

Waggin' Tales

"A well trained dog is a happy dog"

Volume 1 Issue 6

July 1997

WHO'S NEWS? LEGS AND BRAGS

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

A belated Happy Birthday to Sally Compton, who celebrated a "milestone" birthday earlier this month. I don't think Sally would mind if you knew she recently turned 75! Many more, Sally!

NEW ARRIVAL:

Alice & Mike Seymour would like to announce the newest member of their "zoo". His name is Ramsey and he is a 1 to 2 year old Mastiff adopted from Mastiff Rescue Service. Ramsey's past is unknown, however his future looks bright. He has a sweet loving nature, seems quick to learn and is eager to please.

However, due to a neck injury that he came to us with he can not wear a collar. Formal training will have to wait a few more weeks. So far he has fit into our household extremely well. The big test will be when he "hits the streets" for a "walkies". Wish us luck!

We hope to return to training sometime in August, Cub Scout softball and other commitments have us grounded for the summer. Look out Uncle Will...Rusty has a little brother.

From the Editor:

India finished her U-AG II title at her third trial at Smack Dab on July 12. She had a perfect 200 and fourth place.

From Robert & Gloria Geddes:

Irish terrier Champion Cocksire Casey the Delaware Diamond - March 29, 1997 Blackhawk K.C. Finished with a 3 point major for our first Champion in the family. We are now working on his CD. We are working on a new conformation champion - Cocksire's Mystic Diamond (Amber) and have 5 points so far.

From Mary Russell:

Germantown's Thunder Von Vico (Shadow):

GSDC of Central Indiana-5/18/97
Novice B - 190 & 2nd

GSDC of Greater Cincinnati-5/24/97

Novice B - 187

1st place and 2nd HIT

GSDC of Central Ohio-5/25/97

Novice B - 194

1st place and 2nd HIT

From Cindee Ehrhart-

Malnar:

Cindee reports that Millie has been herding and that she passed both legs of the capability test and earned her HCT on July 13. She says Millie is now prepared for any stray sheep that wander thru their neighborhood!

From Linda Benson:

TYGR:

AKC Trials:

Anderson DTC - 4/5/97

Nov B - 196 1/2

3rd place & Hi Hound

Muncie DTC - 4/6/97

Nov B - 194 & Hi Hound

Minn. River KC - 4/12/97

Nov B - 194 1/2

3rd place

AKC CD in 3!

Minn. River KC - 4/13/97

Nov B - 193

FonDuLac KC - 4/19/97

Nov B - 185

Badger KC - 5/5/97

Nov B - 196 1/2

Lyons Twnshp DTC - 5/10/97

Nov B - 189 1/2

Northwest DTC - 5/17/97

Nov B - 190

UKC Trials:

Rock Valley Kennel Fed. 6/7/97

Trial 1 Nov B - 198 1/2

2nd place

Trial 2 Nov B - 195 1/2

3rd place

Trial 3 Nov B - 195 1/2

4th place

UKC CD in 3, Dog World!

Trial 4 Nov B - 187

Linda reports many interesting "occurrences" during these trials - like having to go potty (TYGR not Linda) and flat green snakes, along with some dog and handler errors. She thinks TYGR may be the first Basenji to get a Dog World. She also wants to thank Ronnie and FVDTC members for all their help & support.

Who's News (con't)From Trudi Kimm:

Trudi writes: I decided to try the UCI European style shows with Splash to see what they were like. Well, after 3 shows, 1 junior Championship later, I'm sold on the concept.

Each dog is judged against the FCI standard for the breed. A rating is given each dog & then the dogs in the class are judged against each other for class placings. The winners of the classes come back for Best of Breed. There are Best of Breeds available - BOB Puppy, Adult & Veteran & BOB Bred by Puppy, Adult & Veteran.

At the end of the day there are 6 Best In Shows - Puppy, Adult, Veteran, & the Bred By's. At first you feel like you're meeting yourself coming and going if you're in two divisions. The atmosphere at the shows is much more relaxed, possibly because your dog can get a certificate regardless of the competition. There were dogs given SG2 and V2 ratings at all three shows, so it isn't a guaranteed certificate for showing up.

