

SHELTIE TALES

October – December 2015

Newsletter of the Shetland Sheepdog Club of Southeast Florida, Inc.

www.sscsefl.com

2015 Officers and Board Members:

President: Ellen Ragland
Vice-President: Gael Silverman
Secretary: Dee Silverstein
Treasurer: Anna Whiting
Board of Directors: Hector Hector
Walter Silverstein
John Gorbas

Committees:

Breeder Referral: Holly Potts
Newsletter Editor: Holly Potts
Show Chairman: Meredith Hector
Website: Dee Silverstein
Membership: Hector Hector
Walter Silverstein
John Gorbas

Upcoming Club Events -----

December General Membership Meeting:

Date: Saturday, December 5, 2015

Time: Immediately following the Greater Miami Dog Club Show at ringside.

Location:

Tropical Park Equestrian Arena
7900 Southwest 40th Street
Miami, Florida

Sanctioned AKC Match
(pending approval)
Judge Joni Lowther:

Date: Saturday, January 9, 2016

Registration: 8:45-9:15 a.m.

Judging: 9:30 a.m.

Sheltie Olympics:

Registration: 10:15-11:00 a.m.

Game Time: 11:00 a.m.

Luncheon:

Following Olympics.

January General Membership Meeting:

Following lunch.

Location:

Silver Trails Sheltie Ranchette
Home of: Walter and Dee Silverstein
17518 North 66th Court
Loxahatchee, Florida 33470-3235
(561-753-3330)

February General Membership Meeting: Tuesday, February 9, 2016, at 7:30 p.m.
Location to be determined.

March General Membership Meeting, Wednesday, March 8, 2016, at 7:30 p.m.
Annual Meeting with Elections, and Location to be determined.
Final Run-Thru for Specialty:

Specialties: March 12 and 13, 2016

Location: South Florida Fairgrounds
9067 Southern Boulevard
West Palm Beach, Florida 33411

Post-Specialty Awards Social: Saturday, March 12, 2016,
Following judging. More details to follow.

April General Membership Meeting: Tuesday, April 12, 2015, at 7:15 p.m.

Reproduction Seminar with Dr. Cindi: Immediately following club meeting.

Location: Animal Hospital of Fort Lauderdale
1630 East Oakland Park Boulevard
Fort Lauderdale, Florida 33334-5237

Club Information-----

Membership: On September 12, 2015, Nola Boyd was voted into membership as a full member and William Boyd was voted into membership as an associate member.

On October 17, 2015, Tess Oliver was voted into membership as a full member; Cara Sandler and Jill Coon were voted into membership as associate members; and Alyssa Coon and Piper Mahoney were voted into membership as junior members.

Membership Dues: Membership dues notices should be sent out shortly and are due on or before January 1, 2016. If you have not yet paid, please submit your dues. Please contact Dee Silverstein (Secretary) and give her any updated address, e-mail

address, telephone numbers, and other contact information on yourself. Payment of dues should be sent to Anna Whiting (Treasurer).

Nominating Committee: A nominating committee consisting of Hector Hector, Holly Potts, and Tess Oliver have been appointed in preparation for the annual election in March 2016. Hector Hector shall be the chairperson of the committee. The slate of officers for the upcoming year will be presented at the January General Membership Meeting. Nominations from the floor are welcome at the January meeting. Additional nominations will be taken at the February meeting after which time the nominations will close. All nominees may present their qualifications to the general membership in writing for submission in the newsletter.

If a full member would like to hold a position for the upcoming year, please make your wishes known to the nominating committee.

Raffle: Please start gathering raffle items for the raffle which will be held at our Specialties in March 2016. Ellen Ragland is the Raffle Committee Chair and is overseeing the collection of raffle items. Therefore, preparations are underway for our raffle table and Ellen informs us that the raffle room at her home is ready for a host of donated items! Therefore, donations of baskets, stand-alone prizes, sheltie and dog-related items, grooming supplies, toys, gift cards, and money for the money tree are now being accepted.

If you wish to make a donation of either money or a gift, please send to: SSCSEF, C/O Ellen Ragland, 2030 Northeast 62nd Street, Fort Lauderdale 33308, or contact Ellen to determine a mutually convenient location and time to meet.

