



AKC Breeder

WINTER 2016

THE AMERICAN KENNEL CLUB'S QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER FOR BREEDERS

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ROYAL CANIN

AKC Marketplace Is Launched

Newly enhanced Marketplace is a responsible breeder's best friend

The American Kennel Club has launched AKC Marketplace with enhanced form and functionality to better serve responsible breeders with the opportunity to promote themselves directly to potential dog owners.

Through interactive profile pages, unlimited listings, and a user-friendly experience, AKC Marketplace helps breeders get in front of more dog owners, showcase all they do for their dogs, and find good homes for their puppies.

Enhancements to AKC Marketplace

- New homepage with better functionality
- Advanced searching and filtering capability
- Easy access to Parent Club and breed standard information for each breed
- Enhanced breeder profile pages to include litter, health and vaccination information
- Addition of unlimited photo and video galleries for breeders to showcase their puppies
- Easy access to "How to Pick a Puppy" handbook.

"The enhanced AKC Marketplace will allow breeders to engage with potential dog

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Thomas Pitera ©AKC

Puppy Love: The Enjoyment of Raising Puppies

By Roseann Fucillo, Papillon Club of America

I have always loved participating in the care and raising of my puppies and have immensely enjoyed watching them develop and grow. Since I recently retired, I am now able to devote more time and have seen the difference it has made in the confidence of my last litter.

It all starts out with whelping. Having easy access to them at night by my bedside allows me to watch, handle, and give reassuring pets and cuddles while listening to the normal suckling sounds of nursing that signal all is well.

When the puppies are about 3 weeks old, I first introduce them to a litter box. Since I have Papillons, a toy breed, I use a box that is designed for ferrets, and it is small enough to fit in a corner.

It's amazing to watch how smart and clean the little ones are, and they instinctively know where to "go." I make their space larger by attaching additional crate-panels, and finally when they have nearly stopped nursing, I put an ex-pen in my kitchen/family room, where they have a large area to play with toys as well as space for the litter box.

Numerous times during the day I check and handle them. They hear the sounds of the TV, music, vacuum cleaner, and telephone, and the

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AKC MISSION STATEMENT

THE AMERICAN KENNEL CLUB IS DEDICATED TO UPHOLDING THE INTEGRITY OF ITS REGISTRY, PROMOTING THE SPORT OF PUREBRED DOGS AND BREEDING FOR TYPE AND FUNCTION. FOUNDED IN 1884, THE AKC AND ITS AFFILIATED ORGANIZATIONS ADVOCATE FOR THE PUREBRED DOG AS A FAMILY COMPANION, ADVANCE CANINE HEALTH AND WELL-BEING, WORK TO PROTECT THE RIGHTS OF ALL DOG OWNERS AND PROMOTE RESPONSIBLE DOG OWNERSHIP.

AKC Breeder articles are selected for their general interest and entertainment value. Authors' views do not necessarily represent the policies of The American Kennel Club, nor does their publication constitute an endorsement by the AKC.

AKC Breeder Ed. Expanded

The AKC has expanded its Breeder Education platform to include new courses and materials. With Royal Canin USA as the program sponsor, the AKC continues its longstanding commitment to advance the health and welfare of all dogs by assembling one of the world's best online breeder-education libraries.

In addition to existing AKC-owned breeder education materials, famed dog author and master breeder Claudia Waller Orlandi, Ph.D., has also made her books, *ABC's of Dog Breeding* and *Practical Canine Anatomy & Movement*, available at akc.org.

"Knowledge is power in all phases of our lives," Orlandi says. "The more a breeder knows about the science of breeding healthy dogs, the more they can control canine genetic diseases in their breeding programs."

The AKC is partnering with the AKC Canine Health Foundation (CHF) to convert its excellent breeder materials into educational courses, including the "CHF and Zoetis Reproduction Series: Whelping and Dystocia."

Also offered, from the AKC Breeder Excellence Seminar series, is "How Nutrition Influences Reproductive Performance." Developed and presented by Royal Canin's Jill Cline, Ph.D., and Rick Kesler, DVM, the course explores how nutrition affects reproduction.

You can utilize AKC Breeder Ed. materials at no cost. For a fee you may opt to be tested on the material and receive a certificate upon passing the examinations.

Access the AKC Breeder Education courses at education.akc.org/akcedu. For more information on AKC Breeder Education, visit akc.org/dog-breeders/breeder-education/.

