

LUCKY DOG NEWS

January 2009

The Newsletter of Luckiamute Dog Training Club

ANNUAL MEETING AND POTLUCK!

SUNDAY JANUARY 11TH

STARTING AT 1:00 pm

OAK GROVE SCHOOL

Guests Welcome!

In addition to a typically short business meeting and election of Officers/Board, we will have:

GAMES WITH OUR DOGS! Be prepared for an Egg Race, T-Shirt and Shorts Race, maybe even Bobbing for Beagles!

POTLUCK! We are planning a German Themed Potluck! Peggy will be providing delicious Mt Angel Oktoberfest Sausage (made from pure Berkshire pork from Maple Tree Farms!) Interpret this theme as broadly as you wish!



Minutes of the December 4, 2008 LDTC Meeting

The December meeting of the LDTC was held at Almost Home Restaurant. The meeting was called to order by President Laurie Kudna at 7:03 pm. Members in attendance were Bob Parker, Jean Kane, Catherine Shields, Ellen Parr, Peggy Miller, Margie Dykstra, Sherree Lewis, and guest Susanna Branch.

Moved, seconded and passed to accept the November minutes as published.

There was no President's report.
There was no Secretary's report.

Treasurer's Report: There is currently \$1,539.75 in the bank and \$1,417.39 in the PayPal account. We lost \$410.70 on the combined TD/TDX test. Most of that was judge's fees/expenses, but some miscellaneous expenses included flags that will be used in future tests. We made \$60 on the raffle. Entry fees totaled \$655.

Committee Reports:

Obedience – Judges are taken care of. Ellen will be developing a list of all obedience judges. Will send notification of date change for next year to obedience clubs and trainers.

Corky Vroom Seminar – paid attendance is now at about half full. Getting lots of calls. Laurie will post notice on N Dog Activities Yahoo Groups list. Not sure if Judi James' facility will be ready, but Laurie is also looking into the Red Lion on Hawthorn conference room.

Tracking – Bob reported that all landowner gifts were delivered and they were all pleased to receive them. Will need separate crews next year for TD and TDX.

Membership – Had the first reading of Susanna Branch who lives in Silverton and is owned by a Cavalier King Charles Spaniel named Summer.

Nominations as previously discussed, but Jean Kane was "volunteered" for an open board position created when Peggy was nominated for BO after Laurie declined the Treasurer nomination and Ellen agreed to remain as treasurer. Jean graciously agreed. Voting will take place at the January annual meeting January 11, 2009 at 1:00 pm at Oak Grove School.

New Business: Bob Parker was voted by the Board as **Member of the Year** for his excellent tracking test work and dedication to the club and public education and was awarded an Applebee's gift certificate. Yay Bob!

Meeting adjourned at 7:25 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Sherree Lewis, substitute secretary



BRAGS!



DAWN (CH Vanity Fair's Mystic Sunrise, RN) had a litter of puppies on December 6. The sire is a young promising import from the UK – Calvdale's Felon. Our nine little jail breakers, delivered by emergency c-section on a Saturday night, are doing fine with some of the laggards in the weight department getting tube fed. The count was two liver and white males, one liver and white female, four black and white females and two black and white males. We will be busy for some time! ~**Betty and Larry Schwartz**

From Shelly: True to her versatile Belgian self, Dharma went Best of Breed over a good-sized entry at the Clark County shows on Sunday. Then she turned it around the following Saturday by picking up her 2nd UKC CD leg with a 4th place under judge Marti Parks. The snow came in that night so we stayed home on Sunday.



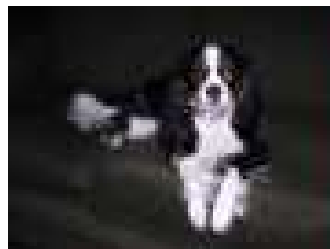
MEMBER PROFILE

Susanna Branch

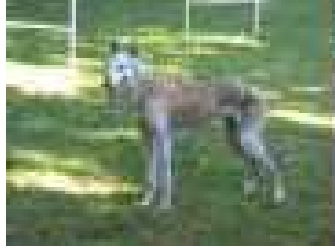


Susanna began training and showing dogs as a hobby when she was 11. This interest continued through her young adult years. Summer, her one year old Cavalier King Charles Spaniel, revived Susanna's interest in training and showing. They are training in obedience, tracking and maybe even Rally. Susanna laid her first test track at our November TD.

