



Next general membership meeting:

**Wednesday June 18, 2008—*7:00 PM
Gander Mountain Germantown**

***The board will meet at 6:30 PM**

Welcome to the June edition of the Dog Federation of Wisconsin electronic Newsletter.

While the legislature has adjourned for this year it doesn't mean that the Dog Federation has been resting on its laurels. In the past (after legislative sessions), this "down" time was used to regroup and take a breather, DFOW can no longer afford the down time. We are taking advantage of this time to educate, organize and plan ahead.

There is so much to do before the 2009 session starts. We know that legislation to regulate breeders in this state is not a dead issue; it's coming back. We also know that there is an election in November that could swing parties in several areas of the state. All 99 representatives are up for election in November as well as 1/3 of the senators. By the time the ink is dry on their nomination papers on July 8th some districts will already be decided. Those running unopposed will technically have been elected that same day.

While we have been making progress, there is a long road ahead.

While DFOW listens to constructive ideas and suggestions the board and its officers cannot possibly look into everything suggested. Just like any small business without a research department, you need to help by doing your own research. If you have an idea or suggestion that you think DFOW should consider, it would be helpful for you to delve into the situation and submit a written proposal to the board on how it can be implemented and what it would entail and include the costs. Currently the board and officers have been working on a shoestring both financially and in manpower. DFOW has monthly meetings on the 3rd Wednesday of the Month. If you wish to submit your information prior to a meeting so that the officers and board can review it prior to the meeting, feel free to do so.

While meetings have never been a requirement for membership, they are always a good thing to attend to stay abreast of what is happening in different areas of the state. The meetings touch on some things that are happening in local municipalities, as well as what our lobbyist has suggested

Continued on page 2

and what things we need to start planning for x amount of months in the future. We have instituted an electronic newsletter, website, monthly meetings and email communication. While all of these are worthwhile endeavors, individuals are still needed to help keep them up-to-date.

While this may sound like a broken record, it is a necessary evil. In order to grow and stay on top of the issues, individuals need to step forward to help out. The core group of this organization has their plates full and there are still many things in the hopper

that need to be done. It has always been said that the more people that lend a hand the burden is less for all.



For those able to attend our legislative seminar on Friday the 13th despite the terrible weather conditions, thank you! From all the conversations taking place following the seminar, it appears to have been a success and it has started everyone thinking about future events. I want to send a thank you to Western Waukesha Dog Training Club for the donation of their facility for our use.

We will be discussing some additional events which will include legislators and / or possible new legislators at the meeting on the 18th.

*Joy Brand
President*

Membership Renewals were due January 1, 2008

If you or your club have not renewed your membership in DFOW for this year, please do so by June 30, 2008. Many DFOW individual members are also their club delegates. If you are not renewing your individual membership because of your delegate status within your club, please let Toni Raden, DFOW membership Chair know this. You may contact Toni at: **HICHAPARAL@aol.com**

On page 4 of this newsletter there is a “new member application”. If you are renewing, just write renewal across the top of the application and send it to Wendy Biewer who’s contact information is shown on the bottom of the application.

Local Communities within the State.....

It is vitally important that you check your local community government agendas on a weekly basis to determine if local authorities are trying to take away the possibility of owning the pets of your choice. *Please notify doglaw “at” dfow “dot” org if your community is considering an animal ordinance change.**

City of Cudahy Alert: City officials are considering enacting breed specific legislation. At this time, we have been told that they are mainly targeting “pit bulls”. However, we all know that typically this will include any square jawed muscular dog as there is no such breed as a “pit bull”. This will end up including all Bull Terrier breeds and possibly traditional guardian breeds such as Dobermans, Rottweillers, and GSD’s.

After researching the existing code for City of Cudahy, we came across some alarming statements in their code. For example, if your dog is not licensed, a police officer **MAY COME INTO YOUR HOME AND TAKE YOUR DOG (OR CAT)** and if the officer can’t catch it they **MAY KILL YOUR PET?**

Below are parts of the Cudahy ordinances that pertain dogs. To see complete ordinance, go to <http://www.municode.com/Resources/gateway.asp?pid=19948&sid=49>
<http://www.ci.cudahy.wi.us/Index.htm> --- Cudahy Website. At bottom of home page, is link to Municipal Codes.

