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Sally Hensen, Noren Walzer, Marie Zaman (membership)
LEKC meets on the 4th Wednesday of the month @ The Lady Lake Library W. Guava St.
Website: www.lekcdogclub.org

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UPCOMING EVENTS:

August meeting: LEKC will hold a combined Board & General Meeting 6 p.m, Wednesday August 28th at Century 21 Office, 3235 US 27/441 Fruitland Park, Fl. Please wear a mask!

Also:

LEKC RALLY TRIAL OCT. 31 & NOV. 1 2020 @ MARION ALACHUA DOG TRAINING ASSO. OCALA.

WORKERS NEEDED!!!!

Due to the Covid-19 virus the Club will need members help as never before. PLEASE, if you can give your time in making this event a success, contact either Carolyn @352-205-7894, Susan Trotto @352-347-2989 or Marie Zaman @ 352-408-8167.

Did You Know?*

Researchers analyzing 29 hemp-based pet supplements sold online in the US found levels of CBD and other cannabinoids varied widely. Only 18 supplements met appropriate labeling guidelines for non-medication, non-dietary supplements, according to PetIndustryNews.com

The Star Tribune says bills are underway in Minnesota to restrict the sale of dogs and cats at pet stores. California, Maryland, and New York have worked on similar laws.

The ASPCA established a \$5 million COVID-19 Relief & Recovery Initiative. The funds will be distributed to animal welfare organizations overwhelmed by the unprecedented number of animals being turned in due to the coronavirus, according to JAVMA News.

WKMG ClickOrlando reports that the Orlando Dog Mom Club, METTA Rescue Family, and Happy Trails Animal Rescue are placing dogs looking for a forever home on dating site Tinder. A OnePoll survey of 2,000 people found that 39% swiped right on a profile because of the dog.

JAVMA News reports that researchers at the University of Pennsylvania School of Veterinary Medicine identified a set of immune genes in a strain of *Aedes aegypti* mosquitoes resistant to infection with *Dirofilaria immitis*, the parasite that causes heartworm disease in dogs.

By activating the immune response in otherwise-susceptible mosquitoes, the researchers stopped parasites from developing into transmissible form in the insects. *

Alternatives to the Dreaded Cone

A study at the Sydney School of Veterinary Science looked at alternatives to the use of the classic cone or Elizabethan collar. The collar is used to prevent pets from biting, licking, or chewing at incisions, lesions, or sore spots.

While some dogs adapt well to the cones, especially if the cones are somewhat clear so the dog can see where they are, others have a rough time. It can be difficult for a dog to manage eating or drinking with a cone on. Putting the cone on and off to allow shoes activities can result in some struggles too. Dogs can get irritations from the cone, injure themselves, wreak havoc in a room, and even injure their owners as they blunder or panic about.

The study showed that 60% of dogs had trouble drinking water with a cone on, 67% were inhibited playing, 25% were injured (falling downstairs, psychological stress), and 10% couldn't self-groom, use doorways, or sleep comfortably in a crate.

Clever dogs, of course, found ways to remove the cones, despite the best efforts of their owners.

Ask your veterinarian about alternatives to the traditional plastic cone and about fit, so you can look at the variations at pet retailers. Inflatable collars, which look like donuts, work well for many dogs. A muzzle might prevent licking and chewing, although these can be difficult to fit well on brachycephalic dogs. Socks, body wraps, and repurposed t-shirts can be fitted to cover skin lesions or incisions to allow healing with comfort. You can also discuss anti-inflammatory medications, pain medications, or sedatives to reduce or remove your dog's urges to lick or chew and eliminate the dreaded collar. *

Food Allergy Testing Unreliable

Two 2019 studies, one done in Europe and one at Tufts University, evaluated some of the blood and saliva testing options currently available for food-allergy testing. The goal was to validate whether or not the tests gave clinically relevant results. Both studies had lots of positive reactions from dogs with all testing methods, with each positive result in theory indicating that the dog has a food allergy to that ingredient. The problem? Many of these positive results came from dogs who are perfectly healthy and don't show any sign of allergies. Other dogs with known food allergies diagnosed through elimination diets did not always come up positive on these tests.

Unfortunately, this means that these tests may not be a reliable means of diagnosing food allergies in dogs. Healthy dogs with no sign of any allergies can show up as a false positive (a few dogs in the Tufts study came up positive for every antigen tested,) and true positives can come up as a false negative. If food allergies are a potential issue for your dog, working with your veterinarian to do food trials with elimination diets is still the gold standard for getting an accurate diagnosis that will help your dog feel better.* Cornell College of Veterinary Medicine.

New Law in Germany will require dogs to be walked twice a day (Joshua Bote USA Today)

Dog owners in Germany may soon be required to walk their furry friends twice a day.

The mandate comes from Germany's agriculture minister, Julia Klockner, who said that the new law is based on the recommendation of animal welfare experts.

It can't just be for a quick stroll down the block either: Dogs must be taken outside twice for at least an hour every day, whether it be running around in the park or the backyard or going for a long walk through the neighborhood.

"Dogs are not cuddly toys," Klockner said, according to the Guardian. "They also have their own needs, which need to be taken into account."

The recommendation will affect nearly a fifth of Germans, who own more than 9 million dogs, according to a 2019 count from Germany's Federal Ministry of Food and Agriculture.

The new law, which will be implemented sometime next year, also includes further requirements for dog breeders and owners.

A dog show, purebred pups with "agony breeding characteristics" – such as pugs who develop breathing issues or Cavalier king spaniels who develop early-onset hip and heart issues – will be banned from being showcased.

Dogs will also be prohibited from being chained, with an exception for working dogs.

The collection of updated dog laws has been met with debate from dog owners and breeders throughout the nation, many of whom expressed concern over how the regulations will be enforced.

Walther Schweiz, an owner of a 14-year-old Alsatian with cancer, told the Guardian that his dog was unable to do more than short walks.

“They should trust people to get on with their own lives,” he told the paper.

It appears, however, that these policies may be intended primarily for dog dealers – including breeders and kennel owners – as opposed to individual dog owners.

Animal activist groups are praising the law, but according to NPR, believe that it should have more stringent requirements for prospective owners to show that they can raise a dog.

“A dog needs daily exercise in the open air and social contacts according to its needs. We welcome the fact that there are now more specific requirements,” Thomas Schroder, who helms the country’s animal welfare association said, per NPR.

QUOTES:

“I used to be afraid of ailing at something that really mattered to me, but now I’m more afraid of succeeding at things that don’t matter.” Bob Goff

“Ascend above the restrictions and conventions of the world, but not as high as to lose sight of them” Richard Garnett

“Nothing is so inexorable as a promise to your pride.” Beryl Markham

“Love may not make the world go round, but I must admit that I makes the ride worthwhile.” Sean Connery

“...there is a luxury in being quiet in heart of chaos.” Virginia Woolf.
