



Shawnee Kennel Club

Smoke Signals

September 2008

www.shawneekennelclub.com

Officers May 2008 – May 2009

President: Sharon Howse

Vice-President: Jane West

Treasurer: Scotti Slonaker

Corresponding Secretary: Noreen Dunlap

Secretary: Donna Germelman 540-995-3418 email elkies@verizon.net

Board Members: Jeanne Jackson; Regina Swygert-Smith; Anne Legge; Joyce Ragland

Webmistress: Marylou Crouch mlvc@earthlink.net **Newsletter:** Noreen Dunlap noreen.dunlap@hughes.net

General Membership Meeting

General membership meeting will be held September 21 at the F.O.P. in Berryville, after our match show.

Disclaimer

The Shawnee Kennel Club is not responsible for, nor does it necessarily agree with, the opinions in this newsletter.

Inside this issue.....

President's Message

Announcements

Of Interest to All

Braggs

Litterbox

Rainbow Bridge

Jokes

President's Message

President's Message

End of summer

I always hate to see summer come to a close, but that is part of the passage of time moving from one season to the next. It has been a good summer for the club, and I look forward to a very busy September and active fall. The board had their meeting last month, and every officer and board member were present for the meeting. It is so nice to have such a dedicated board. Every member of the board has the good of the club foremost in everything they do, and the club is lucky to have such dedicated board members. Earlier in August, Jerry had a meeting with the chairs of the show committee, and it was also a good meeting with lots of good ideas and ways to make our shows better and more successful.

The Hutchison Seminar is the next function for our club, and that is the weekend after Labor Day. It's not too late to sign up for the seminar so if you've decided you want to attend, please contact Anne Legge. The seminar is well worth the price as Jerry and I

attended one of Dr. Hutchison's seminars back in the 90s. We learned a great deal from his seminar that has helped us with our breeding program. Then, our AKC sanctioned match, annual picnic, and September general membership meeting will be all on the same day at the FOP Lodge in Clarke County. The 3 events in one day will be on Sunday, September 21. We will be setting up for the match the day before so contact Mary Lamphier if you can help out with the match. After the match, we will have our annual picnic, and the club will furnish the chicken, drinks, and paper goods. Each member or guest is asked to bring a salad, vegetable dish, or dessert. There is always good food at our picnics. We have some very good cooks in our club. Then, last, but certainly not least, we will have our September meeting. I hope to see everyone at the "3 Event Day" for our club.

Enjoy the last days of summer as fall will be here soon, and the fun, outdoor activities will come to a close due to the shorter days and cooler weather.

Sharon Howse

Announcements

JUST A REMINDER OF OUR TRAINING CLASSES TO START SEPT. 3RD AT 7:30. CLASSES WILL BE HELD AT THE UAW HALL WINCHESTER FOR 8 WEEKS. COST \$20.00 FOR THE 8 WEEKS. WE WILL HOPEFULLY HAVE NEW MATS. ANY QUESTIONS CALL CONNIE OR GARY FISHER AT 540-955-4233

We are "probably" moving to Kentucky and want to find a new home for our Jog-A-Dog and a few whelping boxes. The Jog-A-Dog is not new but has not been used very much. It is the large size which will fit all breeds of dog (and will work for humans, too). We will consider offers on this--new it was \$1500. The whelping boxes are free to good homes and are of a size for a medium to large dog.

Thanks!

Jan, Willie and the Makeit Crew

Belquest Kennel Fall Health Clinic

Event Date: 10/04/2008

Email Address: belquest1@aol.com

All Breed Eye and Heart Clinic including sample collection for OptiGen tests at Belquest Kennel between 10am and 4pm. Address: 18745 Penn Shop Rd., Mt. Airy, MD 21771. Phone: 301-831-7507 or 410-795-8395.

Dr. Nancy Bromberg will be doing CERF exams and Dr. Luis Braz-Ruivo will be doing exams for OFA Cardiac Clearances. Dr. Bromberg and Dr. Braz-Ruivo are Board Certified in their specialty fields.

We will also be offering sample collection for OptiGen tests - CODE #BKEHC844, on-line registration (required) at www.OptiGen.com available from 9/20/08 through 10/4/08.

Micro-chipping available for those who need to meet the OFA and CERF permanent identification requirements.

Costs: CERF exam \$35 per dog, Cardiac exam \$40 per dog, OptiGen Collection \$5 per dog, Microchips \$25 per dog. This does not include the fees for registering your dog with OFA, CERF or OptiGen tests.

