



Shawnee Kennel Club

Smoke Signals

March 2009

www.shawneekennelclub.com

Officers May 2008 – May 2009

President: Sharon Howse Cairnhowse@starband.net

Vice-President: Jane West jwestkees@aol.com

Treasurer: Scotti Slonaker scotti2467@yahoo.com

Corresponding Secretary: Ellen Rivers eleri@shentel.net

Secretary: Donna Germelman 540-995-3418 email elkies@verizon.net

Board Members: Jeanne Jackson; Regina Swygert-Smith; Anne Legge; Joyce Ragland

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General Membership Meeting

The March General Membership Meeting will be on March 31, 2009 at 6:30 p.m. at the Frederick County Public Safety Building (where we had our November meeting and Christmas party and December meeting). Please bring a finger food. The club will provide the drinks and paper plates, napkins, etc. for the meeting.

Disclaimer

The Shawnee Kennel Club is not responsible for, nor does it necessarily agree with, the opinions in this newsletter.

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President's Message

A Long, Hard Winter

It has been a long and hard winter at our place. In February, we lost our top-producing Cairn, Bailey. Even though Bailey was an old dog, she seemed to be in excellent health until she had her stroke. We lost Bailey while Jerry was at the Westminster Dog Show. Our friend down in TN called a few days after we lost Bailey to let us know that she had lost Bailey's litter brother, Blake. Blake died 2 days after we lost Bailey so talk about a "genetic clock". We've lost littermates close together before, but not 2 days apart. Towards the end of February, we lost one of our registered Boer Goats. I've always heard that bad things happen in threes so I'm waiting for the third bad thing to happen, and we're hoping that our friend losing Blake was the third thing. That is the sad thing about a dog's life span as it is so short compared to our life spans. I think about the successful breeders who have bred so many generations of their

line of dogs, and wonder how they handle losing their top producing and top winning dogs. It can't be easy. This has been a hard winter for Jerry and me, as our arthritis and joints have given us fits during the very cold spells. It has made me realize that this might be the time to consider scaling back with our animals.

We still have our 2 male puppies, Kip and Gus, and it is beginning to look like they may be with us for the long haul. I keep hoping that the right home will come along for Gus, and maybe, it will. We received 2 puppy calls over the weekend, and one of the callers I liked much better than the other caller. We prefer to place our puppies as the only pet in a home. The other caller has another dog, a terrier, and I always worry about 2 terriers in the same household.

As I'm writing the President's Message, the club is in the middle of an email vote to purchase more lightweight mats and a dolly for the training classes. I went by the training classes Wednesday night, and I went over some of the table dogs to practice for the sweepstakes that I'll be judging at the Columbia Terrier Show next month. I'm a very slow judge so I feel like I needed the practice to improve my time per dog. Gary gave me some excellent pointers, and I feel a little better after having the opportunity to go over the table dogs. Thank you, Gary for allowing me to come and do that. Hope that I didn't disrupt your class too much. The classes seem to be going well, and Gary told me that 24 people are attending the weekly classes. I like the UAW Hall better than the room at the Sportsplex.

Jerry sent the premium info to MB-F, Inc. earlier this week. It is always a huge relief to get that information on its way. Thank you to everyone who sent us the information in a timely manner and answered our emails. The patriotic skimmer hats have been ordered for our shows. Everyone who works at the shows will be issued a hat to wear. I think Jane's theme is a good one, and people who come to our shows will remember our July Jubilee, the Straw Hat Circuit.

Our March meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, March 31 at 6:30 p.m. at the Frederick County Public Safety Building. Unfortunately, we won't be having a program that night, but the program will be presented at the May meeting. We will be having a White Elephant Sale so bring your elephants along even if they're not white. Hopefully, our long, hard winter is drawing to a close, and spring is on its way.

Sharon Howse

General Membership Minutes

SHAWNEE KENNEL CLUB

The general meeting of the Shawnee Kennel Club was called to order at 4:50 p.m. on December 21, 2008 at the Frederick County Public Safety Building by President Sharon Howse. Members present were Sharon and Jerry Howse, Jane West, Scotti Slonaker, Connie and Gary Fisher, Mary C. Lamphier, Brad Coffinberger, Joyce Ragland, Noreen Dunlap, Ellen Rivers, Cindy DeGidio, Donna Germelman and junior member Jamie Lamphier. Guests attending were John and Evelyn Coffinberger and Jim Koshal.

