



Admiral Perry Obedience Training Club, Inc.
Airedale Terrier Club of Greater Philadelphia
Allentown Dog Training Club, Inc.
Anthracite Brittany Club
Back Mountain Kennel Club
Bald Eagle Kennel Club
Berks County Dog Training Club
Berks County Kennel Club
Bernese Mountain Dog Club of Watchung
Borzoi Club of the Delaware Valley
Bucks County Kennel Club Inc.
Bull Terrier Club of Philadelphia Inc.
Bulldog Club Of Philadelphia
Bulldog Club of Pittsburgh
Bushy Run Kennel Club
Butler Dog Training Association
Cavalier King Charles Spaniel Club of Delaware Valley
Chambersburg Area Kennel Club
Chester Valley Kennel Club
Colonial Rottweiler Club
Dachshund Fanciers Assoc. of Berks County
Delaware County Kennel Club Inc.
Delaware Valley Bullmastiff Club
Delaware Valley Cardigan Welsh Corgi Association
Delaware Valley Chinese Crested Club, Inc.
Delaware Valley Dalmatian Club
Delaware Valley German Shepherd Dog Club
Delaware Valley Havanese Club
Delaware Valley Manchester Terrier Club
Delaware Valley Soft Coated Wheaten Terrier Club
Delaware Valley Toy Dog Fanciers
Delaware Valley Weimaraner Club
Delaware Valley Yorkshire Terrier Club
Devon Dog Show Association
Doberman Pinscher Rescue of PA, Inc.
Dog Training Club Of Chester County
Dog Training Club Of York
Erie Kennel Club
Great Dane Club Of Lehigh Valley LLC
Great Dane Club Of Pennsylvania Inc
Greater Philadelphia Dog Fanciers Assoc.
Greater Pittsburgh Golden Retriever Club
Greater Pittsburgh Labrador Retriever Club
Greater Valley Forge Rhodesian Ridgeback Club
Harrisburg Kennel Club
Hatboro Dog Club
Hilltown Dog Training Club
Huntingdon Valley Kennel Club, Inc.
Interstate Shetland Sheepdog Club
Irish Wolfhound Association Of Delaware Valley
Keeshond Club of the Delaware Valley
Kennel Club Of Philadelphia
Kerry Blue Terrier Club of Greater Pittsburgh, Inc.
Keystone Cocker Spaniel Club
Keystone Collie Club
Keystone English Springer Spaniel Club
Lancaster Kennel Club
Laurel Highlands Kennel Association
Lebanon County Kennel Club

Dogs are Barking About...

PA Federation of Dog Clubs Newsletter

Winter 2015

Open Letter Sent to Governor Wolf and All Legislators Regarding Proposed Funding Cuts to the Pennsylvania Emergency Management Agency

You, Governor Wolf, vetoed the "Search and Rescue" line-item under PEMA's budget. HB 1460 PN 2626 as voted in the affirmative and supported by the House and Senate Republicans provided \$250,000 for this purpose. The bill also provided \$3 million for emergency relief assistance to municipalities that suffer damage to public infrastructure...it was you who blue-lined these items to zero with absolutely no explanation as why you chose these line items.

These line item were part of the budget package the House and Senate supported and fought for. You, Governor Wolf, chose to line item veto this spending because it was important to the members of the Emergency Prepared Committee in both the House and Senate. The line item veto also affected funding the Red Cross and the Civil Air Patrol. Both are vitally important to the Commonwealth's emergency response plan.

While we recognize that the ongoing battle to enact a budget for the Commonwealth has been protracted and tempers are running short, your unwarranted attack on the spending by the Pennsylvania Emergency Management Agency (PEMA) is shortsighted. At a time when our country is faced with both increased external and internal threats, the functions supported by this agency are central to the safety of our citizens. The federal PETS Act, passed after Hurricane Katrina, requires states to include domestic animal care in their disaster planning. In the Commonwealth, this is done by the Pennsylvania State Animal Response Team (PASART). The PA Federation of Dog Clubs has been an active supporter of this vital program from its inception.

