



# The Scramble

October 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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## Sad Endings and Happy Beginnings! By Barb Krynski



June 22 marked the day Windy City Agility Club moved from our home of almost 15 years in Franklin Park to our new home in Schiller Park. I admit, it was somewhat sad to drive away on the last night of class, knowing I would never drive away from there again after a great night of training my dogs and hanging with my doggy friends.

I remembered the old days, when I had my mixed breed, Barney—the dog that got me started in all things dog related. Tom had Odie, his first Min Pin and Cookie, his mixed breed. Windy City is where Gidget got her start in agility, as well as Nikki. We spent so many Thursday evenings at that place! Most of those dogs are gone now, but not their memories and not the memories of the place it all happened.

JoAnn, our benefactress, came to visit us at our new home, too. WCAC presented her with a token of our appreciation and a certificate entitling her to honorary lifetime membership to our club. It was the least we could do for someone who had made it possible for us to have all those wonderful years at that facility.

May the future bring good times, good friends, and good runs to every member of Windy City Agility at our new site, and to everyone associated with For Your Canine, our new landlord. It's time to make some new memories in our new home!

## Board of Directors

### Officers

Aliss South, President

Chris Eastwood, Vice Pres.

Donna Wykowski, Secretary

Lou Bogart, Treasurer

### Directors

Paul Glombowski

Gail Kalina

Barb Krynski

Sonja Lund

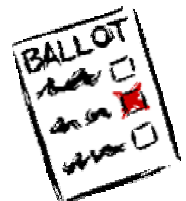
Anna Ogawa

Nancy Reyes

Karen Schaubel

## Board of Directors Election

The Windy City Agility Club nominating committee is in the process of preparing the Board of Directors slate for 2007. If you would like to run for a position on the Board or would like to nominate someone, please contact Gail Kalina at 847-724-2776 or e-mail at [gail.kalina@comcast.net](mailto:gail.kalina@comcast.net) for a consent form and to have our name included on the ballot. Nominations must be received by September 27. Ballots will be mailed September 29 and the results announced at the annual meeting on Friday, October 13. If you have any questions, please speak to any of the Board members.



## Wags & Brags

**Retief** South is now an AKC Rally Novice dog in addition to his APDT titles! **Klaatu** now has the APDT beginning rally title - RL1. Not bad for an 11 year old girl.



Tom Woepse's **Charlie** has been busy rocking the USDAA agility world. On July 3, Charlie became one of the few Miniature Pinschers to achieve the USDAA Agility Dog Champion title and on August 6 he earned the prestigious Tournament Master title, too! He is also third in the AKC Top Five Miniature Pinschers in the country, thereby earning a coveted spot in the first ever AKC Agility Invitational! This event is only for the Top Five dogs in every breed from US, Canada, and Europe!

**Rerun** Krynski has been enjoying his foray back into Novice and Open AKC agility—in the Preferred classes! He has earned his NAP, NJP and OJP titles despite a new found allergy to the color yellow!!!!!! Rerun was also invited to attend the AKC Invitational as one of the Top Five Smooth Fox Terriers. He won't be making the trip, though, but will be there in spirit cheering on his buddy, Charlie. Rerun also

took High in Division 2 at the WCAC trial!



Kim DeBenedictis's 11 year old **Bamm-Bamm** earned his MACH3 title at the Blitzen Agility Club trial on August 26 with that last and elusive Double Q! He'll still be doing agility, but in the 4" Preferred class as long as he wants to continue running.

**Shainy** Krynski earned her U-AGI title at the WCAC trial in July!

**Lea** Eastwood earned her MX on May 13 with a beautiful run! She is now known as:

U-ACHX Lady Lea of Eastwood, MX, MXJ

**Carl** Wykowski earned his U-AGI title at the WCAC trial at his first show weekend ever! **Corky** Wykowski also earned a U-AGI title at our show!



Rerun & Dino proudly showing off their High in Div., 1 and 2 ribbons at the WCAC trial!

## The Story of a MACH3...



Lookin' good...



We did it!



Here we go....



MACH3 Bamm-Bamm!



