

Pioneer Tails

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

March 2023

Show & Member NEWS

From **Jackie Smith**: My friend Diane Philie and I drove out to the American Bullmastiff Association National, which was held in Topeka, KS, October 24th through the 29th. While the majority of the traveling was uneventful, the major wind gusts on Rte 70 in MO and KS pushing my Sienna all over the road (60+ mph!), 2 filthy Red Roof Inns in MO (complete with the police officer in the lobby at one of them the following morning as we were checking out, asking about recent catalytic converter thefts...mine was still attached to the van!) and the fact that OH has to be the “fattest” state in the entire US (we were sure the state line kept moving as it seemed like we were driving thru OH forever!), helped to make the trip interesting!



We took two bullmastiffs with us. One was my agility bitch *Tiggr* – *Ch. Oakridge Hundred Acre Wood* to compete in the Triathlon, which consists of competition in agility, obedience (or rally) and breed conformation. *Tiggr* did everything I had hoped she would do and more! She qualified with perfect scores in agility, earning her final legs for Novice Agility Preferred and Novice Jumpers Preferred and qualified for her final leg in Rally

Novice with another perfect score, and to the judge announcing to the spectators, most of whom were the “heavy hitters” in bullmastiff performance events, that she hoped everyone had watched our performance as THAT was the way Rally should be done as a Team! While *Tiggr* didn’t place in the conformation portion of the Triathlon, she did earn the Silver in the overall Triathlon, which I never expected!



The other bullmastiff was Diane’s boy *Beni* – *GCHB StoneBull’s Night Game In Beantown* to compete in the 2 Specialties, Top 25 (*Beni* is ranked at #17 in the country with very limited showing) and of course the National.

Beni, who is *Poogie’s* son (*GCHB Bulla’s The Might Quinn, CDX, RE, CGC* and was #8 in the country in 2020 before Covid derailed all of us), was given an Award of Merit at one of the Independent Specialties and also at the National, handled by his long time handler, Valerie McGraw. [to update, *Beni* is just a few points away from his Silver Grand Championship, was the 2022 Westminster Best of Breed, and is currently ranked #6 with the American Bullmastiff Association Top 25.]



Not to be outdone, once we returned from Topeka, *Alibi* – *StoneBull’s I Was Home All Night, CD, RN, CGC*, earned the second leg towards her CDX (and HIT!) and her BCAT title in FASTCAT. *Poogie* earned his final leg in Rally, giving him his Rally Excellent title, and as I said, not to be outdone, *Tiggr* has now earned her first leg in Open Jumpers Preferred and also earned a BCAT title in FASTCAT.



President's Message

Spring is only a few weeks away and PVKC has so many activities on our schedule.

Our Health Clinic is filling fast, the Farm Dog Extravaganza will be amazing, and a tracking clinic is scheduled.

The Training Committee has been busy all winter planning to get classes back on track. Big Thank you to that group for all of their hard work.

Read all about this in the newsletter and on the website.

Oh, and don't forget to volunteer your time at these events!

Lori

President:

Lori Carver (802) 338-2857

Vice President:

Sheila Blanker (413) 498-5704

Recording Secretary:

Trish Libby 413-628-4784

Treasurer:

Darci Lee Brown (413) 498-5006

Board of Directors:

Kathy Berrena (413) 268-7858
Elizabeth Nichols (413) 337-6665
Jason Mazzone (413) 628-0178
Kim Reardon (413) 628-4784
Jackie Smith (603) 352-7698
Nanette Prideau (413) 477-1182

AKC Delegate:

Linda Gagnon (978) 544-8933

Newsletter Contacts:

Judith Suarez

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

PVKC Contacts

Membership Chair:

Marcia Evans (413) 221-7577

Breeder Referral:

Request information with a contact form via

www.pioneervalleykennelclub.com

Web Page: www.pioneervalleykennelclub.com

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





“Stay on Track!”

with Ruth Vaughan

Pioneer Valley Kennel Club

2023 Tracking Clinic

May 13 and 14, 2023

Northfield Mountain Recreation & Environmental Center (99 Millers Falls Road, Northfield, MA)

Day 1: Solid Foundations for Tracking Success

Equally valuable to those just starting out or teams seeking new training exercises to improve focus, accuracy, and enthusiasm for the track

Day 2: Varied Surfaces and Other Challenges

Building on Day 1, newer teams continue to learn & more experienced teams dive into new challenges

“I love to start at the very beginning developing my sense of ‘foundation,’ even with people who have had a good bit of tracking experience. What I emphasize as we get started is not so much “if” a dog can work this or that track . . . but “how” the dog works. We can all work on that and get involved in great discussions about it on day 1 – with both ‘beginning’ and advanced teams. Then . . . day 2 – the advanced teams can go farther and do more than the beginners . . . but we will all be working on the same basic principles and understanding.”

