

LEAD AND COLLAR



April/May 2006

OFFICERS

President...526-2252..Gerianne Darnell
Vice-Pres..... 597-8974.....Eric Rice
Training Director.....Linda Puckett
Secretary...490-2685....J.VanWassenhoven
Treasurer...944-7039....Marge Danielson
Board Members.....Mark Larsen
.....Randy Frady

Other Contacts

Sunshine Person Sharon Miller
Class Coordinator Caroline Rice
Newsletter Editor Sherry Rife
Website <http://www.bdocneb.org>

Events to Note

Apr. 15 Grand Island Fun Match
Apr. 22-23 BDOC Herding Trial
May 15 Newsletter Deadline for the June/July Issue
June CPE Trial
July 21,22,23 NE KC shows
Aug. 13 Paws for Cause at NE Humane Society
Show-n-Go at Companion: April 23



Presidents Message

It has been my pleasure to be your President for these last few years. My tenure has seen many changes to the Club. I hope you will agree with me the majority of the changes have been positive.

Oak Leaf served as our training facility for more years than anyone can say. We are all sorry to see this phase of our Club pass. After an intense search, we found Club Pet and made an agreement for rental for our classes. For those of you that have not visited

Club Pet, please do so. You will be thrilled with the facilities. We have made arrangements with Club Pet Management to hold open training time. Watch your e-mail for training times.

While I am on the subject of e-mail I want to give a special thank you to Sherry Rife. Whenever the board needs to get a message out to all members, we have Sherry to thank. And what a fantastic job Sherry has done with the Lead and Collar.

BDOC has always been known for holding great AKC agility and Obedience Trials. Now we are getting a great reputation for AKC Herding. And we have added another venue, CPE Agility. Holding all of these trials takes hard work by many club members.

A positive change is the hiring of a new trial secretary for Agility. This change has been met with positive results from our trial participants and the club members that work the trial. Starting with the May 2006 agility trial, we will no longer be paying Companion Dog Club for their members to work the trial. We will continue an association with CDC with the rental of their facilities for our October Obedience Trial.

Our Obedience Trial will also have changes. We are a fairly small club and as an Obedience Club, the majority of our active members want to show their dog. The Trial Secretary is prohibited by AKC from doing this. In 2006 we will pay a trial secretary to take over these duties. We all remember the long nights and frantic scramble to get the premium out and the catalog done. We could not have accomplished this without the help and assistance of Harold Rice.

The club owes Harold a debt of gratitude for his past services.



This last year has also seen the passing of a dear friend and club member. We all have warm memories of Gerry Forristall. You may not have known, but the Banquet Programs were the work of Gerry. Gerry contributed to our raffles and prizes wonder needlework art. Those of us lucky enough to have received a piece of her art work will treasure it.

So I leave this position with mixed emotions. I want to thank each and every one of you. Without your support I could not have fulfilled my Presidential obligations.

Thank you,
Alberta Gray (3/4/06)
President, Bellevue Dog Obedience Club of Nebraska

BDOC MEMBER OF THE YEAR 2005

Alberta Gray

BDOC has so many good members, members that volunteer and go over and above simple membership. So how does the Board decide on just one member to receive this honor?

Members are nominated by the Board. When this Club Member's name came up, there was a general feeling this is our Outstanding Member of the Year.

This year the award goes to a person that has contributed to the club in so many ways. Using her time and talents the club has grown in several directions, yet always the with the club's main purpose--the betterment of dog training.

She could be showing her dog in conformation, running agility, doing obedience or rally. And yes herding. She is our club Historian.

Gerianne has been Trial Chair for the AKC agility shows for 10 years. That is 2 - three day shows a year. When BDOC wanted to offer a new agility venue, CPE, she was there to offer her facilities to get the venue rolling. This will be the 2nd year the Club will be putting on an AKC Herding Trial. And who is the Herding Trial Chair --Gerianne.

The Class Curriculum Committee was headed by Gerianne. She used her talents as a writer and dog trainer to finish this project.

Let's not forget the wonderful trophies presented tonight. Collecting all the club members title information, organizing it and getting the order in was the work of Gerianne and Linda.

I could go on and on about how good a friend she is to the BDOC.

I am proud to present to Gerianne Darnell the Outstanding Member of the Year Award.

New President's Missive

Gerianne Darnell

Twenty five years after I was president of BDOC for the first time, I find myself in that position again! Thank you for having enough faith in me to make me your club president.