The victory lap!

## The Wykowski Pack *by their human, Jeff*

Well, another WCAC trial has passed and Corky continues to surprise us. Corky was entered in the Sunday AGII trials, her first attempts in AGII. She came home with two blue ribbons and two legs towards her AGII title (that we hope she will



complete in the November trial)! This is from a dog that started agility three years ago and spent almost one year in the beginner's class. After several sessions in the beginner's class it appeared that Corky would never advance out of beginner's class, let alone compete in an agility trial. Donna's success with Corky is an example that hard work and persistent work can pay off.

At the other end of the spectrum we have Carl. Carl entered the agility trial ring for the first time in his young life and came home with his AG-I title. Carl has accomplished this feat at the tender age of 14 months with only 15 weeks of agil-

ity. Carl has taken to agility like a fish to water (Chris & Susan can attest to Carl's love of pools and water). Carl and his human partner could not have accomplished such success without the assistance of some good trainers and instructors. Carl especially thanks Susan & Chris for all their hard work in helping his human partner improve his handling skills, although there is still more work to be done in this area. Handler errors cost Carl two 1st place finishes. Carl also thanks his older sister Abby for his successful weekend. It was Abby that sacrificed herself by being my first agility dog with which I learned and developed the handling skills that have helped with Carl's early agility success.

Corky is an example that you can teach an old dog (9 1/2 years old) new tricks. Carl, on the other hand, is an example of the success experience and good trainers/instructors can lead to.



## Reindog Parade *submitted by Gail Kalina*

Saturday, December 2, the Chicago Botanic Garden takes a bow (wow) for 2006 with the fourth annual Reindog Parade. For four very special costumed canines march the parade route to celebrate the holiday season.



Garden takes a bow (wow) for 2006 with the fourth annual Reindog Parade. For four very special costumed canines march the parade route to celebrate the holiday season.

Reindog festivities include registration from 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. in the Esplanade and judging by celebrities from noon to 1 p.m. The parade steps off at 1:15 p.m., and the judges award prizes beginning at 2:15 p.m.

Other activities include a visit and photo opportunity with Santa, and demonstration by dog experts. The "Pup Tent" features holiday gifts and refreshments for pooches and people.

Event fee applies. Please note that this is the only day all year that you can bring your dog to the Chicago Botanic Garden.

Pictures of the Reindogs from past parades seen on the Chicago Botanic Gardens website: [ww.chicagobotanic.org/dog/index.php](http://ww.chicagobotanic.org/dog/index.php).

## Thank You *from Barb Krynski & Nikki*

Nikki and I would like to thank Windy City Agility for the generous gift to help offset the expenses of her spinal surgery. As some of you know, she blew out her T12-T13 disc in May and needed surgery in June. I have, unfortunately, learned more about disc disease and spinal surgery & rehab than I ever wanted to. On a good note, she's actually walking better than she did before I ever realized there was a problem! Thank you again for the donation AND all the good thoughts for her recovery.



