



GOLDEN GATE
GREATER SWISS MOUNTAIN DOG CLUB

CALENDAR of ACTIVITIES

September 22 (10:00-4:00) Swiss Dog Day, Ft. Mason. There will be a CGC Test, Conformation, Rally and Obedience classes.

September 28-29 End of Summer Party- Camping on Friday - Saturday night; Winery Walk, BBQ, Club Meeting and outdoor movie on Saturday; Handling Class on Sunday. At Paula Robles' in Sonoma-Bring family!

October 18-20 Western Regional Specialty at Del Valle, a three day weekend of shows. We sponsor the Saturday event, Round Up Dinner and Saloon . **Please**, every member, plan to come support our dogs!

November 1-3 Bernese Mountain Dog Club of America, Inc. All Breed Draft Trials.

December 1-Annual Lunch Meeting at Mexico Lindo in Pleasanton. Gift swap!

THE BLAZE

Having Fun with Our Swiss Mountain Dogs

LETTER FROM OUR PRESIDENT

Hello, to all!

I hope that you had a great summer. I would encourage you all to take a few minutes to check out our Club's website for pictures of the fun we had together. Many thanks go to Rob, his awesome camera skills, and everyone else who sent pictures to him.

We have quite a few events coming up in the next month or two. **Swiss Dog Day** in San Francisco has been rescheduled to September 22, 2013. **Our End of Summer Party** is the *following* weekend of September 28-29, 2013. It is at Paula Robles' home in Sonoma. Check this newsletter and our website for more info.

Since we have these two events back to back, I made an executive decision that it would simply be too much of a burden to ask you all to come out **both** weekends. So we won't be doing the bake sale this year at Swiss Dog Day. Should any of you still like to attend both events, the Berner Club will make you most welcome! (However, we will not have our Club Tent there.)

Coming up in October, we have the honor of hosting the Greater Swiss Mountain Dog Club of America **"Western Regional Specialty."** Any help will be much appreciated. Food, fun and frolic with a Western theme. We even have permission to dress Western in the show rings (no hats please).

Come out and join us

It was not so long ago that we were barely having enough events to justify our club's continuing existence. We have *indeed* come a long way!

And it's all thanks to you and your wonderful dogs!

Looking forward to seeing you all soon.

Nancy

CONTENTS

1 Calendar, President's Letter	7 GGGSMDC History	13 Swiss Dog Day-Sept. 22	19 Petra Update
2 Officers, Objectives	8 Corn Cobs-Not for Dogs	14 Puppies Growing	20 Fourth of July Litter
3 Western Regional Specialty	9 The Nose Knows	15 More Great Swissys	21 Rainbow Bridge
4 End of Summer Party	10 Food!	16 Bad Hair Day?	22 Rainbow Bridge
5 Mensona Show, p.1	11 Come to the Chuckwagon	17 Membership/Lost&Found	23 Honors and Awards
6 Mensona Show, p.2	12 Ft. Funston Walk n Talk	18 Calendar/Foot Pad Injuries	24 Signs of Sickness

Officers, Board Members and Committees

President: [Nancy Glenn](#)

Vice President: [Toni Killpatrick](#)

Secretary: [Susan Robinson](#)

Treasurer: [Donna Zetterquist](#)

Board Members:

[Sara Donaldson](#)

[Rob Blits](#)

[Maria Jensen](#)

[Carol Bamsch](#)

Membership: [Toni Killpatrick](#)

Public Relations: [Toni Killpatrick](#)

Ways and Means: [Carol Hightower](#)

Awards and Trophies: [Toni Killpatrick](#) [Heidi Steenstra](#) [Maria Jensen](#)

Social Events: [Carol Hightower](#) [Donna Zetterquist](#) [Sara Donaldson](#)

Show Events: The Board

Working Events: [Nancy Glenn](#) [Troy Riewe](#)

Newsletter: [Susan Robinson](#)

Website: [Rob Blits](#)

The objectives of the club shall be:

To encourage and promote quality in the breeding of Greater Swiss Mountain Dogs
and to do all possible to bring their natural *qualities* to perfection.

To urge members and breeders to accept the standard of the breed
as approved by the American Kennel Club
as the only standard of excellence
by which Greater Swiss Mountain Dogs shall be judged.

To do all in its power to protect and advance the interests of the breed
and to encourage sportsmanlike competition
at dog shows (obedience and agility trials, drafting and tracking tests).

