Midwest Wolfhound

A quarterly newsletter for and about Irish wolfhounds and their people.

Volume XXXIII Issue Autumn, 2013

ANNUAL FALL PICNIC

October 12 10:30AM

FUN WITH OUR WOLFHOUNDS

GOOD FOOD, GREAT FRIENDS, WOLFHOUND GAMES AND OUR WOLFHOUND COSTUME CONTEST!



COME AND JOIN US

More details inside the newsletter

GLIWA OFFICERS 2013

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Debbie Green Bill Hurless Joe Mahoney Barb Pische Pat Powers

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MidWest Wolfhound™

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PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Fall is in the air! Well, some days it is and some days it isn't. But the season is changing and we are getting ready for our annual picnic. You really should come -we have so much fun. The setting at Pilcher Park is beautiful, and the people and hounds are a great group. In addition to meeting and talking with each other, the picnic offers a great opportunity to socialize your dogs. If you have a puppy old enough to meet and play with others, I'm sure he/she will enjoy it. Watch our Facebook page or website for further information. The nominating committee is currently putting together a slate of officers for 2014---2015. We have a dedicated group of members who have been willing to manage the affairs of GLIWA for a number of years. This includes planning meetings and activities, communicating with the membership and working with other regional clubs as well as the IWCA. I encourage new members to consider joining us. New ideas are always welcome.

It is not too late to volunteer. Contact Debbie Habian (Secretary) or Joe Mahoney (Director) if you are interested. If you are unsure, join us at a board meeting and think about next year. In my last report I mentioned that the Board is considering events for next spring, which will take the place of our Fun Match. One of these events is a meet conducted by the Large Gazehound Racing Association (LGRA). A LGRA race consists of three heats of 200 yards of straight racing trying to catch a lure, also known as a bunny. You'll be amazed at the speed and intensity of the run. One of the challenges is for the handlers to run 200 yards to retrieve their hounds! If you have any interest, please leave a "LGRA yes" comment on our Facebook page. I hope you and the hounds are enjoying some cooler weather. See you at the picnic!

Jane K Brown, President

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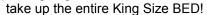
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My name is Debbie Greene and I am on the Board of GLIWA. I am not a Wolfhound expert like many of my coboard members. I just love Wolfhounds. Aile and Bodhi are our Ambassadors to the world. And as Wolfhounds go mine are of the miniature version. Ok. They are both females but Bodhi is downright short and Aile is taller but really dainty and small boned. Could they bring down a wolf? Maybe a wolf pup! Anyway mine are lovers and entirely too spoiled to ever chase down food. They believe food should be brought to them in a bowl or given to them by hand by my Mother, Doris, who they know as Grammies.





Both of my girls are rescues. They are just like any other adopted child ...er..I...meandog. Wanted from the first time we met them. Aile came from a family who thought she was aggressive. They even re-named her with an aggressive name. We immediately changed it back. Aile is a sweet, sweet cuddly girl. She loves to be petted and rubbed and is the most gentle dog I have ever met! She plays with LITTLE stuffed animals and NEVER destroys them! She plays with her blankie and is most gentle with it. She will wear it, lay on it and cuddle with it. Bodhi is a bit more rambunctious, really only because she was a puppy when we got her. She has claimed every couch we own. She lies there all day and comes and jumps in bed with Robert and I at night. Really? We are big people and a wolfhound should not fit in our bed but she can get really small to get in there. BUT, if you make the mistake of getting up and going to the bathroom..... it is too late! She will spread out and





I am so grateful for GLIWA and all the knowledge that comes from every member of the group. They and their amazing beautiful breed standard Wolfhounds have made us feel welcome and have given us great advice. If you have any desire to own a wolfhound join us for our Fall Picnic. It will be held at Pilcher Park Nature Center, my other

passion for the last 17 years. Pilcher Park is 640 acres of beautiful amazing old growth forest that has been part of the Joliet Park District for nearly 100 years. I have been at the Nature Center for 17 years and that will soon be coming to an end. I will be retiring in February 2014. Not because I don't love it but because I do. It is time for someone

to take it to the next level. We have come extremely far and now it is time for new blood to take it to the next level. And Robert as well as Aile and Bodhi are ready to travel! They have not been to all of the National Parks yet. There are so many creeks they have not splashed into yet. So we are all ready for the next adventure.



