



Newsette



WWW.VHOC.ORG

P.O. BOX 10132 CANOGA PARK, CALIFORNIA 91309

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HAPPY 
 VALENTINE'S
 DAY

TROPHY SPONSORSHIPS

Just a heads up. Since our Obedience/Rally trial has moved up 3 months, I will be starting to make Trophy sponsorship requests very soon. We will be trying to get the premium out at the beginning of May.



REMINDER

Remember to check the website <http://www.vhoc.org> for announcements, cancelled classes, upcoming events and other important club information.

VHOC Members,

All the members were sent a email with the slate of nominees for the 2022 VHOC Board of Directors. You will note there are several vacant positions to be filled. ***If you are interested or know of someone who may be interested, please consider making a nomination.***

Vacant Positions

- Membership Director
- Nose Work Director- Registrar
- Raffle Committee for Trials
- Seminar Coordinator

Send any additional nominees to Carole Hills at chills37@aol.com by February 16.

VHOC
70 years of
fun and friendships
established 1953

If you know of a member who would appreciate receiving correspondence, such as a get-well card, sympathy card, etc., please email our Corresponding Secretary, Carole Hills, at chills37@aol.com

VHOC Board of Directors

President
Nancy Giltner
ngiltner623@gmail.com

Vice President / General Mtg
Shiro Torquato
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Treasurer
Ann Hills
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Corresponding Secretary
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Recording Secretary
Sue Rasmussen
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VACANT
NW Registrar:
VACANT

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Agility Trial
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ngiltner623@gmail.com

Past President
Ann Hills
tonkanuki@aol.com

VHOC Standing Committees

Agility Trial Volunteer Workers
Nancy Giltner

Banquet
Ann Hills

Seminar Coordinator
Carole Hills

Food & Hospitality
VACANT

Carole Hills
Allison Pobirs
Jennifer Voogt

Trophies
Deborah Lang
Ann Hills

Raffle
Cindi Malchosa
Allison Pobirs

Newsette
Deborah Lang

Website Administrator
Jennifer Voogt

Got News?

*Do you have a brag? Did you get a new puppy? Is your dog celebrating a birthday?
Do you have other dog-related news, photos, articles, humor or upcoming events you'd like to share?*

*Do you have a canine product or service you'd like to promote?
Ads are only \$10.00 a month, or \$50.00 for an entire year.*

Email me for more information, or just send your stuff to:

Debbie Lang at
djang@sbcglobal.net

Submission deadline is the 8th of each month

This is YOUR Newsette...make it great!

VALLEY HILLS OBEDIENCE CLUB
A Brief History

In 1953, Valley Hills Obedience Club was founded by Robert and Helene Burd of Reseda, to "sponsor and promote the training of dogs, to strive for the better care and control of dogs, and to conduct obedience trials under the rules of the American Kennel Club." Dues were set at one dollar per year.

For the next 50 years, prior to moving to its present location at Canoga Park Lutheran School, the club held beginning and advanced obedience classes on Thursday evenings at Reseda Park.



1953 Board Members



Reseda Park in 1953

By 1955, it had grown to 100 members and was such an important part of the community that spectators were common at their weekly training sessions. It was even supported by the Department of Animal Regulations in its belief that "if the vast population of dogs in this city were trained, there would be no dog problem and legislation to restrict and control dogs would be unnecessary."

The classes taught were the same AKC Novice and Open exercises that remain basically unchanged to this day: heel on leash, figure 8, stand for exam, recall, directed retrieve, drop on recall and broad jump. The last session of each series began with a competition for trophies and awards, followed by a formal graduation ceremony. In addition, the club held classes for children on Saturday mornings, followed by practice rings in the afternoon for all members.

Monthly meetings were held at the Hangman's Tree restaurant on Ventura Boulevard and featured celebrity guests such as Bill Koehler, one of the foremost trainers of the time and author of several bestselling books.