To conduct sanctioned matches and specialty shows
under the rules and regulations of the American Kennel Club.

To have FUN together with our Greater Swiss Mountain Dogs.



We are hosting the GSMDCA Western Regional Specialty on October 18-20, 2013,
at the Del Valle Dog Show in Pleasanton, California.
We hope that every single one of you will come and have fun.

HELP WANTED

2-3 folks to run the SALOON (Margarita Bar)

Clean Up Crew

Every GGGSMDC member to come cheer on our
new pups and meet new members.

Volunteers, contact Donna:

dzetter@gmail.com



There will be LOTS of puppies entered in their first show. If you need help with the registration paperwork for any Swissy, give Toni Killpatrick a call at 209-742-5462. Be sure to enter BOTH your 6-under 9, 9-under 12, or 12-under 18 mos. class and the Puppy Sweepstakes in Saturday's Western Regional. It'll be a five point major! On Sunday there's a 4-under 6 mo. old PUPPY CLASS. Entries will arrive soon!

ROUND-UP

At the larger shows, members of our GGGSMDC support each other by renting an area where we can all gather to groom our dogs, chat about what's going on, EAT and celebrate together. This is an area where members can park their RV or pitch a tent for the weekend. Del Valle is one of the largest shows, and we set up at the Amador Pavilion in the Fairgrounds in Pleasanton. There is water, electricity, a place to bathe dogs, and shade. We will decorate the area to identify us and to show off our Western theme. Visitors to the Regional staying in hotels can stop by and join the fun.

If you would like to **RESERVE A SPACE** for your RV (20' x 40') or tent on the weekend of October 18-20th, call Toni Killpatrick BY SEPTEMBER 30th. We will divide the cost of renting the area among us, and that generally turns out to be cheaper than staying in a motel off the Fairgrounds.

DAY OF SHOW SET UP: The cost is \$15.00 each day. Make check out to GGGSMDC or bring cash at day of show. Just let Toni know in advance so she can reserve a spot for you. All you have to bring is an x pen or a crate for your dog. This way you can enjoy the dinner and party (no dogs allowed in eating area).

Swiss-arific Weekend!!

September 28th & 29th

Overnight Camping Friday & Saturday night

* BBQ * Family * Friends *

* Vineyard Hike * Handling Clinic * Show Day Grooming

Paula & Jake's Place

~Fri, SAT, Sun~

1309 East Bonness
Sonoma, CA 95476
Bring the Whole Family

Pack Hike

~Saturday; Time TBA~
Vineyard Hike
Just Beyond the Yard
Walk & Talk



Dry Camping

~Friday &/or Saturday Nights~

Flat Grass & Outdoor Bathroom
Plenty of Kennel Space
Bring Your Tent or Your Trailer

Show Clinic

~Scheduled According to Attendance~
Beginner & Amateur Schooling
Show Ring Ready Grooming Tips
Regional Specialty Planning

BBQ & Outdoor Movie

~Saturday following Hike~
BBQ (Details with Final Head Count)
Food, Flicks, Drinks & Dogs

G.G.G.S.M.D.C.

~Saturday following BBQ~
Club Meeting
Idea's & Suggestions

Pets, Show Dogs & Swissy's of ALL Ages are Welcome!!

RSVP

Text or Email Erin & Enzo

707-291-5454 * erinstammer@gmail.com



Please let Erin know by September 20th if you will be joining us for the Saturday BBQ.

erinstammer@gmail.com

**AUGUST 24-25 SANTA ROSA, CA
MENSONA KENNEL CLUB DOG SHOW**



This is the first show grooming for the new puppies.



Max's first dog show didn't go as planned. He's still smiles.



Donna Zetterquist shows Dirty Harry in Bred By. Erin Stammer and Enzo admire his ribbon and new Championship.



Toni Killpatrick showed King to his Grand Championship.



Paula Robles stacks Jake for his Championship.

For more photos:

<http://www.goldengategsmdc.com/galleries/20130824MensonaDgShw/index.html#1>

AUGUST 24-25 SANTA ROSA, CA
MENSONA KENNEL CLUB DOG SHOW (CONTINUED)



Lukas heads for his first show! Matt and Wade learn tips for Ramsey's future first show.



Heidi and Merlin



Toni with Aria in the Group Puppy Ring



Linda Ridenour and Murray getting ready to show.



