

Pioneer Tails

Pioneer Valley Kennel Club, Inc
P.O. Box 407, Greenfield, MA 01302

March 2016

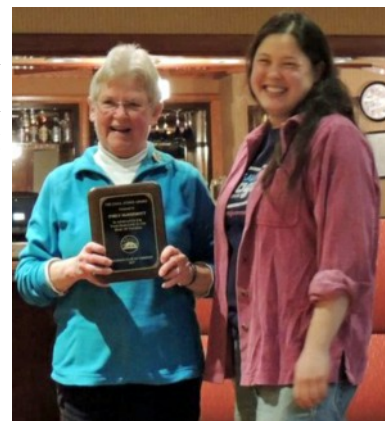
SHOW NEWS – PEG VOHR

Ryan and **Sheila Blanker** took their Siberian Husky "*Shimmer*" to Westminster. **Ryan** writes, "We had a blast and she gave it 110%. I literally couldn't ask anymore of her, she was amazing. Even though we didn't win anything, she showed so well and the crowd loved her. So I'm happy with our performance. And watching the Garden, at the garden was a cool experience! We had awesome seats." Later at the Connecticut Valley Siberian Husky Club Specialty, Saturday February 20th, *GCH Northern Light's Shimmering Moonglade "Shimmer"* went Select Bitch for a 5 point Grand Champion Major, making her less than 20 points from her Bronze GCh!!!

Peg Vohr handled *Fantasy Mariner All Flags Flying (CJ)* to BW at both Great Barrington KC shows. *GCH Fantasy Mariner Play It Again* was Select Dog at both the Collie Club of NE and the Collie Club of NH Specialties on Feb. 20th and 21st.

Catherine Lee's Welsh Springer Spaniel "*Tinker*" is now *CH Rysan's Requested Just For Destiny*. *Tinker* finished Saturday, February 27 at the Rockland County Kennel Club show, with her third major at the age of 15 months, entirely owner-handled. *Tinker* has had lots of fun in the show ring, but her next adventure will involve learning to be an obedient dog.

And we hear that **Emily McDermott** may also have something to brag about – On Feb 7th the Tracking Club of Vermont presented Emily with the Dana Avison Award "In Appreciation – For Your Dedication To The Sport of Tracking" (Tracking Club Of Vermont, 2015)



This newsletter is loaded with forms – forms that have deadlines. Please check out the following pages:

Trophy Donation Form for August Point Show & Obedience/Rally Trial – pages 9 & 10 – **deadline March 30**

Annual Awards Application – pages 7 & 8 – **Deadline April 15**

Health Clinic Information – page 11 – **Reservation Deadline April 15**

President's Message

Dog clubs can only survive if we continue to bring new members into the club. New ideas, new perspectives, new energy.... these are all positive and necessary to evolve and remain relevant.

Do you know someone who might be interested in belonging to a great club like PVKC? Why not invite them to a meeting or one of our events? We all get hung up in the negative of our sport and well, of life in general. There are so many more positive reasons to participate in this wonderful sport of dogs.

Share your love and your passion for the sport with someone new! The welcome mat is always out and we would love to have them!!

Darci

PVKC Contacts

President:

Darci Lee Brown (413) 498-5006

Membership Chair:

Marcia Evans (413) 221-7577

Vice President:

Sheila Blanker (413) 498-5704

Training Information:

Judith Suarez (802) 722-9848

Recording Secretary:

Sue Meachem (802) 257-7532

Breeder Referral:

Chair: Gillian Wilson (413)863-8217

Rosemary Wortman (978) 939-2022

Kathy Georgianna (georgiannak@prodigy.net)

Correspondence Secretary:

Linda Gagnon (978) 544-8933

Treasurer:

Web Page: www.pioneervalleykennelclub.com

Board of Directors:

Karen Duprat (413-569-2029)

Lori Carver (413- 634-5684)

Marcia Evans (413) 221-7577

Vacant 2-year position

Catherine Lee (413) 534-6121

Kelly Nevin (413) 218-7085



PioneerTails

Deadlines
Mar 28, 2016

For advertising
contact Judith

AKC Delegate:

Peg Vohr (413) 498-2609

Newsletter Contacts:

Peg Vohr

(413) 498-2609

Judith Suarez

(802) 722-9848; handart@sover.net

PVKC All Breed Show

April 23, 2016

BIG E, W Springfield MA

**Don't wait to be asked -
Contact the following committee
chairs to offer your assistance:**

Show Chair & Set-up/Clean-up –

Lori Carver- Show Chair - 413-634-5684 seabreez13@hotmail.com

Hospitality –

Nanette Prideaux - Hospitality - 508-347-9674 sarananp@earthlink.net

Breed Stewards–

Linda Gagnon - 978-544-8933 wetacres@net1plus.com

Special Call –

Desperately Seeking Stewards

We are in extreme need of Conformation Stewards this year. Please, please offer your time.

