The Dachshund Friendship Club

SPRING, 2013

The Dachshund Friendship Club (www.dachshundfriendshipclub.com) is a non-competitive club. Our purpose is to promote responsible pet guardianship, to introduce dogs and their guardians to each other, and to encourage a friendly interaction.

Don’t Pet Me, I’m a Yellow Dog!

A new movement uses yellow ribbons to signal that a dog just wants to be left alone

By Eliza Collins
Reprinted from USA Today, March 20, 2013

Tara Palardy wants you to know the dog you’re approaching might bite your hand off. Palardy, a Canadian dog trainer from Innisfail, Alberta, founded the Yellow Dog Project in an attempt to raise awareness that not all dogs are social. In just over six months, her campaign has attracted more than 12,000 followers from around the world.

The concept is simple: If your dog doesn’t want to be approached, put a yellow ribbon on his collar. The ribbon works as a signal to others to ask before coming near.

It’s part of a growing movement to urge people to use caution when approaching dogs. Palardy got the idea from a website launched in Sweden. Since branding her own project, people around the world have started tying bows.

Palardy loved the Swedish group’s idea but says she didn’t believe the group was doing all it could to spread the message.

Palardy acknowledges the movement can only work if people know about it, so to promote her movement, she created a logo and started a Facebook group for the Yellow Dog Project.

Check out our website at www.dachshundfriendshipclub.com!
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Readers: Feel free to submit articles, jokes, letters, poems, cartoons or anything of general dachshund interest. Send us your forwarding address if you move. If you wish, send an original photo (it is sometimes difficult to reproduce a Xerox) of your dog for reproduction in the newsletter. If you send a photo be sure to label the back of the photo with your name and the dog’s name. Submission of a photo or e-mail gives the right to reproduce it in the newsletter, dachshund annual, or book. If you send a photo by e-mail make sure you label the jpg.

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**Blind Dachshund Paints to Raise Funds for Rescues**

April 19, 2013
By Gayle Hickman

Twelve-year-old Hallie, a dachshund who lives in Centralia, Washington, with her human, Dee Dee Murry, is happily strutting her stuff these days as she paints for a purpose.

Although the dog lost her sight two years ago (to irreversible damage caused by Sudden Acquired Retinal Degeneration Syndrome, aka SARDS), Hallie’s blindness did not keep her down for long. With help from Murry, Hallie has put her artistic abilities to work to help less fortunate dogs.

As an artist herself, Murry realized how much her pet had enjoyed “playing around with the paint” before her blindness.

The loving dog owner gathered the appropriate artist’s tools for her blind dog. Hallie was soon painting so much that Murry started selling them to clear up wall space.

Soon, Hallie’s art sales, complete with a “nose print” signature, were booming.

Because Hallie had been rescued when she was a puppy, Murry felt impelled to donate a portion of the proceeds to Purple Heart Rescue. The rescue, which is located near her home, has received around $13,000 from the artwork sales.

Source: Petside

**An Update on Obie’s Weight Loss Success**

Good news! Obie the overweight dachshund, who we profiled last year, has now lost 40 pounds, down from his max of 77 lbs. He has skin reduction surgery scheduled for late April. Our best wishes to this tough little dog. You can follow his progress on Facebook—biggest loser, doxie edition. Congratulations—now Obie really is one HOT dog!

“To err is human, to forgive, canine.” —Anonymous
Adrian:
This is our daughter, Milan, giving a smooch to our dearly departed pooch, Cassie. We were looking forward to bringing Cassie to the Dachshund Friendship Club Octoberfest since Milan is temporarily living in New York. However, without our pup, whose heart gave out in early July, it just would not be the same. Cassie's heart gave out five days after we met you and Waldo and Patrick in the elevator. Such a coincidence that our daughter is in the same building as you. Maybe we will come some other year.

Thanks for the newsletter, we love it!

Best Wishes,
Chris and Eileen Rodenhizer
Long Beach, California

Enclosed is $25. Please use it for whichever dachsie charity you prefer. My dachsie, Daisy, was sixteen in February. Sabena has been gone for over a year but she is forever with us.

