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Serving, educating, encouraging,
and promoting fellow dog
breeders.

**WHAT'S
INSIDE?**



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**And MUCH,
MUCH more!**

Featured Breed on page 38



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ICAW

OFFICERS

President: Myron Yoder 260-499-0320

Past President: Darin Miller 574-658-3330

Vice President: Jerry Lambright 574-642-3188

Secretary: Alvin Brenneman 260-438-8311

Treasurer: Jesse Troyer 260-214-0840

NORTH WEST CHAPTER PET BREEDERS

DAVID SLABAUGH : (574) 646-2157

NORTH EAST CHAPTER PET BREEDERS

URA MILLER : (260) 768-3022

ALLEN COUNTY CHAPTER PET BREEDERS

JOSEPH SCHMUCKER : (260) 385-1422

EASTERN INDIANA CHAPTER PET BREEDERS

LEROY EASH : (765) 886-1990

SOUTHERN INDIANA CHAPTER PET BREEDERS

KEVIN WAGLER : (812) 486-2763

5
CHAPTERS



INDIANA COUNCIL FOR ANIMAL WELFARE

P.O. Box 20717

INDIANAPOLIS, IN 46220-0717

For more information please visit: www.icaw.org

Application for Annual Membership

Name: _____ Date: _____

Kennel Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____ Fax: _____ Email: _____

USDA Licensed: Yes _____ No _____

Indiana BOAH Registered: Yes _____ No _____

CHAPTERS OF ICAW (check one):

- _____ NORTHEAST INDIANA
- _____ NORTHWEST INDIANA
- _____ SOUTHERN INDIANA
- _____ EAST CENTRAL
- _____ ALLEN COUNTY
- _____ N/A or OUT OF STATE

Are you interested in being listed in the next Breeder Directory? Yes _____ No _____

If yes, please specify the breeds you want listed _____

How would you like to receive your Newsletter? Email _____ Mail _____

Would you like to be on the ICAW ONE CALL? Yes No _____

Individual/Family: _____ \$49

Business/Association _____ \$100

Additional Donation: _____ \$30 _____ \$60 _____ \$90 _____ \$120 _____ Other TOTAL: _____

MAIL APPLICATION TO: ICAW SECRETARY, 5084 W 400 N, PORTLAND, IN 47371

The Indiana Council for Animal Welfare (ICAW) wishes to thank you for your support. Your membership allows us to educate the public about animal welfare, improve animal husbandry skills, and present a united voice in federal, state, or local government legislation. ICAW is a 501 (C) (6) non-profit organization. Memberships are to be paid at the annual Indiana Council for Animal Welfare seminar, valid from January 1st to the last day of the following calendar year.

Seventy percent (70%) of your membership is deductible as a business expense. The Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1919 disallows as a business expense that portion of your dues, which are allocatable to lobbying at the State or Federal level. Dues contributions are made to 501 (C) 6 organizations such as the council, are not eligible as charitable deductions. Further information for this law should be obtained from your tax advisor.

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APPROVED BY _____



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Code of Ethics



The ICAW Professional Pet Breeders take pride in their responsibilities for proper care and handling of their pets. The following code describes general considerations:

- To provide food, water, and care necessary to protect the health and welfare of the pets that are in your care.
- To provide proper veterinary care of these pets for disease prevention, etc.
- To provide clean, well-kept facilities to allow safe, humane, and efficient pet management.
- To use proper re-homing practices for your pets, to ensure a happy and safe home.
- To use only veterinary accepted methods, if needed, to dispose of a pet.
- To provide all personnel with a working knowledge of your pets, including proper handling techniques.
- To provide transportation for your pets that avoid undue stress caused by overcrowding, excessive time spent in transit, or by discomfort during loading and unloading.
- Any person who willfully mistreats pets WILL NOT be tolerated in this organization.
- To conduct all business in an ethical manner.
- All breeders agree to follow the recommendations set forth in the above statements.
- All breeders agree to follow the USDA and/or the Indiana Board of Animal Health rules.
- All breeders agree to obtain all required licenses and operate your business 100% legally.
- Encourage all breeders to further their knowledge by attending meetings and conferences and being active in their Chapter.

Termination of Membership

The ICAW Membership of any member may be terminated for the following:

- A violation of the ICAW code of ethics.
- Acts of dishonesty or acts of statements that do not support the ICAW mission.

The termination process shall begin with sending a written notice by U.S. Mail not less than fifteen days prior to termination. The notice shall state the reason for termination and inform the member of the right to be heard orally or in writing by the board of directors at least five days before the effective date of termination. A two-thirds majority vote by the board proceeds to vote to terminate the membership of a member, then the effective date shall be no less than five days after the member had the opportunity to address the board.

From the ICAW President

Hello everyone!

I hope everyone is enjoying the beginning of 2021 and doing their best to make this new year a successful and rewarding year.

Our family just got back from a 2 week vacation in Florida and are all trying to get used to this weather again! Our kids, Ashlie, Brandon, Karina and Megan, along with my wife and I, enjoy taking occasional vacations as a family. It rejuvenates the mind and body and gives us a desire to go home and put our utmost effort into our daily activities... Whether it be your job, working in the kennel, being a better parent or simply being a more enjoyable person to be around.

First off, I will have to admit that I feel a little overwhelmed with this new position that I have acquired. But I do want to do my part for ICAW with an open mind and a cheerful attitude. Thank you to all the past and present board members for all the time and effort that you have put into the organization! I am starting to see what all

it has taken to make ICAW a success today, and all the effort that needs to be put in, to not only keep things that way but also to making sure we continue thriving. Hopefully with everyone's effort we can continue improving the standards of raising puppies in an atmosphere where we as breeders enjoy it and the new pet owners feel comfortable purchasing puppies from us.

I want to extend a warm welcome to Patrick Keith! I am very excited to have him on our team and look forward to working with him this year. I feel that Pat will be a very positive and rewarding influence to every breeder in the state, regardless the size of their kennel. He has been around the industry for a long time and knows where we all started and knows the direction we are all trying to head towards.

A big thank you to all the breeders out there as well. Without you, ICAW would not be possible for anyone. Being on the KMA this past year, I got to see a lot of kennels and was very impressed with all of them. I want to encourage

everyone to keep participating and sharing any comments or concerns that you have. There is endless opportunity in the future of the industry. And if everyone, including myself, is willing to stay open minded, compliant and can stay ahead of the regulations we will be a success!

There are some new USDA regulations coming our way and Pat Keith will be helping us become successfully compliant with those regulations.

I want to close by thanking everyone again and wishing you all a happy and prosperous new year!

God Bless,



Myron Yoder

Team Information

Rehoming Team

Devon Schrock
Darrel Schwartz

ER Response Team

Caleb Ramer
Myron Hostetler

KMA Northeast North

Dale Bontrager
Jonathan Petershiem
Glendon Yoder

KMA Northeast South

Ezra Whetstone
Steven Eash
Mahlon Bontrager

KMA Northwest

Gerald Fry
Steven Lehman
Verlin Miller

KMA Nappanee

Craig Riffey
Titus Burkholder
Glen Herschberger



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a Word from the **NORTHWEST CHAPTER**



Greetings from the Northwest Chapter!

How were the Holidays for us as we spent time with family and friends? I hope we enjoyed the time well spent. Celebrating the birth of our Saviour and for what he has done for us.

Here I sit putting my thoughts on paper and wondering where 2020 went. As we all know, it's been a very different year, not knowing how it will turn out.

Schedules and plans were changed, yet with the efforts put in by everyone, we still had an amazing year. We look forward to the new year, knowing it's all in God's hands.

We want to welcome Myron & Dorene Yoder on as President. We will be letting everyone know later on if we will have the spring meeting at Dal-mar. (Northwest Chapter) We'll have to see how Covid restrictions are by then.

With that I'll sign off, wishing everyone a great year as we work together as a team, to raise the bar, one step at a time!

God Bless!

Dave & Vonda Slabaugh

Challenges with heating in kennels

- > Concrete is cold and hard to heat
- > Sweaty concrete floors & walls
- > Dog doors create drafts when in use
- > Heating \$ lost during air exchange
- > Cold puppies grow slower
- > Central Heat moves allergens and bacteria throughout building
- > Hot ceilings, cold air at floor level

The Solution?

