

MID OHIO NAVHDA DECEMBER 2010 NEWSLETTER

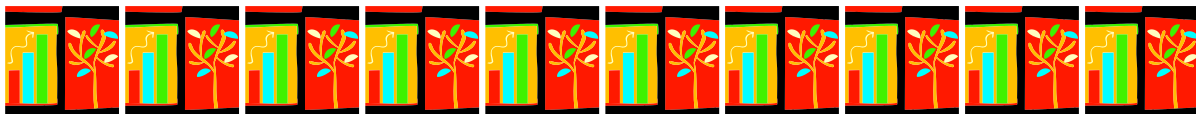


I wish I could have been to the year end celebration, but I know all was warm, wonderful, and 'yummy' because all of you are so giving in your expertise, friendship, and culinary skill. Knowing Rita Revercomb and Libby Behnke's baking skills as nothing short of spectacular, you all must have gained at least two pounds from the party.

I believe the board members will continue with the exception of Stu Smith. We need someone to take over the equipment position and I am not sure who has assumed that role; if that wasn't decided at the meeting, who will step up? I am to understand that Bill Revercomb will take the lead again, but this will be his last year as president of Mid-Ohio NAVHDA. Bill, you have been and continue to be a source of secure, benevolent leadership. Your shoes will be difficult to fill. We all have been enlightened by you. The 'kudos' go out to Stu, Berry, Ron, Matt, Andrew, and Jeff for all your efforts throughout this 2010 Mid-Ohio year. I hope all have enjoyed the newsletters and other communication efforts, but the real thanks go out to Jeff George for his providing birds for training days and tests. Nothing works without the birds. Nothing! Ron, your training expertise and help is exceptional...we all wish to be as knowledgeable as you! Matt, your legal, monetary, and culinary expertise is superb. Andrew, Stu's "shoes" were hard to fill as our test secretary, but your patience and thoroughness help to make our tests even possible.

Another thanks goes out to all those who were responsible in finding out about the changes happening at the training grounds, understanding what was actually changing, contacting ODNr, going to meeting at ODNr, writing proposals to ODNr for our usage for both training and test days, and the success in securing the training grounds for our use. It was a significant undertaking with an immediate, positive impact. Had all of these members not been so concise and legally knowledgeable, the outcome could have been quite negative for our chapter. I know all of us feel like stewards in keeping the available grounds better for having used them, but we all need to realize changes can happen quite suddenly and without notice. With this said, I believe we all must keep options open by looking for other sites for training and tests. Keep your eyes open and talk to people that may have suitable grounds with suitable water for Mid-Ohio NAVHDA.

I want to add that this year hasn't been an exception to the smiles and fondness for all of you. Once a month, if not more with another member during the week, plans are made to meet. Being with friends, new and old, and being outside with our dogs and learning and seeing great dog work makes such an impact. You all are great. You all add energy. You all add to the whole. Thank you. hh



Miscellaneous Dog Facts:

From the Dog Watch magazine, Cornell University College of Veterinary Medicine- May 2010 AKC Expands Its Benefits to Mutts...

Founded in 1884 as a registry for pure-bred dogs, the American Kennel Club didn't offer many perks for your beloved Labrador-Collie mix. But starting April 1, 2010, the AKC Canine Partners Program now offers mutts not only membership benefits, but opportunities to compete at dog sporting events, as well.

"As time went on, the AKC became an organization that promoted responsible dog ownership and was dedicated to bringing awareness to animal causes," says AKC spokesperson Lisa Peterson of expanding its services."

As an AKC member, dogs receive perks such as trial health care plans and enrollment in the AKC's lost and found recovery service. While the 'conformation events' will still only be open to the 164 AKC-recognized breeds, companion events—such as agility and obedience competitions—are now open to all dogs.

