

The Gun Dog Supreme

NEWS BULLETIN of the
BOHEMIAN WIREHAISED POINTING GRIFFON CLUB OF AMERICA
EDUCATION & RESEARCH FOUNDATION
<http://bohemiangriffon.org>

December 2016

Volume 91, Number 6

December 2016



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FROM THE EDITOR

Greetings:

December is often a bittersweet time, as we put the wraps on a too-short hunting season, hunker down for a winter and anticipate a new year, new pups and new adventures. It was especially so for me, as we said farewell to Brinker of Indian Creek. He endured more than any dog's fair share of photo sessions, posing for the GDS, but garnered a lot of friends in the club. Thanks for all your expressions of understanding.

A focus of this issue is on big game tracking. Special thanks to Monica Redmond for providing a great article and identifying resources for anyone who wants to give blood tracking a try.

By the way, if you haven't seen it, check out the article on our Breed in the November issue of Gun Dog Magazine.

Rem DeJong

On the Cover

Jar z Lovčických tarasů , owned by Craig Kukay, is pictured with the results of his very first blood track—a nice Ohio buck that Jar successfully trailed after hours of searching. Jar had no previous training, but he and Craig learned on the go. See article by Monica Redmond to learn about tracking.

(Photo by Craig Kukay)

For information requests or to join the WPGCA please email Robin at:
rstrathy@q.com

Or visit our web page at
<http://bohemiangriffon.org>

EDITORS

Rem DeJong
John Pitlo

SUBSCR./BACK ISSUES

Printed bi-monthly, the GDS is included with a \$60.00 membership to the BWP/GCA. Gift subscriptions are \$20.00/year and back issues are 20 for \$15. Subscription and back issue requests should be sent to:

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Email: dejongrem@gmail.com for photo submission instructions. Include the name of the dog and owner, and photographer. Digital photos are required; use large file size settings. If scanned use 300dpi (grayscale). You can email them or request instructions for uploading to website.

WEBSITES

E&R Foundation:
<http://huntersgriffon.org/>

Bohemian
Wirehaired Pointing Griffon Club:
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BWP/GCA Photo Gallery:
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First results from genetic studies in!

by
Laurie Connell

To begin this I want to thank everyone who submitted samples for their dog to be put into the Cornell DNA BioBank and for the Paw Print Genetic studies. The samples at Cornell will be in long-term storage so that future researchers can access them. It is vital that the DNA samples are paired with all of the other information we have been collecting from you so again many many thanks.

Paw Print Genetics initially offered to screen a dozen of our club dogs with all of their disease markers at no charge to us, other than submission of samples. These results would inform us about what KNOWN disease markers were in our population. Once we have that information we can make informed choices about selecting breeding partners. As it turned out, we submitted samples from 17 dogs for that first screening and Paw Print genetics used 148 disease markers for this study. We selected dogs that were as distantly related as possible and included many of our brand new imports at that time. Of those dogs two were found to be carriers of a gene associated with degenerative myelopathy, in humans this is often called Lou Gehrig's disease or ALS, so can be quite serious. From these first results we asked owners of related dogs to please submit samples to we could get a better idea of the background in our dogs. As luck would have it, we also have a number of stored frozen semen samples so we were able to get a pedigree analysis going back eight generations. The final paper has been published September 2016 in the journal *Veterinary Record Case Reports* and can be found at <http://vetrecordcasereports.bmj.com>. Carrier dogs are not expected to suffer from the disease, but those with two copies of the gene are at risk. In addition, testing a dog that may show early symptoms could help in veterinary care decisions.

We are on the cusp of a brave new world in understanding more about our dogs health and genomics is a very useful tool in helping to make sure we are being responsible and breeding healthy dogs.

Reminder:

Annual dues are to be paid by January 1st. Please go on-line to complete your membership form. PLEASE COMPLETE THE ON-LINE FORM EVEN IF YOU PAY BY CHECK THROUGH THE MAIL. It's the best way to assure that we have your current contact information. You can pay both national and chapter dues right on-line at:

<https://bohemiangriffon.org/join-renew/>



Silvie Neradilová and her dog Agi pose outside their new home away from home in the USA with land-lady Alisha.

(Photo by Laurie Connell)

A Future Mid-Atlantic –Carolinas Chapter?

