



# NEW ENGLAND DOG TRAINING CLUB

INCORPORATED

*Member Of The American Kennel Club*

## PAW PRINTS

*Early 2005*

*A door...*

**It's been a while since last we chatted, so grab a cup of coffee, pull up a chair and let's catch up.**

**Ruth Ivers Has Retired.** Dec. 16<sup>th</sup> marked the official retirement of **Ruth Ivers** as NEDTC's Open and Utility instructor. **Ruth** was honored during the Club's Christmas party and presented with a lovely gift in commemoration of her many years of service. **Ruth** says she will now be joining the ranks as a student in classes with her Beardie **Spriggan**. Thanks for everything, **Ruth**.

### **Class Changes!**

It's a new year with a new set of classes. Along with Puppy-K, Beginner, Novice and Open/Utility classes, we are introducing **Advanced Beginner/CGC Prep, Rally/Novice Prep and Beginning Open/Utility Prep.**

**Advanced Beginner/CGC Prep** offers further obedience training while preparing students for the CGC test. The earning of a **Canine Good Citizen Certificate** is becoming a serious indicator of a dog's good temperament and socially acceptable behavior by landlords and insurance companies. See the AKC notice at the end of this newsletter for further details.

**Rally/Novice Prep** offers instruction using Rally cards and maneuvers, and preparatory training for Novice class.

**Beginning Open/Utility Prep** covers the concepts of advanced training, including Jumps, Go-Outs, Hand Signals and Off-Leash work.

**Advanced Open/Utility** will be combined for the time being.

The fee for drop-ins is - \$7 for members, \$10 for non-members per evening.

Full details and updates can be found on the website at [www.nedtc.org](http://www.nedtc.org). Or you can get up-to-the-minute updates via email by sending Marjie Alonso an email telling her to add you to the **NEDTC Yahoo Groups List**.

### **Welcome Chris Antonucci to Training Staff.**

**Chris Antonucci**, a Quincy Animal Shelter Volunteer has recently joined our ranks. **Chris** will be in charge of break down/clean up at the end of the evening. **Andy** will continue to be responsible for set up. **Chris** will also sit in on the 6:30 puppy-K and assist where needed, and he will assist Pat in Advanced Beginners and Rally Class (setting up courses, etc.) after that. We have plenty to keep him busy and can certainly use the help.

With **Chris** on board clean up should be a breeze. But it's a very big job, and we all need to help out by rolling up mats (or assisting in rolling up mats) and taking down gates. Thanks; knew you'd understand.

**Fall 2004 Trial:** Thanks to Trial Chair **Jean Berman**, we had another successful day. Our members performed admirably and a great time was had by all. And our members performed admirably:

**Joanie Muse** and **Bess** got their second UDX leg with a 188 on Open B and 185 in Utility B; **Margaret Stubbs** and **Jack** got their 9th UDX leg; and **Roseanne Mandell** and **Lindy** qualified in Novice B to finish their CD. Congratulations to everyone!!

**Spring 2005 Trial is April 2<sup>nd</sup>** and stewards are urgently needed. Talk to **Jean Berman** if you would like to volunteer.

**Fall Trial 2005.** The Board of Governors voted at a recent meeting not to go forward with the trial on Nov. 20<sup>th</sup>. This was not an easy decision for the Board to make, but it became necessary due to the continued difficulty in getting volunteers for the various, necessary jobs. The NEDTC Annual Trial will now be the Spring Trial.

**Stewarding** is an awesome way to learn about obedience competition and get comfortable in the ring. A good steward is a judge's and exhibitor's best friend. Everyone is welcomed to come and learn to steward by volunteering at the run-thrus (details will be posted at the website and Yahoo Group List) that will be offered throughout the training year. A run-thru is a simulated trial situation but without the

clipboard and scoring. It's a time for handlers to practice reality obedience without the stress and strain of an actual trial. Treats, training and fun are allowed. It's a learning experience all around and a great way to learn the ins and outs of stewarding as well as competing. So join us for some play learning by participating in the run thru nights and volunteering to steward. You, and we, will be glad you did.

**Ted Sprague Being Honored.** The Cardigan Welsh Corgi 2005 National Specialty is being held in Massachusetts and NEDTC is proud to honor its late member (and avid Cardigan fancier) **Ted Sprague** who passed away a few years ago. **Ted** even trained one of his to a multi-surface tracking title! **Ted's** many years of membership were boldly marked by his service to NEDTC. Even after he had retired as a Board member and his failing health kept him from coming to classes, he continued to open his home to our monthly Board meetings. He was a wealth of information about Cardigans, the dog world and the ins and outs of AKC. With his background he was, of course, the perfect AKC Rep. for many years. In consideration of the 2005 Cardigan National Specialty being held in **Ted's** home state, and given **Ted's** lifelong love of the breed and his many years of service and contribution to our club, NEDTC is proud to offer a beautiful Chelsea Clock trophy in **Ted's** honor for "High in Trial." The trophy will be on display on a table at the back of the Armory over the next few weeks, if you would like to see it. If you would like to contribute to the cost of this beautiful trophy, please send your donations to **Jean**

**Berman**, 15 Nevada Ave., Apt. 1, Somerville, MA 02143. Thanks..

## **BRAGS.**

**Joanie Muse** sent an email saying that "On Oct. 17th **Bessie** took first place in Rally with a score of 97 at the Merrimack Valley K.C. On Nov. 6th at the Obedience Club of RI, **Bessie** and **Gretta** took first place in brace with a score of 196. On Nov. 7th **Bessie** and **Gretta** took second place in brace with a score of 196. What a couple of good pups!!!! On Nov. 13th **Bess** got her first UDX leg at the CRDTC and on the 14th she got her 2nd UDX leg!!!! Boy is this fun!!!!!! Can't believe it, didn't think we'd ever get our UD and already she has 2 UDX legs!!! What a dog!!!!!!!!!! She sure is making me look good!!!!"

