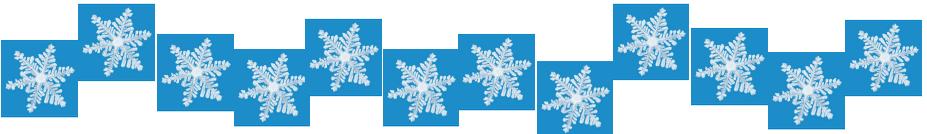




SCRAPS

june 2011

Official Newsletter of the Western Province Boxer Club



WHO'S WHO

2011

WPBC COMMITTEE



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From the Editor

Hello Everyone,

We were saddened when Doreen Powell recently tendered her resignation as secretary of the club, due to a decision to reduce her huge load of responsibilities. She however agreed to stay on as a member of the committee, so we will fortunately still be able to draw on her wisdom and experience.

Thank you to Tammy Gilmour who agreed to take over from Doreen. We wish you strength and patience in coping with this often rather thankless task!

It was also with a deep sense of loss that we learnt that Peter Thompson, our very capable treasurer for many years, had passed away on 6th June. Peter never fully recovered after suffering a severe stroke in April last year. Our thoughts and prayers are with his wife Marilyn and other family and friends.

WPBC is very lucky to have enthusiastic young people such as Tammy and Michelle, our new treasurer, who are prepared to take on the administrative duties of the club.

And on a more cheerful note—check out all the interesting and fun events scheduled for the next few months, such as the annual champagne breakfast, an Aptitude Assessment and lots of shows and working competitions. Hope to see you all there!

A BIG thank you to everyone who helped to get this issue of Scraps out on time, particularly Jacqui, Fay and Monique!

Take care
Marlien Heystek
Editor



WHAT'S ON?

calendar of events

	CLUB	TYPE	EVENTS	CONTACT
JULY				
2 nd	Cape Handlers	Open	WT	083 699 1415
10 th	Kennel Association	Open	BR,OB,DJ,AG,FLY,HCL CGC (Br & Sil)	021 715 9758
24 th	Working & Herding Cape	Open	BR	082 824 1422
AUGUST				
6 th	Cape Town KC	Open	CD, ITT1, ITT2	021 447 7654
7 th	Cape Town KC	Open	BR,OB,DJ,AG,FLY,HCL	021 447 7654
9 th	W P Boxer Club	Club	Breakfast Walk	0825214374
14 th	Liesbeek KC	Open	BR,OB,DJ,AG	083 925 4350
25 th	Northern Free State KC	CH	BR, HCL	083 925 4350 086 613 2517 (f)
26 th	Bloemfontein KC	CH	BR, HCL	
27 th	KUSA CH & Nationals	CH	BR	
28 th	Kimberley KC	CH	BR, HCL	
SEPTEMBER				
11 th	Breede Rivier KC	Open	BR, DJ, AG, FLY	083 374 8422
11 th	Hottentots Holland KC	Open	BR, DJ, AG, FLY	021 852 3009
10/11 th	Cape Handlers	CH	IPO, ITT	083 699 1415
17 th	Cape Handlers	CH	WT	083 699 1415
18/19 th	WP Boxer Club	Apt	APTITUDE, DMA	083 717 4120
24 th	Cape Handlers	CH	OB, DJ, AG, FLY	083 699 1415
OCTOBER				
15 th	Breede Rivier KC	CH	BR, HCL	083 374 8422
16 th	Cape Town KC	CH	BR, HCL	021 447 7654
21 st	Working & Herding Cape	Open	BR, OB, DJ, AG, FLY	082 824 1422
22 nd	Hottentots Holland KC	CH	BR, AG, FLY, HCL	021 852 3009
23 rd	Western Province KC	CH	BR, HCL	083 253 0266
29 th	Cape Town KC	CH	OB, DJ, CA, AG, FLY	021 447 7654

Please join us at Canon Creek Independent School, cnr Nursery Way & Princess Path, Pinelands on Sundays:

Weekly obedience training classes from 08:30.

Contact Rex Koning at 082 535 1135

Puppy Socialization and Ringcraft Get Togethers - normally first Sunday every month, but please contact Fay Roberts at 082 783 1590 for dates and times

CONSULT OUR WEBSITE <http://www.wpbc.co.za> or
<http://www.showdogs.co.za> for schedules of events



KENNEL ASSOCIATION NON-CHAMPIONSHIP SHOW
SUNDAY 10th JULY 2011
FALSE BAY RUGBY CLUB -MAIN ROAD-CONSTANTIA

SPONSORED BY: ROYAL CANIN DOG FOOD

ENQUIRIES: MRS D E POWELL (Hon Sec) Tel: 021 715 9758-email drm.pwl@gmail.com R BATEMAN (Chairman) 021 434 4477

POSTAL ENTRIES: P O BOX 167, CONSTANTIA 7848 **TO REACH THE SECRETARY BY THURSDAY 7th JULY 2011**
R35.00 PER DOG R10.00 PER ADDITIONAL DISCIPLINE / CLASS (SAME DOG).
R30.00 -2nd Dog R10.00 PER ADDITIONAL DISCIPLINE
R50.00 CANINE GOOD CITIZEN-BRONZE & SILVER PER DOG – R10.00 RE-TAKING TEST- NOT A DISCIPLINE
Flyball Team free if entered in other Disciplines otherwise R80.00 per Team- Pairs R20.00. Single R10.00

**POSTAL/FAXED/EMAIL ENTRIES ONLY WITH FEES TO BE RECEIVED BY THURSDAY 7th JULY:
 FOR: AGILITY / DOG JUMPING /OBEDIENCE CLASSES B/C/ GOOD CITIZEN CERTIFICATE
 BRONZE/SILVER/ FLYBALL- PAIRS & SINGLE**

Faxed Entries only accepted if **LEGIBLE** with proof of payment with Exhibitors name **PRINTED CLEARLY** on the deposit slip.

