

“The Latest Scoop”

CHESAPEAKE VIRGINIA DOG FANCIERS ASSOCIATION

January/February 2012

January Meeting Notice

Date: Wednesday, January 11, 2012

Time: 7:00 PM

Place: Traditions Grill

Chesapeake Golf Club

1201 Clubhouse Drive

Chesapeake, VA 23322

Off Cedar Rd at Los Gaviotas.

Board Meeting 6:15 PM.

Board members please advise Phyllis Sayers if you cannot attend.

Greetings from the President's Desk!!

Greetings In The New Year!!

A new year is upon us and a very successful year has come to a close. CVDFFA has enjoyed bringing new members to its rolls and approval for a new show date. Members worked tirelessly on numerous projects which brought a positive cash flow to our bottom line.

2011 began with the concentrated efforts to secure a show date. A delicate balancing effort between the City of Chesapeake and the AKC began. A September show date was approved and thus the planning began. The judges' selection committee met and the judges have been hired.

Handling classes began in March under the direction of Sarah Wooten. and, due to their popularity, were continued through October. Many new friends were made and we greatly appreciated their support. Classes will resume in March 2012, the actual date depending on the weather. An indoor venue is being sought in an effort to hold our classes year round. Any suggestions or recommendations are welcome. Until then our classes will continue at Greenbrier Presbyterian Church.

The annual celebration of Bark in the Park in October found our club holding its annual Sanctioned Match. Under the skillful direction of Karen Latham and Carol Cooke, many dogs were exposed to the atmosphere of a show ring, learning to accept the hands of a judge's examination as well as dealing with unfamiliar dogs in close proximity. Also during this event AKC appointed CVDFFA to present a grant check to Greater Atlantic Search and Rescue Dogs in their behalf. Linda Doyle made the presentation for the club.

The dog show world evolves on the goal of making champions and now grand champions. 2011 brought championships to Margaret Ricks, Diane Bunch, Phyllis Sayers, and Susie Ochsenbein. Karen Latham and Susie Ochsenbein have also attained grand championships on their dogs. Applause to several handling class participants who won titles during the year. We like to think their experience in the classes aided in their success in the show ring.

The club changed the venue where meetings are held. Traditions Grill at the Chesapeake Golf Club welcome our meetings, both regular and special events. Our Christmas party was attended by members and guests who were treated to a delicious banquet in a room filled with beautiful decorations. Club members brought generous amounts of toys and treats for the dogs at the Chesapeake Animal Shelter. Volunteers at the shelter were indeed grateful for the donations.

Club members can look forward to a busy 2012. Carol Cooke is chairing a committee to update the By-laws of the club. This is a time consuming task which takes an eye for detail. Once the committee has rewritten those areas of change, the board will have an opportunity to review the changes. The updated By-laws will then be submitted to AKC for their approval before coming back to the club for the final approval. Preparation for our show will gain momentum each month.

Club meetings will host speakers on a variety of interesting subjects from Search and Rescue in January, Guiding Eyes Puppy Raisers in February, Herding in March and Therapy in April. The annual club meeting will be held in May where new officers will be elected. Any member in good standing is welcome to put their name on the ballot for an office they would like to hold. We welcome you to step up to hold an office or chair a committee.

From the President's desk I want to thank everyone for their support in 2011. Best wishes in all of your endeavors in the New Year.

Phyllis Sayers
CVDFPA President

New Year's Resolutions for your Dog

1. I will eat less and exercise more.
2. I will beg less.
3. I will recognize the difference between furniture and fire hydrants.
4. I'll stay out of the cat's litter box.
5. I won't bite the vet anymore.
6. I won't steal food as much.
7. I'll introduce myself in more appropriate ways.
8. I'll do better "holding it" until morning.
9. I'll bark at the mailman less.
10. I'll tolerate those homemade bandannas

Human-Canine Bond

Dogs have long been considered "man's best friend," and they have certainly earned the title. The bond between humans and canines is unmistakable. Since the domestication of the dog, people have been drawn to them (and they to us). Dogs have helped us in so many ways and expect little in return. They have hunted with us, kept vermin and pests away, served the military and police, assisted the disabled, and faithfully remained our loyal companions. In turn, we care for them and maintain good quality of life. This is more than a fair trade. In fact, it is a downright bargain.