Our club numbers at about 200 members from across the United States and Canada. Over twenty club members hail from states in the mid-Atlantic and Carolinas. Travel time to the Northeast club tests in Maine is long—Maine is larger than it appears! The Board of Directors and the Breeding Committee are seeking input for the formation of a Mid-Atlantic-Carolinas Chapter. Chapters can provide the organization of puppy training, testing, and recruitment of new members. If you are interested in contributing to the formation of the new chapter, please email the BWPGCA National Secretary Robin Strathy at rstrathy@q.com. Stay tuned for more details.

Welcome to the USA by **Laurie Connell**

We now have a partnership with not only Cornell University and the Czech Český Fousek club but also with University of Life Sciences in Prague. PhD. student Ing. Silvie Neradilová is now doing an internship at one of the preeminent dog genomic laboratories in the world, The Adam Boyko Lab at the Cornell College of Veterinary Medicine. While at Cornell Silvie will be learning the highly skilled bioinformatics analysis methods. Our Board of Directors voted to award Silvie a \$1000 scholarship to help her with the cost of living in Ithaca NY during her internship. Silvie will be using DNA submitted from Český Fousek dogs into the Cornell DNA BioBank to search for a marker gene associated with alopecia. In addition, there are 67 complete genomes being sequenced from our club dogs by an Arizona firm TGen. These samples are intended for the search for gene markers associated with shoulder OCD and the analysis of these samples is much more complex and involves yet another branch of bioinformatics so by the end of her visit Silvie should be very highly skilled indeed.

Scott Craig and Laurie Connell picked Silvie and her dog Agi up from the airport in Boston on 29 October 2016 and brought them up to Maine for the night. The next day we drove to the Canfields in New Hartford NY and spent the night before a full day in Ithaca NY to get Silvie settled in her new “home away from home” for the next few months. It has been a long trip for them, especially after months of getting all of the paperwork in order but please welcome Silvie and Agi to the US and congratulations on your internship!

Silvie Neradilová is on Facebook, so you can follow her adventure there. We anticipate some postings on the Cesky Fousek North America site

My Tracking Adventures With Louie

by

Monica Redmond

I think we can agree that a main reason we are drawn to the Cesky Fousek is their versatility – upland, waterfowl, fur, community service work, etc...these dogs are truly a “jack of all trades”. The innate cleverness that allows them to excel at multiple pursuits means these dogs are happiest when working.

Louie (**Fousek z Masek Alouis**) is a dog who needs a job- we train and hunt upland and waterfowl, have completed NAVHDA testing through Utility level, competed in shed hunting competitions and earned a United Blood Trackers Level 1 certification for tracking recovery of wounded game. As Louie nears retirement age, his son Bohdy (Fousek z Sakered Bohdan) will be picking up the tracking duties!



“Sonny’s Buck”

This deer was shot at 9 AM and we got on the track at 6:30 PM that night. This hunter did an excellent job of tracking for 400 yards before he lost blood on a logging road. We started at the hit site in hopes Louie could pick up individual hoof scent for when the blood ran out. The tactic worked and we were able to complete the final 100 yards without blood to the buck.

(Photo provided by the author)

We became familiar with tracking for wounded game recovery by introduction of some training partners who run Drathaars in the German testing system. Louie has always loved a good track – when we finished a training session we usually ended with a duck drag for fun. It was a natural fit for him and since I don't deer hunt myself it's also a way for me to participate in the sport. While our experience has been with tracking deer, the same skills are applied to the recovery of elk, bear, hog etc.

Like any activity you want to excel at with your dog, it takes time and effort to build a solid foundation. We started out with simple tracks in the back yard and added age, distance, turns, new locations and other challenges as our skills grew. Louie increased his ability to focus on a single scent trail and I learned to read him better. Each track added to our knowledge base when we began taking live calls from hunters where we encountered all combinations of weather, terrain, age and distance of the track, whether the hunters covered the ground already.... I really trust Louie's take on a situation and have learned a lot about deer behavior and how to read visual clues along a track. Tracking is truly a team sport; while your dog can work scent, you will conduct a thorough interview of the hunter, evaluate the hit site, assess visual clues along the track and assemble all of the pieces to reconstruct the scenario.

