



**ABOUT THE  
ENDANGERED  
BREEDS  
ASSOCIATION**

(EBA) is a non-profit organization founded in 1980 for the purpose of preserving the American Pit Bull Terrier. Our goals are public education, media monitoring, legislative lobbying, and legal intervention to protect responsible owners from breed-specific legislation and unfair harassment by public offi-

cial or agencies. We oppose animal abuse or any illegal activities with animals. Membership is \$10-single \$15-family per year with members receiving four newsletters a year. Canadian and overseas members please send US Dollars money orders only. All memberships expire Dec. 31 of each year.

**EBA MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION**

(PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY!)

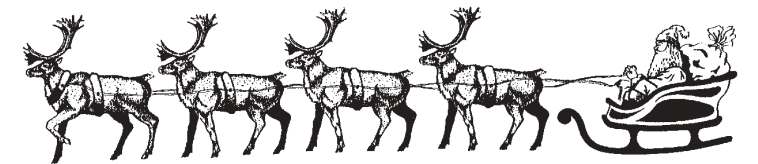
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 Membership type: New \_\_\_\_\_ Renew \_\_\_\_\_ Single \_\_\_\_\_ Family \_\_\_\_\_

Please make check or money order payable to the Endangered Breeds Association and mail to:  
 Jean Carpenter, P.O. Box 1180, Albany, LA 70711

**ENDANGERED BREEDS ASSOCIATION**

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 P.O. Box 1180  
 Albany, LA 70711

Happy Holidays!



**THE ENDANGERED BREEDS ASSOCIATION**



NUMBER 61 • DECEMBER 2002

**Service dogs needed now**

By Colleen Hill  
 Editor

Every dog magazine I pick up advertises how service dogs are needed now more than ever.

Dog trainers throughout the globe love it, and according to the literature, are stepping up to the challenge to provide for the nation's need. Yes, 9-11 has brought about awareness to the public as to the importance of dogs in relation to assisting with human emotion and in time of crisis, but is this really a new concept?

The Endangered Breeds Association's logo states: "Loss of Purpose, Loss of Need, Loss of Breed."

For centuries — as long as "dog" has been civilized among man — dog has had purpose. Whether through herding, sporting, protection, tracking or comforting man, dog performed a service thus giving dog a purpose for existence. Now days, if man does not feel comforted by "dog," it is man who has not shown "dog" where it belongs in the pack. Dog feels without purpose or place and the lack of need requires the dog to make the decision of reason for its existence. Dog takes the leader role and dog is considered uncivilized.

"Dog" will exist in this civilized world as long as man provides the proper place or purpose. Dog loves to feel a purpose in life, whether it is the

courageous search and rescue dog or the dog that is a "couch potato" and comforts its owner by just being in the home. Dogs need to feel they have a purpose for their existence and that man is the Alpha male who guides dog and provides it with "dos" and "don'ts." If man provides them with a purpose, and place among the pack as a follower with man in control, dogs are happy and not a nuisance.

For those of you who love "dog" and are uncertain as to the role it may play in your life, please take time to evaluate what your expectations are for your dog. Plan to make those expectations a reality and let your dog know what you expect of him. Let your dog know who is the leader, and it better be you!

I have numerous dogs. Each has a purpose. I have a "couch potato;" I have watch dogs that alert me to strange occurrences; I have a "mother dog" who will assist with puppies that are hers or that are orphans; I have show dogs that just love to look pretty when they are expected to; I have dogs that just love to be handled by my children for junior handlers; I have "varmit" dogs; and I have weight pull dogs that love to give it their all on the track. Each has a purpose, and they are all happy. I praise them for their accomplishments and they know their

place through love and praise. I take care of their physical and emotional needs. This is the perfect relationship between man and dog.

To make the relationship between man and dog a positive experience, man has to take control and let dog know where it stands in the pack. Let dog know what its purpose is in life. The urgent need is for man to take control of dog. Irresponsible, uneducated owners create the lack of control.

