



Bully Bark!

The Newsletter of the Bama Bully Rescue, Inc.

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Birmingham Bully Lovers Meet-Up Group

By Richard Burgess

On Saturday, March 19, 2011 at 2:00 PM we met 26 of our fellow Bully Lovers at Oak Mountain State Park - John Findley Drive Birmingham, AL. The turn out was nothing short of amazing. We had the pleasure of seeing familiar faces and meeting some new



friends. It is always a pleasure to spend the day with like minded, responsible Bully Owners. The weather could not have been any better and everyone enjoyed hiking the trails as well as a cookout under the historic pavilion. Good food, Good times, Good dogs and good people. It doesn't get any better than that! We are currently throwing around the idea of a "Bully Bootcamp" for our next Meet-up. You will have the opportunity to learn proper handling skills, light obedi-

ence training and tips and the opportunity to witness some agility and obedience demonstrations. We can't wait for the next of many Meet-ups in the future and hope to see you all there. For anyone who is not a member and is interested please visit:

<http://www.meetup.com/Birmingham-Bully-Lovers-Meetup-Group/>

We look forward to seeing you!

Bama Bully Rescue, Inc

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Co-Director:
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Treasurer:
Brad McCollum

Secretary:
Beth Green

Event Coordinator:
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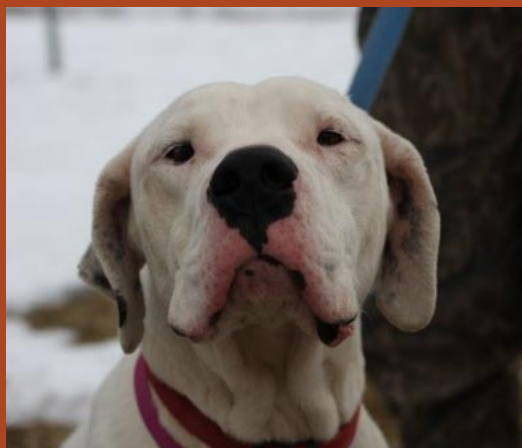
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Foster Jackson



Pictured here is Jackson, a white American Bulldog. Poor Jackson has really been through the ringer and deserves a loving foster home to keep him safe until we can find him a permanent family.

Jackson is an adult American Bulldog who is deaf. When he was found as a stray, he was nearly 20 lbs underweight...the poor guy! He has since gained weight, been treated for heartworms, neutered, and up to date on vaccinations.

Jackson was found as a stray in Alabama and was transferred to a rescue in Maryland several months ago. Unfortunately, he has been bounced around a lot since his arrival in Maryland. He's been in two different foster homes and is now waiting for his forever home in a kennel at a boarding facility. We feel that Jackson has been in boarding for far too long (and isn't doing well there) so Bama Bully Rescue decided that we would bring him into the program. Now, we just need a foster home! (Transport back to AL will be arranged by us).

Jackson has the sweetest disposition and everyone he meets falls in love with him! He loves giving kisses and rides great in the car. Jackson doesn't do well with cats, but should be fine with other dogs as long as proper introductions are given. He is GREAT with people and kids.

Because Jackson is deaf, he will need someone who understands his special needs. He can function perfectly fine but will need training with hand signals (which is very easy!).

Bama Bully Rescue's foster program provides for all of the medical needs of our dogs. The foster will just need to provide a loving temporary home. Please fill out a foster application today at www.bamabully.org or e-mail us at mail@bamabully.org.

PLEASE, Jackson needs a foster home soon!

Happy Tails

“Hi I just adopted a doggie from you guys and wanted say thank you for introducing me and my family to our newest member, (destiny). I was a little iffy about getting a dog that I haven't met but when I saw her I just knew she was perfect! She's so well mannered ad easy going and sweet, I honestly don't believe ill ever have any complaints about this dog. You guys and the way you treat these dogs is amazing, I don't see why anyone would not want to get a dog through you guys. I've been telling everyone I know, I'm proud to be the owner of destiny and having went through you guys to get her. Thanks so much, I just wanted to share our adoption story. “

- Jessica Johnston



The Bama Bully Store

Looking for the perfect Easter present??
Shop the Bama Bully Store for all your Bully
design needs!

<http://www.cafepress.com/bama-bully>
or Call 1-877-809-1659
for phone orders



FREE SPAY/NEUTER

Alabama Spay Neuter is offering free Spay and Neuter to residents in the following zip codes: 35208, 35218, 35224, 35211, 35206, 35234, 35207. Call 205-956-0012.



Support BBR

Support Bama Bully by shopping at the PitOwner's Store and Pit Owner in the month of April. 50% of proceeds will be donated to Bama Bully!

