



Jan/Feb, 2012

Opinions expressed in this newsletter are not necessarily those of the WRDC or of the Editor. Your opinions, suggestions and comments are always welcomed!

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Deadline for March newsletter is 2/24/12

Camera ready copy please.

Next Meeting

No January meeting

Next meeting is

Saturday, February 17
Board Meeting - 6pm
Regular Meeting - 7pm
at
Strongsville Fire Station
11287 Webster Road
Strongsville, Ohio

Spotted Copy

*Official newsletter of the Western Reserve
Dalmatian Club for members of Cleveland and
Northeast Ohio. Est.- 1965*

Veterinary Specialty Hospitals Address Advanced Animal Health Needs

Like people, dogs can get most of their lifelong medical needs met by an excellent primary care practitioner. But when problems arise that require expertise or technology unavailable to the generalist, for dogs as for people, specialty hospitals are ready to help.

Dr. Brendan McKiernan has seen a proliferation both of veterinary specialties and of specialty hospitals in his nearly 40 years in practice. An internationally recognized expert in respiratory diseases of dogs, Dr. McKiernan spent the first 24 years of his career on the faculty at the University of Illinois College of Veterinary Medicine in Urbana. He recently rejoined the faculty as director of the college's Veterinary Teaching Hospital after thirteen years in large private specialty practices. "People are often surprised to learn how many areas of specialization are offered in veterinary medicine, and how rigorous the training is that goes into them," says Dr. McKiernan.

There are currently 40 distinct specialties overseen by more than 20 veterinary specialty organizations in the United States and a similar number in Europe. Areas of specialization range from surgery and internal medicine to nutrition and

behavior. There are specialty organizations for practitioners in zoological medicine and laboratory animal medicine.

The Veterinary Teaching Hospital in Urbana has more than two dozen specialists, some with board certification in more than one area. Expertise represented includes both large and small animal internal medicine, surgery, dentistry, ophthalmology, anesthesiology, radiology, emergency and critical care, dermatology, oncology (cancer care), theriogenology (animal reproduction), and more.

Dozens of other vets are in training at the hospital to become specialists. Becoming a board-certified specialist takes many years. After finishing veterinary school and passing the national board examination, a vet pursuing board certification typically completes either a one-year internship or two years of practice. He or she then applies for a residency position at an approved program—a very competitive process. During the two- or three-year residency, candidates take courses and see patients under the direction of a veterinarian already boarded in that field.

They usually also conduct research and publish scientific articles and often will present their work at conferences. At the end of the residency, candidates must pass a credential review and an examination conducted by the specialty organization of their focus.

Dr. McKiernan is board certified by the American College of Veterinary Internal Medicine, subspecialty of Small Animal Internal Medicine. With a special interest in respiratory medicine, he founded and was the first president of the Veterinary Comparative Respiratory Society and has trained several of the world's top experts in this field.

"Veterinary specialty hospitals bring a range of expertise and resources under one roof so that patients benefit from the best in diagnostic and treatment capabilities," says Dr. McKiernan. "For example, an animal may be referred to an oncologist, but a clinical pathologist, imaging specialist, surgeon, anesthesiologist, and rehabilitation specialist may all contribute to the patient's diagnosis and treatment."

Specialty hospitals have technology that is not likely to be available at local clinics, such as magnetic resonance imaging (MRI), computed tomography (CT), endoscopy, echocardiography, and nuclear scintigraphy.

In addition to serving animal owners, specialty hospitals like the University of Illinois Veterinary Teaching Hospital play an important role in educating general and specialty practitioners and developing treatment advances. Increasingly, people expect medical care for their pets that

equals the care available for human patients. The number of veterinary specialty hospitals is growing to meet that demand. As in human medicine, there are usually a range of treatment options from which owners are able to choose.

"The well-being and quality of life of the patient and the wishes of the owner are our chief concerns," says Dr. McKiernan. "Our goal is to work as a team to provide the level of care that best fits their needs."

