

# Bulldog



# Banter

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## Kim Krohn to become new EBA president

Hello, Endangered Breeds Association members. After many years of dedicated service to the EBA, President Jean Carpenter has requested a long overdue, and well-deserved, rest. I was honored when Jean asked me to step into her very large shoes as the new EBA president.

Russ (my husband) and I have lived in Blue Springs, MO, which is just east of Kansas City, for 17 years. In a former life I worked as an environmental chemist. I'm now retired but manage to

stay quite busy. I grew up in a dog-loving household and knew I would always own dogs. Someone should have told me to skip the biology and chemistry degrees, as a law degree would be more useful if I wanted to participate in what would become a criminal activity in some places – the mere act of owning a dog.

We got our first ADBA registered APBT puppy in 1982 and have been hooked on the breed ever since, having sub-

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**Krohn spends a quiet moment with her American Pit Bull Terrier, Mandy.**

## It's time for board member nominations

It's time for nominations for board members for Endangered Breeds Association.

Board members up for re-election include Linda Emmert, Russ Krohn and Laura Dapkus. Officers of the board feel the current board membership is one of the best in EBA's history and have nomi-

nated Emmert, Krohn and Dapkus to continue serving.

All nominations must be received by October 15 and voting will be during the month of November.

Anyone who has a nomination of a current EBA board member in good standing — who has been a member of

EBA for a period of at least two years — should send the nomination to EBA President Jean Carpenter.

Nominations may be sent via email to [ebajeanc@aol.com](mailto:ebajeanc@aol.com); or by regular mail to Jean Carpenter, P.O. Box 1148, Albany, LA 70711.

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



## BULLDOG BANTER

Joan Morrison,  
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.

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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](http://www.endangeredbreedsassociation.org)

### American Kennel Club

[www.akc.org](http://www.akc.org)  
[www.animallaw.com](http://www.animallaw.com)  
[www.responsiblepetowners.org](http://www.responsiblepetowners.org)

### American Dog Breeders Association

[www.adba.cc](http://www.adba.cc)

### National Animal Interest Alliance

[www.naiaonline.org](http://www.naiaonline.org)

## WE WANT TO MEET YOUR PET!

E-mail your photograph to [featuresboss@yahoo.com](mailto:featuresboss@yahoo.com).

Photographs are printed as space allows. Include your name, your pet's name and the town where you live. NO SALES.

# Economic conditions affecting EBA

As the board of directors of Endangered Breeds Association continues to seek ways to increase funding, it has been decided to cut back on the number of newsletters published each year.

At the present time, and continuing this year (2009), EBA members will receive four newsletters. Beginning in 2010, we only will send out three newsletters.

This move will save more than \$500, which the board feels can be better spent fighting for our rights and for our dogs.

We also would **ENCOURAGE ALL MEMBERS WHO HAVE COMPUTERS TO PLEASE INDICATE YOU WOULD LIKE TO RECEIVE THE NEWSLETTER VIA E-MAIL.**

Not only will you receive the newsletter much quicker, but you also will help save money that can be spent on legislative, municipal or federal actions. A line will be added to membership forms where new members can provide their e-mail address in order to receive the Banter.

We wish we did not have to make this change, however with the change made by American Dog Breeders regarding the \$1 per dog checkoff from dogs entered at club sanctioned shows, EBA funds have been drastically cut.

The board is considering other ways to increase funding, such as a special T-shirt; a window decal; and matching funds financial help.

We've also seen a drop in membership as the nation's economic condition forces individuals to tighten their belts.

EBA will not be holding a fund-raising auction at the Nationals and will be cutting back on travel expenses to save additional funds. The board of directors held a conference call Aug. 2 to discuss matters of importance.

We conduct several conference calls a year.

EBA values your membership and we are exploring other ways to raise funds. We've received some fine suggestions and the board is considering all of the ideas.

## How your membership funds are spent

You may wonder what becomes of your \$15 (single) or \$20 (family) membership paid to Endangered Breeds Association.

In addition to normal operating expenses, our main objective is to provide funding to fight unfair legislation affecting dogs.

During 2008, Endangered Breeds Association spent **\$14,006.35** on BSL in Texas, Oklahoma, Arkansas, Colorado and Canada.

