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## May 2003

Our next meeting will be Monday, May 12, at 7:30 p.m. Board meeting starts at 7:15 p.m. Hospitality will be provided by Heather Varco. Check out our updated web site at <http://www.trdogtraining.com>.

### Minutes of General Membership Meeting 4/14/03

This was our Volunteer Appreciate Party at the Saloon du Bay. After lots of visiting and delicious gooey pizza for all, President Laurie Bandy called the meeting to order at 8:00 p.m. Also present were Steve, Rachel, and Josh Bandy, Karlene Ferrante, VerJean Smith, Heather Varco, Beth and Chris Knotts, Cheryl and Kerry Brimmer, Sue Fecht, Mary Ann Ralston, Kathe Carter, Masry Lutz, Linda and Jared Redfeild, Chris and Tom Gilbreath, Lorah Marquardt, Bob and Jean Brzezinski, Phyllis Christensen, Kendra Habeck, Kathy and Bud Schuh, Lori Whitney, Deb Bartkowiak, and Mark Plonsky. Guests included Cherylyn Antin and Jayson Mence.

Minutes. Phyllis moved that we dispense with the reading of the minutes. Chris seconded the motion. Motion carried.

### Treasurer's Report

VerJean reported that we have \$1656.77 in savings and \$7101.37 in checking. VerJean paid \$722 in State taxes and \$1308 in Federal taxes for 2002. Laurie explained that this was calculated for us by our new tax person. We are not a non-profit organization, and it would probably not be viable for us to become one, so we must be prepared to pay some taxes on our profits. VerJean reported that our profit from the UKC show was \$1266, with some bills to pay. Phyllis moved to accept the report. Chris seconded. Motion carried.

### Old Business

Left over food. We still have food in the freezer from our Labor Day trial, and Laurie asked what members what we want to do with it. After some discussion, Kathe Carter moved that we throw the food away, if Chuck doesn't want it. Mary Ann seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Vacuum cleaner. Members asked where our vacuum cleaner is. After some discussion about whether it was used at the mall demo, or elsewhere, Beth said she would check on it.

Pamphlet display shelf. Someone has been turning our pamphlet display shelf around. If you notice that it's not visible in the building, please do turn it around.

Jan, 2004 Obedience Trial. Chris Gilbreath reported that we might need an extra judge for next year's obedience trial, if we get a lot of entries. If it turns out that we do need an extra judge, it might be hard to find one we like at the last minute. Kathe moved that we hire a third judge for the trial. Lorah seconded the motion. Motion passed. This will cost \$100 per day plus expenses. Chris Gilbreath has agreed to serve as trial chairperson for the trial.

### New Business

Use of building for TDI. Sylvia Erickson has asked Laurie if Therapy Dogs International could use our building on Saturday, May 3 for a fee of \$20. Kathe moved we approve this schedule change. Mary Ann seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Shall we continue with UKC? Heather Varco, UKC agility secretary, reported that only 5 club members entered the trial, and two of those entered only because they were working a trial anyway. Heather asked if we wanted to continue to offer a UKC trial if so few members are interested. Members discussed the possibility of having a NADAC or AMBER (American Mixed Breed Obedience Registry) trial, or maybe a correction match. Members who entered the UKC trial said they really liked it, and we have been committed to providing an opportunity for mixed breed dogs to compete and for handlers to train in the ring, perhaps in preparation for AKC competition. Maybe we can get more of those UKC handlers to become members of the club. There was consensus that we should continue to offer a UKC trial, and to explore the possibility of an additional fun match for agility and obedience.

After dinner drinks or dessert. VerJean invited all present to order an after dinner drink or dessert, on the club. Yeah!

Looking for a Great Dane size wire crate. Phyllis knows someone who is looking for a used Great Dane size wire crate. Lorah said she has one.

Introduction of visitor. Laurie asked guests to introduce themselves.

