

HAPPY TAILS

Summer 2020

Upcoming Dates

2020

Aug 19	Board Meeting
Sept 16	Board Meeting
Oct 15	Newsletter Deadline
Oct 21	Board Meeting

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President's Message

It's hot today. Record breaking heat in New England and throughout the country. We are still in the relentless grip of the Covid-19 pandemic. Our economy teeters and careens. Some of us have suffered illness and unimaginable loss. Civil unrest roils. Politics cleave.

Yet, we humans keep on keeping on. We are getting used to the masked faces of our neighbors in the supermarket aisles - we even exchange compliments about each other's colorful or witty masks as though admiring a new dress or pair of shoes! We've learned how to pay for our coffee with contactless payment and honed our sense of what is really important and just how much we don't actually need. One thing, though, that we seem to need more than ever, is dogs - the companionship of dogs.

Breeders report an unprecedented demand for puppies, not just in the USA, but throughout many parts of

the world. It almost seems counter intuitive. One would think we would pare down to the bare necessities in a crisis and most of us have in so many other areas of our lives. Not true with the yearning for companionship. The primal human need to connect, to reach for, to seek and offer companionship is triggered by crisis - by fear, uncertainty, grief and isolation. Dogs can help. They excel as companions, protectors and providers of comfort. I always knew that puppy breath had magic powers!

Which brings me to one of my own most centering activities - watching puppies emerge into the world, into their personalities, mulling over what kind of home they might do best in and chatting with excited (and sometimes nervous!) new owners. It never ceases to amaze me that these little neonates, nursing and grunting and twitching, will one day be cherished and impactful members of a family. It's an honor to be a part of those family's lives in such a unique

continued on next page

and intimate way.

It doesn't stop at weaning, nor on the day puppies go home. Our commitment, as breeders, is to that puppy and its humans for the entirety of its life. Being available to puppy owners for advice (when they ask!), encouragement, resources and even to take back or help re-home if circumstances should change promises us an enduring relationship with our puppies and their new families. But, it goes even further...

The connection these puppies spark extends beyond the breeder/owner/pup relationship. It broadens into the larger dog community. We are bringing not just a crop of new puppies into the world, but also a crop of new pet owners into our the DSFCA neighborhood. If our club can maintain focus on the companion role that 95% of our puppies fill and welcome, nurture and support those owners we will have a growing, vibrant and multi-faceted community, well positioned to support the growth of the breed and then, in turn, the next crop of farmdog converts.

It's my sense that the Farmdog will both enjoy and be challenged by exponential growth in the next 10 years. This year we can expect to see 6 litters of Farmdogs on the ground in North America - that's a record for this breed. That's exciting, but the more we can "keep it in house", the better a job we can do protecting these dynamic (and addicting!) little dogs. I urge you all to

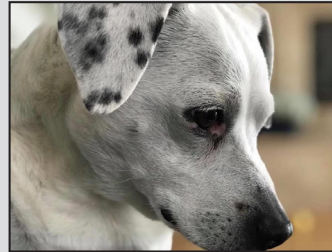
reach out, be inclusive and available to new owners - bringing them into the fold. Stay in touch with them.

If you have experience as a breeder, offer to mentor and guide those looking to learn. We can help set the longterm ethos and culture around farmdog ownership and breeding by increasing peer oversight and knowledge sharing, thus helping to reduce the chance of future Farmdogs becoming puppy mill fodder and shelter statistics. We can all play a part in developing and sustaining the Club's focus on this important role. We could all use more connection and belonging right about now, anyway!

Most important, keep on keeping on. If you need help, support or just a friendly club member to chat with, reach out. We are here...

Stay safe, stay cool and sniff some magic puppy breath if you get the chance!

Alison Smith, DSFCA President



Club Reports

visit
www.farmdogs.org
and log on to the
Members Only
section to view
Meeting Minutes and
Treasurer's Reports
Forms and Documents >
Documents > BOD (click folder icon)

Membership Report

79
members

Registration Report

152

3 generation pedigree
Danish-Swedish
Farmdogs
registered with AKC

Heatstroke Tips and Prevention

by Martha Tubman, DVM

Heatstroke in dogs is a severe complication of summer fun. Large, heavy coated and short nosed dogs can be prone to increased stress from heat but all dogs are susceptible. Heatstroke can also occur from strenuous exercise even if it isn't hot or from prolonged seizures/tremors. I have seen several dogs on car rides with the air conditioning on develop heatstroke from the sun shining on them, and obviously it is never safe to leave a dog in a hot car for even minutes. Excitement and anxiety can raise the temperature more quickly as well, and dogs not accustomed to the environment are at higher risk for heatstroke.

