



# NEW ENGLAND DOG TRAINING CLUB

INCORPORATED

Member Of The American Kennel Club

## BULLETIN

*Summer? What Summer? 2003*

---

### **SUZANNE CLOTHIER IS COMING TO TOWN!!**

Sept. 20 and 21, 2003, 9 a.m. - 5 p.m. Reserve your space. See the enclosed flier for full details. Suzanne is a dynamic and knowledgeable animal behaviorist so an interesting, fun time is guaranteed. It is absolutely money-well-spent. **Jean Berman**, the seminar contact person, tells us that folks up and down the Eastern Seaboard (and Michigan) are registering! Hope you are one of them.

**DUES:** Jean wears many hats, and doning her Treasurer's chapeau, reminds everyone that Club dues were due in June and if still unpaid, they are well overdue. If you fall into this category, this may well be your last newsletter. (*Now there's a threat that carries dome weight.*)

**IT'S BACK TO SCHOOL TIME!** And here is your class training schedule. Classes start 9/4/03.

**Drop in Classes** (Advanced Beginners, Novice, Open and Utility) will meet at their usually scheduled times on Thursday evenings from Sept. 4, 2003 thru and including June 24, 2004 (subject, of course, to the whims of Mother Nature and the U.S. Military).

However, there will be **NO CLASSES** on Thursday 11/28/03, 12/25/03 and 1/1/04 for the Thanksgiving, Christmas and New Year Holidays.

Sessions for the **Puppy and Beginner Classes** run concurrently with 7 meetings per session. These classes meet at 7:15pm with one **EXCEPTION**. **Zero night** (the first meeting), and only zero night, for all Beginners Classes will be at 8:15pm. For this meeting the puppy classroom is required and it is unavailable to Beginners until the 8:15 pm time. Thanks for your understanding.

**Session 1.** Sept. 4, 11, 18, 25, Oct. 2, 9 & 16

**Session 2.** Oct. 23, 30, Nov. 6, 13, 20, Dec. 4 & 11,

**Session 3.** Dec. 18, Jan. 8, 15, 22, 29, Feb. 5 & 12

**Session 4.** Feb. 19 & 26, Mar. 4, 11, 18, 25, Apr. 1

**Session 5.** Apr. 8, 15, 22, 29, May 6, 13 & 20

**Session 6:** May 27, June 3, 10, 17 and 24. For this short session, enrollment in this Beginners class is limited to Puppy Class graduates from Session 5. PK will be open but class size limited.

### **ANNUAL MEETING AND AWARDS**

**BANQUET.** On June 23<sup>rd</sup>, despite the cares and concerns about all the new changes, our annual club banquet was held at the Common Market Restaurant in Quincy, to rave reviews. How could it not be? Over 40 members attended, a lot of first-timers as well as long-timers. The dinner was

delicious and the dessert even better (chocolate raspberry cake). After the meeting and presentation of awards, our own **Susan Conant** enthralled us with a reading from the latest adventures of Holly Winter and her Alaskan Malamutes: "**The Dogfather**" wherein Holly becomes dog trainer to the mob. It was simply a delightful evening!

For next year's Banquet, **Barbara** and **Sheldon Sandler** have volunteered to host a sumptuous catered meal at their soon-to-be newly renovated and enlarged home. The day will once again be Saturday, which will make it convenient for those who live great distances. Thank you Sandlers.

**ANNUAL AWARDS.** A treasure trove of awards were happily handed out this year. There were 8 qualifiers for **Canine Good Citizen** titles: **Betty** the Swissie and **Marjie Alonso**, **Keeper** the Sato and **Bici Baron**, **Lindy** the **Golden** and **Roseann Mandel**, **MacAleer** the Berner and **Kathleen Henrikus**, **Rinnie** the GSD and **Joanie Muse**, **Spirit** the Collie and **Pat Sullivan**, **Tobie** the Springer and **Margaret Ormes**, and **Tundra** the **Husky** and **Joice Himawan**.

Those earning **Novice** titles included **Lowry Heussler** and Shiloh Shepherd **Blue**, **Linda Holway** and Collie **Noah**, **Ruth Ivers** and Beardie **Spriggan**, **Nancy Thompson** and Collie **Duncan**, **Cathy Shea** and Lab **Teller**, **Margaret Stubbs** and Lab **Trip**.

