RAMAPO KENNEL CLUB

GROWL

ESTABLISHED 1958 JULY/AUGUST 2014

ANOTHER SCIENTIFIC STUDY CHALLENGES THE WISDOM OF GOVERNMENT-MANDATED SPAY/NEUTER

By: Phil Guidry, Senior Policy Analyst, AKC Government Relations

An article published in the February 1, 2014, edition of the *Journal of the American Veterinary Medical Association* reported on the findings of an investigation into how dogs' age at sterilization, specifically via traditional practices of gonadectomy—the surgical removal of a female dog's ovaries or a male dog's testes—impacts the risk of diagnosis of certain cancers and behavioral disorders in Vizslas.

Other scientific studies are also underway seeking better understanding of the impact of spay/neuter on various aspects of dogs' health, including the longevity, cancer resistance, and joint diseases.

In the Vizsla study, the data were compiled over the course of 16 years via an anonymous online survey of owners. Generally, the study found that, compared to sexually intact dogs:

- Dogs sterilized at less than six months of age, between seven and 12 months of age, and at over 12 months of age had significantly increased odds of developing mast cell cancer, lymphoma, all other cancers, all cancers combined, and fear of storms.
- Females sterilized at up to 12 months of age, and males and females sterilized at over 12 months of age had significantly increased odds of developing hemangiosarcoma.

The study further found a positive relationship between the age of sterilization and the age of diagnosis of biological and behavioral issues. The younger the age at which a dog was sterilized correlated to an earlier average age of diagnosis of mast cell cancer, cancers other than mast cell, hemangiosarcoma, lymphoma, all cancers combined, behavioral disorders, or fear

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Pat Scully is presented a certificate for her 50 years of service to Ramapo Kennel Club at the Annual Awards Dinner. For more awards dinner photos see page 4.

President's Message

JACK GRASSA

Sharon Fremer

I hope this finds all our members enjoying the summer. The weather's been great most every weekend and the temperature and humidity have been far more tolerable than the last several years. That's a big win for outdoor events with our dogs.

Speaking of good weather, it couldn't have been better for our June 7th Match Show. Melissa Ayer and her crew outdid themselves and put together a very successful event. We had very solid entries in conformation obedience and rally. Kudos and a big Thank You to all that helped make it a stellar day!

Our annual dinner at the Paris Inn in Wayne followed close on the heels of the Match Show. It was, as always, both delicious and a lot of fun. Congratulations to all that received awards this year. And Thank You to Lorraine Fennemore for working her magic again this year to find us a great venue with good food. You take extra good care of us!

Looking forward to the fall, I'd like to ask for suggestions for meeting programs. We heard some ideas at our May meeting – a presentation on canine reproduction particularly sticks in my mind. Does anyone know a veterinarian they would like to suggest we contact for this? Or do you have a veterinarian that has a different specialty that would interest our members? I recently heard about a man out near the Delaware Water Gap that has given presentations about wolves to many NJ kennel clubs. Several people I know have heard him and think he's very good. Would anyone be interested in that? Please let me know if you have specific suggestions. I hope to find things that will appeal to as many members as possible.

Our annual point shows will be held Sunday and Monday, October 11th and 12th. We need help with a number of things throughout those days. We will once again hold a Meet the Breeds at noon on Sunday. If you would like to bring your dog(s) and be part of it please plan to be there. Do you know other owners that might want to join us? Please spread the word. Dogs do not have to be entered to participate; we welcome everyone! Cindy McMillen, our new ring hospitality chair, has some great ideas for this year. If you'd like to help her keep our judges and ring stewards happy and comfortable you can reach her at 973-602-1614. If you would like to volunteer, but are not sure what you can do, please contact our show chairman, Jeffery Ball, at 201-446-4569.

The AKC recently announced a change for their upcoming Meet the Breeds event. They are skipping this year entirely. The next one will be held in conjunction with the Westminster Kennel Club dog show in February 2015. It will be a one-day event, held on Saturday, February 14th, in Pier 92 while the Masters Agility Trial is held in Pier 94. And… NO MORE CATS. This will be a purely canine affair. What better way to spend Valentine's Day??

