RAMAPO KENNEL CLUB

GROWL

ESTABLISHED 1958 NOVEMBER 2013

VIEW FROM THE OTHER END OF THE LEASH

Elaine Barone, Ruth Henningsen, and Anne Hulsizer recently attended a pet therapy conference and it started me thinking about how much I love visiting the hospital and residential centers...Anne's previous Chocolate Lab, MEG, was one of four dogs in the Valley Hospital pilot study organized by Joanne Silver...MEG left a diary of her visits and I want to share some of our experiences:

MEG: The activity director of a residential facility asked us to try visiting a man who had retreated from contacts...he spent his days watching TV or staring at the ceiling...our first visit was a flat out bust...he didn't react to us at all...we'd visit week after week with no success...we were finally rewarded one day when he reached out to pat my head...the next week he sat on the edge of his bed to scratch my ears...a couple weeks later he met us at the door of his room ...a month later we knew we were a successful pet therapy team when he walked the length of the hall and waited to meet us at the elevator...

MEG: We were called by the hospital program administrator and told that the mother of a terminally ill boy asked if a team could make a special visit because her son loved dogs...we spent over an hour, sometimes talking with the mother, sometimes with paws on the bed so the boy could reach me, sometimes just sitting quietly...the mother contacted the program director the next day to say that her son had passed away during the night, but she knew he died happy because he got his wish to see a dog...

MEG: We were making routine visits on the neurology unit when a family invited us to the bedside...Anne chatted with the patient about pets he'd had as a kid and he told his favorite stories as a boy with his dog...when it was time to leave, we thanked the family for letting us visit and headed toward the door...the unit staff was gathered outside the door and I thought "OH, NO, we've done something really wrong to draw all this attention!"...a nurse told us that the man had been hospitalized for a week after a stroke and hadn't spoken a word until our visit...the staff was amazed and we were relieved...

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TILLY GRASSA

Judging of the Sporting Group on Monday, October 14, at this year's RKC point show. See more photos on pages 4-5.

President's Message

JACK GRASSA

Sharon Fremer

As we move toward the holiday season my thoughts inevitably turn toward getting together to enjoy family and friends. It's a time I particularly love. I was reminded of these things a little earlier than usual this year. Last Friday I was fortunate to participate in an event that really drove home how lucky many of us are to have the opportunity to get out and about to celebrate with those we love. Along with RKC member Melissa Ayer and a number of other area dog fanciers I brought my dogs to the Heath Village Retirement Community in Hackettstown, NJ to be part of a mock dog show. The seniors loved it!

This annual event is one of the most popular activities at Heath Village. Their auditorium is filled with residents that come to meet the dogs and learn about the breeds represented there. The dogs and their owners/handlers go up on the stage by AKC group, introduce their individual dogs to the audience and then give an overview of each one's breed. At the end of the presentations the audience votes on who shall win Best in Show. This year it was the Parti Cocker Spaniel, Pistal, owned buy Debra Lampert-Rudman. A very smart choice — Pistal was the #1 Parti Cocker in the country several years ago!

I was unprepared for how rewarding I found it to be part of this 'dog show'. The enthusiasm and interest of the Heath Village residents was enormous. We were given an opportunity to visit with the crowd after our time on stage and their reception was warm and happy. They loved meeting the dogs up close and personal and the dogs love the attention. We brought smiles to many faces and made everyone's day a bit brighter. It was a win/win event!

Clearly, if we accomplished this in a few hours during only one day, what therapy dogs do for people on an on-going basis does much, much more. I encourage all our members to consider becoming certified to do therapy work and volunteering your and your dogs' time. There are myriad opportunities to make a difference – you can visit hospitals, retirement homes, schools, libraries and on and on. Our obedience classes go a long way to prepare a dog to do this work, plus Joanne Silver teaches a specific Therapy Dog class on her own time. I think you will find that you will do as much good for yourself as you will for the people you visit. I left Heath Village with a smile on my face and the knowledge that my dogs and I had helped a lot of people enjoy their day just a little more last Friday. What a great way to start the holiday season.

Speaking of holidays — please mark our annual holiday dinner on your calendars. It will be held Wednesday, December 11th. Details can be found elsewhere in this issue of the Growl.

Our program at next week's meeting is an exciting one. We will learn about Coursing with our dogs. It's an activity that is snowballing across the country. Details about our presenter and what she will cover are also found in this month's Growl.

