



# Mid-Atlantic Rat Terrier Club

2016

Issue 2

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In April, the club decided we really wanted to focus on getting some amazing quality educational breed images made. Having high quality illustrations created is not inexpensive, but we felt that it was something very important to help provide better education about our breed. As part of the goal, we reached out to Deb Harpur who helped us organize an online Facebook auction.

Deb is not a current member of our club but that just shows what a wonderful person she is to have helped us achieve our goal. Deb, we know you love the breed and would do anything to help your friends! You're very special to us and we appreciate all the time you gave!

The Auction was a lot of fun and we want to thank everyone who participated by donating items to the auction as well as those who bid on items to win. There was a lot of work done behind the scenes and we really want to express how thankful we are for Deb's involvement and help with this fundraiser! She devoted a lot of time, effort and gave donations that helped us and we appreciate it very much.

I am very pleased to announce that the fundraiser was a great success! We learned a lot from this fundraiser as well and hope to be able to host another event in the future. For now we are very happy to say we raised enough funds to have the full educational project done. In addition, we raised additional funds that we plan to put towards some other educational goals we have had including the membership packets, breed pamphlets, etc.

As I write this, we are at least halfway through the educational project and cannot wait to post it for everyone to see. Just so you know, you don't need to live in the Mid-Atlantic region to be a valuable member of our club, please reach out to us on Facebook or e-mail us if you would like to get involved!

Respectfully,  
Jackie Maye  
Secretary  
Mid-Atlantic Rat Terrier Club

## This 'n That ...

Did you know ... you do not have to live in the Mid-Atlantic region to be a voting member of the club.

By joining you will find a supportive group of like minded friends who have Rat Terriers and who participate at a variety of events with their dogs. You don't even have to participate in any venue to join and still find support from those who love the breed. All you need is to love the Rat Terrier breed. Finding sponsors is pretty easy, just ask and someone will step up. The application is at the back of this newsletter to make it easy for you and you can pay dues via PayPal or snail mail.

Right now our club newsletter is made public, but at some point that will probably not be the case. We welcome contributions in the form of brags about your dog successes in any event (AKC only for conformation), love photos of your dog just being a Rattie, and if you have ideas for something you'd like to see in the newsletter please let us know. Email any newsletter contributions directly to Sandra at [midatlanticrtc@cox.net](mailto:midatlanticrtc@cox.net) OR you can send to the club email at [midatlanticratterrier@yahoo.com](mailto:midatlanticratterrier@yahoo.com).



### Board of Directors

**Amy Miskiewicz ~ President**  
**Tricia McCree ~ Vice-President**  
**Jackie Maye Olsen ~ Secretary**  
**Judith Babarsky ~ Treasurer**

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### Introducing your Newsletter Collaboration Team ...

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**Cory Downey Hart ~ Washington**  
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**Jackie Maye Olsen ~ Pennsylvania**  
**Marcy Stewart ~ Nebraska**  
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We are continually looking for photos, articles, and news to include in a future newsletter. Please send us anything that you think might be of interest. Providing us with URL links for potential items is welcome too. We LOVE photos of the Rat Terrier doing those things that they were bred to do, plus any of them doing the various performance events (Lure coursing, Barn Hunt, rally or obedience, agility, and on and on). Help us make this newsletter something that you look forward to and want to keep.

## Treasurers Report

### TREASURER'S REPORT JUNE 10, 2016

The biggest news for this newsletter is the HUGE success of our online auction! A BIG thanks to Deb Harpur for organizing this event and for all who helped her (especially Sandra Ball, Jackie Maye Olsen and Stacy McWilliams) as well as those who donated and/or purchased items. The auction netted the Club approximately just under \$1,950. These monies will be used to fund our educational projects (a requirement to keep our tax-exempt status) for 2016. To this end the Club has engaged Molly Yang of Dog Works (an amazing artist!) to depict in drawings the Rat Terrier as he conforms to the breed standard. We also have developed two pamphlets that will be part of the member packets and used at shows for breed education. We continue to look for ways and venues in which to disseminate our Rat Terrier Color Chart (our educational project for 2015).

The Club also continues to receive money donations from generous benefactors to help fund our various projects. In addition to these direct donations, an easy way to support the Club is to make your Amazon purchases through [www.smile.amazon.com](http://www.smile.amazon.com). Choose to support Mid-Atlantic Rat Terrier Club and it costs you nothing – Amazon will donate .01% of your purchase to our Club as we are an eligible non-profit corporation. We have received \$27.02 from this effort for the first part of 2016 – not a lot of money, but certainly a help for no real effort on our part. If you have any questions, please contact a Board member to explain the process.

Remember that as a 501c3 tax exempt corporation effective August 26, 2015 your donations to the Club are tax deductible on your tax return! Contact the Treasurer if you need documentation for this purpose.

We continue to work on consistency in tracking membership applications and renewals as well as finalizing plans for a member package (no ... we haven't forgotten about that!) – I believe that Jackie addresses this issue in the newsletter. It's never too late to get your membership renewals in! The application is available on the Facebook page and payment can be made through PayPal or via check. We're still working on making it possible to accept credit card payments.

The current TOTAL balance as of May 31, 2016 in both the PNC Bank Account and the Club PayPal Account is \$2,584.89, broken down as \$958.98 in the bank and \$1,625.91 in PayPal. The Treasurer's Reports for December 2015 through May 2016 will be up on the Member's Facebook Page soon.

As always, I want to thank everyone for ALL that you do, both large and small, to promote our club and our efforts to make it the BEST club for Rat Terrier lovers.

Judith R. Babarsky  
Treasurer



# Pretty as a Picture



**CH Skippin CJ I Ain't Know Fool aka Cowboy. Cowboy is Renee's best squirrel dog.**

**Photo by Rene Morgan**





## Primary Lens Luxation (PLL)

By Sandra Ball and Stacy McWilliams

Whether we like it or not, PLL exists in the Rat Terrier Dog breed. Fortunately, to date, quite a few Rat Terriers have been tested and recorded in the OFA database. Of those, we are seeing carrier, clear and affected (at risk) recorded in the database statistics at this time. It is nearly certain, if we have carriers that have already been detected; we have more dogs carrying both genes that are not reported in the database via proactive testing. Shown below are OFA database results as of December 31, 2015 for all tests done by the University of Missouri through the OFA.

RAT TERRIER		
CLEAR	762	63%
CARRIER	426	35%
AT RISK	30	2%
TOTAL TESTED	1218	

The question which many might ask is why should it matter? It is just another genetic test that we have available for our beloved breed. While that is true, PLL is the most serious of the current eye issues for which we actually have a genetic test available. The information provided by this test can help prevent breeding's which produce offspring at risk for primary lens luxation. PLL could also be considered a breed set back.

Here are the OFA recorded results from 2009 – 2015:

Report Year	Cases	Normal	% Normal	Carrier	% Carrier	At Risk	% At Risk
2009	52	32	61.5	18	34.6	2	3.9
2010	434	275	63.4	142	32.7	17	3.9
2011	224	140	62.5	77	34.4	7	3.1
2012	143	85	59.4	54	37.8	4	2.8
2013	154	91	59.1	63	40.9	0	0
2014	146	92	63.0	3	2.1	51	34.9
2015	103	75	72.8	1	1.0	27	26.2
<b>Totals</b>	<b>1256</b>	<b>790</b>	<b>62.9</b>	<b>358</b>	<b>34.4</b>	<b>108</b>	<b>2.7</b>

\*Editor's Note: statistic totals have been adjusted to reflect a correction of numbers listed by OFA so that the totals reflect cases listed in each category for each year. Bottom totals agree with OFA. These stats represent RECORDED genetic tests beyond only those done by the University of Missouri. Personal calculation of % carrier gives 28.5 and % at risk gives 8.6 results.

## What is PLL?

I first heard about PLL in reference to the Bull Terrier breed and then learned that there were other breeds also carrying the genes for it including the Rat Terrier. PLL is a potentially very painful condition that requires immediate veterinary intervention. It is inherited as a simple recessive trait, so a dog needs to possess two copies of the mutated gene before they will show the disease. The average age for a dog to luxate is 4-8 years of age, although some do not do so until later. Results can be clear, carrier, and affected (at risk). Inheritance calculations are explained below:

**TT** - means that the chromosomes that carry the alleles for a certain characteristic both have a dominant gene.

**Tt** - means that one of the chromosomes of a pair has a dominant gene while the other has a recessive gene for the certain characteristic.

**tt** - means that the chromosomes that carry the alleles for a certain characteristic both have a recessive gene.

Cross a homozygous dominant "Clear" Rat Terrier (TT) with a homozygous recessive "At Risk" Rat Terrier (tt).

	t	t
T	Tt	Tt
T	Tt	Tt



One dominant gene from the phenotypically (physical characteristic) **Clear** Rat Terrier (TT) is crossed with one recessive gene from the phenotypically **At Risk** (tt) to produce puppies with the genotype of Tt. It shows that 100% of the offspring of the cross between TT and tt will be “**Carriers**” and Tt will be their genotype.

If two “**carrier**” Tt Rat Terriers were to be crossed:

	T	t
T	TT	Tt
t	Tt	tt

Approximately:

- 25% of the offspring will have the genotype of TT. **Clear**
- 50% of the offspring will have the genotype of Tt. **Carriers**
- 25% of the offspring will have the genotype of tt. **At Risk**

The pain could be described as being migraine-like if the lens luxates in the wrong direction because of the resulting glaucoma:

**How does Glaucoma affect the eye?**

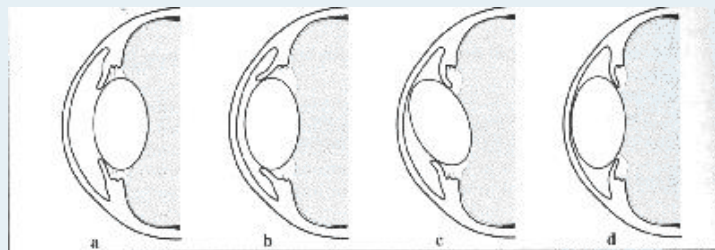
- **Pain.** Increased intraocular pressure (IOP) is painful. Dogs, cats, and humans have normal IOPs between 10 and 20 mmHg. Glaucoma often results in pressures of 20–28 mmHg in humans, but pressures of 30 mmHg and higher (often higher than 50 mmHg!) are common in dogs and cats. For this reason, glaucoma in pets is usually much more painful than glaucoma in humans. The pain persists in the form of a constant headache or migraine. Animals show pain in different ways than humans do—in ways that are often not noted by the owner. Pain from glaucoma is usually not obvious to most owners—it can result in decreased activity, less desire to play, irritability, and/or decreased appetite—but is often not apparent at all to the owner. There is usually no squinting nor rubbing of the eye... **Your pet will not let you know that they have a headache and that their eye is uncomfortable.**

I have obtained permission from Dr. Michael Zigler, DVM to use the information below from his website, [www.eyevet.ca/luxlens.html](http://www.eyevet.ca/luxlens.html) and it is my hope that it will help improve the understanding about PLL and encourage more active genetic testing so we can eradicate this as much as possible from our wonderful Rat Terriers. I also obtained permission from Dr. Glenn A Severin, DVM to use the graphic that he created for his book Severin’s Veterinary Ophthalmology Notes. I am grateful to both for their willingness to share their work.

## What happens when the lens luxates?

An anteriorly luxated lens is extremely serious, because it blocks the flow of the aqueous fluid in the eye. This often results in the acute onset of glaucoma. We often use the term pupillary block glaucoma since the luxated lens itself and some displaced vitreous obstructs the flow of aqueous through the pupil. There are, however, other causes of pupillary block glaucoma. In dogs, it is generally accepted that within 72 hours, the elevated pressure in the eye will cause irreversible damage to the optic nerve and retina. In addition, the anteriorly luxated lens may cause corneal damage by injuring the endothelial layer of cells which help keep the cornea clear. Corneal edema of varying severity may be the result.

A posteriorly luxated lens can also cause glaucoma since the vitreous is displaced forward and can block the drainage angle.



Normal lens position

Anterior luxation forcing the iris forward. This results in a very shallow anterior chamber  
 Lens is partially through the pupil. If the lens touches the cornea, edema of the cornea will result

Complete anterior luxation. The anterior chamber is very deep as it contains the whole lens.  
 Pupillary block is present.

## Treatment

The first step in planning treatment for a dog or cat with a lens luxation is a careful assessment of the prospect for vision in the eye. If the lens luxation is longstanding and if there is glaucoma greater than 72 hours in duration, or if there is hemorrhage in the eye the chances of saving vision is reduced. If the lens luxation is recent, and if the glaucoma is not severe, and the retina and optic disc still look healthy, then there may be a reasonable chance of saving vision with surgery. In this case the surgery done is called an intracapsular lens extraction where the lens is removed with its capsule or covering intact. This requires a larger incision into the eye than traditional cataract surgery, and since the lens capsule is being removed, it is difficult, but not impossible, to replace the lens with an artificial lens (IOL). In many cases, it is also necessary to remove some of the vitreous which has also herniated forward. This is called a vitrectomy.

In some cases the patient is presented with the lens subluxated (partially luxated). If there is no pupillary block or glaucoma present, then medications may be used in an effort to keep the pressure low, and to keep the pupil relatively constricted to reduce the chance of anterior luxation. In some cases, where mild or intermittent glaucoma is present, laser surgery may help stabilize the intraocular pressure. Frequent re-examinations are required as the situation may change to true luxation in some cases.



If the eye has been blinded as a result of the glaucoma caused by the lens luxation, then emergency lens removal surgery will not benefit the situation. If the eye is painful, something must be done to relieve the pain. The two main solutions (also discussed on the glaucoma page), are enucleation (removal) of the eye, or an intrascleral prosthesis procedure where the contents of the eye are removed and replaced with a silicon ball, in many cases resulting in a comfortable blind eye with a very reasonable cosmetic appearance.

## What about the other eye?

Examination of the fellow eye, especially in the terrier breeds predisposed to lens luxation may reveal a looseness or wobble to the lens as the head moves. This is due to weakness in the zonular ligaments and in such a case future luxation is likely. In these cases, preventative lens removal may be best, in an effort to prevent a crisis. Medical management by an observant owner is also an option, but should lens luxation occur, emergency surgery will be required.

\*\*\*\*\*

The test is a simple swab test and can be ordered from [www.offa.org](http://www.offa.org) for \$65.00 per dog and returned to the University of Missouri for analysis. There is a list of several laboratories that OFA accepts PLL test results from on the OFA site. OFA requires a \$15 with their form to record in the database, if you submit 5 or more test results for recording the fee is \$7.50. [www.offa.org](http://www.offa.org)

## SOURCES

University of Missouri, College of Veterinary Medicine, Gary Johnson, DVM and Elizabeth A. Giuliano, DVM,

Project Coordinator Liz Hansen, <http://www.caninegeneticdiseases.net/GLX/mainGLX.htm>, October 15, 2009.

Animal Eye Care, LLC., Glaucoma, 2013, <http://www.animaleyecare.net/diseases/glaucoma.htm>

Eyevet.info, Zigler Veterinary Professional Corporation, Dr. Michael Zigler D.V.M., Cert. V. Ophthal, with significant contributions by Dr. Dennis Hacker, Dr. Julie Gionfriddo and Dr. James Schoster. 2006, [www.eyevet.ca](http://www.eyevet.ca)

## COMING NEXT ISSUE!!

Jackie Maye will discuss the various options open to someone who owns a dog that has tested affected (possesses both genes) by virtue of the genetic testing or diagnosed with PLL.

## OFA'S POLICY ON DNA CLEAR BY PARENTAGE

As a greater number of DNA based disease tests become available, a policy regarding the clearing of offspring out of DNA tested parents has become necessary.

For direct mutant gene tests only, the OFA will issue clearances to untested offspring, if the sire and dam have both been DNA tested “clear,” if the sire and dam’s DNA disease test results have been OFA registered, and if all three (sire/dam/offspring) have been DNA identity profiled and parentage verified. The DNA profile paperwork must be submitted along with a completed OFA DNA-based disease test application. The resulting OFA certification will have a suffix of “CBP” (clear by parentage), indicating that the dog itself was not tested and that the clearance was based on the sire and dam’s test results, and known science at the time. Because of the possibility of new mutations or as of yet undiscovered gene mutations, only first generation offspring will be cleared.

For linkage or marker based tests where a margin of error including both false positives and negatives exists, the OFA will not issue any clearances to untested dogs.

DNA based disease screening is an evolving area. This policy is subject to change by action of the OFA Board of Directors as technology and science advance.

## CANINE HEALTH INFORMATION CENTER (CHIC)

### **Do test results have to be normal?**

No, CHIC is not about normalcy. CHIC is meant to encourage health testing and sharing of all results, normal and abnormal, so that more informed breeding decisions can be made in an overall effort to reduce the incidence of genetic disease and improve canine health. Submission must be placed in the open database for sharing of normal and abnormal results.

Editor note: The CHIC number and symbol are used to reflect those dogs that have breeders actively pursuing genetic testing on their breeding stock and have completed at least all of the required tests for that breed. Given the debilitating effect of PLL, it is hoped that both National breed clubs (UKC and AKC) will soon add the PLL test to the requirement and discontinue the optional test option for the CHIC number.

<http://www.caninehealthinfo.org/>

## OFA DATA BASE STATS

Editor note: I inquired about the statistics that are recorded in the OFA Data Base and was told “All results (normal and abnormal) are included in the stats.” This reflects whether they have been made public or not by the pet owner because statistics are anonymous and just a reflection of the breed as a whole. Of course, the statistics will NOT reflect all the dogs that have been tested for the PLL gene if they were not tested by the University of Missouri lab. The MU lab is the only one that is automatically recorded in the database at the time of test. Other testing lab results must be submitted with the proper form and fee to OFA for recording and to help make the statistics more reflective of the breed as a whole.

[www.offa.org](http://www.offa.org)



# Construction in Relation to Movement

By Karen Hedberg, DVM

*(Editor note: there is a skeletal illustration at the end of this article to show where the various points discussed are located)*

This article is an attempt to give a shortened version about construction as it relates to movement of the dog. The whys and wherefores of the main points are discussed. Should you wish to pursue this further, there are several very good books that explain construction and movement in greater detail.

Before we analyse the points of the dog, an overall view of the animal must first be obtained. How does the animal appear to you? Does it look like a representative of its breed? Is it balanced in its angulations front to rear? When moving, is your impression one of all parts flowing harmoniously, or three dogs trying to move at the one time?

To assess soundness of construction and movement, it is important to understand the 'bits' that make up the dog. Every dog has the same type and number of bones (apart from length of tail) but the relative lengths of the bones give the great variation of appearance to the breeds. There are ideal proportions written down for each breed (the 'standard'), but the basic bone structure is similar. Ideal proportions for each breed usually relate to two main areas: - 1. height (at the wither) and length (from the point of the chest or prosternum to the rear edge of the pelvis or ischium) and 2. depth of chest (wither to the lower edge of the chest) to length of leg (usually measured from the point of the elbow to the ground). The proportions combined with the angulations that are ideal for the breed combine to produce the characteristic movement of the breed.

Think of the dog as a system of levers and pulleys. The back acts as a bridge connecting the front and rear assemblies. If the ratio of the lengths of the bones of the front and rear are even, then the dog is balanced for that breed. The ideal lengths vary between breeds, but the principle always holds.

When trying to justify why relative lengths of different bones give better movement than others, one can go quite insane if you try to fit all breeds of dog to the one idea. Having bred German Shepherds, my idea of an ideal construction is very different to someone with a toy dog or a Greyhound. The best way to look at dog construction is through function. What is the function of the breed, what is the characteristic movement for that breed and so on?

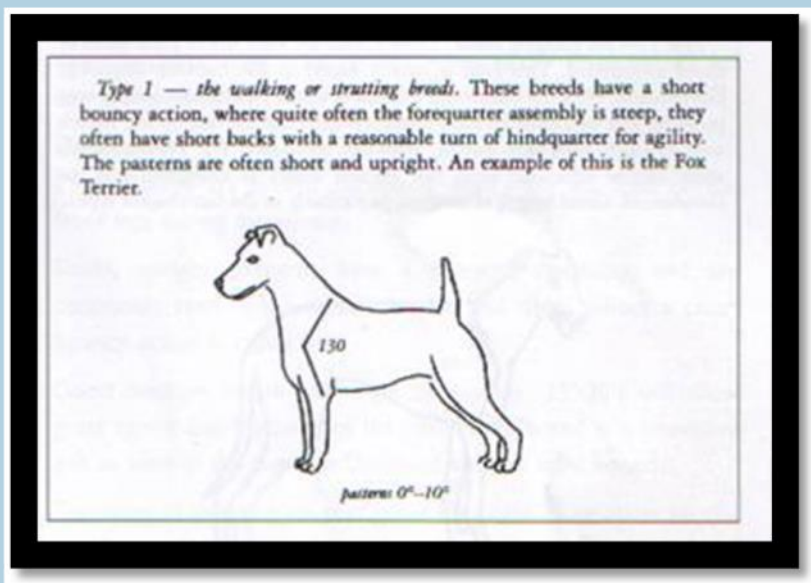
## Movement and construction by function

To try to group different construction and movement 'styles', I would divide dogs into three broad categories: -

1. The walking or strutting dog, e.g. Fox Terrier.
2. The trotting dog, e.g. the German Shepherd
3. The galloping dog, e.g. the Greyhound

All the breeds range between these three types depending on size, function and individual breed selection characteristics e.g. Such as the need to work in muddy conditions in the Belgian Shepherds, others are required to be exceptionally flexible and nimble e.g. the Kelpie.

