

Lucky Dog News

Newsletter of Luckiamute Dog Training Club

March 2009

MEETING NOTICE!

The March meeting will be Sunday March 8th at Oak Grove School. Lunch and the meeting will begin at 1pm. Rally run-throughs will follow.

An Oktoberfest sausage lunch will be provided. You are welcome to bring a side dish and/or desert.

Guests welcome.

FMI berknbelg@netzero.net

Upcoming Events

May 3 Variable Surface Tracking Test Chemeketa Community College

September 12-13 Obedience/Rally Trials Benton County Fairgrounds Corvallis

November 15 TD/TDX Test Oak Grove School West Salem

FEBRUARY MEETING MINUTES

The February 5, 2009 meeting of the LDTC was held at Almost Home Restaurant. The meeting was called to order by President Margie Dykstra at 7:03 pm. Members in attendance

were Margie, Peggy, Sherree, Ellen, Laurie, Catherine, Bob and Jean.

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

President's Report: Set up a Yahoo Group for Board members. This can also be viewable by other members if they want to sign on, but they will not be able to respond.

Secretary's Report: none

Treasurer's Report: Have \$2,125 in PayPal account and a total of \$4,698 in West Coast bank account. Ordered new bank stamp as old one "died".

Committee Reports:

Vroom Seminar: Four Corners Elementary school is reserved. Have \$5,000 in income – approx. 40 people. There are 9 more working spots. Figure food to be in vicinity of \$25/person/day. Need to make name tags. Bring trailer with equipment.

VST: Ready to go. Need tracklayers- Margie, Jean, Tamara?, Susanna? Ellen will take care of hospitality. Sherree will get last year's premium from Ellen and get it ready.

TD/TDX: Jill Jones has agreed to judge. Possibly Jim Hallot or Ada McCory for other judge.

OBEDIENCE: Discussion about joint trial with EDOC, more research needed, and for next year. Have EDOC send proposal. This year, maybe more titling options and maybe more classes. If need to hire another judge then will do so.

MEMBERSHIP: Margie will check on membership at Yahoo Groups. Sherree will send out updated membership directory. Gained 2 new members last year, but lost 7 who did not renew. Those who did not renew were contacted.

New Business: There will be a combo meeting/fun day March 8 at Oak Grove at 1:00 pm with rally practice.

There has been a surcharge for using PayPal. For events, it was decided to build it into the fee as a convenience fee.

HB 2470 – Be Aware! It has not yet been assigned to committee. Public education would be helpful. Perhaps a booth at the Salem Saturday Market in conjunction with other organizations/clubs, only once a month or so. Laurie will research it.

Bob mentioned a project he is helping with the local cable station CCTV a brief show for pet adoptions with the Willamette Humane Society.

Meeting adjourned at 8:10 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Sheree Lewis, Secretary

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Luckiamute and Rescue/Shelters
Every once in a while discussion comes up about shelters and rescue. Luckiamute is a “performance” club, but we area an AKC purebred dog club also. Many of us are breeders, and in today’s climate, we can get a bit sensitive about the perspective that somehow breeders are bad and shelters are always good. There is a somewhat twisted point of view that breeders and those who buy from breeders are responsible for all the dogs that get dumped at and/or euthanized at shelters. The reality is quite different:

- 1) Few dogs in shelters are purebreds and only a very small percentage comes from established and responsible breeders. Those that are identified as coming from breeders usually can be returned to that breeder. A Labrador was recently pulled from a shelter in Idaho and returned to the breeder in Nevada who paid for his transportation.
- 2) Most breeders are involved in breed rescue in a variety of roles – some more active than others. There are purebred dog organizations that provide emergency medical care to rescued dogs. Breeders often provide homes for dogs where the breeder is unknown. A Harrier was recently sprung from a shelter in Arizona and