We ask that dogs arrive 30 minutes prior to their scheduled time to fill out the required paperwork. Please call 301-831-7507 or 410-795-8395 to make your appointment

Meeting Minutes

Shawnee Kennel Club
June 17, 2008

The annual meeting was called to order on June 17, 2008 at 6:50 p.m. at IJCanns Restaurant by President Sharon Howse. Members present were: Sharon and Jerry Howse, Kathy Hardison, Noreen Dunlap, Cindy DeGidio, Regina and Michael Swygart-Smith, Linda Noll, James Noll, Mary and Jamie Lamphier, Jeanne and Chuck Jackson, Connie and Gary Fisher, Karen Spaulding, Jeff Slonaker, Ashley Banks, Mary Lou Crouch and Donna Germelman. Guest Margaret Hilliard also attended.

Regina moved and Linda seconded that the minutes of the May 29th meeting be approved as submitted. The vote was unanimous to do so.

Noreen, corresponding secretary, told us about the AKC letter explaining Responsible Dog Owner Day in September for which materials would be sent to us. Connie moved and Jerry seconded that a letter be written to the AKC declining their offer and explaining why the club was declining. The motion was unanimously approved. The reason for declining the offer was that some members objected to the electric fence company sponsoring the promotion as they feel electric fences are cruel to puppies.

Kathy, treasurer, reported a checking balance of \$15,947.81 and a savings balance of \$20,653.77. The report will be filed as presented.

Committee Reports

By-laws: Noreen said they had not yet been returned by the AKC.

Training: Connie said there were two more classes and then there would be a break during July and August. New classes will start in September.

Website: Mary Lou is getting everything in order. She is going to completely revamp the website. There will be a "members only" section that will be password-protected. She mentioned Café Press, a company that will do many items from shirts to mousepads with our logo.

Education: Sharon said that the Hutchison seminar has 38 registered and paid which will cover all expenses.

Election of officers: There being no nominations from the floor at the May meeting, the slate of officers for the 2008-2010 years was presented. Gary moved and Regina seconded that the slate be approved as presented. The vote was unanimous to approve the slate. The officers will be President: Sharon Howse; Vice-president: Jane West; Recording Secretary: Donna Germelman; Corresponding Secretary: Noreen Dunlap; Treasurer: Cindy DeGidio.

Unfinished Business

Trailer: Chuck and Frank found two trailers that would work for the club and explained the prices and sizes. The prices ranged from \$2,995 to \$3,555 if picked up in Ruckersville. If obtained locally from Shelley, it would be about \$100 more. Jerry moved and Noreen seconded that Chuck and Frank be authorized to purchase the trailer that they felt was the best deal. The members unanimously approved the motion. Linda suggested that the trailer have the club logo applied to it.

Meeting place: Ellen said that the place she had mentioned will be sending her a form to complete. Connie explored the possibility of using the UAW building, but it is only available on Wednesdays for \$50.

Shows: Jerry said that the upcoming shows are in good shape. There are two judges to pick up at the airport. The tent prices are up \$1,000 owing to the prices of fuel and labor. Jerry is sending sign-up sheets around for members to volunteer for other duties. Cleanup day will be Thursday at 10 a.m. at the food stand shelter. Saturday we will need ice and coolers. Noreen will bring sodas. The dumpsters and trash cans need to be emptied before the show. Help is needed with hospitality. There will be a table at lunch for judges and ring stewards only. On Sunday, after-show help will be needed to clean up and put away.

Vendors – Donna reported that seven have already registered and paid and she has talked to quite a few more who plan to send in their fees and forms.

Trophies: Jeanne has ordered all club trophies and medallions and everything will be ready by show time.

New Business

New project: Sharon said that Anne Legge suggested that we purchase oxygen masks for animals. Linda's vet said they are very good. Mary will research them and get back to us.

Sanctioned B Match: Sharon reported for Anne that Mary Lamphier will chair it and that it will be held at the FOP grounds on a Sunday in September.

For the good of the club: Linda, Jerry, Mary and Jamie told us about their successes since the last meeting.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Donna Germelman
Recording Secretary

Of Interest To All

In Defense of Dog Breeders

How Animal Rights Has Twisted Our Language

by JOHN YATES
American Sporting Dog Alliance
<http://www.americansportingdogalliance.org>

"You're a dog breeder!!!!!!!!!!!!!"

In today's world, that is a very loaded statement. It's more like an accusation.

"I told the television news reporter that I breed dogs," a friend from Dallas told me recently. "He looked at me like he thought I was a harlot."

Dog owners have allowed the animal rights movement to redefine our language in order to paint everything we do in the worst possible light. If we say that we breed dogs, the looks we get ask us if we own a "puppy mill" or if we are a "backyard breeder."

If we reply that we are a "hobby breeder," someone immediately asks how we can consider living creatures a hobby. Some of us try the word "fancier." We fool no one.

The most pathetic response to the question is when we call ourselves "responsible breeders." Responsible to whom? Who defines "responsible" and "irresponsible?" Some bureaucrat? A politician? Animal rights cretins who say there is no such thing as a responsible breeder? Animal rights fanatics would rather kill all animals than see someone love them. In fact, that's their plan.

