

KORTHALS GRIFFON CLUB OF AMERICA

"Happy 4th of July"



"Formed to preserve the Authentic Korthals Griffon"

www.korthalsgriffon.com

Facebook-Korthals Griffon Club of America

The club is officially a 501 (c) (6)

Issue #3 June 2015

Officers



President:
Carol Ptak



Vice President:
Katherine March



Secretary/Treasurer:
Barbara Young



What is a Purebred Dog?

"It is commonly accepted that a purebred dog is a dog with known and documented ancestry from a breed's foundation stock. A hybrid is not considered purebred, although crossbreeds from the same two breeds of purebreds can have "identical qualities". The difference is that hybrids do not breed true (meaning that progeny will show consistent, replicable and predictable characteristics), and can only be reproduced by returning to the original two purebred breeds. Only documentation of the ancestry from a breed's foundation stock determines whether or not a dog is a purebred member of a breed."

Source: Wikipedia

President's Message

It is so exciting to see how quickly our little group has grown. We now that over 167 members on our Facebook group with people from all around the world. What a wonderful opportunity we have to share ideas and brags across many cultures and languages!

The KGCA was formed to educate and increase awareness of the issues surrounding the authentic Korthals Griffon in the USA. The KGCA board is dedicated to getting as much relevant information out to breeders and buyers alike to allow informed educated decisions. One of the items that we think is so vitally important is the "bible" of the Korthals Griffon - *Le griffon d'arrêt à poil dur Korthals édition de l'orée* written by Jean Castaing. This book contains the answers to so many of the misconceptions about the breed. For example, the most common defense heard about the tan point issue is that tan point has been there since the time of Korthals through the black foundation stud Satan. Satan also was reported to carry the tan point gene. However when one reads the book you quickly discover that Satan and ALL his progeny were eliminated from the Korthals breeding program before Korthals and the 16 breeders who came together to set breed type. As mentioned in the article one where the outcross likely came from - the breeders at the time knew how dominant black would be and made sure to disqualify any dog with a black nose since this is an indication of the black genes.

There are a couple of unauthorized translations floating about and the board would like to make generally available an authorized English translation. The board has been on a two year journey where we have leveraged every friend and acquaintance who lives in France, speaks French, knows anything about dogs in France, knows anything about publishers in France - well you get the picture. Castaing of course has passed away. The book publisher is out of business. From what we have pieced together, Castaing left a daughter and son. We understand that the French club has been in contact with the family to secure some kind of copyright release, which has allowed them to bring out an update of the book last year. However it would appear that this is a limited copyright release since this new update is only sold to the French Club members. We have sought advice from a publisher in Germany and they are scratching their head along with the board.

We have attempted to contact the board of the French club through a native French hunter who has been quite the detective for us - all on a volunteer basis! She has tracked down the club president and has spoken to his wife a couple of times. Getting a return call from the President has proven to be elusive. We have written a respectful request letter to the French club asking for their permission and participation in the English translation including a royalty offer to French club and sent it via courier to the President - no response. Next we have emailed the President - no response. Then it was suggested that we email the entire French Club's board of directors - no response. I even searched through Facebook to find a young man with the last name of Castaing who had a friend with a picture of a griffon and sent him a message. All of our communication has been in French of course to try and bridge the cultural ocean and unify people who are all passionate about the Korthals Griffon. Unfortunately we are no further today than we were two years ago.

Our next step is to engage a lawyer to give us advice and complete legal research on the copyright of the book. We really don't know if the French club owns the copyright or just has permission from the family for the club use only. We don't know if the family is open to an English translation. We don't know who to pay a royalty to. We don't know what the consequences could be if a translation was published without family permission. There is a law in France that once a book gets to a certain age it then is in the public domain and there is no copyright restriction. We suspect that this may be the case with this book but the board is unwilling to risk the club's assets and our personal assets on that suspicion. We need a copyright attorney to help us. The board really wants a win-win relationship with the copyright holder but we just don't know who it is!

