

LEAD AND COLLAR



October/November 2009

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Sunshine Person	Sharon Miller	402-731-8124
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Class Coordinator	Caroline Rice	402-298-7185
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Club Newsletter	Sherry Rife	712-585-3427
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Events to Note

Next Training Classes Begin: **Sep 29th**, Jade's Pet Club
 Next Board Meeting: **Sep 30th**, Summer Kitchen, Bellevue
 Halloween Party/Membership Meeting: **Oct 21**, 6:30 p.m.
 New Cassel Retirement Center, 900 N. 90th St, Omaha
Nov. 15 Newsletter Deadline for the Dec/Jan. Issue
 Show-n-Go's at Companion: **Oct. 11**

Why Older Dogs Get Fat

Dogproblems.com

Obesity is a very big problem in our society, and this problem goes for dogs as well. All dogs are susceptible to gaining weight as they become less active in old age. But some breeds have been reported to be more likely to become obese than others as they watch the birthdays fly by. West Highland white terriers, beagles, cocker spaniels, collies, cairn terriers, and retrievers are breeds that are noted for obesity in old age.

Older dogs are about twice as likely to be overweight as younger dogs, probably because of genetic factors as well as people feeding them high-calorie treats from the table. Also, smaller dogs can run around the house for exercise, but larger dogs need to be taken out. Because most dogs depend on people to take them out, it doesn't always get done.

As adult dogs become elderly, a number of factors limit their exercise - including their physical and physiological condition (and perhaps that of their owners as well, if the owners are also slowing down a bit). So, lack of exercise coupled with the same amount of treats as they had when they were younger can lead to obese pets. Female dogs are more likely to be obese than male dogs and cats, and spayed animals are more likely to be obese than reproductively intact ones.

Here's an interesting statistic: Pet owners who are 40 years old and older are more than twice as likely to have obese dogs as younger owners are. Not only are the owners getting older and probably less fit, but so are their pets! Further, about one-third of owners of obese dogs do not consider their dogs to be overweight; they consider their dogs to be in the normal range of weight.

I suppose the worst-case scenario would be a couple of spayed female Labrador retrievers who are about 14 years old, living with elderly "nurturing" (literally - with food) owners. Both the owners and their dogs are arthritic and overweight, with poor aerobic conditioning. Or maybe the owners smoke and have shortness of breath with even moderate exercise, and they enjoy fried foods and feed their dogs from the table or the couch (of course) or from anywhere else

in the house. The owners equate feeding the dogs with giving them love. It's the proverbial "recipe for disaster"! So do anything you can do to prevent your dogs from getting fat and out of shape. This may also be a good reason to watch your own levels of activity and diet.

Dates on the **OCTOBER/NOVEMBER** Calendar

- Oct. 12th **Columbus Day**
- Oct. 24th **United Nations Day**
- Oct. 31st **Halloween**
- Nov. 3rd **Election Day**
- Nov. 11 **Veterans Day**
- Nov. 26 **Thanksgiving**

BDOC Board Meeting July 24, 2009

Location: Summer Kitchen, Bellevue, NE

The meeting was called to order on Friday, July 24 at 6:45 p.m. by President Michelle Foutch at the Summer Kitchen in Bellevue, NE. Kathy Novak, Nora Boyd, John Wilson, Erin Embry, and Marlene Lee were present. Deb Landon and Deb Frady was absent.

John moved to accept minutes from previous general meeting as printed in the BDOC newsletter, seconded by Marlene.

Reports:

1. New Member apps - none
2. Report of the **Treasurer** by Kathy Novak
 - a. total of accounts \$43590.93
 - b. UKC went well - 1700 before, now 4000
3. Report of the **Training Director** by Michelle on behalf of Deb Frady
 - a. Classes started July 21 & 22
 - b. Rally Wed. night at Gerianne's - change drop in fee from \$10 to \$8. People can also do drop in Agility/Obed. from 8-9. This class will run for 8 weeks.
3. Report of the Fun Match Thursday, July 30th at Gerianne's
 - a. details will be shared on the Yahoo! list
 - b. Organization is coming along well
 - c. We are in need of donations of bars and cookies for refreshments. The club is supplying water.
4. Report of the upcoming **CPE Trial** by Nora
 - a. Randy & John will set up as much as possible on Thurs., but will not be able to be there until later on Friday to set up the courses.

b. Nora will send a note to club members asking for volunteers.