~ Ruth Vaughan

Ruth is an AKC Tracking Judge, Coach, and Seminar Presenter. She is also an Owner / Trainer / Handler of three Tracking Champions.

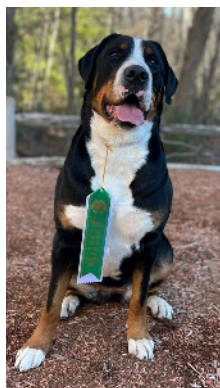
A fountain of tracking knowledge and a dynamic presenter/teacher – she will reshape your understanding of effective training from the start, and will guide more experienced teams to achieve and maintain peak performance. Here are a few *Ruthisms* you can expect to hear more about:

- Directionless tracks & scent circles
- Learn “where the magic happens” for your dog
- Why curved tracks and serpentines will increase accuracy
- Develop your “smell-a-vision goggles”
- “Say Yes” to winter tracking in the snow
- Teach article indication away from the track as its own skill



*Approaching the start flag with ‘Truman’
AKC National Tracking Invitational, 2009*

From **Leslie Woodward** – Winners Bitch at the Barbet National in Orlando from the 9-12 class new *CH Anam Chara Magicwood Sun Salutations (Livi)*. Her kennel mate was WD/BOW at the same National New *CH Anam Chara Flies Like an Eagle Swims Like a Duck (Stevie)*. Proud breeders are **Leslie Woodward** and her sister, Lynn Vogt-Kinsey



Kelly Lovley sent this news – *Myna* pretended to be a Corgi and got a Novice B obedience leg at the Mayflower Pembroke Welsh Corgi obedience trail on February 10th .



Sally Underwood-Miller's *Millerwood's Keyja von Ryanhaus* earning her BCAT

Elizabeth Nichols announced – I am continuing to have fun with *Cooper (Hancock's N Grandview's In Sync)* in the breed ring. It took eight days for him to finish his championship with two Best of Breed wins from the classes. He was undefeated Best of Winners. He is now nine months old and showing as a special. He recently got his first group placing. *Cooper* is my fifth Bred By Exhibitor puppy to finish. *Freyja* has been having fun in Rally and received her Rally Novice title in December.



Kim Reardon and her OES, *Frankie*, would like to announce – Therapy Dog Title Earned – *XRD Light of A Clear Blue Morning*, *BN RAE2 FDC ACT2 CGCA TKI ATT (Frankie)*



handled by **Kim Reardon** has earned an AKC Therapy Dog Title. *Frankie* trained for Therapy Dog work at Monadock Humane Society and after successfully completing 3 observation sessions received Therapy Dog Certification from Alliance of Therapy Dogs in 2017. It has taken us awhile, (between my work schedule and then COVID shut downs) but we finally reached the 50 documented visits required by AKC to earn a Therapy Dog Title (TD). *Frankie* has participated as a Therapy Dog at a variety of facilities and events. She has attended parades, had children read to her, attended College events, and been adored by seniors in nursing homes and assisted living complexes. She enjoys people and people are always interested in the Old English Sheepdogs. *Frankie* continues to work as a Therapy Dog and has retired from other performance events. We have 4 visits under our belt, as we work towards AKC Therapy Dog Advanced (100 visits).

**PVKC
2023**



**Health
Clinic**

Sunday, April 30, 2023

**North County Veterinary Clinic, 1182 Bernardston Rd,
Greenfield MA**

9:00 am to 3:00 pm;

**Pre-registration Required by April 19, 2023; Pre-
Payment Required by 5pm, April 25, 2023**

This clinic is for health screenings only, it is NOT intended for dogs with KNOWN health issues.

CAER (Eye Exams) (\$ 42.00);

CARDIAC – Auscultation ONLY (\$ 70.00); CARDIAC – Echocardiograms (\$ 290.00)

THYROID (\$112.50)

MICROCHIP (\$ 38.50)

**For Detailed information, Registration Forms, and
Special Notes, Please see**

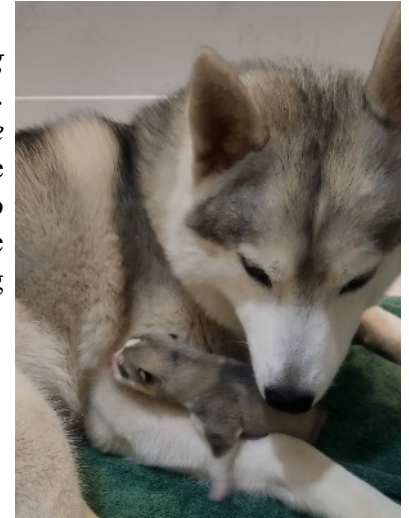
<https://www.pioneervalleykennelclub.com/health-clinic.html>