This is where we need your help. If you are not a dues paying member - please consider joining. The cost is so small and the impact could be so large for the breed. If you can afford to make even the small donation, that would also help. Both the membership and donation capability can be found on the KGCA website at

www.korthalsgriffon.com

President's Message continued

Please know that 100% of the funds raised will be going to this initiative. The club is run by volunteers so there are no overhead expenses. Consider making this dream a reality- help us bring the "Korthals Griffon Bible" to the entire English speaking world. This would really help answer so many questions of what Korthals did and didn't do. What was his intent for the breed? What did that original group of breeders really set type to be? What was included and excluded and why? Help preserve the authentic Korthals Griffon - the ultimate foot hunting companion for generations to come.

Vice President's Message

(Additional information can be found on the Canine Health Foundation web site.)



RESEARCH PROGRESS REPORT SUMMARY

Grant 01806: A Novel Virus-Based Anti-Tumor Treatment for Canine Osteosarcoma

Principal Investigator: Dr. Bruce F Smith, VMD PhD

Research Institution: Auburn University

Grant Amount: \$118,848.00

Start Date: 3/1/2013

End Date: 8/31/2015

Progress Report: End-Year 2

Report Due: 2/28/2015

Report Received: 2/26/2015

Recommended for Approval: Approved

(Content of this report is not confidential. A grant sponsor's CHF Health Liaison may request the confidential scientific report submitted by the investigator by contacting the CHF office. The below Report to Grant Sponsors from Investigator can be used in communications with your club members.)

Original Project Description:

Osteosarcoma is an aggressive canine bone cancer, accounting for around 6% of all canine cancers. Even with the standard-of-care therapy of amputation and chemotherapy, the prognosis is poor, with most dogs dying due to tumor spread (metastasis) within one year, and less than 20% surviving to 2 years following diagnosis. Therefore, improved strategies to treat metastatic disease are needed. In this respect, viruses can be engineered to multiply in, and kill, tumor cells and yet spare normal cells. We have developed a virus and have demonstrated that it can be both safely administered to patient dogs and have potential efficacy in treating osteosarcoma. While this virus was hypothesized to kill osteosarcoma cells through its replication, we have recently recognized the possibility that the virus stimulates an immune response to tumor, in addition to itself. In this study, we propose to examine the interaction of this virus with the immune system of dogs, including assessing any potential increase in immune response to the tumor. Patient dogs with a confirmed diagnosis of osteosarcoma will be treated with the virus following limb amputation, which will then be followed by 4-6 cycles of carboplatin chemotherapy. The dogs will be assessed for immune-responses to the virus and tumor, viral levels, and survival time.



Secretary/Treasurer Message

The Club is growing! Our membership is increasing with over 20 as paid members and 167 members on Facebook. The Facebook page is very popular with weekly additions of health articles, which is a major focus of the club. We are looking for additional volunteers to expand on our ever-growing need to emphasize the importance of saving the Korthals Griffon and return it to the once healthy, long lived purebred that it was many years ago. It was not unusual in the past for the breed to live well beyond the 14 yr mark where many hybrids fall far short of this mark. So don't be afraid to get involved! Meetings are held online or by phone so please contact me!

We have been working on an official logo for the club and have several artists submitting artwork for consideration. We have advised them that if their art is not selected we will make it available thru the membership for purchase.

Barbara

Osteosarcoma Answers

Recently we have had cases of Osteosarcoma reported in the "Wirehaired Pointing Griffon". This is a fairly new health issue in the breed. If you have a dog diagnosed please contact me with the name and pedigree for recording in the database for future tracking. This information is not available for public viewing and will be restricted information. Help us track this new problem in the breed. To date all incidences have tracked back to the outcross. Thank you!

What is osteosarcoma? It is a highly aggressive tumor of the bone. Typically, it affects the long bones of dogs that are middle-aged or older but has been found in young WPG. Male dogs are also thought to have a higher incidence than females.

Is it thought to be hereditary? It is thought certain breeds of dogs are highly pre-disposed to developing the disease. We have seen an increase in cases in the WPG.

How is osteosarcoma diagnosed? In most cases lameness is the first sign. Then a physical examination, oftentimes, there is painful swelling in one of the limbs. Radiographs are taken and frequently reveal characteristic signs of osteosarcoma. To confirm the diagnosis, a bone biopsy can be performed.

