

Pioneer Tails

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

February 2015

SHOW NEWS – PEG VOHR

From **Ryan Blanker** and his Siberians: At the Wilmington shows on 1/17/15 and 1/18/15, I showed *Northern Light's Shimmering Moonglade, AKA Shimmer*. Before these shows she only needed 1 point to finish her championship. On Saturday she won the Bred By class, Winners Bitch, Best Of Winners, Best of Breed, and Best Bred By of Breed!!! Then she won a Bred By Group 1st, out of a very large and competitive group. In the regular Group she won a Group 3, which being her first time in the regular Group, is not bad. She also beat some of the top dogs and handlers in the country for the Group 3. THEN for the Best Bred By in Show competition, which was very competitive, she won BBEIS!!!! Her first Best in Show!!! Needless to say it was an amazing way to finish her Championship. AND on Sunday *Shimmer* was moved up to Best of Breed competition and she Won BOB and Best Owner Handled! In the Owner Handled Group, yet again a large and competitive group, she won the Group 1!!!! She didn't win Best Owner Handled in Show, but there were some amazing dogs in that competition, and getting a Group 1 isn't too shabby. We couldn't walk away with everything :)



From Sharon Domier: Bearded Collie *CH Fivefields Miss Bliss BN RE HT NAP THD CGC* earned her Novice Agility Preferred title at the Bearded Collie Club of America's agility trial in Amherst NH on December 28th. She earned her 3 legs in 4 tries. Bliss will be 11 in April and hopes to get the last leg of her Novice Jumpers Preferred sometime soon. (owned by **Shane Peters** and **Sharon Domier**, handled by **Sharon Domier**).

PVKC General Meeting

Monday – March 16 – Brown Motors

Save the Date!

President's Message

It seems everywhere we turn today we hear that our sport is not attracting new people. Look around at any dog event and you will be struck by the fact that most of us aren't getting any younger!

Many ideas have been tossed around as to why this has happened bringing up a lot of discussion. Both productive and nonproductive. While I am concerned with the "why" I am far more interested in the "how" How do we, as PVKC, attract new members and introduce our sport to the general public? I don't think one person has all the answers. But I think as a group we can come up with a plan!! So let's hear your suggestions and ideas. No pointing fingers, or negative thoughts – just positive feedback on how to move the club and sport in a new direction! Post them to the one list, start an idea session on our facebook page or email them to me or any member of the board.

Looking forward to hearing from you!!

Darci

PVKC Contacts

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Vacant 2-year position

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AKC Delegate:

Peg Vohr (413) 498-2609

Training Chair:

Judith Suarez (802) 722-9848

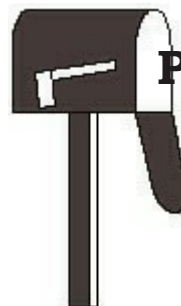
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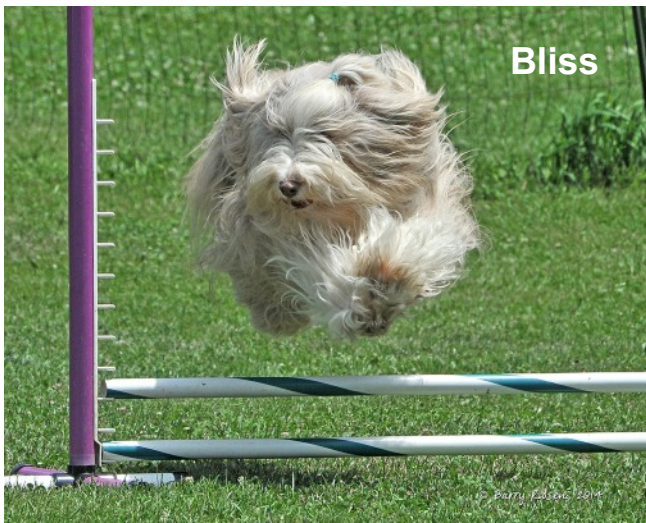


PioneerTails

Deadlines

Feb 23, 2015

**For advertising
contact Judith**



Bliss

And also from Sharon Domier: *Uncle Rupert*, more formerly known as *Fivefields Talk of the Town RA HT CGC*, has decided that old dogs rock. Since turning 13 at the end of July, he has earned a bunch of new WCRL Rally titles: RL1X, RL2X, RLVX2, ARCHX. *Rupert* is owned by **Shane Peters** and handled in rally by **Sharon Domier**. He hopes to earn his RL3 title before his 14th birthday.



