



June, 2017

Opinions expressed in this newsletter are not necessarily those of the WRDC or of the Editor. Your opinions, suggestions and comments are always welcomed!

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Deadline for July newsletter is 6/20/2017

Camera ready copy please.

Next Meeting

Next meeting is

Saturday, June 17 at our Puppy Match

Columbia Park, Corner of Route 82 and Columbia West River Road in Columbia Station, Ohio.

**Registration at 915am
Match begins at 1115am**

Spotted Copy

Official newsletter of the Western Reserve Dalmatian Club for members of Cleveland and Northeast Ohio. Est.- 1965

Impacts of Opioid Abuse on the Veterinary Profession by Nancy Kay, DVM

If you pay attention to the news, you're aware of the growing problem of opioid addiction within the United States. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention reported 33,000 opioid-related deaths in 2015 with West Virginia having the highest rate followed by New Hampshire, Kentucky, Ohio, and Rhode Island.

How does opioid abuse impact the world of veterinary medicine? Certainly there are vets who struggle with opioid addiction, a topic for another article. This post focuses on the fact that, as opioid prescribers, veterinarians and veterinary hospitals are viewed as potential supply sources for addicts. Theft is a problem as is the issue of pet owners taking narcotics prescribed for their pets. There are all too many cases of lies and scams, and some addicts have even gone so far as to maim their own pets in order to obtain a pain medication prescription.

Kentuckian Heather Pereira used a razor blade on two separate occasions to cut her dog with the goal of leaving the vet hospital with drugs. Dr. Chad Bailey, the veterinarian who stitched up Pereira's retriever became suspicious

when she returned to the clinic three days after the first visit for more pills. She claimed that her child flushed them down the toilet. It was discovered that Pereira has no children, and she was convicted of trying to obtain controlled substances by fraud.

Other examples

When two Plainfield, Illinois veterinarians got together, the conversation happened to include challenges with clients. One of the vets talked about a client who was suspiciously trying to refill a tramadol prescription for her dog (tramadol is a commonly abused pain medication). On one occasion, the client claimed that the airlines lost her dog's drugs and she then requested an early script renewal for an extended trip she would be making to assist her mother with cancer treatment. It dawned on the second veterinarian that this individual had been running the same exact scam on her. In Ashland, Ohio Dr. Kristine LaFever became suspicious when a young couple came in requesting tramadol by name for their dog.

They refused the drugs Dr. LaFever recommended and left the hospital empty-handed. A week or so later Dr. Donald Kaeser arrived for work at the same clinic and found the control drug safe had been pried open and all of the tramadol and phenobarbital (an anti-seizure medication) was missing. Through blood left at the scene, the DNA trail led police to the tramadol-demanding couple, one of whom was sentenced to two years in prison. The other was placed under house arrest for 120 days. The clinic has not replaced the stolen tramadol. "We've gone to not carrying it," Kaeser said. "If we think a pet needs it, we'll just call in a prescription."

Pet overdoses

An additional opioid-related problem that appears to be on the rise is overdose cases amongst pets. More and more, animals are being treated for accidental and, in some cases, intentional overdoses. Madeline Bernstein, president of the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals in Los Angeles has observed, "We do see a lot of cases where the dogs are overdosing because either they're getting into the stuff or edibles, or idiots think it's funny to get their dog high or to share their heroin with their dog." Bernstein deems this to be animal abuse and works hard to get offenders prosecuted.

Guidelines for Veterinary Prescription Drugs

The American Veterinary Medical Association has been paying close attention to the rapidly growing problems associated with human drug addiction and veterinary prescriptions.

The organization's Guidelines for Veterinary Prescription Drugs states, "Veterinary prescription drugs should be dispensed only in quantities required for the treatment of the animal(s) for which the drugs are dispensed. Avoid unlimited refills of prescriptions or any other activity that might result in misuse of drugs."

Veterinarians are being advised to carefully track control drug prescriptions and actively perform audits (pill counts) on the medications they keep on site. By law, all controlled drugs should be under lock and key 24/7.

Additionally, veterinarians are being asked to formally report clients they suspect of abusing drugs prescribed for their pets. Sgt. Paul Rodriguez with the Los Angeles Police Department provides some guidelines. "We have to have a little more than just a hunch. A veterinarian reporting someone coming in for the same prescription three times in one month is a tip police can use to investigate further and actually send a detective to go and do some follow up questioning."

