



The Journal

A publication bringing news and updates to the members

June 2013

1ST AKC Spaniel Hunt Test April 27 & 28, 2013 Chelsea, MI



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The next Journal will be published in October. Final dates for any news will be Sept. 15. This is your newsletter so be sure to send brags, news, articles, pictures, etc. All items received are appreciated but will be reviewed for appropriateness and space limitations. The editor must return to the author any letter containing obscenities or vilification by direct word or innuendo of any individual, committee, dog, or club.

Articles on breeding shall not mention living dogs or breeders. Living dogs mentioned in casual articles may be referred to by call name.

Cover

This June 2013 Journal is celebrating our 1st AKC Spaniel Hunt Test

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One of the Judges

President's Message

Paul Morrison

Happy Spring/Summer everyone! I hope that this newsletter finds you and your little brown dog well and active. It was quite a winter and early spring around here but it looks as though things are pretty normal now and we are beginning to settle into our usual routine. We have had some good turn-out at our spring events and I am pleased with the enthusiasm shown by so many of our members. There are some new members that have joined us and a few new dogs as well so the training days are good and we are enjoying some splendid time together.

As you will read later in the newsletter, our first AKC Spaniel Hunt Test was a big success. We had members come from as far away as the Syracuse, NY and Minneapolis, MN areas. Some members came simply as a show of support while others ran dogs and worked as well. Either way, we were glad to have so many members there to cheer us on. I hope that many of you will be able to make it to next year's hunt test if for no other reason than to see exactly how much fun they can be. Please be sure to take the time to read the report on the test and recognize the contribution of all of our members. Whether you were there or not understand that we could not have done it without you for without you there would be no GLAWSC. Your continued membership and support keeps our club going strong and we hope to have you as members well into the future.

I want to take a moment to update you on a matter that has been near and dear to my heart for some time. I'll try to make it brief but I am not always good at that. As many of you know, a number of years ago Lynn and I obtained a dog for our breeding program that ended up being afflicted with autoimmune hypothyroiditis; a condition often leading to hypothyroidism. That incident sent us on a course of fighting for more use of the Orthopedic Foundation for Animals (OFA) Thyroid clearance tests by the breeders of

AWS. For years we were ridiculed and harangued over our belief that we needed to pay more attention to thyroid issues in the breed and, perhaps, less attention to cardiac issues. Such treatment also came because of our willingness to call upon our parent club to require an OFA Thyroid clearance in order to get a CHIC designation on an AWS.

Recently, I discovered that the AWS community has finally gotten enough of our breed tested to show up on the OFA statistical panel regarding thyroid clearance testing. What has been revealed is that, according to the OFA's own statistics, only 92% of the AWS tested pass an OFA Thyroid test while as much as 97.3% of AWS pass their cardiac tests. This reveals that, out of those dogs tested and the results submitted to the OFA, AWS are far more likely to have a thyroid problem than they are a cardiac problem; in fact, only .4% or less than one AWS in every 200 tested will be shown to fail a cardiac test. Yet, when it comes to screening for autoimmune hypothyroiditis, a condition often leading to hypothyroidism, four dogs in every 200 will fail that test.

Now, I doubt that this will matter much to those who have said that thyroid testing is a waste of time, is too expensive, etc. but it does show that the numbers are starting to bear out the idea that maybe more testing is in order. Maybe we should look at this issue further and push for more testing so that we can see a broader picture. That is what has happened with the cardiac issue over time. Years ago, when a couple of breeders discovered that their dogs were affected by cardiac problems they got the parent club to require OFA Cardiac clearances for AWS to obtain the CHIC designation. That vaulted the issue of cardiac testing forward in a way that has shown us today that cardiac problems affect less than 1/2 of 1% of the AWS tested and submitted to the OFA. Maybe we would find the same with the thyroid issue or maybe not. Regardless, it appears that further

President's Message - Page 2

Paul Morrison

testing is in order and I hope that the parent club will finally see the benefit of promoting such tests especially since their own health survey shows more than 10% of the dogs in the survey are affected by hypothyroidism.

On a final note, long time AWS breeders and members of our club, George and Jane Christiansen of Night Hawk kennels are retiring. They have been supporters of the AWS for decades and contributed a great deal to both our club and the parent club, the American Water Spaniel Club (AWSC). In fact, if it were not for Jane's guidance as president of the AWSC, I don't think that we would be able to run our dogs in AKC Spaniel Hunt Tests even today. As president, Jane basically said enough is enough and seized the opportunity to champion the classification of the AWS as a spaniel giving us the ability to participate in the AKC hunt test program. That set the wheels in motion and today we have unfettered access to the AKC's spaniel and retriever programs. Jane was also the person to first introduce diversification of ideas within the AWSC's board of directors. She brought together people who were not necessarily "like-minded individuals" and got the members to work together for the good of the breed and the parent club. Her actions moved the parent club forward for a time but it was too short lived. The AWS community owes Jane and George a debt of gratitude. I for one am very thankful for the time and energy they devoted to our breed; God speed to them both.



AKC Rep. Tom Meyer explains a few points to some of the handlers.



Handlers and spectators watching the hunt dead.

GLAWSC – AKC Spaniel Hunt Test

The weekend of April 28 and 29 marked the running of our first licensed hunt test run under the rules of the American Kennel Club. As you will read below, the weekend was a big success with a nice turnout of dogs and an above average number of members and friends showing up to help us put on the show.

The two days of tests were held at Colonial Farms, a game preserve and training facility located in Chelsea, MI. There were two sets of judges each day with each set comprised of one judge from Michigan and another from out-of-state. The first pair of judges was Andrea Hasse of Durand, MI teamed up with Susan Willingham of Atlanta, GA. Their colleagues were Brandon Short of Bay City, MI judging alongside of Mark Wheeler from Kansas City, KS. Judging commenced soon after 8:00 AM and was completed by around 3:00 PM each day. A number of breeds showed up for the test including American Water Spaniels, Airedales, English Cocker Spaniels, English Springer Spaniels, Cocker Spaniels, Field Spaniels and Curly-Coated Retrievers. Also in attendance was Tom Meyer, an American Kennel Club field representative, and I am happy to report that his feedback to us was very positive.

Each day started off with coffee and snacks available, a brief check-in with the hunt test secretary, Tonja McCullough, and then a meeting of all participants and judges prior to heading out to the field. The club held a brown-bag raffle on Saturday as a way to help offset some of the costs incurred by holding our first test. Raffle tickets were sold that morning and the winning tickets drawn following lunch. Because of the generosity of many of our members and supporting companies we ended up with 22 bags of goodies for the raffle. Raffle ticket holders had a chance to win everything from gift certificates, to dog treats, to training and hunting gear. If the number of tickets sold and the participation of

those attending are any indication, the raffle was a huge success as it brought in over \$700. We want to thank all of those who donated to the event but especially Gerda Smith from Penn Yan, NY who organized so much of the raffle and was responsible for sending out those thank you cards!

Saturday's events were run under a blue sky with plenty of sunshine and a gentle breeze. Due to the late season snow fall and flooding conditions the fields were not quite as exemplary as they typically are but we got by and the dogs put on a good show. We used chukar each day and Saturday's birds flew quite well. Our gunners were very experienced spaniel hunt test and field trial gunners working under the direction of Ernie Hasse, one of the key people who helped to establish the spaniel field trial gunning program. In the morning the dogs ran the field portions of the test format, and then there was a lunch break before heading to the pond for the water tests. Following the water tests the judges tallied their scores and those dogs that passed the tests were announced. Our event marked the first time a Curly-Coated Retriever passed the AKC Spaniel Hunt Test Master Hunter level. It was a real joy to watch Rhino work the field.

While we will not list all of the qualifying dogs in this report, you will be able to see just who passed by going to the Web site. We can report here that on Saturday we had 27 entries but three scratches giving us a total of 24 starters and 14 qualifiers.