4. Report of the Fall **AKC Agility Trial** by Michelle

a. Cheryl won't be able to make it Friday 9/11, so Erin will be helping her.

6. October Obedience & Rally trials

a. Silent auction - Erin reports still need more items. Nora will send a note via the yahoo list to bring items to next general meeting.

b. Volunteers - Marlene will help Nora on Friday with CRS duties.

c. Judges are all lined up and organized.

Old Business:

1. Revision of Bylaws - John

a. Members went over revisions made by the committee. Main changes include updating language about communication and fees. Contact John w/ any questions or concerns.

New Business

1. Halloween Party in October - New Cassell Retirement Home

a. Erin will try to reserve for October 21

Brag

John - Porter finished AKC CDX, got a leg towards Fast MXJ, finished AX, 2 legs of which were 1st place finishes.

The next general meeting will be held **August 19th**, 6:30 at Valentino's on 108th & O Street, Omaha, NE.

The next board meeting will be Wed. **Sept. 30** at Summer Kitchen 6:30 p.m.

Erin and Marlene moved to adjourn the meeting, John seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 7:50 p.m.

Bellevue Dog Obedience Club

August 19th, 2009 Location: Valentino's

The meeting was called to order on August 19th at 7:30 p.m. by president, Michelle Foutch at Valentino's. 20 members were in attendance.

John Wilson moved to accept minutes from previous general meeting as printed in the BDOC newsletter, seconded by Sue Volkner. Minutes from the previous board meeting were read by Nora Boyd and Kathy Novak moved to accept, seconded by John Wilson.

Reports:

4. Bethany Beier's application was read to the club and she was voted in as a new member

after a brief board meeting to read the application.

5. Report of the Treasurer by Kathy Novak
6. Report of the Training Director by Michelle Foutch

a. We are still looking for a new location, so suggestions are always welcome. Rose suggested Dogtopia, which is off of Highway 370 and 132nd Street.

b. 6 dogs in beginners, no advanced class, 7 dogs in rally with instructor Connie Byrnes

c. Discussed the possibility of a tricks class at Gerianne Darnell's taught by Cheryl Dikeman.

d. 4 week rally/advanced class before the October trial will be taught by Alberta Gray (with special appearances by Linda Puckett)

John Wilson motion to approve the Training Director's report, Sue Volkner seconded and all approved.

7. Fun Match

8. CPE trial - labor day weekend

a. Need people to come Wed. Sept. 2 at 6:00 to load equipment in the van to take to Gerianne's

b. Thursday, Sept. 3 4:30 to set courses.

c. Need drinks and snacks for Friday - will send e-mails

d. Need volunteers!

6. AKC Agility trial - September

a. Judges are taken care of

b. Cheryl needs volunteers

7. AKC Agility trial - May

a. Discussed pros and cons of changing date to avoid Berkshire-Hathaway to the weekend before Memorial Day (21 - 23)

Kathy moved to keep our current date. John and Linda seconded. All approved.

8. CPE trial - June

a. Kim Embry will help Rose Strasser as secretary to free up Rose's time.

9. AKC Obedience trial - October 23 - 25

a. Judges taken care of - hotel reservations made at la Quinta

b. Linda Puckett is collecting money for the trophies, and finishing the premium

c. Nora Boyd needs volunteers to ring steward

e. Need volunteers to set up CDC on Thursday night.

f. Erin Embry is in charge of the Silent Auction and could use donations

Old Business:

1. By-laws/Standing Rules - John Wilson

a. Removed set money amounts, to be established at the beginning of each year.

b. Using modes of communication other than USPS

c. Added the Carol Wilson and Marge Danielson Memorial Award

Rose Strasser moved to accept the changes, Erin Embry seconded and all approved.

