

March/April 2026 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

Email news, brags, birthdays, etc to surochester@aol.com



Join Us for our In-Person Meeting Tuesday, March 3, at 7:00pm ET

President's Message

Hello to all our members and readers of our newsletter, which is graciously edited by Susan Rochester. Thank you, Susan! Also, special thanks goes out to Ann Wilson for sorting through and arranging all the news items to send to Susan. We greatly appreciate both of these ladies. Thank you.

Huge congratulations to AM CAN GCHP Connquest Best of Both Worlds, aka "Penny," for her BIS win at Westminster, expertly handled by Andy Linton. We are so VERY proud of Penny and Andy representing our breed!

I hope those of you in the path of the recent snow and ice storms across the country came through them ok! Hopefully we will be welcoming spring weather very soon.

Heartfelt condolences go out to the family of Doris-Jean Molin for their loss. She was a valued Doberman breeder, a great person and an honorary lifetime member of our club.

Upcoming Meeting Schedule

We meet on the first Tuesday of the month, and members are always welcome to invite guests. Our March meeting will be held in-person. Here are the details:

Tuesday, March 3, 2026

Red Lobster, 1560 Dogwood Drive, Conyers, GA 30013

7:00 PM

Ann will send a Zoom link so those of you who live out of the area can join the meeting online.

The next several meetings are:

4/7/26, 6:30 PM Eastern, by Zoom

5/5/26, 6:30 PM Eastern, by Zoom

6/2/26, 6:30 PM Eastern, by Zoom

Your participation in our monthly meetings and other club events makes our club more productive and brings enjoyment to all of us. Thank you.

Deadline for May/June 2026 Newsletter

Please be sure to email Ann Wilson all your brags and photos by **April 10**, so she can organize content to send to Susan. We welcome information about your achievements with your dogs, as well as news about important family events and ideas for articles. We appreciate your support of the newsletter.

Of course, thank you to Membership Chair Ann Wilson for doing such a great job welcoming guests and new members.

Our club is growing, and with input and ideas from our members, we are headed in a very positive, productive direction. Thank you to all of our members and friends for your interest in the club and our fabulous breed.

Stay safe and always think good thoughts. If you have any ideas for club activities or initiatives, please don't hesitate to contact me, by email, phone call or text.

Respectfully submitted,

Pamela DeHetre, President

Atlanta Doberman Pinscher Club

(770) 329-3044

pamdehetre@peoplepc.com

BRAGS

Taylor Harris: Colt and I got his BN title and first place on 2/7 at the Four Paws obedience trial at Alchemy Dog Training in Marietta, GA. Colt is, pending AKC approval, Heartspot One in the Chamber *BN* RN CGC TKN

Kathy Gresham: Gresham's Coco Chanel In Red earned her CGC and Trick Dog Novice titles in February. In her first Barn Hunt trial Coco took first place, finishing the course in 40.44 seconds



Rebecca Roter: Rebecca co-bred the 2025 DPCA National Grand Prize Futurity Winner, Heartland Out Goin Cattin, sired by CH Jager's Talk of the Town out of CH Aludra's Running Down a Dream





ATLANTA

DOBERMAN PINCHER CLUB

presents the

DPCA WORKING APTITUDE EVALUATION

Evaluator: JOHN SCHOENEMAN

Join us

Saturday, May 9, 2026
at the Crossroads of Georgia Cluster
Georgia National Fairgrounds
Perry, Georgia



DPCA WAE Entry Form



ADPC Zelle Payment

\$40 Entry
Closes April 30, 2025

\$45 Day-of Entry

Contact the ADPC WAE Coordinator
Vicki Sweeny
(770) 365-7768
vsweeny@pkknlaw.com

Eligibility:

- Dobermans aged 18 months or older
- Must be AKC registered or have an AKC, CKC, PAL/ILP number
- Dogs registered in a foreign country that is on the AKC list of acceptable registries may participate
- Must be an allowed color
 - Z factor dogs are eligible with proof of spay/neuter



Obesity in Dogs: A Major Health Threat Hiding in Plain Sight



There's a weight problem in America and it isn't just affecting humans

The most recent statistics classify the majority of dogs in the U.S.—56%—as overweight or obese. While that makes obesity a major health crisis for dogs, it's a problem that's often overlooked, as many pet owners may not even realize their pets are overweight.

