

DURHAM KENNEL CLUB

P.O. BOX 15566 DURHAM, NORTH CAROLINA 27704

***** NEWSLETTER *****

MARCH, 1995

PLEASE NOTE: Because of the Tarheel Show Circuit our March meeting will be moved up one week. Our March meeting date will be March 13th.

DINNER: Our Social Chairpeople inform us that chili will be the main course prepared for our March meeting dinner. Please bring a dish to share that will compliment chili and be as generous as you can in the portions that you bring. Beverages are furnished by our club and a \$1.00 donation is asked of everyone who plans to join us for the meal. As always, our regular members, candidate members and their guests and prospective members are welcome for the dinner as well as for the program and meeting. Dinner will be served at 7:00 p.m.

PROGRAM: Our March 13th program will be presented by DKC member Dr. Adele Monroe on chiropractic and the canine athlete. The program will include how chiropractic adjustments benefit the skeletal and nervous systems, signs that a dog may benefit from an adjustment and activities dogs engage in that may result in the need for an adjustment. Dr. Monroe is a licensed veterinarian who has participated in AKC obedience and AKC conformation. Our program will begin at 7:45 p.m. and will be followed by our regular club business meeting.

IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENTS:

1. Remember the REEEEEELY BIG yard sale that our club is planning for April 22nd. We hope that this will be a very successful money making project for our club and the help of all of our members will be needed. Not only are items needed to sell, but help will be needed in different areas. Please get in touch with Richard Perschel at 477-4381 and tell him where you would like to help. And be saving your stuff!!!! We will not sell clothes and all electrical items should be in working order. Please price your own items and if any of our members have large tables that they would be willing to loan for the day let Richard know. Baked items also will be for sale.
2. Ken Killinger will be in charge of the obedience rings at our spring show on March 24th and will need volunteers to serve as obedience ring stewards. If you will be able to serve our club in this way please get in touch with Ken at 575-6686 and volunteer your services.

Also, Ann Walthall will need volunteers to help with keeping our judges and ring stewards refreshed during the hours that they spend in the rings. Help will also be needed during the lunch hours by serving lunches to our judges. Get in touch with Ann at 477-5088 if you will be available to help.

3. Because our March meeting date is one week early the newsletter is also early. If this has been an inconvenience to anyone who planned to submit a news item for the usual deadline of the 25th, your newsletter staff apologizes.

4. A REMINDER: One of the "perks" that go with being an obedience and/or conformation instructor or assistant is the opportunity to use the DKC building for training when the building is not otherwise in use. Monday nights have been set aside for that purpose in the past and that policy continues. Please remember that Monday nights are set aside for instructors and assistants only, to use the building.
5. KEYS!! Having a key to the DKC building involves a responsibility that all key holders should take very seriously. Recently the building was found to have been left completely open and it isn't unusual to find the lights or heaters left on or a door or two unsecured. If you have a DKC key and are responsible for seeing that the building is secure take the time to be sure that it is. Also, if you have a key that has been assigned to you do not loan it to other club members to use. Many years of hard work and dedication have gone into our building and its contents---what a shame it would be to lose it or have it damaged due to carelessness.

Durham Kennel Club member, Maureen Lucas, is the new interim president of the Durham County Animal Control Advisory Committee. DKC members are encouraged to contact Maureen at 477-9432 with issues of concern to dog owners or other animal related issues in Durham County. Also, for your information, Durham County has a new head of Animal Control and his name is Mr. Greg Thompson.

Please note the enclosed article on pet therapy written by Maureen and taken from the Summer '94 issue of the Greyhound Club of America newsletter. This is an important activity that many of our club members are involved with and Bob and Maureen are to be commended on their dedication and commitment to the residents of Murdoch Center. This is very important work--not always easy, but always gratifying!!! Please read on----

For the past five years, nearly every Monday night has been a visit to Murdoch Center in Butner. Murdoch Center is a long-term care facility for physically and/or mentally challenged adults. Bob and Maureen take Greyhounds and a cat and residents enjoy visiting with both animals and people. Sometimes the residents pet, feed or walk the dogs, so dogs must be friendly, calm and gentle and ABSOLUTELY RELIABLE. Obviously, the animals must also be healthy and squeaky clean, inside and out. Bob and Maureen would like to have a few more people and dogs join them at Murdoch from 6:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. on Monday nights and once or twice a month would be a great help. Please give Maureen a call at the above number if you would like to volunteer or know more about this.