How did this bond become so strong? What can we do to preserve and strengthen it?

A Brief History of the Domesticated Dog

The mysterious history of dogs has been revealed primarily through archeological research. Evidence of prehistoric dog-like creatures shows us that the evolution of the dog can actually be traced back millions of years. The transition of some wolves into dogs probably began upwards of 100,000 years ago, but the domesticated dog likely dates back anywhere from 15,000 to 30,000 years. Some believe that humans set out to domesticate dogs by "breeding" for specific traits, though this may not actually be the case. By nature, dogs are scavengers, so one theory suggests that dogs began to follow human hunters for food. Regardless of how it all started, the human-canine bond has blossomed and strengthened over time and will likely continue to grow.

What Dogs Do For Humans

Companionship is perhaps the most universal thing that dogs give us, but this is only the beginning. Scientific evidence has proven that many health benefits come along with pet ownership. Our dogs help us relax, lower our blood pressure, keep us active and more. Dogs happily work for us, too. Service dogs can assist those with mental or physical disabilities, work as search-and-rescue dogs, guard valuable property and protect us from harm by sniffing out threats and criminal activity. Even our companion dogs can be trained to proudly defend our homes and families.

What's In It for the Dogs

The domesticated dog has evolved to be quite dependent upon humans. Though dogs can still often survive in the wild, they thrive with the care humans can provide. All we really need to do is look out for our dogs' best interests. We must be responsible dog owners and we fulfill their basic needs - food, shelter, health care and so on. We train them so they understand their jobs and they find joy in this. It is truly a win-win situation.

Preserving and Strengthening the Human-Canine Bond

The bond you have with your dog begins the moment he comes into your life and never stops growing. However, there are ways to reinforce the bond throughout your dog's life. Participation in activities with your dog is the best way to do this. It can be as simple as a training session, grooming routine, playtime or exercise. For more structured bonding, you can join an obedience class, start training in dog sports like agility and flyball, or participate in dog shows. One of the kindest ways to bond with your dog and allow your dog to bond with others is to get involved with pet therapy. If your dog is right for therapy, he can visit people in hospitals and nursing homes or help children read and learn. Your dog may be able to help benefit the health and lift the spirits of people in need, all while having the time of his life. No matter how you strengthen and preserve the human-canine bond, remember that it benefits the health and well-being of both you and your dog.

Information provided by: [About.com>Dogs](http://About.com/Dogs)

UPCOMING EVENTS

January 11 7PM General Meeting
Atlantic Search and Rescue
February 8 7PM General Meeting
Guiding Eyes Puppy Raisers
March 14 7PM General Meeting
Herding
April 11 – 7PM General Meeting
Therapy Dogs
May 9 7PM Annual Meeting

PEANUT BUTTER BACON HEARTS

Ingredients

3 slices Bacon, crisply cooked and crumbled
1/2 cup Peanut Butter
2 Eggs
1/4 cup Milk
1 1/2 cup Whole Wheat Flour

Directions

- 1. Preheat oven to 350 degrees Fahrenheit and line a baking sheet with parchment paper or a silicone baking mat.**
- 2. In a large bowl add all ingredients and mix well.**
- 3. Knead dough into ball and roll onto a heavily floured surface 1/4 inch thick and cut with the cookie cutter of your choice.**
- 4. Place on your prepared cookie sheet and bake for 10 minutes. Cool and refrigerate.**

Makes 2 to 3 dozen small hearts.

CV DFA Website: <http://www.cvdfa.org>