



Heat is ON!

Inside this issue:

<i>President's Message</i>	2
<i>Vice President's Missive</i>	3
<i>Secretary's Report</i>	4
<i>Treasurer's Report</i>	5
<i>Calendar</i>	7-8
<i>Brag</i>	9
<i>Junior's Brags!</i>	11

The Heat is ON! Show was one hot time! I suspect everyone had a great time despite the usual Georgia August weather. And yes it was **HOT!**

For the curious,

Temperatures for Heat is ON! Show were 101 Friday, 98 Saturday and 96 for Sunday for Cartersville. Definitely Hot!

Congratulations to all the competitors who came out and supported GAASC at the Bartow County Saddle Club Arena. Show Chair Terry Dickey really knows how to put on a great show! The so-

cial time after the show was a feast of delights. More fresh fruit anyone? Thanks, Pat Pierce! For the excellent deserts!



Special points of interest:

- Pat's Aussie Times Article pp14-15
- PETA analysis and rebuttal (long)pp22-25

Aussies at the Hop! Nationals Pre-Show

There's a whole lotta shaking goin' on! at the GAASC Aussies at the Hop.

Hope to see you there!

Zeke and Sheila



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President's Message

The first half of 2007 is over. Isn't it amazing?

GAASC has been very successful with our agility trials this year, dormant for too long. We have been very successful with our conformation trails, as usual. The Club has increased the number of shows, and locations. Now we need to work on our obedience shows and stock dog trials. The obedience trials should draw more people in the future, as the classes and regulations are broadening the next year.

ASCA is looking to have exhibitors enjoy this sport so they will be offering different classes that promise to be new and exciting. Find out what they will be. You might catch the "bug"!

Our stock dog trials have been difficult to hold, due to numerous elements. The trial sites can be difficult to locate for a club. Costs are increasing and don't look like they will decrease any time soon - if ever. The number of people to work at the trial is also a challenge. It is difficult to enter and compete, and work at a trial. For 2008 we plan on at least two stock dog trials to be held, one in March with the Spring Fling and one in October with the Fall Jubilee. Two a year is a

big bite for a club. GAASC can do it. Not because our manpower (sorry ladies) is ex-



tensive. On the contrary, we are a small club. It is because of dedicated individuals that want to see these events happen, that bring it to reality. Now, more than ever it is easy for a "novice" to jump in. You can come to these events to watch and educate yourself for the day you will be in there competing. There are numerous small tasks to be done, and learn from. Just raise your hand for an assignment. Keep it small and simple at first. You will be amazed at how much you can learn from this

experience. I personally found the job of "bar replacer" (I don't think that's the technical term for it) in agility lots of fun. I got to watch the dogs up close, as I was inside the ring... you got it, replacing the bar when it went down after the dog blazed thru the course. I was amazed at how excited I got as the dogs flew thru the course, even though I didn't know them.

We have numerous events planned for the remainder of 2007 and all the way thru 2008. Most of them have show/trial secretaries already assigned. Most of the big jobs are taken, so plan to grab hold of a small task and learn this upcoming year. You might just discover the

"bug" in you.

Terry

Vice President's Missive

GAASC shows have certainly lived up to their names this summer! The Big Kahuna Luau in July turned out to have a Big Kahuna of an Obedience entry!

Everyone enjoyed the air conditioned building and the ice cream social and the extra relaxed atmosphere. Best of all, it was a very successful fundraiser for ARPH-GA. An emotional Rachael Eley (ARPH-GA Rep) gratefully accepted a check for \$500 from Renee Reschenthaler as a donation to help with the medical expenses of the foster dogs. We had a Parade of Rescues, showing off dogs who have been adopted and dogs who were currently in foster placements. This club showed that it cares about all Aussies, not just those who excel at Conformation or Obedience, or Herding or Tracking or just being a wonderful all round family dog.

This past weekend, the show was titled "The Heat is On", and boy, was it ever!! Temperatures in the high 90's necessitated a more relaxed approach to Agility, Obedience, and Conformation. Everyone made accommodations, however, and generally enjoyed themselves. Wil and I took advantage of the Pre-Novice class

for Agility and had our first Agility trial experience. I know we have work to do before we're ready for the real thing, but we had a wonderful time doing our runs!

If you're interested in dog-friendly beaches, I highly rec-



ommend Cape San Blas (Florida). We went there for the first time this summer and will definitely be going back. The beach is beautiful and uncrowded, and we could easily take Wil down the shoreline a little ways to let him retrieve his bumper and swim in the ocean, off leash. The whole community seems very dog friendly, and we all had a wonderful time.

Well, I'm a teacher, so my summer is over. I hope you are

still enjoying yours, however!

Best of luck to all those going to Nationals in September! I know that our Pre-show and all the entries we have from our club will further enhance GAASC's image. I look forward to hearing your stories

when you get back!

Emily

Ed Note: **Temperatures for Heat is ON! Show were 101 Friday, 98 Saturday and 96 for Sunday for Cartersville. Definitely Hot!**

Secretary's Report

It's Hot! It's that time of year when there seems to be more hair on your floors than on your dog.....sometimes I wonder how our Aussies can manage to blow so much coat, and still have so much more on them at the same time.

Weather wise, it makes sense for our outdoor working dogs to have a thicker winter coat and thinner summer one, but I still can't help but be amazed at the quantity of hair I sweep up every day. I did have a friend years ago with rough collies, who made some spectacularly beautiful yarn, and eventually scarves and mittens knitted or woven from the normal shed hair from her dogs. She did beautiful work – separated out the colors of hairs and made yarns of different textures and thicknesses. Maybe someday, I'll try the same trick with one or more bags of summer-time shed Aussie fluff.

congratulations to all our winners! It was Renee's quick thinking that made Sunday into a split venue (inside/outside), so folks who had traveled for Conformation could finish reasonably early before their long trips home. Next year, we'll juggle the schedule a bit – and we'll also remember to bring spoons for the ice cream.

At the time of this writing, The Heat Is On three-fer

on out, have some fun in the sun, and enjoy the company of other Aussie folks.

Still more plans are under way for our Nationals PreShow in New Jersey. Most of the prizes have been settled, and ribbons are chosen. Our judges and stewards are planning on making this a fun show for all of ASCA, and we'd love for help from any folks coming to Nationals. With this year being



View from the Titanic waving goodbye at Summers End

Locally, GAASC has been VERY busy! Hats off to my Big Kahuna cohorts Renee and Emily for the biggest Obedience turnout the club has fielded outside of a Nationals event! For all the Conformation exhibitors, THANK YOU for being so patient with our gigantic Obedience entry – and

(Conformation, Obedience, and Agility) is shaping up to be another well attended event at the Bartow County Saddle Club arena. We hope you can join us for the show, and also for our next scheduled GAASC meeting and munchies. Even if you don't compete in any of these venues, come

ASCA's 50th anniversary, there are sure to be surprises for this special event.

