

Inland Empire Collie Club

THE TAILWAGGER

Spring 2024



*This painting, “**Boy With Two Dogs**” by Norman Rockwell was on the cover of the September 29, 1929 issue of the Saturday Evening Post. Viewers may assume the “R” around the collie’s neck stood for Rockwell, but it actually stood for “Raleigh”, Rockwell’s own beloved collie of which this artwork represents!*

EVENTS

NEXT IECC is MAY 1st 🌿

March 29-April 6th Collie Club of America National (Herding, Agility, Obedience, Rally, Scentwork and Conformation) Peoria, IL



April 12th Inland Empire Collie Club Specialties, (AM & PM) Cashmere, WA



April 12-14 Spokane Agility Club All-Breed, Agility Deer Park, WA



April 12-14th All Breed, Obedience/Rally, Conformation (13-14th), Ephrata-Moses Lake KennelClub
Chelan County Expo Center, Cashmere, WA



April 26-28th AKC All Breed, Obedience, Jr. Showmanship Yakima Valley Kennel Club Sozo Sports Complex



Sunday – April 28th Inland Empire Collie Club 19th All-Breed Tracking Test 11th All-Breed Tracking Excellent Test Miller Ranch, Sprague, WA



By Federica Patriarca, a talented artist from Italy now living in Sweden who has kindly given us permission to use her art in our newsletter. Pic of her fur family in Announcements/Braggs

May 5th Spokane Dog Training Club TD/TDX Tests Miller Ranch, Sprague, WA



May 10-12th SDTC Agility Trials Sontag Community Park

May 18-19th AKC Obedience & Rally Trials SDTC



May 25th-26th Spokane Kennel Club All-Breed Obedience/Rally, Conformation (25-26th), Spokane KennelClub
Spokane County Fair & Expo Center



May 27-28 Coeur d'Alene All-Breed Conformation, Obedience & Rally



May 31-Jun 2 Greater Spokane Shetland Sheepdog Agility Spokane, WA



June 7-9 Lilac City Dog Training Club UKC Obedience & Rally Trials



June 21-22nd AKC Scentwork Trial Westwood Middle School



June 28-30th Spokane Agility Trials Deer Park, W

Dogs Can Detect the Smell of Stress

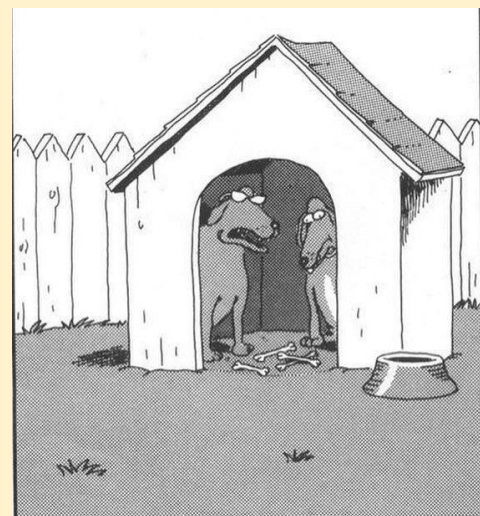
by Sherry McCauley

In the research paper titled, “*Dogs can discriminate between human baseline and psychological stress condition odours*”, published September 28, 2022, by Clara Wilson, Kerry Campbel, Zachary Petzel, and Catherine Reeve in the Journal *Pone*, evidence is shown that dogs can detect an odor associated with acute stress in humans from breath and sweat alone. To be sure, previous research has suggested that dogs can detect when humans are experiencing stress. And we all know how valuable canines are in assisting people with PTSD. However, canine detection of human psychological states has, thus far, primarily been assessed via “emotional contagion”. Emotional contagion is a process whereby the emotional states between individuals is mirrored. This phenomenon is seen among group-living species, predominantly within species. However, evidence suggests that emotional contagion occurs across species living closely to one another such as dogs and humans. Interestingly, one study found that cortisol levels of pet dogs mirrored that of their owners.

