



Winter 2018

AKC BREEDER

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THE AMERICAN KENNEL CLUB'S QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER FOR BREEDERS

Medeiros Named AKC Breeder of the Year

Award Presented at AKC National Championship presented by Royal Canin



David Woo ©AKC

ORLANDO, FLORIDA—The AKC named Helyne E. Medeiros, of Seasyde Pointers, 2017 AKC Breeder of the Year at the AKC National Championship presented by Royal Canin on Saturday, December 16, 2017.

The annual award honors breeders who make an impact on their breed and who dedicate their lives to improving the health, temperament, and quality of purebred dogs. One honoree is chosen from each of the AKC breed groups: Sporting, Hound, Working, Terrier, Toy, Non-Sporting, and Herding. From those seven, one winner is selected as AKC Breeder of the Year.

“We are proud to honor Helyne Medeiros with the 2017 AKC Breeder of the Year award,” said AKC President/CEO Dennis Sprung said. “Her influence on the breed will be seen for years to come.”

Medeiros will be honored with a commission from a canine portraitist to memorialize a prominent dog from his/her kennel and his/her names will be inscribed on a perpetual trophy, both of which will be displayed at the AKC headquarters in New York City.

About Seasyde Pointers

Since beginning in the sport of dogs as a child, AKC Breeder of Merit Helyne Medeiros, of Cape Cod, Massachusetts, has excelled in many roles: breeder, exhibitor, mentor, educator, award-winning groomer, dog photographer, and all-breed show chair. Medeiros has bred, owned, and handled some of the sport's all-time top-winning and top-producing Pointers, with many champions, Westminster winners, multiple

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AKCbreeder@akc.org

AKC Customer Service

info@akc.org

919-233-9767

8051 Arco Corporate Drive

Raleigh, NC 27617

akc.org



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.

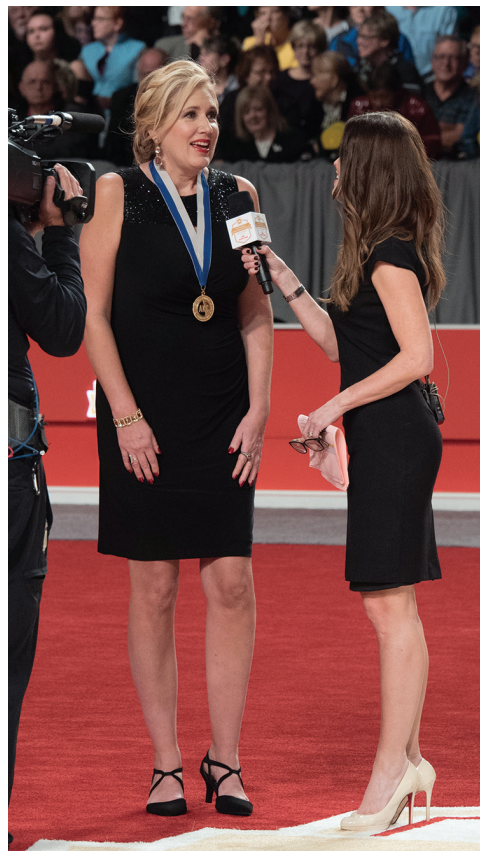
“AKC Breeder of the Year”

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Bests in Show, and the top-winning Pointer in breed history. In 2008, her Ch. Cookieland Seasyde Hollyberry was Best in Show at the AKC National Championship.

Medeiros has had multiple national-specialty Bests of Breed, and she owner-handled the first Pointer to win both the American and Canadian nationals. Dogs of her breeding have achieved at the sport’s highest levels in the United Kingdom, Europe, and South Africa.

Medeiros has had several Senior and Master Hunter titlists, along with the American Pointer Club’s award for top-producing sires and dams for several years. She has served the Cape Cod Kennel Club as an officer, director, and AKC Delegate, and was the club’s Good Sportsmanship Award winner for 2005–2006. Medeiros has served her parent club as a director and is the Pointer columnist for the *AKC Gazette*.



