

### THE RDOC DOG GUARDIAN NEWSLETTER

KIDS & PUPS EDITION - 2020 Issue #3

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#### Hi everybody

Welcome to the third issue of the Kids and Pups Edition of the Dog Guardian newsletter. For those of you who are new members, let us introduce ourselves. We are RDOC's board members' dogs - **Tyler**, Julie's pup, and **Gus**, Betty's and Jenn's pup. We decided this newsletter needed articles written by us. We want to give you our perspective of being responsible around us.

### We Are Special by Tyler

This month I would like to tell you about my friend, Hannah. She is Mary's dog. She is a lovely German Shepherd. According to Wikipedia, German Shepherd Dogs or GSD are a relatively new breed having been developed around 1899. I don't know about you, but from where I am sitting 1899 was a long, long time ago. Woofie! Woof!



German Shepherds weigh about 66 lbs. (30 kg) and are about 24 inches (60 cm) tall. They live between 9 and 13 years. They are herding dogs just like Nellie, my Australian Shepherd big sister that I told you about in our September 2019 newsletter. They are very smart and love to do all sorts of doggy sports. Like my breed (Labrador Retriever), German Shepherds make great guide and service dogs.

Here are some more amazing facts about German Shepherds from the article "9 Amazing Facts About German Shepherd Dogs" by Mara Bovsun:

- Some are famous movie stars, like Rin Tin Tin and Strongheart, sometimes featured on TV.
- They love to work. According to Mara they have great work ethics. "That's why these dogs are favoured for all the toughest jobs, from herding, to apprehending criminals, to searching smoking rubble for disaster survivors."
- They are very loyal.

• They may be cautious with a stranger until they get to know the person better. It is important to socialize them at an early age. Socializing means taking them to lots of fun places to meet lots of fun people. Woofie! Woof!

Mary (Hannah's Mom) thinks that the reason German Shepherds are used for security work in the police force is because they use their noses well and love to work. These dogs shed a lot, which is important to know if you have allergies.

## Very Useful Things To Learn by Tyler and Gus

In our July newsletter we started a new section called "Very Useful Things To Learn." We are going to tell you about things we learned that make us safe, well behaved, and (best of all) earn us lots of cookies. Woofie! Woof! They are easy skills to teach us. In the last 9 months we covered "sit", "come", "learning your name", "leave it", "focus", "lie down", "speak", "quiet", "fetch" and "emergency stop."



This month we are going to talk about the "stay" command. It's a very important command. It can be used when you are sitting, lying down or standing. It means that you have to stay in that position. It comes in very handy in places like vet offices, pet stores, etc.

A word of advice from your more experienced doggy friends: sometimes you want to stay lying down or

sitting because you are tired. Just don't let your person know that you were going to stay lying down anyway. Let her think you are obeying her command, so you will get praised, and even cookies. Plus you are making your person very happy because she thinks you are doing things she asked you to do. It's fun being sneaky, isn't it? Woofie! Woof!

Ask your person to read the "<u>Teach Your Dog To Stay</u>" article with an adult friend. They will have lots of fun teaching you this new skill.

# Dogs' Den Storybook by Gus

Over the last year we shared with you all our thoughts about having fun and being safe around us. Now it's your turn. Ask us questions about things you want to know about dogs. Email your questions to <a href="mailto:morejulie@hotmail.com">morejulie@hotmail.com</a> and we will try to answer them.

Here is this month's question from my friend Mary (Hannah's Mom):

"Why can dogs drink and eat things that would cause humans to get sick?"

A very good question, Mary. I went on the web and found an article asking the same question. Yep, I guess great minds think alike. Woofie! Woof! The article "Why Can Animals Eat And Drink Things That Make Humans Sick?" explains how our immune system is developed.

We get some protection from our Moms, just like babies get protection from their Moms. The protection only lasts a little while, so we have to produce our own. These are called antibodies. According to the article we develop our own antibodies when we come in contact with things that have bacteria in them like dirt etc. Your world is way cleaner than ours. So we produce more antibodies than you do and we don't get sick. Hope this makes sense. Read the article. It explains it much better than me. Woofie! Woof!



## **Colouring Contest** by Gus and Tyler

Hurray! You are taking us for a walk. We love walks as long as an adult comes with us. Woofie! Woof! The authors of the "Fido, Friend or Foe?" Activity booklet (P.22) ask you to walk your dog with an adult. They suggest using 2 leashes. One for you and one for your adult friend.

Colour the picture of the puppy walking with his 2 friends. Scan or take a photo of it, and send it to <a href="mailto:morejulie@hotmail.com">morejulie@hotmail.com</a> with your email address. We would love to see it!



Always have an adult present when walking a dog.

# The "What Am I?" Game by Tyler

The "What Am I?" game is fun. I give you clues and you get to guess what the object is. (Answers are on the next page. No peeking. Woofie! Woof!)

- 1. I am round. Kids throw me. Dogs catch me.
- 2. Sometimes you put food in me. Sometimes you put water in me. Dogs really like me.
- 3. I am soft. Dogs like to lie down on me.
- 4. I am around a dog's neck. I have tags. I am very useful if my dog is lost.
- 5. Dogs love to chew me. I squeak. I can be soft or hard.
- 6. Dogs come to see me when they are sick. Dogs don't like me until the end of the visit, when they get treats.
- 7. One end of me is attached to your dog's collar, the other you hold. I can be long or short.
- 8. I taste yummy. Dogs like me. Dogs get me when they are good.
- 9. You bring your dog here because you want him to learn to do things like walk nicely, sit, etc. Dogs like this place because they want to learn how to be well behaved dogs so you will take them to lots of places.
- 10. You can be off leash when you are at my place. You play with lots of other dogs. I am one of your most favourite places.



### Thank You

A big thank you goes to our committee for proofreading this newsletter. We really appreciate your help. You are the greatest! A special thank you goes to Kit Watson for the final proofreading of the newsletter. *Tyler and Gus* 

#### **Answers**

- 1. Ball
- Food or Water Dish
- 3. Dog Bed
- 4. Dog Collar
- 5. Toy
- 6. Vet Office
- 7. Leash
- 8. Treats
- 9. Obedience Class
- 10. Dog Park



Tango

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