

TATTLETAIL

NEWSLETTER OF THE ALBANY KENNEL CLUB



SPRING EDITION

VOLUME 28, ISSUE 4



The Albany Kennel Club was founded in 1943, as an affiliate of the American Kennel Club, serving for the greater Albany Area in the State of New York. Their objectives as stated in their constitution and by-laws, Article 1, Section 2, are “(a) to further the advancement of all breeds of pure-bred dogs: (b) to conduct dog shows, obedience trails, rally trails and sanctioned matches under the rules of the American Kennel Club.”

In more recent years, the club has taken the incentive to educate our members and the public about purposely-bred dogs. By the club's definitions, purposely-bred dogs may or may not be pure-bred, but have been bred to be healthy; by health-checked sires & dams; have been whelped in well-suited conditions; and by knowledgeable breeders striving for the well-being of dogs as whole.

With a fairly small kennel club membership that averages around 30 members, the members' interests include a range of conformation, obedience, rally, agility, tracking, rescue, and barn hunt.

The club holds two point shows a year in October at the Eastern State Exposition Center located in West Springfield, MA in conjunction with the Troy Kennel Club. They also host a local fun match in June. The Club is also licensed to conduct AKC Temperament Test. More information can be found within, or by reaching out to a club member.

IMPORTANT REMINDERS:

POINT SHOW IN OCTOBER

LAST HANDLING CLASSES: AUG 30TH

NEXT MEETING: SEPT 5TH

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PRESIDENT MESSAGE

Hello to the Albany Kennel Club members,

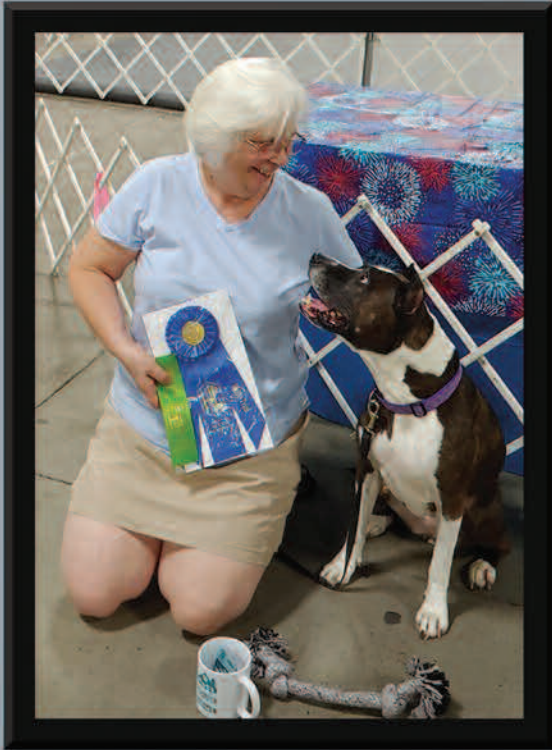
Our next board meeting is coming up September 5th - this will be the last one before our point show, so please make sure to stop in to find out how you can help! As always we need some volunteers for the point show coming up October 21-22. If you or someone you know would like to help, please send them my way.

Our last handling class is Tuesday, August 30th. Make sure to get in that last practice before the end of the season!

See you soon!
Corey Heenan
President



ALBANY KENNEL CLUB BRAGS



Submitted by John & Jeannette O'Hanlon:
Cricket, MACH **Esoteric's Tacoma Third Time's A Charm** CDX BN RE FDC MXB MJS XF CA SWN SCA SIA SEA TT THDN RATO CGCA TKA ATT, an American Staffordshire Terrier owned by Jeannette & John O'Hanlon, placed 1st, with a score of 100, in Master Rally at the Big E for her 4th Master Rally Leg at age 10 1/2. (Pictured left)



Rune, **Schaber's When The Last Rune Is Cast @ One Stone** RI AXP OJP NFP SWN CGC TKI ATT, an American Staffordshire Terrier, owned by John and Jeannette O'Hanlon finished his AKC Scent Work Novice Level Title at the Albany Obedience Club Trial held at the Firemen's Museum in Hudson. The next day, in Advanced, Rune Qualified in all 4 elements and was High In Trial. (Pictured right)



