

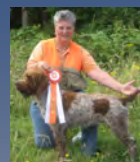


"Formed to preserve the Authentic Korthals Griffon"

www.korthalsgriffon.com

Facebook-Korthals Griffon Club of America

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

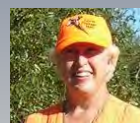


Officers

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 crossbreds 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."

President's Message

So many things can be the best and the worst at the same time. For example, I travel for work extensively and most of my time is overseas. I spend about 50% of my time on the road. I love what I do and I have been so blessed to see some of the most incredible places on the face of this small world we live on. The worst is that I am taken away from things I want to do and don't have the time I would like to do things like writing my president's message, training my dogs, competing with my dogs, and so many other things.

In the same way, I love being President of the KGCA. It was such an honor to talk with owners and breeders from around the world about the future of our beloved breed. It is also a time where I cry with owner and breeders as they lose a beloved dog at 2-3 years old from heart disease or some other horrible disease never known in the breed before the outcross. I feel so guilty as I listen to story after story of no litters, dead puppies, sudden early death and other debilitating or fatal diseases as I speak with them on the phone or through messenger with my two boys wrapped around my feet at 9 and 11 years old.

The KGCA was founded as an educational group – to educate breeder and owners about the purebred authentic griffon and the debilitating outcross issue. This issue has nothing to do with coat color. A dog that is KBKB is not necessarily a genuine Korthals Griffon. Only by looking at a pedigree can someone tell. We believe that if people are educated on their choice, then they can make the best choice given their circumstances.

The KGCA encourages anyone who still has a purebred authentic female to ONLY breed to a purebred authentic male. This is the future of our breed. Please do not breed your purebred female to a hybrid male no matter how many ribbons he is winning. If you are not convinced, please call me and I would be very happy to spend time on the phone giving you more details than what we can publish.

There are some who would suggest that this is just a “smug we know” and would require that unless we have signed documents from the breeders and or DNA from the first “falsified” puppies that indicate they are not who they were said to be then there isn't any proof.

The KGCA has NEVER claimed that this outcross was done on purpose. There is no evidence of an attempt to defraud. The only scientific evidence is that there indeed was an outcross. As we know many of the French griffon breeders are breeders of more than one breed. As any breeder will tell you mistakes happen and a bitch can be bred and the breeder doesn't know it. It is biologically possible for a bitch can be bred by multiple males. This is why the AKC now offers DNA testing for this situation. It is not uncommon. The breeder could have been totally unaware that this breeding happened and all they saw is that they had a dog that was winning. Any breeder would want to breed to this “super dog”. We would know now that this is due to hybrid vigor. If the other breed was close enough to the griffon - assuming it was a purebred it could have been a griffon from the hound group or it could have been a Picardy spaniel - the breeder would never know.

President's Message Continued

The method that was used to determine the common ancestor of the outcross is a standard method used by genetic scientists and is used for tracking human issues. It would seem that if it is accepted for proof of genetic ancestry in humans it should also be proof of genetic ancestry in dogs. At the time of the outcross DNA testing on dogs was not available so there would be no way for the breeder to validate the parents like we can now. These dogs are now long gone. Unfortunately, the baseline of the griffon genetic test was done by including AKC registered dogs and of course by the time that happened the hybrids were already here so the baseline is contaminated. The only way to separate the hybrid is by proven genetic method - pedigrees.

We know for certain the common parent.

Speaking for the KGCA, we would never assume that a breeder would knowingly falsify breeding papers. All we know is that there was an outcross - not how it happened. Breeders can choose to disagree but the genetic scientific community has used that method well before DNA testing.

The KGCA continues to collect the previously unknown health problems that are now showing up in the breed - and 100% of them go back to this hybrid outcross. Please continue to share your stories- the good ones and the heart breaks. We care and we want to keep what is left of the authentic breeding stock pure and help where we can to improve the hybrid lines.

