

# The Hounds' Bugle





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THE HOUNDS' BUGLE

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October 1975

Vol. 2, No. 2

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Officers October 1975

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Nancy Aiken President  
Bruce Cromer Vice President  
John Hays Treasurer  
Carol Gabriel Secretary

Board of Directors: Ron Henson, Debra Locke,  
Mary Major, Betty Moore, Janet Souza

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THE HOUNDS' BUGLE  
STAFF

B. E. Shaw-Ed.  
1678 Heidelberg Drive  
Livermore, Ca.

Linda Leap  
Assoc. Ed.  
2234 Shetland R.  
Livermore, Ca.

Kelly Cromer  
Conformation News  
967 Anza  
Pacifica, Ca.

Betty Moore Obedience News  
839 Topper Lane, Lafayette, Ca.

\*\*\*\*\*  
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Items appearing in the BUGLE are not necessarily the views of the editors or the NCIWC. Editors reserve the right to refuse publication of any items submitted.



BARBARA SHAW 1975

2.

# Editor's Corner

Dear Readers,

The following letter came to me regarding the NCIWC, and I thought you might be pleased upon reading it yourselves.

Gentlemen:

We recently had an inquiry about your Association, or rather if there existed a Wolfe Hound Association.

Mr. James O'Donnell of Irish Airlines kindly gave us the information to pass on to the inquirer.

Perhaps you would like to exchange subscriptions with our Irish Herald newspaper now in its 13th year, and published monthly.

Also we will be glad to receive information about your organization or do a story in our paper one of these issues.

Sincerely,

John Whooley  
Editor, Irish Herald

I have corresponded with Mr. Whooley and hope to have more news for you next issue.

I would also like to apologize to two members of our club for errors in the August issue. Janet Souza is still an officer on our Board of Directors, and Major Acres Red Warrior, BOS at our club fun match-puppies, lives with his friends the Rockwells of San Francisco and not with the Roberts as printed.

Sincerely,  
B. E. Shaw, Ed.

NCIWC MEMBERSHIP

3.

Dona Aiken  
3207 Hilltop Drive  
Ventura, Ca. 93003

James Fitzgerald  
2254 40th Avenue  
San Francisco, Ca.  
94116

Nancy King Aiken  
191 Miramontes Rd.  
Woodside, Ca. 94062

Ken and Garol Gabriel  
110 Mabry Way  
San Rafael, Ca. 94903

Mallery & Karen Aiken  
7432 Claire St.  
Reseda, Ca. 90335

Bonnie Graham  
344 Paul St.  
Salinas, Ca. 93901

Jeanne Blanchette  
191 Miramontes Rd.  
Woodside, Ca. 94062

Steve & Debra  
Greenfield  
17937 So. Forsythe Rd.  
Oregon City, Or. 97045

Leslie & Heather  
Burke  
267 Dalewood Way  
San Francisco, Ca.  
94127

Connie Haack  
5067 N. Mariposa  
Fresno, Ca. 93710

Bruce & Kelly Cromer  
967 Anza Drive  
Pacifica, Ca. 94044

John & Belle Hays  
Box 131  
Comptche, Ca. 95427

John E. Crowley  
2330 West Ave. 135th  
San Leandro, Ca. 94577

Ron & Jan Henson  
240 Marble Drive  
Antioch, Ca. 94509

Pamela H. Dorin  
1356 Cloud Ave.  
Menlo Park, Ca. 95005

John & Audrey Keane  
566 Panoramic Hgwy.  
Mill Valley, Ca. 94941

Michael & Pauline  
Doyle  
287 Hubbard Gulch Rd.  
Ben Lomond, Ca. 95005

Newell & Jessie  
Kelley  
9325 S.W. Hall Blvd.  
Portland, Or. 97223

Coraline Engert  
1130 Butler Ave.  
Santa Rosa, Ca. 95401

Gabiell Kent  
13356 Skyline Blvd.  
Woodside, Ca. 94062

4. Yvonne Ericksen  
2150 Valdez St. #970  
Oakland, Ca. 94612

Linda Leap  
2234 Shetland Rd.  
Livermore, Ca. 94550

Ruth Loesch  
2705 Clipper Lane  
Lakeport, Ca. 95453

Frances Messinger  
RDF Box N-14  
Del Mar, Ca. 92014

Lundi & Lore Moore  
17410 Lakeview Dr.  
Morgan Hill, Ca. 95037

James & Mary O'Donnell  
2056 Feliz Rd.  
Novato, Ca. 94947

A. L. Pete & Debbie  
Peterson  
15595 Dakota Ave.  
Apple Valley, Ca 92307

Sue Roberts  
48201 Purpleleaf St.  
Fremont, Ca. 94538

Greg & Barbara Shaw  
1678 Heidelberg Dr.  
Livermore, Ca. 94550

Clifford & Janet Souza  
762 Buena Vista  
Moss Beach, Ca. 94038

Ann Sweeney  
19826 Alana Rd.  
Castro Valley, Ca.  
94546

Pamela Wigney-Kovach  
620 Comet Drive #E-105  
Foster City, Ca. 94404

Jim & Debbie Locke  
8327 Ferncliff Ct.  
Dublin, Ca. 94566

Harold & Mary Major  
1130 Butler Ave.  
Santa Rosa, Ca. 95401

Boardman & Betty Moore  
839 Topper Lane  
Lafayette, Ca. 94549

Eugene Northcott  
2420 N. California St.  
Stockton, Ca. 95204

John & Judith Pence  
Box 1058  
Los Altos, Ca 94022

Mr. & Mrs. Rockwell  
1 Belmont Avenue  
San Francisco, Ca. 94117

Harry & Helen Russell  
2442 El Lujo Way  
Rancho Cordova, Ca  
95670

Erwin & Joan Rodemsky  
3251 United Dr.  
Cameron Park, Shingle  
Springs, Ca. 95682