There are 2 judges for each Group and the entire panel judges the BIS. Politics seemed minimal but I'm sure they can exist depending on the panel.

Depending on the breeds size, an adult is a dog over 15 or 18 months. Puppies can earn a Jr. Championship, but have to be shown after 15 or 18 months to earn their Int'l. Championship. Once finished, there are 16 levels of championships a dog can pursue.

Judging does take longer since the judge has to dictate an oral evaluation to the ring steward.

There will be 3 days of shows in St. Louis the end of Oct. - the closest shows until 1998.

If anyone is interested in these shows, they can talk to me for more information.

Trudi & Splash:
International Dog Show
5/11/97

BOB Puppy, Bred by
BOB Puppy, SG1 rating,
Reserve Best in Show
Puppy (Bred by)

International Dog Show
6/21/97

BOB Puppy, Bred by
BOB Puppy, SG1 rating,
Puppy Group 3

International Dog Show
6/22/97

BOB Puppy, bred by
BOB Puppy, SG1 rating,
Puppy Group 1, new
Champion

Stone City KC - 6/1/97

1st Bred by, WB, BOS,
1 point

Wheaton KC - 6/7/97

1st Bred by, WB, 1pt.

Trudi & Pepsi:

Ill. Dog Breeders Match - 6/13/97

BOB puppy, Herding
Puppy Group 1

Agility News:

Linda Benson submitted the 1996 AKC Agility Rankings. These rankings are based on 1 point earned for every dog that places behind you in your class (level, and height) Rankings are then listed by top 10 of all dogs and then by level and breed.

Top 10 - All breeds:

Marietta Huber & Ramapo's
Indian Love Call (Rainbow) in
10th place with 181 points.

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Agility Excellent:

#1 Lab - Marietta & Rainbow (181 pt)

#3 Lab - Suzan Scott & Phoenix (88 pt)

#4 Lab - Suzan Scott & Jett (72 pt)

#1 Beagle - Marietta & Squiggles (172 pt)

#8 Golden - Jan Schomer & Dusti (99 pt)

Open Agility:

#1 Lab - Suzan Scott & Phoenix (82 pt)

Novice Agility:

#2 Rottweiler - Ronnie Bizer & Packer (44 pt)

#3 Rottweiler - Cathy Fleury & Sadie (36pt)

Condolences

Our sympathies to Sandy Kiley on the death of her daughter, Cheryl, on July 13, 1997. Cheryl was a past member of Fox Valley. Anyone wishing to make a contribution in Cheryl's name should send it to:

Paws for a Cause
464 S. Division
Wayland, Mi. 49348

Our thoughts are with Sandy and her family.

Also, our sympathies to Brenda Rivera on the loss of Chad on July 2, and to Ingrid Hamburger on the loss of her puppy.

From the Editor

This month I'd like to address two issues that have come up in discussions recently. First of all, I want to thank everyone who has submitted articles for Waggin' Tales and those who have written Member Profiles. I have had many compliments on Waggin' Tales and I have to share them with those who have given me stuff! I am happy to print anything that a member wishes to submit, but there are a couple things I would like you to keep in mind. I will require that you sign any letter that you submit, so the members know who is submitting it. I will not edit the contents of your letter or correct spelling or grammar errors (unless you ask me to check it). I usually will print flyers or forms as submitted except for having to put a header with a page number on it (the printer needs page numbers). If I have to change your format - if I have to reduce your document slightly to get the header on the page, I try to tell the individual I am going to do so. If I change your format more than slightly, I may ask you to approve it. If I have to retype your information, the format may be slightly different than the handwritten document. I also may reword any brags, or letters that are written to me, but I try to keep the content accurate. If I make a mistake, please let me know and I will re-run your information. I can't always get everything I am sent into an issue since I am trying to keep each issue to one stamp and it also has to be an even number of pages. I will try to let you know when I can't get your article in or ask you if it is urgent to get it in. I have had problems in the past scanning newspaper articles (I think I have it solved) and they don't copy well, so I am working on getting some of those in the future issues.