New Business:

1. October General Meeting - New Cassell, 6:30 October 21, 2009

a. Bring your dog in costume, and a snack to share. Handlers and dogs will be able to do a demonstration for the residents

b. Erin Embry has set the date as October 21, 2009 and will discuss details with New Cassell.

Braggs

Linda Puckett - Icy finished Novice UR01 (rally title), Stormy got 2 legs towards his Rally Advanced title, last leg towards MA

Alberta Gray - Darby finished Novice UR01 (rally title), NKC 1 leg novice standard (preferred), 1 leg novice FAST

Gerianne Darnell - Raymond finished 2 rally advanced legs and Rick had the fastest times in 3/6 runs at NKC
Rose Strasser - keeping the Toy Fox Terrier, Ariel!

Amy Voogs - 2 legs towards CD with her Eskie.

John Wilson - NKC - Porter CDX, AX (2 1st place) 3rd place in MXJ class, 1 MS leg with 3rd place

John Wilson moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:50 p.m. Kathy Novak seconded.

Labor Day Weekend CPE Agility Trial

By Alberta Gray

This trial came about as the weekend opened up after another club changed their venue to another weekend. CPE is such a fun event that club members suggested we hold a 2nd CPE trial this year on this free weekend. With short notice, the trial committee, Bert, as Trial Chair, Rose as Trial secretary, Nora as chief ring steward, Linda, awards, Randy as chief course builder and Gerianne as the site host put their heads together and came up with a successful show. The weekend weather was perfect as was the trial site.

The judge loved the trial site and made the comment he expected to see former agility stars coming out of the corn field as in the movie FIELD OF DREAMS.

Our Judge, Karl Johnson, from the Minneapolis area was available on short notice.. Karl is an apprentice judge and as such, we needed a supervisor judge. Pat Guticz volunteered her services as the supervisor judge. A big thank you to Pat.

The courses Karl designed were flowing and challenging. We hope to invite Karl again to our show.

Another big thank you goes to the club members that volunteered. Michelle Foutch, John Wilson, Randy Frady, Rose Strasser, Alberta Gray, Deb Landon, Dave Landon, Linda Puckett, Trisha Burbach, Gerianne Darnell, Erin Embry, Kim Embry, Darwin Baker, Cheryl Dikeman, Lucy Hulsey, Nora Boyd, Amy Voogds and her son Kevin and Peggy Battig as the "demanding" Ring Steward and Kathy Novak.

Running with Your Dog

by Eve Adamson ~ fetchdog.com
(from August Paws & Praise)

Running with your dog is a great way for both of you to stay in shape and have fun. But not all dogs are born to be running partners. Some breeds—think high-energy athletic dogs like Labs, Dalmatians, and Border Collies--make excellent running companions. Running may even improve your dog's behavior because your dog is finally getting enough exercise. Other dogs—toy and giant breeds and short-faced dogs like Bulldogs, for example--aren't designed for running. In fact, running could injure your dog or bring on heat stroke, so choose your running buddy wisely.

Ten Good Running Dog Breeds

1. Labrador Retrievers
2. Golden Retrievers
3. German Shorthaired Pointers
4. Siberian Huskies
5. Border Collies
6. Weimaraners
7. Vizslas
8. Rhodesian Ridgebacks
9. Greyhounds
10. Dalmatians

Ten Dog Breeds That Usually Shouldn't Go Running (But a Walk Would Be Nice)

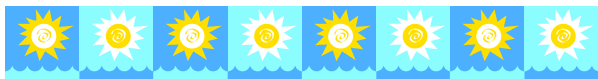
1. Pugs
2. Miniature Dachshunds
3. Yorkshire Terriers
4. Shih Tzu
5. Bulldogs
6. Pekingese

7. Maltese
8. French Bulldogs
9. Saint Bernards
10. Newfoundlands

Here are a few tips on running with your dog:

