



The Lost Coast *H O W L E R*

Editor: Barbara Stelz

MARCH 2007

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Your Name Could be Here!

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—

NEXT MEETING:

**TUESDAY,
MARCH 20**

at the

ADORNI CENTER
1011 Waterfront Drive
Eureka

Board Mtg. - 6:30 p.m.

Regular Mtg. - 7:00

**Join us!!!
All Welcome.**

President's Corner...

Our newly elected President and Show Chairperson, Alice Symons, is moving out of the area. We wish her well in her new location and new job. Alice, we'll miss you!

As I am now LCKC President, we will need to find (appoint) a new Vice-President. If anyone is interested, please let me know soon.

Irene Hetrick and Cathlyn Wright are taking over the Show Chair position, so the "show will go on." There was lots of activity at the last meeting and many items to be taken care of. Anyone who wishes to help with the show (to be held on June 30 and July 1) is welcome. Please let Irene or Cathy know.

Welcome to new members Kris and Bayard Smith who live in McKinleyville with two Scottish Deerhounds.

Just a reminder: Please make sure you email me any items you wish placed on the meeting agenda by the day before the meeting. I do not go home between work and the meeting.

Jill Otto

ALERT!!!

STATEWIDE MANDATORY SPAY/NEUTER LEGISLATION INTRODUCED IN CALIFORNIA

California Assemblyman Lloyd Levine (D-Van Nuys) has introduced AB 1634, the so-called "California Healthy Pets Act," which would require mandatory spay/neuter of all cats and dogs over the age of 4 months unless the owner acquires a special permit, the fee for which would be determined by the local jurisdiction. Eligibility for the permit would be based upon registration with an approved organization, for example AKC, UKC, the American Dog Breeders Association, or International Cat Association.

A major goal of this legislation is to supposedly reduce the number of animals in shelters...a worthy goal but one that should not be attempted at the expense of the responsible purebred breeder. And the effect of mandatory spay/neuter laws is questionable. Let's face it, folks, you can't legislate ethics. The irresponsible owners and breeders are not going to be the first to run and plop down big bucks for their special permits. Can you tell I'm incensed? You bet. Especially when, while researching information on the new legislation, I found that STRAY DOGS HAD BEEN IMPORTED INTO THIS COUNTRY AND PLACED IN A SHELTER IN SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA, as well as in Seattle. Incredulous. The Helen Woodward Animal Center in the San Diego area accepted some dogs from a Mexican shelter, and the Seattle Animal Shelter accepted 8 dogs from ROMANIA. If there is such concern over the numbers of animals in shelters, why are we importing shelter dogs from elsewhere. It does blow my mind, but that's another story...

Per the AKC website, AB 1634 has not yet been referred to committee. When that happens, contact information for committee members will be provided, and it will be hoped that dog fanciers will deluge those committee members with their opposition and intelligently stated concerns. In the meantime, AKC asks that we contact our State Assembly member and State Senator. For us on the North Coast:

Assemblywoman Patty Berg
50 D Street, Suite 450
Santa Rosa, CA 95404

Senator Patricia Wiggins
50 D Street, Suite 120-A
Santa Rosa, CA 95404

It has also been suggested (thanks to Jeanne Breslin for forwarding some info on this subject) to write to Governor Schwarzenegger, Lt. Governor John Garamendi, and Attorney General Jerry Brown, the feeling being that the more concerns and opposition voiced quickly, the better.

Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger
State Capitol Building
Sacramento, CA 95814

Lt. Governor John Garamendi
State Capitol, Room 1114
Sacramento, CA 95814

Attorney General Jerry Brown
California Department of Justice
P. O. Box 944255
Sacramento, CA 94244-2550

All of the above can also be contacted via e-mail by going to their respective websites.
For more information on the issue, see: www.akc.org and www.naiatrust.org

BELIEVING THAT BREEDING RESTRICTIONS WILL SOLVE OUR PROBLEMS IS LIKE BELIEVING THAT PROHIBITION STOPPED DRINKING!

(Above quote from an AKC GAZETTE column some time ago that really called to me. Regretfully, I neglected to jot down the source of the quote and cannot give proper credit....Ed.)

The following article was brought to my attention by Irene Hetrick...Ed.



