



**GOLDEN GATE**  
**GREATER SWISS MOUNTAIN DOG CLUB**

# THE BLAZE

*Having Fun with Our Swiss Mountain Dogs*

## LETTER FROM OUR PRESIDENT

Wow, what a crazy summer we have had so far-- unusually high heat, cool raining days, and forest fires. Thankfully, all of our club members and Swissy friends are safe.

We have lots of activities planned for the end of summer and fall. Our next event will be Swiss Day at Fort Mason in San Francisco on July 28<sup>th</sup>. This is always a fun day. All 5 Swiss breeds will be there (Saints, Berners, Swissys, Appys and Entlys).

Our club will be hosting a Breed Tent and holding a Bake Sale. We need *your* help in working the table (1/2 hour shift) and some of your yummy baked goods.

You can take the CGC test-- all of you have been preparing--that day, be in a puppy match, participate in the Swiss Dog Olympics, or just visit and make new friends. I know it's summer, but remember to bring warm clothes and a jacket (the temperature can vary over 45° in just 2 hours). We will be having a club meeting.

We are busy working on the GSMDCA Western Regional Specialty, Oct. 18-20. The theme will be Western, so start looking for your cowboy boots. We will need lots of help hauling the trophies to the ring, setting up the table and handing out trophies and ring favors. We will also need help with ring clean-up. The crew will need to remove our things quickly, as another breed will be following us. We have wagons and cart to help with this. Please contact Toni or me if you would like to help.

We have a great "End of Summer" party planned in Sonoma at Paula Robles' home on Sept. 28-29. We will have more info on that event on the website shortly.

I hope you are all healthy and happy and I am looking forward to seeing you soon.

Swissy Regards,

Nancy Glenn, President, GGGSMDC Club

## CALENDAR of ACTIVITIES

**July 28** Swiss Dog Day Afternoon-Upper Fort Mason Parade Grounds, 10:00-5:00

**August 17-18** Bernese Mountain Dog Club-sponsored Draft Test in Scotts Valley.

**September 28-29** End of summer party-BBQ on Friday night; campout and Handling Class on Saturday. At Paula Robles' in Sonoma.

**October 18-20** Western Regional Specialty at Del Valle; this will be a three day weekend of shows. We will sponsor the Saturday event.

**November 1-3** Bernese Mountain Dog Club of America, Inc. All Breed Draft Trials.

**Send in your ideas or requests for activities, hikes, and learning opportunities too.**

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## Officers, Board Members and Committees

**President:** [Nancy Glenn](#)

**Vice President:** [Toni Killpatrick](#)

**Secretary:** [Susan Robinson](#)

**Treasurer:** [Donna Zetterquist](#)

**Board Members:**

[Sara Donaldson](#)

[Rob Blits](#)

[Maria Jensen](#)

[Carol Bamsch](#)

**Membership:** [Toni Killpatrick](#)

**Public Relations:** [Toni Killpatrick](#)

**Ways and Means:** [Carol Hightower](#)

**Awards and Trophies:** [Toni Killpatrick](#) [Heidi Steenstra](#) [Maria Jensen](#)

**Social Events:** [Carol Hightower](#) [Donna Zetterquist](#) [Sara Donaldson](#)

**Show Events:** The Board

**Working Events:** [Nancy Glenn](#) [Troy Riewe](#)

**Newsletter:** [Susan Robinson](#)

**Website:** [Rob Blits](#)

### The objectives of the club shall be:

To encourage and promote quality in the breeding of Greater Swiss Mountain Dogs and to do all possible to bring their natural *qualities* to perfection.

To urge members and breeders to accept the standard of the breed as approved by the American Kennel Club as the only standard of excellence by which Greater Swiss Mountain Dogs shall be judged.

To do all in its power to protect and advance the interests of the breed and to encourage sportsmanlike competition at dog shows (obedience and agility trials, drafting and tracking tests).

To conduct sanctioned matches and specialty shows under the rules and regulations of the American Kennel Club.

To have FUN together with our Greater Swiss Mountain Dogs.



**YES (again)!**

**We are hosting the GSMD Western Regional Specialty  
on October 18-20, 2013  
at the Del Valle Dog Show in Pleasanton, California  
Swissys will come from all over the Western half of the US.  
We hope that every single one of you will come and have fun.**

**TROPHIES**

Toni Killpatrick  
Maria Jensen  
Heidi Steenstra

**HOSPITALITY**

Donna Zetterquist  
Carol Hightower  
Sara Donaldson

**OBEDIENCE**

Troy Riewe

**RAFFLE**

Heidi Steenstra

**PUBLICITY/CORRESPONDENCE**

Rob Blits (Webmaster)  
Susan Robinson (BLAZE)

**IF YOU CAN HELP,**

email [Toni Killpatrick](mailto:Toni Killpatrick) or  
call 209-742-5462

**Want to help out?**

We can use lots of donated raffle prizes.  
We'll need some help from people not showing dogs to set up, present, and pack up the trophies  
at the show.



