

LEAD AND COLLAR



April/May 2019

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Training Director	Devetta Hill	801-580-1991
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	Linda Puckett	402-593-0703
	Alberta Gray	402-572-7190
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Sunshine Person	Kim Embrey	402-291-3275
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Class Coordinator	Caroline Rice	402-297-4263
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Club Newsletter	Sherry Rife	712-370-2935
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UKC Nosework Trial

Sharon Dowell, trial chair

Wicked cold weather and more than 9 inches of snow couldn't keep BDOC from holding another successful UKC nosework trial the weekend of Feb. 15-17, 2019, at Sunshine Obedience School in Council Bluffs, Iowa. With just over 300 runs, the pass rate was an impressive 68 percent. The fastest run of the weekend was Bert Gray and Grayson with an incredible 3.8 seconds. Wowza! Grayson looked quite proud of himself.

On Friday, we hosted our first-ever Handler Discrimination searches with very high pass rates, along with Vehicle element searches. Saturday and Sunday, we held a total of four Container and Interior element searches.

We cannot thank Jim Hogsett enough for his heroic efforts in clearing the snow through bitter

temperatures all weekend. George Darnell also went to great lengths to clear out his vet clinic to allow competitors to crate their dogs there.

Competitors pitched in along with our hard-working club volunteers to help the trial run smoothly and assist our judge Johnette Ulch with set up. Johnette commented that our club is one of the most efficient she has judged for, because we set up the search areas and our volunteers are knowledgeable so she has very little to do other than judge runs. Bert Gray and Linda Puckett set out a delicious array of food each day, Norine Nieman was incomparable as usual as Trial Secretary, and Erin Embrey wrangled volunteers and Dogs in White. Stewards and Dog in White handlers included club members Sue Volkmer, Erin Embrey, Sharon Dowell, Gerianne Darnell, Bert Gray, Linda Puckett, and Kris Woodke. Non-club member volunteers included Jen Howell, Lynn Pettengill, Shelly Rehmeier and Pam Eckstein.

Our next UKC nosework trial will be held June 7-9 with Teresa Carlile as Chair. BDOC AKC Scent Work trials this year are scheduled for March 29-31 (buried only), Aug. 16-18 (full trial with 2 judges), and Nov. 1-3 (full trial with 2 judges). If you are interested in this hot, fun new sport, classes are available online through Fenzi Dog Sports Academy and other sites, and locally through Sunshine Obedience School, Companion Dog Club and Go Dogs. Happy sniffing!



**Bellevue Dog Obedience Club of Nebraska
Outstanding Club Member for 2018**

The Bellevue Dog Obedience Club's Outstanding Member for 2018 first came to BDOC to take a rally class taught by Linda several years ago. She then took obedience classes at BDOC and earned her first CD. Along with her husband, she became interested in herding, and eventually they "bought the farm" for their dogs. This person has been on the BDOC board and has been a key person in developing BDOC's UKC nosework and later AKC Scent Work programs. She has donated countless hours to the club getting ready for nosework trials, chairing herding and nosework events, loading and unloading agility equipment, teaching classes, serving on the Board, stewarding for obedience and rally trials, and donating her hand made dog treats for steward raffles, along with gifting BDOC members her wonderful dog treats for special titles and occasions. This member has graciously opened her home for nosework practice and other club functions, and she has also stored BDOC equipment and ribbons. This member is always willing to help others, and is a valuable member of BDOC.

This year's Outstanding Club Member is:

Sharon Dowell.

BDOC 2018 Annual Meeting

President's Report

February 22, 2019

BDOC had another very successful year in 2018, with our members earning hundreds of titles in obedience, rally, agility, flyball, herding, tracking, barn hunt, nosework, and conformation. Our year began with three UKC nosework trials in February, followed by three AKC obedience and Scent Work trials in March. We learned in March that a cold, wet wind can be more miserable than snow :-). In April our club sponsored a CGCU test judged by Sharon Dowell, where many of our dogs passed. May featured our spring AKC agility trials along with our annual Veterans Agility Parade, followed by UKC nosework, obedience, and rally trials in June. In August we added three days of rally to our AKC obedience trials, and September featured our AKC herding trial and Farm Dog tests. We also added the Ranch Dog class along with Herding Tests to our fall herding trial weekend. Our fall AKC agility trial was held during the last weekend of September, followed by our 31st annual AKC Obedience and Rally trials in October. Our last trial weekend of 2018 featured a very successful three day AKC Scent Work trial in November. None of these events could have been held without our wonderful chairs Erin Embrey, Sharon Dowell,

Linda Puckett, Alberta Gray, Gerianne Darnell, Deb Selden, Teresa Carlile, and Shari Mueller, along with perennial chief ring steward Kris Woodke. Many of these people chaired multiple events, and our club is grateful to these hard-working members. A huge thank you also must go to our herding, nosework and soon-to-be obedience secretary, Norine Nieman, and to our long-time UKC secretary Kathy Novak. Under the direction of our Training Director, Devetta Hill, our club branched out to try some different "fun" events for our members; we painted our dogs' pictures in June, and we also enjoyed an evening of Putt Putt golf in August. As a club, we had fun at the Annual Awards dinner in February, had dinner out at Valentinos in April and August, enjoyed a club picnic with our dogs in July including CGC, CGCA, and trick dog testing judged by Sharon Dowell, shared our dogs in costume with the residents of the Fox Run Retirement Community in October, and we had a festive and fun Christmas Party in December at the home of Sharon and Scott Dowell. We also have a wonderful and informative newsletter published every other month by Sherry Rife. In 2019 we are adding an additional herding trial weekend in May and an additional three-day Scent Work trial in August. Our club is known as a kind, caring group of people who know how to put on a fun and well-run dog show, regardless of the venue. The future remains bright for BDOC. As we look to the future, we continue to enjoy each other's company and our shared love of our dogs while we put on the best dog events in the area.

