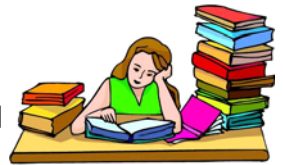




September 2007

RMKC Newsletter



RMKC Agility Trial 2007

A beautiful weekend & a big entry helped make the 2007 RMKC Agility Trial a big success. Along with the running of all levels of Standard & Jumpers classes, this year's trial is the first year that the FAST class was offered, which substantially upped the entry total. Congratulations to Agility Trial Chair Caroline Baihly & the rest of the committee on another successful agility event!



There will **NOT** be a board meeting before the General Membership meeting on Sept. 10th.

RMKC All-Breed 2007

The second act of the RMKC show cycle is just days away & show committee members are busy making final preparations. The RMKC All-Breed Conformation shows & Obedience Trials will be held Sept. 15th & 16th, with the Star of the North Chinese Shar-Pei Specialty being held Friday, Sept. 14th. Saturday we will also be hosting a Rally trial. We will again be located at the Olmsted Co. Fairgrounds in Graham East & West. If members would like to volunteer, there are several areas where they can help. Friday morning/afternoon will involve setting up of rings, hospitality areas, etc. Pat Campbell is Chief Ring Steward this year, so if you would be available to help in one of the rings, please contact her. Contact 2007 Show Chairs Kris Henning or Ruth Upchurch for more info on volunteer opportunities.



In This Month's Issue

RMKC Agility Trial	Cover
RMKC All-Breed show	Cover
Letter from the Editor	Cover
RMKC Picnic	Page 2
Member Brags	Page 2
BSL Watch MN Letter	Page 3
Officers & Board Members	Back Cover

Letter from the Editor

I'm sure I say this every year, but I have to say kudos & hurrah to the agility trial committee for another successful event. The weather was very cooperative - & I'm sure I'm not the only one who went home with a healthy dose of summer color before the start of fall. It is truly inspiring to see how hard everyone works & their unending supply of energy.

We have one more event to pull off & I am confident that the same energy & work ethic will be present. I looked at what I wrote a year ago & it still holds true - a positive attitude, a friendly smile, & a little encouragement can go a long way towards a successful event.

Diana Mann
RMKC Newsletter editor

 * **RMKC Picnic**
 * The annual RMKC picnic took place on August 13th as part of the August meeting. Once
 * again the Grovdahls offered the use of their home & yard - THANK YOU! After dinner & a
 * meeting, members & their dogs participated in games, including the t-shirt relay, hot dog
 * toss, diving for bones, & musical plates. Prizes were awarded to the winners, & fun was had
 * by all!

Underdog Prompts AKC to Remind Potential Dog Owners to Research the Right Breed for Their Lifestyle

Date of Article: August 06, 2007
-Taking the Time to Pick the Right Breed Makes You The Real Hero-

With the release of the action adventure movie *Underdog*, the American Kennel Club® reminds moviegoers about the importance of making careful, educated decisions when considering adding a dog to their home.

Distributed by (c) Disney Enterprises, Inc., *Underdog* is a live re-make of the classic animated television series of the same name and revives the famous phrase— "There's no need to fear, Underdog is here!" The story features "Shoeshine," a Beagle superhero who gains heroic powers after a mysterious accident occurs in the laboratory of maniacal scientist Dr. Simon Barsinister. "Shoeshine" uses his new superhero powers to protect the beleaguered citizens of Capital City as well as his Cavalier King Charles Spaniel sweetheart "Polly Purebred." The underworld boss "Riff Raff" is portrayed by three Rottweilers who, in a rags to riches story, went straight from city shelters to major movie roles.



The AKC® joins the National Beagle Club, the American Cavalier King Charles Spaniel Club and the American Rottweiler Club in sending the message that potential puppy owners should carefully research a breed when buying a dog and should buy only from a reputable source.



"People who see *Underdog* may think about owning one of the three dog breeds featured in the film," said Lisa Peterson, AKC spokesperson. "Each of these wonderful breeds has its own distinct traits and personalities. With 157 AKC recognized breeds to choose from, people need to do their research and select the dog that best fits their family."

MEMBER BRAGS

- ★ Kris & Paul Henning - Margem's Justa Kiss O'Destiny "Hanna" (Chinese Shar-Pei)
 Freeborn Co KC, Albert Lea - BOW/BOB - NEW CHAMPION! - & a Group 3!!
- ★ Pat Campbell - Ropaws Shall Tell No Tale "Tye" (Schipperke)
 Coulee KC, LaCrosse - Sat - WD/BOW/BOB - 2 points
 Sun - WD/BOW/BOB - 4 pt major - NEW CHAMPION!!
- ★ Caroline & Art Baihly - Webshire's Tri-Athlon CDX RE NA OAJ SH "Cricket" (Golden Retriever)
 Ft Detroit GRC Hunt Test - earned 4th Master Hunter leg - just 1 leg to go!