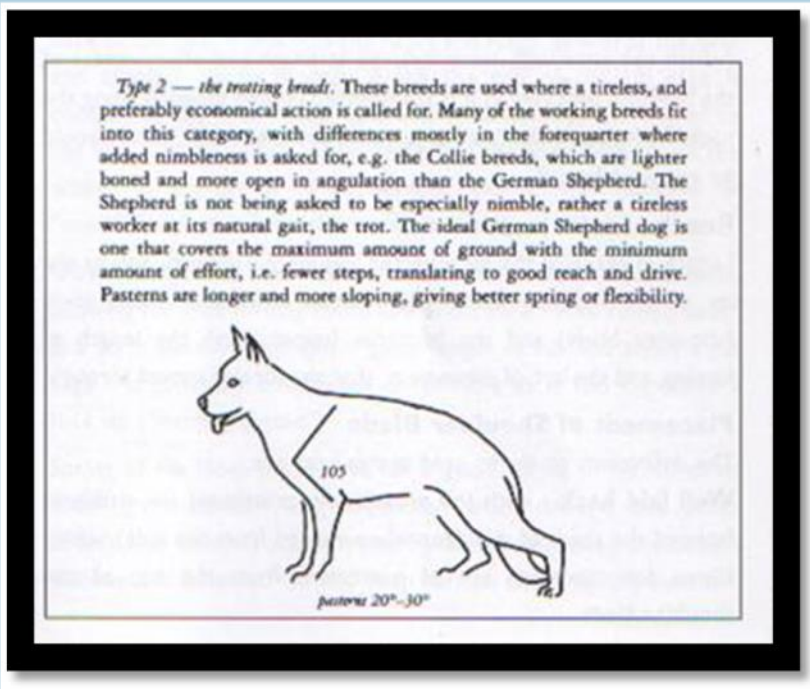
Type 1 – the walking or strutting breeds. These breeds have a short bouncy action, where quite often the forequarter assembly is steep, they often have short backs with a reasonable turn of hindquarter for agility. The pasterns are often short and upright, usually asking for short tight feet. An example of this is the Fox Terrier.



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Pasterns 0° - 10°

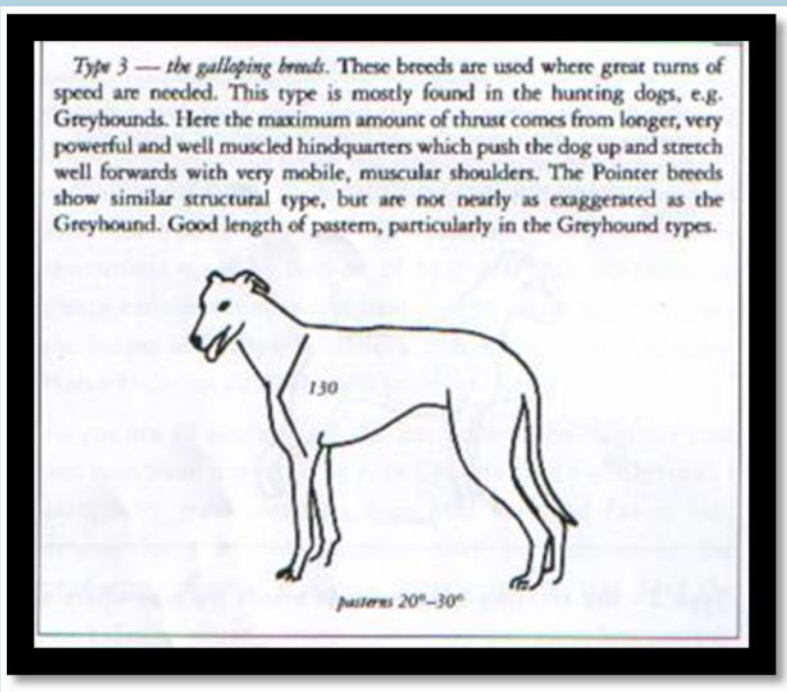
Type 2 – the trotting breeds. These breeds are used where a tireless and preferably economical trotting action is called for. Many of the working breeds fit into this category, with differences mostly in the forequarter where added nimbleness is asked for, e.g. the Collie breeds, which are lighter boned and more open in angulation than the German Shepherd. The Shepherd is not being asked to be especially nimble, rather a tireless worker at its natural gait, the trot. The ideal German Shepherd dog is one that covers the maximum amount of ground with the minimum amount of effort, i.e. fewer steps, translating to good reach and drive. Pasterns are longer and more sloping, giving better spring or flexibility, feet toe length medium to short, preferably with tight ligaments.



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Pasterns 20° - 30°

Type 3 – the galloping breeds. These breeds are used where great turns of speed are needed. This type is mostly found in the hunting dogs, particularly in the sight hounds e.g. Greyhounds. Here the maximum amount of thrust comes from longer, very powerful and well muscled hindquarters which push the dog up and stretch well forwards with very mobile, muscular shoulders, and very flexible pasterns. The feet have medium to long toes with “flatter” but still very flexible toes.



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Pasterns 20° - 30°

## Forequarter Angulation and Movement

This is made up of several major components, being placement of shoulder, height at the wither, relative lengths of the shoulder blade, upper arm, foreleg and pastern – these all combine to determine the length of reach of the dog. The effectiveness of the reach will ultimately also be affected by the chest formation (which can alter with maturity), the strength and effectiveness of the hindquarter drive as it is transmitted up and forward along the back. With good balance of angulation, both reach and drive should be equally effective.

### Reach

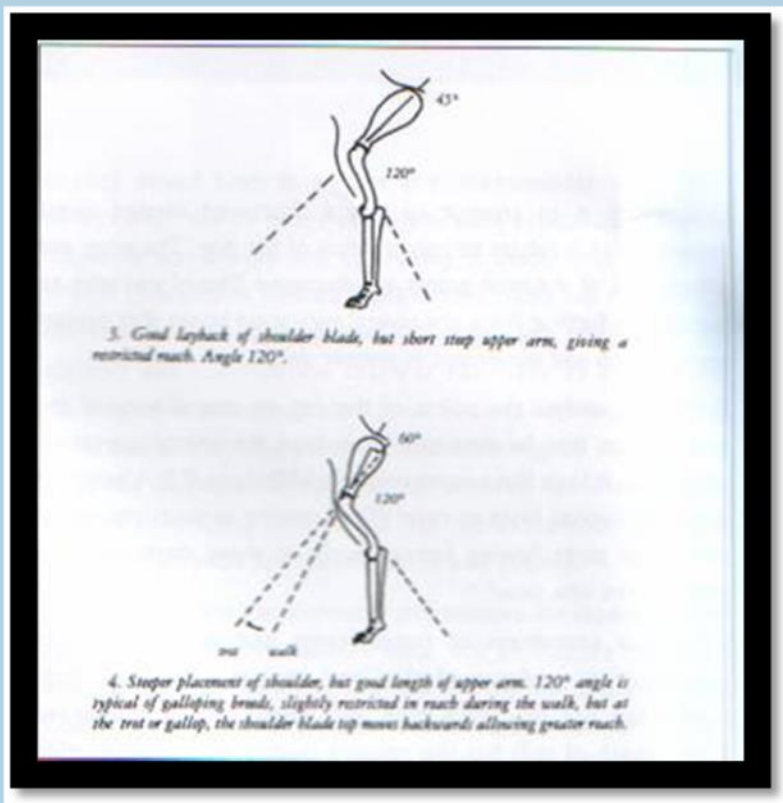
Length of reach of the forequarter assembly is determined by the lay of the shoulder blade, the relative lengths of the scapula (shoulder blade) and the humerus (upper arm), the length of foreleg, and the 'arc of movement' that the foreleg moves through.

### Placement of Shoulder Blade

The definitions or terms used in this area are:

Well laid back – with the prosternum prominent (i.e. visible in front of the point of shoulder when viewed from the side), which allows for maximum arc of movement from the top of the shoulder blade.

Upright (steep) – lacking prosternum – level with the point of shoulder or not visible when viewed from the side. The effect on movement at the trot is one of loose elbows (or lack of support by the chest) when seen coming towards one.



3, Good layback of shoulder blade, but short steep upper arm, giving a restricted reach. Angle 120°

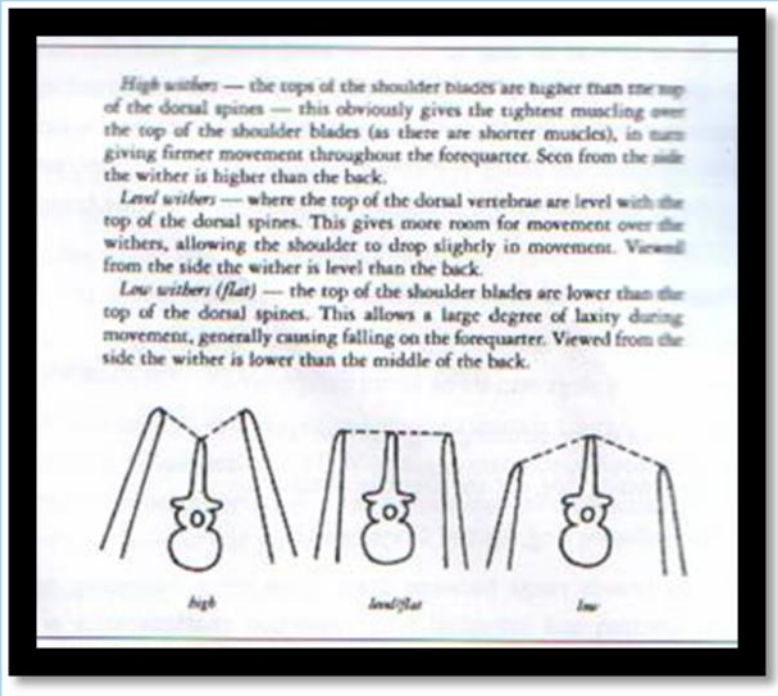
4. Steeper placement of shoulder, has good length of upper arm. 120° angle is typical of galloping breeds, slightly restricted in reach during the walk, but at the trot or gallop, the shoulder blade top moves backwards allowing greater reach.

The wither is the area along the top of the shoulder blades, which obviously in turn relates to the placement of the shoulder. Most breeds call for a prominent or well developed wither – which can have a different meaning between breeds. When viewing the dog from the side, the withers should be higher than the middle of the back (in most breeds – lower in the OESD). [Old English Sheep Dog]

The *height of wither* is determined by how high the top of the shoulder blades are relative to the top of the dorsal spines of the vertebrae of the back.

High withers – the tops of the shoulder blades are higher than the top of the dorsal spines – this obviously gives the tightest musculing over the top of the shoulder blades (as there are shorter muscles), in turn giving firmer movement throughout the forequarter. Seen from the side the wither is higher than the middle of the back.





High withers – the tops of the shoulder blades are higher than the top of the dorsal spines – this obviously gives the tightest muscling over the top of the shoulder blades (as there are shorter muscles), in turn giving firmer movement throughout the forequarter. Seen from the side the wither is higher than the back.

Level withers – where the top of the dorsal vertebrae are level with the top of the dorsal spines. This gives more room for movement over the withers, allowing the shoulder to drop slightly in movements. Viewed from the side the wither is level [with] the back.

Low withers (flat) – the top of the shoulder blades are lower than the top of the dorsal spines. This allows a great degree of laxity during movement, generally causing falling on the forequarter. Viewed from the side the wither is lower than the middle of the back.

Level withers – where the top of the dorsal vertebrae are level with the top of the dorsal spines. This gives more room for movement over the withers, allowing the shoulder to drop slightly in movement. Viewed from the side the withers is level with the back.

Flat withers (low) – the top of the shoulder blades are lower than the top of the dorsal spines. This allows a large degree of laxity during movement, generally causing falling on the forequarter. Viewed from the side the wither is lower than the middle of the back.

\*\* If there is balanced movement, the wither should remain slightly above the line of the back during movement, hence the term “maintained a good (or high) wither at all speeds while gaiting”

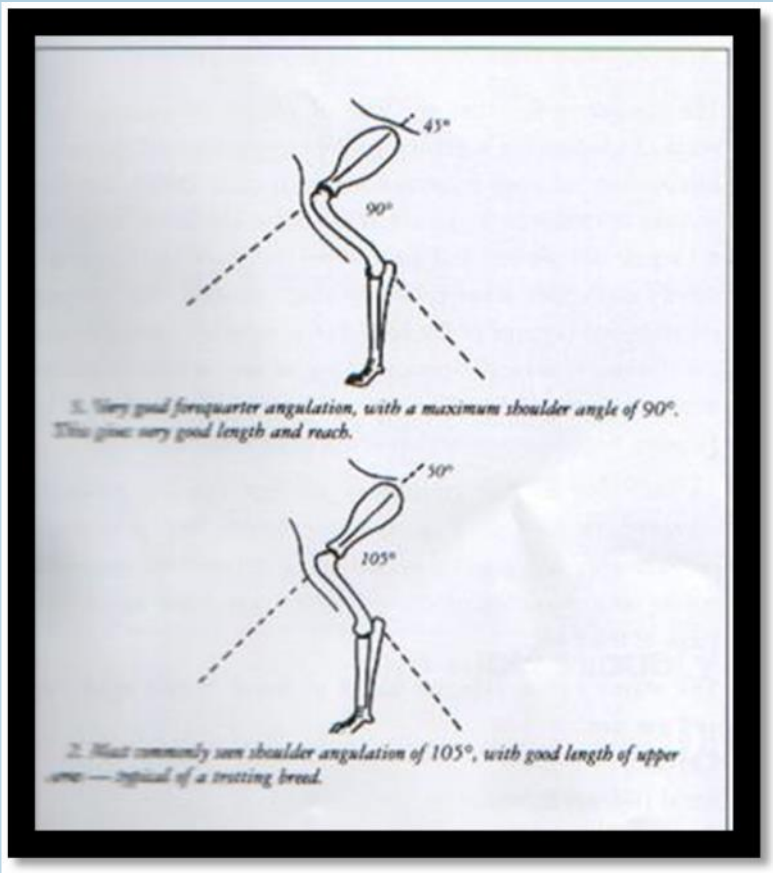
### Forequarter angulation

Diagrams of the good and the ugly.

1. Very good forequarter angulation, with a maximum shoulder angle of 90° i.e. very good lay back of shoulder and very good length and lay of upper arm. This gives maximum length and reach.
2. Most commonly seen shoulder angulation of 105°, with reasonable lay of shoulder and good length of upper arm, but slightly steep in placement – typical of a trotting breed. Good to very good reach.
3. Good lay back of shoulder blade, but short steep upper arm, giving a restricted reach. Angle 120°. With a short steep upper arm, one is more likely to see a rather hackneyed gait in front.







1. Very good forequarter angulation, with a maximum shoulder angle of 90°. This gives very good length and reach.

2. Most commonly seen shoulder angulation of 105°, with good length of upper arm – typical of a trotting breed.

4. Steeper placement of shoulder, but good length of upper arm. 120° angle is typical of galloping breeds, slightly restricted in reach during the walk, but at the trot or gallop, the shoulder blade moves backwards allowing for greater reach.

\*\* In summary, the longer the upper arm (humerus), the better the reach, regardless of the length and lay of the shoulder blade.

Length of foreleg – each breed usually a fairly definite ratio of the length of foreleg relative to the height at wither and the depth of chest. In the GSD, this should ideally be 45% chest to 55% leg, i.e. more leg than chest. Adult bitches may approach 50/50 by full maturity. Too short in foreleg, and or too deep in chest, both conditions detract from the ideal and will restrict the length of reach. Where dogs are excessively deep in chest, they tend to tire more easily when gaited for any length of time.

### Pasterns

The pasterns act as the cushioning device for the load on the front legs during movement.

Short, upright pasterns have a reduced flexibility, and are commonly seen in the terrier breeds and those where a short bouncy action is called for.

Good medium length and angle of pasterns (15°- 20°) will allow great spring and flexibility of the pastern, reflected in a smoother gait as seen in the German Shepherd and the sight hounds.

Too long in pastern or too great an angle in relation to the foreleg, will result in loss of spring, over extension of the ligaments and a looseness (padding effect) when viewed from the front-on during movement. If severe, the dog will fall on the forehand.

Length of body – this is made up of several sections, and if correctly measured, is done so from the front of the prosternum to the end of the pelvis (the ischium). It is made up of the rib cage, the loin and the width of the hindquarters:

Rib cage – this area is from the prosternum in the front of the back of the ribs. It protects the heart and lungs, as well as the liver and stomach more caudally. Along the top of the rib cage is considered the true “back” and this extends from the wither to the loin. {\*Many people when describing the back do so from the wither to the croup, or conversely, refer to the “backline” or “topline” as a unit from the wither to the base of tail.}

Good length of rib – is considered a virtue in most breeds, allowing for greater lung room and endurance. “Well ribbed back” is a term used to highlight a good length of rib. Too short a rib cage – is generally considered undesirable as is too excessive a tuck up (“herring gutted”).

Spring of rib Most breeds ask for a good spring of rib, so as to allow for maximum lung expansion when needed, but other breeds may deem it attractive to e barrel ribbed, e.g. the British Bulldog, and some go for the deep narrow chest, e.g. the Borzoi.

The spring of rib when viewed from the front will affect the stance of the dog (see diagrams below).

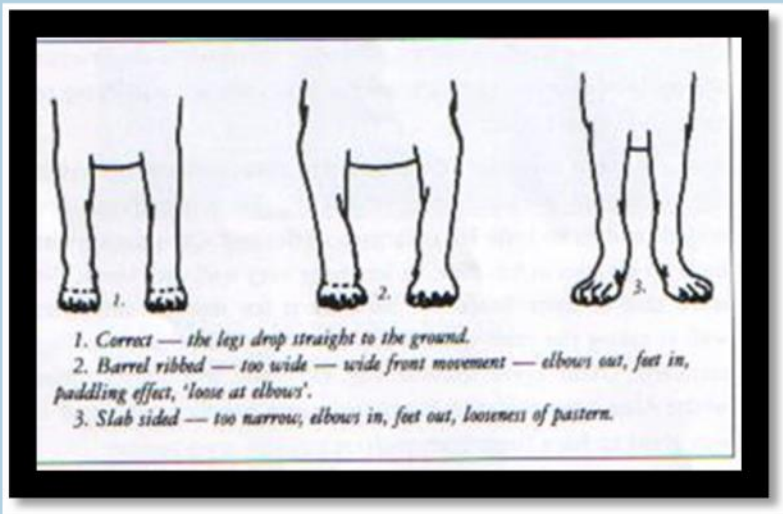
The chest – generally refers to the forward section of the rib cage and must be looked at both from the front to see spring of rib and the side to see the depth – generally it should reach to the elbows (when viewed from the front), both result with insufficient support for the elbows, and looseness of elbows will result. Forward placement of the shoulders will similarly result in insufficient support for the elbows during movement.

Chests will with maturity, “drop” and broaden, and the elbows will become firmer. Too much chest development can result in excessive depth of chest relative to height and this will start to cause restrictions in reach and reduction in endurance. This can be seen more commonly in bitches after one or two litters. Narrow deep chested dogs have a higher risk of being affected by bloat as they get older.

From the side, the placement of shoulder relative to the chest becomes more obvious. Well laid back shoulder blade will generally have a good (more prominent) prosternum. Forward placed or steep shoulder blades have very little or no prosternum visible from the side view.

**Stance in front (average breeds) – Diagrams**

1. Correct – the legs drop straight to the ground. Elbows close to the sides of the chest, should move with tight elbows
2. Barrel ribbed – too wide – wide front movement – elbows out, feet in, paddling effect, “loose at elbows” and/or “out at elbow”
3. Slab sided – stands too narrow, elbows in, feet out (“east west”), looseness of elbow. Shallow chested dogs are similarly affected.



1. Correct – the legs drop straight to the ground.
2. Barrel ribbed – too wide – wide front movement – elbows out, feet in, paddling effect, ‘loose at elbows’.
3. Slab sided – too narrow, elbows in, feet out, looseness of pastern.

**Back**

The back is an area which many people overlook as it seems to be so obvious that it connects the back end to the front. The back is, in effect, a bridge between the two halves of the dog, and the strongest bridge has a slight rise over its apex. The ideal back is firm in movement. Movement of the back will cause loss of forward drive.

The length of back can also affect movement. If it is too short, the movement is restricted, and the dog is unable to drive properly; if it is too long, there will be bounce and loss of drive (see section on coupling).

The overall “backline” or “topline” where one is referring to the outline from the wither to the tail base can be greatly affected by the strength of ligamentation as well as the relative lengths of the back, loin and croup.

Roached backs - \*\*If the middle of the back is arching up higher than the wither *during movement*, this is termed a roached back and is incorrect in most breeds.

