

# September/October 2023 NEWSLETTER

## The Atlanta Doberman Pinscher Club

The Atlanta Doberman Pinscher Club (ADPC) is a family of Georgians who are proud to be owned and loved by our Dobermans. Licensed by the American Kennel Club on November 1, 1972, the ADPC is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit Chapter Club of the Doberman Pinscher Club of America (DPCA).

Our purpose is to protect and promote the Doberman Pinscher. For well over four decades, the Atlanta Doberman Pinscher Club has strived to fulfill that mission through a variety of activities, including sponsoring specialty shows, conducting temperament testing, offering breed education programs and providing breeder referral resources.



Atlanta Doberman Pinscher Club

Email to [mawils@earthlink.net](mailto:mawils@earthlink.net)

Email news, brags, birthdays, etc to [surochester@aol.com](mailto:surochester@aol.com)

## Join Us for Our Zoom Meeting Tuesday, September 5, 2023

### President's Message

Hi to all of our members and guests. I would like to welcome you all to the Atlanta DPC Newsletter. Your interest in the club and our fabulous breed is very appreciated.

**We are having our club picnic September 10 on the grounds of Bay Creek Kennels located at 5126 Highway 81, in Loganville, GA.** A potential attendance request was sent to all of our members and guests with the result being very positive so we are looking forward to a great day! Kathy Gresham has graciously volunteered to be in charge of the menu and has sent a list of items you can choose from to bring. Occasionally it is nice to have some informal talk and fun! Dogs are welcome but must remain on leash.

Please mark your calendars for future meetings which are held on the first Tuesday of the month at 6:30 PM. All members and guests are welcome.

We are looking for a place that has a nice meeting room to hold our Holiday Party. So far it looks like the best choice for this year will be a restaurant. Geographically it is impossible to please everyone but we are trying to

accommodate the majority of our club members and potential guests.

Doris Spivey is working on our WAE which will be held in Perry on Dec. 2 in conjunction with the Winter Wonderland Cluster. We are looking forward to a great turnout especially since we have Pat Cornelius as the evaluator, who has not been in our area.

Remember to send your brags (both dog related and good things you and your families are proud of) to Susan Rochester to be included in the newsletter.

If there is anything anyone would like to bring up at the September meeting please let me know so it can be on the agenda. All ideas are welcome. Thank you.

Until our next meeting stay well and hopefully you are all enjoying the summer.

Best to all of you.

Sincerely, Pamela DeHetre, President,  
Atlanta Doberman Pinscher Club

# Time To Fly Event Schedule

## August

Lake Logan, NC  
Aug 25-27  
6 Fast CATs & 6 CABTs

## September

Chattanooga, TN  
Sept 8-10  
6 Fast CATs

Savannah, GA  
Sept 15-17  
4 Fast CATs & 6 CABTs

Concord, NC  
Sept 22-24  
6 Fast CATs & 6 CABTs

Camden, SC  
Sept 29- Oct 1  
6 Fast CATs & 6 CABTs

## October

Louisville, KY  
Oct 6-8  
6 Fast CATs

Newnan, GA  
Oct 13-15  
6 Fast CATs & 6 CABTs

Jackson Springs, NC  
Oct 27-29  
6 Fast CATs & 6 CABTs

## November

Senoia, GA  
Nov 3-5  
6 Fast CATs

Union, SC  
Nov 10-12  
6 Fast CATs

Camden, SC  
Nov 17-19  
6 Fast CATs & 6 CABTs

- More Events  
Coming SOON!

- Enter Online at

[TimeToFlyDogs.com/events](http://TimeToFlyDogs.com/events)

- Join our Facebook Group

"Time To Fly - Performance Dog Sports"  
for latest announcements!



## DPCA NATIONAL CARDIAC SCREENING CLINIC

Below is the link for this year's Cardiac Clinic. Dr. Fries says it is up and running. The clinic will go from Sunday Sept. 24 through Tuesday Sept. 26. Echocardiograms are \$180. Holter readings are \$50 (full) and \$10 (one page).

<https://www.heartlandveterinarycardiology.com/screening-clinic/>

# BRAGS

The Great Red Turf Churning Machine, Ruffian, made his FastCat debut of the season at Lake Logan, NC, running an average of 23.28 mph and inching ever closer to his FCAT title!

**GCH CH Sun Styles In The Morning** DCAT, BCAT, CGC.

Ruffian is owned and loved by Penny Butler-Rossiter.