And now that I've jumped ahead to the cold winter months, it's time to close. I'm sure there are many more inviting things to be doing outdoors with your family, friends and dogs. Enjoy the remaining days of summer. See you in September!

Sharon

Ramapo Kennel Club Officers

President
Sharon Fremer
teneo@mac.com

Vice President
Arlene Stover

Treasurer
Ruth Henningsen

Recording Secretary
Kim Luikert

Corresponding Secretary
Tilly Grassa
tgcreative@aol.com

Board of Directors
2014
Gerrie Oliver
2015
Rose Radel
Amy Starost
2016
Lorraine Fennermore
Janis Hayes
Melissa Ayers

AKC Delegate
Jeffrey David Ball

Minutes

RKC Member Meeting
June 11th 2014
Paris Inn
Wayne, NJ 07470

Sharon Fremer called the meeting to order at 8:45pm

Phyllis Lasser was voted into membership by the members. Phyllis is from Wyckoff and has Cavalier King Charles and is sponsored by Janis Hayes and Tilly Grassa.

Ruth Henningsen made a motion for meeting to be adjourned at 8:47 seconded by Vivian Bregman.

Respectfully submitted by
Kim Luikert
June 15th 2014

New member Phyllis Lasser

ANOTHER SCIENTIFIC STUDY CHALLENGES THE WISDOM OF GOVERNMENT-MANDATED SPAY/NEUTER *from page 1*

of storms. When compared to the odds of sexually intact dogs, dogs sterilized younger than six months of age were also found to have significantly increased odds of developing a behavioral disorder.

The study's authors call for additional studies on the biological effects of removing gonadal hormones and on methods to render dogs infertile that do not involve the full removal of organs that produce important hormones, including vasectomy versus castration for males and hysterectomy versus oviohysterectomy for females. They also call on veterinarians to discuss the benefits and possible adverse effects of gonadectomy with clients, giving consideration to a dog's breed, their owner's circumstances, and the anticipated use of the dog.

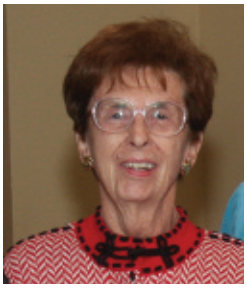
The American Kennel Club promotes a balanced approach to the issues surrounding spaying or neutering. We encourage pet owners to spay or neuter their dogs as a responsible means to prevent accidental breedings resulting in unwanted puppies. However, the AKC opposes laws that mandate the spaying or neutering of purebred dogs. Ultimately, we believe that all health care decisions, including whether to spay or neuter, should be made by a dog's owner in consultation with their veterinarian. The new insights provided by the Vizsla study provide further evidence that gonadectomy, like other major surgical procedures, should not be entered into without consideration of long term health impacts and should never be arbitrarily mandated by a government entity.

THANK YOU

I would like to thank all the members of the Ramapo Kennel Club for the 50 year Certificate of Appreciation. All of my dog activities began at Ramapo many years ago, and for this reason I am most grateful and honored for this recognition.

I wish the Club continued success in its endeavors, and may it remain one of the foremost kennel clubs in the north east.

Pat Scully



THE 2014 RKC ANNUAL AWARDS DINNER

The annual Awards Dinner was held on Wednesday, June 11, 2014 at the Paris Inn in Wayne, NJ. Congratulations to all the members for their accomplishments in 2013. Very impressive! Thank you again to Elaine Barone for doing an outstanding job with the presentations. A fun time was had by all, and it was a great way to start the summer.

Elaine Barone

Elaine Barone- Siberian Husky
CGC,RN
MICKEY MICK AT TWO RIVERS CGC, RN
Mickey is a rescue dog and co-owned by member Ruth Henningsen

Vivian Bregman

Vivian Bregman - Border Collie
PCDX
AKC/ASCA OTCH, UKC
GRUOCH SUNRISE MsSUGAH OF KELEV UDX10, OGM, VER, RN, PCDX
Sugah earned her PCDX in 3 shows with 3 first placings.

