

GREENVILLE KENNEL CLUB

APRIL 2008

VOLUME 2, ISSUE 4

A message from our President *Blake Roulette*

Greetings Members,

It's that time of month, time to make plans for the April meeting. We had good attendance at our last meeting and look forward to a good turnout for this one as well. We had several new people at our last meeting looking to join the GKC. Remember, May is our picnic month and we will discuss this further at this upcoming meeting. I wish you well and hope to see everyone at the meeting.

Blake

**Next meeting is on
April 15th, 2008!**

AKC Canine Health Foundation Media Alert

AKC Canine Health Foundation Receives

International Funding for Brussels Griffon Research

Support for the AKC Canine Health Foundation is truly going global. The Foundation announces that three international clubs - The Griffon Bruxellois Club of Victoria (based in Australia), and The Griffon Bruxellois Breeders Association (based in the UK) and a Brussels Griffon fancier club in New Zealand - are lending their financial support to Grant Number 1004 - Syringomyelia in the Brussels Griffon: Magnetic Resonance Imaging Findings, Clinicopathology, and Prevalence.

Syringomyelia (SM) is characterized by the development of fluid filled spinal cord cavitations or syrinxes, is associated with a syndrome of severe pain and weakness. Certain breeds are predisposed to SM, most notably the Cavalier King Charles Spaniel. Recently, SM has been diagnosed in Brussels Griffon (Griffon Bruxellois) dogs in North America, Europe and Australia. Researchers at the University of Georgia hypothesize that a subpopulation of the Brussels Griffon is affected by SM. Their goals are to identify the prevalence of SM in the Brussels Griffon; to delineate clinical signs and spinal fluid abnormalities; and to utilize MRI techniques to define structural abnormalities associated with syringomyelia in the breed.

"Our thanks to these international clubs for their financial commitment to the CHF and for their confidence in the research we support," adds Cindy Vogels, president of the AKC Canine Health Foundation. "No matter the geographical distance between us, together we're working toward the shared goals of helping all our dogs live longer and stronger."

**GREENVILLE KENNEL CLUB
MEETINGS ARE HELD ON
THE 3RD TUESDAY OF EACH
MONTH AT 7:30PM AT THE
QUALITY INN AT HWY 385 &
PLEASANTBURG DR.**



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Information to be included in the GKC Newsletter should be submitted to the Editor at Majorki@aol.com no later than the 5th day of each month. It is the intent of the Editor to have the GKC Newsletter ready for print by the 10th of each month. Thanks for your help!

Notes from our AKC Delegate...

Linda Ayers Turner Knorr

RONALD H. MENAKER
Chairman of the Board

DENNIS B. SPRUNG
President and CEO

Ms. Oprah Winfrey
The Oprah Winfrey Show
110 N. Carpenter Street
Chicago, IL 60607

April 4, 2008

Dear Ms. Winfrey:

Thank you for your informative show today. We are very pleased that a renowned dog lover such as you has taken on the issue of unregulated dog breeders – an issue we work towards addressing on a daily basis.

The American Kennel Club has always been a strong proponent of responsible breeding, which entails giving careful consideration to health issues, temperament and genetic screening, as well as to the individual care and placement of puppies in responsible homes. AKC supports and promotes these and other responsible breeding practices through numerous educational programs.

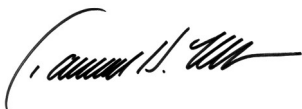
In addition to raising awareness, we have long invested significant resources to directly address the issue of canine welfare. In 2007, our team of 15 inspectors visited over 5,600 kennels throughout the country. AKC spends over \$6 million *each year* to inspect our customers, thereby ensuring the integrity of our registry and the proper care and conditions for dogs registered with us. In fact, of over 35 U.S. “registries” we are the only one to conduct inspections, as well as being the only not-for-profit all-breed registry in the nation. AKC is continually raising the bar. When our inspectors find kennels that do not meet our progressive standards, they educate those breeders. Those not willing to come into compliance are suspended of their AKC registration privileges and proper authorities are alerted in cases of neglect.