Rupert

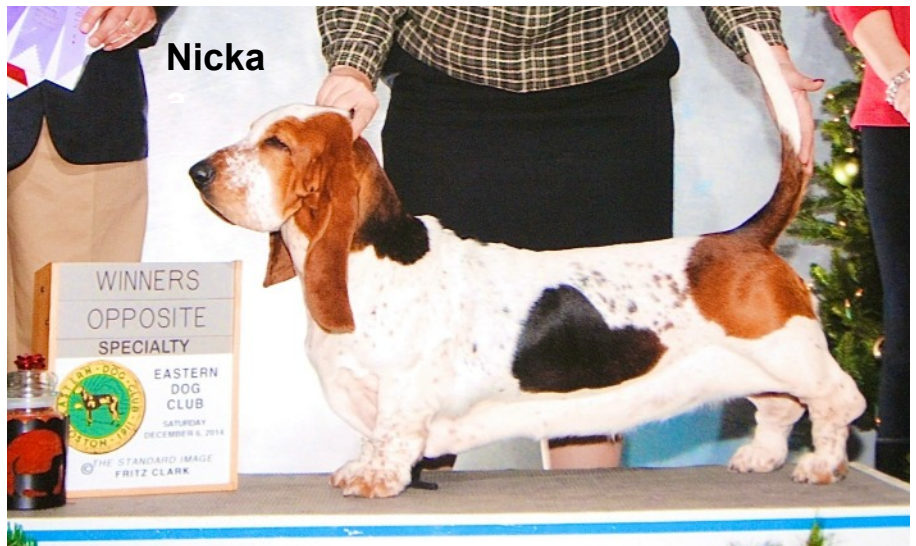
Tibby Chase reports that *Arlo*, Pembroke Welsh Corgi, *Drifan Tintern Hail to Hawk*, had a very fun time finishing his RatN (novice) title this weekend at the Barnhunt trials at Nutmeg Farm, Portland CT. What could be more fun for a dog then racing around a hay filled ring, going thru tunnels, climbing hay bales and finding "safely ensconced" rats?

Jason Mazzone's Shetland Sheepdog, *Cameo Farms Blues After Hours* ("Jazz"), has been on the Florida circuit. She took WB at Inverness Kennel Club on January 15, at Lake Eustis Kennel Club on January 22, and at Greater Gainesville Dog Fanciers Association on January 25 (for a major).

From **Karen Duprat** and her Havanese: At the Springfield, MA shows, Jan 3&4, 2015, my "Princess in Training" *Monroe*(AKC GCH CH DeVita's *Breaking All The Rules At MeadowView*) was Best Of Opposite Sex both days. She has officially started the climb to her Bronze Grand Championship. We are looking forward to February, where *Sherlock* and *Monroe* will be heading to NYC for the pre Westminster weekend festivities and then to The Garden on Monday.

Some more details from **Doris Meadowcroft** of Darcroft Keeshonds about her new Champon : "*Ch Darcroft the Boys 'Round Here*" (*Blake*) finished in style at the last week of shows in Orlando, FL in December. He finished with 3 majors going BOW at the MI Keeshond Specialty for 4 pts (his father got an AOM) and going back-to-back BOW in FL at the Brevard KC & Space Coast KC for 5 pts each. He certainly is a special boy.

Natacha Casale - *Nicka* (CH *Vezuii Ironika*) and I started her show career with lessons from Leslie Woodward at PVKC. Nicka has come a long way and did much better than I did in the show ring. She became an AKC champion on Dec 9 2014



Nicka

Sue Meachem – *Teal* (*Nautica's Rules The Roost At Cabot*) took WB and BOW on Saturday January 3; WB on Sunday, January 4. No points, but great experience.



Jackie Smith's bullmastiff, *Neala* (*Bulla's Stone's Throw Away Eh MXP3 MXPB MJP3 MJPB XFP*) was just ranked number 2 by PowerScore for 2014 (20" preferred). Neala, who is ably handled by Steve Krulish (Jackie's husband), is 8 ½ years old and is still out there strutting her stuff. What a lovely working bitch. But more importantly (at least from your editor's point of view) – Neala has produced some lovely puppies, not the least of whom is Judith Suarez and Tracey Vogel's guy, Oryn. With any luck he can become an obedience wiz by the time he is his mother's age.



Remembering Patricia Scully

It is with great regret that we report the passing of Patricia Scully of Suffern, New York. She was devoted to the Pug breed and to the sport. Patricia was also an AKC judge of Obedience and Rally. She served in various capacities including AKC Delegate, AKC Board of Director, former Pug Dog Club of America Director, President and National Show Chairman. She was an Honorary Lifetime Member of the Pug Dog Club of America, K-9 Obedience Training Club of Essex County, New Jersey, and the Ramapo Kennel Club.

