



The Lost Coast *H O W L E R*

Editor: Barbara Stelz

www.lostcoastkennelclub.org

JUNE 2010

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NEXT MEETING:

**TUESDAY,
JUNE 15th**

at

**Mrs. Mendes' Home
405 Craig Street
Ferndale**

Directions:

From Main St., Ferndale,
turn left on Brown St.,
Brown dead ends on Craig.
Park here.

**Board Mtg. - 6:30 p.m.
Regular Mtg. - 7:00 p.m.
Join us.
Everyone is Welcome!**

President's Corner...

I haven't included my "welcome" section for the last few months, so I'd like to welcome new member MaryAnn Wik who lives in Arcata with her two Papillion's. Also, welcome to returning members Sharon Kennedy, Shirley Groom, and Shalisa and Geoffrey Neely.

The upcoming meeting will be our last chance to firm up plans for the breed/obedience/rally show to be held July 2-4. Please come to the meeting and offer any help that you can. We will be setting up at the fairgrounds on Thursday, July 1st, and can use any and all help. We will probably be starting around 9am, but any help during the day would be really appreciated.

We count on the raffle to help us break even or make a little profit on the show. Since we will have added expenses this year, any donated items would be appreciated.

The LCKC agility trial will be three weeks after the breed/obedience show. Please contact Beverly Morgan Lewis if you can help out. You don't need to be an "agility person" to volunteer.

See you all at the meeting on Tuesday, June 15th.

Jill Otto



Have you heard.....



FROM NICOLE MORRIS...

The following news of a spectacular accomplishment was posted by Nicole to our Yahoo group list on May 24 and is reprinted here for the benefit of our members that do not subscribe to the list.

I am too excited to not share our incredible day with you all...

I was fortunate enough to have both my cattle dog boys drawn as entries for the Emerald Dog Obedience Club's TDX (Tracking Dog Excellent) test today, 5/23, in Junction City, OR. The judges were Sally Ann Nesbitt and Roy Fair.

Just some general info...TDX tracks are between 800 and 1000 yards in length, aged 3 to 5 hours, have 5 to 7 turns, have four articles that the dog must indicate, include at least two obstacles and incorporate the use of cross-tracks. Needless to say, it is a challenging test of scent discrimination as well as mental & physical stamina.

We drew the first and second tracks out of six entries total. My older boy, Cody, was up First and got the morning off to a great start. He worked at a brisk and steady pace through dense woods, along a creek, down a steep bank, across a canal with knee deep water and through lots of waist high pasture grass. It took him 13 minutes to complete the track and I couldn't have been prouder of my little old man! Despite some of the physical challenges that he's had to deal with lately, he was determined as could be and like any respectable cattle dog, he gave it his all.

My younger boy, Mason, was up next. Mason's track was somewhat demanding, in that it had the maximum number of turns. Mason diligently and carefully worked out the new direction at each turn. His track was quite an adventure and included us working our way through some giant prickly berry bushes, crossing a wooden bridge that went over a canal, a trip through a swamp and finally a creek crossing that was deep enough that he actually had to swim! Mason's track took him 18 minutes to complete. Talk about a test of mental focus, endurance and drive!! He did a wonderful job and it was so fun to see how well he handled all of the obstacles.

Unfortunately, only one other dog (a Great Pyrenees of all things!) passed this morning. Today was certainly our lucky day! Funny, the fact that my guys LOVE mud and water was actually a big plus today!

Thanks for letting me brag a bit and share our accomplishment with you all. We sure had fun out there!

Nicole Morris and...
Cody Joe, CDX, PT, RAE2, TDX
Ch. Reddenblu's It's My Time Now, TDX



KRIS and BAYARD ARE GRANDPARENTS!



**Deerhounds Tillie and Logan meet Kris and Bayard Smith's new grandson,
Zander George Garlick,
born May 23.**

Congratulations to Kris and Bayard and their family.



FROM BEVERLY MORGAN LEWIS, Agility Trial Chairperson...

We had a great agility practice/demo at the Willow Creek Fire Safe Council's annual fair at the Veteran's Park in Willow Creek on May 15. Tricia Morgan and I were there for the club. We used the waivers from ring practice and modified the sign in sheet also used for ring practice. We had around 15 dogs running at different levels, from Champions to beginners.

It seemed to go well. Everyone seemed to have a good time and got lots out of it. Although there weren't a bunch of folks hanging out ring side the whole time, the Fire Safe Council people were very happy with us and said they were getting lots of positive feedback from the community. They expressed that they would REALLY like us to come back next year. (I will probably be at the Santa Clara trial.) The setting is fantastic/beautiful this time of year and the footing is great.