So far in 2009, your EBA has spent

**\$12,810.40** fighting for your rights as responsible dog owners in Oklahoma, Texas, California and Ohio.

In addition, EBA paid **\$6,486.65** for Texas legislation which were earmarked funds donated by Texas dog owners, kennel clubs, specialty clubs and others.

Your membership, donations and entry into dog shows with clubs that choose to send \$1 per dog to EBA has provided this funding.



# Kim Krohn

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 sequently owned one ADBA Grand Champion, three ADBA Champions, and two rescue APBTs. We've also owned two Miniature Bull Terriers and a rescue dog that's most likely a Louisiana Catahoula Dog. I rescued him from a vet clinic and brought him home as a puppy, thinking he was a "pit bull." Incredibly, I'd listened to "experts" in court testify that it was not possible to accurately identify the breed of a dog unless it had registration papers. I never quite believed that but, as it turns out, it was an accurate statement. We've also competed in obedience, agility, and tracking with our dogs, and several of our dogs have appeared in print ads and on Hallmark products.

Russ and I joined Sho-Me State APBT Club, Inc. in 1987. Breed Specific Legislation (BSL) was quite

popular at the time and we became involved in one of the early BSL court challenges, Hearn et al V the City of Overland Park, Kansas. That experience taught me a valuable, if not expensive lesson – stay out of court at all costs and concentrate on electing sensible legislators.

In the early 1990s Linda Emmert, my good friend and mentor, asked me if I would consider an EBA board member position. I have served on the EBA Board ever since and have subsequently become involved in other dog and animal related organizations that attempt to fight detrimental animal laws and bad public policy. I've spent many hours in the chambers of various city halls in the Kansas City area. Despite all of that, Linda and I remain very good friends!

There's an old saying, "If I'd known I was going to live this

long I would have taken better care of myself." That's how I feel about bad dog laws – if I'd known BSL and the Animal Rights movement were going to last this long, I would have been more organized. I have a plethora of newspaper articles, notes from city council meetings, copies of legislation and ordinances, court decisions, and other assorted information in my office, some of it still waiting to be organized and filed.

In addition to Sho-Me State and EBA, Russ and I are board members of the Missouri Federation of Animal Owners, which lobbies for responsible animal owners at the state level in Missouri. We're active with the Greater Kansas City Dog Training Club, where we teach obedience classes, and belong to several other local and national dog clubs. We've recently joined yet another

local organization, Kansas City Dog Advocates, a group of mostly younger people that are working hard at the municipal level locally to educate public servants and help people that are victims of bad dog legislation. This is the next generation and they're doing a fine job.

There is no way I can say enough good things about the current EBA Board. They are some of the hardest working people I know and I trust they'll make my job easy. I would like to see EBA continue to work with ADBA to fight the detrimental effects of the current onslaught of bad dog laws. Finally, I hope I can do even half of what Jean has managed to accomplish during her tenure. There is no way any of us can express our gratitude for everything she has done for us as well as the American Pit Bull Terrier.

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# Around the nation: *Legislation that affects you*

(All of these proposals could have different status. You should check your state's legislative website and find out the most current status.)

The U.S. Congress and 10 state legislatures are currently in session (as this is written. Congress likely will be adjourned when you receive your newsletter.) Forty states have adjourned their regular sessions.

But this is not the time to become complacent in your "keeping tabs" on elected officials. Keep up with what they are doing; organize to be ready for next year; stand up for your rights; be informed and don't sit back and do nothing.

**CALIFORNIA** – Assembly Bill 241 – This bill will prohibit businesses and individuals who buy or sell cats and dogs from owning more than 50 intact animals. The bill passed the Assembly and has been assigned to the Senate Public Safety Committee.

Senate Bill 250 – California Senate Bill 250 passed the Assembly Business and Professions Committee and will have a hearing in the Assembly Appropriations Committee. It is vital that concerned fanciers, dog owners, breeders, and clubs immediately notify the committee members of their ongoing opposition to the measure. The bill attempts to use sterilization as a punishment for any violation of the animal control ordinance and for failure to license.

