



DURHAM KENNEL CLUB

P.O. BOX 15566 DURHAM, NORTH CAROLINA 27704

***** NEWSLETTER *****

SEPTEMBER, 1991

DINNER:

Our September meeting will be held on Monday, September 16, 1991 and will be preceded by our usual pot luck dinner. The dinner will begin at 7:00 p.m. and will be followed at about 7:45 p.m. by our program. Please remember to be generous in the number of servings of food that you bring to share. With our growing membership, it is easy to forget that more people at our meetings means more food is needed at our dinners. Our club will furnish beverages.

PROGRAM:

Program Chairman, David Kimble, reports that Charlotte Stacey, from AKC, will be our guest speaker for the September meeting. Ms. Stacey will talk to us regarding some of the services that the AKC offers to us--a topic that should be of special interest to all of us. Many of you will recall Ms. Stacey from her successful handling days. She has been a guest at our club before and we are pleased to be able to welcome her again.

We hope that all of you have had a safe and healthy summer and that you are looking forward to another year of fun activities with your dogs. Remember that our newsletter is our club's means of keeping all of you informed. Please take the time to read the following.

IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENTS:

1. Hooray for N. C. dog people!! The motel bill did pass and if nothing happens between now and then, the bill will become effective on October 1st. Thanks to all of you who wrote letters and phoned your representatives. Certainly the efforts of all of us helped to bring about the decision that we were hoping for.
2. Jan Santel (362-4084) has volunteered to be in charge of the obedience rings for our fall show. Jan will need stewards and it will help her if those of you who are willing to help will give her a call and let her know when you will be available.
3. Cindy Luster, our treasurer, would like for all of you to know that DKC deposits are made at least once a week. Committee chairmen, or anyone else who has reason to be collecting DKC funds, please submit your checks to Cindy promptly so that they can be deposited. It is a disservice to our members, and to others, who have paid for a DKC activity by check to have their check held for a long period. Also, Cindy reminds us that the longer checks are held and not deposited, the more likely they are to bounce.

CANINE GOOD CITIZENSHIP TEST UPDATE:

Submitted by Brona Hicks

Our first test in 1991 was offered at the January Mighty Match and raised \$123.00 for the NCSU Vet. School endowment fund, while certifying 36 of the 40 dogs tested. The test ran very smoothly, thanks to the excellent job done by evaluators, Dee Wallis, Marge White, Sharon Melnick, Emilie Beglane, M. F. Davis, Emmy Wolters and Sallie Cooper.

Our second test was offered at our summer match on August 4th. Special thanks to Jim Kessler for going to the extra trouble of finding a wonderful spot under a lovely tree with spreading branches that kept us in the shade for the entire day. With the very high heat and humidity, we could not have managed otherwise. An excellent job was done by evaluators, Marcia Majors, Joel Kmetz, Emilie Beglane, Stella Maunsell, Mary Oppermann, Sally Malek and Dee Wallis. The fact that 25 of the 26 entrants passed was almost as much fun as watching evaluators try to negotiate the distraction part of the test on the bike. Special accolades to Joel for his acting and cycling skills and to entrant Carole Henry for having all six of the Keeshonden that she entered pass.

The program seems successful, so far, and is able to pay for itself and then some. We are already committed to offer the test at the 1992 Mighty Match. We are open to any suggestions that you have as to how we might improve and certainly would appreciate and welcome additional membership participation. We want to offer the best test possible in order to further the cause of responsible pet ownership.

(Editor's note): Special congratulations to Jim Kessler and Alice Dawson who claim to have one of the only Scotties in captivity to pass a Canine Good Citizenship Test!!!! Attaboy, little Scotty fellow!!

DKC Honorary Life Member, Betty Thies, has not had a good summer due to illness and surgery. Certainly Betty would appreciate being remembered with cards, phone calls and visits from any of our members who live in the Mebane or Greensboro area.

In a club such as ours, with so many members contributing so much, it's not often that one member should be singled out for recognition. We do, however, have one long-time member who, due to illness, is not able to join us as much as she did in years past, but still makes a great contribution to our club. Carolyn Vaughan, our "breeder referral" contact is the DKC voice behind the phone and none of us has any idea the number of hours that Carolyn spends on the phone, on behalf of the DKC, each month.

Carolyn receives calls regarding innumerable dog problems/questions and either responds to them or refers them to someone who can. We are grateful to Carolyn for her continuing service to our club and thank her for her efforts.

Please note the following address changes on your membership list:

Delia Copley
3521 University Drive
Durham, N. C. 27707

Kit Caughlan
2117 Sunset Street
Durham, N. C. 27705
286-4267

Deidre Luttrell
5843 Sandstone Drive
Durham, N. C. 27713

Fran Hoffman
Correct phone number-544-0365

Please be reminded that normally, the deadline for items to go into the newsletter is the 25th of the month. Usually the March newsletter is early because our meeting date is moved up one week because of the TarHeel Circuit and the newsletter is early this month because of vacation schedules that we are working around.

Some Important Information About Fleas: (Just what you've been waiting for??)

Did you know that although fleas are able to leap distances that are 100 times their length, they actually prefer to walk through fur? Continual jumping negatively affects their feeding and ultimately, their sexual performance.

