



The Butler County Kennel Club "Howler"

The Butler County Kennel Club is dedicated to the promotion of excellence in all-breed conformation. Founded in 1939, we are an AKC member club.

Newsletter - Autumn & Winter 2014

The Butler County Kennel Club Board of Directors -

President - Susan Chapin, swimfinn@zoominternet.net

Vice President - Clint Graham

Secretary - Reba M. Namachar

Treasurer - Ross Chapin

Directors:

Mick McCormick, wmcenterprise@aol.com

Jeanette Nestor

Pat Cox

2015 Meeting Schedule & Highlighted Events

(Unless otherwise noted, all meetings are held at 7pm, the first Tuesday of the month at the Butler YMCA - Trustees Room)

(Meeting refreshment responsibility schedule)

January - Kathie & Mick McCormick

February - Reba & John Namachar

March - Mary McCurdy & Adrienne & Harry Logan

**Beverages will be furnished by the Namachars through the March Meeting.*



Newsletter Publication Information

The "Howler" is a quarterly newsletter. If you are aware of something that the club membership should be informed of please get that information to Reba Namachar at her email address rnamachar@zoominternet.net or you may contact her at 724-482-2078 or send correspondence to 445 Whitestown Road, Butler PA 16001. We would like to add photos of your dogs to each edition. So please send those pics in .jpg format. **Forward articles and photos to arrive no later than 15 April 2015 for the Winter, Spring 2015 Edition.**

BCKC Website Access -<http://www.butlercountykennelclub.com/>

In order to get to the Members Only section of the website, the username and password for this site are the same for EVERYONE in the club.

1. Go to this URL: <http://www.butlercountykennelclub.com/membersonly.htm>
2. The Username box, type in bckcmember (this is case sensitive -all lowercase!)
3. In the Password box, type in bckc2006 (this is also case sensitive and those are zeroes, not the letter o)
tammy@tjb-consulting.com (webmaster)

I'm not sure how many club members receive these AKC Articles, so I am selecting the most interesting and sharing them through our newsletter. - Reba Namachar



Quarterly eNews for Breeders | Fall 2014

Keeping It Spic 'n Span - Good sanitation is critical to canine health

By Patricia Trotter

The word kennel is believed to have originated in France to describe a pack of hounds and their housing. Today, it describes the most important environment in any breeder's home.

Once primitive man hooked up with dogs in a permanent ongoing relationship, the two learned to live together. Over the centuries, man began to construct special quarters for his animals, and often the kennels reflected the status of the masters.

Today, most small breeding programs are not kennels in the usual sense of the word, as they often lack rows and rows of runs and a separate kennel building. Dogs are sometimes housed in smaller quarters and moved in and out on a rotating basis to make the best use of the exercise areas. No matter the size of the facility, sanitation is of vital importance.

Sanitation, of course, means keeping poop picked up on a frequent basis and sanitizing the areas accordingly. But this is not just necessary for the aesthetic and cleanliness factor— it is essential for maintaining the good health of your animals. It is far better to prevent parasite infestation and re-infestation by keeping all dog areas feces-free than it is to deal with problems caused by exposure to various destructive organisms. When you consider that millions of germs can be passed in a single bowel movement, the importance of absolute cleanliness becomes obvious. Some of these organisms can live for months outside the body, so even a miniscule amount of feces missed in a cleanup is dangerous.

Probably the three most invasive non-worm parasites for dogs are coccidia, spirochetes, and giardia. Dogs can harbor these creatures in their digestive tracts and develop some immunity to them, giving little indication they are in fact diseased. However, once the dog is stressed out by travel or other physically demanding experiences, diarrhea can be the result.



Know your worms. From left to right: **Roundworm** The most common intestinal worm in dogs.

Tapeworm Only with heavy infestations do dogs drop weight and eat more. **Hookworm** Rare, but can be deadly.

The Nasties

Coccidia are especially dangerous to puppies who pick it up from their dam or littermates. It can be fatal if left untreated and, at best, it severely compromises the health of pup- pies. Taking a stool specimen to the veterinarian should be routine anytime puppies have problems so that proper medication can be administered.