There is no room for irresponsible dog owners in our society today. Irresponsible owners cause the loss of breed. Uneducated owners cause the loss of breed.

Many breed specific regulations are a result of lack of education and public fear caused by the stigma of the breed. Be a responsible dog owner. Read and educate yourself on your breed. Talk to your neighbors. Ask if there is a problem they may have with your dogs. Your neighbor may just need education. Be aware of your community's problems with dogs and how it may affect your dog. Observe children in your neighborhood and assist children and parents with ways to avoid conflict. Provide them with a copy of the EBA coloring book "Caring for Dogs" found on the EBA Web site.

Let's give society a purpose, a need, and save the breed.

**All memberships are due Jan. 1 of each year unless multi years are paid.**



## BULLDOG BANTER

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Editor

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The Bulldog Banter welcomes articles, news clippings, letters and other comments from its readers. The editor reserves the right to edit submissions as needed. All letters for publication must be signed.

Material in the Bulldog Banter may be reproduced, but please credit the Bulldog Banter as the source.

To subscribe to the Bulldog Banter, please see the EBA Membership application on the back page.

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E-mail your photograph to [morrison@mynewroads.com](mailto:morrison@mynewroads.com) and we will print it in the next issue of Bulldog Banter. Include caption. NO SALES.

## EBA Board Meets In Delaware

The Endangered Breeds Association had its bi-annual meeting at the 2002 American Dog Breeders Show Inc. Nationals at Harrington, DE.

There was not a quorum present, however discussion included:

- Michigan Club to host one of EBA's ADBSI Sanctioned shows for 2003.

- No board member is scheduled for re-election therefore no nominations are needed at this time.

- Green Country was drawn as the winner of the 100 Club with the McCabe's notified at the Nationals. Details for flight reservations etc. will be made with Jean Carpenter.

- Washington Animal Federation was instrumental in winning the battle in Alabama. The case was carried to the Supreme Court where the American Pit Bull Terrier was proven not to be vicious by genetics. EBA sends its thanks to the organization for its perseverance.

- Thanks goes out to the Clubs that send newsletters to the EBA. It's one way of communication with EBA, so keep those newsletters coming!

With no further business, President Jean Carpenter adjourned the discussion with the next board meeting set for Las Vegas, NE during the ADBSI Convention 2003.

## Rethinking 'Dangerous' Dog Laws

*From Dog World*

By Marshall H Tannick

Laws that classify dogs as "dangerous" or "vicious" have many legal defects. The flaws range from constitutional infirmities to vague writing.

These laws often run afoul of constitutional requirements of due process by subjecting dogs and their owners to onerous requirements without a fair and impartial judicial proceeding. Often, animal control authorities base determinations on hearsay, innuendo, or rumor. Moreover, the punishments imposed, including excessive bond and insurance requirements, warning signage, compulsory enclosures and, in extreme cases, destruction of the offending canines, are so harsh and cruel that they may be in contravention of federal and state constitutional proscriptions against excessive penal laws.

Some of the laws, which proliferate at state, county, and municipal levels of government, are poorly worded. They usually extend to dogs that cause unprovoked, serious injuries to people

or other animals, without adequately defining some of the terminology. The vagueness gives virtually unfettered discretion to law enforcement authorities to decide which dogs qualify, and which do not, for the "dangerous" or "vicious" designation.

One of the most odious features of these ordinances is that decisions are usually irreversible.

The permanency of the punishment belies both reason and reality. A single instance doesn't merit life-long classification, particularly if a dog's behavior changes due to maturation, training, or responsible ownership.

Some lawmakers realize that permanently classifying dogs as "dangerous" or "vicious" because of an aberrant incident does not make sense. Enlightened legislation provides a means for dogs to shed the classification.

Lawmakers should re-examine the underlying philosophy of "dangerous" or "vicious" classifications, so that a dog and his owner don't suffer forever because of a single offense.