Most vets I know pay really close attention to recommended prescription drug guidelines. They don't want to jeopardize their careers, and a problem relating to controlled drugs (missing pills, pill audit discrepancies, prescribing more than seems reasonable) can do just that.



Birthday Wishes

Happy
Birthday..



**Siobahn Brandon's Bella
Contessa**

6/1/2009 – Barbara Brandon

**Zdar n Guardian Patriot Guard
6/7/2014 – Cindy Riggins**

**Guardian n Zdar's Irish Eyes Are
Smiling**

**6/7/2013 – Scott & Tammy
Edmundson**

**Zdar n Bay Colony's Take Me On
6/8/2007 – Martha Brown**

**Zdar n Bay Colony's Vera Wang
6/8/2007 – Cindy Riggins**

**Ch Zdar's Let's Give Them
Something To Talk About
6/12/2010 – Cindy Chaytor**

**Guardian n Zdar's Irish Eyes Are
Smiling**

**6/7/2013 – Scott & Tammy
Edmundson**

NON-SPOTTED BIRTHDAYS

Nancy Abbott – June 8

**Frank & Kathy Szomoru
June 16, 1973**

**Tim & Diane Kompier
June 16, 1978**

**Bob & Diana Smith
June 18, 1966**

Send your birthday/anniversary
information to the editor

Lady Maxine's Book of Quotations



The silent dog is the first to bite.

German Proverb

You call to a dog and a dog will break its neck to get to you. Dogs just want to please. Call to a cat and its attitude is,

"What's in it for me?"

Louis Grizzard

Thou callest me a dog before thou hast cause.

But since I am a dog, beware my fangs.

Shakespeare

You want a friend in Washington? Get a dog.

Harry S. Truman

Some days you're the dog, some days you're the fire hydrant.

Anonymous

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Awards

Cindy Chaytor

Awards & Holiday Banquet

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Monthly Member Rotation

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2017 Puppy Match

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Specialty Show

Cindy Riggans

Spotted Copy

Don Gotsch, Editor
Debbie Gotsch, Co-Editor

Sunshine

Nancy Abbott

Ways & Means

Open

Performance

Linda Lombardi, Cindy Chaytor,
and Debbie Gotsch

your dog uncomfortably sick, causing him—and you—a lot of stress and time spent at the vet's office. If you are a dog owner, you don't need to panic about the dog flu. You should, however, familiarize yourself with the symptoms of dog flu so that you know what to look for in the event of an outbreak in your area.



What Is the Dog Flu?

The dog flu, or canine influenza virus, is an infectious respiratory disease caused by an influenza A virus, similar to the viral strains that cause influenza in people. There are two known strains of dog flu found in the United States:

H3N8

H3N2

The H3N8 strain actually originated in horses. The virus jumped from horses to dogs to become a canine influenza virus around 2004, when the first outbreaks affected racing Greyhounds at a track in Florida, and the virus is now found in 40 states in the U.S.

H3N2, on the other hand, originated in Asia, where scientists believe it jumped from birds to dogs. H3N2 is the virus responsible for the 2015 and 2016 outbreaks of canine influenza in the Midwest and continues to spread throughout the United States.

The Dog Flu Symptoms You Need to Know

Anna Burke- AKC, Nov. 2016

The dog flu has been in the media recently, thanks to increased reports of outbreaks and new strains. While most cases of dog flu are not fatal, the canine influenza virus can make

How Is Canine Influenza Spread?

Like human forms of influenza, dog flu is airborne. Respiratory secretions escape into the environment in the form of coughing, barking, and sneezing, where they are then inhaled by a new canine host. The dog flu also spreads through contaminated objects and environments, like water bowls, collars, and kennel surfaces, or through contact with people who have had direct contact with an infected dog.



Crowded areas like kennels and dog parks are breeding grounds for diseases like canine influenza. The close proximity of the dogs means that a barking, coughing, or sneezing dog can easily infect the dogs around him. This is made more dangerous by the fact that dogs are most contagious during the incubation period before they start exhibiting symptoms.

How Long Are Dogs Infected With Dog Flu Contagious?

