



# The Giant Hotline

Volume XII, Issue 1

March 2015

## Titers: An Important Tool to Prevent Over-Vaccination in Dogs

In January 2015, several hundred veterinarians made a commitment to end over-vaccination of dogs and cats.

That's a really big deal ... because most pets are vaccinated too often ... and now we finally have a way to put an end to this practice in a way that's affordable for us and acceptable for vets.

If you don't know what a titer is and how it can save your pet's life, do him the favor of reading this article. It can literally save his life.

### Why Your Dog's Vaccine Can Harm Him

Every pet owner fears infectious disease.

Parvovirus and distemper can be debilitating and even deadly for our pets, so we want to protect them. So we vaccinate.

But very few of us know that this protection comes at a cost.

Vaccines can be just as harmful to our pets and can cause a wide range of health problems that range from minor fever to anaphylactic shock and cancer (scroll down to the bottom of this article for a list of common vaccine reactions). So it's vital that we vaccinate our pets only when necessary.

The whole idea of vaccination is to protect our pets from harm – and that means protecting them not only from infectious disease, but also protecting from vaccine-induced damage.

I'm going to ask you to do something at the end of this article, so please remember that vaccines can both save lives and take lives.

*Continued, page 2*

## DON'T MISS SCGSC's



**Saturday, April 18, 2015**

11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

**Keller Sports Park Pavilion**

265 Golden Triangle Blvd.

Keller, TX 76248

Join us for a day in the park with our giants. The Club will provide the main dish, paper products and water. Please bring a "pot luck" dish, favorite beverage and a folding chair.

Please note that all dogs must be on leash or crated at all times.

Contact Jane Chism, [jchism456@aol.com](mailto:jchism456@aol.com), if you have any questions.

Hope you can join us!

### In this Issue . . .

Titers: An Important Tool . . . . .	1-3
President's Column . . . . .	4
AKC Rally . . . . .	5-7
Winnie Turns 14 . . . . .	8
Rescue Update . . . . .	9
Pollakiuria: Frequent Urination . . . . .	10
Westminster Kennel Club Results . . . . .	11
Jack's Corner . . . . .	12
GSCA National Specialty . . . . .	13-16
Cooking for Giants . . . . .	17
Detergent Pod Toxicity . . . . .	19
Robyn's Hints: Prevent Pet Suffocation . .	21
SCGSC Information . . . . .	21
SCGSC Application Form . . . . .	22

## Why Vets Are Still Over-Vaccinating

Twenty years ago, a very important research piece was published.

Veterinary immunologist, Dr Ronald Schultz studied every major vaccine in over a thousand dogs and every study he did delivered the same conclusion, every time:

**"Vaccines for diseases like distemper and canine parvovirus, once administered to adult animals, provide lifetime immunity." "Are we vaccinating too much?" JAVMA, No. 4, August 15, 1995, pg. 421.**

At the time this study was released, vets were vaccinating dogs and cats every year – not because they needed annual boosters, but because the makers of those vaccines only tested them for a few months.

Nobody knew how long vaccines really lasted ...

But thanks to Dr Schultz's work, the major veterinary associations now knew that the core vaccines were extremely likely to protect dogs and cats for life. So in 2003, they changed their revaccination guidelines.

Now this might sound like a great step forward, but there were two problems with this.

First, the AAHA and AVMA only changed their recommendations from annual to every three years.

Dr. Richard Ford, Professor of Medicine, North Carolina State University, a member of the AAHA task force, said this was just a compromise. "It's completely arbitrary...I will say there is no science behind the three-year recommendation..."

So the veterinary associations are still allowing vets to vaccinate more often than necessary, based on research.

This problem is compounded because the revaccination guidelines are merely recommendations. This means vets can vaccinate whenever they feel is necessary.

And according to a major vaccine manufacturer, 60 percent of vets still vaccinate annually.

"Profits are what vaccine critics believe is at the root of the profession's resistance to update its protocols. Without the lure of vaccines, clients might be less inclined to make yearly veterinary visits. **Vaccines add up to 14 percent of the average practice's income,**

AAHA reports, and veterinarians stand to lose big. I suspect some are ignoring my work," says Schultz. "Tying vaccinations into the annual visit became prominent in the 1980s and a way of practicing in the 1990s. Now veterinarians don't want to give it up."

So we pet owners are up against it ...

How do we protect our dogs and cats from infectious disease while limiting their risk of vaccine damage?

## Titer Testing: Putting Science Behind Vaccination

The first step is to realize that, until recently, vaccine schedules have been based on nothing more than speculation.

But what many pet owners don't understand is that vets have always been able to tell whether a vaccine was needed or not. A simple blood test, called a titer, can show whether your dog is protected and whether he needs another vaccine.

To date, very few of us have been using this life-saving tool.

Why are we so quick to give our dogs life-saving vaccines, but not life-saving titer tests?

Until recently, cost and convenience have been a barrier: titers were expensive and we didn't get results right away... vets had to draw the blood and send it to a lab first. Maybe that's why vets haven't been offering this life-saving tool to pet owners and have just been giving vaccines instead ... unnecessary and potentially dangerous vaccines.

But recently, that's all changed. Vets and pet owners can finally put an end to dangerous and unscientific vaccine schedules.

Here's how...

There are two in-house titer tests that are now available to vets. This means the test is done right in your vet's clinic and you get quick results. TiterCHEK and Vaccicheck are the two simple tests your vet can do right in his clinic, for about the same amount of money as a vaccine.

