



The Scramble

January 2006

Contributions to The Scramble:

Contributions are due on:

March 15 (for April issue)

June 15 (for July issue)

September 15 (for October issue)

December 20 (for January issue)

Send them to:

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WCAC UKC Trial—Nov. 5 & 6, 2005 by Chris Eastwood

Once again, Windy City Agility Club has succeeded in hosting an extremely successful UKC Trial. The trial actually took place Saturday and Sunday, November 5 & 6, 2005, but the preparations began a long time before that. It had been a year since we had hosted a trial due to our usual July event being cancelled because of administrative and communication goofs (“I went left and the dog went right.... I don’t know what happened”) and everyone involved in this one seemed to be looking forward to it with a combination of anticipation and nervousness. We had new challenges this time around. The trial committee and the Board had decided to try out Nancy Reyes’ facility, “For Your Canine” for this trial for a number of reasons, i.e.: Nancy’s on the Board (always good to know the facility manager) AND the Trial Secretary, she has a terrific facility which is close by, and most importantly, she has an immeasurably better floor.

Because we were holding the trial at a different location and because we own UKC-specific equipment which needed to be moved, we decided to alter our class schedule and move on Thursday. We had a sizable number of Windy City folk who helped with the move, which made it all fast and pretty painless. On Friday, another gathering at Nancy’s to set up for the trial. For those who don’t know, this is actually quite involved. Not only does the equipment need to be assembled and laid out for the next day’s courses, all of the paperwork needs to be readied, gates and signs need to be put up, the raffle and worker’s refreshments are brought in. And lots of things that people might not think of, like vacuuming the entire floor!

Saturday went smoothly with Shelly Weeks as our judge. Sunday presented a few challenges due to course layouts and the support posts that are needed to keep Nancy’s roof on, but which do get in the way of some handling options. Still, all went well, and virtually all comments received and overheard about the location and facility were very positive. Shelly and our Sunday judge, Karen Dean, were both exceptionally considerate and generous with their time, particularly with green and first-time trial exhibitors. We received a number of comments on how smooth and efficient our trials are run, and that is completely due to the great volunteer workers that we have.

Again, it’s the volunteer workers whose efforts and attitudes make each of our trials such a success, who make each of our trials one that exhibitors go out of their way to attend. At the top of the list of people who put out exceptional effort for this one would be our Trial Secretary Nancy Reyes, Co-Chair Anna Ogawa, and running the Raffle; Sonja Lund. And there are the many others whose unselfish help are really what makes the difference between a fun experience and, well, a “trial”.

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Wags & Brags

Well, the Windy City trial had LOADS of brags!

“Rerun” Krynski finished his UACHX.

“Dino” DeBenedictis finished his GRACH title! Kim managed to run (or is hobble more accurate?) all weekend long, and not only did he qualify earned his title.

He is now known as: U-CH, U-GRACH, U-CD, CH Loteki His Royal Majesty, CDX, MX, MXJ, OAC, NGC, NJC, TG-N, TN-O, TN-G, CL2-R, CL3-F. This makes him the 2nd Papillon to earn this title.

Susan Eastwood is happy as can be that she actually RAN in her first trial of 2005! Good to see that knee working as it should.

“Retief” South had his best weekend ever at our trial! He had 3 perfect 200 runs and 4 runs with a score of 199 each, picking up 54 championship points in 2 days, giving him a total of 96 points. He had a second place, 2 thirds and 1 fourth. Alice also wanted to point out to those who remember having to time an Akita with a calendar, he had runs under 46 seconds! Alice also said she’s never experienced a trial like this and may never do so again, but this one is for our memory book—Retief was absolutely awesome. She is rightfully proud of him.

“Corky” Wykowski earned her AGI title at her and Donna’s first ever agility trial!

“Abby” Wykowski earned her U-AGI title, too, just to keep up the family tradition!

“Gidget” Krynski earned 2 legs in AGIII and “Nikki” earned 2 legs toward her GRACH.



“Retief” South is now UACH Retief of the CDT, CGC, TDIInc. getting the champion-

ship November 25 under former WCAC member Neil Winters.

