

TATTLETAIL

NEWSLETTER OF ALBANY KENNEL CLUB



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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

I hope everyone had a good summer! It's almost time for our All-Breed Shows on October 18th and 19th at the Big E in West Springfield. We are always looking for members who would like to help out.

At our October meeting we will have a small presentation on Stewarding. Hope to see you all there. we will also have a special program in November at our meeting. Look for details on the Web page.

Thanks,
Penny Kretchmer
President

UPCOMING MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS

Albany Kennel Club Meetings take place on the first Tuesday of the month @ 7:00PM in the back room at the Gateway Diner:

October 1, 2019

November 5, 2019

December 3, 2019

NO MEETING IN JANUARY ... brrrrrr

OCTOBER MEMBERSHIP MEETING

The October Membership Meeting will be held at 7:00PM in the Gateway Diner 899 Central Avenue Albany.

Join us to share your thoughts and ideas!
This month's meeting will not be in the private back room. Look for us in the front dining area.

Come earlier to order dinner and socialize!

WEB SITE

Visit our website at:
albanykennelclub.net
or
Visit us on Facebook

FACEBOOK

"Like" us on FACEBOOK



BEST IN SHOW 2018

OCTOBER POINT SHOW

The 2019 Albany Kennel Club's Point Show (October 18th and 19th) will be held in conjunction with Troy Kennel Club (October 20th).

The show will be held at Eastern States Exposition Grounds in the Mallary Building. This year's show will be dedication to Pam Burns a longtime club member and show volunteer. Stewards and other volunteers are still needed - please consider lending a hand. Training will be provided.

The Premium Lists are in the mail. If you do not receive one, you can always find one on Infodog. October's Membership meeting will include training on stewarding including the always confusing Owner Handler event.

If you have made a trophy pledge, and still need to deliver, please contact Jeannette O'Hanlon.

This weekend is a lot of hard work, but also a lot of fun!! Please join us any way you can!

CLUB EDUCATION

OCTOBER 1, 2019

With our Albany Kennel Club Point Show taking place on October 18th and 19th, training will be provided after our regular membership meeting on stewarding and navigating the ever confusing Owner Handled event. Come to learn or brush up on your stewarding skills!!!

NOVEMBER 5, 2019

Following our November membership meeting which will be at 6:30, there will be a guest speaker at 7:00.

Tom Delaney will be in attendance to talk with us. Anti-dog legislation is constantly popping up at the federal, state, and local level. Dozens of proposed laws are active in NY. Continuous engagement is critical to protect your rights to own, breed, hunt, show, and even purchase the dog of your choice.

This presentation will give you an overview of what is happening in New York. You will learn about political activity designed to protect you and how you can help.



AKC TEMPERAMENT TEST



The AKC is pleased to announce the new AKC Temperament Test (ATT). The ATT is open to all breeds and mixed breed dogs.

About the AKC Temperament Test (ATT)

The temperament of any dog is an important characteristic. Temperament is a dog's natural predisposition to react a certain way to a stimulus. The AKC Temperament Test includes test items in the following six categories: social, auditory, visual, tactile (touch), proprioceptive (motion), and an unexpected stimulus. Under each of the six categories, there are four choices of test items. On every test, dogs will be tested on three of the four choices.

The ATT, a noncompetitive, pass-fail test, will screen for fear, shyness, inability to recover, and lack of cooperation. Desired traits are that the dog will be emotionally stable, inquisitive, appropriately social for its breed, biddable and recovers from a startling situation in a reasonable amount of time.

Earning the ATT title

Dogs must be at least 1-year old to take the ATT test and dogs who do not pass the test may retest when ready. Dogs who pass the ATT twice under two different evaluators may earn the ATT title and list the suffix, "ATT" after the dog's name.

Holding the ATT Test

ATT tests can be held by any AKC licensed or member club in conjunction with AKC events such as dog shows, trials, or it can be a stand-alone test. Clubs must apply to hold the test and it will appear on the AKC Event Search website. Clubs may start applying on October 1 for events to be held on or after November 1.

Who can do testing?

The evaluators for the ATT will be specially trained AKC Obedience judges, Rally judges and AKC Approved Canine Good Evaluators. The ATT Evaluators will complete four educational modules and will take an online test through AKC's Canine College.

