



Ruff Notes

Monterey Bay Dog Training Club Scholarship Awarded

This year's Monterey Bay Dog Training Club Scholarship has been awarded to Anna DeVincenzi, a student in Veterinary Medicine (Class of 2005) at UC Davis.

Ms DeVincenzi, who makes her home in Davis is a graduate of Mountain View High School and UC Santa Cruz where she obtained a Bachelor of Arts degree in Psychobiology. Despite working at a veterinary clinic as well as the Sacramento City Animal Shelter, Ms. DeVincenzi is maintaining a 3.1 Grade Point Average.

Ms. Devincenzi is president of the student organization Fix our Ferals, an organization dedicated to the humane trapping and spay/neuter of feral cats in Alameda & Contra Costa Counties.

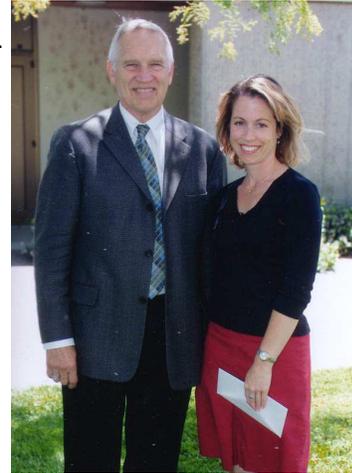
In her thank you letter to MBDTC, Ms. DeVincenzi says " I am very honored to have been chosen for this award and I would like to sincerely thank you both for your generosity. As I rely completely on

financial aid and scholarships to finance my veterinary education, this award

is truly valued and appreciated."

Following the completion of her studies, Ms. Devincenzi hopes to

enter small animal practice.



From the Presidential Kennel

Slowly but surely, members are renewing... If you've renewed, but did not fill out your Committee Preference Sheet, you still have time to e-mail me and volunteer for positions. I don't think the influx will knock my server out of commission! Kudos and biscuits to Bob Hupp for being the runaway winner in the volunteer sweepstakes. Bob is the winner in the quantity category; having volunteered to assist with virtually every activity the club participates in. Michael Bashista is my current quality winner, taking on the Chair duties for the Fair Demo

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Upcoming Events

Aug 1	Obedience Trial
Aug 2	Board Meeting
Aug 24	Ruff Notes Deadline
Aug 31	Watsonville Final Classes

Sep 1	Pet Pals, Soquel Final Classes
Sep 2	Capitola & Salinas Final Classes

Legislative Alert

Last month, we warned of an attempt by Gov. Schwarzenegger to repeal the Hayden Act which, among other provisions, requires animal shelters to attempt to locate the owners of lost pets. Thanks to the timely intervention of the governor's daughter, this attempt has been abandoned.

SB1548, which would ban ear cropping, is still very much alive and well in the legislature.

Per the AKC web site:

Additional help is now needed if fanciers are to defeat this legislation. Having passed the Assembly Committee on Business and Professions, SB1548 is now with the Committee on Appropriations. Purebred dog owners are encouraged to contact the committee members below and ask them not to place the bill on the docket for consideration. E-mails and faxes should be clearly marked SB1548-OPPOSITION.

It is particularly important for constituents of the committee members to weigh in on this issue. To find out who your state assemblyman is, please visit:

<http://www.leginfo.ca.gov/yourleg.html>.

SB1548 currently has the support of the veterinary community because it contains many positive regulatory changes they would like to see enacted. AKC is therefore also urging fanciers to contact their veterinarians and ask for their help in removing the ear cropping provision from

the bill. Local veterinarians should contact the bill sponsor directly, as well as the California Veterinarian Medical Association (CVMA), and strongly urge



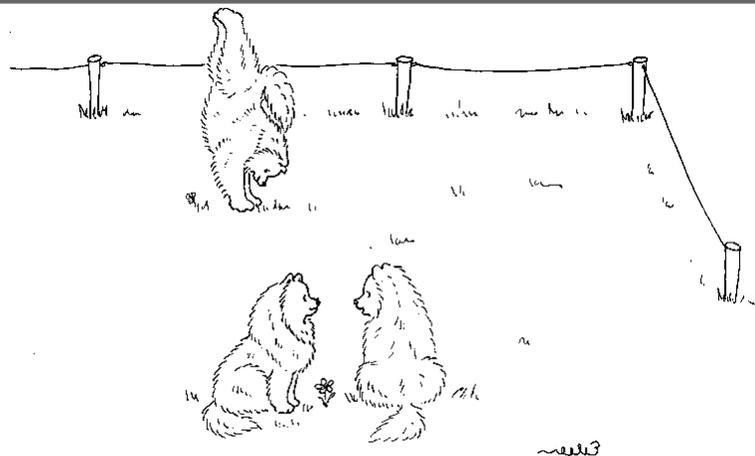
Your Legislature at work to limit your rights as a dog owner