On Saturday evening a number of us met for dinner along with the judges and the AKC rep at an award winning restaurant in Chelsea. The judges that attended were treated to a night out on us.

If Saturday's weather gave us a near perfect day then Sunday was, well, let's just say less than perfect. It started out with a light mist that turned

GLAWSC – AKC Spaniel Hunt Test - Page 2

into the occasional drizzle and a cold breeze. We were spared down pours and high winds but by no means was it as pleasant as Saturday's weather. In fact, many people took advantage of the canopies we had setup at each field and sheltered themselves from some of the rain and cold. As one would expect, the conditions affected the birds, dogs, gunners and most of the others that attended. Still, the dogs did what they had to do and there were almost as many qualifiers on Sunday as there had been on Saturday. Instead of handing out ribbons and making announcements outside under a beautiful sky we all huddled up in the club house at Colonial Farms and took advantage of being out of the elements. For Sunday the statistics show that we had 28 entries with 24 starters and 12 qualifiers.

As was mentioned earlier, this event would not have been as successful as it was without the support and participation of a lot of our members. We should all be proud of the work, effort, and dedication displayed that weekend. It really says a lot about our members, supporters and friends. To show you how impressed attendees were, here are a few quotes taken from emails they sent us and conversations we had with them.

From an AWS owner who is not a member of our club: "I just wanted to send a quick note to say thank you for being so welcoming yesterday - it was a great experience for both me and Maple! I gained quite a bit of information and insight, and everyone was more than willing to answer my questions. I look forward to seeing you and your club again later this year!"

From Mark Wheeler (judge): "Thank you again for inviting me to judge your hunt test. Chris and I had a great time, great people, great food. Oh yeah great

dogs!! I would love to judge up that way again and plan on running dogs in tests up there in the future."

From an Eng. Springer Spaniel owner: "I just want to tell you that this is the best run hunt test I have ever attended. You people have been right on top of everything and I have not seen a test run so smooth. Everyone is so friendly! Thank you."

From an Airedale owner: "Thanks... For your club's hospitality to us Airedalers who participated in last weekend's tests. We were impressed with how smoothly things ran, in spite of a few glitches that were coped with without melt-downs. It was a great weekend, in spite of Sunday's rain."

Now, let us take a minute to acknowledge some of those who went beyond the call of duty.

Tonja and Gary McCullough held the jobs of hunt test secretary and club treasurer, respectively, which are some of the hardest to hold and both of them did a fantastic job.

Ernie Hasse, Dick Dixon and John Skiba were our mentors for the test and they helped us with some of the early questions regarding organizational matters not to mention safe gunning practices.

Paul Chiba, Greg Peter and Jim Brown made sure that our water tests came off without a hitch and their efforts brought us accolades from the judges and a few handlers.

Sandy Holmes and Greg Peter took care of entertaining our out-of-town judges on

GLAWSC – AKC Spaniel Hunt Test - Page 3

Friday night, gave Susan Willingham lodging in their home the entire weekend, and chauffeured Susan from and to the airport.

Tom Pierce had one of the dirtiest of jobs in having to take care of the birds from Friday through Sunday evening. Tom had some 175 birds to care for during that weekend which meant having to clean bird crates, feed birds, move birds, house birds overnight, and so forth. Tom made sure that the birds were ready every step of the way.

Shawn Church, Tim Marvin, Rick Zilka and Tom Pierce along with others we may have missed breasted out and bagged most of the dead birds. Rather than letting these birds go to waste we provided freezer bags of meat for handlers to take home so they could enjoy a nice chukar dinner.

Blair and Lucy Webster along with **Jim Brown** served as the faces of our little club, handling everything from check-in to parking lot attendant to raffle ticket sales and more. We knew that with their smiling faces and amiable personalities they would do a great job at these tasks and we were not the least bit disappointed.

Steve Churchill and Lynn Morrison worked together to provide a great lunch. Steve's pulled pork was absolutely fantastic and some obviously like his corn pudding as they asked for the recipe. People loved the cakes that Lynn supplied as one of the desserts. Thanks to both of them for slaving over the hot stoves and providing the food for lunch. By the way, we did not charge for lunch but took will-

ing donations from those partaking in the feast. In the end, those donations paid for lunch both days and a little more.

Whether members served as a bird planter, shagger, marshal, go-for, or whatever, their work and support was appreciated!!

People already want to know when our next hunt test will be. That folks is on the agenda for the annual meeting. We'll be letting you know.



Sarah and Alex Schull with Rhino the Curly Coated Retriever.



SUMMER SAFETY TIPS

By AKC

Hot weather can make us all uncomfortable, and it poses special risks for your dog. Keep the following safety concerns in mind as the temperature rises, and follow our tips to keep your dog cool.

Heat Hazards

If your dog is outside on a hot day, make sure he has a shady spot to rest in. Doghouses are not good shelter during the summer as they can trap heat. You may want to fill a child's wading pool with fresh water for your dog to cool off in.

Never leave your dog in a closed vehicle on a hot day. The temperature inside a car can rise to over 100 degrees in a matter of minutes.

Always provide plenty of cool, fresh water.

Avoid strenuous exercise on extremely hot days. Take walks in the early mornings or evenings, when the sun's heat is less intense.

Try to avoid prolonged exposure to hot asphalt or sand, which can burn your dog's paws.

Beach Tips

Make sure your dog has a shady spot to rest in and plenty of fresh water.

Dogs, especially those with short hair, white fur, and pink skin, can sunburn. Limit your dog's exposure during the day and apply sunblock to his ears and nose 30 minutes before going outside.

Check with a lifeguard for daily water conditions. Dogs are easy targets for sea lice and jellyfish.

Running on the sand is strenuous exercise. A dog that is out of shape can easily pull a tendon or ligament, so keep a check on your dog's activity.

Do not let your dog drink seawater; the salt will make him sick.

Salt and other minerals in ocean water can damage your dog's coat, so rinse him off at the end of the day.

Not all beaches permit dogs; check local ordinances before heading out.

Water Safety

Most dogs enjoy swimming, but some cannot swim, and others may hate the water. Be conscious of your dog's preferences and skills before trying to make him swim.

If you're swimming for the first time with your dog, start in shallow water and coax him in by calling his name. Encourage him with toys or treats. Or, let him follow another experienced dog he is friendly with.

Never throw your dog into the water.

If your dog begins to paddle with his front legs, lift his hind legs and help him float. He should quickly catch on and keep his back end up.

Don't let your dog overdo it; swimming is very hard work and he may tire quickly.

If swimming at the ocean, be careful of strong tides.

If you have your own pool, make sure your dog knows where the stairs or ladder are located. Be sure that pool covers are firmly in place; dogs have been known to slip in under openings in the covers and drown.

Never leave your dog unattended in water.

May you and your dog have a safe summer.

Why Your Dog's Participation in Canine Health Research Matters

AKC Canine Health Foundation

In science, progress is measured in small steps along the way to major discoveries. By consistently funding the most innovative research, CHF is realizing both small milestones and major breakthroughs in canine health. All our successes show progress toward our goal to prevent, treat and cure canine disease.

In order to make strides in canine health, researchers depend on help from the dog-owning community. Whether it be participating in a research project where weekly blood-draws are necessary, or in a clinical trial where cutting-edge medications are being utilized to treat a health issue, or providing DNA samples to a bank for use in the research to understand a disease at the molecular level, these are just a few of the ways dogs owners can help move canine research forward.

