



# The Greater Gainesville Dog Fanciers' Association, Inc.

May 2022

Newsletter for Dog Lovers

**G.G.D.F.A.**

**P.O. Box 358332  
Gainesville, Florida  
32635-8332**

[www.ggdfa.org](http://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



**The 2022-2023 officer team is as follows:**

**President: Denise Gaboury**

**1st VP: Pam Rice**

**2nd VP: Kathy Davis**

**Secretary: Elizabeth “Liz” Mignin**

**Treasurer: Doris Horton**

**Board of Directors:**

**Susan Sutton, Claire Hedrick, Marge  
Saucier, Jeremy White.**

## **News From AKC**

Published [www.akc.org](http://www.akc.org)



### **National Purebred Dog Day: Celebrating the Purpose-Bred Dog**

Published by AKC.org

By Denise Flaim 4/22/2022

The adjectives that describe the dogs in our lives frequently also apply to ourselves — whether that’s reserved or energetic, loyal, or stoic. Consciously or not, we are often drawn to breeds that reflect our perception of ourselves and our values, both inside and out. And though those qualities can certainly appear in all dogs, in a purebred dog they are far more consistent and predictable. As we celebrate National Purebred Dog Day on May 1 let’s look at some of the temperaments, history, and aesthetics that draw us to specific breeds.

#### **Purpose-bred and Lovingly Owned**

The purebred dogs in our lives are living, breathing, wagging symbols of the people and places that brought them into being. When you brush your hand across the wiry, weather-resistant coat of a Scottish Deerhound, you evoke the blustery moors that those hardy sighthounds traversed with their springy gait, all the better to navigate the endless expanses of heather. And when your Cavalier King Charles Spaniel perches atop your knees, you are channeling the British royalty and landed gentry who developed these excellent lap-warmers for their limpid-eyed beauty and affectionate temperament.

While today there are still Australian Shepherds that nip at the heels of recalcitrant cows, and Beagles that go off in merry packs in search of rabbits, most purebred dogs happily serve as household pets. The Dalmatian no longer runs behind a horse-drawn fire truck, but if he is a firehouse mascot, he is an integral part of that extended family of lifesavers. And that is the modern-day magic of purebred dogs: Due to changing social and economic shifts, today their main purpose is often to provide companionship and comfort to the humans whose lives and homes they share.

## **The Importance of Maintaining Purebred Dogs**

Even though many purebred dogs no longer serve their original purpose, responsible breeders are committed to maintaining them as close to their original form as possible. In the best sense, they are curators of their chosen breeds. They understand that purebred dogs, with their endless sizes, shapes, and colors, tell our human story. And while Labrador Retrievers, German Shepherd Dogs, and other commonly recognized breeds are numerically robust, there are others — such as Otterhounds and Dandie Dinmonts, to name a few — whose numbers are low enough to be endangered species.

Breeders aren’t just interested in preserving a breed’s physical appearance; what goes on *inside* that beautiful dog is just as important. As with their physical attributes, dogs also pass on genetically ingrained behaviors from generation to generation. Many of the instincts that made dogs indispensable to our forefathers in helping provide food, transportation, and protection are etched in their DNA.

The Pointer’s characteristic, shock-still stance when he scents a quail isn’t learned: it is lying in wait, reinforced through decades if not centuries of purposeful breeding.

#### **From Breeder to Owner**

A breeder’s deep understanding of her chosen breed is what prompts her intense scrutiny of prospective buyers. For a responsible breeder, the point of breeding is to carry on the baton that was handed to her by those who came before. And that starts with placing the right puppy in the right home. Because purebred dogs are usually so predictable, a good breeder can gauge whether a would-be buyer will be able to cope with a dog’s full-grown size, temperament, energy level, and grooming demands.

By being savvy matchmakers — which includes turning away those who just aren’t the right fit for their particular breed — breeders dramatically increase the chances of a home being forever. And if a dog does wind up in a shelter, each AKC parent club has a rescue organization whose volunteers get dogs out of harm’s way, foster them while they receive any medical or behavioral help needed, and then place them in loving homes.

## National Purebreed(Continued)

Published [www.akc.org](http://www.akc.org)

Contributed by Marj Spence

Owners, in turn, are ambassadors for a breed, whether they intend to be or not. Every time their dog is in public, they are shaping opinions of the breed. Many may not know the history of their breed, why it is a certain size or color, and how these attributes helped their dogs' ancestors do their jobs. These owners just know that they have a special connection with the breed that they have chosen. And because the only thing that stands between a breed thriving and possible extinction are loving owners, this strong connection is vitally important.