"I see people coming in constantly with 90-pound Labs and they say, 'she looks great,'" says Dr. Ernie Ward, DVM, CVFT, and founder of the Association for Pet Obesity Prevention (APOP). "Well, actually, that dog is 15 pounds overweight. But we've normalized it." This kind of dog embodies what APOP has called the "fat pet gap"—the misalignment between what we think a dog should look like and what a healthy body composition should really be.

Obesity in dogs comes with significant consequences. In fact, Ward and other vets call it our pets' biggest health threat. And it's not an isolated issue; obesity is linked to a whole raft of health problems including arthritis, chronic kidney disease, bladder/urinary tract disease, liver disease, low thyroid hormone production, diabetes, heart failure, high blood pressure, and cancer. "We think it's very important that people understand this isn't just a cosmetic issue," says Dr. Ward. "There is a physiological consequence to this."

A slimmer margin of error

While obesity is loosely defined as 30% above ideal body weight (there is no universally accepted definition for pets), veterinary

experts say just being overweight impacts pet health. And that's one of the challenges in addressing this issue—many pet owners may simply not realize there is an issue.

"You look at your dog and it seems healthy and it's active and doesn't have any apparent health issues," says Ward. "So you say, 'it's normal,' and by extension its morphology, or its size, is normal." But the problem is that we often don't know what "normal" is when it comes to dogs, so we project our own human-centric perspective. "In human terms, we think we just need to drop five pounds," says Ward. "Well, the amount of physiological impact of a few pounds is much, much greater and more concentrated in pets than in people. Five pounds on a cat is catastrophic. Five pounds on a Lab is significant. We think a few pounds off my Lab; what could the consequence of that be..? But the consequences are that Lab's hips are deteriorating, it's causing damage to the kidneys, it's probably causing high blood pressure which is causing a constellation of problems, and it's increasing cancer risk.

Dr. Carol Osborne, an integrative veterinarian at Chagrin Falls Pet Clinic in Ohio, echoes the fact that a dog doesn't have to be clinically obese to experience health consequences. "Being just 10% overweight decreases a dog's lifespan by one-third and predisposes him to heart, kidney and liver disease as well as diabetes, arthritis, and cancer," she says.

Osborne says that adipose tissue (aka fat) is filled with blood vessels, and the added rich blood creates inflammation. This all creates an environment attractive to cancer cells and increases a dog's risk of developing the disease, she says.

"Cancer is the number one killer of dogs today," says Osborne.

And, for some smaller breeds, extra pounds make a huge difference. "Three extra pounds for canines in the 'toy' category is the equivalent of gaining approximately 30 pounds for you or me," she says.

Holistic veterinarian and researcher Dr. Jean Dodds, of Hemopet veterinary center in California, says the health effects of having even a marginally overweight dog include "reduced energy with resultant less exercise, 'easy keeper' (gains weight on small amounts of food), skin and hair coat conditions, and

irregular female reproductive cycles, if intact.” Conversely, obese dogs may benefit from even just slight weight loss. According to a clinical trial published in 2010, obese dogs with osteoarthritis showed a significant decrease in lameness from weight loss starting at 6.10%.

Another study, published in the Journal of Veterinary Internal Medicine in 2018 found that being overweight was associated with a shorter lifespan in the 12 dog breeds studied. The estimated reduction in lifespan for the overweight group was up to two-and-a-half years.