Your Dog magazine/April 2010

- High cholesterol doesn't predispose dogs to heart disease
- When excited, the Basenji emits a yodeling noise
- Cocker spaniels are prone to ear canal infections
- Chemotherapy works by damaging rapidly growing cancer cells
- The most common disease in dogs: gum disease
- Spending on grooming and boarding in 2009: \$3.4 billion

Be an equal opportunity adopter....Give a puppy and an adult dog equal consideration in deciding between them...Pat Miller

Pros and Cons of puppies and adult dogs

Pros of Puppies:

- They are adorable and attract attention—everyone love puppies
- They don't usually have to unlearn a lot of inappropriate behaviors
- They have sweet puppy breath
- They learn quickly
- They may have a long life ahead of them

Cons of Puppies:

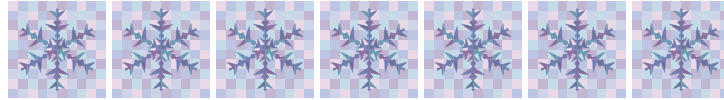
- They chew a lot
- They have sharp teeth
- They eliminate frequently
- They need vaccinations
- They're not spayed or neutered
- They haven't had training
- You won't know their size and appearance as an adult

Pros of Adult Dogs

- They are past the worst of chewing
- They may already be housetrained and spayed, or neutered
- They don't require as many vaccinations
- What you see is what you get in size and appearance
- They may have had some training
- They can be left home alone for longer periods of time
- You may be their last chance for a lifelong loving home

Cons of Adult Dogs

- They may arrive with behavior problems
- If they have significant behavior problems, such as aggression, fear, isolation and separation issues, you may need to invest a large amount of time and resources to fix them
- Depending of their age, you may face senior dog health issues sooner rather than later



For the Health of Your Dog:

Your Dog Magazine.....June 2010

A Novel Treatment Can Prevent Bloat....Surgeons attach the stomach to the abdominal wall to avoid distention—Lori Luechtefeld

The fear of gastric dialation-volvulus (GDV), or bloat—not knowing if or when it will strike—is a powerful force among some owners of high-risk breeds. Rather than risk the development of this painful, life-threatening condition in their dogs, an increasing number of owners choose to take pre-emptive action. They have veterinarians perform a prophylactic (preventative) gastropexy on their dogs. During this procedure, a surgeon attaches the dog's stomach to the abdominal wall, virtually eliminating the possibility of bloat.

GDV occurs when a dog's stomach distends with food and gas, and then rotates or twists. Although all dogs—including mixed breeds- can develop the condition, the incidence is particularly high among certain large, deep-chested breeds, including Great Danes, German shepherd dogs and bloodhounds.

GDV often strikes without any warning. Immediate veterinary attention and surgical intervention is necessary and often saves the dog's life. After stabilizing the dog, the veterinarian performs an emergency surgical procedure to untwist the stomach and, as in the prophylactic measure, attaches the stomach to the abdominal wall to prevent future episodes. The surgeon also assesses the stomach for areas of damage caused by interruption of the stomach's blood supply and removes areas that are significantly compromised. Despite aggressive treatment, fatality rates from GDV range from 15 to 24 percent.

Dr. Glickman, VMD, DrPh, a researcher at North Carolina State University of Veterinary School Medicine at Chapel Hill, explains that the incidence of GDV varies greatly among breeds, even those of similar size. Previously, while at Purdue University School of Veterinary Medicine, Dr. Glickman sought to answer some questions about the causes of GDV. He tracked more than 1,900 dogs over the course of five years to compare the incidence and breed-related risk factors among 11 giant and large breeds, and found that certain breeds demonstrated much higher risks than others.

For example, on average, Dr. Glickman found that 5.3 percent of the Great Danes in his study developed GDV annually. Other giant breeds studied showed considerably lower rates of GDV. Irish wolfhounds developed GDV at half the annual rate (2.6 percent per year) of Great Danes, and Newfoundlands and Saint Bernards were even lower at 1.0 percent and 0.6 percent, respectively.

