



Iowa Brittany Club Newsletter

April, 2011

Dedicated to the Dual Brittany

Officers & Directors

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Iowa Brittany Club Summer Meeting...

Submitted by Jon St. Clair, President

Mark your calendars! The Iowa Brittany Club's summer meeting will be held on Sunday, July 10th at the Steelclay Shooting Sports LLC facility near Eddyville, Iowa. The meeting will start at 10:30 a.m.

A "potluck" lunch will follow the meeting, with the Club providing the meat and drinks. We're asking everyone to bring a covered side dish to share, along with your own table settings and silverware. More information will follow as we get closer to the summer meeting date, including directions to the Steelclay Shooting Sports grounds for those of you who haven't been there before. We'll also be looking for RSVPs so we can plan food accordingly. So mark those calendars and plan to attend!

Iowa Brittany Club Officers/Directors Meeting...

Submitted by Jon St. Clair, President

The next Officers/Directors meeting will be Sunday, June 26th at Montana Mike's Steakhouse, (formerly the Country Kitchen) 5030 NE 14th Street in Des Moines. The meeting will begin promptly at 10:45 a.m. with lunch (off-the-menu) following the meeting.

All IBC members...If you have issues, topics and/or ideas you would like the Officers and Directors to discuss and research, please contact Jon St. Clair or Marcy Beveridge to have topics added to the agenda. This is *your* Club, and *your* thoughts and ideas are both welcomed and needed to help move the IBC into the future! We look forward to hearing from you!

New Members...

Submitted by Marcy Beveridge, Secretary

Since our last Newsletter in January, two new members have joined the Iowa Brittany Club. Please join me in welcoming them!

Dwight McQueen, an associate of Kendall Brown, has recently joined the Club and we all hope to meet him soon. Dwight hails from Chariton.

Amber Post, a cousin of members Angela and Keith Thompson, has also recently joined the IBC. Amber moved to Iowa from New Mexico less than a year ago and is working with Angela in her "Al-Bi-A Good Dog" grooming/training business in Albia, Iowa. Many of you have already met her as Amber was a handler in the recent IBC Specialty Show and a volunteer in all of our Spring Events.

IBC 2011 Winter Meeting...



Blaine Ostergaard demonstrates a trap

The 2011 IBC Winter Meeting was held on January 30th, at the Bonanza Family Restaurant in Des Moines. In addition to the regular meeting agenda, Blaine Ostergaard, long time local hunter, trapper, and fisherman, presented a program on various types of traps, with the program open to both IBC and non-IBC members alike. Blaine reviewed the most common types of traps likely to be encountered in the field, the dangers traps present to dogs and man, and importantly, demonstrated the ways in which to release various traps. Attendees were given an illustrative handout, which will also be forwarded to those IBC members unable to attend the meeting.

Blaine presented valuable information for the safety of our dogs and we thank him for sharing his expertise on such an important subject to us all! Future meetings will include similar programs of interest....Let an IBC Officer or Director know what you'd like to see presented!!

IBC Hosts Spring 2011 Central Futurity...

Submitted by Marcy Beveridge, Secretary



A hardworking, tired IBC volunteer catches 40 winks...

The Iowa Brittany Club was proud to host the American Brittany Club's 2011 Central Futurity. The field event was held on Thursday, March 31st at the Union County Bird Dog Ranch in Thayer, Iowa and the show event was held on Friday evening April 1st at the Creston Alternative School in Creston, Iowa; the Central Futurity events were clustered with the IBC's regular Spring Specialty Show and Field Trial. Festivities included gift bags for all of the Futurity entrants, sweets and coffee every morning to kick off the day's field events, a banquet dinner Saturday evening at the Knotty Pine Restaurant in Afton, Iowa, and drawings for doorprizes. It was reported by the judges they really had their work cut out for them as they set about to determine the cream of the Futurity crop among many fine performances in both field and show.

At all reports, a great time was had by everyone. A very big thank you to the IBC volunteers who worked so hard to make the Central Futurity and Iowa events welcoming, fun and top notch, our terrific participants and judges, and our very supportive and helpful ABC Futurity Chair Lisa Pollock. Additionally, a very special thank you to the many companies and individuals who donated items for our Futurity gift bags and doorprizes, and greatly added to the success of the events. We salute the following contributors...

