

SACCARAPPA YAPPER

Published by Saccarappa Obedience Club, Inc.
Member of the American Kennel Club
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June 2012

Next newsletter deadline: July 1, 2012

2012 Officers & Board:

PRESIDENT:	Mary Jo McCormack
VICE PRESIDENT:	Bob Tripp
REC. SECRETARY:	Mary Tripp
CORR. SECRETARY:	Claire Marx
TREASURER:	Brenda Proulx
BOARD OF DIRECTORS:	Bob Cuzner, Barbara Schwartz, Drema Shaw
PAST PRESIDENT:	Chris Berg
AKC DELEGATE:	Stephanie Ilka



NEXT MEETING:

NEXT MEETING: Wednesday, June 27, 2012 @ 7pm
Barron Center, Brighton Avenue in Portland

REFRESHMENTS: Carole Furman, Joey Shaw, Drema/Jim Shaw

MEMO TO MEMBERS:

IMPORTANT!!

SUMMER PICNIC WILL BE HELD SUNDAY JULY 15TH AT THE HOME OF BRENDA PROULX IN SACO. (RAIN DATE THE FOLLOWING SUNDAY, JULY 22ND).

Lunch will be at 12, meeting will be at 2pm. Club provides hotdogs and hamburgers, members are asked to bring a donation of salad, dessert, snacks, etc. Mary Tripp will coordinate lunch, so please let her know if you are coming and what you will bring!!

You can bring your dog, we'll have a Rally course set up and you can have an obedience routine. Please bring a chair and water for your dog.

Brag:

From Mary Tripp and "Jack": Saturday of Memorial Day weekend Jack finished first in Started B Ducks, fourth in Intermediate A ducks and first in Intermediate A Sheep. On Sunday he was first in Started B Ducks.

Mary Jo McCormack and Rebecca Aube went to MA for three CDSP trials and finished their Novice title.

**Saccarappa Obedience Club
June 13, 2012**

Board Meeting

Saccarappa Obedience Club Board Meeting was held Wednesday, June 13, 2012, at Chris Berg's home. It was called to order by President Mary Jo McCormack at 7:04 P.M.

Secretary's report was accepted as read.

There was no Treasurer's report.

Correspondence:

There was no correspondence.

Committee Reports:

The Parade went very well. Maybe next year we need someone to hand out treats. Had a great turnout. The Westbrook parade it usually rains or it is very hot.

Our trial in September we may offer a High Scoring Combined Prize for Rally. It is a combination of Advanced B and Excellent B classes.

Rebecca needs to order a rosette for this high combined.

Unfinished Business:

There was no unfinished business.

New Business:

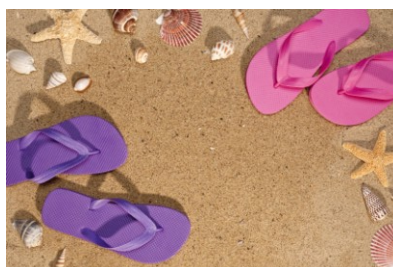
Rally run throughs started last week. New people in Rally did really well. The Tricks class went very well.

Rebecca cleaned out a lot of the storage room.

We may need some alternative suggestions if Cindy gets a puppy to work with.

A motion was made to adjourn the meeting by Bob Cuzner and seconded by Claire. Meeting was adjourned at 7:52 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,
Mary Tripp, Recording Secretary



Saccarappa Obedience Club Regular Monthly Meeting May 23, 2012

The regular monthly meeting of the Saccarappa Obedience Club was held on Wednesday, May 23, 2012 at the Barron Center. The meeting was called to order at 7:05 P.M. by President, Mary Jo McCormack. There were 18 members present.

Secretary's report was accepted as read.

Treasurer's report was accepted as read. Motion to pay the bills was made by Bob Cuzner and 2nd by Barbara Schwartz. Motion passed.

Correspondence:

There was no correspondence.

Committee Reports:

We are all set for the parade on Monday. Maybe people could put ribbons they have won on their dogs. New classes coming up on Tuesday night. There is a tricks class at 6 and a Rally class at 7:00.