If we say we are not breeders, it makes us "pet hoarders." We are tarred as mentally ill people in need of psychotherapy.

The entire language about dog ownership has been hijacked by the rhetoric of the animal rights movement.

The worst part is that we have allowed it to happen. We are too fearful and wimpy to stand up for ourselves. We keep searching for inoffensive euphemisms to describe what we do, so that we don't open ourselves up to attack.

By doing that, however, we have engineered our own demise.

The animal rights movement will not go away. Its agenda is to destroy our right to own or raise animals. Animal rights groups have declared war on all animal ownership, and they won't stop until they either win or we finally have the courage to stand up and defeat them.

They have not taken that kind of power over us. We have given it away. We have surrendered our beliefs to the enemy.

We apologize for what we do. We make weak excuses for things like animal shelter euthanasia, accidental matings, dog fighting and dangerous dogs. We take at least part of the responsibility for these problems onto our own shoulders, when in truth we have no responsibility at all for creating them.

None whatsoever!

I am sick and tired of watching dog owners constantly apologize and grovel, and allowing themselves to be put on the defensive.

Enough! It's time to stop sniveling about who we are and what we do.

Let me state clearly and for the record: I am a dog breeder. I breed dogs. I raise puppies. I like it. I'm very proud of it. If you don't like it, you are free to take a flying leap. I don't care what you think of me or what I do.

I raise two or three litters of English setter puppies a year. I wish I could raise more puppies, but can't figure out how to do it without driving myself into bankruptcy.

My dogs work for a living, just like I do. They have to be good at their jobs, just like I do. If they aren't good at their jobs, I don't keep them and I certainly don't breed them.

They are hunting dogs, and they have to be able to perform to a very demanding standard of excellence to be worthy of breeding. They have to meet the exacting standard of championship-quality performance in the toughest competition. They are professional athletes. Most of them don't make the cut. Those dogs make wonderful hunting companions or family members.

I have never had a dog spayed or neutered, except for medical reasons, and I don't intend to start now. If a dog is good enough for me to keep, it is good enough to breed.

Nor have I ever sold a puppy on a spay/neuter contract. With performance dogs, it takes two or three years to know what you have. There is no way that anyone can know the full potential or worthiness of a young puppy. I hope every puppy that I sell will become a great one that is worthy of being bred.

I do not feel bad (and certainly do not feel guilty) if someone decides to breed a dog from my kennel that I did not choose to keep for myself when it was a puppy. It still will be a very nice dog, and I have worked very hard on my breeding program for 35 years to assure that very high quality genetics will be passed along and concentrated in any dog that I sell.

On occasion, I have a puppy that has a serious flaw. I don't sell those puppies, even though they would make many people very happy. I give them away free to good homes, and the definition of a good home is mine because it's my puppy. I own it. You don't.

My responsibility is to the puppy. It is not to you, and it's not to some gelatinous glob called "society." I consider myself to be personally responsible for every puppy I raise, from birth until the day it dies. It always has a home in my kennel, if its new owner can't keep it or no longer wants it.

That's a contract written in blood between the puppy and me. It's a contract written with a handshake with the puppy's new owner.

I laugh cynically when someone from the Humane Society of the United States or People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals ask if I am a responsible breeder. HSUS and PETA are two of the most vicious, bloodthirsty and dishonest snake pits on Earth. Their moral credibility is a negative number. PETA butchers more than 90-percent of the animals it "rescues" every year, and HSUS supports programs and policies that result in the needless deaths of hundreds of thousands of animals every year.

By now, I assume that I have pushed all of the buttons of the animal rights crazies. I can hear them snort and see their pincurls flapping in indignation. It makes my day.

Can't you hear them, too? They are calling me an exploiter of animals. They are saying that I ruthlessly cull and manipulate the genetics of my dogs. They saying that I make the exploited poor beasts work for a living and live up to impossible standards. They will say that I do this to feed and gratify my own fat ego. They will say that I sell them for money and exploit them for personal gain. Then, of course, they will say that I use them to viciously hunt innocent wild animals.

Terrible, terrible me! My mother should have a son like this! She was such a nice woman. Well, I plead guilty to all of the charges. Know what else? I don't feel guilty, not even a little bit. I do it. I like it. I feel good about it.

Now I will speak in my own defense – as a dog breeder.

I happen to love dogs. I love being around them. I love working with them. I love watching a puppy grow up and discover its potential. I love having the privilege of experiencing a truly great dog in its prime. I love sharing supper with my dogs, wrestling with puppies, and sacking out with them on the couch. I lose sleep when they get sick, and work myself unmercifully to care for them. I spend almost all of the money I have on them, and some money that I don't have. My heart breaks when they grow old and die. I have a dozen lifetimes worth of beautiful memories.

