



Pomeranian News and Views

The Official Newsletter of the Pomeranian Club of Ontario

SPECIALTY EDITION



Issue: JUNE/JULY 2019

POMERANIAN CLUB OF ONTARIO

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If you have an article you think would be of interest to others, an advertisement or litter announcement, please submit it for the next newsletter no later than August 15, 2018

The opinion expressed in the articles published in this newsletter re not necessarily those of the PCOO or the Editor.

Front Cover: Winner of the PCOO 2019 Specialty
CH. LE VENDOSK & CARLANG TALKING TO T MOON

Breeders: Le Vendosk & Carlang Poms
Owner : Cynthia Dyson

SECRETARY'S REPORT - July 2019

Total Memberships - 20 Total Members - 32
9 Singles, 9 Couple , 1 Life (2) 1 Family (3)



Please welcome Gustavo Quiroga and Lucas Oliviera from Toronto who joined our Club at the June Specialty. This makes a total of 7 new members who have joined since the last Specialty. Details in the Secretary's report in the AGM package.

Since the end of June I have been busy taking care of the "after the Specialty" tasks. Thank you cards made and ready to be mailed, a Sympathy card sent to a member who recently lost a family member, preparing the Minutes of the AGM and writing a Specialty report. The AGM package consisting of the Agenda, Minutes of the 2018 AGM, the Secretary's report and the Treasurer's report are included below. You will also find the Specialty Results with the Specialty Report and I have also included the results of the 4 All Breed Shows held by the Hamilton Kennel Club. I have included three articles by Dr. Jean Dodds, a wonderful Vet and an amazing woman, at the end of the Newsletter. I know not everyone is "into" the show stuff and I hope you will find them interesting.

There is no separate Treasurer's Report in this Newsletter – see the report included in the AGM package.

Please find below the Minutes of the 2019 AGM, including the AGM package starting with the Minutes of the last AGM June 2018, followed by the Secretary's and Treasurer's Report.



2019 AGM - MINUTES OF MEETING

29 June 2019

Attendees: Walter McCarthy (President), Christine Surtees (Secretary), Judy Malty (Director), Laverne McCarthy, Larry Surtees, Myra Brachfeld, Lynda Woolley, Susan Coulson (and Lincoln), Brenda Brooks, Jan Maydan, Mike Maydan

1. Call meeting to order

Meeting Convened at 3.36 p.m.

2. Reading of the Minutes of the Last Meeting

Informal minutes (no quorum) of the 23 June 2018 AGM were reviewed (see below)

Motion: Christine Surtees: to accept the informal minutes of the last AGM

Seconded: Laverne McCarthy

Motion passed

3. President's Report

Walter McCarthy provided his verbal report
"We had a Specialty"

4. Secretary's Report

Included below

5. Treasurer's Report

Included below

\$4,545.93 - as of 7 June 2019

6. Committee Reports

None

7. Unfinished Business - Election Results
presented by Larry Surtees included below

8. New Business

- a) Plan for next PCOO Specialty - see below
- b) PCOO Booster and social at SD&G 24 August 2019

c) Events being held on behalf of PCOC

- i. Sanction Match at Kars Dog Assoc, Carp, ON July 19, 2019
- ii. PCOC Booster at SD&G 25 August 2019 -see below

9. Adjournment

A package containing the 2019 AGM Agenda, Minutes of the 2018 AGM, there was no written President's report. Walter gave a verbal report - "We had a Specialty". The Secretary's and the Treasurer's reports were tabled for review and discussion. Christine walked people through these reports.

Unfinished Business

Election results were presented by Larry Surtees, Election Chair. As there was only one person standing for each position the 2020-2022 Board was elected by acclamation. None of the people nominated for Treasurer accepted their nomination so the Board had made the decision to combine the Secretary and Treasurer into one position as allowed by our Constitution. This

is not considered a permanent solution and we hope to revert to 2 separate positions in the future.

The new board will be

President: Brenda Brooks
Vice President: Jane Landry
Secretary/ Treasurer: Christine Surtees
Directors: Ontario East - Roberta Malott, Ontario North - Rita Smith
Ontario West - Christine Colebeck, Ontario Central – Myra Brachfeld

Larry thanked the outgoing members for their service. The new Board takes effect January 1, 2020.

New Business

Membership dues were discussed and the consensus was we could increase dues by \$5.00 in each category.

2020 Specialty – see below

Events being held on behalf of the PCOC

In 2018 PCOC lost its accreditation to hold show events. In order to regain their accreditation they had to hold 3 Sanction Matches. Two were held out West but they needed a third match in order to qualify for a Specialty in 2020. We were asked by the PCOC President if we could help. We agree to hold a Sanction Match for the National Club at Kars Dog Association in, Carp, ON, Friday, July 19, 2019 following BIS.

Larry and I have also committed to holding back to back PCOO/PCOC boosters at SD&G in August 2019 so the PCOC members in Quebec have a “special” event at which to showcase their dogs.

2020 Specialty

Background – CKC requires both National and Regional Clubs to rotate Specialties between the various regions. The last PCOO Specialty held East of Toronto was in 2012 at the Ontario County show in Orono near Belleville. The last 6 events 2013-2018 were in Tillsonburg, Milton, Caledonia and Hamilton respectively. The 2019 Specialty was also held in Hamilton.

To keep the Club in a financial sound position it is important that we either break even or make a small profit on any show event. Our income sources are limited to membership dues and whatever profit we can make at the show events from soliciting donations from members for the event, host club rebates and our raffle. We have curtailed our expenditures as much as we

can and by sending the December 2018 and March 2019 Newsletters as a pdf attachment to an email we eliminated both printing and postage fees for these newsletters.

In August 2018 there were 7 Pomeranians from Quebec entered at the SD&G show in Ingleside (near Cornwall) ON. All but 1 dog were entries from Quebec (members of the PCOC) and they said they would be happy to support a PCOO specialty at that location. With support from the Pom exhibitors in SW Ontario we felt we could hold a very successful Specialty. In September 2018 an email to the PCOO Board suggested we hold our 2019 Specialty at SD&G. Two of the Board members (both in Eastern Ontario) supported the idea but our President's response was "I do not know of any pom owners in SW Ontario that would attend a show on the east of Toronto". In the same email he continued "The Kitchener club was promoting a rebate earlier this year for their show including Boosters on May 18-20 in 2019, Flier is attached. The Kitchener show is fairly central to the western members and warmer than the early shows. It could be used for a booster for the western breeder"

As the majority of Pomeranians being shown in Ontario in 2018 were in the SW Ontario area, it was not feasible to hold a Specialty in Eastern Ontario without their support. Consequently we held the 2019 Specialty in Hamilton - again.

