



April 2006



MKC Newsletter

Meet the Kennel Club in April

The April meeting/program will be Meet the Kennel Club night, due to the fact that the March meeting was cancelled. The purpose of this meeting/program is to encourage interested persons to come & check out what the RMKC is all about & possibly become new members. Current members should invite those who are interested in any aspect of dogs & dog sports to attend. If you have a scrapbook or favorite picture of you &/or your dog participating in an activity, please bring it with you to the meeting to help illustrate some of the things our members do. We will also have the displays that we used at the fall show along with those that give some of the history of the club.



We would also like members attending the meeting to please bring a snack/treat to share.



ATTENTION BOARD MEMBERS!!

There will be a Board meeting before the April General Membership meeting.

6:00 pm at the Church

There will be a Show Committee meeting on Wednesday, April 12th at 6:00 pm at Carlos O' Kelly's. The main purpose of this meeting is to go over the premium list.

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Letter from the Editor:

With the onset of spring, things start to get a-buzzing - spring cleaning, lawn work, planting flowers, etc, etc, etc. - along with the fact that dog shows in the Midwest start to get a little more plentiful. It is also a time of year when things start gearing up for the club - membership dues & officer elections, along with the many deadlines that the agility trial & all-breed show committees have to meet in order to make those events go smoothly. Although we all have things to keep us busy at home, let's try to keep in mind that it takes a LOT of people to run the great events that the RMKC hosts - even if you don't think you can be of help or only have a little time to spare, offer what you can - it IS appreciated.

Diana Mann

Email me at: murphyman88@yahoo.com

The Deadline for the May issue is April 20, 2006

RMKC General Membership meeting – Monday, March 13, 2006

The March meeting was cancelled due to weather, particularly, our meeting site (Good Shepherd Church) was canceling all activities on site & we did not have access to the building.

2006-2007 Officer & Board Member Nominations

The Nominating Committee will have a slate of members to serve as your RMKC board for 2006-2007 within the week. Additional nominations will be taken at the April meeting. Please be sure that the person you are nominating is willing to take on the position. Voting will take place at the May meeting.

The slate will have 1 nominee each for President, Vice President, Recording Secretary, Corresponding Secretary, Treasurer, & 1 Board seat. Continuing Board members are Stephanie Meyer (2007) & Diane Whipple (2008)

If anyone has any questions regarding the 2006-2007 nominees, you can contact Julie Prentice at japren@aol.com or juprentice@RCLS.net or call her at 529-2977.

As seen in a Dog's diary ...

7 am - Oh boy! A walk! My favorite!
8 am - Oh boy! Dog food! My favorite!
9 am - Oh boy! The kids! My favorite!
Noon - Oh boy! The yard! My favorite!
2 pm - Oh boy! A car ride! My favorite!
3 pm - Oh boy! The kids! My favorite!
4 pm - Oh boy! Playing ball! My favorite!
6 pm - Oh boy! Welcome home Mom! My favorite!
7 pm - Oh boy! Welcome home Dad! My favorite!
8 pm - Oh boy! Dog food! My favorite!
9 pm - Oh boy! Tummy rubs on the couch! My favorite!
11 pm - Oh boy! Sleeping in my people's bed! My favorite!

As seen in a cat's diary:

Day 183 of my captivity... My captors continued to taunt me with bizarre little dangling objects. They dine lavishly on fresh meat, while I am forced to eat dry cereal.

The only thing that keeps me going is the hope of escape, and the mild satisfaction I get from clawing the furniture.

Tomorrow I may eat another house plant. Today my attempt to kill my captors by weaving around their feet while they were walking almost succeeded - must try this at the top of the stairs.

In an attempt to disgust and repulse these vile oppressors, I once again induced myself to vomit on their favorite chair - must try this on their bed.

Decapitated a mouse and brought them the headless body in an attempt to make them aware of what I am capable of, and to try to strike fear in their hearts. They only cooed and condescended about what a good little cat I was. Hmmm, not working according to plan.

