

December 2003



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Treasurer: VerJean Smith – 2004 (715) 842-9265 email: vjsmith@g2a.net
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Building Owner: Chuck Brod (715) 693-6634 email: reeldoctor@juno.com

Our next meeting will be our Christmas Party on Monday, December 8, at Tony Roma's, just down the road from Cedar Creek Mall. We can be seated at 6:30, and if people want alcohol, they can order it or get it at the bar. Choice of ½bar-b-qued chicken (\$13.99), ½slab of ribs (\$16.99), or 10 oz. grilled sirloin (\$17.99). This includes tax, tip, and nonalcoholic beverage. The club will pay \$7.00 toward each meal ordered, and you are asked to bring your check for the rest. RSVP by December 1 to Phyllis at (715) 842-5361. We will have a short meeting at about 8:00 p.m.

Check out our updated web site at <http://www.trdogtraining.com>.

Rachel Bandy, VerJean Smith, Kathe Carter, Cheryl Brimmer, Beth Knotts, Heather Varco, Mary Lutz, Bob and Sue Roeske, Phyllis Christensen, Mickey Smith, Terese Barta, Kathy Puerner Barb Cattanach, Mary Ann Ralston, Sandy and Jeremy Hunt, Cherilyn Antin, Annie Wood, and Chris Gilbreath, and guest Kathy Puerner.

Mary moved to dispense with the reading of the minutes. Phyllis seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Minutes of General Membership Meeting 11/10/03

President Laurie Bandy called the meeting to order at 7:35 p.m. Also present were Kris Punke, Karlene Ferrante, Josh and

Committee Reports

Report on our Nov. Agility Trial. Laurie reported that our agility trial went really well! Judge Jacque Hoye said in her note

that this was the best club she ever judged for. She complimented the volunteers, hospitality, Jim Hardin and Sue Fecht, and she appreciated the jumps Dan Brick made for her gift. Kathe and Beth did a wonderful job coordinating the volunteers. We had great food, too. The trial was over by 4:45, and lots of helpers stayed to clean.

Please note: Our training building will not be available on Saturday, Nov. 29.

Note from our Agility Trial Chair

Once again, my thanks to all Timber Ridge members, family, friends and acquaintances for help in putting on another successful agility trial. I think our trials at Camp Bandy are favorites of many exhibitors. Thanks to you all for keeping it a favorite.

*Ellen Hardin,
Ariell Golden Retrievers*

Message from Our Agility Judge

I just wanted to thank you again for the jumps- Dan is quite talented...I also just wanted to say that your club was the BEST club I have ever worked with. There was NEVER a time when a chair sat empty (bar setters etc.). Wonderful workers-great exhibitors and everything went very smoothly. The trial secretary was also very efficient- Jim was so calm and collected and right on the ball. He also was the best- and Sue had everything under control at all times. Every one was so polite and willing to help- at every break I had at least 2 different people ask me if I needed anything--like soda or snacks or whatever- and they actually felt bad if they saw me getting my own soda. That was so great to be catered to like that...I had such a stress free weekend that I wasn't too tired to drive home. So I thank you again for that! Your club should totally be applauded for their efforts. (I did see dogs in my dreams last night though.)

That was my first time at Camp Bandy and I do want to trial there in the future- what a fun group of people!

Jacque Hoye

Training Classes. Kris Punke reported that obedience classes start Nov. 6. Basic Obedience is full, and Puppy is almost full. Kris is already getting calls for January classes, with many referrals from Heidi Goethel. Kris advertises in City Pages.

UKC Trials, March 27(agility) and 28 (obedience). Terese Barta reported that she is working on the premiums. Linda Cane will judge agility, and Greg Breitbach and Janet Molter will judge obedience. In addition to regular classes, we will also offer non-licensed classes: pre-novice & grad-novice.

AKC obedience trial Jan. 31-Feb.1. Terese is working on the premium. VerJean is looking for lots of ring stewards for three rings. Chris will ask Pat Rose if she will make gift baskets for the judges. Kathe is looking for someone to take charge of lunch. We may just have Subway sandwiches again, but Kathe needs someone to pick up the subs and to sell them at the show. We also need somebody to take the judges to dinner. On

Saturday, judges are Richard and Sharon Woods and Kerry Tesch. On Sunday judges are Anna Lorenz, and Richard and Sharon Woods.

AKC Agility-Labor Day weekend. Our second judge will be Sue Fregien.