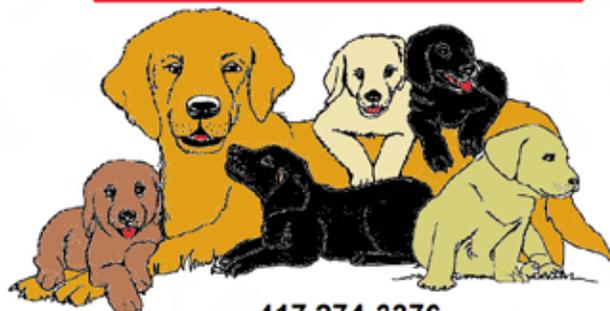
- ☛ Infrared will heat concrete
- ☛ Infrared will dry wet floors
- ☛ No drafts from dog doors
- ☛ No \$ lost with air exchange
- ☛ No shivering dogs or puppies
- ☛ No fans needed to circulate heat
- ☛ Floors as warm as ceiling
- ☛ Easy install in any building



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 a Word from the
NORTHEAST CHAPTER



Greetings across ICAW land, where we continue to strive to do what it takes to raise puppies. Let's not let our peers get a poor picture of who we are. Keep on keeping on.

Our winter meeting is now behind us. Had 130 people in attendance. A very good turnout! Thanks to everyone for your participation. Getting together with other breeders, hearing topics and having fellowship with others has a way to motivate us.

Also want to thank those willing to have a topic at meeting. Blessings to you! We are so blessed. To God be all honor and glory!

Love,

*Ura, Loranna
& Family*

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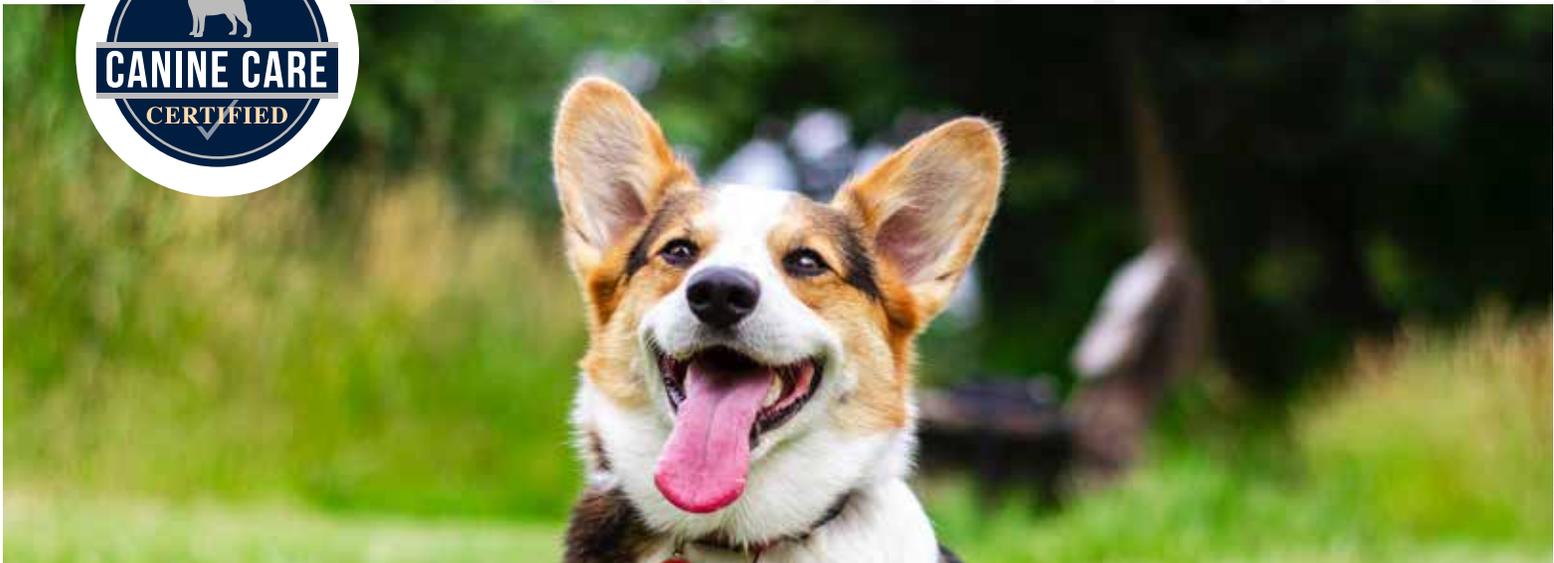




CATALOGS

PUBLICATIONS





Canine Care Certified is a nationwide, voluntary program that addresses the health and overall welfare of dogs in the care of breeders in the United States.

Canine Care Certified establishes extensive, science-based standards for breeders to ensure a higher, documented quality of care for dogs and puppies. Canine Care Certified is wholly administered by Purdue University.

The program was developed at the request of a small group of breeders that wished to have uniform, nationwide, and voluntary standards that considered physical and behavioral welfare of dogs and puppies raised by breeders. The certification program is based on standards developed and led by Dr. Candace Croney, Ph.D. at Purdue University in 2013.

Breeders seeking to be certified must meet or exceed rigorous standards for physical and behavioral welfare in areas such as nutrition, veterinary care, genetics, housing, breeding age & frequency, and retirement & rehoming.

CANINE CARE CERTIFIED - FIVE PILLARS OF CARE



PHYSICAL HEALTH

Only veterinarians may perform any necessary alterations and surgeries. Breeders must also create comprehensive physical health plans for preventative care and treatment and ensure they are implemented. Genetic and health screening, regular dental care, and grooming are required.



BEHAVIORAL HEALTH

Caretakers need to create a behavioral wellness plan, both for preventive care and treatment, as well as provide exercise, meaningful socialization, and enrichment for adult dogs and puppies.



ENVIRONMENT

Breeders must provide safe, enriched, high-quality spaces with access to the outdoors and multiple flooring surfaces.



BREEDING LIFE & RETIREMENT

Breeders must follow established limits for breeding ages & litter numbers. Retirement and rehoming plans are required. Adult dogs at retirement cannot be sold for continued breeding or research.



CARETAKER EXPECTATIONS

Breeders must participate in continuing education on canine care and welfare, must use low-stress handling procedures, and be transparent with stakeholders and compliant with best practices.

A DAY IN THE LIFE OF A DOG BREEDER

SHARING WITH YOU OUR STORY



PUPPYLOVE DACHSHUNDS
CALEB KATHLEEN JENNA NATALIE & MARY KATE

Welcome to PuppyLove Dachshunds where we live our life loving God, finding joy in every-day moments, and spreading a little dachshund happiness through our puppies. Caleb and I have been married since 2013. We have three daughters Jenna, Natalie, and Mary Kate. We live on a three acre farm with our dachshund family of thirteen. We have been breeders for 7 ½ years and we invite you to join us for a day in our life. The morning begins at 5:30. I hug my coffee mug closely as Caleb and I head toward the kennel. He is a morning person, so he whistles. I am not. The pink sunrise promises of a lovely day ahead. The dachshunds stretch and yawn as the kennel lights up. I smile as they bang, bang out the doggie doors in their excitement to reach the play-yard first. Caleb cleans the outside runs while I fill the washer with a load of doggie laundry. I disinfect, scrub, and rinse the pens. I fill the food bowls and take a quick sweep through the office area, before calling it good enough for now. With a litter of dachshund puppies reaching their eight week birthday today, we have four families scheduled to arrive throughout the day. I fill the sink with warm water and after scrubbing and rinsing, the dachshund puppies are squeaky clean. We wave Caleb good-bye on his way out the door with his construction crew. By 8:30, the three girls are combed and ready for the day.



