
THE HOWLER



Volume 2, Issue 3 AKC Licensed Club #4135 March 2003

LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

March 2003

Hi all ~ It is time to start looking at ways to increase our membership! Our Club is expanding in many ways and to be able to do all of the different types of events, we need more helpers. The helpers we have are getting more and more overloaded with duties. We don't always need "muscle", but maybe people to make phone calls or to work on paperwork would be a great help. If you can think of creative ways to get more members, then by all means voice that idea! The members that are active will be very thankful to you!

And come to the meetings and find out about all the new ideas that are being brought out. Our Club is definitely growing in many ways.

Hope that everyone's month has been happy and delightful.

Linda

In this issue

- 1 President's Message
- 1 Meeting Minutes
- 2 AKC updates
- 3 Westminster-at-a-Glance
- 4 AKC Gazette Articles
- 5 Listing of Genetic Tests for Dogs
- 6 Calendar of Events

General Membership Meeting – February 17, 2003

President Linda Grant called the meeting of the Sierra-Tuolumne Kennel Club to order at 6:00 pm. This month's meeting was held at the home of Rudy and Carol Leeman.

Members present were: Linda Grant, Cherie Gessford, Lindsay Stark, Bruce Bertholf, Mary & Al Kennedy, Patti Martlew, Sydney Seiver, Ann Brown, Jo Ann Gritz, Fred and Pat Helmbold

PRESIDENT'S REPORT-Linda:

There will be a board meeting at Linda Grant's home on Feb. 24th at 5:30

SECRETARY'S REPORT-Lindsay: Letter of response to the complaint on handicapped parking at the Big Show was read. Updates from AKC will be posted in the Howler.

Breeders Directory: People are making slow but steady progress in updating the breeder's directory. Keep track of any expenses you incur in phone bills or mailing costs and submit them to Fred for reimbursement.

TREASURER'S REPORT-Fred: Binder is now available and will be at all meetings for all to look at after the meeting. There is no report this month as the treasury is in transition just now.

COMMITTEE UPDATES

OBEDIENCE-Linda: All classes are going great.

OBEDIENCE, PUPPY-Lindsay: 17 puppies

AGILITY-Linda: New classes will start on April 24.

SUNSHINE-Holly: No report.

PUBLICITY: Several articles on Bruce and Velvet's trip to Westminster.

Constitution/Bylaws-Lindsay: The finalized ByLaws were passed out to those present and will be mailed to the rest of the members with this month's Howler.

MEMBERSHIP: Pat handed out new pages to update the phone books and new books to the new members.

UPCOMING EVENTS

NADAC trial June 14-15, 2003 Paper work is complete. Judges are almost confirmed.

Agility Seminar Sept. 5

AKC agility September 6-7, 2003

Big Show November 1-2, 2003- The date change has been accepted by most of the judges. 2 are still needed and Linda is working on that.

Committee heads will be needing helpers so please contact them if you would like to help in their department. If you don't volunteer, they will have to draft you :-)

Trophies: Holly Azevedo (Lindsay will do the show since Holly will not be there)

Obedience: Cherie Gessford

Hospitality: Pat Helmbold

Decorations: Nancy Wyllie

Education: Rudy and Carol Leeman

Vendors: Linda Grant

Sanitary Engineers: ???

Parking: ???

Moose Lodge parking Liaison: Bruce Bertholf

NEW BUSINESS:

It was M/S/P by Lindsay and Bruce to up the dinner donation to \$2.00

Snake avoidance classes will be listed in the Howler

BRAGS

Bruce and Velvet (Doberman): Got an Award of Merit at Westminster !!!

Cheri and Moon (Australian Shepherd): Ranked 10th in the Nation for Aussies

Cheri and Mori (Australian Shepherd): 10th in Nation for Ex 'A'
Linda and Dexi (Australian Shepherd): 2nd in Open AKC for Aussies

Sydney and Miles (Border Collie): Is progressing nicely and had a great day at the Fun Match in Elk Grove

JoAnn and Sunshine (Australian Shepherd): Had a great time at Starfleet fun match with Sydney and Miles

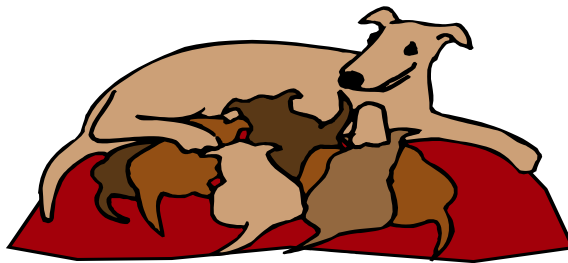
Congratulations to all of the club members.

It was M/S/P by Pat and Bruce to adjourn at 7:05 pm.

