



THE GUARDIAN

A Monthly Publication Of The German Shepherd Dog Club Of Atlanta, Inc

May 2007

GSDCA Newsletter Contest

2005 1st Runner Up

2006 Best Newsletter



That Black Dog



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Ch Lorien's Lights Out TC HT PT HS TDI OFA H & E

Bob Lindsey Video

Bob Lindsay will have several complete Futurity/Maturity weekends available on DVD, throughout the 2007 Futurity/Maturity schedule !



Scheduled Dates :



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**Our Next Club Meeting is
May 14, 2007**

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From The Editor...

As most of you are aware, the pet food industry has been hit hard in the past few months with recalls and dogs and cats falling ill from wheat and rice gluten used in pet foods, imported from a supplier in China. I am sure that all of us are wondering how to feed our dogs safely. It sure isn't easy these days. Your vets tell you to feed a high quality food. Unfortunately, a great deal of that high quality food that consumers have trusted for years, has been recalled. The FDA seems to be forcing recalls almost daily.

Also, we are being hit with nationwide animal legislation designed to eventually give government control of our dogs and / or eliminate them altogether. Two cases in the limelight right now are California's AB 1364 which requires spay/neuter of all dogs and cats by 4 months of age unless they meet certain criteria and owners pay huge fees. One of the criteria is showing. Well, we all know, dogs can't show until they are 6 months old. Hard to show an altered animal isn't it? The other is Louisville's anti pet legislation which is the most restrictive ever.

Both of these issues are so important to our continuing to have these dogs, that at the same time, we cherish and are driven up the wall by. I know I don't relish the idea of living without them. Gee, what would I do without kennels to clean, coats to rake out, water buckets to wash, food to deliver upon demand and that unbelievable love and loyalty that they give us.

So this issue is all about information on dog food and the basics of making your own if you choose to do so and the legislative issues that affect all of us along with an excellent article outlining the two major players in this mess, PETA & HSUS.

I hope that we all can learn just a little bit with the information I've gathered inside.

Denise

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A complimentary issue will be sent to prospective members upon request.

Any claims or statements of the writers or advertisers in The Guardian represent their own opinion and are not necessarily those of the Editor of The Guardian or the officers or directors of The German Shepherd Dog Club Of Atlanta, Inc

Claims are not verified by The German Shepherd Dog Club Of Atlanta, Inc.

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Club Meetings

Meetings are held on the 2nd Monday of each month, except July and December, at The Atlanta Humane Society, 981 Howell Mill RD, Atlanta, GA at 8:00PM. The German Shepherd Dog Club of Atlanta, Inc., encourages visitors to attend.

Our next meeting is May 14, 2007

Club Meeting Minutes

Club meeting minutes can be found in the members only section of the club website at

www.gsdcatlanta.org



Club Hospitality

Volunteers needed to provide refreshments for a club meetings. Refreshments need not be elaborate. Chips, cookies and other finger food and drinks is all that's needed. No cooking necessary!

e-mail: gsdcatlguardian@aol.com to volunteer

Get The Facts:

What's Really in Pet Food

Plump whole chickens, choice cuts of beef, fresh grains, and all the wholesome nutrition your dog or cat will ever need.

These are the images pet food manufacturers promulgate through the media and advertising. This is what the \$15 billion per year U.S. pet food industry wants consumers to believe they are buying when they purchase their products.

This report explores the differences between what consumers think they are buying and what they are actually getting. It focuses in very general terms on the most visible name brands — the pet food labels that are mass-distributed to supermarkets and discount stores — but there are many highly respected brands that may be guilty of the same offenses.

What most consumers don't know is that the pet food industry is an extension of the human food and agriculture industries. Pet food provides a convenient way for slaughterhouse offal, grains considered "unfit for human consumption," and similar waste products to be turned into profit. This waste includes intestines, udders, heads, hooves, and possibly diseased and cancerous animal parts.

The Players

The pet food market has been dominated in the last few years by the acquisition of big companies by even bigger companies. With \$15 billion a year at stake in the U.S. and rapidly expanding foreign markets, it's no wonder that some are greedy for a larger piece of the pie.

- Nestlé's bought Purina to form Nestlé Purina Petcare Company (Fancy Feast, Alpo, Friskies, Mighty Dog, Dog Chow, Cat Chow, Puppy Chow, Kitten Chow, Beneful, One, ProPlan, DeliCat, HiPro, Kit'n'Kaboodle, Tender Vittles, Purina Veterinary Diets).
- Del Monte gobbled up Heinz (MeowMix, Gravy Train, Kibbles 'n Bits, Wagwells, 9Lives, Cycle, Skippy, Nature's Recipe, and pet treats Milk Bone, Pup-Peroni, Snau-sages, Pounce).
- MasterFoods owns Mars, Inc., which consumed Royal Canin (Pedigree, Waltham's, Cesar, Sheba, Temptations, Goodlife Recipe, Sensible Choice, Excel).

Other major pet food makers are not best known for pet care, although many of their household and personal care products do use ingredients derived from animal by-products:

- Procter and Gamble (P&G) purchased The Iams Company (Iams, Eukanuba) in 1999. P&G shortly thereafter introduced Iams into grocery stores, where it did very well.
- Colgate-Palmolive bought Hill's Science Diet (founded in 1939) in 1976 (Hill's Science Diet, Prescription Diets, Nature's Best).

Private labelers (who make food for "house" brands like Kroger and Wal-Mart) and co-packers (who produce food for other pet food makers) are also major players. Three major companies are Doane Pet Care, Diamond, and Menu Foods; they produce food for dozens of private label and brand names. Interestingly, all 3 of these companies have been involved in pet food recalls that sickened or killed many pets.

Many major pet food companies in the United States are subsidiaries of gigantic multinational corporations. From a business standpoint, pet food fits very well with companies making human products. The multinationals have increased bulk-purchasing power; those that make human food products have a captive market in which to capitalize on their waste products; and pet food divisions have a more reliable capital base and, in many cases, a convenient source of ingredients.

The Pet Food Institute — the trade association of pet food manufacturers — has acknowledged the use of by-products in pet foods as additional income for processors and farmers: "The growth of the pet food industry not only provided pet owners with better foods for their pets, but also created profitable additional markets for American farm products and for the byproducts of the meat packing, poultry, and other food industries which prepare food for human consumption."¹

LABEL BASICS

There are special labeling requirements for pet food, all of which are contained in the annually revised *Official Publication* of AAFCO.² While AAFCO does not regulate pet food, it does provide model regulations and standards that are followed by U.S. pet food makers.

The name of the food provides the first indication of the food's content. The use of the terms "all" or "100%" cannot be

continued from page 3

used “if the product contains more than one ingredient, not including water sufficient for processing, decharacterizing agents, or trace amounts of preservatives and condiments.”

The “95% Rule” applies when the ingredient(s) derived from animals, poultry, or fish constitutes at least 95% or more of the total weight of the product (or 70% excluding water for processing). Because all-meat diets are not nutritionally balanced and cause severe deficiencies if fed exclusively, they fell out of favor for many years. However, due to rising consumer interest in high quality meat products, several companies are now promoting 95% and 100% canned meats as a supplemental feeding option.

The “dinner” product is defined by the “25% Rule,” which applies when “an ingredient or a combination of ingredients constitutes at least 25% of the weight of the product (excluding water sufficient for processing)”, or at least 10% of the dry matter weight; and a descriptor such as “recipe,” “platter,” “entree,” and “formula.” A combination of ingredients included in the product name is permissible when each ingredient comprises at least 3% of the product weight, excluding water for processing, and the ingredient names appear in descending order by weight.

The “With” rule allows an ingredient name to appear on the label, such as “with real chicken,” as long as each such ingredient constitutes at least 3% of the food by weight, excluding water for processing.

The “flavor” rule allows a food to be designated as a certain flavor as long as the ingredient(s) are sufficient to “impart a distinctive characteristic” to the food. Thus, a “beef flavor” food may contain a small quantity of digest or other extract of tissues from cattle, or even an artificial flavor, without containing any actual beef meat at all.

The ingredient list is the other major key to what’s really in that bag or can. Ingredients must be listed in descending order of weight. The ingredient names are legally defined. For instance, “meat” refers to only cows, pigs, goats and sheep, and only includes specified muscle tissues. Detailed definitions are published in AAFCO’s *Official Publication*, revised annually, but can also be found in many places online.

The guaranteed analysis provides a very general guide to the composition of the food. Crude protein, fat, and fiber, and total

moisture are required to be listed. Some companies also voluntarily list taurine, Omega fatty acids, magnesium, and other items that they deem important — by marketing standards.

Pet Food Standards and Regulations

The National Research Council (NRC) of the Academy of Sciences set the nutritional standards for pet food that were used by the pet food industry until the late 1980s. The original NRC standards were based on purified diets, and required feeding trials for pet foods claimed to be “complete” and “balanced.” The pet food industry found the feeding trials too restrictive and expensive, so AAFCO designed an alternate procedure for claiming the nutritional adequacy of pet food, by testing the food for compliance with “Nutrient Profiles.” AAFCO also created “expert committees” for canine and feline nutrition, which developed separate canine and feline standards.

While feeding trials are sometimes still done, they are expensive and time-consuming. A standard chemical analysis may be also be used to make sure that a food meets the profiles. In either case, there will be a statement on the label stating which method was used. However, because of the “family rule” in the AAFCO book, a label can say that feeding tests were done if it is “similar” to a food that was actually tested on live animals. There is no way to distinguish the lead product from its “family members.” The label will also state whether the product is nutritionally adequate (complete and balanced), and what life stage (adult or growth) the food is for. A food that says “all life stages” meets the growth standards and can be fed to all ages.

Chemical analysis, however, does not address the palatability, digestibility, or biological availability of nutrients in pet food. Thus it is unreliable for determining whether a food will provide an animal with sufficient nutrients. To compensate for the limitations of chemical analysis, AAFCO added a “safety factor,” which was to exceed the minimum amount of nutrients required to meet the complete and balanced requirements.

In 2006, new NRC standards were published; but it will take several years for AAFCO’s profiles to be updated and adopted, let alone accepted by the states.

The pet food industry loves to say that it’s more highly regulated than human food, but that’s just not true. Pet food exists in a bit of a regulatory vacuum; laws are on the books, but enforcement is another story. The FDA has nominal authority over pet foods shipped across state lines. But the real “enforcers” are the feed control officials in each state. They are



the ones who actually look at the food and, in many instances, run basic tests to make sure the food meets its Guaranteed Analysis, the chart on the label telling how much protein, fat, moisture, and fiber are present. But regulation and enforcement vary tremendously from state to state. Some, like Texas, Minnesota, and Kentucky, run extensive tests and strictly enforce their laws; others, like California, do neither.

THE MANUFACTURING PROCESS: HOW PET FOOD IS MADE Dry Food

The vast majority of dry food is made with a machine called an extruder. First, materials are blended in accordance with a recipe created with the help of computer programs that provide the nutrient content of each proposed ingredient. For instance, corn gluten meal has more protein than wheat flour. Because the extruder needs a consistent amount of starch and low moisture to work properly, dry ingredients — such as rendered meat-and-bone-meal, poultry by-product meal, grains, and flours — predominate.