“We look at a dog with obesity and if a dog loses as little as 6% body weight—that’s six pounds on a 100-pound Retriever—it makes a difference,” says Ward. “It doesn’t take a lot of weight loss to make the pet feel better. I really try to emphasize that when I’m talking to (pet owners) because it’s a quality of life issue as much as a longevity and disease-prevention issue.”

Osborne says she’s seen this quality of life improvement from weight loss time and again. One of her clients came in with a two-year-old male Pomeranian named Smokey that weighed in at 45 pounds. When he first visited, the dog already had one cranial cruciate ligament (CCL) surgery on a hind leg and was about to have a second. Osborne changed his diet—which involved stopping the dry kibble and replacing it with chicken and fresh vegetables.

“At this point he is down to 22 pounds,” she says. “He acts, feels and looks like a puppy instead of sleeping under the kitchen table most of the day and barely moving at all. He’s running around the house, ready to play and having a ball.” And he won’t need another surgery after all.

Rewriting your dog’s future

For pet owners with dogs who are not obese and who aren’t showing obvious health symptoms, the concern may not seem as pressing. But Ward warns against not taking action when you can.

“I see too often a 10-year-old Lab mix and suddenly they can’t get into the car because of crippling hip arthritis caused by obesity,” he says. “But if you can rewind the tape, you don’t have the years of cumulative damage. (Obesity) is a slow and insidious and silent

killer, and people may know it’s happening, but they don’t take action until there’s a crisis. I say that nobody treats obesity until there’s a catastrophe. And when it’s catastrophic, you may not recover.”

Food matters most

Many vets agree that weight loss begins and ends at the food bowl for dogs and cats. Based on available literature and experience, Ward breaks down the weight-loss math this way: 60-70% diet and 30-40% exercise.

As to food quality, Osborne recommends fresh food including lean protein like chicken, turkey, fish, eggs and tofu, and fiber through fresh vegetables such as Brussels sprouts, broccoli, cauliflower, kale, cabbage and spinach.

While food is the biggest factor, pet owners should also plan to exercise dogs for a minimum of 20 minutes, twice a day. And be careful with snacks. You can use fresh veggies as healthy treats and avoid processed mystery-ingredient treats and things like pig ears, and bully sticks.

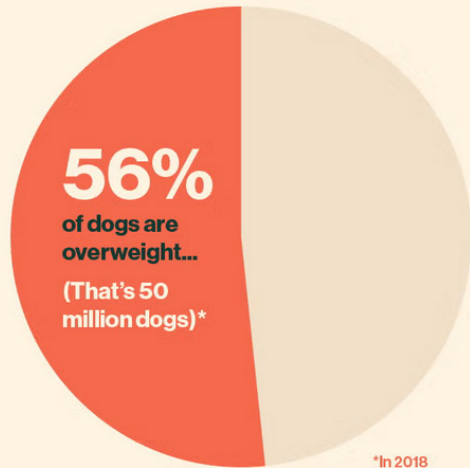
“If you don’t eat it, neither should your dog,” Osborne says.

A NEW INVESTIGATION BY THE CLEAN LABEL PROJECT TESTED 79 TOP-SELLING PET FOODS AND FOUND:

- **Dry dog food (kibble) had the highest levels of heavy metals & contaminants; fresh/frozen had the lowest. Lead & mercury were about 21x higher in dry food.** Lead & cadmium exposure has been linked to canine cancer.
- **Arsenic was 13x higher and cadmium 6x higher in kibble.** Studies show heavy metals can contribute to chronic disease.
- **Acrylamide levels in kibble were 24x higher** Acrylamide has caused several types of cancer in animals.
- **Plastic-related chemicals (BPA, BPS, DEHP) were also highest in dry food.**

Dr. Karen Becker @dkarenbecker

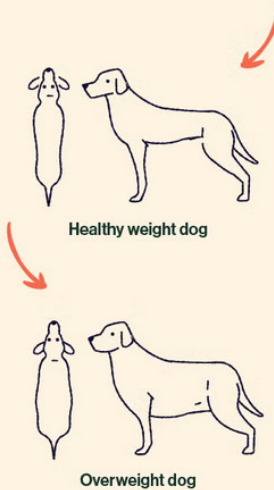
Obesity: An urgent health threat to American pets



...however

81%

of pet owners would say their pet's weight is "normal."
What does your dog look like?



