



Newsletter for April, 2008  
Written by David Greenberg

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### **Dogs in the News**

Is your type of dog popular?  
Do you care? Well here is the  
latest list of most popular  
breeds from the AKC:

*Thursday, January 17, 2008*

1. Labrador Retriever
2. Yorkshire Terrier
3. German Shepherd  
Dog
4. Golden Retriever
5. Beagle
6. Boxer
7. Dachshund
8. Poodle
9. Shih Tzu
10. Bulldog

I think perhaps it is a  
good thing to have a  
less popular breed,  
there are dogs on the  
top ten list that have  
suffered from over-  
breeding. Here are  
more dog breed facts:

- The Miniature  
Schnauzer was  
bumped off the Top

10 list in 2007 to  
make room for the  
Bulldog.

- The Yorkshire Terrier  
held steady in 2nd  
place, after making  
news last year by  
displacing the  
Golden Retriever  
and German  
Shepherd.
- The Havanese, a  
small dog with a  
coat type that is a  
good choice for  
people with  
allergies, has  
enjoyed the greatest  
surge in popularity  
since 1997,  
increasing 994%. It  
now ranks as the  
37th most popular  
breed.
- Other small dogs  
(under 20 lbs.) that  
have gained  
popularity in the  
past decade include  
the Cavalier King  
Charles Spaniel  
(+406%), the  
French Bulldog

(+404%) and the Brussels Griffon (+157%).

- Large dogs with notable increases are two Swiss breeds -- the Bernese Mountain Dog (+74%) and the Greater Swiss Mountain Dog (+127%) -- as well as the Wirehaired Pointing Griffon (+130%).

- Breeds on the decline include the Rottweiler (-81%) and the Dalmatian (-96%). Many breeds of Asian origins are also waning in popularity: Chow Chows (-84%), Pekingese (-79%), Akitas (-76%), Lhasa Apso (-75%), Chinese Shar-Pei (-73%) and Shiba Inu (-38%).

- The Beagle is the only breed that has consistently been

included in the Top 10 list since 1915. It reigned as the most popular breed from 1954 to 1959.

- Poodles enjoyed a long reign as the most popular dog for 23 years (1960â€“1982), the longest any breed has held that position consecutively.

- Cocker Spaniels ranked number one from 1936-1953 (replaced by the Beagle in 1954). Cocker Spaniels made a comeback and were number one again from 1983-1990, making them the dog with the longest total reign in the top spot at 25 years.

- The Toy group has been steadily on the rise since the 1970s, when it made up only 12% of the

registry versus 23% today.

- The Working group peaked in the 1990's at 17%, most notably due to the Rottweiler being in the Top 10 at that time, including several years in 2nd place.

***More from Doggie News: Dog Hospitalized for Too Much Pastry***

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*Monday, January 07, 2008*

A labrador named "Dingo" in Vienna, Austria was drunken with alcohol without having consumed any alcohol.

The culprit was mass quantities of pastries. The dog managed to sneak half a kilogram of fresh yeast dough from its owner's kitchen. The yeast in the dough fermented in the dog's belly and produced alcohol...  
So beware you baker/dog owners!

- For those people who are too busy to own a pet but want one, a company has the simple solution, time sharing.

For a monthly charge of \$50, 25 dollars a day, and an annual \$100 fee, busy dog lovers can gain a 4-legged friend.

FlexPetz is the name of the company that "rents" dogs out people looking for that extra companion. Their dogs are mainly rescue dogs or those badly looking for new homes fulltime.

Each dog comes equipped with a global tracking device in case they decide to walk themselves.

FlexPetz is already operational in New York and Los Angeles and plans to open branches in London, San Francisco and Washington this year.

Apparently the publicity surrounding the Michael Vick affair has not diminished the dog fighting industry. February 20 2008 - Sheriff's deputies have seized over 100 dogs and arrested numerous people in connection with a possible dog fighting ring in Arizona.

The arrests took place following a lengthy investigation into the operation that was designed to breed dogs for dog fighting competitions.

