

Blues News

BLUE RIDGE
DOG TRAINING
CLUB, INC.



Established 1967

April 2010

Successful Second Chances Seminar By Theresa Mancheny

On March 21, six BRDTC members (Vickie and Jenna Bruce, Linda Hammond, Becky Gregory, Joy Pitcher, and Theresa Mancheny) attended a half-day seminar at NOVA in Annandale. As volunteers at Esther Boyd Shelter, we were looking for ways to determine good matches for the many dogs who are waiting there for forever homes.

The first speaker reviewed the signals dogs give to let us know they are stressed. She had amazing video of dogs who appeared to be calm but were actually showing the people around them that they wanted out of a situation. As a quick review, the following signals indicate your dog is experiencing stress and needs to be removed from the immediate surroundings:



- Lip licking
- Turning away
- Closed mouth
- "Half-moon" eyes
- Yawning
- Shaking (head)

The photos and video clips let us see these signals and also showed the stages of dog tolerance for a situation: Enjoyment, Tolerance, "Enough Already." Using YouTube postings, she demonstrated how families often believe their dog is happy when in reality the dog is signaling them she is under stress and wants out.

The next speaker covered aggressive behavior. She cautioned us that these behaviors are part of dog communication, and if we correct the dog for showing these signs, he will eventually stop giving us these signs and encounters will escalate more quickly. "We need to read the signs and remove the dog before he says, "Enough already"!"

Some of the signs she covered include:

- Stiffening
- Low level snarling (sometimes so quiet you won't hear it unless you are in tune)
- Freezing
- Growling
- Full tooth display

While you don't want to correct a dog when he displays these behaviors, you do want to warn the dog if he displays rude behavior such as invading another dog or person's space, staring, and improperly approaching. When you are introducing dogs, look for soft body line, relaxed mouth, and averted eyes.

All of this information is particularly helpful and crucial when introducing a shelter dog into a family. The last speaker put everything into the context of adoption. She recommended the use of multiple sources of information on the dogs to be adopted and on the potential families. It was really amazing how much information you can gather just by



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"I think we are drawn to dogs because they are the uninhibited creatures we might be if we weren't certain we knew better." - George Bird Evans, "Troubles with Bird Dogs"





carefully watching the dog interact with the potential adoptive family and any other dogs they may have.

Later over pizza, we discussed ways we could help shelter personnel to follow-up on adoptions. Perhaps we could offer afternoon or evening sessions in which we can share basic information and help new owners solve problems they may be having with their new friend. Often people return a dog for behavior that could be easily corrected. Any and all suggestions from BRDTC members is welcomed.

The things we learned should help us to be more helpful to people who come to the shelter seeking a furry friend. In addition, we learned something about our own dogs and the things they are trying to tell us. We also purchased bookmarks on meeting a new dog to share with the children at the Bowman Library and a poster showing the signs and stages of stress to donate to the shelter.

All-in-all it was a very interesting day.



Abby



NEW KIDS ON THE BLOCK



Mary DeMotts new baby.
Heartland's EZ Ryder
born Jan 18th.



“Sadie” Daly sister to Travis



**Trebecca Cracker
Jack “C.J.” Brunner**
came from
Williamsburg, OH, to
live with us. His sire is
Timer's older brother,
making him Timer's
nephew, & Dory's great
nephew.

**Klinefelter’s
China White
“China Butler”**



“CJ” Brunner



Hi Everyone,

I hope you can get this news-letter and there will be no problems.

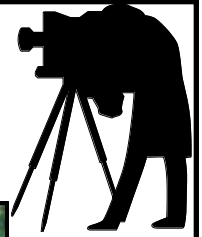
I am still looking for pictures and stories to go into the news-letter so if you have any suggestions or ideas-if that secret writer in you wants to express yourself-GO FOR IT! Send me your story.

Call me at 540/877-2227 or e-mail me at 4sarah@shentel.net.

Thanks,
Martha



Picture Of the Month



"Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil" Psalm 23

"Doggie Horoscope"

Aries

March 21 to April 20

Pet parents may notice their Aries companions develop a burst of energy by the 15th of April. Make the most of this time: plan a trip to the beach or a hike in your local state park for dogs up to the challenge. Mar's transit in Aries' 11th house will make pets impatient if left alone to their own vices.

Taurus

April 21 to May 20

This month is all about relationships. Despite a conflict or two (bi-species spat or new puppy jealousy), Taurus pets will enjoy many chances to socialize. Kick off a fresh routine on the 8th; with a new moon on the horizon, it's a great time to introduce Taurus pets to a new groomer or schedule that long-awaited dental cleaning. Pet parents may be surprised to see how motivated their Taurus pets can be with a little encouragement.



Cheese Biscuits

Ingredients:

1 1/2 c. Flour

1 1/4 c. Grated Cheddar

1/4 c. Veg. Oil

4 Tbl. Water

Directions: Preheat oven 350 degrees.

Cream the ingredients together, adding the water one tablespoon at a time to help bind the dough. When it begins to form a ball, roll it out on a floured surface, using cookie cutters, cut the dough into fun shapes and place on cookie sheet. Bake approx. 10 min. until lightly browned.