We call on you to learn more about it and to support its vital work by rescinding the vetoes you made. We thought that you understood the message the public sent during the passage of the revisions to the Dog Law in 2008 that the welfare of our animals is important to us. We think that the last thing the legislature would want in the upcoming election year is a disaster that could have been avoided or ameliorated by the very program the funding of which you decry.

If you think any of these scenarios are unlikely, incident reports illustrating the dangers are available. A few examples are:

1. A gas line explosion, causing a multiple alarm fire requiring country-wide resources. Firefighters arriving on the scene find numerous displaced families, including their pets. Other pets are rescued in the course of clearing residences to ensure no people are trapped. Fortunately, the Incident Commander has notified Dispatch of the presence

Lehigh German Shepherd Dog Club
 Lehigh Valley Coursing Club
 Lehigh Valley Kennel Club
 Lenape Golden Retriever Club
 Liberty English Cocker Spaniel Fanciers
 Lower Bucks Dog Training Club
 Mid Susquehanna Valley Kennel Club
 Middle Atlantic St. Bernard Club
 Mifflin County Dog Training Club
 Montgomery County Kennel Club
 Mountain Laurel Kennel Club
 Mt Nittany Dog Training Club
 Nita-Nee Kennel Club
 Obedience Training Class Of Harrisburg
 OHA Lehigh Valley Chapter
 Old York Road Dog Training Club
 Penn Ridge Kennel Club
 Penn-Dutch Great Pyrenees Club
 Philadelphia Dog Training Club
 Pocono Mountain Kennel Club
 Poodle Club of the Lehigh Valley Inc.
 Quaker City Doberman Pinscher Club
 Saucon Valley Boxer Club
 Schuylkill Valley German Shorthaired
 Pointer Club
 SE Keystone Chinese Shar-Pei Club
 Siberian Husky Club of the Delaware Valley
 Skycastle French Hounds
 South Hills Kennel Club
 Suburban Dog Training Club of Eastern
 Montgomery County
 Tri State Dog Obedience Club Inc.
 Valley Forge Kennel Club
 Waterland Retriever Club
 William Penn Poodle Club
 William Penn West Highland White
 Terrier Club
 Williamsport Dog Training Club
 York County Dog Training Club

of the pets and asked for assistance in securing them, so his people can do their jobs. County Dispatch puts out a call for volunteers with the County Animal Response Team, and they arrive with a trailer fully loaded with crates, bowls, leads, collars and other essentials. Some of the volunteers on the team are veterinary technicians, and they call for help from their employers based on prior agreements. The displaced families are reassured that their non-human family members are in good hands, and the Incident Commander has one less thing on his plate.

2. Many tractor-trailer drivers travel with a dog. Consider an accident where the animals may be injured or escape, interfering with traffic.

3. Major flooding breaks out and a mobile home park is flooded forcing evacuations.

4. Police go to a home to serve an arrest warrant and the individual will only surrender if he is assured his pets will be ok.

5. Emergency Medical Technicians are faced with drivers who refuse transport to a hospital until they are assured their pets would be cared for and waiting for them once they were discharged.

Many natural disasters and accidents also involve our livestock—horses and farm animals, are also affected. You are inadvertently playing into the hands of the animal rights team of HSUS and PETA whose aim is to make all domestic animal breeding "one generation and out" according to their CEO Wayne Pascelle. They will be able to greatly propagandize their rescue efforts if no legal and publicly supported rescue agencies are in place here due to lack of funding. They have been trying to take control of PASART all year to use it as a self-serving publicity arm.

Not only is PASART a vital program today, despite the ongoing budget battle, it is not a questionable expenditure at any time. Millions of dollars in equipment has already been purchased and made available to the volunteer teams in every county of PA that are a part of PASART. Those same volunteers have already taken hundreds of man-hours of training. All of that would be flushed down the drain if the relatively small appropriation you questioned were rejected by the Legislature.

The Pennsylvania Federation of Dog Clubs and its dozens of member organizations statewide strongly support the Pennsylvania State Animal Response Team's activity within the PEMA oversight structure. Our member clubs have donated thousands of dollars to this vital program. We hoped that you understood the lessons of the past and will learn more about PASART, recognize its importance to the citizens of the Commonwealth and support future appropriations requests going forward as a valid emergency program.