Louise Gregg of Newville, PA, an owner and breeder of Cavalier King Charles Spaniels, has participated in several studies to benefit the health of dogs. She encourages other breeders and pet owners to become involved in clinical trials and to participate in research studies. "Because of research, we have newer, better medications and treatments being developed," said Gregg. "Some people may think that the dogs will become nothing more than 'lab rats,' but that could not be further from the trust." Sometimes a study simply involves providing blood samples and information about your dog. For the studies involving drug trials, "Every precaution was taken with my dogs," said Gregg. "At no time did I feel that my beloved pets were at risk from the drugs being tested. They were closely monitored, and their safety was always put first."

On the CHF website, information can be found on current research studies being conducted throughout the United States. These studies in-

volve a number of different canine health concerns and involve many different breeds. "Participating in the research studies allowed my dogs to be more closely monitored and cared for than I ever would have been able to afford," said Gregg. "And I was happy to be able to contribute to working toward my dogs, and all dogs, living longer, healthier lives."

CANINE HEALTH INFORMATIN CENTER (CHIC) DNA REPOSITORY

The CHIC DNA Repository, co-sponsored by the Orthopedic Foundation for Animals (OFA) and CHF, collects and stores canine DNA samples along with corresponding genealogic and phenotypic information to facilitate future research and testing aimed at reducing the incidence of inherited disease in dogs. DNA samples from any purebred dog may be submitted. There are now over 16,000 samples in the DNA bank from 171 breeds. Any canine health researcher may apply for use of these samples; however CHF-funded studies are pre-approved for sample access. Lease more at the CHIC website, www.caninehealthinfo.org.

CANINE COMPARATIVE ONCOLOGY AND GENOMICS CONSORTIUM (CCOGC)

The CCOGC began as an informal collaboration of veterinary and medical oncologists, pathologists, surgeons, geneticists and molecular and cellular biologists. Together, they sought to leverage opportunities that would result from a better-defined understanding of the genetics and biology of cancers in companion animals, to provide a forum for discussion and sharing of resources and reagents, and to guide the development of novel technologies that would allow the study and use of appropriate canine cancers to the global study of cancer biology and therapy.

The CCOGC collects tissues and fluids from dogs with specific cancer types, following strict

Why Your Dog's Participation in Canine Health Research Matters - Page 2

AKC Canine Health Foundation

guidelines. These procedures ensure all samples are of high quality and can be used consistently across multiple research projects. The samples are accessible to any research project with scientific merit. Learn more about CCOGC and find a collection site near you at the CCOGC website, www.ccohc.net.

By providing samples to CCOGC, dog owners are contributing to the bank of cells that researchers can access in their study of comparative oncology—helping not only their four-legged friends, but their human friends as well.

INDIVIDUAL RESEARCH PROJECTS

On the CHF website at www.akcchf.org/research/participation-needed, dog owners can search for projects by research area, breed of dog and type of participation needed—blood sample, DNA sample, tissue sample or clinical study. While this list if by no means exhaustive of the canine health research projects that are ongoing, it is an excellent resource, placing dog owners with scientists who are developing cutting-edge treatments.

If your dog has recently been diagnosed with a disease, there may be a clinical trial in your area investigating a treatment for that disease. Clinical trials help veterinarians investigate methods to improve detection and treatment of canine health issues, as well as improve the quality of care each patient receives. Participating in a clinical trial brings with it a commitment to follow through on therapies and testing and may help your dog's prognosis. The benefits can include access to cutting-edge medicine, advancing veterinary science and helping future generation of dogs.

The requirements to participate in clinical trials vary greatly. Some offer financial compensation and others will require the dog owner to pay

for the medical treatment. Your and your dog will likely have to travel to the trial site multiple times, so look for trials in your geographic region.



WE WISH TO THANK THE FOLLOWING INDIVIDUALS AND COMPANIES WHO CONTRIBUTED TO OUR RAFFLE.

The members of the Great Lakes American Water Spaniel Club would like to recognize the generosity of the following businesses, friends and fellow members for their donations made in support of our first hunt test and raffle held on April 27 and 28. Thanks to these supporters the raffle was a huge success. When shopping for your dog and hunting apparel, please consider these businesses for your next purchase.

Once again, Thank you for your support!

- | | |
|-----------------------|------------------------|
| Nick Wansha | Rochester, NY |
| Peggy Will | Buffalo, NY |
| Jessica Meier | Auburn Hills, MI |
| Bill & Gerda Smith | Penn Yan, NY |
| Michael Burline | Whitesboro, NY |
| Linda McGrath | Vancouver, WA |
| Linda Ford | Fallbrook, CA |
| Martha Sbarbori | Palo Alto, CA |
| Robert Goodman | Phelps, NY |
| Jim McKibben | Milwaukee, WI |
| Jayne Kamau | Sawyer, MI |
| Paul & Lynn Morrison | Howell, MI |
| GunDogSupply.com | |
| Oak Creek Kennel | Salem, OR |
| J and J. Dog Supplies | www.jjdog.com |
| Team Take'em | Zanesville, OH |
| Drs Foster and Smith | www.drsfostersmith.com |



AWS delivers a bird at the water.



Handlers and spectators watching the water test.

Membership Renewal Letter



Time to Renew Your Membership

Dear GLAWSC member,

The time has come to renew your membership in the **Great Lakes American Water Spaniel Club (GLAWSC)**. With all of the changes that have taken place over the last year this probably seems a bit out of sync to you but it is in keeping with the restructuring of our little club. Renewals will now be due the first of June with a 30 day grace period provided. However, no one may vote on club issues if their membership dues have not been paid at the time of the vote.

Membership in the GLAWSC is unrestricted but under our restructuring the AKC required that we state our specific geographical area which is Southern Lower Michigan south of a line extending between the city of Ludington and the city of Au Gres, and the metropolitan areas of Toledo, Ohio and Rolling Prairie, Indiana. AKC further required that after June 2, 2012, all persons residing outside of our geographical area and applying for membership in the club must join as Newsletter members and may not hold voting privileges. However, anyone who was a member on June 2, 2012 and was a voting member, whether or not they reside in our geographical area, may remain as voting members within the club under a grandfather provision.

What this means is that despite what you may have heard or assumed, if you reside outside of Michigan, were a voting member of the GLAWSC on June 2, 2012 and want to remain a voting member you have every right to do so and we encourage your continued participation as such a member.

Although our club is undergoing some restructuring, its core principals and goals are unchanged. We will continue to attempt to bring you a quality newsletter, to reach out to the AWS, hunting dog, spaniel and AKC communities in meaningful ways. Further, we will continue to support sound breeding practices along with education about the history, health and needs of the American Water Spaniel. Finally, in a time when others seem to be abandoning the needs of AWS housed in shelters and needing a home we will do our best to take care of our own breed and offer it support when and where we can.

We can only provide these things through the continued support of all our members. That support comes primarily through the dues we collect each year and, in the case of breeders, from the fees collected for our list of breeders. ***We hope that you believe we fulfill a need within the AWS community and we ask for your continued support.***

GLAWSC Board of Directors

2013 MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL FORM AND SURVEY



Membership Renewal Form and Survey

Rev. 04/13

If you reside outside of the club's immediate area [defined as Southern Lower Michigan south of a line extending between the city of Ludington and the city of Au Gres, and the metropolitan areas of Toledo, Ohio and Rolling Prairie, Indiana] and would like to change your membership to Newsletter please indicate that below. **Such a change is not required; it is purely your option.**

Annual Membership and Breeders Listing fees are due by **June 1, 2013.**

Please complete and mail with your payment today!

Make checks payable to Great Lakes AWSC, Inc. and thank you for your continued support.

Mark one of the following:

Voting membership renewal: Regular \$25.00 Household \$30.00 Lifetime \$300.00

Non-voting membership renewal: Newsletter \$20.00

Mail to:

GREAT LAKES AWSC, Inc.
c/o Mary Eklund
174 N. State Street
Lockport, IL 60441

Please be sure to include your email address below. This is our primary source of contact with members and many of the addresses we receive have been identified as invalid. Please write "None" in the space provided for an email address if you do not have one or do not wish to share it with us.