Exciting News

Darnell Nosework dogs

My three dogs, Rick, Rayna, and Robert, had a great showing at the Friends of BDOC UKC Nosework trial February 15-17. Rick earned two legs in Handler Discrimination with placements. Robert earned Master Vehicles, Master Interior, overall Master Nosework, Elite Containers, and Elite Interior titles with three High in Trials. Rayna earned Elite PT, Advanced Vehicles, Novice Interior, overall Novice title, Advanced Interior, Superior Containers, and Master Containers with one High in Trial.



Quintuple Champion Rick! 1/20/19

Rick did yet another amazing thing today. He

earned his TDX down in Kansas City, running his 975 yard track in eleven minutes. Sadly, he had to drag me along behind him in the cold and ice and snow or it might have been quicker. This made Rick a Champion Tracker (CT), and he also now joins my wonderful Riva as a Quintuple Champion, the only two border collies to do this. Rick is a herding champion, an obedience champion, a tracking champion, a conformation champion, an agility champion, and he is also an elite nosework dog! This also gives him his VCCH. There has only been 12 VCCH's in the 20 year history of the title, and I have had two of them.

What makes this feat even more amazing is Rick is 14 years, three months old. He was the oldest dog by six years in the test, and the judges said he had the longest track and the fastest time. Thanks to everyone that has encouraged us along the way! Thank you to my husband George who listened to the whining over the years, to his co-breeder, Sheryl Day (without Sheryl, there would be no Rick), to his chiro vet Dr Jen Hebel who has kept him sound all these years, to my cohort in crime, Erin Embrey, who was there for the flunks AND the passes, and to all my friends who kept encouraging us through the years, you know who you are.

Rick will always get to run a practice track when I go out with the younguns, and of course he will continue his nosework career for as long as he wants to (there are many more boxes and objects left for him to bite!) I am just giddy tonight that Rick managed to pull this off; we finally made the draw in the right test at the right time. He has been a wonderful, devoted dog and has brought a lot of joy not only to me, but also to those who smiled while he ran agility courses, heeled a foot in front of me while looking up and grinning at me, bit rally signs, and munched a nosework box or two. If I could, I'd do it all over again.

Thank you, Rick!

Gerianne



Echo Earns a New Title

Echo finished his UKC Superior Container title at BDOC's February Nosework trials. His mom is such a doofus that she didn't even realize he finished his SC title that weekend. Maybe it was because she had very little sleep that weekend from taking him to the emergency vet twice in 3 nights (he's fine now -- just some stomach issues).

Kris Woodke

Thank You to all in BDOC

For every kind word, all the hugs (my favorite) and best wishes "you got this girl". My recent surgery was a success and it was all thru prayers and the love and care given me from TRUE friends of the BDOC.

All my love and hugs,

Kim Embrey

Special Memories

"Memories of Darby" by Gerianne



Well I'm not going to quit crying about him, so I might as well write some things down!

So of course the first time I met Darby has been told many times, but it's always worth repeating :-). Bert, Linda and I ventured to Winnipeg, Canada to pick up puppy Darby. The lady who had him put us up for the night down in her very cold, damp basement, I'll never forget that. Who knew it was so cold in Canada in September?? Also, her dad was dying in an upstairs bedroom, and that creeps me out to this day...We were eating dinner in her kitchen while her dad was just down the hallway. But, I digress :-). When we got to the border the next day the border guard said, so, are you bringing anything back with you? (in the back seat was Linda and Darby). And Bert and I chime out in unison, no, no, nothing :-). Then the guy pokes around and I say, oh, except for this puppy back here with this English woman :-). :-). :-). Thankfully, the guy took pity on us, and waved us on through, as terrorists couldn't be as stupid as we were. THEN Bert's old van conked out about five hours from home. I still can't believe we were able to get it fixed and still make it home that night. I DID have to cancel classes; I can't believe I was planning on having classes that night anyway!

Darby was probably the cutest border collie puppy I've ever seen (sorry, Mia, Reign, and Darnell BC's.) He was like a black and white teddy bear. He was SO sweet, and we all fell in love immediately (kind of like how we have with Mia now!). HOWEVER, Darby never did learn not to jump up on us and conk us in the chin. Oh how I wish he could conk me again right now.

Rick was not a fan of the young Darby. Rick has always been a complete gentleman with other dogs, but NOT with Darby. He thought Darby was

quite silly, and he did not hesitate to tell him so, showing him his teeth when Darby would come near. In 2009 Bert and I went to the BC National in Wisconsin, and on that trip, Rick decided that he and Darby could be friends, and friends they were for the rest of Darby's life. I put an HT and a PT on Darby, I can't remember now if I got the HT at one National and the PT at the next, but I had been run over by a ram a few days before we left for the 2009 National. I'm sure there are pictures somewhere of me hobbling around in knee deep mud, complete with knee brace, finishing that PT. I DO remember handing him back to Bert and saying, if you want to go further in herding with him, you'll have to do it yourself, as it won't be me. Darby was, ahem, somewhat ENTHUSIASTIC when it came to sheepherding, and I needed to save the one good knee that I had left!