Heidi, Merlin and Oz, watching Dirty Harry take a Group2

For more photos:

<http://www.goldengategsmdc.com/galleries/20130824MensonaDgShw/index.html#1>

GGGSMDC HISTORY

Photos and Clips from our Archives

Who is this Bucket B**** at the 2006 National Specialty?



What puppy won BOB at Swiss Fun Day in 2005?

Our first Independent Specialty Show / Sweepstakes

Corn Cobs Are Not For Dogs, By Ann Hohenhaus, DVM

Early last week, Steel, a healthy, well cared for young Labrador, was rushed to The AMC in the wee hours of the morning for intractable vomiting. The poor dog looked miserable with vomit on his face and paws. The emergency doctors determined he was dehydrated and started intravenous fluids along with medications to help control nausea. They also performed a critical test when they took an abdominal x-ray.

X-rays hold the key

The abdominal x-ray showed that several of Steel's intestinal loops were over distended with gas and fluid. The distension exceeded that of normal intestinal gas and suggested something was blocking the progression of food through the intestinal tract. As he scanned the x-ray further, the radiologist saw a one and three-quarter inch long tubular object containing little bits of gas evenly distributed throughout. To the radiologist, this structure looked like a corn cob, but Steel's family had not served any corn on the cob lately.

Surgery answers the question

Shortly after the x-rays were taken, Steel was anesthetized and wheeled into the operating room where the emergency surgeon readily identified the obstruction in the intestine. Because the intestine had been damaged by the obstruction, a small portion of the intestine was removed (resection) and the ends sutured back together (anastomosis). In surgical terms these procedures are often called an R&A. Once the damaged intestine was removed, it was opened revealing – you guessed it – a corn cob! Where the corn cob came from, Steel is not telling.

Steel's abdominal x-ray shows gas filled intestinal loops and the offending corn cob, which I have outlined in red.

I am certain Steel's family wishes they knew where the corn cob came from to prevent another serious illness for their dog. Make your best effort to protect your dog against eating something dangerous by:

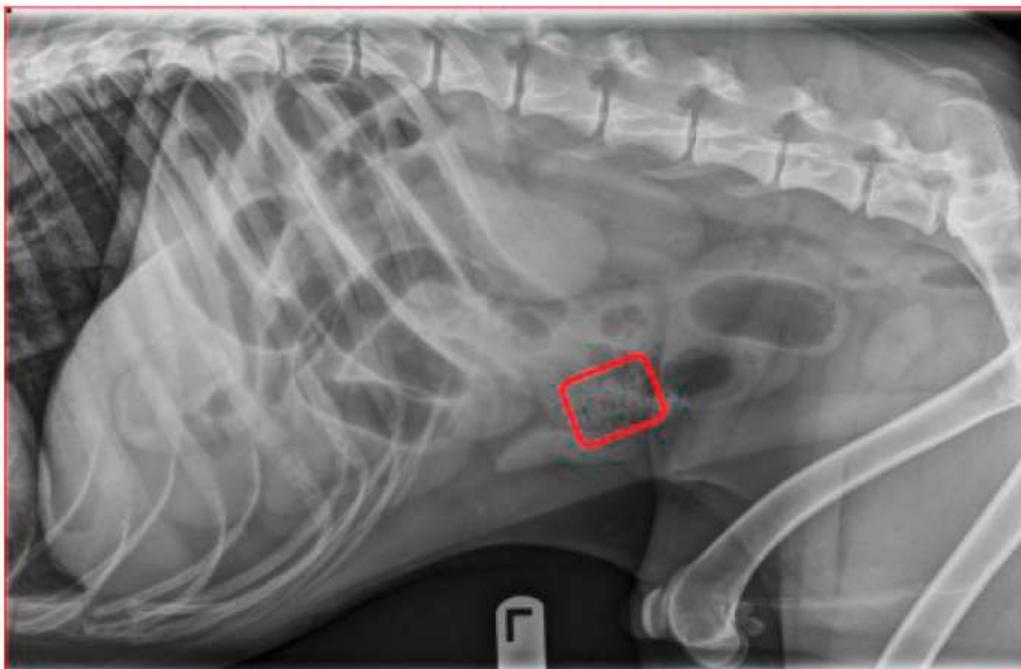
Covering and locking all trash cans

Keeping human food out of your dog's reach

Storing human AND pet medications up high and in closed cabinets

Keeping your dog busy and out of trouble by providing an enriched environment with window seats, interactive feeding toys and plenty of exercise

