



July 2007

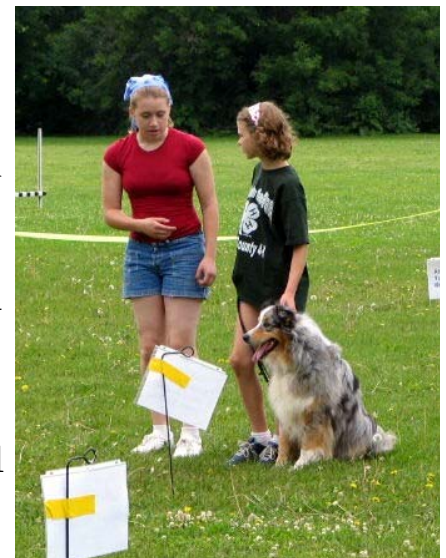
RMKC Newsletter

RMKC Members help with Zumbrota Dog Expo

Several members of the Rochester MN Kennel Club were on hand to help out with the first ever Dog Expo, which was part of the Zumbrota Covered Bridge Days Festival on Saturday, June 16th. The purpose of the expo was to hopefully provide festival goers a chance to see & experience some popular aspects of dog sports, as well as an opportunity to meet a variety of dogs & get information on dog breeds, AKC events, etc. There was an information table with handouts & displays, agility demonstrations, a rally course for people to walk through, & vendors. RMKC member & Zumbrota resident Beth Haas helped organize the event - RMKC



members working the event were Julie Prentice, Paul Howe, Nicole Cherry, Diana & Mackenzie Mann, Carole Sorenson, & Liz Forss, Hopefully this event will become recurring part of Zumbrota's annual festival.



There will be a short **Board Meeting** at **6:30 pm**, prior to the General Membership meeting.

The RMKC Picnic will be held in August at Grovdahl's - more details in the August newsletter.

In This Month's Issue

Zumbrota Dog Expo	Cover
July Board Meeting	Cover
RMKC Picnic	Cover
Agility Trial Volunteers	Cover
Summer Alert for Dogs	Page 2
May meeting minutes	Page 3
Member Brags	Page 3
Officers & Board Members	Back Cover

Members wishing to volunteer to help at the **RMKC Agility Trial**,

held Labor Day weekend, should contact Denise Wedel (wedel.denise@mayo.edu).

This year's trial will include the new FAST class, which should make it both busy & exciting to watch - don't miss out on a front row seat.

Summertime Alert for Dogs Who Swim (from Whole-Dog Journal.com)

Freshwater ponds, lakes and streams could be deadly to your water dog if they contain toxins borne by blue-green algae.

If the water where your dog swims looks cloudy, with a green or blue-green cast, you should suspect a dangerous overgrowth of blue-green algae, and prevent your dog from ingesting the water.

Whole Dog Journal confirmed a recent report, currently in wide circulation in dog-related e-mail lists, from a Michigan dog owner whose nine-month-old Border Collie, Vita, died shortly after swimming in a pond near Fenton, Michigan. The man regularly brought his three Border Collies to the pond for conditioning swims. But on Monday, June 25, his youngest dog threw up after drinking some of the water, and shortly afterward, lost consciousness. Thinking that the dog had heatstroke, the owner immediately applied ice to her stomach, checked her temperature (which was normal), checked her gums (also normal), and called his veterinarian. The owner quickly took his unconscious dog to an emergency veterinary clinic, and she was placed on a ventilator, but did not survive.

The emergency vet told the dog's owner that he had recently seen other dogs die of blue-green algae toxicity – a condition that can kill pets, livestock, and people who drink the contaminated water. "Had I ever heard of the danger of blue-green algae, I never would have allowed my dogs to swim in that or any other pond; I would have bought a pool," the owner told *Whole Dog Journal*.