What do the animal rights freaks have? They have their ideology. They look in the mirror and feel smug and self-righteous, as if God has personally anointed them to protect animals from the likes of me.

What they have is nothing at all. Utter sterility. A world devoid of life and love. They can keep it.

My life is filled with love and joy and beauty, and I owe most of it to my dogs. They have helped to keep me sane when sanity was not a given. They have given me courage on the days when all I wanted to do was lie down and quit. They have given me strength to endure on the days when all I wanted to do is run away and hide. I owe them my life.

The animal rights folks are right. I ruthlessly cull and manipulate genetics. To make the cut, my breeding dogs have had to live up to the most exacting possible standards and pass the most strenuous tests. I am very proud of doing that.

The result is that the vast majority of people who buy a puppy from me love it. When I sell a puppy, chances are that it has found a home for the rest of its life. The puppy will have a great chance of leading a wonderful life. I produce puppies that make people happy to own them and want to keep them. That's my job as a breeder.

I have done this through rigorous selection. My puppies today are the result of 35 years of my stubborn insistence about never breeding a dog that does not have a wonderful disposition, perfect conformation, great intelligence, exceptional natural ability, breathtaking style and that mysterious ingredient called genius.

Every puppy born in my kennel has six or eight or 10 generations of my own dogs in its pedigree. All of those ancestors possess a high level of each of those desirable traits. I have raised, trained and grown old with every dog listed in several generations of each puppy's pedigree.

Simply put, my puppies today are a lot nicer than my puppies of 35 years ago. Today, there is a much higher percentage of good ones, a much lower percentage of deficient ones, a much higher average of good qualities, and a much higher percentage of true greatness emerging from my kennel today.

That's what it means to be a breeder.

Does that feed my ego? Yep. I like having my ego stroked. Don't you? If you don't, you are in very deep trouble as a human being.

But I'll tell you what else it does. It makes for happier dogs. It makes for dogs that lead better lives, find permanent families and homes, and get to experience love in many forms.

It also makes for healthier dogs. Generation after generation of perfect functional conformation means that the dogs are less likely to get injured, wear out or develop arthritis. Many generations of selection for vigor, toughness and good health means that they are able to laugh at the extremes of climate, weather and terrain.

I also have virtually eliminated genetic health problems from my strain of dogs. For example, hip dysplasia is the most common genetic problem in English setters, afflicting a reported four- percent of the breed. In the past 20 years, I have had only two questionable hip x-rays, which both would be rated "fair" by the Orthopedic Foundation of America (OFA). The last one was 10 years ago.

Yes, I am very proud of being a breeder. I did that.

I am proud, too, that I am producing dogs that are so intelligent that it's scary, so loyal that they can be your complete partner in the field while also possessing the extreme independence needed to do their job well, so loving that you want them with you every second of the day, so bold and brazen that nothing bothers them, and just plain drop-dead gorgeous to boot.

They make me smile a lot. I think I make them smile, too.

But, the animal rights whackos say I am doing it for the money. They accuse me of exploiting animals for profit.

Yep. Every chance I get. I am very happy when I am able to sell a puppy for cold, hard cash. It makes me feel good. It makes me feel good because it shows me that someone appreciates the work I am doing. It makes me feel good because I have earned it, and earned it honestly.

My only regret is that I have not made more money as a breeder. With all of the sacrifices I have made and the hard work I have done, I should be rolling in money. Alas, I am not. It has been years since I actually have made money on a litter of puppies. Usually, I lose my shirt.

For every puppy I sell, there is another one that I keep to evaluate, and a couple of other ones that I am keeping for two or three years to evaluate for their worthiness to breed. Then there are dogs that are in competition, and that costs bushels of money, not to mention old dogs that are retired and have a home here until they die of old age. Almost a third of the dogs in my kennel are elderly and retired, and it takes a lot of money to care for them.

It takes money for dog food, supplies, veterinary bills, kennel licenses, repairs, vehicle use for training and field trials, advertising, internet, phone bills, and four pairs of good boots a year. It takes money. Lots of money. Bundles of money.

Oh, Lord, please help me to sell some more puppies!

Besides, what's wrong with making money? It is a rather fundamental American value. Making money is something to be proud of, as long as it's done honestly.

Even animal rights bozos have to eat. Someone has to make money to stuff veggies down their gullets, and organic veggies are rather pricey. Most working folks can't afford them.

I also can't help but notice that most animal rights activists over the age of 30 drive pretty fancy cars (we are talking about the Beamer set, folks), live in rather fancy houses and dress very well indeed. I can't help but notice that many of the leaders of animal rights groups have pretty cushy gigs, with high-end six-digit salaries, fancy offices, and all the perks.

I guess they are saying that it's ok for them to make money by the truckload, even if making money turns dog breeders into immoral greed bags. There is no one in America who exploits dogs for as much money as the paid leaders of animal rights groups. Their fat salaries depend on having animal issues to exploit. If there were no animals for them to exploit, they would have to get a real job.