*Dogs Unlimited-Hudson, Co
Scheel's-West Des Moines, Ia
Sportsman's Warehouse-Ankeny, Ia
Pheasants Forever & Rep Tom Fuller
J & J Dog Supply-Galesburg, Il
Jill & Chuck Schaefer
The Edge Pro-Ankeny, Ia
Three Dog Bakery-W Des Moines, Ia
HyVee-Osceola, Ia
Fareway-Osceola, Ia
Groomer's Choices-Sioux Falls, SD*

*Starch Pet Hospital-Des Moines, Ia
Al-Bi-A Good Dog-Albia, Ia
Miller's Hardware Inc-Des Moines, Ia
Doctors Foster & Smith-Rhineland, Wi
Bon Ami Embroidery-San Dimas, Ca
Lisa & Paul Pollock
Animal Rescue League of Ia-Des Moines, Ia
Pennsylvania Brittany Club
HyVee-Albia, Ia
Pizza Hut-Creston, Ia
DogPro-DeSoto, Ia*

IBC Spring 2011 Events Results...

Iowa Brittany Club Spring 2011 Walking Field Trial

The Iowa Brittany Club's 2011 Walking Field Trial was held on a brisk and cold Sunday, March 13th at the Lee Lakosky farm near Salem, Iowa. Kendall Brown was Walking Trial Chairman, Wes Shaffer, Trial Secretary. Chuck Burgin, Bruce Heiter, Julie Nelson and John Houck served as judges. Results were as follows...

<u>Open Walking Puppy (6S)</u>	<u>Sire / Dam</u>	<u>Owner / Handler</u>
1st Crescent City Girl (Brit)	DC NAGD AFC Clyde's Double Trouble x CH Starlights Zeta Tauri	Petra & Barry Steinmetz / Barry Steinmetz
2nd Dogwood's Buckmark (Brit)	DC Shadow Attack x CH Dogwood's Gilmore Girl	C Eugene Salmons / C Eugene Salmons
3rd Hy Steppin Libby's Liebling (Brit)	Nolan's Last Bullet x Vanpo's Kentucky Queen	Chris & Gerilyn Sennott / Chris Sennott
4th Sharp Shooter's Ramblin Man (GSP)	Sharp Shooters Prairie Dancer MH x Roughneck's Shockwave	Keith Thompson / Keith Thompson
<u>Open Walking Derby (10S)</u>	<u>Sire / Dam</u>	<u>Owner / Handler</u>
1st Chief Tee Bones Poppy (Brit)	Tee Bone x Chief's Nubbins My Lil Lady	Kirk Gunter / Kirk Gunter
2nd St. Clair's Prince Rocco Vulcano Leo (Brit)	SLW Prince Duke Jr x Misty Morning XXIII	Jon St. Clair / Jon St. Clair
3rd Hot Shot's Tank Commander JH (GSP)	Gamble's Gunner Von Fritz SH x Odyssey's Mystic Breeze	Peggy Sieve / Peggy Sieve
4th Ricky Ticky's Mister Dudely (GSP)	FC Chilshom Creek Riptide x Rocky Roads The Equalizer	Doug Spenser / Doug Spenser
<u>Amateur Walking Gun Dog (19S)</u>	<u>Sire / Dam</u>	<u>Owner / Handler</u>
1st Spanky's Little Sonny SH (Brit)	Spunky's Bouncin Dakota JH x Cooper Little Pill JH	Dwaine Sparks / Nate Schmitz
2nd MSR's Timeless Glow (GSP)	NFC GK's Nuke It x NAFC Annie's Little Stinker	Dr. Kirk Loftin / Larry Loftin
3rd FC Gunsmoke Highplains Drifter (Gordon Setter)	FC Gunsmoke Highplains Drifter x FC Prairie Star First Edition	Dano & Marianne Morf / Dano Morf
4th Stoney Hill's Cuttin' Kasey (GSP)	NFC/FC Chisholm Creeks Cuttin Loose x NGDC FC AFC CCK's Sin City G Spot	Dr. Kirk Loftin / Larry Loftin
<u>Open Walking Gun Dog (18S)</u>	<u>Sire / Dam</u>	<u>Owner / Handler</u>
1st Stoney Hill's Cuttin' Kasey (GSP)	NFC/FC Chisholm Creeks Cuttin Loose x NGDC FC AFC CCK's Sin City G Spot	Dr. Kirk Loftin / Larry Loftin
2nd FC AFC Hy Steppin Maggie SH (Brit)	Nolan's Last Bullet x Hammering Hank's Rebel Belle	Chris & Gerilyn Sennott / Chris Sennott
3rd MSR's Timeless Glow (GSP)	NFC GK's Nuke It x NAFC Annie's Little Stinker	Dr. Kirk Loftin / Larry Loftin
4th Hi-N's Limited Edition (GSP)	NFC GK's Playing for Keeps x NFC FC Outback's Josey	Dr. Kirk Loftin / Larry Loftin