I am using a three column format for a couple reasons. First, it is a publishing industry standard - look

at all your magazines. They have spent a lot of money to determine what format works best. Also, a lot of the information I get looks best in multiple columns - it looks funny with a bunch of single lines strung across a page. I need to get as much information on a page as possible since the pages are limited. I appreciate your comments and suggestions, but as editor I need to make the information fit and the format be as consistent as possible. I do use full page formatting for most flyers and forms...and I have used double columns, one wide & one narrow in those cases where it worked out best. Thanks for your support and keep sending me stuff and new ideas!

Finally I'd like to speak on behalf of the awards committee. The members of the committee have talked to at about 125 members in respect to the survey. We thank all the members for their ideas and for returning the surveys. We are very pleased with the number of members who wanted to help us on this issue. We also thank those members who complimented us on our efforts. We did talk in detail to some members who gave us some good ideas we wanted to follow up on and we may be calling on more of you. We also talked to many present and past board members as well as previous awards committee members. One point we think is important to make is that the awards committee has not made any recommendation to change the structure of the awards. Neither have we recommended that any awards be eliminated. We did see that there was some discrepancy in what we were paying for awards at different levels. For example, we found that for a given title the awards given may vary by as much as \$20 and may in fact be more than the level above. We would like to redistribute some of the awards to make this more equitable. At this time we also have no plans to eliminate any vendors who are willing to submit

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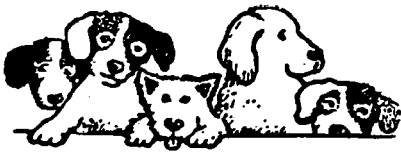
prices. I know that in the past, members have been concerned that they may have been counting on a certain award and when the awards list comes out that award is no longer there. It has always been up to the committee to decide what to offer, but we will try to let you know ahead of time if for some reason we cannot offer a particular award. We are trying to work out a plan to include agility awards and UKC as well as reduce spending on Canadian awards. We think we can do this. We have talked to many members, who have given us some good ideas that we are following up on. We also presented some of these ideas to some members and the board and got a positive response. We are still working out some details. If you have any ideas, please let us know.

I understand that there are a few members who were upset with the whole idea of a survey. Unfortunately except for one member, no one talked to any committee member about their concerns. We would have told them that many surveys have been done in the past and that they do not need to have board approval (we checked). These members voiced their objections to some of the officers, but we didn't hear about it until several weeks after the survey deadline. These members also chose not to participate in the survey. We would have been happy to discuss any concerns that these individuals have and they can still call us.

As much as we wish that we could, we know that we will not be able to please everyone, no matter what we do, which is why we really appreciate the input we have received from the members. We do not wish to go in a direction contrary to the wishes of the majority of the members.

One area where we did suggest a change was in the requirements for getting an award. There was an overwhelming number of members who wanted anyone who got an

award to have to train their dog at the club. Presently all you have to do to fulfill the training requirement is pay the training fee (\$45) to be listed in the roster as a training member. This requirement, along with the others, is listed inside the front cover of the current roster, although the application for awards sent out last year still had the requirement stated as "have to train your dog at the club". The training requirement was changed a few years ago, without a membership vote and many members want to see the training requirement re-instated. The board did not approve our suggestion and this will brought up at the September membership meeting. I hope to have more details on this meeting in the next issue of Waggin' Tales. If you have a strong opinion on this subject be sure to mark September 3rd on your calendar.



Bait Bag

(bat bag) n. A collection of tidbits.

Chiropractic Schedule

Dr. Hansen will be at training on the following days. 7/31 & 8/28. If you need an appointment you should call Dr. Hansen directly at (847) 551-1279.

HOROSCOPE

The Leo Dog
July 23 - August 23

The Leo Dog is powerful and faithful. They are enthusiastic and full of energy. Leo dogs head pell mell into every activity, from running to fetching. They even sleep with gusto and elan. Leo dogs are convinced they are the masters of all they survey and while they are generous and warm-hearted, they are the boss. Above all, Leo dogs are faithful and loyal to their owners, except where cats might be involved.