# Beauty in the beast

## Once afraid of dogs, activist now champions their cause

By Jamal Modica

*From Dog Fancy*

Growing up, I wasn't fond of dogs. I was terrified of them. I dreaded walking home from school because there were so many strays roaming the streets. I once climbed to my school's roof and waited three hours for a dog to leave the school grounds before walking home.

It wasn't until my grandfather introduced me to his big yellow dog, Duke, that I realized not all dogs wanted to eat me.

After that introduction, I spent my childhood taking home whatever stray dogs I found in hopes of housing them all. By the time I graduated from Jefferson High School in Daly City, CA, in 1992, I had successfully trained my first dog, Romeo. When I used him in a speech presentation in college, we both received an A+.

But there was still one breed I feared: the American Pit Bull Terrier. I heard stories and knew about the activities these dogs were used for.

In 1994, I was introduced to one of the sweetest female pit bulls in the world. The 6-year-

old brindle named Hennessy belonged to my nephew's father. I was impressed with her physical condition and energy level. I had to have a dog like that to make my life complete, and she became the incentive for my project, Tough House, the area's first pit-bull club and outreach program.

When you grow up in the inner city and in the projects, image is everything. My peers told me the best pit bull puppy to choose was the meanest and toughest of the litter. My first experience as a pit bull owner was to be glorified because I had the meanest bitch my side of town. All the while, something inside me longed to bring out the beauty that was hidden within this picture-perfect beast.

I had so many questions: Will my dog ever be able to like other dogs? Will I be able to take her off leash at the park?

When I walked into the San Francisco Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to

Animals, I was immediately labeled a heartless dog fighter or a thug. I was ignored.

Later I learned the pit bull

was society's most unwanted and feared dog. It wasn't until I struck luck and got employed at the SFPCA that I slowly got the answers to my questions.

Over the past six years, I've dedicated my life to learning the behaviors and characteristics of the pit bull. Through Tough House, I've rescued and placed more than 40. I've studied training and socialization techniques and encourage spaying and neutering and positive activities that show off the dogs' best side.

I am swamped with questions from family and friends about their pets. The SFSPCA and the San Francisco Department of Animal Care and Control merely policed the projects rather than providing education and acceptable, humane activities for the dogs and people of the community.

It's unfair that people ban or destroy a breed that is not aggressive by nature. Tough House represents hope for the American Pit Bull Terrier, for stopping the violence between people and pit bulls, and for exposing the beauty that much of the world refuses to see.



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# Louisiana Citizens Win In Acadia Parish

Two days of testimony in the courthouse in Crowley, LA had positive results for dog owners in Acadia Parish. The judge agreed with the plaintiff that "pit bulls" as defined in the ordinance could not be deemed vicious and ruled the ordinance as unconstitutional.

Testimony from the dog warden, Rodney Roy, proved that the "problem breed" was not the "pit bull" but in fact pointed to the German Sheppard and mixed breeds aloud to run at large.

Local vet, Ned Fruge spoke for the American Pit Bull Terrier with many years of practice in the parish without problems in relation to the breed.

Endangered Breeds Association, as well as members of Cajun Country K9 Club, were well represented. Jean Carpenter, EBA president, was in the court room; and Vice-President, Colleen Hill, was declared "expert witness" for the American Pit Bull Terrier.

Carl Herkstroeter of Missouri testified for the breed and has done quite a bit of temperament testing with American Pit Bull Terriers. He is the author of the booklet, "Breed Characteristics," published for the American Temperament Testing Society Inc. to provide a uniform national pro-

gram of temperament testing of purebred and mixed breed dogs.

Herkstroeter has a long history of evaluation of dogs and trains others on how to evaluate the temperament of dogs. United Kennel Club recognizes the American Temperament Test Society Inc., and is one of the national registries for the American Pit Bull Terrier.

Jamie Menard, local resident and dog owner, testified in regard to dogs at large and reported that response from dog warden Rodney Roy was not provided unless the complaint involved a "pit bull" dog.

Special thanks goes to Glen Bui of Washington Animal Federation for his information provided to attorneys, Randy Wagley and Tracy Barstow. Louisiana couldn't have done it without his support!