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"PUPPY LOVE: THE ENJOYMENT OF RAISING PUPPIES" *continued from previous page*

rattling of pots and pans. They also become accustomed to visitors, running up to strangers to give kisses and be cuddled.

I start their training young, putting them on the kitchen counter to stand while giving treats. They take their first walk on a lead around my kitchen island. They learn to listen to key words such as "good boy" to give them assurance, and they learn hand signals for "stop," "stay," and "OK, let's go!"

After a few times, I gave them a test run and put them in crates for a short ride to the church parking lot a block away. I made sure I had their water, treats, and some plastic bags for cleanups. However, in haste, I left the bags in the car. Of course one of my pups decided to do his business right in the front of the rectory! Luckily, I grabbed a nearby leaf for cleanup.

By the time the pups were 6 months old, they were ready for a long ride to our Papillon Club of America national specialty, help in Ohio. It was a more than nine-hour

drive, making it in nearly 11 hours when including several stops for restroom, food, and gas. Having packed the car well, giving the puppies access to their ex-pen, food, and water made the trip go faster.

In the hotel room I put down a thick tarp on the carpet, placed the ex-pen on top, and inserted their litter box—which was an extra crate, unscrewed, and very convenient for young ones.

Once we arrived, they easily acclimated themselves with their new surroundings. Rugs, marble floors, and even elevators were all taken in stride with tails up, typically characteristic of the breed! They loved meeting new people and other Papillons, and they looked forward each day going to the "show."

Roseann Fucillo is a longtime breeder-exhibitor of Papillons and writes the quarterly AKC Gazette breed column for the Papillon Club of America.

John Buddie Named 2015 AKC Breeder of the Year



John Buddie was presented with the 2015 AKC Breeder of the Year award for his Tartanside Collies at the AKC/Eukanuba National Championship at Orlando, Florida, on Saturday, December 12, 2015. The annual award honors those breeders who have made an impact on their breed and dedicated their lives to improving the health, temperament and quality of purebred dogs.

“We’re proud to honor John with the AKC Breeder of the Year award,” AKC President/CEO Dennis B. Sprung said. “The Tartanside prefix has adorned top-quality Collies in the United States, and John’s influence on the breed will be seen for years to come.”

One honoree is chosen from each of the seven AKC breed groups: Sporting, Hound, Working, Terrier, Toy, Non-Sporting, and Herding. From those seven, one Group Winner is selected as AKC Breeder of the Year” during the AKC/Eukanuba National Championship. (Presentation highlights are available on live.eukanuba.com.)

As the 2015 AKC Breeder of the Year, Buddie will select a prominent dog from his kennel to be memorialized in a painted portrait that will hang in the AKC’s permanent collection at its New York headquarters. Buddie’s name will be inscribed on a perpetual trophy, also on permanent display at AKC headquarters.

About Tartanside Collies

John Buddie began in dogs in 1963. By 1971, he was an AKC-licensed professional handler who campaigned many influential Collies. Tartanside Collies has breeder-owned over 150 champions,



Tartanside Preview, ROM, an elite sire of rough Collies

including 12 Register of Merit dogs. Overall, Tartanside sires and dams have produced 350 champions. Among them have been multiple group, Best in Show, and National Specialty winners. Tartanside stock is the foundation for many of today’s top kennels.

2015 Breeder of the Year Group Winners

- **Sporting Group** Janet Bunce, Wochica Golden Retrievers
- **Hound Group** Jay T. Hafford and James P. Blanchard, Thacon Reg. Afghan Hounds
- **Working Group** Sylvia Hammarstrom, Skansen Giant Schnauzers
- **Terrier Group** Lydia Coleman Hutchinson, Wolfpit Cairn Terriers
- **Toy Group** Arlene A. Czech, Coquina Papillons
- **Non-Sporting Group**: Kathie Vogel, Vogelflight Bichon Frise
- **Herding Group** John Buddie, Tartanside Collies

New \$432,000 Grant Will Fight Canine Cancer

CHF teams with AKC parent clubs to fund major research



The AKC Canine Health Foundation (CHF) recently announced the funding of an exciting grant which aims to better understand and prevent hemangiosarcoma, an aggressive form of cancer in dogs.

Three groups whose dogs have been affected by this cruel disease—the American Boxer Charitable Foundation, the Golden Retriever Foundation, and the Portuguese Water Dog Foundation—are taking a unique, collaborative stand against cancer by pledging \$432,000 to support this research effort.

