



The Greater Gainesville Dog Fanciers' Association, Inc.

October 2015

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:
4th Tuesday each month

Club Officers

President — Denise Gaboury
1st VP — Pam Rice
2nd VP — Carol Lamb
Secretary — Sarah Wingfield
Treasurer — Doris Horton

Club Directors

Debbie Brauneck
Kathy Davis
John McKamey
Claire Hedrick

Newsletter Editor

Claire Hedrick

Membership Chair

Kathy Davis

Happy Autumn!!!



NEW LINK ON OUR WEBSITE!!

PET SAFETY-EXPERTISE—Home Safety Guide for Pet Owners

To many of the 164 million American pet owners their animals are part of their family.¹ Pet owners make huge investments in food, toys, and much more to ensure their companions have happy and fulfilling lives.

In total, Americans spend more than \$50 billion per year on pets,² mostly on food and health costs. That's more money than what's spent on coffee and bottled water combined! In the midst of all that care and cost, many pet owners don't think to look to the risks that exist for their pets in their own home. If you love your pet enough to invest in their care in so many other quarters, you shouldn't let the space they spend their days be the thing that could cause them harm.

This guide was created so you can understand the many health hazards present in the average home, and make quick impactful changes to make your home safer for your pets. **CHECK IT OUT!**

News From AKC

Published www.akc.org

Three Reasons to Microchip Your Dog

Liz Donovan, AMERICAN KENNEL CLUB
September 25, 2015

If you haven't yet microchipped your dog, hear us out. There's a reason this process, which involves implanting a rice-sized chip between a pet's shoulder blades, is so popular and highly recommended by veterinarians, breeders, and animal-rescue organizations. In fact, it's even become law in Ireland, England, and Scotland for all dogs to be microchipped.

Below are three reasons why it can be an invaluable decision:

If your dog gets lost. Don't think it'll never happen to your dog. AKC Reunite reports that one in three dogs go missing at some point in their lifetime. Unlike a collar, which can easily break, fall off, or be removed, a microchip is a reliable way to get your contact information—as well as vital information about your dog's medical conditions—and increase the odds he'll be returned to you if he's found. Read tips on what to do if your pet goes missing in a complementary e-book at the link below.

If your dog is stolen. Recently, we shared the story of Waffles, a Cairn Terrier who was stolen and dyed black by a homeless woman to hide his identity. When the owner tracked the dog down, the woman denied Waffles was his dog. A microchip cleared up the dispute with a quick scan. Here are tips on what to do if your dog is stolen.

If something happens to you. A recent article in Wired detailed a writer's story of witnessing an elderly woman get hit by a car while walking her dog. The woman, who was severely injured, had no form of identification on her, but a scan of her dog's microchip got the hospital in touch with the woman's family. Meanwhile, the veterinarian, who had cared for the dog for years, offered to board her while her owner was in the hospital. Let this serve as an example of how having identification for your pet is just as important as having it for yourself.

Learn more about microchips in this exclusive video produced by AKC:

MICROCHIPPING YOUR DOG—AKC REUNITE

Mind Your P's & Q's! When and How to Use Verbal Commands

Published : www.akc.org

By AKC GoodDog! Helpline Trainer Breanne Long
September 30, 2015

This is Part 1 of a three-part series on using verbal cues/commands correctly. You may be surprised to learn that the verbal cue is not important when you first start training a new behavior.

A common mistake seen among puppy owners is adding cue words too early. If you name a behavior before your dog is doing it correctly, you're inadvertently naming the wrong thing.

Imagine you're luring your dog into the down position, you repeat the word 'down, down, down' as your dog paws at your hand, sits, bows, and does everything other than lying down. What action are you pairing with the word 'down'? Probably not the one you thought you were!

A good rule of thumb when training is the 80 percent rule. When your dog can perform a behavior 80 percent of the time on a hand signal and/or with a food lure, you can start to name the action.

Try putting 10 treats in your hand; every time your dog IS able to perform the action you're asking through luring or hand signals, feed him a treat. Every time your dog is NOT able to perform the action, set the treat aside.

If you have two or fewer treats set aside at the end of your session, you are ready to add the cue! If you have three or more, plan on a few more practice sessions before naming the behavior so you can be sure you're really naming the action you want.

The AKC GoodDog! Helpline is a seven-day-a-week telephone support service staffed by experienced dog trainers: www.akcgooddoghelpline.org.



Success in Show Dogs: Breed Type Is Flexible, Not Liquid

Published Cyberdobes@yahoo.com
Submitted by Denise Gaboury

If there is anything that will confuse someone trying to get a handle on correct type in a dog breed, it is to hear about all the "different types" there are in the breed.

Few German Shepherds are able to satisfy both breed specialists and all-around judges. Jane Firestone's Jimmy Moses-handled Ch. Altana's Mystique was a noted exception, winning 275 all-breed Bests in Show and countless specialty wins under some of the breed's most respected breeder-judges.