The first thing I would like to do is thank Alberta Gray for her 4 1/2 years of service as BDOC president. The club made many strides forward in Bert's tenure, including adding a herding trial weekend, a CPE agility weekend, and BDOC's classes finding a new home at Club Pet just this past fall. Bert stepped forward during a very difficult time in BDOC's history, as our then-president suffered a serious stroke during the week of 9/11. Thanks Bert, for everything.

On a personal note, I would also like to thank my fellow club members for the kindness and concern you showed to me and my family during the recent death of my mother, Geraldine Forristall. Mom very much enjoyed her membership in the Bellevue Dog Obedience Club, and more than anything she loved to train her dogs. I know her loss is a personal one for many of you, as she counted so many of you as her friends. We should all be so lucky to leave this life with so many people mourning our passing.

I was also proud to receive the Outstanding Club Member award for 2005. What a nice surprise! That, along with the plaque and cake for becoming a Lifetime member was just darn overwhelming! Thanks!

I look forward to an exciting two years as your president. I will enjoy working with the board and the membership so we can continue to make the Bellevue Dog Obedience Club of Nebraska the BEST club in the area!



WHO'S YOUR ALPHA?

By Ellen Schwab (reprinted from *The Printed Paw*)

When you walk down the hallway, does your dog move out of YOUR way, or do you swerve to avoid the dog?

When the dog wants to play, does he sit hopefully by your side with his toy, or does he bonk you repeatedly with the toy until you play?

When you are making dinner is the dog unobtrusively laying quietly under the table, or is he constantly under foot?

When the phone rings, does the dog sigh and lay down, or bark and nudge you and whine until you give him a treat?

When you get out the nail clippers, do your dogs line up for their turn, or do they run and hide?

When you are out for a walk, does your dog keep his eye on you, or are you running after the dog begging him to come back?

When you offer cuddles or play, does your dog leap happily into it, or does he shrug and make you beg?

When you are in bed or sitting on the couch, does the dog move over for you, or are you constantly making more room for the dog?

If your dog is chewing something and you say "Give", does the dog spit it out and back away, looking up at you hopefully, or does he run under the furniture with his prize?

If you honestly picked the first choice for ALL of these scenarios, you have a happy dog that loves and respects you as his leader. If you see yourself in any of the second scenarios, you need to work on your alpha position.

"The only limit to our realization of tomorrow will be our doubts of today."

Hopefully, I got the order on all of them right. Check out the NILIF postings all over the web. Nothing in Life is Free, is a philosophy geared toward showing the dog you are in charge.

Ellen lives in SE Ohio with her three Australian Cattle Dogs, Pep, Jaz and Tank. You can reach her at AuntEllenS@aol.com

THUNDER: This is a signal that the world is coming to an end. Mom and dad remain amazingly calm during thunderstorms, so it is necessary to warn them of the danger by trembling uncontrollably, panting, rolling your eyes wildly and following their every move.



AMERICAN RED CROSS PET FIRST AID & SAFETY

CLASS SCHEDULE

Saturday, March 25, 2006

Saturday, April 29, 2006

Class location: American Red Cross Headquarters
2912 South 80th Avenue

Class time: 12:00 noon to 4:00 p.m.

Class fee: \$40.00

To register: Call Metropolitan Community College at 457-5231 or online at mccneb.edu

Improve your resume and earn your American Red Cross Pet First Aid & Safety card!

Spring King

There once was a famous king,
Who loved the season spring.
He grew some flowers,
That loved warm showers,
And he listened to the birds sing.

Dogs Don't Understand

Author Unknown

1. It's not a laugh to practice barking at 3 a.m.
2. It's wrong to back Grandma into a corner and guard her.
3. He shouldn't jump on your bed when he's sopping wet.
4. The cats have every right to be in the living room.
5. Barking at guests 10 minutes after they arrive is stupid.
6. Getting up does NOT mean we are going for a walk.
7. Just because I'm eating, doesn't mean you can.
8. If you look at me with those big soppy eyes, I'm not going to give in and feed you. NOT NOT NOT. Oh, okay, just this once.
9. No, it's my food....Oh all right then, just a small piece.



Just a Dog
By Richard Biby

From time to time, people tell me, "lighten up, it's just a dog," or, "that's a lot of money for just a dog." They don't understand the distance traveled, the time spent, or the costs involved for "just a dog." Some of my proudest moments have come about with "just a dog." Many hours have passed and my only company was "just a dog," but I did not once feel slighted. Some of my saddest moments have been brought about by "just a dog," and in those days of darkness, the gentle touch of "just a dog" gave me comfort and reason to overcome the day. If you, too, think it's "just a dog," then you will probably understand phrases like "just a friend," "just a sunrise," or "just a promise." "Just a dog" brings into my life the very essence of friendship, trust, and pure unbridled joy. "Just a dog" brings out the compassion and patience that make me a better person. Because of "just a dog" I will rise early, take long walks and look longingly to the future. So for me and folks like me, it's not "just a dog" but an embodiment of all the hopes and dreams of the future, the fond memories of the past, and the pure joy of the moment. "Just a dog" brings out what's good in me and diverts my thoughts away from myself and the worries of the day. I hope that someday they can understand that it's not "just a dog" but the thing that gives me humanity and keeps me from being "just a man or woman." So the next time you hear the phrase "just a dog," just smile, because they "just don't understand."