ENTRY FEES: **ON THE DAY FROM 07h00 TO 09h30**
R40.00 PER DOG. R30.00 2nd DOG
R10.00 PER ADDITIONAL DISCIPLINE / CLASS (SAME DOG)
R10.00 SPECIAL BEGINNERS CLASS PER DOG
HANDLERS FREE

Bank: **ABSA** • Account Name: **KENNEL ASSOCIATION** • Account Number: **4057385643**
 Branch: **CLAREMONT** • Branch Number: **421109**

BREED CLASSES: BABY PUPPY 4 to 6 months
 PUPPY 6 to 12 months ~ JUNIOR 12 to 18 months
 SA BRED ~ OPEN ~ CHAMPIONS ~ VETERANS
The breeds will be judged in alphabetical order as listed in appendix A of Schedule 2 of the KUSA constitution.

STAKES (free): Baby Puppy ~ Puppy ~ Junior ~ Veterans ~ Champions

CHILD HANDLERS: 8 years and under 11 years
JUNIOR HANDLERS: over 11 years and under 18 years on the day of the National Finals.

Kindly submit proof of age for Child and Junior Handler

CHAMPIONS and VETERANS will not compete for Best of Breed, but the winners of the Champions and Veterans Stake will go forward to Best in Show.

AGILITY: -All Grades **CONTACT** and **NON-CONTACT** - Small / Medium / Large
 Paragraph 3.16.2 of Schedule 5L shall not apply.
DOG JUMPING -4th LEG NATIONAL LEAGUE- All Grades. (6)

OBEDIENCE: Beginners Class to follow after Special Beginners Class. Novice then Class B to follow after Class A.

FLYBALL -8.00am -please enter Team names & Team Captain & Reserves on correct Flyball entry form

Breed	Judge	Time
Gundogs	Mrs D Lucas (EC)	10h00
Herding	Mr R Zeeman (WC)	10h00
Hounds	Mr S O'Brien (Ireland)	10h00
Terriers	Mr R van der Linde (Gaut)	10h00
Toys	Mrs K Furk (KZN)	10h00
Utility	Mr G Bidder (WC)	10h00
Working	Mrs M Heneke (Gaut)	10h00
BEST BABY PUPPY & PUPPY	Mr S O'Brien	Before BIS
BEST JUNIOR	Mr S O'Brien	Before BIS
BEST VETERAN & BEST CHAMPION	Mr S O'Brien	Before BIS
HANDLERS- Child & Junior	Mrs K Furk	09h30
BEST IN SHOW	Mr S O'Brien	
RING CRAFT FOR NEW EXHIBITORS		09h30

ON NO ACCOUNT ARE CARS ALLOWED ON THE FIELD

Discipline	Judge	Time
Agility- All Grades-	Mrs AL O'Leary	08h30
Fly Ball	Ms S Gee	08h00
Dog Jumping- All Grades- (6)	Mrs M Sparks	08h30
Obedience-09h00		
Special Beginners/Beginners	Mr T van Vyver	09h00
Novice – Before Class A & B	Mr R Joynt	09h00
Class A & Class B	Mr R Joynt	09h00
Class C	Mrs R Wheddon	09h00
Canine Good Citizen Bronze	Mr J Marques	09h00
Canine Good Citizen Silver	Mr G Smith	09h00
Companion Dog	Mr S Laisley	09h00

BITCHES IN SEASON WILL BE ALLOWED IN THE BREED SECTION ONLY

All Exhibitors/Handlers are personally responsible for the control of their dogs at all times and shall be personally liable for any claims which may be made in respect of injuries which may arise or be caused by their dogs. All Exhibits must be on leads at all times unless otherwise instructed by a Judge. **CARS PARKED AT OWNERS RISK**

RIGHT OF ADMISSION RESERVED

THE KENNEL ASSOCIATION (Affiliated to KUSA)

P O Box 167 | Constantia | 7848 | Phone (021) 715 9758 | Fax (021) 712 1489 | Email: depowell@i-zone.co.za

Invitation:

ANNUAL WALK AND BREAKFAST AT RHODES MEMORIAL



TUESDAY 9th AUGUST 2011

**MEET BOXER CLUB "WALK CAPTAINS" MICHELLE & JACQUI FROM 8.15 am AT
RHODES MEMORIAL PARKING AREA
WALK WILL START AT 8.30 am**

BREAKFAST AT 9.30am AT THE RHODES MEMORIAL RESTAURANT

**TO BOOK A BREAKFAST PLACE SIMPLY CREDIT W P BOXER CLUB BANKING
ACCOUNT WITH THE BREAKFAST FEE, INCLUDING YOUR NAME AND "BREAKFAST"
AS THE REFERENCE ON THE DEPOSIT SLIP.**

**BREAKFAST TO BE BOOKED BY SATURDAY 30st JULY 2011
PLEASE FAX DEPOSIT SLIP TO MICHELLE FAX NO 086 684 7648
OR E-MAIL TO dogzathome@mweb.co.za**

MENU

**Scrambled eggs, bacon, 1 beef sausage, grilled tomato,
mushrooms, toast, butter and jam, 1 cup of tea/coffee.**

Extra tea/coffee at R10 per cup.

