

The Daily Bark:

Pleas From the Pound and Other Happenings

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Simple Training Tips for Home

By Antinea Ascione

As we approach the end of January and the days are getting colder, it's safe to assume many of you are spending your nights curled up on the couch with a comfortable blanket, your favorite TV show and a nice pooch to warm your lap. While we're sure you and the pup(s) are enjoying this bonding, these nights may also present the perfect opportunity to start working on a New Year's resolution we know many of you have: more training. Indeed, training centers such as the Red River North Dog Obedience Club can help transform any dog into the most well-mannered creature you've ever come across, but did you know there are a few things you can do on your own at home?

Dog training experts agree that one of the most important things owners can do is to establish their dominance as the leader of the house. Dogs need a leader, and if not provided one, they will make their own rules. To start off, try to establish eye contact between you and your dog a few times a day. To do so, say his name and help him

look at you by tracing a line from his face to yours. Be sure to praise your dog for any good behavior attempts he makes. A little scratch behind the ears or tasty treat will reinforce for him that he's done well.

When it comes to meals, try to give your dog the same number of meals per day (two is recommended) around the same time of day. Creating such structure reminds your dog that you provide his food. If your dog eats meals in the house, be sure to eat your meals first as a statement of your dominance. (If your pooch is along in years it may be best to let him indicate when works best. Hopefully he has already been well trained.)

We know how easy it is to get overwhelmed by how great your dog is and want to give him a Milk Bone as a reward for being so darn wonderful. But try to save the treats for moments when the pup has done something to warrant a treat. That way a connection will be made between his actions and

the reward received for doing it. Now perhaps you may want to try some commands. An easy one to begin with is "down." Down is a subordinate position and reminds your dog that you are in charge. In addition, it is also a command you can use when he/she is being overly rambunctious or just won't stop begging for table scraps. When giving your command, speak in low firm tones. Using your dog's body, (gently) demonstrate what he needs to do to comply. Praise him every time he nears success. Repeat as often as needed until your dog begins to grasp the concept. Once you've mastered this, have your dog lie down for a 20-minute period a day. Praise him, or even reward him, for a job well done.

Trying these simple techniques can help establish your role as a leader, making it easy to move on to other important commands. Of course when your dog does an exceptional job, he can get a well-deserved break on the couch with you. And maybe even a nice long belly rub.

A Simple Step to Keep Fido Home Safe

By Amanda Huggett

Imagine this: You have always wanted a dog. You search the local rescues and find your perfect match. You are in love with your new pal. You take him for walks, play in the park and spend lots of time curled up together. Then one day Fido escapes. Maybe it was because he saw a bunny and bolted; maybe you left the front door open one second too long and he saw his chance to run. Whatever the reason, he doesn't come home and you cannot find him.

The situation could be heartbreaking, and it unfortunately happens more than it should. But it's actually pretty preventable! There is one simple thing every pet owner should do to prevent this: get Fido microchipped. Yep, it goes right

along with picking up a bed, food, grooming supplies and training. Sure, you may have his collar engraved with your name and number, but what about when he slips out of it?

“Nine out of 10 microchips are out of date!”

Here's how it works: A small chip—about the size of a grain of rice—is planted just under the skin of your pet, generally between the shoulder blades, which contains valuable data to identify Fido when lost. Then after the chip is implanted, you must fill out the paperwork so that the microchip manufacturer can maintain its records. Many shelters and vets these days own readers and can scan an animal to see if it is microchipped, and if so, contact information for his owner.

But just as bad as not chipping your pet is not keeping the information up to date. If Fido's finders cannot locate you because you moved or changed your phone number without updating the microchip database's records, you may never see your beloved friend again.

So what are the chances of actually finding the owner of a lost dog? One area pound says that they will hold the animal for an allotted period of time, and if they can't find the owner by then, offer Fido to a rescue group (if he's lucky!). Some rescues may try to locate as well,

but if they're unable to, will re-register the chip to them until the animal is adopted to a new home.

The area pounds have seen a rise in out-of-date microchips lately. In fact, one told us that nine out of 10 microchips are out of date! Many are not even registered yet, and the rest often have disconnected numbers or are no longer in service.

If your pet is already microchipped but you haven't updated records, all you have to do is contact the chip's manufacturer to get it sorted out. Some will even do this all online.

The cost to microchip is fairly small, and the process is easy. Not sure where to go to get one? Ask your vet or local shelter. Just remember to keep it current!

PayPal

Our organization receives no government funding, we rely on fundraisers and your generous donations to help pay for the expenses we incur while caring for the dogs. Please consider making a tax deductible donation.

Donate



To donate using PayPal, please visit our website and look for this graphic. It is linked to our PayPal account, so all you have to do is click!

www.4luvofdog.org

“Dogs are miracles with paws.”

—Susan Ariel
Rainbow Kennedy

Ready for Adoption: Available Dogs

Rousing Rue

Rue is a young Australian Shepherd/Lab mix looking for her special home.

After having Rue in their home for about a week, her foster family shared this: Rue is such a joy! As you can expect from a puppy, she is very



Rue

friendly, playful and a bit of a “busy body.” It seems there is always something important that she has to investigate. She gets along great with our two dogs and has been doing well with our cats. She would do excellent with other dogs and cats in her new home. Although we do not have children of our own, she has done very well with our neighborhood kids and plays well with them. Potty training has been going very well and she has only had one accident in our home. She also does great with sleeping in her kennel at night.

