



# Mile High Great Pyrenees Club Newsletter

## “AS IT A’ PYRS”

Volume 2, Issue 3

July 2012

### President’s Message—Sandy McCrady

Now that Summer is well under way & dog shows are beginning to get started (August), we have a spare moment to prepare for our September Specialties. Time to work on coats of those adults, leash train those pups (don't mention my Fast Freddie), and get your equipment prepared.

I'm looking through my 'stuff' at the house to see what I can donate for our raffle/auction this year. Anyone want some slightly used dog fur? How about pictures of filthy puppies in compromising activities? I have some half-eaten dog bones (and dog bowls that have entertained TJ in her kennel, also half-eaten). If you have something that would bring in funds for the club, let us know!

I expect good times to be had by all who join us, so put September 7 on your calendar for a great show weekend. If you are bringing dogs, set aside a few days to get the Summer dust off them! LOL!

### What’s next in showing...

#### 2012 Area

#### Show schedule

Greeley KC August 18th  
Greeley KC August 19th  
Cheyenne KC Sept 1st  
Cheyenne KC Sept 2nd  
MHGPC Specialty Sept 7th  
Evergreen KC Sept 8th  
Evergreen KC Sept 9th  
Arapahoe KC Sept 22nd  
Arapahoe KC Sept 23rd  
Grand Junction KC Sept 27th  
Grand Junction KC Sept 28th  
Grand Junction KC Sept 29th

Grand Junction KC Sept 30th  
Buckhorn KC Oct 27 (new date)  
Buckhorn KC Oct 28 (new date)  
So Colo KC Nov 10th  
So Colo KC Nov 11th

See this link for Onofrio’s full schedule

<http://www.onofrio.com/execpgm/index?index=PL>

### Specialty Show Coming up September 7th

Join us for two shows in one day, Friday September 7th. At Island Grove Park in Greeley. We are looking forward to Judges Jean and Wayne Boyd, Sweeps Judge Kathy Carter, showing us their picks of the dogs at this year’s Specialty.

Come enjoy the show, the unique auction items and the dogs!

Contact Jean Pero, Show Chair, for a Premium List (entry)  
[jmpero3@gmail.com](mailto:jmpero3@gmail.com)

#### Special points of interest:

- GPCA Health Reports
- Heat Stroke Prevention
- News in Dog Health
- Training for your dog
- AKC Podcast

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**But this WAS the fastest way to get to the treat!**

“Dedicated to Breed Excellence”

## How to diagnose heatstroke or sunstroke and emergency treatment instructions for your dog.

If you suspect your dog is having heatstroke *scroll down*. Otherwise, let's talk about prevention and note that dogs are *more susceptible to heat stroke and sunstroke* than humans.

Dogs can't sweat like people and horses; hard panting is how his thermostat works to keep vital organs functioning. The best treatment for heat or sun stroke is knowledge and prevention. On a hot, muggy summer day, you sweat to cool your body. Your dog can only pant to dissipate heat and when humidity is high, he has to work even harder. Human or canine, the body's thermostat uses a lot of energy. A heavy coated dog has to work even harder to keep cool because he can't strip down to shorts and a T-shirt.

Do you get grouchy when it's oppressively hot? Just a little bit peevish? So does your dog. The dog must be sainted because he's less likely to be

short tempered with those he loves than you are after a "bad day" and a long hot drive home from work. Even so, give him some emotional space on "dog days".

Don't freak out if he digs a cool damp bed in your manicured lawn, especially if he is double coated. And remember, the darker his coat color, the more of the sun's heat it will absorb.

### Heatstroke Happens At Outdoor Events

If you insist on showing at outside summer shows, for goodness sake, have pity on him. Take a big ice chest. Not for your beverages. For the dog. If you want ice for your drinks, take a smaller one for yourself. Pack an old bath towel. Keep it in his ice chest. Wring out the towel and drape it over him for that long wait at ringside. Take a spray bottle of plain cold water and an ice bucket. If he's heavy coated, put cold packs under his crate pad or pan. Treat him better than you would your child in severely hot weather because he can't tolerate heat and humidity as well as your child can! Better yet stay home.