If there is anything that will confuse someone trying to get a handle on correct type in a dog breed, it is to hear about all the "different types" there are in the breed — the mountain type, the jungle type, the living room type, the boudoir type. When we look to the breed standard, we find not a word about any of these "types." What the breed standard says is what makes a good individual dog of the breed and the things that make a not-so-good dog of the breed.

To listen to some of these exponents of "types," I wonder how in the world they ever get to create a picture of the ideal dog in their mind's eye.

Correct type is the ideal. Dog perfection, if you will. We all know that perfection rarely if ever occurs in purebred dogs. Even our best dogs will fall either slightly to the left or a bit to the right of it. In this respect, some flexibility in interpreting the breed standard must be allowed. A word of caution here, however: This does not mean that an individual's interpretation of the ideal dog described in the breed standard can flow as far and wide as some might like to see it go. There can be observable differences within dogs of the same breed without straying from the original concept of the dog breed (the breed standard). These dogs remain within the parameters of correct breed type but are of different styles.

Common sense tells us every person who reads the breed standard will interpret it in a slightly different manner. It is critical to understand that these interpretations do not change the breed standard or the origin and purpose of the dog breed. The latter are facts that remain constant no matter who reads the standard, studies the breed's history or becomes a breeder. These facts stand firm regardless of how

well or how poorly they are understood. If we allow interpretations to create correct type, the variations could and would extend beyond recognition. Correct type is what puts the reins on this happening.

No one should breed or judge show dogs without knowing all the implications of the preceding paragraph!

Styles Within the Breed Standard

Interpretations of the breed standard do create the styles that will always exist within correct type, but they do not and cannot create type itself. A good part of the reluctance to abandon the belief that there are many types within a dog breed stems from the fear that if there is only one type, an individual dog breeder or exhibitor may not have it. It may not align with their particular interpretation of the breed standard.

Accepting the interpretations or variations as styles rather than types can help immeasurably in reassuring a dog breeder or dog show judge that the breed variations do exist, and they can, within limits, be considered under the umbrella of correct type.

This can be in a single characteristic or in the manner that a whole series of characteristics combine to create a different look. For instance, a single characteristic like length of neck can change the style of a purebred dog significantly. The opposite end of the style spectrum would be adding size, bone and coat to a breed.

One dog breeder may believe just a little less neck creates a picture of greater stability. Another may see more length as helping portray the breed more accurately. Neither of the two styles is taken to extremes, yet each produces a different look, both within the realm of correctness.

Each of the two breeders becomes known for their style of dog.

A conformation dog show judge comes along and selects the dog he feels characterizes the breed best. It could come from either the style of dog Breeder "A" produces or Breeder "B." However, the judge must keep in mind what the ideal is and when given the choice opt for the ideal or as close to it as he can get on the day — in this case the neck being neither too long for the standard, nor too short for it. This is a simplification, of course, but it's presented simply in order to get the point across.

Understand, the allowance for style doesn't permit Breeder "A" to make his breed look like a giraffe nor

Success in Show Dogs—continued

does it give Breeder "B" the right to breed a neck that is far more fitting for a hippopotamus. There are common-sense limits that keep us from going too far in either direction.

Acknowledging deviations from perfection as different types somehow implies that the deviations are just as good as the ideal, and therefore there is no need to be concerned with achieving the ideal nor, because ideal is not the operative word, does one need to worry about extremes. It becomes a breed-as-you-may, judge-as-you-may situation. Perfection may not be achievable, but that doesn't eliminate our responsibility to constantly work toward getting as close to it as possible. It is the very purpose for having written breed standards. An analogy I have used many times is: The great difficulty in climbing to the top of the mountain does not eliminate the mountaintop!

The Role of the Dog Show Judge

There are times when a variation, a style, may be acceptable but not preferable. What follows will take some thinking about in that it flies in the face of "modern" dog show judging. Judging that gives an eye to the breed's future or how a show dog may contribute to or hamper its breed exceeds judging responsibility.

A more "old-fashioned" approach assumes a judge's responsibility is to select the best breeding stock from that present. It is apt to be but not exclusively a characteristic of the breeder-judge. If attention is paid to such judging, great contributions can be made to a breed that may sorely need help in certain areas. The all-rounder, particularly the newer all-rounder, understandably may not be close enough to the breed to make calls of this nature.

In all dog breeds, as said above, we have quality dogs falling to both the left and right of that target of perfection. Let's use the Bichon Frisé breed as an example. To the one side we have a Bichon Frisé a shade sturdier in makeup — in bone and substance throughout — thereby creating a slightly longer, lower picture. To the other side we have a proportionately taller, more elegantly boned Bichon with slightly greater length and arch to the neck, giving the appearance of a leggier, more exaggerated dog..

They both fall within the spectrum of an acceptable Bichon Frisé, yet they are of entirely different styles. Both Bichons Frisés maintain correct type in that they deviate from the ideal only slightly.

