

TRAP FALLS KENNEL CLUB NEWSLETTER



May-June 2008

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MEETING NOTICE

The June 14, 2008 meeting will be at Jane Edmund's house in conjunction with our annual picnic. There is no July meeting. The August 5 meeting will be at Shelton Lakes Health Care at a time to be announced via e-mail. We will have a guest speaker, from Fidelco Guide dogs.

CALENDAR

June 14, 2008 will be our picnic at Jane Edmunds' house.

July.- no meeting

August 5 meeting will be a speaker from Fidelco Guide Dogs.

September 2 meeting will be held to finalize plans for our RDOD

September 20 we will host RDOD at Trumbull's Old Mine Park. We will have an AKC Sanctioned Obedience match and Rally match. Other events will include a micro chip clinic, CGC test, Meet the Breed and vendors. All this is subject to change as needed.

October 7 meeting-the speaker will be Marcy Fallec regarding Holistic/Acupuncture treatment for dogs.

November 4 meeting-we still need a speaker.

December will be our Christmas Party.

The calendar is subject to change based upon the availability of guest speakers

Membership news

We have a new applicant:

Charlotte Moulyn
735 Quinnipiac Ln.
Stratford, CT 06604

If any member of TFKC knows of a reason the applicant should not be admitted into the club, please contact a club officer or board member.

New membership lists will be out soon. Please review your information and let me know of any corrections.

(Reported by Eva Skrabl)

Linda Anne (Pawlak) McClain 1943 – 2008

It is with a heavy heart and the deepest respect that we must announce the passing of our club president for the past 22 years, Linda McClain. She was a tireless dog enthusiast and made Trap Falls Kennel Club what it is today. Though the years she was involved in just about every aspect of the canine community organizing and participating in every type of event possible. Most recently she was volunteering with the Therapy Dog program visiting nursing homes. We will miss her guidance, sharp wit and sense of humor. We extend our deepest sympathy to her family and her beloved poodle, Molly.

SPECIAL BOARD MEETING

As a result of the passing of Linda McClain, a special board meeting was held on May 3, 2008. In accordance with the Clubs by-laws (Art.3, Sec.3) Vice President Laura Wells has assumed the responsibility of the club's presidency. The Vice Presidential position, which must be filled by the board, from the current club officers or board members, was filled by Eva Skrabl, after a unanimous vote. Joanne Roter will fill the board vacancy (2006-2008) left by Eva. Chris Sweetwood will assume the AKC Delegates position.

OUR APRIL SHOW



The April 4, 2008 show was an outstanding success and we would like to thank all who attended and helped make this, our 50th show one of best.

Responsible Dog Ownership Day

The AKC has granted approval to hold our Obedience Match and Rally B match on September 20, 2008 and we have approval from the town of Trumbull for the use of Old Mine Park. Arlene Zingale is taking care of publicity, Karen Drumm and Bev Winninger will be getting vendors; Debbie Lindsay and Chris Sweetwood are listed as the Obedience and Rally Match chairs and Deb Saray will be getting the ribbons. We need to address: Getting Rings; jumps; rally items; an MC for the main ring; a set up and clean up crew; a complete listing of events and distributing the flyer to as many places as possible. We need more volunteers. Now is the time to jump in and help the club make this the best Responsible Dog Ownership day ever.

Please e-mail Debbie Lindsay at Pachaug89@aol.com (929-3329) or Chris Sweetwood at csweet@optonline.net (877-6157), the co-chairs for the RDOD.

Arlene Zingale, our Public Relations chair needs members to bring in their local papers to her at the picnic or call her, so we can identify these papers and run ads.

We need a commitment from club members to hand out flyers (in a town of their choice) for RDOD. Arlene would like you to think outside the "crate" meaning not only dog related places (stores, groomers and the like) but other places. She was in the Fairfield Town Hall the other day and the bulletin board had all sorts of announcements and has been making a point of noticing in her daily travels of places that have flyers taped to their windows about stuff happening in the area. She will hand out the flyers at our June meeting (picnic), August and September meetings and the members can start putting them up as they go about their life.

