

NORTHWESTERN CONNECTICUT DOG CLUB NEWSLETTER

Submitted by Rene Allegrini

December 2009



Next Meeting/Holiday Party

Wednesday, December 9th, 2008

6:30 p.m.

Morris Senior Center

**The Northwestern Connecticut Dog Club will hold its Holiday party
(and brief meeting) at the Morris Senior Center, Morris, CT.
Grab Bag Gifts: \$10.00 (Gift wrapped optional)**

Pot Luck

**The Club will provide Turkey and Ham. Members are asked to bring
salads, veggies, and desserts to go with the meal.**

**Please remember to bring donations for the Silent Auction to help
support local shelters in our community.**

**Thank You
And
Happy Holidays!**

Prez says 11/09

Can you relieve it is almost December? November has been so mild that travels to and from dog shows have been no challenge—except of course when your hotel has a fire alarm at 5:15 in the morning. But as we plan for January shows in Fitchburg or Saratoga, the thoughts of ice and snow on RT 190 or the Northway haunt us.

It has been a busy fall for the Club. We have a crazy schedule when you think about it—all our work and partying come within a four month period. The Annual General meeting and dinner went well at La Cupola. I think it was a nice change and the venue couldn't have been more conducive to chatting. It was good to see so many people who could make it and catch up on our busy lives. It was great having Sally and Bob Futh there as well. I think we all realized that all of our clubs are facing the same challenges: economic, demographic and bureaucratic. The problems they related of the Collie Club mirrored the challenges we have faced or those of the Border Clubs I belong to.

Our next meeting will be the annual Holiday party. We'll be meeting at the usual place and the usual time. If you have a favorite CD with Holiday music, bring it along. With the local economies in the doldrums, I think that this year we should reenergize the silent auction to benefit some local dog welfare group. So bring a wrapped dog-oriented gift for the prize table.

Remember the Club provides the main course and wine, so appetizers, desserts and salads will be the responsibility of the members. Hope to see as many of you as possible there.

Until the ninth!

Tim

**Northwestern CT Dog Club
Minutes of Meeting held November 11, 2009 at La Cupola Restaurant,
Bantam, CT**

Meeting called to order at 7:20 p.m.

Members in Attendance: MaryAnne Carew, Dawn & Don Wilkes, Sharon Cipolla, Sandra Genung, Sandra Funk, Bev Muzynski, Joe Allegrini, Rene Allegrini, Gene Pitachainski, Bill Berth, Robert Longo, Dave Thomas, Bill Jenks, Rose Jenks, Michael Bloch, Janet Bloch, Althea Stowe, Jennifer & Angelo Zappone, Billie Ponton, Tick Acker, Peter Faber, Elizabeth Faber, Joyce & John McNabney.

Guests: Robert and Sally Futh, former members and judges at our show in September.

Election of Officers: since there were no nominations from the floor, the secretary cast one vote for the slate as presented.

Minutes of the previous meeting were accepted by membership, motion by Bob and seconded by Sandi Funk.

The treasurer's report is available.

Tim thanked Althea for her years of service and straightening out the books. It is a relief to know that the books are in order and the bills are paid.

Awards were presented, plaques, with subsequent titles getting a brass plate to add to it.

Copies of the constitution and by-laws are available for any member who would like them.

Dues are due to new Treasurer Dawn, Althea will be collecting dinner money.

Meeting adjourned at 7:30, motion by Bill Jenks, seconded by Don Wilkes.

Respectfully Submitted,
MaryAnne Carew
Secretary

Obedience exercises - multiple choice quiz

Heel on lead means

A) Walk kinda behind your handler, always staying out of peripheral vision.

B) Have fun playing; this may include biting the lead, pants, or a playful nip to the heel of your handler.

C) This is really a towing exercise. Either tow your handler or be towed by them.

D) All of the above.

Figure Eight is for

- A) Making friends with the posts.
- B) Your last chance to play with the lead.
- C) A good time to practice those Stays.
- D) All of the above.

The Stand for Exam is for

- A) Licking the judge.
- B) Sleeping.
- C) Checking out the audience and finding new folks you want to meet.
- D) All of the above.

Heel Free means

- A) Sniff until something interests you then wander away from your handler.
- B) Time to meet those friendly people you had your eye on during the Stand.
- C) Time to show your potential for Utility and do a "Go Out".
- D) All of the above.

Recall means

- A) Hummmmm I don't recall what this means better just sit here.
- B) Run as fast as you can to your handler and jump on them.
- C) Run to that spot that smelled so interesting and proceed to check it out.
- D) Alternate all of the above responses.

Finish?

- A) I'm almost finished.

Stays are for

- A) Twitching to freak out your handler.
- B) Licking your parts. Like you are a guest on the Howard Stern Show.
- C) This is a play time. I guess I'd better get started.
- D) Just pick one or two of the above.

CD means

- A) Nothing
- B) Creative Dog
- C) Confused Dog
- D) Clueless Dog

Author Unknown

Potential Danger of Dog Hair.....

This is one of many diseases I have. Sure hope they don't find a cure!

Symptoms of the disease in the advanced stages include:

1. Cooking -- but only for the dog(s). Interestingly, a parallel symptom is refusal to feed dogs cooked food at all -- something about how a "raw" diet is healthier.
2. Willingness to discuss the dog(s) bowel habits, estrus cycle, and/or semen production at great length and with no apparent discomfort.
3. Apathy when presented with pictures of human infants; contrasted with nauseating coos when presented with pictures of canine infants.
4. Willingness to drive 65.3 miles each way twice a week to chase little furry guys (carriers of the disease strains "beagle" and "cardigan corgi") over jumps for no apparent reason and with no apparent reward. When questioned about said odd behavior, patient will only ramble on disjointedly about "serpentine" "wraps" and "traps."