### Registering your Purebred Puppy

The AKC is the only purebred dog registry in the United States that maintains an investigation and inspection effort. The AKC conducts thousands of inspections each year to ensure compliance with standards that support the health, safety, and welfare of dogs and the environments in which they live.



When your Cavalier King Charles Spaniel lays on you, you are channeling the British royalty who developed these excellent lap-warmers.



The number of Otterhounds is low enough for the breed to be considered an endangered species.

## BIOLOGY OF DOG AGGRESSION

<https://www.puppyworks.com/aggression>

### From Bad Beginnings, Bacterial Biomes & DNA to Bruised Brains!

A live online webinar presented by

**Dr. Tim Lewis**

**Saturdays June 18 & 25, 2022**

4 CEU's Total

Includes access to recording for 1

### GROUP RATES 4+ ATTENDEES:

All 2 Sessions \$45.00 per attendee

### INDIVIDUAL RATES:

All 2 Sessions \$55.00

Rates includes OnDemand access to watch anywhere, anytime on almost any device...for 1 year!

### WHAT IT'S ABOUT

More than ever before canine professionals are approached by clients with dogs who exhibit aggressive behavior. Within the population both have increased, the number of dogs exhibiting various degrees of aggression as well as people's sensitivity to aggressive dog behavior.

In this two-part webinar series, we will look at the biological and environmental causes of dog aggression from DNA through gut biomes to chronic stress. We will look at the biological mechanisms behind different management and treatment options so you better understand what might work and when.

Environmental and learning effects are always superimposed upon genetic influences, but aggressive behavior does not occur in a biological vacuum. We will define "normal aggression" versus symptoms for maladaptive aggression responses.



## 5 Games to Play with Your Dog

Contributed by Denise Gaboury

**Finding fun and constructive ways to play with your dog is one of the best parts of being a dog owner.**

The best games for dogs not only provide physical exercise but also offer mental stimulation. Below are five games to play with your dog to keep him excited, engaged and stimulated.

### 1. Chase the Prey

Chase the Prey lets your dog use his natural prey instincts in a non-destructive way. It also gives him the opportunity to practice impulse control by dropping the object on command.

Using a flirt pole (a long pole, pipe or stick with a rope attached), tie a toy or some other lure to the rope. Drag it slowly and stop occasionally rather than waving it around rapidly. The slow pursuit helps your dog learn to focus.

Let him catch the lure every so often as a reward. If he never wins, he may get discouraged and lose interest.

### 2. Hide the Treat or Hide & Seek

Hide the Treat is a great brain game for dogs, as it allows them to use their problem-solving skills. Hide it in a place that's difficult to get to and leave a trail of scent by rubbing it on a few spots along the way.

Use language like "hot" and "cold" as your dog gets closer or further away from the treat. Changing your tone from calm for "cold" to excited for "warm" and "hot" will build his listening skills, too.

Like Hide the Treat, Hide and Seek uses his scent-tracking abilities. Plus, it gives him the opportunity to practice commands like "stay" and "come."

Have your dog stay while you hide. Once you're in position, tell him to come and give him lots of praise when he finds you. If he doesn't know "stay" yet, have someone distract him until you call.

### 3. Fetch

Fetch is a great game for energetic dogs. It provides plenty of physical exercise while fulfilling their natural instinct to run.

A more advanced alternative to regular fetch is Frisbee, which is a little more challenging to catch than a ball. To keep your dog mentally and physically engaged and challenged, vary the height, distance and direction of your throws.

### 4. Tug of War

Tug of War is a good outdoor or indoor game for dogs. Not only is it fun and engaging, but the pulling and tugging also makes good physical exercise.

To keep it engaging and fun, let him win occasionally. Don't forget to practice commands like "drop it," though.

### 5. Agility Training

For the ultimate mental and physical stimulation, try agility training. It may even tire your dog out more than a long walk would.

Set up an obstacle course in your backyard with objects from around the house. You can place boxes for him to jump over and cones to weave between.

You can also try hula hoop leaping. Once your dog gets the concept, reward him with lots of praise and affection.

## Avoid Overstimulation

Outdoor and indoor games for dogs are beneficial, but anything that's too aggressive or lasts too long can lead to overstimulation. End play sessions while you and your dog are both still having a good time. This leaves him excited for his next play session rather than exhausted and discouraged.

By playing these games for dogs with your own furry friend, you'll keep him active and mentally stimulated, but most of all, happy. If you need treats for games like Hide the Treat or for rewards.