It's time for you to justify my vote for you in the last election and work on positive compromise instead of your "my way or the highway" approach to government with the House and Senate to get the Commonwealth functioning. Holding programs for ransom is no way to govern. Are you going to pay the interest on the loans of the cities and organizations that have to operate without state funding that you are blocking? We will, it seems.

Upcoming Member Events

- Suburban Dog Training Club, Obedience Fun Match, January 23, 2016. Will include Novice, Open & Utility, CGC & CGCA testing, and a run for any optional titling class can be requested.
- Lehigh Valley Kennel Club, Canine Learning Experience, January 23, 2016. Breed Booths, Vendors, 5 Health Clinics, Match Show w/ Sweepstakes and Breed (PRE-ENTRY ONLY). For More info go online to Rau Dog Shows and LVKC web page.
- Lehigh Valley Kennel Club, Canine Learning Experience, January 24, 2016. Breed Booths, Vendors, Five Health Clinics, plus Obedience and Rally (Official Show Trial, not a match). More info go online to Rau Dog Shows.

- Suburban Dog Training Club, Obedience Fun Match, February 20, 2016. Will include Novice, Open & Utility, CGC & CGCA testing, and a run for any optional titling class can be requested.
- Suburban Dog Training Club, Obedience Fun Match, March 12, 2016. Will include Novice, Open & Utility, CGC & CGCA testing, and a run for any optional titling class can be requested.
- The Great Dane Club of Lehigh Valley is having their annual Educational Symposium at Caitlyn and Cody's in Quakertown on Saturday, April 9th. Starting at 9:00 am, it concludes about 2 pm. Check in will be from 8:00 am to 8:50 am. There will be three excellent speakers: Dr. Evelyn Galbon discussing Neurology at 9:00 am, Dr. Meryl Littman discussing Vaccinations at 10:45 am, and Dr. Elaine Bolt discussing Ophthalmology following lunch. Price includes Continental breakfast and lunch. Cost \$40. Contact Elaine Miller at 215-249-3148, or by mail: Elaine Miller, 3616 Apple Butter Road, Dublin, PA 18917, to register.
- Borzoi Club of the Delaware Valley, 40th Anniversary Specialty Show at Trenton KC Sunday, May 8, 2016.
- Lower Bucks DTC's agility trial, held in conjunction with Princeton DTC, is May 20-22 at Mercer Co Equestrian Center, 431 Federal City Rd, Pennington, NJ.
- PA Federation of Dog Clubs & PA State Animal Response Team display of sheltering trailer, May 26-30, 2016, Lawrence County Farm Show Grounds, Memorial Day Weekend Cluster, New Castle, PA.
- PA Federation of Dog Clubs, Annual Delegates Meeting, June 16, 2016. Location to be announced.
- KanDo K9 Sports Association has UKC Obedience and Rally Trials July 16th and 17th, Colmar, PA; UKC Rally Trials October 8-9, Colmar, PA; Show N Go "Hair of the Dog" January 1, 2017 Nazareth, PA.
- Lehigh Valley Kennel Club, All-Breed Conformation Show, Obedience and Rally Trial, Sept 17, 2016. This event is part of the: Blue Mountain Cluster, Sept 15-18.
- Borzoi Club Delaware Valley, Supported Entry @ Valley Forge KC Saturday & Sunday, December 10 & 11, 2016.
- Lehigh Valley Kennel Club, All Breed Conformation Show, Obedience and Rally Trial, Dec 17, 2016. This event is part of the: Star of Bethlehem Cluster, Dec 16-18, 2016.

Interstate Transfer of Animals Between Shelters

A bill to stop the importing of unvetted puppies from out of state and unrecorded transfer of puppies for "adoption" (read "sale") between some so-called humane and rescue organizations in Pennsylvania is still desperately needed. Any knowledge of such organizations doing this should be immediately reported to the Bureau of Dog Law Enforcement as a matter of public safety. These "shelters" apply for 501(c)3 status as non-profits. They are, in effect, functioning for profit as "puppy mills." Doing nothing about this directly related disgraceful problem that certainly should affect the public's perception of their honest functions and practices unfortunately casts Humane PA's and the Federated Humane Societies of PA's motives in promoting any legislation in a very self-serving light, in our way of thinking, as they avoid monitoring or policing these rogue rescues. We recommend that you be very careful about supporting their legislative agendas.