These two tests have been available for some time now but, just like vets are slow to change their vaccine schedules, they're slow to start using titer tests

*Continued, page 3*

TITERS, Continued from page 2

to determine whether your dog actually needs his next vaccine. Some vets would prefer to just give the vaccine ... and that one shot could be the one to cause serious and irreparable damage to your dog.

But you have a choice as the owner of your dog or cat. You can choose to allow your vet to over-vaccinate your pet or you can choose to protect your pet and ask your vet for a titer test instead.

Which takes me back to the beginning ...

In January 2015, Dr. Richard Ford delivered a lecture on titer tests at the NAVC that was so popular, that over 400 vets were lined up out the door to get in. There are vets who care about over-vaccination and the damage it can cause and these vets should be supported.

And you need to do your part too - and your part is the most important!

These 400 vets will only use these titer tests if you ask for it. Don't let this lecture go to waste - ask your vet for a titer test in lieu of your pet's next vaccine. And if your vet doesn't know what a titer test is, send her this link and let her see Dr. Ford's lecture below and PDF handout for herself. If she still doesn't want to do a titer test, then move on to a vet who is willing to go the extra mile to protect your pet from harm.

You also need to know how to interpret titer tests. (For more information on this, read "The Simple Guide to Titer Testing Dogs" by Jessica Peralta, [www.dogsnaturallymagazine.com](http://www.dogsnaturallymagazine.com).)

#### Common Vaccine Reactions:

- Lethargy
- Hair Loss, hair color change at injection Site
- Fever
- Soreness
- Stiffness
- Refusal to eat
- Conjunctivitis
- Sneezing
- Oral ulcers

#### Moderate Reactions:

- Immunosuppression
- Behavioral changes
- Vitiligo
- Weight loss (Cachexia)
- Reduced milk production

- Lameness
- Granulomas/Abscesses
- Hives
- Facial Edema
- Atopy
- Respiratory disease
- Allergic uveitis (Blue Eye)

#### Severe Reactions triggered by Vaccines:

- Vaccine injection site sarcomas
- Anaphylaxis
- Arthritis, polyarthritis
- HOD hypertrophy osteodystrophy
- Autoimmune Hemolytic Anemia
- Immune Mediated Thrombocytopenia (IMTP)
- Hemolytic disease of the newborn (Neonatal Isoerythrolysis)
- Thyroiditis
- Disease or enhanced disease which with the vaccine was designed to prevent
- Myocarditis
- Post vaccinal Encephalitis or polyneuritis
- Seizures
- Abortion, congenital anomalies, embryonic/fetal death, failure to conceive ■

Dogs Naturally Magazine  
[www.dogsnaturally.com](http://www.dogsnaturally.com)



## SCGSC FALL ROUND UP

Saturday, October 17, 2015

Watch for more details in the  
next issue of *The Hotline*.

## PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

by Jean Erath

Happy Spring...finally! We appear to have survived a brutally cold winter up here in Minnesota. Normally I am very jealous of my Texas friends, but this year was no picnic for them either! Even the dogs, most of whom love the cold and snow, are done with this winter.

Our winter vacation this year was a trip to New York for the Westminster Dog Show. We arrived in time to experience record breaking cold temperatures. Supposedly it was the coldest it had been since 1896, and we were there to enjoy it. Wow, you can't plan that! Thor was fortunate to receive an Award of Merit, so the trip was worth it and we had a ball!



There are lots of fun activities to participate in with your Giant. If you don't believe me, just ask Rick Penn. Rick and his girl, Jazz (AKA Turbo Butt) have been having the time of their lives competing in Agility. I've had fun following his posts on Facebook. Many of our members do therapy work with their Giants. If there is something you would like to try, reach

out to the membership. Everyone is always happy to talk about the fun they have with their Giants!

It's been great to stay in touch with many of you through Facebook. If you are not a member on our club page and want to be, please reach out and let us know. Our club page is a great way to stay connected. Along with seeing lots of fun pictures and reading very funny stories filled with Giant antics, we've shared illnesses and losses as well. Our club provides a warm, supportive community for a group of people that have a Giant Passion. I am immersed in the senior years with four of my Giant kids. Three will turn eleven this year and one will turn ten, not to mention my Soft-coated Wheaten Terrier will be twelve. Every trip to the vet is a cause for angst, as it seems like a "routine visit" becomes a gift rather than the norm. As the saying goes...it takes a village. I guess this is just another example. We get through these tough senior years with great vets and lots of support from our friends.

You should have April 18<sup>th</sup> marked on your calendars for Spring Fling. I look forward to seeing many of you then. It will be great to get out and enjoy the sunshine, nice weather (hopefully) and the Giants! Jane Chism has planned another fun event for us, which will not disappoint! ■



# AKC RALLY

## What is AKC Rally?

AKC Rally® is the new dog sport that is taking the nation by storm, a successful stepping stone from the AKC Canine Good Citizen® program to the world of obedience or agility. Rally offers both the dogs and handlers an experience that is fun and energizing. AKC Rally® is a companion sport to AKC Obedience. Both require teamwork between dog and handler along with similar performance skills.

Rally provides an excellent introduction to AKC Companion Events for new dogs and handlers and can provide a challenging opportunity for competitors in other events to strengthen their skills. The dog and handler team move at their own pace, very similar to rally-style auto racing.

Rally was designed with the traditional pet owner in mind, but it can still be very challenging for those who enjoy higher levels of competition. A rally course includes 10 to 20 stations, depending on the level. Scoring is not as rigorous as traditional obedience. Communication from the handler to the dog is encouraged and perfect heel position is not required, but there should be a sense of teamwork and enthusiasm as they go through the course.

