



GINGER, THD, RATS CGCA, CGCU, TKA, FDC

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LEKC meets the 4th Wednesday of each month

@ The Lady Lake Library, W. Guava Street. Board

Meets 6 p.m. General meeting 7:15 p.m. Website:

www.lekcdogclub.org.

Updated membership list is available at <http://www.lekcdogclub.org/membership.html>.

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Top 10

Human Medications Poisonous To Pets

GSD Review Ahna Brutlang, DVM, Assistant Director of Veterinary Services

Pet owners who are serious about pet-proofing their home should start with their own medicine cabinet. Pet Poison Helpline is a 24-hour service available throughout North America for pet owners and veterinary professionals who require assistance treating a potentially poisoned pet. Nearly half of the calls receive by Pet Poison Helpline involve

human medications – both over-the-counter and prescription. Whether Fido accidentally chewed into a pill bottle or well-intentioned pet owner accidentally switched medication (giving their pet a human medication), pet poisonings due to medication are common and can be very serious.

AKC Elite Performer Testing and Animal Actor Casting Calls at AKC National Championship

We are happy to tell you that there will be testing for AKC Elite Performer Trick Dog titles at the AKC Championship Dog Show in Orlando, Florida on December 15-16, 2018.

While earning the AKC Elite Performer title currently requires that the title applicant send a video to AKC for approval, the December show will feature Elite Performer testing at the show. AKC staff will be present to approve the titles. If time allows, we will have Performer testing.

Each participant that passes the Elite Performer Trick Dog test will receive a free Elite Performer rosette and AKC Trick Dog medal. And, there will be some special awards.

At the AKC Trick Dog testing, we will have a very special opportunity for Elite Performer Trick Dogs. We'll have an animal actor agent present who will conduct casting calls. You've got a few months to get your world-class trick dogs ready to be Elite Performer stars! In the next few weeks, we'll tell you how to sign up for testing.

BRAGS: We've got lots and lots of BRAGS





Kylie got her Trick Dog Intermediate Title, Jean Devlin



Rowdy's First Rally Trial, earned Third place in MADTA's Trial 6/16/18 Sharie D



ASCA beginner novice titles Rowdy, Daisy, Jonathan

Do Dogs Grieve the Loss of Their Human Owners?

By [Alexandra Anastasio](#)

AKC Health Newsletter

There are countless reasons why dogs are considered to be man's best friend. They offer love, loyalty, and companionship, and anyone who has ever formed a special bond with a dog can attest to the symbiotic relationship between humans and canines. But what happens to a dog when he loses his best friend?

“When an owner passes away before her pet, it can be a confusing, sad, and difficult period, even if arrangements have been made for the animal to be taken care of by someone else,” says [Russell Hartstein](#), a certified behaviorist and dog trainer based in Los Angeles.

It's not unusual for dogs to grieve the loss of a person they've bonded with who is no longer present. While they might not understand the full extent of human absence, dogs do [understand the emotional feeling](#) of missing someone who's no longer a part of their daily lives.

Because we can't communicate with our dogs to explain when a loss occurs, certain indicators — such as a change in routine, or the absence of their owner's sensations (sight, sound, smell) — convey that something is different.

“My definition of grief is that a surviving animal shows distress through behavior that is markedly divergent from his routine,” says [Barbara J. King](#), professor emerita of anthropology at the College of William and Mary and the author of “[How Animals Grieve](#).”

While we can't say for sure whether the feelings a dog has when experiencing an emotional loss mirror that of a human's, [Dr. Marc Bekoff](#), professor emeritus of ecology and evolutionary biology at the University of Colorado Boulder, says there is now solid evidence from [brain imaging studies](#) that similar areas of dogs' brains light up when they're feeling parallel emotions to those of humans.

No two dogs are alike, so the way in which they grieve — and for how long — can differ. In order to [decipher a dog's emotional state](#) after losing a loved one, it's important to keep an eye out for certain signs, as they can affect a dog's health. Although there is no concrete way of knowing exactly how a dog processes grief, there's no denying the sadness expressed through behavioral changes. Anxiety and stress can present themselves in a variety of ways.

- Panting
- Whining
- Barking
- Pacing
- Fidgeting

Dogs are highly intuitive and sensitive, more than people give them credit for,” says James Thomas, executive director at [Motley Zoo Animal Rescue](#), Thomas explains that dogs need to figure things out on their own and work through feelings when experiencing loss or grief. Other [indicators](#) of grief include:

- Loss of appetite
- Weight loss
- Lack of energy
- Listlessness or clinginess
- Loss of interest in physical activity

“Dogs are highly intuitive and sensitive, more than people give them credit for,” says Thomas.

In June 2014, Constable Dave Ross, a Canadian general duty officer and police dog handler, lost his life in the line of duty. His service dog, a [German Shepherd Dog](#) named Danny, stood alongside him during his time on the force. Throughout Ross' funeral, the [loyal canine](#)

whimpered next to his master's casket. This is just one example of many that speaks volumes to the feelings a dog experiences after losing his owner.

Like us, dogs go through a grieving period. While there isn't one specific approach, being sensitive to a dog's needs can go a long way:

- Be aware of routines and try to stick to them
- Provide comfort by spending more time together
- Give extra affection — touch increases your bond
- Play his favorite game and increase exercise

“I have no doubt that dogs miss us as much as we miss them, and like us, they need time to heal from a deep emotional loss,” says [Sally Morgan](#), a holistic physical therapist for animals and humans.

How long a dog grieves varies, but with time, most recover emotionally. At the first sign of decline in physical or emotional health, consult a veterinarian to ensure the symptoms of grief aren't masking those of another illness.

Can A Horse Sue its Owner for Abuse or Neglect?