**Open** title-earners were **Joanie Muse** and GSD **Rinnie** and **Sandy Madden** and Lab **Cadie**.

**Utility** titles were earned by **Cathy Shea** and **Jet** and **Margaret Stubbs** and **Jack**.

Even though NEDTC is an obedience club, we award trophies for **any** AKC performance title earned during the club year. This year Agility took center stage! Agility titles were earned by **Ruth Ivers** and **Spriggan** – NA and **Joanie Muse** and GSD **Bessie**, NAP, NJP, OAP, OJP,. **Leland Perry** and mini-Aussie **Matilda** earned the **ultimate agility title** as the AKC 2002 National Agility Champions in the 16" Division! PS: They have, as of this writing, also qualified for the 2003 AKC Agility Championships! Don't'cha just love it!!

NEDTC awards a trophy to the member whose dog wins the **most blue ribbons** in AKC licensed obedience trials. If more than one dog qualifies, the trophy goes to the dog having the highest number of points.

This year we had a 3-way tie of 3 blue ribbons each among the teams of **Linda Holway** and **Noah**, **Margaret Stubbs** and **Jack** and **Nancy Thompson** and **Duncan**. Each of them took first placements for each leg of their respective titles.

The trophy went to the team with the highest number of points, **Linda Holway** and **Noah** with 583.5 out of a possible 600!

In the **SPECIAL** awards category, a trophy is awarded to the Novice dog whose C.D. title is won with the highest total number of points. And, to no one's surprise, the trophy went to **Linda** and **Noah**. A very special team indeed!

The trophy for the Open dog whose C.D.X. title is won with the highest total number of points went to **Joanie Muse** and **Bessie** with a total of 575.5 out of a possible 600.

The trophy for the Utility dog whose U.D. title was won with the highest total number

of points went to **Margaret Stubbs** and **Jack** with a total of 575 out of a possible 600.

The **NEDTC Annual Trophy** is awarded to the member whose dog earns the highest qualifying score in the regular classes at any NEDTC obedience trial held during the club year. This year the Club sponsored 3 obedience trials, so a trophy was given for each trial.

For the **March 2002** trial, the trophy went to **Cathy Shea** and **Teller** with a score of 188.5

For the **Nov. 2002** trial, the trophy went to **Nancy Thompson** and **Duncan** with a score of 185

For the **March 2003** trial, the trophy goes to **Margaret Stubbs** and **Trip** with a score of 188.

The **Selma Meyer Memorial Trophy**, which is awarded to the member whose dog earns the highest qualifying score in any class at an NEDTC obedience trial held during the club year, can only have one recipient. The winner this year, therefore, was **Cathy Shea** and **Teller** for their fine performance at the March 2002 trial.

**OFF THE CHARTS ACHIEVEMENTS!** This year saw some outstanding achievements on the part of our members; achievements that are not otherwise acknowledged in the other categories of the Annual Trophies. Who would have thought or dreamed that NEDTC would have an AKC National Agility Champion among our numbers? What about having three teams not only earn their titles in 3 consecutive trials (hard enough as we all can attest), but to do it by winning the blue

ribbon in their respective classes? OR that one of those three teams would take it a step further (as Emiri would say, they "bumped it up a notch, BAM!) with THREE HIGH IN TRIALS!

I am just blown away by what you guys are doing.

Therefore, the Board voted that VERY SPECIAL TROPHIES be awarded to **Leland Perry** and **Matilda** and **Linda Holway** and **Noah**. Tough acts to follow and wonderful inspirations.

Thank you all for your examples and for setting the bar just that much higher.

**Who's In Charge of What?** For FY'04, the following folks were elected to hold an office (or volunteered to do a job) at the Club:

President: **Lowry Heussler**

Vice President: **Barbara Sandler**

Secretary: **Margaret Ormes**

Treasurer: **Jean Berman**

Information Secretary: **Joice Himawan**

Public Education: **Nancy Thompson & Charlotte Moore**

Training Director: **Marjie Alonso**

Head Trainer: **Linda Holway**

AKC Delegate: **Liz Sullivan**

Purebred Dog Breeder Referrals:  
**Margherita Walker**

Mass. Federation Delegate: TBD

**Ruth Ivers** (bless her heart) volunteered to be the Registrar for the Puppy Kindergarten and Beginners Classes. She began her tenure with this September's session and did a great job. Many thanks, **Ruth**.

