



PIT BULL MYTH: “IT’S ALL HOW THEY’RE RAISED”

Pit Bulls can be really sweet, loving dogs if they’re raised right.“ Ever heard someone say that? Have YOU ever said it yourself? I know that when people say this, they mean it with the best intentions, but **it’s such a harmful phrase.** Let me explain why. Animal shelters all over the United States are filled with homeless Pit Bulls. I know you’ve heard me say that the Pit Bull is the most euthanized dog in the country. Both of these things are, in part, the result of people believing that how a Pit Bull is raised will completely determine what kind of dog it becomes. Let’s say you go to your local shelter because you’ve finally decided the kids are old enough for a dog. Should you get a puppy, or should you consider an adult dog? You’re just not sure, so you walk through the facility looking at dozens of dogs every age, breed, and size. You see several adult Pit Bulls, and just like all the others, they’re wagging their tails and trying to get your attention, hungry for love. There’s one you’re particularly drawn to, because he has a beautiful white coat and a coal-black nose and soul-piercing eyes, and you wonder what his story is. But then you think to yourself, *I don’t know anything about this dog. What if he was raised to be mean? How do I know I can I*

trust him around my children? My other animals? I just don’t know enough about him to take him home. But the truth is, **you have to ask yourself those very same questions about every single dog** in that shelter, regardless of breed, and to some degree, regardless of age. You have to ask those questions about a dog you find in a Craigslist ad, or through a breeder, in a pet store, or through a rescue. Every dog is an individual, just like every human being is an individual. They’re different, just like all people are different. They have varied personality characteristics. Some are good with kids, some aren’t. Some like other animals, some don’t. **But these things aren’t necessarily determined by breed.** They’re part of what makes up each individual dog. I know you remember the Michael Vick dogfighting tragedy. Fifty-one Pit Bulls were seized from his home, pulled from deplorable conditions. Most had been abused and tortured, and those that hadn’t been mistreated had witnessed the horrific abuse of the others. Some simply could not be saved, but surprisingly 47 of them went to sanctuaries and rescues to be rehabilitated.

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Today some of those dogs still live in sanctuaries, foster homes, and rescues. But an impressive number of them have been adopted and are now living with families – families just like yours and mine! Many of them became certified

therapy dogs and are true ambassadors of their breed. Take a look here at Handsome Dan, a rehabilitated, reformed, and re-homed Vick dog. He lets his baby sister read to him every night before bed.



CONNECTICUT LAW

Sec. 14-226. Operator to report injury to dog. Any person who has knowledge of causing, by the operation of a motor vehicle, injury or death to a dog shall at once stop and render such assistance as may be possible, shall immediately report such injury or death to such dog's owner or such owner's representative and shall give his name, address and operator's license and registration numbers to such owner or representative or any witness or peace officer. If unable to ascertain and locate such owner or representative, such operator shall, at once, report the injury or death to a police officer, constable, state police officer or inspector of motor vehicles, to whom he shall give the location of such accident and a description of the dog. Violation of any provi-

sion of this section shall be an infraction. No operator shall be convicted under the provisions of subdivision (3) of subsection (b) of section 14-224 when such operator has caused injury or death to a dog.

Connecticut Statute Sec. 14-272b. Transport of dogs in pick-up trucks. Restrictions. No person operating a pick-up truck, as defined in section 14-1, on a public highway of this state shall transport a dog in the open rearward compartment of the pick-up truck unless the dog is secured in a cage or other container or otherwise protected or secured in such a manner as to prevent the dog from being thrown or falling or jumping from the pick-up truck.