Mall Demo. Kris Punke reported that the Mall Demo will take place January 10 at the Cedar Creek Mall. It will include agility and obedience demonstrations, and a variety of breeds will be represented. We hope to get some good television coverage.

Old Business

Nominating Committee. The slate of candidates is as follows:

President: Kris Punke

Vice President: Terese Barta

Secretary: Phyllis Christensen

Treasurer: VerJean Smith

Board Member: Cheryl Brimmer

Board Member: Beth Knotts

If Kris Punke is elected President, then we'll also need to fill her place on the current Board. The election will take place at the January meeting.

New Business

Christmas Party. We will have the party Dec. 8. Cheryl reported on the menu possibilities at Two's Company and Tony Roma's. Members voted to hold the party at Tony Roma's. We can be seated at 6:30, and if people want alcohol, they can order it or get it at the bar. Choice of ½ bar-b-qued chicken (\$13.99), ½ slab of ribs (\$16.99), or 10 oz. grilled sirloin (\$17.99) This includes tax, tip and nonalcoholic beverage. The club will pay \$7.00 toward each meal ordered. Members attending are asked to bring a check for the rest. RSVP by December 1 to Phyllis. We will have a short meeting at about 8:00 p.m.

Expanded Building Times. Members have asked that we expand the times we rent the building from Chuck. We currently rent the building on Tuesdays and Thursdays. Starting January, we would like to also rent it on Wednesdays. Kris will ask Chuck about this.

Kris also reported that the building is not available on Nov. 29.

Refunds for workers at the agility trial. VerJean has given \$5.00 refunds for each dog entered on days that the handler volunteered at the trial. Please let VerJean know if your refund is incorrect.

Free Classes for Training Class Assistants. The Board voted to offer a free class of the same price to anyone assisting in any of our training classes.

Introduction of Guest. Kathy Puerner, from Marshfield, introduced herself. Kathy has two Bichons—Cali is a therapy dog, and she also has a 6 month old puppy named Bodi. Kathy is enthusiastic about volunteering for the club.

January 17 Fun Match. Cherilyn asked about the fun match we had planned for January. After some cajoling, Cherilyn

volunteered to serve as chair for the match. Barb Cattancach agreed to help. We will need a couple more volunteers to make this happen.

Heather moved to adjourn. Annie Wood seconded the motion. Motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 8:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Karlene Ferrante
Secretary

Minutes of Board Meeting. 11/10/03

President Laurie Bandy called the meeting to order at 7:25 p.m.

Old Business

There was no old business.

New Business

Free Classes for Training Class Assistants. The Board voted to offer a free class of the same price (either obedience or agility) to anyone assisting in any of our training classes. VerJean moved, Terese seconded the motion, and the motion passed.

Use of Building for Private Lessons. Members may use our building to give private lessons with approval of the Board. If they charge \$20.00 per hour plus building rental of \$3.00 per hour, the club would get \$7.00 of that, and the lesson should be covered by our liability insurance. Each instructor to do this needs approval from the Board.

The meeting adjourned at 7:35pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Karlene Ferrante
Secretary

Here's a useful resource on heeling!

Hi Karlene:

*Was just doing some reading in the book, **Competition Obedience: A Balancing Act**, by Judy Byron and Adele Yunck. It has a very good section on teaching heeling. So if someone is starting a new dog, I would recommend this book. Published by Jabby Productions, Ann Arbor, MI.*

Clay

***Braggs * Brags * Brags* Brags ***

Rachel Bandy had her AKC agility debut, handling Weimaraner Athena at the Timber Ridge trial Nov. 8. She ran with only one fault, but was over time.

Sandy Hunt reports that Twister completed three waves for Junior Jumper, placing as high as third place, at the Bass Pro Big Air Competition in September. 2003.

Chris Gilbreath's Golden Retriever Veeta completed her CDX, with a first place finish, in St. Paul on Oct. 3.

Beth Knotts' Rix earned his first leg in Novice Jumpers with a third place finish at the Wisconsin Agility Company LLP (NADAC) trial on Oct. 15. Rix also completed his second leg in Novice Regular with a second place finish at the same show. At the Timber Ridge trial, Rix completed his AX title with a third place finish on Nov. 8.

Beth's Elvis earned his first leg in Novice Jumpers in NADAC with a first place finish, at the Wisconsin Agility Company on Oct. 8.