NOW is when we need you!

For Breed Stewards please contact:
Linda Gagnon - 978-544-8933
wetacres@net1plus.com

Our Shows are good because we volunteer!

No Volunteers = No Shows

Please Help

**We're
begging
you!**



Calendar of Events PVKC 2016

Newsletter Deadline March 28, 2016

March

Board of Directors, March 7

April

Board of Directors, April 4
PVKC All-Breed Show – April 23; Springfield

May

PVKC Health Clinic, May 1
Board of Directors, May 2
PVKC Tracking Clinic, May 14 & 15
Awards Banquet; May 19

June

Board of Directors, June 5

July

Board of Directors, July 11
PVKC Picnic; July 21

August

Board of Directors, Aug 1
PVKC All-Breed Show – Aug 6, Greenfield MA

September

Board of Directors, Sept 5
General Meeting, Sept 12
PVKC Agility Trials, Sept 17-18
PVKC Rally Trial, Sept 18
PVKC Tracking Test, Sept 24 - 25

October

Board of Directors, Oct 3
Annual Election & General Meeting Banquet
– Thursday, October 20

November

Board of Directors, Nov 7

December

Board of Directors, Dec 5
PVKC Holiday Party, Dec 12

Having Puppies? ? ?

We received the following request for help via our website from Kathryn Lord. I offered to spread the word around.

I am a visiting professor in the School of Cognitive Science at Hampshire College. I am currently preparing to do a behavioral study on the timing of the critical period of socialization in different dog breeds this spring.

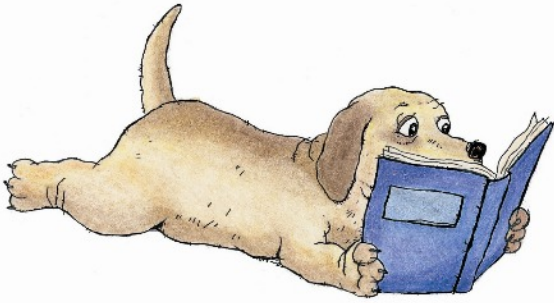
I am looking for breeders in the Area who are planning for litters born in March, April or May and who might be interested in participating. I would be happy to provide more information to anyone who is interested.

Sincerely,

Kathryn Lord
kalCS@hampshire.edu

***Killing Trail* by Margaret Mizushima**

Reviewer by Darci Brown



Killing Trail is the first in a possible new series featuring Officer Mattie Cobb. She is a police officer in the small town of Timber Creek in Colorado. Her partner is K-9 Officer, Robo. Having a dog as part of the department is new so Mattie is working overtime to prove both her dogs work as well as her own. It is obvious that

the author spent a lot of research time with police canine units as well as search and rescue units as the details are very accurate. Her husband is a veterinarian and she often assists at his clinic so the operation scenes are very vividly described!!

Hopefully this will be the first in a long running series.

Editor's Note: I am pretty sure that Darci and I are not the only readers in this club. Help out your poor old editor – send me a book review. It will only take you 5 minutes. handart@sover.net

Food Is Not A Problem

By Debbie Jacobs; Blog, Posted August 4, 2015

This morning my mother was having her breakfast and on the TV was an early morning cooking show. She remarked, "I don't know why I watch these shows, I don't even like to cook."

Food is a primary reinforcer. Looking at it feels good, thinking about it feels good. Mmmm..hand churned ice cream with fresh peaches, sweet corn on the grill, garden fresh salsa with just picked cilantro. That's why you keep watching, mum.

In the world of dog training food is still being given a bad rap by some. The misuse of food as a bribe is often cited as reason to avoid using it. The argument that dogs become dependent on food would almost be funny if folks weren't serious when they made it. I have yet to sort out how to break my dogs' dependency on eating.

Different dog trainer camps each have their own set of premises as to why they prefer not to use food in training. And ironically enough on the spectrum of trainers

understanding how behavior works (from haven't a clue to enough understanding to make stuff up and sound like they know what they're talking about), and developing a method or style, both the dominance and force-free advocates have adopted other supposedly more natural alternatives.

