



THE ANIMAL WELFARE LEAGUE OF ALEXANDRIA

SPOTLIGHT on animals

IN OUR 48th YEAR

SPRING 1994

Thanks to all our supporters who participated in the Pet Portraits by Michael event in Alexandria in May. All sitting fees have been donated to the League and will benefit homeless, injured, and abused animals.

We are also indebted to the hundreds of people who supported the League with contributions through the Combined Federal Campaign in 1993. The Summer 1994 Spotlight on Animals will provide our CFC code number for the 1994 Campaign to be launched this fall. Moneys donated through the CFC help us to expand the services we offer to the community. Many, many thanks!

Flea and tick season is a fact of life in our area. Some of the over-the-counter products can be hazardous for your pet, so consult your veterinarian about the best treatment for your four-legged companions.

You can continue to help homeless, injured and abused animals even after you're gone through a bequest to the League. To learn how you can help, please call (703) 838-4861 today.

Spaying/neutering will enhance your pet's health and quality of life and help to resolve the tragic pet overpopulation in this country. Ask your veterinarian today about the many benefits of this painless, life-saving surgery.

As you enjoy summer outdoor activities with your best four-legged friend, please be a responsible pet owner—pick up after your dog. It's not only considerate of your neighbors—it's the law.

July 10 Feline Show Will Be the 'Cat's Meow'

A year after its highly successful 1993 Cat Show, the Animal Welfare League of Alexandria is pleased to announce that the Second Annual "Paws for Fun' Household Pet Cat Show" will be held on Sunday, July 10, from 9 a.m. until 5 p.m., at the Northern Virginia Community College Cultural Center, 8333 Little River Turnpike in Annandale, just 20 minutes from the Alexandria Animal Shelter. Moving to this spacious 12,000-sq.ft. air-conditioned facility enables us to increase the entry limit to 250 cats and make room for even more vendors offering cat food, supplies, novelty items, jewelry and clothing. Food and drinks also will be available.

As in 1993, a special event will be held only for cats adopted from any animal shelter. All cats—whether purebred or mixed breeds—over 7 months old are welcome. However, certain requirements apply: **They must be spayed/neutered and they must be current on vaccinations.** In addition, they should be free of fleas and mites.

Returning judges Andy Andruscavage, Rob Seliskar, and Charlie Myers will follow the same judging format as last year. Longhairs will be judged separately from shorthairs. Divisions will be based on coat pattern, with ribbons awarded for color classes within each division. The two "specialty" rings will award rosettes to the top ten longhairs and the top ten shorthairs. The All Breed ring will award rosettes for the top 15



City Councilwoman Del Pepper will be one of the judges at the Cat Show July 10.

long- or short-haired cats. Best In Show, 1st and 2nd Runners-up rosettes also will be awarded.

This year, Alexandria Councilwoman Del Pepper will be on hand to rank the top 15 "Shelter Adoptees."

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INSIDE THIS ISSUE . . .

- More great news for cat lovers (page 8)
- Help for the obese pet (Vet's Corner, page 2)
- Shelter success stories (pages 6 and 7)
- . . . much more!

Obesity is a Threat to Your Pet's Health



by Joyce M. Carnevale, DVM

Obesity is the most common nutritional problem in dogs and cats. About 35 percent of dogs and at least 10 percent of cats are overweight.

Factors that predispose our pets to obesity include consuming too many calories, lack of exercise, age, and genetics. Females, neutered pets, and certain breeds are also prone to obesity. The best way to prevent obesity is to feed the proper diet. However, if your pet is overweight, a combination of exercise, diet, medical care, and commitment are needed to achieve his ideal weight.

Obesity seriously affects your pet's quality of life. Overweight adult dogs are more prone to developing diabetes, high blood pressure, heart disease, cancer, and problems with liver, skin, respiratory, reproductive, and infectious diseases. Obesity exacerbates arthritis in the older dog, leading to more stress on and pain in arthritic joints. Overweight dogs and cats who need surgery have more problems with anesthesia and require special considerations during surgery.

