



Newsette


WWW.VHOC.ORG

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CONTENT

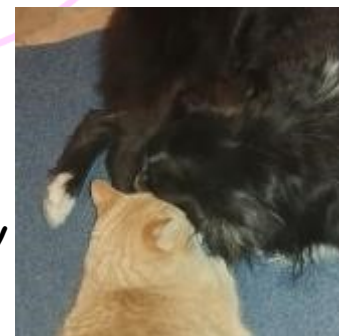
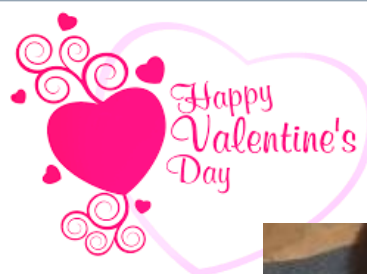
Whom to Contact	2
Upcoming February Zoom Meeting	3
January Zoom Meeting Recap	3
Dog Poisoned by the Diffuser	4
How Essential Oils Can Effect Your Pet	5
Puppies sniffing out Covid-19	9
Newsette Ad info	11
Buddy the GSD and Covid-19	12
Condolences to Monica Nolan	15
Braggs	16

VOTING IS OVER

PLEASE CHECK "WHOM TO CONTACT" FOR YOUR CLUB OFFICIERS

There are several positions still vacant.

If you are interested please contact one of the
board members.



Feb 20th—National Love Your Pet Day -
<https://nationaltoday.com/national-love-pet-day/>

Please join us for our Virtual General Membership Meeting on **Friday, February 19th, at 6:30 PM on Zoom.** Our guest speaker this month is

Tommy Dickey—He will be sharing information on Covid sniffing Dogs

See the article on page 9 for some background information.

If you wish to join us at 6:30 PM on February 19th, please RSVP to Carole before February 17th to receive the link for the virtual meeting. chills37@aol.com

REMINDER

Remember to check the website
<http://www.vhoc.org>
 for announcements, cancelled classes,
 upcoming events and other important club information.

If you know of a member who would appreciate
 receiving correspondence, such as a get-well card,
 sympathy card, etc., please email our Corresponding
 Secretary, Carole Hills, at
chills37@aol.com

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Got News?

*Do you have a brag? Did you get a new puppy? Is your dog celebrating a birthday?
Do you have other dog-related news, photos, articles, humor or upcoming events you'd like to share?*

*Do you have a canine product or service you'd like to promote?
Ads are only \$10.00 a month, or \$50.00 for an entire year.*

Email me for more information, or just send your stuff to:

Debbie Lang at
djlang@sbcglobal.net

Submission deadline is the 8th of each month

This is YOUR Newsette...make it great!

UPCOMING - February General Meeting is on Friday the 19th

Our next General Meeting will have Tommy Dickey giving us a presentation on dogs being used to sniff out individuals with Covid-19

We have an article on page 9 that talks about the work being done and Tommy's involvement.



If you wish to join us at 6:30 PM on February 19th, please RSVP to Carole before February 17th to receive the link for the virtual meeting. chills37@aol.com

January 20th General Meeting via Zoom

We had a great presentation via Zoom by Suzanne Vega from the Tender Loving Canines Program, affiliated with Guide Dogs of America. Tender Loving Canines is involved with several Service Dog Programs: Autism Service Dogs, Veteran's service dogs and Facility Dog teams and they are working with inmates as trainers of the dogs.

Susanne went into information on training the dogs, that they can have 33 different cues for behaviors.

The service dogs are taught Interruptive Behavior or Deep Penetration behavior. She also explained that with the Autistic program the same behaviors need to be taught to the dogs. She had videos of participants in both the Veteran's Service Dog and the Autistic Dog programs with people that have received dogs from the TLC program.

They also have a facility dog program that is geared towards hospice care, and the victim services unit, where the dog is one of the first responders.