Carol

Vice President's Message

Kitchen Help

I am not the only one that has been said to be overprotective of my dogs. Now I am sure that part of that is due to the time and energy invested in raising and training. The happiest day of Devi's life was when she found her paws could reach the top of the kitchen counters. She's the hunter, and if there are no birds anything goes. She has developed quite the appetite for salads. She doesn't know that a pit in the middle of the salad bowl means something to the chef.

Over the Thanksgiving-Christmas holidays she managed to bag a bowl of five roasted red peppers, stick of butter, piece of pizza, top crust of a cherry pie, and a couple of waffles. The dog trainer in me turns her back to be the cook, and Devi is there. She has not been given an opportunity to poison herself, so I can laugh about this, put baby gates at the kitchen, and try to remember that the training challenges make life more fun.

Katherine



Secretary/Treasure Report

KGCA Meeting Minutes
GotoMeeting
March 1, 2017

Present: Carol Ptak, Barbara Young, Katherine March

President Reports: General welcome and update.

Vice President Report: Nothing at this time.

Secretary/Treasurer/Newsletter Editor:

The bank balance as of 1/31/2017 was \$1,304.28 which was the last statement received. We have no outstanding bills and have received several donations and new memberships.

Old Business:

1. There was a discussion on trying to bring older breeders into the club. Larry Harkins has been a breeder for many years and he had pure Korthals griffons.

New Business:

1. A discussion on the letter from Jacques 3AGK Group (Griffons Korthals Authentiques). Apparently the group has dissolved and been taken over by Jacques.

2. The next newsletter was discussed with a due date for material being at the 15th of March. Please submit articles before that date if possible.

3. A discussion on the progress of the book being written was held with updates.

4. A discussion on the advancement of the process of Artificial Insemination in the U.S.A. compared to the other countries was discussed. This process if expanded would provide added resources for the breed worldwide if advanced. A letter to the German Club was submitted supporting the technique of AI.

The meeting terminated at 11:59 am

Meeting adjourned
Respectfully submitted,
Barbara Young



Secretary/Treasure Report Continued

KGCA Meeting Minutes

GotoMeeting

June 15, 2017

Present: Carol Ptak, Barbara Young, Katherine March

President Reports:

A discussion was held on the requirements of the club in breeding pure Korthals Griffons to hybrid. The adjustment in the policy for the club would include the use of pure males on hybrid females, but not hybrid males on pure females. This would still assist the world wide small gene pool and move the hybrids to a healthier breeding program. The board approved this move.

Secretary/Treasurer:

Current Checking account balance \$1254.48

Only deductions are \$5.00 for a paper statement from US Bank.

Last expenditure was for Web domains of \$59.80 check # 109 to Carol Ptak. 1/25/2017

Old Business:

The item of dues was discussed. The dues pay for the clubs registration fees and legal filings. This years dues notices will be put out on Facebook and will be sent out to the membership. It is an important aspect of the member involvement in the club to keep the awareness of the problems currently associated with the breed. The board volunteers their time to provide these services.

New Business:

A new Newsletter will be ready to go out tomorrow.

Next meeting:

The next Board meeting will be held on July 19, 2017

Meeting adjourned

Respectfully submitted,

Barbara Young



Field Training

The biggest question I receive about training is when to start and a worry that they started too late. First, you can never start too early and you can never start too late. You should expect that your breeder will at least have a wing introduced to your puppy and the puppy pointing before you take it home at 8 weeks. Better is if the puppies have the chance to pounce on a bird while they are young. A small Japanese quail works very well for this. Remember from step one of training is that the dog **MUST** have dominion over the bird or you can't move forward to anything in training. As for starting too old – you can't. We had the great honor of getting Z's dam after she retired from puppies. (It took me three years to talk her breeder into sending her to me – we always loved Sara) Sara was 6.5 years old when she started her training program and she finished her MH at the ripe age of 11 not because of her ability but because of our move to Arizona that took 3 years out of my training time. If the dog has the natural ability, then it is never too late.