No Time to Train?

by
Shirley Johnson

How many times have you said to yourself: "Gee, I need to practice with my dog, but I just don't have time to train today." A friend recently said this very thing to me. Of course, having dogs most of my life and believing in practical training, I readily had an answer: "Do you have time to eat? Do you have time to watch television...even the news? Do you have time to get your mail? Do you have time to surf the internet?"

Well, then you have time to train. Isn't the purpose of training your dog to improve communications with your pet and increase the harmony between all the 2-legged and 4-legged members of your family?

Training doesn't always have to mean going to a dog-friendly park. Training doesn't have to take place on a large field. Training doesn't always include special equipment and time spent setting it up. Training doesn't have to involve a 30-minute block of time. And, training should never be tedious or boring.

Training opportunities are all around you. There's no better place to begin than in the home, and there's no better time than **RIGHT NOW**.

Note: Adjust each training suggestion to the appropriate level for you and your pup, increasing the difficulty as training progresses. If you have questions, please check with your trainer.

TIPS - Training In Practical Situations

Watching Television:

Place the dog on a down/stay during each commercial break. If the pup is housetrained, allow it freedom during the program. When your dog is easily holding a 5-minute down/stay, reverse the procedure. Have the dog do a down/stay during the program and practice a more active command, such as heel, during the commercial break. As training progresses, place your dog on a down/stay and leave the immediate area during each commercial break. Remember to enforce the command before leaving the room and upon re-entering.

If crate training is an issue, place the dog into the crate during each commercial and allow the dog to come out during the program. Then flip the times in the crate and the times outside. The randomness of your actions will lessen anxiety associated with crate training, i.e. owner leaving home.

If your dog becomes nervous and anxious during thunderstorms, rent a movie that features them, i.e., *The Perfect Storm*. With your dog on a down/stay by your side, start the movie and play it very softly. Play and replay the weather scenes -- very softly. As your dog becomes accustomed to the noise, g-r-a-d-u-a-l-l-y increase the volume. Do this several times over a period of days, or even weeks, until you've solved the problem. This method also works for gunfire. Remember: Go slowly. There are also CDs available with specific sounds.

Getting the Mail:

Our mail is not delivered to our door; I must walk a good block. Take the dog along and use this time for a lesson in heel, walking sits or walking downs. Have your pet sit/stay while you reach into the box. Leave your dog on a stay and walk away; then, recall the dog to heel while you are in motion.

I must cross two streets to reach our mailbox. This is a great opportunity to reinforce curb training. My dog must automatically stop at all curbs and then does not step off without an "OK, heel" command. Is your pup learning to carry or to retrieve? Getting the mail is the perfect opportunity to let your pup practice by retrieving a piece of purposely dropped junk mail and carry it home.

We often meet up with neighbors at the cluster mailbox. This is a perfect time to practice socialization skills with your pup. Be sure you have treats to pass out to neighborhood children so that your dog can be petted by a variety of people. You may wish to introduce a command, such as "go see" or "make friends," to insure that socialization is done only with your permission in appropriate circumstances.

No Time to Train? *continued...*

Working in the Yard:

Place your dog on a down/stay as you move about the yard. Randomly, turn and face your dog, reinforcing the stay command. Periodically, break that pattern by either returning to your dog and releasing it or calling the dog to come to you.

Yard time is great for walking sits, walking downs, recall in motion, figure-8 heeling patterns - around two trees, two lawn chairs, etc. Prior to taking the dog into the yard, place "forbidden" food items. Take your dog into the yard, on leash, and practice the "leave it" command. Be certain to have appropriate dog treats (food/ball/toy) for a reward.

"Leave it" can also involve chasing a rake or a broom. (Note: Be certain never to practice this command when using power tools or equipment such as an edger or weed whacker. Keep your pet, and yourself, safe.) Teach your pet to be a good citizen by retrieving pop cans and placing them in the garbage. This "trick" is very impressive in the park and sets a great example for children. Introduce your dog to water play after yard work. Whether running in the sprinklers or chasing ice cubes, remember to have fun.

Mealtime:

If allowed by your house rules, station your dog in a quiet, out-of-the-way corner of your kitchen or dining room. If your rules say "no dogs in the kitchen," station the pup where he can still see you moving about. This is a great place to practice down/stay. There are lots of distractions: noise, odors, people coming and going, etc. Use kitchen time to practice the "leave it" command, if your pup shows interest in food dropped on the floor.