Darby loved every sport he ever did. He was, shall we say, a little faster than Bert was in agility. I tried to run Darby in a trial a few times, which usually lasted one or two jumps before he would leave me and go back to mom. As much as he loved me, he loved his mom more. I was always impressed years later that Erin was able to not only get Darby to stay in the ring with her, he actually did quite well!

Darby and Rick earned their conformation CH's at the same time. To say they were a "different kind of border collie" is an understatement. But the good thing about that was, if one of them did poorly, the other one usually did well. Except one show at Nebraska Kennel Club where I remember Sharon and I giggling outside of the ring when Darby's junior handler was trying to get his tail to stay down. The more she pulled on it, the more it stood up :-). Isn't it funny the things you remember? Both Darby and Rick handily finished their CH's that year, it was 2007! So it was a long time ago.

After his championship at such a young age, Darby and Bert dove in to all of their sports: obedience, agility, rally, tracking, herding, tricks, CGC, Farm Dog, and finally, his best and last sport, nosework. Darby was SO good at nosework. We will all have that wonderful memory of just a week ago watching Darby do so well. Erin told me that when Darby did the Dog in White for Elite that he NAILED it. Just nailed it.

Other than being such an accomplished sports dog, Darby was a WONDERFUL pet. OTHER than his one glaring fault, which I believe was genetic: counter surfing. Darby and his Auntie Riva were two of the most amazing counter surfers I have ever met (and Riva also added Elite dumpster diving to her list of accomplishments.) I swear, either one of them could push a chair over to a

counter, get up on the counter, and then reach the top of the fridge from there. There were many stories from Bert over the years of missing roasts, steaks, and other delicacies. And I don't mean that food was on the floor with bites out of it, it was just plain GONE. :-)

The weekend that Bert got Grayson, I was horrified to hear that she was putting this tiny little puppy in with Darby in his crate! I couldn't imagine! What I didn't know was that this was the beginning of a wonderful relationship. If you never got to watch Darby and Grayson play, you missed out. They had a very special relationship, and I can't imagine how much Grayson will miss him. And, years later, I then kept Robert and Rick in the same crate at shows, it worked out really well, so thanks for teaching me that, Bert. Although I wouldn't put Grayson in with Mia any time soon ;-)

I haven't been able to get my head around it the past few days that I will never see Darby again, at least in this world. But maybe we should all be so lucky, to go out on top, doing what we loved, and knowing that everybody loved us. No long, lingering, sad illness. I asked Linda today, which is worse, the sudden death of somebody you love, or a long illness that you both have to suffer through, but at least you can both say goodbye? She did not have an answer, and neither do I. All I DO know is, I will NEVER forget Darby, and after this initial tearful stage is over, we will speak of him with smiles and love, and know that he is with the butterflies that Riva and Zack send me.

I love you Darby. Always will.
GA

Auntie

**CH UCD URO1 ARCHEX AE NN AC PTM PTE
OUTBURST DARBY
CDX GN RAE PT NAP OJP OFF NN SBA SCA
SIA CGCA CGCU TKN FDC CL2 CL3-F
RL3X RL2X2 RL1X RLVX2 RLV-AOE RL3-AOE
RL2-AOE
RL1-AOE**



July 5, 2006 – March 3, 2019

It seems like yesterday Gerianne, Linda and I, traveled to Winnipeg to meet a tiny 12 week old Border Collie. It was love at first sight. As He was

coming to a house full of little Shih Tzu, his name had to be Darby, after the Irish friend of the little people.

Darby brought so much joy to my life, I was devastated to say goodbye. He and Grayson played together, Darby always mindful to not hurt the smaller Grayson. Darby was the peacekeeper of the House and a Nannie to the pups he met.

Just the weekend before Darby left us, he competed in UKC Nosework that he so loved. He earned a title element and was the dog In White for Superior and Elite classes. Darby had not yet competed in those levels. He ACED them.

I could write thousands of words about how wonderful Darby was. He loved people he loved to work, It didn't matter if it was obedience, rally, agility, nosework, Herding or long walks at the farm with all his human and dog friends. Yes, I could write those words, but all the memories are so precious, I will keep them buried in my broken heart.

Mason had left us just a few weeks before, I know he was present in those final hours telling Darby it was ok to let go and walked with him over the Bridge.

Darby was special in my eyes, I did not realize how special he was to everyone until I received all those special notes from those whose lives he had touched.

Goodbye special boy. □ □ Alberta Gray

Weemites Heaven Sent, RA NJP

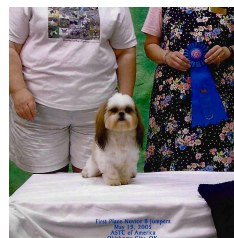
Mason came into my life when the breeder offered him to me. You see, Mason was a nephew of my Hairy D. The breeder knew how much I was missing my Hairy and knew the pup would have a good home with me. He filled my heart with joy. Mason was never comfortable in the ring, he tried his best to please me. We managed to get 2 legs toward his CD. The final time in the ring, he was qualifying up until the return on the long down. He stood up before I could complete the return to heel position. That day was his retirement from the ring.