In addition to handing out hard copy flyers she would like the members to start sending her e-mail addresses or web site addresses to places that would be willing to post a flyer. Places like groomers, pet related stores, other clubs that they may belong to. Any special interest lists on Yahoo that they may belong to, breed clubs, and the examples can just go on and on. She would like to set-up a database that can be sorted to suit the event. Once this gets set-up it will make "Public Relations" a whole lot easier and far more effective. It's pretty easy to send out emails to a lot of people with a press of the send button. Arlene's e-mail address is zachzach@sbcglobal.net

Trap Falls Kennel Club Offering Obedience, Handling and Tricks for Fun Opened to all dogs, purebred or mixed 7 weeks for \$140

Starting June 2nd (Monday)

Puppy/Family Dog Obedience – 6:00 pm to 7:00 pm
Intermediate Obedience – 7:00 pm to 8:00 pm
Tricks for Fun 8:00 pm to 9:00 pm

Starting June 4th (Wednesday)

Puppy/Family Dog Obedience – 6:30 pm to 7:30 pm
Dog Showing for the Beginner Part II – 7:30 pm to 8:30 pm
Breed Handling (Drop-In \$10) 8:30 pm to 9:30 pm

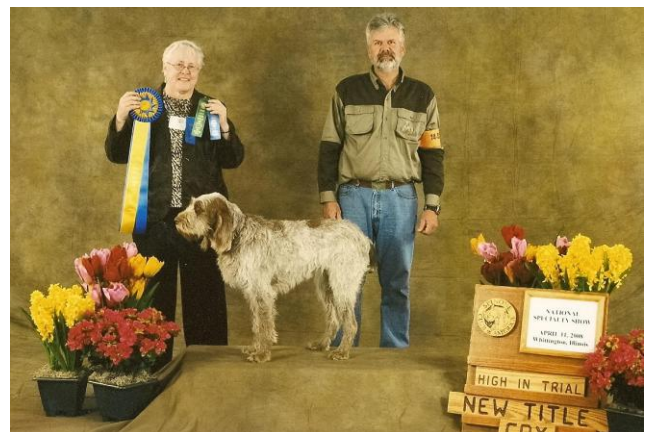
Held at the Echo Hose Fire House on Coram Road in Shelton (Route 8-Exit 13)

Call Margie Miles for more information 203-924-2985

WAGS AND BRAGS



Karen Drumm and her pointer (Parker) Ch. Black Alder Barnard College took a Sporting Group 3 at the Springfield Kennel Club Show on Friday, April 18, 2008 under Judge Thomas Tracy. This is Parker's second group placement. As of the end of March, Parker is ranked #16 Pointer in the US.



On April 11, 2008, Siena Castellana DiMorghengo MH CDX RAE, owned by Lauren Friedman and Chris Sweetwood, earned her CDX with a First Place finish and won the High in Trial award at the Spinone Club of America National Specialty in Whittington, Illinois. This is Siena's second High in Trial Award. She earned her first two legs by placing first and second at the Edison Dog Show on March 21 and 22, 2008. At the National Specialty Siena also competed in Rally, earning First Place in Rally Excellent with a score of 100 and First Place in Rally Advanced with a score of 99.



On April 12, 2008, Ch. Drago Castellano of Trollbo JH RN, owned by Lauren Friedman and Chris Sweetwood was awarded the Ty Cup by the Spinone Club of America at the National Specialty in Whittington, Illinois. The Ty Cup is awarded annually to the top Spinone for excellence and versatility in three or more areas of competition.

AKC NEWS

AKC WELCOMES DOGUE DE BORDEAUX TO WORKING GROUP

- Six Breeds to Join the Miscellaneous Class -

New York, NY - The American Kennel Club(r) is pleased to welcome the Dogue de Bordeaux as the 158th AKC registered breed. The Dogue de Bordeaux, sometimes referred to as the "French Mastiff", will be eligible for full AKC(r) registration and competition in the Working Group at shows held on and after July 1, 2008. The Dogue de Bordeaux is among the most ancient of purebred dogs, with many theories surrounding its origin. The breed was named in 1863 following its first appearance at a canine exhibition at the "Jardin d'Acclimation" in Paris, France. The Dogue de Bordeaux could often be found guarding the vineyards or butcher shops in France; however they were also used for hunting large game such as bear and wild boar. It wasn't until the 1960's that the breed made its first appearance in the United States. The loveable face and personality of the Dogue de Bordeaux was brought to public attention by the 1989 movie, Turner and Hooch, starring Tom Hanks. In this comedy the Dogue de

Bordeaux is portrayed as a stubborn, slobbering mischief-maker with a heart of gold. "This is probably a very accurate description," said George Brown, President of the Dogue de Bordeaux Society of America. "Despite the breed's massive size and intimidating stature, they are extremely loveable and devoted dogs with a laid back attitude."