The dough is fed into the screws of an extruder. It is subjected to steam and high pressure as it is pushed through dies that determine the shape of the final product, much like the nozzles used in cake decorating. As the hot, pressurized dough exits the extruder, it is cut by a set of rapidly whirling knives into tiny pieces. As the dough reaches normal air pressure, it expands or “puffs” into its final shape. The food is allowed to dry, and then is usually sprayed with fat, digests, or other compounds to make it more palatable. When it is cooled, it can be bagged.

Although the cooking process kills bacteria in the ingredients, the final product can pick up more bacteria during the subsequent drying, coating, and packaging process. Some experts warn that getting dry food wet can allow the bacteria on the surface to multiply and make pets sick. **Do not mix dry food with water, milk, canned food, or other liquids.**

A few dog foods are baked at high temperatures (over 500°F) rather than extruded. This produces a sheet of dense, crunchy material that is then broken into irregular chunks, much like crumbling crackers into soup. It is relatively palatable without the sprayed-on fats and other enhancers needed on extruded dry food.

Semi-moist foods and many pet treats are also made with an

extruder. To be appealing to consumers and to keep their texture, they contain many additives, colorings, and preservatives; they are not a good choice for a pet’s primary diet.

Wet Food

Wet or canned food begins with ground ingredients mixed with additives. If chunks are required, a special extruder forms them. Then the mixture is cooked and canned. The sealed cans are then put into containers resembling pressure cookers and commercial sterilization takes place. Some manufacturers cook the food right in the can.

Wet foods are quite different in content from dry or semi-moist foods. While many canned foods contain by-products of various sorts, they are “fresh” and not rendered or processed (although they are often frozen for transport and storage). Wet foods usually contain much more protein, and it’s often a little higher quality, than dry foods. They also have more moisture, which is better for cats. They are packaged in cans or pouches.

Comparing Food Types

Because of the variation in water content, it is impossible to directly compare labels from different kinds of food without a mathematical conversion to “dry matter basis.” The numbers can be very deceiving. For instance, a canned food containing 10% protein actually has much more protein than a dry food with 30% protein.

To put the foods on a level playing field, first calculate the dry matter content by subtracting the moisture content given on the label from 100%. Then divide the ingredient by the dry matter content. For example, a typical bag of dry cat food contains 30% protein on the label, but 32% on a dry-matter basis (30% divided by its dry matter content, 100-6% moisture = 94%). A can of cat food might contain 12% protein on the label, but almost 43% on a dry-matter basis (12% divided by its dry matter content, 100-72% moisture = 28%). Dry food typically contains less than 10% water, while canned food contains 78% or more water.

PET FOOD INGREDIENTS

Animal Protein

Dogs and cats are carnivores, and do best on a meat-based diet. The protein used in pet food comes from a variety of sources.

THE GUARDIAN

Dog Food Recalls

Updated May 07, 2007

On March 16, Menu Foods, Inc. recalled dog and cat foods produced at two of its facilities between Dec. 3, 2006, and March 6, 2007, and sold under a number of different brand names. Since then, Menu Foods has expanded its recall and several other companies also have voluntarily withdrawn products from the market. See the links below for complete listings. The FDA's investigation remains open and active, and the agency continues to follow leads to get closer to the root cause of the problem and to ensure that all contaminated product is removed from the market.

Not only has wheat gluten been targeted as a source of the illnesses, but rice gluten has also been added.

[ALPO](#)

[Americas Choice, Preferred Pet](#)

[Authority](#)

[Award](#)

[Best Choice](#)

[Big Bet](#)

[Big Red](#)

[Bloom](#)

[Blue Buffalo \(RICE GLUTEN\)](#)

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[Canine Caviar Pet Foods \(RICE GLUTEN\)](#)

[Champion Breed Lg Biscuit](#)

[Champion Breed Peanut Butter Biscuits](#)

[Co-Op Gold](#)

[Companion](#)

[Companion's Best Multi-Flavor Biscuit](#)

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[Companion/Giant Companion/Tops Companion](#)

[Companion/Tops Companion](#)

[Compliments](#)

[Costco/Kirkland Signature \(RICE GLUTEN\)](#)

[Demoulas Market Basket](#)

[Diamond Pet Food \(RICE GLUTEN\)](#)

[Doctors Foster & Smith \(RICE GLUTEN\)](#)

[Dollar General](#)

[Eukanuba Can Dog Chunks in Gravy](#)

[Eukanuba Pouch Dog Bites in Gravy](#)

[Food Lion](#)

[Giant Companion](#)

[Giant Companion/Tops Companion](#)

[Gravy Train](#)

[Grrreat Choice](#)

[Hannaford](#)

[Happy Tails](#)

[Harmony Farms \(RICE GLUTEN\)](#)

[Harmony Farms Treats \(RICE GLUTEN\)](#)

[Health Diet Gourmet Cuisine](#)

[Hill Country Fare](#)

[Hy Vee](#)

[Hy-Vee](#)

[Iams Can Chunky Formula](#)

[Iams Can Small Bites Formula](#)

[Iams Dog Select Bites](#)

[Jerky Treats Beef Flavored Dog Snacks](#)

[La Griffé](#)

[Laura Lynn](#)

[Loving Meals](#)

[Master Choice](#)

[Meijer's Main Choice](#)

[Mighty Dog](#)

[Mixables](#)

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[Nutro Max](#)

[Nutro Natural Choice](#)

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[Ol' Roy](#)

[Ol' Roy 4-Flavor Lg Biscuits](#)

[Ol' Roy Canada](#)

[Ol' Roy Peanut Butter Biscuits](#)

[Ol' Roy Puppy](#)

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OMA'S PRIDE



- Oma's Pride 'Mix' Patties
- Fish Oils
- Chicken Items
- Turkey Items
- Holistic Supplements
- Beef & Buffalo & Veal & Lamb
- Veggie & Fruit
- Tripe
- O'Paws Freeze-Dried Disks
- Exotics
- O'Paws Freeze-Dried Treats
- Bones of All Types

The ingredients and ingredient ratios in the "mixes" are:

- Poultry: 70% meat/bone 10% organ meats (liver/hearts/gizzards)
20%vegetables chicken-(butternut squash/broccoli/kale)
turkey- (green been, yellow squash ,okra)
- Beef: 70% Ground beef / bone 10% organ meats (heart/liver/kidney)
20% vegetables (butternut squash/broccoli/kale)
- Lamb: 80% meat/bone
20% vegetables (zucchini, olewo carrots, parsley)



HEALTHY PET PRODUCTS

Our primary base diet "**Beef Complete**" is Certified Organic Beef and Midwestern Range Fed Beef that is USDA inspected at the time of slaughter to guarantee being 100% free of antibiotics, hormones and steroids. In addition, "**Beef Complete**" has the proper ratio of fresh vegetables and ripened fruits washed clean. It is also fortified with vitamins and minerals as needed to assure that your animal's full dietary needs are present.

Healthy Pet Products' commitment is to offer the very best, wholesome and nutritious raw diet products to our animals and yours. Over thirty years of experience has shown us the benefits of feeding well. Superior nutrition promotes superior health. When fed well, dogs and cats have a better quality of life, live longer and are the picture of good health and condition.

Healthy Pet Products' goal is to duplicate a diet natural to dogs and cats. Dogs and cats are carnivores first. Their natural intended diet is primarily meat. Convenience dry foods are often grain based, high in carbohydrates, baked at high temperatures which destroys live enzymes, and leaving little or no nutrition. "Live enzymes are responsible for every metabolic reaction that takes place in the body, from blinking an eye to liver function." The source for live enzymes is fresh raw meat. *Dogs and cats (carnivores) need and want meat.*

Healthy Pet Products "Raw Meat Diet" Supplements



**For Information and Ordering call:
Denise Kiah at 770-788-6427
e-mail: kiahaus@aol.com**

Versatility Awards Program

German Shepherd Dog Club of Atlanta

The Versatility awards program was implemented by the German Shepherd Dog Club of Atlanta for two reasons: as an *educational tool* for members *to promote the health, soundness, and welfare of German Shepherd Dogs*; and as a *recognition program for dogs and owners who have contributed to the breed in the arenas of performance, conformation, and social responsibility*. Eleven different categories have been identified in which points can be earned. There are *five levels of awards*, to recognize and reward dogs and owners from a beginning level to those who have achieved the pinnacle of success in one or several of the targeted areas. The categories and point-earning achievements in each are listed below. Certificates are awarded for *Versatility Started (VS)*; plaques or special awards (if the owner is an *active club member, as defined by the Bylaws*) of increasing size (which may include a photo if the owner submits one in advance and is an active club member) are awarded for the higher levels, which include *Versatility Intermediate (VI)*, *Versatility Excellent (VX)*, *Versatility Master (VM)*, and *Versatility Super (SV)*.

Versatility Started (VS) requires five points from at least 3 different categories, with at least one point coming from an AKC performance category. The award is a certificate.

Versatility Intermediate (VI) requires 10 points from at least 4 different categories, including at least 2 AKC performance categories. A small plaque (with a 4"x6" photo if provided in advance by the owner) will be awarded, if the owner is an active club member.

Versatility Excellent (VX) requires 12 points from at least 5 different categories, including at least 2 AKC performance categories; one point must be earned by winning the top level in an AKC performance category. A large plaque will be awarded (same criteria as noted above; photo is 5"x7".)

Versatility Master (VM) – requires 18 total points from at least 6 different categories; at least 10 of the points must be from 3 of the 5 AKC performance categories; the dog must have achieved the top level in at least 2 of those performance categories. A large plaque will be awarded; same criteria as above; photo is 8"x10".

Versatility Super (SV) requires 20 points from at least 8 different categories, and points must be earned in all 5 AKC performance categories; at least two points must be earned by achieving the top level in two different AKC performance categories. A special award will be presented; same criteria as above.

Non-AKC titles are limited to one point per category. For example, a dog with both a Canadian and a Mexican championship could claim only one point for his "foreign country championship."

There are 11 categories. One point is awarded for each accomplishment or award listed. The first 5 categories are the AKC performance categories. The dog must have passed the test or accomplishment listed in order to be awarded a point. C.E.R.F. certification must be renewed annually for the point to be counted in successive years. ***The program is designed to make versatility awards at some level accessible to all dogs and all owners.*** For example, if a dog does not have the health credentials and/or conformation or performance achievements to be a breeding prospect, the dog can still earn a point in the "Breedability" category by being spayed or neutered, in recognition of the owner's responsible decision not to breed that dog. A dog whose hips or elbows do not certify, but whose owner has chosen to have the OFA results posted on the OFA's database, may earn a point for each OFA public database listing. Dogs who do certify earn extra points for those certifications.

