



Newsletter for July, 2008

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Coming Events:

This coming weekend, August 2,3 and 4 Top Dog is hosting two events. Our annual summer agility trial goes Saturday and Sunday. Although the entry deadline has passed, we all know Kris will take late entries right up to the day of the trial. Yay! We start at 8:00am both days and we are holding the trial up at Al and Anne Henke's farm. What a treat. This has been a great venue for us all summer long. I will be judging Starters and some of the Advanced courses and Chilli-Dog's own Jaqui Barrie is coming up to do the rest of the Advanced and Masters courses. Then on Monday we switch over to Rally- O. Then we will have our next AAC Agility trial November 1 & 2. Judges are yet to be named. If you have your next year's calendar handy mark this event: AAC Agility trial March 14 & 15 2009. The Christmas party is booked for November 29,08 at St. Michaels Church Hall again.

We have two demonstrations coming up soon, both of them are part of PGX. On August 7 some of us will run with the horses in the next Hoof n Woof. I have never seen this event but it sounds like a lot of fun. Then on August 9 we take over the Agriplex to put on another

demo show. Contact Gys Koop if you want to participate in either event. For the rest of the summer we can look forward to:

August 13	Fun Trial and Barbecue	Top Dog	Henke Paddock
September 6 and 7	Agility Trial	Clear Sailing	Quesnel
September 14	Wind Up Fun Trial	Top Dog	Henke Paddock
September 28	Trial	PG Kennel Club	Prince George

Good News

We had great results come out of the BC/Yukon Regional Championships this year. All of the dogs did well, most qualified and several ended up on the podium! Mike and Dazzle came in second in the 26 inch regular division and they missed the championship by a few little points. Ken and Blitz (who is only a young Starters dog) are the BC/Yukon 10 inch regular champions! Wow! What an accomplishment. We are all very proud. Naomi and Tegwin and Ken and Blitz are off to New Brunswick to compete in the Nationals. We wish you all the best!

Transitions:

Angel and Peter have a new (well not so new anymore) Spaniel puppy named Indie. Kim has a new (okay, not so new now) BC puppy named Strider. Shannon has adopted a Great Dane puppy. It is thought to be somewhat deaf, time will tell how well it can see or hear. Sadly it must be reported that Joy's wonderful loving, friendly Bull Mastiff Brandi had to be euthanised. Let me pass on Joy's words: Some of you (mostly in BC) know my Bullmastiff Brandy. I am sad to say she

passed away last week after being diagnosed with numerous tumours in her lungs 8 days earlier. She was 11 years old. I brought her to the Clear Sailing Trial (to hang out, not compete) and she didn't seem herself, so on Monday I made an appointment to get her checked out at the vets. Overnight her breathing became very laboured. She went downhill very quickly.

Brandy's achievements were modest. She's the first Bullmastiff to get her Masters Standard Title and I think the first to get CARO titles. However, laughter could often be heard during her runs. She enjoyed agility, once I accepted her terms, cool weather, no wet tables, only a couple of runs per trial, and no boring repetitions in practice.

Her true love, however was meeting new people, everyone she met was her new best friend. She was especially gentle with children and elderly people and won over even those who were afraid at first. I remember her spending 15 minutes fetching a tennis ball for the 3 year old son of a friend. I know this seems totally normal for a Border Collie, but Brandy was inclined to retrieve a few times and then her attitude was get it yourself if you insist on throwing it out there again.

She was a great companion, willing to go on a long hike or hang out and watch TV if that was what I felt like. She never left my side when I was sick. The Border Collies pull the covers off if I sleep past the usual time.

She was a bit of a failure as a guard dog though. I can't ever recall her

barking at a person.
Good bye Brandy

Regionals: Well, the first thing to say is that we all had a great time! Most of us camped together in Abbotsford and we shared food and good times. The weather was good, the courses fun and challenging and we got to meet many great competitors. Here are the results (I hope I did not miss anyone I usually do). I have listed dogs from the central interior.