Andrea Lin
Information Specialist



WRDC 2012 Schedule

January	No meeting
February 18	Board meeting Regular meeting
March 17	Regular meeting
April 21	Regular meeting
May 19	Board meeting Regular meeting
June 16	Puppy Match Picnic meeting
July	No meeting
August 10	Friday after Specialty show. Board & Regular meeting
Sept. 15	Regular meeting
October 20	Regular meeting
Nov. 17	Board meeting Regular meeting
December	Awards Banquet

2012 Committees

Awards

Cindy Riggans & Ann Swope

Awards & Holiday Banquet

Cindy Riggans

Historian

Debbie Gotsch

Hospitality

Monthly Member Rotation

Membership

Ann Swope

Programs/Public Education

Barbara Brandon

Puppy Match

Bob Smith

Referral Service

Pam Weisman

Cindy Riggans & Debbie Gotsch

Specialty Show

Lesley Sinwald

Spotted Copy

Don Gotsch, Editor

Debbie Gotsch, Co-Editor

Sunshine

Debbie Gotsch

Ways & Means

Open

Agility / Road Trial

Linda Lombardi



Photo by American Greetings
Zdar Dalmatians

Lady Maxine's Book of Quotations



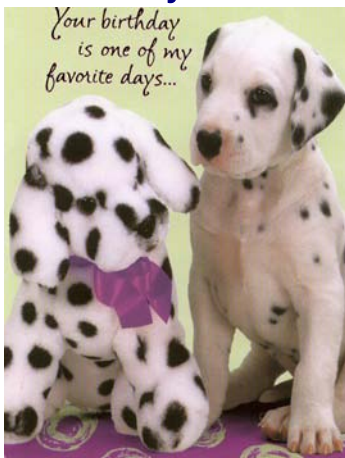
My dogs forgive anger in me, the arrogance in me, the brute in me. They forgive everything I do before I forgive myself.
Guy de la Valdene

Dogs are, after all, man's best friend. The least we can do is try to understand them a little better.
Nicholas Dodman

Not the least hard thing to bear when they go from us, these quiet friends, is that they carry away with them so many years of our own lives.
John Galsworthy

Dogs, bless them, operate on the premise that human beings are fragile and require incessant applications of affection and reassurance. The random lick of a hand and the furry chin draped over the instep are calculated to let the shaky owner know that a friend is nearby.
Mary McGrory

Birthday Wishes



January

- Whitecap Bay Colony So It Goes
1/2/2008 - Debbie Gotsch
- Zdar's Sourthern Comfort
1/7/2005 - Cindy Riggans
- Ch. Brigadier n Zdar Tally's Mark
1/21/2004 - Betty Doyle & Cindy Riggans

NON-SPOTTED BIRTHDAYS

- Betty Kilfoyle - Jan 1
- Debbie Gotsch - Jan 4
- Becky Petite - Jan 9
- Pam & Steve Weisman
January 9, 1983
- Ken Riggans - Jan 31

February

- Ch Cassiopea's Midnight Mariah
2/13/1997 - Bob & Diana Smith
- Ch Cassiopea Wayward Wind
2/24/2007 - Bob & Diana Smith

NON-SPOTTED BIRTHDAYS

- Linda Lombardi - Feb 3
- Martha Brown - Feb 13

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VICE PRESIDENT
BOB SMITH

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DIANA SMITH
8941 Timber Edge
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CINDY RIGGANS 2011 (2 YR)
LINDA LOMBARDI (2 YR)
GREG BROWN - Past Pres.

DCA REPRESENTATIVE



VISIT US ONLINE AT THE OFFICIAL WRDC WEBSITE

www.wrdalmatianclub.com

EMAIL ADDRESS
wrdc.ohio@yahoo.com

Happy Valentines Day



Dogs facts that even you “dog people” may not have known.

- * A dog named “Laika,” was the first in space in 1957.
- * The oldest breed of dog is the Saluki.
- * The world's smallest dog is the Chihuahua, which means “tiny dog in the sky.”
- * Dogs are mentioned 14 times in the Bible, but domestic cats are not mentioned at all.
- * The coyote is a member of the dog family and its scientific name, “canis latrans” means barking dog.
- * There are 701 types of pure breed dogs. (Although this is disputable by many.)
- * Dogs and cats, like humans, are either right or left-handed.
- * Nose prints are used to identify dogs, just like humans use fingerprints.
- * “Bingo” is the name of the dog on the Cracker Jack box.
- * Cats have over one hundred vocal sounds, while dogs only have about ten.
- * At the end of the Beatles' song "A Day in the Life", a high pitched dog whistle was recorded by Paul McCartney for his sheepdog.
- * The phrase "raining cats and dogs" originated in 17th century England when it is believed that many cats and dogs drowned during heavy periods of rain.
- * Humans have kept dogs as pets for over 12,000 years
- * Supposedly the smartest dogs are the Border Collie, Poodle & Golden Retriever while the dumbest dog is the Afghan (ouch!).
- * Dogs' only sweat glands are between their paw pads.