them to remove the ear cropping ban. Veterinarians should understand that once the government determines it can ban certain elective procedures, it may be just a short step away from removing veterinarians' and owners' rights to make informed decisions about animal care and treatment.

Other Points to Consider:

- When appropriate veterinary care is provided, ear cropping is a safe, acceptable practice.
- Responsible dog owners, in consultation with their veterinarian, should have the right to make decisions about proper care and treatment for their pets-not the government.
- The issue has not had the full and open debate it deserves and therefore should be taken out of the bill.
- SB1548 will create serious animal cruelty risks if owners who cannot obtain veterinary care for ear cropping procedures irresponsibly choose to seek less-qualified sources.
- Enforcement will be a nightmare for already understaffed, underfunded animal control departments.

The Little Dog Laughed



"Some people will do anything to impress a Judge..."

Happy Barkday to You....

Best wishes to all our members and their furry friends with birthdays in August:	Date	Dog	Loved By	Breed	Age
Sandi Pensinger 8/3	08/04/99	Ch Breeze CGC	Noreen Silva	Chesapeake Bay Retriever	5
Jennifer Griffith 8/26	08/19/98	CJ CDX	Hazel Wel-born	Golden Retriever	6
Judy Force 8/28	08/31/01	Summer	Sylvia Holderman	Chesapeake Bay Retriever	3
	08/31/01	Ch Jack	Dani Nelson	Chesapeake Bay Retriever	3
	08/31/01	Thunder	Noreen Silva	Chesapeake Bay Retriever	3
	08/31/01	Poppy CDX	June Laman	Chesapeake Bay Retriever	3



*Have you reported your doggie birthdays to **Marilyn Runyan** via the GOLD information form? If not, then your doggies' birthdays will not be on the list for acknowledgment.*

Why do you need to do this every year? Because dogs may earn additional titles, information might be incorrect in our files, you may have new dogs, you may no longer have dogs you had last year.

As Marilyn has been inputting information, she has found that some birth dates have changed from what is listed from last year and some birth years have changed also.

So if you would like your dogs' birthdays listed in Ruff Notes, you MUST notify Marilyn as to their call names, titles, and complete birthdate (including year).

Wags & Brags

From Michael Bashista:

Agility:

Marstad's Intrepid Wizard, *Merlin*, (Labrador Retriever) completed his Novice Agility Standard (Preferred) title at the Mission Trail Poodle Club trial on July 10. Merlin's handler is Michael Bashista.

Campbellcroft's Singin' in the Rain, *Kelli*, (Labrador Retriever) earned her second leg in Open Jumpers at the Mission Trail Poodle Club's trial on July 11. Kelli is handled by Marion Bashista.

From Elisabeth Lambert:

Obedience:

Rosita, my Chihuahua, got her second CDX leg and fourth place at the Coos KC Obedience Trial in Bandon, Oregon on Saturday, July 3.

From Christa Cordtz:

Obedience:

Hooligan (Borzoi) scored a 195.5 for a third place in Novice B at the Del Monte KC show on Saturday.

Hooligan and Christa have also been invited to be part of the Nor-Cal obedience team (which won 1st place last year) and compete in the National Tournament.

From Phil Trautman:

Agility:

Stinger (Miniature Smooth Dachshund) earned his Novice Jumpers Preferred title at the Mission Trail Poodle Club trial. He did it in style by earning 1st Place on both days of the trial.

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Vaccine, Drug and Chemical-Mediated Immune Reactions in Purebreds Challenging Researchers

By W. Jean Dodds, D.V.M.

Numerous viruses, bacteria, chemicals, and drugs have been implicated in the etiology of autoimmune disease. The mechanism of initiating this autoimmunity (i.e., failure of self tolerance) requires genetically susceptible individuals; can be triggered by environmental agents operating by nonspecific inflammation and/or molecular mimicry; is the result of the sum of the genetic and environmental factors involved; and is most often mediated by T cells or T cell dysfunction. As stated recently by McDevitt and colleagues at Stanford University (Science, 248, 1380, 1990) "Perhaps the biggest challenge in the future will be the search for the environmental events that trigger self reactivity."