The team of dog and handler moves continuously at a brisk, but normal, pace with the dog under control at the handler's left side. There should be a sense of teamwork between the dog and handler both during the numbered exercises and between the exercise signs; however, perfect "heel position" is not required. Any faults in traditional obedience that would be evaluated and scored as a one-point deduction or more should be scored the same in Rally, unless otherwise mentioned in the Rally Regulations. After the judge's "Forward" order, the team is on its own to complete the entire sequence of numbered signs correctly.

Unlimited communication from the handler to the dog is to be encouraged and not penalized. Unless otherwise specified in these Regulations, handlers are permitted to talk, praise, encourage, clap their hands, pat their legs, or use any verbal means of encouragement.

## CH Elliott Unique Sapphire Scout VCD1 RE OAP NF



*Robyn Elliott and Scout competing in Rally.*

Scout, at 12 years old attended the 2014 National Specialty in St. Louis, MO and competed in Rally. He is just one leg (qualification) short of his Rally Advanced Excellent (RAE) title. At the National, Scout had to qualify in both Rally Excellent and Rally Advanced. On two of the days, including the National Specialty, he earned the High Combined award for getting the top score in both Rally Excellent and Rally Advanced!

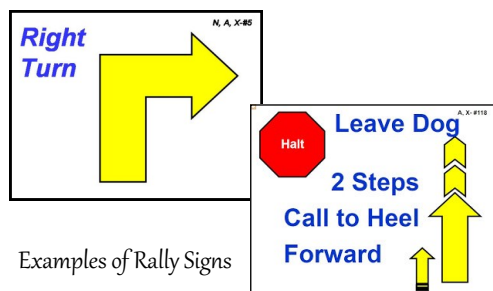
It is so fun to have a veteran dog still actively competing. Rally seems to be a lot more fun to Scout. It is like an obedience obstacle course, instead of the traditional obedience tasks. In Rally, there are signs to tell the handler what exercise to perform and the handler can ask the judge clarifying questions about each obstacle. The handler can talk to the dog, give multiple commands and even clap or point in novice and advanced.

Multiple commands and/or signals using one or both arms and hands are allowed; the handler's arms need not be maintained in any particular position at any time. The handler may not touch the dog or make physical corrections. At any time during the performance, loud or harsh commands or intimidating signals will be penalized.

Rally provides a link from the Canine Good Citizen® (CGC) program to obedience or agility competition, both for dogs and handlers. In addition, rally promotes fun and enjoyment for dogs at all levels of competition.

## Rally Signs

The signs may be any color and they include descriptions as well as directional arrows of exercises. Signs are numbered to make it easy to find the next station when navigating the course. All signs are placed to the handler's right side. The signs are large enough to be easily recognized when going through a course. The exercises designated on the signs will be performed in close proximity to the sign itself, either directly in front of, or in front of and to the left of the sign.



## Levels of Competition

The three levels of competition in AKC Rally:

**Novice** – this is the first level for those just getting started in competition.

- All exercises are performed with the dog on leash.
- There is a requirement of 10-15 stations to complete with no more than five stationary exercises.
- The exercises performed vary from turning 360 degrees to changing paces during the course.
- Exhibitors at this level may clap their hands and pat their legs through the course.

**Advanced** – this is the second level, which includes more difficult exercises throughout the course.

- All exercises are performed off-leash.
- There is a requirement of 12-17 stations with no more than seven stationary exercises.
- Exercises include a jump as well as calling your dog to the front of you instead of to a heel position.

**Excellent** – this third and highest level of AKC Rally is the most challenging.

- Exercises are performed off-leash except for the honor exercise.
- There is a requirement of 15-20 stations, with no more than 7 stationary exercises.

- Handlers are only allowed to encourage their dogs verbally. Physical encouragement is not allowed at this level.
- The Excellent-level exercises include backing up three steps, while the dog stays in the heel position and a moving stand, while the handler walks around the dog.

## Qualifying Performance/Score

A qualifying performance indicates that the dog has performed the required exercises according to the AKC Rally Regulations. Each performance is timed, but times are only counted if two dogs earn the same score. All dogs and handlers begin with a perfect 100. A dog and handler team is awarded a qualifying score if it retains at least 70 points after the course has been completed. Once the team has completed the course, their score will be posted ringside.

## Rally Titles

The dogs must earn three qualifying scores under two different judges in order to receive a rally title. The titles that can be earned are:

Rally Novice: RN  
Rally Advanced: RA  
Rally Excellent: RE  
Rally Advanced Excellent: RAE

The requirement for the RAE title is that the dog must qualify ten times in both the Advanced B class and the Excellent B class at the same trial.

## How do I get started in Rally?

Many AKC clubs conduct a variety of classes, instructed by experienced trainers who have earned titles and awards in obedience competitions with their own dogs. These people are up-to-date on the latest training techniques. They have experience training different breeds of dogs, mixed breeds and purebreds, and prospective students are usually welcome to observe a class before signing up for a training course.

When you attend a class with your dog, instructors will show you how to train your dog and will expect you to practice at home. The younger the dog, the shorter the practice sessions should be. For the best results, both you and your dog should enjoy frequent short sessions, combined with some play and rewards.

To find AKC clubs in your area that offer training, please visit our Training Resources section of our website, [www.akc.org](http://www.akc.org).

*Continued, page 7*

Rally, continued

## Eligibility to Perform in AKC Performance Events

To be eligible to compete in AKC Rally trials, or other AKC performance events, a dog must be six months of age or older and be either:

- Registered with the AKC
- Listed with the AKC Purebred Alternative Listing/Indefinite Listing Privilege (PAL/ILP) program
- Listed with the AKC Canine Partners program.