Regards,
Barbara Laskowski
Columbia, Maryland

Dear Adrian:
We hope that Super Storm Sandy was kind to you and yours.

Sadly, our little Hansel had to be put down at age sixteen and a half. We sure miss him and his old man ways but hope he is happy again with his sister, Greta. Maybe in time we will be a daeckel owning family again but not just yet.

Thanks for all you do.
Patricia and Bernard Reuter
Princeton Junction, New Jersey

“Dachshunds are like potato chips. You can never have just one.” —Anonymous
Dear Adrian:

Snapped this picture of Dusty Armstrong not long ago. She looks like the queen of her domain :) She has a stuffed squirrel in her lap, a few more near by, and she’s positioned to see everything going on in the house. Dachshund life doesn’t get much better than that. Thanks again for your DFC newsletters. They’re always great.

Sharon Armstrong
Washington, D.C.

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Dear Adrian:

Here’s a photo of Winnie at a much younger age. I grieve to let you know that he passed away August 31, 2012 after sharing seventeen years and four months of his sweetness with us.

In the past you put many pictures of him in the newsletter. Thank you for your kindness for allowing us to share his beauty with your readers. He was a wonderful long-haired dachshund who gave us so much happiness over his long life. Although he had Cushings Disease he finally succumbed to complications from an enlarged heart. But then we always knew his heart was full of love for his family and his friends.

Our best wishes for continued success with the newsletter and all the wonderful work of the Dachshund Friendship Club.

Christine Cowles
New York City

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Dear Adrian, Patrick and Waldo:

We had to send our Hummel to the Rainbow Bridge this past summer. He was sixteen. Otto at fifteen is still with us. We have eight dogs. The newest, Hansel, is a doxie-mix rescue. He, along with Helga, Heinrich and Willy, are little rascals—as you can see in the drawing entitled “The dogs on Santa’s naughty list.” All the best in 2013.

Vicki, Diana and Cathy Cosgrove
Little Neck, New York

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“Whoever said you can’t buy happiness forgot little puppies.” —Gene Hil
All of the members of the Dachshund Friendship Club know the joy of living with a dachshund. Just watching Waldo in our back yard in Florida is fascinating. The first thing he does after going out in the morning is to patrol the property line to make sure nothing was disturbed while he was asleep. Then after doing his business he spends some time sunbathing. It seems he can never get enough heat. He also pursues his favorite sport which is chasing and capturing small lizards. Over time he has gotten better at catching them. Last year I saw the tail of a lizard hanging out of his mouth and tried to get him to drop it. Instead, he swallowed it. I went out later in the evening and when I came back he had vomited in several places. I took him to the local animal hospital, kept him overnight and hydrated him. The next day he was as chipper as ever and of course the minute he returned to the house he rushed out onto the patio and began looking for lizards. I suppose it is a case of instinct overruling reason.

Another favorite prey of his are rats. They come from a nearby canal. Their appearance excites him greatly. He makes shrill whimpering sounds until he catches one, whereupon he proceeds to strangle it. He will choke the rat then drop the rat and watch it writhe about. Next, he picks it up in his mouth again and delivers the final coup. He is usually quite disappointed when we take away a rat or a mouse that he has killed.

When we take a walk I notice that he is always looking around. The same behavior when he is in a car. As an English friend of mine says, “He is a noticing sort of dog.” Observing other dachshunds here in the city I see that they too are looking around and checking out the scenery.

As the song goes, “There is no other dog like a dachshund.”
Dachshunds are good watchdogs because of their loud fierce barks, which of course, can be annoying at times! They are loved by children because of their size and distinctive cuteness. Even though dachshunds are not known for their ease of training, they are very popular. Some say they are low-slung hounds with big attitudes! Dachshunds are exceedingly loyal, protecting their owners in all circumstances, even when confronted by dogs five or more times their size. They are known to be tough, sweet, cuddly, affectionate, courageous, curious and lively and are always ready to make you laugh.

