



# **CAMP GONE TO THE DOGS**

## **NEWSWIRE**

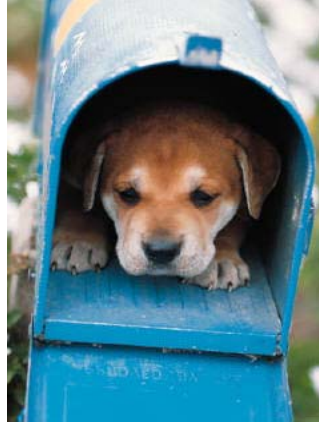
Volume 2, Issue 2

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# The Editor Barks Out

EMPTY THOSE MAILBOXES!!!!!!!



We hate for you to miss a single issue of the *Camp Gone to the Dogs* Newswire. But when your mailbox is full, we cannot deliver. About a dozen of you did not receive Volume 2 Issue 1 because your e-mail box exceeded its quota. If you did not receive your issue, a gorged mailbox may be to blame.

Please pay extra attention to deleting unwanted and/or old e-mails near the end of November, January, March, May, July, and September in order to make room for your electronic newsletter. Of course, editorial content drives the schedule, but we are targeting the end of every other month to forward your Newswire to you.

With regard to editorial content, please remember this is a newsletter dedicated to dogs. Therefore, the articles and features, even the jokes and recipes, must be dog-related in

order to be included in the Newswire.

**CAMPERS:** if you have written or read dog-related stories, jokes, recipes, etc. and feel they would be appropriate for the *Camp Gone to the Dogs* Newswire, please forward your information to [campnewswire@hotmail.com](mailto:campnewswire@hotmail.com). In the subject line of your email, please type the word, **newswire**, so we can easily identify your material. Also, please identify the true author/source when possible to avoid plagiarism. You must be a current or past camper to submit information for inclusion in the Newswire. Thank you for your cooperation.

You dogs, keep those tails wagging!

— Valerie Steinman  
CGTTD Camper

**HAPPY HALLOWEEN!**

# HONEY'S CORNER

Honey Loring, CGTTD Pack Leader



## Signs of Lyme Disease in Dogs

T.J. Dunn, Jr. DVM

Of the hundreds of cases of canine Lyme Disease that I have seen, over 90 percent of canine patients were admitted with signs of limping (usually one foreleg), lymph node swelling in the affected limb, and a temperature of 103 degrees (101 to 102.5 degrees is normal). The limping usually progresses over three to four days from mild and barely noticeable to complete disuse of the painful leg. Once the dog starts to be affected by the bacteria, Lyme Disease can progress from a mild discomfort to the stage where a dog will be in such joint and muscle pain it will refuse to move; it is not uncommon for an owner to have to carry a sick dog into the animal hospital.

Over the span of two or three days, a dog can progress from normal to completely unable to walk due to generalized joint pain. In addition to joint damage, the bacteria can affect

the dog's heart muscle and nerve tissue. If the disease is diagnosed in time, treatment can cure the dog before permanent joint or nerve damage occurs. Certain antibiotics, such as the Tetracyclines, are very helpful in eliminating the disease.

Generally, the diagnosis of Lyme Disease is based upon clinical signs and history. For example, if a dog ran or played normally a few days ago, has had no signs of trauma or previous arthritic discomfort, and now displays tenderness upon palpation of the affected limb and has a mild fever and swollen lymph nodes, I'm going to seriously consider Lyme Disease as a possible diagnosis.

On the other hand, just as in human medicine, Lyme Disease is called "The Great Imitator" because it has often been mistakenly diagnosed when another disorder is present, such

as an autoimmune disease, lymph tissue cancer, Blastomycosis, or septicemia. Just as vexing is the fact that at times other similar-appearing diseases are diagnosed when the culprit is actually Lyme Disease. There are published reports of Lyme Disease being misdiagnosed and over diagnosed in human medicine.

Keeping other disorders in mind, if I suspect Lyme Disease, I start treatment immediately, generally prescribing an antibiotic such as tetracycline and possibly some aspirin if the dog is in a lot of pain. Many veterinarians do not wait for blood tests to confirm the tentative diagnosis because in dogs the information obtained may be confusing and require too much time to hear back from the lab.

