



**Lake Eustis**  
*Kennel Club*

**PAW PRINTS**

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**GINGER, THD, RATS CGCA, CGCU, TKA, FDC**



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**LEKC meets the 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday of each month**  
**@ The Lady Lake Library, W. Guava Street.**  
**Board meets 6 p.m. General meeting 7:15 p.m.**  
**Website: [www.lekcdogclub.org](http://www.lekcdogclub.org)**

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Updated membership list is available at <http://www.lekcdogclub.org/membership.html>

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## The Saddest Story of ‘Happy Tail Syndrome’

By Cassie Armstrong (Orlando Sentinel)

Last week I came home to a scene straight out of a horror flick – what appeared to be dark-red streaks stained the walls and furniture. Rust-colored splatters darkened the floor. It was as if a three-foot-tall person had smeared bloody fingers along every waist high surface and brandished a brush thick with red paint enthusiastically in the air.

I wiped down the walls and mopped up the floors, puzzled as to how no one seemed to know what caused the bloody trail through the house.

The next day, I came home to a repeat.

This time, I inspected both big dogs thoroughly and discovered that the victim in this case was also the perpetrator – Lab mix, Lucy.

A trip to the vet confirmed it.

Lucy has what is called “happy tail syndrome,” which is when a dog can whack her tail forcefully enough on a hard surface that it causes a small cut or split on the tip of the tail. The cut tends to bleed a lot and as she continues to enthusiastically wag her tail, blood is sprayed around the area, hence the “massacre” scene in my house.

Large dogs with smooth, thin tails like Labrador retrievers can be especially prone to “happy tail” syndrome. When dogs are happy, they tend to show their joy with a wagging tail and Lucy is quite possibly the happiest dog on Earth – her whole back end wiggles with her delight in a new day and in seeing her beloved people return to her.

And that tail is like a high-spirited horsewhip.

In her extreme enthusiasm, she bangs it against walls and furniture as if she has no never-endings. We’ve all learned to duck and cover when Lucy’s tail gets going. Milo, our Dalmatian, is at eye-level of Lucy’s tail, and winces and flinches away when she gets wound up.

Lucy came home in a Christmas cone of shame and a bandaged (and padded) tail. Somehow she managed to pull off the bandage (or Milo swooped in with an assist, we aren’t sure) as well as a lot of tail hair.

Finding that on the floor gave me quite the start, as it appeared as if her whole tail had come unattached.

The thing about “happy tail syndrome” its victims often become repeat offenders.

Oh, joy.

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**BRAGS:**



**Rowdy did amazing in January; starting Out:**  
**FCAT - 2 qualifying runs towards BCAT**  
**FASA Rally - 2 qualifying scores 197, 194**  
**2 first places**  
**2 High in Trial, Non Aussie**  
**Barn Hunt – 1 qualifying run .46 seconds**  
**and a Second place. So proud of my little guy, first showing in each event.**



**Jonathan competed in UPDOG for the first time and placed First in Fitzgility Feb. 2<sup>nd</sup>.**  
**This is a fun sport for all dogs.**



**Pompei's Tag You're It  
Winner's Bitch - January 26, 2019  
Charleston Kennel Club  
Winner's Bitch - Best of Winners - 3 point Major  
January 27, 2019 Charleston Kennel Club  
Owners Margaret Patricia Heller & Anette Pusey**



**and he earned his Barn Hunt Novice  
Title January. 25 & 27<sup>th</sup>.**

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**Puzzle of the Month:**

Soon as I'm made, I'm sought with care, for one whole year consulted. That time elapsed; I'm thrown aside, neglected and insulted. What am I. \*(Answer on 7)

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What's that in the fire, and not in the flame?  
 What's that in the master, and not in the dame?  
 What's that in the courtier, and not in the clown?  
 What's that in the country, and not in the town?  
 What am I? \* (Answer on 7)

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**January:** Named for the Roman god Janus, protector of gates and doorways. Janus is depicted with two faces, one looking into the past, the other into the future.

**February:** February comes from the Latin word februa, which means "to cleanse." The month was named after the Roman Februllia, which was a month long festival of purification and atonement.

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**Laugh Line:**

A man went to the movies and was surprised to find a woman with a big Collie sitting in front of him. Even more amazing was the fact that the dog always laughed in the right places throughout the comedy.

"Excuse me," the man said to the woman, "but I think it's astounding that your dog enjoys the movie so much."

“I’m surprised myself,” she relied. “He hated the book.” (Graham Foster in Tomahawk, Wisc., Ledger, quoted by Debbie Christian in Milwaukee Journal.)