The incubation period of canine influenza is approximately two-to-four days from initial exposure to the dog flu virus. Viral shedding starts to decrease after the fourth day, but dogs with H3N8 remain contagious up to 10 days after exposure, and dogs with H3N2 remain contagious for up to 26 days. Most vets recommend isolating dogs with H3N2 for at least 21

days to reduce the risk of transmission.

Almost all dogs that come into contact with the disease will contract it, but not all dogs that become infected show symptoms of the virus. About 20-25 percent of dogs infected are asymptomatic, but these dogs can still spread the disease. If one of your dogs catches the dog flu and the other seems unaffected, remember that he could still have the virus. Talk to your vet about quarantine procedures for all of the dogs in your household.

Symptoms of Dog Flu

So how do you know if your dog has the dog flu? There are several symptoms of dog flu that all owners should be aware of. Dog flu cases range from mild to severe and, unlike human influenzas, are not seasonal. Keep an eye out for the following symptoms year-round:

- Coughing (both moist and dry)
- Sneezing
- Nasal discharge
- Purulent nasal discharge
- Runny eyes
- Fever
- Lethargy
- Difficulty breathing

Dog flu symptoms resemble kennel cough symptoms, which is also an illness that you should talk to your veterinarian about as soon as you notice symptoms.

Most cases of dog flu are mild, but severe cases do occur. In these cases, dogs develop pneumonia, difficulty breathing, and a high fever. Luckily, the mortality rate of dog flu is relatively low, with less than 10 percent of dog flu cases resulting in fatalities.

This does not mean that you should refrain from taking your dog to the vet, as secondary infections can develop as a

result of the virus. And as anyone who has had the flu can attest, the experience is singularly unpleasant, and your veterinarian can help you keep your dog comfortable during the recovery process.



Treating Dog Flu

The canine influenza virus requires the attention of a veterinarian. In some states, vets are required to report cases of canine influenza to the government to help monitor the spread of the disease. Since the canine influenza is still a relatively new virus, you will actually be assisting your vet, as well as your dog, by bringing your sick dog in for a visit. This will help veterinarians study and monitor the disease as it evolves.

There is no cure for dog flu.

Treatment is supportive, and your vet can advise you on the best ways to keep your dog comfortable during his illness and recovery. Some dogs may require fluids to aid their recovery, as well as nonsteroidal anti-inflammatory medications to reduce their fevers. Your vet will help you come up with a nutritional plan and may prescribe antibiotics to treat secondary bacterial infections. Your vet will also inform you about appropriate quarantine procedures to prevent the

spread of dog flu, depending on the strain of the virus your dog contracts, and can give you information about disinfectant solutions to use in your home to help kill the virus.

Call your vet ahead of time to let her know that your dog is showing symptoms of a respiratory infection. Both kennel cough and dog flu are highly contagious, and your vet may request that you keep your dog in the car until your appointment time to prevent the risk of transmission to other patients in the waiting room.

Preventing Dog Flu

The best way to prevent your dog from contracting the dog flu is to keep him away from public places or kennels with recently reported cases of dog flu. If you come into contact with a dog that you suspect has dog flu or has recently been exposed to the dog flu, wash your hands, arms, and clothing before touching your own dog. This will reduce the risk of transmission from you to your dog.

There are vaccines available for both the H3N8 and H3N2 strains of canine influenza. Your vet may recommend the vaccine based on your lifestyle. For instance, if you live in an area with a high incidence of dog flu or if your dog regularly spends time in kennels or travels to shows around the country, then your dog could be at an increased risk of contracting canine influenza and your vet may recommend the vaccine as a precaution.

It is up to us to keep our dogs safe and our dog-friendly community venues free from contagious diseases. The more dog owners who are aware of the symptoms of dog flu, the

better the chances are of veterinarians identifying another outbreak before it gets out of control.

If you suspect that your dog has the dog flu or another respiratory infection, contact your vet as soon as possible and refrain from taking your dog to public places where you might expose other dogs to illness.



WESTERN RESERVE DALMATIAN CLUB REGULAR MEETING MINUTES May 20, 2017

Debbie Gotsch opened the meeting at 7:15 p.m. Roll call was read with 12 members attending.

Linda Lombardi made a motion to dispense with the reading of the minutes, Greg Brown seconded. Carried.

Sunshine. Nancy Abbott reported that Diana Smith fell and broke her wrist. Velma Deitrick had been in the hospital but is now home. Tim Kompier is having a hard time with his arthritis.