This letter & proposal was sent to RMKC President Diana Mann with a request to present it to the membership. The letter was read at the August meeting, where it was decided that a) we would allow them to distribute fliers at our all-breed show & b) we would present this letter to the entire membership to get feedback, along with contacting this group & asking them to allow us to see a draft of the letter that would get sent to the legislature before we agree to do so. If you have comments, please feel free to bring them up at the September meeting, or send them to President Diana Mann, or any of the other board members listed on the last page of the newsletter. Thank you.

We are requesting that the Rochester Minnesota Kennel Club resolve to formally oppose the proposed Breed-Specific Legislation banning Akitas, Chows, Rottweilers, Pit-Bull-type dogs, and Wolf-Hybrid mixes.

We would like the club to write a letter expressing its opposition to this legislation. We'd like copies sent to the following 6 individuals: the heads of the House and Senate Committees to which such legislation will be referred; to Rep. John Lesch, who will sponsor this bill; the District Representative and Senator for the district in which the RMKC is domiciled or holds its shows; and to us so that we may publicize your opposition. Contact information is at the bottom of this letter.

BSL is poor public policy on so many levels, not the least of which is that it does not work. It does not stop people from owning dangerous dogs, or even breeds that are banned; and there is no scientific basis for identifying any breed as dangerous. It does not eliminate dog bites. It is costly and much more expensive to administer than existing dog laws (while the cost of current enforcement is chronically underfunded). And it opens the state to the possibility of years' worth of expensive litigation (such as that which is occurring in Denver). Even the MN Department of Health in its recent dog-bite study opposes BSL as giving a false sense of security. In short, it does not address the problem.

Kennel clubs have good reason to be concerned. Once permitted, this type of legislation can spiral out of control, encompassing more and more breeds; no matter which breeds are currently in disfavor, there will always be another set of "top 5 biters" waiting to be outlawed. The owners and breeders of these breeds are your club members; they are your workers; and they are the exhibitors that enter your shows. Should BSL be enacted, it is likely that clubs in this area would take a financial hit from show people boycotting the area in protest. For example, the county of Louisville enacted mandatory Spay/Neuter laws last year; many people on a show dog list boycotted the Louisville cluster – AKC estimates their entries dropped by 40%. And those that did go to the show, for the most part, rented hotels outside the county and spent no money on food or entertainment in the county. For breed clubs, BSL can present very real fiscal issues.

After your club has approved a motion to formally fight this legislation, we would be happy to help draft a letter touching on the salient points. If you would like us to do this, please let us know.

We would also appreciate the opportunity of placing Anti-BSL fliers at your Public Education or AKC booth at upcoming shows. Another idea for publicizing this fight would be to ask your Representative or Senator to present a BIS award, or a Group award for the Working, Terrier, or Non-Sporting Group.

And, finally, we would also like to ask anyone interested in fighting this on a personal level to contact us. We have set up an e-mail list and website to plan and conduct this battle, and disseminate materials to help anyone wanting to oppose this proposed legislation. You can reach us directly for further information at <http://groups.google.com/group/bsl-watch-mn?hl=en> or akitas@minn.net.

Thank you for your time and support.

BSL Watch MN
Laurie R. White and Coleman K. Nemerov
21120 County Road 30
Corcoran, MN 55340
763-416-4170

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



Rochester Minnesota Kennel Club 2007-2008

Officers

President: Diana Mann Membership Chair: Renee McGovern
Ph: 252-9018 Ph: 282-2069
Email: mann.diana@yahoo.com Email: mcgovern.renee@mayo.edu

Vice-President: Beth Haas Newsletter Editor: Diana Mann
Ph: 732-5201 Ph: 252-9018
Email: Haas.Elizabeth@mayo.edu Email: mann.diana@yahoo.com

Recording Secretary: Pat Campbell **Board Members**

Ph: 932-3319 Julie Prentice: Ph: 529-2977
Email: patron@rconnect.com Email: japren@aol.com

Corresponding Secretary: Marie Christiansen Carole Sorenson: Ph: 289-5368
Ph: 289-9379 Email: sorensenpntg@msn.com
Email: marie@agstrobels.com

Treasurer: Caroline Baihly
Ph: 867-4815
Email: cdbaihly@rapidwebllp.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