



Colonial Shetland Sheepdog Club

CSSC Bulletin

December 2010

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Upcoming events

- *January 2, 2011: Holiday party*
- *February 19, 2011: Activity and meeting, vote on judges, select nominating committee*
- *April 30 or May 1, 2011: Activity and meeting*
- *May 21-22, 2011: Agility trial*
- *June 3, 2011: Spring specialty*
- *July 2011: Annual meeting*
- *August 2011: Fun match and picnic*
- *October 2011: Activity and meeting*
- *November 2011: Fall match*
- *December 2: Winter specialty*

Winter specialty wrap-up

Our winter specialty in Fitchburg drew a major entry this year. Jean Simmonds judged our afternoon specialty and awarded Best of Breed to CH Foxglove Ashburton Second Wind, owned by Carolyn Ing and Kim Schive. Best of Opposite Sex was CH Ringsend Fairisle Crown Jewel, owned by Jane Davies. Select Dog was CH Rabbit Run Cinda-hope Fair Trade, owned by Megan Nelson and Nancy Hildreth. Best of Winners and Winners Bitch was Toven Magdalena, owned by Tony Mapes. Winners Dog was Cameo Farms Smooth

Sailing, owned by Robert and Victoria Piccirillo and Mary Fish. Reserve Winners Dog was Shelhaven Glove Save, owned by Janet Whalen and Karen and Robert Henley. Reserve Winners Bitch was Sherlynn's Black Diamond, owned by Sherri Monahan.

The show runs smoothly thanks to many club members who support the show with their time, dollars, and entries. Special thanks to Cindy Hanlon, who crafted the lovely trophies, Kathy Ryan, our chief steward, and Bob Olsen, our trophy chair.

Paid your dues?

Annual membership dues were due and payable for the upcoming year as of September 1. Make checks payable to CSSC. Please mail dues to Alanna Kelly, Treasurer, 197 Vernon Street, Norwood, MA 02062. Individual member dues are \$15; \$25 for families. More information on membership fees and non-member newsletter subscriptions can be found on page 5.

Meeting minutes: November 7, 2010

General meeting attendance:

Alanna Kelly, Jeanne Stanechewski, Randine Parry, Diane Gregoire, Katherine Ostiguy, Judith Stringer, Liz Hildreth, Bonnie Chandler, Louise Cote, Liz Donnelly, Ann Lyman, Cindy Hanlon, Roy Lyman, Karen Manchester, Trisha Brais

Guests: Granny Stringer
Meeting called to order at 3:00.

Recording secretary's report: Minutes accepted as

reported in the newsletter. Corresponding secretary's report: We received two letters from AKC approving our May 22nd and July 9th agility trials.

Treasurer's report: Alanna brought the latest profit and loss and balance sheet statements. Balance is \$10,279.49. There will be lots of expenses in the next few months for winter specialty fees and agility ribbon orders but we are in good shape financially.

Old Business

Show trophies: Alanna suggested a price limit on trophies for our specialties, which we have never established before. We want to have nice trophies but avoid an unexpected high bill, so perhaps we should give Bob a price-per-trophy or total amount.

Winter specialty: Alanna noted that someone will need to come to the specialty to

(cont'd on page 2)

MDR-1 Clinic: test your dog for drug sensitivity

Colonial Shetland Sheepdog Club is sponsoring an MDR-1 clinic open to all, both members and non-members. The test uses a cheek swab to gather cells for a genetic test. We will order test kits (a cheek swab, instructions, and a submission form) for everyone who lets us know they want to participate. The kits must be sent back together to get the group discount.

Why: MDR-1 is the gene that makes Shelties, Collies, and some other breeds dangerously oversensitive to Ivermectin and certain other commonly used drugs. This

simple genetic test could save your dog's life by letting you and your vet know not to use drugs from the susceptible list.

Price: \$70 each with up to four participants (one kit per dog); over four, the price is \$60 each.

How to sign up: Email, phone or mail Bonnie Chandler at jbchandler@verizon.net, 978-456-3169, or 183 Prospect Hill Road, Harvard, MA 01451. Don't send a check: Bonnie will get the kits from Washington Animal Disease Diagnostic Lab and distribute them and you should swab

your dog's mouth and return the kit to her with your check made out to WADDL. We will send them back as a group to get the discount.