**There will be LOTS of puppies entered in their first show.**

## GGGSMDM Western Regional Specialty at the Del Valle Show

# ROUND-UP

At the larger shows, members of our GGGSMDC support each other by renting an area where we can all gather to groom our dogs, chat about what's going on, EAT and celebrate together. This is an area where members can park their RV or pitch a tent for the weekend. Del Valle is one of the largest shows, and usually we set up at the Amador Pavilion in the Fairgrounds in Pleasanton, where there is water, electricity, a (primitive) place to bathe dogs, and shade. We will decorate the area to identify us and to show off our Western theme. Visitors to the Regional staying in hotels can stop by and join the fun.

If you would like to reserve a space for your RV (20' x 40') or tent on the weekend of October 18-20<sup>th</sup>, call Toni Killpatrick BEFORE SEPTEMBER 30<sup>th</sup>. She will make the reservations on that day. We will divide the cost of renting the area among us, and that generally turns out to be cheaper than staying in a motel off the Fairgrounds. Also, please call Toni if you intend to groom your dog in this area, so we'll know how many to expect the day of each show.



## GGGSMDM Meeting Minutes

Saturday, May 4, 2013, at Pleasanton, CA

The meeting was called to order at 1:10 pm by President Nancy Glenn. The following were present: Nancy/Randall Glenn (Kait, Torghan, Tara, Fagan), Julia/Scott Lewis, Brent Haley (Wilson Fletcher), Anna Roger/Scott Hansen (Heidi), Carol Bamsch (Riley), Susan Robinson (King), Steve/Susan Ginocchio (Edelweiss), Irene/Troy/Kai Riewe (Blumen), Ann Belden/Derek Remski (Philo), Sara/Brent Donaldson (Greta), Terry/Michael Lock (Lilli and Kalani), Carol/Jerry Hightower (Banner and Penny, in memory), Rob/Marie Blits (Trekker), Kara Cenac (Audie), Kristen Putman/Tim Greenblatt (Tank), Deborah Aparacio (Dexter), Matthew.

The minutes of the January meeting were approved, after the motion to approve new member applications were seconded by Board member Rob Blits. Susan Robinson passed around our GGGSMDC trading cards, which list Swissy characteristics, and asked for photos for the Blaze.

**Treasurer's Report:** There is \$3539.43 in checking and \$156.78 in savings. INCOME: Memberships were \$290.00, Show entries were \$430.00, Donations were \$984.99 (trophies) and \$48.94 (Sweepstakes prize money), and \$700.00 (Ways and Means Raffle). PAYMENTS for show expenses were: AKC \$56.00, Show Secretary \$273.53, Specialty Judge \$150.00, Sweepstakes Judge \$50.00, Popcorn Ring Favors \$146.10. Other expenses have not yet been reimbursed. Please send receipts for reimbursements to Donna Zetterquist, 55 Mountain Springs Dr., Santa Cruz, CA 95060. Motion to approve- Susan Robinson, seconded-Rob Blits and the Treasurer's Report was approved.

Continued on next page

**Membership:**

We have three new member applications. The names of new applicants were read: Don and Susie Bush (Washoe Valley, NV), Shelly King (Felton, CA), and Anna Roger (San Francisco, CA). Sara Donaldson moved to approve the applications of the new members, Rob Blits seconded, and the new members were approved.

**President's Report**

Old Business: Nancy gave thanks for everyone's help at the Specialty in April. Today our instructional activity will be CGC training by Kara Cenac in preparation for the CGC test (\$10.00 entry fee) at Swiss Dog Day in July. Completed activities include a fun April "Walk and Talk" in Walnut Creek, led by Rob and Marie Blits and Trekker, and the Yosemite Dog Show GGGSMDC Specialty in Merced.

New Business:

May 11—Alaskan Malamute Club Weight Pull, 6:00

May 17-19 in Loomis CA—There will be a UKC Weight Pull and we are invited. Troy will bring harnesses. You need an AKC# and to go on the National GSMD website and read the rules.

June 8-9 Troy Riewe will hold a GGGSMDC sponsored Back-to-Back Pack Hike in Castro Valley. You can do eight miles in each of two days or 10 miles in one day. Dogs must carry 20% of their body weight. Come to hike or to earn legs toward a Pack Hike title.

June 15--Toni Killpatrick will hold a new handler clinic at Hinkley Family Park in Modesto, 9:00 am. Fliers were distributed.

July 28—Swiss Dog Day and Bake Sale at Fort Mason, San Francisco. There will be a CGC Test, dog show match (no points). It starts at 9:00 am—bring warm clothing! Features all 5 Swiss breeds. Bring Bake Sale items for humans or their dogs and volunteer in the booth for an hour.

August 17-18 Bernese Mountain Dog sponsored Draft Test in Scotts Valley.

October 18-20 Western Regional Specialty at Del Valle; this will be a three day weekend of shows. We propose to hold the Sweepstakes and Specialty on Saturday, and there will be a five-point major in puppies. The theme would be Western, complete with a barbecue. We'll divide the cost of camping. We would keep the same committees as in April, but more helpers will definitely be welcomed. Nancy promised to get a list of committees and volunteer opportunities soon. Rob Blits proposed the resolution to change the date of the Specialty from its initial date at the Sir Francis Drake show (voted on at the April meeting) to the Del Valle Show. Susan seconded, and the group approved the resolution.