- he may end up here in Oregon because even though his breeder can't be identified there are other Harrier breeders who will step in and offer a home to "their" breed.
- 3) Breeders are not responsible for the number of dogs in the shelters. Banning the breeding of dogs will not solve the shelter problem since most of those dogs don't come from planned breedings. Many purebred rescues get bogged down, not with dogs from breeders, but from the dogs produced by ordinary people who are unable and unwilling to worry about the pups once they leave their homes. Imagine the frustration of breeders who clean up other people's messes and then get accused of being the source of the problem.
 - 4) Some shelters import dogs from other states and countries to keep their numbers up. Shelters are not always the good guys.
 - 5) Some families are well suited to adopting a mixed breed or a rescued dog of unknown origins. Others have specific needs and will do better with the knowns of a purebred. Predictable temperament and predictable traits can be very important. If someone wants a Search and Rescue dog, they may get lucky with a shelter dog or end up wasting a lot of training when the dog ends up not being suited for the job. Or they can get a dog from a

- breeder that selects for the traits a SAR dog needs. A Labrador would be better suited to a hunter than a mixed breed from a shelter.
- 6) We forget sometimes, I think, that even mixed breed dogs can have genetic defects, allergies, etc.
- So when we get into discussions about purebred vs. mixed breed, or supporting shelters, let us remember that we are a purebred dog club and our role is to support purebred dogs and breeders. Most of us are involved in rescue, but let's not assume that any single rescue or shelter organization should have our support.



Pip a rescued Border Collie has behavioral and physical issues resulting from early neutering - one of the potential drawbacks of getting a shelter or rescue dog.

LEGISLATIVE UPDATES

From Ellen Parr:

Oregon House Bill 2470

Recently, a bill was proposed in Oregon that while on the surface seems to have good intentions, when you dig just a tiny bit, you realize that the bill has serious consequences for the Hobby Breeder. NB: A hobby breeder is someone who breeds dogs as a hobby. They may breed for the show ring, the performance ring, filed trials, working farms dogs, or just to produce healthy pets. IN general, hobby breeders are not breeding to make a living by selling dogs. The aim of the bill is to stop the “puppy Mill” where dogs are not treated with proper care. And while everyone agrees that substandard kennels should be either stopped or make to improve their facilities and the live of the animals in their care, this bill will do far more harm to the “little guy” than it will help the situation.

HB 2470 will limit anyone to no more than 25 intact dogs and classify anyone who has 10 or more intact dogs over the age of 4 months as a commercial pet dealer. Once classified as a commercial pet dealer, there are all sorts of nearly impossible or very impractical rules as to how you will keep your dogs.

This first part has all sorts of problems all by itself. Why 25 dogs? Why does owning 10 dogs somehow make you a dealer? I’m sure we’ve all met people who aren’t capable of

properly caring for one dog, yet many of us know people who take extremely good care of 30 dogs or more. Numbers mean nothing; it has to be about quality of care. Second, why would you limit this to intact dogs? Don’t spayed/neutered pets deserve a high standard of care as well?

Next up – you will be considered a commercial pet dealer if you sell more than 20 dogs a year or have more than 3 litters. A breeder has 2 litters of 12 puppies each in one year. Not unreasonable to have 2 litters in one year, is it? She keeps one from each litter for herself and then sells the remaining 22 puppies. Guess what? She is now a commercial pet dealer. Even though she only had two litters! On the other hand, the Maltese breeder has 3 litters that result in one puppy each. Yup, she’s now a commercial dealer too.

Next up - all the requirements once you become a commercial pet dealer. For most hobby breeders, impractical to nearly impossible to accomplish. The one I find the most unreasonable is the requirement that each dog shall have 2 hours of walking on leash per day broken up into at least 2 sessions. Okay folks, be honest now, especially those of you with only one or two dogs. Do you walk your dogs for at least 2 hours every single day? Rain or shine, not matter how you feel, no matter how the dog feels? Hmmm, thought not. Oh but wait! If you are not a commercial pet dealer you don’t have to walk your dog at all! If

your dog is spayed or neutered, you are off the hook too!