**COLORADO** - DENVER - A City Council member is working on an ordinance change that would allow pit

bulls in Denver. But repealing the city's 20-year-old ban on pit bulls would come with many stipulations, such as requiring temperament testing, muzzling the dog, and requiring special licensing and insurance fees, to name a few proposed restrictions.

Councilwoman Carla Madison — who identifies herself as a "dog lover" who is opposed to the city's breed-specific legislation — said the idea is only in very preliminary stages, being discussed with fellow Council members, the mayor, animal control officials and city attorneys. Being called the Responsible Pit Bull Ownership Act, support for the ordinance change is growing with a national pro-pit bull group based out of California called ROVERlution. Founder of the group, David Edelstein, said the city could help close its \$120 million budget shortfall if it only repealed the breed ban.

Mayor John Hickenlooper told the Denver Daily News that his office is considering Madison's proposal.

Denver actually has a higher than normal rate of dog hospitalizations than any other area of Colorado, despite the ban, according to the National Canine Research Council.

**ILLINOIS** – Based on concerns about House Bill 198/Senate Bill 53 (bills that sought to regulate dog breeding in Illinois), the House and Senate sponsors of the bills introduced a new Senate Joint Resolution (SJR 56) to create a 15-member joint task force on breeders and pet stores

to investigate and make recommendations about pet stores and the breeding industry and to report its findings by January 2010.

**YORKVILLE** — A pit bull ban here would be against state statute, but the city's public safety committee plans to talk about tougher penalties for dog attacks in the future.

Resident Lou Denny brought forward a proposal for a referendum that would ask residents if they want to ban pit bulls in Yorkville. If the pit bull ban question were to appear on any ballot, it would likely be considered an advisory referendum, officials said. Such a referendum would not change laws.

According to state statute, non-home-rule communities, including Yorkville, cannot create a regulation or ordinance specific to any breed.

**MASSACHUSETTS** – Senate Bill 774 would prohibit any person from owning, possessing, controlling, or otherwise having charge of more than 25 intact dogs over 6 months of age. Female dogs may only whelp one litter per year and only dogs between the ages of 18 months and 8 years may be bred. The bill also prohibits ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, and surgical births except under anesthesia and by a licensed veterinarian.

House Bill 1977 seeks to strengthen dangerous dog laws without targeting specific breeds. This was in the Joint Committee on Municipalities

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# Legislation

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and Regional Government but has not received a vote.

House Bill 1997 would require owners of unsterilized dogs to purchase an intact animal permit for an undisclosed fee. It also allows municipalities to adopt breed-specific legislation, allows for euthanasia of dogs deemed to be a nuisance, and severely limits the means by which owners may restrain their dogs. This was in Joint Committee on Municipalities and Regional Government but has not received a vote.

**NEW YORK** – Assembly Bill 7218 – This bill seeks to outlaw tail docking and exhibiting/showing a dog with a docked tail. The bill also gives New York animal rights organizations the right to a private action for enforcement and to obtain redress for a violation.

Senate Bill 4515 – This bill would require the registration and regulation of animal “breeders”, which is defined as any person who breeds three or more animals for sale per year for profit. Breeders would be subject to annual licensing, strict engineering requirements, and inspections twice each year at the breeder’s expense. It also limits “pet dealers” in New York to obtaining dogs only from NY licensed breeders.

Senate Bill 4690 (similar to SB 5392) – This legislation would limit ownership to 50 unsterilized dogs and allow any police officer or officer of the ASPCA or any other humane organization to seize dogs kept in violation of this ownership limit if certain due process requirements are met. The bill also expands the definition of “Pet Dealer” to include any person

who engages in the sale or offering of sale more than nine animals per year.

**NORTH CAROLINA** – Senate Bill 460 was delivered a final defeat for the year when its sponsor, Sen. Don Davis, pulled the bill from consideration by the House Finance Committee. Senate Bill 460 sought to unnecessarily regulate the operations of dog breeders in North Carolina. However, the sponsor of SB 460 has pledged to continue his fight on this issue in next year’s session.

**OHIO** – House Bill 79 removes the term “pit bull” from Ohio’s statutory definition of dangerous dogs. The bill has been referred to the House Agriculture and Natural Resources Committee. We urge all Ohioans to contact the committee to request a hearing on this bill which has been referred to the House Agriculture and Natural Resources Committee.