Rue is very loving and loves to snuggle. If allowed, she would probably be a great dog to cuddle on your couch and bed. If you are

looking for a goofy, fun, entertaining and loving puppy, Rue is definitely the girl for you!

(Not Too) Wild, Wild Wes

Wes is a handsome 1-year-old Min Pin. His foster reports that Wes is an energetic young dog who figures out quickly who gives out the food and treats! With other new people, Wes needs a slow and calm introduction to warm up, but once he knows who his “person” is, he’s very sweet and friendly.

Wes is fun and energetic and looking for a home to provide consistent positive training and plenty of play experiences. He is a good looking guy who turns heads on every walk!



Wes

Wes loves to interact with other dogs. He is still learning how to play though and needs guidance to maintain proper boundaries.

Wes tolerates kids ... until he has had enough, and then he hides under the furniture. He does well with some dogs, but can get snappy with

larger dogs. Wes would probably do best in a senior household with little interaction with children. He would love to simply warm a lap and read a book by the fire during these cold winter days. Please consider adding some excitement to your home with Wes!

Marvelous Maggie

Maggie is a young adult Yellow Lab/Chow mix who is very vibrant and playful. Maggie will be a great dog for an active home with a family.

Maggie is a new mamma, just weaned and trying to get her figure back. She’s a busy girl that loves to play, fetch, wrestle and have fun. She would be a great walking or running partner.

The previous owners stated she has some separation anxiety, but we kenneled her and she did fine. Maggie is a sweet girl with lots of love and kisses to share.



Maggie

These, and many other dogs, are available for adoption. Please fill out an adoption application today.

Upcoming Events

Meet the Dogs: Saturday, Feb. 9, from 1 to 3 p.m. at West Fargo PetSmart

Meet the Dogs: Saturday and Sunday, Feb. 23 and 24, from 1 to 3 p.m. at West Fargo PetSmart

Meet the Dogs: Saturday, March 9 from 1 to 3 p.m. at West Fargo PetSmart

Meet the Dogs: Saturday, March 23 from 1 to 3 p.m. at West Fargo PetSmart

Save the Date: West Fargo Parks Rummage Sale, April 20

Contact Information

4 Luv of Dog Rescue
PO Box 9283
Fargo, ND 58106-9283

Phone: (701) 205-0190

Please understand that our phone is monitored by volunteers. If no one answers, leave us a message that includes:

- Your name
- Phone number
- E-mail address
- Why you are calling
- The best time to reach you

We will make every attempt to respond to your inquiry within 48 hours. Our preferred method of contact is e-mail. E-mail us at:

info@4luvofdog.org — general questions

foster@4luvofdog.org — information on fostering

volunteer@4luvofdog.org — to find out how you can help

donate@4luvofdog.org — information on donations of money and/or supplies.

Becoming a foster home is one of the most important things you can do to help our organization. Please consider becoming a foster today!

Apply online at:
www.4luvofdog.org

2012 Pound Statistics

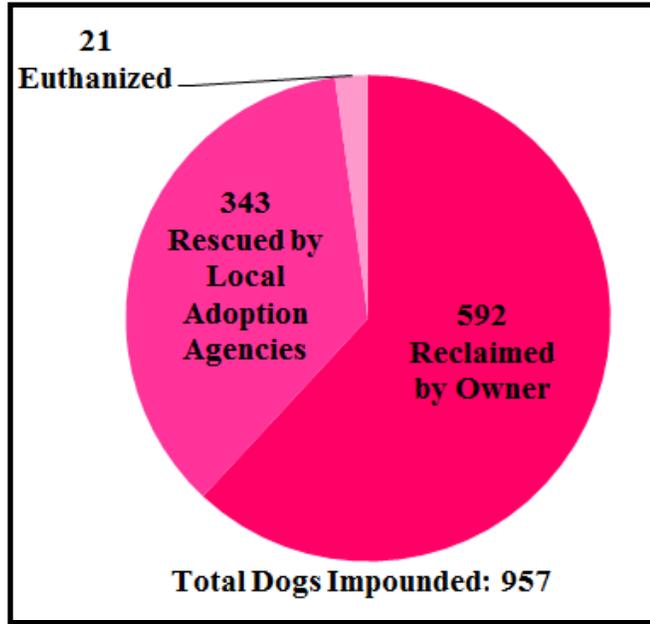
Our rescue is saddened by the fact that 21 dogs were euthanized in local pounds last year, but we are very happy that no adoptable dogs were euthanized. All of the dogs put down were severely injured and were humanely euthanized on arrival at the pound, or they were deemed too aggressive or too ill to be placed with a rescue organization.

We are proud of the fact that we accepted into our rescue 106 dogs from local pounds last year. That is in addition to the 93 dogs from various regional pounds and the 156 owner surrenders that we took in.

When accepting a dog into our rescue program, we will not discriminate based on breed, age, size or medical condition. All dogs will be treated equally and every effort will be put forth to find the dog a new home.

In order for us to continue saving the lives of dogs in local pounds, we must have the foster home and monetary resources to care for them. Please consider helping

these dogs by becoming a foster home or making a monetary donation. With your help, together we can make a difference in the lives of these unfortunate dogs.



Tear-off reply form for contributions via mail:

Fill in your name and donation amount.

I, _____
would like to contribute to 4 Luv of Dog Rescue.

\$5 _____ \$10 _____ \$25 _____ \$50 _____ \$100 _____ \$250 _____
Other amount \$ _____

Please remit to:
4 Luv of Dog Rescue
PO Box 9283
Fargo, ND 58106-9283

or remit donation via PayPal link at www.4luvofdog.org