Retief also had some great success at his first CPE trial, running level 3. He qualified 5 times in standard and various games, with 2 seconds, 1 third, and 2 fourth places! He also qualified in APDT Rally Obedience 2 out of 2 times with 1 fourth place (score of 201—it’s NOT a typo!) and another score of 196! Not to be outdone, “Klaatu” South, running as a specialist in CPE at age 10 1/2, qualified 4 times with 4 first places! Not bad for an old girl! Klaatu has also performed her 75th therapy dog visit! (Take THAT to any BSL supporters!)



“Jake” Pyrek (aka Jakey-Bakey-Bing-Bong) earned his AKC OA title on November 27. He earned his OAJ in July of this year.

“Bamm-Bamm” DeBenedictis earned his GRACH title in two weekends, finishing it on 9/11/05. This made him the 1st Papillon to earn a GRACH title! He is now known as: U-CH U-GRACH U-CD CH Loteki Don Juan Demarco CDX, CGC, EAC, OJC, EGC, AAD, CL4-R, CL4-S, CL4-H, CL4-F, TT This was achieved despite temperatures in the high 90’s both weekends!



Titles Any Dog Can Earn

ARB (ace refrigerator bandit)

BW (butt wagger)

CC (cat courser)

CP (couch potato)

CSX (counter surfer extraordinaire)

GFIY (go fetch it yourself)

IDDI (I didn’t do it)

ILF (I like food)

IWFF (I work for food)

LD (lap dog)

LDX (lap dog excellent)

TGS (terribly good snorer)

TGAN (terribly good at nothing)

TSIM (that seat is mine)

TTIM (that toy is mine)

UNCD (under the covers dog)

WM (who, me?)

BDK (best doggy kisser)

Corky and Abby *By Jeff Wykowski*

In August 2004, as Donna completed her sixth Beginners agility class session with Corky, there did not exist much confidence that Corky would ever be ready for entry in an agility trial. One year later, after much hard work and perseverance by Donna long with a great deal of assistance from our instructors and support from our fellow club members, Cory was entered in the WCAC sponsored November 2005 UKC agility trials. It was not only the first trial for Corky, but Donna as well. Under Donna's nervous but skillful handling, Corky successfully earned her U-AGI title. On November 4 Corky earned her first leg with a first place score of 200. Corky followed that up with a couple of third place scores on November 5 to bring home her first title. Corky was not the only dog to bring home a title from the November trials! Abby earned her U-AGI title, being her first title ever. Abby secured her title with a first place score of 200 in her first run on Sunday. I was able to get Abby to maintain enough focus to get her through the courses with qualifying scores. Donna and I are excited to have achieved the success of having Abby & Corky earn a title. We are hoping that it is the first of many titles to come in the future as we are now fully bitten by the Dog Agility Bug. Abby's joy over the weekend came from the dog biscuits that she earned and

Corky's joy came from the dog biscuits as well as the three new toys that she now has to leave in the yard for us to fetch back into the house. We did borrow a page from the Aliss Book of Trialing and rewarded the girls for their success with a hamburger on Sunday night, although it was from Wendy's and not McDonalds.



MACH2 Nikki! *By Barb Krynski*

Friday, November 25 was a memorable day, for me.

My rescue Min Pin, Nikki, finished her AKC MACH2! This little dog, who runs her heart out for me and gives me 100% every time, gave me 150% that day and did it!

From a terrified rescue to a cocky little brat she has come so very far in her life. She humbles me every time we walk into a ring. I have never had any expectations for Nikki, particularly after spending the first 2 years chasing her as she ran barking at judges, ring crew, spectators, you name it. We beat that little habit, and it's just been a blast ever since.

This has been a very difficult year for me, and by association my dogs. They have been such a big part of my recovery, you cannot imagine. I'm grateful for every day with them, and being able to share this wonderful achievement with all my incredible friends has just been the best!

Barb Krynski and ADCH MACH2 UACHX Marla Pooch CD, EAC, OJC, OGC (also known as the Best Floppy Eared Girlie Min Pin in the World!)



