

The Lundehund Link

Newsletter of the Norwegian Lundehund Association of America, Inc.

October - 2004



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Inaugural Issue

With this issue we launch "The Lundehund Link", our official newsletter of the NLAA, Inc. We plan to make it a quarterly publication, but to some extent that depends on you, our readers. We need your articles or article ideas, comments, letters to the editor, litter announcements, brags, memorials, interesting items and good short jokes. Please send them to editor Mary Waldmann at raymondjwaldmann@msn.com.

Canine Geneticist at Cliffhanger Lundiefest

A record 41 dogs and 31 people gathered at the Cliffhanger Kennels farm on May 29th for the 6th annual Lundiefest hosted by Sharon Pederson, Frank Bays and Ray Bussey.

Lundie lovers from Washington and Colorado, including NLAA president Jason Leach and secretary Kay Dahlinger, joined Californians in Tomales for the event.

A highlight was the presence of Dr. Mark Neff, a canine geneticist from U.C. Davis who videotaped the Lundies' distinctive physical traits and discussed the breed and dog genetics with many people. He also took cheek swabs from all the dogs present for future testing.

According to President Jason Leach, "The first test Mark will do is to see if the dogs all have the same mitochondrial DNA. Since it is passed unchanged from mother to offspring, and all lundehunds trace their ancestry to the one remaining female in the '60s, the mtDNA should theoretically be the same for all Lundehunds, with the exception of some random natural mutation.

"This testing is the first step toward isolating the gene or genes that cause IL/LS. While we won't see immediate results, our actions now may eventually be able to preserve the Lundehund while ridding the breed of a terrible disease."

If you would like more information about the testing, contact Jason at jleach@vail.net.

Lundiefest gets bigger every year and this was the biggest yet. According to Frank, this year's Lundiefest was undoubtedly the largest gathering of Lundehunds in North America. "We had such a wide variety of fun, good people of like mind and motivation regarding Lundehunds".

Great food, Ray's famous Sangria, plentiful sunshine, and wonderful company made it a great event. Many thanks to Sharon, Frank and Ray for their hospitality.

If you're interested in attending next year's Lundiefest, contact Frank (Frankbays@direcway.com) or Sharon (sharonpederson@cliffhanger.com).

Vaeroy in 2005

Every five years the Norsk Lundehund Club organizes a trip to Vaeroy in conjunction with the annual breed show. The next trip will be July 6th-8th next summer.

A highlight of the trip is a hike with the dogs to the puffin nesting ground. According to Sharon Pederson, Kellen's sire Odin av Asen is noted for having bagged a puffin on the hike when he was a year old—seems two puffins collided mid-air, Odin grabbed one and paraded it around like a prize.

If you're interested in visiting the Lundehund motherland, this is a great time to go. You fly into Bodo, Norway, and take a helicopter or 4-5 hour boat trip to the island of Vaeroy. Accommodations on the island are very limited (camping may be a possibility), so if you're interested in going, contact Laila Myvroll, NLK secretary, right away (lamy@online.no).

Hints from Kay

Add some extra protein to the diet with

A hard-boiled egg, shell and all. They love to play with it like a ball before cracking and eating it.

Raisin Poisoning Danger

Via "The Basenji List" comes this warning from veterinarian Dr. Linda Morris of Danville, OH:

"It has been a common practice to use grapes and raisins in various capacities with dogs—veterinarians have often suggested a grape or two as a low-calorie snack and trainers have recommended raisins as training treats for obedience and agility events. If a question had arisen just a few years ago about potential grape/raisin toxicity, even the ASPCA's Poison Control would have discounted any concern.

"As a senior veterinary student at Ohio State University, I avidly read all veterinary journals and noted in one an article summarizing 10 cases in which dogs had ingested a large amount of grapes or raisins and subsequently suffered acute renal failure. I was surprised at the information and resolved not to recommend grapes or raisins to my clients as treats for their pets.