If your dog is in front of a cabinet or pantry door, make it an opportunity to teach the command "move" by pointing to another place and encouraging the dog to relocate. During dinner, place the dog on a down/stay under the table. No eye contact; no whining; no begging. Soon your pup will be ready to join you at a dog-friendly outdoor cafe and will be welcome on family camping trips. (Note: No people food should ever be given to the dog while you are eating. If you wish to offer table scraps, do so after you have finished, and make certain they are placed in the dog's dish.)

Be Creative:

Chairs make wonderful obstacles for practicing heeling, right turns, left turns, about turns, and figure-8 patterns. On a rainy day, train in the family room or dining room. Teach your dog the command "under" using a coffee table, a child's desk, or a hall bench. Make certain the item is appropriate for your pet's size. This command is great when hiking or visiting that outdoor cafe.

A ladder placed flat on the ground can help growing puppies learn to manipulate their hindquarters and become more surefooted. Use lots of patience, praise, and rewards to encourage your pup, on leash, to walk the length of the ladder, stepping over the rungs.

To encourage your pup to chew his toys/bones and not your furniture or clothing, establish a toy basket just for the pet. Place a variety of toys of variable textures and sizes in the basket--including plush toys, rawhide chews, and a ball. To keep your pet interested, hide a few special treats in the basket before encouraging your pet to get a toy. You can eventually move the basket with you. to entertain a pup while working in your home office.

Times NOT To Train:

When you are not feeling well.

When you are angry, negative, or upset.

When you are low on patience or out of energy.

When there are too many distractions for you in the training area.

When there are too many distractions for your dog's level of ability to concentrate on learning a new command. (Instead, try proofing your dog on commands that are already well understood.)

When you are unclear how to perform or teach an exercise to your dog.

Clarify what you should be doing, with your trainer, before working your dog.

In Summary:

Training is really all the little things you do each and every day, showing your dog what you expect from their behavior. Training should be a special time for you and your pet to enjoy being together. End each session with something your dog is good at doing--and praise, praise, praise.

LCKC Logo Apparel Order... Wear your club logo with pride!!!



WE'RE GETTING DOWN TO THE WIRE. If you've been thinking about ordering some logo items but have been putting it off, consider doing so soon. Club members can provide their own garments **OR** order jackets, shirts, vests, etc., from Sport and Cycle in Eureka. The logo is available either embroidered or silk screened onto the garments. The embroidery is approximately 4"x4" (Note: It is too large for a baseball cap), so it works best in the breast pocket area of a garment. Silk screening is also available (like on the club volunteer shirts). To do a silkscreen order, though, we will need a minimum of 10 items. No minimum order for the embroidery. The cost of the embroidered logo is \$13.50, and the silk screen logo is \$3.70 per garment. If you provide your own garment, you will be charged for the cost of the logo only. You can buy or order garments from Sport and Cycle.

Last time we did a special order, we got a discount from Sport and Cycle on garments ordered through their catalog. It is **VERY IMPORTANT** that you place your order through me and not directly with Sport and Cycle to get the discounted garment and logo prices. You can obtain the catalog number, color, and size information from Sport and Cycle, but your selection information must then be given to me, as I need to place the club order all at one time.

For more information, or if you have questions, please contact Michelle Dostal at 442-0726 or mjdostal@humboldt1.com

TEST YOUR DOG FOOD KNOWLEDGE!

www.funtrivia.com/playquiz.cfm?qid+190888&origin=

Your Editor is still shoveling out...

For Sale:

- | | |
|------------------|--|
| #100 Vari Kennel | - Excellent condition. Used only once for one-way shipping. Beige. \$8 |
| #200 Vari Kennel | - Gnawed along edge but very usable. Beige. \$5 |
| #300 Vari Kennel | - Very good condition. Seafoam green. \$18 |
| #400 Kennel | - Not true Vari Kennel but made by same company. Excellent condition. Blue. \$22 |
| SherpaCarrier | - Brand new. Black. \$25. |
| Grooming Table | - 24" x 36" x 35" high. Very good condition. \$40 |

Please contact me if you are interested in any of the above items. Thanks. ...Barb

LOST COAST KENNEL CLUB MEETING MINUTES

February 20, 2007

Board Meeting: 6:38pm

Attendees – **Alice Symons, Jill Otto, Nick Mendes, Patty Mendes, Deb St. Myers, Irene Hetrick**

Minutes of Last Meeting: Approved - MSAC

Report of Treasurer: **Patty Mendes** gave a report and passed around a pie chart on percentages of profit. Confirmation of no show ad to be ran in the gazette this year.