We need the special trophies that club members are giving for the trial to be finished up. Jolene needs to have the auction material as soon as possible. She will probably be at the picnic meeting in July. Mary Jo will be doing the ads. You need to get the ads done as soon as possible.

Unfinished Business:

There was no unfinished business.

New Business:

Where is the book to put your dogs titles in? The storage room is a mess. The room needs to be organized. Ed said we could have the picnic at his home. Brenda also offered her place for the picnic. It was decided we would have the picnic at Brenda's this year. The picnic will be on July 15th with a rain date of the following Sunday the 22nd. Lunch at noon, meeting at 2:00. Let Mary Tripp know what you are bringing to the picnic. Don't forget to bring a chair.

A motion was made by Cindy t adjourn at 7:35 P.M. and seconded by Bob Cuzner. Motion passed.

Respectfully submitted,
Mary Tripp, Recording Secretary

I Rescued A Human Today

Author: Janine Allen CPDT

I rescued a human today.

Her eyes met mine as she walked down the corridor peering apprehensively into the kennels. I felt her need instantly and knew I had to help her. I wagged my tail, not too exuberantly, so she wouldn't be afraid.

As she stopped at my kennel I blocked her view from a little accident I had in the back of my cage. I didn't want her to know that I hadn't been walked today. Sometimes the shelter keepers get too busy and I didn't want her to think poorly of them.

As she read my kennel card I hoped that she wouldn't feel sad about my past. I only have the future to look forward to and want to make a difference in someone's life. She got down on her knees and made little kissy sounds at me. I shoved my shoulder and side of my head up against the bars to comfort her.

Gentle fingertips caressed my neck; she was desperate for companionship. A tear fell down her cheek and I raised my paw to assure her that all would be well.

Soon my kennel door opened and her smile was so bright that I instantly jumped into her arms. I would promise to keep her safe. I would promise to always be by her side. I would promise to do everything I could to see that radiant smile and sparkle in her eyes. I was so fortunate that she came down my corridor. So many more are out there who haven't walked the corridors. So many more to be saved. At least I could save one.

I rescued a human today.



Enjoy the summer!

Tick Talk - by VDC roving reporter, Deb Libby

If you know your Ticks, you can say “No thanks!” to Lyme Disease!

Lyme disease is just the tip of the iceberg with regard to tick borne dog diseases. Diseases carried by ticks that infect hosts are called vector-borne diseases. Some of the other common tick borne diseases are: Anaplasmosis, Babesiosis (formerly called *Piroplasma canis*), Ehrlichiosis and Rocky Mountain Spotted Fever.

And, it's not just the deer tick to blame for these diseases, some are transmitted by the brown dog tick. The symptoms of these tick borne diseases range from a dog exhibiting mild symptoms of discomfort all the way to epileptic type seizures and beyond as well as most symptoms in between these two extremes.

Prevention of tick bites is somewhat of a difficult assignment. Methods range from systemic medications prescribed by your vet to making home-made tick traps with dry ice. In all cases it is extremely important to examine your pets and yourself for ticks after being in an area that ticks like and removing them as soon as discovered. Handling infected ticks with bare hands is warned against as some of these diseases are easily transmitted to us.

I've used several methods to remove ticks, special tick tweezers, tick spoons and those sorts of things. What seems to work best for me is to Teri's method and that is to get a piece of toilet paper, one square is sufficient, and keep it between me and the tick, grasp the tick as close to the dogs body as possible and exert a gentle pulling without squeezing the tick. The tick lets go and you get the whole thing out. Then I rush to the toilet and give it a burial at sea, watching closely to make sure it goes down! Then I treat the bite site with a dab of triple antibiotic.

My vet has just this year started recommending a collar for fleas and ticks that is called Scalibor. It is supposed to be good for six months. This is a new product and is considered a safe product. One collar costs \$42.00 at my veterinary. This is a systemic system for killing biting insects, specifically fleas and ticks.