If you weren't able to view this at the January meeting, or wanted to review the program, it was recorded and you can view it at:

<https://youtu.be/vBCNirq-Ys4>

Willow and Linda S were part of the video presentation. (pictured)



Dog Poisoned by the Diffuser posted by Marianne White 11/16/19 on FB

Saturday night I got home late and my dog didn't recognize me. Being a nanny I thought I woke him up and he was having a night terror. Sunday, he was still acting weird. I realized that I had been running my new diffuser and decided to turn it off. Sunday afternoon, he was feeling better.

Today at work, my dog sitter said that he wouldn't come out from under the bed. It was very odd as he is a happy dog.

I came from work early and again, he was very confused about who I was.

So I took him to emergency vet.

It turns out that the tea tree oil I was using in the diffuser is toxic for dogs. Thankfully the test showed that his liver was ok but we weren't out of the woods yet. He was given fluids under his skin to get the toxins out.

The vet and the poison control are saying that they see these cases often now that the popularity of essential oil is growing.

Please make sure that the essential oils you are burning are not toxic for your pets.

Here is a list of essential oils not to use if you have a dog at home:

- Anise (*Pimpinella anisum*)
- Birch (*Betula*)
- Bitter Almond (*Prunus dulcis*)
- Boldo (*Peumus boldus*)
- Calamus (*Acorus calamus*)
- Camphor (*Cinnamomum camphora*)
- Cassia (*Cassia fistula*)
- Chenopodium (*Chenopodium album*)
- Cloves (*Syzygium aromaticum*)
- Garlic (*Allium sativum*)
- Goosefoot (*Chenopodium murale*)
- Horseradish (*Armoracia rusticana*)
- Hyssop (*Hyssopus* sp. with the exception of *Decumbens*)
- Juniper (*Juniperus* sp. with the exception of Juniper Berry)
- Mugwort (*Artemisia vulgaris*)
- Mustard (*Brassica juncea*)
- Oregano (*Origanum vulgare*)
- Pennyroyal (*Mentha pulegium*)
- Red or White Thyme
- Rue (*Ruta graveolens*)
- Santolina (*Santolina chamaecyparissus*)
- Sassafras (*Sassafras albidum*)
- Savory (*Satureja*)
- Tansy (*Tanacetum vulgare*)
- Tea Tree Oil (*Melaleuca alternifolia*)
- Terebinth (*Pistacia palaestina*)
- Thuja (*Thuja occidentalis*)
- Wintergreen (*Gaultheria procumbens*)
- Wormwood (*Artemisia absinthium*)
- Yarrow (*Achillea millefolium*)

Please share this story as it may save someones precious furry family member!

How Essential Oils Can Affect Your Pet's Health

URL: <https://cabbagetownpetclinic.com/2020/03/02/how-essential-oils-can-affect-your-pets-health/>



Essential Oil Diffusers and Pet Safety.

The use of essential oils has become increasingly widespread over the last few years. While wildly popular, scientific support about the positive health effects is limited and contradictory. This is particularly true when discussing health effects on your pet.

How safe are these essential oils for our pets?

Many essential oils, such as eucalyptus oil, tea tree oil, cinnamon, citrus, peppermint, pine, wintergreen, and ylang ylang are straight up toxic to pets. These are toxic whether they are applied to the skin, used in diffusers or licked up in the case of a spill.

Diffusers emitting a lovely, nose-pleasing aroma may seem benign, but can be unsafe since it uses water vapour to diffuse tiny oil droplets into the air. Inhaling diffused oils is known to cause negative respiratory effects on humans and pets, if used in a small space and/or for an extended period of time.

It is important to note that cats and dogs are much more sensitive to scents than their human counterparts. What you may believe to be an insignificant, fragrant scent may be overwhelming and harmful to an animal.

What Are Essential Oils And What Are The Benefits?

Essential oils are made from highly concentrated plant substances and are popular in aromatherapy and alternative medicine, as well as home air fresheners. There are numerous types of essential oils, each with their own unique physical and chemical properties.