Tricia and Jon Morgan really helped with course building, tearing down and loading up the trailer until the bitter end. Marlene Jurkovich and Cheryle Davis came early, helped unload the trailer, build the courses and then stayed until everything was done. But the biggest "thank you" goes to Sherry Pavlich. She got the trailer from Fortuna to Willow Creek and back again, helped unload it, did set up and take down and then got the trailer back to Fortuna... way above and beyond. A big "pooches gracias". I couldn't have pulled it off without them.



LCKC RAFFLE

It's that time of year when I need all the LCKC members to help out with getting donations for our raffle. The airport closure on our show weekend is going to cost us a lot more in extra motel rooms, flights to Crescent City, and rental cars.

You can ask any business for a donation. It doesn't have to be a dog related business. Or scour your home for those unwanted items. We can use anything!!! Sometimes at yard sales and thrift stores you can find wonderful items for the raffle at a fraction of the cost. The club is willing to reimburse for them (within reason).

Please help out, we really need the raffle this year. Thank you!

Irene Hetrick

Note: I have posted to our Yahoo group both a donation request letter and letter of receipt which you can print off, sign, and use when soliciting local businesses for donations. If you do not subscribe to our Yahoo group and need the letters, please contact either me or Irene Hetrick, and we will email them to you. – Ed.

The following article was called to my attention by both Chris and Jill. It is reprinted here with the permission of the author, David Martosko, of www.HumaneWatch.org.

MAY 24 2010

What I Learned at the Dog Show

UPDATE: This essay is now available as a two-page [PDF handout](#) for easy printing and distribution.



I spent this weekend at the Myrtle Beach kennel Club's all-breed dog show in Florence, South Carolina. The club invited me down to talk about the threats its members are facing from the Humane Society of the United States and the rest of the animal rights movement. Since I had never been to a dog show, I said yes. (I grew up thinking that "fancy" was an adjective. Silly me.)

I'm not a big fan of people who pooh-pooh things they've never tried or seen up-close. If one of my children says she "doesn't like" something on the dinner table before taking even a tiny bite—well, let's just say that doesn't wash in my house.

And I've always thought the whole "dog show" community was rather mysterious, a kind of benevolent secret society with its own rules, customs, and vocabulary. Sorta like Deadheads, but with a lot better grooming and a lot *less* fleas.

Truth be told, the dog breeders I met this weekend do have their own peculiar ways of saying and doing things. But they're really just ordinary people with a shared hobby. They're *really* into what they do. And they taught me a lot in just a Saturday. Here's some of what I learned.

1. When you go to a dog show, bring your own chair. But don't be surprised if someone offers to lend you theirs. (I'm typing this in someone else's customized, embroidered lawn chair.)
2. Dog shows are competitive, but the people involved are remarkably supportive of their human opponents. I heard a steady stream of "congratulations!" offered to blue-ribbon holders from handlers who were trotting away empty-handed.
3. If you're a first-timer who asks "what kind of dog is that?" too loudly, somebody might look at you funny.



4. These people treat their dogs like royalty. It was 90 degrees in the shade on Saturday, and the dogs had shade, electric fans, and cold water—even if their owners didn't.
5. Judging from this weekend, the typical show-dog handler isn't a stuffy Brit wearing Saville Row tweed. She—yes, *she*—is an energetic 40-year-old married mom whose husband packs up the kids and brings them along on the trip.

6. Sometimes the *kids* strut the dogs around the ring. The under-18 handlers even have their own judging category in which *their* skills are being judged, not the qualities of their dogs.
7. The name of the game is “conformation” (not “confirmation,” as I used to think). Dog show breeders are trying to breed animals that “conform” to a set ideal of how a breed can look, “gait,” and behave if they do everything right. (I read an article in *Wired* this week about how Cheetos in the factory are checked every 30 minutes against a “reference sample” from Frito-Lay headquarters, just to make sure the ideal color, texture, and crispiness is being matched. It’s kinda like that, but it takes years for these folks to make a single Cheeto. And Cheetos don’t pee on you.)
8. Watch where you step in the parking lot.

If this particular dog show is any indication of what’s typical, the “dog fancy” is a lot of fun for a lot of people who contribute a lot of money to the economy—and aren’t hurting anyone. “If we’re not having fun here,” one judge told me, very much off-the-cuff, “we shouldn’t be doing this.”