Pat Pierce
GAASC Secretary

Treasurer's Report



Chillin' with Husker

Club Checking account balance - \$7,713.70

CD Balance (original Deposit - \$16,275.00) - \$16,314.21

GAASC Wants YOU!

If you have not already sent your renewal to **Renee Reschenthaler** please take the time now to renew.

Print this page.

Fill in the form.

Sign it, and send the completed form to the address listed along with your dues.

Dues:

Family \$20 Electronic Family \$12 Single \$18 Electronic Single \$10 Junior \$5 Newsletter Only \$8

Name

Phone

Address

City State

Zip

E-Mail:

Are you an ASCA member? Membership No. Exp. date

Are you registered with: ASCA IESR AKC UKC SKC (check all that apply)

Are you interested in:

Conformation Obedience Herding Agility Breeding Tracking

Would you like your name, phone # and E-mail address included in the club directory?

Signature:

Send to: Renee Reschenthaler 5793 Rollingwood Dr., GA. 30087

September 2007

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29 <u>GAASC</u>
30 <u>ASCA Nationals</u>	<u>ASCA Nationals</u>	<u>ASCA Nationals</u>	<u>ASCA Nationals</u>	<u>ASCA Nationals</u>	<u>ASCA Nationals</u>	<u>ASCA Nationals</u>

Schedule of Events

- 9/29 GAASC Aussies at the Hop! Nationals Pre-Show, Sussex, NJ
- 9/30-10/6 ASCA Nationals, Sussex, NJ.

Aussies at the Hop!

GAASC Nationals Pre-Show!!!

September 29, 2007

ASCA Pre-Nationals Conformation Show

Sussex, NJ

Judges: Amy Burnette, David Clayton, Laura Clayton, Cheryl Padgett & Glenda Stephenson

Premium is in the March/April Aussie Times



Schedule of Events

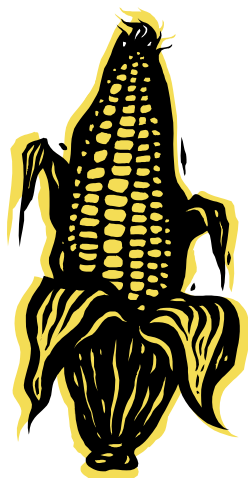
- 9/30-10/6 [ASCA Nationals, Sussex, NJ](#)
- 10/26-27 [FLPHASC Bone and Biscuit Show, Baker, FL](#)

3 ASCA All Breed Agility Trials,
4 Conformation show, 3 All Breed Obedience Trials.

October 2007

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
30 <u>ASCA Nationals</u>	1 <u>ASCA Nationals</u>	2 <u>ASCA Nationals</u>	3 <u>ASCA Nationals</u>	4 <u>ASCA Nationals</u>	5 <u>ASCA Nationals</u>	6 <u>ASCA Nationals</u>
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26 <u>FLPHASC</u>	27 <u>FLPHASC</u>
28 <u>FLPHASC</u>	29	30	31			

Kudo's for Big Kahuna Luau!



We're not just Poppin' corn here, ya know!

Emily Chapman and Pat Pierce went out on a very long, thin limb this past weekend to Chair their first show. I told them I would advise and help, but they set it up. They did an AWESOME job! Ladies, thank you. What a terrific first effort. I guess you guys get the nod to Chair from here on out! ;-)

We ended up with 3 and 4 point majors in both intact sexes and over 50(!) obedience entries each day. We also had an Obedience High in Trial Junior on Sunday! Woo Hoo!

I also want to thank all the folks who just jumped in and helped at the drop of a hat. We had many club members and non-club members step up when they saw that something needed to be done. Just some of the folks I remember helping were Trisha Herring, Barbara Kreisler, Amy Burnette, Wendy Eldredge, Joe Willis, Bob

Becker, Joan Dickerson, Ronnie Bates, Larinda Wilken and Bobby - new person who called Emily, thought we sounded fun and decided to come help! If I missed you I'm sorry, it was a pretty busy weekend.

Also, for all the clubs out there lamenting obedience turn outs I have one piece of advice - OFFER WILD CARD! This contributed to our large numbers this weekend. We had a very large regular trail, 33 entries, but we filled in the difference with Wild Card and Sub-Novice. Folks like being able to work on things and get their dogs some ring experience. We also had a great time with these classes.

Renee Reschenthaler

Pat!

You did a great job - lots of work putting on shows for sure! Loved the theme!

Jarilyn Pusz

Hey Pat!

I just wanted to thank you guys for a wonderful weekend! It was my first time in the ring, so I was a little nervous. Everyone there was so friendly and helpful. It was a great weekend.

Kim Bailey



Big Kahuna Luau Congrat's & Brags

Pur-Plesur Aussies



Getting to be Harvest time

Well I ventured off on my own again with AKC CH Pur-Plesur's Sky Watch (Doppler) to Woodstock Ga. Luau show needing 2 points to finish Dop's ASCA CH. The Sat. am show Dop went RWD to a major, under Judge Barry Rowland. Then at the Sat. pm show Dop went WD/BOW under Breeder Judge Janet White to finish. A big THANK YOU to Breeder Judge Janet White!! Now Dop is AKC/ASCA Ch. Pur-Plesur Sky Watch. Dop finished with all

Majors.

Thanks to all at the show who gave us nice compliments and congrates.

I didn't stay for the Sun. am show, as I had promised my daughter(2 legged) that I would help her get her new apartment set up. (won't do that again).

Thanks to GAASC for putting on a great show.

Also congrates to Jarlyn Pusz on Star's WB's.

Congrates to Trish Herring on the puppies wins. They are so

cute. Brandon on his RJr wins. Anna on Her JR's wins. And all the other wins who haven't bragged yet. (will let them have the honor)

Greg Bennett

Pur-Plesur Aussies

Elko Ga.

(Getting better at handling)



When you're hot your HOT!

Goldstar Aussies

Congrats Greg, Tracy & Doppler! Trisha, Brandon and the Pups! Jarlyn and Star! I think there are a few more that haven't bragged yet! What a fun show considering how long we were there Saturday!

Cedrglen Here F'the Party Goldstar came home a New Champion too! Special thanks to judges Joni Johnson, Anne Foreman, Cheryl Padgett, Lori

Acierto and Janet White for recognizing this special little girl! Also, HUGE thanks to her breeder/co-owners Debbie & Gary Anderson! Dottie is the second ASCA Champion in the litter by ASCA/AKC/UKC CH Goldstar Heritage Harlequin ASCA/AKC CD CGC/TDI HIC x Stone Oaks Kiss Me Kate. Dottie and her brother CH Trouble are a great

legacy for their Dad.