Oveweight felines may be prone to developing the diabetes, skin and urinary problems. In some overweight diabetic cats, weight loss may help control the disease.

Young puppies are also at risk for problems associated with obesity. Overfeeding large breed puppies results in rapid growth. Fast-growing puppies are more apt to develop orthopedic problems, including hip dysplasia and arthritis. Breast cancer is also more common in female dogs that were overweight as puppies. The best feeding



Vet's Corner

strategy for puppies is to offer a well-balanced dog food in an amount that ensures growth at a reasonable pace. Most dogs should achieve their adult weight by 12 months of age, and speeding up the process is detrimental. If information from other species applies to dogs and cats, animals that maintain their appropriate weight throughout their lifetime live longer and healthier lives.

A dog's ideal weight depends on his breed, size and shape. Since cats are very similar in body type, most should weigh between 6 and 12 pounds. To decide if your pet is overweight, subjectively assess his fat stores over the ribs, lower back, and belly. While standing over him, you should be able to 1) feel (but not see) its ribs while petting his chest; 2) observe an hourglass appearance to the waist, which is between ribs and hips; and 3) see that the belly curves up from chest to groin. In animals with thick hair coats, it is easiest to evaluate their body shape when they are being bathed.

Ask your veterinarian whether your pet should lose a few pounds. Since several diseases can mimic obesity, including heart, liver, and endocrine dis-

eases, your pet's overall health should be evaluated before changing his diet. Your vet may recommend a blood test to screen for diseases that may be causing the problem.

A successful diet begins with establishing a reasonable goal weight. To decrease calories, the amount of food and/or fat content of the diet should be reduced. Often switching from canned or semi-moist foods to dry foods will work (see table). The "low-fat, high-fiber" pet foods now available may be suitable for some patients. You might try a commercially available, completely balanced reducing diet and decrease the amount fed by about 25 to 35 percent.

If a modest reduction in calories is unsuccessful or if your pet seems to feel famished, a prescription diet may be the solution. These diets, lower in fat than commercial reducing diets, are designed for faster weight loss. They also are high in fiber, so your pet does not have to dramatically reduce the volume of food he eats. Prescription diets are not safe for all animals, so only your vet can dispense them. Rapid weight loss in cats can result in potentially fatal liver disease. It is important to monitor your dog or cat's weight and food intake carefully.

A few helpful hints to help your pet's diet go more smoothly: 1) Introduce new diets over several days to avoid digestive upsets; 2) replace high-calorie treats with high-fiber foods such as green beans, carrots, or celery; 3) feed two to four small meals daily; 4) increase the amount of daily exercise. Cats always love playtime with a new toy and dogs are eager to explore a new trail. With perseverance, your favorite companion can reach his ideal weight and enjoy a long and healthy life.

Dr. Carnevale is an emergency clinician at the Virginia-Maryland Veterinary Emergency Service in Alexandria.

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Type Of Diet	Dry	Semi-Moist	Canned
Feline	110	120	160
Canine	100	110	140

Cat Show

from page 1

This year's Cat Show is sure to please all cat owners, for it will feature numerous special just-for-fun categories for judging, including Oldest Cat, Most Unusual Eyes, Most Toes, Owner-Lookalike, Longest Ear Tufts, and others. An "Ask the Vet" booth will be set up to enable you to seek cat care advice from local veterinarians.

The day-long Cat Show is sponsored by the League, and Dr. Nancy Suska, a veterinarian affiliated with the Beacon Hill Cat Hospital in Alexandria is Chair of the event. All net proceeds from the event will benefit the League's adoption, humane education, reduced-cost spay/neuter, and other League programs.