Vaccine-associated immune reactions

Immune-mediated hematologic disease and transient bone marrow failure are increasingly recognized sequelae of viral disease, and recent vaccination with single or combination modified live virus (MLV) vaccines, especially those containing parvovirus and distemper-hepatitis combinations. Genetic and environmental influences along with pre-existing polyglandular autoimmunity or thyroid disease appear to be contributing factors. Other concerns about live attenuated vaccines include residual virulence with its risk of reversion to greater virulence; vac-

cine contamination with other adventitial viruses in the tissue cultures used for vaccine passage; and the risk of over-attenuation of the vaccine strain.

Immune dysregulation mediated by viruses of the retrovirus, parvovirus, and herpes virus classes occurs in man and animals. The immunosuppression and leukemias-lymphomas produced by the HTLV and HIV agents in man, SIV in primates, and FeLV and FIV (formerly called FTLV of feline lentivirus) in cats, to name but a few of the pathogenic retroviruses, have had profound clinical and epidemiological significance over the last decade.

It is likely, therefore, that one or more canine retrovirus agents exist and contribute to the immunosuppression and leukemias-lymphomas of dogs. Similarly, the human, canine and feline parvoviruses produce immunosuppressive and other diseases. Both acute, transient and chronic, latent bone marrow failure are reported to be caused by human parvovirus infection. Parallel bone marrow failure, immunosuppression, and immune-mediated hematologic disease have been recognized since the late 1970s in dogs exposed in canine parvovirus or recently vaccinated with modified live parvovirus and other vaccines.

These vaccine-associated reactions usually occur one to three days or 10 to 21 days after the

vaccination. Typical signs are fever, stiffness, sore joints and abdominal tenderness, collapse with autoagglutinated red blood cells and icterus, and/or generalized petechiae and ecchymotic hemorrhages. Liver enzymes may be markedly elevated and liver and/or kidney failure may go along with bone marrow suppression. Recently, MLV vaccination has been associated with the development of transient seizures in puppies and adult dogs of breeds or cross-breeds susceptible to immune-mediated thyroid and hematologic disease. Postvaccinal polyneuropathy is a recognized entity associated occasionally with the use of distemper, parvovirus, rabies and presumably other vaccines. This can result in various clinical signs including muscular atrophy, inhibition or interruption of neuronal control of tissue and organ function, muscular excitation, incoordination and weakness, as well as seizures. Adverse reactions to vaccination have also recently been reported with increasing frequency in cats, especially kittens.

In our experience, susceptible puppies have vaccine-associated seizures either within 72 hours or 10-21 days after the first or subsequent vaccinations.

Treatment with steroids and/or Phenobarbital usually controls the problem. Subsequent vaccinations should use only killed parvovirus, and the distemper-

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hepatitis-parainfluenza vaccine is best given separately. Only killed rabies vaccine should be used in these animals and should be given separately from other vaccines. It is also prudent to advise the breeder of such occurrences, other litter-mates and relatives may also be at risk.

Current, future vaccine practices

Recent trends in small animal vaccine practices appear to focus on the strategy of combining many vaccine antigens into the produce presumable in response to consumer pressure to contain costs and improve efficiency. The approach is fraught with danger, however, if efficacy and safety issues are forced to take a

back seat. Recently, polyvalent vaccines have been shown to induce suppression of absolute lymphocyte responsiveness. Previous studies have shown a reduction in platelet count approximately one week after MLV vaccination, which corresponds with the time of viremia. Thus, the vaccinated animal experiences a relatively hematologic and immunologic imbalance during the seven to 10 day period following vaccinal challenge.

Many questions arise and need to be addressed. After all, vaccines are intended to produce a foreign antigenic response in the host in order to elicit antibodies. Examples of the unanswered

concerns include:

1. As excess antigens are incorporated into vaccines at the time of manufacture to assure potency to and beyond the expiration date, can antigenic overload from single or combination vaccines overwhelm the host's immune system? If so, can immuno-suppression and/or immune stimulation result? Many breeders of linebred or inbred companion animals increasingly face chronic debilitating illnesses in their stock.
2. Should vaccine dosage and frequency be the same for very young animals and

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From the Presidential Kennel

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and the 2005 Agility Trial. Both Bob and Michael are currently Board members as well. There seems to be a heated competition on for LEAST amount volunteered, but there will be no prizes or winners announced for this category. Members are just not volunteering for Chair positions, clearly not being confused that the title "Chair" might indicate something involving resting. Thank heavens that we have a hard core of club members who are always willing to answer the call and have never let me down when I've asked for help, but it would be refreshing

to see some NEW faces taking charge.