I enjoy tracking for the challenge; it's a puzzle where you and your dog work together using knowledge, past experience and talent... with no guarantees. The dogs love it too; Louie lets out his signature "woo-woo" when he sees me gather the gear bag. When his harness goes on, it's nose down and he's all business. It's rewarding to see these dogs work well and with enthusiasm; many times hunters whom we have assisted comment on how interesting is to watch Louie work, and they value our efforts in helping them with their hunt. Recovery of wounded game and prevention of waste is a service to the sport of hunting and one reason we put so much time and effort into training our hunting companions in the first place. To that end, while a find is rewarding, a track should also be considered successful when you provide reassurance to the hunter that the deer is on the hoof yet.

The book *Tracking Dogs for Finding Wounded Deer* by John Jeanneney is a great resource; from getting started with training to evaluating a hit site this book has it covered. I often reference this book when conducting the hunter interview and carry it with me during the season. It's an excellent book for deer hunters for the depth of information even if you don't use a tracking dog.

Another great resource for trackers of all levels is **United Blood Trackers**. Along with a wealth of information and a nationwide network of knowledgeable and friendly fellow trackers, they offer certifications and an annual training workshop for dogs and handlers. Also, if you are ever in need of a tracker the website has an easy directory of members in your area who offer their services at www.unitedbloodtrackers.org

Please note: Not all states allow recovery of wounded game with a dog, and those that do have varying regulations. Check with your state's DNR for up to date information.



“Severson Buck”

This deer was shot in a wet, swampy area we call “the bottoms”. The hunter thought he had a high back shot with the arrow still in the deer. This was a tough track for our experience level with minimal blood and in a deer heavy area. We hadn’t gone far when Louie lifted his head and indicated to me that he was at a loss for what to do next. The hunter thought he had an angle on the arrow which would be fatal in a moving deer so I tried a wide search pattern to pick up air scent. Eventually, Louie went on point at the end of the lead - his nose saved us a lot of time working in the dark and we beat the coyotes to the deer.

(Photo provided by the author)



“Chet Doe”

This call was from a co-worker who was bow hunting for the first time. This doe covered close to ½ mile in a semi-residential area. We had a fairly easy track through the woods with decent sign, but without Louie, would not have been able to determine the 90 degree turn she took when she came to open ground. It turned out the doe was not fatally wounded and had bedded down in tall grass in a roadside ditch not too far away. Without a dog, we would have walked right past her.

(Photo provided by the author)

TRACKING DOGS — FOR FINDING — WOUNDED DEER



JOHN JEANNENEY

The Book *Tracking Dogs for Finding Wounded Deer* is available on line from Amazon and other book sellers.

Note: The following article is reprinted from the United Blood Trackers website with permission on December 3, 2016. Please visit their website for much additional information on blood tracking.

<https://www.unitedbloodtrackers.org/>

Dog Training

In training, as in actual live tracking, we work the dogs at all times on a 20 to 30 foot leash which does not hang up as a short leash does. Light clothes line will do to start. Eight (8) mm. mountain climbing cord is good for smaller dogs and the eleven (11) mm. size works better on the pointer-sized dogs. We start 10 week-old puppies with short 100 foot lines dribbled with deer blood. We get this from deer that we find, carrying it in double Ziplock bags and later freezing it until needed in Yz pint containers. Plastic margarine containers are good. It is important to put a "prize" - a piece of deer skin, a deer tail or even a dead woodchuck at the end of the line. Age the line 15 minutes or so and let the pup bark at and chew on the prize when he finds it.

When the pup likes to track and has some powers of concentration, she may be introduced to longer and older lines, laid out with drops of deer blood from a squeeze bottle. (With a squeeze bottle you have to strain the blood.) You can also place the blood with a small square of sponge tied to a light four foot stick. We place a half or whole frozen deer skin at the end of the line. Mark out your line with strips of paper stapled to trees or with surveyors' tape tied on trees so that you know where the line is even when the blood is too thin to be seen by eye. Use a drop or a dab of blood at every stride.

