



AIREDALE TERRIER CLUB OF GREATER PHILADELPHIA

A I R E W A V E S

April 2012

FROM THE PRESIDENT – Bill Kochler

I think we can safely say goodbye to a truly remarkable winter and turn our thoughts to spring. It is also the time when we change our monthly meetings to Friday evenings.

I want to thank all those members who have agreed to serve as officers and board members for the coming year. As you will note, these are the same individuals who have been recycling themselves, in lieu of members willing to take a more active roll, in fulfilling our Club's mission statement.

Don't forget our twenty-sixth annual Sweepstakes and Specialty Show on Saturday, May 12, in conjunction with the Chester Valley Kennel Club Show. Details can be found in this issue.

Thanks to all our members who included donations to the Trophy, Rescue, and Hospitality Funds with their 2012 dues.

Aches and Pains Association Day: I wrote a letter to the editor of the Allentown Morning Call, on behalf of the ATCGP and Airedale Rescue, giving well-deserved thanks to the Lehigh Valley Kennel Club for sponsoring the event. My letter elicited a thank you from the Kennel Club as well as an acknowledgement letter from a state senator, Lisa Boscola, who is a staunch supporter of humane treatment of pets.

MARCH LUNCHEON

Nineteen members and guests gathered at the Phoenixville Country Club on Sunday, March 18, for the Club's annual luncheon and installation of officers and board members for 2012.

After some socialization and cocktails, President Bill Kochler called on Nominating Committee Chair Jack McLaughlin to read the nominees:

President - William Kochler
Vice President - Karen Coffey
Secretary - Brenda McCann
Treasurer - Ann Kochler

Directors - Adele Abe
Leslie Apple
Richard Eyman
Jack McLaughlin
Barbara Vaughn

Since there were no nominations from the floor, Secretary Brenda McCann cast a ballot to elect the above slate.

After a delicious luncheon, President Kochler introduced our guest speaker, Mary Beth Moran, a certified Canine Massage Therapist, who introduced the audience to massage therapy. This is the application of hands-on, deep tissue techniques to the muscle system.

CANINE LEARNING EXPERIENCE – Mike Lurski



Once again, Airedale Rescue is grateful to the ATCGP for inviting us to participate in the annual Canine Learning Experience in Allentown, PA, on January 28.

The primary purpose of this event is to give the public an opportunity to learn about various breeds (over thirty were featured), as well as their rescue groups. Mike and Serafina Lurski represented Airedale Rescue, sharing a booth with Bill and Ann Kochler, Judy Mullikin, Jack McLaughlin, and Dave and Joan Herman.

As usual, many people stopped by to inquire about Airedales and their suitability for their family circumstances. Previous and current Airedale owners relished sharing stories—many quite humorous.

As a totally unexpected bonus, our booth, which displayed colorful and interesting information about grooming Airedales (grooming being the theme of this year's booth decorations) won an honorable mention ribbon, because, as the judge succinctly praised us, "you took the theme and ran with it."

Foster Kochler and Cooper Herman represented Airedales, attracting many visitors and earning compliments for their exemplary behavior, good looks, curiosity and friendliness.





their work in preparing the booth display. Leslie created outstanding poster display detailing how to groom both show and pet Airedales. Jack educated the owners of a visiting Airedale by grooming it on a table in front of the booth, drawing onlookers and impressing the judges.

Much gratitude goes to Leslie Apple and Jack McLaughlin for

ATCGP CALENDAR

May 11	CVKC Supported Entry	Ludwigs Corner Show Grounds
May 12	Annual Specialty and Sweeps	Ludwigs Corner Show Grounds
May 18	Meeting, Friday 7:30 PM	West Vincent Twp. Bldg.
June 15	Meeting, Friday 7:30 PM,	West Vincent Twp. Bldg

ANNUAL RAFFLE

Our annual raffle is an Airedale Clock made by Park Peters. It is donated by Adele Abe. Raffle tickets are available from the club secretary, Brenda McCann. E-mail: Kodiak@ptdprolog.net. Telephone is: 610-331-6948.

AIREDALE CLOCK donated by Adele Abe



The dimensions are: 19" high 10 3/8" wide, 4 1/4" deep, but the top piece measures 12 1/4" or so by about 5 1/2"

Raffle tickets are available from the club secretary, Brenda McCann, e-mail addy is: Kodiak@ptdprolog.net; telephone is: 610-331-6948 cell.

LITTERS

Richard Eyman has 2 female puppies available. They were whelped on March 18. His phone number is 717-665-5200. This number is a business phone so leave a message.

Valeria Rickard has 1 female puppy whelped in March and 2 male puppies and 1 female puppy whelped in mid-April. Her phone number is 703-919-8753.

