

**Breeders Education Breakfast and Seminar
Tuesday, October 22, 2013**

Join us for the return of the fabulous Breeders Breakfast Fellowship Buffet followed by a workshop on genetics by Dr. Eldin A. Leighton, geneticist for the Seeing Eye, Inc. and developer of the military "Super Dog" Project (Bio-Sensor Stimulation).

Breakfast: 7:30-8:45 Workshop: 9:00-12:00

Genetic Tools for Modern Dog Breeders

Summary:

Modern dog breeders want to breed healthy, performance-capable dogs that meet the breed standard. A growing number of genetic test results are available to classify dogs as normal, carrier, or affected with respect to simply inherited adverse health conditions, but no such tests exist for genetically complex traits. This leaves private breeders needing to make a huge time investment searching through disease registries, show ring results, and performance trial outcomes, trying to identify a suitable male to mate with their female. This workshop will explain how The Seeing Eye uses both genetic test results and estimated breeding values for genetically complex traits to identify superior young males and females to be kept for breeding. To demonstrate that these techniques work, results will be presented documenting improvement obtained over eight generations of genetic selection for improved hip quality and trainability. Finally, a path will be outlined explaining how these tools could become available to private dog breeders who work together in a data cooperative.

Workshop Leader:

Dr. Eldin A. Leighton holds the Jane H. Booker Endowed Chair in Canine Genetics at The Seeing Eye, Inc. In 1977, he began consulting for The Seeing Eye, and in 1980, he designed their current breeding program. From 1980 through 1995, he guided this program as a consultant, before joining the organization as a full-time employee. Since 1995, he has been responsible for deciding which young males and females are kept for breeding, and he decides which males become the mates for each female. Dr. Leighton is a member of the Board of Directors for the International Working Dog Breeding Association, serving as Board president from 2006-2010. He earned both M.S. (1973) and Ph.D. (1979) degrees in Animal Breeding (genetics applied to improving domestic livestock) from Iowa State University. From 1973-1976, he served in the U.S. Army where he worked as the research geneticist on the Army Super Dog project (formally known as the Division of Bio-Sensor Research, WRAIR), which was tasked with genetically improving the military working dog.

For information, contact Linda Willard (cell: 512.626.4900) e-mail: lwally@aol.com; or Claire Caro (Home: 303.646.9575)e-mail: wellshire@aol.com.

Registration

Fill out the form below; Make a copy for yourself!! Confirmation will be sent by E-MAIL ONLY. Registration fee includes buffet breakfast of bacon, sausage, eggs, hash browns, biscuits and gravy, fruit, coffee, tea, juice, water, muffins AND waffles!!

COST: \$35 per person DEADLINE: SEPT. 21, 2013

Checks only (US banks); made out to GRCA; if out of country, contact Claire.

Name(s): _____

E-Mail: _____

Phone: _____

Amount enclosed: \$ _____ **Check #:** _____

**Send to:
Claire Caro
1073 Broken Arrow Circle
Elizabeth, Co. 80107-4101**

This is a fillable form. Type info on the lines above, print out and mail with your check.