Cherilyn Antin  
2068 Ronald St.  
Mosinee, WI 54455

Cherilyn has 2 Newfoundland Retrievers and a Poodle, and she's willing to work for the club.

New member. Mark moved that we dispense with the secret ballot and that we accept Jason Mence as a member. Beth seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Jason Mence  
2009 Dixon St.  
Stevens Point, WI 54481

Jason has a 2 ½ year old Rottweiler training in agility, and he has already worked for the club. Karlene will send Jason an application form. Welcome, Jason!

The meeting adjourned at 8:20 p.m., after which awards were presented, and drinks and desserts were enjoyed.

Respectfully submitted,  
Karlene Ferrante  
Secretary

## **There was no Board Meeting.**

### **\*Brag\* Brags \* Brags\* Brags \***

Elvis Knotts earned 20 points towards his UKC Agility championship with a first and a second finish in Ag I at our UKC trial. He also earned his first MX leg at the Oshkosh Kennel club trial, and an MXJ leg at the Wisconsin Rapids agility trial, handled by Laurie Bandy.

Chris Gilbreath's Golden Retriever Veeta completed her first and second legs in Novice B Obedience, finishing with a 198 ½ and second place at the Wisconsin Rapids Show at Camp Bandy.

Lori Whitney's Chocolate Lab Keeper took first place in Open A at the AKC Sanctioned B-OB Match at the Oshkosh Kennel Club on March 23. Keeper also took third place in Open A at the WRKC obedience trial at Camp Bandy on April 13 –her first trial entry in Open.

From Kris Punke: On February 15th, at the Marshfield Agility Trial at Camp Bandy. Sadie got her Novice Standard title. On March 23rd at the WI Rapids Agility Trial at Camp Bandy, Sadie got her 1st leg in Open Standard and her 1st leg in Novice Jumpers. On March 29th at the UKC Trial at Camp Bandy, Sadie got her 1st leg in Agility I.

Jen Thompson's Baron did great at the UKC trial. He got a 193 and a 2nd place in the first trial and he received a 200 and a 1st place in the second trial. Not bad for a dog that hasn't practiced since November.

From Linda Redfield: The Redfield's welcome Grinner to their family. He's a 10 month old Belgian Malinois and came from Malinois Rescue. He already has a reputation for jumping so should be great in agility. We think that his registered name will be Grin and Air It!

VerJean reports that Clancy finally got a leg in Standard Novice Agility and he was the only dog to pass so he got a 1st place. (VerJean thinks this is not a big brag, but your newsletter editor thinks it's very big! If it was easy, everyone would do it.)

Mary Ann Ralston's Scotty, (Ch. Aftershock Foxfyre Plaid Lad OA OAJ) was Best of Breed both days at the Fond du Lac Kennel Club shows on April 19 & 20th.

From Kathy Schuh: At the Wis Rapids agility trial on March 21st, Silvercreek's Lit'l Miracle Boy NA,NAJ,CGC (Kirby) Border Terrier owned by Bud & Kathy Schuh & handled by Kathy, earned an open Std. leg with a 2nd place finish. Also the same day he earned an Open JWW leg with a 2nd place for his Open JWW title.

Then at the Wis.Rapids obedience trial on April 12th, Kirby got his 2nd leg towards his CD with a score of 192 1/2. On Sunday April 13th, he again qualified to get his CD with the same score of 192 1/2 and a 3rd place finish. I was really pleased with his performance. Being a terrier, obedience does not come easy.

Kobold Blue Suede Schuh's CGC (Brodie) border terrier made his debut in agility at the St.Cloud,MN. trial on March 30th. He took a 1st place in Novice B Std. On April 5th at Oshkosh, Brodie took a 2nd place in Novice B JWW.

From Karlene: The Samoyed Club of America has published the AKC third quarter year to date standings for Samoyeds, based on placements. Chelestina's Cinnabar AX AXJ (Sasha) was ranked number 8 among Samoyeds in Excellent Agility and number 16 among Samoyeds in Novice Obedience.