Lilah, **Esoteric's Alainn Lilah** CD BN RI MX MXB MXJ MJB XF SWAE SCEE SIEE SEE SHDN NWI RATN CGCA TKA ATT, earned her NACSW Nose Work I Title in NJ, winning High in Trial. (Pictured bottom Left)



Submitted by Calley Anne Rupp-Potts:
Zia Impala's Katatstrosphe at Albelarm, AKA Kat, finished her championship at the Hudson River Valley Hound Show. (Pictured bottom right)



Submitted by Corey Heenan:

In Madison, Ohio:

The Parach Hound puppies went to their first dog show and came back with: Fred, **Faroo Anubis Sovrin Game Changer**, was Best in Sweeps and won a 4pt major! Ethel, **Sovrin Farao Anubis Party Games**, Best Opposite in sweeps, 4 majors, and New Champion in one weekend! (Pictured top left)

The Whippets:

Hartlen, **Hi Tor A&M One False Move at Reve**, Best in Sweeps at AWC supported, RWD at specialty from 6-9 month class! (Pictured middle left)

Gigi, GChs **Albelarm Call Me a Tekdal Fanatic at Reve JC**, BEST IN SPECIALTY and group 3! (Pictured below)

In Carmel, New York:

Parach hounds: GChs **Sovrin Hallam Reedly Road to Sagara** got 2 veteran group 2s. Whippets: **Reve's Drop Dead Cynical From Hi Tor A&M** got a group 2 in puppy Sweeps. (pictured bottom left)





Albany Kennel Club

www.albanykennelclub.net

Conformation **Handling** Classes



When:

Last Class:
August 30th at 6 PM

Summer-Long Handling Classes

Whether its you or you puppy that needs a hands on refresher or to start fresh we can help you get ring ready!

Where:

Henry Hudson Park

Barent Winne Rd, Selkirk, NY 12158

Instructors To Be Announced

Find up to date announcements, such as instructors, cancellations, & weather reports, on the Albany Kennel Club Facebook page.



HOW TO MAKE YOUR DOG EAT MORE SLOWLY

BY AKC STAFF.

PUBLISHED ON AKC.ORG JULY 27, 2021



- **Slow Feeder Bowls**
- **Food Puzzles**
- **Cookie Sheet/Muffin Pan**
- **Hand Feeding**

Some dogs are slow eaters, taking their time to chew every little piece and enjoy each bite. Others seem to swallow their food whole without even bothering to consider what it is they're eating. They eat so fast you can barely blink an eye before the entire meal is gone. These dogs come in all shapes, sizes, and breeds. Unfortunately, eating so quickly can be quite dangerous for our dogs.

First, they can choke, which is obviously life-threatening. Gagging on their food will often result in vomiting and discomfort, as well.

Second, eating quickly increases the risk of a serious medical condition called bloat. Bloat (formally known as gastric dilatation-volvulus or "GDV") occurs when the stomach (or intestines) expands and may twist within the abdomen. This is immediately life threatening, and dogs will go into shock very quickly. When a dog eats too fast, he gulps down an excessive amount of air along with his food, causing

the expansion and, therefore, increasing the chances of bloat.

There is also a condition called "food bloat" which is not a true GDV. It is just huge amounts of food that have been ingested sitting in the stomach. This condition does not cause shock. However, if there is even a remote chance a dog appears bloated, it should be seen by a veterinarian immediately. (Hint: a dog with true GDV will retch and vomit mostly foam, rarely food.)

So how can we help our dogs eat at a slower pace? Unfortunately, we can't just sit them down and have a talk about safety. But there are some creative ways to help encourage healthy consumption, and with so many options, you're almost certain to find one your dog enjoys.

