

The Dog Guardian

Christmas 2014

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AGM

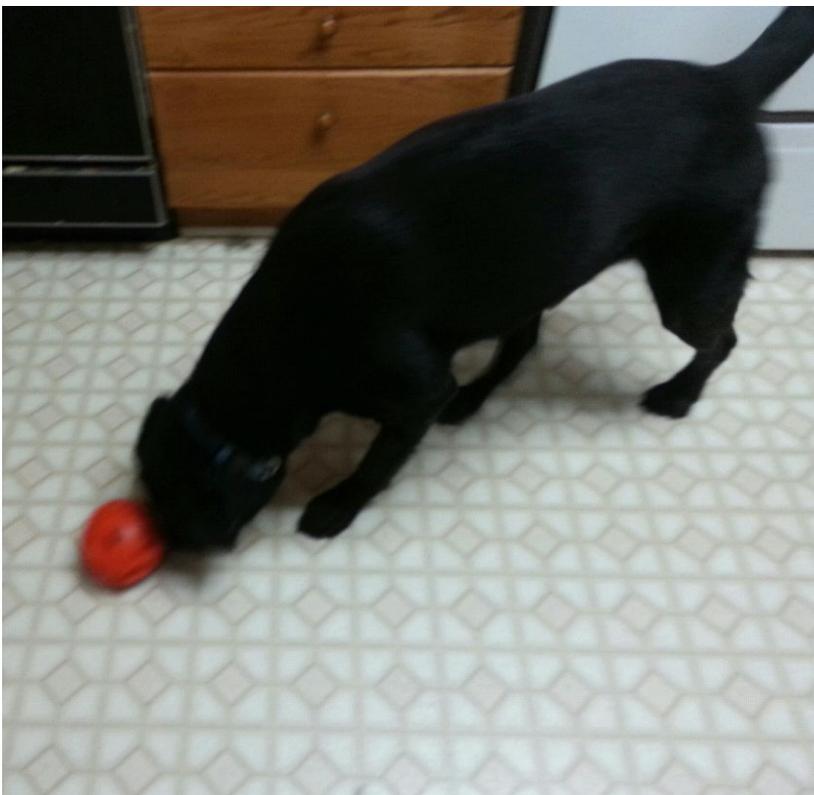


Nellie (picture taken by Julie More)

We held our AGM on Sunday Nov. 16th. Candice introduced the 3 new board members and thanked the retired board members for all their hard work. Dagmar presented the Transition certificate

to the organization issued by the federal government. Financial report was given by Betty (our new treasurer) and Yvonne (our retired treasurer). Membership and volunteer reports were given by Julie, and Going to the Dogs Fundraiser report was given by Candice. Candice updated us on the CCGC program. Julie talked about the Park clean up events. Dagmar did a short presentation of the Preschool and Dog Program followed by discussion of the material, the age group the program is aimed at, and future plans. This package has been developed for preschool teachers. Our future plans are to develop a package for parents. The daycare we did our pilot project at suggested we design a package for new immigrants. Another group we are thinking of focusing on is special needs children.

Christmas safety tips:



Tyler (picture taken by Julie More)

Holiday is just around the corner. It's a fun time of the year. Just ask my 2 pups. Every Christmas they wonder how come they get yummie treats and new toys. They think that if they can figure out what good behaviour resulted in these fantastic treats then they can repeat it every day for more wonderful goodies :-)

Holiday time can be dangerous for our pets. If your dogs are like mine they get into everything. We learned many things over the years as we raised dogs. Here are some of the things our pups taught us:

Our big Christmas tree has been replaced by a small tree that fits perfectly on our coffee table. Our glass ornaments got replaced by non breakable wooden decorations. We do not have tinsels on our tree anymore.

Presents that contain cookies, chocolate and any other yummie food do not go under the tree. That also includes doggie cookies and doggie treats. The list goes on :-)

The Ottawa Humane Society posted a very informative guide on pet safety. It's called "Twelve Pet Tips for Christmas."

http://ottawahumane.ca/your-pets/christmas_tips.cfm

It gives suggestions on how to make sure your pet is safe during the holidays. I found it very helpful.