I have seen patients that from clinical experience I know have Lyme Disease, yet their blood test curiously indicates no exposure to the disease. And there are numerous cases of normal-appearing, healthy dogs with positive blood tests for Lyme Disease.

Fortunately, over 90 percent of dogs treated within the first week of obvious signs of Lyme Disease will respond rapidly to treatment with a tetracycline antibiotic. This medicine is administered for at least three weeks. In my experience, five percent of dogs will have some type of relapse of signs such as cardiac or

neurological difficulties even after treatment. Some of these patients will experience chronic, lifelong joint pain from the damage caused by the bacteria and its direct and indirect stress to joint tissues. The earlier the antibiotic is started in the course of the disease, the better the patient's chances of a complete recovery.

Can a dog contract Lyme Disease a second time? Yes, but, quite honestly, we don't know for sure if the reoccurrence is a second, distinct infection or a flare-up of the original episode (because the *Borrelia* organism replicates quite slowly). And, since dogs can harbor the bacteria in their tissues a long time before the disease is evident, Lyme Disease cases are showing up all year long. In the northern states, however, the summer months are the busiest for Lyme Disease.

#### LIFE CYCLE OF THE TICK

Tiny rodents, such as voles, and especially the white-footed mouse, harbor in their bodies thousands of the *Borrelia* bacteria without getting sick. In the early spring while the white-footed mouse goes about its business, some lucky *Ixodes* tick larvae (from newly hatched eggs laid late the previous fall) grab onto the mouse and begin to feed on its blood. During this feast, the tick larvae acquire many bacteria from the mouse's fluids. The bacteria think this is just great because they can survive

and multiply in the tick's gut just as well as in the mouse's. And, what' even better from the bacteria's point of view, their huge numbers won't kill the tiny ticks either. The bacteria have now gone from the host, a white-footed mouse, to the tick carrier, called a vector, and are thriving – a bacterial reproductive bonanza!

When winter comes, the tick larvae lie dormant, dreaming of warm-blooded creatures upon which to dine come next spring. Tick larvae like the little white-footed mouse but will settle for you or your dog. The bacteria are doing fine too; they're just going along for the warm ride inside the little mouse.

Once the warmer spring temperatures arrive, the six-legged tick larvae mature into eight-legged nymphal stage. Later in the summer, the nymph reaches the adult stage. The young adult ticks, still harboring all those bacteria without ill effects, just happen to find themselves riding the legs of a white-tailed deer. Banquet time! After the ticks suck the deer's nutrient-rich blood, they can mate and produce thousands of eggs. The following spring, the eggs hatch into a new batch of larvae.

**Adult deer ticks are smaller than a sesame seed!**

So where do you and your dog fit in this chain of bacteria, mouse,

tick, and deer? Although the tick, during various stages of its life cycle, prefers certain creatures upon which to feed, it is quite willing to belly up to a table where people or dogs are the main course. Regardless of the stage – larvae, nymph, or adult Ixodes tick – if these critters carry the bacteria in their bodies, people and dogs can become infected if bitten. Sometimes, but not always, clinical sickness (observable disease) results.

What percentage of Ixodes ticks carry the bacteria? That varies according to regions. Research has shown that in endemic areas of the mid-Atlantic and Northeast, nymphal-infected ticks ranged from 25 to 50 percent, and in north central regions, 10 to 16 percent. It is the tiny nymphal stage that is the most responsible for transmitting the disease.

FOR MORE INFORMATION:  
[www.thepetcenter.com/gen/lyme.html](http://www.thepetcenter.com/gen/lyme.html)

There is no evidence that people can contract Lyme Disease directly from wild or domestic animals. In other words, you can't catch Lyme Disease from your dog or from a deer. But if infected urine or blood were to come in contact with an open wound, who knows? And as time and evolution go on, variations of disease-producing organisms can be a threat.



## Dog Quotes of Note

"Dogs are our link to paradise. They don't know evil or jealousy or discontent. To sit with a dog on a hillside on a glorious afternoon is to be back in Eden, where doing nothing was not boring – it was peace."

—Milan Kundera

"Dogs bring us to a better world." —??

"I like a dog. He does nothing for political reasons."

—Will Rogers



Hope you are enjoying your dogs as much as I've been enjoying mine.