People believe the use of these “natural” essential oils helps improve their personal and their pet’s health and happiness. The perceived health benefits of essential oils has convinced some pet parents to try a holistic, “natural” approach to help with a wide variety of medical conditions, from anxiety and skin problems to flea and tick prevention.

However, the perceived positive effects (calming sensations, stress-reduction, boost energy and improved focus, among others) of essential oils for you may result in significant negative effects on your beloved pet.

“Natural” doesn’t always mean safe.

There is some preliminary research – largely funded by companies selling herbal-infused pet products – that suggests essential oils may have some health benefits for pets. This has resulted in some holistic veterinarians to include essential oil treatments into their practices.

Although research is still in the early stages, most veterinarians don’t incorporate this yet-unproven therapy, as the risks outweigh any benefits.

How Essential Oils Can Affect Your Pet's Health—continued



How Do Essential Oils Put My Cat at Risk?

Established research has shown that essential oils can be toxic to cats, whether taken internally, applied to the skin, or simply inhaled. Exposure can lead to serious liver damage, liver failure, respiratory failure, seizures and even death.

Felines are missing specific enzymes that provide the ability to properly process various compounds (called “glucuronidation”) found in essential oils, specifically phenols. Phenolic compounds occur naturally in plants and are highly concentrated in essential oils, leaving the liver the most vulnerable to organ failure.

Essential oil and aromatherapy diffusers, candles, liquid potpourri products, and room sprays are all sources of airborne essential oils that can be inhaled or licked off their fur. If you can smell the aroma of the oil, that means that there's oil in the air and can result in respiratory distress.

General guidelines for the use of essential oils in homes with your feline friends:

- Do not apply or feed essential oils directly to cats, or leave oils in areas where they may come in direct contact. While some oils do have insect repellent capabilities and smell great, the risk of serious or fatal reactions in your cat is high. Your inquisitive pet will thank you.
- If your cat has asthma, allergies, or another respiratory condition, avoid all use of essential oils.
- Keep cats out of rooms with a high concentration of essential oils. Kittens, elderly cats, or cats who have liver or respiratory problems should be ***kept out of any room*** where essential oil diffusers are used.

The following essential oils are poisonous to cats:

- Cinnamon oil
- Citrus oil
- Clove oil
- Eucalyptus oil
- Oil of Sweet Birch
- Pennyroyal oil
- Peppermint oil
- Pine oils
- Tea Tree oil
- Wintergreen
- Ylang Ylang

How Essential Oils Can Affect Your Pet's Health—continued

Is My Dog at Risk if I Use Essential Oils?

A dogs' sense of smell is much more keen than humans – this is very important to consider if you plan to use or diffuse essential oils in your home. Placing drops of lavender oil on your pet's bedding may help calm them, or it may just cause further stress. Oils used incorrectly can also lead to changes in behaviour, adverse central nervous system effects, and respiratory problems.

Natural flea and tick treatments that use essential oils can be tricky. With a lack of data supporting the efficacy of these products, pet parents may be putting their dogs at risk for flea and [tick-borne diseases](#).

If you plan to use essential oils with/on your dog, there is an easy way to do it safely: talk to your veterinarian. They will let you know which oils are potentially dangerous and provide you with information about safely using them in your home.

- Keep all essential oils out of reach of curious dogs – ALWAYS. Fragrant smelling liquids may attract your dog and never leave essential oils unattended.
- Do not apply pure essential oils topically or orally to your dog without consulting with your veterinarian first. Oils can be dangerous – especially tea tree oil – and there's scant evidence that they're effective.
- If you have an active diffuser, make sure the oil you're using is safe for your particular animal (more on this below), and air out the room before you let your dog back in.
- Passive diffusers are generally safer, as long as your pet doesn't knock them over. Generally speaking, the more dilute the oil, the safer it is...but always check with our vets first!

For our canine friends, toxic essential oils include:

- Pennyroyal oil
- Pine oil
- Tea tree oil
- Wintergreen oil
- Cinnamon oil
- Citrus oil
- Peppermint oil
- Sweet Birch oil
- Ylang Ylang

Pet Exposure to Essential Oils.