Spirochetes can be found in both the intestinal tract and the blood. They are responsible for such dreaded diseases as syphilis and Lyme disease, as well as disruption to the gut.

Giardia are among the most wide-spread of all protozoa and are found throughout the United States. Unseen by the human eye, these little devil germs are everywhere. They are found in soil, food, and water, and live in the intestines of humans as well as dogs.

A person can become infected by swallowing swimming-pool water, lake water, and river water—or even by touching bathroom surfaces and not properly washing hands. Needless to say, it's a lot easier for dogs to come in contact with giardia than it is for people.

Worms can also be reduced by proper sanitation. Almost all dogs will be exposed to worms at some point in their life. **Roundworms** are often present in puppies at birth due to their mothers being infected during embryonic development. Newborns can get worms from nursing an infected dam. Eggs from the soil can be ingested, and a dog killing an infected mouse or other rodent carrying worms can also cause infection.

Sanitation and pest control go together in the proper animal husbandry all good breeders should practice. Keeping your dogs rid of fleas helps avoid the tapeworm problem. **Tapeworms** attach themselves to the interior of the dog and can be quite debilitating. Sometimes pieces of the tapeworm (which can be up to six inches in length) will break off and pass out in feces. The segment resembles a grain of rice.

Hookworms are a serious threat to both puppies and dogs, as they suck the blood out of their internal environment within the host. Blood loss, diarrhea, weight loss, and even death can result if left untreated. Again, keeping the dogs' environment clean and sanitary is the best prevention. The whipworm is another bloodsucker and lives in the large intestine. These four worms are the most common digestive-tract worm infestations known to dogs, and a large part of controlling them is sanitation.

Sanitation and Pregnancy

One more area (that perhaps merits a future column) is the role inadequate sanitation can play in problem pregnancies, pyometra, and general compromised health. Prevention of all disorders is a far better option than treatment—and prevention can only be obtained through proper sanitation and disinfecting. When the parvovirus reared its ugly head in the late 1970s, veterinarians advised using bleach to kill the bug. Bleach is still used as a good disinfectant, but care must be taken to hose thoroughly before returning the dogs to the disinfected area.

There are many products out there that you can research to find what best meets your needs. Rotating them from time to time is a good way to see what works. I've found that concrete is the easiest surface to disinfect, and grass or dirt yards are the most difficult.

Raising dogs is hard work, and it is never-ending. But the harder you work at sanitation, the better your chances for having healthier, fitter animals.

It is not the most luxurious kennel with the widest assortment of equipment, most dogs, or most elaborate window dressing that makes the quality kennel.

It is the quality of the dogs and their keeping in a safe, sanitary, and clean facility. Sanitation is one area in which there can be no shortcuts!

Patricia Trotter was the 2003 AKC Hound Group Breeder of the Year and is approved to judge more than 80 breeds.

"The One" - Thoughts on Puppy Selection

By Virginia Antia

No matter how much time you spend searching for the right stud dog for your gorgeous bitch, no matter how much money you spend on stud fees, shipping expenses, vet bills, and so on, it's all for nothing if you can't pick out the best pup from the litter.

Years ago I thought I'd solve this dilemma by asking a very successful Manchester breeder to describe her puppy-selection process. "Well," she said, "I look at the litter, reach down, and say 'this one.'" She had an eye for a good pup, which seemed like magic to me at the time.



Eventually I understood that puppy selection means knowing what a good Manchester looks like, knowing what you're looking at and looking for when you observe a litter, knowing what changes and what stays the same in a pup, and knowing that you make your selection without further ado and hope for the best.

So, how do we get there, to the point of being able to say, "this one"?

Well, you can keep the pup that's caught your eye and sell the rest, but be prepared to find you've sold the best pup and kept the least. (And when you realize this, you'll defend your choice with "But he was so sweet!")

