



[Home Page](#)

[How Lost Pets are Found \(2\)](#)

[On the Lighter Side \(3\)](#)

[The Vet's Corner \(4\)](#)

[Havanese Forum \(5\)](#)

[Nia's Story \(6\)](#)

[Checker's Story \(7\)](#)

[Clover's Story \(7/8\)](#)

[Favorite Pics \(8\)](#)

[More Pics/Editor \(9\)](#)

Fall & Winter Edition 2012/13

We Talk Havanese

Happy

Attractive

Variety of Colours

Adorable

Naughty

Elegant

Smart

Enthusiastic



© Felici Animalì



How Lost Pets Are Found Contributed by Jan Smith

Written By Dr. Karen Becker

Between September and November 2010, the ASPCA interviewed over 1,000 pet owners to investigate how lost pets are located and returned home. The study was published in the June 2012 issue of the journal *Animals*.¹

How Lost Pets Were Recovered

The most important steps in finding a lost pet include searching immediately, searching the local area/neighborhood visually, as well as putting up posters and using [Internet resources](#). Checking local shelters from the first day the pet goes missing is also important.

Of the pet-owning families surveyed, 15 percent had lost a dog or cat in the past five years. Eighty-five percent of those pets were recovered, including 74 percent of lost cats and 93 percent of lost dogs.

Of the recovered dogs:

- 49 percent were found by owners searching their neighborhoods
- 15 percent were found thanks to the presence of either an [ID tag](#) or a microchip

6 percent were found at a shelter

As for the lost cats:

- 59 percent returned home on their own
- 30 percent were found by owners searching their neighborhoods

2 percent were found at a shelter

According to Emily Weiss, vice president of shelter research and development for the ASPCA:

“This research tells us that there is a possibility that a significant percentage of the stray dogs and cats in the shel-



Dr. Karen Becker

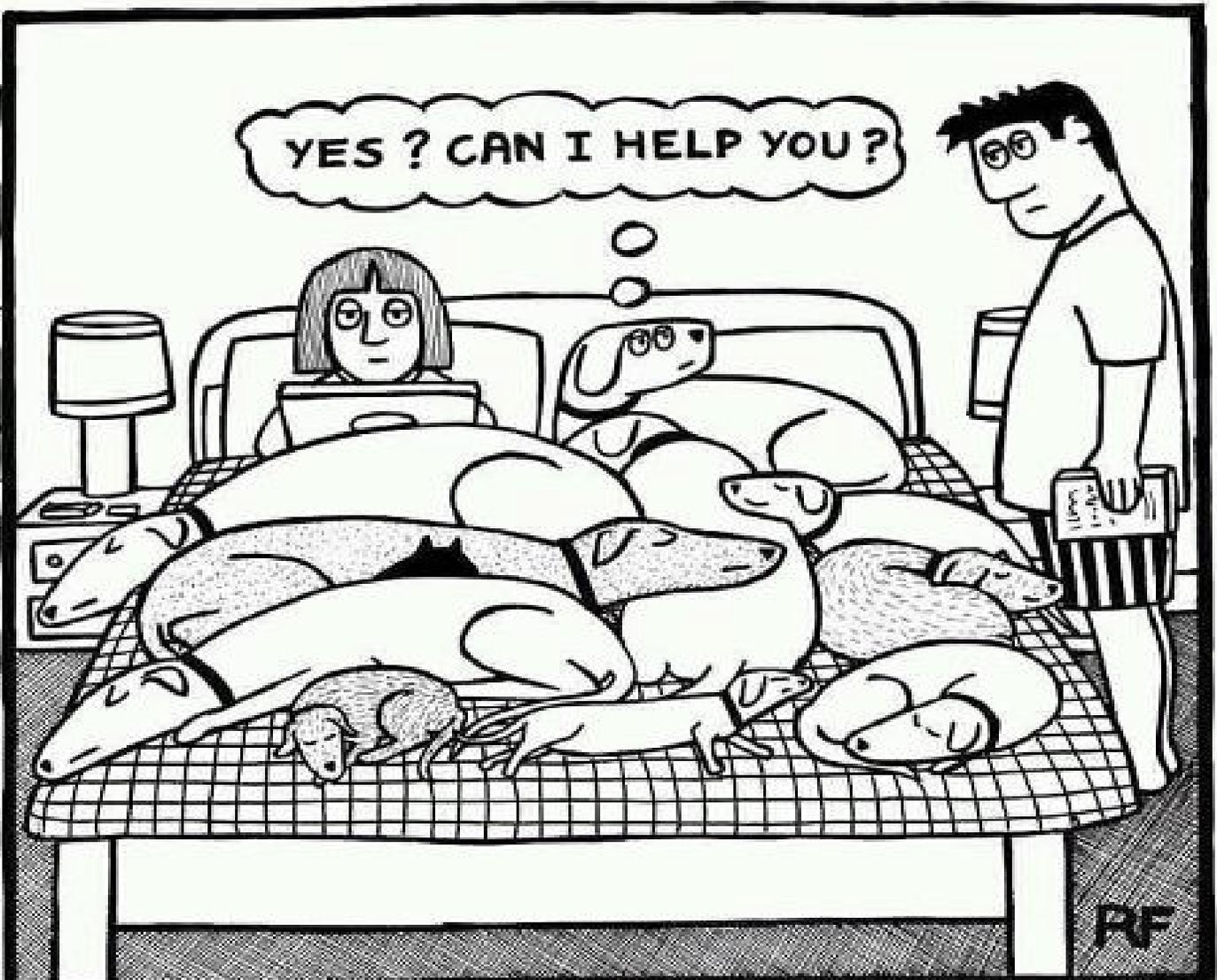


“Dog People” have to have a good sense of humor.