In his own quiet way, Mason ruled the house. No one messed with Mason, until Mia entered the household. And the old man loved camping ! He could be with the action and still be in his own bed.

Little did I expect Darby would shortly join Mason at the Bridge.

Miss my old man.

Alberta Gray



June 21 2002 - January 30, 2019



Kentucky Sunshine (Sadie)

Sadie earned her wings in February. She was our special longhaired Weimaraner "foster fail" from Heartland Weimaraner Rescue for 9 years. She loved apples and would stop and pick up an apple snack under the tree on her way in. Sadie will always have a special place in our hearts.



October 3, 2007-February 6, 2019

Bellevue Dog Obedience Club of Nebraska Board Meeting, February 7, 2019

Call meeting to order – The meeting was held at Panera Bread in Council Bluffs, Iowa and was called to order at 7:20 p.m. Those Board members present were Gerianne Darnell, Erin Embrey, Kris Woodke, Linda Puckett and Alberta Gray. Minutes of the last board meeting, December 5, 2018 – Bert made a motion that the reading of those minutes be waived and the minutes accepted as published in the last newsletter. Motion seconded by Linda. Motion passed.

Minutes of the last general meeting, December 15, 2018 - Bert made a motion that the reading of those minutes be waived and the minutes accepted as published in the last newsletter. Motion seconded by Linda. Motion passed.

Report of the president: Gerianne – No report.

Report of the vice president: Erin – No report.

Report of the treasurer: Deb. In Deb's absence, Erin stated that Deb did not have a treasurer's report at this time, but she would have one available for the members at the upcoming General Membership Meeting/Annual Awards banquet.

Report of the secretary: Kris – No report.

Report of the training director: Devetta – Absent. No report.

Report of Committees:

• UKC Nosework, February 15-17, Sharon, chair Sharon has asked Board members to bring a folding table and/or chair if they have those to be used for the interior searches. Erin put out the call for volunteers and for dogs in white. Bert and Linda will be in charge of the food for the weekend.

• AKC Obedience/Rally/Buried Scent Work, March 29-31, Gerianne/Sharon, chairs Norine is now the trial secretary for this weekend. Everything pretty much ready to go. We will now have to pay travel costs for Judge Dawn Antoniak-Mitchell, but no lodging expenses.

• AKC Agility, May 3-5, Devetta/Linda, chairs. Since this will be the 25th Anniversary of BDOC's agility trials, we would like to have some commemorative item for all participants and club members. Kris will look into a crate or luggage tag.

• AKC Herding, May 10-12, Gerianne/Sharon, chairs. Gerianne will work on renting some additional sheep for this weekend. They will use hers and Sharon's but will need some additional sheep.

• UKC Obedience/Rally/SPOT/Nosework, June 7-9, Gerianne/Teresa, chairs. SPOT is the UKC equivalent of the AKC's CGC test. The Obedience/Rally judge will be the evaluator for the SPOT testing.

• AKC Obedience/Rally, August 2-4, Gerianne, chair. Judges have been hired, and arrangements for them are in the works.

• AKC Scent Work, August 16-18, Deb, chair. No discussion of this trial since Deb was unable to attend the meeting.

• AKC Herding/Farm Dog, September 21-22, Gerianne/Sharon, chairs. Arrangements for this weekend are being made and will be finalized in the next month or so.

• AKC Agility, September 27-29, Shari, chair – This will also be part of the 25-year celebration for BDOC's agility trials. We will work on coming up with some commemoratives for this trial also.

• AKC Obedience/Rally, October 26-27, Kris/Anita, chairs. Kris has volunteered to also be the Chief Ring Steward for this trial

• AKC Scent Work, November 1-3, Deb, chair - No discussion of this trial since Deb was unable to attend the meeting.

New Business:

Agility Ribbons – it was determined that we have enough agility ribbons to get through the 2019 agility trials. The CPE ribbons Linda currently has in her basement will be donated to some group who might be able to use them in some way. Kris will check with Jenny Vincent on whether or not her 4-H group would be interested in them.

Letter from John re course building at Agility Trials in 2020 – John sent a letter to BDOC stating that he and Walt would be stepping back from course building for agility trials in 2020. A discussion took place regarding possible replacement course builders and future agility trials. The Board decided to bring this matter up for further discussion at the February 22 General Membership meeting.

Old Business:

Nominating committee for 2019 – The positions up for election at the February 22, 2019 meeting are Vice President, Treasurer and two member-at-large positions. Those currently in those positions have stated they will run for another two-year term (Erin as Vice President, Deb as Treasurer, Linda and Bert as members-at-large).

The General Membership Meeting/Annual Awards Banquet will be held February 22nd at Johnny's Café.

The next board meeting will be April 10, 2019 at McAlister's Deli in Council Bluffs (across from Dick's Sporting Goods store). The next General Membership meeting will be April 24 with a location to be determined at the February 22 meeting.

Adjournment -- Motion to adjourn was made by Bert and seconded by Kris. Motion passed. Meeting adjourned at 9:06 p.m.

