



NEW ENGLAND DOG TRAINING CLUB INCORPORATED

Member Of The American Kennel Club

CLUB BULLETIN

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Happy New Year

CONGRATULATIONS TO LELAND AND MATILDA!

"Matilda waltzes to dog agility championship"

By Auditi Guha / Cambridge Chronicle Staff
Wednesday, December 18, 2002

[Note: This article is reprinted here in its entirety.]

Cantabrigians lead the way in many fashions, and canines are not to be left out. A resident Australian shepherd proved this when she recently struck gold at a national dog show in Texas.

Concord Street resident Leland Perry and his Australian shepherd, Matilda, won top honors at the AKC National Agility Championship in Katy, Texas, last month.

Matilda competed against 115 other dogs to win in the 16-inch division.

While they have trained together for four years and Matilda has won local shows, Perry did not expect her to win the final round in Texas.

"It was a surprise," said Perry, who believes his dog won because she is very fast and turns very tightly.

The red merle shepherd is smaller than most of her breed and competed mostly with Shetlands. She fared well in the two-day event, but did not top until the final and

fourth course which she ran clean, beating two Shetland sheepdogs.

Misha, with Norika Aso from Long Beach, Calif., and Joni, with Nancy Kleinhans from Jacksonville, Fla., took second and third place in this category.

The AKC National Agility Championship is the culmination of thousands of agility trials held throughout the year. Dogs had to qualify at the highest level of competition in order to compete. Perry was so glad that he was allowed to compete that winning was a secondary thought.

"It was just an honor to go there and be with some of the top trainers," he said. "I was very excited and I think she caught up with it."

Matilda has been training for four years and has been working in obedience and tracking as well along with 7-year-old Tsunami, a Shiba Inu with their friend and trainer Perry. Tsunami has competed in agility shows, too, but at a different level.

Now that the gold is won, along with a year's free dog food and flea control, Perry said he is concentrating on working Matilda through obedience and tracking.

"She has a novice title in obedience, and she's pretty close to getting her tracking title soon," said a proud Perry. "She's a pretty special little dog."

Agility events allow dogs to demonstrate their agile nature and versatility by racing

against the clock and overcoming a challenging course of different obstacles. Success requires proper training, as it is a game of physical skill, control, patience and teamwork between handler and dog.

Now in its seventh year, the event culminates into the final round where only one dog in each of the five height categories wins top honors and takes home the gold that this year was a trophy in the shape of Texas.

"This year's event featured the largest number of entries in our seven-year history, and we're thrilled to have seen a number of breeds compete who are new to the sport," said Sharon Anderson, agility director, AKC. "The competition was intense and no dog was a 'shoo-in,' which made for a very exciting final round. The event was great fun for participants and spectators alike."

Sponsored by The Iams Company and Advantage flea control, the event brought together 520 talented dogs from across the country to compete in a thrilling two-day event.

For participants and for Perry and his gold-winning pooch, it's sometimes good to lead a dog's life.

A dog's life

The AKC National Agility Championships will air on Animal Planet (Eastern Time):

Sunday, Feb. 9 - 8- 9 pm, 11 pm to midnight

Tuesday, Feb. 11 - 9-10 pm, midnight to 1 am.

Saturday, Feb. 15 - 1-2 pm"

Well Done!!

NEW MEMBERS: Welcome to **Zoe Anderson** and **Eve Porter** with Bernese Mtn. Dog and

