

Tanana Valley Kennel Club

October 2008 Newsletter

Editor-Jennifer Taylor

Email the Editor at taylor3@mosquitonet.com

OFFICERS and BOARD MEMBERS

President- Judi Shapiro

1st Vice President/Training-Donna Wojciechowski

2nd Vice President/Membership-Carrie Kofstad

Recording Secretary-Becky Gatterdam

Corresponding Secretary-Becky Fuller

Treasurer-Ron Gatterdam

Education-Jennifer Taylor

Outreach/PR-Brian Cade

Library/Hospitality-Ingrid Oliver

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TVKC General Meeting

Our next meeting will be held on Wednesday October 1st at 7 30pm, in Pioneer Park Museum. Refreshments served. Come vote in the new board. Memberships must be current to vote, you can renew that day!

Our TVKC Website at www.tananavalleykennelclub.com is the place for info. This site is regularly updated to provide out members with access to info, enrollment forms and more! The user name is TVKC, the password is tvkcmb. Visit today~

TVKC has a yahoo group, the perfect place to connect with club members and swap ideas, ride to shows, food questions etc! If you did not receive your email invite, use the link below!

http://us.rd.yahoo.com/evt=42879/*http://groups.yahoo.com/group/tvkc

Would you like to see TVKC host a CERF /Cardiac clinic at the May show in the future? Please come to the meeting and make your voice heard. The more people who would like this test here and would be willing to help put it on, the sooner we can make it happen! Let us know!

Club Renewals are due by the October general meeting. If you do not renew your membership before the November meeting, you will not receive a discount club card or be eligible to submit awards for the Christmas party. This is due to the printer/award makers. Don't forget to renew on time so you don't miss out! Renewals can be found online via the website, but also will be mailed out soon!

The board and general meeting minutes are posted on the website in the member's only section. Missed a meeting? Find out what happened and stay informed!

From the President:

Thanks to all who came out to Responsible Dog Owner Day at Growden Park

Sept. 13.

TVKC members participated in Meet the Breeds and socialized puppies

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Cuteness Awards were earned by all!!

Ron Gatterdam, Janet Brown and Becky Gatterdam presented retrieving and

obed. Demos, much fun was had on Peggy Beagle's agility equipment and I

know I saw some large familiar dogs at the weight pull - brags, please.

Also CGC testers Andra Burns and Susan Sampson were kept busy for Golden

Retriever Rescue.

Thanks to Elizabeth Pollen for volunteering her new tent for TVKC 's area, and Brian Cade for wearing the fur suit and being the Balloon Dog.

And thanks again to Janet Brown, Organizer Extraordinary for the 5th year in a row - it keeps getting bigger and better, Janet.

Judi and the TVKC Board

Some upcoming dates:

TVKC FALL 2008 DATES

Sept. 26,27,28 Agility trials Camp Li Wa

Oct. 1 TVKC Annual meeting, Pioneer Park Museum 7:30

Oct.3, 4,5 All Classes

Oct.10, 11,12 All classes

Oct. 17,18, 19 All classes

Oct. 24,25 Fri., Sat. classes

Oct 26 Fun Match

Oct. 31& Nov. 1, 2 Classes

Nov. 5 General Meeting (Budget) 7:30 Pioneer Park Museum

Nov.7, 8,9 Classes (CIKC Shows 8,9)

Nov. 14,15,16 Last Classes (Take up mats on the 16th)

Nov. 23 Agility run through

Dec. 7 Xmas Awards Potluck Pioneer Museum 3:00

Dec.14 Agility run through

The following is the AKC Chairman's report from September:

SEPTEMBER CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

New York, NY - The American Kennel Club faces enormous challenges in reversing the continuing decline in registrations. Today, we are losing market share at an alarming rate, especially in the retail sector. We are being challenged competitively and financially. The declining registrations and associated core revenues, if allowed to continue, will fundamentally change our organization going forward. Make no mistake, the very future of the AKC and our sport is at risk.

We can all remember some of the premier "name brands" and companies of the past, leaders in their field. The ones that we thought would be around forever. These giants, these household names, held the same standing as the AKC. Companies such as: Westinghouse, Pan American Airlines, Standard Oil Company, EF Hutton, Woolworth's, Montgomery Ward, just to name a few.