Unfortunately, there are many breeders who choose NOT to register with us specifically because of our high standards, and once they are no longer being inspected by the AKC, there is often very little oversight from state or federal entities. AKC supports scrupulous enforcement of the federal Animal Welfare Act, and state and local regulations governing the humane care of animals. We also voice support for more resources to be allotted to the USDA and other enforcement agencies to ensure that current regulations are met.

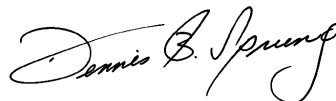
AKC’s 5,000 affiliated clubs nationwide are comprised of people who dedicate their lives – emotionally and financially – to improving their breeds and to providing healthy, happy pets. We would like to work with you to further educate the American public about how to identify a responsible breeder and hope you will call on us when addressing this topic in the future.

Again, thank you for raising awareness of this important issue. Your support is invaluable to all dogs and their devoted owners.

Sincerely,



Ronald H. Menaker
Chairman of the Board



Dennis B. Sprung
President and CEO

From The Editor...

Chuck Floyd

As many of you may have noticed, last month was not a good month for our newsletter. For reasons beyond my control it seems as if some members received a copy while others did not. For that I do apologize, ultimately it is my responsibility to get it put together, printed, folded, stapled, sealed, labeled, stamped and then mailed. With the problems I encountered with this last edition I did obtain permission from our President to seek a new printer and have been very successful. I will be going with The UPS Store #2932 located here in Easley.

Since I am not able to determine those that have or have not received the previous newsletter, there may be some things repeated such as Part 3 in our series on how to interpret labels. Also included is a score sheet that is useful in evaluating your own food in the privacy of your home. Take the time to review it and pass a copy on to your friends.

Please remember, the due date for information to be included in the upcoming newsletter is now the 5th of that month. This allows me time to put together the newsletter and get it to the printer in time.

One of the things worth repeating as well was a call for memorabilia from earlier times with the Greenville Kennel Club. Blake would like to put together a special display for our next show. Copies of items and photographs would really be appreciated but care will be used to copy originals. Surely we have some old photos that can bring back memories that you would like to share! What a great way to remind everyone what made GKC the club it is today!

Hopefully everyone had the opportunity to watch Oprah Winfrey on Friday, April 4th. The show was a very informative program that made some very valid points as well as raise much needed awareness for the general public about those unscrupulous "wannabe" breeders. I'm sure we were all concerned about how we would look as members of the AKC...after all, most people think of the AKC as being the leader within the "industry"! To hear the MLAR President himself speak on responsible breeders was a positive thing. It is up to us to uphold our reputation as not only responsible breeders but as members and supporters of the AKC within our community. There are many educational opportunities available for all of us, moments that we think don't count that actually do!

After watching this episode of Oprah, I regret recently turning down an opportunity to set up our Public Education Booth at a local fund raiser outside of the Greenville area. This event was and is specifically for raising monies to educate, provide much needed medical attention as well as food for upstate shelters! I spoke with several members of our club and received differing opinions on reaching outside of our area and the possibility of "stepping on toes" of other Breed Clubs. I received some invaluable and sound advice from members that I personally have the greatest respect for, however I am now left wondering if I should have pushed harder to take advantage of such an opportunity. The upstate communities surrounding Greenville are just as important as what is considered *Greenville proper*...education can not be a simple matter of geographical design, it must encompass all surrounding areas in order to *make a difference*.

Chuck

"ALWAYS
REMEMBER,
OTHERS MAY
HATE YOU.
THOSE WHO
HATE YOU
DON'T WIN
UNLESS YOU
HATE THEM.
AND THEN YOU
DESTROY
YOURSELF."