Birthdays & Anniversary's May

Birthdays

Michell Bovey 5/3

Ginger Taylor 5/3

Cheryl Harrison 5/11

Donna Thompson 5/11

Laurie Ruddy 5/15

Stacy Defilippi 5/15

Alan Keane 5/22

Curtis Whitzel 5/27

Anniversary's

James & Laurie Ruddy

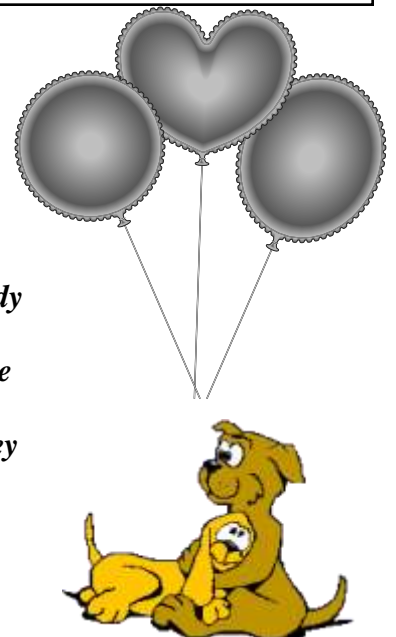
5/20/65

Carley & Alan Keane

5/20/06

Michelle & Rob Bovey

5/28/88





Mark Your Calendar



CGC/TDI TEST

On Wednesday, April 23, we will be offering the CGC/TDI test from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. at the Stephens City Fire Hall. In the past we have not charged an additional amount for taking the test, but this year we will have to charge a small fee to cover the rent.

Please e-mail me for a specific time to come to be tested. We will also need Club members to help with test.

Fees: **CGC only - \$10**

TDI (which combines the CGC) - \$15

Please e-mail me for an appointment--telling me on the fly at class won't get you an appointment! Also, please let me know if you can help.

Donna T.

6th Annual Horse & Dog Lovers Yard Sale

Save the date! Pass the word! We're looking for vendors & others interested in setting up with animal related items or services, demo's, rescue groups, etc. Also looking for donations for the yard sale tables (animal related only, please!).

Food available.

Proceeds to benefit Waggin' Hearts Therapy Dogs & the programs that Waggin' Hearts supports (nursing home & hospital visits, our Books & Barks Reading Partners Program in schools & libraries & special visits at Burn Camp & Special Love camps).

June 5th, Saturday, rain or shine

9-3:00 (set up time from 7:00 - 8:30)

10 Estes Mill Rd, Sperryville

Reserve a space now! 10x10 space for 30.00. Vendors are responsible for their own set ups (tables, chairs, tents, etc.)

Well mannered dogs on leash welcome!

FMI, call: 540-987-9632 or email: wagginhearts@yahoo.com

RAFFLE to Support The Humane Society of Shenandoah County (HSSC)



Beautiful Handmade Dresser (from Fry's in Strasburg, VA)

\$2.00/one chance or \$5.00/three chances

Drawing will be held at MayFest in Strasburg, VA on May 15th, 2010

(You do not need to be present to win)



HEALTH CLINIC - EYES Sponsored by Blue Ridge Shetland Sheepdog Club Saturday, June 19, 2010 10:00 am - 1:00 pm Clarke County Recreation Center Berryville, VA

- Eye exams by Canine Ophthalmologist - Dr. Nancy Bromberg \$30
- Microchip implants by veterinarian \$15
- Tattoo by veterinarian \$15

Register by June 10 to guarantee an appointment — Appointments are required. We are required to have 50 dogs.

Thanks to all who have supported this event in past years. We will schedule appointments to minimize wait time. You will be given a check-in time to complete paperwork and drop eyes.

Location this year - Clarke County Recreation Building, Berryville, VA

Traveling West on Route 7: Follow Route 7 West from Leesburg towards Winchester. Cross the Shenandoah River Bridge. Clock 4.8 miles from West end of the bridge. Turn left into Berryville at sign, "Berryville Next left" Business Route 7. Go 2.7 miles through downtown Berryville and turn left into Clarke County Park on Al Smith Drive. **Go .2 mile, bear right on the driveway which circles around the Park Office. Clarke Recreation Center will be on your right. Look for a brick building with parking in front and side. Ex-pens are welcome on the grass. Dogs and crates should enter from the side door. Note: When on Business Route 7 through Berryville you will cross over the railroad tracks. The 2nd traffic light is intersection of Route 340. Continue straight on Route 7, pass Berryville Primary School to Park entrance on left. Park is directly across the street from the Clarke County Fairgrounds.

Traveling East on Route 7: From Winchester follow route 7 East toward Berryville. As you approach Berryville, bear right onto exit for Berryville Business Route 7 (just before the traffic light. Go .4 mile, turn right into Clarke County Park, Al Smith Drive, and follow drive according to directions above**.

From Route 58: Take Route 340 North 7.7 miles to Berryville. Route 340 intersects Business Route 7, turn left and follow to the park on left. See above**.



