



# The Lancaster Kennel Club

## *- Newsletter -*

### **President's Message:**

A little leprechaun told me that the RED ROSE Classic was a resounding success! Congratulations to Debby Bush and Mary Hartman for a job well done! I also want to send out a HUGE THANK YOU to all of those who volunteered to help out – whether it was in Obedience/Rally, the Conformation show, parking/gate and clean up. The leprechaun also told me that Deb Eckert masterfully recycled some of our old trophies which turned out beautifully! Congratulations are also sent out to Deb Eckert for her “WINNING” efforts at Shop for a Cause – we had a blast again this year and want to thank everyone who came out to “chase down” those shoppers! The proceeds will go to Al and Pattie Means for the Red Rose K9 Search and Rescue’s acquisition of a new pup to replace Beamer!

Our next meeting is our Annual Awards Banquet and Election on June 11, 2014. We will again be holding it at the Conestoga Country Club on Stone Mill Road. Your BOD has selected a served dinner with two entrée options. Cost is \$25.00 per person – member or guest. You will need to make your entrée selection(s) by June 4. Please see the flyer later in the newsletter. I know Tammy Selka also sent out a reminder for those who earned awards – so I hope everyone has gotten their forms in to Eileen Bair. Tammy also anticipates having closing figures for the Celtic Classic at our June meeting.

Our future events are our club picnic in August at Amos Herr Park; our Match Show on August 31 at Chickies Rock Park Day Use; our Responsible Dog Ownership Day in conjunction with the Amos Herr Park Country Fair on September 21; and our two-day Agility Trial on September 27-28 at In the Net in Palmyra. Looks like a busy fall season with lots of fun activities for everyone. I’m looking forward to seeing everyone at the June 11<sup>th</sup> meeting.

Ann



*LANCASTER KENNEL CLUB  
AWARDS BANQUET & ELECTION*

*Wednesday, June 11, 2014  
6:00 P.M. COCKTAILS  
7:00 P.M. DINNER*

*\$25.00 per person  
Reservations by June 4, 2014*

*At*

*CONESTOGA COUNTRY CLUB  
1950 STONE MILL ROAD  
LANCASTER, PA 17603*

*MENU*

*International Cheese and Vegetable Hors d'Ouevres  
CHOICE OF Entrees: Beef Tenderloin in Cabernet  
mushroom sauce*

*OR*

*Chicken Oscar (chicken topped with asparagus,  
crab and hollandaise sauce)*

*Roasted Red Potatoes  
Green Beans and Carrots  
Rolls and Butter  
Assorted Cheese Cakes  
Coffee/Tea  
Cash Bar*

*Directions: From PA Route 283 East or West - Take PA Route 741  
Exit. Turn South on McGovernville Road. Proceed approx. . 2 miles  
to Columbia Avenue (PA Route 462) Turn Left (east) go to third stop  
light at Stone Mill Road and turn right (south). Follow Stone Mill  
Road for approximately one mile to Conestoga Country Club on the  
left.*

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*Name(s):*

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*Entrée Selection(2)                      Chicken Oscar -----*  
*Beef Tenderloin -----*

*Enclosed is: ----- for ----- (no.) of*  
*dinners (Payable to LKC)*

*Please make reservation by June 4, 2014 to:*

*Ann Byrne*  
*1625 Ridgeview Avenue*  
*Lancaster, PA 17603-*  
*4511*  
*717.393.6700 or*  
*plhbyrne@verizon.net*



----- 2014 I

Nominees are as follows;

Officers – President – Ann Byrne

Vice-President – Tammy Selka

Secretary – Gail Hillard

Treasurer - Kim Hess

Members at Large (Board of Directors) – (2 positions to fill)

Deb Radanovic

Jim Bullit

Joy Ellwanger

Mary Hartman

Mary Lou Strayer

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**Resumes submitted for the upcoming LKC Election will be available  
at the Awards Banquet, prior to the election.**

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### **Co-Editor's Message:**

