



Dog Meadow – June 2022

Welcome to our June newsletter. The days are warm and the nights are cool. Yes, we have had a couple of really hot days, but, personally, we happen to like this sort of weather. It allows us to be outside with the dogs longer without any of us melting. A few significant events have happened since we last sent out a newsletter and we're excited to tell you all about them. Thank you for your support and we're happy that you are joining us for a summary of some of the goings-on at Dog Meadow.



After his surgery, Jack looks like he is ready to board a flight and take a long nap.

CANCER SCARE

Our captain and MVP employee, Handsome Jack, experienced a health challenge recently, which was also extremely challenging for us. He had developed a lump on his underbelly near his pelvis. It was very suspicious and the vet believed that there was a high possibility that it was a tumor due to it being firm to the touch and lacking in movement, unlike a more harmless softer growth. Additionally, he had developed a pea-sized growth on his ear that seemed like a mast cell tumor. Jack is 7 years old and has a lot of living to do, so naturally, we were very distraught. The decision was made to have both excised and biopsied. He went for surgery on June 8th and is now recovering well. It was a favorable result.

The lump on his belly turned out to be a Lipoma. A lipoma is a slow-growing, fatty lump that's most often situated between the skin and the underlying muscle layer. A lipoma, which feels doughy and usually isn't tender, moves readily with slight finger pressure. Again, due to its unusual stiffness, it was safer to remove it than not.

The mass on his ear was a histiocytoma. A histiocytoma is a tumor that contains histiocytes (normal immune cells). Histiocytes are located in many parts of your body, including your bone marrow, bloodstream, skin, lungs, liver, spleen, and lymph nodes. The cause is unknown, but since the possibility is there that it can be cancerous, it was removed. As you can see by the photo, Jack was calm when heading home. He had been sedated. The vet explained that the ear was the one that would be problematic and needed more time to heal. They did a great job at creating a V-shaped snip and suturing it so it will heal as if nothing was ever removed. However, the ear is full of capillaries and, as expected, one shake of his head loosened the headband. There was what looked like a murder scene as blood pooled rapidly on our wooden floor. Thankfully we acted fast, as directed by the vet, and our area rugs were spared. Phew!

A "hoodie" was purchased, but by the time it arrived a few of days later the sutures had already done their job. It wouldn't have helped, anyway. Just as we figured, Jack would not keep the hoodie on.

As of this writing, Jack is being kept away from the rest of the pack and away from the high activity. As a hound, he loves being active so he is bored out of his mind and gets in a bit of trouble. He can't wait to return to his duties. I can't wait either. And some of the regulars miss him.



Jack is not happy for one second with this thing around his head.



Keeping your dogs, and ours, safe and happy is a top priority.

DODGING A BULLET

About a month ago, a dog was slated to join us for a few days, but the owners had noticed the dog was scratching profusely on his underbelly. The dog was taken to the vet and they did in fact find mites that cause Mange. They were lucky that it was the non-contagious type and that the dog was treated and kept home.

This made us dig a little deeper into what Mange is.

The “umbrella” term mange refers to two specific skin diseases in dogs caused by mites: demodectic and sarcoptic mange.

Sometimes called red mange, demodectic mange is caused by the Demodex mite, a small cigar-shaped parasite with eight legs that lives in a dog’s hair follicles. Passed from mothers to their offspring (it’s not contagious between dogs and doesn’t infect humans), these parasites seldom create problems, except in young puppies with immature immune systems.

Scabies or sarcoptic mange, however, not only spreads rapidly between dogs but can also mildly and temporarily affect humans, thanks to a short, stubby mite with eight legs. As this mite burrows into the skin, it can cause, among other symptoms, intense itching, redness and rash, thick yellow crusts, hair loss, and bacterial and yeast infections. In advanced cases, it can cause thickening of the skin and/or lymph node inflammation, and in extreme cases, emaciation. It can reproduce on a dog, but not on a human, so a human cannot become infested with it. However, it can persist on a dog endlessly until halted.

Should YOUR dog have any obvious issues with his skin, have him promptly evaluated by your vet.

When in doubt, err on the side of caution and ask your vet to provide you with detailed instructions on how to eliminate sarcoptic mites from your dogs and keep them out – fur-ever.

After speaking with our vet, we have switched over to NexGard, a flea and tick preventative that also protects against both mites that can cause mange.



Meet Frankie-Baby, the newest member of the Dog Meadow family.