**Other New Business:**

1. The Board is working on some By Law changes and on updating rules to reflect how business can be done more efficiently, using 20<sup>th</sup> Century tools.
2. Rob announced a federal national park service move to severely limit off leash areas for dogs in Golden Gate National Recreational Area (GGNRA). He got approval to distribute an email to the GGGSMDC membership re. the first-ever Million Dog March at McLaren Park in SF, on June 2<sup>nd</sup>.

Reba King relaxing



APRIL 6-7, 2013  
**GOLDEN GATE GREATER SWISS MOUNTAIN DOG CLUB**  
 SUPPORTED ENTRY-SATURDAY



Erin Stammer and Enzo



Debbie Aparicio and Dexter



Nancy Glenn and Kait



Paula Robles and Jake



Toni Killpatrick and King



Leslie Bryson and Jubilee



Doreen Pesce and veteran Hero



Prizes!



Toni Killpatrick and Roy  
 Veterans Competition  
 Doreen Pesce and Hero  
 Nancy Glenn and Fagan

APRIL 6-7, 2013  
**GOLDEN GATE GREATER SWISS MOUNTAIN DOG CLUB**  
 GGGSMDC SPECIALTY-SATURDAY EVENING



Gina and Molly get ready



Celebration Cake



Members partaking of the feast



After the Parade of Swissys, we lined everyone up for this group photo—15 Swissys!



Setting up for the dinner



Troy and Carol showing their dogs



Paula and Brix WINNERS! Mollie and Gina



To see the complete slideshow of the weekend, click on

<http://www.goldengategsmdc.com/galleries/20130407GSMDCSpecialtyMerced/index.html#1>

APRIL 6-7, 2013  
**GOLDEN GATE GREATER SWISS MOUNTAIN DOG CLUB**  
 SUNDAY

In the morning, we relaxed, had showing lessons, and got the dogs ready.



King has a visitor



The kids play with their new toys



Gina Ome shows Molly



Heidi Steenstra shows Roy



Best of Winners-Enzo with Erin Stammer



New Champion Select-Kait with Nancy Glenn



Best of Breed-Roy with Toni Killpatrick (Took a Group 2 later)



Winner Roy and his gets: Brix won the Specialty and Kait got her Championship.

...and a big **THANK YOU**  
to everyone who made this just a wonderful event  
for our GGGSMC Club.

To see the full array of photos from this weekend, click here:  
[Golden Gate Greater Swiss Mountain Dog-2013 Specialty](#)

## A Primer on Vomiting by Nancy Kay, DVM ©

Gross title, I know, particularly for those of you not in a medical profession. It takes a strong stomach to read about vomit (and poop, for that matter), but I hope you will take a few minutes to ponder the following information. It just may prove beneficial in caring for your pet's health.

### "Normal" Versus "Abnormal" Vomiting

It's normal for most dogs and cats to vomit once or twice a year. The cause may be a passing virus or ingestion of something that the gut deems "unagreeable." Unexplained vomiting that occurs more than a few times a year, however, I consider to be abnormal and deserving of medical attention.

One would think that stepping out of bed barefoot into a puddle of yuck, or new white carpeting decorated with bile stains would initiate a veterinary visit. Yet many people, vets included, make the mistake of ignoring upchucking as long as the animal appears normal otherwise. They justify the vomiting with excuses such as:

- He eats too fast. Baloney! The normal stomach expands just fine whether dinner is consumed over seconds or hours.
- She has hairballs. Clogging of the pipes with feline fur is commonly blamed for vomiting, a fact that causes much rejoicing amongst hairball remedy manufacturers. All cats groom themselves and swallow hair in the process. So it only makes sense that hair is often present in feline vomit. This does not make the fur the bad guy- it's really nothing more than an innocent bystander. Do hairballs ever cause vomiting? Yes, but rarely, and I'm only willing to buy into this diagnosis when the upchuck contains nothing much more than a big ole' wad of consolidated cat hair.
- He vomits because he eats grass. This is a classic "chicken versus egg" conundrum. Do animals vomit because they eat grass or do they eat grass because they feel the need to vomit? Some dogs and cats are grazers. They enjoy munching on greenery and do so without vomiting. This I consider normal. What is abnormal are those dogs and cats who, in response to their nausea or gut discomfort, develop a yen for eating grass, leaves, twigs, dirt, and whatever else Mother Nature is serving. Young veterinarians are sometimes fooled by this. They perform surgery to remove a bunch of foliage from an animal's stomach, but fail to examine the entirety of the bowel looking for the reason the dog felt the need to eat the stuff in the first place.
- Vomiting is normal in cats. No, it is not!