Iowa Brittany Club Spring 2011 Sweepstakes & Specialty Show

The Iowa Brittany Club's Spring 2011 Specialty Show & Sweepstakes was held following the 2011 Central Futurity Show on Friday evening, April 1st at the Creston Alternative School in Creston, Iowa. Jane Windom was Show Chairman, Ken Windom Show Secretary. Sweepstakes Judge was Ms. Colleen Walsh, Specialty Judge was Ms. Kathy Forbes. Results were as follows...

SWEEPSTAKES

Award	Dog	Owner(s)
Best in Puppy	Sovereign's Light The Lamp (CH Copley Can Do Magnum Opus Grand Sam RE x CH Sovereign's Treasure The Code)	Dawn & Joe Droel
Best Opposite Sex-Puppy	FireStarter's Clear Winter Night (DC Timberline Strait To The Point JH x FC Windtuck Winter Jazz SH)	Andrea Christensen
Best in Veteran	DC/AFC Ricochet Maggie's Jac JH (DC AFC Masked Shoshoni War Chief JH x DC Ricochet Magnum Four Forty JH)	Julie Nelson

JR SHOWMANSHIP

Award	Dog	Jr. Handler
Best Junior Handler	Dr Jac's TruGritz Master Yoda O'Dee JH (DC AFC MC Brett Jared O'Dee x TruGritz Sagacious Brier)	Thomas Swanson

SPECIALTY SHOW

Breed Winners	Dog	Owner(s)
Best of Breed	Ch Ammo's One Man Band (Ammo's Hot Wheels x Dirty Bird's No Fear Ammo)	Sandra & Gary Leavens
Best of Winners	Cimmaron Made You Look Jack (CH Cimmaron Caughtcha Look'n CDX RAEX x CH Cimmaron's Taylor Made CD MX MXJ AF)	Carol Baron
Best of Opposite Sex	Ginjac-Magic Me I'm The One (NAGDC DC AFC Triumphant's Too Hot To Handle x CH Magic It's My Party)	Michele Martin
Best Puppy	Castle Sanbar The Legend Continues (CH Sanbar's Curtain Call x CH Sanbar's Castle Just A Sample)	Ned Castillo
Best Bred-By Exhibitor	Sovereign's Light The Lamp (CH Copley Can Do Magnum Opus Grand Sam RE x CH Sovereign's Treasure The Code)	Dawn & Joel Droel
Best American Bred	CH Cedarlane's Chantilly Lace (Ch Cimmaron's Set 'Em Up Joe CDX x CH Rhoill's Loose Cannon)	Rhonda Battaglia & Randall Miller
GC Select Dog	CH Castle's How Sweet It Is (CH Millette's Fire When Ready x CH Castle's Sweet Scarlet)	I.J. & B.J. Castillo
GB Select Bitch	CH Magic Story Of The Century RE (CH Magic Sir-ly You Jest JH x CH Magic Cinderella Story SH)	Michele Martin & Nicole Otterson
Judge's Award of Merit	CH Sovereign's MVP (DC AFC Roja's Gambling Chips x CH Sovereign's Treasure The Code)	Dawn & Joel Droel
Judge's Award of Merit	GCH Melridge Stir N It Up (CH Jordean Up and At 'Em x Melridge Two-D Winner Sails)	Diane & Frederich Bingham

Dogs (14D)

