

NOVEMBER 2010

TATTLE TAILS

club newsletter
www.NapaDogTraining.org



Be Your Dog's Advocate

Speak up for your pets!

Picture this. Your dog has had a chronic cough for over a month.

You took your dog to your veterinarian soon after he started coughing and have been dutifully giving him the medicine your vet prescribed, but he does not seem to be getting better.

You call the vet and he asks questions about your dog, how he's feeling, what's happening. You wish your dog could answer the vet directly but, unfortunately he cannot. Your dog is counting on you, as his advocate, to speak for him.



So that's what you do.

You can't add anything to what you already told the vet and, while he has some other suggestions for your dog, you're not feeling too good about what he's saying.

Should you get a second opinion?

Maybe.

Whether you should get a second opinion depends on several things. First is your relationship with your vet. do you feel like you are working together to solve your pet's health problem? Is the relationship

already suffering from a poor communication level and this is the straw that's about to break the camel's back?

So when should you get a second opinion for your pet?

When you're told something health-related for your pet, you need to use the same kind of judgment you would use in dealing with your own health or the health of your child.

Consider what kind of situation you have (how serious, what you've just been told, what the options are, etc.), then think about what you would do if you'd just received similar advice from your physician or your child's pediatrician.

Would you feel comfortable working with your health provider in trying to work for a better solution or would you feel better ask-

ing for a second opinion?

The same advice applies to your pet's vet.

The decision for asking for a second opinion becomes a lot easier when your vet tells you your pet needs surgery or an expensive treatment in order to fix what's broken. In a scenario like this, it is a good idea to ask for a second and maybe even a third opinion.

Here are some questions to answer when considering asking for a second opinion:

Is my pet not getting any better or deteriorating under my vet's care? This certainly is a good reason to get another opinion, and FAST! If you are close to your current vet, ask for a specialist recommendation. Most vets are fine with recommending a specialist and can give you the names of some they trust. They are on your side in improving the health of your pet.

Has my relationship with my pet's vet been close up until now? If it is, do I feel like my vet can help us find the right solution for my pet's health issues? You should be able to answer yes to both of these questions. If you can't get a second opinion.

Am I unwilling to take my vet's advice for tests and procedures because I'm unsure if he/she is right? If your vet has been recommending tests and treatments that you aren't willing to do because you think they may be unnecessary, you are not working with your vet and this is not helping either of you. If this is the case, get a second opinion.

Do I feel like my vet has answered all of my questions and I have a clear understanding of what's wrong with my pet, what my options are and what the costs might be? If the answer is no, then it's time to either get with your vet and get your questions answered or ask for another opinion.

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Happy Thanksgiving!



Napa Valley Dog Training Club
(707) 253-8666

Clubhouse: 68 Coombs St., Bldg N

Mailing Address: P.O. Box 4097, Napa CA

Officers

President: Mary Ash
Vice President: Sandy Bonifield
Treasurer: Lori Jackson
Secretary: Sue Osborn
Past President: Laura Ecklin

Board Members

Janet Davis
Gerry Glantz
Lynda Rhyno
Teresa Russell

Monthly membership meetings are the second Monday of the month at the clubhouse.

Deadline for newsletter submissions is the 20th of each month.



2011 TRAINING SESSION 1

Subject to Change

January 3 through February 11, 2011
(6 Weeks)

Week off between sessions 1 & 2: Feb. 14-18

Monday (1-3 to 2-7)

1st & 3rd Mondays only

5:00 pm	Good Manners 2	Sandy
6:00 pm	Conformation	Michelle
7:00 pm	Advanced Agility	Katherine

Tuesday (1-4 to 2-8)

5:00 pm	Good Manners 1	Lea
6:00 pm	Puppy Kindergarten	Kelly (w/ Deassa & Marilane)
7:00 pm	S.T.A.R. Puppy	Kelly
8:00 pm	Good Manners 1	Teresa

Wednesday (1-5 to 2-9)

9:00 am	Novice/ Canine Good Citizen	Marlene
10:00 am	Good Manners 1	Marlene
11:00 am	Good Manners 2	Marlene
6:00 pm	Intermediate Agility	Katherine
7:00 pm	Jumpers 1	Laura

Thursday (1-6 to 2-10)

10:00 am . . . 7 pm	Rally Classes	Mary
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Friday (1-7 to 2-11)

5:00 pm	Competition Obedience	Teresa
6:00 pm	Puppy Kindergarten	Marilane (w/Linda L.)
7:00 pm	Good Manners 1	Lynda R.



