

# KORTHALS GRIFFON CLUB OF AMERICA



Formed to preserve the Authentic Korthals Griffon



Cody on Point

[www.korthals-griffon.us](http://www.korthals-griffon.us)

Facebook-Korthals Griffon Club of America

Griffon Health Web Page  
[korthalsgriffon.org](http://korthalsgriffon.org)

## Issue #5 February 2014

### Officers



President:  
Carol Ptak



Vice President:  
Katherine March



Secretary/Treasurer:  
Barbara Young



## What is a Purebred Dog?

“It is commonly accepted that a purebred dog is a dog with known and documented ancestry from a breed’s foundation stock. A hybrid is not considered purebred, although crossbreds from the same two breeds of purebreds can have “identical qualities”. The difference is that hybrids do not breed true (meaning that progeny will show consistent,

replicable and predictable characteristics), and can only be reproduced by returning to the original two purebred breeds. Only documentation of the ancestry from a breed’s foundation stock determines whether or not a dog is a purebred member of a breed.”

Source: Wikipedia

## President's Message

### **What really is an authentic Korthals Griffon?**

On the KGCA Facebook site, each time a litter is announced or a claim is made that the dog being discussed is an authentic Korthals Griffon, the policy is that the club posts a message that any claims made by the person posting should be validated by the buyer. In other words, just because it is on the internet doesn't make it necessarily true. While we know that for so many other items we would like to think that someone would not misrepresent their dogs especially on a site sponsored by the KGCA. However what constitutes an authentic Korthals griffon differs by the person you are speaking to. Some would say that any dog with parents registered either as a Korthals Griffon (outside North America) or a Wirehaired Pointing Griffon (North America) then the puppies are all authentic Korthals griffon. Still others believe that if the parents have both been tested for the ky gene and found to be KBKB then that dog and all its offspring are authentic Korthals Griffons. Given the level of discussion on the Facebook site, I thought it would be good to put the matter out in the open and make it very clear what constitutes an authentic Korthals Griffon from the perspective of the KGCA. I do not expect that everyone will agree and of course breeders are free to breed what they wish.

The reason for the formation of the KGCA is to educate – educate the purchasing public about the differences in health and vitality of the hybrid from the authentic Korthals Griffon and to educate and encourage breeders who still have breeding stock unaffected by the outcross breeding only to other dogs who come from unaffected breeding stock. There is a proven difference between the two. The KGCA endeavors to educate about those differences.

The matter of the hybrid arose when the tan point coloration was noticed. To many people this whole issue is only one of color. To the members of the KGCA it goes much deeper than that. The KGCA embraces the Jean Castaing book about the griffon which documents the breed standard as signed by Korthals himself with the other breeders when the breed type was set. The KGCA position is that once breed type is set then it is no longer allowable for other breeds to be used. A similar outcross was done about 30 years ago in the USA when the griffon lost its hunting capability and a group of people outcrossed to the Cesky Foucesk. In fact that is how and why the AWPGA was formed – breeders united to preserve the authentic griffon. The breeders of the WPGA did what they thought was best and went their separate way. That is always a breeder's choice. The WPGA griffon today looks very different than the AWPGA griffon. Today the breed currently faces the same kind of split except the outcross was not done in a public manner like was done when the AWPGA split from the WPGA. The KGCA is formed to preserve the authentic griffon.

The outcross showed up initially as tan point puppies. Castaing himself describes in his book that evidence of black, red or tan point is evidence of "misalliance" – a very polite way to say that there is another breed in there other than the authentic Korthals griffon. Just because a dog does not exhibit tan point does not mean that the dog is an authentic Korthals griffon. The issue is not one of color. If it was only color the debate would have been over long ago. My educational background is biology with a major in recombinational genetics so I examined the pedigrees of every dog reported to carry the ky gene. The ky gene is only a marker – a flag – of the misalliance. One only needs to look at the increased level of hip dysplasia, elbow dysplasia, cancers, breeding issues, cardiac issues and many other items that were never seen in the breed a decade ago. Something clearly changed.