Over the next two years, several members were featured on "Lassie" and other popular TV shows, and the club's increasing popularity required expansion to new locations.

And in 1955, the club's success was recognized when the Burds, VHOC's founders, were honored by a prestigious annual award for their "Outstanding Service to Dogs."



Bob and Helene Burd



A few months later, all this was overshadowed by the arrival of the club's primary objective, the long-awaited American Kennel Club permission to hold a formal obedience trial. A date was selected and an official announcement was made. VHOC's first AKC licensed obedience trial would be held on Saturday evening, August 18, at Reseda Park.

VHOC had already held its first sanctioned matches at Devonshire Downs with record entries, so the club's goal was to better those numbers. As preparation went into full swing, the trial committee encouraged all VHOC members to enter and campaigned in the media to make this event the biggest and best ever. Plans were made to split the classes to accommodate as many entries as possible, additional judges were hired to cover all eleven rings, and TV star "Lassie" was recruited to present the trophies.



Trophy Table

Their efforts paid off. The trial was more than successful. Entries came from all over the state and as far away as Arizona. When the final numbers were totalled, there were 396 entries, making it the highest attendance in U.S. history, and beating the previous record of 308 held by the Oakland Obedience Club.



Novice

President Burd wrote an article for the press, beginning with a brief history of the club, and then covering the trial itself, with a listing of first place winners of the classes, and of course, the highest scoring dog of the trial, with a perfect 200 points, Hugo XV, U.D., a Dachsund owned by Charles and Mae Horne.



Open

And now, here we are in 2015, celebrating our 60th trial. To all those entered, good luck, and as you enter the ring, know that you're following in the footsteps of all those who have done the same for more than half a century. Now it's your turn to go make history!

written by Carole Raschella



Utility

VHOC 70 YEARS

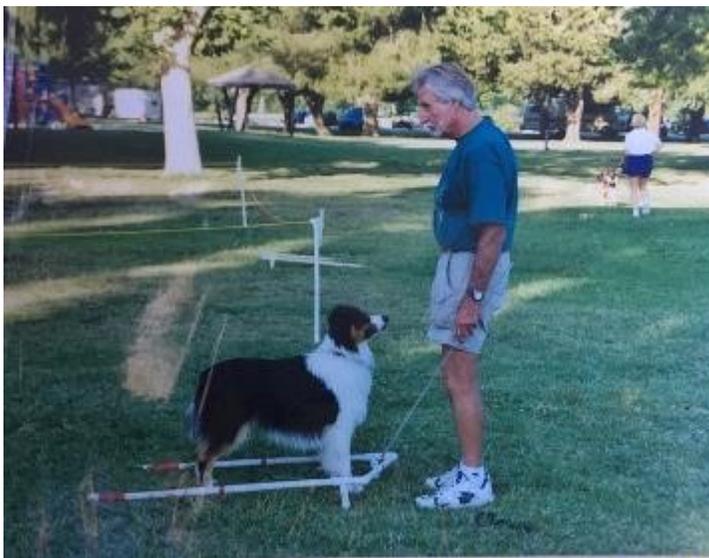
Thank you to Carole Raschella for the great 75th Anniversary article and to Laurie Burnam, for the great photos on the next couple of pages.



VHOC 70 Years of fun and friendships



VHOC 70 years of fun and friendships





VHOC 70 years of fun and friendships

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big, noisy indoor show?*



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Can Dogs Get Leptospirosis?

By [Dr. Jerry Klein, CVO](#)

Oct 22, 2021 | 3 Minutes

AKC Health article

"Dog Diarrhea" will play after the ad

New York City is dealing with an outbreak of a rare, sometimes fatal disease spread by rat urine known as Leptospirosis. Many dog owners are wondering: does leptospirosis affect dogs? Can dogs get leptospirosis?

Leptospirosis is a disease that affects dogs, as well as many other kinds of animals. The organism that causes leptospirosis is a spirochete bacteria and is found throughout the world. There are a very large number of Leptospira; about 230 of them have been identified.