Leslie Sinwald's father passed away.

Holiday Party. Sunday December 3, 2017. Starts at 2:00. Will be at Bravo at Summit Mall. More information will come.

Specialty. Cindy wants to just have a 50/50 raffle this year.

Puppy Match. June 17, 2017.

Please contact Cindy Chaytor to let her know what you are bringing for the pot luck.

Parades. Brunswick is Sunday July 2, 2017. Lineup is 12-1 and parade starts at 2:00.

Debbie Gotsch brought up some ideas for upcoming programs. We are having a fun day at Fuzz Face and Friends in October. For July, we are contacting a vet that does BAER testing and the other possibility is a program on What you can do with your dog. Debbie spoke about the flyers. They are still being worked on. The Pet Expo on October 21 at the Erie Co. Fairgrounds was discussed. It runs from 12-3. Maybe WRDC could have some type of booth. Leslie stated that they usually have some type of meet the breed.

Nominating Committee:

Chair- Linda Lombardi
Committee- Don Gotsch
Richard Sinwald
Alternates- Steve Weisman
Greg Brown

Motion to adjourn was made by Greg Brown, seconded by Linda Lombardi. Carried. The meeting ended at 7:53p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Martha Brown

Brag: Cindy Riggans at the Ravenna KC shows. George won Winners Dog on Saturday and on Sunday won Winners Dog, Best Opposite and Best of Winners.



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VISIT US ONLINE AT THE
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wrdc.ohio@yahoo.com

Presidents Message

The sun is out today after all the rain we've had and it's a nice change. I'm getting rather tired of muddy paw prints everywhere.

It would be nice for things to dry out a bit. Planting flowers and vegetable plants in the mud is not so much fun.

Memorial Day marks the start of summer, let's hope mother nature gets on board.

The Puppy Match is in a few weeks. It's always a nice time to be outside and play with our Dal's. I'm looking forward to judging sweepstakes.

AKC is offering two new titles for our dogs. Trick Titles and Scent Trials. Both are fun events to try with your dogs. Plan on learning more about both new venues. Enjoy the sunshine!

Best to all,
Debbie



At The Dog Show....

The Men's room is labeled "Pointers" and the ladies room is labeled "Setters".

The Official Dog's Song

"Every snack you take, every food you make, every can you shake, every seal you break... I'll be watching you.

Why do people call it a litter of puppies? Once they grow a little bigger, one look at your ruined house should explain!

What do you do when you see a rabid dog?

That depends on whether the rabid dog has seen you!

Obedience Tips

One of the most important aspects of obedience training is getting your dog's attention. However, this is easier said than done with Dalmatians as many have a habit of paying attention to anything but you.

Fortunately, there are a number of tried and true techniques to teach your dog to focus its attention on you:

Put your dog on a short leash and tie it to your belt. Then go

about the house on your ordinary routine. Do not pay attention to your Dal. It will quickly learn to pay attention to you to determine when you are going to get up and walk around and where you are going. This is especially effective with puppies and also lays a good foundation for learning to heel later. Start with short periods of 5 minutes and work up as your puppy gets older. Praise your dog the more it pays attention to you.

Praise for watching. Even when you are not training, if you look up catch your dog watching you, praise it.

Spit treats at your dog. This is an excellent exercise for teaching your dog to concentrate directly on your face, not your hands or pocket. Do this as a separate exercise until your dog understands that it must watch your face. Also, don't let it pick up the food from the floor. If you do, it will learn it doesn't have to catch the treat in order to earn the reward.

Talk softly. Talk softly to your dog. It will have to pay more attention to you to hear you.

Courtesy of Heartland
Dalmatian Club, Kansas City

**The Fifty Second Annual
Western Reserve Dalmatian Club
Sanctioned B Specialty Match
Saturday, June 17, 2017**
Columbia Township Park
Route #82 and West River Road
Columbia Station, Ohio



Sweepstakes Classes

Divided by sex:

Junior-3-6, 6-9, 9-12 months; Senior-12-15, 15-18 months
First in each class to compete for Best in Sweepstakes

**Breed Conformation
Classes** **Puppy**

Divided by sex:

Junior- 3-6 months, Senior- 6-9 months, 9-12 months
First in each class to compete for Best Puppy