Another serious problem with the bill is the so-called "lemon law". This part of the bill would allow puppy buyers to sue their breeder if the dog they bought came up with a health problem in the first two years. There are two fundamental problems with this idea. First of all, even with all the testing we have now, we still can't predict the future. You can breed two tested "clear" or "normal" dogs together and still get affected offspring. You can have a recessive gene lurking in your pedigrees for literally generations without knowing it is there. If you happen to breed your bitch to a male who also has had the same problem lurking, you get hit with a problem that you never knew existed. The dog and human genomes have only been mapped for a very short time. WE are just at the very beginning of learning what we can do to prevent problems. New tests develop every year and conscientious breeders use them. But still, problems will occur despite the best of planning.

Then there is the other major problem. Once I sell a puppy to you, I can't control what you do with that puppy. I can't tell you what to feed him, how to exercise him, or where to keep him. All three of those things, amongst many others, can absolutely affect the health of the dog. How can a breeder be held responsible for that? And finally, if people want to do their best to get a healthy dog, then they need to do the research and find the breeder

who does the most she can to produce healthy dogs.

An important point to consider: most hobby breeders do not make money breeding dogs. It may help pay the bills now and then, but in general, hobby breeders lose money. If a lemon law is in place, most hobby breeders will not be able to hold insurance or "take a loss". They will not risk breeding a litter and being held liable for huge amounts of money for something they cannot necessarily control. If the hobby breeders go away, the only thing that is left is the commercial puppy farm.

There is much more to this bill that is simply unfair and unreasonable. You can find the full text on the NAIA's website

<http://capwiz.com/naiatrust/issues/alert/?alertid=12552026>

We have some of the best anti-cruelty laws on the books anywhere in the country. When enforced, they work! Please write or call your state representative and tell them to vote no on HB 2470 and work on enforcing the great laws we already have.

The NAIA is planning on a lobby day on Monday March 23. More information and details are coming soon, but plan on being there to connect with legislators and have your voice heard.



Pit Bull Ban – Nixed

Senator Bruce Starr(R-Hillsboro) has decided to NOT pursue SB 667 banning Pit Bull ownership in the state. Sen. Starr introduced the bill at the request of a constituent.

Good news for Oregon dog owners but a reminder that we all need to stay vigilant to protect our rights.



Louie the Deerhound at 14 months
Photo courtesy of Shelly Brosnan

BLAST FROM THE PAST!

Betty Schwartz and CH Telltale Luv of Vanity Fair, CDX, TDX on the day Luv earned her TDX at the Obedience Training Club of Greater Lansing test on March 27, 1983. The conditions were cold, clear and sunshiny with part of the track on snow covered ground including one corner. Betty and Luv went through a stream, up a bank on the far side of the stream, and through a woods. Luv indicated lots of mouse holes! The track went up a hill immediately after crossing the stream and Luv had to wait for Betty to at the top of the hill while she clambered up.



Betty recalls: "After the test, Glen Johnson, one of the two judges (along with Jim Eadie) noted that Luv waited for me at the top of the hill before she went on to finish the track. Luv was the first Champion Springer to earn a TDX."
What a wonderful memory!

**Brag from Susanna Branch:
Summer earned another Rally leg
with a placement at the recent
Linn County Kennel club shows.**



**An enthusiastic Vroom Seminar
participant!**

Pretty is as Pretty Does: Looks Good - Smells Great!



New Champion Hartshire's Hallboy Quiz had an amazing weekend - but then he is kind of an amazing dog! Quiz started life as Hartshire's Hallboy. Bred in California, he went to a family in Florida. Quiz liked his family and had a little boy to play with. He still like little boys and loves it when a kid at a show comes up to pet him.

For whatever reason, Quiz had loose stool problems that his family couldn't or wouldn't deal with and eventually he came back to his breeder, Robbin Phillips. Back home with Robbin, Quiz had lots of doggy friends and did well. He became a show dog, earned some points, got his joint clearances and settled in.

When I got Brighty, I knew that I'd need Ellen Parr's good advice on potential studs since I am so new to this breed. About a year ago, she suggested that I consider Quiz and she said that he might be available. I contacted Robbin and was thrilled to be able to bring Quiz home to Oregon.