### Causes of Vomiting

Vomiting is a super non-specific symptom- I could list more than 100 diseases/abnormalities capable of causing dogs and cats to vomit. While it is always tempting to think something must be awry within the gastrointestinal tract (stomach and intestines) when vomiting occurs, one will frequently miss the diagnosis wearing such blinders. Abnormalities within the liver, gall bladder, kidneys, and pancreas commonly cause vomiting as a primary symptom. Vomiting can also be associated with some hormonal imbalances and in cats, it can be a symptom of heart disease.

These days, one of the most common causes of vomiting in dogs and cats is inflammatory bowel disease (IBD) in which the lining of the stomach and/or intestines becomes infiltrated with inflammatory cells. Although the exact cause of IBD is uncertain, it is thought to represent an allergic reaction within the bowel. Left untreated in cats, IBD can morph over time into a cancerous condition called lymphoma (one good reason to address vomiting sooner rather than later).

Continued on next page

## A Primer on Vomiting (continued)

### Diagnosis and Treatment of Vomiting

The diagnosis of vomiting begins with you providing a thorough history for your veterinarian. Include details such as frequency, time of day, material found in the vomit, anything unusual that might have been ingested, normal diet, and all other symptoms observed. Next comes a thorough physical examination. This may be followed by blood and urine testing (to evaluate liver, kidneys, pancreas, etc.) and/or imaging studies such as X-rays and ultrasound. In some cases, biopsies from the gastrointestinal tract are needed to confirm a diagnosis. Biopsies can be obtained surgically or via endoscopy- a long telescope device that is nonsurgically passed into the bowel. (Those of you over the age of 50 know exactly what I'm talkin' about!)

If such testing is not feasible, empirical therapy (treatment without a clearcut diagnosis) such as changes in diet and/or medications will be an option. Compared to 20 years ago, vets today have quite the arsenal of safe and effective antiemetics (drugs that prevent nausea and vomiting) at their fingertips. Medications to reduce stomach acid production are also commonly used when trying to resolve vomiting in dogs and cats. All such therapies should be administered only under a veterinarian's supervision.

If your dog or cat is vomiting more than a few times a year, pick up the phone and schedule a veterinary visit to figure out the cause. As with any medical malady, the sooner the problem is addressed, the better the outcome is likely to be.

Does your dog or cat vomit more than a few times a year?

If you would like to respond publicly, please visit <http://speakingforspot.com/blog/2013/03/31/a-primer-on-vomiting>.

### Nancy Kay, DVM

Diplomate, American College of Veterinary Internal Medicine

Author of *Speaking for Spot: Be the Advocate Your Dog Needs to Live a Happy, Healthy, Longer Life*

Author of *Your Dog's Best Health: A Dozen Reasonable Things to Expect From Your Vet*

Recipient, Leo K. Bustad Companion Animal Veterinarian of the Year Award

Recipient, American Animal Hospital Association Animal Welfare and Humane Ethics Award

Recipient, Dog Writers Association of America Award for Best Blog

Recipient, Eukanuba Canine Health Award

Recipient, AKC Club Publication Excellence Award



Hayden, Comet and Talalulah enjoying each other—Woutje Swets



"Don't make me angry," says Zen Pixie

# GETTING STARTED HANDLING CLASS



Puppies In pens under trees



You're gonna train me?



People under trees learning how to handle puppies



Erin shows how to stack



Like this!



Heidi tries it



Good Job!



Eyes on me!



But we wanna play...

More on the next page



Saturday, June 15<sup>th</sup>, at Hinckley Family Park in Modesto  
 Eleven young dogs participated.

Conformation showing can be very rewarding for the owner/handler. But how do you train yourself and your Swissy to walk (gaiting) on a leash, stand for examination and exhibit a certain flare of animation? Who better to learn than from a person who has been there herself! Join us for the opportunity to develop handling skills, learn about good sportsmanship and learn about Swissy's and dog shows.



We loved seeing all the young puppies.



Stack your dogs on Happy Legs

Thank you, Linda and Doug (and Murray)

We ate so well.

For a slideshow of this event, click. Click on Slideshow when the first slide appears.

<https://plus.google.com/photos/107703793570384654728/albums/5893522557645419041?banner=pwa&authkey=CJLmupqTstOWEw>



Bone  
 Appétit



### Peanut Butter and Pumpkin Dog Treats

Prep Time: 15 min. Cook Time: 40 min.

**Ingredients:**

- 2 ½ c. whole wheat flour
- 2 eggs
- ½ c. canned pumpkin

- 2 Tbsp Peanut Butter
- ½ tsp. salt
- ½ tsp. cinnamon

**Directions:**

1. Preheat oven to 350 degrees F (175 degrees C).
2. Whisk together the flour, eggs, pumpkin, peanut butter, salt, and cinnamon in a bowl. Add water as needed to help make the dough workable, but the dough should be dry and stiff. Roll the dough into a 1/2-inch-thick roll. Cut into 1/2-inch pieces.
3. Bake in preheated oven until hard, about 40 minutes.