Six years ago, I treated my lawn with nematodes specific to destroy larvae. This product is from Garden's Alive and is a beneficial organism that attacks larval stages of fleas, ticks, Japanese beetles, cut worms, etc and doesn't bother earthworms. This isn't the same strain of nematodes that cause carrots to have multiple branches! Part of the reason I did this was there was an overabundance of fleas in my lawn as well as Japanese beetles were getting into one of my cash flower crops making the sale of some of the flowers impossible. The nematodes arrived early in May and I followed the directions and dispersed them through the lawn and gardens. Japanese beetles were all over my neighbors plants a full two weeks before any flew to my plants! The fleas became non-existent as far as I could tell! The nematodes live in the soil year

after year and the results show by lack of pests. Still, there are no apparent fleas in my lawn. But ticks are another story, they drop off other hosts here and there and then find another host. They're pretty mobile little hitchhikers and it seems that no one remedy is sufficient to get rid of them entirely.

So, total tick eradication is probably not possible, but a variety of methods can reduce the presence of this nasty little pest. There is a considerable amount of information available on the web if you are intrigued by anything mentioned here and run a search on it to find more details.



Tick ID

Know them. Prevent them & *the Bite!*

Deer [*black-legged*] Tick = Lyme disease

vs. the larger Dog [*brown-egged*] Tick



- Wear light-colored protective clothing
- Use EPA-approved insect repellent on skin or clothing
- Use caution in tick infested areas
- Perform daily tick checks
- Protect your pets, use repellents, acaricides, and a Lyme disease vaccine for dogs



This is a deer tick on a thumb, and magnified!!



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Lyme Disease: Surge Predicted for Northeastern US

Due to Acorns and Mice, Not Mild Winter

ScienceDaily - Posted Mar. 16, 2012

The northeastern U.S. should prepare for a surge in Lyme disease this spring. And we can blame fluctuations in acorns and mouse populations, not the mild winter. So reports Dr. Richard S. Ostfeld, a disease ecologist at the Cary Institute of Ecosystem Studies in Millbrook, NY.

What do acorns have to do with illness? Acorn crops vary from year-to-year, with boom-and-bust cycles influencing the winter survival and breeding success of white-footed mice. These small mammals pack a one-two punch: they are preferred hosts for black-legged ticks and they are very effective at transmitting *Borrelia burgdorferi*, the bacterium that causes Lyme disease.

"We had a boom in acorns, followed by a boom in mice. And now, on the heels of one of the smallest acorn crops we've ever seen, the mouse population is crashing," Ostfeld explains. Adding, "This spring, there will be a lot of *Borrelia burgdorferi*-infected black-legged ticks in our forests looking for a blood meal. And instead of finding a white-footed mouse, they are going to find other mammals -- like us." For more than two decades, Ostfeld, Cary Institute forest ecologist Dr. Charles D. Canham, and their research team have been investigating connections among acorn abundance, white-footed mice, black-legged ticks, and Lyme disease. In 2010, acorn crops were the heaviest recorded at their Millbrook-based research site. And in 2011, mouse populations followed suit, peaking in the summer months. The scarcity of acorns in the fall of 2011 set up a perfect storm for human Lyme disease risk. Black-legged ticks take three bloodmeals -- as larvae, as nymphs, and as adults. Larval ticks that fed on 2011's booming mouse population will soon be in need of a nymphal meal. These tiny ticks -- as small as poppy seeds -- are very effective at transmitting Lyme to people. The last time Ostfeld's research site experienced a heavy acorn crop (2006) followed by a sparse acorn crop (2007), nymphal black-legged ticks reached a 20-year high.

The May-July nymph season will be dangerous, and Ostfeld urges people to be aware when outdoors. Unlike white-footed mice, who can be infected with Lyme with minimal cost, the disease is debilitating to humans. Left undiagnosed, it can cause chronic fatigue, joint pain, and neurological problems. It is the most prevalent vector-borne illness in the U.S., with the majority of cases occurring in the Northeast.

