

LUCKY DOG NEWS

The Newsletter of Luckiamute Dog Training Club
June 2008

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Bob Parker

Membership Chair
Sherree Lewis

Newsletter Editor
Peggy Miller
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2008 Meeting Schedule

Unless otherwise noted, meetings are held the first Thursday of the month at the Almost Home Restaurant in Salem. Dinner @ 630 Meeting @ 700

June 5

JULY NO MEETING

August 7 – Picnic
Meeting location TBA

September 4

October 2

November 6

December 4

Minutes of the May 1, 2008 General Membership Meeting

The May meeting of Luckiamute Dog Training Club was held May 1, 2008 at the Almost Home restaurant. The meeting was called to order by President Laurie Kudna at 7:08 PM. Members present were Catherine Shields, Laurie Kudna, Betty and Larry Schwartz, Bob Parker, Jean Kane, Peggy Miller, Sherree Lewis and Margie Dykstra.

Secretary's Report: Moved, seconded and passed to approve the minutes as published.

No Treasurer's Report. There is a \$300 discrepancy in our favor with PayPal, which has not been resolved. We have not received the money from Chris Zink.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Seminars – The Zink seminar is cancelled. Corky Vroom is able to do either the February 28-March 1 date or January. The cost will be about \$2,000. Clubs have been charging \$175/day for participants or \$75 for observers. Moved, seconded and passed to proceed with Corky Vroom. He wants a \$500 deposit. Date will be the Feb/Mar date. He can do 20 demo dogs per day and will need two rings.

Laurie found a list of seminar topics and present. Margie will look into Urban Tracking for a date in 2010.

VST: We have 4 dogs running and 3 alternates. We will be allowed to bring food for this year only at Chemeketa. We will have to take the garbage with us when we leave the building. We can brown bag food, but it has to have person's name on it. The free room will continue. Tracklayers will be Jean, Peggy, Tamara and Sherree. The judges want to start at 9:00AM. The best rate for rooms at the Best Western is the government rate. The first track on Sunday will go down at 6:00 AM. The judge's gifts are electric coffee mugs. There will be pizza on Sunday.

TD: Nothing to report.

Obedience: Judges are hired.

Discussed whether to move the trailer. Peggy has room for it at her place. At Larry's it is outdoors and not locked. Moved, seconded and passed to move the trailer from Larry's to Peggy's.

Membership: Club needs to be more active regarding

members. Perhaps we could give rewards for jobs, credits for bringing in new members. Sherree will write up ideas for jobs.

It was decided we need a new logo. Probably we could have a contest for a new logo. Ideas needed regarding what to do to get people interested in the club. This will be discussed in the future.

Moved, seconded and passed to adjourn at 8:18 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Betty Schwartz, secretary



SPRING HAS FINALLY SPRUNG!
TIME TO GET OUT AND ENJOY
THE SUN AND GREEN GRASS!

LOGO CONTEST!

Time for a change! It is time to update/refresh our logo. Submit your ideas by September 1. You don't have to be an artist. We will have the services of published artist/author Amy Aitken to make your idea a reality. Winner will receive a T-shirt embroidered with the new logo – courtesy of Nancy Miller (Peggy's mom).

Another *Successful VST* (with no passes)

As many of us know, on May 4th we held our annual VST trial, with 4 tracks at Chemeketa, and no need to drive down to Salem Rehab (where we normally have our 4th track). The judges (Roy Fair and Sally Diess) did a great job of really using the campus well, with some very nice tracks. (As soon as we depend on getting 4 tracks in on the campus, that will be the year that a big swap meet takes over one or more of the parking logs!)

Unfortunately, none of the dog/handler teams were able to fully complete their tracks; though they all did **after** they were whistled off!

Following the trial, the judges provided their own comments on how each team had done, and where they each went astray. As Sally pointed out, while there are no “actual obstacles” on a VST track, there are certainly “scenting obstacles”, and some examples were discussed.

Stopping people who were about to walk across the track was also discussed and deemed not appropriate, with an exception made for someone with an off-lead dog. Missing articles were considered too, with both judges agreeing that as long as the dog gave some sort of indication in the area of the missing article, a team would not be failed in such a situation. (A handler's explanation of what his or her dog does when “indicating” may become crucial though.)

So a big “Thank You” to all who helped put on this event – tracklayers Jean, Peggy, Sherree and Tamara; trial secretary Ellen, hospitality Sherree and everyone else who contributed to this trial! Even if no teams actually passed, we did put on a good trial!

Bob Parker
Chairman and Chief Tracklayer

Editor's note:

AKC Tracking Regulations amended to June 1, 2005

Chapter 2 Section 23 paragraph 3: *If, in the judges' opinion, the dog actively searched the area where an article was dropped but did not find the article, and the judges cannot find the article, the*

*dog will be given credit for finding the article. The foregoing **only applies to TD and TDX tests.***

Chapter 5 Section 5 Paragraph 5:

*The judges will mark a dog "Passed" if an article is not found and cannot be located by the judges or the tracklayer, **provided that the dog worked continuously and intently along the actual track.***

Perhaps interpretation of the missing article rules are up to the judges?