CLASS	TEAM	POINTS	PLACE
10 INCH REGULAR	KEN AND BLITZ	464.22	1
	NAOMI AND TEGWIN	414.58	3
16 INCH REGULAR	DIRK AND JACK	437.58	5
	MICHELLE AND ZAP	387.67	15
22 INCH REGULAR	DONNA AND RAYN	419.89	18
	DAVID AND CASSIE	396.66	20
	ANN AND SLICE	386.11	22
	MARY AND BRIE	382.95	24
	DONNA AND WARJAC	374.43	26
	CAROLYN AND WREN	322.5	36
	PHIL AND SANKA	329.68	35
	SHELDON AND ABLE	267.45	47
26 INCH REGULAR	MIKE AND DAZZLE	550.81	2
	DIRK AND REX	379.06	16
	LORNA AND JORDIE	464.62	5
	ANN AND RUSH	412.13	12
	JOY AND CHASE	363.05	19
	DENISE AND CHRISTIE ³⁵	354.88	20
	LORNE AND JOCK	315.64	26
	ROGER AND	259.75	28

	CUE			Dirk and Rex	Advanced Standard (2)
6 INCH SPECIAL	MIKE AND SHENIA	328	9		
16 INCH SPECIALS	ROGER AND BISCUIT	383	17		Masters Gamblers (2)
22 INCH SPECIALS	ROGER AND ZEUS	468.11	6	Carolyn and Wren	Advanced Jumpers
	MARY AND SKYE	459.41	8	Michelle and Zap	Masters Standard
	CHRIS AND ZOOM	342.24	19		Masters Jumpers
	SHANNON AND CAI	279.95	24	Denise and Keeper	Advanced Standard (2)
	DEB AND ANNABELLE	419.55	11	Brenda and Soleil	Starters Jumpers
16 INCH VETERANS	ANN AND SURF	488.39	12		Starters Gamblers
				Ken and Blitz	Advanced Gamblers
					Masters Jumpers

Fun Trials

Pawsitive Steps Trial

Poor field conditions caused the P.S. regional prep trial to move from Kim's house to Al and Anne's place. Rob Struthers and Jean Shaw shared the honors as our esteemed judges. Many of us were a bit rusty after having had the winter away from trials. Here are the Qs:

Mike and Dazzle	Masters Standard
	Masters Steeplechase
Marc and Jasper	Masters Steeplechase
Sheldon and Able	Masters Jumpers
Roger and Biscuit	Advanced Standard
Joy and Chase	Masters Jumpers
Kim and Peak	Advanced Gamblers
	Masters Standard
	Masters Jumpers
	Masters Steeplechase (2)
Kim and Bounce	Advanced Standard
	Masters Gamblers
	Masters Steeplechase (2)
Donna and Rayn	Masters Jumpers

	Masters Steeplechase
Angel and Sunny	Starters Jumpers
Kim and Bryn	Masters Standard
	Masters Gamblers
	Masters Steeplechase
Glen and Alee	Masters Gamblers
	Masters Steeplechase
Denise and Christie	Masters Standard (3)
	Masters Jumpers
	Masters Gamblers
	Masters Steeplechase
Rob and Timber	Masters Jumpers
Carolyn and Levi	Masters Jumpers
Glen and Max	Masters Jumpers
Joy and Hannah	Master Steeplechase
Roger and Zeus	Masters Standard
Denise and Sunshine	Masters Gamblers
Shannon and Cai	Masters Gamblers (2)
Christy and Denver	Starters Standard (2)
Allan and Cyndi	Masters Steeplechase
David and Cassie	Masters Jumpers

Titles won at that trial:

Denver VADC

Chase MJDC

Peak SAGDC

Clear Sailing Trial

We celebrated the 4th of July (and the 5th and 6th) in Quesnel for the 10th

Anniversary edition of the Clear Sailing summer trial. Donna Holmgren and Phil Zacharatos had very fun courses and we all had a fine time. The weather was quite mixed. Results are not yet available.

Pawsitive Steps Trials

Kim had hoped to have three trials this summer. Two were to be one day affairs and one was a weekend trial at Robert's Roost. However, with Rob's surgery and low registrations the one day trials were cancelled. The other trial was held July 24, 25 and 26. I do not have the results yet. Judges were Rob, Donna and I.

Because the trial came at the end of agility camp there were lots of out-of-town teams. In addition to the regular runs we had three DART games.