What to do.

If you're worried that your pet has been exposed, monitor them for symptoms. If they start having a negative reaction, bring your pet to your pet clinic or an emergency animal clinic immediately.

Common symptoms of essential oil poisoning:

- watery nose or eyes
- redness of the lips, gums or skin
- vomiting and drooling
- difficulty breathing or panting; coughing or wheezing
- lethargy, tremors or wobbliness
- low heart rate
- low body temperature

How Essential Oils Can Affect Your Pet's Health—continued

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- low body temperature

What to do before going to our vet clinic or emergency animal hospital:

- If the product was inhaled, take them into fresh air immediately.
- If ingested, Do NOT induce vomiting or give them activated charcoal. This puts your pet at risk because essential oils can stick to the lungs and airway leading to lung inflammation or airway obstruction.
- Put the product and packaging in a sealed bag and bring to the clinic or emergency hospital.
- If your pet gets oil on its skin or fur, wash it off as quickly as possible using hand dishwashing soap.

Conclusion

We believe the risks of using essential oils diffusers in your home outweigh the benefits, especially if you have curious pets in close proximity. Although we don't outright discourage use of these oils, we do suggest you proceed with caution. The form of essential oil, dosage, and route of exposure are all important considerations.

If you have an emergency related to essential oil exposure outside of our clinic hours, we recommend the Animal Health Partners for emergency medical care.

And no matter which essential oil or diffuser you use, talk to your veterinarian, always do your research, and exercise caution.

TOXIC

Essential Oils

to your pets

TOXIC TO CATS

- Cassia
- Cinnamon
- Citrus
- Clove
- Eucalyptus
- Pennyroyal
- Peppermint
- Pine
- Sweet Birch
- Tea Tree
- Wintergreen
- Ylang-Ylang

TOXIC TO DOGS

- Cinnamon
- Citrus
- Pennyroyal
- Peppermint
- Pine
- Sweet Birch
- Tea Tree
- Wintergreen
- Ylang-Ylang

TOXIC TO BIRDS

ALL EO's

Manatee County puppies are sniffing out COVID-19

Saturday, January 30th 2021, 5:26 PM EST

By Annette Gutierrez

URL: <https://www.sntv.com/story/43264739/manatee-county-puppies-are-sniffing-out-covid19>



MYAKKA CITY (WSNN) - Your sweat just might put you in the dog house, and in this pandemic, you might be grateful for it! A Manatee County non-profit is training dogs to sniff out COVID-19.

"A beagle can smell in five-seconds what it takes a lab or a shepherd to smell in a minute," BioScent K-9 Inc. President and Founder, Heather Junqueira said.

Just outside of Myakka City is a farm filled with beagles mixed with basset hounds ready to work.

"They have the 3rd most-largest number of olfactory nerves of all the dogs," Junqueira said.

BioScent K-9 Incorporated has trained beagles to detect cancer research and other diseases in the past. But now, the beagles are training to detect COVID-19 in human sweat.

"Dogs aren't actually detecting the virus itself, they're detecting the body's response to the virus," Junqueira said.

COVID training began in March last year. Junqueira says the samples come from gauze pads placed under the armpits of people with COVID.

"Basically it's a game of hide-and-seek. We will take samples and we will hide them in different canisters and we use control samples as well, so we'll have samples from people who are perfectly healthy, people who are sick with things that might not be COVID, and then samples of people with COVID."

The dogs are trained to alert and sit near the COVID sweat samples. She says it's similar to the dog trained to smell drugs or bombs. The key is a large sample.

"When you're training on a biological odor, we don't know exactly what it is, and that's why we have to use such a large number of samples," Junqueira said. "The dogs have to learn to discriminate; they learn to pick out that common denominator."

Manatee County puppies are sniffing out COVID-19—continued

Junqueira's partner, Tommy Dickey, is the co-author of the research paper on 'Use of Medical Scent Detection Dogs for COVID-19 Screening.'

