

# Papers Capers

## Paper Cities Kennel Club June 2010

<http://www.papercitieskc.org/>

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*Papers Capers* is a monthly newsletter of Paper Cities Kennel Club, Inc., Wausau, WI. Opinions expressed in articles do not necessarily imply approval or endorsement of Paper Cities Kennel Club, Inc. The editor reserves the right to discretionary editing.

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# *Paper Cities Kennel Club*

## *Meeting Notices*

The Paper Cities Kennel Club will meet Wednesday, June 16<sup>th</sup> at 7:30 p.m. at Willow Springs Gardens off of Hwy. K in Wausau.

The Board of Directors meeting will be held Wednesday, July 7<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m. at Annie's Restaurant in Wausau.

*In case of questionable weather or road conditions, contact any officer or board member after 5:30 p.m. on the day of the meeting to verify whether the meeting will be held.*

## *Announcements*

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## What I Learned at the Dog Show

I spent this weekend at the Myrtle Beach kennel Club's all-breed dog show in Florence, South Carolina. The club invited me down to talk about the threats its members are facing from the Humane Society of the United States and the rest of the animal rights movement. Since I had never been to a dog show, I said yes. (I grew up thinking that "fancy" was an adjective. Silly me.)

I'm not a big fan of people who pooh-pooh things they've never tried or seen up-close. If one of my children says she "doesn't like" something on the dinner table before taking even a tiny bite—well, let's just say that doesn't wash in my house.

And I've always thought the whole "dog show" community was rather mysterious, a kind of benevolent secret society with its own rules, customs, and vocabulary. Sorta like Deadheads, but with a lot better grooming and a lot less fleas.

Truth be told, the dog breeders I met this weekend do have their own peculiar ways of saying and doing things. But they're really just ordinary people with a shared hobby. They're really into what they do. And they taught me a lot in just a Saturday. Here's some of what I learned.



- 1. When you go to a dog show, bring your own chair. But don't be surprised if someone offers to lend you theirs. (I'm typing this in someone else's customized, embroidered lawn chair.)*
- 2. Dog shows are competitive, but the people involved are remarkably supportive of their human opponents. I heard a steady stream of "congratulations!" offered to blue-ribbon holders from handlers who were trotting away empty-handed.*
- 3. If you're a first-timer who asks "what kind of dog is that?" too loudly, somebody might look at you funny.*
- 4. These people treat their dogs like royalty. It was 90 degrees in the shade on Saturday, and the dogs had shade, electric fans, and cold water—even if their owners didn't.*
- 5. Judging from this weekend, the typical show-dog handler isn't a stuffy Brit wearing Saville Row tweed. She—yes, she—is an energetic 40-year-old married mom whose husband packs up the kids and brings them along on the trip.*
- 6. Sometimes the kids strut the dogs around the ring. The under-18 handlers even have their own judging category in which their skills are being judged, not the qualities of their dogs.*
- 7. The name of the game is "conformation" (not "confirmation," as I used to think). Dog show breeders are trying to breed animals that "conform" to a set ideal of how a breed can look, "gait," and behave if they do everything right. (I read an article in Wired this week about how Cheetos in the factory are checked every 30 minutes against a "reference sample" from Frito-Lay headquarters, just to make sure the ideal color, texture, and crispiness is being matched. It's kinda like that, but it takes years for these folks to make a single Cheeto. And Cheetos don't pee on you.)*
- 8. Watch where you step in the parking lot.*

If this particular dog show is any indication of what's typical, the "dog fancy" is a lot of fun for a lot of people who contribute a lot of money to the economy—and aren't hurting anyone. "If we're not having fun here," one judge told me, very much off-the-cuff, "we shouldn't be doing this."

For the life of me, I can't figure out why the Humane Society of the United States has such a visceral hatred of everything they stand for.

I think what's going on is that HSUS, PETA, and other animal rights groups are conflating breeders whose main goal is to sell puppies with those who just happen to really love Pomeranians, Pinschers, or Poodles. This latter clique of people

(far larger than the former) shows their favorite animals because they're proud of them, not because they believe it will make their next litter worth more money.