TRAINING SCHEDULE FOR 2011

All 2011 Sessions are 6 Weeks

Session 1: January 3 — February 11, 2011

Session 2: February 21 — April 1, 2011

Session 3: April 11 — May 20, 2011

Session 4: May 30 — July 8, 2011

Session 5: July 18 — August 26, 2011

Session 6: September 5 — October 14, 2011

Session 7: October 24 — December 9, 2011

Class Fees:

Members* & Non-Members \$115

Senior/Jr/Rescue: \$100

Unless noted otherwise, all sessions run 6 weeks,
one time per week at the
day & time shown for 50 minutes.

Please call the club at

707-253-8666

to check class availability and to register.

*Members can earn vouchers to offset the cost of classes.

Details: www.napadogtraining.org/vouchers.htm

A Special Thank You to Kelly Tracey!

Kelly Tracey, Napa County Animal Shelter Supervisor, gave a most informative presentation to club members and guests on Monday, October 11th. Her speaking outline covered dog licensing, new county laws and volunteering. She also included information about impound fees, the county's neuter-spay program and adoption.

The license fee for one year for an altered and micro-chipped dog is now \$15, for an altered and not micro-chipped dog, the fee for one year is \$30. The license fee for not altered and not micro-chipped dogs for one year is \$45. Licensing fees now include free micro-chipping at the Animal Shelter during the period of the license renewal. Some of the income from the licensing fees goes to the county's expanded spay-neuter program.

Volunteers are the primary providers of socialization and exercise for the animals at the Animal Shelter. Those who desire to be volunteers at the Animal Shelter must be able and willing to commit to volunteer service and are encouraged to pledge a minimum of 4 hours per month.

To be a volunteer at the Shelter without the presence of a parent, you must be at least 15 years old. If you wish to volunteer and you are 14 years or younger a parent must accompany you. In this case, both the parent and child must fill out a volunteer application. Additionally, any volunteer under the age of 18 must have parental consent and signature.

There is a volunteer manual (online at the Shelter's website) to read that provides an overview of how the operation is run and what services volunteers can provide. If you wish to be a volunteer read the volunteer manual then complete a volunteer application.



If you are interested in adopting an animal, visit the shelter after filling out required paperwork (available online). Select and meet with the animal of your choice. If all paperwork is in order and the Shelter can confirm home ownership or landlord approval (and there are no other applications on that particular animal) you will likely be able to take an animal home the same day. Adoption fees are based on spay/neuter costs, vaccinations, micro-chipping and an adoption fee.

Visit the Napa County Animal Shelter online:
www.countyofnapa.org/AnimalShelter/ for more information.

Be Your Dog's Advocate continued from page 1

Does my vet listen to my suggestions when discussing my pet's condition or does he/she treat me like I'm stupid and my suggestions are without value? Obviously if you leave your pet's vet feeling like your questions and needs have been ignored, it's time for a second opinion.

Ask your vet "What would you do if this were your pet and you were me?" If you are comfortable with the answer then take your vet's advice for treatment. If you are not, get a second opinion.

How do you ask for a second opinion?

If you've decided you need a second opinion, here are some suggestions on how to find one.

- Ask your current vet
- Use one of VetLocator.com's pet pro directories. Local, House Call, Specialty, Holistic/Alternative and more.
- Ask for suggestions from friends. If you are a 'social web' person, using Facebook and Twitter can give you some good suggestions from pet owners in your area.