One stop car & pet care?

Submitted by Aliss South



Meet Mary Ann *by Gail Kalina*

There are only a handful of WCAC "oldies" that are still active members. Mary Ann Imburgia is one of those members from "way back when".

I first met Mary Ann when WCAC classes were held at the Levy Center in Evanston. Watching Mary Ann and her fabulous little Sheltie, Sheena, was inspiring to me as a novice agility junkie. I've seen a lot of changes in agility over the years, but Mary Ann's enthusiasm for working with her dogs and sharing her experiences has never waned. Mary Ann has taken some time from her busy schedule to tell us a little about herself and share some of her memories.

What is your occupation? Facilities Manager at Children's Memorial Hospital Outpatient Center (located on Clark St and Deming Pl in Chicago)

Where were you born? Great Lakes Naval Base Hospital in Waukegan, IL (my dad was in the Korean War at the time) **Any brothers or sisters?** Yes, one brother, John, and two sisters, Carol and Debbie (I am the oldest).

Who are your Agility Dogs? UACHX Eastwood Dreamscape Sheena, UD,MX,AAD,CGC,HCT,TDI - Shetland Sheepdog - passed away at age 11 yrs.

UACHX, UCD Eastwood Morningstar Basia, CD,MX,CGC,HIC,TDI - Shetland Sheepdog (daughter of Sheena) - passed away at age 12 yrs.

UACH Eastwood Wildfire, OA,OAJ,NAC,NJC, CGC,HIC (Michael) - Miniature Australian Shepherd - 5 years old and,

Eastwood Cheyanne Madison - Aussie/Border Collie mix - 8 months old.

Why did you choose this breed? (Or did this breed pick you?) My first love was the Doberman Pinscher (very graceful and fun), two of which I owned in the 80's which I loved dearly - named "Jodi" and "George". These were my first two dogs I trained and competed in confirmation and obedience shows and they both did very well. After they passed away, I was looking for a great obedience prospect and fell in love with the little Shelties I had seen in the shows - very attentive and beautiful to look at. I found my first sheltie, "Sheena", advertised in the paper "pups for sale" and went to check them out. There was one 8 week old pup left and the owner opened the cage door and the little bundle of fur raced up into my lap and it was love at first sight. I named her "Sheena" (Queen of the Jungle) and I knew I had a friend for life. She was my first agility dog and had the time of my life learning all about this new sport with her - she spoiled me by being so good that it was no effort on my part to make us look good at what we did. I also competed in obedience at the same time with her and set goals of 1-2 agility/obedience titles per year, which she completed with ease. Presently, I have "Michael", a red merle Mini Aussie, (my Excellent level agility dog) that I bought from a rare dog

breeder at 8 weeks old in Ohio. I chose this breed because he was beautiful (colors similar to the Shelties), energetic and a quick learner.

Have you had your dog(s) since it was a pup or is it a rescue? My newest female dog, "Cheyanne", a tri-color Aussie/Border Collie mix, is my first rescue dog that was given to me at 12 weeks by a close friend who had received the dog from a neighbor who bought her at 8 weeks as a Holiday Gift. The neighbor could not keep the pup, so my friend called me and I became the third home for her. She is a great pup, very good temperament with children/ dogs, energetic, attentive and will be my next agility/ obedience hopeful.

How long have you been doing agility? Many moons ago, my first agility experience was witnessing an agility demonstration in 1988-89 given by Windy City with Lou Bogart and Dennis Damon in the forest preserve. I decided to try the equipment with my first Sheltie, "Sheena" and she was doing a good job, so we joined the club and I was "hooked". I started competing in agility in 1990, and went on to receive one of the very first certified agility titles (from USDAA) that year. "Sheena" was also the 16th dog of all breeds in the USA to earn the UKC Championship title (UACH) as well.