We know that dog’s sense of smell is spectacular. In fact, it is 10,000 to 100,000 times better than our own. I read an analogy somewhere that left quite an impression on me – I would post the source if I could recall it – that if we were to equate human and canine eyesight with human and canine scent capabilities then, hypothetically, what a person could see at 1/3 of a mile away, a dog could see at three miles away equally as well! A study published in 2006 in *Integrative Cancer Therapies* titled “*Diagnostic Accuracy of Canine Scent Detection in Early- and Late-Stage Lung and Breast Cancers*” by McCulloch M, Jezierski T, Broffman M, Hubbard A, Turner K, Janecki T. showed that dogs can detect certain cancers via exhaled breath. Another study published in 2019 *Science Daily*, “*Study shows dogs can accurately sniff out cancer in blood*”, demonstrated that dogs can also identify cancer by sniffing blood samples. And according to *Diabetic Alert Dogs of America*, dogs can, and are, trained to pick up on the smells released

when changes in blood sugar levels occur in their owners.

Such examples of canine scent detection led lead author Clara Wilson, a doctoral student at Queen’s University Belfast, to study the canine ability to detect a stress response through people’s odor profile changes. She hoped that by enlisting the help of the canine nose, there might be additional cues found valuable in the training of service dogs. So, she devised a study, the first to use a controlled olfactory paradigm to assess if dogs can discriminate between human odors (combined breath and sweat sample) taken at baseline and when experiencing experimentally induced negative psychological stress. The guinea pigs, aka, human participants, needed a stress-inducing task. Hmm. What stresses most people the most? Math of course! Worse, mental math – no finger counting allowed. The researchers told the participants to count backwards from 9000! in units of 17!! out loud!! in front of two researchers who held prompts saying, “It is very important that you perform the task as quickly and efficiently as possible”, and “You must keep going until the task is completed”, in a stern voice no less. Sick scoundrels. The horrid task continued for three long minutes after which two samples were taken. These samples were shown to a dog within three hours of being collected.



“Look. You had five bones, right? Your friend Zooky comes over, stays awhile, then leaves. Now you have four bones, right? ... You don’t have to be a ‘Lassie’ to figure this one out.”

The apparatus used for showing the dogs the samples was purpose-built for this study. It consisted of three, removable, aluminum arms that extended from a central frame. The end of each arm had a stainless-steel cylindrical port with a removable lid.

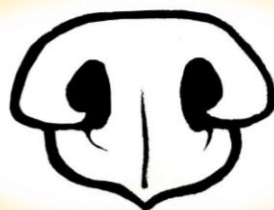
Four dogs, a male Cocker Spaniel, a female Cockapoo, and two Mixed Breeds — named Treo, Fingal, Soot, and Winnie — took part in the test. They were recruited to the study via posters and social media in the Belfast community. Of the total 20 dogs initially engaged in training, only the four above reached the testing phase. This is neither here nor there, but I found it interesting why so few made it to the actual testing phase of the study. So here you go: Three dogs were excluded because the dogs became stressed when their owners left. Two because their owners were isolating from COVID-19. Nine dogs began to show behaviors of disinterest such as lying down between trials, slow approach to the smell test apparatus OR they were unable to achieve performance criteria e.g. discriminate between people during training. Two more dogs had simply not reached the testing stage by the time the study ended.

The dogs were trained using operant conditioning and positive reinforcement. A secondary reinforcer (a clicker) was used to shape the dogs' behaviors and food was used as the primary reinforcer. A nose-on sit was chosen as the alert behavior. The handler was visible to the dog but did not know where the target odor was located. If a dog made an incorrect indication, they were recorded as giving a false alert

on that trial, called away from the apparatus, and the next trial was prepared. As such, the handler was blind to the location of the target and the dogs were never assisted in making a correct alert.