Susanna is a professional singer – mostly musical theatre although she has also done classical and jazz concerts. She was part of the Seattle pick up cast for the New York road show of *Kismet*.



In Memory of Tigger Too, CD, TD, FCh, SC



01/31/94 to 12/13/08

Just about every kid has an imaginary friend at some point while growing up and I was no exception. However, mine was not your typical imaginary friend. Mine was a dog called Androcles. More specifically, he was a Doberman Pinscher, tall and elegant, black with tan points. He was the shadow at my side and was there for me through some really rough spots growing up. Eventually, I grew out of Androcles but I could never shake the feeling of having that slim shadow at my side.

Eventually, as I was struggling with some tough decisions during graduate school, I decided to get a dog. I brought home a bony, red brindle, 6 month-old greyhound puppy. He was bouncy and exuberant so I called him Tigger.

Looking back on it now, he was my Androcles brought to life. He was tall and slim and a constant shadow at my side. He was there for me through some really rough times and some really joyful times and was a constant that I could always count on.

Tigger was my first dog and my door to so many things. We discovered lure coursing together and the

friendship and thrills that it entails. We stepped into the obedience ring and earned an obedience title. Though many folks tried to judge him based on his breed, he was steadfast and loyal and came through for me. We tried out agility and spent time tracking in the cold Kansas winters.

Truthfully, Tigger was a pivotal influence on my life. If not for him, I would not have been working at Fort Riley and would not have met Richard, my husband. I would not have had Winnie or Devo grace my life. The lessons I learned while training Tigger benefited those that came after him and will impact every dog that passes through my home in the years to come. I would not have had the opportunity to move overseas and would not have ended up in Oregon. Consequently, without Tigger, I would not have the friends that I do and would not be the person that I am. Sounds a little crazy, but looking back, I can draw you a map and show you where all the lines intersect. That point of intersection is the day I brought Tigger home.

For an unregistered pup out of cast off parents, he was a remarkable hound. I believe that every dog has a lesson to teach us. Tigger's lesson was loyalty. He was a source of stability when the rest of the world was falling to pieces. He was a reason to get out of bed in the morning and a reason to come home at night. When I brought other hounds into my life, I thought they would be there to help me when I lost Tigger. Instead, my loyal and

steadfast Tigger stood by me when I had to let the others go ahead.

These last few years his body grew old and was riddled with arthritis. He was bony and thin. He couldn't chase his Frisbee anymore although he would carry it around the yard with a grin on his face. He never lost his joy and truly lived up to his name.

Eventually, I realized that with his loyal nature he would not leave me. I had to make the decision for him when it was time to go. He went happily into the vet clinic and greeted those that he knew. He laid on his bed with his head on my lap and with my permission, trotted on ahead of me to the clearing around the bend.

After 14 and a half years with this magnificent gentleman by my side, it felt odd to walk out to my truck with an empty leash and collar in my hands.

It still feels odd. However, as in my childhood, I can't shake the constant feeling that there is a slim, elegant dog walking at my side.

Thanks, Tigger for the many, many years of companionship and support. Good bye my Heart.



ALL THE GOOD DOGS

What purpose did they serve, all the good dogs that once ran through the world and wait

Now in the shadowy quiet of the past?

They lightened our burdens and drove away our enemies and stayed when others left us.

They gave aid and comfort, protection and security. They held a mirror wherein we might see ourselves as we long to be. They gave us a glimpse of the world beyond the narrow confines of our own species.

Although we make dull students, slowly they help us learn how to command and to protect with wisdom and justice and imagination.

They taught and still teach us the joy of giving generosity and kindness and love - without the thought of gainful return.

And now - all the fleet hounds, the staunch mastiffs, the loyal shepherds, the dancing toys, the fumbling puppies, pets on silken pillows, workers plodding at their tasks, the special ones you loved best, those of ours we still miss - To all the good dogs, goodbye. Until on some brighter day, in some fair place, you run out to greet us again.