**Glory** with owner, Kathy Gresham, with the Barn Hunt ribbons she recently won.

Glory also won the DPCA Versatility Award (not shown)



**UKC CH INT/NAT HR Gold CH Kansa's The Fairy Queen** aka (Glory) CA CAA BCAT DCAT SIN RATN

CGC - Owned by Susan (Kathy) Gresham

Received Her Level 1 Versatility Award from The DPCA on 06/20/2023. This award is a big accomplishment for us.

We are now working on our level 2.

This girl has taken me on the journey of a lifetime. We still have lots of journeys left to do. I am proud to be owned by such a hard-working Doberman.

Thank You Cheryl Ashburn for breeding this girl.

Sire: Int CH Nostra van de Donauhoeve IPO 3, ZTP 1A EX, Korung ZVA 1A, Erstkorung 1 A (which is a life time Kourung at only 2 yrs old, This requires an excellent rating in conformation, temperament testing, working title, and and health testing which very few Dobermans can achieve) Belgian Club Champion 2018.

Dam: Kansa's Will O' The Wisp, CGC, BH (Schutzhund), FD, SWCN, SWBN, SWEN, SWIN



# Calling all Dobermans!

The Virginia-Maryland College of Veterinary Medicine is seeking Dobermans aged 5 or older, with and without DCM

## What is being studied?

We're testing whether speckle tracking echocardiography can detect changes in the hearts of Dobermans who have abnormal 24-hour Holter monitoring but normal standard echocardiograms

## Eligibility

- Healthy Dobermans aged 5+
- Dobermans aged 5+ who have previous Holter monitor evidence of heart abnormalities that may indicate the early stages of DCM

## What is required?

Each dog will have one visit to the **Veterinary Teaching Hospital in Blacksburg, VA**. During the visit, dogs will undergo a physical exam and conventional echocardiography. Using special software, speckle tracking echocardiography (STE) will also be performed. STE is a non-invasive procedure that takes measurements using an ultrasound probe. Dogs who cannot tolerate gentle restraint for the procedures will not be enrolled in the study.

Owners will be given instructions for using a 24-hour Holter monitor at home. A few small patches of fur will be shaved to attach the Holter monitor.

All study-related procedures are free. By mutual agreement, full echo reports and/or heart certifications may be obtained at owner expense, but are not covered as part of the study.



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**For more information:** Phone: 540-231-1363 | Email: [mindyq@vt.edu](mailto:mindyq@vt.edu)

**VIRGINIA TECH.**  
**VETERINARY**  
**TEACHING HOSPITAL**

This research has been reviewed and approved by the Virginia Tech IACUC and the hospital review committee of the CVM.

# MEET OUR MEMBERS!

## Vicki Sweeny

**ADPC Member since:** 2014; DPCA member since 2007

### **Current & past positions with the ADPC:**

Recording Secretary

Corresponding Secretary

DPCA Delegate

DPCA Alternate (current)

Board Member (current)

Show Chair (2016-2017, 2022-2023)

Sunshine Committee Chair (current)

Meet The Breed Liaison (current)

### **Past Position with DPCA:**

Public Education Chair

**Occupation:** Attorney

**Where did you grow up?** In McLean, Virginia. I graduated in 1970 with a Masters in English Education and taught in middle school in Greenwich, Connecticut, for four years. Then I moved to Atlanta—my mom was from Georgia, and I had lots of friends and relatives here. I taught six more years, at Dunwoody High, before applying to UGA Law School. I graduated in 1983 and started practicing law.

**When did you get your first dog?** My family always had dogs—Cocker Spaniels, and mostly, German Shepherds. I got my own first dog in 1976. He was a miniature poodle named Jeté, and he went to law school with me.

**How and when did you first get interested in Dobermans?** My brother and his wife had Dobermans, so after I lost Jeté, they gave me my first two Dobs, Natasha and Strider. I wasn't into showing at that point. After Natasha died, they gave me my first show dog, Bella, who came from Doris Spivey's breeding. Bella finished her championship at warp speed. She won three shows in a row in Atlanta to finish and then went to the National to show in Best of Breed. She was very young at that point and didn't place, but it was fun and exciting to see her in the breed ring there.

**Introduce us to the current Dobe members of your family household.** Lana is 12—she finished her championship. And I have BG, who is 8. She is a littermate of Max, who I co-own with Edie Thomas. BG could not be shown because of a problem with her mouth. I recently got a third Doberman, a puppy named Charlie, who I co-own with Edie. He is almost six months old and in the process of getting show-ready. His breeders are the Goldfeins, from Chicago. They have nominated Charlie's litter for futurity, so he will be shown in futurity at the National this year.