Joyce moved that the minutes of the previous meeting be approved as presented. Gary seconded the motion which was approved.

Scotti reported a savings balance of \$20,678.73 and a checking balance of \$14,395.25. Noreen moved and Connie seconded that half of the savings be put into a Certificate of Deposit. The motion passed. The treasurer's report will be filed as presented.

Committee Reports

Show - Jerry reported that he has gotten the following judges for Saturday:

Sporting - Ronald H. Mennaker and Everett Dean

Hound - Howard Atlee

Terrier - Billie Kellogg

Toy - Terry Stacy

Non-Sporting - Noreen Cartwright

Herding - Jacqueline Stacy

Miscellaneous - Howard Atlee

Junior Showmanship - Billie Kellogg

Sunday's judges will be:

Sporting - Everett Dean and Ronald H Mennaker

Hound - Karin Ashe

Working - John Ronald

Terrier - Terry Stacy
Non-Sporting - Jacqueline Stacy
Herding - Sandi Goldman
Miscellaneous - Karin Ashe
Junior Showmanship - Terry Stacy

There will also be some judges in provisional status each day. So far Jerry has gotten:

Rick Grant - Cairn Terriers
Lorraine Simmons - Great Danes

Jerry reported that he has purchased 8 small coolers for \$4.95 plus tax each and is still looking for a large one on sale.

He needs a Transportation Coordinator to get judges to and from the airport and hotel. Connie Fisher volunteered to do that.

Jerry asked us to send him an email with any changes that we see that should be made in our premium list as he will be working on that next month.

Handling classes

The new training session starts on January 12th and will be held in the UAW Building in Winchester.

Membership

Tommy Vann and Tina M. Parker-Craig have completed their requirements for membership. Noreen moved and Gary seconded that they be accepted as members of Shawnee Kennel Club. The vote was unanimous to accept them.

Unfinished Business

Oxygen masks for pets - We need to purchase fifteen sets. Fourteen will be backups for ambulances and one is for training purposes. These masks will serve Winchester and Frederick County. Ellen moved and Connie seconded that fifteen sets be purchased. The vote was unanimous to do so.

New Business

Bob Noll mentioned to Sharon that we should establish a trophy fund.

For the good of the club: Sharon, Gary and Connie, Scotti and Joyce all had brags. Congratulations to you all.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 5 p.m. We all enjoyed our Christmas party with all the scrumptious food, the hilarious Yankee Gift Swap, the silent auction and the white elephant sale.

Respectfully submitted,

Donna Garmelman
Recording Secretary

Announcements

The George Alston Seminar is booked for September 12 & 13, 2009. There will be room for Beginners, Advanced, and Observers. For more information, contact Anne Legge, (540) 667-2937, annelegge@comcast.net.

The new Members Only section of the website is now functioning--very barebones--but at least it is now available. If someone can forward the minutes from past meetings, I will post those.

Our domain name of shawneekennelclub.com is still not fixed but the alternate works fine--so set your bookmarks at <http://shawneekennelclub.net>

When you open the front page, go to the Links and scroll down to Members Only. After you click on the link, you will be asked for a login and password.

Login username: Shawnee
Password: 2008puppy

If you need to contact me about the website, use this address:
mlvc@earthlink.net
Mary Lou Crouch

White Elephant Sale at March 31st meeting

Bring stuff you can't use any more

Anything that's portable

Benefit of the club

Hey all---- the next set of conformation classes will start Mar.25th at the UAW hall at 7:30 P.M. in Winchester for 6 weeks. Cost will be \$20.00 for 6 weeks. Hopefully our mats have been voted on and ordered. Scotti let me know. Please put this into newsletter and on the web site.

Gary & Connie

Of Interest to All

Permission to crosspost

Many times we wonder how & why the anti's are so effective.

People often say to me in regards to proposed legislation, but it says 50 dogs and it won't affect me, so what's wrong with that?

You can read the HSUS strategy that was presented in a seminar & get your answer. Look in the section on puppy mills.