MINUTES OF ANNUAL MEETING OF BELLEVUE DOG OBEDIENCE CLUB February 22, 2019, Johnny's Steakhouse, Omaha, NE

Call to Order – The meeting was called to order at 7:45 p.m. Minutes of last General Membership meeting – A motion to waive the reading of those minutes was made by Erin and seconded Sharon Dowell. Motion passed. Minutes of last Board meeting – A motion to waive the reading of those minutes was made by Sue Volkmer and seconded by Scott Dowell. Motion passed. Report of President (Gerianne Darnell) – Gerianne presented a recap of the Club's events of 2018. Report of the Vice President (Erin Embrey) – None. Report of Treasurer (Deb Selden) – Deb passed out copies of the most recent Treasurer's Report

(see summary attached). A motion to approve that report was made by Alberta Gray and seconded by Shari Mueller. Motion approved. Report of Secretary (Kris Woodke) – We received a new member application from former member Sharon Brewer. Pam Eckstein has also expressed interest in becoming a member and will be submitting an application soon. Report of Training Director (Devetta Hill) - Since Devetta was not present at the meeting, there was no report of the Training Director given. Report of Committees:

• UKC NW trial, Feb. 15-17, 2019 (Chair - Sharon Dowell) – Sharon thanked Jim for going above & beyond in clearing out the snow for parking and easy access to the building and potty areas. Other than the cold and snow, the weekend went well. The Nosework judge commented that she likes to judge for us because our trials are always well organized. • AKC Obedience/Scent Work trials, March 29-31, 2019 (Chair Gerianne Darnell)- Everything is on track. Kris Woodke will be the Chief Ring Steward for Obedience and is looking for volunteers. Erin Embrey is the Chief Ring Steward for Scent Work and is also looking for stewards. We will only be doing buried at this Scent Work trial and there are still openings at this time.

• AKC Agility, May 3-5, 2019 (Chairs Devetta Hill/Linda Puckett) – This is the Club's 25th Anniversary of having agility trials. We will be doing some sort of commemorative item for the participant in honor of this achievement. Kris is looking into that. • AKC Herding trials, May 10-12, 2019 (Chairs Gerianne Darnell/Sharon Dowell). Everything is all set and ready to go, other than set-up right before the trials start). Pretrial will be on Friday and Saturday for young dogs. Sue Volkmer will wrangle ducks.

• UKC Obedience/NW/SPOT, June 7-9, 2019 (Chair Gerianne Darnell/Teresa Carlisle). Judges are all lined up and reservations have been made. SPOT, UKC's equivalent of AKC's Canine Good Citizen test, will be offered on Saturday afternoon for a nominal fee and will be judged by the UKC obedience and Rally judge.

• AKC Obedience/Rally, August 2-4, 2019 (Chair Gerianne Darnell) – Judges have been lined up for this weekend.

• AKC SW trials August 16-18, 2019 (Chair Deb Selden) – Everything is coming together for this weekend. Handler Discrimination will probably also be offered during this weekend.

• AKC Herding trials and Farm Dog test, September 21-22, 2019 (Chairs Gerianne Darnell/Sharon Dowell) – Details are currently being worked out for this trial

• AKC Agility, September 27-29, 2019 (Chairs Shari Mueller/Gerianne Darnell/Erin Embrey) Again, this will be the 25th anniversary of BDOC holding agility

trials. We will most likely do some commemorative item at this trial also. Judge and venue have been secured.

• AKC Obedience/Rally, October 25-27, 2019 (Chairs Anita Redmond/Kris Woodke) – The details for this weekend are being worked on. We will need to decide what to do about food. Kris will also be Chief Ring Steward. Karen Stevens and Sandy Crawford have agreed to do a raffle table again this year.

• AKC Scent Work Trial, November 1-3, 2019 (Chair Deb Selden) – The details for this trial are currently being worked on.

Election of officers and board members (Kris Woodke) -- Currently, the positions of Vice President, Secretary, Training Director and one member-at-large are open this year. Each position is for a two-year term. All persons currently in those positions (Erin Embrey, Vice President; Kris Woodke, Secretary; Devetta Hill, Training Director; and Dee Ann Nelson, member at large) have all agreed to run for those same positions this year. No other persons stated their intentions to run for the Board at this time. Nominations were requested from the floor, none were received, and those nominations were closed. A motion was made by Sue Volkmer and seconded by Randy Frady to approve the slate and just vote those four people in all at one time. Motion passed unanimously, and the new Board members/officers approved.

Old Business – None.

New Business – 1. We are currently trying to schedule another CGCU test, hopefully at our next general membership meeting on April 17, 2019, but we need to find a new location. Sharon will check with Bass Pro Shop to see if that would be a possibility. We plan to also have the various CGC tests at the summer picnic. 2. Future agility trials (Gerianne Darnell) -- For last five years, the Club has had a lot of trouble getting trial chairs and volunteers to help, especially with loading and unloading the truck. We have recently been informed by John Wilson that he and Walt Kaffenberger will no longer be chief course builders after the 2019 trials. So the question becomes does the Club want to continue having agility trials or stop on top? The Board has discussed this and recommends not having trials any more, at least for next year. The biggest negative of letting these trials go is the income – last year between the two trials, the Club made about \$4,000. Sharon Dowell stated that it is always a struggle to get them going, and she is surprised they have lasted this long. After further discussion of possibly having agility trials in the future and revisiting the issue, Shari Mueller made a motion that the Club not have AKC agility trials in 2020, with the idea that we can revisit this decision if members of the Club would

like to do that. The motion was seconded by Deb Selden and passed with one nay (Alicia Robinson). The next Board meeting will be April 10, 2019 at McAlister's in Council Bluffs, Iowa. The next General Membership Meeting will be held April 17, 2019 at a location to be determined.