Vivian Bregman - Border Collie
PCDX
ASCA UD & RN
U-CDX BREAKOUTS MAZEL TOV OF KELEV UD, VER, ASCA UD & RN

Linda Berndt - Bernese Mountain Dog
BN
TENNESCOTT SHOLOME BERNBROOK'S HOLLY RN,BN

Linda Berndt

Lorraine Fennemore - Great Pyrenees
GCH
GCH KARENZ MAJOR HOT LIPS HOOLIHAN
Bred by Lorraine and Anthony Fennemore

Ruth Henningsen - Siberian Husky
RA
SIBERLINK'S DARE TO DREAM BN,RA,CGC
Allie is a rescue dog and co-owned by member Elaine Barone.

Lorraine Fennermore

Ruth Henningsen

Anne Hulsizer - Labrador Retriever
RL1, RL2, RL3

CASBAR GLENWILD WEEKEND
CD,RE,THD,RL3,CGC
Friday has also completed 7 RAE legs in AKC Rally.

Ann Hulsizer

Linda Ladner - Border Terrier
RA, RL2
TOWZIE TYKE HARRIS RA,RL2,CGC,THD
Harris has also titled in Barn Hunt, Lure Coursing and Earth Dog

Cindy McMillen

Cindy McMillen - Italian Greyhound
CGC

CH MARLORD THE BEAT GOES ON, CGC

Amy Starost

Amy Starost - Entlebucher Mountain Dog
CD
GUSTAV OF WILDHORN CD,RE,CGC

Joanne Silver - Chesapeake Bay Retrievers
The following dogs are bred, owned, co-owned and/or handled by Joanne Silver Dogs with (*) are co-bred/co-owned by member Diane Ammerman

PCN, RN, RA, BN, CGC, CGCA
GCH SILVERCREEK CABINRIDGE GIDGET BN, RA, PCN, CGC, CGCA

BN
CH SILVERCREEK ALL IN THE FAMILY RN, BN, CGC, BBTD

Joanne Silver's awards

BBTD, CAT
CH MARJAN'S SILVERCREEK CHANTILLY LACE RN, CAT, BBTD, CGC

S.T.A.R.
ALBRIDEN SILVERCREEK DOUBLE JEOPARDY S.T.A.R.

OFP, OJP
*SILVERCREEK APPLEJOHN MARINA

Elizabeth Smith

CD,RAE,OFP,OJP
Elizabeth Smith - Rough Coat Collie
ASCA CD, RM, RE, CAT, TT, VCX, SOC 1
U-CH AVANT GARDE A PIECE OF THE ACTION, ASCA CD, RM, RE, CAT, TT, VCX, SOC 1

Elizabeth Smith - Belgian Tervurens
ASCA, SCT, UD, URX, RE, REX, RM, RMX, REM, TT, CAT, BBTD
AM/CAN GR CH ASPEN GLOW de COTAH ASCA SCT, UD, URX, RE, REX, RM, RMX, REM, TT, CAT, BBTD

CT,CAT
CANADIAN SUNSET du AFTERSHOCK HIC, CA, CGC, SCT

SCT,RO1,RN(ASCA),CAT,CH
CH BURNING LOVE du AFTERSHOCK HIC, CGC, CAT, SCT, RO1, RN

Patty Valente - English springer Spaniel
BN,UD,NAP,NJP,MX

STORMWYND SKYDIVE UD, BN, RAE, JH, MX, MXJ, XF, NAP, NJP
Patty Valente & Allison Milne VDM are co-breeders and owners of SKY

