



### **Presidents Message:**

Springtime is finally here! Time to get outside with your furry friends for some fun adventures. Now that the rains have mostly ended, Rick and I are looking forward to walks and outdoor playtime with our 3 girls Lainey, Piper, and Zoey.

Our club just had its annual specialty in Lodi at the Lodi Grape Festival Grounds. Although the turnout was not as high as hoped for, all of the participants, owners, and spectators had a great time. Many thanks to Lisa Blutman for organizing this annual event. Thanks to Gail Kreiger for planning the dinner on Friday April 12th.

Looking ahead, our next club event will be a members' only gathering at our home in Atherton on June 22nd. Rick and I are looking forward to welcoming everyone to an off-leash fun day in our fenced backyard. We expect lots of sun, good food, and Westie playtime. Please bring a main dish or a side salad to share. The club will provide drinks and desserts.

Later this summer, we will have another fun day and general meeting on August 17th at Cal State East Bay in Hayward. Our plan is to invite the Cairn club and have a program that includes demonstrations on teeth cleaning, nail trimming, ear cleaning, and general grooming. So much to learn! Please plan on joining us for this informative and fun event.



Hoping to see everyone in June and August! Enjoy the sunshine!!

With westitude,  
Debbie

## 2024 Specialty

We hope those of you that attended the 2024 Specialty had a great time. The Specialty was held on Friday, April 12, 2024 in Lodi.

### **RESULTS**

Best in Puppy Sweepstakes:

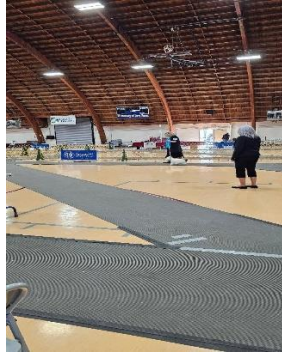
*Litman's Gailaurie Be My Valentine* owned by Lisa Blutman, Gail Krieger, and Wendy Corr



Best of Opposite Sex in Puppy Sweepstakes:

*Gailaurie's Stolen Heart From Litman* owned by Gail Krieger and Lisa Blutman





Best in Veteran Sweeps:

*GCHS Pommery's Diamond in the Ruff* Owned by Nancy Berger



Best of Breed: *GCHS CA Elvador Starlight Goblet of Fire* owned by Roxanna Twedt

Best of Winners and Best Bred By Exhibitor: *Gailaurie's Stolen Heart From Litman* owned by Gail Krieger and Lisa Blutman

Best of Opposite Sex: *GCH CH Shalreign's Lass in the Room* owned by Nancy Rasor

Select and Best of Breed Owner Handler: *CH Elvador Starlight Hufflepuff* owned by Dr. Madeleine Horn and Wolfgang Horn

Congratulations to everyone!

## What to do If your Dog Gets a Rattlesnake Bite

Dr. Megan McCorkel

Throughout the warmer months of the year, most of us are out hiking and enjoying nature. One thing that we need to be aware of are rattlesnakes. These reptiles come out of hibernation during the warmer months of the year (i.e April through September in most parts of the country) to gather food, bask in the sunlight, and prepare for the next hibernation. Rattlesnakes can be found in all sorts of habitats, from deserts to forests, grasslands to swamps.

### SIGNS OF RATTLESNAKE BITES IN DOGS

The first step in prevention is to recognize it is a [rattlesnake](#). Rattlesnakes come from the etiology Crotalinae. This group of snakes has a characteristic broad triangular shaped head, long movable fangs, and as most of us know, rattlesnakes have a rattle at the end of their body. When a rattlesnake is afraid or defensive, it shakes the end of its [tail](#) quickly, causing a rattling noise that gives the snake its common name.



Before you learn what to do in the case of a dog rattlesnake bite, you should first learn to recognize the symptoms specific to rattlesnake bites over other types of snake bites. This information can help you narrow down what snake has bitten your dog, and may help your veterinarian better understand your dog's condition.

