### D Tails Monthly Ruff April 2016

# Newsletter





Donna had two of Cay's puppies visit, Pinot and Barnacle. In the picture on the left, Cay has the ball, then from left to right, Pinot, Barnacle, and Channel. In the picture on the right, it's two brothers, Barnacle and Channel. They are quite the energetic crew!

#### **April Classes**

#### Monday

Beginner Obedience, 6:00-7:00 PM Drop-In Obedience, 7:00-8:00 PM \$7/class.

### **Tuesday**

Handling, 6:00-7:00 PM. Please check the calendar on www.dtails.biz for individual instructors. There will be no Handling class on Tuesday, April 26, 2016.

Beginner Obedience, 7:00-8:00 PM

#### **Thursday**

Beginner Obedience, 6:00-7:00 PM Advanced Obedience, 7:00-8:00 PM Donna and Channel have a busy month in the ring in April. Donna will be showing Channel every weekend, and she will be showing his sister, Pinot, twice as well! We wish them the best of luck! Below, Channel and Pinot look intently at the ball!



Did you know that April is Heartworm Awareness Month? Heartworm is an awful disease that is preventable! Dogs contract the disease by an infected mosquito bite which deposits parasitic larvae into the dog's tissue. When the parasite matures, it moves into the heart and lungs through the bloodstream, and grows tenfold. Heartworm is very hard to treat once it has progressed. Some of the symptoms include a cough, lethargy, extreme weight loss, fast or labored breathing, seizures, and collapsing. If you suspect your dog has heartworm, they need to be taken to the vet immediately. It takes bloodwork and x-rays for a diagnosis. In many cases, the heartworm has progressed to the point where treatment cannot help. If the dog is considered treatable, the treatment may likely last up to three months before the dog is deemed cured. Every dog should be on heartworm preventative medication year round. Be sure to talk to your Veterinarian about which preventative medication is right for your dog.



We all know the saying "April Showers" right? Well, here it can mean either rain or snow, but it still means moisture. What grows in moist conditions? Mushrooms! Most mushrooms are highly poisonous, so if you have a dog that eats everything, you should remove them. Of course, there are mushrooms that are safe and worth thousands of dollars. They are just not in Connecticut! Truffles are native to France and Italy and are now being cultivated in Spain, Australia, and Oregon. Up until recently, female pigs were used to find truffles because when ripened, their scent matched that of a male pig. They sometimes ate the prized fungus though. Dogs are now being trained to find truffles instead. Here in the US, there are training centers just for truffle dogs. This makes complete sense when dogs have been used for search and rescue almost since being domesticated. A company in Oregon, named Umami Truffle dogs, trains Belgian Malinois dogs and offers forays to truffle hunt with their dogs. So, if you are ever in Oregon, and want an adventure with a highly trained canine, you can find all the information here! http://umamitruffledogs.com/ There is also another company that offers forays and training in mostly the Pacific Northwest, but other areas as well.

http://truffledogcompany.com/ Both of these companies strongly believe in ethically harvesting truffles. Isn't it amazing what dogs can do?





## Heads and Tails

Who would love to go to foreign country and be surrounded by dogs? Costa Rica has a rescue island just for stray dogs. Anyone wishing to adopt can just come and play with all the "free-range" dogs! Sounds to me like we should go on a D Tails group vacation! The only problem will be leaving without one! Learn more here:

http://barkpost.com/land-of-thestrays-paradise/

Guess what's coming back to Old Saybrook on May 7, 2016? Doggie Fun Zone! No, we aren't putting it on this year. Two students, Owen Greene and Rob Gadon from Old Saybrook High School are creating the "Barking Market" for their senior project. There will be demos, vendors, food trucks, music, and of course, DFZ! They are fundraising for canine cancer. You can find all the information here:

http://riedelcody.org/2016/0 3/26/the-barking-market/

And, just in case you forgot how much fun Doggie Fun Zone is, here is Rudy having the time of his life on the course!



D Tails will not be at Reynold's this year, but we are offering a \$165.00 Gift Certificate for training or day school (for approved dogs)!