- **Slow-Feeder Bowls:** There are many different brands of slow-feed dog bowls available

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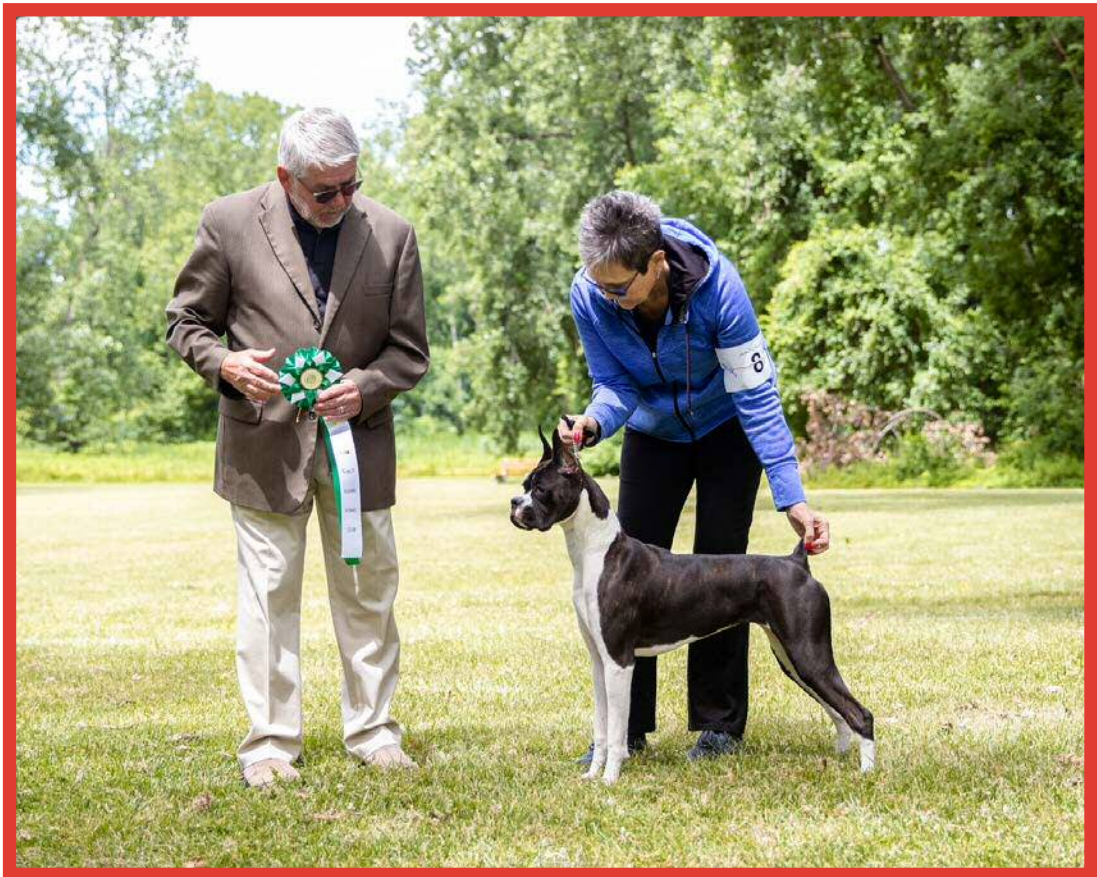
BEST ADULT IN MATCH

Italian Greyhound



BEST PUPPY IN MATCH

Boxer



ALBANY KENNEL CLUB FUN MATCH

BY CALLEY RUPP.

We hosted our annual Fun Match on June 18th of this year. We had a great turn out! Thank you all for joining us this year!

It was a lovely 68 degrees for the dogs, though the overcast clouds and wind made it a little chiller for us humans.

Our winners were the Boxer for Best Puppy in Match and the Italian Greyhound for Best Adult in Match.

The Judge was Mr. James S. Covey from Ballston Spa. Mr. Covey is a multiple approved AKC breed judge including being approved for Best In Show. He has been an approved judge since the late 80's and judged the sporting group for Westminster Kennel Club in 2021. His first breed was English Cocker Spaniels.

It was a pleasure to have Mr. Covey as a judge

this year, he was very patient with some of our new comers and always had something positive to say. We extend a big thank you to him for coming out to judge our match.

I would also like to mention a sincere appreciation to the club members who came out to help that day. We had a few of our newest member come out to not only show but also to assist!

We hope that all of you that came out enjoyed the day and will join us next year. Make sure to spread the word and have your friends come out as well! As of right now we should be at the same location on the Hudson River. We will be announcing the date some time next year - check our Facebook to find out!