# Packing for the Dog Show

Thanks to Jennifer Logan

**Packet of Papers**

- Directions to the show
- Hotel Confirmation
- Entry Confirmation
- Copy of AKC Registration
- Vaccination Record

**Showing (backpack or bag)**

- Bait
- Spray bottle with water
- 2 small towels
- Paper towels
- Cool jacket
- Show collar
- Leather lead
- Bottled water
- Water bowl
- Ring #, Time, entry confirmation
- Poop bags
- Camera

**Showing (if it's a long day)**

- Soft crate
- Crate ad
- Bed sheet to cover/shade crate
- Chairs
- Cooler with food, drinks, yogurt, pumpkin

**Pet Care**

- Water (either bottled or brought from home)
- Dog food
- Benadryl
- Bowls
- Toys
- Leash (extending for potty trips)
- Flashlight for night
- Metal crate
- X Pens
- Soft crate
- Fleece pad for crate
- Crate bowls—clip on

**Grooming**

- Shampoo and Baby Shampoo
- Waterless shampoo
- Large towel
- Zoom Groom
- Brush
- Aqua Net
- Shine spray
- Tooth scraper
- Toothbrush and paste
- Ear cleaner, pads or Q Tips
- Nail Clipper
- Dremel
- Paper towels
- Nature's Miracle
- Cool coat or vest



New Champion Jetta



Three intact male best buds: Enzo, Jake and Brix

# CINCO DE MAYO



Just waiting for all the fun to start



Time to socialize



Hit the pinata, Kai



Fun!



Time to eat, everyone



Nancy talks with new members



Trekker thinks this is a fine idea.



Kara talks about the Canine Good Citizen Test



MMM...great cake!



What's with this "in the pen while we eat" routine?

# PUPPIES!

They are growing up so fast...



Lukas



Murray and Toby



Ziggy



Raul



Bodie



Roxie



Simon Rosebrook



Timber and Rosalie



Snuggiebug Jagger

## Our Puppies Are Stretching Out!



Timber



Heidi Rogers Camping



Gracie Smith and Kate at the Civil War



Ramsey



Enzo and Trinity



Kate Smith



Heidi Rogers-Ft. Funston



Dixie Vonada relaxing



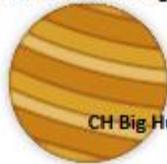
Lukas Lucas

**BUBBLE GUM** Many gums are sugarless and made with an ingredient called xylitol, which is potentially toxic to pets. Xylitol is a type of artificial sweetener found in many sugar-free chewing gums, candies and baked goods. In dogs, it can cause a sudden drop in blood sugar. The symptoms of this dangerous condition include depression, lethargy, weakness, incoordination and seizures in some cases. [Xylitol poisoning](#) can occur in as little as 30 minutes after ingestion. That's a big problem when you consider that dogs are so darn good about getting into things and can do it before we even notice them. I treated a dog that got in to his owner's purse - within minutes he had eaten an entire pack of gum (wrappers and all) and she didn't even notice. The dog "cleaned up his mess" so to speak by also eating the wrappers. Within about an hour he was falling over and the owners had no idea what caused it. (I'm so glad they brought him in to see me!) These kinds of things DO happen, so please be careful. It is safest not to give your dog ANY human foods. For more information go to: [xylitol poisoning](#). Also, familiarize yourself with the human foods that are dangerous to dogs. Please read this list. Go to: [Dangerous Human Foods](#) Dr.Jon

RamsGate Greater Swiss Mountain Dogs  
is proud to present the **Heavenly Bodies Litter**  
bred by Michele Slate and Antoinette Killpatrick



CH RamsGate's Diamond in the Rough  
"Quinn"



CH Big Hunk of Whispering Pines  
"Riley"



**BOYS**



Luisa, Israel & Ernie Jimenez  
RamsGate's Antares "Raul"



Heather Lane & Wesley Bergquist  
RamsGate's Draco "Denali"



Mike Twining & Lauren Thompson  
RamsGate's Vega "Juno"



The Garcia Family  
RamsGate's Cepheus "Beau"



Wade Crosson & Matthew Travisano  
RamsGate's Canis Major "Ramsey"



Jane & Alec McDonnell, Jill & Robin  
RamsGate's Orion "Rudi"

**GIRLS**



The Shupack Family  
RamsGate's Elara "Aria"



Tessa & Pete Kirkpatrick  
RamsGate's Cassiopeia "Cassie"



Amy and Anna Ojendyk  
RamsGate's Halley's Comet "Halley"



Damon Petracci & Casey Franklin  
RamsGate's Tail of the Comet "Pi"

**RamsGate Greater Swiss Mountain Dogs**  
Michele Slate  
[www.ramsgateswissys.com](http://www.ramsgateswissys.com) [wolfpack1313@msn.com](mailto:wolfpack1313@msn.com)  
503 538-0330 (home) 503 545-2433 (cell)



RamsGate's newest addition  
RamsGate's Full Moon Rising "Luna"



**Whispering Pine Kennel**  
**ALOHA LITTER**  
 Born February 4, 2013  
 4 boys & 2 girls  
 Bred by Bonnie Huett and Antoinette Fillpatrick



Proud Parents



CH Trout Creek's On A Roll  
"Tucker"



CH Tree 'n' Sea's Sure Better for Aiki  
"Reba"



Corrina Rosebrook, Burlingame CA  
Whispering Pine Aloha Kai (Simon)