March meeting: Al and Mary Kennedy. Menu will probably be Chili. This will be a non alcoholic meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Lindsay Stark



From the AKC Gazette

During the month of December 2002, the registrations of 40 litters were canceled, resulting in the cancellation of 49 registered dogs and rendering 134 dogs, members of these litters, ineligible for registration. Nine because of impure breeding, and 31 as a result of the DNA Parentage Evaluation.

Note: STKC has a subscription to the Gazette. If you are interested in reading more about statistics, new judges in all areas, new rules being proposed, etc. please contact Cherie Gessford for the current issue(s). Sign-out forms are available on our website: www.stkc.org.

AKC Updates: Several updates have been received from AKC regarding Tracking, Agility, Obedience, and Dog Shows. If you wish a hard copy of the changes to insert into your handbooks, please let Linda know.

A summary of the changes follows:

Agility, Obedience, Dog Shows - revision addresses what is considered an acceptable entry. Entry must be on an official AKC entry form, must be signed by the owner or agent, must include all the information necessary, such as name of show, date of show/trial, breed, etc.

Tracking – discusses that the Obedience Regulations and Dog Show Rules will govern the conduct of tracking tests.

Dog Show Rules – addresses lameness in the ring.

Bench Show Committee - Shall not add or subtract breeds from the Judge's assignment without notifying said Judge.



Westminster-at-a-Glance:

After returning from New York City and the Westminster Kennel Club dog show, I'd like to just give a little an idea of what it was like.

Firstly, the Benching area was cramped and not very easy to get around in. The directions/locator signs were located above each specific dog area, but they were small and hard to read from a distance. Each dog had to be in a wire or plastic kennel and benches could not be decorated. This is far different than the Golden Gate Kennel Club at the Cow Palace, where exhibitors try to "out decorate" each other. Many people put stand-up display boards on top of the kennels to advertise their own dog's achievements.

Of course, there were TV cameras and news reporters all over the place. And I even got banged in the head with one of those big TV cameras when the camera man did a "swing" around and didn't know I was right behind him.

The Vendors were very limited and it seemed that only the high end vendors were there. There were no dog supply vendors to buy leashes or shampoos from. The dog food and magazine companies seemed to dominate the line-up. I was very, very disappointed. I did see a very nice Aussie brooch, but the price tag was \$750!!!

The premium list had strongly indicated no video recording or cameras of any kind, but everyone had one. So on the first day, I have no photos. I did bring it that evening.

During the day, it was "open seating" where you could mingle and sit in any seat that was available. At night when they were doing the groups, everyone had their assigned seat. We had great seats and met some wonderful people. The day judging had six rings set up. The last classes started at 4:00 p.m. The show setup team had to completely tear down and remove all the six rings, chairs, etc. and set up for the judging that evening. Although the judging on TV started at 8:00 p.m., there was other judging, such as Junior Showmanship preliminaries. The setup team had an awesome job to do to get the arena set in time for the television broadcast.

At all sporting events they usually have the hot dog hawkers and the beer sellers. Well, they were selling Champagne by the glass (\$7.50, but it has a strawberry in it), and Dryers ice cream bars, out in the show area. There were no hot dogs or beer being sold in the seating area.

There was a New York Rangers hockey game on Sunday night with ice on the arena floor. The dog show started at 8:00 a.m. on Monday morning. Amazing how they could set it all up.

It was very odd to watch a dog show with only "Best of Breed" competition. I'm so used to watching the different classes, and then Winner's Dog and Winner's Bitch and then on to Best of Breed. This was the "cream of the crop" and the judging went pretty fast. We watched Golden Retrievers, Aussies, Dobermans, Springers, Afghans, Rhodesian Ridgebacks, and Siberians.

On Tuesday night, when the Best in Show was going to be announced, we got out of the Taxi cab in front of the "Garden". I turned around and it was a sea of yellow cabs. There were some limos, too. It was unbelievable, and it really impacted me on how prestigious and popular this event really is.

Watching the Super Bowl on TV, or the World Series is fun. But you don't get the adrenalin rush of the sights and sounds that go on around you. Seeing Westminster "live" is something I won't forget for a long, long time.

I can't wait to go next year!!!!

Linda

Please remove the following from your Membership Booklets:

Mynde Bunker
Gary Cowley
Christiana Kerns
Carol McKenzie
Mary Phoenix
Sharlene Reed
Peggy (Rissell-Gortz) Sells
Mary Sohl

Snake Bite Avoidance Training for Dogs

Upcoming Northern Cal dates are: March 15 - 16 - Madera

Jennifer Lane - 559-689-3830

May 31-June 1 - Morgan Hill - Kathy McIntyre - 408-353-4855

More info at www.patrickcallaghan.com

Dog Added to Genome Priority List

(From the January 2003 AKC Gazette)

The National Advisory Council for Human Genome Research has recommended adding the dog to the high-priority list of organisms that should be considered for genome sequencing as capacity becomes available. Sequencing projects on the human, mouse, and rat genomes are progressing rapidly. Thus, it seems likely that the National Human Genome Research Institute (NHGRI) will soon be available for work on other organisms.