The results from the study found that in 675 out of 720 trials, the dogs were able to detect the stress hormones in sweat and breath samples taken from the 36 tortured human participants. That is, the dogs were able to differentiate the “stressed” samples from the baseline samples. These results provide a strong foundation for future investigations into areas such as emotional contagion knowing that there is a confirmed odor component to acute negative stress that can be detected in the absence of other visual or vocal cues. The foundational result of this study is that *dogs are freaking amazing; their scenting abilities are just one more aspect to their awesomeness.*



Medic-collie Speaking - a Few Interesting Tidbits from the World of Research on Dog Health

by Suzanne Schwab

As a participant in the large “Dog Aging Project” coordinated at the University of California/Davis Vet School, I get period updates of results of studies on longevity and health in dogs. Here’s a quick summary of a couple publications that caught my attention:

“Do Female Dogs Age Differently Than Male Dogs”

by J Hoffman *et al.* 2017. *Journals of Gerontology* 73:150-156.
<https://doi.org/10.1093/gerona/glx061>

It’s well established that in humans and other closely related primates females have a longer average life expectancy than males. Because dogs are often used as models for various aspects of human health, the authors of this study investigated whether this “female advantage” extended to dogs. To compare the longevity of intact and neutered male and female dogs, the researchers used age of death records in two large data bases - one from North American Veterinary teaching hospitals (81,000 records from 1984-2004) and another from primary veterinary clinics in the United Kingdom (5000 records from 2009 -2011). Every study has its limitations, and one important limitation to this study is that it doesn’t necessarily represent the dog population as a whole. The North American data come from university teaching hospitals, in which all of the deaths recorded are from dogs that were referred there due to complex health issues, and were only recorded if the death actually occurred in the vet hospital. So, the information from the North American data doesn’t represent a random sample of all dog deaths - it’s a sample of the age and sex of dogs that died while under treatment at a university veterinary hospital. The smaller UK data

set on the other hand comes from private vet clinics, and includes the age of death of dogs regardless of the cause of death or whether the death occurred at home or under veterinary care. Despite the differences in the sources of the data, the overall pattern of results was very similar for the two sources. In the North

American data set bitches tended to outlive males by about 6 months, but this result was almost entirely due to the greater longevity of **spayed** bitches, compared to either intact or neutered males. **Intact** bitches actually had a slightly shorter average life span than either intact or neutered males. The difference between intact and neutered males was very small, with intact males living on average a month or two longer than neutered males. Remember that the North American data set comes specifically from dogs that were being treated and died at a university veterinary hospital and therefore likely represented a higher proportion of dogs with cancer, complex orthopedic injuries and congenital defects than the general population. The average age of death of dogs from the UK data set was about 2 years older than in the North American data set, likely because the UK data set came from private clinics that treat a much wider range of dogs than teaching hospitals do. Again, spayed bitches lived the longest, with very little difference among intact bitches, intact males, and neutered males. Bottom line? In these two large data sets neutering had little to no impact on the average longevity of male dogs, but spaying increased the average longevity of bitches by about a half year, and spayed bitches on average outlive males by a few months.



“Prevalence of inherited disorders among mixed-breed and purebred dogs:

27,254 cases (1995-2010)” by T. Bellumori et al. 2013. Journal of the American Veterinary Medical Association 24.

<https://doi.org/10.2460/javma.242.11.1549>

This study is not super new, but I thought it was pretty interesting, and more recent smaller studies seem to support the overall findings in this report. I think the perception that inherited disorders in dogs are more prevalent in purebred dogs is pretty widespread. And



there is some basis for that perception.

On average mixed breed dogs are less inbred than purebreds, and inbreeding does increase