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 7

on the market specifically for dogs that eat too quickly. All of them seem to do a great job, but you might want to read reviews to make sure people have had good success using a specific product with a dog similar to yours. You can also make your own slow-feeder bowl by using two bowls to feed your dog. Take a bowl one or two sizes larger than your dog's regular dish and set it down flat, then take your dog's regular dish and place it upside down into the large bowl. This will create a gap between the two bowls that you can fill with your dog's food. Since the gap is big enough for your dog to reach the food, but not so big that he can take gulps, he'll be forced to eat more slowly.

- **Food Puzzles:** Food puzzle toys are another excellent way to slow down your dog's eating. They are similar to slow-feeders, as they are generally comprised of different nooks and crannies for your dog's food to fit into, therefore making it impossible for your dog to take large gulps of food. There are many different puzzles available, from ones that lie flat on the ground to toys that dispense food while your dog plays with them,

and all are viable options.

- **Cookie Sheet or Muffin Pan:** Spreading your dog's food across a cookie sheet makes it very difficult for your dog to gulp down large amounts, especially if you feed kibble. Your dog will be forced to take tiny bites and pick up a lot of pieces with his tongue (which takes quite a bit of time), and therefore will eat much more slowly. The same goes for using a muffin pan. Fill each small muffin cup with a little bit of food, and use the entire pan. Even if your dog's muzzle can reach easily into the cups, the meal will be broken down into smaller portions, and the excessive gulping will be eliminated.

- **Hand Feed:** Some dogs love being hand fed. While many owners don't necessarily have time to sit there and hand feed their dogs, you can use training time as mealtime. Use your dog's regular food as rewards during obedience training or any other training. Consider working on various tricks for food, and break everything down into small steps. This makes mealtime fun and safe, since your dog won't be able to inhale large amounts of food.

YEARLY HOME CLEANING GUIDE FOR PET OWNERS

BY SAIGE DRIVER.

PUBLISHED ON AKC.ORG MARCH. 21, 2022

This year, while you're airing bedding, flinging open the windows, mopping the floors, and dusting everything in sight, don't forget to include your dog's living space too. It's important to take a yearly audit of your pet's supplies and sanitize any items such as toys that may be used often.

Make your annual cleaning ritual pup-friendly by adding these dog-specific tasks to your checklist. Remember to always use pet-safe cleaning products!

PICK UP YOUR YARD

If you live in a colder climate, you likely already know why you need to clean your yard. When the snow melts, it reveals everything you neglected to pick up during the colder months, including your dog's droppings.

When the warm weather hits, your pup will want to indulge in the sunshine, so make sure your yard is a safe place for them to hang out and play. Along with picking up your dog's

poop, walk around your yard and pick up sticks, stones, branches, or anything else your dog may try to play with and chew.

REFRESH YOUR KITCHEN

Annual cleaning isn't complete until you give your kitchen a good deep clean—and that includes your dog's supplies as well. When did you last clean or replace your dog's food dish or water bowl? You don't need to replace bowls regularly, but consider purchasing new dishes if the bowls have been chewed or are too dirty to save.

You should clean your dog's bowls out at least every day, but it is always a good idea to give them a deep cleaning every so often. If your dog has a rug or mat under their dishes, clean that too.

CHECK EXPIRATION DATES

Make sure to check your puppy's food, treats, and medications, and dispose of anything that's expired.



GET RID OF THE DOG HAIR

If your dog sheds often, you know that stray strands and dander are among the biggest house-cleaning challenges. You'll want to go over every corner and surface of your house with a pet hair vacuum.

Take preparatory steps to improve your chances of making a clean sweep. On carpets and upholstery, for example, a light misting with water and fabric softener followed by a once-over with a stiff-bristled brush can loosen and pull up embedded hairs. You can also go over surfaces with a lint roller, pet-hair remover, or other hair-grabber after vacuuming. Once all your surfaces are free of pet hair, go over your fabrics and carpets with a fabric spray to finish the job.

CLEAN AND DISCARD OLD TOYS

Decluttering is a crucial part of any cleaning. Along with organizing your closet, take a look at your dog's toy basket. If the toys are dirty, give them a good clean with soap and water (fabric toys can go in the laundry) but toss out any broken or potentially dangerous ones.

Once you're finished cleaning them, don't forget to have fun replacing the toys you had to

discard.