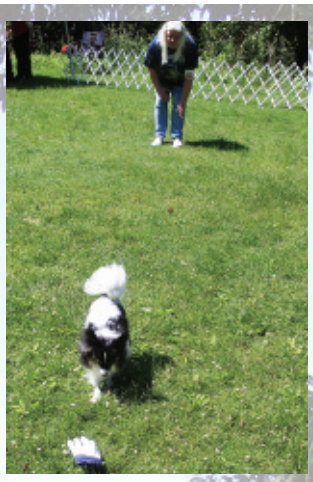
Joyce Wilson - Border Terrier
CH
GCH STRADBROOK'S GRAND SLAM

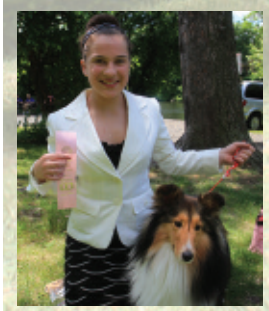
LESLEE VALENTE MEMORIAL AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE IN OBEDIENCE
Amy Starost

AENNCHEN ANTONELLI/GILMA BLAUVELT-MOSS BREEDERS AWARD
Joanne Silver with 9 titles in 2013

RAMAPO KENNEL CLUB GOOD SPORTSMANSHIP AWARD
Vivian Bregman

RKC SPRING MATCH June 7, 2014 at Sunnybank, Wayne, NJ





SHOW HANDLING SCHEDULE -2014

TUESDAY EVENINGS
6:45 - 7:30
DROP IN CLASSES ONLY
$10.00 per dog
No classes July and August

FMI: LINDA HACHTEL
973-697-4337
or rkc@ramapokennelclub.com

RKC TRAINING CLASS SCHEDULE -2014

NO CLASSES JULY AND AUGUST

SEPTEMBER 2014 OBEDIENCE/RALLY SCHEDULE

FOR CLASS INFORMATION AND TIMES CONTACT:

RUTH HENNINGSEN 973-697-9456 or email at:
RUTHH.SNO-DOG@JUNO.COM
OR JOANNE SILVER 201-891-5090
JOANNE SILVER1937@YAHOO.COM

TUESDAY - RALLY ADV/EXCELLENT
SESSION 1
September 16, 23, 30
October 14, 21, 28
November 4

WEDNESDAY - KPT/BEGINNER/RALLY NOVICE
SESSION 1
September 17, 24
October 1, 15, 22, 29
November 5

ANNOUNCING THE FIRST ACC LURE COURSING TRIAL (ALL BREED)

September 6th and 7th, 2014
Bucks Mill Recreation Center, 137 Bucks Mill Rd., Colts Neck, New Jersey

FMI and Premium List contact: Joanne Silver, joannesilver1937@yahoo.com

Saturday, September 6, 2014
AM Trial: 60 dog limit, Limited day-of entries accepted until 10AM
PM Trial: 60 dog limit, Limited day-of entries accepted until noon

Come support and run your dogs, it will be fun

Trial Secretary
www.pawpalspca.org

Sunday, September 7, 2014
AM Trial: 60 dog limit, Limited day-of entries accepted until 10AM
PM Trial: 60 dog limit, Limited day-of entries accepted until noon

AKC CHAIRMAN'S REPORT, JUNE 2014

AKC'S TRUE FANS

If you're anything like my wife and I, it all started the day you brought that one dog into your life. For us, it was Caesar - our first Bullmastiff. Since there was no Internet back then, we found him through the classifieds in our local paper. He was a great dog, just not a great Bullmastiff. But that didn't matter to us. We loved him - and lost him much too early. But in that short time, he made us fall in love with the Bullmastiff breed. We researched the breed and breeders, learned about conformation events, attended dog shows, and began to collect that array of breed paraphernalia that somehow invades every corner of your home. I imagine many of you are wearing your breed on you somewhere right now – pins or jewelry or clothing or even, I would wager, some have a tattoo. In short, we, like you, became fans of a breed and fans of our sports.

I like being called a fan, don't you? I like what it stands for, even though some people believe the idea of "fans" came from "fanatics" - a usually pejorative word. Actually, The Dickson Baseball Dictionary cites William Henry Nugent's work asserting that "fan" was derived from "the fancy," a term from England referring to the enthusiasts of a specific hobby or sport – like dog shows. The word came into common usage in America in 1889, just five years after the launch of the American Kennel Club. Coincidence? I think not.