Junior 12-18 Months	Lost Creek A Shot Of Bourbon (NFC DC AFC Ru-Jem's A Touch Of Bourbon x FC Lost Creek Kate)	George & Cindy McCann
Bred-By-Exhibitor	Sovereign's Light The Lamp (CH Copley Can Do Magnum Opus Grand Sam RE x CH Sovereign's Treasure The Code)	Dawn & Joel Droel
American Bred	Gun Runner's Gotta Lotta Mo (NFC FC AFC Shambo's Dark Shadow x FC AFC T.J.'s Prairie Starr)	Beverly Stokes & Bill Hancock

Open	Cimmaron Made You Look Jack (CH Cimmaron Caughtcha Look'n CDX RAEX x CH Cimmaron's Taylor Made CD MX MXJ AF)	Carol Baron
Winner's Dog	Cimmaron Made You Look Jack (CH Cimmaron Caughtcha Look'n CDX RAEX x CH Cimmaron's Taylor Made CD MX MXJ AF)	Carol Baron
Reserve Winner's Dog	Sovereign's Light The Lamp (CH Copley Can Do Magnum Opus Grand Sam RE x CH Sovereign's Treasure The Code)	Dawn & Joel Droel

Bitches (21B)

Puppy 6-9 Months	Wild Mtn's Midnight Rendezvous (CH Triumphant's The Heat Is On JH x DC Wild Mtn's Lone Star Rendezvous)	Marcy Beveridge
Puppy 9-12 Months	Castle Sanbar The Legend Continues (CH Sanbar's Curtain Call x CH Sanbar's Castle Just A Sample)	Ned Castillo
Junior 12-18 Months	FireStarter's Clear Winter Night (DC Timberline Strait To The Point JH x FC Windtuck Winter Jazz SH)	Andrea Christensen
Bred By Exhibitor	Sovereign's Miss Daisy (CH Copley Can Do Magnum Opus Grand Sam RE x CH Sovereign's Treasure The Code)	Dawn & Joel Droel
Open	Ginjac-Magic Me I'm The One (NAGDC DC AFC Triumphant's Too Hot To Handle x CH Magic It's My Party)	Michele Martin
Winner's Bitch	Ginjac-Magic Me I'm The One (NAGDC DC AFC Triumphant's Too Hot To Handle x CH Magic It's My Party)	Michele Martin
Reserve Winner's Bitch	Sovereign's Miss Daisy (CH Copley Can Do Magnum Opus Grand Sam RE x CH Sovereign's Treasure The Code)	Dawn & Joel Droel

Non-Reg-Dogs

Veteran Over 10 Years	DC/AFC Ricochet Maggie's Jac JH (DC AFC Masked Shoshoni War Chief JH x DC Ricochet Magnum Four Forty JH)	Julie Nelson
Field Trial Dogs	CH AFC Diamond Hill Dangerous Man (2xNFC FC AFC Diamond Hill Dan x Sunshine's Shadow Shining)	Lisa & Paul Pollock

Iowa Brittany Club Spring 2011 Field Trial

Amid cool spring weather and sunny skies, the Iowa Brittany Club's Spring 2011 Horseback Field Trial was held April 1st through April 6th at the Union County Bird Dog Ranch near Thayer, Iowa. Bruce Heiter served as Chairman, Ken Windom as Secretary. Judges included Stan Truska, Bill Cockrum, Todd Williams, Mike Poehler, Lisa Pollock, Richard Brewington, Kendall Brown, Bill Burton and Bryan Long. Results were as follows...

<u>Open Puppy (8S)</u>	<u>Sire / Dam</u>	<u>Owner(s) / Handler</u>
1st Hi Proof Jack	DC Hi Proof Whizki x Blazen Little Chick	Bruce Heiter / Bruce Heiter
2nd Roux-Bee	FC Jo-Lockapex Dark Roux Gumbo x Tick Time	Ben Hunt / Andrea Christensen
3rd Roustabout's Nes Quick	DC Chick's Blaze'n Sawtooth Sam JH x FC Roustabout's Sniksoh Sadie	Paul Rosevear / Bob Burchett
4th Diamond Hill Work Hard Play Harder	DC AFC Deuce Is On The Loose x FC Diamond Hill She's Gone	Paul & Lisa Pollock / Lisa Pollock
<u>Open Derby (22S)</u>	<u>Sire / Dam</u>	<u>Owner(s) / Handler</u>
1st Touch Of Bourbon Little Chug	NFC DC AFC Ru-Jem's A Touch of Bourbon x FC Lost Creek Kate	Tom & Jane Wonderling / Bob Burchett
2nd Windtuck Sniksoh Tequila Margarita	DC AF/C Redlines Tequila Smoker x FC AFC Sniksoh Next Gen	James & Leslee Masolotte / Andrea Christensen

