

## Spring Brings Little Paws

Spring brings with it litters of kittens, puppies, bunnies, etc. As the warmer weather fosters more outside time, those animals that go into season bring forth litters.



Are you looking for a new addition? If you are going to expand your family with:

- A kitten - consider adopting two kittens or a mother/kitten combination. Kittens are active and having a playmate will keep them busy, but having a mother will teach good life skills
- A puppy – do your homework on the breed or breed mix for their requirements compared to your lifestyle (as you are making a long term commitment), remember the extra training involved (potty, chewing, etc.), even though all dogs need training puppies require more attention due to developmental needs
- An older animal companion – be patient during the adjustment period, be prepared to provide the training and guidance needed for the transition to your home, and be rewarded by love & harmony [Since puppies & kittens are the most adoptable, you will be saving more than one life]

N2paws is offering a spring special – Buy 1 Get 1 Treats 🍪 (expires 6/30/13)



## Changing Seasons

*Spring finally sprinted past Old Man Winter and the “April Fools” threat of snow, and even jogged past the May Flowers snow showers. We are finally catching up on the drought of 2012. With the rains come thunder & lightning, muddy feet, and the resurgence of pesky pests (fleas and ticks).*



*If your dog has a problem with thunder, grab those body wraps and shirts (t-shirts or Thundershirts), and remind him what it feels like to be safe and calm. Throwing in some TTouch®, flower essences, or herbs if needed.*

*To prepare for flea and tick season, check with your veterinarian for the latest products. If you are concerned about products containing insecticides, there are natural alternatives (sprays, powders, and a tag you can hang from the collar). Consult your vet before using on a very young, very old, or sick animal.*

**🐾** *Get ready for muddy feet. If you have trouble wiping your dog’s feet, start by teaching her to “give” her paw and reward (treat 🍪, chin scratch, or praise). Doing daily TTouch® down the legs and stroking the paws is a great precursor to the paw “give” exercise (see training tip below).*

## Feature Companion for this issue: Military Dogs



With respect to Memorial Day, I thought it would be a good time to honor those canines who serve and sacrifice to protect our freedom. Dogs play an increasingly important role in military service. Their ability to detect explosives and alert their handlers of impending danger is priceless. Our canine patriots have received more recognition since one of their own participated in the raid on bin



Laden's compound. You should take a few minutes to honor the unique and inspiring benefits you receive from your companion animal (and don't forget to take a moment to honor those who have crossed the rainbow bridge). Also, you may want to consider checking out some of the charities that give back to our 2-legged and 4-legged service members: <http://soldiersbestfriend.org/>, <http://www.pawsandstripes.org/>, <http://www.militaryworkingdogadoptions.com/>, <http://guardianangelsforsoldierspet.org/>, etc. (always research charities to ensure they fit your donation philosophy – you can check charities at <http://www.charitynavigator.org/>, the above charities are examples and not a personal endorsement from N2paws).

### Training Tip of the Month:

**Do you have any problems trimming your dog's toenails? Spend a couple of minutes each day (nothing more than petting time), and do some stroking from the shoulders and hips, down the leg, and off the paw (try going slowly off the paw). Do some TTouch® down the legs and on the paws. Let your dog know how it feels to have his legs and paws touched in a nice and calming way. After some stroking and TTouch®, spend a bit longer actually holding and lightly massaging the paw (handling and looking at each toenail). Praise during the time you are actually holding the paw. You can begin to ask for the paw and put it on cue with a word, such as "paw" (avoid "give" or "shake" if you have used them for something else). A good way to encourage the "paw" cue is to give a high value treat  when starting out, as long as you can hold the paw while your dog is relaxed (not pulling back).**

## Just for Fun & Heart Tugs

### Doga & Meowoga Corner

*Our canines and felines are masters of yoga – stretching, relaxing, and becoming centered.*

*Our companion animals have a better ability than we do to be flexible. They are often acrobatic and entertaining. One thing you want to do is be observant about how flexible they are and what limitations they may have, for example if Buster likes to have his hind end rubbed or scratched he will have the tendency to turn his head to look back at you. Observe if he always looks back the same way (right or left). That may be due to an injury, weakness, or just habit. Doga is a good way to teach awareness through movement in a safe way and increase flexibility.*



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## Quotes of the Month:

**"All the great things are simple, and many can be expressed in a single word: freedom, justice, honor, duty, mercy, hope." - Winston Churchill**

**"As we express our gratitude, we must never forget that the highest appreciation is not to utter words, but to live by them" - John F. Kennedy**

These quotes represent honor and sacrifice - but can be applied to how we live our lives and treat our animal companions.

