



## FEBRUARY 2017

The **next regular meeting** of the Timberline Basset Hound Club is Sunday, February 26, 1 p.m. at the Islamorada Fish Company, Fireside Room, Northfield Shopping Center – next to the Bass Pro Shop, Denver, CO. Hope to see you there. Please RSVP to Carol at [bristleconeassets@yahoo.com](mailto:bristleconeassets@yahoo.com)

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### AKC Field Trial Seminar May 13-14, 2017



This is an official AKC field trial seminar to be given by Mel Stewart who is VP of AKC field operations and hosted by Timberline Basset Hound Club. This is a 2 day intense in class seminar with no field work. Mel did say he may be able to do it

all in one day but not to count on it. All classroom instruction slides and videos. Breakfast and lunch on site. There will be hand out material from the AKC and we're looking to have it in one of the smaller buildings at Adams County Fairgrounds. Attendees will learn positive and negative field behavior and attributes to look for in Bassetts, Beagles and Dachshunds. Also we'll learn the terminology which many of us do not even know. Some of us who live out west have never even witnessed a good working Basset brace or pack - a wonderful thing to see and hear. At the end of the seminar, a test is given and if you pass the test, you may qualify to be a field trial judge.

So far we have 15 people interested. We are hoping to get 20 people to sign up. The cost would include breakfast and lunch. The more who participate the better of course. Please contact Carol if you are interested in attending – [bristleconeassets@yahoo.com](mailto:bristleconeassets@yahoo.com)

The **nominating committee** – Nicole Yeanoplous, Chair, Brian Epperson, Mishka Killgore – submitted the following slate of officers and board members for the coming year

President:	Susan Steinway
Vice-President	Nicole Yeanoplous
Treasurer	Chris Orlikowski
Secretary	Carol Makowski
Board members:	Cindy Underhill
	Sarahjane Velick

Staying on Board

1 more Year:	Mishka Killgore
	Betty Gene Pearce

In accordance with Article IV, Section 4 of the TBHC By-laws:

- A. Additional nominations may be made before February 10 by written petition to the secretary signed by five members and endorsed by each additional nominee, signifying that person's willingness to be a candidate. No person may be a candidate for more than one office. The additional nominations which are provided for herein may be made only from among those members who were not nominated by the nominating committee or who declined such nomination as above provided. However, no person who has declined the committee's nomination may be nominated by petition for the same position.
- B. As soon as possible after February 10 or at least two (2) weeks in advance of the annual meeting, the secretary shall notify each member of all such additional nominations and shall publish again the report of the nominating committee.
- C. Nominations cannot be made at the annual meeting or in any manner other than as provided in Article VI – Section 4.

# Dogs Have 'Inner Compass' When Pooping, Study Suggests



AFP News January 03, 2014

BERLIN - German and Czech researchers studying squatting dogs doing their business have found the pooches have an "inner compass" that may help explain how they find their way home over great distances.

When the four-legged friends stop during a walk to defecate or urinate, they tend to do so along a north-south axis, provided the earth's magnetic field is stable at the time, the scientists said Friday.

There was no notable difference in magneto-sensitivity among breeds, which ranged from a tiny Yorkshire terrier to a large St Bernard, said team member Dr Sabine Begall of Germany's Duisburg-Essen University.

"We found that the dogs are wonderfully aligned north-to-south -- somewhat more so when they defecate than when they urinate -- but only when the magnetic field is stable," Begall told AFP.

For the study, published in the journal *Frontiers in Zoology*, the 10-member Czech and German research team asked 37 dog owners equipped with compasses over two years to record which way their total of 70 furry friends faced when they relieve themselves.

Initially, the scientists crunched the data from over 7,000 such events but found no clear trend. However, when they looked only at times of low magnetoelectric fluctuation, "there was a wonderful correlation", said Begall.

The findings are another clue that animals can sense electromagnetic waves not noticed by humans, and that dogs, aside from their sharp senses of hearing and smell, also have a "magnetic sense".