Kristen Davignon, Campbell, CA  
Whispering Pine Aloha KeKoa ( Ziggy)



Steve Albertolle & Maureen Buckley, Palo Alto, CA  
Whispering Pine Aloha Kahuna (Rolo)



Linda Ridenour, Modesto, CA  
Whispering Pine Aloha King Kamehameha  
(Murray)



Jim Skidmors, Montecito, CA  
Whispering Pine Aloha Anela (Penny)



Chris Willden, Hughson, CA  
Whispering Pine Aloha Kallani (Appy)

## More New Litters



**Candy + Riley Litter June 12, 2013**  
4 girls & 4 boys + the Lone Ranger makes 9  
Alyssa Shah and Toni Killpatrick



**Zippo + Roy Litter May 29, 2013**  
Janelle Kaiser in Indiana and Toni Killpatrick



### RESCUE

Rescue available " Dottie "  
6 year old spayed female  
with her AKC pedigree.

Please contact Alyssa: 323-632-5906 or  
email [alyssshah@earthlink.net](mailto:alyssshah@earthlink.net)

**2013 DOG SHOWS**

Call or email Erin Stammer if you are thinking about entering a show.  
cell 707-291-5454 (text msg best) erinstammer@gmail

Name	Type	Location	Date	Closing Date
Del Monte Kennel Club	AB/O/JSHW	Carmel	Sat 07/13/2013	26-Jun
Del Monte Kennel Club	AB/O/JSHW	Carmel	Sun 07/14/2013	26-Jun
Kennel Club of Salinas	AB/JSHW	Stockton	Fri 07/19/2013	3-Jul
Kennel Club of Salinas	AB/JSHW	Stockton	Sat 07/20/2013	3-Jul
Sierra-Tuolomne Kennel Club, Inc.	AB/JSHW	Stockton	Sun 07/21/2013	3-Jul
Sierra-Tuolomne Kennel Club, Inc.	AB/JSHW	Stockton	Mon 07/22/2013	3-Jul
Lompoc Valley Kennel Club	AB/JSHW	Lompoc	Sat 07/27/2013	10-Jul
Lompoc Valley Kennel Club	AB/JSHW	Lompoc	Sun 07/28/2013	10-Jul
Richmond Dog Club Fanciers, Inc.	AB/JSHW	Richmond	Sat 08/03/2013	17-Jul
Richmond Dog Club Fanciers, Inc.	AB/JSHW	Richmond	Sun 08/04/2013	17-Jul
Reno Kennel Club	AB/JSHW	Reno	Sat 8/17/2013	31-Jul
Reno Kennel Club	AB/JSHW	Reno	Sun 8/18/2013	31-Jul
Mensona Kennel Club, Inc.	AB/O/JSHW	Santa Rosa	Sat 08/24/2013	7-Aug
Mensona Kennel Club, Inc.	AB/O/JSHW	Santa Rosa	Sun 08/25/2013	7-Aug
Mensona Kennel Club, Inc.	4-6 Beginner Pup	Santa Rosa	Sun 08/25/2013	7-Aug
Simi Valley Kennel Club	AB/JSHW	Santa Barbara	Fri 08/23/2013	7-Aug
Santa Barbara Kennel Club, Inc.	AB/JSHW	Santa Barbara	Sat 08/24/2013	7-Aug
Santa Barbara Kennel Club, Inc.	AB/JSHW	Santa Barbara	Sun 08/25/2013	7-Aug
Conejo Kennel Club	AB/JSHW	Santa Barbara	Mon 08/26/2013	7-Aug
Gold Country Kennel Club	AB/O/JSHW	Grass Valley	Sat 08/31-2013	14-Aug
Gold Country Kennel Club	AB/O/JSHW	Grass Valley	Sun 09/01/2013	14-Aug
Redwood Empire Kennel Club	AB/O/JSHW	Petaluma	Sat 08/31/2013	21-Aug
Redwood Empire Kennel Club	AB/O/JSHW	Petaluma	Sun 09/07/2013	21-Aug
Sir Francis Drake Kennel Club, Inc.	AB/O/JSHW	Vallejo	Sat 09/14/2013	28-Aug
Sir Francis Drake Kennel Club, Inc.	AB/O/JSHW	Vallejo	Sun 09/15/2013	28-Aug
Two Cities Kennel Club	AB/JSHW	Yuba City	Sat 09/21/2013	4-Sep
Two Cities Kennel Club	AB/JSHW	Yuba City	Sun 09/22/2013	4-Sep
San Luis Obispo Kennel Club	AB/JSHW	Paso Robles	Sat 09/28/2013	22-Sep
San Luis Obispo Kennel Club	AB/JSHW	Paso Robles	Sun 09/29/2013	22-Sep
Donner Trail Kennel Club, Inc.	AB/JSHW	Roseville	Sat 10/05/2013	18-Sep
Donner Trail Kennel Club, Inc.	AB/JSHW	Roseville	Sun 10/06/2013	18-Sep
Skyline Dog Fanciers, San Mateo Co.	AB/O/JSHW	Pleasanton	Fri 10/18/2013	2-Oct
<b>Del Valle Dog Club of Livermore*</b>	<b>AB/O/JSHW</b>	<b>Pleasanton</b>	<b>Sat 10/19/2013</b>	<b>2-Oct</b>
Del Valle Dog Club of Livermore	AB/O/JSHW	Pleasanton	Sun 10/20/2013	2-Oct
Sacramento Valley Dog Fanciers	AB/O/JSHW	Dixon	Sat 10/26/2013	9-Oct
Sacramento Valley Dog Fanciers	AB/O/JSHW	Dixon	Sun 10/27/2013	9-Oct
Wine Country Kennel Club	AB/JSHW	Napa	Sat 11/09/2013	23-Oct
Wine Country Kennel Club	AB/JSHW	Napa	Sun 11/10/2013	23-Oct
Golden Valley Kennel Club, Inc	AB/O/JSHW	Turlock	Fri 11/22/2013	6-Nov
Golden Valley Kennel Club, Inc	AB/O/JSHW	Turlock	Sat 11/23/2013	6-Nov
San Joaquin Kennel Club	AB/O JSHW	Stockton	Sun 11/24/2013	6-Nov
San Joaquin Kennel Club	AB/O JSHW	Stockton	Mon 11/25/2013	6-Nov

