

Dane Line
REIMAGINED

SEPTEMBER
2024



Published by the Great Dane Club of New England

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Vice President - Marcia Roddy
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Corresponding Secretary - Tiffany Cross
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President's Message

Hi Everyone,

I hope everyone is well and is having a great summer.

We are planning to have our next meeting on Wednesday, September 18th, by zoom. We will be voting for judges for the 2026 National. Finalists are elsewhere in this issue. We will also be talking about our fall specialties and our National in 2025, as well as considering having a spring specialty in the future.

As a club we will need to supply 650 items for the welcome bags for our 2025 National. If you have any ideas, please let me know.

I hope to see you all at the meeting.

Best wishes,

Sue Davis Shaw

President

Sunshine

Deepest condolences to **Rachel Wilson** who lost her beloved Drakken, CH Davidane's Ducktor Drakken I Presume, RI, BN CGCA TKN BCAT AOM CHIC 'Drakken'



We send our condolences to **Dianne Powers** on the loss of her beloved Honey, GCHB Longo Miller n Lore's Queen Bee V Nor'East

All our sympathies to **Judi and Al Arsenault** who lost their adored, Nola, BJIF CH Chroma Saravilla Here for the Party

We are thinking of our club members, **Laurie Maulucci** who had a back injury and **Suzanne Kelley** who had pneumonia.



Congratulations to **Robert E. Layne** for being recognized for Diverse Professionals Roundtable's Community Leader Award. This award recognizes a Central MA business person that has successfully demonstrated leadership qualities with distinction in their career and has shown a commitment to uplifting community voice. Awards will be presented at the annual *Recognition and Networking Event* on **Thursday September 19th** from 5:00 -7:30pm at the Hanover Insurance Group.

Disclosure

Opinions or statements expressed in DaneLine Reimagined are not reflective of the Great Dane Club of New England.

Neither the Editor, the Great Dane Club of New England, the Great Dane Club of New England's Board of Directors nor any of their respective affiliates guarantee the accuracy or completeness of any information contained herein.

Next Deadline

The next Deadline for Dane Line Reimagined is

November 20, 2024. This is our Holiday issue.

Be sure to send in your Holiday Christmas pictures!

BITCH: Embrace the Title

Submitted by Betty Lewis

B - Babe

I - In

T - Total

C - Control of

H - Herself

B = Beautiful

I = Intelligent

T = Talented

C = Charming

H = Hell of a Woman

B = Beautiful

I = Individual

T = That

C = Can

H = Handle anything

"If you can't do something right, get a woman to do it."

What's That Smell?

By Betty Lewis

In my wholistic healing consultation practice, I recommend a lot of healing modalities to people to use for their pets. Most modalities I suggest, I use for my own dogs, including the one highlighted in this article. But of all the modalities I use, aromatherapy, the use of essential oils & hydrosols, is the one I have the most difficulty understanding. This is unfortunate, because I am fascinated with their use! I have a reasonably discriminating sense of smell, made stronger by talking to animals, because the olfactory sense is their dominant one. I have now used them for many years. However, every time I try to understand them, I find that the science around them doesn't resonate with me the way the scents themselves do. ☑ Several times, I have tried to learn about aromatherapy, but, alas, like music, it is a language which seems to elude me. Fortunately, there are some talented aromatherapists out there whom I have come to admire. One such person is Kristen Leigh Bell. Another is Dr Melissa Shelton, DVM. Both have written books, and Dr Shelton has extensive information on her website, so I introduce you to both of them.

My interest in aromatherapy began, in part, because I found myself having hypersensitivity reactions to many smells found in perfumes or other personal care products. In an effort to continue having scents I enjoyed in my life, I went looking for products I didn't have a negative reaction to. I found that, like many people, I had no trouble tolerating essential oils. In addition to interest for myself, I wanted to use them for various purposes for my dogs, however, I began to realize that there is a considerable variation in essential oil quality, and a plethora of bad information regarding safety of their use with different animals. For that reason, it's important to trust some experts.

Kristen Leigh Bell wrote a book called Holistic Aromatherapy for Animals. Kristen studied at the Pacific Institute of Aromatherapy, and did her master's certification on Aromatherapy for Pets. Even though her book was written a while ago, it is still available on amazon.com.



A second person in the essential oil field whom I admire is Melissa Shelton, DVM. She has become my essential oil super hero. I attended a weekend workshop she gave about 5 years ago, and her oils have become my absolute favorites. Her AnimalEO line can be found at <https://animaleo.info/>.

A little introduction to Dr Shelton. Her early essential oil education came because she was a representative of one of the well known multi-level marketing companies which sells essential oils. She rose high in the company, and wrote "the Book" on the use of essential oils in animals talking specifically about this company's blends. The book is called Animal

Desk Reference. There are two volumes. In the course of doing business, however, they pulled a fast one on her, ending with her pulling out all together, and starting her own company, AnimalEO.