Jaime Modiano, VMD, Ph.D., professor in the College of Veterinary Medicine and the Masonic Cancer Center, University of Minnesota, will be leading a team of researchers on the project “A Novel Approach for Prevention of Canine Hemangiosarcoma,” which aims to pair two

novel technologies consisting of a patented test to detect hemangiosarcoma cells in blood samples, and a treatment that attacks the cells that establish and maintain the disease.

“Hemangiosarcoma is the cause of death for an estimated one out of every five Golden Retrievers in the United States. Portuguese Water Dogs and Boxers also have an especially high risk for this disease which is devastating for all dogs.” Modiano says.

“Hemangiosarcoma is incurable partly because the cancer is detected at a very advanced stage when it is resistant to conventional therapies. Thus, an unconventional approach to improve outcomes for hemangiosarcoma patients will involve effective methods for early detection and for disease prevention.”

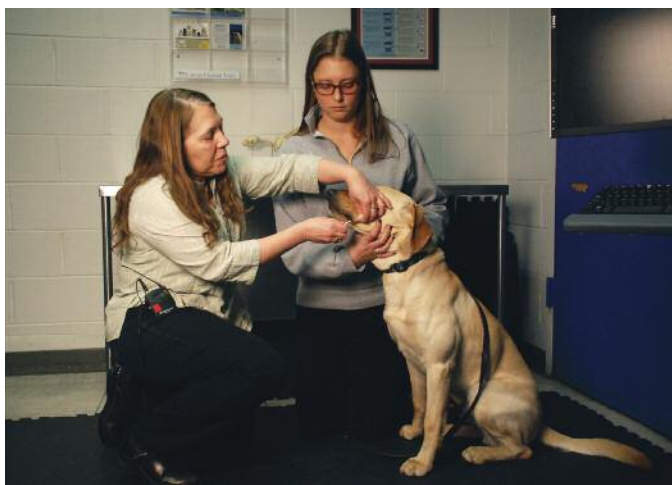
Club Pride

Golden Retriever Foundation president Collette Jaynes says her organization is particularly proud to continue its commitment to making meaningful strides against hemangiosarcoma. “The Golden Retriever Foundation is honored to partner with the American Boxer Charitable Foundation and Portuguese Water Dog Foundation to magnify the effectiveness of all of our donors’ contributions through the power of collaboration,” she says.

This project will create tools to guide further development, licensing,

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AKC, CHF Expand Vet Residency Program



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The American Kennel Club/Theriogenology Foundation Companion Animal Residencies in Theriogenology are being renewed and expanded to four universities in 2016. All of the residencies are made possible by

grants from the AKC and the AKC Canine Health Foundation (CHF) and are for new residents who begin their studies in 2016.

The programs will exist at Auburn University, North Carolina State University, The Ohio State University, and University of Pennsylvania.

Each grant is in the amount of \$100,000, to be used for study over 2 to 3 years.

Existing residencies funded through this grant in 2014 and ending this year were for programs at University of California–Davis, Auburn University, and University of Pennsylvania.

“We are proud to partner with the Theriogenology Foundation to continue our ongoing commitment to canine health research,” AKC President/CEO Dennis Sprung says.

“Helping to cultivate future veterinarians and health researchers is essential to the wellbeing of all dogs. We look forward to seeing their contributions to canine wellness.”

“Purpose-bred dogs make valuable contributions to our society from helping those with disabilities to public safety,” says Dr. Charles Franz,

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WHAT IS AN AKC BRED WITH H.E.A.R.T. BREEDER?

An AKC Bred with H.E.A.R.T. breeder makes an on-going commitment to the health and well-being of purebred dogs by committing to these program requirements:

HEALTH

Certify that breeding stock is health tested in accordance with the recommendations of their breed's AKC Breed Parent Club.

EDUCATION

Pursue AKC-provided or AKC-approved continuing breeder education to stay current on the best breeding practices, including advances in canine health.

ACCOUNTABILITY

Comply with the AKC Care and Conditions Policy, including inspections by the AKC, and promise to share with AKC health testing and continuing education documentation.

RESPONSIBILITY

Accept responsibility for the health and well-being of the puppies and comply with all laws regarding the ownership and maintenance of dogs.

TRADITION

Uphold AKC's tradition of breeding purebred dogs that are happy and healthy.