Club will supply champagne and orange juice.

R75.00 PER HEAD, INCLUDING TIP

R35.00 KIDDIES' BREAKFAST

(for children under 12, 1 juice included)

PAYMENT TO BE MADE TO:

W P Boxer Club

Nedbank

Milnerton Branch Number 109309

Account Number 1093047224

**Unfortunately no bookings for the Breakfast
can be accepted after the 30th JULY 2011**



PET—FRIENDLY ACCOMMODATION

VIOLA & OWL COTTAGES



Bloubergrant / Table View, Cape Town

Two tastefully furnished and equipped Pet Friendly Cottages, situated totally separate from each other in a quiet residential area just 5 minutes from the beach overlooking Table Mountain and Robben Island and close to local amenities.

Each Cottage has its own private and walled garden with braai, table, chairs and loungers – 100% secure for pets.

Gated access to Pool, for owners' peace of mind.

Secure off road parking area for cars and trailers.

Bedding and towels are provided and changed during stay.

There is a Veterinary Clinic at the bottom of the road.

PET POLICY:

All pets are welcome.

Pets may sleep inside – please bring your own beds and bowls.

Pets must be free of Ticks and Fleas and must be disease free – eg Kennel Cough. Pets stay FREE. No Doggie damage deposit required, but any damage incurred by pets will be charged.

Contact Helen by phone on 021 557 2899 or 082

698 1244 or via email :

helen@violacottage.co.za



Please visit our website:

www.violacottage.co.za

for further information and to view the



View SCRAPS in colour on our website
www.wpbc.co.za



Brandy awarded BOB
& Working Group 2nd by Ken



Ken gives Dexter RBOB, Best
Junior and Junior Group 2nd



Dexter competes for Best Junior
in Show at Breede Rivier KC
Karma tries out her BVIS prize at
Swartland KC



Dexter and Friend

Good to see new faces
In the ring:
Kostya and Hooch!



SHOW RESULTS - OPEN SHOWS

BREEDER RIVIER KC OPEN SHOW – 17 APRIL 2011 - JUDGE: MR KEN HULL

AWARD	DOGS	OWNER
BEST OF BREED 2 ND WORKING GROUP	Ch Tanyati Broadway Debut (Brandy)	Monique Hodgkinson
RESERVE BOB BEST JUNIOR 1 ST JUNIOR GROUP	Tortuga Jumpin Jack Flash of Stanwix (Dexter)	Jacqui Verrinder
BEST PUPPY	Polgara Curtain Call for Jakkalsdans (McDuff)	Marlien Heystek

SWARTLAND KC OPEN SHOW – 29 MAY 2011 - JUDGE: MRS RENEE FOURIE

AWARD	DOGS	OWNER
BEST OF BREED 1 ST WORKING GROUP	Ancory Surfin USA (Tyson)	Tammy Gilmour & Johan Kieser
RESERVE BOB BEST JUNIOR 1 ST JUNIOR GROUP	Tortuga Jumpin Jack Flash of Stanwix (Dexter)	Jacqui Verrinder
BEST PUPPY	Tanyati Headline News (Jamie)	Monique Hodgkinson
BEST VETERAN 1 ST VETERAN GROUP BEST VETERAN IN SHOW	CH Sedohr's Susie (Karma)	Marlien Heystek

WEST COAST KC OPEN SHOW – 29 MAY 2011 - JUDGE: MR RONALD FOLLENTINE

AWARD	DOGS	OWNER
BEST OF BREED 1 ST WORKING GROUP	Ancory Surfin USA (Tyson)	Tammy Gilmour & Johan Kieser
RESERVE BOB BEST JUNIOR 1 ST JUNIOR GROUP	Tortuga Jumpin Jack Flash of Stanwix (Dexter)	Jacqui Verrinder
BEST PUPPY	Tanyati Headline News (Jamie)	Monique Hodgkinson
BEST VETERAN 2 ND VETERAN GROUP	CH Sedohr's Susie (Karma)	Marlien Heystek

WESTERN PROVINCE KC OPEN SHOW – 5 JUNE 2011 - JUDGE: MS JOY MCFARLANE

AWARD	DOGS	OWNER
BEST OF BREED 2 ND WORKING GROUP	Ancory Surfin USA (Tyson)	Tammy Gilmour & Johan Kieser
RESERVE BOB BEST JUNIOR 1 ST JUNIOR GROUP RESERVE BEST JUNIOR IN SHOW	Tortuga Jumpin Jack Flash of Stanwix (Dexter)	Jacqui Verrinder
BEST PUPPY 4 TH PUPPY GROUP	Polgara Curtain Call for Jakkalsdans (McDuff)	Marlien Heystek
BEST VETERAN 2 ND VETERAN GROUP	CH Sedohr's Susie (Karma)	Marlien Heystek

Snapped by Fay in Oudtshoorn:



Margot with Misty



Ruth with Bonnie



Wayne with Georgie



Tommy with Avanti



Monique with Brandy



Tammy with Tyson

SHOW RESULTS - CH SHOWS

OUTENIQUA KC CHAMPIONSHIP SHOW – 11 JUNE 2011 – JUDGE: JACKIE RATNER

CLASS	DOGS		OWNER
PUPPY	1 st	Titanwolverine Fire Fighter of Montala	Wayne Streak
JUNIOR	1 st	Tortuga Jumpin Jack Flash of Stanwix	Jacqui Verrinder
CHAMPION	1 st	Ch Ancory Surfin USA	Tammy Gilmour & Johan Kieser
CC	Tortuga Jumpin Jack Flash of Stanwix		Jacqui Verrinder
RCC	Titanwolverine Fire Fighter of Montala		Wayne Streak
CLASS	BITCHES		OWNER
PUPPY	1 st	Mardusmara Misty	Margot Holtrop
JUNIOR	1 st 2 nd	Wincasley Gosh I'm Posh of Hartwell Tanyati Enchanting	Ruth Truebody Monique Hodgkinson
GRADUATE	1 st	Montala Uptown Girl of Manitoka	Alice Rossouw
CHAMPION	1 st 2 nd	Ch Montala Forget Me Knot of Genelto Ch Tanyati Broadway Debut	Tommy Smith Monique Hodgkinson
CC	Montala Uptown Girl of Manitoka		Alice Rossouw
RCC	Wincasley Gosh I'm Posh of Hartwell		Ruth Truebody
BEST OF BREED	Ch Montala Forget Me Knot of Genelto		Tommy Smith
R BEST OF BREED	Montala Uptown Girl of Manitoka		Alice Rossouw
BEST PUPPY	Titanwolverine Fire Fighter of Montala		Wayne Streak
2 ND PUPPY GROUP			
BEST JUNIOR	Tortuga Jumpin Jack Flash of Stanwix		Jacqui Verrinder
1 ST JUNIOR GROUP			

GEORGE KC CHAMPIONSHIP SHOW – 12 JUNE 2011 – JUDGE: MADELEIN GRIFFIN

CLASS	DOGS		OWNER
PUPPY	1 st	Titanwolverine Fire Fighter of Montala	Wayne Streak
JUNIOR	1 st	Tortuga Jumpin Jack Flash of Stanwix	Jacqui Verrinder
CHAMPION	1 st	Ch Ancory Surfin USA	Tammy Gilmour & Johan Kieser
CC	Tortuga Jumpin Jack Flash of Stanwix		Jacqui Verrinder
RCC	Titanwolverine Fire Fighter of Montala		Wayne Streak
CLASS	BITCHES		OWNER
PUPPY	1 st	Mardusmara Misty	Margot Holtrop
JUNIOR	1 st 2 nd	Wincasley Gosh I'm Posh of Hartwell Tanyati Enchanting	Ruth Truebody Monique Hodgkinson
GRADUATE	1 st	Montala Uptown Girl of Manitoka	Alice Rossouw
CHAMPION	1 st 2 nd	Ch Montala Forget Me Knot of Genelto Ch Tanyati Broadway Debut	Tommy Smith Monique Hodgkinson
CC	Montala Uptown Girl of Manitoka		Alice Rossouw
RCC	Wincasley Gosh I'm Posh of Hartwell		Ruth Truebody
BEST OF BREED	Montala Uptown Girl of Manitoka		Alice Rossouw
R BEST OF BREED	Ch Ancory Surfin USA		Tammy Gilmour & Johan Kieser
BEST PUPPY	Titanwolverine Fire Fighter of Montala		Wayne Streak
1 ST PUPPY GROUP			
BEST PUPPY IN SHOW			
BEST JUNIOR	Wincasley Gosh I'm Posh of Hartwell		Ruth Truebody
1 ST JUNIOR GROUP			

WPBC BOXERS SHINE IN APTITUDE AND DOG MENTALITY ASSESSMENTS!

We were all made very proud when the Boxers entered in the Aptitude / Dog Mentality Assessments conducted near Durbanville over the weekend of 2/3 April 2011, compelled those present who had until then been convinced that Boxers were only good at being “pretty pictures” at dog shows, to drastically revise their opinions. The following Boxers passed with flying colours :

Michelle Martin’s **ROGAN** (*Titanwolverine Romanhoff of Stanwix*) (Aptitude)

Fay Roberts’ **VANILLA** (*Ch Rhoswyn Vanilla Sky of Thasrite*) (Aptitude)

Jacqui Verrinder’s **ABBY** (*Tanyati All Fired Up for Stanwix*) (Young Dog Mentality Assessment)

Ronnie Wilson’s **BENNETT** (*Dawkendale Flashpoint*) (Aptitude)

(All photographs : Monique Hodgkinson)

Dogs are not trained for these tests - it is aimed at evaluating the inborn instincts and drives of the dog. During the evaluation the dog must solve a number of problems by itself, without any assistance or commands from its handler. It has been proven to be a valuable indicator of the innate mental attitude, temperament and steadiness of a dog, as well as its ability to unwind rapidly after being exposed to stressful situations. WESTERN PROVINCE BOXER CLUB will be hosting the next Aptitude Test on 18/19 September 2011. More details and the schedule will be available soon.