(5) UNLICENSED DOGS. *In Part* **Any police officer may enter upon the premises of the owner or keeper of any unlicensed dog and/or cat for the purpose of seizing it,** and if after request therefor, the owner or keeper or an immediate member of the owner's or keeper's family of suitable age and discretion refuses to deliver the unlicensed dog and/or cat to the officer **and the officer cannot with reasonable effort catch the unlicensed dog and/or cat, he may kill it.**

(7) IMPOUNDING OR KILLING SUCH DOGS AND/OR CATS. Any person may impound any such dog and/or cat and **any police officer may kill any such dog and/or cat which habitually pursues any vehicle upon any street, alley or highway of the City or which assaults or attacks any person in the City. "**

The City of Cudahy has more problems looming than just the possibility of BSL. ***If you are a Cudahy resident and pet owner, you apparently haven’t any Federal Constitutional fourth amendment rights!***

Town of Grafton—Update: The Town Board voted in an acceptable animal code that does not contain limits and uses “common sense” to address nuisance violations.

City of Mosinee— Update: This city removed the BSL language and created a law that puts problem dogs into two groups—menacing and dangerous. However, the problem with this type of law, is that it does not take into account a canine’s natural hunting ability. If a dog catches/kills a rabbit or rodent, they COULD be deemed to be a menacing animal.....

<http://www.wausaudailyherald.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20080609/WDH0101/80609170/1981>

City of Brookfield—Alert: DFOW has been notified that the City of Brookfield is considering pet limits. At this time, no one has stepped forward with the City agendas or existing animal code in order for us to help. If you know any Brookfield residents, please have them contact us so that we can get more information to send out alerts to area dog clubs.

***Due to automatic spam programs, we are forced to delete actual email addresses on our website. To contact us, please delete the spaces and change the word “at” to a “@” and change the word “dot” to a “.”

Doglaw “at” dfow “dot” org

Dog Federation of Wisconsin, Inc.

Application for Individual Membership

1) Name: _____
Last First M.I.

2) Address: _____
 City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

3) Telephone: (_____) _____ E-mail: _____

Do you belong to any All-Breed, Specialty, or Obedience Clubs, or Humane or other dog organizations?
 YES _____ NO _____ If YES, please explain: _____

Are you an appointed delegate to the DOG FEDERATION OF WISCONSIN, INC., by any club?
 YES _____ NO _____ If YES, which club(s)? _____

6) Do you currently own a dog or dogs? YES _____ NO _____ If YES, which breed(s)?

7) Do you have any interests that could be helpful to the DOG FEDERATION OF WISCONSIN, INC.?

- | | | |
|--|-----------------------------------|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Article Writing | <input type="checkbox"/> Lobbying | <input type="checkbox"/> Legal |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Education | <input type="checkbox"/> Printing | <input type="checkbox"/> Professional |
| <input type="checkbox"/> DFOW Newsletter | <input type="checkbox"/> Computer | <input type="checkbox"/> DFOW Booth |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Fundraising | <input type="checkbox"/> Research | <input type="checkbox"/> Public Speaking |

Statement: I agree to abide by the Constitution and By-Laws of the DOG FEDERATION OF WISCONSIN, INC. and accept email communications from DFOW for the purpose of conducting DFOW business.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

For Voting Memberships Only (\$25.00): Please have two members in good standing become acquainted with you OR have the secretary of the All-Breed, Specialty, or Obedience Clubs you belong to sign as a sponsor. You may email doglaw "at" dfow "dot" org if you do not personally know any DFOW members, or belong to any dog clubs.

Sponsor Statement: It is my belief that the above named person would be an asset to the DFOW; working to preserve our right to own dogs.

Name (Please print): _____ Organization: _____

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Name (Please print): _____ Organization: _____

Signature: _____ Date: _____

This application must be submitted to the Board of Directors of the DOG FEDERATION OF WISCONSIN, INC. with individual dues of \$25.00 for a Voting Membership, OR \$15 for Non-voting Membership. This membership fee is due annually by January 1st. If you join in the last two months of a year, you will not be subject to the next year's dues.