FAKC Notes July 2018

An eight-year-old horse named Justice is suing his former owner for \$100,000 (£74,000) after suffering months of abuse that left him with frostbite, a skin infection and damaged genitals.

In a landmark lawsuit to recover the costs of his ongoing medical care, the Animal Legal Defence Fund (ALDF) in Portland is seeking damages from Gwendolyn Vercher, 51, of Cornelius, North Carolina, on behalf of Justice, who is now being cared for at an animal shelter in Oregon.

The stallion, formerly known as Shadow, was suffering from rain rot, afflicted with lice and 300lbs underweight when he was rescued in March last year.

According to the lawsuit, his treatment by Vercher left him with "permanent physical and psychological injuries" that mean he will likely never find a new permanent home.

Vercher pleaded guilty to criminal animal neglect last summer and was sentenced to three years of probation, preventing her from owning any pets or livestock for five years.

But she only agreed to pay for Justice's care received prior to 6 July 2017, which cost a total of \$3,700 (£1,100).

ALDF claim Justice will require "specialized medical care" for the rest of his life and any funds secured by the lawsuit will be placed in a legal trust to pay for it.

Executive director Stephen Wells said: "Horses like Justice are intelligent animals with the capacity for rich emotional lives.

"Oregon law already recognizes Justice's right to be free from cruelty - this lawsuit simply expands the remedies available when abusers violate animals' legal rights."

The Oregon Supreme Court views animals as individual "victims" in criminal animal cruelty cases, with state legislature ruling that animals are "sentient beings capable of experiencing pain, stress and fear".

Sarah Hanneken, one of the lawyers representing Justice in the case, is confident the lawsuit will be successful.

"The Oregon legislature clearly established an anti-cruelty statute for the safety and protection of animals," she said.

"Victims of crimes can sue their abusers and animals are sentient beings that are recognised as victims under Oregon law. So with that premise, we've come to the conclusion that animals can sue their abusers and we're confident of our stance in this case."

The case:

March 7, 2017, Defendant, at the urging of the concerned neighbor, took Justice to be examined by Dr. Victor Alexander of Alexander Equine Veterinary Services, Inc. Dr. Alexander observed that Justice's penis had prolapsed and could not retract because it was so swollen and heavy. According to Dr. Alexander's report, Justice's penis was "red [and] "raw" and "oozing serum" and the "skin was chapped and scabbed." Dr. Alexander scored Justice a 2 out of 9 on the Henneke Horse Body Condition Scale ("BCS"). A BCS score of 2 indicates emaciation, whereas a healthy horse scores between 4 and 6. Dr. Alexander concluded that Justice would need to be housed in a stall or re-homed.

March 18, 2017, Dr. Asmar examined Justice under sedation. Justice's penis was swollen, traumatized, infected and prolapsed, with a moderate amount of necrotic tissue that had to be removed. Justice was unable to retract his penis to its normal position inside its sheath, likely due to his severely debilitated body condition. The prolonged penile prolapse had prevented drainage of the tissue, which then caused swelling. Having been unable to retract his penis and having been exposed to chronic cold temperatures, Justice developed penile frostbite, which led to severe trauma, infection, and scarring.

The Animal Legal Defense Fund (ALDF) is suing to set up care for the future. Luckily Justice is in the hands of an Oregon non-profit rescue, and looking nothing like the condition he was in last year.

Laugh Line: *

If you want to make your dreams come true, the first thing to do is wake up.

Nothing is more honorable than a grateful heart.

“Few things are harder to put up with than the annoyance of a good example.”

Mark Twain

“He who pursues fame at the risk of losing his self is not a scholar.” Chuang-tze

“Experience is a good teacher, but she sends in terrific bills.” Minna Antrim

“Very little is needed to make a happy life.” Marcus Aurelius Antoninus

What part of a fish weighs the most? Its scales.

“Great is good but humility is better.” Jonathan French.

“Try not to be a success, but rather to be of value.” Albert Einstein.

***Coffee News**

Warnings Out on Four Dog Foods That Contain Pet Euthanasia Drug I Ingredients

FAKC NOTES June 2018

Though supposedly not in fatal doses, a common drug used to “put down” small animals and shelter pets has been found in several varieties of dog foods marketed in the U.S., and it’s being reported that some dogs have died from eating the rations.

Well known brands like Gravy Train, Kibbles & Bits, Ol’ Roy and Skippy wet (canned) dog food have been thoroughly tested by FDA (Food & Drug Administration), and found to have levels varying from “laced with it to small amounts,) but it shouldn’t be there at all. The drug, pentobarbital, is a barbiturate commonly used by veterinarians as an animal sedative, anesthetic or for euthanasia.

While in the ‘90’s there was the rumor that Pound pets were disposed of by sending to processing (rendering) plants, who would have suspected that the cooked, butterscotch-colored tallow that was sold to dog food manufacturers are unregulated “byproducts” was actually what they scooped into their dog’s food bowl to be fed the cheapest dog foods, like Ol’ Roy, one of the suspected tainted products.

Rendering plant workers occasionally found dog and flea collar shreds and metal ID tags in the processed soup....proof that shelter pets sometimes made their way into the ingredients. Recalls have gone out on the dog foods name above, while the companies are scrambling to apologize (at first disavowing any knowledge of the discovery), but are now trying to restore confidence in the public’s trust. This is no different than the toxic jerky dog treats China was sending the U.S. a few years ago that was killing our dogs...except this time the threat comes from our own shores. Dog owners, beware. Look up which dog foods are recalled in articles on the Internet. A documentary exposing the problems with bad pet foods and lack of regulation is available on Netflix, named “Pet Fooled,” also available for free on some websites.