March 3 2008 - DVD pirates in the country of Malaysia should be shaking in their boots as it is being reported that 2 more sniffer dogs have been added to an already stellar DVD dog detecting team.

The country has become the first to have an actual division dedicated to canines and their ability to sniff out pirated DVDs, which are a multi-million dollar industry.

Do you think different dog personalities require different training methods? Check out this link: <http://dogtime.com/training-by-personality.html>

Here is a video you will not want to miss:  
<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=lj6CCH-CjPI>

March Trial: Once again spring was ushered in with the help of our annual late winter/early spring agility trial. We were all very glad to get back into the horse arena for a weekend of fun and challenging courses. We were fortunate this year that we were able to get the facility for a half day a couple of weeks ahead of the trial so that the dogs

could get their paws in the dirt of the Agriplex for a warm up fun match. Cindy Swiney came from Alberta to judge the Masters and Advanced rounds and to supervise Donna Holmgren in her debut as a Starters judge. Both Donna and Cindy provided great courses! As we have come to expect, Kris had everything well organized and running smoothly and the “old men” (Glen, Rob, Al, Roger, Ken and Mike) did a superb job of course building. We had a few out of town teams from Quesnel, William’s Lake and Smithers. Here are all of the Qs:

<b>Handler</b>	<b>Dog</b>	<b>Event</b>
June West	Benson	Masters Team
		Masters Snooker
Mike Shortland	Dazzle	Advanced Team, Steeplechase 1 & 2
Marc Bernat	Jasper	Steeplechase 1
Sheldon Pineo	Able	Advanced Gamblers, Steeplechase 1, Masters Jumpers
Roger Ryf	Biscuit	Masters Gamblers 1, Advanced Standard 1
Maria James	Teigs	Masters Gamblers 1, Masters Team, Masters Snooker, Masters Jumpers
Pat Krebs	Spryte	Advanced Standard 1, 2 & 3
Dirk Blok	Rex	Advanced Team, Starters Standard 1
Dirk Blok	Jack	Advanced Snooker
Michelle Klein	Zap	Advanced Standard 1, Advanced Team, Masters Snooker
Shannon Mercer	Toque	Advanced Gamblers 1, Starters Standard 1
Shannon Mercer	Marty	Masters Standard 1, Masters Jumpers
Shannon Mercer	Cai	Masters Jumpers
Ken Sharp	Blitz	Advanced Gamblers 1, Steeplechase 1, Starters Team, Advanced Jumpers, Starters Standard 3
Laura Norie	Ellie	Masters Team
Glen McNab	Alee	Masters Gamblers 1
Glen McNab	Max	Masters Snooker, Steeplechase 2
Donna Holmgren	Warjac	Masters Team
Donna Holmgren	Rayn	Masters Gamblers 2, Masters Jumpers
Karen Steward	Belle	Advanced Standard 1 & 2, Advanced Gamblers 2
Karen Steward	Roch	Starters Standard 1 & 2, Advanced Snooker
Lorna Bertram	Rayla	Masters Standard 1, 2 & 3 Masters Gamblers 1, Steeplechase 1, Masters Jumpers
Carolyn Gerrie	Levi	Masters Standard 1, Masters team, Steeplechase 2
Carolyn Gerrie	Wren	Advanced Snooker
Joy Miller	Hannah	Masters Standard, Masters Team, Steeplechase 1
Naomi Packer	Tegwen	Steeplechase 1 & 2, Masters Standard 3, Masters Snooker, Masters Jumpers
Chris Buker	Zoom	Steeplechase 1
David Greenberg	Cassie	Masters Standard 1 & 2, Steeplechase 1, Advanced Team,

		Masters Snooker
Robbi Holm	Nova	Starters Standard 2, Starters Gamblers 2
Katie Eschak	Tigger	Starters Gamblers 1, Starters Team
Michelle Makelke	Rook	Starters Gamblers 1 & 2
Angel Dumoulin	Sunny	Starters Gamblers 1
Al Henke	Bud	Advanced Gamblers 2
Rob Waterston	Timber	Masters Snooker, Masters Standard 3, Steeplechase 2

At this point I do not know all of the titles earned at our trial; however, the big news from the horse barn is that Carolyn Gerrie and Levi got their Masters Team Relay title and their AtchC.