*Be what you want
to see in
the world*

I bike Jenna the half mile to school before returning home to organize the paperwork I did last night. I am a night-owl, Caleb is not. It is true that opposite really do attract. I set the kitchen table with the gift bag, personalized leash, puppy food and coupon, favorite blanket and chew toy, and the paperwork for each puppy. With Natalie and Mary Kate tagging along, we fill the wagon with the puppies and pull them to the back-yard to the play-pen. In the kennel again, I toss a clean doggie bed and a few chew toys and treats into each pen. I take another quick sweep making sure everything is spic and span before greeting the first family that arrives. For them, it is love at first sight when they meet their new puppy. The girls and I offer them a tour of the kennel and they meet the parents before we start filling out the paperwork. An hour has flown by and the dust has barely settled in the driveway when the next family arrives. I grab a snack for the girls and it is a repeat of the hour before. They are so grateful and so happy, it isn't hard at all to love my job. After a quick lunch of left-overs, Mary Kate takes a nap while I clean up and organize the paperwork that has been completed already. We take the puppies some fresh water, move the play-pen, and clean up the puppies and the mess they made. While we wait for the third family to arrive, I help a neighbor load two bags of dogfood. The third family arrives just as the neighbor is leaving. Natalie and I both pull on our masks at their request. I take a few deep breaths and smile as they introduce themselves. They really are nice people. They are first time pet owners and I do believe they stayed up half the night to think up all the questions they could ask, though they do not look tired at all. Another hour, another repeat, and they leave.

Natalie clips a leash to the remaining puppy and they follow me to the kennel. As I enter, the phone rings. I glance at the clock and note that I have 20 minutes before the next family arrives. As I answer the phone, I idly fill in the temperature and humidity on the record we need for Canine Care. When the ten minute phone call ends, I turn around just in time to see Natalie, with suds to her elbows, an emptier-than-before bottle of Dawn Dishsoap at her side, and only twelve minutes before the family for the soggy-doggie-puppy-in-the-tub is scheduled to arrive. I should have prayed for patience. I know I did. I should have counted to ten, but I didn't have time. In only seconds I was rinsing. And rinsing. And rinsing, rinsing, rinsing. With only minutes to spare, I turned the hair-dryer on the puppy. I brushed and dried, brushed and dried with one eye on the drive-way. When they did appear, right on time, the puppy was ready. Clean and ready. I turned to face the new family. I tried to appear calm and collected, though I still felt out of breath. They commented on the sweet face, the long ears. The darling little daughter by my side. The spunky personality of their new puppy and, "He smells so good! What puppy shampoo do you recommend?!" They left, happy, with their puppy whose shiny little coat sparkled after the second bath of the day. When they were gone, my daughter and I had a talk. We cleaned up and found supper in the freezer that was put there exactly for days like this. The man of the house came home. We cared for our puppies, fed the dachshunds, and tucked everyone into their own pen. We walked in the gathering dusk, fireflies lighting the way. We were tired. And grateful. And feeling blessed. Where else, in the great country we live in, can we find such a happy, rewarding job with dish soap bubbles floating around us as we work?

BLESSINGS~

Caleb & Kathleen
Jenna, Natalie, and Mary Kate



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Greetings from the Allen County Chapter!

Well it's Monday, January 25th! Wow, the first month of 2021 is almost over. It seems the older we get, the more time we want to take to enjoy each and every moment of each day!

Around here we are trying to get back to the usual routine with Christmas vacation now over and the children back in school. It is always exciting going into the Holidays but it's also a good feeling when they are over!

We were blessed with two litters of mini Goldendoodles on January 23rd, and are expecting a litter today. We are looking forward to the coming months as it seems to be a good time of the year to find homes for puppies.

Wishing everyone a blessed and prosperous year!
Ervin & Julie Graber
& Children

“ Intellectuals solve problems,
geniuses prevent them.

Albert Einstein ”



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- ✓ Giardia
- ✓ Puppy Loss

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PATRICK KEITH

COMPLIANCE COACH

**ICAW EXECUTIVE
DIRECTOR**

Bringing Change Impact into Focus

Beginning January 26th @ 6:30 pm ICAW and Patrick Keith will host a series of compliance conference calls.

Understanding compliance is not always easy, so our new Executive Director, Patrick Keith will host a series of conference calls that are going to be focused on the New Licensing Rule of 2020. We will break down each part of the new rule and explain in some detail the impact it will have on the individual breeder, our Attending Veterinarians (AV's) and our industry. These calls are completely voluntary attendance. We are welcoming any of our members here in Indiana, but also any breeders from our sister associations. You are encouraged to join the calls, stay as long as you like and ask as many questions as you like. No one will be required to say who they are; this is so we can have questions without someone being concerned about judgement. There will be some rules, for these calls. The calls will start promptly at 6pm and if no one is on by 6:15 the call will end. We will not entertain questions or complaints about the regulations. The regulations have gone through a 3-year vetting process and there is nothing that we can do to change it at this point. What we can do, is break down the regulations, identify what impact they will have and use these calls to prepare for the least amount of stress, use of time and resources.

USDA has stated one of the reasons for the changes include:

“The licensing requirements are amended in the Animal Welfare Act (AWA) regulations to promote compliance, reduce licensing fees, and strengthen safeguards that prevent individuals and businesses with a history of noncompliance from obtaining a license or working with regulated animals. These changes will reduce regulatory burden with respect to licensing and help ensure licensees sustain compliance with the AWA, thereby promoting animal welfare.”

For the majority of ICAW Breeders, these changes will be not much more than a few documentations changes, and some additional costs of AV visits. But for some it will mean that you have to revisit some previous issues and incorporate some previously postponed improvements.

Each week will focus on the following:

Jan 26 @ 6:30 pm What is in effect now? An overview of the new rule as it applies now

Feb 9 @ 6:30 pm Pre-License/Renewals/Frequency of inspection

Feb 23 @ 6:30 pm Our KMA's Updated Role

Mar 9 @ 6:30 pm PVC's and the impact on our AV's

Mar 23 @ 6:30 pm Medical Records and the Blue Book

Apr 6 @ 6:30 pm Potable Water/Continuous Watering

Apr 20 @ 6:30 pm Applying for Renewal/New Licenses

May 4 @ 6:30 pm Appeals

USDA



USDA has come out with a few new regulations... tune in on the compliance calls with Pat Keith to learn more!!

Class "A" Breeder means a person subject to the licensing requirements under part 2 and meeting the definition of a "dealer" and whose business involving animals consists only of animals that are bred and raised on the premises in a closed or stable colony and those animals acquired for the sole purpose of maintaining or enhancing the breeding colony.

Class "B" licensee means a person subject to the licensing requirements under part 2 and meeting the definition of a "dealer", and whose business includes the purchase and/or resale of any animal. This term includes brokers, and operators of an auction sale or transport of animals in commerce. Such individuals do not usually take actual physical possession or control of the animals, and do not usually hold animals in any facilities. A class "B" licensee may also exhibit

There are a few sections in the blue book that every USDA licensed breeder should know! They are sections 2.40, 2.50, and 3.1-3.14. For the licensing read 2.3B.



In June 2020, Dr. Jessica Watson joined USDA APHIS Animal Care as the Supervisory Animal Care Specialist supervising many of the Animal Care inspectors in Indiana. She earned her veterinary degree in 2013 from the Michigan State University College of Veterinary Medicine and after graduation returned to her home state of Virginia where she practiced small animal clinical medicine for three years. In 2016, Dr. Watson joined the policy team at the National Cattlemen's Beef Association (NCBA) where she worked as the Associate Director of Animal Health Policy. During her time with NCBA, she worked on topics including food safety, animal disease traceability, and animal welfare. After three and a half years working in Washington, D.C. Dr. Watson and her husband decided to move to Michigan to be closer to family, and she took the position with Animal Care. She is excited to work with ICAW and its members to continue the positive relationship with Animal Care.

