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# The Dog Guardian

Newsletter for Responsible Dog Owners of Canada



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## Highlights

Welcome to our Fall newsletter. On the last pages of this issue we are introducing a new section for kids. This section is an extension of our Kids Page on the website and the Children & Dog Program, which also includes the "Fido, Friend or Foe?" Activity Book. Check it out and let us know what you and your kids think.

In the membership section check out our new gift certificates, a great idea for giving to friends who have new puppies. They also make wonderful Christmas and birthday presents.

September is coming up, and so is our "Going to the Dogs" Fundraiser. It's our biggest fundraiser of the year. This year we are organizing the event ourselves. Scroll down to read more about our fundraiser.

Have fun reading the newsletter!

# Board News

Our board met on May 22nd. Items discussed were:

- The new CCGC™ forms
- Printing of the English and French versions of "Fido, Friend or Foe?" Activity books by Mark Sims from State Farm
- Alta Vista Animal Hospital asked to hand out our activity books at their open house (as part of Doors Open Ottawa)
- Participating at the Teddy Bears' Picnic with Ottawa Therapy Dogs. Handing out the activity books and talking to the children about how to be safe around dogs
- The new Kids page has been published on the RDOC website. It will be updated every month or two
- Park clean-ups schedule
- "Going to the Dogs" Fundraiser
- The Garage Sale went well. We raised \$204.00
- Jenn's Cards have donated \$92.00. Thanks, Jenn!
- Membership update – Candice O'Connell is the new Membership Coordinator



# Teddy Bears' Picnic

The Teddy Bears' Picnic was a great success. It was held on June 18th in the Governor General's garden. We shared a tent with [Ottawa Therapy Dogs](#).

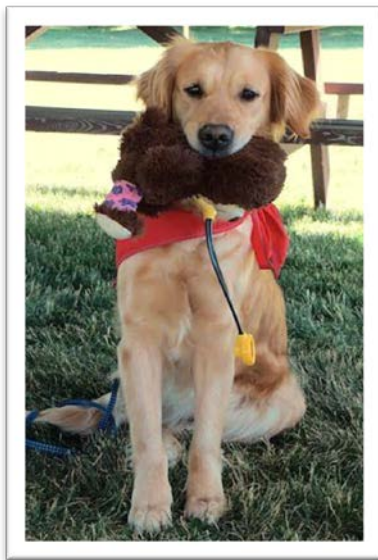
Candice's email to Michèle Taché (CCLS Pet Therapy Lead Child Life Specialist) and to the volunteers of the two groups summarizes the event well:

"I cannot agree more that the Responsible Dog Owners of Canada added a valuable and effective about dog and human interaction. One given to the volunteers and the dogs dogs. The hands-on approach and the relevant materials together were far more practical and comprehensible than can be achieved singularly.



collaboration of Ottawa Therapy Dogs and was a huge success. Having the dogs there dimension to teaching children and adults could easily see the interest and attention regarding behaviour when approaching

All of those who played an important role getting the dogs admittance and bringing the two groups together are to be commended. Special thanks also go to the volunteers of Ottawa Therapy Dogs and Responsible Dog Owners of Canada for their amazing contributions to teach children and adults about safety and dogs. Bravo to all. It was a great experience and I hope that we can continue to work together."

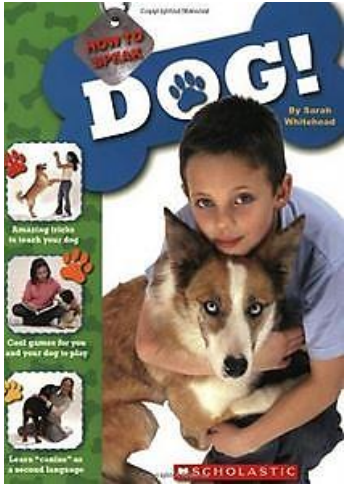


*Ottawa Therapy Dogs : Dr. Bracken on the left  
(handler Ann Lambert, not pictured);  
Mary Lou Trappitt with Clarence (left) and Claire Laroche with Nellie*  
<http://www.ottawatherapydogs.ca/>

# Book Report

by Julie More

## "How to Speak Dog" by Sarah Whitehead



Copyright ©2008 Marshall Editions  
A Marshall Edition, The Old Brewery,  
6 Blundell St., London N7

[https://www.amazon.com/How-Speak-Dog-Sarah-Whitehead/dp/0545020786/ref=sr\\_1\\_4?s=books&ie=UTF8&qid=1466791648&sr=1-4](https://www.amazon.com/How-Speak-Dog-Sarah-Whitehead/dp/0545020786/ref=sr_1_4?s=books&ie=UTF8&qid=1466791648&sr=1-4)

Library call number: J636.7W592h  
Cost from \$8.99 to \$12.99 (paperback)  
Recommended for children 7 to 10 years old