The Versatility Awards year runs from June 1 to May 31; thus, all titles and certificates must have been earned no later than May 31 of the year in which the Versatility Awards are presented, at the Annual Awards Banquet in July. ***All Versatility Awards information must be submitted by regular mail to Joye Evans at the mailing address below, no later than June 1 of the applicable awards year. Information received after that deadline will not be considered. Written documentation is required for all earned points.*** If you wish to receive a photo plaque for an eligible dog, you must specify whether the photo will be vertical or horizontal, and you must provide the photograph you wish to use. ***Only current members are eligible to receive awards; to receive a plaque or special award, the recipient must have been an active club member*** and have owned or co-owned the dog at the time the titles were won. An active club member is defined as one who has attended at least five club meetings in the current awards year (any combination of club and/or board meetings), ***or*** who has participated in a club training class as instructor or assistant, ***or*** actively served on a committee during the awards year; ***or*** is a Life Member of the club as defined by the club's by-laws. ***Members not meeting requirements for plaques will be awarded certificates. You must send copies (non-returnable) of all titles, certifications, etc., as proof that your dog has earned points for those categories.***

MORE INFORMATION ABOUT THE PERFORMANCE TITLES CAN BE FOUND AT THE WEB SITE OF THE AMERICAN KENNEL CLUB, AKC.ORG. ANY QUESTIONS OF ELIGIBILITY SHALL BE RESOLVED BY THE BOARD. THE CLUB HAS A VERSATILITY COMMITTEE; CHAIRPERSON IS JOYE EVANS; HER CONTACT INFORMATION IS 770-438-2285 (HOME); 404-264-2164 (WORK), E-MAIL CHARBARGS@AOL.COM, ADDRESS 3600 MILL CREEK LANE, MARIETTA, GA 30060. PLEASE FEEL FREE TO CALL WITH ANY QUESTIONS.

Owner's Name _____ Pet's Name _____

Plaque (if applicable) horizontal plain _____ W/ picture _____ Vertical plain _____ w/ picture _____

Circle all that apply and attach a copy of all titles/certificates earned and forward form and attachments no later than, but preferably before June 15, 2007, to: Joye Evans 3600 Mill Creek Lane, Marietta, Georgia 30060

<p>1 OBEDIENCE</p> <p>a) CGC b) CD c) CDX d) UD e) UDX f) OTCH g) Obedience Victor/Victrix</p>	<p>2 AKC RALLY</p> <p>a) RN b) RA c) RE d) RAE*</p> <p>*1 point for each level</p>	<p>3 TRACKING</p> <p>a) TD b) TDX c) VST d) CT</p>	<p>4 HERDING</p> <p>a) HAC/HIC b) HT c) PT d) HS* e) HI* f) HX* g) HC h) Herding Victor/Victrix</p> <p>*1 point for each course/ livestock type</p>	<p>5 AGILITY</p> <p>a) NA/NAP* b) NAJ/NJP* c) NF/NFP* d) OA/OAP* e) OAJ/OJP* f) OF/OPF* g) AX/AXP* h) AXJ/AJP* i) XF/XFP* j) MX/MXP*</p>	<p>5 AGILITY (con't)</p> <p>k) MXJ/MJP* l) MXF/MXFP* m) PAX n) MACH* o) FTC*/FTCP* p) Agility Victor/Victrix</p> <p>*1 point for each title or level</p> <p><i>c, f, i, l, m and o added 2006</i></p>
<p>6 HEALTH</p> <p>a) Hip status published on open OFA database b) Elbow status published on open OFA database c) Thyroid status published on open OFA database d) Cardiac status published on open OFA database e) Negative for von Willebrand's disease f) Normal TLI (pancreatic function) (5-35) g) Tattooed, microchipped, or DNA on file with AKC, h) 10 years or older i) Preliminary normal OFA hips j) Preliminary hip status published k) Preliminary normal OFA elbows l) Prelim. elbow status published</p> <p><i>d) added 2006</i></p>	<p>7 CONFORMATION/ BREED-ABILITY</p> <p>a) AKC Show Ribbon b) AKC Champion c) Select or Best in Show d) Grand Victor/Victrix e) ROM (Register of Merit) f) Futurity Victor/Victrix g) Maturity Victor/Victrix h) Spayed or Neutered i) Hips rated Fair, Good, or Excellent by OFA j) Elbows rated normal by OFA k) Thyroid normal, per OFA l) CERF – eyes normal, per OFA, for current year m) Cardiac normal per OFA</p> <p><i>m) added 2006</i></p>	<p>8 SCHÜTZHUND</p> <p>a) BH b) SCH I c) SCH II d) SCH III e) FH f) IPO I – III g) AD h) WJ</p>	<p>9 WORKING/ACTIVE DUTY</p> <p>a) Arson detection dog b) Bomb detection dog c) Drug detection dog e) Police dog f) Guide dog g) Service/ Assistance dog h) Search & Rescue dog</p>	<p>10 RESPONSIBLE OWNERSHIP</p> <p>a) Emergency Buddy System papers on file with club b) Temperament Tested or Certified c) Registered Therapy Dog d) Rescued Dog (ILP or breed) e) Other (Hero Dog, etc.) d) Goodwill Ambassador Dog (at least 3 visits, verified in writing by event officials, to seminars, clinics, schools, etc.) e) R.E.A.D. (Reading Education Assistance Dog) certification</p>	<p>11 OTHER CANINE ACTIVITIES/AWARDS</p> <p>a) Scent Hurdle Team b) Flyball Team c) *Foreign/Other Championship d) *Other Obedience title e) *Other Agility title f) *Other Herding title g) *Other protection or working dog sport title h) *Other Rally title</p> <p>*Limited to 1 point per listed title</p>

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Club News & Brags

The Officers Nominating Committee, comprised of Kim McNamara, Joyce Quick and Janet Barwick, presents the following slate of officers for 2007-2008.

All individuals have been personally contacted by a member of the committee and have agreed to serve the GSDC of Atlanta.

President	Scears Hardie
1st VP/Programs	Lee Jewell
2nd VP/Training Director	Helen Chamblee
Recording Secretary	Sara Wolfe
Corresponding Secretary	Joye Evans
Treasurer	Peggy Kurz
Guardian Editor	Denise Groenewald
Member at Large	Betty Ann Frederick
Past President	Suzanne Kinman

Respectfully submitted,

Officers Nominating Committee
Janet Barwick, Chair

2009 GSDCA Southeast Futurity/Maturity

It was approved at the April meeting to place a bid for the SE Futurity to be held as a supported entry to Augusta and Atlanta Kennel Clubs in Perry, Georgia on April 12, 2009. We have been granted the bid.

AKC has approved our new show dates of September 26 th & 27th.

Judges are :

Saturday : Gary Szymaczak and Sharon Crossman

Sunday : Sally Hayden and Anthony Cherubini

Upcoming Club Meeting Agendas:

May 2007:

Voting on Judges for Conformation , Obedience and Rally for our Back To Back Specialties and Matches .

Voting on the 2008 Board Officers

June 2007:

Guest Speaker will be Dr Randy Frennier from Nature's Farmacy on nutrition

July 2007 : No meeting

Ten Commandments for Pet Owners

1. My life is likely to last 10 to 15 years. Any separation from you will be very painful.
2. Give me time to understand what you want from me. Do not break my spirit with your temper, though I will always forgive you. Your patience and understanding will teach me more quickly those things you want me to learn.
3. Treat me kindly, my beloved friend, for no heart in all the world is more grateful for your kindness than mine. Don't be angry with me for long, and don't lock me up as punishment. After all, you have your job, your friends, your entertainment. I have only you.
4. Speak to me often. Even if I don't understand all your words, I understand your voice when it's speaking to me. Your voice is the sweetest sound I ever hear, as you must know by my enthusiastic excitement when your footsteps fall upon my waiting ear.
5. Please take me inside when it's cold and wet. I'm a domestic animal and no longer am accustomed to the bitter elements. I ask for little more than your gentle hands petting me.
6. Keep my bowl filled with clean water; I cannot tell you when I'm thirsty. Feed me good food so that I may stay well, to romp and play and do your bidding, to be by your side, and stand ready, willing and able to share with you my life, for that is what I live for. However you treat me, I'll never forget it.
7. Don't hit me. Remember, I have teeth that could easily crush the bones in your hand, but I choose not to bite you.
8. Before you scold me for being lazy or uncooperative, ask yourself if something might be bothering me. Perhaps I am not getting the right food, I've been out in the sun too long, or my heart is getting old and weak.
9. Take care of me when I get old. You will grow old, too.
10. When I am very old, when I no longer enjoy good health, please do not make heroic efforts to keep me going. I am not having fun. Just see to it that my trusting life is taken gently. And be with me on that difficult journey when it is time to say "goodbye". Never say, "I can't bear to watch." Everything is easier for me when you are there. I will leave this earth knowing with my last breath that my fate was always safest in your hands.

Remember – I love you.

-- Author Unknown

DOGS AS GOOD AS SCREENING FOR CANCER DETECTION

11:24 09 January 2006

NewScientist.com news service

Kurt Kleiner

Dogs do as well as state-of-the-art screening tests at sniffing out people with lung or breast cancer. The research raises the possibility that trained dogs could detect cancers even earlier and might some day supplement or even replace mammograms and CT scans in the laboratory.

Two previous studies have shown that dogs seem to be able to sniff out melanomas and [bladder cancer](#). The idea is not outrageous. Cancer patients have been shown to have traces of chemicals – like alkanes and benzene derivatives – in their breath, and other studies have shown dogs can detect chemicals in concentrations as small as a few parts per trillion.

So researchers at the Pine Street Foundation in San Anselmo, California, US, selected three Labrador retrievers and two Portuguese water dogs with no previous training, and over several weeks trained them using breath samples that had been exhaled into tubes by cancer patients.

To test how well the dogs had learned, they used a new batch of samples and had the dogs attempt to distinguish among 55 lung cancer patients, 31 breast cancer patients and 83 healthy controls. The patients had all had their cancers confirmed by biopsy. The tests were double-blind, so neither the dog handlers nor the experimenters knew which tubes were which.

GENERAL SYMPTOM

The dogs correctly detected 99% of the lung cancer samples, and made a mistake with only 1% of the healthy controls. With breast cancer, they correctly detected 88% of the positive samples, and made a mistake on only 2% of the controls.

The work is convincing, says James C Walker, director of the Florida State University Sensory Research Institute in Tallahassee, US. In 2004 Walker and colleagues showed that dogs could sniff out melanomas. He says that the next step is to see if dogs are really detecting cancer, or if they might be sensing a more general disease symptom, such as one that comes from inflammation.

Walker says he would like, eventually, to see a long, large-scale trial designed to test whether dogs can detect cancer even earlier than standard screening tests.

Journal reference: *Integrative Cancer Therapies* (vol 5, p 1)

HOW TO MAKE YOUR OWN DOG FOOD

Making your own dog food requires a simple mix of meat, vegetables and starches.
Courtesy of ehow.com

Difficulty: Moderate

Step 1 : Know that it is wise to check with your vet before switching to homemade dog food.

Step 2 : Understand that dogs need a diet that consists of 40 percent meat, 30 percent vegetables and 30 percent starch. Follow this formula to ensure that your dog has a well-balanced diet.