For more information about the Dogue de Bordeaux, visit the Dogue de Bordeaux Society of America at <http://www.dbsa.org/>. On the same date, six breeds that are working towards full AKC recognition will join the AKC Miscellaneous Class:

- * Bluetick Coonhound
- * Cane Corso
- * Cesky Terrier
- * Icelandic Sheepdog
- * Leonberger
- * Norwegian Lundehund

Breeds in the Miscellaneous Class may compete and earn titles in Companion Events and also select Performance Events. Miscellaneous breeds are also eligible to compete in Junior Showmanship. They may compete at conformation shows, but are limited to competition in the Miscellaneous Class and are not eligible for championship points.

AKC RULE CHANGE ALLOWS OWNERS TO RENAME THEIR DOGS

New York, NY- The American Kennel Club® (AKC) is pleased to announce a registration rule change that now allows owners of AKC registered dogs to change the official name of their pet. Dogs are eligible if they were born in the U.S., have never been bred, or have not won any awards at an AKC event. "We have a lot of interest from AKC registered dog owners looking to rename their dogs," said David Roberts, AKC's Assistant Vice President of Registration. "In most cases, the dog is a beloved pet and the owner would like to pick a name that has special value to them. The new rule allows owners to change the name when transferring their AKC registered dog, or to request a name change at any time." Previously, a policy was in place that only allowed the owner to change a dog's name if the dog had been individually registered by its breeder and the request was accompanied by written permission from the breeder. The new regulation reads: "The name of a dog registered with The American Kennel Club will be allowed to be changed provided the dog was whelped in the United States and in cases where the breeder(s) first individually registered the dog, their written consent would be required. A dog name containing a Registered Kennel Name cannot be changed without the written consent of the owner(s) of that Registered Kennel Name. However, no change in the name will be recorded by The American Kennel Club after the dog has produced or sired an AKC registered litter or received an award at an AKC licensed or member event. Any name change must comply with all AKC requirements." The service fee for a name change is \$25. The Dog Name Change Authorization form is located online at <http://www.akc.org/pdfs/ADCG01.pdf>. The completed form can be faxed to the AKC at: 919-816-4261 or mailed to the address on the application.

AKC TO CELEBRATE 125th ANNIVERSARY AT 2009 AKC/EUKANUBA NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP

-- Entries for 2009 Show Open To All Competitors --

New York, NY (February 29, 2008) - The American Kennel Club(r) is pleased to announce that the 2009 AKC/Eukanuba National Championship will be the platform for AKC's 125th anniversary celebration. In recognition of this milestone, the AKC will waive the invitational format. As was the case for AKC's centennial show in 1984, classes will be offered at the breed level and championship points will be awarded. The event will take place in Long Beach, CA on Saturday, December 12 and Sunday, December 13, 2009 and will continue to showcase the top American dogs as well as offer the popular Bred-by-Exhibitor competition and Eukanuba World Challenge. AKC anticipates a very significant entry and therefore an entry limit may be necessary. The panel for this show will consist of almost 90 judges. To further commemorate the anniversary, AKC Parent Clubs are invited to hold a specialty or supported entry in conjunction with this show. If a Parent Club chooses not to participate, then local specialty clubs will be given the opportunity to join us. The AKC/Eukanuba National Championship will return to an invitation-only format in 2010. All dogs who would have qualified for the 2009 show will be invited to attend the 2010 show, along with the 2010 qualifiers. The AKC National Obedience Invitational and AKC Agility Invitational will be held in conjunction with the 2009 AKC/Eukanuba National Championship. The Los Encinos Kennel Club, Kennel Club of Beverly Hills and Long Beach Kennel Club shows will precede the AKC/Eukanuba National Championship at the same site on Dec. 9-11, 2009.

Critical Periods in a Puppies Development

"What the puppy learns now will shape it into the kind of dog it will be for evermore" Acquiring a puppy at the right age and providing it with the proper atmosphere during the critical periods of its life (when character and personality are being formed) is the only absolute way that the man/dog relationship, character traits, and trainability can be pre-determined and pre-ordained. Many people who acquire dogs at the age of six months, eight months, a year or even two years, are perplexed to find that their dogs just can't seem to demonstrate much of an emotional bond with their owner. Sometimes, they are shy which usually results in a characteristic known as fear biting, or perhaps the reverse is true; over-aggressiveness and bullish tendencies.