Thanks again, to each of you for your submissions and thoughts for this edition of our LKC Newsletter. Thanks to Co-Editors RainBear Mahoney and Bradley Frisbee for their inputs and support. Remember to send us interesting articles you feel your fellow club members might enjoy, show brags, and any suggestions for our upcoming issues. Remember ... we have a new edition to the Newsletter our "LKC Activity Calendar", (seen below). We will include all upcoming LKC Events for the two month period between newsletters in the calendar. We will also add any interesting events in the area that might be deemed important to our membership. PLEASE send in any events, (eye clinics, match shows, specialty events being held in this area, etc), with the name/location/date of the event. Wishing each of you a safe and enjoyable upcoming Memorial Day (Memorial Day is a day for remembering and honoring military personnel who died in the service of their country, particularly those who died in battle or as a result of wounds

sustained in battle). May each and every one of these military members and their families be blessed and remembered fondly! As always, I'll be seeing you at our upcoming 2014 Events!  
Barry

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A full listing of show events can be found at

1. AKC <http://www.akc.org/events/search/index.cfm>
2. Rau Dog Shows <http://www.raudogshows.com>
3. MBF <http://www.infodog.com>

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**Treasurer's Report:** - The Treasurer reports will continue to be in the Members Only area of our website.

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### 2014 Schedule of Events

#### **JUNE 2014      LKC Activities**

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1	2	3	4	5	6	6
8	9	10	11 Awards Banquet 6 pm		13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					

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**Secretary's Reports:**

**\*\*\*\*\* Both Secretary's Reports for the General and BOD Meetings \*\*\*\*\***

**\*\*\*\*\* will be included in our next LKC Newsletter \*\*\*\*\***

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**JULY 2014      LKC Activities**

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		1	2	3	4	5
4	5 BOD 7PM LIEDERKRANZ	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

\*\*\*\*\* **HOMEMADE WEED KILLER** \*\*\*\*\*

.....  
3 gallons for around \$4.00 (Worked better than Round Up - killed the weeds/stray grass on first application). One gallon of APPLE CIDER VINEGAR, 1/2 c table salt, 1 tsp Dawn. Mix and pour into a smaller spray bottle.  
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## EVENT BRAGS

Barry Brunner's Siberian Huskies, "Kaz" (CH Barynuk's Hawt Ice CA), and litter sister "Vanna" (CH Barynuk's Ice Ice Baby CA) ... both finished their first level CABT Coursing Ability Test (CA).  
"Luna", CH Barynuk's Lunar Eclipse of Shamrock-Poli CAA, also finished her Championship and earned her 2<sup>nd</sup> level CABT Coursing Ability Test (CAA). Kudos to Judy/Dale/and Stan Kramarich for the very special care and handling of Kaz, Vanna, and Luna !!





Event Brags – cont.

**CH Barynuk's Lunar Eclipse of Shamrock-Poli CAA**



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**Debby and Jim Bush's Tibetan Spaniel (Epic's Don't Stop Believin).** won **Best of Breed** - from the **Bred By Exhibitor** class - over Specials- at the Mattaponi Kennel Club on Saturday, May 17, 2014 in Manassas, Virginia for a 5 point major at the tender age of 1 year and 16 days!!!! **Epic's Roadhouse Bouncer** - took **Select** - for 4 more points toward his Grand Championship.  
**Congratulations Debby and Jim !!!**

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**Rainbear and Tom Mahoney's Standard Poodle (Barcole Rock Me Amadaus), DaVinci, at 11 months won WD at Mattaponi Kennel Club - Sunday 05/18/14**

Expertly handled by Paul Clas and Crystal Murray

**JUDGE:** [Mrs. Sari Brewster Tietjen](#)

Shown below with Judge Ms. Sue S. Woodle



**New AKC Event Allows ALL Dogs to Discover Fun of Lure Coursing**

Dog sports photographer Jackie Phillips often brings her dogs with her on assignments for company – not for action.

But a suggestion at a lure coursing event changed that and turned Phillips on to a new hobby with her mixed-breed companions.

"After the event, they were having practices, and one of the people running the event suggested I bring out Dino and see if he would chase the lure. I had absolutely no idea what Dino would do so I brought him out and he chased the lure partially around the big field."