Courtesy, Mt. Hood Dal Club

Paws & Laws

There are many odd, outdated and just plain silly laws on the books, here are a few.....

In Colorado, dog catchers must alert strays by posting a notice on a tree. Dogs who read can make themselves scarce.

In Ventura County, CA, dogs need a permit before mating.

In Alaska, you can't tie a dog to a car roof.

In California, a law prohibits dogs mounting within 1,500 feet of a church, tavern or school. (In Ventura County, they still need a permit)

In Boulder, Co, you don't “own” an animal. You are a pet's “minder”. Or as we say, ‘humble servant who caters to his every whim’.

In Oklahoma, it is illegal to make faces at a dog. So wipe off that smirk.

In Turin, Italy, owners can be fined if they don't walk their dogs three times a day.

In Illinois, it's illegal to give a dog whiskey or lighted cigars. They're supposed to pour their own drinks and light their own cigars..... How unfair!

In London, it's illegal to transport a rabid dog in a taxicab. Which is a shame, because that has to be so much fun!

In Lancashire, England, you can't provoke your dog to bark on the beach. Given how few beach days there, it's probably not a major issue.

Aggressive Dogs

Aggressive dogs are generally aggressive for one of 4 reasons: they want to dominate, they are fearful, they are possessive, or they possess a strong predatory inclination.

This can be dangerous if you own a dog with strong predatory instincts, and sadly a dog can mistake a running and playful child for their prey. Here are some facts about these dogs, and some tips on understanding and controlling them.



A long time ago, before dogs commonly became domestic animals, they traveled and lived in packs in the wild. They had to rely on a pack leader, and they needed to search and hunt for food in order to survive. Though dogs have been domestic animals for centuries, some still possess a strong predatory instinct that may have the potential to be harmful if left unattended.

Herding dog breeds tend to possess more of an innate predatory instinct because they have been raised and encouraged to be that way. Their job is to watch over and defend the herd or livestock from predators. These dogs, out of necessity, must become somewhat predatory themselves so they can effectively keep the livestock safe and unharmed. Though dogs with a predatory nature cannot be limited only to certain dog breeds, this is just an example of this nature, though it may manifest itself in potentially any dog breed.

The early life and training of a puppy is always important. Good, solid socialization is a must; dogs must learn early on that people, particularly children, are friendly and do not mean harm, and they are not meant as a challenge. Dogs sometimes have an innate sense to go after something that is moving or running and they want to overcome it. Children are very playful and they love to run around and yell. To a dog with a strong predatory sense, this could prove to be dangerous. They simply see they child as bait. With proper socialization and heavy obedience training, the dog will learn that children are not fair game. You (or a trainer) will have to teach the dog through various exercises that they can only go after something once they receive the "ok" command from their owner. Games such as throwing a tennis ball or a toy can teach the dog that they cannot run after anything and everything that is moving. Some predatory dogs also think they should run after moving cars. This is also dangerous because an unknowing driver on the street can easily hit them by accident.

Teaching dogs about what is and isn't ok for them to chase is extremely important when considering the well being of the dog and of children. This begins with solid socialization practices from the time the dog is a puppy, in addition to training in obedience, which is also very important. The time, care, teaching and training are certainly time consuming and may become wearisome at times, but the results are effective, necessary, and completely worth all your efforts!



WRDC - 2011 - A Thumbnail Sketch

To date, WRDC has grown - we added two new members...Monica Callahan and Cindy Chaytor. Welcome to you both. Follow our new "Meet our Members" column in the SPOTTED COPY to learn more about Monica, Cindy and other club members.

Our Puppy Match, May 29th, was well attended, complete with 8 entries in the Parade of Champions and Title Holders. Moving on to August, our back to back Specialties enjoyed a nice entry, plenty of sunshine and visiting with good friends. If you've misplaced your Specialty catalog showing placements, check your September 2011 SPOTTED COPY for a complete list and the July issue for the Puppy Match winners.

Speaking of puppies, congratulations to Joanne Shupp, Cindy Riggans and Debbie Gotsch and recognize their litters as

"future stars", I can tell you they are ALL beautiful.