- **Consider your breed's original purpose.** If your breed was born to hunt, race, pull a sled, run beside a coach or horse, herd sheep, or follow a scent trail for miles, chances are he'll be a great running buddy. If your dog's original purpose was to serve as a lap dog and personal companion, a property guardian or to pull heavy loads slowly, or if your breed has very short legs (like a Dachshund or Corgi) or a very short nose (like a Pug or a Bulldog), chances are, he's better off moving at a slower pace.
- **Get your veterinarian's approval.** Even naturally athletic dogs bred to run aren't always in good health or condition. Just as doctors recommend getting a physical exam before beginning an exercise program, dogs can also benefit from a check-up to be sure they don't suffer from any orthopedic problems, like hip dysplasia, and to make sure they are at a healthy weight. Overweight dogs can pull muscles and tear tendons just like people, if they start exercising too quickly without warming up and getting into good condition first. If you and your dog both need to get in better shape, start with walking and work up to a faster pace gradually. Don't forget to warm up and cool down.
- **Watch the weather.** Some breeds make great running partners when it's cool outside, but can get quickly overheated and even collapse from heatstroke when temperature and humidity rise. Dogs don't sweat like people do, so they aren't able to regulate their body temperatures as efficiently. Especially susceptible breeds include dogs with short faces, like Bulldogs and Pugs; dark-coated dogs like Dobermans and Newfoundlands; and dogs with heavy coats like Samoyeds and Chow Chows. However, any dog can develop heat stroke. Avoid running with your dog in very hot or humid weather, and be sure your dog can cool off indoors or in the shade with access to cool clean water.
- **Remember your leashes and other gear.** Now is not the time to try and take your dog off-leash! Many avid dog-runners use different leashes when running and walking their running partners. Leashes with some "give" will provide some shock absorption to your shoulder and arm. Some runners swear by waist leashes so their arms are free. If you run at dusk or night, don't forget reflective gear for your running

buddy (or yourself). A reflective dog collar and reflective leash will help keep your dog visible and safe when the sun goes down.



Training Classes

This is just a reminder that you can drop-in for **Rally training class at 7:00 p.m. on Wednesday** evenings at Gerianne Darnell's training facilities. The drop-in fee is \$7.00.

Open drop-in training is also offered on Wednesday evenings at Gerianne's from **8:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.** You can train on regular obedience, rally obedience, or even on the agility obstacles. There is a \$7.00 drop-in fee. Give drop-in fees to Michelle Foutch or Erin Embrey.

Good Timing

Critical To Your Dog Training Success

Adam Katz, Dogproblems.com

When we wait and then react to a dog's behavior, we are always going to be behind the eight ball. On the other hand, influencing a dog's emotional process before he acts is an incredibly efficient manner in which to train him. When timing is correct nervousness is inhibited and drive is reinforced.

Also, since we're affecting the internal emotional process, the dog in effect "chooses" to be calm rather than being forced to be under control. A dog so trained will be mannerly or mindful of domestic restraints even when his handler isn't near.

The key to proper timing is not quickness, although that is a valuable asset. Rather, the key is anticipation. The handler should always be thinking ahead and anticipating what the dog might do next. It is a skill easily acquired if one becomes disciplined enough to pay constant attention to the dog. Without good timing, training degenerates into a question of strength.

By being relentlessly focused on the dog, the handler will start to sense the dog's rhythm of actions and be able to anticipate what the dog is about to do. Then, before the dog acts, the handler can already be in gear taking steps to predetermine what the dog will do

next. The dog will be choosing to obey; however, since we're controlling his instinctive emotional process, there won't really be any choice involved.

For example, if you are training a dog to heel you should watch his head very closely. When you sense he is about to shift his attention away from you then stimulate the dog with the collar and begin to praise the dog at the same time. Additionally, pick up your pace, and to complete the process, throw a ball for him to chase or give him a food treat.