Some breeds, notably GSD’s can be quite strongly ligamented over the back when young, and while standing may have a “roached” appearance. Additionally, many handlers unfortunately create this impression by setting puppies up in exaggerated stances. During movement, most of this rise should disappear. This effect should settle by 12-24 months, and while a firm back during movement is desirable, excessive roaching during movement even in the younger classes is not desirable.

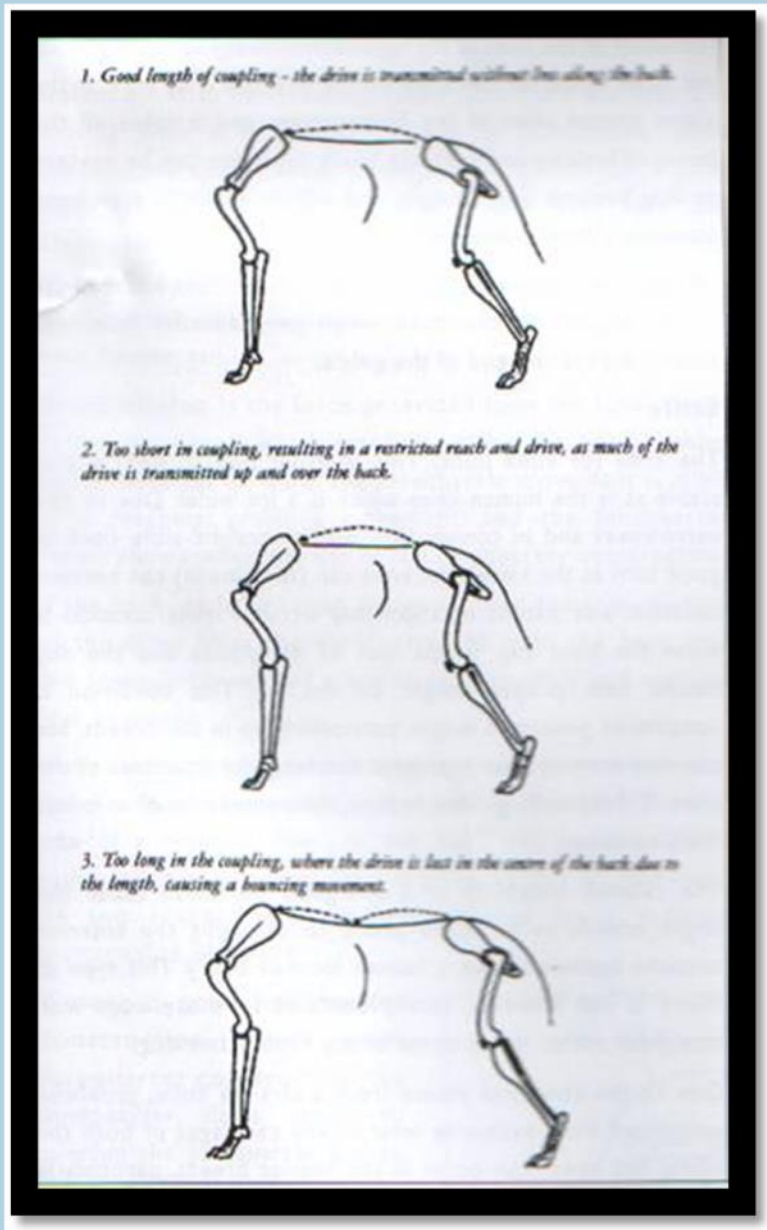
As dogs age (particularly over 6 years of age), the ligaments stretch, lose some firmness, and the back transmission will suffer.

The loin – this refers to the section from the end of the rib cage to the wing of the pelvis and consists of lumber vertebrae. Most standards call for well developed musculing in this area, which generally should translate in movement in firm ligaments over this section of the backline.

There is considerable variation between breeds as to what is considered ideal length. The length of loin or “the coupling” is what creates most of the impression of length of body when considering the height to length proportions of a dog. Forward placed or steep shoulders can also give an impression of greater length of body.

Dogs which are too short in the coupling cannot extend properly while gaiting. Tall well angulated dogs that are short coupled cannot get their hindquarters under themselves sufficiently to drive effectively from their hocks. Most of the thrust of movement goes upwards, not forwards. Dogs which are too long in the coupling dissipate much of the forward drive along the back, particularly if the ligaments of the back are soft. The result is a back which bounces during movement.

1. Good length of coupling – the drive is transmitted with minimal loss along the back (providing the ligamentation is good).
2. Too short in coupling, can if well angulated result in a restriction of reach and drive, as much of the drive is transmitted up and over the back. If this is combined with a low or level wither, the effect seen is “falling on the forehead” – a desired trait in the OESD.



1. Good length of coupling – the drive is transmitted without loss along the back.

2. Too short coupling, resulting in a restricted reach and drive, as much of the drive is transmitted up and over the back.

3. Too long in the coupling, where the drive is lost in the centre of the back due to the length, causing a bouncing movement.

3. Too long in the coupling, where the drive is lost in the centre of the back due to the length, causing a bouncing movement. If combined with soft ligaments, the effect can produce a “swamp” or “dip back”.

### Croup

The croup is the area from where the “wing” or front edge of the pelvis starts to the base of the tail. The length and angle of the croup affects the eventual width of thigh as seen from the side. While there are only small relative variations in the actual length of pelvis’ within a breed (bar a small variation for male versus female), the angle of the croup and the set of tail can very definitely visually alter the length seen when judging.

The angle of the croup affects the angle at which the hindquarters functions. Some believe that the croup has little effect, but most agree that too short and steep a croup, results in loss of hindquarter drive through an upwards rather than forwards motion. Ideally, a croup should be of good length and laid at a gentle angle to the back so that the drive up through the hindquarter flows forwards along the back without a break. A croup that is too short and in particular, too steep will considerably reduce the arc of movement that is possible from the hindquarter, resulting in restrictions in drive.



1. At 40° - too steep, where the angle of drive is too high, causing the back to rise during movement. Restricted in rear swing of the hindquarter due to the steep croup.
2. At 22° - croup good, the angle of drive is not too steep, where the thrust is forwards along the back. Good swing of the hindquarter (both forwards and backwards) is allowed by the croup.
3. At 10° - croup too flat, angle of drive is lower than the back, and considerable thrust is lost as it is not transmitted forwards. The forward reach of the hindquarters is slightly restricted.

The angle of the croup should ideally flow in smooth line from the backline, allowing for maximum transmission of drive along the back. The ideal angle of the croup would be between 20°-30° (from the line of the back). This variation is needed to allow for differences in lengths of backs and croups. The stronger back would probably tend to the 30°, whereas the longer back would tend to the 20°. The steeper the angle of the croup, the more it will affect the forward motion of the drive or hindquarter thrust.

The angle of the croup can change with age – young dogs with strong (dare we say slightly roached backs) may be rather steep in the croup, as the back settles down, so the angle of the croup may improve (seen around 12-24 months).

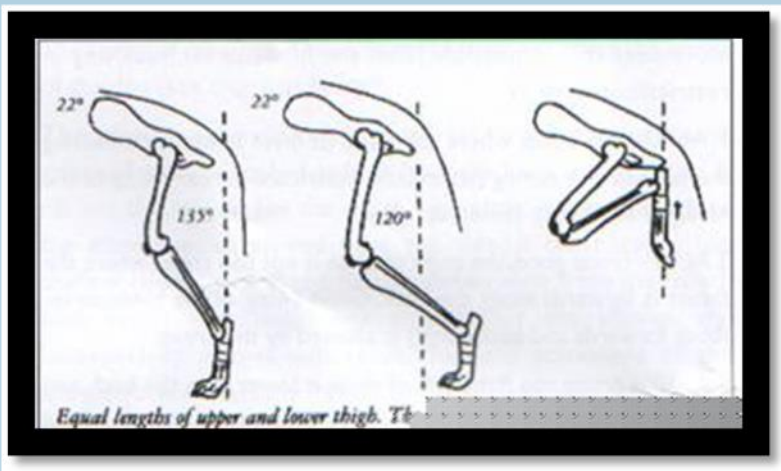
### Hindquarter angulation and movement

As with the forequarter, the relative lengths and angles of the croup, upper and lower thigh and the length of hock will greatly affect the drive and its effectiveness.

Correct hindquarter angulation must be seen related to what is desired in the breed, relative to its characteristic movement. This is best assessed from the side when the hind leg is positioned so that the hock is perpendicular to the ground.

The ideal angulation is one where the length of the femur is equal to the length of tibia/fibula (lower thigh). The longer both the femur and tibia/fibula are, the greater the turn of stifle for that breed. A quick way to check for equal lengths of femur and tibia is to raise the hock (perpendicularly, of course) up to the end of the pelvis. If the point of the hock extends beyond the rear edge of the pelvis, then the tibia is too long in relation to the femur. Rarely if ever is the femur too long.

Over angulation. This occurs when the length of the lower thigh is too long in the relation to the length of femur or upper thigh. This results in the hock (when perpendicular) being placed considerably further behind a line dropped behind the pelvis than when the lengths are equal. (The term over angulation also occasionally applies to those breeds with well-turned stifles, e.g. the German Shepherd.)



Equal lengths of upper and lower thigh.

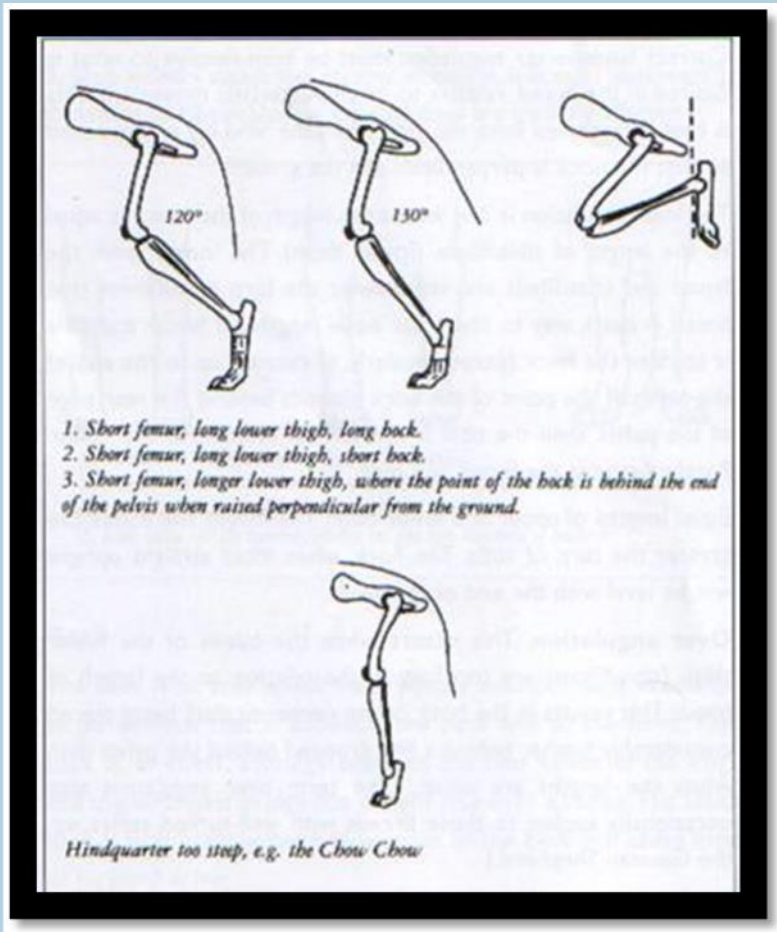
[Unable to see remainder of wording due to corruption of the original picture file.]

The longer the lower thigh is in relation to the length of femur, the greater the amount of turn of stifle. The longer the hock in combination with a longer lower thigh, the more unstable the hock during movement. Shorter hocks will give great stability, particularly where there is a longer lower thigh.

1. Short femur, long lower thigh, long hock
2. Short femur, long lower thigh, short hock
3. Short femur, longer lower thigh, where the point of the hock is behind the end of the pelvis when raised perpendicular from the ground.

Insufficient angulation (straight stifled). This is desired in some breeds, excessively so in the Chow Chow. It is, however, not a good direction to follow due to the increasing instability of the knee as the leg becomes straighter, placing more and more stress on the knee during exercise.





1. Short femur, long lower thigh, long back.
  2. Short femur, long lower thigh, short back.
  3. Short femur, longer lower thigh, where the point of the back is behind the end of the pelvis when raised perpendicular from the ground.
- Hindquarter too steep, e.g. the Chow Chow

The knee is the major pivotal joint of the hindquarters and it takes all the strain of braking and twisting. Hock problems can be present as they become very upright, and will occasionally even bend forwards ('double jointed').

Hindquarter too steep, e.g. the Chow Chow – In a hindquarter lacking angulation, the hock when perpendicular does not extend behind the end of the pelvis.

#### Stifle

The knee (or stifle joint). This is (from side to side) not as stable as is the human knee which is a lot wider. Due to this narrowness and in conjunction with a straight stifle (lack of good turn at the knee), the knee cap (the patella) can become unstable, and patella luxation may occur. Patella luxation is when the knee cap 'jumps' out of its groove and the dog cannot bear proper weight on the leg. This condition is considered genetic in origin, particularly so in toy breeds, but can also develop after accidents involving the ligaments of the knee. If the patella groove is deep, then patella luxation is less likely to occur.

The relative instability of a straighter stifle can cause the larger breeds to be more prone to damaging the anterior cruciate ligament – like a human football injury. This type of injury is not however, totally confined to those dogs with straighter stifles. It can occur in any hyperactive dog.

Due to the abnormal stance from a straight stifle, problems associated from excessive wear of the cartilages of both the hocks and knees can occur in the heavier breeds, particularly Rottweilers. This condition is often associated with overweight young dogs.

#### Hocks

Tightness and firmness of the hocks during movement is desirable. The stability of the hocks is related to the relative lengths of all three sections – the upper thigh (femur), lower thigh (tibia/fibula), and the hock. Too long a hock, particularly when accompanied by a long lower thigh, allows for considerable instability of the hindquarter drive. Some breeds may stand cow hocked due to more angulation of the hindquarter e.g. German Shepherds, but during their natural gait (the trot), the hocks should be firm and remain upright.

Length of hock relative to end size in puppies. Long hocks tend to go with increased size of the adult dog and a straighter hindquarter. Shorter hocks are more desirable in most breeds as they often go with better turn of stifle and greater firmness of hocks, therefore better transmission of drive. (\*This is well worth noticing when purchasing a puppy, particularly in breeds with a top size limit of adults.)

## Balance and Transmission

Balance – With balanced angulation both front and rear, and moving with a firm back; a dog of moderately good construction can generally out move a dog with just a good front, or just a good rear end. Ideally both fore and hindquarter angulation and construction should be such that the reach and drive are of equal power and effectiveness – imbalance will result in restrictions and a failure to maintain an even flowing gait.

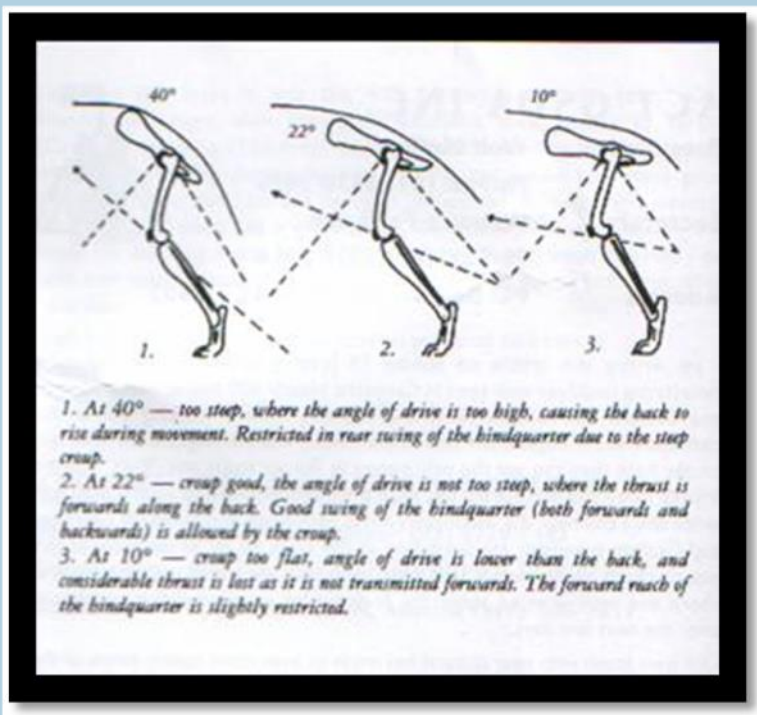
Transmission is the force generated from the hindquarter thrust (or drive), which transmits along the back pushing the forequarter forward. The forequarter movement is more of a reaching, grabbing movement; and the hindquarter thrust allows maximum use of the forequarter construction.

If the back and the croup are good, then the transmission of the drive from the hindquarter through the back into the forequarter will be transmitted smoothly and without loss of power.

If the back is too soft or too long and then the transmission forward is somewhat dissipated and the overall picture is one of a reduced 'flow', i.e. the back will bounce around losing much of its power. Dogs with backs that are too short or too roached are similarly affected by a reduced transmission of power.

If there is good hindquarter construction and poor forequarter construction, the hindquarter drive tends to overrun the forequarter and so create the impression of 'running down hill' or falling on the forehand. The transmission is up through the back, then down, i.e. a pounding effect, as the drive is excessive in relation to what the front can achieve.

If there is good forequarter construction and poor hindquarter construction, the hindquarter drive is insufficient to move the forequarter properly and consequently movement is restricted both front and rear and the hocks do not reach under the dog to achieve a good drive.



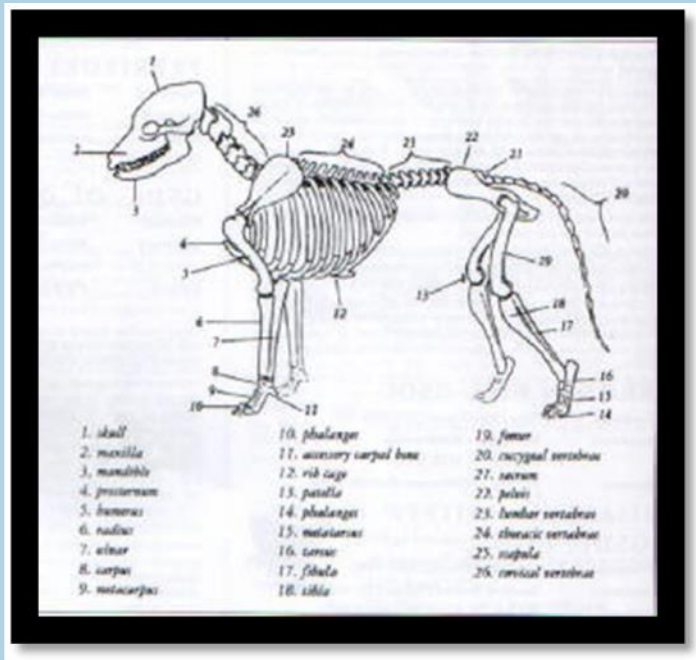
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3. At 10° - croup too flat, angle of drive is lower than the back, and considerable thrust is lost as it is not transmitted forwards. The forward reach of the hindquarter is slightly restricted.

With balanced fore and hindquarter angulation, with good proportions and firm ligaments, the well constructed dog should approach the ideal movement for that breed.

A well constructed dog that has balanced movement is a joy to watch, the reach and drive are equally effective, and the dog seems to flow effortlessly around the ring with minimal effort and maximum ground cover. Unfortunately, it can be a rare event as well!!!



1. Skull
2. Maxilla
3. Mandible
4. Prosternum
5. Humerus
6. Radius
7. Ulna
8. Carpus
9. Metacarpus
10. Phalanges
11. Pisiform bone
12. Rib cage
13. Patella
14. Phalanges
15. Metatarsus
16. Tarsal
17. Fibula
18. Tibia
19. Femur
20. Coccygeal vertebrae
21. Sacrum
22. Pelvis
23. Lumbar vertebrae
24. Thoracic vertebrae
25. Scapula
26. Cervical vertebrae

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We would like to express our appreciation to Karen Hedberg, DVM, for graciously giving us permission to reprint her article. Dr. Hedberg has a veterinary practice in North Richmond, NSW. She is a well-known veterinarian, Judge (ANKC events), dog lover, and author (The New Dog Owner's Manual) as well as other articles.

EDITOR NOTE – additional educational sources:

INTERNET:

Terminology: <https://janedogs.com/dog-anatomy-terminology/>

BOOKS :

Harold R Spira Canine Terminology Harper & Row 1982

Edward M Gilbert, Jr. & Thelma R Brown K-9 Structure & Terminology Dogfolk Enterprises 2001

Curtis M Brown Dog Locomotion and Gait Analysis Hoflin Publishing, Ltd. 1986

*Because of difficulty reading the text within the illustrations, I have placed a text box adjacent to each illustration with the written text typed for ease of reading.*



# Eight Tips for Coping With Your Dog's Age-Related Hearing Loss

The most common form of deafness in dogs is age-related hearing loss (ARHL). Most dogs experience some degree of ARHL, beginning sometime during their “third trimester” of life.



ARHL begins by impairing perception of middle to high frequency sounds. As the hearing loss progresses it encompasses the entire range of sound frequencies.