When: If you let us know at least a week before the fall match, we can bring the kits to the match. If you can't make it to the match, we can mail you the kit. Everyone should return the kits back to Bonnie within a week after you get them. The swabs need to be used when the dog doesn't have food particles in his mouth (preferably in the morning before eating, but at least 30 minutes after any food) and

then air dried for a few hours or overnight, so unfortunately you won't be able to finish the whole process right at the match.

List of drugs that should not be used with MDR-1 dogs:

Anesthetics and analgesics: acepromazine, butorphanol
Antibiotics: erythromycin
Antidiarrheals: loperamide
Antiparasitics: ivermectin, selamectin, milbemycin, moxidectin

Chemotherapy: vincristine, vinblastine, doxorubicin

Other drugs to watch: cyclosporin, digoxin, doxycycline, morphine, buprenorphine, fentanyl.

November 7 fall match results

Puppy Sweepstakes
Judge: Liz Hildreth
Best in Sweeps: Brandon, owned by Barbara Paine
Runner-Up: Keri, owned by Onnaka Dudley

Junior Showmanship
Judge: Vicki Rolls
Best Junior Handler: Hannah Rawlings and Halo
Breed
Judge: Vicki Rolls
Best in Match: Keri, owned

by Onnaka Dudley
Best Opposite Sex: Brandon, owned by Barbara Paine

November 7 general meeting minutes (cont'd)

drop off the obedience/rally trophies as she will be working. Bonnie said she would deliver them.

Anne Bowes seminar: Liz said it went well, 19 participants and 6 observers. Each club (CSSC and Granite State) made approximately \$360. The feedback was excellent and Liz suggested having another seminar next year, either with Ann or perhaps another instructor.

Holiday party: Katherine has doggie games planned

for the holiday meeting on Jan 3rd. Louise reminded everyone of the Yankee Swap – bring an unwrapped gift (value \$10) to the meeting!

Winter specialty 2011: Louise asked the members to think of judges for our winter specialty next year. Look for provisional judges, judges approved to judge other breeds, and those who have not judged locally in awhile. We need to vote on judges at our February meeting.

February meeting 2011: We need an activity. Liz knows a vet who does short seminars on health-related topics who would do one with us for free. Members should e-mail topic suggestions to Liz; the vet will research any topic we might be interested in. We also need a location (such as someone's home). Alanna suggested a nearby library or church hall so that the vet would not have to travel far.

New business

Louise thanked everyone involved with the match including those who made lunch and brought raffle items.

Louise shared with the club that Rosemary is supposed to be released from the hospital on November 20th. Rosemary sent a card thanking her friends for all of the cards, flowers, and support.

Meeting adjourned at 3:20.

Respectfully submitted,
Katherine Ostiguy

On dog food: a member's perspective

I recently had a bad bag of dog food, had horribly sick dogs, lost my favorite dog and ran a \$7,000 vet bill. This was one of the worst experiences I have had in over 50 years. For years, like so many people, I fed Ken'l Biskit. The dogs thrived, coats were good, it was easy to add real fresh meat, never had problems with it. Then they stopped making it.

I fed Purina Pro Plan after they stopped making Ken'l Biskit, and then I had a vet who was pushing Canidae. I fed this for several years. I really did not associate it with the sudden illness and death of what had been a healthy, happy 7-month old puppy. I also did not associate it with the 8-month old puppy that suddenly had major problems and subsequently died, apparently due to liver failure. I have never had liver disease in my dogs. Then this year, several dogs showed signs of fever and liver problems. These were healthy, mature dogs and one senior. When an 8-month old puppy started showing symptoms, my vet advised me to set aside some of the food, save the label, and discard the rest. None of the others got sick, but the two seriously ill dogs were sick for months. I was at the vet four times a week. We had many blood tests and multiple hospitalizations. I ultimately lost a dog which, for me, stands in the pantheon of greatest dogs I have had, alongside Chance and Stardust.