We now have an active account on Yahoo Group mail: Monterey-BayDTC@yahoogroups.com. If you missed out on my invitation to join, let me know and I'll send another one out. So far, we have twelve members on board. I've tried to start up a discussion on Intersession, and would welcome more input. I'd like us to use the Yahoo space for open discussion, as well as for e-file storage and links to important info. Go check it out. If you need help navigating through Yahoo's registration process, let me know and I'll try to help you through.



Tammy Del Conte's Lance

The Trial is approaching, but there is STILL time to volunteer. We'll be setting up Friday around 3pm at Manzanita Park, if you are available to help. The Judge's dinner will be in Salinas at Ellie's on North Main at 6:30pm on Saturday. I have to turn in my head count BEFORE July 26th, so get those reservations to me ASAP!

It was great seeing Pam in the Californian! If you missed it, check it out online at <http://www.thecalifornian.com/news/stories/20040720/community/880935.html>

See you next month...

Vaccine Reactions....

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- adults? Recent studies with hepatitis B vaccine and newborn infants have shown efficacy, safety and cost benefits from using only one fifth of the adult dosage.
3. When the host animal is carrying latent viral infections or has subclinical disease, will successful vaccination occur and is it safe? This question has become significant in HIV-infected human populations, especially children.
 4. Why do current recommendations apply the same dose of vaccine to animals of such varying size (from toy to giant breeds)? What are the minimum and optimum antigenic dosage requirements for protection? Should these
 5. Are booster vaccinations needed annually? If so, should this periodicity be maintained in geriatric animals?
 6. What is the earliest age at which vaccination is generally recommended? Is this immune system of young animals of various breeds capable of responding optimally to vaccinal challenge at the same age or could puppies of different breeds mature at different rates?
 7. Are MLV vaccines truly more efficacious, and if so, are they as safe as inactivated killed products? Recent reviews (e.g., Tizard, JAVMA, 156, 1851, 1990) argue that we can no longer

be based on body mass? If not, why not?

associated with MLV products.

There are additional points to consider, however, before one concludes from these observations that the adverse effects of vaccines outweigh their benefit in protecting animals from the threat of serious diseases. First, innumerable animals have been routinely and repeatedly vaccinated without obvious untoward effects. Thus, the relatively few cases of documented or apparent reactions may have involved only those with a susceptible genetic or physiologic makeup.

Unfortunately, there is no easy way to predict or identify susceptible individuals. Avoiding the repeated use of MLV vaccines for close relatives of known immune reactors is one way to reduce the risk of im-

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Wags & Brags

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From Crissy Hastings-Baugh:

Agility:

Gracie (Shetland Sheepdog) earned Double Q's at both days of the Shetland Sheepdog Club as well as both days of the Mission Trail Poodle Club trial and both days of the Hangtown Kennel Club Trial.

Logan (Shetland Sheepdog) earned qualifying scores in Excellent B Standard at the Shetland Sheepdog Club of Northern

California trial and Mission Trail Poodle Club and earned a Double Q at the Hangtown Kennel Club Trial.

Hot Dog Award

This Month's Agility Hot Dog Award goes to Crissy Hastings-Baugh and *Gracie* for their performance at the Mission Trail Poodle Club Trial on 7/10.

This Month's Obedience Hot Dog Award goes to Christa Cordtz and *Hooligan* for their

195.5 in Novice B at the Del Monte Kennel Club.

Member News

Check your Directory from last year to see if there are any changes to be made in this year's Directory. If you already reported them to Marilyn Runyan via the RED Directory Information form, you are fine. If you have not checked your current information with that printed in last year's Directory, please do so now.

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mune-mediated problems. Regularly spaced immunizations with killed vaccines or alternative approaches can be implemented to protect against disease.

