



**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 \$15-single \$20-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!)

Name (s) _____ Occupation _____
 Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____
 Phone _____ E-mail _____
 Membership type: New _____ Renew _____ Single _____ Family _____

Information packet included

Please make check or money order payable to the Endangered Breeds Association and mail to:
 Joan Morrison, Route 1, Box 71, Gore, OK 74435

ENDANGERED BREEDS ASSOCIATION
 Route 1, Box 71
 Gore, OK 74435

Bulldog Banter



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**That dog-gone approach
to learning in school**

By Molly Gibb
 Oklahoma EBA representative

Coco and Tyler are certified Animal Assisted Intervention (AAI) therapy dogs and I am their certified handler. The two pit bulls were rescued from New Orleans after Hurricane Katrina.

We are part of the award-winning "Creatures and Kids in Oklahoma, Inc.," a non-profit organization dedicated to "utilizing animals to instill positive character qualities in youth." All types of animals are used, such as miniature horses, dogs and cats.

We have the privilege to be involved in a program spear-headed by the Oklahoma City Public Schools Foundation with Eisenhower Elementary School. Seven teams, often referred to as "read dogs," attend school one day a week to spend time mentoring a third-grade student. There is a wide variety of learning: for example, being responsible for your actions, decision-making, positive communication skills, the importance of "showing up," and care of animals.

Near the end of the school year, while waiting for Kandyce to come meet us in the office, there was a group of boys that had just gotten into trouble for fight-

ing. They asked to pet Coco. When Kandyce arrived, she sat with Coco and the boys and showed them how to approach appropriately and ask Coco to sit, then give her a treat. Their anger was replaced with enthusiasm and smiles.

Tyler spends her time with Erick. When I was asked to bring my therapy dogs and Alf, the Michael Vick dog I received, to Cameron University to speak about the human/canine bond, I told Erick about it. He asked me to take a message which was "Be nice to animals, be nice to kids and old people too, because we can't always protect ourselves. And be nice because then you get to be with a dog like Tyler."

Other students, not assigned to a dog or cat, also are learning from the animals' visits. A student saw two older and bigger boys make a move to tease Coco. He placed himself between her and them and said, "No! You'll scare her and that's wrong. And if you want to pet her you have to ask first." Then he hugged Coco.

The program is working so well the teams will continue to be with their respective kids a second year. It's a big commitment, but none of us question the value of it, which is priceless.



Kandyce and Coco



Erick and Tyler

I can't help but reflect upon what these kids might say to policy makers regarding the importance of these animals in our lives if ever given the chance, but I do know this, they have thoughts worth listening to.

And every time the dogs go to Eisenhower, a battered women's shelter, or any other venue, they are afforded the grace and dignity of being dogs again in our society. Dogs with a job.

(Thanks to Eisenhower Principal Angela Houston and her staff for all of their kindness in welcoming us into their school. As for Erick and Kandyce, each received a "most improved" award in their class.)

Moving?

Endangered Breeds Association receives several newsletters and information packets back with each mailing. So, if a move is in your future, please do not forget to fill out a change of address card at your local post office for EBA.

And, when your newsletter or information packet arrives, please check the address information and expiration date (at the bottom of the address label). If you have any questions, please contact Joan Morrison, Rt. 1, Box 71, Gore, OK 74435; morrison@mynewroads.com.

**Memberships expire
Dec. 31 unless
multi-years are paid.**



BULLDOG BANTER

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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.

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

ELECTRONIC DIRECTORY

Endangered Breeds Association

www.endangeredbreedsassociation.org

American Kennel Club

www.akc.org

www.animallaw.com

www.responsiblepetowners.org

American Dog Breeders Association

www.adba.cc

National Animal Interest Alliance

www.naiaonline.org

WE WANT TO MEET YOUR PET!

E-mail your photograph to featuresboss@yahoo.com. Photographs are printed as space allows. Include your name, your pet's name and the town where you live. NO SALES.

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Join the crowd

Endangered Breeds Association now can provide your newsletter to you via email.

Several members already have signed up to receive their newsletters in this way - won't you join?

Sending newsletters via email saves money which can be used to fight the wave of unfair legislation and ordinances throughout the country.

If receiving the newsletter via email appeals to you (plus, you get it faster than those who get it by regular post), please send your email address to Joan Morrison at morrison@mynewroads.com



EBA board member earns tracking title with her APBT



Despite cold, blustery winter weather, Kim Krohn of Missouri, and her ADBA Ch Panda's Black Eyed Susan of SB, recently earned a tracking dog title.