I got in touch with a veterinary nutritionist. I was

told I could complain to the FDA and the food company, but it might not go anywhere. I spoke to my lawyer and he said because I didn't have a post-mortem performed on my darling girl, I would lose in court. I wrote to the company. It took a certified letter and several months to get them to respond. They actually investigated by talking to all the vets who tried to help and concluded that because I didn't have an autopsy on my bitch or biopsy her liver, they really couldn't be blamed. Read their bag about how caring they are and how they stand behind their food.

The nutritionist told me about the numerous small "touchy-feely" dog food companies. People read the ingredients and feel happy about feeding the food. My previous vet promoted and fed the food that most likely killed my dog. My dogs did well on it for several years. My vet commented that it is a rare company that actually tests their food on live dogs. Many of the small dog food companies make their food on shared equipment. Most small companies also don't have the kinds of distribution networks and safeguards that the large companies do. So in selecting a food, it isn't totally about you liking the list of ingredients. The most important issues are: How is the food made? Is it tested on real dogs? How is the food transported? How are you keeping it?

Many small companies

have food made on shared equipment. What else gets into the food? If the ingredients sound great but no one tests the food, are your dogs the real test? If a small food company makes their food in one place, where do they make it? Is the plant where the food is made carefully monitored to keep rodents and insects away from the food as it is made? Does it have to be trucked from California to Massachusetts? What if it is excessively hot on the trip? How can the company insure it has been safely transported and not harmed by temperature or moisture? How long has it been in the store where you bought it? Then, how are you storing the food? It should not be kept where it can get moist or overheated. It should not be stored in a barn where rodents or insects can get into it.

So now to which company fits the bill. Both Iams and Purina manufacture their food, are big companies that have the whole distribution issue under control, and they both test. Purina has been making animal feeds for ever so long, as has Iams. On to the little companies. How about the Blue Buffalo recall? Check it out at www.veterinarypracticenews.com/vet-breaking-news/2010/10/08/blue-buffalo-issues-voluntary-recall-on-select-dog-food-products.aspx If their products are recalled because the ingredient mix is causing problems, what did they do to prevent this? All the ingredients sounded good. We

hear of food recalls all the time from both large and small companies.

Many of the newer foods use the "all natural" or "holistic" or "no grains" or other such stuff in their advertising. That appeals to the buyer. But do they test? Mostly no, and of the newer companies, where is the long term track record? It does not exist.

How about making your own? If these for profit food companies list all these appealing ingredients and can't get it right, you think you can? What about raw? What about salmonella? The bottom line for me is I'm sticking to food that has a track record, that is made by a big company that has been in the business of feeding animals for decades, that tests their food, and that has distribution channels that they can more easily control than the small companies. I also am pleased that the best big companies that fill the bill also support our sport. You won't see these little companies sponsoring dog shows, I think. So I am feeding Purina Pro Plan Lamb and Rice puppy to all my Papillons, young and old. I think for a Sheltie with a different metabolism I would probably not feed puppy formula to adults, but with the Papillons, everyone is doing well. I am not going to change dog foods without a real reason. I had a horrible experience. I shared this with you hoping it will help you think more seriously about dog food.

- Charlotte McGowan

Don't miss the holiday party on Sunday, January 2 at 12:30

Our next club meeting and holiday party will be on January 2 at Canine Mastery in Seekonk. Board meeting will be at 11:00 and lunch and refreshments start at 12:30 for the general membership and guests. We will be having out traditional Yankee swap. Don't forget to bring a dish or beverages to share. Guests are welcome.

Yankee swap gifts should have a value of approximately \$10.

Directions to Canine Mastery, Seekonk, MA

From Rte. 195 E or W: Take Massachusetts Exit 1 and follow 114A (North). In approximately one mile you will reach a fork in the road. Bear to the right (Grist Mill Restaurant will be on your left). This is Arcade Street. You will come to the intersection of Rte 44. Go straight across and continue on Arcade to the end. This is the junction of Rte 152. Take a right onto 152 North (Newman Ave). Follow along for about 5 miles. You will come to the intersection of Central Ave. after the

Rojacks. Go ½ mile and take a left onto Pond Street. Watch for Orion Industrial Park on the left (2/10 mile). Turn into the park; Canine Mastery is the second building on the left.