**\*This is our Western Regional Specialty.**

## Protecting Your Dog Against Foxtails

[Nancy Kay, DVM](#) The Bark, Issue 60, Summer 2010

Tonight my littlest dog Nellie came in the house sneezing. Any other time of year and I would be unconcerned, but in late spring and early summer an abrupt onset of sneezing after being outdoors is a “foxtail-in-the-nose alarm bell.” I’ll be watching Nellie like a hawk for the rest of the evening. Any crinkling of her nose, ongoing sneezing or bloody nose, and she’ll be my first patient tomorrow morning.

If you are unfamiliar with foxtails, count your blessings! These pesky, bristly plant awns grow in abundance throughout California and are reported in most every state west of the Mississippi. Once the plant heads dry, they become hell-bent on finding their way into dogs’ noses, ears, eyes, mouths and just about every other orifice. They can dive deep into a dog’s nostril or ear canal (beyond sight) in the blink of an eye. And a foxtail camouflaged under a layer of hair can readily burrow through the skin (a favorite hiding place is between toes). Foxtails can wind up virtually anywhere in the body, and associated symptoms vary based on location. For example, a foxtail within the ear canal causes head shaking, under the skin a draining tract, or within the lung, labored breathing and coughing. Not only is the dog’s body incapable of degrading or decomposing foxtails, these plant awns are barbed in such a way that they can only move in a “forward” direction. Unless caught early, they, and the bacteria they carry, either become walled off to form an abscess or migrate through the body causing infection and tissue damage. Once foxtails have moved internally, they become the proverbial needle in a haystack—notoriously difficult to find and remove.

Take the example of Emma Louise, an undeniably adorable Brittany Spaniel mix whose family told me that her favorite pastime is running through fields with her nose to the ground. They described her as a “foxtail magnet,” having accumulated several in her ears and nose over the years. I was asked to help figure out the cause of Emma Louise’s hunched back and straining to urinate. With abdominal ultrasound, I discovered a gigantic abscess tucked up under Emma Louise’s spine, extending into her pelvic canal. Given this girl’s history, I just knew there had to be a foxtail in there somewhere. The question was, would we be able to find it?

As is my medical tradition before launching a foxtail search, I recited a prayer to the “god of foxtails.” I then turned Emma Louise over to one of my surgical colleagues for exploratory surgery. After two hours of nailbiting and a barrage of expletives originating in the O.R., I heard a shout of, “Got it!” The foxtail had been located and removed, and sweet little Emma Louise made a rapid and complete recovery. Not finding the foxtail would have meant a lifetime of antibiotics to treat her foxtail-induced infection.

If you suspect your dog has a foxtail-related issue, contact your veterinarian right away to find out what steps can be taken (at home or in the veterinary hospital) to rid your dog of this unwanted plant material. Whenever possible, avoidance of foxtail exposure is the best and only foolproof prevention. If your dog does have access to foxtails, carefully comb through his or her haircoat—checking ears and toes, too—a couple of times daily to remove any that are embedded and poised to wreak havoc!