GLIWA ANNUAL FALL PICNIC SATURDAY, October 12, 2013

Held at the Pilcher Park Nature Center 2501 Highland Park Drive, Joliet, IL.

As always it is a fun time with good friends, good food and our wolfhounds. We will start the day with a nature walk led by Robert Greene at 11am. It will be the perfect time of the year to see the leaves starting to change to it's beautiful fall colors.

Afterwards, we will make lunch. GLIWA will provide the main entre, hamburgers and hot dog, you are welcomed to bring a side dish or dessert.

We will than play a few of our wolfhound games with lots of prizes. Measure for the tallest dog, longest tail and vote on the best wolfhound costume.

Best directions I can give you. It is off of Interstate 80 and Route 30 (Maple Rd) Travel west to Gouger Rd. Turn North on Gouger and about 1/4 block down you will see the entrance to the park on your left. Follow the park road for a while until you get to the Nature center. Plenty of parking is available. The picnic is held behind the nature center building.

Please note: Map Quest, etc. will not get you to the parks



Don't forget the Costume Class!

Junior Handling at the Rocky Mountain Irish Wolfhound Specialty. By Brendan Smith

My mom, Courtney Smith, and I went to Colorado together for the Rocky Mountain Irish Wolfhound Specialty. It started with a two day drive to get there with an eager wolfhound in the back. It seemed like he was up every half hour to move in a circle then lay back down. He claimed a very large section of the back and the whole bench seat. The first hotel in Salina, KS Emmett slept with me and claimed half of my bed and wouldn't budge!

Next day was more driving till we arrived in Greeley, Co finally. We went to set up our xpens and visit with everyone. I was elected to walk everybody's dogs for them. Had fun even when Esther knocked me over while being a crazy puppy!



into shorts!

During regular classes Joel Mattson asked me if I would like to show his pup Deception. Of course I said yes and

went and changed clothes again. He was an angel in the ring for me and did well. We didn't place but it was fun. We even made the Greeley newspaper the next day!



Finally the show day arrived and the order was Puppy sweeps, Jr Handling and conformation. Puppy sweeps went fast and then I was in the ring. I was in with another girl with her girl wolfhound that Emmett thought was cute. He decided to be a stinker and tried to visit. We took 2nd place. The judge was very nice and helped us with our handling skills. After I was done I got to change



Courtesy of the Greeley Tribune

Calendar of Events 2013-2014

October 12 10:30 AM

GLIWA Annual Fall Picnic, held at Pilcher Park, 2501 Highland Park Drive, Joliet, Illinois 60432, behind the Nature Center building. (Map Quest etc. will not get you there) Off of Interstate 80, and Route 30, west to Gouger Rd. Turn north on Gouger and you will see the entrance to the park on your left. It will be a bit of a ride but follow the road until you reach the log cabin nature center.

Always a fun time with good friends, good food and our wolfhounds. We will start out with a nature walk led by Robert Greene at around 11am. It will be the perfect time to see the leaves starting to change to its beautiful fall colors. Afterwards, we will make lunch. GLIWA will provide the main entree, hamburgers and hot dogs. You are encouraged to bring a side dish or dessert. We will then play a few of our wolfhound games, measure for the tallest dog, longest tail and vote on the best Irish Wolfhound costume.

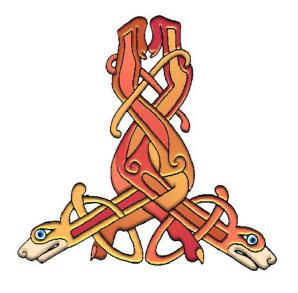
Please check our web site or Facebook page for updates and in case of inclement weather!

October 19, 2013

Locust Grove Irish Wolfhound Association Fun Match Hosted by Robert and Gretchen Bernardi. Berwyck Irish Wolfhounds. Edwardsville, Illinois.

Conformation Judge; Donita Osborne, Wolfhaven Irish Wolfhounds, Ontario, Canada. LGRA on Saturday, October 18.

ASFA coursing on Sunday, October 20, Judge, Kevin Carlson, Caledonia, Wisconsin.