Bees

This time of year there are lots of opportunities to get yourself or your dog stung by bees and wasps. Both of my dogs have been stung in the mouth from snapping at the insects as they fly by. Kim taught me always to carry Benadryl in case of stings. Here some information about veterinary use of this drug:

- In addition, here is information from a vet: Benadryl for Dogs or Cats

Benadryl is a brand name for an anti-histamine (diphenhydramine).

Although it is considered fairly safe for use in dogs and cats, please be aware

that it does have potential adverse side-effects. It may interact with other meds that your pet is taking, so do not use it without first consulting your veterinarian. You should also use extreme caution using Benadryl in dogs that have glaucoma, prostatic disease, cardiovascular disease or hyperthyroidism.

Benadryl is quite effective when used in proper dosages. It helps the following symptoms:

- Stops itching
- Controls vomiting
- Good for motion sickness
- Can be used as a mild tranquilizer
- Good for snake bites
- Useful for vaccination reactions
- Good for bee stings and insect bites

Be sure to use only the plain Benadryl formula. Giving Benadryl with other combination of meds could be fatal, so be sure to read the box.

Liquid Benadryl is too high in alcohol content to be safely used for animals. Please use capsule or pill form.

Dosage every 8 hours

Dogs under 30 lbs; and Cats: 10 mg

Dogs 30-50 lbs: 25 mg

Dogs over 50 lbs: 50 mg

Also, June West sent me the suggestion for human stings that you place a copper penny on the sting site. Well, I tried it this summer and that really works.

Wednesday Night Rally

Linda Williams has been holding Wednesday night training sessions leading up to the August 4 Rally-O trial.

I guess it is too late to be telling you about this now. Sorry.

Friday Night training

Mike Shortland has been organizing agility practice sessions Friday evenings at the farm. We have been reviewing tough courses and practicing gambles. We will continue until the paddock is closed so come on out!

General Meeting

July 17 we had a Top Dog general meeting. We were introduced to Margaret Van Der Haeghe who has taken over the position of membership director. We were informed that a number of executive positions will be vacant next year and so at the AGM in November we will be looking for new blood at the table. From the reports we received the club is in good shape in terms of finances, equipment and activities. We are in need of new instructors so that we can continue the education portion of the club's mandate.

Canadian dog friendly web site

For those travelling and looking for off leash or on leash dog parks in Canada check out this web site. Its pretty neat and you can add your favourites to it.

www.places4paws.ca

A man wrote a letter to a small hotel in a Midwest town he planned to visit on his vacation.

He wrote: 'I would very much like to bring my dog with me.

He is well-groomed and very well behaved.

Would you be willing to permit me to keep him in my room with me at night?'



An immediate reply came from the hotel owner, who wrote:

'I've been operating this hotel for many years.

In all that time, I've never had a dog steal towels, bedclothes, silverware or pictures off the walls.

I've never had to evict a dog in the middle of the night for being drunk and disorderly.

And I've never had a dog run out on a hotel bill.

Yes, indeed, your dog is welcome at my hotel.

And, if your dog will vouch for you, you're welcome to stay here, too.'

The following breeds are now being considered for recognition by the CKC:

Collie + Lhasa Apso
Collapso, a dog that folds up for easy transport

Spitz + Chow Chow
Spitz-Chow, a dog that throws up a lot

Pointer + Setter
Poinsetter, a traditional Christmas pet

Great Pyrenees + Dachshund
Pyradachs, a puzzling breed

Pekingese + Lhasa Apso
Peekasso, an abstract dog

Irish Water Spaniel + English Springer Spaniel
Irish Springer, a dog fresh and clean as a whistle

Labrador Retriever + Curly Coated Retriever
Lab Coat Retriever, the choice of research scientists

Newfoundland + Basset Hound
Newfound Asset Hound, a dog for financial advisors

Terrier + Bulldog
Terribull, a dog that makes awful mistakes

Bloodhound + Labrador
Blabrador, a dog that barks incessantly

Malamute + Pointer
Moot Point, owned by...oh well, it doesn't matter anyway

Collie + Malamute
Commute, a dog that travels to work

Deerhound + Terrier

Derriere, a dog that's true to the end

Bull Terrier + Shih Tzu
Bull Shih Tzu, a gregarious but unreliable breed

Dog fighters lose again.