For the life of me, I can’t figure out why the Humane Society of the United States has such a visceral hatred of everything they stand for.

I think what’s going on is that HSUS, PETA, and other animal rights groups are conflating breeders whose main goal is to *sell* puppies with those who just happen to really love Pomeranians, Pinschers, or Poodles. This latter clique of people (far larger than the former) shows their favorite animals because they’re proud of them, not because they believe it will make their next litter worth more money.

It’s not hard to understand HSUS’s stated motivation for attacking people who breed dogs. The group wants everyone to believe that rampant pet overpopulation in America is all their fault. But personally, I just don’t see it.

I didn’t meet “puppy millers” this weekend. I met hobbyists, just like if I were at a model railroad convention, an antique fair, or a swim meet. They ask after each others’ kids. They visit each other in the hospital. They have knitting circles where the dogs watch approvingly. They’re 50 percent garden club, 50 percent church pot-luck. Zero percent animal abusers.

I asked one breeder how much money she had spent raising her champion dog, a mammoth Anatolian shepherd. “Who knows?” she answered. “I never really added it up. If you’re pinching pennies you probably aren’t treating the dog right.” In addition to the two purebred dogs she was showing, she had “two rescue mutts at home, and they have the same food, supplements, and everything else my show dogs get.”

And when I asked one of the veteran breeders how many of her peers raise dogs so they can sell the litters commercially, she looked at me like I was from Mars. “We all sell dogs, son,” she told me. “But none of us make a cent doing it. And I know where all my dogs live. If anyone can’t provide for them, we take ‘em back.” And then, almost as an afterthought: “I sure don’t want any of mine going to the pound or a rescue.”

Everyone I asked about this had the same kind of answer. If they found out that any of *their* puppies wound up in a shelter, they’d sure do something about it.



So why all the hostility from the Humane Society of the United States? Why did I hear from North and South Carolinians who had beaten back attempt after attempt from HSUS to have them taxed, registered, regulated, raided, and otherwise priced out of their hobby? What is it about these men, women, and children, so passionate about running up and down a concrete floor with their pets, that demands intervention from activists who think they know better?

Maybe it's that HSUS thinks the only way to shut down "puppy mills" is to paint every dog breeder with the same broad brush. Maybe. I haven't yet really wrapped my mind around *why* HSUS is opposed to everything I saw this weekend. I just know that it is.

As with pretty much every group of ranchers, dairymen, biomedical research scientists, and chicken farmers I've met, the breeders I spoke with this weekend had varying levels of awareness about the looming political threat from HSUS. Some of them can't be bothered to be bothered. Others are fired up at the mere mention of Wayne Pacelle's name.

"Somebody has to take that guy on," one 50-ish man barked when I brought up the name of HSUS's CEO. "That whole movement is nuts. After I showed up to lobby against HSUS's last North Carolina breeder tax, I started getting calls in the middle of the night, untraceable phone calls, from these people saying they were going to come on my property, take my dogs, and burn my house down. I told 'em my new rifle has an awesome night scope. That pretty much ended it."

I spoke to the crowd after the Best In Show was awarded, in this case to a fluffy pekingese named "Noelle." I told them that their problem is the same as the one faced by pork producers, egg farmers, dairymen, and even cancer researchers. But it was up to them to reach beyond their circle of friends—outside their comfort zone—if their kids and grandkids were going to keep being Junior Handlers and continue to raise the dog breeds they've come to love.

At the end of the day, I have to be skeptical of HSUS's blanket condemnation of pet breeders. I'm confident that there *are* some horrible ones out there, as there are with any group of people (including animal activists...), but any legislative or cultural movement that lumps the people I met this weekend in with the bad actors is just plain wrong-headed.

Because the dogs I met in South Carolina were among the best-cared-for animals I've ever seen. Anyone who's truly interested in animal welfare would want to make sure more dogs—not fewer—are treated this way. So how 'bout it, Wayne? Why aren't you promoting dog shows?

Probably because you've never been to one.

The following link will take you to the original article, which will in turn also provide you with excellent links to other related information of interest. I recommend you check it out. — *Ed*.

http://humanewatch.org/index.php/site/post/what_i_learned_at_the_dog_show/

Clinic for Open Obedience
with
DEE DEE ANDERSON



Presented by
Dalmatian Club of Northern California

When: Sunday, August 1st, 2010
Where: Mt. Diablo Dog Training Center
1027A Detroit Avenue
Concord, California
Time: 8:30 AM to 4:30 PM

Dee Dee has been training dogs for over 25 years. She has excelled in the sport of Obedience, Tracking, Field, and Agility achieving numerous OTCHs, UDXs, Awards, and Titles including 2007 National Obedience Champion. As an Instructor, Dee Dee has been enabling competitive dog owners to achieve their goals for many years.