Links for the match, ASFA and LGRA can be found on our web site. http://gliwa.org/

February 8, 2014
GLIWA Annual Meeting-Dinner
Rockwood Tap, 3131 Finley Road, Downers Grove, IL
60515
Cocktails and Appetizers 5:30, dinner to follow after a very short meeting.

More to come in the New Year, including parades, festivals and club events and activities. Any suggestions for something new to do with our hounds will be considered. Send suggestions to, gliwa@lycos.com.

Rocky Mountain Specialty by MB Kinsella-Topping

The Rocky Mountain Irish Wolfhound Association celebrated their 40th year of existence and their 20th Annual Specialty on Friday, August 30th at the Island Grove Park in Greeley, Colorado. Not only were there a number of GLIWA members in attendance, Connie Smalley (Prairie Creek) was the Show Chairman, with Gretchen Bernardi (Berwyck) judging the Specialty.

The weather was not particularly cooperative as the temperatures soared well into the 90's, and it was an ongoing battle trying to keep our hounds comfortable. By the end of the show, however, I did notice that the wolfhounds looked in better shape than their owners and handlers!

The competition was as heated as the temperature, with the lovely bitch from California, GCH Quest Rachel Alexandra of Kerryarc, chosen as Best In Specialty, Lynn Simon's CH Furlong's Barbaro awarded Best of Opposite Sex, with Joel and Wendy Mattson's Keltair's Halo Legend awarded Winner's Bitch and Best of Winners. Reserve honors went to Rockhart Penance (Dog) and Rockhart Okelani (Bitch).

A number of other GLIWA entries did well at the Rocky Mountain Specialty, including Lynn Simon's Rockhart Treason, who won the Novice class, Joel and Wendy Mattson's Nightwing Conspiracy, who won an incredible Bred by Dog class, with Rockhart Suspicion given 3rd in the Bred By class.

Courtney Smith's Caraglen Emmett of Avalon won the American Bred Dog class, followed by Nina Gottsch's Nightwing's Ianina's Baloo, placing 2nd, and my Prairie Creek Mulligan came in 3rd. Three out of the four hounds in the American Bred competition were owned by GLIWA members!

Like the Bred By class, the large Open Dog competition was a joy to watch, with Lynn Simon's Rockhart Penance placing 2nd, and the Mattson's Keltair's Punisher, given 3rd place. Specialty Chairman, Connie Smalley, even commented on the quality of the dog classes: "I was so pleased with the males and thought the quality was every bit as good as the competition at our National Specialty."

The bitches owned by GLIWA members also did very well at the Rocky Mountain Specialty. Joel and Wendy Mattson's Lonnkyle Paranoia at Nightwing was 2nd in the 15-18 Month Puppy class. Lynn Simon's Rockhart Raphaela Requiem won Novice Bitch, with Beth Renstrom's Rockhart Mara of Tresmorn, FCH, placing 2nd in the that class. Rockhart Okelani (Lynn Simon), won the Bred By class, and was also selected as the Reserve Winner's Bitch. The Mattson's Nightwing's Breathless placed 4th in that highly competitive class.

Beth Renstrom's Rockhart Jeressa, CGC, TDI, won the Veteran Bitch class, her Rockhart Naraya, JC came in 2nd in the American Bred class, and Beth's Rockhart Mara of Tresmorn, FCH, came in 2nd in the Field Trial Bitches class. Congratulations, Beth!

The Open Bitches were another great group to watch. Joel and Wendy Mattson's Keltairs Halo Legend won the Open Bitch class, then went on to become Winner's Bitch and Best of Winners. Lynn Simon's Rockhart Paloma placed 2nd in the Open Bitch class. Connie Smalley's Prairie Creek Damsha won Brood Bitch, and placed 3rd in the Veteran Bitch class. And, let's not forget Brendan Smith, who place 2nd in the Novice Junior Showmanship class! Brendan did a terrific job with Caraglen Emmett of Avalon, who was more interested in finding a girlfriend, than he was in showing.

Judge Gretchen Bernardi was very cognizant of the heat, and did a terrific job of keeping the hounds under the shaded tent as much as possible. She was also pleased with the quality of hounds who were brought to her.