Unlike others in the essential oil field, Melissa Shelton has tested her oils for efficacy and safety on a wide variety of her own, and her clients' animals from horses to rats and all the usual pets as well. In addition, I can personally testify to her absolute honesty and ethics regarding the quality of her oils. They are the most trustworthy oils I've found.

In addition, her website has an incredible amount of information on every oil, and how to use them for each animal. Because high quality essential oils are expensive, it's helpful that she sells them in a variety of bottle sizes. You can try out an oil you think might work for your situation without putting out too much money. Remember that essential oils are measured in drops and mostly diluted or diffused.

Aromatherapy is compatible with most wholistic modalities. The exception might be homeopathy. If you or your pet is actively following a homeopathic program, be sure to talk to your homeopath about using essential oils. You may be limited or prohibited from using this therapy at the same time.

If you're looking for a gentle, efficacious, and easy to use modality, for yourself and your animals, you might want to investigate essential oils, aromatherapy.

A growl is a gift. It means the dog trusts you enough to believe you will listen to him.

Submitted by Betty Lewis

Author Unknown

Netflix has a show by the title "Inside the Mind of a Dog" that you might find interesting.

Submitted by Carol Urick



The next issue is our Holiday issue. Please send in all those Holiday pictures you have with your animals.

Also, get all those National pictures in as well.

Cut Off Date is November 20, 2024

Braggs

Stevie

GROUP WINNING | MULTIPLE BEST IN SPECIALTY
GCHB LEMAIRE'S GO YOUR OWN WAY

17

BEST IN SPECIALTY WINS
SINCE MARCH 29TH



A HEARTFELT THANK YOU TO THESE JUDGES WHO FOUND STEVIE DESERVING

MR. JACK WATTS - Best in Specialty
MRS. KAY WATTS - Best in Specialty
MR. DAVID R. MILLER - Best in Specialty
MS. DONNA CONOD - Best in Specialty
MRS EVA E. BERG - Best of Breed & Group 3
MRS. JUDITH A. BROWN - Best of Breed & Group 3

MS. FAY ROGSTAD - Best in Specialty
MS. SUSAN E. YOTIVE - Best in Specialty
MR. GARY L. ANDERSEN - Best of Breed & Group 3
DR. ANDREA BRADFORD - Best of Breed

Exclusively Presented to the Fancy by: **John & Jessie Gerszewski**

Bred & Owned By: **Jayme Lemaire, Carol McKenna Urick & Robert E. Layne**
MBISS GCHS Old Mission's Lemaire's Know When to Hold 'Em AOM X GCH Divine Acres Lemaire's Kiki Do U Love Me

Braggs

Meet our new little duckling

Barbie



TriLa N Journey Davidane's Ultimate Cool Kid

(CH TriLa's Perfect Storm X TriLa's Strikedonia)

To carry on the Davidane tradition. In case you didn't notice, the first letters in each of the words spell DUCK.

Thank you, Walt Perkins!

Davidane Great Danes

Sue Davis Shaw

Braggs

We are pleased to announce our newest Champion
" Ch Cosmic NoBonz Get Ready To Mambo Italiano "



Finishing with a 3pt major at the Providence County Kennel Club 7/27 going WD/BW/BOBOH with Karen under Judge Shalisa D Neely! Then Allison & Mambo went on to win a OHGR1 under Shalisa D Neely!! Mambo & Karen also won B/BOBOH the next day at the Providence County Kennel Club 7/28 under Judge Michael Forte then onto a Group 3 under Judge Shalisa D Neely!! Then Ally & Mambo went into OH and won a OHGR2 under Judge Judy Harrington!!!

We are super proud of Mambo finishing @ 16mos!!!

Owned/loved by: Karen & John Pacino, Allison Gallant, Tami Bradford and Arthur Solnick

Bred By: Tami & Walter Bradford, Karen Pacino & Allison Gallant

Litterbox

**CH Mgckngdms 'Cause I Need A Man! (Aka Zuko) X
Sterling's Bluebonnet V Krw CD RN NA OAJ (aka Bonnet)**

Breeder: Sterling Moffat

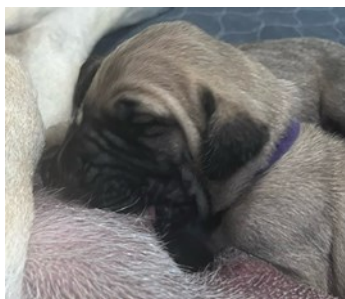
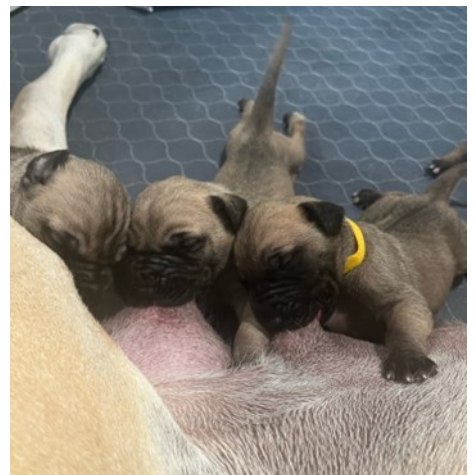
4 girls— Born July 7



