

LEAD AND COLLAR



August/September 2008

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Club Newsletter	Sherry Rife	712-585-3427
Editor Email	greydog@myfmtc.com	

Events to Note

Aug. 9 Tracking Seminar by Gerianne
 Aug. 20 General Meeting 6:30 p.m Garden Cafe
 Sept 12-14 Agility Trials
 Sept 15 Newsletter Deadline for the October/Nov. Issue
 Oct. 24-26 Obedience/Rally Trials
 Show-n-Go's at Companion: Aug 10, Sept 28, Oct 19
 (CDC will now have Rally at their show n gos)

IMPORTANT NOTICE:

The BDOC Board of Directors have voted and approved sending all further newsletters and event notifications to members email addresses instead of by postage addressed mail. This will save the club a considerable amount of money. If you still wish to receive a printed copy of the newsletter and notice of upcoming events through the mail, **please notify Michelle Foutch, club president by Sept. 15 at**

email: Foutch1@cox.net or call her cell phone: (402)290-1357. Sherry Rife volunteers to prepare our newsletters and she can be reached at email address: greydog@myfmtc.com or telephone (712)585-3427. Cheryl Dikeman is our club secretary and sends out all notices of upcoming meetings and events. She can be reached at email: cheryldikeman@yahoo.com or telephone (402) 502-0715 Our newsletters can also be found on the BDOC website at: <http://www.bdocneb.org>

A Tracking Story

By Linda Puckett

Stormy and I decided to go tracking at my daughter, Jenny's house on Memorial Day. While everyone was cooking the burgers and brats, I laid a track for Storm. We let it age a little, then I asked everyone to keep Breezy, Icy and Hazy inside while we went out to track.

Storm hadn't tracked in grass much, so the track started on the concrete pathway and then went out into the thick, lush grass on the front lawn. I wanted him to be successful so I put plenty of hotdog pieces down, quite close together. Just as we started and Storm was doing a great job of following the track on the concrete, Icy escaped from the house. I managed to snag her and tuck her under one arm, so as not to disturb the tracker! The transition to grass went very well and as he went along, I was thinking this would be a great day....then I heard something behind me. It was Hazy who was so happy to find us and be outside with her friend Storm! As she loped past me, I was able to scoop her up under the other arm, adjusting the tracking line so as not to distract him....he was so

intent on getting every scent that he hadn't noticed!! I was just thanking my lucky stars that I had two arms to corral the renegades as another thought crossed my mind- I'd have to give up if Breezy showed up....I didn't have any extra arms:) No sooner did I think of that when I heard sniff, sniff, huff, huff and there she was right behind us, tracking the leftover hot dogs!! She was on a mission....this 15 1/2 year old dog knew what this was all about from her younger years and she was so excited!! She "breezed" right past me as I was helpless to do anything except chuckle - she overtook Stormy and was on to the article with the jackpot before Stormy knew what had happened. He was still oblivious and I was able to get to the article and put down an extra jackpot before he realised Breezy had beaten him to it!

We celebrated and rolled around in the thick grass and I laughed so hard to see them all so proud of themselves, frolicking and playing with each other, then checking for other treasures that might have been missed. I'm not sure how much of a learning experience it was for Stormy, but it was such a fun day for Breezy...and that's what counts at her age... We all went inside for dinner and while we were eating, Breezy managed to find Hazy's toy stash and had every one of them out, eventually falling asleep, frog legged with one in her mouth. She slept very well on the way home later that night - probably dreaming of the good old days! It had been a very exciting day for an old dog:)

President's Notes

It was a miracle, but we still had at least 17 members show up for our annual picnic!! Yea! Wouldn't you know that our picnic was on the same day as the worst thunderstorm of the year. Members helped Gerianne pick up a few large limbs, we had some laughs & stories to tell, some real good eats and super desserts. Please see Cheryl Dikeman's meeting minutes to review what was discussed at our picnic meeting.

Please mark your calendars for our next Membership Meeting. Date: August 20th, 6:30pm at the Garden Cafe, 108th and Center Streets, Omaha, NE. I would love to see you there and visit with you about your summer adventures.

