



The Greater Gainesville Dog Fanciers' Association, Inc.

December 2025

Newsletter for Dog Lovers

G.G.D.F.A.

P.O. Box 358332 Gainesville,
FL 32635-8332

www.ggdfa.org

General Meetings:

7:30 pm on the

2nd Tuesday of every month at

PINE GROVE Baptist Church

4200 NW 39th Ave

Gainesville, FL

Board meetings precede.

Club Officers

President — Denise Gaboury

cedargambol@gmail.com

1st VP — Pam Rice

2nd VP — Macy Van Cleaver

Secretary — Joyce De Braganca

Treasurer — Doris Horton

Club Directors:

Kathy Davis

Marge Saucier

Sue Sutton

Susan Iserhardt

Newsletter Editor: Ashley Sanders

gatorsanders@gmail.com

Membership Chair: Kathy Davis

Website Manager: Barb Copping



Arvind with Gigi, Dax, Sawyer, and Sia

In this month's edition...

AKC News – Antimicrobial Stewardship	2
Veterinary College News	2
Dogs and the Law	3
Dog Lore	3
Minutes	4

IMPORTANT NOTES

Reminder: The DECEMBER meeting will be on the FIRST Tuesday (December 2) at the New Deal Café (Mildred's Big City Food).

Our Annual Show is January 24th and 25th!

See show premium for details:

<https://www.ggdfa.org/gator-classic-2026.pdf>



AMERICAN
KENNEL CLUB

AKC News

AVMA and AKC Collaborate on Antimicrobial Stewardship

<https://www.akc.org/expert-advice/news/antimicrobial-awareness/>

Since 1998, AVMA has promoted antimicrobial stewardship --the careful, responsible oversight of antimicrobial drugs to preserve their success and protect animal, public, and environmental health. Antimicrobial resistance, which occurs when microorganisms survive and reproduce despite drug use, has increased significantly since 1940 and is a major concern in both veterinary and human medicine.

Consequences of resistance include limited treatment options, increased risk of resistance spread to other animals and humans, and higher medical costs. Examples like MRSA and colistin-resistant E. coli show this resistance is already threatening animal welfare and human health.

A recent study found a higher occurrence of antimicrobial resistance in healthy breeding dogs compared to household pets (e.g., 38.5% positive for a resistant E. coli strain in breeding bitches vs. 12.5% in household dogs). Dog breeders often contribute to the problem through self-medication without a proper veterinary diagnosis. Breeders must advocate for disease prevention through proper husbandry, nutrition, hygiene, parasite control, and vaccination. When antimicrobials are needed, their selection and use should be made with veterinary guidance.

The AVMA and AKC are planning an educational session with a Q&A panel for breeder-veterinarians and dog breeders at the AKC National Championship Dog Show in Orlando, Florida, this December 2025. This collaboration aims to improve the future health of breeding dogs and their puppies.

From the pages of veterinary colleges...



The Dog Aging Project is an innovative research initiative that brings together a community of dogs, owners, veterinarians, researchers, and volunteers to carry out the most ambitious canine health study in the world. The Dog Aging Project team will follow tens of thousands of companion dogs for ten years or more to identify the biological, lifestyle, and environmental factors that maximize healthy longevity. The goals of the project are to increase our ability to diagnose, treat, and ultimately prevent age-related diseases, thereby helping our dogs, and by extension, ourselves, live longer, healthier lives.

In addition to core leadership based at the University of Washington and Texas A&M, the project includes expert scientists and research veterinarians from over 20 research institutions and veterinary teaching hospitals. The true strength of the project is active participation by enrollees to support community science, collecting extensive data on the dogs, including diet, exercise, medications, and environmental exposures.

The Dog Aging Project is actively enrolling participants who live within the fifty US states (excluding US territories). Our human participants should have access to a computer (desktop or laptop) and reliable internet service so that they can complete online surveys about their dog.

Want to enroll your dog?

Visit dogagingproject.org and click the purple Enroll Your Dog button..



Dogs and the Law

New Dog Breeding Legislation

On November 25, 2025, Governor DeSantis announced a proposal aimed at protecting puppies in Florida. In partnership with the Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, the state will develop standard practices to ensure ethical dog breeding and hold accountable puppy mills that abuse dogs. In his remarks, the Governor said,

“In Florida, we will always fight to protect man’s best friend. The proposal we announced today will end unethical puppy mills, hold accountable abusive breeders, and help shelter dogs find loving homes.”

Legislation proposed earlier this year, which was strongly opposed by the AKC for overreach that would have severely affected reputable hobby breeders, included:

- **Required licensing of breeders with the Florida Department of Business and Professional Regulation.**
- **Inspection and regulation of breeding facilities through the Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services.**

These bills were not passed. The Governor’s current proposal includes:

- **Developing additional legislation that provides for increased penalties for individuals who abuse or torture animals in front of a minor.**
- **Establishing a hotline for individuals to call and report abuse by breeders to better crack down on bad actors.**
- **Creation of a database of convicted abusers.**
- **New rules for veterinarians.**
- **Requirements for pet stores to offer their space to local shelters for adoption before they use that space to sell dogs from puppy mills.**

The overall goal of the new proposals is to eliminate the inhumane treatment commonly seen at puppy mills. This includes overbreeding, unsafe kennels, extreme weather exposure, and lack of proper nutrition or water.

Dog Lore

Dogs and Christmas – Together from the beginning

A Spanish legend tells of the dogs *Cubilon, Lubina, and Melampo* accompanying their shepherds to that first Christmas in Bethlehem. The 3 dogs gazed upon the baby Jesus and were blessed by the holy infant's smile. Many dogs in Grenada are still named for these famous canines.

During Victorian times, when many of our ‘modern’ Christmas traditions are rooted, dogs began appearing in seasonal illustrations, and on holiday cards, often pictured in the snow, cozy fireside, or delivering tiny parcels. The mid 20th century saw dogs becoming increasingly part of the family, and the first marketing of presents for the family dog began.

Dogs are commonly featured in Christmas stories and movies, whether they are saving the day or stealing the turkey. For some of the best holiday watches try this list of [Christmas Dog Movies](#).

While we love making the dogs in our lives part of this holiday season, we recommend caution for all considering a puppy as a present. You may be thinking that a warm fuzzy bundle of happiness is a wonderful gift, but it comes with responsibility that should never be part of a good surprise.





Meeting Notes (Digest Minutes)...

Tuesday November 11, 2025 at Pine Grove Baptist Church

Meeting abbreviated due to COLD.

The next meeting will be on the FIRST Tuesday (December 2) at: New Deal Café (Mildred's Big City Food).

We will have our annual gift exchange and enjoy good company and good food!