Please update your membership list by adding Stephanie Smith's phone number which is: 479-1907.

"Who wants to go?", usually brings a stampede to the front door. Almost every Monday night for the last 5 years, Bob and I have brought at least two Greyhounds and sometimes our Abyssinian cat to visit the residents of Murdoch Center, a state-run facility for mentally and physically challenged adults in Butner, NC. The Greyhounds enjoy the petting, the attention and the treats they receive so much that they run to the door to be first in line to do that week's visit.

Five years ago the all-breed club we belong to got a call from Carol H., the recreational therapist at Murdoch. She had been reading about pet therapy and its myriad benefits for challenged people, and wondered if anyone in our kennel club would be willing to try their dogs in this environment. A handful of members responded. Some couldn't schedule Monday night visits. Some went without dogs to see what would be involved and found the residents "too depressing". Some took the next step, but found their dogs startled by the residents, who can be loud, unpredictable, and sometimes move very rapidly or scarcely at all. Most are in wheelchairs, and some have other specialized equipment. Bob and I agreed to keep Monday nights open for the program. We never doubted that our Greyhounds could not only handle the odd situations that might come up, but would even enjoy them! Our dogs have done so many unusual things over the years. They have been in an opera. They've been in several parades. They appeared as mascots for the Norfolk Greyhounds, a high school football team, and ran around the field in between plays. They often went to visit and play with the kids at the NC School for the Deaf when we lived in another part of North Carolina. The dogs have always found something to delight in and happily participated in all of these activities.

More areas are beginning to have pet therapy programs in hospitals, nursing homes and various residential care facilities. Some programs seek only obedience trained dogs, or dogs with Canine Good Citizenship titles. Interestingly enough, several of the dogs who came to try the work at Murdoch had such credentials, but were overwhelmed by some of the residents, whether the noises, actions or wheelchairs. Carol invited us to meet several residents in a small gathering the first time, so she could watch everyone with great scrutiny. When residents and Greyhounds had a good time, the program really began.

Now, after 5 years, we have some dogs who have grown up with pet therapy as a way of life on Monday nights! The 2 most popular activities are "walking the dog", and giving treats. Very few of the residents are ambulatory, but they enjoy going up and down the long halls of these large buildings, waving, shouting, or somehow making sure everyone else sees them with "their" dog. The dogs walk slowly, never pulling, beside the wheelchair. Another favorite is feeding the dog. We agreed on cheese puffs for treats, since the residents, with some regularity, steal the treats for themselves. We went home with the box of dog cookies Carol brought to the practice session after residents kept trying to eat the Milk Bones! Giving treats is actually important therapy. For some, the act of reaching out to the dogs is good for concentration, coordination and stretching. For some, the lesson of sharing is beneficial. For those lacking the motor skills to hold one, the cheese puff is placed on their lap, so they still get to "feed." Obviously, the treat part of therapy is very appealing to the Greyhounds as well! Our dogs are all trained well in advance never to grab a treat, to wait patiently for a resident struggling to stretch out an arm, and to take the food only when the resident releases it. For people who must themselves be fed and cared for, it is a real joy to feed and care for someone else, and to momentarily feel "in control".

How can you predict accurately if your dogs can do this? I'm still not absolutely certain. A sunny, confident, outgoing nature is imperative. Curiosity and a good sense of humor help. A high startle response is a negative. Clint, my smartest dog, who I thought could have done anything,

was never comfortable the few times he came on Mondays. He loved schools and nursing homes, but at Murdoch Center he spent his time gregariously seeking out the staff and passively avoiding the residents. Gracie, the other end of our intellectual spectrum, was not good either. She got so excited about the cheese puffs, she could hardly concentrate on anything else. Many Greyhounds seem well suited for pet therapy. Kansas now has a program placing retired racing Greyhounds in nursing homes, where they become the shared pet. The gentle, affectionate nature of the breed is perfect for this work. Most Greyhounds aspire to be adored by 20 extra folks!

Rider went to Murdoch for the first time when he was just 6 months old, and has been outstanding since day one. He is lively with the ambulatory people who want to walk with him, or stands like a garden statue in the infirmary at the bedside of an elderly ill resident who seems to enjoy just looking at him. Not all residents like the dogs, and it is important to respect that and NEVER push anyone into contact or participation. Some just like to see the dogs, but in 5 years have never wanted to touch. A few have funny habits. Liz likes to touch only the spots on the dogs, and then roars with laughter. Rickie likes to gently stroke only their ears. Joan tells me not to worry, that he is only 2 years old and she is sure Rider will start talking any day now! A special memory is of the night Carol excused herself and rushed from the room. It seems that Edith, her favorite resident, had stopped her involuntary head movements for the first time in all the years she had known her, for the minutes Edith rested her hand on Ernie's head. Edith does not talk or walk, but for those of us watching her hand draped on the completely still young Greyhound's head, while she smiled and stared at him, it was a very emotional evening.