When you take your pet for a second opinion it's important to come armed with as much information as you can. Your pet's medical history, medicines, operations, age, vaccines, etc. Be up front and honest with the second vet on what your previous vet told you

about your pet, what tests were run, etc. It's a good idea to let your original veterinarian know you'll be asking for another opinion because the second vet will need to have access to your pet's health records. Staying on good terms with your pet's original vet is a good idea because most of the time they have a relationship with both your pet and you.

And realize that getting a second opinion and even taking your pet to another vet does not mean you'll need to switch permanently, especially if you've gone to a veterinary specialist.

And then there are those times when we don't want to accept what our pet's vet is saying, and we blindly take our pet for other opinions hoping someone is going to tell us something different.

We've heard from some vets that say they've given '15th opinions' to pet owners who refuse to accept what they are being told about their pet's health. That's not good. Not good for your pet, not good for you, not good for your pocket book.

So don't be afraid of being an advocate for your pet and don't be afraid to get a second opinion if you feel one is warranted. Your pet will thank you for it.

source:www.vetlocator.com/dailypaws

NVDTTC General Membership October 11, 2010 Meeting

I. CALL TO ORDER

- A. Mary Ash, President, called meeting to order at 6:35 p.m.
- B. Board members present: Mary Ash, Janet Davis, Gerry Glantz, Lori Jackson, Sue Osborn, Lynda Rhyno, & Teresa Russell. Absent: Sandy Bonifield, Laura Ecklin.

II. TREASURER'S REPORT, Lori Jackson

- A. Mats have been paid for out of savings account.
- B. To avoid penalties, funds have been transferred from checking to savings for a \$10,000 minimum balance.
- C. Chase Checking: \$2,873.75
- D. Rabobank CD: \$11,628.34
- E. Chase Money Market: \$10,001.09
- F. M/S/C to accept treasurer's report.

III. MINUTES, Sue Osborn

M/S/C to accept minutes from the September 13, 2010 general meeting as published in the October newsletter.

IV. BOARD REPORTS

A. SPEAKERS AT MEETINGS, Sandy Bonifield

Kelly Tracey from the Napa County Animal Shelter is the speaker for tonight's meeting. No speaker scheduled for November meeting. December is the Christmas party.

B. NEWSLETTER/WEBSITE, Sue Osborn

- 1. An article on LAPS was featured in this month's newsletter.
- 2. Deadline for newsletter articles and information is the 20th of the month.

C. OFFICE, Lynda Rhyno

All is fine.

D. TRAINING, Teresa Russell

- 1. Next meeting will be held Wednesday, October 13, at the clubhouse at 6:30 PM.
- 2. Impact of going from seven week sessions to six week sessions i.e., whether or not to have orientation first week, and what will be taught each week 1 thru 6, will be discussed at next training meeting.
- 3. Because of starting puppy S.T.A.R. classes this year, decisions need to be made about classes so there are not overlaps with standard puppy and good manners classes.

E. PUBLICITY, Janet Davis

Janet is checking into whether or not NVDTTC can set up a table at a fair on November 5 and 6 and if so she is looking for volunteers to staff table. Please contact Janet if you are interested.

F. BUILDING, Gerry Glantz

No known issues at this time.

V. AOCNC, Gerry Glantz

- A. Quarterly meeting is scheduled for October 16, NVDTTC is hosting.
- B. AOCNC's February 6, 2011 Workshop
 - 1. Teresa Russell volunteered to judge in a utility ring.
 - 2. Linda Luchsinger and Lynda Rhyno volunteered to help steward.

VI. HOSPITALITY

- A. Thank you to Barrie Gordon and Lynda Rhyno for tonight's hospitality!
- B. Teresa Russell and Christina Martin volunteered to do hospitality for the November meeting.

VII. SUNSHINE, Mary Joy

Sunshine was extended to Nicole Paltrineri.