You can put your name on all the pups you sell, with contracts preventing neutering and giving you breeding rights until you see the pup at a year or so. Or – and I think this is the best way to develop an eye for a dog – you can "run on" a few pups yourself. Two at a time is plenty; three is a job.

The single most important thing to remember, whichever method you choose, is that puppyhood has an expiration date. Puppies' ability to absorb and process information and their flexibility to deal with new people, dogs, and situations drops off dramatically after 16 weeks. Puppy brains are fully developed at 7 weeks, when it's time to start housetraining, leadwalking, crate-training, and visiting the world, one pup at a time. Puppies must have individual socializing time—no two pups in a shopping cartwheeling through Home Depot, no living in an ex-pen as a group.

So when you're satisfied with teeth and tails, thumbprints and testicles, you'll have a well-rounded pup to keep, and your puppy buyer will have a delightful pet.

Virginia Antia is the American Manchester Terrier Club archivist-historian and AKC Gazette breed columnist.

AKC Breeder articles are selected for their general interest and entertainment values. Authors' views do not necessarily represent the policies of The American Kennel Club, nor does their publication constitute an endorsement by the AKC.

Membership

The Butler County Kennel Club wishes to welcome the following new members;

Shelly Malone, 160 Loper Road, Hadley PA 16130. Her breed is Papillons.

Bill Colbert and wife Judy, 5812 Broad St, South Park PA 15129 (412) 833-7738, will_pak@msn.com. His breed is Boxers and King Charles Spaniels.

Kenneth & Cindy Pohl, 720 Saxonburg Rd, Butler PA 16002 (724) 352-1726 kpohl1@zoominternet.net. Their breed is Irish Wolfhounds.

Mary L. McCurdy, 318 McGrady Hollow Rd, Butler PA 16002, 724-282-1282 (cell) (724) 822-6202, derbydame@aol.com. Her breed is English Setter.

Edna Morris, 209 Ryan Drive, Pittsburgh PA 15220, (412) 561-4973, kinmor@comcast.net. Her breed is Basset Hounds.

The following applicants for membership are;

There was a second reading of the membership application for *John Heine-Parisi*, 505-1 Bellevue Terrance, Pittsburgh PA 15202, (412) 759-7086, during the month of November. His breed is Afghan Hound. Since Mr. Heine-Parisi has not yet attended a club meeting, the vote on his membership is on hold.

There was a first reading during the month of November for the membership application for Vicki Swighart, 116 Shady Drive, Butler PA 16001, 724-283-3701, MSL4Poodles@aol.com. Her breed is Toy Poodles.

As of November 8th, 2014, there are 36 members and 2 applicants pending final membership vote.

Brag & Wags



Updates from Dancing Winds!

Owner: Maggie Toth. handler: Lisa Toth
04-05-14 Hutchinson Kennel Club 2 pts. judge: Mr. Alley D. Hussein
04-06-14 Salina Kennel Club " 3 pt. Major" judge: Mrs. Loraine Boutwell

Pawnee finished with 3 majors at the "Sunflower Cluster" in Wichita, Kansas. Pawnee is home and running left lead on my golf cart, "new sport" if you have a team!!! Keep cool everyone and Dancing Winds As It Is Written "Yakira", is going to be a first time mommy and then she too will be headed off to shows in hopes to get her championship!!!

What's happened here at Dancing Winds is Yakira, Pawnee's sister became a first time mommy and the litter was very nice and the breeding will be repeated in the fall. Also there's been a new addition to Dancing Winds and her name is "Nadia", hopefully the next Champion, brood bitch and a place on my team. Nadia has been through puppy classes and is now going to conformation AND beginner's classes to get ready for the shows, she will also get her C.G.C. title just like all the others.

Congratulations to Taiga!

Mick and Kathie McCormick announces that their "Betsy" is now Champion Arctic Hope's Brave Betsy of Taiga! Way to Go!!!!



Education - 2015 Conformation Class Schedule - For status of classes (cancellation information etc.)

Call: Mick 724-285-1466 or 724-494-5565, Email: Wcmenterprise@aol.com or musher1984@gmail.com, or Gary 724-352-9383