Watching your dog during walks to prevent him from eating garbage or foreign objects





The Nose Knows

Nancy Kay, DVM ©

The canine sense of smell is extraordinary. Consider that a dog's nose contains more than 220 million olfactory (smell) receptors compared to our measly five million! This keen canine sense of smell has been used to benefit us in all kinds of ways. Dogs have been hunting alongside humans for centuries. Scent trained dogs direct their handlers to specific smells (drugs, explosive devices, various types of cancer), alert diabetics when their blood sugar levels are abnormal, and warn epileptics when seizures are about to unfold.

A new scent training program at the [University of Pennsylvania School of Veterinary Medicine's Working Dog Center](#) is focused on teaching dogs to detect ovarian cancer in women. Funded by a grant from [Kaleidoscope of Hope Foundation](#), the goal of the program is to train dogs to detect this disease at an early stage, before symptoms are apparent and before conventional screening tests are as effective. When diagnosed early, the survival time for women with ovarian cancer is markedly increased.

The research program

A Labrador named Ohlin Frank is only on his fourth training session, but he has been able to detect ovarian cancer tissue 100 percent of the time. He is one of three dogs- two Labradors and a Springer Spaniel who have been identified within the research program as having the greatest potential for this scent work. After eight weeks of training in obedience and agility, the dogs were introduced to the ovarian cancer smell. They were trained to sit at the moment of detection.

Thus far, ovarian tissues have been collected from 31 cancer patients and 30 healthy individuals to serve as a control group. The training team will imprint the dogs on tissue as well as blood (plasma) samples from the various patients. [Dr. Cynthia Otto](#), the director of the [Penn Vet Working Dog Center](#) explains, "If we can document that the dogs are good at picking up the odor in plasma after being exposed to the tissue, then we can try moving forward to see if the dogs could be imprinted solely on the plasma samples. As cancer cells' entire metabolic machinery is shifted when they become malignant, their unique odor is evidently a signature the dogs are able to identify, with different cancer types having different signatures."

The goal

While it is lovely to fantasize about "a Lab in every lab" (think how this would liven up the work atmosphere), there simply aren't enough dogs to go around! Dr. Otto and her coworkers hope to take what they learn from the dogs and use this information to develop a laboratory test for early ovarian cancer screening. Collaborating with researchers at the [Monell Chemical Senses Center](#) and the [University of Pennsylvania Department of Physics](#) the researchers hope to characterize the components of the chemicals the dogs are scenting and then refine the analysis to enable machines in the laboratory to successfully detect them. The ultimate goal would be an accurate blood screening test for early detection of ovarian cancer, particularly in women with a family history of this disease.

Kudos to Dr. Otto and her team for pursuing this amazing research!

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*

Recipient, Leo K. Bustad Companion Animal Veterinarian of the Year Award

Recipient, American Animal Hospital Association Animal Welfare and Humane Ethics Award

Recipient, Dog Writers Association of America Award for Best Blog

Recipient, Eukanuba Canine Health Award

Recipient, AKC Club Publication Excellence Award





FOOD!

FOODS YOUR DOG SHOULD NOT EAT

Avocado	Alcohol	Onions/Garlic	Caffeine	Grapes/raisins
Macadamia nuts	Candy/gum	Chocolate	Fat/cooked bones	Milk/dairy
Raw eggs	Salt	Yeast dough	Acetaminophen	Persimmons
Baking powder/soda	Raw potatoes	Corn cobs	Fish (bones)	Ibuprophen
Moldy foods	Mushrooms	Nutmeg	Walnuts	Ice Cream
Potato leaves/skins	Rhubarb	Tobacco/nicotine	Tomatoes	Apricots
Hops	Marijuana	Raw fish	Human vitamins	Citrus oil extracts
				Pits

In an emergency when your veterinarian cannot be reached you should contact your local animal emergency clinic or **call the animal poison hotline at 888-232-8870.** You can also try the **ASPCA Animal Poison Control Center at 888-426-4435.** Depending on the nature of the item ingested the animal poison hotline or your veterinarian may induce vomiting to regurgitate the item that has been ingested.

(Good slide show) <http://pets.webmd.com/dogs/ss/slideshow-foods-your-dog-should-never-eat>

GINGER SNAPS YOUR DOG CAN EAT!