Step 3 : Cook meat before feeding it to your dog.

Step 4 : Realize that organ meat (such as liver, kidneys, etc.) and eggs are very good for your dog.

Step 5 : Consider the fact that many experts believe commercial dog food is actually unhealthy for dogs. Often the meat that is used in dog food is of a quality considered unfit for humans.

Step 6 : Try making a mixture of ground [turkey](#), rice and carrot for your own dog food. Meals made of ground beef, brown rice, brewer's yeast and carrots are also popular.

Step 7 : Rotate the foods you feed your dog so that the dog gets a variety of foods.

Step 8 : Add a tiny bit of cooked garlic to your dog food. Dogs enjoy the flavor and garlic is a natural flea repellent.

Step 9 : Use oatmeal, pasta, rice or potatoes for your dog's starch requirement.

Step 10: Grind eggshells and add this to your dog's meal. Eggshells have a lot of nutrients.

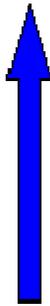
Step 11: Keep cooked dog food in the refrigerator no longer than three days.

TIPS & WARNINGS

- When you first switch to homemade dog food, try mixing commercial dog food to the food you have prepared to help your dog make the transition.
- Do not feed your dog chocolate.
- The American Animal Hospital Association lists raw and spoiled garlic as poisonous and potentially fatal to dogs. Use garlic only in small doses and make sure it is cooked

Editor's Note: I have fed small amounts of raw garlic to my dogs without problems for many years and I also do not cook the meat I give the dogs. Consult with your vet on his opinion before proceeding.

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10



Got a favorite recipe you want to share ?



Home Dog Cooking

This is a bulk recipe for those with more than one dog who want to feed well balanced home cooked food.

- 5 lbs of ground beef or chicken
- 3/4 cup canola oil
- 4-5 cloves garlic
- 32 cups water
- 8-10 cups processed veggies (various) (carrots, celery, broccoli, cauliflower, bean sprouts, potatoes, sweet potatoes, red peppers, spinach, beets, lettuce, tomatoes, etc.) NO ONIONS (not good for dogs)
- 2-3 cans kidney beans
- 1/2 molasses (optional)
- 42-45 oz oatmeal (quick cooking oats)
- eggs can be added to boost protein

In a large 24qt pot brown ground meat, add canola oil and garlic. When well cooked, add water. Bring to boil, then add veggies that have been processed, (frozen or canned veggies will work too). I use dried kidney beans and soak them the night before preparing a batch of food. While I am cooking the meat I have the beans in another pot cooking them. Once cooked, they are added to the above mixture. Next, the oatmeal is added. Frequent stirring is necessary at this point as the mixture will stick. Remove from heat, cool and put into containers. I occasionally add pumpernickel bread and some times substitute brown rice for some of the oatmeal. This recipe is very flexible. I also add a mixture called Healthy powder to each meal. I feed twice daily and add 1 tsp of healthy powder to each meal for each dog.

Summer Fruit Trifle

Ingredients

- 1/2 Bakery banana walnut loaf
- 1/2 cup strawberry syrup, divided
- 2 fresh peaches
- 2 cups prepared banana pudding
- 1 cup fresh raspberries
- 2 cups frozen whipped topping, thawed

Steps

1. Slice banana loaf and cut into small cubes; place in trifle or dessert bowl. Drizzle with 1/4 cup strawberry syrup.
2. Slice (rinsed) peaches in half, remove pit and cut into bite-size pieces; arrange evenly over bread cubes. Spoon pudding over peaches, using back of spoon to level pudding.
3. Sprinkle (rinsed) raspberries over pudding. Drizzle with remaining 1/4 cup strawberry syrup. Spoon whipped topping over raspberries. Cover and chill until ready to serve. (Makes 6 servings.)

Do You Know the Real PETA and Humane Society of the United States?

An Editorial by Alice Fix

You will not often see negative articles in our newsletters, but every now and again we are forced to make a stand, and to speak out about what we know is for the better good for all involved. This is one such instance. We can no longer stand back and watch to see what will happen. I think that it is past time to publicly expose the real agenda of the Humane Society of the United States (HSUS) and their cohorts in crime, People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals (PETA), and the animal rights agenda.

For many years we have all enjoyed the companionship of our dogs and other animals. We have been busy playing with them, taking care of them, finding fun things that we could do with them, and generally just having a great time with all the animals that live in our houses. While we have been enjoying the love and fun that our animals provide to us, there have been groups out there organizing on a grand scale trying to get our rights to own those animals taken away. Yes, that is exactly what I meant. Make no mistake about it. These people have organized on a large scale to infiltrate many major city councils and governments in the country to spread their propaganda. Their agenda is easily defined and simple. Their main objective is to take away your right to own animals. They do not want you to have the companionship of any animal, whether that is a dog, cat, horse, mouse, frog, fish or any other animal that you can think of. They are pooling their resources to get this accomplished, and have millions of dollars in their war chest for this effort.

This is a statement made by Ingrid Newkirk, the President of PETA: "I don't use the word 'pet.' I think it's *speciesist* language. I prefer 'companion animal.' For one thing, we would no longer allow breeding. People could not create different breeds. There would be no pet shops. If people had companion animals in their homes, those animals would have to be refugees from the animal shelters and the streets. You would have a protective relationship with them just as you would with an orphaned child. But as the surplus of cats and dogs (artificially engineered by centuries of forced breeding) declined, eventually companion animals would be phased out, and we would return to a more symbiotic relationship – enjoyment at a distance." — *The Harper's Forum Book*, Jack Hitt, ed., 1989, p.223.

It is interesting that Ms. Newkirk used the word "*speciesist*". Allwords.com defines that word as follows:

1. The discrimination against, and exploitation of, animals by humans in the belief that humans are superior to all other species of animals and can therefore justify putting them to their own use.

One of the animal rights mantras is that all animals are created to be equal to all humans, and should have the same rights as

rights as humans.

Just in case it still isn't clear to you what their agenda is, here are a few more quotes from Ingrid Newkirk:

"One day, we would like an end to pet shops and the breeding of animals. [Dogs] would pursue their natural lives in the wild ... they would have full lives, not wasting at home for someone to come home in the evening and pet them and then sit there and watch TV."

— *The Chicago Daily Herald*, 3/1/90

"In the end, I think it would be lovely if we stopped this whole notion of pets altogether." — *Newsday*, 2/21/88

Who is Ingrid Newkirk, and why should we care what she has to say about anything? In the 1970s, Newkirk worked for Montgomery County (Maryland), and then for the District of Columbia, as an animal protection officer and deputy sheriff, before becoming DC's first female Poundmaster in 1978. She co-founded PETA in 1980 with established animal-rights activist Alex Pacheco.

(1) PETA stands for People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals, but in my opinion, there is nothing ethical in what they do.

Ms. Newkirk has very close ties with several groups identified by the FBI as known terrorists groups, such as Animal Liberation Front (ALF). The animal rights groups are very well organized, and when you check closely, you will see many of the same names sitting on the boards of these radical groups. They are intertwined and closely linked through their finances, and the work that they do.

PETA operates on an annual budget of \$ 29,000,000. Most of this is from donations made by ordinary citizens that don't know the real work of PETA. Many people think that they are out to save the lives of animals after seeing all of their ads on TV and in the newspapers. That is why millions are donated to them each year.

In Virginia, the home state of PETA, in 2004, PETA adopted out 361 animals, and euthanized 2,278, according to their records.

(2) Those figures aren't good. That means that they euthanized 86.3% of their animals and only adopted out 13.7%. These figures come directly from PETA's Annual Report and from their 2004 Tax Return. It doesn't seem like they used that \$29 million for the betterment of the majority of the animals that they came in contact with. So where is the money going? It is being spent for publicity to raise more money for one thing.

continued on page 17

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continued from page 13

It doesn't seem like they used that \$29 million for the betterment of the majority of the animals that they came in contact with. So where is the money going? It is being spent for publicity to raise more money for one thing. It is also being used for legislative purposes. They have placed key people in city governments all over the country to try to influence legislation to take your pet ownership rights away. And they are having a lot of success with it.

You need to understand the basic difference between the “**animal welfare**” groups and “**animal rights**” groups. Although the names might sound like they have the same objectives, there is a big difference. Animal welfare groups are working to see that all animals are treated humanely. Animal rights groups are working to see that all ownership of animals comes to an end.

As I said, PETA has close ties with many other organizations. One of those organizations is the Humane Society of the United States (HSUS). People donate millions to the HSUS each year, thinking that their money is going to save the lives of millions of animals. Nothing could be further from the truth. The HSUS does not own a single animal shelter anywhere in the country. Although many shelters have the words Humane Society in their names, they are not associated in any way with the HSUS. The HSUS does not sponsor any spay or neuter clinic anywhere in the country. They do donate a very small percent of the annual budget to a few local humane societies, around \$2 million annually, which just happens to be less than the amount that they spend in travel each year. Their major money is sent on fund raising and legislative activity. In 2005 they spent \$28 million for public mailings, \$6 million in vegan education, \$10 million in legislative campaigns and litigation. Their income for that year was close to \$125 million.

The HSUS was founded in 1954 as an animal welfare organization. But in the early 1980's, just about the same time as PETA was founded, they began to change to an animal rights organization. In the 1990's the personnel began to change to better fit with their new purpose, and today many of the personnel at HSUS have ties to PETA, including the current President, Wayne Pacelle.

This is an interesting quote from Wayne Pacelle: “We have no ethical obligation to preserve the different breeds of livestock produced through selective breeding ...One generation and out. We have no problems with the extinction of domestic animals. They are creations of human selective breeding.” - *Animal People News* (May 1, 1993)

(3) When you combine other statements that he has made, with the above statement, in my opinion the meaning of this statement is that if we could spay and neuter all animals, we could eliminate pet ownership within one generation. “One generation and out” would mean to me that they are gone and are eliminated in only one generation.

Quietly sitting back and maybe not being aware, we are now allowing the HSUS to make presentations at our local schools, with the definite purpose to educate our children about how bad pet ownership is, to indoctrinate children to the thought that animals should be free and not kept as pets. They are doing this in the same way that they have infiltrated city councils and local governments all across the country, quietly and matter-of-factly.

“Shortly after taking office, Pacelle announced a merger with the Fund For Animals which have assets of over \$20 million, and the Doris Day Animal League. The combined group estimated its 2005 budget at “over \$95 million” and also announced the formation of a new “political organization,” which will “allow for a more substantial investment of resources in political and lobbying activities.”

(4) So that is where we find ourselves today. With the HSUS and PETA combined annual budgets of over \$124 million for political and lobbying efforts to take away our rights to own animals. And that figure does not include the many splinter organizations that have been formed from these two major organizations. We are in an uphill battle now, and it will be the fight of our lives to keep our rights to own pets.