It's a rather perplexing dual standard, don't you think?

Well, maybe it's not perplexing after all. The only thing perplexing about hypocrisy is that so many people can't see through it.

My next sin is making my dogs work for a living. The animal rights people try to paint a picture of whipping dogs beyond endurance, exploiting them, creating misery and causing unhappiness. The poor, downtrodden, huddled masses. You know the tune.

Only problem is, my dogs don't agree. They love to work. They love their jobs. The only time they are sad is when it is not their turn to work. For my dogs, working is sheer joy and passion! They love every second of it.

What animal rights groups live for is creating imaginary victims.

Helping victims makes some people feel better about themselves and, of course, it helps them to part with their money so that animal rights leaders can live high on the hog. Oops. I mean high on the carrot. How callous of me. I guess I'm just not a sensitive kind of guy.

Back to the exploited masses of bird dogs. Try an experiment sometime. Read an animal rights essay, and substitute the word "proletariat" for the word "animal." You will find that animal rights philosophy actually is pure and straightforward Marxian doctrine.

I guess my dogs are not natural Marxists. They love their jobs. They are excited about their jobs. Their jobs make them very happy.

Animal rights people can't seem to grasp that people can feel that way about their work, too. It's how I feel about the very hard work of being a dog breeder. It makes me happy.

Another way of putting it is that both my dogs and my own example provide proof that life is not pointless drudgery and exploitation. We provide living proof that joy, beauty and personal fulfillment are possible in life.

I just don't think of those qualities when I think of the animal rights fanatics I have known. They seem a rather sad and sorry lot to me. I'll take my dogs' company any day.

Oh, but the icing on the cake is that I use these poor exploited creatures to hunt innocent birds. How terrible! Hunting, of course, is a subject of its own, and I won't attempt to cover it here.

Suffice it to say that opposition to hunting flies in the face of a few million years of human evolution, the entire balance of nature everywhere on Earth, and common sense.

I know one thing for certain. The fact that we have healthy populations of most species of wild birds and animals today is only because hunters have cared enough to support strong conservation measures. We have preserved millions of acres of habitat that is

vital to the survival of many species, saved more millions of acres of wilderness from development, supported the protection of endangered species everywhere, and put our money where are mouths are.

Animal rights groupies do nothing but blow hot air, when they aren't too busy destroying the land and the animals that live on it to create vast wastelands of industrialized monoculture.

I am proud to be a hunter, too. It's time for every dog owner and breeder to stand up proudly and be counted.

Each one of you has done far more to enhance the quality of life of both people and dogs than all of the animal rights activists put together.

So stand up and shout it to the rooftops! Stop crawling around on your bellies and apologizing. Your dogs deserve better from you. You will just have to get a little tougher if you want to live up to your dogs. What you are doing is right. It's just that simple.

The American Sporting Dog Alliance represents owners, breeders and professionals who work with breeds of dogs that are used for hunting. We are a grassroots movement working to protect the rights of dog owners, and to assure that the traditional relationships between dogs and humans maintains its rightful place in American society and life.

The American Sporting Dog Alliance also needs your help so that we can continue to work to protect the rights of dog owners. Your membership, participation and support are truly essential to the success of our mission. We are funded solely by the donations of our members, and maintain strict independence.

Please visit us on the web at <http://www.americansportingdogalliance.org>. Our email is ASDA@csonline.net. Complete directions to join by mail or online are found at the bottom left of each page.

PLEASE CROSS-POST AND FORWARD THIS REPORT TO YOUR FRIENDS

WARNING: Disaster Relief for pets -- DO NOT GIVE TO HSUS

PLEASE FORWARD!

With hurricane season upon us and Gustav just about on top of New Orleans, it is critical to get the word out.

Three years ago, when Hurricane Katrina hit the Gulf Coast, the Humane Society of the United States (HSUS) mounted a gigantic fundraising campaign. They raised \$32 million and have still not accounted for most of that money.

Serious dog folks believe that most of the money collected by HSUS with the claim that it would be used for disaster relief came right back at us helping to promote laws that are bad for pets and bad for people.

Even their on-site work isn't well thought of. Many, pet rescuers who went to the Gulf Coast to help Katrina animals found themselves hindered by HSUS. Record keeping was so slapdash that many pets that were saved, couldn't be found by their owners. Many believe that the pets in the area would have been better off if HSUS had stayed at home.

In any case HSUS *already takes in millions* that they do not use in helping animals. They do not run shelters (though a couple of companies they own do have sanctuaries), and in fact they compete with shelters for donation dollars.