Congratulations! A picture of Carolyn and Levi and Cindy (the judge) can be viewed at Sheldon's Flickr site. In fact many pictures of the trial are available from Sheldon: <http://www.flickr.com/photos/icenrye/sets/72157604073072834/> and from Joy Miller:

[http://www.pbase.com/brandyplusbcs/top\\_dog\\_agility\\_trial\\_march\\_2008](http://www.pbase.com/brandyplusbcs/top_dog_agility_trial_march_2008)



At the end of March, during Spring Break Maria James took Teigs to a trial in Calgary where they earned their Masters Snooker title, Masters Team Relay title, AtchC and Bronze Level Award. Amazing! Way to go Maria and Teigs!

**Transitions:** Shannon's new mini-Aussie arrived in time to visit at the March trial. What a cutie! She is being called Sobe. To follow what is happening with Shannon and all the rescue dogs, Shannon now has a web blog site:

<http://performancecanine.blogspot.com>

Also if you go to my Flickr site:

<http://www.flickr.com/photos/dgreenbee/?saved=1> you can see a photo of Shannon and Sobe. If you are interested, you can see other dog pictures there.

On a sad note Linda' Williams beloved Bassett Becky succumbed to the cancer she had been battling. We will all miss Becky very much.

**Looking After Dogs:** I stayed up late the other night to watch Oprah's show about puppy mills. It was very difficult to watch. My hope is that with Oprah's influence the horrors of these enterprises will become burned under the glare of public scrutiny. I also saw on Global news that dognappings have increased dramatically and well bred and high performance dogs fetch high prices on the black market so be vigilant in keeping track of your dogs! I also read a warning that using cocoa hull mulch in your garden can prove to be toxic to your pets.

**Regionals:** The good news from the Board of Directors of the AAC is that instead of making the point requirement for qualifying jump from 300 to 400 they have settled on the 350 level! If you haven't registered yet, it is time to get on the computer and get signed up. Michelle Klein can tell you it may not be an easy process, depending on how your computer is feeling at the time you choose to go to the on-line registration. Some of the warm-up games are already fully booked. Regionals are in Abbotsford this year and they are June 13 (warm up games) 14 and 15. Mike and Veronica have reserved campsites for many of us at the Abbotsford camp and RV park. No matter how competitive you are it is worth your while to go to regionals. You can watch great dog/handler teams, have fun running challenging courses and hob-nob with agility friends from all over the province. I hope and expect to see ya'll there! For more information go to: <http://2008bcyukonregionals.com/>

**Coming Events:**

I know we will have quite a few informal events scheduled including fun match/barbeque days, demonstrations, and training sessions. Here are the sanctioned events that have been booked:

AAC Agility trial August 2 & 3  
CARO Rally Obedience trial, August 4  
AAC Agility trial November 1 & 2  
AA Agility trial March 14 & 15 2009

Also: The next general meeting will be Thursday July 17th at 7:00 at the center. The AGM will be November 16,08 at the center.

The Christmas party is booked for November 29,08 at St. Michaels Church Hall again.

Pawisitive Steps is holding an AAC agility trial May 31 and June 1. It will be at Kim's place.

Phil and Mary (5 Star Dog Training) will hold an AAC trial June 7 & 8.

Pawisitive Steps plans a Team Relay trial July 1. Since it is so hard to get team Qs this is a great opportunity to try to pick one or two qualifying rounds up.

Clear Sailing will hold an AAC trial July 4 & 5 in Quesnel.

July 25 and 26<sup>th</sup> Pawisitive Steps will have a trial in Quesnel just following the Agility Camp. (Camps run between July 17 and July 24.)

