



New Leaf

The Official Newsletter of STOLA – Saluki Tree of Life Alliance
Spring, 2004

Drama in the Desert

Reported by Cherie Fehrman

In late February, STOLA was contacted by Judge Choate from the Courts in New Mexico to help with a group of fifteen Salukis who were in distress in a small New Mexico town. Their owner had become very ill and was no longer able to care from them properly. Fortunately, the owner was well known to the townspeople since he often took photos of his dogs to show people when he went into town. Judge Choate and the town council recognized how special Salukis are and they hoped to avoid having them seized and put into a pound situation. Judge Choate contacted STOLA for help and we responded immediately that we would take responsibility for all of the dogs. Armed with that knowledge he was then able to move forward.

STOLA Regional Coordinator, Janet Noll, had just taken time off for a vacation when the call came. Without hesitation, she changed gears and went immediately into rescue mode, cancelling her plans without a second thought. She found that the dogs included two litters of two week old pups and their mothers as well as several other older pups and adults. To avoid having the dogs impounded, Judge Choate and STOLA representatives urged the owner to surrender the dogs. Fortunately, he complied.

We were able to locate the breeder of some of the dogs and she was notified of the situation. Since the breeder was suffering from cancer and undergoing chemotherapy, it seemed prudent for

STOLA take full responsibility for the dogs, particularly since they had been legally signed over to us by the Courts and the owner. Janet then proceeded to make arrangements to meet with the Judge Choate and pick up the dogs on March 11.

At the eleventh hour, the breeder had a change of mind and decided she wanted to take the pups after all. With all the arrangements in place, volunteers lined up, transportation and veterinary appointments scheduled, it took some professional level juggling to rearrange things on such short notice, but Janet soldiered on, changed plans and agreed to meet the breeder to turn over the pups and mothers to her. It was agreed that once the pups were weaned, the mothers would be placed by STOLA, as would the remaining older pups and adults. Then things changed again.

Because of the Court involvement in this situation, it was mandatory that STOLA follow legal principles and procedures to the letter. This meant that some special arrangements for transport, housing and care had to be made by the breeder, which she was willing and able to do with the help of family and friends. Plans were changed again to accommodate the new schedule. However, in the meantime, volunteers who had originally been free to help had now taken on other duties and were not available. The court appointed pick-up date was now just a day away, so Janet had to really scramble to once again turn on a dime. She now turned to her husband and neighbors for assistance in picking up the dogs. After driving for seven hours, making an overnight stop, and driving further the next morning, they arrived at the pick-up point.

It was a sad time for the owner, but made a little easier because he was familiar with STOLA and knew we would make sure his dogs got the care he could no longer manage. The dogs are very loving, but one of the younger ones had not been leash trained and balked at the idea so she had to be carried until training could be undertaken. The dogs were then taken directly to a veterinarian for medical evaluations and vaccinations as needed. They are now in foster care and should soon be ready to go to new homes.

Because of the Court's intervention in this situation, STOLA was given legal custody of all the dogs and we were mandated to ensure that the pups would be neutered/spayed by the time they are six months old, to ensure that they are placed in appropriate homes, and to provide ongoing mentorship services. The breeder was willing to comply with making sure all requirements were met, readily signed documents to ensure those promises, and agreed to having a STOLA representative work with her in a continued relationship as the pups grow.

We owe Janet a huge debt of gratitude for giving up her vacation time to handle this situation in such a timely and professional manner. As for her husband - what can we say, except: Dave, we love you! You're a great guy - and thank you, thank you, thank you!

STOLA Salukis

For up-to-date information on available Salukis and Saluki crosses, please check the Open Cases on the website at www.stola.org or contact us by E-mail at stola@gazehound.com.

Ali and Dahlila were surrendered to STOLA after their owner became terminally ill and subsequently died. Prior to coming to STOLA, they had been boarded at a kennel where their care clearly left a lot to be desired. They are now thriving in foster care, gaining health and strength every day. Soon they will be ready to go to a new, loving home.



Ali



Is there anything cuter than a Saluki puppy?

Two Saluki puppies nibbling on each other.

Photo courtesy of Fiona Bennett



Dahlia



STOLA STAR: Karen Brewer

Interviewer: Dana Martin-Newman, Ed.D

In this issue, we feature the first of a series of interviews with STOLA Stars - those special people who dedicate endless hours of time and devotion to Salukis in need. Karen Brewer, STOLA's first recognized foster care volunteer, has been fostering Salukis for about three years. She started fostering Salukis when contacted by a person who needed to find a place for a rescued Saluki. Because there were no STOLA representatives in Florida at the time, being a sucker for regal, furry tails, ears and feet, and being the President of the only Saluki Breed Club in Florida, she was the logical person to contact.