Make check payable to **DFOW** and mail to: Wendy Biewer, Treasurer, W825 Froelich Road, Sullivan, WI 53178

NOTICE:

DFOW was recently approached by a member of the Irish Setter Club of Milwaukee. This member suggested that we try and get DFOW member clubs to volunteer at area activities with a DFOW booth. We think that this is a wonderful idea as it gives clubs the opportunity to volunteer no matter where they are located in the State. This should also help clubs meet one or more of the requirements of AKC to be eligible to hold a show.

Local clubs hosting this type of event would receive master copies of DFOW literature, but they would have to pay for the cost of reproduction. Local clubs would also be responsible for the booth fee (if applicable) and supplying the volunteers to man the booth.

Other ways that local clubs can help DFOW:

- ⇒ One large raffle item (or even an entire raffle) at an event with the proceeds going to DFOW.
 - ⇒ X amount of entry fees designated for DFOW.
 - ⇒ Run through or match events with all or a portion of the fees going to DFOW.

We are planning some exciting things in the upcoming months—a legislative day in Madison, our Fun Match in Ixonia in the fall, and some one on one “town hall” meetings with politicians who are running for election (they need to understand that we own dogs and we vote). All of these activities will take funds to be successful and we need the help of all dog owners in our State.

Contact Tracey Johnston if your club would like to help DFOW. Due to automatic spam programs, we are forced to delete actual email addresses on our website. To contact Tracey, please delete the spaces and change the word “at” to a “@” and change the word “dot” to a “.”
AldendaleESS “at” sbcglobal “dot” net



What DFOW can do for your club and members:

Provide a speaker to address your club to explain the animal rights agenda and how it effects all pet owners.

Provide materials that could be used to educate politicians.

Provide support, testimony and materials to help in local community matters.

Arrange seminars on how to correctly deal with public officials.

Provide details on how to make your community “pet friendly”.

Are you proactive or a victim?

In today's political climate, it is vitally important that you, the dog owner, take a proactive stance to protect your hobby. If you don't take the time to introduce yourself to your ELECTED OFFICIALS and those running for office, **you are a victim**. YOU are allowing those officials to make decisions that will affect your interests and hobbies without your input. To be credible with public officials, you need to introduce yourself and keep up communications prior to any issues that will affect your interests.

YOU own dogs and YOU VOTE — don't ever forget this. YOU are an expert in regards to dogs. Make your elected officials aware of this fact so that when an issue arises that involves dogs, YOU are the person your representative is most likely to contact for answers.

The importance of Public Speaking

Many individuals can be uncomfortable speaking in a public setting or when dealing with public officials. There is really no reason to be this way. When you put your priorities in order and realize that you may be the only expert that your representative has to rely on when it comes to dogs, the fear goes away. You are fighting for your dogs and your hobby. People outside of the fancy do not understand what your hobby entails and it is up to YOU to make them understand.

Dog Owners versus Dog Owners

Within the fancy itself, owners of non-hunting or other non-working dogs cannot understand the passion that a sled dog owner or hunting breed owner feels for their venue. Those people cannot understand why there may be 50 dogs on one person's property as the hobbyist works towards their goal of winning the Iditarod. They cannot understand the work and commitment that is put into creating a Field Trial Champion. Remember that all things are not black and white—there are various shades of gray. Until you truly understand all aspects of all dog venues, please do not make inflammatory comments that can be used to turn the fancy against itself.

One DFO officer was truly horrified to hear the comment that "X rescue group won't join DFO because they don't believe in animal welfare". Nothing could be further from the truth. DFO supports animal welfare and protecting the rights of animal owners. We believe in protecting our constitutional rights that include protection from illegal search and seizure. All over the country animal control officers with an animal rights agenda are abusing their powers and becoming "judge and jury" for animal owners. Many times there is no "due process". We are trying to prevent these types of abuses from happening in the State of Wisconsin.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

We are in need of volunteers for:
Fund Raising
Community Education
Article Writing
Public Speaking at Dog Clubs

**If you can devote a few hours of your time to help, please contact
DOGLAW "at" DFO "dot" ORG**