From Jennifer Logan in Emigration Canyon, UT

A shout out to [Melissa Jarriel](#) with big thanks for posting the dog ginger cookie recipe. We tried it this morning. I tweaked it a little to make "Triple Ginger" cookies, since the dogs love Trader Joe's Triple Ginger Snaps so much. They turned out fantastic -- the dogs love them! So does my husband; I'm going to have to make another batch just for him. Here is the recipe I ended up with. My tweaks and additions are in parentheses. Note: I'm in a dry climate at 6000' elevation, and I found that the recipe needed a little more moisture here.

"Triple Ginger" Dog Cookies



2 cups whole wheat flour
1 t baking soda
(1) 1/2 t cinnamon
(1) 1/2 t ground ginger
(3/8) 1/4 cup canola oil
(3/8) 1/4 cup dark molasses
(3/8) 1/4 cup water
(2 T finely chopped fresh ginger)
(2-3 T chopped crystallized ginger)



Preheat oven to 350 degrees. In a large bowl, combine flour, baking soda, cinnamon and ginger. In a small bowl stir together the oil, molasses and water. Add the molasses mixture to the flour mixture, and stir just until you have a soft dough. On a lightly floured surface, roll the dough out about 1/4 inch thick. Cut with a cookie cutter, glass rim, or knife. Transfer the cookies to an ungreased baking sheet. Bake for (18-20) 20-25 minutes or until firm. Makes about 30 cookies. Store in a tightly sealed container.

S
SATURDAY NIGHT DINNER AND RAFFLE
at the WESTERN REGIONAL SPECIALTY



Please join us for the Western Regional Specialty "ROUND UP DINNER."
The posse will gather at our RV camp in the far corner of the Amador Pavilion.
Shenanigans* start at 5:00 pm.

The Hospitality Bitches plan to serve the following at the **CHUCK WAGON**:

Boilermaker Tailgate Chili
Corn Bread
Salad
Cookies



At **Wild Willie's SALOON**:
unlimited Margaritas and Beer with the purchase of a \$5 cup



The legendary GGGSMDC Raffle items will be set up in the Saloon Friday and Saturday.
Tickets \$1.00 each or 25 for \$20. Drawing on Saturday evening during dinner.
GGGSMDC Meeting follows dinner.

(Please plan to hitch your Swissy up in a crate or X Pen, as no dogs are allowed in the eating area.)

*Some crazy varmints are saying that there is even going to be a **PHOTO BOOTH!** "Wanted" posters?

**WALK 'N' TALK
Ft. Funston – August 10th
Thanks to Rob Blits**

For complete viewing of all 43 photos see:

<http://www.goldengategsmdc.com/galleries/20130810FtFunston/index.html#1>



I dug this for you, mom!

Teaching pups about waves

The retrieving game is on!



Matthew and Ramsey

All tuckered out--What a day!



**Sunday, September 22, 2013
16th Annual Swiss Dog Day**

**10:00 AM - 4:00 PM
Upper Fort Mason Parade Grounds, San Francisco, CA**

Featuring Bernese, Entlebucher, Greater Swiss, and Appenzeller Mountain Dogs & Saint Bernards

Swiss Dogs & their fans are invited to celebrate together in cool San Francisco!
Join us for Conformation, Obedience and Rally Workshops and a Canine Good Citizen Test, or just come to learn more about each of these special breeds.

Enter the Mountain Dog Triathlon, or join the Rescued Dog Roundup or Swiss Spirit Parade.
Watch K9 Nose Work and Drafting Demos.
Enjoy our famous Swiss-style BBQ Lunch, a great Raffle, and fabulous Ways & Means.

Entries will be accepted on-site only, September 22nd from 9:30–10:30 a.m. (and 12:30-1:30 p.m. for afternoon events)
Workshops \$10 / CGC \$10 / Games \$1 / Parades & Demos are Free!

Opening Ceremony at 10:00 a.m. – Events start at 10:30 a.m.

Click here for: [Swiss Day Flyer](#)

Click here for: [Fort Mason Map](#)

Click here for: [Swiss Day Premium](#)

For more information, contact swissday@bmdcnc.org

PUPPIES!

Blink, and they have grown SO BIG!