With a working draft of the human-genome sequence in hand and the completed sequence expected in 2003, scientists around the world now have access to a database that greatly facilitates and accelerates the pace of biomedical research. Having the genome sequence of a model organism is a tremendous help in the study of the animal's biology.

The dog joins a list of animals that includes the chimpanzee, chicken, and honeybee. The cow joined the list at the same time as the dog.

If a group of scientists wishes to nominate an organism to join the list, the NHGRI asks them to write a paper justifying the investment that must be made to acquire the animal's genome sequence. The proposal to sequence the dog was submitted by researchers at the Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center in Seattle; the Whitehead Institute/MIT Center for Genome Research in Cambridge, Massachusetts; and the Canine Genome Mapping Community, which includes researchers from a wide range of universities and institutions.

Being added to the high-priority list does not mean that work will begin immediately. Capacity must become available, and then the NHGRI staff, assisted by its Sequencing Advisory Panel and the staff of the sequencing center, must agree on the resources to expend. According to NHGRI Director, Francis S. Collins, "The priority list is based on medical and biological opportunities. But it is not yet a commitment to sequence the genomes of these organisms"

STUDY ON EXERCISE-INDUCED COLLAPSE IN LABRADOR RETRIEVERS

(From the January 2003 AKC Gazette)

Owners of dogs that have exhibited signs of the condition described in "Exercise-Induced Collapse in Labrador Retrievers", which appeared in the "Healthy Dog" section of the October 2002 AKC Gazette, will be interested in the research that is currently being done on the syndrome.

This work, which started in 1999, is a collaborative effort between the Western College of Veterinary Medicine (WCVN) of the University of Saskatchewan, the College of Veterinary Medicine at the University of Minnesota, and the Comparative Neuromuscular Unit at the University of California. The research is being supported by grants from the Morris Animal Foundation and the WCVN's Companion Animal Health Fund.

Until a genetic test for EIC is developed, it can only be diagnosed by observing characteristic clinic features, history, and laboratory test results in affected dogs. Any Labrador with exercise intolerance should have a complete veterinary evaluation to rule out other possible causes, such as joint diseases, heart failure, anemia, heart-rhythm disturbances, respiratory problems, low blood sugar, low blood cortisol, myasthenia gravis, and other muscular and systemic disorders. Similar syndromes affect the Border Collie, and perhaps the Golden Retriever and Flat-Coated Retriever, but the researchers are focusing on the Labrador until the genetic defect in that breed is identified.

The researchers welcome participation from owners who, following veterinary evaluation of their dog, believe they have affected Labradors. Participation involves filling out a short questionnaire, sending the researchers a pedigree, and giving them permission to access results from the tests done by the owner's veterinarian. The researchers also request that a simple blood sample be sent for DNA analysis to the Minnesota collaborators. The courier costs will be covered thanks to the research grant mentioned above. When possible, the researcher would also be interested in obtaining blood from siblings, parents, and offspring of affected dogs. All information provided is kept strictly confidential.

If you have an affected dog and would like to help in this investigation, please write to:

Dr Susan Taylor

Western College of Veterinary Medicine

University of Saskatchewan, Saskatoon, Saskatchewan, Canada
S7N5B4.

You may also contact Dr. Taylor by fax at (306) 966-7174, or by email at sue.taylor@usask.ca.

THE HEALTHY DOG

CURRENTLY AVAILABLE GENETIC TESTS FOR DOGS

(From the January 2003 AKC Gazette)