## Announcements:

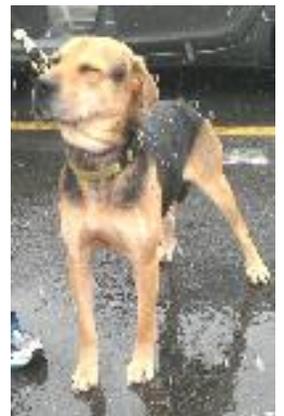
**N2paws will be hosting the first class in a new facility (Peculiar, MO), in June. An open house will be scheduled for late summer or early fall, after additional enhancements are made. The N2paws facility is in the beginning stage, but is ready to welcome dogs, cats, and small animal companions. It will continue to mature and grow with time.**

## Feature Adoptable Companion(s) for this issue: Robbie



Robbie is a sweet and quiet boy (Beagle/Shar Pei mix) who wants nothing more than to curl up with you, put his head on your hand, or give you a hug. He has had a very rough beginning. He was bounced from rural pound to high kill shelter, and when adopted out (as an untrained puppy), he was left alone and unsupervised with the free run of the house. His family came home to find that he got into the pantry and had food items scattered – so back to the pound he went. He was rescued from death row and brought into MOGS, where he got some TLC and training. He most likely encountered some abuse, as he tucks his tail and moves away from loud voices.

He is still a puppy and loves to chew, so he needs appropriate toys. He will chase cats with a high “prey” drive, so a home without cats is a must. He gets along with other dogs of all sizes, but needs a proper introduction so that a new dog doesn’t just run and jump on him. After he meets them he is all play. He has been with a family that has children and gets along fine, but the perfect home will have older children. Unfortunately, he had a child visitor in an adoptive home who stepped on him and wouldn’t get off. He eventually responded with a quick nip on the leg. The child’s parents indicated she has had problems with dogs (and she should have been supervised!), so Robbie will need to be in a home where he will be protected and set up for success. A home with other dogs and older children would be just fine. Robbie has such a sweet and quiet personality, he is just looking for a safe and loving forever home. The home that gets him will be endlessly blessed.



If you would like to meet Robbie or any of his fellow foster pals, check them out at Missouri German Shepherd Rescue: <http://mogsrescue.rescuegroups.org>, where their mission is to help animals that cannot help themselves. All dogs are spayed/neutered and current on shots. N2paws offers discounted services to help transition any of the MOGS dogs to their new forever homes. If you aren’t in a place to bring in a new canine family member at this time, please consider a donation to help the cause of changing one dog at a time.



## Upcoming Events for N2paws & other fun stuff

**Jun 9 – Dog-n-Jog, Country Club Plaza, KCMO, 7-10:30am**

**Jun 15 – TTouch for Dogs workshop, Peculiar, MO 12-4pm**

**Jul 7 – Running of the Dogs, Independence, MO, Waterfall Park**

[www.enter2run.com](http://www.enter2run.com) (to register), sponsored by MoKan Boxer Rescue

**Jul 21 – Suds of Fun, U-Wash-Puppy, Shawnee, KS 4-8pm**

**Aug 10 – Tails on the Trails, Lenexa, KS, Ad Astra Park 9am-1pm**



 N2paws carries a nice variety of high quality treats for dogs & cats (liver bites, grain-free treats, bully sticks). Contact [pat@n2paws.com](mailto:pat@n2paws.com) or 816-522-7005 for flavors.

 N2paws teaches the TTouch® method to influence behavior and well-being.

**If you would like to learn more about TTouch, you may contact N2paws by email: [pat@n2paws.com](mailto:pat@n2paws.com) or 816-522-7005, for a private session, group workshop or a public speaking opportunity. Also, visit our website [www.n2paws.com](http://www.n2paws.com), for interesting links and current event schedule.**

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