Why do you participate in agility? I love the sport and get chills when watching a good run - great teamwork between dog and handler. There is a special connection between dog and handler that compares to dancing with both parties in sync. It's a great feeling of accomplishment to run the course of obstacles with your best friend and to be able to say "we did it"! I have met many people involved in this sport that are the nicest, friendliest and most supportive, and I particularly love to see a variety of breeds running courses as well. I believe agility is fun for everyone **Other current pets?** I have two female ferrets, "Spirit" and "Wolfy".

What is/was your most unusual pet? A hedgehog a few years ago.

Name/type of your very first pet? A black and white mouse named "Barnabas".

What other dog related activities do you participate in? "Michael" has attended flyball classes, and received his Herding Instinct certificate as well. We also tried K9 freestyle dancing, plus I attended TTouch seminars a few years ago. My first two shelties also participated in obedience as well as therapy dogs.

Designer Breeds?

Collie + Lhasa Apso

Collapso, a dog that folds up for easy transport

Spitz + Chow Chow

Spitz-Chow, a dog that throws up a lot

Pointer + Setter

Poinsetter, a traditional Christmas pet

Great Pyrenees + Dachshund

Pyradachs, a puzzling breed

Pekingese + Lhasa Apso

Peekasso, an abstract dog

Irish Water Spaniel + English Springer Spaniel

IrishSpringer, a dog fresh and clean as a whistle

Labrador Retriever + Curly Coated Retriever

Lab Coat Retriever, the choice of research scientists

Newfoundland + Basset Hound

Newfound Asset Hound, a dog for financial advisors

Terrier + Bulldog

Terribull, a dog that makes awful mistakes

Bloodhound + Labrador

Blabador, a dog that barks incessantly

Malamute + Pointer

Moot Point, owned by....oh, well, it doesn't matter anyway

Collie + Malamute

Commute, a dog that travels to work

Deerhound + Terrier

Derriere, a dog that's true to the end

Bull Terrier + Shitzu

Oh, never mind....

Meet Mary Ann continued from page 4

What is the most memorable time/event you've had with one of your dogs (past or present) At the 1998 AKC National Agility Championships in Atlanta, GA., where I handled both Shelties, "Sheena" and "Basia". "Sheena" was one of the oldest competitors (10 years) to run and compete. "Basia" was a member of the Illinois State Team that finished first place at the Nationals, beating Michigan, Ohio, California, Florida, etc. This was the first time a National State Championship was run and Illinois was the winner - every team member received a blue ribbon with a picture in the AKC Gazette! Barb and Tom and Kim were also on this team - what a great time we had!

Please describe a quirky habit your dog has: "Michael" likes to wake me up in the morning by jumping up on my chest and stretching out while licking my face until I awake. "Cheyanne" loves to chase her tail.

What non-dog activities do you participate in? Working takes up most of my time during the week, but on the weekends going up to Wisconsin to enjoy water sports like boating on the pontoon, or jet skiing with my roommate, Lynn (who is a former Windy City member).

Do you have other hobbies or an unusual collection? I do like to collect pens.

What vegetable or fruit would best describe your personality? Rainier cherries - very sweet and good to eat, plus yellow/red in color (sunny/exuberant)

If a statue was to be erected in your honor, what would YOU hope that honor would be: "To the one who wanted to know and learn everything about dogs."

Do you travel and what was the most fascinating or exotic place you've been? Have not done much traveling but Cancun, Mexico was the most fun.

Describe yourself in three words: Fun, inquisitive, respectful

Does your dog have a motto? "Cheyanne" is *Ruff and Ready*

If you could have lunch with anyone in the world, (living or not) who would it be? Ian Dunbar.

If you couldn't do agility, what would you do with your free time? Jet ski on the Seadoo at Lake Koshkonong in Wisconsin.

WOOD DALE 2BR \$850;
3BR \$1050. Heat, cent a/c,
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Shadow's Eulogy *by Lynn Cwynar*

The house was clean. No water bowls, no toys. It was the healing time. The empty time.