He settled in nicely with both the other dogs and the cats and livestock. While he feels more comfortable sleeping in his crate at night, Quiz decided that being a lapdog was a good thing. He sometimes shares my lap with Brighty, but really considers me to be his personal cushion.

I started tracking with Quiz right away, and he instantly showed not only the aptitude for scent that we expect in hounds, but a focus that made his training really easy. He also likes the show world. Quiz definitely has picked Peggy Miller as his most favorite handler and best buddy. On Sunday at Linn County Kennel Club, he earned his last two points to finish his Championship. On Monday, he certified for tracking down in Eugene under Judge Roy Fair. He's on his way to titles at BOTH ends.

From spoiled pet, to show dog, to spoiled pet/champion/working dog - Quiz is a good boy! He'll be just 4 years old in May so I expect there will be many more opportunities for him to excel.



Quiz on the trail!

LOBBY DAY MARCH 23RD from Patti Strand

The National Animal Interest Alliance is hosting an NAIA Lobby Day at the State Capitol on Monday March 23rd. This day will provide a unique opportunity for you to connect with your legislators about animal issues and weigh in on several bills of concern that we are following this session. We will host a small reception for NAIA members and lawmakers; provide materials for you to hand out and talking points for lobbying your legislators. They have already heard the animal rights perspective when HSUS held their Humane Lobby Day (in February), now it is time for them to hear from the animal welfare camp!

THE CORKY VROOM SEMINAR



After having our Chris Zink seminar cancelled twice, we brainstormed for another seminar idea – hopefully one that would make the club some money. Even though Luckiamute is a performance club, it was decided that a conformation handling seminar would be a good money maker and Corky Vroom’s seminar was suggested. Laurie generously volunteered to head up the seminar and made all the arrangements.

Laurie’s hard work certainly made the seminar a success. After a bit of a cliff hanger when it came to securing a suitable venue, she found the gym at Four Corners Elementary School in SE Salem. The non slip floor of the gym was a definite plus as we didn’t have to rent matting and the dogs and handlers had a safe surface to gait on.

Margie, Peggy and Sally spearheaded the hospitality while Ellen and Catherine handled check-in duties. Betty and Larry helped with clean-up/tear-down and also brought some amazing cookies that didn’t last long! Other culinary delights included Ellen’s Oatmeal Cranberry cookies and Laurie’s awesome Coffee Cake which will heretofore be known as “Laurie’s Corky Delight Coffee Cake” as Mr. Vroom was immediately hooked on the delectable goody.



We had a great turn out with 36 of the 40 working spots filled. There were participants from all over the region – Canada to Utah – and dogs of all breeds Australian Terriers to Irish Wolfhounds.

Mr. Vroom’s easy going style made learning fun and there was plenty of laughter along with some great story telling.



The seminar wrapped up with a group “competition” after which a “most improved handler” award was given to the beginner and advanced handlers showing the most improvement in their handling skills over the weekend. The Luckiamute crowd was thrilled when Laurie got the most improved award in the advanced division.

Obviously Laurie should have also received the “most valuable” award!



AKC NEWS

AKC and Motel 6 Offer Cost-Saving Discounts to AKC Registered Dog Owners!

The American Kennel Club has announced a special agreement with Motel 6 and Studio 6 to offer all AKC registered dog owners a 10% discount on room reservations nationwide.

To reserve a room and activate the discount, all AKC registrants can log on to www.motel6.com and enter access code CP542764 for Motel 6 or visit www.staystudio6.com and enter the access code CO542765 for Studio 6 reservations.

US Live Animal Air Shipping Policy Changes

A new directive regarding transporting live animals by air into/through the US has been put into effect by the Transportation Security Administration. Effective February 1, 2009, the directive requires that all animals coming into the US from overseas airports booked as manifest cargo – that is, not accompanied by a ticketed passenger – must be tendered at their foreign origin airport by a “Regulated Agent” or “IATA-Approved Agent”.

This WILL NOT AFFECT: shipping within the US, traveling with your pet as excess baggage into the US, or shipping FROM the US to a foreign country.