Scientific studies have shown that there are FIVE critical periods in a puppy's life. That is five phases of mental development during which adverse conditions could cripple a dog emotionally for life. Conversely, positive conditions during these five phases will produce dogs of the highest caliber mentally and socially. So important were these scientific findings that the Guide Dog Foundation instituted these "positive conditions" for puppies being raised to become Guide Dogs for the blind. These dogs received the most rigorous and exacting training of any dogs and therefore must be perfectly adjusted. Dr J Paul Scott, Director of The Animal Behavior Laboratory directed a project to determine just when these critical periods are shown in one particular test - extreme though it may have been. A puppy, twenty-one days old was removed from the litter and completely isolated. Although it was carefully fed and watered, its caretaker was careful not to play with or even speak to it. The only toys the experimental puppy had were a water bucket and food dish. By sixteen weeks of age the puppy had not had any contact with other dogs (except for the first 21 days of his life) and no human contact except for being fed and watered by a caretaker who barely acknowledged the pup's existence. At four months of age, the experimental puppy was once again placed with its litter mates. It did not recognize them, either as litter mates or dogs. The puppy's isolation during the

critical periods of its life, its complete removal from the companionship of other dogs and humans had developed as character to such an extent that it would never adjust to the society of either. The puppy had passed the age of being capable of adjusting socially.

Zero to 21 days: As a result of many years of scientific research it has been determined that the first critical period covers the entire first two weeks of the puppy's life. During this period the puppy's mental capacity is nearly zero, and the puppy reacts only to its needs of warmth, food, sleep and its mother. Tests were conducted to determine whether a puppy was capable of learning anything at all during the first critical period, and it was determined that it was not. It was, however, determined that something nearly miraculous occurs on the 21st day, and that it occurs in all dogs, regardless of breed.

21st Day: On the 21st day. ALL of the puppy's senses begin to function. The senses were present in the puppy during the first critical period, but were dormant. The 21st day of the puppy's life is like an automatic switch that turns on. It also turns on the second and possibly the most important critical period in the puppy's life.

21st to 28th Day: During this period the puppy needs its mother more than any other time. The brain and nervous system begin to develop. Awareness begins to take place, and, in this mental stage, a new puppy finds the world that surrounds it rather frightening. Things that happen can be frightening experiences. A puppy removed from its mother during this second critical period will never attain the mental and emotional growth that it COULD and WOULD have, if it had been left alone. The social stress of being alive - and the awareness of it - has its greatest impact during this second critical period in the new puppy's life; that is, between the 3rd and 4th weeks. It may seem peculiar to some that no other times in a dog's life presents the same proneness to such emotional upsets and that such upsets could have such a traumatic and permanent effect on the puppy's social attitudes. It is during this second critical period in the new puppy's life that the characteristic of nervousness can generate shyness and other negative qualities in a puppy. Once adverse conditions have developed negative qualities in this second critical period, no amount of re-conditioning or training, later in life will alter or significantly modify the resultant negative characteristics.

5th to 7th Weeks: This must be considered as the third period in the puppy's life. The puppy will venture away from home, not very far, and do a little exploring. At the beginning of the 6th week, awareness of society will dawn. That is, the society of man and the society of the dog. The puppy's nervous system and trainability are developing and by the end of this critical period, will have developed to capacity. During this third critical period, your puppy will learn to respond to voices and will begin to recognize people. It is during this period that a 'social pecking order' will be established among the puppies in the litter. Some of the puppies will learn to fight for food, they will be the bullies. The litter mates that are cowed by the aggressive tendencies of the others will become shy. The scientific tests at Hamilton station have shown that it is an advantage for a puppy to remain with the litter long enough to acquire a little competitive spirit. But that too much is detrimental to the puppy's emotional growth. Puppies that remain with litter mates after the seventh week will develop bullish or cowed tendencies which will remain with them into adulthood. The third critical period ends during the 7th week and the puppy is now considered emotionally developed and ready to learn. The training ability system within the dog is ripe and is operating to capacity. What it learns during the fourth critical period will be retained and become part of the personality and characteristic of the overall dog. If the puppy is left with the mother, its emotional development will be crippled. It will remain dependent upon her, but in her will find very little security since she will begin to totally ignore the pup. If the puppy remains with the litter beyond this point, and without adequate human contact, its social adjustment will be learned from litter mates. The optimum time for taking a puppy into a new

household is at the end of the seventh week and the beginning of the puppy's fourth critical period.

8th to 12th Week: This fourth critical period extends to the 12th week of the puppy's life. Since the puppy's trainability, or learning facilities, are operating at full capacity now, it is better that he do his learning from his new owner. And learn he will. This period marks a time when the puppy will learn at a fast and furious pace. Although the "come, sit, stay and no" commands are invaluable if taught during the fourth period, perhaps the most important single response during this period is learning to fetch. At first glance this may sound unnecessary and unimportant. It should be pointed out however that puppies who cannot learn to fetch are dropped from the Guide Dogs Program. Moreover, adult dogs bring trained as Drug Detector Dogs and Bomb Detector Dogs must first learn to fetch. A dog that cannot learn to fetch or refuses to learn will not become a detector dog or guide dog. The significance of fetching cannot be over emphasized. How such a game expands a puppy's mind and what such willingness to fetch reveals about a puppy would require an article in itself. Learning to fetch in the 4th critical period can spell success or failure in your dog's desire and ability to work for you.