Adult

Adult: 12-15, 15-18 months, Over 18 months, Bred by Exhibitor
First in each class compete for Best Adult
Best Puppy and Best Adult to compete for Best In Match

Non-Regular Classes

Divided by Sex: Veterans-over 7 years. First in each class compete for Best Veteran, Stud Dog, Brood Bitch, Brace

Showmanship Classes

Jr. Showmanship: 8-12 years, 13-17 years
Ladies and Men's Handling (18 years and older)
Parade of Champions & Title Holders *FREE CLASS*

Entry Fee

\$ 7.00 per dog, **\$ 3.00** second entry of same dog
\$ 2.00 Junior Showmanship
\$ 2.00 Ladies and Men's Handling

9:00 - 11:00 am
11:15 am

Registration

1. Sweepstakes
2. Ladies and Men's Handling
3. Regular Classes
4. Non-Regular Classes
5. Junior Showmanship Classes
6. Parade of Champions and Title Holders



Sweepstakes & Handling

Debbie Gotsch
Strongsville, Ohio

Conformation

Kathy Szomoru
Parma, Ohio

Junior Showmanship

Kathy Szomoru
Parma, Ohio

We reserve the right to change judging assignments if the need arises. Dogs with major points can enter only for "practice". Handlers may show dogs owned by them or may enter only for "practice". The fee for practice only is the regular fee on the day of the show \$ 7.00.

Cindy Chaytor 22871 Nicholas Ave.
Euclid, OH 44123
Cell: 216-832-5806

Match Chairperson

The **Western Reserve Dalmatian Club** cordially invites you to our **2017 Specialty Match** followed by a potluck picnic afterwards. The match will present some of Northeast Ohio's future champions and promises to be a great opportunity to begin or continue your puppies' education and training. Whether your interests to compete are in the Show Ring, Obedience Training, Rally, Road Trials, or Agility, the day will provide lots of fun, and the opportunity to learn more about these events. There will also be information on Therapy Dogs and Canine Good Citizens.

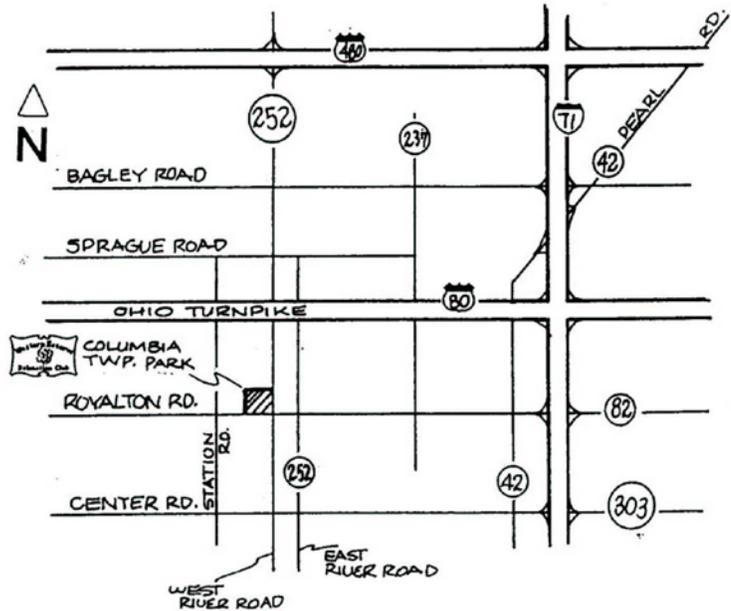
A picnic including hamburgers, hot dogs, and beverages will immediately follow the judging and the club is inviting you as our guest! Please bring a covered dish to share with others along with serving utensils for your dish.

Directions:

From the West, Take I-480 to Rte. 252, take Rte. 252 South to Rte. 82. Turn right on Rte. 82.

From the East, Take I-90/I-71 to Rte. 82, take Rte. 82 West to West River Road, Match is on the right.

From the South, Take I-77 or I-71 north to Rte. 82 and go west. (left)



**Western Reserve Dalmatian Club
2017 Puppy Match
June 17, 2017
Columbia Township Park, East Pavilion**

Please also join us at our
64th and 65th Annual Western Reserve Dalmatian Club Specialty Shows
at Lorain County Kennel Club Grounds in Oberlin, Ohio on August 11, 2017.
There will be 2 back-to-back shows on August 11.