Larry & Tony Souza  
14537 Wyrick Avenue  
San Jose, Ca. 95124

Agnes Tara  
1005 Wagon Rd.  
Sebastopol, Ca. 95472

Dr. & Mrs. Thoreson  
Route 2-Box 512  
Estacada, Or. 97023

Gordon & Suzanne<sup>5.</sup>  
Turnage  
14451 Penitencia  
Creek Rd., San Jose  
95132

Stanley & Jane Wandruff  
11495 Green Valley Rd.  
Sebastopol, Ca. 95472

Curt Wood  
1953 Parkside Dr.  
Walnut Creek, Ca.  
94596

Tami Zeleny  
1130 Butler Ave.  
Santa Rosa, Ca. 95401

Linda Cohee  
POBox 374  
Grass Valley, Ca.  
95945

Linda McKinney  
Charles Engel  
1565 Riviera Ave.  
Walnut Creek, Ca. 94596

James & Priscilla  
Ward  
Quarters C593 Hospital  
NAS Memphis  
Millington, Tn. 38053

THE HOUNDS' BUGLE

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to THE HOUNDS' BUGLE.*

6.



# Timberlane Kennels Irish Wolfhounds

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NCIWC members who wish to contribute to the BUGLE, desire a copy of the NCIWC Constitution, or want minutes of the meetings may send their requests to the editor or secretary.

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# 8. Roving

## BAD BREATH

Get some Scope??

SAN DIEGO COUNTY VET-  
ERINARY MED. ASSOC.

It may be caused by digestive or metabolic disorders and acute or chronic infections of the respiratory tract. (mouth, throat, etc.)

However, in an otherwise healthy dog with no obvious discharge and the absence of a cough or a gag or sneeze, the most common cause is decay, caries, abscesses, or tartar of the teeth and/or an accumulation of foodstuffs between malformed teeth. Your Vet should be consulted as all of the causes are potentially serious.

simply have to come to the house and see it. Reluctantly he went to the house, examined the dog and said that there was nothing unusual, the dog was merely pregnant and about to have a litter. "But that can't be," the owner protested. "She has never been out of house." The Vet persisted that then a male must have gotten in, but the lady insisted that not only had her dog never been out, but no other dog had ever been in. Just then a large male dog strolled across the room. "And what is that?" asked the Vet. The woman answered, "Oh don't be silly, that's her brother!" 

## A SEXY STORY from RING ROPES.....

Receiving a frantic call from a spinster that her little dog was acting very strangely, the Vet tried to have her bring it in, but the lady refused completely, saying the trip would upset the dog. The Vet would very

## S N E E Z E

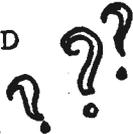


SAN FRAN. CHRON.

A Cincinnati Veterinarian specializing in dermatological disorders, Dr. Dr. Pat Breen, reports that far more dogs than cats suffer from allergic reactions. These reactions, he says, normally cause

dogs to scratch a great deal, and are triggered by such common substances as pollens, molds, wool and plastics.

## DISPELING MYTHS ABOUT SPAYING AND NEUTERING



San Jose Mercury..

America's 100 million dog and cats increase by nearly 6,000 animals per hr. Strays comprise a half or at least 80 per cent are destroyed and nearly 4,000 animals monthly must be suffocated by the Santa Clara Valley Humane Society because there is no place to keep them.

Surgical sterilization is the only sure answer, according to Dr. Bruce Cammack.

...Spaying and neutering is a simple procedure, and it improves the overall health and life span of the animal. But misconceptions that surround the surgery keep many people from taking the step for their pets.

The first myth is spaying a dog will alter her personality.

This is not true. Spaying will curb the wandering, nervous, fretful and high strung behavior of the animal in heat. No other change occurs.

Spaying will not result in her becoming fat and lazy. Over-feeding and lack of exercise only cause this. Nor will this happen to the carefully fed and excercised neutered male.

Copulation is not necessary for an animal's mental and physical health.

On the contrary, Cammack noted that many disorders of the reproductive system often occur in male or female animals not undergoing spaying or neutering. Other ailments can arrive by hormonal aggravation of the animal's system when not altered.

Spaying will stop males from congregating when a bitch is in season.

Finally, you need not wait until after the female's first heat for spaying; the best time is 6 mo.

## NCIWC BOARD MEETING

8-8-75

Held at the Marin County Human Society

The meeting was called to order by our President, Nancy Aiken. Board members present included Carol Gabriel, Betty Moore, Ron Henson, Bruce Cromer and John Hays. Several Club members listened in on the meeting.

Minutes of the last meeting were approved. John Hays, Treasurer, gave his report. It will be published in the BUGLE along with these minutes.

Nancy Aiken requested our approval of the following Advisory Committee

Chairmen:

Recruitment of and Help with membership-

Jan Henson

Rescue and welfare of I.Ws.-Stan Wandruff

Money making ideas-Mary Major

Lure, ASFA-Suzanne Turnage

Open Field-Ann Sweeney

Education and Nomination-Debbie Locke

Obedience-Betty Moore

Fun Matches (2 of them)-Bruce Cromer

Constitution and Parliamentary

procedures-Kelly Cromer

Program organization (6 of them)-Janet

Souza

Editor of BUGLE-Barbara Shaw

Editor of YEAR BOOK (Photo)-Belle Hays

Irish Wolfhound Information Book-Gor-

dan Turnage

The above chairmen are to submit a budget for the upcoming year to the Board at our next meeting which will be in September. Nancy also mentioned the possibility of setting all dates

for an annual calendar to be complete by the beginning of the year. Any changes of the above chairmen must be approved by the Board.

It was decided that any change in the Constitution to be voted on will be submitted at one Board Meeting and voted on at the next. These changes will be mailed in writing to all voting members; first to the Board, then to all general membership.

The Board agreed to send \$25.00 for another year's membership in the American Dog Owner's Association. Ron Henson made a motion that our Bugle Editor, Barbara Shaw, be our delgate to the ADOA. Seconded by Carol Gabriel. Carried. Carol will write a letter notifying them of the change.