Frederick and Harley Rose



Purple Girl-nine days



Jagger



Eiger



Ziggy sleeping on the dock



Pinkie Lewis



Schatzi



Gracie and Kate



Ella Storm

More Great GSMMDC Swissys



Alyssa Shah's beach frisbie boy



Barkley sprawled on cement



Josie/Ranger Pups



Mae



Alyssa's crew on the beach



Bruno



Cinder and Wanda



Murray-too big for hiding under the bed



Enzo

BAD HAIR DAY? Dr. Jon

When a dog has a bright shiny coat, it's a sign of good health. But when your dog's coat is not healthy, that shine will fade away. You could also notice dandruff, scratching (from dry irritated skin) and a lot more shedding in your home (and on your clothes). There are many reasons for shedding and skin problems. First and foremost, some degree of shedding is normal for all dogs. It's a natural process that occurs as old hair falls out and healthy new hair grows in to replace it. Many factors influence how much your dog will shed including breed, diet, sunlight, temperature, age and illness.

All dogs shed, but shedding can be significantly reduced with the right care. Here's what you can do to cut down on problem shedding and restore your dog's shiny coat:

- **Regular Brushing and Grooming** – In the wild when dogs run through trees and bushes, brushing against the limbs helps to naturally remove the old hairs in the dog's coat. Our pets spend most of their time indoors, which is why regular grooming is needed to remove that old hair from your dog's coat. The more you brush your dogs, the less loose hair will build up in their coat to then be shed in your house, on your clothes and on your furniture. Your dogs' coats will look shinier and healthier and regular brushing will help keep mats from forming.
- **Healthy Diet** – A balanced healthy diet with the proper balance of proteins, carbohydrates, vitamins and minerals is essential to a healthy skin and coat.
- **Omega-3 Fatty Acids** – A good Omega-3 fatty acid supplement will help maintain healthy skin and coat and reduce shedding. They also have many other health benefits. But Omega-3 (fish oil) supplements are often difficult to administer to dogs. The common complaints I hear from dog owners are that the pills are too big, they smell bad and their dogs do not like the taste. When Omega-3 fatty acids are given as a liquid mixed with food, the dogs refuse to eat it. [Super Pure Omega 3 Soft Chews](#) are a great alternative. They're 100% guaranteed and made right here in the U.S.A.

We definitely don't want dog hair on our clothes, furniture, bedding and floors. And we certainly don't want our dogs to suffer from dry itchy skin and dandruff. Regular brushing and grooming is important to remove loose hair from the coat, and this healthy natural supplement will cut down on shedding and greatly improve the condition of your dog's skin and coat.

TODAY'S PET TIP--How Often to Give Your Dog a Bath

Factors include: his hair coat, hair length, how often he gets dirty, where he lives (if he is indoor or outdoors most of the time), shedding cycle, and any underlying skin problem). Some dogs need baths only a couple times year while others need weekly grooming. It is beneficial to brush your dog about twice a week. Bathing your dog every month or two isn't unreasonable, but some dogs will need more frequent cleanings.

A good rule of thumb is to bathe your dog only when his coat gets dirty or begins to smell "doggy."



"Thanks for that bath, Mom," says Zen.



MEMBERSHIP UPDATES

There are thirteen new members waiting for approval. We'll be at 81!

We would like to give our GGGSMDC members a copy of our club roster soon, so that we can get together informally, as well as share rides or information about Club events. If you would NOT like us to include your name and information on the roster, please let Toni Killpatrick know. skeeter@sti.net Would you have an objection to our including your Swissy's name (if we know it/them)?

LOST AND FOUND

LOST—Long sleeved, embroidered Swissy levi shirt at Specialty in April.
Please contact Susan Robinson srobinson@sti.net

FOUND—Prescription reading glasses, with a silver rim. Found by Toni Killpatrick at the Specialty skeeter@sti.net





Your 2014 GGGSMDC CALENDAR
is ready for the presses—and can be in your hands at the
Western Regional Specialty, October 18-20.
If you wish to pre-order, contact Rob Blits at
rblits@comcast.net

How to Recognize and Treat Foot Pad Injuries in Dogs

By Henry Cerny, DVM, MS

Foot pad injuries in dogs can range from abrasions, blisters, burns, ulcers, tears, punctures and lacerations. It is important to be aware what type of surface your dog is walking on. Concrete for example can be rough and heats up quickly during warm or hot weather. Rock, gravel and sand can also injure the foot pads. The common clinical signs are limping, licking at the foot or bleeding.