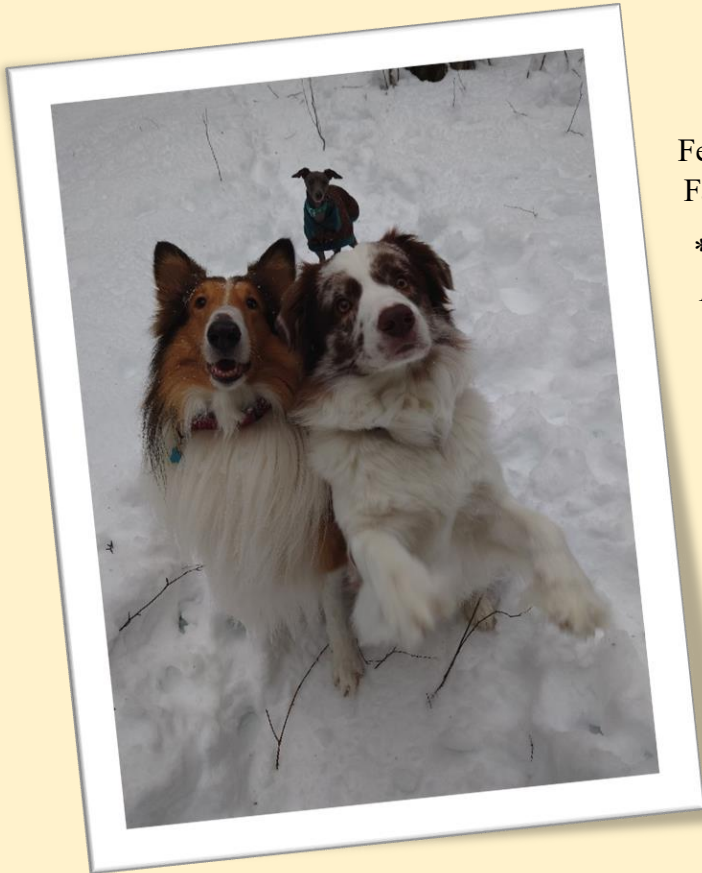
the chances of a dog inheriting two copies of a harmful gene, and hence increases the chances of that harmful gene being expressed. There are several studies that have supported the perception that mixed breed dogs live longer than purebreds, but some recent studies show that this decreased longevity in purebreds occurs mainly in large breeds. What’s interesting about this report by Belluromi and associates is that it turns out that there is very little difference in the prevalence of

many inherited disorders in purebreds vs mixed breeds. After analyzing the prevalence of 24 genetic disorders in over 27,000 dogs, the authors found that there was no difference in pure bred dogs as a group compared to mixed breeds for the occurrence of hemangiosarcoma, lymphoma, mast cell tumors, osteosarcoma, hip dysplasia, patellar luxation, and hypo- and hyper- adrenocorticism. That doesn’t mean that these conditions aren’t more prevalent in some specific breeds, just that they aren’t more prevalent in purebred dogs as a whole. Unfortunately, there are several genetic conditions examined in this study that do plague purebreds as a group more than mixed breeds: hypothyroidism, dilated cardiomyopathy, elbow dysplasia, skin allergies, bloat, and various forms of seizures. Interestingly, mixed breeds are more prone to cranial cruciate ligament ruptures and (weirdly) to being hit by cars. What’s hopeful about all this is that although selective breeding has certainly increased the prevalence of certain genetic disorders within certain breeds (hey, collies have an entire eye condition named for them!), it’s not inevitable that maintaining purebred populations will increase genetic disorders. Various cancers plague certain breeds, but the fact that those cancers aren’t more common in purebreds overall means that there are some breeds with lower incidences of those cancers than mixed breeds that are balancing out the higher incidences in some breeds. The decrease in genetic variability that inevitably accompanies maintaining purebred populations doesn’t have to come at a cost of increased incidence of genetic disorders, especially disorders like cancer and orthopedic issues that are regulated by multiple genes.