From Kathy Schuh: Silvercreek Lit'l Miracle Boy CD-OAJ (Kirby) got his Open Std. title this past weekend at the Oshkosh agility trial on Oct.19th with a 2nd place. On the same day, Kobold Blue Suede Schuhs (Brodie) NA-NAJ got his Open JWW title with a 1st place finish. Only one brag to report from our show at Camp Bandy. Silvercreek Hav Gun Wil Travl--CDX,MX,MXJ.TDIA,V Gunner,border terrier owned by Bud & Kathy Schuh & handled by Kathy received another leg in Exc.B Std. with a 4th place finish at the Timber Ridge trial @ Camp Bandy on Nov.9th. I have another brag to report. I was informed today that Silvercreek Hav Gun Wil Travl (Gunner) CDX-MX-MXJ-TDIA-V was rated by AKC as one of the Top 25 Border Terriers in agility from Jan.to Oct. of this year. Kirby, Brodie, and Gunner are Border Terriers owned by Bud & Kathy Schuh & handled by Kathy.

From Annie Wood: Annalu's Mad About Maddux (Maddux) qualified twice in Novice Standard Preferred with a first and second place finish; Maddux also qualified in Novice JWW preferred with a first place finish, at the Timber Ridge trial at Camp Bandy on Nov. 8 and 9.

Lori Waltonen reports that Jagger, Absolut Rock'n The Opera Haus CD, OA, NAJ finished his OA at the Fond du Lac agility trials coming in 21 seconds under time on the second day despite my handling and momentary "course confusion". First I called him off of the correct jump (incurring a 5 pt refusal that cost us first place), nearly sent him over the wrong jump, came to my senses, called (again!), and sent him over the correct jump. I wonder just what he was thinking at that point...Carli, Absolut Clouds In My Coffee, picked up 2 novice standard legs, and 1 JWW leg all with first and second placements. This was Carli's first trial so I was expecting a lot of "golden" visiting. She surprised me and managed to not go visiting until her last run. Even then she came back promptly and finished 27 seconds under time. Carli finished her NA at the Timber Ridge trials with two blue ribbons. This was only her second weekend out and she has qualified on 4 out of 4 runs. We picked up another NAJ leg as well and are looking forward to finishing that title as well. Jagger picked up another OAJ ribbon as well. We're keeping him in Open Standard a bit longer to work out some of his "crowd jitters". People who've seen him run outside or in class know that he can go a LOT faster. We're looking forward to the day he realizes that fact at an indoor trial! Carli and Jagger are two of the golden retrievers who own Lori Waltonen.

Mary Lutz' Sheltie Scout earned his second leg in Excellent Jumpers at the Timber Ridge trial at Camp Bandy on Nov. 8.

Heather Varco's Charlie finished his Open Gamblers (OGC) and Novice Regular (NAC) titles at the Wisconsin Agility Company in Hortonville. At the Timber Ridge trial, Charlie acquired his first leg in Open Jumpers.

Cherilyn Antin's Newfie Splash (Ch Socorro's Tsunami CDX TD NJP NAP) finished her NAP with a first place finish and 25 seconds under time at the Timber Ridge trial Nov. 8. This also finished her VCD-1 title. She's the second Newfie to earn this title and the first Champion to do so.

Barb Cattanach's Reba earned two legs in Open Standard Preferred and a second leg in Jumpers with Weaves at the Timber Ridge trial Nov 8 and 9. Reba took two first places and one second place.

Karlene's Sasha (Chelestina's Cinnabar CD, MX, MXJ) qualified in Excellent B Jumpers at Camp Bandy on Nov. 8, with a first place finish, and 6 MACH points. Then on Nov. 9, Sasha qualified again in Jumpers, squeaking by just under the standard course time. In California this month, Sasha's grandsire, Ch Wolf River's Diamond Dust, was named Stud Dog of the Year by the Samoyed Club of America.

Congratulations to all!

Thanks to Cindy Brick for this story about tracking. I think Ariba's tracking story may inspire more of us to give it a try.

Ariba's Tracking Stories

Tracking is a very contagious sport. Once you have tried it.....you will be destined to romp through the fields in pursuit of a dirty sock. Ariba's Tracking adventures have a type of Twilight Zone twist to them. Am I superstitious? Maybe...and should I be. I will let you decide.

Ariba's TD Story / June 1999

Today was a day of luck and chance. I had been trying to get my baby BC (Ariba) in a Tracking Test. We had entered 5 tests. The first 3 tests we were the 3rd or 4th alternate in the test...which meant we weren't getting in. Our 4th test.. was an 8 dog test. There were 16 dogs entered and we were picked as the 7th alternate. Your odds don't get much worse than this. Our 5th test entered was for a 10 dog test with 14 dogs entered. We were the 10th dog picked which meant we got in by the skin of our teeth. Today we were at the tracking test. We pulled the 10th track...which is not good luck. This means that you are most likely going to run the oldest track. The weather was in the 90's, humid, hot with only a hint of breeze. Not ideal tracking weather.

