



The Lost Coast **H O W L E R**

November 2012

Editor: Tina Moulton

www.lostcoastkennelclub.org
www.facebook.com/lostcoastkennelclub

LCKC BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Officers:

JILL OTTO
President

AL DRIVER
Vice President

KRIS SMITH
Secretary

CHRIS IRVIN
Treasurer

Members of the Board:

Sarah Borok
Beverly Morgan-Lewis
Deb St. Myers

Next meeting:
Tuesday, November 20th
at the Adorni

Join Us!
Everyone is welcome!

BOARD MEETING
6:30 PM
REGULAR MEETING
7:00 PM

Meetings are held on the third Tuesday of each month, alternating between the Adorni Center in Eureka 1011 Waterfront Drive, in odd numbered months and in Ferndale at Mrs. Mendes' home 405 Craig Street in even numbered months. No meeting in December.

President's Corner

Thank you to all who were able to attend the October meeting. We had our necessary quorum to pass the club By-law changes, and we were able to meet our deadline for the taxes.

Also at the October meeting, nominations closed for 2013 club officers and board members. There were no contested positions, so the officers and board members will be as listed in the minutes*. I'm looking forward to working with all of you.

The November meeting will be our last business meeting of the year, and we have some issues to discuss about next year's shows. We will need to make some critical decisions very quickly, so please plan to attend the upcoming meeting and voice your opinions.

Don't forget that we have a holiday party coming up soon. December 8th at Chris Irvin's home. Chris has volunteered to cook a turkey, and the rest will be potluck items. We will plan some games (with prizes) and there will be the traditional gift exchange. Details regarding the time will follow shortly.

See you at the November meeting at the Adorni Center .

*** Late update:**

As you may be aware, Al Driver has had some health issues that are preventing him from performing his duties as the show chairman for our 2013 breed shows, as well as 2013 club president. I am putting out an urgent request for someone to take over the show chairman duties. There are items that need our attention immediately. Also, we need a new hospitality chairman who can attend to pressing duties.



Club Activities

Club members had a great time at our dinner at Rita's last month. We had a great turnout, wonderful food, and lots of fun conversation. Unfortunately, we forgot to get pictures...



Holiday Potluck!

Saturday, December 8th at Chris Irvin's house
(watch your email or the Yahoo list for time and directions)

Games with prizes and a fun gift exchange.
Bring donations of dog food, etc for local shelter organizations if you can.



The HumDog Expo will be coming up on March 10, 2013.
Many LCKC members have participated in the event each year with a breed booth, demonstrations, Parade of Breeds, or in other ways.

Folks who have participated before should be hearing from Pat Johnson soon. Any new members interested in participating?



Have you heard?

From Jill Otto:

Suton Crepu Visage Some Bunny Loves Me at Sunspot ("Scotch") was WD/BOB both days at the Sacramento Valley Dog Fanciers shows for his first two points from the 6-9 class.



Also, Capo Di Paura Sunspot Ciana ("Ciana") earned two legs at the Napa Valley Dog Training Club Rally Trial to finish her Rally Novice title.

From Sara Borok:

After nationals in Utah, CH Britestar's Golden Rule RN, "Karma" showed in Pleasanton. She took a BOS then a BOB (over the number #1 Siberian in the country) and then 2 more selects.



From Irene Hetrick:

Toy Manchester, Dora, achieved her MACH in Klamath Falls. She's now CH MACH Trinity's Dora The Explorer, OF!

From Brandy Nelson:

Our Standard Poodle Trimpa's Midnight Star Of Khaleesi, "Gretchen" got a three pt major at Northeastern Indiana Kennel Club 10-31.

At the Greater Muskegon Kennel Club on 11/09/12, Gretchen went WB/BOS.

Congratulations!

Lost Coast Kennel Club bids a fond Farewell to Al and Irene Driver.



Al and Irene joined LCKC a few years ago after moving from Ohio, bringing their vast experience in dogs with them and quickly becoming an integral part of our club.

Al has served as club Vice President this past year and also was the 2012 Show Chair. Irene was Hospitality Chair. Plans for 2013 included them reprising their roles for the show, and Al was slated to move into the club President position as well.

Unfortunately, health issues have caused Al and Irene to have to change their plans and they will be moving out of state soon.

LCKC thanks Al and Irene for your service to our club, and wishes you the very best in the future. You will both be missed.



**Here is an interesting article, reprinted here with permission from
The Canine Chronicle - <http://caninechronicle.com/>**

Leading Horses to Water...

From Page 88 – November, 2010 Issue - Canine Chronicle

By Gay Dunlap

A year ago my breed standard was changed to include the undocked tail. This action was the eventual result of a judge's excusal of two European dogs because they had natural tails. The standard at that time simply said, "Tail is docked." The judge obviously had a very strong aversion to undocked tails. To say that the standard change raised hackles would be a gross understatement. We were accused by many of pandering to the Animal Rights' groups when in fact it was done to accommodate dogs coming in from FCI countries where docking of tails is no longer legal. We were accused of disavowing our terrier heritage when in fact we viewed it as an opportunity to further clarify tail set-on and carriage. Where the old standard said, "...well set on, carried gaily but never over the back," it now reads, "Tail is set on high. Docked tail preferred. Whether docked or natural, the tail is carried 90° from the back, either straight or with a slight curve forward. Any deviation from this ideal is to be penalized accordingly." I would note here the European dogs that were excused would meet the criteria of today's standard...tails were well set and carried with a slight curve forward.