In 2008 the team studied Google Earth images and found that cattle tend to graze and lie down along a north-south axis, pointing to a sensitivity also suspected in migratory birds and other species.

"There are anecdotal reports that dogs find their way home over hundreds of kilometers (miles), and an explanation may be that they use the Earth's magnetic field for their orientation," Begall said.

What exactly is going on inside a dog's head when it poops is however "pure speculation" for now, said Begall.

It may be that dogs take stock of where they are, the same way a hiker will orient a map northward, and that they can't do this when high electromagnetic activity makes their "compass needle vibrate".

On the other hand, she said, it is possible that, when dogs feeling the urge to relieve themselves and sense a stable and comforting north-south polarity, "they are especially relaxed".

*(I'm sure glad our tax dollars aren't paying for this one!!)*

## Braggs:

### Nicole -

"Percy (Baywind Ghost Of Christmas Past) earned his Novice Barn Hunt title-RATN and qualified for his first leg towards his Open Barn Hunt title while winning first place in the entire Open class!! He also earned his AKC Canine Good Citizen title and a Novice Trick Dog title and an Intermediate Trick Dog title!!! Whew, busy couple of months."

## TBHC JUDGE NOMINATIONS FOR 2018



It's time to be thinking about TBHC specialty judges for 2018. Please submit your suggestions to Carol by March 15 for both regular classes and

sweepstakes so they can be published in the March newsletter and voted on in April. We need 2 regular class judges and they should be Basset Hound breeder judges. Along with your suggestions please submit a short paragraph about the person's qualifications. Thank you!



The Basset Hound world lost a very good man and good friend in January of 2017. Craig Green passed away unexpectedly 20 yards from his front door after returning from a walk

with his dog. He and wife Maggie were packing for a trip to Florida that morning where they had purchased a sail boat. Per Maggie, the boat was named "Gotta Go!" – so very sad.

Craig gave generously of his time and knowledge within the Colorado canine community and elsewhere and wrote a wealth of fine articles on Tracking with a Basset Hound which can be accessed on the BHCA website. They are interesting, insightful, clear, easy to read, and specific to the Basset Hound. The information he shared is valuable now and will be valuable to tracking enthusiasts for years to come.

Craig was a tracking judge from 1986 through 2009, at which time he retired from judging. He was the first President of Denver Foothills Tracking Association and wrote the Tracking Chapter in Margaret (Peg) Walton's book, "The New Basset Hound." He was the tracking correspondent for *Tally-Ho* from 1992 through 1998.

Besides Tracking, Craig and first wife Kay were active in conformation exhibiting many Basset Hounds mostly with Strathalbyn and Ambrican pedigrees to their championships. The Greens were very interested in hunting and field trialing as well. Years ago they came to a Timberline specialty judged by Len Skolnick, wearing bright yellow T-shirts with bold black lettering – "No Sweeter Sound Than a Hunting Hound." Ch Winnwars Brandywine, UDTX (1975-1986) is still the only Basset Hound to ever achieve the titles of Champion, Utility Dog and Tracking Dog Excellent.

He played five-string banjo in two bluegrass bands in the seventies, and was President of the Colorado Bluegrass Music Society. He joined the Colorado Libertarian Party in 1980 and ran for Congress twice. He had written many provocative articles about American history, the U.S. Constitution, Colorado Water Law and other subjects. In 1976, he authored

his first book, "Simplified Bluegrass Banjo" and in 1993 published his second book, "A Personal Declaration of Independence." Craig was a Senior Fellow in Water Policy at Golden, Colorado's Independence Institute. His book of poetry was also published.



