



There is no president's letter this month.

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DFOW Officers & Board

President Joy Brand
Vice President Tracey Johnston
Secretary Heidi Braun
Treasurer Wendy Biewer
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Public Hearing

Assembly Committee on Consumer Protection—
Joint Hearing with the Senate Committee on Small Business, Emergency Preparedness, Technical Colleges, and Consumer Protection

AB 250 and SB 208

Wednesday September 23, 2009

10:00 AM
Room 412 East
State Capitol

<http://committeeschedule.legis.state.wi.us/files/HearingNotices/09-09-23-1000-2009ACON-12299.html>



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So what is the problem with Health State of Emergency proclamations? Editorial by Tracey Johnston, September 15, 2009

In 1996 I became an active canine participant. All things dog was my motto. From training to competition, from show chairman to hunt test secretary, my life revolved around my dogs. In 2004 I became aware of the looming threat to dog ownership and breeders. Thus I deviated just a tad from my previous life and included the world of politics with my love of dogs.

As a means of continuing my education regarding the political front, I began reading as well as viewing political discussions regarding all topics. Because of this, I have become aware of an insidious Wisconsin law. Earlier this week, there were some political discussions regarding a Department of Homeland Security notice on swine flu as well as a bill introduced in MA. The [*"Pandemic Response Bill" 2028](#) was passed by the Massachusetts state Senate on April 28 and is now awaiting approval in the House. A few highlights of this bill are:

- to require the owner or occupier of premises to permit entry into and investigation of the premises;
- to close, direct, and compel the evacuation of, or to decontaminate or cause to be decontaminated any building or facility, and to allow the reopening of the building or facility when the danger has ended;
- to decontaminate or cause to be decontaminated, or to destroy any material;

The article that I read alarmed me to such an extent that I sent the link to a State Senator's aide. I was not at all happy with what she found out. The State of WI already has a law on the books regarding this type of situation. This bill was signed into law in 2002 by then Governor Scott McCallum. This law allows the Governor to declare a State of Emergency in regards to pandemic or biological threat (**[in April Governor Doyle declared a "Public Health Emergency"](#)). A very small part of the law reads:

*** [252.041](#) *Compulsory vaccination during a state of emergency. (1) Except as provided in sub. (2), during the period under which the department is designated as the lead state agency, as specified in s. 250.042 (2), the department, as the public health authority, may do all of the following as necessary to address a public health emergency:*

(a) Order any individual to receive a vaccination unless the vaccination is reasonably likely to lead to serious harm to the individual or unless the individual, for reasons of religion or conscience, refuses to obtain the vaccination.

*(b) Isolate or quarantine, under *** [s. 252.06](#), any individual who is unable or unwilling for reasons specified under sub. (1) to receive vaccination under par. (a). (2) The department shall promulgate rules that specify circumstances, if any, under which vaccination may not be performed on an individual.*

So you might ask, what does this have to do with our dogs? See the above paragraph – ISOLATE OR QUARANTINE. Quarantine may be at a facility, outside of your home.

If you and your family were quarantined, who would take care of your animals? Would law enforcement allow pets to accompany owners to the place of quarantine? I highly doubt it. Many fanciers have emergency procedures in place to cover their dogs in the case of a natural disaster, but how many of us would know where to begin to protect our dogs in the case of a pandemic state of emergency?

As legislative liaison for my parent club, it is my job to go over bills from many states regarding dogs. I believed that legislation regarding dogs were the only bills that had the language “the department shall promulgate rules”. In other words, the rules are written after the bill is passed and when it comes to dogs, those rules are typically written by people who are not the true experts on dogs. I have to wonder if the same applies to matters of public health and emergency procedures.

I don't have a problem being told to stay in my home in case of a health emergency. I would have a problem being dragged out of my home and taken to a quarantine facility and being told my dogs would have to be left behind. Perhaps I've watched the movie “Outbreak” too many times. Perhaps reading assignments in high school that included books written by George Orwell is the culprit. All I know is that with so much government intervention into our lives, especially under the guise of public health, Nanny Government really terrifies me.

It becomes even more worrisome when I take the time to wonder, what would happen to my dogs? Who could possibly give them the love and care that I provide them with? Certainly no government or private agency could meet my personal high standards of care. We've all heard the horror stories in the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina –dogs “rescued” one day and mysteriously disappearing the next, dogs being transported out of State and not being recovered.