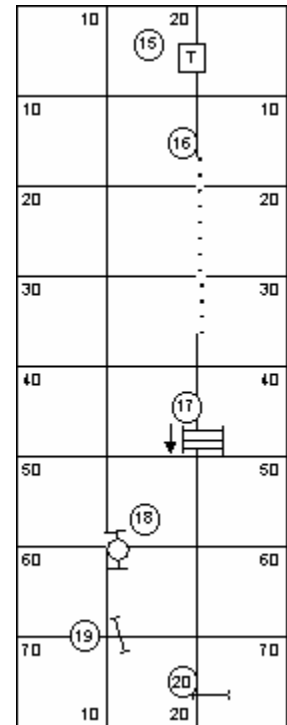
## Lea by her human, Chris Eastwood

Due to Susan's chronic knee problems, Lea's AKC title ladder had been managed by myself in the 18 months since she had gotten her first AX leg. It was a goal that I'm sure Lea didn't care about, but I felt it was quite attainable and worthwhile. It had been a solid year that we had been chasing the 10 qualifying legs apiece needed for AKC's Masters level titles (MX "Master Agility Excellent" and MXJ "Master Agility Excellent Jumpers"), honors which are held by tens of thousands, but are certainly a measure of high accomplishment. We finished her MXJ title at the Hounds series in 2005, but missed the MX, which I had hoped would complete a year of concentrated effort. The "misses" were sometimes due to handler error (OK, .... MOST of the time....), sometimes due to Lea's affinity for winking at me as she slyly skipped a center weave pole, and sometimes due to her not feeling it necessary to put out the effort to make required course time when the weather was hot (four summer runs NQ'd for being one to two seconds over time, and all of those would have been double-Qs .... but it was hot.... and who can blame the runner in the fur suit).

So we entered the Spring flurry of trials without a lot of preconceived expectations on my part, even though we had been sitting on the one final qualifying run for many months. At the Lyons Township trial in May, Saturday was an exercise in scaling rust off the machine—even if you have been training regularly, trial performances almost a separate form of agility for both the handler and the dog. Sunday started with an unmemorable run in the Jumpers ring and then it was on to the Standard course. The judge had laid out a run with some interesting challenges, and like most handlers, I felt that some were more comfortable for me and the dog, and some were, well, challenging, especially the ending sequence.



I walked the course and had a couple of options in mind, but really didn't start thinking seriously about what I would actually do until I watched a number of other teams run the course. I noticed that the small dogs were handling the ending fine, but the bigger dogs had lots of problems with it, and made particular note of where they were missing cues. We ran the first two thirds of the course well with only a few clumsy turns on my part and headed into the ending: table, straight to the weave poles, straight on to a triple jump with an immediate right turn to the tire, then a modified serpentine through two jumps to the finish line. The challenge was how to give the dog enough momentum to clear it safely, then there is a risk of not being able to turn tight enough to make the tire. If you hold back on the triple, then there is a real risk that the dog will knock a bar and it's all over but for saying "Not Quite".



I got Lea off the table and reved her for the poles, which she needs since she's maddeningly pokey when she isn't properly motivated, and she actually completed them in good time! Then I goosed her for the triple, but hung back, slowing down just as she launched, and turned towards the tire. I pulled a front cross on the landing side of the next to last jump and then turned her towards the finish. She responded beautifully, and I knew I had given her good directions. I realized then that I had been holding my breath since she had passed the second weave pole!

That was a clean finish on a clean run and made our title leg all the more special. And that, of course, is a big reason why we play this game with our dogs instead of just throwing a ball for them over and over again (and I do that too!!). It is such an incredible joy when the "dance with your dog" comes together in synchronicity, and everything flows with grace and style.

Ever wonder how old your dog is? Check out [www.dogage.com](http://www.dogage.com) and find out!



## Bark Bark Bark Bark Bark Bark Bark..... AGAIN!

Lately, there have been some problems with crated dogs barking excessively during class. We all know that dogs are dogs and will occasionally bark but it's the extreme carrying on that makes it difficult, if not impossible, to concentrate when taking a class or even teaching a class!

If your dog is one of the dogs who tend to get very worked up in their crate, here are a few suggestions on what you can do to alleviate their anxiety and keep them busy while you are occupied in other ways.

**The most basic thing to try is covering the crate.** Some dogs will settle once they cannot see other dogs or people around them. If you cover the top, front and sides, the back can remain open and provide ventilation.

**Another idea is to give your dog something to do!** Kong toys are ideal for this. Get 2-3 Kongs, depending on how long you will be leaving your dog unattended. Smear some peanut butter (you can get low fat, sugar free, organic) or low fat cream cheese around the inside of the Kong. Moisten some dog food, mix in a few pieces of cheese or hot dog, pack it into the Kong and freeze! Skip your dogs dinner and use the Kong as a feeding time treat!

You can also get something like Natural Balance Dog Food, which comes in a roll. Cut a few pieces slightly smaller than and some slightly bigger than the opening of the Kong and stuff them in. Your dog should work on that for quite a

while. Kong also makes a paste that you can buy and squirt into the toy and makes specific fillers for it. Get creative! Sliced carrots, Cheerios, and hot dogs mixed with some canned dog food, stuffed in and frozen, will work as another idea. The Kong website has quite a few recipes for you to try, too.