Karen has fostered several breeds, including Collies, Dobermans, Shepherds and a variety of mixes. Fourteen fostered and non-fostered dogs decorate her house now, but luckily Ben and Jerry (Salukis) are going to reside with their adoptive parents in Rochester, NY and Manhattan very soon, taking Karen's menagerie to twelve. When Ben and Jerry first came to her, they were "two screaming heathens," but now are "two civilized house dogs." Some of her fostered dogs are now hers permanently because of their "unadoptability" (older male dogs).

Karen not only fosters, but also has owned Collies since 1983, Salukis since 1996 and a Border Collie since 2003. She trains her Salukis in lure coursing, straight racing and obedience. With so many dogs adorning her house though, obedience training is a must for all - fostered or not.

Karen was hooked on the Saluki breed when a co-worker asked her to show her Saluki in 1996. She acquired a puppy in 1996, who became "The Famous Seamus" - Ch El Baz Zephyr Zoot Suit SC CD - winner of the Classic Saluki/FLASH Match, HIT from Novice B at the 2003 SCOA National Obedience Trial and a SCOA Triathlon Challenge Trophy winner, who is now working on a Novice Agility title and has started a straight racing career with LGRA and oval

track racing with NOTRA (2003 - #9 LGRA, #10 NOTRA). Seamus was the #3 Saluki in Obedience competition for 2002.

Karen's other Saluki is "The Fabulous Farrah" - Ch El Baz Farrah - top 20 in 1999 and #4 bitch in 2000. Farrah was bred to the top Saluki of 1998, Ch Ranesaw Imperial Beach JC, and her litter has acquired 2.5 JC titles and 2 legs on SC titles. Karen believes strongly that, "if you breed, you should rescue."

When comparing Salukis to Collies and Dobermans, Karen says that Salukis tend to be more stubborn, don't seem to crate train as fast and tend to be a little more aggressive towards each other. Collies and Dobermans are similar in that they are very "barky," but more easily housebroken and trained. Her Salukis teach her Collies how to dig, and her Collies teach her Salukis how to bark. Her Salukis teach her Collies to look up, so the Collies' repertoire of items to bark at is increased. Her Collies are more laid back and don't insist on sleeping on the bed or "doing much sofa time." But when all is said and done, Karen says, "It's been a trade-off."

Karen's tips for good foster care are:

1. Have patience, persistence, fortitude, tolerance, endurance and then some.
2. Possess an indestructible crate that can be located in an area that will allow you to get some sleep during the initial "break-in" period.
3. Be the *boss*, the *alpha*, *head honcho*, *chief* and *person in charge*, because more problems arise when you are not in full command.
4. Maintain a sense of *humor* because absurdity is sure to follow.
5. Have a veterinarian who is knowledgeable about sight hounds and who is "co-operative" regarding fees.
6. Have a good backup kennel available, because everyone needs a break now and then.
7. Have an unflappable STOLA representative(s). "They are a godsend."

STOLA tips its hat to Karen Brewer, STOLA Foster-Care Volunteer, Extraordinaire. We greatly appreciate all your time, energy and hard work that you give to support rescued Salukis. Congratulations on being the first STOLA recognized foster-care volunteer!

Dog-To-Dog-To-Human Communications (or How I Learned to Interpret a Second Language) by Dana Martin-Newman, Ed.D

Dr. Nicholas Dodman has written two articles for PetPlace.com titled, “Dog-Human Communication” and “Dog-to-Dog Communication.” He contends that dog owners spend a lot of time attempting to interpret their dogs’ vocal and body language.

Diamond wants to go outside.

Diamond wants to eat NOW!

Diamond does not like to have his face petted.

Diamond avoids all responsibility by sleeping all day and night.

Vocal Communication

Dogs, unlike politicians, are not big on vocalizing. After all, English is their second language. They do, though, have a vocal range from whimpering and muttering to growling and barking. Through these vocalizations, dogs can achieve an excellence of communication with other dogs and a modicum with humans. According to Dr. Dodman, dogs recognize some human sounds, “and are particularly attuned to hard consonants; ‘cuh’ and ‘teh.’” Remember Barbara Woodhouse’s dog commands: siT, ouT, waiT, and stoppiT? (Remember “Walkies”?) Dogs can learn many words but they are not good at understanding them when put together in a sentence. You can teach a dog to heel when you say “*Heel*”, and you can teach a dog the word “*Dinner*”, but if you say, “Heel by your dinner,” most likely dogs will become confused. But do not fret; body language can come into play.