EBA thanks Herkstroeter for his input and knowledge in regard to breed characteristics and temperament testing. The win in Acadia Parish should have a positive effect for non-breed specific ordinances in surrounding parishes. EBA has offered assistance in writing ordinances for parishes in need.

Thanks again to all those involved in providing a positive outcome in Acadia Parish, Louisiana.

## When man's best friend isn't friendly

*From Parade 8/04/02*

Americans love dogs — we have 58 million. But untrained canines can be dangerous, and 5 million people are bitten in the U.S. each year.

Larry Lachman, an animal-behavior specialist and author of "Dogs on the Couch," blames owners or breeders who don't screen or train their dogs. (Owners can visit [www.apdt.com](http://www.apdt.com) to find a certified

trainer.) He says no breed is always aggressive, but those bred for guarding, sport-fighting or herding have risks. Avoid a bite:

- Never approach an unknown dog.
- Stay still if approached; running or screaming incites a dog.
- Don't disturb a dog that's eating, sleeping or caring for puppies.
- Don't pet a dog without letting it see and sniff you first.



# Photographing your dog

EBA gets several photos each quarter that are unsuitable for reproduction for various reasons. Some are too dark (under exposed), some are fuzzy (out of focus), but most are poorly composed - meaning your beloved pet looks deformed because of camera angle.

We all love our bulldogs and want others to see them. If you take a few moments to consider these tips, your next photos submitted will be much better and you will be happier with the results.

1 - Always make sure the light - either natural (outdoors) or artificial (lamps, windows) are behind you, not your dog. Most cameras used today are auto focus and automatically set the exposure, but you will get dark subject matters even with the new auto cameras if you shoot into the sunlight or other light sources.

2 - Don't stand above your dog and shoot down at it. That makes the dog's head look way too big and if you use flash, you will get those "red eyes".

3 - Either sit or squat down to your dog's level and aim the camera at the dog's shoulder area. Everything will be in focus and if the dog looks at you, its head will not appear too large for its body.

4 - If you don't want to get down to the dog's level, put the dog on a bench or table, then follow the same rules. If you shoot a photo of your dog from head on, try to stand a little to one side.

5 - Look at what is in the background! We get photos with people's backsides (buns) in the photos, feet in the photo, and other strange things. Choose a plain background in your house or someplace outdoors where there isn't a lot of clutter to distract from your beautiful dog.



EBA member Kelly Duffy of East Petersburg, Pa., poses with her three American Pit Bull Terriers.



This is 3-year-old Penney, a pure Colby dog owned by Pat Gay and Kelley Stifter. She is from Lou Colby in Newberryport, Mass. She weighs 33 pounds, is a fun, loyal and wonderful friend.



Design's Apache, 3, is a female owned by Cassidy Marcus, Saratoga Springs, N.Y.

Keep the photos coming. It adds to the Banter and it's a chance to show off your prized pet. But keep these simple tips in mind and you'll be much happier with your photos.

### WE WANT TO MEET YOUR PET!

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# Around the Nation: Legislation That Affects You

**ALABAMA** - In October, area fanciers reported that the city of Hueytown was considering a breed-specific ordinance that would ban Rottweilers, "pit bulls" and other breeds. In response, the Canine Legislation department sent a statement of opposition and information packet containing model dangerous dog legislation to the mayor. AKC was pleased to receive a call from the mayor's office stating that they were not considering breed-specific legislation at this time.

**ARKANSAS** - Faulkner County officials have abandoned plans for a leash law, instead enacting a reasonable dangerous dog ordinance. The recently approved ordinance is designed to address irresponsible owners rather than specific breeds. However, the local sheriff's office has expressed concern over not having the manpower or money to enforce the measure.

**CALIFORNIA** - In October, The Animal Council informed the AKC that Foster City was considering a dangerous dog ordinance that allowed little flexibility for dogs that were provoked or attacked while defending their owners. The AKC contacted the city council with materials and a statement supporting reasonable dog laws that contain measurable criteria for declaring a dog dangerous. The council refused to relent and approved the measure, which will now deem a dog dangerous if it is found to have threatened or attacked someone just one time. Owners will be required to immediately remove such dogs from the city, although they will have an opportunity to appeal the determination.