Website review:



Winnie (picture taken by Kit Watson)

"Dog Duties – What's Your Job"

<http://loveyourdog.com/ages.html>

Your children begged you to get a dog. They promised they will look after the pup. You will never even know there is a dog in the house. Yeh we have all heard that, right :). However you start wondering what is realistic? How much will your children be able to help? I found this website very helpful.

"How to Love Your Dog"

"A Kid's Guide to Dog Care"

<http://loveyourdog.com/>

Click on "What's your Job?" or just go to

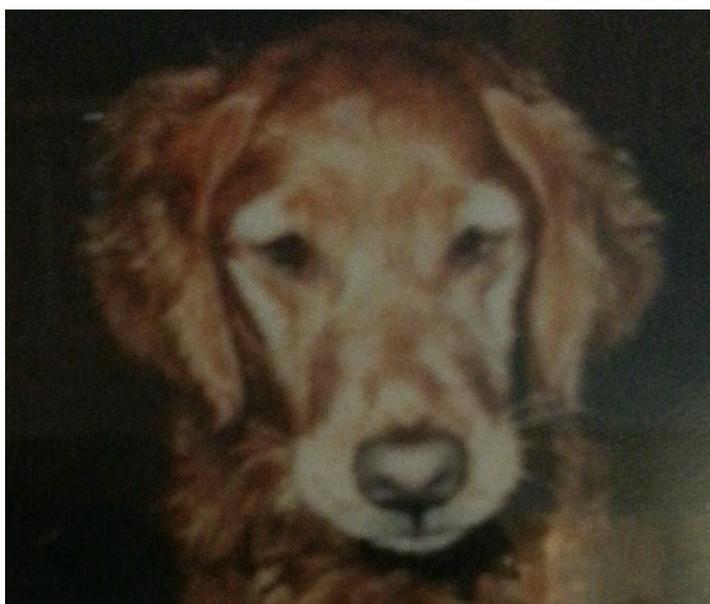
<http://loveyourdog.com/ages.html>

to find out how your child can help. It starts with the 4 year olds

petting and helping to brush the pup, etc. under adult supervision. You click on your child's age and it gives you suggestions on what he or she is capable of helping with. It's just a general guide line since each child is different and you are the one who knows your child the best. The chart goes from 4 year olds to 15 year olds. It covers all the categories like feeding, grooming, training etc.

Let me know what you think of this website. Please email your comment to morejulie@hotmail.com. Thanks :-)) We will share your comments in our next newsletter.

Pet story corner:



Kelley (picture taken by Julie More)

The Kelley - Rob team

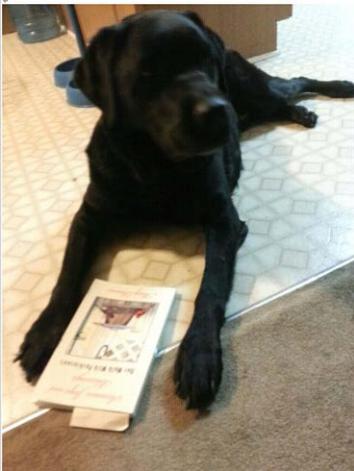
Let me introduce you to Kelley and Rob. Kelley was our golden retriever who helped us raise Rob. We got her when she was a little puppy in 1995. At that time Rob was 17 years old functioning at about a 10 year old level. Rob had Cerebral Palsy, neurogenic bowel and bladder, and cataracts, but in Kelley's eyes, Rob was the perfect boy. She recognized his limitations and accepted him.

Kelley loved her crate. It was her private room. When she decided she wanted to play, she wanted out of that crate immediately.

However if Rob was letting her out she waited patiently while he tried several times to open the latch. It was the same with putting on her leash. With us she was very impatient as if to say "Put it on already. The birds, the trees and the other dogs are calling me. Let's go!" However with Rob she would sit very patiently while he struggled to fasten her leash as if to say "No hurry. You can do this. The walk can wait so take your time". She was the perfect dog for Rob.