All for now,  
Honey

# Mary's TIPS

Mary Thompson  
CGTTD Instructor

## Recall of ProHeart 6

The ProHeart 6 injectable heartworm protection has officially been recalled. Veterinarians started to receive notification in September. Seems the FDA told the company to start the recall the end of June—so why the delay? The company says they expect to be able to have the product back out on the market in a few months! PLEASE, PLEASE, PLEASE, DO NOT USE THIS PRODUCT!!!!!!!

## Fresh Food Diet

Will have an update on how my 14-year-old Labrador Retriever is doing going back on a fresh food diet. Rainy had been on fresh food for the last eight years until I took the summer off making food. He is a black Lab who now has bronze highlights and has been shedding all summer. He has no chocolate gene in his background!



## Going Up?

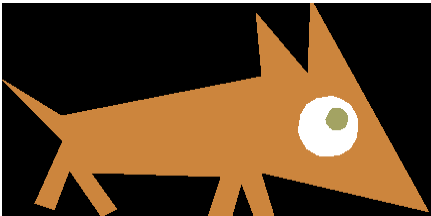
When throwing items for your dog to fetch, please try NOT to send him downhill to do this! He will be more apt to turn quickly as he overshoots the object. This, plus the extra force of going downhill, may tear the anterior cruciate ligament in his knee. Young dogs between seven and 18 months of age and older dogs over seven years of age are more prone to snapping the ligament.

# TRUE TAILS

## LAWSUIT OVER VETERINARY DRUG SETTLED

For Immediate Release - Johns Island, South Carolina - August 18, 2004

Jean Townsend of Johns Island, South Carolina announced today that a settlement has been reached with Pfizer, Inc. in what appears to be the first lawsuit of its kind in this country – a lawsuit over injuries that led to the death of Ms. Townsend's chocolate Lab, George. Ms. Townsend originally brought a class action lawsuit against Pfizer in October of 1999, two years after the tragic death of George. The lawsuit alleged that after initial approval by the FDA, the drug Rimadyl®, which was the subject of an unprecedented multi-million dollar advertising campaign, was marketed without a complete understanding of the serious side effects that could result from the drug. Ms. Townsend also alleged that neither she nor her vet was adequately warned of the potential side effects.



After administering the drug for only 14 days, George developed severe internal bleeding and ultimately liver failure. George was euthanized on October 13, 1997. In reaching the

settlement, Pfizer has admitted no wrongdoing. "It was truly horrible," said Townsend of the experience. "But the most troubling aspect of the ordeal was when I later learned that similar side effects had been reported to Pfizer and the FDA months before I first gave the drug to my dog. Yet even after my pet became sick, I continued to give him the pills because they were supposed to make him feel better. I had no idea that he was suffering from the side effects of Rimadyl®. It is devastating to live with the realization that I gave my beloved pet medicine to help him when, in fact, it was killing him." After reporting George's death to Pfizer, Ms. Townsend was offered a \$249.33 settlement, but the offer came with the condition that the settlement remain confidential. Ms. Townsend refused.

In the months following George's death, Ms. Townsend began researching this drug on the internet and soon discovered dozens of other pet owners who had similar experiences with Rimadyl®. Fueled by the growing number of people whose dogs had become sick or died after taking the drug, Ms. Townsend, along with other concerned pet owners, started a campaign to raise awareness of the potential

for serious side effects with this and other veterinary medicines. As part of that campaign, Ms. Townsend and others met with FDA officials as well as Pfizer veterinarians, urging them to step-up efforts to more thoroughly inform pet owners of the potential for serious side effects with veterinary medicines.

Unsatisfied with the response of the FDA and Pfizer, Ms. Townsend turned to the legal system and filed a class-action lawsuit. In her suit, Ms. Townsend sought reimbursement of the \$734.00 in veterinary expenses she had incurred trying to save George, as well as establishing a class action on behalf of the hundreds of other dog owners whose pets had become ill or died. In the meantime, reports of adverse reactions to Rimadyl® continued to rise, and in 1998, Rimadyl® accounted for almost 39% of all Adverse Drug Experience Reports received by the FDA. The reports were so numerous that in December of 1999, the FDA took the extraordinary step of issuing a public statement on the drug.