When discussing a venue for 2020 the issue of rotating the Specialties between East and West just once in 7 years was brought up and it was stated by Walter McCarthy that he and Laverne (and the other SW ON exhibitors) would not support any activities East of the GTA as it would cost as much in gas to travel to one show in the East as it does for them to travel to all the shows their area for the year. As PCOO has only a handful of members currently active in showing dogs, this selfish (in my view) attitude was very disappointing and certainly not appreciated by the members from Eastern Ontario who had traveled at significant expense and time to attend the Specialty. It should be noted that Larry and I did not show at the specialty, and our gas for the Hamilton trip was close to \$600.00 just to put on the Specialty for the exhibitors in SW Ontario (none, other than the McCarthys, are members of PCOO). We made it clear that the travel and the work involved in putting on this event is becoming too much for Larry and I to continue. We have no dogs to show and we do this simply for the love of Pomeranians and our Club. We suggested that if they wanted a Specialty in 2020 West of the GTA that they needed someone else to be Show Chair, to plan the event, conduct fund raising, putting prizes together and taking care of all the on-site work including the hospitality events. There was absolutely no response from those who would need to step up. As PCOO Secretary I would continue to provide the premium list and catalogue input to the Show Secretary.

It should be noted as the National Club lost their accreditation to hold Specialties, the PCOO is the only club accredited to hold Pomeranian Specialties in Ontario. Larry and I are helping the National Club regain their accreditation but any Specialty they hold in 2020 will be in B.C. The National Club has not held a Specialty in Ontario since 2014.

At this point Laverne McCarthy announced she had a complaint. It seemed her friend was in her trailer very upset that I did not use gifts she provided for the Specialty and that I wanted to

use them for other activities. Although this was not an appropriate issue to be raised at the Club's AGM I tried to address the situation.

I was told immediately by Laverne that I was not to mention her friend's name so I will simply say she is a Board member of the National Club. I tried to explain that this person had been told on numerous occasions that all the prizes for our Specialty had been in place for a number of months and that I needed no more physical items (donations of cash to offset Specialty expenses are always welcome) for the Specialty. She told me she had already put together a small crate filled with "little treasures" (her words, not mine) and at that time I thanked her but said that it might be more appropriate to be donated to the Booster we were doing on behalf of the PCOC in August. She said that was fine, I could use the crate however I wanted. About 15 minutes before the Specialty was due to start, not only was the crate brought to ring side but two boxes filled with wrapped items (no idea what any of them were) and I was told these were prizes donated by this person for the Specialty. As anyone who has been involved in organizing prizes for these events would know this is not how it is done and I simply put the boxes under a table to be returned. I made no comment regarding using them elsewhere. At this point I was very frustrated by the behaviour of these people and finally got extremely angry and after expressing that angry with a few choice words I left the AGM and left it up to Larry to close the meeting - see below.

I would just like to say I feel justified in my reaction as the person did not express any of her feelings to me in person, but sent her messenger to the AGM. Not one of the PCOC members in SW Ontario, including their Director for Ontario, has offered support of any kind for the PCOC Booster in August or the Sanction Match we are holding in July so the PCOC can regain their show giving status.

We have been very disappointed by the exhibitors in SW Ontario whose disruptive and unsporting behaviour at ringside has been brought to our attention on more than one occasion by other exhibitors, ring stewards and show photographers. A number of people have also brought to our attention the nasty accusations against their competition that some of these exhibitors make on social media. This behaviour by a handful of people in SW Ontario (to be fair, not all people in that area behave badly) has given all Pomeranian exhibitors and Breeders in Ontario a very bad reputation.

Following Christine's departure from the meeting, it was reiterated that Christine and Larry would not be organizing a specialty in South Western Ontario for 2020 and that no other Club members had volunteered to do so.

The incoming President suggested that we not hold a Specialty in 2020 but consider a booster in Eastern Ontario. This would allow the New Board to address the situation.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:00 p.m.

Following is the package handed out at the AGM. I have not included the agenda in the interest of saving space in the Newsletter.

MINUTES OF THE PCOO ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

held Saturday, 23 June 2018 at the Ancaster Arena

prepared and submitted by Walter McCarthy

Annual Meeting 2018

The Annual meeting was attended by ourselves, Judy, Sandra and Ross, Kimberly and Lynn, and Barb. The others left early with other engagements.

Last years minutes were distributed. Judy Maltby moved they be accepted as written. Seconded by Walter McCarthy

The location and events for the 2018 Pomeranian Specialty were considered a success. The main complaint was the scheduling of the Pom Specialty judges was late and the dogs became restless waiting. Also there was an Obedience ring in the building beside us which led to some poms being unsettled with the orders shouted at the obedience dogs. The bright side of the situation was that our ring was always inside all weekend. The outside rings suffered through buckets of rain throughout the weekend.

The entrants preferred the foreign judges for the show. The ladies specified that they would like a good looking foreign judge. We have observed that the Ontario judges appear to favour the usual same suspects and handlers when placing the dogs. The judges placed poms in group in all the regular shows. This was very nice for the pom people as poms have a hard time being recognised in the groups.

Big rosettes are wanted for the wins. Similar to the Best Opposite rosettes.

There was a discussion looking ahead to the 2019 show. The Hamilton Shows Jerseyville location was enjoyed by the entrants. There is interest in an earlier show before the winter pom coats begin to shed out. Fergus in April was suggested. Lindsay was discussed to encourage eastern breeders and it was agreed that before a Lindsay show was scheduled the pom breeders would have to be canvassed to determine if there was sufficient entries.

LaVerne moved the meeting be adjourned. Seconded by Walter

PRESIDENT'S REPORT June 2019 - None submitted

SECRETARY'S REPORT - June 2019



Total Number of Members - 30

9 Singles, 8 Couple, 1 Life (2), 1 Family (3)

We have seven new (or returning) members since the last report. We welcome back Matthew Heindl who was one of our founding members, Johanne Couture and Yves Dumont past members from Quebec and past president Lynda Woolley. We also welcome three new members Susan Coulson and her mother Donna Hiderman and her brother Andrew Hiderman. Look for Susan and family at the Little Angels booth at shows.

There were no committees convened and there have been no board meetings since the last AGM.

We have a similar entry to last year and it is great to see some new exhibitors with their dogs entering our Specialty as well as those who have consistently supported our Club throughout the years. I would like to thank everyone who answered our call for financial support by sponsoring individual classes and/or our Specialty fund. A list of sponsors can be found in the show catalogue and will also be included in the Specialty edition of the Newsletter.

This year is an election year. It had been a challenge to fill all eight Board positions this year and the current board agree to combine the Secretary and Treasurer positions as allowed by our constitution. I am hoping we may be able to go back to two separate positions in the future.