“Anne’s Corner”

By Anne Legge



Making Choices in Tough Times

For most of us, our dogs are an expensive luxury, not our livelihood but our hobby and our passion. We are committed to meet their needs, but we must also conserve our resources. Since my roommate and I have 15 dogs, we have to make some tough choices.

Take dog food, for example. We recently decided to stop using a brand that we have used for 15 years. The price went up, the bag size went down, and the formula was changed, which made it a different product. This necessitated research: conferring with friends, studying ingredients (including supplements), and negotiating with our distributor. Above all, we insist on a food that meets our dogs' needs and one which they are willing to eat. We are not shopping for the cheapest product, but we want a good value. Because we order in 1000-pound lots, our distributor gives us free delivery.

Veterinary care is our greatest expense. Because of the number of dogs we have, our veterinarian gives us a helpful 20% discount. I never skimp on vet care and have learned that early intervention is better than later. Bloodhounds are prone to bloat, torsion, intussusceptions, and eating foreign objects that do not agree with them, such as rocks, toys, sticks, remote controls, and panty hose. For elective procedures such as spay, neuter, and preventative gastropexy, you can shop around for the best deal, bearing in mind that you want a surgeon who is experienced in the procedure. You can also shop for the best deal on certifications. There is great variation in the cost of hip and elbow x-rays, CERF, echocardiograms, DNA procedures, microchips, etc. Clubs sometimes offer clinics that offer the procedures at a good price, and you may receive a discount for multiple dogs, so plan ahead, talk to your colleagues, and shop around.

Dog shows are expensive. Fuel, motels, meals, entry fees, and handler fees add up. To maximize your chance of success, make sure your dog is show ready. Try to find handling classes, handling clinics, and matches to prepare for the ring. Give some thought to traveling with a compatible friend who can share expenses. Research websites to find out where points are likely to be available. Communicate with others in your breed to organize majors. You may actually find that using a handler is more economical than going yourself if you have to miss work and pay for a dog sitter.

Other tough choices are involved in breeding. Certifications for hips, elbows, hearts, etc. are expensive. Some options such as frozen semen or dual-sire breeding can be very costly. On the other hand, we want to breed to Mr. Right and maximize the chances of a sizable, healthy litter. The present economic climate may not be an optimal time to breed. Are you sure you can place all your puppies in excellent homes? It might be a good idea to advertise a planned breeding in your breed club publications and scope out some prospective homes before you breed.

In Bloodhounds, we are seeing a crisis in dogs that need to be rescued and re-homed. Some are just left behind when their owners move. Some are "assisted strays," dumped on the road. We need to make choices about how we can help breed rescue programs with contributions, transportation, fostering, or adoption.

In tough times we should not respond with apathy or despair. As the ever optimistic Emerson said, **"This time, like all times, is a very good one, if we but know what to do with it."**

Anne L. Legge, 261 Fox Meadow Lane, Winchester, VA 22602, annelegge@comcast.net
(540) 667-2937

Anne Legge is well known as a owner & breeder of Champion Bloodhounds. She also writes a breed column for the Gazzett. The topics picked for our newsletter crosses all lines and can apply to all breeds.



Springtime Toxins

By Erica Cargill, CVT and Justine Lee, DVM, DACVECC

Spring is just around the corner! Plant bulbs are just as excited to break through the ground to add some color to our yards as we are to see some greenery! That said, we need to be aware of the potential dangers spring plants can be for our pets. Here is a list of some of the most common spring plants and their toxicities, so you know how to pet-proof your garden and keep your pet safe!

Tulips and hyacinth

Tulips contain allergenic lactones while hyacinths contain similar alkaloids. The toxic principle of these plants is very concentrated in the bulbs (versus the leaf or flower), so make sure your dog isn't digging up the bulbs in the garden. When the plant parts or bulbs are chewed or ingested, it can result in tissue irritation to the mouth and esophagus. Typical signs include profuse drooling, vomiting or even diarrhea, depending on the amount consumed. There's no specific antidote, but with supportive care from the veterinarian (including rinsing the mouth, anti-vomiting medication and possibly subcutaneous fluids), animals do quite well. With large ingestions of the bulb, more severe symptoms such as an increase in heart rate and changes in respiration can be seen, and should be treated by a veterinarian. These more severe signs are seen in our overzealous, chowhound Labradors.

Daffodils

These flowers contain lycorine, an alkaloid with strong emetic properties (something that triggers vomiting). Ingestion of the bulb, plant or flower can cause severe vomiting, diarrhea, abdominal pain and even possible cardiac arrhythmias or respiratory depression. Crystals are found in the outer layer of the bulbs, similar to hyacinths, which cause severe tissue irritation and secondary drooling. Daffodil ingestions can result in more severe symptoms, so if an exposure is witnessed or symptoms are seen, we recommend seeking veterinary care for further supportive care.