Lynda Shackelford

Goldstar Aussies

What a fun show considering how long we were there Saturday!

Big Kahuna Luau Photo's



Photo's are Peachy at Shelly's place

[Shelly Hutchinson Photography](http://quicksilver.zenfolio.com/f254982623/) did a terrific job with the Win Shots and Action Shots at the July Big Kahuna Luau I thought I'd put a plug in for the website here:

<http://quicksilver.zenfolio.com/f254982623/>

Photo's are great! Enjoy! Thanks Shelly!

Kahuna Luau Congrat's & Brags

Cash Brags

Imagineer's Carryin' On CD earns Altered Winner's Dog and Best of Winners under Breeder Judge Janet White. "Cash" is owned and loved by Jennifer Cowley, and was ranked #6 in Novice Obedience Merit for the 2007 National Obedience Finals.



Spooky Brags

Nitestar's A Bump In The Night CGC CD RA DNA-VP earns Altered Winners Dog, Best of Winners, and Best Opposite - under Judges Barry Roland and Mildred Myers at GAASC's Big Kahuna Luau event. Big thank yous to Spooky's favorite Junior Handler Miss Anna Tso, for making my obedience dog look so good in the Conformation ring, and to our judges for selecting Spooky for these wins. Spooky is now officially "singled out," and in search of those elusive Altered major wins. Spooky is owned by Pat Pierce, Carl Bartz, and Teddy Bartz too.



Big Kahuna Junior Brags!

Teddy Bartz makes his SubJunior Handling debut under judges Janet White and Mildred Meyer. Teddy says, "They made me feel like I was special! I am very happy to show my best buddy, especially when he's clean. Ruff!" Thank you judges- and Junior Handlers Miss Anna and Mr. Brandon - for coaching our rookie handler-to-be.



Gator Heaven Junior Brag!

This is Jaclyn showing Sun-swept's Devotion June 2007 in Orlando

Jaclyn handled her dog in Bred By Exhibitor garnering a 5 point major by

going Winners Bitch and Best Opposite Sex !!



National's Pre-Show News!

We hope everyone can join us in New Jersey for a "hoppin'" good time for our Nationals Pre Show - Aussies At The Hop.

Our Southeastern Judges Panel

Best of Breed, Intact – David Clayton

Intact Dogs – Amy Burnette

Intact Bitches – Cheryl Padgett

All Altered & Veterans – Laura Clayton

Puppies, Juniors & Best in Show – Glenda Stephenson

Pre Entry postmark deadline is 8/25/07. We will be taking entries the day before the show in New Jersey, but prices do get bumped up.

For full premium, please see the club website, www.gaasc.org, the Calendar page.

If anyone has any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

See you all in New Jersey!

Renee Resenthaler



Willowbrook Brag

“Fire” – Ch. Blue Isle Fire on
Fayble Hill, UD

Fire is owned by

Sharon and Joe Willis

#1 in the Front and Finish -
Open A Obedience Score Rating
System for 2006 for all
Australian Shepherds in AKC.



Heat is ON! Thank you's!

We survived - we sweated! - we drank a ton of water (thank you Renee for the ever-filling cooler) - and we had a good time, even if we're all really tired.

Big thank yous to the whole crew of volunteers, who pitched in to do all sorts of unusual tasks this weekend. I learned about the fine art of setting Agility bars, and a lot more about Agility myself....and got to see some inspiring runs, as well as lots of things that made me smile when things didn't go as expected for various teams.

I'm also glad folks liked the fruit and ice cream! The thanks for that idea really rest with the GAASC Board of Directors, who helped come up with a menu that would feel good to eat in the expected heat.

Our brand new first aid kit got used for the first time - and we are glad to report we had what

we needed for the job at hand. I believe the Club is set to repeat this sort of fun come next February! Whee!

Again, thanks to everyone who worked and helped and sweated and laughed and moved stuff and toted contacts and.....

Thank you!

Pat Pierce

just a worker this time, but glad to help!

Hey Everyone,

I wanted to send a HUGE THANK YOU to the GAASC Club for hosting an awesome weekend! The Hospitality was the best! The shows went smooth and it seemed all had a great time. Might not all be recovered yet, but we sure had a great time.))

Again, Thank You! Ya'll made the drive worth it.

Lori

Yes, They did host a great trial and the Hospitality was the Best!

I have for the photographer.



<http://www.inmotionphotos.biz>

Julie

I wanted to echo Lori's comments about the show. I have to say that the

GAASC puts on a wonderful show. The free drinks, hot dogs and ice cream

social were the bomb. The ribbons were wonderful and the club does

everything they can to make people feel welcome.

Thanks again!!

Cindy Elliott

Shell Bluff Aussie Brags

ASCA/AKC Champion Hi5's
Diamonds in The Sky "Lucy"
PT, STDsd,

New Title: HSAs



Shell Bluffs Next Best Thing
STDs "Bruce" Has his PT
and one leg to his started AKC
herding title

GAASC's Big Kahuna Luau and ARPH Benefit Shows

"Big Kahuna Prize Grab Bag white elephant exchange" for prizes won over the years that don't quite fit your décor, aren't something you really need, or that you have run out of room for at home in the china cabinet.

It started with an idea – how can we host a comfortable, inexpensive, fun summertime Obedience and Conformation show for ourselves, and still benefit ARPH, too?

This past February, we started brainstorming for a summertime show. The Greater Atlanta Australian Shepherd Club (GAASC) had several shows on the yearly calendar, including our first Agility trial under the new ASCA rules and the first stock trials since the 2005 Nationals. But the only Obedience trials we'd been able to schedule were back in January, and local folks were wondering when they'd get a chance to exhibit, too. The Atlanta area is blessed with several fine Obedience clubs that encourage students to attend our ASCA trials, in order to gain ring experience before stepping up to larger venues. July in Atlanta is not exactly the best time for showing dogs, due to our heat, humidity, and unpredictable gullywasher thunderstorms. Thankfully, we found that one of the local training schools with air conditioning was available during our time frame – and the event began to take shape.

GAASC's officers selected a Luau theme for this show, and planning began in earnest. Our Vice President wondered aloud if there was something we could do, as a club, for all those ARPH foster dogs that come into rescue needing heartworm treatments. As an active ARPH foster family hosting four ARPH dogs in the last year, she knew first hand how expensive this treatment can be – and how vital it is to placing dogs in their forever homes. The question arose: how do we raise the money for donations, and still have prizes for our winners? A group brainstorm ses-

sion generated the "Big Kahuna Prize Grab Bag" idea. In essence, this was a "white elephant exchange" for prizes won over the years that don't quite fit your décor, aren't something you really need, or that you have run out of room for at home in the china cabinet. For every prize donated to the show, GAASC would donate \$5 to ARPH. Each prize was assigned a random number when delivered to the show, and folks that won Conformation or Obedience placements with prizes attached, got to pull a number out of a bag and receive that prize. Pre-entry folks let us know how many prizes were being donated, so we knew we'd have enough.