Christine Surtees
Secretary



TREASURER'S REPORT
Roberta Malott, Treasurer

Bank Balance as of November 26, 2018 - \$3,598.13

REVENUE

Membership	\$380.00	
Advertising	25.00	
Donations	5.00	
Trophies	575.00	
Tickets	80.00	
TOTAL REVENUE		\$1,065.00

EXPENSES

CKC	\$84.75	
Bank Charges	32.45	
TOTAL EXPENSE		\$117.20

Balance as per Bank Balance on June 7, 2019 - - \$4,545.93



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SPECIALTY CANDIDS





SPECIALTY SHOW

Pomeranian Club of Ontario Saturday, June 29, 2019

Judge

Birte Scheel

Humlebaekvej 27,
3480 Fredensborg, Denmark

Officers 2019

President:Walter McCarthy
Vice President: Jane Landry
Secretary: Christine Surtees
Treasurer: Roberta Malott
Directors:Ontario East Robert Gibson, Ontario North - Rita Smith
Ontario West Judy Maltby, Ontario Central - Annelies Davies

Show Chair

Christine Surtees

Show Secretary - Diana Edwards Show Services
1562, Route 203, Howick, Quebec J0S 1G0
Phone: 450-825-2824, Fax: 450-825-0894 www.dess.ca

Specialty

Reg. CKC Classes

Jr. Puppy, Sr. Puppy, 12-18 Months, Canadian Bred, Bred by Exhibitor, Open, Veterans, Specials Only, Exhibition Only.

Non. Reg. CKC Classes

Baby Puppy, Brace, Stud Dog, Brood Bitch.

Award of Merit: May be awarded at the discretion of the Judge based on 1 for every 10 dogs in BOB competition.

Best Bred by Exhibitor Competition to follow BISS

Trophy List

Through the generosity of Members and Friends, PCOO will be offering Rosettes and Prizes for the following: Best of Breed, Best of Opposite Sex, Best of Winners, Winners Dog, Reserve Winners Dog, Winners Bitch, Reserve Winners Bitch, Best Puppy in Breed, Best Veteran, Best Bred by Exhibitor, Best Baby Puppy, Best Brace, Best Stud Dog, Best Brood Bitch, Selects and Award of Merit. All other placements will receive Flat Ribbons. All perpetual trophies (BB, BOS, BOW, BP and BV) will remain in possession of the PCOO - keeper trophies will be presented to the winners.

There will be a Hospitality evening, Friday, 28 June and the PCOO AGM and the Specialty Dinner will be held Saturday, 29 June 2019, all events will be on site.

Acknowledgements

We would like to thank the following people who have sponsored the individual classes and/or have donated to our Specialty Fund

BIS Matthew Heindl

in memory of Flossy, the perfect B/T
who went to the Rainbow Bridge at age 19 in February 2019

BOS Myra Brachfeld and Family in memory of Mr Shom Shom

BP Rita and Earl Smith

BOW Jen Hryniuk

WD Christine Warden

WB Christine Warden

RWD Christine Warden

RWB Christine Warden

BV Kim Condy

BBE Rita and Earl Smith

BBP Jane Landry

Select Dog Myra Brachfeld

Select Bitch Myra Brachfeld

Stud Dog Rita and Earl Smith

Keeper Trophies sponsored by

Helen and Richard Deschamps, Cheryl Drain, and Christine and Larry Surtees

General Specialty Fund

Marianne and Vince Arsenault , Myra Brachfeld and Family, Kim Condy, Annelise Davis, Matthew Heindl, Mike and Jan Maydan, Walter McCarthy, Rita and Earl Smith, Christine Warden.

The Pomeranian Club of Ontario would also like to thank Garth Gourlay Photography, for his generous support of our Specialty.

There will be a Hospitality evening, Friday, 28 June and the PCOO AGM and the Specialty Dinner will be held SATURDAY, 29 June 2019, all events will be on site.

Pomeranian

Sr. Puppy (9-12 Months) - Male

526 SON SHINES ANGELFLO JUNIOR, FN768433

MTS 07-Jul-18. Breeders: Walter Mccarthy. Gch Pomywoods Pretty Boy Floyd x Ch Son Shine Mythical Angel. Canada. Owner: Walter MCCARTHY

Juvenile (12-18 Months) - Male

528 TINYPRINTS DARK N BOLD, FL772290

1 13-Jun-18. Breeders: Kimberly Dellow. Gch Winterhaven R Impressive Baron x Ch Tinyprints Glowing Light. Canada. Owner: Kimberly DELLOW

529 MAJESTAS VESTRA URFINN, Listed

AB 28-Apr-18. Breeders: Olga Homets. Ch Firesprite's King Of Dreams x Majestas Vestra Annabel. Elsewhere. Owner: Marilyn JEANNIN

Bred By Exhibitor - Male

530 POMYWOODS CASABLANCA, FW793969

1 07-Nov-18. Breeders: Lynda Woolley. Gch Pomywoods Magical Reign x Pomywoods Raven Beauty. Canada. Owner: Lynda WOOLLEY

WM 528 RWM 530

Veterans - Male

531 CH. SUGARLAMB'S U GOTTA HAVE STYLE, 1115749

1 18-Jul-11. Breeders: Leeann Lambert. Ch Pomhaven's U Gotta Have Fun x Ch Chinadolls Breakfast At Tiffany's. Elsewhere. Owner: Leeann LAMBERT

Jr. Puppy (6-9 Months) - Female

532 FLUKE POM'S ALENA, Listed

1 10-Nov-18. Breeders: Chanankan Ngerntasuk. Fluke Pom's Double x Fluke Pom's Dhara. Elsewhere. Owner: Brenda BROOKES

Bred By Exhibitor - Female

533 KEESBROOK'S CHART TOPPING PARTI, FS786783

MTS 09-Sep-18. Breeders: Brenda Brookes and Susan Coulson. Simvol Goda Martin Rey x Char's Parti To XS. Canada. Owner: Brenda BROOKES, Susan COULSON

534 POMYWOODS WITCHES BREW, CU638219

2 11-Oct-15. Breeders: Lynda Woolley. Kristari's Coz'n Chaos x Pomywoods Shady Lady. Canada. Owner: Lynda WOOLLEY

535 SUGARLAMB'S PREY FOR THE WICKED, 11423661

1 30-Sep-18. Breeders: Leeann Lambert. Ch Sugarlamb's Proverbial Wisdom x Ch Sugarlamb Bcuz Im A Babydoll. Elsewhere. Owner: Leeann LAMBERT

Open – Female

536 KEESBROOK'S SLEEP OVER PARTI, FS786784

10 9-Sep-18. Breeders: Brenda Brookes and Susan Coulson. Simvol Goda Martin Rey x CH Char's Spice Up T' Parti. Canada. Owner: Brenda BROOKES, Susan COULSON

WF 536 RWF 532

Veterans - Female

538 CH. PINECREST CHRISCENDO SEQUIN, XN362007

11-Jul-10. Breeders: Catherine D Bolahood & Christine Heartz. Ch Chriscendo Call To Arms x Ch Pinecrest's Shimmer. Canada. Owner: Catherine BOLAHOOD. Agent: Sandra BEISEL

Specials Only - Male

539 CH. TINYPRINTS DARK N MANLY, FL772291

13-Jun-18. Breeders: Kimberly Dellow. Gch Winterhaven R Impressive Baron x Ch Tinyprints Glowing Light. Canada. Owner: Kimberly DELLOW

540 CH. OLIVIER'S EVERYTHINGS COMIN UP ACES AT SUGARLAMB, 1142476

24-Sep-18. Breeders: Deliah Olivier. Ch Sugarlamb's U Gotta Have Style x Olivier's Sands Of Time. Elsewhere. Owner: Lee-Ann LAMBERT, Michelle RIDENOUR

