

# PAWS-N-PRINT

From Lost Cause to Proper Paws !



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## Special points of interest:

- Flyball Fundraiser hosts lure coursing, June 2nd, 9am-3pm! Flyball demo at 2pm.
- Join us in the 4th of July parade ! -call for more information
- PPU Sports Sampler Program is in the making. It will take place on Saturdays during the summer months. Call PPU for more info.

## The Nose Knows - Flyball ...

by Dennis Beauchesne

FLYBALL ??? If you asked what it is, I guess you haven't heard of our 4.0 Flyball Team. This team is supported and practices here at Proper Paws University.

Flyball is a dog racing sport that has grown since the 70's when it was started in California. The race begins with 4 dogs lined up in front of a racing lane which is 51 feet long. In that 51 feet are 4 jumps that are set based on the shoulder height of the shortest dog on the team (7"-14"). At the end of the racing lane is a spring loaded box which holds a tennis ball. At the start of the race, which is controlled by drag racing style lights, the 1st dog is released and jumps the 4 jumps and springs the box to release the tennis ball into his mouth. The dog carries the ball back over the jumps and across the start/finish line to pass the 2nd dog which has been released in time to reach the start line as the 1st dog returns. This activity goes on in two lanes with 4 dogs

on each team. The team that retrieves all 4 balls 1st WINS THE RACE !!!! This crazy sport goes on almost every weekend, all across the country at various tournaments. This is all done under close control of rules and timing awarding points to dogs for titles.

We started the current team here at Proper Paws in January 2005. The training has been slow but consistent. With this being the FASTEST GROWING DOG SPORT IN THE WORLD there has been a good amount of interest in seeing the sport here in Racine. Today we have 9 dogs that show up regularly for team practice.

In the beginning training is challenging. The method used for training is "backward chaining". This method allows us to break-down the race lane to about 16 different exercises, starting with the last exercise 1st (the dog coming back over the last jump). Then we train a great recall and reward system to be sure that the distractions

from other teams and dogs are not a factor in the race. In this training we incorporate all the other factors of training with your dog that were reviewed and taught in other classes here at Proper Paws. The main discipline is "POSITIVE MOTIVATION". This is very important in training your dog to do any activity, not just flyball. Bottom line is to have FUN!

We have competed in 4 tournaments with our best time at 23.076 seconds as a team and 4.723 seconds for a single dog.

We are very excited about our upcoming tournament in Madison on July 28 & 29 as well as our FLYBALL TEAM fundraiser on June 2nd. We will have a flyball demo at 2pm during the fundraiser. The fundraiser will host lure coursing at Caninea, Proper Paws Dog Park. If your dog hasn't tried lure coursing or seen flyball make sure you come out and see us !



## Why Does My Dog...need sports?

Dogs are natural athletes and love to play. Whether your dog is a pure-bred, or a mixed breed, a giant or a toy, there's a sport available. Dog sports improve the bond and develop a working relationship between you and your pet. Dog sports improve handling and obedience in a fun environment while providing exercise, mental stimulation and socialization. For the handler, dog sports are a great way to meet other dog-crazy people and get exercise! It can be as

competitive or as recreational as you want it to be.

Some of these dog sports are agility, dock jumping, dog hiking, flyball, lure coursing, musical freestyle, obedience training, rally-o, schutzhund, skijoring, tracking, and weight pulling. This is an incomplete list.

**Warning:** dog sports are highly addictive.

flyball ⇨



## The Dog's Dish—Cheese Dreams

1/4 cup grated cheddar cheese

1/4 cup cottage cheese

1 tblsp vegetable oil

1/2 tsp salt (optional)

1/4 tsp Worcestershire sauce

1 cup all purpose flour

1/3 cup chopped walnuts

Heat oven to 200 C

Mix cheddar and cottage cheese to-

gether in a lg. mixing bowl. Add oil and Worcestershire sauce. Slowly add flour, mix until dough can be easily molded.