Adjournment – There being no further business to discuss at this time, a motion to adjourn was made by Teresa Carlisle and seconded by Alberta Gray. The motion passed, and the meeting was adjourned at 8:20 p.m.

Presentation of 2018 Awards (Gerianna Darnell/Linda Puckett) -- Following the adjournment of the meeting was the presentation of 2018 member awards. Congratulations to all on your fabulous achievements!

Presentation of Outstanding Club Member (Gerianna Darnell) – The 2018 Outstanding Club Member Award was given to Sharon Dowell in recognition of all of her hard work on behalf of the Club, most especially her fabulous work with our Nosework/Scent Work and herding trials. Thank you, Sharon!

June Bug

I was very tired when I pulled into the Visitor's Information Center and Rest Area, on I-94 near Pleasant Prairie, Wisconsin. It was around midnight. I'd had enough driving for the day and climbed into the back of my wagon where I crawled into my sleeping bag and curled up with my dog, June. Laying my head on the pillow, I went out like a light.

I awoke just before seven in the morning feeling rested, but a little chilly. Guessing the temperature was around fifteen degrees, I leaned forward, turning on the key to check. "That's odd," I said, wondering why the outside air temperature didn't display. I hunkered back into my warm sleeping bag; June snuggled inside with me. "Oh well, it doesn't matter." I said, "We'll just sleep a while longer then get up and head out." I tried to fall back asleep but was burdened by a looming thought. "Why didn't that temperature light come on?"

I slid from under my cozy covers, into the driver's seat, and turned on the key. All the dash lights were dim. Suspecting the inevitable, I tried starting the motor but the battery didn't have enough juice to turn the engine over - it was so dead the starter wouldn't even click. This is not what I wanted to deal with early on a Sunday morning. Still, being equipped to handle such a situation, I wasn't too worried.

I pulled on my shoes, coat, and stocking hat. I smiled with confidence as I reached behind the driver's seat for the portable battery pack my father-in-law gave me a couple years ago. At first, I thought the pack was just a gimmick - sure, it might recharge a cell phone or other such device, but there was no way this little box, only 3 X 8 X 1 ½" thick, was going to start a car.

I had the opportunity to put the battery pack to the test at home one time. My old dump truck had sat for over seven months, through the winter, and the battery was dead as a doornail. I must admit I was shocked when that little emergency power pack actually started that big V-8 engine. That's how I knew it would also start my little four-cylinder Subaru. I quickly became a believer and carried that power pack with me on all my ventures.

I plugged the special jumper cables into the pack, then clipped them onto the battery posts. I sat in the driver's seat, pressing the clutch pedal to the floor, I turned the key and...nothing. "Ah," I told June, "I forgot to push the power button." I took care of that and went to start the engine again. *Urr, urr, click, click, click.* I climbed out again to check my connections. They certainly looked secure so I checked the LED lights on the battery pack itself. Only two of six lights were on. I recalled on the previous trip using the pack to help a stranger with a dead battery. I failed to recharge the pack afterwards.

Inside the Visitor's Center, I found an electrical outlet to plug in the unit. I got cleaned up while it charged. There was nobody in the building but me so I left the charger sitting unattended and went for a walk with June. Not long after, people started to show up, so I put June in the car, then headed inside to watch my power pack.

Some of the people seemed way over thrilled with the snow. I struck up conversation with them and learned they were from southern California. They all appeared to be in their later fifties, and none of them had ever seen snow before. How neat! I went outside with them to take several group photos, so they could all be in the pictures. It was fun to share their excitement over snow - something we Midwesterners take for granted and frankly a lot of us are sick of it this year!

My new friends moved on, but not before one of the ladies threw a loosely packed snowball at her husband. The snowball flew apart in midair while sailing toward him. He in turn scooped up a wad of snow and lobbed it back in her direction; it also fell apart in the air, nearly hitting an innocent bystander. I shook my head, "Amateurs. You didn't pack it tight enough," I muttered while walking through the front door. I'm not picking on them, I'm just saying they were in Wisconsin and if you're going to throw snow around here, you better know what you're doing. Those Wisconsin folks will throw snow back and they're pretty good at it – although I don't think a bunch of Wisconsinites would stand a chance in a snowball fight against a group of Minnesotans, but I'm not trying to start anything here so let's not go there.

Inside the building a tall man was standing at the counter with his back toward me, thumbing through literature. He wore tattered, tan coveralls, a heavy canvas jacket and brown knit leggings that came halfway up his shins to keep his ankles warm. He sported a large purple backpack – not like a school kid would carry, but one a serious hiker would pack with all sorts of pockets and places to carry gear and gadgets. Tucked under the top straps was a large, worn, beige teddy bear. An American flag, about 18" mounted on stick was poked into the pack, displayed proudly.