How is osteosarcoma treated? After the diagnosis is confirmed with a biopsy, the next step is amputation of the affected limb, then follow up with chemotherapy. Chemotherapy is important because 90 to 95% of the dogs treated are thought to have metastatic disease at the time of diagnosis. This means the disease has already spread to other parts of the body. It is hoped that chemotherapy will kill those cancer cells or at least delay a recurrence of the disease. Osteosarcoma is considered an aggressive cancer that may grow very rapidly.

What is the prognosis when treated? The median survival of dogs treated with amputation and chemotherapy is around 10-12 months. The long-term prognosis is poor.

Currently research is going on for immunotherapy as a vaccine. Clinical trials are being conducted by Dr. Mason at Penn Vet. It is hoped that this will replace the amputation and chemotherapy as a treatment.

Board Meeting Minutes May

KGCA Meeting Minutes GotoMeeting May 11, 2015 9:00 am

Present: Carol Ptak, Barbara Young, Katherine March

President Reports:

Carol expressed her frustration with the inability to move forward in making the valuable information available to the public in the book "Le Griffon D'Arret A Poil Dur Korthals" by Jean Castaing. All efforts and inquiries have come up without leads to the copyright owner. The only avenue left is to contact an Attorney versed in copyright and liability. The author is no longer alive and the publisher is no longer in business. This book catalogs the historical development of the breed, Its Transitory Period with early breeders, the breed standard development, and the formation of the first clubs and provides an explicative study of the breed standard. The information is invaluable for breeders and sportsman.

Secretary/Treasurer:

Barbara Young gave an update on checking account: Balance \$697.11 Apr 30, 2015

Old Business:

1. Update on the direction the club could pursue in regards to a translation of the Castaing book. This book is the foundation text with all the historical documents about the Korthals Griffon. Carol will put a note on Face book.
2. Logo-Barbara to continue searching for an artist.
3. The next newsletter - articles- due date -June 1st, publication date Mid June Carol-Training article, Katherine Agility and snake bite prevention, Barbara Database.

New Business:

A discussion of breeding pure Korthals Griffons was held. The conclusion was to encourage breeding pure puppies for breed development. Over the years most of the exceptional pups have been sold to spay or neuter homes. This has depleted the supply of pure Korthals Griffons worldwide.

Next meeting: 9:00 6/15/15 Meeting adjourned, Barbara Young

NAVHDA UT



INT/AM CH Drummer von Herrenhausen TD



1st National Specialty -Best of Breed, # 1 in USA 1991

Board Meeting Minutes June

KGCA Board Meeting Minutes GotoMeeting June 16, 1015

Present: Carol Ptak, Katherine March, Barbara Young

Presidents Report:

1. Castaings book translation-Although this book contains the most valuable information available on the breed; there was little interest from the membership in donating towards obtaining the copyright to publish an English translation.
2. Litter announcements on Facebook- It was a unanimous decision to delete announcements and post the clubs rating system designed for determining pure Korthals breedings. In the future all litters posted will receive the club's evaluation of pure or level of hybrid breeding within the litter.

Vice Presidents Report:

1. Katherine suggested the purchase of liability insurance for the club officers. All agreed and she will follow up on it and report back at the next meeting.

Secretary/Treasurer:

1. Barbara reported that the balance in the club's checking account stands at \$937.73
2. Newsletter information will need to be submitted by June 18th with the publication date around June 26th.

Old Business: None

New Business:

1. Discussion of the establishment of an "International Korthals Griffon Club" took place. An international Board would be composed of Representatives from each member country. It would be a global organization emphasizing the breeding of pure Korthals Griffons. The sharing of information and pedigrees will benefit the breed worldwide. It will also provide a venue to separate the purebred Korthals Griffons from those carrying the hybrid genes but that are

listed as "authentic". The board decided the website korthalsgriffons.com would be used for the International KGC with links

to the separate country sites. Adjustments would also be made to the other links of the KGCA.

2. After a discussion of use of words, it was decided the club would use the word "genuine" to

describe the pure KG rather than

Authentic, which is being used by breeders of hybrid griffons.

