



## **TAILWAGGER TIMES NEWSLETTER July 2010 Edition**

Editor: Julie Holschbach [izzyholsch@gmail.com](mailto:izzyholsch@gmail.com)

**This edition of Tailwagger Times will not include general meeting minutes, since there was no meeting in the month of July. Watch for the August newsletter for the next set of meeting minutes!**

### **Upcoming Events!**

**September 11, 8AM – 4PM – Valders Grounds  
September 17-19 – Agility Trial - MCKC Grounds  
September 18-19 8AM-4PM Obedience Rally - Expo Grounds**

**Please consider volunteering your time and talents for one of these events. If you can't attend, please consider dropping off treats. We are now past the half way mark in the year. How many hours do you still need? This is an easy and fun way to get those hours done!**

#### **Parvo Alert:**

Please spread the word that **there is Parvo in Manitowoc**. The receptionist at Port Cities said they lost several dogs from Parvo recently so this is a legitimate concern! Check your dogs' records and update if indicated. Protect your dogs!

## What is Parvo?

Parvo is a common and potentially serious viral disease in dogs. The virus is officially known Parvovirus. The disease caused by this virus is commonly referred to as *Parvo*. The virus first appeared clinically in 1978, and there was a widespread epidemic in dogs of all ages. Since no dogs had been exposed or vaccinated (the vaccine didn't exist at the time), dogs of all ages died from the infection. The virus can "adapt" over time, and other strains of the virus have appeared since then, but properly administered vaccinations are the best protection.

## What are the signs seen with Parvovirus infection?

There are three main manifestations of Parvovirus infection:

1. **Asymptomatic** - No signs seen. Common in dogs over 1 year old and vaccinated dogs.
2. **Cardiac** - This form of the disease is much less common than the intestinal form due to widespread vaccination. Severe inflammation and necrosis (cell death), of the heart muscle causes breathing difficulty and death in very young (less than 8 weeks of age) puppies. Older dogs that survive this form have scarring in the heart muscle.
3. **Intestinal** - This virus causes extreme damage to the intestinal tract, causing sloughing of the cells that line the tract. This can leave the patient open to secondary bacterial infection. Most of the affected dogs (85%) are less than one year old and between 6-20 weeks old -- before the full set of vaccinations can be given. The death rate from infection is reported to be 16-35% in this age group.\*

### ***The intestinal signs include:***

- Lethargy
- Vomiting
- Loss of appetite
- Diarrhea - usually bloody, and very foul-smelling (a characteristic odor, particular to Parvovirus infection)
- Fever

The onset of clinical signs is usually sudden, often 12 hours or less. The incubation from exposure to seeing the clinical signs varies from 3 to 10 days.

**How can I protect my dog from becoming infected?** Vaccination is the key to prevent this disease and protect your dog. Breeding bitches should be

vaccinated prior to becoming pregnant to ensure that the pups get the best start at immunity. Vaccinations should start at 6 weeks of age, and be boosted at 9, 12, and 16 weeks of age. Some veterinarians also booster at 20 weeks, depending on the breed and Parvovirus risk in your area. Speak with your veterinarian about what vaccination protocol is the best for your pet and your lifestyle.

**Obedience Note:**

Carol Paplham is taking over the permanent responsibility for Obedience. Please include a big thank you to Leslie Tenor for stepping up at such short notice earlier this year to cover as temporary director.

***The following are an extracted portion of the June board meeting minutes that needs to be posted in two consecutive newsletters (per our policies and procedures).***

**Changes to the Wall of Fame:** Further to last month's approved motion, the following policy was approved by the Board:

The Manitowoc County Kennel Club will maintain a "Wall of Fame." This wall will be a permanent display of pictures of dogs and/or members who have achieved the following level of excellence in training their dogs:

Agility – AX or AXJ  
Obedience - UD  
Conformation – Champion  
Rally – RE  
Tracking – TDE  
Field - MH; AFC, FC

The assistance of others for the purpose of training and/or handling is allowed for this recognition provided the other requirements of dog ownership are met. Additions to the wall of fame will be made in conjunction with the annual awards banquet.

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## **Dogs and Velcro - Who Knew!!-** by Nancy Kay, DVM ©

In 1941 an engineer by the name of George de Mestral and his dog ventured together on daily treks through the Swiss Alps. Following their hikes, Mr. de Mestral spent time grooming his faithful friend to dislodge burrs from his haircoat. This was no mindless task; rather it managed to get Mr. de Mestral's creative juices flowing. He examined the burrs under a microscope and took note of their teeny tiny hooks that latched onto his dog's hair. He copied this phenomenon with an invention named after the French words for velvet and hook (velours and crochet). Thus the invention of Velcro!

History indicates that it took many years for Mr. de Mestral's creation to catch on (no pun intended), but, as you know, Velcro has become a sensationally versatile and popular product. I wish I could provide you with the name or breed of the dog who inspired this invention- of interest to me, but apparently unimportant to Velcro historians! Don't they realize that had said dog sported long spindly legs and a coarse hair coat- the burrs might not have latched on, and we would be living Velcro-less lives!