Sometimes you run into something that hits so close to home that you fall down laughing.

I hope the cartoon below reminds some of you of home.

COPYRIGHT OF THE LEASH (RUPERT FRAGGETT) 2012





The Vet's Corner

Brucellosis is a devastating disease for you pet to acquire. This article contains critical information for the veteran dog owner and new owner alike.

Much has been written on Brucellosis in breeding dogs. Infection rates may run as high as 10%. It is suspected that one in ten dogs in this country carries Brucellosis. In addition, it is transmissible to humans who may develop serious liver impairment or arthritis.

Medical advancements in controlling this disease have been few and far between. It is a very difficult disorder to treat and in most cases, treatment is unsuccessful. A prevalent attitude is that "if my dogs get it, then I will treat it." This is a serious mistake because you probably will not cure it and, if you do, the individual will probably be sterile or a poor breeding specimen.

Brucellosis in the female dog lives in the vaginal and uterine tissue and secretions. Litters are commonly aborted, usually in the last two weeks of gestation, or the puppies may die shortly after birth. The female may never appear to be pregnant at all. She can spread the bacteria to other animals through her urine, aborted fetuses, or most commonly through the act of breeding.

In males, the brucella bacteria live in the testicles and seminal fluids. An infected male is just as dangerous as the female as he can spread it via his urine or semen. Oftentimes, there are no signs except in advanced cases when the testicles may be uneven in size. Since *Brucella canis* is mainly spread by the act of breeding, it is paramount to test all canines, male and female, prior to breeding. Test between every breeding of different animals. In other words, if a male or female was tested one year ago but has bred since, it must be tested again.

In the case of a male, even if he serviced a female since his last test, then he must be tested again even if his last test was as recent as four weeks ago.

Testing is the only sure way to detect carriers.

Testing for Brucellosis usually requires a blood test by your veterinarian and all positives should be retested for a confirmation. When possible, all > incoming breeding dogs should be isolated for two weeks upon arrival at the kennel. At the end of two weeks, have the individual male or female tested by your vet for Brucellosis. Do this even if the dog was tested before shipment. This may seem excessive but you will spend a lot more money if Brucellosis creeps into your kennel, not to mention the disruption in your breeding program and loss of genetic potential.

Treatment for Brucellosis fails in most cases. Tetracycline is usually used for a four week period but success is rare. Streptomycin is occasionally effective. As a general rule, do not breed an individual that is said to be treated and cured. "Cured" patients often begin shedding the bacteria months to years after treatment. Don't knowingly take a chance.

In conclusion, test and isolate. Do not rely on an uncertain cure. If you do not heed these suggestions, you are playing with fire in your kennel and perhaps with your own health. Remember: One out of ten dogs may be a carrier and those are very disturbing odds.

Websites for brucellosis:

<http://nbb.emory.edu/saint/Brucellosis.html> (clinical article by a DVM)

<http://www.wildsidekennels.com/articles/brucellosis.html> (individual non- vet info)

<http://www.hancock.net/~spo/brucell2.htm> (from "VetTalk" by a DVM)



The Havanese Forum

Many pet owners, especially in the colder climates, wonder if they need to be concerned with fleas and the preventative measures that we take to protect our dogs from discomfort and disease..

A Winter-time Question:

Do I only have to worry about fleas in the summer months?

No, fleas can survive in colder months but the flea cycle for reproduction is slower.

How can I tell if my pet is having a problem with fleas?

It is best to always be on the look out for fleas.

If your pet starts scratching it is time to investigate immediately.

To check for fleas part the fur down to the skin with a comb. The best places to check are around the ears, neck, lower back and tail; you may see an adult flea. A good sign of fleas is a collection of black pepper like particles. These particles may be flea feces. This is also called flea dirt. A method to determine if they are feces is to comb the debris onto a white paper towel. Then put a drop of water on the particles. If you see a hint of red staining then it is definitely flea feces. The feces contain undigested blood.

If your pet has fleas they will also be in your pets environment, bedding etc.

Thoughts to keep in mind when dealing with fleas.

The adult flea lays many eggs. One visible flea can become an infestation.

You may have to call an exterminator.

If the infestation can not be handled quickly it is time to seek help from your veterinarian.