Here's their plan, folks.

Carol D.

The forwarded post:

This was a 1.5 hour session held in a lecture hall on the campus of the University of Rochester. There were about 25 attendees, mostly college aged women. I am on the HSUS mailing list at one of my email addresses, so I RSVP'ed for my wife and me the day of the seminar.

The speaker was Patrick Kwan, the HSUS coordinator for New York state.

He is a personable, attractive young Asian American who speaks well and is well trained in the process of attracting and holding political activists to lobby for statutory change. He has a slide show (Power Point presentation) entitled "Lobbying for Animals Seminar" that includes one video, but consists mainly of cartoons explaining the bill-to-law process like we used to have in high school Civics courses.

Kwan started by saying that HSUS has 10.5 million members nationally with 800 thousand in New York state. He noted that March 30 is their lobby day in Albany and that Federal lobby day is in July. He said they held 28 state lobby days last year and will hold 38 this year. He pointed out that all that is needed is to get 50% plus one vote to pass a law in the legislature, and he noted that the Primate Safety Act had just passed in the US House of Representatives.

He stressed that affecting legislation is a long term process. As an example, he pointed to Canned Shoots legislation which has been in process for 15 years. Canned Shoots is one of the four priority pieces of legislation that HSUS is pushing this session. The other three are Dog Fighting, Downed Animals and Puppy Mills.

Canned Shoots

This practice (importing wild animals, penning them, allowing hunters to kill them for trophies) is banned in 23 states. In New York it has passed both houses of the legislature, but it was vetoed by Governor Pataki. Last year it passed in the Assembly, but did not pass in the Senate. It will be reintroduced this session.

Dog Fighting

HSUS wants spectators (in fact, everyone present) at dog fights to be charged with a felony. They claim that New York ranks 47th on their good state list when it comes to prosecuting dog fight spectators, and that people come from New Jersey to see dog fights in the Bronx because of lax NY laws. While there is no pro-dog fighting lobby for HSUS to fight against, they tell legislators that dog fighting goes hand in hand with other criminal issues that are bad for local communities.

Downed Animals

While there is already a federal law and regulations relating to the use of downed farm animals, HSUS wants additional state law to allow for more enforcement. His argument was that the US Department of Agriculture is too busy to investigate and prosecute all cases on the federal level and that state police cant enforce federal law.

Puppy Mills

Kwan asked how many people had seen the Oprah special on puppy mills. He said that new laws in Pennsylvania will close puppy mills there and cause them to move to New York because we have no puppy mill laws. He claimed that the commercial breeders lobby is approaching New York legislators saying that a new industry will bring new revenue into the state. The initial HSUS bill will set a cap of 50 intact animals per location, but once this cap is in place, HSUS will strengthen this in the future by lowering the cap each year. He likened it to getting something criminalized as a misdemeanor at first and then increasing it to a felony. He also agreed with an attendee who pointed out that, currently, people in New York can have as many animals as they want, but that HSUS will crack down in later sessions.

Touting prior HSUS successes, Kwan mentioned a New York city councilman (Tony Avella) who turned from 100% anti-HSUS to 100% pro-HSUS, although he did not say how long that process took or how it was accomplished. He said that it is as important to convince the legislative staffers as it is the legislators, because the staffers will still be there even if a legislator loses his or her seat. One legislator's secretary is a dedicated HSUS member, and she clears her boss's calendar whenever HSUS wants to have a meeting. Another HSUS member works at the capital diner and tells legislators that they have to go get info from HSUS on lobby day.

The New York legislature sits from January to June each year. Bills that do not pass in one session must begin the process all over again if they are re-introduced the next session. They get entirely new Assembly or Senate bill numbers, which is how all legislators refer to them, not by their names or subjects. Kwan noted that last year 91 animal related bills were introduced (although only 18 were voted on) while this year it will be 120. He said that HSUS drafts bills for legislators, and that he himself has written many of them.