VIII. OLD BUSINESS

A. Obedience/Rally Trial, Mary Ash, November 6, 2010

- 1. Mats are arriving October 12.
- 2. Joy Wood has ribbon order ready to go.
- 3. Workers are needed! Sign-up sheets are posted.
- 4. Help is needed on Friday, November 5th in the afternoon (2:00). Mats will need to be cut. Trucks are needed.
- 5. Gary Walker is in charge of equipment and grounds.
- 6. There are two shows, one in morning, one in afternoon.
- 7. Raffle items are needed between now and the week before the trial. There are boxes in foyer for raffle items.
- 8. Mary Joy is taking care of trophy donations. Suggested donation is \$20 but anything is welcome.

B. Nominations for 2011 Board

- 1. The following nominations have been made: President: Mary Ash, Vice President: Gerry Glantz, Secretary: Sue Osborn, Treasurer: Lori Jackson, At-Large Board Members: Barrie Gordon, Teresa Russell, and Beth Schutz. Note: The term limit by Sue Osborn as secretary has occurred and requires a quorum vote of the Board to continue to serve in this position for an additional year.
 - a. Every board member has a job i.e., office, building, publicity training chair ...
 - b. President, with board approval, will work out who does what job.
 - c. Meetings are on the 4th Monday of the month.
- 2. M/S/C to accept nominations as stands with no additional nominations from the floor. A fourth board member was not nominated.
- 3. Ballot will be declared as uncontested at November meeting after which nomination of a fourth board member will be discussed.

C. Care Package for Overseas Military Canines & Their Handlers

Vange Leonis has set up a nice red, white, & blue box in the foyer with description of acceptable items to donate.

IX. NEW BUSINESS

A. Agility Trial, 2011

- 1. M/S/C to hold an agility trial in 2011 as recommended by the board.
- 2. Laura Ecklin has volunteered as chair.



B. Awards Banquet

1. Lynda Rhyno and Laura Ecklin volunteered to co-chair.
2. Linda Luchsinger volunteered to take care of awards.
3. Option to make banquet a luncheon will be considered after last year's straw vote.

X. NEW MEMBERS

- A. M/S/C to accept Wendi Piscia's membership renewal.
- B. M/S/C to accept David Louis as a new member. David owns a Miniature Pincher named Dexter.

XI. BRAGS— Stephen Ward, Karen Jackson, Katherine Rhyno, and Teresa Russell.

XII. MEETING ADJOURNED at 7:26 p.m. followed by an in-depth presentation given by Kelly Tracey, supervisor of the Napa County Animal Shelter!

Respectively submitted,
Sue Osborn, Secretary



Welcome David and Wendi!



Election of 2011 Officers & Board Members

Election of NVDTTC officers and board members for 2011 will take place at the November general membership meeting. Slate is shown below.

President: Mary Ash

Vice President: Gerry Glantz

Treasurer: Lori Jackson

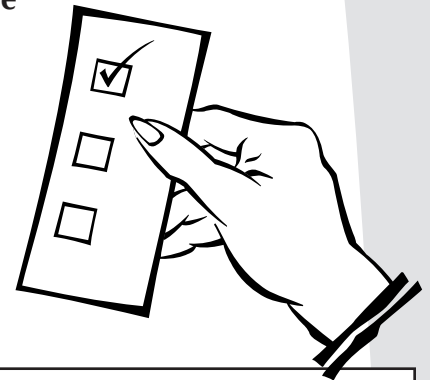
Secretary: Sue Osborn

Board Member: Teresa Russell

Board Member: Beth Schutz

Board Member: Barrie Gordon

Past President: Laura Ecklin



It's time to renew your membership!

Don't lose your voting privilege and ability to earn vouchers. Renew by January 1, 2011. Use the form included in this newsletter or pick one up at the club.

Our Addisonian Saga

by Sue Osborn

Dakota, our three-year-old German Shorthaired Pointer, was diagnosed with Addison's Disease on October 15.

I took her into our vet on October 14th after she became very lethargic the day before on Wednesday. She was dehydrated, had a subnormal temperature, and was wobbly.

