of confirming speakers for this event. Scheduled to appear at the time of this writing are Jackie Ogden, Director of Animal Programs for the Walt Disney Corporation, Dennis Dolan, President and CEO of Best Friends Corporation, Heidi Flammang, Owner, Camp Bow Wow, and Dr. Martin Kaufman of Iams/Proctor and Gamble. Don't miss this event!

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ABKA NEWS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

ABKA Member Referral Program

Attention ABKA Members: Every time you refer a new member to ABKA, you will receive a Certificate of Appreciation which currently provides \$100 towards one

of the following:

- Your 2007 membership renewal
- ABKA's 2006 convention registration
- A Regional Meeting registration
- Education enrollment
- VFA registration

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Announcement - Searching for a Katrina Collie

Laddie is an eight-year-old male, sable and white, rough-coated Collie last seen on August 29, 2005 in the Kingspoint Subdivision in Slidell, Louisiana. He was wearing a chain collar with a silver Pontchartrain Animal Clinic tag fastened to it.

Laddie may have injured his foot or leg as he was seen limping after the floodwaters receded. He has a distinguishable feature that can be identified and he is described as a gentle, mild-mannered collie who is loved and missed by his family. You can see a picture of Laddie [here](#).

We are posting this information for ABKA members who are still housing Katrina pets. If you think you have seen Laddie or he is in your custody, please contact Laurie Johansson at 514-923-3722 or laughingdolphin@lycos.com.

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Announcement - AAHA Recognizes Distinguished Practitioners

[The American Animal Hospital Association \(AAHA\)](#) honored several distinguished practitioners as well as a canine hero during the association's yearly conference in Long Beach in March. The association also recognized practices that have been AAHA-accredited for 50 and 25 years. For a complete list of recipients, click [here](#).

Source: [AAHA](#)

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Announcement - AAHA Offers Canine Influenza Information Sheets

[The American Animal Hospital Association \(AAHA\)](#) has created a fact sheet to assist veterinary professionals in educating clients about canine influenza. They are also offering canine influenza background information for professionals and

talking points for staff. To access the information, click [here](#).

Source: [AAHA](#)

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Announcement - Congratulations to Pampered Paws, LLC!

Congratulations are in order to Pampered Paws, LLC. This Norfolk, Nebraska facility recently earned reaccreditation through ABKA's VFA Program. Well done!

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News - Region 1 Spring Meeting

Region 1 Director Elizabeth Powers writes:

The Region 1 Spring Meeting is rapidly approaching and I hope you're as excited about it as I am. Although the hotel room block expired May 1st, there are still rooms available on a first-come, first-serve basis. Be sure you specify that you are with ABKA when you call. The Mill Falls can be reached at 800-622-6455 or you can check out their Web site at www.millfalls.com.

If you plan to attend the Spring Meeting but cannot stay at the hotel, please contact me to let me know if you will be joining the group for meals as the hotel needs a head count.

We will be offering American Red Cross CPR/Pet First Aid certification on Wednesday, May 31st. There is a separate \$25 registration fee for this class that is payable at the time of the seminar. To pre-register, please email me at EBPowers221@charter.net with the names of the individuals attending the class.

There have been a few changes to the agenda, so click [here](#) to see the updated list of events. Hope to see you all there!

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News from Region 7

Region 7 Director Dick Schutt writes:

May 6th heralds the coming of this year's annual Furry Scurry. This is the biggest dog/human walk in North America with 11,000 people and 7,500 furry friends participating in last year's event. It is held at Washington Park in Denver and all proceeds go to the Denver Dumb Friends League. The donations earned through this event amount to enough to care for approximately 25,000 animals!

It's that time of year again! Canine cough and the canine influenza virus have hit Denver hard these past few months as the number of reported cases has soared. Remember: in many cases, the flu is treated the same way you treat canine cough - lots of rest, antibiotics and cough suppressants. Colorado State University (CSU) is working to perfect a flu vaccine. Hopefully, we will see the fruits of their labor in the coming months. Vigilance, cleaning and proper ventilation remain some of the most important factors in stopping the spread of both the canine influenza virus and canine cough.

In other news, Colorado Legislature has again voted to uphold the breed-specific Pit bull ban in Denver. This ban has been the subject of many heated debates for over a year and other cities are now following suit as Denver's legislation is viewed by many as groundbreaking.

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Reminder - ABKA Calendar of Events

Remember: You can find the most current information on all of ABKA's Spring Meetings by visiting our [Calendar of Events](#).

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ARTICLES

Article of Interest - Acupuncture for Pets

Our members who are interested in learning more about alternative treatments for animals may want to check out this recent article circulated by the Associated Press: [More Pets Get Acupuncture for Ailments](#).

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Article of Interest - New First Aid Spray for Pets

[Trophy Animal Health Care](#) is offering a new first aid spray for pets called [EMT Spray](#). It is reported to be effective on many types of wounds and common skin ailments including hot spots, burns, pad injuries, and cuts. It is also said to reduce pain, bleeding and itching.

Source: [doggienews.com](#)

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Reminder for AOL Users

ABKA has been experiencing a number of email delivery issues with members who have America Online (AOL) accounts. It has come to our attention that email sent from the ABKA office destined for AOL accounts is being blocked from delivery after being designated as ?Junk Mail.? This is happening even if ABKA did not generate the original communication, but is trying to respond to an email sent in from a member with an AOL account.

The explanation offered by AOL is that some of our members with AOL email addresses have, at some point in time, designated incoming ABKA email as ?Junk? so the AOL filters then recognize all subsequent ABKA email as ?Junk? and block delivery.

ABKA has tried repeatedly to resolve this issue by utilizing AOL technical support, but a satisfactory solution has not been reached. Therefore, we are suggesting that members with AOL accounts consider the following action(s):

- AOL account holders should not identify ABKA emails as ?Junk? but rather simply delete the ABKA email when it is no longer needed. (Note: ABKA only uses mail to correspond with members for legitimate association-related business.)
- ABKA members currently using AOL may want to consider opening an alternate email account. Many providers, such as Yahoo and Hotmail offer free email services. If you do choose this option, however, please be sure to notify ABKA of your new email address. It is worth mentioning that many free email accounts are very sensitive to storage quotas and it is necessary to clear old emails frequently to make room for incoming mail.

Please keep in mind that these suggested actions are general in nature and if you are uncertain of what to do we strongly suggest you contact your Internet Service Provider (ISP) for specific technical support.

As a general rule, if an ABKA member with an AOL email account has not received a response from the ABKA staff within two business days, the member should assume that the AOL Junk Filter has impacted the delivery and should follow up with ABKA by phone.

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Thanks for your dedication and support! See you next month!

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OR COMMENTS,
EMAIL LISA HERE