El Dorado County recently conducted a comprehensive study on dog bites and measures residents can take to avoid them. As a result of the study, the county has strengthened its dangerous dog ordinance. Changes include new requirements for owners of dangerous and potentially dangerous dogs and stream-

lining how dog complaints are handled.

**CONNECTICUT** - The Enfield Town Council approved a vicious dog ordinance giving animal control officers the right to declare a dog vicious if the animal has a history of attacking or has been trained to fight. Once a dog has been deemed vicious, its owner must notify neighbors and keep the dog confined in a secure enclosure. Owners have two weeks to appeal the decision. Some residents voiced concern that dogs could receive a vicious label from an overzealous animal control officer, but town officials assure them that is not the intent of the ordinance.

**FLORIDA** - Hallandale Beach dog owners will face stricter penalties if their animal violates a new dangerous dog ordinance. Under the legislation, owners could face a \$500 fine if their dog injures someone, and up to \$1000 if injuries are severe, in addition to a six-month jail sentence. Judges could also order owners to pay restitution to the victim. The ordinance defines a dangerous dog as one that attacks or viciously chases a person or animal without provocation beyond an owner's property. The city manager will now have the power to deem a dog dangerous and order a number of requirements for the continued keeping of the animal. The changes originally included a limit law provision, which was dropped from consideration. The Canine Legislation department sent materials and a statement with model dangerous dog laws to the Hallandale Beach Commissioners in September.

**HAWAII** - The Kauai County Council is considering two dog-related ordinances. The first addresses dangerous dogs and would establish penalties of \$50-\$2,000 and up to one month in prison if an owner "negligently fails to take reasonable measures to prevent the dog from attacking." The attack must result in an injury, and there is an

allowance for provocation. Dogs deemed dangerous could be ordered to be kept in a secure enclosure, to be muzzled in public, or to be euthanized. One councilman has stated he would like the measure to address certain breeds of dogs. A second ordinance would make it a crime to allow a dog to bark, howl or whine for 10 minutes consecutively or for 30 minutes intermittently.

**MARYLAND** - In October, a bill was introduced by the Howard County Council that would have given animal control officials the power to immediately seize animals they feel are potentially dangerous without going through an Animal Matters Hearing Board. The ordinance would also have eliminated the need for animal complaints to be taken as affidavits, making it easier for residents to record a complaint. Vague language made the ordinance problematic, and local fanciers were concerned that the ordinance went too far in allowing pets to be confiscated before a hearing and official determination was made. Instead, steps should be taken to secure the dog and remove any potential risk to the public. Dog owners expressed their concerns at county council meeting on October 21st, and the AKC echoed their points in a letter to the council. As a result, the measure was tabled. Fanciers should continue to monitor the situation for future developments. For more information, contact Adrienne Lefkowitz, Maryland Dog Federation (Euniverz@aol.com).

**MASSACHUSETTS** - The Massachusetts Federation of Dog Clubs informs AKC that Bellingham officials have proposed requiring all "pit bulls" to be muzzled in public. The AKC helped fanciers defeat a breed-specific measure in the city earlier this year, and reaffirmed its opposition to such legislation in another statement to the Board of Selectmen this September. For more information, contact Virginia Rowland,

President, Massachusetts Federation of Dog Clubs (blackslate@aol.com).

**MISSISSIPPI** - Lee County officials are considering a breed-specific ordinance that targets "pit bull dogs" and Pit Bull Terriers. The ordinance is also problematic due to the provisions it does not contain: measurable criteria for determining a dog dangerous, enforcement provisions, and a means for appeal. A public hearing was scheduled for late October, as this newsletter goes to press. The Canine Legislation department sent materials to local dog owners and will provide additional support as needed.