I suspect that most people don't recognize their dog's hearing loss until it is almost, if not fully, complete. They may mistakenly interpret their dog's partial hearing loss as a behavioral issue, sometimes referred to as “selective hearing”.

Unfortunately, there are no good strategies that restore hearing in dogs with ARHL. A [2010 study](#) reported on three Beagles with age-related deafness who received middle ear implants. The results were equivocal and, to my knowledge, further investigation of this technology has not been pursued. [Canine hearing aids](#) have been tried, but tend to be poorly tolerated.

## How you can help

Observing your beloved dog become less responsive because of hearing loss can evoke a laundry list of emotions such as sadness, frustration, and discouragement. While there is no good way to restore your dog's hearing, here are eight things you can do to make a positive difference for both you and your dog.

1. **Check in with your veterinarian.** Verify that the only cause of your dog's hearing loss is ARHL. Ear canal disease, such as a growth, foreign body, or infection, superimposed on ARHL may transition a dog from partial to complete deafness. Treatment of the ear canal disease may restore an acceptable level of hearing.



2. **Train your dog with hand signals.** When your dog experiences significant hearing loss, your ability to communicate with him via hand signals will create greater safety for your dog and more support for the emotional bond you share.

Dogs quite naturally communicate via body language, so they tend to quickly learn the meaning of hand gestures. Ideally, training with hand signals in conjunction with verbal cues should begin in puppy kindergarten class. Someday, your youngster will become a senior with hearing loss, and those hand signals that were learned will be super handy (pun intended).

By the way, the popular adage, "You can't teach an old dog new tricks" is a bunch of bunk. If your older dog hasn't been taught to respond to hand signals, begin the training process as soon as possible. Most senior dogs are very capable of learning these new cues.

3. **Use nontraditional signals.** In addition to hand signals, find other ways to get your dog's attention. Examples include actions that create vibrations (clapping hands, stomping on the floor, knocking cans together), use of a flashlight, release of an appealing scent (appealing to the dog, that is), and use of a storm or disaster whistle. Figure out what works best with your dog. Provide a positive reward (favorite snack, belly rub, game of tug of war) when you begin training your best buddy to respond to these new cues.

4. **Avoid startling your dog.** Approach and/or touch your dog when you are within his field of vision. If you need to wake him from sleep, touch him gently in the same place (the shoulder area is ideal). You can also put your hand in front of his nose as your smell may rouse him, particularly if it resembles the odor of a favorite treat. Remind visitors to avoid touching your best buddy when he is sleeping. All of these tactics tend to prevent startle reactions.

5. **Increase your vigilance.** This applies to the home front as well as out in the world. A fenced in yard becomes a must. Be sure your dog is on leash or confined when cars pull in and out at your home. Every veterinarian can tell you stories of older, hearing-impaired dogs who were run over in their own driveways.

Leashes are mandatory when your dog has exposure to cars, joggers, bikers, skateboarders, and other potential hazards. Make sure that every member of your dog's support team (veterinary staff, pet sitter, groomer, dog walker, doggie day care provider) knows about his hearing loss. Admittedly, even when I know that my patient is deaf, I still tend to talk to him in my usual fashion. Force of habit, I guess. Given our close contact, I like to think that my patient feels more secure sensing vibrations coming from my body.

6. **Enrich your dog's "smelling life."** Dogs rely heavily on their sense of smell. I recently heard dog trainer, [Turid Rugaas](#) explain that, when a dog enters a new situation, their eyes create the first impression, but it's the nose that fills in the details. [Olfactory stimulation](#) is known to impact canine behavior. By providing a richer smelling life for your dog, you may help fill in some of the sensory gaps caused by his hearing loss.

7. **Attach an, "I am deaf" tag to your dog's collar.** This way, if your dog becomes lost and then found, the good Samaritan involved will understand why your dog is not normally responsive.

8. **Give yourself a pep talk.** Patience is a virtue when interacting with your aging dog (just as it is when interacting with an elderly person). Yes, it's easy to feel frustration, sadness, and impatience, but keep in mind, your older dog is still capable of picking up on your emotions. Take a few deep breaths and give yourself a pep talk to help restore a sense of patience and compassion.

There are some silver linings to consider. As your level of care for your hearing-impaired older dog increases, your relationship may become closer than it has ever been. Additionally all of that quaking, quivering, and anxiety caused by loud noises (thunder, gunshot noises, firecrackers) will likely become a thing of the past. Lastly, remind yourself that, with your loving care, your hearing-impaired dog remains very capable of enjoying an excellent quality of life.

What has worked well for you when interacting with your hearing-impaired dog?

Best wishes,

Nancy Kay, DVM

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**Nancy Kay, DVM**

**Diplomate, American College of Veterinary Internal Medicine**

**Author of *Speaking for Spot: Be the Advocate Your Dog Needs to Live a Happy, Healthy, Longer Life***

**Author of *Your Dog's Best Health: A Dozen Reasonable Things to Expect From Your Vet***

Website: <http://www.speakingforspot.com>

Spot's Blog: <http://www.speakingforspot.com/blog>

Email: [dr.kay@speakingforspot.com](mailto:dr.kay@speakingforspot.com)

Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/speakingforspot>



# Mark Your Calendar!!!

The very FIRST Rat Terrier National Specialty will be held this coming December 16th in conjunction with Eukanuba and is supported by the AKC breed club, Rat Terrier Club of America. Let's make this historical marker for the breed one huge exhibition of our wonderful breed!!!

|                             |            |   |                                             |         |    |           |
|-----------------------------|------------|---|---------------------------------------------|---------|----|-----------|
| Rat Terrier Club of America | 12/16/2016 | 1 | Orange County Convention Center - West Bldg | Orlando | FL | MB-F Inc. |
|-----------------------------|------------|---|---------------------------------------------|---------|----|-----------|

| Club / Location                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  | Show Date                        | Closing Date                        | Superintendent/ Secretary                          | Judges                     |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------|-------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------|----------------------------|
| <b>Rat Terrier Club of America</b><br><b>Event No: 2016689001</b><br>Orange County Convention Center - West Bldg<br>West Building<br>9800 International Drive<br>Orlando, FL<br><b>Approved</b><br><hr/> <b>Entry fees:</b><br>\$40.00 / \$35.00 | Friday<br>December<br>16<br>2016 | Wednesday<br>November<br>23<br>2016 | MB-F Inc.<br>(336) 379-9352<br>mbf@<br>infodog.com | <b>Breed</b> Linda L Reece |



## **Obedience Seminar with trainer Dr Jill Morstad**

### **Fund-raiser for Rat Terrier Club of America**

**When: July 30<sup>th</sup>, 2016 (Registration due by July 20th)**

**Time: 9:00 am - 4:00 pm**

**Where: Seward County Fairgrounds , 14th & Seward 4 H Agricultural Pavillion Seward, NE (an indoor facility)**

**Contact: Marcy Stewart at [stewiem@neb.rr.com](mailto:stewiem@neb.rr.com)**

Dr. Jill Morstad has been training dogs and teaching people to train their dogs since 1985, offering classes for local and regional dog clubs, in private settings, and in veterinary clinics. Jill trains and exhibits her own dogs at the most advanced levels of obedience competition, and has earned obedience, tracking and conformation titles. In addition, she is the host of *Canine 360°* a public affairs program on community radio that explores how dogs create and reflect our values and ideals, and our conceptions of the good life and the good state for dogs and people.

This seminar will teach you how to get proactive: how to teach the dog what you want him to know and what he needs to know. The result? You will spend less time reacting to problem behaviors. And if you are interested in or currently showing your dog in obedience trials you would benefit from this seminar as well. Training is not limited to show rings or the kitchen: it is an all around benefit to you, your dog and your community.

There is a limit of 20 working dog teams. Working spots will be based on first come, first serve basis. The fee for the working spots is for one dog per working team. Unlimited auditor spots. Please plan on crating your dog when not working your dog and bring your own chair.

**Registration fees will include continental breakfast:**

**Working dog teams (limited to 20): \$150**

**Auditor spot: \$75**





Please return this form with your registration fee.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Circle one: working team \$150    auditor \$75

Waiver: By Signing below, I release the Rat Terrier Club of America, its members and agents, Dr Jill Morstad, and Seward County Fairgrounds, from any injuries or losses sustained during the event.

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

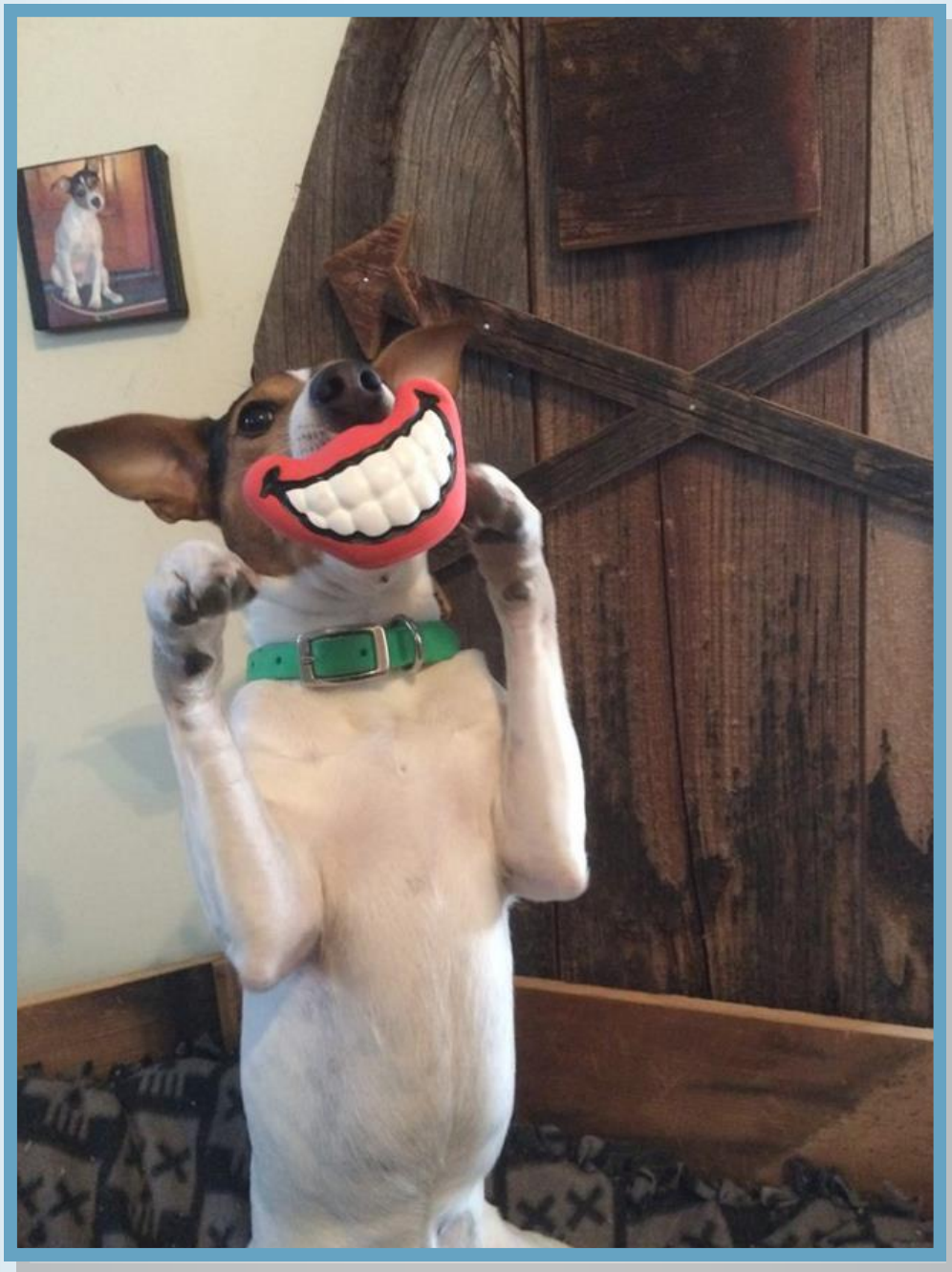
Please make checks payable to Marcy Stewart and mail to:

Marcy Stewart  
6229 Colby Street  
Lincoln NE 68505

For more information contact Marcy Stewart at [stewiem@neb.rr.com](mailto:stewiem@neb.rr.com) or call 402-429-5770.  
Hotel information will be provided after I receive your registration form.



# Humor makes the world a better place



IF YOU ARE HAPPY AND YOU  
KNOW IT ...



# Drum Roll!!

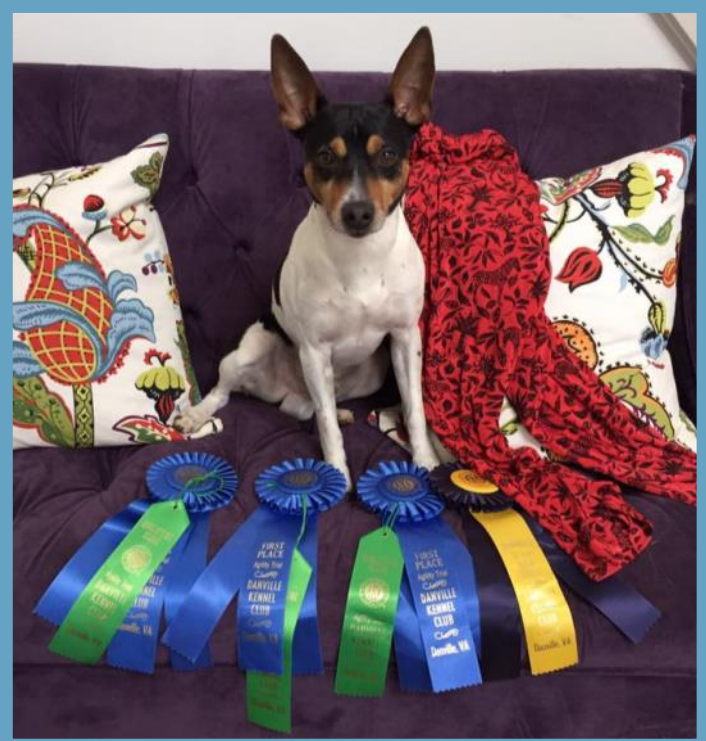


IrishGlyn's Kodak Moment aka "Kodak" earned the Champion title (RATCH) in Barn Hunt on March 19, 2016 at the Valley Dog Sports in Newburg, OR. Kodak is owned by Tara Sparlin. Kodak joins a small handful of other Rat Terriers to have earned this title.

~ Oregon ~

Hurricane Deck's Tennessee Sippin' Whiskey aka "JD" earned his Tracking Dog title (TD) on March 13 at the Pembroke Welsh Corgi Club of the Rockies event in Littleton, CO. JD was 6 months old. Owned and handled by Randi Garske.

~ Colorado ~



GCH CH River Ridge's Level Of Intrigue - "Hunter", He received his NJP title in agility on March 20th, at the Danville Kennel Club agility trial in Chatham, VA. He also earned his NAJ title at the Star City Canine Training Club in Salem, VA on April 17.

Owned by Stacy Zimmerman

~ Virginia ~





# Congratulations!!



Cal Val Lily Luna of Sugarloaf aka “Luna” was Best of Breed for two 3 point majors at the Del Sur Kennel Club show on March 19-20 under Judges Richard Powell and Lydia Coleman Hutchinson. She was Best of Winners and Best Opposite for a 3 point major at the Antelope Valley Kennel Club show under Judge Robert E Hutton. Owned and handled by Barbara Lancaster-Jordan and Donald W Jordan.

~ California ~

River Ridge In Kase U Didn't C Me aka “Kasey” was Best of Winners at the Delaware County KC show on March 12. Handled by Louise Schroll. Owned by Louise Schroll and Stacy McWilliams.

~ Pennsylvania ~

Comet earned his RATN title and two firsts at Bella Vista in Lewisberry, PA on April 24. He is owned and handled by Anita Butler.

~ Pennsylvania ~



# FANTASTIC!!!



River Ridge's Devilish Lass aka "Tara" earned her CGC and CGCA on April 17 at the age of 6 months.  
Owned/handled by Karen McNally

River Ridge's Made in America aka "Luke" earned his CGCA on April 17 at the age of 21 months.  
Owner/handled by David McNally

IrishGlyn's Kodak Moment aka "Kodak" earned his NW3 title and earned Pronounced on April 3 in Centralia, WA. He also earned third place in vehicles, first place in interiors, and first place overall. He is the third rat terrier to earn the Level 3 title. He is owned and handled by Tara Sparlin.

~ Oregon ~





# Littermates Finish Their Champion at 8 months!!



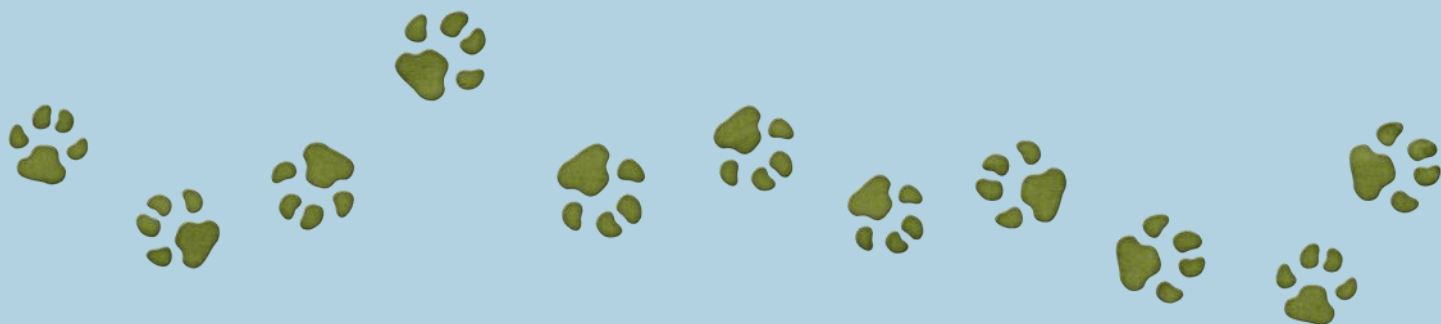
CH Indigo IGO He's All Evans aka "Evans" earned his Champion title in a single weekend (May 20-23) at the Mt. Baker Kennel Club show in Lynden, WA with three 5 point Best of Breed majors.

Owned by Jennifer Ferguson

~ Idaho ~

Indigo IGO Pistol Pack'n Baby SGK aka "Caras" completed her Champion title with back to back Best of Winners for majors at the Northern California Terrier Association show in April under Judges Edd E Bivin and Randy Garrin AND Best of Breed at the Mt. Baker Kennel Club show in Lynden, WA. Handled by Dixie Rae Sick. Owned by Jennifer Ferguson.

~ Idaho ~





# STUPENDOUS!!!



CH River Ridge's Give em Somethin' 2 Talk About aka "Jaxson" was Best of Breed on Friday, April 22 at the Columbia Terrier Association of Maryland show for a 3 point major towards his Grand Champion title. Handled, and Adored by Jackie Maye. Owned by Jackie Maye, Beth Szczygiel and Stacy McWilliams.

~ Pennsylvania ~



'PR' Rnb's Shootout @ Blkwd Corral Aka "Bang" was awarded Best of Winners and Best of Breed for a 3 point major at the April 30th Lake Mathews Kennel Club show, Prado Regional Park under Judge Mrs Julie Felton. She was also awarded an Owner Handler Group One. She earned a 3 point major at the San Fernando Kennel Club show on May 28 under Judge Mrs. Carolyn A. Herbel and another 3 point major at the San Gabriel Valley Kennel Club show on May 29 under Judge John P Wade. Owned by Jackie Ader.

~ California ~



Raynie completed her Beginner Novice B title on May 2nd at the Seward Kennel Club in Seward, NE. Raynie earned impressive scores: At the Bellevue Dog Obedience Club on April 2-3 Second with a score of 197 & Third with score of 194. At the Seward Kennel Club show on April 30-May1 Second with a score of 195.5 & First with a score of 191.5.

Owned and Trained by Marcy Stewart  
~ Nebraska ~

# New Rattitude

Rat Terrier Rescue



## What New Rattitude is About

Meet Pauly– Handsome Pauly with his 11 years of experience is more than qualified for the job! At 29 lbs., Pauly is a supersized cuddler with possibly some Decker Rat Terrier in his breeding. He is completely house trained and crate trained and is accustomed to staying in his crate during the day when no one is home.

We are seeking adoptive homes. You can view our available dogs, see several photos and read their full bio at: <http://www.newrattitude.org/dogs.htm>. All New Rattitude dogs are neutered/spayed, wormed, checked for heartworm and on preventative, up to date on vaccinations, and microchipped. Adoption fee is \$175 for adult dogs and \$225 for puppies under six months of age.

All adoption fees go toward rescue and care of Rat Terriers in need.

New Rattitude has many opportunities available to those who are able to volunteer a little or a lot of their time and energies. We would love to have you join us Simply submit a member application found on our site.

We have a great retail store where you can purchase dog toys for less and the money supports the dogs in need. New Rattitude is a national, all-volunteer organization that rescues and rehomes Rat Terriers and Rat Terrier mixes. We are a tax-exempt, non-profit 501(c)3 charitable corporation. We were incorporated August 4, 2008, and are licensed by the Georgia Department of Agriculture.