## Why Does My Dog Eat Dirt

Published AKC.org  
By Kristie Lotz  
Contributed by Denise Gaboury

As a pet owner, you may have caught your dog eating (or attempting to eat) some pretty weird stuff. But, have you ever observed your pup snacking on straight-up dirt?

Holistic veterinarian Dr. Laurie S. Coger, DVM, explains, “Dirt eating is a form of what is termed ‘pica,’ the ingestion of nonfood materials. There are many causes, including nutritional, behavioral, and physical. Stress or boredom can also lead to eating all sorts of things, including dirt.”

If your dog is continually eating dirt, you shouldn’t discount this behavior, as it could be a sign of a bigger issue, such as:

- Anemia (low red blood cell count)
- Nutritional imbalances or deficiencies, especially in minerals
- Low-quality food
- Upset stomach
- Gastrointestinal disturbance

Dr. Coger notes that while stomach and gastrointestinal issues could be to blame for your dog’s interest in dirt, canines are more likely to seek out grass in these cases. “If [the dirt eating] is frequent, intense/manic in nature, or large quantities are consumed, then it’s time to go to the vet,” she says.

“Changes in stool would be another sign that a vet visit is in order. Blood work to look for underlying abnormalities may be helpful in pinpointing a cause.”

### The Dangers of Dirt

As you may expect, there are risks to letting your dog continually eat dirt. The main one being impaction of the intestine if your dog eats a lot at once. Impaction often means surgery. “The dirt could also contain pesticides, fertilizers, or other toxins that could reach toxic levels if enough dirt was ingested,” Dr. Coger adds. “Depending on the dirt, dental damage or wear could also be a concern.” If the dirt has rocks in it, for example, it could cause damage to your dog’s teeth and cause obstruction in the throat or any point along the digestive tract. Sharp sticks could puncture the

linings of your dog’s mouth, throat, intestine, or stomach. It’s also possible that your dog could ingest a parasite along with the dirt, which can cause a range of additional health issues.

“I would add that any new, unnatural behavior, such as dirt eating, should be acted upon quickly,” Dr. Coger says. “Both because of possible serious underlying causes and before it becomes a habit. Dogs will learn from other dogs in the house, and who wants a houseful of dirt eaters?”

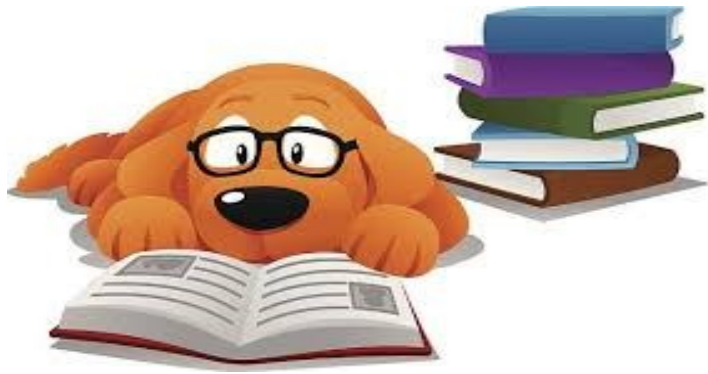
### Preventing Dirt Eating in Dogs

If you’re worried that your dog’s dirt eating is due to a nutritional imbalance, you should consult your veterinarian about your canine companion’s diet and whether changes need to be made.

On the behavior side, make sure your dog is getting enough physical and mental exercise to curb dirt eating that stems from boredom. If all else fails, “denying access to favorite dirt-eating areas may be required,” Dr. Coger says. Remember, dirt eating may be a sign of something bigger, so you should never ignore it.



***It's Time to Paws and Reflect  
Anywhere With You  
is Paw-fecton***



## **GGDFA Meetings - 04/12/2022**

Board meeting called to order at 6:51pm.  
Seven members were in attendance.

Liz read the minutes from 3/8/2022. Jeremy moved to approve the minutes, Marge seconded.

### **Miscellaneous Discussion**

Denise shared that most of the judges have been secured for next year's show.

Liz will be absent from meetings until August 2022. An interim secretary will be needed while she is abroad.

Jeremy asked about creating a PayPal account for the club for members to pay yearly dues/gate dues at the show.

Doris asked about ways to minimize the risks. She will look into creating a second checking account for the club with a small amount of money in it.  
Follow up at next meeting.

Jeremy was approached by Tracks Canine Dock Diving in Chiefland about sponsoring some of their events. Discussion tabled until next meeting.

Discussion on adding a page to the website for recommendations for dog training in the Gainesville area

The goal would be to have names and numbers of people within our club and in the surrounding area, and then design a space on the website where these resources could be listed in one cohesive list.