Lilies

There are dangerous and benign lilies out there, and it's important to know the difference. Peace, Peruvian, and calla lilies contain oxalate crystals that cause minor signs, such as tissue irritation to the mouth, tongue, pharynx and esophagus—this results in minor drooling. The more dangerous, potentially fatal lilies are true lilies, and these include tiger, day, Asiatic, Easter and Japanese show lilies—all of which are highly toxic to cats! Even small ingestions (such as the pollen or two to three petals or leaves) can result in severe kidney failure. If your cat is seen consuming any part of a lily, bring your cat (and the plant) immediately to a veterinarian for medical care. The sooner you bring in your cat, the better and more effectively we can treat the poisoning. Decontamination (like inducing vomiting and giving binders like activated charcoal) are imperative in the early toxic stage, while aggressive intravenous fluid therapy, kidney function monitoring tests and supportive care can greatly improve the prognosis.

Crocus

There are two crocus plants: one that blooms in the spring (crocus species) and the other in the autumn (*Colchicum autumnale*). The spring plants are more common and are part of the Iridaceae family. These ingestions can cause general gastrointestinal upset including vomiting and diarrhea. These should not be mistaken for autumn crocus, part of the Liliaceae family, which contain colchicine. The autumn crocus, also known as meadow saffron, is highly toxic and can cause severe vomiting, gastrointestinal bleeding, liver and kidney damage and respiratory failure. If you're not sure what plant it is, bring your pet to their veterinarian immediately for care. Signs may be seen immediately but can be delayed for days.



Lily of the valley

The *Convallaria majalis* plant contains cardiac glycosides which will cause symptoms similar to digitalis (foxglove) ingestion. These symptoms include vomiting, diarrhea, a drop in heart rate, severe cardiac arrhythmias and possibly seizures. Pets with any known exposure to this plant should be examined and evaluated by a veterinarian and treated symptomatically.

In addition...fertilizers

As we gardeners work on our rose gardens, be aware of those fertilizers. While most are not very toxic (resulting in minor gastrointestinal irritation when consumed), some fertilizers can be fatal without treatment. Here are a few ingredients to be aware of so you know what toxins and symptoms to watch out for.

Blood meal

This is dried, ground and flash-frozen blood and contains 12% nitrogen. While it's a great organic fertilizer, if ingested, it can cause vomiting and diarrhea. More importantly, it can result in severe pancreatitis, which is inflammation of the pancreas. Some types of blood meal are also fortified with iron, resulting in iron toxicity, so make sure to know what's in your bag of blood!

Bone Meal

This is made up of defatted, dried and flash-frozen animal bones that are ground to a powder. This "bone" is also what makes it so palatable to your dog, so make sure to keep your pet from digging in it and ingesting the soil. While this also makes a great organic fertilizer, it can become a problem when consumed in large amounts as the bone meal forms a large cement-like bowling ball foreign body in the stomach—which can cause an obstruction in the gastrointestinal tract—resulting in possible surgery to remove it!

Rose and plant fertilizers

Some of these fertilizers contain disulfoton or other types of organophosphates (OP). As little as 1 teaspoon of 1% disulfoton can kill a 55 lb dog, so be careful! Organophosphates, while less commonly used, can result in severe symptoms, including SLUD signs (which abbreviate for salivation, lacrimation, urination and defecation), seizures, difficulty breathing, hyperthermia, etc. In some cases, it can be fatal!

Pesticides/Insecticides

Most pesticides or insecticides (typically those that come in a spray can) are basic irritants to the pet and are usually not a huge concern unless a pet's symptoms become persistent. Some may contain an organophosphate which can be life-threatening when consumed in large quantities. It is always best to speak to a trained medical professional if there are any questions.

Iron

This is commonly added to fertilizers, and can result in iron toxicity (from ingestion of elemental iron). This is different from "total" iron ingestion, and can be confusing to differentiate. When in doubt, have a medical professional at Pet Poison Helpline assist you with finding out if the amount ingested was toxic or not. Large ingestions can result in vomiting, bloody diarrhea and potential cardiac and liver effects.

The best thing any pet owner can do is to be educated on the household toxins (both inside the house and out in the garden!)—that way, you make sure how to pet-proof your house appropriately. Make sure to keep all gardening or yard products in labeled, tightly-sealed containers out of your pet's reach. When in doubt, please feel free to call

Pet Poison Helpline at 1-800-213-6680* with any questions or concerns if you're worried that your pet could have inadvertently gotten into anything!

*There is a one-time per-incident fee of \$35. The \$35 fee is billed by Pet Poison Helpline. PPH is not affiliated with VPI.

References: Justine Lee, DVM, DACVECC is a veterinary emergency critical care specialist and the Associate Director of Veterinary Services at Pet Poison Helpline. She is the author of *It's a Dog's Life... but It's Your Carpet* and *It's a Cat's World... You Just Live In It*



"WAGS & BRAGS"



Hi all,

Wanted to join in thanking BAD for great APDT rally trials this weekend! The pugs had fun! Zorro earned two more QQQ's towards his title, and I was glad that he enjoyed himself. We are both adjusting to his wobbly gait due to his DM diagnosis, and I am trying to resist wrapping him in bubble wrap! He does get a little tired by the end of the third run, but seems really happy. And he was even more "up" the second day--it does seem that the more he gets out and moves, the better he feels. Xena tried Level 3 for the first time, had a blast (she was a hoot) and got two legs out of three tries--I was really pleased with her and she enjoyed herself. Dutch came for a meet-and-greet on Sunday and he thought he was hot stuff just getting out to see his friends. A fun couple of days and neat courses, good food! Congrats to Rocky and Devlin, and I know of one other big brag at least--my "neighbors" in the crate city--come on, guys, let's hear it!