Show & Member NEWS – Continued from page 4

New Member **Carol Krygowski** has a new Belgian Tervuren puppy. *Shepherds Of Paradise TSS Popcorn Please, Poppy* co-owned with Theresa Horky. *Poppy* arrived from France in January and is now 5 months old. *Bruja van Moned, Bria*, also co-owned by **Carol Krygowski** and Theresa Horky earned 4 titles at Pioneer Valley Kennel Club events in 2022. In June *Bria* earned her Farm Dog Certification, AKC Temperament Test, and Canine Good Citizen. In August she earned her AKC Championship when she was awarded Best of Winners for a 4 point major under Judge Gloria Kerr. The following day *Bria* was awarded Best of Opposite Sex for another 4 point major under Judge Peggy Beisel-McIlwaine. I was especially thrilled to have *Bria* complete her Championship through PVKC because my introduction to Conformation was through PVKC conformation training in 2009 when they were held at Breeze Thru Agility in Brattleboro VT.

Some news from **Sheila Blanker** – two of our dogs received their official 2023 AKC Rally National Invitations

– *Reis, CH Northern Light's Reis' Pieces of Eight, RN* in Rally Novice and *Shimmer, GHCG Can CH Northern Light's Shimmering Moonglade, BN, RA* in Rally Advanced. *Sparrow, GCH Northern Light's Fatale d'Argent* blessed us in mid January with a nice gray and white male pup and she is also fostering another gray and white male Siberian pup for another breeder. All are doing well



Editor's Note – somehow we have not published this picture before: And this is a picture of Shimmer, who won an Award of Merit out of 20+ Siberians today at the 2022 Westminster Kennel Club Dog Show!!! Sheila said she and Ryan had no expectations, after all it is Westminster, so they were very, very honored.

**Next Newsletter deadline is April 20th
– send your news & pictures any time
between now and then**



PVKC Training

Drop-in Classes

Handling – \$20 Members; \$25 Non-members

Mondays (7-8 pm) – Apr 17, May 1, May 8, May 15, May 22 – Baby Barnyard

Rally Runs – \$5 members; \$10 Non-members

Mondays (7-8pm) – Apr 17, May 1, May 8, May 15, May 22, Jun 5, Jun 19, Jun 26
– Showring

Farm Dog and Temperament Test Preparation Classes – Reservations requested

Farm Dog Prep – \$10 Trial with Entry; \$15 non-Trial participant

Monday (6-8pm) – April 24 – Show Ring

Temperament Prep – \$10 Trial with Entry; \$15 non-Trial participant

Monday (6-8pm) – April 24 – Baby Barnyard

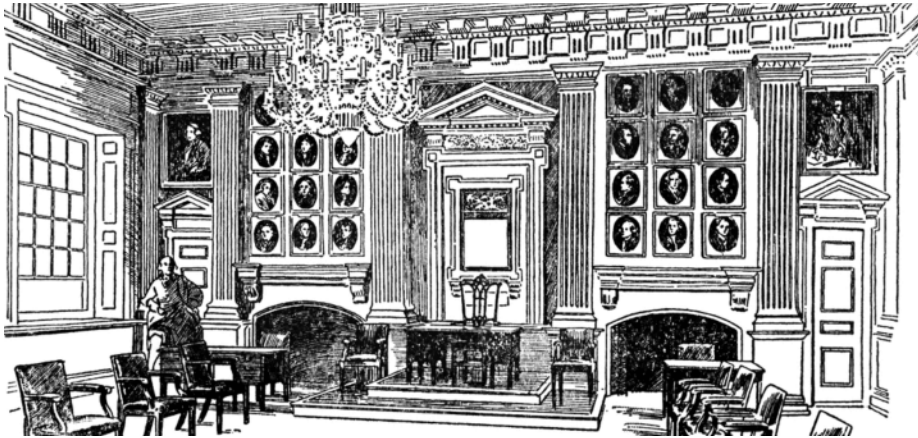
More Classes are planned, but – as of this publication date – they have not been finalized. Look for an email and check our Website for updates.

AVMA

Genetic test could make surgery safer for some dogs (2023-02-21)

A genetic test developed at Washington State University could identify dogs at risk for delayed postoperative hemorrhage. Researchers identified a specific mutation associated with the condition, and the test could enable veterinarians to administer drugs before non-emergency surgeries to prevent excessive bleeding.