**There are also a few other toys available** on the market such as Buster Cubes, and other similar food dispensing toys. Check out the Pet Edge catalog, Pet Smart, Pet Supplies Plus, Petco, and the on-line Kong website for just a couple of places to shop.

**Then there are the old stand by chewies** like rawhides and bully sticks. These can also keep your dog busy. You can try making some yogurt smoothies, pouring them into molds, freezing them, and bringing these as a special "quiet time" treat for your dog, too. A good cooler and some ice packs are your friend.....

However, be aware that dogs that bark disruptively will have to be crated in your car! It is in your best interest to work on the barking issue now, and not when it's below zero outside!

If you need assistance, see one of the instructors and they will be happy to help you with this training issue.

## Set Up and Tear Down—Please Read!!!!!!!!!!!!

The WCAC Board of Directors realizes that, in the past, dogs have been allowed to run and play during set up and tear down on class nights.

**However, due to safety issues, we must ask that members do not allow dogs to run and play during this time while equipment is being moved.**

There have been a few "close calls" recently, and the risk of serious injury is too much to be able to keep up this practice. While carrying equipment, folks have tripped over dogs and dogs have come close to being hit by equipment that falls or is dropped, too. This is a huge liability to WCAC and our landlord, For Your Canine.

Also, we have to remember that we are training at a business that deals with dogs, and that at any given time a client may be coming through the facility.

If they are picking up a day-care dog, or coming for training, they shouldn't have to fend off a pack of WCAC dogs!

This is for the safety of our own dogs, too, since we don't know anything about the client dogs. They may be fearful, leash aggressive, dog aggressive, or just plain rowdy and our dogs shouldn't be put at risk when they approach a strange dog without our complete attention and without the permission of the other dog owner.

After the courses have been set up and ready to go, there is no reason why the dogs can't run around and play. The mandatory stipulation is that they are closely supervised by their owners! After class, dogs can play but only when all the equipment is safely in the boxes.

This is a Board of Directors decision. If anyone would like to discuss it, please see a Director. Most of us are at class every Thursday!

This policy goes into effect as of week 1 of the new session!

## When is a Sebaceous Cyst, Not a Sebaceous Cyst? *By Gail Kalina*

Earlier this year, while grooming my younger dog, Foster, I noticed a small bump near his ear. I didn't think much of it, since it isn't unusual for older dogs to have cysts. But, the more I thought about it, the more it bothered me. All of my other dogs were quite a bit older when they started getting those lumps and bumps, fatty tumors and warts. Since Foster had just turned five, I felt he was a bit young to have a cyst. I guess you could say it was a "gut feeling". I made an appointment to have my vet examine the bump and do a fine needle aspiration. At first he didn't think it was anything serious, but became very concerned when he saw some unusual cells in the fluid.

To be on the safe side, we scheduled an appointment for Foster to have the lump removed and biopsied. A few days later, Dr. Moll called with the results. Foster had

follicular carcinoma. What a shock! My vet had never heard of this. So, just as Foster's first incision

was healing up nicely, we had to schedule more surgery to remove a much larger area of tissue on the side of his face, to make sure it hadn't spread. We were very lucky, it hadn't spread. His face looks a little lopsided but, Foster should be fine.

While this type of carcinoma is unusual, if you find a lump or bump on your furry friend and are concerned, have your vet check it out. Sooner, rather than later.

Another positive note, Foster's Pet Health Insurance paid for most of the costs. I am currently gathering more information about the various pet health insurance policies and I will write a summary for a future issue of The Scramble.

