



Ay Chihuahua!!

Newsletter of the Chihuahua Club of Hawaii
Vol. 1 Issue 3 July 1999



Glen Rikio Taniguchi
August 4, 1952 - June 16, 1999

OUR CONDOLENCES

Our heartfelt condolences to the family of the late Glen Rikio Taniguchi. Our Club's Vice President is survived by wife, Jo Ann, daughter Kari, and Missy & Jolee (Chis). Glen passed away on June 16, 1999 at age 46. Funeral services were held on June 30, 1999 at Hosoi Mortuary. Glen contributed so much to our club, and was an active participant in providing support and direction for the club. We want to express our sorrow to Jo Ann, Kari, Missy and Jolee. Glen will be missed a great deal by all of us.

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MEMBER PROFILES

Hi Members. In this issue we would like to start introducing Club Members, and here are four to start with...

Claire and Christine Ching

We wish to acknowledge the work that Claire has done for the club in designing the wonderful and professional looking club logo. You see it on the top of the page, and you will be seeing a lot more of it in the future. The logo will be used for club t-shirts—please use the attached order form for them. Thank you so much Claire.

The Chings have 4 furkids, Angel, a long coat chi, Tusha, a golden retriever, and 2 cats, Roger and Muni. Angel is really angelic, white, and has a wonderful temperament. As for human kids, there is Bradley at age 14, and Christine at 11 years of age. It should not surprise anyone that Claire is a talented graphic artist by profession, luckily for our club, and goes to obedience classes every Sunday. Christine loves soccer, and Brother Bradley is a golfer. Angel is also quite talented, being obedience trained, and can ride her stroller, wagon, and skateboard. Wow! Can we have a demonstration at the Chihuahua Olympics? Angel is also very particular about her doggie friends,

and has ESP. Christine says that, "She knows which dogs are bad. She charged at a pit bull that had bitten an obedience instructor the week before." But she has a soft side too, because she will do anything for a treat.

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BOOK REVIEW

By Teresa Lee

In today's society there is a growing trend of people seeking to live healthier, longer, and happier lives. Many do this by eating properly, getting enough exercise, and receiving proper medical attention. Many others also do this, but they seek out a holistic, natural approach. They eat foods that are naturally, or organically grown, exercise, and in addition to the traditional, they seek out alternative medicine to provide them with the care or treatment needed. Not only do we see this trend in human care, but also there has been a growth in veterinary care to treat animals naturally, and in a holistic way.

In his book, *The Nature of Animal Healing: The Path to Your Pet's Health, Happiness, and Longevity*, Martin Goldstein, D.V.M. contributes insights to his approach to veterinary care.

Dr. Goldstein is a successful and one of the best known holistic veterinarians in the country and runs the Smith Ridge Center, a renowned clinic in

South Salem, New York. He explains his approach to alternative medicine: what it is, how it works, and why animals should be treated holistically. But what is holistic pet care? Essentially, it is care that revolves around the belief that the best way to heal an ill pet to help him heal himself. Instead of treating the symptoms, treat the root of the problem. This will enable pets to regain and maintain their health.

In his practice, Dr. Goldstein has had success in treating cancer and other diseases, and shares his philosophy of how animals should be treated. Some of the prescriptive advice he offers goes against the traditional view and may have traditional veterinarians crying foul. For example, he believes that pets should not be vaccinated, explaining why it may do more harmful than good. He also suggests how alternative therapies such as acupuncture and homeopathic medicine could be used to help heal our pets. He also suggests that if there is anything to learn from reading this book, he hopes that it is gained from the chapter on our pets' diet. He believes that it all starts with what we feed our pets, whether they stay healthy or become ill.

The Nature of Animal Healing goes on to discuss other issues that affect the health of our pets. And in the very last chapter Dr. Goldstein deals with the death of a pet by sharing some thoughts about pets at the end of their lives.

Finally, Dr. Goldstein provides a complete source guide to finding holistic veterinarians, publication such as newsletters and book & magazines, and services & products.

The Nature of Animal Healing is a very insightful book, recommended to all, if not to convert pet owners to holistic care, then just to inform them about it.