**BEST REGARDS,
JESSICA**

**JESSICA WATSON, DVM
SUPERVISORY ANIMAL CARE SPECIALIST
USDA APHIS ANIMAL CARE
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AnnMarie Compton ACI

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Rebecca Nanney VMO

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Michael Schnell VMO

415-385-3073

Justine O'Malley VMO

734-545-2937

Lori Linn ACI

260-222-1216

Kurt Hammel VMO

240-461-9156

Kerry McHenry VMO

330-224-5970

February 2021

D.I.Y.

do it yourself



TEAR STAIN RECIPE

Peel and chop equal amounts of sweet potatoes and carrots. Put everything in a pot and cover with water. Then bring the water to a boil and simmer until your veggies are soft. Once soft, put your veggies in a blender and add some of the water that you used to cook the sweet potatoes and carrots in, and blend until smooth. Use empty ice cube trays to freeze your puree. Once frozen, store the cubes in a ziploc bag or container in the freezer. At feeding time give your dog or puppy one cube of the veggie treat to enjoy! One treat per day is sufficient to prevent tear stains. This will not take away the tear stains that they already have but it will prevent them from developing new ones.

*This recipe has been tested and proved successful. A simple treat that the dogs and puppies love to eat.

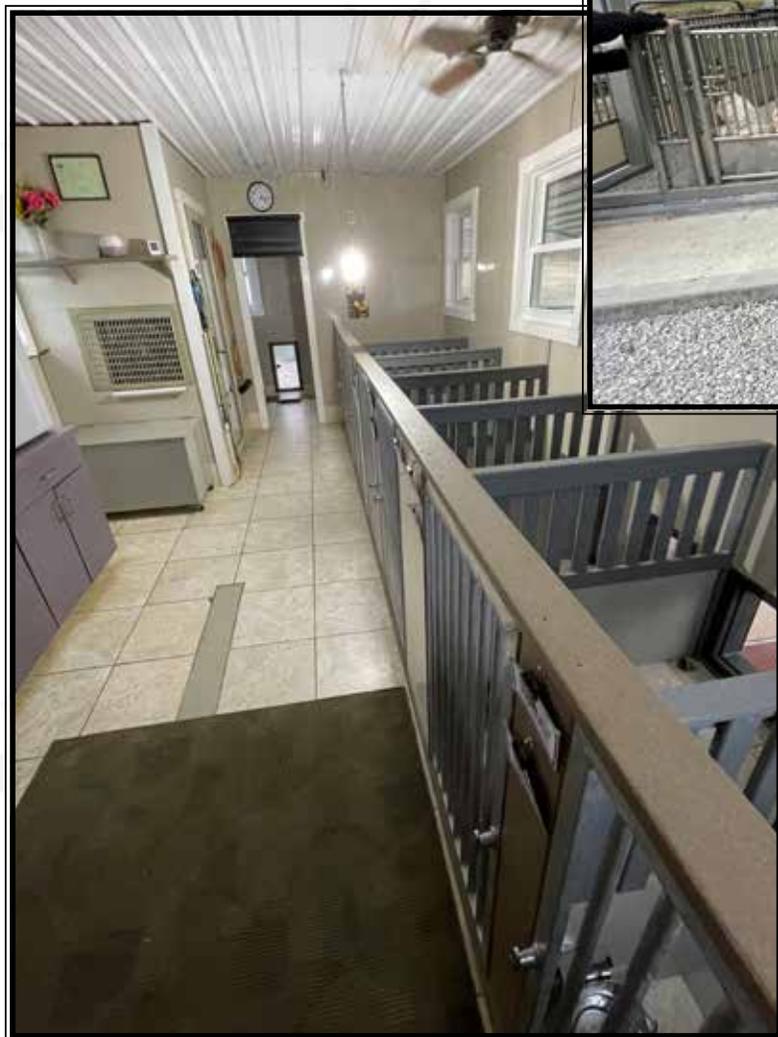
Myron & Dorene Yader



BREEDER Spotlight

Waters Edge Puppies

Hello to all across the state of IN,
A beautiful winter morning, with
a dusting of fresh snow. So far we
haven't had a whole lot of snow this
winter, enough to get the children ex-
cited, they love to get out their snow
shovels and sleds.



Amos & I (Bertha) married in 2006, and since that we were blessed with 5 children, John David (12), Ruthie (10), Steven (9), Alvin Luke (5) & Esther Mae (2). I grew up on a dairy farm, and have always enjoyed working with animals. I knew farming wasn't an option here at our home, so I was excited to have a small kennel. Amos works at home on Monday and Tuesday, then has a part time job of doing salvage work. Mondays are usually mostly spent in the kennel, doing picture updates on puppies, grooming dogs, clipping toenails, bathing puppies and some dogs, sanitizing feed and water bowls, and whatever else needs to be done. John David's job is to exercise the dogs two times daily and to

keep the outside runs clean. Ruthie feeds most of the dogs and keeps a close eye on the dogs and puppies. Steven feeds some of the dogs and plays with the puppies. Alvin Luke feeds two of the dogs and helps with socializing puppies. Esther Mae also likes to help along. I take care of vaccinating and deworming, and cleaning and sanitizing the indoor pens every day. I also try to keep all the paperwork in line, which is almost overwhelming at times, but isn't too bad if you do it as you go.



In 2014 we bought our farm dog (Tracy) a Great Dane. We built an insulated 5x8 pen for her in the garage, where she had her first three litters of puppies. The whole family seemed to really enjoy the puppies, so we decided to put in a small kennel. We bought the 12x26 building in 2017, and finished the inside to our liking. Sometimes on cold winter evenings when the whole family is working or playing down there, it gets a little crowded, but otherwise it's big enough for now. As of now we have five Welsh Corgis (and will

be keeping one of the puppies) four mini Dachshund's, two Maltese, and one Poodle.

We're hoping to add a couple Dachshunds and one or two poodles before too long. I'm not sure which is my favorite, we love them all. Monday evenings after school is usually the children's day to leash all the adult dogs. It's usually kinda hard to figure out who is having the most fun, the child or



the dog! It looks like they're both smiling as they're running!

The last two years have been a good experience for us, with Amos being on KMA team. It was time consuming, but also very rewarding. In the winter of 2018, we got our USDA license, and this summer we became Canine Care Certified. It looked like a huge step, but the main thing was paperwork, which isn't too bad once you're used to it. We

feel there are a lot of benefits that come with the Canine Care Program. We want to thank everyone for doing their absolute best and wish you all a prosperous and blessed new year.

Amos & Bertha King



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USE YOUR CHAPTER KMA'S Professional Breeders Helping other Professional Breeders



As USDA and other groups continue to change some of their processes and rules, it becomes clearer that we need all the help we can get to navigate through these developments. How blessed we are in Indiana to have the best Kennel Management Assistance (KMA) program there is. Each chapter has three individuals that serve for 3 years simply to help you perform at your best. They assist in helping you prepare for getting a new license or for helping you if you find yourself challenged because of an inspection that could have been better. These guys come from all over Indiana with the purpose of providing assistance. Let's remember that they are not paid, but volunteers of our organization. What good is a tool if you never used? How can they assist if they are not called? During January, we will be hosting KMA training in four areas. Northwest, Northeast, Southern and Eastern Indiana Chapters. We will focus on what the New Licensing Rule will change. We will do our best to make sure that all of ICAW's KMA members know the new rules and understand them. We are changing the checklist a little to make sure that whoever has a KMA visit, will feel confident that no major items are overlooked. The KMA's want you to be confident that you will pass with little or no problems when the "Re-Licensing" begins. The KMAs will strive to be kind in their words when pointing out issues, so we ask that no one takes any offense if one of them points out an issue that you were unaware of, or worse thought you had corrected. Teamwork works! One of my favorite quotes is "Chance favors a prepared mind" So let's all of us be prepared by utilizing these incredible teams.

To our ICAW friends; from the ER Team,

It's that time of the year. The time of year that we take a little extra time to reflect, remember, and relive some of the memories of the past year. And what a year 2020 has been! In our area, older folks (not just old people, just people who are a little older) still talk about the snow-storm of 1978. It seems each year the snow gets deeper and higher, and the wind chill goes even lower. I wonder if 2020 will be like that? Once we reach an older age, will we talk about the year of masks and social distancing? Will the talk of the 2020 puppy prices, like the snow drifts of '78, become higher and higher in years from now?

