

Tangens Whippets

Newsletter #31
May - June 2014

Have a Whippet close to your heart
-by wearing a T-shirt with its picture of it!
BIS GCH Tangens Maverick Red Planet, RN, RA, CGC "Fanci" (litter 07) had puppies recently. The owners of the now 6 months old puppies met up at a show in Colorado in June. For this occasion, Fanci's owner, Donna Pardi, made T-shirts for the owners with paintings of their puppies



Donna made a T-shirt for me too with my puppy *Kamio Sweet Taste of Tangens "Candy"*



Whippet in Retirement

Fanci's brother, *DCH Tangens The Maverick Cosmonaut, FC "Brand"*, retired recently from his conformation showing, lure coursing, and breeding responsibilities. He is enjoying a wonderful life with his new owner Maureen Littell in NY



Whippet National Show 2014

The show took place in Hunt Valley, MD. Almost 600 Whippets were competing in conformation, lure coursing, agility, rally and obedience. Donna Pardi did very well with "Fanci" in rally



Iva Kimmelman showed several of Brand's offspring. I admired in particular *CH Merci*

Isle American Beauty. She made it to the final cut, as the British judge liked her too.



I showed Brand's grandson *CH Tangens Antonio Vivaldi, JC* (litter 2011) for his owners Marilyn and Bob Riffle. We were all happy that Vivaldi made the first cut. On the left is the English judge Pauline Oliver, Spyanfly kennel.



Vivaldi lives in North Carolina together with Brand's and Fanci's sister "*Mona*" and owners Marilyn and Bob Riffle. Here the Whippets are back home, tired after the National



Vivaldi offspring

Before retirement Vivaldi sired two litters in California (not of my breeding). Some of his puppies have done very well at the shows so far, as you saw in newsletter #30.

Vivaldi's son "*Cooper*" from his second litter has done exceptionally well, and we look forward to seeing him winning more at the California shows.



Hot Summer



We have had a warm and dry summer so far in California with a hot spell in May. Here is *Tangens Maverick Astronaut "Tiger"* (litter 2007) after a long walk. Walking is ok, as there may be shade and a breeze here and there. But as everybody knows, staying in a car may be dangerous (photo Darin Marx).

How hot is my car?		
Outside (°F)	Inside (°F)	
	10mins	30mins
75°	94°	109°
80°	99°	114°
85°	104°	119°
90°	109°	124°
95°	114°	129°

On the beach

Lorna Gregson and her children with "Hunter" (*Tangens Sir Hunter*; litter 2005) and "Bell" (*Tangens Belle Rousanne*; litter 2010)



Son Owen and *Bell* running on the beach



Dog attacks

"Prince" (*Tangens Prince Of Nucleotides* litter 06) and his owners have been attacked by the same lose dog three times, and the owner of the attacking dog has done nothing to prevent it. In fact, the dog is still off leash.



If you are attacked by a dog, even if the damage is not serious, someone else may be seriously hurt in a future attack, such as a small child or a small dog. If possible take notes, take a picture of the aggressive dog and of the injuries it caused. If it happens more than once, report it to the local police and the animal control.

Many years ago, when we were walking the dogs in the mornings, we used to meet a man running with his two Rhodesian Ridgebacks off leash. One of the dogs acted aggressively, and if he came close to me and my dogs, I screamed on top of my lungs and then the dog went off. One day I didn't scream, and the dog ran up to the Greyhound and took a big chunk out of her side. Erkki got furious and ran after the man until he caught up with him and got his name and address. I took the Greyhound to the vet for surgery. Back home I called the police. The police came over and asked me if I wanted the guy arrested for "attack with a deadly weapon". He was not kidding! But I thought that was a bit too much. In the end, the man at least paid for the vet bill, and we never saw him or his dogs again on our streets.

Another time a pitbull came up to me and my dogs, looking aggressive. By then I had watched enough Cesar Millan to **think** I knew what to do. I pointed at the dog and said "tchshh", and the dog went off - it was probably a nice dog; it was not me being

good :-) Recently, we were approached by a coyote that looked aggressive. And they can be. At first my dogs went nuts, as they usually do when they see wild life. But when the coyote didn't slow down or go away, they became a little scared too. So I screamed for help, but nobody came. However, the coyote slowed down and ultimately went away. I went back home and searched the internet. There were lots of tips on how to protect oneself against coyotes and dogs. I chose to always carry a couple of big stones in my backpack or pockets to throw at them. If you are walking only one or two dogs, a "nightstick" may be better for protection. There are hundreds of versions on the internet.

The princess And The Pea

I could not help but thinking of the Hans Christian Andersen fairy tale when I got this picture of "Nala" (*Tangens Claret*, litter 2010) from Jeanne Kohlbush. The story is called "The Princess On The Pea" in the original language, as the Princess could feel the pea no matter how many mattresses were placed between the her and the pea



From Facebook

Question

What is it about Whippets that makes you want to have a dozen? (Iva Kimmelman)

Answers

It is a Whippet thing. If I have to explain it to you, you wouldn't understand (Steven Klein)

They are like peanuts... you can never have just one (Bo Bengtson)

You need one in every color (Paul Luis Obelcz)

I love having a pack. Love the pack interactions! And they are beautiful to watch in groups (Beca Zaun)

They are so easy to live with, they don't stink, and they are so much like little humans (Lisa Fontaine)

Whippet hearts

I close with a brief summary about Whippet hearts that was reported at the Whippet National Show. Veterinary cardiologist Rebecca Stepien has performed echocardiograms on Whippets at almost every National show for the past 10 years. It is quite common in Whippets that their mitral valve (and other heart valves) is a little leaky. This is true for certain other breeds as well, in particular the Cavalier King Charles Spaniels. However, the valve problem in Whippets does not seem to progress as fast as in the Spaniels. Dr. Stepien reported that at age 5, about 50% of Whippets have leaky valves, and at age 8 or so, the majority has valve problems. Don't worry, this may not necessarily reduce the life span or quality of life of individual Whippets, but we need to keep following the health in general, and the heart health in particular, of Whippets used for breeding.

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