For other puppy information, contact Doris McLaughlin at 302-239-4904.

AIREDALE RESCUE AND ADOPTION OF THE DELAWARE VALLEY – Mike Lurski

Three Airedales have been adopted this year. Roxy, Goobie, and Lily have found homes. There are four others still available. Six-year-old Ben lived outside his whole life. He was left behind when his family moved. Handsome and friendly, he just needs some socialization. Canela, a seven-year-old female, is tall and sweet. Sadly, she was given up when her owners had a baby. Ace is only two and has shown true Airedale spirit by adapting well since his front leg had to be removed. He has lived with other dogs and an active family. The fourth is seven-year-old Brody, who is sweet and gentle. If any member knows someone who may be interested in giving any of these four a permanent home, please have them contact our rescue group.

Aire Faire IV will be held on June 10 (rain date June 24) from 11 am to 2 pm at the home of Joey Fineran, President of Airedale Rescue and Adoption of the Delaware Valley. The annual summer event has always been a big success and lots of fun for attendees, human and canine.

Our rescue group heartily invites all ATCGP members to attend. Anyone interested in coming should e-mail me their e-mail address or send me their home address; a flyer will be sent to you in early May announcing the event, complete with directions to Joey's home. My e-mail address is: seramike19@yahoo.com. My mailing address is 2941 Nijaro Rd., Bethlehem, PA 18020.

Following are some excerpts from an article about our last Aire Faire that I wrote for the Rescue Newsletter which should give you a good idea of what the event is like.

“Life is merrier with an Airedale Terrier”, as a popular bumper sticker asserts, was never so true as on Sunday, June 19, 2011, at our third annual Aire Faire held at the home of our Airedale Rescue President, Joey Fineran.

About 40 rescue adopters and other Airedale owners, along with approximately two dozen Airedales, mostly rescues, and a Chihuahua, a poodle, and a Giant Schnauzer showed up. Possibly because it was Father's Day, attendance was down by about half compared to the past two years.

The dogs had a chance to meet one another. There was no fighting between Airedales, just a few minor disagreements. It was very satisfying, though not necessarily surprising, to witness how well they got along. There was a wide range of ages, sizes, physical features, and idiosyncrasies, though all the dogs shared one trait this day—good looks and excellent behavior.

A group photo of owners and dogs was taken. Positioning everyone for this photo shoot proved to be a challenging task and entertaining sight. Typical Airedale stubbornness and individuality ruled for a while, but eventually dogs, along with their owners, faced the cameras!

Many attendees visited Blooming Dales, the on-site store featuring Airedale paraphernalia. Sales surpassed \$800.

...a silent and then spirited live auction brought in over \$400. The long-awaited raffling of the Airedale quilt attracted almost \$900! This unique, highly valued quilt, created by Kate Hefright, was won by Frances Jarvis. And, finally, various donations, all very generous, totaled almost \$2,500. One donation was promised for some expensive

The Airedale Terrier Club of Greater Philadelphia

in conjunction with Chester Valley Kennel Club invites you to

Back to Back Breed Shows On

Friday and Saturday, May 11th & 12th, 2012

**to be held at
Ludwig's Corner, PA**

Friday, May 11th

Supported Airedale Entry

Judge: Mr. Clay Cody

Saturday, May 12th

Our 26th Annual Specialty Show & Sweepstakes

Judges: Regular Classes: Mrs. Roberta Campbell

Sweepstakes: Mrs. Elizabeth Mattison

The Barbara Strebeigh Bowl will be awarded to Best of Breed

❖ Our Own Private Ring & Parking Area with Adjacent Grooming & Hospitality Tent.

(Club Hosted Tailgate Party after Judging)

Entries Close April 25, 2012

Superintendent: MB-F

For Additional Information: Contact William Kochler, Show Chairman (610) 827-7889

AIREDALE TERRIER CLUB OF METRO **WASHINGTON FUN DAY**

Sunday, May 6, 2012

10:30am

Acredale Park, 4300 Metzert Rd., College Park, Maryland

Non-members welcome too!!

10:30 am Demonstration of Tricks and Behaviors

10:45 am Break into small training groups*

Bring lots of small, soft treats

Clickers will be provided

11:30 am Demonstration and explanation of the

Canine Good Citizenship test.**

12:00 pm Lunch

1:00 pm Board Meeting

*Ann Riley, Jessica Rabin and Corally Burmaster will each take a small group of people and help each person teach his dog a few behaviors.

**We will hold a CGC evaluation in the fall so you can get this AKC award for your dog!

PICNIC: The afternoon will feature a picnic. Everyone should plan on bringing a dish of some sort. Please contact Nora Dudman (ndudman@comcast.net) to coordinate food and drinks. We will have a covered pavilion with tables and benches, and there are lots of trees. Please bring the family.