See <https://columbiabasinherald.com/news/2023/feb/16/ws-u-develops-test-canine-bleeding-disorder/> for complete article



The (Not-in-Philadelphia) PVKC Constitutional Convention

Once upon a time (somewhere in the 1980's), our club was founded and approved to operate as an All Breed Club by the American Kennel Club. To do that, PVKC created founding documents – a Constitution and By-Laws – to govern the club.

As far as we can tell from existing files, little or no change has ever been made to those founding documents. In 2001 there is a notation of typo corrections by the PVKC Board. One might suspect that happened as a result of going from paper copy to an electronic document, since home computers were not that popular until almost 2000.

As a result of the Covid pandemic, PVKC (like most clubs) realized that our documents make no reference to any notification system other than the USPS and no meeting format other than face-to-face. We also noted some fairly stale language and other oddities. The AKC was swamped with requests for help in establishing new procedure. As a result, AKC has updated it's guidance on club Constitutions and By-Laws.

At the February 20th PVKC Board Meeting the board passed a motion to establish a committee and address any recommendations for changes to our By-laws. As you might suspect – this is a process that can take some time.

The committee (Jason Mazzone, Trish Libby, and Judith Suarez) will start this process with a thorough look at our current by-laws, examples of what other clubs have done recently, and the new AKC Guideline. Recommendations and proposed changes will go back to the Board of Directors for action.

When a final product is completed, based on the committee's work and a Board debate, the revised constitution and by-laws will go out to each member and a vote will be called. If it is passed by the requisite number of members, our new by-laws will go to the AKC for final approval.

This is not going to happen next week, and probably not even next month, but the process has begun.

If you have questions – don't hesitate to ask. If you would like a copy of the existing by-laws, we can send you an electronic version. Just email Judith at handart@sover.net

**Calendar of Events
PVKC 2023**

April

No Board of Directors Meeting
General Meeting, April 10 – Fairgrounds
Health Clinic, April 30
FDC and ATT Testing Extravaganza, April 30

May

Board of Directors Meeting, May 8

June

Board of Directors Meeting, June 12

July

No Board of Directors Meeting
General Meeting, July 10 – Fairgrounds

August

PVKC All-Breed Show – August 5 & 6,
Greenfield MA
No Board of Directors Meeting

September

Board of Directors Meeting, Sept 11
PVKC Agility Trials, ???

October

No Board of Directors Meeting
Annual Election & General Meeting, Oct 18

December

General Meeting, Date to be determined

Newsletter – Schedule & Deadlines

January 2023 – Dec 20, 2022

March 2023 – Feb 20, 2023

May 2023 – April 20, 2023

July 2023 – June 20, 2023

September 2023 – Aug 20, 2023

October 2023 – Sept 20, 2023

December 2023 – Nov 20, 2023

Important notices in off months will be forwarded by email
and available on our website.



2023 PVKC Tracking Clinic – May 13 and 14

“Stay on Track!”

Ruth Vaughan

Entries Close – April 10, 2023

- Maximum 12 working teams each day (team = 1 handler/1 dog); Auditors unlimited
- PVKC members & PVKC tracking group given first priority until March 17
- Handlers attending for 2 days have first priority until closing date.
- Sunday only working spots (if any) must have proven tracking experience and permission of the instructor. Submit experience in team bio on this form
- **9 am to 4 pm each day** (9-12, break for lunch, 1-4)
- **Refreshments provided all day** (hot/cold beverages & light snacks); **Participants bring their lunch**

Registering for –

Sat & Sun, May 13 & 14:

____ Working (\$150 members / \$175 non-members); ____ Audit (\$85 members / \$100 non-members)

Saturday Only (if available), May 13:

____ Working (\$ 80 members / \$ 95 non-members); ____ Audit (\$50 members / \$ 65 non-members)

Sunday Only (if available), May 14: (*Working Sunday only registration; see note above*)

____ Working (\$ 80 members / \$ 95 non-members); ____ Audit (\$50 members / \$ 65 non-members)

Mail Entry Form to: Mary Horne, 760 Old Stage Road, West Halifax, VT 05358

Email confirmation of entry will be sent.

Include a check made to PVKC with form -OR- _____ Check here to be invoiced via PayPal

Name: _____ PVKC Member ____; Former PVKC Tracker ____

Address: _____

Phone: _____ Email Address: _____

Please use the back of this sheet to provide a brief Team Bio.

And please include in the Bio – dog’s name, breed, gender, and age; your previous experience with tracking; your particular tracking experience with this dog; and, anything else you think may be relevant or fun for us to know.