RICHARD M.
NIXON
37TH
PRESIDENT OF
THE USA
1913-1994

*Do you have an idea
for a presentation for
an upcoming club
meeting?*

*Do you have a
presentation you would
like to give to your
fellow club members?*

*Drop us a line at:
Majoraki@aol.com*

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information!*

GKC Legislative Report

Katrina Starwyck

This is a follow up to the legislative alert that I sent out last week regarding the SC bill currently being read, S833. I have received quite a bit of information regarding this bill and have been plowing through it to try and give you just the highlights, but there is quite a lot to consider. First, I have to apologize if I seem overboard on this one. The coursing community generally gets hit with something similar to this every year, so have seen small things get blown way out of proportion. The trouble with this bill is that it is very vague and VERY open to interpretation.

The original tethering bill has been amended three times since presentation on March 5th. It now states "animal" rather than "dog" and now includes tethering, crating, pens, cages and similar confinement. My thought is that this might endanger kennel clubs as well as dog show participants for allowing crating or penning at their shows. The bill now also includes an amendment to allow access to "sustenance" . . . that alone would end my Deerhounds being in a crate, if they had to cups of food in their crate, they wouldn't be able to fit in or out of crates. Water must also be available at all times as well (what happens to dogs that dump water and soak themselves and bedding? dogs that are preop and cannot have water?). The bill also outlaws crates that "(b) does not permit an animal to stand, turn around, sit, and lie down in a normal position". This means I would not be able to safely confine a Deerhound in a crate in the car as a crate that size would not fit in a car. Let alone the fact that they are usually asleep on their side 99.9% of the car ride. The bill also considers it a misdemeanor to "(a) confine an animal for such an unreasonable period of time that the animal's health or safety is endangered". What is an unreasonable time and who determines this ? Would people who work be able to crate their dogs for safety ? Dogs recovering from injuries or at the vets ? The bill also has an amendment making it a misdemeanor for dogs to have feces/urine in their crate. Ever had a puppy sleeping in an ex-pen or crate for hours and then when you go to answer the doorbell, come back to find it has relieved itself because of the excitement?

Although I used myself as an example, you can see the vagueness of this bill and how it is open to interpretation. Remember also that there are already cruelty bills on the books that should take care of those extreme situations.

Here are two links to view this bill and its progress:

http://www.scstatehouse.net/sess117_2007-2008/prever/833_20080320.htm

http://www.scstatehouse.net/cgi-bin/web_bh10.exe

This bill will have its third reading tomorrow. Below I have included a list of contacts if you feel so compelled to contact your representative.

As always, if I can be of any help or answer any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me. Thank you for your patience in reading this!

Katrina Starwyck
H 864.868.9554
C 985.789.7569

*Membership Notes...**Eleanor Moore*

We are excited that four guests decided to begin the membership process in April. They are Elizabeth Leonard an exhibitor in conformation whose breeds include Shih Tzu and Standard Poodle. Cathy Novak involved in conformation with her breed Chinese Crested. Patti Pennington involved in conformation with breeds Pug and English Bulldog. Sheri Rose an exhibitor in conformation whose breeds include Tibetan Spaniel and Chinese Crested. All four were asked to introduce themselves at the April meeting counting as their "first reading" and we look forward to seeing them again soon for their second reading and vote to complete the membership process.

Please help me update your addresses, phone numbers and email addresses. If your information has changed in the past year please email your new information to me at bugsy lazer@msn.com with GKC membership in the memo line. Even if you think we have it right send me an email anyway.

Sherri Rose 202 Quillen Ave Fountain Inn, SC 29644

Patti Pennington 116 William St Fountain Inn, SC 29644

Cathy Novak 319 S. Sandy Brook Way Simpsonville, SC 29680

Elizabeth Leonard 601 Morning Creek Place Greenville, SC 29607

*Breeder Referral**Sonja Hewitt*

Please remember to call and let me know if you have puppies available. Also, please let me know if you are willing to be a source of education for people seeking information about specific breeds, I have on many occasions been asked for more information on a particular breed than I know. Who is more qualified to answer those questions than a responsible breeder? Thanks!