One more thing about summer shows. Direct summer sun will burn that gorgeous dark coat, turning it rusty. Avoid oily coat dressings in

summer. Hot sun will "fry" his coat. Drape him with a damp towel while standing ringside.

What's worse than walking the fairgrounds or event with your dog? Putting him in the car!!! Never leave him unattended. Surely you would rather mercifully shoot him than torture him to death in a car which you thoughtfully parked in the shade – until the sun moved and 15 minutes later, your car was an oven. Don't ever leave him in the van or motor home with the air conditioner running. If the engine becomes overheated and shuts off, your dog can die in less than twenty minutes.

Only a "few minutes" of ringside chat or good-byes can kill your best friend. Despite all the warnings and the presence of professional dog people, one or more show dogs die from heat prostration every summer.

NOTE: Dogs are more susceptible to **bloat and gastric torsion** in high heat, thirst situations.

### PERMISSION

"If dogs could talk it would take a lot of the fun out of owning one."-  
**Andy Rooney**

### Proposed USDA Regulation Comment Period Extended Until Aug 15

The US Department of Agriculture (USDA)/Animal Plant Health and Inspection Service (APHIS) [announced today](#) that the comment period on the proposed regulations regarding “Retail Pet Stores and Licensing Exemptions” has been extended until August 15, 2012. We encourage any concerned dog owners who have not yet signed the AKC petition and/or submitted comments about this problematic proposal to take advantage of this extra time to do so.

#### Background:

This important proposal would require all who own more than four “breeding females” and sell even one animal “sight unseen” to be regulated as a commercial breeder and be subject to federal commercial breeder licensing, regulation and inspections. The term “breeding female” is not defined, so it is unclear how USDA or even breeders themselves would determine who falls under these regulations. The term also includes multiple species (including cats, dogs, and other small mammals).

The AKC believes that the USDA’s “one size fits all” regulations are not in the best interest of all dogs, responsible breeders, or puppy buyers. It is unreasonable and virtually impossible for many small hobby breeders to comply with the strict kennel engineering standards that were designed for large commercial operations.

[Visit AKC’s USDA/APHIS Regulations Resource Page](#) for more information on this proposal, including frequently asked questions, a fact sheet from APHIS, an educational handout and other resources.

#### How You Can Help:

**Sign the AKC’s Petition** – If you have not already done so, visit [www.akc.org/petition](http://www.akc.org/petition) and join the tens of thousands who have signed our online petition in support of responsible breeders. *The new petition signature deadline is August 13.*

**Submit Comments Directly to the USDA’s Animal Plant and Health Inspection Service (APHIS)** – You may submit comments online [by clicking here](#). To view comments already submitted, [click here](#). You may also mail comments to:

- Docket No. APHIS–2011–0003
- Regulatory Analysis and Development
- PPD, APHIS, Station 3A–03.8
- 4700 River Road, Unit 118
- Riverdale, MD 20737–1238

Both actions are important in helping send a strong, clear message to APHIS on this issue. The petition, which will be submitted with the AKC’s formal comments to the USDA, will demonstrate the immense number of people who are concerned about this is-sue, and direct comments will help educate on exactly how this proposal will impact responsible breeders, dog owners, and puppy buyers.

AKC Government Relations (AKC GR) will provide more information as it becomes available.

For more information, visit AKC’s USDA/APHIS Regulations Resource Page.

Further questions may be directed to AKC GR at (919) 816-3720 or [doglaw@akc.org](mailto:doglaw@akc.org).

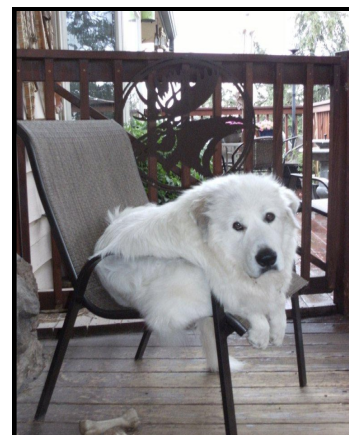
### GPCA Health Survey

The Great Pyrenees Club of America has revised a confidential health survey for GPCA Breeders and Great Pyrenees for the purpose of identifying diseases and health conditions (both genetic and otherwise) that affect the breed.