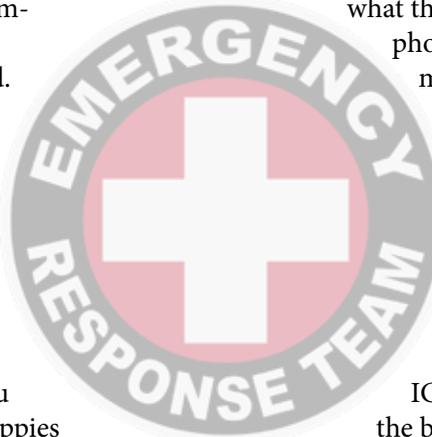
One of the new things for 2020 was all the new breeders. Please don't get me wrong, we support, respect, and welcome anyone who decides they love raising puppies. But when the conversation starts with, "What's the highest price I can get for puppies? What breed and color is the most expensive and popular? Do you have any adults for sale? I don't want to buy a puppy because it takes too long to get my money back. I need to raise puppies now while the market is hot." Questions and comments like that take away our patience and the willingness to help someone get started. Please, please decide to raise puppies only if you love dogs. Choose to raise Pugs because you absolutely love Pugs and the funny little snuffly way they breathe and DO NOT raise Pugs only because you met your neighbor at Tractor Supply and he told you that he sold a Pug puppy for \$2500 that morning. Fall in love with a breed and then learn every single thing you can about them. Adopt only one or two puppies of your favorite breed and learn to know them as they grow. Raise one litter and then several litters more before investing in better, more expensive bloodlines. Yes, it takes a long time, at least a year or two, but remember, all good things take time. Caleb's dad once said, "Raising puppies is not a dog business at all, it is a people business!" Whether you are raising puppies for a pet buyer or dealing directly with each new puppy family, you will meet people of every sort. Tall people, short people, fat and thin people. Rich people and people who pay for their puppies with lots of \$10, \$20, and \$50 bills. You will meet people with some of the happiest stories and then people who share a story that will bring tears to your eyes. If you cannot connect with and love the people who buy your puppies, you should research and find a pet buyer who will treat you fairly. If you find that you do not like puppies, dogs, or people, you should find a job that does not involve any of these. If walking into your kennel each day or welcoming a new litter of babies does not bring a smile to your face, you should absolutely find a job that does. We all love when

puppies sell for top dollar only hours or days after being advertised. What happens if our puppies are 8 weeks old in the middle of August and we cannot move them? Will we still love our job or will we advertise our breeding stock in the People's Exchange and move onto the next popular breed who is currently selling for top dollar at the moment? Our opinion is this; you will look much more professional when you say you have been a Goldendoodle or Dachshund or Great Dane or Chihuahua breeder for 10 years than when you admit you have ten years of experience but you've raised 8 different kinds of puppies in that past decade. If you are a brand new breeder and you are reading your first ICAW newsletter, welcome aboard! Seven years ago we were in your shoes. By joining ICAW you have made the best decision in your journey to becoming a professional dog breeder. Raising dogs is like every single other job out there! You will have wonderful sunshiny days. You will receive 3 deposits on your litter of four puppies in one day. Your puppy customer will leave a review saying you are the best breeder of the most wonderful puppies in Indiana. You will also have days that are wet and rainy and your dogs are muddy and smelling exactly like what they are, soggy doggies. You will answer the phone at 10 pm and the man that bought Molly months ago will spend the first 15 minutes of the conversation crying to you before he can finally tell you that his little Molly chewed on an electric cord and died. How do we know? Because we have been there. Do we know it all? Absolutely not! Are we glad that you are choosing ICAW and venturing into the dog breeding industry? We absolutely are! By choosing ICAW, we will be with you through the good, the bad, and the ugly.

"Oh, yes, I'm working the road, working the road. Helping the weak and blind. I want to smooth out the road that leads to Heaven's abode **and make it easy for those behind.**" That is the chorus to a song that has become the theme song in our home. If we love what we do, and are willing to help others and we ourselves are willing to learn, we will be able to do great things together. We really are in this together.

~ Blessings ~

Caleb & Kathleen Ramer





Greetings to all,

Hope everyone had a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year! By the time you read this we will be well into the New Year. To the ones that are still holding to their New Years Resolutions, stick to it!

Here in Southern IN we are having a normal Indiana winter so far with the exception of a few Covid-19 cases. Hopefully the Coronavirus will be behind us by Spring 2021.

We have a few changes in our Southern Chapter Board positions. I have taken over for Mary Wagler as President. David H. Graber is new Vice President. David Ray Graber has replaced Laverne Eicher on KMA and James Stoll is on the ER Team with Marvin Stoll.

We don't know what the future holds, but we know Who holds the future.:

God Bless and we wish everyone the best!
Kevin & Linda Wagler & Family

2021 Southern Chapter Board Positions

Chapter President

Kevin Wagler • 812-486-2763

KMA

Jerome Stoll • 812-687-7758

Melvin Knepp • 812-787-2321

David Ray Graber • 812-709-2123

Emergency Response

Marvin Stoll • 812-486-6441

James Wagler • 812-709-2918

Rehoming Team

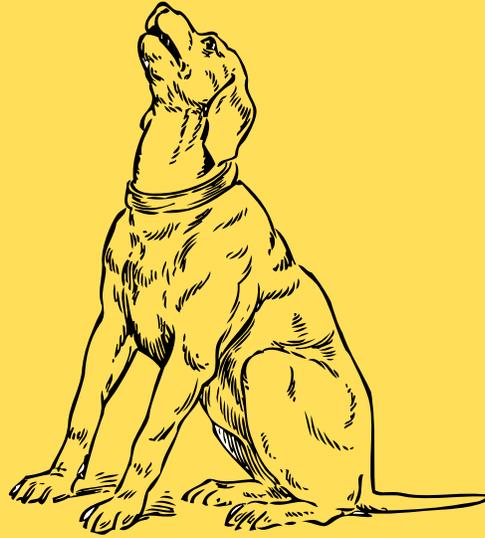
Jerome Stoll • 812-687-7758

Kenny Wagler • 812-687-7316

Seminar Committee

Marty Graber 812-636-6278

Listen Up



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More information in next ICAW Issue

Featured Veterinarian

Dr. *Camela Schmitz*

Good Medicine is Good Business,

My first job as a veterinarian was in Ashland, OH, where I worked in a mixed animal practice. We spent half of our day on Mennonite dairies, pregnancy checking and treating off-feed cows, and half of our day in the clinic, practicing small animal medicine. I remember some advice my first boss gave me: "If it is good medicine, it is good business." I think of this often and have found it to ring true over and over. As breeders, you not only breed dogs and raise puppies, but also administer medical care and attention to those animals every day, as well as run a small business. Just like in any business, the end goal is to provide a living. My encouragement to you today is to make each and every decision with this advice in mind. If it is good medicine, it is good business.

Many times there is a temptation to cut corners and not spend the extra money to do things right. This is especially important when building kennel facilities. Plan ahead, visit other facilities, and consult with experts prior to building or remodeling. Choose materials and a layout that allow for easy cleaning. If it is not easy to clean, it is less likely to get done.

Healthy, happy animals are more productive and stay productive longer. This starts with carefully selecting breeding animals and

having any potential breeding animals thoroughly examined prior to purchase. Even customers insist on a thorough examination of puppies prior to purchase to ensure a healthy pet for their homes. Yet many breeders purchase or retain breeding animals without any type of examination to ensure that their investment is well spent. It is not only a matter of not trusting the seller; often, a dog may have a medical condition that the seller is unaware of.

Good nutrition, dental care, exercise programs and enrichment programs are all good medicine. Caring for animals doesn't have to be expensive. Investing hard work in the daily cleaning and disinfecting of your facilities will pay off, as prevention is the best medicine. Younger family members are often important assistants in the care of dogs, but the responsibility and supervision still lie with the owner. Observe animals carefully and address injuries and illnesses as soon as possible. Although it is not often our favorite part, diligent record keeping is good medicine, too.

My first boss, who gave me that valuable advice so many

years ago, is now the president of the American Association of Bovine Practitioners, one of the leading veterinarian organizations in the country. While I know none of this is new information for you, I do hope that by examining decisions from a new perspective you will feel encouraged and be able to increase your profitability. Healthy dogs, healthy puppies, return customers, and an excellent reputation are good medicine and good business.