The AKC has a disaster relief fund now, which is used to support search and rescue dogs and all pets during a disaster. That's where I've just sent our contribution. I am not always a fan of AKC, but they ARE honest about the handling of their money, and when they offer help, it is real HELP -- not a clumsy self-promotional effort: <https://www.akc.org/donations/index.cfm>

In normal times, give to your local animal shelters. They will nearly always use the money for actual animal care. Please investigate any charity you send money to after a disaster, Wait a few days and find an organization based in the area that needs help.

For further information on HSUS's "disaster relief" (attached):

- a.. <http://www.avma.org/onlnews/javma/jun06/060601j.asp>
 - b.. http://www.consumerfreedom.com/news_detail.cfm/headline/3674
 - c.. <http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2006/03/25/AR2006032501002.html>
 - d.. http://www.outsidethebeltway.com/archives/humane_society_of_the_united_states_under_investigation/
- Or just Google "HSUS misuse funds Katrina"

Please forward this to all your email groups and share with as many people as you can reach...not just your dog friends, but anyone who might care about pets enough to want to help by making a donation during a disaster.

Let's not let a tragedy become an HSUS fundraiser AGAIN!

PLEASE FORWARD! PLEASE FORWARD!

Walt Hutchens
Timbreblue Whippets
Regina & Michael Swygert-Smith
Billbrough Norfolk & Norwich terriers
Stephens City, Virginia

**Warning to all dog owners -
Please pass this on to everyone you can:**

Even if you don't have a dog, I'm sure you know several people who do, who may not know of this danger to their pet. Please take the time to go to <http://www.snopes.com:80/critters/crusader/xylitol.asp> and read about this danger to dogs.

After you read what is there, continue reading below of another incident which occurred..... dh

Last Friday evening, I arrived home from work, fed Chloe, our 24 Lb. dachshund, just as I normally do. Ten minutes later I walked into the den just in time to see her head inside the pocket of Katie's friend's purse. She had a guilty look on her face so I looked closer and saw a small package of sugar-free gum. It contained xylitol. I remembered that I had recently read that sugar-free gum can be deadly for dogs so I jumped on line and looked to see if xylitol was the ingredient. I found the first website below and it was the one.

Next, I called our vet. She said to bring her in immediately.

Unfortunately, it was still rush hour and it took me almost 1/2 hour to get there. Meanwhile, since this was her first case, our vet found another website to figure out the treatment. She took Chloe and said they would induce her to vomit, give her a charcoal drink to absorb the toxin (even though they don't think it works) then they would start an IV with dextrose. The

xylitol causes dogs to secrete insulin so their blood sugar drops very quickly. The second thing that happens is liver failure. If that happens, even with aggressive treatment, it can be difficult to save them. The vet told us she would call us.

Almost two hours later, the vet called and said that contents of her stomach contained 2-3 gum wrappers and that her blood sugar had dropped from 90 to 59 in 30 minutes. She wanted us to take Chloe to another hospital that has a critical care unit operating around the clock. We picked her up and took her there. They had us call the ASPCA poison control for a case number and for a donation, their doctors would direct Chloe's doctor on treatment. They would continue the IV, monitor her blood every other hour and then in 2 days test her liver function. She ended up with a central line in her jugular vein since the one in her leg collapsed, just as our regular vet had feared.

Chloe spent almost the entire weekend in the critical care hospital. After her blood sugar was stabilized, she came home yesterday. They ran all the tests again before they released her and so far, no sign of liver damage. Had I not seen her head in the purse, she probably would have died and we wouldn't even have known why.

Three vets told me this weekend, that they were amazed that I even knew about it since they are first learning about it too. Please tell everyone you know about xylitol and dogs. It may save another life.

Please take the time to pass this information on
to anyone you know who has a dog.

Eileen, Siberian & Pembroke Corgi

Braggs

Beldachs wins on both the east and west coasts! *Beldachs' Passionate Picasso* ("**Cassie**") continues her winning by going Winners Bitch for 2 points at the Dachshund Fanciers of Central Virginia Specialty at the Virginia Kennel Club show on 06/21 and 1/2 sister *Beldachs' Rosee Robiquet* ("**Rosie**") was RWB. "**Cassie**" also was Winners Bitch at the Catactin Kennel Club Show on 07/03 and once again ("**Rosie**") was RWB.

Meantime, Rosie's brother, *Beldachs' Radiante Rosetti* ("**Dante**"), who is co-owned and loved by Clint Werner & Dr. Donald Abrams in San Francisco picked up his 2nd major - **5 points!** - at the Clackamas Kennel Club show. He now has 13 points. Way to go Clint.....we're very, very proud of all these beautiful young "kids".

Beldachs wins on both the east and west coasts! *Beldachs' Persimmon Picasso* ("**Simon**") was Winners Dog and BOW for a **4 point major** at the Beaver County Kennel Club show on 08/02, Winners Dog and OS for a **4 point major** - over the #2 Dachshund in the county at the Mohawk Valley Kennel Club Show on 08/08, and he was Winners Dog for another **4 point major** at the Southern Adirondack Dog Club Show on 08/09.