What could we do to protect our animals in case of a forced out of home quarantine? Ask fellow fanciers to take care of our dogs? What if they live in communities with pet limits? Would they be forced to turn them over to animal control so that they could be spayed/neutered or subject to over-vaccination as SOP for shelters is to automatically give them vaccination cocktails? Yes, it is a frightening scenario and one that I don't have answers for



* <http://www.mass.gov/legis/bills/senate/186/st02pdf/st02028.pdf>

** <http://www.wisgov.state.wi.us/docview.asp?docid=16540>

*** <http://nxt.legis.state.wi.us/nxt/gateway.dll?f=templates&fn=default.htm&d=stats&jd=top>

If you'd like to read additional information regarding this topic please visit:

<http://www.wicapitolwatch.com/page42.html>

<http://thetruthusa.blogspot.com/>

Dog Federation of Wisconsin

Obedience "Show & Go" (run-thru)

Sunday November 1, 2009

Western Waukesha County Dog Training Club - Ixonia, WI

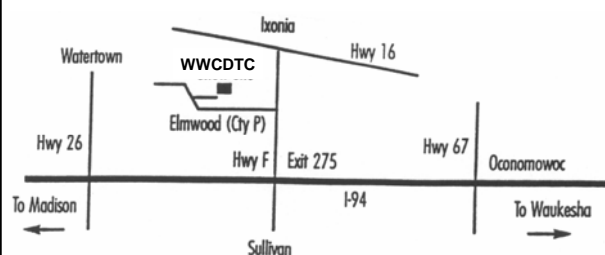
From I-94:

***Exit 275 County F, Ixonia/Sullivan exit.** Go North on F about 4 miles. Turn West (left) on Elmwood Dr. / County P (just before train tracks). Turn East (right) on Cedar Dr.

From the East:

Take Hwy 16 (about 5 miles west of Oconomowoc). Turn South on County F. (Ixonia). Turn West (right) on Elmwood. Turn East (right) on Cedar Dr.

Our Building is at the end of Cedar Dr.



Building phone number: 920-206-9311.

**Do not get off at exit 295 Hwy F in Waukesha. You must go 20 miles further west.*

Gate Entries 9:30 AM – 11:00.
Obedience begins at 10:00 AM

Dogs must be leashed at all times except when being exhibited. Please clean up after your dog. Reasonable corrections allowed.

Fees: \$5.00 in advance, \$6.00 at the door.
2nd and additional entry of same dog is
\$3.00 in advance, \$4.00 at the door.
Pre-entries due by October 28, 2009

Bake Sale!

Circle class entered:

Novice

Open A Open B Jump Height: _____
Utility A Utility B Jump Height: _____

Dog's Call Name: _____ Breed: _____

Owner's Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Telephone: _____ Email: _____

I assume all financial liability for the acts of my dog(s), myself, my guests or invitees, and hold harmless the Dog Federation of Wisconsin, WWCDTC, and any member or volunteer at this event from any liability and agree to indemnify Dog Federation of Wisconsin, WWCDTC, and any member or volunteer from any claims arising there from.

Signature: _____

Date: _____

Amount Enclosed \$ _____ (Payment must accompany form - make checks payable to DFOV)

Mail to: Tracey Johnston, CO/Power Parts, 742 S. Indiana Ave., West Bend, WI 53095

Dog Federation of Wisconsin, Inc. Renewal Membership Form

*2 delegates with email access are required for club memberships

Type I – DELEGATE MEMBER. Open to all Kennel Clubs, Specialty Clubs, Obedience Clubs, Humane Societies and independent dog fancier organizations, which support the objectives of the Federation. Delegates of the above organizations shall be ascertained on each January 1st. **Type I membership will be a voting membership.** Type I member organization shall designate two delegates. In addition, each Type I member organization may designate up to two alternate delegates. The delegates and alternates, so designated shall remain duly accredited representatives of such member organization until the Secretary of the Federation has been notified in writing of a change. Any one delegate or alternate delegate can represent only one organization.

Type II – INDIVIDUAL MEMBER. Open to all individuals who support the objectives of the Federation. Type II membership is a voting membership.

Type III – ASSOCIATE MEMBER. Non-voting membership open to all individuals who support the objectives of the Federation.

Type IV – BUSINESS SPONSORSHIP MEMBER. Open to all professional or commercial organizations who wish to support the Federation objectives. This is a non-voting membership. There are two sponsorship fee schedules. For \$100.00 per year your business will be listed as a supporter of DFOW on the official DFOW website. For \$250.00 per year there will be a link on the official DFOW website to your company. The Business Sponsorship is subject to DFOW board approval.