RECIPES

Carob Treats Dog Cookies

3 cups whole wheat flour
1/2 cup wheat germ
2 1/2 cups oatmeal
1/8 cup peanut oil
1/8 cup corn oil margarine
1 Tbsp brown sugar
2 oz carob chips (available in health food stores), melted
1 cup water
1/4 cup molasses
1/2 cup powdered milk

Mix dry ingredients in a large bowl. Add remaining ingredients and mix until blended. Dough will be stiff. Chill. Roll dough on a greased cookie pan and cut into shapes 1/2 inch thick. Bake at 300 for 1 hour. Makes 2 to 3 dozen.

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You know you've waited too long to find a mate when.....

- you think stripping is something you do to a terrier
- you meet a guy named Bob and instantly visualize purple and gold rosettes
- you think nothing about loudly discussing studs and bitches in a fancy restaurant
- the first thing you notice about a guy is what breed of dog he has
- your biggest turn-off is a guy with an obnoxious untrained dog
- you have ever ruled out a guy a prospective date based on the breed of dog he owns
- you know your dog's cholesterol, but not you own
- when you lament to your friends about chronic yeast infections, they don't know that you're talking about your dog's ears
- you last had a professional portrait done for your high school graduation, but you just spent 50% of your dog's purchase price having his done by the best canine photographer in the country
- you and your dog use the same kind of hairbrush, and you can never keep straight whose is whose
- you spend 8 hours grooming your dog for a show the day before and 1.25 minutes ponytailing your hair the morning of
- you think that people with bad bites shouldn't be allowed to breed
- your mother is ecstatic to see you browsing the aisle with hair coloring, after hounding you for three years to try highlighting....only to be disappointed when she finds you are looking for peroxide to "touch up" your Clumbers drool marks
- when someone mentions single bars, you wonder if they are talking about utility or agility jumps
- ...more next month....

The Hidden Life of Dogs by Dave Barry

I want to talk about the hidden lives of my dogs. Until recently, I wasn't aware that my dogs had hidden lives. There were many times, such as when they'd take turns repeatedly eating a deceased lizard and throwing it back up, when I wasn't even sure they had BRAINS.

Then I got "The Hidden Life of Dogs," the best-selling book by Elizabeth Marshall Thomas, who has some astounding insights into dog behavior. For example, in an effort to find out what dogs do when they're on their own, she spent months following a husky named Misha as he roamed all over Cambridge, Mass. What Thomas discovered was that Misha, who at first appeared to be simply trotting around aimlessly, was in fact earning a degree from Harvard Business School.

No, I am joshing. Harvard does not accept huskies unless their parents are extremely wealthy. What Thomas discovered, after much observation, was that Misha spent his time -- and here I will attempt to summarize two full chapters of "The Hidden Life of Dogs" -- sniffing other dogs and peeing a lot.

This might not strike you dog-owners as all that deep of an insight. But trust me, it seems like one when you're reading the book. Because where you might see just a plain old dog engaging in non-rocket-scientist behavior, Thomas sees a highly sophisticated organism responding to elaborate socio-biological stimuli and performing complex problem-solving tasks. It's not her fault that the solution to the problem is usually to pee on it.

Anyway, reading this book got me to thinking about my own dogs. Did they have a hidden life? If so, could I discover it, and more important -- write a best-selling book?

To find out, I removed my dogs from the confined, controlled environment of our house and put them outside, where they were free to reveal their hidden lives. I observed them closely for the better part of a day, and thus I am able to reveal here, for the first time anywhere, that what dogs do, when they are able to make their own decisions in accordance with their unfettered natural instincts, is: try to get back inside the house. They spent most of the day pressing sad, moony faces up against the glass patio door, taking only occasional breaks to see if it was a good idea to eat worms. (Answer: no).

Of course, the dogs have important and complex socio-biological reasons for wanting to get back into the house. For one thing, the house contains the most wondrous thing in the world: the kitchen counter. One time a piece of turkey fell off of it. The dogs still regularly visit the spot where it landed, in case it shows up again. There's an invisible Dog Historic Marker there.

Another reason is that the house provides a better echo for barking. Dogs employ barking as a vital means of communicating important messages, such as: "bark." Barking also serves a vital biological purpose: If a dog does not release a certain number of barks per day, they will back up, and the dog will explode. (Whenever you hear an unexplained loud noise in the distance, it's probably a dog exploding.)