My husband and I both grew up on dairy farms in Ohio and are graduates of the Ohio State College of Veterinary Medicine. This spring, we will have worked as veterinarians for twenty years and owned our clinic for the past fourteen. Our five children, ages 15 to 7 are busy with school, sports, and caring for their 4-H goats. We have been blessed to be part of this profession and to work for so many amazing producers. We endeavor to serve God as we strive to deliver good medicine to all of our patients and clients.

Sincerely,
Dr. *Camela Schmitz*, DVM
Hartford Veterinary Services, Inc.



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Thoughts..... **FROM PAST PRESIDENTS**

Greetings to all across ICAW land,

The New Year is here and upon us and what is in store for us? Looking back to a year ago we had no idea that we were going to experience the things we did and see puppy sales go the way they did. Had we seen the shutdown, people without jobs, no church services, no large groups and much more coming our way. Most of us probably would have guessed that puppy prices probably were going to take a hit but instead we watched it go exactly the opposite way.

All in all it was a very good year; we had nothing on a State legislation level that was alarming and that is something to be very much thankful for and should never be taken for granted as we know it probably won't be like that forever.

USDA did come out with a few regulation changes in which will start going into affect this year. Everyone that is doing the Canine Cares is already doing these regulation changes and it will not affect them, although the license renewal will be different. I'm not sure how it was for you, but for me and a few others we didn't

completely dissect everything at the seminars so by the time this letter gets in the mail most every chapter will have their winter meetings and these USDA regs were discussed.

Our goal was that every USDA breeder will have a complete understanding of the changes. If you still have questions please do not be afraid to ask as we want everyone educated before this goes into affect. We are currently trying to educate the KMAs so they will be able to answer most of you questions as they are doing the evaluations this spring.

This spring and summer there was a lot of time

put into Canine Cares Program with Purdue. What can I say except THANK YOU, THANK YOU, and THANK YOU!! For all those who helped promote



the program and for those who became certified. We are certainly looking for more partakers in this program and if you have any interests don't be afraid to talk to some who already are or one of the board members.

What should be our goals for 2021? For those that attended the seminars, you probably have seen the topic on Rehoming. Should that be our goal? I would like to challenge everyone for a great rehoming year for 2021 and assure that every adult pet that leaves our kennel is just as much ready to meet the end consumer as our little puppies are. Vet checks, dental work done if needed, spay or neuter, heartworm checks, baths and well socialized are all a VERY important step (or a must) in getting our adults ready to rehome. Does this sound like too much? I would encourage everyone

to partake in this challenge as I feel this is an extremely important step in today's culture.

As most of you know, Pat Keith turned in his resignation for USDA and is now working as a full time employee for ICAW. I will not elaborate a lot as he will be writing a letter on this topic but I simply cannot put in words how excited I am about this and in all the ways that he can help ICAW grow, so we can keep raising puppies in the future.

Our fall seminars are now in the past and a huge thank you for being there! It was overwhelming and very humbling. We definitely had a few bumps along the way so there are areas we can improve next year, right? Cheaper building rentals, awesome donated items, great participation and quite a few requests if we are going to have two

seminars in the future! It was decided by the board to have one in spring and one in the fall. The Davis Co and East Central is on June 4th and 5th at the Simon J Graber Building, and the Northern and Allen Co at the Elkhart Co Fairgrounds Sep 17th and 18th (Hopefully we don't have to change these dates or locations). We strongly encourage all breeders to attend both seminars and will probably be trying to fill several buses to attend the opposite chapter seminars.

Here I am writing my first letter as past President and certainly want to thank everyone that has helped me in any way in the past two years. I will miss Stephen not being on the board and I am looking forward to turning this over to Myron with full confidence that he will do a great job for ICAW.

***Signing off wishing everyone
God's greatest blessing.***

Darin Miller



Don't Forget

**TO RENEW
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Hello to everyone,

Greetings to everyone from East Central Indiana. I hope all is going well! Here we are staying busy through the Christmas season. We've also had a lot of puppies around through December.

Hopefully everyone enjoyed our seminars as much as we did in October. We have our KMA crash course scheduled on January 22, then also our chapter meeting in the evening. We are happy to hand the duties of chapter President over to Leroy Esh.

We wish you all a blessed New Year,
Paul & Liz King

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Attention!

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Featured
Breed

Cavalier King Charles Spaniel



The Cavalier's all-around beauty, regal grace, and even temper mark him as one of dogdom's noblemen. A toy spaniel no more than 13 inches high, the Cavalier draws you in with his face: The sweet, gentle, melting expression emanating from large, round eyes is a breed hallmark. Another is the silky, richly-colored coat that can be one of four distinct varieties.

Cavaliers may be aristocrats, but they gladly descend from their royal high horse for a backyard frolic or a squirrel chase. They get along nicely with children and other dogs. Adaptable Cavaliers do equally well with active owners and homebodies—they can be upbeat athletes or shameless couch potatoes, depending on an owner's lifestyle.

History

Toy spaniels were the province of European nobility from at least Renaissance times. Two 17th-century British monarchs, the ill-fated King Charles I and his son Charles II, were especially devoted to a black and tan variety of toy spaniel that eventually was named in the latter's honor. According to the famed diarist of the Restoration era, Samuel Pepys, Charles II seemed more concerned with breeding spaniels than ruling Britain.

Toy spaniels remained a great favorite of British aristocrats into the early 19th century. Among their upper-crust partisans of this era was the Marlborough family, who bred a line of red-and-whites at Blenheim Palace. Later in the century, in the age of Victoria, the breed was crossed with Asian toys, probably Pugs and Japanese Chin, and became what is known in America as the English Toy Spaniel (or, in the United Kingdom, the King Charles Spaniel).

This new-style toy spaniel had a domed skull and a flatter face than those of Charles's time. Before long, this type came to dominate, and the traditional toy spaniel of the Restoration was rendered nearly extinct—but not forgotten.

Fanciers of the 1920s wondered whether there still existed the old-type toy spaniel immortalized in ancestor portraits hanging in the stately halls of English manors. A wealthy American named Roswell Eldridge offered a cash prize to British breeders who could produce "Blenheim Spaniels of the Old World type." The prospect of prize money drove breeders to revive the old style. These dogs were dubbed Cavalier King Charles Spaniels. (The name Cavalier is a nod to the monarchist party that supported the Stuarts during the civil war that cost Charles I his head.)

The breed is notable for its four distinct color patterns, each of which, at various times, was associated with a particular noble family: Blenheim (chestnut markings on a white background), Tricolor (black markings on a white background), Black and Tan (black with tan markings), and Ruby (a rich red).

1. General Appearance: The Cavalier King Charles Spaniel is an active, graceful, well-balanced toy spaniel, very gay and free in action; fearless and sporting in character, yet at the same time gentle and affectionate. It is this typical gay temperament, combined with true elegance and royal appearance which are of paramount importance in the breed. Natural appearance with no trimming, sculpting or artificial alteration is essential to breed type.

2. Head: Proportionate to size of dog, appearing neither too large nor too small for the body. Expression-The sweet, gentle melting expression is an important breed characteristic. Eyes-Large, round, but not prominent and set well apart; color a warm, very dark brown; giving a lustrous, limpid look. Rims dark. There should be cushioning under the eyes which contributes to the soft expression. Faults-small, almond-shaped, prominent, or light eyes; white surrounding ring Ears-set high, but not close on top of the head. Leather long with plenty of feathering and wide enough so that when the dog is alert, the ears fan slightly forward to frame the face.

3. Body: Neck-Fairly long, without throatiness, well enough muscled to form a slight arch at the crest. Set smoothly into nicely sloping shoulders to give an elegant look. Topline-Level both when moving and standing. Body-Short coupled with ribs well spring but not barrelled. Chest moderately deep, extending to elbows allowing ample heart room. Slightly less body at the flank than at the last rib, but with no tucked-up appearance. Tail-Well set on, carried happily but never much above the level of the back, and in constant characteristic motion when the dog is in action. Docking is optional. If docked, no more than one third to be removed.