It is an accepted fact in sports that your fans can have a demonstrable impact on performance. In football, which allows 11 players on the field, the assemblage of fans in the stadium is collectively referred to as the "12th man." A researcher from Harvard University discovered that the home team achieved a tenth of a point advantage for every 10,000 fans in the stadium.

Imagine the advantage we could have for purebred dogs, for breeders, and for our sport with a much larger active fan base. We have already begun to do just that with Facebook.

There are lots of numbers associated with Facebook, but the most important are those that identify your true fan base. There is a simple equation that does that: the number of "people talking about this" divided by the total number of "likes" which is called "engagement." According to experts, an acceptable engagement rate, or true fans, is in the range of one to two percent.

Two baseball teams with very strong fan bases are the New York Yankees and the New York Mets. The Yankees have an engagement rate of 4% and the Mets have 6%. Both are doing better than acceptable in growing their fan base.

Apple, one of the world's strongest and best-liked brands, is at 1.4%

HSUS is at 1.6% and ASPCA is at 4%.

The AKC's engagement rate – the measurement of true fans – is an astounding 30%! The actual number of true fans is 535,000 – higher than any of those I just mentioned by a multiple. In fact, we have 16 times more true fans than HSUS.

You cannot manufacture a fan base. You cannot buy a fan base. You create it by telling stories about the many things that happen in our world, throughout the day, throughout the years. Sometimes it is about winning, but mostly it is about unique, emotional experiences that can only happen when dogs and people come together. Those stories are best when told by fans - people like you. As Napoleon said, "Ten people who speak make more noise than ten thousand who are silent."

At the Delegates Meeting on Monday, Chris Walker presented an informative guide to utilizing social media to help your clubs. It will be posted on AKC.org. I'll reiterate the conclusion of the presentation: We need you to talk - promote yourselves, promote your dogs and promote the sport of purebred dogs. And educate people about responsible dog ownership. Be proud of the love and service you have given the sport over the years and nurture new people into the sport.

In short, spread the truth.

There are people and organizations that don't want the truth about the AKC to be known. Hate may attack it and ignorance may ridicule it, but in the end, the truth is irrefutable. While yawns, laughter, and germs are infectious, the most powerful infectious thing is spreading the truth.

As true fans, we will stay strong, stand up for dogs, and speak out for our values. And we won't stop until every critic becomes a fan.

As always, your comments and suggestions are welcome at atk@akc.org.

Sincerely,
Alan Kalter, Chairman

THE 18TH ANNUAL GATHERING AT SUNNYBANK

381 Terhune Drive, Wayne, NJ 07470

August 16-17, 2014

This year's theme: Grrrrrl Power! Fabulous Females of Sunnybank

FMI: Gerrie Oliver, (201) 768-1282 - gerrieoliver@hotmail.com

GOT STUFF?

Send your news, brags, suggestions, comments and photos to Tilly Grassa, *tgcreative@aol.com*. Remember the *Growl* comes out about a week before each monthly meeting. Check the calendar on the last page for submission deadlines. The *Growl* is by and for the members so I need your help to make it interesting.

RAMAPO KENNEL CLUB GROWL

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tgcreative@aol.com
973-633-5254

Dates to remember:

All membership meetings are held at

VFW HALL
45 PLYMOUTH STREET
FAIRFIELD, NJ AT 8:00 PM
(unless otherwise noted)

WEDNESDAY, September 10	7:15 PM- BOD Meeting; 8:00 PM- RKC Member Meeting, Program: TBA
WEDNESDAY, October 8	7:15 PM- BOD Meeting; 8:00 PM- RKC Member Meeting, Program: TBA
OCTOBER 11 AND 12	RKC All Breed/Obedience/Rally shows, Sussex County Fair Grounds

RAMAPO KENNEL CLUB

GROWL

11 Pershing Avenue
Ridgewood, NJ 07450

FIRST CLASS MAIL