Our large main dog, Earnest, spends her day sleeping directly under my desk, and three or four times a day she'll have a pressure buildup, causing her to wake up, lift her head, release a bark and immediately go back to sleep. Her bark, traveling at the speed of bark, quickly reaches our small emergency backup dog, Zippy, who is sleeping elsewhere in the house. He wakes up and rushes up to the outside of my office door

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and starts barking at it, because there is clearly something wrong inside. (Why else would Earnest have barked?) This in turn awakens Earnest, who leaps up, bonks her head against the bottom of my desk, then rushes over and starts barking at her side of the door. Each dog is firmly convinced that there is Big Trouble on the other side, possibly involving their arch-enemy, the U.S. Postal Service truck. It comes around every day, and usually Earnest and Zippy are able to drive it off by barking at it and getting spit all over the windows by our front door, but now apparently the truck somehow has GOTTEN INTO THE HOUSE and is ON THE OTHER SIDE OF THIS DOOR

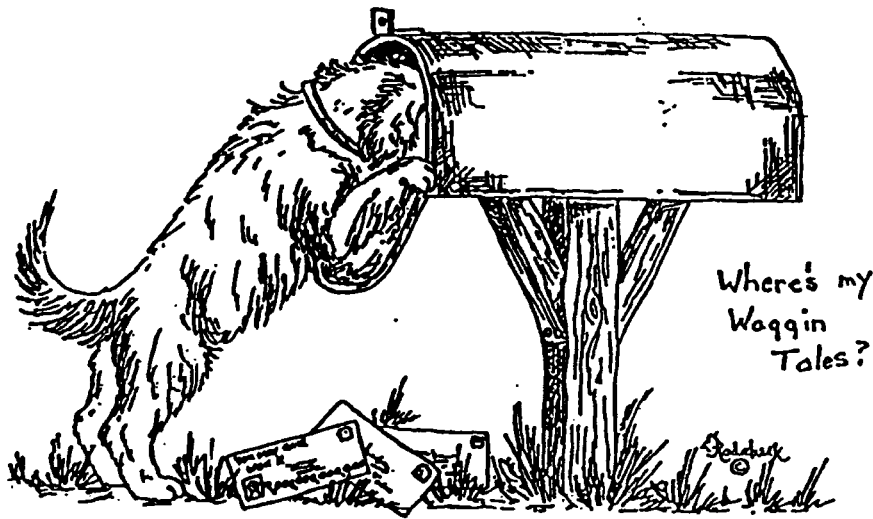
**BARKBARKBARKBARKBARK
BARKBARKBARKBARK!!!**

This is what my dogs are thinking (if "thinking" is the word I want here) as I get up, walk past Earnest, who is now insane with rage, and open the door. Instantly Earnest charges BARKBARKBARK into the hall, narrowly missing Zippy, who is charging BARKBARKBARK into my office. Each one goes about five feet, then -- WAIT a minute!! -- skids to a stop, whirls around, and charges back the other way, still barking. Sometimes they'll pass each other three or four times before they run out of momentum and lie down again, confident that, thanks to their alertness, the house is once again safe.

This is the hidden dog world that goes on EVERY DAY in our house. I admit that, socio-biologically, it is not as interesting as the things that Elizabeth Marshall Thomas' dogs do. But Earnest and Zippy are the only dogs I have. Make me an offer.

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Waggin' Tales
 Kay Weber
 34W922 Chillem
 Batavia, IL. 60510



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Dates to Remember

8/25 Waggin' Tales deadline

Did You Know...

- ...that 25% of a dogs stool volume is shed intestinal epithelium?
- ...that all dogs, from the St. Bernard to the tiny Poodle, are direct descendants of wolves. They can all breed together and produce fertile offspring. Technically they are of the same species.
- ...that the belief that dogs chew grass to aid them in vomiting is probably false? Dogs can very easily regurgitate. In fact, after eating wolves can travel significant distances back to their dens and regurgitate the food at will to feed their pups!
- ...the common belief that dogs are color blind is false. Dogs can see color but it is not as vivid a color scheme as we see. It is much like our vision at twilight.
- ...some authorities estimate that some dogs sense of olfaction (smelling) is as high as 1 million times greater than ours.