Congratulations to all!

*Special thanks to Laurie Bandy for setting up files for mail merge and the attached membership list. Laurie has been very patient in teaching your low tech newsletter editor how to make this work.*

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*Please check the information in the attached membership list, and forward any corrections to Karlene. Information on Sandy and Jeremy Hunt will be included in the next newsletter.*

## Awards Presented for 2002

Terese Barta  
Tasha  
UKC Agility II

Kathe Carter  
Ava Vom Steinig Tal  
CDX  
U-CD

Sue Fecht  
Oakridge Ruby Red Tuesday  
MX  
AXJ

Karlene Ferrante  
Chelestina's Cinnabar  
AX  
AXJ

Chris Gilbreath  
Touchstone Put N on the Ritz  
OA  
CDX  
U-CD

Lorah Marquardt  
Bluestem's Look to the Horizon  
NA  
NAJ  
OA  
OAJ  
AX  
AXJ  
CD  
TD  
VCD1  
Marquardt's Perennial Optimist  
OAJ  
AX  
AXJ

Mary Ann Ralston  
Aftershock Foxfire Plaid Lad  
OA  
OAJ  
CGC

Kathy and But Schuh  
Silvercreek Hav Gun Will Travl  
MX  
MXJ  
UAI  
UAI  
UCDE  
Kobold Blue Suede Schuhs  
CGC

Heather Varco  
Charlie  
NA  
NAJ  
Forrest  
Nov. agil.  
Nov. jump.  
Nov. touch & go  
Nov. gamblers  
Elite jump  
CGC

Lori Whitney  
Grey Oak's She's a Keeper  
CD  
H.I.T.  
U-CD

Dawn Witter  
Diamond Rio II  
Novice B Companion Dog

*Our club building in Mosinee is available for the use of club member at these times. If you use the building at any other time, you need to pay Chuck \$3.00 per hour. Please sign in whenever you come.*

### **Timber Ridge Building dates for May**

Second Monday after 12:00: May 12

Tuesdays after 12:00 noon: May 6, 13, 20, 27

Thursdays after 12:00: May 1, 8, 15, 22, 29

Saturdays all day: May 3, 10, 17, 24, 31

### **Timber Ridge Building dates for June**

Second Monday after 12:00: June 9

Tuesdays after 12:00 noon: June 3, 10, 17, 24

Thursdays after 12:00: June 5, 12, 19, 26

Saturdays all day: June 7, 14, 21, 28

### **Our Time at Camp Bandy**

*The training building at Camp Bandy is available for the use of club members twice each month, on the first and third Sundays.*

May 4 9:30-11:30 a.m.

May 18 9:30-11:30 a.m.

June 1 9:30-11:30 a.m.

June 8 9:30-11:30 a.m.

### ***Love that Flexi!***

I remember how delighted I was to discover the Flexi-Lead almost ten years ago. I had a rambunctious Samoyed puppy (Andy) who was not getting the exercise he needed walking on leash, and I didn't have a fenced yard or easy access to a dog park. (Sled dogs need to run!) Somebody at work told me about the Flexi, and Andy took to it right away. He learned quickly that he could lag up to 26 feet behind me and run up to 26 feet ahead of me, for a running distance of 52 feet. I learned to keep walking at the same pace, and this gave Andy a chance to run on leash without turning me into the jogger I did not want to become.

People who saw us walking like this often joked about "who's walking who?" which of course I found very clever every time I heard it. I suppose it must have looked out of control, but it did work for us. Andy learned to stay mostly on the sidewalk, and I learned to brace my feet and to steady a two handed grip when he took off at a flying run. After lots of these Flexi-runs, I've developed very strong arm muscles, and I wouldn't be surprised to learn that my right arm may have stretched an inch or two longer than the left.