## **What Did You Do On Your Summer Vacation?**

**Barbara** and **Sheldon Sandler** have been busy checking out facilities for NEDTC to hold its trials. They discovered a lovely place in NH and **Barbara** reports: "There is a new facility in Amherst NH called American K9 Country (where we are hoping to have the March 27, 2004 trial). We stopped there last weekend and both **Sheldon** and I think its the greatest place (since sliced bread and all that). Their grand opening was 2 or 3 weekends ago. It has boarding, a really nice indoor-outdoor doggy day care, a small cafe with 24-hour coffee, grooming, shampooing, plus space for 4 rings. As for boarding, they have a veterinary hospital-type air change system every 10 minutes, indoor-outdoor boarding "rooms" with off-the-floor "beds" and tall walls between and a huge exercise yard with a small "roofed" place and it looked like a shallow pool with water, and I'm sure a lot I don't remember. Dogs staying 2 weeks or over must join doggy day care. It may be expensive - but its 10 minutes from the Manchester airport. Its run by Celeste Meade, who runs obedience classes to WIN. **Barbara**"

**Kay Barry**, a member of NEDTC for almost 50 years, was injured in a fall over the summer, possibly fracturing her collarbone. After a stint in hospital she was released to her home to recover. Her spirits have been lifted greatly by all the cards and good wishes she has received. Keep up the good work **Kay**. You are an inspiration to us all. Hope you are back to good health and on the training floor really soon.

**Judy Bailey** reports that her poodle **Xena** has 2 legs towards her CD. She got her 1st leg at the Cheshire Dog Club in Keene, NH. on May 4th under George Davis and her 2nd leg at the Poodle Club of Mass, 50th Anniversary Specialty Show on May 30th under Sandra Walker. She got a prize as Highest Scoring Breed Champion of Record in Obedience. **Judy** entered **Xena** and **Amos** in Brace and they came in 1st. Good work you guys!!

**Joanie Muse** tells us that **Bessie** got her first leg in AJP on June 1<sup>st</sup> with a score of 100 and first place! Awesome!

**Penny Shultz** sent a note to let us know that **Asha** took 2nd place in Veteran's at the Lab Specialty in June; and on Friday the 13th!!!! It was definitely not an unlucky day; she got a score of 195. **Penny** brought a cake to club to celebrate **Asha's** success and retirement from the obedience ring. According to **Penny**, **Asha** will spend her retirement years "retrieving, swimming, and snoozing on the front porch." Sounds good to me. Thanks **Penny** and **Asha**; it was very good cake.

**Penny** is now working **Hawthorn**, a 7 m/o yellow lab. As she says, "he continues to be a wonderful puppy even though he has now officially entered "Labolescence", and has thus become slightly deaf at times ("What command? Did you give me a command?"). He has been doing Field training on a regular basis, and really enjoys it, especially the water work. In fact, on a recent trip to visit **Joel's** parents in Lancaster, the first thing **Thorn** and **Rowan** did upon arrival was to dive into the ornamental fish pond. And my in-laws still let us stay with them!!! Good thing

**Joel's** Dad has a sense of humor!" Thanks **Penny**. *Sounds like you have your hands full.*

**How do you know when it is time to let a dog go?** This doesn't always mean putting a dog down. Sometimes, it's simply that the match between dog and owner isn't going to work and the dog has to go back from whence it came. **Linda Holway** faced just such a situation recently with **Shania**. She had wanted an outgoing collie puppy to work with and train; a puppy that would enjoy obedience work with her as much as she would with it. At first blush, **Shania** seemed to be that puppy. However, in short-order it became clear that she was somewhat agoraphobic. She loved being in the house and/or in her crate but she wanted little or nothing to do with the outside world. There was no cajoling, pleading or any treat at any level that would break through her fear and apprehension. **Linda** worked diligently on desensitizing **Shania** and even had her evaluated by a other trainers. When it became clear that **Shania** would not and could not get any better, **Linda** returned her to the breeder where she is much happier.

A couple of months later, **Linda** made the decision to give her heart once more to a puppy. As it turned out, Chris Stewart of Clendon Brook Collies (a lovely woman and very reputable breeder who had bred the father to **Brady, Molly, Noah** and **Sky**), had a litter on the ground, and she put Linda at the top of her list for one of the puppies. When they were 5 weeks old, we went for a puppy-fix; just to look and hold. 3 tris and 3 blues! **Linda** fell in love with one of the tri males. I, of course, was playing the "if it were up to me game" and fell head over

heels for the blue girl with the smudge of black over one eye.

**Linda** and I went to pick up **Pryde**, **Linda's** tri-boy at the ophthalmologist's a month later. **Pryde** checked out fine, as did a couple of the others. But the little blue girl with the smudge had one clear eye and one eye with a problem. Her vision is fine, but she shouldn't be bred. Chris was devastated; **Smudge** was a favorite.