"Unfortunately, in April, 2004, that mentally filed snippet of information became essential information. "

Scotchie, a 5-year-old Lab mix, indulged in some mischievous behavior while his owners were at work. When his owner returned that

evening, she discovered that Scotchie had gotten hold of a canister of raisins and ingested the approximately 8 ounces that remained in the container. She cleaned up the shredded container, but didn't give the contents a second thought.

Around 1 ~~am~~ Scotchie began suffering vomiting, diarrhea and tremors. Thinking the signs were due to dietary indiscretion, his owner kept him comfortable until calling Dr. Morris at 7 a.m. Suspecting renal failure, she had Scotchie brought in immediately.

Despite immediate and aggressive fluid therapy, Scotchie's condition continued to deteriorate over the next 72 ~~hours~~. on the poor response to therapy and the overall poor prognosis, the owners made the heart-wrenching decision to euthanize. The next therapeutic step would have been an attempt at peritoneal dialysis. Cost estimates for this, even conservatively, could have run well over \$10,000 with a very guarded to poor prognosis."

After death, Dr. Morris began an extensive search of the literature and discovered several articles about acute renal failure associated with ingestion of raisins or grapes, in one case as few as 7 raisins. In some cases, the dogs recovered with aggressive fluid therapy for up to 3 weeks. In others, the dogs were euthanized or died of acute renal failure.

"The important point of this discussion is simply that *ingestion of grapes or raisins is a medical emergency*. Recent ingestion should

be handled as with other toxin exposure: emesis, lavage, and activated charcoal...fluids should be administered for a minimum of 48 hours and serum chemistries monitored for 72 hours. If all blood work is normal, it is unlikely the animal will develop renal failure."

Speculation regarding the cause of the toxicity includes idiosyncratic reaction, contamination with mold toxin, high levels of Vitamin D, pesticides or other environmental toxin or some unknown toxin. As yet, no specific agent or cause has been confirmed.

More Poison Info

Keep a bottle of Ipecac on hand. (Check the expiration date occasionally and replace as needed.) Then if doggie eats raisins, grapes, chocolate or cantaloupe, OUTSIDE you go with dog and syrup, down the throat with a little water and stand back. You get the raisins or whatever back and save a vet bill. This works for anything you want back immediately, but DO NOT USE for anything with an ACID content. Then check with your vet for any additional recommendations.

A Little Humor....

A Polish immigrant goes to the DMV to apply for a driver's license. During the process he has to take an eye test. The DMV employee tells him to look at the big chart behind him. On the chart are the letters...

C Z W I X N O S T A C Z

"Can you read the letters?" the employee asks.

"Read them?" the Polish guy replies, "I know the guy."

Kay Dahlinger writes...

"Bliss av Fjelleng became a UKC Champion on July 18 and Eirksro Valerie Electra (Ellie) took Reserve Best in Show Puppy on July 16th at the Twin Peaks UKC show in Colorado.

"Two Italian Greyhound owners at the show fell in love with Lundehunds and now are on wait lists for puppies. They said if you think Lundies are difficult to housebreak, take on an Italian Greyhound and they'll make a Lundie look easy!

"For those of you interested in showing, you really should register with the United Kennel Club for two reasons. They have a LOT of shows in the nation and they are always loads of fun.

Second, many of the UKC judges are also AKC judges and World judges. No professional handlers are allowed at UKC shows, The judges are kind and very helpful.

It's a great way to get this breed more visible and judges willing to send letters of support for AKC registration."

September Board Meeting

At their September meeting, the interim Board of Directors approved the draft Constitution and By-laws, which have now become the operating documents

of the Norwegian Lundehund Association of America. The election process begins this month with the naming a nominating committee. As soon as the committee is named, they will begin work on preparing a proposed slate of officers, including regional directors. If you are interested in serving, please contact interim secretary Kay Dahlinger at bmycheers@aol.com and she will forward your name to the nominating committee.