In the United States, Leptospirosis is in the environment because it is carried in rats, wildlife, as well as domestic livestock. More cases are seen in late summer and fall and often after heavy rainfalls. Leptospira is known to exist in standing water, dampness, and mud. Winter conditions tend to lower the risk because Leptospira do not tolerate freezing temperatures.

Pets can become infected through contact with the urine of infected animals such as raccoons, skunks, rats, feral cats, dogs, and other animals. Often, dogs contract the disease by [swimming](#) in stagnant water or drinking contaminated water in puddles.

Should Dog Owners Be Concerned About Leptospirosis?

Not all dogs that are exposed to Leptospirosis become visibly ill. [In a 2007 study](#), 25 percent of unvaccinated healthy dogs had antibodies to Leptospirosis. This indicated to researchers that they had been previously exposed to Leptospirosis without their owners noticing a problem.

When Leptospirosis does cause disease in dogs, it tends to be most severe in unvaccinated dogs that are younger than 6 months of age. It takes about 4-12 days after exposure for a dog to start to feel ill.

Signs of illness vary, but usually include lethargy, poor appetite, [fever](#), [vomiting](#), increased thirst or urine production. Jaundice may also be seen. Blood tests will show changes in kidney values or liver and kidney values.

Diagnosis is made through blood and urine tests that look specifically for Leptospirosis. Antibiotics are typically used to treat Leptospirosis; not only can they treat the active infection, but also may prevent dogs from becoming carriers of the organism.

https://www.akc.org/expert-advice/health/what-is-leptospirosis-can-dogs-get-leptospirosis/?utm_source=newsletter&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=20220114-communicates&utm_content=expert_advice-health_what_is_leptospirosis_can_dogs_get_leptospirosis-p5&utm_term=AKC%20Communicates%20Optins

Can Dogs Get Leptospirosis? - continued

How Can Dog Owners Prevent Leptospirosis?

Prevention is best accomplished by stopping your dog's access to contaminated water. Also, try to sanitize your dog's environment by eliminating food and garbage to reduce the attraction of rats, raccoons, or feral cats.

Leptospirosis is a zoonotic disease. In other words, it is contagious to humans. The most likely way humans contract Leptospirosis is via exposure to dog or rat urine. However, any bodily fluid, including vomit and saliva, can transmit the disease. If your dog is infected with Leptospirosis, it is very important to observe proper hygiene even after he has recovered (wearing protective gloves when cleaning up after your dog, preventing face-licking, etc.)

Vaccination for leptospirosis is an option to consider if your dog is at high risk of contracting the disease. The American Animal Hospital Association considers Leptospirosis a "non-core" vaccine for dogs. That is, they do not recommend it unless there is a good chance your dog will be exposed to Leptospirosis. The efficacy of the vaccine is variable: short-lasting or limited. There have been reports of reactions to the vaccine that vary from minor to severe.

Vaccination does not always prevent infection, but it tends to make the disease much milder if infection occurs. There is the potential for vaccinated dogs that do become infected to become long-term carriers of Leptospirosis. Some long-term carriers have more frequent incidence of reproductive failure and stillbirths.

As with all vaccinations, you should discuss the vaccine for Leptospirosis with your veterinarian. This decision will be based on you and your dog's lifestyle, if your community is experiencing cases of Leptospirosis, and the other pros and cons your veterinarian has experienced with the vaccine.