The lure machine was in dire need of some new parts to replace those broken during lure courses. It was agreed to reimburse Bruce Cromer the amount necessary to get the machine in good running order.

Discussion was held as to whether to send the minutes out with the meeting notices or to include them in the BUGLE. It was decided to include them in the BUGLE. The treasurer's report will also be included.

Nancy presented Biscuit Awards to the following members: Mary Major, Carol Gabriel, Coraline Engert, Greg Shaw, Gordon and Suzanne Turnage, Janet Souza, Bruce and Kelly Cromer and Jim and Debbie Locke.

The Board Meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,  
Carol Gabriel-Sec.

# 12. SHOW BIZ

SOUTHERN OREGON KC 8-31-75

Judge; Robert Wills

BOB: Ch. Imperial Leprechaun's Paddy-Boucher

BOS: Ch. Fleetwind Roise of Ronor-Northcott

BOW, WD: Hale William of Humbolt Rector

WB: Tara of Heart G-Greenfield

RWD: Kelly Glen's Gaelic Harp-Kelley

RWB: Ballysheridan Gail-Peterka

EUGENE KC 9-1-75 Judge: M. Riddle

BOB: Ch. Peregrin Liam O'Keane-Cromer Group II

BOS: Ch. Fleetwind Roise of Ronor-Northcott

BOW, WD: Finians's Gold of Eilean-Craig-Finished Championship

WB: Sheila of Limerick-Morgon-Finished Championship

RWD: Hale William of Humboldt-Rector

RWB: Ballysheridan Gail-Peterka

UMPUA KC 9-2-75 Judge: C. Burg

BOB: Ch. Peregrin Liam O'Keane-Cromer

BOS: Ch. Fleetwind Roise of Ronor-Northcott

BOW, WB: Ballysheridan Gail-Peterka

WD: Lobo Ranger-O-Winamar-Douma

RWB: Garda Siocana Shillelagh-Coomer

LOMPOC VALLEY KC 9-6-75 Judge: R. Ward

BOB: Ch. Peregrin Liam O'Keane-Cromer Group II

BOS, WB: Viva's Pegeen O'Toole of Pern Cromer

BOW, WD: Forever Tomak of Baly-Bauchat

RWD: Canyon Creek San of Kilfane-Fischer

RWB: Berdot's Fagan of Je t'aime-Gutsch



SALINAS VALLEY KC 8-17-75 Judge: Derek Rayne

- BOB: Ch. Fleetwind Roise of Ronor-E. Northcott
- BOS: Ch. Peregrin Liam O'Keane  
K & B Cromer
- BOW, WD: Hale William of Humboldt  
B. Rector
- WB: Viva's Pegeen O'Toole of Pern  
K & B Cromer & P Rothwell
- RWD: Applearbor Dana of McCarty  
C&M Cupoli
- RWB: Major Acres Vixen - H & M Major

SILVER BAY KC 8-24-75 Judge; Mrs. Pat-terson

- BOB: Ch. Major Acres Via Bantry-Greby  
& Major
- BOS: Ch. Shanid Lord Faversham-Pilat
- BOW, WB: Viva's Pegeen O'Toole-Cromer  
& Rothwell
- WD: Galaxy's Rush of Glenmont-Voss
- RWB: Mo Scail Danna Ann-Miller

SHASTA KC 8-29-75 Judge: Mrs. N. Wal-lace

- BOB: Ch. Peregrin Liam O'Keane-Cromer
- BOS: Ch. Banvarragh of Major Acres-Major
- BOW, WD: Hale William of Humboldt-Rector
- WB: Major Acres Vixen-Major
- RWD: Finian's Gold of Eilean-Craig
- RWB: Ballysheridan Gail-R Peterka

KLAMATH DF 8-30-75 Judge: H. Huggins

- BOB: Ch. Banvarragh of Major Acres-Major
- BOS: Ch. Timberlane Sean Colin-Turnage
- BOW, WD: Finian's Gold of Eilean-Craig
- WB: Sheila of Limerick-P&C Morgan
- RWB: Barra Gwynn of Kent-N Aiken



14. CONEJO KC 9-7-75 Judge: Wm. Houpt  
BOB: Ch. Peregrin Liam O'Keane-Cromer  
BOS, WB: Viva's Pegeen O'Toole of Pern  
Cromer  
BOW, WD: Forever Tomak of Baly-Bauchat  
RWD: Canyon Creek San of Kilfane-Fischer  
RWB: Fraoch-Eilean's Mig O'Ta Gloaming-  
Skelton

SANTA CLARA VALLEY KC 9-7-75 Judge: Mrs.  
Cass  
BOB: Ch. Timberlane Sean Colin-Turnage  
BOS, WB: Applearbor Nancee of Clancy-  
BOW, WD: The Mac Intosh of Limerick-  
Souza  
RWD: Timberlane Giles Corey-Shaw  
RWB: Darianne of Tara Heights-Tara

EDEN KC 8-3-75 Judge: J. Mcmanus  
BOB: Ch. Fleetwind Roise of Ronor-  
Northcott  
BOS: Ch. Timberlane Sean Colin-  
Turnage  
BOW, WD: Timberlane Giles Corey-Shaw  
WB: Fraoch-Eilean's Mig O' Ta Gloaming  
Skelton  
RWD: Applearbor Dana of McCarty-Cupoli  
RWB: Major Acres' Rial Dhu-Moore & Major

SOUTH BAY KC 8-19-75 Judge: H. Felton  
BOB: Ch. Pergrin Liam O'Keane-Cromer  
BOS, WB: Viva's Pegeen O'Toole of Pern  
Cromer  
RWB: Tamarak Kelly Cullykilty-Knutson

