



The Greater Gainesville Dog Fanciers' Association, Inc.

April 2022

Newsletter for Dog Lovers

G.G.D.F.A.
P.O. Box 358332
Gainesville, Florida
32635-8332
www.ggdfa.org

General Meeting Dates:
2nd Tuesday each month
PINE GROVE Baptist Church
4200 NW 39th Ave
7:30 pm Gainesville, FL

Board Meeting Dates:
2nd Tuesday each month

Club Officers

President — Denise Gaboury
1st VP — Pam Rice
2nd VP — Kathy Davis
Secretary — Liz Mignin
Treasurer — Doris Horton

Club Directors

Claire Hedrick
Marge Saucier
Sue Sutton
Jeremy White

Newsletter Editor

Claire Hedrick

Membership Chair

Kathy Davis



TO DO LIST - APRIL DEADLINE

PAY DUES

\$ 12.00 individual
\$ 15.00 family



AWARDS

- **Awards Needed** Each year we acknowledge AKC Titles won by our members fur-children. We are collecting Awards for 2021.
- **Copy the Certificate and send copy to Denise Gaboury.**

PO Box 683, Newberry, FL 32669

Hard Copy required!!!



News From AKC

Published www.akc.org



Create a Springtime Plastic Egg Hunt That Your Dog Will Love

Published by AKC.org

By Jan Reisen 3/8/2022

Egg hunts are a memorable springtime tradition for kids, but children aren't the only ones who like hunting for treats. Setting up a dog-friendly "egg hunt" is a great way to test your pup's sense of smell and scent game skills. Best of all, egg hunts can be assembled in your own yard, or even inside your home if you get creative with the space you've got. Egg hunts with your dog are a fun activity for the whole family, so long as safety remains a top priority. Here are some tips to help get your own canine egg hunt rolling this spring.

Assemble Your Dog-Friendly "Egg Hunt"

Any good plastic egg hunt needs at least two things – treat-filled eggs and willing participants. Plastic eggs are an ideal option for hiding little snacks for your dog. They can, however, pose some risks for dogs that you can avoid with some planning. Choose plastic eggs that are large enough to ensure that your dog cannot swallow them whole. If your dog insists on chewing on the plastic eggs, simply hide the treats around your home or yard without using them. You could also use another toy like a Kong as an alternative. The idea is the same, and the game is still just as fun and enriching.

Choose Your Dog Treats

Your dog relies on their nose to find rewards, so choose treats with an enticing smell that you know your dog enjoys. As you progress throughout the hunt, reward your dog for discovering new "eggs" or treats with an excited voice to keep them motivated.

You may also want to select smaller-sized snacks, so your pet isn't eating too many goodies in a short amount of time. Small, chewy treats that your dog can sniff out are a great egg hunt option.

If your dog has a foundation in AKC Scent Work already, you can always have your dog hunt for scent instead of treats, and reward them accordingly when they find what the "egg" hides.

Watch and Manage Your Dog During the Hunt

If you're doing your own "egg hunt" at home, and have your dog safely contained, then a leash is optional. For a publicly organized dog "egg hunt," participants will likely have leash rules they must adhere to. The reason for this is that keeping your dog on a leash is usually required by law, but it will also help reduce the risk of accidental plastic egg ingestion. It also helps reduce the risk of unwanted interactions with other participants (human or canine) at a public event. Leashing your dog can also allow you to help guide your dog toward hard-to-find eggs or treats, whether in your own yard or at a public event. If you have your own fenced-in yard, off-leash egg hunts are OK, just be sure to watch and manage your dog to prevent them from ingesting anything you don't want them to ingest.

Not all dogs enjoy hunting for eggs with other dogs around. Dogs with resource guarding behaviors, or who do not get along well with other dogs in general, would do better with an individual egg hunt that gives them more space to enjoy the activity. Just set up individual "egg hunts" with each dog's favorite treats and create plenty of space in between each participant. Take turns if you have multiple dogs participating.