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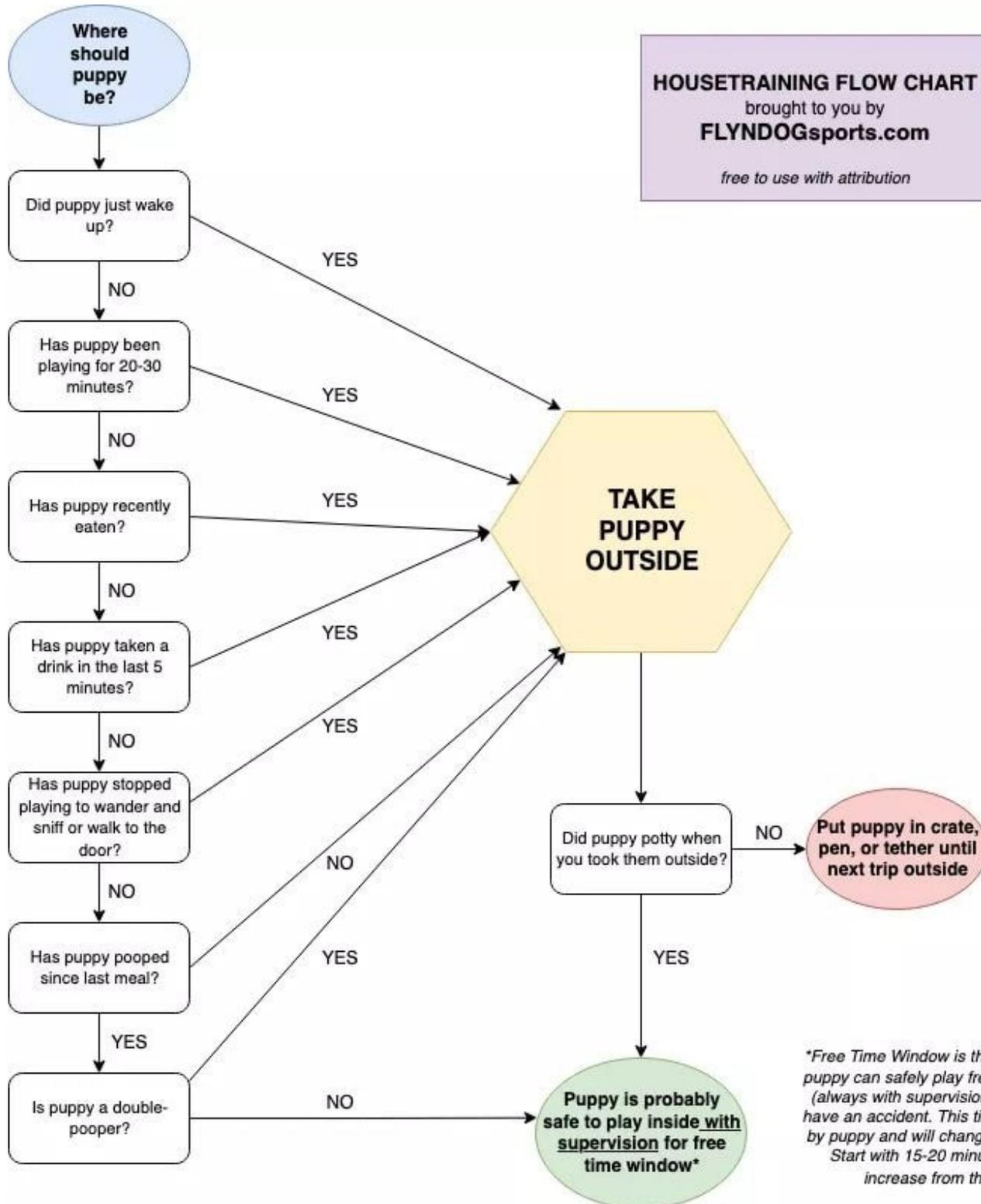
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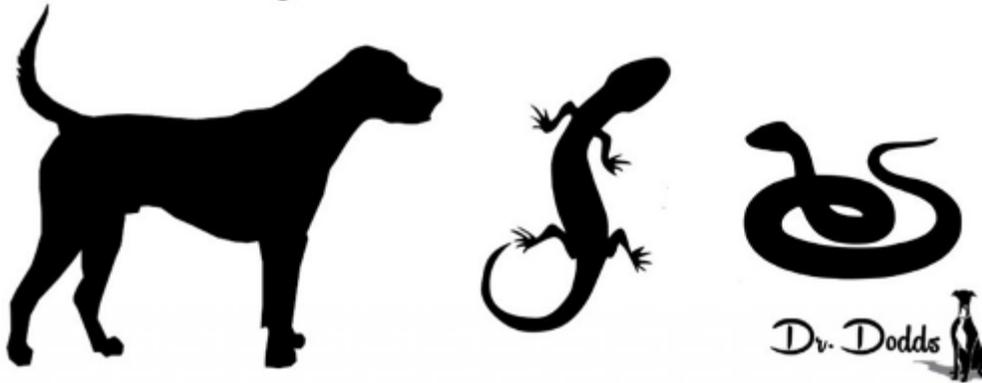
For all our new puppy owners.