Our vet determined she should be given an ACTH test being all her symptoms indicated a hormone imbalance. Because she had not eaten (no interest) that morning he was able to administer the test right away (a fast is required for an ACTH test). This test indicates whether or not a dog has Addison's. This was a very good call on the vet's part! Addison's disease is often very hard to diagnose because of the onset of symptoms that often occur in an indeterminate pattern. She was diagnosed quickly and was able to be treated immediately to correct her potassium and sodium levels. It took until Saturday to accomplish this. When I picked Dakota up three days later on Saturday night she was much, much better. I was very pleased.

The next day, early Sunday morning, she crashed. Being Sunday it was off to the emergency clinic. She was nearly in shock by the time I arrived at the clinic. She went back on fluids and spent Sunday night there. She then was released back to our veterinarian early Monday morning. She was only a little better and she had become quite bloated. The vet on duty back in Napa was puzzled by the fluid that had collected in her abdomen. An ultrasound was indicated as well as sending some of the fluid out for analysis.

By early Monday afternoon our veterinarian's office, after several attempts, could not get hold of their ultrasound specialist. Robert and I became concerned and frustrated and felt it could be a day or more before an ultrasound would be performed and we felt that time was of the essence having seen so little improvement in Dakota when we picked her up at the emergency clinic earlier. We made the decision to take her up to the UC Davis Small Animal Hospital where we knew we would get immediate attention plus expertise.

Sure enough UC Davis was able to do an ultrasound and

analyze fluid from her abdomen by the end of the day (fluid analysis through our vet would have taken a day). Dakota was put back on an IV and spent the night at UC Davis (no ferrying her back and forth between our Napa vet and the emergency clinic which is what would have happened if we had left her at our veterinarian Monday). At UC Davis she received the attention of several internal medicine specialists. Nothing alarming was

found on the ultrasound, The internal specialist assigned to Dakota told us the fluid build up is something that can happen as a result of Addison's. There was some indication an organ could be causing the fluid build up but given the results of the ultrasound and the fluid analysis and other factors showing up on her blood tests, it was more likely it was a result of the initial hormone imbalance and would correct itself once her hormone balance was in place. Given all this, Dakota was released to go home Tuesday afternoon, October 19! When we saw her we immediately noticed her bloating had already gone down and how much more peppy she was!

Her case is unusual in that she did not bounce back as quickly as most cases do once sodium and potassium levels are corrected. Saturday night it looked like she

had. Dogs that have had the disease developing for a period of time (and in retrospect she did because there were signs—we didn't recognize them when they were happening) can take longer to bounce back in about 5% of cases. We were told it will take a few weeks for her to be back to being herself. If she does not get there, further testing will be done to see if there is something else going on outside of Addison's.

Regardless, she is now an Addison's dog which means we will be traveling a different road with her. We know it will take extra time, attention and management on our part. For the rest of her life we will be giving her prednisone pills and monthly per corten injections both of which are very crucial to her well being. We are thankful that there IS a treatment for this disease and that she is again happy and energetic!

See page 7 to read about Addison's disease.



Dakota is happy and energetic again.



FUN FACTS ABOUT DOGS

- All dogs can be traced back 40 million years ago to a weasel-like animal called the Miacis which dwelled in trees and dens. The Miacis later evolved into the Tomarctus, a direct forbearer of the genus Canis, which includes the wolf and jackal as well as the dog..
- Ancient Egyptians revered their dogs. When a pet dog would die, the owners shaved off their eyebrows, smeared mud in their hair, and mourned aloud for days.
- Dogs have three eyelids. The third lid, called a nictitating membrane or "haw," keeps the eye lubricated and protected.
- A dog's shoulder blades are unattached to the rest of the skeleton to allow greater flexibility for running.
- During the Middle Ages, Great Danes and Mastiffs were sometimes suited with armor and spiked collars to enter a battle or to defend supply caravans.
- The most dogs ever owned by one person were 5,000 Mastiffs owned by Kubla Khan.
- The Mayans and Aztecs symbolized every tenth day with the dog, and those born under this sign were believed to have outstanding leadership skills.

http://facts.randomhistory.com/2009/02/15_dogs.html

How many dogs does it take to change a light bulb?