Date: _____

Name(s): _____

Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Country: _____ Phone: _____

Email: _____

Membership Dues	\$ _____
Breeder Listing	\$ _____
I wish to donate toward awards*	\$ _____
I wish to donate toward Journal*	\$ _____
I wish to donate toward Health/Genetics*	\$ _____
Check to GLAWSC enclosed for:	\$ _____
*Optional	

Breeders may include their information in our breeder directory at a cost of \$45 per year. All kennel owners must be members in good standing of the GLAWSC. If you are a breeder and would like to be listed in our directory, please complete the following:

Kennel Name and Owners: _____

Kennel Address: _____

Kennel Phone, Email/Web Site: _____

Type of Dogs for Sale: puppies started dogs adults Stud Service: Yes No

To help us focus on those areas that most interest our members and those we may help to promote, please indicate your primary areas of interest below:

Field Training Hunting – upland Hunting – waterfowl Dog breeding

If you would like to help your club by sharing your talents please mark your areas of interest:

Field Training Newsletter Membership Other _____

Cut Here

Brag

Lori Tufts

CH California All That’s Magical, SH, CGC “Maggie” earned her AKC Senior Hunter title on March 24, 2013.

Jessica Meier

UR01 UKC CH Little Brownies I’m Not Telling RN “Secret” - March 2 she was in Rally Novice B and placed third and second. March 3 she took a second with a 92 on the first trial and on the second trial she took first!!!

Butch Norckauer

Coastal Magic Desi, NA, OAJ, NF “Desi” Desi earned his NA title on February 23, 2013.

Art Heun

HRCH California Barracuda’s Delta Splash, WDX earned his Hunter Retriever championship May 19, 2013

Gary and Tonja McCullough

U-CH California Artemus Kali and Edie’s Brutus Orion each earned one leg toward their Junior Hunter title at the AKC Spaniel Hunt Test.

Jim Brown

Little Brownies Riley earned one leg toward his Junior Hunter title at the AKC Spaniel Hunt Test.

Paul Morrison

Little Brownies Peanut M and M JH earned two legs toward her Junior Hunter Title at the AKC Spaniel Hunt Test. She went on to earn her Junior Hunter title the weekend of May 18 & 19.

Little Brownies Sparkling Star JH earned two legs toward her Senior Hunter Title at the AKC Spaniel Hunt Test. She went on to earn her Senior Hunter title the weekend of May 18 & 19.

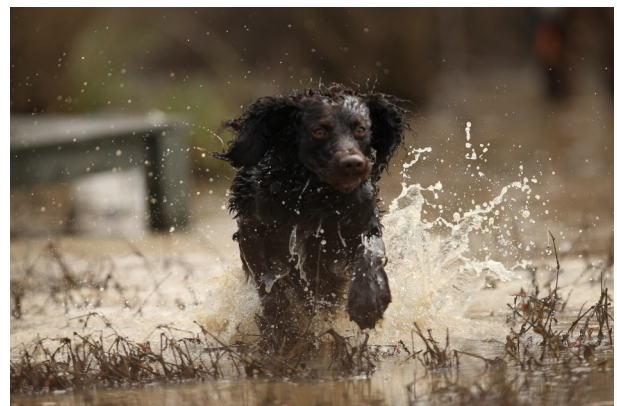
CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL!



Lori Tufts and Maggie with the judges after earning her AKC Senior Hunter Title



Butch Norckauer and Desi with the judge after earning his OAJ title in Agility



Art Heun’s Splash making a splash earning his HRC

News

Welcome!

New (Non-Voting) Members

Michael E. Burline
17 Bartlett Rd.
Whitesboro, NY 13492
315-736-0475

Tracey G. Benson and Claire Kimmel
526 Benner Avenue
Bellefonte, PA 16823
tbenson@mkclaw.com
814-355-4536

New Lifetime Member

Robert Jones
10223 W. Frances Rd.
Flushing, MI 48433
810-348-4185
mr.jones1329@yahoo.com

Change of Address

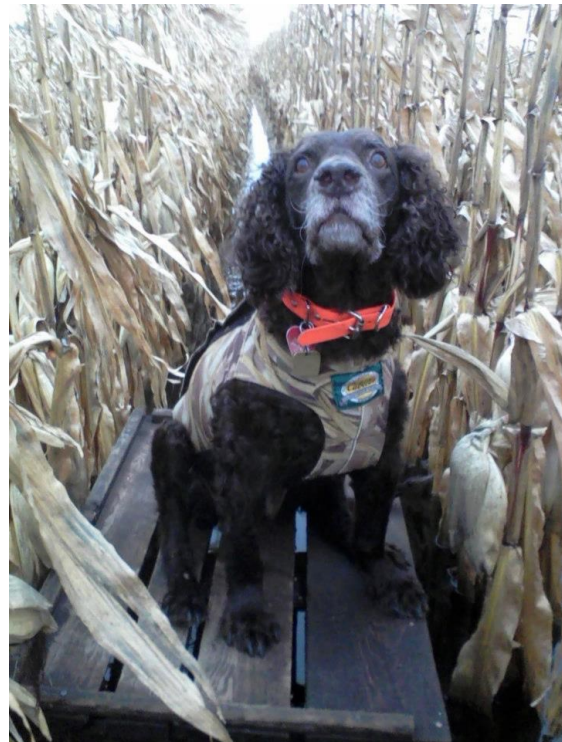
Linda McGrath
10309 NE 143rd Avenue
Vancouver, WA 98682

In Loving Memory

Our heartfelt sympathy goes out to Larry and Marci Kazmirowski on the loss of their beloved dog, Kramer.

Little Brownies Kramer Bigguy

11/12/2001 - 2/28/2013



In Loving Memory of
SR CH California Star Attraction CD WD
4/5/1999—2/25/2013

It is with deep sorrow that I announce the loss of my beloved, Star. She died of hemangiosarcoma just about a month before turning 14.

Star was out of Lara Suesens' Calvin and my Tina. She was such a joy to work with and did whatever was asked of her and did it well. We couldn't run spaniel hunt tests during her time so we ran NAHRA. She was the smallest dog there among the Labs, Chessies, and Goldens and she became the club's mascot. She had a big fan base because she was only 16" high and it looked like the ducks she brought in were as big as her. Everyone was rooting for her and I made some good friends during that time. She got her Started Hunting Retriever title when she was 1 year old. She also got her Started Dog title from AWSC when 1 year old and her Working Dog title when she was 2 years old. She earned her Championship when she was 1 year old and she earned her obedience title when she was 2 years old.

At 3 years old she became a mother and was the best mother you could ever ask for. She had big litters 9 to 11 and she took great care of all her puppies. She loved being a mother. She has pups in California, Michigan, Montana, Arizona, Florida, Tennessee and the UK.

When she wasn't a mother, she was the best companion around the house anyone could ever ask for. My dogs live in the house with me and she always wanted to be where she could see me so if I moved from room to room, so did Star.

I birthed her myself so held her in my hands as soon as she came out of her mother. She has always lived here in Fallbrook and had 3 1/2 acres to run and play with the other dogs. I can't begin to tell you how much she is missed and how empty the house seems without her (even with the other dogs here.)

A Note to Star

A heart of gold stopped beating.
 Moving paws now rest.
 God broke my heart to prove to me
 that he only takes the best.

I think of you in silence.
 I often speak your name.
 All I have are memories
 and your picture in a frame.

A million times I thought of you.
 A million times I've cried.
 If love alone could have saved you,
 you never would have died.

It broke my heart to lose you
 but you didn't go alone.
 For part of me went with you
 the day God took you home.