Phillips began seeking opportunities to let her dogs experience lure coursing and found they all loved the activity.

"Now each time Dino sees the lure, and knows he is going to run, he is absolutely bonkers. He is barking up a storm and jumping around and extremely excited."

Phillips discovered what many other dog owners have also uncovered: their dogs' natural prey drive gives them the love of chasing a lure – regardless of their breed or mix of breeds.





Jackie Phillips' mixed-breed, Rusty, speeds ahead in a non-AKC all-breed lure coursing event. Now Rusty plans to pursue the new AKC CA title. Dogs run alone in the AKC test. (J Bagby Photography)

The American Kennel Club recently created a new event that allows all dogs to discover the excitement of lure coursing.

"The Coursing Ability Test can provide a wonderful community outreach opportunity, an enjoyable experience for dogs and owners and a way to expose a wider audience to the sport," said AKC's AVP of Performance Events Doug Ljungren. "Most dogs will chase a lure and have fun in the process."

The Coursing Ability Test (CAT) is for any dog of any breed, including mixed-breeds, as long as it is at least 1 year old and individually registered or listed with AKC.

To pass the test, a dog running alone must pursue a lure, completing the course with enthusiasm and without interruption within a given time.

Dogs that pass the CAT three times will earn a Coursing Ability (CA) title. Ten passes and a dog earns a Coursing Ability Advanced (CAA) title, and 25 passes results in a Coursing Ability Excellent (CAX) title.

Licensed lure coursing clubs may hold CATs in conjunction with a licensed lure coursing trial or as a standalone event.

The first Coursing Ability Tests debuted with five days of action from Feb. 23 to 27 in Calhoun, Ga., in conjunction with lure coursing trials hosted by the Bluegrass Coursing Club and the Greyhound Association of North Georgia.

There were 158 CAT entries over the five days with a 75 percent qualification rate.

"Many of the participants had not been to a lure coursing event. They arrived early and enjoyed watching the sighthounds run. When it was their turn, they cheered for each other and basically had a wonderful time," said Les Pekarski, president of Greyhound Association of North Georgia.

"It was great fun watching such a variety of dogs try their hand at coursing - what a positive activity for the sport, the club and all the new participants."

Twenty-eight different breeds competed in the tests, and several earned CA titles.

Nine dogs became the first to earn the CA title on Feb. 25, including the first mixed-breed dog. He is Charlie, a Siberian Husky-Whippet mix, owned by Jan Curry of Columbia, Ky.

Kate Corum of Georgia brought her mixed-breed dog, Vito, to try coursing and admits she was surprised at how welcomed they were at the event. "I was amazed at how friendly and helpful the lure coursing people were," she said. "The only one worried about my mixed breed dog being here was me."

Another mixed-breed dog taking home a qualifying ribbon was Millie, who raced around the course and had no problems passing. Her owner, Bob Keller of Clearwater, Fla., is vice president of the Upper Suncoast Dog Training Club and said his club is always looking for additional activities, like the CAT, that will attract new members.

After first witnessing Dino chasing the lure, Phillips became so interested in coursing that she formed her own all-breed lure coursing club in northern California where she resides. She said she is thrilled AKC is allowing non-sighthounds to title in the sport. Not only is coursing fun, it offers many other benefits ranging from exercise to a remedy for boredom.

"So many times, people get a dog as a cute fluffy puppy, play with him or her and then, as the dog gets older and stronger and more demanding of their time, the dog spends more and more time in the backyard. As the dog gets older, it starts to go nuts," Phillips said. "Lure coursing gives these people and dogs an event where they can spend time together and have fun, and the dog can get the exercise it needs, all with very little training."

AKC Coursing Ability Tests do not require dogs to run as far as dogs in lure coursing trials.

They also do not have to execute extreme turns, with no turn being more acute than 90 degrees. Dogs under 12-inches at the withers have a course of approximately 300 yards. Dogs more than 12 inches at the withers race approximately 600 yards. The 600-yard course must be completed within 2 minutes and the 300-yard course within 1½ minutes.

Lure coursing often requires no training. Many dogs see the lure move and immediately want to chase it, Phillips said.