The modules include: 1) an Overview of Temperament and the ATT, 2) watching a video of the ATT in action, 3) reading the ATT Evaluator Guide, and 4) Assembling Your ATT Test Materials.

Becoming an ATT Evaluator

Qualified individuals interested in becoming an ATT Evaluator can apply starting September 3rd. Complete information about the ATT including Evaluator information, resources and the application form can be found at www.akc.org/akctemptest. Questions can be emailed to akctemptest@akc.org. ATT evaluators will appear on the AKC Judges Directory website.

Between September 3, 2019, and December 31, 2019, there will be no cost for AKC Obedience judges, Rally judges or CGC Evaluators to become approved as ATT Evaluators. Beginning on January 1, 2020, there will be a fee for taking the online test.

BRAGS

Rune, Schaber's When The Last Rune Is Cast @ One Stone, RN, OAP, NJP, NFP, CGC, TKN, RSA-N, JSA-N, GSA-N, an American Staffordshire Terrier owned by Jeannette & John O'Hanlon finished his Open Agility and his Novice Fast Agility titles at the Southern Adirondack Trials held in August.



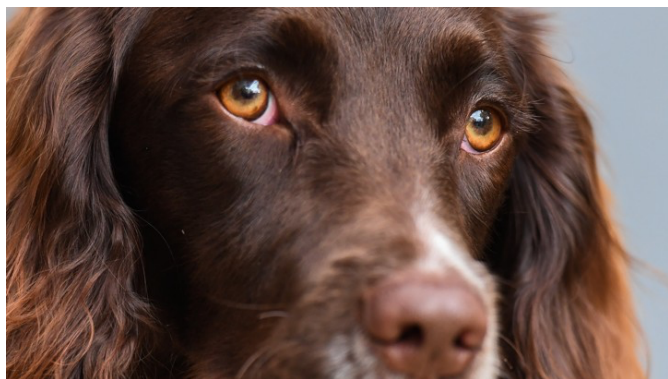
Quarterly Article

Reprinted from The Atlantic JUN 17, 2019

Dogs' Eyes Have Changed Since Humans Befriended Them

Two specialized muscles give them a range of expression that wolves' eyes lack.

[HALEY WEISS](#)



Dogs, more so than almost any other domesticated species, are desperate for human eye contact. When raised around people, they begin fighting for our attention when they're as young as four weeks old. It's hard for most people to resist a petulant flash of puppy-dog eyes—and according to a new study, that pull on the heartstrings might be exactly why dogs can give us those looks at all.

A paper published today in the *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences* found that dogs' faces are structured for complex expression in a way that wolves' aren't, thanks to a special pair of muscles framing their eyes. These muscles are responsible for that “adopt me” look that dogs can pull by raising their inner eyebrows. It's the first biological evidence scientists have found that

domesticated dogs might have evolved a specialized ability used expressly to communicate better with humans.

For the study, a team at the University of Portsmouth's Dog Cognition Centre looked at two muscles that work together to widen and open a dog's eyes, causing them to appear bigger, droopier, and objectively cuter. The retractor anguli oculi lateralis muscle and the levator anguli oculi medialis muscle (mercifully known as RAOL and LAOM) form two short, straight lines, which connect the ring of muscle around a dog's eye to either end of the brow above.

These researchers have long been interested in the ways dogs make eye contact with humans and, in particular, how they move their eyebrows. In 2017, Juliane Kaminski, the lead author of the new paper, found that dogs moved their eyebrows more often while a human paid attention to them, and less often when they were ignored or given food (which, sorry to say, is a more exciting stimulus for them than human love). That suggested the movement is to some degree voluntary. On our side of these longing glances, research has also shown that when dogs work these muscles, humans respond more positively. And both man and mutt benefit from a jolt of oxytocin when locked in on each other.