So let's look at this. A 10 dog tracking test. We entered as the 10th dog and we were scheduled to run the 10th track. Ariba by the way is 10 months old. Now I for one am not superstitious.

All my dogs have certain collar colors to fit their personality. Raven is red. A very stable color. Raven is a conservative by heart. Very reliable and consistent. Misha is hot pink. She is of

course the Kamikazee Kid. All out or nothing. She loves to be wild and dig holes. Just a fun loving personality. Ariba is royal blue. This is her personality. Elegant and dignified with a touch of class. They have 2 flags set out for the tracking test to indicate the direction of the first leg. Her tracking flags were royal blue.

With the heat and the age of the track....it wasn't in our favor. Ariba managed to do her track in 6 minutes which is at a pretty fast pace. So now she is officially a Tracking Dog on June 6, 1999. Ok.....runs the track in 6 minutes on the sixth day of the month and the sixth month of the year. Coincidence?????

Ariba's TDX Story / 11-16-03

Training for the TDX is a much more difficult task. There are so many variables that you may come upon in this test. The track can be anywhere from 3-5 hours old. There is only one flag in the middle of the vast field and only the judge, tracklayer and the dog know which way it goes. You have crosstracks. These are put in by 2 people walking side by side. They walk over your original track in 2 places. The dog must not take the crosstracks which are generally an hour and a half fresher than the original track. They can be very tempting. It is 800 - 1000 yds. in length. The dog has to find all 4 articles that are dropped on the track. You are required to have 2 obstacles....which may mean tracking over a road, going through a woods or just dealing with vegetation that is up to your waist or higher sometimes. The passing rate for TDX tests is usually 17%. TDX tests are hard to get into. For one of the tests I was the 29th alternate.

At Ariba's first TDX test we ran into less than ideal conditions. It was in the Chicago area. The test was being held at a public park. There were loose dogs all over the place. Apparently many people came to walk their dogs in this area. Generally tracking tests are held in remote locations where no one else except the participants are there. This was a concern for me as I did not feel I could let Ariba out of the van with all the loose dogs to get her accustomed to the area. When it was our turn to go out on our track we were *escorted* by 2 members of that club to try and get Ariba to her test track without being bothered by the loose dogs. Well...that didn't work. Two rather large dogs bounded up to Ariba and wanted to go over her and check out the new kid on the block. Neither she nor I appreciated what had happened. As we were walking farther towards our track 4 people with their dogs came walking out of the area. The judges and tracklayers assured me that the people most likely did not interfere with our track....but I was doubtful of the validity of this. So we started on our track. The she took off from the starting flag and made her first turn. She passed up a set of crosstracks and was heading near the parking area which was up on the top of the hill about 75 ft. away. There was a rather loud dog fight up on the hill which did not last too long but startled Ariba as she did not want to be involved in this issue. I later learned it had been a loose dog and a dog that was about to be a participant in the TDX test that had the altercation. I finally convinced her that the dogs were not coming after her and we started off again. A couple more yards down the track and I could hear cowbells. Oh great. Now what. I could see that there were 2 more loose dogs who had cowbells on their collars on the other side of the tree line. The owners were no where in

sight. I turned to the judges to tell them of this development and they just said. "Don't worry about it. Your track doesn't go that way." Well by now neither Ariba nor I had our heads in the game and we left the tracking area. I was hoping that this unpleasant experience would not be remembered by Ariba. We were entered in a TDX test the next weekend. But she did remember. I put her harness on and walked to the starting flag and she just wandered around.

I decided if she were ever going to get her TDX she needed a break from this so that hopefully she wouldn't remember her first experience. So we took a couple of years off. In test #3 she managed to get almost through the entire track and just had one more turn to go. That leg of her track went up a hill and then made a sharp turn on the top of the hill. She continued going straight as the scent had drifted up over the hill and by the time I knew we were not going in the right direction and getting ready to back up the judges blew the whistle. Since most of our areas that we track in are flat we had little experience with this. Test #4 was back in Chicago. Again it was a park and the public was there. On our way to the track a loose dog came up to Ariba and was not too polite to her. Got to the start flag and again she wandered around. I am sure she thought the dog would come back after her and she was taking no chances. Test #5 was down in St. Louis. We had a rough start through some thick vegetation. After her second turn she had to cross a road. We had found 3 of the articles with just one left to go. Our track headed into the woods and made a turn. Ariba got lost in the woods. We were about 50 yards from the end of the track. So close. So we traveled to find hills to track on. We laid more tracks in the woods. I talked with many tracking gurus and felt that we were more prepared.