From Rte. 95 north of Attleboro

Take Exit 3A Rt. 123. At the second set of lights take a right onto County St. Follow along and after the Stone E Lea golf course, take a left onto Read St. (There are signs for the animal shelter). Take the second right onto Pond St.

Turn right into the Orion Industrial Park in approximately 3/10 mile. We are the second building on the left.

From Rte. 95 south of Attleboro

Take Exit 2A (Newport Ave.) to the 2nd light. Take that left onto Benefit St. At the next light bear left onto Central Ave. to the end. Take a left onto Rte. 152 (Newman Ave.) Go ½ mile and take a left onto Pond St. Watch for the Orion Industrial Park on your left (2/10 mile). Turn into the park to the second building on left.

Learn about first aid for dogs at our February meeting

On February 19, Dr. Cristina Valas of the Family Pet Hospital in Ashland, MA, will talk about first aid for dogs as well as answer questions from members and guests. The meeting will held at the Ashland Public Library on 66 Front Street. Please note that since the meeting will be at a library,

dogs will not be allowed.

The board meeting will start at 11:00 with the members' meeting to follow at noon. Dr. Valas' presentation will be from 1:00 to 3:00.

Voting for judges for the club's 2011 fall match and winter specialty as well as our 2012 spring specialty

will take place at this meeting. The board will also be selecting the nominating committee for the slate of new officers for 2011-2012.

For more information on Dr. Valas, her clinic's website is thefamilypethospital.com. Directions to the Ashland library will be in the next issue of the bulletin.

Judge suggestions desperately needed!

The Worcester County Kennel Club selects its judges for its December show far in advance. As a result, the sooner we provide WCKC with a suggestion for our winter specialty, the better the chances of getting our first choice. The key attributes for the December selection are either geographic proximity or a relatively inexpensive plane fare. Other pluses are approvals to judge multiple

breeds or provisional judging status. Please submit suggestions for December 2011 judges as soon as you can to Carolyn Ing (see page 5 for contact information).

We also need suggestions from our membership for sweeps and breed judges for our 2011 fall match, and sweeps and breed judges for our 2011 spring specialty show. Agility judges are already in place, but suggestions are welcome for subse-

quent trials. Please submit your suggestions in writing (emails acceptable) to any club officer or board member.

Judge selection criteria

The club *desperately* needs input for judges from its members. This is one of the more important tasks you can accomplish for our club. Good judges at our matches and trials attract good entries. If you have comments

on your suggestions that would be helpful to other members when it comes time to vote, that would be even more helpful.

Judge suggestions should be submitted by January 3, 2010. The list of judges and background information on each will be published in the February newsletter, and voting by the general membership will take place at the February 19 meeting.

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How to qualify for annual club awards

Titles that are earned from May 1, 2010 to May 1, 2011 will be eligible for awards at the annual meeting in July 2012. In order to qualify, you must be a member in good standing; you must attend two meetings and work at one event during the year for which you are receiving the award; and you must send proof of the title and date to Alanna Kelly by June 1, 2011.

The awards are 9" x 12" plaques arrayed with twelve brass plates, one of which is engraved with your dog's name, title and year earned. Once you receive a plaque, the club will engrave additional brass plates for subsequent titles earned.

Visit the club website
www.colonialssc.org

Join our Yahoo group:
groups.yahoo.com/group/ColonialSSC

Membership and dues

Annual club dues are due each year on September 1. Membership fees should be submitted to the club treasurer. Fees are as follows:

Adult: \$15

Junior: \$12

Family: \$25

Non-members may subscribe to the club newsletter for an annual fee of \$12.

Potential members interested in applying can download an application from the club website (www.colonialssc.org) or by contacting Alanna Kelly, club treasurer. New members must have attended two club events and have received endorsements from two current members in good standing.

Next bulletin deadline

Did you notice anything missing from the bulletin, such as a brag, article or announcement? Well, that's because you didn't submit it personally to me, your newsletter editor! I troll for fresh newsletter nuggets but

can't guarantee that you will be included unless you send them to me directly.

The submission deadline for the next issue is Friday, January 14, 2011.

- Carolyn Ing

Colonial Shetland Sheepdog Club
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