The issue about dogs and cats coming through any rescues unvetted and undocumented should not be "a thorny one" for any intelligent person, regardless of his or her affiliation, as it causes exposure of the general public's pets and people to disease from other areas, and purchase of heartbreakingly unhealthy animals as pets. And healthy animals in such shelters are obviously put at risk as well. The current lemon law can only help after the fact. The Federated Humane Societies of PA should be very strong voices to help correct this problem. It should be a much needed amendment to the PA dog laws. We of the PFDC have been trying to get these loopholes stopped for some time. Please notify USDA/APHIS at ace@aphis.usda.gov or phone 301-851-3751 to complain about the transfer of dogs among shelters, especially without adequate health checks.

The following from the latest NAIA newsletter about the state of Colorado's problems is all too typical nationwide. In the midst of holiday pet adoption season, the state of Colorado issued a warning: **check out the animals that are up for adoption.** Some rescue organizations and shelters bring animals to Colorado from out of state and officials are seeing an increasing number of animals with infections coming to Colorado.

Nick Fisher, the program administrator of Colorado's Pet Animal Care and Facilities Act Program (PACFA),

says heartworm and Canine Distemper are relatively new to Colorado. The viruses were likely brought here from animals that were rescued from areas like Texas, where there are known viral outbreaks. "It's a pretty big deal right now," Fisher said. "There's a lot of dogs coming into the state. We've seen an increase in the last three years." Fisher says this is a big problem because rescue animals with possible infections are often immediately adopted, without being checked. In Colorado, the only paperwork required for out of state rescue animals is a CVI, or a Certificate of Veterinary Inspection. Fisher says it often doesn't catch infections and diseases that are crossing borders. "A lot of times [CVI's] are not the greatest things in the world because a lot of times the vet will just look at the dog," Fisher said, "they'll say, 'yea the dog looks good,' and then the dog gets transferred."

In November, Aurora resident Tessa Hock adopted Bentley, a lab mix puppy from Colorado Puppy Rescue, a certified nonprofit organization. At first, everything was fine. Then, Bentley's health began to deteriorate. "He kept having seizure after seizure," Hock said. "The seizures didn't stop, they got worse." Bentley who was rescued from Texas, died of Canine Distemper, a highly contagious and often deadly virus just three weeks after he was adopted. "It was hard to see him go through so much pain because I cared so much about him," Hock said.

In addition to vetting the rescue organization or shelter, state officials recommend these tips for people looking to adopt: **1. Find out what state and county the animal came from, 2. Ask for the pet's CVI, 3. Ask what kind of treatments the pet received after coming to the rescue facility.** As obvious as the advice sounds, experts say you need to do your research before adoptions, especially because most organizations will make you sign a contract releasing them of any financial responsibility.

State officials say any reputable organization will have treated the animal for at least two weeks before putting it up for adoption.

The Bureau of Dog Law Enforcement requires that Everyone has CURRENT DOG LICENSES for their pets

Dog Lovers in Pennsylvania:

All dogs three months or older must be licensed by Jan. 1 of each year. Violators can be cited with a maximum fine of \$300 per violation plus court costs. The cost of a dog license is cheaper than the fine for not having one.

An annual license is \$8.50 and a lifetime license is \$51.50. If the animal is spayed or neutered, the annual fee is \$6.50 and lifetime is \$31.50. Discounts are available to older adults and people with disabilities.

License fees help millions of dogs in the state by funding the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture's Bureau of Dog Law Enforcement which is charged with ensuring the welfare of breeding dogs and puppies in commercial breeding kennels. The Bureau also regulates activities pertaining to dogs that are classified as dangerous, and oversees annual licensure and rabies vaccinations for dogs.

Dog licenses can be purchased from your county treasurer or issuing agent. Please visit **www.license your-dogPA.com** for a listing of all treasurers.

If your dog gets lost, a current license is the fastest way to get him/her back. **LOVE YOUR DOG? LICENSE YOUR DOG!**