They are going at it from many different angles. One way is to get Breed Specific Legislation (BSL) passed. The banning of Pit-Bulls all over the country is a good example. That has caught on like wildfires. The animal rights groups have said if they can just get one breed banned, then it will be easy to add others to it at a later date, until eventually all breeds are banned. Another way that they are going about it is to have a mandatory spay and neuter law in place. Just think about it, if all domestic animals are spayed and neutered, when they die, there will be no more domestic animals. Those same words have been said by Wayne Pacelle, the President of the HSUS. They have a very well thought out and planned agenda, and they are counting on the ignorance of the American people to get their agenda accomplished. Well guess what: Ignorance can be overcome by education. The American people may be ignorant about the facts, but they are not stupid. They can be educated. We were ignorant before 9-11, and look what effect that had. It caused all Americans to become educated and unite and fight to prevent that from happening again. The difference here is that we are being attacked from within our own country. We are under strong attack by the animal rights groups, and I hope that we don't just stand by and allow it to happen.

The animal rights groups are publicly stating that we need to get laws passed so that they can close down all the puppy mills and commercial breeding facilities that have their animals living in inhumane conditions. Just about everyone would agree with the idea that animals should be treated humanely. But that is just the vehicle that they are using to try to do away with all animal ownership, period. And that is not a statement that they are being all that public about.

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continued from page 15

You can become active in this fight by telling your friends and neighbors what is going on. You can be an instrument of education. You can also fight this kind of legislation when it is presented in your area. Go to the City Council meetings and make your voice heard. Write letters to the state and federal government officials to offer your services to be on any animal related committee. In short get the word out to any and all of your friends that own pets. Let them know what is going on. If enough people stop funding the animal rights organizations, we can put them out of business. There is not much that they can do without operating funds.

The next time you think about making a donation to any of these organizations, you had better think long and hard about whether you really want your money being spent to take away your rights.

PETA

HUMANE SOCIETY OF THE UNITED STATES

FARM SANCTUARY

FUND FOR ANIMALS

DORIS DAY ANIMAL LEAGUE

EARTH SAVE

GREEN PEACE

PHYSICIANS FOR RESPONSIBLE MEDICINE

ANIMAL LIBERATION FRONT (ALF)

FRIENDS OF ANIMALS

IN DEFENSE OF ANIMALS

Right now the HSUS has started their "First Strike Campaign". I find that an interesting choice of names. At visualthesaurus.com they define first strike as follows:

First strike: *An attack that is intended to seize or inflict damage on or destroy an objective.*

Most people think that attack is on inhumane treatment of animals. They still don't know it is an attack to take your animals away from you. Last year over 10 million people donated money to the HSUS because of their massive spending on advertising. Most of those 10 million people had no idea what their money was actually going to support.

Better places to donate your money that will fight for your rights to own animals are listed below. These groups are working hard to protect your right to own animals, and to expose the true agenda to much of the animal legislation going on all over the country.

NATIONAL ANIMAL INTEREST ALLIANCE

<http://www.naiaonline.org/>

SPORTSMEN'S AND ANIMAL OWNERS' VOTING ALLIANCE

<http://saova.org/>

AMERICAN DOG OWNERS ASSOCIATION

<http://www.adoa.org/index.cfm>

U S SPORTSMAN ALLIANCE

<http://www.ussportsmen.org/>

You can either make your donations work for you or against you. That decision is yours to make.

Footnotes for Reference:

- 1) <http://www.activistcash.com/biography.cfm/bid/456>
- 2) www.nokillnow.com/PetaDVACreporting.pdf
- 3) <http://www.animalscam.com/quotes.cfm>
- 4) http://www.activistcash.com/organization_overview.cfm/oid/136

This article will first appear in the March, 2007 issue (Volume V Issue 2) of the Rocky Mountain Wrinkle, the newsletter of the Centennial Chinese Shar-Pei Club, Inc. Any reference to this article must give full credit to Rocky Mountain Wrinkle, and the Centennial Chinese Shar-Pei Club, Inc.

www.centennialsharpeiclub.org

Special thanks to Ms. Alice Fix for allowing me to reprint this article. This an extremely important topic that we all should educate ourselves on and help fight. Involve your vets and anyone else you know including your neighbors and co workers by giving them copies. I will be happy to reprint copies for anyone who would like to have them. You would be surprised at how many people have no idea what is happening right on their corner to destroy their rights forever to cherish their companion animals.

continued from page 5

PET FOOD INGREDIENTS

Animal Protein

When cattle, swine, chickens, lambs, or other animals are slaughtered, lean muscle tissue is trimmed away from the carcass for human consumption, along with the few organs that people like to eat, such as tongues and tripe.

However, about 50% of every food animal does not get used in human foods. Whatever remains of the carcass — heads, feet, bones, blood, intestines, lungs, spleens, livers, ligaments, fat trimmings, unborn babies, and other parts not generally consumed by humans — is used in pet food, animal feed, fertilizer, industrial lubricants, soap, rubber, and other products. These “other parts” are known as “by-products.” By-products are used in feed for poultry and livestock as well as in pet food.

The nutritional quality of by-products, meals, and digests can vary from batch to batch. James Morris and Quinton Rogers, of the University of California at Davis Veterinary School, assert that, “[pet food] ingredients are generally by-products of the meat, poultry and fishing industries, with the potential for a wide variation in nutrient composition. Claims of nutritional adequacy of pet foods based on the current Association of American Feed Control Officials (AAFCO) nutrient allowances (‘profiles’) do not give assurances of nutritional adequacy and will not until ingredients are analyzed and bioavailability values are incorporated.”³

Meat or poultry “by-products” are very common in wet pet foods. Remember that “meat” refers to only cows, swine, sheep, and goats. Since sheep and goats are rare compared to the 37 million cows and 100 million hogs slaughtered for food every year, nearly all meat by-products come from cattle and pigs.

The better brands of pet food, such as many “super-premium,” “natural,” and “organic” varieties, do not use by-products. On the label, you’ll see one or more named meats among the first few ingredients, such as “turkey” or “lamb.” These meats are still mainly leftover scraps; in the case of poultry, bones are allowed, so “chicken” consists mainly of backs and frames—the spine and ribs, minus their expensive breast meat. The small amount of meat left on the bones is the meat in the pet food. Even with this less-attractive source, pet food marketers are very tricky when talking about meat, so this is explained further in the section on

“Marketing Magic” below.

Meat meals, poultry meals, by-product meals, and meat-and-bone meal are common ingredients in dry pet foods. The term “meal” means that these materials are not used fresh, but have been rendered. While there are chicken, turkey, and poultry by-product meals there is no equivalent term for mammal “meat by-product meal” — it is called “meat-and-bone-meal.” It may also be referred to by species, such as “beef-and-bone-meal” or “pork-and-bone-meal.”

What is rendering? As defined by *Webster’s Dictionary*, to render is “to process as for industrial use: to render livestock carcasses and to extract oil from fat, blubber, etc., by melting.” In other words, raw materials are dumped into large vat and boiled for several hours. Rendering separates fat, removes water, and kills bacteria, viruses, parasites, and other organisms. However, the high temperatures used (270°F/130°C) can alter or destroy natural enzymes and proteins found in the raw ingredients.

Because of persistent rumors that rendered by-products contain dead dogs and cats, the FDA conducted a study looking for pentobarbital, the most common euthanasia drug, in pet foods. They found it. Ingredients that were most commonly associated with the presence of pentobarbital were meat-and-bone-meal and animal fat. However, they also used very sensitive tests to look for canine and feline DNA, which were *not* found. Industry insiders admit that rendered pets and road-kill were used in pet food some years ago. Although there are still no laws or regulations against it, the practice is uncommon today, and pet food companies universally deny that their products contain any such materials. However, so-called “4D” animals (dead, dying, diseased, disabled) were only recently banned for human consumption and are still legitimate ingredients for pet food.

Vegetable Protein

The amount of grain and vegetable products used in pet food has risen dramatically over time. Plant products now replace a considerable proportion of the meat that was used in the earliest commercial pet foods. This has led to severe nutritional deficiencies that have been corrected along the way, although many animals died before science caught up.

Most dry foods contain a large amount of cereal grain or starchy vegetables to provide texture. These high-carbohydrate plant products also provide a cheap source of “energy” — the rest of us call it “calories.” Gluten meals are high-protein extracts from which most of the carbohydrate has been removed.



They are often used to boost protein percentages without expensive animal-source ingredients. Corn gluten meal is the most commonly used for this purpose. Wheat gluten is also used to create shapes like cuts, bites, chunks, shreds, flakes, and slices, and as a thickener for gravy. In most cases, foods containing vegetable proteins are among the poorer quality foods.

A recent fad, “low-carb” pet food, has some companies steering away from grains, and using potatoes, green peas, and other starchy vegetables as a substitute. Except for animals that are allergic to grains, dry low-carb diets offer no particular advantage to pets. They also tend to be very high in fat and, if fed free-choice, will result in weight gain. Canned versions are suitable for prevention and treatment of feline diabetes, and as part of a weight loss program, as well as for maintenance.

Animal and Poultry Fat

There’s a unique, pungent odor to a new bag of dry pet food — what is the source of that smell? It is most often rendered animal fat, or vegetable fats and oils deemed inedible for humans. For example, used restaurant grease was rendered and routed to pet foods for several years, but a more lucrative market is now in biodiesel fuel production.

These fats are sprayed directly onto extruded kibbles and pellets to make an otherwise bland or distasteful product palatable. The fat also acts as a binding agent to which manufacturers add other flavor enhancers such as “animal digests” made from processed by-products. Pet food scientists have discovered that animals love the taste of these sprayed fats. Manufacturers are masters at getting a dog or a cat to eat something she would normally turn up her nose at.

What Happened to the Nutrients?

Cooking and other processing of meat and by-products used in pet food can greatly diminish their nutritional value, although cooking increases the digestibility of cereal grains and starchy vegetables.

To make pet food nutritious, pet food manufacturers must “fortify” it with vitamins and minerals. Why? Because the ingredients they are using are not wholesome, their quality may be extremely variable, and the harsh manufacturing practices destroy many of the nutrients the food had to begin with.

Proteins are especially vulnerable to heat, and become damaged, or “denatured,” when cooked. Because dry foods ingredients are cooked twice — first during rendering and again in the

extruder — problems are much more common than with canned or homemade foods. Altered proteins may contribute to food intolerances, food allergies, and inflammatory bowel disease.

Additives in Processed Pet Foods

Many chemicals are added to commercial pet foods to improve the taste, stability, characteristics, or appearance of the food.

Additives provide no nutritional value. Additives include emulsifiers to prevent water and fat from separating, antioxidants to prevent fat from turning rancid, and artificial colors and flavors to make the product more attractive to consumers and more palatable to their companion animals.

A wide variety of additives are allowed in animal feed and pet food, not counting vitamins and minerals. Not all of them are actually used in pet food. Additives can be specifically approved, or they can fall into the category of “Generally Recognized as Safe” (GRAS).