541 CH. ROMANTINA BEST DANCE OF LIFE, 1137564

13-Jun-16. Breeders: Anna Kejedzhieva. Of Poms Forever Tabarro x Victory's Flame Kendi Svit. Elsewhere. Owner: Lana SMITH. Agent: Noreena SEERY

542 GCH. WINTERHAVEN R IMPRESSIVE BARON, DC641831
19-Feb-16. Breeders: Sandra Beisel. Ch Pinecrest Back From The Brink x Ch
Dru's Dream Sensation. Canada. Owner: Sandra BEISEL

Specials Only – Female

543 CH KEESBROOK'S PARTI IN A TIARA, FS786640
27-Sep-18. Breeders: Brenda Brookes. Simvol Goda Martin Rey x Ch. Char's
Spice Up T' Parti. Canada. Owner: Brenda BROOKES

544 CH. ROMANTINA BEST ELDERBERRIES SUGAR, 1137565
02-Dec-16. Breeders: Anna Kejedzhieva. Pomstyle Like Big Boss x Romantina
Best Blackberry. Elsewhere. Owner: Lana SMITH. Agent: Noreena SEERY

545 CH. LE VENDOSK & CARLANG TALKING TO T MOON, 1138766
09-Feb-17. Breeders: Le Vendosk & Carlang Poms. Ch Sunterra Simply
Stunning x Le Vendosk Talking Bla-Bla-Bla. Elsewhere. Owner: Cynthia DYSON

BB <u>545</u>	BO <u>539</u>	Best Vet. 531
BW <u>528</u>	BP <u>532</u>	Best BBE 535
SD <u>541</u>	SB <u>533</u>	AOM 543

Stud Dog and Get

542 GCH. WINTERHAVEN R IMPRESSIVE BARON, DC641831
19-Feb-16. Breeders: Sandra Beisel. Ch Pinecrest Back From The Brink x Ch
Dru's Dream Sensation. Canada. Owner: Sandra BEISEL

Best Stud Dog and Get

542

Baby Puppy (3-6 Months) - Male

546 SON SHINE MIDFLO KODA, GC801608
1 24-Feb-19. Breeders: Walter Mccarthy. Gch Pomywoods Pretty Boy Floyd x Son
Shine Just Call Me Midnite. Canada. Owner: Walter MCCARTHY

547 WINTERHAVEN EXPLOSIVE CHARMER, GA791647
3 18-Jan-19. Breeders: Sandra Beisel. Gch Tinyprints Light My Fuse x
Winterhaven Great Expectations. Canada. Owner: Sandra BEISEL

548 TINYPRINTS CHARMING WIN, GC801662
2 04-Feb-19. Breeders: Kimberly Dellow. Gch Tinyprints Watch Me Win x Ch
Tinyprints Glowing Light. Canada. Owner: Kimberly DELLOW

Best Baby Puppy (3-6 Months) – Male

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Breeders: Le Vendosk & Carlang Poms/Owner: Cynthia Dyson



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Breeder/Owner: Kimberly Dellow

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CH. TINYPRINTS DARK N BOLD
Breeder/Owner: Kimberly Dellow



FLUKE POM'S ALENA

Breeder: Chanankan Ngerntasuk. Owner: Brenda Brooks

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KEESBROOK'S CHART TOPPING PARTI
Breeders/Owners: Brenda Brookes and Susan Coulson



CH. ROMANTINA BEST DANCE OF LIFE
Breeder: Anna Kejedzhieva Owner: Lana Smith

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CH. SUGARLAMB'S U GOTTA HAVE STYLE
Breeder/Owner: Leeann Lambert



SUGARLAMB'S PREY FOR THE WICKED
Breeder/Owner: Leeann Lambert



CH KEESBROOK'S PARTI IN A TIARA
Breeder/Owner: Brenda Brookes



GCH. WINTERHAVEN R IMPRESSIVE BARON
Breeder/Owner : Sandra Beisel

SPECIALTY REPORT

We arrived at the Ancaster Fairgrounds bright and early on Thursday morning having spent the night in Burlington. The first thing we did after getting parked and connecting to water and power was to set up the area for our dogs so they could get settled in and spent a little time outside before it got too hot. Then we went exploring to find where the show was being held. We were parked across the road from the Concession Building and as it turned out this was the building where the Specialty was to be held. Not far to lug trophies and other show paraphernalia.

We were a little apprehensive after see the comments made about the show site last year and we were amazed to find a large, bright, very clean building that was AIR CONDITIONED. The main rings were outside along the one side of this building but the Hamilton Club set up, the show secretary, the Toy and Specialty ring and the Obedience ring were all inside as was the grooming area for all exhibitors. As it turned out to be a very hot weekend the building was like an oasis. There was a door on one side which opened to the grass rings outside. The Fairground management had put an asphalt path from the door between the grass rings to the roadway so even if it rained there would be no dirt tracked in from outside the building.

The Hamilton Club members were very gracious and made us very welcome. We were able to empty the motorhome of all the show stuff we had piled on the table, the couch and on the bed and put it in their locked storage area overnight. We end up carrying a quite a bit of stuff when we do a Specialty and in addition to the perpetual trophies, Pom ring markers, the PCOO banner, raffle prize and several boxes of bags and keeper trophies we had two crockpots and a large cooler needed for the dinner.

We were the first group to use the inside ring on Saturday morning so we had plenty of time to set up. We had a table on one side of the ring for our raffle items. In addition to the Portable Play Pen we advertised we had a large blue soft-sided crate generously donated by Lynda Wooley to raffle. Some people came to the table to buy tickets and Lynda put on a big smile and worked the crowd both inside and outside. This lady can sell raffle tickets. Thank you so much Lynda, it cannot have been easy walking around outside during the hottest part of the day.

We put two tables along the front of the ring for the perpetual trophies and prizes. The Keeper trophies this year for BIS, BOS, BOW, BP and Best Veteran were blue grooming aprons with the Club logo, 2019 Specialty and the appropriate win embroidered on them in white. You can see what they looked like in the Best of Winners photo. We had gift certificates for each win and Garth Gourlay, the show photographer, had generously donated \$10 off the show photo to go with the keeper trophies. You will also see in some of the show photos the lovely leash holders made for some wins by Laverne McCarthy. Each one is a little different and we all appreciated the work and effort that went into making these prizes. Kim Dellow also made a prize for BIS, a lovely beaded show leash. Thank you ladies, you are both very talented. (Of course, we forgot to take pictures of the tables until after the prizes had been dispersed).

For the exhibitor's gift this year we had blue tote bags with the Club logo and 2019 Specialty again embroidered in white. As you may have guessed I have a "source". The bags contained a roll of poop

bags from Little Angels and a spray bottle of their choice of one of the Loona products carried by Little Angels - many thanks to Susan and Yvon for their support. I also used the bags for the Judge's gift, sans poop bag (one for her husband too as he so admired hers) and one for our excellent ring steward. Of course, we did not forget the four legged exhibitors who received a tug toy donated by our Treasurer, Roberta Malott. I know I can always count on Roberta for any doggie items we need.