## Grading Your Pet Food



### Start with a grade of 100:

- 1) For every listing of "by-product", subtract 10 points
- 2) For every non-specific animal source ("meat" or "poultry", meat, meal or fat) reference, subtract 10 points
- 3) If the food contains BHA, BHT, or ethoxyquin, subtract 10 points
- 4) For every grain "mill run" or non-specific grain source, subtract 5 points
- 5) If the same grain ingredient is used 2 or more times in the first five ingredients (I.e. "ground brown rice", "brewers rice", "rice flour" are all the same grain), subtract 5 points
- 6) If the protein sources are not meat meal and there are less than 2 meats in the top 3 ingredients, subtract 3 points
- 7) If it contains any artificial colorants, subtract 3 points
- 8) If it contains ground corn or whole grain corn, subtract 3 points
- 9) If corn is listed in the top 5 ingredients, subtract 2 more points
- 10) If the food contains any animal fat other than fish oil, subtract 2 points
- 11) If lamb is the only animal protein source (unless your dog is allergic to other protein sources), subtract 2 points
- 12) If it contains soy or soybeans, subtract 2 points
- 13) If it contains wheat (unless you know that your dog is not allergic to wheat), subtract 2 points
- 14) If it contains beef (unless you know that your dog is not allergic to beef), subtract 1 point
- 15) If it contains salt, subtract 1 point

### Extra Credit:

- 1) If any of the meat sources are organic, add 5 points
- 2) If the food is endorsed by any major breed group or nutritionist, add 5 points
- 3) If the food is baked not extruded, add 5 points
- 4) If the food contains probiotics, add 3 points
- 5) If the food contains fruit, add 3 points
- 6) If the food contains vegetables (NOT corn or other grains), add 3 points
- 7) If the animal sources are hormone-free and antibiotic-free, add 2 points
- 8) If the food contains barley, add 2 points
- 9) If the food contains flax seed oil (not just the seeds), add 2 points
- 10) If the food contains oats or oatmeal, add 1 point
- 11) If the food contains sunflower oil, add 1 point
- 12) For every different specific animal protein source (other than the first one; count "chicken" and "chicken meal" as only one protein source, but "chicken" and "" as 2 different sources), add 1 point
- 13) If it contains glucosamine and chondroitin, add 1 point
- 14) If the vegetables have been tested for pesticides and are pesticide-free, add 1 point

### Score:

94-100+ = A 86-93 = B 78-85 = C 70-77 = D 69 and below = F



## Heaven



A man and his dog were walking along a road. The man was enjoying the scenery, when it suddenly occurred to him that he was dead.

He remembered dying, and that the dog walking beside him had been dead for years. He wondered where the road was leading them.

After a while, they came to a high, white stone wall along one side of the road. It looked like fine marble. At the top of a long hill, it was broken by a tall arch that glowed in the sunlight.

When he was standing before it he saw a magnificent gate in the arch that looked like mother-of-pearl, and the street that led to the gate looked like pure gold. He and the dog walked toward the gate, and as he got closer, he saw a man at a desk to one side.

When he was close enough, he called out, "Excuse me, where are we?"

"This is Heaven, sir," the man answered.

"Wow! Would you happen to have some water?" the man asked.

"Of course, sir. Come right in, and I'll have some ice water brought right up."

The man gestured, and the gate began to open.

"Can my friend," gesturing toward his dog, "come in, too?" the traveler asked.

"I'm sorry, sir, but we don't accept pets."

The man thought a moment and then turned back toward the road and continued the way he had been going with his dog.

After another long walk, and at the top of another long hill, he came to a dirt road leading through a farm gate .

that looked as if it had never been closed. There was no fence.

As he approached the gate, he saw a man inside, leaning against a tree and reading a book.

"Excuse me!" he called to the man. "Do you have any water?"

"Yeah, sure, there's a pump over there, come on in."

"How about my friend here?" the traveler gestured to the dog.

"There should be a bowl by the pump."

They went through the gate, and sure enough, there was an old-fashioned hand pump with a bowl beside it.

The traveler filled the water bowl and took a long drink himself, then he gave some to the dog.

When they were full, he and the dog walked back toward the man who was standing by the tree.

"What do you call this place?" the traveler asked.

"This is Heaven," he answered.

"Well, that's confusing," the traveler said. "The man down the road said that was Heaven, too."

"Oh, you mean the place with the gold street and pearly gates? Nope. That's hell."

"Doesn't it make you mad for them to use your name like that?"