It's not hard to understand HSUS's stated motivation for attacking people who breed dogs. The group wants everyone to believe that rampant pet overpopulation in America is all their fault. But personally, I just don't see it.

I didn't meet "puppy millers" this weekend. I met hobbyists, just like if I were at a model railroad convention, an antique fair, or a swim meet. They ask after each others' kids. They visit each other in the hospital. They have knitting circles where the dogs watch approvingly. They're 50 percent garden club, 50 percent church pot-luck. Zero percent animal abusers.

I asked one breeder how much money she had spent raising her champion dog, a mammoth Anatolian shepherd. "Who knows?" she answered. "I never really added it up. If you're pinching pennies you probably aren't treating the dog right." In addition to the two purebred dogs she was showing, she had "two rescue mutts at home, and they have the same food, supplements, and everything else my show dogs get."

And when I asked one of the veteran breeders how many of her peers raise dogs so they can sell the litters commercially, she looked at me like I was from Mars. "We all sell dogs, son," she told me. "But none of us make a cent doing it. And I know where all my dogs live. If anyone can't provide for them, we take 'em back." And then, almost as an afterthought: "I sure don't want any of mine going to the pound or a rescue."

Everyone I asked about this had the same kind of answer. If they found out that any of their puppies wound up in a shelter, they'd sure do something about it.

So why all the hostility from the Humane Society of the United States? Why did I hear from North and South Carolinians who had beaten back attempt after attempt from HSUS to have them taxed, registered, regulated, raided, and otherwise priced out of their hobby? What is it about these men, women, and children, so passionate about running up and down a concrete floor with their pets, that demands intervention from activists who think they know better?

Maybe it's that HSUS thinks the only way to shut down "puppy mills" is to paint every dog breeder with the same broad brush. Maybe. I haven't yet really wrapped my mind around why HSUS is opposed to everything I saw this weekend. I just know that it is.

As with pretty much every group of ranchers, dairymen, biomedical research scientists, and chicken farmers I've met, the breeders I spoke with this weekend had varying levels of awareness about the looming political threat from HSUS. Some of them can't be bothered to be bothered. Others are fired up at the mere mention of Wayne Pacelle's name.

"Somebody has to take that guy on," one 50-ish man barked when I brought up the name of HSUS's CEO. "That whole movement is nuts. After I showed up to lobby against HSUS's last North Carolina breeder tax, I started getting calls in the middle of the night, untraceable phone calls, from these people saying they were going to come on my property, take my dogs, and burn my house down. I told 'em my new rifle has an awesome night scope. That pretty much ended it."

I spoke to the crowd after the Best In Show was awarded, in this case to a fluffy pekingese named "Noelle." I told them that their problem is the same as the one faced by pork producers, egg farmers, dairymen, and even cancer researchers. But it was up to them to reach beyond their circle of friends—outside their comfort zone—if their kids and grandkids were going to keep being Junior Handlers and continue to raise the dog breeds they've come to love.

At the end of the day, I have to be skeptical of HSUS's blanket condemnation of pet breeders. I'm confident that there are some horrible ones out there, as there are with any group of people (including animal activists...), but any legislative or cultural movement that lumps the people I met this weekend in with the bad actors is just plain wrong-headed.

Because the dogs I met in South Carolina were among the best-cared-for animals I've ever seen. Anyone who's truly interested in animal welfare would want to make sure more dogs—not fewer—are treated this way. So how 'bout it, Wayne? Why aren't you promoting dog shows?

Probably because you've never been to one.



## 2010 Committees

(These committees will run for the remainder of this year and next year)