For more information or to sign up, please visit

akc.org/dog-breeders/bred-with-heart/



Canine Reproduction:

20 Facts You Should Know About Timing of Ovulation in the Bitch

By Emmanuel Fontaine DVM, MSc, PhD, Diplomat of the European College of Animal Reproduction,
Technical Support Veterinarian | Royal Canin Canada

As a breeder, you already know that when it comes to reproduction, the canine species is really unique.

I have invested many hours over a number of years to help breeders develop a better understanding of how to be successful in the ultimate pursuit of producing healthy litters. Here is a short recap: Progesterone is secreted before ovulation in dogs, and we can use this characteristic of the canine estrous cycle to determine when the bitch ovulates. This is what we refer to as “timing of ovulation,” a great tool to improve fertility and prolificacy in your dogs since mistimed breeding is—by far—the most common cause of infertility in the bitch. When I was working at the reproduction center at the Alfort Veterinary School (Paris, France), these consultations were part of my daily routine. Here are 20 facts that might help you better understand the reasoning behind it!



1 When to start? It is recommended to have the first consultation around six days after the beginning of the heat cycle. Sound too early? Well, always better sooner than later. Unfortunately, some bitches might ovulate as soon as this in their estrous cycle.

2 Very often I had clients call me to say: “Doctor, my bitch is at [number] in progesterone. What should I do?” My typical answer: “[Number] what?” Wonder why? Progesterone results can be expressed in two different units: ng/mL OR nmol/L. We won’t interpret a result the same way depending on its unit.

3 I have been asked to determine when the bitch would ovulate based on a single test. Most of the time that is not possible. (I told you I had bitches that ovulated six days after the beginning of estrus, but I also have had some that ovulated 30 days after!) At least three or four tests will usually be required over a number of days.

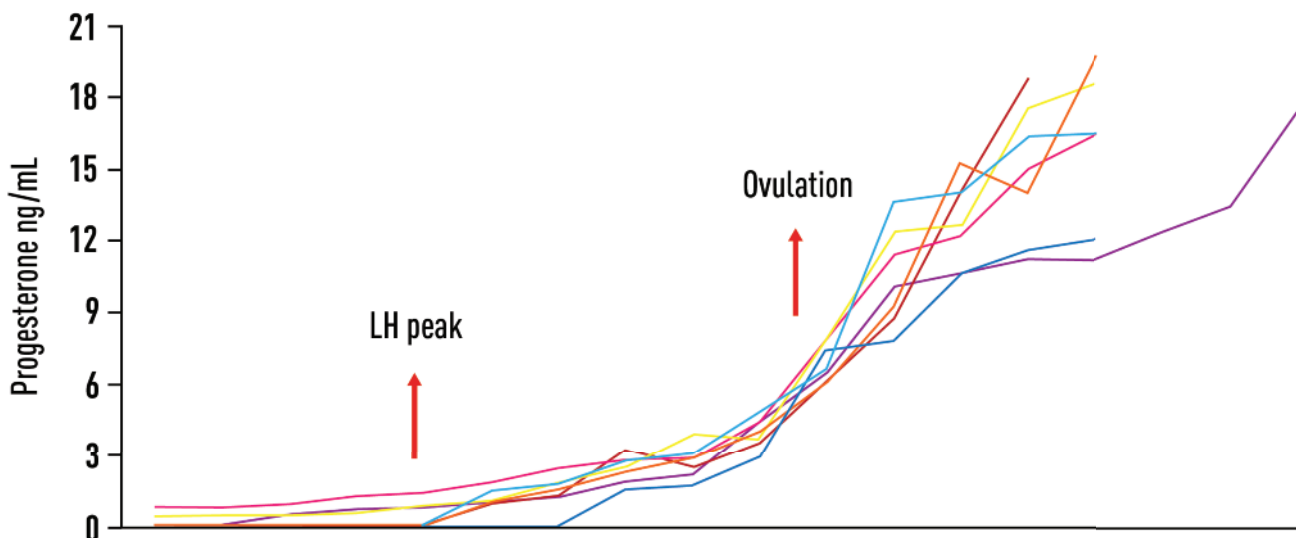
4 “Do I need to come every single day until ovulation occurs?” No, this might be necessary when doing LH assays (another hormone secreted by the brain which peaks two to three days before ovulation). LH secretion is pulsatile, and we need to detect a transient peak, so that’s why daily assays are needed in this case. On the contrary, progesterone will progressively rise during estrus, and this is the rise we will focus on when performing timing of ovulation.

