



HMKC PAWPRINT NEWSLETTER

HELENA MONTANA KENNEL CLUB

OCTOBER ISSUE 2015

President: Thea Sperline
Vice President: Marion Erp
Secretary: Caroline Hudnall

Treasurer: Catherine LeCours
Newsletter Editor: Nancy Nicholson

Presidents Message (Travel Log)

So much has happened in these past few weeks, both at home and in our travels. I heard that you had great weather for the agility trial and that it was a great success. I would love to hear your stories, I am receiving e-mails, though sometimes not as timely as I would like and sometimes I have had trouble sending a response, the wonderful world of cyberspace, sometimes perplexing.

Ruger and Heidi were my wonderful stars at the Swissy National, winning a few ribbons and bringing home some lovely awards of Colorado pottery. Yes, Tommie, I have broken the injury curse of my past few years, NO injuries this year.

Our adventures have included driving through the Rocky Mountain National Park which took us to elevations above 11,000 feet far above the tree line with high country tundra similar to the Bear Tooth Hwy, breathtaking views overlooking the valleys and spanning the tops of the Rocky's. Then we took Hwy 550 between Ridgeway and Durango taking us above 10,000 feet with hairpin turns limiting speed to 10 or 20 MPH and occasional construction zones due to portions of this two lane Hwy having literally fallen away reducing the commute to one lane, but the views of the mountain tops and the valleys below were incredible. Both of these Hwy's were two lanes with severe cliffs with no guard rails which made for a sometimes nervous commute. This was all in the motorhome towing a car, yes I was driving and John was trying to enjoy the scenery, he was a brave and stoic husband.

In Grand Junction I had the pleasure of watching some of their agility trial, same weekend as ours. It made me homesick. It was on a lovely grass field, the membership was very friendly. The size of their club is about the same as ours and they did a lovely job. Durango also puts on dog shows and trials, though my timing was not right for watching them, but what a lovely city to visit for one of their events.

The weather has been virtually perfect so far on this trip. Warmer than at home and dryer, wish I could share some with you. We watch the weather report on a regular basis, and I hate to say this, but we count our blessing that we are in a bit warmer climate and less windy (so far).

Whether I am in Helena or on the road, the club business continues on. Marion, the officers and all the committee chairpersons are doing an admirable job of managing that business. There are several things that you should be thinking about as we draw closer to the end of the year.

- We have nominations and elections coming soon. This next election will be for 1 Board Member. The candidate needs to be announced at the December meeting and also included in the December newsletter. The voting for this next election will happen at the January meeting.
 - Who among you are willing to be on the Board of Director's?
 - Who among you are willing to be on the Nominating Committee?
- We have the Winter Social event coming in January.
 - We need to decide how much money to allocate to that event. Marion will have more information on this topic at the November meeting.
 - Who among you are willing to help organize this event? There needs to be more than one person for this committee. Many hands make for light work.

I hope everyone will attend the November meeting, the more who attend the better are the decisions for the benefit of the club. I miss everyone and Montana and I look forward to getting back home, but at the same time I am very much enjoying this road trip. Good luck at any event you participate in and be sure to love and cuddle your fur kids.

PRESIDENT'S REMINDER....If you have an interest in developing your conformation skills, and I know there are many of us, I would like an opportunity to visit with you after our regular club meeting to discuss what activities you would like for the club to sponsor that will help you.

I will be working on developing our club budget for 2016 very soon. I would like to include something that is of specific interest to the conformation discipline. I have some ideas, but it is more important to me to hear your ideas.

I can't include into the budget things that I don't know about. So do some thinking and be ready to share. Remember – ALL ideas are GOOD ideas.

If you won't be at the club meeting you can email your idea to me and I'll work on including it.

Thea

SECRETARY'S MINUTES FROM LAST MEETING

(Draft Subject to Approval)

HELENA MONTANA KENNEL CLUB

Membership Meeting of October 6, 2015

Members Present: Ted Brodowy, Sue Near, Tommie Dahl, Peggy Duezabou, Alice Elliott, Marion Erp, Janie Frisch, Caroline Hugnall, Florence Josephs, Deidre Kane, Jane Kosnik, Desiree Moffett, Patty Mott, Rita Munson, Jean Norgerud, Kathy Shuck, Nena Kurger and Nancy and Lee Nicholson.

Marion Erp as the acting President in Thea's absence opened the meeting. She asked for approval of the September meeting minutes. Hearing no comments and/or corrections, Lee moved to approve as they stand and Jean seconded that motion and the membership approved.