"Our findings in the paper that will be published shortly will indicate that they're 95-percent effective," Dickey said. "Which is roughly equivalent to what our PCR and antigen tests that everybody is using."

Beagles, among other dogs, have a keen sense of smell.

"So, like a drop of perfume in a really really large room, or maybe even in a stadium, a dog could pick up," Dickey said.

The goal is to use these dogs in large stadiums, airports, and schools; meant for rapid testing.

There are 64 dogs in training, and 10 dogs are already fully trained. The company is preparing to launch its services for COVID sometime next week.



Just FYI - you can run a Newsette ad for your business for just \$50 a year.

Contact Debbie Lang djlang@sbcglobal.net if you would like to run an ad. We will prorate for the amount of months left in the year. For March through December it would be \$41.00



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Buddy the German Shepherd and COVID-19

August 3, 2020 / Coronaviruses / By Hemopet URL—<https://hemopet.org/buddy-the-german-shepherd-and-covid-19/>

Buddy Friend, Family, German Shepherd and COVID-19



On July 29, 2020, *National Geographic* published an article titled, “[Exclusive: Buddy, first dog to test positive for COVID-19 in the U.S., has died.](#)”

Please pause and reread the title slowly, and bear in mind the commas.

The title does not implicate or point to COVID-19 disease as the cause of death, but certainly has raised some panic. Indeed, the article is well-written for effect and engagement, but ultimately leaves us with uncertainty.

In this post, we are going to strip down much of the narrative.

First and foremost, Buddy’s family provided medical records to *National Geographic*. The magazine sought out two veterinarians to review the records. The veterinarians concluded that he more than likely passed away from lymphoma, a common type of cancer in dogs.

Buddy’s Diagnoses

May 15, 2020: Buddy tested positive for SARS-CoV-2 – the coronavirus causing COVID-19 infection – at a veterinary hospital. Results were confirmed by the New York City Department of Health.

May 20, 2020: Buddy tested a second time by New York City Department of Health and results were negative for the virus, indicating that the virus had cleared his body.

July 11, 2020: Bloodwork strongly indicated lymphoma. Buddy was put to rest.

Buddy’s Progressing Symptoms from April – July

- Struggled to breathe
- Lost appetite
- Weight loss
- Lethargic
- Anemic
- Enlarged spleen
- Enlarged liver
- Heart murmur
- Urinated uncontrollably
- Blood in urine
- Labored breathing
- Walking difficulties
- Vomited blood

Buddy the German Shepherd and COVID-19—continued

Symptoms of Lymphoma

Lymphoma makes up 15-20% of new cancer diagnoses in dogs and usually affects middle-aged dogs. Lymphomas may affect any organ in the body, but commonly originate in lymph nodes, before spreading to other organs such as the spleen, liver and bone marrow.

We do not know what type of canine lymphoma Buddy had.

The most common lymphoma in dogs is multicentric, which accounts for 80-85% of diagnosed lymphoma cases. The common symptoms of multicentric lymphoma are:

- Loss of appetite
- Lethargy
- Weight loss
- Fever
- Anorexia
- Weakness
- Dehydration
- Occasional increased thirst
- Occasional increased urination
- Swelling of the face or legs (edema)

Gastrointestinal lymphoma usually has the following symptoms:

- Vomiting
- Diarrhea
- Weight loss
- Abdominal pain
- Anorexia

Dogs with mediastinal lymphoma usually experience these symptoms:

- Difficulty breathing
- Swelling of the face or front legs
- Increased thirst
- Increased urination

More than likely, it **was not** cutaneous lymphoma, which appears as dry, flaky, red and itchy patches of skin.

Discussion

Indeed, we do not know how much Buddy's lymphoma may have enabled SARS-CoV-2 infection, what symptoms were attributable to the virus or the lymphoma, how much SARS-CoV-2 possibly could have hastened the effect of the lymphoma.