5 If progesterone is low (= basal value), typically we can wait four to five days before seeing the dog again.

6 Progesterone is said to be “basal” when its blood concentration is below 1ng/mL.

7 Reference Figure I. I highlighted the two main events we need to focus on when performing a timing of ovulation: the “LH peak” and “ovulation.”

Figure I: Progesterone profiles in different size bitches



8 LH peak usually occurs when progesterone levels reach 2-3ng/mL. When this level is reached, ovulation will occur two to three days later.

9 Never stop timing ovulation when you think you have passed the LH peak! You still need to detect ovulation. Some bitches might indeed have what we call an anovulatory cycle.



10 What's an anovulatory cycle? A cycle that does not lead to ovulation (and obviously then, the bitch will not get pregnant). Progesterone might rise because of the growth of the ovarian follicles containing the oocytes but suddenly drop (we still don't know why). Follicles will simply shrink and disappear, and ovulation will not occur. I had a bitch that went as high as 4.9ng/mL in progesterone, but then dropped.

11 Ovulation occurs when progesterone blood levels reach 5-6ng/mL.

12 This value is the same whatever the size of the dog. Whether you have Chihuahuas, Labrador Retrievers, English Mastiffs, etc., bitches will always ovulate around the same progesterone level. Take another look at Figure I, and you'll see that at the time of ovulation, the different curves all overlap each other.

“The breeding protocol should be determined based on the estimated day of ovulation.”

13 We know the progesterone level at the time of ovulation. However, at the time of breeding, there is no “ideal” level. When fertility is optimal, progesterone values might be around 10, 30, sometimes even > 60ng/mL! The breeding protocol should be determined based on the estimated day of ovulation. We cannot say that the bitch should be bred when she is at [any number]ng/mL of progesterone.

14 Then why perform a progesterone test after ovulation? Progesterone blood levels will rise quickly after ovulation, and it is good to confirm that this rise occurs. Indeed, if a plateau (= progesterone levels stagnating around the same value) is observed, something is not right, and an ovarian cyst might be suspected.

15 In fact, each time such a plateau is observed during the timing of ovulation, the bitch should always be carefully followed. This can indeed happen normally, but a plateau should not last more than three days. If there is any doubt, an ovarian ultrasound should be performed to be sure the surface of the ovaries look normal.



16 The hormone progesterone is the same in all mammals (same conformation, same molecular size, same everything). So no need for specific canine assays. To tell the truth, all the machines that are used to assay progesterone in canines are primarily developed for the human market.

17 Progesterone machines are not all the same. What I mean by that is, if the progesterone level was 5-6ng/mL on the machine I used in my clinic, it might have been 4-5ng/mL or 8-10ng/mL on another one. The value needs to be properly interpreted: It's important to rely on somebody, therefore, who is used to working with the laboratory or the machine that gives the results, so they are properly interpreted.

18 There are now in-house machines that can be used in veterinary clinics to assay progesterone.

Figure II: Progesterone machine



19 It usually takes 18-20 minutes to run a progesterone test.

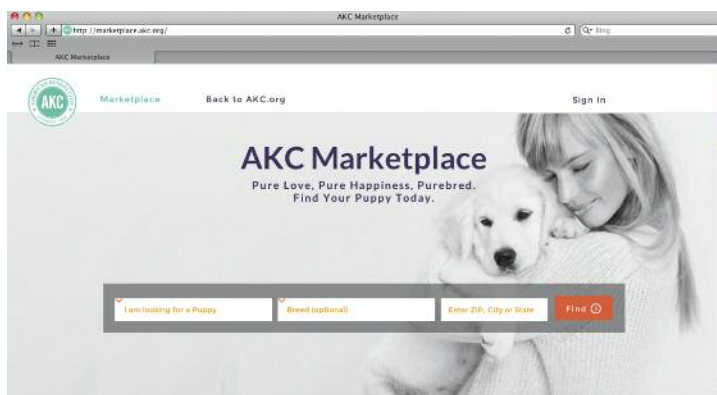
20 You did a timing of ovulation, your bitch ovulated 17 days after beginning of her estrous cycle and she became pregnant. Does that mean that next time your bitch will ovulate at 17 days again? Not necessarily. There are up to 40% variations between cycles. A timing of ovulation should therefore be performed at each cycle.