With a Luau theme in mid-summer, we opted for a casual attire show, and encouraged participants to "dust off those Hawaiian shirts



for the weekend, and think tropical." We offered something new to draw even more attention to the show. We added the Non-Regular and Wild Card classes for Obedience. We also knew from past shows, that if we advertised food in our show premium, we'd get more entries. This time, it was the "Big Kahuna Ice Cream Luau" featuring pineapple, coconut, and chocolate sauce for do-it-yourself sundaes.

Finally, we drew up an advertising cartoon with our unofficial mascot Aussie "Zeke" wearing a Hawaiian shirt. We put it on the Premium. We enlarged it to full page size and

(Continued on page 15)



"dust off those Hawaiian shirts for the weekend, and think tropical."

GAASC's Big Kahuna Luau and ARPH Benefit Shows

(Continued from page 14)

made crayon- colored posters advertising the show, casual dress, air conditioning, and ICE CREAM, which was mailed in premium packets to all the local obedience schools. We wanted to attract as many people as possible for Obedience, so we offered the Non-Regular classes Pre-Novice and Wild Card Utility, Open, and Novice, to run after the main trial. We posted our Premium on the Southeast ASCA Clubs discussion list on line (it is a yahoo group), and went to those local obedience school "trial ready" classes in person, to encourage more entries especially in the Non-Regular classes.

Would it work?

Goodness gracious, yes! During pre show setup, people arrived with boxes full of wonderful donated prizes ranging from clicker and bait bag sets to squeaky toys to pewter serving trays, leaded crystal vases, picture frames, soft coolers, and even jewelry. We were astounded at the generosity of our exhibitors. But we were flat out astonished at the number of our entries, particularly in Obedience! Previous Obedience trials would

collect about 25 people; but this time, we had 53 entries, with a sizeable number of rookies entered in PreNovice and Wild Card Novice for their first-ever ring appearances. On Saturday, our gigantic Obedience entry delayed the start of our Conformation shows considerably, though these participants were thankful to relax in the air conditioning before ringtime. We ordered pizza in between Conformation shows, and enjoyed our ice cream that evening. On Sunday, we were able to move the Conformation setup outdoors and start promptly at our premium's advertised time, while Obedience continued on indoors for several more hours.

Before the final Best Of Breed competition, we held a special parade of local Georgia ARPH dogs. Some of them have been adopted into Forever Homes, a couple are still fosters and one is still receiving her heartworm treatments. The families told us a little about each dog, where they had come from and the circumstances surrounding their rescue. We presented Georgia's ARPH Coordinator Rachel Eley with a check for \$500, raised by Big Kahuna prize donations, to

help cover heartworm treatment expenses. The group was very appreciative and just a little overwhelmed.

Our "little idea" turned out so successful that folks are already asking for the date of next year's Big Kahuna Luau and ARPH Benefit shows.

Pat Pierce

GAASC Secretary

Article Submitted to Aussie Times

Permission granted from Author to reproduce here.



Aussie Rescue and Placement Helpline - Georgia

The official rescue society of the Australian Shepherd Club of America (ASCA) - Georgia Chapter

[GA-ARPH](http://www.aussierescuega.com/) has posted a nice webpage for our recent efforts on their behalf. Click links or Headline above to access their webpage.

<http://www.aussierescuega.com/>



[EpiGENES] Cobalamin (Vit B12) Malabsorption

Permission to forward or reprint in club newsletters granted.

I have recently learned of a genetic defect found in Australian Shepherds which causes a serious and potentially life-threatening metabolic disease in puppies and young dogs. The good news is, with proper diagnosis and relatively inexpensive treatment, affected dogs can be kept in remission throughout their lives.

The disease is intestinal cobalamin (Vitamin B12) malabsorption. The lining of the lower intestine of Aussies with two mutated copies of a gene called Amnionless (Amn) don't absorb vitamin B12. Signs usually start around 6-12 weeks of age, but may not be noted until the dog is an adult.

The disease can cause a wide range of clinical problems, including lack of appetite, lethargy, failure to thrive, wasting, vomiting, seizures, or general ill-health. The most serious complications include abnormalities of the blood and nervous system that are lethal if

untreated.

If your veterinarian is already treating your dog for any of the above signs, tests may have revealed low counts of red and white blood cells, platelet and neutrophils; excess blood ammonia; and protein in the urine. It is common for B12 deficiency to be mistaken for another disease because of the varied clinical signs and the fact it is not well-known that it is present in Aussies. The signs can mimic those of liver shunts, early-onset epilepsy and some immunodeficiency diseases.

Cobalamin deficiency can be diagnosed with a urine test (offered by the University of Pennsylvania) or a blood test (available at Texas A&M.) Treatment consists of subcutaneous vitamin B12 injections every 2-4 weeks for life. Response is rapid and results will be seen in a matter of days. Serious cases may require more intensive B12 therapy and supportive care for up to 10 days.

There is a DNA test available. Information on that will appear

in a following post.

If you have puppies or young dogs that are displaying any of the above signs, ask your vet to consider possible B12 deficiency. It may save your dog's life.

Information on submission of urine samples to the University of Pennsylvania can be found at <http://w3.vet.upenn.edu/research/centers/pennngen/services/metaboliclab/methylmalonic.html> or by phoning 215 898-8894.

I would like to thank Dr. Urs Giger, University of Pennsylvania, for discussing the disease with me, pointing me toward additional resources and reviewing this article.

C.A. Sharp

Pres. Australian Shepherd Health & Genetics Institute, Inc.

All Aussies All Genes All the Time

<http://www.ashgi.org>

Editor, Double Helix Network News

Aussie Geek Corner



Click the Bark Back icon to send Newsletter editor your comments or issues with the newsletter.

If you have not attended the University of WOOF you need to take the Quiz! Click on icon to the right and have fun. Test your knowledge of Dogdom.

Must be Friday... [Wacky Pet Products Reviews](#) my favorite is the remote control dog crate opener. There are more elec-



tronic products for dogs here: <http://dogdoorelectronic.com/>

And for those of us who can't stand to be without Fido...

their own [Cell Phone...](#)

<http://www.petsmobility.com/>

Enjoy!

Had to add just one more link:

<http://www.helpingudders.com/godoggo.htm>

Their T-Shirts are too cute.

Health Corner: Pet Food Recall? Are we Done Yet?

Even though there has been much water under the bridge since the major Food Recalls this spring, there are still significant issues out there.