Rogan navigates through the soldiers to find Michelle, dodging the one that popped-up suddenly in front of him
(ATTACHMENT TO PACK LEADER)
→



Vanilla makes contact with the headless man that jumped up in front of her
(REACTION TO SUDDEN VISUAL STIMULUS)
←

Abby sets off, determined to bring back a rabbit for dinner
(CHASE RESPONSE)
→



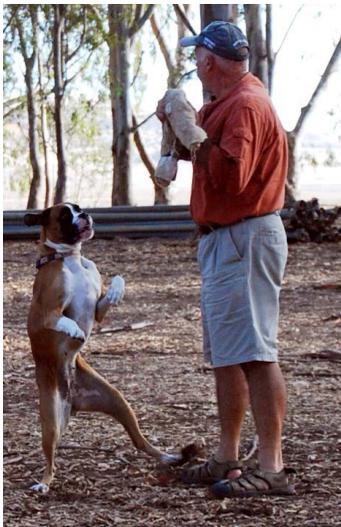


Abby makes contact with the rattling chains
(REACTION TO SUDDEN LOUD NOISE)
←

Vanilla and Bennett both tell the ugly man not to push his luck!
(SOCIAL FIGHTING SPIRIT)
→
↓



Bennett confidently confronts the approaching sledge (dummy with staring eyes and bared teeth)
(DOMINANCE)
←



Rogan warns one of the two ghosts approaching from opposite directions to stop right there...
(DEFENSE)
→

Abby gives Test Leader Mike Eisler a chance to show the learner judges the ideal response from a dog (apparently not seen that often) for this DMA test.
Dog has to go and play with a stranger 40-50 meters away.
(DISTANCE PLAY)
←



TRIBUTE: Mr Roy Joynt



PATRON AND LIFE MEMBER, WESTERN PROVINCE BOXER CLUB

His love affair with Boxers started in Welkom in 1962 when Moira arrived home from some bazaar or other with a Boxer puppy which she had bought.

At present Roy has his thirteenth Boxer, called Lollipop.

He got into competitive obedience in 1988 with the arrival of Robbie, Boxer number seven. Doreen Powell gave him a pep talk, resulting in Robbie going to obedience classes. Robbie was a gentle soul and loathed marching up and down, so his old mother Evie, much to her surprise, also started obedience lessons.

Evie was a super dog and tried hard to please, but by the time she got to Class C, advancing years made the distance control a bit difficult for her. Jonty then took her place and after a severe battle of wills, he also entered Class C. After that his daughter Jojo also entered Class C.

In 1994, Roy started judging Obedience classes and in 2001 he was licensed to judge all Obedience classes at championship level. 1996 saw Roy elected as Chairman of the Western Cape Obedience Sub Committee. In 2005 he was appointed convenor of the KUSA National Obedience Sub Committee.

Roy served on the WP Boxer Club committee for many years under the alternating chairmanship of Johan Kieser and Ken Hull. In 2007 Roy became the chairman of the club for two years. The advancing years however caused Roy to withdraw from all those positions at the end of 2009.

At present Roy's main activity is training Lollipop (now 4 years old) for competition Obedience.

The Committee and Obedience Section of WP Boxer Club congratulate and salute you, ROY JOYNT

Rex Koning
Trainer

OBITUARY



Peter Thompson

I got to know Peter when I was Chairman of the Club a few years ago and Peter was our Treasurer. The club was very lucky to have him as good treasurers are few and far between. Sadly ill health struck him down just over a year ago keeping him bed ridden until he passed away last week. Peter was born in Johannesburg in 1939 and after an uneventful childhood spent his working life in the Johannesburg Chamber of Mines accounts department where Marilyn, who he married in 1969, was his boss. In 1994 he retired and moved to Fish Hoek in 1995

Peter's great love was motor vehicles and he always had three or four Mercedes Benz cars plus a couple of B.M.W. motor bikes on hand on which, believe it or not, he and Marilyn would thunder down from Joburg to Fish Hoek for their annual holiday!

Not surprisingly Peter loved motor sport and when he was not busy keeping his fleet of vehicles in tip top condition, helped one friend racing Hot Rods at Wembley Stadium and another pal racing at Kyalami.

Peter and Marilyn got their first Boxer, Tandi, in 1972, and their fourth Boxer, Jerry Lee, about 10 years ago from the Cooks, which is how the club made contact with Peter.

Peter, we all miss you.

Roy Joynt
15th June 2011

knowledge is power... and more!

One of the most significant pearls of wisdom I was fortunate to receive over the years was in these words: A sound dog will age more gracefully, be less likely to break down from stress or injury, experience less fatigue and greater efficiency in work, and stay healthier and more attractive throughout its life. The originator of this most eloquent of reasons to breed carefully and thoughtfully has my deepest respects. It is an essential axiom not only in a conscientious breeding program but also in the commitment to structurally evaluate - as knowledgeably and objectively as possible - each litter bred. I do not mean to take anything away from type, however. Type is undeniably at the centre of the dog show world - and it should be. After all, breed conformation is founded on type. However type without a sound, functional structure is rather like breeding balloon animals - producing a recognizable form lacking in substance. Even dogs bred as companion animals need good health in order to be companionable. Function is as important as type.