Love to you, Star

Linda



Vaccines, Nutrition, and Your Pet's Immune System

by Dr. Becker from Mercola Healthy Pets

Your pet's immune system should be able to do its job of protecting the body against disease without becoming over-reactive. This is why balance is so important. An under functioning immune system leaves your pet vulnerable to disease. An over-active immune system can manifest in allergic and other autoimmune conditions—some of them very serious and debilitating.

Vaccines and Your Pet's Immune System

When I discuss ways to keep your pet's immune system healthy, I always discourage over-vaccinating. The role of vaccines is to stimulate the immune system to respond. Repeated vaccinations can excite the immune system to such a degree that it becomes hypersensitive. This in turn can prompt it to overreact to benign environmental irritants like pollen, which can lead to a chronic allergic condition. It can also cause the immune system to launch an attack against an organ or system within your pet's own body, creating an autoimmune disease.

Once a pet's immune system is over reactive and causing health problems, often the treatment is an immunosuppressant drug like Prednisone, which is a corticosteroid. These drugs turn the immune system down or off so it no longer over reacts, symptoms subside, and temporarily, the animal feels much more comfortable.

Typically the next step is to stop the drug and hope the immune system turns back on but is no longer over reactive. Sometimes things work out; often they don't and your pet's symptoms return, or a new set of symptoms appears. And if the immune system fails to come back online, it leaves your four-legged family member defenseless to fight opportunistic infections and disease.

So in essence what we are doing is taking a

healthy animal, over-stimulating his immune system with repeated unnecessary vaccinations, and then when his immune system malfunctions, we shut it down with drugs and hope everything works out when the drugs are stopped.

This sequence of events if truly as crazy as it sounds, not to mention dangerous to your pet's health. If you're worried that your dog won't be protected from disease if he/she isn't re-vaccinated regularly, I encourage you to read the vaccination guidelines following. These recommendations are not only my own but also those of Dr. Ronald Schultz, one of the preeminent experts in the field of veterinary vaccines.

Another Way to Protect and Enhance Your Pet's Immune System

It's called Immunonutrition.

Immunonutrition refers to macronutrients, vitamins, minerals and trace elements that support the immune system through their effect on inflammatory processes, the action of white blood cells, the production of antibodies, and disease resistance.

The field of Immunonutrition evolved from the study of immune system insufficiency caused by malnutrition. In the U.S., malnutrition is no longer the primary cause of lowered immune status in otherwise healthy pets. Instead, life stages (in particular, very young and geriatric animals), lifestyles and natural stressors are bigger factors.

Age-related or naturally occurring stressors reduce the capacity of your pet's immune system to deal with foreign invaders, which results in increased susceptibility to infections, autoimmune disorders and cancer. Because somewhere around 70 percent of your pet's immune system resides in the gut, immune cell receptors in the

Vaccines, Nutrition, and Your Pet's Immune System - Page 2

GI tract create an excellent platform for modulating the immune system through diet.

Immune-Boosting Nutrients

What you feed your pet impacts his/her immune system on several levels. The first level involved providing basic essential nutrients, followed by delivering higher levels of vital nutrients including:

Protein and amino acids. Arginine is an amino acid that when supplemented in the diet has been shown to increase T-cell immune function. T-cell activity is critical to the immune system's ability to respond effectively to pathogens and cancers. It's nearly impossible to determine how much arginine is in commercial pet food, but chicken, salmon and eggs are excellent sources of this important amino acid.

Essential fatty acids. Arachadonic acid (AA) is a pro-inflammatory omega-6 fatty acid found in high quantities in many inexpensive commercial pet foods. Supplementing with an omega-3 fatty acid - ideally krill oil - decreases production of prostaglandins, which reduces inflammation throughout your pet's body. Keep in mind that prolonged low-grade inflammation is one of the primary findings in almost every type of chronic illness, including arthritis, diabetes and cancer - all common diseases in pet dogs.

Vitamins and minerals. I'm sure you've heard the term "free radicals," which are molecules responsible for aging and tissue damage. Antioxidants, in particular Vitamins A, C and E, selenium and zinc, protect the body from damage caused by free radicals. When your pet is sick or otherwise stressed, free-radical production increases significantly. Foods rich in antioxidants include fresh vegetables and fruits. And raw nuts and seeds are a great source of E, selenium and zinc. You can also offer your pet a whole food supplement.

Other Tips for Keeping Your Pet's Immune

System Healthy

Feed a balanced diet throughout your pet's life. Maintain your dog at a healthy weight and in good physical condition.

Use drugs, including pest preventives, sparingly. Antibiotics, corticosteroids, flea and tick repellents and heartworm preventives are overused in veterinary medicine. Before you put any chemical into or on your pet, check with your holistic vet to see what natural alternatives might be just as effective.

Latest Canine Vaccination Guidelines

According to the American Animal Hospital Association (AAHA) (www.AAHAnet.org):

Developed in a manner consistent with best vaccination practices, the 2011 Guidelines include expert opinions supported by scientific study, published and unpublished documents, and encompass all canine vaccines currently licensed in the U.S. and Canada. The task force that developed the guidelines included experts in immunology, infectious diseases, internal medicine, law, and clinical practice.

The absolute highlight is that all core vaccines with the exception of the 1-year rabies are now recommended at 3-year or greater intervals.

Even more exciting is the task force has acknowledged that in the case of the non-rabies core vaccines, **immunity lasts at least 5 years for distemper and parvo, and at least 7 years for adenovirus.**

Hopefully these new guidelines will help more dog owners understand the long-lasting effect of those puppy shots! And hopefully, more dog owners will now request titers rather than auto-

Vaccines, Nutrition, and Your Pet's Immune System - Page 3

matically revaccinating their canine companions for distemper, parvo and adenovirus.

CORE VACCINES

Canine Distemper (CDV)

Initial vaccination in puppies < 16 weeks of age

Starting at 6 weeks, vaccinate every 3 to 4 weeks (6, 10,14 or 8,12, 16 weeks) up to 14 or 16 weeks; final shot should be given between 14 and 16 weeks to minimize risk of maternal antibody interference.

Initial vaccination in dogs > 16 weeks of age
One dose

Revaccination

For puppies who received initial vaccination series by 16 weeks, a booster no later than 1 year after completion of initial series, then ≥ 3 years thereafter.

For dogs who received initial vaccination after 16 weeks of age, every ≥ 3 years thereafter.

Notes: Among healthy dogs, distemper vaccines are expected to induce immunity for at least 5 years.

Canine Parvo (CPV-2)

Initial vaccination in puppies < 15 weeks if age

Starting at 6 weeks, vaccinate every 3 to 4 weeks (6, 10, 14 or 8, 12, 16 weeks) up to 14-16 weeks. Final shot should be given between 14 and 16 weeks to minimize risk of maternal antibody interference.

Initial vaccination in dogs > 16 weeks of age
One dose.

Revaccination

For puppies who received initial vaccination series by 16 weeks of age, every ≥ 3 years thereafter.

Notes: Among healthy dogs, distemper vaccines are expected to induce immunity for at least 5 years.

Canine Adenovirus (CAV-2)

Initial vaccination in puppies < 16 weeks of age

Starting at 6 weeks, vaccinate every 3 to 4 weeks (6, 10, 14 or 8,12, 16 weeks) up to 14-16 weeks; final shot should be given between 14 and 16 weeks to minimize risk of maternal antibody interference.

Initial vaccination in dogs > 16 weeks of age
One dose

Revaccination

For puppies who received initial vaccination series by 16 weeks, a booster no later than 1 year after completion of initial series, then ≥ 3 years thereafter.

For dogs who received initial vaccination after 16 weeks of age, every ≥ 3 years thereafter.

Notes: Among healthy dogs, distemper vaccines are expected to induce immunity for at least 7 years.

NON-CORE VACCINES

Canine Coronavirus (CCov)

This vaccine is not recommended. Neither the modified live nor the killed CCov vaccine has proved effective against combination coronavirus/parvo disease. Only the parvo vaccine is protective against dual viruses.