This isn't simply a fortuitous love story, in which the eyes of two species just so happen to meet across a crowded planet. Like all the best partnerships, this one is more likely the result of years of evolution and growth. If dogs developed their skill for eyebrow manipulation because of their connection to humans, one way to tell would be to look for the same capacity in wolves. Because dogs split off from their wolf relatives—specifically, gray wolves—as many as 33,000 years ago, studying the two animals is a bit like cracking open a four-legged

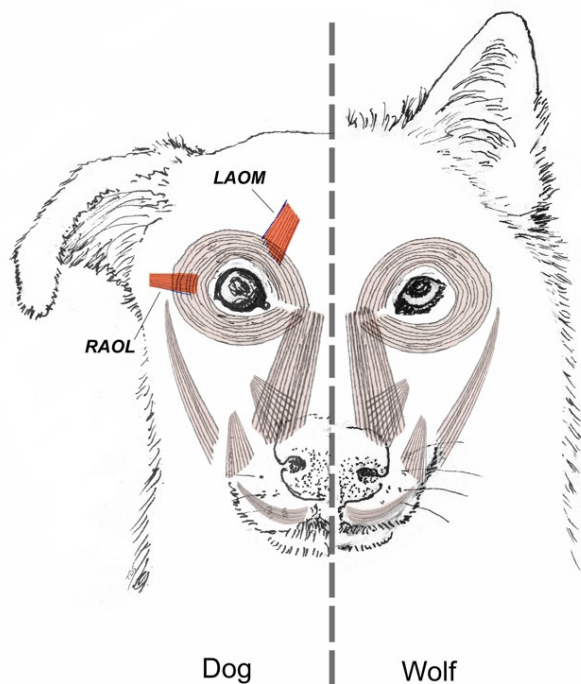
time capsule. Divergence between the two species marked the start of dogs' domestication, a long evolutionary process influenced—and often directly driven—by humans. Today, researchers can identify and study differences between the species to gain an understanding of exactly how dogs have changed over time.

In this case, those eyebrow-raising muscles do appear to be an addition to dogs' anatomy. In the four gray wolves the researchers looked at, neither muscle was present. (They did find bundles of fibers that could be the precursors to the RAOL and LAOM.) In five of the six breeds of dogs the researchers looked at, both muscles were fully formed and strong; in the Siberian husky, the wolflike, oldest breed of the group, the researchers were unable to locate a RAOL.

Sometimes, the origins of changes like these aren't immediately apparent. Certain physical dog traits—including floppy ears and short snouts—likely originate from the same set of developmental cells that code for tameness, a preferable trait in household pets, for instance. In the case of this new research, though, the connection between the physical trait and the related behavior is a bit more direct. "Previous work—and much of it by these same authors—had shown that these muscles were responsible for enhancing positive responses in humans," Brian Hare, the director of Duke University's Canine Cognition Center and the editor of the paper, told *The Atlantic* via email, "but the current suggests the origin of these facial expressions is after dogs split from wolves."

By evolutionary standards, the time since this split has been remarkably short for two new facial muscles to have developed. For a species to change that quickly, a pretty

powerful force must be acting on it. And that's where humans come in. We connect profoundly with animals capable of exaggerating the size and width of their eyes, which makes them look like our own human babies and "hijacks" our nurturing instincts. Research has already demonstrated that humans prefer pets with more infantlike facial features, and two years ago, the authors of this latest study showed that dogs who made the facial movement enabled by the RAOL and LAOM muscles—an expression we read as distinctly humanlike—were more likely to be selected for adoption from a shelter than those who didn't. We might not have bred dogs for this trait knowingly, but they gained so much from having it that it became a widespread facial feature. "These muscles evolved during domestication, but almost certainly due to an advantage they gave dogs during interactions with humans that we humans have been all but unaware of," Hare explained.



“It’s such a classically human system that we have, the ways we interact with our own infants,” says Angie Johnston, an assistant professor at Boston College who studies canine cognition and was not involved with the study. “A big theme that’s come out again and again in canine cognition and looking at the domestication of dogs is that it seems like they really just kind of dove right into our society in the role of being an infant or a small child in a lot of ways. They’re co-opting existing systems we have.”

The same humanlike facial gestures could also be a dog’s way of simply securing attention in the first place. Eyebrow raising is one of the most well-understood examples of what researchers call ostensive cues, a family of nonverbal signals (often facial movements and expressions) humans send one another to convey their intention to directly communicate. Dogs’ uncanny ability to mimic this human expression likely leads us to project certain human emotions onto them in ways we don’t with other animals, regardless of what they might actually be feeling.