This past July was significant in that one plant (Castleberry's Food Company) was manufacturing both animal foods and human foods. Both product lines were contaminated with [Botulism](#). I visited the [USDA Food Recall](#) website late July and discovered a problem with their reporting of the incident. They did mention that the product Natural Balance Eatables dog food was contaminated in the same plant but only in passing. This was buried 2/3 of the way down the page. Just in passing. No product specifics that I could find other than listing of Natural Balance Eatables. Fortunately this particular product was noted elsewhere on other websites.

Finding out whether your dog

food is impacted can be a challenge. The FDA and USDA sites have historically been slow to respond to problems, slow to update their website information, slow to recognize that our dogs and cats are significant parts of the American life style. In short they have not been very good stewards of the public trust on this issue in my personal opinion.

I recommend that you monitor other food recall related websites and blogs on the internet or subscribe to a Pet Food Recall email Alert system like [ITCHMO](#). There has sprung up since the initial fiasco started a strong community of people digging a little deeper into these food recalls. Some have done brilliant work and others are helping to keep us up to date on these things.

Several icons below are links to some of these websites. I just found a [General Government Recall](#) website link. This is

worth bookmarking. These are important too but I am not sure how reliable they are due to their history of protecting the food producing industries. There appears to be an agenda with some of these, so be aware of what you are reading and how much trust you put into their reporting. Your mileage may vary.

Bob Wheaton

GAASC Newsletter Editor

Nota Bene: Some of you new to electronic documents may not be aware that items underlined and in blue are interactive. If you click your mouse on the item while holding the Control key down it will open a web page for you relating to that item. I have used these extensively in the newsletter. Think of it as Clicker Training for Humans.

Pet Food Recall links:



GA ARPH Parade of Rescues

Everyone is listening as Renee introduced the group and invited them to tell about their foster or adopted dogs.



Renee presenting a check for \$500 to Rachael Eley, a Coordinator for ARPH-GA. By Rachael's side is Paprika, a foster who is Heartworm positive and has other medical issues as well.



Gator Heaven Brags

WELL we have had a great past two GAASC shows! So here is the run down!



Our Star (AKC CH Shoreland's Scarlett Ribbon) went WB at the Sat AM and Sun

BIG Kahuna Shows , thank you to Judges Millie Meyers and Barry Roland!

PLUS our favorite Grand Daughter (well our only one) Brooklyn showed Miss Star in Pee Wee - won a very nice ribbon and a toy! She much prefers the ribbon over the toy!

CONGRATS to all the winners and the theme was just great!

Headed up to Cartersville yesterday for the AM The Heat Is On show- aptly named!

Our Star went WB/BOS for two more points! Thank you judge Mrs. Bryant-Bellenger and for your lovely compliments! Of course Lara Spears

showed her beautifully for us! Again had a wonderful time and CONGRATS to all the



Winners yesterday!

Jarilyn



The AKC program for Responsible Dog Ownership is set for Sept 15.

Recommended website for more information: <http://www.akc.org/clubs/rdod/index.cfm>

Heat is ON! Photographer info!

In Motion Photos
Gary Depp
1520 Tate Rd
Summerville, GA 30747
(706) 734-0948
www.inmotionphotos.biz

The direct link to the photo pages for the Heat is ON! Show here:
<http://www.photorelect.com/pr3/thumbpage.aspx?e=3086818>



WillowBrook

“Bo”

CH. Hamilton Willowbrook Bow N Arrow, UD

Owned by Sharon and Joe Willis

“Bo” was HIT and HITA at the GAASC show on Sunday, July 15, 2007 under Breeder Judge Janet White

“Bo” has 56 points towards his OTCH



Willowbrook

“Kenji”

AKC CH. Blue Isle Dance the Night Away

Owned by Sharon and Joe Willis

Kenji was WD, BOW and BOS at the GAASC show July 15, 2007 under Millie Meyer

Kenji was RWD under Breeder Judge Janet White on July14, 2007

Thanks to Wendi Cowell for handling Kenji; he is 1 point away from finishing his ASCA Championship



PETA Animal Rights article analyzed and rebutted

Subject: [gaascbod] PETA analysis for newsletter. LONG

copied with permission from Front and Finish August 3, 2007.

Dr. Jordan presented the following PETA statement to a class on rhetoric. The students analyzed the PETA statement and presented their rebuttal following.

PETA article analyzed and rebutted; LONG!

Posted by:

"jordan66@swbell.net" jordan66@swbell.net sandyjordan.geo

Fri Aug 3, 2007 2:14 pm (PST)

"Propaganda is the deliberate, systematic attempt to shape perceptions, manipulate cognitions, and direct behavior to achieve a response that furthers the desired intent of the propagandist." Source: Garth S. Jowett and Victoria O'Donnell, *Propaganda And Persuasion*, 4th edition, 2006.

A Rhetorical Analysis of "Animal Rights Uncompromised:

There's No Such Thing as a 'Responsible Breeder'"

By Sandy Jordan, Ph.D.

Let's take a look at the rhetorical strategies of PETA's propaganda, and how the language is used to deceive the public into giving up their money to a cause that may not be what it presents itself to be.

PETA

Animal Rights Uncompromised:

There's No Such Thing as a 'Responsible Breeder'

The title is uncompromising, and without qualifiers. Not "most" breeders, or "some," but every single breeder who ever existed. We know the law of averages nullifies any absolute statement like this. Absolutes are used by persons who are not willing to admit any other point of view than their own. We should as adults realize that there is never any single perspective from which to view a problem.

"No such thing" allows no margin for any responsible breeder, anywhere, to exist. Since those who know the purpose and responsibility of breeders know that they breed genetic imbalances OUT of stock, this takes advantage of those who don't understand things like why white cats are often deaf, or collies have eye problems. If you don't understand the biological reasons for these things, it is easy to posit them in the realm of mythology, as in "ALL white cats are deaf," and "pit bulls are ALWAYS vicious."

What this is saying, literally, is that there is no such thing as responsible BREEDING. But by saying "breeder," it assumes an accusatory stance towards those who breed to improve and strengthen stock as well as those who truly are careless about what animals they breed. Therefore, a negative attitude and suspicion is cast upon everyone who has ever gotten a pup out of two dogs of the same breed.

Most people know to avoid puppy mills and "backyard" breeders. But many kind individuals fall prey to the picket-fence appeal of so-called "responsible" breeders and fail to recognize that no matter how kindly a breeder treats his or her animals, as long as dogs and cats are dying in animal shelters and pounds because of a lack of homes, no breeding can be considered "responsible."