TEACHING A YOUNG DOG TO HUNT

By J. Paul Jackson

It's opening day and you've brought a pup to the blind for his first duck hunt. Excitement fills the air. Suddenly, two greenheads materialize out of the fog. You and your companion rise in unison and fire, knocking two birds into the decoys. This is the moment of truth is for the young retriever. You call his name to send him on his way and—he jumps straight into the water and grabs your ejected shell.

How can this be? After all, you have spent most of the last year throwing dummies and running drills. How could he fail you now? The answer is simple: You trained your dog to retrieve, but not to hunt.

Sometimes we devote so much time and energy training dogs to do complex marks and run blinds that we overlook or take for granted many simple things a retriever must do. In this article we will take a look at four commonly overlooked areas in training a dog to be a good hunter as well as a great retriever.

Introduction to Birds

Let's start with ducks. There is simply no substitute for feathers in training. Dummies are easy to come by, they do not spoil, they store really well and they are great training aids. But a dummy is not a duck. The fact that your dog will pick up a dummy does not necessarily mean that he will pick up a duck, so do not wait for opening day to find out.

Feathers of some sort should be introduced to the dog as early as possible. In our training program we begin to incorporate ducks into training while the dog is still in force fetch. We then use them as frequently as possible when throwing marks, and to build excitement in running blinds. Finally, before any dog leaves for its first hunt we introduce him to live, shackled birds. Often a dog that absolutely loves dead birds will not know what to make of a live one.

Guns

Every year I will receive at least one call from a retriever owner during duck season asking me how he can cure his gun-shy dog. Almost all of these cases will involve a dog that was never around a gun until he was taken hunting, and when the first volley was fired the dog went running for cover.

The fact is that gun shyness is usually made, not inherited. To avoid this problem, condition your dog to gunfire before he is taken hunting. Start by having a helper fire a starter pistol while throwing a bird at a distance. Gradually decrease the distance between the dog and the gun until he becomes comfortable with being shot over.

Decoys

While almost all waterfowlers hunt over decoys, it is very easy to neglect their use in training. Nothing is more embarrassing than having your dog bring back a decoy while hunting instead of the bird (see Humble Pie).

Begin introducing your dog to decoys in the yard, not the water. On the ground the dog cannot become tangled in the line. Simply set a few out on the ground and walk the dog through them. Should he want to pick one up command him to "leave it" and move on. Next, toss a duck or dummy among the blocks. Again command him to leave it if he picks up a decoy instead. After he is comfortable with decoys in the yard you should move on to water. Start by placing a few dekes in a small pond. Then toss a bird out into the spread. Repeat the procedure until he reliably ignores the decoys and retrieves the bird each time.

Duck Blinds & Boats

Finally, in preparing your dog to hunt you should put in a few training sessions at your actual blind and in a boat.

The Value of Supporting Research Outside of Your Breed

AKC Canine Health Foundation

One of the most common concerns of breed clubs is that their breed is not specifically being utilized in a particular study. Sometimes this leads to the interpretation that the research being done does not have application to their personal dogs. Many clubs hold out for the definitive research study that will utilize their breed and solve their greatest health concerns.

CHF asked five recognized researchers in canine health whether there is value in supporting research outside of a specific breed for health problems that cross all breeds such as cancer and infectious disease, as well as diseases that appear to segregate within specific breeds, such as bloat, heart and ophthalmic diseases. It is evident to most dog owners that broad-based studies that focus on novel diagnostics and treatment strategies could have an impact across breeds, but is there value in collaborative funding when the goal is to identify the genetic basis for disease? Are there examples where identification of genetic mutations in one breed have facilitated discovery in other breeds?

An excellent example of potential collaborative funding power is aortic stenosis, a serious heart defect that leads to sudden cardiac death in many large-breed dogs, including Golden Retrievers, Newfoundlands and Rottweilers. Each of these breeds has some subtle breed-specific differences in disease phenotype, which suggests that the disease is likely a bit different between the breeds. Dr. Kathryn Meurs, a cardiologist and associate dean of research, and Dr. Josh Stern, a cardiologist at North Carolina State University, started their research into aortic stenosis in Newfoundlands and Golden Retrievers. In both of these breeds, the results pointed to the same chromosomal location for a defect. Dr. Meurs believes that, “Although we have not yet found the exact defect, this work demonstrated to us that this is probably the same disease in each breed, and that identification of the causative

mutation in these breeds will allow faster identification in other breeds.”

Quite often, research is initiated in more common breeds simply for sample size collection, but Dr. Meurs is confident that her research in Goldens, Rottweilers and Newfoundlands will have an impact on other breeds such as the Bouvier des Flandres, Dogue de Bordeaux, Flat-Coated Retriever, German Shorthaired Pointer, Great Dane, Greyhound and Miniature Bull Terrier. Similarly, Dr. Danika Bannasch, professor of genetics at University of California Davis School of Veterinary Medicine, notes that ancestral mutations are more likely to be shared across related breeds, and points to Dalmatian hyperuricosuria (urinary stones) as a prime example. Research for this disease was funded and discovered based on samples from one breed, but the mutation occurs in many other breeds, and the test was rapidly transferable to other breeds with urinary stone disease.

Dr. Jaime Modiano, Periman professor of oncology and comparative medicine at the University of Minnesota Masonic Cancer Center, extends these observations into the realm of cancer and provides two relevant examples from his research. Dr. Modiano says, “In the case of lymphomas, there are probably more than 20 subtypes of this condition, about six of which are commonly seen in dogs. As it turns out, the subtype of lymphoma tells us more about the disease and its behavior than the breed of origin. So, studying one type of lymphoma in a breed removes some of the heterogeneity (and thus the uncertainty) in the experimental system, and makes the results more readily interpretable and applicable to many breeds.” Evidence of this was found in a recent study performed by his research group in which they characterized molecular subtypes of lymphoma, developing a simple test to classify the tumors and showing the clinical benefit of reaching that diagnosis.

The Value of Supporting Research Outside of Your Breed - Page 2

Dr. Modiano points out that, “Even though the work was biased to include more Golden Retrievers than other breeds because of sample availability, the results seem to be broadly applicable to almost any breed.” Finally, Dr. Modiano points out that osteosarcoma has similarities related to breed of origin, but these are not the principal drivers of tumor behavior. What Dr. Modiano and his team learned from tumors of Rottweilers allowed them to develop a system to organize bone tumors into different categories of aggressiveness that may respond to different treatments. Dr. Modiano emphasized that this will likely apply to dogs from any breed that are diagnosed with osteosarcoma.

Data from the laboratory of Dr. Matthew Breen, professor of genomics at North Carolina State University, further supports the concept that genetic studies are highly transferable across breeds. Dr. Breen’s primary focus is on identifying genomic signatures in canine cancers. Importantly, he is using this information to create personalized medicine strategies for dogs with cancer.

Dr. Breen states that, “In general, if we begin the discovery process working with a few select breeds that have a remarkably high incidence of a particular cancer, we are more likely to be able to obtain the number of cases needed to power a study in a shorter period of time. That said, once we have identified genomic changes associated with key factors, such as subtype and prognosis, we are then able to quickly assess other breeds for the presence of the characteristic genetic signatures.” Dr. Breen feels that collaborative funding is a very efficient way for them to launch studies that ultimately will have maximum impact on the health of many breeds. Case in point is when Dr. Breen and his team developed a test to predict duration of first remission in canine lymphoma patients; much of the earlier work was performed with samples from select breeds,

simply because they could access sufficient sample numbers. With preliminary data from these few breeds, the study then expanded to include all breeds and they were able to produce an assay that is breed-independent.