When I got Sasha, I decided to use the Flexi not only to let him run, but also to train him. I was determined to be more consistent with Sasha, and to learn from my mistakes with Andy, so I trained Sasha to wait every time we came to a corner. After watching for a clean break in traffic, I would keep walking across the street, and he would wait on the curb until I turned around and said, "Ready? Go!" And then he could take off past me and get praised for running fast, naturally with me in tow for some distance.

This little move has accomplished three objectives. First, it got Sasha used to me moving past him while he waited, which helped him to learn a consistent "two feet on, two feet off" on agility contacts. Second, it has set us up for distance handling. He's now accustomed to working 26 feet away from me, and he's also used to taking off when I say "Ready? Go!" I no longer have to move to the middle of the street; I can stand right next to him and send him running away from me. This comes in handy in agility, and it will one day in Utility (if we ever get out of Novice!) And third, it has made him very reluctant to cross a street by himself. On those rare occasions when Sasha does wander out of the yard, I'm a lot less worried, knowing he's had so much practice with the "stop, look, and listen" routine at the curb. Like the kindergartners at the school bus stop, Sasha knows he's not allowed to cross the street by himself!

Like everyone, we have our training challenges—including most recently, a completely reliable stay at the start in agility, and barking in the obedience ring. But we've had reliable contacts and an unusually strong send out, and I attribute these to consistent training with the Flexi. I have to remind myself though, that the most wonderful thing about the Flexi has been giving this dog (who was bred to run and pull) a chance to run and pull, even if it is me that he's pulling!

Karlene Ferrante

### ***We'd like to hear from you!***

I invite readers to write about your adventures in training and showing your dogs. Watch in future issues for stories from Arleen Ravanelli and Lori Whitney.

### **Obedience Run-Throughs**

At Ellen Hardin's Training Building, 2603 Ridge Road, Custer  
7:30 p.m. on 5/19 -- \$2.00 per dog per run-through

### **Mind Games Dogs Play With Humans...**

(Thanks to Jen Thompson for this!)

\*\* After your humans give you a bath, DON'T LET THEM TOWEL DRY YOU! Instead, run to their bed, jump up and dry yourself off on the sheets. This is especially good if it's right before your humans bedtime.

\*\* Act like a convicted criminal. When the humans come home, put your ears back, tail between your legs, chin down and act as if you have done something really bad. Then, watch as the humans frantically search the house for the damage they think you have caused. (Note: This only works when you have done absolutely nothing wrong.)

\*\* Let the humans teach you a brand new trick. Learn it perfectly. When the humans try to demonstrate it to someone else, stare blankly back at the humans. Pretend you have no idea what they're talking about.

\*\* Make your humans be patient. When you go outside to go 'pee,' sniff around the entire yard as your humans wait. Act as if the spot you choose to go pee will ultimately decide the fate of the earth.

\*\* Draw attention to the human. When out for a walk always pick the busiest, most visible spot to go 'poo.' Take your time and make sure everyone watches. This works particularly well if your humans have forgotten to bring a plastic bag.

\*\* When out for a walk, alternate between choking and coughing every time a strange human walks by.

\*\* Make your own rules. Don't always bring back the stick when playing fetch with the humans. Make them go and chase it once in a while.

\*\* Hide from your humans. When your humans come home, don't greet them at the door. Instead, hide from them, and make them think something terrible has happened to you. (Don't reappear until one of your humans is panic-stricken and close to tears).

\*\* When your human calls you to come back in, always take your time. Walk as slowly as possible back to the door.

\*\* Wake up twenty minutes before the alarm clock is set to go off and make the humans take you out for your morning pee. As soon as you get back inside, fall asleep. (Humans can rarely fall back asleep after going outside - this will drive them nuts!)

*If you have items, announcements, cartoons, items for sale or swap, a training story, or brags for the newsletter, please send them to Karlene Ferrante at 1324 Portage Street, Stevens Point, WI 54481 or email to [kferrante@uwsp.edu](mailto:kferrante@uwsp.edu).*