- Anticaking agents
- Antigelling agents
- Antimicrobial agents
- Antioxidants
- Color additives
- Condiments
- Curing agents
- Drying agents
- Emulsifiers
- Essential oils
- Flavor enhancers
- Flavoring agents
- Grinding agents
- Humectants
- Leavening agents
- Lubricants
- Palatants
- Pelleting agents and binders
- Petroleum derivatives
- pH control agents
- Preservatives
- Seasonings
- Spices
- Stabilizers
- Sweeteners
- Texturizers
- Thickeners

Chemical vs. Natural Preservatives

All commercial pet foods must be preserved so they stay fresh and appealing to our animal companions. Canning is itself a

continued from page 19

preserving process, so canned foods need little or no additional help. Some preservatives are added to ingredients or raw materials by the suppliers, and others may be added by the manufacturer. The U.S. Coast Guard, for instance, requires fish meal to be heavily preserved with ethoxyquin or equivalent antioxidant. Evidently, spoiling fish meal creates such intense heat that ship explosions and fires resulted.

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Because manufacturers need to ensure that dry foods have a long shelf life (typically 12 months) to remain edible through shipping and storage, fats used in pet foods are preserved with either synthetic or “natural” preservatives. Synthetic preservatives include butylated hydroxyanisole (BHA) and butylated hydroxytoluene (BHT), propyl gallate, propylene glycol (also used as a less-toxic version of automotive antifreeze), and ethoxyquin. For these antioxidants, there is little information documenting their toxicity, safety, interactions, or chronic use in pet foods that may be eaten every day for the life of the animal. Propylene glycol was banned in cat food because it causes anemia in cats, but it is still allowed in dog food.

Potentially cancer-causing agents such as BHA, BHT, and ethoxyquin are permitted at relatively low levels. The use of these chemicals in pet foods has not been thoroughly studied, and long term build-up of these agents may ultimately be harmful. Due to questionable data in the original study on its safety, ethoxyquin’s manufacturer, Monsanto, was required to perform a new, more rigorous study. This was completed in 1996. Even though Monsanto found no significant toxicity associated with its own product, in July 1997 the FDA’s Center for Veterinary Medicine requested that manufacturers voluntarily reduce the maximum level for ethoxyquin by half, to 75 parts per million. While some pet food critics and veterinarians believe that ethoxyquin is a major cause of disease, skin problems, and infertility in dogs, others claim it is the safest, strongest, most stable preservative available for pet food. Ethoxyquin is approved for use in human food for preserving spices, such as cayenne and chili powder, at a level of 100 ppm — but it would be very difficult for even the most hard-core spice lover to consume as much chili powder every day as a dog would eat dry food.

Ethoxyquin has never been tested for safety in cats. Despite this, it is commonly used in veterinary diets for both cats and dogs.

Many pet food makers have responded to consumer concern, and are now using “natural” preservatives such as Vitamin C (ascorbate), Vitamin E (mixed tocopherols), and oils of rosemary, clove, or other spices, to preserve the fats in their products. The shelf life is shorter, however — only about 6 months.

Individual ingredients, such as fish meal, may have preservatives added before they reach the pet food manufacturer. Federal law requires fat preservatives to be disclosed on the label; however, pet food companies do not always comply with this law.

DANGER AHEAD Potential Contaminants

Given the types of things manufacturers put in pet food, it is not surprising that bad things sometimes happen. Ingredients used in pet food are often highly contaminated with a wide variety of toxic substances. Some of these are destroyed by processing, but others are not.

- **Bacteria.** Slaughtered animals, as well as those that have died because of disease, injury, or natural causes, are sources of meat, by-products, and rendered meals. An animal that died on the farm might not reach a rendering plant until days after its death. Therefore the carcass is often contaminated with bacteria such as *Salmonella* and *E. coli*. Dangerous *E. Coli* bacteria are estimated to contaminate more than 50% of meat meals. While the cooking process may kill bacteria, it does not eliminate the endotoxins some bacteria produce during their growth. These toxins can survive processing, and can cause sickness and disease. Pet food manufacturers do not test their products for bacterial endotoxins. Because sick or dead animals can be processed as pet foods, the drugs that were used to treat or euthanize them may still be present in the end product. Penicillin and pentobarbital are just two examples of drugs that can pass through processing unchanged. Antibiotics used in livestock production are also thought to contribute to antibiotic resistance in humans.
- **Mycotoxins.** Toxins from mold or fungi are called mycotoxins. Modern farming practices, adverse weather conditions, and improper drying and storage of crops can contribute to mold growth. Pet food ingredients that are most likely to be contaminated with mycotoxins are grains such as wheat and corn, and fish meal.



- **Chemical Residue.** Pesticides and fertilizers may leave residue on plant products. Grains that are condemned for human consumption by the USDA due to residue may legally be used, without limitation, in pet food.
- **GMOs.** Genetically modified plant products are also of concern. By 2006, 89% of the planted area of soybeans, 83% of cotton, and 61% of maize (corn) in the U.S. were genetically modified varieties. Cottonseed meal is a common ingredient of cattle feed; soy and corn are used directly in many pet foods.

Acrylamide. This is a carcinogenic compound formed at cooking temperatures of about 250°F in foods containing certain sugars and the amino acid asparagine (found in large amounts in potatoes and cereal grains). It is formed in a chemical process called the Maillard reaction.^{4,5} Most dry pet foods contain cereal grains or potatoes, and they are processed at high temperatures (200–300°F at high pressure during extrusion; baked foods are cooked at well over 500°F); these are perfect conditions for the Maillard reaction. In fact, the Maillard reaction is considered *desirable* in the production of pet food because it imparts a palatable taste, even though it reduces the bioavailability of some amino acids, including taurine and lysine.⁶ The content and potential effects of acrylamide formation in pet foods are unknown.

Pet Food Recalls

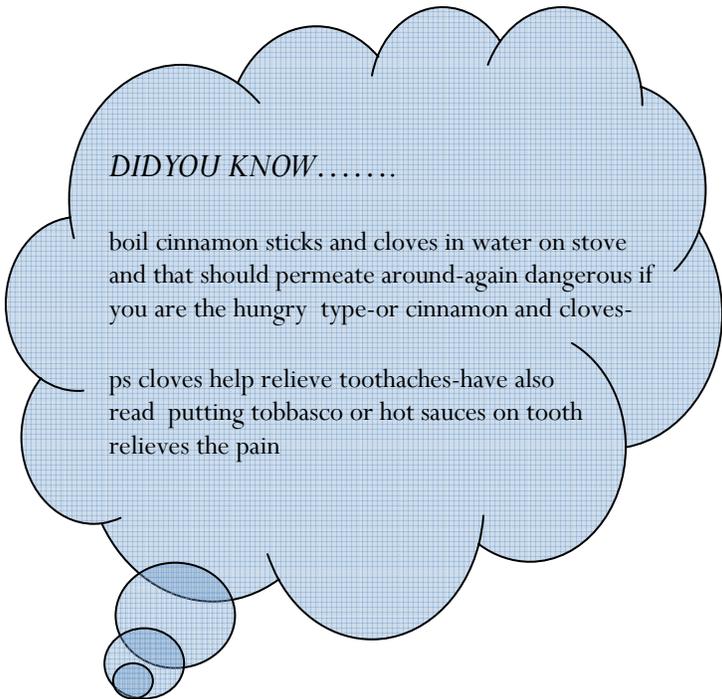
When things go really wrong and serious problems are discovered in pet food, the company usually works with the FDA to coordinate a recall of the affected products. While many recalls have been widely publicized, quite a few have not.

- In 1995, Nature's Recipe recalled almost a million pounds of dry dog and cat food after consumers complained that their pets were vomiting and losing their appetite. The problem was a fungus that produced vomitoxin contaminating the wheat.
- In 1999, Doane Pet Care recalled more than a million bags of corn-based dry dog food contaminated with aflatoxin. Products included Ol' Roy (Wal-Mart's brand) and 53 other brands. This time, the toxin killed 25 dogs.
- In 2000, Iams recalled 248,000 pounds of dry dog food distributed in 7 states due to excess DL-Methionine Amino Acid, a urinary acidifier.
- In 2003, a recall was made by Petcurean "Go! Natural" pet food due to circumstantial association with some dogs suffering from liver disease; no cause was ever found.
- In late 2005, a similar recall by Diamond Foods was announced; this time the moldy corn contained a particularly nasty fungal product called aflatoxin; 100 dogs died.
- Also in 2005, 123,000 pounds of cat and dog treats were recalled due to *Salmonella* contamination.
- In 2006, more than 5 million cans of Ol' Roy, American Fare, and other dog foods distributed in the southeast were recalled by the manufacturer, Simmons Pet Food, because the cans' enamel lining was flaking off into the food.
- Also in 2006, Merrick Pet Care recalled almost 200,000 cans of "Wingalings" dog food when metal tags were found in some samples.
- In the most deadly recall of 2006, 4 prescription canned dog and cat foods were recalled by Royal Canin (owned by Mars). The culprit was a serious overdose of Vitamin D that caused calcium deficiency and kidney disease.
- In February 2007, the FDA issued a warning to consumers not to buy "Wild Kitty," a frozen food containing raw meat. Routine testing by FDA had revealed *Salmonella* in the food. FDA specifically warned about the potential for illness in humans, not pets. There were no reports of illness or death of any pets, and the food was not recalled.

In March 2007, the most lethal pet food in history was the subject of the largest recall ever. Menu Foods recalled 95 brands including Iams, Eukanuba, Hill's Science Diet, Purina Mighty Dog, and many store brands including Wal-Mart's — 60 million individual cans and pouches. Thousands of pets became sick and an estimated 20% died from acute renal failure caused by the food. Cats were more frequently and more severely affected than dogs. The toxin was initially believed to be a pesticide, the rat poison "aminopterin" in one of the ingredients, but the investigation is ongoing.

Next Month: Part 2 Nutrition Related Diseases, Pet Industry Secrets and Marketing Majic.

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ps cloves help relieve toothaches-have also read putting tobbasco or hot sauces on tooth relieves the pain

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Meetings are held at the homes of the Board Members prior to a regular club meeting and are open to all Club Members.

Club Members wishing to attend must notify the host Board Member prior to attending.

Club Members are not permitted to participate in discussions unless delivering a committee report.

Club Members are not permitted to vote.

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STUD DOG DIRECTORY

Ch Melana's Murphy's Law OFA GS-71518F25M-PI EL17633M25-PI

Sire: 2x Am/Can GV Ch Marquin's Xtra ! Xtra ! ROM OFA H/E
 Dam: Melana's Obsession v Cihu HIC ROM OFA H/E

Murphy finished with wins from both the specialty (2 majors) and the all breed rings, picking up a 2nd Senior MA, Sr Maturity and 2nd GSDCA National placing along the way. He is a large, stallion male with heavy bone, masculine head, full dentention, coal black eyes and strong feet and pasterns. His stride is very long, low and powerful with an exceptional forehand, strong ligamentation and he is squeaky clean coming and going. Bred very sparingly, he has multiple young progeny with many class wins, including 2 with reserves from the puppy class and a 2nd NE Jr Futurity Bitch. His progeny are typically large boned, plush, richly pigmented, well angulated with nice toplines, correct secondary characteristics, strong ligamentation, nice movement and sound temperaments. Please call 1st day of season.BC/VC required.

