

# TRAP FALLS KENNEL CLUB NEWSLETTER



## September-December 2012

### TFKC OFFICERS

President: Laura Wells 929-1332  
Vice Pres.: Lauren Friedman 877-6157  
Corresponding Sec.: Cindy Richardson 381-9490  
Recording Sec.: Cindy Sherman 263-5243  
Treasurer: Laura Hovanec 723-4187

[www.TRAPFALLS.org](http://www.TRAPFALLS.org)

### Newsletter Editor

Chris Sweetwood  
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AKC Delegate  
Chris Sweetwood 877-6157  
Canine Legislation Rep.  
Vacant

## MEETING NOTICE

The next meeting will be February 5, 2013 at the Apple Rehab/ Shelton Lakes Health Care at 7:30 p.m. with the board meeting at 6:30 p.m.

dessert. We will also have our Pet photo contest, so start snapping those pictures! Put the date on your calendar! Looking forward to seeing you there! Please contact Jane at phone 203-876-1310 or e-mail [elmud@att.net](mailto:elmud@att.net)

## CALENDAR 2012

**December 2-**The Christmas Party

## CALENDAR 2013

**February 5-** meeting  
**March 5-** meeting  
**April 2-** meeting  
**April 7-** TFKC Show  
**May 7-** meeting  
**June** picnic date to be announced  
**August 6-** meeting  
**September 3-** meeting  
RDOD date to be announced  
**October 1-** meeting  
**November 5-** meeting  
**December** Christmas party date to be announced

## MEMBERSHIP NEWS

Welcome to new members Boris and Robin Katzenberg. Applicants Sarah and Wes Murphy have met their requirements and have been approved by the board. They will be voted on by the general membership at the next meeting. If any member knows of any reason that these applicants should not be accepted, please contact a Board member.

## IT'S PARTY TIME

HO HO HO its that time again. Please join us for our annual Christmas party. This year the event will be hosted by Jane Edmunds, at 19 Seaside Avenue in Milford, CT, on Sunday December 2, 2012, from 1 to 5 pm. Entrees will be provided by the club. Members are asked to RSVP (by November 25th) and include if you can, or want to bring a side dish, appetizer or

**Congratulations** to our newly elected club officers.

President: Laura Wells  
Vice-President: Lauren Friedman  
Treasurer: Laura Hovanec  
Recording Secretary: Cindy Sherman  
Corresponding Secretary: Cindy Richardson  
Board of Directors: Ron Egidio, Peg Demaine

## VETERANS IN THE SHOW RING

Permission to post this lovely piece was given by Terry Russo.

"I see that the \*Smiths\* have entered their dog in the Veterans Class. Apparently there is no one in this Club who knows that it is customary to offer a round of applause for those that are entered. Six months ago, at this same show, I entered my Veteran Dog in this same class.

Not one person applauded. Not one person came up and said anything. Not one person came over to give him a kind word or a pat. Not one person made him feel he belonged again.

He was no threat to anyone. He wasn't going to beat anyone, take any points, or win anything. He was just an old dog who thought he was special again - back in the ring for the first time in many years. Maybe he even recalled his "Glory Days". He would have loved to have met anyone there. He would have welcomed you like an old friend. You didn't have to say anything nice about him if you didn't want to. But just in case you can't think of anything to say about a Veteran Dog, here are some suggestions: "It was nice to see him out there". Or go up to him and tell him he's a "Good Boy". Or tell his owner that you are glad that they brought him. Those aren't exactly compliments,

but they will please his owner and make him glad that they brought him. I don't think that's asking too much. One day, all too soon, all your beautiful young dogs will be old dogs too.

Maybe one day you'll enter them in a Veterans Class. And I hope that you do. Or, like many of us, you remember that old friend, now gone, and wish you still had the chance. They deserve it. It may be their final time in the sun - their last time out in front of people. Their last time to ever be in the ring. My old dog is a Fool. He thought he was wonderful that day. He thought he belonged. Instead, he was ignored. I have thought about this for 6 months now, and wasn't going to say anything. But on his behalf, and that of any other Veteran, I hope that something like this never occurs again. As a Club of (Breed) Fanciers, you should feel ashamed. Even if you dislike the dog or his owner, at least show Good Sportsmanship and do the Right Thing. Show others that you have respect for your breed. Make that Veteran Dog feel wanted and special again. Let him know that you are glad to see him. It will make his day. You may never get the chance again. Thank you."