Black Lab, respectively; **Camille Siqueira** and her Golden **Scooby**; **Ron Gilboa** and **Wheaten Toto**; **Kathleen Beyerman** and her sweet mix breed; **Roderick W. O'Flaherty** with **Roxy** the Leonberger; **Andrea Gwosdow** and **Becca Kranz** with Standard Poodle **Maxie**; **Kirsten Engel & Scott Saleska** also have a Standard Poodle, **Zorba**; **Jakob Jorgensen** brings **Max** the Welsh Terrier; **Stephen Cohen** and **Carla Ashton-Cohen** with their Golden, **Chunky**; **Katherine Tibbitts** and her Rottie, **Miss Momo Fuzz**; **Marjie Alonso** keeps company with Greater Swiss Mtn. Dog, **Betty**; **Bici Barron** and **Keeper** her sweet mix breed from Puerto Rico; **Laurel Chiten** has an American Eskimo named **Shadow**; **Cathy Proenza** owns **Zorba**, a Border Collie-mix; **Lirong Fu** and **Cheng Han** join with **Rocky** the German Shepherd Dog; **Frank & Evelyn Caufield** and **Harry** the Flatcoat Retriever; **Eileen Neary** is back with us with **Simon** the Papillon, **Lincoln** the Greyhound and **Bentley** the Bullmastiff; **Karen Ogden** joins us with her mix breeds, **Spencer** and **Missy**; **Jessica** and **Alan Bloom** has joined our classes with **Jason**, a Standard Poodle, and Miniature Poodles, **Sophie** and **Lillian**; and **Sara Stewart** and **Gus** the Wonder Newfoundland. Welcome to you all and we look forward to training with you.

2002 Christmas Party was held on Thursday, 12/19 to rave reviews. Make plans to join us next year. Watch the website for date and time.

From Our AKC Delegate. "I had been asked to help a couple of breeds with problems they were having with the AKC; the Beauceron owners/breeders who wanted their club to be recognized as the parent club for their breed--which is currently undergoing the application process to be recognized by the AKC and some Greyhound owners who objected to the vote

a couple of years ago by the BOD of the Greyhound Club of America to keep open the Greyhound stud book to allow the registration of track dogs from the NGA (which operates a separate registry).

"Since the December meeting I've received good news on both fronts. First, This Bauceron club was invited by the AKC to man the Beauceron booth at the "Meet the Breeds" exhibit as part of the Invitational/Classic show. Although the Beauce has not been officially recognized by the AKC, such an invitation to be the breed's official representative at this premiere show is a good indicator that they may well be chosen as the parent club when the breed is recognized (probably within the next year). Second, the AKC Board just

"Announced that it has voted to reopen the Greyhound Stud book to NGA dogs. What this means is that folks who have adopted NGA dogs – retired racing greyhounds - (like our own Jean Berman), can now register their dogs directly with the AKC, rather than having to get an ILP number.

"The Board of the AKC has also acted to "close" the loopholes that allowed these two incidents to occur." Liz

Also from Liz, this **VACCINATION NEWSFLASH**:

"Hi Everyone, This appeared on one of my other lists, and I thought you would be interested. Liz"

Date: Fri, 17 Jan 2003

From: T A Perret <pinebrook@BRIGHT.NET

Subject: VACCINATION NEWSFLASH

To: SHOWBOXER-

L@LISTSERV.INDIANA.EDU

This is very interesting. One of my dogs had Addison's disease, but she died of Autoimmune hemolytic anemia. It is terrible.

I am now doing titers on my own dogs and hope to never experience one of my dogs developing this disease again. I just wish the laws on rabies vaccines were changed. If most human immunities to vaccines last a lifetime, why wouldn't they do so in dogs? - Nan Forehand

Vaccination Newsflash: Crossposting from: Dr. Ihor Basko - VACCINATION NEWSFLASH Re: J Dodd's vaccine protocol

I would like to make you aware that all 27 veterinary schools in North America are in the process of changing their protocols for vaccinating dogs and cats. Some of this information will present an ethical & economic challenge to vets, and there will be skeptics. Some organizations have come up with a political compromise suggesting vaccinations every 3 years to appease those who fear loss of income vs those concerned about potential side effects. Politics, traditions, or the doctor's economic well-being should not be a factor in medical decision.