Breeder/Owner : Melissa Campbell, 140 Tyson Rd. Villa Rica, GA 30180
 (770) 459-4330 Mjc114@bellsouth.net www.melanashepherds/murphy.html



BIS/BISS Ch Adlegard's Yancy D von Marquin TC HIC CGC HT PT RN BH

Sire : 2x Am/Can GV Ch Marquin's Xtra ! Xtra ! ROM OFA H/E
 Dam : Schneiderhof's Highland Treasure (Ch Highlander ROM daughter)

Yancy is a medium sized, dark sable male, with a head to die for ! He has won under Specialty and All Breed judges alike, amassing a win record that is still growing. So far, Yancy has titled at every event for which we've trained with more performance titles coming in the next year! His first crop of youngsters have just hit the ring with one major reserve winner from the 6-9 class and several pointed. Yancy is producing his body style and working ability !

BC/VC/DVC is required.

Owner: Suzanne Kinman 2320 Georgia Hwy 20 S E Conyers, GA 30094
 (770) 761-5748 tsalisgsds@comcast.net www.tsalishepherds.com



Ch Kagen's Boston Pops OFA GS-69003G28M-PI GS-EL16290M28-PI

Sire: Farmil's Stealth of Kagen HIC
 Dam: Kagen's Ragtime, HIC OFA



Boss is a medium sized, deep bodied male with a dark plush coat, excellent bone, strong pasterns, tight compact feet, strong back, good ligamentation and a long striding correct gait. He has proven proficient in both rings with multiple herding group wins as well as specialty breed wins. Boss, with limited breedings, is producing heavy bone, excellent secondary sex characteristics, dark plush coats and excellent temperament. To date, he has not produced long coats or off colors. VC/BC is required



Breeder/Owners : Gene & Kaye Valentine 1542 Narrowway Church Circle Dallas, GA 30094
 (770) 443-8600 kagengsd@aol.com http://members@aol.com/kagengsd

STUD DOG DIRECTORY

BIM Ch Greenwood's Achilles TC DNA- V421041 OFA GS-75239G27M-PI

Sire: 2x Sel Ch Bilmar's Here Comes Trouble OFA H & E
 Dam: Ch Helmic's Cassandra OFA H & E (Mastercharge daughter)

Killy is a handsome black & tan, medium sized male with medium bone, strong back, handsome head, good shoulder layback, excellent temperament, strong secondary sex characteristics, fully extended front and rear with a long reaching, exciting , low to the ground side gait. He is clean on both ends and has a promising career ahead of him. Killy finished with all majors, was 2nd Novice Dog at the 2005 National Specialty, 2006 Southeast Best In Maturity and 4th Am Bred Dog at the 2006 National. So far Killy is passing on his correct shoulder, rich pigment, powerful long stride, nice bone, solid temperament and excellent secondary sex characteristics .

Killy does carry the coat factor.

VC/BC is required. Pleas call first day of service. Killy's Stud Fee is \$ 550.00

Owners/Breeders: William & Denise Groenewald
 6652 Vaughn Rd Canton, Georgia 30115
 Phone : 770-720-0125 e-mail: Rikers123@aol.com
 www.greenwoodshepherds.com

Co-Owner : Margaret Kurz
 Phone: 770-751-9295
 e-mail: gatlinp@aol.com



Ch Lorien's Lights Out TC HT PT TDI OFA H(E) & E

Sire: AOE 2x C/A Sel (E) Ch Elvaston's Southern Byrne TC PT OFA H & E
 Dam: Ch Geor-Jan Lorien's Ice Castles ROM (4 champions) OFA H(E) & E

"Curfew" is an impressive very correct solid black with good head and bone, clean coming and going with A strong, easy side-gait. He has a sound temperament that makes him comfortable in any environment. He is the second of 3 in his litter to finish and his Championship gave his dam her ROM. His pedigree is solid and is already showing in his progeny with a black male from his first litter getting a major reserve under an all breed judge and younger progeny showing great promise. His breeding also shows in how he doing so well in herding and other activities outside the conformation ring. Proof of BC/VC required

Owners: Helen & Michael Chamblee and Twyla Miner (Breeder)

2979 Old Broadnax Mill Rd. Loganville Ga. 30052
 Tel. 770-466-0157 e-mail: Hel-Mic@att.net



Ch. Van Cleve's Dashiell Hammiett, OFA Prelims, DNA

Sire : 2003 Fut. Ch O Danny Boy of Heinerburg, OFA Prelim DNA certified
 Dam: Van Cleve's Cassandra v Kaleef ROM, OFA, DNA certified

"Dash" is from a litter of 7. Two of his littermates finished quickly making his mother an ROM with her first litter. In the repeat breeding to Ch O Danny Boy of Heinerburg, there are 4 more qualifiers. Dash's breeding is called a formula breeding (line bred) on: "Dallas" , BIS Am/Can Sel. Ch. Kismet's Sight For Sore Eyes ROM, OFA DNA certified. Dash is expected to be one of the better producers. He finished quickly and placed second in his Futurity. His mother has a new litter of 10 (2-8) having been bred to BOS Fut, Ch Hi-Cliff's Bronson v Keleef . Pups available in August 2006.

Owner/Owners: Dr. Carmen and Nancy Battaglia,
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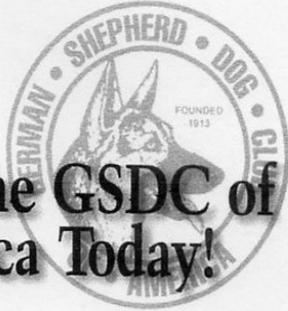


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Legislation Updates

A SAOVA message to sportsmen, pet owners and farmers concerned about protecting their traditions, avocations and livelihoods from anti-hunting, anti-breeding, animal guardianship advocates. Forwarding and cross posting, with attribution, encouraged.

Dear SAOVA Friends,

The Animal Legal Defense Fund (ALDF) had their annual Future of Animal Law Conference in March at Harvard Law School. One of the speakers was Sarah Amundson, a driving force behind PAWS2005, whose talk was titled "Is the U.S. ready for a Federal Animal Protection Agency?" Amundson, Doris Day Animal League's Legislator Director, joined the Humane Society of the U.S. (HSUS) when the groups merged. ALDF has a 5 minute clip of her speech here: <http://www.aldf.org/content/index.php?pid=209>

It's worth taking 5 minutes to listen to her comments, such as "When you have that sort of army there are few other special interest organizations that can approximate the power that you demonstrate. I can only think of two – the NRA and the AARP." HSUS's role in helping defeat Rep. Richard Pombo's (R-CA11) last fall is also highlighted. Animal rightists have already made significant gains in the new Congress, with Pombo no longer there.

The introduction of PAWS2007 is still pending. HSUS-DDAL is firmly committed to the measure, as is Sen. Dick Durbin (D-IL). The American Veterinary Medical Association appears supportive again. AKC is silent, thus far. A few weeks ago, it removed the clickable "Why AKC Supports PAWS" logos from its home and events pages and it is in the process of purging its previous pro-PAWS statements from its website. That erasing task is a monumental one. Concerned dog owners <http://saova.org/1139opponents.html> will remember that fight for a very long time, coupled with the fact that many of its PAWS statements are archive all over the www, such as at <http://saova.org/HoltFairyTale> and <http://saova.org/1Gladstone>

For those of you not on SAOVA's California e-list, the AB1634 mandatory pet castration/spay bill update below may be of interest.

As many of you already know, Assemblyman Lloyd Levine's (D-40) AB1634 "California Healthy Pets Act" passed the Assembly Committee on Business and Professions last week. Don't be discouraged. I've been doing this work for over 30 years. Every legislature and lobbying fight is different, but that result was predictable, if not preordained.

<http://meet-bobkane.notlong.com>

The next stop for this forced pet sterilization bill before its floor vote is the Appropriations Committee. There's been enormous interest in stopping this animal rightist bill, with high volume internet blogging and dueling emails over new competing animal owner political action committees (PACs) to fund ad hoc animal owner opposition groups. Fighting over competing agendas and suggestions that checks have payment stopped make for interesting reading, but ignoring one high profile group's past record is a true mistake. I'm referring to the American Kennel Club's (AKC) deliberate, conscious effort to bargain away hunting and security dog owners' rights during 2001-2002 and 2005-2006 in the federal Puppy Protection Act and PAWS bills. AKC management's disregard for our interests may have changed since the first of the year, but you can't count on that. Its principal AB1634 goal appears to be protecting its Eukanuba National Championship dog show in Long Beach.



Sportsmen, pet and livestock owners are natural allies in this struggle against a common adversary. What's important now is for pet owners to invest in proven, experienced representation. Although this bill has generated intense interest on the part of hundreds, if not thousands, a handful of folks will decide AB1634's fate. California's Farm PAC <http://www.cfbf.com/farmpac/index.cfm> is one of those crucial parties. The California Farm Bureau Federation was one of the first groups to oppose this bill. I've personally spoken to CFBF Government Affairs personnel. Everyone has a role in this fight, but if I lived in CA, I'd want the farm lobby firmly on my side, tomorrow and in the future. It's smart business and smart politics.

On May 1, 2007, the NRA Members' Council of California declared its opposition to AB1634. This is believed to be the first time that a NRA affiliate has ever opposed animal legislation anywhere! Assemblyman Levine is strongly endorsed by HSUS, has a "F" rating from NRA-PVF and is currently also sponsoring an anti-gun owner bill, AB334. <http://calnra.com/legs.shtml?year=2007&aex=ab1634#ab1634>

Please do your part to help defeat AB1634. Contributions to Farm PAC are fast and easy. <http://www.cfbf.com/farmpac/PDF/CONTRIBUTE.pdf> Thank you.

Sincerely,

Bob Kane
Sportsmen's and Animal Owners' Voting Alliance -
Issue lobbying and working to identify and elect supportive legislators
Help fund our pro-animal owner advocacy via PayPal <http://saova.org>

**LEGISLATIVE UPDATE
GEORGIA CANINE COALITION, INC.**

April 21, 2007

The Georgia General Assembly ended the First Session of the 2007-2008 Term at Midnight on April 20, 2007.

No anti-dog fighting legislation passed the General Assembly this Session.

HB 366 which deals with Service Dogs passed the House at 11:30 PM on April 20, 2007. The Georgia Canine Coalition was involved with this bill.

HB 2 passed with a senate substitute. This bill deals with annexation. The GCC monitors this type of bill as it affects our members in relation to whether you are in an area without restrictions on kennels, or numbers of dogs, etc. and then get annexed into an area that might have restrictions. This bill deals with the authority of cities to annex land. It would require binding arbitration between cities and counties to settle disputed annexations.

A full report on the Georgia General Assembly and Canine related legislation will be give at the semi-annual Georgia Canine Coalition meeting on April 30, 2007. The GCC looks forward to seeing it's members and member club's representatives at the semi-annual meeting.