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Virginia and John Decastro

Virginia and John have participated in many of the club's activities with 11 year old Ruby, their little Chihuahua. They also have a terrier named Maggie, and Jack who is a large Newfoundland retriever mix. Virginia and John are both retired and enjoying their retirement. John is an ardent golfer and fisherman, and Virginia does her water exercises and volunteers in the community. Virginia tells us that Ruby loves to spin around 70-pound Jack, and then dive into him. And when Jack has a milkbone Ruby will wait and steal crumbs right from in front of him. Jack is so good because he never complains about sharing. "In fact he sometimes is bullied by her."

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FIRST SHOWRING EXPERIENCE

By Tracy Lehmann

I decided to enter Pepito in his first show at the Blaisdell. However, I was so nervous I asked my mom to show him. He was scheduled for 9:00AM, which we thought was good because we'd get it over with first! Instead of bringing a carrier we decided to just hold him since he doesn't like being in a carrier. Now, if you remember Pepito, you know he is not exactly the quiet type. I was afraid he'd bark at all the dogs and annoy everyone. To our surprise as soon as we got out of the car he was a perfect gentleman. Not one bark the whole time! He usually gets feisty around big dogs but this day he just let them pass on by. It was almost like he knew this was a show and he had to behave (as opposed to a Chihuahua meeting where he can run amok!). He actually seemed to be enjoying himself and he was walking around like a little king. However, his humans were a little intimidated by all the big time show people. Thank goodness our dog didn't need to be groomed like some of the dogs there. What a lot of work! My mom walked him on his lead around the Blaisdell so he could get use to it. We stayed by the ring he was to be judged in so we wouldn't miss it. Finally his turn came up. I was standing outside the ring so afraid he'd make my mom a fool. And then who would have known—he did just fine. He stood all right and the judge looked in his mouth. As soon as the mouth check was over I breathed a sign of relief. Our biggest worry in the ring was that he'd snap at the judge's hand. He then pranced around the ring for the judge. He got his ribbon and it was over...until Best of Group. We knew he wasn't going to get Best of Group but our friend told us to show him because it's good practice. So he did just fine in the Toy Group and got experience to boost. I also met some really nice show people who were happy to talk to me even though I wasn't quite in their rank of show people. It was a good experience and Pepito really enjoyed being the little King of the family for a day.

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Wendie Funakoshi

Wendie is a Secretary with the State Department of Transportation. Her Chihuahua is named Miki, a fawn, black, and white male that will be 8 on Halloween. Wendie and her husband Rodney have a little daughter named Mia who will be 2 years old in September. Wendie spends the time she has outside her full time job by chasing after Mia, another full time job. Wendie says that, "Miki is the great protector and guard dog of our house while we are at work. No bird or cat can get away with anything if they step foot in our yard. Miki can sit, shake hands, lay down, roll over—all when he feels like it!"

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HELP!!! SEEKING VOLUNTEERS

The club needs help to organize club activities at our meetings. The club would also be grateful if someone would create and maintain a web site for us. If you are interested or want to volunteer yourself or some other talented person, please call or email Lee Ann Lee at 685-5010 or leeann@hawaii.edu ❖

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TRAINING YOUR CHIHUAHUA TO SIT

By Vera Van Verst

The first training exercise in obedience training is the "Sit" exercise. So I will try to explain some techniques to doing this. First, get down to their level, it is easier to get their attention that way. By holding a treat in your right hand above the dog's nose slowly move your hand over his/her head making sure you aren't holding it too close. There have been incidences where the treat disappeared before the exercise was attempted. Also, don't hold the treat too high where the dog won't even be interested in it. After your dog starts to actually sit, use the word "Sit" (only once). Always praise your dog after he/she does the training exercise and give the treat to reinforce this exercise.

You can also teach your dog to sit by using the collar and leash. By holding the leash folded up and not dangling in your right hand say the word, "Sit" and pull up on the leash. Use your left hand to gently push his back end down. Now release the leash and praise your dog. If your dog gets up before being released, reposition him/her into the sit without saying anything. Don't forget to praise your dog when they are back in the sit position. A treat can be a good training tool.