Today, there are at least 30 All-Breed registries in addition to the AKC, whose combined registration numbers exceed that of the AKC. If this trend is allowed to continue, if we do not stop the hemorrhaging of declining registrations, we will no longer be the premier registry in the world, let alone in our country.

Management has been directed by the Board to aggressively pursue all dogs eligible for AKC registration. We intend to reach out, communicate, and educate those in the retail sector as to why an AKC puppy is the gold standard and why they should be registered with American Kennel Club. In achieving this objective we intend to continue to "raise the bar" by vigorously enforcing our policies.

This action is essential to protect and preserve our leadership.

As the pre-eminent and only not-for-profit registry, we live our values everyday with our commitment to the integrity of our registry and the excellence of our inspections program. Having AKC involved through our compliance and inspection programs elevates the quality of AKC puppies.

Our Compliance Program allows us to educate breeders about puppy socialization, genetic health screening, grooming, exercise requirements and adherence to breed standards. This is the benchmark of excellence we expect of all AKC breeders whether under mandatory or random inspections.

In 1996, when the Board first passed our care and conditions policies we knew it was, and still, is the right thing to do. We know that insisting upon good breeding practices is the right thing to do. And we intend to continue to do the right things for dogs. The American Kennel Club provides what no other registry provides. In order to continue to be the dog's champion, we must remain a strong, viable organization.

We are losing litters, dogs and entire colonies to competing registries. If litters and dogs aren't registered with AKC, we can't inspect them, we can't help the breeders and we can't grow our sport. AKC used to dominate the marketplace. Even places like Macy's and Gimbel's sold AKC puppies. Many pet owners who bought these puppies, and I was one of them, tried their hand at showing and breeding. These owners who purchased their first purebred from a retail outlet, not only added to AKC's registrations, but those who wanted to advance in the sport, then sought out fanciers to continue their journey.

The available pool of AKC-remittable puppies is being lost to other registries, along with potential participants in the sport. As we lose registrations, we also lose our core revenues, our ability to generate alternative revenues and our legislative influence. We need to get back on track growing our influence as the premier registry in the world.

We know that AKC puppies and our breeders are the best. They are the "Gold Standard" in the marketplace. We need to continue to reinforce that. Let's not allow those other registries to weaken us or put us out of business. Let's not allow them to make AKC a nostalgic memory as well.

For decades we collected millions of registration dollars from AKC pet owners. These millions overwhelmingly subsidized our sport. Today, this scenario no longer exists. Twenty-five years ago almost all of our revenue was registration related. Last year less than one half of our revenues came from registrations. Dog registrations peaked at 1.5 million in 1992. By the end of 2008 it is projected we will register only 725,000 dogs. This is a staggering 53% decline. It was not that long ago, that there were only two All Breed registries - the AKC and UKC. Today there are at least 30 All-Breed registries. Going forward, we need to do whatever is necessary to stop our registration free fall. We can and will be aggressive in pursuing all AKC-remittable dogs and do so while upholding our values and high standards.

As we go forward, let me make it clear to all, that the AKC will continue to enthusiastically support the Parent Clubs' Codes of Ethics including, as it relates to their members' sale of puppies through commercial entities.

If the current trend continues and dog registrations decline to 250,000 over the next several years, AKC will face an annual revenue shortfall of \$40 million. To put this in perspective, if this scenario occurred, and we relied solely on raising the event service fees to make up for this revenue shortfall, the fee would be a staggering \$20 per entry. Our preference would be to grow our registrations to the point that we could lower, not increase event fees. Some would say the obvious solution is a significant reduction in expenses. However, a \$40 million revenue shortfall would necessitate a reduction of our expenses by two-thirds. This is totally unrealistic.

Let me remind you that since 2002 we have reduced our headcount by more than 50 employees and aggressively controlled expenses, which have remained relatively flat since 2003, in spite of inflation. Our problem is clearly not an expense problem. It's a revenue problem and a serious revenue problem.

We need to secure our AKC and our sport so that future dog lovers can experience the same joys and passions we have so fortunately enjoyed for more than a century. No one is suggesting we lose sight of our rich heritage and traditions, but let's not allow the stated goal of our competitors to become a reality.

