



### **Safe Flea Control**

In May I fostered four young kittens that had been found in a parking lot. They were only about 5 weeks old and had fleas. Most top spot products and Adam's Flea Spray are not recommended for animals that young, so what to do? Carla helped me bathe the kittens in warm water with a bit of Dawn dishwashing liquid. It's safe for birds so why not young animals? We rinsed the kittens very well and used a hair dryer to keep them from

getting chilled. Viola! No fleas, the kittens were warm the entire time and it worked like a charm.

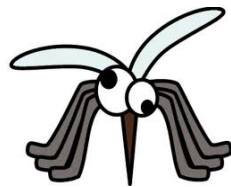
I told a local veterinarian what we had done. At a conference he attended recently they recommended Dawn dishwashing liquid for this purpose. Just rinse well and dry the animals quickly.

### **The Blue Lacy**

In 2005 the Texas Legislature named the Blue Lacy the official dog of Texas. The Blue Lacy originated near Marble Falls, Texas in 1858. The Lacy brothers needed a dog that could herd both cattle and hogs. They mixed greyhound, scent hound and wild canine (coyote or wolf). There are currently over 1,000 registered Blue Lacy's and they are often used to hunt wild hogs.

### **West Nile Virus in Dogs**

The West Nile Virus is spread by mosquitoes and causes encephalitis, a swelling of the brain. Most of us are aware that it affects birds and horses, but it can also affect dogs. Symptoms in dogs include decreased appetite, difficulty walking and holding the head normally, circling and tremors. However, there may be no symptoms. There is no vaccine, so the best prevention is keeping the dogs indoors early in the morning and evening and using a dog approved mosquito repellent.



### **UP FOR ADOPTION**

I am currently fostering a 6 month old, 20 pound Fox Terrier (?) mix spayed female pup. She is super sweet with people and other dogs. I also have an 18 month old, 62 pound brindle Catahoula/Black Mouth Cur(?) mix neutered male. He becomes very possessive of "his" people and would keep the squirrels out of your yard. He loves kiddie swimming pools, belly rubs, long walks and most other dogs – preferably female! We also have many great dogs available for adoption from Eagle Lake Animal Control. Call Cheryl at 979-732-5591, Dennis at 979-758-1804, or check out the pictures on [www.pupsofcatspring.com](http://www.pupsofcatspring.com).

### **Skunk Smell Remedy**

Okay, the old adage about using tomato juice to get rid of skunk smell just doesn't work. You can buy some skunk odor remover shampoos at the pet stores if your dog gets sprayed during the day but how often does that happen?

Surprisingly, Massingill douche is a good remedy. It dissolves the chemical components of skunk spray. Just dilute the dry ingredients in water and apply it to the dog.

Another way to neutralize skunk smell is to mix a home remedy. In a clean plastic bucket mix 1 quart 3% Hydrogen Peroxide, ¼ cup baking soda (NOT washing soda), and 1-2 teaspoons liquid detergent (Softsoap or Ivory are best). Apply the mixture to the dry dog, working it well into the fur. Let stand for 5 minutes, then rinse with tepid water. Repeat as needed.



### **VIVID VIGNETTES**

Mark Chapman, whose work has been featured in the PUPS newsletters, has published a new book: "An Artist Writes." All the writings and 35 renditions of paintings are Mark Chapman originals. He has missives under the headings of Love, Sex and other Foibles, Prison Poems, Going Down the Valley, Musings, Travel and Last Chapter. The writings will make you cry, wish you were there, smile or become thoughtful. If you wish to purchase a book and mention PUPS, Mark has generously offered to give all proceeds to our organization. To receive this beautifully produced book please send a check for \$15 made out to PUPS at 1884 Bostik Road, Cat Spring, TX 78933. For more information go the website: [AnArtistWrites.com](http://AnArtistWrites.com).