Audit--Barb P  
Awards--Karen, Yvette  
Historian--Deb Mai  
K9 ambassadors--Marv, Shannon, Yvette, Paula, Deb, Dorothy, Bev, Scott & Bobbie, Todd Orthmann, Sue Wiesneske, Merion  
Legislative--Vickie V.  
Mall Dog Fair--Vickie, Phyllis, Sue Lewitzke, Todd O., Rose G.  
Match-- Phyllis, Marv, Karen & Rose G.  
Newsletter--Merion, Deb Raatz  
Party Animals--Vickie, Brenda, Todd & Sandy  
Policies--Vickie, Marv, Karen, Yvette, Deb, Merion, Phyllis  
Programs--Barb Powers  
Property--Marv, Scott  
Public Ed--Sue Wiesneske, Todd Orthmann  
Public Relations--Rose G.  
Raffle--Paula, Bobbie, Sue Wiesneske  
Seminars--Sue Webber, Marvin  
Show Chair--Cherilyn, John Crotteau  
Sunshine--Brenda, Sue Lewitzke  
Training--Vickie, Dolores, Yvette  
Web site--Sue Webber, Paula, Bobbie  
Membership--John Crotteau, Deb, Dorothy  
By-Laws--Sue Webber, John C.  
Parliamentarian--Yvette

### Women & Their Dogs

Four friends spend weeks planning their big dog show weekend get together. Two days before the group is supposed to leave, Betty's husband puts his foot down & tells her she isn't going - that he wants her to spend some "Quality Time" with him instead.

Betty's friends are very upset that she can't go - but with an RV spot and grooming spaces reserved and entry fees paid for, there's nothing to do but push on without her.

Two days later, the three friends get to the dog show - only to find Betty has already checked in, she's already cruised around in the vendors & busy grooming her dog.

"Wow," they exclaimed, "how long have you been here - and how did you talk your husband into letting you go?" "I drove all night and got in early this morning," Betty said. "Yesterday I was sitting in my chair when my husband came up behind me & put his hands over my eyes & said, "honey, tonight's your lucky night." I pulled his hands off & there he was wearing nothing but skin.

He took my hand & took me to our bedroom. The room had two dozen candles and rose petals all over. On the bed, he had laid out handcuffs and ropes! He told me to tie & cuff him to the bed, and I did. And then he said, "do whatever you want." And here I am!!

Never get between a woman and her dog show.

## Upcoming Events

| DATE              | EVENT                              | WHERE                        | WHO(contact)        |
|-------------------|------------------------------------|------------------------------|---------------------|
| <b>June 02</b>    | <b>PCKC Board Meeting</b>          | <b>Annies Restaurant</b>     | <b>Wausau, WI</b>   |
| June 5-6          | Fox River Valley Kennel Club, Inc. | Woodstock, IL                | Roy Jones Dog Shows |
| June 12-13        | Wheaton Kennel Club                | Wheaton, IL                  | Roy Jones Dog Shows |
| June 12-13        | Mount Pleasant Michigan KC         | Mt. Pleasant, MI             | MBF-Inc.            |
| June 12-13        | Lake Minnetonka KC                 | Jordan, MN                   | Onofrio Dog Shows   |
| <b>June 16</b>    | <b>PCKC Meeting</b>                | <b>Willow Springs G.</b>     | <b>Wausau, WI</b>   |
| June 18           | Little Fort KC of Waukegan         | Grayslake IL                 | Roy Jones Dog Shows |
| June 20           | Chain O'lakes Kennel Club          | Grayslake IL                 | Roy Jones Dog Shows |
| June 24-25        | Valparaiso Kennel Club             | Valparaiso, IN               | Roy Jones Dog Shows |
| June 26           | Michiana Kennel Club               | Valparaiso, IN               | Roy Jones Dog Shows |
| June 27           | Berrien Kennel Club                | Valparaiso, IN               | Roy Jones Dog Shows |
| June 24-25        | Anoka County MN KC                 | Cambridge, MN                | Onofrio Dog shows   |
| June 26-27        | Cambridge MN Kennel Club           | Cambridge, MN                | Onofrio Dog shows   |
| June 26-27        | Hawkeye Kennel Club                | Iowa City, IA                | Onofrio Dog shows   |
| June 25-26        | Warren County KC Of Ohio           | Lebanon, OH                  | MBF-Inc.            |
| July 03           | Dayton Kennel Club, INC.           | Lima, OH                     | MBF-Inc.            |
| July 04           | Lima Kennel Club                   | Lima, OH                     | MBF-Inc.            |
| July 05           | Sandusky Kennel Club               | Lima, OH                     | MBF-Inc.            |
| <b>July 07</b>    | <b>PCKC Board Meeting</b>          | <b>Annies Restaurant</b>     | <b>Wausau, WI</b>   |
| July 10-11        | Greater DeKalb Kennel Club         | DeKalb, IL                   | Roy Jones Dog Shows |
| July 10-11        | Ann Arbor Kennel Club, Inc.        | Monroe, MI                   | MBF-Inc.            |
| July. 15-18       | Duluth Kennel Club                 | Duluth, MN                   | Onofrio Dog Shows   |
| July 16           | Holland Michigan Kennel Club       | Marshall, MI                 | Roy Jones Dog Shows |
| July 17-18        | Battle Creek Kennel Club           | Marshall, MI                 | Roy Jones Dog Shows |
| July. 16          | Blackhawk Kennel Club, Inc.        | Belvidere, IL                | Roy Jones Dog Shows |
| July 17-18        | Kishwaukee Kennel Club, Inc.       | Belvidere, IL                | Roy Jones Dog Shows |
| <b>July 21</b>    | <b>PCKC Meeting</b>                | <b>Willow Springs G.</b>     | <b>Wausau, WI</b>   |
| <b>July 24-25</b> | <b>PCKC Dog Show</b>               | <b>Greenheck Field House</b> | <b>Weston WI</b>    |