Senate Bill 95/House Bill 124 – These bills include provisions for search and seizures, limits on ear cropping and tail docking, prohibitions on females breeding more than one litter per year, and the creation of a kennel control authority board. House Bill 124 has had one public hearing but no vote.

**OREGON** – Gov. Ted Kulongoski signed House Bill 2470, a bill that limits the rights of responsible breeders. Among other provisions, House Bill 2470 imposes significant and cumbersome operational requirements on all who own 10 or more intact dogs of any age and requires breeders to comply with an unreasonable two-year consumer protection term. The bill also outlaws anyone from possessing more than 50 or more intact dogs 2 years of age or older.

**PENNSYLVANIA** – House Bill 39 seeks to update the statute regarding ear cropping, tail docking, dewclaw removal, debarking, and surgical birth by requiring a veterinarian to perform all such procedures. HB 39 unanimously passed the House and was approved by the Senate Agriculture and Rural Affairs Committee with amendments. The bill now awaits a hearing by the Senate Judiciary.

**TEXAS** – Fort Worth City Council will hold a public hearing and “probable” vote on proposed animal ordinance revisions. Residents should be aware of these proposals and take appropriate action.

**WISCONSIN** – Assembly Bill 250 (similar to Senate Bill 208) as introduced would require a license for anyone who sells over 25 dogs a year in the state, including non-residents. Licenses would also be required for animal shelters and animal control facilities. The bill also allows for searches and inspections of facilities prior to license issuance at any time of day. Neither of these bills have had a hearing.

**TRINIDAD-TOBAGO** – Sieunarine Ricki Maharaj of Responsible Dog Owners of Trinidad and Tobago reports his country has passed a law regarding American Pit Bull Terriers. However the law has not been proclaimed so it is not in effect. A new dog law committee appointed by the government is ready to throw out the law. The country’s new Attorney General, Peter Taylor, owns pit bulls and believes the issue is owner related. Maharaj’s club is in the process of raising funds to implement community programs to teach responsible ownership.



# What does the new Texas dog fighting bill mean to you?

By Laura Dapkus  
EBA Board Member

The Texas club has received many questions about the new dog fighting laws that will go into effect September 1, 2009, in Texas as a result of the passage of SB554.

Owners who want nothing to do with the crime of dog fighting are concerned that the new law seems to classify many common objects such as water bowls and harnesses as dog fighting paraphernalia.

First, let's review existing law. It is a state jail felony to fight dogs, whether for monetary gain or not. In addition, it is a state jail felony to participate in dog fighting monetarily or to allow someone to use your property to fight dogs. It is already a Class A misdemeanor (up to a year of jail time/\$4000 fine) to attend a dogfight, or to "own(s) or train(s) a dog with the intent that the dog be used in an exhibition of dog fighting."

Texas has had an intent law for some time, but it was not illegal to possess "dog fighting equipment." Responsible owners want to know: "Will I be unjustly accused? Do I have to change how I exercise my dogs?"

The new law makes it a Class A misdemeanor to possess "dog fighting equipment" with the intent that the equipment be used to train a dog for fighting or is used in the furtherance of dog fighting. Dog fighting equipment is defined as: "equipment used for training or handling a fighting dog, including a harness, treadmill, cage, decoy, pen, house for keeping a fighting dog, feeding apparatus, or training pen." (Source: Article 18.18(g), Code of Criminal Procedure).

*Responsible dog owners don't have to change, but it gives us another occasion to ask: Am I doing everything I can to promote a positive image of the breed and to educate other owners?*

In addition, it adds penalties for criminal gangs who engage in fighting dogs.

The above list of "dog fighting equipment" already existed in the Code of Criminal procedure in connection with disposition of contraband (gambling equipment, prohibited weapons, etc.). The state can already seize this equipment from someone convicted of dog fighting.

What should you do now?

