

# Tangens Whippets

## Newsletter for Tangens Alumni #24 March - April 2013

### ***New Champion!***

*Tangens Antonio Vivaldi* (litter 2011) finished his champion title in grand style at the Southern California Whippet Club two-shows-in-one-day. Vivaldi was Winners Dog and Best Of Winner at both shows in a big entry of Whippets.



*In the future, I may need to bring a step stool...*

Vivaldi will be a father soon. The expectant mother is *CH Kamios Flight Of Fancy* (Breeder/Owner Sarah Balkam)



### ***April is Pet First Aid Awareness Month***

According to AKC, 60% of all vet visits are emergencies and statistics show that they are preventable.

Top 10 toxins and poisons for dogs:

1. Chocolates
2. Insect bait stations
3. Mouse and rat poisons
4. Fertilizers
5. Xylitol (sugar free gums and candies)
6. Ibuprofen
7. Acetaminophen
8. Silica gel packs
9. Amphetamines
10. Household cleaners

### ***Birds of a feather flock together***



Young "*Paisley*" (*Maverick Teardrop Swirl*; not closely related to Tangens) with owner Nancy Brown visited us recently. When

Paisley was not chasing lizards, she liked best to hang out with our oldest "Sunny" of her color rather than with the brindle members of the Tangens gang.



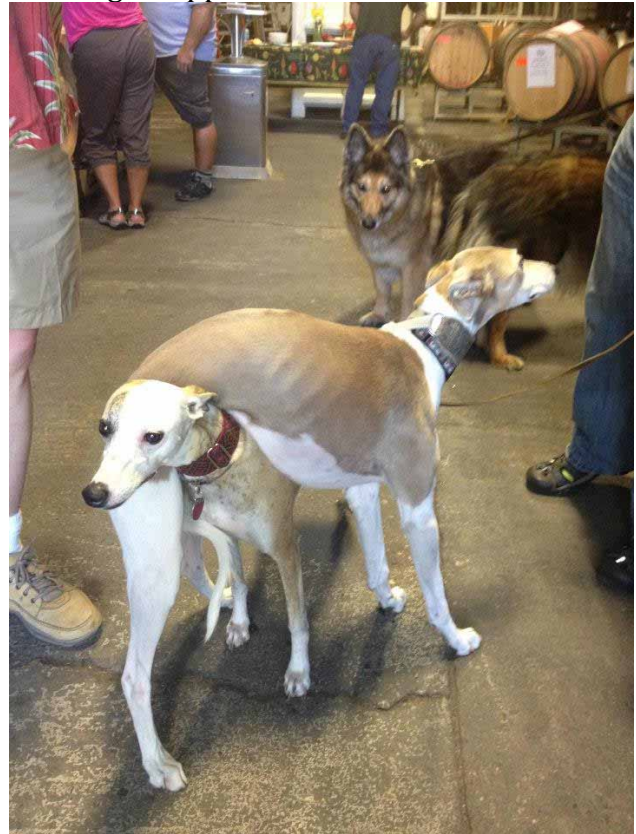
### ***Vaccination guidelines***

Vaccination protocols are a source of controversy. Everybody agrees on vaccination against the most common or serious diseases, but not everybody agrees when and how often to vaccinate. The trend has moved towards using so called core vaccine and vaccinating less often, as many vaccines give life-long immunity. The core vaccines include distemper, parvovirus, hepatitis and parainfluenza. If you board your dog, it may also need to get vaccination against kennel cough (corona virus). No point in having an opinion about rabies vaccination, since it is required by law.

### ***From Lynn Anderson, owner of "Lettie"***

*(Tangens Let Me Entertain you; litter 2011):* Lynn writes: "It was barrel tasting weekend at the Sonoma County wineries. One of our nearby wineries, Mutt Lynch, is very proactive with dog rescue organizations and donates the tasting fee to the sponsoring rescue organization. They have also been voted the most dog friendly winery in the San Francisco Bay Area.

I took Lettie and Cappy with me yesterday, and the tasting area in the barn was more crowded than anticipated. I had the dogs connected with a short coupler, and Lettie maneuvered herself under Cappy. You've heard of stacking tables, well these are stacking Whippets."



### ***Do dogs get enough meat?***

A recent study showed that, as dogs became domesticated and increasingly dependent on humans for food, they became also increasingly better at digesting starch. Does this mean that they are less dependent on meat? Meat contains a very important amino acid, taurine, which is essential to cats and foxes. Lack of taurine cause heart and eye disease in those species. While we wait for the final results regarding dogs and taurine, do not make your dog a vegetarian!

### ***Whippet health***

The Whippet is a very healthy breed, and we want to keep it that way. However, maintaining Whippet breed health requires vigilance. You are all very important in

keeping the breed healthy! I don't expect you to test as much as we breeders do, but I would really appreciate it if you let me know of any health concerns of your dogs. As a minimum, I would like to know if your dog dies or is euthanized for any reason. The Whippet Health Foundation keeps a database to monitor health and longevity in the breed. If you are interested, you may log in as a guest at [www.whippethealth.org](http://www.whippethealth.org)

### ***Lure coursing***

Lure coursing refers to the hound chasing a white plastic bag across a field. It is a substitute for rabbit hunting, and the lure is operated like a rabbit with rapid turns and varying speed. Whippets absolutely love it. Even though they know the lure is only a plastic bag, the fact that it moves makes it irresistible. Watching lure coursing is also a lot of fun for humans.

If you have a chance, go and watch lure coursing or racing. You will have fun. Bring your dogs. Most clubs will allow fun runs even for non-Whippets. To find an event in your area go to [www.AKC.org](http://www.AKC.org).

The San Diego Whippet club runs a monthly lure practice in a downtown park. Young and/or inexperienced dogs get to chase the lure in a straight run.

Here are some pictures from the latest event:

The lure operator has a very lonely job



The rest of us socialize and make friends



The hardest part is keeping the dogs under control before they are released; they get so excited.



But then they are on their own...



Until next time, have fun with your dogs!

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