**NEW JERSEY** - Despite the fact that state law prohibits breed-specific legislation, Assemblyman John Burzichelli introduced A2906 on October 10th. The bill authorizes municipalities to require a license for people to own a "pit bull," defined as an American Pit Bull Terrier, American Staffordshire Terrier, Staffordshire Bull Terrier, or any dog deemed to be a mix of these breeds. Owners could appeal a determination but would be forced to provide proof that the dog was not a "pit bull." License fees would be set between \$150-\$700, and applicants could be required to post a sign on their property warning of a "pit bull," erect a secure enclosure and obtain liability insurance. Residents under 18 would not be permitted to own a "pit bull," nor would those who have been convicted of a criminal offense or animal cruelty, or those who live in the same household with someone who has a cruelty or criminal history. Violators would be fined \$1,000 per day. The bill was referred to the Assembly Committee on Agriculture and Natural Resources.

**NEW YORK** - The Buffalo Common Council began reviewing strategies last month for strengthening the city's dangerous dog laws. Along with increasing fines, city officials discussed better enforcement of laws that target illegal

breeding operations, establishing dog parks, and aggressively going after pet owners who avoid licensing their animals. Area fanciers are encouraged to monitor the situation closely to ensure that changes are reasonable and enforceable.

Sue Weiss of the Long Island Coalition of Dog Fanciers reports that local dog owners were successful in negotiating a reasonable dangerous dog ordinance in Oyster Bay. Fanciers were able to have vague language removed, as well as a \$100,000 liability insurance requirement for owners of dangerous dogs. The ordinance now supports New York's state dangerous dog law but also provides that a dog can be declared dangerous if it attacks another dog, as well as other domestic animals. (The state law does not include this provision.) City officials were very receptive to fanciers' concerns and noted their appreciation for dog owners' willingness to offer alternative solutions to problems as opposed to simply criticism.

**NORTH CAROLINA** - Beginning October 1st, Asheville dog owners were faced with changes to the city's animal control ordinance that include an annual dog license requirement, a permit requirement to have more than six dogs, and a leash law. Owners can also be cited for tethering a dog to public property or allowing their dog to bark incessantly. Violators face a \$50 fine.

**OHIO** - Having defeated breed-specific legislation in 1998, the City of Lorain confronted it once again in October. The proposal, which would have automatically deemed "pit bulls" dangerous, stemmed from a recent attack on a meter reader. Its definition of "pit bull" was extremely vague and could have encompassed any number of breeds. The Canine Legislation department provided local fanciers with dangerous dog information packets and sent an opposition

statement to the Lorain City Council. Council members were receptive to dog owners' arguments and agreed to drop all breed-specific references. For more information, contact Cory Snowgren (lfd60@hotmail.com).

**RHODE ISLAND** - Warren fanciers are having some success in overturning a new breed-specific ordinance that automatically defines American Pit Bulls, Pit Bull Terriers and Staffordshire Terriers as vicious. The measure requires owners of these dogs and other breeds determined to be vicious to register their pets with the town and obtain \$100,000 liability insurance. Regardless of whether they have ever exhibited aggressive behavior, the dogs must also be kept in fenced enclosures and be tattooed with a registration number. Owners who do not comply may see their dogs impounded and euthanized. Fanciers have diligently protested the new ordinance for some time, and in a surprising move, the town council finally took their concerns to heart and voted to reconsider the legislation. Warren's Town Solicitor has been instructed to draft a new ordinance that is not breed-specific, and although the restrictive ordinance will remain in place until then, it appears that local dog owners have won this round.

**TEXAS** - The Austin City Council is considering a measure that would regulate the way dogs are tethered. Under the proposal, dogs tied outside for more than eight hours in a 24-hour period must have a tether or chain that is at least 10 feet long, with swivels at each end and a pulley. The tether can not weigh more than 1/18th of the dog's weight, and the animal must be able to reach water and shelter. Violations would be a Class C misdemeanor, with fines not to exceed \$500. The ordinance also would give animal control officers the right to issue tickets and seize pets without having to call the police.