Kim tells it best: "Susie, is dual registered as an American Pit Bull Terrier and an American Staffordshire Terrier She earned her Tracking Dog Excellent title and it t was very hard.

"I died a thousand deaths on the start and won't bore you with those details but I was very proud of her. When she finally decided she needed to work (sorry, we aren't going back to the van) she did a wonderful job. The track went into the woods at one point and then turned and went down a dirt road (okay, that was different). And, there was an article on the road. It was a dark tapestry makeup bag. Good thing the dog found it – I never would have seen it!

"She went past the final glove, picked her head up, and turned and went back to the glove. Very good girl.

"It was very exciting."

Krohn's dog was one of three out of 12 entries to pass the test and earn the title.

At left is EBA board member Kim Krohn and her dog Susie, recent qualifier for a Tracking Dog Title.



Pet Corner

Christine and Charlie Carr of Cumberland, R.I., sent in this photo of Jazz and Tyson doing what they love to do best – SLEEP!

"Jazz, Tyson, Roxie and Kamoto are a part of our family, just like having four more kids, and we would not ever give them up – not for all the money in the world!"

E-mail your photograph to featuresboss@yahoo.com.



Pit Bull ordinance still being debated in Madisonville, Texas

From news sources and EBA

Discussion of whether or not all pit bulls pose a hazard to the community remains in dispute with the Madisonville, Texas, City Council.

The council tabled action on June 9 on possibly changing or rescinding the ordinance that strongly restricts ownership of a dog that goes under the classification of a pit bull. Breeds include American Pit Bull Terrier, American Staffordshire Terrier and Staffordshire Bull Terrier.

The ordinance states other cities and municipalities have determined that pit bulls are very dangerous to humans and other animals. These places have enacted their own legislation on pit bull restrictions.

Madisonville's current ordinance pro-

hibits newcomers from owning a pit bull dog. Residents who had these dogs before the ordinance was passed in February have to adhere to several provisions, including permits, signs, muzzles and other requirements.

Opponents of the ordinance believe a broad vicious dog ordinance would serve the same purpose. Mayor Don "Sonny" Dean also thinks that some owners of pit bulls are unnecessarily bearing some costs.

"I think we have citizens with pit bulls that are not a problem," said Dean. "And if they're not a problem, then we shouldn't have them spending money building pens and such."

Madisonville is just one town in Texas facing BSL restrictions of some sort this year. With Texas' Legislature set to convene in January, 2009, owners should

be aware there are rumblings of changing the state's law which prohibits BSL by cities and towns.

Duncanville, Texas, also is seeking to enact a ban of "bully" breeds, and Dallas is proposing strict spay/neuter regulations and permits.

Endangered Breeds Association will again sponsor an information booth at the American Kennel Club sponsored Reliant Park World of Dogs Show July 17-20. EBA board member Lucretia Ashcraft and EBA member Liz Cowan will man the booth. Texas dog attorney Zandra Anderson also will be at the booth during the show.

It's not too early for Texas owners to get involved in financing the work that will need to be done the remainder of this year and during next year's legislative session.

Legislation

Continued from Page 5

tody and forfeit ownership of the dog to a humane society.

TEXAS

DALLAS - The Dallas City Council voted 10-3 on June 25 in favor of changing Dallas' animal ordinance. Effective July 1st, the ordinance requires the sterilization of all dogs, unless owners purchase an annual \$70 breeder permit to keep each dog intact. Additionally, the ordinance establishes a limit on the number of pets owned to six dogs or cats per dwelling.

More than 200 citizens appeared at the hearing in opposition to the proposal. Because of the hard work of these citizens, members of the Dallas City Council have

learned the importance of responsible dog ownership and the need to effectively enforce leash and nuisance ordinances. The City Council promised to revisit the effectiveness of this ordinance in the near future.

The Government Relations Department received several inquiries as to the effects of this new ordinance on dog shows. As adopted, the ordinance exempts competition dogs from spay/neuter requirements. This means that owners of competition dogs neither have to comply with the spay/neuter requirements nor acquire a breeder permit.

WASHINGTON, D.C.

Congress has enacted the federal Farm Bill, including provisions prohibiting animal fighting ventures and limiting the importation

of live dogs into the United States if the dogs are younger than six months old and imported for the purpose of resale.

NETHERLANDS

AMSTERDAM, Netherlands - The Dutch government says it will lift a long-standing ban on pit bulls because it did not lead to any decrease in bite incidents.