Craig was an engineer, hydrologist, veteran and student of life from Golden, Colorado. Born in 1945 in Dallas, Texas, He grew up in Albuquerque, New Mexico, receiving a BS in Mechanical Engineering from the University of New Mexico in 1969. He was commissioned a Second Lieutenant in the U.S. Air Force in February of 1969, achieved the rank of Captain and served four and a

half years in Florida, Turkey, California and Colorado during the Vietnam War. He held a top secret security clearance as a space systems analyst and spacetrack radar controller, then taught courses to Air Force officers in orbital mechanics, spacecraft subsystems, ground-to-satellite control systems & operations and other space sciences. He received a Master's degree in Civil Engineering from the University of Denver in 1974, and was registered as a Professional Engineer in 1975. After six years working for other engineering firms, Craig started his own consulting business in 1979, and had been active as a water rights engineer, consultant and occasional expert witness. He met monthly for lunch in Longmont, Colorado with a small group of local thinkers to discuss politics, and solving the problems of the world. He enjoyed riding motorcycles, sharp shooting, scuba diving, hiking in the Colorado mountains and thrill rides (roller coasters, etc.). He also enjoyed reading philosophy and other non fiction. Craig's personal motto was ***Student of all, Disciple of none.***

***Student of all*** from Sun Tzu's *The Art of War*:  
*If you know the enemy and know yourself, you need not fear the result of a hundred battles. If you know yourself but not the enemy, for every victory gained you will also suffer a defeat.*

***Disciple of none*** from Bruce Lee.

He will be sadly missed with treasured memories by all of us who knew him.

## Upcoming Events

- February 26 Regular meeting, Timberline Basset Hound Club
- March 5 Timberline Basset Hound Club Combined TD/TDX test, Chatfield State Park
- TBD Annual meeting, March
- April 7 Specialty, Adams County Fairgrounds
- TBD Regular meeting, TBHC
- May 13-14 AKC Field Seminar
- June-July Club picnic, place TBD
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### A Pack Master's Commentary

At Nationals in St. Louis last year, we were treated to a pack demonstration given by the Three Creek Foot Basset Hound pack. Pack Master Lei Ruckle was in charge. Susan Steinway sent Lei an email asking a question about the behavior of one of the hounds in the pack. The response was very interesting. . . . .

I was just wondering how the hound on the outside of the woods (is it the "check" hound?) knows to stay out of the woods and how she keeps from running in and getting involved with the other hounds. Do you have to train that, or is it instinct?

Hello Susan -

What a great question - A hound's individual hunting style is unique to that specific hound's behavior/instinct. And there is also a fine line between a hound who is running check and a hound who is "skirting". To know the difference comes in knowing your hounds, and understanding the individual hound.



At the demo when the hounds did find, the hound that was to the outside is one of our best and more accurate hounds. She is a hound that will not run bad

game. Often in a situation such as we had there at Purina, the scent from the moving game is spread around the area the hounds come across. On a push cast, such as that was, the lead "strike" hounds are out there with the coldest noses and the strongest search drive trying to find anything they can. When they find something they suspect to be a good line they voice to call in others to validate. This is where the "anchor" and mid-pack hounds play a key role as they are more accurate and discriminate as to what they will honor as a good line. A good "check" hound is one that might not be in immediate proximity to the voicing hounds. When a pack first starts voicing there are often a few moments when the team is trying to sort out the direction of the good forward line. There will be some confusion until this is sorted out. This is when a good check hound will counter move and read the voices to sort out the likely direction of the quarry. Instead of rushing into the flurry, the stand back and take a "read". It is characteristic of a wise and experienced hound with a true nose.

Just this past weekend we were hunting my husband's pack. I was out on point whipping-in and his top hound, Okaw Valley Ashes, who place second in the stake at the national trials in October, gave a perfect demonstration of a true check hound. The pack had been on a line and lost. At this time they were working a check (when all hounds search for a lost line) - The hounds found a line and were trying to sort it out when a few of the younger hounds got over excited and started running heel (backwards) with very strong voice. Meanwhile a few other steady hounds were trying to work the line forward. Ashes came out from the covert into the open and you could see her evaluate the voices dividing. It was if she read the line, knowing that some were going heel while others were trying to press forward and she mapped the likely direction of the line, counter-moved, found the hotter line and pulled all hounds forward and stopped the confusion. I wish I could have video recorded that.