Beldachs' Passionate Picasso ("**Cassie**") has continued her winning by going Winners Bitch & BOS at the Catactin Kennel Club Show on 07/03 and Winners Bitch for 2 points at the Dachshund Fanciers of Central Virginia Specialty at the Virginia Kennel Club show on 06/21. Her 1/2 sister *Beldachs' Rosee Robiquet* ("**Rosie**") was Winners Bitch at the Shawnee Kennel Club Shows *both* days, 07/12 and 07/13, for 2 more points. She was RWB at the Dachshund Fanciers of Central Virginia Specialty at the Virginia Kennel Club show on 06/21.

Meantime, Rosie's brother, *Beldachs' Radiante Rosetti* ("**Dante**"), who is co-owned and loved by Clint Werner & Dr. Donald Abrams in San Francisco picked up his 2nd major - **5 points!** - at the Clackamas Kennel Club show. He now has 14 points. Way to go Clint.....we're very, very proud of all these beautiful young "kids".

Thanks,
Connie

Member Carrie Chase, who is an AKC judge for Pembroke Welsh Corgis and Cardigan Welsh Corgis, now is provisional for Collies (both rough and smooth) and Shetland Sheepdogs.

Under our own Anne Legge at Shawnee Jamie Lamphier completed her tenth Juniors win and will now be going to both Eukanuba and Westminster.

Jamie again won the open intermediate class at Talbot KC on Saturday and was BOS from the classes with her Bouvier, Ella (Stonewall's Dreams Shared) over professionals and a BIS bitch.

On August 19, Norwich terrier Ch. Bilbrough's Special Delivery had another special delivery: One red boy free-whelped (a novelty in Norwich terriers) during the Shawnee Board meeting! The boy, as yet unnamed, was sired by our Irish import, Schancho's Man In Black. Owners Regina and Michael Swygert-Smith are pleased to report that mother and son are doing well.

Nothing more from this doggy house.

Regina & Michael Swygert-Smith
Bilbrough Norfolk & Norwich terriers

Litterbox

Rainbow Bridge

Jokes:

A rolled up newspaper can be an effective pet training tool when used properly.

For instance, use the rolled-up newspaper if your dog chews something inappropriate or has a housebreaking accident. Bring the dog over to the destroyed object (or mess), then take the rolled-up newspaper and hit yourself over the head as you repeat the phrase, "I forgot to watch my dog! I forgot to watch my dog!"

Pet Version of "Now I Lay Me Down to Sleep"

Now I lay me down to sleep.

The king-size bed is soft and deep.

I sleep right in the center groove.

My human beings can hardly move.

I've trapped their legs, they are tucked in tight.

And here is where I pass the night.

No one disturbs me or dares intrude.

Til morning comes and I want food!

I sneak up slowly and it begins.

My nudging's on my human's chin.

They wake up slowly with smiles and shouts,

"You precious pest - just 5 more minutes - now cut it out!"

But morning's here and it's time to play.

I always seem to get my way.

So thank you Lord for giving me

this human person that I see.

The ones that hug and hold me tight

and shares their bed with me at night.

From another list:

ANGULATION - Degree to which dog handlers will bend over backwards to impress judges

BALANCE - a) How to arrange the checkbook so your husband won't know how much money you spent on dog shows last month.

Usually done in the bathroom with the door locked;

b) Ability to hold coffee, danish, leash, treats, and entry form all at once.

BITCH - a) Proper name for a female dog;

b) Name often heard at dog shows, not always to describe a female dog.

BLIND RETRIEVE - When you can't see the toy under the furniture.

CGC - Canine Gastrointestinal Catastrophe (aka GAS)

COAT - The hairy covering of a dog that usually falls out about one week before the Specialty show.

CRABBING - What you do when the judge doesn't like your dog.

DAM - a) A female dog with puppies

b) Expression frequently overheard at dog shows as losers leave the ring.

DISTEMPER - Shown by those competitors who just lost to someone they can't stand.

DOG - To chase a judge from show to show in an effort to attain more breed wins.

DOUBLE BLIND - Finding two toys under the furniture.

ELBOW - Method of getting to ringside quickly when late.

EXPRESSION - 'Sweet' look adopted by hungry dogs while staring ravenously at chunks of liver.

FANCIER - Degree to which some gentlemen handlers dress more than others.

FORCE FETCH - Dog drops the toy under the furniture, scratches at the carpet until you're forced to 'fetch' it.

FRONT - Part of the dog often facing outside of the ring.

GUARD HAIR - An activity in which one watches intently as the dog's hair falls out, in clumps, just after entries are mailed.

HEEL - a) What you feel like when your dog beats the one you had just sold to an eager novice;
b) Expression often screamed to attract the attention of deaf dogs.

HOCK - A way of financing your dog shows by the use of jewelry such as wedding rings.