Amy Grimm

Whippet Brags:

at the MKC Trial this past wkend:

Ashley earned her Nov. Jumpers Preferred title on Sat. and then her Novice Stnd. Preferred title on Sun. All with placements too. Travis earned a 4th leg in his Open Jumper's with a 1st place.

Tyler earned an Open Jumper's Preferred leg with a 2nd place.

Nikki earned an MX Jumper's leg (no MACH pts. this time though).

And a big congratulations to Alan Gersman & 11 yr. old BC Hummer for earning MACH 7 !!!!

Bobbie Lutz

Sawyer and I had a great weekend. He earned his Open Draft Dog Title and two legs toward his Master Draft Dog Title. He really did an amazing job!!!

Jan Burgan

Sonnett had a great weekend at the Dulles Gateway UKC agility trials where she got 3/4 perfect runs in AG3 and finished her UACHX title!

Donna Richardson

Hi all,

Thanks for a great trial, Janice and everyone who helped out! Xena earned two more MX legs, I was very proud of her. She is really gaining confidence. We are still working on our JWW style and speed, but it will come.

Amy Grimm

We headed to NC this past weekend and competed with Ranger and Maddie, the two chocolate Labs in a hunting retriever club event. Ranger earned his SHR title and Maddie now has her first two legs. This means that Ranger is the only top ten sporting dog at the UKC big Premier show event in Ind. this year with a hunting title! Yeah Ranger. The Started Hunting Retriever (SHR) events are probably the most like real hunting I have ever seen at a test. The dogs and I had a blast, I'm sure I'll be doing more of this in spite of the "iniation" the hunters give you when you earn your title. You'll all have to ask me about that some day.

Debby





“More Brags!”

Magic and I recently attended the Volhard's Top Dog Training Camp. Magic completed their Fast Track Class. It was a great week!
Sandy



Subject: Re: Children's' Toys May Be Dangerous for Dogs

Last night at agility class, a vet, who is a fellow agility student was telling us about a case she had this week. The dog ate a child's teddy bear and was very sick. When she opened the dog up to remove what she thought was an intestinal obstruction she found a huge gelatin type mess inside and the dogs intestines were black and the tissue dead. The dog will die no surgery can fix him up there was no living intestine left from stomach to colon.

This was not an obstruction..... so she called the manufacturer of the Teddy Bear on a quest to find out what the gel was and what killed the dog. Turns out the stuffing in children's toys contains ingredients for flame retardants and mite control! It is designed to be come a gel. It is highly toxic. Now you would think a child's toy would be safe because it is for children, but they don't expect a child to eat the stuffing of the toys... huummmm that seems a bit scary too. But we all know dogs demolish stuffed toys.

So do not give or buy your dog any children's stuffed animals... some people get them at goodwill etc. The vet will be posting a warning and story and I will send any other facts as needed and as I learn more. Maybe some children's toys do not have this ingredient, but better to be safe then sorry. So meanwhile, make sure all your dog toys are for dogs. Please pass this on... it is a horrible death she described and one that can be avoided.

Karlyn karlyn@northlc.com



Ten top ways to tell if Martha Stewart is stalking your dog

10. There's potpourri hanging from his/her collar.
 9. The dog's nails have been cut with pinking shears.
 8. The dog toys are all stored in McCoy crocks.
 7. The pooper scooper has been decorated with raffia bows.
 6. That telltale lemon slice in the new silver water bowl.
 5. You find liver and whole wheat dog treats stamped out with copper cookie cutters and decorated with royal icing using a #2 rosette tip.
 4. Dog hair has been collected and put into wire baskets for nesting material for the birds.
 3. A seasonally appropriate grapevine wreath adorns the front of your dog's crate.
 2. Your dog goes outside naked and comes in wearing a thyme colored virgin wool hand-knitted sweater with matching boots.
- AND THE NUMBER ONE WAY YOU KNOW THAT MARTHA STEWART IS STALKING YOUR DOG IS...
1. The dog droppings in your backyard have been sculpted into swans



Here in This House ...

I will never know the loneliness I hear in the barks of dogs "out there."
 I can sleep soundly, assured that when I wake my world will not have changed.
 I can trust arms that hold, hands that touch ... knowing no matter what they do, they do it for the good of me.

I will never know hunger or the fear of not knowing if I'll eat.
 I will not shiver in the cold or grow weary from the heat.
 My fur will shine and never be dirty or matted.

Here in this house ...