Charlie is the half-brother of my wonderful dog Jack, who lived to be 13. When I went to choose my puppy, I knew Charlie was the one—the identifying yarn he was wearing was the exact same unusual shade of blue-green yarn that Jack had been wearing when I picked him out of his litter.

### **What had you join the Atlanta Doberman Pinscher Club?**

I wanted to meet other Doberman owners, see what other breeders were doing, stay current on best practices for caring for my dogs. But my main motivation was to support and perpetuate the breed. I think it's every Doberman owner's obligation to get involved with their local DPCA chapter club, if one is available.

### **What is your favorite Doberman-related memory?**

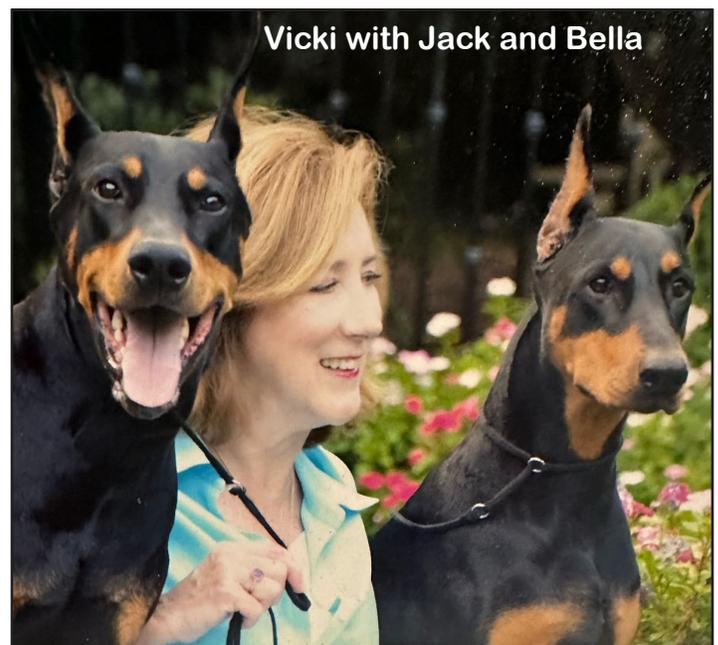
Without question—winning an Award of Merit at Westminster at Madison Square Garden in 2009, with Bella.

### **Other than being involved with your dogs, what hobbies or activities do you enjoy in your spare time?**

I like to read, and I enjoy all types of music. I also like the ballet, swimming, gardening, traveling and playing with my dogs.

### **What is one thing your fellow ADPC members don't know about you that might surprise them?**

I was a synchronized swimmer for the Northern Virginia Aquatic Club in high school and the first two years of college.



# **2023 Winter Wonderland Cluster**

## **November 28th -December 4th, 2023**

### **Fairgrounds Perry, GA**

The Kennesaw Kennel Club is pleased to announce our exciting 6 Day Cluster to be held in Perry, GA.

The Savannah Kennel for the Tuesday & Wednesday shows, we will be off for Thursday, an AKC required break and back on Friday the Kennesaw Kennel Club for the Friday & Saturday shows, the Oconee River Kennel Club will bring us home with their shows on Sunday & Monday!

**The closing date for all 6 shows, is Wednesday November 9th !!!**  
**You still have time to enter!**  
**Foy Trent Dog Shows**

This cluster is on the road South for the AKC National Dog Show in Florida and will be a great opportunity to get your dogs ready and to gain points!

#### **In conjunction with our show:**

- Xoloitzcuintli National Specialty
- 3 Shetland Sheepdog Specialties
- 2 Whippet Specialties
- 1 French Bull Dog Specialty
- 2 Dachshunds Specialties

#### **6 Days of FAST CAT testing**

#### **3 Days Barn Hunt**

**We will have these events of the down day Thursday.**

Best Christmas decorated RV sponsored by the Kennesaw Kennel Club  
Ugly Christmas Sweater contest all day on Saturday for Exhibitors and Judges!  
For the first time we will be awarding two prizes for best decorated Vendor booth!  
We want you to try and keep with our color scheme of Blue, Silver and White!

Bling out your booths and help us make our show magical! Prizes will be awarded.

**Owner Handled Sweepstakes sponsored by the Kennesaw Kennel Club**

**3rd Annual Susan Roman Best Junior Handler in Cluster!**

And much, much more!  
Plan on joining us for this adventure and help us celebrate the season!