Causes of obesity in dogs

The most common reason for weight gain in dogs is when they eat more calories than they burn, which means they're overeating or not exercising enough — or both.

That's why it's important to feed your dog the right amount and type of food for his age and size and why he needs lots of walks and playtime.

There are certain medical conditions that can cause your pup to gain weight, too. These include:

- Hypothyroidism
- Cushing's disease
 - Diabetes
 - Pregnancy
- Medication side effects
 - Joint problems
 - Depression
 - Stress

If your dog has been eating a normal amount and gets plenty of exercise, there could be an underlying condition causing him to gain weight, so you should talk to your vet.

Some other factors that can lead to weight gain include age, breed and neuter or spay status. Older dogs are more likely to become overweight, and certain breeds are predisposed to obesity. After a dog is neutered or spayed, the decrease in hormones can cause weight gain if you don't adjust the dog's diet and exercise.

Compared to lean or "fit" dogs, overweight and obese dogs develop an increased risk of the following problems:

- Cancer
- Diabetes mellitus
- Heart disease
- Hypertension
- Osteoarthritis and faster degeneration of affected joints
- Urinary bladder stones
- Anesthetic complications

Just **6%** makes a difference

Overweight dogs that lose just 6% of their weight see a noticeable improvement in mobility.



2.5 years less

Dogs with healthy weights live on average 2.5 years longer than overweight dogs.

- High Blood Pressure
- Chronic Kidney Disease
- Bladder/Urinary Tract Disease
- Diabetes
- Torn Knee Ligaments
- Low Thyroid Hormone Production
- Liver Disease
- Heart Failure
- Diseased Disc in the Spine



EWG DIRTY DOZEN 2026:

MOST PESTICIDE CONTAMINATED FRUITS & VEGETABLES



Strawberries



Spinach



Kale



Collard Greens



Mustard Greens



Peaches



Nectarines



Pears



Apples



Grapes



Bell Hot Peppers



Cherries



Avoid Pesticides!

Make sure you feed Organic!

The Environmental Working Group's (EWG) 2025 Dirty Dozen lists spinach, strawberries, kale/collard/mustard greens, grapes, peaches, cherries, nectarines, pears, apples, blackberries, blueberries, and potatoes as the most pesticide-contaminated produce, advising consumers to buy organic for these items to minimize exposure. Blackberries and potatoes are new additions, while spinach tops the list for the highest pesticide residues, emphasizing these are the produce where choosing organic is most recommended.

Doberman



FAITHFUL COMPANION



Join us
 May 8 & 10, 2026
 Best Bred-By-Exhibitor
 Sweeps, NOHS,
 Veterans

Judges:
 Dr. Trevor Gerardi
 Miller
 &
 Harry (Butch)
 Schulman

Sweeps:
 Linda Whitney

ATLANTA
 DOBERMAN PINSCHER CLUB

**Two concurrent
 specialties at the
 Crossroads of
 Georgia Cluster in
 Perry, GA**

Onofrio

Closing 03/04/2026 @ 12:00 pm
 Jackson TN

Closing 03/11/2026 @ 12:00 pm
 Lawrenceville GA

Closing 03/18/2026 @ 12:00 pm
 Columbiana AL

Closing 03/25/2026 @ 12:00 pm
 Perry GA

Closing 04/01/2026 @ 12:00 pm
 Montgomery AL

Closing 04/22/2026 @ 12:00 pm
 Perry GA

Closing 05/06/2026 @ 12:00 pm
 Jacksonville FL

Closing 05/27/2026 @ 12:00 pm
 Tampa FL

Foy Trent Dog Shows

South Florida Cluster (March 19-22, 2026)
 West Palm Beach, FL
 Closes March 4, 2026



