

THE

SCOOP



Newsletter For the Friends
of First Run Dog Run

Vol 1. Feb 2003

WHO KNEW? BREED BASICS

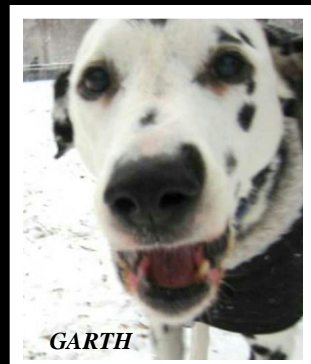
Affectionate, lively, proud to a point of snobbery, the **Daschshund** has long been one of the world's most popular dogs. Though cave drawings suggest the breed originated as long as 5000 years ago, the modern-day Weiner Dog was perfected in the late 1800s.

Daseshunds have been favored as companions since Victorian times, when Prince Albert brought dogs from Germany for his new wife, Queen Victoria. In fact, Queen Victoria erected a tiny statue and tombstone in memory of each of her Daschshunds that passed away.

Since then, Daschshunds have been beloved pets of the aristocrats, socialites and yes, even some common people, throughout Europe and America. They have even served as muses for Pablo Picasso and Andy Warhol.



WILLIE



GARTH

Loyal and affectionate, the **Dalmation** is an old breed that has come a long way to become the familiar companion dog it is today. Though unlikely it originated from Dalmation, on the East Coast of the Adriatic Sea, the breed derives its name from there.

During Victorian times the handsome Dalmation was bred as a carriage dog to protect travellers, horses and coaches.

Once introduced to the United States, they became known as the Fire House Dog. They protected firemen's houses from vandalism and were known to rescue victims trapped inside blazing buildings.

Dalmatians have big litters, up to 15 puppies. Their puppies are born white and spots develop later. In fact, it is the only breed with spots, this its nicknames Plum Pudding and Spotted Dick.

FROM THE MAYOR'S OFFICE

Welcome to the first issue of the new Scoop - the newsletter for and by the First Run community. Over the last few months there have been many changes in the run, not the least of which is the new Small Dog Run, which came into being this past July. The volunteer managers of First Run hope this newsletter will be a forum for sharing news and ideas, announcing projects and events, and generally be fun to read. Also, you can pick up poop with it, which is nice. In coming months, watch this space for updates about projects in the works to maintain and improve our run. For now, get to know the volunteer managers of the run (and their dogs) and how to contact us:

Big run: Gunnar (Elsa) and Carol (Jolly)
Small run: Heather (Neo) and Charlie (Sweet Pea)

We welcome your questions, comments and volunteer skills. You can contact us at firstrun-nyc-owner@yahoo.com anytime. We also have two online usergroups: one for the big dogs, the other for small dogs. It's easy to subscribe. Just visit:

The Big Run: <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/firstrun-nyc/>
or
The Small Run: <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/smalldogrunfolks/>

Click "Join this Group" and you will have access to our e-mail lists, message archives, photos and important information about First Run and dogs in our community.

The Scoop welcomes submissions! If it's First Run-related, send it our way. To submit an article, photo or to find out about placing an ad in The Scoop, email us at firstrunscoop@yahoo.com.

LOOK OUT FOR THE FIRST RUN RESOURCE GUIDE. A HANDY LISTING OF PET FRIENDLY PLACES -N- THINGS IN THE EAST VILLAGE. WILL BE POSTED IN THE GLASS CASE IN THE BIG FOLKS AREA AND ON THE BULLETIN BOARD IN THE SMALL RUN (COMING SOON)!

HOROSCOPIS CANINIS



The beginning of the month you will find yourself much interested in the hunt and exploration rather than the typical winter hibernation of eat and sleep. These are great days to find those squirrels, rats, dust balls or big sticks. Be careful around the middle of the month as your parents are gonna be tired of your constant antics. Make sure you know what you are getting yourself into and try and wait for them to leave the house before getting too adventurous. Communicating your thoughts is easy this month, try hard to do the same for your emotions. Allow yourself to wax sentimental and indulge in extra lovin' and butt sniffin' as this is your time to be lucky in love. A little innocent tail wagging could turn into a full blown romp around the 25th.

NEWS NOOK

Pet Stores Crazy Profitable

By Gunnar Helleckson



Reuters reports that the top two pet stores, PetSmart and Petco, each posted double-digit gains last year. The American Pet Products Manufacturers Association credits the gains with an increase in pet ownership, and increase in spending on pet products, and a recession-proof industry. Pet ownership grew from 54% of U.S. households in 1994 to 62% in 2000, when the total number of households increased by 11 million at the same time. These households are also eating more premium and organic foods, which makes them more likely to buy those same foods for their pets.

**FIRST RUN NEEDS YOUR HELP!
DONATE YOUR TIME AND SKILLS.
EMAIL THE BIG FOLKS AT**

**firstrun-nyc-owner@yahoo.com
OR THE SMALL FOLKS AT
smalldogfolks-owner@yahoo.com
GET INVOLVED IN YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD!**

**WE ALSO NEED
YOUR MONEY!
SEND TAX-
DEDUCTIBLE
CHECKS TO: FIRST
RUN C/O EV PARKS
CONSERVANCY
PO BOX 138
NY NY 10009**

HAVE SOMETHING TO SAY? WRITE TO THE SCOOP! firstrunscoop@yahoo.com

ANIMALS IN NEED



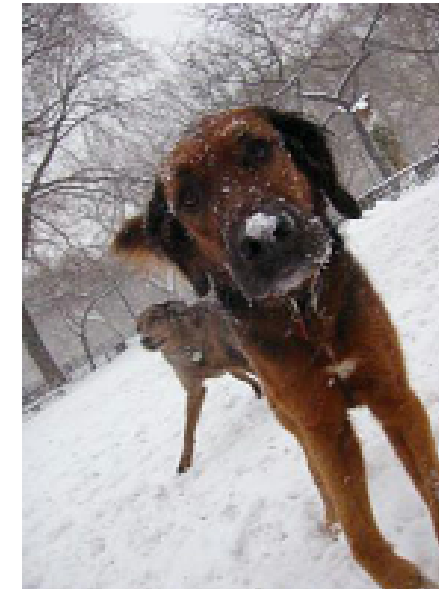
Like it or not, animals are abandoned in First Run on a regular basis. Luckily, we have a committed and generous informal foster care network that has evolved over time; no animal that is abandoned in our run is ever taken to a kill shelter.