Specialties: Our Specialties will be March 12 and 13, 2016, and have received AKC approval. The Specialties will be at the South Florida Fairgrounds, 9067 Southern Boulevard, West Palm Beach, Florida 33411. The entry closing date is February 24, 2016.

The Club's 2016 specialty shows are dedicated to the memory of Kathy Reeley.

Meredith Hector is the trophy chairperson. She is very much appreciative of the generous donations to help with trophies.

Awards Social: The awards social will be on Saturday, March 12, 2016, following judging of the club's specialty. It will likely occur at Anna Whiting's RV. The awards application form is attached hereto and should be sent to Anna Whiting for processing. Deadline for submission is February 15, 2016.

Constitution and Bylaws:

The new wording for "Article III - Meetings and Voting" of the club's Constitution and Bylaws is:

Article III - Meetings and Voting

Section 1. Club Meetings. At least six meetings in a calendar year will be held in Miami-Dade, Broward, or Palm Beach County. Consideration of meeting location shall be determined by the percentage of members residing in each county, with the number of meetings per county each year to be in correlation with its percentage of members. The date, hour, and place of meeting shall be designated by the President unless otherwise voted on by the majority of membership in attendance at the prior meeting. The Secretary shall give notice of each Club meeting at least ten (10) days prior to the date of the meeting. The quorum for such meeting shall be twenty percent (20%) of the full membership members plus the number of lifetime members in attendance, or nine (9) voting members whichever is less.

Section 2. Special Club Meetings. Special Club meetings may be called by the President, or by a majority vote of the members of the Board who are present at any regular or special meeting of the Board; or by the Secretary upon receipt of a petition signed by five (5) members of the Club who are in good standing. Such special meetings shall be held in Miami-Dade, Broward, or Palm Beach County and on such date, at such hour and place as may be designated by the person or persons authorized herein to call such meetings. Written notice of such a meeting shall be mailed by the Secretary at least five (5) days and not more than ten (10) days prior to the date of the meeting; said notice shall state the purpose of the meeting and no other Club business may be transacted thereat. The quorum for such meeting shall be twenty percent (20 %) of the full membership members plus the number of lifetime members in attendance, or nine (9) voting members whichever is less.

Interesting Information -----

If you would like to watch a short news video regarding the potential ill effects of over vaccination, here is a recent news story entitled “Pet Threat” documenting one’s dog’s sudden health decline after vaccination:

<http://www.wsvn.com/story/30083574/pet-threat>.

Attached hereto is a Gallbladder Mucocoele (GBM) Research Update for your review. A few noteworthy quotes from the Update are:

- “Although there is no proof that imidacloprid* causes GBM, there appears to be association between the use of products containing imidacloprid and the formation of GBM in Shelties.” [*Imidacloprid is the active ingredient in Advantage and Advantix.]
- “Background: . . . Many available drugs represent a newer generation of xenobiotics that may predispose dogs to GBM formation.” [Xenobiotics is a chemical or substance that is foreign to an organism or biological system.]
- “Objective: To determine if there is an association between the histologic diagnosis of GBM in dogs and administration of selected drugs.”

- “Results: . . . Analysis of a data subset containing only Shetland sheepdogs . . . indicated that Shetland sheepdogs with GBM formation were 9.3 times as likely to have had reported use of imidacloprid as were control Shetland sheepdogs”
- “Conclusions and Clinical Importance: This study provides evidence for an association between selected drug use and GBM formation in dogs. A larger epidemiologic study of Shetland sheepdogs with GBM formation and exposure to imidacloprid is warranted.”
- Statements from Dr. Gookin: “In this study we found that, in Shetland sheepdogs, the odds of gallbladder mucocele formation in dogs that have received product(s) containing imidacloprid is significantly higher than for those dogs that have not received imidacloprid. . . . [I]midacloprid somehow ‘fuels’ GBM formation in Shelties (?), but they can still make a GBM without any known exposure to the drug. . . . Finally, the study does not prove that imidacloprid is the direct instigator Nonetheless, these findings are important to Shetland sheepdog owners so that they can be informed of this possible association”

Member Brags -----

Carol Essrick and Karen Salvage:

“Diva,” Lorain’s Prima Donna:

Sire and dam: CH Shieldcrest Colorado ex GCH Lorain’s the Drama Queen.