I walked up next to him. He appeared clean-cut and shaven, wore round, gold wire rimmed glasses and a weathered ball cap bearing a tattered patch that read "U.S. Marines." I greeted him, "Hi. How are ya?" He turned my way and glared without saying a word. Perhaps I should have walked away, but I didn't. "You look like a man on a mission; a man with places to go." I said, in a friendly, inviting tone. He again briefly stared at me, almost scowling when he answered, "Yeah. Something like that." Then he moved farther down the literature rack as if to intentionally put distance between us. I got the distinct impression he did not want to talk, or be bothered. I left him alone.

My power pack was now showing six LED lights – a full charge. I packed up the device and walked to my car. After reconnecting the jumpers again, I sat in the driver's seat, turned the key and the engine fired right up. June seemed happy to hear the motor running. "We're in business now, June Bug!" I said. She seemed a little too happy. "You have to go potty, don't you?" I asked. Once that business was taken care of, we pulled away from our parking space.

At the end of the lot, I signaled to turn left. I looked left, then to the right, "McDonald's!" I happily exclaimed. A cup of hot coffee was on my mind. I turned right!

Pulling in under the golden arches, I drove toward the back of the lot. I like to park away from the front entrance to keep June from barking at other customers. As I did so I noticed a man walking. The man with the purple backpack and Marines ball cap. I rolled down my passenger-side window, stopping alongside him. "Have you had breakfast yet?" I asked him cheerfully. He looked at me almost as if he was thinking, you again. "I've had my coffee," He replied curtly. "Coffee, yeah. But did you get to eat?" I pressed. He mumbled something, but didn't really answer me. I pulled past him and into a parking space.

When I got out of the car, I left my door open. The man didn't seem very friendly, or happy to see me, let alone wish to talk to me. I approached him anyway. "Would you like to come in and join me for breakfast?" I asked. "I don't know." He replied seeming quite standoffish. "I'd like to treat you to breakfast, if you have time." I offered. About that time, June came charging out of the car toward the man. June's aggressive approach can be rather intimidating to someone who doesn't know her. "June, come! Now!" I called, but I was too late. June moseyed up to the man, sniffing his shoes, wiggling her rump and wagging her tail as she danced about.

The stranger took right to June's charm and began to rub her shoulders. He stood up, "Yes." He said, "I'd like to have breakfast with you." He extended his right hand toward me, and we shook hands. "I'm Ronnie. Ronnie Wychelewski." He said. "Ronnie, I'm Tom. Tom Palen. Let's go eat." We walked to the restaurant together – he was no longer a stranger.

Inside, we ordered breakfast and sat down to eat. "Where are you off to?" I asked him. "Williston, eventually." He said, then asked, "Do you know where that is?" I felt like he was testing me. "In the far northwest corner of North Dakota, almost to Montana and not far south of Canada, if that's the Williston you're talking about." I answered. He smiled, "That's it." "Why would you want to go there this time of year?" I questioned, explaining, "It's bitterly cold there."

Ronnie answered, "I'm a veteran. There's a VA clinic there." "There are VA clinics closer...and warmer." I said. He explained, "Yes, there are VA clinics all over, but they are not all the same. For the medical procedure I need, I'm best off going to Williston." He added, "I'm not going all the way, now. I'm just starting that way. I'd like to make it to Minneapolis in the next day or so." I liked this guy and enjoyed his company. June liked him, too, and that says a lot about a man when your dog likes him. "I'm going west on I-94, I could get you as far as Eau Claire, Wisconsin, if that would help." Ronnie accepted my offer.

Driving down the freeway, we talked about different parts of the country and where we had each traveled. Ronnie said he'd been from coast to coast and asked if I had ever been to California. "Lots of times." I answered. "What's your favorite route to get there?" He asked. "Coming from the north, I'll take I-90 West, then south at Bozeman through the Gallatin River Valley, it's one of the most beautiful roads in America." He said, "I don't think I'm familiar with that road," I continued. "Just go south on US 191 out of Bozeman. You'll go through the little town of Big Sky, Montana, and..." Ronnie interrupted me, finishing my sentence, "Yeah, then down into West Yellowstone. I do know that road. Beautiful, man. Beautiful." I've met people who will try to bamboozle me, acting as if they know what I'm talking about when they really don't. Ronnie wasn't like that. He was genuine and sincere.

We passed a sign that read, "Eau Claire 72 miles". After reading the sign, Ronnie said, "If you go north out of Eau Claire, on Highway 53, it will take you Superior, Wisconsin, then into Duluth. They're both on Lake Superior; they call them the Twin Ports." He began reminiscing, "I haven't been up there for at least twenty-five

years or so. I'd love to go up there again, it was so cool." When I told him I was actually going to Duluth, he got excited and asked, "Would mind if he rode along." "I thought you were going to Minneapolis." I said. He replied, "It doesn't matter where I go as long as it's westward and north." He went on, "Highway 2 comes out of Duluth and runs all the way to Williston. Duluth would be perfect, if you don't mind." "You want to go to Duluth? Then Duluth it is." I said. Ronnie exhaled, he was pleased with that.

On the way, we talked about a lot of things, including where he would stay in Duluth. "It's supposed to drop down to about five below zero tonight." I told him. "I can survive that," he said, "but I'd rather see if they have a shelter where I can stay." I made a couple inquiries. A friend told me about CHUM, a shelter in Duluth. I called ahead and they told me they would have a bed for Ronnie that night.