Over the last few months our tireless volunteers have taken in many dogs and each of them has ended up in a loving home. If you would like to become involved in our ongoing rescue efforts, please send an email to firstrun-nyc-owner@yahoo.com.

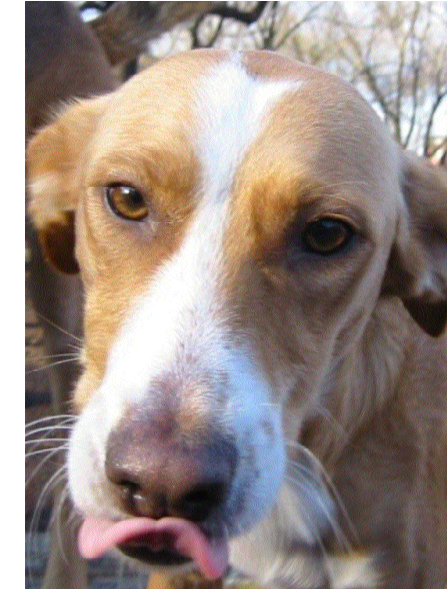
FIRST RUN FOTO GALLERY



Jolly and Shadow enjoying the first snow.
Photo Carol Vinzant



Rosie, Fence jumper and squirrel hunter.
Photo Carol Vinzant



Penny Penny Penny.
Photo Carol Vinzant

WINTER HAZARD! Ethylene glycol (aka anti-freeze) is the Iraq of winter chemicals. Unlike the chemicals in Iraq, you can actually see anti-freeze. Steer clear of the green puddles, they are DOGGIE DEADLY!

MR. SCIENCE ASK MR. SCIENCE?

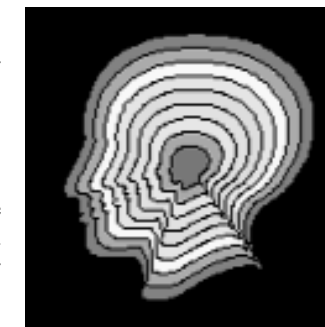
Dear Mr. Science:

During this cold spell, I've been listening to the radio or TV to find out how cold it is before I bring my dog to the run. It seems all I hear about is "WIND CHILL FACTOR" rather than the actual temperature. What's this all about?

Cold Toes in Tompkins

The "Wind Chill Factor" was first developed in Antarctica in 1945 by a group of scientists observing a bucket of water freezing in different weather conditions (in Antarctica, watching a bucket of water freeze is free along with temperature, affected freeze time, and thus was revised several times to supposedly reflect frostbite time for

So what's wrong with all of this? Plenty. A bucket of water heat very differently than a person in winter clothing. steady wind, introducing further error in these calculations. a "Wind Chill Factor" of 17 degrees F below zero. At a true cold freezes the lungs and nose. Mr. Science can tell you of very limited significance to a person wearing winter has a relatively thin coat, since that approximates uncov-wearing a good full-coverage coat, the real temperature ground temperature and your dog is (probably!) barefoot. Frostbite is rare in dogs, most frequently occurring on the feet, eartips, tail, and scrotum (ouch!).



and exposed skin are both uninsulated surfaces, and lose Reported wind speeds frequently measure gusts rather than A 5-degree F temperature with a 25-MPH wind will result in 17 below, simply breathing is difficult because the extreme from personal experience that "Wind Chill" is an indicator clothing. The Wind Chill Factor does have value if your dog ered skin. If your dog has a heavy natural coat or will be becomes more important, especially since that controls the

**Eminent economist Hernando DeSoto has two dogs named Marx and Engels.
Why so named?**

"They are both German, hairy and have no respect for property."

EDITORIAL LET'S TALK BUTT

Now I don't know what you think of Mayor Bloomberg's successful campaign to outlaw smoking in bars; if I want to avoid smoky bars I just don't go into one, no help from the police needed, thank you very much. So *smoking* butts really doesn't bother me, but I'll tell you what has been shivering my timbers, and that's *sniffing* butts.

That's right, sniffing butts - and I've been noticing way too much of it in the dog run lately. Seems I can't let the pups stretch their legs without seeing some hound getting snout deep in the southbound end of a northbound canine. Now I'm all for saying hello and getting to know your neighbor, but this is out of hand with no end in sight.

One explanation is an old Native American story concerning how all once dogs came together for a great feast. On their way to the feast, each dog hung their tail on the hooks near the door, this being a fancy affair. As the party progressed, one of the cook-fires got out of hand and the whole place caught fire. all the dogs had to run out in a big hurry and only had time to grab whichever tail they could. So that's why, to this day, dogs sniff at each other's rear ends, still searching for their own tail at last. Cute story, but so's the one about the Easter Bunny and personally I don't believe it and neither should you. Let's stick together and put an end to this nasty business. No butts about it.

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