Source: CT.Gov

Dog attacks while walking your dog are not uncommon, and you have to be prepared for possible encounters. Some dog experts recommend carrying a heavy duty walking stick to use on an attacking dog. Other experts say to drop your dog's leash and stay out of the way. For me, neither one is a good option. It's my job to protect my dog, and I also don't want to hurt another dog. My dogs look to me as their leader, and it's my responsibility to protect them. Dogs can come out of the blue to attack your dog and you don't always have an opportunity to read his body language. If you do encounter a dog that is off leash while you're out walking alone or with your dog:

- Stay calm and keep a close eye on the dog. Be aware of what's going on, and expect the unexpected.
- A sturdy walking stick does have a purpose. It's something you could use to get in between two fighting dogs.
- If you have a chance to prepare before the dog attacks, when he starts moving toward you, yell "No" and take a step towards him. Try to read his level of aggression by looking at his eyes (intense and focused) without staring at him, ears (laid back on his head), hair standing up on the back of his neck or along the rump and movements that are stiff. If you can get him to back off, move away slowly, but don't turn your back on him.
- Try to keep your dog as calm as you can. Any show of aggression from him can prompt an attack from the other dog.
- You can carry a backpack with some clothing or a small blanket inside anything to give it bulk to use to push the other dog away, or to put in between the dogs to give you some protection from snapping teeth.
- Carrying one or two cans of pepper or bear spray is always good. Don't be

afraid to use as much as needed and spray directly into the dog's nose and eyes. Be mindful of the wind so you don't spray yourself.

- If you have to use the spray on your dog as well, don't hesitate to do so.
- A bright flashlight can be directed into the eyes of an attacking dog to temporarily blind him.
- Another useful thing to carry is an air horn. The loud noise could persuade the dog not to attack in the first place. If he does attack, the horn might help break up either dog's focus during a fight, and will help call attention to other people in the area to come help.

Your best defense against another dog attacking your dog is to be alert and try to prevent an attack from happening. If that's not possible or it happens before you're aware there's even another dog around, try to stay calm. A mind that's in panic mode doesn't function well. Think about what you would do before you have an encounter. Carry a stout walking stick and anything that might be helpful in a convenient pocket where you can quickly grab what you need. Understanding dog behavior is one of your best weapons if another dog attacks your dog. I recently wrote an article on understanding dog fights that might help you. There are no simple answers though. The best thing to do is to stay alert and calm, and think about what to do before you encounter an attack.

*Written by: Linda Cole
Source: canidae.com*



"I found me when I was rescued by my dogs." - Kat Armstrong

CONGRATULATIONS KIM FALANGO!

Congratulations Kim! Your bike is Bike of the Quarter! When asked about her bike, Kim responded “Over 25 years ago Bob Downing gave me my first ride on his Harley. While at the beginning I was terrified by the end of the ride I knew that I wanted one. My dream finally came true 2 years ago with my 2015 Harley Davidson FLRT Free-wheeler. She is comfortable riding no matter what the distance. My Trike has a spacious trunk which gives me extra storage for supplies for the trip. Parking my Trike is made easy with the reverse and for long distance I can activate the cruise control. So when you see a Trike going down the road take a second look it just might be me riding by with a smile!”

Written by Kim Falango



CONGRATULATIONS VALERIE DRAKE!



Congratulations Valerie! You are Member of the Quarter!! Valerie became an official member this year after being a volunteer since almost the inception of B.A.A.C. and has always been a valued member of our family. Valerie is a hard worker, she grew up on a farm, owns her own business and is a single mom to a wonderful son who this past year dedicated his services to the U.S. Navy! To say Valerie is smart and kind is an understatement. Valerie attends every event she can and she is the go to for posting flyers along the shore line. Valerie has a huge heart and could not be a more loving and caring individual and is one of B.A.A.C's biggest fans! We look forward to more time with her in the organization!

“As custodians of the planet, it is our responsibility to deal with all species with kindness, love and compassion. That these animals suffer through human cruelty is beyond understanding.” - Unknown

CONGRATULATIONS SLATER FAMILY PETS!