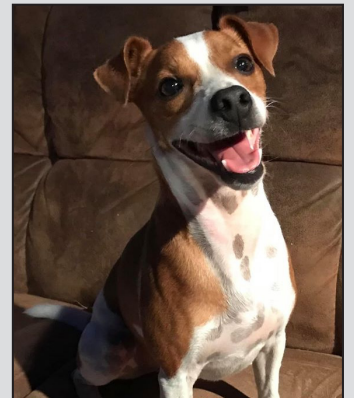
A normal temperature for a dog is 100-102 (degrees F), but a temperature of over 105 is very dangerous and the body tissues start to break down at a temperature of 109. Initial symptoms that you may notice are weakness, collapse, vomiting, diarrhea, and/or inability to stop panting once they are in a cooler environment. Your dog's temperature may increase up to 104 with exercise but should decrease to normal quickly when they stop.

If you suspect heat stress or heat stroke in your dog, quickly spray them with cold water especially on their belly, chest and inside of their legs. It is extremely important, however, to not lower their temperature too much. Dogs with severe heatstroke are much more likely to die if their body temperature drops below normal, so stop cooling them after several minutes or if their temperature goes below 103. It is important to get them to a veterinary clinic immediately (with the air conditioning on in the car) as most dogs with heat stress and heat stroke need at least intravenous fluids.

Complications and issues from heatstroke include dehydration, gastrointestinal bleeding, seizures, liver/kidney failure and DIC (disseminated intravascular coagulation). This is often deadly- dogs are unable to clot their blood and need multiple plasma transfusions as well as days of intensive care. My dogs have given dozens of units of plasma to help heatstroke patients over the years. Most dogs need fluids, nausea medications, antibiotics and oxygen as well.

If caught early, heatstroke treatment carries a fairly good prognosis but the more severe cases are often deadly. If you notice wobbliness, vomiting or heavier than normal panting in your pup, start cooling them with water (not too cold), and if they do not recover within several minutes you should take them to your vet clinic ASAP.

Heatstroke is often brought on partially by human intervention- playing too hard, hot cars and exciting new things can make dogs much more susceptible. Older dogs and especially dogs with breathing issues should not be left alone outside in the heat, and be vigilant with all dogs early in the spring/summer before dogs are acclimatized to the heat. When in doubt, take your dog's temperature but do not waste time trying to find the thermometer- you know your dog and if there is something wrong, treat it.



What is Agility?

Agility is one of the most popular dog sports both in the US and other countries. It's great exercise for both you and your dog and helps to create a deeper relationship.

In agility, the **goal is to direct your dog through a pre-determined obstacle course**. The course is made up of various obstacles, such as jumps, tunnels, weave poles, and climbing obstacles (A-frame, dog walk, and teeter).

In order to compete in AKC agility, the dog must be at least 15 months of age and registered with AKC (mixed breeds can be registered through the AKC Canine Partners program).

There are various titles you can earn along the way while competing in agility. A great starting point is participating in an AKC Agility Course Test (ACT). This is an entry-level event designed to introduce beginning handlers and/or dogs to agility competition. The dog will be asked to show skills in beginning sequencing. It's also an opportunity for the handler to become familiar with the procedures of entering a trial, checking in at the event, and handling the dog while being judged.

The two main types of classes in AKC agility are Standard and Jumpers with Weaves. The Standard class has contact obstacles, which have yellow "contact zones" at each end that the dog must touch in order to not receive a fault. This encourages safety in both training and competing. In addition to the contact obstacles, there is also a variety of jumps, weave poles, pause table, and tunnels. The Jumpers with Weaves class does not have any of the contact obstacles or a pause table.

Within the two types of classes, there are **3 levels of competition: Novice, Open, and Excellent/Masters**. Novice is for the dog that is just starting out in competition. There are 13-15 obstacles and only 6 weave poles. The dog is also allowed a few mistakes on the course. Open is for the dogs that have earned their Novice title. There are more obstacles, 16-18, and the full 12 weave poles. Here the team will face slightly more challenging courses and are allowed minimal mistakes. Excellent/Masters is for dogs that have earned their Open title. The courses will contain 18-20 obstacles and be much more challenging, as well as requiring no faults. Once the dog has earned the Excellent title, they compete as a Master but the course and requirements do not change.