DON'T FORGET: Bowls and water and pick up bags for your dogs.

For additional info, contact: Corally Burmaster: 703-777-2277.

E-mail: clickertrain@erols.com

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THE AIREDALE HEALTH FOUNDATION – Laura Post

Working Together with Airedale Owners to Foster the Health of the Airedale

The Airedale Health Foundation (AHF) is a non-profit, charitable organization dedicated to improving the health and future of the Airedale. The core board at AHF consists of long-term Airedale owners who have had experience with the breed in a variety of venues (rescue, conformation and performance, and SPCA involvement). This core board manages the administrative requirements for maintaining the organization as well as participates in the activities of AHF. Along with the core board, AHF has an extensive advisory board that includes 1) many conscientious breeders with proven track records of producing quality Airedales, and who consistently concern themselves with reducing health issues when and where possible; and 2) credentialed professionals such as veterinarians and researchers in the fields of canine health and genetics who offer guidance toward addressing key concerns.

The core goals at AHF are to support Airedale and canine research as it applies to protecting and improving the health of the breed and the health of the dog. This support is by monetary support of the Airedale DNA & Data Bank, making it as easy as possible for Airedale owners to share health information and send in their dogs' blood samples to the Bank which is shared with researchers as a way to aid their studies of disease as it affects the breed and the canine in general. AHF strives to work cooperatively with pet owners, breeders, researchers, veterinarians, and the public on areas such as health education, breeder education, optimizing the pet-owner relationship, and health surveys when needed. This system creates a network of communication which leads to a more well-rounded understanding about how to improve and protect the health of the breed.

The Airedale Health Foundation Web Site

As part of the goal to support Airedale owners and prospective owners with current breed health information, AHF has created a web site which houses information about research studies on diseases known to affect the Airedale breed and contains a link to the Airedale Health Survey, a survey which collects health data from owners on their Airedales. The results from the survey are monitored by canine geneticists who can then add Airedale DNA samples to their research projects where appropriate. The results of the survey can also be viewed by the Airedale community in real time. The survey is impartially maintained through OFA at www.offa.org/surveys/survey_airedale.html. Additional features on the AHF web site are: 1) a current breeder education literature references; 2) a summary of the major health issues seen in the breed based on veterinarian input and the results from the Airedale Health Survey; 3) updates from canine geneticists on research needs and findings that pertain to the Airedale by way of a biannual Airedale Research e-Newsletter; 4) information about how to submit your Airedale's blood sample to the Airedale DNA & Data Bank; and 5) contact information if Airedale owners have health issues or concerns about their Airedales.

What is the Airedale Health Foundation Web Site Address?

www.airedalehealthfoundation.org

How do I contact AHF about health issues or concerns? Write us

at: airedalehealthfoundation@yahoo.com

Where do I go to fill out the Airedale Health Survey or to see the survey results?

www.offa.org/surveys/survey_airedale.html

What is the Airedale DNA & Data Bank?

Each Airedale has a genetic blueprint which is a piece of the Airedale genetic puzzle, and researchers can use its DNA to map the Airedale genetic codes. As Dr. Kerstin Lindblad-Toh explains, "Since completing the sequencing of the canine genome, the real bottleneck to understanding inheritance of disease and how to breed away from it is in getting blood samples from dogs." Dr. Lindblad-Toh leads the dog disease-mapping group at the Broad Institute of Harvard and MIT. She and her research team

are mapping over 20 diseases in the canine including cancer, autoimmune, cardiac, and neurological diseases. She and the team of researchers at Broad also oversee the Airedale DNA & Data Bank.

For studying diseases in our breed, we need blood samples from all Airedales, healthy and affected, for these studies. From these blood samples, DNA can be extracted for use in studying the genetics of canine disease. So a very effective way to aid research and our knowledge about how to improve health in the breed is to submit a blood sample from our Airedales to the Airedale DNA & Data Bank.

How to Submit Your Airedale's blood sample?

A full set of instructions can be found at www.airedalehealthfoundation.org/id16.html. Essentially, the process is easy. Your veterinarian can collect 5-10 mls of blood from your Airedale and store it in an EDTA tube (something vet clinics routinely carry). This tube of blood can then be mailed (along with a cold pack) to the Airedale DNA & Data Bank. If owners ask for the extra draw of blood at the time of a routine annual visit (during the heartworm check), veterinarians will often provide the service at no charge (mention the blood will be used for research). Ask your vet for a cold pack as well for including in the mailing package. A breeder recently informed us that the collection of blood from three of his Airedales cost a total of \$9.00 (the cost of mailing the samples). (One entry fee at a dog show can often be triple this cost of mailing in three blood samples!)