We were delighted to see Mel and Joan Beech who came for the weekend to try out the new snazzy 5th wheel they just bought before they head to Texas for the winter. We hadn't seen them for a long time and it was great to sit and catch up. They spent time at the All Breed shows then joined us Friday evening at our Motorhome where we had cheese and crackers and assorted drinks. They share a lovely bottle of red wine with us. Thanks guys, it was great. Neil and Diana Edwards and Kerri Lyn Taylor joined us as well as a bunch of the Pom people. We got to watch some very large horses walking by; no one had mentioned they have a horse show the same weekend, right next to where we were camping!

The Hamilton Club kindly allowed us to use their Judge's lounge, the "Tea Room", for both our AGM and our Specialty dinner. The room was all set up with tables and chairs so we were able to have both meeting and dinner in air-conditioned comfort.

Our Specialty Judge and her husband, Brite and Kresten Scheel accepted our invitation to join us for dinner as did Mel and Joan so we had quite a crowd. This year's menu included spiral baked ham, homemade baked beans (hence the need for 2 crockpots) several different salads, devilled eggs and lots of desserts. I am getting quite experience at this catering thing, this is the fourth one so far this year and I hope everyone enjoyed the food.

We held the draw for the raffle after dinner and as usual we asked the Specialty winner, Cynthia Dyson, to pull the first ticket which was for the Play Pen. This raffle was won by Walter McCarthy. Mrs. Scheel pulled the ticket for the soft-sided crate and we had a happy Hailey Griffiths when we delivered the crate to her on Sunday morning. Also a very big thank you to everyone who supported our club by buying tickets for the raffles.

Last but definitely not least I would like to thank all the people who supported our Specialty. We believe it is a great way for people to showcase their dogs and with the support of a bunch of very generous people we aim to make these events self-supporting.

A special thank you to Club members who came to Hamilton to attend the AGM. It was much appreciated and we had a quorum for the first time in a number of years. I hope you all had a great time, and for those Club members who were not able to come to the Specialty, I hope you enjoy reading about them and looking at the pictures of some beautiful Pomeranians.

Christine Suttees
PCOO Secretary and Show Chair

Keesbrook Pomeranians



Ch. Keesbrook's Chart Topping Parti

Katy, shown exclusively by her co-breeder/co-owner, Susan Coulson, finished her championship at 9.5 months on Friday at the all breed. Moved up, she started on her grand with Select Bitch at the Specialty and the Booster.

Hamilton KC and PCOO Specialty

Keesbrook's Sleep Over Parti

Shimmer, not to be out done by her sister, started on her championship with a WB at the PCOO Specialty.



Katy and Shimmer bred and owned by Brenda Brookes and Susan Coulson

had a Parti



Ch Keesbrook's Parti In A Tiara

Tiara finished quickly by 8 months. She was entered only at the PCOO Specialty where she was awarded an AOM.

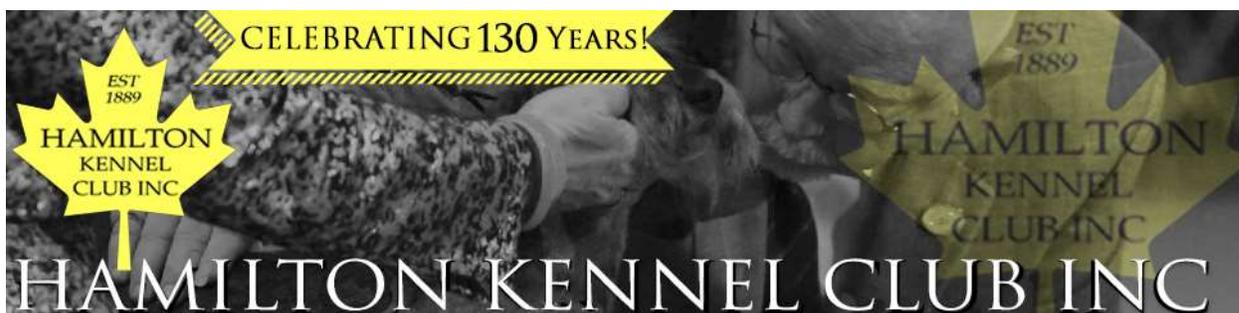
Hamilton KC and PCOO Specialty

Fluke Pom's Alena

This was 7 month old Mocha's first show weekend so was only entered at the PCOO Specialty and the Booster.

At the Specialty she was RWB and Best Puppy In Specialty. At the booster the next day she was BOW, BOS (over specials) BPIB, and BPIG!!!! So excited about this little girl.





193rd, 194th, 195th, 196th - 4 ALL BREED CHAMPIONSHIP DOG SHOWS

SHOW RESULTS

Friday, 28 June 2019 Show #1 - Judge Brian Taylor

Best Of Breed:

Son Shines Kiote Tonka

Son Shines Kiote Tonka

Best Of Opposite Sex

Keesbrook's Sleep Over Parti

Reserve Winners Dog

Son Shines Angelflo Junior

Best Of Winners:

Son Shines Kiote Tonka

Winners Bitch

Keesbrook's Sleep Over Parti

Best Puppy In Breed

Son Shines Angelflo Junior

Reserve Winners Bitch

Keesbrook's Chart Topping Parti

Best Puppy In Group

Son Shines Angelflo Junior

Winners Dog

Friday, 28 June 2019 Show #2 - Judge: Kresten Scheel

Best Of Breed

Son Shines Angelflo Junior

Reserve Winners Dog

Son Shines Kiote Tonka

Best Of Opposite Sex

Keesbrook's Chart Topping Parti

Winners Bitch

Keesbrook's Chart Topping Parti

Best Of Winners

Son Shines Angelflo Junior

Best Puppy In Breed

Son Shines Angelflo Junior

Reserve Winners Bitch

Keesbrook's Sleep Over Parti

Winners Dog

Son Shines Angelflo Junior

Group 2

Son Shines Angelflo Junior

Saturday 29 June 2019 Show #3 - Judge: Olga Gagne

Best Of Breed Group 2

Ch Son Shines Angelflo Junior

Best Of Opposite Sex

Ch Keesbrook's Chart Topping Parti

Best Of Winners

Sugarlamb's Prey For The Wicked

Best Puppy In Breed

Ch Son Shines Angelflo Junior BPIG

Select Dog

GCh Tinyprints Dark N Manly

Select Bitch

Ch Romantina Best Elderberries Sugar

Winners Dog

Tinyprints Dark N Bold

Winners Bitch

Sugarlamb's Prey For The Wicked

Reserve Winners Bitch

Sugarlamb's Theory Of Gold

Group 2 and BPIG

Ch Son Shines Angelflo Junior

Sunday 30 June 2019 Show #4 - Judge: Brent Wright

Best of Breed: Group 3

GCh Tinyprints Dark N Manly

Best Of Opposite Sex

Fluke Poms Alena

Best Of Winners

Fluke Poms Alena

Best Puppy In Breed

Fluke Poms Alena

Select Dog

Tinyprints Dark N Bold

Select Bitch

Keesbrook's Chart Topping Parti

Winners Dog

Tinyprints Dark N Bold

Winners Bitch

Sugarlamb's Prey For The Wicked

Reserve Winners Bitch

Sugarlamb's Theory Of Gold

Group 3

GCh Tinyprints Dark N Manly

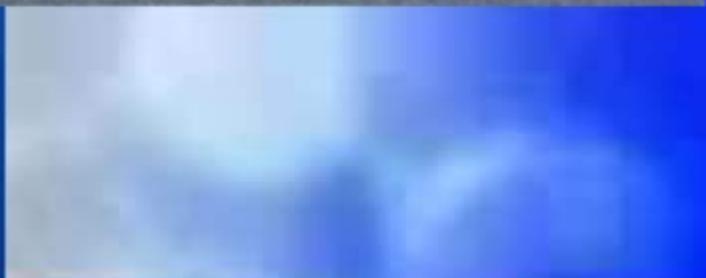
BPIG

Fluke Pom's Alena

BBP

Tinyprints Charming Win

ALL BREED SHOWS



SPECIALTY FUN PICS

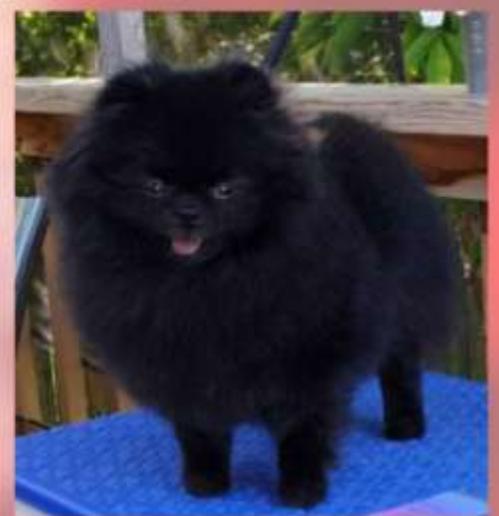
Miss Sadie Brachfeld
1st formal photo



Susan and Brenda can tell you getting your dog to stand for a show photo is not always easy



Teddy and Mishka just hanging out at the Show



Thinking Outside the Box of Treats

By [W. Jean Dodds, DVM](#) on April 28, 2019 (updated April 28, 2019)



If you've been down the treat aisle in a pet supply store recently, you'll have noticed that the variety of products has exploded to the point of becoming overwhelming. Not only do we have the treats filled with byproducts from yesteryear, but also "better-for-you" treats that have high quality ingredients, are grain-free, are vegetarian, are low calorie, supplemented for joint support, have teeth cleaning capabilities, or have other types of supplementation.

But really, have you compared the prices for these newer products, particularly if your dog has a food sensitivity?

Don't get us wrong, we are certainly happy that the bounty of "better-for-you" treat options are available for pet companion caregivers. However, we should remember that the fundamental purposes of treats are to:

- Train
- Encourage dogs with picky appetites
- Reward for good or desired behavior
- Entice a dog into a place like a kennel, car or room
- Show affection and love

... Plus, please remember the purposes of treats are **not** supposed to fulfill dietary needs. Dogs should ideally get their daily caloric needs, and vitamin and mineral allotment from foods. Granted, some dogs need extra supplementation. Additionally, we have previously discussed the

issues with pet foods that are possibly nutritionally imbalanced.

Setting those concerns aside, we still have the issue of prices. What can one do to lower the cost of treats and chews?

In some respects, food sold for human consumption is even less expensive than treats for dogs!

Nuts

- Almonds – Almonds are high in fiber and can be difficult for dogs to digest. Therefore, they may cause gastrointestinal distress and an upset stomach. So, it's a good idea to proceed with caution before feeding whole almonds. For instance, you can purchase a bag of almond shavings or pieces.
- Peanuts – Generally speaking, it is safe for dogs to eat peanut butter, peanut products or peanuts themselves. However, just like humans, some dogs may have a food sensitivity to peanuts. For those dogs, eating peanuts can be very dangerous, so proceed with caution.
- Pistachios – Pistachios are generally safe for dogs, but be cautious about any moldy nuts. These may contain aflatoxins, which can lead to a variety of health troubles for your dog, including liver failure. Always use caution, or just pick a better treat to give your pet.

Common Sense

- Nuts to avoid – Macadamia, walnuts, black walnuts, cashews, pecans, brazil nuts, hickory nuts.
- Don't overtreat and make sure you introduce slowly – Nuts are high in fat which can lead to pancreatitis.

- Give tiny, small portions. Dogs usually care less about the size of the treat than the treat itself!
- Unsalted and non-flavored only.

Vegetables

Common vegetables that are not too messy are:

- Broccoli
- Carrots
- Cauliflower
- Green beans
-

Common Sense

- Cut into small pieces.
- Introduce slowly and don't overeat – this may cause some gastrointestinal upset.
- Dogs diagnosed with hypothyroidism dogs should not eat broccoli or cauliflower because they are rich in naturally occurring compounds called isothiocyanates. If you lightly steam them, this goitrogenic is reduced.
-

Fruit

- Apples
- Bananas
- Blueberries
- Cantaloupe
- Cranberries
- Pears
- Pomegranates
- Watermelon without the rind
-

Common Sense

- Cut into small pieces.
- Introduce slowly and don't overeat – this may cause some gastrointestinal upset.
- Avoid citrus fruits.
-

Serving Ideas

You might be wondering about the logistics of feeding cantaloupe. You cut it up, put it in a bowl, put the bowl in the refrigerator, go back in the fridge to spear a piece with a fork, put the piece in your hand, make your dog sit and shake, serve, and then wash the cantaloupe off your hand. We agree – that's a lot of steps! However, you get used to it.

If that doesn't work for you, you can always dehydrate [fruits](#) and vegetables for your dogs and you. This is definitely a great alternative when you are training or on walks.

If dehydrating is too ambitious, you can purchase freeze-dried or dehydrated fruit or vegetables. You can typically find the fruit in the bulk section of your grocery store. However, read the ingredients. Make sure that it is only that vegetables or fruit, and that sugar, flavor enhancers, or other ingredients are not added.

Jerky

When it comes to jerky, you can dehydrate [meat](#). Again, we understand if this is too much for you. Jerky for human consumption is very high in salt. So, we prefer that you purchase only the products specifically made for dogs, that are single or limited ingredients, from a company that is transparent in its sourcing. This will help that your dog can tolerate the protein.

Chews & Gels

There are several chews and gels on the market that help freshen breath or help clean teeth. The chews come in a large variety. Some are made from a single source protein ingredient like fish or are formulated into the shape of bones.