WASH BEDDING, BLANKETS, AND COLLARS

While you should frequently wash your dog's bedding and blankets throughout the year, give them an extra-thorough cleaning occasionally. Consider also cleaning the baseboards, carpet, and walls near your pup's sleeping area, and give all your windows a good polish to wipe away nose and paw prints.

This is also a good time to thoroughly clean crates, carriers, collars, and leashes with a mild soap, like dishwashing detergent, and a highly diluted disinfectant. Many people do a final wipe-down with water, to reduce the chance of pets coming in contact with chemicals.

DON'T FORGET GROOMING

Don't forget the most important part: keeping your pup clean! Your dog should already have a regular grooming routine, but, after a long winter, their thick coat will begin to shed, which often requires special care. To refresh your grooming knowledge, read our spring grooming tips and invest in safe, quality grooming products.

UP COMING MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS

ALBANY KENNEL CLUB MEETINGS TAKE PLACE ON THE FIRST TUESDAY OF THE MONTH AT 7:00 PM AT THE GATEWAY DINER.

August 9, 2022

***September 5, 2022**

October 4, 2022

***November 1, 2022**

*Board Meeting takes place immediately prior to the membership meeting at approximately 6:30PM.

COMING UP...

SEPTEMBER BOARD & MEMBERSHIP MEETING

Starting with the September meeting, we are back at the Gateway Diner to getaway from the bugs!

FIELD SPANIEL HISTORY: A TYPE BROUGHT BACK FROM EXTINCTION

BY AKC STAFF

PUBLISHED ON AKC.ORG MAY. 9, 2022



From the AKC Library & Archives, Field Spaniel Ch. Black Prince, 1892

With solemn but curious brown eyes, the mahogany spaniel in the doorway gazes upon a visitor. A well-formed male with power in his stance, the dog pads gently forward, in a slow, assessing approach. His big brown nose investigates the newcomer.

They say that Field Spaniels can be reticent when first meeting a stranger, but once they accept your friendship they become warm and welcoming. Lucky we are that this bighearted, compact hunter is alive and well to leap into laps and flush woodcock for his hunting companions. The Fieldie very nearly stepped off the pages of history, treading a whisker's breadth away from being tragically lost to gentleman hunters and spaniel enthusiasts. Breaking free from his multi-sized, many-colored ancestors (once all lumped together as "spaniels"), his recent emergence and beauty almost caused his demise. But today he enjoys

an enthusiastic following and a solid breeding program that will ensure that we can enjoy the company of these glorious, adventure-loving animals forever.

The first Field Spaniel in the United States was registered with the AKC in 1894 — Coleshill Rufus, a dog bred by Mr. J. Smith in Warwickshire, England, whose Coleshill line exerted long influence over the breed. The relatively new breed had been developed over the previous four or five decades in England, but its roots go much deeper than that, as far back as the ancient, largely undifferentiated, spaniels.

The word spaniel reveals that the dogs came to Britain by way of Spain. The breed name Field Spaniel actually obscures its history, since for many centuries, spaniels were separated into "land" and "water" spaniels, depending on their

function. To complicate matters, any spaniel that was active in land hunting could be called a “field spaniel.” Thus, the Field Spaniel didn’t become a distinct breed until the mid-1800s.

With the rise of dog showing as a popular sport sanctioned by Queen Victoria’s participation, breeders looked for a new spaniel breed that could wow the judges. They sought to create a black spaniel (hunters generally preferred working dogs to have a hit of white on them, making them easier to spot from a distance). Created largely out of crosses between English Cocker Spaniels, so-called “Welsh Cockers,” and Sussex Spaniels, with a generous dose of various other spaniels, Fields were initially all black, but quickly developed other colors, such as liver, roan, or golden liver, all potentially with tan points, and white on the chest or throat. From the start, they were longer and lower than the average spaniel, with a uniquely chiseled head. Show records from the turn of the last century reveal that the Field Spaniel was a popular and competitive breed.

AN UNFORTUNATE DEPARTURE

The Fieldie, however, was not destined for steady popularity. Two decades after his entry as a registered breed, he disappeared from show rings and hunters’ sides—nearly into extinction. AKC records show that the last Field Spaniel during that period was registered in 1916, not to be seen again until the late 1960s. Why did the Field Spaniel languish and disappear for nearly 50 years? How did he spring back to life as today’s all-round, versatile

performance dog?