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### **Dogs terrified of thunderstorms: Summer brings season of discontent** (by Kate Santich)

For many Central Florida dog owners, summer thunderstorms bring a season of dread – a time when their four-legged companions have been known to destroy furniture, claw through walls and bolt into traffic. At least one, an especially anxious golden retriever, has crashed through a second-story window.

“This dog was absolutely petrified of thunderstorms,” says Dr. Rich Marrinson, owner of Longwood Veterinary Clinic. “It landed on the roof of a car parked below and, amazingly, was unharmed.”

In a state that leads the nation for the number of people killed by lightning, canine thunderstorm phobia is a too-common problem.

“I’ve seen a dog eat through a wall before – drywall and all,” says Allison Otero, owner of AlleyCat’s Pet Service in Winter Garden, who was pet-sitting the 70 pound retriever at the time. “I came for a visit in the middle of a storm, and part of the door was missing and there was a big hole in the wall.”

Otero, who has seven cats and two dogs of her own, now carries an arsenal of products and props to address the issue, and she tries to keep up with the latest research, even if it tends to be scant.

Despite surveys in which 50 percent of dog owners reported their pets had what's often and also labeled "canine noise aversion," veterinarians say the reason behind it isn't clear. In one study from the United Kingdom, researchers noted that dogs can perceive loud noises as painful and speculated that they may have a lower "auditory pain threshold" than humans.

But it's only a theory.

While many dogs that suffer during thunderstorms are also terrified by fireworks, some react to one but not the other.

"My take on it is that we don't really know," Marrinson says. "You see some dogs begin to pant, pace and cower even before the owners hear the first sound of thunder. So there have been discussions that maybe what they're feeling is the drop in barometric pressure or something about the static electricity in the air. There were reports for a while that if you rubbed your dog with dryer sheets, they were calmer."

Not that he is suggesting that. The ASPCA has warned that dryer sheets contain a type of cleaning agent that dogs can ingest when they subsequently lick their fur, causing a potentially serious irritation of a pet's digestive system.

### **Many owners describe their dogs as 'wanting to get out of their own skin.'**

Dr. Terry Curtis, a veterinarian and clinical behaviorist at the University of Florida's Department of Small Animal Clinical Sciences, said dogs – and, to a lesser degree, cats – may come to associate loud, frightening storms with the changes in pressure, static electricity and even darkest skies as their phobia worsens, which is why they often seem to sense the arrival of thunder before their owners do.

Veterinarians say it helps to mimic what dogs would do in the wild: burrow into a hole or den.

If a pet doesn't have a solid-walled crate of its own, Marrinson suggests creating an alternative small, darkened space that the animal can crawl into, whether it's under furniture, in a small closet or simply a wire kennel with a blanket or comforter draped over the top and sides.

Other dog owners swear by the ThunderShirt, a cloth wrap that applies pressure evenly around a dog's torso. The manufacturer claims a success rate of over 80 percent, but research and anecdotal reports are mixed.

"He still doesn't love storms, but it helps," says Carolyn Capern, a digital storyteller at CT Social, where her business partner's 9-year-old Boston terrier-beagle mix used to become so frantic at the approach of a storm that his teeth would chatter.

"The ThunderShirt seems like it basically gives him a hug," she says. "He still wants to hide, but now he'll just lie down under your desk instead of total panic."

Other options include collars or sprays infused with calming pheromones and lavender extract as well as anti-anxiety medication.

"My old dog, Marino, would get so bad over the sound of fireworks that I actually got her a prescription for Xanax," says Steve Bardy, executive director of the nonprofit Pet Alliance of Greater Orlando. "But the drugs were so sedating that I eventually stopped. I just decided to stay home with her every Fourth of July and New Year's Eve for the next eight years."

**Introduced by M. of A. L. ROSENTHAL -- read once and referred to the Committee on Agriculture AN ACT to amend the agriculture and markets law, in relation to the tethering of dogs or animals**

**THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK, REPRESENTED IN SENATE AND ASSEMBLY, DO ENACT AS FOLLOWS:**

**Section 1. The agriculture and markets law is amended by adding a new section 353-g to read as follows:**

**§ 353-G. TETHERING, RESTRAINING, CAGING OR PENNING OF DOGS OR ANIMALS.**

**1. IT SHALL BE UNLAWFUL TO TIE, TETHER, RESTRAIN, CAGE OR PEN A WORKING OR NON-WORKING DOG OR ANIMAL, BETWEEN THE HOURS OF 7 P.M. TO 6 A.M.**