For more information see our Cluster Website, [www.winterwonderlandcluster.com](http://www.winterwonderlandcluster.com)

# Upcoming Shows in the South

## Mississippi Gulf Coast Southern Harvest Cluster (Nov 3-5, 2023) Gulfport, MS

Closes October 18, 2023

Mississippi Gulf Coast Kennel Club

2023672509 BPUP (Fri 11/3/23)

2023672510 AB/JSHW/NOHS (Sat 11/4/23)

2023672511 BPUP (Sat 11/4/23)

2023672512 AB/JSHW/NOHS (Sun 11/5/23)

2023672513 BPUP (Sun 11/5/23)

Mississippi Gulf Coast Working Group Club

2023743302 LB/JSHW/NOHS (Fri 11/3/23)

2023743303 BPUP (Fri 11/3/23)

## 2023 Fast and the Furriest 5K-9 and 1 Mile Fun Walk

Sat September 16, 2023

Guy Minick Park

6726 Sallie Mood Drive, Savannah, GA

Savannah Kennel Club's Fast and Furriest racecourse wraps around the picturesque Lake Mayer. We will have a pup-arazzi on the course to capture all of the fun. All dog participants and their handlers receive a finisher's medal. Race packets include a bandana for your pup and a long sleeve technical shirt. Awards are given to the top three finishers in each division.

Don't have a dog? No worries! You can borrow a running buddy from one of our local rescues who will pair you with an appropriate running buddy. The Fast and Furriest 5 K-9 Race is fun for the entire family! Children 9 years of age or older can participate while accompanied by a parent or guardian and in control of their furry running buddy.

### The Fast and The Furriest race kicks off WAGFEST -

a weekend long festival celebrating canine-human friendship. The two-day festival includes canine sports and activities, food, shopping, raffles, contests, and presentations by pet experts. We are happy to announce we will offer Fast-Cat, CAT, Agility, Conformation match, and MORE!

Proceeds raised this weekend will go toward community enrichment and education and the purchase of an AKC REUNITE (AKC Pet Disaster Relief Unit for a local surrounding County.

SIGN UP TODAY AT: <https://runsignup.com/Race/GA/Savannah/FastAndFurriest5K9>



**SEP 22 AT 1 PM – OCT 1**

2023 National Show & Convention · Springfield,  
Missouri 97th Annual National Convention  
University Plaza Hotel & Convention Center

## 2024 National Judges

Congratulations to the following Judges on their  
2024 Judging Assignments in Kingsport, TN:

### National Judges

Bonnie Linnell-Clarke

Intersex

Luiz Fernando Ribas-Silva

Bitches

Glen Lajeski

Dogs

Carissa Shimpeno

Futurity / Maturity

Kim Owen

Owner-Handled Sweeps

**Wagfest**  
Celebrating Responsible Dog Owners & Their Pets  
SAVANNAH KENNEL CLUB, INC.  
Saturday and Sunday  
September 16 & 17  
9am-4pm