"Some dogs need some practice and some coaxing, but eventually, with repetition they will get it," she said. "If your dog has already displayed a pretty strong prey drive by being attracted to squirrels or wild birds or other small animals, their chances of liking the lure are higher."

For those of you who plan to give the test a try with your dog, Phillips offers the following tips:

- Make sure that your dog is physically healthy and in good shape to run a course. If you are not sure, make an appointment with a veterinarian to get an opinion.
- Take your dog to a practice to introduce your dog to the lure or make your own lure for practice. "If you cannot get to a practice, you can try to play tug with your dog with a plastic bag or another type of lure pole. This is similar to what is used to play with a cat, but on a dog level. You can get a type of plastic lure and attach it to a springing pole and have your dog practice chasing it around your yard or a nearby park, on leash, or course."
- For the test, bring lots of fresh water, a strong, soft leash, and maybe a portable crate if the lure field is a long ways from the car.
- Handlers should wear comfortable shoes and be physically able to hold and release their dogs, as well as catch them.
- Teach your dog the command "come." "If you don't have control over the dog when it is just laying around the house and not fully aroused, you will have a heck of a time trying to catch them when they are super excited about the lure and running loose."

**Upcoming CAT events, as well as a description of the test and the regulations governing the event can be found on the [AKC website](#).**

## Dogs Are People, Too.

The New York Times Sunday Review Opinion Pages

<http://www.nytimes.com/2013/10/06/opinion/sunday/dogs-are-people-too.html?pagewanted=all>

FOR the past two years, my colleagues and I have been training dogs to go in an M.R.I. scanner — completely awake and unrestrained. Our goal has been to determine how dogs' brains work and, even more important, what they think of us humans.

Now, after training and scanning a dozen dogs, my one inescapable conclusion is this: dogs are people, too.

Because dogs can't speak, scientists have relied on behavioral observations to infer what dogs are thinking. It is a tricky business. You can't ask a dog why he does something. And you certainly can't ask him how he feels. The prospect of ferreting out animal emotions scares many scientists. After all, animal research is big business. It has been easy to sidestep the difficult questions about animal sentience and emotions because they have been unanswerable.

Until now.

By looking directly at their brains and bypassing the constraints of behaviorism, M.R.I.'s can tell us about dogs' internal states. M.R.I.'s are conducted in loud, confined spaces. People don't like them, and you have to hold absolutely still during the procedure. Conventional veterinary practice says you have to anesthetize animals so they don't move during a scan. But you can't study brain function in an anesthetized animal. At least not anything interesting like perception or emotion.

From the beginning, we treated the dogs as persons. We had a consent form, which was modeled after a child's consent form but signed by the dog's owner. We emphasized that participation was voluntary, and that the dog had the right to quit the study. We used only positive training methods. No sedation. No restraints. If the dogs didn't want to be in the M.R.I. scanner, they could leave. Same as any human volunteer.

My dog Callie was the first. Rescued from a shelter, Callie was a skinny black terrier mix, what is called a feist in the southern Appalachians, from where she came. True to her roots, she preferred hunting squirrels and rabbits in the backyard to curling up in my lap. She had a natural inquisitiveness, which probably landed her in the shelter in the first place, but also made training a breeze.

With the help of my friend Mark Spivak, a dog trainer, we started teaching Callie to go into an M.R.I. simulator that I built in my living room. She learned to walk up steps into a tube, place her head in a custom-fitted chin rest, and hold rock-still for periods of up to 30 seconds. Oh, and she had to learn to wear earmuffs to protect her sensitive hearing from the 95 decibels of noise the scanner makes.

After months of training and some trial-and-error at the real M.R.I. scanner, we were rewarded with the first maps of brain activity. For our first tests, we measured Callie's brain response to two hand signals in the scanner. In later experiments, not yet published, we determined which parts of her brain distinguished the scents of familiar and unfamiliar dogs and humans.

Soon, the local dog community learned of our quest to determine what dogs are thinking. Within a year, we had assembled a team of a dozen dogs who were all "M.R.I.-certified."