NEW PRINCIPLES OF IMMUNOLOGY

"Dogs and cats immune systems mature fully at 6 months. If a modified live virus vaccine is given after 6 months of age, it produces immunity, which is good for the life of the pet (i.e.: canine distemper, parvo,feline distemper). If another MLV vaccine is given a year later, the antibodies from the first vaccine neutralize the antigens of the second vaccine and there is little or no effect. The titer is not "boosted" nor are more memory cells induced. "Not only are annual boosters for parvo and distemper unnecessary, they subject the pet to potential risks of allergic reactions and immune-mediated haemolytic anaemia. "There is no scientific documentation to back up label claims for annual

administration of MLV vaccines "Puppies receive antibodies through their mothers milk. This natural protection can last 8-14 weeks. Puppies & kittens should NOT be vaccinated at LESS than 8 weeks. Maternal immunity will neutralize the vaccine and little protection (0-38%) will be produced. Vaccination at 6 weeks will, however, delay the timing of the first highly effective vaccine. Vaccinations given 2 weeks apart suppress rather than stimulate the immune system. A series of vaccinations is given starting at 8 weeks and given 3-4 weeks apart up to 16 weeks of age. Another vaccination given sometime after 6 months of age (usually at 1 year 4 mo) will provide lifetime immunity.

Free to crosspost, but please include ALL the information including author information.

The Sheltie Rescue List
Arlene Perret
pinebrook@bright.net

WHAT ELSE IS NEW THIS NEW YEAR?

Monthly meetings of the membership are required under our new bylaws. The Board has voted the 2nd Thursday of the month as the meeting date. Time would be 8:15 pm (between the first and second hour of classes) at the Cambridge Armory. The dates are Feb. 13th, Mar. 13th, Apr. 10th, May 8th and Jun 12th. Please mark your calendars and plan to join us.

Club Year Change. Beginning this Club year, NEDTC's business year and training year coincide. They will now both end on June 30th. This means that the club's Annual Meeting and Trophies Banquet will be held in early summer rather than on a cold, windy, most-likely-stormy-night in February. YEAH!!! Hopefully, this change will mean

that more of our members can join in the festivities.

In order for the change of Club year to take place, the present Club year needs be 16 months long instead of 12. That gets us to June.

Annual Trial(s). For the trophy-minded, this proves to be very interesting. In this year, 16 months, ending June, 2003 we have three NEDTC trial(s) - Spring and Fall, 2002 AND Spring 2003! Subsequent years will have at least one if not two "annual trial(s)" - Fall and Spring. Placements in either, both or all of the trials in one year will be considered in awarding annual club trophies. No one trial will carry more weight or have a higher value than another. Now that I have managed to completely confuse you... here's what we need from you.

When you get your Achievements Information Sheet (which will arrive in the Spring), please fill it out carefully AND COMPLETELY. Don't just say "spring" or "fall", please include the complete date. Trophies are awarded based on information received. Leave it to our staff to sort it all out.

In answer to the burning question, "How can we have more than one annual trial?", allow me:

A number of years back the Club had only one NEDTC Annual Obedience Trial and that was held in early December as part of the Eastern Mass. Cluster Show at the Bayside Expo. Then came the day when the powers that be cut our obedience trial from the roster to make more time for breed competition. As an AKC chartered club, we had to have an annual trial or risk losing our charter. Our Board of Governors sprang into action and thus was born the Annual Spring

Trial. This lovely little trial became a successful and much-anticipated event. When the Eastern folks saw the error of their ways and invited us back to their show in December, the Club was in a quandary. What to do about our sweet little trial in the Spring? Well, the Board of Governors did the obvious thing and voted not only to return to Bayside, but also to keep the Spring Trial in our line up. And it remains thus. (Except, of course, for this extended year when we have three!)