As Lynda began reading it, the hush that fell over the room was incredible. Bless her heart, my friend Lynda broke into tears as she struggled through reading this. EVERYONE in the room lowered their heads, and many of them began to cry also, including the President (who is a man). I tried my best to hold my head up and refrain from tears, again. The President strode over to where I was sitting and in a broken voice said "Terry.....I am SO sorry. He is such a wonderful dog. There is no excuse for what happened to you. And to him." As I started to say that I "wasn't going to say anything" again, the room nearly burst with everyone trying to talk at once. The discussion that followed was both eye-opening and of valuable purpose. Many came up to me in tears, with hugs and apologies. I am a very private and shy person, not given to sharing my deepest feelings easily. This had been an incredibly difficult thing for me to do, but in honor of my Veteran and all the others out there, I felt it must be done. Was it worth it?

When \*Mr. Smith\* took his lovely 12 1/2 year old dog (neutered due to testicular cancer) into the ring, our entire membership remained - and applauded and "whooped and hollered" him with every move. The Judge moved to the center of the ring on his final go round and applauded, as did her ring stewards. Others nearby, watching other breeds, came over and remarked on how wonderful it was to see a Veteran being treated like that. Many (including me) asked to take his picture. Everyone complimented him and his owners. If only my old dog had enjoyed such a day... Was it worth it? You tell me... Sorry for the length of this, but so many in other breeds who heard about what happened have already asked me for a copy of my written paper that I thought perhaps it was something that needed to be shared. Amazing

how quickly word spreads amongst us dog people. It's often said "You can't teach an old dog new tricks". But I know one old dog who taught something of great value."

## WAGS and BRAGS



On October 21, 2012 at the Troy Kennel Club Show in Springfield MA, Wllslands Getting Down to Business, "Trudi" completed her Championship under Canadian judge, Mr. Michael Lanctot, going Winners bitch and Best of Opposite. She is now CH Wllslands Getting Down to Business RN. Trudi is owned by Sheri Reynolds and handled by her breeder Laura Wells

## AKC Delegate News

### CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

-- Celebrating Grassroots Efforts by AKC Clubs --

New York, NY - Mickey Rooney and Judy Garland made four very successful movies together from 1939 to 1942. Interestingly, each movie - starting with Babes in Arms - followed pretty much the same overarching storyline. In order to put a spotlight on some worthy cause, the young stars and their friends would follow Mickey's rousing and motivating call to action: "Hey kids, let's put on a show!" Last month, the AKC put on a show with the spotlight on purebred dogs - AKC Meet the Breeds®. The "Broadway" version of the show took place in New York and was an enormous success, thanks especially to Gina DiNardo, Michael Canalizo, and the dedicated AKC Staff, and the dogs and their people who were the show itself. That very same weekend a little more than 100 miles away in Hartford, CT, another meet the breeds type-event took place (in this instance, it was acceptable to have two "shows" less than 200 miles from each other). Like the AKC Meet the Breeds New York, this "Showcase of AKC Breeds" was a rousing success in educating the public about purebred dogs. The genesis of this event was 20 years ago when the South Windsor Kennel Club and its president, Peggy Wampold, probably had the same epiphany as Mickey Rooney. This year, 14 AKC clubs, the

Connecticut Dog Federation, and the Massachusetts Federation of Dog Clubs joined the chorus of "Hey kids, let's put on a show!" and delivered almost every recognized breed plus a few in FSS, hundreds of knowledgeable dog people, and some 30,000 spectators who learned about purebred dogs.

This initiative is a perfect example of an important differentiator for the AKC. Unlike almost all other organizations, we have more than 5,000 clubs capable of some very effective grassroots efforts. In our mission to educate the public about purebred dogs and responsible dog ownership - and the necessity to educate and build relationships with legislators - the passionate, knowledgeable and dedicated fancy is the ultimate persuasion force. It is through informed interaction and positive experiences like this that the public will fully understand the important role purebred dogs play in our lives - and why having one in their lives is so desirable, also.