Although we are just beginning to answer basic questions about the canine brain, we cannot ignore the striking similarity between dogs and humans in both the structure and function of a key brain region: the caudate nucleus.

Rich in dopamine receptors, the caudate sits between the brainstem and the cortex. In humans, the caudate plays a key role in the anticipation of things we enjoy, like food, love and money. But can we flip this association around and infer what a person is thinking just by measuring caudate activity? Because of the overwhelming complexity of how different parts of the brain are connected to one another, it is not usually possible to pin a single cognitive function or emotion to a single brain region.

But the caudate may be an exception. Specific parts of the caudate stand out for their consistent activation to many things that humans enjoy. Caudate activation is so consistent that under the right circumstances, it can predict our preferences for food, music and even beauty.

In dogs, we found that activity in the caudate increased in response to hand signals indicating food. The caudate also activated to the smells of familiar humans. And in preliminary tests, it activated to the return of an owner who had momentarily stepped out of view. Do these findings prove that dogs love us? Not quite. But many of the same things that activate the human caudate, which are associated with positive emotions, also activate the dog caudate. Neuroscientists call this a functional homology, and it may be an indication of canine emotions.

The ability to experience positive emotions, like love and attachment, would mean that dogs have a level of sentience comparable to that of a human child. And this ability suggests a rethinking of how we treat dogs.

DOGS have long been considered property. Though the Animal Welfare Act of 1966 and state laws raised the bar for the treatment of animals, they solidified the view that animals are things — objects that can be disposed of as long as reasonable care is taken to minimize their suffering.

## (Dogs Are People, Too) Cont.

But now, by using the M.R.I. to push away the limitations of behaviorism, we can no longer hide from the evidence. Dogs, and probably many other animals (especially our closest primate relatives), seem to have emotions just like us. And this means we must reconsider their treatment as property.

One alternative is a sort of limited personhood for animals that show neurobiological evidence of positive emotions. Many rescue groups already use the label of “guardian” to describe human caregivers, binding the human to his ward with an implicit responsibility to care for her. Failure to act as a good guardian runs the risk of having the dog placed elsewhere. But there are no laws that cover animals as wards, so the patchwork of rescue groups that operate under a guardianship model have little legal foundation to protect the animals’ interest.

If we went a step further and granted dogs rights of personhood, they would be afforded additional protection against exploitation. Puppy mills, laboratory dogs and dog racing would be banned for violating the basic right of self-determination of a person.

I suspect that society is many years away from considering dogs as persons. However, recent rulings by the Supreme Court have included neuroscientific findings that open the door to such a possibility. In two cases, the court ruled that juvenile offenders could not be sentenced to life imprisonment without the possibility of parole. As part of the rulings, the court cited brain-imaging evidence that the human brain was not mature in adolescence. Although this case has nothing to do with dog sentience, the justices opened the door for neuroscience in the courtroom.

Perhaps someday we may see a case arguing for a dog’s rights based on brain-imaging findings.

*Gregory Berns is a professor of neuroeconomics at Emory University and the author of “How Dogs Love Us: A Neuroscientist and His Adopted Dog Decode the Canine Brain.”*

## Getting Started as a Responsible Breeder - American Kennel Club

([http://www.akc.org/breeders/resp\\_breeding/Articles/breeder.cfm](http://www.akc.org/breeders/resp_breeding/Articles/breeder.cfm))

The AKC welcomes responsible breeders to the world of purebred dogs. Breeding involves art, science and total devotion. It will show you the best in the human-canine bond ... and the result of absolute commitment by responsible breeders. What are the hallmarks of a truly responsible breeder?

### A Responsible Breeder is Always a Student

Responsible breeders seek to improve their breeds with every litter. To reach this goal, they must devote hours to continually learning as much as they can about their breeds, including health and genetic concerns, temperament, appearance and type. They also need to know about general dog behavior, training and health care. In short, they become canine experts.

How can you acquire this expertise?

