



## **Welcome RePoe!**

In December, 2008, over 200 English shepherds and other breeds were seized from Linda Kapsa of Shady Lane Kennels in Ballantine, MT. While the court case slowly worked its way through the court system, National English Shepherd Rescue (NESR) and its volunteer personnel provided financial support and personnel to Yellowstone County and the Operation New Beginnings staff and volunteers in form of expert advice, training and behavior consultation, equipment, corporate donations of dog food, vaccines, medical supplies, and other necessities. The small but devoted worldwide community of English shepherd owners and fans stepped up to the plate with fundraisers and donations on an unprecedented scale. The English shepherd community regards this effort as the Hurricane Katrina of breed rescues. The recent conviction (Aug '09) of the dogs' former owner, Linda Kapsa, for felony animal cruelty allowed the dogs being held in Billings to be released from their status as criminal evidence, paving the way for their adoptions. We were hand-picked and approached to foster one of the special-needs dogs who has now been with us 6 weeks.

We're taking this privilege seriously and working hard to live up to the trust bestowed upon us. RePoe spent the first years of his life in a wire horse stall with a wooden box (no bedding) in about a foot of feces and mud. He likely never got out. He may or may not have had a stall buddy.

He's making progress with us, but it's glacially slow. Lots of patience is required for sure. The rest of our pack is making some inroads into bringing him out and convincing life is good. We've put some videos up on Canine Coach's

YouTube channel (CanineCoachWI) if you want to see what a challenge work like this can be. For more information on the seizure, court case and how the whole thing worked see NESRs website ([www.nesr.info](http://www.nesr.info)).



Seda the Swissy

## **Another New Addition**

Unlike Quigley and RePoe, this addition was planned.

On Sept 26<sup>th</sup>, Seda, our Greater Swiss Mountain Dog puppy arrived.

She's a little spit-fire keeping us on our toes. She got put to work (like all our pack) jumping in to help teach October's puppy class.

We're sure she'll make her presence known in many of our activities!

## Holiday Tips

It's hard to believe Halloween is here with Thanksgiving and Christmas close on its heels. If your dog is a little unsure about new situations or people, make sure s/he is tucked safely away in his/her crate or a room out of the commotion of trick or treaters and scary costumes. This will ensure your dog can't bolt out the door if s/he gets startled by something. Your dog will appreciate the quiet time amongst all the ghosts and ghouls.

## Sessions with Cesar

The name Cesar Millan tends to arouse great emotions in the dog world. Some people love him, some people hate him. Sharon's met him, seen him speak and seen him work with dogs. He is a great natural talent and has lots to teach people. He's good at communicating what the dog needs. You've all no doubt heard us at Canine Coach talk about energy and leadership because that is part of the dog training equation. Cesar is clear that he does not 'train' dogs - he is most focused on dog psychology & dog behavior modification, so owners can better understand their dogs, behaviors and any issues that arise. Canine Coach has decided to take advantage of an opportunity to use Cesar's talent to help enhance our relationships with our canine friends. Sessions With Cesar is an on-line course with video lessons and numerous printable materials which include calendars, tips, worksheets, milestones, progress charts and much more. We researched the course four months ago. While we don't agree 100% with all of it, we agree with most of it; enough of it to offer a special discount. If you're interested in signing up for Sessions with Cesar, contact us for a special code giving you a \$10 discount on your subscription. Hey, it might even make a great Christmas gift for someone!

## Dogs, Diapers and Beyond

Canine Coach is now carrying a booklet to help families expecting babies get their dog prepared for the bundle of joy. Makes a great baby shower gift for families expecting their two-legged pup!

## Upcoming Events

We're currently working on the 2010 schedule. Expect to see a Puppy Class in January along with Basic Leash & Collar class. Tricks Class (repeat of last year's) will be held sometime Jan-Feb. A First Aid class will be held in April. We're also trying to get some more E-Dogs group classes scheduled, too.

## Canine Coach on YouTube

Canine Coach now has a channel on YouTube. We have some videos up and plan on adding more. Maybe even some of you & your dog! When on YouTube, just search for us:  
CanineCoachWI



Keep an eye on the calendar at  
[www.caninecoach.net](http://www.caninecoach.net)  
for updates and additions to our schedule.