Ostfeld says that mild winter weather does not cause a rise in tick populations, although it can change tick behavior. Adult ticks, which are slightly larger than a sesame seed, are normally dormant in winter but can seek a host whenever temperatures rise several degrees above freezing. The warm winter of 2011-2012 induced earlier than normal activity. While adult ticks can transmit Lyme, they are responsible for a



small fraction of tick-borne disease, with spring-summer nymphs posing more of a human health threat.

Past research by Ostfeld and colleagues has highlighted the role that intact forest habitat and animal diversity play in buffering Lyme disease risks. He is currently working with health departments in impacted areas to educate citizens and physicians about the impending surge in Lyme disease.

The Tick Key

GEAR BOX

By Jennifer Sonnenberg, Epic Sports

Posted August 24, 2011

Price \$6 Wt. 0.2 oz.



Ticks gross me out and the thought of touching them can send me over the edge, so I've found this fabulous little device to keep my palpitations to a minimum this summer: The Tick Key.

The Tick Key is a great little U.S.-made item that any hiker, pet owner, gardener, fisherman or parent should have on their key chain or in their wallet. The lightweight key is made of high-strength anodized aluminum and can remove ticks of any size.

The removal process is as easy as 1-2-3. Simply place the teardrop hole over the attached tick, slide the tick into the tapered slot, pull the key away from the skin, and presto — that nasty little bugger is removed, head and all.

Maine's tick population is on the rise this year; I've seen it with my own eyes in my backyard. What's even scarier is the type of ticks I'm seeing this summer. I'm no expert by any stretch of the imagination, but I know what a run-of-the-mill dog tick looks like (big, ugly and flat) and that's not the only type I've pulled off my pups or brushed off my legs.

Needless to say, I'm always thinking about the possibility that these offensive creeps could be carrying Lyme disease around with them. Early and proper removal of ticks is not a 100-percent guarantee against tick-borne diseases, but it certainly can't hurt and it sure makes this Maine girl feel better.

Having been just bitten in March, I can testify that this is a great accessory for the Tack Box. Thank you Peg Dilley for getting me one! Ye Ed

Scientists Find Fungus That Kills Lyme Disease Carrying Ticks

By Vinti Singh, Connecticut Post

Posted March 4, 2012

BRIDGEPORT, Conn. — Local scientists have found a way to control the ticks responsible for passing Lyme disease on to humans. A new natural pesticide, derived from a strain of fungus that is deadly to the black-legged tick could help keep tick populations under control.

Unlike some synthetic pesticides that can be dangerous for more than just ticks, the fungus does not harm honeybees, earthworms or other beneficial insects.

The product was developed by a Fairfield-based company that was bought out by the Danish industrial biotechnology company [Novozymes](#).

The Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station's field trials of the fungus helped obtain federal Environmental Protection Agency registration. Novozymes has built a plant in Canada to mass produce the product, Tick-Ex.

It will be commercially available in 2014, said Kirby Stafford, the station's vice director and chief entomologist.

"A lot of people do have their yards sprayed with pesticides, and they are quite effective, because synthetic materials will give you an 85 to 100 percent success rate," Stafford said. "But there are a special number of people who don't want to use them. The (organic product) may be slightly less effective, but it's giving people options. It certainly would fit in to organic land care."

The pesticide is made of the F52 strain of the *Metarhizium anisopliae* fungus, which occurs naturally in soil. The station tested it on residential properties in northwestern Connecticut and found up to 74 percent fewer ticks after treatment.

Although rates dipped slightly in 2010, the number of people in Connecticut with Lyme disease has been steadily rising, according to the federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Connecticut has the nation's highest number of cases, relative to population. The first symptoms of the disease include headache, fever and rashes. But if left untreated, the disease can spread to the joints, heart and nervous system.

Disease Human Risk Map



The overabundant deer population is one reason the disease is so widespread, according to the state Department of Public Health. Black-legged ticks feed on large mammal hosts, which in Connecticut are usually deer.

Many Lyme disease experts have said the solution is to cull the deer, but research shows that is only really effective when the deer are culled to very low numbers, said Louis Magnarelli, director of the Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station.

