

A CLUB FOR PERSONS INTERESTED IN DOGS AND THE SPORT OF DOGS.
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Information for the newsletter, including brags, needs to be submitted by the first week of the month to be included in the next newsletter. Please email submissions to the editor.

## WHAT DOG OWNERS NEED TO KNOW ABOUT THE FDA'S GRAIN-FREE DIET ALERT



The FDA is investigating potential links between canine heart disease and diet - specifically grain-free dog food diets. We've compiled the information you need to know to understand this ongoing investigation.

## Why is the FDA Investigating Grain-Free Dog Food?

It is easy to panic anytime we see an FDA headline about pet food. After all, keeping our dogs healthy is essential to us, and we know that diet can make a big difference in a dog's well-being. We reached out to Dr. Jerry Klein, the Chief Veterinary Officer of the AKC, to hear his thoughts on the ongoing FDA investigation.
"The FDA is investigating a potential dietary link between canine dilated cardiomyopathy (DCM) and dogs eating certain grain-free dog foods. The foods of concern are those containing legumes such as peas or lentils, other legume seeds, or potatoes listed as primary ingredients. The FDA began investigating this matter after it received reports of DCM in dogs that had been eating these diets for a period of months to years. DCM itself is not considered rare in dogs, but these reports are unusual because the disease occurred in breeds of dogs not typically prone to the disease."

Between January 1,2014 and April 30, 2019, the FDA received 524 reports of DCM ( 515 dogs, 9 cats), and most reports were submitted after the FDA's first public alert in July 2018. The total number of pets affected is greater than 524 because some reports included multi-pet households.

## What is Canine Heart Disease or Dilated Cardiomyopathy (DCM)?

Dilated cardiomyopathy (DCM) is a type of canine heart disease that affects the heart muscle. The hearts of dogs with DCM have a decreased ability to pump blood, which often results in congestive heart failure.
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## NEXT MEETING July 18, 2019

Seward Civic Center 616 Bradford St, Seward, NE 68434
Board Meeting 7:00pm - General Meeting 7:30pm

May 16, 2019 SCKC Board Meeting
Start time 7:20pm call to order by Cindy Hill
Minutes of the last board meeting read and motion to accept minutes made by Linda Soukup and 2nd by Mary Bristol.

Secretary's report - Secretary will be gone for June meeting Cindy Hill volunteered to record minutes.

Treasure report read and motion to accept made by Tanya Williams and 2nd by Linda Soukup.

No new business.
No old business.
Motion for adjournment made by Tanya Williams and 2nd by Linda Soukup.

Meeting adjourned at 7:28pm.

## May 16, 2019 SCKC Regular Meeting

Meeting called to order by Cindy Hill at $8: 34 \mathrm{pm}$.
Minutes read motion to approve minutes made by Marissa Nelson and 2nd by Linda Soukup.

Secretary 's report - Secretary will be gone in June.
Treasure report read and motion to approve made by Tanya Williams and 2nd by Marissa Nelson.

Report of committees
Awards/Trophy- 2 trophies were not given out so they can be recycled in years to come. Tanya got a thank you letter from Sandy Crawford, Annella cooper, Nancy Gallant, and Edweena McDowell.

Chief ring steward report- donation of $\$ 125$ to the Boyscouts for stewarding at the dog show 3 scouts helped in the $4-\mathrm{H}$ building, 7 in Ag Hall.

Dog lover's day June 20th 6:30 pm bring a cover dish will take place south of the 4-H building.

Fun Match- C-Match-10 people had participated in this year's C-Match on Saturday. Mary Bristol motion to have C-Match on Friday 24th $4-6 \mathrm{pm}$, $\$ 5$ for 6 minutes of the SCKC dog show April 25-26. Motion passed.

Obedience class starts June 3rd to the 15th of July 7 -week class registration on the 3rd 6:30-7:00.

Spring Class- Diane Nitz would like to specify for Advanced/ Coaching class open to CGC dogs only. They would have to show that the dog has CGC title via paperwork or AKC website. Instructors: Cindy Hill, Chris Corum and Morgan Ehlers are interested in helping.

Show Report- Vicki Nolte reports there few hitches good review from the few hiccups from working with a new superintendent. Judges and workers dinner discussion of saving a couple of casseroles back for people that come later. Which also creates difficultly in timing. There was a problem at the motel that was reserved by Tabitha but so other handlers use the room. It was a non-smoking room the occupants smoked in the room and tried to cover it up and denied having smoked in the room and made up a story and spread it at the show site. Issue is unresolved at time of meeting. Judges rooms at the Cobblestone were very expensive this year. Linda Soukup suggestion pricing them out with East Hill hotel. Vicki Nolte will get prices for next year.
Peewee show is for 5 year olds and up no exceptions.
Old business
Meeting with Grand Island Kennel Club in York at Chances R on Saturday in Surray room July 13 or 20th at 5 pm. Vicki will talk with Grand Island to clarify a date. Questions to be brought up at the meeting are what would be show weekend date. Where the show would take place. If show was in Gl , would we be able to bring in food for judges and volunteers dinner. What kind of show would it be examples 2 shows in 1 day, 2 day show weekend vs. 4day weekend. How would the profits/expenses be split? One pot and then divide it out. Vicki is going to look into different show date availability for first weekend in May or second weekend in June.
Reason for date change is Garden City, KS and Marshalltown, IA will be on our current weekend

Website update- Facebook is to have a member's page and then a fan page.