What do these dogs do? Ours do a few tricks and a few formal commands, but we no longer have any obedience trained dogs. They all walk calmly and can never pull. Obviously, when you are dealing with people in wheel chairs, or whose balance is not good, pulling is dangerous. Dogs must take food slowly and gently, never grabbing or using teeth. And they must be rock solid in temperament. This is NOT the place to socialize dogs. This is where you take reliable dogs. I am ashamed of myself for one night not being quick enough to see that a new member of the group, Gilbert, was getting too excited. He grabbed Pearl's skin on the back of her neck. She never cried out or struggled, but closed her eyes and waited for help. We had to pry his fingers off her one at a time. She would never get close to Gilbert again, who was only trusted from that time on to watch the dogs from a safe distance, but Pearl had never considered hurting him.

Our initial interest in trying this program was to give Ernie a job. He was a marvelous young Greyhound with a remarkable personality, whose love of life was obvious to all who were lucky enough to meet him. He had spondylitis, and was not to exercise for quite a while. He needed something to do with his energy and enthusiasm, and he was custom made for therapy. Tonight I took Pearl and Reggie, long-retired 10 year old champions who also enjoy having a job to do and being center of attention. The Greyhounds all have fancy collars to wear to therapy. Some residents who don't care for the dogs LOVE the collars with their bright colors and metallic threads. The dogs have holiday collars with various themes. A big favorite is a bandanna with Duke University's Blue Devil mascot on it. It all adds to the sensory experience for the residents. One word of caution- NEVER bring a dog with any physical problem to pet therapy. Wounds, bandages, stitches or any obvious impairment can be very upsetting. And, obviously, a sharp or fearful dog can be dangerous to residents. The dogs are there to visit and make them smile, move, think and enhance their otherwise routine surroundings. Carol explained to me that the visits benefit even those residents who don't participate by enriching the environment, by just changing what they are used to seeing and happening each day.

Bob and I recommend this with all our hearts. And far from finding it depressing, we come away feeling we've shared the best two gifts we could- our time and our beloved Greyhound friends.

the looks on the residents faces when Reba trots into a room, or when Rider "dances" with us, or Flurry catches a cheese puff in mid-air, help remind us of the simple yet profound joy of the dogs' company, and to never take it for granted. Suggest it to a local facility, and start small, with a group the recreational director knows well. Make sure you know that the facility has insurance to cover pet therapy. If someone accidentally trips over your dog, you will not want to find yourself in legal trouble. Bring COMPLETELY reliable, stable, trusting dogs, wearing collars that are bright and cheerful. This is a wonderful new career for older dogs, no longer in the ring competing, but who still love to get out and be in the spotlight. Murdoch Center is very strict about protecting its residents in every way. Bob and I are not allowed to take photographs there. But the residents have photos of themselves with the dogs, taken by the staff, to tide them over until the next visit. If you find yourself getting discouraged in other dog activities you put your time into, try an hour of pet therapy. I am never prouder of my dogs than when they are walking through the wards wagging their tails, visiting their many friends at pet therapy.

Just a reminder that the **Don't Shoot the Dog!** seminar by Karen Pryor and Gary Wilkes will be held on April 29 & 30 at the Holshouser building at the State Fairgrounds. This is the only East coast appearance by Karen Pryor in 1995 and the Durham Kennel Club was fortunate enough to be her sponsor!! This is really an opportunity for all of our members to learn from an internationally acclaimed animal trainer. If you haven't already signed up for the seminar, don't delay AND there is a registration form included in the newsletter for your convenience.

Barb Doermann (644-1421) and Judy Ortiz (967-5786) are seeking door prize donations for the seminar. This offers an opportunity to donate a small doggie or non-doggie item in memory of a special dog or in celebration of a title or event that you and your dog have accomplished together. Each donation will be marked with the donor's name (unless otherwise specified) and in memory or celebration of whatever you wish. Please call Barb or Judy before April 14 with any item you wish to donate.