The dangers of a "toxic bloom" of blue-green algae are well known in some states. According to a website published by the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency, certain environmental conditions that generally occur late in summer can trigger a sudden overgrowth of a certain family of algae called cyanobacteria. This type of algae occurs in many aquatic environments year-round, but may thrive to a dangerous degree in during periods of sustained warm, sunny days in shallow, nutrient rich bodies of water. In these conditions, the blue-green algae suddenly "blooms" – that is, reproduces exponentially. The algae produce a powerful toxin – one of the most powerful natural poisons known. The state of Minnesota warns its citizens about this hazard, stating that the blue-green algae blooms are occasionally responsible for the deaths of livestock and dogs who drink contaminated water.

However, when the man whose dog died this week in Michigan contacted his state's Department of Natural Resources, looking for more information about the dangerous algae, he says he was told that the toxic blooms rarely occur except in late summer, and not to either panic or panic other people. "Had someone else panicked, we wouldn't be having this conversation right now," the grieving owner told the state representative.

Dog owners should be aware that toxic algae blooms usually occur in late summer or early fall, but can occur at any time. They can occur in marine, estuarine, and (especially) fresh water. The latter are of the greatest concern to dog owners, as dogs are commonly taken to ponds, lakes, and reservoirs in the summer for recreation, exercise, and cooling -- and they routinely drink the water. Some of these algae blooms look like foam, scum, or mats on the surface of the water. The blooms can be blue, bright green, brown, or red ("red tide" is perhaps the best-known so-called "harmful algal bloom") – but some blooms may not affect the appearance of the water. The water may or may not smell bad. As a further difficulty to dog owners trying to protect their dogs, not all algal blooms are toxic!

When an algal bloom is toxic, obviously, it can kill or seriously sicken an animal, sometimes as quickly as within 15 or 20 minutes of ingestion. The effects depend on the amount ingested, the size of the animal, the amount of food in the animal's stomach (a full stomach has some protective effect), the sensitivity of the species and individual animal, and the amount of toxin present in the bloom.

According to the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency, "An animal that has ingested toxins from an algae bloom can show a variety of symptoms, ranging from skin irritation or vomiting to severe disorders involving the circulatory, nervous and digestive systems, and severe skin lesions. In the worst case, the animal may suffer convulsions and die People are seldom seriously affected by toxic algae because the unpleasant odor and appearance of water associated with blue-green algae blooms tend to make us avoid it. However, skin rashes, nasal irritation, or other health effects may result from skin contact with algal toxins. Swallowing or ingesting water with a blue-green algae bloom may cause symptoms such as vomiting, diarrhea, or nausea; headache, throat irritation, or muscle pain; and in severe cases paralysis or respiratory failure."

Further, the Minnesota Department of Health recommends that humans not ingest, swim or wade in water with blue-green algae, or let children or pets enter it. "If contact does occur, the material should be washed off thoroughly, paying special attention to the swimsuit area. If your pet comes in contact with a bloom, wash off your pet's coat to prevent the pet from ingesting the algae while self-cleaning. If you suspect the animal is sick from the algae, call a veterinarian immediately."

"More people should know about this hazard," the Michigan dog owner told us, his voice choking with grief. "I don't want this to happen to anyone else's dog."

RMKC General Membership Meeting - May 11, 2007

Members present: Diana Mann, Pat Campbell, Renee McGovern, Patti Wiebe, Caroline Baihly, Marie Christianson, Barcy Jones, Sandy Woodruff, Paul Henning, Kris Henning, Rick Miller, Julie Prentice. No visitors were present.

President Diana Mann called the meeting to order @ 7:38 pm

President's Report: Diana thanked Renee McGovern & Marie Christianson for their presentation on Tracking.

Approval of April minutes: Motion was made by Marie Christianson; seconded by Julie Prentice to approve the minutes. Motion carried.

Corresponding Secretary: Correspondence was reviewed by general membership with Nicole Wiebusch being recognized for her work with the Rochester Reading Program.

Treasurer's Report: Treasurer Caroline Baihly reported on income, expenses. No correspondence as to date from the IRS.