<http://pitowner-deals.blogspot.com/>

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

Upcoming Event

Bully Booth at Gardendale Magnolia Festival

Where: GFBC parking lot and Civic Center Campus

When: Saturday, April 16th 10:00am - 5:00pm

Gardendale has BSL, so the Bully Booth will be there to provide information only, we will not be able to bring any of our dogs. If you would like, please join us in this peaceful protest of sorts as we will be sporting our ANTI BSL apparel and signs.

from the website: Saturday's Main Event will take place throughout the GFBC parking lot and Civic Center Campus and will include carnival rides, 3 Stages of Entertainment, pooch parade, vendor village, classic car show, Free Kids N'Art activities, cookie eating contest, dog/frisbee and bicycle stunt shows, lots of delicious and unique food, and much more!

<http://www.magnoliafestival.org/>

Dog Allergies

What Are Allergies?

Just like people, dogs can show allergic symptoms when their immune systems begin to recognize certain everyday substances—or allergens— as dangerous. Even though these allergens are common in most environments and harmless to most animals, a dog with allergies will have an extreme reaction to them. Allergens can be problematic when inhaled, ingested or contact a dog's skin. As his body tries to rid itself of these substances, a variety of skin, digestive and respiratory symptoms may appear.

What Are the General Symptoms of Allergies in Dogs?

- Itchy, red, moist or scabbed skin
- Increased scratching
- Itchy, runny eyes
- Itchy back or base of tail (most commonly flea allergy)
- Itchy ears and ear infections
- Sneezing
- Vomiting
- Diarrhea
- Snoring caused by an inflamed throat
- Paw chewing/swollen paws
- Constant licking

Allergic dogs may also suffer from secondary bacterial or yeast skin infections, which may cause hair loss, scabs or crusts on the skin.

Which Dogs Are At Risk for Getting Allergies?

Any dog can develop allergies at any time during his life, but allergic reactions seem to be especially common in terriers, setters, retrievers, and flat-faced breeds such as pugs, bulldogs and Boston terriers.

What Substances Can Dogs Be Allergic To?

A few common allergens include:

- Tree, grass and weed pollens
- Mold spores
- Dust and house dust mites
- Dander
- Feathers
- Cigarette smoke
- Food ingredients (e.g. beef, chicken, pork, corn, wheat or soy)
- Prescription drugs

Fleas and flea-control products (The bite of a single flea can trigger intense itchiness for two to three weeks!)

Perfumes

Cleaning products

Fabrics

Insecticidal shampoo

Rubber and plastic materials

Can Dogs Be Allergic to Food?

Yes, but it often takes some detective work to find out what substance is causing the allergic reaction. Dogs with a food allergy will commonly have itchy skin, breathing difficulties or gastrointestinal problems like diarrhea and vomiting, and an elimination diet will most probably be used to determine what food he is allergic to. If your dog is specifically allergic to chicken, for example, you should avoid feeding him any products containing chicken protein or fat.

Please note that food allergies may show up in dogs at any age.

What Should I Do If I Think My Dog Has Allergies?

Visit your veterinarian. After taking a complete history and conducting a physical examination, he or she may be able to determine the source of your dog's allergic reaction. If not, your vet will most probably recommend skin or blood tests, or a special elimination diet, to find out what's causing the allergic reaction.

How Are Dog Allergies Diagnosed?

If your dog's itchy, red or irritated skin persists beyond initial treatment by a veterinarian, allergy testing, most often performed by a veterinary dermatologist, is likely warranted. The diagnostic test of choice is an intradermal skin test similar to the one performed on humans.

The only way to diagnose a food allergy is to feed your dog a prescription or hydrolyzed protein diet exclusively for 12 weeks. The importance of not feeding your dog anything but the diet cannot be emphasized enough—that means no treats, table food or flavored medication. This diet will be free of potential allergy-causing ingredients and will ideally have ingredients your dog has never been exposed to. He'll remain on the diet until his symptoms go away, at which time you'll begin to reintroduce old foods to see which ones might be causing the allergic reaction.

Please note, many dogs diagnosed with a food allergy will require home-cooked meals—but this must be done in conjunction with your veterinarian, as it requires careful food balancing.

How Can Dog Allergies Be Treated?

The best way to treat allergies is to remove the offending allergens from the environ-

ment.

Prevention is the best treatment for allergies caused by fleas. Start a flea control program for all of your pets before the season starts. Remember, outdoor pets can carry fleas inside to indoor pets. See your veterinarian for advice about the best flea control products for your dog and the environment.

If dust is the problem, clean your pet's bedding once a week and vacuum at least twice weekly—this includes rugs, curtains and any other materials that gather dust.

Weekly bathing may help relieve itching and remove environmental allergens and pollens from your dog's skin. Discuss with your vet what prescription shampoos are best, as frequent bathing with the wrong product can dry out skin.