Drug-mediated immune reactions

Animals genetically or physiologically susceptible to autoimmune and bleeding disorders are at increased risk for expression of exacerbation of these disorders when exposed to certain drugs that act as "triggering" agents. The adverse immunologic effects of these drugs are usually those listed by the manufacturer. Some examples are discussed below:

Trimethoprim-sulfa antibiotics

Adverse reactions to sulfonamides and particularly sulfonamides combined with trimethoprim (TMS) have been recognized with increasing frequency. The side-effects most often associated with TMS use are keratoconjunctivitis sicca, polyarthrititis, pyrexia, skin rash, urticaria, retinitis, skin eruptions, erythema multiforme, polymyositis, uveitis, VKH syndrome, glomerulonephropathy, hepatitis and hepatic necrosis, and blood dyscrasias (autoimmune hemolytic anemia, lymphadenopathy, leucopenia and thrombocytopenia). Certain breeds of dogs have been shown to be at increased risk (e.g., Dobermans, Rottweilers, Samoyeds, Old English Sheepdogs, Akitas, other sleddog breeds, Shelties, Collies,

Poodles, Spaniels), although any breed commonly affected with thyroid or other immune disorders is potentially at risk.

Recently, several previously healthy Samoyeds of varying ages developed rapid, severe or fatal hepatic failure following use of TMS for low-grade infections. At the University of California Veterinary Medical Teaching Hospital at Davis, TMS accounts for more recognized drug eruptions than any other drug. Blood dyscrasias associated with the use of these drugs have been documented in humans and domestic animals. Humans with HIV infections are at particular risk. For the last decade our laboratory has cautioned against use of TMS in animals having or at risk to express bleeding disorders (e.g., inherited and acquired von Willebrand's disease, hemophilia, platelet defects). We have recently extended this advice to include animals with immunological diseases, especially thyroiditis. Our concern stems from the relative platelet dysfunction caused by sulfonamides and the risk for immune-mediated thrombocytopenia induced by metabolites of TMS. Unfortunately, this warning has been largely overlooked, as evidenced by the fact that veterinarians calling to consult about bleeding patients all too often have used TMS in the previous seven to 14 days. This is likely a reflection of widespread popu-

larity, efficacy and reasonable cost of these products. Presumably these drugs have not changed appreciably over the past decade, but the population of animals receiving them has become genetically and environmentally susceptible to immunological challenge in their presence. Increased awareness of the potential for and recognition of adverse reactions to TMS is needed.

Heartworm preventives. The newer heartworm preventives (e.g., diethylcarbamazine-oxibendazole, ivermectin, and potentially milbemycin oxime), are capable of triggering hepatic or other immunologic disorders in susceptible patients.

Thus, as discussed above with vaccine and TMS-mediated reactions, a variety of existing stress situations involving metabolic, infectious or pharmacologic agents can induce disease in susceptible patients. Similar illnesses have been observed in susceptible dogs given ivermectin once a month for heartworm prevention. As these newer products received more widespread use, the cohort of animals at risk for adverse effects is also likely to increase.

Immune reactions from chemicals, testing. Companion animals are exposed to an increasing number and frequency of chemical agents and environmental toxins. Anthelmintics; ectoparasite sprays, dips and

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shampoos; hormonal preparations, chemical preservatives in foods (e.g. ethoxyquin in commercial pet foods); and contaminated nutrients, air and water supplies (mycotoxins, molds, minerals, fluorides, aerosol and other pesticides) are but a few potentially harmful agents. Similarly concerns apply to humans, domestic farm animals and wildlife. In fact, household pets may serve as ideal sentinels for monitoring the ongoing effects of genetic and environmental influences on overall human and animal health.

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Dr. Dodds is chief of the Laboratory of Hematology at the Wadsworth Center for Laboratories & Research, New York state Dept. of Health and founder of Hemopet and Pet Life Line, Santa Monica, CA. She has taught hematology nationally and internationally to veterinarians, veterinary stu-

dents, technicians and physicians. She is a prolific author and member of numerous professional societies and boards. In 1987 she was selected Distinguished Practitioner of the National Academy of Practice in Veterinary Medicine as well as receiving numerous awards throughout her career. She graduated with high honors from Ontario Veterinary College.

Membership News

Prospective Member: Karleen Quick

Karleen has trained with us since last summer. She has cocker spaniels and is training in our Watsonville Intermediate class.

She has help out at our Agility and Work Shop and attended our May General Meeting, and she will be helping out at our Obedience Trial Aug 1st as a steward in the Novice ring.

She is very interested in the learning more about training dogs and helping us out with our club activities.



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