Agriculture Minister Gerda Verburg has informed parliament of the decision, which follows the advice of a commission of experts appointed to review the policy.

Instead, the country will focus on enforcing local leashing laws and owner education programs.

The country banned the breeding and possession of pit bulls in 1993.



Checking ordinances before you move saves headaches

In today's world, a move to a new location is something many people deal with often. Others are lucky to find a place to live where there are little restrictions and long term residence is the plan.

One of the most important things you can do BEFORE moving is to check the state's laws regarding dogs; check the county regulations; and check the city ordinances.

City ordinances are as varied and complex as any laws written. And today, many cities are drafting and passing ordinances which limit the number of dogs or cats, or both, a resident may own; call for mandatory spay or neutering unless you purchase a breeder's or kennel license; prohibit tethering of any kind; have fencing requirements; and some have outright bans on certain breeds.

Some ordinances restrict the distance from schools or other locations where a kennel can be located. Others allow certain breeds but they must be muzzled and housed in certain types of fencing. Costly liability insurance is required. Some city breeder's or kennel license fees can cost anywhere from \$50 to several hundred.

So how do you find out this information? It's all very simple and takes a little time. For state laws, you can go online to your state's legislative Web site. All states have them and you can easily find them by using the key words of your state and the word legislature. EX: Oklahoma State Legislature.

When you get to the home legislature page, there will be prompts for legislation (or it may say bills). Select that site

and in the search area type in the word dogs. It should bring up any and all bills that relate to dogs. You may also have to type in the word kennel because some laws are written to include the words kennel and animal and do not refer to dog.

If for some reason this does not work for you, there will be a phone number listed and you can phone and ask someone for the bill numbers and then you can look up the laws in that manner.

For county regulations, contact your county courthouse. This will be located in the town which is the county seat of your county. It's best to start with the sheriff's office. The sheriff or a deputy would be the person most likely to contact you should there be a problem with your dog. He should know the laws or at least be able to tell you who to contact.

For city regulations, go to city hall and ask. Would you believe some towns still have ordinances on the books that date back to pioneer days?

Never, ever depend on a real estate agent or a person selling or renting a house to tell you the facts. They likely don't know — and they're trying to sell you something.

Endangered Breeds Association board members have been contacted by people who are in trouble with their dogs because a real estate agent told them they could have four dogs when in fact, they could only have two dogs and two cats, but not four of either.

Another person with Border Terriers moved to Overland Park, KS (a real dangerous area for dog owners), thinking they could have four dogs. They later found out it was two dogs and two cats.

Neighbors didn't complain and when their daughter graduated from high school, they moved. But the woman looked up from her morning coffee one day to see an animal control officer peeking in her window!

Another woman was told the property she purchased was in the county. Turns out even though it's 13 acres, it's still in city limits. She can't get a kennel permit because her acreage is a long, narrow piece of property and there isn't enough linear feet between her property and the neighbors to allow a kennel permit.

So, checking city limit boundary lines also is important. And many cities have something called the "three mile limit." This is a boundary of three miles just on a city's limit line which the city still can write regulations for because of planned future expansion.

A man in Oklahoma moved to an acreage and was told by the real estate agent there would be no problem with him building a kennel for his 42 dogs. A state-of-the-art kennel, complete with septic systems, high privacy fences and immaculate standards was built.

A Catholic school next door became worried because the dogs were American Staffordshire Terriers — pit bulls to the nuns. The nuns lobbied the Legislature and a state law was passed this session which prohibits locating a kennel within 2,500 feet of a school or day care facility. The law pertains to cities of 300,000 population or more.

The man now is forced to take legal action.

So if you are planning a move, or just want to get away from restrictions where you now live, doing a little investigation can save a lot of trouble in your future.



Around the nation: *Legislation that affects you*

(EDITOR'S NOTE: Some of these actions have changed since information was obtained. You should check your state's legislative home page for bill status; and check with your local city government for any action concerning dogs.)

ARKANSAS

Trial is set for the first week in December in federal court in Little Rock. A jury trial is being asked for. The defendants list of witnesses include, at this time, the mayors of each jurisdiction and council members. The suit is being brought by four plaintiffs who live in Cabot, Jacksonville, Lonoke, North Little Rock and Beebe. All had dogs seized because of their breed. EBA has provided funding for the lawsuit.