Evaluating that natural ability is critical. A big shout out in this article to Colleen Porter from Align Griffons in Cheshire England. Colleen is president of the Korthals Griffon Group there and has been working tirelessly to ensure a dog that is correct to standard and can hunt. I had the pleasure at the end of last month to be invited to English to run a NAVHDA-style Natural Ability Evaluation day. Although I am not a NAVHDA judge, I have run more puppies and prepared more puppies for the NA test than I can count or remember. I took the NAVHDA judge's workshop for my own education to assist me better prepare my dogs for evaluation by better understanding what the judges were looking for and how they scored my dogs.

Field Training Continued

The day was held at the most remarkable shooting grounds in England. They hunt very differently than we do. Much of their hunting is done as a group. Colleen has introduced the HPR -that is what the versatile hunting dog is called there – hunting, pointing, retrieving. The shooters at the club immediately saw the value of having a dog that can locate and hold game. Previously they had always shot over flushing breeds. The spaniels are still used for flushing out of the thick brambles in the area.



The fields in England are exactly suited for the griffon. For our evaluation day we had an absolutely PERFECT day. Cool, sunny, misty rain from time to time, swimming water on site, and of course and absolutely wonderful group of people. We ran 7 dogs during that day and thanks to Ben Porter who was planting birds, we were able to get this all done before 4 pm after at 10 am start. Each dog had at least 20 minutes in the field for search. Then we did a track using a pigeon. Once all the dogs had run in the field then we went to the water to see who wanted to swim.



Field Training Continued



We had a Drathaar, a couple Spinone and of course the rest were griffon. There was one 4.5 month puppy that the owner was very lucky I did not tuck her into my pocket and take her with me. The ages ranged from 4.5 months old to 3 years old. Of course that would have been too old for a NAVHDA NA test but this was the very first time this concept was ever seen in England.



It seemed that everyone had a great time. The handles really didn't know what to expect but overall at the end of the day, everyone had a good time and dog and handlers were all pooped.

We retired back to Colleen's house for some good food and conversation.

Carol

9 Dangerous Foods for Dogs

It's hard to resist sharing food with your dog, but while some human snacks are safe in small doses, others are downright dangerous for dogs. Keep cabinets closed and counters clean, and get some help [keeping an eye on your dog](#) if you're going to be away for long periods. Finally, have a [pet first aid kit](#) on hand in case of accidents.

“Surprisingly dangerous foods for dogs”

1. Popcorn

Plain, air-popped, unsalted, unbuttered popcorn may be okay in small amounts. But let's be honest: how often are you enjoying plain, unsalted, unbuttered, un-delicious popcorn? For dogs, **high levels of fat and sodium** typically found in popcorn can lead to dehydration in the short term, and obesity in the long term. In addition, the hard, un-popped kernels can hurt teeth and gums on the way in. Instead, try: [low-calorie dog treats](#) for a safe, crunchy snack

2. Avocado

The true issue with avocados? **The skin and leaves**, which contain persin, an oil-soluble toxin that can be dangerous to non-human mammals. The ASPCA says that pets sensitive to persin may experience “respiratory distress, congestion, fluid accumulation around the heart, and even death.” Avocado *is* safe if you avoid the skin and leaves—so it's ok as an ingredient in dog foods, for example. In general, dogs are not as susceptible to persin poisoning as animals like horses, but it's better to be safe than sorry.

Instead, try: [dog treats](#) or [grain-free dog food](#) with added avocado for a healthy, shiny coat

3. Macadamia Nuts

Nobody's sure exactly what about macadamia nuts is toxic to dogs, only that they can cause vomiting, ataxia (the loss of control of body movements), weakness, and depression. In other words, **macadamia nuts can make dogs very, very ill**. Thankfully, as the [Merck Vet Manual](#) notes, “most symptomatic dogs recover without any specific treatment.” So if your pup accidentally eats a macadamia nut, a full recovery is expected.

Instead, try: [mini peanut butter chews](#) for a healthy, nutty dog snack

4. Grapes

GRAPE COSTUMES: YES. GRAPE CONSUMPTION: NO WAY! **Grapes are among the people foods most toxic to dogs**. Of all the dangerous foods for dogs, they are among the worst, which surprises many people. In dogs, grapes can lead to kidney failure and even death. According to the lead medical officer at [DoveLewis Emergency Animal Hospital](#) in Portland, “what is most dangerous about grapes and raisins is that not every pet who eats them will suffer, but there is no way to know in advance.” Raisins and grape juice can be even more dangerous because they're in a more concentrated form.