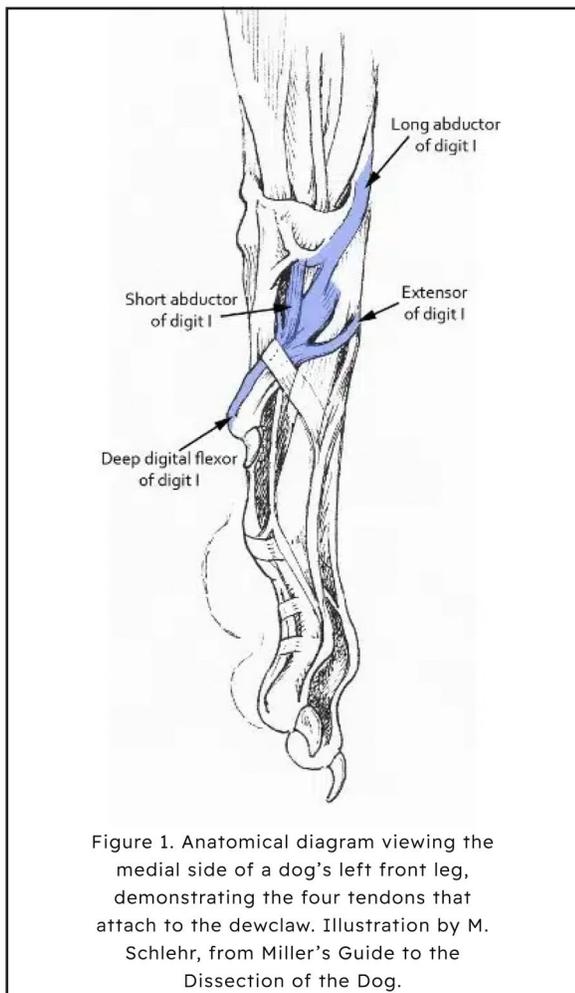
# Canine Health

## Do the Dewclaws?

*Source: Chris Zink DVM PhD DACVP DACVSMR CCRT CVSMT CVA August 15, 2023*

As a veterinary sports medicine specialist, I work extensively with canine athletes, identifying injuries and developing rehabilitation programs for dogs that required surgery due to performance-related injuries. I have seen many dogs, especially Field Trial/Hunt Test and Agility dogs, that have chronic carpal arthritis, frequently so severe that they must be retired or at least carefully managed for the rest of their careers. I noticed that very few of those dogs had dewclaws and began to wonder whether these appendages might, in fact, protect a dog from injuries. What I learned might surprise you.

First, just a tiny bit of anatomy. Check out Figure 1, which shows the anatomy of the front leg in the area of the carpus, or wrist.



There are two muscles, the extensor pollicis longus et indicis proprius and flexor digitorum profundus that are attached to the front dewclaw by four tendons (Figure 1). Each of those muscle/tendon units has a different function

in movement of the dewclaw. That means that if you cut off the dewclaws, you are preventing the muscles that were attached to the dewclaws from functioning. It also proves that the dewclaws are not just passive digits—they do function in movement.

In contrast, rear limb dewclaws do not have muscle/tendon attachments, so their removal might be appropriate, except in breeds such as the Briard and the Beauceron for which the Breed Standards state that they should be retained.

## Dewclaws Do Have Functions

Now that we know that there are muscles and tendons attached to the dewclaws, let's figure out how they function. Broadly speaking, dewclaws have at least two different functions:

1. Grasp the ground to prevent torque on the forelimb. Each time the front foot lands on the ground, particularly when the dog is cantering or galloping (see Figure 2), the dewclaw is in touch with the ground. If the dog then needs to turn, the dewclaw actively digs into the ground to stabilize the lower leg and prevent torque. In Figure 3, you can clearly see the dewclaw of a Corgi herding a sheep with its dewclaw extended, ready to grip the ground.



Figure 2. In this galloping dog, the dewclaw is in touch with the ground. If the dog needs to turn to the right, the dewclaw will dig into the ground to stabilize the lower leg and prevent torque.

If a dog doesn't have dewclaws, the leg will twist on its axis, creating increased pressure on the carpal bones, as well as the elbow, shoulder, and toes. A lifetime of this kind of torque and the result can be carpal arthritis or injuries and/or arthritis of the other joints of the front leg. Remember, the dog is participating in the activity regardless, so there will be concussion and twisting of the leg. If the dewclaw is not present to help to stabilize it, those pressures will be transmitted to other areas of the leg, especially the joints.



Figure 3. Corgi using its left dewclaw while herding. Photo by Jessica Viera.

2. Grip objects. We have all seen dogs using their dewclaws to grip an object such as a ball or bone (Figure 4). I've even seen many photos of Agility dogs gripping the Agility teeter for stability (Figure 5). But did you know that the dewclaws' gripping ability can, in fact, save your dog's life? Check out the video "Dewclaws Do Have a Purpose" for "gripping" views of dogs attempting to get out of water onto ice without the help of those ice picks on the inside of their legs. The video also shows dogs using their dewclaws to grip the ice and escape from a potentially fatal situation. I have known several dogs that drowned after falling through ice in the winter. None of them had dewclaws. If they had, perhaps they would have survived and spared their owners the incredible heartache of watching their dogs die unnecessarily.



Figure 4. Dog using left dewclaw to grip a food toy. Photo by Samra Elser.