The club needs your support in assisting with upcoming events. If you can afford to help just for two-three hours for our events, it would really make a big difference. You know anytime you help out at our events, you are given a BDOC voucher to pay for

taking obedience classes, to use if you enter club events, or to buy BDOC clothing items.

ENROLL NOW FOR SPECIAL TRAINING - AUGUST 9TH, 2008. Gerianne Darnell is holding TWO special benefit seminars for BDOC. Two Half-Day seminars- Half Day on Tracking and Half Day on Crosstraining. Don't you want to learn about tracking? Everything you need to know to get started in tracking will be taught.

I sure want to know how to set-up a good training plan and how to manage when competing in more than one sport. Well, that is what Crosstraining is all about!! Plus having fun while learning all these skills!! See the Seminar flyer attached to this newsletter, but contact Gerianne right away to get entered at: geriannedarnell@aol.com

Here are some events and a contact person:

Agility Trials: Sept 12-14

Cheryl Dikeman -- cheryldikeman@yahoo.com

Obedience Trials: Oct 24 - 26

Caroline Rice -- carolinerice@hotmail.com

Teach an obedience class

Deb Frady -- deborFra6@aol.com - Cell: 708-6163

Hug All Those Canine Family Members!

Michelle

ELK ANTLERS

Submitted by Karen McMillen

I discovered Elk Antlers at a craft show last fall and thought I'd give them a try. I found them to be everything the vendor said they'd be. These are real antlers that are trimmed from live elk at a Pennsylvania farm and are then cleaned and dried. They do not splinter, stain your carpets or have any smell. They are full of calcium and other minerals. My dogs will work at these for an hour at a time. These would also be a good choice for dogs that need to watch their weight. You can read more about them and place an order at www.doggoneits.com. They are priced by the ounce and you can tell them what size you want for the size dog you have.

All Elk antlers are not equal. I bought some from KV Vet Supply and had to send them back. They were very small and narrow. I was afraid my Labs would choke on them. They also were not the same quality or durability as the ones from doggoneits.com.

Hairy's Picnic Adventure

My name is Hairy. I loves people and I loves to go places. I knew I was gona get to go somewhere when Mom gives me a bath. Did I tell you I hate baths? I am a boy and boyz are supposed to be dirty.

Well Friday Mom gives me this bath. And we go outside afterwards to gets brushed. Did I tell you I hate brushing? Boyz are supposed to be messy. So here we are, me on the table and Mom brushing me when this wind comes up, boy I got cold cause I was still wet. So we go inside, my bros and sister were already inside, hiding from that nasty brush.

I looks out the window and couldn't see anything cause of all the wind and rain and stuff blowing round. My bros and sister were hiding somewhere. I am the man of the house so I gots to keep an eye on this weather. Mom called it a hurricane with 90 MPH winds, what ever that means.

Does this mean we are not going anywhere? I got this bath and I gots brushed so I hafta go somewhere. I hear Mom on that phone thing talking with Auntie Linda. They says something like after this storm we will go. GREAT. I still gets to go.

Mom and I get in the car, I thought we were going to Auntie Gerianne's but Mom is going the wrong direction. We are way out in the country. I knows we hafta go through lots of town roads to get to Auntie Gerianne's. So I settles down for a nap, this must be a really long road trip. Did I tell you I like road trips?

Then I hears Mom say, wow, look at all the ice drifts and look at all the trees down and the cars in the ditches. I gets up and looks out and I see this big, I mean BIG truck blocking the road. But it was not in our way. Good.

Now things are looking familiar. YEAH, this is Auntie Gerianne's. Mom parks and I want out. But Mom says I hafta wait. I see mom and some other people picking up branches and I sees Auntie Gerianne is not happy. Poor auntie. I want out to make her feel better.

At last I get my chance. I gets out and I am free to run. But I don't know where to go first. I head up to the "exercise" area. I know what that means, do my business and then slosh through lots of water. Did I tell you boyz are supposed to be dirty?