2017 AKC Breeder of the Year Group Honorees

Sporting

Helyne E. Medeiros,
Seasyde Pointers

Hound

Marie Cotton,
Spring Valley Rhodesian Ridgebacks

Working

Zoila (Tina) and Dr. William Truesdale,
Hi-Tech Boxers

Terrier

Karen Fitzpatrick,
Meadowlake Border Terriers

Toy

Lou Ann King,
Loteki Papillons

Non-Sporting

James Dalton,
Fabelhaft French Bulldogs

Herding

Steve Leyerly and Bill Shelton,
Coventry Pembroke Welsh Corgis

Is Your Dog Allergic to the Environment?

By Carolyn R. Gold, Gordon Setter Club of America



courtesy H. Medeiros

Following is an interview with Laura Wilson, DVM, DACVD, a veterinary dermatologist with the Pet Emergency and Specialty Center of Marin, in San Rafael, California.

What is the single most often seen dermatological “problem” and/or complaint for which you treat clients’ dogs? How are these dermatological issues treated? Are these breed-specific problems, or are there “generic” issues affecting all breeds, whether purebred or mixed-breed?

As a dermatologist, the majority of my day-to-day cases are environmentally allergic dogs (and cats), but I also treat any allergy (environmental, food, parasite), infection (bacteria, yeast, fungal), autoimmune, metabolic, endocrine, or even neoplastic condition that affects the skin, ears, paws, and claws. Symptoms of environmental allergies can range from mild itching and/or hair-coat changes, to animals with deep and painful secondary skin and ear infections that have only a few hairs on their body!

Just as their presentation can differ, the treatment plans pursued can vary, from more simple topical therapy (medicated shampoos or leave-in mousse products) and antihistamines, to allergy testing and antigen therapy.

For our younger dogs (and cats), since environmental allergies often require lifelong management, I always prefer to pursue allergy testing (just like a person seeing an allergist) and antigen therapy. Antigen therapy, administered either by a subcutaneous injection or sublingual drop, is the only form of therapy that trains the pet’s immune system not to be so reactive to airborne pollens and allergens present in their everyday environment (both indoor and outdoor allergens, just like people with hay fever).

Environmental allergies have a genetic component, so certain breeds are more frequently affected (Golden Retrievers, Labrador Retrievers, French Bulldogs, Cocker Spaniels), but

mixed-breed dogs are also affected with environmental allergies. Allergies are increasingly common, and therefore a common reason dogs are taken to their primary veterinarian and/or referred to an animal dermatologist like myself.

Not all clients choose to pursue allergy testing, for one reason or another. Other medication options include Atopica or Apoquel, daily to possibly every-other-day oral medications that block various portions of the pathway of itch and inflammation. The newest environmental

allergy treatment, recently released on the market, is injectable Cytopoint, a monoclonal antibody that blocks IL-3, a factor associated with “brain itch.” Long-term management may carry potential risks or complications and routine blood work and urinalysis evaluations are required.

Why should a dog owner pursue allergy testing and antigen therapy for environmental allergies?

A common complaint is the up-and-down success and eventual relapse in treating environmental allergies. It can be very frustrating to see our pets doing well one week, and for no obvious reason, suddenly itchy and uncomfortable! Environmental allergies often start more seasonally/sporadically and over time, progress to year-round symptoms, which sometimes can be mistaken for food allergies—making diagnosis trickier.

Most clients prefer a more natural approach to allergy management, which is antigen therapy. Each dog receives its own specific serum—a mixture of grasses, trees, weeds, human dander, house dust, storage mites, and insects identified through allergy testing. A variety of tests are offered, some more reliable than others, used to identify allergens causing a dog’s reaction. But intradermal skin testing is considered the “gold standard” for testing. A dilute mixture of the most common allergens are injected into the skin, causing a hive-like, “positive” reaction site. Antigen serum is based on these test results and given either as a regular subcutaneous injection or as a daily sublingual treatment.

Antigen therapy can take some time to reach full effectiveness (several months even up to a full year), but side effects are rare, and blood work monitoring is not typically required.

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7 Canine Flu Facts and Fallacies

What you know to be true about this common canine malady might be absolutely false.

By Sue M. Copeland, Greater Swiss Mountain Dog Club of America



Living with my Greater Swiss Mountain Dogs in Southeast Texas, I can vouch for the fact that canine influenza virus (CIV, or “canine flu”) outbreaks are scary. Fortunately, during our last one, many veterinarians, owners, and breeders leapt into action.

