

# Seward County Kennel Club

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.

# HOWARD "HOWIE" D. WURST OCTOBER 13, 1933 - NOVEMBER 17, 2020



Howard "Howie" Dean Wurst was born in rural Utica on October 13, 1933. He passed away on November 17, 2020, at the Seward Memorial Hospital. He was the fifth child and only son of Emanuel and Amalia Wurst. Raised in rural Seward County, he attended country schools and graduated from Milford High School in 1951. He served briefly in the U.S. Army as a Mortar Squad Technician. He was honorably discharged when Emanuel was injured in a farm accident and Howard was called back to work the farm. Howard married his sweetheart Marvene Marie Harrison in 1955. They lived and farmed near Milford. They had three children, Wendy, Van, and Lance. During this time

Howard and Marvene began their lifelong passion for breeding, raising, and showing dogs. They became active in several kennel clubs, serving multiple positions for the next fifty years.

They moved to Milford in 1969. Howard worked at car dealerships in Milford and Lincoln. More important to Howard than his job were church, raising Saint Bernards, gardening, and family. He was a longtime member of the United Methodist Church in Milford. He and Marvene taught Sunday School continued on next page

# **NEXT MEETING** November 19, 2020

Seward Civic Center 616 Bradford St, Seward, NE 68434 No Special Program - General Meeting 7:30pm and served on many church committees. Howard and Marvene took an active interest in their children and grandchildren's activities. Howard loved Milford and Seward County. After retirement, he returned that love by co-founding and volunteering with Milford FoodNet, planting and tending gardens, and sharing baked goods around the community. He also became actively involved in Kiwanis, American Legion, and Seward County Historical Society. Howard and Marvene moved to Linden Village in 2015, where he lived until his passing.

Howard was preceded in death by his wife Marvene, his sisters Lela Grimes, Doris Heller, Edith Gloystein, and Carol (Friedli) Stauffer, and son-in-law Arthur Dale.

He will be loved and remembered by his children, Wendy Dale, Van (Pam) Wurst, and Lance (Paula) Wurst; grandchildren Brent (Angel) Dale, Rhett (Mary) Wurst, Kasey Wurst, Sarah (Nathan) Holst, and JoAnna Wurst; great grandchildren Paul Dale, Henry, Mae, and Eliza Wurst, and Sage Holst. He will also be fondly remembered by his large extended family and a lifetime of friends.

Howard will be interred at Salem Cemetery. Funeral services and memorials will be set at a later date.

## WHAT IS LEPTOSPIROSIS AND SHOULD YOU BE CONCERNED?



Leptospirosis is a disease that affects dogs, as well as many other kinds of animals. The organism that causes leptospirosis is a spirochete bacteria and is found throughout the world. There are a very large number of Leptospira; about 230 of them have been identified.

In the United States, Leptospirosis is in the environment because it is carried in rats, wildlife, as well as domestic livestock. More cases are seen in late summer and fall and often after heavy rainfalls. Leptospira is known to exist in standing water, dampness, and mud. Winter conditions tend to lower the risk because Leptospira do not tolerate freezing temperatures.

Pets can become infected through contact with urine of infected animals such as raccoons, skunks, rats, feral cats, dogs, and other animals. Often, dogs contract the disease by swimming in stagnant water or drinking contaminated water in puddles.

#### **Should Dog Owners Be Concerned About Leptospirosis?**

Not all dogs that are exposed to Leptospirosis become visibly ill. In a 2007 study, 25 percent of unvaccinated healthy dogs had antibodies to Leptospirosis. This indicated to researchers that they had been previously exposed to Leptospirosis without their owners noticing a problem.

When Leptospirosis does cause disease in dogs, it tends to be most severe in unvaccinated dogs that are younger than 6 months of age. It takes about 4-12 days after exposure for a dog to start to feel ill.

Signs of illness vary, but usually include lethargy, poor appetite, fever, vomiting, increased thirst or urine production. Jaundice may also be seen. Blood tests will show changes in kidney values or liver and kidney values.