Cock-tails

You met Antonio, the Brahma Rooster, in one of our previous newsletters. Laura, in the spirit of saving as many animals as she can, has started a rooster bachelor pad (I think we need to come up with a name for it at this point), and has adopted a Buff Orpington Rooster. His name was originally Baby so we decided to keep it at the "tail-end" and is now called Frankie-Baby, after the lead singer of the Four Seasons. He is about 15 weeks old and will be crowing soon along with his pal Antonio. Some of our family members aren't yet accustomed to the 5 AM wake-up calls but we're hoping they will get used to it. Most of our neighbors love it since it just brings that farm/country feeling to their home.

Frankie was rescued from a woman in Beacon that had purchased a bunch of chicks on the fly. Not sure what would have become of him had Laura not met her and looking to add a member to the rooster pad. Sometimes you have to step in and save others. Laura tends to do that often.

Although Antonio dominates the relationship, he has welcomed Frankie, and they have become a good pair. They roam the front of the property freely, away from our hens, yet make their presence known to them regularly. So when you pull into our driveway, make sure to slow down for them.



Frankie-Baby learns all about the Pollinator garden from Antonio.



These two female guinea pigs were rescued and successfully re-homed.

SPEAKING OF ADOPTION

Now don't get me wrong, we're not a rescue organization, but we do work with a lot of rescues and often help to place animals that come our way. These two guinea pigs were rescued recently and re-homed to a family that will truly care for them. This family is from Dover Plains, and not only did they come recommended by a vet we know very well, but they also happen to be involved with fostering dogs and cats. We're happy that they are going to a good home and will be well taken care of.

Too often, shelters euthanize animals due to space constraints, but if more people adopted pets instead of buying them, the number of pets euthanized would lower dramatically.

When you adopt, not only do you save your loving new companion, but you make space for other animals who desperately need it, creating a domino effect of goodness.

Did you know that when you buy a pet from a pet store it just increases the amount of that particular pet inventory at the store? So when someone buys something like a guinea pig, the store will just go out and buy more. This applies to puppies as well.

And where do these puppies come from? Puppy mills!

Most of the puppies sold in pet stores come from puppy mills. Purchasing pet store animals means not only supporting the cruel puppy mill industry but also taking a home away from one of the 4 to 5 million unwanted shelter animals killed each year. Because of the inbreeding and filthy conditions common to puppy mills, they often produce animals with serious health problems which typically result in hefty vet fees. On top of this, pet stores generally do not socialize their animals. The puppies may consequently develop behavioral problems which do not make them ideal as pets. Pet shops dispose of unsold animals in, at times, unscrupulous ways. For instance, former pet store employees have reported finding animals starved or frozen to death.

So before you buy a pet, consider fostering or adopting a pet and saving a life. Care for them responsibly.



Laura cuddles with our new rooster rescue, Frankie-Baby.

Dog Meadow Blog

Laura Evans, Lady of Dog Meadow, writes a Dog Meadow blog entry on a weekly basis (more or less). She shares life at Dog Meadow as well as trials and tribulations in life as a whole. Every entry includes an easy-to-follow recipe at the end. We encourage you to read it **here** and please subscribe.

Did you know...

You can do something to help Dog Meadow? Yes, you can! And it takes less than a minute. If you follow us on Instagram or Facebook, "liking" and/or sharing our posts greatly increases our exposure and ensures that your dog will always have doggy friends to play with here at Dog Meadow.

IMPORTANT – CLOSINGS – In order to maintain the beauty of Dog Meadow...

Please note that we will be closed for property maintenance on the following dates during the year: July 21 – August 2 and September 9 – October 8. Please ensure that you make other arrangements for your pup ahead of time. We apologize for any inconvenience this may cause.

Bookings

We're already taking bookings for Thanksgiving and Christmas. Please remember to book your dog's stay early at Dog Meadow. **Booking requests must be made and confirmed via email.** As of January 2022, we will be requiring deposits for all stays. It is up to you to reach out to us if and when you are ready to book your dog's stay. Booking requests must be made and confirmed via email. If you do not have an email confirming a reservation for specific dates, you do not have a reservation.

With that said, we remind you to make sure that your dog's vaccinations are up-to-date. We encourage you to check your records and make appointments with your dog's vet, if needed, to ensure that he is in good health. You can find our **requirements** on our website.

Finally, let's all be safe and kind to one another.



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