13th to 16th Week: The fifth and final critical period is from the 13th to 16th week of the puppy's life. A highly significant thing will happen during this period and the owner should be prepared for it and ready to handle it smoothly and with confidence. The puppy will make its first attempt to establish itself as the dominant being in the "pack" (family). It is now that the puppy will learn whether it can physically turn on its owner and get away with it. It would be well to point out here that if the puppy is allowed to get away with it, the confidence and the respect of the owner that developed during the fourth critical period will be lost. The tolerance level towards the owner will narrow.

The puppy learns by rebelling that it gets things its way. It is during this 5th critical period that absolute authority will be challenged. It is here that the challenge must be met, head on, by the dog's owner. Instructing people as to the best method of dealing with the problem is difficult because no two dogs are exactly alike. Disciplinary measures for one dog are not necessarily suitable for another. In dog training schools the question is often asked: "What shall I do if my dog bites me?" The answer usually goes something like this: "What would you do if your child hit you?" Suffice to say that the new puppy will challenge your authority during the fifth critical period and try to establish itself as the dominant being. It should be shown swiftly and firmly that, although you love it implicitly, by all that's holy, YOU are the dominant being and there is only room at the top for one! Formal obedience training should begin during this fifth critical period, if the full potential of the puppy's intelligence and companion ability is to be realized. Being aware of the five critical periods and providing the correct environment during these periods, as well as instituting proper learning techniques, will allow a puppy to develop emotionally and socially to full potential. Each time you marvel at a guide dog leading its blind master through busy traffic, you can be assured that the five critical periods were the criterion for the successful performance of the dog. When you bring your puppy home, the critical periods which will follow will be critical periods in your life as well. The way you handle those periods will determine what kind of dog you will have in the years to come. It may, however, determine what kind of dog someone else will have. If the puppy you acquired doesn't grow up to be what you wanted it to be, if it has strange quirks in its behavior which embarrass or distress you, the dog may end up being passed from home to home. Chances are, no one else will be satisfied with those quirks either. Who can enjoy the dog that rolls over on his back and piddles at the approach of a stranger? Who can be satisfied with the dog who wants to bite anything that moves? And perhaps, most important of all, who can be satisfied with the dog that refuses to give of himself, his devotion and his loyalty and his love? The puppy you acquire can grow up to be all the things you want and desire it to be, if you acknowledge and adhere to the critical periods in its life. These are

the periods which shape and mould its character and personality. The puppy is in your hands. What it is to become, it will become during these critical periods. (Taken from: Dog Fancy - 1972)

MY LIFE

"I could tell you the story of my life through the dogs I have loved.

I could tell you the story of the losses in my life through their deaths. Dogs come into our lives to teach us about love and loyalty.

They depart to teach us about loss. We try to replace them, but never

quite succeed. A new dog never replaces an old dog; it merely expands the heart. If you have loved many dogs, your heart is very big."

~ Erica Jong - from an essay entitled "A Woman's Best Friend"

Recipe for Skunk Odor Removal from your dog

1 Quart 3% Hydrogen Peroxide- Fresh, Just opened

¼ cup of Baking Soda

1 teaspoon liquid soap (Dawn dishwashing soap is recommended. but any dish soap will work

Rubber or latex gloves

Mix in an open container (bucket or bowl); it will be fizzy, a clue that you should not try to pre mix it and store it in a closed container. Thoroughly wet your dog with warm water and then the solution while it is still bubbling. Knead it well into the coat to chemically alter every bit of the thiols on the coat. Be careful to keep the formula out of the dog's eyes, nose and mouth. You can use a sponge to carefully wipe the facial area. Let the solution stand to 10 minutes. Follow the bath with a thorough rinse. Be sure to protect the eyes while rinsing the head. Chances are you will not get all the smell off the face and will just have to live with it until it wears off. You can try Tricotine Liquid Douche Concentrate or any over the counter douche. After bathing, check the dog's eyes. If they are red and watering, your dog may have taken a direct hit in the face. Skunk spray won't blind the dog, but it's very painful. Contact a vet.

Editors Comments: Please continue to send photos and articles to me at csweet@optonline.net for evaluation for the newsletter. Remember to include "TFKC" in the heading or it may never get opened due to the high SPAM content these days. Chris Sweetwood.

DEADLINE for the July- August newsletter is August 7, 2008