



## About NEFHRC Newsletter . . .

This monthly newsletter is to help members keep updated on our club events, achievements, or other announcements that may be of interest. Please call or e-mail Karen VanDonsel at (828) 877-3254 or karenvandonse@gmail.com if you have anything you would like to submit. Alternatively, you may contact Tom Gaddis at (904) 699-3084 or President@nefhrc.net.

Please feel free to submit pictures, announcements of events, brags, sale of dog or training equipment, litters, or any other announcements for club members! The deadline for submissions is the 15th of each month.

If you have an idea for a recurring feature article, please let us know. This newsletter is for you, our members. We want to include what you want. So, please help make this a

great newsletter. Submit your articles, pictures, stories and ideas. We want to hear from you!



Carolyn and Jake

## Jake's 12th Birthday!

On March 20, 2004, Barnswallow Jake was born in St. Augustine, FL. When I lost my Rottweiler, Brutus, I waited two years before deciding to get another puppy. I wanted a dog to walk that people didn't grab their children and run for "safety". I noticed everyone seemed to like Labs and Golden Retrievers. I learned about Jake from our local librarian who knew about the breeding and went immediately to see him. Of course, I fell in love at first sight.

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### Coming Events:

- ◊ 06/04-06/05/2016 North Alabama HRC Hunt Test
- ◊ 06/18/2016 NEFHRC Training Day

## Book Review: Living With Blind Dogs by Caroline D. Levin RN . . .

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"Many people feel a great sense of loss when their dog is diagnosed as blind. . . . There is a sense of helplessness associated with irreversible blindness." So begins Caroline D. Levin in her book *Living With Blind Dogs: A Resource Book and Training Guide for the Owners of Blind and Low-Vision Dogs*.

Caroline Levin's experience in eye care began as a Charge Nurse of Ophthalmology Surgery in Portland, Oregon. After a decade of nursing, she left that field to become the practice manager of an ophthalmic veterinary clinic, where she could combine her knowledge of ophthalmology with her love of dogs. She also developed badly needed educational materials for clients. Since then, she has written the first two books on this topic: *Living With Blind Dogs* and *Blind Dog Stories*.

*Living With Blind Dogs* is an excellent resource guide for owners facing the issue of blindness or low vision in their dogs. It begins with a chapter Dealing With Loss, moves through the Anatomy of the Eye, covers Diseases that Cause Blindness, and Genetics and Blindness. It then goes through how the dogs react to blindness, whether sudden or slow on-set, and discusses training concepts and how to help the dogs learn to navigate at home and in the community.

Written in plain, easy to understand language, *Living With Blind Dogs* is more than just a "how to" book. It's a book that offers a clear message that radiates hope for owners. Blind dogs can lead very long and productive lives, despite the loss of vision.

In her final thoughts, the author relates the story of Norman, the Hero Dog - a yellow Labrador Retriever. As his "title" indicates, the story relates how Norman was a hero and saved a child's life, despite being totally blind.

If you or someone you know has dog that is blind or going blind, I highly recommend this book. In it's second edition, it is the only published resource book on this topic. It contains helpful hints from dozens of blind-dog owners, as well as years of ophthalmic nursing, veterinary, and dog training experiences.

## Jake's 12th Birthday! (cont.)

From page 1

We were on our way to the mountains with friends a week before I could bring him home and I drove everybody crazy with what I should name him. I wanted to name him Teddy as in Teddy Bear but our friends screamed NO. They suggested Jake, a manly name for a manly dog.

I am grateful and thankful for this gift from above. He has been everything a person could want. When we were looking at our first motorhome, Jake sat quietly outside the open door until we looked around and he came up the steps and laid down!!! This began our adventure into HRC and hunt tests. Jake earned his HRCH and UPLAND title and has three Master Hunter passes.

I am grateful for the many people and trainers who helped us and am thankful for all the wonderful people we've met. What an adventure!!! I've always told Jake he was going to set a record for the oldest Lab. I believe he'll make it!!!

Contributed by Carolyn Abood.