SANTA CRUZ KC 8-16-75 Judge: C. Hamil-  
ton  
BOB: Ch. Pergrin Liam O'Keane-Cromer  
BOS; Ch. Fleetwind Roise of Ronor-Northcott  
BOW, WD: Hale William of Humboldt-Rector  
WB: Sheila of Limerick-Morgon  
RWD: Applearbor Dana of McCarty-Cupoli  
RWB: Timberlane Destiny-Turnage



CONTRA COSTA KC 6-8-75 Judge: Mrs. E.  
Silvernail

BOB: Ch. Fleetwind Roise of Ronor-  
Northcott

BOS: Ch. Shanid Lord Faversham-  
Pilat

BOW, WB: Shelia of Limerick-Morgan

WD: Hale William of Humboldt-Rector

RWD: Canyon Creek Shan-D, Mangus

RWB: Sandcastle's Ms. Daisy Kellancy-  
G & M Foor

ANTELOPE VALLEY KC 6-15-75 Judge: J.  
McManus

BOB: Ch. Peregrin Liam O'Keane-  
Cromer GROUP III

BOS: Ch. Garda Siocana Dublin Hearts-  
M Cohen & W Lindsey

BOW, WB: Viva's Pegeen O'Toole of  
Pern-Cromer & Rothwell

WD: Forever Tomak of Baly-Bauchat

RWB: Fleetwind Kildain of Tamarak-  
H&C Knutson

ORANGE EMPIRE KC 7-13-75 Judge: E.  
Bracy

BOB: Ch. Peregrin Liam O'Keane-Cromer

BOS: Mo Scail Danna Ann- Miller

BOW, WD: Finian's Gold of Eilean-Craig

RWD: Mo Scail Rusheen of Hill's End-  
R&E Riley & R&R Miller

RWB: Fraoch Eilean's Mig O Ta Gloaming-  
K&R Skelton

GOLDEN GATE KC

Ch. Peregrin Liam O'Keane  
GROUP III

## NOFCA HUNT SCHEDULE - 1975-76

Oct	25	NOFCA
	26	NOFCA
Nov	1	ASA Breed
	8	SCA Mixed
	9	SCA Breed
	15	NCWC Breed
		NCIWC Breed
	16	NCWC Mixed
	22	THGC Breed
	23	THGC Mixed
Dec	6	NCIWC Mixed
	7	NCIWC Breed
		WBCC Breed
	13	CGCA Mixed
	14	CGCA Breed
	20	H & H Mixed
	21	H & H Breed
		ASA Breed
	27	SCWA Mixed
	28	SCWA Breed
		HHC Breed
		WBCC Breed
Jan	3	THGC Breed
	4	THGC Mixed
	10	WBCC Mixed
	11	WBCC Breed
		SCA Breed
	17	NOFCA
	18	ASA Breed
		NCWC Breed
	24	CGCA Mixed
	25	CGCA Breed

Jan 31	H & H Breed
Feb 1	H & H Mixed
7	NCIWC Mixed
8	NCIWC Breed ASA Breed
14	NCWC Breed
15	NCWC Mixed WBCC Breed
21	NOFCA
22	NOFCA
28	ASA Mixed
29	ASA Breed
Mar 6	SCWA Mixed
7	SCWA Breed NCIWC Breed SCA Breed
20	GRAND COURSE
21	GRAND COURSE

17.

---

H & H - Afghan Hare & Hound - Mark Harvey  
437 Larkin Valley Road, Watsonville, CA

ASA - Amer. Saluki Assoc. - George Bell  
P.O. Box 306, Alpaugh, CA 93201

CGCA - Cal. Greyhound Coursing Assoc. - S. Jamieson  
1066 Alberdon Circle, Pinole, CA 94564

HHC - Highland Hunt Club (Scot. Drhd.) Dave Kingery  
4519 168th SE, Issaquah, WA 98027

NCIWC - N. Cal. Irish Wolfhound Club - Ann Sweeney  
19826 Alana Road, Castro Valley, CA 94546

NCWC - N. Cal. Whippet Club - Jim Parker  
2217 Newcastle Court, Fairfield, CA 94533

SCA - Saluki Coursing Assoc. - Chuck Gower  
P.O. Box 611, Orangevale, CA 95662

SCWA - S. Cal. Whippet Assoc. - Dave Burt  
1407 N. Bush, Santa Ana, CA

THGC - Talleyho Greyhound Club - Jane Bulman  
2230 Las Amigas Road, Napa, CA 94558

WBCC - Western Borzoi Coursing Club - John Skalbeck  
6500 Chestnut Ave., Orangevale, CA 95662

NOFCA SECRETARY-SUPERINTENDENT: Sally Bell  
P.O. Box 306  
Alpaugh, CA 93201

## CARE OF THE COURSING HOUND

Part II  
(Conditioning)

When you take your hound out to the coursing field you want him to be able to perform fully and safely. But this requires some work on your part before the actual hunt.

The first consideration is weight. The hound in coursing condition should be trim - probably a little thinner than most people like to see their Wolfhounds or are used to seeing them in the show ring. You should be able to feel the backbone of your dog and the ribs should be readily apparent to the touch, not buried under a layer of fat. Once you get into your exercise program your dog will muscle up but should still remain on the wiry side. Remember, excess fat is not only detrimental to running but is a health hazard which puts an extra strain on the heart.

Next consider the feet, toes and pads. You want to strengthen and toughen them. Keep nails trimmed so that the quick stays well back. The shorter the nail, the less the chance it will catch on something or get tangled in the grass.

The beach is a great place to do your training. Running or trotting on sand is the best pad conditioner. The fine grit rubs at the pad enough to stimulate growth without injury. At the same time, the old callus is scrubbed off. What you want is tough, living pad tissue that is resilient and flexible. Thin pads cut and abrade easily. Pads with a thick callus of dead cells may tear or crack.

The last point is run, run, run your hound. This develops the wind, circulation, and muscle necessary for stamina and speed. Running also helps in weight control and pad toughening. Exercise should be a daily event, not just

an occasional romp. A daily half hour run **19.**  
is much more beneficial than a once a week  
four-hour hike. Your dog will enjoy these  
daily sessions and it will contribute to a  
healthier IW.