Thanks to Pam and Steve for hosting (again!) our March meeting and to Debbie and Don for providing a nice deck and being the chief cook at our annual steak roast. Our club's official website is up and running, thanks to Richard and Lesley - it is www.wrdalmatianclub.com. Look in on it, you'll be pleased.

WRDC said goodbye to June Dahn in September after a lengthy illness and stay in an assisted living facility. June was a member since 1966 and we thank her family for requesting donations be made to our club.

Several members lost their faithful spotted companions this year, Nancy Abbott (*Captain*), Bob and Diana Smith (*Montana & Celeste*) and Ann Swope (*Bailey*). These special friends will always remain in their owner's hearts.

I can't close this without giving a big thank you to Don Gotsch for all the work he puts in to making the 'SPOTTED COPY' as great as it is. He finds so many dog-related articles, makes reading the monthly issues very interesting. Keep up the good work, Don!!

Enjoy the holidays, stay safe and warm, give your puppies a big hug and see you in February, 2012.

Barbara Brandon

Presidents Message

Welcome to 2012! I hope everyone had a great Holiday and hopefully the New Year will be good to us all.

Special thanks to Cindy Riggans and Ann Swope who put together a very nice Awards Banquet, I thought the food and service was exceptional at Walther's Café.

I did not get to the IX Crown Classic shows this year, but hear that Monica Callahan, Joanne Shupp and Tim Kompier may have some brags to share.

At February's meeting we will again discuss ideas to update our Constitution which has not been revised since 1965. Most changes are gender related or pertain to notifying members by mail as opposed to reviewing meeting schedules in the "Spotted Copy" or use of email these days.

Speaking of the newsletter, a few members suggested going to an all email and electronic "Spotted Copy", however, there are still some members and subscribers who like the printed issues. As long as the printer (which was purchased in 2004) is working and the cost of the toner and postage is not excessive, we can continue to print and mail. Your thoughts on this are welcome at any meeting.

As mentioned previously, due to LCKC pulling out of the IX Christmas Classic Shows for 2012 and adding another all breed specialty in August has posed challenges to our Specialty Show Chair and all of us. As you may have heard, entries have been low for many shows lately. Although we have voted to proceed with our normal back to back Specialty Shows for both Friday and Saturday in

August, I am sure we will evaluate how this plays out this year. Obviously LCKC offers us a beautiful grounds and the cost can't be beat.

WRDC will continue to offer trophies and supported entries to those clubs that we now support. For 2012, members are asked to submit letters well in advance to the Secretary. seeking trophies.

I am still hoping for a DCA Representative from our membership. This job basically submits a quarterly club news report to the "Spotter" and keeps abreast of DCA news to share at our meetings. For our members in DCA, please consider volunteering for this position.

All the best to everyone in 2012!
Don

Calculator The Dog



It was in the early 1920's that a legend began to grow about Fort Benning's favorite mascot: A mongrel dog named calculator. "Calc," as the dog was affectionately known to everyone from the commandant to the private in the ranks, was crippled. His name was suggested by the halting manner in which he "put down three and carried one." But there was nothing slow about Calc's manner of making friends. He hitchhiked and panhandled his way in a royal style, taking

complete possession of the garrison. He seemed to have an uncanny knowledge of Fort Benning automobiles and considered it his privilege to travel back and forth between Columbus and the Fort in any Benning officer's car. Many commissioned members of the garrison made it a habit to drive by the Ralston Hotel in Columbus on their return from town to see if Calculator was waiting at the accustomed place for a lift.

Not a one-man dog, Calc was impartially loyal to all his friends, never staying too long in one place, taking his food from anyone who happened to be around when he was hungry, sleeping wherever he happened to be when he was tired, and always following the most interesting events of the school, lending his presence both to the units engaged in problems and to those participating in ceremonies.

The troops grew so fond of Calculator that, when he was unaccountably poisoned in 1923, a collection was taken to build a monument to him. It was placed at the Infantry School and when this building became the School of the Americas in 1984, it was decided to move the Calculator monument to the front of the National Infantry Museum.

Inscribed on his memorial are these simple words:

**Calculator--Born ?;
died August 29, 1923.
He made a better dog of us all.**

**WESTERN RESERVE
DALMATIAN CLUB
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES**
No December meeting therefore no minutes to report.