Pics & Brags

Love me,

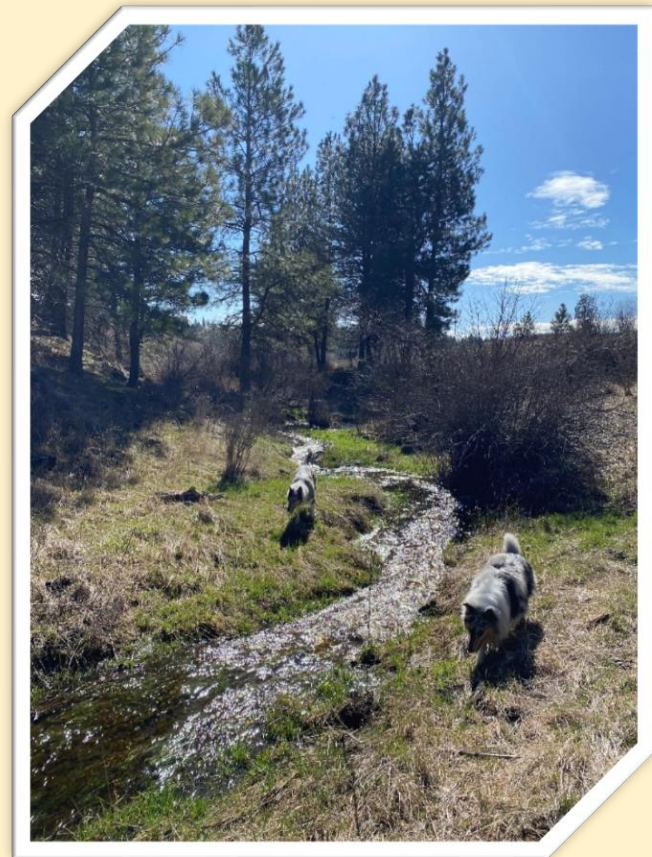
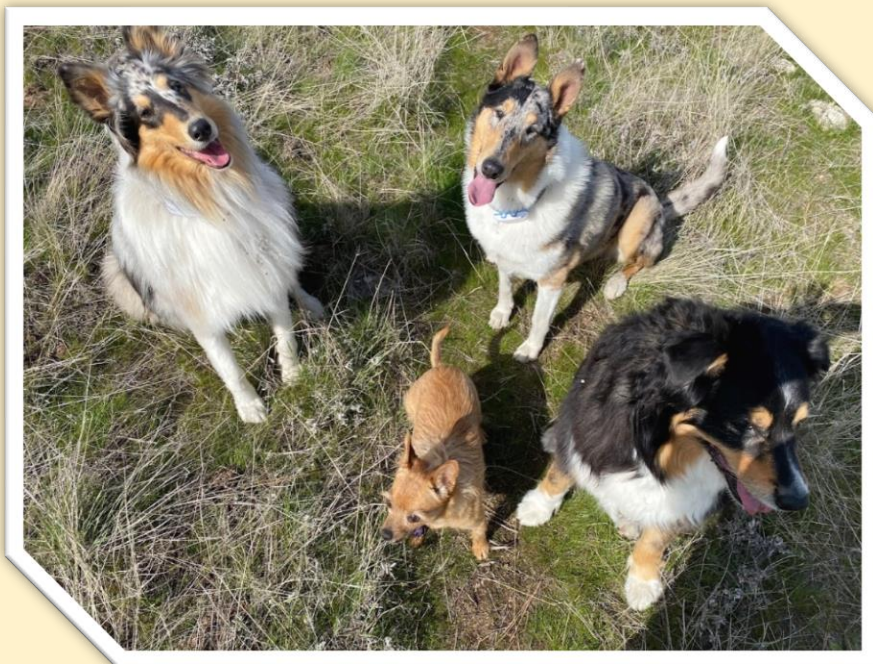
Love my dog.



Fellow collie aficionado and artist, Federica Patriarca's Fur Family - Abe(rough), Flint(border) & small Jaskier (Iggy)

**Federica is making stickers of the collie image used in the Events section of the newsletter if anyone is interested.*

McCauley's Collies & other assorted goofballs - Poppy, Hap, Ursa (little mix) & Sheila (Aussie)



Beautiful Spring Outing

Q: What's a Lassie-fan/botanist's favorite vegetable?



A: Collie-flower!



From top left to right & so on: Q, Stan Lee, Nori, Torrey & Truffle, Echo, Forest

From Suzanne

**CH UCD RO1 Cairdean's Tsesit Stone Sinkona BN RI NA NAJ NAP NJP NFP
CGC - Petra**



Invited to the AKC Rally National Championship Trials

3/02 EMLKC Agility - Open Jumpers Leg - 3 rd Place

3/03 EMLKC Agility - Open Jumpers Leg – 2 nd Place

3/16 CBDTC – Preferred Novice – 193 - 1 st Place

3/16 CBDTC – Graduate Novice – 197 - 1 st Place

3/17 CBDTC – Preferred Novice – 197 – 1 st P

3/17 CBDTC – Graduate Novice – 193 – 1 st Place

3/17 CBDTC – High Preferred Obedience

**GCH CH PACH UCDX URO2 Sinkona's Dream Catcher UD BN GN GO
RE HSAd HSAsM MXP7 MXPG MJP8 MJPG PAX MFP T2BP CA BCAT
CGC GV- ELSA**