We stopped to use a Wi-Fi signal to get information and directions to CHUM. Ronnie offered, "Would you let me buy you a cup of coffee?" "No thanks," I replied, "I am completely coffee'd out." Ronnie went to his backpack and pulled out two cans of beer – tall boys. Earlier, he told me he doesn't drink a lot, but he likes to have a beer occasionally at night. "They had these on sale at the truck stop, two for three dollars." He offered the cans to me, saying, "I want you to have these." "You don't have to give me your beer." I said, but he insisted. "I can't take them into the shelter, and I don't want to throw them away. I want you to have them." He extended his hands toward me, saying, "Please." I smiled and graciously accepted his gift.

We drove to the shelter. Parking out front, I opened the lift gate and Ronnie grabbed his pack. After closing the gate, he said, "I don't accept rides from just anyone. There are a lot of strange people out here. Usually people avoid me; they'll go out of their way to escape talking to me. I'm sorry if I was rude when you first walked up to me today. I didn't know what you wanted." "Don't worry about it, my friend. You didn't hurt my feelings and the day turned out good." I said. Then Ronnie asked, "Do you know why I accepted the breakfast and your offer for a ride?" I shook my head and shrugged my shoulders. "It was the way June greeted and welcomed me. You can tell almost anything you want to know about a man, by watching his dog." I must admit, that got me.

I asked Ronnie if there was any way I could reach him in the future; he wanted to know why. "I drive a lot and many of those trips are out west." I said, then offered, "I could probably score a ride for you all the way to Williston, when you're ready to go." He wrote down an email address for me and said, "Let's stay in touch." Then he lifted his heavy pack. Putting one arm through the strap, he swung the whole thing up onto his back, fastened the buckle on the front, and walked toward me. Ronnie paused, gave me a big hug, then turned to walk away.

A few steps away, he stopped, turned and looked at me. "June is a good dog, because you are a good man, Tom Palen. Thank you for everything. Let's stay in touch." He said. I nodded at him, cleared my throat and said, "You take care of yourself, and stay warm, Ronnie Wychelewski."

(submitted with permission from Tom Palen)

Five things to do...

By Kate Eldredge, LVT

Your dog's paw pads act much like the soles of sneakers, protecting your dog's foot and cushioning each step. Paw pads are tough, but they can still be cut by sharp objects or worn off if your dog runs hard on rough terrain. What should you do when your dog cuts or tears a pad?

1. Clean the wound.

Gently flush the wound with water or an antiseptic, such as diluted chlorhexidine solution. If there is obvious debris, such as rocks or

glass, remove it carefully. Don't force anything that is lodged deep into the foot.

2. Control bleeding.

Keeping your dog from licking a cut or scrape on his paw pad can be a challenge. In addition to bandaging material, you may need to use a bootie or an Elizabethan collar to prevent him from working to remove the bandage.

Apply pressure to the wound to stop any bleeding. Use a clean towel and an ice pack if available to encourage blood-vessel constriction. If only the outer layer of the pad has been worn off, there may not be much bleeding, but deeper wounds and punctures can bleed heavily. The time it takes for bleeding to stop will vary with the severity of the wound.

3. Evaluate the damage.

Minor paw injuries can be managed at home, but more severe ones require veterinary attention. Uncontrolled bleeding is an emergency - if your dog's foot continues to bleed after several minutes of pressure, call your veterinarian and head for the clinic. Deep or jagged cuts may require sutures for optimal healing. Your dog may need to be sedated for sufficient cleaning of the wound if there is persistent debris, such as little bits of gravel, and something that is firmly lodged in the foot will need to be surgically removed. Your dog may also need antibiotics to protect against infection. If you are at all unsure, err on the side of a vet visit – your veterinarian can give you peace of mind and can give your dog the care he needs.

4. Bandage.

Place nonstick gauze or a Telfa pad directly over the cut. If available, a dab of triple antibiotic ointment is a good idea to prevent infection. This can be secured with paper tape. Then wrap your dog's foot using roll gauze, Vetrap, or an elastic bandage. The bandage should be snug enough to stay on, but also needs to be loose enough to allow for proper circulation to your dog's foot. You should be able to slide two fingers under the bandage. To prevent the bandage from slipping off, wrap all the way up to and including the next joint on your dog's leg: carpus or wrist in front, hock in back. You can also place more tape around the top of the bandage. Keep the bandage dry. Moisture provides an entrance for bacteria to get through the bandage and into the wound. You can use a commercial bootie to protect the bandage when your dog goes outside or just tape a plastic bag over it. Most paw bandages need to be changed daily, especially if there is still bleeding or a discharge present. For minor scrapes that look like a rug burn, a liquid bandage can be used to cover the exposed nerve endings without needing a full traditional bandage. Keep the foot elevated while the liquid bandage dries, and don't let your dog lick it.

5. Allow time for healing.

Your dog's paw will heal faster if it's protected until fully healed. Keep him quiet, and prevent him from running or chewing at the bandage (this may require the use of [an Elizabethan collar](#)). Even after your dog's pad has healed enough that it isn't painful to touch, it will still be tender and vulnerable to reinjury. Avoid activities that could damage the healing pad, or use a bootie to protect the foot. Healing time will vary depending on the size of the cut.