- On August 22, 2015, at the Newtown Kennel Club, Inc. show, “Diva” was Select Bitch .
- On August 23, 2015, at the Elm City Kennel Club, Inc. show, “Diva” was Select Bitch .
- On October 10, 2015, at the Palisades Kennel Club, Inc. show, “Diva” was Select Bitch for a five-point major towards her grand championship.
- On October 10, 2015, at the Shetland Sheepdog Club of Northern New Jersey, Inc. show, “Diva” was Select Bitch for a five-point major towards her grand championship.
- On October 25, 2015, at the Brandon Florida Kennel Club show, “Diva” was Best of Opposite Sex.

Additional from Carol:

- CH Lorain's Prima Donna is steamrolling her way to her Grand Championship. In October, she picked up two five-point major Select Bitch awards at the Augusta, New Jersey, Specialties under Janet Nahikian and Debra Wyman. She also won a few single Select Bitch points bringing her total at this point to 17 points, three major wins with competition, and leaving her only eight single points to finish her Grand Championship. With the exception of the last point, “Diva” has been piloted to all her wins by Sheila Monks. “Diva” is now home to stay with a breeding planned after finishing her Grand Championship.

Anna Whiting and Ellen Ragland:

“Denim,” CH Highfields Remember When:

Sire and dam: CH Cameo Dreamchaser ex Highfields Almost Winter.

- “Denim” and Anna Whiting have tied for 11th place (Shelties) in the National Owner Handler Series for the year ending October 2015. This was quite an accomplishment! “Denim” is co-owned by Ellen Ragland.

Ellen Ragland and Anna Whiting:

“Gia,” Gala Glamorous:

Sire and dam: GCH Sea Haven Etched in Silver ex Gala The Devil Wears Prada.

- On October 24, 2015, at the Blue Ridge Shetland Sheepdog Club show, “Gia” was Winners Bitch and Best of Winners for her first major.

Additional from Ellen:

- Gala Glamorous “Gia,” owned by President Ellen Ragland and co-owned by Treasurer Anna Whiting, won a four-point specialty major under respected breeder judge Robin McTaggart at the Blue Ridge Shetland Sheepdog Club Specialty in Virginia on October 24th, 2015. “Gia” was bred by Vice President, Gael Silverman, and expertly shown by her special friend club member, Jessica Starbuck.
- In more exciting “Gia” news, pregnancy has been confirmed and a “black” litter is due in early December. “Gia” was bred to MBIS/MBISS AmG/Can CH Jesstar Nirvana ROM, CC. Show prospect and pet inquiries are welcomed by Ellen.



2014 & 2015 SSCSEFL ANNUAL AWARDS

The SSCSEFL is pleased to offer a certificate for each new AKC title - companion, conformation, obedience, rally obedience, tracking, agility or herding title earned by its members' dogs during the 2014 and 2015 calendar years.

To be eligible for an award, the dog must be owned by a SSCSEFL member in good standing. Please read the requirements below that must be included with the application. Completed application forms should be sent by email or regular mail to:

Anna Whiting
 59 Katrina Circle
 West Palm Beach, FL 33415
 highfieldsheltie@aol.com

THE DEADLINE FOR RECEIPT OF APPLICATIONS IS FEBRUARY 15, 2016, after which time applications cannot be accepted.

Owner's Name(s): _____

Breeders name(s): _____

Dog's Registered Name: _____

Dog's Call Name: _____

Check all titles earned and indicate year obtained:

CONFORMATION					
2014			2015		
Title	Yes?	date earned	Title	Yes?	date earned
<i>Ch.</i>			<i>Ch.</i>		
<i>GCh.</i>			<i>GCh.</i>		
<i>ROM</i>			<i>ROM</i>		
<i>CC</i>			<i>CC</i>		
<i>BISS</i>			<i>BISS</i>		
<i>BIS</i>			<i>BIS</i>		