## President's Message continued

Some would say that the tan point is just a spontaneous mutation.. Yes, this is possible but highly improbably from a statistical consideration to happen within the last decade across so many different countries. The more logical approach is that the puppies got the genes from their parents – especially since it is a simple genetic trait. Working back through the pedigrees ALL ky puppies from ALL countries reporting ky testing results (and I need to mention here that only publicly available data was used) and I discovered that ALL these merged back to one dog – a highly used French sire *Under Du Ruisseau Du Massacre LOF17921* To be very clear the KGCA is not making any accusation towards this dog's breeder or to take away what this dog has achieved in its field trial career. The KGCA is making a simple statement of fact that based on the genetic data and pedigrees available, *Under Du Ruisseau Du Massacre LOF17921* is the headwaters of the tan point issue – and the other genes that came in with that tan point.

We have purebred dogs because we want the predictability of performance, appearance and temperament. Otherwise any mixed breed would be fine. People owning Korthals griffons tend to be hunters and desire to have a long lived highly productive hunting companion. I know this is the reason we purchased our first and continue to stay with the breed. The question to be asked is if a Labrador is bred to a Poodle – we call that a designer dog and a Labradoodle. There are people who love them and breeders who breed them. For those in the purebred dog world, they are a hybrid. Even if you took a Labradoodle and bred it back to a purebred Lab over and over for many generations, most people would agree that it never becomes a purebred Lab. It always will carry some of the poodle genes. The same is true for our griffons. Assuming that the current hybrids would only be bred to authentic Korthals griffons, at no point are the offspring authentic Korthals griffons. This is why it is so important that we work together to keep the breeding stock separate. This is not to take anything away from the success and titles earned by the hybrids. However the hybrid is a different breed just as the WPGCA griffon is a different breed.

Unfortunately it is not possible to separate the griffon breeds by a genetic test. The reference databases for the popular genetic testing services have been contaminated over the past decade with hybrid tests. The ONLY way to tell is to examine a 10 generation pedigree and look for the incidence of *Under Du Ruisseau Du Massacre LOF17921* or this dog's progeny. If that appears then that dog is a hybrid. It doesn't matter how many health tests, KB tests or other testing that has been done. From the KGCA perspective only those griffons WITHOUT any incidence of *Under Du Ruisseau Du Massacre LOF17921* or offspring in a pedigree constitutes an authentic Korthals Griffon. Barbara Young has dedicated her life to collecting and documenting pedigrees from public sources so the process is quite simple. Go to the Herrenhausen Sporting Dog website and use the griffon database.

The KGCA was founded to unite those people interested in preserving the authentic Korthals griffon. Breeders still have the freedom to make breeding decisions as they always have. The KGCA wants to educate the breeders so that they can make an educated choice. The public needs to be educated to the differences and then a buyer can make an educated choice. A small dedicated group of breeders preserved this breed before and I believe we can do it again. We have support from around the world with authentic Korthals clubs in France and the UK. Please let us know if you are a breeding and are expecting an authentic litter. We are contacted daily by people looking for puppies. While all are welcome to participate in the KGCA we will only include litters on our website that are indeed authentic litters. In the spirit of education, we will allow postings from any interested party on Facebook and Yahoo group. However the club will annotate any claim of an authentic Korthals griffon that the buyer must validate that claim. Let's unite and save our breed as Korthals and those early breeders envisioned.

## Vice President's Message

How can we make these dogs last forever? They don't stay on this earth long enough, but they live on in our memories. Our all-breed club had its annual dinner the other night. Members had been asked to submit photos for the event, and there was a continuing Power Point running, randomly showing these photos on a big screen. We kept seeing the same ones over and over again because only a few of us had come forth with photo. All these beautiful, accomplished and loved dogs, and 5% of the ~80 attendees had photos to show off! During the film camera years it was so much more difficult and expensive to take the multiple shots necessary to get one good one, and I look at the few photo of my old partners wishing there were more. Digital photography, I am certain, was given to us to preserve those memories of our dogs. The traditional tool of the SLR with lenses that cost as much as a Griff puppy, are endless fun, the point-and-shoots take incredible pictures (some fit in a shirt pocket), and the smart phones are amazing. All of us can admit to those "I wish I had a camera" moments. In order to take good photos you need to carry a camera with you everywhere you go. So, let's get busy, preserve and enhance the memories, and immortalize all those wonderful dogs.