The next board meeting

July 14, 2015 at 9:00



Ch Sampson von Herrenhausen

No. 1 in USA 1988

Training Article

Method or Tools - How to judge patient and gentle

Carol Ptak

It was the best of times - it was the worst of times. This is a well-recognized opening line for the book The Tale of Two Cities. This also is a great descriptor of my experience in going to the UK to help a group of people there learn the Gibbons/West training method. I was asked the first time to the UK because a dedicated authentic griffon breeder, Colleen Porter asked me to come. Like all of her puppy buyers I was not a breeder nor a professional trainer but I adore my griffons and had spent the time learning how to train my dogs such that we built a relationship and at the same time competed successfully in conformation, field, tracking, agility and show. To me that is the correct order - first you build the relationship then you compete. Training is all about modifying the dog's behavior so they learn what you expect. You train every time you interact with your dog. Whatever behavior you reward then the dog will repeat it. Whatever behavior you ignore, then the behavior will slowly disappear. Dogs are much like children. The most important rule is that you must be disciplined enough to be consistent. To be inconsistent leads to frustration, confusion and lack of positive results.

On my first trip to the UK, knowing that the sensitivity for training tools was even higher there than here in the USA I researched The Kennel Club's official statement to ensure that I did not bring anything into the country that was not allowed. The Kennel Club's site was quite emphatic about the dislike for e-collars due to the damage that can be done in the hands of an inexperienced and untrained person. While I disagreed with The Kennel Club's conclusion that all e-collars should be outlawed as cruel, I was in 100% agreement with their underlying logic that only people who have been trained in their use should use them. I checked with my hostess to make sure that I would respect the UK tradition. It was very important to me that my personal feelings did not conflict with what was acceptable in the UK.

I absolutely agree with The Kennel Club concerning training methods.

"The Kennel Club is against the use of any negative training methods or devices. The Kennel Club believes that there are many positive training tools and methods that can produce dogs that are trained just as quickly and reliably, with absolutely no fear, pain, or potential damage to the relationship between dog and handler" Reference The Kennel Club website 30 May 2015

Training is first and foremost about building the relationship with your dog. This is exactly why none of my dogs have ever been turned over to a professional trainer for any reason - training, showing, or even to be in a kennel. I purchased my griffons to have them as my companions and the idea of sending any of them away was a heinous thought. I realize that the quality of my dogs would have probably been better developed in the hands of a professional but I wanted the experience of doing everything together with MY dog. I think this is why Colleen asked me to come. Her puppy buyers were also a group of owners who wanted to learn with their dogs and develop that relationship. In addition there was a Wirehaired Vizsla breeder with several of her puppy buyers with the same goal. So armed with my leather training collars and with my e-collar off I go to England.

As highlighted in a previous article we had a wonderful time. All the dogs were introduced to birds and by the second day every dog was pointing beautifully with great style and intensity. This is why I so love the Gibbons/West approach - it is a patient and gentle approach that allows the dog to figure things out with little pressure. Bill Gibbons' philosophy is so different than the traditional trainer - while so many other field trainers believe that you will lose style when teaching a dog to be steady but that the style will

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be recovered once the dog is steady, Bill can't understand why you would ever want to lose that style in the first place. As a consequence dogs trained according to the Gibbons/West approach are steady at a very young age with all their natural style and intensity intact. For example a Vizsla in the USA was already competing at the National Bird Dog Championship level before the age of 3 and completed a one hour field trial stake with 8 perfect finds and defeated many field trial champions that were significantly older. The judges could not believe the dog's young age nor that the handler had done all the training herself - and it was her first bird dog! Incredible!

The results from the first trip to the UK was awesome and it was so exciting to see how much the dogs developed. Another business trip this year allowed me the opportunity to go back and I was absolutely amazed at the progress this little training group had made using the Gibbons/West patient and gentle style. All the dogs were pointing and holding as the bird was flushed. All the dogs were backing. All the dogs were progressing in their retrieving. All the dogs were working in the happy style I have become so accustomed to when working with the Gibbons/West approach.