3rd Alar's Red Tequila River	DC Almaden's River of Shadows x WR Tequila Tiger Lily	Jessica Carlson / Ed Tillson
4th Raise The Bar	CH Shelttany Against All Odds x FC Alar's Tango Bar	Kaherine Thompson / Ed Tillson
<u>Amateur Gun Dog (26S)</u>	<u>Sire / Dam</u>	<u>Owner(s) / Handler</u>
1st High Hopes Little Ann	DC AFC Spring Hill's Trouble Free x NAGDC FC AFC High Hopes Fly By Nite	Daniel Riedl / Daniel Riedl
2nd DC AFC Wrigley's Chip Makin His Marc	FC AFC Renegade's Regal Wrigley x Chief's Misipi Nivashi Nummi JH	Mike & Stacy Poehler / Mike Poehler
3rd CH Lockridge's Something To Be Proud Of	CH RJ's River's Bend MH x CH RJ's Talk Of The Town JH	Larry & Terry Hilliard / Larry Hilliard
4th Oliver Ollister Chip's Ahoy	DC AFC Wrigley's Chip Makin His Marc x Renegade's Breckon Ridge	Ray & Linda Gossell / Mike Poehler
<u>Open Gun Dog (28S)</u>	<u>Sire / Dam</u>	<u>Owner / Handler</u>
1st DC Masked Jack of Diamonds	CH Jayhawker's Masked Bandit x x Reddevil's Lucky Diamond at FF	Rodney & Carol Maves / Ed Tillson
2nd ANJ's Amazing Grace	DC AFC Wrigley's Chip Makin His Marc x CH Over Under Nevenes Showtime JH	Alexa, Jacob & Mike Poehler / Mike Poehler
3rd FC Foster's Buddy II	FC Roustabout's Kid Parker x Roustabouts Sniksoh Sadie	Gordon Foster / Gordon Foster
4th CH AFC Diamond Hill Dangerous Man	2X NFC FC AFC Diamond Hill Dan x Sunshines Shadow Shining	Paul & Lisa Pollock / Lisa Pollock
<u>Amateur All Age (17S)</u>	<u>Sire / Dam</u>	<u>Owner / Handler</u>
1st Two Rivers Skyhawk	CH Lost Creek Red x S'No Fun Sea Hawk	Steven Ralph / Steve Ralph
2nd DC AFC Starlight's Blazing Sirius	FC Ridge Runner Rocky x CH Starlight's Alpha Zeta	Tom Thomas / Tom Thomas
3rd Diamond Hill Deuces Gone Wild	2X NFC FC AFC Diamond Hill Dan x Deuces Bombay Sapphire	Paul & Lisa Pollock / Lisa Pollock
4th FC AFC Kinwashkly Dakota Molester	FC AFC Blaze Dakota Trucker x CH Kinwashkly Crash Test Dummy	Ken Seivert / Ken Seivert
<u>Open All Age (33S)</u>	<u>Sire / Dam</u>	<u>Owner / Handler</u>
1st FC AFC TJ's Thunder	NFC DC AFC Tequila's Joker x Smarteyes Microbeans	Dr. Robert Rankin / Jim John
2nd HAL-JS Smarteyes-Jokers EZ Ace	FC AFC Smarteyes-Joker x Allied's Sassy Sadie II	Harold Revoir / Jim John
3rd Crossland's Charlie	NFC FC AFC Shambo's Dark Shadow x Jaybirds Dot Com	Bill Hancock / Bill Hancock
4th FC AFC TJ's Prairie Blizzard	NFC DC AFC Tequila's Joker x FC AFC The Prairie Tornado	Vicki Rankin / Ed Tillson
<u>Ed Powell Memorial OLGD (17S)</u>	<u>Sire / Dam</u>	<u>Owner / Handler</u>
1st DC Masked Jack Of Diamonds	CH Jayhawker's Masked Bandit x x Reddevil's Lucky Diamond at FF	Rodney & Carol Maves / Ed Tillson
2nd FC Rocklan's Whizzle Stop	DC AFC The Whiz Kid x FC Sniksoh Corky	John & Margilee Sauer / Bob Burchett
3rd CSB JL Sullivan	FC Double Brandy's Bird Buster x Havapal's Shoshoni Ginger	Jaime Brecount / Bob Burchett
4th FC Foster's Buddy II	FC Roustabout's Kid Parker x Roustabouts Sniksoh Sadie	Gordon Foster / Gordon Foster