No matter what I look like, I will be considered beautiful and thought to be of value.
 I will be talked to and even if I don't understand, I can enjoy the warmth of the words.
 I will never be a substitute for anything I am not.
 I will never be used to improve someone's image of themselves.
 I will learn the things I need to know to be liked by all.
 I will be loved because I am who I am and not someone's idea of what I should be.
 I will be given a Name so I may know who I am among many.
 My name will be used in joy and I will love the sound of it.
 I will never suffer for someone's anger, impatience or stupidity. If I do not learn my lessons well, they will look to the teacher for blame.
 I will feel the sun's heat and the rain's coolness and be allowed to smell all that can reach my nose.
 I will never be cast out because I am too old, too ill, too unruly or not new enough.



Here in this house ...

There will be an effort to communicate with me on my level.
 If ill, I will be doctored.
 If scared, I will be calmed.
 If sad, I will be cheered.
 My life is a responsibility and not an afterthought.
 I will run, jump and act silly because my back is being watched and I'm in no danger if I let my guard down.
 I will learn that humans can be almost as kind and fair as dogs.



Here in this house ...

I will belong.

©Laura Cathleen Patterson
 "MY"Chihuahuas 1999-2004"





L U C K Y D O G

Anyone who has pets will really like this. You'll like it even if you don't and you may even decide you need one!

Mary and her husband Jim had a dog named 'Lucky.'

Lucky was a real character. Whenever Mary and Jim had company come for a weekend visit they would warn their friends to not leave their luggage open because Lucky would help himself to whatever struck his fancy. Inevitably, someone would forget and something would come up missing.

Mary or Jim would go to Lucky's toy box in the basement and there the treasure would be, amid all of Lucky's other favorite toys. Lucky always stashed his finds in his toy box and he was very particular that his toys stay in the box.

It happened that Mary found out she had breast cancer. Something told her she was going to die of this disease.... in fact; she was just sure it was fatal.

She scheduled the double mastectomy, fear riding her shoulders. The night before she was to go to the hospital she cuddled with Lucky. A thought struck her... what would happen to Lucky? Although the three-year-old dog liked Jim, he was Mary's dog through and through. If I die, Lucky will be abandoned, Mary thought. He won't understand that I didn't want to leave him! The thought made her sadder than thinking of her own death.

The double mastectomy was harder on Mary than her doctors had anticipated and Mary was hospitalized for over two weeks. Jim took Lucky for his evening walk faithfully, but the little dog just drooped, whining and miserable.

Finally the day came for Mary to leave the hospital. When she arrived home, Mary was so exhausted she couldn't even make it up the steps to her bedroom. Jim made his wife comfortable on the couch and left her to nap. Lucky stood watching Mary but he didn't come to her when she called. It made Mary sad but sleep soon overcame her and she dozed.

When Mary woke for a second she couldn't understand what was wrong. She couldn't move her head and her body felt heavy and hot. But panic soon gave way to laughter when Mary realized the problem. She was covered, literally blanketed, with every treasure Lucky owned!

While she had slept, the sorrowing dog had made trip after trip to the basement bringing his beloved mistress all his favorite things in life.

He had covered her with his love.

Mary forgot about dying. Instead she and Lucky began living again, walking further and further together every day.. It's been 12 years now and Mary is still cancer-free. Lucky ? - He still steals treasures and stashes them in his toy box but Mary remains his greatest treasure.

Remember....live every day to the fullest. Each minute is a blessing from God. And never forget....the people who make a difference in our lives are not the ones with the most Credentials, the most money, or the most awards. They are the ones that care for us.

If you see someone without a smile today give them one of yours! Live simply. Love seriously. Care deeply. Speak kindly. Leave the rest to God





**Blue Ridge
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April

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VISIT US ON THE WEB
WWW.BLUERIDGEDOGTRAININGCLUB.COM



WHAT'S HAPPENING

- May 8 - Canine Carnival
- May 14 - Acupuncture
- May 27 - Westminster Canterbury
- June 24 - tba
- July 9-11 Agility trial
- JULY 31 - PICNIC
- Aug 7 - OBEDIENCE
- Sept 24 - TBA
- Nov 29 - TBA
- Dec 18 - Christmas Auction

1st & 3rd Monday of each month a
visit to enjoy nursing home

April 23 - CGC
& TDI TEST

April 25 -
Tracking
Trial

April 29 -
Pizza Party
At the safety
Building
Starts at
7:30





HEALTH CLINIC – EYES
Sponsored by Blue Ridge Shetland Sheepdog Club
Saturday, June 19, 2010
10:00 am – 1:00 pm
Clarke County Recreation Center
Berryville, VA

- Eye exams by Canine Ophthalmologist - Dr. Nancy Bromberg \$30
- Microchip implants by veterinarian \$15
- Tattoo by veterinarian \$15

Register by June 10 to guarantee an appointment — Appointments *are required*. We are required to have 50 dogs.

Thanks to all who have supported this event in past years. We will schedule appointments to minimize wait time. You will be given a check-in time to complete paperwork and drop eyes.