However, we do know that it is relatively difficult for dogs to become infected with SARS-CoV-2 and then develop symptoms due to the structure of their ACE2 receptors. ACE2 receptors have different configurations in different species. ACE2 receptors in cats and ferrets are very similar to those in humans, but ACE2 receptors in dogs are less **structurally** similar.

Buddy the German Shepherd and COVID-19—continued

Additionally, as testing confirmed that Buddy had cleared the virus, he more than likely died from his lymphoma.

Sadly, Buddy was a victim of circumstance due to the confluence of events of cancer, partial immune system shutdown, the coronavirus and anxiety about it, and the unknown. For instance, it was difficult for his family to schedule veterinary appointments because many had curtailed operations due to the coronavirus pandemic. So, diagnosing his condition early was complicated by the partial shutdown.

All of us will be left with some doubt. The attending veterinarian, Robert Cohen, asked the New York City Department of Health if it wanted Buddy's body for follow-up research. The city consulted with the United States Department of Agriculture and other federal offices. They decided to perform a necropsy. However, by the time this decision was made, Buddy had been cremated.

We are certain that the lymphoma played the major role in his death, and **not** SARS-CoV-2 positivity.

It is truly sad that Buddy passed away, and we send our condolences to the Mahoneys.

Remember

There is little to **no** evidence that domestic animals are easily infected with SARS-CoV-2 under natural conditions and no evidence to date that they transmit the virus to people.

There is **no** evidence that SARS-CoV-2 virus can spread to people from the skin or fur of pets.

Please contact me for all your Real Estate Needs or Questions...



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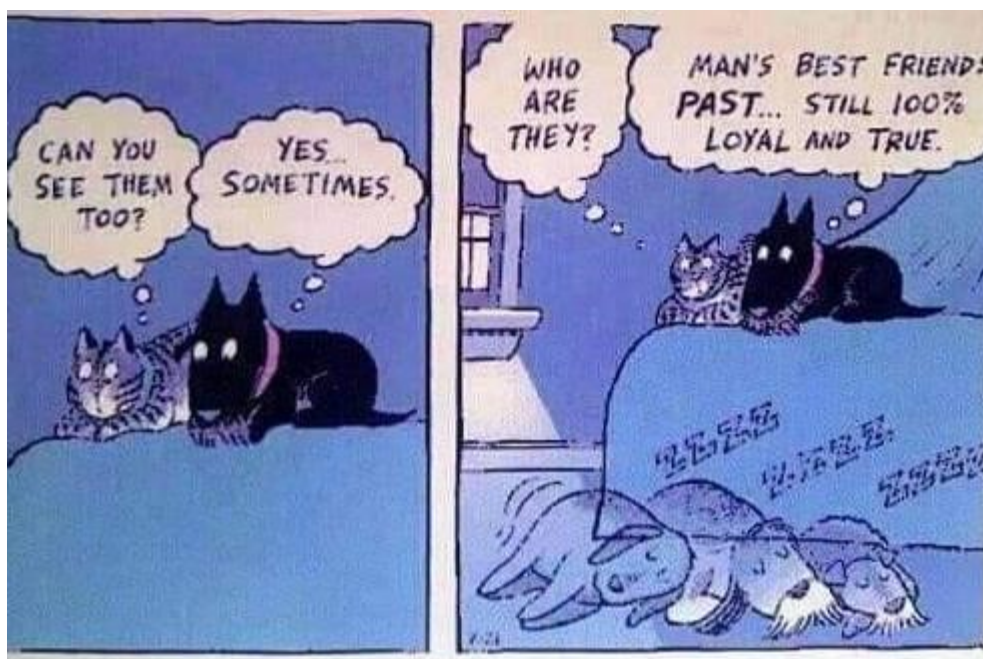


VHOC sends our deepest Condolances to Monica Nolan on her loss of Mikko

Mikko, aka Somercrest Burning Man CD RAE OAP OJP THDN CGCA TKI, crossed over the rainbow bridge in January.