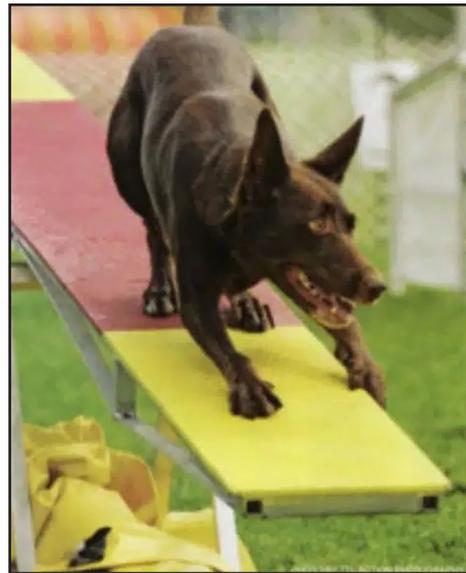


Figure 5. Kelpie gripping the teeter for stability. Photo by TTL Action Photography.

### Arguments for Removing Dewclaws

1. *The dewclaws will get injured.* This is the most common reason I hear for removing dewclaws. A friend of mine had such a severe dewclaw injury in one of her dogs that she swore she would remove them on all the dogs she bred subsequently.

But the data indicate that dewclaws are not injured very often. A study published in 2018 showed that the dewclaw was the LEAST likely toe to be injured in Agility dogs, in which landing and turning from jumps and other obstacles put the toes at risk for injuries. Another study showed that you would have to remove the dewclaws from 200 dogs to prevent a dewclaw injury in just one dog. For these reasons, it makes no sense to remove the dewclaws because of risk of injury. And, of course, no one would consider removing the fifth digits on the outsides of the front feet, which are by far the most commonly injured toes.

2. *Owners forget to trim the dewclaws.* Surely this is a matter of education. Do we really want to remove a functioning digit in all dogs just because some owners need to be reminded that they must trim the dewclaws?

3. *Dewclaws make the forelimb look less straight when viewed from the front in Conformation.* The AKC states: "The Breed Standard describes the characteristics of the ideal dog to perform the function for which it was bred." While we could have long discussions about the veracity of this statement, it is interesting to note that there are VERY few Breed Standards that require dewclaw removal.

### A Plea

So, here's a plea to retain dogs' dewclaws. They are a functioning digit. They are the toe least likely to be injured. Isn't this enough to convince us not to do the dewclaws?

## Homemade Peanut Butter Dog Treats Recipe

### For the Dog Treats

2½ cups coconut flour  
 1 large egg  
 1 cup organic or natural peanut butter  
 1 cup water  
 2 tablespoons honey

### For the Frosting

2 tablespoons organic or natural peanut butter  
 1 tablespoon honey  
 ⅓ cup cornstarch  
 3-4 tablespoons hot water

Preheat oven to 350°F. Line a baking sheet with parchment paper. Set aside.

In a large bowl, combine flour and the egg. Add the peanut butter, water, and honey, and stir until you have a stiff dough. The dough becomes very firm and sticky. You may need to use your hands, or the paddle attachment on your mixer.

2½ cups coconut flour, 1 large egg, 1 cup peanut butter, 1 cup water, 2 tablespoons honey

On a lightly floured surface, roll out the dough about ½-inch thick and use a cookie cutter to make fun shapes. The treats barely spread and rise, so get creative with your shapes.

Bake for 18-20 minutes, until golden. Once done, set aside to cool. (If you have smaller cookies, use less time, otherwise the bottom might burn.)

To make the frosting, combine the peanut butter and honey in a microwavable bowl, and heat in the microwave in 15 second increments, stirring in between, until melted.

Add the melted peanut butter mixture to the cornstarch and stir until just combined.

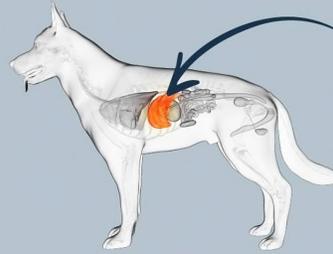
Slowly add in the water 1 tablespoon at a time until you have reached the consistency that you would like. For a thinner frosting, add more water.

Add the frosting to a piping bag and pipe designs on top of each dog treat.

Frost the treats with the peanut butter/honey mixture for an even more tempting cookie.



# Why Dogs Are Dying FROM COPPER TOXICITY



Copper levels in dogs' livers are rising dramatically ...



The amount of copper in the dog's liver is rising with time ... and it **more than doubled** in just 13 years.

**Atlanta DPC Working Aptitude Evaluation Evaluator: Pat Murphy-Cornelius**



**ATLANTA**  
DOBERMAN PINSCHER CLUB



**Saturday, 12/2/2023**  
**Winter Wonderland Cluster Georgia National Fairgrounds, Perry, Georgia**  
**\$40.00 pre entry Ph. 407-920-1112**  
**dspivey4101@gmail.com**