Finally, Dr. Urs Giger, Charlotte Newton Shepard professor of medicine at the University of Pennsylvania School of Veterinary Medicine, points out the power of One Medicine Research and its translation to humans and multiple breeds of dogs. Dr. Giger cites research into storage disorders, a group of hereditary disorders causing abnormalities in the skeleton, eyes and/or central nervous system as an excellent example. Storage disorders have been recognized in people and dogs for many decades. While considered orphan (very rare) disorders in people, some of them occurred more frequently in certain canine breeds, for example mucopolysaccharidosis in Schipperkes and Miniature Pinschers.

Originally dogs were studied as disease models for humans. “If it were not for the original breed-specific studies done for the sake of human patients, we would have never understood the underlying genetic component of disease in any species. Ultimately the study of a storage disease in one breed led to the research of related storage disease in one breed led to the research of related storage disorders in various breeds. Thanks to those founding studies, we now understand genetic – based errors of metabolism in multiple breeds, including Miniature Pinschers, Miniature Schnauzers and Miniature Poodles.”

Collaborative research funding clearly becomes a powerful tool to solve our greatest canine health problems. As CHF strives to be responsive to our breed clubs, our goal is to initiate projects and then facilitate translation of results across all relevant breeds. Individually, each breed’s footprint in canine health is relatively small, but the impact when we all work together is significant progress toward dogs living longer, healthier lives.

7 Home remedies for Your Dogs

Published on PetMD

When you're feeling under the weather, you might find that the perfect thing for treating what ails you is something you already have in the kitchen. Did you know that you can treat your ailing dogs with some simple home remedies too? Below you will find seven great natural remedies for making your dog happy and healthy again.

TIP #1

Vitamin E is good for preventing those pesky age lines on your face, and it's also great for your dog's dry skin. You can give your pup a doggy massage by applying Vitamin E oil directly to the skin, a soaking bath with Vitamin E added to the water, or you can go all "Hollywood" and pop your dog a pill (of Vitamin E, that is).

If you give the vitamin orally check with your vet on the recommended dosage for your specific dog breed.

TIP #2

Flavorless electrolyte-replacing liquids, such as sports waters or pediatric drinks not only help athletes to replenish fluids, and babies to rehydrate after an illness, they can also supply your sick pooch's body with much needed fluids after a bout of diarrhea or vomiting.

Consult your veterinarian as to the appropriate dosage amounts when giving these types of liquids to your dog.

TIP #3

Deliciously plain yogurt is a healthy treat for your dog. Just as with humans, the live *acidophilus* in the yogurt keeps the good bacteria in your dog's intestines in balance, so that bad bacteria is swiftly knocked out. If your dog is on antibiot-

ics, a little yogurt will also help keep yeast infections at bay (a common side-effect of antibiotic treatment). You can also give your dog acidophilus pills—wrapping the pills in bacon is strictly optional.

Puppies are especially prone to yeast infections, so a little plain yogurt as a snack (or even dessert) can help keeps things in balance; especially useful while the intestinal system is building immunities.

TIP #4

Chamomile tea uses the natural disinfecting effects of the chamomile plant to settle upset doggy tummies. It is recommended for colic, gas, and anxiety. It can also alleviate minor skin irritations. Just chill in the fridge and spray onto the affected area on the dog's raw skin. Your dog should feel an immediate soothing effect as the chilled tea kills the yeast and/or bacteria on the skin. A warm (not hot) tea bag can also be used for soothing infected or irritated eyes.

TIP #5

An itchy dog can be quite an annoyance, especially as it goes around scratching itself on any piece of furniture it can reach. Forget the back-scratcher, Finely ground oatmeal is a time honored remedy for irritated skin. You can use baby oatmeal cereal or grind it yourself in a good processor. Stir the oatmeal into a bath of warm water and let your dog soak in the healing goodness. Your dog will thank you, trust us. Dogs with skin allergies, infections, and other diseases which cause itchiness have been shown to gain immediate relief with this approach, too.

TIP #6

Dogs can be like kids at times, and as such they

7 Home remedies for Your Dogs—Page 2

Published on PetMD

are bound to suffer from wounds and the occasional unexplained swelling. Try treating these ailments with Epsom salt soaks and heat packs next time. A bath consisting of Epsom salt and warm water can help reduce the swelling and the healing time, especially when combined with prescribed antibiotics and veterinary supervision.

If soaking your dog in an Epsom salt bath twice a day for five minutes isn't convenient or practical, a homemade heat pack using a clean towel drenched in the same warm-water solution can be applied to wounds for the same effect.

TIP #7

Does your dog have fleas? Never fear. Before turning to the big guns, try some borax powder. The standard stuff at the store will work wonders on fleas by poking holes in their crunchy insect exoskeletons. A good way to make sure those parasitic suckers get annihilated is to sprinkle the borax on your floor and then sweep to vacuum up the excess. The invisible borax crystals left behind will kill the fleas and you won't even have to lift a finger. It's inexpensive and practically non-toxic compared to an appointment with the exterminator.

For the dog, try a simple solution of lemon water. Fleas are repelled by citrus, so this can work both as a flea preventive, and for making your dog smell clean and refreshing. A useful solution can be made by pouring boiled water over lemons and allowing them to steep over night. This solution can then be applied all over your dog's skin using a fresh spray bottle. And, the tried and true Brewer's yeast method cannot be left out. Brewer's yeast can be given as part of a regular diet in powdered form, sprinkled over the dog food, or in tablet form, perhaps wrapped in a small slice of bacon or cheese.



FUN DOG ACTIVITIES

BY Pat Miller CPDT

Sometimes we can get so focused on behavior and training that we forget to have fun with our dogs. I realized some time ago that I had become a behavior addict. I took the premise to heart that “any time you are with your dog one of you is training the other,” and became so caught up in reinforcing desired behaviors and preventing reinforcement for undesirable ones that I forgot how to just be with my dogs. While positive trainers have become quite adept at incorporating fun into their training programs, there is value in letting go of the behavior stuff occasionally and just having fun for its own sake.

Fun comes naturally to dogs and humans. Just watch a litter of puppies at play – or class of children romping in a kindergarten schoolyard – and you’ll be quickly convinced that fun is a primary (innate) reinforcer for dogs (and kids). The wise dog owner/trainer takes advantage of this, using play (not just food!) to reward desirable behaviors in training sessions and in real life, and giving canine-human interactions a positive classical association to help create a strong relationship between dog and owner.

The dog-human social contract is all about our relationship with our dogs. Play builds relationships – hence the importance of play. As children, the friends with whom we form lifelong relationships are likely to be the ones with whom we have the most fun sharing mutually rewarding and enjoyable activities. Play. Play for its own sake, just because it’s fun, and helps us remember what we love about our dogs.

As we mature, we tend to get serious about life – perhaps too serious. Hence the new-age sometimes-appropriate advice to find your “inner child.” Your dog is the perfect companion to accompany you on your journey to find more fun. Here are some ideas to help you remember how to play with your dog.

Out-and-about fun

If your dog has sufficient social skills so that you can safely take him out into the world, make it a point to do so! If most of your time with your dog is spent at home, you may discover an entirely new and enjoyable side of him off his home turf. After all, there will be completely new sights, interesting sounds, and best of all from a dog’s point of view, novel smells for him to experience.

Take a hike. If you’re fortunate enough to live near a place where dogs are allowed off-leash, and your dog has a reliable recall, go for a long hike. I mean a long hike. With a daypack full of provisions, a tatami (lightweight woven mat that rolls up for easy carrying), and a couple of books, hike a while, climb on or jump over fallen trees, relax a while, play in the pond, watch red-tail hawks soar, stop for lunch, fetch tennis balls a while, pretend to herd a few cows, hike a while, and finally head back to the car, tired, relaxed, and happy.