What might the specialist say in regard to the two Bichons Frisés? A breeder-judge might give each of the dogs an important win at different times depending upon the circumstances of the day. Faced with the decision between the two, the breeder-judge might well choose the slightly leggier dog because experience in the breed has taught the judge the "drag" of the breed at hand drifts to an incorrect, heavier-cast, shorter-legged and shorter-necked dog.

This is a much different situation than a judge or breeder who has made a predetermination that a long neck is the only way to go in the Bichon Frisé breed irrespective of all else. The standard of the Bichon Frisé does not state that the only thing of consequence in the breed is a long neck and does not indicate in any part that a breeder or judge has license to approach the breed in this manner. A judge, whether specialist or all-rounder, who enters the ring determined to reward only the style of Bichon Frisé he prefers is in grave danger of putting up a lesser dog over a better one that happens to fall slightly toward another style. Such a judge has forgotten that it's all about putting up the dog with the most quality as described in the standard.

I find myself unable to agree that the good all-rounder and the good specialist should always end up in the same place. This is not to serve as a comment in favor of one type of dog show judge or the other. Only the most presumptive all-rounder judge could expect to know the nuances of, say, the Shiba Inu to the extent a longtime and successful breeder-judge would, nor would he hope to fully understand the fluctuations that exist as the immature Shiba Inu puppy passes on through the various stages on the road to maturity.

On the other hand, the average specialist does not delude himself thinking he can walk into the Shiba Inu ring with the decided advantage of being intimately familiar with all the Spitz breeds and a solid background in overall conformation, bone structure balance and movement.

It should be obvious both the specialist judge and all-rounder judge are needed. The good dog breeder is one whose aim is to produce a line of dogs to succeed under both.

Perhaps we might come closer together — those of us who opt for one true breed type and those who say there are many breed types — if we were simply to agree there are variations within a dog breed but standing out there just beyond the variations is that one shining image of purebreed perfection. That is the one we might both call the impossible dream, the one we all aspire to.

GARAGE SALE

It was so Nice, we decided to do it Twice! The last yard sale to raise funds for Paws on Parole was a great success, we raised just over \$500 in one afternoon! However, we did not sell everything and many people missed the opportunity to donate. We decided to take advantage of the milder Fall weather and set up another sale for Saturday, October 17th, 2015. Here's the details:

When: Saturday, October 17th (8am-12pm)

Where:

Claire's House (514 NW 127th Street - just off West Newberry Road before the entrance to Town of Tioga)

What: Yard Sale (donations still needed!)

Why:

To raise money for local charity program - Paws on Parole (www.pawsonparole.com)

Who: Everyone is invited!

Q&A:

Do you still have items for the yard sale? Bring them by Saturday morning for the sale, or if you need to drop off earlier please coordinate with Claire Hedrick (claire@ggdfa.org). Note: we are limited on storage space, coordinating with Claire in advance would be best.

How else can you help? We need a few more helpers to sell items and organize, get to Claire's location before the sale to help out. We also need buyers, so bring your wallets! Lastly, we need word of mouth - so please post to Facebook, Twitter, Instagram and text your friends to come out and peruse the wares. You can share my post from Facebook to save yourself from re-typing the details: <https://www.facebook.com/events/1133806483301266/>

What is our goal? We are looking to raise \$1,500 to support Paws on Parole (we have already raised over \$600!)



Plans for our next show have begun. MBF is already working on our premium list.

Our next Gator Cluster will be January 28th - 31st, 2016
GGDFA days are Saturday (1/30) and Sunday (1/31)

This classic cluster is a combined effort between GGDFa and lake Eustis Kennel Club. We are excited about adding new classes for the National Owner Handler Series this year,

Please contact Claire Hedrick if you would like to volunteer or know anything about our event.

SPECIAL THANKS to Doris Horton for updating our Classic logo so we have a great "branding" for our event.

DOG FACTS

The phrase "raining cats and dogs" originated in seventeenth-century England. During heavy rainstorms, many homeless animals would drown and float down the streets, giving the appearance that it had actually rained cats and dogs.

The American Kennel Club, the most influential dog club in the United States, was founded in 1884.





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 will be **Tuesday, Oct 13th**, promptly at 7:30 pm PINE GROVE BAPTIST CHURCH, 4200 NW 39TH AVE, Gainesville, FL

The next Board Meeting will be Tuesday, **Oct 27th**

Training Classes

LOCATION:

OAK HALL SCHOOL - Covered and lighted
Tower Road , Gainesville

Obedience/Rally classes— Thursdays 6:00 pm
With Denise Gaboury 316-4543

Conformation classes— Thursdays 7:00 pm
With Claire Hedrick 339-6208



Newsletter

The views and opinions in this newsletter are not necessarily those of the Newsletter Editor or those of the GGDFA Officers and Board of Directors.

The editor reserves the right to edit or withhold copy that which may be detrimental to the standards of this publication. The deadline for submission of articles, announcements, and brags to the newsletter is the 15th of each month. Materials received after that date will appear in the following month's publication, depending upon space availability.

You can email the editor at claire@ggdfa.org.