Good coursing.

Bruce Cromer



---

**HELP!**

The Constitution Committee seeks your help  
in making suggestions for revisions in the  
NCIWC Constitution. If you have any ideas  
on how the constitution can be improved,  
please contact Kelly Cromer, 967 Anza Dr.,  
Pacifica, CA 94044.

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# Wolfhounds of Pern

Conformation & Coursing Ability

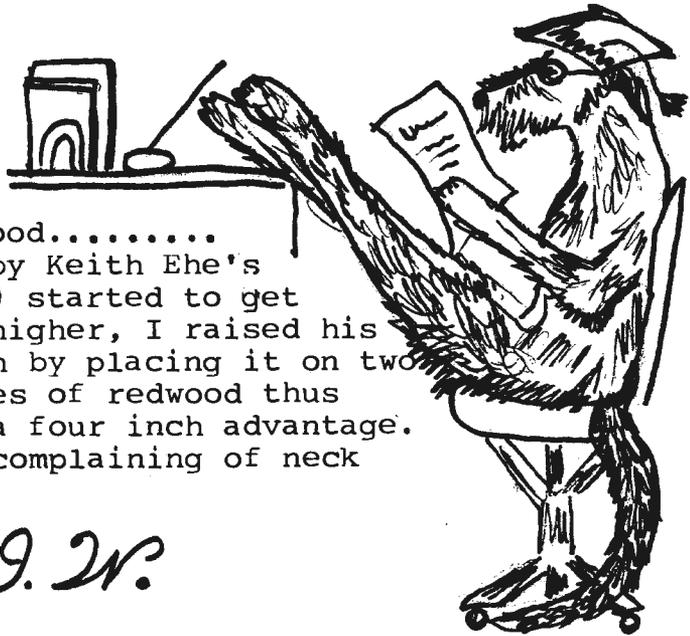
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OFA #327  
#1 in the West

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967 Anza Drive  
Pacifica, CA 94044  
(415) 355-7737

---

20.



From Curt Wood.....

After Darby Keith Ehe's (AKA Pepper) started to get higher and higher, I raised his feeding dish by placing it on two 4 by 6 pieces of redwood thus giving him a four inch advantage. He stopped complaining of neck cramps.

*Prof. J. W.*

From Ron Henson.....

A few ideas came to mind after reading your questions in the last issue. The easiest way to beat the summer heat (short of moving to Alaska) is to stay inside an air-conditioned house. If you're an outside dog, a nice shade tree will work. You might also use a sprinkler to run through or a novel idea shown in THE GAZEHOUD 7/8-75 p. 120, is to have your own outside bath tub partially filled with cool, cool water and with friction stickers on the bottom to prevent slipping paws.

As far as neck cramps from eating go, Cormac has never had that problem. Having been afflicted with chronic laziness from birth, Cormac solved his postural eating problem by simply lying down as he ate; which made it much easier for him to roll over and sleep when finished. For the more industrious I.W., a simple eating table built to the right height, with holes on top to **securely** set food and water bowls in is **ideal**. The June, '75 issue of SUNSET magazine has an excellent example of this arrangement on p.84.

When it comes to exercise, Cormac has no peer. He alternates between lying stretched out on his side and lying on his back along side a wall with his feet up against it. On those rare occasions when he has been seen to move, it has been to play with another dog. Two dogs together can exercise each other quite well, especially if they're friendly. Or, for the single dog family, just plain old fashioned walking at a steady, brisk pace is excellent if done regularly (twice a day). If a mile or two is too far to walk, you might try roller skates or a bicycle, which I use. Again, it's the long steady, brisk pace that is best for conditioning, not a series of fast wind-sprints. A note of caution with the bicycle, however, is to use it only in non or light traffic areas.

Cormac tells me that he only eats his eggs scrambled and doesn't suffer from the humiliation of split ends, so he has no idea why raw eggs should not be eaten, except that it is rather unseemly.

Send any more questions or answers for Professor I.W. to the BUGLE. ♣



## 22. SEMINAR PRESENTATION

### Part II

by Royce Northcott

#### Interest Revived:

#### A Written Standard

With the founding of a club in 1885, the Irish Wolfhound was launched; he now had adequate supporters and enough knowledgeable breeders with stock to form a genetic pool of sufficient proportions that by the year 1910, size and type were well fixed. To show the quality of the people involved, both as supporters and breeders, we find on the signature list the names of Charles Cruft, founder of the great Cruft Dog Show of England; John F. Bailey, breeder and writer; Major P.S. Shewell, early sponsor of the breed; and Mr. George Crisp, breeder of the famous O'Leary, and many other prominent dog people. These and the others were dedicated to the concept of fine purebred dogs, and when they drew up the Standard in 1885, it was with a background of tremendous knowledge of dogs and of the Irish Wolfhound. With the exception of two minor changes, their Standard remains untouched after 90 years. The entire concept of the Standard is to breed and maintain this wonderful animal in ancient condition and this is where we depart from most Standards. Our standard describes our ancient hound and aims the breeder toward perfection of this type of hound. The fine specimens of 50 years ago should be able to win their titles today and vice versa, and when we see some of the old hounds, it will be seen that this is indeed the case.

One of the two revisions made in 1947 was to require one additional inch in males and two additional inches in females. When one considers Phyllis

Gardner's comments in 1931, "The bitch Sarah, some of whose grandchildren today are among the largest hounds shown include dogs of 36 inches and bitches over 34 inches", we can see why the committee felt comfortable in an upward revision. She added, "The modern I.W. is quite definitely a good deal larger, in fact it approximates closely Graham's ideal in size, and the appearance of some we now see suggests the distinct possibility of a still further increase in size without any loss of grace."