Show Chairman Smalley was very appreciative of the GLIWA members who helped make the Rocky Mountain Specialty a success, including Tina Tucker, Courtney Smith, Brendan Smith, and Nina Gottsch. I'm happy to report that I managed my Announcing duties without dropping any profanities (at least when the microphone was on!). I also want to thank Tina Tucker, Mary O'Neill, Trish Bourland, and Courtney and Brendan Smith for taking care of my Mulligan during the show.

Even with the heat, this was one of the most enjoyable Specialties I've ever attended. The hounds were spectacular, and the Rocky Mountain members certainly made us Midwesterners feel welcome!





MB announcing for the Rocky Mountain Irish Wolfhound Association Specialty Show holding Courtney Smith's Emmett.

Rocky Mountain High by MB Kinsella-Topping

After thoroughly enjoying the Rocky Mountain Irish Wolfhound Association's 20th Specialty in Greeley, Colorado, we actually found ourselves with that rarest of occurrences: some free time on our hands! So, it didn't take Courtney Smith very long to convince Tina Tucker and I that we really should visit the Estes Park area, which was only about an hour west.

The first half hour there was rather uneventful, but then you notice the river running along the road, with fly fisherman abounding. When you first arrive at Estes Park, there are two lakes, one extremely large, and absolutely gorgeous. I discovered later, that the smaller lake is designated for the dog park! While Courtney, Brendan and Emmett perused the shops, Tina, Mulligan and I roamed around the Visitor's Center area, which was quite lovely. I had been whining about wanting to wade in the rushing river, ever since we spotted it on our way there (poor Tina was probably ready to toss me in!). There was a nice place to get to the river behind the Visitor's Center, so we climbed down there (some of us more gracefully than others!). I discovered my new knee and I had some balance issues in the fast moving water and slippery rocks, so, while Courtney, Brendan, Tina and Mulligan did some exploring, I stayed with Emmett. Emmett had plopped himself into the river, and looked like he'd died and gone to heaven. He was one happy hound lying in that cool water!



-2-

We then drove through the Rocky Mountain Park, all the way to the top. The scenery was simply breathtaking the entire drive up to the Alpine Center. Brendan Smith was out of their car and jogging up the walkway to the very top of the mountain, before either of us could even find a parking space! A storm was moving in and it was awesome seeing the clouds and lightning up close and personal.

The main disappointment we had was, outside of some elk, we really didn't get to see any wildlife, except for the idiots vying for parking places, which were at a premium. There were a number of areas you could park and view the scenery, but most of those places were filled with cars. Even without stopping, however, I will always remember the beauty of the Rocky Mountain Park.



Although Mulligan loved the drive up the mountain, since he had been confined so much that week, we stopped at the Estes Park Dog Park after coming down the mountain. It wasn't the largest dog park I've been to, but it certainly had the largest lake for the dogs! Mulligan got to run and play to his heart's content, but I did put my foot down about letting him go swimming in the lake. Getting his paws wet in the river was one thing, but I didn't relish a long drive home smelling a wet dog!

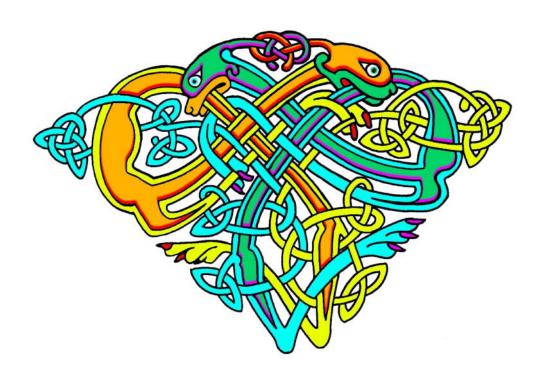


It wasn't as lovely as Estes Park, but our final destination was the Terry Bison Ranch, which is located south of Cheyenne, Wyoming. This is a working ranch, which is second, only to Ted Turner's

buffalo spread in Montana. There are a number of interesting animals there besides the bison, including camels. We took a short train ride through the enormous pasture, which was filled with

bison. When the train stops, the buffalo amble over in hopes of getting buffalo treats, which are sold before the ride starts. Talk about a group of treat whores! Some of them even hold out their tongues waiting for the treats to be placed there (and, yes, I was silly enough to do just that!). In addition to the buffalo herds, we were also were able to view a number of Prairie Dogs scampering about. I was surprised how many Prairie Dogs were roaming the range, so I'm assuming they must have similar breeding practices as rabbits!