The entry fee is \$18 for the first entry and \$15 for each additional cat. A complimentary show catalog is included with your first entry. **The deadline for entries is June 30, so call for your registration forms today.** Completed forms (see below) should be returned with the entry fee to the Entry Clerk at the address



Benny Goodman Suska, winner of last year's 'Longest Ear Tufts' award, hopes to retain his title at this year's Cat Show.

shown on the form. Due to the need for an exact count prior to show time, walk-in entries unfortunately cannot be accepted. Additional entry forms are available at the Alexandria Animal Shelter, or by phoning Ken Gause at (703) 765-1347.

In conjunction with the cat show, a photo contest will also be held this year. You can submit your favorite pictures of your cat with a nominal \$1.50 entry fee per photo. The winner, first and second runners-up will

receive fresh homemade catnip toys, compliments of The Mouse Factory. Photos should be sent to Entry Clerk Ken Gause at the address shown on the form. (NOTE: Please be sure to put the name of the cat and your name and address on the back of the photo. You may enter as many photos as you wish.)

A NOTE TO VENDORS AND ADVERTISERS

If you would like to be a vendor at the Cat Show, a few spaces are still available. Please contact Dawn Shiley at (703) 765-1347 for more information.

In addition, advertising space is still available in the Show Catalogue. For further information call Dr. Suska at (703) 765-2287.

BEFORE YOU DECLAW YOUR CAT . . .

Call the Shelter (838-4775) to learn more about humane and effective alternatives.



AWLA 1994 'Paws for Fun' Household Pet Cat Show ENTRY FORM

Check one: Show Entry Photo Contest Entry Both
(Photo Entries: Include name of cat and your name and address on a label on the back of the photo. Enter as many photos as you wish.)

Your name _____

Address _____ Daytime phone () _____

City/State/Zip _____ Evening phone () _____

Cat's name _____ Cat's breed _____

Color & Pattern _____ Longhair Shorthair

Male (Neutered) Female (Spayed) Birthdate (if unknown, approximate year) _____

If adopted from a Shelter, name of the Shelter _____

ENTRY FEES: 1st entry \$18.00 Extra cage(s) \$10.00 each
 Additional entries \$15.00 each End of row \$10.00
 Photo contest \$ 1.50 each

I enter my cat(s) at my own risk and agree to abide by the rules set forth by the Animal Welfare League of Alexandria. AWLA, Show Committee and Show Officials cannot be held liable for loss of property or accidents to cats or exhibitors. I understand the decisions of the judges are final.

 SIGNATURE OF OWNER

Complete and sign form and return with entry fee check payable to AWLA to: Ken Gause, Entry Clerk, 6733 W. Wakefield Dr., #A-1, Alexandria, VA 22307. Make copies for multiple entries.

How You Can Help

If you love animals, there are many ways you can become involved and help the animals in our community. Here are just a few:

- Volunteer your time and services at the Shelter or one of the League's regular events. For more information, call our Volunteer Coordinator at (703) 838-5042.

- If you know someone who plans to get a pet, suggest the Animal Shelter as a starting point. We have many bright, healthy, lovable animals—some of them purebreds—who need good homes.

- Help us to recapitalize the Hauber Fund. A few years ago, a generous woman left a living legacy when she specified in her will that the League use her bequest to fund a spay/neuter program for low-income families in the community. This extremely successful program has helped reduce the pet overpopulation problem in our area, and resulted in longer, healthier lives for scores of animals. The fund—named the Hauber Fund after its founder—will soon need to be recapitalized. You can earmark contributions or bequests to the Hauber Fund. Please call Tara at (703) 838-4775 for more information.

- Participate in the League's events,

held throughout the year (for a partial list, see page 8 of this issue).

- If you're an area business, consider advertising in *Spotlight*. Your ad dollars help support the newsletter and to educate the community.

- Help us defray the expense of film and development. We use photos in local publications to advertise the availability of animals for adoption, as well as in our educational materials displayed at community events, malls, and schools. If you'd like to contribute 35 mm film (100 speed) and/or development costs, please call (703) 838-4775.

