

TAILS OF THE PLAINS

March 1, 2003

Next meeting~March 11~7:00 pm The Plaza Restaurant—34th & Bell

Carolyn Brand, Editor
Lynne Tellman, Publisher

Please arrive early if you are ordering a meal. The room will be available at 6:30. You may order from the menu, a tip will be included with your bill.

I'd like to direct your attention to our website, www.aotcnet.com. Originally, this site was set up by member Steve Hilton and he did so free of charge to the club. Recently,

Steve's life has become OH SO BUSY! So updates to the site have been hard to achieve.

Enter Paul Perry, a Lubbock member. She has designed her own website to highlight her Sharpei dogs and has donated her time to the club to make our site current. You really need to check out the changes, they're great! Thanks, Paula!

Special points of interest:

- www.apcc.aspc.org has a 3-D interactive model of a home that will help visitors learn about a number of household poisons. Give it a try!
- Money will buy a fine dog, but only kindness will make him wag his tail.
author unknown

Braggs

We just got the confirmation that Wyndi came out as the #6 Ridgeback in agility in 2002. And as of February 18, Rick and I are the proud grandparents of Amber Michelle Baumgartner. And yes, she does have just two legs ...Marian McGuire

Lynne Tellman reports from the McKinney trials in early February that Judge earned a MX leg on Sat with his first MACH points and Buttons earned one MX leg on Sunday. Good work Schnauzers! (related photo on page 5)

Dancer, a Border Collie owned by Dr. Gerry Nash (Amarillo) and Regina Edwards (Plainview) got her first leg in Utility A with a score of 189 1/2 at the SPOTC trials on Feb 22. Dancer was handled by Regina.

Carolyn & Cash earned their first CDX leg at the SPOTC trials on Feb 22. Cash plans to earn more when his handler gets her "stuff" together!

Word has it that Clifford, the big grey dog completed his CD with his very elated handler, Donna Hilton on Feb 22 at the SPOTC trials. Way to go!

Here are Star's (Jerry Smith's) puppies. They look like little toys! (I should say dolls!)



Inside this issue:

<i>Therapy Schedule</i>	2
<i>CGC Testing</i>	2
<i>Working Dog Titles Proposed by AKC</i>	3
<i>Rabies Protocol Change</i>	4
<i>Member News</i>	5
<i>Club Events</i>	5
<i>My Favorite</i>	6

Scheduled members for NWTN Visits:

MARCH 1

Arliss Johnson, Gayle Luna, Nancy Ford, and Pat Stephens

MARCH 15

Bobby Golden, Janet Nelson, and Pat Stephens

APRIL 5

Arliss Johnson, Gayle Luna, Nancy Ford, and Pat Stephens

APRIL 19

Bobby Golden, Janet Nelson, and Pat Stephens

Letters went out in January to area nursing homes, retirement places, etc. The response has been GREAT! I have visited with 6 places that want to have our talented four legged partners and us visit. If you are interested in visiting any certain place please contact Arliss and let me know.

I hope to get a night meeting together in early March to discuss going to these nursing homes. I will notify active members as soon as I decide on a date. Leslie and her partner Harley and Addi and I went to Kessington Cottage on Saturday, February 22nd. It was well received by the clients and personnel at the home.

Our group has received a check from the AOTC in the name of Kori & Paul Cook to be used as we wish. I believe most of the money will be used to mail information to active TDI members who do not have e-mail and are not members of the AOTC. Many thanks to the AOTC for their generous donation.

I will be out of town from March 1st until March 8th. Keith and I will be attending the Border Terrier National Specialty in Austin. See you when we return.

Active Tester/Observers are Bobby Golden, 848-2518, cell 662-6745; Janet Nelson, 655-9144; and Arliss Johnson, 351-1283.

Canine Good Citizen Test

AKC offers "Canine Good Citizenship" to any dog that demonstrates good manners. To pass the test the dogs must walk on a loose leash, accept petting and grooming, walk through a crowd of strangers among other things. The test has 10 steps and all must be passed to be called a Canine Good Citizen (CGC).

AOTC held a CGC test on Feb 15 and it was a big success. There were 14 dogs tested and all passed! The test was fun for everyone. A big thanks to all those who helped out!