Wow, there is this big lake beside the boat barn. I walks around it to make sure everything in the barn is ok, Gotta check these things out. OK, fine, now I need to check out the rest of the area and this big puddle is too big to go round. I decided I better run through it, WOW this is fun.

Soon lots more people come and I gets to go into the yard. There are more of my 4 legged friends, but they are much bigger then me and they wants to run. I am too mature for that kid stuff so I go's back to where the FOOD and people are. This is fun. Marlene is sharing chicken, so I sits there and soon she gets the hint and gives me some. This is fun. Did I tell you boyz like to eat? Doc George gives me some great head rubs and so does Dave. Did I tell you I loves head rubs? But I gotta watch out for Porter, wow can that girl Jump. Now why Jump from the yard over the railing onto the deck when you can just walk through the gate? But guess that is a girl thing.

Time to go home, I am tired so I don't mind being put in the car. Now I can sleep while mom drives up home, I look up once in a while and all I see is dark. No street lights. No house lights. Where are we? Hope mom knows her way home in the dark.

At last we are home and I can tell my Bros and Sis all about the fun time THEY MISSED. It was all for ME. Enuf of this jabbering I am going to bed. I had a long day, Did I tell you I like to go? Boyz like that stuff.— but not the bath, did I tell you I don't like baths?

Hairy

PROMERIS FLEA AND TICK PREVENTATIVE

I don't know about this product, but the following was sent to the dog lists.

DON'T USE THIS STUFF!!!!

This is a very important message to family & friends who have dogs-cats--and to alert you to the hazard of using a new Flea & Tick Preventative called ProMeris.

<http://www.promeris.com/consumer/>

This is a new product designed to be a more effective product than other flea/tick treatments that was just released this year. It is available thru a vet and not currently on-line. I got ProMeris this week for my 7 dogs (6 Huskies & 1 Golden-Airedale), and the results were debilitating for nearly all of them-including me. Since my incident this week, my vet has pulled it from distribution and alerted the manufacturer, Fort Dodge.

Here are my results: Within less than 2 hours after applying, 4 of my dogs had vomited from 2-4 times, 3 were disoriented and stumbling, 1 was dragging his back leg, 1 was salivating. I had very similar symptoms like an allergic reaction-my lips were swollen, eyes very red, mucous membranes such as eyes, nose, and mouth were stinging. I was very disoriented- dizzy equilibrium and not able to drive. To make this a short story- all 7 of my dogs were admitted to the hospital for Veterinarian care, and 3 of them remained for care, IV fluids and observation for 24 hours. I was in the emergency room. I'm home now and so are the dogs. We're all feeling much better. Vet bills were over \$2,500 and Fort Dodge is paying for these. Not only can the product cause this reaction, it

has a highly noxious odor that permeated the house and is just starting to dissipate after 3 days.

Your dogs/cats might not have the same reaction, but given my experience-I wanted to help you all become well-educated about the product.

**"Friends are quiet angels
who lift us to our feet
when our wings have trouble
remembering how to fly".**



"Tomato plants are the most toxic, but tomatoes themselves are also unsafe. Tomatoes (plant and fruit) contain tomatine, an alkaloid related to solanine. As the fruit ripens, the tomatine is metabolized. Therefore, ripe tomatoes are less likely to be problematic for animals. Clinical signs of poisoning include lethargy, drooling, difficulty breathing, colic, vomiting, diarrhea or constipation, widely-dilated pupils, paralysis, cardiac effects, central nervous system signs (e.g., ataxia, muscle weakness, tremors, seizures), resulting from cholinesterase inhibition, coma and death. (This information comes from veterinarians, and the ASPCA Animal Poison Control Center.) (All parts of the plant except the tomato itself are poisonous to humans, although some people are sensitive to the ripe fruit also.)

Tomatoes also contain atropine, which can cause dilated pupils, tremors, and heart arrhythmias. The highest concentration of atropine is found in the leaves and stems of tomato plants, with less in unripe (green) tomatoes, and even less in ripe (red) tomatoes."