Grand Island Kennel Club will be having a spring BOB Match on Saturday, April 15, 2006 at the kennel club in GI. Contact Anita Graf at dagraf@charter.net.

"Let us move forward with strong and active faith."

How to improve the quality of your dog's life!

By Jörn Oleby

Many dog owners invest considerable time in activating their dogs by obedience training, seeking activities, agility, tracking and protection exercises at training grounds, out in the countryside or in the forest. These activities allow us to spend time with our dogs while also keeping them physically and mentally alert. A lot of time and money is spent on training a clever and efficient dog. There is considerable research and many opinions on the topics of what food and exercise is best for our dogs. We all

have the animals' best at heart. Good care and healthy food is thought to be essential.

No matter how well we take care of our dogs, disease and injuries do still occur. If the injury is related to the muscles, tendons, joints or ligaments a vet or physiotherapist can help. If there is a defect in the hip or elbow joints and in cases caused by unhealthy breeding, the only treatment available is pain relief. As dog owners there is nothing we can do to repair problems related to unhealthy breeding nor can we prevent all accidents. However we can prevent muscle related problems and strain injuries by massaging and stretching our dogs regularly. This keeps the dog well-balanced physically and psychologically, allowing it to retain the agility of the young dog to an advanced age. A well-functioning dog has retained its natural elasticity and suppleness.

Massage and stretching are effective in prevention of muscle related problems and strain injuries and improve the quality of your dog's life. Massage and stretching are a complement to daily exercise, obedience training and diet and build contact between you and your dog in a natural way. Massage is an enjoyable way of strengthening the bond with your family dog and your canine friend will love it.

Warming up before activity has a preventative effect and stretching is just as effective after the dog has used its muscles. The dog should have warmed up and exercised before you start to stretch the muscles and I recommend you allow your dog to wind down after physical exertion. Let the dog walk for a while on the lead in the same way a race horse runs an extra lap at half the pace to round off the race. This helps to remove lactic acid and waste products. As with massage it is important the dog is relaxed before you start this treatment.

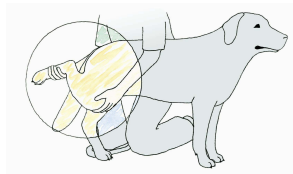
Warming up can involve walking with the dog on the lead for 15 to 20 minutes before allowing it to run freely. In this way the muscles soften up and are ready for physical activity. Competitive or working dogs should warm up in a more goal-oriented way. Below you can find a check list that might come in handy when warming up.

First remember that the dog should have warmed up and exercised *before* starting a competition or an active session. I also strongly recommend you allow your dog to wind down *after* a competition or an active session before any stretching activities.

Here is a check list that could be used before a competition or active session.

- Let the dog walk slowly for a while and then increase the tempo for 2-3 minutes.
- Let the dog trot for 2-3 minutes.
- Let the dog gallop for one minute.
- Then let the dog make some short explosive moves.
- Let the dog wind down a little by going back to trotting and then walking.

Warming up does not tire the dog but rather increases blood circulation and warms up the muscles ensuring that the joints are lubricated and more supple. The dog is now ready to perform. After the warm up you could also easily test your dog's mobility using the eight most common stretching techniques. You should be sensitive to your dog's signals. The dog should not experience any discomfort. If it does, don't hesitate to contact the vet.



"Place one hand directly above the knee joint and the other hand on the lower part of the leg around the hock joint. Lift the leg upwards so that the knee is bent. Push gently upwards and backwards with the hand positioned above the knee joint."

After completing a competition or an active session let the dog wind down and then carefully do some stretching exercises. And when you come home reward the dog with massage and you will get a happy performing dog ready for new challenges. Massage and stretching is an essential and a low cost investment in

your dog's health and improves the quality of your dog's life.