As if we needed another reason to be more conscientious than other dog owners, intent is open to interpretation. If you suspect that your cousins-friends-boyfriends-brother likes to roll dogs in his spare time, it is long past time to stop associating with the boyfriend, the friend, and probably the cousin as well. If you sell puppies, check vet references and inspect or have a trusted friend inspect the home where the dog will be living. If the buyer says that he plans to use the dog for hunting, does he own the usual hunting equipment? If some-

thing does not pass the sniff test, trust your instincts and refuse to sell the dog. Yes, this is a difficult and time-consuming process but breeding bulldogs is not something that should be taken lightly, regardless of what the law says.

Even though America watches Cesar Millan use treadmills to exercise dogs on his show every week, some people believe that only dogfighters use treadmills. Some may equate spring poles, jennies, weight pulling equipment, and even the dogs themselves with dog fighting. The authorities may use anything in plain sight against you. If you are a good neighbor, keep a clean yard, obey all local laws, and have friendly, well-socialized dogs, your exercise equipment will be more likely to be seen in a positive light than in a negative one.

If the authorities tell you that your equipment is illegal, ask to see a copy of the ordinance. If you live in the county, unless the county has passed other laws the state law applies – it is still legal for law-abiding citizens to possess these items. And as always, never let anyone onto your property or surrender any dogs or property without a warrant signed by a judge.

Responsible dog owners don't have to change, but it gives us another occasion to ask: Am I doing everything I can to promote a positive image of the breed and to educate other owners? Abusive dog fighting intent cases have not hit the courts in the past, but if they do we may see defendants filing appeals and winning.

Note: The above article was fact-checked by an attorney but was not written by an attorney and is not intended to be legal advice.



# OKC pit bull is ‘People’s Hero’ for taking burglar’s shots



**BY SEAN ELY**

Not even two gunshots to the head and one in the leg could hold D-Boy down.

Roberta Shoemaker and Kevin Fields’ 2-year-old pit bull terrier stood strong just inside the front door of their Oklahoma City home as an armed would-be robber fired three shots into him in December.

The dog was resilient and scared the man off the property before he could enter and injure any of the seven family mem-

bers, the couple said.

The man escaped on foot and officials were unsuccessful in locating him.

Because of his protection of the home and his family, D-Boy and his owners were honored with the “People’s Hero” award from The Humane Society of the United States in the second-annual Dogs of Valor Awards. In the people’s choice category, D-Boy received an overwhelming majority of the 6,000 votes cast for 15 nominated dogs.

“One of the gunshots hit a vital organ so they had to do surgery that night (at Veterinary Emergency and Critical Care Hospital),” said Shoemaker, 22.

“They didn’t want to at first, but he was bleeding so hard in his main artery that they had to — it could have killed him.”

After just a couple of weeks of medication and recovery time, D-Boy was back on his paws, livelier than ever.

D-Boy will receive a silver dog tag.

## Pet corner



Ciara and Madison Keating of Sylvania, OH hug their best friend, Capone. Capone, an AKC registered American Staffordshire Terrier, earned his Canine Good Citizen title in 2008.

Submit your photos to features-boss@yahoo.com

## EBA booth heavily visited

**By Lucretia Ashcraft**  
EBA Board Member

EBA was well represented at the 2009 Reliant World Series of Dog Shows recently held in Houston, TX.

President Jean Carpenter, and Secretary Doris Hutson, both of Louisiana; joined EBA board member Lucretia Ashcraft and EBA member Liz Cowan in manning the booth for the weekend show.

The booth provided a wealth of information about breed specific legislation; tethering; mandatory spay/neuter; and other legislation affection dogs and ownership.

“We had a tremendous turnout of folks from all over the country,” Ashcraft said. “Everyone walked away with



**EBA member Liz Cowan studies materials which were provided to the public during the recent AKC Reliant Dog Show in Houston, TX. Several hundred people visited the booth and received information about BSL. EBA also received nearly \$200 in donations.**

a packet of factual information.”

Other booths were manned by Responsible Pet Owners Alliance of Texas; and Zandra Anderson, Texas Dog Commission.

Mike Stevens, of Texas, provided EBA with a binder

notebook of updated state legislation at his own expense; and helped set up the booth, Ashcraft said.

Interest was high, and many people were not aware of the various proposals from throughout the nation that affect dog ownership.



**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 \_\_\_\_\_

By providing your e-mail address, you agree to receive your newsletter via 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**  
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