### \*\*\*\*Interesting Web Sites\*\*\*\*

Info Dog Site: <http://www.infodog.com/default.htm>

American Kennel Club: <http://www.akc.org/index.cfm>

Merck Veterinary Manual: <http://www.merckvetmanual.com/mvm/index.jsp>

Natural Holistic Health Care: <http://www.naturalholistic.com/nhpc/index.html>

EARS - Emergency Animal Rescue Service: <http://www.uan.org/ears/>

The Dog Press News: <http://www.thedogplace.com/TheDogPress/dogpress.asp>

Therapy Dogs of Central Wisconsin: <http://www.wi-tdi-dogs.org/>

Amber Alert site for missing dogs: <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/K9AmberAlert/>

Family Sanctuary at Peaceful Pines: <http://www.pppmemorials.com/FamilySanctuary.aspx>

Article on Bloat: <http://www.briard.com/about/liebesbloat.html>

Site about responsible breeders: [http://www.akc.org/breeders/resp\\_breeding/resources.cfm](http://www.akc.org/breeders/resp_breeding/resources.cfm)

Lakeshore Pembroke Welsh Corgi Rescue: <http://www.lakeshorecorgirescue.com/castaways.html>

Dog Federation of Wisconsin: <http://www.dfow.org/newsletter.htm>

Dr. Patricia McConnell has a blog for training dogs: <http://www.theotherendoftheleash.com/>

Canine Vision: <http://www.uwsp.edu/PSYCH/dog/LA/DrP4.htm>

HOW TO TABULATE POINTS: <http://www.onofrio.com/jodstwo/fyi/fgrrpts.html>

Canine Health Foundation: <http://www.caninehealthfoundation.org/>

Ask vet about medicines for pets from FDA: <http://www.fda.gov/ForConsumers/ConsumerUpdates/ucm205666.htm>

Information on Dogs: <http://www.doggedhealth.com/>

Mushroom poisoning: <http://canidaepetfood.blogspot.com/2010/04/mushroom-poisoning-in-dogs.html>

I am a breeder: <http://www.cvkc.org/News/47FDEA2F-10CA-11DD-B399-000D9378FF9E.html>

Breeder's Handbook: Weaning More Puppies: [http://www.akc.org/enewsletter/akc\\_breeder/2010/spring/handbook.cfm](http://www.akc.org/enewsletter/akc_breeder/2010/spring/handbook.cfm)



AMERICAN  
KENNEL CLUB

## Press Release

### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Date: May 11, 2010 Contact: AKC Communications Phone: 212-696-8343 Email: [communications@akc.org](mailto:communications@akc.org)

### CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

*-- Join Us for AKC Responsible Dog Ownership Days This September --*

**New York, NY** – Planning is under way for our 8<sup>th</sup> annual AKC Responsible Dog Ownership Days. We invite you to join us in celebrating responsible owners everywhere this September by hosting an event in your area. Nearly 600 clubs and other dog-related organizations hosted an AKC RDO Day in 2009 and we expect even more to participate this year. Our flagship event will be held in Raleigh, North Carolina on September 25, 2010.