The second change was a deletion of the passage which stated "The I.W. should be not quite so heavy or massive as the Great Dane but more so than the Deerhound." This passage was obsolete. When the original standard was drafted, the references were inescapable as this group was called on to describe a typical specimen of a generally unknown breed. In order to do this, they resorted to comparisons with well-known subjects. However, over the years these dogs had undergone changes which made the comparisons no longer valid. The Great Dane of Graham's period being a massive, mastiff-like dog, while the Deerhound of 1885 was generally heavier and less refined than those at present.

This is Linda, 1879, typical Deerhound of her time, who wouldn't do in the Deerhound ring today, but minus the fine head, she makes a lovely I.W. outline.

Understanding these points we can better grasp what Capt. Graham meant when he said in 1870, "From the accounts we have we clearly gather that the I.W. has always been of greyhound shape, of gigantic stature, and great power; in fact such a dog as the present Deerhound and Great Dane cross would produce as to form and bulk, but of superior size."



WHY PEOPLE PUT UP WITH THE PET-KEEPING  
NUISANCE

Taken from Independent Journal San Rafael

NEW YORK (UPI) One expert on human behavior now turns his expertise to a dog's life and why people help him lead it.

Dr. Ernest Dichter, noting that the pet population and pet food sales are booming, asks why in a supposed convenience age people put up with the extra work and nuisance of keeping pets.

The answers are several, especially in relationship to dogs, say Dichter. A dog may be better than a mood pill, a kind of auper-tranquilizer. You may come home tired and cantankerous. The rest of the family barks at you but the dog does not. He keeps his good mood, calms you down and stays faithful, no matter how grouchy you are.

"In other words, a dog is something of a family substitute", says Dichter.

Dichter, head of the Institute for Motivational Research, Inc., Croton-on-the Hudson, N.Y., writes in the current "Findings", an institute publication, that a dog's appeal also is in his almost perpetual youth. "A dog is almost a denial of death...a dog may be the equivalent of 70 years old and still be lively and bouncing...the continued high spirits of a senior citizen dog is reassuring to the owner, a kind of hope that declining powers aren't necessarily inevitable."

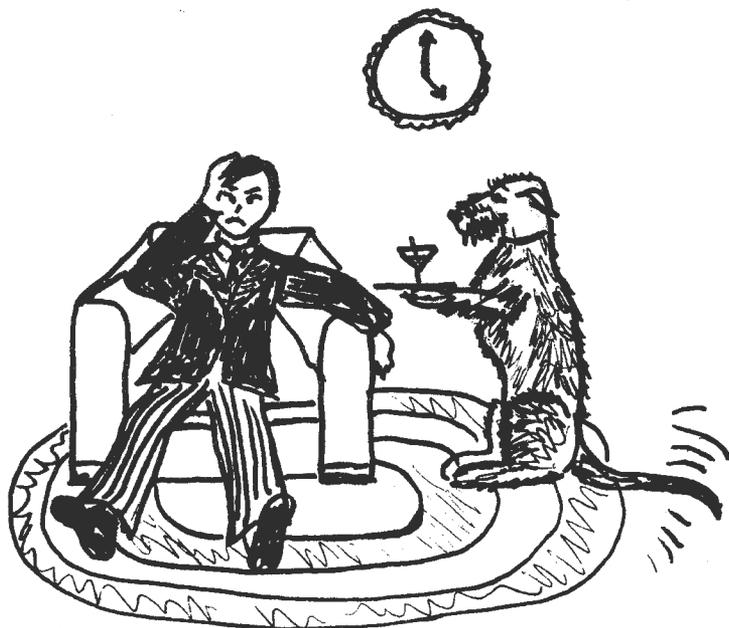
A dog offers sort of a permanent parent-hood. Even as he grows up and older, says Dichter, he continues to need to be taken care of---fed, walked, bathed, brushed and petted, in contrast to the frustration feeling of many parents with their children.

Children, in turn, after years of loving care suddenly revolt, become far more difficult to live with and eventually cut the apron strings entirely-no longer needing the services and advice of their parents.

A dog offers "free" love. With your family-if you don't remember your wife's or husband's anniversary, if you don't understand your children-you may lose their love very quickly. But all you have to do is feed and pet a dog and he'll love you forever.

A dog is an appealing example of leisure, Dichter continues. Dogs know how to have fun, then how to relax and take a nap when they're tired, and without hangups or worries to trouble their sleep.

Dogs reward your training and work, for when you train them, they stay trained. Children on the other hand start to develop minds of their own and start revolting against you. Dogs don't and there are few other situations in life when the individual can continuously enjoy a sense of mastery. ♣



The West is the most snake-rich section of the country. No less than 70 species, among them. Some of the most beautiful, the most elusive, and the most curious known to man, live in the continent-sized swatch of terrain that reaches from the Baja deserts to the Canadian border and eastward to the Rockies. There are deadly coral snakes and rattlesnakes; oddities like the leaf-nosed snake and the vine snake, scarcely bigger than a pencil; handsome kingsnakes and rosy boas. A few are poisonous, but most are not; and nearly all to some degree are threatened by the spread of civilization.

Of interest to the pet owner and to and to owner himself; which are dangerous? Where are they found? What does one do in case of an encounter with a dangerous reptile?

Of primary importance is the question of snakebites, the vast majority of which are easily prevented. When walking in the woods or desert or climbing mountains and rocky areas, preventive measures are of great importance. When in an unfamiliar area, check with local authorities as to what one might expect in the slightest chance of encountering a dangerous reptile. Always wear proper clothing when in rattlesnake country. High top leather boots must be worn and a long walking stick should be carried to probe questionable areas before passing. When climbing in rocky areas, never reach into cracks or crevices or blindly stick a bare hand on a surface without thoroughly checking the area above. The vast majority of snakebites

occur on the extremities of a person who has forgotten these precautions. Only a minute percentage of snakebites are truly unpreventable accidents.

So much for the human, what about the dog? **many** of the same precautions apply. Obviously, high top leather boots are out, so why the importance of exposure? Accident? Why was the dog running loose in a snake area? Again, precaution is prevention.