In the book "*Canine Massage & Stretching - A Dog Owners Manual*" you can find a lot of useful massage & stretching activities as well as essential facts about your dog. © Jörn Oleby is the author of the book "*Canine Massage and Stretching - A Dog Owners Manual*." <http://www.puplife.com>



Electronic Collar Seminar

Grand Island Kennel Club presents a training seminar at their training facility, entitled "**Implementation and Use of the Electronic Training Collar**" **April 22, 2006, from 9:00 am to 1:00 pm.** The instructor, Mike Kerby, has had extensive experience in the use of the electronic training collar in his 18 years as a police service dog handler, instructor and judge.

\$43.00 payable to GIKC and mail to: GIKC, PO Box 275, Grand Island NE 68802-0275; call club with questions 308-385-4949 or email Caroline Buettner at goldcreek97@aol.com or Lucy Kerby lkimagine@msn.com Directions and confirmation will be sent to you once registered. DEADLINE to register is April 10, 2006.

I'm Just a Dog Breeder's Husband

author unknown

I'm just a dog breeder's husband
I no longer rule my domain
Even if kindly invited
from opinions I wisely refrain

I'm just a glorified kennel boy
of minor importance I know
it seems my primary function
is merely providing the dough

Now dog breeding is not inexpensive
As you all no doubt are aware
But the problem's not so much the money
as the bustle, the wear and the tear

Having studied the layback of shoulder
and becoming an expert on feet
I still have not learned to give worm pills
or how much the puppy should eat

My spouse will spend hours grooming
her Bred By Exhibitor bitch
But when it comes to scratching my back
Her thought is to let the thing itch

Some day I hope that my wife'll
Take me wondering to some foreign vale
Instead of inspecting the stifle
of some Special stud at Hinsdale

Off in a crowded motel room
after the dog show is o'er
Someone questions the judges decision
While they reach for another drink more

It appears that his eyesight is failing
His errors in judgment immense
In fact if I did not know better
You'd doubt if he had any sense

One finds that the amateur's bungling
no match for professional skills
A handler can hide what the owner admits
As he tries hard his conscience to still

The din and the utter confusion
of everyone talking at once
Leaves one weary, hoarse and irascible
and the next day a bleary eyed dunce
Sometimes late in the evening
I'm asked if I do not agree
That Pottowattamie's Bridget
Is somewhat out at the knee

But before I can answer the question
I find my answer ignored
For some inexplicable reason
My questioner's suddenly bored

I'm only a dog breeders husband
Not that I mean to complain
But I find certain aspects amazing
When I aspire my role to explain

I know at least where I am going
I'm rapidly going to seed
But I've learned about Winner's Bitches
I married the Best of the Breed.



Best for Pets

(From "Vinegar" by Vicki Lansky)

- Spray or rub a solution of 1 cup vinegar to 1 quart of water on the coat of a dog and be rewarded with a gleaming coat.
- Try a little stronger solution, 1 part cider vinegar to 3 parts water, as a rinse after your dog's bath and you may well rid the dog of chronic skin infections or control them to a degree.
- Keep your dog from scratching his ears by wiping them out regularly with a soft cloth dipped in undiluted vinegar.
- Treat ear infections with 8-10 drops of undiluted vinegar from a dropper, letting the vinegar stand in the ear for a few minutes, massaging the area around the ear, and drain. If not better in 3 days, see your veterinarian.
- Add a little vinegar to your dog's drinking water. It's said that fleas will be gone and mange will no longer be a problem.
- For skunk smell, try wiping down your dog with 50-50 solution of vinegar and water, followed by a plain water rinse. Repeat if necessary.

Members Earning 2005 Titles

Obedience

Sherry Rife

Rally Novice

Nora Boyd

Connie Byrnes

Gerianne Darnell

Geraldine Forristall

Alberta Gray

Lucy Hulse

Kerri McCracken

Linda Puckett (2 dogs)

Sherry Rife (3 dogs)

Rosemary Strasser

Rally Advanced

Lucy Hulse

Sherry Rife (2 dogs)

Rosemary Strasser

Conformation Champion

Jane Larsen (2 dogs)

Herding

Gerianne Darnell (2 dogs)

Marge Danielson

Field CH/Dual Champion

Jane Larsen

Agility

Connie Byrnes

Alberta Gray (2 dogs)

Geraldine Forristall

Rosemary Strasser

Linda Puckett

Gerianne Darnell

Other Awards

Kerri McCracken

Alberta Gray (2 dogs)

Linda Puckett

Rosemary Strasser (2 dogs)

Pre-Novice Award

Kerri McCracken

Competition Dog of the Year

MaiWeims Greymist's Fancy CD, RN, CGC

(Owner Sherry Rife-handler Jenny Rife)

Jackie Griffith Memorial Award

Wee-Mite's Heaven Sent NAJ, CL1-FH

(Owner/handler Alberta Gray)