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ABKA NEWSLETTER

APRIL 2006



### MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

The 2006 ABKA Convention and Trade Show will be held from November 8-11 at the Wyndham Hotel in Orlando, Florida - a tropical resort featuring lush gardens, romantic lagoons, pool, spa and health club. You'll be close to many area attractions, including Walt Disney World, Universal Studios and Sea World. Click [here](#) to for more information.

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### ABKA NEWS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

#### Correction to T Kennel / Shor-Line Bathing Tub Prices

The article on self-serve dog washes, published in the March/April 2006 issue of Pet Services Journal, contained incorrect information on the T Kennel / Shor-Line company. The "Bathing Tub Suppliers" sidebar on page 9 listed the price for the Shor-Line Step-Up Tub at \$3,700. The correct price for the tub is \$2,650. Additional hose attachments sell for \$195. Also, please note the correct toll-free

number: 1-800-444-1579.

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### **Announcement - Group Dog Behavior Seminar in Boulder, CO**

ABKA member facility Dog City is hosting a hands-on seminar for professional pet care workers. The focus is on group dog behavior. For more information, click [here](#).

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### **Announcement - Canine and Feline Conference**

The AKC Canine Health Foundation and Nestle Purina PetCare Company are sponsoring the third international conference on Advances in Canine and Feline Genomics and Inherited Diseases. The conference will be held from August 2-6 at the School of Veterinary Medicine on the Davis Campus at the University of California.

For more information, click [here](#).

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### **Announcement - Morris Animal Foundation Special Occasion Cards**

Making connections today builds your business tomorrow! Loyal customers are the key to success. You can foster lifelong bonds by staying connected through [Morris Animal Foundation](#) cards for special occasions. Choose from 3 types of cards: Thank You, Welcome or Memorial. For \$40, your ABKA card pack will consist of 25 cards and 25 envelopes. The card packs are sent directly to you from Morris Animal Foundation at no additional cost. One hundred percent of your donation goes directly to studies that may lead to tomorrow's milestones. Your cards remind clients of your dedication to a healthier, happier future for animals.

For more information, click [here](#).

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### **News - Region 7 Spring Meeting**

Region 7 Director Dick Schutt writes:

Here is the bio for one of our Spring Meeting speakers, Nana Will. Ms. Will was one of the top speakers at ABKA's National Convention in Dallas last year. She will be discussing dog behavior on the morning of May 5th.

Nana Will has been a full-time professional trainer for 16 years. She has extensive experience in training pet dogs, service dogs, shelter dogs, dog trainers and the development of dog training programs. Ms. Will owned and operated a boarding and training facility from 1988-2002. She currently owns and operates Dog's Eye View, which develops training programs for organizations, holds workshops and classes and trains apprentices.

Ms. Will developed and directed the Boulder Valley Humane Society's dog training program for 14 years. In 1996, she developed an enrichment program for shelter dogs. This program focused on teaching the dogs basic manners so that they would be more adoptable.

Ms. Will was the State Trainer for a national service dog organization for nine years. In 1998, she founded Colorado Assistance Dog Education and Training (CADET), a non-profit service dog organization run by volunteers.

Honored with numerous awards and featured in several articles and television presentations, Ms. Will is a charter member of the Association of Pet Dog Trainers and a member of the Association of Behavior Analysis.

For the complete Region 7 Spring Meeting schedule, click [here](#).

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## News from Region 6

Region 6 Director Kitty Berns writes:

We are deep into Spring Break in my neck of the woods and have been busy playing "musical dogs" all week! I don't know how it is that the new dogs always come in before the other dogs get picked up, but it does make for some exciting "now what do we do" moments.

We have just installed T Kennels Cat Condos in the cattery and the clients are raving about the beauty, comfort and wonderful space for their feline friends. Thanks, Tom Smoot, for showing me the condos at the ABKA Convention in Dallas last year. I appreciate all your help with the delivery and set-up hints for these beauties.