Regardless, snakebite does occur. What snakes are toxic? How does one identify a poisonous snake? **What** is the proper treatment for a bite victim? How does the venom react on an animal? These questions could go on endlessly. My hope is that I can sufficiently cover the most basic and important questions with what I have learned from my own experience and by borrowing from Snakes Of the American West by Charles E. Shaw and Sheldon Campbell, and from Venomous Animals of the World by Roger Caras.

Venomous snakes bite not out of an aggressive desire to kill, but because they react to what their instincts interpret as an attack. In the United States, doctors treat about 7,000 snake bitten people every year. Of these, however, only about 14 or 15 die. Twice as many people die from bee and wasp stings. No statistics are readily available on dog victims.

As most venomous snakes move about during the dawn, dusk or night, one may expect more encounters during the early morning or late afternoon, fewer during the middle of the day. One practically never encounters snakes in late fall or winter.

The venom of a recently dead snake is every bit as poisonous as that from the bite of a live one. Many people suffer from envenomations from careless

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and apply suction (preferably with sterile instruments) or 2) to just apply suction to the wound. The IMMEDIATE application of suction to a bite puncture proves to be the best of all immediate first aid measure. Working with dogs, Dr. Joseph F. Gennaro and associates (1961) demonstrated that slightly more than half the venom can be removed from a snakebite wound if suction is started within three minutes after the bite. Even if suction is started within two hours after the bite, the treatment removes enough venom to make its use worthwhile. Suction works effectively, however, only when venom has been injected into skin. Venom injected into muscle cannot be so readily removed. Fortunately, most snake fangs do not penetrate deeply enough to hit muscle.

Modern snakebite kits, available at most drug stores, generally include a mechanical suction device. Such a kit is imperative for the first aider who has an open sore in his mouth. One can take comfort in the fact that rattlesnake venom is harmless when swallowed, except when one has an active ulcer. Bacteria from the human mouth can be dangerous and sometimes more harmful to the victim than the bite itself.

On the spot first aid treatment, then should follow this procedure:

1. Apply constriction band or tourniquet above and below the wound.
2. Apply suction to the wound.
3. Treat for shock.
4. Send for help and keep calm.

Identifying harmful snakes next becomes important as more often than not a person encountering a snake will cause more bodily injury to himself in a violent reaction than will the poor little critter who just wants out of the way and to be left alone.

There are more than 2,700 species of snakes described by herpetologists. Eight to ten families are generally recognized. The two families discussed here are the elapids and the crotalinae. Of the elapidae there are two species. The one we are concerned with is the Arizona coral snake (*Micruroides Euryzanthus Euryzanthus*). The Arizona coral snake closely resembles a harmless and quite rare mountain king snake with alternating bands of red, black, and white. Since the coral snake is a small animal and its mouth and fangs correspondingly smaller, it cannot strike and bite the way larger snakes do. It must literally grab a bite, hang on like a bulldog and chew to inject venom. Most notable about the coral snake bite, is the neurotoxic venom. It is generally quite painless as opposed to the crotalids which may be agonizing.

Most rattlesnakes are found in the American Southwest, Arizona being the state with the greatest number, having 11 species, New Mexico with seven and California, six.

All are distinctive in having from a plain button to a long series of rattles on the tail. The number of rattles does not indicate the age or toxicity of the snake. The number of rattles increases by one each time the snake sheds its skin, but many are broken off by accident.

Quite often mistaken for a rattlesnake is the Western gopher snake which does have a resemblance but is much more slender and without rattles on its tail. The gopher snake increases the confusion when captured and placed in a convenient coffee can by shaking its tail and producing a rattling sound by striking the side of the can. Gopher snakes are harmless and frequently held as pets. Another notable point of identification in rattlesnakes are the labial pits, infra-red sensing organs which enable the animal to locate its prey in

## 30.

handling of snakes they have killed. The action of the venom just does not die with the snake.

Snake venoms are chemically complex, and there is a wide variance in the composition and virulence of venoms from one specie of venomous snake to another. Some venoms may have their greatest effect on a victim's respiration or heart action, others may severely damage or destroy tissue and blood cells. Still another may do both. There is no way in which venoms can be superficially grouped, as they too often have been in books on herpetology.

One must respect the separate evolutionary development of each venomous specie. For example, the venom of the Mojave rattlesnake is quite unlike the venom of any other rattlesnake. For this reason, polyvalent antivenin, used as a standard therapeutic measure in cases of snakebites, will not work in all cases; sometimes antivenins have to be developed for individual species.

Arguments persist over the best method of giving immediate treatment for rattlesnake bite. Years ago the best treatment was thought to be whiskey, preferably taken internally as a preventative measure, but certainly taken in copious quantities after a bite. One doctor, in fact, thought that the victim of a snakebite should drink a quart of brandy and a gallon of whiskey within thirty-six hours after being bitten. An oft heard story tells of a man who was given this treatment. Several days later, recovered from both bite and booze, he was seen looking for another snake to bite him.

Currently, the first aid for snake bites enjoys nearly as many theories as there are bites. The most popular means of treatment are: 1) to incise the area directly on the injection site

total darkness.

31.

In researching the question of snake-bite in dogs, there is little valid information published. Several veterinarians questioned had no experience in all their practice. One vet who treats "at least one a week" offered no help other than "seek immediate veterinary treatment." This does present a problem in the breeds such as the Irish Wolfhound. Bites, when they do occur, are usually far from immediate veterinary treatment and for a person to carry a dog of this size to transportation and veterinary care is virtually impossible.

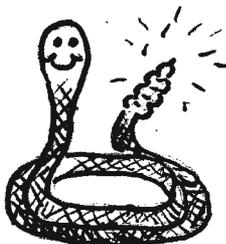
The best recommended procedures are thus, try to prevent possible occurrence, and if a bite does occur, follow the accepted emergency treatment as in human, and, of course, "seek immediate veterinary care."

