



# CAPE COD KENNEL CLUB

## Newsletter

Volume 3, Issue 3

capecodkennelclub@verizon.net

March 2007

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<p><b>BREEDER REFERRAL</b></p> <p>If you want to be listed on the breeder referral list, please contact Janice at <a href="mailto:jbalt@comcast.net">jbalt@comcast.net</a> or call (508) 394-1272.</p> <p>Also, please contact Donna Martino at <a href="mailto:dpmartino@comcast.net">dpmartino@comcast.net</a> to be listed on the breeder referral list on our website.</p>	<p><b>Deadline</b></p> <p>Any articles/prags for the April Newsletter must be received by the Editor by 03/20/07.</p>	<p><b>SNOW CANCELLATIONS</b></p> <p>In the event that we have to cancel training classes due to inclement weather please check the front page of the club's webpage—<a href="http://www.capecodkc.org">www.capecodkc.org</a>. We will also be listing it on WQRC. If you are unsure you can call Bayview Kennel's at (508) 362-6506 and John will have the cancellation on the recording.</p>
	<p><b>Webmaster</b> Donna Martino <a href="http://www.capecodkc.org">www.capecodkc.org</a></p>	

## OBEDIENCE COLUMN

by Jackie Owens

rosehoss@cape.com

I have a picture that was taken of the qualifiers at my first Novice A class.

I did qualify with a 171, and we were awful!! Not because my Rotti didn't do a nice recall or stand for exam but because she was all over the ring during heeling. In short her heeling stunk and that dog had great heeling in class and practice. Sound familiar? The picture shows every one lined up to receive placements. I was looking off in one direction and my dog, who was pulling on the leash, was looking off in another direction. The old adage "a picture is worth a thousand words" was never more true.

When training for attention everyone learns the active attention. You set up to heel and expect your dog at that moment to look at you and tune out the rest of the world. But there is passive attention too and it's very important. If you have your dog out of her crate and on a leash you need to train your dog to pay attention to you. This means not vacuum the floor for goodies, not visit with other dogs and not look to the far off mountains. He is to have his mind on you, very similar to the "with me" exercise. You may be looking at something or talking with someone, but your attention is really focused on your dog. This way she learns that her job is always to be attuned to you and your commands. Remember you are the team leader so don't leave your dog to her own devices. If you find yourself pulling your dog off of a person or another dog or from a piece of cheese on the floor, you have not done your job. If your attention was adequately on your dog that situation would not have happened. For some dogs passive attention takes a lot of work but it is oh so worth it.

I don't know if our heeling would have been any better in my first Novice A class if I had known about and perfected passive attention, but the chances are the photo would have had dog and handler communicating with each other and on the same planet together.

Next month I plan to tell you about the funniest thing that has happened to me in the ring. It was in a sub Novice class and at the time I was soooooo humiliated and embarrassed. It's good to be able to look back at that and laugh. E-mail me and share your funny times in the ring or funny happenings with your dog.

I know it's kind of ancient history now, but the CCKC Annual Banquet was a blast. Speaking of which, if you see a pink flamingo somewhere on the dunes in Truro, not to worry. He is with his own true love.

*Train With Laughter*

## TrainingClasses

The schedule is as follows:

### SCHEDULE:

6:00 p.m. Basic Obedience—7 weeks

6:30 p.m. Puppy Kindergarten—5 weeks

6:45 p.m. Intermediate Drop-in

7:30 p.m. Attention (7 weeks) Includes theory (how a dog learns), attention games, how to motivate your dog, attention in heel position progressing into attention while moving, introduction to sit stay and down stay, introduction to front.)

8:15 p.m. Show Handling Drop-In

### AGILITY:

Imbi's Dog Friends Co-op, West Yarmouth

6:30 p.m. Foundation 1 – 6 weeks

7:45 p.m. Foundation 2 – 6 weeks

Sea Horse Farm, Harwich

6:30 p.m. Teamwork 1 – 6 weeks

6:30 p.m. Handling Skills – 6 weeks

7:45 p.m. Teamwork 2 – 6 weeks

7:45 p.m. Course Skills – 6 weeks

### COST:

Basic Obedience: \$85 non-members/\$80 members

Puppy Kindergarten: \$60

Utility: \$85 non-members/\$80 members

Drop-In Classes: \$7 non-members/ \$5 members

Foundation Agility @ Imbi's: \$95 non-members/\$90 members

Agility @ Sea Horse Farm: \$90 non-members/\$85 members

### Next class starting dates:

Basic 3/14/07

Puppy 3/14/07

Attention 3/14/07

### ARM CHAIR RALLY

For those of us who are unfortunate enough to find ourselves bent or broken during the cold and snowy weeks ahead there is still training to be done. Downs and sits can easily be practiced from a chair. If your arms are working, right and left finishes can be worked on sitting on a stool or kitchen chair. Attention or clicker training can easily be accomplished from almost any position-I once clicker trained a dog while laying in bed with a broken ankle. All it took was lops of small treats and a willingness to let the dog get in the bed with me.

Arm in a sling? You can practice three steps back, fronts and finishes to your good side. Leg in a cast? If you can stumble along your dog will get used to it. Many of your dogs trouble spots can be worked on from a chair and practiced until they are letter perfect-provides you're not planning to do jumps or fast forwards...Use your imagination and don't give up on training because of an injury. You waste valuable time if you don't. Keep your dog working if just to a limited degree while you're down.