From Mike Willis

Judge for our CPE trial held June 6.7.8

Alberta,

Thank you for a wonderful trial. I really enjoyed this trial because of the club members & the exhibitors were great. Despite the rain, I enjoyed myself. It was small and I really love small trials because I can allow the exhibitors to train more, and thank you for the gift card, you're one of my top 5 clubs I really loved. Thanks again,



Mike

**Home of MACH2 RED EAGLE'S ENTER THE
DRAGON UDX, TDX "DRAGON"
& RED EAGLE'S GREEK GOD OF MAN CDX, MX, MXJ
"PROMETHEUS"**

There's something comforting about being in a house where dog hair litters the sofa and bedspreads. - Anonymous

Thanks For The Memories

By Marilyn Swan

The room was dimly lit and the only sound was that of a breathing machine. I tapped on the door and gently pushed it open seeing an elderly man sitting quietly by the bed looking tenderly at the woman lying in it. The nurse at the ICU nurses station had suggested we check room #4, saying the gentleman there with his wife had seemed to have had a sad and lonely day. Maybe a visit would cheer him. You see, me and my dog Olliver-a175 lb. Great Dane-are a pet partner team and we volunteer at the local hospital. Our job is to bring a smile and hopefully a little joy to what can be a sad, lonely place for some people.

The man seemed a bit startled to see us at the door. But I introduced myself and Olliver explaining that we were a visiting pet partner team and would be pleased to visit with him if he would like. He took my hand in one of his and stroked Olliver's long ears with the other a smile bright on his face. He asked several questions about Olly and we shared several laughs about what people think when they see such a large dog, especially in a hospital! Bit by bit he began to unfold his past. All the while clasping my hand, stroking Olliver and gazing lovingly at his wife. Olliver is a wonderful therapy dog. He stood patiently then finally laid down beside the man. The advantage he has by being so large is that he is easy to reach even when lying down! The old man shared stories of their life on a ranch, the horses, cattle and of course the dogs they had had. By the look on his face I could tell he was a long way away, living that past again. Olly and I listened patiently as he relived the many adventures he and his wife had shared. It was a pleasure to see his rugged face light up as he laughed and told story after story. I don't know how much time passed, it didn't matter as I knew this would be our final visit for this night. Sometimes you just know where you are really needed and it doesn't matter how much time it takes.

Finally he blinked back some tears and squeezed my hand real tight. He ruffled Olly's ears and gave him a little hug. "Oh my", he said. "So many of these things I haven't thought of in years? Thank you so much for the wonderful visit. For taking the time to sit with me and for bringing back so many memories. We had a good life, yes, we did."

We shared our good-byes and as I closed the door I saw him reach for his wife's hand and heard him say. "Yes, we did make good memories, didn't we." And he leaned over to kiss her cheek.

As Olly and I made our way to the parking lot the tears slid down my face and I had to give him a big hug! "You did a good job tonight, Baby Dog", I tell him. Sometimes it doesn't take a lot of words or effort. Just being there, listening, sharing and letting someone else share. Giving some of your time can make such a difference. That is why I love volunteering with Olliver.

So, smile! And make a memory today.

Why Dogs Destroy Their Toys All Dogs are Different—So Should their Toys

By Kathy Santo

My dog gets excited by her new toys, but then she destroys them. Why does she do this?

My husband loves reading and listening to music, but dislikes golf. If I were to give him a set of clubs as a gift, I know the clubs would never see the outside of the bag they arrived in. This happens to dogs all the time. People look at them as cookie-cutter animals, and think that "all dogs love (fill in the blank)." Not true!

Simply put, your dog is unique. Think tough toys for tough dogs, mentally stimulating toys for clever dogs, and food-driven toys for the foodie-dogs in your life. Let's start with the tough guys. Galileo bones, Orka Jack, Kong toys, Tire Biters, and indestructible plastic balls, which are tested on elephants, are some of your best bets. Cutesy-pie stuffed toys will be dismembered the minute you take them out of the bag, so avoid them at all costs.