Qualifying in agility is based on completing a course without exceeding the maximum number of faults (in Excellent/Masters, no faults are allowed). There are various ways that a fault can be earned:

- Taking an obstacle out of sequence
- Missing a contact zone
- Displacing a bar
- Leaving the pause table early
- Running around an obstacle

- Exceeding standard course time
- Handler touching the dog or any obstacles while on course

Classes are divided by jump heights, which are determined by the height of the dog at the withers. Most Farmdogs compete in either the 12" or 16" classes. The handler may opt to jump their dog at one jump height lower than their measured height, which is referred to as the Preferred Class. Here the dog is also allotted slightly more time to complete the course.

In addition to Standard and Jumpers with Weaves, there are other titling classes available:

- FAST - there is no pre-determined course but rather each obstacle has a point value with those points being awarded for the successful completion of the obstacle. A bonus area referred to as "the send bonus" is marked off with tape. To successfully complete the bonus, the handler must remain outside the taped-off area while the dog completes the obstacles in a certain order.
- Time 2 Beat - what makes this class unique is that the fastest dog in each jump height sets the "time to beat" during the competition. This class contains elements from both the traditional Standard and Jumpers courses, however it is a more forgiving class as refusals are not scored.
- Premier - an elite class designed to challenge dogs and handlers at a skill level above those set for Masters. The handler and dog will negotiate courses that require varied approach angles, spacing, and obstacle discrimination.

There are two ultimate titles that can be earned in AKC agility: Master Agility Champion (MACH) and Agility Grand Champion (AGCH). Both of these titles are elusive and only earned through hard work and persistence.

In order to earn a MACH, a dog must earn a minimum of 750 speed points (1 point is earned for every full second the dog is under standard course time on a qualifying run) and 20 double qualifying scores (a double qualifying score is earned by qualifying in both Standard and Jumpers with Weaves on the same day from the Masters level class).

To earn an AGCH, a dog must earn 100 qualifying scores from each Master Standard and Master Jumpers with Weaves, 75 qualifying scores from Master Fast, 75 qualifying scores from Time 2 Beat, and 50 qualifying scores from each Premier Standard and Premier Jumpers with Weaves.

To date, 7 Danish-Swedish Farmdogs have earned a MACH with 4 of those 7 having done it multiple times. No Farmdog has earned AGCH yet, but there are several who are well on their way to earning the distinguished title.

For more information, please visit the AKC website.

BENEDICTINE THE PIONEER & CROWS POINT AUGUST

“Cheyenne” & “August” owned by Linda Avsharian

Written by Melissa Smart

Meet Linda Avsharian!

Linda is one of the original charter members of our Club and currently serves on the Board as Treasurer and Membership Director. She coordinates the Farmdog booth for our Meet the Breed efforts at the Del Mar Dog Show in San Diego and Linda has also served on the Tally Committee and the National Breed Specialty Committee.

Linda is very lucky – she is the proud owner of two Farmdogs who could not be more different.

Linda has been a dog lover for many years and has had several different breeds before she found the Farmdog in The Encyclopedia of the Dog under the misnomer of Chicken Dog. After some research she found a Danish breeder here in the United States who agreed to let her come meet her dogs. After meeting Linda and her husband, the breeder decided they would be a good family for one of her puppies and when they were ready to leave mom, she got to bring Cheyenne, the 27th Farmdog puppy born in the US, home.

Cheyenne is a more mellow, intellectual dog, she has never been particularly interested in action dog sports although she has enjoyed Nose Work. At 14 ½ she is healthy and still enjoys her walks. Just because she doesn't see the point in running around for no reason, doesn't mean Cheyenne is asleep at the wheel! Cheyenne is a smart problem solver who has figured out how to open zippered pouches to get to treats, using one paw to hold the zipper end and one paw to move the zipper itself.