Since it would have been hard to top a day spent with the bison, we began our long journey home. Our sightseeing trips weren't planned, but they were certainly fun!





GLIWA MEMBER BRAGS!





The first was her Group 2 – Southeastern Iowa Show – Judge Houston Clark
Ch Brimstone Boondocks Serenity (River)
Bred by Laurie Morris & Debbie Sharpe
Owned by Jeanie Pitzenberger & Laurie Morris

I want to thank Laurie & Debbie for such a wonderful sweet girl.



Second – Cut for Best Adult GLIWA Match 2013 – Judge Gretchen Bernardi

A SHOUT OUT TO OUR MOONEY!!

Ch. Shellane Dark Moon at Glenmoriston CGC



Earned his CGC title this summer in obedience class.

Doug and Claire Morrison

Also introducing our newest member of the family



Shellane's Nell at Glenmoriston Breeder Maria Lubera

USA CH Shellane Braniff x GCH USA CH Berwyck Shellane Provocatore

GENTLE WHEN STROKED ~ FIERCE WHEN PROVOKED

Great Lakes Irish Wolfhound Association Board meeting of Sunday, August 11, 2013

Jane Brown, President called the meeting to order at 11:19 a.m.

Board Members present: Jane Brown, Doug Morrison, Joe Mahoney, Debbie Habian, Maria Lubera, and

Bill Hurless

Guests present: Claire Morrison, Chris Krowzack, Barb Pische, Madeline Mahoney, and Linda Hurless

Reports

President: No report Vice President: No report

Secretary: Motion made and approved to accept 6/2/13 meeting minutes as corrected

Treasurer: Report available upon request

Motion made and approved to accept report provided

Activities:

- September 15, 11 a.m. meetup at Philpotts

- October 12 GLIWA picnic and nature walk at Pilcher Park

- Feb 8, 2014 Annual Dinner at Rockwood Tap, details to follow

Ways and Means: No report Publications: No report Rescue: Placed 3 dogs

After board monitoring Randy Kirk website, no impact found to GLIWA

Old Business

 April 5, 2014 GLIWA seminar replacing Fun Match, location TBA Chris and Kevin will make presentation on lure coursing potential judges and other presenters discussed

- Fri. Sept 27, 2013 10:00 am. - ASFA GLIWA trial, all-breed lure coursing,

Midwest Coursing, Racine, WI

Date and premium approved, judges and lure operators set, new ribbons to be ordered Barb Pische to do lunch

- LGRA equipment purchase discussed, Jane Brown to contact Mike Cherry Maria to contact Karen Frederick
- Rescue tent returned

New Business

- Nominating Committee members

Joe Mahoney, Coordinator, Debbie Habian, Leslye Sandberg offices to be filled - president, vice president, treasurer, secretary board directors terms expiring - Debbie Greene, Bill Hurless, Pat Powers Leslye Sandberg retiring as treasurer nominating slate to be presented at November meeting

- inventory to be done on all match equipment, trophies, ribbons, etc Maria Lubera will compile list to be stored in secretary files
- discussion on perpetual trophy, best of breed trophy donated by defunct Midwest IW
- motion made and approved on expenditures for annual dinner deposit, coursing costs and annual picnic costs
- next meeting November 2013, date TBA

Motion made and approved for adjournment at 12:19 p.m. Respectfully submitted Debbie Habian
Great Lakes Irish Wolfhound Association



Odie at GLIWA Coursing Owned by Mike Cherry





Photos by Carl White

Turmeric, Curcumin and Hounds Pat Powers

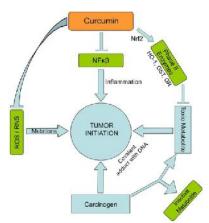
Curcumin is one of the most powerful herbs than you can use for your hounds' health. It comes from the Turmeric plant root which is widely used in Asian and Indian cooking. Turmeric is that same bright yellow-orange spice in your kitchen that is taken from the turmeric root, known scientifically Curcuma longa. Curcumin is the compound in turmeric that gives it that yellow color seen in curry powder and curried food. Curcumin contains significant antioxidant compounds that are beneficial to hound - and human health. It is available both loose as the spice and in capsules with standardized components. It is a member of the ginger family and most of it is grown in India and grows wild in south and southeast Asia.