Illustrations from as far back as the 1500s depict dogs similar to dachshunds. It is a myth that their origin goes as far back as Ancient Egypt. It is more likely that they were developed in Germany in the 18th and 19th century. They were bred to be dogs with excellent digging skills and the ability to chase rabbits, foxes and even more formidable animals such as boars and badgers.

While the most popular dachshunds are black and tan or solid tan (red) in color, many different colors for the breed exist. The reds can vary from strawberry blonde to deep auburn; there are chocolate and gray coats as well. Some interesting colorations are brindles, dapples, and piebalds. The three varieties of dachshund coats—wire haired, smooth and long haired—can be any of the colors.

Dachshunds have been recognized as a breed by the American Kennel Club (AKC) since 1885. Today they consistently rank in the top ten breeds for popularity.

Traditionally, dachshunds have been seen as a symbol of Germany. During World War I, they were not wanted by the people of England or the United States. Americans began calling the dogs “liberty pups,” and political cartoonists drew dachshunds to ridicule the Germans. Some dislike for the dogs lingered during World War II but was not as widespread. Their popularity from 1930 to 1940, before and during World War II, actually advanced from twenty-eighth to sixth place. After the world

“The dachshund is a perfectly engineered dog. It is precisely long enough for a single standard stroke of the back, but you aren’t paying for any superfluous leg.” — Mary Doria Russell
A Covington, Indiana, mini dachshund stepped up to nurse a group of four kittens after their mother abandoned them.

The Blizzard Kittens, as they’ve been called, were born on March 25 on a couple’s front porch a day after a snow storm dumped upwards of nine inches across portions of Indianapolis. Their mother wanted nothing to do with them so the couple sprang into action and took them inside to warm them up.

One of the owners explained: “The kittens were so frozen, cold, and still that we thought they were dead, but we kept rubbing them and had a floor heater on for them. Jojo began licking them and we eventually got them all moving, and Jojo had them nursing from her!”

Dog JoJo decided she was their mother and soon started producing milk. The couple who own her say she acts as if she birthed them herself.

Jojo began “nesting”; she would paw at their box and move them with her nose to her teats. She cleaned their rears, cuddled them, and just basically kicked on the mothering instinct. She rarely leaves the box, and guards them from strangers and her 3-year-old daughter, Turtle. She whines when someone remove one from her box.

The kittens, all boys, have been named after Greek Gods. There’s Poseidon, Hephaestus, Pan and Zephyr.

The boys will be up for adoption in eight weeks time. They will be neutered, microchipped, vaccinated and wormed.

Q: Why was the dog painting on a sunny summer afternoon?
A: He was a hot dog!

...it takes a strong minded human to appreciate a strong-minded dog!” - Mary Webber
Not all dogs who wear the ribbon are aggressive. Many just need space after a surgery, are old or don’t like being approached too quickly.

Toby, a dachshund, is scared of big dogs. The phobia makes it tough for his owner, Alice Thurston, a retired federal employee who lives in Washington D.C.

When Thurston came across a link to the Yellow Dog Project on Facebook, she decided it was worth a try.

“I just get so tired of having to say, ‘You know, my dog is not friendly,’ and to have to go out of my way to avoid other dogs,” Thurston says. “I’m embarrassed by it.”

Jessica Dolce, a professional dog walker from Portland, Maine, walks up to 50 dogs a week. At some point, every dog she walks has needed some space.

However, explaining that to people has created awkward situations. The sheer volume of walks she takes means she spends a lot of time trying to politely tell people to back off.

In 2011, Dolce coined the phrase Dogs In Need of Space (DINOS) to help promote the idea that not all dogs want to be approached when they’re out.

For Kristel Smart, a writer from South Burlington, Vt., DINOS is especially important. Smart suffers from post-traumatic stress disorder and needs her service dog, Murphy, to keep her calm in public.

She recalls how during a walk in her neighborhood, an off-leash dog came running over and, despite Smart’s protests to call him away, the owner kept hollering “He’s friendly!” The dog wasn’t.

Murphy was attacked, and it took him two years to return to a semi-normal state around other dogs. Murphy became a DINOS during his post-attack therapy.