Katherine

### ***Paw prints Left By You***

You no longer greet me, As I walk through the door. You're not there to make me smile, To make me laugh anymore. Life seems quiet without you; You were far more than a pet. You were a family member, a friend . . . a loving soul I'll never forget. It will take time to heal - For the silence to go away. I still listen for you, And miss you every day. You were such a great companion, Constant, loyal and true. My heart will always wear, the paw prints left by you. -Teri Harrison



## Secretary/Treasurer's Message

It has been a busy winter for all of us! I have been in the process of entering German Stud books, NAVHDA records, & OFA information into my database to add to the extensive research available for breeders worldwide to combat the effects of the hybrid mix on the health of the breed.

As the Secretary, I can report that the Constitution and Breed Standard for the club has been approved by the membership. As the Treasurer, The notices for dues have been sent out for renewal. This year needs to emphasize an increase in membership to provide a sound base for the club. Our main goal is educational for breeding the purebred Korthals Griffon, which will need support to get off the ground. Our current bank balance is \$204.00 with no outstanding debts.

There is a need for additional workers in the club! The KGCA cannot run on just a couple dedicated individuals for very long. We are all very busy but dedicated people but find the time to spend a few minutes in a quarterly meeting online. Will you help?

Barbara

## Field Training- Steady without whoa?

My first griffon was my learner dog. I regret now so much of what I did to that poor dog in the interest of "training". I had no idea how to train a griffon or any pointing dog. I went to every seminar I could find and listened to all the "experts". I thought they must know what they were doing. I would take ideas home and try them and could see it was having a negative effect on the relationship with my dog. Sometimes we had to take breaks of several months to bring that relationship back. At one point I had done such terrible things to him for retrieving that when he saw the wooden retrieving article he would flop down and roll on his back. I knew I was doing something wrong. It didn't make sense to me but I assumed I didn't know how to do it. Sure we got through Natural Ability and Junior hunter simply on his natural instinct – thanks to his breeder. The rude awakening came to me when I ran my boy in his first UT test and got reprimanded by the judge for saying "whoa". At the same time every training session I had been to for the local NAVHDA club and other seminars – everyone said "whoa"! I just could not figure it out – how could everyone train "whoa" and then not use it?

I realized after training my first dog with things like whoa tables, whoa posts, half hitches around his flank, e-collar on the flank and many other similar approaches that there just had to be a different – and better way. Thankfully I was introduced by someone I was training with to the Gibbons/West approach. The Gibbons/West approach does not use "whoa" I just loved Bill Gibbons philosophy that was so different than any other trainer I had seen. Where everyone else expected that you would lose some style on your dog when steadying them but then expected it would come back (it NEVER did on my first griffon – to the day that dog died he never pointed the same) Bill's approach was to not lose the style in the first place. Bill is well known for training Vizsla – a very soft breed – and never lost the style on his dogs. Attending that first seminar with Bill opened up a whole new world. I knew I had found the approach that would work for my second griffon. My second griffon has a much softer temperament than my first. He still had great hunting instinct but I knew I could never do half of what I had done to my first and nor did I want to!

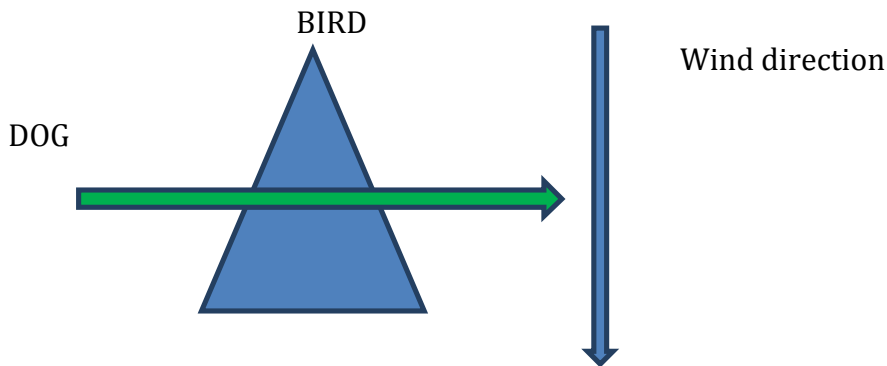
The Gibbons approach is all about having the bird tell the dog "whoa" and not the human. This makes far more sense to me as well. Funny thing it sure makes a whole lot more sense to the dogs as well. Many times when we are hunting my dogs will find a bird and not be anywhere in sight. How could I tell them to "whoa" if I can't see them. It is truly amazing how you can lose a brown dog in sage brush. The dog needs to know their job even if you are not there. The basis behind the Gibbons approach is that the dog likes their birds. Go back to the first article published in the KGCA newsletter to learn how to encourage that bird drive. We have had to adapt the Gibbons method a bit. For example, Bill never uses traps to release a bird. He has a great supply of wild pigeons to train with and uses cards on them so they don't fly very far. We unfortunately do not have that luxury. Also due to our tree density we use automatic release traps to get the bird into the air at the right moment. We just don't want to spend our time climbing trees to free pigeons. Using traps takes extra care. A single bad experience with a trap can quickly ruin a good bird dog. Find someone to train with to help with the timing of getting the bird into the air. This is a job best done by two people.