Also, of some interest in regard to poisonous reptile bites, are the only two known poisonous lizards in the world, the Gila monster and the Mexican beaded lizard, family Heloderma. The Gila monster is found up to 31 inches in length. Color varies with blotchy patches of orange, brown and grey. The Heloderms are of little danger because of their secretive nature and remote habitat. Slow moving and non-aggressive in nature, they can be of some danger to a curious puppy. Their bite is a grinding molar action and their venom is highly toxic. Potent once injected, both neurotoxic and haemotoxic, its action is severe but seldom fatal. The beaded lizard is generally the same shape and dimensions as the Gila and is more evenly colored and might be appropriately described as having skin like a patch of Indian bead work. Not much more need be said here about the beaded lizard because its natural habitat is desert areas of Mexico and no captures have been recorded in the U.S. for over 30 years.

32.

Treatment for a Heloderma bite remains the same as in snakebite.

Poisonous reptile bites, when they do occur, should not be taken lightly. There are infinitely more serious and toxic items found in most everyone's backyard, such as snail bait, rodent poisons, garden plants, and the common toad, that serve as a far more serious threat to the well being of your pet. ❀



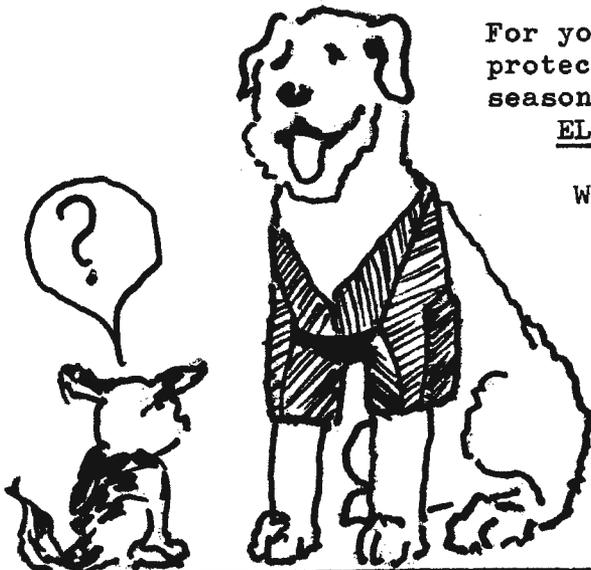
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When I was born I had four legs,  
What happened I don't know!  
'Cause my mom said I had just one,  
To someone at a show.

But that seemed odd, 'cause way back when  
I finished my C. D.  
She said, "My dear, you're very grand,  
Now you have gotten three."

If those three legs were really mine,  
And dogs require four,  
Then you would think, quite logically,  
That I'd need just one more,

But now mom says that I've got one,  
I am still lacking two.  
And I'll need three more after that  
What am I going to do?!!!

You start with four and then add three,  
And then add three again,  
What shall I do with thirteen legs  
Is quite beyond my ken.

The **mutt** who lives next door to me  
Just has four legs, I know.  
They seem enough to take him  
Every place he wants to go.

But since my mom's been bitten  
By that thing they call the bug,  
She doesn't care how many  
Extra legs I have to lug.

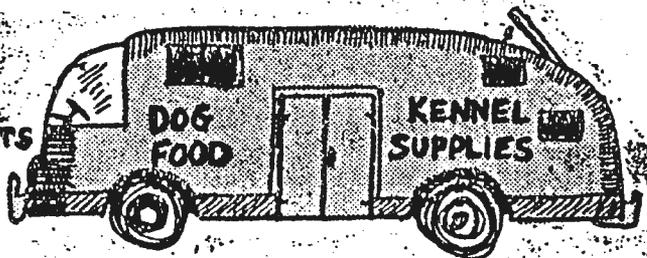
Well that's how the kibble crumbles,  
When a blue blood's life you lead.  
You start out looking like a dog  
And end up a centipede!!!!!!!!!!!!

-H.P. Phillips

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There was a good Wolfhound turnout with in competition, with results as follow:

#### Open Stake

1. Mac - C & J Souza BOB
  2. Mary - Y. Erickson
  3. Dawn - G & S Turnage
  4. Duffy - C & J Souza
- NBQ Roise - E Northcott

#### F. Ch. Stake

1. Megan - K & B Cromer & P Rothwell

Two IWs completed the requirements for the title of Field Champion at this trial.

Mary finished her F. Ch. in 3 trials and at the age of 5 1/2 years, the oldest IW to earn the title.

Dawn finished at the age of 1 year, 4 months, to make her the youngest IW F. Ch.

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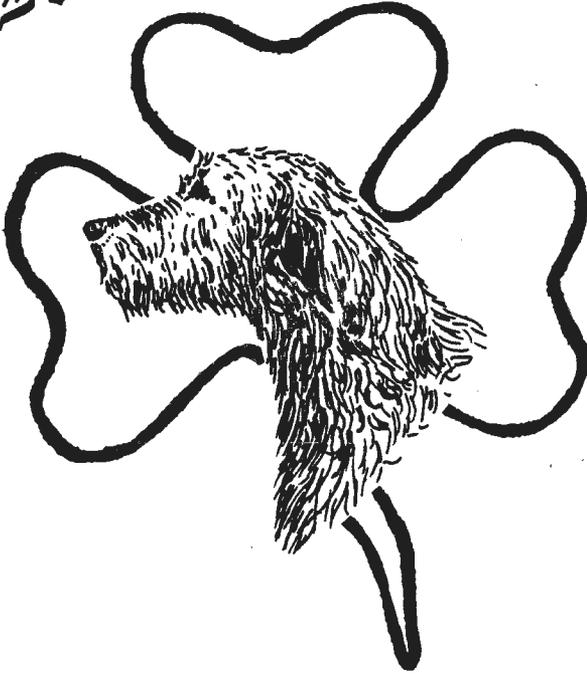
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