Golden Retriever:

The sun is shining, the day is young, we've got our whole lives ahead of us, and you're inside worrying about a stupid burned out bulb?

Border Collie:

Just one. And then I'll replace any wiring that's not up to code.

Dachshund:

You know I can't reach that stupid lamp!

Rottweiler:

Make me.

Boxer:

Who cares? I can still play with my squeaky toys in the dark.

Lab:

Oh, me, me!!!! Pleeeeeeeeze let me change the light bulb! Can I? Can I? Huh? Huh? Huh? Can I? Pleeeeeeeeze, please, please, please!

German Shepherd:

I'll change it as soon as I've led these people from the dark, check to make sure I haven't missed any, and make just one more perimeter patrol to see that no one has tried to take advantage of the situation.

Jack Russell Terrier:

I'll just pop it in while I'm bouncing off the walls and furniture.

Old English Sheep Dog:

Light bulb? I'm sorry, but I don't see a light bulb!

Cocker Spaniel:

Why change it? I can still pee on the carpet in the dark.

Chihuahua:

Yo quiero Taco Bulb.
Or "We don't need no stinking light bulb."

Greyhound/Saluki:

It isn't moving. Who cares?

Heeler/Australian Cattle Dog:

First, I'll put all the light bulbs in a little circle...

Poodle:

I'll just blow in the Border Collie's ear and he'll do it. By the time he finishes rewiring the house, my nails will be dry.



What is Addison's Disease?



Addison's disease is a rare condition involving the adrenal glands and hormone production. It is the common name for hypoadrenocorticism, or adrenal insufficiency.

The symptoms of Addison's disease can be vague. They are similar to the symptoms of many different problems making diagnosis difficult and sometimes a process of elimination. Initially, a dog may be listless, or seem depressed. Many dogs are described as just seeming off, or losing the normal sparkle in their eye. Lack of appetite is a good indicator

Other symptoms include gastrointestinal problems like vomiting and diarrhea. Pain in the hind quarters, or generalized muscle weakness such as a dog that can't jump onto a bed or couch as he has done in the past is not uncommon. Shivering or muscle tremors may also be present. These symptoms may wax and wane over months or years making diagnosis difficult.

If the adrenals continue deteriorating, ultimately the dog will have an acute episode called an Addisonian crisis. Potassium levels elevate and disrupt normal functions of the heart. Arrhythmia can result and blood pressure drops to dangerously low levels. BUN and creatinine levels, generally indicators of kidney function, are often elevated. At this point many animals are diagnosed with renal failure, as the kidneys are unable to function properly. Typically animals are given IV solutions for rehydration, which may produce an almost miraculous recovery. This too, is a great indication that failure of the adrenals rather than of the kidneys is creating the symptoms.

While a dog with Addison's disease will need medications and monitoring for the rest of his or her life, most dogs with Addison's can return to their favorite activities.

source: Addisondogs.com

**Next General Meeting at the Club:
Monday, November 8, 2010
6:30 p.m.**

**No Dogs
at
Meeting**



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Scheduling of Board Meetings

Except for December., Board meetings, open to all interested members, are scheduled the fourth Monday of the month at 6:00 p.m.
Call 253-8666 to verify both date and location of meeting. Minutes from board meetings are posted at the club.

**If you have articles, stories or events to share in the NVDTTC
Newsletter, please contact Sue Osborn:
NewsletterEditor@napadogtraining.org**

Deadline for newsletter submissions is the 20th of each month.

**Napa Valley Dog Training Club
P.O. Box 4097
Napa, CA 94558**

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

Agility Trial Chair: Mary Ash

Obedience and Rally Trial Chair: Mary Ash

Tracking: Debbie Crain

AOCNC: Gerry Glantz

Training: Teresa Russell

Building: Gerry Glantz

Office: Lynda Rhyno

Sunshine: Mary Joy Davis

Newsletter/Website: Sue Osborn

Membership: Linda Luchsinger

Publicity: Janet Davis

CGC: Jim Spiva

This newsletter is also available online at napadogtraining.org