The next thing I hear is myself saying, "I f you don't have a home for her..." Need I add that **Zelda** now has a baby sister? Well, the house is jumping and **Zelda** is happy as any dachsie can be, introducing **Smudge** to the joys of playing tug, running at full tilt around the lilac bushes, chasing cats, slipping through the cat door and hunting flies! After some trepidation, Uncles **Sky** and **Spirit** have proven themselves very good babysitters. Even **Molly** will join in for a short run.

We've had a few play visits with Brother **Pryde** in Westford and can report that he too is adjusting well. The first night he cried a lot but got over it when **Linda** moved his crate to her bedroom. And over the next days any attempts on his part to play with the elder shelties fell on more-than deaf ears. **Brady** and **Noah** hid in the back any time the interloper approached. Things have calmed down a bit and **Pryde** has found his place. He's bold and bright and will not be ignored. Just what **Linda** wanted in a pup. Uncle **Noah** has become somewhat of a role model now and big brother. Little does he know how much of an act **Noah** is to follow. But this little guy seems to have the right stuff.

See you at the Armory!

**Training News.** As you know, **Sandy Madden** joined our ranks this past year to help with open and utility classes and to allow **Ruth** some extra time off. **Ruth** was thrilled with the extra time and the classes did well. **Sandy** is a wonderful teacher and has been a great asset this past year.

However, she cannot re-up for next year.

**Sandy** has had to move her private training business to a new location and will not have the time to give to New England. Thank you so much **Sandy** for all your help and best of luck in your new place. Open and Utility classes will be available on a weekly basis and will either be taught by **Ruth Ivers** or, in her absence, the space will be matted and available for self-training. **Linda Holway**, the Head Trainer and **Marjie Alonso**, the new Training Director, will be working on expanding instructor coverage of those classes as time progresses.

There will be more mats for the Novice class area this fall. This should help with any congestion in heeling by making it possible to walk two handlers abreast.

[**N.B.** When rolling up the mats, please roll them tightly and take care in placing them in the storage bin. If this is done carefully, the 4 new mats should fit in the storage bin with no problem. FYI, that storage bin is the only storage space we have for our mats, so we really need to make it work. Thanks for your help.]

**Passing of a friend of NEDTC.** I'm sure many of you remember **Annette Champion** and **Bob Gross** (and their Golden Retriever, **Winston**) from NEDTC. They

moved to France a number of years back and most recently took up residence in Illinois.

We understand that **Bob** died suddenly over the summer. For anyone who might want to drop **Annette** a note or card, her address is 793 Burton Dr, Lake Forest IL, 60045.

We're sure **Bob** got a wonderful, Golden greeting from **Winston** when he arrived at the Rainbow Bridge.

**Sit with me for a moment** and revel, if you will, at our very awesome club. We have Puppy Kindergarten that is second to none and whose classes are a sell-out every session. Where once there had been only one, there are now 2 beginners classes each session - both of which fill to the max every time. Our membership roll is growing, nearing 100. Our drop-in classes are well attended and, on some nights, overflowing. People are staying past the 7 weeks of puppy and beginner classes because they enjoy the work they are doing with their dogs and want more. **Joice Himawan**, who persons the NEDTC Information Line says that NEDTC is getting high praise from callers; the word is out that these are the classes to attend. The trophies that were awarded at the Banquet prove the worth and quality of all the classes, puppy, beginner, adv. beginner, novice, open and utility.

And not everyone who comes to classes competes. They come because they love working with their dogs in a positive fun way; and the dogs love it too. (If they want to get into obedience down the road, they are well prepared to do so.) They are also inspired to find other avenues for working their dogs. Agility, field work and pet

therapy are but a few of the doggie  
diversions members are involved in.

We [and that's all of us] at NEDTC are doing  
a pretty good job. We are earning titles at  
an unbelievable rate. The club is known as a  
comfortable, safe place to train your dog.  
It's a place where pet owner and competitor  
alike are equally accepted, nurtured and  
inspired. These are all very good things!

It has been my great privilege and honor to  
have been your Training Director these past  
few years and, in some small way, a part of  
this whole shebang. Thank you for your  
support. Although I will no longer be serving  
in any kind of administrative capacity at the  
club, I will still be there training my dogs  
and teaching beginner and advanced  
beginner classes; two things I thoroughly  
enjoy. See you on Thursdays.

Until next time,

Pat "Scoop" Sullivan