Tips

- Avoid rawhide. Period.
- Some dogs gobble chews up fairly quickly and may actually vomit.
- Be careful when feeding raw chicken or turkey necks as they can lodge crosswise in the back of the mouth and cause choking or suffocation.
- Bones are a great alternative when fed raw or dehydrated raw, and they last longer. Dr. Karen Becker gives a good [guideline](#) on selecting bones for your dogs. If a dog has an intolerance to beef, venison, or any of the various types on the market, that particular protein should be avoided.
- Also, remember that deer and elk velvet chews can be a problem for pets intolerant of venison meat.

Antimicrobial Resistance Series Part 1: Antiviral Resistance

By [W. Jean Dodds, DVM](#) on June 23, 2019 (updated June 23, 2019)



“Antimicrobial resistance happens when microorganisms (such as bacteria, fungi, viruses, and parasites) change when they are exposed to antimicrobial drugs (such as antibiotics, antifungals, antivirals and antiparasitics). Microorganisms that develop antimicrobial resistance are sometimes referred to as ‘superbugs’.” – World Health Organization (WHO)

Microbes and Antimicrobial Resistance

Microbes are:

- Bacteria
- Fungi
- Viruses
- Parasites

Antimicrobial drugs are:

- Antibiotics to fight bacterial infections
- Antifungals to target fungal infections
- Antivirals against viral infections
- Antiparasitics for parasitic infections
-

Antimicrobial Resistance Concerns

When antimicrobial resistance occurs, the consequences are:

- The inability to treat common infectious diseases, which results in prolonged illness, disability and even death.
- Reliance on more potent antimicrobials that can cause serious side effects.

- Medical procedures such as chemotherapy, organ transplant, surgery, and diabetes management that becomes high risk.

•

Antimicrobial Confusion

Most of the attention has been paid to **antibiotic resistance** for a variety of reasons, such as:

- More commonly prescribed than antifungals, antivirals, and antiparasitics.
- Medical professionals inadvertently prescribed the wrong antibiotic to treat a bacterial infection.
- Medical professionals misdiagnosed a fungal, parasitic or viral infection as a bacterial infection.
- Sometimes antibiotics can be used to treat parasitic infections like malaria.
- Antibiotics are used widely in livestock production for control, prevention, and treatment of disease, and for “production purposes” such as growth promotion in agribusiness.

•

Organizations like the federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) have been using the [terms](#) **antimicrobial resistance** and **antibiotic resistance** interchangeably.

But, this interchanging is confusing and needs to stop.

Think about it: with the correct knowledge you could be more in control of your household’s healthcare by making sure you and your pets are receiving the right medication, as needed.

While WHO considers **antibiotic resistance** the greatest urgency of the four global antimicrobial resistant health risks, we should not neglect or forget the other three: antifungal, antiviral and antiparasitic resistance.

In the first part of this series, we will be discussing **antiviral resistance**.

Well Known Viruses

- HIV/AIDS
- Influenza
- Hepatitis
- Herpes

Virus Particles

Viruses are intracellular pathogens that contain RNA/DNA, which need help from host cells to replicate.

Viruses seem so amorphous compared to other microbes. You can see a bacterial infection on your skin. You can see fungi in the woods. You can see parasitic worms in feces.

Virus particles do exist. They are tiny (microscopic) – in fact, about one thousand times smaller than bacteria.

What Antiviral Medications Do

An antiviral medication inhibits a virus from replicating.

There are two broad categories of antivirals:

- Directly acting antivirals target either the protein or the RNA/DNA of a specific virus. While these antivirals are considered less toxic, viruses are more likely to become resistant to them.
- Host-acting antivirals modify the cells of the hosts or arouse an immune response that affects virus life cycles. They are less likely to develop resistance, but are considered more toxic.

Antiviral Resistance

Antiviral resistance occurs when a virus mutates to survive.

Additionally, antiviral resistance depends on many factors such as:

- an already immunocompromised patient
- a co-infection with another disease
- the presence of any preexisting conditions
- how long the patient had the disease prior to diagnosis
- the strain of the virus
-

We should view individuals who have one or more of these factors as having a drug resistant mutation which serves as a sentinel, because that viral resistance will likely spread to others and could become a pandemic.

All of the aforementioned viruses – HIV/AIDS, herpes, influenza, and hepatitis – have become or

are becoming resistant to some of the available antivirals meant to target them. The most documented resistance concerns the ever-mutating strains of the human, swine, avian and equine influenza viruses.

Influenza A

There are three main types of human influenza: A, B, and C. To make it more confusing, there are subtypes like H1N1 or H3N2 and all of the subtypes have mutations. Resistant mutations of the flu can be passed through contact or be caused by selective pressure of the drug.

Most of us have heard of Tamiflu (oseltamivir), Relenza (zanamivir), Rapivab (peramivir), or Xofluza (baloxavir marboxil). Resistance has cropped up to all three medications.

Xofluza was approved by the Japanese Ministry of Health in February 2018 and in October 2018 by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration. By December 2018, Japanese researchers identified H3N2 viruses carrying the PA138T baloxavir resistance mutation in two children who had been treated with the drug. Genetic sequencing revealed that the two mutated viruses originated from different lineages, which means human-to-human transmission was not involved. In essence, their findings indicate that these virus mutations emerged under the selective pressure of baloxavir marboxil.

Then, everything can flip on its head. In April 2009, a novel swine-origin H1N1 subtype emerged that caused a pandemic and was sensitive to oseltamivir. That strain of H1N1 replaced other H1N1 strains that were resistant to oseltamivir. In fact, the CDC stated that over 99% of the H1N1 isolates were resistant to oseltamivir prior to the pandemic, although all were still sensitive to zanamivir.

You might be thinking that at least we have four options for the flu, that if one antiviral fails another will work, and that only two people had resistant mutations thus far to baloxavir. The reality is that the arsenal of three is small, and there are already documented incidences of

resistance to peramivir, oseltamivir and zanamivir.

Adamantane is another class of antiviral medication. Amantadine was the first drug of the class to be approved for clinical use in 1966 followed by rimantadine in 1993. At first, both were successful at inhibiting and preventing influenza A up to 90% of the time.

Resistance of influenza A to amantadine was first detected during the 1980 epidemic, but the resistance to both drugs in seasonal influenza A subtypes was rare with only 1–2% frequency until 2000. Since then, it has risen sharply.

2000-2004 Resistance

The overall resistance to adamantanes among H3N2 avian influenza subtypes rose to 12.3% globally.

- Asia – increase from 1.1% to 27%
- Europe – 4.7%
- North America – 3.9%
- South America – 4.3%
- Oceania region – No detection
-

2004 – 2005

Only 15% of the H3N2 strain and 4.1% of the H1N1 global isolates were resistant to adamantanes.

2005-2006

90.6% of the H3N2 strain and 15.6% of the H1N1 global isolates were adamantane resistant with all aforementioned regions contributing equally.

- 100% of the H3N2 strain isolates from South Korea, Taiwan, Japan, Hong Kong, and China were resistant to adamantanes.
- USA – up to 96.4% of the H3N2 strain isolates and up to 25% of the H1N1 isolates were adamantane resistant.

At this time, the CDC advised against the use of adamantanes to treat influenza A infections.