Location this year – Clarke County Recreation Building., Berryville, VA

Traveling West on Route 7: Follow Route 7 West from Leesburg towards Winchester. Cross the Shenandoah River Bridge. Clock 4.8 miles from West end of the bridge. Turn left into Berryville at sign, “Berryville Next left” Business Route 7. Go 2.7 miles through downtown Berryville and turn left into Clarke County Park on Al Smith Drive. **Go .2 mile, bear right on the driveway which circles around the Park Office. Clarke Recreation Center will be on your right. Look for a brick building with parking in front and side. Ex-pens are welcome on the grass. Dogs and crates should enter from the side door. Note: When on Business Route 7 through Berryville you will cross over the railroad tracks. The 2nd traffic light is intersection of Route 340. Continue straight on Route 7, pass Berryville Primary School to Park entrance on left. Park is directly across the street from the Clarke County Fairgrounds.

Traveling East on Route 7: From Winchester follow route 7 East toward Berryville. As you approach Berryville, bear right onto exit for Berryville Business Route 7 (just before the traffic light. Go .4 mile, turn right into Clarke County Park, Al Smith Drive, and follow drive according to directions above**.

From Route 50: Take Route 340 North 7.7 miles to Berryville. Route 340 intersections Business Route 7, turn left and follow to the park on left. See above**.

Registration form: Mail by June 10: to Geri Mercer, 45419 Persimmon Lane, Sterling VA 20165

consortdog@comcast.net Phone 703-444-3734

Make Checks payable to Blue Ridge Shetland Sheepdog Club (BRSSC)

____Eye checks (\$30) ____Microchips (\$15) ____Tattoos (\$15) Total Amount Enclosed: _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

Breed of dog(s): _____

A Rare Opportunity to Participate in a

GEORGE ALSTON HANDLING CLINIC

SEPTEMBER 11-12, 2010
UAW HALL, 2625 PAPERMILL ROAD
WINCHESTER, VIRGINIA 22601
8 A.M. ñ 5 P.M. EACH DAY

CLASSES FOR BEGINNING & ADVANCED HANDLERS AND OBSERVERS

(Emphasis on training the handler rather than the dog)

Proudly Hosted By
The Shawnee Kennel Club

George Alston, author of *The Winning Edge*, is one of the top professional dog handlers of all time. For more than 30 years, George led the dogs entrusted to him to countless wins, including more than 200 Best in Show rosettes and 600+ Group placements. Now retired from handling, this acknowledged master instructor in conformation handling travels throughout the U.S. presenting seminars designed to develop and polish handling skills necessary for success in class, Group, and Best in Show competitions.

Deadline for Reservations: AUGUST 30, 2010

Alston seminars sell out quickly ñ don't delay submitting your registration form!
(Found on the back of this flyer)

COURSE LEVELS

Beginner: Geared to the novice exhibitor. Handler must be at least 10 years old. A mature, well-trained dog will be to your learning advantage. Dogs must be at least 12 months old to participate. (Limited to 20 handler/dog teams.)

Advanced: For experienced exhibitors. Handler should have been showing dogs for 5 years or have finished at least 2 dogs to conformation championship. Dogs must be at least 12 months old to participate. (Limited to 20 handler/dog teams.)

FEES (include continental breakfast and sandwich lunch each day)
Beginner and Advanced ñ \$165.00 for the two-day seminar.
Observers ñ \$75.00 for the two-day seminar.

For more information, contact Anne Legge, 540-667-2937 or annelegge@comcast.net

Directions to UAW Hall: From I-81 Exit 313, take Route 50 West (Jubal Early Drive) .4 mile, turn left on Pleasant Valley Road. Go 1.2 miles to UAW Hall on Papermill, just off Pleasant Valley on the right behind Panera Bread.

Accommodations: Because area motels may change policies on accepting dogs, please contact them directly. Please be considerate so we may continue to use these facilities.

Candlewood Suites, 1135 Millwood Pike 540-667-8323 (\$12/day/pet, limit of 2)
Best Western Lee Jackson, 711 Millwood Ave 540-662-4154 (\$5/day/pet)
Travelodge-Winchester, 160 Front Royal Pike 540-665-0685 (\$10/pet)
Red Roof Inn, Rte. 50 East at I-81 540-667-5000 (No fee. No pets left unattended.)
Super 8 Motel, 1077 Millwood Pike 540-665-4450 (\$10/pet)
Quality Inn, 1017 Millwood Pike (540)545-8121 (pet-friendly, no fee)

GEORGE ALSTON HANDLING CLINIC
SATURDAY & SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 11-12, 2010

WINCHESTER, VIRGINIA

Sponsored by Shawnee Kennel Club

REGISTRATION FORM

Make checks payable to iShawnee Kennel Club.i Clinic fees are nonrefundable. Reservations are on a first-come basis. We suggest that you register early because Alston clinics fill up quickly. An e-mail confirmation will be sent if you include your e-mail address on the registration form. Your cancelled check will be your confirmation. Deadline for reservations is AUGUST 30, 2010.