Egg Hunt(Continued)

Published www.akc.org

Not All Egg Hunts Are Created Equal

“Egg hunts” can be a fun, indoor/outdoor activity for the whole family, but just be certain you don’t mix up the chocolate you use for children’s egg hunts with your dog-treat “eggs.” Keep dogs inside and safely away from egg hunts when candy is involved so your dog doesn’t unintentionally ingest any human treat that could be toxic to them, or doesn’t sneak away with a plastic egg that a child may have dropped. You may also want to count your dog hunt “eggs” to make sure your dog has found them all. Doing this will ensure they don’t discover any later and chew up or swallow the plastic.

Now that you’re set with all the knowledge you need, about egg hunts, it’s time to get started.

Happy hunting!



How Much Do Dogs Sleep

Published Sleepbetter.com

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Contributed by Denise Gaboury

Dogs have many admirable attributes, such as loyalty, an impressive aptitude for behavior training, and the ability to sleep at a moment’s notice. Unlike humans, who generally sleep once a day, at night, dogs sleep¹ both at night and throughout the day.

Research shows that dogs get around 10² to 12 hours of sleep³ over the course of a 24-hour day. When compared to adult dogs aged 1 to 5 years old⁴, puppies and older dogs have less regular sleep patterns and need more sleep overall.

Like humans, dogs are diurnal animals, which means that they get a majority of their sleep at night. Unlike humans, dogs are polyphasic sleepers who sleep in multiple bouts throughout the day. The average sleep time for a dog is 45 minutes, whereas humans often sleep for seven to nine hours⁵ at a time.

Why Do Dogs Sleep So Much?

The amount of sleep a dog needs depends on several factors, including their breed, personality, diet, activity level, and age. Sleep supports various aspects of a dog's health, including their immune system, brain function⁶, and ability to learn and retain memories⁷.

Daytime activities can impact a dog's sleep. For example, when dogs learn new commands, it affects their brain activity during REM and non-REM sleep. Emotional events⁸ also affect a dog’s sleep patterns. After a negative experience, dogs tend to fall asleep more quickly, sleep longer, and spend more time in REM sleep. Dogs who are more active, spending time on walks and with other dogs and humans, fall asleep faster and spend more time in deep sleep.

Changes to routine and sleep environment can also impact a dog's sleep habits. In fact, where dogs sleep can significantly affect how much sleep they get. When dogs sleep indoors, they spend 80% of their night asleep, while those who sleep outdoors may only sleep for 60% of the night.

Is It Normal for Your Dog to Sleep All Day?

As they age, it is normal for dogs to sleep more and wake up earlier to go to the bathroom. However, if you notice any significant or sudden changes, such as your dog sleeping much more or less than normal, talk to your veterinarian. Sleep changes are sometimes a sign of an underlying health condition⁹, such as arthritis, diabetes, a thyroid problem, or another disorder.

How to Tell if Your Dog May Not Be Getting Enough Sleep

Just like humans, a dog’s well-being can be negatively impacted by a lack of sleep. If your dog is getting too little sleep, you may notice them acting more stressed, anxious, or aggressive. Certain health conditions can also affect a dog’s quality of sleep. If your dog does not seem to be sleeping enough, or if they exhibit unusual behavior, talk with your vet.

Sleep (continued)

Tips to Keep Your Dog Well-Rested

Research shows a well-rested dog is a more relaxed dog. With regular sleep, they can even learn new commands more easily. Follow a few simple tips to help your dog obtain enough sleep.

Establish a Routine

Changes in routine can affect a dog's sleep and stress levels. Establish a daytime and bedtime routine, and stick with it. Be consistent with when you walk and feed your dog, and when you go to sleep. If you can, let your dog outside in the morning. The sunlight can help reinforce their natural sleep-wake cycles.

Make Time for Play and Exercise

Dogs that exercise more tend to sleep more and fall asleep faster. Playing and exercising together offers two benefits: it strengthens your bond and tires your dog out in time for bed.

Make Bedtime Relaxing

At night, turn off the television and dim the lights. When your dog settles into their favorite spot, pet them to help them relax. For anxious dogs, essential oil diffusers or snug clothes called anxiety wraps may calm their nerves.

Experiment With Different Dog Beds

Pay attention to how your dog likes to rest, and get them a bed that suits them. Some dogs like a large bed for sprawling out, while others like to tuck into a small bed. Of course, when they have the option, 86% of dogs will choose to sleep with their human companion.