OBEDIENCE					
2014			2015		
Title	Yes?	date earned	Title	Yes?	date earned
<i>CGC</i>			<i>CGC</i>		
<i>CGCA</i>			<i>CGCA</i>		
<i>BN</i>			<i>BN</i>		
<i>GN</i>			<i>GN</i>		
<i>GO</i>			<i>GO</i>		
<i>CD</i>			<i>CD</i>		
<i>CDX</i>			<i>CDX</i>		
<i>UD</i>			<i>UD</i>		
<i>UDX</i>			<i>UDX</i>		
<i>OTCH</i>			<i>OTCH</i>		

HERDING					
2014			2015		
Title	Yes?	date earned	Title	Yes?	date earned
<i>HC</i>			<i>HC</i>		
<i>HS</i>			<i>HS</i>		
<i>HI</i>			<i>HI</i>		
<i>HX</i>			<i>HX</i>		
<i>HC</i>			<i>HC</i>		
<i>HT</i>			<i>HT</i>		
<i>PT</i>			<i>PT</i>		

RALLY					
2014			2015		
Title	Yes?	date earned	Title	Yes?	date earned
<i>RN</i>			<i>RN</i>		
<i>RALLY</i>			<i>RALLY</i>		
<i>RA</i>			<i>RA</i>		
<i>RE</i>			<i>RE</i>		
<i>RAE</i>			<i>RAE</i>		

Gallbladder Mucocele Research Update

ASSA Research Advisory Committee - November, 2015

Gallbladder mucocele (GBM) formation is a relatively uncommon problem in dogs in which the normally fluid bile contents of the gallbladder become partially solidified resulting in inflammation and possible rupture of the gallbladder wall. Clinical signs of affected dogs include vomiting, loss of appetite, and abdominal pain. Without surgical removal of the gallbladder, the dog may die if rupture occurs. Many other diseases cause similar clinical signs, and because gallbladder mucoceles are relatively uncommon, the diagnosis can be missed or delayed. The diagnosis is usually made via ultrasound examination, exploratory surgery, or on necropsy.

Two articles regarding gallbladder mucoceles in dogs have been published in 2015 from research done at North Carolina State University. An additional research study concerning gallbladder sludge was done as part of a Master's Degree thesis at Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University was completed and posted online this year. The ASSA has supported the research done at NC State University through the AKC Canine Health Foundation Donor Advised Fund and through encouraging owners to participate in the research being done there.

Take home messages from the articles:

- The diagnosis of gallbladder mucoceles has increased in the last 10 years or so.
- Shetland Sheepdogs are one of the breeds at increased risk, though the diagnosis has been made in many breeds.
- **Although there is no proof that imidacloprid* causes GBM, there appears to be association between the use of products containing imidacloprid and the formation of GBM in Shelties.**
- Mucocele formation involves excess secretion of gel-forming mucins with abnormal properties by the gallbladder wall.
- Gravity dependent biliary sludge (sludge that moves with changing position of the dog) is commonly seen in dogs during ultrasound examination. Greater than 50% of dogs examined may have sludge in their gallbladders, so the presence of sludge is not cause for alarm. Gallbladder sludge is not the same as GBM.

***Imidacloprid is the active ingredient in Advantage and Advantix**

The citations and links are listed below:

Gookin, J.L., Correa, M.T., Peters, A., Malueg, A., Mathews, K.G., Cullen, J. and Seiler, G. (2015), **Association of Gallbladder Mucocele Histologic Diagnosis with Selected Drug Use in Dogs: A Matched Case-Control Study**. Journal of Veterinary Internal Medicine, 29: 1464–1472.

<http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1111/jvim.13649/abstract>

The study was conducted at the College of Veterinary Medicine, North Carolina State University

Background: The cause of gallbladder mucocele (GBM) formation in dogs currently is unknown. Many available drugs represent a newer generation of xenobiotics that may predispose dogs to GBM formation.

Objective: To determine if there is an association between the histologic diagnosis of GBM in dogs and administration of selected drugs.

Animals: Eighty-one dogs with a histologic diagnosis of GBM and 162 breed, age, and admission date-matched control dogs from a single referral institution.

Methods: Medical records of dogs with GBM and control dogs from 2001 to 2011 were reviewed. Owner verification of drug history was sought by a standard questionnaire. Reported use of heartworm, flea, and tick preventatives as well as nonsteroidal anti-inflammatory drugs, analgesics, corticosteroids, or medications for treatment of osteoarthritis was recorded.