## The Purebred Alternative Listing/Indefinite Listing Privilege (PAL/ILP)

Dogs of any breed recognized by the AKC that do not have registration papers or known parents may qualify for a Purebred Alternative Listing/Indefinite Listing Privilege (PAL/ILP). PAL/ILP dogs may participate in

certain AKC events, such as obedience, agility, tracking, rally and many performance events. Photos are required to prove the dog is a registerable breed. The dog must be spayed or neutered. For more information about the PAL/ILP program, visit the PAL/ILP section on the AKC web site, or e-mail questions to [PAL@akc.org](mailto:PAL@akc.org).

## AKC Canine Partners Program

The AKC Canine Partners program is for anyone who has a dog they want to enter AKC events with. This program allows mixed-breed dogs or dogs ineligible for AKC registration to compete in AKC events such as obedience, rally, and agility. The dogs must be spayed or neutered in order to compete. For more information about the AKC Canine Partners program you can visit the AKC Canine Partners homepage or if you have any questions, you can email [akccaninepartners@akc.org](mailto:akccaninepartners@akc.org) ■

*excerpted from American Kennel Club website  
[www.akc.org](http://www.akc.org)*



These snow bunnies are having fun!  
They belong to Chris & Jean Erath.

*Top row:*  
Olivia

*Bottom row:*  
Payton,  
Olivia and Payton



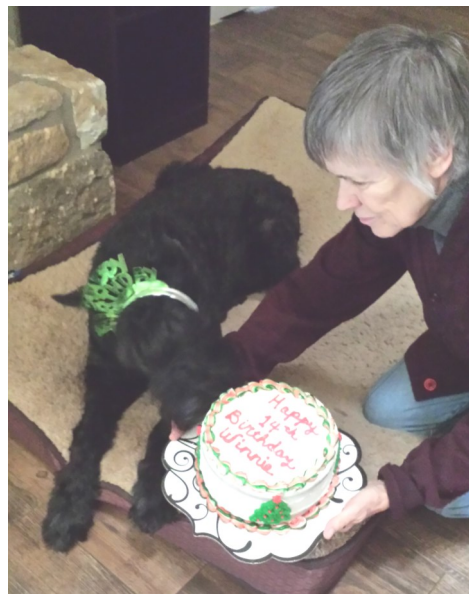
## Winnie Turns 14

Ch. Blitz' Winterwonderland celebrated her 14<sup>th</sup> birthday in style in December 2014. She had requested a new memory mattress, which she promptly added to her three mattresses (she likes to be the Princess and the Pea). In addition, she received many toys from her cousins (Turti and Luther and Zoe and Barkley Chism). Under Luther's guidance, the celebration began with cheeseburgers from the Golden Arches (complete with candles). The following weekend, Jane, Zoe, and Barkley Chism continued the party by bringing more presents and an Italian Crème Cake. Highlights of the weekend include Luther stealing all the toys and Winnie running to the table for more cake, sneaking under Jane's arm in order to be near the fork.



At a much younger age, Winnie received her Championship in 2002. Most of her wins were in Colorado and the Rocky Mountains. However, she did come back to the Texas/Louisiana area to finish her championship. During her show career, Winnie received two Group 4, a Group 2, and the First Prize in the 12-18 month Sweepstakes at the Giant Schnauzer Club Western Region Specialty held in Denver (February 2002). Winnie retired from the show ring, had two litters of puppies, and then settled down to become the Grande Dame of Central Texas.

Winnie is already planning her party for next year. Of course, she expects many more presents, another mattress, cheeseburgers, and another Italian Crème Cake.



Winnie is owned and loved by Tina Fields.



## RESCUE UPDATE

by Jane Chism

I hope everyone had great holidays! The one thing that unfortunately never ends is Rescue. The last couple of months have been no exception, with phone calls about two giants looking for new homes. I'd like to send out special thanks to Ann Etta Dunning, Brenda Cejka and Audrey Fox for their help!

Ann Etta contacted me in December about a young female. She picked her up and kept her until Tina Fields could get there to take her. Since then we're happy to report that she's gone off to a fantastic home in the Pacific Northwest, and obviously loves her new Mom!



*Mollee*

In January Audrey contacted me about a possible giant rescue in the Houston area, and that very evening I got a phone call from the home that was fostering him. I asked for pictures, and imagine my surprise to see a young male pepper/salt giant! I contacted Brenda Cejka for help. She and Robert immediately went to get him. As it happens though, his time in rescue was short-lived. I understand there were some kisses on their way home, and by the time their short drive was over, Max became a permanent member of the Cejka family!



*Max*



Tina and I really appreciate the help and support. Both rescues are in fantastic homes now due to the efforts of our SCGSC members! ■

**WELCOME TO NEW  
SCGSC MEMBERS**

**Gaby Donley  
&  
Ellen Vannoy**

## Pollakiuria: Why is My Pet Urinating More Often Than Normal?

Pollakiuria is a fun word to pronounce (pol'ă-kē-yū'rē-ă), but it's certainly not a fun symptom to deal with. Pollakiuria means increased frequency of urination. Dogs with this symptom ask to go outside more frequently than normal, often round the clock. The well house trained dog may begin leaving puddles in the house and cats with pollakiuria are in and out of the litter box with increased frequency. Some kitties abandon the box altogether choosing other places to urinate.

### Pollakiuria caused by lower urinary tract disease

Pollakiuria is most commonly caused by abnormalities within the lower urinary tract, consisting of the bladder and urethra. The urethra is the narrow tube that transports urine from the bladder to the outside world.