Iowa Brittany Club Spring 2011 Hunt Test



Doug Ljungren, AKC AVP of Performance Events, Roger Stowell, IBC Hunt Test Chairman, and Tom Maneely, AKC Executive Field Rep

The Iowa Brittany Club held its 2011 Spring Hunt Test on April 9th and 10th at the Steelclay Shooting Sports LLC facility near Eddyville, Iowa. Brittanys, German Shorthairs, German Wirehairs, and English Setters participated, with 16 starters on Saturday and 19 starters on Sunday.

We were honored to be chosen by the AKC as one of several clubs to participate in the AKC's test program on Hunt Test judges using ATVs. The test program was implemented during our spring Hunt Test weekend, and we were pleased to host Doug Ljungren, AKC AVP of Performance Events and Tom Maneely, AKC Executive Field Rep. Doug and Tom observed our Hunt Test and the ATV test program, and spent time interviewing the Hunt Test Committee, judges, and participants on their opinion on the Hunt Test program, the ATV test program and ideas for the future.

A big thank you to Larry and Lisa Dunn, owners of Steelclay Shooting Sports, for their hospitality participation, and use of their grounds and clubhouse for our Hunt Test. And a very special thank you Larry for constructing a large viewing stand in the field from which to view our events. The viewing stand was enjoyed by everyone, and is a wonderful addition to our venue. Very deserving thanks also to the Iowa Brittany Club Hunt Test Committee, IBC member volunteers, our judges, gunners, bird planters and kitchen crew, and all the participants that helped make this a fun and success event! We're looking forward to this fall!

Saturday, April 9th Qualifiers / J: Kendall Brown & Kirk Gunter

Junior Hunter (9S, 6Q)

	<u>Owner</u>	<u>Handler</u>
Cedar Breaks Mohawk Jeri (GWP)	Warren Lee Bonnett	Warren Lee Bonnett
Wild Mtn's Midnight Rendezvous (Brit)	Marcy Beveridge	Roger Stowell
Timbercreeks First Sargent Tank (GSP)	Mark Steffen	Chris Riddle
Wind River's Code Red (GSP)	Mike Moncada	Mike Moncada
6R Uplands Dueces Full of Trey (GSP)	Chris Riddle	Chris Riddle
PBF's Fired Up Ramblin Man (Brit)	Mary Garr	Mary Garr

Senior Hunter (4S, 0Q)

Master Hunter (3S, 0Q)

Sunday, April 10th Qualifiers / J: Randy Fitzgerald & Kevin Kuiper

Junior Hunter (12S, 8Q)

	<u>Owner</u>	<u>Handler</u>
KB Chieftans Princess (Brit)	Kendall Brown	Carol Brown
Timbercreeks First Sargent Tank (GSP)	Mark Steffen	Chris Riddle
Cedar Breaks Mohawk Jeri (GWP)	Warren Lee Bonnett	Warren Lee Bonnett
St. Clair's Prince Rocco Vulcano Leo (Brit)	Jon St. Clair	Jon St. Clair
Holt's Rockin' Ruby (GSP)	Jake Holtrop	Jake Holtrop
6R Uplands Dueces Full of Trey (GSP)	Chris Riddle	Chris Riddle
Wind River's Code Red (GSP)	Mike Moncada	Mike Moncada
PBF's Fired Up Ramblin Man (Brit)	Mary Garr	Mary Garr

Senior Hunter (4S, 0Q)

Master Hunter (3S, 1Q)

	<u>Owner</u>	<u>Handler</u>
Top Gun Queen Isabella (GSP)	Bradley Weets	Bradley Weets

New Feature!... "Health Tip Of The Quarter"...