The approach is to bring the dog crosswind to the bird. This is the most difficult part. No matter how many times you explain it, people have a very difficult time understanding crosswind. Think of a bird as the tip of a cone. The dog can only smell the bird downwind. In the diagram below the bird is at the peak of the pyramid. The scent cone expands as it leaves the bird. You want to bring the dog into the scent cone across the cone – not up the cone towards the bird. This is critical for this process to work. Watch the dog carefully. When the dog scents the bird they will turn their head and most likely try to pounce on the bird. The instant the head turns and the dog moves one forward release the bird. Bill depends on the flightiness of the bird to get out of there naturally. We use homing pigeons so they tend to be not as flighty as the wild pigeons.



## Field Training- Continued

The method stays the same. You want the dog to believe that their forward momentum is what flushed that bird. Remember what the dog wants more than anything – the smell of that bird in their nose. A griffon is very smart and it doesn't take long for them to realize that if they make a forward step that bird is going to go away. During this process you do not open your mouth. No whoa. No steady. No command. This is the silent approach, which means you need to be quiet! Next to understanding which way is downwind – this is the most difficult – teaching people to be QUIET!! The dog does not need you to be talking all the time.



You should see very pretty points as the dog is really enjoying this work. This is because they know they are right. There is NEVER any pressure on the dog's neck while they have the bird scent in their nose. This is why the bird needs to fly at just the right moment. Once the bird flies THEN you can stop the dog with their collar. For this stage we use a thick leather collar. Most dogs at this point are quite bird driven so we use the collar where there are spikes inside the collar on the underside of the neck. These spikes are flat so they don't hurt the dog. The spike just provide a concentrated point of contact which is much more humane than choking your dog. The reason to use the spike collar is to not be dragged around the field by the dog. If you have a very soft dog then don't use the spike collar. The dog will tell you at this point what it really needs. The other advantage of the spike collar is that you are establishing a point of contact that will be used later in the process.

This process can move very quickly if the handler is paying attention. A frequent question is how long it takes – and the answer is that it takes what it takes. The dog will progress at its own speed. The better your timing the quicker it goes. You will need an assistant to get the bird out of there. The assistant must have excellent timing and move in quickly to flush the bird. Excellent timing moves the process forward very quickly. Poor timing can dig a training hole that can take quite some time to fill. The instant the dog's head turns watch for the muscle on the shoulder to twitch – that means the dog will move. Don't wait for the dog to take several steps. The earlier you get the bird out of there the better. Worst case is that the dog will stop to the flush, which is a great skill to have. Griffons tend to drop their head when they are ready to pounce – it is called the Korthals crouch. As soon as you see this get that bird out of there. Once the bird is in the air then stop the dog. This whole exercise is done on a checkcord and collar. It is very important to pet the dog after each bird so that they come to realize that you appreciate the work they have done. Do not do too many repetitions. We work dogs in pairs or three at a time where the lead dog is working on pointing the bird and the other dogs are working on backing. More about that later. The key is to not overdo it. Look for improvement and stop when you get it. See the last article on when to stop a training session. You are through this step when the dog will locate the bird, point and stop and watch the bird fly away. Do not let the dog chase the bird – make them stand there and watch the bird fly away and then pet them and tell them how clever they are! Next article will be about how to get ahead of the dog and flush your own bird. Happy training.