Lower urinary tract disease may cause a dog or cat to sense the need to urinate well before their bladder is full, and the puddles produced are quite small. If ever you've experienced a bladder infection, no doubt you can relate to this sensation.

Common lower urinary tract maladies that cause pollakiuria include:

1. Bacterial infection within the bladder, aka bacterial cystitis: common in dogs, relatively uncommon in cats
2. Stones within the bladder or urethra: common in dogs and cats
3. Feline idiopathic cystitis (FIC)- an inflammatory condition of unknown cause affecting the bladder and/or urethra: purely cats
4. Tumors or polyps within the bladder or urethra: relatively common in dogs, less common in cats

### Pollakiuria caused by increased thirst

Some diseases causing pollakiuria are associated with increased thirst (polydipsia). Excess water intake and excess urine production (polyuria) go hand in hand. The animal drinks more, therefore the bladder fills more rap-

idly and frequently, and the puddles produced are quite large. Causes of increased thirst and urine production in dogs and cats include:

1. Hormonal imbalances
  - Diabetes mellitus: dogs and cats
  - Diabetes insipidus: primarily dogs
  - Hyperadrenocorticism (Cushing's disease): primarily dogs
  - Hyperthyroidism: primarily cats
2. Kidney disease
  - Kidney failure: dogs and cats
  - Pyelonephritis (kidney infection): dogs and cats
3. Liver disease: dogs and cats
4. Pyometra: primarily dogs
5. Medications
  - Cortisone containing products: primarily dogs
  - Anti-seizure medications: dogs and cats
  - Diuretics: dogs and cats

### Recognizing pollakiuria

Some pollakiuric pets show overt symptoms (the kitty who urinates in the bathroom sink or the dog who leaves a bedside puddle for you to step in first thing in the morning). Other pets show more subtle symptoms. Be on the lookout for:

- Increased frequency of urination on walks
- Increased number of puddles in the litter box
- A litter box that needs to be changed more frequently
- Interrupted sleep because your pet is asking to go outside
- The need to fill the water bowl more frequently than usual

If such symptoms arise, I encourage you to schedule a visit with your veterinarian. Do your best to arrive with a full bladder (your pet's that is) because testing a urine sample will be an important first step in arriving at a diagnosis. This is best accomplished by taking your kitty's litter box away a few hours prior to the office visit. Likewise, avoid walking your dog before the visit, and get into the waiting room quickly so as to avoid those many tempting places to urinate just outside the clinic.

by Nancy Kay, DVM  
[www.speakingforspot.com/blog](http://www.speakingforspot.com/blog)

Recipient, AKC Club Publication Excellence Award      *Diplomate, American College of Veterinary Internal Medicine*  
*Author of Speaking for Spot: Be the Advocate Your Dog Needs to Live a Happy, Healthy, Longer Life*  
*Author of Your Dog's Best Health: A Dozen Reasonable Things to Expect From Your Vet*  
*Recipient, Leo K. Bustad Companion Animal Veterinarian of the Year Award*  
*Recipient, American Animal Hospital Association Animal Welfare and Humane Ethics Award*  
*Recipient, Dog Writers Association of America Award for Best Blog*

# Westminster Kennel Club 2015

## **BEST OF BREED COMPETITION RESULTS**

February 17, 2015

Judge: Mr. Robert Shreve

### **Best of Breed: GCH SKANSEN'S HOLY KNIGHT**

Sex: Dog Breeder: Sylvia Hammastrom Owner: Cornelia King

### **Best of Opposite Sex: GCH LOWDOWN REMYS GIRL V ARDENHOUT**

Sex: Bitch Breeder: Janine Starink & Lisa Hawes Owner: Linda Low & Lisa Hawes & Janine Starink

### **Select Dog: CH SKANSEN'S KALIFORNIA**

Sex: Dog Breeder: Sylvia Hammarstrom Owner: Ben Franzoso & Anna Stromberg

### **Select Bitch: GCH KENRO'S TIME IS MONEY**

Sex: Bitch Breeder: Robin J Greenslade Owner: Margaret R McGee & Robin J Greenslade

### **Award of Merit: GCH NIGHTLINE VIKING AT TANGLEWOOD**

Sex: Dog Breeder: Deborah L Wiebe & Ed Fojtik Owner: Chris & Jean Erath & Ed Fojtik & Catherine Watterson



Congratulations to SCGSC Members Jean & Chris Erath and Catherine Watterson on (GCH Nightline Viking at Tanglewood) being awarded an Award of Merit at Westminster. Thor was handled by his co-breeder and co-owner Ed Fojtik.



## Jack's Corner

by Carol Brosowske

I really hate to complain because I love my house and my family. Lately things have changed somewhat over the past couple of months and I'm feeling a bit ignored. There seems to be a new kid in town. I was excited with the news at first. I love children, they always play with me, give me belly rubs and we have loads of fun playing ball. Not with this one though. Everyone in the house is going ga-ga over this little pink bundle called a granddaughter. Camera flashes are constantly going off, but this time that camera isn't pointed at me like usual. I just don't get it! This tiny little bundle doesn't do anything, even when I give her my toy and try to give her big kisses, I am shooed

away. It's rather insulting. And BOY oh BOY is she ever noisy.

I remember being little like that once, but even at that age I had rules and was made to go outside to do my personal business. This little thing has no rules and she does her business in the house all the time. She even pooped on my dad the other day and he laughed. He would never have done that with me or any of my fur siblings.



Elisa aka "Pink Bundle"

I was so relieved when she finally left, now things are getting back to normal. Mom told me one day that I will have fun with that granddaughter, but she really isn't my type. Personally I don't see that ever happening.