Many people have already done a great deal of work for the seminar and a big "Thank You" goes out to all the folks who have carried and carried and distributed flyer after flyer after flyer. The names are far too numerous to enumerate, but please know that your efforts have been very much appreciated!

The above information is shared with our membership by Cindy Luster, who is chairing this very big event for the club. This is a huge job and undoubtedly will be a great success for the DKC. Please support it by your attendance, if possible, and also with any contribution or effort that you can make. Please note that an application to the seminar is included in this newsletter.

A reminder that all obedience and conformation instructors and assistants are eligible for a \$50.00 rebate for any seminar attended if you have taught all available classes within our fiscal year (Sept. 1994 - May 1995).

Not only is life a bitch, it has puppies!

Adrienne Gusoff

SHOW REPORT
CONFORMATION

OWNER'S NAME	DOG'S NAME (BREED)	SHOW	CLASS	POINTS	HIGHEST WIN	SPECIAL MERIT
Tina Smith	Betsy (Dalmatian)	Mighty Match	Puppy Bitch 6 to 9 mos.		BOS	
Sheila Pagura	Buster (Maltese)	Hanover KC	Open	3 pts.	BOS BOW	
" "	" "	Myrtle Beach KC	"	3 pts.	BOS BOW	
" "	" "	Charleston KC	"	3 pts.	BOS BOW	
Helen Glenn	Mollie	Clearwater KC	Open Bitch	4 pts.	WB	New Champion!!! (bred by owner)
" "	"	St. Petersburg KC	" "	4 pts.	WB	

Doggie Waffles

These waffles are specially designed for your furry four-legged family members. Finally fresh, nutritious dog treats—it's a dog's life!

- 1 cup all-purpose flour
- 1 cup whole-wheat flour
- 1 teaspoon baking powder
- 2 eggs
- 1-1/2 cups beef broth

- 3 tablespoons vegetable oil
- 1 garlic clove, minced
- 1 cup shredded mild Cheddar cheese (4 ounces)
- Vegetable shortening or oil for grids

Preheat waffle iron. In a medium-size bowl sift together all-purpose flour, whole-wheat flour and baking powder. In a large bowl beat together eggs, beef broth, oil and garlic. Gradually stir in flour mixture. Beat until smooth. Stir in Cheddar cheese. Lightly brush hot grids with shortening or oil. Pour enough batter to fill two-thirds of the waffle iron. Cook until crisp and golden-brown. Place finished waffles on a rack. While the waffles are still warm cut with a dog bone shaped cookie cutter or cut into 1-inch squares. Repeat with the remaining batter. Let waffles cool thoroughly before serving. Makes about 4 waffles or about 25 dog bones.

The above recipe has been shared with us by Maureen Lucas who says her dogs have given these waffles the taste test and heartily approve!!

DON'T SHOOT THE DOG!

KAREN PRYOR AND GARY WILKES

A TWO DAY SEMINAR

SPONSORED BY THE DURHAM KENNEL CLUB

APRIL 29 & 30, 1995

NORTH CAROLINA STATE FAIRGROUNDS

RALEIGH, NORTH CAROLINA



Learn about: positive reinforcement; conditioned reinforcers
conditioned stimuli; stimulus control; behavior chains;
targeting; superstitious behavior; extinction and more.

(EQUIVALENT TO A COLLEGE SEMESTER COURSE ON LEARNING
THEORY IN JUST TWO DAYS!!)

Seminar involves videos, mini-dramas, and audience
participation. Learn to play the TRAINING GAME and
develop creative training skills.

COST: \$125.00

INCLUDES: Breaks and lunch
Limited crating space
Camper hook-ups available

Confirmations will be mailed.
Hotel information and directions will be included.
For additional information contact:
Cindy Luster (919) 362-7476
FAX (919) 362-4489

MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO THE DURHAM KENNEL CLUB

SEND ENTRIES TO: CINDY LUSTER, 2508 NEW HILL-OLIVE CHAPEL ROAD,
NEW HILL, NORTH CAROLINA 27562

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

PHONE: _____ BREED OF DOG: _____

PLEASE CIRCLE EVENTS IN WHICH YOU ARE ACTIVE:

CONFORMATION
SEARCH & RESCUE
LURE COURSING

OBEDIENCE
FIELD WORK
OTHER _____

AGILITY
HERDING

TRACKING
THERAPY VISITATION

DO YOU WORK WITH ANY OTHER ANIMAL SPECIES? YES NO
WHAT SPECIES? _____