7 Facts About Snakes and Lizards Dog Owners Should Know

January 21, 2022 / [General Health](#) / By Hemopet

7 Facts About Snakes and Lizards Dog Owners Should Know



Hemopet would like to thank Nigel Robert of [More Reptiles](#) for writing this guest post. Snakes and lizards are not a major threat to your dog's health, but they can cause problems if your dog encounters the wrong one at the wrong time.

Read on to find out a little bit more about what to be concerned about and how to protect your dog on walks.

#1. Most snakes do not pose a serious threat to your dog, as most North American snakes are not highly venomous. Their bites may be painful, but they are unlikely to cause serious or life-threatening symptoms in your dog. If you live in the Northeast or the Midwest, you are unlikely to encounter any [venomous snakes](#) at all. In the Southeast, water moccasins and eastern diamondback rattlesnakes are venomous, while the western diamondback rattlesnake is found in the Southwest. Even these snakes, however, will not see a fully grown dog as prey and will only bite your dog in self-defense, as a last resort.

#2. Snakes will only bite your dog if it harasses them. As stated above, even the largest snakes in North America will not see an adult dog as prey, except perhaps for very small breeds like Chihuahuas. Snakes, especially venomous ones, are very reluctant to bite animals they do not see as prey, since producing venom requires a lot of energy and they do not want to waste it. Keep your dogs on a short lead while walking in the woods, and watch them carefully in the yard, so you can remove them as quickly as possible from any encounter with a snake.

#3. Snakes love to hide in tall grasses and thick brush. Snakes are ambush predators, and many other animals see them as prey, so they love to hide, especially in thick vegetation. Mowing your grass regularly and clearing out potential snake hidey-holes, like low brush, woodpiles, and other shadowy places, will help protect your dogs while they are in your yard. While out walking, try to keep your dogs from sniffing around in tall grass or any place where you cannot see what they might be sniffing at before it is too late.

7 Facts About Snakes and Lizards Dog Owners Should Know - Continued

#4. Many common lizards, including most newts and salamanders, are poisonous and can be toxic to dogs. Dogs love to explore the world tongue-first, and as such it is not surprising how often they get into scraps with lizards, scraps which usually end with a lizard in a canine stomach. This is fun for your dog, but it can also have serious side effects. Fortunately, even most poisonous lizards are too small and their poisons too mild to have a serious effect on your dog, but it is possible. If you suspect your dog has eaten a lizard, watch for signs of toxicity, like vomiting, diarrhea, loss of appetite, excessive thirst, or erratic movements. If you notice any of these symptoms, contact your vet as soon as possible.

#5. Most lizards carry *Salmonella* spp. and can pass it on to dogs. *Salmonella* exposure is a bigger threat to a lizard-swallowing dog than toxicity, but even here the risk is relatively low. Almost any lizard your dog swallows will be a carrier for *Salmonella* spp., but this bacterial exposure is not likely to be a danger to a healthy adult dog. (If your dog is a puppy, has a pre-existing condition, or is otherwise in poor health, the risk is greater.) The protocol for *Salmonella* exposure is the same as the one described above for lizard toxicity: Watch for symptoms, then contact your vet if you notice any. Common symptoms of *Salmonella* spp. include vomiting, diarrhea, lethargy, and swollen lymph nodes.