Unfinished Business: Discussion on trophies for show. Decided on club T-Shirts on Sat and Redwood Boxes on Sun for Juniors.

New Business: **Alice Symons** has resigned her positions as Club President and Show Chair due to a move out of the area. She will be sorely missed. Discussion on finding a new president. **Irene Hetrick** volunteered to be Show Chair for this show. We will need a new Show Chair for 2008.

Adjournment: 7:10pm

Regular Meeting: 7:11pm

Attendees – All the above and **Elyse Kelly, Chris Irvin, Beverly Morgan Lewis, Cathy Wright, Kris Smith and Bayard Smith**

Minutes of Last Meeting: **Cathy Wright** stated that in last month's minutes it was not she who would call Redwood Acres about using the covered arena for ring practice. Approved - MSAC

Report of President: **Alice Symons** suggested having a rotating President.

Report of Secretary: Club received a letter from Eureka C of C for info about LCKC. **Irene Hetrick** will send it in. We received renewals and trophy donations. Membership is now lapsed if not paid and must be reapplied for. We received show approval for 2007 and judge panel denial for 2007. This is a mistake on AKC's side, and **Irene** will take care of it. AKC is requiring us to have two gated exercise pens, 6' x 8' x 4,' at our show. Discussion on putting them side by side with chain link as one side.

Report of Treasurer: (Same as Board meeting)

New Member Applications: **Kris and Bayard Smith**, McKinleyville, have Scottish Deerhounds, MSAC.

Report of Committees

Ring practice: Cancelled this month. **Cathy Wright** will call Stuart Titus about using an indoor ring at fairgrounds. Discussion on using ring practice money to buy Rally equipment. **Chris Irvin** will talk to **Rose Kessler** to see what we need. Discussion on buying enough of the PVC gates we already have to make a full ring.

2007 Conformation/Obedience Show: Premium List has been sent in by **Deb St. Myers**. Trophies are being finalized. **Irene Hetrick** sent a letter to the Santa Cruz KC to see if they plan on keeping the same weekend as us. The Exchange Club is interested in putting on the Friday night dinner. **Irene** will call them. Discussion on having a Show N Go for Obedience and Rally at show on Friday and/or Sat. Is anyone interested in overseeing this? Participants would pay \$5 for 5 minutes in ring to practice. Discussion held on rings. **Nick Mendes** will make gates for two rings. MSAC (7 for, 2 against). We can use the gates for agility and won't need to buy temporary fencing. **Chris Irvin** volunteered for PVC lattice she has. Discussion on campground fees. **Patty Mendes** will ask about flat rate RV fee for Agility Trial when she does the contract for the show with fairgrounds. **Cathy Wright** will contact the Cooks about the Group One trophy certificates. Discussion on judges. Hospitality concerning motels will be **Deb Enns**, and Hospitality at fairgrounds will be **Danielle Reed**. **Chris Irvin** will buy trophies.

2007 Agility Trial: Purchase of FAST flags by **Beverly Morgan Lewis** approved. Purchase of Chute material approved. **Irene** will order. 50 more toys are needed for first place prizes. **Volunteer** needed for Hospitality person for Agility Trial. It entails purchasing (LCKC will reimburse) and putting out breakfast muffins, juices and coffee. Call **Beverly** if you can do this. There will be a wing building party at Sharon Kennedy's in the future. Date will be announced.

Minutes continued...

Unfinished Business: T- Shirt order discussed. Reorder decided on, 20 more purple to fill in what was sold plus some extra and 10 more blue and red to fill in what was sold. **Michelle Dostal** will take care of this. 2008 show discussion. **Jill Otto** has stepped forward to be the Club President! **We need someone to step forward to be vice president for the remaining term.**

New Business: The whole membership needs to think about what commitment they can make to the 2008 show. Volunteers are sorely needed so the majority of the work will not rest on just a few people. The Farm Store will be having a Spring Pet Fair on April 21 from 10 am – 4 pm. If you are interested in manning a LCKC information table at this event, please contact **Irene**.

Adjournment: 8:30pm



So, how do you say "mud" in Italian?

(Thanks to Jill Otto for sharing the above photo of her Spinone Italiano girls after a little wet weather frolicking.)