You will find it in health food stores/chemists under both names. Be sure to read the labels to make sure you are getting a well made product and not just the spice put up into capsules.



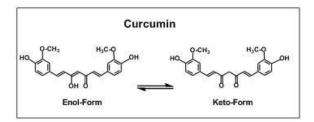
Curcumin has been extensively studied and in an article in the August 2008 issue of "Cancer Letters," curcumin was reported to be effective in fighting leukemia, colon

cancer, lymphoma, stomach and intestinal urinary tract cancer, cancers. cancer, head and neck cancers, lung cancer, ovarian cancer, gastrointestinal cancers, genitourinary cancers, breast cancer, head and neck squamous cell carcinoma, lung cancer, skin cancer, bone cancer, and cancers of the brain and brain stem. The report, written by researchers at the University of Texas M.D. Anderson Cancer Center, explains that curcumin interrupts cell pathways and signaling, which interferes with cancer cells' ability to develop, multiply, survive and invade healthy tissues. Curcumin also stimulates apoptosis, or the death of cancer cells and been shown to stop the growth of new blood vessels in tumors.



Cancer cells employ multiple pathways to evade host defenses, so a drug or plant compound that attacks cancer heterogeneous ways offers unique advantages, especially when it completes this mission relatively risk free. In its interaction with several cellular proteins, curcumin antioxidates, induces phase II detoxification enzymes, suppresses tumor cell growth in several cancer cell lines, and regulates transcription factors (NF kB, AP 1.

Even though curcumin is able to fight cancer, you would need to take huge amounts of it to treat cancer. The May 11, 2010, issue of "Cancer Research" reports that researchers are developing sustained release injectable curcumin making it even more effective in cancer treatment.



From the June 2009 issue of "Alternative Medicine Review." researchers found that curcumin is a powerful anti-inflammatory and reduces the negative effects of inflammation-producing molecules. Because it is so effective, the researchers state that curcumin should be considered as therapy in the treatment of inflammatory bowel disease, arthritis, some forms of cancer and pancreatitis. Turmeric has a soothing effect on the digestive system. It helps to reduce the risk of ulcers due to stress and drugs by increasing the protective mucous lining of the stomach. In addition to IBD, arthritis and pancreatitis, a UCLA report suggests that curcumin should be used in the treatment of kidney liver inflammation. inflammation. inflammation of the brain and possibly Alzheimer's disease. Curcumin is a natural painkiller and cox-2 inhibitor. Frequently curcumin works as well as inflammatory drugs but does not have the negative side effects and potential risks associated with NSAIDS.

It can also help to reduce elevated blood cholesterol levels and has a protective effect on the liver. By enhancing liver function, turmeric helps to cleanse the blood of toxins and helps to regulate intestinal flora if taken during and after a course of antibiotics by dogs suffering with Candida (yeast infection) since it is a natural antiseptic and antibacterial agent, useful in disinfecting cuts and burns. It potentiates wound healing and helps in healing damaged skin and other inflammatory skin conditions.

You can give Turmeric/curcumin to your hounds as capsules in their food, but in my experience dogs do not like the intense flavor when they bite into a capsule. It works better hidden in a ball of meat/liver sausage or cream cheese that gets gobbled down whole.



References

PubMed: Abstract: Cancer Letters: Curcumin and cancer

PubMed: Abstract: Cancer Research: Injectable Sustained Release Microparticles of Curcumin

PubMed: Abstract: Alternative Medicine Review: Anti-inflammatory properties of curcumin

UCLA Invents: Curcumin As A Treatment For Pancreatitis

Journal of Nutrition: Curcumin Inhibits Adipogenesis and Obesity in C57/BL Mice

Multiple Molecular Targets in Cancer Chemoprevention by Curcumin

Rajesh L. Thangapazham,1,2 Anuj Sharma,1,2 and Radha K. Maheshwari1

WEBINAR ON TOXINS



Top 10 toxins poisonous to small animals

Join us for a FREE Webinar on October 8, 2013

This one hour lecture will review the top 10 toxins that are poisonous to small animals. This lecture will review decontamination, mechanism of action of toxicity, and review treatment. Common toxicants that will be reviewed in this lecture include SSRI antidepressants, ADD/ADHD medications (e.g., amphetamines), sleep aids, NSAIDs (both veterinary and human), iron sources (e.g., hand warmers, food oxidizers), fertilizers, and household cleaners.