The survey will assist the GPCA Health Committee in determining the best use of GPCA donated Health fund for health research. In addition, it will serve as a tool to determine CHIC participation requirements. The 2009 Revised Survey still consists of only two pages—page one will remain with an independent tabulator for record keeping purpose and Page Two will go to the GPCA Health Database Manager—Catherine de la Cruz. The revised survey has been changed to offer information to the Health Committee as to which outreach efforts are resulting in responses and discourage any ancillary information that could compromise confidentiality.

Please download and print a copy for each dog you own and become a part of the solution to make our breed healthier. The Health Survey can be downloaded from our website.

[www.milehighgreatpyrenees.com](http://www.milehighgreatpyrenees.com)



## AKC DONATES

### **AKC Companion Animal Recovery Donates \$6,000 Helping Displaced Companion Animals During Colorado Wildfires**

**Date of Article:** June 29, 2012

*-- Colorado Springs, Fort Collins and Boulder Non-Profits Each Received \$2,000 --*

AKC Companion Animal Recovery (AKC CAR), working in conjunction with the American Kennel Club and its affiliated clubs in Colorado, has donated \$6,000 from its Canine Support and Relief Fund to three non-profits caring for pets displaced as a result of the tragic wildfires in the state.

Each organization received a \$2,000 donation to help them in their efforts to care for the hundreds of animals that had to be evacuated due to the High Park Fire in Fort Collins, the Flagstaff Fire near Boulder and the Waldo Canyon Fire in Colorado Springs. With hundreds of homes destroyed and tens of thousands of people evacuated across the state, thousands of pets have been forced to evacuate with their owners, many times not being able to stay with them at temporary housing and in need of their own shelters.

“AKC CAR always stands ready to help displaced pets in times of natural disaster. We are grateful for the dedication of the staff and volunteers at the local humane societies that have contributed to help care for the pets that have been recently evacuated,” said Tom Sharp, AKC Companion Animal Recovery CEO. “We are also grateful to the members of the Greeley Kennel Club and the Colorado Springs Kennel Club for their assistance in AKC CAR’s disaster relief outreach.”

Disaster Relief Donations Awarded To:

- The Larimer Humane Society received \$2,000 donation to help house and care for more than 600 animals since the wildfires began.
- The Humane Society of Boulder Valley received a \$2,000 donation to help defray costs of caring for evacuated animals and transporting staff to other regions to assist with caring for displaced animals.
- The Humane Society of the Pikes Peak Region received a \$2,000 donation to help care for more than 450 animals at two shelter locations.

In addition to disaster relief, AKC CAR’s Canine Support and Relief Fund awards annual grants in disaster preparedness and to volunteer K-9 Search and Rescue (SAR) teams. Just last month, grants worth a total of \$258,000 were awarded nationwide, including several to groups in Colorado:

- The Human Society of Boulder Valley, Boulder, CO received a disaster preparedness grant of \$5,000 to purchase items to supply their Emergency Cache trailers including crates, bowls, gloves, collars, large water and food storage containers, fan, power cords, zip ties, chairs, trash bags, cleaning supplies, various tools for set up, and a canopy for shade.
- The Colorado Veterinary Medical Foundation received a disaster preparedness grant of \$3,000, which will be presented locally by the Colorado Kennel Club.
- The SAR Dogs of the US, Otis, CO received a \$2,000 SAR grant.
- The La Plata County SAR, Inc. K9 Team, Durango, CO received a \$2,000 SAR grant. Since 2002, AKC CAR has proudly supported the crucial role these volunteers play during natural disasters and other emergencies when the unique talents of a highly trained canine and his handler can often mean the difference between life and death for a missing individual.

Created in the wake of the 9/11 terrorist attacks to honor the work of the search and rescue K-9s who bravely served, the [AKC CAR Canine Support and Relief Fund](http://www.akccar.org) is a permanent charitable fund that has donated more than \$4 million to SAR teams and to organizations supporting companion animal relief during natural disasters. For more information, visit [www.akccar.org](http://www.akccar.org).