Mikko had a heart of gold. He taught me so much about dogs, training and about just being happy in the moment. He loved hiking the mountains and gave his best in all the sports we tried – agility, free-style, obedience and rally. His real joy came in being a therapy dog, offering emotional support and sharing his calm spirit with others.

Love you bunches Monkey Man.



Braggs

Kim Kramer and Tye

Tye earned his Rally Novice title! After earning his first 2 legs at in person trials a year ago, he was able to finally finish his title virtually with his second perfect 100 score! He is now Syringa-Relyt Lock and Load RN CGC TKN

NEW TITLE



Shiro Torquato and Archer

Introducing Journeymans Right On Target "Archer". He is a chocolate lab. Now 3 ½ months old. We have already started training for obedience. He LOVES the dumbbell!

Tired of training outside?

Preparing for that big, noisy indoor show?



Need to do some fine-tuning in front of a big mirror?

Come enjoy climate-controlled comfort at our Indoor Training Facility!

J9sK9s is located in the west San Fernando Valley near Sherman Way and Topanga Canyon Boulevard.

Boasting "Agiliflex" rubber flooring, our 1600+ square feet of space and 35 feet of mirror are waiting for you and your canine pal to come train in!

We have obedience jumps, baby gates, crates and some agility equipment too.

Available to rent to individuals for just \$15 an hour.

Also available for pre-approved events and small groups at an additional cost.

Call 818-832-9906 for more information
www.j9sk9s.com

Brag



Laurie Burnam with Scusi and Tesla

My only brag is that Scusi will be 9 on Feb 24 and Tesla 2 on March 1. Yikes where does the time go.



Debbie Lang and Panda

Feb 6, 2021—Central Valley ASC, ASCA Rally, Tulare Fairgrounds, CA:

AM Rally Trial:

Masters—191 4th place

Excellent—195 4th place

REM leg #4

PM Rally Trial:

Masters—195

Excellent—194

REM qualifying score—we need one more leg under a third judge for the REM title. She did earn championship points in all the classes.

Happy Birthday to Panda, she was 6 years old on February 8th.



Marcia Siderow and Remi

Remi earned his **Masters Fast Preferred title**. That's his first title in Preferred. Hope to do much more soon. Also plan to start running my younger poodle, Pride, in March or April.

Last Christmas, Remi on your left, **NEW TITLE** Pride on your right.



Braggs



Flo Walberg and Ashley

Here's a picture of my sweet Ashley who had been cast in a movie. The girl handling the dog is afraid of dogs and does not touch them. By the time they finished, Ashley had her wrapped around her paw and she told me she absolutely loved her and wants to take her home. Was very proud of her. I accepted the job for her only if she was to be promoted as a nice breed. Did not want a part promoting Rottweilers as vicious dogs! She is in several parts throughout the movie. I was in it, too! I filmed my part in N. Carolina. She was filmed here in L.A. Won't be out until fall.

A Star is Born



Braggs



Robyn Zeldon with Luca and Chaos

Luca and Chaos both received their AKC Virtual Home Manners Title

**NEW
TITLES**



Kathy Spilos and Votan

When Votan and his littermates turned one last year in early February, we had only heard rumblings about a wicked virus attacking other parts of the world. THIS year as they turned two, who would have ever imagined we'd be celebrating the fact that we could once again meet cautiously in the park!



Since the humans couldn't share food, the dogs had cake which they happily shared with a few family members who stopped to join the party.



Although they tried their best to be patient and allow the human to cut the cake,...

....they couldn't take the waiting and decided their way was MUCH better. Votan grabbed a piece and shared it with his sister, Keeva! Not sure who had more fun, the dogs or the humans. Everyone enjoyed an evening out, laughing a little albeit practicing proper pandemic protocol!



Newsette
P.O. BOX 10132
CANOGA PARK CA 91309

FIRST CLASS MAIL

TO:



Mark your Calendars !!

VHOC is planning our 2021 Obedience and Rally Trial
Save the dates of September 18th and 19th
We are planning on having the trial at Stone Pony