The amount of blood (5-10 mls) allows for the extraction of a considerable amount of DNA which can be partitioned and used in many research projects.

Also, for ease of sample submission for our international Airedale owners, we have two international locations for blood sample submission—one in Europe and one in Australia.

Where do I find the instructions on how to submit my Airedale's blood sample?

www.airedalehealthfoundation.org/id16.html or write airedalehealthfoundation@yahoo.com

Why do we ask for blood samples from healthy Airedales?

Most people have had a science class where they used a “control group” in an experiment to compare the differences in the experiment. This is the basis of sound science. Many normal DNA samples are needed for investigators to establish the normal, healthy, genetic sequence pattern in the Airedale breed.

Once the normal sequence is established, the investigators can compare the normal sequence to the genetic sequence of the ill Airedales. The areas where the genetic patterns are different may indicate the gene or genes (markers) that are suspect in the development of a disease. The identification of such gene markers would increase the speed or possibility that the investigator would have productive results.

What does the “Data” part of the Bank mean?

When you send in your Airedale's blood sample, you will see a “consent form” link in the instructions on the AHF site. This consent form will ask for some diagnostic and/or health information about your dog. This is the place to let the researchers know of any health concerns with your dog or if your dog is healthy. The consent form will also allow the researchers to contact you and your veterinarian for more information on any health issues. For some diseases, results of biopsies or other diagnostic information will be needed, and often in a time-sensitive manner. So the consent form allows for effective communication between owners, the owners' vet, and the researchers.

Also, on the AHF web site – you will find a link for updating your Airedale's health status as your dog ages and should the health status change. The “data” part of the bank will house this crucial health information for your dog. And all communication between owner, vet, and researchers is *confidential* unless the owner gives consent to share. Because of this confidentiality, breeders can have no fear of reproach or inappropriate blame for sharing health information, information that will aid breeders in the long run on learning to steer away from health issues. As researchers have shown breeders, it is important not to cull lines that have health issues (all lines will see health issues over time), but to learn to breed away from the issues. Learning how to do this is how the canine researchers can aid breeders. The Airedale Community (breeders and owners) can help research by providing their Airedales' blood samples and health records to the Bank.

Want to see an example of how the network between AHF, Airedale owners, and researchers works? Visit the AHF web site and read about the identification of the degenerative myelopathy mutation in Airedales at <http://airedalehealthfoundation.org/id55.html>

What kind of diseases are canine researchers studying?

The list is almost inexhaustible, but certainly the key issues seen in all breeds, including the Airedale, are being researched. To name a few examples: cancers, autoimmune issues like Addison's disease (hypoadrenocorticism), lupus, autoimmune hemolytic anemia, diabetes, hypothyroidism, and the genetic components behind structural issues like hip dysplasia, and neurological issues like epilepsy, cerebellar ataxia, and skin issues, cardiac issues, and renal (kidney) issues.

Don't see a health issue listed here that concerns your dog? Write us. The issue may very well be an active area of research or will open up an area of research. Having the research community network with us makes it so Airedale owners don't have to be experts about what's going on in current research – but can benefit from the research community's input and direction – and ultimately learn from the results of their studies!

Airedale Research e-Newsletters

The Broad Researchers overseeing the Airedale DNA & Data Bank are publishing a bi-annual e-newsletter through AHF to keep the Airedale community informed as to the researchers' needs and to share research findings on disease studies.

To get on the mailing list for these newsletters, write airedalehealthfoundation@yahoo.com.

Additional Projects supported by AHF (this list will grow as projects and participation develop)

- Sequencing of the Airedale genome
- Study of cerebellar ataxia in Airedales
- A homozygosity (how inbred are Airedales?) study by Dr. Angela Hughes at MARS Veterinary. (DNA samples separate from the Airedale DNA & Data Bank were submitted by Airedale breeders for this study.)

Donations to AHF (501 (c) (3)).

Because the interest in the Airedale Health Foundation and its goals has been enthusiastically supported and encouraged by many in the Airedale community, we welcome both donations and participation.

Fostering the Health of the Airedale Starts with You! Please participate by sending in your Airedale's blood sample and by sharing the health history of your 'Dale' with the Bank.

Laura Post is a former research scientist with a PhD in biochemistry with an emphasis in molecular biology. She became involved with Airedales almost 25 years ago when she met her husband, David, an Airedale enthusiast who is also a veterinarian and former research scientist in genetics.

Their kennel name is Texter which is coined from the words "Texas" and "terriers". Not surprisingly, they live in Texas with their Airedales, three cats, and a rescue Boxer, a rescue Dachshund, and a rescue long-haired Chihuahua.

[Editor's Note] I have been told that results of this testing so far indicate that our breed is 78% inbred, which is quite high. So far, only five breeds have been identified that are more inbred.