I am not a professional dog trainer and I am quick to confess that. My entry into helping people train their dogs came from people approaching me at a competitive event asking how I got my dogs to perform so perfectly yet so obviously happy. A common sight of professionally trained dogs was a dog that didn't want to come out from under the trailer. After attending some of these professionals seminar I understood why. Their methods were in my opinion cruel and inhumane. From picking a dog up by the skin of their back to throw them backwards to the position where the handler thought they should have stopped to beating a dog with a riding crop to using a fingernail or can opener inside the ear or a half hitch around the middle two toes in a force fetch - I was sickened by what I saw in the name of training. What does all this have in common? All this abuse was perpetrated by the human hand! This abuse by human hand is not just an American phenomenon. Several people in the seminar who had attended the professional seminars in the UK noted where the dogs were struck, ears twisted, whipped with leashes and sticks. Everyone who had attended the first seminar so enjoyed it that they all attended the second seminar to continue the development of the relationship with their dog and to develop a reliable hunting companion.

Imagine my shock when my hostess who has worked so hard to bring a patient and gentle method to the UK so that people could train their own dogs was notified by the Korthals Griffon Club of Great Britain that they intended to evict her on the ground of hosting an event where the "method of training as was described to be cruel"!

This was the worst of times. Not only has my hostess who has gone above and beyond the call of duty to help her puppy buyers build a relationship with their dogs by hosting these seminars been put in a position of defending herself. My personal ethics and integrity have been slandered. The Korthals Griffon Club of America has been threatened with this slander because of my role as President. Colleen has been inspected by The Kennel Club and is a Kennel Club Assured Breeder - United Kingdom Accreditation Service (UKAS) Certified. *Humane* treatment of all animals is such an issue for me that our beef operation has been inspected by the Certification body for Humanely Treated Animals. Colleen and I fully intend to fight these unfounded accusations. 100% of the seminar attendees have communicated their support for the patient and gentle approach that was taught during this seminar.

So why is it that The Kennel Club in the UK and the AKC in this country so focus on the e-collar? Just like a human hand the e-collar can be used to abuse a dog. I have personally attended a seminar held by one of the top official of NAVHDA where his use of the e-collar was abusive and cruel. His method for the force

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fetch was to hold the dog on a bench and activate the e-collar until the dog screams and digs in with their claws to get to the bumper at the other side of the bench. The experience was horrible.

This is exactly why I have sought out a method like the Gibbons/West methodology. My first griffon - Am Intl Ch UCH UCD Nietzsche von Herrenhausen JH TD VCD1 NA NAVDHA NA Prize II was tough enough that he could handle some of the traditional training approaches. If you refer to some of the earliest training columns you can review my training history and thankfulness that I had this incredible dog as my learner dog. He allowed me to make mistake after mistake and forgave me. My second griffon - GCH Am Intl CH UCH Zerubbabel von Herrenhausen MHA NAVHDA NA Prize I - could not. Z is a very soft boy who gets his feelings hurt easily. I knew that if I did half of what I did to Nietzsche to my Z, we would fail.

Like the human hand, yes an e-collar can abuse a dog but at the same time it can also save a dog. To me an e-collar is like a seatbelt. I can't imagine driving my car without my seatbelt on. I can't imagine training or hunting without an e-collar. When it is needed both a seatbelt and an e-collar can save a life. I will never forget hunting in eastern Washington when Nietzsche pointed a herd of blacktail deer. When I walked up to flush and those deer came out, you can be certain that Nietzsche was right there chasing. In Washington, if your dog is found chasing a deer, then it can be shot on the spot. At best I would have lost my dog for the day. At worst my dog would have been killed. You bet I hit that e-collar and my dog was saved. I have had similar experiences with Z and my Sara with rattlesnake, javelina, tarantula, and cows. It only takes once to convince them not to engage - again saving my dog's life.

In training my policy is that nobody gets to put an e-collar on a dog unless and until they put it on themselves. In training an e-collar is used to remind a dog of something they have learned on a checkcord. I have NEVER turned an e-collar over a level 2 in training. You can barely feel a level 2 on your palm or neck and consider that the dog had a fur coat. I use the example of a fly landing on a sleeping dog for using an e-collar in training. Less is more. You don't need a high level to get a dog's attention. An e-collar should be a soft tap not a whallop.

At the seminars in the UK everyone had the opportunity to feel the e-collar. Only if the situation warranted and the owner was willing was the collar put on the dog. We had a couple of dogs who were convinced that coming was called was optional. The owners were afraid to take them out of the yard. That is no life for a sporting dog. Also the dog's life is at stake if the dog crosses a road. At no point was the collar turned over a level 2. (as an aside my collar has 15 levels and I only use the bottom two. I have only used the high levels for snake breaking). This was one of the best developments in the e-collar. When they were first developed the collars were too powerful. Bill Gibbons, Bill West and Rich Smith were some of the major forces working with the collar manufacturers to get a lower level.