CALIFORNIA

On June 25, the California Senate Local Government Committee passed, by a 3-2 vote, California Assembly Bill 1634 with amendments taken by the author. The bill will now go to the Senate Appropriations Committee for consideration.

During discussion of AB 1634, the author agreed to amend the bill in an attempt to address the concerns of many groups, including AKC, and EBA, regarding oral or written complaints. The bill now will permit—not mandate—the issuance of a citation and the payment of a civil penalty by the owner of an intact dog that is the subject of a complaint. Noise or barking dog complaints will not qualify under this section.

SANTA BARBARA — The Board of Supervisors has proposed mandatory spay/neuter ordinance. This proposed ordinance mandates that all dogs over 6 months of age be spayed or neutered unless the owner obtains an unaltered dog license. In order to obtain an unal-

tered dog license the owner must meet one of the following conditions:

- A veterinarian's written determination that the animal should not be subject to the procedure due to age or health;
- Proof that the dog is registered with the American Kennel Club, United Kennel Club, or American Dog Breeders Association; or
- Proof that the dog is living or working on agricultural land.

The proposed ordinance also includes rules for breeding. These rules include:

- Limits on litters to one per female per year, unless the owner provides a letter of permission from a veterinarian in advance of breeding.
- Breeders would be required to keep all records for a minimum of three years.
- Breeders would be required to provide a copy of the ordinance to all purchasers.

Unaltered dog licenses could be revoked if the Director of Animal Services believes any provision of the license has been violated or if the owner refuses to allow inspection of the dog and the premises on which the dog is kept.

COLORADO

In a federal lawsuit filed by Florence Viazon, Tina Villani and American Canine Federation against the City of Aurora, a judge has ruled in favor of Aurora on three causes of the action and allowed two causes to proceed to trial. ACF and American Dog Breeders Association are actively seeking donations to help fund this lawsuit's continuance. EBA has donated an additional \$3,000; and ADBA will match up to \$5,000 in donations. Donations can be sent to ADBA, P.O. Box 1771, Salt Lake City, UT 84110; or you can send donations to EBA, Rt. 1, Box 71, Gore, OK 74435, and EARMARK THE DONATION

FOR COLORADO.

The judge ruled the case can proceed on substantive due process, equal protection and the taking of property.

Aurora Animal Care employee allegedly could not offer any proof breed bans protect the public and they had no proof that the breeds targeted are dangerous. Three bull breeds plus seven other breeds are involved in Aurora.

FLORIDA

OSCEOLA - Osceola City Council unanimously passed its proposed ban on the American Pit Bull and seven other dog breeds designated as vicious at a recent meeting. Osceola's Animal Control Officer has reported there had been no official complaints filed against the only known pit bull in the town. That owner has complied with every part of the current city ordinance. Osceola City Attorney Brian Beckner said the city's breed ban ordinance is effective immediately upon publication in the newspaper of record in Polk County.

GEORGIA

Georgia Governor Sonny Perdue signed into law tough new anti-dog fighting legislation. The new law makes it a felony to own a dog for fighting, to bet on a dog fight, or to allow a dog fight on one's premise. It also makes it a misdemeanor on the first offense and a felony on subsequent offenses to be a spectator at a dog fight.

ILLINOIS

Two Chicago Aldermen are sponsoring a new ordinance that would require all dogs to be spayed/neutered by the age of six months unless they qualify for an unneutered animal license. Chicago residents are asked to contact their representative on the Board of Aldermen to oppose this measure.

To qualify for an unneutered animal license the animal must meet one of the following qualifications:

- Certified by a veterinarian as having a valid medical reason for not being sterilized.
- Owners with a valid breeding permit.
- Dogs and cats of breeds approved by and registered with a registry or association recognized by the commission whose programs and practices are consistent with the humane treatment of animals, and the dogs or cats are kept for the purposes of showing or competing in legitimate shows or competitions hosted by or under the approval of recognized registry or association.
- Dogs that have earned or are actively being trained and are in the process of earning an agility, carting, herding, protection, rally, hunting, working or other title from a registry or association recognized by the commission whose programs and practices are consistent with the humane treatment of animals.
- Service dogs as defined by Illinois state law.
- Dogs owned by a guard dog service.
- Law enforcement and military dogs.

This new ordinance would also remove an existing exemption for residents who occasionally sell animals they bred and raised, meaning that anyone who breeds a litter would be deemed an "animal care facility" and must purchase a \$330 license. In addition, to qualify for a breeding license a resident would need to submit to both a criminal background check and an inspection of their home.