Sharon

Ramapo Kennel Club Officers

President
Sharon Fremer
teneo@mac.com
Vice President
Arlene Stover
Treasurer
Ruth Henningsen
Recording Secretary
Kim Luikert
Corresponding Secretary
Tilly Grassa
tgcreative@aol.com

Board of Directors
2014
Joanne Silver
Gerrie Oliver
2015
Rose Radel
Amy Starost
2016
Lorraine Fennemore
Janis Hayes

AKC Delegate
Jeffrey David Ball

Minutes

RKC Member Meeting
October 9th 2013
VFW Hall
Fairfield, NJ 07004

President Sharon Fremer called the meeting to order at 8:15pm.

Recording Secretary- Lorraine made a motion to accept the September minutes, Arlene seconded, voted upon and approved.

Corresponding Secretary- AKC sent an important letter about Canadian Government Relations outlining the importation of dogs into their Country. Tilly read the nomination for the AKC's Lifetime Achievement Awards. Pat Hastings took 13 votes from the members for conformation. Lynn Eggers took 12 votes from members for companion events. Tilly will submit The Club's votes to the AKC. AKC Reunite has disaster relief trailers that are available to purchase by towns, municipalities, clubs, etc. RKC is interested in joining together possibly with other clubs to donate monies towards a trailer in the Passaic or Sussex counties. The Club's Logo would then be added to the trailer. The Federation will also be looking into this and more information and coordination will need to be done to facilitate such a donation.

Treasurer- No report.

Membership- Linda Bassett of 10 Tenfer Drive in Glenwood NJ, has Lab's and is sponsored by Joanne Silver and Elaine Barone. Steve Cemelli of 23 Channing Drive, Ringwood has Labs and a Pet Partner, is sponsored by Joanne Silver and Ruth Henningsen.

Sunshine- Nothing

Pet Therapy- New Class starting in November.

Obedience- CGCA forms will be ordered, preparation for the test can be difficult.

New Board Position- Gerrie Oliver has stepped up to fill Patrick Dearborn's position on the Board.

Match Show- Will be held in June 2014

Holiday Dinner- Will be December 11th, Lorraine will look into places and/or caterers to have at meeting site. More information will be provided at November meeting.

Programs- There was a lengthy discussion of possible program topics and options. Sharon needs everyone's assistance in helping get programs organized and off the ground so we can continue to have better attendance at meetings. November there will be a lure coursing demonstration.

Point Show- Karen Dashfield will NOT be at the Sunday show, she has given Sharon a list of a few alternate people to fill in. Rau did not have spreads in the catalog in memory of Candy Wisnieski and Patrick Dearborn, therefore we will have posters at the Club's table in honor of Candy and Patrick. The Collie supported entry will also have an additional memorial poster of Candy. Best in Show gifts will be a $100 Visa gift card, each day, (equivalent to Palisades'). An exhibitor contacted the Club asking for a refund of entry fees due to the sudden death of her dog. After a lengthy discussion The Club sympathizes with the exhibitor but The Club will not refund the entries.

Tilly made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:10pm seconded by Arlene.

Respectfully submitted by
Kim Luikert
October 20 2013

PROGRAM FOR NOVEMBER MEETING

AKC Coursing Ability Tests

COURTESY KAREN HUGHES

Karen Hughes will be giving a presentation on all-breed and mixed breed AKC Coursing Ability Tests and how clubs can use Performance Canine Association (PCA) as a 3rd party equipment provider and trial secretary to hold CATs. She will cover roles and responsibilities for clubs, PCA, AKC titles, and rules, etc.

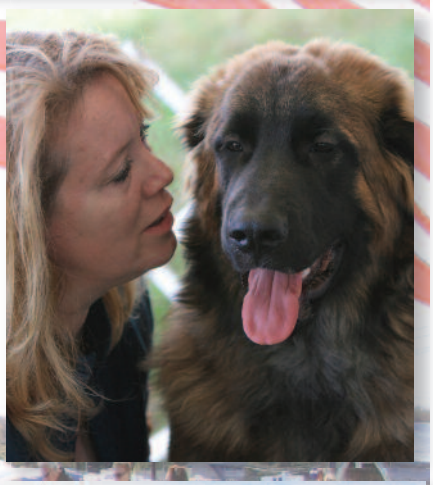
Karen started working with her Standard Schnauzer who has fear issues, including plastic grocery bags! She thought it might help. . . He was hooked! She was asked to be the CAT coordinator for PCA and Toby just became the first Standard schnauzer to receive his Coursing Ability Excellent (CAX) title a few weeks ago with 25 qualifying runs in a row.

Refreshments: Sandwiches (roast beef, ham, and turkey) and dessert will be served. Bring your appetites!