"No, we're just happy that they screen out the folks who would leave their best friends behind."

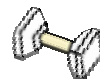
## Upcoming UKC Obedience Trial



For Your Canine will be offering their first UKC obedience trial on Friday evening, December 29. A special non-titling event that will be offered at this trial is Team Obedience!

A team performs all the novice exercises with the exception of the recall, which is a drop on recall. No jumps, either. There's already one team ready to go! How about you? Remember, UKC is open to all breeds.

For more info, contact Nancy Reyes at [my4dogs@ameritech.net](mailto:my4dogs@ameritech.net)



## Skunk Cure

I understand that this is a proven cure for a skunking!

1 quart Hydrogen Peroxide

1/2 cup Baking Soda

1 tsp. Mild Dish Soap



Mix together and make sure the baking soda dissolves. Wash the dog with pet shampoo to open the hair follicles. Apply the solution, keeping it away from the eyes, and leave it on for 10 minutes. Rinse.

## Bits & Pieces submitted by Vicky MacKay

The reason a dog has so many friends is that he wags his tail instead of his tongue. -Anonymous

Don't accept your dog's admiration as conclusive evidence that you are wonderful. -Ann Landers

If there are no dogs in Heaven, then when I die I want to go where they went. -Will Rogers

There is no psychiatrist in the world like a puppy licking your face. -Ben Williams

A dog is the only thing on earth that loves you more than he loves himself. -Josh Billings

We give dogs time we can spare, space we can spare and love we can spare. And in return, dogs give us their all. It's the best deal man has ever made. -M. Acklam

I wonder if other dogs think poodles are members of a weird religious cult. -Rita Rudner

A dog teaches a boy fidelity, perseverance, and to turn around three times before lying down. -Robert Benchley

Anybody who doesn't know what soap tastes like never washed a dog. -Franklin P. Jones

If I have any beliefs about immortality, it is that certain dogs I have known will go to heaven, and very, very few persons. -James Thurber

If your dog is fat, you aren't getting enough exercise. -Unknown

My dog is worried about the economy because Alpo is up to \$3.00 a can. That's almost \$21.00 in dog money. -Joe Weinstein

Ever consider what our dogs must think of us? I mean, here we come back from a grocery store with the most amazing haul -- chicken, pork, half a cow. They must think we're the greatest hunters on earth! -Anne Tyler

Women and cats will do as they please, and men and dogs should relax and get used to the idea. -Robert A. Heinlein

If you pick up a starving dog and make him prosperous, he will not bite you; that is the principal difference between a dog and a man. -Mark Twain

Dogs are not our whole life, but they make our lives whole. -Roger Caras

If you think dogs can't count, try putting three dog biscuits in your pocket and then give him only two of them. -Phil Pastoret



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## Class Schedule and Upcoming Events

- **THURSDAY EVENING INDOOR CLASSES—NEW LOCATION!**

(For Your Canine, 4233 United Parkway, Schiller Park)

Session 6: October 26—December 7, 2006

Session 1: January 4, 2007— February 15, 2007

**NEW Class Times: Beginner:** Class Times: Beginner—6:45 to 7:30 pm, Intermediate I—7:40 to 8:25 pm, Advanced 1—8:35 to 9:20 pm, Advanced 2—9:20 to 10:05, Intermediate II—9:20 to 10:05 pm

### WCAC BOARD MEETINGS

Meetings are at For Your Canine, Inc. on the second Friday of each month. Members are always welcome. Quiet and well behaved dogs are also welcome. For more information, call 630-415-3022, ask any Board member (names are on the cover page), or visit our website at [www.windycityagility.org](http://www.windycityagility.org).

- **FOUR UKC AGILITY TRIALS NOVEMBER 4 & 5, 2006**

Two trials each day at For Your Canine, Inc. located in Schiller Park, IL (pre-registration suggested). For more information, contact Jeff Wykowski (Trial Secretary) at [djwykowski@prodigy.net](mailto:djwykowski@prodigy.net).

Another creative use for agility equipment by Aliss South.....  
Notice the tire jump being used as a frame for the squash!



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