As Bill Wrigley Jr. said recently in the New York Times, "We must respect the past...but at all times do what is right for the future."

Sincerely,

Ron Menaker

Chairman

B R A G S!

Got Brags? Submit them to the editor!

We have a couple little brags from Riverspruce Hounds...

We recently attended 3 days of showing in Des Moines, Iowa, where we attended the Otterhound Club of America's National Specialty and an OHCA supported entry at the Des Moines Kennel Club all-breed show, and another day of an all-breed dog show with our Otterhound girls Liv and Spring. When the National is held in the mid-west, we really have a good sized

turnout from all over the country, and this specialty was no exception.

At the Specialty itself, we actually placed in EVERY class that we entered!! The biggest accomplishment was Ron winning the Brace Class with both Liv and Spring! Spring garnered a 3rd place in the 12-18 month puppy sweeps and a 2nd place in the regular 12-18 month puppy class, while Liv placed 3rd in the open bitch class and 3rd in the brood bitch class! All in all, it was really incredible and totally unexpected!

The following day, at the OHCA supported entry, our puppy Spring went Best in

Sweepstakes!! She and Liv both went on to 3rd place in 12-18 month puppy class and open bitch classe respectively. One of Spring's brother's, Henley (who was baby Bart from Liv's litter, and now lives in Illinois) did a WONDERFUL job on this day, and went on to win Winners Dog and Best of Winners - finishing his championship in style with a wonderful 5 point major!! It was SO COOL to be there to see the first Riverspruce Otterhound become a champion, and to watch him in the BOB competition!! On the third day, at the Des Moines Kennel Club all breed show, both Spring and Liv once again placed 3rd in each of their classes.

****Results for tests, matches and trials will be posted if they are submitted by a member. Thanks!**

TVKC Equipment Sales:

Occasionally, TVKC has equipment for sale that was used in classes, shows etc. When an item becomes available for sale, it will be posted in the newsletter ad section (or in an email) with a price listed. It will then be first come, first served. The first person to email or call can take the item. This will eliminate any confusion. And remember, if YOU have a dog-related item for sale, it is free to members to post here!

FOR SALE:

Want to take that doggie odor out of your house or car?? Call me to order the newest thing in candles. Scentsy wickless candles. No flame to worry about, no soot, no lead. Just great aromas. Over 80 scents to choose from. Also room sprays and car candles. Call me, Pam Watson for a catalog or go to my web site. www.scentsy.com/icedreams907, phone #322-8006.

Looking for better foods for your dog(s)?

Columbia River Natural Pet Food products

(Frozen raw meat and meat/veggie blends)

and

The Honest Kitchen products

(Dehydrated human-grade meat, veggie and grain blends)

are now available through Reschaven Rottweilers in North Pole.

Kelly Dygert

488-8314 322-8150

rhaven@alaska.net

Do you have an ad to tell the club about? Members can advertise free in the newsletter! Non-members and businesses can advertise for \$10.00 per ad per newsletter. Please email me your ad by the 15th of the month at taylor3@mosquitonet.com

I will be glad to get it in the newsletter! Please remember this ad should be dog related, due to our club policy. Any questions? Please send me an email at taylor3@mosquitonet.com

Tricks of the Trade!

Get the newspaper? Does it come in a bag? Save them, they make great pooper-scoopers on the go!

Do you have a wire cage that has a cracked pan? Those pans are hard to come by, but have no fear! Line the bottom with peel and stick tile (I paid \$.58 a piece) Now they are easy to wash out and cover all the holes or cracks! And easy to replace!

“memories and milestones.....”

Diane Fish recently lost her rottie Ami;

“V, VE, Amy Vom Reschaven VCD1, TDX, RE, only TDX Rottie in the state, top ten rottie in agility in 2005 and 2006, she was great with people, kids and dogs and always made me laugh.”

Jennifer and Jason Taylor recently lost their Great Pyrenees Lucy;

“Majestic Lucy True Mountain Mayhem VA, CGC, guardian of any livestock (even what wasn't hers!), wonderful with people and

children. Lucy lost her battle with cancer at 6 1/2 years old, too young for such a fine working dog.”

Members receive discounts at...

Coldspot Feeds

Alaska Feed

TANANA

VALLEY

KENNEL CLUB