Have a dog pal party. It’s a special occasion – your dog’s birthday, or the anniversary of her adoption, or the recent arrival of a new canine family member. Throw a dog pal party! Invite all your dog’s friends from training class, offer the canine guests some FrostBite, Chilly Dawg, or Frosty Paws (ice cream treats created for dogs), and pupcakes (healthy homemade goodies in muffin papers), and organize games like Bobbing for Hotdogs. (Use sliced “pennies” of hotdog in just a few inches of water for small dogs, a bit more for larger dogs. And make sure dogs play just one at a time.)

Holidays offer theme-based party opportunities. Talk to your friends about a party rotation plan, where one person hosts a spring-themed party (how about an Easter egg hunt, substituting dog treats for the eggs?), another does Independence

FUN DOG ACTIVITIES - Page 2

Day (no fireworks please!), and someone else takes Halloween. Costumes. Oh, costumes! If you're ethically opposed to making dogs wear costumes, have the humans wear costumes that complement their dogs.

Support a good cause. Animal shelters across the country sponsor a variety of events as fundraisers for their animal care and protection causes. You might find – or organize! – any of these events or others in your community:

- Dog Walk-A-Thon
- Bark in the Park
- Polar Bear Plunge
- Flea Market
- Pooch Parade
- Canine Games

Many of the events welcome dogs, and often include games, vendors, and food for dogs and humans. You can meet other dog folks, play, eat, and buy dog stuff. What better way to have fun and support a good cause all at the same time?

Explore your town. Once a week (or more!) hop in your car with your dog, and drive to a different part of your community for each outing. Park and walk around. Look for dog-friendly shops, outdoor cafes where you can dine with your dog, little-known parks, and serene hiking paths.

Stay-at-home fun

You don't have to go somewhere to play; there are plenty of activities you and your dog can enjoy in the comfort of your own home, indoors or out.

Find it! You can play this game inside, outside, or both, and create your own variations. Start with your dog in front of you. Say "Find it!" in an excited tone of voice and toss a treat to one side. As soon as he gobbles down that one, toss

one the other direction and say "Find it!" again. After a half-dozen tosses, have him sit-and-wait while you place a treat 10 to 15 feet away in plain view. Return to his side and tell him to "Find it!" After a few of those, start "hiding" the treat while he watches you – behind a chair leg, under a pillow, around a corner. Then return and send him to find it. Make the hiding places harder and harder, so he actually has to start looking (with his nose) to find the treats. Most dogs (and their humans) adore this game; those canine noses are so talented, it doesn't take a Bloodhound to sniff out yummy treats.

You can also play "find it!" using a favorite toy. Variations of the game include:

- **Find and destroy:** Treats are hidden in an empty cardboard container taped closed; your dog must shred container to get treats (don't let him eat the cardboard!).
- **Find the human:** Your dog waits while you hide, or you can just duck behind a tree when he's not looking. Give him a "Find me!" cue to let him know the game is on. Or, your dog stays with you while someone else hides. You tell him, "Find (insert name here)." The person hiding can make noises if necessary to encourage your dog to find them. Give your dog treats and praise when he finds the missing person.

Fun with toys. Of course, there's the ever-popular "fetch the ball" and "catch the Frisbee" kind of fun with toys. While there's absolutely nothing wrong with those, today's generation of dog toy play possibilities goes way beyond a simple game of fetch. There's a wide range of various interactive toys now available, just waiting for you to get silly with your dog.

Sometimes it's good to just be with your dog.

ANNUAL MEETING ANNOUNCEMENT



Annual Meeting Announcement

June 8 - 9:00 AM Annual Meeting, Training and Luncheon Howell, MI
 Please RSVP Paul Morrison (prmaaws@aol.com) if you are attending

Training will start at 8:00 A.M. with the Annual Meeting after the Luncheon

Annual Meeting Adgenda

At meetings of the club, the order of business, so far as the character and nature of the meeting may permit, shall be as follows:

- Roll Call
- Minutes of last meeting
- Report of President
- Report of Secretary
- Report of Treasurer
- Reports of committees
- Election of officers and board
- Election of new members
- Unfinished business
- New business
 - Hunt Test report
 - Vote on Bylaws amendments (secret ballot)
- Adjournment

The rules contained in the current edition of "Robert's Rules of Order, Newly Revised," shall govern the club in all cases to which they are applicable and in which they are not inconsistent with these bylaws and any other special rules of order the club may adopt.

Member in good standing — A individual who is not suspended by The American Kennel Club or their Club and whose dues for the year are already paid.

ARTICLE VII

Amendments

SECTION 1. Amendments to the constitution and bylaws may be proposed by the board of directors or by written petition addressed to the Secretary signed by 20 percent of the membership in good standing. Amendments proposed by such petition shall be promptly considered by the board of directors and must be submitted to the members with recommendations of the board by the Secretary for a vote within three months of the date when the petition was received by the Secretary.

SECTION 2. The constitution and bylaws may be amended by a 2/3 secret vote of the members present and voting at any regular or special meeting called for the purpose, provided the proposed amendments have been included in the notice of the meeting and mailed to each member at least two weeks prior to the date of the meeting.

ANNUAL MEETING ANNOUNCEMENT - Page 2

Slate of Officers / Board Members nominated by the nominating committee are as follows:

President	Paul Morrison [incumbent]
Vice President	Jim Brown [incumbent]
Secretary	Mary Eklund
Treasurer	Gary McCullough [incumbent]
Director	Paul Chiba

As per our bylaws; *Additional nominations may be made at the annual meeting by any member in attendance, provided that the person so nominated does not decline when their name is proposed, and provided further that if the proposed candidate is not in attendance at this meeting, the proposer shall present to the Secretary a written statement from the proposed candidate signifying willingness to be a candidate. No person may be a candidate for more than one position.*

We have discovered that in the rush to meet the deadlines and suggestions of the American Kennel Club in 2012 the bylaws contain some conflicts and omissions. Therefore, we will vote on amendments to the GLAWSC bylaws at our annual meeting in an effort to correct those conflicts. The list below contains the amendments needed.

Amend Article I, Section 1, final paragraph, by adding this sentence at the end.

Only those members residing within the club's immediate area and holding Regular, Household or Lifetime membership or who live outside of the club's immediate area but were voting members on or before June 2, 2012 and maintain that voting member status going forward shall be eligible to vote on matters brought before the membership.

Purpose of the amendment is to better define voting member eligibility.

Amend Article I, Section 2, change the second paragraph, to read.

All applications are to be filed with the Secretary. Once received, the Secretary shall forward to each member of the Board a copy of the application. Each Board member shall then notify the Secretary of his/her approval or denial of the applicant. It shall require an affirmative vote of 2/3 of the board members to elect the applicant to membership.

Purpose of the amendment is to streamline the membership process.

Amend Article I, Section 4(b), to read in part.

A membership will be considered as lapsed and automatically terminated if such member's dues remain unpaid 30 days after the first day of June...

Purpose of the amendment is to have the membership period correlate with the club's official year.

Amend Article IV, Section 1, to read.

The club's fiscal year shall begin on the 1st day of June and end on the last day of May each year. The club's official year shall begin immediately at the conclusion of the annual meeting and shall continue through the next annual meeting.

Purpose of the amendment is to account for those annual meetings in which there is no election and to correlate the fiscal and club year designations.

Amend Article IV, Section 4(d), to read in part.

Nominations cannot be made in any manner other than as provided in this Section.

Purpose of the amendment is to clarify the nomination process.

Great Lakes American Water Spaniel Club 2013 - Calendar of Events

Date	Type	Location
June 8	Annual Meeting, Training and Luncheon	Howell, MI
July 13	Training Day	Howell, MI
August 10	Training Day	Howell, MI
September 14	Training Day	Howell, MI

Watch the Website's Events page for further information regarding this year's events. Event dates can change due to weather conditions, bird availability and other factors.



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