Newsletter #75 January – Februari, 2022 For Tangens alumni and friends



"Bob", Tangens Fly Me To The Moon, at his first show in some ten years, won Best Veteran in competition with several famous Whippets. Bob is litter 2009, and owner is Debra Stafford

Is your Whippet a winner? Unless you try, you won't know

Below is Bob with his son *"Dash"*, co-bred with Debra in 2019. *Dash* is *Tangens Defying Gravity de Vitruvius* Dash has also been doing well at shows as well as in racing.





Other outdoor activities



From Maia Cook: Here with *Danica (litter 2017*) plus husband Ted and Whippet step sister.



From Sarah Herrick: Here with Skyy (litter 2007) and Whippet step sister.

And then some rest



Keiko (litter 2019) with 16 year old cat friend, who was also best friend with Chris' previous Whippet: *Gracie (litter 2006)*



Big Bang and Tiger Lily, 2009 litter siblings, cuddling together. Whippets are very dependent on company. When Big Bang died recently, his sister Lily was devastated. She could not be left alone. Kim is looking for a new Whippet companion for Lily.

Whippet behavior.

In Sweden, Whippets are evaluated not only for medical issues, such as eye and heart, but also for behavior. This is called PBH. The Swedish Kennel Klub has summarized data from 200 Whippets:



Typical for Whippets is curiosity and interest in play and game; they are moderately interested In food; they have no real problems following a stranger; and they are not aggressive.

We knew that!

Breeding Cavalier King Charles Spaniel in Norway is forbidden

"in an unprecedented move, Norway has banned the breeding of these dogs because being cute is causing them suffering. Hailed by animal rights activists and criticized by breeders, the verdict comes amid a growing debate: "is the quest for cute pets going to extremes at the expense of the animals' well-being?" "A lot of our breeds are highly inbred and have a massive burden of disease," Ashild Roaldset, the head of the Norwegian Animal Welfare Society, told AFP."

Common diseases in Cavaliers include syringomyelia, a neurological painful disease, heart valve disease with early onset, and eye and joint problems.

What about Whippets? How is their health compared to other breeds?

The Whippet is among the healthiest breeds. Most Whippets live long lives. In my limited experience, the most common cause of death is cancer, as it is in most dogs. Next comes heart disease (late onset and slowly progressing). For young Whippets, being hit by a car is not uncommon.

From Iva Kimmelman, Merci Isle Whippets, via Facebook



Grain-free dog food and heart disease.

Iva Kimmelman told me recently that some of the Whippets she has sold have died of cardiomyopathy after being fed grain-free food. I revisited the literature, and it says that grain-free food may cause heart disease. It is still unclear why and how, but affected dogs may improve with taurine supplementation.

> Don't feed the same kind of food all the time! Switch between major brands! Spread the risks!



When I showed this to Debra Stafford, she sent me this picture of Bob. They are like clones; both have quite a bit of white on the Head - and talk a lot. Bob is the brother of Alfi's great grandfather.

Genetics is amazing!

Jakob at the dog park on an icy day. Even the dogs were slipping.

Grandson Jakob took this picture of Alfi and said:

"Alfi: a short-grown human, who talks a lot"

Alfi is from litter 2017





Missing California!



One of the striking paintings by Eywind Earle from the Central Valley. I first learned about his work in Santa Ynez.

Spring is coming! I plan to visit CA later in the Spring; Unless Corona takes off again.



I am looking forward to news and pictures from you!

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