GCH Sundance N Maitau Seeing is Believing x Ch. Grateful N Maitau Livin the Life, CGCA

Breeders: Maitau Great Danes

8 fawn pups whelped on July 16—One female and 7 males



THE JOURNEY

Submitted by Betty Lewis

When you bring a pet into your life, you begin a journey. A journey that will bring you more love and devotion than you have ever known, yet will also test your strength and courage. If you allow, the journey will teach you many things, about life, about yourself, and most of all, about love.

You will come away changed forever, for one soul cannot touch another without leaving its mark.

Along the way, you will learn much about savoring life's simple pleasures --jumping in leaves, snoozing in the sun, the joys of puddles, and even the satisfaction of a good scratch behind the ears. If you spend much time outside, you will be taught how to truly experience every element, for no rock, leaf, or log will go unexamined, no rustling bush will be overlooked, and even the very air will be inhaled, pondered, and noted as being full of valuable information.

Your pace may be slower, except when heading home to the food dish, but you will become a better naturalist, having been taught by an expert in the field. Too many times we hike on automatic pilot, our goal being to complete the trail rather than enjoy the journey.



We miss the details: the colorful mushrooms on the rotting log, the honeycomb in the old maple snag, the hawk feather caught on a twig.

Once we walk as a dog does, we discover a whole new world. We stop; we browse the landscape, we kick over leaves, peek in tree holes, look up, down, all around. And we learn what any dog knows that nature has created a marvelously complex world that is

full of surprises, that each cycle of the seasons bring ever changing wonders, each day an essence all its own.

Even from indoors you will find yourself more attuned to the world around you. You will find yourself watching: summer insects collecting on a screen; how bizarre they are; how many kinds there are or noting the flick and flash of fireflies through the dark. You will stop to observe the swirling dance of windblown leaves, or sniff the air after a rain. It does not matter that there is no objective in this; the point is in the doing, in not letting life's most important details slip by.

You will find yourself doing silly things that your pet-less friends might not understand: spending

thirty minutes in the grocery aisle looking for the cat food brand your feline must have, buying dog birthday treats, or driving around the block an extra time because your pet enjoys the ride. You will roll in the snow, wrestle with chewie toys, bounce little rubber balls till your eyes cross, and even run around the house trailing your bathrobe tie with a cat in hot pursuit, all in the name of love.

Your house will become muddier and hairier. You will wear less dark clothing and buy more lint rollers. You may find dog biscuits in your pocket or purse, and feel the need to explain that an old plastic shopping bag adorns your living room rug because your cat loves the crinkly sound. You will learn the true measure of love. The steadfast, undying kind that says, "It doesn't matter where we are or what we do, or how life treats us as long as we are together."

Respect this always. It is the most precious gift any living soul can give another. You will not find it often among the human race. And you will learn humility. The look in my dog's eyes often made me feel ashamed. Such joy and love at my presence. She saw not some flawed human who could be cross and stubborn, moody or rude, but only her wonderful companion. Or maybe she saw those things and dismissed them as mere human foibles, not worth considering, and so chose to love me anyway.

If you pay attention and learn well, when the journey is done, you will be not just a better person, but the person your pet always knew you to be. The one they were proud to call beloved friend.

I must caution you that this journey is not without pain. Like all paths of true love, the pain is part of loving. For as surely as the sun sets, one day your dear animal companion will follow a trail you cannot yet go down. And you will have to find the strength and love to let them go.

A pet's time on earth is far too short, especially for those that love them.

We borrow them, really, just for a while, and during these brief years they are generous enough to give us all their love, every inch of their spirit and heart, until one day there is nothing left. The cat that only yesterday was a kitten is all too soon old and frail and sleeping in the sun. The young pup of boundless energy now wakes up stiff and lame, the muzzle gone to gray.

Deep down we somehow always knew that this journey would end. We knew that if we gave our hearts they would be broken. But give them we must for it is all they ask in return. When the time comes, and the road curves ahead to a place we cannot see, we give one final gift and let them run on ahead, young and whole once more. "God speed, good friend," we say, until our journey comes full circle and our paths cross again.

~unknown~

Getting to Know You

Maria Perkins

My husband Walt and I have had five Great Dane dogs since 1993. I am a long-standing member of both GDCNE and GDCA. We're past members of the Old Colony Obedience Club. I appreciate the invitation to share the story of wonderful Danes we have had the honor to own.