Election of Officers: Agenda for the May monthly membership meeting includes election of officers for the next calendar year. Slate of officers brought forward by the Nominating committee are as follows:

President: Diana Mann

Vice President: Beth Haas

Recording Secretary: Pat Campbell

Corresponding Secretary: Marie Christianson

Treasurer: Caroline Baihly

Board Members: Julie Prentice, Carole Sorenson

Motion was made by Sandy Woodruff, seconded by Renee McGovern to accept slate of officers. Motion carried.

Committee Reports:

Show Committee: Kris Henning reported Judges Panel is complete except final acceptance by one Canadian judge. Meeting to be held to approve Premium List.

Trophy Committee: Julie Prentice will send out e-mails to all who donated trophies.

Grounds Committee: Paul Henning reported on RV parking. Discussion on rate of \$20 per RV

Seminars: Julie Prentice looking for another speaker for a seminar

Membership: We are sorry to accept the resignation of Pattie Wiebe as chair of our Membership Committee.

Patti & her husband will be moving to North Carolina. Renee McGovern volunteered to accept the vacated position. We would like to extend our thanks and best wishes to Patti.

Old Business:

CGC testing is in need of volunteers

The House & Senate Bill was revised & reintroduced on May 10th. Diana encouraged members to read & contact their Representatives.

Canine Carnival - Diana is checking on possible date. Members discussed & decided to table at this time.

Flat Coat Nationals will be in Rochester June 11-15th. Some volunteers already accepted, but more could always be used. Agility setup will be June 10th.

Show Signage - order was placed.

New Business: No new business at this time.

Adjournment: Motion was by Caroline Baihly & seconded by Kris Henning to adjourn. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned @ 8:15 pm

Respectfully Submitted,

Pat Campbell, Recording Secretary

MEMBER BRAGS

Ruth Upchurch - **Karamar Third Watch "Bosco" (Labrador Retriever)**

MN River Valley KC - WD/BOW for 3 pt major

Fargo-Moorhead KC - WD

Carole Sorenson - **Success All American Girl "Hope" (Chinese Shar-pei)**

Fargo-Moorhead KC - WB/BOW for 3 pt major - NEW CHAMPION!

Renee McGovern - **Drumlins Believe It or Not RE TD AX AXJ CD "Ripley" (Shetland Sheepdog)**

Upper IA KC - June 8-10 - 3 1st place Qualifying Scores & HIGH IN TRIAL!

Barb Hartman - **Mikumar's Mission Control "NASA" (Chinese Shar-pei)**

Fargo-Moorhead KC - WD for major - NEW CHAMPION!

Julie Prentice - **Everafter's Vintage Top Shelf "Booker" (Whippet)**

Lake Minnetonka KC - WD/BOW for 3 pt major

Rochester Minnesota Kennel Club
P. O. Box 5803
Rochester, MN 55903-5803



Rochester Minnesota Kennel Club 2007-2008

Officers

President: Diana Mann

Ph: 252-9018

Email: mann.diana@yahoo.com

Vice-President: Beth Haas

Ph: 732-5201

Email: Haas.Elizabeth@mayo.edu

Recording Secretary: Pat Campbell

Ph: 932-3319

Email: patron@rconnect.com

Corresponding Secretary: Marie Christiansen

Ph: 289-9379

Email: marie@agstrobels.com

Treasurer: Caroline Baihly

Ph: 867-4815

Email: cdbaihly@rapidwebllp.com

Membership Chair: Renee McGovern

Ph: 282-2069

Email: mcgovern.renee@mayo.edu

Newsletter Editor: Diana Mann

Ph: 252-9018

Email: mann.diana@yahoo.com

Board Members

Julie Prentice: Ph: 529-2977

Email: japren@aol.com

Carole Sorenson: Ph: 289-5368

Email: sorensenpntg@msn.com

RMKC Website: <http://www.rmkc.8m.com>

Monthly Meeting Information -

Date: 2nd Monday **Time:** 7:00 pm **Location:** Good Shepherd Lutheran Church ~ 559 20th St SW
Directions from downtown Rochester: South on Broadway to 20th St SW (Kwik Trip) - turn right (W) - go approx 5 blocks to top of hill - Church is on the right, set back from the street