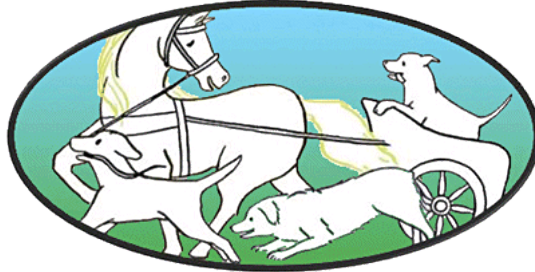
I was at the library looking for books for my 5 year old granddaughter when I came across this book. It's a very well written 96-page book covering important topics such as:

- owning a dog
- when you bring your pup home
- basic house rules
- learning dog language
- teaching basic obedience
- teaching tricks and playing games with your dog
- how to behave around a dog you don't know
- simple dog facts
- and more .....

The pictures are great. They demonstrate well the different dog emotions like fear, anxiety, playfulness etc. The author uses simple language that is easy to understand. The pages are colourful and the paragraphs are short to keep the child's attention. The author includes short quizzes all through the book. A fun way to make sure your child understands what the book covers.

# “Going to the Dogs” Fundraiser

Join us on **Sunday, September 25th** at 5pm for the Going to the Dogs Dinner and Race Night at Rideau Carleton Raceway. This is the first year we are putting on the event by ourselves. This means we don't have to share the funds, but it's way more work.



## We are looking for volunteers:

- to get donations for our silent auction
- to distribute posters

## On Sunday, September 18th we will need help:

- stuffing goody bags

## On Sunday, September 25th, the day of the event, we will need volunteers:

- to transport silent auction items, etc. to the racetrack
- to help set up at the racetrack
- to help at the registration desk
- to help out at the silent auction tables
- to clean up at the end of the event

If you can help out, please email our volunteer coordinator at [morejulie@hotmail.com](mailto:morejulie@hotmail.com)

**Volunteers get a reduction on the ticket price**

Tickets are \$40. The event includes dinner, valet parking, coat check, live racing, complimentary race program, \$2 wager coupon, \$5 coupon for the slots, fabulous door prizes, and a silent auction.

To order tickets please contact Candice at 613.258.0697, or email [ticketsgoingtothedogs@gmail.com](mailto:ticketsgoingtothedogs@gmail.com)



# Park Clean-Up Days

Please join us on our fall clean up days. We do this twice a year, once in the spring and the second time in the fall. Most dog owners are very good at cleaning up after their dogs, but are not so good cleaning up after themselves. You wouldn't believe the number of Tim Horton's cups we collect on the clean-up days. These events also help promote our organization and give us an opportunity to answer people's questions.

During the morning we hand out bags and gloves to dog owners. They are the ones who do all the work picking up the garbage etc. Their reward is a much cleaner park and their dogs get dog cookies. 😊

Here is our fall schedule:

## **Stittsville Park**

Saturday, September 10th from 9am to 10am

## **Conroy Pit Park**

Saturday, October 1st from 9am to 10am

## **Bruce Pit**

Saturday, October 8th from 9am to 10am

## **Heritage Park, Orleans**

Saturday, October 15th from 9am to 10am



*photo by Ivan Harris*

RDOC would like to take this opportunity to thank all the wonderful dog owners who help keep our parks clean 😊



We would also like to thank Kit Watson, Diane Kearns, Denise King, Mary Jean Duncan, Janet Kettles, Betty Harris and Jennifer Harris for proofreading this newsletter. We really appreciate your help. A special thank you again to Kit Watson for helping to write the Ottawa Dog Festival article and for proofreading again the final copy of the newsletter.

*Jill and Julie (newsletter co-editors)*

# Ottawa Dog Festival

by Kit Watson & Julie More

The Ottawa Dog Festival was held on June 11th and 12th on the front lawn of the RA Centre on Riverside Drive. Here is the link to their website: <http://ottawadogfestival.ca/>

What a great idea! Kit and I decided to check it out.



*“Ottawa’s First Outdoor Furry Festival”.*



*“Celebrate Your Love for Your Pets!”*

We had lots of fun. They had everything from doggy play zones, to competitions, to a wide variety of vendors and rescue organizations. They even had a "Frenchie" kissing booth with a French Bulldog. 😊 Yep, for a \$1.00 donation you could steal a kiss from a very cute French bulldog. Although the weather didn't co-operate (it was cold) we had a lovely time. We hope this will become a yearly event.

Don't forget to attend the Ottawa Pet Expo on November 12th and 13th at the EY Centre, Uplands Drive, Ottawa.

Here is the link to their website: <http://ottawapetexpo.ca/>

Official Door Prize

*#FrenchieKiss*



# Membership

by Julie More



Did you know that RDOC has **Membership Gift Certificates?**

So, if a friend of yours gets a new puppy, give them a gift certificate for a year's membership to RDOC instead of a puppy gift.

The same for people's birthday presents. If you are like me and most of your friends are seniors, their membership gift certificates will only cost \$10 each.