**The Atlanta Doberman Pinscher Club
 invites you to our
 upcoming special events**

CROSSROADS OF GEORGIA CLUSTER	CHEROKEE ROSE CLUSTER
May 8 & 10, 2026 Perry, GA onofrio.com	June 27 & 28, 2026 Atlanta, GA infodog.com

SPECIAL ATTRACTION
BEST BREED BY EXHIBITOR
OFFERED ALL FOUR DAYS



SOUTH FLORIDA CLASSIC

Show Hours:
7:00 A.M. - 6:00 P.M.
All Judging Will Be Indoors • Unbenched



Happy pet. Happy you.

Limited Breed and Concurrent Specialties Events for the Cluster are on Page 2

South Florida Fairgrounds - East Exposition Center
9067 Southern Blvd, West Palm Beach, FL 33411

Fort Lauderdale Dog Club
Member of the American Kennel Club

Thursday, March 19, 2026
Conformation with Junior Showmanship #2026096201
4-6 Month Beginner Puppy Competition #2026096204
Special Attraction - Best Bred by Exhibitor

Friday, March 20, 2026
Conformation with Junior Showmanship #2026096202
4-6 Month Beginner Puppy Competition #2026096206
Special Attraction - Best Bred by Exhibitor

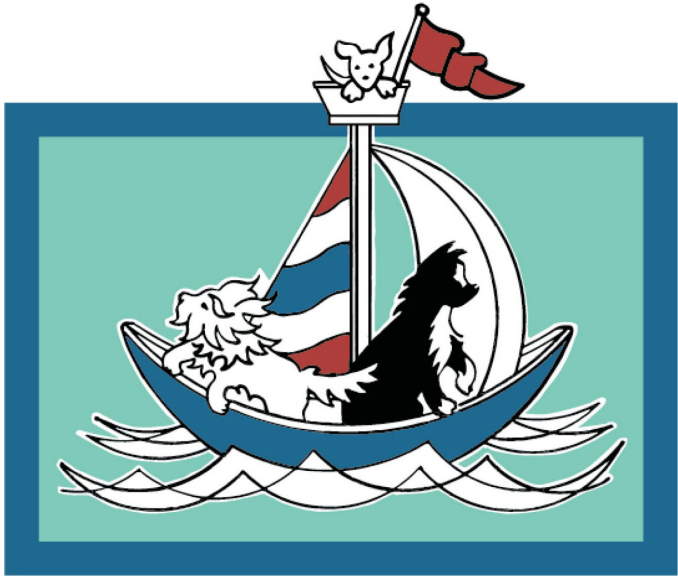
Supported Entries
American Whippet Club w/ Swps * Russian Tsvetnaya Bolonka Club of America
AKC National Owner-Handled Series Offered At Both Shows



Palm Beach County Dog Fanciers Association
Licensed by the American Kennel Club

Saturday, March 21, 2026
Conformation with Junior Showmanship #2026120203
Designated Specialty: Florida East Coast Dachshund Club (#2026113601)
4-6 Month Beginner Puppy Competition #2026120205
FSS/ Open Show #2026120201
Special Attraction - Best Bred by Exhibitor
Supported Entries
Central Florida Cairn Terrier Club * Orange Blossom Tibetan Spaniel Club of Florida



Sunday, March 22, 2026
Conformation with Junior Showmanship #2026120204
Designated Specialty: Florida East Coast Dachshund Club (#2026113602)
4-6 Month Beginner Puppy Competition #2026120206
FSS/ Open Show #2026120202
Special Attraction - Best Bred by Exhibitor
Supported Entries
Central Florida Cairn Terrier Club * Orange Blossom Tibetan Spaniel Club of Florida
AKC National Owner-Handled Series Offered At Both Shows