Both Dianne and I have worked with injuries (we seem to be prone to them...) I trained my first CD dog with my left arm in a sling-just had to learn to pop with my right hand and teach a right finish. Dianne's training a UD dog right now- with HER left arm in a sling-she just can't give any left hand signals right now. I put two RAE titles on dogs wearing a walking cast-and I DID stumble around a lot with that boot on my foot, but I still did it. Right now I'm sitting in front of a cozy fire in my Lazyboy recuperating from surgery on my right ankle and getting ready to work with a young bitch to get her ready for Rally, and attention training on with another.

So don't give up on Rally just because you're laid up or infirm at the moment-be inventive and find ways to work on different exercises whil you're resting in that chair...

Hope you never have to take this advice, Mikki & Dianne

### Massachusetts Hearing of the Joint Committee on Financial Serves

The AKC has learned that MA H4516 and NY A1824--bills to prohibit insurance companies from discriminating against homeowners based on the breed of dog they own--will very soon be considered by their respective state legislatures. The American Kennel Club believes that insurance companies should determine coverage of a dog-owning household based on the dog's deeds, not the dog's breed. We encourage your immediate support of these important bills!

For years families have been forced to give up their loving companions because of skyrocketing premiums or companies' outright refusal to cover certain breeds. These bills both present a very reasonable alternative--insurance companies can raise rates or refuse coverage only if a dog has been deemed dangerous based on existing state law.

#### ***In Massachusetts:***

*MA H4615 has been scheduled for a hearing before the Joint Committee on Financial Serves on March 14th at 11 a.m. in Room A-2. Dog owners are strongly encouraged to attend the hearing if possible to show support for the bill.*

*If you cannot attend the hearing, please contact your state representatives and express your support. Your voice is especially important if your elected official sits on the committee below. Find out who represents you in Massachusetts*

Joint Committee on Financial Services  
State House #254  
Boston, MA 02133  
Phone:617/722-2220

### ***Health Topics Wanted***

This year I would like to have more on health topics in the newsletter. Articles can be sent to me. Or do you have a particular health question you would like answered? Send me the question at capecodkennel-club@verizon.net and we will get it answered for you.

### **Canine Brags**

Helyne Medeiros's BIS Ch. Cookieland Foolish Pleasure, Pointer was the **First Award of Merit at Westminster**. BIS Ch. Dobe's Den Point Becky owned & handled by Helyne Medeiros was **Best of Breed at Westminster** and also made the cut in the Group!

Donna O'Connell's English Cocker Spaniel, Tyler, won a Group 4 at the Greater Lowell Kennel Club show in Fitchburg, MA on January 13, 2007 and another Group 4 at the Glen Falls Kennel Club show in Queensbury, NY on February 4, 2007.

## WHAT IS FLYBALL?

If you mention “Flyball” many people respond with either a blank expression or total confusion. It is not a brand new sport for dogs, but it is catching on.

“Flyball” consists of a team of seven people and six dogs, although only four people and four dogs actually compete during a “run” in competition. Two people and their dogs are alternates, usually held in reserve if a dog becomes injured, over-tired or “saved” for runs later on in the competition. An all important member of the team is called the box-loader, who will load balls in the “Flyball box”.

The box is equipped with an arm either extending outward from the back or inside the box itself and a pedal on the front that locks (Many different styles are available). The approaching dog must press on the pedal which releases the arm, which throws a ball up in the air, which is caught by the dog (hopefully). That’s the easy part. Add a course that is 49-51 feet long, a start line of four feet from the first jump set ten feet apart, a “Flyball box” set fifteen feet from the last jump, a dog running down over all four jumps, catching the ball and returning back over four jumps to it’s handler. Well, this is when “Flyball” turns into something noisy, fun, frustrating and satisfying all rolled into one. It is true competition that embraces team work between all dogs and all handlers.

“Flyball” is really a race with four dogs, and the “timing” begins at the sound of a whistle, and stops when the fourth dog returns over the finish line. Two teams at a time run against each other, and the team that wins the first two runs during a “Heat” (two out of three) will compete against another winning team later on in the tournament.

All in all the main idea of “Flyball” is to promote sportsmanship within teams. If you have any interest in the sport, for fun and for play, please contact Kathy Peloquin at the following e-mail address [kat@hinckley.net](mailto:kat@hinckley.net). You can also view additional information on NAFA’s web site [www.flyball.org](http://www.flyball.org)

## AKC DELEGATES REPORT

*Submitted by Helyne Medeiros, Delegate*

President Dennis Sprung announced at the December Delegates meeting that AKC would seek the input of the Fancy on the subject of possibly expanding mixed breed dog participation in AKC programs. Specifically, Staff is researching a listing service for spayed and neutered mixed breed dogs. In addition, we are exploring the possibility of enrollees in this service being eligible to compete in AKC Companion Events (agility, obedience, rally, tracking).

We want to give the Fancy ample opportunity to give feedback before proceeding with forming any program proposals. We request that you respond to the Mixed Breed Dog Participation Survey so we can receive your opinions on the subject. Staff also has prepared an informational packet that contains background and facts regarding mixed breed dogs and AKC’s interest in mixed breed dogs. This material may be useful to you as background information in thinking about your answers to the survey.

You may access both the survey and the information packet through website [www.akc.org/mixedbreed\\_survey](http://www.akc.org/mixedbreed_survey). We ask that you complete the survey by March 31, 2007. The survey also is being sent to Delegates. In addition, you are welcome to forward the survey to your club members so they can offer their opinions.

Your input is extremely important to us, and we look forward to receiving your feedback.

Sincerely,

James P. Crowley

AKC Executive Secretary