The next time you're painstakingly removing burrs from your dog's hair coat or a thunderstorm causes your dog to "stick to you like Velcro," do not despair. Rather, remind yourself about George de Mestral and the amazing invention inspired by the awesome combination of nature and a dog.

Now, here's wishing you and your four-legged best friend a most enjoyable

and safe summer!

**Official Club Entry Form  
Please Complete in Full  
Hunting Dog Expo 2010 PUPPY STAKE**

**Entry Fee \$10 if received prior to the event. \$15 for registrations on the day of the event Registrations close at 9:30 AM Saturday, September 11, 2010**

Breed: \_\_\_\_\_ Male \_\_\_\_\_ Female \_\_\_\_\_  
D.O.B. \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Actual Owner  
(Print): \_\_\_\_\_

Owner's Address: Street: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_

Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Handler:  
(Print): \_\_\_\_\_

I CERTIFY that I am the actual owner of this dog, or that I am the duly authorized agent of the actual owner whose name I have entered above. I further acknowledge that the dog's birth date is correct; that the dog is eligible to run in this stake; and that we will abide by all rules and regulations applying to this entry.

**Signature of Owner or Agent Duly Authorized to Make This Entry**

\_\_\_\_\_

**Address of Agent (If Agent Signs above Line for Owner)**

\_\_\_\_\_

Phone No. \_\_\_\_\_

**Mail your entry and check (made payable to MCKC) to:**

**1703 Pheasant Lane Sheboygan WI 53081**



**Early Bird Package:**

**Early Bird Prize is a Game Farm Hunt donated by Thomas & Wilhite  
Chiropractic Clinic**

**1. 20 dog game tickets\* 2. 4 raffle tickets**

**\$ 40.00 \$ 10.00 \$ 50.00**

**\$ (12.00)**

**\$ 38.00**

**Value**

**Discount Early Bird Total**

**Event packages must be paid prior to September 4, 2010. For details  
telephone Jeff Mueller at (920) 960-3660.**

**Mail your check (payable to MCKC) to:**

**1703 Pheasant Lane, Sheboygan, WI 53081**

**\*enough tickets to run all 7 sporting dog games once.**

**Dog Expo 2010:**

Be sure to mark Saturday, September 11, 2010 on your calendar and plan to attend the Manitowoc County Kennel Club's Annual Hunting Dog Expo. This is the twelfth year of this popular event where the average hunting dog owner can come and play seven different sporting dog games in one locale. Hunting Dog Expo 2010 is open to all field breeds and their owners to prepare for the upcoming hunting season. The Expo is held on some of the finest dog training grounds in the Midwest. The kennel club grounds are nestled up against the Manitowoc River near the rural community of Valders, WI and conveniently located between Milwaukee, Green Bay, and the Fox Valley (see the event's web site [http://www.mc-kc.com/html/hunt\\_expo.html](http://www.mc-kc.com/html/hunt_expo.html) for information and a map). The facility has four technical ponds and several large fields to host the event. The grounds are west of Valders off of Highway 151 and Quarry road (turn north). A new event is being added to this year's Expo for all retriever pups under one year of age – a Puppy Stake. This event consists of four single retrieves to judge the dogs marking abilities. Ducks and pheasants will be used in this event. Judging the event will be well-known retriever trainer and outdoor writer Kurt Mueller of Mueller's Retriever Kennels. Ribbons will be awarded for first through fourth place. This event will start at 10:00 AM on the club grounds and continue until complete. Pre-registration is not required. Contestants can register up to the start of the Puppy Stake on the day of the event. However, pre-registration comes with a discount. See the club's web site for more details.

Like previous Hunting Dog Expo's the sporting dog games are the real attraction for handlers and their dogs. Those games range from flushing a live game bird to single and multiple retrieves on both land and water. Some games are set-up to simulate an average day in the field. Other games test specific skills including retrieving game to hand. Attendees of the day's event can run every game once

or concentrate on specific games. All games can be attempted and run as many times as they wish. Pre-registration is not necessary to participate. However, Early Bird ticket packages are available at a discount. For more information contact Jeff Mueller at (920) 960-3660, or visit the Expo web site.

As an added attraction this year the Expo is bringing back the dock jump. The dock jump tests the dog's distance jumping ability over one of the Club's ponds. The dock jump is free to all visitors of the Expo. There is no purchase required to participate.

Hunting Dog Expo has been featured in such publications as The Retriever Journal, Wisconsin Outdoor Journal, and Wisconsin Outdoor News. The highlight of the day is the presentation of the David G. Meisner Memorial Trophy to the day's most successful gun dog. Dogs and their handlers participating in the variety of fun, simulated hunting scenarios and games, held throughout the day, will determine this.

Participants have numerous opportunities at door prizes, raffle prizes, awards, and silent auction items thanks to the generosity of supporters such as Purina, Tri-tronics, and totalretriever.com. The gates to the event open at 8:00 AM and the sporting dog games run from 9:00 AM through 4:00 PM. Attendees are encouraged to bring their family, proper seasonal attire and rain gear, water for their dogs, a camera, and lawn chairs. Concessions will be available on the grounds.