Design by Tina Hicks 2018

Lake Lanier

DOG SHOW CLUSTER

Thursday, March 26, 2026 **Friday, March 27, 2026**
Saturday, March 28, 2026 **Sunday, March 29, 2026**

WEDNESDAY GROUP SHOWS : Hounds, Terriers & Toys
CGC, CGCA, TRICK DOG: Thursday-Saturday
FARM DOG & FETCH (Separate Premium List): Friday & Saturday
FCAT (Separate Premium List): Wednesday-Sunday
HEART & EYE CLINIC: Saturday
JUNIOR SEMINAR: Saturday **PEE WEE COMPETITION:** Sunday
8 OPEN SHOWS: Thursday-Sunday

“The Azalea Cluster”

Special For April 2026
GERMAN SPITZ CLUB OF AMERICA, INC.
4 DAYS OF OPEN SHOWS
PLUS FOUR ALL BREED OPEN SHOWS OFFERED BY
BIRMINGHAM & TUSCALOOSA KENNEL CLUBS

All Breed Dog Show
TUSCALOOSA KENNEL CLUB, INC.
Licensed by the American Kennel Club
THURSDAY APRIL 2, 2026 - 2026083801
4-6 Month Beginner Puppy Competition - 2026083802 • Open Show - 2026083805
190th All Breed Dog Show
BIRMINGHAM KENNEL CLUB, INC.
Member of the American Kennel Club
FRIDAY, APRIL 3, 2026 - 2026032001
4-6 Month Beginner Puppy Competition - 2026032002
Open Show - 2026032006
All Breed Dog Show
TUSCALOOSA KENNEL CLUB, INC.
Licensed by the American Kennel Club
SATURDAY, APRIL 4, 2026 - 2026083803
4-6 Month Beginner Puppy Competition - 2026083804 • Open Show - 2026083808
191st All Breed Dog Show
BIRMINGHAM KENNEL CLUB, INC.
Member of the American Kennel Club
SUNDAY, APRIL 5, 2026 - 2026032003
SHELBY COUNTY EXHIBITION CENTER
86 Argo Rd • Columbiana, Alabama 35051

FLOOR WITH MATTING

Mississippi Gulf Coast Crawfish Cluster
March 26th through March 29th, 2026



Meri-Miss Kennel Club, Inc.
Thursday, March 26, 2026
Friday, March 27, 2026

Greater Hattiesburg Kennel Club
Saturday, March 28, 2026
Sunday, March 29, 2026

Mississippi Gulf Coast Working Group Club
Saturday, March 28, 2026
Sunday, March 29, 2026



Mississippi Gulf Coast Herding Group Club
Thursday, March 26, 2026
Friday, March 27, 2026



Mississippi Gulf Coast German Shepherd Dog Club
Saturday, March 28, 2026
Sunday, March 29, 2026



NEW LOCATION FOR 2026
Harrison County Fairgrounds
15321 County Farm Road, Gulfport, Mississippi



Turkey & Carrot Mini Meatballs for Dogs

**you
will
need**



- 1 pound ground turkey (lean)
- 1/2 cup finely chopped carrots (steamed or raw)
- 1/2 cup oat flour (or finely ground rolled oats)
- 1/4 cup plain pumpkin puree (not pie filling)
- 1 egg
- 1 tablespoon ground flaxseed
- 1 teaspoon dried parsley (optional)

**Spread
the recipe**



Set your oven to 350°F. Shape into small balls and place in a mini muffin tin like the one in the photo — it helps keep the shape of the meatballs and prevents them from rolling around. Bake for 20–25 minutes, or until the meatballs are firm and lightly golden. Let them cool completely before serving to your dog.

Once fully cooled, I divide the batch into two portions: half go into an airtight container in the fridge, and the other half into the freezer for future use. They last about 5–7 days in the fridge and up to 3 months in the freezer. Just thaw a few overnight before serving.