You can't get a birthday present for less than that! 😊



## Annual Membership Fees:

Seniors and Students - \$10  
 Adult and Family - \$20 (volunteers get a 50% discount)  
 Not-for-Profit Organizations - \$35  
 Corporations and Businesses - \$50

To join or renew your membership, please email: [inquiries@responsibledogowners.ca](mailto:inquiries@responsibledogowners.ca)  
 or go to our website at: [www.responsibledogowners.ca/membership.html](http://www.responsibledogowners.ca/membership.html)



# Kids Page

Don't forget to visit the Kids Page on our website. Just click on this link:

<http://www.responsible-dog-owners.ca/kidspage/activitypage-fall2016.html>

Check out our new word find puzzle. We also have a new trick to teach your dog. And learn about guinea pigs - they make fun pets.

Here is some of the feedback we have received about the summer Kids Page:

"WOW!! What an unbelievable link!! It's obvious that a tremendous deal of work and research went into it. CONGRATULATIONS to everyone!!!" *(Mike Massie)*

"Very cute.....and informative....I think kids will like it.....especially the jumping sheep!" *(Betty Ann Murray)*

"It is excellent Julie. It has so many good bits that I wonder if there is anything left for the next one!" *(Diane Kearns)*

"I looked at the kid's page on the website. I think it's great. I wish I had something like that when we got our dog." *(Nikki Dickinson)*

Thanks for all the feedback. Please keep it coming!



## From our young readers:

We would like to thank two of our young dog owners for telling us why their dog is special, what safety rules their family have to make their pet safe, and how they help look after their dog.

### From our 11 year old dog owner:

Q: Why is your dog (Holly) special?

A: Because I love her. She's my dog.

Q: What rules do you have in your home to keep Holly safe?

A: Put her on a leash outside. Don't leave her outside alone (they have an unfenced yard). Close the doors so she can't get out. Don't scratch her sore ears.

Q: What rules do you have in your home to keep you and your brother safe around Holly?

A: No remote-controlled cars near her. No hugs. No poking. No pulling ears or tail. Don't jump on her.

Q: What do you do to help with Holly?

A: Feed her, play with her, groom her. I sometimes sweep up all the dog hair.

**From our 5 year old dog owner:**

"I like Shadow because he is small like me. I help let him out in the backyard. I sometimes forget to let him in, but somebody always reminds me."



Always ask the owner's permission  
before petting a dog.

Hey kids, let's look at the picture shown above from Page 8 in the "Fido, Friend or Foe?" Activity book ([www.responsible-dog-owners.ca/studies.html](http://www.responsible-dog-owners.ca/studies.html)).

The caption under the picture says 'Always ask the owner's permission before petting a dog'. "Why?" you ask. "The 3 puppies are having so much fun playing." Well puppies, like kids, don't like to be interrupted when they play. They are over excited and may hurt you accidentally. Their owners know their pups and may ask you to wait until they finish playing. They may also get the pups to sit and then you can pet them. Or the dog (although not the puppies in this picture!) may be a service dog and you don't want to distract him.

Here are some challenges from the [summer Kids Page](#), in case you missed it:

## **Puzzle**

Let's practise our puppy knowledge. Can you unscramble the missing words in the sentences below?

(You can find the answers at the bottom of the page)

1. Puppy needs 2 bowls. One for **WTREA**, the other for **ODFO**
2. Every puppy should have a **NMEA TGA** on his collar in case he gets lost.
3. You need a **LSEHA** to take your puppy for a walk.
4. Puppies love to go to training **CSLSEAS** to learn things, just like you go to **SCLOHO**
5. Ask the **ONREW** before petting a dog.
6. Not every dog that **GAWS** his tail is friendly.
7. When a dog you don't know comes towards you stand like a **TERE**.
8. Dogs like to be left alone when they are **ETNAGI**.
9. Walk your dog with an **AUTLD**.
10. **LDUO** noises scare dogs.



*Answers: (1) water, food (2) name tag  
 (3) leash (4) classes, school  
 (5) owner (6) wags (7) tree (8) eating  
 (9) adult (10) loud*

## Colouring Contest



Not every dog that wags its tail is friendly. A dog may wag its tail when happy, defensive or stressed, and it's not always easy to know the difference. A defensive or stressed dog may bite.

Be safe and never approach a strange or unattended dog, even if it is wagging its tail.

(from the [Fido, Friend or Foe activity book](#))

## We would love to hear from you

[Click here](#) and print out the picture that opens. Colour the picture with pencils or crayons. Then tell us why your pet is special, and what rules you have in your house to make your pet safe. Send it to us at [morejulie@hotmail.com](mailto:morejulie@hotmail.com) with your email address.

We will choose a winner each month and post it in our [newsletter](#) for everybody to see.



**Responsibility • Respect • Recognition**

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Phone: 613.258.0697 / 613.868.2201 (leave message)

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