Start with easy lines aged from two to four hours. A line of three to four hundred yards is plenty. As the dog improves use less blood, age the lines up to 24 hours and increase the distance up to half a mile. Talk to your dog and give lots of praise especially when the dog finds the "deer." It is better to let the dog make his own mistakes and figure out how to correct himself. You do not want to develop a dog which is dependent upon you for guidance. Don't overdo the training. The dog learns best if tracking is not allowed to become a chore with a lot of heavy discipline. Generally one training session with one line each week is plenty.

Most dogs run into problems in tracking because they get bored or distracted by more interesting things like hot deer lines. Under normal conditions almost any hunting dog is capable of following a blood line placed the day before, if he is motivated. Concentrate on motivating the dog with praise and positive reinforcement.

Before a dog becomes useful for finding wounded deer he must be able to maintain concentration on the old wounded deer scent line even when confronted by a healthy deer or a hot line. Once the dog knows what is expected he should be worked over blood lines laid where deer are known to be present. Use positive

reinforcement for what the dog is doing right rather than negative punishment for mistakes. The more the dog is motivated to please you the easier training will be.

The dog that can follow a blood line laid with Yz pint of blood and aged 20 to 24 hours should be capable of finding many wounded deer that cannot be tracked by eye. The dog will improve a great deal more with practical experience in the field and with emotional maturity. Usually dogs are at least two before they begin to reach their potential. They continue to improve until eight or ten.

Letting the dog "find" easy, dead deer that have been successfully eye-tracked by hunters is another way to train dogs or to reinforce the training with artificial bloodlines. When you do this use the same methods and equipment that you would ordinarily use in training or on a real deer call. The dog will not be upset if the deer that he "finds" is already field dressed.



REPORT FROM THE FIELD: Roger Fuhrman sends this nice photo of young Cora z Ceceminských vinic holding a chukar partridge harvested over her point. Cora was bred by Pavel Horak and imported in 2015.

BWPGCA Annual Treasurer's Report

The BWPGCA Constitution requires that an annual Treasurer's Report be published in the December issue of the gun Dog Supreme. In compliance with that requirement, the following report is being provided by the Club treasurer, Zeb Breuckman. Questions or comments about the report may be addressed to Zeb at:

ZEB BREUCKMAN, BWPGCA Treasurer

4433 7 Mile Road

South Lyon, MI 48178

262-210-1285

zeb.breuckman@gmail.com

BWPGCA Account Balance as of 10/31/16: \$14,526.01

BWPGCA Expenses

GDS Subscriptions (Paid to ERF)	-4030
Paypal fees	-198.05
Local Chapter Dues Distributed	-1540
Administrative Supplies and Fees	-253.67
Imported Puppy Payments	-12170.2
Promotional Items Purchased	-221.2
Purchase Frozen Semen	-2386.51
Semen Storage	-2990.84
Grant for Grad Student from CR to Study Dogs in US	-1000
Heart Test for Imported Puppy	-595
Magazine Ads	-1000
Pheasant Fest	-1072
Domestic Breeding Expenses	-3175.71
 Sum Expenses	 -30633.2

BWPGCA Income	
Dues	12330
Local Chapter Dues Collected	1800
Imported Puppy Income	13500
Promotional Items Sold	80
Registartion Fees	110
Domestic Puppy Sales	4160
Sum Income	31980

The BWPGCA Education and Research Foundation Account Balance as of 10/31/16: \$1047.94

BWPGCA Ed & Research Foundation Expenses	
GDS Printing / Mailing	-3862.09
Fees	-61.75
Insurance	-750
Test Expenses	-944
Paw Prints Genetics DNA Study	-1283.19
Sum Expenses	-6901.03
BWPGCA Ed & Research Foundation Income	
GDS Subscriptions	4050
Donations	90
Amazon Smile	17.78
Test Income	1125
Local Chapter Contributions	700
Sum Income	5982.78

2016 Report & 2017 Winter/Spring Puppy Plans **BWPGCA Breeding Committee** by **Jennifer A Lachowicz**

The breeding committee wishes club members, old and new, the best of holidays!