Annual incidence rates among other large-breed dogs were as follows:

- Akitas, 2.5 %

- Bloodhounds, 3.9%
- Collies, 2.1%
- Irish Setters, 2.4%
- Rottweilers, 0.4%
- Standard poodles, 2.4%
- Weimaraners, 2.1%

German shepherd dogs weren't included in the study; however, the breed is typically recognized as high risk.

While these single-digit percentages might seem low at first glance, the numbers become graver when extrapolated. Assuming an average life span of eight years for Great Danes, Dr. Glickman says that a 5.3% annual risk means the lifetime risk of a Great Dane developing GDV could be as high as 40% or more.

He later combined his information on breed-specific GDV incidence with published data on average breed life spans to estimate lifetime GDV risks in these dogs:

- Irish setters, 24.9%
- Rottweilers, 3.9%
- Standard poodles, 25.3%
- Weimaraners, 19.1%

While it's obvious that size and breed can determine a dog's risk of developing GDV, they aren't the only factors. Another key element is family history. It's known that GDV tends to cluster in certain lines of dogs. If a member of the dog's family has had GDV, it's likely others in the line will develop it at some point too. Veterinarians often will suggest/recommend that all dogs in that line be spayed or neutered. Unfortunately, because GDV tends to strike older dogs, many dogs are well beyond their breeding years before the condition develops.

Many veterinary researchers are confident that genetic mutations may be the basis of GDV, but none has yet been identified. Until then, much of the decision to have a prophylactic gastropexy performed relies on an owner's perception of risk.

As both human medicine and veterinary medicine continue to develop, minimally-invasive procedures that may result in faster recovery times than traditional 'open' procedures. There are options for prophylactic gastropexy: laparoscopically or the traditional open gastropexy. The surgery where the gastropexies were performed within the body via a scope and small incisions seemed to recover faster than those who underwent laparoscopic-assisted gastropexy, in which part of the procedure is done outside the body. Both procedures are less invasive than the traditional open gastropexy.

The costs the surgery varies regionally. There is one pet insurance that does cover the costs associated with the GDV surgery. They have found that in the long run, covering the cost for preventative surgery may be cost effective especially for those breeds at higher risk.

Protecting your dog and the decisions surrounding this concept isn't just about dollars and cents. If your dog is among the breeds considered at high risk for GDV, consult your veterinarian and carefully weigh your options. "There are very strong reasons to think about having the procedure done," Dr. Berg of Cummings School says. "With risk numbers as high as 25% or more in some breeds, it just makes sense.

GDV signs range from anxiety to collapse, while the effects are system-wide.....

Gastric dilatation-volvulus strikes an estimated 60,000 dogs in the U.S. annually. When the stomach twists and is unable to expel food and gas causing dilation, its blood supply may become compromised.

Organs and systems throughout the body are severely affected, according to the American College of Veterinary Surgeons.

As the disease progresses, respiration and cardiac activity are diminished, resulting in poor oxygen delivery to tissues, known as hypoxia. Hypoxia can lead to cell death in the liver, kidneys and other vital organs, as well as abnormal heart beats, or cardiac arrhythmias. The blockage of blood flow to the spleen and the stomach wall may necessitate surgical removal of the compromised tissues.

In addition, GDV can result in the release of toxins into the body, potentially resulting in additional cardiac arrhythmias, acute kidney or liver failure, and inflammation throughout the body.

Because death and complication rates increase the longer the disease goes untreated, it's vital that owners recognize the signs:

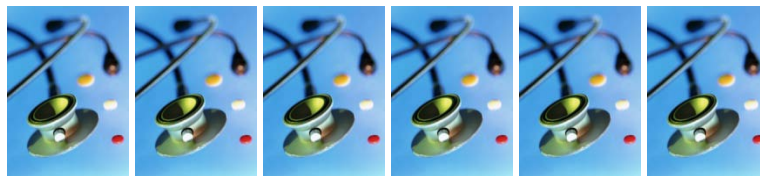
- ✓ Anxiety
- ✓ Standing and stretching
- ✓ Drooling
- ✓ A distended abdomen
- ✓ Retching
- ✓ Panting
- ✓ Weakness and eventual collapse

Many of these patients are in shock due to the effects on the entire body.