**2. A WORKING OR NON-WORKING DOG OR ANIMAL MAY BE TIED, TETHERED, CAGED OR PENNED BETWEEN THE HOURS OF 6 A.M. AND 7 P.M., TO A STATIONARY OBJECT OR A PEN OR CAGE IN A SIZED PEN OR CAGE FOUR TIMES THE HEIGHT AND LENGTH OF SAID DOG OR ANIMAL; PROVIDED IT IS IN A MANNER THAT IS NOT INHUMANE OR DETRIMENTAL TO THE DOG OR ANIMAL'S WELFARE, DOESN'T CAUSE THE ANIMAL TO CHOKE, PERMITS THE DOG OR ANIMAL TO ESCAPE HARM AND PERMITS THE DOG OR ANIMAL TO REACH FOOD, WATER, SHADE AND DRY GROUND.**

**3. ANY PERSON WHO KNOWINGLY VIOLATES THE PROVISIONS OF THIS SECTION SHALL BE GUILTY OF A MISDEMEANOR, PUNISHABLE BY INCARCERATION IN CITY, TOWN, VILLAGE OR COUNTY JAIL FOR NOT LESS THAN TWO DAYS AND NOT MORE THAN SIX MONTHS, SHALL PERFORM BETWEEN FORTY-EIGHT AND ONE HUNDRED TWENTY HOURS OF COMMUNITY SERVICE, AND SHALL BE SUBJECT TO A FINE OF BETWEEN TWO HUNDRED DOLLARS AND ONE THOUSAND DOLLARS, UPON THEIR FIRST OFFENSE.**

**UPON THEIR SECOND OFFENSE, SUCH PERSON SHALL BE SUBJECT TO INCARCERATION IN CITY, TOWN, VILLAGE OR COUNTY JAIL FOR NOT LESS THAN TEN DAYS AND NOT MORE THAN SIX MONTHS, AND SHALL BE SUBJECT TO A FINE OF BETWEEN ONE THOUSAND DOLLARS AND TWO THOUSAND DOLLARS. UPON THEIR THIRD OFFENSE, SUCH PERSON SHALL BE SUBJECT TO A FELONY.**

(From Kathy P)

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**Answer to Puzzle:**

**#1 An Almond**

**#2 The letter "r"**

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## Can Dogs Get Frostbite? [Dr. Jerry Klein, CVO](#)

The simple answer is yes, like humans, dogs can get it as well. Here are tips to avoid it, if your dog spends time outdoors this winter.

The simple answer is **yes, like humans, dogs can get frostbite as well.**

Frostbite is tissue damage that can occur in extreme cold. Dogs are at risk once the temperature falls below 32 degrees Fahrenheit. Just like with humans, frostbite is a dog's natural process where blood is redirected from the body's extremities to vital organs when there is a drop in body temperature. Areas that are furthest away from the heart such as the tail, ears, nose, and paws will experience a drop in blood flow, and this can cause tissue damage.

Breed type certainly does play a factor in how susceptible a dog is to getting frostbite. Obviously, cold weather breeds such as the [Siberian Husky](#) and the [Alaskan Malamute](#) are less prone to this condition, but all breeds run the risk of frostbite and hypothermia when exposed to cold temperatures for a length of time. **No dog should ever be left unattended in extreme weather for any period.** A good rule of thumb is that if it is too cold for people, it is probably too cold for your dog. A warm dog jacket or sweater and booties will help minimize the risk, especially for short-coated breeds or older, more fragile dogs. However, clothing for your dog should never be used on an unattended dog or as a substitute for proper care, but rather as an adjunct. In general, it is safer for pets to be in an area where temperatures can be controlled.

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## **FDA Alert On Flea and Tick Products for Pets** By [Dr. Jerry Klein, CVO](#)

The U.S. Food and Drug Administration issued an alert for the public and professionals (September 2018). The products mentioned in the warning are very popular flea and tick preventatives. Many veterinarians I spoke with regularly prescribe these products for their patients and have **not been** seeing cats or dogs with symptoms such as the ones described in the alert. The **FDA considers these products safe to stay on the market.** If, however, you have concerns about the continued use of these products, you should contact your veterinarian to discuss the issue.

Here is more information on the topic:

The Food and Drug Administration has issued an alert advising pet owners of the potential for adverse reactions (muscle tremors, loss of muscle control and seizures) in dogs and cats when treated with drugs in the Isoxazoline class. The FDA continues to consider these products to be safe and effective for dogs and cats but is providing this information so that pet owners and veterinarians can consider it when choosing flea and tick products for their pets.

The drugs under this alert include commonly prescribed flea and tick preventatives such as Bravecto, Credelio, Nexgard, and Simparica. The FDA considers these products safe.

Additional information can be found on the [FDA website.](#)