#6. Lizard bites can cause your dog discomfort, but they are unlikely to be venomous. Many lizards are poisonous, meaning they can cause toxicity in an animal that eats them, but very few are venomous, meaning they do not inject toxins into an animal they bite. When your dog tries to eat a lizard, the lizard may bite back, usually on the dog's tongue, mouth, or nose. This can cause swelling and discomfort for your dog, but is highly unlikely to become a serious problem. If the swelling lasts more than a few days or does not appear to be improving, consult a veterinarian.

#7. Depending on where you live, some lizard bites can cause serious problems for your dog. This part is really only important for dog owners living in or visiting the American Southwest. The southwestern deserts are home to Gila monsters, the largest and only venomous lizard native to North America. Recognizable for their black and orange beaded skin and growing up to two feet long, Gila monster bites pack about the same punch as a rattlesnake bite. Gila monsters are even less likely to bite than rattlesnakes, though, unless they are being aggressively aggravated. If a Gila monster does bite your dog, you will likely need to use pliers or even a flame held under their chin to get the lizard to release its jaws.

Overall, lizards and snakes can cause some health problems for your dog, but they are probably less of a cause for worry than, say, your dog swallowing a bottle of eye drops. Caution while walking and letting your dog out in the yard, and keeping a careful eye on your dog's behavior to watch for sudden changes, are probably all you need to keep your dog safe from the various reptiles you might encounter together.

Website URL: https://hemopet.org/7-facts-about-snakes-and-lizards-dog-owners-should-know/?utm_source=Clients&utm_campaign=361ef9771f-EMAIL_CAMPAIGN_2022_01_24_05_59&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_2ab0e3771c-361ef9771f-214100229

Article submitted by Alison Pobirs

Braggs

Laurie Burnam with Scusi and Tesla

Jan 21/22/23 - Simi Valley Kennel Club, Freedom Park, Camarillo, AKC agility.

Scusi & Laurie

Master Standard 5pl Q 8 MACH points 46th Q

Master Standard 5 pl Q 13 MACH points 47th Q

Master Standard 6 pl Q 10 MACH points 48th Q

Just two more Q's needed for 50th Q and **Master Standard Silver Title MXS**

Tesla & Laurie

Open Fast 1st pl Q 2nd leg

Time 2 Beat 4th pl 1st Q 3 points

Time 2 Beat 2nd pl 2nd Q 9 points.

Debbie Lang with Max and Panda

Jan 22-23, 2022 – Inland Empire Herding Dog Association, Sylmar, CA—Herding Duck Trial

Saturday Jan 22

Max—Started A Ducks—94.5—1st place—**High in Trial** (1st Leg)

Panda—Started A Ducks—92—4th place (1st Leg)

Sunday Jan 23

Max—Started A Ducks 92—4th place (2nd Leg)

Panda Started A Ducks 95.5—3rd place (2nd Leg)



My kidnapers returning me after listening to me talk about dogs for two hours



Submitted by
Allison Pobirs

Braggs

Laurie Burnam with Scusi and Tesla

January 28/29/30—Dog Agility Club of Ventura, Freedom Park, Camarillo

Scusi & Laurie

Master Standard 100 Q 50th Q MXS **Master Standard Silver title** #126

Master JWW 100 Q QQ #6 22 MACH points

Master Standard 100 Q

Master JWW 100 Q QQ #7 22 MACH points

Master Standard 100 Q 13 MACH points.

Tesla & Laurie

Open Fast 67 points leg 3 **OFP title** #35

Open Fast 61 points extra leg

Time 2 Beat Q 1st place 10 points 3rd leg 22 points total so far.