**Nancy Thompson** and **Lexi** got their first two CD legs at the Collie Specialties in Southbury, CT this weekend. Great going you two!!

### **LELAND PERRY and MATILDA Are Once Again AKC National Agility Champions**

"Five agility dogs and their owners - one dog/handler team in each of the five height categories - were crowned champions at the event, which brought together 750 talented dogs from across the country to compete.

Placing first in the 16" height division were:

**Leland Perry and his Australian Shepherd, "Matilda" from Cambridge, MA**

Agility events allow dogs to demonstrate their athleticism and versatility by racing against the clock and overcoming a challenging course of different obstacles. Success requires proper training, as it is a

sport of physical skill, control, patience and - most importantly - teamwork between handler and dog. There are five different height categories, so dogs compete fairly according to size.

### **Suzanne Clothier Seminar Howls & Growls:**

**Understanding Dog Behavior, Body Language & Aggression** This was the perfect follow up to last year's seminar "If Dogs Could Speak", but with a greater emphasis on reading body language, dog-to-dog interactions, and aggression. The armory was filled with almost 100 attendees who hung on her every word and watched enthralled as she showed us how to stay connected to our dogs, to "check in" and teach them how to become calm in the face of the very thing that raises their hackles - like another dog! (I must say that my collie **Spirit** performed yeoman service as "bait". He really is oblivious to anyone or any dog thinking ill of him. "Yelling? Growling? Can't be at me."). If you weren't there you missed a wonderful experience. Thanks again to **Nancy Thompson** and her band of elves for organizing a great seminar.

### **Homeowners Insurance Available to Breeds Previously Excluded with CGC Certification**

[Friday, October 01, 2004 - from AKC website]

"The American Kennel Club is pleased to share the news that in some regions, Nationwide Insurance is issuing homeowners insurance to owners of breeds previously prohibited by the company, providing the dog passes the AKC Canine Good Citizen test.

"Nationwide has stated: "Nationwide has begun to allow the owners of certain prohibited dog breeds to attain homeowners insurance if they provide an original copy of a certificate demonstrating successful completion of the AKC Canine Good Citizen program. This provision is currently available in limited areas and provided the applicant meets traditional underwriting requirements. The Canine Good Citizen program demonstrates responsible dog ownership and we certainly hope this change will prove successful."

"Dog owners should note that at this time, only certain specified Nationwide regions are participating.

"The AKC **Canine Good Citizen Program** is a certification program that is designed to reward dogs who have good manners at home and in the community. All dogs who pass the 10-step CGC test may receive a certificate from the AKC. The program continues to gain acceptance worldwide as the standard for well-trained dogs and responsible dog ownership."

### **Save These Dates:**

**April 2<sup>nd</sup>:** NEDTC Spring (Annual) Trial, American Canine Country, Manchester, NH!!

**June 25<sup>th</sup>:** NEDTC Annual Meeting and Awards Banquet, at Marino's Restaurant, North Cambridge.

### **New Additions**

**Boomer** (the Newfie) and his folks **Ari** and **Jennifer Goldberg** welcomed a new addition to their family in August with baby **Jacob**! Besides being **Jacob's** new "nanny", **Boomer** is also recovering from cruciate surgery. A

note from **Ari** says the family is doing well and as soon as **Boomer** is healed they will again be joining us on Thursday evenings. Great news! We miss you guys and can hardly wait to meet **Jacob**.

**Anya Wittenborg** has a new guy in her life, a 6 month old rescue Berner she's named **Luca** (NV Rescue's **Luca Bigatello!**). And he is a very lucky fellow with big paws to fill.

**CROSSINGS to the Rainbow Bridge.**  
**Avalon's B and B Bacio, CD 12/5/97 - 1/26/05.** **Anya Wittenborg's Baci** was diagnosed with malignant histiocytosis in early December. She says they had some good weeks after that, but "sadly, I had to let my boy go last night. I wish I could honor him with words of eloquence and passion. I can't find the words. I will miss him more than I can say."

And so shall we.

No matter how long we have them, the time is always too short.

They will not go quietly,  
the dogs who've shared our lives.  
In subtle ways they let us know  
their spirit still survives.

Old habits still make us think  
we hear a barking at the door.  
Or step back when we drop  
a tasty morsel on the floor.

Our feet still go around the place  
the food dish used to be,  
And, sometimes, coming home at night,  
we miss them terribly.

And although time may bring new friends  
and a new food dish to fill,

That one place in our hearts  
belongs to them...and always will.

Until next time...

Pat "Scoop" Sullivan