Instead, try: [blueberry dog treats](#) for an antioxidant-rich treat

5. Onions and Garlic

Garlic and onions belong to the Allium plant family, and are toxic to dogs in any form, whether fresh, cooked, dried, or powdered. According to [Banfield Pet Hospital](#), allium plants damage dogs' red blood cells, decreasing oxygen flow, and can also lead to anemia, which may cause organ damage. So think twice before you slip your dog an onion ring at the drive-thru.

Onion and garlic can damage dogs' red blood cells, decreasing oxygen flow, and can also lead to anemia. Instead, try: [dog-safe brewer's yeast supplements with garlic](#) for extra nutrition (and some say, flea-fighting properties)

9 Dangerous Foods for Dogs Continued

6. Tomato Plants (Raw Potatoes, Too)

Ripe tomatoes themselves aren't on the list of dangerous foods for dogs, but if your dog ingests a green, unripe tomato or the leafy green part of the plant (including stems), watch out. According to the [Pet Poison Hotline](#), **unripened tomatoes and tomato plants contain a toxin** called solanine that can cause gastrointestinal distress, lethargy, weakness, and confusion.

Green potatoes can cause the same problem, so while it's okay to sneak your dog a spoonful of mashed potatoes here and there, don't let her gnaw on a raw one! Instead, try: [sweet potato jerky](#) for a healthy starch.

7. Coffee, Tea, and Other Caffeinated Substances

We all know [chocolate](#) is toxic for canines, but did you know that caffeine is also one of the most dangerous foods for dogs? **Caffeine is a powerful stimulant**, and according to the [ASPCA](#), it can cause "vomiting, diarrhea, increased thirst, restlessness and an increased heart rate" in pets. Early treatment is key to preventing more serious problems, so if you know that your dog has ingested coffee, tea, or an energy drink, **don't wait for symptoms to show up**. Get to the vet right away.

8. Dairy (Yes, Even Cheese)

This one is a huge surprise: dairy can be *really* bad for your dog. [Cheese](#) is a popular dog training treat, and it's not really one of the most dangerous foods for dogs. However, too much cheese can cause constipation or diarrhea in the short term, and in the long term, obesity and lasting gastrointestinal issues. However, as with humans and dairy, some dogs will be more sensitive than others. Check with your vet if you have concerns. Instead, try: [Himalayan dog chews made with hard yak's cheese](#) for a long-lasting cheesy treat

9. Sugar-Free Gum (and Anything Sweetened with Xylitol)

[Xylitol](#) is a naturally-occurring substance in popular use as an alternative sweetener for gum, candy, and other foods...and it's deadly to dogs. As noted by [VCA Hospitals](#), **xylitol ingestion causes life-threatening hypoglycemia** (dangerously low blood sugar). Be extra-careful about where you store your gum.

Some people food is safe for your pup, such as lean meats, carrot sticks, and many fruits and veggies. If your dog isn't lactose intolerant, then plain Greek yogurt or cottage cheese can be enjoyed in small amounts, too. It's okay to treat your dog to a nibble of your food on occasion, but steer clear of the stuff with noted dangerous effects (this [list](#) from the ASPCA is a great resource).

As always, when in doubt, consult your vet.

Tips for Personal Security and your Dog's Protection



TSA released information that your boarding pass can be hacked to gather personal information about you. They recommend tearing it up so the bar code cannot be read by a hacker. For your dog's security and Protection use a positive ID. AKC Reunite recommends a microchip enrolled with AKC/Reunite. Lost or Stolen dogs, when found if microchipped, have a 90% chance of being returned to their owner.