These critical grassroots efforts are recognized by the American Kennel Club as extraordinary contributions to purebred dogs. We established the American Kennel Club Community Achievement Awards in support and appreciation of the outstanding public education and legislative efforts of AKC-affiliated clubs, AKC-recognized federations and their members. Recipients of the award are selected for successfully promoting responsible dog ownership within their communities or for effectively introducing, monitoring or responding to legislative issues affecting dog ownership. Honorees receive a certificate of recognition, and their club or federation receives \$1,000 to further public education and strengthen government relations efforts within their community.

Nominations are accepted throughout the entire year and awards are granted once every quarter. One year's honorees included a federation that launched a grassroots effort to halt a piece of potentially harmful legislation to purebred dog owners, an individual club member who made presentations about responsible dog ownership to more than 1,000 school children; and a club that has consistently been an integral part of its community by donating resources to schools and libraries and participating in area events to promote the sport and welfare of purebred dogs.

The third quarter 2012 winners are the Lehigh Valley Kennel Club for their two-day AKC Canine Learning Experience and the Obedience Training Club of Wichita Falls for their numerous educational events throughout the year. Complete information on the extraordinary efforts of these clubs is available at

[http://www.akc.org/press\\_center/article.cfm?article\\_id=477](http://www.akc.org/press_center/article.cfm?article_id=477)

2. What does it take to accomplish success like that? Eddie Rickenbacker, a World War I air ace and Medal of Honor recipient, race car driver, automotive designer, military consultant, and creator and long-time leader of Eastern Airlines gave probably the best insight into that question. His thoughts on character serve as an excellent description of the people behind the work that goes into the AKC Community Achievement Awards: "The four cornerstones of character," he said, "are initiative, imagination, individuality and independence." Interestingly, those appear to be four words that aptly describe the fancy. As we each consider the challenges we face from those who do not share our passion for purebred dogs, who would eliminate our right to breed, and even our right to own our dogs, it is important to remember that the will of an

educated public is our path to winning. Bringing our knowledge and passion to them starts with each of us at the grassroots level possessing the indomitable spirit portrayed in the movies by Mickey Rooney. And in life by Peggy Wampold and her hard-working associates.

As always, your comments are welcome [atk@akc.org](mailto:atk@akc.org).  
Sincerely,  
Alan Kalter  
Chairman

#### AMERICAN KENNEL CLUB AND WESTMINSTER KENNEL CLUB DONATE \$20,000 TO "SANDY FUND" TO HELP THOSE AFFECTED BY HURRICANE AND FUTURE DISASTERS

New York, NY – In support of the people and their pets affected by Hurricane Sandy, the American Kennel Club Humane Fund, Inc. and The Westminster Kennel Club have each donated \$10,000 to the Humane Fund's newly-created "Sandy Fund." This \$20,000 grant and other donations to the Sandy Fund will assist organizations that provide support and services for dogs and owners faced with the challenges of natural disaster.

"We look forward to helping pets and their owners get back on their feet in the wake of Hurricane Sandy," said Seán McCarthy, Westminster Kennel Club President. "I encourage all dog lovers to donate to the fund to help fellow pet owners in need."

"The AKC is greatly saddened by the damage caused by Hurricane Sandy," said Dennis Sprung, AKC President and CEO. "The creation of the Sandy Fund will help us do everything we can to assist companion animals and their owners in the region during this trying time and in any future disasters."

The "Sandy Fund" grants money to AKC clubs and affiliated organizations looking to provide assistance for pets and their owners in their hometowns during a time of disaster. The new Fund's first donation was made to the Staten Island Companion Dog Training Club to aid their relief efforts in Staten Island, New York. Clubs interested in applying for a grant to assist local disaster relief outreach can send a request in writing to [dxs@akc.org](mailto:dxs@akc.org).

Anyone interested in donating to the Sandy Fund can donate

[https://classic.akc.org/humane\\_fund/donations/index.cfm](https://classic.akc.org/humane_fund/donations/index.cfm).

Please mark your donation as for the Sandy Fund.

Checks or money orders can be sent to:

The American Kennel Club Humane Fund, Inc.

Attn: Daphna Straus

260 Madison Avenue

New York, NY 10016-2401

### DEADLINE for the January-February newsletter is January 7, 2013

**Editors Comments:** Please continue to send photos and articles to me at [csweetwood@att.net](mailto:csweetwood@att.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. I wish to apologize for overlooking the September-October newsletter. There was an over abundance of things on my plate, including a hunting trip out West. When I realized what had happened I did not have computer access to remedy the situation. Chris Sweetwood.