Having fallen completely in love with the breed, when Linda decided to get a second dog, she knew it would be a Farmdog. When she found out that a breeder with Cheyenne's sister was having a litter in 2012, she applied for a puppy. Linda let her breeder know what sports she was hoping to participate in, and she was matched with August. August was born at a summer camp in Maine on a lake, which sounds like a very nice place to start life. No matter how much we love all the dogs in our lives it seems that sometimes it just happens that one makes that deeper connection with our hearts – and this is what happened between Linda and August. August is no quiet couch potato, he wanted to be busy from the start, and Linda has tried out many dog sports with him. Lure Coursing, Fast Cat, Fly Ball, and Dock Diving. August loves the water and is a very spoiled California boy who gets to go to a doggy swimming pool every week. At home he loves to run around and gets the classic Farmdog Zoomies. Tug is also a favorite game and no squeaky toy can escape disembowelment.

Cheyenne is August's great Aunt and although they are related, she wasn't overly thrilled about the rambunctious addition. It took a little while before she decided she might as well accept that he wasn't leaving and now they are happy companions. They seem to complement each other – Linda says that after a full day of play August is the first one to head to bed at night, but like the good family guardian, Cheyenne is always last – ensuring her whole flock is tucked in safely for the night.



2020 Q2 Titles Earned

Agility

MJB Winstrides' True To Flora
MACH Woppers Magic Moment

B Mabry/C Segebart
Carey Segebart

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Coolibah's From A Salty Piece Of Land
Coolibah's Secrets And Surprises
Flora's Winnemucca Nevada Gertrude
Paradox Kavorting Field Mice
Coolibah's From A Salty Piece Of Land
Coolibah's Secrets And Surprises
Flora's Winnemucca Nevada Gertrude
Woppers Magic Moment
Stolta Ebbas Njord Noatun
Paradox Kavorting Field Mice
Coolibah's From A Salty Piece Of Land
Coolibah's Secrets And Surprises
Woppers Magic Moment
Paradox Kavorting Field Mice
Stolta Ebbas Einride Of Sweden

Christine Gaither
Deborah Neufeld
B Mabry/C Segebart
Martha Tubman
Christine Gaither
Deborah Neufeld
B Mabry/C Segebart
Carey Segebart
Cynthia Heyman
Martha Tubman
Christine Gaither
Deborah Neufeld
Carey Segebart
Martha Tubman
Cynthia Heyman

Tricks

Canine Good Citizen

CGC Coolibah's Secrets And Surprises
CGC Quicksilver Extra Hot
CGCU Stolta Ebbas Njord Noatun
CGCA Stolta Ebbas Njord Noatun

Deborah Neufeld
Betty Van Dellen
Cynthia Heyman
Cynthia Heyman

Miscellaneous

FDC Stolta Ebbas Einride Of Sweden

Cynthia Heyman

Rally

RN Quicksilver Extra Hot

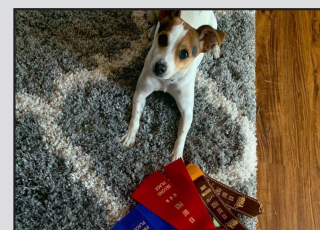
Betty Van Dellen

Congratulations to all Danish-Swedish Farmdogs making the rankings for the 2020 AKC Agility Invitational

Flora's Winnemucca Nevada Gertrude (Trudy) - Carey Segebart
Gullvivebackens Cajsa Dot Matrix (Dottie) - Jen Giacchi
Gullvivebackens Evige Elvis (Po) - Barbara Reinhard
Gullvivebackens Firecracker (Turn) - Casey Roman
Paradox Capricious (Caper) - Kelly Ansaldo
Stolta Ebbas Einride of Sweden (Jet) - Cynthia Heyman
Stolta Ebbas Njord Noatun (Connor) - Cynthia Heyman
Winstrides' True To Flora (Jordi Jo) - Bebe Mabry
Winstrides' True To Target (Bullet) - Debbie Ogg
Woppers Magic Moment (Moxie) - Carey Segebart

Braggs

- **Birdee**, owned by Heidi Thorson of Minnesota, earned her Novice Trick title.
- **Jack**, owned by Sam-e Marion of Virginia, earned his Disc Dog Bronze title, the first DSF to earn an AKC disc title.
- **Jimmy**, owned by Christy Gaither of California, earned his Advanced Trick title.
- **Jordi Jo**, owned by Bebe Mabry and Carey Segebart of Iowa, earned her Bronze Master Jumpers title.
- **Mojo**, owned by Debi Lofgren of California, earned her Novice Barn Hunt title.
- **Moxie**, owned by Carey Segebart of Iowa, earned his Master Agility Championship. He also won the small dog division at a dock diving competition with a jump of 11'9".
- **Sam**, owned by Janet Cannon of Ohio, earned his USDAA Starter Standard and Starter Jumper titles.
- **Tinsel**, owned by Laura Jane Stewart of Florida, earned her Canine Good Citizen title.
- **Trudy**, owned by Bebe Mabry and Carey Segebart of Iowa, had a stellar preferred agility debut earning 4 QQs in two weekends.