## The Shooting Gazette UK "England Tail Docking" Key facts you need to know by Sam Clark

Tail docking: It is one of the most emotive subjects in the gundog world, so education is key to knowing where owners, breeders and vets stand on tail



docking. Tail docking was banned in 2007 in England and Wales, except under certain exemptions catered for in the Animal Welfare Act. There are many myths and rumors even after six years of legislation, and it amazes me how unaware gundog owners and even breeders are of the law. Puppies, quite rightly, have to be docked before they are five days old – this is before the neonate nervous system is fully developed and when bones are still soft. It's advisable to find a suitable vet and discuss your docking requirements with them well before the whelping date to avoid any last-minute panics. There are often letters and statements that need to be sought in advance, and if these are not to hand when you present the puppies for docking, the vet will be unable to carry out the procedure: once the five-day time frame is up, the puppies cannot be docked. There

is also the potential obstacle of your regular vet being against tail docking, so finding a pro tail docking vet is therefore the first challenge – the Council of Docked Breeds could be a good starting point.

Once you have found a vet who is happy to dock, they will need to confirm the breed; and to complicate matters further, your litter's location of birth might affect whether you can have their tails docked at all. In England, the puppies must be one of the following listed breeds: HPR breed of any type or combination; spaniel of any type or combination of type; terriers of any type or combination of type. However, in Wales, combinations of breeds (ie. cross breeds) cannot be docked, only the individual pure breeds. Furthermore, in Scotland, tail docking is completely banned, without exception. And if you are thinking of taking a quick trip over the border to northern England to get them docked, you will also be breaking the law under section 20(3) of the Scottish Act, which says: "It is an offence to take an animal from Scotland to have a prohibited procedure carried out". This legislation may explain why a number of canny breeders send their bitches to England to whelp. Next, the vet will ask you to sign a statement declaring the dog whose tail is to be docked will be used for one of the following: a) law enforcement; b) activities of HM Armed Forces; c) emergency rescue; d) lawful pest control; e) the lawful shooting of animals. *Tails must be docked within five days of the pup's birth, the procedure undertaken using either a scalpel or surgical scissors.* The latter two are relevant to breeders of working gundogs and the breeder will then have to give evidence that the owner of the dog (or agent/employee of the owner most likely to be using the dog) will be using the animal for work in connection with lawful pest control. They will have to supply a shotgun or firearm certificate issued to the owner of the dog (or to the agent/employee of the owner). Or they will need a letter from a gamekeeper, land occupier (or his agent), a person with shooting rights or a shoot organizer, etc. in which the writer states the owner of the dog to be docked is known to them, and that dogs bred by that breeder have been used on their land/shoot, etc. The vet must obtain a signed statement from the breeder/owner to say the puppies are of the above type and will be sold for the above purposes. Most working dogs will also have their dewclaws removed. The law hasn't changed on this, meaning breeders can still do it themselves as long as they comply with the legislation under the Mutilations (Permitted Procedures) Regulations 2007 in the Animal Welfare Act. If you are taking your puppies to be docked, it's advisable to have rear dewclaws present as these can present a real risk to any breed.

The procedure of tail docking So you have found your vet, advised them of the whelping date, shown them all the paperwork and discussed the needs of your breed and tail length. What happens next? Hopefully your vet will come to you, rather than you having to put a bitch and puppies through the added stress of a car journey and risk exposing them to the possibility of infection by visiting a surgery. Most bitches with a young litter are protective of their puppies and don't appreciate intervention from strangers, so it's wise to pop mother in another room, or get someone to take her for a short walk in the garden so the vet can work swiftly. *Injuries caused to an undocked tail can cause great stress to both the animal and the handler.* There are two possible methods, which use either surgical scissors or a scalpel. Because the nervous system of a young puppy is not fully developed, the procedure is almost painless, so when the puppy is put back in the litter a few moments later, it starts suckling or falls back to sleep almost immediately. Stitches are rarely required, although sometimes an anti-coagulant is applied to the tail end, but this can irritate the bitch's tongue when she goes back to lick them afterwards. Many vets prefer not to use it and choose a more natural alternative such as witch hazel.

## Tail Docking: Key facts you need to know    Continued

It's normal within five minutes of the entire litter being docked for mother and pups to be asleep in a warm pile without a murmur. The final piece in the docking jigsaw is the regulation that states all docked dogs must be permanently identified by a microchip. Sometimes this is done at the time of docking, or it may be done afterwards when the pups are a little older, perhaps with their first vaccination, but certainly before they are three months of age. They then have a fully completed certificate that stays with them for life, rather like a logbook for a car. It can be produced as evidence of the dog being legally docked, as the fines reach up to £20,000 and a risk of imprisonment if your dog is found to have been docked illegally.