Visit Dee Dee's website www:DDsDogTraining.com

Clinic Outline:

Dee Dee provides a brief overview of her training methodology. This clinic will focus on the skills at the open obedience level.

Dee Dee works with each team on problem solving, teaching, proofing, perfecting, and getting more out of their dog, and at the same time, responds to related questions from other handlers and auditors. She will help find the missing links in training, recommend and demonstrate how best to replace the missing links.

Indoors, matted
Indoor crating area (entered dogs only please)
Morning hospitality and lunch provided
Free Parking
Please, no barking or aggressive dogs

Contact Joan Fosenburg, DCNC for further information at
dcncseminar@yahoo.com

MINUTES OF THE LOST COAST KENNEL CLUB May 18, 2010 - Adorni Center

BOARD MEETING

Present: Jackie Carroll, Michelle Dostal, Irene Hetrick, Chris Irvin, Nick Mendes, Jill Otto, Debbi Sholes, Kris Smith, Cathlyn Wright.

Minutes of the Last Meeting: MSAC to approve as written.

Report of the Treasurer: See below

Unfinished Business: none

New Business: Club event waivers: Last ring practice, signatures for waivers were all put on the back of one form.

Adjournment: 6:45 p.m.

REGULAR MEETING

Present: All of the above plus Shirley Groom, Rose Kessler, Josephine Morrissey, Tina Moulton, Deb St Myers, Jim Wasetis, Mary Ann Wik.

Minutes of the Last Meeting: Add Deb St Myers to the list of those present. MSAC to accept as corrected.

Report of the President: Jill Otto:

Agility with the Willow Creek fire Department – Sherry Pavlich hauled the trailer there and back, set up, (send TY) About 15 people turned out with dogs.

Woofstock is Sunday, August 22. Farm Store Pet Fair is Sept. 25.

Report of the Secretary: Only mail is from Aussie rescue.

Report of the Treasurer: Chris Irvin reported on club assets. We donated \$200 to AKC Canine Health Foundation, received a banner suitable for display at the shows.

Report of Committees:

- Ring Practice: Last one not as well attended as the first one. Need email list for tracking. Make sure people sign in. Debbi will cover for Kris if necessary for notifying about practices. \$84 collected from 3 practices.
- Newsletter: Some good participation, but still need people to send Barb news.
- Website: Jim said the show premium has been posted, agility trial premium goes up next week. Can post practice dates. Debbi Sholes will send some tracking photos.
- B-OB show: Mats, gates, and shirts have been received. Irene will start to clean/mow a.m. of 27th. Discussion of ring time requests. Parking/set up help is covered. Posters (not covered by MB-F); Debbi needs more ink to print (35). Friday BBQ – Josephine will be point person. Saturday cake, from CostCo, order after entry is in, Deb or Cory? Ferndale banner covered by Nick. Signs – Kris and Bayard will pick up from Chris. Catalog ads due May 23 – get to Tina by Thursday, LCKC will have ad re club history, \$24 for members, full page with 1 photo. PR – Jill will call Pierson's, Chris and Cathy will work on newspaper interview and article. Michelle discussed T-shirts. Morning hospitality – Irene, Cathy; Lunch – Cathy, Flowers – Deb St Meyer. Judging panel still not firm due to airport closure. Discussion of vendors; \$15/day fee needs to be corrected. Irene says we need things for the raffle; ask businesses. National anthem – Chris will ask. Sound system – Jim W will get more speakers for inside. Nick – trash cans and TP. Josephine will talk to fairgrounds about poop bag systems.
- Agility Trial: Bev not here but says everything is OK. Will need a few more pieces of equipment.

Election of New Members: MSAC to accept rejoining members Shirley Groom, Shalisa and Geoffrey Neely, Adele Thomas, and Sharon Kennedy. One had asked about credit card payment of dues (see New Business).

Unfinished Business: Income tax – Chris has filed an extension and is consulting an accountant.

New Business:

- Rally Equipment: Club needs to buy a set of rally equipment. MSAC to purchase a new set and use old one for a back up. Chris will collect what we have and order a new set.
- PayPal: We could set up an account. Discussion tabled due to time.

Adjournment: 9:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Kris Smith, LCKC Secretary.