<http://www.newrattitude.org>

### Board of Directors, 2015-16

Terry Beale (Georgia) - President  
Mallory Kratimenos (Illinois) - Vice President  
Jennifer Bridwell (Virginia) - Secretary  
Sue Kangas (Michigan) - Treasurer  
Susan Beard (North Carolina) - Director  
Megan Ransom (Nevada) - Director  
Diane Uithoven (California) - Director

# My road to Crufts 2016

By Burns

CoHills Thistle Du Nicely AW(S) (UK)

CH Cohills Thistle Du Nicely (USA)

(co-authored by Jeri Handloser Berg)



Who would have imagined that a premature puppy from Texas would one day be the first Rat Terrier to compete at Crufts, the World's largest Dog show!

A quick history of me:



I was born a week early at 8:02 am on 17 March 2009; sadly 3 of my siblings went to puppy heaven but my other 3 along with me thrived. I met my human mom when I was 3 months, she was living in Aberdeen, Scotland moved to Texas in August 2009, took me home at 5 months and the fun began.

I continued my education in manners; every good human helps their pup learn how to behave in the pack. I strutted my stuff in the show ring and earned my Championship title. Then my human dad told us we were moving back to Scotland. First we moved from Texas to Colorado July and then back to Aberdeen November 2010. Yep...it was a crazy time!

I started learning agility a little bit while in Colorado but my real education started in Scotland, with my brother, Thor's club. I love to jump but I needed to learn my left from my right, how to stop on contacts and not run off to say Hi to people.

When I was old enough Mom sent my information to The Kennel Club (KC) so I could have a number and start competing in agility. The KC has a height and graded agility system; I measured into the Medium and had to start in Grade 3 instead of Grade 1 since Mom and Thor were Grade 6...something about how smart the handler is (bwhahahhaa!!).

You have to win an agility event with a clear round or 3 jumping events to move up a grade until you get to Grade 5, then you need 3 agility wins to move to Grade 6 and 4 agility wins for Grade 7, then you get to enter Championship classes. You have to win 4 Champ classes with different judges or Win Champ Class at Crufts to be an Agility Champion.



The KC also has a point system to earn Agility Warrants. You get some extra initials behind your name. Here's how the warrants are earned:

(minimum of # points in agility)

Bronze 200 points (50)

Silver 400 points (100)

Gold 800 points (200)

Platinum 1200 points (300)

Diamond 1600 points (400)

Only Clear rounds in regular classes of Agility or Jumping to score points. Agility classes earn 20 points for 1<sup>st</sup> down to 11 points for 10th place; Jumping classes earn 10 points for 1<sup>st</sup> to 1 point for 10<sup>th</sup>. If you get a clear round but don't place you earn 2 points for agility and 1 point for jumping.

Unless it's a Crufts or Olympia qualifying class or a large show, rarely do the points go past 2<sup>nd</sup> for small and medium so it takes lots of time to get points unless you are winning the classes regularly and we weren't.

Eventually I started paying more attention (mom became more interesting than dirt); she also worked on her handling and we started collecting points, winning classes and moving up the grades. I earned my Agility Warrant Bronze AW(B) in May 2014 and my Silver AW(S) in May 2015. I moved up the grades, won my 4<sup>th</sup> Grade 6 win March 2015 and entered Grade 7, the highest grade which allows you to enter Championship Classes.

I started competing in Youth Kennel Club (YKC) events with one of our club's Jr. Handlers, Bethany Gibson. We only competed in a few shows due to JR events not always being offered. But we had a good time together. She asked if we could enter the YKC ABC (Anything But Collie) class at Crufts as you needed Agility Warrant points to qualify and not winning a qualifier class. A minimum of 50 agility points were needed to apply, I have over 368 agility points so Mom sent in my application. Then we had to wait and wait and wait. We finally got confirmation that I was accepted just before Christmas! Then the long wait till Crufts 2016.

Time went by slowly till March 9, 2016, the day we traveled down to Birmingham, England. I was to compete at 10:40 am on Thursday March 10, 2016. On the way into the NEC my mom introduced me to the PAWparazzi. I got my photo on The Telegraph website!





I had a cool crating area with lots of Good Luck cards from my pawls and information about Rat Terriers. I was a little worried because it was SO big and noisy; when I get worried I jump HIGH. I got sucked into the tunnel before I was supposed to go in so I got an E but I didn't care, all those people came to see me so I gave them a show!

After the event I got to go shopping for a treat cuz momma said I was a good boy and was so proud of me. I got to meet lots of people at Crufts. a group of school kids, parents and children, soldiers and my first disabled people in wheelchairs. I got my photo taken and momma held me so the man could pet me. He had to wag his arm a few times, I was very still till he put his hand on me. I wanted him to know how happy I was to meet him and started wiggling my butt under his hand. We all laughed because we were happy. The next time I saw someone in a wheelchair, I walked right over, waited till they said Hi then put my paw on their foot to say Hi back. I made lots of new friends and now lots of people know how amazing rat terriers are!



How Cool, I found my own stall and banner!

I had a PAWSOME time at Crufts and hope to go back next year.

And one day, the Main Arena!

High paws and Yappiness!



# SENSATIONAL!!



CH AAces Go For It aka "Katie" took Best of Breed and Best of Breed Owner Handler for a 4 point major to earn her Grand Champion title at the Claremore Kennel Club of Oklahoma show under Judge Mrs. Michelle Scott on April 2, 2016.

Owned and Handled by Kate Adams

~ Oklahoma ~



Ratitatt Gadget aka "Gadget" owned by Lois Deitrich was the first Rat Terrier to earn the SPOT ON distinction with UKC (this is the UKC equivalent of the AKC Canine Good Citizen). Gadget earned this on May 15.

~ Colorado ~



Find us on  
**Facebook**





# WELL DONE!!



GCH Ratitatt Bonnie Blue aka “Bonnie” owned by Lois Deitrich and Valerie Schieffer, showed in 3 different AKC shows in Albuquerque, Farmington, and Laramie to complete her AKC Grand Championship and begin work towards her bronze medallion, earning several Best of Breed recognitions. Bonnie was bred by Valerie Schieffer of Ratitatt Kennels.

~ Colorado ~



CH HDK Rumor Has It @ Lace aka “Rumor” handled by Matt Stake was Owner Handler Group 3, Farmington, NM. Rumor also finished her AKC Champion title at this show. Bred by Rebekah Rivera of Hurricane Deck Rat Terriers. Owned by Lois Deitrich and shown by her husband, Matt Stake.

~ Colorado ~



# WOW!!!



Comet earned his CA title in lure coursing at Sighthound Org of Tidewater in Virginia on February 27 & 28. Comet is loved, owned, and handled by Anita Butler.

~ Pennsylvania ~



MACH 13 Ratitatt Portrait of the Queen, Penny Lane aka "Lanie" earned her MACH 13 on May 14th at Indian River Dog Training Club's trial in Vero Beach, FL. Owned and handled by Melissa K Liebhardt.

~ Florida ~





# AMAZING!!!



**ARKAY SGK IWANNADANCEWSOMEBODY aka "Whitney" was Best of Winners & Best of Breed on April 1, Best of Winners on April 2, and Best of Winners & Best of Breed, Group 4, plus Bred-By Terrier Group 1 on April 3 at the Scottsbluff Kennel Club in Mitchell, NE. She is owned by Ruth Kramer.**

~Wyoming~



**On June 4th Stella took winners Bitch and Best of opposite Sex at the Huntingdon Valley Kennel Club show under Judge Col. Joe B. Purkhiser for her final point to finish her Championship Title (pending AKC verification) She will now be "CH River Ridge's Simply Stunning". This has been a very long and emotional road for Stella and I; one wild ride I am glad I decided to not give up on. Stella adds to her Dam Hannah's impressive record of most Champions produced! She will now retire from the show world to continue to be my most adored little girl and hopefully hit the agility ring for some real fun!**

**Owned by Jackie Maye and Stacy McWilliams.  
Handled by Jackie Maye.**

~Pennsylvania~





# EXCEPTIONAL



River Ridge's Kiss My Grit aka "Sassafras" earned her second Barn Hunt Novice Q at the Georgia Barn Hunt's event in Carrollton, GA on May 29th. She is owned, loved, and trained by Riley Allen.

~ Georgia ~

CH HDK K2 Erandi Mistress of the Night aka "Misti" was Best of Breed and Owner Handler Group 4 at the Scottsbluff Kennel Club Inc. show on April 2. She is owned by Heidi L Sparks and Tracey A Kallas. She is also #8 for the breed in the Canine Chronicle AKC stats for the Owner Handler series as of the April 30 report .

~ Nebraska ~



River Ridge's Wicked Good aka "Ticket" earned her first point by going Best of Breed over a Champion at the New Castle, PA cluster on May 26. Judges were captivated by this gregarious 7 month old puppy. Owned by Penny Cary, Hosea Carpenter, Stacy McWilliams.

~ Florida ~

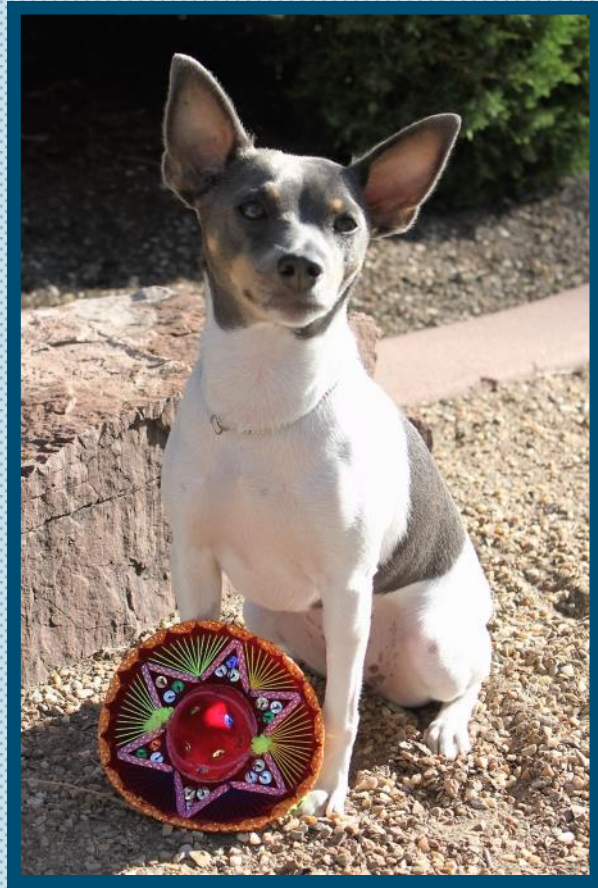


# OUTSTANDING!!!



River Ridge's Itchin' to Party RATI, TDCH, RATN aka "Pox" owned by Ashley Kutzli qualified for a leg in Barn Hunt Open at the Leaps & Bounds K-9 Training event with a first place in his size group and a High in Open.

~ Michigan ~



CH Ratitatt's Senorita Lolita's Lollipop RATI, CGCA aka "Lolly" earned 2 legs towards her CD (Companion Dog) title at the Albuquerque Kennel Club show in May and earned her CGC and CGCA at the Arizona German Shepherd Club show in April. Trained and Handled by Edithmary Stenz.

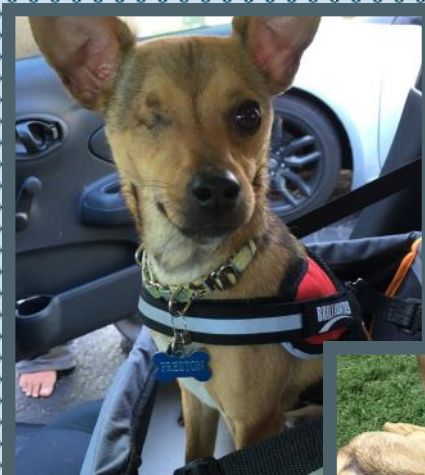
Owned by Edithmary Stenz and Gretchen A Chambers.

~ Arizona ~





# YOU ROCK!!!



Preston finished his Canine Good Citizen title on June 8. Trained and owned by Cindy Guffey.

~ Indiana ~

Sand's Holy Mackerel, RN, RATN, SN-C "Mackerel" earned his second CDSP Starter Novice leg on 4/17/16 at MasterPeace Trials with a 1st place finish under judge Ms. Sheila Bennett. In the second trial he earned his third leg and Starter Novice Title with a 4th place finish under Judge Mr. Rick Ritacco. Owned by Alison Raposo.

~ Massachusetts ~



MACH4 PACH4 Dragonfly's Shooting Star aka "Stella" earned her PACH 4 (Preferred Agility Champion title) at the AKC Hot Summer Nights trial. Owned by Vickey Meyer.

~ California ~





# Introducing ...

As part of our educational outreach, we have developed two brochures to focus on the Rat Terrier. A special thank you to both Amanda Truitt for her effort to provide a brief history of the breed and to Brandon Godbey for his article about living with the Rat Terrier. These brochures will be available in new member packets and distributed at dog shows and other activities where an outreach effort is being made. Below and on the next pages you will see a smaller version of our tri-fold color brochure.

## Contact Information

When you decide you are interested in adding a Rat Terrier to your life, MARTC will be glad to help out. We can answer any questions that may arise in your quest for the perfect Rat Terrier. We are here to help.

Club Website:  
<http://midatlanticratterr.wix.com/>

Club Email:  
[MidAtlanticRatTerrier@yahoo.com](mailto:MidAtlanticRatTerrier@yahoo.com)

U.S. Mail Contact:  
Mid Atlantic Rat Terrier Club  
Judith Babarsky  
37649 Snickersville Tpke  
Purcellville, VA 20132

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**"A dog is the only thing on earth that loves you more than he loves himself"**  
*-Josh Billings*

## Membership

Becoming a member of MARTC is easy and opens you and your family up to a network of dog enthusiasts eager to help. There are 7 types of membership open to all individuals who are in good standing with the AKC. Membership is unrestricted and owners do not have to live in the Mid-Atlantic region to join. MARTC's primary purpose is to be representative of the owners, breeders, and exhibitors in the Mid-Atlantic region that includes the following states; MD, NJ, DE, DC, VA, WV, NY, and PA.

### Membership Types include:

- Regular (individual)
- Regular Household
- Associate
- Associate Household
- Junior
- Honorary Membership
- Lifetime Membership

For more information on how to join the MARTC please contact the club at:

[MidAtlanticRatTerrier@yahoo.com](mailto:MidAtlanticRatTerrier@yahoo.com)

**"Great men have great dogs."**

*-Otto von Bismarck*

## The Mid-Atlantic Rat Terrier Club (MARTC)



Affectionate, loving, and astute. Rat Terriers are easy to train, eager to please their human, and fearless. They make excellent farm and family dogs, do well in dog sports, and excel in the show ring. Quick, loyal, and playful, they are great watchdogs and a wonderful addition to any household. Whether you are looking to add a family pet, turn heads in the show ring, or compete in professional dog sports, the Rat Terrier outshines all other breeds.

**MARTC**



**River Ridge's Mischief Managed  
"Remus"**

Owner: Deb Stevenson  
Photo Credit: Barry Rosen Photography ©

## A Brief History

The Rat Terrier is a true American dog. The breed itself stems from a melting pot of various breeds. Their Feist ancestors originated in Great Britain from crosses between the Fox Terrier, Old English White Terrier, Manchester Terrier, and Bull Terrier. Traveling the ocean with early American immigrants, the Feist first landed in America in the 1890s. Once in America, Beagle and Italian Greyhound bloodlines were introduced to create what we know today as the modern Rat Terrier.

The Rat Terrier was originally used to kill vermin and do farm work. Theodore Roosevelt was the man to coin the name "Rat Terrier" in honor of his famous dog, Skip. Skip was brought to the White House as a present for Roosevelt's son after a diplomatic trip out west. When the Jefferson Greenhouses were torn down, Skip was rumored to have killed 1,000 rats in one day, after which Roosevelt dubbed him his "rat terrier". The name took hold and has lived on.

**MARTC: For the Love of the Rat Terrier**

## History Continued

In the early twentieth century many family farms had Rat Terriers in their employment to keep them free from vermin. Due to the modernization of farming and the development of modern day poisons to control rodent populations, Rat Terrier numbers began to dwindle across America. Kept alive by a handful of dedicated breeders, the Rat Terrier began to make their comeback in the late 70s and 80s.

The Rat Terrier was originally more a type of dog than an actual breed. It is with great thanks to years of hard work and dedication of responsible breeders, that the Rat Terrier became the breed we love. The Rat Terrier gained full AKC status on June 1, 2013. Owners and handlers were officially able to compete with their dogs in the Terrier Class on June 26, 2013.

The Rat Terrier is able to compete in all AKC sanctioned events to earn points towards the GCH title. The AKC sponsors the following events:

- Agility
- Conformation
- Coursing
- Earthdog
- Field Events
- Herding
- Lure Coursing
- Obedience
- Rally
- Tracking



## Coats of Many Colors

The Rat Terrier comes in eighteen different colors and nine coat patterns. According to the AKC, any variation of a pied coat patterning is acceptable. (A pied coat is defined as large areas of one or more colors in a combination with white.) Historically, Rat Terriers were thought to be pied with large patches of white and black with tan points. Today Rat Terriers are acceptably found to be predominately apricot, black, blue, chocolate, fawn, lemon, red, silver, tan, or white. At this time, brindle and merle patterns are not permitted. Rat Terriers are never a



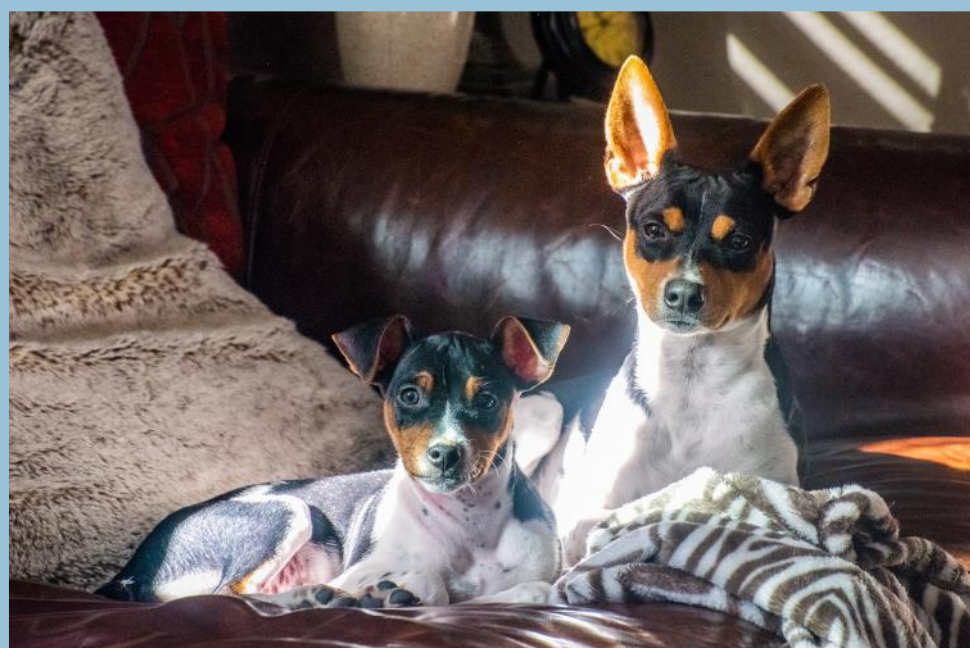
**Hoggsden Buzablu Leo a Wonder**

Owners: Linda Lee & Jordon Leigh  
Photo by: Buzablu Rat Terriers©

solid color without white markings, or bi-colored without one color being white; the AKC recommends 10-90% of the body be white. Coat markings include Badger, Blanket Back, Irish Marked, Piebald, Sable & White, Spotted or

patched, Tan Points, White Markings with Tan Points, and White Mask- White Markings.

Rat Terriers are considered a small sized dog ranging 10-18 inches in height. Relatively hardy and healthy, and not plagued by many congenital health issues, Rat Terriers have a long life span ranging from 15-18 years. One health issue to be concerned about is Primary Lens Luxation, PLL for short. PLL is an inherited disorder in which the zonules or suspensory fibers of the eye degenerate. PLL is a painful and blinding eye condition. DNA testing became available in 2009 and will mark a dog as affected, carrier, and normal. Responsible breeders are working to eradicate this condition in the Rat Terrier Breed. For more information on PLL check out the Orthopedic Foundation for Animals (OFA).





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**Club Email:**  
[MidAtlanticRatTerrier@yahoo.com](mailto:MidAtlanticRatTerrier@yahoo.com)

**U.S. Mail Contact:**  
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37649 Snickersville Tpke  
Purcellville VA 20132

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## Mid-Atlantic Rat Terrier Club



*At Home With The Rat Terrier*



### At Home With The Rat Terrier

When most people think of Rat Terriers, they see the familiar tableau of the rugged little feist going barn to barn with his master ridding the farm of vermin. A great deal of this vision is true. A hundred years ago, you would be hard pressed to find a farm in America that didn't have a rat terrier. They were the ideal dogs for rural life: a compact, hardy dog that would rid the farm of rodents, help hunt squirrels, and play with the kids. To the turn of the century farmer, the rat terrier was an indispensable part of family life.