Whether your Brittany participates in field trials, hunt tests or agility...dazzles the crowd in the show ring...fills your bird bag every weekend during the season...or prefers to join you on the couch for a snack and a nap...He is your pal and your partner, and relies on you to keep him both healthy and safe. To help keep us all more aware of our dog's needs and the issues we may well encounter, the quarterly IBC Newsletter will now include the new feature "Health Tip Of The Quarter". Our very first "Tip" is a great article on heat exhaustion by Jill Swan that appeared in the Pointing Dog Journal, and is being reprinted with their permission.



HEAT EXHAUSTION by Jill Swan

Now that summer is upon us, things are heating up, which can cause our sporting dogs to overheat during training if precautions are not taken. Keeping your dog cool and watching for signs of heat exhaustion – after all, they have a difficult time holding back and saying no – are just as important as the lessons you're teaching during your outdoor sessions.

Heat exhaustion, simply put, is when the body gets over heated from working (exercising) in hot, humid temperatures. To gain better insight, we'll rely on the expertise of veterinary associates Drs. Peter Lotsikas and Chris Zink of Veterinary Orthopedic & Sports Medicine Group in Annapolis Junction, Maryland.

What are some of the signs?

Humans regulate their body temperature primarily through the skin, such as sweating. But "dogs do not sweat like humans, and majority of their cooling ability comes from the respiratory system," says Drs. Peter Lotsikas and Chris Zink. "Dogs will initially start to pant and salivate when they become hot. The evaporation of the saliva from their tongue, mouth, and throat removes heat from the body."

What can I do to help prevent heat exhaustion?

Coat and coat care – The thickness of your dog's coat is also something to consider as dogs do use their skin for heat exchange. According to our docs, "A dog's fur traps air, just like birds, which acts as an insulator when it is cold as well as when it is hot outside. This allows dilated blood vessels to exchange heat with the 'trapped' cooler air in the fur. A dog's ability to trap insulating air will differ based on breed type and coat characteristics. Short haired breeds do not have the ability to trap air within their coat, thus these breeds are more susceptible to overheating than are double coated breeds like retrievers. Keeping short haired dogs wet during training and heavy exercise is an effective way to keep them cool. As the water evaporates, heat is removed with it.

"For a double coated or long single coated breed, you are better off only wetting the groin and abdominal areas, where the skin is thin and poorly haired, to allow for heat exchange. Wetting the back of these dogs actually traps water in the coat, and as this trapped water begins to vaporize it will increase the humidity around the skin, actually making the dog hotter." To better help the trapping of air, keep your dog's coat well-groomed and clean.

Physical shape – And of course, make certain that your dog is in good training condition. Dogs not used to heavy training or working on a regular basis outside will be effected more quickly. "A conditioned dog's temperature should regulate to normal (99.5-102.5) within twenty minutes of cooling. Any temperatures of above 105 persisting longer than thirty minutes following appropriate cooling requires the attention of a veterinary professional."

Water – Make sure to offer your dog plenty of cool water intermittently during your training sessions, and make sure he drinks some. "Remember that dogs do not need to drink large amounts of water in hot weather as we do, because they do not become dehydrated from sweating. Many dogs do not drink substantial amounts on performance days and it is not a problem," says Drs. Peter Lotsikas and Chris Zink. The important thing is that the coolness of the liquid will cool down the core body temperature of the dog.

What can I do if my dog becomes overheated?

Hopefully the situation never escalates to that level, but if you are seeing signs that your dog is overheated, then you need to immerse the dog in cool water. Don't use ice water because it constricts the blood vessels and can actually increase the dog's core body temperature. "If water is limited, then you are best to apply the water directly to the belly, armpits, and groin," advises Drs. Peter Lotsikas and Chris Zink. They also recommend rubbing alcohol: "It can be applied to their paw pads, external ear flaps and abdomen, as it evaporates quickly and is an effective method of exchanging heat."

Dr. Peter Lotsikas, DVM is an ACVS board-certified surgeon with the Veterinary Orthopedic and Sports Medicine Group (VOSM) in Annapolis Junction, Maryland. Dr. Lotsikas specializes in orthopedic injuries of the performance dog. His clinical focus is on minimally invasive surgery (arthroscopy) and joint preservation.

Dr. M. Christine Zink, DVM, Ph.D, DACVP is a canine sports medicine trainer affiliated with VOSM. Her expertise is in evaluating canine locomotion and designing individualized retraining and conditioning programs for the canine athlete.