Dogs driven by food rewards, and clever dogs who get quickly bored with nylon bones or squeaky toys, need challenging toys that have a payoff: Buster Cube, Orka Tube, a Kong filled with peanut butter and frozen, or an Everlasting Treat Ball. These require the dog to solve a puzzle in order to get to the treat inside.

Does your living room floor resemble the toy aisle at Petco? If the answer is yes, pick up all but three or four of the toys and put the rest away. Every week, exchange the existing toys for three or four new ones. And yes, if your dog has a favorite, it can stay out full-time — this isn't meant to be Draconian, it's meant to keep him interested and excited.

"You can say any foolish thing to a dog and the dog will give you a look that says, 'My God, you're right! I never would've thought of that!'"

Dave Barry

BDOC General Meeting- June 27, 2008

Location: Gerianne Darnell's, Council Bluffs, IA

Michelle called the meeting to order at 7:55 p.m. after the club picnic dinner.

Cheryl read the minutes of the previous board meeting held on May 29, 2008. The minutes were

accepted as read. Minutes of the previous general membership meeting held on April 23, 2008 were printed in the June/July 2008 issue of *Lead and Collar* and were accepted as printed.

Cheryl read the report for the Training Director sent by Deb Frady. The report stated that current BDOC classes at Club Pet were going well; however, there were no Wednesday night classes. Instructors for Puppy and Beginners classes were needed for the summer session beginning July 29, 2008.

Michelle read the treasurer's report sent by Kathy. The UKC trial showed a profit of \$29.74 and the CPE agility trial showed a profit of \$1,383.61. The raffle for the club voucher brought in \$58, and the fun match brought in \$100. Other expenses recently paid included \$250 to Club Pet for May classes, and \$68.60 for advertising. The balance in the BDOC checking account was \$3,663.32 to date, and the balance for the checking account of Friends of BDOC was \$1,629.92 to date.

Committee Reports:

UKC/CPE

Gerianne reported on the success of the UKC/CPE trials for F of BDOC. There was some discussion about the value of the camper trailer and keeping it, rather than selling it considering the club had not received offers. Consensus of the members was to keep the trailer for future use at trials.

Herding Trial

Gerianne reminded club members to sign up for the benefit seminar scheduled for August 9, 2008 to benefit the herding trial. The morning seminar topic will be Tracking and the afternoon seminar topic will be Cross-Training.

Agility

Gerianne reported that the fall agility trial is scheduled for September 12-14, 2008 at NHS. Cheryl is the chief ring-steward and will be assisted by Nora Boyd. The judges are hired and all seems well in line. This trial we are planning to run the FAST classes first thing in the mornings and will run Tall to Small. Michelle will be in charge of the canteen. Bert presented a proposal for hosting a "Veterans Parade" at our agility trials. This could be available for AKC breeds at our Spring agility AKC trial and for non-AKC breeds at the CPE trial in 2009. Bert will work on developing these events, including ribbons and certificates.

Obedience

Gerianne reported the Fall obedience trial is coming together nicely. She had some follow up discussion to