Certainly we've all heard this before. But what does it take to develop both function and type in a breeding program? Engineers can relate to the essential design of the dog. The dog's structure serves a purpose; if that structure is too weak or improper to live up to its purpose, it is more likely to break down. It is cruel to ask any dog to perform any task for which its structure is poorly equipped. The reason is simple: because the human-animal bond is strong, most dogs will do all we ask for as long as they can - they'll jump, herd, hunt, run, walk the neighbourhood, jog the track, or take to the agility course until they can no longer do so. They will keep going until their physical structure is incapable of one more step. How soon they will reach that point depends largely on our awareness of and respect for their inherent strengths and weaknesses.

What happens when dogs reach the point of breakdown? The average owner's initial tendency is to get frustrated with the dog. More times than I can count, my husband and I have been approached by owners wanting to know why their dogs suddenly won't take the jumps after so many good performances. These people want to know why their dogs are suddenly being disobedient or just plain lazy. In almost every case we have encountered, the dog's structure has broken down. Most people are genuinely unaware of their dogs' physical condition when such behaviour patterns begin to emerge. They don't realize the body is simply telling the dog it cannot do another jump. I firmly believe that if more breeders had a working knowledge of canine structure, we would see far fewer structural weaknesses in the show ring. Structural weaknesses are not limited to mediocre show dogs - they can be found in top-winning dogs. A judge is compelled to judge a dog on its qualities, but weaknesses must be taken into consideration at some point. After all, conformation is intended to advance quality in breeding. If structural weaknesses are overlooked because type is everything, both breeder and judge are helping to perpetuate these weaknesses and are potentially creating serious problems within an entire breed.

It doesn't stop with the show ring or the obedience ring or the field trial. We all cry out against puppy mills, yet some of the most crippled pet dogs I have come in contact with

were purchased from reputable breeders who were completely unaware of the structural weaknesses in the puppies they were selling. The owner bears the financial and emotional burden of surgeries or pain killers and of deciding at which point the dog would be best served by euthanasia. Puppy mills are interested in profits. A breeder's first priority is to the breed. The distinction is vast and the responsibility enormous. No breeder or breed is best served by relying entirely on conformation wins. Breed to a winning stud dog with structural weaknesses and your breeding program goes the way of trouble. And if those weaknesses are not recognized as such, does that make it OK? What do you think?

The Importance of Structure and Function in Dogs

by Pat Hastings

One of the worst tragedies in the dog world is when a structural problem becomes so pervasive in a breed that it is gradually accepted as a normal aspect of the breed. We ought to be ashamed of ourselves!

The answer lies in education, in making an effort to learn correct structure and the consequences of incorrect structure. For example, a dog acquired for jumping in obedience or agility should have no looseness in the elbows or lack in prosternum, both of which can cause stretched and damaged tissue in the front assembly.

A dog with slipped hocks should never be expected to perform coursing, herding, or repetitive jumping because the lack of stability in the hock joint damages the tissue integrity and eventually causes bone or joint deterioration. A sporting dog with a ewe neck will eventually be incapable of carrying a bird. And high shoulders are one of the most destructive weaknesses that a dog in harness can have.

A dog bred to go-to-ground is fairly useless if its loin is too short or nonexistent. A hering gut or high hocks diminish stamina. A weak underjaw prevents a strong grasp. An over-angulated rear, which creates sickle hocks, causes a poorly synchronized gait, which destroys its efficiency. Shoulders set too close together make it difficult for a dog to eat out of a pan on the floor and impede the ability of a tracking dog to keep its nose to the ground. A tail set too low interferes with an effortless gait. A tail set too high can prevent a dog from pulling a cart.

All dogs have imperfections, as do we all. However, it is important to view those imperfections in relation to what the dog will be asked to do. If we cannot recognize structural weaknesses or faults in our dogs, we risk the quality of their lives, not to mention the quality of our breeding programs. Thus knowledge is more than power - it is a substantial component to the future well-being of our breeds.

SOURCE: <http://naia.typepad.com/naia/2011/05/from-the-naia-archives-the-importance-of-structure-and-function-in-dogs.html>

Submitted by Dawn Hull

Boxer Cardiomyopathy, or more correctly, Boxer Arrhythmogenic Right Ventricular Cardiomyopathy (ARVC), is a genetic disease in Boxers, inherited in an autosomal dominant pattern. If a disease is autosomal dominant, it means that the abnormal gene from one parent is capable of causing the disease, even though the matching gene from the other parent is normal. The presentation in affected offspring is quite variable, suggesting incomplete penetrance. Great excitement was generated recently, when a group led by Kate Meurs at Washington State University announced that they had identified one genetic anomaly associated with Boxer cardiomyopathy and a genetic test for this is now commercially available. However, there is still debate over the discovery. The genetic test is not yet accepted as a definitive test and additional diagnostic testing continues to be essential to characterize the phenotype, and to help direct therapeutic interventions.

BOXER CARDIOMYOPATHY

BOXER ARRHYTHMOGENIC RIGHT VENTRICULAR CARDIOMYOPATHY

KEY POINTS

- ◆ Even though the condition is inherited, ARVC is an adult onset disease, with clinical signs only observed for the first time between 6 and 8 years of age on average, although the initial episode could occur at any age, from much younger to much older.
- ◆ The onset is often very sudden, with no symptoms seen before the initial episode. Sudden death may be the first sign of the disease in asymptomatic dogs.
- ◆ Affected animals suffer from abnormal heart beats which originate from the right ventricle of the heart.
- ◆ Holter monitoring (a 24 hour ambulatory electrocardiogram) is the main diagnostic tool at present.