The movement of the RAOL and LAOM muscles is particularly open to interpretation. “In different contexts we’ll call that something different,” says Alexandra Horowitz, a senior research fellow at the Barnard College Dog Cognition Lab. “In one case, I might say it’s sad, but in another case I’ll say, *He’s really paying attention*. It can look wry, like a questioning or unbelieving look.” According to Horowitz, dogs are the only animals aside from our primate cousins that are expressive in this

eerily familiar way. Horses alone share the ability to twist their eyes into the same doleful shape, but their overall expressions don’t strike us as humanlike in the same way that dogs’ do. With dogs, Horowitz points out, we’re so driven to connect that

we often search for “smiles” in the shapes of dogs’ mouths. The new research, she says, “makes me think it’s more about being able to move the face in a way that humans move the face. We don’t like unexpressive faces.”

Both Horowitz and Johnston suggested that similar studies looking at populations of dingoes (which Johnston researches) and Siberian foxes could provide yet another time capsule of sorts for understanding eyebrow movements and other evolutionary traits. Both species live near humans and are some of the closest living relatives to the earliest dogs. Why did they stay wild while dogs drifted into domestication? “Anything to do with getting to the bottom of why we as a species picked out this one animal can carry a huge amount of information,” Horowitz says. “In some ways, it’s discovering something about ourselves.”



DID YOU KNOW

Cairn Terrier

(Reprinted from AKC web site)



Cairn Terriers are happy, busy little earthdogs originally bred to fearlessly root out foxes and other small, furred prey in the rocky Scottish countryside. Curious and alert, Cairns like having a place where they can explore and dig.

The Cairn's unique qualities, called "Cairnishness," include a short, wide head and a free-moving, short-legged body that exudes strength but not heaviness, topping out at about 10 inches high and about 15 inches long. The double coat is harsh and wiry on top and downy beneath. A Cairn presents as a small, shaggy, alert dog, with head, tail, and ears up, and eyes shining with intelligence.

A British breed club promotes Cairns as the "best little pal in the world." Cairns are small enough for a lap-top snuggle and sturdy enough for a good romp on the lawn. They do best with lots of close family contact. For owners who cherish the terrier qualities of gameness, independent thinking, and true-blue loyalty, no other breed will do.

The Cairn is one of several terrier breeds, some still extant others now extinct, who for centuries patrolled the game preserves and farms of Scotland. Unravelling the histories of these breeds is difficult because for so many years they were lumped together as simply Scotch terriers. Not until the late 1800s did breed fanciers devise strict breeding programs and classifications for this hardy family of exterminators. The name Cairn Terrier did not appear in print until 1887, though by then the Cairn-type terrier had been around for a long time. Cairns were known from at least the 1600s to dwell in the Western Highlands, most notably on the Isle of Skye, birthplace of their kinsman the Skye Terrier. The Cairn was once known as the "Short-haired Skye Terrier"

Once upon a time in Scotland, a mound of stones used as a boundary or to mark a grave was called a "cairn." On Highland game preserves, rodents would live within and beneath these rock piles. The Cairn Terrier, among the smallest of the go-to-ground terriers, was developed to dig into cairns and rout out the critters. When grouped in packs, these plucky little hunters also worked on foxes, otters, and other predators. The Cairn's independence, courage, toughness, and alertness were qualities that served them well when digging into a cairn alone and confronting sharp-toothed mammals.

By the turn of the 20th century, Britain's terrier fanciers had sorted out the various Scotch earthdogs and began breeding Cairn, Scottish, Skye, and West Highland White terriers as distinct pure breeds. Cairns were exhibited at British dog shows of the era, and the AKC recognized the breed in 1913.

The breed's public profile received a tremendous boost in 1939, when a Cairn

named Terry was chosen to play Toto in MGM's production of "The Wizard of Oz."



Newsletter Contributions

Thank you to those of you who have contributed an article or idea for the Club Newsletter.

If you see an article that you think the membership would enjoy, please pass it on to me!

If you have a "brag" to share, please pass it on to me!

If you are a Committee Chairperson, please pass on your information/updates to me!

This is the CLUB'S Newsletter. Please be a part of it!
THANK YOU!

"The dog world is not stressful at all."

John, age 26



@thingsdoghandlersay

John says....

"See you all on October 1st at the Gateway Diner!"