



Airedale Alley News

Henry..Our Journey Together with Megaesophagus



Father's Day weekend 2017, a weekend I will never forget. I was baking a lemon chiffon layer cake for my Dad, when abruptly, Henry awoke from a sound sleep with severe dry heaves, then, vomiting profusely. He then looked at me with a blank stare in labored breathing. I picked him up and we hurried to emergency vet services, with me praying I would not lose him in route. 24 hours later, he was diagnosed with aspiration pneumonia, a life-threatening condition which is often a complication from regurgitation. He did not eat for 6 days, and he lost 11 lbs. He finally returned to his happy goofball self in October.

Henry always inhales his food and in a rare instance, would have difficulty swallowing, regurgitate, recover himself and proceed eating. We started eating with a slow down bowl and all was good,..until one year to the day, Father's Day weekend 2018, when he gave me that sudden blank stare,..again, aspiration pneumonia, but now with evidence of a very enlarged dilated esophagus seen on his chest X-ray. He was diagnosed with megaesophagus.

Megaesophagus or ME is an abnormal enlargement of the esophagus where food and water cannot be propelled to the stomach for digestion...it stays "stuck" in the dilated "folds" of the esophagus and at some point, regurgitation with aspiration to the lungs, OR food/water is left for days in the esophagus, finally to regurgitate days later. It can be congenital, or acquired, as in Henry's case. Acquired ME can be associated with Myasthenia Graves, Addisons' Disease or hypothyroidism, all which were ruled out for Henry. Other known causes are tumors, inflammation, some form of toxicity, or some obstruction in the esophagus. No known cause was known for Henry at diagnosis. Once Henry's ME was confirmed idiopathic, or without cause, I was advised by our trusted vet to consider euthanasia. I was told that Henry would have no quality of life, and would starve to death, or suffer multi organ failure. I looked into Henry's big brown innocent eyes and knew that we were going to fight this together, and beat the odds. I have since

learned that ME is not a death sentence, but is something that requires a little more work for us humans!

Major changes immediately...the biggest change is how Henry must eat. Henry is hand-fed in a vertical feeding position in a Bailey chair. It took weeks of trial and error to find the best consistency for Henry so he will not choke. Henry eats raw food in the form of a "meatball". I have trained him to swallow it whole, as not to break apart and get trapped in the dilated folds of his esophagus. He does not tolerate water, or any liquid consistency, so any hydration is mixed with his meatballs. After he eats, I rub his throat and tap his chest and sides to burp him and facilitate the food moving down his esophagus. This is what ME parents refer to as "upright time". Henry's upright time is between 30-40 min. The beauty of the chair allows gravity to help this process. He eats twice a day.

Neck pillows are essential to keep his head elevated while he sleeps. During sleep, saliva pools in the throat. Eventually, the saliva makes its way to the lungs or out his mouth through regurgitation with ME. Henry cannot control his saliva, especially with stress or excitement. He will begin gurgling, and stop in his tracks in a panic to try to clear his throat. He looks to me to massage his throat to manually facilitate swallowing. Lesson learned..I must control his environment, as much as possible.



We are together on a lifelong journey of management to prevent recurring aspiration pneumonia, esophagitis or esophageal stricture. Henry has four vets...a traditional vet, internal medicine vet, holistic vet,

and most recently, a holistic vet who specializes in nutrition response testing (NRT) It is our nutritional vet who has been our turning point. NRT is a tool using muscle testing and acupressure points that show energetic imbalances interfering with optimal wellness. Notably, Henry's esophagus, tested strongly positive for stressor imprints of vaccine additives, specifically, distemper, parvo and rabies. Henry's last vaccinations were in puppyhood. Based on the pattern of his weakness, it is clear that his immune system has been fighting the effects of this stress, to exhaustion, thus, destroying the function of his esophagus. We are in a 2 yr, detox program with very promising results. Already, his regurgitation episodes have decreased from 4-6 times/day to once a month, if that.

Since beginning this journey, Henry has recovered from four bouts of aspiration pneumonia. Today, he is thriving and loves life. He has gained 3 lbs., his first weight gain in 2 years. I have joined a megaesophagus support group which has been our lifesaver 24/7...I cannot tell you how many sleepless nights I was online with this group after his diagnosis. Nothing compares to learning about managing ME, than from people who are living with ME dogs.

Henry is my constant worry, but, I have learned to relax as we live with ME. The bond with my special needs pup is like no other I have shared with with my beloved airedales. He is my special Boy, my hero, sweet Henry!

Cheryl Meerbrey



Whelping Box

We have a litter of 10 Airedale puppies, born March 7th, 2019. 4 males and 6 females. The Mom, Olive, is a Ch. Evermay's High Performance and Ch. Tierra De Churabusco Y Chubasco granddaughter. And the Dad, Einstein is a Ch. Reydaleterrydale Daredevil son, and a Ch. Reydaleterrydale Stone Ridge Star Wars Grandson. *Joanne Vohs*



On March 9 I had a great time visiting Euro's third litter and doing puppy testing at Barb Brown's in Wisconsin. Slipped in and out in between snow storms. They were a great litter and all tested well. After that it was fun watching them run around outside and taking photos. They have all gone to their new homes now.