Date _____

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ ZIP Code _____

Telephone(s) _____ E-mail _____

Name of Handler/Observer _____

Dog (Breed) _____ Dog's Date of Birth _____ (may not be under one year) (No bitches in season, please)

____ Beginners Class (\$165.00) ____ Advanced Class (\$165.00) ____ Observer (\$75.00)

Mail registration form and check to: Anne Legge

261 Fox Meadow Lane

Winchester, VA 22602

I certify and represent that the dog or dogs with which I am participating are not a hazard to persons or other dogs. I agree to hold Shawnee Kennel Club, its members, directors, governors, officers, agents, and the owner or lessor of the premises or any employees, agents, or subcontractors of the aforementioned parties harmless from any claim for loss or injury which may be alleged to have been caused directly or indirectly to any person or thing by the act of my dog(s) while in or upon the clinic premises or grounds or near any entrance thereto, and personally assume all responsibility and liability for any such claim and further agree to hold the aforementioned parties harmless from any claim or allegation of negligence of the club or any of the parties aforementioned, or by the negligence of any other person, or any other cause or causes. I hereby assume the sole responsibility for and agree to indemnify and save the aforementioned parties harmless from any and all loss and expense including legal fees by reason of the liability imposed by law upon any of the aforementioned parties for damage because of bodily injuries, including death at any time resulting therefrom, sustained by any person or persons, including myself, or on account of damage to property arising out of, or in consequence of my participation in this clinic, howsoever such injuries, death or damage to property may be caused, and whether or not the same may have been caused or may be alleged to have been caused by negligence of the aforementioned parties or any of their employees or agents, or any other persons.

Signature of Participant _____ Date _____

NOTE: A crating area will be provided for dogs participating in the clinic. No grooming is allowed in the building. Bring proof of current vaccinations, a crate, a ground cloth, a show lead, and whatever else your dog needs. You should also bring for your use a folding chair, note-taking materials, and show clothes for the final competition held on Sunday.



BLUE RIDGE SHETLAND SHEEPDOG CLUB

Saturday, June 19, 2010

10:00 am – 1:00 pm

Clarke County Recreation Center, Berryville, VA

AKC Canine Good Citizen Test (CGC) Therapy Dogs International Test (TDI)

All Dogs – All Ages
Purebred and Mixed Breed

by

Kathy Brunner

Blue Ridge Shetland Sheepdog Club will sponsor an **AKC Canine Good Citizen Test** along with our **Health Clinic**. Both will be held at the Clarke County Recreation Center in Berryville, VA. The Health Clinic will be held inside the Rec Center and the CGC Test will be outside on the right side of the Center, under the trees – Saturday, June 19, 2010 – 10:00 am to 1:00 pm.

The Test will be conducted by AKC Certified Tester, Kathy Brunner. All breeds and mixed-breed dogs are welcome. No age restrictions. Cost \$5.00 per dog for CGC, \$10.00 per dog for CGC and TDI. You can pre-register or sign up on test day. Test requirements are laid out on the AKC website:

http://www.akc.org/events/cgc/training_testing.cfm

For more information contact Kathy Brunner - sheltiedoximom@yahoo.com

Directions traveling West on Route 7: Follow Route 7 West from Leesburg toward Winchester. Cross Shenandoah River Bridge. Go 4.8 miles from West end of the bridge. Turn left into Berryville at light, Business Route 7. Go 2.7 miles through downtown Berryville. Turn left into Clarke County Park on Al Smith Drive. Go .2 of a mile bear right on driveway which circles around the Park Office. Clarke Recreation Center will be on your right. Brick building with parking in front and side. X-pens welcome on grass. Note: When on Business Route 7 through Berryville you will cross over railroad tracks. 2nd traffic light is intersection of Route 340. Continue straight on Route 7 (pass Berryville Primary School) to Park entrance on left. Park is directly across the street from the Clarke County Fairgrounds.

Directions traveling east on Route 7– (from Winchester, Route 81) As you approach Berryville, bear right onto exit for Business Route 7 into Berryville (just before traffic light). Go .4 mile, turn right into Clarke County Park, Al Smith Drive and follow drive according to directions above.

Directions from Route 50 – Take Route 340 North 7.7 miles to Berryville. Route 340 intersects with Business Route 7; turn left and follow to park on left. See above.



Blue Ridge Shetland Sheepdog Club

AKC Canine Good Citizen Test Therapy Dog International Test

All Dogs – All Ages
Purebred and Mixed Breed

by
Kathy Brunner

REGISTRATION FORM

I will attend the **CGC/TDI Test** in Berryville, VA on June 19, 2010.

Enclosed is a check to BRSSC for:

Number of dogs for CGC _____ at \$5.00 each _____ = Total _____

Number of dogs for CGC and TDI _____ at \$10.00 each _____ = Total _____

Name _____

E-mail _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Mail with check made out to Blue Ridge SSC to:
Kathy Brunner, 330 Beeman Lane Berkeley Springs, WV 25411
For more information call 304-258-3666. E-mail at sheltiedoximom@yahoo.com

Blue Ridge Shetland Sheepdog Club
Website

www.BRSSC.org