Anything more serious than a superficial abrasion should be treated by your veterinarian as foot pads do not heal like regular skin. Home care for mild abrasions include gently rinsing the affected foot under cool water to remove any debris. Followed by the application an antibacterial ointment or solution. I prefer Vetericyn as it is a reliable wound care solution that does not interfere with the wound healing process. But products such as Neosporin can also be used. Finally, place a non-stick telfa pad over the foot pad(s) and lightly wrap with vet wrap or an ace bandage. The bandage should be kept clean and dry and changed daily until the pads have healed.

Though some foot pad injuries cannot be prevented, avoiding rough, jagged or hot surfaces as well as protective foot wear can be helpful.

Thanks to the Greater Swiss Mountain Mail 2012, Vol2

ONE LITTLE GIRL AND ONE QUIET COWBOY DID ALL THIS:

CH Petra of Whispering Pine HSAdsc, HIAs, OTDd, ATDsc, ATDc, HRDLLs, RLFLs

Petra has earned more herding titles than any other Greater Swiss Mountain Dog in the history of the breed.
And she is only 5 years old.



She also earned the [AKC Herding Started Course A Cattle](#)
and was awarded the *Best Damn Dog Award 2012* by the Vaca Valley Stockdog Group.



Born 12/11/07

Sire: NBISS Ch. TreeNsea's Lupine Serenade, HIT / Dam: Ch Whispering Pine Annie Oakley

Petra is owned and loved by Grace and Tom Easterly.
Bred by Lyle and Toni Killpatrick, Whispering Pine Kennel



RamsGate's Independence Day Litter arrives with a BANG!!

Born July 5th, 2013 to
Proud Mama GCH RamsGate's Witchy Woman - "Akeila"
and
Proud Papa CH TreeNSEa's Lupine Serenade - "Roy"

Breeders: Michele Slate and Antoinette Killpatrick
Best wishes to all our happy, new owners!



Susie & Don Bush
Washoe Valley, NV
RamsGate's Liberty Belle
"Harley Rose"



Taylor Vreeland
Austin, TX
RamsGate's American Patriot
"Cash"



Christa Livingstone & Greg Akinshin
Half Moon Bay, CA
RamsGate's Little Firecracker
"Jefrey"



Marti & Dean Spieller
Santa Cruz, CA
RamsGate's Old Glory
"Dante"



Sandy, Peter, Raiden & Teagan LaRowe
& Gramma Christa
Portland, OR
RamsGate's Miss Liberty
"Kikka"



Seth Fuller
Woodland Hills, CA
RamsGate's Patriot Games
"Angus"



Devrie, John, Jamie & Kyle Brennan
Lake Oswego, OR
RamsGate's Sweet Freedom
"Zuri"



Julie & Frank Vonoda
Lower Lake, CA
RamsGate's Sparkler
"Fredrick"



RAINBOW BRIDGE

My darling girl Edelwiess passed today.

2/12/01-8/20/13

**It was time,
she was struggling to move and ready to be freed.
I'd like to thank her mom Ingrid, and my wife Susan
who both loved her terribly,
and especially [Denise Glass](#) for giving us such a beautiful girl.
She was such a special girl and a love.
I miss her so much.**

Goodbye my little angel, go bark at your sister.

Steve Ginochio



My Talulah

**went to the Rainbow Bridge
at 10 years and 3 days young,
living her life to the fullest every minute,
even when she was so sick.
She was the most enthusiastic Swissy that ever was.
"Joy" was her middle name
(among other middle names that were less flattering at times).
She loved to hike, she loved to swim,
she loved to play with her daughter Comet,
she loved kids,
and she loved to chase squirrels and cats and raccoons
and skunks.
And she loved me.
I sure do miss her.**

Woutje Swets

RAINBOW BRIDGE

Torghan

5-26-2012 to 8-26-2013



"Torghan" was born on May 26th, 2012. He grew, he toddled, flumped and barked like any normal puppy. Torghan was a very special puppy who touched many hearts. He **always** had a sweet smile or soft little kiss for everyone he met.

Torghan started to have some problems at about 4 weeks of age. A trip to the Vet delivered terrible news, Mega-Esophagus. ME is an incredibly rare condition in which the muscles needed to move food down to his stomach (otherwise known as "Peristalsis") were *under developed*. Any food or water he ingested would simply sit in a large pouch in front of his esophagus until he tilted forward and his meal would, ummm, reappear.