I can hardly wait til Spring Fling where I can see all my giant friends again. Hope there are no pink bundles there. ■



Pat Krapf's "Kai" enjoying the rare Texas snow.

## **GIANT SCHNAUZER CLUB OF AMERICA 2014 NATIONAL SPECIALTY**

The National Specialty weekend of the Giant Schnauzer Club of America was held at Purina Farms in Grey Summit, Missouri on October 31—November 2, 2014. Held in conjunction with the Bouvier des Flanders Club, the spacious facility and beautiful grounds were enjoyed by the exhibitors and spectators alike. There were many activities and events to participate in, such as conformation, obedience, rally, agility, herding, and carting,

Since the weekend coincided with Halloween, exhibitors were encouraged to decorate their crating/grooming set-ups. There was also a costume contest for the dogs, which was a lot of fun!

SCGSC was well-represented in the ribbons and awards. The 2015 National Specialty will be held on September 4—6, 2015 in Greeley, Colorado. Plan to attend for a weekend full of Giant Schnauzer activities.

### **GSCA NATIONAL SPECIALTY SHOW RESULTS**

#### **SWEEPSTAKES**

*Judge - Kimberly Demchak*

**Best In Sweepstakes (Puppy)** - Momentum In the Limelight

**Best of Opposite Sex (Puppy)** - Brighton's Yankee Clipper

**Best In Sweepstakes (Veteran)** - CH Sonnenschein Last'n Mpression

**Best of Opposite Sex (Veteran)** - CH Elk Runs Sassie Girl

#### **BREED**

*Judge – Dr. Klaus Anselm*

##### Regular Classes

**Best of Breed** - GCH Momentum Stars and Bright Lights TD

**Best of Opposite Sex** - GCH Ramahill Absolutes I Am Legend of RW

**Select Dog** - CH Riesenrad's Love of the Slopes

**Select Bitch** - CH Ingebars I Live for the Applause

**Award of Merit** - CH Sonnenschein Verano

**Award of Merit** - Fanta C's Spice of Life

**Award of Merit** - GCH Lowdown Remys Girl V Ardenhout

**Award of Merit** - CH Delarive ReCherChe Rhapsody

**Winners Dog** - Ingebar's Tynan Dances with Wildflowers

**Winners Bitch/Best of Winners** - Aerdenhout's Best Cellar

##### Non-regular Classes

**Stud Dog Dogs** - GCH Galilee Ingebar's Bad Romance

**Veteran Bitches** - CH Elk Runs Sassie Girl

**Brood Bitch Bitches** - GCH Spicerack She's All That RN CA

#### **OBEDIENCE/RALLY**

*Judge – Ginger Kinion*

##### Obedience

High In Trial - CH Momentum Fade to Black UD GO RAE

##### Rally

High Combined - CH Elliott Unique Sapphire Scout VCD1 RE OAP NF

## GSCA NATIONAL SPECIALTY - SHOW RESULTS



### *Best of Opposite Sex in Puppy Sweepstakes*

"Joe," handled by owner Emily Kent, is shown after winning the 12-18 month dog class and Best of Opposite Sex in Sweepstakes.

*Owners:*

Emily Kent & Pat Gandy

*Breeders:*

Pat Gandy & Leta Whittington

## BRIGHTON'S YANKEE CLIPPER

*Joe's littermate "Annie" won the 12-18 month bitch class in Sweepstakes at the National Specialty under judge Kim Demchak.*

*Owners:*

*Jim & Leta Suarez,  
Leta Whittington, Pat Gandy,  
& Sierra Ward*

*Breeders:*

*Pat Gandy & Leta Whittington*

*Handler:*

*Sierra Ward*



## Brighton's Yes I Can

## GSCA NATIONAL SPECIALTY - SHOW RESULTS



### *Best in Veteran Sweepstakes*

*Judge:*  
Kim Demchak

*Breeder/Handler:*  
Kathy Heschke

*Owners:*  
Enid & Jay Lagree

## CH. SONNENSCHN EIN LAST'N IMPRESSION "Luke"

### Scenes of Purina Farms



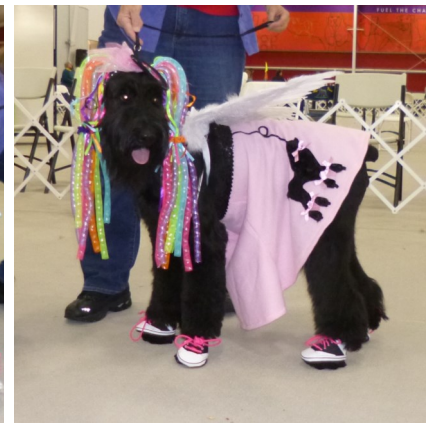
*Left & right:* Two of the beautiful  
topiaries in front of the Purina  
Farms Event Center.

*Above:* The outdoor agility field.





Brenda & Robert Cejka's German Fraulein "Tequila Rose"



Jim & Leta Suarez's Teen Angel "Annie"

## SCGSC GIANTS PARTICIPATED IN THE COSTUME CONTEST AT THE NATIONAL



Leta Whittington's "Penny" as a Caribbean Girl.



Emily Kent & Pat Gandy's "Joe" as Blackbeard the Pirate

The grooming/crating area was decorated with the Halloween theme.