Years ago I ran into a neighbor who had purchased two chocolate lab sister pups. I asked if she was planning on breeding them. "No," she answered. How about spaying them? "No," again. "Why not?" I queried. "Because it's not natural," she claimed. Had I been drinking coffee there's a good chance it would have come out of my nose. Natural!? As IF there is anything natural about a chocolate lab (no offense to them or any other breed of dog). The pressures of artificial selection have created very different animals than the pressures natural selection would have created.



This hasn't stopped trainers from jumping on board the it's natural bandwagon (I have yet to understand how food has been relegated unnatural, and am not going to spend much time on trying). There are the trainers who seem to be taking their lead from dogs from another planet, those mother dogs who use bites to the neck

and muzzle holds to teach their puppies how to walk more slowly on leash, come when called, or poop outside and not in the house (that those mums start out by eating their puppies' poop is natural enough but few recommend owners go that route). And the trainers who extoll natural, organic, functional rewards (other than food) for training behaviors such as stop running away from me and turn and come to me, or stay in a crate for hours, a behavior which I daresay might be as unnatural as it gets as far as a dog is concerned. Some leap of logic has been made that even though we are going to train behaviors that go against what is likely very much in a dog's nature; chase stuff, chew stuff, eat stuff, shred stuff, guard stuff, pee on stuff, we are obliged to do so by someone's random definition of what constitutes natural.

Most troubling are the trainers who just flat out do not understand how counterconditioning works and avoid using food to create positive associations with triggers. Or fail to see how the use of food in operant conditioning

can impact the dog's emotional response to where the food is being given, what's around, and probably most importantly the handler who's supplying it, right along with performing the behavior itself. Those who assert that the dog's good feelings when food is used only applies to the food, and not the handler providing it, are identifying themselves as lacking an understanding in classical conditioning, and it's value to us.

Before anyone feels the need to comment and remind me that there are other things besides food that dogs can find positively reinforcing and motivating, I get it. I'm not arguing against the use of whatever a dog finds positively reinforcing in training, but those dogs who needed help yesterday and those dogs today who remain wary and fearful or are facing being returned to a rescue or shelter, or euthanized because they didn't get the memo that they should be able to be trained or counter conditioned without the use of food, are the victims of the very bad advice to avoid using or minimize the use of food in training.

Debbie Jacobs lives in southern Vermont USA with a husband, a cocker spaniel, a border collie and a scared dog border collie mix Sunny. Sunny was the inspiration and catalyst behind the creation of the FearfulDogs.com website. She has certifications in CPDT-KA and CAP (clicker competency assessment program) and besides using it to train dogs, occasionally visits neighbor's chickens and to click for them.

Her Fearfuldogs.com website and blog help owners and rescuers of fearful dogs get some ideas about the best ways to work and play with their special needs dogs. She has also written A Guide to Living With & Training a Fearful Dog. It's the book she wishes someone had handed her when a seriously fearful dog came into her life.

**Seriously, Folks
We Need You!**



The PVKC Treasurer job may be the right job for you. Please consider joining us on the Board – you will have support and as much advice as you want.

Contact Darci at dbhappyhr@hotmail.com

Pioneer Valley Kennel Club

2015 ANNUAL AWARDS APPLICATION

DEADLINE: April 15, 2016

PVKC offers plaques and/or certificates to commemorate the titles earned by our club members' dogs. The awards are presented at our meeting in May. Please complete this form and return to **Lori Carver, 18 Plainfield Rd, Cummington, MA 01026**. Titles and awards must have been completed between January 1, 2015 and December 31, 2015. The member must have been an owner of the dog at the time the title or award was earned. We are not responsible for awards that are not reported in WRITING on this form. Please include a copy of title certificate, for verification.

Member Name: _____ Telephone Number _____

Address _____

Email address _____

PVKC activities participated in during 2015 _____

I would prefer to receive a certificate and have a donation made to Franklin County Sheriff's Dog Shelter & Adoption Center
in the name of _____ Yes _____ No _____

Dog's Registered Name (Please print) _____

Breed: _____ Date of Birth: _____

CHAMPIONSHIP ATTAINED (Please Circle) BREED FIELD OBEDIENCE AGILITY TRACKING

LIST KENNEL CLUB (AKC, CKC, etc) _____

PERFORMANCE TITLE OBTAINED (Please Circle Type)
OBEDIENCE AGILITY FIELD HERDING LURE COURSING EARTHDOG TRACKING RALLY

LIST TITLE (Companion Dog, Novice Agility, etc) _____

LIST KENNEL CLUB (AKC, CKC, All-American, etc) _____

PERFORMANCE TITLE OBTAINED FROM A PARENT BREED CLUB:

LIST TITLE (Draft Dog, etc) _____

AWARD FOR HIGHEST SCORING OBEDIENCE DOG - (please circle type) - AKC CKC

Show _____ Show _____ Show _____

Date _____ Date _____ Date _____

Score _____ Score _____ Score _____

AWARD FOR BEST IN SHOW (please circle type): AKC CKC Specialty
Show _____ Date _____

AWARD FOR HIGH IN TRIAL (please circle type): AKC CKC Specialty
Show _____ Date _____

AWARD FOR MOST GROUP FIRSTS (please circle type): AKC CKC
NUMBER _____ (attach list of shows and dates)

AWARD FOR MOST GROUP PLACEMENTS (please circle type): AKC CKC
NUMBER _____ (attach list of shows and dates)

AWARD FOR MOST BEST OF BREED OR VARIETY PLACEMENTS (please circle type): AKC CKC
NUMBER _____ (attach list of shows and dates)

AWARD FOR MOST PLACEMENTS IN ONE OR MORE PERFORMANCE AREAS (please circle type):
AKC CKC
NUMBER _____ (attach list of shows and dates)

AWARD FOR HIGHEST SCORING JUNIOR IN OBEDIENCE
Show _____ Date _____ Score _____

AWARD FOR HIGHEST PLACING JUNIOR IN JUNIOR SHOWMANSHIP
Show _____ Date _____ Placement _____

_____ BREEDER'S AWARD – for breeders who produce 3 or more titled dogs in one year. (Please attach list of dogs and titles.) NOTE: for this award, a dog may be counted only once in its lifetime, i.e., if a dog's AKC Championship has already been counted in any year, any future titles for that dog cannot be counted.

A certificate will be awarded to dogs who complete a Canine Good Citizen Test, Herding Instinct Certificate, Temperament Test, Therapy Dog Test, Carting Certificate, Working Aptitude Certificate, Certificate of Conformation Assessment or other certificate of achievement.

Award _____ Date _____

WAS THE AWARD OBTAINED BY A BREEDER-OWNER-HANDLER YES _____ NO _____

PLEASE INCLUDE ANY SPECIAL CIRCUMSTANCE SURROUNDING THIS AWARD. (First dog, Finished title from Bred by Exhibitor Class, Veteran Dog completing an Agility Title, etc.

PVKC TROPHY DONOR FORM

August 2016 – POINT SHOW & OBEDIENCE TRIAL

Arrange now to offer trophies at our annual SUMMER show for your favorite breed in conformation or obedience. We appreciate your support - and so will the lucky winners! Deadline for Trophy Donations is March 30, 2016

Available with the PVKC logo are

- PVKC Medallion\$3.00
- Coffee Mug\$3.50
- 15 oz. Clear Stein\$5.00
- Key Chain\$5.00

PVKC Group Chairs

PVKC will be offering PVKC Chairs for the following: Each Breed Group, Best Junior. To offer Group First you will need to make a cash donation to PVKC in the amount of \$50.00.

Available Rosettes are

Rosettes are offered for Best of Breed or Variety in all breeds with 5 or more entries. They may be offered to other breeds or classes within a breed, at the cost of \$5.00 per rosette.

If you want ribbons for Supported entries or Specialties, please contact Darci for availability.

Group trophies will then be offered in your name. Please designate which Chair you would like to sponsor. AND please write the exact wording you wish used for these specific trophies – such as “Donated by”, “In memory of”, etc. in the space provided.

This year PVKC will be offering a special Rosette and small additional gift for Reserve Best Junior. The price to offer this award in your name is \$ 20.00

*Deadline
Mar 30, 2016*

Mail the form below, along with your check (made out to the PVKC, Inc.), to:
Darci Brown, 111 West Road, Northfield, MA 01360

If you have questions, call or e-mail Darci at 413-498-5006 dbhappyhr@hotmail.com

*Deadline
Mar 30, 2016*

TROPHY DONATION TO 2016 PVKC POINT SHOW & OBEDIENCE TRIAL

I hereby agree to offer the trophies listed on page 2 of this form

DONATED BY/FOR: _____

Date _____ Signature _____

Telephone Number: _____

* AKC rules read: “Donors of trophies must state value of same or define offering as follows: Sterling Silver, Silver-plated, Bronze, Copper, etc.” The Trophy Committee reserves the right to approve trophy contributions before their inclusion in the premium list.