This made it *very difficult* to keep him fed and hydrated. The way to feed a ME dog was to hold our little guy in an upright position to eat (think "begging dog") and for 30-40 minutes after feeding. So gravity would do much of the work that the muscles simply *wouldn't*. Rand, Torghan and I got lots of cuddle time, every day.

As a result, Torghan was an extremely loving and *cuddly* baby. He was a little fighter as well. Most ME puppies (that are not euthanized immediately upon diagnosis) rarely live to an age of 5 or 6 months. Dogs that regurgitate as often as ME dogs do are inordinately susceptible to Aspiration Pneumonia (or AP). Torghan suffered 5 full bouts during his little life and, in the end, was not responding to the special antibiotic cocktail.

We knew going into this that your time with us would not be long. We were always looked for signs of Quality vs. *Quantity* of Life. Torghan, we could not ask you to stay, just because we needed you.

It was quite likely that we did not get one single whole night of sleep in this last year. But we can honestly say that we would not have traded our time with him for the world.



On Monday, August 26th, 2013, (15 months to the day of his birth) we sent Torghan on ahead on the Rainbow Bridge to meet his Aunties "Petra" and "Morgen. We are **very** confident he's in good hands. Or paws...

We miss you sweetheart. I can't wait to cuddle you again.

Nancy and Randall Glenn



**Did your GSMD win his/her first AKC points?
Did a Swissy earn the Canine Good Citizen (CGC)?
Did she/he learn to cart?
Is he/she a new Therapy Dog?
Did your Swissy graduate from Puppy K?
WE WANT TO KNOW!
(Send pictures!)**

Paula Robles and Jake win their first major in Reno.



Heidi Steenstra and Merlin win their first major in Reno.



Brother Gambit, mother Candy, Hudson Shah and new CH Lucy (rt) at the beach.



Santa Barbara breeders Showcase 1st Award of Merit-Alvssa Shah



Erin Stammer with new CH Enzo



Paula Robles and new CH Jake



Toni Killpatrick, Susan Robinson and new CH King



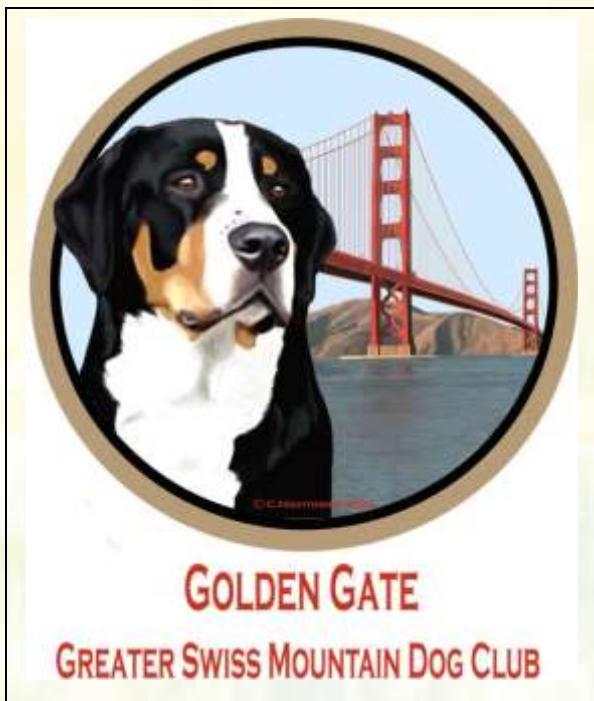
SIGNS OF DOG SICKNESS

Signs start with a change in your pet's routine behavior and attitude.

Watch for:

- Decreased energy or activity level
- Changes in appetite or water intake
- Changes in behavior: hiding, refusing to play, becoming aggressive
- Vomiting, diarrhea or straining to urinate or defecate
- Poor coat quality, patchy hair loss or excessive scratching
- Weight loss
- Foul order coming from the mouth, ears or skin
- Abnormal whining or crying

Toni Killpatrick



INFORMATIONAL SITES to VISIT

Greater Swiss Mountain Dog Club Facebook Page

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/2210909824/>

Greater Swiss Mountain Dog Club of America

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

Greater Swiss Mountain Dog Forums

<http://greaterswissdotcom.com/forum/>

Golden Gate GSMD Facebook Page

[Click here](#)

Visit our club website:
www.goldengategsmdc.com/