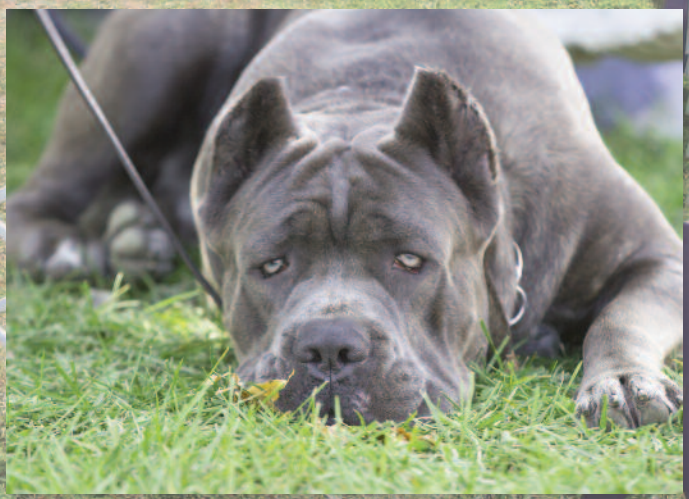
RAMAPO KENNEL CLUB DOG SHOW,
Sunday and Monday, October 13 and 14, 2013

PHOTOS BY JACK AND TILLY GRASSA

Remembering Cindy



RAMAPO
KENNEL CLUB
Founded 1958



SHOW HANDLING SCHEDULE 2013-2014

TUESDAY EVENINGS
6:45 - 7:30
DROP IN CLASSES ONLY
$10.00 per dog

Nov. 19
Dec. 3, 17
Jan. 14, 28
Feb. 4, 18
Mar. 4, 18
Apr. 1, 15, 29
May 6, 20
June 3, 17

FMI: LINDA HACHTEL
973-697-4337
or rkc@ramapokennelclub.com

RKC TRAINING CLASS SCHEDULE 2013-2014

TUESDAY EVENING-Rally Advanced/Excellent
7:30-8:30

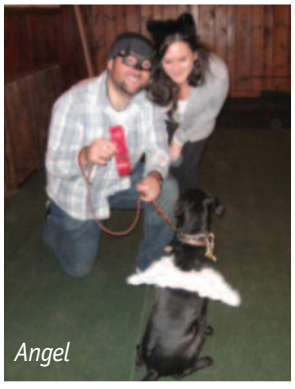
SESSION 2
Nov. 19
Dec. 3, 17
Jan. 14, 21, 28
Feb. 4
SESSION 3
Feb. 18, 25
Mar. 4, 18, 25
Apr. 1, 15
SESSION 4
Apr. 22, 29
May 6, 20, 27
June 3, 17

Pet Training/Obedience Schedule
WEDNESDAY EVENINGS
SESSION 1
Sept. 18, 25
Oct. 2, 16, 23, 30
Nov. 6
SESSION 2
Nov. 20
Dec. 4, 18
Jan. 15, 22, 29
Feb. 5
February 19 Canine Good Citizen Testing/snow day
(there is a fee for the test)
SESSION 3
Feb. 26
Mar. 5,19, 26
Apr. 2, 16, 23

SESSION 4
Apr. 30
May 7, 21, 28
June 4, 18, 25
June 24 (Tuesday) Canine Good Citizen Testing/ snow day
(there is a fee for the test)

FOR CLASS INFORMATION AND TIMES CONTACT:

RUTH HENNINGSEN 973-697-9456
or email at: RUTHH.SNO-DOG@JUNO.COM
OR JOANNE SILVER 201-891-5090
JOANNE SILVER1937@YAHOO.COM


Angel

Mermaid

Another Angel

My tiara is crooked

RUTH HENNIGSEN

Jogi the pumpkin

The Devil

Photos from the Halloween Obedience class

VIEW FROM THE OTHER END OF THE LEASH, *Continued from page 1*

FRIDAY: It was my very first day as a therapy dog at the hospital...while waiting in the lobby for our escort, I saw a good friend walking down the hall...he'd spent hours in the ER with his elderly father and was feeling guilty about heading to the coffee shop for a break...as soon as he spotted me, his pace quickened and he greeted me with a familiar scratch...he said it felt good to see his canine buddy and secretly slipped me a cookie...(he always has treats in his pocket)...he's not an emotional guy, but even now, years later, he tells me how comforting it was to see a familiar dog in the hospital...

FRIDAY: The ICU and CCU waiting rooms are high stress areas that we frequently visit...I'm pretty good at reading body language and knew the quiet lady in the corner was having a rough day...when I nudged her hand, she quickly sat on the floor and gave me a HUGE hug and then sobbed into my neck...after a while she regrouped and explained the long rough night she'd spent and that I was the first warm loving thing she'd been able to connect to...

Anyone who has done pet therapy work has similar stories...it's so easy to make people happy ...now it's time to put on my bandana and ID and head for the hospital...I love my job...