Within months of Ms. Townsend's suit and the "Update on Rimadyl®" issued by the FDA, Pfizer announced significant changes in packaging, and that it would begin dispensing a Client Information Sheet to be included with veterinary prescriptions of Rimadyl®. The Client Information Sheet, modeled after similar drug information sheets

included with many human drugs, was to provide pet owners with easily understandable information about the potential side effects and what to do if side effects occur.



Ms. Townsend reports that as part of the settlement, Pfizer made cash offers to over 300 other dog owners across the country to settle claims for death or injury to the dog, veterinary expenses, property damage, emotional distress and punitive damages. These individual offers averaged over \$1000.00 per animal and did not include a confidentiality provision.

Speaking about the lawsuit and the settlement, Ms. Townsend said, "I am pleased that through this suit, hundreds of other pet owners will be reimbursed for veterinary expenses and the loss of their pets. Of course, no amount of money would ever replace the loss of my friend George, and the loss of so many other beloved companions." But to Ms. Townsend (who donated her settlement proceeds to a local veterinarian to perform surgery on a pet whose owners could not afford the surgery), the issue is

far more than the money paid by Pfizer. It is the growing public awareness that the medications we give our pets can have serious side effects. "We, as pet owners, have the right to know as much

about the good and bad sides of veterinary medicines as we do the medicines we give ourselves."

Sandy Modell, Contributor  
CGTTD Camper



### Believe It Or Not....

The City Officials of Frankfurt, Germany are considering instituting a sort of license plate ordinance for dogs. The main purpose of the plates would be to allow citizens to report on people not cleaning up after their dogs on city streets. The plates would fit around a dog collar and be large enough to be visible from a distance. Maybe they should put a little pouch on them for poop bags.



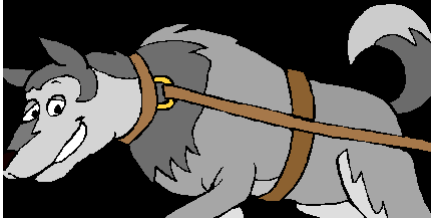
The Kentucky Court of Appeals recently ruled that a woman who had slipped on dog poop while shopping in a PetSmart store, injuring her ankle has the right to a jury trial. The case was originally dismissed by the Circuit court. The 'Big Box' store claimed that the woman knew that pets were allowed in the store and that any shopper should certainly be aware of the possibility of little 'accidents.'

The appellate court ruled that enough was in question and that a jury should decide the case. In Munich, Germany, a small group of dogs (reports varied from two to six) staged a pre-dawn attack on six parked cars, causing panic among the area residents who were roused from sleep by the mayhem. Bumpers were gnawed, mud flaps and number plates torn off the cars, and tooth marks and saliva found on hubcaps and other auto body parts. The dogs were not available for comment and were still at large at press time.



Some veterinarians have been using a serum made from the plasma of the blood of dogs that survived Parvo Virus to treat other dogs stricken with the disease. Dogs who have survived Parvo have the antibodies necessary to fight the virus, or 'super bionic' blood. If given

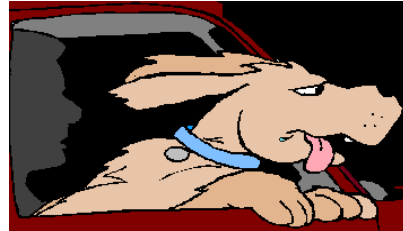
early enough, treatment with the blood serum can kill the disease. Parvo attacks the intestines and is frequently fatal.



For the first time in its 30-year history, the Iditarod dogsled race had to be run some 400 miles north of the traditional location because of lack of snow in Alaska! Snow actually had to be trucked in for the ceremonial run through the city of Anchorage. Contestants and organizers dubbed the event the 'Idita-detour.'

In Tistrup, Denmark, thieves stole 32,000 pigs ears from a store. The greasy treats are estimated to have a street value of about \$41,000.

Vancouver Police are cracking down on scofflaws who illegally use high-occupancy traffic lanes. Police say that drivers are putting hats on their dogs and allowing them to ride in the front seat. Dummies are also popular. Fines for illegally using the commuter lanes run about \$85.



Honey Loring, Contributor



### Actual Ads Taken from the Classified Ads in Newspapers

FREE YORKSHIRE TERRIER:  
8 years old. Hateful little dog.  
Bites.