For the Service Minded. With the new Club year comes new opportunities for members to be of service and volunteer. Every year there are openings on the Board of Governors. The Board meets the first Monday of every month from Sept. thru June to discuss club business and upcoming events. You get to sit, chat and spend time with a group of other people committed to their dogs and the sport of obedience. If you would be interested, let Jean know. And while your talking to her, you might want to sign up to steward at the Spring Trial (see below).

NEDTC has a new look! The Club is now a "gated community!" Due to the increased number of dogs and handlers coming to classes on any given Thursday, the Board of Governors decided that gating the various classes on the floor would (1) improve the safety of all, (2) give each class a clearly delineated area and (3) discourage such things as cross-thrus while classes are in session. So as you cruise around the armory on a Thursday evening, please respect the gated boundaries. Thank you.

NEED TO FIND THE INSTRUCTOR? Our teaching staff is looking particularly smart and trendy in their bright yellow shirts (rakishly trimmed with navy blue collar and cuffs) and sporting

the NEDTC logo. The Board decided that having the instructors easily recognizable to anyone on the floor would be a plus in case of emergency. (The instructors thought that the Board members might like to be so identified too, but they declined the honor.)

Additions to Our Staff. Some of you may have noticed **Sandy Madden** (of Tower Hill Labrador Retrievers and Waggin' Tail Dog Training Center) instructing the Open and Utility classes once in a while. That's because **Ruth Ivers** decided she wanted some time off to kick back and maybe train her own dogs (about 2 weeks per month)! So **Ruth** and **Sandy** will be sharing teaching duties **Sandy** will be teaching on 2/6, 2/20, 3/6, 3/20, 3/27, 4/3, 4/17, 5/1, 5/15, 5/29, 6/12, 6/26. Welcome, **Sandy**.

Another welcome addition is **Andrew Barry**. **Phyllis Stein** found him for us and he's a treasure. Thank you, **Phyllis**. **Andrew** is a Cambridge resident and professional dog walker who is owned by a Golden Retriever named **Havoc**. He loves dogs and wants to help out. What more could we ask? He sets up the rings and can be seen assisting with the Advanced Beginners and Beginners Classes.

REMINDERS FROM THE BOARD.

UNATTENDED DOGS. The Board would like to remind all who train with us (members and non) that no dog should be left unattended unless performing a specific exercise in a class with an instructor. This translates to mean that a down/stay while you walk away to pack up your things is, indeed, "leaving your dog unattended". The end of classes are particularly anxiety provoking and chaotic, so please take your dog with you, maybe give the leash to someone to hold or stand on it, while you prepare to leave. Our experience has shown that if someone or

something comes between you and your dog and they get scared, you can't get to your dog in time to help.

ORANGE RIBBONS. If you have a dog that has been showing signs of anxiety around people or other dogs, not wanting one or the other coming too close or maybe they just want to be given their space, please use the **ORANGE RIBBONS**. Place one on your dog's leash or collar as a sign to the gathered throng not to invade its space.

SPRING 2003 TRIAL UPDATE: Saturday, March 29th, Franklin, MA. FREE PIZZA! Join in setting up the site on Friday, 3/28 and stay for the Pizza Party! It's NEDTC's way of saying thank you for your help as well putting the lie to the rumor that no one will want to drive in rush-hour traffic for the privilege of hauling equipment around a large, cold building and then eat pizza. We are so there!

Calling All Steward Wannabees!! Jean Berman, Chief Steward of the Spring Trial (3/28th), needs volunteers to be stewards and assist in the operation of the trial. Experience is not necessary. Volunteer yourself. Volunteer a friend. It's work anyone can do. Typical tasks include handing out armbands, making sure the next person is ready to come in the ring, being a post for figure-eight exercise (if you've been through advanced beginner class, you know the figure-eight, and even if you haven't anyone can handle being a post!), setting up jumps, and helping the judge with paperwork. Instruction is available (the AKC Obedience rule booklet has a section on steward instructions available on line at www.akc.org), and inexperienced people will have partners who have stewarded before. You should leave your dog at home, as a typical stewarding assignment lasts 3-4