Carole Kaye, librarian of the Field Spaniel Society of America (FSSA), says, “The Field Spaniel of the late 1800s was a popular show dog, and widely used as a gundog.” His popularity may have spurred the nearly disastrous demise of this striking, solid-colored spaniel.

In most pictures and records of the early 20th century, his conformation closely resembled that of the Cocker. AKC judge Dorothy Macdonald explains, “In 1900, the difference between a Cocker and a Field was one of weight. Under 25 pounds: a Cocker; over: a Field. The common saying was ‘before breakfast a Cocker, and after breakfast a Field.’ ”

As his popularity soared with the exhibition fancy and with hunters, the two groups’ diverse breeding goals changed him from a versatile, compactly athletic all-rounder to a uniquely exaggerated, heavy-coated, low-to-the-ground, slow-moving, massive-headed spaniel.

According to the style of the day, hunters wanted a dog who would not outpace them in the field, but who would boast a precision tracking nose. So they loaded the medium-sized Field Spaniel’s gene pool with more muscular, heavier-boned, lower-slung, avid trailing breeds such as the Sussex and Clumber spaniels—and even the Basset Hound! Breeders, attempting to make his head more rectangular and his eyes larger and more soulful, added a dash of Irish Water Spaniel.

Breeders’ mixed goals for his form and function



ALL BREED SHOW & MORE



ALBANY KENNEL CLUB

**LEAF PEEPERS CLUSTER
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produced exaggerated conformation and a loss of hunting stamina. The early 1900s saw a much-changed Field Spaniel, who no longer appealed to show ring fanciers, to working hunters, or to pet owners who had loved him when he was more true to spaniel type. In *The Field Spaniel: A Complete and Reliable Handbook*, Becki Jo Hirschy, herself a Field Spaniel breeder and trainer, explains that the breed had been re-created to the point that a writer of the late 1800s likened him to “a cucumber or a caterpillar.”

A RETURN TO TYPE

After a long period away from the spotlight, the Field Spaniel began his comeback in the mid-1950s, guided by a few breeders who remembered what he had looked like in the late 1800s. Insightful breeders resolved to rebuild him with a form that would regain his once admired function as hunting dog and handsome companion.

Rachal Sager (of Seaclaed Kennel), who has handled over 75 AKC breeds since 1980 and who piloted Field Spaniel Ch. Winterose Dustin Windstorm to number-one Field Spaniel, all systems, in 1996, says, “Looking back many generations into the earliest Field Spaniel pedigrees, you find three British outcrossings to English Springer Spaniels: L’ileRosebud (bitch, 1928), Dismal Desmond (dog, 1934), and

the last Springer outcross, to black-tri-color dog Ch. Whaddon Chase Duke, in 1957.” The English Springer Spaniel was crossbred to the Field Spaniel in an effort to reclaim height, a firm topline, strong, straight fronts, and tireless athletic movement in the field.

While today’s Field Spaniel thanks the taller, less densely muscular Springer for giving him back a bit of leg height and athletic prowess, judges are careful to point out conformation departures from the Springer. Judge, breeder, and chair of the Field Spaniel judges’ education committee Nancy Clendenen asks, “Does it look like a Field Spaniel and not some other breed, particularly an English Springer in liver or black drag?”

Judges recognize a picture of a highborn, majestic, noble dog as painted by the Field Spaniel’s standard. The standard focuses on the “character and nobility” of the head. Breeder Michael Faulkner, judge of the Field Spaniel national in 1996 and 2003, agrees with Peggy Grayson, author of *History and Management of the Field Spaniel*: “The one sure way of telling the spaniel varieties from one another is to look at their heads. Heads set type, for without the correct head you have not got that particular variety of spaniel. Field heads should be quite distinctive from all other spaniel heads.”

NOTE FROM THE EDITOR

Hello to my fellow members!

First of all hello to all our new members! If you have any proud, or even funny, moments with your dogs please send me a write up and a photo to get featured in our brags in the newsletter! This goes for our long time members as well!

Remain *paws-itive*!
Calley