### Become involved with Dog Clubs

Each AKC-recognized breed has a national club (or "parent" club), and there are thousands of local clubs devoted to individual breeds. (Local clubs are also called "specialty" clubs.) There are thousands of other clubs across the country, including all-breed clubs and clubs devoted to obedience, tracking or performance events. Most clubs sponsor educational programs and events that will help you increase your knowledge. For lists of parent clubs and specialty clubs in your area, please visit our [club search page](#).

### Study your Breed Standard

The breed standard is the official guide by which dogs are judged at dog shows. Each breed of dog recognized by the AKC has its own standard (written by the parent club). The standard may specify everything from the curvature of a dog's tail to the color of its eyes. You can obtain a copy of your dog's breed standard and order breed-specific educational videos from the AKC. Many parent clubs offer more detailed information on the standard, such as amplifications and illustrated standards.

### Attend Dog Events

Dog shows, obedience trials and performance events provide the opportunity to observe purebreds in action. You can learn about different lines by viewing real dogs and studying the pedigrees of those you like. Many people competing at dog shows are experienced breeders. Others are interested in the sport as a hobby. [Attending shows](#) can give you the chance to meet and learn from these experts.

### Read, Read, Read!

There are many books, magazines and websites available about every aspect of the dog experience. There are books devoted to individual breeds, groups of breeds, breeding and whelping, genetics, behavior and training and many more topics. The AKC publishes books such as *The Complete Dog Book* and *Dog Care and Training*, along with numerous videos.

The [AKC Gazette](#), which is published monthly, features breed-specific columns and articles on topics ranging from judging and evaluating breeding stock to training issues. Most parent clubs produce periodic publications, as do many local clubs.

Responsible breeders are familiar with AKC rules and regulations concerning the sale and registration of AKC-registrable dogs. Before you breed your dog, you should [contact the AKC](#) to verify that you have all the correct paperwork, understand how to register a litter, and are able to provide proper documentation to your buyers. To request AKC rules and regulations or order AKC publications, contact AKC Customer Service.

### A Responsible Breeder is Objective

Virtually every dog is the best in the world in the eyes of its owner. Responsible breeders have the ability to separate their love for their dog from an honest evaluation of its good and bad points. Why is a detached point of view necessary? Breeding is hard work. Every breeding is a carefully planned endeavor to produce a better dog. A good breeder recognizes a dog's flaws and finds a mate with characteristics that will help reduce or eliminate those flaws. So how can you honestly evaluate your dog as potential breeding stock?

Seek assistance from some of the best informational resources available - longtime breeders and the breeder of your dog. This person should have extensive knowledge of your dog's line and, like you, should want to see it continually improved.

An excellent way to develop an impartial eye is to test your dog against others. To see how well your dog conforms to the breed standard, get an assessment from an experienced breeder and dog fancier, and enter dog shows. Entering obedience and field tests and trials will allow you to measure your dog's intelligence and abilities. If your dog is a success in these events, you'll be more confident that breeding your dog will contribute to the betterment of its breed.

### A Responsible Breeder Conditions the Sire and Dam

Good puppies start long before their parents are bred. Both the sire and dam need constant care, or conditioning, to produce the best offspring. This means regular veterinary care, screening for genetic problems, pre-breeding health tests, regular exercise and good nutrition. It means consulting with a veterinarian or experienced breeder to ensure that you know how to meet the dam's (mother's) special nutritional needs while she is in whelp (pregnant).



## (Responsible Breeder) Cont.

It also means maintaining your dog's mental health. Stressed animals can experience fertility problems. Many breeders swear by the belief that the dam's temperament affects the puppies - good puppies come from good mothers. Consequently, they avoid breeding shy or unstable dogs.

### **A Responsible Breeder Nurtures the Puppies**

Preparing for puppies means building a proper nursery. A whelping box must be dry, very warm and draft-free. It should be big enough for the dam to be able to move about freely with sides that will safely contain the puppies.

The dam normally takes care of the puppies' needs the first few weeks of their lives. Of course, you should be prepared for unusual but serious situations, such as a dam with no milk or an orphaned litter. You will also need to provide additional food and water for the dam while she is nursing the puppies.