Today, the rat terrier remains a favorite of rural people everywhere, but it is also an ideal family dog that is just as much at home in the house

### At Home, Continued

as on the farm. Their small size makes them economical to feed and kennel, and their short hair makes them less messy than many shedding breeds. They are among the friendliest of terriers, making them excellent pets for children. A growing child couldn't ask for a better, more loyal friend than a rat terrier. And while they may be tenacious when on the trail of a rat, at home they are just as comfortable snuggling next to you on the couch for a long winter nap.

Outside the home, we get to see another side of the rat terrier. Those unfamiliar with the breed are quick to notice its keen intelligence and eye-popping athleticism. These two traits—along with exceptional bravery—are indispensable for a dog that makes its living dispatching ground quarry. The athleticism and intelligence of the rat terrier can also be found on display in a simple game of fetch. There are few things more enjoyable than watching a "rattie" race across an open field, leap high in the air after a ball, and then return it with a huge grin on its face.

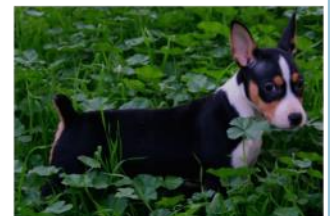


### At Home, Continued

Aesthetically, the rat terrier is among the most pleasing dogs in the world. Rat terriers are structurally balanced with a well-defined, expressive face. They are sturdy, but not bulky or cumbersome. In many ways, the rat terrier is a study in artistic balance, a combination of chiseled musculature and effortless grace. Such traits lend themselves naturally to the show ring where they have been a fixture in the UKC ring for some time and, this June, will complete the crossover to the AKC.

With a storied past and a bright future, the rat terrier has solidified itself as a quintessential American success story.

By Brandon Godbey





# Canine Hypoparathyroidism

by Nancy Kay, DVM



Hypoparathyroidism is a hormonal imbalance in dogs that results from the cessation of production of parathyroid hormone (PTH). Hypoparathyroidism is more common in middle-aged female dogs, and it has no breed predilection.

**Parathyroid hormone (PTH)**

PTH is manufactured within the dog's four parathyroid glands. These tiny glands are embedded within the two thyroid glands (two parathyroid glands per thyroid gland). All of these glands are located just beneath the skin surface on the underside of the neck.

PTH is in charge of regulating blood calcium and phosphorus levels. It does so by modifying the amounts of calcium and phosphorus absorbed by the gastrointestinal tract, eliminated via the kidneys, and released from bones into the bloodstream.

Hypoparathyroidism (too little PTH produced by the parathyroid glands) causes decreased calcium and increased phosphorus levels within the blood stream. The opposite occurs when the parathyroid glands are producing too much PTH (hyperparathyroidism).

## CAUSES

It is unknown why the parathyroid glands quit producing PTH. Autoimmune destruction of the parathyroid glands (the immune system attacks the body's own tissues) is suspected. Surgical removal of the thyroid glands for treatment of thyroid cancer and trauma to the neck region are other potential causes of hypoparathyroidism.

## SYMPTOMS

The symptoms associated with hypoparathyroidism result from the abnormally low blood calcium level. The symptoms can be intermittent, particularly early on in the course of the disease, and most commonly include:

- **Muscle tremors or twitching**
- **Stiff gait**
- **Uncoordinated gait**
- **Anxious, restless behavior**
- **Seizures**
- **Lethargy/weakness**
- **Increased panting**
- **Loss of appetite**

## DIAGNOSIS

The testing typically performed to arrive at a diagnosis of hypoparathyroidism typically includes:

- Complete blood cell count
- Blood chemistry profile (includes calcium and phosphorus measurements)
- Ionized calcium measurement (the active form of calcium within the bloodstream) molecule
- Urinalysis
- PTH measurement

## TREATMENT

Therapy for hypoparathyroidism consists of administration of vitamin D and calcium. Vitamin D supplementation is necessary to assist with the absorption of dietary calcium from the gastrointestinal tract.

Treatment with intravenous fluids and calcium is warranted for dogs with severe symptoms. For dogs who are in stable condition, the calcium and vitamin D can be administered orally at home. Both are given daily (may be multiple times daily) and the dosages are adjusted based on the dog's symptoms as well as follow-up blood calcium and phosphorus levels. Many successfully treated dogs can be weaned off of the calcium supplement as long as vitamin D therapy is continued. As is the case with most canine hormonal imbalances, lifelong treatment and monitoring are required.

## PROGNOSIS

Hypoparathyroidism is considered to be a very treatable disease with an excellent prognosis as long as conscientious treatment and monitoring are available.

Have you had a dog who required treatment for hypoparathyroidism?

If you would like to respond publicly, please visit: <http://www.speakingforspot.com/blog/?p=5107>.

Best wishes,

Nancy Kay, DVM

Diplomate, American College of Veterinary Internal Medicine

Author of *Speaking for Spot: Be the Advocate Your Dog Needs to Live a Happy, Healthy, Longer Life*

Author of *Your Dog's Best Health: A Dozen Reasonable Things to Expect From Your Vet*

Website: <http://www.speakingforspot.com>

Spot's Blog: <http://www.speakingforspot.com/blog>

Email: [dr.kay@speakingforspot.com](mailto:dr.kay@speakingforspot.com)

Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/speakingforspot>

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Photo on previous page is not related to article and just included to reflect our breed

# The STATISTICS

## Conformation

### AKC OWNER/HANDLER TOP FIFTEEN STANDINGS

2016 Rat Terriers

The Canine Chronicle  
Statistics thru April 30, 2016

| Rank | Dog Name                                   | Owner-Handled Name                         | Breed       | OHS Points |
|------|--------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------|-------------|------------|
| 1    | CH Evanlee s Ticket To The Stars CA        | Anna Morris DONNA MCMAHAN                  | Rat Terrier | 135        |
| 1    | CH Miyuki From Empress                     | Yolanda Cunningham Joel Cunningham         | Rat Terrier | 135        |
| 3    | CH Seegmillers Tuffenuff To Envy RN        | Mrs. Kimberly Seegmiller Mrs. Brandy Petry | Rat Terrier | 105        |
| 4    | CH Wildcliff Steady N Strong Duty Calls    | Annette Agostine Tracey Spillane           | Rat Terrier | 100        |
| 5    | GCH CH Trimark s Take It All River Ridge   | Patricia Smith Barbara Trammell            | Rat Terrier | 90         |
| 6    | CH Felixville s Seasoned Traveller CA CGCA | Ransome little Joana B Plattsmier          | Rat Terrier | 55         |
| 6    | CH Bur-Way Crossin The Thin Red Line       | Patricia Smith Marcia Martin               | Rat Terrier | 55         |
| 8    | Rnb s Shootout Blkwd Corral                | Jackie Ader                                | Rat Terrier | 35         |
| 8    | CH Rnb s Virgin Queen                      | Margaret Van Der Hagen                     | Rat Terrier | 35         |
| 8    | GCH CH Cal Val lb A Red Chili Pepper       | Dorothy Baker Kimberly Seegmiller          | Rat Terrier | 35         |
| 8    | CH Hdk K2 Erandi Mistress Of The Night     | Heidi L. Sparks Tracey A Kallas            | Rat Terrier | 35         |
| 12   | CH Short s Flash Of Blue Kitchi            | Wendy Sherman                              | Rat Terrier | 30         |
| 12   | CH Rnb She s Destine For Stardom           | Sherry Hendrix Dud Hendrix                 | Rat Terrier | 30         |
| 12   | GCH CH Arkay Sgk Sumthing2tlkbout Glhl     | Alma Burns Linda Meek                      | Rat Terrier | 30         |
| 15   | CH Turn Slice Of Heaven BN RN              | Susan R Mulligan Susan D Turner            | Rat Terrier | 25         |



# Conformation

## AKC ALL BREED STANDINGS

### 2016 Rat Terriers

The Canine Chronicle  
Statistics thru April 30, 2016

| Rank | Name                                                    | Sex | Points | BIS | GRP1 | Owner                              |
|------|---------------------------------------------------------|-----|--------|-----|------|------------------------------------|
| 1    | GCHG CH Felixvilles Traveling Pooch                     | M   | 492    | 0   | 0    | T Little/R Little                  |
| 2    | GCHB CH Evanlee May D'Odds B Evr N Ur Favor River Ridge | M   | 205    | 0   | 0    | S McWilliams/J Gardner/R Fendlason |
| 3    | GCHS CH Rock-E-Hill Tennesse                            | M   | 104    | 0   | 0    | L Hibbard                          |
| 4    | GCHB CH Seegmillers Dos Miss Margo                      | F   | 69     | 0   | 0    | K Seegmiller                       |
| 5    | GCHB CH Trimark's Ooh La-La-Polka-Dah                   | F   | 45     | 0   | 0    | B Veltri                           |
| 6    | CH Miyuki From Empress                                  | F   | 39     | 0   | 0    | Y Cunningham/J Cunningham          |
| 7    | CH Hdk K2's Shockwave@Bellridge                         | M   | 31     | 0   | 0    | T Kallas                           |
| 8    | CH Seegmillers Tuffenuf To Envy RN                      | F   | 25     | 0   | 0    | K Seegmiller/B Pettry              |
| 9    | CH Rnb She's Destine For Stardom                        | F   | 24     | 0   | 0    | S Hendrix/D Hendrix                |
| 10   | GCHB CH Ratitatt Gala Shindig                           | F   | 22     | 0   | 0    | V Schiefer                         |
| 11   | Cal Val Lily Luna Of Sugarloaf                          | F   | 14     | 0   | 0    | B Lancaster-Jordan/D Jordan        |
| 11   | Arkay Sgk Iwannadancewithsomebody                       | F   | 14     | 0   | 0    | R KRAMER                           |
| 13   | CH Rosethorn's The Day's Of Wine & Roses                | F   | 13     | 0   | 0    | L Hibbard                          |
| 14   | CH Aacres John Henry                                    | M   | 11     | 0   | 0    | C Hart                             |
| 15   | Wild Oak's Kiss Me Quick                                | F   | 9      | 0   | 0    | D Littleton/N Littleton            |
| 15   | GCH CH Cal Val Ib A Red Chili Pepper                    | F   | 9      | 0   | 0    | D Baker/K Seegmiller               |
| 17   | GCHB CH River Ridge New Direction                       | F   | 6      | 0   | 0    | J Gardner/S McWilliams/K Cryan     |
| 18   | Call Me Tuff Enough Game On                             | M   | 5      | 0   | 0    | B Pettry                           |
| 18   | CH River Ridge's Give Em Someth'N 2talk About           | M   | 5      | 0   | 0    | J Maye/B Szczygiel/S McWilliams    |
| 18   | GCH CH Aacres Go For It                                 | F   | 5      | 0   | 0    | C Adams                            |



# Conformation

## AKC GRAND CHAMPIONSHIP STANDINGS

### 2016 Rat Terriers

The Canine Chronicle  
Statistics thru April 30, 2016

| Rank | Name                                                       | Sex | Points | Owner                              |
|------|------------------------------------------------------------|-----|--------|------------------------------------|
| 1    | GCHG CH Felixvilles Traveling Pooch                        | M   | 109    | T Little/R Little                  |
| 2    | GCHS CH Rock-E-Hill Tennessee                              | M   | 88     | L Hibbard                          |
| 3    | GCHB CH Seegmillers Dos Miss Margo                         | F   | 72     | K Seegmiller                       |
| 4    | GCHB CH Evanlee May D'Odds B Evr N Ur Favor<br>River Ridge | M   | 62     | S McWilliams/J Gardner/R Fendlason |
| 5    | GCHB CH Trimark's Ooh La-La-Polka-Dah                      | F   | 43     | B Veltri                           |
| 6    | GCHB CH Ratitatt Gala Shindig                              | F   | 28     | V Schiefer                         |
| 7    | CH Bur-Way Crossin The Thin Red Line                       | F   | 23     | P Smith/M Martin                   |
| 8    | CH Seegmillers Tuffenuff To Envy RN                        | F   | 22     | K Seegmiller/B Pettry              |
| 9    | CH Ratitatt Bonnie Blue                                    | F   | 19     | L Deitrich/V Schiefer              |
| 10   | CH Hdk K2 Erandi Mistress Of The Night                     | F   | 18     | H Sparks/T Kallas                  |
| 10   | CH Turn Slice Of Heaven BN RN                              | F   | 18     | S Mulligan/S Turner                |
| 10   | GCH CH Arkay Sgk Sumthing2tlkout@Ghl                       | F   | 18     | A Burns/L Meek                     |
| 13   | GCHB CH River Ridge New Direction                          | F   | 17     | J Gardner/S McWilliams/K Cryan     |
| 13   | CH Felixville's Sauce Piquant CA                           | F   | 17     | T Little                           |
| 15   | CH Rnb She's Destine For Stardom                           | F   | 16     | S Hendrix/D Hendrix                |
| 16   | CH Hdk K2's Shockwave@Bellridge                            | M   | 14     | T Kallas                           |
| 17   | CH Miyuki From Empress                                     | F   | 12     | Y Cunningham/J Cunningham          |
| 18   | CH Surfari Sic Semper Tyrannis                             | F   | 10     | R Anthony/B Brown/S Coleman        |
| 19   | GCH CH Cal Val Ib A Red Chili Pepper                       | F   | 9      | D Baker/K Seegmiller               |
| 19   | CH Aacres John Henry                                       | M   | 9      | C Hart                             |
| 19   | CH Seegmillers Indigo Igo Legacy                           | M   | 9      | J Ferguson                         |



# Conformation

## AKC BREED STANDINGS

### 2016 Rat Terriers

The Canine Chronicle  
Statistics thru April 30, 2016

| Rank | Name                                                    | Sex | Points | BIS | GRP1 | Owner                              |
|------|---------------------------------------------------------|-----|--------|-----|------|------------------------------------|
| 1    | GCHG CH Felixvilles Traveling Pooch                     | M   | 165    | 0   | 0    | T Little/R Little                  |
| 2    | GCHS CH Rock-E-Hill Tennesse                            | M   | 104    | 0   | 0    | L Hibbard                          |
| 3    | GCHB CH Evanlee May D'Odds B Evr N Ur Favor River Ridge | M   | 65     | 0   | 0    | S McWilliams/J Gardner/R Fendlason |
| 4    | GCHB CH Seegmillers Dos Miss Margo                      | F   | 56     | 0   | 0    | K Seegmiller                       |
| 5    | GCHB CH Trimark's Ooh La-La-Polka-Dah                   | F   | 45     | 0   | 0    | B Veltri                           |
| 6    | CH Hdk K2's Shockwave@Bellridge                         | M   | 31     | 0   | 0    | T Kallas                           |
| 7    | CH Seegmillers Tuffenu# To Envy RN                      | F   | 25     | 0   | 0    | K Seegmiller/B Pettry              |
| 8    | CH Rnb She's Destine For Stardom                        | F   | 24     | 0   | 0    | S Hendrix/D Hendrix                |
| 9    | GCHB CH Ratitatt Gala Shindig                           | F   | 22     | 0   | 0    | V Schiefer                         |
| 10   | Cal Val Lily Luna Of Sugarloaf                          | F   | 14     | 0   | 0    | B Lancaster-Jordan/D Jordan        |
| 10   | CH Miyuki From Empress                                  | F   | 14     | 0   | 0    | Y Cunningham/J Cunningham          |
| 12   | CH Rosethorn's The Day's Of Wine & Roses                | F   | 13     | 0   | 0    | L Hibbard                          |
| 13   | CH Aacres John Henry                                    | M   | 11     | 0   | 0    | C Hart                             |
| 14   | GCH CH Cal Val Ib A Red Chili Pepper                    | F   | 9      | 0   | 0    | D Baker/K Seegmiller               |
| 14   | Wild Oak's Kiss Me Quick                                | F   | 9      | 0   | 0    | D Littleton/N Littleton            |
| 16   | Arkay Sgk Iwannadancewithsomebody                       | F   | 8      | 0   | 0    | R KRAMER                           |
| 17   | GCHB CH River Ridge New Direction                       | F   | 6      | 0   | 0    | J Gardner/S McWilliams/K Cryan     |
| 18   | GCH CH Aacres Go For It                                 | F   | 5      | 0   | 0    | C Adams                            |
| 18   | CH River Ridge's Give Em Someth'N 2talk About           | M   | 5      | 0   | 0    | J Maye/B Szczygieł/S McWilliams    |
| 18   | Call Me Tuff Enough Game On                             | M   | 5      | 0   | 0    | B Pettry                           |





# DOG NEWS

## TOP TEN LIST

### Rat Terriers

### March 2016

|   | RAT TERRIERS                                                                                      | Best In Show | Reserve Best In Show | Group One | Group Two | Group Three | Group Four | TOTAL |
|---|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------|----------------------|-----------|-----------|-------------|------------|-------|
| 1 | GCHG CH Felixvilles Traveling Pooch (M)<br>T Little/R Little                                      | 0            | 0                    | 0         | 1         | 1           | 1          | 181   |
| 2 | GCH CH Evanlee May D'Odds B Evr<br>N Ur Favor River Ridge (M)<br>S Mcwilliams/J Gardner/D McMahan | 0            | 0                    | 0         | 0         | 0           | 1          | 140   |
| 3 | CH Miyuki From Empress (F)<br>Y Cunningham/J Cunningham                                           | 0            | 0                    | 0         | 0         | 0           | 1          | 31    |
| 4 | GCH CH Seegmillers Miss Margo (F)<br>K Seegmiller                                                 | 0            | 0                    | 0         | 0         | 0           | 1          | 16    |



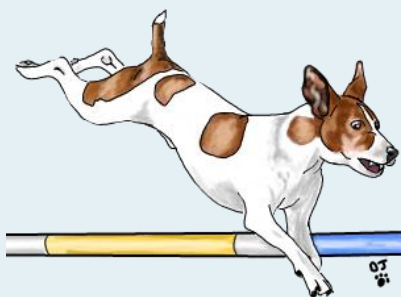
# AGILITY



## PBAC Agility Trial April 10 in Florida

Left to right: Brenda Becker with Banzai and Brave, Melissa Leibhardt and Shelby Rae and Penny Lane, Bill Becker with Maggie Mae and Romeo, Kathy Brown with Juno, Kathy Marble-Brown with Scream, Lola and Flash, Robin Marie Taylor with Johnny.

Photo provided by Bill Becker.