- We desperately need wildlife transporters to take injured, orphaned, and juvenile wildlife to area rehabilitators. If you can help, contact Jeanine Clark at (703) 838-5042.

- Check our "Wish List" on this page. Donations of any of these items to the Shelter will be greatly appreciated by all of us.

Shelter Wish List

The Alexandria Animal Shelter often needs things that you cannot use. If you'd like to help with any of the following items, please bring them to the Shelter at 910 S. Payne Street:

- washable plastic cat toys
- 35 mm film (100 speed) film processing
- TV/VCR combined unit (for educational programs and special events)
- battery-charged string weeder/edger
- table-top copier (must be in good working order)
- blankets
- foam core board
- 3M spray adhesive (Super 77 only)
- 100-foot garden hose



Olde Towne School for Dogs

Upcoming Events in June

SUNDAY, JUNE 12
10:00 AM - 11:30 AM
Call for reservations

So You Got a New Puppy ... Now What? FREE
Puppy Care & Training Seminar

SATURDAY, JUNE 18
10:00 AM - 3:00 PM

FREE Flea Dip for Cats and Dogs Sponsored by **Francodex**

SATURDAY, JUNE 25
10:00 AM - 3:00 PM
Call for reservations

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Good Training : The Humane Way To Combat a Dog's Bad Habits

by Cindy Miles

Many of us animal lovers who have brought a formerly owned dog into our lives have had to deal with bad habits or behavior problems.

Dogs can be trained and retrained successfully (up to the age of 12). However, dog trainer Larry Riley cautions, "Dog training is not a sometime thing—be consistent!"

Riley speaks from over 18 years' experience training dogs for the Air Force Security Police, the Secret Service, and in his current position at the Olde Towne School for Dogs.

"Dogs learn at different rates, like people," he says. "Don't expect your dog to change its bad habits immediately." All corrections, he notes, should be given immediately. Here's some more sound advice on a variety of behavior problems and situations:

Puppies: Riley recommends that puppies normally not have the run of the house until they're about a year old. This minimizes their opportunities for mischief. In some cases, crating or confining your puppy may help him get used to his new environment slowly. Discuss this option with a professional trainer before trying this, however.

Chewing: Dogs go through two chewing phases, the first at about eight weeks and the second at six to ten months. Crating or confinement to a limited area can be useful. Your goal is to turn the dog into a nonchewer and the best way to do so is to catch him in the act. This requires close observation, but it will pay off. When you see him chewing, a firm verbal correction is in order. Then remove the object or the animal from the area. After a few such corrections, your pet will learn that this is unacceptable behavior.

Some dogs may begin to chew out of boredom. Possible solutions: Change his routine; give him his own chew objects (your old t-shirt, for example); or coat his favorite chewing objects with a bitter spray (available at pet supply stores).

Running away: Puppies are more easily trained to behave off leash; but begin your training in a small area.

If the dog does get away, however, don't chase him. Instead, get down to his level and call him—it's less intimidating for the animal, and he may respond to

you and return. Above all, says Riley, "Don't panic or scream. The dog won't come back!"

Jumping on furniture: Catch him in the act. Reinforcing your corrections will make him realize that the couch is a forbidden zone. And remember to get this point across from the beginning.

Begging: A firm no and removing the dog from the eating area will teach him begging is wrong.

Aggression: Get help immediately. Professional obedience training is necessary. A dog will not outgrow aggressive behavior, and the problem could lead to potential disaster. A muzzle won't stop it; an aggressive dog is a potential killer.

Do not, however mistake aggression for stubbornness. A stubborn dog is usually friendly and outgoing, and once trained makes a good pet. But an aggressive dog requires twice the training that a stubborn dog will need.

Mouthing: Don't allow the dog to mouth you and treat you like a litter mate or to chew on anyone.