FREE PUPPIES: Part German  
Shepherd, part stupid dog.

FREE GERMAN SHEPHERD: 85 lbs.  
Neutered, Speaks German.

FREE PUPPIES: ½ Cocker Spaniel,  
½ sneaky neighbor's dog.

FOUND DIRTY WHITE DOG: Looks  
like a rat....been out  
awhile....better be reward.

Honey Loring, Contributor

# CREATIVE TAILS

## Howl'oween

By Valerie Steinman  
CGTTD Camper

The costumed couple creeps into the night  
Mimicking an old West movie massacre  
She wears her arrow *through* her head  
His arrow *strikes* his jugular

Red lantern flashes forewarning  
To teams of Trick-or-Treaters—  
Beware the walking wounded,  
Especially four-legged demons

The spirited specters descend upon  
Houses where Howl'oweeners live  
Who always dispense biscuits  
To masquerading quadrupeds

An unused doggy poop bag  
Serves as the biscuit sack  
While her pockets fill with candy  
Meant for trick-or-treating wraiths

Slinking to the next haunt,  
Costumed goblins come forth  
But bristle when they sight the  
Masked, arrowed, black beast

Finding that he's friendly,  
They unfold their fiendish frolic  
Compelling the twosome to slither off  
To hound more Howl'oween houses



# “DIVINE” TAILS

## How You Can Tell You're A Real Dog Person



You have a kiddie wading pool in the yard – but no small children.

You have baby gates permanently installed at strategic places around the house – but no babies.

You refer to yourself as Mom – but have no kids.

The trash basket is more or less permanently installed in the kitchen sink to keep the dog out of it while you're at work.

Poop has become a source of conversation for you and your significant other.

You have 32 different names for your dog – most make no sense – but he understands.

Your parents refer to your pet as their granddogger.

You put an extra blanket on the bed so your dog can be comfortable.

Your dog eats cat poop, but you still let him kiss you [just not immediately afterward, of course).

You sign and send birthday, anniversary, and holiday cards from your dog.

You'd rather stay home on Saturday night and watch a rented DVD and cuddle your dog than go out to the movies.

You get an extra-long hose on your shower-massage just so you can use it to wash your dog in the tub – without making the dog sit hip-deep in water.

You go to the pet supply store every Saturday because it's one

of the very few places that lets you bring your dog inside, and your dog loves to go with you.



You can't see out the passenger side of the windshield because there are nose-prints all over the inside.

You open your purse, and that big bunch of baggies you use for pick-ups pops out.

Your license plate or license plate frame mentions your dog.

You have your dog's picture on your office desk [but no one else's).

Your dog is getting old and arthritic, so you go buy lumber and build her a small staircase so she can climb onto the bed by herself.

You match your furniture or carpet or clothes to your dog.

You don't think it's the least bit strange to stand in the back yard while it's raining because your dog really needs you to go out in a storm – and sort of hold his paw.

You make popcorn just to play catch with your dog.

You keep eating even after finding a dog hair in your pasta.

You never completely finish a piece of steak or chicken [so your dog gets a taste, too).



And your dog is the star of your World Wide Web site!

Jeanne Richter, Contributor  
CGTTD Staff

# TALL TAILS

## Help Wanted

A local business was looking for office help. The manager put a sign in the window saying:

“HELP WANTED: Must be able to type, must be good with a computer, and must be bilingual. We are an Equal Opportunity Employer.”

A short time afterwards, a Golden Retriever trots up to the window, sees the sign, and goes inside. He looks at the receptionist and wags his tail, then walks over to the sign, looks at it and whines.



Getting the idea, the receptionist gets the office manager. The office manager looks at the dog and is surprised, to say the least. However, the dog looks determined, so he leads him into the office. Inside, the dog jumps up on the chair and stares at the manager. The manager says, “I can’t hire you. The sign says you have to be able to type.”

The dog jumps down, goes to the typewriter and proceeds to type out a perfect letter. He takes out the page and trots over to the manager and gives it to him, then jumps back on the chair. The manager is stunned, but then tells the dog, “The sign says you have to be good with a computer.”