If a snake bites your pet, and you suspect it is venomous, it is always better to seek medical attention. Get your pet checked out, it's better to be safe than to wait and be sorry.

## TWO SEPARATE PUNCTURE WOUNDS FROM FANGS WITH INCREASED BLEEDING

For a dog rattlesnake bite, you will likely see two wounds from the snake's two large fangs, spaced evenly apart from each other. If the wound has already swollen significantly, however, you may not see these marks.

The bite may be bleeding an excessive amount if it is from a rattlesnake. This is in part due to anticoagulant properties of the venom, which disrupts the body's normal clotting mechanisms. If untreated, the bleeding can become uncontrolled leading to [shock](#) and possible death.

## EXCESSIVE SWELLING

Rattlesnake bites are generally "hemotoxic". This means that once a rattlesnake bites something, the toxin within the venom will cause disruption to the blood vessels. The disruption of those vessels will cause the body part to swell a considerable amount, and can lead to necrosis.

Swelling from rattlesnake bites tend to be rapid, but can continue for up to 36 hours.

## YOUR DOG MAY ACT LIKE THEY'RE IN PAIN

A dog rattlesnake bite is less painful than some other types of snake bites, however is still quite painful. The majority of rattlesnake bites take place on either the head/face, or extremities of your pet. As you know, these bites can cause swelling, and tissue damage from the venom. This will contribute to the discomfort associated with rattlesnake bites.

## WEAKNESS OR NEUROLOGICAL ABNORMALITIES

Rattlesnake bites, from certain types of rattlesnakes, may also cause changes within the central nervous system. These changes can be seen outwardly as ataxia, paresis, weakness, and paralysis.



## HOW TO RESPOND TO A DOG RATTLESNAKE BITE

The information in this section will give you an idea of what immediate action to take for a dog rattlesnake bite. When you act fast, you're more likely to save your dog's life and prevent them from increased suffering.

### LEAVE THE SNAKE ALONE

There's no need to bring the snake or even take a picture of it for your vet. Don't try to move the snake or otherwise make it leave. You may risk being bitten or causing your dog to be bitten again.

### MOVE YOUR DOG AWAY FROM THE SNAKE IMMEDIATELY

You may have to pick up your dog and carry them, or you may have to carefully drag them away. Try to remain calm as you determine the best way to move your pet without causing more pain from the bite wound.

### CALL AN EMERGENCY VET RIGHT AWAY

Call your vet or an [emergency veterinarian](#) immediately! Perform this step as soon as you and your dog are safely away from the snake. The doctors at VEG are around 24/7.

### STAY CALM AND EXPLAIN THE SITUATION

Stay calm as you talk to the veterinarian and explain what happened.

Place your dog in a comfortable position. Keeping the bite wound lower than the heart is a plus, but may be difficult if it is a body wound. When you've finished talking to your veterinarian, take your dog to the veterinary hospital right away.

### BRING SOMEONE TO HELP YOU

Keep in mind that you should bring someone along to help you with your dog in the car if at all possible. This is to monitor the pet while driving to the hospital, or call the veterinarian while one person is already driving.

If no one is with you, we can quickly help get your pet out of the vehicle once you arrive at the hospital.

## LONG-TERM CARE FOR YOUR DOG'S RATTLESNAKE BITE





After you've taken your dog to the vet for their rattlesnake bite, you will need to keep up with long-term care. Your veterinarian will give you more specific information about what to do for your dog and which treatments are best for them.

This information can help you understand what to expect from your veterinarian.

### ANTIVENOM TO PREVENT ADDITIONAL HARM

Your veterinarian will likely give your dog [antivenin](#) to keep the rattlesnake bite from causing any more harm, and acts to inactivate the snake's venom.

This injection is best administered within 4 hours after a bite, and is given within fluids. The veterinarian will also do anything required to stabilize your dog and will provide treatment for secondary issues that are common after rattlesnake bites.