When I was a kid, we weren't allowed to have a pet. My parents owned their own business, an Italian market on Shrewsbury Street in Worcester. They felt, probably correctly, that a dog would be too much to add to the demands of a family with 3 children and 2 working parents. But my cousins' parents had a "gentleman's farm" in Boylston, including horses, geese, and...a harlequin bitch, Samantha, who I adored above all else. She may have been a retired show dog from Bob & Louis - Bob please fact-check me!

Having been dog-denied, yet obsessed with all dogs, I knew I would have a dog as soon as I lived on my own. Beginner's luck, a newlywed husband, and fate all came together to bring us the most incredible first dog, Hamlet.

Walt & I bought our first house 2 years after we got married. We had been in an apartment with a no-pets and no-grill policy. On the way home from the closing, he wanted to go to Home Depot. I giddily obliged, and as we continued back to the new house with the Weber in the trunk, I said "Do you think we should get one big dog or two small dogs?" he was thinking lab or shepherd, and said,



Can CH Onarok's Prince of Denmark CDX, Can CD, CGC "Hamlet" our first Dane and my first dog. Ginnie Saunders featured Hamlet and his famous wave in DaDane of DaWeek in 2003

"Well, one dog is probably smart to start." And I said, "Awesome, we're getting a Great Dane." He nearly drove off the road, but the rest is history.

I researched (pre-web: books, newspaper, library!) and happened on Bill & Betty Lewis' Purebred Breeder Referral, and then found GDCNE, and president Sue Davis Shaw. Sue referred us to the amazing, magical, litter including our first Dane, Hamlet. Canadian Champion Onarok's Prince of Denmark Companion Dog Excellent, Canadian CD, CGC. When we got Hamlet, we had the great good fortune to join the Old Colony Obedience Club as well as GDCNE. We all enjoyed training and Hamlet did very well. We had zero experience but Hamlet was exceptional. He was the #1 obedience Great Dane in the country in 1995, always with Walt on the lead. Hamlet was Mantle before Mantle was cool; he helped bring acceptance for this beautiful and important marking in our standard. You can see Hamlet and Walt creating a sensation with no leash and his famous wave trick at the national parade of titleholders and champions here: [Hamlet & Walt Lake Geneva 1996](#)



Hamlet & Walt with a 1st place all-breed obedience placement

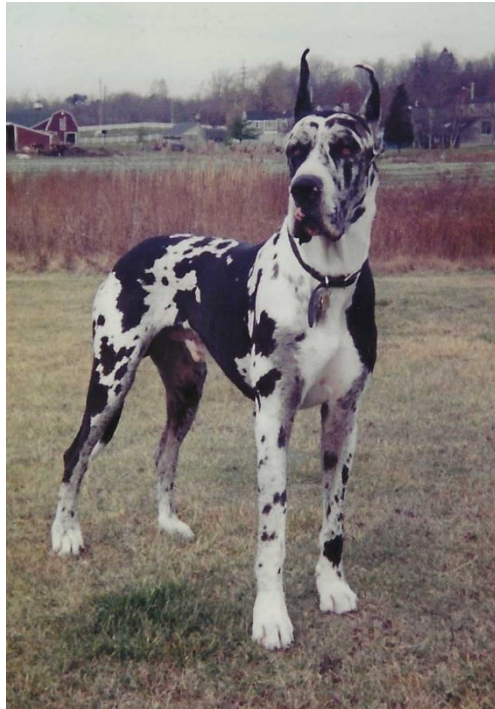
Hamlet had many all-breed placements in the obedience ring. Walt could literally ask that dog to do anything and he would. Hamlet was a veteran by the time AKC accepted Mantle in conformation. He finished his AKC conformation show career needing one major.



The wonderful Les Mapes, Canadian Ch Onarok's Prince of Denmark, CDX, Can CD, CGC "Hamlet", Sue Shaw

at a Canadian show circa 1995

18 months after we got Hamlet, it only took giving Walt 2 margaritas over dinner at our favorite Mexican place (conveniently near Sue & Dana) to get our second Great Dane, Spock. Canadian Champion Daviddane's Live Long N' Prosper, Am/Can CD, CGC. Spock could not have been more good-natured. He was a big boy and loved his brother Hamlet til the end. Like Hamlet, Spock had titles on both ends of his name and we could not have been prouder.



Canadian Champion Daviddane Live Long'N Prosper Am/Can CD CGC "Spock"

After Spock passed, we had the privilege to have Gracey Perkins join us. Onarok's N'Sync with Daviddane was Hamlet's Mantle daughter who came back to us after her first home didn't work out. She had earned a life of leisure when she got to us, and we didn't show her.



Pool Dogs- Can CH Hamlet CDX, Can CD, CGC and Can CH Spock CD CGC relaxing together at home.