Results: Dogs with GBM were 2.2 times as likely to have had reported use of thyroxine (as a proxy for the diagnosis of hypothyroidism) as control dogs (95% confidence interval [CI], 0.949–5.051), 3.6 times as likely to have had reported treatment for Cushing's disease (95% CI, 1.228–10.612), and 2.3 times as likely to have had reported use of products containing imidacloprid (95% CI, 1.094–4.723). Analysis of a data subset containing only Shetland sheepdogs (23 GBM and 46 control) indicated that Shetland sheepdogs with GBM formation were 9.3 times as likely to have had reported use of imidacloprid as were control Shetland sheepdogs (95% CI, 1.103–78.239).

Conclusions and Clinical Importance: This study provides evidence for an association between selected drug use and GBM formation in dogs. A larger epidemiologic study of Shetland sheepdogs with GBM formation and exposure to imidacloprid is warranted.

Regarding the above article, Mary Mahaffey received the following correspondence from Dr. Gookin.

"The JVIM article will be of particular interest to Shetland sheepdog owners, breeders and enthusiasts. In this study we found that, in Shetland sheepdogs, the odds of gallbladder mucocele formation in dogs that have received product(s) containing imidacloprid is significantly higher than for those dogs that have not received imidacloprid. I think it is really important to put these findings into context though. More specifically, most Shelties that developed GBM in the study had no history of having received imidacloprid. Therefore it is very unlikely that imidacloprid is the cause of GBM formation in these dogs. There was also no significant association between GBM formation and use of imidacloprid when looking at non-Shetland sheepdogs. What I think may be happening here is that imidacloprid somehow "fuels" GBM formation in Shelties (?), but they can still make a GBM without any known exposure to the drug. Maybe it is related to a breed-associated difference in drug metabolism in shelties. Based on the literature it is unlikely to be due to MDR1 and the drug is not known to be transported by any known MDR protein (at least not yet). We also do not know how use of imidacloprid might do this but speculate about it in the paper. Finally, the study does not prove that imidacloprid is the direct instigator of the increase in odds of GBM formation in shelties because it is difficult to rule out whether dogs treated with imidacloprid are more likely to be exposed to something else that we did not look at that is really the thing responsible for the observed effect. Nonetheless, these findings are important to Shetland sheepdog owners so that they can be informed of this possible association and to make their own

decisions about how they want to, if at all, make any changes to the preventative health care management of their dogs.

I hope you find our work to be of benefit to the Shetland sheepdog breed and so much appreciate your support. We continue our work on the AKC grant and are very excited about the strength of the data we are collecting and very confident that strong insight into the cause of gallbladder mucocele formation is apt to be gained.”

Kesimer M, Cullen J, Cao R, Radicioni G, Mathews KG, Seiler G, et al. (2015) **Excess Secretion of Gel-Forming Mucins and Associated Innate Defense Proteins with Defective Mucin Un-Packaging Underpin Gallbladder Mucocele Formation in Dogs.** PLoS ONE 10(9): e0138988.

doi:10.1371/journal.pone.0138988,

<http://journals.plos.org/plosone/article?id=10.1371/journal.pone.0138988>

The study was conducted at the College of Veterinary Medicine, North Carolina State University and Dr. Gookin is a co-author of this article.

Abstract

Mucosal protection of the gallbladder is vital yet we know very little about the mechanisms involved. In domestic dogs, an emergent syndrome referred to as gallbladder mucocele formation is characterized by excessive secretion of abnormal mucus that results in obstruction and rupture of the gallbladder. The cause of gallbladder mucocele formation is unknown. In these first mechanistic studies of this disease, we investigated normal and mucocele-forming dog gallbladders to determine the source, identity, biophysical properties, and protein associates of the culprit mucins with aim to identify causes for abnormal mucus behavior. We established that mucocele formation involves an adoptive excess secretion of gel forming mucins with abnormal properties by the gallbladder epithelium. The mucus is characterized by a disproportionately significant increase in Muc5ac relative to Muc5b, defective mucin un-packaging, and mucin-interacting innate defense proteins that are capable of dramatically altering the physical and functional properties of mucus. These findings provide an explanation for abnormal mucus behavior and based on similarity to mucus observed in the airways of people with cystic fibrosis, suggest that abnormal mechanisms for maintenance of gallbladder epithelial hydration may be an instigating factor for mucocele formation in dogs.