Facts were quickly shared via social media. Unfortunately, so were myths.

To help separate fact from fallacy, I worked through the AKC Canine Health Foundation with infectious disease expert Dr. Jason Stull, assistant professor with the Department of Veterinary Preventive Medicine at Ohio State University. Here is what I learned.

1. Fact: As with human flu, there are multiple strains of CIV. The two currently known in the U.S. are H3N8 and H3N2. The H3N8 strain has been documented in 40 states and Washington, D.C. It appears to be most common in areas of Colorado, Florida, New York, and Pennsylvania. The H3N2 strain’s original outbreak occurred in 2015 in the Chicago area. Since then, outbreaks have occurred in a number of regions, including mine. Thousands of dogs have been confirmed positive for the H3N2 virus.

2. Fact: H3N8 and H3N2 vaccines, plus the vaccine that combines both strains, don’t generally completely prevent the flu. They can, however, help reduce CIV’s severity and duration in your dog, which also helps to limit its ability to spread. Consult your local veterinarian to find out which flu vaccine would be appropriate for your dog. He or she will be able to tell you what strain is occurring in your area, and guide you in choosing the best vaccine(s).

3. Fallacy: All infected dogs show signs of infection (typically coughing, sneezing, fever, lethargy, and nasal discharge). The fact is, about 80 percent of infected dogs show signs of illness. The other 20 percent will carry the virus but show no signs. But they will still be able to spread it!

4. Fact: The flu virus is relatively easy to contain, and to kill with common disinfectants. It’s transmitted through respiratory droplets when an infected dog coughs, sneezes, or simply breathes. The droplets typically travel only a few feet, and can

live on a surface (such as floors, bowls, toys, grooming equipment, leashes—and even you) for about 48 hours.

So, wash your hands with soap and water—or use a hand sanitizer—frequently. This is especially important between contact with each of your dogs (or any dog) during an outbreak. Avoid sharing bowls, toys, crates, beds, and grooming equipment. And disinfect shared areas with a product shown to kill CIV, such as a solution of one part household bleach to 30 parts water.

5. Fallacy: The CIV vaccine can give your dog the flu. The fact is, virus in the canine flu vaccines is “killed,” meaning it has been inactivated, so it can’t infect your dog. It will, however, fire up his immune system (which could make him feel a bit puny for a few days). That’s how it serves to protect him.

6. Fact: You can’t catch the flu from your dog. H3N8 doesn’t infect other species (including us humans) at this point. However, it has been reported that cats have been infected with the H3N2 virus, which had spread to them from dogs. Cat-to-cat transmission can then occur. (There currently is no flu vaccine for cats.)

7. Fallacy: CIV is highly fatal. The fact is, fewer than 10 percent of infected dogs will die from CIV or resulting complications. Typically, dogs infected with H3N8 will recover (and thus quit shedding virus) around two weeks after first showing signs. H3N2 dogs can shed virus for about three weeks after showing signs. So, keep any dogs recovering from the flu separated from other dogs accordingly.

Bonus Fallacy: Treating your dogs with antibiotics will kill the virus. The fact is, CIV is a viral infection. Antibiotics are only effective against bacterial infections. (Your veterinarian will prescribe antibiotics, if necessary, if your dog develops a secondary bacterial infection due to CIV.)

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Canine Health Foundation Meets Its Match!

RALEIGH, NORTH CAROLINA— In early February the American Kennel Club Canine Health Foundation, a nonprofit organization committed to better health for all dogs, announced that the AKC will match all 2018 donations made in support of canine hemangiosarcoma research, up to \$250,000. The foundation also announced that the AKC will continue its Donor Match Challenge for a fourth consecutive year. The CHF met its 2017 fund-raising goals for tick-borne disease and epilepsy research initiatives, with donations matched by the AKC, dollar for dollar, up to \$250,000 for each initiative.

To read more about these initiatives, to make a donation, and to consider additional 2018 match opportunities, visit the CHF website at akcCHF.org/match.