On August 10 Kim will have another evening specialty trial, this one will feature jumpers and a steeplechase.

September 5 & 6 is the weekend for the Clear Sailing trial in Quesnel.

Dr. Gail Jewell will be returning to Prince George April 29 and 30. Contact Kim at Pawisitive Steps if you want your dog seen.

On August 16, Pawisitive Steps will have a Rally-O trial. Also, Five Star Dog Training in Kamloops will hold a Rally-O trial May 24 & 25.

Kris has managed to get the Agriplex for Friday evening, April 18<sup>th</sup> from 7 until 10. I suspect you will soon hear about some fun matches at Al and Ann's place this spring and I also hope we are going to return to Masich Place for the Cancer run May 10 and 11.

**CPE Trial in Sunny Sunnyvale**

Jeanette and I took Cassie and Ziva and our granddaughter Sienna to California for Spring Break. During the middle weekend of the break we entered both dogs in the Bay Team's CPE trial in

Sunnyvale, California. I have written about CPE in the past. Think of CPE as "Agility Lite." Qs come much easier in CPE for a whole bunch of reasons. Dogs run in more divisions; there are five levels instead of three. In Level 1 there are no teeters and no weaves so beginner dogs can play the games earlier. Contact zones are larger, yards per second are lower, there are no refusals and at the first three levels you can qualify with some faults.

Anyway, Ziva entered level 1 and she ended up with six Qs. She had some pretty nice runs and some real "yabba-dabba do" runs. We had a lot of fun running together.

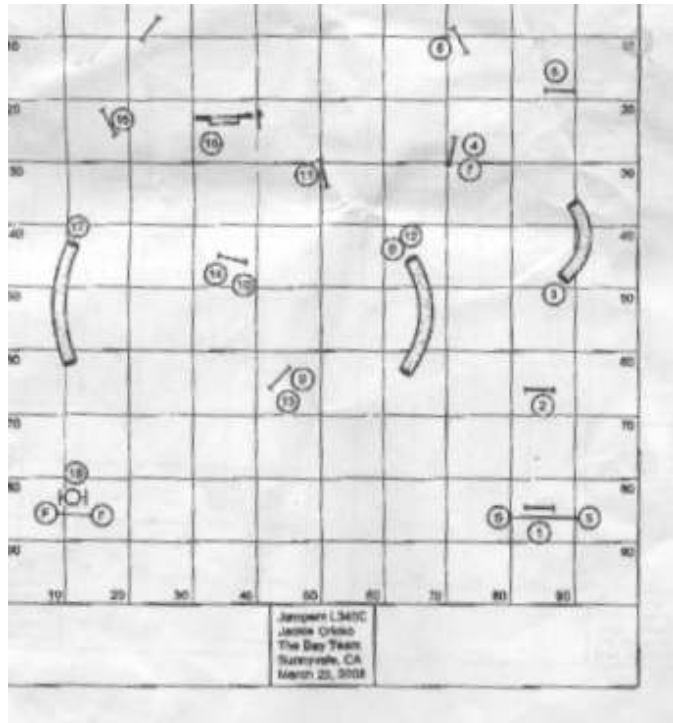
They give a special ribbon to any team that finishes the weekend with 10 Qs for 10 runs. Luckily Cassie was on her game and we were one of five teams to win the "Perfect Weekend Ribbon."

There were a couple of interesting courses. CPE has a game called "Jackpot which is like gamblers.

The judge at this trial had an Easter morning non-traditional Jackpot. It was the same course for all levels. There was one obstacle in each of the four quadrants of the course area that was a designated Easter treat object. During the briefing there was a chocolate bunny on the A frame, some marshmallow peeps on a jump, some candy eggs on the weaves and jelly beans on the tire. The idea was that your dog must collect three Easter treats by successfully doing three of those special obstacles and also get enough other points to get a qualifying score. Then the Easter hunt was complete when the items were put in the Easter basket (touching the pause table.) However, if you picked up all four

candies you were too greedy and that would be an NQ. Both of the Aussies Qued the course. Also, Cassie ran a perfect snooker course with the maximum score of 51 and done in under 40 seconds.