The dog jumps down again and goes to the computer. The dog proceeds to demonstrate his expertise with various programs and produces a sample spreadsheet and database and presents them to the manager. By this time, the manager is totally dumbfounded! He looks at the dog and says, “I realize that you are a very intelligent dog and have some interesting abilities. However, I *still* cannot give you the job.”

The dog jumps down and goes to a copy of the sign and puts his paw on the part about being an Equal Opportunity Employer. The manager says, “Yes, but the sign *also* says that you have to be bilingual.”

The dog looks at him straight in the face and says, “Meow.”



Sandy Modell, Contributor  
CGTTD Camper



## More Doggie Definitions

**BATH:** This is a process by which the humans drench the floor, walls, and themselves. You can help by shaking vigorously and frequently.



**BICYCLES:** Two-wheeled exercise machines invented for dogs to control body fat. To get maximum aerobic benefit, you must hide behind a bush until the bike approaches; then dash out, bark loudly, and run alongside for a few years; the person then swerves and falls into the bushes; you then prance away.

**BUMP:** The best way to get your human’s attention when they are drinking a fresh cup of tea or coffee.

**DEAFNESS:** This is a malady that affects dogs when their person

wants them in and they want to stay out. Symptoms include staring blankly at the person, then running in the opposite direction, or lying down.

**DOG BED:** Any soft, clean surface, such as the white bedspread in the guestroom or the newly upholstered sofa in the living room.

**DROOL:** Is what you do when your persons have food and you don’t. To do this properly, you must sit as close as you can and look sad; let the drool fall to the floor or, better yet, on their laps and down their legs.



**GOOSE BUMP:** A maneuver to use as a last resort when The Regular Bump doesn’t get the attention

you require – especially effective when combined with The Sniff.

**LEAN:** Every good dog’s response to the command “sit!” – especially if your person is dressed for an evening out; incredibly effective before black-tie events.

**LEASH:** A strap that attaches to your collar enabling you to lead your person where you want him/her to go.

**LOVE:** Is a feeling of intense affection given freely and without restriction. The best way you can show your love is to wag your tail. If you’re lucky, a human will love you in return.

**RUBBISH BIN:** A container that your neighbors put out once a week that tests your ingenuity. You must stand on your hind legs and try to push the lid off with your nose. If you do it right, you are rewarded with margarine wrappers (excellent for shredding), beef bones, and moldy crusts of bread.



**SNIFF:** A social custom to use when you greet other dogs. Place your nose as close as you can to the other dog’s rear end and inhale deeply; repeat several times or until your person makes you stop.

**SOFAS:** Are to dogs like napkins are to people. After eating, it is polite to run up and down the front of the sofa and wipe your whiskers clean.



**THUNDER:** This is a signal that the world is coming to an end. Humans remain amazingly calm during thunderstorms, so it is necessary to warn them of the danger by trembling uncontrollably, panting, rolling your eyes wildly, and following at their heels.

**WASTEBASKET:** This is a dog toy filled with paper, envelopes, and old sweet wrappers. When you get bored, turn over the basket and strew the papers all over the house until your person comes home.

— Sandy Modell, Contributor  
CGTTD Camper

# TASTY TREATS

## Puppy Stars for Star Puppies

Recipe from Frannie Lyons, CGTTD Staff



\*3 jars (2.5 oz) meat baby food

(lamb is good for tummy problems)

\* $\frac{1}{2}$  cup cream of wheat or cream of rice cereal

(rice is better for tummy but you may have to add a little water)

\* $\frac{1}{2}$  teaspoon garlic powder (NOT garlic salt)

Mix well. Place in pastry bag with Star tip (used to decorate cakes—they do make disposable ones). Make stars about the size of regular chocolate chips directly on the glass plate of your Microwave.

Cook until firm on outside but still soft on inside. Time depends on your microwave. (Mine is about 4 minutes but the oven is very large.)

Freeze or refrigerate. Place amount you think you will use for your dog in zip lock bag & you are ready to use as training treats.

Frannie teaches cooking for dogs.

# UNTIL TAILS UP

(As of September 30, 2004)

## CAMP

## TIME TO WAIT

### **Summer**

June 5-11, 2005

8 Months

### **Fall**

September 4-10, 2005

11 Months

September 11-17, 2005



“Good things come to those who wait.”



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