### ANTIBIOTICS TO PREVENT INFECTION

From there, the veterinarian will clean the wound generously. The veterinarian may give your dog antibiotics if there is evidence of necrosis or abscess, but this is not always the case.

There may be other treatments your dog needs, such as fluid therapy, blood products, and pain management. Your dog will also need monitoring of blood values and laboratory tests, while your pet is recovering from its rattlesnake bite.

Your veterinarian will let you know for sure depending on the severity of the bite and the reaction in your dog.

### MAKE SURE YOUR DOG RESTS WHILE THEY HEAL

Once you have your dog back home, it's crucial that they rest for a couple of weeks. Do not exercise them or allow them to over-exert themselves any more than is absolutely necessary. While they may go on short leashed walks to do their business outside, they need to take it easy otherwise.

Additionally, make sure to follow all recommendations of medications and e-collar wearing laid out by your veterinarian.

### WAYS TO PREVENT A DOG RATTLESNAKE BITE



The best way to deal with a dog rattlesnake bite is to prevent it from happening altogether! Although this may not be completely possible, a little prevention goes a long way.

Keep these tips in mind to prevent future rattlesnake bites.

### KEEP YOUR DOG ON A LEASH

Always walk your dog on-leash. This way, you'll be able to tell if there's a danger in the area, such as snakes that may bite them.

### KEEP YOUR DOG FROM FREE-ROAMING IN THE WOODS

Never let your dog free-roam in the woods, anywhere the grass has grown very high, or sniffing around rocks. These areas are prone to snakes.

### KEEP AN EYE ON YOUR DOG WHEN OUTSIDE

If you live in a snake-infested area, make sure your dog is observed even when in the yard just in case.

### CALL AN EMERGENCY VETERINARY CENTER FOR DOG RATTLESNAKE BITES

With this information in mind, you should be ready to respond to dog rattlesnake bites. It is crucial to understand the best way to respond if your dog is bitten as well as what you can expect from your veterinarian when you arrive.

## Poisonous Plants to Avoid

There are several common plants which may be toxic to dogs and cats and should be avoided. As we are out more during the summer and Holidays in the Fall and Winter, be aware. These include:

Arum Lily	Autumn Crocus	Australian Flame Tree
Avocado	Azalea Baneberry	Bird of Paradise
Bishop's Weed	Black Laurel	Black Locust
Bleeding Heart	Bloodroot	Bluebonnet
Blue-Green Algae	Boxwood	Bracken Fern
Buckthorn	Blub Flowers	Burdock
Cacao	Camel Brush	Caladium
Calla Lily	Cardinal Flower	Chalice
Cherry Tree	Chinaberry Tree	Clematis





Cocklebur	Coffee	Coral Plant
Coriander	Dieffenbachia	Elderberry
Elephant Ear (Taro)	Eucalyptus	Euonymus
False Hellebore	Flame Tree	Felt Plant
Firethorn	Ground Cherry	Heaths
Heliotrope	Hemlock	Henbane
Horse Tail	Hydrangea	English Ivy
Horse Chestnut	Jimsonweed	Lantana
Larkspur	Lily Of The Valley	Easter Kily
Lupine	Marijuana	Mandrake
Mistletoe	Mountain Laurel	Mushrooms
Nightshades	Oak	Oleander
Periwinkle	Philodendron	Pig Weed
Poinciana	Poinsettia	Poison Ivy
Poison Oak	Pokeweed	Potato Shoots
Privet	Pyracantha	Rain Tree
Ranunculus (Buttercup)	Red Maple	Snowdrop
Spurges	Sweet Pea	Tansy
Tobacco	Wisteria	Yews