KENNEL - Where you go when the kids fight and your husband is in one of his moods.

LITTER - Trash left all over the building and parking lot after a dog show.

MASK - What to wear when you have to show your gorgeous pick of the litter that fell apart a week before the show.

MUZZLE - What to put on your kids at a dog show to prevent them from calling your competition what they overheard you call him last night.

NOSEPRINTS - Cute marks left all over your French doors.

OUTCROSSING - What your husband tells the minister you are doing out in the kennel with the dog and the bitch.

OVERSHOT - Running so fast as to pass the 1st place ring marker and plow into the judge and the stewards.

PEDIGREE - Dog food with lots of coupons.

POINTS - Minute, invisible awards for winning which you cannot convince your spouse are more important than cash prizes.

PUPPIES - Small, dog like food processing machines with the ability to stink up an entire house and collectively deafen a band of magpies. (These creatures have not yet been perfected, as they come with leaky systems, and can also be dangerous to weak hearts and bank accounts.)

QUALIFYING SCORE - Just the 170.5 you got in obedience today.

RIBBONS - What competitive exhibitors with distemper (see above) will cut you into when your dog places over theirs.

SPECIALTY - Whatever your dog is good at, like bringing home dead cats or chewing on walls.

TYPE - What your dog has.....if you turn down the lights and squint a little.

UTILITY - The kind of vehicle you need to haul around your dogs.

--- On Tue, 9/2/08, Jackie Barnett <wvirginiamama@yahoo.com> wrote:

From: Jackie Barnett <wvirginiamama@yahoo.com>

Subject: FW: To God from the Dog

To: 'dr.Jack' <docjack1@shentel.net>, 'billy sager' <drizzt_do_urden1978@yahoo.com>, 'Dave Higgins' <dv_hggns@yahoo.com>, 'Kim Helsley' <hopelessinwv@hotmail.com>, 'Sally Rutherford' <irmsart@shentel.net>, 'james wehrheim' <jimandhailey@yahoo.com>, 'Megan Sweeney' <megan18_1987@hotmail.com>, 'Meranda L. Murphy' <meranda.murphy@vadoc.virginia.gov>, 'Sandy Stauch' <oh_kittycat@yahoo.com>, 'Susan Ridgeway' <sridgeway@nwworks.com>, 'Jimmy Davis'

<vadude@aol.com>

Date: Tuesday, September 2, 2008, 6:32 PM

May God bless you always MaMa Jack

--- On **Tue, 9/2/08, Teresa Shoemaker** <tshoemaker@trisigma.org> wrote:

From: Teresa Shoemaker <tshoemaker@trisigma.org>

Subject: FW: To God from the Dog

To: "Jackie Barnett" <wvirginiamama@yahoo.com>

Date: Tuesday, September 2, 2008, 1:16 PM

Thought I d share this one with you! ☺

TO: GOD

FROM: THE DOG



Dear God: Is it on purpose our names are the same, only reversed?



Dear God: Why do humans smell the flowers, but seldom, if ever, smell one another?



Dear God: When we get to heaven, can we sit on your couch? Or is it still the same old story?



Dear God: Why are there cars named after the jaguar, the cougar, the mustang, the colt, the stingray, and the rabbit, but not ONE named for a Dog? How often do you see a cougar riding around? We do love a nice ride! Would it be so hard to rename the 'Chrysler Eagle' the 'Chrysler Beagle'?



Dear God: If a Dog barks his head off in the forest and no human hears him, is he still a bad Dog?



Dear God: We Dogs can understand human verbal instructions, hand signals, whistles, horns, clickers, beepers, scent ID's, electromagnetic energy fields, and Frisbee flight paths. What do humans understand?



Dear God: More meatballs, less spaghetti, please.



Dear God: Are there mailmen in Heaven? If there are, will I have to apologize?

Dear God: Let me give you a list of just some of the things I must remember to be a good Dog.

1. I will not eat the cats' food before they eat it or after they throw it up.
2. I will not roll on dead seagulls, fish, crabs, etc., just because I like the way they smell.
3. The Litter Box is not a cookie jar.
4. The sofa is not a 'face towel'.
5. The garbage collector is not stealing our stuff.
6. I will not play tug-of-war with Dad's underwear when he's on the toilet.
7. Sticking my nose into someone's crotch is an unacceptable way of saying 'hello'.
8. I don't need to suddenly stand straight up when I'm under the coffee table .
9. I must shake the rainwater out of my fur before entering the house - not after.
10. I will not come in from outside and immediately drag my butt.
11. I will not sit in the middle of the living room and lick my crotch.
12. The cat is not a 'squeaky toy' so when I play with him and he makes that noise, it's usually not a good thing.



P.S. Dear God: When I get to Heaven may I have my testicles back?

'Until one has loved an animal, part of their soul remains unawakened'