If you suspect your dog has a food allergy, she'll need to be put on an exclusive prescription or hydrolyzed protein diet. Once the allergy is determined, your vet will recommend specific foods or a home-cooked diet.

Are There Allergy Medications for Dogs?

Since certain substances cannot be removed from the environment, your vet may recommend medications to control the allergic reaction:

In the case of airborne allergens, your dog may benefit from allergy injections. These will help your pet develop resistance to the offending agent, instead of just masking the itch.

Antihistamines such as Benadryl can be used, but may only benefit a small percentage of dogs with allergies. Ask your vet first.

Fatty acid supplements might help relieve your dog's itchy skin. There are also shampoos that may help prevent skin infection, which occurs commonly in dogs with allergies. Sprays containing oatmeal, aloe and other natural products are also available.

An immune modulating drug may also be helpful.

There are several flea-prevention products that can be applied monthly to your dog's skin.

If the problem is severe, you may have to resort to cortisone to control the allergy. However these drugs are strong and should be used with caution and only under the guidance of your veterinarian.

Are Allergies and Bronchitis Related?

Chronic exposure to inhaled irritants (including cigarette smoke) may be a cause of bronchitis in the dog. Bronchitis is characterized by a persistent cough due to inflammation of the airway and excessive mucus production. Treatment may include medication to open breathing passages, antibiotics and anti-inflammatory agents. Please remember, your pets should not be exposed to cigarette smoke.

Art Helping Animals

Art Helping Animals is a group of professional artists who have come together from different areas of the world with one purpose in mind, to help homeless animals through the efforts of our individual creativity.

A percentage of sales, as determined by each artist, is donated to BBR!



Chin-Wow
By Cori Solomon

Chin-Wow is a Monotype, hand pulled print. This dog art depicts a Japanese Chin with a cute face and large bright eyes looking for love. In creating this piece I roll on the background color first and paint the dog on to the plate. After printing I enhance the with pastels.

Size: 13 x 10

10% of the proceeds to benefit Bama Bully Rescue

Please visit the link below for information on how to purchase.

<http://arthelpinganimals.blogspot.com/search/label/Charity%3A%20%20BAMA%20BULLY>

Bama Bully Rescue, Inc

Our Mission:

Bama Bully Rescue, Inc. is a non-profit, 501(c)3 organization located in Alabama that works with shelters and the public in finding homes for Pit Bulls and "Bully breeds" that have been abandoned, abused, neglected, or fallen victim to other situations in their lives. "Bully breeds" helped by BBR may be: American Pit Bull Terriers, American Bulldogs, Mastiffs, Boxers, and some "Bully breed" mixes. BBR strives to educate the public about the true nature of such breeds and encourages responsible ownership by offering training, behavioral and health care advice in hopes to decrease the number of Bullies that would, without such support, be relinquished.

Rescue:

Our group exists to rescue unwanted bullies and power breeds in shelters, found as strays or who must be relinquished by their owners, through no fault of their own.

Re-Home:

Adoptable dogs will be placed for adoption into carefully screened, loving homes. All dogs adopted with a BBR contract will be thoroughly evaluated for behavioral issues. All dogs will be up to date on vaccines and spay or neutered before placement.

Educate & Support:

Bama Bully Rescue strives to educate the public about the true nature of bully breeds. We encourage responsible dog ownership, proper care, socialization and training. We are available at any time to lend advice and support regarding any aspect of responsible dog ownership.

Volunteers:

Bama Bully Rescue is a volunteer run organization and is always looking for individuals that share our passion for helping the unwanted bullies and power breeds in our state. All is needed is some time available and internet accessibility. If you are such an individual who has some time available, contact volunteer@bamabully.org

Foster Homes:

Bama Bully Rescue does not have a central facility and relies totally on individuals to foster and socialize unwanted bullies and power breeds. The dogs we accept into our program are temperament tested, evaluated and vetted. Our rescue is always hampered by the lack of interested and caring foster homes. If you feel that you care enough to help us save dogs, please go to our website at <http://www.bamabully.org/foster.html> to read more about what fostering is about. There you will find a link to fill out a foster application.

Would you like to donate? Donations are tax-deductible and are extremely appreciated. Visit our website at www.BamaBully.org to donate online or send your check to:

Bama Bully Rescue, Inc., PO Box 241002, Montgomery, AL 36124

Check out iGive at <http://www.igive.com/welcome/> and Goodsearch at <http://www.goodsearch.com/> to support your favorite Charity... BBR!

The Bully Bark! is the official internet newsletter of the
Bama Bully Rescue, Inc. of Alabama

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To unsubscribe, send an email to the above address with "unsubscribe" in the subject line.