By using the term "kind individuals," and the image of "picket fences," the author is hoping to connect the audience, who is reading this article because of their interest and (presumably) affection for animals, with what is actually a condescending term, like "well-meaning." Placing the word "responsible" in quotation marks suggests it means the opposite of what it says. ("So-called" would have done the job as well.) It is an attempt to play on the conscience of the reader the way late night infomercials play on the sympathy of parents by showing starving children in Africa. The implication is that if your children are well-fed, you should feel guilty that others are going hungry. ("Eat your liver; children are starving in Africa.") There is simply no logical connection between these two things. It is an attempt to make people feel guilty, to use pathos to wring dollars from the "kind individuals" who can be convinced that if they don't give money, this puppy will be killed. It's much like the old magazine

cover that had the picture of a cute dog on the cover with a revolver at its head, and the caption, "If you don't buy this magazine, we'll shoot this dog."

"No breeding can be considered 'responsible'" is the actual thesis of the essay. But first the reader has to be convinced that they are in a position to ease the suffering of dying cats and dogs by accepting these animals into their households WHETHER OR NOT THIS IS WHAT THEY WANT. It is false logic.

All breeders fuel the companion animal overpopulation crisis, and every time someone purchases a puppy or a kitten instead of adopting from an animal shelter, homeless animals lose their chance of finding a home and will be euthanized.

Again, this sounds logical on the surface, but examine the statement's implications. What about all the orphans in the United States? Every time you have a child, you are stealing a home from one of these orphans? Technically, this could be true. It's analogous to the spiritual belief that we should give away our belongings to those who need them more than we do. Some agree with this, some do not. But no one should be able to force us to follow a belief system to which we do not ascribe. This is yet another way to try to forcibly milk human kindness from a bull. Orphans will not die if we don't adopt them. Neither will

(Continued on page 23)

PETA Animal Rights article analyzed and rebutted (cont.)

(Continued from page 22)

most shelter puppies and kittens, because they are usually in great demand.

Shelter animals are spayed or neutered, by the way. So if everyone just adopted an animal, the dog and cat species could be exterminated from America--in theory. But the author does not want the audience to follow the thesis through to its logical conclusion. The article depends almost entirely on one false premise and heavy use of emotional language.

Many breeders don't require every puppy or kitten to be spayed or neutered prior to purchase, so the animals they sell can soon have litters of their own, creating even more animals to fill homes that could have gone to shelter animals-or who will end up in animal shelters or so-called "no-kill" animal warehouses themselves.

This is a revelation of one of the true intentions of the article, which is to chastise breeders for not being forced to spay or neuter animals according to the author's belief system that we should eliminate all pet companions. The fact is, if a cat or dog is not neutered when sold, its price usually places it among one of the more valued possessions of the owner, so random breedings are unlikely. The puppies or kittens of these valuable animals will also be sold to those more likely to care for them

than someone who gets a puppy or kitten for nothing.

Most newspapers recognize this, and advise people to not advertise puppies or kittens for free, because people tend to not value these pets as much as they do purebred animals. Go to any vet's office and count the number of purebreds taken there for care as opposed to the number of mixed breeds. People tend to care for their valued possessions (and beloved companions) if they pay more for them.

Simply put, for every puppy or kitten who is deliberately produced by any breeder, a shelter animal dies.

This is a nifty way to scream at the reader "MURDERER!" if they get a purebred puppy or kitten. It is absolutely ridiculous to even consider this statement as fact. It tries to implant in the reader's mind that for every well bred puppy they buy, something must die. Note they say "shelter animal." So if I buy a Borzoi puppy from a breeder, an adoptable horse will die? This premise is false.

At this point the author openly reveals her accusations: It is YOUR fault all these animals are in shelters. No, you never bred a puppy or kitten, you never let your dog out of your fenced yard, you never dumped a dog or gave one up, and yet it is YOUR FAULT that these animals suffer and die, because you wanted a puppy that would grow up to be the size your family could handle, or the breed your grandfather raised,

your parents raised, and you hope to continue to raise.

Shame, shame, shame.

Producing animals for sale is a greedy and callous business in a world where there is a critical and chronic shortage of good homes for dogs, cats, and other animals, and the only "responsible breeders" are ones who, upon learning about their contribution to the overpopulation crisis, spay or neuter their animals, and get out of the business altogether.

Off with the kid gloves! Breeders are greedy and callous people. The Monks of New Skete, who produce the occasional litter of carefully bred German Shepherd are greedy and callous. The raisers of certain strains of Labradors and Golden Retrievers for service dogs are greedy and callous.

The author simply allows no room for logic, for choice, for common sense. Breeders, to the author, are evil, callous, greedy, and irresponsible. Some probably are, many certainly are not. The reader at this point may be squirming, but if they look closely at this inflammatory rhetoric, they'll realize how hard the author is pushing this agenda.

Is it because the author is so concerned with the welfare of animals? Much could be forgiven if this author was indeed "well-meaning." But there is always a bottom line agenda for people with this much passion and bile, and it usually boils down to one of two

things: power, or money. So look very carefully to see if at the end somewhere this author is trying to get the audience to reach in their pockets and give up some money. He or she is obviously trying to wring something other than emotion from the audience....

Breeding Trouble

Producing more animals-either to make money or to obtain a certain

"look" or characteristic-is also harmful to the animals who are produced by breeding.

Let's have a look at this rhetoric, given the clever title, "Breeding Trouble."

Dogs and cats don't care whether their physical appearance conforms to a judge's standards, yet they are the ones who suffer the consequences of humans' manipulation. Inbreeding causes painful and life-threatening genetic defects in "purebred" dogs and cats, including crippling hip dysplasia, blindness, deafness, heart defects, skin problems, and epilepsy.

First, although the statement is probably true, we have no way of knowing what dogs and cats care about. Many people have reported anecdotal evidence that their dogs recognize their own breed. Using the word "manipulation" denotes something negative and bad, and "distorting" (below) echoes this subliminal message that

(Continued on page 24)

PETA Animal Rights article analyzed and rebutted (cont.)

(Continued from page 23)

breeders are manipulative and twist animals like clowns shaping balloons-as if Nature had not been doing this for millions of years. The dog has been called the most "plastic" of all mammals, which is in part why it has been such a successful species. If people didn't do it, climate and environmental changes would. That's why the fox and the wolf and the wild dogs of Africa are so different in shape, size, and temperament.

Distorting animals for specific physical features also causes severe health problems. The short, pushed-up noses of bulldogs and pugs, for example, can make exercise and even normal breathing difficult for these animals. Dachshunds' long spinal columns often cause back problems, including disk disease.

The breeding of these animals for dog shows may indeed cause deformities that affect the health of individual animals. This is true and should be addressed BY BREEDERS. Dachshunds have been bred for going down holes after vermin, an example of many breeds that have been shaped to serve the needs of human beings for utilitarian purposes. These were selected long before the dogs were shown, for utilitarian purposes. Show animals are indeed stretched beyond function in many cases. The only thing that can restore them to their previous health

and vigor are intelligent, careful, planned breedings.