Treat Underlying Conditions

For dogs with underlying conditions that interfere with sleep, veterinarians may recommend lifestyle changes, therapy, medication, and natural supplements. Pain medication has shown to improve sleep quality for dogs with osteoarthritis.



AKC TV made a live video of our conformation show,

Sign in to [AKC.org](https://www.akc.org)

Then select AKC TV at the top.

Type "Greater Gainesville" in search

You should get a listing of videos.

Select 2022 Greater Gainesville Dog Fanciers Assn.

Select Watch all

There are options for FULL SHOW and Best in Show and Groups that you can select and watch.



Penny Elms, a Dog News Examiner contributor, is a lifelong animal lover and has dedicated the past 4 years to a large, non-profit dog rescue in Washington. Her poem, "I Am A Dog, Not A Thing" is an absolutely heartwarming and eyeopening look at how your dog really does feel about you, even though they can't say it in ways we understand.

I AM A DOG

I am a dog. I am a living, breathing animal. I feel pain, joy, love, fear and pleasure.

I am not a thing. If I am hit – I will bruise, I will bleed, I will break. I will feel pain. I am not a thing.

I am a dog. I enjoy playtime, walk time, but more than anything, I enjoy time with my pack – my family – my people. I want nothing more than to be by the side of my human. I want to sleep where you sleep and walk where you walk. I am a dog and I feel love...I crave companionship.

I enjoy the touch of a kind hand and the softness of a good bed. I want to be inside of the home with my family, not stuck on the end of a chain or alone in a kennel or fenced yard for hours on end. I was born to be a companion, not to live a life of solitude.

I get too cold and I get too hot. I experience hunger and thirst. I am a living creature, not a thing.

When you leave, I want to go with you. If I stay behind, I will eagerly await your return. I long for the sound of your voice. I will do most anything to please you. I live to be your treasured companion.

I am a dog. My actions are not dictated by money, greed, or hatred. I do not know prejudice. I live in the moment and am ruled by love and loyalty.

Do not mistake me for a mindless object. I can feel and I can think. I can experience more than physical pain, I can feel fear and joy. I can feel love and confusion. I have emotions. I understand perhaps more than you do. I am able to comprehend the words you speak to me, but you are not always able to understand me.

I am a dog. I am not able to care for myself without your help. If you choose to tie me up and refuse to feed me, I will starve. If you abandon me on a rural road, I will experience fear and loneliness. I will search for you and wonder why I have been left behind. I am not a piece of property to be dumped and forgotten.

If you choose to leave me at a shelter, I will be frightened and bewildered. I will watch for your return with every footfall that approaches my kennel run.

I am a dog – a living, breathing creature. If you choose to take me home, please provide me with the things that I need to keep me healthy and happy.

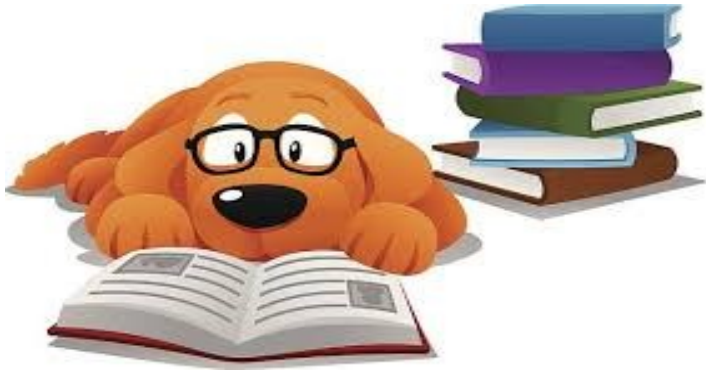
Provide me with good food, clean water, warm shelter and your love. Do not abandon me. Do not kick me. Do not dump me when your life gets too busy. Make a commitment to me for the entirety of my life, or do not take me home in the first place.

If you desert me, I do not have the means to care for myself. I am at the mercy of the kindness of people – if I fall into the wrong hands, my life will be ruined.

I will experience pain, fear and loneliness. If I wind up in an animal shelter, I have only my eyes to implore someone to save me, and my tail to show you that I am a friend. If that is not good enough, I will die.