Unfinished business - tent insurance doesn't affect. Tent rental is $\$ 1200$ with tent having no sides. Harvest Hall is the same price. If we use Harvest Hall, we cannot have anything taped to the floor.

No New Business.
Motion to Adjourn meeting made by Mary Bristol and 2nd by Linda Soukup.

Meeting Adjourned at 9:10pm.
continued from front page.
Some breeds, especially large and giant breeds, have a predisposition to DCM. These breeds include Doberman Pinschers, Great Danes, Newfoundlands, Irish Wolfhounds, and Saint Bernards. While DCM is less common in medium and small breeds, English and American Cocker Spaniels are also predisposed to this condition.

The reports submitted to the FDA span a wide range of breeds, including many without a known genetic predisposition. When early reports from the veterinary cardiology community indicated that recent, atypical cases in breeds like Golden Retrievers, Labrador Retrievers, Whippets, Bulldogs, and Shih Tzus all consistently ate grain alternatives in their diets, the FDA took notice.

## Should you be Concerned About Grain-Free Dog Food?

In the FDA's July 2019 update on diet and canine heart disease, they examined labels of dog food products reported in DCM cases to determine whether the foods were "grain-free" (defined as no corn, soy, wheat, rice, barley or other grains), and whether the foods contained peas, lentils, chickpeas, beans, or potatoes (including sweet potatoes). Their report states that more than 90 percent of foods reported in DCM cases were grain-free, 93 percent of reported foods contained peas and/or lentils, and 42 percent contained potatoes/sweet potatoes.

According to Dr. Klein, "At this time, there is no proof that these ingredients are the cause of DCM in a broader range of dogs, but dog owners should be aware of this alert from the FDA. The FDA continues to work with veterinary cardiologists and veterinary nutritionists to better understand the effect, if any, of grain-free diets on dogs."

The FDA's July 2019 update includes the names of dog food brands that were named 10 times or more in reports submitted through April 30, 2019. Most reports were for dry dog food, but raw, semi-moist and wet foods were all represented.

Acana ( 67 reports), Zignature ( 64 reports), Taste of the Wild ( 53 reports), 4Health ( 32 reports), Earthborn Holistic (32 reports), Blue Buffalo (31 reports), Nature's Domain (29 reports), Fromm (24 reports), Merrick (16 reports), California Natural (15 reports), Natural Balance (15 reports), Orijen (12 reports), Nature's Variety (10 reports), Nutrisource (10 reports), Nutro (10 reports), Rachael Ray Nutrish (10 reports)

In the Dec. 1 version of the Journal of the American Veterinary Medical Association, Lisa M. Freeman, DVM, Ph.D., DACVN, provided an update to the research on DCM and emphasized the issue is not just grain-free diets. She calls the suspected diets "BEG" diets (boutique companies, exotic ingredients, or grain-free diets).
"The apparent link between BEG diets and DCM may be due to ingredients used to replace grains in grain-free diets, such as lentils or chickpeas, but also may be due to other common ingredients commonly found in BEG diets, such as exotic meats, vegetables, and fruits," Freeman wrote.

Freeman emphasizes that although there appears to be an association between DCM and BEG diets, the relationship has not yet been proven, and other factors may be equally or more important.

The FDA encourages pet owners to report cases of dogs and cats with DCM that they suspect to be linked to diet by using the Safety Reporting Portal.

As a general rule of thumb, the best thing you can do for your dog's dietary health is to consult your veterinarian. Together you can weigh the pros and cons of your dog's diet and, if necessary, monitor your dog for signs of DCM.
Anna Burke |akc.org

If you would like to receive this newsletter via email, please contact Cindy Hill at cnolte2@yahoo.com

1. What was the Borzoi once known as?
2. In China, were small Pekingese known as sleeve or "woo" dogs?
3. Solve the terrier riddle that goes: "When is a breed not a breed? When it is a $\qquad$ ."
4. Which breed was called Ulmer Dogge after the town of UIm in Wurttemberg, where the breed originated?
5. The British Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons was founded in what year?
a. 1844
b. 1925
c. 1940
6. Shakespeare wrote, "The island of England breeds very valiant creatures. Their Mastiffs are of unmatchable courage" in which one of his plays?
a. Henry V
b. Hamlet
c. THe Merchant of Venice

7. The average dog should have how many teeth?
8. Miss Dodie Smith wrote a book about a hundred and one —, from which a movie was adapted.
9. Name the title of William H. Armstrong's book about a coon dog.
10. What breed was in Barraud's painting, "His Master's Voice," which became RCA's famous trademark?
11. What is the meaning of the Turkish word "kuwasz" from which the Kuvasz derives its AKC breed name?
a. Armed Guard of Nobility
b. Shepherd's dog
c. White bear
12. What does the expression "paddling" refer to?
a. a trotting motion
b. a swimming stroke
c. a discipline

Answers: Left card 1. the Russian Wolfhound 2. Yes 3. Jack Russell 4. the Great Dane 5. a 6. a. Right card 1. 42 2. Dalmatians 3. Sounder 4. the Smooth Fox Terrier 5. a 6. a.

## Seward County Kennel Club

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