Never in a million years nor in my wildest dreams did I expect our own breeders in this country to decide not to dock tails. Given that the docked tail is preferred and there is no reason not to dock, I was stunned to find that breeders here are choosing to thumb their noses at this dictate and, further, to ignore the historical significance of the docked tail. It becomes still more heinous since it directly affects the way we are perceived by other terrier people. Montgomery weekend brought out Wheaten Terriers with natural tails in droves! One long-time breeder commented that seeing one or two in the ring was not too hard to take but seeing an entire class of them was more than disturbing. It was a shock to the system. Had these undocked tails been set and carried as the standard states (set on high and straight or slightly curved) they would have been less offensive for sure. But such was not the case. They were curled, arching over the back, either touching it or worse...hanging down to one side, over the loin. One exhibitor, when asked why he was not docking tails, responded, "I'm making a statement." Unfortunately, the inquirer did not press further. I wondered what that statement might be...perhaps it was, "I don't like terriers and I wish Wheatens were something else!"

But this tale of tails is just part of the story. There seems to be, across the board, a casual disregard for the standard in general. When a breeder stands ringside and says, "I like a bigger dog," referencing a dog that would fare well, size-wise anyway, in the Airedale ring, what message is being sent to those neophyte breeders or judges that might overhear the comment? When a breeder of long standing walks into the ring with a dog that looks like a freight train on stumps isn't the message clear that the breeder feels this dog is true to breed type? Is this sort of thing indicative of a blatant disregard for the standard or is it that the standard is not understood? Either way, the result is disturbing to those with an artist's eye, those that understand breeding is an art form and requires this artist's eye. The real problem however is not with the long-time breeders, though many could use what we call "continuing education" to develop a more discerning eye. It is our newer breeders who need educating.

I do not feel the condition is idiosyncratic to my own breed. In discussions with doyennes of other breeds I hear the same story. I recently had a discussion with a prominent breeder of a popular toy breed. She relayed a story about a neophyte whom she was trying to mentor and advise. In the process she suggested that the young woman buy one of the breed's illustrated standards to study. The response basically was that she did not want to spend \$15 and besides she already knew the standard. Another breeder shared her story of a novice breeder/exhibitor who was preparing to advertise a recent win. The photo she planned to use was dreadful and, in her most gentle manner, the breed-elder suggested that she might not want to use it. The novice did not understand and further explained that it was the only one she had. Our breed-elder advised that she hire a photographer and get a photo of her dog that did it justice.

The proof of a breeder's knowledge, or lack thereof, is not only palpable by what they choose to bring into the ring but also by what they sell as show quality and by the photos they use to advertise their wins. How many times have you looked at a win picture and wondered, "What were they thinking?"

How can we educate breeders when they don't know that they don't know? It's a hard one. The axiom, "You can lead a horse to water but you can't make him drink" is alive and well here. I honestly feel too many of today's breeders have no concept of canine anatomy. They can't tell you the difference between the zygomatic arch and the occipital bone. Further, many fail to recognize the difference between a dog that is crippled and one that isn't. They have no idea how difficult it is to breed away from long and low...just look around the all-breed rings to see how many breeds are now plagued with long and low. Do breeder/exhibitors ever have someone gait their dog so that they can see for themselves what everyone else including the judge is seeing? An exhibitor speaks of her dog having "four good legs" when in fact he only has three! Some years back I visited a breeder in the midwest to evaluate a litter. I voiced concern over feet... some pup's feet were splayed. Our standard requires that they be compact with good depth of pad. The breeder looked aghast and said, "Oh no, don't tell me I have to worry about feet, too?" Yes, all of that, and feet, too!

How many clubs have planned a breeder-education seminar where few-to-none show up? It happens. Our Judge's Education CD is made available to all judges free of charge and to breeders for a modest sum. Our breeders seldom take advantage of this. One respected breeder posted on our club list, "Do our breeders just not understand, or do they forget to read the Standard occasionally? Or is this an arrogance..."

We expect our judges to understand our respective standards. We are conscientious about offering judges' seminars and ringside mentoring. Judges also are conscientious in this regard, though often it is simply because AKC requires them to be. Nothing is really required of our neophyte breeders, except perhaps that they sign a code of ethics in which they agree to such banal statements as, "I breed for the characteristics set forth in the Official Standard..." signifying nothing, since often they have no idea what that means. Should this change? Perhaps we need to require our new breeders to buy and study whatever educational tools the parent club has available. We need to plan Breeder Education Seminars and require new breeders to attend prior to becoming full-fledged, voting members. Should we offer a test on canine anatomy? I am just throwing out ideas here. How about ringside mentoring where we watch other breeds noted for correct movement; if yours is a coated breed, watching a non-coated breed such as Dobermans can teach a lot about structure as related to movement. Another valuable learning experience might be attending parent club-endorsed breed seminars on breeds other than ones' own. Our breeder education programs, in general, need to be more comprehensive than most of them now are.