# COOKING FOR GIANTS

*Did you know there is a National Dog Biscuit Day? Yep, there is and this year it was celebrated on February 23rd. In honor of the holiday, here's a treat recipe sure to please your giant. Made with honey, vanilla and cinnamon, these crispy, crunchy dog biscuits will be a big hit.*

## **Crunchy Honey Cinnamon Dog Biscuits**



### **Ingredients:**

1/2 cup vegetable oil  
1/2 cup honey  
1 teaspoon vanilla  
1 egg  
2 tablespoons milk  
2 1/2 cups whole wheat flour  
1 teaspoon baking powder  
1/2 teaspoon cinnamon

### **Directions:**

1. Preheat your oven to 375 and lightly grease a couple of baking sheets.
2. In a large mixing bowl, add the oil, honey, vanilla, cinnamon, milk and egg. Once you've got that mixed, stir in the flour and baking powder. Mix until a dough forms.
3. On a lightly floured surface, dump out the contents of the bowl and then knead it until all of the ingredients are incorporated and it can be spread using a rolling pin. Roll the dough out to about a 1/4" thickness and then either cut using cookie cutters or a pizza cutter.
4. Place the uncooked biscuits on your baking sheets and bake for 13-15 minutes. Let cool.
5. Store at room temperature in an airtight container.

*Recipe by Monique, [www.DogTreatRecipes.org](http://www.DogTreatRecipes.org)*

*Got a favorite recipe for your giant that you'd like to share? Send it in!*



## ***A Reminder . . .***

**SCGSC 2015  
Membership Dues Are Due**

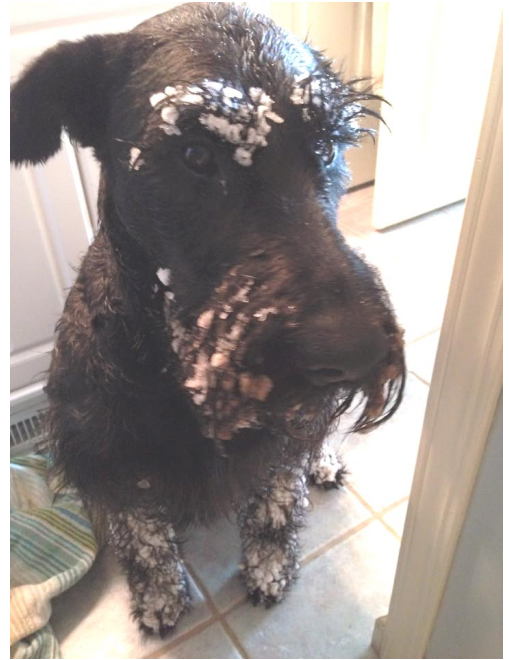
***Be sure to send in your payment to***

**Scott Turnbull, SCGSC  
550 Talia Circle  
Fairview, TX 75069-6834  
\$25 individual; \$30 family**

# LET IT SNOW!



Kathryn Bullon's "Empress Sophie" surveying her realm.



"Get this stuff off of me!"  
"Brie" belongs to Julie Draper.



Stone & Stacy Thompson's "G-Force," here with Stone, enjoying a snowfall of the past.



## PHOTO CREDITS IN THIS ISSUE:

Kathryn Bullon  
Brenda Cejka  
Julie Draper  
Robyn Elliott

Jean Erath  
Tina Fields  
JoAnn Friese  
Pat Gandy

Susan Horak  
Pat Krapf  
Stacey Thompson  
Catherine Watterson

## Laundry or Dishwasher Detergent Pod Toxicity in Dogs



by: Dr. Debra Primovic, DVM  
PetPlace.com



*I want to tell you about something in your home which could be an emergency waiting to happen. Recently, I've heard lots of reports of toxicity (poisoning) related to laundry or dish detergent in the form of pods or capsules.*

*Have you seen these pods before? They fit right in the palm of your hand, and they are usually made of powder detergent (sometimes with liquid soap as well). Because these pods are the right size and shape to fit into a dog's mouth, pets will naturally want to play with, chew on, and sometimes ingest them. This can spell major danger for dogs and other pets. Learn more about **detergent pod toxicity** today before using these seemingly harmless cleaning products around your dog.*

*Poisonings are preventable. The more you know, the better you can protect your dog.*

**L**audry and dishwasher detergent pods are single use packages of detergent shaped into balls or rectangles shapes commonly referred to as "pods". The detergent is packaged with an outer wrapper that is easily dissolved by water. The laundry detergent pods come in round and rectangular shapes and attractive colors that attract dogs and appear as toys. Some dogs will play with, bat, chase, as well as bite in to or ingest these "pods".

Pets have a long history of exposure to various soaps and detergents but the potential for toxicity has increased with the development of washer-friendly "soap pod" packaging.

This new packaging is convenient and cleaner than traditional liquids or powders. However, the toy-like appearance of the pods can attract a pet's attention more easily than other detergents. In the course of playing, your dog may ingest some or all of the soap as well as the wrapper.

According to the Pet Product Hotline - signs can be severe because they pods are highly concentrated and pressurized. When the pod is punctured, the pressure can cause product to forcefully enter the pets mouth which can be ingested or aspirated (inhaled) in to the lungs. It is also possible for ingestion of a pod to cause ulcerations in the stomach.

Symptoms of Laundry or Dishwasher Detergent Pod Toxicity:

Chemical oral burns may not show up immediately. It may be several hours before you notice any of the following symptoms:

- Vomiting
- Lethargy
- Wheezing
- Excessive swallowing
- Lack of interest in eating
- Chemical burns to the tongue can cause a whitening of the surface skin tissue.
- Cough
- Trouble breathing
- Drooling

According to the Pet Poison Helpline (PPH), severe clinical signs were associated with dogs exposed to the detergent pods. PPH data showed that 72.19% of pets developed clinical signs including vomiting, cough, lethargy, and trouble breathing.