Forequarters: Shoulders well laid back. Forelegs straight and well under the dog with elbows close to the sides. Pasterns strong and feet compact with well-cushioned pads. Dewclaws may be removed.

Coat: Of moderate length, silky, free from curl. Slight wave permissible. Feathering on ears, chest, legs and tail should be long, and the feathering on the feet is a feature of the breed. No trimming of the dog is permitted. Specimens where the coat has been altered by trimming, clipping or by artificial means shall be so severely penalized as to be effectively eliminated from competition. Hair growing between the pads on the underside of the feet may be trimmed.

Hindquarters: the hindquarters construction should come down from a good broad pelvis, moderately muscled; stifles well turned and hocks well let down. The hindlegs when viewed from the rear should parallel each other from hock to heel. Faults-Cow or sickle hocks.



Official Standard of the Cavalier King Charles Spaniel

General Appearance: The Cavalier King Charles Spaniel is an active, graceful, well-balanced toy spaniel, very gay and free in action; fearless and sporting in character, yet at the same time gentle and affectionate. It is this typical gay temperament, combined with true elegance and royal appearance which are of paramount importance in the breed. Natural appearance with no trimming, sculpting or artificial alteration is essential to breed type.

Size, Proportion, Substance: **Size** - Height 12 to 13 inches at the withers; weight proportionate to height, between 13 and 18 pounds. A small, well balanced dog within these weights is desirable, but these are ideal heights and weights and slight variations are permissible. **Proportion** - The body approaches squareness, yet if measured from point of shoulder to point of buttock, is slightly longer than the height at the withers. The height from the withers to the elbow is approximately equal to the height from the elbow to the ground. **Substance** - Bone moderate in proportion to size. Weedy and coarse specimens are to be equally penalized.

Head: Proportionate to size of dog, appearing neither too large nor too small for the body. **Expression** - The sweet, gentle, melting expression is an important breed characteristic. **Eyes** - Large, round, but not prominent and set well apart; color a warm, very dark brown; giving a lustrous, limpid look. Rims dark. There should be cushioning under the eyes which contributes to the soft expression. Faults - small, almond-shaped, prominent, or light eyes; white surrounding ring. **Ears** - Set high, but not close, on top of the head. Leather long with plenty of feathering and wide enough so that when the dog is alert, the ears fan slightly forward to frame the face. **Skull** - Slightly rounded, but without dome or peak; it should appear flat because of the high placement of the ears. Stop is moderate, neither filled nor deep. **Muzzle** - Full muzzle slightly tapered. Length from base of stop to tip of nose about 1½ inches. Face well filled below eyes. Any tendency towards snipiness undesirable. Nose pigment uniformly black without flesh marks and nostrils well developed. Lips well developed but not pendulous giving a clean finish. Faults - Sharp or pointed muzzles. **Bite** - A perfect, regular and complete scissors bite is preferred, i.e. the upper teeth closely overlapping the lower teeth and set square into the jaws. Faults - undershot bite, weak or crooked teeth, crooked jaws.

Neck, Topline, Body: **Neck** - Fairly long, without throatiness, well enough muscled to form a slight arch at the crest. Set smoothly into nicely sloping shoulders to give an elegant look. **Topline** - Level both when moving and standing.

Body - Short-coupled with ribs well sprung but not barrelled. Chest moderately deep, extending to elbows allowing ample heart room. Slightly less body at the flank than at the last rib, but with no tucked-up appearance. **Tail** - Well set on, carried happily but never much above the level of the back, and in constant characteristic motion when the dog is in action. Docking is optional. If docked, no more than one third to be removed.

Forequarters: Shoulders well laid back. Forelegs straight and well under the dog with elbows close to the sides. Pasterns strong and feet compact with well-cushioned pads. Dewclaws may be removed.

Hindquarters: The hindquarters construction should come down from a good broad pelvis, moderately muscled; stifles well turned and hocks well let down. The hindlegs when viewed from the rear should parallel each other from hock to heel. Faults - Cow or sickle hocks.

Coat: Of moderate length, silky, free from curl. Slight wave permissible. Feathering on ears, chest, legs and tail should be long, and the feathering on the feet is a feature of the breed. No trimming of the dog is permitted. Specimens where the coat has been altered by trimming, clipping, or by artificial means shall be so severely penalized as to be effectively eliminated from competition. Hair growing between the pads on the underside of the feet may be trimmed.

Color: Blenheim - Rich chestnut markings well broken up on a clear, pearly white ground. The ears must be chestnut and the color evenly spaced on the head and surrounding both eyes, with a white blaze between the eyes and ears, in the center of which may be the lozenge or "Blenheim spot." The lozenge is a unique and desirable, though not essential, characteristic of the Blenheim. **Tricolor** - Jet black markings well broken up on a clear, pearly white ground. The ears must be black and the color evenly spaced on the head and surrounding both eyes, with a white blaze between the eyes. Rich tan markings over the eyes, on cheeks, inside ears and on underside of tail. **Ruby** - Whole-colored rich red. **Black and Tan** - Jet black with rich, bright tan markings over eyes, on cheeks, inside ears, on chest, legs, and on underside of tail. Faults - Heavy ticking on Blenheims or Tricolors, white marks on Rubies or Black and Tans.

Gait: Free moving and elegant in action, with good reach in front and sound, driving rear action. When viewed from the side, the movement exhibits a good length of stride, and viewed from front and rear it is straight and true, resulting from straight-boned fronts and properly made and muscled hindquarters.

Temperament: Gay, friendly, non-aggressive with no tendency towards nervousness or shyness. Bad temper, shyness, and meanness are not to be tolerated and are to be severely penalized as to effectively remove the specimen from competition.

Approved Date: January 10, 1995

Effective Date: April 30, 1995

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STEPS TO PREVENT PREGNANCY PROBLEMS IN BITCHES

Experienced breeders understand the importance of ensuring that a bitch is a good candidate for breeding. No pregnancy is the same, thus the importance of evaluating a bitch's physical and nutritional status prior to breeding.

It also helps to partner with a veterinarian to guide you through all facets of breeding, pregnancy and delivery. Veterinarians who specialize in reproduction, neonatology and genetic diseases are known as theriogenologists.

At Virginia-Maryland College of Veterinary Medicine, Julie T. Cecere, DVM, MS, DCAT, clinical associate professor of theriogenology, and Alyssa Helms, DVM, third-year

theriogenology resident, advise breeders on steps to help prevent pregnancy problems. One clinical observation they have made is how easily bitches in prime fitness and optimal body condition whelp their litters.

"It is the couch potato bitches that often get into trouble," Dr. Cecere says.

Reflecting on best practices for dog breeders, they offer their perspectives on how breeders can help things go smoothly. Although nothing is guaranteed with dog breeding and delivering puppies, these guidelines provide worthy considerations.



TIPS ON BREEDING BITCHES

- For most breeds, a bitch is not developmentally or physically mature to be bred until she is around 2 years of age, though toy and small breeds may reach maturity as early as 18 months of age
- Most breeds are considered senior dogs at age 7, which corresponds with a decline in fertility and increased risk for health conditions and comorbidities that could negatively affect their ability to carry a litter to term, whelp naturally and lactate properly
- Back-to-back pregnancies can be OK; however, from a physiologic and nutritional standpoint, a bitch should not be bred on more than two consecutive heat cycles without a non-pregnancy cycle off
- Infertility cases referred to specialists are commonly due to a bitch being bred at the wrong time during her heat cycle, or estrus, which can cause a missed breeding or small litter



PHOTO COURTESY OF VIRGINIA-MARYLAND COLLEGE OF VETERINARY MEDICINE

Dr. Cecere holds newly born Golden Retriever puppies.

■ SHOULD A BITCH BE BRED?

“Once breeders have identified a bitch as having desirable attributes and having passed breed-specific health clearances, they then must choose an appropriate male with complementary attributes,” Dr. Cecere says. “We advise them to have a breeding soundness exam to be sure she is healthy and has no genetic conditions or abnormalities that would hinder her pregnancy.

“Generally for most breeds, a bitch is not developmentally or physically mature to be bred until she is around 2 years of age,” she continues. “However, for toy and small breeds, they may reach maturity as early as 18 months of age.”