Georgia's dog fighting law was once among the weakest in the nation. Not anymore. Best Friends has been working with lawmakers to put dog fighting out of business in the Peachtree state. As of May 6th, it's the law: even spectators face prosecution. (You can also check out how tough the dog fighting laws are in your state.)

[>>Learn more about Georgia's new anti-dog-fighting law.](#)

Pictures of recent trials

You may notice that I am no longer putting photos in the newsletter. This keeps the file size down. If you go to: <http://picasaweb.google.com/dgreenbee> you can see pictures from the Cancer Walk Demo, Regionals and more. Also, Sheldon has pictures on his Flickr site: <http://www.flickr.com/photos/icenrye>

Major Dog Abuse Stories:

I am very sad to include these kinds of stories but the news must get out. In mid-July authorities in Washington state raided a mini-Aussie puppy mill and seized over 100 puppies and dogs. The conditions that were reported were heartbreakingly tragic. Some dogs had to be destroyed and there were carcasses of dead animals in the house and on the grounds. A dozen of these dogs are coming to BC and four are coming to Prince George. The job of finding care for so many animals at once must be enormous.

More recently in Boulder Creek near Santa Cruz California the police are searching for a man accused of severe animal abuse. They seized 40 Cane Corso dogs. They also found a dog's

head hung from a tree and some dog skulls.

The good side of these two stories is that in both cases there have been major volunteer efforts to provide food, blankets, medical care and affection for these poor dogs.

Regional Handler's Fund

If you want to be involved with the fundraising and the subsequent sharing of the proceeds you need to ante up \$20 and participate in the activities. Contact Donna Holmgren to do this.

A warning:

This article was forwarded by Mike Shortland. It seems to have been checked out by Scopes so you may wish to pay heed to it as true and not another urban legend. Warning to all dog owners - pass this on to everyone you can. Last Friday evening, I arrived home from work, fed Chloe, our 24 Lb. dachshund, just as I normally do. Ten minutes later I walked into the den just in time to see her head inside the pocket of Katie's friend's purse. She had a guilty look on her face so I looked closer and saw a small package of sugar-free gum. It contained xylitol. I remembered that I had recently read that sugar-free gum can be deadly for dogs so I jumped on line and looked to see if xylitol was the ingredient. I found the first website below and it was

the one. Next, I called our vet. She said to bring her in immediately.

Unfortunately, it was still rush hour and it took me almost 1/2 hour to get there. Meanwhile, since this was her first case, our vet found another website to figure out the treatment. She took Chloe and said they would induce her to vomit, give her a charcoal drink to absorb the toxin (even though they don't think it works) then they would start an iv with dextrose. The xylitol causes dogs to secrete insulin so their blood sugar drops very quickly. The second thing that happens is liver failure. If that happens, even with aggressive treatment, it can be difficult to save them. She told us she would call us. Almost two hours later, the vet called and said that contents of her stomach contained 2-3 gum wrappers and that her blood sugar had dropped from 90 to 59 in 30 minutes. She wanted us to take Chloe to another hospital that has a critical care unit operating around the clock. We picked her up and took her there. They had us call the ASPCA poison control for a case number and for a donation, their doctors would direct Chloe's doctor on

treatment. They would continue the iv, monitor her blood every other hour and then in 2 days test her liver function. She ended up with a central line in her jugular vein since the one in her leg collapsed, just as our regular vet had feared. Chloe spent almost the entire weekend in the critical care hospital. After her blood sugar was stabilized, she came home yesterday. They ran all the tests again before they released her and so far, no sign of liver damage. Had I not seen her head in the purse, she probably would have died and we wouldn't even had known why.

Three vets told me this weekend, that they were amazed that I even knew about it since they are first learning about it too. Please tell everyone you know about xylitol and dogs. It may save another life.

<http://www.snopes.com/critters/crusader/xylitol.asp>

Book Review

Folks, I was going to write for you a book review of a popular new dog book I just read. However time restraints have convinced me to leave that for the next issue. You will just have to wait. Also, I

was just about to close his newsletter with the list of Qs from our three spring and summer fun trials. A family emergency has called me away and I don't want to leave this letter until I return (it already is late!) so I am skipping the fun trial results. I can just say that the main result was a good time was had by all.