Adoption: The Only Compassionate Option

There is no excuse for breeding or for supporting breeders.

This makes the reader feel they are facing an ultimatum. But it is as illogical as saying, "There is no case in which killing someone is defensible." It infers that any compassionate human being could not possibly support a breeder by buying a puppy. The two things, compassion/purebred puppies, are not mutually exclusive terms. But it forms the major premise: "All breeders are evil." If this is true, the conclusion is true. If it is false, as shown in the rebuttal, then the conclusion must also be false. (see bottom of page)

If you love animals and are ready to care for a cat or a dog for the rest of the animal's life, please adopt from your local animal shelter, where there are dogs and cats galore-tails wagging and hearts filled with hope, looking out through the cage bars, just waiting to find someone to love.

The imagery of this wrings the tender hearts of animal lovers-lovely touch "tails wagging and hearts filled with hope." It really is effective, imagining those poor animals behind bars. But the implication is that they are there because YOU PUT THEM THERE by getting a purebred pup is simply too far reaching to make sense.

Unless you really did put them there, you can be absolved of guilt for their sad little faces. And because there is so much truth to this particular part of the propaganda-all propaganda MUST have some basic truth to it-there's nothing to keep people from adopting an animal as a companion while at the same time raising pure-breds.

Again, it is absolutely false that the two things are mutually exclusive.

Shelters receive new animals every day, so if you don't find the perfect companion to match your lifestyle on your first visit, keep checking back. When you find your new best friend, you'll be glad that you chose to save a life-and made a new best friend as well.

It would be very hard to find the perfect companion if you had no idea what the puppy would grow up to look like. People base most life decisions on looks. Most of the time, we are attracted to our life partners originally by the way they look to us. But the basic point here is that many people want to start with a puppy because their purpose is not to save a creature from death row, laudable as that action would be, but to find an animal that will more or less perform the way they need it to in order for it to adapt to their lifestyle. Placid, quiet people can't tell from a shelter encounter if their dog will grow up to be a couch potato or an obsessive herder, or a quiet dog that will match

their lifestyle. Responsible breeders can give them a much better chance of finding that companion that is so satisfying they will not be tempted to dump it at a shelter for turning out to be too big, too wild, too lazy, etc.

"Save a life" is a very, very persuasive lure. What fish does the author hope to catch with such powerful bait? Power? Money?

If you know anyone who is considering purchasing an animal instead of adopting from a shelter, please forward this article to them, and please consider making a donation today to support PETA's vital work to save lives.

Ahhhhh....Translated, this means "GIVE US MONEY." As previously mentioned, the object of propaganda is to get the audience to do something that serves the agenda of the author, couched in language that will use the most tender mercies of that audience to fork over some cash.

Whenever ANY letter ends in a plea for money, it should be read and reread very carefully with a great deal of suspicion. Then, challenge the statements, such as "PETA's vital work to save lives," which can be checked out online. Has PETA ever saved an animal's life? When? Where? Ask questions. Do they have a facility where animals can be adopted? What else has been written about

(Continued on page 25)

PETA Animal Rights article analyzed and rebutted (cont.)

(Continued from page 24)

PETA, not in blogs or opinion articles, but in statistical facts that can be proven? And finally, if you are convinced that you should give money, thoroughly investigate the shelter you give money to. Make sure it doesn't go to lobbyists, advertising, or administration.

Rebuttal:

The fact is that purebred animals have been around for thousands of years, not by accident, but because people need different kinds of dogs for different kinds of tasks. Dog shows are beauty contests that many breeders do not

participate in. How successful the breeding for tasks has been can be determined by performance activities-animals breed true in mental characteristics as well as in physical conformation. Some people, probably most, want a dog as a companion animal, a family member. For this purpose a shelter animal is wonderful, and saving its life, while incidental to the needs of the adopter, still is a noble and kind thing to do.

But hunters want dogs to hunt and retrieve, the blind need dogs of a certain size and temperament to guide them, the police and military need dogs with a certain size and drive,

people who are retired and live in apartments often need a tiny dog that loves to be held and treated like a baby. Breeders attempt to provide these animals by careful selection, and any breeder that wants to continue with a good reputation is going to try as hard as they can to breed out diseases and deformities of their animals.

The article by PETA, simply translated, says that you are a cruel, callous person lacking in all compassion if you ever buy another purebred puppy, and that for every puppy you buy, you are murdering another puppy that is staring big-eyed and sad from the bars of a

shelter.

Don't believe it.

for the class:

syllogism:

major premise: All breeders are evil.

minor premise: Buying a purebred puppy makes you a supporter of breeders.

conclusion: If you buy a purebred puppy you are evil.

false premise: all breeders are evil.

It's My A-Frame!

Melody CDX OA NAJ CGC AD ASCA CD , and IZOD on the Aframe, along with client dog Fussbudget coming up behind them

Impulse Aussies

Lyndy Jacobs

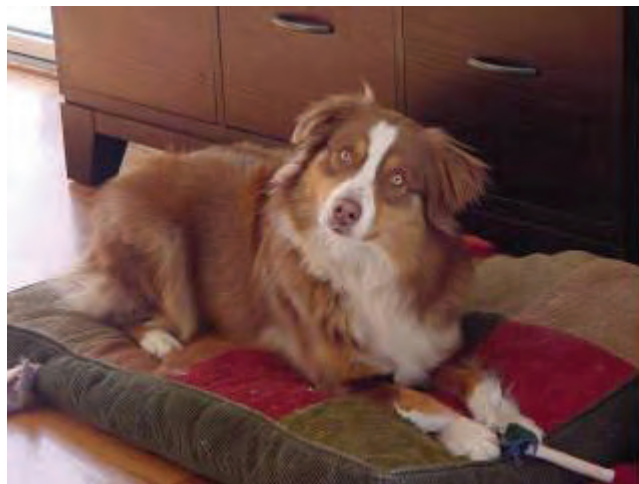


Melody say's .. It's My A-FRAME..
MINE I TELL YOU ...MINE... MINE!!!

Dora is looking for a performance home

Dora is a flashy red tri spayed female Australian shepherd, d.o.b. March 23, 2006. She's about 20 inches tall and weighs about 45 pounds. She's been started in obedience and has been exposed to the agility obstacles, which she took to like a duck to water. Dora is very athletic, and has a sweet, biddable temperament. She's bold and has never met a stranger.

Dora has a lot of drive and comes from a litter bred to be versatile and high drive. She's a litter sister to my male, Carson, and out of my red merle bitch, Camryn. She is very much like Camryn in temperament. The other pups in the litter have all been on sheep with impressive results. The others are also training in agility and obedience and are doing very well. She gets along great with male dogs of all shapes and sizes, as well as cats. She is crate trained, house-trained and travels well.