## Rat Terrier Ranking by PowerScore for 2016 Q1

The Breed Power 10 is a group of the top 10 dogs in each breed *at each height* ranked by PowerScore. The Breed Power 10 recognizes the fastest dogs in our sport by using average yards per second, rather than double qualifying (QQ) runs or points



| 8" Regular |             |                                                              |                        |         |         |
|------------|-------------|--------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------|---------|---------|
|            | Power Score | Dog                                                          | Owner                  | JWW YPS | STD YPS |
| 1          | 12.83       | Penny Lane — MACH12 Ratitatt Portrait Of The Queen MXG3 MJC3 | M Liebhardt/V Schiefer | 4.87    | 3.98    |
| 2          | 10.16       | Ratitatt Franibur Sing Zblus RN AX MXJ NF CA                 | C Lent/V Schiefer      | 3.84    | 3.16    |

| 12" Preferred |             |                                                                  |             |         |         |
|---------------|-------------|------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------|---------|---------|
|               | Power Score | Dog                                                              | Owner       | JWW YPS | STD YPS |
| 1             | 12.81       | Willis — MACH6 PACH Willis MXS2 MJG2 MXP4 MXPB MJP4 MJPB PAX T2B | M Obidinski | 4.86    | 3.98    |
| 2             | 12.00       | MACH Ratitatt Gotta Hava Kitkat MXB MJB MXP MJP                  | R Nicotra   | 4.68    | 3.66    |
| 3             | 11.45       | Raganrat Finding My Way AX AXJ MJP                               | N James     | 4.30    | 3.58    |



## 8" Preferred

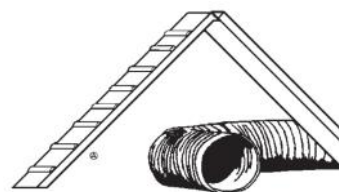
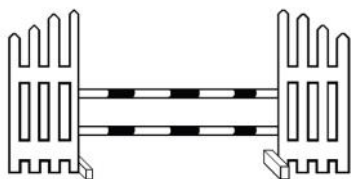
|   | Power Score | Dog                                                                                                                    | Owner               | JWW YPS | STD YPS |
|---|-------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------|---------|---------|
| 1 | 12.85       | Woody — MACH9 Ratitatt Wood U Buzz Me<br>MXS3 MJC3 MXP MJP MXF MFS TQX T2B                                             | Y Mancino/D Mancino | 4.93    | 3.96    |
| 2 | 12.49       | Jack AX MXJ MXP MJP OF OFF T2B T2BP JE                                                                                 | D Hodges/C Hodges   | 4.90    | 3.79    |
| 3 | 12.19       | MACH Ratitatt She's Got Moxie MXB MJB                                                                                  | R Nicotra           | 4.73    | 3.73    |
| 4 | 10.56       | MACH3 Rpk's Lexi MXG MJG MXP MJP XF                                                                                    | L Samson            | 3.91    | 3.32    |
| 5 | 9.30        | Stella — MACH4 PACH3 Dragonfly's Shooting<br>Star MXG2 MJG2 MXP12 MXPC MJP12 MJPC<br>PAX4 MXF MFC TQX MFP MFPB T2B6    | V Meyer             | 3.34    | 2.98    |
| 6 | 8.74        | Austin — MACH10 PACH Hollys Hope Of<br>Austins Powers MXB3 MJS3 MXP4 MXPB<br>MJP4 MJPB PAX MXF MFS TQX MFP T2B<br>T2BP | K Wells, Dvm        | 3.20    | 2.77    |



## 12" Regular

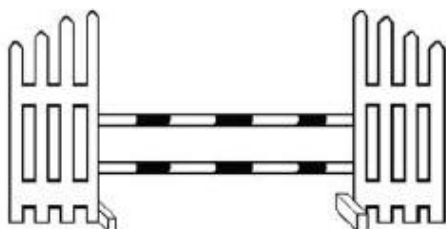
|    | Power Score | Dog                                                              | Owner               | JWW YPS | STD YPS |
|----|-------------|------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------|---------|---------|
| 1  | 13.25       | Gus — MACH2 Ratitatt Gusters Rebel Force CD BN RA MXS MJG XF T2B | M BASU/V Schiefer   | 5.03    | 4.11    |
| 2  | 12.94       | MACH24 Lady Maria Isabella Boyd MXS6 MJB7 MXF TQX T2B3           | G Capen             | 4.87    | 4.03    |
| 3  | 12.67       | Ryder — MACH Burway Ryder On The Storm CM MXS MJS RATO           | C Clemente          | 4.97    | 3.85    |
| 4  | 12.58       | Pecatonica's Angelina Nali MX MXJ                                | D Rabbach           | 4.92    | 3.83    |
| 5  | 12.57       | MACH Penelope's Pied Piper MXG MJS                               | N Sewell            | 4.76    | 3.90    |
| 6  | 12.56       | Drj's Johnny Boy MX MXB MXJ OF T2B2                              | R Taylor/D Taylor   | 4.97    | 3.79    |
| 7  | 11.92       | MACH2 Matthew's Caesar Augustus CD MXG MJG                       | M Backstrom         | 4.84    | 3.54    |
| 8  | 11.81       | Raganrat Wild Gypsy Rose AX MXJ MJB OF                           | M Liebhardt/D Ragan | 5.01    | 3.40    |
| 9  | 11.56       | Flash — MACH3 Call Me Greased Lightning MXC MJS2 XF T2B2 CA      | K Brown             | 4.78    | 3.39    |
| 10 | 11.56       | MACH24 Pebbles' Magic Act MXS6 MJC6 MXF TQX T2B                  | D Kennedy           | 4.54    | 3.51    |





## 16" Regular

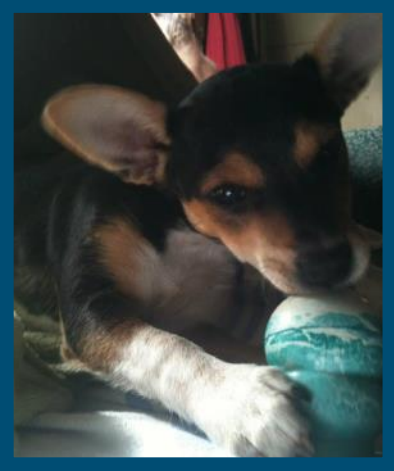
|   | Power Score | Dog                                                               | Owner       | JWW YPS | STD YPS |
|---|-------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------|---------|---------|
| 1 | 14.87       | Remus — Riverridge Mischief Managed RN<br>MX MXJ MJS MXF MFB T2B2 | D Stevenson | 5.78    | 4.54    |
| 2 | 14.28       | Porter — MACH3 Bur-Way Anything Goes<br>MXG MJG T2B CA            | M Obidinski | 5.32    | 4.48    |
| 3 | 14.03       | Taylor — MACH Taylorswift MXS MJG OF T2B                          | S Mcginty   | 5.29    | 4.37    |
| 4 | 12.10       | Warren Mtn's Roman Gnome AX MXJ MJB OF                            | L McCay     | 4.90    | 3.60    |
| 5 | 12.01       | MACH4 Windwood Rafael TD MXB2 MJC2<br>MXF MFG TQX T2B3 CAA        | L Mancino   | 4.57    | 3.72    |
| 6 | 11.97       | Call Me Greased Lightning's Heir Jordan MX<br>MXJ XF              | D Penha     | 4.82    | 3.58    |
| 7 | 9.13        | Phil In The Blanks CD BN RAE AX AXJ CGCA                          | P Burgess   | 3.57    | 2.78    |





# Love At First Rat

By Angela Wise



## How I came to love a Rat Terrier

I had 2 dogs a very old mini schnauzer and a Jack Russell mix. I did not want any more dogs. Again I did not want any more dogs. On Christmas, 4 years ago, I walked in to my dad's house and he said "choose one". I'll pause here for a little back story. Long story made short.

My dad purchased his rat terriers from a great breeder. They had decided together to have a litter with what was previously her female but now owned by my dad. So this litter was created. Some may know I'm in rescue; well I was seriously angry about it. I would not have anything to do with the puppies – NOTHING!

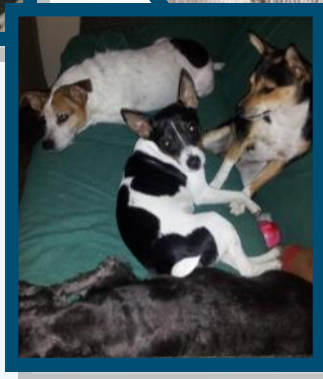
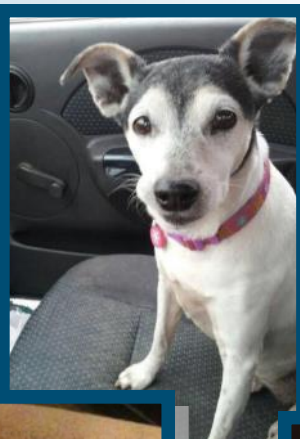
I did not even visit my dad until Christmas and I had no choice. This was Christmas 2011 and my dad had decided each of his children would to get a puppy for Christmas. I did not want a puppy. Rosco however had different plans. He jumped in my lap, loved on me and followed me around until finally I said "okay dad, I'll take this one". I brought him home and my JRT Burly said "no way", so I returned him to my dad and said "Burly said no". Dad found a buyer for Rosco and then they backed out so he once again asked me to try. We agreed to take it slow. I took both Burly and Rosco to the dog park every weekend for a couple weeks. Then one day it happened, Burly stood up for Rosco and protected him and in that moment they became best friends. I still took him back to my dad's, but then Rosco cried as I started to leave and Burly got upset too, that day Rosco came home to stay. It didn't take long for Rosco to find his place in our hearts. My dad had named him Rocky, but my Schnauzer's name was Rocky so that's how Rosco became Rosco.

Rosco was the perfect puppy! He never chewed one shoe; he was sweet, relaxed, and loving. Rosco became my gateway Rattie. Then along came Ben. He was the same age as Rosco. Ben was at a 'gassing' animal shelter and was owner surrendered at 6 months old. I took off work to go get him and Ben and Rosco were instant best friends. They played and played together. Ben however was a naughty puppy and ate so so many shoes. Rosco

remained the perfect puppy never tearing up anything and so well behaved. Ben was a foster dog, but I ended up adopting him myself. I adopted Ben because of how attached we had become to each other. He failed obedience school because he was afraid that I would leave him. So, with that, rat terrier number two was added to the pack. Rocky the mini Schnauzer passed on shortly after this. Then Christmas a year later we added old girl, Rosie, to the pack, and a few months later we added sweet little Olive to the pack. Rosie was a quiet, sweet, loving, gentle soul and she has since passed on. Olive is goofy, cantankerous, loves to cuddle and hoards my socks.

Rosco however is what brought me to love the breed. He came to me in a time of emotional need. He was always happy plus he loved and I mean he LOVED his people. I decided to show him and he did well, but I was not very good at it. He was my terrier in a tiara. He was a grumpy butt before a show, but as soon as he saw his breed line up he got happy and was ready to show his stuff. He won a few and lost a few. He was also a great hunter. His best quality thing was how he loved his family specially me. He taught himself to alert me that I was about to have a seizure. He was very good at it. For me, Rosco was the perfect boy. Sadly he has gone to the rainbow bridge and really I will never understand why. Ben taught me to love the rat terrier as well. He loves to snuggle and when I'm sad or don't feel well he cuddles himself tight in my arms and won't leave my side. Ben is spunky and ornery. He loves a good game of catch. Olive is my princess that loves dresses and to cuddle. Rosie loved being special and as old as she was she would always try to play and make me smile.

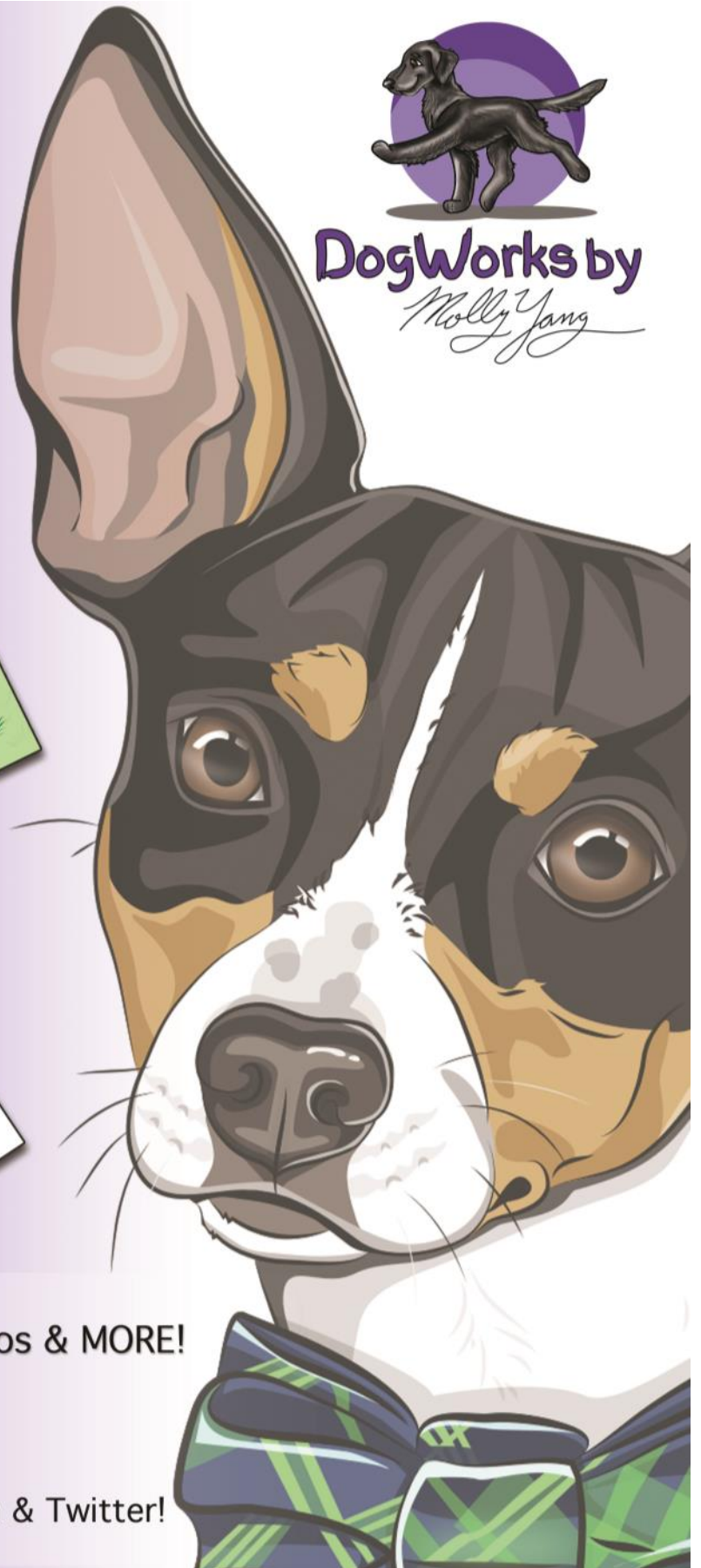
I'm probably rambling so to the point... Why do I love the rat terrier...? One common trait is they love love love love love their people. They love them so much that they tune themselves in and adjust themselves to help make their person happy. When needed they are goofy little clowns, they are teddy bears, they are an alert system, rodent and pest control, entertainment for the kids, entertainment for each other, naughty enough to keep you on your toes, and sweet enough you can't ever get mad at them. They are a wonderful well rounded breed.







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# RAT TERRIER COLORS & PATTERNS

MARTC collaborated with Dogworks to have a basic breed color chart created with hopes of helping new Rat Terrier owners and Judges correctly identify colors for the breed. With 19 colors and 9 patterns (based upon what is currently offered on AKC paperwork) it is not often easy to discern what color and pattern a Rat Terrier displays.

As a new breed with such complex colors and patterns, our club has hopes that RTCA will approve and accept this color chart. We believe it would be of great help to Judges and exhibitors. At the time of this newsletter, the club is still awaiting RTCA feedback and blessing on the chart.