They were terrific together



Onarok's N'Sync with Davisdane "Gracey"

Gracey & Hamlet's cheese was moved by a tiny tyrant: PR Avicat's Marco Polo, a Maine Coon cat with incredible charisma. He dominated the Danes - who loved him to pieces. Showing cats is a whole other story, suffice to say once we got MP's premiership, we were all set with cat shows.



PR Avicat's Marco Polo

We were devastated by the loss of first Spock, then Hamlet. It took a little time, but then we had wonderful Lucas, Hartline's The Rifleman TDI, a Mantle dog join our group. Lucas was from JP Yousha's CH Pirate (one of Sue's CH Willie CD sons) and Lee Hartline's CH Jayne. He was a beautiful puppy and won an all-breed Best in Match at 6 months. Unfortunately, he had an injury at 9 months that kept him out of the show ring. Lucas became a therapy Dane. Marco Polo kept him in his Danely place.



Hartline's the Rifleman TDI "Lucas" best puppy in match at the Cape Cod tech show site circa 2005

We got Hugo, CH Davidane's El Jefe RN, a harlequin dog in 2010 from Sue & Dana. Walt showed him to his AKC championship and a surprise bonus RN without any practice. Hugo was beautiful and big. He loved his pal Marco Polo, and Marco Polo loved him perhaps best of all his Danes. Marco left us in 2019, and sadly, we are without a Great Dane right now as our magnificent and sweet Hugo crossed the rainbow bridge in 2020.



CH Davidane's El Jefe RN CHIC "Hugo"



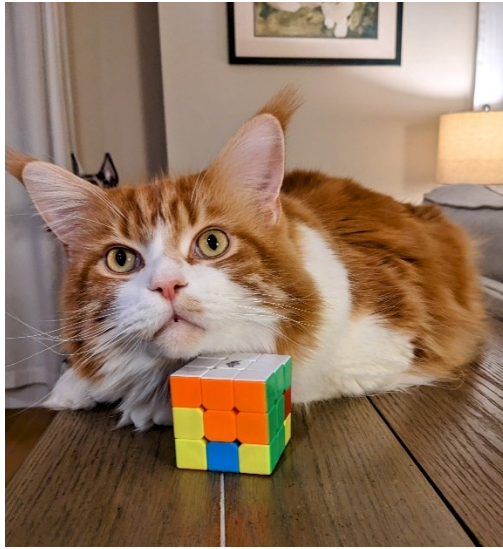
PR Marco Polo & CH Hugo RN CHIC share a sunbath



Littermates at 10: CH Hugo RN CHIC and his sister, Sami, Sue's beautiful CH Daviddane's Rubber Ducky You're the One, CD, RI, BN, TKN, CGCA CHIC Versatile and Venerable Dane

Along the way, we have helped as GDCNE members at many spring specialties and ran several very successful and profitable obedience and rally shows for GDCNE at Silver City.

Now, we have a Maine Coon cat, Skiff, who of course knows how to come when called and sit front, as well as give a high five, just like Hamlet's best trick.



MaynDezyn's Cotuit Skiff - a Maine who is smart like a Dane

Hamlet and Spock opened a whole new world to me and Walt, and to make some of the dearest friends as a result of meeting them through the dogs. The dedication and commitment required to excel in these dog sports is remarkable, and it creates a bond not just with your dog but with your fellow exhibitors which is equally remarkable. You train at home, in the park, and at tolerant, busy businesses like Home Depot, And you train at class 2 or 3 times a week, for months and years, before you are ready to enter and succeed at dog sport. The camaraderie and friendship you build is fantastic.

Having had Great Danes has made me a better person, teaching me responsibility, commitment, and patience. And it has given me some of the most lovely and long-lasting relationships with all of you in GDCNE. We love seeing your wins and wonderful litters via Facebook. And we plan to be ringside at the Cape shows in September cheering on one and all.



Great Dane Club of America
The finalists for 2026 South Division are:

Conformation Judges:

Nichole Bartlett
Jennifer Bell
Warren Benoit
Thomas Davis
Sharon Fulford-Fint
Karen Martin
Tracy Powell
Jim Remaklus
Nikki Riggsbee
Mary Lee Williams

Futurity Judges:

Colleen Assell-Carra
BJ Barnhart
Lori Beilke
Loren Bengston
John Jarvise
Carolyn McNamara
Darryl Pitts
Joyce Rowe
Eugenia Thayer
Doug Toomey

We will be voting at our September meeting.

For 2025 East Division, the Rally/Obedience Judges will be Elizabeth Chase and Nancy K. Withers. Agility Judge is Bill Pinder.



GDCA Charitable Trust

The Charitable Trust is financing a study of Post Operative Bleeding in the Great Dane.