No President's or Treasurer's reports given.

The secretary read two letters received. One was from a club member, Heidi Rudio who is getting married on Oct. 10th and was inviting all club members to the reception scheduled in Helena on November 7th. The other note was a "thank you" from vendor, Connie Fedler of Livingston (see contact info under Show Chairperson's Reports).

The "acting president", Marion, asked for reports from committees:

TRAINING: Patty gave a report on Training and noted that Alice just started a basic obedience class and Patty still has two sessions left from her September class. Caroline mentioned that the November Basic Obedience class is nearly filled (yea!) with only one or two openings left.

Marion reminded the membership that Lynn Tamms, a judge from Wisconsin will be in town and presenting an educational session tomorrow, Oct 7th, at 7:00pm at the HMKC building to discuss the new regulations that AKC will make effective on December 1, 2015.

Agility classes with Catherine as instructor will start on October 26th. Jeanine will be leading an advanced class and will be teaching on Thursdays.

AGILITY: Jean reported that the trials just finished a couple days ago and they went very well. There was one problem with parking but Jean spoke to Keith (fairgrounds office) and the problem was quickly resolved. Jean thanked all members that worked at the trial. She also noted that the fairgrounds personnel did a wonderful job in getting the dirt floor packing "just right". Patty noted that the raffle item, a medium sized crate was "not a hot item".

CLUSTER SHOW: Marion read a report from Barb regarding the outcome of the show. That report will be a part of the newsletter under Show Chair Reports.

OLD BUSINESS: Title pins were discussed by Marion. She reported that Jeanine will be sending out an email very soon asking for any orders of these pins based on two per member allowable for each club member of the club that has achieved a title for their dog during the calendar year which the club will pay for. If you want additional pins they will be at your own expense.

Winter Social Activity was discussed. There was interest noted from the membership and Tommie moved to have it in January with Nancy seconding the motion, all approved. Alice moved to have it on January 9th (Saturday), Ted seconded, and all approved. It generally involves a dinner at 5:30 or 6:00pm, decorations and we will need a volunteer to head up the committee to make arrangements. It was also discussed on whether to combine our January meeting with this social or hold it separately. The membership agreed to hold the January meeting separately on the usual day of the week and time, Tuesday, January 5th at 6:30pm for business purposes.

Marion reminded everyone about the scheduled photo shoot by Dianne and Ron Armstrong on Saturday, October 31st at the HMKC building from 10am-3pm. Those interested must sign up when they arrive on that day. The charge will be \$5.00 per photo, no matter if it involves a single dog, multiple dogs or owner & dogs. Ron will provide the .jpg to each club member for their own use. Costumes are optional and Di & Ron usually provide a Fall backdrop for the photos. This might be an opportunity to get your Christmas card photo done.

NEW BUSINESS: Alice discussed participation in the Parade of Lights event, held on the Friday after Thanksgiving. The parade is in conjunction with the Downtown Holiday Stroll and the lighting of the firetower, where many of the downtown businesses are open for customers and is always well attended by the public. If you are interested, please contact Alice via email or phone and let her know as she is organizing the entry. In past years many members have added battery powered lights to their dog's collars and dressed them in holiday type sweaters, etc to be festive, which the onlookers always enjoy. This event begins at 6:00pm for lineup of the parade entries.

Marion advised that the Board will be working on three Policies and noted that she was informing us of this project and that the Board has not discussed and come to a conclusion on them. When policies have been firmed up they will be presented to the membership for comment/input. These policies generally apply to the memberships with our club. Many members gave suggestions and/or asked questions which will be forwarded to the Board while they are drafting up the policies.

Braggs were shared by club members in attendance and applauded.

Patty moved for adjournment, Jean seconded and all approved. Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Caroline Hudnall, Club Secretary

SHOW CHAIRPERSON'S REPORTS

NOTE: It was requested that we note the non-food vendors we had at the show as they are as follows:

- Earl Fred, Woodwork, 1614 Grant Street, Helena, Mt 59601, 406-449-9115
- Connie Fiedler, Windsocks by Connie, www.windsocksbyconnie.com, 406-223-5242, Connie sews and handpaints all her products. *Connie also sent a nice note of thanks to our club for allowing her to be a vendor.
- Sandy Nelson, K-9 Comforts, dog beds, pads and more, k9comforts@centurytel.net, 406-755-5728
- The 3 C's, mail@3cdog.com, 509-246-1451 (Washington), General dog supplies



Fall Roundup Cluster Show Report

We had another successful Fall Roundup Cluster Show. First of all, I want to extend a huge THANK YOU to all the club members that helped out in order to have such a successful show. I truly appreciate all those that volunteered to take on a chair position for the show, helped with set-up and clean-up, stewarding in conformation, obedience and rally, hospitality, raffle and catalog table, and being there whenever there was a job to be done. You are all great!