These entertaining and interactive local events range from small efforts to large-scale fairs, including everything from demonstrations of AKC Rally<sup>®</sup>, Agility, Obedience and Herding; appearances by Law Enforcement K-9s and Military Working Dogs; Meet the Breeds; and AKC Canine Good Citizen<sup>®</sup> testing; to educational Q&A sessions; Safety Around Dogs presentations; and games and activities for kids. The first 500 clubs to sign up will receive a free kit filled with educational materials and other handouts for your event.

The importance of AKC RDO Days is twofold: not only are we building a groundswell of support for responsible dog ownership, but we're also discouraging restrictive dog legislation – all this while providing both new and long-time dog owners with basics on training, grooming, microchipping, dog events, and more. The event establishes your club as a resource in your community for local legislators. The AKC often touts “deed, not breed” in its dealings with legislators and most bad “deeds” can be prevented by the kind of education and information disseminated at AKC RDO Days events.

This year AKC Canine Partners enrollees will play a key role in RDO Days. Although mixed breeds have always been welcome at these events, now that all dogs are competing in AKC Companion Events, your club could potentially draw an entirely new audience to your event by including mixed breeds in your dog sport demos, which may attract new membership to your training club! The AKC Canine Partners brochure will be included in the AKC RDO Days resource kits along with enrollment forms, allowing you to reach out to more dog lovers than ever before this year.

Take advantage of social media to promote your AKC RDO Day event as well. Event invites and reminders on Facebook are a great way to promote your event and get the word out to club members, friends and others in your area. We encourage you to share your AKC RDO Days ideas, event recaps and any media coverage with us by posting on AKC's [Facebook](#) page or messaging us on [Twitter](#) at @akcdoglovers. Send us pictures and videos from your event and we'll post them on AKC's [Flickr](#) and [YouTube](#) pages. If your club is posting regularly about your event on any social media site, let us know and we will follow you!

Much is happening this year – allowing us to promote responsible dog ownership as never before! We urge you to get involved – sign-up only takes a few minutes at <http://www.akc.org/clubs/rdod/> and you'll join hundreds of other clubs dedicated to the AKC's important responsible dog ownership message.

Sincerely,

Ron Menaker  
Chairman

### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Date: June 8, 2010 Contact: AKC Communications Phone: 212-696-8343 Email: [communications@akc.org](mailto:communications@akc.org)

### CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

*--AKC Adds New Titles in Conformation, Companion and Performance Events --*

**New York, NY** – Since the start of the year, each event type – conformation, companion and performance – now offers its exhibitors a brand new AKC title. The conformation and performance titles will appeal to the long-time exhibitor while the companion title will help bring along the novice handler or inexperienced dog.

Last month, Conformation added the Grand Champion title. Judges now have the opportunity of awarding Grand Championship points to their Best of Breed and Best of Opposite winners as well as to additional AKC Champions with the Select Dog and Select Bitch award. We believe this title gives breeders and owners a new way to showcase the quality of their breeding stock to judges and other breeders and exhibitors alike. We encourage you to take advantage of the enhanced conformation title.

We are proud to announce that we already have the first AKC Grand Champion in history - a 4-year old Weimaraner named GCH Monterra's Best Bet, MH – who finished his title in six consecutive shows. As an additional recognition for dogs that complete their Grand Champion title, they will also receive an invitation to the AKC / Eukanuba National Championship.

Starting this summer, Companion events will offer a new Beginner Novice obedience title. This title is an excellent

competitive event for both the novice handler and dog. Most exercises, a blend from Rally and Companion Dog, are completed on-leash.

In the Performance area, Earthdog competitors now have the opportunity to earn a new title - the Endurance Earthdog - the first addition since the program's inception in 1993. This EE title provides a new challenge for dogs that have earned their Master Earthdog title by requiring them to earn five double qualifications in master and senior. A Border Terrier named "Rosemary" recently earned the first ever EE title.