Title:

Top 10 toxins poisonous to small animals

Date:

Tuesday, October 8, 2013 Time: 12:00 PM - 1:00 PM Central Daylight Time (1-2 PM EDT, 11-12 PM MDT, 10-11 AM PDT)

Space is limited.

Reserve your Webinar seat now at: https://www3.gotomeeting.com/register/597 035462

Presented by Justine Lee, DVM, DACVECC, DABT and Ahna Brutlag, DVM, MS, DABT, DABVT from Pet Poison Helpline, your 24-hour animal poison control center, based out of Minneapolis, MN.

For those of you hoping to view the webinar in a large group, please note that in order to receive your RACE-approved CE credit, each person will not only need to register, but will also need to be logged in separately at the time of the presentation. If you do not need the CE credit, you may all watch the presentation together on one computer.

After registering you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the Webinar.

System Requirements PC-based attendees

Required: Windows® 7, Vista, XP or 2003

Server

Mac®-based attendees

Required: Mac OS® X 10.6 or newer

Mobile attendees

Required: iPhone®, iPad®, Android™

phone or Android tablet

New dog virus causing concern Findlay Siding: Sept. Specials – By DENISE GRANT

Staff Writer, Findlay Courier

The American Veterinary Medical Association is cautioning Ohio dog owners to be mindful of their pet's interaction with other dogs, as it investigates what could be a new, deadly canine virus emerging in the state.

The announcement was made Friday.

Dana Berger, Hancock County dog warden and humane officer, said there have been no reports of the virus appearing in Hancock County or in the surrounding area. Berger said it would be a good idea for dog owners to be cautious, however.

Tony Forshey, a veterinarian with Ohio State University, said the investigation started about a month ago in the Cincinnati area when four dogs became sick. Veterinarians reported that the dogs had severe bloody diarrhea and severe vomiting. Three of the dogs died.

The dogs spent time at a boarding kennel and at a dog day care.

Three more cases have been reported in the Akron-Canton area. There has been no connection made between these animals. One of the dogs died.

Forshey said while the new virus may mirror other illnesses, dogs with these symptoms should be taken to a veterinarian immediately. "Put on supportive therapies, by that I mean intravenous fluids and that sort of thing, these dogs survive," Forshey said.

For now, Forshey said, dog owners should be more cautious of where they take their dogs.

"Don't go around where there are a lot of strange dogs, and dogs with unknown vaccination history. We don't know who is carrying this thing or shedding this thing," Forshey said. "We're not necessarily recommending doggie parks be closed or anything like that, we're just saying if you are going there, be careful. Don't let your dog be sniffing around feces or dogs that you're not familiar with."

So far, Forshey said, the investigation has ruled out canine parvovirus and canine coronavirus, along with about 20 different types of bacteria.

The disease does not appear to be damaging the dogs' intestines, Forshey said, but there is considerable damage to the vascular system.

The new virus is most likely a combination of organisms, Forshey said. He said circovirus is most likely the culprit. While this virus can be found in the feces of healthy dogs, another disease may be impairing the dogs' immune system, allowing the circovirus to go unchecked.

Circovirus is typically found in pigs and birds, Berger said.

"It must have made the jump to dogs," Berger said.

Berger said the first case of the new disease was reported in California in 2012.

Looking for a new puppy?

For breeder referrals call Maria Lubera 630-279-7179

Breeder Referral page on the GLIWA website www.gliwa.org

Or contact the Irish Wolfhound Association
Of America
www.iwclubofamerica.org

We can help you find a reputable breeder who cares about health and temperament. We also have a Breeder Referral section in our website www.gliwa.org.



Reputable breeders want to meet the people who are going to have their puppies. Please be careful to check out any breeder before getting your new puppy and beware of buying a puppy over the internet sight unseen.