Coprophagy (when the dog eats his own feces). First, have your dog examined by a veterinarian to determine if he is malnourished or has worms. Again, boredom may be a factor. Riley recommends sprinkling Accent meat tenderizer on the dog's food. This mixes with his enzymes and makes the stool unpalatable.

Digging: If the dog consistently digs in the same area, you might put chicken wire on the ground and cover it with dirt. He will be unable to dig past the wire.

Housebreaking: Dogs are creatures of habit, and a daily schedule of food, water and walks will make the housebreaking task easier.

Accidental urination should not be corrected, because this will cause the dog to become a "fear-wetter," and he will lose control of his bladder whenever you punish him. Also, *don't rub the dog's nose in the mess he made.* This is not a correction, but a cruel punishment.

Watch your dog closely. If he starts to have an accident, get him outside immediately and show him where to go. Praise him enthusiastically when he is finished. He will quickly learn what is expected of him.

Barking: Dogs are most apt to bark when they are bored and alone. Dogs are



social creatures, and if yours objects to confinement, he may bark less if allowed to roam in a larger area. Playing the radio is sometimes soothing.

Consider also that perhaps your pet needs a pet. Two animals provide company for each other and keep down the boredom level. For some dogs, the answer may be a service that will provide someone to come to your home and walk and play with your pet each day. Alternatively, you might recruit a responsible neighbor to provide a daily walking service for your dog.

Praise is an important tool in solving any of these problems. Never hit the dog with your hand or a rolled-up newspaper. A simple "No" is all you need. If you hit the dog, he will become hand-shy.

Breed considerations: Riley's advice: Do your homework before selecting a puppy or dog. Do you have small children? Some herding or working breeds push children around instinctively—they think they're working!

Consider, too, that undesirable traits are often minimized in mixed breeds. If you take the time to research the traits of any dog you are considering, you may be able to avoid bad behaviors and problems in the future.

Bonding: Riley recommends that you bond with your dog before you enter into any training program. This allows him to gain trust and confidence in you before he begins to trust another stranger (the obedience trainer). Riley suggests that dogs not begin a training program until they are at least two months old.

Finally, Riley advises anyone dealing with a dog's behavior problems to get

Continued on page 8

Beautiful Cleo

by Randi Miller

It is not unusual to receive at the Shelter animals that will be difficult to place, but on June 4, 1993, we faced one of our greatest challenges. Cleo was a five-month-old hyperactive Dalmatian mix without a bit of training, and to top it all off, she was profoundly deaf. I remember shaking my head every time I walked past her in the kennel, thinking, "No one is going to give you a chance."

On June 15, someone proved me wrong. Newby and Patty Ely, a deaf couple from Springfield, had been searching two years for a deaf Dalmatian and an intricate chain of messengers brought them to Cleo. Three days after their initial meeting, a new family was headed home full of hope for the future.

Cleo turned out to be a handful, especially at first. Given Cleo's fondness for chewing, the Elys' frilly furniture was promptly moved upstairs and the sofa cushions were removed to "Cleo-proof" the room. But despite those initial adjustments, Newby says, "The best thing Patty ever did to me was persuade me to take Cleo." Love, it seems, compensates for many things.

The vet even wished them luck with Cleo because she was so hyperactive. Fortunately, and completely by accident, they found a deaf trainer, Marlene Hodge, who specializes in training dogs for the deaf. Patty and Marlene had attended Gallaudet College together and live only two blocks apart.

In addition to her own room, Cleo has a playground (the back yard), though she is never out there unless someone is in the kitchen to keep an eye on her.

The family soon developed a rhythm and a routine. Every morning Newby and Cleo chauffeur Patty to her job, and Newby returns home to do his thesis work. As Cleo's daytime companion, Newby is charged with much of her care, training and discipline. When he first began training with Marlene, she criticized him for not being firm enough with Cleo. Newby soon learned the importance of consistency, as Cleo loves to test his will.