Kelley taught Rob that sleep is important :-). Rob used to be the world's worst sleeper. He wouldn't go to sleep until midnight and was up at 4 am. Then we got Kelley. Rob wanted Kelley to sleep in his room. I told him that was fine, but that puppies need their beauty sleep so they grow up to be strong dogs. For the next year Rob and Kelley went to bed at 9 pm and stayed in bed until 6 am. Yay Kelley! One more thing she got Rob to do that we couldn't (smile)

Book review:



Tyler (picture taken by Julie More)

"MAY I PET YOUR DOG? - The How-to Guide for Kids Meeting Dogs
(and Dogs Meeting Kids)"

by Stephanie Calmenson

Illustrated by Jan Ormerod

(Children's book)Clarion Books

a Houghton Mifflin Company imprint

215 Park Avenue South, New York, NY 10003

Text copyright@ 2007 by Stephanie Calmenson

Illustration copyright@ 2007 by Jan Ormerod

Available at the Ottawa Public Library (J PIC CALME)

Chapters book store sells it for \$13.99

Hard cover book (32 pages)
Recommended for 2 to 8 year olds

Stephanie Calmenson with the help of Harry (a very cute and very smart dachshund illustrated by Jan Ormerod) does a wonderful job explaining to kids how to be safe around dogs. The book starts off with "A Note To Grownups" on what the book is about. Next we meet Harry our very knowledgeable dachshund who tells his new friend (a little boy) how to meet dogs safely. He reminds him to always ask the owner's permission to pat his dog before approaching him. Some dogs like to be petted, but others don't.

Harry and his new friend cover a lot of topics in the book. Here are some important ones:

- how to ask the owner's permission before walking over to meet a dog
- how to approach a dog
- how to pat a dog
- what different body languages mean (wagging tail means happy dog, growling dogs don't want to meet you, etc.)
- what to do when meeting an unfriendly or scared dog
- how to behave around working dogs like guide dogs

In the last 2 pages of the book Harry and his friends give 6 important safety tips.

This is a very well written book. Easy to understand. Great pictures. I highly recommend it.

Volunteer corner:



Zion (picture taken by Mary Blaney)

Let me introduce you to our newest volunteer, Claudette Levac. She

joined us earlier this year and helped us with the park clean ups and the Going to the Dogs Fundraiser. She is another of our volunteers I can call the last minute. She is willing to help with almost everything. Thanks Claudette :).

Here is Claudette's story:

"I have recently joined RDOC thanks to Julie More. I have worked for Revenue Canada for twenty-eight years and retired in October 2010. I met Julie through a group who meet in the mornings at McDonald's on Bank Street at Hunt Club.

I was a member of the Board of Directors for my condominium association for ten years. I attended and helped out at the fundraiser on September 11 and enjoyed myself very much. I also participated in the Conroy Pit Clean Up in September. I know that I will enjoy being part of this wonderful group."

Membership corner:



Nelson (picture taken by Mary Blaney)

Meet the Blaney family, our newest RDOC members. Mary, Gary, Diana, Jane and Elliott have always had pets. Mary was a puppy raiser with Canadian Guide Dogs for the Blind. She puppy raised Zion a golden retriever. Zion is a very shy dog, so his career changed from a guide dog to the Blaney family pet dog. Zion is very happy about that. Their other dog Nelson is a goofy black lab. Both dogs enjoy agility, tracking, etc. The family is also owned by Tolkein the cat.



Picture taken by Ivan Harris

Everybody at RDOC would like to wish you a very happy and safe holiday



Tolkein (picture taken by Mary Blaney)



Nellie (picture taken by J. More)

Responsible Dog Owners of Canada (RDOC)

Responsible Dog Owners of Canada is a registered non profit organization that promotes responsible dog ownership through education and support, cultivates respect for the rights and privileges of members of the dog-owning and non dog-owning communities, fosters recognition of the contribution that canines make through companionship, service/assistance and therapy and aspires to assemble a strong network of responsible dog owners to ensure the restoration and preservation of a dog-friendly society.

Responsibility • Respect • Recognition

Contact RDOC by:

E-mail: inquiries@responsibledogowners.ca

Phone: 613.258.6886

Write to us at:

9 Liette Ct., RR1, Kemptville, ON K0G 1J0

Or visit us online at:

www.responsibledogowners.ca