KENTUCKY

LOUISVILLE - A Jefferson Circuit Court judge has struck down Louisville's controversial dog ordinance, ruling that

members of the Louisville Metro Council violated the state's Open Meetings Act by discussing the proposed ordinance without properly notifying the public.

Judge Martin McDonald found that council members did not post notice of a Dec. 19, 2006, caucus meeting and only sent out an e-mail about the location of the meeting three hours in advance to other members of the caucus. The Metro Council argued that in April 2007, an amended dog ordinance was passed properly, making the prior open meetings act violations moot, but McDonald ruled that without the initial meeting, the "council would have had nothing to amend. The judge added that the council's initial problems with passing the ordinance may indicate "this is simply not a law that the participating public supports."

The ordinance significantly increases license fees for animals deemed to be dangerous or potentially dangerous and restricts how dogs that have not been spayed or neutered can be kept.

MINNESOTA

Rep. Michael Paymar (DFL-St. Paul) said the real issue is dangerous owners of dogs, more often than the dogs themselves. HF2906/SF2876*, sponsored by Paymar and Sen. Ellen Anderson (DFL-St. Paul), would strengthen restrictions on dangerous dog owners. Approved as amended by the House April 21, the Senate did not concur and has requested a conference committee to work out the differences. Paymar said the bill would give animal control authorities the tools to protect the public from dog attacks. Animal control professionals agree that most dangerous dogs are "created by irresponsible ownership," he said.

The bill would increase the surety bond required by an owner of a dangerous dog from \$50,000 to \$300,000, and prohibit dog ownership for anyone who

has repeatedly been convicted of crimes involving dangerous dogs.

Minnesota House File 3245, sponsored by Rep. Dennis Ozment, seeks to lift the state's current prohibition on breed-specific legislation. If passed and signed into law, the changes imposed by this bill would have a profound impact on all dog owners in Minnesota. It is imperative that all dog owners and breeders in Minnesota contact the members of the House Public Safety and Civil Justice Committee to express their opposition to the bill as currently written.

OHIO

Ohio House Bill 568, introduced by Representative Tyrone Yates of Cincinnati, seeks to prohibit the ownership, keeping, or harboring of a dog that "belongs to a breed that is commonly known as a pit bull dog." Furthermore, if this bill is passed and adopted into law, all such dogs will be seized and euthanized. It is imperative that all concerned dog owners in Ohio contact their elected representatives and express their vehement opposition to this draconian legislation.

HB 568 unacceptably provides that:

- No person shall own, keep, or harbor a dog that belongs to a breed that is commonly known as a pit bull dog.

- No later than 90 days after the effective date of this bill, a person who owns, keeps, or harbor a pit bull dog will be forced to surrender the dog to a dog warden.

- Within ten days of surrender, the dog warden shall euthanize the dog.

- If an officer has probable cause to believe that a dog is a pit bull, the officer may apply for a search warrant. After obtaining a search warrant, an officer shall seize the dog and transfer the dog to the dog warden, who shall euthanize the dog within 10 days.

For more information, please contact AKC's Government Relations

Department at (919) 816-3720, or e-mail doglaw@akc.org.

PENNSYLVANIA

Pennsylvania House Bill 2553 will remove the state's prohibition on breed specific local ordinances, thereby allowing municipalities to adopt any type of law applicable to dangerous dogs, including breed-specific ordinances. It is imperative that concerned dog owners in Pennsylvania contact their legislators and express their strong opposition to this bill.

By allowing municipalities to impose breed-specific dangerous dog ordinances, HB 2553, if passed, will permit communities to unfairly target well-behaved dogs of specific breeds, thereby raising the possibility of harsh care and condition requirements or the possibility of penalties for owning certain breeds while not focusing on whether or not an individual dog has previously exhibited dangerous behavior.

TENNESSEE

Tennessee Senator Tommy Kilby of Wartburg has introduced Senate Bill 2738. If adopted, this bill will make it a crime to own a "pit bull dog" in the state of Tennessee. It is imperative that all Tennessee concerned dog owners voice their strong opposition to this wrong-headed legislation.

SB 2738 proposes to:

- Make it a crime for any person to knowingly own a "pit bull dog" in Tennessee.

- Define "pit bull dog" as any American pit bull terrier, Staffordshire Bull Terrier, American bulldog, or American Staffordshire Terrier, or any mixed breed dog that contains fifty percent of its lineage from those breeds.

- Force any person found guilty of owning a "pit bull dog" to surrender cus-

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