### **Protective Booties for your dog**





# We're on the web for the latest information!

## [www.milehighgreatpyrenees.com](http://www.milehighgreatpyrenees.com)

Sue Cole, Editor

E-mail: [sue3cole@gmail.com](mailto:sue3cole@gmail.com)

### On the road to the National! By Sue Cole

The 2012 GPCA National Specialty was held in Matamoras Pennsylvania on April 24th—28th.

Jerry & I decided to make the drive back with April and Jackson. Champion Suepyr's April Love Spoofer was invited to the Puppy Invitational, for 2012 Sweepstakes winners.

Our Jackson was entered in Puppy Sweepstakes competition and regular Puppy Class 9—12 months. It sounded like a fun experience to compete with my dogs!

Dogs at the National were the best example of the Great Pyrenees Breed. It was so fun to see all the beautiful dogs being shown.

To make a diary of the trip we took a photo of each state sign we drove.

Here are a few:



### Here are the 2012 GPCA National Specialty Results

[http://  
gpcaonline.org/  
ns2012.htm](http://gpcaonline.org/ns2012.htm)

**Future Nationals  
2013  
Pottsboro, Texas**

**2014  
Vancouver, WA**

**2015  
Topeka, KS**



"My husband and I are either going to buy a dog or have a child. We can't decide whether to ruin our carpets or ruin our lives."- Rita Rudner

Listen to the PODCAST

[Balanced Canine Nutrition](#) | [AKC Canine Health Foundation](#)

Source: [akcchf.org](http://akcchf.org)

**In this edition of Genome Barks, we welcome back Dr. Joe Wakshlag, a veterinary nutritionist at Cornell University. Dr. Wakshlag discusses the balanced nutrition that dogs require, how to read the labels on dog food bags and cans, and what nutrients to watch for when purchasing food for your dog.**

## LAST YEAR'S Regional Specialty Winners

### September 9, 2011 – Mile High Great Pyrenees Club

**AM Judge:** Mrs. Barbara Dillon

**BOB:** Gr.CH Calurian Ailo Mountain Sage, RA – Nancy Wood Taber

**BOS:** CH Tip'N Chip's Let Freedom Ring – Laurie & Stephanie Gottschalk & Marcy Bankus

**BOW & WB:** Suepyr's April Love's Spoofer – Judi Woolever

**WD:** Cherlyn's Playboy – Leigh Flores & Cheryl Grimshaw

**SD:** Gr.CH Pyrpressures Rouge Blanc Et Bleu – Glen, Merry & Jonathan Johnson

**SB:** Gr.CH Framboise Alpine's Wind Rain and Fire – Peggy & Stephen Hughes

**AOM:** see select dog

**Best Veteran:** GrCH Aquilon Double Jump For Joy – Sandy McCrady & Barb Hayes

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**Sweepstakes Judge:** (AM only) Mrs Judy Mears

**Best in Puppy Sweeps:** Suepyr's April Love's Spoofer – Judi Woolever

**BOS Puppy Sweeps:** Pyrpressure American Classic Moby Dick – Glen Johnson & Eileen & Richard Oertl

**Best in Veteran Sweeps:** CH Starmount Spark of the Rockies – Sue Cole

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**PM Judge:** Mrs. Jane Treiber

**BOB:** CH Pyrpressure L'Orgueil – Glen & Merry Johnson

**BOS:** CH Tip'N Chip's Let Freedom Ring – Laurie & Stephanie Gottschalk & Marcy Bankus

**BOW & WB:** Suepyr's April Love's Spoofer – Judi Woolever

**WD:** Cherlyn's Playboy – Leigh Flores & Cheryl Grimshaw

**SD:** Gr.CH Calurian Ailo Mountain Sage, RA – Nancy Wood Taber

**SB:** Gr.CH Framboise Alpine's Wind Rain and Fire – Peggy & Stephen Hughes

**AOM:** Cherlyn's Playboy – Leigh Flores & Cheryl Grimshaw

**Best Veteran:** GrCH Aquilon Double Jump For Joy – Sandy McCrady & Barb Hayes

**Best Junior Handler:** Abbygail Chrysler

## The Power Of The Premack Principle

Eric R. Letendre

Do you remember as a kid when your Grandmother would tell you that you had to finish your vegetables before you could have any ice cream?