Pat Laurans shared the following words about her passing "I served with Pat Scully for four years when I was a member of the Board of Directors. She was someone who loved dogs, especially Pugs, all aspects of our Sport(s) and the AKC. She championed what she believed in and never wavered. No matter how she was, she was always friendly, approachable and upbeat.



We have lost another defender and advocate for all we cherish and believe in. I can still see her arriving at annual meetings wearing a lei of orchids sent to her by the Obedience Training Club of Hawaii... a club she served tirelessly and well. I also remember her bringing a Pug to the Hotel when we had Delegate or Board meetings – and seeing her in the elevator as she took him out for his walks.

Rest in peace, Pat knowing that you gave your all and did your best in all that you participated in. You, your smile and cheery greetings will be missed."

Our thoughts and prayers are with her family and friends during this difficult time.

Posted by The Canine Chronicle, February 3, 2015 and printed here in its entirety.
<http://caninechronicle.com/breaking-news/remembering-patricia-scully/>

Calendar of Events

PVKC 2015

Newsletter Deadline February 23, 2015

February

Board of Directors, Feb 9

March

Board of Directors, March 2

General Meeting – Monday, March 16

April

Board of Directors, April 7

PVKC All-Breed Show – April 18; Springfield, MA

PVKC Health Clinic, April 26

May

Board of Directors, May 4

Awards Banquet; May 21

June

Board of Directors, June 1

July

Board of Directors, July 6

PVKC Picnic; July 16

August

PVKC All-Breed Show – August 1, Greenfield MA

Board of Directors, Aug 3

September

Board of Directors, Sept 14

PVKC Agility Trials, Sept 12-13

General Meeting, Sept 21

October

Board of Directors, Oct 5

Annual Election & General Meeting Banquet – Thursday, October 15

November

Board of Directors, Nov 2

December

Board of Directors, Dec 7

PVKC Holiday Party, Dec 14

8 Ways of Looking at a Dog Show Judge

Posted on January 22, 2015 by AKC Gazette,

"Times Past" – What makes a good judge?

The judges themselves have been kicking around that question in our pages for 125 years. Here are some answers.



"First Match," May 1957 Gazette

1. "It is first necessary for a judge to know dogs generally before he can know any breed of dog in particular."—Irving C. Ackerman, 1939
2. "A good judge looks for virtues in every dog. Fault judging is lazy judging, the pitfall of the inexperienced. The dog is picked apart and never put back together."—Mrs. George W. Dow, 1975
3. "The breeder furnishes the dogs, but it is the judge who decides the type."—H.W. Lacy, 1925
4. "Go over every dog carefully, if for no other reason than to make a friend of each exhibitor by causing him to feel that he has a 'run for his money' at least."—Garvin Denby, 1931

5. "Hesitancy in judging creates a bad impression on the ringside. Too much speed in judging, however, is quite as bad. Exhibitors are never satisfied when the judge has rushed through his work, even when he has done a good job."—W. Edgar Baker, 1938
6. "Knowledgeable judging is the ability to reconcile oneself to the fact that no perfect dog has yet been produced."—Anna Katherine Nicholas, 1967
7. "A judge who has acted entirely in good faith does not feel the necessity of defending himself and his placings."—John Kemps, 1946
8. "You were invited as an expert. Be one."—Anne Rogers Clark, 1996

In Defense of Well-bred Dogs

Posted to the AKC Gazette Breed Column, January 18, 2015

Basset Hounds – Dedicated breeders work to produce healthy, well-adjusted, quality puppies because these puppies become the foundation for our next generation and for the breed's future.

Recently a father and his children saw me walking a Basset puppy at the dog show. After the kids spent some time with the puppy, the father asked questions about the show and the different breeds. Then he asked, "What's the difference between a shelter dog and these dogs?"

I had a long answer, but I started to realize that dedicated breeders need a 30-second "elevator speech" ready to answer this question. The general public doesn't know the real answer, and right now animal-rights extremists are providing the popular answer.

One difference is predictability. Those who obtain their dog from a responsible breeder get to see their puppy in advance and can meet many of the puppy's relatives. These puppy-buyers have immediate access to all of the breeder's knowledge and experience. The breeder becomes a ready reference for a whole range of dog-related questions, from health issues to vaccine protocols and flea and tick control products. And if the

puppy turns out not to be the right fit for the new owner, the responsible breeder will take him or her back without question.

Dogs have lived with humans for more than 10,000 years. During this time humans have bred dogs to perform tasks that helped in day-to-day life. Dogs were bred to hunt food for the table or to kill vermin. Some were bred to guard livestock or guard the home, and others to move a flock. Some were bred to turn a spit, some to retrieve in water, and others to be companions or lap-warmers. Purebred dog breeds were each developed for a purpose, and most maintain much of the original instinct to do the jobs for which they were originally bred.