As you know, Parent Clubs also have a variety of breed specific sports and events. The Board recently approved a program to allow the recording of parent club performance event titles if AKC does not provide a test for these breed-specific skills. The Bloodhound Club of America is the first to apply for acknowledgment of its titles with their "man-trailing event". If your parent club would like to participate in this new program please contact Performance Events AVP Doug Ljungren at [DVL@akc.org](mailto:DVL@akc.org).

As you can see, it's an exciting time for AKC exhibitors. Whether you want to compete further, add more titles or participate in parent club events, we hope these new AKC titles will inspire you to reach higher goals, remain longer on the competitive trail, and provide you with more ways to bond with your dog.

Sincerely,



Ron Menaker  
Chairman

**The American Kennel Club (AKC)**, proudly celebrated its 125th Anniversary in 2009. Since 1884 the not-for-profit organization has maintained the largest registry of purebred dogs in the world, and today its rules govern more than 20,000 canine competitions each year. The AKC is dedicated to upholding the integrity of its registry, promoting the sport of purebred dogs and breeding for type and function. Along with its nearly 5,000 licensed and member clubs and its affiliated organizations, the AKC advocates for the purebred dog as a family companion, advances canine health and well-being, works to protect the rights of all dog owners and promotes responsible dog ownership. Affiliate AKC organizations include the AKC Humane Fund, AKC Canine Health Foundation, AKC Companion Animal Recovery and the AKC Museum of the Dog. For more information, visit [www.akc.org](http://www.akc.org).

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### Watch for Toxins in Your Spring Garden

Due to their natural curiosity, their love of digging, and their tendency to consume anything they come across, dogs are at a high risk for accidental poisoning. This can be particularly true in spring, as front gardens and backyards come to life with new growth, and as dogs and their owners spend more time outdoors.

- Toxic bulbs, plants and flowers include tulips, hyacinths, daffodils, certain lilies, crocus, and lily of the valley. [See a detailed chart here.](#)  
<http://links.mkt2242.com/ctt?kn=23&m=2994235&r=MzYyNjQ5MjMyMQS2&b=0&j=ODg4NTAwNDUS1&mt=1&rt=0>
- Harmful fertilizers and ground cover include cocoa mulch, blood meal, bone meal, and any fertilizer containing disulfoton or organophosphates.

Store all poisonous substances in your home, garage, and yard out of reach of your curious canine, and block access to potentially harmful bulbs and flowers. If you suspect your dog has ingested a poison, call your veterinarian at once; or dial the Pet Poison Helpline at 800-213-6680.

## FDA PRESS RELEASE

**For Immediate Release:** May 24, 2010

**Media Inquiries:** Pat El-Hinnawy, 301.796.4763, [patricia.el-hinnawy@fda.hhs.gov](mailto:patricia.el-hinnawy@fda.hhs.gov)

**Consumer Inquiries:** 888-INFO-FDA

### FDA and NIH Launch Electronic Safety Reporting Portal

The Food and Drug Administration and the National Institutes of Health today launched a new Web site that, when fully developed, will provide a mechanism for the reporting of pre- and post-market safety data to the federal government. Currently the Web site can be used to report safety problems related to foods, including animal feed, and animal drugs, as well as adverse events occurring on human gene transfer trials. Consumers can also use the site to report problems with pet foods and pet treats.

The new site, called the Safety Reporting Portal (SRP), provides greater and easier access to online reporting.

"The portal will be a key detection tool in improving the country's nationwide surveillance system and will strengthen our ability to protect the nation's health," said Commissioner of Food and Drugs Margaret A. Hamburg. "We will now be able to analyze human and animal safety-related events more quickly and identify those measures needed to protect the public."

The new Web portal includes different features for different types of reporting:

**Reportable Food Registry:** Industry will have a more user-friendly electronic portal for submitting reportable food reports that are required by law. This electronic portal collects reports from the food industry and public health officials regarding problems with articles of food, including animal feed, that present a reasonable probability of causing serious adverse health consequences or death to humans or animals.

**Pets:** Pet owners and veterinarians will be able to use the portal to report product problems with pet foods and pet treats.