This year I decided to enter only one test. It was put on by the Border Collie Society of America. It was in Hudson, WI.

So here is the rest of the Twilight Zone story.

For her TDX test she was entered in a 6 dog test. She was the 6th dog pulled to run in the test. She ran the 6th track of the day. And this was her 6th attempt at a TDX test. She ran the TDX track in "10" minutes.....hmmm.....does this go back to the original succession of TD numbers?

Not one to be superstitious.....well maybe just a little. I found Raven's tracking collar.....and that is what Ariba wore on the day of the test. Raven was an awesome tracking dog. She had passed on her second attempt at her TDX and her track had been 4 hours and 45 minutes old. I also had 4 pennies that I had found in my back pocket.

Ariba joins the ranks of the TDX girls.....Misha and Raven.
Cindy Brick

Tuesdays after 12:00 noon: December 2, 9, 16, 23, 30

Thursdays after 12:00: December 4, 11, 18

Saturdays all day: December 6, 13, 20, 27

**Thanks to Kris Punke for arranging these days with Chuck!*

Our Time at Camp Bandy

December 7	9:30-11:30 a.m.
December 21	9:30-11:30 a.m.

If you have training stories, announcements, cartoons, items for sale or swap, a training story, or brags for the newsletter, please send them to Karlene Ferrante at 1324 Portage St., Stevens Point, WI 54481 or email to kferrante@uwsp.edu.

Thanks to Linda Redfield for this classic:

EXCERPTS FROM A DOG'S DAILY DIARY

8:00 am - Oh Boy! Dog food! My favorite!
9:30 am - Oh Boy! A car ride! My favorite
9:40 am - Oh Boy! A walk! My favorite!
10:30 am - Oh Boy! A car ride! My favorite!
11:30 am - Oh Boy! Dog food! My favorite!
12:00 noon - Oh Boy! The kids! My favorite!
1:00 pm - Oh Boy! The yard! My favorite!
4:00 pm - Oh Boy! The kids! My favorite!
5:00 pm - Oh Boy! Dog food! My favorite!
5:30 pm - Oh Boy! Mum! My favorite!
6:00 pm - Oh Boy! Playing ball! My favorite!
6:30 pm - Oh Boy! Sleeping in master's bed! My favorite!

EXCERPTS FROM A CAT'S DAILY DIARY

Day 183 Of My Captivity

My captors continue to taunt me with bizarre little dangling objects. They dine lavishly on fresh meat, while I am forced to eat dry cereal. The only thing that keeps me going is the hope of escape, and the mild satisfaction I get from ruining the occasional piece of furniture. Tomorrow I may eat another houseplant. Today my attempt to kill my captors by weaving around their feet while they were walking almost succeeded, must try this at the top of the stairs. In an attempt to disgust and repulse these vile oppressors, I once again induced myself to vomit on their favorite chair, must try this on their bed. Decapitated a mouse and brought them the headless body, in attempt to make them aware of what I am capable of, and to try to strike fear into their hearts. They only cooed and condescended about what a good little cat I was. Hmmm, not working according to plan. There was some sort of gathering of their accomplices. I was placed in solitary throughout the event. However, I could hear the noise and smell the food. More importantly I overheard that my confinement was due to MY power of "allergies." Must learn what this is and how to use it to my advantage. I am convinced the other captives are flunkies

Timber Ridge Building dates for December

*Please note: The building will not be available Nov. 29.

Second Monday after 12:00: December 8

and maybe snitches. The dog is routinely released and seems more than happy to return. He is obviously a half-wit. The bird on the other hand has got to be an informant, and speaks with them regularly. I am certain he reports my every move. Due to his current placement in the metal room, his safety is assured. But I can wait, it is only a matter of time...

*****Announcements *****

Breed to Succeed Seminar - With Patricia Craige Trotter

Sat and Sun, Jan 17 & 18, 2004 at Bandana Square, St. Paul

For more information, email jekayser@aol.com

Ho Ho Ho!

If you're not sure about coming to the Christmas party, remember that the cost includes tax, tip, and nonalcoholic beverage, and the club is paying \$7.00 toward each dinner ordered. Come and wish your fellow club members a Merry Christmas! We'd love to see you at Tony Roma's!