One type of Holter monitor



Boxer wearing Holter monitor fixed on vest

Update on Boxer Arrhythmogenic Right Ventricular Cardiomyopathy (ARVC)

Veterinary Cardiac Genetics Lab
College of Veterinary Medicine
Washington State University

Boxer ARVC is an adult onset heart muscle disease that can lead to sudden death or the development of congestive heart failure where the dog starts to cough or becomes short of breath. This is an inherited disease, but it is adult onset. The average age where the clinical signs may be observed or a Holter monitor becomes abnormal is 6 years of age. However, this is widely variant. Some dogs will show it younger and some, not until they are much older!

This is a disease that primarily affects the electrical system of the heart so the best way to test for it is a 24 hour Holter monitor. Since the disease is adult onset and can start at varying ages, we recommend that Holtering be started at 3 years of age and repeated ANNUALLY. A single Holter reading that is normal at one point in the dog's life does not mean that it can never have ARVC. It simply means that it does not at this time.

Findings on the Holter that suggest a diagnosis of ARVC, are ventricular premature complexes (VPCs).

HOWEVER, the identification of VPCs do not mean that ARVC has been diagnosed. There are many other things that can cause VPCs in dogs including inflammation of the heart muscle from certain viruses (parvovirus, etc) other parasites (Chagas), tumours, including tumours in other body organs. Particularly if a Boxer is less than 3 years of age with VPCs it is less likely that his VPCS are due to ARVC.

We have identified a genetic deletion for a gene that functions by holding cardiac cells together. This is very similar to what is known about the disease in human beings and much of what we know about the disease in humans may be applicable to the dog. In humans there are 8 different genes that can cause the development of ARVC. Each one, all by itself can lead to the development of ARVC. There are 141 DIFFERENT mutations in these 8 genes. Therefore, it is very likely that there is more than one mutation in the Boxer dog that may lead to the disease in some lines of dogs.

ARVC is a disease of variable penetrance. This means that some individuals with the genetic mutation will not show the disease until they get older and that some individuals with the mutation will NEVER show the disease. In humans there are cases of IDENTICAL TWINS with the mutation where one twin develops severe heart disease and one does not. This suggests that although the mutation affects the heart, it may require certain environmental or other genetic factors to develop the severe form of the disease. They have not been identified in people yet. Our results in the boxer also suggest that multiple genes could work together to impact the severity of the disease in the dog. We hope to soon understand about these other factors in the dog.

In our study we found that dogs that were homozygous for the mutation (2 copies of the abnor-

mal gene) had a more severe form of the disease based on Holter findings. This DOES NOT mean that they develop it earlier, it means that when they do develop the VPCs they tend to have more of them.

So far we have tested 1690 dogs, 53% were negative, 41% were positive heterozygotes and 6% were positive homozygotes. Only 80 Holter monitor readings were submitted to correlate with the test results. Of these 80, only 13 of them were from dogs that were 6 years of age or older (ARVC age group). 10/13 were positive for the mutation and had an average of 4,856 VPCs

Genetic diseases, particularly cardiac, are complex. Not all dogs with VPCs have ARVC and not all dogs with the mutation will show the clinical sign of ARVC.

Therefore, as with any genetic information, we recommend ALWAYS using test results to guide your decisions about breeding rather than using them as an absolute recommendation for all dogs. Do not make drastic decisions. Each dog and each family line should be considered individually, The field of canine genetics is very new and the field of cardiac genetics is very complex. We are still learning how to best use these tools.

Here are some recommendations for testing

Dogs that are positive for the test will not necessarily develop significant heart disease and die from the disease. Some dogs will develop a very mild form of the disease and will live quite comfortably, some may need treatment.

Removal of a significant number of dogs from the breeding population could be very bad for the Boxer dog breed. Remember that dogs that carry this mutation also carry other important good genes that we do not want to lose from the breed.

Positive Heterozygous (1 copy of the mutated gene and 1 copy of a normal gene) Dogs that are positive heterozygous should be carefully evaluated for signs of disease (Holter monitor and possibly an echocardiogram). If an arrhythmia (VPCs) is detected, possible treatment options should be discussed with your veterinarian. Adult dogs that do not show signs of disease and that have other positive attributes could be bred to mutation negative dogs. Puppies may be screened for the mutation and over a few generations, mutation negative puppies may be selected to replace the mutation positive parent and gradually decrease the number of mutation positive dogs in the population.

Positive Homozygous (2 copies of the mutated gene) I recommend not breeding the homozygous dogs UNLESS they are exceptional members of the Boxer community and we need to be sure to maintain their positive attributes in the breed. Dogs that are homozygous for the mutation appear to have more significant disease and will certainly pass on the mutation therefore they should only be bred to a negative dog and over 2 generations of negative crosses a negative puppy could be selected as a replacement.

A VIDEO OF A PRESENTATION ON BOXER ARRHYTHMOGENIC RIGHT VENTRICULAR CARDIOMYOPATHY BY KATHRYN M. MEURS, HELD ON 19TH OCTOBER 2010, CAN BE VIEWED AT:
<http://www.vetmed.wsu.edu/deptsvcgl/boxer/video.aspx>

SOURCE:
<http://www.vetmed.wsu.edu/deptsvcgl/boxer/>

Last Edited: May 23, 2011

DO DOGS DREAM?