Body Language

Dogs are expert at sending and receiving body language, where humans are not. The body languages that dogs communicate include certain facial and body expressions, gestures and tail movements. Dr. Dodman gives us a quick primer:

Facial Expressions

- Relaxed** - eyes lit up, looking but not staring; ears forward or flopped; mouth open, lips slightly back; tongue hanging limply from the side of the mouth; head in normal mid-way position.
- Anxious** – eyes glancing sideways or away; ears to the side of the head or flopped; teeth clenched; lips retracted; tongue not evident or lip licking.
- Intimidating** – eyes staring like searchlights; ears forward; teeth barred.
- Fearful** – eyes looking forward or away, pupils dilated; ears pressed back close to the head; panting hard through clenched or slightly open mouth; jaw tense so that sinew show in the cheeks.
- Submissive/Depressed** – head down
- Interested/Challenged** – head held high; neck craning forward.
- Dominant** – head resting on other dog’s back.
- Respectful** – head/neck turned to the side.

Body Expressions

- Dominant** – tensing of muscles; raising of hackles.
- Gestures
- Happy** – head low; tushie elevated (invitation to play).
- Dominant** – paws on top of another dog’s back; looming over another dog; urinating by leg lifting; humping.
- Submissive** – rolling over.
- Respectful** – urinating by squatting; rolling over.
- Fearful** – backing up.

Tail Positions

- Alert, Confident, Dominant** – tail up.
- Excited or Agitated** – tail wagging.
- Fearful or Submissive** – tail held low or tucked.
- Cautious** – tail held horizontal and slowly wagging.
- Contented** – tail held relaxed and stationary.

Being the humans that we are, some people understand what dogs communicate and some don’t. Although most humans understand ex-

tremes, subtle dog expressions are often overlooked or misinterpreted. Non-verbal communications – “let’s play,” “who do you think you’re talking to,” “leave me alone” are going on all the time between dogs, but many humans don’t realize it. Some dogs are masters at such communication. Some, who have been raised without the company of other dogs, are not.

Humans do use some body language, i.e., crane our necks forward, jut out our chins, lower our heads, point or threaten with our hands and fingers, but not as extensively as dogs. Dogs eventually do get our messages, which can mean that dogs have evolved to understand us, but alas, we have a long way to go to fully understand them.



Supporting STOLA

by Cherie Fehrman

If you're an average person today, you're counting your pennies, you have employment worries, and you're hoping Social Security will be there when you need it. With such serious matters to consider, supporting STOLA may come way down on your list **but**, we've already thought of that. We're in the same boat, rowing right along beside you. So, we know how tight money is today. We've found ways to support the needy Salukis at STOLA without costing you any money at all. How? Here's a reminder:

Volunteer - we always need foster care, transportation, and people who can help in other ways.

Toner Recycling Program - get coworkers, family, friends - and of course yourself - to donate used inkjet cartridges. We provide the postage paid envelopes - all you do is drop them in the mail.

Car Donation Program - if you don't have a car yourself that you can donate, check with family, friends and coworkers. It's a simple process and the donor gets a great tax write-off.

If you do have some discretionary funds to donate, please consider our other programs below:

STOLA Buddy Program - \$25 or more per year; annual renewal is coming up very soon; you receive this newsletter subscription as a Thank You.

Saluki Crosses Fund - help us reach our goal of \$5000 so we can help Saluki crosses in need.

STOLA Bronze Raffle - buy raffle tickets for Garry Newton's beautiful bronze Saluki sculpture.

••NEW! CafeShops.Com Saluki Village

Purchase wonderful Saluki items and STOLA logo items, with proceeds benefitting STOLA. Mugs, clothing, tote bags, and more!

<http://www.cafeshops.com/salukivillage>

Many thanks to Patty Woodbury for setting up the CafeShops site! Be sure to visit. It's wonderful!



DogBazaar

All proceeds from purchases of Flint River Ranch health food for pets are donated to STOLA to help Salukis in need. Please consider this healthful food made with human quality ingredients for your wonderful Salukis. <http://www.dogbazaar.com>

More ways to support STOLA are on our website at www.stola.org.

Questions or suggestions? Contact us at stola@gazehound.com

If I Didn't Have Dogs...

I could walk around safely barefoot in the dark;

My house could be carpeted instead of tiled and laminated;

All flat surfaces, clothing, furniture, and cars would be free of dog hair;

When the doorbell rang, it wouldn't sound like the SPCA kennels;

When the doorbell rang, I could get to the door without wading thru four or five dog bodies who beat me there;

I could sit how I wanted to on the couch without taking into consideration where several little furbodies would need to get;

I would not have strange presents under my tree....like dog bones, stuffed animals and have to answer to people why I wrap them up;

I would not be on a first name basis with a vet;

Most used words in my vocabulary would not be: potty, outside, sit, down, come, no, and leave him/her ALONE;

My house would not be cordoned off into zones with baby gates;

My purse would not contain things like poop pick up bags and dog treats;

I would no longer have to spell the word B-A-L-L and F-R-I-S-B-E-E; I would not buy weird things to stuff into "kongs", or have to explain why I'm buying them, or what a "kong" is;

I would not have as many leaves INSIDE my house as outside;

I would not look strangely at people who think having their ONE dog ties them down too much;

I would not have to answer the question--why do I have so many dogs--from people who will never have the joy in their life of knowing they are loved unconditionally by something as close to an angel as they will

ever get.