If your Grandmother or anyone else has ever said that to you, then they were using the Premack Principle, also known as Grandma's Law.

Basically, the Premack Principle is this: "If high probability behaviors (more desirable behaviors) are made contingent upon lower probability behaviors (less desirable behaviors), then the lower probability behaviors are more likely to occur."

Or to put it simply: "You can't watch TV until you finish your homework."

So how does this apply to dog training?

The Premack Principle works great when you are trying to teach your dog to come when called. You see, when your dog is outside there are more desirable things to do than to come back to you.

If your dog is outside and sees a squirrel, the chances of coming back to you decrease dramatically. Chasing the squirrel is much more desirable than responding to your command "Come."

But...Since we now understand the Premack Principle, we can set up training situations where your dog learns to respond to the command "Come" before taking chase.

Here is an exercise that I teach:

With your dog on a 10 to 15 foot leash, throw a treat about 20 feet away. Let your dog see you throw the treat.

Now let your dog go to the treat but stop her about two feet from the treat. Your dog will be interested in the treat and probably ignore your command "Come." Give your dog just a slight tug on the leash and back up a few feet. Once your dog comes to you, hold your dog's collar, praise your dog, and then let your dog run back and get the treat. You have just used the Premack Principle with your dog.

Your dog wants the treat (very desirable to your dog) but can't get the treat until she responds to the command "Come" (less desirable behavior), you are now teaching your dog to respond to your commands in distracting situations.

At first you need to use the leash to get the less desirable behavior to occur, but over time you'll find that your dog will start to respond to your voice command and you'll need to use the leash less and less.

Start using the Premack Principle and you'll be amazed at how much better your dog responds to your commands.

HIGH PLAINS KENNEL CLUB  
1<sup>ST</sup> ANNUAL **FUN MATCH** & FLEA MARKET  
offering  
**CONFORMATION, OBEDIENCE and RALLY**



**WHERE:** Arapahoe County Fairgrounds; 25680 E. Quincy Ave.; Aurora, Colorado  
All rings are outdoors on grass. conformation rings covered, adjacent to parking lots.

**WHEN:** Saturday, August 25, 2012  
Registration: 8:30 - 9:30 a.m.

Judging at: 9:30 a.m.

\$7.00 per entry

**ELIGIBILITY:** All breeds recognized by any international standard will be judged including:

Puppies 4 months and older

Altered dogs: conformation, obedience and rally

Mixed breeds: obedience and rally

**CONFORMATION CLASSES:**

4-6 month puppy

6-12 month puppy

12 months to adult

**Prizes to be awarded include:**

Puppy Best in Show

Adult dog Best in Show

Altered dog Best in Show

Grooming space available - **bring your own shade**, chairs and equipment

No electricity (for grooming) available.

Parking and unloading in parking lots only, no parking on grass allowed.

For additional information, contact: Alan Krenek, [mkranck@aof.com](mailto:mkranck@aof.com), 303-646-3094

Indoor restrooms available - Flea Market available

Mile High Great Pyrenees Club

# 2012 MHGPC Specialty

**DOG  
Show**

**Friday, September 7, 2012**

**Greeley, Colorado**

**Two shows in one day!**

**First Show Judge: Wayne Boyd**

**Sweepstakes Judge Kathy Carter**

**Second Show Judge: Jean Boyd**



**ROBERT MILLER,  
SHOW SECRETARY  
15281 WEST ARCHER  
DRIVE • GOLDEN,  
COLORADO 80401-5076**

**(303) 278-8384  
FAX (303) 278-2779**

**EMAIL:  
millerdogshows@mac.com**

**Show Chairperson:  
Jean Pero  
jmpero@gmail.com**



**Join us in September at the Island Grove Park in Greeley, Colorado. September is the best month of the year to visit Colorado, warm days and cool evenings make the visit a wonderful experience. After you enjoy the dog show there are many activities within driving distance to experience.**

**Evergreen Kennel Club Shows follow on Sept 8th & 9th**