### Nancy Kay, DVM

*Diplomate, American College of Veterinary Internal Medicine*

*Author of **Speaking for Spot: Be the Advocate Your Dog Needs to Live a Happy, Healthy, Longer Life***

*Author of **Your Dog’s Best Health: A Dozen Reasonable Things to Expect From Your Vet***

*Recipient, Leo K. Bustad Companion Animal Veterinarian of the Year Award*

*Recipient, American Animal Hospital Association Animal Welfare and Humane Ethics Award*

*Recipient, Dog Writers Association of America Award for Best Blog*

*Recipient, Eukanuba Canine Health Award*

*Recipient, AKC Club Publication Excellence Award*



# RAINBOW BRIDGE

CH. WHISPERING PINES GERONIMO

6/23/2003---6/2/2013



*Geronimo, also known as Momo, G, Big Dog.....was a true family dog. If we were in the house or yard, he was right next to us. A favorite memory was pulling up to the house and seeing his big head in the window waiting for us. You could always make out the silhouette of his head, ears perked up, at the ready! He knew the sound of each car and set of feet and would always be at the right door, tail thumping, whining with excitement, waiting to greet us. Even if you had a bad day, it only took that greeting and a minute or two of his affection and your day was brighter.*

*Geronimo was a talker. He definitely communicated verbally, never letting us make his dinner late or forget a walk time, and he'd purr contentedly when snuggling. You could have a conversation with him--he would answer with his sounds and ask you some questions of his own.*

*I think he could have passed high school. He studied next to Mary through so much homework! The two of them spent countless nights, just being together as she studied and he kept her company. He was very devoted to us. When hiking, if we spread apart on the trail, he would get frantic and herd us back together, running to slow the person in the front and hurry the person in the back. We also played a lot of games at a local field, where he would run from person to person, trying to keep an eye on all of us at once!*



*The first time we took Momo to the snow he "went native!" He ran so crazy through the deep snow drifts that we thought he wouldn't come back. It was amazing to watch him, pure joy! It took the word "cheese" to get him to come bounding back to us, covered in snow, tongue hanging out, and big tail wagging.*

*He was a best friend to all of us; we're thankful every day that he was our big dog and we miss him deeply.*

*Maureen & Steve, Mark, Patrick, Stephen and Mary*





## RATTLESNAKES

This is the time of year for ticks, fleas, bees...and snakes. Although most snakes are not venomous, snakebites are a common reason for vet visits in some areas of the country. They are a bigger problem in the Southern U.S. but every spring and summer reports come in from almost everywhere. And even if the snake doesn't have venom, the bite itself can be cause for concern. That brings up an interesting point. Many people use the words "toxin" and "venom" interchangeably. Do you know the difference? Check out this interesting article: <http://www.petplace.com/venoms-and-poisons-what-is-the-difference> There are certainly lots of old wives' tales about snakebites, but is there any truth to them? Find out what you should do (or more important what you should NOT do) if your dog is bitten by a snake. Go to:

<http://www.petplace.com/what-to-do-and-what-not-to-do-snake-bite-first-aid> One more thing - do you know how to tell a venomous snake from a non-venomous snake? Find out here: <http://www.petplace.com/how-to-recognize-a-venomous-snake> Please stay safe and have your vet's phone number available at all times just in case. Dr. Jon

## RATTLESNAKE AVERSION TRAINING

The rattle snake aversion training went well and Trekker got the message that a rattle snake is not to be approached. Hopefully we never have to find out. I plan on repeating this training next year. Trekker also gets an annual rattle snake shot that would slow down the poison should he ever get bit.

The aversion training consisted of four parts

1. A trainer takes the dog on leash for a short walk up the trail. The dog has a shock collar on and in the middle of the trail is a baby rattler (muzzled) and they want to see how the dog reacts to the snake without having any training or owner interference. If the dog comes close to the snake and starts to sniff then the dog is shocked. Trekker jumped back and when walking by the snake again took a wide berth.
2. The dog is taken into a more covered area of the trail that has a real shed snakeskin laying in the grass and weeds and they want to see how the dog reacts. Trekker avoided the snake skin and took off up the trail.
3. A very large rattler is placed between the owner and the dog and trainer with the distance between owner and the owner with the dog being about 30 yards. The trainer starts walking the dog back to the owner and they want to see how the dog reacts with the snake in the way. Trekker started to stop about 3 yards shy of the snake and this was reinforced by a shock to the collar which made Trekker backup even further.
4. With the distance still being about 30 yards the trainer then asks the owner to call the dog. The trainer has the dog on a long leash and there is still the large snake between them and the owner. I called Trekker and he started coming towards me and he very wisely took a long detour around the snake to get to me. He actually went completely off the trail and around a tree to get back to me. Very funny to see.

That was it. ROB BLITS

### Trekker at the Reserve



**THE SATURDAY  
EVENING POST**



## **SIGNS OF DOG SICKNESS**

Signs start with a change in your pet's routine behavior and attitude.

Watch for:

- Decreased energy or activity level
- Changes in appetite or water intake
- Changes in behavior: hiding, refusing to play, becoming aggressive
- Vomiting, diarrhea or straining to urinate or defecate
- Poor coat quality, patchy hair loss or excessive scratching
- Weight loss
- Foul order coming from the mouth, ears or skin
- Abnormal whining or crying

**Toni Killpatrick**



## **INFORMATIONAL SITES to VISIT**

**Greater Swiss Mountain Dog Club Facebook Page**

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/2210909824/>

**Greater Swiss Mountain Dog Club of America**

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

**Greater Swiss Mountain Dog Forums**

<http://greaterswissdotcom.com/forum/>

**Golden Gate GSMD Facebook Page**

[Click here](#)

**Visit our club website:**

[www.goldengategsmdc.com/](http://www.goldengategsmdc.com/)