*Sunshine Corner**Becky Ward*

If you hear of a Member that is ill or just in need of a kind word of support, please contact Becky at (864) 288-6206 or email at wardbk@charter.net. *Remember, a simple word spoken in kindness can make a world of difference for a friend in need.*

EVERY MONTH
I WILL BE
FEATURING A DIFFERENT
BREED OR A
"WHAT BREED AM I"
COLUMN.
IF YOU ARE
INTERESTED IN HIGH
LIGHTING YOUR
BREED, WITH
INTERESTING
NOTES OR LITTLE
KNOWN FACTS
THEN WRITE IT
UP AND
SEND IT TO:
MAJORKI
@AOL.COM
PLEASE REMEMBER TO
KEEP YOUR WRITE UP TO
A MAXIMUM OF 300
WORDS.

Remembering that all of AAFCO's data is based on averages while some individuals will need more or less of a certain nutrient; the variety of foodstuffs increases the chances that more individuals will receive their specific requirements. This is because while grains, fruits, veggies and protein sources are similar one may have more or less of a certain vitamin, specific amino acid, fatty acid or mineral. Our mystery food is VERY diverse in its protein and carbohydrate sources. Chicken, turkey, chicken meal, ocean fish meal, egg product, duck, salmon and dried skim milk- eight sources of protein. Whole grain brown rice, oatmeal, millet, white rice, potatoes, tomato pumice, kelp, carrots, peas, apples, tomatoes, blueberries, spinach, cranberry powder and parsley flakes...15 different sources for carbohydrates and fiber! We all probably need to be eating this stuff...I know I did not get all that into my diet today.

AAFCO's minimum recommendations are probably a bit low on some nutrients. In our world today with more stress (think dog show), pollution (set up next to the Poodle grooming area at the dog show- just kidding) and in some cases highly active dogs (agility, lure coursing) dogs may actually need more antioxidants than they did years ago this food appears to agree. If you look at the 2008 AAFCO's recommendations for Vitamin E it is 50 IU/kg. Our mystery food has 300 IU/kg. This is below AAFCO's max of 1000/IU/kg but way more than the minimum. That is because while too little will cause problems as will too much, there can be pharmaceutical benefits to nutrients in certain amounts exceeding the minimum. Note of caution, since Vit A, D, and E are fat soluble and are stored in the body (as oppose to water soluble Vitamins that the kidneys remove the excess and they leave the body in the urine) supplementing too much can hurt the animal. That is why you see a max/kg for Vit A, D and E but not for the B Vitamins. This food also has increased selenium, which works with Vit E in its antioxidant job.

This food then includes five different probiotics (good microbes...like the ones in yogurt) to aid digestion and L-carnitine which helps the body utilize fats for energy. Flaxseed increases the foods Omega-3 fatty acids and dried chicory root is microbe food (fiber to feed the bugs in the intestinal tract). They mention Chelated minerals which means the minerals are attached to an organic compound (like amino acid) and it allows it to tag along as the amino acid crosses the intestinal wall rather than wait for a spot in the active transport system which may sometimes cause less to be absorbed if different minerals are competing for the same active transport system. In the presence of a good food with adequate protein, most minerals will become chelated in the digestive system so while this is not really needed but it is an insurance policy and a great buzz word.

Some may argue a way to improve on its ingredient list would be to use flaxseed oil or sunflower oil instead of chicken fat. They list in their "Contains Only the Finest, Purist, Quality Ingredients" that they selected it to optimize the levels of linoleic fatty acid, an Omega-6 fatty acid. Both sunflower oil and flaxseed oil are made up of significantly higher percent of linoleic fatty acid, and would have changed the Omega-6 to Omega-3 ratio. Since the ideal ratio is 10:1 to 5:1 and this food stands at 5.5:1, I think they made a good choice. While ocean fish meal means any salt-water fish could be in the product, which has both a positive and possibly negative connotation. Variety in a feedstuff, as stated before, can be good but if the type of fish differs significantly from one batch to another it could cause palatability problems...but I doubt this would be the case. On another note, some fish are higher in heavy metals and mercury and I would hope that those species do not make up a majority of the meal- thus the drawback of the "catch-all" ingredient.