Friends come in all shapes and sizes...

Heroic Tracking Judges!

By Peggy Miller

I had the pleasure of being tracklayer for the #1 track at our recent VST test. As you probably know, tracks are plotted the day before the actual test with the two judges checking the lay of the

land and deciding where to put a track that will be fair to the dog/handler team and meet the requirements for a regulation track.

On this beautiful cool Spring morning, I trailed along behind Sally Diess and Roy Fair as they mapped out a path that would incorporate grass, barkdust, cement and asphalt. At the end of the row of "islands" in the middle of a parking lot, Sally and Roy stood discussing where to place the final leg of the track. As they talked, I gazed around enjoying the blue sky and the singing birds. I looked over to my left and noticed 4 mallard drakes lying in the parking lot. Hmm, I thought. That is odd. Why aren't they over in the grass by the ditch? Then I noticed a hen running frantically around the grate of a storm drain a few feet from the drakes. Strange... Then I heard the desperate peeps of baby ducks. The ducklings had obviously fallen through the grate!

I alerted Sally and Roy. They wouldn't let me move as the ducks were in the opposite direction from where the track would be running. Without a second thought, the intrepid judges ran to the storm drain. Roy grabbed the

grate and pulled it off. Sally lay on her stomach and reached in and started removing ducklings as Roy and Bob (who also came to the rescue) herded the little birds towards the ditch. Duckling number ten panicked and ran away from his rescuer. Luckily there was another grate and Roy was able to pound on it and scare the baby duck back toward Sally who scooped it up and saved the day!

Roy replaced the grate. Sally washed the sludge off her hands. They collected their clipboards and continued plotting tracks.

All in a day's work for a couple of AKC tracking judges.

(and we didn't even have to call in the fire department!)

HELPFUL HINTS

Did anyone catch the "People's Pharmacy" column in THE OREGONIAN on May 14, 2008? In it, they cited a solution of equal parts of Listerine mouthwash, baby oil and water for dog hotspots. Spray on as soon as a dog starts licking at a spot. Possibly the herbal oil in Listerine may have anti-fungal properties.

~Bob Parker

ARE YOU LISTENING TO ME?



This is what your newsletter editor looks like when she finds her mailbox empty! It scares her friends, family and animals when she looks like this, so PLEASE send newsletter items to her at

BERKNBELG@NETZERO.NET

OR

Snail mail to:

7431 Rayona Drive SE
Salem, OR 97317

Photo is actually of Shelly Brosnan's Bodhi - not of Peggy. Photo courtesy of Shelly.

Shelly Brosnan's Brags From the Belgian Sheepdog National Specialty Show:

The BSCA national specialty was just in Wilsonville, so we had a great time – close to home!

Bodhi earned his first RAE leg by going 4th place in both Rally Excellent B and Rally Advanced B.

Dharma picked up two Rally Advanced legs with a first place and a 3rd. Plus she also earned her 2nd Novice B leg in regular obedience.

During Best of Breed judging, she was given a Judge's Award of Merit. Making the second cut was exciting, but when the judge kept her in until the very end, I could barely breath! Considering the line-up consisted of several of the top Belgian Sheepdogs in the country, to say I was over the moon is an understatement!

Thank you, thank you to Peggy Miller, who not only helped keep me sane this past week, but also was "Chicken Runner" keeping Dharma in the bait while out in the Best of Breed ring. I bet her legs were tired

from all that running back and forth! Thank you!

Finally, I just want to thank Margie Dykstra for helping at the BSCA tracking event. I was chair and secretary for the BSCA's tracking event. We wound up having 5 TDX entries and 1 alternate and a busy, busy day. Margie was awesome and was the glue that held everything together! Thank you!!

~Shelly Brosnan

*(what Shelly has neglected to mention is that she pulled several muscles in her leg at the beginning of the week and she spent the majority of the Specialty on crutches and pain relievers ~editor)
Shelly and Bodhi – photo by Creative Indulgence*



BSCA 2008 National Specialty
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Shelly Brosnan's Dharma Select at the recent Belgian Sheepdog National Specialty show. Photo by Shelly.

Peggy's Brags from the BSCA Specialty:

Well unfortunately, my show dog decided to blow coat prior to the show and looked like a mangy coyote so I had nothing to take into the breed ring. Ranger picked up his first two Rally Excellent legs with two blue ribbons (do I have to say that he was the only one in his class?) Legend got two RAE legs with a first and second in Excellent B and a third and fourth in Advanced B.

What a Way to Hold a Dog Show!

At the recent Belgian Sheepdog Club of America specialty, a special event was held called "The Continental". A breeder from Sweden judged in the European style - informally and with written critiques. Because of the critiques, the classes took much longer than at an AKC show. Handlers lounged in the ring relaxing with their dogs as they awaited their turn. Plenty of hors d'ouerves and an open wine bar kept everyone happy including the handlers - some of whom were seen gaiting their dogs while holding onto a wine glass! All agreed that this was a great way to hold a dog show.

Somehow I don't think that AKC would agree!



Legend at the BSCA TDX test.
Photo collage by CreativeIndulgence