Once the puppies are weaned, they become much more active and require lots more work. You will need to oversee feeding to ensure each puppy gets adequate food. You will need to keep the towels or shredded newspaper lining the whelping box clean. The puppies will need their first round of shots, they may need grooming and they will definitely need plenty of playtime and opportunities for getting used to being around people. You may even want to start working with them on basic obedience commands to ease their transition to their new homes.

### **A Responsible Breeder Places Puppies Wisely**

As you can probably imagine, once it's time for the puppies to go to new homes, you've invested a lot of yourself in them. A difficult and important aspect of breeding is making sure your puppies go to owners who will provide loving and permanent homes.

The complete picture is important to responsible breeders. They make sure new puppy owners know what to expect, both the pros and the cons, from the furry little bundles they're taking home. If their particular breed requires extensive grooming, drools profusely, or can be difficult to train, responsible breeders will point that out. They will also provide all the necessary paperwork for new owners to register their dogs with the AKC, which will allow them to participate in the sport of purebred dogs.

Responsible breeders also know the right questions to ask prospective owners in order to get a feel for the type of home they'll provide. Some of these questions include:

- Why does the person or family want a dog?
- Who will be primarily responsible for the dog's care?
- Are there any children? If so, how old are they?
- Does anyone in the household have allergies?
- What is the potential owner's attitude toward training and obedience?
- How often is someone at home?
- Will they have time to walk and play with the dog?

If feasible, it's not unreasonable for a breeder to make a house call after the puppy has had time to settle in with its new family. Some breeders require dog buyers to sign contracts indicating the specific conditions of care.

Important qualities to look for in potential puppy owners are interest and inquisitiveness about you and the dogs you breed. A person or family truly committed to responsible dog ownership will want to learn about the breed and how to care for it.

### **A Responsible Breeder is Responsible for Life**

Now comes the best part of being a breeder. (No, it's not putting away the newspapers and puppy food.) It's having those great families you selected call you with news of puppy's first tooth, first veterinarian visit, first dog event, first win! It's getting letters. It's getting holiday cards. It's getting family portraits with your puppy (yes, it'll always be yours) smack in the middle. What's not to love about being a breeder at these times?

But now can come the worst part, too. It's the nice young couple who is divorcing and neither person can keep the dog. It's the distraught owner calling from the veterinarian with news of an unforeseen illness.

## (Responsible Breeder) Cont.

Responsible breeders are there for all situations - both good and bad. They know they were responsible for this puppy being born, so they are responsible for it until the day it dies. They are willing to provide guidance and answer as many questions as they are asked. They are always concerned about their puppies.

One breeder once said the most satisfying phone call she received came 14 years after she bred her first litter. The caller said one of "her" (the breeder's) dogs had died of old age. At that moment the breeder knew she was responsible for bringing years of the same kind of love and joy she experienced from her dogs into someone else's home. Ultimately, isn't that exactly why you want to breed your dog?

## 25 Cool Dog Facts

(Petfinder/<http://www.petfinder.com/dogs/bringing-a-dog-home/facts-about-new-dog/>)

There are hundreds of official dog breeds in the world and even more mixes and mutts than we can count. Each dog has his own unique set of characteristics and personality. But one thing is certain – these loveable and wonderful companions are fascinating creatures.

Check out some of these interesting and far-out facts about dogs.

**1. Is it a duck...or a dog?** The [Newfoundland breed](#) has a water resistant coat and webbed feet. This dog was bred to help haul nets for fishermen and rescuing people at risk of drowning.

**2. It pays to be a lap dog.** Three dogs (from First Class cabins!) survived the sinking of the Titanic – two [Pomeranians](#) and one [Pekingese](#).

Source: [Vetstreet](#)

**3. A Beatles hit.** It's rumored that, at the end of the Beatles song, "A Day in the Life," Paul McCartney recorded an ultrasonic whistle, audible only to dogs, just for his [Shetland sheepdog](#).

Source: [PBS](#)

**4. Wow, check out those choppers!** Puppies have 28 teeth and normal adult dogs have 42.

Source: [About.com](#)

**5. Chase that tail!** [Dogs chase their tails](#) for a variety of reasons: curiosity, exercise, anxiety, predatory instinct or, they might have fleas! If your dog is chasing his tail excessively, talk with your vet.