In this sequence of events, I'm not correcting the dog for being disobedient, I'm shocking the nervousness that I feel is about to influence the dog's behavior and disrupt his focus on me. The praise, food, and the ball then serve to convert the correction to a stimulation. Since I'm the source of the excitement, the dog's calm focus on me from which he was about to stray is renewed and reinforce.



Cemetery Dog

He is known as "Cemetery Dog" guarding a little child year round.

According to stories the dog was created in early 1900s by stone carvers Naugel & Son in Ottumwa. The statue and his mate stood on each side of the home owned by the Naugel family.

The home was sold twice while the dogs remained by the steps. At some time in the next 20 years the grandson of a former owner died as a child. The grandfather asked if he might have the male dog statue to be placed at the grave of his grandson.

In early 2002 or 2003 vandals broke Cemetery Dog's neck and stole his head. This caused an uproar in the community. A bank offered a reward and the phone kept ringing with information. The vandals were caught and the dog's head was found.

As a fundraiser, Bill Greenle carved a small replica of the dog, which was molded and cast. Many were sold to raise the needed funds to repair the dog.

A special song about the dog was written by Tom Shaddonix and recorded. The bank was the sponsor of a music event in the park where the dog statues and CDs were sold.

Thanks to all the support, Cemetery Dog was repaired and guards the child and the community.

(Information taken from an article by Ardyce Ragen in Our Iowa magazine, Aug/Sept issue)

Show News

My Japanese chin, **Satori**, qualified in 6/10 runs at our CPE trial finishing her level 2 Handler and Fun games title. She also qualified in both her Novice FAST classes at our AKC trial. We are also the proud owners of Ariel, a rescued Toy Fox Terrier from a puppy mill. She has started obedience and agility classes and we think she is brilliant :) **Rose Strasser**

President's Notes

Michelle Foutch

We had a very good attendance at our last meeting held at Valentino's Restaurant. We covered quite a few issues of concern to the club. Please see Nora Boyd's meeting minutes to review the discussion at the meeting. The members in attendance did review and approved the revisions made to the BDOC Constitution and Bylaws. These will be published and obtainable on our website under the Members Tab at a future date.

We have had two successful agility trials in September. I'd like to thank Alberta Gray and Rosemary Strasser for a very smooth running CPE trial over the Labor Day weekend. And thanks to Gerianne Darnell for all her hard work in providing a successful and fun AKC agility trial Sep 11-13th. Unfortunately, this AKC agility trial was the last one that Dawn Mitchell will handle as Secretary. She has been our agility secretary for many, many years and done a Super Job at all our trials. The Club gave her a "Thank You" card and some vouchers for all of her help throughout the years.

It's almost **Obedience and Rally Trial Time!!** I'm the Show Chairman this year for the Obedience and Rally Trials being held October 23 - 25. The Premium Lists are available to download on our website:

<http://www.bdocneb.org>. Just click on the TRIALS TAB and that will bring up notice of our obedience trials. **Entries close on October 7, 2009.**

I hope as many members as possible can be out at Companion Dog Club on Oct 22, 2009 to help set-up for the Obedience and Rally Trials. We will be meeting at 5:00 p.m. to start the set-up.

Polly Mumma is the Trial Secretary and you can contact her at: <http://www.springertigger.com>

Be sure and send her Your Advertisements or Brags to be published in the Catalog. For a Business Card size AD it only costs you \$5.00, Half-Page AD is \$10.00, and Full Page AD is \$20.00.

Nora Boyd and Marlene Lee are in charge of the Volunteers. This is such a great way to see what all is expected of you when entering competitions and to also learn the AKC regulations and rules. Please contact Nora if you can volunteer to be a ring steward at: Epona_3nmb@yahoo.com

Eric Rice has graciously volunteered to handle the food canteen. However, I think it would be rather nice if some of the members could bring in a dessert to combine with our sandwiches. Bring those tasty brownies or lemon bars??