Some pets can have allergic reactions from the flea toxins. This can last for more than two weeks after the last flea bite. This will cause excessive scratching causing sores and infection. Seek advice from a professional.

ACV (Apple Cider Vinegar) is one of many holistic solutions to keep fleas under control.

The solution does not kill fleas or ticks.

In areas that Lime disease is prevalent it is critical that you consult with your Veterinarian for the best way to protect your pet.

Reference:

http://www.pest-control-supplies.com/flea_life_cycle.htm



Good For the Heart

Brief Stories About Our Wonderful Havanese

Story #1 - Submitted by: Connie Banitt

Another Great Agility and Therapy Dog – “Nia”

Oooops!!!! Big error! “Nia’s” full name – Wincroft’s Hermione Cara Dulce.

Finally, this is “Nia,” who is just starting out in agility, after having a litter and finishing up in the conformation ring with her 2 majors and 11 points. She is definitely a fun-loving Havanese, enjoying the agility ring with blazing speed, but frequently making up her own course. Everyone at the facilities she visits as a therapy dog just adores her. She is a little “sweetie,” giving kisses to anyone who puts his/her face up to her. I warn the residents at the facilities not to ask for a kiss if they don’t want a face washing.

Owners: Ed & Lynn Kloske



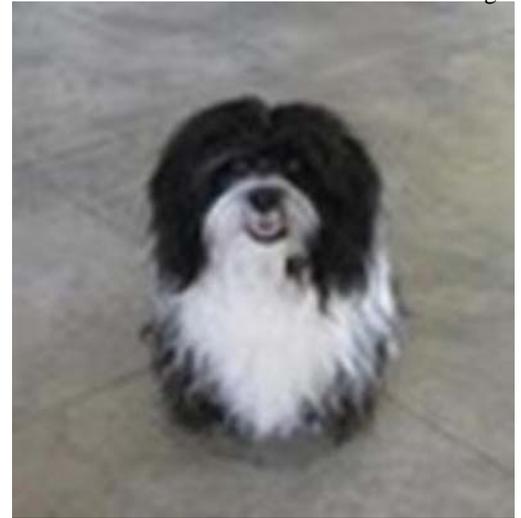
Nia puts on wings in the Agility Ring !!



Story # 2

CHECKERS STORY

Checkers is a dog who truly has it all. He became a Champion at 10 months of age and a Grand Champion at 1 year. He then went on to get his Canine Good Citizen certification and became registered with Therapy Dogs Inc. a few months later. In August of this year, Checkers was awarded the AKC performance title of THD to acknowledge that he has met the criteria of at least 50 visits as a Therapy Dog.



Checkers, although great in the show ring, truly shines at the bedside. Presently, we are a Therapy Dog team with Hospice of the Valley here in AZ. It is such rewarding work and this is truly Checkers' calling. He seems to intuitively know what to do and it is an inspiration to watch him in action.

He not only brings joy and comfort to the terminally ill patient, but often provides a needed respite for the staff and family.

GCH CH Lancaster's Checkered Past THD will be competing at the Eukanuba National Championship in Orlando in December of this year and is loved by Lucy & Bob Lancaster

(www.LancastersofGoldCanyon.com)

Story # 3

Clover's Story



Submitted by: Karen (Kat) Smith

Oh goodness, I have a million stories with Clover. I will have to stick with my favorite - it's very on theme!

More than 10 years ago I was working on Clover's Novice Obedience title. No one really knew what Havanese were at the time, but Clover had turned a few heads in his first two trials, where he qualified and won the class! This show was Thanksgiving weekend in West Springfield, MA, which was a huge show with obedience, agility, and conformation, spread across three different buildings. There were about 60 dogs in my class with Clover.

I was waiting outside the ring, and a woman with a Border Collie was looking at Clover. After a minute she said, "He's cute. Does he ever



qualify?"

The woman and her Border Collie placed second in that class of 60 dogs. Clover placed first with a score of 198.5 out of 200. Afterwards, she asked me what breed he was, and if they were all like that!

The woman and her Border Collie placed second in that class of 60 dogs. Clover placed first with a score of 198.5 out of 200. Afterwards, she asked me what breed he was, and if they were all like that!

Clover is going to be 15 in April and once in a while, I run into Obedience or Agility people who remember him and just how talented he was!

He was in the Performance Dog parade at the Nationals this year, after not asking him to do formal obedience stuff for years, he instantly remembered and heeled around the ring like a champ, even sitting on the halts, despite his creaky knees. It was a very special thing for us to do.

"Clover" is Shamrock Shenanigans, CDX RN NA NAJ. This picture isn't from the win in the story but it's a great one anyway!

Many of us met Clover as Kat would bring her to visit at dog shows, when she could. Sadly, Clover passed away a few months ago, but that won't eliminate the joy and happiness that he brought to so many. She is missed, but fondly remembered. JSowa

Here are a few Pictures of our favorite Pets !!





Thanks to all who contributed and assisted with this edition.

I hope that the reader found some interest, some useful information, and some fun. Best Wishes,

J. Jonathan Sowa, Editor