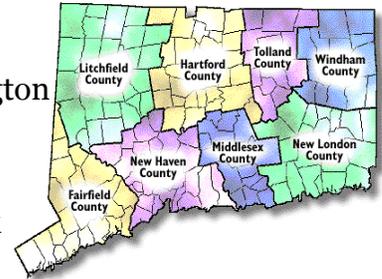
Congratulations Slater Family Pets! You have all made Pet of the Quarter! Mariette submitted the following about her beloved pets. "Ever since I could remember I loved animals, luckily my parents would let me have pets. Every one that I had in my life so far is special to me & helped me grow as a person. My current fur babies consists of three beautiful pups: Memphis is my first adopted Pitbull. He was very sick with Parvovirus & Hookworm & the rescue was not sure he was going to make it. I prayed and finally brought my little bundle of joy home. Because of him I fell in love with the breed and became involved in the rescue community & an advocate for the voiceless. I always tell everyone he's the Love of my life. My Miesha Moo came to me thru the same rescue. I didn't know much about the first 3 years of her life other than she was adopted thru the NYACC in Manhattan & was turned over to the rescue when her first Dad had to move cross country. I saw her & fell in love. For the next 12 years we had fun. Whether it was singing in the car - she always would get excited when music was playing & kiss me when I sang, or fostering puppies - she loved them & helped me prepare them for good homes. I took her with me when we did a segment for Fox61 news on her breed & The CT Pitbull Awareness Day I volunteer for every year. She won over many people that day & was my breed ambassador giving out many kisses. We celebrated her 15th birthday on April 1st 2016. Sadly on June 9th she passed away only 2 weeks from being diagnosed with Cancer. She will always live on in my heart. Lily loo hoo was adopted 3 years ago from the NYACC Manhattan. I saw her urgent picture on Facebook & knew I needed to bring her home. She fit in with her Free Spirit attitude which in some odd way reminds me of myself. She loves walks & car rides & visiting the cosmetic counter at Nordstrom (yes that's right!). Smitten Kitten also an NYACC survivor, I adopted her when I got Lily loo hoo, she was a little cat shaking & cowering in a big cage; now she rules my house & the dogs. She loves to sleep on her mommies head & watch the chickens in our neighbors yard thru the window. Reginald is our Bearded Dragon, he was given to me & although I never had a lizard before his cute personality is growing on me. He knows his name & loves to have his head pet. Still a baby & has a lot of growing to do. I look forward to learning more about my unique pet. It's hard to believe all my fur babies were in kill shelters & may have not made it out if they were not adopted."



Written by Marietta Slater

COMING TO AN AREA NEAR YOU!

- July 21st - Torrington - Main Street Market Place
- July 24th - Southington - Bike Show – Pet Playhouse Southington
- August 5-8 - North Branford - Potato and Corn Fest
- Sept 10th Wallingford - 9th Annual Motorcycle Rally PNA Park



BIKERS AGAINST ANIMAL CRUELTY, INC.



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Featuring:

- Live Music
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- Car/Bike Show

and more!

Sept 10th, 1-6

PNA Park - Wallingford
171 N. Plains Industrial Rd.

\$20pp (includes food) / Under 12 yrs free!

B.A.A.C. is a 501(c)(3) non-profit, volunteer only organization comprised of motorcycle enthusiasts who advocate against animal cruelty and neglect, promote responsible pet ownership and help to defray costs of emergency veterinary care for the voiceless and ownerless victims of animal cruelty and neglect.

Pets are welcome IF they are comfortable with loud music, crowds (adults and children) and are fully-vaccinated and non-aggressive.

“Animal cruelty is one of the most unfortunate and barbaric demonstrations of human beings manipulating ill conceived notions of “power” over other species.” Ian Somerhalder

TRAINING AND BEHAVIOR

One of the most common reasons that dogs end up in shelters is because people don't understand them, and training oftentimes seems overwhelming. Bound Angels has made available, free of charge, a series of dog training articles for dog own-

ers and shelter workers and volunteers. Click or type the URL into your web browser to view the many articles provided by Bound Angels. <https://boundangels.org/dog-training-articles/>

THE IMPORTANCE OF PLAYTIME

When you look at what cats do in the wild, it is obvious why they need to play. They sleep as much as 16 hours per day and when they're awake, they need exercise that play provides. In the world when they aren't sleeping, lions, tigers, and other wild cats are stalking and hunting their prey or teaching their young to do so. Some benefits of play include:

- **Exercise:** Exercise is vital for keeping your cat healthy. Playing with your cat and having your cat romp around with others is a perfect way for your cat to get exercise, both physically and mentally.
- **Release of Anxiety:** Anxiety and stress are as harmful to cats as they are to the rest of us. Cats under stress are more apt to develop behavioral problems such as aggression, urine marking, or obsessive-compulsive disorders.
- **Relief of Boredom:** Cats especially, being naturally curious, can get depressed and lethargic. Cats need some sort of challenge every day. Watch a cat try to grab at a ball that is spinning around randomly in a circle. She is concentrating so hard that a simple movement of your foot can send her skyrocketing in the air! Whether she is looking out the window at a chattering birds, or chasing a feather stick, she loves and needs to play.
- **Feel Good:** Play, by definition, is something to make whomever is playing feel good. And your cat deserves to feel good, doesn't she?
- **Bonding With Other Cats or Animals in the House:** Cats chase other cats, cats entice dogs to chase after them, and cats even chase dogs in some households! This type of behavior provides much-needed bonding. Playing with your cat can even bond her to you.



For more information, visit the source article at drsfostersmith.com



SECOND QUARTER DONORS

- Yvonne Michaud
- Richard Knecht
- Jean Roslonwski
- Barbara Drake
- Arlene Miller
- First Giving
- Truist
- AT&T Corporate Giving Program
- Silicon Valley Comm Foundation Dell Employee
- Bobby & Melody Snow
- Robert Slattery

SECOND QUARTER CASES

- ‘Kitty’ – Victim of cruelty – Donation for Fur-Gotten Tails Animal Rescue
- ‘Marshal’ Victim of cruelty—Donation for Big Fluffy Dog Rescue
- ‘Julia Brown’ – Victim of cruelty and neglect – Donation for Cypress Lake Animal Hospital
- ‘Marilyn’ – Victim of cruelty – donation for Fur-Gotten Tails
- ‘Zues’ – Victim of cruelty – donation for 100+ Abandoned Dogs of Everglades Florida
- ‘Pinto’ – Victim of Neglect – donation for Desert Dogs Project, Inc.

We encourage you to visit the webpages below to see the amazing progress these dogs have made thanks to your donations! Plus you can learn more about the life saving work these organizations accomplish everyday!

- www.bigfluffydogs.com
- www.fur-gottentailsanimalrescue.org
- www.Desertdogsrescue.org
- www.100plusabandoneddogsofevergladesflorida.org
- www.Noahs-arks.net

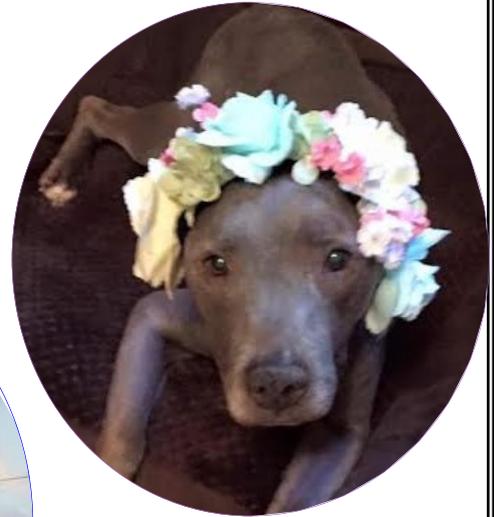
B.A.A.C.’s policy is that all donations are sent directly to the medical facility treating the case and not the rescue organization.

“The world is a dangerous place, not because of those who do evil, but because of those who look on and do nothing.” - Albert Einstein



*Your Wings
Were Ready
But My
Heart
Was Not*

Bear Caetano



Miesha Moo Slater



Memphis Hamed



Molly DeCrosta

*“If it should be that I grow weak and pain should keep me from my sleep;
then you must do what must be done, for this last battle can’t be won.
You will be sad, I understand; but don’t let grief then stay your hand.
For this day more than all the rest, your love for me must stand the test.
We’ve had so many happy years; what is to come can hold no fears.
You don’t want me to suffer so, the time has come please let me go.
Take me where my needs they’ll tend, but please stay with me till the end.
To hold me close and speak to me, until my eyes no longer see.”*