Michelle Knevelbaard

Membership Updates

New Applicants at the February meeting:

Connie Howe
Arlis Johnson
Jan Mayo
Chance Smith

H:353-4874 W: 383-8891

Albert & April Mock
1617 S Travis St
Amarillo TX 79102
H: 353-1874 W: 681-9083
earlyslickalbert@hotmail.com

New members voted into club in February:

Robert Broussard
6105 Rockwell Rd
Canyon TX 79015
HE: 567-0232 W: 655-8444
wilcohouse@msn.com

Other Changes:
Connie Crowley
cjcrowley@amaonline.com

Carla Cordell
PO Box 351
Panhandle TX 79068
HE: 537-5645 W: 477-5109
carlajerry@msn.com

Velda Pearson
207 Carson
Dumas TX

Shelli Sissel
sisselteam@yahoo.com

Patrizia D Milano & R Coronlo
1609 S Polk
Amarillo TX 79102
H: 342-0291

Sean & Linda Stokes
1029 S Bowie
Amarillo TX 79102
H: 374-7687 W: 381-0121

J Berryman & S Lightfoot
3305 Lenwood
Amarillo TX 79109

Angelia Tate
H: 499-3151 W: 800-999-5065

AKC Working Dog titles proposed

Dear Dog Sport Enthusiast:

The events of September 11, 2001 have changed everyone's perspectives and focus on the use of properly trained and handled canines in the United States. Whether it be protecting vital facilities, detecting dangerous substances, or finding and rescuing survivors and recovering the victims of terrorist attacks, the role of the intensely trained human/canine team in contributing to Homeland Defense has never been more apparent. That is why the AKC is in the process of developing a Working Dog Sport in which ALL AKC breeds may participate, as directed by the AKC Board of Directors. This would unify components of other AKC activities like Obedience, Tracking, and Agility into exercises that would enable dogs to demonstrate characteristics and skills that could, with additional training, make them potentially useful in Homeland Defense.

We have the proposed regulations for four levels, Junior, Senior, Open and Master, prepared. These levels consist of various exercises found in Agility, Obedience and

Tracking as well as protection work in the Master level. We want to do a "walk-through" or "test run" of the requirements and would like to invite you to bring your dog and help us see if the requirements that we have are what we need for this new and exciting proposed sport. This new proposed sport, when approved, will offer the suffix titles of JWD, SWD, OWD and MWD.

This new proposed sport will be for any and all AKC breeds so please bring your dog(s) and join us in this new venture and the fun. The "walk-through" will begin on March 30th at 8:30 A.M. at the Autumn Winds Agility Center located at 3701 Bosco Rd, off Rte 1 South from the Outer Beltline, New Hill, NC 27562. For further information please contact me at (919)-816-3900 or wms@akc.org.

Sincerely,
William M. Speck
Assistant Vice President - AKC Performance Events

Dog Show

(Sung to the tune of Garth Brooks hit song "Rodeo".)

Her eyes were fixed and glazed
 Her entries already paid
 He'd give half his credit cards
 To convince her she should stay
 But he knows her love's in Tulsa
 He knows she's gonna go
 It ain't no store, no outlet mall
 It's that damned ol' Dog Show
 <chorus>
 It's the dogs and the bitches
 and the rings and the judges
 and the roar of the Best In Show crowd
 It's the color of the ribbon
 and the point's she'll be gettin'
 if he points the next go round
 It's the collars and the leads
 and the hair that is teased
 and the changing of her arm band
 The points and the fame and the joy and pain
 and they call the thing a Dog Show

She does her best to focus
 so her boss won't really know
 Her need for points controls her
 but her cash flows running low
 and it's "so long boss, I'll see ya"
 when it's time for her to go
 You know he wants her workin'
 like she wants that Dog Show
 <chorus>

It's the dogs and the bitches
 and the rings and the judges
 and the roar of the Best In Show crowd

It's the color of the ribbon
 and the point's she'll be gettin'
 if he points the next go round
 It's the collars and the leads
 and the hair that is teased
 and the changing of her arm band
 The points and the fame and the joy and pain
 and they call the thing a Dog Show

It'll drive a Breeder crazy
 It'll drive a handler insane
 And she'll sell off everything she owns
 just to pay to play the game
 And a motor home and some unpaid loans
 is all she'll have to show
 for the years that she's been chasing
 that dream they call Best In Show
 <chorus>

It's the dogs and the bitches
 and the rings and the judges
 and the roar of the Best In Show crowd
 It's the color of the ribbon
 and the point's she'll be gettin'
 if he points the next go round
 It's the collars and the leads
 and the hair that is teased
 and the changing of her arm band
 The points and the fame and the joy and pain
 and they call the thing a Dog Show

It's the dog and the bait
 and the mats and the gates
 and they call the thing a Dog Show

By Colleen Ratcliff
 Storytym Dalmatians

Rabies Protocol Change Approved

Texas Department of Health
 NEWS RELEASE
 February 27, 2003

Rabies Vaccination Frequency Changed

The Texas Board of Health today approved rules that will permit dogs and cats to be vaccinated against rabies every three years instead of annually.

Under the new requirements, dogs and cats should be

vaccinated at 4 months of age, receive a booster vaccination 12 months later and every three years thereafter. Pet owners and their veterinarians may choose more frequent vaccinations.

TDH officials stressed that the change from annual to triennial does not lessen the importance of having pets vaccinated against rabies.