### Diagnosis of Laundry or Dishwasher Detergent Pod Toxicity in Dogs

The determination of a toxicity diagnosis is most often based on the history of ingestion of a detergent pod. Some pet owners may not witness ingestion but see or smell detergent in the vomit.

*Continued, page 20*

## Treatment of Laundry or Dishwasher Detergent Pod Ingestion in Dogs

The treatment for soap or detergent ingestion depends on the type of chemicals ingested and how much of the mouth, esophagus and stomach are involved.

There is no specific antidote. The primary treatment is to dilute the exposed site as much as possible.

The following guidelines are useful for immediate care prior to veterinary attention:

### INGESTION

- If soap or detergent has been ingested, the best initial treatment is to flush the mouth with large amounts of water to limit the damage.
- **DO NOT induce vomiting.** Doing so may cause more harm as sensitive tissues are exposed to caustic or toxic chemicals again.
- Call your veterinarian to determine the severity of the product ingested.

### EYE EXPOSURE

If the detergent gets in your pet's eyes, flush the area with water or sterile saline solution for 20 minutes. Seek veterinary attention as pets may have a corneal ulceration that needs specialized care. For more information - please read *Corneal Ulceration in Dogs*.

### DERMAL (SKIN) EXPOSURE

If detergent gets on your pet's skin, the best treatment is flushing or rinsing the area for 10 minutes with cool water.

### RESPIRATORY EXPOSURE

Mild symptoms may be treated with supportive care including limited activity to minimize respiratory effort.

Antibiotics may be indicated if a secondary infection is suspected.

Severe respiratory signs may require oxygen support, steroids to decrease inflammation, drugs to dilate (bronchodilators) the airways and oxygen therapy to support the respiratory system.

## ADDITIONAL VETERINARY CARE

If the burn is isolated to the mouth, a topical cleaning agent such as Gly-oxide® is used three times daily. This can help remove dead tissue and reduce the risk of infection.

Medications such as sucralfate (Carafate®) are used when the esophagus and stomach are affected. Sucralfate is a medication that coats the injured tissues and helps hasten recovery.

Some pets with severe chemical oral burns do not have the desire to eat. Maintaining nutrition is important in the healing process. Animals that will not eat on their own will require a temporary feeding tube. Most commonly, a tube is placed through the esophagus or stomach a slurry of food in then fed several times a day to ensure adequate calorie intake.

Pain control medication may be necessary.

Severe burns in the mouth or esophagus may require hydration with fluid therapy.

Most chemical oral burns heal within 1-2 weeks.

## Prevention of Laundry or Dishwasher Detergent Pod Toxicity

It is crucial to keep all chemicals safely stored away from inquisitive pets. Do not leave household cleaners unattended near your dog.

We hope this gives you more information about laundry pod and dishwasher detergent ingestion and toxicity. ■

### **POISON CONTROL HOTLINE**

If you have any reason to suspect your pet has ingested something toxic, please contact your veterinarian or the 24-hr. hotline at:

**ANIMAL POISON CONTROL CENTER**

**(888) 426-4435**

# ROBYN'S HINTS

by Robyn Elliott

## Prevent Pet Suffocation!



Most people are not aware of the SUFFOCATION hazards of chip bags. Many chip bags are made from a strong mylar-like material that can be deadly to your pets.

Once the dog puts his head into the bag, the bag creates a vacuum-like seal around his neck. As he tries to breathe, the bag tightens around his neck, cutting off the oxygen.

Dogs can and do die within minutes!

**Please store chip bags safely  
away from your dog's reach.  
Cut or tear up all chip bags after use!**



illustration © Lili Chin doggedrawings.net

[www.facebook.com/PreventPetSuffocation](http://www.facebook.com/PreventPetSuffocation)  
[www.preventpetsuffocation.com](http://www.preventpetsuffocation.com)



## SOUTH CENTRAL GIANT SCHNAUZER CLUB

### Officers

*President* : Jean Erath  
*Vice President*: Pat Gandy  
*Secretary*: Jane Chism  
*Treasurer*: Tina Fields

### Board of Directors

Bill Ameser  
Judi Boston  
Brian Ernest  
Stacey Thompson  
Leta Whittington

### Website

[www.giantschnauzerclub.org](http://www.giantschnauzerclub.org)

### Facebook

**South Central Giant Schnauzer Club**

### Publication

The Hotline is the official newsletter of the South Central Giant Schnauzer Club. Published quarterly, the sole purpose of The Hotline is to provide information of specific interest to club members.

*We want to hear from you. If you have a Senior Giant, Show Results, Rescue Giant, Memorial Tribute, Giant Grin, or interesting photos, be sure to send it in.*

**Next Issue: June 2015**

**Deadline: May 1, 2015**

*If you need more information,  
contact the editor:*

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318/397-0283  
[brightongiants@yahoo.com](mailto:brightongiants@yahoo.com)



*"What do you mean I'm in trouble?"*



*"This white stuff tastes pretty good!"*

**This little cutie is Robyn Elliott's new puppy "Tango."**

### South Central Giant Schnauzer Club

#### — Application —

Name

(or Names): \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip): \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Giants in the family

Call Names: \_\_\_\_\_

Area of Interest:     Conformation     Obedience     Agility     Rescue     Proud Owner

(Check one or more):     Breed Fancier     Other \_\_\_\_\_

No matter where you live, you are invited to join!  
Please enclose a check made out to South Central Giant Schnauzer Club.  
Dues are \$25 for a single membership or \$30 for a family membership.

*Mail to:*

**Jane Chism, SCGSC Secretary, 1502 Summerside Dr., Allen, TX 75002-1828**