hours or longer. You'll get a free meal plus soda and/or coffee on an as-needed basis, and you get to learn a lot about the sport of obedience while watching some good competitors go through their routines. If you are interested in being a steward, please call **Jean Berman** at (617) 628-4571 or e-mail her at atgarzoi@rcn.com or see her at the desk on Thursday evenings. Obedience trials are run by volunteers, your assistance helps the club support obedience, and it is a great way to learn more about this sport. Other volunteer positions are also available, ask to see how you can help.

NEWS FROM MEMBERS. **Ruth Ivers** may have been on vacation, but she has not been idle. She and her Bearded, **Spriggin** earned their UKC CD and finished their AKC CD the next week, both with bumper legs! Way to go!

On November 23rd, **Joanie Muse** and her GSD **Bessie** competed in agility at Springfield and got 2 legs in Open Standard P. with scores of 95 and two 3rd placements, and two legs in Open JWW P. with scores of 100 with a 3rd and 4th placement. Then in December, they were in the Boston show in agility where Bessie Doubled Q'd again in Open and got her 3rd legs and titles in both Preferred Standard and JWW with a score of 100 and first place in each!! These Ladies are Awesome!

Joanie and **Bessie** continue in Awesomeness. **Joanie** reports that "Bessie is now CDX to the 2nd degree!! This weekend (2/1 & 2/2) we were in the Open B class in the ASCA Trials in Seekonk. Saturday **Bessie** got her 2nd leg with a score of 186 (some handler errors) and a fourth place, and Sunday, she got her 3rd leg and title, ASCA, CDX, with a score of 192 1/2 and another 4th place (not quite so many handler errors)"

Cathy Shea took her dogs to the Labrador Retriever Club National Specialty show in October. They competed in obedience and field events.

"It was a long weekend; cold and rainy. In the first trial on Thursday, **Jet** took 4th place in Open B with a 195.5. The next day **Jet** took 3rd place in Open B with a 196.5, losing the run-off for 2nd place to her spectacular half sister, **Gemma**, one of the top obedience dogs in the country. I was very proud of **Jet's** performance in the pouring rain and cold.

"**Teller** earned his third CD leg at the National Specialty too. He did a wonderful job at the first trial, in drizzle, and lost only 4 points going into the sits and downs. With one and a half seconds remaining on the long down, he got up to visit the girl next door, so he NQed. The next day we made another attempt at the title, in pouring rain this time, and he managed to hold his long down, even though he was next to the very same chocolate girl. He earned a 195, but didn't place (tough class!). On Saturday, **Teller** was the test dog for the Working Certificate test and on Sunday he earned another Junior Hunter bumper leg (he completed the title in four straight tests last summer). I was happy that **Teller** could maintain his enthusiasm over a long 4 day weekend. **Teller** is now **Candlewood's Time Will Tell CD, JH, WCI**.

"On Monday the sun finally came out in time for the final field events. **Jet** finished her Senior Hunter title in a tough test with her best performance ever. She is now **UCDX Plymrock Jet Propelled, CDX SH WCI CGC**. That's all the news. **Cathy**"

Judy Bailey entered poodles **Xena** and **Amos** in some non-regular classes the Burlington (VT) Obedience Club over Nov. 2 and 3.

Even though they hadn't done much for a while, **Xena** came in first on both days in Pre-Novice and **Amos** placed first in Veterans on Sunday.

Judy writes: "Entered **Amos** in Open on Sat. even though he has his CDX...for something to do. Forgot I promised him that after he got his CDX that he would never have to do Open again. He hates the out-of-sight exercises. He reminded me of that promise....did everything great until we got to the out of sights.....still hates that being left alone thing. Would have no part of it. I understand he stayed in one place but with numerous ups and downs. Thank God there are no stays in Utility."