Erin Embrey, Vice President, is in charge of the Silent Auction and also acting Treasurer during Kathy Novak's absence. Please bring items for the Silent Auction to Erin at the Halloween Party (Oct 21) or to the CDC, on Oct 22 when we are setting-up. Or contact her at: nusoccer18@hotmail.com. The Silent Auction is Dog Items or People Items.

A Big Thanks goes to Linda Puckett for all the time she spent in collecting award money and for organizing all the award contributions per class per day to have published in the Obedience Premium Lists. Thank You!

TRAINING CLASSES:

We had a Beginner's Class graduate on Tuesday, Sep 8, 2009. I believe that Bridgett Miller graduated six dogs. She started out with eight, but two had to drop-out about the sixth week of training. Staci Miller and Rose Sharp assisted Bridgett with this class. They are now certified to train their own classes - *Congrats Staci & Rose.*

Connie Byrnes' Rally Class will conclude on Wed, Sep 23, 2009. Connie has provided training for all levels of Rally. On most training days, there has been approximately seven people being trained. At various times there were members that dropped-in for rally

instruction. One evening there were 11 people in attendance.

A Rally/Obedience class is to start on Sep 29, 8:00 p.m. provided there are at least five dogs/handlers that register. This is just a four week class to prepare handlers for the upcoming obedience and rally shows. Alberta Gray is the primary instructor and Linda Puckett assistant.

A Beginner's Class is also scheduled to start on Sept. 29 at 7:00 p.m. Staci Miller and Rose Sharp will be teaching this class. We will only hold class if enough people sign up for training.

Both classes will be held at Jade's Pet Club, 1207 Royal Drive, Papillion, NE. To register for class you need to contact Caroline Rice at email address: carolinerice@hotmail.com.

These are the last classes that BDOC will hold this year.

Dogs and Water

Adam Katz, Dogproblems.com

the breed of dog is irrelevant here. This is behavior, and how the dog's mind processes and reacts to stimuli. The breed of dog does not affect this. Fear based behavior is dealt with the same way, regardless of breed.

I had the same problem with my current house dog. In fact, the dog's fear of the water was actually created by another dog trainer who I let work my dog with the e-collar, and he put too much pressure on the dog and the dog developed a negative association with the water. **Here's how I fixed it:**

I started getting in the pool and making the dog be with me in the pool. He'd immediately want to turn around and swim back to the steps and get out of the pool and run and hide. I didn't let him. I would bring him into deeper water and hold him in my arms. The whole time, he'd be trying to swim away, and even scratching. No problem. Just keep holding him. He's basically running in place. Just stand there and hold him and let him expel the energy, until he stops swimming and you're just holding him in place. He'll still be petrified. That's okay.

Do this four or five times, and pretty soon the dog will not fight so much and learn to relax in your arms. Start walking with him in your arms around the pool.

Next, teach him to get in the pool and stay in the pool until you give him the release command. Just let him stand on the first step. After a couple of times, leave

him on the first or second step while you sit in the shade or play in the pool, but do not let him get out. Very quickly, he will acclimate and being in the water will start feeling nice. Make him get out of the pool and go back in, until it stops being a big deal.

The final step is to introduce a toy. Start using his play drive and toss the toy in the pool and encourage him to get it. After the first or second time, he'll be hooked.

I'm going to post some video of the final result, later this week so you can see the end result of the process.

A Poem To My Foster Dog

by Diane Morgan

I am the bridge

Between what was and what can be.

I am the pathway to a new life.

I am made of mush,

Because my heart melted when I saw you,

Matted and sore, limping, depressed,

Lonely, unwanted, afraid to love.

For one little time you are mine.

I will feed you with my own hand

I will love you with my whole heart

I will make you whole.

I am made of steel.

Because when the time comes,

When you are well, and sleek,

When your eyes shine,

And your tail wags with joy

Then comes the hard part.

I will let you go--not without a tear,

But without a regret.

For you are safe forever--

A new dog needs me now.

Sources When Your Pet Friend Needs Help

<http://www.ticktots.com/2009/09/links-for-pet-help/>

We put up a list of links for pet help...Most are charitable organizations, but because of the economy, many are struggling. If you are able, we hope that you will consider offering one of these a contribution. You never know if someday you'll be seeking their help. We'll give some brief intro on each one.