Update from Mary Anne Zanetos:

The study of post-operative bleeding in Great Danes is now open with 45 enrolled already! We are still seeking more participants. There are several cases that have been reported, but where I have not received the completed questionnaire needed to enroll the dog, record important details of the case and for shipment of the test kit for obtaining a genetic sample. If that applies to you or anyone you know, please contact me at MAZ850@aol.com and I'll send the information needed to enroll your dog in the study. We are interested in postoperative bleeding events occurring soon after any serious surgical procedure. Can be spay, C-section, neuter, gastropexy, limb amputation, etc. For further details, contact me via e-mail at MAZ850@aol.com and I'll send further information.

Rescue

We recently sent \$5400 to the St. Landry Parish Animal Shelter in Louisiana to help them in their care of 38 Great Danes that were surrendered by a breeder. Can you imagine how overwhelmed this small shelter was with that huge influx of giant-size dogs? We financed the food and enclosures that they needed.

Raffle

In order to keep up our donations to rescues and research and to be able to help when help is desperately needed, we are currently fundraising. This is our big fundraiser for this year. I have lots of raffle tickets to sell and we could really use your support. The drawing will be held at the closing dinner at the National. You need not be present to win and we are covering the expense of getting this life size bronze to you if you win. You can see me for tickets.



It's Time ...
It's Time!



**THE GREAT DANE CLUB OF AMERICA'S CHARITABLE TRUST INVITES YOU TO
SHOW YOUR SUPPORT FOR OUR ANNUAL FUNDRAISER!!!**

ALL OF THE DONATIONS RECEIVED WILL BENEFIT RESCUE!

GREAT DANE CLUB OF AMERICA CHARITABLE TRUST

★ *Please Help Us Help Them* ★ **TICKETS ... \$5.00 EACH** ★



**Our 2024 Fundraiser
Life-Sized "Dog Days"**



We are pleased to be able to offer the life-sized sculpture, "Dog Days" by noted artist, Louise Peterson, as our raffle prize for 2024. This statue was a gift to the Trust from a very generous anonymous donor, and we are most grateful.

Tickets will be available ONLINE IN OUR CHARITABLE TRUST STORE AT GDCA.ORG. Click Charitable Trust, click donate, then click Charitable Trust Raffle.

They will also be available all week at the 2024 National Specialty. The drawing will be held at the 2024 Closing Ceremonies dinner. The winner need not be present.

QUESTIONS OR ADDITIONAL INFO – PLEASE CONTACT
Cathy Schaefer at dickschaefer@gmail.com

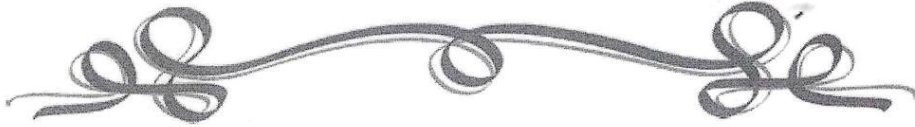


Click QR Code below to go directly to CT Page to purchase tickets.



WE CAN'T DO IT WITHOUT YOU!

YOUR SUPPORT IS VITAL AND VERY MUCH APPRECIATED!



South Shore Kennel Club, Inc.
Friday, September 13, 2024
&
Saturday, September 14, 2024

**Canine Good Citizen
and Trick Dog Evaluations**

**Canine Good Citizen
CGC, CGCA**



**Trick Dog Evaluations
Novice, Intermediate, Advanced**

Entry Fee - \$25.00 per dog per entry. Checks should be made payable to South Shore Kennel Club, Inc.

AKC Certified Evaluator: Susan Davis Shaw, Davidane@comcast.net

Testing will take place from 9:00 A.M. - 12:00 Noon on Friday and Saturday in Ring 10.

Check in at the Rally Ring. Please bring any special equipment that you may need for Trick Dog.

WHAT'S CAUSING CANINE CANCER?

Deva Khalsa VMD

Submitted by Sue Shaw

Cancer is the leading cause of death in dogs. It's all the more heartbreaking because dog owners can spend hundreds and thousands of dollars on treatments for what's often an incurable disease. Cancer develops over a long period of time. The potential for cancer begins when carcinogens damage and alter the DNA in a cell.

With every passing decade, the number and concentrations of carcinogens dogs are exposed to escalates. While it's impossible to avoid every carcinogen, you can certainly work to decrease your dog's exposure to these toxins.

There are many toxic products dog owners believe are safe, often because we're told this is so. But many are powerfully carcinogenic. Inadvertently we've somehow become cancer pimps while trying to do the best for our dogs as we're directed toward costly products that we believe are helpful. But are they?