Q

I have a six-year-old Boxer. When she's asleep on my bed she looks like she's dreaming. Her legs start racing and sometimes she smiles a lot and paws at an invisible object. She loves chasing rabbits in real life, so could she be dreaming of them too? Do dogs dream like we do?

Mikael Renmark

A

No scientist will say for sure if dogs dream because they can't wake them up and ask them. But I'll be damned if I can work out what dogs are doing if they're *not* dreaming! Dogs show every indication of dreaming. We humans dream while in a deep sleep, known as rapid eye movement (REM) sleep. Dogs show exactly the same rapid flickering of eyes. Their tiny leg movements and 'whuffs' suggest that, like us, they experience sleep paralysis, so that while dreaming they don't *actually* run off and chase that rabbit down a hole.

Dog sleep does differ from ours in that dogs are capable of falling into deep sleep almost immediately. That's why one minute Fido can bark at the TV and the next be flat out on his side racing through an imaginary Ball World (favourite theme park of the Border Collie). That's also why dogs make such good watchdogs because they can be in and out of deep sleep in seconds. And when dogs sleep in a group, they each follow different cycles so that at any given time, at least one dog will be alert. As for what dogs dream about—can't answer that, though it does seem to involve a lot of chasing. I have seen one dog growling in her sleep so I suppose she was facing some sort of fight. When my own dogs dream, I deduce from the smile on their faces that they are dreaming about their single favourite thing—running after cats.

SOURCE: Boxer Bark January 2011
Queensland Boxer Club

INNER PEACE

Submitted by Alice Rossouw

If you can start the day without caffeine
If you can always be cheerful, ignoring aches and pains
If you can resist complaining and boring people with your troubles
If you can eat the same food every day and be grateful for it
If you can understand when your loved ones are too busy to give you any time
If you can take criticism and blame without resentment
If you can conquer tension without medical help
If you can relax without alcohol
If you can sleep without the aid of drugs

**THEN YOU ARE PROBABLY
THE FAMILY DOG!**



Gift from the US Post Office...

We don't know who replied, but there is a beautiful soul working in the dead letter office of the US postal service.

Our 14-year-old dog Abbey died last month. The day after she passed away, my 4-year-old daughter Meredith was crying and talking about how much she missed Abbey. She asked if we could write a letter to God so that when Abbey got to heaven, God would recognise her. I told her that I thought we could do so, and she dictated these words:

Dear God

Will you please take care of my dog? She died yesterday and is with you in heaven. I miss her very much. I am happy that you let me have her as my dog even though she got sick.

I hope you will play with her. She likes to swim and play with balls. I am sending a picture of her, so when you see her you will know that she is my dog. I really miss her.

Love,

Meredith

We put the letter in an envelope with a picture of Abbey and Meredith and addressed it to God/Heaven. We put our return address on it. Then Meredith pasted several stamps on the front of the envelope because she said it would take lots of stamps to get the letter all the way to heaven. That afternoon she dropped it into the letter box at the post office. A few days later she asked if God had gotten the letter yet. I told her that I thought He had.

Yesterday there was a package wrapped in gold paper on our front porch addressed "To Meredith" in an unfamiliar hand. Meredith opened it. Inside was a book by Fred Rogers called "When a Pet Dies." Taped to the inside front cover was the letter we had written to God in its opened envelope. On the opposite page was the picture of Abbey and Meredith and this note:

Dear Meredith,

Abbey arrived safely in heaven. Having the picture was a big help and I recognised her right away. Abbey isn't sick anymore. Her spirit is here with me just like it stays in your heart. Abbey loved being your dog. Since we don't need our bodies in heaven, I don't have any pockets to keep your picture in so I am sending it back to you in this little book for you to keep and have something to remember Abbey by.

Thank you for the beautiful letter and thank your mother for helping you write it and sending it to me. What a wonderful mother you have. I picked her especially for you. I send my blessings every day and remember that I love you very much. By the way, I'm easy to find.

I am wherever there is love.

Love,

God

BOXER RESCUE



We are very pleased to be able to give you an update on Bonnie, the senior Boxer bitch who had been left at Uitsig Animal Shelter with Clyde, her companion Boxer, by their previous owners.

Sadly Clyde died shortly afterwards and Bonnie was left on her own with no family and no mate. She spent a few lonely months in kennels before Rescue managed to find a wonderful home for her. Lara Redelinghuys did not mind that Bonnie was an older dog and immediately took her home, had her bathed and got her checked out by the vet. A few weeks have passed and Bonnie has settled in to her new home where she is being thoroughly spoiled by her new family. Thanks again to everyone who helped and advertised to try and find Bonnie that special home!



Luke is a 2 year old white male Boxer. His owners are relocating to a smaller property and are only allowed to keep one of their dogs. Luke is a bouncy, bubbly, friendly dog! He has only been in contact with their other Boxer bitch so **he is not very social with other dogs**. He may be too boisterous for very young kids, as he is not used to being around little ones. Being an energetic pup he will require exercising and possibly training.

He is currently living in Melkbosstrand. Anyone wishing to adopt Luke please contact Michelle Parkin:
e-mail loomunkee@yahoo.com
Cell: 079 468 9377

BOXER RESCUE
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