Anytime an unknown dog or person came over, he became panicked and his training was set back months.

“My very well-behaved, well-socialized dog became profoundly leash reactive,” Smart says. “It affected me, too, and my ability to do anything, because I depend on my dog for my life.”

Despite support from people who have DINOS and a growing online presence, the Yellow Dog Project is struggling to spread awareness. Most people don’t understand the significance of the yellow ribbon.

Claudia Kawczynska, editor in chief and co-founder of The Bark magazine, likes the idea of an indicator for dogs who shouldn’t be approached but thinks that in larger communities, it will have a hard time catching on.

“It’s expecting a lot out of people,” Kawczynska says. “Most dog people are very outgoing people because they love dogs and love their dogs to love other dogs.”

“Wake me up as soon as you have that dachshund housetrained!” —Rip Van Winkle
** PRODUCTS & SERVICES **

** WE’VE GOT YOU COLLARED: ** Debbie McLaughlin of Westchester, Pennsylvania, makes these cute custom collars and sells them on Etsy.com. They are durable—made with heavy nylon dog collar webbing, welded D-rings (no chance of the ring opening up if the dog pulls) and quick-release side buckles, making them safe even for larger breeds. They feature adorable dachshunds on an aqua background and are made with beautiful bright grosgrain ribbon embroidered with your dogs’ name. They sell for $28 each, and are assembled one at a time, so please allow 10 days before shipping. Different thread colors are available. So are matching leashes. For more info, go to Etsy.com and search “dachshund collar.”

** PILLOW PET: ** Capture the personality and endearing charm of your favorite dogs with these pillow covers featuring soft watercolor paintings of our fave breed. Screen printed on pure linen, they come personalized with a dog’s name for a memorable gift. They measure 18 inches square, are machine washable and feature a hidden zipper closure. Pillow inserts are sold separately. Other breeds are also available. To order, visit Potterybarn.com.

** HOT DOG! THEY’RE BACK!: ** Nothing says summer like these super colored hot dog shaped plates. West Elm offered them last year and they quickly sold out, but they’re back. Designed by Brooklyn artist Claudia Pearson, they feature our favorite canine doing what they do best—surfing, swimming, and sipping margaritas in style. They are porcelain and measure 11.75”w x 4.25”d x 1”h. They are dishwasher and microwave safe. They are sold individually and cost $16 each. Visit www.westelm.com for more info.

** POODLES AREN’T THE ONLY DOGS THAT LOOK LIKE TOPIARIES: ** Make real topiaries in the shape of your dachshund with these adorable forms, available from Gardeners Supply Company (www.gardeners.com) for $59.95. Made of heavy gauge wire with a double-layer epoxy coating, these forms look great standing guard on the porch or tiptoeing through the tulips. Fill with sphagnum moss and cover with ivy or other vining plants (moss and plants are not included) to add a delightful touch of whimsy to your garden.

** DOUBLE THE TAIL WAGGING FUN!: ** If you or anyone you know happens to have twins, here’s the best twinset gift you could give them: matching (well, kinda) dachsie onesies. Available on Etsy.com from onelilbirdie’s shop. The pair is handpainted and sells for $40 (Canadian).

“I think dogs are the most amazing creatures; they give unconditional love. For me they are the role model for being alive.” - Gilda Radner
A man wrote a letter to a small hotel in a Midwest town he planned to visit on his vacation. He wrote: "I would very much like to bring my dog with me. He is well-groomed and very well-behaved. Would you be willing to permit me to keep him in my room with me at night?"

You, you're welcome to stay here, too!" You're welcome at my hotel. And, if your dog will vouch for you, you're welcome to stay here, too."

An immediate reply came from the hotel owner, who wrote: "SIR: I've been operating this hotel for many years. In all that time, I've never had a dog steal towels, bedclothes, silverware, or pictures off the walls. I've never had to evict a dog in the middle of the night for being drunk and disorderly. And I've never had a dog run out on a hotel bill. Yes, indeed, your dog will vouch for you."

Dogs Welcome