A newly-hatched adult flea can live without eating for several weeks. Once it does start feeding, however, any interruption will cause it to die within a couple of days.

Adult males have a designated number of sperm. When it is used up, they can no longer contribute to the flea population.

Fleas do not like to move. Once they are settled on a dog, they would prefer to remain there. A small dog can accommodate up to 200 fleas!!

Fleas find animals to feed on by detecting changes in carbon dioxide levels in the air as well as sensitivities to temperature, light, touch and moisture.

SOME IDEAS FOR SUCCESSFUL PICTURE TAKING OF PETS:

1. Keep backgrounds simple and be sure it contrasts with the color of the animal. If a person is to be in the picture their clothing should contrast with the dog.
2. Avoid harsh shadows. Take pictures before 10:00 a.m. or mid-afternoon or when the sky is slightly overcast or place the subject in open shade.
3. The dog should be fresh and rested. Don't take pictures on extremely hot days.
4. Bathe and groom the animal just prior to the photo session. Use squeaky toys or a favorite toy sparingly and at just the right moment.
5. Photograph at the pet's eye level. If the animal isn't trained to stand and stay in one position restrict movement by confining with a leash.
6. Focus on the pet's eye for optimum sharpness.

ARE YOU AWARE?

Durham Kennel Club members, as you know, show their dogs in conformation and obedience classes at dogs, attend training classes and are often seen in the tracking fields. These are activities that most of us are aware of, but do you know that we also have a growing group of members who, along with their dogs, visit various area nursing homes on a regular basis and also schools, when the opportunity presents itself.

These visits are not always easy. The welcomes that the dogs receive are sometimes humorous, and sometimes sad, but always heartwarming. Almost every person, somewhere in their background, has a treasured memory of a special dog and often one of our dogs will rekindle that memory. When aged or crippled hands bury themselves in your dog's coat and you hear, "Oh, he looks just like my old Shep"-or Spot - or Fluff, it becomes very clear how important these visits are. It isn't at all unusual for patients in nursing homes or hospitals to respond to animals much more easily than they can to people.

Sue Wilson is the coordinator for the visits that the Durham Kennel Club makes, but we have other members who make visits on their own, either individually or in groups. These people are doing an outstanding service to our community and also for our club and the world of dogs. We appreciate the contribution that they are able to make with their dogs. To try to list everyone by name who make these visits would be risking leaving someone out. You know who you are and we want you to know that you are appreciated.

If any of you are interested in knowing how you can become involved in these visits please contact Sue Wilson. Most of the nursing home and school visits do take place during the daytime, but Maureen and Bob Lucas visit the patients at Murdoch Center in Butner every Monday night from 6:30 to 7:30 and would be glad for others to join them.

It is not necessary that the dogs be obedience trained, but they must be well behaved and quiet. Their temperaments must be absolutely sound and unflappable. They will be exposed to wheelchairs, crutches, unusual sights, smells and sounds and they will have to take these things in stride. The dogs should be clean and healthy (inside and out) and there should be no possibility that they will carry fleas or ticks.

The benefits from participating in these visits are great, especially for those doing the visiting. No one, who was with the group several years ago, will ever forget the day when one old gentleman, whom the nurses reported had not spoken for over two years, looked up when a puppy was placed in his lap and said, "how old is the dog?"

SPECIAL NOTICE !!!!!

Jim Kessler and Ervin Rae wish to thank all those who helped with the recent DKC sanctioned match.

Congratulations to Helen Glenn on winning Best Puppy in Match, and to Fran Hoffman for winning Best Adult in Match.

1991 - 1992 DURHAM KENNEL CLUB COMMITTEES:

Elections & Nominations	Marie Hand Connie Howard Mary Griffin Richard Whorton Emilie Beglane	
Training Classes	Cindy Luster Marge White Jan Hansen Patty Ashmore	
Obedience Trials	Jan Santel	
Obedience Advisory Committee	Marge White Sharon Pitz Cindy Luster George Beglane	Jeff Telander Brona Hicks Jan Hansen
Conformation Advisory Committee	Vern Bell Emmy Wolters	Jim Kessler
Conformation Meetings	Cathy Hancock Bob Rabil	Margaret Nichols
Tracking	Emilie Beglane	
Programs	David Kimble	
Social	Dick and Betty Perschel	
Membership	Mary Oppermann	
Building Maintenance		
Inside	Jeff Telander	
Outside	George Beglane	
Housekeeping	Kim Reid	
Recycling	Stephanie Toups	
Equipment	Sharon Pitz	
Spring Show	Connie Howard Steve Wallis, Assistant	
Fall Show	Brenda Adams	
Match Show	Jim Kessler	
Annual Awards	Stella Maunsell Maureen Lucas Cindy Luster	Barbara Doerman Marge White
Breeder Referral	Carolyn Vaughan	
Historian and Librarian	Pat Lawrence	
ADOA Representative	Pat Lawrence	
Tailwaggers Representative	Anne Ocorr	
Cheer and Exhibitions	Sue Wilson	

NOTE: Many of these committees still need assistants. We especially need members to host our regular membership meetings and to assist with the monthly cleaning of the building. Please volunteer your talents by contacting the committee chairperson or a board member, who will be glad to pass on your willingness to help.