**UUD, URO2 DOLLAR VON ERIKSON CD, PCD, TD, VCD1, NFP,
NAP, NJP, JH, BH, AD, IPO2, SHF, JHR, RATO, RL1
and
GCH CH Quantum's Aria**

Looking forward to hearing about them

Linda Sorak



Accomplishments

Over the course of 2 days there were more than 800 students that came through to pet the dogs.

The next visit ISU was filming the therapy dogs and Laser was the lead story. They said he had a great smile.

Linda Sorak



Euro and Laser versatility

CH. Traymar Terrydale HK All Good By Me was awarded her Grand Championship this past February. AG was bred by Margo Dupre and Debbie Adkinson, Maripi Woolridge and Jennifer Stevens. She has been conditioned by Ross Knutson and is being groomed and handled by Allison Sunderman. AG is owned by Andrea Berkowitz of Chicago, IL.

Andrea Berkowitz



GCH Traymar Terrydale HK All Good By Me

Ziva "**Alanor's Aged To Royal Perfection**" has picked up several titles since last fall. She has moved into the "Masters" segment of competing in agility with her titles in Excellent Jumpers and Excellent Standard. And has also acquired a trick dog title. Hopefully more titles to come this year.

Lanny Duttlinger



Euro Platinum Award



Laser Platinum Award

In October both Euro and Laser received the Platinum Versatility Award from ATCA. To have earned this the dog has to have 7 titles in 5 different categories.

At the November UKC trial in Peoria Euro finished his UUD (UKC Utility Dog) title with a 1st place and also earned a HC (High Combined) out of Open and Utility

Laser wrapped up his UKC performance career by finishing his rally UROG & URX2 titles in Peoria in November. The UROG is the highest rally title that UKC awards.



Euro UUD



Laser UROG and URX2

Now that Laser is winding down his performance career I went through the process of getting him certified through Alliance of Therapy Dogs as a therapy dog. In December I took him to ISU Milner Library for their visits during finals week. A few Airedales ago I'd dressed 2 of them in the reindeer costume. At that time our kennel club used to walk in the December Jaycee's Christmas parade and I would walk those 2 as a brace in their costumes and even making the front page of the local newspaper. After I lost them I boxed the costumes up and there they sat on the closet shelf for a couple years. I had never put even as much as a hat or headdress on Laser. But, I decided to see if he would wear it. Like the trooper he is he wore the costume the whole 2 hours of therapy.



Laser

What's Up!



Airedale Terrier Club of Illinois Speciality Show and Sweepstakes

One of the best Airedale events in our area is fast approaching! On Saturday, June 15, 2019, the Airedale Terrier Club of Illinois supports one of our historical events, the **Specialty Show of Airedales at the Great Lakes All Terrier Association** conformation show. The fun takes place at the Lake County Fairgrounds in Grayslake, Illinois, located at 1060 East Peterson Road.

This is a great opportunity to experience the world of dog shows with a personal interest in the Airedale classes. The Club supports the entrants at the Specialty by offering custom prizes to the class winners. It is a grand display of our beloved breed. Dale Burrier is Sweepstakes Judge and John Wade is Breed Judge

There is also great shopping from numerous dog product vendors at the event as well with content unlike that found at the big box stores. Whether you would like a new grooming tool, collar and leash or piece of breed jewelry, you will find it at the show.

At the conclusion of the day, please join us for conversation and dinner at Jimmy's Charhouse. The Club will be providing appetizers beginning at 4:30 p.m. Please contact any Board member to RSVP. Jimmy's is located at 1413 Peterson Road, Libertyville, Illinois.

We welcome all and hope to see you there!

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Airedale Spring Walk

Saturday June 1, 2019

Hopefully weather will hold for a Spring Walk on Saturday, June 1st at 11:00 am. Snacks and water will be provided. Get your leashes and hiking shoes and come out for a nice stroll with your dogs!!!

RSVP Lin Hartnett at Hartlinairedales@gmail.com so I have an idea who is interested in coming.

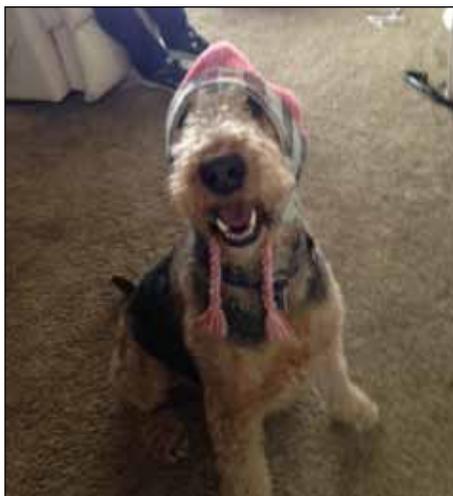


The *Dawg* House

You don't have to be **BAD** to be in This House



Long Winter Abby McKenna



Long Winter Auggie McKenna



Innes Engelhardt



Hudson and
Zeplin Roozee



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Newsletter Submittals

Send information submittals and photographs to Lin Hartnett: hartlinairedales@gmail.com

For show ring reports please provide

1. Winner's AKC name and call name
2. Winner's sire and dam
3. Winner's breeder(s) and owner(s)
4. Show and Titles won

For title reports

1. AKC name and call name
2. Breeder(s) and owner(s)
3. Show and Titles won

For whelping pen reports please provide

1. AKC name and call name
2. Number of males and females
3. Breeder(s) and owner(s) of litter
4. Date of whelping

Anecdotal information concerning shows, titles and whelping is also welcome.