Shape the dough into little marble size balls. Place on ungreased cookie sheet and bake for 18 to 20 minutes, or until they start to turn golden brown. Store in the refrigerator.

Makes 24 cookies

**“Most dogs love cheese. If you see that your dog is having a problem eating his food you could help him by adding a little grated cheese in his food bowl. It should be used sparingly, especially for dogs dieting.**

## Paws to Ponder

Two fun gifts to give to your human:

1. Dead animals
2. Dirty underwear you get out of the hamper.



Love enthusiastically and unconditionally!

The trick to sleeping on the furniture is persistence. If you get up on a chair or couch every time it's possible, and do this over and over, they will eventually designate this piece of furniture as “the dogs chair”. As soon as this happens, start getting up on another piece of furniture. Someday the whole house will be yours !



## The Bare Bones ... Agility Began as an Exhibition Sport

by Annette Braun

Dog agility is a dog sport in which a handler directs a dog, off leash as fast as possible through an obstacle course. Originally, dog agility was loosely modeled on equestrian stadium jumping competitions; however the sport has evolved it's own obstacles, scoring systems and performance ideals. It began as an exhibition sport in Great Britain and was imported to the United States in 1977, and it has since become one of the

most rapidly growing dog sports in North America. Spectators and participants immensely enjoy watching the dog and handlers' enthusiasm in their athletic race against the clock.

Success in agility relies on proper training, as it is a game of physical skill, control, patience and most of all, teamwork between handler and dog. The handler and dog must negotiate a course consisting of obstacles such as jumps, tunnels, a dog walk, a seesaw

or teeter, an A-frame, and weave poles in a race against the clock—while maintaining accuracy and safety on the obstacles.

Whether or not you intend to compete in agility, learning the obstacles and learning how to negotiate a course are great tools to enhance your relationship with your dog, build confidence and expend energy in a productive and fun manner.

## The Deans List—Melissa Leiting



golden retriever of her own and named her Snoop.

Melissa has lived with family dogs all her life. She participated actively in their daily care. Two and a half years ago she got a

Melissa answered an internet ad for PPU in 2006 and joined the daycare team at that time. It's been almost a year now.

Melissa and Snoop have taken several classes at Proper Paws. They participate in expo demos representing PPU and Melissa is an assistant trainer for puppy 1&2 and basic obedience. Her future

plans are to become a trainer and own a 2nd dog, a German Shepherd. Melissa is a great addition to the PPU staff.

Always expect a treat for doing a trick.

Teach your human there are no free rides.

## The Poop Scoop— Adventure Dogs...

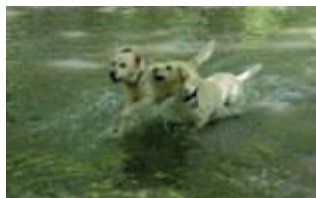
The Adventure dogs is a group of dogs and their families who get together to explore the outdoors. This could be backpacking, canoeing, hiking, or other activities. The idea is to get off the couch and have fun with other families and their dogs.

While everyone is out having fun they

also get to work on activity patches and special awards just by participating.

On May 27 for one of their “try-it” weekends, the Adventure Dogs got together at Petrifying Springs for a picnic lunch, a hike and a swim (dog swim).

For more information or group schedule call PPU.



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## PPU Daycare Dog of the Month...Parker

Parker is a 4-yr. old border collie. He was adopted in 2005 at 18 months. He has been coming to Proper Paws daycare for 2 1/2 years.

Parker likes to chase his brother and other friends around the tires in the daycare yard. He jumps over and through the pallets, and over the dog walk. We are trying to get Parker to lay down in the wading pools but for now he is content just getting his feet wet. Parker likes to cuddle and get lots of attention from the staff.

Parker also takes classes at Proper Paws University. He is a member of Pedets and a member of the 4.0 flyball team. He holds a flyball title and is CGC certified.



### ...The Tail End