Take Bassets, for example. They were bred to hunt in packs independent of human command. That explains a lot about life with a Basset. Bassets are stubbornly independent and capable of amusing themselves. Training is a challenge because the breed doesn't look to humans for commands or praise. Bassets are not stupid, but they are easily bored by human games. They understand pack behavior even if their owners do not. They were not bred to kill prey, and they get along with everyone. Because they are scent hounds, they will find exactly where the dog cookies are hidden.

Dedicated breeders are the keepers of a living museum. We keep alive standards that were in many cases first written hundreds of years ago. We work to produce healthy, well-adjusted, quality puppies because these puppies become the foundation for our next generation and for the breed's future. Though most of our puppies are sold as companions only, they carry the same genetics as our show dogs.

Dog shows are not beauty pageants; they are tests of breeding stock judged by knowledgeable people who

study breed standards and understand each breed's history and function.

Pressures on dedicated breeders and the sport of dogs are enormous. Restrictive ordinances are proposed in many locales, and it seems that fewer people want to take on the challenges of learning a trade than was the case in past decades. Kids are interested in other things, and it takes real skill to properly groom terriers and many other coated breeds.

Unethical or casual breeders and producers of "designer breeds" don't fund research to identify and cure canine diseases; dedicated breeders do. Dedicated breeders breed not for monetary gain but for the love of dogs in general, and their specific breed in particular.

If current trends continue, in the future there may be no reason to ask what the difference is between a purebred and rescue, as there may be only "rescues"—dogs produced by irresponsible breeders and then dumped into the rescue/shelter system.



Predictability, health, history, an experienced and knowledgeable support system, and a lifetime return policy are all available only through dedicated hobby breeders.

That should be enough to get everyone started on their own elevator speech to explain why purebred matters.

—Jacquelyn Fogel, ccpetresort@aol.com

Internet TidBits

The cranial cruciate ligament deficient stiffl

Many of us confront knee issues in our dogs and concerns about appropriate surgical interventions. This article on TTA and TPLO procedures provides a research start, if you are looking for information. The article's source – *SurgerySTAT* – is a collaborative column between the American College of Veterinary Surgeons (ACVS) and DVM Newsmagazine.

<http://veterinarynews.dvm360.com/surgery-stat-tta-vs-tplo-recovery-time-remains-important->

“Look at that dog cover ground”

An interesting article on movement and structure and what constitutes correct movement given a breed's intended “work.” Have we manipulated structure for an artificial goal? Can your dog still pull a cart if he moves like that?

The Modern-Day Fairy
Tale: The Myth of Reach
and Drive

<http://www.dogchannel.com>

Nature? Nurture? Or ? ? ?

Genes, which many people think of as written in stone, can switch on and off or express themselves very differently depending on environmental influences. Thus, the same gene can express itself as a negative trait or a positive trait, depending on environmental input, especially very early in life.

The study of environmental influence on genetic expression is still in its infancy, but there's overwhelming evidence that early experiences and input can effect the way genes play out.

Fascinating article: *Shape Shifting Genes, The surprising third side of the nature vs. nurture debate*

<http://puppyculture.com/shape-shifting-genes.html>





7 ENJOY
Dogs are family too!



6 PROTECT & MANAGE
Don't let them practice bad things!



5 UNDERSTAND
Dogs get scared.
Good dogs have bad days.



1 CHOOSE WISELY
Research the breed!
Is it happy and healthy?



2 GO TO SCHOOL
Now! At 8 weeks!



3 LEARN
Dog Training is a skill.
Find a tutor for you!



4 PRACTICE
Your dog cannot do
what you haven't taught.

The Dog Trainer
CAN'T FIX
What YOU WON'T DO!



Train with FUN, Not Fear!

PVKC Training Schedule

PUPPY K CLASS

New Classes Begin

SATURDAY, March 7th

Brattleboro, VT

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

Vermont PVKC Classes:

Obedience, Rally, &
Breed Handling
Brattleboro, VT

Drop-in Classes running weekly
January 14 - February 18
NO CLASSES WED FEB 25
March 4th - April 8th

For information, please contact

Judith Suarez at (802) 722-9848
handart@sover.net



***It's Winter – Remember to check the
PVKC Facebook Page for Cancellations
due to weather!!***

[www.facebook.com/pages/Pioneer-Valley-
Kennel-Club/198067530208377](https://www.facebook.com/pages/Pioneer-Valley-Kennel-Club/198067530208377)

Come!