Who else has a friend who considers you the MOST important thing in the whole wide world all the time.

—Author unknown

Although we don't know who wrote this, we can all recognize the mark of a true dog lover. Thanks to Kelly Messenger for bringing it to our attention.



Saluki Totes, T-Shirts, Tiles and more...

A clock with a Saluki face, Stainless steel travel mugs, mugs for your coffee, baseball caps, sweat-shirts, tile coasters - all with a Saluki theme.

How can you resist?

Thanks to Patty Woodbury, all proceeds benefit STOLA!

Check it out at CafeShops.Com SalukiVillage
<http://www.cafeshops.com/salukivillage>

How to Trick Your Dog into Taking a Pill

by Dana Martin-Newman, Ed.D

Diamond, my Saluki, needs to take pills because of his chronic cough. Diamond, my Saluki, does not want to take his pills. So, I have had to become the Houdini of the "Take Your Pills or Else Department." I have wrapped them in cheese, canned dog food, his breakfast (dry and canned), peanut butter, bread, etc., but to no avail. When I'm not looking, he eats the food and spits out the pills. If hiding the pills in food is not working, and your dog's medication is only available in pill form, PetPlace veterinarians offer some suggestions:

Take The Tiger By The Tail (Muzzle)

- Gently grasp your dog's head in your non-dominant hand. Place your hand on top of the muzzle with your thumb on one side and your fingers on the other. Do not hold the lower jaw and do not hold the muzzle so tightly that your dog cannot swallow.

- If you still have your non-dominant hand intact, raise your dog's nose to point towards the ceiling and squeeze in just behind the upper canines. The mouth should open.

- If you still have your non-dominant fingers intact, using your other hand, place the pill between your thumb and forefinger. Using your ring or middle finger, lower the jaw by applying pressure to the teeth between the lower canine teeth.

- If you still have your dominant hand intact, place the pill as far back as possible, avoiding placing your hand too far into the mouth.

- If you still have your dominant fingers intact, close your dog's mouth and hold it closed. Gently and briefly rub your dog's nose or blow lightly on his nose. This should stimulate him to swallow.

- Be quick and offer a treat afterwards.

Annie Get Your Gun (Pill Gun)

- Pull the pill gun's plunger back to place the pill in the rubber tip.

- Place the pill gun far back in the dog's mouth.

- Push the plunger to dispense the pill.

- Don't worry about the gun, your dog can bite all he wants without injury to himself or the gun.

To Cut Or Not To Cut (Pill Cutter)

- Place the pill in the V section of the pill cutter.

- Close the lid.

- Take the Tiger by the Tail.

Open Wide (Oral Syringe or Eye Dropper)

- Crush the pill in a pill crusher or between two spoons.

- Place the powder in the syringe and add water.

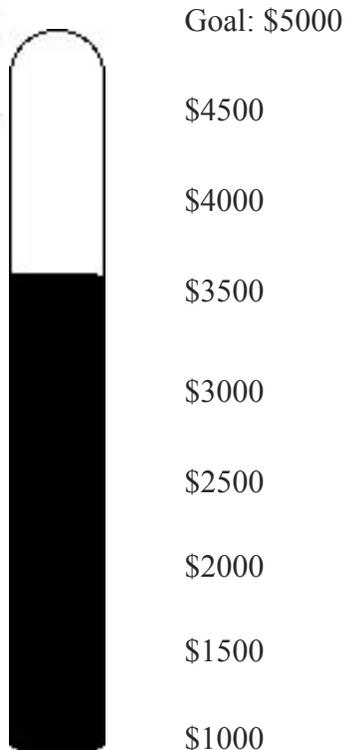
- Shake the syringe to suspend the powder.

- Draw up the prescribed amount and administer with the oral syringe.

I suggest that you practice each method before administering. Practice first on your spouse, supportive other, family friend, worst enemy, children in their 30s who have returned to live with you, ex-spouse, etc.



How Are We Doing? Saluki Crosses Fund



We're getting there - but we still need your help to reach our goal of \$5000! Please donate if you can.

Saluki Tree of Life Alliance, Inc.

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Mr. Bark says.....

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For information, to obtain copies, to submit articles or artwork, please contact:

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STOLA

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