About the Author

Emmanuel Fontaine graduated from the Toulouse Veterinary School in 2004. Dr. Fontaine continued his studies at the Alfort Veterinary School (Paris) as a trainee veterinarian in the domestic carnivore unit of the Reproduction Department. From 2005 to 2011, he worked at the Centre d'Etude en Reproduction des Carnivores (CERCA) [Research Centre for Reproduction in Carnivores], a unit specializing in pet breeding assistance. Dr. Fontaine is also qualified at the European College for Animal Reproduction (ECAR) and recently completed his PhD. Dr. Fontaine joined Royal Canin Canada's professional team as a Technical Support Veterinarian in September 2011.

“AKC MARKETPLACE IS LAUNCHED” *continued from page 1*



owners, share their knowledge of their breed and ultimately help people find the right breed for their lifestyle,” says AKC President/CEO Dennis Sprung. “Our team has worked diligently to make the necessary improvements to make this the best place possible for breeders to showcase their litters. In 2016, staff will fulfill my vision of expanding the platform to include groomers, veterinarians, dog sitters and other dog-related service providers.”

What AKC Marketplace Breeders Receive

- A dedicated profile page with the ability to host video, images and more. Breeders who are involved in AKC-recognition

programs, such as Breeder of Merit and Bred with H.E.A.R.T., will automatically have that distinction on their profile.

- A trusted *AKC.org* vanity URL to share when dealing with potential buyers
- Unlimited litter listings to showcase available puppies
- Profile page analytics, technical assistance, and customer-service support.

Breeders can have unlimited use of AKC Marketplace for \$99/year, or they have the option to sign up for the \$10/month plan (which has a one-time sign-up fee of \$20) at marketplace.akc.org.



Isabelle Francois ©AKC

“NEW \$432,000 GRANT WILL FIGHT CANINE CANCER”

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and deployment of new paired technologies against cancer, specifically hemangiosarcoma, with an ultimate goal for disease prevention in all dogs. “Our Foundation is honored to be included in this unprecedented collaboration,” says Carol Mattingley, president of the Portuguese Water Dog Foundation.

“The PWDF played a role in supporting Dr. Modiano’s 2005 research to develop a diagnostic test to detect hemangiosarcoma, and we are happy and proud to help take this research to the next level.”

The work on this research project will begin immediately.

“We are proud to be able to participate in this unprecedented collaboration. The American Boxer Charitable Foundation has played a role in supporting cancer grants for the last 20 years,” says foundation president Joyce Baker Brown.

“We thank our generous donors to the ABCF, and the Georgia Buchla fund for their help with our fundraising endeavor.”



CHF supports the funding of this effort and will oversee administration of funds and scientific progress.

“This novel approach to a particularly aggressive form of cancer in dogs has the potential to eventually change the landscape and improve outcomes for all dogs diagnosed with this terrible disease,” says Dr. Diane Brown, CHF chief scientific officer.

“The collaboration between these three breed club foundations and their dedication to canine health has really driven this project forward—together they are making a significant difference for all dogs.”

To read more about genetic canine-health research, to participate in research, and to donate to the AKC Canine Health Foundation, visit the Breeder pages at akcchf.org.



executive director of the Theriogenology Foundation. “These dogs have genetically predetermined traits that are essential to the jobs that they do. The developments made in clinical theriogenology enhance responsible dog breeders’ ability to produce healthy litters that can continue to aide our societal needs.”

Theriogenology is the branch of veterinary medicine that focuses on reproduction, including the physiology and pathology of male and female reproductive systems of animals and the clinical practice of veterinary obstetrics, gynecology, and andrology.

Since 1884, the AKC has recognized that the pedigree is the best tool

for improving canine health temperament and working skills. The ever-changing world of clinical theriogenology and genetic testing has given breeders the necessary tools to produce healthier litters and puppies with predictable temperaments that fit into owners’ lifestyles. Through this grant, the AKC and CHF acknowledge that meeting the needs of their members means investing in the education of the next generation of veterinary specialists.

Breeder Seminar Online

Stop by the AKC YouTube channel for videos from the recent AKC/Eukanuba Canine Breeder Excellence Seminar:

- “Your Puppies *Are* What Your Breeding Females Eat—How Nutrition Influences Reproductive Performance” (Drs. Jill Cline and Rick Kesler, Royal Canin)
- “The Stud Is from Mars, the Bitch Is from Venus: Planning the Difficult Breeding” (Kit Kampschmidt, DVM)
- “Navigating the Alphabet Soup of Genetic Disease and Testing” (Cindy O’Connor, DVM)
- “How to Harvest the Data to Manage the Yield” (Frances Smith, DVM)

Watch now at youtube.com/americankennelclub.

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