2023 #5 Utility Dog Collie

1/27 Overlake Collie Club – Rally Excellent - Collie
2 nd place

1/27 Overlake Collie Club – Rally Advanced - Collie
1 st place – RAE Leg

1/28 Collie Club of Washington – Rally Masters –
Collie 1 st place, All-Breed 3 rd

1/28 Collie Club of Washington – Rally Excellent –
Collie 2 nd place

1/28 Collie Club of Washington – Rally Advanced –
Collie 1 st place, All-Breed 3 rd -

Triple Q & RAE leg

Invited to the AKC Rally National Championship
Trials

3/02 EMLKC Masters Jumpers – Q MJP8 TITLE!!

3/03 EMLKC Masters Standard - 4 th Place

3/03 EMLKC Masters Jumpers – Q

3/15 CBDTC – Rally Advanced B – Q

3/15 CBDTC – Rally Excellent B – 3 rd (Tied for 2
nd settled on time)

3/15 CBTTC – Rally Masters - Q

3/16 CBDTC – Rally Advanced B – 1 st Place

3/16 CBDTC – Rally Excellent B – 3 rd Place

3/16 CBDTC – Rally Masters – 4 th Place (Tied for 2
nd settled on time)

3/16 CBDTC – High Triple Q & High
Advanced/Excellent Combined!!!

3/17 CBDTC - Rally Advanced B – Q (Tied for 3 rd -
settled on time)

3/17 CBDTC – Rally Excellent B – Q – RAE TITLE
!!!!

3/17 CBDTC – Rally Masters – 3 rd (Tied for 1st
settled on time)

AKC 2023 Rankings

Elsa was #5 Utility Dog Collie:

1 HC RACH Skydancer's Diamond In The
Rough VCD2 UD PCDX BN GN GO RM3 RAE2
TDX HSAd HSBd HIAds HIBd HXBd

HSAsM HXAdM AJP XFP BCAT ACT2 ACT2J
SWE SCM SHDN RATN CGCA TKA FITB Sandra
Getz 2,197.5

2 Whitemoor's A Real Paige Turner UD BN GO
RM NAJ SWN SIA SEA Carmen Hurley 1,157.5

3 Foremost Quiet Storm UD BN GN RE FDC OSD
CGCA CGCU TKA Lori F Borenstein 565.0

4 Rosehaeven's High Class Hijinx UD PCD BN
GN RN Dr. Joanna R Nortmann 556.0

**5 GCH CH PACH Sinkona's Dream Catcher
UD BN GN GO RE HSAd HSAsM MXP7 MXPG
MJP7 MJPG PAX MFP T2BP CA BCAT CGC
Linda Marie Ward/Tanya A Ward 537.5**

6 MACH11 Millknock Kelso Daydream Peacemaker
CDX BN GN GO RE FDC MXB4 MJS4 MXP MJP2
MFC TQX NFP T2B10

SWM SEME RATS CGC TKA Jim Smotrel/Judy
Smotrel 383.0

7 CH Chatham's Memory Keeper CDX TD
Sylvia Schultz/Debbie Ferguson 372.5

8 DC Wild Wind's Irresistible VCD1 UD BN
GN GO RN TDX HSAd HIAds HXAds HSAsM
OAJ OF CGC TKI Sally Richardson

369.0

9 Riverrun Galatean Sweet Dreams Of Gold CDX
BN ACT1 TKE Bernice J Goldstein 192.0

10 TC MACH4 Riverrun Galatean Wyndhams Top
Contender VCD2 UD RN HSAds HSBd HSDs HIAs
HIBd HXAds HXBd

MXB2 MJS2 XF NFP Michelle Shoemaker 180.5

And Last but not least,

CH UCD RO1 Sinkona's Black Magic CD BN RI PT OAJ OF NAP CGC –

Ebony

Invited to the AKC Rally National Championship Trials

3/02 EMLKC Open Standard Preferred - 1 st Place OAP TITLE!

3/03 EMLKC T2B – Q