2005 National Specialty Set

The Board of Directors also selected October 8th for the 2005 NLAA National Specialty Show. There's bound to be fun and frolic on Friday evening and maybe even a handling class on Friday afternoon.

The City of Aurora, Colorado, provided wonderful hospitality and a great venue for our 2004 National, so the Board accepted their invitation to return in 2005. It was great this year, and we're expecting even better things next year, so mark your calendar for October 7-8 and plan on attending the 2005 NLAA National Specialty in Aurora, Colorado.

A Woman Goes...

to see a psychiatrist. He listens to her story and asks her lots of questions. Finally, he tells her the diagnosis is that she's a kleptomaniac. "Doctor," she says, "is there something I can take for that?"

Lundie Display at City Hall

Following the National Specialty Show last spring in Colorado, Aurora Mayor Pro-Tem arranged for an exhibit in city hall as a way of promoting the breed and saying “thank you” to the NLAA for recognizing the huge part the City played in the National Specialty.

The display was housed in 3 large display cases in the lobby of the newly-constructed city hall and included the “Keeper trophies” awarded to the City and staff members, the huge perpetual trophy and the history and photos of the Lundehund. Also included were the plates and chargers made by Jason Leach given to winners and remembrance gifts at the National Specialty.

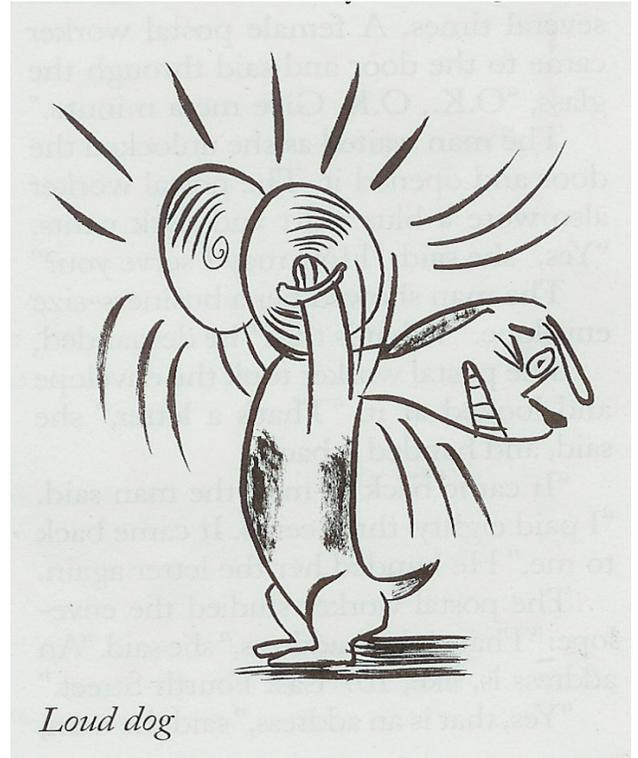
Hundreds of members of the public pass through the Lobby each day, as well as the 600 employees. It was a beautiful display that was seen by hundreds, probably thousands, of people during the 2 months of the display.

Our thanks to the City of Aurora and its talented museum staff for the time and energy they put into this wonderful display.

Brag Corner...

At the Labor Day weekend UKC Waschata American Eskimo Dog Club show in Salt Lake City, Kay Dahlinger’s Champion Cliffhanger Cheer Me On took 3 Best of Breed, 5 Champion of Champions, 2 Group 4 and 1 group 3. Champion Bliss Av Fjelleng took 5 Reserve Champions, Eriksro Valerie Electra (Elle) took 5 class 1st places, 5 best

females, 2 BOB, a 3rd group and a 4th group. At the age of 6 months, Elle lacks only 1 major to be a UKC Champion. Congratulations Kay!



We Need Your Input...

Remember that “The Lundehund Link” is YOUR publication. To make it work, we need your contributions: news items, brags, articles, announcements, humor. Send them to Mary Waldmann at: raymondjwaldmann@msn.com.