From Orangevale Veterinary Hospital, Inc





**Members Only Fun Day at the home of**

**Debbie and Rick Sklarin**

**60 Middlefield Road Atherton, CA 94027**

**Saturday, June 22, 2024**

**Please bring a Main Dish or Side Salad to share. The club provides water and dessert.**



**SAN FRANCISCO BAY WEST HIGHLAND WHITE TERRIER CLUB**

**GENERAL MEETING MINUTES**

**JANUARY 20, 2024**

**PET FOOD EXPRESS STORE DANVILLE CALIFORNIA**

The meeting was called to order at 2:13 PM. by President Debbie Sklarin

Members present: Lisa Blutman; Mick Brown and Vickie Casacca; Jim and Linda Gilcrest; Ron and Cindy Kangas, Gail Krieger, Rick and Debbie Sklarin; Marie Thompson

Guests present: Joy and Sandy Severn

Report of the President: None

Report of the Secretary/Treasurer: Gail advised the members of the business actions taken by the Board at the January 20 zoom meeting. The board voted to donate \$100 each to the American Kennel Club PAC and WestieMed, Inc. The board approved a motion to make changes to the bylaws which is to increase membership dues as needed but never to exceed \$50 per year and only on the approval of the general membership. Also approved is a fundraiser offering of high-end collectibles chaired by Lisa Blutman. Calendar dates for club meetings will be January 20, June 20, August 17 and December 7. The board voted to discontinue the fall specialty show because of poor entries over the last several years.

Report of Committees:

Awards: Rick volunteered to be in charge of awards in 2024.

Bylaws: Lisa reported for the bylaws committee. Lisa Blutman, Jim Gilcrest and Gail Krieger met on several occasions to discuss changes. The proposed changes were distributed to the general membership prior to the meeting. Rick made a motion to accept the proposed changes. Vickie seconded the motion. M/S/C.

Calendar: A motion was made by Rick to approve the meeting dates of January 20, June 20, August 17 and December 7. Marie Thompson seconded the motion. M/S/C.

Fundraising: A sale of high-end collectibles will be held in the Fall at a Westie facebook market site. Valuable collectibles will be accepted by the committee. Lisa Blutman will chair the committee.

Marie discussed the disappointment many members have expressed concerning the Brass Door Restaurant. Members were asked to recommend an alternative. If one can't be found, the holiday luncheon meeting will be held at the home of Rick and Debbie.

Membership: Cindy reported that 6 members did not renew their club membership and there are 2 new members.



Officer and Board nominations: Lisa advised the 2024 officer and board nominations are Debbie Sklarin, President; Lisa Blutman, Vice President; Gail Krieger, Secretary/Treasurer; Board of Directors; Sherry Byrd, Helaine Campbell and Marie Thompson. Rick made a motion to approve the nominated officers and board members. Linda Gilcrest seconded the motion. M/S/C.

Program: Gail advised that the speaker for the day's meeting will be Catherin Leavitt speaking about Barn Hunt.

Specialty: Lisa advised the board voted not to hold a fall specialty. There will be a supported entry at the SVDF Saturday show. Lisa also reported that the spring specialty will be held on April 12 with NCTA in Lodi and a supported entry on Thursday.

Standing Match and Show – none

Tartan – Lisa will remain chairperson. Sherry and Rick will assist

Old Business:

None

New Business:

Share meeting sites with other terrier clubs: Debbie presented the idea of sharing meeting locations and expenses with other terrier clubs. A committee will be appointed.

Adjournment: Debbie asked if there was any further business. As there was none, Rick made a motion to adjourn. Lisa seconded the motion. M/S/C

**NOTE – CORRECT DATE OF JUNE MEETING IS SATURDAY JUNE 22, 2024 – to be corrected at next BoD meeting**



## San Francisco Bay West Highland White Terrier Club 2023-24 Calendar

Annual Meeting and Program	January 20, 2024, 2:00 pm	Pet Food Express, Danville
Spring Specialty	April 12, 2024	Lodi Grape Festival Grounds
Fun Time and Potluck Lunch for Members	June 22, 2024	Sklarín's home
Summer/Fall meeting and Fun Day	August 17, 2024	Site to Be Determined
Holiday Lunch	December 7, 2024	Sklarín Home