Note from M. Mahaffey:

I found the discussion section of this article interesting. Here is the 1st paragraph:

“The underlying cause of gallbladder mucocele formation in the dog is currently somewhat of a mystery. Several predisposing factors such as breed predisposition [11,15], concurrent endocrinopathies[13], and hyperlipidemia[11,15] suggest both a genetic and hormonal/metabolic contribution to disease pathogenesis. However, the breeds of dog affected and endocrinopathies commonly associated with gallbladder mucocele formation have existed long before emergence of the disease as a clinical entity and are not found in all dogs diagnosed with the disease. Accordingly, these are unlikely to be a direct cause, but rather an exacerbating factor to disease pathogenesis. Efforts to link a genetic defect in ABCB4, a hepatocyte canicular membrane phosphatidylcholine flippase, in the Shetland sheepdog was

initially promising but later disproven [24]. A theory that poor gallbladder motility [16] causes gallbladder mucocele formation is difficult to prove once the gallbladder is filled with mucus and gallbladder paresis does not result in mucocele formation in people. The disease is not a consequence of common bile duct obstruction [25], however mucus can eventually extend into and obstruct hepatic bile drainage. Increased mucin secretion can be caused by bacterial cholecystitis, however infection of the gallbladder is an inconsistent finding in dogs with gallbladder mucocele formation [9–12,14]. Despite many descriptions of proliferative changes in the gallbladder epithelium [26], there exist no diseases of the gallbladder in people that closely mirror the histological appearance of gallbladder mucocele formation in dogs. The only descriptions of gallbladder mucosa that are similar to gallbladder mucocele formation are in animals experimentally treated with progestins [27–29] or lacking functional cystic fibrosis transmembrane regulatory (CFTR) protein expression[30,31]. Alas, the specific mechanisms underpinning the initiating event of the disease pathogenesis in dogs has remained elusive.”

DeMonaco S, Grant D, Larson M, Cecere T, Panciera D, Leib M. **Natural history of biliary sludge in dogs.** Master’s Thesis, Virginia Maryland College of Veterinary Medicine, Blacksburg, VA, USA, June 30, 2015.

The thesis for the above is located at:

https://vtechworks.lib.vt.edu/bitstream/handle/10919/56557/Demonaco_S_T_2015.pdf?sequence=1

“Biliary sludge is associated with gallbladder (GB) dysmotility and mucus hypersecretion suggesting that these factors may lead to GB mucoceles. If biliary sludge progresses to GB mucoceles then treatments to reduce the progression of sludge are warranted. The aim of this study was to determine the natural history of biliary sludge in dogs using serial ultrasonographic and biochemical examinations. Of seventy-four healthy dogs that underwent ultrasonography forty-two (57%) had biliary sludge and were subsequently reevaluated at three-month intervals for one year. The following were determined: percentage of the GB that was filled with sludge (mild (0.01%-24.4%), moderate (24.5%-49.4%), moderate to severe (49.5%-74.4%), severe (74.5%-100%)), gravity dependency of sludge, GB dimensions, and biochemical indices (ALT, GGT, ALP, total bilirubin, triglycerides and cholesterol). Mixed model ANOVA, Friedman’s Chi-Square, Mantel-Haenzsel chi-square tests, and Kruskal-Wallis test were performed to detect significant changes in these parameters. After 1 year of follow-up, the percentage of the GB filled by sludge was mild (32%), moderate (47%), moderate to severe (5%), and severe (3%) with no significant differences over time. The prevalence of non-gravity dependent sludge significantly increased ($P = 0.004$). Dogs had resolved (2%), decreased (19%), persistent (40%), increased (29%), or recurrent (10%) sludge at the conclusion of the study. Biochemical indices or GB volume were not significantly different over time or among groups.

Biliary sludge is prevalent, remains asymptomatic, and rarely resolves in healthy dogs over a period of 1 year. Gallbladder content became less gravity dependent, which may indicate changes in consistency over time.”