

Tangens Whippets

Newsletter #29 For Tangens Alumni January – February 2014

In case you missed it:

**February is dental health month
February is Pet Dental Health Month!**



but it is never too late

All dog magazines and web sites have been full of advice this month on how to keep your dog's teeth in good shape, preferably like you keep your own: brush twice daily and get them cleaned professionally twice a year. Too much? From The Whole Dog Journal:

"Keeping plaque and tartar at bay to ward off oral disease is just the tip of the iceberg; your dog's liver, kidney, heart, and overall immune system are affected by the condition of her teeth and gums. Brushing is some of the best preventive medicine we can employ to maintain the health of our dog."

Want to read more, check out Cesar Millan's web site: <http://www.cesarsway.com/>

Whippet Attention deficit disorder

From Lynn Anderson, the owner of "Lettie" Tangens Let Me Entertain You (litter 2011):
Whippet ADHD is defined as: A tendency to flit from one activity to another, as "there's my dinner! -oh look there is a squeaky toy! - oh look there is Cappy! - oh there is another squeaky toy! - oh there is my dinner with a squeaky toy in the bowl" - and so on. And then there is the other side of Whippet

behavior: "What do you mean I am not supposed to be up on this bed?"



More on Poop

From Ken and Diane Dalby:

"The poo article in your latest newsletter now allows me to show you Fess' best toy for December: a toilet plunger! He dragged it out of the garage one day and was tossing it around in the yard. We bought him a new one and he loves to bounce that one too."



Sweet and beautiful! We love Fess!"
(Fess is from the Tangens litter 10/05)

Agility with Whippets

I think the most fun you can do with your Whippet, or any dog, is agility, and agility is the most popular dog sport. I asked Jean Maclean, the owner of "the library dog" in the previous newsletter, to tell us about her experience:

"I have raised five Whippets from puppies and the first three were obedience dogs. I

was not aware of agility in the 80's and early 90's.

The two Whippets I have now did obedience and Rally. Both Taddie and Donny have several titles. I started hearing more about agility, as I was working with Donny. I didn't know if I would be able to do agility, as I have asthma and it is often hard to run. I had some friends who were taking lessons in Santa Ynez, and I got the information about the classes and signed up. My intention was to see if I could do it, and if both I and Donny could learn the courses and obstacles. We started training and managed to conquer the jumps without any trouble at all. Donny learned the dog walk and A-frame but was a little unsure of the teeter. We had a little more trouble with the weave poles but he finally got them down. We are not super fast like the Border Collies, but Donny does a decent job. We were having fun, and I was amazed at how much more bonded we got to each other. I had no intentions of showing in agility when I started but we were doing so well I thought why not.



We entered our first show, but Donny was not as secure at the agility show sites. We continued to practice and go to trials, and I remember how happy I was when we got our

first agility novice leg. Now Donny has both his Novice agility and Jumper preferred titles and his Open agility and jumper preferred titles. It has been a fun experience and I have learned so much in the meantime.



There are quite a few Whippets doing agility. Some are very good, and there is one out there somewhere that is a MACH 8, which means he has achieved Master Agility Champion 8 times. It is not easy to get these titles as it takes 20 double Q's, which means you have to qualify in Master jumper and Master agility at the same show plus 750 points. He did it 8 times! I saw a Whippet was invited to the Eukanuba agility trial in Florida in December and had nice clean runs.

If you would like to do something with your Whippet pal that is fun and rewarding for both you and your dog you could find a class in your area and try it. Basic obedience is a plus to pursue this. You do not need Obedience or Rally titles to compete in the agility sport, but your dog should be able to do sit, down, stay and come. Have fun if you decide to play agility."

Rally is the 2nd most popular dog sport

We are very proud of "Fanci" (*Tangens Red Planet, litter 07*) and her owner Donna Pardi. Donna has had Fanci shown in conformation to first Champion, then Grand Champion, and finally to Best In Show. After Fanci had a litter of puppies, Donna is now competing with Fanci in rally and agility. The picture shows her first rally win.



Meet the breed

Grandson Jakob and I and two of our Whippets participated in "Meet The Breed" at a recent show. After a couple of hours of talking to visitors and showing off the dogs, both Jakob and the dogs were a little tired...



Fun on the beach

"Gio" and "Dolce" (litter brothers, 2/05 litter) went to the beach with owner Marie Edgemon in Salinas. Marie reports that the dogs are healthy and happy. Looks like she is too!



Thank you all for sharing your stories and pictures with all the other Tangens Alumni!

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