The no-show issue There is a final twist in the tail of this whole debacle. You now have a legally docked gundog, who probably also plays the role of much loved companion and family pet. Despite this, you may be unable to legally enter your dog in the village show as a bit of fun in the summer. The law states you are not permitted to show your dog at an event/show that has a paying public. This may seem trivial at the outset, but in fact it's a major issue to those serious pedigree dog breeders who feel strongly that their dogs should have a dual purpose, and like to both work and show them, thus keeping the best working lines and instincts in their bloodlines. A group has been set up called Docked and Denied, which targets Crufts and other shows with a paying public and therefore exclude the entry of many of the UK's greatest working dogs, including the BASC Gamekeepers classes. It must be hoped there is a solution to this problem. It can only be detrimental to the long-term future of the true dual-purpose gundog.

Read more at:

[http://www.shootinggazette.co.uk/gundogs/538537/Tail\\_docking\\_Key\\_facts\\_you\\_need\\_to\\_know.html#VFGDhGrVt3BrphSs.99](http://www.shootinggazette.co.uk/gundogs/538537/Tail_docking_Key_facts_you_need_to_know.html#VFGDhGrVt3BrphSs.99)

## The Luxating Knee    What is Patellar Luxation?

*The reason I have included this article is that I see WPG's being certified with OFA for Patella's. Is there a problem?*

The patella, or kneecap, is part of the stifle joint (knee). In patellar luxation, the kneecap luxates, or pops out of place, either in a medial or lateral position.

**Bilateral** involvement is most common, but unilateral is not uncommon. Animals can be affected by the time they are 8 weeks of age. The most notable finding is a knock-knee (genu valgum) stance. The patella is usually reducible, and laxity of the medial collateral ligament may be evident. The medial retinacular tissues of the stifle joint are often thickened, and the foot can be seen to twist laterally as weight is placed on the limb.

**Patellar Luxation Categories** Patellar luxations fall into several categories:

1. Medial luxation; toy, miniature, and large breeds
2. Lateral luxation; toy and miniature breeds
3. Lateral luxation; large and giant breeds.
4. Luxation resulting from trauma; various breeds, of no importance to the certification process.

Numbers 1, 2 and 3 are either known to be heritable or strongly suspected.

**Medial Luxation in Toy, Miniature, and Large Breeds** Although the luxation may not be present at birth, the anatomical deformities that cause these luxations are present at that time and are responsible for subsequent recurrent patellar luxation. Patellar luxation should be considered an inherited disease.



**The Luxating Knee** What is Patellar Luxation? Continued

Clinical Signs Three classes of patients are identifiable:

1. Neonates and older puppies often show clinical signs of abnormal hind-leg carriage and function from the time they start walking; these present grades 3 and 4 generally.
2. Young to mature animals with grade 2 to 3 luxations usually have exhibited abnormal or intermittently abnormal gaits all their lives but are presented when the problem symptomatically worsens.
3. Older animals with grade 1 and 2 luxations may exhibit sudden signs of lameness because of further breakdown of soft tissues as result of minor trauma or because of worsening of degenerative joint disease pain.

Signs vary dramatically with the degree of luxation. In grades 1 and 2, lameness is evident only when the patella is in the luxated position. The leg is carried with the stifle joint flexed but may be touched to the ground every third or fourth step at fast gaits. Grade 3 and 4 animals exhibit a crouching, bowlegged stance (genu varum) with the feet turned inward and with most of the weight transferred to the front legs.

Permanent luxation renders the quadriceps ineffective in extending the stifle. Extension of the stifle will allow reduction of the luxation in grades 1 and 2. Pain is present in some cases, especially when chondromalacia of the patella and femoral condyle is present. Most animals; however, seem to show little irritation upon **palpation**.

**Lateral Luxation in Toy and Miniature Breeds** Lateral luxation in small breeds is most often seen late in the animal's life, from 5 to 8 years of age. The heritability is unknown. Skeletal abnormalities are relatively minor in this syndrome, which seems to represent a breakdown in soft tissue in response to, as yet, obscure skeletal derangement. Thus, most lateral luxations are grades 1 and 2, and the bony changes are similar, but opposite, to those described for medial luxation. The dog has more functional disability with lateral luxation than with medial luxation.