Gail LaBerge
Legislative Specialist
Georgia Canine Coalition, Inc.
outland@laberge.org

Arizona First State To Prohibit Mandatory Animal Identification

AUSTIN, Texas, May 8 /PRNewswire-USNewswire/ -- Arizona became the first state in the nation to prohibit mandatory participation in a National Animal Identification System. State Senator Karen Johnson, who sponsored the bill, said, "We are delighted that the legislature and the governor recognize the dangers of allowing government to force people to register their premises, tag every one of their livestock animals, and then report to the government every time their animals move off their premises."

The brief but powerful addition to the Arizona statutes says:

"The Director, Department, or any other officer, agency or instrumentality of this state shall not mandate or force participation in the National Animal Identification System."

At least a dozen other states (<http://libertyark.org/action.shtml>) are considering legislation to block efforts by both state and federal government to require livestock animal owners to participate in the NAIS.

"Livestock owners see the NAIS as an intrusion into private property rights, which will cost animal owners a lot of money and time, and will have virtually no effect in preventing animal disease or improving food safety," says Judith McGeary, member of the Steering Committee of the Liberty Ark Coalition.

The NAIS was first proposed by USDA as a mandatory program to begin in 2007. Opposition from livestock owners forced officials to redesign the program as "voluntary at the federal level," while continuing to fund mandatory and coercive state programs. The USDA boasts that nearly 385,000 people have registered in the program, but no one knows how many of these people were registered without their knowledge. For example, as many as 15,000 to 20,000 people were registered without their knowledge in Idaho, before the practice was stopped. (http://wnd.com/news/article.asp?ARTICLE_ID=53913) Children in 4-H and FFA programs in some states have been forced to register before they can sell animals or go to shows. In response to public pressure, USDA recently provided a process for people to withdraw from the database.

"As more people learn about NAIS, and the opposition continues to grow, we expect to see many more states rejecting NAIS," says Karin Bergener, another member of the Liberty Ark steering committee. Meanwhile, Senator Johnson has pledged to address any problems with Department pressure in Arizona.

The Liberty Ark Coalition was formed a year ago to inform people and help coordinate a national effort to stop the program.

SOURCE The Liberty Ark Coalition

Upcoming Events



SATURDAY – MAY 12, 2007

SUNDAY – MAY 13, 2007

OUTDOOR TRIAL

COURSE A - SHEEP

HERDING TEST, PRE-TRIAL

STARTED, INTERMEDIATE, ADVANCED

COURSE A – DUCKS

STARTED, INTERMEDIATE, ADVANCED

Woods End Farm 2221 Salem Road Watkinsville, GA 30677

Coming from I-20: Take Hwy 441N through Madison. Travel approximately 12 miles and turn right onto Salem Road (you will see a train depot painted yellow and green at that turn), go to stop sign and turn right. Travel approx .25 miles and bear left between the churches on Salem Road. Woods End Farm is 2 miles on the left.

Coming from I-85: Take Hwy 316 E towards Athens. Turn right onto Hwy 53 to Watkinsville. In Watkinsville turn south onto Hwy 441S. Travel approximately 5 miles and turn left onto Salem Road (you will see a train depot painted yellow and green at that turn). At the stop sign turn right. Travel approximately .25 miles and bear left between the churches onto Salem Road. Woods End Farm is 2 miles on the left.

EVENT HOURS: 8:00AM TO CONCLUSION OF TESTS/TRIALS

TRIAL GROUNDS AVAILABLE AT 7:00AM

PLEASE DO NOT BRING YOUR DOGS UNLESS THEY ARE ENTERED.

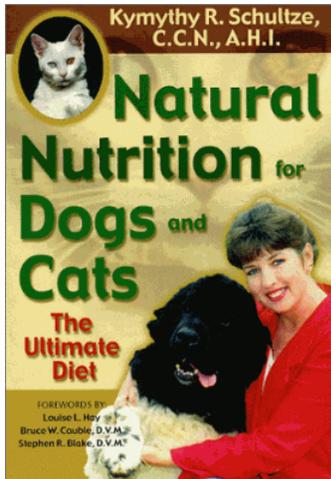
BRING YOUR LAWN CHAIRS OR BLANKETS, LUNCH AND BEVERAGES, RELAX, ENJOY AND WATCH WHAT IT'S ALL ABOUT.

Raffle & 50/50 raffle

THE GUARDIAN

2007 Futurity/ Maturity Schedule

Region	Date	Judge	Host Club	Chair	Site
	Specialty Show Fri Mar 23rd	David Rinke	GSDC of Beaumont	Beverly Boren	Holiday Inn Midtown Beaumont, Texas
	Specialty Show Sat Mar 24th	Doris Farrell	GSDC of Beaumont	Beverly Boren	Holiday Inn Midtown Beaumont, Texas
6 Southwest	Futurity/Maturity Sunday Mar. 25	Roberta Kindy	GSDC of Beaumont	Molly Snider	Holiday Inn Midtown Beaumont, Texas
4 Great Lakes	Futurity/Maturity Friday Apr. 6	Gail Hardcastle	GSDC of Central Indiana	Lanalee Jorgensen	Speedway 500 Moose Lodge Indianapolis, IN
<i>The GSDC of Central Indiana will host the 1st GSDCA Regional Amateur Sweepstakes on Saturday, Apr. 7, 2007. Temperament Test is also being planned for either Saturday or Sunday</i>					
	Amateur Futurity Saturday Apr. 7	Nancy Schneider	GSDC of Central Indiana	Linda Bobo	Speedway 500 Moose Lodge Indianapolis, IN
	Specialty Show Satur- day Apr. 7	Linn Klingel	GSDC of Central Indiana	Linda Bobo	Speedway 500 Moose Lodge Indianapolis, IN
	Specialty Show Sunday Apr. 8	Janice Staley	GSDC of Central Indiana	Linda Bobo	Speedway 500 Moose Lodge Indianapolis, IN
	Specialty Show Friday Apr. 20	Lee Brown	GSDC of Baton Rouge	Linda Booker	North Park Denham Springs, LA
	Specialty Show Saturday AM Apr. 21	Randy Hamm	GSDC of Louisiana	Linda Booker	North Park Denham Springs, LA
	Specialty Show Saturday PM Apr. 21	Jorge Noya	GSDC of Greater Shreveport	Patti Harman	North Park Denham Springs, LA
3 Southeast	Futurity/Maturity Sunday Apr. 22	Joan Fox	GSDC of Louisiana	Linda Booker	North Park Denham Springs, LA
5 Mid West	Futurity/Maturity Saturday May 5	Kathy Potter	GSDC of the Quad Cities	Grace Fitzgerald	Airport Park Indian Bluff Road
<i>The GSDC of the Quad Cities will host a "GSDCA Regional Amateur Sweepstakes" on Saturday, May 5</i>					
9 Northwest	Futurity/Maturity Friday May 11	Paul Root	GSDC of Washington State	Donna Gonzales	Carco Park Renton, WA
	Specialty Show Satur- day May 26	Dave Rinke	GSDC of Northern VA	Kathy Darnell	Howard Johnson South Fredericksburg,
	Specialty Show Sunday May 27	Paul Johnson	GSDC of Northern VA	Kathy Darnell	Howard Johnson South Fredericksburg,
2 Mid Atlantic	Futurity/Maturity Monday May 28	Martha Rinke	GSDC of Northern VA	Kathy Darnell	Howard Johnson South Fredericksburg,
7 So. Pacific	Futurity/Maturity Friday Jun. 8	Michael Metz	San Bernardino/ Riverside GSDC	Jean & Dick Whalen	Claremont Hotel Grounds
1 Northeast	Futurity/Maturity Sunday Jun. 17	Linda Bankhead	GSDC of Southern New Hampshire	Frank Goodall phone 603-434-7910	Meadowbrook Inn, Portsmouth, NH
8 Mid Pacific	Futurity/Maturity Friday Jun. 29	Sandy Anderson	Diablo Valley GSDC	Karen Toth	Questa Park Mountain View, CA



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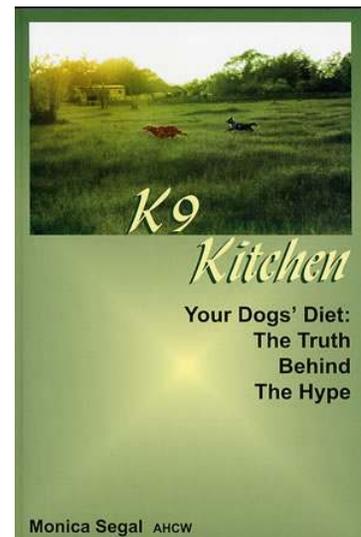
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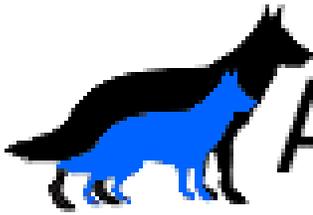


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ABOUT OUR TRAINERS

SUSIE AGA, OWNER, TRAINER & CEO

SUSIE AGA IS A CERTIFIED CANINE BEHAVIOR & TRAINING SPECIALIST. SHE WAS CHOSEN BY TURNER BROADCASTING TO BE THEIR FEATURED "PET EXPERT". SUSIE AGA IS ALSO THE HOST OF A RADIO TALK SHOW *THE ANIMAL HOUR* WHICH AIRS ON AM 1620 EVERY TUESDAY. SUSIE IS A COLUMNIST FOR PETLANTA MAGAZINE AND WRITES A MONTHLY ARTICLE ON TRAINING, PET TIPS AND OTHER HELPFUL HINTS. SUSIE TEACHES GROUP, PRIVATE, IN-HOME LESSONS, AGGRESSION MODIFICATION AND AGILITY.

JENN ENNIS, HEAD TRAINER

CERTIFIED TRAINER FOR CANINE ASSISTANTS. JENNIFER TEACHES THE DOGS AROUND 90 COMMANDS FROM SIT TO OPENING DOORS, FETCHING DRINKS FROM THE FRIDGE, TURNING ON AND OFF LIGHTS AND A FULL OBEEDIENCE REGIME. JENN IS ALSO OUR HEAD TRAINER AND TEACHES ALL LEVELS OF GROUP CLASSES, PRIVATE LESSONS AND IN HOME TRAINING FOR OBEEDIENCE AND BEHAVIOR MODIFICATION.

BRITTNEY HUDSON, TRAINER & AGGRESSION SPECIALIST

BRITTNEY IS A CERTIFIED CANINE BEHAVIOR AND TRAINING SPECIALIST. SHE WAS AN INSTRUCTOR FOR THE WORLD FAMOUS TRIPLE CROWN ACADEMY FOR MANY YEARS. HER SPECIALTIES INCLUDE AGGRESSION MODIFICATION, ALL LEVELS OF OBEEDIENCE, PUPPY CLASSES, SWIM CLASSES, CGC CERTIFICATIONS AND AGILITY. BRITTNEY IS A CERTIFIED AKC GOOD CITIZEN EVALUATOR. SHE IS ALSO THE HEAD OF OUR BOARD AND TRAIN DEPARTMENT.

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