2013

45% of all influenza subtypes circulating in the world were resistant to adamantanes.

- 69% of the H1 subtype
- 43% of the H3
- 28% of the H5

- 12% of the H7
- 23% of the H9
-

Adamantane-resistant mutations were rare in influenza strains:

- H2
- H4
- H6
- H10
- H11

No mutations were identified in the H8 and H12–16 influenza subtypes.

More than likely, the increase of influenza A resistance to adamantanes is from its widespread use. Yet, an increase in resistance has also been noted in countries where adamantanes use was low. This likely reflects circulation of the mutant viruses, which may have emerged without drug pressure and have replication potential and virulence.

Finally, please remember that the ubiquitous, highly contagious strains of canine influenza viruses arose in the 2000s as mutations of the H3N2 strain of avian influenza origin and H3N8 strain of equine origin.

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How Pets Are Affected by Climate Change

By [W. Jean Dodds, DVM](#) on April 15, 2019



Over the past several years, the earth has experienced extreme weather patterns from heat to cold, hurricanes to flooding, and tsunamis to snowfalls. While many of us are learning to adapt to the immediate emergencies, such as rescuing people and companion pets from flooded houses, we need to consider the health effects caused by these climate changes. So, how is the health of our companion pets affected by climate change?

The Permafrost

During the summer of 2016, a boy and more than 2,300 reindeer passed away from anthrax infection in a remote area of Siberia. This was the first occurrence of anthrax in the region in over 75 years.

Now, anthrax is naturally occurring in any type of soil and can be fatal to all warm-blooded animals – including our companion pets.

Scientists believe that the Siberian incident was due to thawing permafrost, which then released this ‘bioweapon’ into the soil and water.

Many researchers wondered, “What other infectious diseases could be released into the atmosphere that humans and animals lack immunity to?” They dubbed these as ‘zombie diseases’.

The Arctic

We have all witnessed disturbing images of starving polar bears that have to swim further between ice sheets to find food. However, emaciation due to climate change is not the only problem polar bears or the other Arctic populations are suffering.

Many studies have indicated disruption of normal immune function with subsequent deleterious changes in polar bears, ringed seals, sled dogs and foxes due to the presence of environmental contaminants (persistent organic pollutants).

Additionally, these pollutants have broader damaging effects on the body, which are implicated in disrupting endocrine systems, decreasing bone density, and affecting the reproductive systems.

Scientists suspect that warming trends are causing the long-range transport of chemicals and other non-native species to the once considered isolated Arctic, thus increasing the amount of contaminant exposure.

Greenland Sled Dogs

Researchers are warning that the Greenland Sled Dog is at risk of extinction for numerous reasons, but primarily from climate change. Since the sea ice is melting, hunters and fishers are hindered from obtaining food from traditional sources.

Other reasons include outbreaks of canine distemper and parvovirus, along with the introduction of snowmobiles that have replaced sled dogs.

You might think these changes are meant to be, but researchers argue that the Greenland sled dogs are an ecologically important species.

Heartworm

Heartworm (*Dirofilaria immitis* infection) is a parasite that lives in the heart and is spread by its filarial-infected mosquitoes. Mosquitoes were once fairly limited to the Southeastern part of the United States. Now, heartworm is found in all fifty states – including Hawaii and Alaska. Plus, the risk of heartworm in companion pets is steadily increasing.

The Companion Animal Parasite Council (CAPC) does not explicitly say that the culprit is climate change. However, if you read in between the lines of the 2018 forecast, it is inherently obvious:

“For the fourth year in a row, CAPC forecasts heartworm infection prevalence to be above normal across virtually the entire United States. Unfortunately, 2017’s above normal forecast panned out. This increase was partially attributed to the hot and wet weather that occurred in 2016, (mosquitoes like these conditions), and in 2017 weather was again hot and wet. Moreover, infected dogs act as “reservoirs of infection”, increasing the number of infected mosquitoes and ultimately spreading the parasite to other dogs. CAPC is concerned with this annual increase in numbers of cases. Nationally, prevalence rates have risen each of the last five years and are now up 20% from 2013 levels.”

In the United Kingdom, scientists are saying that more cases of heartworm are being diagnosed further north in England and Scotland because of wetter and warmer summers.

On the European Continent, heartworm is spreading as well. However, they are also experiencing the spread of another related parasitic worm by mosquitoes, *Dirofilaria repens*. This worm is not as harmful to dogs and cats as the related species causing heartworm disease, because it usually causes a non-pathogenic subcutaneous infection in dogs. However, *D. repens* has spread from Southern Europe to Northern Europe. The authors of "Recent advances on *Dirofilaria repens* in dogs and humans in Europe" believe climate change contributed to the expansion of mosquito vectors, but the primary reason for concern is the rate of undiagnosed infected dogs.

Ticks

Lyme Disease (caused by *Borrelia burgdorferi* infection) is possibly the most famous of all tick-borne diseases. Lyme Disease is named after the town of Lyme, Connecticut, where it was first discovered.

Since then, we have witnessed Lyme Disease spread westward across the United States and into Canada. In 2018, 14.92% of dogs tested positive for the disease in Connecticut, 7.53% of dogs tested positive in Minnesota, and 1.32% in Washington state.

Lyme Disease is not the only tick-borne disease of concern, however, as anaplasmosis (*Anaplasma phagocytophila*, *A. platys*) and ehrlichiosis (*Ehrlichia canis*, *E. ewingii*) are also spreading across the country. Scientists again say that climate change is the primary cause. Based on numerous investigations, ticks are expanding their geographic ranges because of rapidly increasing global temperatures.

However, scientists also identify other variables – such as host availability, habitat suitability, relative humidity tolerance, the extent and duration of freezing temperatures, and human impact – all of which may limit the likely rate and extent of range expansion for different tick vector species. These factors deserve as much attention in understanding what influences tick range expansion as climate change.

In Minnesota, however, there has been a slight dip in reported cases of Lyme disease (from a high of 8.63% in 2016 to 7.53% in 2018). Why did this decrease of Lyme Disease occur? Factoring in that the number of

dogs tested per year varies, the contributing factors could include:

- An increased percentage of dogs being vaccinated against Lyme Disease, even though the vaccine is not considered to be very effective, and can cause adverse effects. (Note: Dr. Dodds and Hemopet do not recommend this vaccine.)
- White-tailed deer are dying from chronic wasting disease and not spreading the ticks as far and wide.
- People are walking their dogs in areas without a high abundances of ticks.
- The weather was different in 2018 compared to the previous years.
- Cases may be under-reported.

On a brighter note, any reduction in prevalence of these diseases might be due to the fact that some of them – like Powassan virus and anaplasmosis – potentially may not fair well in weather that is too warm. As always, such benefits also have the trade-offs of climate change!

Fleas

Fleas are not as affected by climate change as are ticks. However, their season is extending due to the warmer temperatures. In some areas of the country, fleas are living year-round. Indeed, they are becoming smaller, more aggressive and increasing in numbers. Flea control using generally safe products and other measures including environmental cleanliness is important.

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