~

TWO CHIEF TRACKLAYERS FOR ONE TD/TDX TEST?

A few additional comments to add to the brief mention previously of the need for two separate Chief Tracklayers. The problem is that separate things have to happen in separate places both at the same time!

As most of us know, the TD tracks are usually laid each Sunday morning related to when certain prior tracks are actually run, in order to not have these later tracks aged well beyond the ½ hour minimum, with an example being that a certain subsequent track is to be laid with #1 dog starts; the following subsequent track laid when #2 dog starts, etc.

At about the same time and in another location the TDX cross-tracks are being laid in a specific schedule in order to comply with the TDX requirements. While both of these things are happening, someone (usually the Trial chair) is responsible for seeing that each dog/handler team gets to the right place at the right time to run their track as soon as it is ready to be run.

Still another requirement around this time is to locate the TD tracklayer to be sent out in case the judges don't walk a failed dog through the rest of its track. (As we know, that tracklayer can't be too close to the track to avoid having the dog just skip the track and go directly to the tracklayer instead. Augh!) This year we were really lucky to have some very experienced tracklayers in Tamara and Sherree who set out in the fog to lay their tracks based only upon cellphone notification to start. With less experienced tracklayers or worse

weather conditions, timing of the later TD tracklaying might need closer attention.

Anyhow, the bottom line is that for future COMBINED TD/TDX trials we really need two separate Chief Tracklayers to keep things going, and also someone solely assigned to transport judges wherever necessary so that each track is aged as similar to the others as possible. We put on good and well run trials; we need to keep to those standards!

~ **Bob Parker**

MEMBER OF THE YEAR!

Bob Parker was one of the first LDTTC members, helping to get things started back in 1991. He has been a force in getting our tracking tests going since that time. Throughout the years, Bob has been the person who interacted with landowners, getting permission to use the land and keeping in touch with them to make sure which property had been sprayed and which could be used for our test in any given year. He has Chaired the Trackign Test for several years (possibly since our first test), was instrumental in getting us approved to do VST and continues to be the driving force in that program. In addition, he has helped at nearly every event we've put on in some capacity over the years, and has served on the Board for many years. Bob worked with the Salem Parks Department to

get the Mutt Mitts program established.

Bob has acted as Luckiamute's Public Education Coordinator for years.

Thanks Bob! Your longstanding service to Luckiamute is very much appreciated.

Helpful Hints for Hounds

Need to remove Sap, Tar or Gum from your dog's fur? Try one of these remedies:

- ✓ *Avon Skin So Soft*
- ✓ *Plain Cooking Oil*
- ✓ *PAM Cooking Spray*
- ✓ *Murphy's Oil Soap*
- ✓ *Mink Oil Spray*
- ✓ *Eucalyptus Oil*
- ✓ *Goop Hand Cleaner*

Rub in, let set and shampoo out.



Find the dogs!

The Dog's New Year's Resolutions

1. I will not eat other animals' poop.
2. I will not lick my human's face after eating poop.
3. I do not need to suddenly stand staright up when I am lying under the coffee table.
4. My head does not belong in the refrigerator.
5. I will no longer be beholden to the sound of the can opener.
6. Take time from my busy schedule to stop and smell butts.
7. Grow opposable thumb; break into pantry; decide for MYSELF how much food is "too" much.
8. I will NOT chase the stick until I see it LEAVE THE IDIOT'S HAND!
9. I will not take up more than my share of the bed nor will I try to push the master out of bed.

**LUCKIAMUTE DOG TRAINING CLUB
2009 DUES**

DUES must be paid by February 1, 2009. Please send the following information with you payment.

NAME:

____The information in the directory is correct.

If any of your information has changed, please update it below. Leave it blank if it is the same as last year.

Address:

Phone:

Email:

Dues are \$15 for an individual, \$20 per family and \$2.50 for youth (under 18 years old) members.

Mail to: LDTC, c/o S. Lewis, 414 Juedes Ave. N, Keizer, OR 97303