Kwan's list of the best ways to be heard:

Call

Write email, fax, snail-mail

Letter to the editor

Attend public meeting

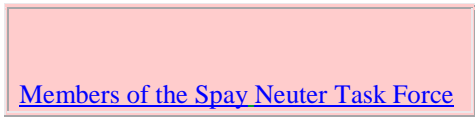
Have personal meetings with legislators

Respond to action alerts

He said that petitions are not effective in affecting legislation, nor is meeting with your legislator in his/her local office because they are only there in the summer after the session ends. He told attendees to press legislators on specific bills so that they think My constituents care about animal issues. If they don't do what we want, get them to do better next time. Don't stop talking to bad legislators. He seemed to be asking for even more direct citizen involvement when he pointed out that HSUS is limited in how much of its income it can spend without losing its charitable tax exemption.

This report is also posted on DFNYDogLaw.

Position Statement on Mandatory Spay-Neuter



The American College of Theriogenologists and The Society for Theriogenology believe that companion animals not intended for breeding should be spayed or neutered; however, both organizations believe that the decision to spay or neuter a pet must be made on a case by case basis, and this decision should be made between the pet's owner and its veterinarian, taking into consideration the pet's age, breed, sex, health status, intended use, household environment and temperament.

While there are health benefits to spaying and neutering these must be weighed against the health benefits of the sex steroids. In general, the advantages of spaying or neutering a pet include effective population control, decreased aggression, decreased wandering, decreased risk of being hit by a car, and decreased risk of mammary, testicular and ovarian cancer. On the other hand, the disadvantages of spaying or neutering may include increased risk of obesity, diabetes, osteosarcoma, hemangiosarcoma, prostatic adenocarcinoma, transitional cell carcinoma, urinary tract infections, urinary incontinence, autoimmune thyroiditis, hypothyroidism and hip dysplasia. Therefore, the decision to spay or neuter a dog or cat should be made solely by the pet's owner with the direct input of their veterinarian and will be dependent on each particular animal's situation.

Additionally, research has shown that in locations where mandatory spay and neuter programs have been instituted, a decrease in the number of vaccinated and licensed animals has been seen due to poor program compliance from pet owners' fears of seeking veterinary care if their animals are still intact. This may result in decreased preventive care and regular wellness examinations which may then diminish the pet's quality of life because of increasing undiagnosed health issues. It also may result in an increase in zoonotic diseases, such as hookworm and roundworm infection in children due to poor deworming programs, and decreased compliance with routine rabies vaccination.

The ACT and SFT make the following recommendations to continue moving toward effective methods of reducing the number of abandoned, unwanted and euthanized dogs and cats in the US and other countries where similar problems exist.

- 1) Provide increased jurisdictional control to the AVMA Governmental Relations division, Animal Welfare Committee, and the APHIS-Animal Care division.
- 2) Ensure suppliers to pet stores are providing adequate care for breeding stock and offspring.
- 3) Support programs to expand the public awareness of pet overpopulation, acceptable breeding standards, and responsibilities of pet ownership. Provide the public a means to access assistance with concerns of pet health, ownership, behavior and management issues.
- 4) Work with state and local rescue and humane societies to assemble accurate data on causes for relinquishment of dogs and cats to enable these organizations, federal and local governments, and veterinary organizations to address the fundamental causes of abandonment.
- 5) Provide low cost spay/neuter facilities for economically disadvantaged persons and communities.
- 6) Continue to work on reduction of feral cat populations.
- 7) Establish programs to ensure access of breeders to proper reproductive care and counseling.
- 8) Provide local or federal governmental assistance to registered rescue organizations to facilitate placement of unwanted pets.

Here is an interesting link to HSUS. It is well worth reading to the very end.

http://www.activistcash.com/organization_overview.cfm/oid/136

Braggs

10-year-old Sadie Hughes, a student in our Shawnee Kennel Club Handling class, earned a 1st Place Rosette in the Novice Junior Handling competition on February 22 at the ODKC fun match. Having completed only 3 classes (under the enthusiastic tutelage of Gary and Connie Fisher), this was Sadie's first experience in the show ring with her 10-month-old Norwich Terrier: Nemo. Judges Pat Hertok and Al Ferruggiaro were very impressed with Sadie's performance in the ring. The young pair went on to take 2nd in the puppy conformation class with the judge providing some helpful coaching during table examination. Upon learning that Sadie had just begun her show career, conformation Judge Chad Howard took time after the judging to compliment Sadie's performance. He further commented that she was showing excellent dog and expressed his hope that she would become one of the young people who stays with the sport for a long time. One thing we do know is that we will be seeing a lot more of Sadie and Nemo in the coming months.