<i>Disorder</i>	<i>Breed</i>	<i>Test type</i>	<i>Test Facility</i>
Canine Leukocyte Adhesion Deficiency (CLAD)	Irish Setter	Direct	Optigen
Coat Color Gene Variations	Cocker Spaniel (American, Curly Coated Retriever, Dalmatian, Doberman Pinscher, English Springer Spaniel, Flat-Coated Retriever, Gordon Setter, Labrador Retriever, Newfoundland, Poodle, Schipperke, Scottish Terrier	Direct	Vetgen
Congenital Stationary Night Blindness (RPE65-CSNB)	Briard	Direct	Optigen
Copper Toxicosis	Bedlington Terrier	Linkage	VetGen
Cystinuria	Newfoundland, Labrador Retriever	Direct	Optigen, PennGen
Fucosidosis	English Springer Spaniel	Direct	PennGen
Globoid Cell Leukodystrophy	Cairn Terrier, West Highland White Terrier	Direct	Jefferson Med College
GM1 – Gangliosidosis	Portuguese Water Dog	Direct	NYU Neurogenetics Lab
Mucopolysaccharidosis (MPS)	German Shepherd Dog	Direct	PennGen
Myotonia Congenita	Miniature Schnauzer	Direct	Optigen, PennGen
Narcolepsy	Dachshund, Doberman Pinscher, Labrador Retriever	Direct	Optigen
Phosphofructokinase Deficiency (PFK)	Cocker Spaniel (American), English Springer Spaniel	Direct	Optigen, PennGen, VetGen
Progressive Retinal Atrophy - Dominant	Bullmastiff, Mastiff	Direct	Optigen
Progressive Retinal Atrophy – Type A	Miniature Schnauzer	Direct	Optigen
Progressive Retinal Atrophy – X-linked	Samoyed, Siberian Husky	Direct	Optigen
Progressive Retinal Atrophy (pred)	Australian Cattle Dog, Chesapeake Bay Retriever, English Cocker Spaniel, Labrador Retriever, Nova Scotia Duck Tolling Retriever, Poodle (miniature and toy), Portuguese Water Dog	Linkage	Optigen
Progressive Retinal Atrophy (rcd1)	Irish Setter, Irish Red and White Setter, Sloughi	Direct	Optigen (All); Vetgen (Setters)
Progressive Retinal Atrophy (rcd3)	Cardigan Welsh Corgi	Direct	Michigan State University, Optigen, VetGen
Pyruvate Kinase Deficiency (PK)	American Eskimo Dog, Basenji, Beagle, Cairn Terrier, Dachshund, West Highland White Terrier	Direct	Optigen, VetGen (Basenji); PennGen (all)
Renal Dysplasia	Lhasa Apso, Shih Tzu, Soft Coated Wheaten Terrier	Linkage	VetGen
Severe Combined Immunodeficiency (SCID)	Basset Hound, Cardigan Welsh Corgi	Direct	PennGen
Von Willebrand's Disease	Bernese Mountain Dog, Doberman Pinscher, Kerry Blue Terrier, Manchester Terrier, Papillon, Pembroke Welsh Corgi, Poodle, Scottish Terrier, Shetland Sheepdog	Direct	VetGen

Optigen: www.optigen.com (607-257-0301)

PennGen: www.vet.upenn.edu/ResearchCenters/penngen (215-898-8894)

VetGen: www.vetgen.com (800-483-8436)

Jefferson Medical College: David.wenger@mail.tju.edu (215-955-1666)

Michigan State University: www.cardigancorgis.com/PRAtest.htm (517-355-1855)

NYU Neurogenetics Laboratory: (212-263-7637)

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

JUNE 14 – 15, 2003

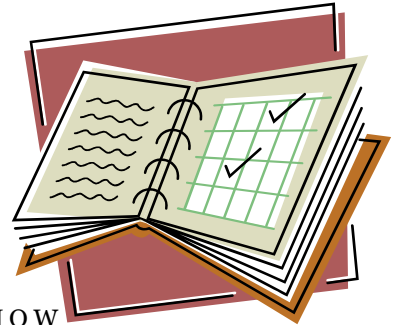
MOTHER LODGE FAIRGROUNDS
ASCA/NADAC AGILITY TRIAL

SEPTEMBER 6 – 7, 2003

MOTHER LODGE FAIRGROUNDS
AKC AGILITY TRIAL

NOVEMBER 1 – 2, 2003

MOTHER LODGE FAIRGROUNDS
AKC ALL- BREED CONFORMATION SHOW
AND
OBEDIENCE TRIAL



GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS

(IF YOU CANNOT HOST THE MEETING YOU SIGNED UP FOR, PLEASE LET LINDA KNOW ASAP SO WE CAN GET ANOTHER MEETING HOST)

NOTE: DINNER DONATIONS AT THE GENERAL MEETINGS WILL NOW BE \$2.00 PER PERSON

March 17, 2003
Al and Mary Kennedy

APRIL 21, 2003
Arline and Bob Proebsting

MAY 19, 2003
JoAnn and Jerry Gritz

JUNE 16, 2003
Ann and Ken Brown

JULY 21, 2003
Minou Alexander



AUGUST 18, 2003
Jim and Carol Frasier

SEPTEMBER 15, 2003
Sydney Seiver

OCTOBER 20, 2003
Fred and Pat Helmbold

NOVEMBER 17, 2003
Lindsay Stark

DECEMBER 15, 2003
Christmas Party

STKC
P.O. Box 1256
Soulsbyville, CA 95372

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