POISON BOMBS

Let's start with flea and tick prevention. We don't want our dogs to get fleas and ticks and we want to avoid tick-borne diseases. Yet we're making our dogs poison bombs as we give them oral and spot-on flea products that stay in their systems – for months! The concentration of these insecticides in your dog's body for this time period is so high that even at the end of the month or three month period, a flea or tick drops dead within seconds of nibbling on your dog. That's impressive! But if that's what it's doing to the fleas and ticks, what's it doing to your dog? These powerful poisons circulate through your dog day in and day out. It's also

important to know just how carcinogenic they are. Established research has repeatedly proven the carcinogenic effect of the ingredients in these products. There are now natural, non-toxic products that are just as effective so there's no reason to have to use these toxic products on your dog.

ALLERGIES AND IMMUNITY

In addition to encouraging cancer by carcinogen exposure we have the reduction in your dog's immune system's ability to fight cancer.

Allergies are becoming more and more common in dogs and new products are now widely used that I don't recommend at all. Let's take a second to summarize allergies ... they're an inappropriate reaction to a substance. Think about a kid with peanut allergies. All his friends take peanut butter and jelly sandwiches for lunch and he'll go into anaphylactic shock if he contacts a tiny bit of peanut dust. Is the problem the peanut? Or is it that his immune system is overreacting to the substance? Yes, it's the overreaction of his immune system. That's why conventional drugs treat allergies by suppressing the immune system's reactions. In the old days, holistic vets objected to the overuse of steroids such as prednisolone. The new stuff that's now



routinely used is way worse ... One product called Atopica is cyclosporine and is used for skin allergies. The immunosuppressive effects of cyclosporine were discovered in Switzerland in 1972. It was used successfully in preventing organ rejection in organ transplants.

Cyclosporine is also used to treat a variety of skin conditions in pets using powerful immune suppression.

Believe it or not, in my clinical opinion there's a product that's even more dangerous. It's called Apoquel and it seems to have superseded Atopica. Apoquel works by destroying the communication system that cells need to recognize and destroy cancer cells. Kinases are important signaling compounds cells use to communicate with each other. An Australian chemist discovered some new ones called JAK1, JAK2, JAK3 and TKY2. These particular kinases did several jobs: policing the body against tumor formation; controlling body growth and providing immunity with proper functioning of the antibody-producing cells and the policing cells (called T-cells); creating inflammation.

APOQUEL DANGERS

Pharmaceutical companies locked on to the immune-suppressing and anti-inflammatory effects, seeing it as a perfect way to treat allergies. Apoquel was created with this goal. Apoquel neutralizes cytokines which act as messengers for the JAKs (kinases). This interrupts and stops the JAKs from communicating and so they simply stop working. But this communication system is the same system that your dog's body uses to search out cancer cells and prevent cancer. Apoquel stops cancer-preventing JAKS in their tracks.

Golden Retrievers have an unusually high rate of cancer. That's because Golden Retrievers in the US have gene mutations that affect the immune system's ability to search for tumor cells. Cancer is the cause of death in almost 70% of this breed. We're creating a similar problem in all dogs when we give them Apoquel for their allergies.



VACCINES

It's only my opinion, but I think that giving dogs vaccines that they don't need in the first place is criminal. Not only do vaccines irreparably damage your dog's immune system, they also carry cancer viruses. Vaccine associated sarcoma (VAS) is a highly aggressive, deadly fibrosarcoma tumor that was commonly appearing at the site of rabies injections. Now, many veterinary schools are actually advocating that the rabies vaccination be given in the end of the tail for easy amputation. How is that solving the problem of higher incidences of cancer? While fibrosarcoma is the most common vaccine-associated sarcoma, other tumor types include rhabdomyosarcoma, myxosarcoma, chondrosarcoma, malignant histiocytoma and undifferentiated sarcoma. These tumors are characterized as highly invasive, rapidly growing and malignant. Often the cancer spreads to the lungs and may spread to the regional lymph nodes as well. In my opinion, no vaccination is safe.

DON'T BE IN A HURRY TO SPAY OR NEUTER

Neutering and spaying dogs early increases their risk of cancer. In the past, veterinarians have commonly stated that early spaying and neutering would protect dogs from mammary and prostate cancer. Studies now find that early spay and neuter are actually increasing cancer rates.

At least two studies showed that early sterilization doubled the risk of bone cancer (Cooley et al, Endogenous gonadal hormone exposure and bone sarcoma risk, Cancer Epidemiol Biomarkers Prev, Nov 2002; and Ru G et al, Host related risk factors for canine osteosarcoma, Vet J 1998). A study in 2012 found no evidence to indicate that early spaying prevented mammary cancer (W Beauvais et al, The effect of neutering on the risk of mammary tumours in dogs – a systematic review, JSAP, June 2012). I've personally found prostate cancer to be more prevalent in neutered male dogs over intact dogs. All the data points to waiting to spay or neuter your dog until he is 18 to 24 months of age. It may be inconvenient but it has been shown to have a significant impact on reducing cancer risk. Actually, in my more than 30 years of practice, I've always convinced owners of mild mannered males to leave them intact, and have found that they stay stronger and healthier as they age.