The training is working. Cleo is trying to break her bad habits. When she barks too much, for example, Newby walks over to her, takes her muzzle in his left hand, and holds his index finger in front of his puckered lips, as if to say "Shush." Cleo immediately sits, and is silent.

Marlene has commented that Cleo is one of the best pupils she has ever trained. Cleo even knows sign language! Patty holds up the first two fingers of each hand as if signing the letter "u," then raps one set of fingers on top of the other; Cleo understands she is to sit down. "She knows the signs for 'beautiful Cleo.' She is so vain she even looks in the mirror!" Patty says. In fact, Cleo attracted a lot of attention at this year's St. Patrick's Day Fun Dog Show, where she won a ribbon for having the most spots.

Cleo shares her new masters with five cats: two Siamese, two Russian blue, and one Japanese bobtail. Being deaf, Cleo can't hear the cats growl and hiss at her to warn her of



Lovable, deaf Cleo was a challenge to place, but she and her new owners turned out to be a perfect match.

impending swipes, and she has learned the hard way that "diving in" to the cats can be painful. Early on Cleo was injured by an errant claw, so the cats and the dog were separated to allow a slower, safer introduction.

A new door erected in the Ely home allows the cats access to the kitchen only through a built-in kitty door, which is too small for Cleo to pass through. Only Varinia, the Russian blue, ventures downstairs to peek through the door at Cleo, apparently unafraid of being pursued.

Having a dog has changed the Elys' lives, and although the road hasn't always been smooth, their patience has paid off. Their love for Cleo is apparent to anyone who asks them to talk about her.

"A very good friend of ours," Newby says, "just lost his dog, who passed away after spending 12 years with him. He would no longer see the dog greet him when he comes from work. His comments made us appreciate Cleo much more than before. We are so lucky to have her. It feels so good to see her greet us by looking through the windows at our incoming car and barking at us to come in quick. How does Cleo know we are home?"

Patty adds, "Having a dog is a lot different from having a cat. Cats are very independent and only come to us when they want to. But having a dog is like having a baby—a 24-hour thing. Cleo always wants to be with me or Newby, every minute of the day. We've had to change our lifestyles; before Cleo, our lives were pretty sedentary, but with her, we're forced to go out a lot and be with other people, be generally more active than before. I guess Cleo has really opened our eyes and our outlook toward life. Now we can't imagine life without a dog! How could we go on for so long without a dog?"

Is there room in your heart and in your life for a pet? If so, please stop by the Alexandria Animal Shelter soon. There are many bright, beautiful, healthy animals who need good homes. The Shelter is open seven days a week. Call (703) 838-4775 for more information.

Toy

by Jean Vercher

It had been 15 years since that rainy day in December when a wet, tired, and hungry cat appeared at my back door. I took her in, fed her and dried her off, and from that day on we were a twosome. I named her Wisk, and, since I'd never had a cat, you could say that she gave me on-the-job training. We made out just fine until one day her time had come. She left me, as easily and as quietly as she had arrived. There was a time for sadness before I sought a new beginning at the Shelter.

It was a beautiful spring day and I knew the time had come to adopt a cat to share my home. I put the "pet taxi" in my car in anticipation and headed for the Shelter.

I was right. She was waiting—a beautiful, long-haired, orange cat with a white vest and four white paws. I held her and she was quite content. I knew we were right for each other.

This was my first experience in adopting a cat from the League. There were a few procedures to be observed: papers to be signed, an appointment set up at the animal hospital to have Toy checked over and arrange for the necessary shots before introducing her to her new home. When the hospital attendant asked for her name, I answered, "Toy." It seemed so right.

When we arrived home, Toy entered cautiously and investigated each room. Apparently all was to her liking, because she settled down as if to say, I'll stay. After a few days at home she returned to the hospital for an overnight stay to be spayed, to ensure that she wouldn't produce unwanted kittens to add to the tragic pet overpopu-

lation problem.