In addition, another nice benefit is the club now has all the colors and patterns to create some nice items for future fund raising.

~~~~~

# Rat Terrier

## AKC Colors and Patterns



019 115



019 115



030 115



034 115



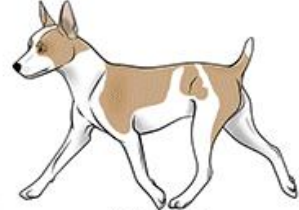
260 084



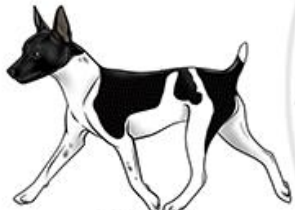
158 115  
140 067



199



200 025



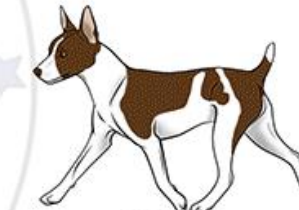
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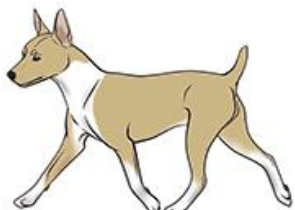
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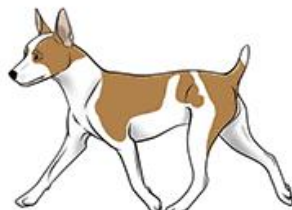
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### COLOR CODES

BLACK & WHITE	019	WHITE & BLUE FAWN	334
BLACK TAN & WHITE	030	WHITE & CHOCOLATE	287
BLACK WHITE & TAN	034	WHITE & FAWN	207
BLUE WHITE & TAN	260	WHITE & LEMON	211
RED	140	WHITE & RED	214
RED WHITE & SABLE	158	WHITE & SILVER	216
WHITE	199	WHITE & TAN	217
WHITE & APRICOT	200	WHITE BLACK & TAN	219
WHITE & BLACK	202	WHITE, CHOCOLATE & TAN	397
WHITE & BLUE	288		

### MARKING CODES

BADGER MARKINGS	001
BLANKET-BACK	084
IRISH MARKED	115
PIEBALD	025
SABLE, WHITE MARKINGS	067
SPOTTED OR PATCHED	106
TAN POINTS	029
WHITE MARKINGS, TAN POINTS	030
WHITE MASK WHITE MARKINGS	104

### DISQUALIFICATIONS

Any dog over six months of age measuring less than 10 inches, or over 18 inches. Any blue color in the eye(s). Cropped ears. An absence of coat (genetic hairlessness). Any suggestion of kink or curl, or coat type other than described. Solid colorations (other than white). Bi-colors without white, or dogs with a patch or strip of white measuring less than one inch at its widest dimension. Brindle or merle color patterns.



# Blast to the Past



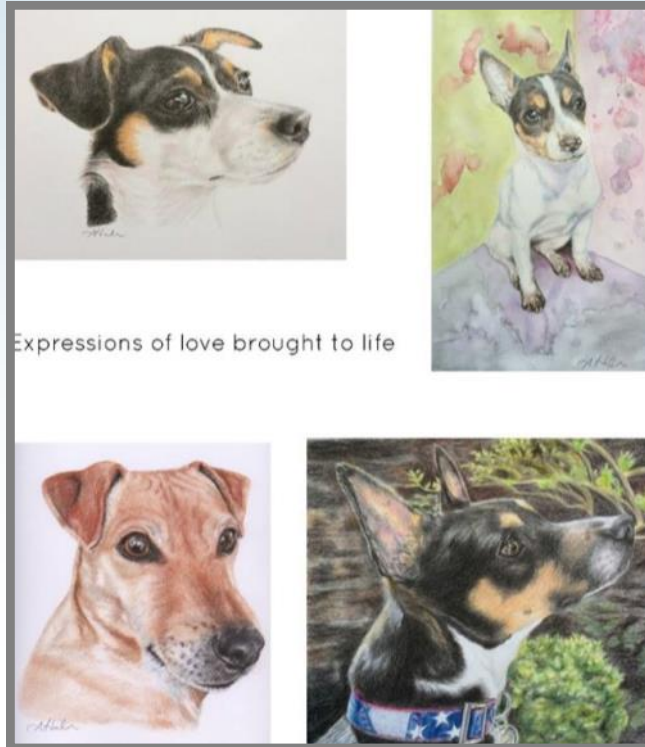
Please send your oldies  
but goodies to us for the  
next issue.



# The Art of Amanda Hall

“YowYowtails”

The “eyes” say it ALL



Expressions of love brought to life



Your dog, your dreams, my passion  
[Facebook.com/Yowyowtails](https://www.facebook.com/Yowyowtails)

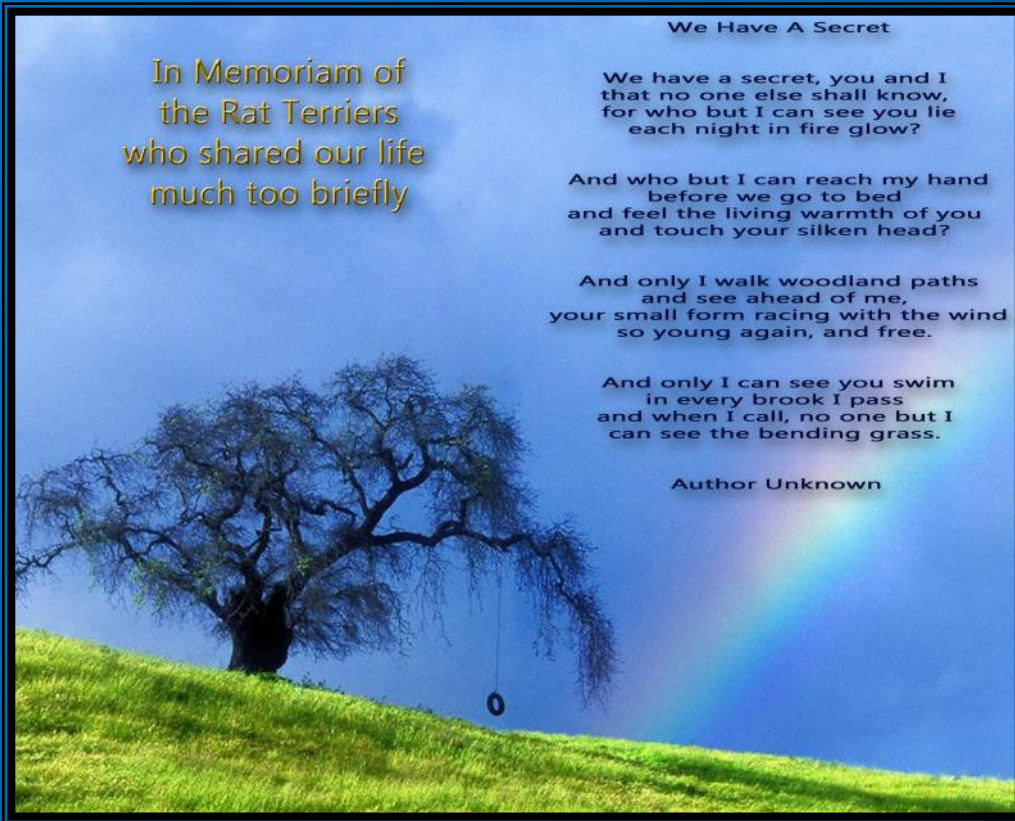


**Rattiescapes**  
by Amanda Hall  
If you can imagine it I can paint it



**CHECK OUT**  
**Amanda's**  
**Facebook art**  
**page:**  
[www.facebook.com/  
Yowyowtails](https://www.facebook.com/Yowyowtails)

**And Bogart's**  
**blog at: [https://  
www.facebook.com/  
RosethornTerriers](https://www.facebook.com/RosethornTerriers)**



In Memoriam of  
the Rat Terriers  
who shared our life  
much too briefly

We Have A Secret

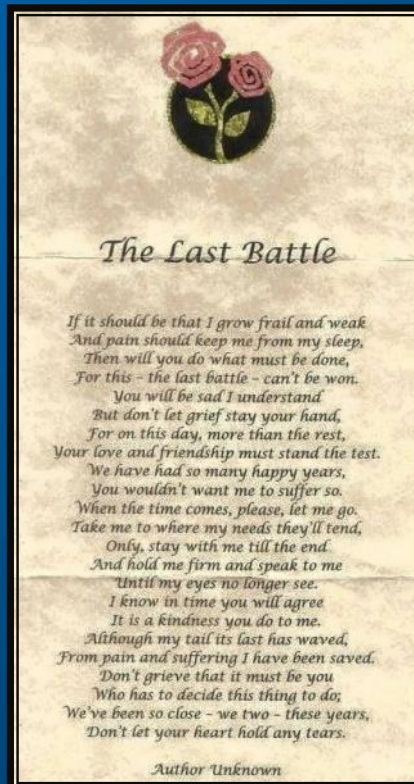
We have a secret, you and I  
that no one else shall know,  
for who but I can see you lie  
each night in fire glow?

And who but I can reach my hand  
before we go to bed  
and feel the living warmth of you  
and touch your silken head?

And only I walk woodland paths  
and see ahead of me,  
your small form racing with the wind  
so young again, and free.

And only I can see you swim  
in every brook I pass  
and when I call, no one but I  
can see the bending grass.

Author Unknown



*The Last Battle*

*If it should be that I grow frail and weak  
And pain should keep me from my sleep,  
Then will you do what must be done,  
For this - the last battle - can't be won.  
You will be sad I understand  
But don't let grief stay your hand,  
For on this day, more than the rest,  
Your love and friendship must stand the test.  
We have had so many happy years,  
You wouldn't want me to suffer so.  
When the time comes, please, let me go.  
Take me to where my needs they'll tend,  
Only, stay with me till the end  
And hold me firm and speak to me  
Until my eyes no longer see.  
I know in time you will agree  
It is a kindness you do to me.  
Although my tail 'tis last has waved,  
From pain and suffering I have been saved.  
Don't grieve that it must be you  
Who has to decide this thing to do;  
We've been so close - we two - these years,  
Don't let your heart hold any tears.*

Author Unknown

This page is reserved as a memorial for the special dogs that we lose. If you have had a loss and would like your dog honored here, please contact us.



# Support MARTC

amazon smile



You shop. Amazon gives.

As an IRS 501c3 non-profit organization, MARTC has partnered with Amazon Smile. Members as well as family and friends may support the club by signing into Amazon through [smile.amazon.com](https://smile.amazon.com) and selecting Mid-Atlantic Rat Terrier Club as their non-profit designation. Make purchases on Amazon via the [smile.amazon.com](https://smile.amazon.com) link and Amazon will give a percentage of the proceeds to the club. Amazon customers are not charged for this. It's Amazon's way to support non-profits. So, we hope that you will consider choosing MARTC as your designated non-profit to support.



# MEET THE EXHIBITOR!!

By Jackie Maye Olsen



I had the pleasure of interviewing a good friend of mine, Beth Szczygiel. I met Beth when she got her first rat terrier, Spry. I learned a great deal about her as I ended up moving in with her when I got a job in Massachusetts. Beth is a very accomplished trainer who resides in Seekonk Massachusetts and she has taught me a lot about training dogs including everything we learned in our year of taking agility classes with her at the gym where she works. I thought she would make an excellent candidate for our MARTC newsletter because of her experience and all she has accomplished through the years with her dogs so we decided to do this issue's "Meet the Exhibitor" Interview style. We hope you enjoy it!

**Trainer:** Beth Szczygiel

**Base:** Seekonk, MA

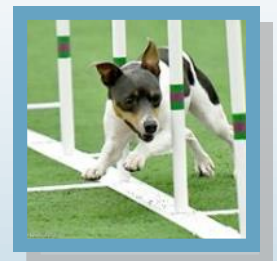
**Years competing in agility:** 16 years

**Venue of Competition:** AKC & USDAA

**What Current Dogs do you own?**

Rat Terrier "Spry" GCH River Ridge's Blue Solar Flare OA AXJ OF AAD SM TM RAT-O

Doberman "Milan" UCH MACH Platinum's Winner Takes it All CD MXS MJS OF RN RATS BH TT VC WAC CGC



**What are some of your most memorable Moments?**

In Spry's first year of competition (2015) she won Steeplechase Quarter Finals and TEAM Jumpers at Cynosports in TN. Milan had an amazing career but the most memorable was placing consistently in the Top 10 in the 24" class at the 2014 AKC Nationals and earning a spot in the Challengers Round.

**When did you start Exhibiting Dogs?**

I started showing dogs in 2000. I showed Chelsea, an older rescue Doberman in agility. In my junior years I was very involved in Hunter/Jumpers, seems many horse people have downsized to dogs over the years.

**What are some activities you like to do with your dogs in the ring or out?**

I have been very successful in several different venues but without a doubt, agility is my favorite. I also like my dogs to be, well, dogs! Running in the woods, swimming and just watching them play and wrestle without a care in the world.

**What made you switch from Dobermans to Rats?**

Several different reasons. After owning Dobermans for 20 years I felt I had accomplished a lot with the breed, 3 MACH dobes, Top 20 in obedience and agility, I wanted to compete in a different jump height and see if I could be as competitive. I also quite honestly wanted a breed that was easier to travel with. I had searched for a few years looking at different breeds, I knew I wanted a wash and wear type dog, but I still hadn't narrowed down my options. When my friend Deb Stevenson brought home her first Rattie, Remus, in 2011 I intently watched her journey and was intrigued with the breed. Long story short, in 2013 Stacy McWilliams bred her wonderful bitch Hannah (also Remus' dam) for the last time and Spry came into my life.

**Can you compare similarities/differences between the two breeds in the form of how they are to live with as well as train?**

Spry is my only rat to date so I can only compare her but I would say there are a lot of similarities to the two breed's temperament wise. Strong work ethic, good focus, biddable. Rats are very easy to live with, have an off switch and can chill out. One difference is they are a bit more barky! If there is something to alert, Spry is always the first, often times the big bad guard dog doesn't even bother, he knows his little sister has it covered.

**What are your goals for the future with Spry?**

My long term goal to represent the US internationally, short term goals are to strengthen our teamwork & consistency, sometimes I forget 2016 is only our second year competing and we have a lot of growing and improving to do.

**What's the best advice you could give someone working with their dog?**

The only limits you have are the limits you believe.

**What can you suggest to other dog owners thinking about getting into a sport with their dog?**

Go to events, sit ringside, be a sponge and absorb the atmosphere. I encourage all my students that are not ready to compete to attend trials, help out in the rings so they can learn the process first hand. Most importantly, take the time to read the rule book cover to cover in any venue.





# Rat Terrier Breed Standard

## General Appearance

The Rat Terrier was originally bred for ratting and farm work. A multipurpose companion dog that is capable of hunting rodents and vermin above and below ground, and to course small game. He is a sturdy, compact, small-to-medium sized parti-colored dog giving the appearance of elegance and fitness, denoting speed, power and balance. Honorable scars or a couple of broken or missing canines or incisors teeth are not to be faulted. The following is a description of the ideal Rat Terrier. Variations are penalized to the extent of the deviation.

## Size, Proportion, Substance

**Size-** There are two separate size divisions. Miniature At least 10 inches, not to exceed 13 inches. Standard  $\geq$  over 13 inches, and up to and including 18 inches in height measured at the withers. Any dog six months of age or older measuring less than 10 inches, or any dog over 18 inches are to be disqualified.

**Proportion -** The Rat Terrier is just slightly longer than tall. The height, measured vertically from the ground to the highest point of the withers, is slightly less than the length, measured horizontally from the point of the shoulders to the point of the buttocks. Shortness in leg is a serious fault.

**Substance -** Moderate bone in proportion to size. A well-balanced, hard-muscled dog with smooth lines under taut skin. This dog should not be rangy nor fine boned and toyish, and never bulky or coarse. They are shown in good, hard physical working condition.

## Head

The head resembles a smooth, blunt wedge from a front or profile view. When seen from the front, the head widens gradually towards the base of the ears in an unbroken line and is well filled up under the eyes. The expression is intelligent, alert and full of interest. The eyes are not large. They are obliquely set wide apart and are oval in shape. Eye color varies with coat color from darkest brown to hazel. Eye rim pigmentation corresponds with nose color and facial markings. Gray eyes are acceptable in blue or blue-fawn dogs only, being a serious fault in other colorations. Any blue in the eye(s) is a disqualification.

**Ears-** Set on the top outer edge of the skull, V-shaped, with the length in proportion to the head moderately pointed at the tip. When viewed from the side, the base of the ear is on line with the outer corner of the eye. Ears should match in shape and carriage when alert, and can be carried erect, semi-erect and tipped, or button without preference. When alert, a rose ear is a fault. Cropped ears are a disqualification.

**Skull -**When viewed from the front the skull is moderate in width, relatively flat on top, and rounded at crown and the sides as it widens smoothly from the corner of the eyes to the base of the ears. The occiput is not prominent. The cheeks are flat and well-muscled, but never bulging. The stop is moderate but distinct. The muzzle is strong, just slightly shorter in length than the skull and tapers smoothly along the sides to the nose. The nose color corresponds with the body color and is entirely pigmented. Flesh-colored noses are considered a fault in lemon or light apricot colorations while being a serious fault in other colorations. Seasonal fading is permitted. The lips are clean and tight, and correspond in color with the nose leather or may be pink; either solid or spotted is acceptable. The lower jaw and teeth are strong and well developed with no sign of being snipey or weak.

**Bite-** A scissor bite is preferred. A level bite is acceptable.

## Neck, Topline, Body

**Neck-**Length of neck is in proportion to the head. Strong, arched along the crest and dry, the neck blends smoothly into the flat shoulder blades.

**Topline-** Smooth and blending from the back through the loin and set of the tail. **Body  $\square$**  The body is compact, strong and flexible with well sprung ribs. The brisket extends to the elbow. When viewed from the front, the ribs appear to be oval. The Rat Terrier, while muscled and fit, has flat muscles that blend into the body. The chest is moderately wide and well filled with a discernible forechest. The underline ascends gradually with the ribs extending well back to a moderate tuck-up.

**Back -** The back is level and firm from the withers to the loin. The short loin has a slight muscular arch blending into the gently rounded croup.

**Tail-** The tail set is a continuation of the spine. Tails are customarily docked between the second and third joint, or can be a natural bobtail or left naturally long and tapering to the hock joint. Length is unimportant. The carriage is variable depending on attitude, carried from slightly below horizontal to almost erect, but not over the back or a ring tail.



## Forequarters

The shoulder blades are well laid back with flat muscles providing enough space between the shoulder blades to allow for free movement. The shoulder blades and the upper arms are nearly equal in length and well set back so that the elbows fall directly under the highest point of the shoulder blade. The depth of the body at the elbow is the same distance as from the elbow to the ground. The forelegs stand straight and parallel with elbows turning neither in nor out. The pasterns are slightly sloping when viewed from the side. The feet are oval in shape. The toes turn neither in nor out, are compact, moderately arched, with thick pads and strong nails. The front dewclaws may be removed.

## Hindquarters

The hindquarters are muscular but smooth and in balance with the forequarters. They should not be bulging or coarse. Stifles are well-bent with short hocks that are parallel and perpendicular to the ground. The hind feet although slightly smaller are similar to the front feet. Rear dewclaws are removed.

## Coat

Short, close lying, smooth and shiny coat. Texture varies; a very slight ruff or wave along the back is allowed, but undesirable. Any suggestion of kink or curl is cause for disqualification. Whiskers must not be removed. Absence of coat (total genetic hairlessness) is a disqualification.

## Color

Any variation of Pied patterning is acceptable. Pied is described as comparatively large patches of one or more colors in combination with white. Except for the "solid white" extreme piebald dog with only mottled/spotted skin. Disqualification - Rat Terriers are never a solid ground color without white markings, or bi-colored without one color being white. Acceptable colors with or without "tan points", include the predominate Black, or Chocolate, Red, Apricot, Blue, Fawn, Tan, Lemon, or White. Intense, dark shades of color with clearly defined and delineated coloration is preferred. White on the body is preferred to be between 10% and 90%, but all Patterns; spotted, patched or splashed with white in conjunction with (or without) any combination of white on the face, head or ears are equally acceptable without prejudice. "Tan Points" are common and vary in shades of cream to rust. Badger markings are acceptable. Speckling, ticking and mottling is common, but heavy ticking is undesirable. Sabbling is permitted in the coat or as shading on the head or penciling on the toes. A "black mask/black muzzle", on a dog not having black as coloration is to be seriously faulted. A few white hairs do not constitute an acceptable marking. A minimum white marking consists of a patch or strip of white with underlying white/pink skin on the forehead or body that exceeds one inch. Less than one inch of white at its widest dimension is a disqualification. Brindle or Merle color patterns are disqualifications.

## Gait

A ground-covering efficient trot with good reach and drive suggesting agility, speed and power. The legs are parallel at a trot, but as speed increases, the legs converge toward a center line. There should be no elbowing out, weaving or rolling action while in motion.

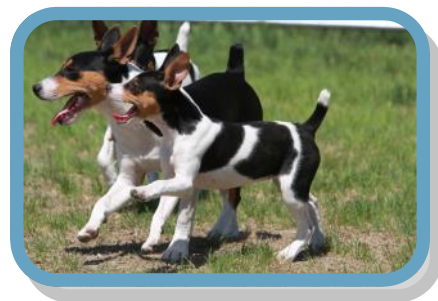
## Temperament

Keenly observant, devoted, full of energy, yet easily trained and obedient to command. The Rat Terrier is a non-sparring breed and generally friendly with other dogs, but may be reserved with strangers. Submissiveness is not a fault. Overt aggression and excessive shyness should be penalized.

## Disqualifications

Any dog over six months of age measuring less than 10 inches, or over 18 inches. Any blue color in the eye(s). Cropped ears. An absence of coat (genetic hairlessness). Any suggestion of kink or curl, or coat type other than described. Solid colorations (other than white). Bi colors without white, or dogs with a patch or strip of white measuring less than one inch at its widest dimension. Brindle or Merle color patterns.

Approved November 11, 2009  
Effective July 1, 2010



# Shameless Plug for ...

## NEW members!!!

We hope that you have enjoyed reading our newsletters and are finding them helpful, enjoyable, and worthy of archiving on your computer for future reference.

Please consider joining our MARTC family and developing friendships with people who share a common interest in the Rat Terrier breed at all levels and becoming a part of the work to continue to help the breed grow and prosper within AKC rules and guidelines.

While MARTC is not an AKC affiliated club at this time, it is the hope and future goal to become an AKC affiliated regional breed club. As has been mentioned previously in this newsletter, you can become a voting member and not live in the Mid-Atlantic region. This right gives you the opportunity to have a say in the future path that the club takes. How exciting it is to anticipate the growth of a club with the goals of benefitting the breed, educating the public, and developing friendships all across the country!!

We welcome people who participate in conformation, agility, barn hunt, lure coursing, rally, obedience and any other venues with this delightful breed. More importantly, we welcome people who have the pets that never compete in any venue because, for all of us, our dogs are pets first and the rest is frosting on top.

Old and new members will be welcomed and appreciated. Let's set the goal together of developing an awesome platform from which to promote our breed!!!



Find us on  
**Facebook**

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/midatlanticratterrierclub/>



## MID-ATLANTIC RAT TERRIER CLUB MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION



**Type of Membership:**

- Regular-\$25.00**  
Individual adult member residing in the Mid-Atlantic. Enjoys all privileges, including the right to hold office.
- Regular Household-\$30.00**  
Two adult members (same household) in the Mid-Atlantic. Enjoys all privileges, including the right to hold office.
- Associate-\$20.00**  
Individual adult member residing outside the Mid-Atlantic. Enjoys all privileges, except holding office.
- Associate Household \$25.00**  
Two adult members (in the same household) outside the Mid-Atlantic. Enjoys all privileges, except holding office.
- Junior-\$15.00**  
Individual under 18 years of age. Enjoys all privileges, except holding office and the right to vote.

*\*The "Mid-Atlantic" shall include only the following states: MD, NJ, DE, DC, VA, WV, NY, and PA.*

Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Cell Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

*Please check one or more of the following that best describes your interests:*

- Agility    Barn Hunt    Breeder    Conformation    Obedience    Pet Owner    Other \_\_\_\_\_

*Tell us about yourself and your dogs...*

We would love to hear about your hobbies, accomplishments, show brags or how your dogs like to spend their time. Please include registered names and call names for your dogs, as well as anything else you would like to share!

*If you are a member of any other dog clubs, please list them here. (Note any Board or other elected positions you currently hold.)*

*This club is run entirely by volunteers, if you would like to contribute, please list any special skills or areas of interest you may have.*

*Please provide the names of two current MARTC members who have agreed to sponsor your membership in the Club.*

1. \_\_\_\_\_ 2. \_\_\_\_\_

You agree that, if accepted in membership, you will abide by the MARTC Constitution, Bylaws, and Codes for Ethical Behavior and Good Sportsmanship. You will also adhere to the rules set forth by AKC and their Code of Sportsmanship.

**Consent to Electronic Communications**

You understand and agree to accept notification of Club meetings, dues notices, minutes, and newsletters, as well as Board of Director notifications of meetings, and minutes from said meetings via email. This authorization (which is revocable in writing) also releases the Club from liability should the notification be received late or not received by the member due to circumstances beyond the Club's control.

**Electronic Signatures**

By typing your name below, you understand that you are electronically signing this document and are agreeing to all of the policies, terms and conditions set forth above. If you understand, accept and agree to the policies, terms and conditions set out above, then type in your name on the line below to acknowledge your acceptance.

Member Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Member Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**For Quickest Processing:**

Send Dues via PayPal to:  
MidAtlanticRatTerrier@yahoo.com

Applications will also be accepted electronically to the above e-mail address

**For Regular Mail:**

Make personal checks payable to **MARTC** and mail to: Jackie Maye  
420 Wile Ave  
Souderton, PA 18964



**MID-ATLANTIC RAT TERRIER CLUB 2017 MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL**



**Type of Membership Renewal:**

- Regular-\$25.00**  
Individual adult member residing in the Mid-Atlantic. Enjoys all privileges, including the right to hold office.
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Individual under 18 years of age. Enjoys all privileges, except holding office and the right to vote.

*\*The "Mid-Atlantic" shall include only the following states: MD, NJ, DE, DC, VA, WV, NY, and PA.*

Name (or Names if Household): \_\_\_\_\_

*\*Please update any address, email or other information which has changed. If there are no changes to the information provided on your original application, please leave these fields blank.*

Address\*: \_\_\_\_\_

City\*: \_\_\_\_\_ State\*: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code\*: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone\*: \_\_\_\_\_ Cell Phone\*: \_\_\_\_\_

Email\*: \_\_\_\_\_

*Please check one or more of the following that best describes your interests\*:*

- Agility  Barn Hunt  Breeder  Conformation  Obedience  Pet Owner  Other \_\_\_\_\_

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\_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

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\_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

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Member Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Member Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**For Quickest Processing:**

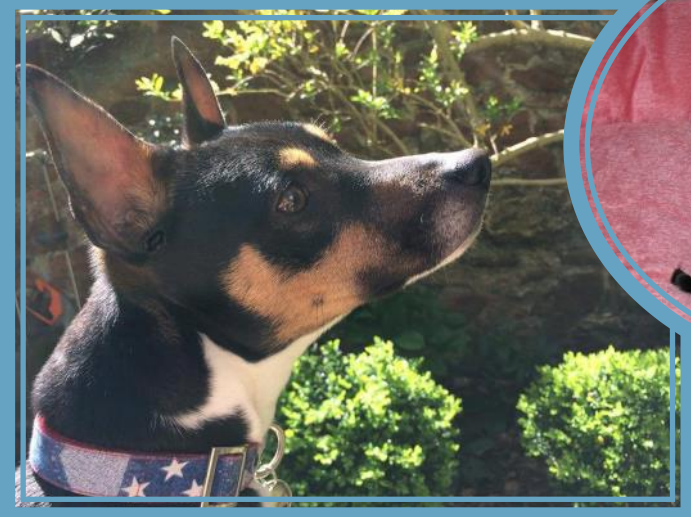
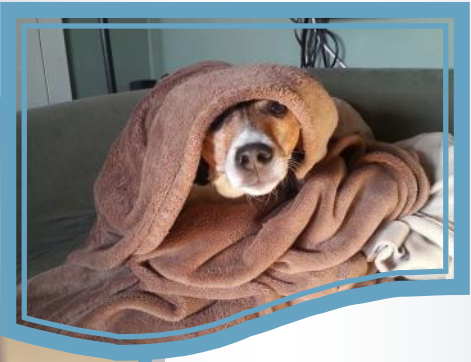
Send Dues via PayPal to:  
 MidAtlanticRatTerrier@yahoo.com

Applications will also be accepted electronically to the above e-mail address

**For Regular Mail:**

Make personal checks payable to **MARTC** and mail to: Jackie Maye  
 420 Wile Ave  
 Souderton, PA 18964

# The faces we adore



Don't forget to send us your fun photos to include in future issues of our newsletter.



# and ... Doing what they do





Thank you ... Thank you!!! To our many contributors who help make our newsletter a success. Your contributions are greatly appreciated and valued.



# The End

.....

See you next issue!!

If you would like to see your favorite “end” here send us the photo to consider for future issues of the newsletter.