**6. Seeing spots? Or not...** [Dalmatian](#) puppies are pure white when they are born and develop their spots as they grow older.

Source: [Vetstreet](#)

**7. Dogs do dream!** Dogs and humans have the same type of slow wave sleep (SWS) and rapid eye movement (REM) and during this REM stage dogs can dream. The twitching and paw movements that occur during their sleep are signs that your pet is dreaming

Source: [Healthy Pet](#)

**8. No night vision goggles needed!** Dogs' eyes contain a special membrane, called the tapetum lucidum, which allows them to see in the dark.

Source: [Healthy Pet](#)

**9. Pitter patter.** A large breed dog's resting heart beats between 60 and 100 times per minute, and a small dog breed's heart beats between 100-140. Comparatively, a resting human heart beats 60-100 times per minute.

Sources: [About.com](#) and [Mayo Clinic](#)

## (25 Cool Dog Facts) Cont.

**10. If your dog's acting funny, get out the umbrella!** According to a [Petside.com/Associated Press poll](https://petside.com/associated-press-poll), 72% of dog owners believe their dog can detect when stormy weather is on the way.

**11. It's not a fever...**A dog's normal temperature is between 101 and 102.5 degrees Fahrenheit. How much do you know about dog health? Take our [Doggy First Aid Quiz!](#)

Source: [Web MD](#)

**12. Is something wet?** Unlike humans who sweat everywhere, dogs only sweat through the pads of their feet.

Source: [Healthy Pet](#)

**13. Here's looking at you.** Dogs have three eyelids, an upper lid, a lower lid and the third lid, called a nictitating membrane or "haw," which helps keep the eye moist and protected.

Source: [Whole Dog Journal](#)

**14. Americans love dogs!** 62% of U.S. households own a pet, which equates to 72.9 million homes

Source: [American Pet Products Association](#)

**15. Move over Rover!** 45% of dogs sleep in their owner's bed (we're pretty sure a large percentage also hogs the blankets!)

Source: [American Pet Products Association](#)

**16. Why are dogs' noses so wet?** Dogs' noses secrete a thin layer of mucous that helps them absorb scent. They then lick their noses to sample the scent through their mouth.

Source: [Vetstreet](#)

**17. Yummy!** Dogs have about 1,700 taste buds. Humans have approximately 9,000 and cats have around 473.

Source: [Psychology Today](#)

**18. Watch that plate of cookies!** A Dog's sense of smell is 10,000 – 100,000 times more acute as that of humans.

Source: [PBS](#)

**19. It's not so black and white.** It's a myth that dogs only see in black and white. In fact, it's believed that dogs see primarily in blue, greenish-yellow, yellow and various shades of gray.

Source: [About.com](#)

**20. Did you hear that?** Sound frequency is measured in Hertz (Hz). The higher the Hertz, the higher-pitched the sound. Dogs hear best at 8,000 Hz, while humans hear best at around 2,000 Hz.

Source: [Whole Dog Journal](#)

**21. Express yourself.** Dogs' ears are extremely expressive. It's no wonder! There are more than a dozen separate muscles that control a dog's ear movements.

Source: [Whole Dog Journal](#)

## (25 Cool Dog Facts) Cont.

**22. Growing up.** While the [Chow Chow](#) dogs are well known for their distinctive blue-black tongues, they're actually born with pink tongues. They turn blue-black at 8-10 weeks of age.

Source: [Vetstreet](#)

**23. Why do they do that?** When dogs kick after going to the bathroom, they are using the scent glands on their paws to further mark their territory.

Source: [Healthy Pet](#)

**24. No, it's not just to make themselves look adorable.** Dogs curl up in a ball when they sleep due to an age-old instinct to keep themselves warm and protect their abdomen and vital organs from predators.

Source: [Vetstreet](#)

**25. Breathe easy.** In addition to sweating through their paw pads, dogs pant to cool themselves off. A panting dog can take 300-400 breaths (compared to his regular 30-40) with very little effort.

Source: [Vetstreet](#)