Proud Scusi Q'd in 5 out of 6 classes with just one dropped bar on challenging courses and wicked winds.

Tesla Q'd in 3 out of 4 classes with just one no proper contact on A-Frame. Yea girls



Marcia Siderow and Pippin

Introducing my newest family member:

Babors Pippins Corner Of The Sky, aka Pippin or Pip

Just got him on February 6th, 11 weeks old, tested well as agility prospect.

He's a moyen, so will be about 16-18 inches.

My Pride wasn't thrilled, but Leela and Remi are okay.

Smart pup and he seems eager to learn and check things out. We'll have a lot of fun together.

Braggs



CGC, CGC-A and CGC-U Titles

We had a fun time testing for the Good Citizen titles. We have 3 **CGC-Urban titles**, Laurie Burnam and Tesla, Cynthia Casby and Potter, Debbie Lang and Panda. Tesla also earned her **CGC-A title**. Not pictures are the **CGC** dogs, Cynthia Casby's Mac and Debbie Lang's Max and Morgan.



Monica Nolan and Augie

Except for the winds, January was a relatively quiet month for Augie. At the Buenaventura agility trial he picked up an Excellent JWW Q (only dog in class to qualify). And did two therapy visits to the Goebel Senior Center in Thousand Oaks.

Marcia Siderow and Remington

Remington Steele, aka Remi, got his **Masters Standard Performance Title**. Turns out he got it on December 11th, but I was unaware until the award came. Nice surprise. Poodle Power!



Jane Nye and Grey

We had our Cardigan Welsh Corgi Specialty on Jan 27, 2022, as part of Winterfest at Seaside Park in Ventura – with over 80 Cardigans.

Two year old Grey exceeded all my expectations in Obedience/Rally:

- In Obedience, he achieved his **CDX title** out of Open A under judge Gina Grissom
 - ◊ He got First Place and **High Score in Trial** (with a large blue & gold rosette and messenger bag)
- In Rally, he earned his 2nd Master leg with a First Place, his 3rd RAE leg with a First Place, and . . .
 - ◊ **High Score Combined** (with a large blue & green rosette and messenger bag)
 - ◊ **High Score Combined Triple** (with a large blue & red rosette and messenger bag)

The trial conditions were very challenging – indoors, conformation in 3 surrounding rings, and lots of noise & huge crowds.

Since we train for outdoor shows, I wasn't sure what dog I would have . . . Grey showed that he is a superstar indoors or out!

It takes a village to show dogs – and I am grateful to my many fantastic friends who are so smart and talented!



Braggs

Please contact me for all your Real Estate Needs or Questions...



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Bebe Michels and Dolly

Krieger and Dolly welcomed their five beautiful puppies into the world early on December 26, 2021, two black girls and three black boys. The litter was planned for and bred by Jana Dupre and by me. These puppies will be looking for show and performance homes.

Stephanie Colman and Saber

After a long absence, we're excited to share a brag!
Saber earned the first leg of his Novice Scentwork titles in Interior, Exterior and Containers at the Scentwork Club of the San Gabriel Foothills trial on Saturday, Jan. 15.



Diane Schlesinger and Apple

Apple earned her first **NACSW NW3 title** on January 23, 2022 at the Yanks Air Museum in Chino, California.

Braggs



Newsette
P.O. BOX 10132
CANOGA PARK CA 91309

FIRST CLASS MAIL

TO:

February is Responsible Pet Owners Month

As February is Responsible Pet Owners Month, now is a great time to take stock of ourselves as pet parents or as prospective pet parents. If you are currently caring for a pet, it's essential to look introspectively to determine whether you're providing the best quality of care to your furry, scaley, or feathered friend.

Remember you have a responsibility to care for your pet, but it's also a privilege and should be treated as such.

(Taken from <https://www.azpetvet.com/top-10-responsibilities-of-a-pet-owner/>)

♥ *Happy Valentines Day* ♥