The Show ran very smoothly. We don't have any final numbers yet for profit, but we did keep expenses down more this year, and I think we may be up on income from camping and raffle. Entries were pretty close to entries for the last couple years, which is better than many clubs around the area and other states. The judges could not say enough good things about our show. Almost all of them indicated that they could not find anything wrong with our show, and they would love to come back. They also commented on the great hospitality, great hotel, great facility, fantastic stewards, and that our show is what a dog show is meant to be.

We also had some great publicity in the local papers, radio stations, TV coverage and the nice display downtown at the entrance to the walking mall. Again, thank you to all that helped out!

Although the show just got over a couple weeks ago, a Cluster meeting will be scheduled in the near future to discuss next year's cluster show, which will include a Wire Haired Pointed Griffon Specialty to be held in conjunction with the show. This should increase entries for next year.
Barb Delaney



Agility Trial Report Thanks to all members and prospective members who helped make our Fall Agility Trial a success. Lots of work and LONG days but we pulled another one off. We had the best turn out for members helping with set-up and take down ever! The fair grounds got the surface of the multipurpose building perfect. Special thanks are due to folks that don't even run the bitter end. And to all the folks who ROCK!



Special appreciation to our committee members: Trial Chair-Christie LeCours & Barb Delaney, Course Builders- Doug Morgan, Jeannette Leatherman, Hospitality-Wendy Brenden and her amazing crew Kathy Shunk, Alice Elliot, Jessica & Montana Johl, & Suzie Morley, Volunteer Coordinator-Chris McGonigle & Susan Bouse, Raffles-Sandy Smallwood & awesome ticket sellers Nancy & Lee Nicholson, Connie Leatherman & Susan Bouse, Awards-Jeanette Prevel, Camping-Adele Delp.

Leone, Secretaries-Catherine Prevel, Twd Brodowy, & Steve

Jean Norderud & Patty Mott, Agility Trial Chairs

BRAGS (From those not at the last meeting in person) From Dianne Armstrong: Gracie finisher her Beginner Novice and Noovice Rally titles on the same day at the Great Falls shows. She is 17 mos. Old and it was her very first trial. She qualified 7/7 runs with obedience scores of 196.5, 192, 198 and 197.5 finishing the weekend with four 2nd places and a 3rd in rally. IOT was especially fun to receive our titles from Judge Louise Botko, one of the top Mini Schnauzer competitors in the country.

From Thea Sperline: Vixen finished her Excellent JWW preferred title and earned 2 legs towards her Excellent Standard Preferred title at the Great Falls agility trial.

NEXT MEETING DATE/TIME/LOCATION/AGENDA

The next meeting will take place on Tuesday, November 3, 2015 at the HMKC building, Lewis & Clark Fairgrounds, at 6:30pm.

Preliminary Draft Agenda

- Call the meeting to order
- Introduction of guests, if any
- Introduction of membership to guests
- Approval of minutes of the October 6 meeting
- Secretary's Report
- President's Report -- Thea
- Treasurer's Report -- Catherine LeCours
- Report of the Committees
- Training Committee
- Obedience classes ongoing and upcoming -- Caroline, Patty, Alice
- Quick recap/highlights of Lynn Tamm's obedience presentation -- Marion Erp
- Agility Committee
- Financials on our October agility trial? -- Catherine? Jean/Patty
- Ongoing/upcoming agility classes -- Patty
- Old Business
 - Information on ordering title pins? -- Jean Blaner
 - Parade of Lights on Thanksgiving Friday -- Alice Elliott?
 - Re-examination of our winter holiday party
 - Date/Time/Place? Here or restaurant or catered?

- Business meeting?
 - Organizers/committee
 - Budget - separate Social Decorations from Social Meal/Beverage Expenses
- New Business
 - FYI: Nominations Committee formed for election of 1 Board member in November.
 - Two people, one being a Board representative
 - Nominations announced in December, voting at January meeting
- Brags
- Adjournment
- **SPECIAL NOTE:** there will be an agility meeting after the November 3, club meeting. The application is due in early December for the April 2016 trial. We need at a minimum a volunteer for Trial Chair and to decide which classes to offer at this upcoming trial.