There was some sort of gathering of their accomplices. I was placed in solitary throughout the event. However, I could hear the noise and smell the food. More important, I overheard that my confinement was due to my powers of inducing "allergies." Must learn what this is and how to use it to my advantage.

I am convinced the other captives are flunkies and maybe snitches.

The dog is routinely released and seems more than happy to return. He is obviously a half-wit.

The bird, on the other hand, has got to be an informant and speaks with them regularly. I am certain he reports my every move. Due to his current placement in the metal room, his safety is assured.

But I can wait; it is only a matter of time.



DOGS ON THE LOOSE..

While checking up on Vivi, the still-at-large Whippet, I noticed that Vivi's breeder had posted a list of guidelines on how to act around a runaway dog, with some of his suggestions specifically aimed toward a spooked Whippet. With spring starting to appear, it's more likely that we will be out enjoying the fresh air & sunshine with our canine companions; therefore, I thought this might be a good time to share some suggestions I found on catching a loose or runaway dog. As the former owner of a Husky mix who loved to escape from the house or yard & then play "Catch me", I wish I had known or thought of some of these "tricks" - it might have saved a lot of aggravation!

When it first happens resist the urge to do a recall in the panic voice that we would all feel in that situation. Try the sweet here -is -your -cookie- voice. You can use every bribe in the book in this emergency situation. Want to go for a ride? Want a cookie? Where's your ball? Pretend you have a cookie on you- Put your hand in your pocket and pretend to be getting food. **Use your buzz words-**dinnertime, play ball, anything that will bring the dog back to you. **BUT DON'T PANIC.**

Do not walk directly toward her; avoid eye contact; act casual but friendly. Never chase the dog. Move away from him, calling him to follow.

Sit or kneel. Your dog will probably be frightened, and these postures are less threatening. Open your arms when you call. If possible sit down on the ground, eat something (noisily!), share if she gets close, drop some food on the ground. Talk gently and casually, as if you don't care that much about her. Don't even look at her.

If you have a calm dog on a leash and the runaway is nearby, make a big show of feeding the other dog. Nothing makes him hungrier than seeing another dog eat.

If there is a reliable dog nearby, that is a friendly dog with an absolute recall you can let that dog go and then call it back. Chances are pretty good that your pack animal will follow the other dog. This is risky if the other dog decides to take off, too.

In a best case scenario, quietly close a door or gate (a tall one, he can probably jump 6 feet if necessary) behind him. If not, just making non-threatening contact is a huge step forward, and establish a place where he can be fed.

Get a "squeaker" and keep it handy. This noise can often distract the dog and bring him back to the sound before he gets too far.

If your dog loves to ride in a car, open a car door and let your dog run and jump in.

Throw something interesting on the ground for your dog to investigate. A Box or a full plastic bag can sometimes cause a curious dog to come in close to investigate. If your dog is closer to you and absorbed in its investigation you have a better chance of catching him.

Try crouching down or lying down and look at some invisible goodie in the grass. Poke at it and talk to this thing in the grass. Many curious dogs will come see what is interesting.

If your dog is doing a run towards another dog for a game of play, try to get the other owner to call their dog to them and catch your pup when near.

And finally resist the urge to yell at the dog when you finally catch him. Consider yourself fortunate that you got your baby back and try to prevent another occurrence. Protect your dog from himself.

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Rochester Minnesota Kennel Club 2005-2006

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RMKC Website: <http://www.rmkc.8m.com>

Monthly Meeting Information

Date: 2nd Monday **Time:** 7:00 pm **Location:** Good Shepherd Lutheran Church ~ 559 20th St SW
Directions from downtown Rochester: South on Broadway to 20th St SW (Kwik Trip) - turn right (W) - go approx 5 blocks to top of hill - Church is on the right, set back from the street