Then, the house was full!! The bundle of energy came in the form of ten pounds of a black and tan Shepard Doberman cross who became known as Shadow. He was the first dog. Wild & spirited, he was the reason Doris La Mair suggested we could use some training. "If you want a dog like that....." and so to Rand Park we went. Shadow made it thru puppy & beginner classes at the old building. Willful as ever, he staged a revolt, running up the stairs from the rifle range, to the gym, unescorted, of course. About this time a female named Georgia joined the family & the two became inseparable. They looked like twins, she a smaller version of him. The question often asked was if they were from the same litter. If not for the tail, it was, at times hard to tell them apart. Then a little schnauzer with a tail and ears joined the group and the pack was complete. For over ten years, this was the perfect group of canines.

During these years Shadow told us in many ways, he did not enjoy the structure of classes, of heeling and coming. He was very vocal about learning these things, so he became the stay at home dog, while Georgia & Murphy continued to train & competed. Not to say Shadow didn't learn anything. Filling out at 95 pounds, he became a gentleman, a pleasure to walk. His long legs gave him a graceful gait; he almost pranced when he walked. He was the guardian, the protector, the first line of our defense against the intruders

on the front lawn. Anyone who met him loved him. Forceful in getting attention, he thought everyone who walked in the door was there to visit and pet him! After a proper greeting, he would turn and give you his back to be scratched. And he would continually move so you would get the right spot.

But time moves on, our friends become frail. His mind was sharp, his front legs powerful, his heart was strong, but in all they could not overcome the weakness of his back legs. So our good dog, Shadow went to that Rainbow Bridge to wait for Mom and me.

So thank you Shadow for being our First Dog. You were the one who brought us to Rand Park. Because of you, we have met so many wonderful people. Because of you, we leaned the joy of competition and the humility of an NQ. Because of you, we found in ourselves strengths we didn't know we had and goodness we need to nurture.

Yes Shadow, you were good. We miss you. Until we meet again.

Love, Lynn, Mom,

Murphy, Teddy and Casey Cwynar

Shadow, The First Dog,



The Praline Award *by Barb Krynski*

Many years ago, there was a small group of agility folks and their dogs. They were part of a new club called Windy City Agility Club. They held USDAA trials a couple of times a year, wherever they could find the space and sometimes in conjunction with other clubs. No one had enough equipment or manpower to hold their own trials each time.

As of 2005, of these enthusiasts, only a few of their canine teammates remained. One of them was a little blonde Cocker Spaniel named Praline.

Praline was a hoot! She ran with all her heart when on the course, but she also ran with all her heart OFF the course. I remember the year she took a little sabbatical into the woods in the middle of a run in Milwaukee, and came back happy and soaking wet! Praline did it all with a smile on her face.



She left us, as they all someday do, much too soon. In her memory and thanks to a donation in her honor by her beloved humans, Windy City has an award called the Praline Award. It is given to the oldest competing dog at our UKC trial weekend.

My Gidget has the honor of being the first recipient of this award. I am proud that Gidget, at almost 13 years old, still runs with joy and abandon, a smile on HER face! She and Praline shared a love of agility, a love of life, and a sense of joy in sharing this with us, their teammates. Praline was a very special little dog, and I'm pleased that Gidget was able to be the first recipient of the award given in her memory.

Class Schedule and Upcoming Events

- **THURSDAY EVENING INDOOR CLASSES (The Centre at North Park, 10040 W. Addison, Franklin Park)**

Session 1: January 5, 2006 — February 23, 2006

Session 2: March 9, 2006 — April 20, 2006

Class Times: Beginner—6:45 to 7:30 pm, Intermediate I—7:40 to 8:25 pm, Advanced—8:35—9:20 pm, Intermediate II—9:20 to 10:05 pm at the Centre at North Park, 10040 W. Addison, Franklin Park

- **WCAC BOARD MEETINGS**

Meetings are usually held monthly at either the Centre at North Park or For Your Canine, Inc. on the second Friday of the month. The next meeting will be held on November 11 at For Your Canine, Inc.. Members are always welcome. No dogs at North Park, please! For more information, call 630-415-3022 or ask any Board member, or visit our website at www.windycityagility.org.

**Windy City Agility Club
c/o Barb Krynski
2403 Robin Lane
Rolling Meadows, IL 60008**

News? Brags? Anything? Send it in!