## Leptospirosis bacterial infection cases up in dogs along Front Range

DENVER - At Bear Valley Veterinary Care Center, 2111 S. Sheridan, a Dachshund named Ginger is in the isolation room, one of a growing number of dogs that have recently contracted a bacterial infection called leptospirosis. "Today alone, we had four clients that we came in contact with that their pet had been or is currently infected with leptospirosis," said Carola Stevenson, a veterinarian at Bear Valley Veterinary Care Center. "The issue is that it is potentially contagious to humans as well if the human comes in contact with pet's urine."

In the past, the Lepto vaccine was mostly given to hunting dogs or dogs that went into the mountains because it is spread through the urine of wildlife, including raccoons, coyotes and foxes. But Stevenson said that is changing on the Front Range, where dogs are contracting it in their own backyards. "Wildlife pass through and leave their urine, and dogs then go into the backyard," said Stevenson. She is starting to recommend the vaccine for all breeds because of the increase in cases and how serious the disease can be.

Ginger's owner, Diana Reynolds, didn't get the \$25 vaccine because she didn't think her little dog was at risk. Now, she's facing thousands in hospital bills and Ginger isn't out of the woods. "It's very sad to us to think that she may not recover. We could possibly lose her," said Reynolds. "We're just hoping she will be able to come home."

The symptoms of lepto may look like the flu, with fever, decreased appetite and vomiting, but can progress to kidney and liver failure. The disease is treatable with antibiotics and IV therapy if caught early enough before severe organ damage. The vaccine is somewhat controversial because it doesn't protect against all variations of the disease, may not last a full year, and has a negative reaction more frequently than common vaccinations.

According to the Centers for Disease Control leptospirosis affects humans and animals. In humans, it can cause a wide range of symptoms, some of which may be mistaken for other diseases. Some infected persons, however, may have no symptoms at all. Without treatment, leptospirosis can lead to kidney damage, meningitis (inflammation of the membrane around the brain and spinal cord), liver failure, respiratory distress, and even death.

But as I said in the beginning, it is not a skill that is trained - it is one that some very good experienced pack hounds will pick up. And it is not to be confused with skirting, which is actually something that causes scoring deduction in a pack competition. A skirting hound is one who typically doesn't like thick cover, and will dart out and run around to get ahead of the line. Or they just keep running around the outside until the quarry is pushed out. Whether it is laziness, over excitement, or lack of confidence, it is not a good quality. Sometimes a young hound who starts showing signs of skirting can be corrected through positive encouragement, but a confirmed lazy skirting hound generally gets culled from a competition pack.

Another key role the check hound can play, (and I speculate this is where the term comes from), is that if the pack starts to go away (meaning running on a line), and the check hound after viewing the action returns to the huntsman, it is reporting the line is not a good line. (In other words - bad game, probably deer.) I have seen a good check hound report back to the huntsman and sit down, almost as if shaking its head, and that huntsman needs to check his pack call the pack off back.

So one of the most fun aspects of pack hunting is that you get to build your "team". Training can help enhance a hound's hunting skill, but the unique skill and hunting style of the hound is pure instinct and cannot be trained. Some hounds are by nature great strike hounds. They have an almost insatiable quest to find the scent of something - anything - but also tend to be the most excitable and have difficulty holding a tight line. They are said to have exceptionally "cold" noses, and intense drive. The mid-pack hounds hold the group together, are quick to honor a voicing hound and encourage the rally. The anchor hounds are the ones who have the most trustworthy accurate noses and when you, as the huntsman, hear hounds open you listen for the voices of those anchor hounds because then you have confirmation of a good solid line. And it is your anchors who hold the line when the quarry turns. It takes knowing the strength and hunting style of every hound in the kennel to build the right team - for the conditions of the day - a balance of strike, mids and anchors. And knowing the hounds well enough that at a glance can know if an errant hound is skirting, or your lead hound is evaluating and taking charge.

I hope this has been helpful in answering your question. Please don't hesitate if you ever have any questions -