Lann Carroll, another handling class beginner, and her 18-month-old Norwich Terrier: Bilbrough's Little Red Corvette (Truitt) took 2nd Place in the Terrier Group at the ODKC Match the same day. Lann and Truitt both performed beautifully and had quite a few proud mentors on the side lines cheering for them. Lann was also entered in the Novice Senior class, unfortunately, ring schedules changed and Lann missed the opportunity to compete. We are sure that she would have walked away with a rosette from that competition as well! This is another pair we will be sure to hear about during future shows.

Donna Wiley

Yaz, CH. Ohana's Reversed the Curse was awarded an AOM at the Great Dane Club of Met. Washington specialty with an entry of 117 Great Danes.

Thanks for letting me share,

Stacie

CH LINDVANGEN NEMO WENT BOB AT WESTMINSTER, BREEDER-OWNER-HANDLED, AND HIS HOUSEMATE, CH LINDVANGEN PIPER WAS BOS. QUITE THRILLING.
MARY LITCHFIELD REID

Rainbow Bridge

Cairnhowse Bann Irish Cream ROM

Sire: CH. Bann Begourah Ben Dam: Cairnhowse Ambleside

Breeder/Owners: Jerry & Sharon Howse

March 18, 1994--February 9, 2009

Bailey is the last of our dogs that we moved from OK to VA in August 1994. Bailey was a puppy when we moved to VA. Bailey was not the best Cairn we've ever bred, but she certainly was our best producer. Bailey was our "Little Blue Hen", and she produced 4 champions for us--all girls. Bailey has 2 offspring that are pointed, and we hope to eventually finish her daughter, Miss Twiggy. We lost her son, Dirk to a spider bite right after we moved to Berryville. When we lost Dirk, he had 9 points which included a 4 point major. Bailey was always a very healthy Cairn, and she was in excellent health until she suffered the stroke that took her life. Good bye, dear friend, and we'll look forward to seeing you at the Rainbow Bridge.

Sharon Howse

Just for Fun

Buy a Dog

If you want someone who will eat whatever you put in front of him and never say its not quite as good as his mother made it ..



Then buy a dog.

If you want someone always willing to go out, at any hour, for as long and wherever you want .



Then buy a dog.

If you want someone who will never touch the remote, doesn't care about football, and can sit next to you as you watch romantic movies



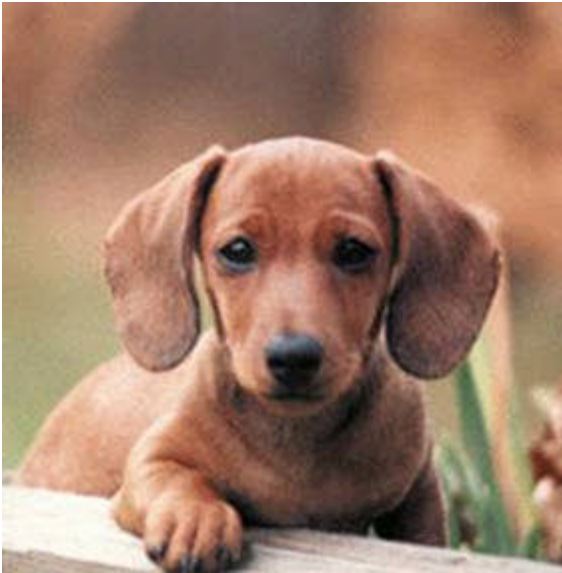
Then buy a dog.

If you want someone who is content to get up on your bed just to warm your feet and whom you can push off if he snores ..



Then buy a dog !

If you want someone who never criticizes what you do, doesn't care if you are pretty or ugly, fat or thin, young or old, who acts as if every word you say is especially worthy of listening to, and loves you unconditionally, perpetually



Then buy a dog.

BUT, on the other hand, if you want someone who will never come when you call, ignores you totally when you come home, leaves hair all over the place, walks all over you, runs around all night and only comes home to eat and sleep, and acts as if your entire existence is solely to ensure his happiness.....



Then buy a cat!