AAHA Helping pets fund: The AAHA (American Animal Hospital Association) Foundation offers grants for veterinary care of pets that have been abandoned and those whose owners are experiencing financial hardship. AAHA-accredited veterinary practices may apply for financial assistance on behalf of their clients in need.

<http://www.aahahelpingpets.org/>

Angels4Animals: is a small non-profit organization of humanitarians and animal lovers whose sole mission is to alleviate the unnecessary suffering of innocent pets. Their goals are to 1) mitigate unnecessary pain and suffering in animals that cannot access veterinary treatment because of financial constraints facing their owners and to 2) assist pet owners in making animal care decisions based upon the needs of the animal rather than financial limitations.

<http://angels4animals.org/>

Animal Poison Control Center (ASPCA): They are probably your best resource for any animal poison-related emergency, 24 hours a day, 365 days a year. If you think that your pet may have ingested a potentially poisonous substance, call (888) 426-4435. A \$60 consultation fee may be applied to your credit card. There are so many poisonous substances out there. The momma has called them many times and they are always very kind and helpful.

<http://www.aspca.org/pet-care/poison-control/>

Canine Cancer Awareness: Their mission is to provide you with knowledge and support so that you can consult with your vet to get the best possible treatment for your dog with cancer.

<http://caninecancerawareness.org/cancer-and-dogs/>

Feline Outreach: (hey! that's for cats only! grrrrrr) This is an organization dedicated to providing caregivers the educational and financial assistance necessary to care for their cats.

<http://www.felineoutreach.org/AboutUs.html>

Feline Veterinary Emergency Assistance Program

(FVEAP): FVEAP has an interesting history. They began when a tiny kitten (Bazil) had a life-threatening condition requiring surgery. Bazil's guardian had lost her job and was unable to pay for the expensive procedure. She went to an online group of friends for advice. This group of people, who had never met each other, came together out of love and compassion and donated \$1,400 to save Bazil. As a result of this effort, which had many complications, it was decided that a nonprofit corporation should be formed to provide a simple, safe and efficient way to accept donations and disburse funds for veterinary emergencies.

<http://www.fveap.org/sys-tmpl/door/>

Handicapped Pets: They understand the needs of handicapped pets and are a good source products, services, support and advice to help you care for them. They offer help for pets with cancer, terminal illness,

arthritis, or paralysis, as well as senior/geriatric, injured pets, or pets recovering from surgery.

<http://handicappedpets.com/www/index.php>

Help-A-Pet: They understand the therapeutic benefits of having a pet, particularly for physically and mentally challenged individuals, senior citizens, and children of the working poor. However, these are often the people who are hit the hardest by the economy. The applicants must provide proof of income and are expected to share in the total cost to show their commitment to their pet.

<http://www.help-a-pet.org/>

IMOM (In Memory of Magic): They are dedicated to insure that no companion animal has to be euthanized simply because their caretaker is financially challenged. They also have an online shopping mall with links to popular stores. A small percentage of the sales will be donated to IMOM.

<http://www.imom.org/>

The Magic Bullet Fund: MBF helps people who have made room in their homes and hearts for a canine companion, but do not have the financial resources to provide cancer treatment. MBF does NOT fund research or promise to cure canine cancer. They help real life dogs, working with families and veterinarians, to ensure that they receive the treatment they need.

<http://www.themagicbulletfund.org/>

Rolling Dog Ranch: The Rolling Dog Ranch is an animal sanctuary in Montana that rescues and shelters disabled animals. Every animal who arrives at the sanctuary gets another chance to have a safe and loving home. Their residents include blind dogs, blind horses, deaf dogs, blind cats, and animals with other neurological and orthopedic disabilities. They feel that although these animals may have disabilities, they do not consider themselves handicapped. They just want to get on with life and enjoy themselves.

<http://www.rollingdogranch.org/>