

June 2020

WICHITA KENNEL CLUB, INC. NEWS FOR THE DOG FANCIER

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From the Editor:

- All opinions expressed or implied in this publication are those only of the author(s) of that opinion.
- The deadline for submission of articles in the newsletter is the 28th of every month.
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A Word from the President

Jackie Storrer

Aren't we all glad to see June finally arrive as the month of May seemed to go on forever? Hopefully everyone has stayed safe and well as we try to get use to this "new normal" in our lives.

Things are still progressing in our club with the hiring of judges for 2021 and several for 2022. Our dog show is still on track and hopefully will top the past ones.

Mike has kept the grass mowed, and Tom has sprayed the weed killer and trimmed the weeds. We appreciate them for that. Our neighbor business even mowed our grounds the other day, as Mike always mows theirs as he mows ours.

With things seeming to be settling a bit with the COVID-19, we will think on having a Board meeting the 24th of June and will discuss the possibility of a general meeting on July 13th.

We offer condolences to Monty and Treva Faires on the passing of Monty's mother, Virginia M. Faires last month. She had a long and productive life going to heaven at the age of 97. We are never ready to let them go, and it helps knowing that we will be reunited with them some day.

We will keep all You-all informed of the changes we have been having to deal with.

Thank for your continued support and stay safe and healthy.

Jackie

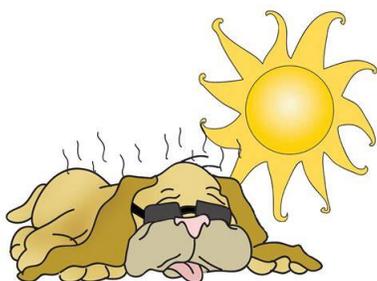


⌘⌘⌘ **June 2020 Membership Meeting** ⌘⌘⌘

Cancelled until further notice. Please stay home and safe.



**July General Meeting
To Be Announced
Stay Tuned**



It's getting hot already this year. Please keep your pets cool and safe.

🏆🏆🏆 WKC MEMBER BRAGS 🏆🏆🏆

Liz Luna and Justin Gregg: We have a new junior handler!

Congratulations to Liz Luna and Justin Gregg on their beautiful baby girl.

Isla May was born May 19th. Welcome!



Key Points about Outdoor Grilling from AKC:

- Grilled steak bones, ribs, and chicken bones may cause choking and throat damage to dogs.
- Garlic and onions in any form are toxic for canine consumption.
- Licking the fatty leftovers around the grill can result in pancreatitis.

What Should I Do If My Dog Eats Something Toxic?

If you think your pet has gotten into something potentially toxic, call your veterinarian right away. When it happens outside of office hours or any time, day or night, weekends, and holidays, you can call AKC Reunite's Pet Poison Helpline at 800-252-7894 for help.

As experts on the potential danger of the substances dogs eat, the Pet Poison Helpline is the go-to resource to assist if your pet accidentally gets into something. They will recommend the necessary steps to help treat your pet. This may sometimes include getting the dog to an emergency vet as soon as possible. (AKC Reunite subscribers have lifetime access to the poison helpline for a single additional \$15 fee.)

Could Dogs Help Detect COVID-19?

By Miranda Carney

As states begin to open and the demand to test and screen for COVID-19 grows, researchers are enlisting all the help they can get — including dogs.

Led by Cynthia M. Otto, director of the Working Dog Center at UPenn's School of Veterinary Medicine, eight Labrador Retrievers are being trained to sniff out the coronavirus.

Training dogs to sniff out disease is far from new. In fact, Otto says this new project builds off of programs UPENN already has. "We've been working with medical detection dogs since 2013. We have a program where we're evaluating whether dogs can help us in the early detection of ovarian cancer, we've looked at diabetes alert, and we also have a project looking at bacterial infections and the ability for dogs to help us to make those diagnoses. We feel that we're really well-positioned to take this and apply it to the next new and important disease, and that's certainly COVID-19."

Such a big undertaking can't be done alone. Otto and the University of Pennsylvania Working Dog Center have partnered with other organizations to bring in the best scientists both from the university and other programs, including Auburn University and Medical Detection Dogs UK.

How Long Does Detection Training Take?

So how do you train a dog to detect COVID-19? It's not easy. "There are many, many steps," Otto says. "Our first step is to ask the question: Is there a unique odor associated with COVID-19 infection?"

That first step is critical. If there is no odor associated with the virus, there would be no point in going any further with training the dogs. So Otto and her team are beginning by working with physicians to collect samples from patients who have been tested for COVID-19 — both positive and negative.

"We're taking the samples from positive patients, showing them to the dog, letting them sniff them, and then reward them for sniffing those samples," Otto says. "So we let them know there's something in there that is a good thing." The dogs then sniff the negative samples, but don't get a reward. "They learn to discriminate that there's something unique about the samples from the COVID-19 patients," Otto says.

Sound familiar? This sort of training is similar to that done in [Scent Work](#), Otto says. It's also the same process used to teach dogs the odors of explosives or narcotics. But there's an added challenge in medical detection. Dogs must be able to not just find the odor, but to discriminate between whether the odor is in the sample or not in the sample.

Dogs can learn an odor fairly quickly, but it gets harder — the dogs must be able to understand the odor can occur in the background of a person's odor. "If they can identify that, we want to look at: Can they identify that when we're moving? Can they identify that when there are many people around?" Otto says.

Taking it to the Real World

If that all works, Otto says they can start thinking about taking this into operational usage. Otto and her team have to determine how best to take these dogs into the community and places such as the airport to evaluate how they could help detect individuals who might be positive in a real-world scenario. "Especially those who aren't showing symptoms because those are the ones we really need to identify," Otto says.

Right now, the dogs are being trained with practice scents, until the physicians that Otto is working with are able to send over COVID-19 samples. Otto estimates this will be within the next week or two. After three to four weeks of exposing the dogs to those samples, the researchers should be able to determine whether or not there is a scent associated with the virus.

Training in the lab includes teaching dogs the process. Otto's lab uses a scent wheel isolated from other stimuli or odors. The dogs learn to go into the room by themselves, sniff each container, then either stop and indicate the scent is present or not present.

To learn more, go to: https://www.akc.org/expert-advice/training/dogs-help-detect-covid-19/?utm_medium=email&utm_source=newsletter&utm_campaign=20200528_nibble-general_dogs-help-detect-covid-19&utm_content=trn_p3&utm_term=AKC_Nibble_General_Send_List

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We're on the Web!

See us at:

www.wichitakennelclub.com

**IT'S HOTTER
THAN YOU THINK...
DON'T LEAVE PETS IN YOUR CAR!**

OUTSIDE TEMPERATURE	70°	75°	80°	85°	90°
INSIDE CAR					
19° HOTTER IN 10 MINUTES	89°	94°	99°	104°	109°
29° HOTTER IN 20 MINUTES	99°	104°	109°	114°	119°
34° HOTTER IN 30 MINUTES	104°	109°	114°	119°	124°



BOYKIN SPANIEL

Friendly, Eager, Lovable



Leanne Chase, Editor
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