**SAN FRANCISCO BAY**  
**WEST HIGHLAND WHITE TERRIER CLUB**

**2024 OFFICERS AND BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

*President: Debbie Sklarin*

*Vice-President: Lisa Blutman*

*Secretary/Treasurer: Gail Krieger*

*Board of Directors: Sherry Byrd, Marie Thompson, and Helaine Campbell*

**2023 COMMITTEES**

*Tartan Lisa Blutman, assisted by Gail Krieger, Rick Sklarin, Sherry Byrd*

*Awards: Rick Sklarin*

*By-Laws: Lisa Blutman, Gail Krieger, Jim Gilcrest*

*Specialty chair: Lisa Blutman*

*Fundraising: Lisa Blutman, Chair, Debbie Sklarin, Gail Krieger, Helaine Campbell, Marie Thompson*

*Holiday Luncheon: Marie Thompson*

*Education and Program: Gail Krieger*

*Job Descriptions: Gail Krieger*

*Historian: Helaine Campbell*

*Membership: Cindy Kangas*

*Obedience, Rally, and Performance:*

*Standing Match and Show: Gail Krieger, Chair, Lisa Blutman, Sherry Byrd*

*Sunshine: Helaine Campbell*

*Trailer and Inventory: Gail Krieger and Lisa Blutman*

*Webmaster: Linda Gilcrest*

*Web Information Coordinator: Helaine Campbell*

*WHWTC of America Liaison: Lisa Blutman*

*WHWT Foundation:*

*Westie Rescue and Placement of Northern California (WRAP) Liaison:*

Please consider volunteering your time by serving on one of the Club's committees. Volunteering is a wonderful way to meet new people and to help shape the future of our organization. If you are interested, please contact Debbie Sklarin. We need assistance with Programs, Assistant Web Master, Special Events, and Tartan.

Visit us online at <http://www.sfbaywestieclub.com> for the latest news and updates





## Rainbow Bridge

This space is for any of you to list the Westies you have lost. Send the Name, picture, owner and a little story about your dog.

---

The HIGHLAND TARTAN is published at least four times per year in March, June, September and December. We encourage any Club Member or Subscriber to submit articles or information which they feel would be of interest to the Club. Please send material of interest to the Editor by the first day of the month of publication. All materials are published at the discretion of the Editor. Opinions are those of the writer and not necessarily those of the Editor or the Board of Directors of the San Francisco Bay West Highland White Terrier Club. Send materials for publication to [lisa.blutman@aol.com](mailto:lisa.blutman@aol.com)

When submitting information for an ad, please have it camera ready. Indicate the size (full or half page) and mark the areas to be used for written copy. Copy should be typed to size on white paper. Your photos and copy will be returned, if requested.

Advertisement costs for a Full Page: \$20.00; Half Page: \$10.00; Business Card size: \$15.00; for 4 issues. Advertisements are any show wins other than specialty photos in the specialty edition or professional advertisements of interest to the membership.

Whelping Box: List litter announcements in the Tartan: Number of dog and bitch puppies, sire, dam, whelp date and breeders. \$5/ issue, members only. **This is not an advertisement for the sale of puppies.**

There is no charge for Rainbow Bridge notices.

Please make **check Payable to SFBWHWTC**. Payment must accompany advertisement. Send subscription requests to SFBWHWTC, and mail to: *Lisa Blutman 710 Wiegand Way, Dixon, CA 95*





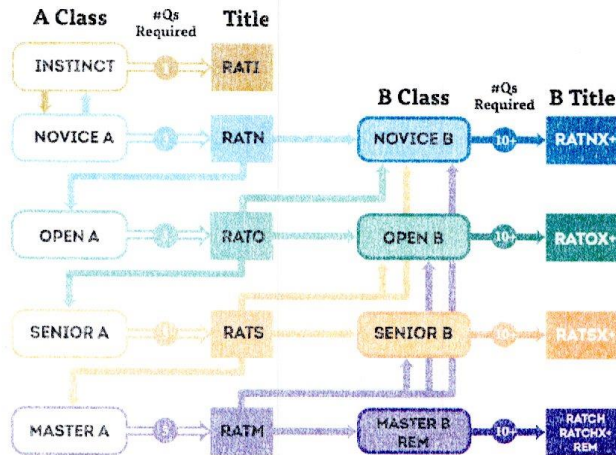
Barn Hunt Handout  
 Catherine Leavitt  
[canineratpack@gmail.com](mailto:canineratpack@gmail.com)  
[www.k9ratpack.com](http://www.k9ratpack.com)

