

Resolution Proclamation

To designate the month of January,

in Knoxville, Iowa USA

"Train Your Dog Month"

WHEREAS, dog ownership plays an important role in our society, with approximately 74.8 million dogs "owned" in the U.S. According to the Humane Society of the United State, between six and eight million dogs and cats are turned in to animal shelters each year, and about four million are euthanized for lack of good homes. Most dogs are turned into shelters or euthanized for common behavior and training issues. Research supports training and socializing dogs can reduce or even eliminate behavior problems in the future.

WHEREAS, the Association of Pet Dog Trainers, founded in 1993 by veterinarian Dr. Ian Dunbar, promotes caring relationships between dogs and people by educating trainers in canine behavior and emphasizing professionalism and reward-based training;

WHEREAS, the Association of Pet Dog Trainers has declared January to be "National Train Your Dog Month" to promote the importance of training and socialization to dog owners to provide safe, happy, and positive relationships between humans and their canines;

WHEREAS, the Association of Pet Dog Trainers' 5,000-plus members across the United States and the world are committed to advancing the vision that all dogs are effectively trained through dog-friendly techniques and therefore are lifelong companions in a relationship based on mutual trust and respect.

WHEREAS, proper dog training and socialization can reduce the number of dog bites in our communities, and create healthier relationships between dogs and owners, and decrease the number of dogs turned in to shelters each year, therefore making positive, humane training a critical component of a well-functioning society;

Now, therefore, let it be resolved by Brian Hatch, mayor of the City of Knoxville, that January is designated "Train Your Dog Month" in recognition of the Association of Pet Dog Trainers' work to promote education and professionalism to dog trainers, animal shelters, veterinarians, and the dog-owning public.