I am a dog. I want to give and receive love. I want to live. I am not a thing. I am not a piece of property. Please do not discard me. Please treat me with kindness, love and respect. I promise to repay you with unconditional love for as long as I live.





GGDFA Board Meeting 3/8/22

Board meeting called to order at 6:45pm.

Six members in attendance. Pam, Marge, Denise, Sue, Doris and Claire.

Minutes read and approved by Marge and Sue.

Treasurer's Report

Doris plans to send in the club's taxes within the next month or so.

No real activity on accounts this month.

ATM card is now charge card. When received it will need to be audited and approved.

Miscellaneous Discussion

The board of directors would like to schedule a joint BOD and Show Committee meeting to discuss rules to avoid future miscommunication.

Claire will schedule this meeting sometime in May or June.

Motion to adjourn the meeting by Doris. Sue seconded/

Meeting adjourned at 7:21pm.

General Meeting

Meeting began at 7:30pm

Read minutes from last meeting. Reminded that there were only Board minutes as the meeting was a potluck. Minutes approved by Claire and Sharon.

Doris did a Treasurer's recap. Again no real activity this month.

Discussed some issues that need to be decided about the show, These are deferred until that planned show committee meeting.

Nominating committee headed by Doris announced the slate for April voting. With the current board running for their current offices.

Applications and 1st Readings:

Macy Vancleave

- Macy is able to judge Farm Dog and CGC.

Teresa Weber

2nd Reading

Sam Hausauer We also voted Sam as a new member.

A few brags:

Sharon

Callie – Finished Rally Novice and got first leg of Rally Int.

Macy Dane-mix has 3 Qs in Bard Hunt,

Still would like folks to end me recent brags so I can do a brag fkyer and ket folks see what others are up to with there fur kids

Meeting Adjourned at 8:15pm.

Respectfully submitted by Claire Hedrick.



Ribbons from the Show in new Shadowbox format

Best In Show



Highest Scoring Dog. Obedience Trial



April Pet Holidays

Published [2022 Pet Holidays](#) | [Pet Sitters International](#)

• *Month-Long Celebrationss*

- Pet First Aid Awareness Month
- Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Month
- Prevention of Lyme Disease in Dogs Month
- National Heartworm Awareness Month
- Canine Fitness Month

Week Celebrations

April 3-9: International Pooper Scooper Week

April 10-16: National Dog Bite Prevention Week

Day Celebrations

April 10: National Hug Your Dog Day

April 11: National Pet Day

April 23: National Lost Dog Awareness Day

April 24: National Pet Parents Day

April 27: World Veterinary Day

April 28: National Kids and Pets Day

April 30: National Adopt a Shelter Pet Day;
National Therapy Animal Day





GGDFA Newsletter
c/o Claire Hedrick
514 NW 127th Street
Newberry, FL 32669

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED



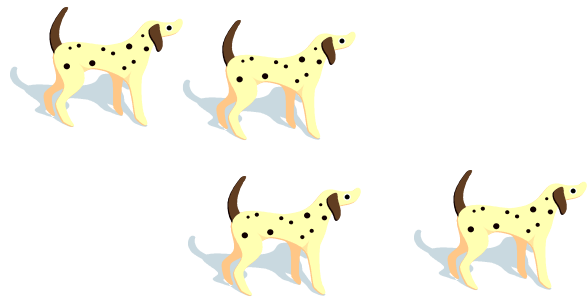
Secretary's Notice of GGDFA Meetings

The next General Meeting of the GGDFA club will be
Tuesday, 04/12—7:30

Next Board Meeting is Tuesday 04/12 —6:45

There WILL **NOT** HAVE A ZOOM MEETING set up. Normal:
Church Location:

PINE GROVE Baptist Church
4200 NW 39th Ave, Gainesville, FL



Training Classes Contact:

Denise Gaboury 316-4543

LOCATION:

OAK HALL SCHOOL - Covered and lighted
Tower Road , Gainesville

Obedience/Rally classes— THURSDAYS 6:00 pm
Conformation classes—Call to make arrangements

Training Classes Contact:

Jeremy White 445-8873

LOCATION:

PINE GROVE Baptist Church
4200 NW 39th Ave
Gainesville, FL

Conformation Classes — SATURDAYS 9:30am
Goal is twice a month—call to make arrangements