Diagnosis is made through blood and urine tests that look specifically for Leptospirosis. Antibiotics are typically used to treat Leptospirosis; not only can they treat the active infection, but also may prevent dogs from becoming carriers of the organism.

#### **How Can Dog Owners Prevent Leptospirosis?**

Prevention is best accomplished by stopping your dog's access to contaminated water. Also, try to sanitize your dog's environment by eliminating food and garbage to reduce the attraction of rats, raccoons, or feral cats.

Leptospirosis is a zoonotic disease. In other words, it is contagious to humans. The most likely way humans contract Leptospirosis is via exposure to dog or rat urine. However, any bodily fluid, including vomit and saliva, can transmit the disease. If your dog is infected with Leptospirosis, it is very important to observe proper hygiene even after he has recovered (wearing protective gloves when cleaning up after your dog, preventing face licking, etc.)

Vaccination for leptospirosis is an option to consider if your dog is at high risk of contracting the disease. The American Animal Hospital Association considers Leptospirosis a "non-core" vaccine for dogs. That is, they do not recommend it unless there is a good chance your dog will be exposed to Leptospirosis. The efficacy of the vaccine is variable: short lasting or limited. There have been reports of reactions to the vaccine that vary from minor to severe.

Vaccination does not always prevent infection, but it tends to make the disease much milder if infection occurs. There is the potential for vaccinated dogs that

# **DON'T FORGET!**

### Did your dog earn a title in 2020?

Submit dog's name and titles earned to Kathy Jackson for an award plaque.

Also let her know if you need a header plaque (what the bars hang from).

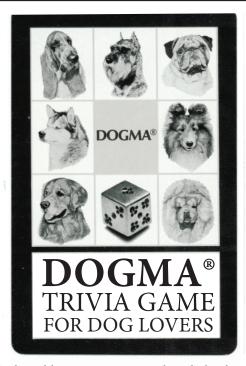
Sent email to kj60028@windstream.net

do become infected to become long term carriers of Leptospirosis. Some long-term carriers have more frequent incidence of reproductive failure and stillbirths.

As with all vaccinations, you should discuss the vaccine for Leptospirosis with your veterinarian. This decision will be based on you and your dog's life style, if your community is experiencing cases of Leptospirosis, and the other pros and cons your veterinarian has experienced with the vaccine.

Dr. Jerry Klein, CVO, April 2020, akc.org

- How many breeds are in the AKC Working group?
- What breed of dog is most closely associated with Queen Elizabeth II?
- 3. In what year was the American Kennel Club founded?
- 4. Name the 3 varieties of Dach-shund.
- 5. What was the Belgian Malinois named after?
  - a. Francis Malinois
  - b. the Malinois sheep
  - c. Malinois, Belgium
- 6. The Collie was developed by whom?
  - a. Gypsie tinkers
  - b. the Reverand James R. Collie
  - c. Scottish shepherds



- 1. Name 4 terriers of Scottish origin.
- What breed of terrier was recognized by the AKC in 1979 as separate from the Norwich Terrier?
- Was the Portuguese Water Dog bred for service in the Portuguese Navy?
- 4. What was the name of the Newfoundland for which a famous monument was erected by his owner, Lord Byron?
- 5. From what does the Kerry Blue Terrier derive its name?
  - a. Mr. Kerry Blue
  - b. County Kerry, Ireland
  - c. Blue, in gaelic, is Kerry
- 6. What is the average gestation period for a dog?
  - a. 63 days
  - b. 53 days
  - c. 73 days

Answers: Left card 1. 19 (31 in 2002) 2. the Pembroke Welsh Corgi 3. 1884 4. Longhaired, Shorthaired, Wirehaired 5. c 6. c. Right card 1. the Carin Terrier, the Dandie Dinmont Terrier, the Scottish Terrier, the Skye Terrier, the West Highland White Terrier 2. the Norfolk Terrier 3. no 4. Boatswain 5. b 6. a.

### **Seward County Kennel Club**

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