The new statewide rules become effective next month.

Member News

Annette Brooks

On March 3, Annette was planning to be in the hospital for at least 2 more days. She is in room 468 at BSA. She is taking visitors but remember folks, she's in there because she's recovering!

Annette has an appointment scheduled to determine her continued treatment and says she is going to live despite what they did to her!

She appreciates the beautiful flowers, cards and calls. She hasn't felt up to thank you notes but her gratitude is heartfelt.

One more piece of business concerning Annette. She told her daughter if she could find a better home for them than with her, then she would place the dogs - there is no better home!

Paul & Kori Cook

"Hey, everybody! Hello!!! This is Kori. We made the move here 2 Morenci, AZ & just about all settled in now. Still have a few things 2 unpack, get drapes up, fix new door handles & finish putting things on the wall, but all & all - we're almost settled in. It's starting to look like home 2 us anyway."

New mailing address: 119 Ironwood Rd
Morenci, AZ 85540
(928)865-5999
pkcook@eaznet.com

"Now we can really b home. Get 2 hear from everyone . . . Will b lots of fun & looking fwd to hearing from y'all soon!!!"
Kori

Terri Mayfield

We received word that Joe, Terri's husband, has received a nice promotion back into the helium program in Amarillo. He reports for work on May 4th. Terri & their daughter, Karen, will stay in SD until school is out. It will be five years ago that they left, June 8, 1998. We sure want to welcome the Mayfields back to Texas, where they belong!

Upcoming Club Events

If you are planning to enter the Lubbock agility trials in May, get your entry in NOW! Entries open March 5th.

This is a very limited entry trial and it may fill quickly. Event information is available on the AKC website and you can download an entry form from just about anywhere! Don't miss your chance to compete at a trial so close to home!

Entries open for the Amarillo Memorial Day agility trials on March 14th. This trial has filled for the past 2 years by the 2nd day and it promises to be a full house again this year. **We cannot hold spots for members - workers or not.** If you have any thought at all about participating in this event, **turn in your entry on March 14th!** You can pull the entry before closing if you change your mind. All members have received either a snail mail copy of the premium or an invitation to download from our website (now isn't that exciting?!). You have no excuse!

Speaking of entries, have you sent in your obedience trial entries yet? Do our trial secretary a favor and don't wait until the last minute to enter. **Obedience trial dates are April 19 & 20, closing date is April 2nd.** Remember, the Rally classes are a great place for a beginning dog!

In preparation for our obedience trials, a **match** will be held at the High Plains Indoor Soccer center. Mark your calendar for **April 13. Match set up will begin at 10 AM.** More de-

tails will be available by the meeting and will either be e-mailed or posted on our website. This is a great opportunity to put your dog in a real show situation. The ability to train and practice in the same setting as the show is a marvelous opportunity. Cost of the rental of the facility will be split evenly among the participants, approx \$10/dog (depending on the number of participants). We will expect **everyone to help set up rings, steward, judge and tear down.**

[CH Southcross Judge & Jury CDX AX AXJ \(see related story on page 1\)](#)



Amarillo Obedience Training Club

Tails of the Plains

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My Favorite Dog Sport

Cash, my Labrador Retriever, is a great working dog. He is always ready to try ANYTHING! He is already titled in 3 different AKC events. And regardless of where we compete the comment is made, "He's the happiest dog out there!"

We've worked diligently, as weather and time permits, on field work, agility, and obedience. What's interesting is that whatever venue we are currently training is my FAVORITE! This was quite a surprise to me.

I've always assumed that field work is what Cash was born to do. His scenting abilities, his drive to retrieve, his love of the water - he's a natural!

But then we head out to the agility field. What FUN! Every

action is self-rewarding. Jump! Climb! Weave! It's hard to say them without an exclamation! And the fact that you can praise your dog for the correct behavior, now who can beat that? Cash instantly knows by my hand signal, the tone of my voice or the turn of my body what to do and where to go. If I can keep up and tell him correctly, it's a win, win game!

Enter obedience training. Cash has done so well in obedience. Of course we've had some great help along the way! (Judy, Jerry, Joe, Janet, Starla, and many of you, too!) Always there to encourage us to be the best we can be. You might think that a dog whose nickname could be "Crash" wouldn't get the precision that obedience requires. But it's all the sweeter when

he does.

Which type of training does Cash prefer? The one that we're having fun in at the time. That's the key word, FUN. Why else do this? There'll be no fame, no glory, certainly no monetary reward! We're just in it for the fun.

All of these sports, as different as they may be, compliment each other. Agility needs the control of obedience. Field work brings confidence to the dog in obedience. If my dog will run 80 yds to a hidden duck, he will run 50 ft to a go-out. And the fun of agility tunes my dog into ME, the source of all fun.

Now wait, didn't I read something about a new titling event?