Frozen & Chilled Semen

AKC policy for using fresh extended and frozen semen requirements

- DNA collection of all stud dogs, whose semen is collected for fresh extended or frozen use in the United States.
 - The policy does not include artificial insemination where the dog and bitch are both present.
 - Frozen semen collected and stored prior to October 1, 1998, is exempt from this requirement.
- OFA - Preliminary X-Rays Increase With Age

The reliability of a preliminary evaluation will increase with the age of the dog. Early x-rays save time and money. Consider these statistics:

- 89.6% reliability at 3-6 months of age
- 93.8% reliability at 7-12 months of age
- 95.2% reliability at 13-18 months of age

We look forward to seeing some of the top canines excel in this new sport.

This is a brief overview of some of the happenings at the AKC and ways in which we are carrying out our mission. We are proud to share our commitment to purebred dogs with you. Look for more updates soon.



Newsletter Editor

I first have to apologize for not getting a newsletter out lately!

I never realized the amount of work involved in writing a book and doing a remodel on my home at the same time. My office is piled high with materials from the last 30+ years that I've been in the Griffon breed that I've been trying to go thru to sort out the "important stuff" for the book. As soon as I think I have something finished, I open a file and realize I've missed something important that has to be included. Everything else in my life has taken a back seat to this project.

My dogs I know have felt the neglect in their training and attention. I did on impulse enter the puppy Haley in an AKC Hunt Test, which she qualified in 4 tests giving her a Junior Hunter Title to go along with her NAVHDA Natural Ability qualifications. A short example of one of her runs on her Junior Hunter. She was braced with a GSP that went on point. Haley came over the hill and instantly backed her brace mate a good 30-40 feet off holding until the bird was flushed. She is a fantastic little female especially doing so well with no training or work. She is a real tribute to her breeding of Diva (Ch Diva von Herrenhausen JH) and Simon (Int Ch Simon von Herrenhausen JH) from the Herrenhausen Sporting Dog line.

It will be good for all of us to get out of the house and get some exercise this fall when hunting season comes around even though they have a ½ acre yard to exercise in. They take joy in making sure the cats are outside the fences and point the many doves and robins that have made my home yard their regular feeding ground.

In addition to the book, I am still adding more dogs to the herrenhausensportingdogs.com database. At this time there are almost 40,000 dogs entered from Europe (France, Germany, Italy, Netherlands etc), England, Canada, and the USA. An update on last years NAVHDA tests will soon be posted and the OFFA health clearances for 2016 have been entered.

A key to finding dogs in the database, is to do a general search. All dogs are entered in **CAPITAL LETTERS** because the database is case sensitive. This alleviates some issues with the program on searches. Many times just entering the first name will be your best search, because it brings up a complete selection of the dogs with that name. The number of generations you can search are 10 at a time. You can change the number when you first search from 4 to 10. If you would like to search further, this may be done by clicking on the name of the ancestor in the 10th generation. That search will return another 10 generations if they are available.

Entering dogs into the database can only be done by me. This alleviates some problems in self entering. However, if you see a mistake please notify me for correction.

If you have a dog or litter you would like to have entered:

Please send a "**copy**" of the **original registration** certificate with name, sire, dam, sex, registration number, color and birthdate. I will also include health clearance and titles. If you have a litter, the pups need to have registered names.

Other information that can be entered are: Field or show titles, color, call name, health clearances, or ?

Just email me at grifhh@yahoo.com

Barbara

AKC News

Noteworthy News for May 2017

The AKC has been very busy advancing the sport and our mission to protect and promote purebred dogs. It is our pleasure to share some of these developments with you.

Breeder of Merit Levels of Recognition

Breeders are the cornerstone of our sport. Their time, dedication and commitment to breeding healthy dogs is cherished by our organization. In an effort to recognize those who are advancing successful breeding programs and producing champion dogs, we have enhanced the Breeder of Merit program to include four levels: Breeder of Merit Bronze, Breeder of Merit Silver, Breeder of Merit Gold, and Breeder of Merit Platinum. Each of these levels requires a breeder to have bred a certain number of dogs that are actively earning titles.

Our sport and its champions come from responsible breeders whose passion for dogs and the sport are unmatched. We are proud to have developed another way to honor your contribution.