As judges, we appraise virtues, or at least we should. And we prioritize faults, honoring that "there are no perfect dogs." As breeders, we must know enough about our breed to effectively do the same, prioritize. Prioritize means, if your standard calls for a square outline, just how much off square is your dog... a lot or just a little? If your standard calls for a rise over the loin, does your dog hold the rise or flatten out on the go-around... if so, to what degree? In both examples, do the virtues atone for the faults?

Finally, a dog can deviate from the standard and still have breed type. It can display the essence of the breed regardless of faults. It is all a matter of degree and this is where the prioritizing comes into play. "I like a bigger dog," contrasts, perhaps subtly but unmistakably, with "I can forgive a bigger dog if it excels in breed type or has the correct make and shape." This can, however, prove a difficult concept for the neophyte breeder to wrap his head around. When a dog no longer looks like the breed it is supposed to represent, in the eyes of those who know, it has no business in the ring. It is sad that there are breeders so uneducated as to allow these dogs to be shown. Some are even shown in Bred-By, a class that should be reserved for the very cream of the crop. Bottom line, we, as breed elders, must become more resolute about educating the new people that choose to embrace our respective breeds. We must lead them to the water, wherever it may be, and make them drink!

See the original article with photos:

<http://caninechronicle.com/current-articles/leading-horses-to-water/>

MINUTES OF THE LOST COAST KENNEL CLUB

October 16, 2012, Mendes Home, Ferndale

BOARD MEETING: called to order by President Jill Otto at 6:45 pm.

Present: Beverly Morgan Lewis, Jill Otto, Kris and Bayard Smith, Cindy Toste.

Minutes of the Last Meeting: MSAC to approve as published.

Report of the Treasurer: Treasurer not present.

Unfinished Business: Tax issues – Chris not present. Show issues: Due to Al's illness, we need to find a co-chair.

New Business: none

The Board meeting was adjourned at 6:48 p.m.

REGULAR MEETING: called to order by president Jill Otto at 7:07 p.m.

Present: all of the above plus Susan Dean, Michelle Dostal, Sandra Gould, Chris Irvin, Rose Kessler, Tina Moulton, Deb St Myers.

Minutes of the Last Meeting: MSAC to approve as published.

Report of the President: Jill reported that Al Driver has been diagnosed with pancreatic cancer, and we will need to make some changes in positions. The turn out at the Pet Fair was good. She encouraged people to come to the October club dinner.

Report of the Secretary: Mail: AKC Canine Athlete Fund – new fund asking for donations from agility clubs. We decided that next time we donate to the CHF we will split the donation between CHF and CAF. Michelle shared an old Eureka KC pamphlet, and a discussion followed about the location of the scrapbooks.

Report of the Treasurer: Chris reported on our assets.

Report of Committees:

- Ring Practice: October 14 at Ridgewood – only a few came. We will have one last practice, Nov 11, weather permitting.
- Newsletter: Send news.
- Website: Nothing new. Jill will tell Jim to change the 501(c)(3) designation.
- B-OB Shows: We are hopeful that Al can stay on as show chair, but we need to find a co-chair. Chris has information from Al about the wooden gate fencing for the inside rings if we decide to have 2 obedience rings outside. We need to find out what paint comes on the uprights – gloss? Primer?
- Agility Trials – Bev – The donation checks have been sent.

Election of New Members: No applications.

Election of New Officers and Board: Due to Al's illness, he has removed his name from nomination. Jill was nominated for President, and Bev for vice President, so the tentative slate decided on at the last meeting will be changed slightly. The new slate: President: Jill Otto. Vice-President: Beverly Morgan Lewis. Secretary: Kris Smith. Treasurer: Chris Irvin. Board members: Deb St Myers, Brandy Nelson, Sara Borok.

Old Business

- Bylaw revision: We have a quorum present (with 33 regular members, 7 = a quorum). **MSAC (unanimous) to accept the new By-laws as revised.** Kris will get them to the AKC for approval.

- October dinner: October 23, Rita's, 5th St in Eureka, 6 p.m. Club pays for pizza and soft drink.

- Holiday dinner at Chris Irvin's house - tentatively on Saturday, December 8. Chris will cook a turkey. Bring side dishes and drinks. Games, gift exchange (under \$20). Dog food donation for charity. Michelle will do the invitation.

New Business:

- We forgot a gift for using the Mendes home for meetings last year. Jill will ask Patti to get something appropriate.

- Shirts – discussion about getting tie dye shirts. Will need to make the final decisions by early spring.

- Bayard asked about the C of C signs in Eureka – Chris is working on getting those tuned up.

Announcements: Bev will be doing Therapy Dog Evaluations on Wed, Dec. 5. Email her if interested. Discussion followed about therapy dogs programs.

The regular meeting was adjourned at 8:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Kris Smith, LCKC Secretary