On the flip side, most breeds are considered senior dogs at age 7, which corresponds with a decline in fertility. “Older bitches also are at increased risk for health conditions and comorbidities that could negatively affect their ability to carry a litter to term, whelp naturally and lactate properly,” says Dr. Cecere.

“Only bitches in excellent physical and nutritional condition as determined by a veterinarian should be considered for breeding past age 7,” adds Dr. Helms.

■ HOW OFTEN SHOULD A BITCH BE BRED?

Back-to-back pregnancies can be OK – up to a point, says Dr. Cecere. “From a physiologic and nutritional standpoint, a bitch should not be bred on more than two consecutive heat cycles without a non-pregnant cycle off,” she says.

“The total number of litters a bitch should have over a lifetime depends on the individual dog. Most of this will depend on genetics, temperament, health, conformation, and other traits she brings to the table as a whole. If she requires a cesarean section or intrauterine insemination to get pregnant, this must be taken into consideration as well,” Dr. Cecere says.

■ IS INFERTILITY REAL OR NOT?

One of the most common concerns of breeders is whether their bitch is fertile. “Many of the infertility cases that are being referred here are due to a bitch being bred at the wrong time,” Dr. Cecere says. “Poor timing during a bitch’s heat cycle or estrus, can cause a missed breeding or small litter.”

Progesterone testing is key to knowing the appropriate timing for breeding. “If you know when the bitch is ovulating, or when the eggs are released from the follicles, this tells you the fertile window to optimize the chance of pregnancy and having a full-sized litter,” Dr. Cecere says. “It also allows for the calculation of an accurate due date and aids in appropriate timing of intervention at whelping should a C-section be needed or desired.”

In the bitch, progesterone is a reproductive hormone that increases in the bloodstream just before ovulation. As the progesterone level increases, luteinizing hormone is released from the pituitary gland, triggering the release of eggs from the follicles. Progesterone testing can be done every two to three days starting about five days into the heat cycle.

When poor timing results in a singleton puppy or small litter, problems can occur. “With a singleton pregnancy or one with two or three puppies, the dam is at risk of dystocia (a difficult delivery), as there may not be enough signal to begin parturition, or birth,” Dr. Cecere explains. “Additionally, there is increased risk of an oversized puppy or puppies, which can lead to dystocia or death of the puppy or puppies.”

Planning and preparing to breed a litter of pups is a rewarding part of being a dog breeder. Knowing that you have a knowledgeable veterinarian, like Dr. Cecere and Dr. Helms, whom you trust and rely on to help you is comforting. ■

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Handling Animal Bites & Rabies Vaccination Laws

Animal bites to humans and other animals are inevitable at times. Breeders are encouraged to take measures to prevent animal bites and treat bite wounds properly when they occur.

Prevent Animal Bites

The chances of an animal bite occurring can be reduced by taking a few simple steps. Create a comfortable environment and reduce stress for your dogs. Socialize dogs and avoid interactions between dogs that do not get along together. Exercise care when handling a dog that is ill or injured.

Treating Bite Wounds

Proper care is needed to prevent infection. Bite wounds on people and animals should be washed immediately with soap and water. Depending on the size of the wound, medical attention may be necessary including stitches.

People who have been bitten by a dog that has not been vaccinated against rabies or wildlife including bats, should seek medical attention immediately for potential rabies exposure.

Likewise, dogs and cats that have been bitten by an unvaccinated pet or have an encounter with wildlife including bats, should receive veterinary medical care immediately and be placed in quarantine for 10 days.

Reporting Animal Bites

In Indiana, all animal bites to people are reportable to the local health department. Animal bites are among the most frequently reported human health events related to infectious diseases. Any adult may report an animal bite.

Animal-to-animal bites are NOT reportable. However, when an animal tests positive for rabies, the laboratory results are reported to the Indiana State Board of Animal Health (BOAH) and Indiana Department of Health (IDOH).

About Rabies

Rabies is a deadly disease caused by a virus that attacks the nervous system. Rabies can infect humans, pets, livestock and wildlife. The rabies virus is present in saliva and in the nervous tissue of rabid animals. The disease is most often transmitted when a rabid animal bites another animal or human.

In Indiana, bats are a reservoir for rabies. The ratio of infected bats in Indiana is about one in nine. Usually, pets in Indiana are exposed to rabies when they catch a bat. In other parts of the United States, raccoons, skunks and foxes also carry the disease.

Preventing rabies in animals is the best means of protection to humans—that means vaccination.

Rabies Vaccination

In Indiana, the only vaccination that is required by state law is rabies. Indiana law states that all dogs, cats and ferrets 12 weeks of age or older must be vaccinated against rabies. Breeding dogs and puppies must also meet this requirement.

State law allows the use of 1-year and 3-year rabies vaccines according to approved label directions. The vaccine must be administered by a licensed and accredited veterinarian only.

Indiana's Rabies Exposure Guidance website: www.in.gov/rabies

This website gathers into one place everything a Hoosier needs to know, including information about rabies, rabies laboratory sample submission form, Indiana rabies statistics, and rabies exposure guidelines for humans animals.



Recommended OFA-CHIC Health Testing

The Canine Health Information Center (CHIC) Program, working with the breed's parent club, lists the primary health screening tests that breeders should perform on their stock before breeding. This provides basic information for breeders to make more informed breeding decisions in order to reduce the incidence of inherited disease. The results also provide valuable information for potential puppy buyers looking for responsible breeders that health test their breeding stock.

The lists of breed specific health screening recommendations are not all encompassing. There may be other tests appropriate for each breed. If your breed is not listed on OFA's website, it should not be interpreted that no health screenings are appropriate or available. The list reflects the breeds that are participating in the CHIC program, and if your breed is not shown, visit that breed's parent club website for more information.

Pug

Hip Dysplasia

-OFA Evaluation

Patellar Luxation

-OFA Evaluation

Eye Examination-Pug Dog Club of America recommends ANNUAL screening.

-Eye Examination by a boarded ACVO Ophthalmologist

Pug Dog Encephalitis

-NECROTIZING MENINGOENCEPHALITIS-DNA test from the UC Davis Veterinary Genetics Lab

Elbow Dysplasia (Optional)

-OFA Evaluation

Pyruvate Kinase Deficiency (PKD) (Optional)

-DNA based PKD test results from an approved lab

Serum Bile Acid Test (Optional)

-The PDCA recommends Bile Acid testing for puppies. Typically 1-2 hour post prandial Bile Acid is run at 9-10 weeks of age. If it is elevated, then a repeat test is performed using both fasting and post-prandial samples.



Cavalier King Charles Spaniel

Hip Dysplasia (One of the following)

-OFA Evaluation

-PennHIP Evaluation

Eye Examination

-Eye Examination by a boarded ACVO Ophthalmologist

Patellar Luxation

-OFA Evaluation

Cardiac Evaluation (One of the following)

-Congenital Cardiac Exam with examination performed by a Board-Certified Cardiologist-Recommended Annually

-Advanced Cardiac Exam

-Basic Cardiac Exam with examination performed by a Board-Certified Cardiologist-Recommended Annually



AKC REGISTERED BLACK TRI. POODLE SINGLE PARTI DOUBLE AT. CARRIES NO BLACK, GREAT TO CROSS WITH BERNESE



"TYLER"

AKC REGISTERED POODLE BLACK TRI MERLE. DOUBLE AT & DOUBLE PARTI. CARRIES NO BLACK. TWO BLUE EYES. WOULD BE GREAT TO CROSS WITH CAVALIERS, BERNESE & GOLDEN DOODLES



"SKYDIVER"

AKC CHAMPION SIRE RED POODLE. WOULD CROSS GOOD WITH GOLDEN RETRIEVERS AND GOLDENDOODLES.



"TEDDY"

AKC REGISTERED BLACK TRI POODLE DOUBLE AT & DOUBLE PARTI. CARRIES NO BLACK SUPER TO CROSS WITH BERNESE



"DYNAMITE"

AKC REGISTERED POODLE HOMOZYGOUS FOR BLACK & TAN. DOUBLE PARTI & MERLE



"BLUE CHARLIE"

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