Other factors besides breed contribute to the risk of GDV

In addition to breed, many other factors play a significant role in determining a dog's risk of gastric dilation-volvulus. While at Purdue University School of Veterinary Medicine, Dr. Larry Glickman found these to be statistically significant:

- I. **FOOD BOWLS.** Dr. Glickman's research on large and giant breeds found that dogs who eat from raised food bowls are twice as likely to develop GDV as dogs whose food bowls rest on the floor.
- II. **SIZE AND FREQUENCY OF MEALS.** Dogs fed a single meal a day appear to be at greater risk for GDV than those who're fed two smaller meals or have food left out to eat at will.
- III. **AGE.** For every year in age, a dog's risk of developing GDV increases. Risk generally peaks at about 8 years of age in most high-risk breeds, although the peak risk is lower in breeds like Great Danes, who have shorter life spans.
- IV. **FAMILY HISTORY.** Dogs with first-degree relatives who had GDV are 63% more likely to develop it than those without a family history of the disease.



Recipe of the Month:

Savory Parmesan Bites

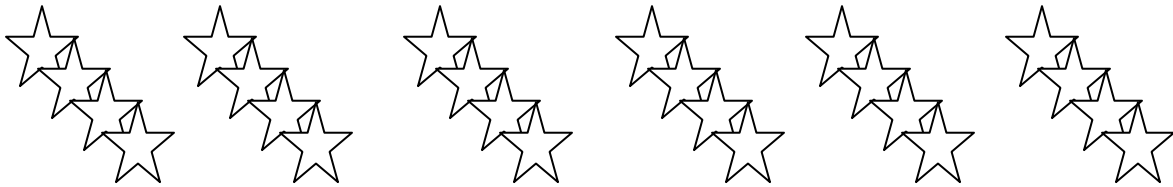
- 1 pkg. (8oz.) cream cheese, softened
- 1 cup grated parmesan cheese, divided
- 2 cans (8oz. each) refrigerated crescent dinner rolls
- 1 red pepper, chopped
- ¼ cup chopped fresh parsley

Heat oven to 350*.

Beat cream cheese and ¾ cup parmesan with mixer until well blended.

Separate dough into 8 rectangles; seal seams. Spread with cream cheese mixture; top with peppers and parsley. Fold each rectangle lengthwise into thirds to enclose filling; cut into 4 squares. Place, seams down, on baking sheet; top with remaining parmesan

Bake 13-15 minutes or until golden brown.



Red Velvet Cupcakes

- 1 pkg. (2-layer size) red velvet cake mix
- 1 pkg. (3.9 oz.) Jell-O chocolate instant pudding
- 1 pkg. (8 oz.) cream cheese, softened
- ½ cup butter or margarine, softened
- 1 pkg. (16 oz.) powdered sugar (about 4 cups)
- 1 cup thawed Cool Whipped topping
- 1 square Baker's white chocolate, shaved into curls

Prepare cake batter and bake as directed on package for 24 cupcakes, blending dry pudding mix into batter before spooning into prepared muffin cups. Cool.

Beat cream cheese and butter in large bowl with mixer until well blended. Gradually beat in sugar. Whisk in Cool Whip. Spoon 1 ½ cups into small freezer-weight resealable plastic bag; seal bag. Cut small corner off bottom of bag. Insert tip of bag into top of each cupcake to pipe about 1 Tbsp. frosting into center of cupcake.

Frost cupcakes with remaining frosting. Top with chocolate curls. Keep refrigerated. Serves 24.