Toy is immaculate about her grooming and loves to be brushed. She purrs and preens, and seems pleased when told how beautiful she is. She's inquisitive, well-mannered, and carries her plume like an aristocrat. She is, like all felines, independent, but comes when I call her.

Cats are a lot of fun and they can get into the most interesting places—like the top of the refrigerator, from which she looks down on me as I prepare meals. Toy likes to hide in the linen closet, so that door is never completely closed for fear she may be hiding on the top shelf. She tosses her toys in the air and paws me, urging me to join in the fun.

A pleasant touch is when a representative from the League calls, bringing a package of "how-to" literature about cats. Later there's a follow-up contact, to ensure that everyone is satisfied with the adoption. That's important, because when a pet is returned to the Shelter for any reason, it's a traumatic experience for everyone involved, one to be avoided if at all possible.

Toy and I have just celebrated our first year together, and look forward to many more ahead. Adopting a pet is a



Toy was well taken care of during her stay at the Shelter, but was anxious for a home of her own. It took her two weeks to be discovered by the author.

wonderful and satisfying experience, one that adds so much pleasure to your home. You get so much unconditional love in return for your time and your care.

Why not consider adopting a pet from the League? I'm sure just the right one is waiting for you.

There are many great cats like Toy at the Shelter who need a good home. For more information, call (703) 838-4775 today.

Coming League Attractions

- 1994 Canine Olympics (Saturday, September 3)
- 1994 Annual Dinner (Thursday, October 20)
- 3rd Annual Doggie Dash (Sunday, November 6)
- Pet Photos with Santa (Dates TBA)




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The Animal Welfare League of Alexandria *SPOTLIGHT ON ANIMALS* (© 1994) is published four times a year and has a circulation of 24,000. Address all correspondence to The Animal Welfare League of Alexandria, 910 South Payne Street, Alexandria, VA 22314.

Jack Steele, *President*
Joyce McDowell, *Editor*

HOT off the Presses . . .

AWLA Issues Cat Owners' Handbook

The League is pleased to offer a new handbook for cat owners. Developed by the Shelter staff and volunteers with the assistance of area veterinarians, this 24-page guide contains valuable information and advice related to health care, feeding, training, and other issues related to successful cat ownership.

The handbook is free to anyone who adopts a cat from the Alexandria Animal Shelter. Others may purchase it for a nominal \$5 fee to cover our publication costs and postage and handling. To obtain your copy, just send your check for \$5 per copy, made payable to AWLA, to 910 S. Payne Street, Alexandria, VA 22314.

The 1994 Canine Olympics is Coming!



Mark your calendar now for Saturday morning, September 3. That's when the area's "top dogs" will compete in the 1994 Canine Olympics. The event again will be held at Jones Point Park in Alexandria.

No one who came to the first two "Doggie Olympiads" would dream of missing this year's festivities, and neither should you. There will be something for everyone, and your favorite canine will have a chance to show his stuff.

Details and an entry form will appear in our Summer *Spotlight*. Meanwhile, if you'd like to be a sponsor of the 1994 Canine Olympics, please call the Special Events Hotline at (703) 519-7230 today for more information.

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ADDRESS CORRECTION
REQUESTED

Training

from page 5

help. "Don't let pride get in the way," he says. "There are good books, good schools, and good breeders who can provide the advice you need."

There are excellent resources available to help you, including videos, group classes offered by organizations and professional trainers. Individual sessions are recommended for aggressive dogs, fighters, or dogs with other unique behavior problems or special needs. In addition, the Shelter staff may be able to help with your problem or direct you to someone who can. For more information, call (703) 838-4775.



A Pair of Hot Weather Safety Tips

- Don't risk your pet's life by leaving him in your car while you run errands. Temperatures rise quickly, often resulting in heat stroke, brain damage, even death. The kindest thing you can do is to leave your four-legged friend at home!
- Always ensure that your pet has plenty of fresh water to drink.

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