## An Evacuation Kit for Your Dog

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### Food and Water

- Food: Two weeks supply; place dry food in airtight containers (rotate every 3 months)
- Usual treats (rotate every 3 months)
- Water: Two weeks supply of water (store in dark place, rotate every 2 months). Estimate a quart a day.
- Food and water dishes
- Spoons and can opener, if necessary

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## **Restraint and Identification**

- Extra collars or harnesses with tags (identification tag, rabies tag, license)
- Leashes, including a nylon slip leash
- Towels
- Muzzle or roll of gauze to make a muzzle (in case your dog is injured)
- Thick leather gloves (in case your dog is injured or very afraid)
- Dog life preserver (if in a flood zone)
- Pet carrier with the following information indelibly printed: your name; phone number; address; a description of your dog (distinguishing marks, age, breed, sex, spayed, neutered, etc.); the name of your dog; microchip ID or tattoo ID, if any; pet insurance policy number; and the address and phone number where you or a contact person can be reached if you are not at home
- Recent photographs with the same information that is on the pet carrier printed on the back (keep in a waterproof container, e.g., inside several ziplock bags). Include yourself in some of the photos to help you reclaim your pet, should he become lost.
- Wire, pliers, and duct tape (to repair pet carrier)

## **Sanitation**

- Newspaper
- Paper towels
- Dish soap
- Disinfectant
- Garbage bags
- Plastic bags for holding waste (two weeks supply)

## **Care and Comfort**

- Blanket
- Toys and chew toys
- Hot water bottle
- Flashlight and batteries
- Grooming supplies
- Dental cleaning supplies

## **Records and Medications** (store in a waterproof container)

- Vaccination certificates
- List of phone numbers:
  - Your veterinarian

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- List of secondary veterinarians
- "Pet-friendly" motels
- Boarding facilities (Red Cross shelters do not allow animals)
- Emergency clinic(s)
- Database centers if your dog is tattooed or has a microchip
- Animal poison control center(s)
- Animal shelters in your area (in case you get separated from your pet)
- Pet insurance policy number
- Copies of proof of ownership papers (registration information, adoption papers, proofs of purchase, and microchip/tattoo information to store in the evacuation kit). List each of your animals and their species/breed, age, sex, color, and other distinguishing characteristics
- Medical records and/or list of medical needs, if your dog has a medical condition or is on medication
- Two weeks supply of medication and any supplements (include at least one dose of your monthly heartworm preventive) in a waterproof container (rotate every two months); have chemical ice packs and a small, insulated cooler if medication needs refrigeration
- If your dog is taking medication regularly, include that information on a separate ID tag
- If your dog becomes fearful during storms, sudden changes in routine, or separation from you, contact your veterinarian regarding tranquilizers or calming remedies that could be included in your kit (e.g., Rescue Remedy)
- First aid kit

A large plastic tub or garbage can with a lid can be used to store these disaster preparedness items for your dog. Tape a copy of this list to the inside of the cover for future reference. Include a calendar indicating when certain items should be/were replaced.

In addition to the items listed above, include anything you use for your dog on a weekly or monthly basis. A good idea is to collect all the materials for your disaster preparedness kit, and then experiment by using only those items to care for your dog the next two weeks. That way, you will easily find out if you need to include other items, or a larger quantity of certain things.

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*Always for the dogs!*

NEFHRC is sanctioned by the United Kennel Club, Inc. We are a club devoted to the training of bird hunting dogs for the purposes of hunting and hunt tests. As the UKC says, we are a club "*Conceived by hunters for hunters.*"

**Club Officers and Contacts**

- ⇒ President—Tom Gaddis  
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- ⇒ Vice-President— Brian Milner  
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We're on the web!  
<http://nefhrc.net>

## April 2016 Training Day Pictures (Continued from last month)

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# JUNE 2016

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			01	02	03	04 North Alabama HRC
05 North Alabama HRC	06	07	08	09	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18 NEFHRC Training Day
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		

# JULY 2016

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					01	02
03	04	05	06	07	08	09
10	11	12	13	14	15	16 NEFHRC Training Day
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24/ 31	25	26	27	28	29	30