~ Final Journey

It can be heartbreaking to see a neighbor's animal suffering in a situation of neglect. Depending on the situation, there are various ways you can help the animal or animals involved. For emergency situations in which an animal's life or safety is in immediate danger, contact your local law enforcement or call 911 immediately. If the animal's life is not in danger but you suspect neglect, it may be productive to approach the guardian and offer assistance such as walking the dog or even helping to place the animal in a more appropriate home. It is a sad fact that at times people get animals without thinking about the long-term commitment they are taking on; when the reality of the situation becomes apparent, they may be relieved to have someone offer their assistance. There are times when the caretaker of the animal is blind to their inability to offer the appropriate care for the animal or animals under their guardianship. When more animals are taken in than the caretaker is able to care for, such a situation readily spirals out of control into what is referred to as "animal hoarding." If the guardian of the animals is not ap-



proachable, or if you suspect the animal is suffering from abuse as well as neglect, alert law enforcement, your local humane society, or your local SPCA (whichever is appropriate in your area) about the situation. It is helpful to document what you have witnessed, including noting dates, locations and specific incidents and problems in a detailed journal. Moreover photographs, video, and other evidence of the abusive conditions are very important and persuasive. If the overseeing agency is non-responsive, consider circulating a petition that you can then present to the agency demanding that the abusive conditions be immediately corrected. Consider enlisting the help of the local media such as newspapers, radio and television stations to publicize the situation. A number of laws may apply; usually these would be state and/or local laws, but there may be federal laws as well (e.g., if you suspect the animals are used for fighting). To obtain local ordinances, contact your city council, local humane organization, visit your local library, or check online at www.municode.com. For situations in which your state's anti-cruelty statutes may have been violated, see ALDF's information about criminal anti-cruelty cases. If your state anti-cruelty statutes are weak, you can help to strengthen them with ALDF's model law information. Remember that your eyes may be the only witness to the suffering of an animal in need, and your intervention may be crucial in saving his or her life.

Source: Animal League Defense Fund

*"Whoever saw a frisky dog in a gloomy family, or a sad dog in a happy one?
Snarling people have snarling dogs, dangerous people have dangerous ones."
- John Grogan*

MERCHANDISE



Hoodies, Long Sleeve Tees & more on our website!
Pick up merchandise at any event or online shipping is available!

CONTACT US

Greg Belcher, President.....email: jager6303@yahoo.com
Mark Hunter, Vice President.....email: skullyhunter@icloud.com
Amy Conroy, Treasurer.....email: aeaconroy@gmail.com
Jennifer Hinchcliffe Hughes, Secretary email:skynyrd99@gmail.com

REPORTING

Humane Society of the U.S. (Dog Fighting)..... 1-877-TIP-HSUS
Humane Society of the U.S (Puppy Mill).....1-877-645-5847
We Tip Hotline1-800-78-CRIME
and as always, your local law enforcement, Animal Control Officer or Humane Society.

DONATIONS NEEDED

We are always in need of donations: cleaning products, pet food, pet toys, blankets, towels, litter, beds, pet toys, and anything else that can improve the lives of pets! Bring your donations to any of our events, or reach out to one of the officers listed above!

HELP WANTED

If you are interested in becoming a volunteer or a member (*riding & non-riding memberships available*), visit our website for an application or reach out to one of the officers listed above!

We Can Use Your Support!

I would like to help Bikers Against Animal Cruelty, Inc. by donating to help change a life! Please complete this form and enclose it with your payment, checks payable to B.A.A.C.

~ No cash please ~

Mail to: Bikers Against Animal Cruelty, Inc., P.O. Box 68, North Haven, CT 06473

Name: _____ Street Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____ E-mail: Phone #: (____) ____ - ____

\$25 \$50 \$75 \$100 \$200 Other: _____

B.A.A.C. has been able to help hundreds of animals by making financial contributions towards their care. We would like to thank everyone for their support, without it we would not be able to help animals in need. Please contact us if you are interested in sponsorship. Thank you!

**B.A.A.C. is going GREEN! We'll be happy to email you the newsletter!
Simply send us your email via our contact us link or email one of the officers.**

We'd love to help you advertise your business! We'll add it to our quarterly newsletters and website!

Great quarterly and yearly prices - Contact us for more information!

Bikers Against Animal Cruelty, Inc.
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North Haven, CT 06473

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To Our Supporter:

Thank you for all you do!