Nancy Thompson and Lowry Heussler report from ringside on the CRDTC/NEDTC Fall Obedience Trials in Franklin, MA, 11/8 and 9.

"**Blue** and **Duncan** receive the prizes for comic relief! **Blue** had a great time prancing and dancing around the ring. **Duncan** attempted to copy **Blue's** "heeling pattern" off-lead ON MY RIGHT. On a personal note, the best thing of all was that **Duncan** was emotionally in control. Not an easy task on a dreadfully rainy day that forced us inside with all other dogs, leaving almost no room to walk around each other let alone practice any. **Duncan** took it all in stride.

"On Sunday **Lowry, Blue, Nancy** and **Duncan** redeemed themselves by following some good, orderly directions given by the judge. **Lowry** took **Blue** for a run as an outlet for his playfulness and **Nancy** walked faster during the exercises and did not talk to her dog. As a result, **Duncan** placed first with a very respectable (185) and **Blue** placed third (181) after a run-off. It was a little bit of a nail-biter at the end, because about 2 minutes into the long down, an

Aussie got up and walked over to **Duncan** to say hello. But **Duncan** stayed put even when Aussie's person went to retrieve her dog.

I got a Christmas card from former members **Annette Champion** and **Bob Gross** that I'd like to share with you all. "Happy holidays. We had to put **Winston**, our almost 15 year old Golden, to sleep on Nov. 16. He had been ill for some time, but we still miss him very much. He'd been our companion during our time in Boston, Maine, France, Pennsylvania and Illinois. Not many dogs are lucky enough to have a boat on the coast of Maine, dinner in Paris at the Tour D'Argent and a flight in a private plane to a chateau in Normandy. We have Samson, a 7 month old Golden, to keep us company. He needs a lot of training. We take him to a commercial training place, which is ok but not as nice as NEDTC."

I met Annette and Bob just before they left for France and I had the pleasure of meeting **Winston**. A very nice boy. **Annette** and **Bob** are now living in Illinois, and although it's too far for them to train with us, they like keeping up on all the news.

Other Crossings...

Margherita Walker's puli, the elder statesman **Basil** lost his battle with failing health. He lived a long and happy life. It was still too soon for him to go and our thoughts are with **Margherita** and **Bob**.

"Of all the sad sights in this world of sin, is a little lost pup, with his tail tucked in."

Has it been over a year that I found **Bobby**? It seems like only this morning that I spied the little waif on my way to work; hairless and hungry, and definitely the saddest sight in this world of sin. A year. Hmm. Barely a blip on the radar of time and now he's gone.

It was a whirlwind year. Medically he was not in the best of shape; bad teeth (an under-statement), class 4 heart murmur and severe congestive heart disease as well as infections in various and sundry other body parts. The doctors didn't say in so many words, but I knew they didn't expect him to live long because of his coronary disease; maybe a month or so. They kept trying to prepare me; but they did not know **Bobby**. We had a deal, he and I. I promised him a comfortable, loving home, soft food, good canine company, a warm bed to sleep in, a human that would love him to death, and a life as free from pain as would be within my power to grant. He promised to put up with me and my brood of cats and big dogs, give me snuggles and love, teach me every wonderful thing about living with a terrier such as he, and to go gallantly through whatever medical indignities might be necessary in order for him to recover from his ailments. We kept our promises. That morning in November when he suddenly cried out horrifically and fell like a stone to the floor, I feared I would soon be keeping the hardest promise of all. We rushed to the vet. She held out hope, "We'll x-ray. We'll see." The diagnosis came back (a mass on his spleen had ruptured) and all hope was gone. There was to be no magic pill or treatment. His heart could not support any of the regimens for this condition. By evening we both knew it was time. Life had become too hard, too painful. I kept my promise to free him from his pain and he kept his by going gallantly to the Rainbow Bridge.

...Until next time.

Pat "Scoop" Sullivan