Certificate of Merit Recipients

1. Stolta Ebbas Oliana Olwen (Olga)
- Marty Greer
2. Stolta Ebbas Einride of Sweden (Jet)
- Cynthia Heyman
3. Gullvivebackens Cajsa Dot Matrix (Dottie) - Jen Giacchi
4. Flora's Winnemucca Nevada Gertrude (Trudy)
- Bebe Mabry and Carey Segebart
5. Valhalla's Pistol (Pistol)
- B Coleman
6. Flora's Make a Joyful Noise (Tabitha)
- Elaine Alston
7. Woppers Magic Moment (Moxie)
- Carey Segebart/Bebe Mabry
8. Winstrides' Truly Great Expectations (Pip) - Dorothy Herman
9. Winstrides' True To Flora (Jordi Jo)
- Bebe Mabry and Carey Segebart
10. Winstrides' True To Target (Bullet)
- Debbie Ogg
11. Quicksilver's Charmed Glass of Ice Wine (Tchotchke) - Aimee Kincaid
12. Adens Jazzinga Jens (Jens)
- Marty Greer
13. Double G's Olga's Helsing (Helga)
- Leslie Karnes
14. Stolta Ebbas Njord Noatun (Connor)
- Cynthia Heyman
15. Winstrides' Wee Piper (Piper) - Melody Farquhar-Chang
16. Muttington's Nina Dela Primavera (Greta) - J Pardini/E Pardini

Best In Open Show Winners

1. Flora's Winnemucca Nevada Gertrude (Trudy) - Bebe Mabry/Carey Segebart
2. Gartnervejens Ingi Af Rind (Pixel) - Jill Heczko
3. Gullvivebackens Cajsa Dot Matrix (Dottie) - Jen Giacchi
4. Winstrides' Truly Great Expectations (Pip) - Dorothy Herman
5. Winstrides' True to Flora (Jordi) - Bebe Mabry/Carey Segebart
6. Woppers Magic Moment (Moxie) - Carey Segebart/Bebe Mabry
7. Flora's Make a Joyful Noise (Tabatha) - Elaine Alston
8. Stolta Ebbas Njord Noatun (Connor) - Cynthia Heyman
9. Kennel of My Dreams Vindaloo's Oona (Oona) - Brita Lemmon
10. Quicksilver's Charmed Glass of Ice Wine (Tchotchke) - Aimee Kincaid
11. Winstrides' Mae the Road Rise Up Av Nordst (Mae) - Monica McPherson
12. Quicksilver Extra Special - Elaine Alston

Master Agility Champions

1. Stolta Ebbas Einride of Sweden (Jet) - Cynthia Heyman
2. Stolta Ebbas Njord Noatun (Connor) - Cynthia Heyman
3. Winstrides' True To Target (Bullet) - Debbie Ogg
4. Flora's Winnemucca Nevada Gertrude (Trudy) - Bebe Mabry & Carey Segebart
5. Gullvivebackens Cajsa Dot Matrix (Dottie) - Jen Giacchi
6. Woppers Magic Moment (Moxie) - Carey Segebart
7. Paradox Capricious (Caper) - Kelly Ansaldo

AKC Agility Invitational Medallion Recipients

1. Gullvivebackens Cajsa Dot Matrix (Dottie) - Jen Giacchi
2. Flora's Winnemucca Nevada Gertrude (Trudy) - Bebe Mabry and Carey Segebart
3. Stolta Ebbas Einride of Sweden (Jet) - Cynthia Heyman

Flyball Highest Point Earners

Matilde's Nellie - 220,105 NAFA
Flora's Lady Eva Annelise - 97,205 UFLI



Send your brags, pictures, updates and important dates to
newsletter@farmdogs.org