This food is \$16.99 for an 18 lb bag (18 / 2.2 = 8.18 kg bag). It lists its calorie count at 3,593 kcal/kg (336 kcal/cup). Thus, you are paying \$0.059/oz of food or another way to compare would be that it is \$0.58 per 1000 kcal of metabolizable energy (ME). Science Diet gets \$.052/oz for food that is unacceptable to me and foods like Nature's Recipe for Toy Dogs and Royal Canine for Yorkies get upwards of \$0.099 to \$0.249 per ounce respectively. So 6 cents and ounce vs up to 25 cents is a great deal for the quality of ingredients.

So Chuck...what is this food?

CHICKEN SOUP FOR THE PET LOVER (SCORED A 15 A+)

This quiz was developed by a breeder/biologist to help people find the best pet foods available. If the food you feed doesn't score at least 100, find a food that does.

There is a list of foods already scored at the bottom.

- 1) For every listing of "by-product", subtract 10 points
- 2) For every non-specific animal source ("meat" or "poultry", meat, meal or fat) reference, subtract 10 points
- 3) If the food contains BHA, BHT, or ethoxyquin, subtract 10 points
- 4) For every grain "mill run" or non-specific grain source, subtract 5 points
- 5) If the same grain ingredient is used 2 or more times in the first five ingredients (i.e. "ground brown rice", "brewer's rice", "rice flour" are all the same grain), subtract 5 points
- 6) If the protein sources are not meat meal and there are less than 2 meats in the top 3 ingredients, subtract 3 points
- 7) If it contains any artificial colorants, subtract 3 points
- 8) If it contains ground corn or whole grain corn, subtract 3 points
- 9) If corn is listed in the top 5 ingredients, subtract 2 more points
- 10) If the food contains any animal fat other than fish oil, subtract 2 points
- 11) If lamb is the only animal protein source (unless your dog is allergic to other protein sources), subtract 2 points
- 12) If it contains soy or soybeans, subtract 2 points
- 13) If it contains wheat (unless you know that your dog isn't allergic to wheat), subtract 2 points
- 14) If it contains beef (unless you know that your dog isn't allergic to beef), subtract 1 point
- 15) If it contains salt, subtract 1 point

Extra Credit:

- 1) If any of the meat sources are organic, add 5 points
- 2) If the food is baked not extruded, add 5 points
- 3) If the food contains probiotics, add 3 points
- 4) If the food contains fruit, add 3 points
- 5) If the food contains vegetables (NOT corn or other grains), add 3 points
- 6) If the animal sources are hormone-free and antibiotic-free, add 2 points
- 7) If the food contains barley, add 2 points
- 8) If the food contains flax seed oil (not just the seeds), add 2 points
- 9) If the food contains oats or oatmeal, add 1 point
- 10) If the food contains sunflower oil, add 1 point
- 11) For every different specific animal protein source (other than the first one; count "chicken" and "chicken meal" as only one protein source but "chicken" and "chicken Liver" as 2 different sources), add 1 point
- 12) If it contains glucosamine and chondroitin, add 1 point
- 13) If the vegetables have been tested for pesticides and are pesticide-free add 1 point

94-100+ = A 86-93 = B 78-85 = C 70-77 = D 69 = F

ESTABLISHED IN 1939 GREENVILLE KENNEL CLUB AN AKC MEMBER CLUB

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rlvandiver@charter.net

Debbie King- Web Master
brerdane@charter.net

Chuck Floyd—Editor
Majoriki@aol.com

The Greenville Kennel Club meets every 3rd Tuesday of the month at the Quality Inn at Hwy 291 and I-385. Meetings start at 7:30PM. The Board of Director's meet every other month.

For more information on our meetings or scheduled programs, please contact the Club Secretary, Debbie Miller at: debshhtzu@cs.com or call (864) 895-2858.

All items to be included in the newsletter are due on the 7th day of each month. Any items submitted to the GKC Editor for inclusion, are subject to copyright law. Furthermore, the submitter shall bear the entire responsibility for copyright infringements and removes the GKC and its Editor from any liable actions for said publication.

*The next meeting of the GKC is on
April 15, 2008 - Bring a friend!*



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