So what is more important - the physical tool or the method? Any item can be used to mistreat an animal. All training would have to be outlawed if the tool is the issue. We would not be allowed to even pet our dogs since that modifies their behavior. Then why have the dog? Dogs are our companions and have been since the time of the caveman. Dogs have their behavior modified by man to become a team with man for mutual pleasure. Spending the time with a patient and kind methodology using the best tools is necessary to maximize the experience for both owner and dog.

Your comments are appreciated as always.

Carol

Buying a new Puppy

This is the time of year when everyone is looking for their next puppy. I hope this article will help in the learning process of selecting the right puppy for your home. Let me say the learning process continues thru life so no one has the exact formula that is right for everyone. So I am going to tell you what I recommend for first time as well as skilled puppy buyers.

First, do your homework before starting your search and buy from an experienced breeder with an established reputation. This does not mean years breeding unless you can verify that the dogs produced meet all your requirements.

Second, buy only from a breeder offering a written contract of guarantee for the health of the puppy. You should also receive a pedigree of the puppy, which should contain at least 5 generations. Health clearances, titles and accomplishments of the ancestors should be clearly included on the pedigree.

Third, so the next question should be: What are you looking for in a puppy? There are many things here that a breeder should be asking you: What do you want to do with the puppy-hunt, show, and obedience? Have you had Griffons before? Do you have small children? What kind of environment (home/yard) can you provide for the puppy? Have you trained a sporting dog before? If the breeder does not want to know about you as a potential home, don't purchase a puppy from them!

Fourth, look for a breeder that will send you pictures and training information throughout the puppy period. I send weekly pictures and volumes of reading material on training, socialization, and available tools to help in making the pup perfect.

So that leads us to the point where you have selected a breeder and have a puppy available for pickup.... Which one is right for you!

First ask the breeder if the puppies have been temperament evaluated. Many times this can give you an indication of the personality of the puppy, which you may not see in the few moments of

selection. Skilled breeders have a window when they like to see puppies depart to their new homes. I like that to be as close to the 8 week period as possible for my line because of its quick development and bonding. A puppy should be selected by its appeal to the buyer-color or size, early aptitude towards pointing or retrieving, temperament or activity level. Another consideration is whether there are other pets in the home and their personalities. I have found it is best to not place two bold dogs together unless the owner is an experienced trainer. Needless to say I do not recommend picking a puppy after they have eaten because that will be naptime and you will not see the true puppy. Another issue that has arisen in the breed is volume breeders. I have learned that prices for pups are ranging from \$1500 to \$3500. This has a tendency to pull individuals into the breed that make the puppies their source of income. At this point volume is more important than quality and I would shy away from anyone that breeds more than 1-3 litters in a year.

So how do you get the best puppy?

Do your homework ahead of purchase. Check pedigrees and accomplishments on the online database at: herrenhausensportingdogs.com

Know who you are purchasing from and their reputation. Don't be afraid to ask questions.

Get everything in writing! Verbal guarantees will not get you a refund if the pup is not what you were guaranteed it to be.

Be realistic with your expectations! A puppy with the best potential is only as good as the owner and trainer.

Educate yourself on the best method to train a Griffon. It is not the old tried and true method you might have used with other sporting dogs. A trainer that does not know the breed may ruin your griffon.

Korthals Griffon Club of America

“Preserving the purebred Ultimate Hunting Companion”

Membership Application

\$30 per year per individual \$35 per year per household

Name(s) _____

As you wish the mailing label to read.

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

Phone Numbers: Home (____) _____ Work (____) _____

Fax (____) _____ Email address: _____

Your interests are: _____

What would you like to see, do or get from KGCA? _____

Make your checks payable to: **KGCA**

Mail to:
KGCA
2610 Quince St
Eugene, OR 97404-2029

ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL IS DUE ON OR BEFORE January 31.

By this application you agree to the club objective of maintaining and breeding only the purebred Korthals Griffon. This is defined by the pedigree of the individual dog.