Puppy of Achievement Program

Puppies are the future champions of our sport. Our clubs offer Puppy classes and encourage owners to participate in them. The Puppy Pilot Achievement Program is a new certificate to encourage exhibitors to compete by providing a realistic goal for puppies while they gain ring experience. The program requires that a puppy earn 10 POA points from the 4-6 Month Beginner Puppy Competition and/or regular Puppy classes.

This program is an excellent way to get your dog started in Conformation and a first step toward becoming an AKC Champion. We encourage you to learn more about the program and participate.

New AKC Sport

The AKC has launched a new sport that allows our canine companions to shine even brighter while enhancing the canine-human bond. Starting this month, exhibitors can participate in AKC Scent Work competitions. Scent Work is a sport that mimics the task of working Detection Dogs to find a specific scent and communicate to the handler that the scent has been found. It is a positive, challenging activity that afford dogs the opportunity to use their strongest natural sense in a way that is fun and engaging while building and strengthening trust between the handler and the dog. There are four difficulty levels for each element—Novice, Advanced, Excellent, and Master—and factors such as the size of the search area, the number of hides, whether the number of hides is known or unknown to the handler, and the maximum height of the hides will change with the difficulty level. The most accomplished dogs will also be eligible for The Detective Class, which contains many hides in a variety of environments.

We look forward to seeing some of the top canines excel in this new sport.

This is a brief overview of some of the happenings at the AKC and ways in which we are carrying out our mission. We are proud to share our commitment to purebred dogs with you. Look for more updates soon.

Sincerely,

Ron Menaker, Chairman

Dennis Sprung, President & CEO

Training Solutions

Excerpted from [Decoding Your Dog](#) .

The trick with all nuisance behaviors is to train and reward an opposite or competing behavior. For example, Rowdy can't jump on Anna if he's sitting to greet her. He can't bark at visitors if he has a toy in his mouth, or beg at the dinner table if he is in a down-stay on his bed, or pull on his leash if he's by Anna's side making eye contact every five seconds. Whatever bothersome behavior the dog is engaging in, think of something that would preclude it, and train that behavior consistently.

When training any new behavior, especially to replace a well-established nuisance behavior, patience and consistency are key. It can take a while for the dog to give up strategies that have worked for him consistently, but if he is no longer rewarded for them and is instead consistently reinforced for an alternative behavior, he will soon choose that new response every time. Stick with it. Because the unwanted behavior worked in the past, your dog will most likely try it again, but harder, before he will give it up. This is called an "Extinction burst." It's a sudden display of a behavior that was diminishing after you stopped rewarding it. It's sort of like your dog saying, "Was she really serious about that?" Don't give up; stick with your plan and you will be rewarded.

Training Alternate Behaviors:

- To replace door dashing, train to sit or down before opening the door.
- To replace eating trash off the ground, train to carry a toy or keep eye contact with you.
- To replace barking at the doorbell, train to get a toy.
- To replace digging up the roses, train to fetch or hide-and-seek with dog toys.
- To replace pawing at you, train to put pawing on a cue - so he uses his paw for a "high five" or "wave" when asked

AMISH CINNAMON BREAD

No kneading, you just mix it up and bake it

Batter: 1 cup butter, softened 2 cups sugar 2 eggs 2 cups buttermilk or 2 cups milk plus 2 tablespoons vinegar or lemon juice 4 cups flour 2 teaspoons baking soda

Cinnamon/sugar mixture:

2/3 cups sugar

2 teaspoons cinnamon

Directions: Cream together butter, 2 cups of sugar, and eggs. Add milk, flour, and baking soda. Put 1/2 of batter (or a little less) into greased loaf pans (1/4 in each pan). Mix in separate bowl the 2/3 c sugar and cinnamon. Sprinkle 3/4 of cinnamon mixture on top of the 1/2 batter in each pan. Add remaining batter to pans; sprinkle with last of cinnamon topping. Swirl with a knife. Bake at 350 degrees for 45-50 min. or until toothpick tester come clean. Cool in pan for 20 minutes before removing from pan.