Now to business. Here is a brief report of domestic breedings in 2016. Hilda of Dutchman's Hollow was artificially bred to Barton de Los Altos resulting in 10 puppies, now training and hunting across the country. Hershey of Dutchman's Hollow was artificially bred to Dar od Anabuškého lesíka, resulting in two healthy puppies. We also attempted to artificially breed Cira od Aliny z Nehvzd, but it did not take. There is a correlation between the age of stud at semen collection with successful artificial breeding that might have influenced this breeding. In addition, 11 puppies will have been imported from the Czech Republic in 2016 due to the generous efforts of our friends Pavel Dostal, Pavel Horak, and Silvie Neradilová. We assisted a new member in Montana with importing two additional females on his own that we could use in our breeding pool, as well as past/returning member with an imported female that could be used for breeding.

Our first imported Český Fousek was Erik od Jezárek and we successfully shipped semen from Erik back to the Czech Republic. We are now looking through males recommended by the Czech breed wardens for further frozen semen imports.

The breeding committee has a preliminary plan for breeding and imports through spring 2017. Currently, there are about 30 people on the list interested in puppies. The breed has caught the eye of several people new to the club because of the article in the November 2016 issue of Gun Dog magazine. To meet this growing interest, we have domestic breeding on-going and imports planned. First, we have artificially bred Helena (Ellie) of Dutchman's Hollow (sister to Hilda and Hershey) with Don z Dočkalova dvora. Ellie is an avid water dog and has excellent hips. Don scored with highest marks across his tests in the Czech Republic. There are early signs that Ellie is pregnant, but there hasn't been confirmation as of printing. Another female that we will breed early in 2017 is Chappy of High Desert. Chappy scored Prize I in NAT and Prize II in IHDT. We are finalizing the choice of stud from a list of suggested dogs from our colleagues in the Czech Republic. Finally, Laurie Connell's and Rick Sojda's efforts on identifying ideal dogs for import is on-going. Several puppies will be imported in late winter. We plan to import 10 pups in 2017 with an equal number of males and females. We are looking for well-balanced dogs showing good cooperation, as well as performance. Because we will be importing more puppies over the next several years, we are also targeting pups that represent genetics less used in the Czech Republic to preserve those genes in our populations.

If you are interested in a puppy for 2017 or 2018, we have a new website tool to submit your interest to the breeding committee. Follow these instructions: Visit bohemiangriffon.org. Hover your mouse over the words *Managed Breeding* to reveal a list of four options. Click on the last one, *Puppy Request*. Scroll down to fill out the form with your contact information and puppy preferences.

Alternatively type in <https://bohemiangriffon.org/puppy-request/> and scroll down to fill out the form.

We receive this form immediately and add you to our puppy list noting the date. When assigning puppies, we take into account date of request and your preferences. From there, Jen Lachowiec emails all on the puppy list with monthly updates on the status of breedings and imports. For those who imported puppies this year, the final monetary rectification has been hampered by attention to hunting seasons(!) but is in process and should be completed by Zeb and Rick, soon.

Caesar Augustus of High Desert Moose Hunt from Fred Williams



Moose: I have shot moose in the past but this is the first moose that I have hunted more for the circumstances than the horns. The goal was to take a moose with a traditional muzzle loader that I had hand built many years ago and to do it with Gus at my side. We had success after 6 days of hunting! Gus loved it and was a great (calm) hunting partner throughout the hunt here in Wyoming.

What's Happening

Reminder: Annual dues should be paid by January 1st. Please go on-line to complete your membership form. You can pay both national and chapter dues right on-line at:

<https://bohemiangriffon.org/join-renew/>

New Puppy?

Are you considering getting a puppy next year (either Czech import or domestic breeding)? The first step is to go on-line and complete a puppy request form. That will assure that the Breeding Committee has your contact information and will get the process started. Go to:

<https://bohemiangriffon.org/puppy-request/>

2017 NATIONAL PHEASANT FEST & QUAIL CLASSIC FEBRUARY 17,18,&19 | MINNEAPOLIS CONVENTION CENTER | MINNEAPOLIS, MINNESOTA

BWPGCA will have a display at Pheasant Fest. Kirk Dilly and Mike Chlapaty are organizing our involvement. Volunteers will be needed. If interested in helping, contact:

Kirk Dilly.

Kirk.Dilly@mortonbuildings.com

Phone: 320-304-2212

Spring 2017 Test Dates

Rocky Mountain Chapter March 25-26th

Heartland Chapter April 21,22,23

Northeast May 6-7th

Details will be posted on web site and future GDS Issues