**Animal drugs:** Animal drug manufacturers can report adverse drug events associated with animal drugs.

**Clinical Trials:** Biomedical researchers involved in human gene transfer clinical trials can report an adverse event, indicating

whether it might be an unanticipated consequence of the product being tested. Trial sponsors can use the portal to prepare a report, print it and send it to the agency to satisfy reporting requirements for investigational new drugs. In the future, the system will encompass other types of clinical trials and, eventually, safety problems arising from products regulated by a broad array of federal agencies. This is a first step toward a common electronic reporting system that will offer one-stop shopping, allowing an individual to file a single report to multiple agencies that may have an interest in the event. Just as important, the portal will ultimately enhance the government's systematic analysis of safety information, which will benefit public health. In the meantime, the new portal redirects individuals who want to submit reports about other products regulated by FDA, the U.S. Department of Agriculture, Environmental Protection Agency or the Consumer Product Safety Commission to the appropriate contact.

**For more information**

[Safety Reporting Portal](#)

<https://www.safetyreporting.hhs.gov/fpsr/WorkflowLoginIO.aspx?metinstance=99DF21BFFBBDEB69A4ECBB6BF8CFEC78DAC65C8F>

[FDA Safety Reporting](#)

[Reportable Food Registry for Industry](#)

[Reporting a Problem with Veterinary Products](#)

## Orthopedic Foundation for Animals

The Veterinary Diagnostics Lab at the University of Minnesota has announced the addition of two more breeds to its DNA testing protocol for Exercise Induced Collapse: German Shorthaired Pointer and Pembroke Welsh Corgi. Other EIC breeds are Boykin Spaniel and Chesapeake, Curly Coated and Labrador Retrievers.

### *Helpful Tips*

#### *Keep Your Dog Itch Free: Flea & Tick Care and Prevention Tips*

Flea season is in high gear during the spring and summer seasons. These pests can be irritating to both you and your dog, but they can be downright dangerous too. The risks involved vary depending on where you live and how often your dog is exposed to these pests. The American Kennel Club® (AKC) offers the following facts and tips to protect your dog from the discomfort and illness caused by fleas and ticks.

**Ticks**

Ticks pose greater risk, annually infecting pets and thousands of people with illnesses such as Lyme disease and Rocky Mountain spotted fever. These pests may carry various infectious organisms that can transmit diseases to dogs, including the following:

Babesiosis: lethargy, appetite loss, weakness, pale gums

Ehrlichiosis: high fever, muscle aches, paralysis

Lyme disease: lameness, itching pain, swollen joints, fever, poor appetite, fatigue and vomiting (some infected animals show no symptoms)

Rocky Mountain spotted fever: In the acute stage, dogs may have a variety of clinical signs, which can mimic many other diseases. These include a loss of appetite, fever, depression, pain in the muscles and joints, swollen lymph nodes, and edema (fluid accumulation) in the face and legs.

Tick paralysis in dogs: gradual paralysis, seen first as an unsteady gait from uncoordinated back legs (some infected dogs don't develop paralysis).

If your dog is outside regularly, ask your vet about getting the Lyme disease vaccine depending on where you live. If you suspect a tick-borne disease, see the veterinarian right away. With early diagnosis, antibiotics can lessen symptoms and ward off chronic conditions.

**Fleas**

Fleas are most often found in areas where pets rest or sleep, so be especially vigilant in those spots.

Vacuuming frequently will eliminate most fleas from the home. Change your vacuum bags frequently, disposing of them by first sealing them in plastic bags and then placing them into a covered trash bin.

Put pillows into a warm dryer for 10 to 15 minutes on the air-fluff cycle to help keep them free of fleas.

Wash your dog's bedding at least once a week in hot, soapy water.

Have new or used carpets and upholstered furniture professionally steam cleaned or shampooed before you bring them home.

Look for fleas when you groom your dog. If you see any, you will need to treat your dog and his environment. There are numerous products available, but the best treatment is a preventive that attacks both fleas and ticks. Ask your veterinarian what would work best for you and your dog.

Additional tips on how to keep your dog healthy can be found on the AKC Website at [www.akc.org](http://www.akc.org).

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