Paws on Parole has been permanently suspended due to the owner's health issues. BOD moved to have St Francis Pet Care be our new sponsorship.

Claire brought up a club member who has recently passed away. Jeremy motioned to donate 100 dollars to St Francis Pet Care in her name. Marge seconded.

In the future, anyone who is a member of the club and passes away will have a donation made in their name to St. Francis Pet Care.

### **Treasurer's Report**

Claire has received all the receipts from the dog show from Doris, and these will be sorted and stored.

Minimal interest has accrued on each account. Some of the funds within the Truist checking account will be placed into a savings account.

Marge moved to have Doris inquire about a long-term savings account to accrue more interest. Susan seconded.

Several small bills have been paid over the course of the month.

Checks have been reordered, as the wrong type was originally sent.

Doris moved to adjourn the meeting, and Jeremy seconded. Meeting adjourned at 7:31pm.

### **General Body Meeting**

Sixteen members in attendance.  
Meeting called to order at 7:33pm.

Liz read the minutes from 3/8/22. Unanimously approved.

### **Nominations**

Per parliamentary procedure, Liz voted as the secretary to keep the slate as read, since no one is running against the current officer team.

The 2022-2023 officer team is as follow:

President: Denise Gaboury

1st VP: Pam Rice

2nd VP: Kathy Davis

Secretary: Elizabeth "Liz" Mignin

Treasurer: Doris Horton

Board of Directors:

Susan Sutton, Claire Hedrick, Marge Saucier, Jeremy White.

### **Treasurer's Report**

Abbreviated version from the board meeting was given by Liz. Doris checked for accuracy afterwards.

## Minutes (cont)

### Miscellaneous Discussion

Claire has been in contact with Lake Eustace about determining who is in charge of the porta potties for future shows (i.e. environmental issues)

The joint BOD and show committee meeting has been pushed until June due to Claire's upcoming surgery.

Denise encouraged members to brainstorm social functions for the club, as long as those members are willing to help coordinate the event.

Doris mentioned One Love Cafe as a potential meet up spot.

Ideas circled about having a get together at a bar, coffee shop, live music place, or cookout.

Marcelo Veras contacted Jeremy, and he is interested in doing a one-day handling class for the club.

### New members

1st reading for Michele Peel

She owns Shetland Sheepdogs and is interested in obedience.

1st reading for April Albert

She owns a Belgian Malinois and Belgian Sheepdogs, and she is interested in agility, conformation, herding, obedience, and tracking.

2nd reading for Macy Van Cleave

She was unanimously voted in as a member of the club!

### Club BRAGS!

Elaine and Keith: They have a new champion beagle, and they received 2 majors and 2 points in one weekend on a 7 month old beagle. They received an FCAT title on another beagle, and Elaine was invited to judge sweeps at a beagle speciality.

Michele Peel: She just got a new Shetland Sheepdog!

Keith moved to adjourn the meeting, and Jeremy seconded. Meeting adjourned at 8:12pm.

**Respectfully submitted by Elizabeth "Liz" Mignin.**

**Next board meeting will be on May 10, 2022 at 6:45pm.**

**Next general meeting will be on May 10, 2022 at 7:30pm.**

## May Pet Holidays

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

### *Month-Long Celebrationss*

- PSI's Pet Sitter Safety Month™
- National Pet Month
- Chip Your Pet Month
- Responsible Animal Guardian Month

### *Week Celebrations*

**May 1-7:** National Pet Week®; Be Kind to Animals Week®; National Small Business Week

### *Day Celebrations*

**May 1:** Mayday for Mutts

**May 3:** National Specially-Abled Pets Day

**May 7:** National Dog Mom's Day

**May 14:** International Chihuahua Appreciation Day; National Animal Disaster Preparedness Day

**May 20:** National Rescue Dog Day





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

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED



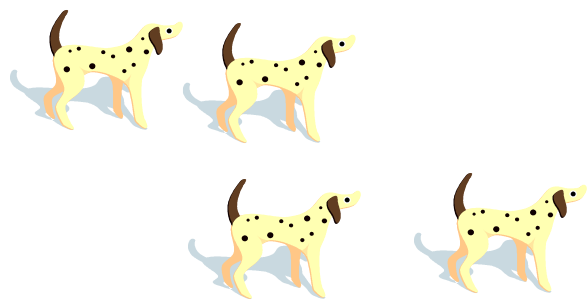
### Secretary's Notice of GGDFA Meetings

The next General Meeting of the GGDFA club will be  
**Tuesday, 05/10—7:30**

Next Board Meeting is Tuesday 05/10 —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