Positive reinforcement like praise or rewards (treats) can only encourage your dog's need to please you. Negative training will only confuse your dog and sometimes make them want to shy away. Chihuahuas are very sensitive.

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CLUB NOTICES

- The Governor has signed new rules for the proposed fee increase for animal quarantine. The higher fees will start July 12, 1999.
- The Club is now listed in the Ilio Magazine, a local dog show magazine, under the Club Directory.
- The Club has two new handouts for public education. The first is titled, "So You Want To Get A Chihuahua?" and the second is, "Chihuahua Club of Hawaii Breeder Referral" handout. The handouts were written to help the public learn about the Chihuahua Breed, and in response to the many inquires the Club has been receiving from people who want to find chi pups. Members, if you want either handout, please contact Lorene

Maki at 226-0703. The Club policy on breeder referrals is explained as follows:

"Upon request, the Chihuahua Club of Hawaii will provide a list of our members who are currently breeders and include some information on things to consider when getting a pup. The Club does not endorse any breeder nor are we responsible in any way for negative experiences or unhealthy puppies bought from a breeder on this list. The buyer's only recourse is through the breeder you have bought your pup from. This list is only provided for your information and it is up to the buyer to make every effort to see that the puppy you purchase is healthy. It is truly BUYER BEWARE. A puppy is a living creature, so any mistake can be very costly in vet bills and heartbreak. Please be careful."

- A club member is planning a trip to Australia to see several famous dog shows (like our West-minster), and a Chi Specialty, in early April 2000. Anyone interested in going? Info in upcoming issues.

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Vera Van Verst

Vera is a Veterinary Technician, and her furkid is Speedy. Speedy is one year old, black and white, and weighs about 6 pounds. Vera enjoys assisting the instructors at Art's Obedience in the puppy class. Besides excelling in obedience, Speedy can shake hands, rollover, and crawl. Vera tells us that "Speedy must have about 50 toys. His favorite is a big squeaky lion, and a chirping chick with a string attached to 1 leg. He'll run around the house really fast with that one. But basically he likes most of them. We always have to play fetch." Speedy used to be afraid of flies. Vera says that, "He would hide under the furniture whenever there was one in the house. But now he tries to catch them. I think he learned that from my sister's cats. [Claire is Vera's sister] Speedy likes to play with her cats and her Golden Retriever and Chihuahua, Angel. Sometimes he's so excited he barks and makes a lot of noises when he's playing. Recently we've had a cherry tomato plant growing wild in our yard. I found out that he has been picking the ripe ones and eating them." So I guess Speedy is part vegetarian too.

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NAME CONTEST

Members, the new name for the newsletter was thought up by Tracy—our club pres.!! Congratulations Tracy!! You're the winner!!!

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NEWSLETTER ITEMS

We welcome any and all news items that you may want to contribute. Volunteers for features are

welcome. The current contact for the newsletter is Lorene Maki at ph. 226-0703, at P.O. Box 4545, Kaneohe, HI 96744 or email at L_maki@hotmail.com

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TASTY TREATS

By Lee Ann Lee

- Chips' First Birthday Cake
- 3 lbs. turkey or chicken, ground
- 3 egg whites; or 2 whole eggs
- 1 1/2 cups oatmeal
- 1/4 cup parsley, minced
- 1 t garlic powder

Mix all ingredients thoroughly. Mold into desired shape (a bone shape is good). Bake at 350 degrees in broiler pan or on rack to drain fat, for 45 minutes to 1 hour, 15 minutes, depending on thickness of loaf. Remove from oven, cool, and place on a plate. May be "frosted" with low-fat cream cheese as desired.

Tasters' comments: "I thought it was GRReat! Wanted it all!" says Chips

Source: "Anna's Holiday Cake for Dogs", Dog Fancy, Aug. 1993 issue.

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JOIN IN THE FUN

The 2nd Annual

CHIHUAHUA OLYMPICS

Fort Shafter Flats

August 29, 1999 at 12:00 Noon

Potluck Lunch, Games, Fun, Prizes, Snacks

Order your Club T-shirts for the games!! Order form attached.