Urgent Notice: Potential Danger of Dog Hair.....

In a press release today, the National Institute of Health has announced the discovery of a potentially dangerous substance in the hair of dogs. This substance, called "amobacter canini" has been linked with the following symptoms in females: Reluctance to cook, clean or do housework, a reluctance to wear make-up, good clothes or high heels. Reluctance to spend money on home or car repairs until after 'Baby' has new collars, leashes, beds, treats, food, blankets or toys.

"Amobacter canini" usually results in long hours away from home and exhaustion which! It may lead to a loss of physical contact with other humans (especially husbands and boyfriends). "Amobacter canini" is thought to be addictive, driving the need for additional sources - this may lead to a "pack mentality" or like the potato chip commercial, "you can't have just one". Beware! If you come in contact with a female human infected by this substance, be prepared to talk about dogs for hours.

Surgeon General's Warning: Dogs are expensive, addictive, and may impair the ability to use common sense.

Female Rottweilers that keep their ovaries longer live longer

Research published Tuesday (Dec. 1) shows female dogs that keep their ovaries longer also live longer. The study, exploring the factors that favor successful aging in pet dogs, was conducted by a research team led by David J. Waters, a doctor of veterinary medicine.

Waters' work is the first investigation to look for a link between retaining ovaries and reaching exceptional longevity in mammals. Waters is executive director of the Gerald P. Murphy Cancer Foundation, based at the Purdue Research Park of West Lafayette. The Murphy Foundation is home to the Center for Exceptional Longevity Studies, which tracks the oldest living pet dogs in the United States.

The researchers collected and analyzed lifetime medical histories, ages and causes of death for 119 canine "centenarians" - exceptionally long-lived Rottweiler dogs living in the United States and Canada that survived to 13 years, which is 30 percent longer than average Rottweilers. These exceptionally long-lived dogs were compared to a group of 186 Rottweilers that had usual longevity, approximately nine years.

"A female survival advantage in humans is well-documented - women outnumber men by 4:1 among those who reach 100," said Waters, who is associate director of Purdue University's Center on Aging and the Life Course and a professor in the Department of Veterinary Clinical Sciences. "Like women, female dogs in our study had a distinct survival advantage over males. But taking away ovaries during the first four years of life completely erased the female survival advantage. We found that female Rottweilers that kept their ovaries for at least six years were four times more likely to reach exceptional longevity compared to females who had the shortest lifetime ovary exposure.

"Clearly, we have tapped into a unique resource with our Exceptional Longevity Database. We like to think of it as the pet dog equivalent of the New England Centenarian Study. We want to better understand the biology of aging. Our quest to validate pet dogs as a model for the study of healthy human aging is at the core of this research."

Club Member Brags:

Marianne Carew writes: I have a late brag. Deirdre got her UKC Grand Champion in late September, with a group 2 and a group 3. Her official name is UKC GrCh Regal Thunder's Apple V Taize'.

Joe and Rene write: Brandy Hills Heaven Scent a.k.a. "Gracie," passed her CGC with flying colors and is owned, trained and very much loved by Brad Mallen and Betsy Brown and co owned by us. Gracie is the offspring of CH Blackrock's Heartbreaker, CGC, a.k.a. "Romeo" and Can Ch Brandy Hills Foxy Lady CGC TT a.k.a. "Foxy"

Keep up the good work everyone! We are very, very proud of you all and the positive image you portray of our wonderful breed.

Rene & Joe Allegrini

On September 10th and 11th our CFC/Can Ch Brandy Hills Gyrlye Girl was W/BOW/BOS at the Pocono Mt. Kennel club shows for two more points towards her AKC championship under Judges Col Jerry Weiss and Dr. Michael Woods. And on October 4th at the Beaver County kennel club she was WB under Judge

James White. Gigi is the daughter of Multi V rated, UCI Int'l, Am Ch Thundervly's Legend von Mitternadt CGC x Can Ch Brandy Hills Foxy Lady CGC TT

Joe and I are so very pleased and proud to share that Brandy Hills Gratia Bumbalina CD RTD CGC a.k.a. "Bumbalina," is ranked #1 in Novice Obedience through the end of April. She is owned, trained and very much loved by Michael and Carol Grossi. Bumba is the offspring of Multi V rated, UCI Int'l, Am Ch Thundervly's Legend von Mitternadt CGC, a.k.a. "Norris" and Can Ch Brandy Hills Foxy Lady CGC TT a.k.a. "Foxy"

✦ On October 17th at the Gloucester County kennel club Brandy Hills Heaven Scent CGC was W/BOS from the 12 - 18 month puppy class under Judge Edward Lyons. Gracie is owned by Betsy Brown and Brad Mallen and handled to her win by Brad. She is the daughter of Ch Blackrock's Heartbreaker CGC x Can Ch Brandy Hills Foxy Lady CGC TT and co owned by Joe and Rene Allegrini.

On November 1 at the Back Mountain Kennel Club CFC/Can Ch Brandy Hills Gyrlic Girl was WB for a major win under Judge Donald Gill. Gigi now only needs one major and one single to finish her AKC championship.

On November 14 at the Slate Belt Herding Organization Brandy Hills Heaven Scent CGC, "Gracie," meet the requirements for the herding instinct certification under Carolyn Wilki in Bangor, Pennsylvania. Gracie is owned by Betsy Brown and Brad Mallen and co owned by Joe and myself.