Dora was returned to me due to circumstances beyond her control. There was an older bitch in the household who became very aggressive to Dora and attacked her several times. In reaction, Dora has become defensively aggressive toward other bitches, and should go to a home with males. She did get along very well with the other bitches in her former home, and she has gotten along with a young female GSP at my home. She is fearfully aggressive with some other bitches, but only if they are "in her face" and she perceives a threat. She is in no way offensively aggressive.

Dora's pedigree:

Dam: Brookridge Fire 'N' Ice, CD, NA, NAJ

(Ch BrookridgeSunfire Will To Win x Ricochet Poco Fuego)

Camryn has open agility legs and will soon be trialing in open obedience, as well. She has a wonderful attitude and is a lot of fun to train and show, with lots of drive and desire to please.

Sire: VCH WTCH CH Poinsett Sunfire Chipotle, CDX, RS-N

(Ch Topgun Poinsett Petal Pusher, CD, AX, AXJ x WTCH CH Sunfire Brookridge Habanero, CD)

Chip is David Clayton's very nice red tri male. Chip is consistently producing very nice working dogs.

Both sire and dam go back to numerous breed champions and performance titled dogs, and both go back to Sunfire's foundation bitch, Mattie (Ch Brookridge Moonlight Madness, CD, HS STDdsc ROM-C I ROMX I). Chip is by David's wonderful dog, Irie. Camryn's dam is a full sister to Jet's (WTCH CH Sunfire And Away we go, CD, RS-N) dam. Her grandsire is Duke (multiple BIS Ch Brookridge Winning Ways, HT).

Contact me if interested. Serious inquiries, please.

Beth Cochran, hvnk9fun@earthlink.net, 678-454-0618

Kasey Jones Herding Fish



Hardrock's Kasey Jones canoeing on the Buffalo River in Waynesboro, TN with owner Bob Sharpe. Picture submitted by Carolyn Sharpe.

Farm Tails

I've learned a few things in the year since moving to my own little hobby farm. Some are good (pasture TV is much better than network TV). Some are perplexing (flies will find the smallest slit in the screen door).

And some are down right unpleasant and frustrating... snakes eat chicken eggs, foxes eat chickens and ducks, and coyotes are fond of lamb.

When I first moved to the farm, one of the 'pasture TV' programs was watching the fox family cross the top pasture in the evening. I hoped that it was a program that would cancel itself, but with more and more housing construction in the area I knew it would only be a matter of time before coyotes followed in the programming.

I didn't worry about the sheep being bothered by the foxes. But when the red thieves became so bold as to help themselves to 5 of my ducks for their Thanksgiving diner I declared war. I got myself a permit from DNR to trap the varmints. But, they are elusive critters. They ignored my snare trap, would boldly come through the woods when I was in the barn with no gun at hand, then disappear into thin air when I was armed.

Then I saw the coyote trotting down the road as I left for work early one winter morning. I could see it may soon go from bad to worse. Especially as my ewes were due to begin

lambing in February.

So, I got myself a new puppy. A friend up in Kentucky had a litter of pups that would suit. A cross between Great Pyrenees, Akbash, Anatolian, and Marema, the pup would grow up to be a fierce protector of



the farm against predators, while being friendly with my dogs and me.

(Continued on page 28)

NiteStar Aussies (Proud Grandma Brags)

My Grandson is here in hot and humid Georgia visiting for the summer. He lives in the San Francisco Bay Area. We took 4 puppies ranging from just 8 weeks to 10 months and our old Ali cat (9) for Brandon to show in Juniors.

He went Reserve Best Juniors all three shows against the very talented Ms. Anna who is a Senior Junior. Not bad for a young man that only shows when he's with his grandma :<)

Our 8 week old Mardi (NiteStar's Mardi Gras Queen) went BOS puppy (to A really nice red tri 4-6 that Dave Clayton owns) at the two shows we showed her at. The two sisters (Mardi & Spirit) had a great time in the ring together!! The 4 month old is all legs, nose and few teeth and had a good time and our 10 month old boy "Shooter" is nicknamed "Happy Feet" can't keep them still to save his life!! Just got to love those young, immature,

gangly boys :<) That's my little proud grandma brag :<)

Trisha Herring

<http://www.nitestar.net>

Fort Valley GA

Farm Tails (cont.)

(Continued from page 27)

Karl (Farsi for snowdog) aka Karli made her journey from Kentucky in April.

Traveling first to Alabama, then to Carrollton, then here to Canton. She was a 12-week-old ball of white and tan fluff that'd never been away from home and was scared to pieces. She got to spend the first couple of nights kenneled with my dogs while she got over her initial fear. Then the hard training began.

And it was very hard on both of us.

By the time Karli got here, my ewes had all lambed and were ready to wean. So, I separated my 3 oldest ewes who were accustomed to guardian dogs with their lambs into the barn, set up a little 'safe' area for the pup where she could smell,

lick, see the sheep without getting trounced, and left her there.

Oh, it was terrible! She cried



every night for the first week. And they weren't just whines. They were lip trembling sobs. I'd never done anything so 'mean' to a puppy and I almost gave in. But everyone I spoke to and all the literature I read assured me that I was doing things the right way. Okay, I did cheat a little. I'd put Karli

in the yard during the afternoons with my Aussie pup Tavli (Farsi for firecracker), who's only a month older.

These two pups immediately decided that they should be best buds.

It's been amusing to watch as Karli has out-sized Tav, although neither seems to notice.

It took about 3 weeks for Karli to settle in with the sheep. Once the bonding between her and the lambs began, I could see the instinct begin to kick in. I knew the corner had been

turned when, at 5 months old, Karli moved 'her' sheep into the barn when a car came down the driveway.

She now comfortably lives pretty much night and day out in the pasture with the sheep. She is a clever girl, though, and has sense enough to go into

(Continued on page 29)

Greater Atlanta Australian Shepherd Club

2990 Huntshire Place
Atlanta, GA 30340

Phone: 770 493 6736

E-mail: rwheaton@mindspring.com

We're on the Web!

www.gaasc.org



Farm Tails (cont.)

(Continued from page 28)

the barn when it rains or when it's hot.

She does love it when I work the Aussies, and does all she can to get my attention on to her and off the sheep. Spot and Daffy, however, are beginning to think she's a pest. And I know that she knows her job now. I have seen neither

hide nor hair of a fox or coyote in months. And it's comforting to hear her big dog 'woof' out in the pasture in the middle



of the night.

The question remains as to just how big she'll get. At 7

months old her head is level with my hip. And I'd guess she weighs around 60 pounds and still has a lot of growing to do to fit those paws of hers.

No, she's not an Aussie, but

don't tell her. She neither knows nor cares.

Submitted by Wendy Eldredge