Clinical Signs In mature animals, signs may develop rapidly and may be associated with minor trauma or strenuous activity. A knock-knee or genu valgum stance, sometimes described as seal-like, is characteristic.

Sudden bilateral luxation may render the animal unable to stand and so simulate neurological disease. Physical examination is as described for medial luxation.

**Lateral Luxation in Large and Giant Breeds** Also called genu valgum, this condition is usually seen in the large and giant breeds. A genetic pattern has been noted, with Great Danes, St. Bernards, and Irish Wolfhounds being the most commonly affected. Components of hip dysplasia, such as coxa valga (increased angle of inclination of the femoral neck) and increased anteversion of the femoral neck, are related to lateral patellar luxation. These deformities cause internal rotation of the femur with lateral torsion and valgus deformity of the distal femur, which displaces the quadriceps mechanism and patella laterally.

Clinical Signs Bilateral involvement is most common. Animals appear to be affected by the time they are 5 to 6 months of age. The most notable finding is a knock-knee (genu valgum) stance. The patella is usually reducible, and laxity of the medial collateral ligament may be evident. The medial retinacular tissues of the stifle joint are often thickened, and the foot can often be seen to twist laterally as weight is placed on the limb



## Pheasant Receipe

I adapted a recipe for Pork Medallions with Blackberry Chutney.

### Chutney:

Melt 1 T unsalted butter in small saucepan over medium heat. Saute 2 large shallots, thinly sliced, in butter until tender, about 8-10 minutes. Add 1/4 cup sherry vinegar, 1/4 cup firmly packed brown sugar, and 1-1/2 cups blackberries (I used frozen ones I'd thawed), and cook until mixture is syrupy and some of the berries have collapsed. I also added ruby port--probably about 1-2 T.

I think this is even better made a day or two ahead. Serve it over pan-sauteed duck or pheasant breast! Or pork medallions! Chicken is okay, but the duck or pheasant is tastiest!

I had this at a formal dinner and it was oh so tender and absolutely delicious!



### Korthals Griffon Club of America Membership Dues

It is that time of year again! With our approved constitution the dues will run from the first day of January each year thru the end of December.

*\$30 per year per individual*

*\$35 per year per household*

*We appreciate all the help we have received getting the KGCA off the ground last year. We look forward to being an educational club to assist in better breeding of the purebred griffon and to assist in breeding towards pure lines. We hope you will join us again this year!*

*If you have individuals you would like to invite to the KGCA please contact me so we can get them an application. All are welcome!*

### New Club Tax Information

On October 28, 2013 the Korthals Griffon Club of America received approval on our application for tax-exempt status. The club is now officially a 501 (c) (6)

## Override Your Hotel Room Thermostat



We all travel so I thought this might be helpful for the members.  
You can set the thermostat as hot or cold as you like.

Hotel room thermometers normally don't let you adjust the temperature above or below a certain point, which can lead to some pretty warm rooms in the summer time or chilly ones in the winter. If you want more control, here's how to override your hotel thermometer, put it in "VIP" mode, and tweak it where you like it.

Gary Leff, writing for View from the Wing, shared the video above, which shows you how it's done. Most hotel wall units (Gary noted that Hilton and Hyatt specifically tend to use this type of thermostat) that you'll have access to will work this way. The window units on the air conditioner/heaters themselves may be a bit more flexible, but give this a try on your next wall thermometer:

- Hold down the "display" button
- While holding that button, press "off"
- Release off, continue to hold down display, and Press the "up" arrow button
- Release all buttons

This trick also disables the motion sensors that many hotels use to only keep the heating and cooling system active at all when a guest is in the room that means that you won't have to wait for a sweltering room to gradually cool off when you get back from a long day, or wait for an ice cold room to warm up in the winter.

Gary explains that you don't have to just be quirky about the temperature to use this trick sometimes hotels try and save money by keeping the room thermostats in a certain range, leading to uncomfortable guests, and in his case, he had a room that got a ton of sunlight that warmed it up in the daytime, making it really hot, even with the thermostat turned down as far as it can go. Either way, the power is yours to be more comfortable when you travel. Hit the link below to read more his comments, both at the link below and his much older post have some similar tricks for other hotel chains that may not use these units, too.