Cassie's second snooker run was her penultimate course and near the end of it I somehow managed to pull a hamstring muscle and had to hobble the rest of the way. Ironic that now that she is no longer limping I get lame. Her tenth event was jumpers. I knew I could not run with her so I showed her the course



map and discussed strategy and then pretty much had her run the course on her own. I led out to the end of tunnel #3. Then I did a front cross to send her around the pinwheel 4,5,6,7. Another front cross sent her into tunnel #8. I stepped across the tunnel mouth and pulled her around 9, 10,11 and back into the tunnel #12. Then as she came around 13 and 14 I limped over to rear cross #15 and told her to go to the finish.

Looking for a new dog? Try this: This site can find you a dog in your area. Type in your postal code to view available dogs in your area. <http://dogtime.com/finder/edit>

Before you finish reading this newsletter, I want you all to read the two letters which follow. They were posted on the CPE discussion forum last week. Although the subject is morbid they truly must evoke a feeling of admiration. The woman who wrote them clearly is plucky and courageous and in spite of her misfortune she manages to leave us with an uplifting message:

To all of my fellow agility competitors and friends,

Last Tuesday I was admitted to hospital, for eight years I have fought breast cancer. I have been diagnosed now with AML Leukemia and have been given approximately three weeks to spend on this wonderful earth. I have chosen not to do any more chemo as I believe I have received and given all this life has to give and take.

With the help of my dear friends in Dallas we were able to talk the Dr's into spring me out of hospital today. Tomorrow at the Dallas Agility Working Group's trial I will run my darling Chinese

Crested Diva for the last time - it won't be pretty, no one will be able to guess who's handling style I will use and I don't even know myself - just staying on my feet will be an achievement and to run with my very best friend and to be among friends will be enough to give me the energy I need to get through the day.

I am thrilled I will also get to watch the veterans parade and to pay tribute one last time to all the great dogs that have helped form this sport that I so love.

If you want to do anything for me pray that Diva and I can achieve a super Q, it is all we need to become ADCH together, but even if we don't get it - I know I am blessed to share what time I have with my dogs and my friends.

Please wish Angela Lancaster all the very best with my dogs in the future, she is going from the cheesiest Yorkies to a couple of naked Cresteds and I know my dogs will continue to be well loved and respected and they will be in the agility ring again at some time to play.

Many thanks for all your love and support over the years, I am indeed one of the lucky ones that get to

say thanks in 'person' before my time.

Remember this weekend to enjoy your friends, dogs and should success come, enjoy and embrace it, if it doesn't never forgot the love of this game and the friendships we have forged. Thanks to everyone who helped me with my journey I sure do appreciate you all.

Run Fast, Run Happy

Lis Kristof  
Dallas, TX

And:

to everyone for your wonderful emails and prayers.

I don't know where my energy came to get that last SuperQ but my little 6lb guardian pulled it out of us both for us to get that ADCH. Thanks to Joe Sare for a challenging course - there were no 'give-me's' on that run. I just don't have the words to say how proud I am of her. Thank you for giving me the energy to really run for just that one day and that one run - it was a joy, we were guided by the light and kindness.

I also wish to thank Dallas Agility Working Group for a wonderful trial, and they honored Diva and I with a \$250 donation to the Canine

Health Foundation. Anyone who knows me knows that I have two foundations that are close to my heart, the CHF and Take the Lead (<http://www.takethelead.org/>). One helps the dogs, the other helps the handlers.

I understand that a good friend is putting together a video to go on YouTube, and that will be shared with everyone on this list.

Lis Kristof & ADCH Rasberi's Racin' Diva! The little naked spotted dog.

[http://www.divadawg.com/mydogs\\_files/\\_vti\\_cnf/diva.htm](http://www.divadawg.com/mydogs_files/_vti_cnf/diva.htm)

My You Tube tribute for Diva  
<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xQildDIfJWs>