We'll have a little break before Easter vacation in mid-April. I hope everyone is having a prosperous spring so far and that the weather around my region settles down soon. Spring thunderstorms and tornadoes followed up by blizzards like we have had in March are so disconcerting, even though I have been doing spring in Illinois for more than 30 years!

We had tornadoes in Springfield the 3rd week of March but luckily, there was no damage at Dal Acres East or West even though there were power outages for several days and more than 17,000 homes were damaged. A tornado ripped the roof off of a Super Wal-Mart and shattered windows out of hundreds of cars parked on a dealership lot. It has been a rough start to our tornado season, which usually peaks between April and June.

Please make plans to attend the Region 6 Spring Meeting from May 8-11 in St. Louis. We have a wonderful line-up of speakers and seminar topics. You can see the complete schedule [here](#). Our hotel is a favorite among the dog fancy and has a separate self-grooming shop built right into the premises. This is a nice perk for the show dog folks who come to this hotel.

I am looking forward to seeing you all and filling you in on all the news from the board meeting in April. If you have an item you would like me to bring to the attention of the board, please call or email me before April 20th.

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### **News - Region 9 Spring Meeting Schedule**

ABKA Region 9 Director Polly Thiel has sent over the schedule for the Region 9 Spring Meeting. You'll find it [here](#).

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### **Reminder - ABKA Calendar of Events**

Remember: You can find the most current information on all of ABKA's Spring Meetings by visiting our [Calendar of Events](#).

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## ARTICLES

### **Article of Interest - More Vets Practicing Holistic Healing**

When we compiled the results of the *Pet Services Journal* Evaluation Survey (in January of 2006), many of our members stated that they would like to read more about holistic healing. Recently, the [Paramus Post](#) ran an article on the subject. You can read it [here](#).

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### **Article of Interest - CHF Funded Researchers Closing in on Fanconi Syndrome**

The AKC Canine Health Foundation announces that Dr. Gary Johnson's laboratory is closing in on the genetic cause of Fanconi Syndrome (FS) in Basenjis. Canine Fanconi Syndrome is an inherited adult-onset kidney disease, common among the breed. FS, an inherited disease, is a major health concern for Basenjis. With this syndrome, the tubules in the kidney, for unknown reasons, fail to do their job of reabsorbing nutrients into the dog's system.

To read the article, click [here](#).

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### Reminder for AOL Users

ABKA has been experiencing a number of email delivery issues with members who have America Online (AOL) accounts. It has come to our attention that email sent from the ABKA office destined for AOL accounts is being blocked from delivery after being designated as "Junk Mail." This is happening even if ABKA did not generate the original communication, but is trying to respond to an email sent in from a member with an AOL account.

The explanation offered by AOL is that some of our members with AOL email addresses have, at some point in time, designated incoming ABKA email as "Junk" so the AOL filters then recognize all subsequent ABKA email as "Junk" and block delivery.

ABKA has tried repeatedly to resolve this issue by utilizing AOL technical support, but a satisfactory solution has not been reached. Therefore, we are suggesting that members with AOL accounts consider the following action(s):

- AOL account holders should not identify ABKA emails as "Junk" but rather simply delete the ABKA email when it is no longer needed. (Note: ABKA only uses mail to correspond with members for legitimate association-related business.)
- ABKA members currently using AOL may want to consider opening an alternate email account. Many providers, such as Yahoo and Hotmail offer free email services. If you do choose this option, however, please be sure to notify ABKA of your new email address. It is worth mentioning that many free email accounts are very sensitive to storage quotas and it is necessary to clear old emails frequently to make room for incoming mail.

Please keep in mind that these suggested actions are general in nature and if you are uncertain of what to do we strongly suggest you contact your Internet Service Provider (ISP) for specific technical support.

As a general rule, if an ABKA member with an AOL email account has not received a response from the ABKA staff within two business days, the member should assume that the AOL Junk Filter has impacted the delivery and should follow up with ABKA by phone.

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Thanks for your dedication and support! See you next month!

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