

Genius Dog Newsletter

GENIUS DOG TRAINING

"Dogs are not our whole life, but they make our lives whole." Roger Caras

Dog Bite Prevention

By Carmela Lutz, CPDT

Spring 2010
Volume 2. Issue 1

Did you know...?

About 4.7 million people are bitten by dogs each year in the United States.

One in five dog bites results in injuries that require medical attention.

According to the Insurance Information Institute, "Insurance companies paid an estimated \$250 million in dog bite liability claims in 1996."

Who is most at risk?

- **Children** (highest for ages 5 to 9 years)
- **Adult males** (more likely than females to be bitten)
- **People with dogs in their homes** (27% of dog bite injuries were caused by family pets)

By taking preventative steps now, you or a family member

can avoid becoming another one of these tragic statistics.

Here are a few basic safety tips to reduce your chances of being bitten by a dog:

- Do not approach an unfamiliar dog.
- Do not run from a dog or scream.
- Remain motionless when approached by an unfamiliar dog.
- Avoid direct eye contact with a dog.
- Try to remain calm.
- Never leave infants or young children alone with any dog.
- Properly socialize and train your dog.
- Immediately seek professional advice if your dog develops aggressive or undesirable

behaviors.

When dealing with an aggressive dog...

The Merck Veterinary Manual (1998) states in the chapter entitled Social Behavior and Behavioral Problems: "Almost without exception, physical punishment, including the use of prong collars and electric shock collars, alpha rolls, and dominance downs can make an already aggressive dog worse. Owners should be discouraged from using these techniques..."

May 16 – 22, 2010 is National Dog Bite Prevention Week.



This year it is being sponsored by the American Veterinary Medical Association (AVMA).

Emergency Preparedness for Pets

In light of the recent earthquakes around the world and the firestorms of 2003 and 2007, I thought it would be a good time to include something about emergency preparedness for your pets.

Your pet disaster supplies

should include: medications, medical records (including vaccinations), first aid kit, food/water and bowls (can opener, if needed), leash and/or crate, dog waste bags (for cats – litter/pan), pet bed and toys.

Keep all of your disaster

supplies in an accessible place.

You can obtain a free copy of the *Ready America* Pet Owners brochure by visiting the following website...

http://www.ready.gov/america/_downloads/pets.pdf

GENIUS DOG TRAINING

P.O. Box 270506
San Diego, CA 92198-2506

Phone: (858) 652-1104

E-mail: carmela@geniusdogtraining.com



We're on the Web!

www.geniusdogtraining.com

****Upcoming Classes**** – Get off on the right paw and sign up for one of our group training classes for only \$129!

Mar. 24 at 7:00 PM: Puppy Class (10 wks. – 5 mos.)

Apr. 18 at 10:00 AM: Beginner Class (6 mos. & older)

Apr. 18 at 11:00 AM: Puppy Class (10 wks. – 5 mos.)

Beginning May 1, 2010 group training classes will be \$139.

Important Information:

- Training Location – California Pets, 200 E. Via Rancho Parkway #363, Escondido, CA 92025.
- Due to limited seating, pre-registration is required.
- All puppies and dogs must be current on their vaccinations.
- Classes are six (6) weeks, one (1) hour each week.

Genius Dog Training is independently owned and operated.



Wylie's Corner

Hello,

Just like my humans, I love food! So I thought I would tell you about some of my favorite dog treats.

Because I have allergies to wheat and corn, it can be hard for my mommy to find me treats I can eat. Almost every cookie type treat is made out of wheat. My mommy even had to order special wheat-free "pup" cakes for my fourth birthday (yummy). My friends and I woofed them right down.

One of my all time favorite treats is Plato Dog Treats – Kangaroo Strips (6 oz.). My mommy says that's because I'm part Australian Cattle Dog. But,

they're kinda expensive and very hard to find (special order).



Another treat that is great for training is Zukes Mini Naturals (chicken, salmon, and peanut butter). They're wheat-free, corn-free, and soy-free, plus for those weight conscious canines - only 2 calories each.

My mommy found this last treat at the Leucadia/Encinitas and Vista Farmers' Market.

They're called Lulu Biscuits (8 oz.). The two flavors I get are veggie (grain-free) and wheat-free peanut butter. They smell grreat and are chewy (if they're fresh).

Until next time...



"The opinions, beliefs and viewpoints expressed in this article are my own and do not necessarily reflect that of Genius Dog Training." -- Wylie