The station has researched a number of methods to control Lyme disease.

It found nootkatone, a component of essential oil from Alaskan Yellow Cedar and grapefruit is toxic to ticks, and is highly effective.

As tests wind down, there is a small chance a company will pick it up because the cedar oil is only produced at a grade suitable for cosmetics and foods, making it expensive. Until production is scaled up for more commercial uses, it won't be used to eradicate ticks, Stafford said. The station has also tested a garlic spray product, which suppresses tick activity for around two weeks. Scientists in Maine discovered that a rosemary oil product, EcoEXEMPT, will eradicate ticks for at least two weeks.

The nationwide tick control research community is pretty small, Stafford said. Between 2001 and 2012, the state Department of Health and the agricultural experiment station have received a little more than \$2 million for public outreach and tick control research from the CDC. The CDC was expected to hand



out two tick control grants in 2011, but based on available funds ended up "I can't see spreading the spores of this fungus into a bedroom," Stafford said. "But it begs for a formulation of how you expose it to just the targets and not the rest of the environment."

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Islesboro Voters Approve Killing 400 Deer to Help Prevent Lyme Disease

By Heather Steeves, BDN Staff

Posted August 25, 2011

ISLESBORO, Maine — The deer are doomed. Voters here decided Wednesday night to kill about 400 of the about 500 deer on the island. There are almost as many deer on the island as there are year-round residents and the voters [blame the animals for a Lyme disease "epidemic"](#) in the small community.

The island does not yet know how it will maintain a low deer population once most of the herd has been harvested. To figure out the best option for the 11-mile long island, the board of selectmen will form a wildlife management group.

The vote was 100 to 28 to reduce the deer herd. The island will cull the herd from about 50 deer per square mile to 10 deer per square mile — and then work to maintain that population.

The deer on the island are the only breeding and feeding ground for ticks. Half of the ticks on the island carry Lyme bacteria, which can cause Lyme disease in tick-bit humans.

On the island of 600 year-round residents, about 70 of them have contracted the disease. At least 20 were diagnosed this year, plus at least 20 more suspected cases that were unconfirmed, but treated. That, for a small community, makes it a Lyme disease epidemic, according to Islesboro's Tick-Borne Disease Prevention Committee.

A Doggone Mysterious Tale

By V. Paul Reynolds, Outdoors in Maine

Local Sports - Posted Sunday, April 8, 2012 -Lewiston SunJournal

This is a sad dog story, in more ways than one. But it has a happy ending.

Annie is an English Pointer. She is an old dog who has seen her share of upland bird covers. Not a great pointer, but she has a good nose and likes to find birds. Most of her best days have been spent hunting northern Penobscot County with the late legendary guide Wiggie Robinson. Annie outlived Wiggie, and Wiggie's son, Jay, found a home for Annie. Ron Hastie, a Massachusetts bird hunter who spends a lot of time in Maine, adopted Annie. Ron and the old girl became fast friends, although Ron's patience with his new pointer does wear thin at times. The dog is a bolter. You can be working a cover with Annie and, all of a sudden, for no good reason, she will be hell bent for the next county. Ron spends as much time trying to find this dog as he does trying to find birds. But he loves her, more so around camp than in the coverts.

This winter, during an overnight stay at a Bangor motel, Ron let Annie out in the morning to pee. She ran away. After a fruitless two-hour search, Ron notified local authorities about his missing dog and continued his journey to his woods camp north of Bangor. Unknown to Ron, Annie showed herself a few days later. She was dropped off at the Bangor Humane Society. What happened after that boggles the mind, and there has yet to be a truly plausible explanation.

A Humane Society employee removed Annie's blaze orange hunt collar, along with tags that contained telephone numbers from Longmeadow, Mass. She gave Annie a spanking new fresh collar. Annie was checked by a vet, photographed, fed and then placed in a kennel. No attempt was made to call any of the phone numbers on the dog's collar. Annie's identification and collar were, according to a humane society spokesman, "filed away." Annie's photo was placed on the humane society adoption page. The ad even gave Annie a new name: "Please adopt Betty White, a senior citizen who is looking for a good home." The price of adoption was \$350.00.