LAWN AND HOUSEHOLD CHEMICALS

While we all know that limiting chemicals, pesticides and toxins reduces the risk of cancer in pets, we often forget about lawn care. Lawn chemicals have been shown to increase the risk of both bladder cancer and lymphosarcoma in dogs. These are studies of specific types of cancer ... but I would submit that lawn chemicals, in general, increase the risk of many cancers. When it rains, the lawn products we buy and religiously apply to the grass actually rise up into a fine mist sitting a few feet over the lawn. Dogs run through this mist and the chemicals soak in through their feet. They're also inhaled into their lungs and absorbed by their mucous membranes. Every day they run around at home and in parks and these carcinogens add up.

Marketers tell us we can't have a clean home without cleaners, so we stock up. These same cleaning products (and particularly deodorizers) are not healthy for you or your dogs. Dryer sheets and room and carpet deodorizers should be totally avoided. For next to nothing, you can formulate healthy household cleaners with vinegar and baking soda, both safe and effective. Remember, your dog is lying on that carpet sprayed with Febreze, which contains carcinogenic chemicals like acetaldehyde and propylene glycol.

LYING LABELS

An investigation of 14 common air fresheners by the Natural Resources Defense Council (NRDC) found hormone-disrupting chemicals known as phthalates in 12 products, including some fresheners marketed as "all-natural" and "unscented." None of the air fresheners listed phthalates on their labels. Today air fresheners come in the form of aerosol, wall plugs, car

fresheners, potpourri wood chips and flower petals. Just about all are heavily sprayed with coal tar fragrances. Coal contains many compounds including hydrocarbons and phenols. With every passing decade, the number and concentration of carcinogens our dogs are exposed to increases. While it's impossible to avoid every carcinogen, you can certainly decrease your dog's exposure to these toxins, chemicals, insecticides and vaccines.

With all of this exposure, it's no wonder the incidence of cancer has significantly increased in our dogs over these past few decades.

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SIGNS OF FOOD SENSITIVITIES

Dana Scott

Submitted by Sue Shaw

Food sensitivities are a common cause of itchy dogs. In fact, they're much more common than true food allergies. The typical signs of food sensitivities (or intolerances), include digestive upset or itchy skin. But there are some other signs that can be less obvious:

CHRONIC EAR INFECTIONS Frequent ear infections are a common a sign of food sensitivities. Look for yeasty ears with black or brown buildup. If you clean your dog's ears and the brown goo comes back, it's a good bet there may be a food sensitivity.



STAINED NAIL BEDS Red, brown or bronze coloring at the base of the nails can indicate food sensitivity. It's easiest to spot in dogs with white toenails ... but you may also see your dog licking them often.

DISCOLORED LIPS This is more noticeable in light-coated breeds, but pinkish or inflamed skin around the mouth could be yeast that's triggered by food.

RED BELLY OR DULL COAT Red, inflamed or dry skin can be triggered by food sensitivities, although there are several other causes including environmental allergies.

WATERY EYES Teary eyes can often be food-related. There will be a watery discharge or gunk in the corners of the eyes. Dana Scott

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Recipes



DOG ICE CREAM Ingredients: 2 ripe bananas 1 cup plain Greek yogurt 1/2 cup peanut butter (unsweetened and xylitol-free) 1/4 cup water Instructions: In a blender or food processor, combine bananas, Greek yogurt, peanut butter, and water. Blend until smooth and creamy. Pour the mixture into ice cube trays or silicone molds. Freeze for at least 2 hours or until solid. Pop out the ice cream cubes and serve to your dog as a treat. Notes: Ensure the peanut butter is free of xylitol, as it is toxic to dogs. You can substitute Greek yogurt with a dairy-free yogurt if your dog is lactose intolerant. Prep Time: 10 mins | Freezing Time: 2 hrs | Total Time: 2 hrs 10 mins | Servings: 12-15 treats—*Submitted by Sue Shaw*

Pumpkin Twizzle anyone?

Special homemade treat!!

4 cups of flour (your choice)

1 cup canned pumpkin (NOT pie filling)

1/4 cup water

2 eggs

2 Tbs. Vegetable Oil

2 tsp. Cinnamon

2 Tbs. Honey

Combine ingredients. Roll dough the length of your cookie sheet. Cut with pizza cutter approximately 1/2 inch wide and twist into the 'twizzle' shape. Bake in 325° oven for 45 minutes until lightly brown. Turn off oven. Leave twizzles in oven while it cools down. Check in the beginning to make sure they are not getting too brown. I store on counter top in a tall container I cover with clear plastic bag. They don't last long in my house. I have 2 GSPs.—*Submitted by Sue Shaw*