* Delegate responsibilities include forwarding to their club membership DFOW alerts and newsletters. It is vitally important that your membership receive alerts as soon as possible, especially when it comes to local legislation as in many cases there is less than 24 hours notice to act.

CLUB NAME: _____ # OF MEMBERS: _____

WEBSITE: _____ Will you or your club accept email communication as a means of conducting DFOW business? Yes: _____ No: _____

INDIVIDUAL OR DELEGATE #1 NAME: _____		EMAIL: _____	
ADDRESS: _____			
TELEPHONE: _____		**INTERESTS: _____	

DELEGATE #2 NAME: _____		EMAIL: _____	
ADDRESS: _____			
TELEPHONE: _____		**INTERESTS: _____	

ALTERNATE DELEGATE: _____		EMAIL: _____	
ADDRESS: _____			
TELEPHONE: _____		**INTERESTS: _____	

**Interests that would be helpful to the DOG FEDERATION OF WISCONSIN, INC. include: Article Writing, Lobbying, Legal, Education, Printing, Professional, DFOW Newsletter, Computer, DFOW Booth, Fundraising, Research, Public Speaking

CLUB CORRESPONDING SECRETARY: _____

ADDRESS: _____

EMAIL: _____ TELEPHONE: _____

Membership fee schedule (membership follows the calendar year—Jan through Dec):

Individual Voting Membership \$25.00		Individual Non-Voting Membership \$15.00	
Club or Organization Memberships			
25 and fewer members 2 votes— \$40.00	26-50 members 2 votes— \$50.00	51-99 members 2 votes— \$75.00	100 or more members 2 votes— \$100.00
\$100.00 Business Membership— listed on DFOW website as a supporting organization		\$250.00 Business Membership— Link from DFOW website to your website	

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

What are a club delegate's responsibilities?

The club delegates to DFOW perform a very important duty for their club. They are the ones that must disseminate the information provided by DFOW to their club's members; sometimes an immediate response is required.

Years ago, newsletters and other pertinent information had been mailed to member clubs. This is no longer an option. Local legislative matters happen quickly—sometimes with less than 24 hours notice. DFOW requires two club delegates to be on the DFOW yahoo email group. This is our only means of communication with our club and individual members.

There exists a patchwork of local community animal and zoning rules in our State. Changes to local ordinances can happen quickly; before anyone even knows that they have been considered. For too many years, dog people have not paid attention to what is going on in their communities and rules and regulations have been put in place regarding your ability to keep your dogs. These rules and regulations are typically put into code because of neighborhood disputes or the actions of a few irresponsible pet owners. Within the last few years when we have been asked for help, DFOW has given information to local municipal officials that have considered changing their existing animal codes. We believe that grass roots efforts by responsible animal owners to educate elected officials can help them make informed decisions regarding code changes. This is where the club delegates come into play.

When DFOW is alerted to a possible code change, we send out an alert on the Yahoo list. Delegates must immediately get this information to their club members. As DFOW does not have access to individual club rosters, we do not know if there are members in the community considering animal code changes. In one recent case, DFOW was alerted only 6 hours before the meeting was taking place. It has been our experience that if responsible animal owners appear at the initial meeting and are polite and give expert advise, the elected officials are more inclined to not react in haste by creating a burdensome code change. This is the primary reason that we must use an email system; there is typically no time to compose, print, then USPS mail alerts.

DFOW requires two delegates with email access to insure that if one of the delegates is out of town or is having computer problems, someone can still get important information to their club members.

Delegates are also the voice of their club when it comes to voting matters. If there is legislation being considered at the State level, DFOW will gather all of the information regarding a bill. That information will be shared with our membership. The membership will vote as to our position on a bill. This position will then be put on the State of WI ethics website. For this type of situation, we will try and hold two meetings—the initial meeting will cover the bill's contents and possible ramifications for dog owners. At the second meeting we will take a vote on our position. This gives the delegates time to share the information with their club members and for their club to give them their voting decision.

Delegates should also give regular reports at their club meetings regarding DFOW business. They should also provide their club newsletter editors with DFOW event information and volunteer requests. Delegates should also notify their club members when a new newsletter is posted on the DFOW.net website.

Thank you to all of our club delegates who are providing such an important service to their clubs!