Casbar Glen Wild Weekend CD, RE, RO2, ThD, CGC, STAR (but you can call me "Friday")

SOLOMON PHOTO

New Beginner Novice Title and First Chesapeake to earn CGCA

*2013 Chesapeake NSS Gidget; 1st Place Beginner Novice CH Silvercreek *Cabinridge Gidget RA BN CGC CGCA Breeder/Owner/Handler Joanne Silver*

JUDGING PANEL SUGGESTIONS FOR 2014 POINT SHOWS

We need your input! Judging panels can make or break a good entry at shows. Please help us put together a group of judges that will appeal to owner handlers as well as the pros. Share your thoughts about judges, pros and cons, for our 2014 point shows. All suggestions must be submitted on this form, via either hard copy or email. It is important that you provide the reason(s) you feel a judge would be good or bad for our shows. We particularly want to include several provisional judges on the panel. Judges coming from a long distance must be able to do one or more Groups.

Deadline is December 31, 2013

MEMBER NAME: _____

JUDGE'S NAME: _____

JUDGE'S FEE (if known): _____

BREEDS/GROUPS LICENSED TO JUDGE:

_____

_____

WHY THIS JUDGE IS GOOD/BAD:

_____

_____

PLEASE RETURN THIS FORM TO:

Jeffrey Ball
2014 RKC Show Chairman
11 Pershing Avenue
Ridgewood, NJ 07481
jeffbetsyball@yahoo.com

2013 AKC CAR CANINE SUPPORT AND RELIEF FUND GRANTS PRESENTED

Ramapo KC volunteered to present two checks to local Search and Rescue Groups for the 2013 AKC CAR Canine Support and Relief Fund grants. Not-for-profit volunteer organizations like these groups are reliant on these much-needed funds. RKC was honored to be able to present the checks to the German Shepherd SAR Dog Association-Ramapo Unit, and the New Jersey SAR, Inc. Congratulations to them!

JC PHOTOGRAPHY

The German Shepherd SAR Dog Association- Ramapo Unit, was presented with their check at the RKC point show in October by Jeffrey Ball, our AKC Delegate.

The New Jersey SAR, Inc. was presented with their check earlier this year at the Bergen County Police and Fire Academy where they have their meetings

HOLIDAY PARTY

Wednesday December 11, 2013

Lieto Italian Restaurant
7:00 p.m.
203 Main St.
New Milford, N J.

201-265-0515
$33.00 per person
Choice of 5 entrees:
Grilled Snapper, Veal Tiverina, Salmon Castellano,
Chicken Marsala, or Chicken Parmigiana
Bar service available

Sign up with Lorraine Fennemore at the next meeting or contact her at 973-227-0945 or lorrfenn1@optonline.net

BRING A SMALL GIFT FOR THE WHITE ELEPHANT EXCHANGE!

BELIEVE IT OR NOT

My family did not own pure-bred dogs during my childhood. In fact we most often had cats. As a young adult, I always wished we had, and I considered friends whose parents did own various breeds to be fortunate. I fancied Poodles, so soon after Ed and I married, he gifted me with a Poodle we named Duchess. She was bred by Blue Gate Kennels and had a beautiful flat black coat. I wondered why her fur was not fuller—like most Poodles I'd seen.

When we took her for her puppy shots, our vet treated her and then told us to schedule the "permanent". Oh, I thought, that's what will give her the curly coat. I was that naive. Believe it or not.

Rose J. Radel

GOT STUFF?

Send your news, brags, suggestions, comments and photos to Tilly Grassa, *tgcreative@aol.com*. Remember the *Growl* comes out about a week before each monthly meeting. Check the calendar on the last page for submission deadlines. The *Growl* is by and for the members so I need your help to make it interesting.

RAMAPO KENNEL CLUB GROWL

Published by the Ramapo Kennel Club
11 Pershing Avenue
Ridgewood, NJ 07450

Designer/Editor: Tilly Grassa—*tgcreative@aol.com*
973-633-5254

Dates to remember:

All membership meetings are held at

VFW HALL
45 PLYMOUTH STREET
FAIRFIELD, NJ AT 8:00 PM
(unless otherwise noted)

WEDNESDAY, November 13	Membership meeting. Program: AKC Coursing Ability Tests There will be a board meeting starting at 7:15PM
WEDNESDAY, November 27	Deadline for December Growl
WEDNESDAY, December 11	Holiday Party at Lieto Italian Restaurant, New Milford, NJ No board meeting
TUESDAY, December 31	Deadline for January Growl
WEDNESDAY, January 11	Membership meeting. Program TBA There will be a board meeting starting at 7:15PM

RAMAPO KENNEL CLUB

GROWL

11 Pershing Avenue
Ridgewood, NJ 07450

FIRST CLASS MAIL