While this was going on, Ron's friend, Scott, made three calls to the humane society. Each time Scott described this black and white pointer and each time he was told there was no dog of this description in their kennels. Then, by chance, Scott looked at the humane society adoption page online and, behold, there was Annie! He called Ron who phoned the humane society and pressed them, hard. Finally, after his detailed description they conceded that, indeed, Betty White was really his Annie. Six highway hours later, Ron arrived in Bangor to get his gun dog.

Ron got Annie, but he was not a happy camper. At first, the humane society folks had excuses.

"Nothing made any sense," Ron said. "Why didn't they just call the telephone numbers on her collar? Why did they deny having the dog? How many other dogs have been put up for sale without any attempt to locate the dog's owner?"

He recalls that, after an extended discussion, humane society officials,

director Suzan Bell and operations manager Chris Young, "began looking at their toes." Pressed, they conceded that there was no excuse for what transpired.

"Then they actually tried to get me to pay the \$350 to get back my own dog, a dog that they, in effect, had dog-napped!", said Ron. "I could not believe it. I told them that their behavior was borderline larcenous. It would have been one thing if Annie had had no ID on her, but there were two different phone numbers on her collar. Why didn't they just make a call?"

Hastie says it doesn't add up. If, as humane society director Bell contends, the society always goes to great efforts to locate owners of stray dogs, how did the system break down? Hastie is convinced that, for whatever reason, the employee who changed Annie's identity did not want the pointer returned to her rightful owner. A Massachusetts bias? An anti-hunting agenda? (Annie was wearing a hunting collar).

Given the circumstances, humane society executive director Bell was forthright, and, indeed, refreshingly candid, when I talked with her.

"We really screwed up in a big way," said Bell. "There is no other way to look at it. This never should have happened."

She said that remedial action has been taken with the employee and there have been a number of staff meetings held to make sure that "this never happens again."

People do make mistakes. Each year, 5,000 dogs, either strays or "surrenders," get turned over to the Bangor Humane Society. This organization does have a big job. Maybe Annie simply fell through the bureaucratic cracks, though this theory strains credulity, especially if, as Bell contends, finding a missing dog's owner is Job No 1. There must be a motive, a reason why the humane society employee in question simply shrugged off the protocol. She was not a new employee; she had to have known better. So why did she do it?

Bell won't say. "It's a personnel matter, privacy issue," Bell said.

Bell also insists that there is no anti-hunting agenda or any other agenda.

"Our job is to find homes for dogs, not keep them," she added.

So we may never know how this near dog-napping caper really came about. Only Annie, the bolter, knows for sure, but at least she is back at Ron's feet, and not far from the warming hearth in Longmeadow, Mass.

Postscript: Annie's owner, though he refused to cough up \$350, did make a \$50 donation to the cause.

The author is editor of the Northwoods Sporting Journal. He is also a Maine Guide, co-host of a weekly radio program "Maine Outdoors" heard Sundays at 7 p.m. on The Voice of Maine News-Talk Network (WVOM-FM 103.9, WQVM-FM 101.3) and former information officer for the Maine Dept. of Fish and Wildlife. His e-mail address is paul@sportingjournal.com and his new book is "A Maine Deer Hunter's Logbook."

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Don't complain, obedience train!

Saccarappa has a brand new website
www.socdogs.com

Please check out the new site. We would love suggestions, more pictures and brags! You can send them to bex@pawsink.com

The new site also has a
MEMBERS ONLY SECTION
where you will find information about meetings, the monthly newsletter and a link to sign up for the new S.O.C. google group! The Members Section password is 854dogs

S.O.C. Google Group

A Google Group is a form of email that supports group communication without needing to have individual emails for everyone in the group. One email address will send to the entire group. It's quick and effective and a great way to look back if you missed something! This will be the main form of email communication for "CLUB" emails. IE: you will receive emails about events, meetings and classes via this group.

Please sign-up as soon as you can.

bex@pawsink.com if you have any questions



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