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2017 Westminster Kennel Club Dog Show
2015 AKC™ National Championship Dog Show



Ode to the Breeder

In praise of dogdom's committed, hardworking heroes

By Faye Strauss, Doberman Pinscher Club of America



David Woo ©AKC

It took five years for me to forget how much work having a litter is. So, I tried it again. The stud dog was decided upon, and health and progesterone tests were completed. Then we took the long trip to breed the bitch to him. After one month we did an ultrasound, then in the week before whelping we did an X-ray to determine the number of puppies.

After a sleepless night when the pups were due, whelping finally began. Luckily, friends came to help. Twelve hours later we had nine healthy pups.

From day 3 to 10 we did the Super Puppy Program. This is a program developed by the military, where it was found that early neurological-stimulation exercises could have important and lasting effects.

Mother was great—but, unfortunately, she didn't have much milk. So, after day three it was time to tube- or bottle-feed. After equipment malfunctions, I decided to bottle-feed the pups. They were so hungry that they took to it immediately. We fed them three times daily. Mom still nursed, cleaned, and cuddled her crew. Every person who came into the house bottle-fed babies; this provided great socialization.

During the third week we started weaning, expanded the puppy area, and let them out on the cement deck when weather permitted. Within two weeks they were weaned.

They moved into the kitchen and the backyard, which was turned into a playground with bridges and grates to walk over, obstacles to climb, and toys to play with. Everyone was

invited to play with puppies. Sponge baths were given after each meal, and at 5 weeks we began the individual fetch-and-tug games. We also started the "puppy shows," with stacking, baiting, and evaluating. First puppy-shots were given, and the pups were wormed. At 7 weeks, we did temperament testing.

The Ear Problem

At 8 weeks, we tackled the ears. What a problem: Many veterinarians coming out of the nation's vet schools are against ear-cropping. The situation is horrible for a Doberman breeder. You can't find a vet to do ears. Here in the state of Washington, we have to go to Canada to have our litters cropped. A young vet I know said there is tremendous pressure on students not to crop.

Why are PETA and PAWS running veterinary schools? Their huge donations dictate the agenda. A recent veterinary-school graduate was told that learning how to crop ears was not considered a viable residency. We need to address this issue. Who needs a law banning cropping? It's illegal for non-veterinarians to do ears, yet the veterinary schools don't teach cropping and condemn it. Veterinarians who do ears are aging and need to teach the next generation this art. A beautiful ear-crop can enhance the dog's head and expression with correct length and width. We need proactive ear-croppers who make sure we have veterinarians in all 50 states who can and will crop. The old-timers owe it to the sport to encourage their younger brethren in this dying art.

After cropping came puppy adoption. I had two people who wanted pups uncropped. I told them if I could identify a pet before cropping, I would sell them one, but that if they ever wanted to rehome their dog, it would not be salable. People think Dobermans have cropped ears; uncropped dogs don't have the same value.

Interesting note: I didn't have enough puppies for the good homes.

I think I will buy my next puppy. Breeders are the backbone of our sport, and I commend them for all their hard work.

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Welcome to the Club



GBGV: David Woo @akc; Kooikerhondje: courtesy Diana Han

Two new breeds were admitted to the AKC Stud Book on January 1:

The Grand Basset Griffon Vendéen, a French rabbit hunter, entered the Hound Group, and a Dutch duck dog, the Nederlandse Kooikerhondje, entered the Sporting Group. Both breeds are now eligible to be exhibited in their respective groups. Congratulations to the hardworking breeders and exhibitors who guided these breeds down the long road to AKC approval.

Help Fight for Breeders' Rights

The AKC Government Relations department draws your attention to two ways you can help the AKC protect the rights of dog breeders.

The Canine Legislative Support Fund educates and advocates on breeders' behalf at the federal, state, and local levels and to ensure your rights as a responsible dog owner are protected. These funds may not be used to contribute to political campaigns.

Separately, AKC Political Action Committee (PAC) funds are obtained exclusively from individuals and used to contribute to campaigns to help elect dog-friendly leadership in Congress and statehouses across the nation. PAC funds may not be used to lobby officials once they are in office or to influence legislation. They may be used only in campaigns.

To learn more about these initiatives, and to make a contribution to either fund, search "Government Relations" at akc.org.

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