Barn Hunt® is based on the hunting and teamwork skills historically used by Ratcatchers and their dogs who traveled the countryside ridding farms of vermin, thus helping to conserve and preserve food grains and protect inhabitants from disease. Ratcatchers used a variety of terriers and go-to-ground breeds (small dogs bred to go under the earth after prey), but also non go-to-ground breeds such as Manchester Terriers, Schnauzers, Pinschers, farm and collie breeds, and a variety of other breeds and mixes. These working dogs and breeds have never had an officially licensed test which truly simulates their traditional task. The sport of Barn Hunt fills that role.

**Purpose** The purpose of Barn Hunt is to demonstrate a dog's vermin hunting ability in finding and marking rats in a "barn-like" setting, using straw/hay bales to introduce climbing and tunneling obstacles in the dog's path. The sport tests speed, agility, hunt drive, scenting ability, surefootedness, and control and responsiveness to handler direction. Barn Hunt is for any domestic dog and handler who wish to play the game, including large dogs, pet dogs, altered dogs, and dogs of breeds or mixes of breeds with or without a vermin-hunting history.

Competitors can move up, down or over (A to B at the same level) during any Event where those choices are offered. Dogs achieving RATM from Master A must move to Master B for RATCH and RATCHX and above.

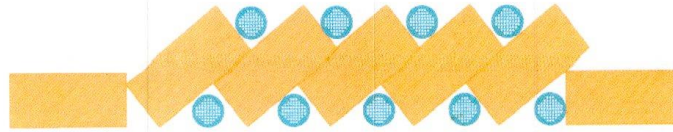
CLASS TYPE AND ELIGIBILITY FOR ENTRY FLOW CHART, REGULAR CLASSES



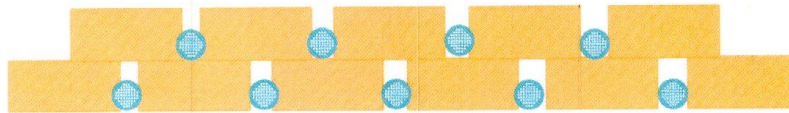
Additional Classes:  
 Line Drive:

out the grate ends will be uncovered.

#### Line Drive Course 1



#### Line Drive Course 2



#### Crazy 8:

1. 10 points per correct rat call.
2. 10 points for tunnel.
3. 10 points for climb.
4. Points are acquired until all rats are found and tunnel and climb are completed, or until Time is called.
  - A Clean Run (100 points) is awarded when there is no fault called and all 8 rats are found, plus climb and tunnel executed in two minutes or less.
  - A Clean Run which is completed in 1:45 or less (rounded down to the nearest second) earns a bonus of 5 points. The Judge will call BONUS.
  - A Clean Run which is completed in 1:30 or less earns a second bonus of 5 points. The Judge will call SUPER BONUS.
  - No more than 10 total bonus points per run are allowed.
  - Total possible points per run are 110.
5. Penalties (in addition to all general Barn hunt penalties) are:
  - ▪ Failure to Tunnel -20 points.
  - ▪ Failure to climb -20 points.
  - ▪ First incorrect rat call (litter or no tube) -20 points.
  - ▪ No rats found or Second incorrect rat call (litter or no tube) NQ score (dog shown a rat before exit).
6. To receive a qualifying score, the dog must find at least one rat and have a cumulative score of 10 points or over. Zero and negative scores are not used. Crazy 8s