PVKC TROPHY DONOR FORM – page 2 of 2

August 2016 – POINT SHOW & OBEDIENCE TRIAL

Conformation – Best of Breed: Breed _____
Description of Trophy*: _____

Conformation – Best of Opposite: Breed _____
Description of Trophy*: _____

Conformation – Best of Winners: Breed _____
Description of Trophy*: _____

Conformation – Winners Dog: Breed _____
Description of Trophy*: _____

Conformation – Winners Bitch: Breed _____
Description of Trophy*: _____

Conformation – Other (please specify, example Best Breed by Class; Best Open, etc): Breed _____
Offered for: _____ Description of Trophy*: _____

PVKC Chairs for Group or Best Junior (\$50 donation): Group _____
Wording for Donation (eg, Donated by; in memory of; etc) _____

Reserve Best Junior (\$20 donation): _____
Wording for Donation (eg, Donated by; in memory of; etc) _____

Obedience High in Trial: Director’s Chair – \$50
Donated by _____

Obedience Classes: Novice A & B, Beginner Novice A & B, Open A & B, Utility A & B, Veterans, Brace (non-regular)

Obedience Class First: Class _____ Trophy*: _____
Donated by _____

Obedience: High Scoring _____ in _____ Trophy*: _____
Donated by _____

Rally Classes: Novice A & B, Advanced A & B, Excellent A & B, Pairs Novice, Team Novice

Rally Class First: Class _____ Trophy*: _____
Donated by _____

Rally: High Scoring _____ in _____ Trophy*: _____
Donated by _____

Obedience or Rally: Qualifying (breed) _____ in _____
Description of Trophy*: _____



PVKC All Breed Health Clinic

Sunday, May 1, 2016; 9 AM to 3 PM

North County Veterinary Clinic, Inc., 1182 Bernardston Rd, Greenfield, MA

CAER

Cost: \$40.00

Dr. Alexandra van der Woerd, DVM, DAACVO, Animal Medical Center, NY, NY

CARDIAC

Cost: \$42.00 auscultation ONLY; \$220.00 echocardiogram (includes auscultation)

For OFA submission a separate fee (via check or credit card) to OFA for \$7.50 per dog

Dr. Agnieszka Kent, DVM, MS, DACVIM, Upstate Specialties, PLLC, Latham, NY

MICROCHIP

Cost: \$35.00 Cost **INCLUDES** registration fee and Microchip **IS** accepted by foreign registries.

Dr. Sheila Morrissey – North County Veterinary Clinic, Greenfield, MA

THYROID

Cost: \$72.00 via Michigan State Lab

For OFA submission a separate fee (via check or credit card) to OFA for \$7.50 per dog

Dr. Sheila E. Morrissey – North County Veterinary Clinic, Greenfield, MA

CHIC DNA BANKING

DNA banking through CHIC for research purposes (NOT DNA parentage)

Cost: \$20.00 blood sample

Dr. Sheila E. Morrissey – North County Veterinary Clinic, Greenfield, MA

Pre-registration required by April 15, 2016

This is a summary of information ONLY. To register for the clinic and obtain a copy of the actual brochure with details about age of dog and what paperwork you will need to bring with you –

Please Contact Judith Suarez handart@sover.net

Or go to <http://www.pioneervalleykennelclub.com/health-clinic.html>

PVKC Training Schedule

PUPPY K CLASS

New Classes Begin

April 9, 2016
Brattleboro, VT

For information, please contact
Judith (802) 722-9848
or handart@sover.net



Come!

Vermont PVKC Classes:

Obedience, Rally, &
Breed Handling

Wednesday nights – Brattleboro, VT
*New set of Classes for 2016
begin March 9th*

Wed Drop-in Classes running weekly
Jan 20th - Feb 24th
March 9th - April 13th
No Classes – March 2nd & April 20th

Saturday Drop-in Novice Obedience
Jan 16th - May 7th

For information, please contact:

Judith Suarez at (802) 722-9848

PVKC Tracking: Tracking Dates in April & May

Wednesdays: May 4
Thursdays: April 28 & May 19
Saturdays: April 9, May 2, May 7 & May 28
Sundays: April 3, April 17 & May 22

PVKC Tracking Clinic – May 14 & 15

Early dates are tentative and weather dependent

Contact: Dorie Viguers; dviguers@nmhschool.org ; 413-648-9437

It's winter and the weather can be weird & sometimes emergencies happen –

Remember to check the PVKC Facebook Page for Cancellations before coming to a Drop-in Class

<https://www.facebook.com/pages/Pioneer-Valley-Kennel-Club/198067530208377>