

SENIOR DOGS WANTED: PHOTO CONTEST

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INSIDE **FREE POSTER**

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THE WORLD'S MOST WIDELY READ DOG MAGAZINE

APRIL 2007

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NEWSTUFF



■ **RoamEO** is a handheld GPS location device that helps you track your pet up to one mile away. Using a GPS-enabled collar, RoamEO can pinpoint your dog's location and speed, and alert you if she leaves defined boundaries that you set. The system is simple and requires no hardware or software installation, according to the manufacturer. GPS collars are available in four sizes.

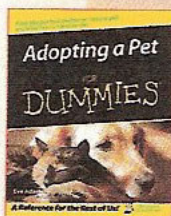
■ \$499, including GPS collar and AC adapters; \$159 for each additional collar, from White Bear Technologies; (651) 636-5695; www.roameoforpets.com

PAWTURNER

■ **Adopting a Pet for Dummies** (Wiley, \$19.99), by DOG FANCY contributing editor Eve Adamson, is a no-nonsense guide to animal adoption, providing helpful tips so

you can choose the right companion. From exploring the adoption option, to taking home and caring for your new companion,

the book explains just about everything you need to know about pet adoption.



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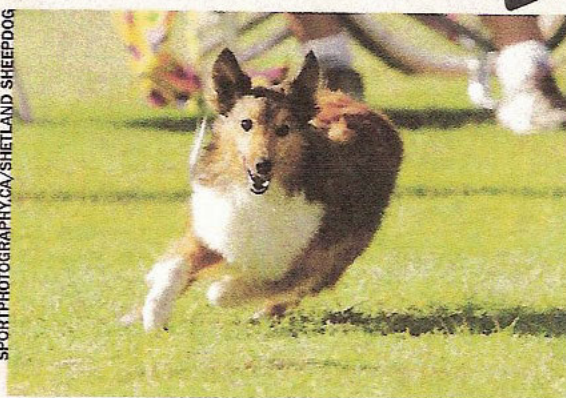
LABRADOR RETRIEVERS: STILL THE ONE

The American Kennel Club's breed registration statistics for 2006 show that the Labrador Retriever is still the most popular AKC breed in the United States. However, the Yorkshire Terrier knocked the old favorite Golden Retriever out of the No. 2 spot in 2006. The German Shepherd Dog also came out above the Golden for registration numbers in 2006, at No. 3. With the Golden now at No. 4, the Beagle remains at No. 5, followed by the Dachshund, Boxer, Poodle, Shih Tzu, and Miniature Schnauzer, in descending order — unchanged from the 2005 statistics.



MARY FISH ARANGO

SPORTPHOTOGRAPHY.CA/SHETLAND SHEEPDOG



LUCKY BEATS THE ODDS

Lucky is like the Lance Armstrong of the agility world. After being diagnosed in 2004 with lymphosarcoma, the Shetland Sheepdog continued to compete and rank as one of the top agility dogs in the country, even while undergoing chemotherapy.

Today the feisty canine athlete is cancer-free, reports her owner Martine Britell of Middleburg, Va. "She's doing terrifically well," she says.

Lucky's resilience has given hope to owners whose dogs are also battling cancer, and even amazed her veterinarian Lisa Fulton, a board-certified oncologist.

"She showed a high level of speed and agility throughout the course of her treatment, which was pretty surprising considering the intensity of the therapy that she was undergoing," Fulton says.

Not all dogs are as lucky as Lucky. Once a tumor is diagnosed and if it's not treated successfully, most dogs are either euthanized because of tumor progression or die of their disease within three months, Fulton says.

Even with chemotherapy, she says the average survival time is generally between 10 and 14 months.

Lucky has beaten the odds. "What's most important is to give Lucky the best quality of life as possible — to let her run like the wind, compete, and be happy," Britell says.

— Maryann Mott

PET CARE GOES CORPORATE

Recognizing the important role dogs play in people's lives, an increasing number of corporations now offer employees special benefits ranging from pet-sitting and dog-walking services to health insurance.

"Pets have really come into being true family members," says Paul Mann, founder of FETCH! Pet Care. He's seen the employer-sponsored segment of his national pet-sitting and dog-walking business triple in the past year, with midday strolls being the most popular.

Mann says companies want these services so employees focus on their jobs rather than worry about pets at



PAW MARKS/DALMATIAN

home, especially when they have to travel or work late.

A survey last year by the Society for Human Resource Management found that 2 percent of employers reimburse for pet-care arrangements when employees travel on business, while 5 percent offer pet health insurance, up from 2 percent in 2001.

— M.M.