conduct with Companion regarding the contract. Linda discussed the significant need for more trophy sponsors and asked **ALL MEMBERS** actively work toward getting sponsors for the awards. Contact Linda, Dee, Deb Landon, or Kathy Novak. Gerianne stated the UKC obedience judges donated back their vouchers; therefore, it was decided to include those vouchers in the Fall Obedience Silent Auction. Contact Cheryl or Dee if you have items for the silent auction. Caroline is the chief ring-steward. The trial is scheduled for October 24-26, 2008.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Michelle discussed the need to begin using more electronic information transfer. This will include the postcard mailings and the newsletters. Postcards and Lead and Collar Issues will **NO LONGER** be mailed unless you contact Cheryl Dikeman (402-502-0715) or Sherry Rife (712-585-3427) no later than **September 15, 2008**.
2. Members present reported their BRAGS.
 - a. Bert's border collie, Darby, finished agility titles at the CPE trial.
 - b. Linda's toy poodle, Icy, finished agility titles at the CPE trial.
 - c. Deb's corgi, Merlin, qualified in agility classes at the NADAC and CPE trials.
 - d. Gerianne's border collie, Rick, scored HIT on ducks.
 - e. Marge's border collie, Bryn, scored HIT on ducks and sheep and obtained a championship point.
 - f. Cheryl's toy fox terrier, Keegan, finished agility titles at the NADAC and CPE trials and her border collie, Karma had qualifying scores at the NADAC trial.
 - g. John's Dalmatian, Porter, finished her novice AKC agility titles and obtained 3 first places at the Dalmatian Nationals.
 - h. Marlene's sheltie, Sparky, finished his CDX.
3. The next general membership meeting is scheduled for August 20, 2008 at the Garden Cafe located at 108th and Center at 6:30 p.m.
4. The next board meeting is scheduled for 6:00 p.m. on July 29, 2008 at the Omaha Zoo's Center for Conservation and Research.

Peggy moved to adjourn, Deb 2nd, the motion carried and the meeting was adjourned at 8:35 p.m.

Cesar's Tips on Tick Removal

Remove the tick immediately. An infected tick can transmit disease in only a few hours. Wear latex gloves, if possible. Use tweezers to grasp the tick as close to the skin as possible, and pull gently. Clean your hands, the bite area, and the tweezers with disinfectant.

Place the tick in a small container of alcohol. Make note of the date. In case of future illness, tick identification will be important.

Never try to burn, smother, or otherwise get a tick to "back out." Also, do not attempt to remove a tick with your fingers. These methods do not work and can cause the tick to regurgitate more potential pathogens into the dog's skin.

For more information on dealing with ticks, visit

Dr. Weaver's [Ask the Vet column](#).

Let your dog check the weather. Dogs don't have the Weather Channel, so they don't know why they are being denied a long walk for the day. Allow your dog to step outside and feel for itself that it is too hot, too wet, or too cold to go on a long walk. Instinctually, the dog will understand that it has to shorten its walk, or simply come back inside where it's safe.

Dogs cool from the bottom up. Make sure to spray the paws and stomach, not just the top of the dog, when spraying it with water. A wet towel does more good on the bottom of your dog than when laid on the top of its coat.

A Dog Show Experience

Christy Watson

I had the wonderful opportunity to volunteer at the dog show at the Quest center this weekend. My jobs on Friday were assistant scribe, and then scribe. I was very nervous at first, but thanks to the gate stewards, timer and the various scribes I worked with, everything ran very smoothly. I saw many familiar faces and witnessed some incredible runs. I had not realized that in novice competitions, dogs were allowed to make a minimum number of faults, and still earn a qualifying leg. Watching the teams that ran clean and fast was an exhilarating rush. These dogs knew how to read the handlers signals and body language, and knew exactly what obstacle to take next. I witnessed first hand the basis for many articles that I had read on agility, and on handling dogs. Several handlers made the choice to excuse their dog, after the dog refused to listen. One handler even pulled her dog out right after the tire jump. This surprised me, but I understand that for some dogs, the actual running of the agility course is a reward in itself. By removing the dog, the fun is taken away. Some dogs who were so fast that the dirt literally flew when they got the signal to "go". Some of these overshot their handlers which usually resulted in faults being awarded. More than one dog

wanted to stay by the handlers side - no matter what. These dogs wouldn't even go ahead of the handler to clear the final jump. It seemed the dog's speed was directly tied to the handlers running speed.

Participating in the agility events showed me how close knit the folks who run agility really are. Everyone was cheering and excited, even if some of the dogs thought that running around the ring and saying "hello" to the judge and volunteers was more fun, the team received applause for the attempt.

Volunteering at the show has shown me that with a little more practice and training, I will soon be able to enter my beagle in competitions. It has made me more confident, knowing that some days, dogs just want to be dogs and faults happen. My beagle does not have to be perfect for us to begin showing. The most important thing is that we have fun competing together and working as a team.